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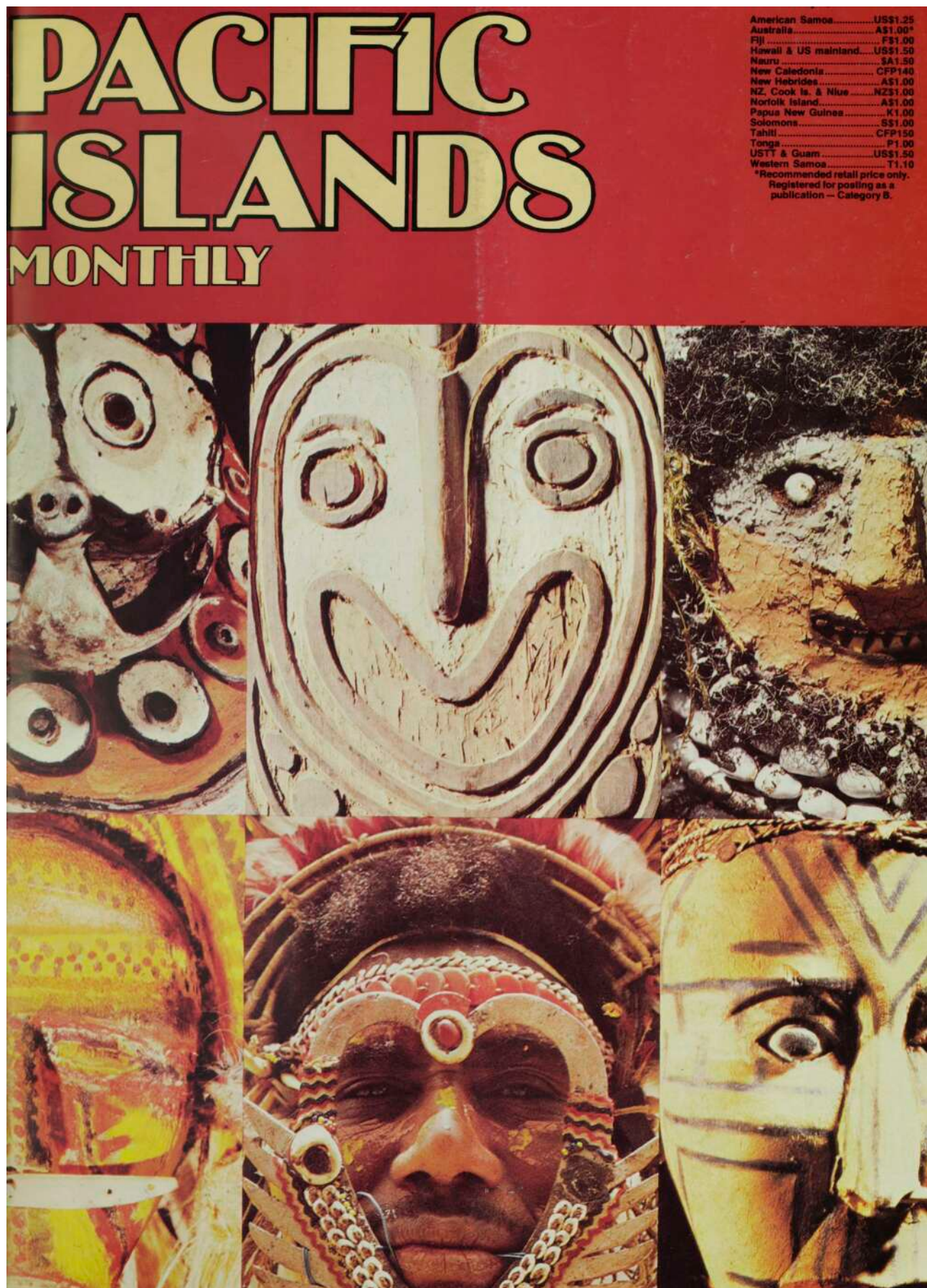
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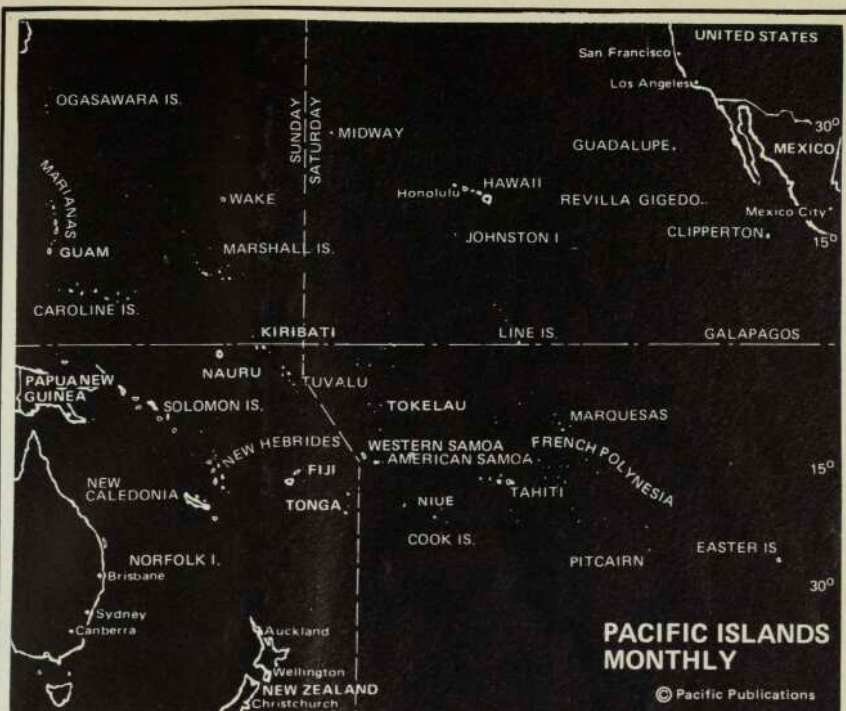
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Cover: Section of one of the main posters being used throughout the Islands to promote the Third South Pacific Festival of Arts. The festival is to be held in Papua New Guinea in June-July, and has already aroused tremendous interest in participating countries.

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'Take the New Hebrides seriously'

As you know, I don't always agree with *Nabanga*. But like PIM, they do try to be a journal of record, and, unlike PIM (Feb p11), I agree with them that the Australian press in general really ought to do better in their reporting of the New Hebrides.

I don't object, much, when Mark Baker calls me in his paper 'one of the few able bodies left from the old Colonial Office' by which I assume he means one of the few still on their feet. But surely it is time that the world press moved on from the picture of the British and French in the New Hebrides doing nothing except tootle their futile bugles and quarrel about the height of their flagpoles.

As *Nabanga* rightly says, there are serious and complicated problems in the New Hebrides in which Britain and France, with the New Hebrides Government, are seriously engaged (and with all possible respect too to Ken Hutton OBE [PIM, Feb p10] I don't play cricket: my game is squash, as Ken knows very well).

Thank goodness, therefore, for serious and generally objective reports like your stories on the constitution (PIM Nov) and the elections (PIM Jan). But even you seem to find it difficult to avoid digs at the 'supine British' (November), or 'the British have concluded that the New Hebrides matters little to them' (January).

The truth of the matter is that, as you said in your November article, the New Hebrideans themselves have achieved political miracles over the last year. If all goes well, the New Hebrides could not only be an economically successful and politically stable, multi-lingual society,

with friendship and help from both Britain and France. They could also be an interpreter and a bridge between the anglophone and francophone countries of the Pacific. As Stuart Inder, and I, saw at the South Pacific Conference in Tahiti last October, such bridges are badly needed. On the other hand, if things go badly, the New Hebrides could drop into a political and economic hole which would be a serious problem not only for the other nations of the Pacific, including Australia, but more importantly, for the leaders and people of the New Hebrides who have done so much to reach a consensus on their own future.

Both the Government of National Unity under Gerard Leymang, and the Independence Government under Walter Lini, have been working towards this consensus. The job, and the interest, of the metropolitan powers is to help them, jointly. It is not easy. I have never met anything like the Condominium, and I would not seriously recommend the system to anyone planning new forms of government. Nor, I am sure, would my French colleague. We may jointly be open to informed criticism, but I do sometimes wish the Australian press would lay off the snide remarks.

A. C. STUART
British Resident Commissioner
British Residency,
Vila, New Hebrides

• *Since we are a journal of record it might be as well for us to say that we have not agreed with the way the majority of the Australian press have reported recent developments in the New Hebrides, and that we translated and published Nabanga's report at length because we thought what they had to say about it was relevant. — Editor.*

As one whose backside is still smarting from the 'French caning for the Australian press' (PIM Feb p11) I would like to reply to the reported remarks of that bellicose French PR man Jean Massias.

Mr Massias — who has shown great dexterity in mixing the demands of that osten-

sibly independent journal, *Nabanga*, with his role as a leading French government adviser — accuses the Australian press generally of being ill-informed and biased against the French in its reporting of developments in the New Hebrides.

He attacks me specifically over my reports last November in *The Age* (not *The Sydney Morning Herald*, which I have not reported in since last June) about the possibility of independent New Hebrides hosting governments-in-exile of South Pacific liberation groups.

As Mr Massias is well aware, sections of the Vanuaaku Party have long favoured giving such material support to kindred groups in New Caledonia and French Polynesia. Indeed, the Vanuaaku policy platform published in October last year states one of its foreign affairs objectives as 'to help Melanesian and Polynesian brother nations not yet free from colonial tyranny to gain their independence'.

I raised the question in an interview with the French resident commissioner, Inspector-General Robert, on November 15. Obviously aware of the possibility of governments-in-exile, Mr Robert replied: 'We would regard that as a hostile act. The French Government would have to reconsider the substance or totality of its aid.'

In my report of that interview I wrote: 'While the party has not made a firm decision, it may allow the Kanak Liberation Movement of New Caledonia to establish a government-in-exile in Port Vila'.

At no stage, as PIM has reported, did I state that such a decision was 'likely'. The word I used was 'may'.

In an interview on November 17 Father Lini told me that while a decision would have to be influenced by what was the best strategy to help the liberation groups, a Vanuaaku government would still consider hosting their de facto governments.

Father Lini went on to say: 'We will continue to be very strong supporters of the movements in New Caledonia and

Tahiti no matter what France threatens.'

While I cannot speak for other Australian journalists, I personally reject Mr Massias' claims that my writings have been ill-informed or unduly biased.

Last year I made two lengthy visits to the New Hebrides during which I interviewed representatives of all the various political persuasions — including Mr Massias and many other French officials and Francophone politicians. (Mr Massias claims to have found 'not a single reference to Gerard Leymand' in the Australian reports. Father Leymang is quoted or mentioned in at least four articles that I have written.)

It is true that much I have written contains criticism of French behaviour in the New Hebrides in recent years. But that criticism is based on a considered evaluation of the facts. I neither regret nor retract a word of it.

Mr Massias and his associates should not single out the Australian press. Far worse things have been said about the French by the very people of the New Hebrides whose overwhelming support for Vanuaaku in last year's election can hardly be interpreted as an accolade for Paris' policies and performance in the South Pacific.

MARK BAKER
Brisbane Bureau,
The Age

Storm in the desert abates

Your February issue did carry my letter to you; this fact proves that yours is not a slander magazine. Just not always well enough informed.

Therefore I hereby offer you my sincere apologies for calling you that. I am not publicity hungry, I just like to see things straight. With sincere apologies I remain,

A. HOLGEN
Collateral Investments Ltd
Honolulu, USA.

Fifty years of the PIB

I am a Fijian national and a long-term resident of the Marshall Islands, former employee of the Trust Territory government, and presently

LETTERS

working for the government of the Marshalls as a Master on one of its vessels.

During my long absence from Fiji, your magazine has been a great source of inspiration to me in terms of both entertainment and information. However, since reading your November 1979 issue I strongly feel you should change your name from PIM to PIB — for Pacific Islands Bullshit.

In that issue (p12) there was an article 'US Real Estate Agents Active in the Pacific'. You pointed out that an American official had informed PIM in Sydney that buying land in desert states like Texas was 'folly'. How did you ever print such inaccuracies?

From August 6-18 1979 a group of Marshallese land buyers, of which I was one, went on a trip to Van Horn, Texas, to see our land. The tour was arranged by Green Valley Acres Inc through Marina Travel Agency Inc of Hawaii. After looking over the land personally, I am more than satisfied that it is beautiful and can be cultivated for farming, cattle-raising, and so on.

The sale of the land was negotiated through Green Valley Acres Inc, a registered organisation based in California. It deals mainly in selling real estate in the United States. How can such transactions through Green Valley Acres Inc be called folly?

Could you tell me: What is the name of the US official who warned PIM in Sydney? What department or agency of US Federal Government does he work for and in what capacity? Does he know anything about real estate or is he just an ordinary guy whose bark is bigger than his bite? Is this guy really from the United States or is he from Melbourne?

Talking about desert land Mr Editor, did you ever consider what a marvellous thing the early Mormon settlers did in Salt Lake City, which before their arrival was nothing but desert? Did you also forget that one of the most talked about miracles of modern times is the tremendous transformation brought about by the Israelis in

planting huge forests and orange groves in what for hundreds of years was desert and barren land?

Criticisms based on unfounded rumours is a common weakness of the negative person who always criticises the positive and creative thinker.

I humbly request that in future times you get all your facts together before printing articles of this kind. As Shakespeare says, 'To thine own self be true'.

M. CAMA

Majuro, Marshall Islands

Arrested for muddy number plate

I could not agree more with Percy Chatterton's statements (PIM Oct 1979 p66).

Over the past few years we have suffered physically in the Papua New Guinea Highlands because of crimes that are only encouraged by lack of police protection. The situation has forced the closing of stores, and will eventually close the schools as well. While students and teachers are endangered by attacks from lawless bands outside the school, we have only ourselves to depend upon for protection. Police have even acknowledged this on several occasions. Yet our students must suffer 'payback' injuries, including beating with chains and other weapons at Kerowagi.

People get the impression that the Simbu people are lawless, but this kind of thing can happen anywhere when there is no authority and no respect for those who are supposed to enforce it. It is human nature to try and get away with as much as one can. Witness what happens in other countries when the police go on strike. In our place if the local police went on strike nobody would notice.

The 'State of Emergency' was a bad joke played on a lot of people who are normally law-abiding citizens. In their rush to make an impressive number of arrests a lot of innocent people suffered at the hands of the police.

I myself was detained with the school driver for being in a truck with a muddy number

plate. Three valuable school days were therefore lost in gaol and in courtrooms.

Now members of our school staff have been arrested for criticising the police.

NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

Spain's new Pacific ties

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Kingdoms of Spain and Tonga have established diplomatic relations by way of issuing a joint communique published simultaneously in both countries on November 16, 1979. The diplomatic relations will be conducted by Spain through its Ambassador in Canberra (Australia). Tonga's High Commissioner in London will act for his country.

Following the presentation of my Letters of Credence in Port Moresby on October 23 of last year as first Ambassador of Spain in Papua New Guinea I visited that country for 10 days, as well as Solomon Islands and New Hebrides. It was in the latter country that I travelled down to the island of Santo and on to Big Bay, where the Spanish navigator Pedro Fernandez de Quiros founded the city of New Jerusalem and called the discovered and to-be-discovered lands to the south of that point *Australia del Espiritu Santo*.

CARLOS M. FERNANDEZ-SHAW
(Ambassador of Spain)
Canberra, ACT, Australia

Rape a 'trifling' matter?

I refer with shock and disgust to the reader's letter reprinted from *Les Nouvelles* in Papeete which recently appeared in your magazine (PIM Dec 1979 p40). The letter contained the following passage: '... the people (of a country named) are fighting and killing each other like real savages over trifling matters — the rape of a woman or the theft of a pig.'

I would like to think that the letter-writer penned those lines with tongue in cheek, or that you printed them in that spirit — but I can't quite convince myself that this was so. Who is the real savage, the cannibal who consumes human flesh, or

the one who kills a woman emotionally and consumes her flesh in another way? There's about one-quarter inch difference on the scale of civilisation between the two.

JEAN L. SHERMAN
Pasadena, Calif, USA

PIM covers: Away with guilt, shame!

Being an ardent traveller and reader of travel magazines I had to come across your publication. As our daily press almost consciously ignores the Pacific, you fill a gap. Your snippets, titbits and of course the feature articles are very informative.

I am pleased to see that yours is not a picture-postcard, 'wish-you-were-here' type of production. Your treatment of touchy issues — subjects like French Polynesia, for example — is commendable. Where else would one read about them?

One particular feature is most refreshing — your covers. Those delectable Pacific maidens are heartwarming. How can any healthy and sound person object to them? The Pacific has suffered enough from weird religions

42 years a PIM subscriber

Philip Snow MBE, a British administrator for fourteen years in the Pacific, has just published a book with Stefani Wayne called *The People from the Horizon: An Illustrated History of the Europeans Among the South Sea Islanders* (Phaidon Press) which will shortly be reviewed by PIM.

In a letter to PIM from Sussex, England, Mr Snow says: 'My copies of PIM come by seamount and I have just renewed my subscription, now in its 42nd year. Are there many who have exceeded that stretch?'

In PIM's 50th anniversary year, it's an interesting question, and we'd like to hear from other subscribers of more than 40 years standing.

and man-made guilt.

Congratulations to a fine magazine. Ignore the detractors — shame, guilt and conservatism do not seem to be one of your major features. Keep it that way and keep those beauties coming! Besides, it is now easy to track down PIM at the newsagent.

J. BRANDSTÄTTER
Chatswood, NSW, Australia

State Department 'giveaway'?

After the giving away of the Panama Canal in which the US even paid a tinhorn leftist Panamanian dictator Omar Torrijos for the privilege, our State Department was hard pressed for an encore. It has now turned its attention to redefining American interests in the Pacific.

In 1980 the State Department will push for Senate ratification of two proposals which will turn over US sovereignty to 18 central Pacific islands and hundreds of thousands of square miles of rich fishing waters. The direct beneficiaries of this largesse are two left-leaning emerging nations, the island republics of Tuvalu and Kiribati. The indirect beneficiary is the Soviet Union with increasing naval and economic clout in the strategic waters of Micronesia and Polynesia.

Our territorial claims being waived include islands in the Line, Phoenix and Ellice groups that have been American controlled since the 1800s. Some like Christmas Island and Hull Island (named after the War of 1812 Commander of the USS *Constitution*) have rich histories. Nine of these strategic islands have warranted US military bases on them from World War II through the 1970s.

Each of the islands in these widespread groups commands a radius of two hundred miles in territorial limits into rich fishing waters. Unfriendly control of these islands could spell economic disaster for the multi-million dollar tuna fishing and canning industry in nearby American Samoa. The republics of Kiribati (formerly known as the Gilbert Islands) and Tuvalu have already indicated that each plans to



Busy scene at Canton Island just before the Pacific War when Pan American developed an airport and cleared the lagoon of coral heads.

charge a heavy 'conservation fee' for the future privilege of US fishing interests using what are in reality American waters.

The island republics of Tuvalu and Kiribati, both under British control until the 1970s, have combined populations of less than 60 000. Yet they clearly have more than enough clout to have the State Department buckle under to their demands. They are active member states in the anti-American third world conference group called the South Pacific Forum. They have voted against US entry into that organisation and have made overtures in favour of the Red Chinese as well as Russians.

The treaty with Kiribati which cedes 14 of the 18 islands in question was signed on September 20, 1979. It is ironic that this unmeritorious action occurred on the island of Tarawa in which over 3500 Americans gave up their lives in protecting the interest of the United States in the Pacific in World War II.

The State Department hopes for Senate ratification of the treaty of friendship with Tuvalu in early 1980. The ratification of this treaty will expedite the further pact with Kiribati.

These current giveaway proposals give nothing in return for the US. In fact a power vacuum will be created which will engender further Soviet influence. Already, the Soviets were granted a fishing fleet base in the nearby island of Tonga.

With our worldwide naval decline, the Pacific may never again be known as an American lake. The current giveaway in the South Pacific is only symptomatic of worldwide global retrenchment by the US.

DAVID NOLAND
Canyon Country
California 91351 USA

Ebia Olewale and his French friends

I have followed with interest the views of Ebia Olewale, former Papua New Guinean Foreign Minister, on independence in the French Pacific. I have also followed some of the criticisms he has received in your pages, particularly from Tahitians.

I would like to comment on two letters of criticism: one from Ms de Montlue of Auckland (PIM Dec 1979 p5), and one from a writer to Papeete's *Les Nouvelles* (PIM Dec 1979 p40).

First of all it is incorrect to say that Mr Olewale has no right to express views on independence in Tahiti, and that his pronouncements on this subject are meaningless. He is a Pacific citizen and has a role to play by interesting himself in the affairs of the region to which he belongs.

He belongs to a nation which has gained independence and can therefore speak with more authority on the subject than most people in French Polynesia. Independence is an issue in Tahiti, and Olewale can surely be excused for at least thinking about it, and, if

he does, one can only expect that he will speak about it too.

Ms de Montlue's use of events in PNG as a criticism is rather unfair. The recent constitutional crisis in that country indicates that the legal system there needs modification, not that the country is falling apart. Irian Jaya was a problem long before PNG became a nation. With PNG not being sovereign in the 1960s, it is hardly fair to expect it to have made any protests.

The Bougainville-PNG relationship is not analogous to the Tahiti-France relationship because (a) for the moment the PNG Government seems to have satisfied Bougainvilleans with limited independence in the form of provincial government, therefore somewhat neutralising a strong independence movement, and (b) Bougainville is more closely connected with PNG culturally, racially and historically than Tahiti is to France (although French colonisation has to some extent changed that).

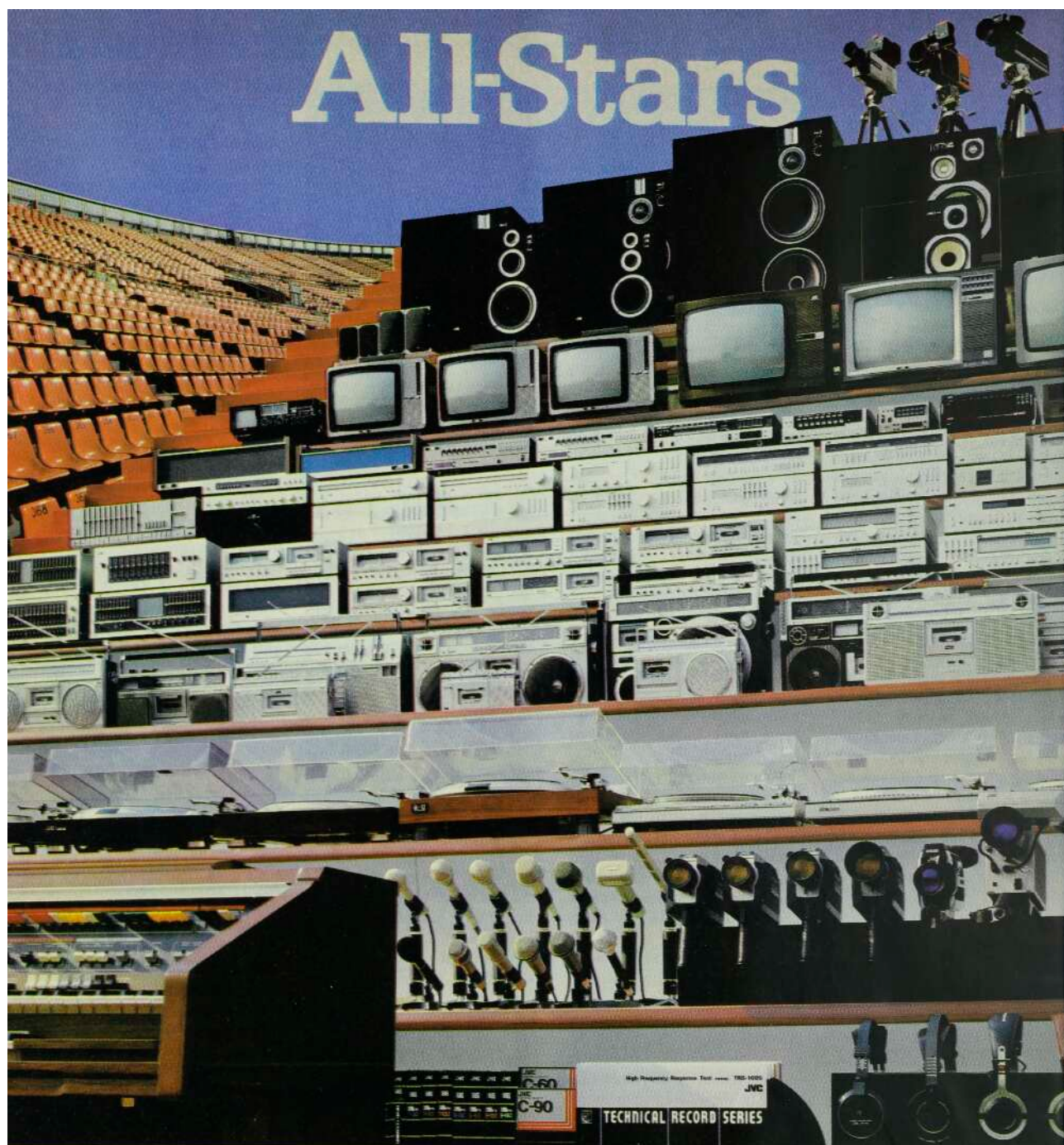
Taking these points into consideration, one could be excused for concluding that there is a stronger case for a Bougainville-PNG unity than a Tahiti-France unity, and therefore a weak case for Tahitians meddling in Bougainville, as Ms de Montlue suggests.

As for the writer in *Les Nouvelles*, a rather cynical assumption is made that independence means rape, killing and disorganisation in what he/she assumes is the PNG style. If the writer is afraid that independence in Tahiti will mean this, then the only conclusion is that Tahiti's culture is no better than PNG's, as it is misrepresented in the rather unsubtle innuendos contained in the letter.

They reveal more about the writer's abysmal ignorance of other people's cultures than they do about PNG.

Here's hoping that one day French Polynesians will cease criticising others with advice, take some themselves, and see that independence brings a sense of self, where previously domination brought colour TV's, radioactivity and a false consciousness.

MARK SCHUBERT
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Pacific Report

MICHAEL SOMARE'S PNG GOVERNMENT FALLS

Sir Julius Chan KBE, aged 40, was sworn in March 11 as Papua New Guinea's second prime minister, following the collapse of prime minister Michael Somare's coalition in a no-confidence motion, 57 votes to 49. Sir Julius, born on Tanga Island, New Ireland province, and receiving secondary and tertiary education in Queensland, was elected to the PNG parliament in 1968. Since 1970 he has been parliamentary leader of the Peoples Progress Party, which was in coalition with Michael Somare's Pangu Party until November 1978, when Chan withdrew his support. He is a former deputy prime minister and finance minister under Somare.

He comes to power as leader of a new coalition consisting of the PPP, the National Party, the Papua Besena, part of the United Party, and the Melanesian Alliance. PNG policy under Sir Julius is unlikely to differ to any great extent from Somare's policies and Sir Julius said overseas investors had 'no need for alarm'. Only two days earlier the PNG government gave approval for a consortium to develop at a cost of \$720 million, the rich copper and gold deposits at Ok-Tedi in the Star Mountains which are expected to produce more than 15 tonnes of gold a year for the first five years.

PNG FAVOURED FOR 'PACIFIC BASIN' PLAN

According to Hong Kong sources, South-east Asian nations are 'anxious that Papua New Guinea should be a founder member (of the Pacific Basin community), if only as a symbol of the eventual role the community could play in encompassing the island states of the South Pacific'. The idea of the community has been launched by Japan's Prime Minister Masayoshi Ohira.

NEW HEBRIDES TO BE 'VANUATU'

A February session of the New Hebrides Representative Assembly decided that on its accession to independence the country's name will be changed to 'Vanuatu'. Like the name of the majority Vanuaaku Party, the name means 'Our Land' (*Vanua* land, *atu* our). Mr D. S. Walsh, a specialist in linguistics at the University of Sydney, told PIM it was possible to change the name in this way because of the wide range of forms meaning 'our' in the 100-plus languages of the island group. No definite date for independence had been fixed as PIM went to press. Following continued tensions on Santo and Tanna in February, there was some relaxation as a delegation of 10 members of the 'moderate' opposition to the Vanuaaku Party prepared to leave on February 24 for discussions with French officials in Paris, which were due to begin on February 28.

PINOCHET FIJI CALL — CHURCH PROTEST

General Augusto Pinochet, President of Chile, was due to make a two-day visit to Fiji in March. He was to make the stopover on his way to the Philippines. The Pacific Council of Churches announced it would boycott the visit in protest against human rights violations in Chile.

BACK TO ENEWETAK AT LAST?

Enewetak Atoll, a radioactive wasteland following the US nuclear test programme of the 1950s, was declared habitable again in March. After a three-year, \$US100 million reclamation project, its original inhabitants are expected to return in April from their long exile.

PNG TO TAKE FIJI'S SEAT ON UN BODY

Fiji has agreed to let Papua New Guinea take over its membership of the United Nations Committee on Decolonisation, according to a February statement by PNG Prime Minister Michael Somare. Mr Somare was speaking in Suva after talks with Fiji's PM, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara. Ratu Mara told Mr Somare that Fiji wanted to find out more about what France was doing for New Caledonia and other dependent states in the

South Pacific. Mr Somare said PNG's position on decolonisation for New Caledonia and other French territories remained unchanged. The two leaders also discussed the establishment of dialogue between the South Pacific Forum countries and the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN).

NEW NAURU ELECTION

Following complaints that some voters in the Menen district for the important Nauru Local Government Council elections on December 29 had been disenfranchised, the Nauru Court of Disputed Elections in late February ruled that the Menen election was void and ordered a new election. The court found however that there had been no impropriety. James Bop was the elected candidate in December.

U.S. SAYS SAMOA BOARDING 'NO VIOLATION'

The US State Department has claimed that the boarding of a Western Samoan vessel by US coastguards on January 18 (PIM Mar p6) took place in American territorial waters, and that no violation of Western Samoa's sovereignty had taken place. The statement, which took note of the close relationship between America and Western Samoa, was in reply to a protest against the boarding from Western Samoa. A Western Samoan citizen was arrested in the action by coastguard personnel in connection with a bank robbery in Pago Pago. He was later released.

ISLANDS AID UP IN AFGHAN SPIN-OFF

Australia has announced a three-year forward civil aid commitment of \$A120 million to South Pacific Island states, representing an increase of more than 40% on the previous commitment of \$84 million. Announcing the increase in the course of a parliamentary statement on February 19 on developments in Afghanistan, Prime Minister Fraser acknowledged that some measures taken by his government in relation to the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan 'will involve some costs' on the part of Islands governments. Among steps taken by the Australian Government in retaliation for the invasion has been cancellation of Australian port rights for Soviet cruise ships from the end of the cruise season on May 31. The ships usually call at many Island ports, bringing in valued revenue.

FRENCH N-TEST BIGGEST YET?

France conducted an underground nuclear test 'of great power' at Moruroa Atoll on February 22, according to the Papeete newspaper *Dépêche de Tahiti*. The newspaper recalled that Gaston Flosse, a member of French Polynesia's Territorial Assembly, recently reported rumours of preparations for a series of 'the most powerful tests ever held'.

AUSTRALIA UPGRADES NOUMEA POST

Australia has upgraded its representation in Noumea from consulate to consulate-general. The consul-general, Dr Malcolm Leader, will continue to have responsibility for Wallis and Futuna and French Polynesia as well as New Caledonia.

JEFFERSON FELLOWS AWARDS FOR 1980

Applications have been called for by the East-West Communication Institute for the 1980 Jefferson Fellows Program Awards. Applicants must be professional journalists, who have been employed as journalists for at least five years, and who have a demonstrable professional interest in Pacific Island issues. The 1980 programme runs from September 2-December 20. Application forms may be had from Jefferson Fellow Selection Committee, East-West Communications Institute, 1777 East-West Road, Honolulu, Hawaii 96848 USA. Closing date for applications is May 15.

PNG's UN MAN RAPS RUSSIANS

Papua New Guinea's Ambassador to the United Nations, Paulias Matane, has accused the Soviet Union of failing to live up to its responsibilities as a super-power and a permanent member of the Security Council with its occupation of Afghanistan. He told the special general assembly session on the Afghanistan question that PNG believed that the Soviet Union must immediately withdraw her forces from Afghanistan if her credibility was to be salvaged.

The following items present the viewpoints of two authorities in different aspects of Pacific Island affairs on the problems faced by two of the most important — currently volatile — countries in the region, New Hebrides and Papua New Guinea. Well-known French anthropologist Jean Guiart argues strongly that the troubles on the New Hebridean islands of Santo and Tanna would be much less acute if outsiders stopped interfering in them. He was being interviewed by Jean Massias, director of the French/Bislama weekly *Nabanga*. The second item is the text of the final report by the Australian lawyer Brian Egan, former Public Prosecutor of Papua New Guinea. Adopting a different viewpoint from Mr Guiart, Mr Egan comes close to saying that the reason for the severe law-and-order problems now besetting PNG is the absence of outside interference in the shape of the 'kiaps' of the past, who are presented by Mr Egan as having exercised a 'benevolent dictatorship'. PIM records the documents at length because of their importance, and their interest to Islands readers.

New Hebrides: 'A gross mistake for Europeans to interfere'

Nabanga: Jean Guiart, how do you explain the movements we're now witnessing in Tanna and Santo?

Jean Guiart: There have been problems in all Pacific countries during the period of transition to independence. These have been more or less serious depending on the economic interests involved. For example, on Bougainville there was a relatively strong movement due to the copper mine. But it settled down when arrangements were reached for a sharing of profits between the central and local governments.

It's entirely normal that there should be problems in the New Hebrides, but what is much less normal is that these problems are being exploited.

Take the case of Tanna: the people there were squabbling among themselves a hundred years ago along the same lines as they are today. There were the same people fighting each other — with, relatively speaking, very little loss of life. There were also the same people more or less banishing each other, sending each other off to the other side of the mountain, and then getting into negotiations about the right to return.

It was a whole game that they played, and it's never really stopped. There were concepts defining certain entities, or 'things'. These had quite precise names. They described certain modes of behaviour, for example, or the exact paths to be followed in maintaining contacts between groups, precise routes to be used on other journeys, tracks — which had their own names — not to be used by everybody.

These concepts form part of

rather symbolic entities which still exist and which, quite naturally, as throughout the Pacific, have with time taken on particular colorations: when someone wanted to avoid being absorbed by a neighbour who was a Protestant, he became a Catholic. After that he would accept a French school in his area and not an English one.

Then today there are people who deal with one European rather than another. These Europeans imagine they have influence. In fact they are being made use of in this game of contestation and dispute which actually has the effect of maintaining some kind of balance between groups, and between regions and sub-regions. It is entirely wrong for Europeans to interfere. If no one was interfering, things would be a lot calmer, there'd be much less fuss.

But Tanna is Tanna, and it'll stay that way for a long time. Ways have not yet been found to transform Tanna, to transform its inhabitants, to provide them with a new system of ideas, a new society. So, in their relations with one another, they see no reason why they shouldn't just keep travelling along their old traditional tracks.

N. Is it your impression that some people, let's say they're Whites, are manipulating events in Tanna?

J. G. There are in fact attempts at manipulation both by outside forces and by the Tanna people themselves who, whichever side they're on in their local disputes, are trying to manipulate the Europeans in Tanna and use them as screens for their own interests.

There have been new elements come into the scene in the last few years, and they are playing a not inconsiderable part in what's now going on in Tanna. They are centred on a contest between two clans about the way profits from the possible development of tourism on the island will be divided up. Each side is trying to ensure that it will have sole rights to take tourists to the volcano, and strives to exclude the other from any degree of control of Tanna's potential tourist industry.

N. In an interview on Radio New Hebrides you gave the impression that you felt this manipulative game, from both the European and Melanesian sides, was going on just as much in Santo as Tanna. In what ways, in your opinion, can the Santo scene be compared with that on Tanna? And in what respects is it different?

J. G. In Santo — and this is one of the differences from Tanna — there was a drastic depopulation in the last century. Two-thirds of the population died of smallpox. This was caused by Australian labour recruiters who littered the beaches with articles of clothing which had been worn by smallpox victims in order to close off a whole labour recruiting area from competitors.

The population panicked. They cleared out of the area and it remained deserted. This deeply affected people, as had the passing-through of the Spaniards who destroyed and pillaged an entire valley.

The Europeans came along and established themselves in the Second Channel in these depopulated zones. There were no problems because the Santo

people regarded the area as *ples blong waet man* ('the White man's place').

Potential difficulties arose when colonists' claims to land beyond their coconut plantations were not accepted by the Melanesians, whereas the colonists believed in good faith that they had the right to push the limits of their holdings further out, even though they had been settled in one particular place for 30 years.

The birth of the Nagriamel was due mainly to a plan to set up a cattle project, outside the coconut plantation limits, on the plateau in the interior. Chief Buluk's group, which had evacuated these lands at the time of the epidemic, still had some residual rights in the region.

The birth of Nagriamel was therefore a land-related response to Europeans moving outside previously settled limits.

Nagriamel came on the scene at a time when there was a sort of vacuum. Just after the war, there had been a series of movements which aimed to organise a degree of economic and social independence from the Whites. Melanesians began to build their own roads, to set up health centres like the one at Ndui Ndui (Aoba), and schools, and to attempt a concentration of production for sale to a single buyer.

These were entirely reasonable economic notions which were made use of by a Franco-British businessman at the time of the Malekula Native Company. This enterprise operated for a while but then collapsed.

Nagriamel picked up the pieces and installed itself outside Santo on the spot where

the defunct company had been established. Generally speaking it was a place where people were seeking some kind of 'hook' to hang on to in order to ward off domination by a larger group of neighbours.

N. How do you see the present situation on Santo?

J. G. Some people have panicked. The big planter families have gone and the Americans have abandoned their projects. I think the planters could have stayed. The problems stemming from colonialism at the time of independence in the Pacific arise mainly in terms of demographic pressures. As Santo has lots of open space, apart from pockets like Hog Harbour and Port Olry, there are all sorts of arrangements that could be made to everybody's satisfaction.

But the planters panicked and they thought it was necessary to use Nagriamel to protect themselves. There are also two or three people who believe that the Melanesians can be used as troops in the service of European politicians. Which is a gross mistake.

N. Do you really believe that there are Whites in Santo who are manipulating the Nagriamel? Don't you think you're describing a situation that existed some years back, rather than the present situation?

J. G. It's the same thing as on Tanna: who's manipulating whom?

There are two or three Europeans who harbour illusions. They have no political training, and no grasp of the situation of the New Hebrides in the Pacific. No Pacific state, I don't care which one it is, can accept a secession as a *fait accompli*. They've all had problems of this kind and they've settled them. They've got no wish to see these things start up again, and all of them want tranquillity in the region. One need only recall what happened in Nigeria with the Biafra affair: once these things start, there's no controlling events.

That's why these people who are pushing their own barrows in Santo will get no support.

N. Don't you think that strong police repression in Santo would be likely to ignite the powder keg?

J. G. In any political situation there are more subtle means of pressure. The Nagriamel has lost its initial drive, it no longer has the same content, the same prestige or authority. It's seeking a new image, but it's altogether on the wrong track.

In this pre-independence situation, Jimmy Stevens could be appearing as the great founding father. Remember that it was in fact Stevens who initiated, about 15 years ago, the first approaches to the United Nations.

This situation is not an easy one for a government which still lacks all the experience required. But I'm convinced that if there weren't Europeans around who are convinced they have a mission to interfere, things would not have gone so far as they have. Once again, it's grossly mistaken for Europeans to meddle in a situation of this kind on the eve of a country's independence. They have neither the standing nor prestige to remain political leaders. Our function, our calling, is to be educators, to train people, to work as experts in particular fields, to be businessmen if you like, but it is not to dabble in the day-to-day affairs of a country that we have never really governed or organised.

N. Don't the problems in Santo and Tanna foreshadow difficulties after independence for a government which is supposed to represent the whole population of a country which is, after all, an archipelago?

J. G. It shouldn't be any more difficult than it has been in Solomon Islands. This state is a federation and the central government negotiates every single day with representatives of the islands. This isn't written into the constitution, but that's how it is and that's how it will remain.

There is no way that Melanesians can be governed against their will, that's the fundamental phenomenon of Melanesia as a whole: the strength of local autonomies. Legislative texts will not change a thing. The Melanesians, among themselves, are very well aware of this.

Former Papua New Guinea Public Prosecutor Brian Egan presents a deeply pessimistic view of the future of the rule of law in PNG. His final report, reproduced below, was due to be debated by the PNG National Parliament as PIM went to press. It is certain to arouse keen discussion in that country, and, since similar problems exist elsewhere in the Pacific, in other countries as well.

Law and order in PNG: Bring back the Kiaps?

This is to be my last report as Public Prosecutor — my term of appointment expires COB November 23, 1979, and I have already advised the Judicial and Legal Services Commission by letter dated October 19, that in accordance with my public statement to this effect, I shall not be seeking a reappointment. I find myself in exactly the same position as the five Judges of the National/Supreme Court who have already resigned — as a matter of principle I believe I have no alternative.

It is one matter for the arrogant and impertinent to assert that the country will not suffer any loss with the going of the Judges, and of myself, and the other experienced members of my staff who have either gone or are going in the near future. Reality, however, is otherwise. In the four short years since Independence there has been a definite and perceptible breakdown, not only of law and order, but in many areas of administration within this country. Probably the only institution that has successfully withstood this trend to date has been the National/Supreme Court sitting in its various jurisdictions. I have heard that we are to be blessed with, (and I quote) ... 'a judicially and intellectually more talented Bench', as a result of the resignations. Such a statement betrays not only gross ingratitude but a total ignorance of what this country requires by way of Judges. What is needed are men of experience, not only in professional terms but, more importantly, experience in the ways of the people of this country. The five departing Judges have nearly 40 years of experience in this country be-

tween them, and with respect, the elevation of the intelligentsia can never replace this. Nor is the answer to elevate National Lawyers before they are professionally ready for it, and hope that their nationality will serve as a substitute.

Law and Order — an Historical Perspective: When I took up a position here as a Crown Prosecutor almost a decade ago, this country was being successfully administered by a group of dedicated field officers, (the 'kiaps'), who were probably capable of classification as a para-military body, and who ran this country along the lines of a benevolent dictatorship. I emphasise the word *benevolent*, for at all times these men administered with the best interest of the country and especially the people at heart. At times their methods may have been a little 'rough and ready', but they knew better than anybody that that was the language that the people best understood.

All too easily these days we lose sight of the fact that the bulk of the population of this country is still at the stage of social development that my Anglo/Saxon forebears were some 10 to 15 centuries ago. I recently commenced re-reading Professor Theodore Plucknett's authoritative text on English legal history, *A Concise History of the Common Law*, and there are amazing parallels between the then attitudes of the pre-Norman conquest inhabitants of what is now the United Kingdom and the present people of this country. Common to both races were/are a form of village courts, the concept of payback, the 'hue and cry', the concept of compensation for



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injury, regardless of whose fault it may have been that the injury was sustained, and many others.

The 'kiap' administrators realised this fact and used methods that were appropriate to this degree of development, although they never even approached the horrific old English practices of trial by ordeal, nor did their concept of what was an appropriate sanction even approach some of the more spectacular forms of punishment that belonged to those earlier times.

When the Supreme Court went on circuit in my early days no matter how small the outstation was that was visited, one always found the Government's flag flying. The officer in charge of the Station always met the Judge and court party on their arrival, and the police detachment would invariably be turned out 'spic and span' for an inspection.

Except for the major urban centres like Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul and Mt Hagen, urban crime was practically an unknown phenomenon in those days. Most of the crime that came before the court was rural crime — murders or associated crimes of violence arising out of tribal fights or sorcery situations. The rural towns were virtually safe havens. One would go on circuit to Madang or Wabag, and the cases for trial would have originated in Saidor, Simbai, Usino, Bundi, Josephstahl, or Sirunki, Laiagam, Lake Kapiago, Kandep or Porgera respectively. The crimes would have been uncovered by the 'kiaps' on patrol, and investigations, arrests and committal proceedings conducted on the spot. The presence and strength of the Government was seen and felt throughout the length and breadth of the land, and the perimeters of civilisation were being successfully expanded ever outward.

What is the situation today? Without exaggerating I estimate that in the four years since Independence, 40 years of administrative achievement has been lost!

The Court no longer sits in outstations because, with a few notable exceptions, crime from the rural areas of the country



Pre-independence kiap patrol (circa 1957). The men to whom the villagers could always turn for guidance and assistance?

is no longer being detected, prosecuted or punished. A complete process of reversion to pre-contact patterns of behaviour is, I fear, presently taking place in those areas where the Government's flag once triumphantly flew.

Rather than being safe havens, rural towns are now more like isolated pockets of civilisation in a sea of unrest, distrust and violence. When one goes on circuit to Madang these days, the crimes coming before the court are the typical urban crimes of breaking and entering, or crimes of violence associated with alcohol. The scenes at which such crimes have taken place, rarely exceed the boundaries of the township. In Wabag, the situation is worse. A policeman was axed to death as a payback in the heart of town not 12 months ago. His murderers have never been brought to justice. One is unable to try cases in Wabag these days, because the witnesses living 10 miles out of town are afraid to come to town and testify because of the tribal fight that is taking place only five miles out of town. The perimeters of civilisation are shrinking!

What has happened? As a result of Government policy and particularly as a result of imposition of the system of Provincial Governments the 'kiaps', those people that held this place together, have either

'gone finish' or been emasculated to the point where they have given up. The result has been the creation of an enormous vacuum.

This vacuum — the loss of those men to whom the urban villagers could always turn to for guidance and assistance, those men that the urban villagers trusted as being completely impartial, has caused the urban population to distrust 'the Government', and to ignore the 'laws of the Government', and to revert to the only group that they know they can any longer completely trust — the kinship group. This reversion has resulted in the revival of old jealousies and the creation of new ones. Tribal fighting has consequently now reached a level of frequency and ferocity unknown for 20 years.

The legacy of all this is all too readily apparent. In the last year we have witnessed at least six independent attacks on Court parties, prisoners in or outside of Courts, or prisoners in custody in police stations. Just recently the Government has, of necessity, had to declare a state of emergency in the five Highlands Provinces, involving, *inter alia*, the suspension of constitutional rights and guarantees. The question is — where will it end?

Without being unduly pessimistic, I predict that unless a realistic reappraisal of the cur-

rent situation is made, then a complete breakdown of law and order will take place within the next few years.

Far too frequently I am asked to attend yet another conference or committee meeting to discuss the breakdown of law and order in the Highlands or elsewhere. The first thing some bright-eyed theorist or academic who has never set foot outside of Port Moresby or has never been in or near a tribal fight suggests is that we either change the existing laws or pass a new law to overcome the situation.

When will somebody learn that the present problem is not one of not having enough adequate laws, but a failure to enforce the ones we presently have? If my memory serves me correctly, not one of the thousands of prosecutions that ensued after the declaration of the State of Emergency in the Highlands was commenced under special regulations. All were for pre-emergency, already existing offences. The police force does its best, but its best is a long way short of what is needed.

One of the essential ingredients that is missing from the professional approach of the members of the police force in this country, and I deliberately make this statement for *general* application, is an amazing lack of individual initiative. Policemen seem to forget that they are policemen sometimes.

On countless occasions I have personally witnessed fights taking place, with policemen standing by along with the rest of the crowd as onlookers. Frequently one sees a car pulled up alongside the road with the occupants standing around consuming a carton of beer — and the police car in front drives straight past them. People drive into Goroko from Asaro on a coffee truck (that is illegally being used as a PMV). The truck is full of drunks and bristling with bows and arrows, and it drives straight down the main street past the police station — not one member of the force thinks to move to enforce the three different laws that are simultaneously being broken. And this sort of behaviour, multiplied by the hun-

'National unity a myth'

dreds, represents what is happening throughout this nation, and is one of the major reasons why there is a general air of lawlessness and a breakdown in Government control.

Everybody in the police force seems to be waiting to be told to act, before they move to enforce the laws and arrest the lawbreakers. Somehow the force must be motivated to *think* and *act* with initiative — to be 24-hour policemen — on and off duty.

The responsibility for the current breakdown in law and order is not that of the police force however. I previously mentioned the disintegration of the field force of patrol officers and the vacuum created by their going. The filling of this vacuum is one of the keys to the solution of the problem.

Policemen were previously and are presently trained more towards the prevention, detection and solution of urban-orientated crime. In the past there was therefore a fairly flexible division of labour between police and kiaps — the former looked after the urban areas and the latter looked after the rural areas. I don't pretend for one moment that there weren't rivalries, 'demarcation disputes' and personality clashes, but by and large the system worked. Now, of course, with the disappearance of one of the two components, the remaining one has to try and carry out a task that is not only too large for it, but one which, in terms of training, it is only half equipped to face. Thus its dismal failure in coping with tribal fights.

Invariably the police have little inkling that a tribal fight is about to start, arrive well after the battle has begun, are hamstrung in what they are allowed to do to stop the fighting when they get there and so consequently they tend to fire off a lot of expensive tear gas and shotgun cartridges, and then return to base. Such an exercise is next to futile, and I say this without any attempt to denigrate the efforts of the police.

The field officers were more successful in controlling tribal

fighting because they lived in the areas where the fighting took place, knew the people, knew the terrain, and most importantly knew the signs that indicated a tribal fight might be about to flare up. The field officers, through their corps of interpreters, were able to build up a fairly successful intelligence network, and very often those grievances that now inevitably seem to culminate in a tribal fight, were diffused by mediation before tempers reached the critical point of no return.

When mediation failed and a fight did occur, as often as not the patrol officer was aware that this would happen and was at the fighting ground ahead of the fighters to stop the clash. Most importantly, after a fight took place, the field officers would mount a 'follow-up' campaign, and pursue those responsible for fighting, for months if necessary, until these culprits were brought to justice.

Somehow a field-force along the lines of the former one must be re-established. Such a force must have some police powers and be free and independent of Provincial Governments. Sadly, experience to date has shown that many Provincial Governments are unable to rise above a level of parochialism and 'wantokism' of the most negative kind, hence the latter recommendation.

Law and Order — a Present-Day Perspective: It is an indisputable fact that this country presently has a law and order problem of sizeable and burgeoning proportions. The problem is twofold — tribal fighting and urban crime.

The causes of tribal fighting I have touched upon to a degree already. I cannot however stress too heavily the part that Provincial Governments have played, perhaps unintentionally, (or ignorantly?), in promoting this upsurge of rural, tribal violence. Provincial Governments were the straw that finally broke the back of the kiap system — previously the only force effec-

tively controlling tribal fights. With that check gone we are now on the verge of rural anarchy.

Those messianic visionaries that saw Provincial Government as the panacea for all the problems of this young nation argued strongly that Papua New Guinea never was a united nation and that its strength lay not in unity but in diversity. The solution was therefore, they argued, to tear down what had been achieved in the way of national unity in the past 90 years, and to replace this with provincialism. The flaw in the argument is that for exactly the same reasons advanced to justify the proposition that national unity was a myth, so too is the concept of provincialism a myth. I invite my opponents to take any Province in the country as their example and to please demonstrate the obvious 'oneness' of the people of that Province to me!

It is a myth! Take Bougainville for example — the Buins (in the south) are different from the Bokus (south-west), who are in turn completely different from the Rorovanas (around Kieta), who are different again from the Wakunais (north-east) who in turn are different from the Bukas (in the far north).

This diversity could be further extended by reference to other tribal groups on the main islands and completely compounded if we take into account the different groups of people from the outlying islands that form part of the province and that lie in an arc from the north-east to the south-west — the peoples of the Carteret Islands, the Mortlocks, Fead Islands, Tasman Islands and Nissan Island. The diversity is clearly demonstrated, but where is the unity?

Taken to its logical conclusion, the Provinces could well disintegrate to the point where Papua New Guinea ends up back where it started from when it was first penetrated — no better than isolated little pockets of people from the same language or kinship group with a deep distrust of all 'foreigners' and living in fear of even immediate neighbours. I have previously sug-

gested elsewhere in this report, the only solution to this disintegration of the nation which is the root cause of present rural unrest and tribal fighting.

Urban crime has as its roots, social causes — urban overpopulation, unemployment, a large number of frustrated, partly educated unemployable school drop-outs, all compounded by the effect of the arch enemy of any law and order campaign in this country — alcohol. Some breaking and entering and stealing is committed by hungry, desperate people — some by lazy people — some by frustrated and vengeful people. In other words, the pattern has not changed from previous years.

What has changed significantly is the upsurge of crime in the larger rural towns. I have touched upon this also previously in my report.

I do not propose to detail statistics of crimes committed as in earlier reports. Suffice to say that there has been a further growth in the volume of crime generally that my office has handled in the last 12 months, of around 15%. It has been a crime growth 'across the board', with the possible exception of crimes involving fraud and/or theft by servants, public servants or people in positions of trust. There has been a growth rate of about 20% in this area. My statistics, gleaned from the circuit reports of my prosecutors, confirms the recent report of the Auditor-General. Sadly we appear to be turning into a nation of cynical thieves.

Staff Structure: Despite consistent representations by my predecessor and myself, the staff structure of this office remains exactly as it was when I arrived in this country almost a decade ago. It does not take into account the different type of person we are recruiting from overseas today, and in particular it ignores the need for a staff structure geared to provide spaces for young national graduates. I have 10 applicants to join my office out of the present batch of graduates from the Legal Training Institute, and only two positions to offer them. I could usefully employ and train the

(continued on page 67)

Discontent within Tonga's government nursing service boiled over in January, after simmering Tonga-style for some nine years (PIM Mar p6).

A mass resignation, on one month's notice, of 168 nurses from Tongatapu and the other islands took effect at midnight on January 9. Five senior sisters submitted resignations at the same time, but on the mandatory three months' notice for their level. In a country where unions are illegal and respectful submission to authority is built into the culture, the nurses' action posed an unprecedented problem for Cabinet and created flashpoint tension between partisan supporters throughout the Kingdom.

The chronology of the crisis was:

June '79: The nurses submitted a formal written request to the Prime Minister for a thorough and impartial investigation of the whole nursing service and for the removal of the chief nursing officer (Mrs 'Akosita Fineanganofa) whose performance, they claimed, had been adversely affecting morale and efficiency since 1971 despite repeated complaints to authority.

August: The government appointed a committee of inquiry which sat for 26 days and prepared a 600-page report on the evidence presented.

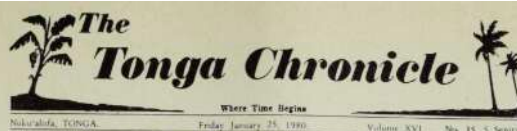
Dec. 3: The nurses submitted a further letter with 173 signatures asking for a definitive decision on the report by December 10, including removal of the CNO. Failing this their letter should be taken as formal notice of resignation to take effect on January 10, except where three months' notice required.

Dec. 10: No reply received.

Jan. 9 '80: a.m. The minister of health was reminded by the nurses that the resignations would take effect at midnight as previously notified.

p.m. The prime minister met with the nurses' representatives to request postponement but could give no guarantee of when Cabinet would review and act on the report.

Midnight: The nurses stopped work and radioed the outer islands in code to do the same.



NURSING CRISIS PM's ADDRESS

PM's ADDRESS

This is a statement... the approach by the Prime Minister, HRH Prince Fatafehi Tu'i Peleke, in response to the nurses' action on the morning of January 9.

Nurses who submitted on mass resignation over a number of previous william... to work today to end the deadlock of the unprecedented nursing crisis in Tonga.

WHEN AUTHORITARIANISM FAILED

From Penny Hodgkinson in Nukualofa

Jan. 11: Three theatre staff of Vaiola Hospital returned to assist with an emergency operation, then left again.

Jan. 13: The minister of health, Dr Tapa, in a denunciatory broadcast that shocked the Kingdom, declared the resignations invalid and ordered the nurses back to work by 4 pm next day. Those who did not obey would, he said, be 'driven out of the government nursing service in disgrace'.

Jan. 14: Only three nurses obeyed the minister's ultimatum.

Jan. 15: The ministry of health began broadcasting appeals for volunteers to assist skeleton hospital staffs.

Jan. 16: The nurses distributed a brochure explaining their case to the public and presented a petition to His Majesty in Council.

Jan. 17: The Privy Council reviewed the crisis and referred it back to another Cabinet meeting next day. A public petition circulated overnight in support of the nurses and with over 6000 signatures was also sent to His Majesty. Catholic Bishop Patelisio Finau, in a personal letter to His Majesty, requested further review of the nurses' long standing grievances.

Jan. 18: Cabinet sat all day and late that night released an authorised national broadcast statement, summarising its version of the history of the crisis, announcing its acceptance of a committee finding that all complaints against the CNO were 'without foundation',

and upholding her in her position. It further announced that an expatriate expert in nursing administration would be quickly recruited to evaluate all facets of and current practices within the ministry of health nursing service, and gave a 'second chance extension' of the former dismissal deadline to 4 pm next day.

Jan. 19: Three nurses from Vaiola General Hospital and 12 from the various outer islands resumed duty. The remainder stood firm, claiming: that the official January 15 broadcast had been denigratory in tone and incomplete in substance; that their resignations had not been declared invalid during the one month's notice period; that the offer of a second independent investigation underlined the meaningless and 'face-saving' nature of the earlier inquiry in which all three committee members and the secretary had been related by blood or marriage to the contentious CNO; that returning to duty under that same CNO, strengthened by official Cabinet vindication, would create unbearable tensions and undermine what remained of nursing efficiency.

Jan. 21: The ministry of health broadcast advertisements, for Tongans or resident expatriates with nursing experience to fill vacancies in the Government service and rumours began to circulate that the government was also considering overseas recruitments.

Jan. 23: Doctors at Vaiola Hospital sent an official letter to the Ministry of Health urg-

ing a practical resolution of the crisis and advising that they would not be able to cope much longer under existing conditions.

At 9.30 pm on the night of January 24, the apparent deadlock was suddenly and dramatically broken.

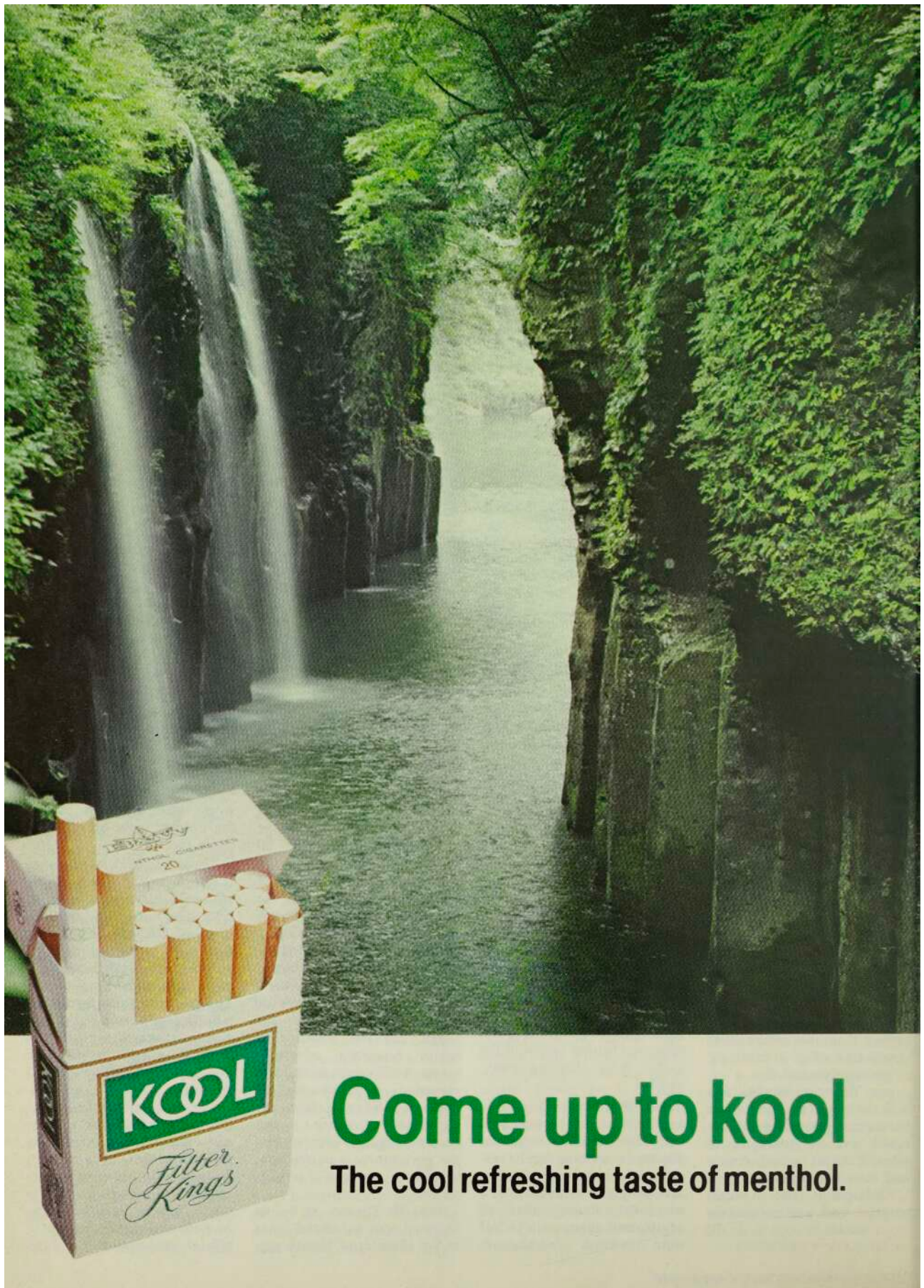
In a nationwide broadcast, the Prime Minister, HRH Prince Fatefehi Tu'i Peleke, revealed that the government had backed away from its former uncompromising authoritarianism, so that all concerned could work together in harmony and love for the good of the Kingdom. HM's Government had, he said, decided to transfer the CNO to another ministry (foreign affairs), a new CNO would be recruited from overseas, and a third ex-gratia chance would be given to all nurses resuming duty by 4 pm on Saturday, January 26.

An official letter detailing the new offers was simultaneously delivered to the house where most of the nurses had been living together since the crisis began, and crowds of well-wishers began congregating outside to offer their congratulations.

Amid tears of rejoicing and relief of tension, amid emotional Tonga-style speeches of gratitude to the government for its changed attitude and to the many supporters who had supplied them with food and money, they voted unanimously to accept the Cabinet olive-branch and rejoin the service.

Thus Tonga's first-ever major industrial crisis ended with valuable lessons for both sides. The nurses, and through them all Tongans, have learnt that unity, faith, strength of purpose and total belief in a cause can move mountains. The government has learnt that a respect for human rights, and a realistic search for practical solutions, is far more effective than old-style hardline authoritarianism.

The prime minister resolved the 15-day crisis with a grace and dignity which obliterated earlier mistakes and won every Tongan heart. The nurses responded with a grace and dignity to match, many returning to work as volunteers prior to official resumption of duty.



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MICRONESIA: ANOTHER VIEW

Dr Mac Marshall, an American anthropologist who lived in Micronesia for almost three years, and is currently in Port Moresby as Visiting Senior Research Fellow at the PNG Institute of Applied Social and Economic Research, here comments on the letter headlined 'What's wrong with the U.S. Trust Territory?' by James R. Mancham (PIM Feb p5).

Mr Mancham, a former Chief Minister, Prime Minister and President of the Seychelles, recently touched at several islands in Micronesia while aboard a cruise ship and has levelled criticism at the US Government for a variety of things he observed there which purportedly represent 'an obvious lack of a defined, comprehensive and coordinated policy for the islands on the part of the administering power.'

Mr Mancham gives the following examples in support of this contention: the use of corrugated iron in the construction of churches and public buildings; the supposed lack of fishing, with 'hundreds of empty tins of canned fish' lying about; loss of the skills necessary to operate traditional outrigger canoes in the face of the outboard 'engine craze'; use of the beachfronts as 'latrines and refuse dumps'; 'alcoholism resulting from the indiscriminating [sic] tapping and drinking of toddy'; and political fragmentation.

While I would concur that the US government has not always operated with a coherent, overall policy in Micronesia, I think Mr Mancham has chosen strange examples to illustrate his point.

It is odd that Mr Mancham assumes the US government to be responsible for the use of



The overwater beachfront latrine ... 'superior hygienically'. Photo A G Shearer

corrugated iron sheets in the construction of churches and public buildings. To begin with, the government does not construct churches; in the second place, on the atolls of Micronesia corrugated iron roofs provide an important rain-catchment surface, which is far more important than their (admitted) aesthetic faults. Churches and public buildings usually are the largest structures in Micronesian village communities and, when roofed with corrugated iron, provide a *community-wide* source of water that can be collected in cisterns. Finally, in the Pacific, if not in the Indian Ocean, corrugated iron has been readily available as a building material for at least a century and its use in Micronesia long antedates the US governmental presence.

That large quantities of tinned fish are consumed in Micronesia, as elsewhere in the Pacific, is true — particularly so in the port towns. That this automatically means that there is a lack of fishing in Micronesia does not follow. Members of both of the Micronesian communities in which I have lived for extended periods — one an outer island and one a suburb of the port town in Truk — undertook fishing almost daily, even though canned fish also was consumed. In any event, the US government can hardly be held directly responsible for the importation of tinned fish; it is imported and sold by private Micronesian businessmen to meet local demand.

Mr Mancham is correct that

open-ocean sailing of canoes has declined greatly in Micronesia in the past 35 years and that outboard motorboats have become increasingly popular. In contemporary Micronesia traditional navigational techniques survive only on a few atolls in the Central Carolines, but most young men still learn how to 'operate' (i.e., sail) traditional outrigger canoes, even if they do not master celestial navigation lore.

I suspect that with the tightening of the fuel crisis worldwide the canoes may begin to make a strong comeback at the expense of motorboats, but it will be a few years before this hypothesis can be tested. More importantly for this discussion, Micronesians have consciously chosen outboard motorboats because these vessels perform some jobs more rapidly and efficiently than canoes, e.g., they are faster, can carry larger loads, can be used for open-ocean trolling on windless days, etc. Again, I emphasise that it is *Micronesians themselves* who have opted for motorboats; the presence of these vessels is not a consequence of US government action.

Overwater beachfront latrines were introduced into Micronesia as a *sanitary measure* by the Japanese Government between 1941 and 1945, *not* by the US government. They are superior hygienically to the earlier practice of eliminating on land, particularly so on atolls where human waste can percolate down to and contaminate the

freshwater lens. In the absence of Western-style sanitary sewer systems, which are expensive to build and maintain, beachfront latrines flushed by the tides are a reasonable answer to waste disposal everywhere in Micronesia but the densely populated port towns. After all, the need for some sort of latrine cannot be eliminated.

It is on the subject of 'alcoholism' that I find Mr Mancham to be particularly ill-informed. He claims '... that fresh [coconut] toddy can be as potent as wine and four days later become[s] as strong as whisky, gin or vodka ...' Hogwash!

First, there is little evidence of real alcoholism in Micronesia, in the sense of addictive, pathological drinking, although alcohol abuse, involving social disruption, is quite common (see, e.g., my recent book, *Weekend Warriors: Alcohol in a Micronesian Culture*, Mayfield Publishing Co, 1979). Second, fresh coconut toddy is a *non-alcoholic* beverage and is widely used throughout Micronesia as a nourishing supplement to infant diets as well as a refreshing drink enjoyed by adults. Four-day old fermented toddy has a mean alcohol content of 5 per cent and would require distillation to approach the alcohol content of whisky, gin or vodka.

Where serious alcohol-related problems exist in Micronesia today, they involve commercially produced, imported alcoholic beverages and not fermented coconut toddy.

As termination of the UN Trusteeship in Micronesia nears, the artificial colonial creation known as the US Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands has broken apart into four separate political entities: the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, Palau, the Federated States of Micronesia, and the Marshall Islands.

To a large extent these entities reflect traditional linguistic and cultural divisions, and while the US government has not seriously discouraged political fragmentation in Micronesia, I suggest that this process simply is part of a larger political process occur-

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ring throughout newly post-colonial parts of the world (e.g., Africa and the Caribbean). Of the examples of 'administrative failure' Mr Mancham presents, this last case is the *only* one where the US government might rightly be faulted.

Although I am an American citizen, my purpose here has been not so much to defend American policy in Micronesia as to point out that much of what strikes the casual visitor to the islands as deplorable is not the result of administrative bungling. Rather, many such problems (if indeed they are problems from the local point of view) have a long history and involve the active participation of Micronesians themselves (e.g., decisions to purchase motorboats or to separate from other parts of the Trust Territory).

Mr Mancham's apparently genuine concern for the well-being of Micronesians is to be applauded, but his specific criticisms are wide of the mark.

NEW POLITICS IN W. SAMOA

From Felise Va'a in Apia

The year 1979 was not a happy year for Tupuola Efi's government. For the first time in the history of Samoan politics, the government in power had to fight for its existence against an organised political party using modern methods of party organisation and pressure tactics.

True there had been political parties of a sort in the past, both before and after independence in 1962. But these political groupings were mostly loose affairs and were formed primarily for the purpose of lobbying for particular candidates for the prime minister's job. After the 1979 general elections in February, however, it became only too obvious that the future of Samoan politics will be governed largely by formal political parties.

A group of parliamentarians formed themselves into the Human Rights Protection Party. At the outset, the pri-



Western Samoa's parliament building, here seen as venue for a South Pacific Conference, will this year see a new kind of politics. Photo: Andy Forsgren.

mary aim of the party was the ousting of Tupuola Efi from the position of prime minister. The motives were varied and to a large extent personal. Many felt that Tupuola was drifting too far left and towards a subtle form of dictatorship. Tupuola, for instance, was accused of being overfriendly with Communist countries such as the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China. He was also accused of favouritism in the matter of appointments. Some of the charges have been exaggerated, but others have not been fully explained away by government, leading many to doubt the integrity of the prime minister and members of his cabinet.

The influence of the Opposition was seen during 1979 when Tupuola refused to call a parliamentary session for most of the year. The first session was finally begun on November 13 for the purpose of discussing the \$60.2 million budget for 1980. It appeared then that government was forced to hold the session only because of the budget and the Opposition did not forget it. They made government ministers suffer from their incessant attacks and perhaps it was no coincidence that Prime Minister Tupuola twice had attacks of ill-health during the budget debate. He collapsed after a game of squash, and had a relapse in parliament during a debate, forcing parliament to recess for a while.

Most regrettably of all, the Minister of Lands, Hon Lesatele Rapi, brother of Opposition leader Vaai Kolone, collapsed during a budget debate and died shortly after. All these things occurred during a time of high tension in parliament.

While the imminent threat from the Opposition is waning, government still has a lot of problems to face. Chief among these is the economic problem. Government is seeking to control the balance of payments problem caused primarily by a drop in agricultural exports and increased energy costs. To do this, it has to curtail imports drastically. This in turn is annoying the merchants who are crying out for more allocations. Then government is also faced by the threat of striking public servants who are demanding pay increases to keep up with the cost of living. To grant these increases government will most likely resort to more taxation, hence more dissatisfaction from the people.

Tupuola will have to 'pull up his socks' and he probably realises this. A policy of rooting out his opponents, in the public service, business or elsewhere will not help him for he cannot dismiss the social and economic realities. A drift towards more nationalisation will have to stop and he will have to come to terms with business and the consumers. Therefore, some relaxation in credit poli-

cies will have to be allowed and business will have to be encouraged to play its part in boosting the economy. This can only be done through needed incentives.

No doubt Tupuola has the best of intentions for the country and he has many admirers for the hard work he puts in. No doubt some of the accusations made against him are exaggerated. No doubt he is knowledgeable about relationships with foreign countries and the current world situation. But he has to come to some sort of accommodation with his critics, who are not always wrong.

He will also have to adopt a more open policy regarding government public relations, an area where the Tupuola government fails miserably. This failure explains to a great extent the unpopularity of his administration. The people will have to know more about his policies and their justification. This means he will have to be more prepared to talk with the press, from which at the moment he has practically shut himself off.

Politics in Samoa in the 1980s will be radically different with the incoming of formal party politics. The old politics of consensus and compromise will be no more. The professional politician has arrived at last, with his good points and bad. Political upheaval is in the making.

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Good Samaritan thrives in Tonga

You come out at the end of a bumpy side road on the north-western tip of Tongatapu (some 16 km from Nukualofa) to find a cluster of simple Tongan-style holiday *fales* tucked among shady trees on the edge of Kolovai Lagoon. You note an equally simple but considerably larger edifice, that turns out to be a restaurant. Fronted by a verandah terrace ideal for sipping drinks on as you watch a technicolour sunset over jewel-bright seas which turn to polished silver when the moon comes up. You've made it to The Good Samaritan.

It's Polynesia-on-a-platter ... it's Everyman's dream of Paradise-in-the-Pacific — especially when you're on the receiving end of a 1000-watt Friendly Isles' smile as a waitress flashes past you on table-setting duty, with a red hibiscus in her long black hair and a provocative swing of her supple (if usually substantial) Tongan hips.

But (surprise, surprise) a most un-Polynesian bonus lurks in the kitchen, where two gifted graduates of the Capucin Gourmand School of Gastronomy in Nancy, France, work fabulous French magic with local Tongan ingredients.

How come, you ask, bemused by *soupe à l'oignon* or *bouillabaisse*, by crayfish *flambé*, *mornay* or *Thermidor*, by succulent fish steaks, by *filet Mignon*, *coq au vin* or *boeuf Bourguignon* and their accompaniments of subtle sauces, buttery potatoes and crisp, well-dressed salads.

Well, like all good stories it began with a dash of *l'amour*, *l'amour* — with André Léger from Nancy meeting Alisi Mo'ungaloa from Kolovai in the New Hebrides in '75 and returning to Tonga with her in



Good Samaritans André and Jean-Marie displaying a fresh-caught crayfish en route from reef to grill. Photo Jim McDonald.

'76, after a wedding in Fiji en route.

Alisi's family had just begun turning three hectares of their Kolovai land-holding into a rustic holiday hideaway, so André switched temporarily from cheffery to bush-clearing and carpentry. On October 12, '76, the first stage of the project was officially opened and named by HM the King, with André as manager and chef and his very competent wife in charge of the bar, the bookings and the accounts.

Local and tourist reaction to the aroma of that French cooking was so overwhelmingly enthusiastic that André sighed with relief when a young compatriot, Jean-Marie Robert, completing his national service in the New Hebrides in 1978, wrote to inquire about job prospects. 'Mais oui, mon ami, come quick,' wrote André; and Jean-Marie came, became involved, became engaged to a Tongan girl, and now looks set to stay.

With imported French, German and Australian wines, imported herbs and olive oil, fruit and salad greens straight from the garden, fish, crays and mussels straight from the sea and the best available local meat and poultry, The Good Samaritan magicians are adding a special dimension to Tonga's tourist amenities; and visible inches to the circum-

ference of faithful customers among the expatriate population of the kingdom.

How can even the most dedicated dieter resist such temptations? Especially in the knowledge that (oh, shades of restaurants back home!) the total charge for four or five delectable courses will be a mere \$6 or \$7 per person.

'Ze people are coming to 'ere from many countrees. Zey 'ave 'ear ze Good Samaritan ees verree good to eating,' says André with justified pride, in English as French-flavoured as his sauces.

C'est vrai, M'sieu André — the Good Samaritan is indeed extremely good to eating and I too (alas) have lots of extra pounds to prove it! — Penny Hodgkinson.

Buying a Fiji island?

From time to time overseas newspapers carry advertisements for 'attractive' offers of land available for sale in Fiji. The blurbs tend to paint an extremely rosy picture. Aware that land ownership and leasing in Fiji are delicate matters, PIM asked the appropriate Fiji authorities for more information on these matters. We reproduce below the reply received from a senior officer

of the Ministry of Lands and Mineral Resources:

As far as I am aware the advertisements that you refer to are mainly on sale of freehold properties. As you know Fiji's land tenure system is a complex one. Some 83% of the land is owned by Fijians in Communal tenure, which cannot be sold, but part of it may be leased. On the other hand Crown Land, which is about 9% of the total area, can only be leased and when it becomes available applications are called for locally as the priority for consideration, in this case, is given to Fiji citizens.

The freehold land about which you are mainly concerned is about 8% of the total area and is scattered throughout the country. Land held in freehold tenure is negotiable in much the same way as is freehold land in Australia and New Zealand, where the Torrens system of land registration also applies. Sales of freehold properties are not uncommon and it is usual for owners to place their properties on the market either through firms of solicitors, land agents or newspapers. The Department of Lands and Survey does not interfere with such sales of freehold properties. But, where non-residents are involved the Minister's consent must be obtained before entering into a contract to buy or sell. The legislation which provides for Minister's consent is under the



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Lands Sales Act of 1974.

The purpose of this legislation is to have some measure of control and to watch the effect of land transactions in Fiji, particularly those of a speculative nature where non-resident persons may be engaged in the dealings. In the past considerable profits appear to have been made on these transactions, and this is having the effect of rapidly increasing the price of land, and is also having a serious effect on the economy of the country. There is also provision for levying land sales tax on capital profits derived through sale of freehold properties.

If a person is buying either a freehold or a leasehold interest in land, he should be aware of the following facts:—

(a) A Sale and Purchase Agreement is not evidence of ownership of an interest in the land. To be the legal owner he must hold a Certificate of Title or a registered lease. If the land is in a recent subdivision, the vendor may not be able to give this evidence of ownership until he has satisfied the Registrar of Titles that he has completed the subdivision in accordance with conditions laid down by the authority responsible for its approval. Without such evidence of ownership, he will not be permitted to start any building work on the site nor will he have an adequate security for any mortgage on it.

(b) Any subdivided block of land which one may buy or lease will be designated on the plan of subdivision for a particular use such as agricultural, residential, commercial, hotel purposes and so on. If one intends to change the use of the land, for example by further subdivision or by building a hotel on an agricultural holding, he should obtain approvals for such change of use before entering into any firm commitment to buy or lease. Both the landlord and the local authority should be consulted on any proposed change of use of land.

(c) Similarly if one is purchasing or leasing a building and intends to change its use, for example, from having



CORAL SEA AIR CLASSIC JUNE 1980

a house to being a motel or boarding house, he should obtain approvals for such change of use before entering into any firm commitment to buy or lease.

On again: Coral Sea Air Classic

Following the successful running of the inaugural Coral Sea Air Classic last year between Wollongong, NSW, and Noumea, the organisers have announced that they are preparing for the second event to be held during June.

It will start in Wollongong on Saturday, June 14 and finish in Noumea some 15 days later. The event has been designed to include a three-day competitive section between Wollongong and Townsville, then will continue as a tour of some of the South Pacific islands, calling at Papua New Guinea ports, then Munda, Honiara, Kira Kira, Santa Cruz, Santo, Vila and Noumea.

More than 150 aircraft are expected to take part in the competition section of the event, with 60 of those aircraft

expected to complete the whole tour. Jack Mullins, of the South Coast Aero Club, Albion Park, NSW, has the details.

Pacific armada at Arts Festival

Solomon Islands plans to send four full-size war canoes, plus one big Polynesian sailing canoe — *Te Puke* — to the Third South Pacific Festival of Arts in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, in June-July.

Kiribati has also promised a big canoe, and others are hoped for from Tahiti, New Hebrides, Western Samoa, and the Torres Straits islanders.

On the initiative of the Manus Provincial Government, Manus Island is to send two sailing canoes to the festival. They will be escorted by the PNG Defence Force, and hope to rendezvous with the canoes from the Solomons at the Milne Bay port of Samarai. The Royal Papua Yacht Club is planning a sail race to Samarai in order to provide an escort for the canoe flotilla back to Port Moresby.

Negotiations are now taking

place over free shipping offers for canoes and other bulky objects for exhibition to Port Moresby from points in the central and eastern Pacific. Details will be circulated to each country's festival coordinator as soon as possible. If successful, a much bigger contribution of canoes may be possible for the festival and the planned regattas.

Current planning is for two regattas, the first to be held on Saturday July 5, and the second on the festival's final day, Saturday July 12. Both will be centred on Port Moresby's Ela Beach.

Fiji to ban sale of tabua

The Ministry of Fijian Affairs is preparing laws to ban the sale of tabua because of an acute shortage of the whales' teeth.

Tabua were a vital part of Fijian ceremonies and culture but the supply situation was becoming critical, the senior assistant secretary for Fijian Affairs, Mr Luke Waqa said.

Ten to 15 years ago nearly every Fijian family had tabua but now most Fijians were living without one in the household.

Many Fijians in urban areas have to spend their savings or borrow to buy tabua from pawn shops and Chinese shops when they needed them for special occasions.

And, where once large tabua were offered at a ceremony now it was often a small one.

Mr Waqa said the problem was caused first by a drain on Fiji's stock of tabua as they were given away to VIPs, church leaders, expatriates and people taking out of Fiji souvenirs of their visits to villages. [Export of historic tabua has been banned for many years.]

At the same time the supply of tabua was drying up with world curbs on whaling, in particular the toothed sperm whale which provided tabua.

Many tabua were lying on shop shelves after being sold or pawned by Fijians in financial distress.

Tabua are kept by Fijians for use in welcome ceremonies,



Presentation of tabua. Insert shows how recipient receives the honour with both hands.

marriages, births and reconciliation in dispute.

Tabua cannot be replaced by yaqona or other Fijian gifts on many such special occasions.

Lae students' Oxtrike

Under the supervision of Dr Brian Dudley, a visiting lecturer at the Papua New Guinea University of Technology in Lae, two final year students in the Department of Mechanical Engineering have completed a project of building an Oxtrike, a three-wheeled vehicle which resembles an overgrown tricycle. The students, Pinoko Moses and Henry Pital, along with the workshop staff and Dr Dudley did all the work themselves.

The Oxtrike, intended as an economical transport vehicle for developing countries, was originally designed by Dr Stuart Wilson of the Intermediate Technology Development Unit at Oxford University. It is capable of carrying up to 150 kg of cargo, or two passengers if fitted with a seat as was the Unitech Oxtrike.

Dr Dudley said that a vehicle of this sort could be useful in a place like Lae. It is sturdy, and easy to operate and maintain. It has also been suggested the Oxtrike could be used by tourists in places like Madang.

The Department of Mechanical Engineering at the University is interested in improving the design of the Oxtrike and arranging for its manufacture in Papua New Guinea.

The Pasadena-Pitcairn story

Sandra Blakeslee of the *Los Angeles Times* backgrounds the project by a group of students in Pasadena, California, to present to Pitcairn Island the solar electricity generator they have built (PIM Mar p7).

Writes Blakeslee: A group of Pasadena students who set out to prove that the government is 'full of baloney' about the cost of solar energy has succeeded in building a solar collector and generator that produces five kilowatts of electricity, a feat the government says is quite respectable.

'We've learned stuff that you could never learn without actually going out and doing it,' said a Project Sunfire foreman, Neil Dipprey, 20. Most of the parts were scrounged and donated.



The Oxtrike takes to Lae's streets

TROPICALITIES

However, the young inventors said they have plans to forge a solar future. They founded a company last year called the Solar Dynamo Gang, Inc.

The company will manufacture two-kilowatt solar generators for use in remote places or on rooftops in nearby Los Angeles.

Each Sun Raider, as the units are called, will sell for \$5000. Two kilowatts would be enough power for a single-family dwelling, they said.

Sunfire, at five kilowatts, will be enough to run the refrigerators on Pitcairn, where people live frugally.

Solar energy is tailor-made for remote islands such as Pitcairn, Dipprey said.

Sunfire is a gift of love, the students said, from their generation to the past generation.

The project began five years ago. Frank Broyles, a backyard inventor and solar tinkerer, was fed up with government estimates of solar energy costs. 'They said a collector would cost \$70 000 to \$80 000 a kilowatt,' he recalled recently. 'I said baloney, we can do it for less.'

Broyles enlisted the help of a physics class at nearby Cresenta Valley High School in the fall of 1974.

About the same time, Tom Christian of Pitcairn Island heard about the project on his shortwave radio.

'Tom contacted us and asked if they could have it if it worked,' Broyles said. The

answer was yes. 'There really wasn't anything else to do with it,' he added ...

The students are worried about getting Sunfire to isolated Pitcairn.

They are putting out feelers to the Navy in hopes of getting support ...

PNG: Warnings from the grave

A Papua New Guinea man who died in a drunken brawl has had his grave decorated with beer bottles. And several other men who died in road accidents have been buried at the roadside where every driver going past can see the graves.

'There's no disrespect — it's just part of a new tradition we are establishing' clan leaders say in Mount Hagen in the Western Highlands. About eight of the new roadside graves have appeared along sections of roadway leading into Mount Hagen. The headstones are painted in bright colours to draw attention to them, and they are surrounded by borders of flowers and shrubs.

Villagers living near the grave of one of the accident victims insist that all people walking or driving past must remove their hats. The grave of the man who died in a brawl is also at the roadside. It is surrounded by a neat border of partly buried beer bottles in a carefully-tended clearing. (Beer bottles are commonly used to mark graves in numbers of Pacific Islands, but these ornaments have no connection with their cause of death.)

The graves belong to people of the Kilipika and Kuli clans which have a number of villages in the Western Highlands. A Kuli man said that death on the roads or from fights which did not involve traditional tribal warfare had shocked and worried many people in the area.

'The people are confused' he said, 'because our traditions of burial do not relate to deaths of this sort. The result had been the burial of some victims by the roadside instead of in traditional burial grounds.'

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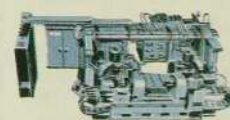
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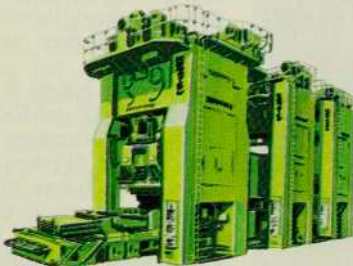
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Western Samoa's Prime Minister **Tupuola Efi** has announced that **Feesago S. Fepulea'i** will replace **Fred Betham** as the country's high commissioner to New Zealand. Mr Betham has held the post since 1976.

Feesago, 43, had been serving as clerk of Western Samoa's Legislative Assembly, a position which also involves the job of chief returning officer. In that capacity he has supervised seven elections.

Feesago will be no stranger to New Zealand, where he continued his education on a scholarship after attending school in Apia.

The prime minister said a replacement for **Maiava Iulai Toma**, Western Samoa's ambassador to the United Nations, was not being made because his term was not yet up.

Since May 1979 **Stella Miria** has been acting executive officer in Planning Economics and Marketing, a branch of Papua New Guinea's Department of Primary Industry.

One of the high points of her career over that time was her work as assistant co-ordinator (working with the co-ordinator, **Ian Donald**) of the assembly meeting of the Association of Natural Rubber Producing Countries held in Port Moresby late last year.

Mr Donald said of her performance: 'Stella is totally reliable and dedicated. She has stacks of initiative and that special ability which makes people enjoy both working for her and with her.'

Stella responds: 'With the ANRPC meeting came many complimentary comments. Although I know I did my best for the conference, I also know that the real spirit was team work.'

A Bachelor of Arts (major in geography) from the University of Papua New Guinea,



Honolulu's Tavana surrounded by warriors at the launching of one of his major projects — a traditional Polynesian royal canoe. Photo Sheree Lipton.

Stella is now living apart from her husband and caring for their three children.

She sums up her experience in these terms: 'In my life I have been an extremely fortunate person. I am glad to be a Papua New Guinean woman, glad to be called an independent professional, and also very glad to be called Mummy.'

On a brief February visit to Sydney en route to Port Moresby to collect her diploma in journalism at the University of Papua New Guinea, **Hilda Lini** called at the PIM office to introduce us to the New Hebrides' newest publication, the weekly newsmagazine, called in Bislama *Nasiko*. The trilingual magazine — *Kingfisher* to English readers, and *le Martin-pêcheur* to French — is a non-party effort, aiming to reflect the views of all inhabitants of the archipelago.

Hilda is the magazine's editor and publisher.

She explains the name in her first editorial: 'On my home island *Nasiko* is the king of the birds. It is the bird that warns of bad luck and good luck.'

'When *Nasiko* cries on your right side it is your good luck

and when it cries on your left, that is bad luck.'

'But also if it cries on your left and continues crying while flying to the right it means that by coincidence you will not be caught in a trap set up by nature. And it is vice versa if it goes in the other direction.'

'Sometimes *Nasiko* keeps crying at one particular spot. This means that there is something dangerous, an owl or something poisonous.'

'So by calling this magazine *Nasiko*, I hope it acts like the king of the birds and warns everyone of the dangers ahead. The government, the opposition, the businessmen, the people and *Nasiko* magazine itself.'

In a comment on some early criticisms of the *Nasiko* project, Hilda, who is a sister of Chief Minister **Walter Lini** and a long-time Vanuaaku Party activist, Hilda writes: 'Some people do not want to believe that (the magazine) is independent and free ... In a way I don't blame them. They associate me with the government because of my surname and my previous activities. They don't realise that people change ...'

High Chief Matagalua Tavana, at 48, is probably one

of Polynesia's wealthiest and most eccentric citizens. His rambling beachside estate in Kahala, Hawaii's most exclusive neighbourhood, is a gathering place for prominent guests from all over the Pacific. Tavana is a self-made success in every sense of the word.

His father was a Norwegian merchant. His mother was a **Salmon, Amy Tuteratea Salmon**, niece of **Queen Marau** of the Teva clan and the governess of his father's Norwegian children. Illegitimate and orphaned at an early age, Tavana was shuffled around the Pacific and schooled in Hawaii.

Late in his teens, with youthful energy and artisan hands itching to create and reconstruct the ties to the canoe-building clan of his past, he set off for Tonga to build a royal canoe as a gift for the late and revered **Queen Salote**. He was given a special welcome, and became firm friends with **Prince Tungi** (now Tonga's King); it is a friendship that has lasted over a quarter of a century.

His chiefly title is a designated one, introduced by **Paramount Chief Leiato Tuli**, and certified in the Senate Chambers of the legislature of American Samoa.

A high title like this is rarely given to a non-Samoan, but Tavana seems to enjoy a unique relationship with Samoans that dates back to 1952, when they backed him and helped to start the *Polynesian Revue* that has brought him wealth and fame. In return Tavana has, for some years, surrounded himself with Samoan allies, and quietly contributes more than \$US28 000 annually to Samoan churches of various denominations, in both American and Western Samoa.

Much of Tavana's energy is directed to his show. From a modest start as a Polynesian Pauper, he has groomed his revue to become the most celebrated and authentic Polynesian extravaganza in Honolulu, performing steadily for the last 28 years. While he seldom appears now on stage anymore, the Chief does all the choreography for the Tahitian and Rarotongan numbers, and has a cast of 75 in the revue.

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PEOPLE

There are two performances nightly, which means 1000 people pay \$20 for dinner, two drinks and a one-hour trip into exotica. You can figure out the nightly take, but Tavana told me, without a flick of an eyelash, that he grosses approximately \$8 million a year, nets about \$3 million after taxes.

He is bemused yet patient with the American tax system, especially with just-off-the-boat Tahitian performers who love Hawaii as a 'paradise' but become astonished and enraged when taxes are taken out of their wages! Payroll, by the way, averages more than \$1 million annually. Performers come from New Zealand (Maoris), Tahiti, Tonga, Samoa, Rarotonga and Fiji. They are paid according to number of years of service, and most are sponsored by Tavana, who has given many a start on their own climb to fame in the Pacific.

Tavana returns annually to Tahiti, to recruit new and talented dancers and drummers, and to contribute a bit to the economy with gigantic purchases of shells, woven coconut cord, roofing materials of pandanus and fibres for his costumes. He fashions textiles for the more sophisticated numbers where the boys and girls wear *pareus*; most of his designs are originals — modern variations on ancient insignias. Others come from dusty old plates at the *Musée de Paris*, with whose curators he maintains a regular correspondence.

Tavana's aim and search seems to be towards his own elaborate cultural renaissance in the Pacific. The show runs smoothly with his adopted son **Malala McMoore** at the helm, and Tavana looks forward to spending more time 'devoting myself to restoring old culture'. 'That's my life,' he affirms, 'a good part of me lives in the past, and that's the past.'

But a current project that excites him is his new palace going up on his front lawn in Honolulu. There are already seven houses for servants and four houses for visitors on the estate, but the palace will be the *pièce de resistance*. It is one enormous room built in tra-



ditional Polynesian style with posts of polished coconut trunks. 'It will house all my artifacts,' he explained, 'and will serve as a reception room for visiting dignitaries.'

No one doubts the palace will stand against time's ravages and weather — Tavana's own Polynesian Pyramid. — *Sherée Lipton*.

During the holiday weekend January 25-28, almost 200 former expatriate residents of Western Samoa met at Wairakei, Taupo, New Zealand, for their second reunion which had been organised with smooth efficiency and much hard work by **Lloyd Webber** — former District Officer, Tokelaus — and his wife **Shirley**.

In this weekend of splendid weather, clergy, representatives of commercial firms and former government officials — some coming from overseas for the occasion — renewed old friendships in intervals between golf, tennis, bowls, swimming in the warm springs, and exploring the geothermal region.

This happy occasion concluded with a Polynesian night with entertainment by a Tokelaian group. *Fa'a fetai tele Lloyd, soifua!*

Mrs Pat Shimmon has now joined the festival Secretariat as Programmes & Venues Offi-



cer, working with William Takaku. Since arriving in PNG, Pat has been closely involved with the popular Moresby Theatre Group, serving as publicity and public relations officer.

Secretary to Director Mali Voi is **Mrs Lyn Berryman**, who before arriving in PNG in August 1979 was secretary to the Australian Gallery Directors' Council, and to the NSW State Attorney-General.

The board of the South Pacific Festival of Arts has appointed the distinguished international producer **Stefan Haag** as consultant for the Third Festival.

The newest Commissioner to the Cook Islands High Court is **Dr Ngaikura Tou**, 63, who has



Top: Val Penlington (left) puts a question at the New Zealand reunion of expatriates who served in Western Samoa to Athol George (treasury) and Helen Silcock. **Centre:** Lou Cochrane (Matron, Apia Hospital) and Lloyd Webber (who started it all). **Bottom:** Surgeon Charles Judd travelled from Hawaii for the reunion.

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PEOPLE

been a medical practitioner in the Cooks for 37 years.

After education at a London Missionary Society School, Dr Tou became a teacher trainee and was one of the first Islands scholars to attend Te Aute College in New Zealand's Hawkes Bay. His medical training was in Fiji, with three months in a leper colony on Makogai in the Fiji group, followed by stints in the outer Cook Islands and further training in surgery in New Zealand and Fiji.

As Deputy Director and later Secretary of Health, Dr Ngaei, as he is known in the Cooks, represented the Cook Islands at many South Pacific Commission and World Health Organisation seminars and conferences in the Pacific.

Although retired, he still helps out at the outpatient clinic on Rarotonga, and plans to write a book about his years of experience in tropical medicine, particularly during the formative period of the present health system, in which the Premier, **Dr Tom Davis**, was also involved.

Dr Tou believes in the value of traditional Maori medicine, and says that China cannot claim all the praise for pioneering the 'barefoot doctor' system. 'The Cook Islands has always had its barefoot doctors who have worked among the people,' he maintains.

'I don't know why they picked me,' he says of his new appointment as Court Commissioner. 'My training is in medicine, not in judging people ... still, I think what's needed is just common sense.'

— Karen Garner-Williams.

Aitasi Pausila, 19, is the first female motor mechanic to be employed by Western Samoa's Public Works Department workshop at Vaitele. The PWD claims she is the first female graduate in motor mechanics from the Technical College at Vaivase.

Aitasi said she had completed two years at the college and, though she was now employed by the PWD, she intended to do advanced courses at the college for the next two years.

'We're very proud of her,'



Father Georges Callet (right) is decorated with the rosette of France's Legion of Honour by French Vice-Minister for Foreign Affairs **Olivier Stirn** during this January visit to Tonga. Fr Callet, who began his mission to Tonga 43 years ago, had a few days before been invested with the Papal decoration of the Holy Cross. The occasion was the dedication ceremony of the Basilica of St Anthony of Padua in Nukualofa.

says her workshop supervisor.

As the opening of the June-July Third South Pacific Festival of Arts draws closer, SPFA Director **Mali Voi** has announced a number of staff appointments and changes in function which will enable the festival secretariat to handle the increasing work load involved in festival preparations during the next few months.

William Takaku has been newly appointed Deputy Director (Culture & Artistic), on secondment from PNG's National Theatre Company. William was a member of the Papua New Guinea cultural team at the 1972 SPFA in Fiji, and at the second festival in Rotorua in 1976. To take this appointment, he has had to defer a scholarship to the National Institute of Dramatic Art in Sydney. His musical drama *Eberia*, which will be a festival highlight, has just completed a successful dry run in Kieta, North Solomons Province, William's birthplace. Festival programming and artistic production will be his main responsibilities.

Deputy Director (Finance & Administration) **David Bamford**, who joined the secretariat in March 1979 on secondment from the PNG Office of Tourism (he was then also a member of the main festival committee), has now assumed particular responsibility for finance, administration, publicity and marketing.

On media relations, publicity and marketing is **Ms Kerry Collins**, who joined the SPFA in February 1979 as publicity officer, following a career in PNG, the UK and Australia in advertising and public relations.

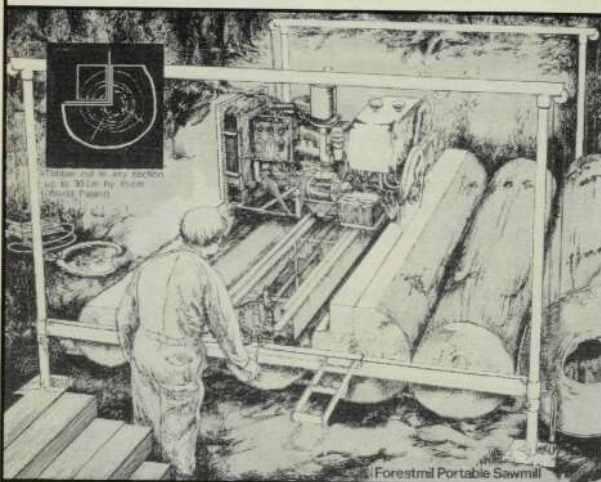
Newly-appointed Administration Officer is **John Atkins**, who joins the SPFA from the personnel division of Steamships Trading Co, and who also retires as a member of the festival board. His past involvement with ceremonial includes working on Queen Elizabeth's visit in 1977, and the Papua New Guinea Independence Celebrations in 1975. Working with David Bamford, he will be concerned with transport, accommodation, catering, protocol and temporary staffing for the festival.

Two new tourist industry appointments are those of **Miss Joan Foster (right)**, who has joined the Fiji Mocambo Hotel as PRO/Sales Representative, handling both local and overseas matters, and **Sandy McDonald (right, top)** who has been appointed Sydney representative of the New Caledonia Tourist Office. Also taking on new responsibilities is **Ian Ingleby (centre)** who has been appointed head of the newly formed export promotions/overseas investment advisory service of **Eric White Associates**, Sydney. The service is aimed primarily at the Southeast Asian and Pacific markets. On an earlier assignment with the company **Mr. Ingleby** worked for several years in Papua New Guinea.



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TELECOMMUNICATIONS OF SATELLITES — AND HUMAN HEARTS

From Sheree Lipton, in Honolulu

It was not without some amusement that the more relaxed participants at the second annual Pacific Telecommunications Conference in January observed, during the forum's peak, a freak winter storm that howled and raked its way through the Hawaiian Islands chain, knocking down, among other things, phone lines and electric wires. One feature of the exquisitely engineered convention was a teleconference, carefully planned with live and simultaneous participation from five sophisticated mainland US centres, all hooked up to Honolulu at once.

By the time the power came back on in Hawaii — it was interrupted sporadically for several days — the mainland hookups had gone to lunch, and even reporters typing on computer terminals lost stories that were thrown forever into oblivion by the power cuts.

This incident brought home with clarity and irony the focus of Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara's keynote speech to the 428 participants from 28 different countries — in anecdotes he related about communication problems in Fiji, even in the age of satellites PEACESAT (the experimental educational satellite relay network), and NASA's Application Technology Satellite-1 (known as ATS-1).

A week before the conference began, the Fijian prime minister was travelling on the maiden voyage of the vessel *MV Katavatu*, a sleek new addition to the government fleet, and equipped with radio telephone, echo sounder and the latest navigational aids and communications equipment. New Year's Day found the PM and entourage nearing the reef outside the village at Tuvuca Island, when news came via radio that a hurricane (traced by satellite) was approaching northern Fiji.

'With shouting and hand gymnastics,' the PM told the

rapt audience, 'we tried to communicate this hurricane warning to the two small canoes of fishermen passing near the *Katavatu*. They misread our communication,' Ratu Mara added with wry humour, 'for New Year's Greetings, and with obvious high spirits proceeded on to their fishing grounds!'

There were other signs of course, Ratu Mara learned later, that told the islanders about the hurricane, but they had nothing to do with the sophisticated communications equipment now operating commercially in the Pacific. For example, oldtimers remembered that the fish were not biting for some days before the disastrous cyclone Meli hit the Fiji islands. The point is that senses within the immediate environment and not only thousands of miles up in the sky are important. While satellite pictures can provide a detailed photographic record of impending storms and also aerial views of after-effects and damage (to trees and crops as well as buildings), it is essential to preserve and restore the fragile cultural memories of the fishermen and farmers who watched perceptively for nature's warning signs when communication was still a very personal exercise and a wonderful school of knowledge, lore and tradition.

Not many decry the giant steps we have taken in the technology of the new communications; perhaps it is our dependence on them that we fear. 'The potential of the satellite is so great that it will change the entire fabric of society,' says British scientist James Martin in his book *The Wired Society*. And that assessment leaves aside all the other paraphernalia (carefully documented and elaborated on at the conference) — cable Pay TV, videodiscs and recorders, interactive two-way home

video systems, electronic mail, home information retrieval systems — *ad infinitum*.

It struck Mr Martin with some wonder that 'the contented faces are in areas where there are no electronic communications ...' He writes: 'The people are happy with their lot because they do not know of any different way of life. They know their place in the hierarchy of their village and their aspirations are to grow fat vegetables, to see their children grow up, and to be accepted in the community. They do not know that the United Nations classes them as "developing". They live in well integrated communities where the patterns of life have been honed over the centuries.'

Since much of the world lives in the villages Mr Martin writes about — and since it is likely that a television set may be introduced in many of them within the next decade or two — it is worthwhile for us to consider carefully the delicate question: just what is 'appropriate communication' for development in the Pacific?

My television set took me to Yap via a fine Australian documentary film the other night. It was very sad to watch a few Yapese puzzle over the advantages of 'free' tapes brought into the islands by Pacific Taping Company that included commercials for Neet Hair Remover (eight luscious thighs per commercial). It so offended the Yapese viewer who is not used to seeing uncovered thighs. In his culture bare breasts are quite permissible, bare legs go against tradition. Would it change, he wondered, with indiscriminate viewing? With tradition so fragile amongst 5600 remaining Yapese, one might select TV tapes with a view to its fragility, wouldn't you think?

There are places in the Pacific where 'appropriate communication' seems better suited to its subscribers. The Cook Islands, for example, have been members of the PEACESAT Consortium since 1973, and Stuart Kingan, a government research officer, is now president of the council. He offers high praise for Rarotonga's progress in the last seven years, though the island had previously joined in



In Yap, bare breasts are okay but not uncovered thighs. Communications problems must be considered. Photo Charles M. Sicard.

Pacific-wide scientific experiments using a VHF transponder on the American ATS-1 satellite. Back then they were using homemade equipment in the Cooks. Kingan still marvels that the VHF transponder in use can provide narrow band communications between ground terminals situated anywhere in an area covering 42% of the earth and that a receiving terminal can be constructed for less than \$1000 or 'bought off the shelf for a little over twice that price'.

In his paper presented to the conference delegates, Mr Kingan cited several good examples of practical use of the satellite communication — controlling two major health epidemics in the Pacific, dengue fever, and a cholera epidemic that started (and was fortunately contained) in Kiribati. Daily PEACESAT conferences were held with medical researchers from all infected areas and threatened territories. It helped a great deal. The Cook Islands representative also cited the educational value of satellite usage — stating that scores of students enrolled at overseas tertiary educational institutions (notably the University of the South Pacific) have 'benefited spectacularly from regular satellite tutorials in which they discuss problems with their teachers'.

For the past eight years, the USP, with headquarters in Suva, has also been involved in a number of experimental communications projects

utilising the ATS-1, including a study to determine what educational, social and medical benefits can be derived from the use of satellite technology in the Pacific. Seminars were initiated in Hawaii, and over the years have been joined by participation of 16 stations stretching across the sea from Papua New Guinea and Saipan to California, and as far south as New Zealand. Its enthusiastic adherents claim that no other means of communication provides the immediacy of satellite communications. But it has its critics too.

Christopher Plant, a young Canadian from Simon Fraser University, had an acerbic bite to his presentation — a criticism of PEACESAT, entitled 'Where is the User Community?' In a meticulous study done over a 10-week period, Mr Plant was startled to discover that metropolitan locations exceeded Pacific Island locations by 64.3%. Not only that, Caucasian participants dominated Pacific Island participants by 66.3%. Even in the amount of airtime used, initiation of exchanges time on air, and chairing of exchanges, the Islanders scored at the very low end of the totem — they only initiated in the chairing of exchanges, for example, 1.8% of the time.

While admitting that his study was a short-range one, it seemed obvious to Mr Plant and others that something is wrong somewhere. Plant stated: 'In all candour, we haven't changed things all that much,

the bureaucratic structure still exists ...'

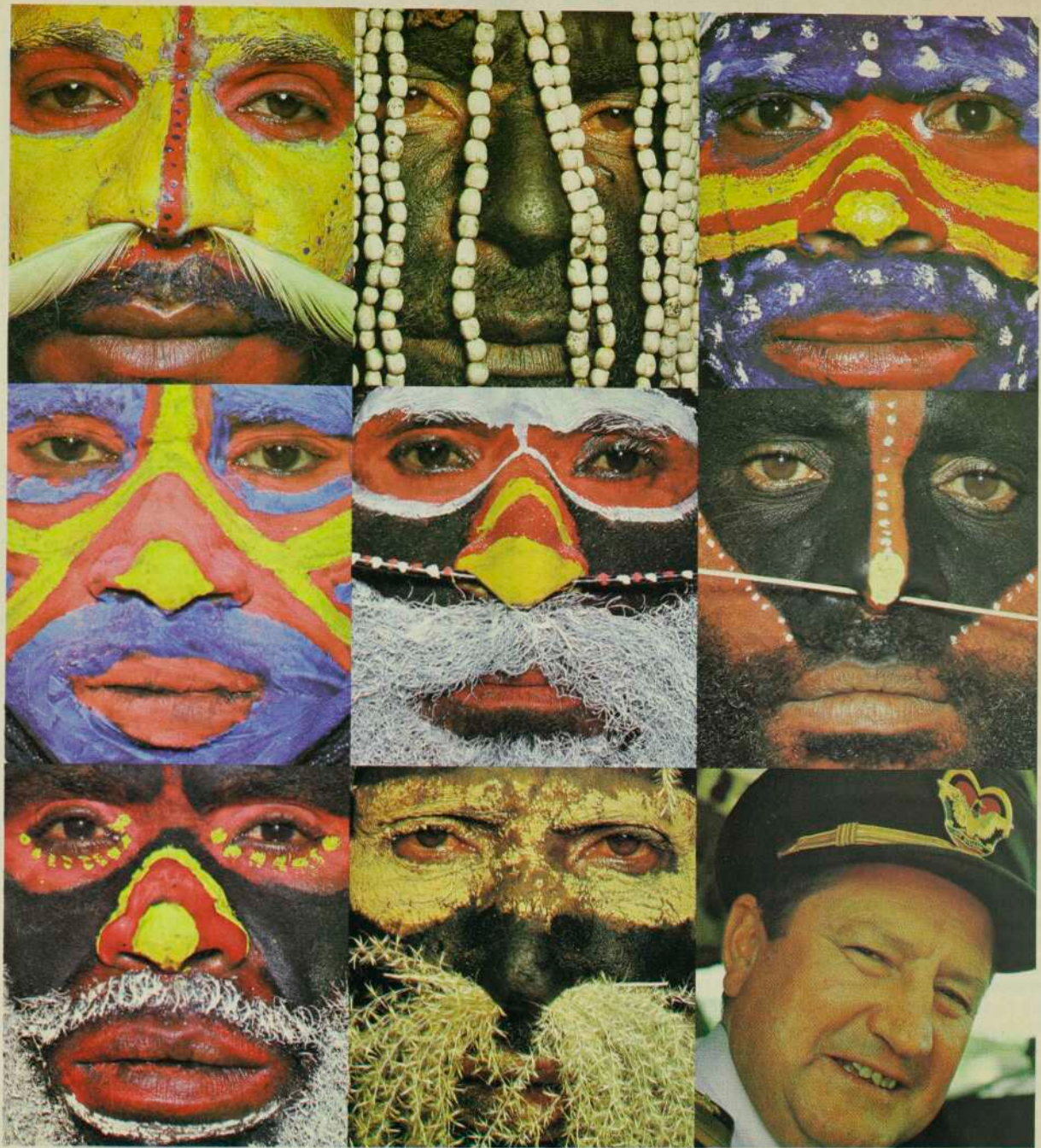
Obviously there are benefits for Pacific Islanders from satellite technology and usage — audioconferencing on such important subjects as Law of the Sea, and consultation between isolated government officials in remote areas, are obvious advantages. Linking remote towns and villages to each other, as is beginning in Papua New Guinea, can only lead to a significant growth in understanding between people who speak 700 different languages. The ATS-1 satellite links the main campus of the USP with the agricultural college in Western Samoa, for example, and has helped to pool resources on soil and crop problems. In the Kingdom of Tonga, satellite introduction has made dramatic changes in local economy. Due to the improved communications, competitive bidding on prices has allowed a 20% drop in the cost of some goods.

This latter fact confirms an interesting paper on telecommunications policies in the Pacific presented by Robert Jacobson of the University of California. He states: 'In the Pacific, where poverty and commercial exploitation are no strangers, trans-Pacific corporations can call upon the most sophisticated telecommunications services provided by a host of commercial vendors.'

'By comparison,' Mr Jacobson adds, 'only one public-interest organisation, PEACESAT, employing an obsolete ATS-1, is available for limited coordination of affairs among non-commercial groups in the Pacific.'

Perhaps the most important message here is not to forget the human element, to provide gentle encouragement to the islander to participate in his own fragile and traditional way, to understand and overcome the trepidation induced by the hardware and technology of modern communication, without forgetting the most important element, person to person.

As Ratu Mara concluded: 'The ultimate communication is from heart to heart, and that is a line that nothing can destroy.' Let us hope he is right.



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'Dr Geoff', a Sydney medical specialist whose favourite relaxation is surfing (combined with travel to out-of-the-way Pacific islands), has already introduced PIM readers to the island of Rurutu in the Austral Group (PIM Nov 1979 p43). He's just returned from another surfboard safari, this time to the New Hebridian island of Erromango — the new officially approved name of the island previously known in English as Erromanga. As readers of his previous article would expect, 'Dr Geoff's' story combines a vivid descriptive picture of the natural features of the island along with warm and sympathetic portraits of the people he met along the way.



From Dillon's Bay to Happy Land on the island of Erromango

Stretching some 800 km in a north-south direction, with a total land area of 11 880 square kilometres, are 73 islands comprising the New Hebrides condominium, soon to become the Republic of Vanuatu.

Eighty per cent of the 100 000 Melanesian original inhabitants live in rural communities, many of them in very isolated areas. From the Banks Islands of the north, to Anatom in the south, dramatic scenery changes are the norm — lush jungles to ash-covered plains, undulating hills to erupting volcanoes. All can be seen and experienced within this 800-km strip.

Erromango, 56 km long and 40 km wide, is the largest island in the group south of Efate. Difficult terrain and lack of good harbours are probably the reason for its lack of 'development' — especially in comparison with Efate to the north and Tanna to the south.

Sandalwood trade with China led to European settlement at Port Resolution (Tanna), and later Dillon's Bay, Erromango. An Irishman, Peter Dillon, was a key figure in this development. Sandalwood, 'blackbirding', and disease left the native population with a negative attitude towards Europeans. It was not surprising that hapless missionaries should feel the brunt, and in 1839 the Revs John Williams and James Harris of the London Missionary Society met their deaths at Dillon's Bay. H. A. Robinson, in a history of the London Missionary Society settlement at

Erromango, described it as the 'Martyr Isle'.

After a week of total physical commitment on Efate — including many kilometres of walks, surfing (with a difficult paddle of 2 km each way) and of course the traditional Monday evening paper chase around Vila — I was ready for a quiet change.

Mateson's Guest House, Dillon's Bay — just the name conjured up an almost Somerset Maugham picture of warm, cosy somnolence. Nursing a badly cut shin from a coral reef encounter while surfing, I gingerly wedged myself into the back seat of the Air Melanesiae Britten Norman Islander. Forty-five minutes later the low-flying, bumpy ride neared its end as the rugged cliffs of the western side of Erromango sprang into view. After the mandatory circular reconnais-

sance — just to make sure no wild cattle or horses were around — the pilot skilfully landed on the sloping grassy strip perched on the edge of the cliff.

John, William Mété's son, stood by the airport's transmitting shed, waiting to greet me. The bumpy, slippery, rich red volcanic soil 'road' to Dillon's Bay is one of the more interesting airport-to-village roads of the South Pacific. Near Nounapon a winged relic of World War II lay at its site of terminal impact. For a 33-year-old wreck it was in surprisingly good order. A short distance away, a 'Frenchman's' house stood alone: a windmill clanging and clattering in the gusting trades, cattle contentedly munching in paddocks, a couple of horses galloping along a boundary fence pacing the four-wheel-drive, chooks

running around in a small shed — an Australian country scene if ever there was one. The last few twisting kilometres from plateau to coast were particularly breath-taking.

Once on the river flat, Dillon's Bay village spread out before us. On the northern point, a white church stood defiantly alone — in its way a grim reminder of early missionary days. Nestled amongst trees between William River and foreboding volcanic cliffs were numerous huts, homes and assorted shelters comprising this picturesque village.

Mateson's Guest House was of fibro and tin construction with a concrete floor, roughly equivalent in size (and feeling) to those two-bedroom Woy Woy weekenders beloved of the post-World-War-II Sydney populace. Scattered outhouses and another, more truly indigenous construction, later to become the real guest house, completed the Mété holdings.

William Mété, custom chief of Dillon's Bay, a very likeable, well-built, educated man, stood at the doorway to greet us. He asked many questions about me and my family, where I'd travelled, how I'd come to hear of Dillon's Bay, what I planned to do, and so on. In return he told of his own past, his many present problems, and his 'future' plans for tourist development. His son, John, was to start an apprenticeship in Vila, learning all about mechanics and radio. Hopefully, he would then take over the running of Dillon's Bay airport — the task now,



Dillon's Bay

TRAVEL

single-handedly, performed by William.

After lunch I crossed the river and hiked some 5 km to the top of the southern escarpment, near the base of Mt Wowis. Along the way, numerous stops were made to take in the stunning views and sights. We first passed local market gardens at the base of the escarpment, and later along the early part of the ridge. Dense patches of rain forest were followed by acres of plateau grasslands. Then we saw the peaks of Mts Wowis, Melkum and Fedmogkoum, and finally the ever inspiring vastness of the ageless Pacific.

During dinner, William told me of his forthcoming visit to Happy Land, a small village some 20 km southeast of Dillon's Bay. Apparently this was an annual conference of the Custom Chiefs of Erromango, a conference of some significance to the people of the island. I was most honoured by his invitation to attend as an 'observer'.

Later that evening he showed me one of his treasures, a book which had been presented to him by a relative of H. A. Robinson, the author — none other than *Erromango: The Martyr Isle!*

This fascinating book, with its numerous pictures, showed how little Dillon's Bay has changed since the early part of the century. Interestingly, one photo showed William River to be much wider than it now is. My host commented that he had never seen the river as wide as shown in the photograph, despite cyclones and monsoonal rains over the years.

Just before dawn, six of us in

a 3½-m boat, 'powered' by a small Seagull engine, set off for Bounkil Bay, 15 km south. From there, a 5 km trek would take us to Happy Land, perched 330 m on the plateau near the daunting cliffs of the west coast.

On the way, one of the party (a deaf-mute and relative of the custom chief of Potnarhvin) caught a huge bonito using a palm leaf and plastic lure. It was a truly heartwarming sight to see this obviously intelligent man so thrilled by the catch. Everyone aboard shared in his excitement, fish being a relative delicacy at Happy Land due to a combination of distance and type of terrain separating village from coast.

At Bounkil Bay a 2 m swell was closing out across the bay. We managed to swamp the boat completely while attempting to land. However, no damage was done and eventually the boat was dragged onto the 'beach' (comprised of large, round, volcanic river pebbles).

Unfortunately, on the trek up the steep escarpment, I slipped and reopened the deep wound on my shin which had just begun to heal. Not having bothered to bring my medical kit from Dillon's Bay I was somewhat concerned as the bone was exposed.

On arrival at Happy Land we were greeted by the villagers and various custom chiefs. They were amazed to see a white person, especially a doctor, in need of medical attention. In turn, I was amazed to see such a magnificent village so well set out and with a relatively modern glass, wood and steel school. The enormous amount of

work, skill and strength that must have gone into landing, carrying and building this structure reflected a remarkable degree of dogged determination.

After some refreshing 'tea', the custom chief arranged for a 'nurse' to look after my wound. Kerosene was used to clean it and some type of balm was smeared around the edges, presumably to reduce swelling. A clean bandage completed the dressing.

During the next two days I listened to various speeches, watched the villagers play soccer, played in one of the volleyball teams, walked through beautiful lush market gardens and generally soaked up the friendly atmosphere of the village and congress.

On the concluding night, a 'feast' (so far every meal had been a feast to me) was arranged. Taro, fish, pig, soups, fruit and tea comprised the menu. Obviously there were little 'scenes' all over the place. Groups of older men were noted to be huddled in earnest conversation; custom chiefs appeared to be engaged in lobbying various individuals; certain younger men and women 'disappeared' for varying lengths of time; others sat around fires singing songs and playing assorted musical instruments. A few men went off and proceeded (as judged by nocturnal screams, followed by sore heads and bleary eyes the next day) to get drunk. Who said the people of Erromango weren't 'civilised'?

Next morning the whole village lined up to shake hands with the visitors. I just don't remember how many people I shook hands with and said *tata*

(goodbye) to. It seemed like 150 or more.

With low tide making it possible (as a result of very skilful skippering) to use a large rock platform as a boarding 'wharf', the return sea trip was a little more sophisticated aboard a hired launch.

Dark clouds started to well up from the north that evening as I sat on the pebble beach at Dillon's Bay. With the setting sun, the church was bathed in a subtle grey-pink light. I asked William if heavy rain was to come, knowing that such rain quickly soaks the ground, preventing planes from landing.

Late that night I was awakened by the crash of torrential rain on the tin roof. I couldn't get back to sleep, thinking of an experience I once had in Australia's Northern Territory where a flash flood gushed down a dry creek bed we'd unthinkingly chosen for a camp site. Remembering the photo in William's book didn't make my mind any easier. However, nothing happened and next morning William laughed when I told him of these 'fears'.

Joyce, the eldest daughter, had been plagued with ear infections for some time and appeared to be quite ill. William asked if I could help. On examining Joyce I found that she had a nasty attack of tonsillitis together with possible middle-ear infection. As no plane was due for some days, I gave her some powerful antibiotics which fortunately cleared up the infection. As an impression, ear infections seemed to be very common amongst the children of Dillon's Bay and I wondered



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how many of these kids suffered from the terrible complications (meningitis, deafness) that are so rare in our more affluent society.

On Sunday night the Dillon's Bay 'Women's Group' was to meet, and William invited me to give a talk. I spoke with Celestial, a native health worker, and asked her guidance on what topic I should choose. She was to speak on the importance of maternal and infant nutrition, with special emphasis on breast feeding. We agreed that basically I should encourage the women to adopt a more truly traditional approach to nutrition, rather than the more popular (but inadequate) 'local' intake of essentially starchy and packaged, highly refined, westernised foods. The valuable role of the humble coconut was especially pointed out.

After the plane landed I could tell something was wrong. Following innumerable conversations between the pilot, some rather important-looking Tanna natives, William and others, the pilot decided he would offload everyone and return, alone, to Vila.

Apparently, just on touch-down a brake warning light appeared and the pilot felt the 'risks' too great to continue on with his passengers to Tanna. Everyone was upset by this unexpected change — not least William who had to make arrangements for an unscheduled overnight (at least) stay for six extra people. As the plane took off for Vila, a general discussion of that particular pilot took place. After all, there was nothing else worth talking about! He was described by the

locals as being 'too frightened', in their perceptive but disarmingly bland way.

Next morning, William organised for me to be taken to see the planned site of a further guest house. A visit to a local and 'very important' burial cave was also arranged. John and one of his friends were to show me these sights. We set off in a hastily 'chartered' boat. Shortly, a beautiful white sandy beach with a small fresh-water stream flowing through the middle, appeared. John showed me the proposed site of his father's guest house marked by a small crude shelter. This was used by John on his numerous fishing trips.

Prior to entering the burial cave, John and his friend went through a short but elaborate ceremony. He couldn't (or wouldn't?) explain its significance. Once inside the cave an eerie, warm, dry, timeless atmosphere engulfed us. Many skulls and masses of human hair were noted. A relatively fresh skull on a separate rock was present. This was apparently some important person who had recently died. Various long bones were present, scattered in piles on the cave's floor. Some of the skulls showed evidence of wounds but I could not get any information regarding who they were or what had happened to them. According to John, there were many other burial caves around the island.

Due to a combination of overbooked flights and 'political trouble' I decided to return to Vila instead of flying on to Tanna. I was glad of the 'rest' I'd experienced on Erromango.



Top, William Mete and his family. Below, seeing the sights by boat.



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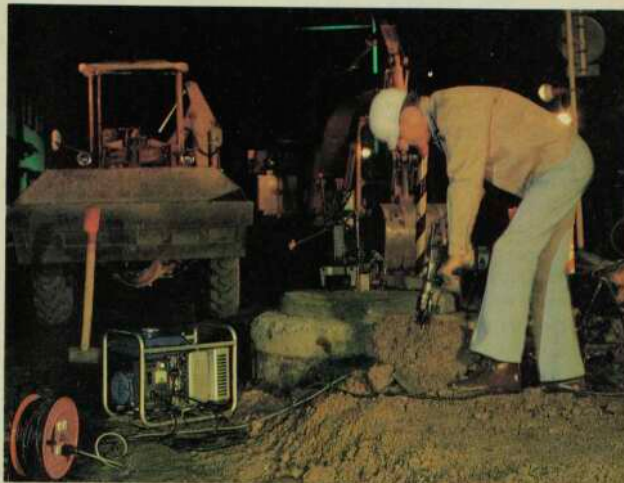


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BOOKS



OFFBEAT PACIFIC TRAVEL FROM AN EX-G-G, NZ

Travel Warrant. By Bernard Fergusson. Published by William Collins Pty Ltd. \$A22.50.

Bernard Fergusson (now Lord Ballantrae), is a Scot who appears to anyone who had not known too many of them as a Perfect English Gentleman. As any man with his aristocratic background might, he drops a lot of names, regimental and otherwise, that mean less than nothing to the antipodean uninitiated. Nonetheless, in *Travel Warrant* he writes an interesting and amusing book. It concerns his travels outside the army which he had already covered in other books, *Beyond the Chinwin* probably being the best known.

He comes of a long line of soldiers and governors-general of various corners of what was the British Empire, including New Zealand. Both maternal and paternal grandfathers served in that capacity in NZ — so too did his father between 1924 and 1930. It was fitting, therefore, that young Bernard should be commissioned into the Black Watch, serve his country in many lands for 27 years and then, in the fullness of time and through his own accomplishments, himself become governor-general of NZ between 1962-67.

Things have changed even since 1967, and the places where an Englishman (or Scot) may become a G or a G-G are now strictly limited, most Commonwealth countries keeping that post warm for home-grown, superannuated politicians and other worthies. New Zealand, however, occasionally still does the right thing by importing the genuine article from 'Home' and may already have its eye on the Fergusson son, now aged about 25, to carry on the tradition.

NZ was in Bernard Fergusson's blood. Many of his relatives had settled there, and in 1925 during his father's term of

office he spent what he regarded as six halcyon months there as a teenager. At that time he pleaded with his parents to let him finish his education at Wanganui or Christ's College, or even at Timaru Boys' High School, which seems to have impressed him. His father apparently considered it, but in his Scotsbyterian way did not disclose this to Bernard, simply packing him off, back to Eton.

In 1958 Bernard Fergusson resigned from the army, the idea being to augment his pension by writing books. Like many others he soon found that this was a chancy way of earning a living and he therefore induced the London *Sunday Times* (and later the *Daily Telegraph*) to employ him for three months of each year as a roving correspondent. This allowed him to visit the trouble spots of the world of which there was the usual number in late 1950s-early 1960s.

One of his earliest assign-

ments was to still-French Algeria, then going through the same sort of trauma that Rhodesia was to experience a decade later. Many members of the French services establishment had been colleagues during the war or the Suez fracas. One of these, Admiral Barjot, described to him how in November 1942 he had witnessed the Allied landings at Algiers and the 'spectacular arrival of the headquarters ship; HMS *Bulolo*. *Bulolo* came alongside at 12 knots; her captain unaware that his engine-room telegraph had been severed by a near-miss from a bomb and only a providential mudbank by the quay brought her up all standing and undamaged'.

Fergusson, whose travels did not involve him in Australia or Australian territories obviously did not know *Bulolo's* early — or later — connection with the Southwest Pacific.

In 1961, towards the end of his journalistic junketing, he

visited Dutch New Guinea, at the time when Soekarno's hysteria about that territory had reached fever pitch and the fate of DNG was already sealed.

He had intended spending a month in Indonesia, but the British Embassy at Jakarta, apparently afraid that he would rock the boat, refused him all aid. He left for Singapore and from there finally arrived in old Hollandia. He stayed at the government hotel which he claims was 'comfortable and well-run', a description it hardly merited a year later when the balloon finally went up and the old pub was full of journalists from far and wide, as well as useless UN 'observers' waiting for the Dutch to depart so they could grab one of the better bungalows.

He describes how he met old PIM friends, Kaisiepo and Womsiwor, leading figures in what might be called Papuan resistance. One evening he went to Government House to hear them lay before Dr Platteel, the governor, their request that they be granted a national flag and a national anthem.

'They unfurled one and sang the other,' he reports. 'Both were hideous and I gave Dr Platteel full marks for not winning more than he did.'

Later he was to read a story datelined Jakarta on how the brutal Dutch had imposed a new flag and anthem on the hapless Papuans and had ordered Marines to fire on the crowds when they refused to comply.

Fergusson's five years in New Zealand allowed him access to the Pacific Islands — the Cooks, Niue, Tonga, West Samoa, even Tahiti — and interesting as it always is to see ourselves as others do, two items stand out.

In Western Samoa he felt there were the seeds of embarrassment as the 'first 12 years of the Mandate were not happy' — a delicate way of



The G-G lands ceremoniously at Rakahanga, Cook Islands, on a converted bed.



The typical Bernard Fergusson.

referring to the Mau troubles that went on for longer than that. His explanation of these troubled times is certainly a new slant on this period of recent Samoan history, coloured perhaps by the fact that his father was governor-general in the late 1920s, when the real trouble started, and was all for a tougher line.

To quote from *Travel War-rant*: 'There were ancient rivalries between the families of Tamasese, Malietoa and Mata'afa; between them and the administration; and between the administration and certain agitators. These last were businessmen of various origins — mostly mixed blood, part-Samoan, part-German or Scandinavian — who resented government intervention to prevent exploitation by middlemen of the labours of the cultivators.'

The 'agitators' were, of course O. F. Nelson, Judge Gurr and A. G. Smyth. Nelson was of part-Samoan ancestry but the other two were not, and all paid dearly for what they believed was the Samoan cause — no one, hitherto, has thrown doubts on that.

At the end of his views on the Mau, Fergusson states that the current Malietoa, who at the time of his visit was head of state, and Mata'afa, who was prime minister, agreed that the traders were the villains of the piece. Were they just displaying Samoan good manners; or are memories short and old rivalries really dying out in Samoa?

Malietoa's father was certainly anti-Mau; High Chief

Fiame Faumuina (he received the Mata'afa title in 1939) was president of the Mau in the 1930s.

Today the consensus of opinion on the Mau period is that though the Mau and its leaders were pig-headed, the NZ administration acted like ham-handed bureaucrats and had little understanding of the people it was set to govern. The Mau influence started to wane once NZ gave up sending generals and half-generals to the territory as administrators.

Most of the people mentioned in this book are pretty marvellous; the few that are criticised include the Marsters clan of Palmerston Island, the much-written-about descendants of William of that ilk who settled there in 1862 with three Penrhyn wives. Fergusson says that after visiting them he saw no reason to dissent from the warning given to his parents by the captain of the old *Tutanekai* on which they had travelled, that the Marsters were an 'avaricious and grasping lot'.

On this 1964 visit the current patriarch was given two 50 lb bags of flour, 70 lb of sugar, four pounds of cigarette tobacco and papers to go with it, and not only did he fail to say thanks, he asked for more, including a new outboard motor.

During the vice-regal visit the whole community got drunk on home-brew and then tried to raid the canteen on the G-G's ship. One Marsters fell overboard and the assembled company watched him laboriously swim ashore, 'half fearing — and perhaps half hoping' that a shark would get him. It didn't.

Well, that's what can happen to simple islanders when they become celebrities.

Not all governors-general write as well as Bernard Fergusson, Lord Ballantrae, who, after all, can be regarded as a professional. As a result this is a book that can be enjoyed equally by old soldiers, those intrigued by the private lives of governors, or by those who just like an offbeat travel book full of offbeat characters. — J. T.

Women, the path to fame in the PNG Highlands!

Give and Take: Exchange in Wola Society. By Paul Sillitoe, Australian National University Press, P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T. 2600, Australia.

In this book, Paul Sillitoe sets out to hang big question marks on most of the current anthropological thinking devoted to the role of the 'big men' of the highlands of Papua New Guinea. He believes that this thinking places too much emphasis on groups based on descent, and on the prowess of 'big men' as 'managers' of such groups. He eschews the term 'big man', using in preference the Wola term *ol howma* (literally: man grass clearing, grass clearings being the places where exchanges are carried out).

In contrast to the mainstream of thought on this matter, Sillitoe holds that the freedom of the individual and his (the gender of the pronoun is relevant) freedom of action are the key elements and values in Wola society. Society as such is held together by a complex and diverse system of exchanges of material valuables such as pearl shells, pigs and cassowaries, the success of which depends on the co-operation of individuals, **not** permanent groups. The individual strives to achieve fame. Exchange is the means of achieving such fame. Exchange thus creates social relations while guarding and encouraging individual achievement. Exchange is thus a social rather than an economic phenomenon. The thesis is an attractive one to amateur anthropologists with streaks of both male chauvinism and liberal capitalism (which sums up this reviewer at least). But it is not a very convincing one, even when we examine the data Sillitoe himself presents.

The first point that has to be made is that Sillitoe's anxiety to prove his thesis makes this

book, for the most part, not particularly exciting reading for anyone other than those reasonably well versed with the thinking he is trying to demolish. Secondly, this reviewer holds no brief for those anthropologists whom Sillitoe attacks. My own criticisms (which I now warn readers of PIM will be boringly academic) will probably be regarded by both camps as heretical.

My first criticism is that, if Sillitoe is to frighten off the general reader with his barrage of detailed description, complex maps and intricate diagrams, he might at least pander to the specialist by actually analysing the profusion of data. For example, a diagram on page 253 shows how much each man in Sillitoe's area of study borrowed and lent. Almost no use or analysis of this data is visible in the text. But it can be calculated from this data that the top 12 *ol howma* borrow 25% more than they lend, whereas the 29 least important men lend 75% more than they borrow. The same *ol howma* also have twice as many wives as we might expect if this resource were distributed evenly (p 134).

Clearly, there is an important concentration of power, wealth and factors of production in the hands of the *ol howma*. The acquisition of wives, Sillitoe claims, is merely evidence of 'an ability to handle wealth which is already present'. I would claim that it not only increases a man's social obligations (leading to fame) but also his ability to maintain and expand such links even further.

Secondly, Sillitoe's arguments on the sanctity of the individual are distinctly chicken-eggish. Individuals go for their lives, yes, but only for those goals which are socially determined as desirable. So which comes first? My guess is for the Eve-chick of individual

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striving, with the egg of social control weighing more and more stickily and heavily as the economy is altered by environmental, demographic and externally-induced political circumstances.

Thirdly, Sillitoe argues that *ol howma* do not 'manage' the ordinary Wola, but admits they have a merely marginal influence on decisions. That sounds rather like the argument that the management of a casino only has a 2% advantage on the players of blackjack: everybody wins, the bank winning slightly more. At its best, Sillitoe's argument is that the Wola are marginally more atomistic than other highland groups. I do not see the need for 300 pages of discussion on such a point.

Basically, Sillitoe's avoidance of economic arguments prevents him from examining the dynamism of the exchange system. He mentions that loans bear a 100% interest rate. How on earth are such loans repaid? How are valuables generated?

Let us examine the valuables. Pearl shells are not much good because they depreciate. Pigs are rather better since they can reproduce (Sillitoe says nothing on this: do they rely on feral boars, managed breeding etc?), but they need feeding even when there is no surplus to be stored. Women create wealth, and they also create the links whereby the *ol howma* can invest such wealth.

Investment in women is both socially esteemed and economically sound. This is especially true in societies whose staple foods (root crops) are exceedingly difficult to store, and, therefore, to amass. Indeed, it seems to me that the fundamental reason why exchange is so widely esteemed by many peoples in Papua New Guinea is a direct function of the lack of storage and alternative investment opportunities: production determines social values. Women are the key link. Women are the path to fame. No wonder the *ol howma* amass them. The groups of common interest Sillitoe fails to find are there amongst the Wola, but by ignoring women Sillitoe comes nowhere near identifying them. — Richard Jackson

Melanesian Australians speak out

The Forgotten People. By Matt Peacock. Published by the Australian Broadcasting Commission. Distributed by Hodder & Stoughton (Aust) Pty Ltd. \$A3.95.

In 1847 Benjamin Robert Boyd, described as a 'cool scamp' in Sydney society circles, brought 65 New Hebrideans into Sydney harbour on a sandalwood ship and transported them to the Riverina where they worked as shepherds. Because of the cold winters they all died. In Britain organisations concerned with slave trading around the world began to raise objections, but their protests did not affect Boyd's activities in the Pacific and he continued his trade in the lives of Pacific Islanders for a few years until he was murdered on a visit to the Solomon Islands.

Strong anti-slavery protests from Britain finally contributed to the American Civil War. Cotton prices then boomed on the world market, and one Captain the Honourable Robert Towns, an enterprising Sydney businessman and member of the Legislative Council, quickly got into the cotton industry and started a plantation outside Brisbane. A village sprang up and it was called Townsville.

Towns was well acquainted with the method used by Boyd to bring the people of the Pacific to Australia, and lost no time developing one of the most lucrative trades in the lives of men and women for plantation labour in the north.

This book furnishes the evidence of a trade that enslaved and killed many thousands of Pacific Island men and women. Their descendants may be the smallest of all minority groups in Australia today. They are the Melanesian Australians and are now in their fifth generation. This book relates their

story as it was told to Matt Peacock of the Australian Broadcasting Commission's Science Unit. It was broadcast in a three-part series. The book has been edited by Clive Moore of the James Cook University, Queensland.

Some families are now prepared to have their stories recorded, stories of their forebears' customs and traditions, and their own lives as lived out in Queensland. They told Peacock about growing up in the small towns of the northern State and how the attitudes of the business people affected their lives by forcing them into segregation in tightly knit communities.

Telling the author of the sufferings of their fathers, one Islander said: 'Some of the old Kanaka men worked here for 50 years, and when they died they were carted away. Even in death they didn't even want us. They took us to a part in the cemetery they called "heathen ground". In the "heathen ground" they buried Chinese, Japanese, Malays, Indonesians and Islanders ... My father was a lay preacher and buried many people. Many people in unmarked graves in the cane fields.' And later with a ring of justifiable anger and bitterness he told Peacock how it is for his people today: 'This is what we have to put up with. We couldn't get a house in town. You go and ask your real estate agent, go up to him, and even right this very moment — when I am talking to you in the year 1977. If a black man goes up to a real estate agent in this town and says, "I want to rent that house you've got advertised," he says "Oh, no. It's just been taken. Come back later".'

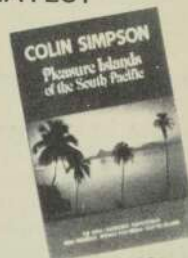
This book may not be liked by the assimilationists because Peacock has revealed a people who in the face of racial discrimination of all forms for over a century, have emerged independent and strong, surviving as a people proud of their history and battling to learn and retain their ancestors' culture by saving their hard-earned money to visit their ancestors' islands in the warm Pacific. — Faith Bandler

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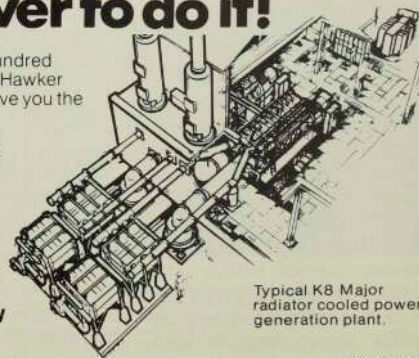
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From the ISLANDS PRESS

From the Nauru Post

The NP wishes to congratulate the police force on its new uniform. It is bright, attractive and some have even described it as psychedelic. Perhaps the new bright uniform is a reflection of the ministry's young minister who would obviously be full of bright and new ideas...

From the Cook Islands News, Rarotonga

The Tourist Authority is to mount an 'educational programme' for tourists visiting the Cook Islands, to help visitors adapt to the local conditions and avoid unwittingly giving offence to local people through dress and behaviour... The Authority has also produced a series of Church hints for visitors, covering dress and the recording of services. 'Of course it is difficult to draw the line on dress standards, but we do feel that a bikini is not acceptable wear in town', says the general manager of the Tourist Authority, Mr Tomu Okatai. He also notes that some confusion could arise from impressions created by performances by dancing groups in hotels and night spots, with tourists perhaps mistaking dancing costumes for acceptable day wear...

From Nasiko, new weekly news magazine, New Hebrides

Nasiko has chosen Mrs Bee Maize to appear in our first issue as our tourist of the week. Mrs Maize has been a tourist in the New Hebrides for 10 years. She comes from Southern California... Mrs Maize had bought a property on Santo from a land speculator, Mr Eugene Peacock. When she arrived here she discovered a law had been passed against land speculation... She said although she may not get back the property she bought, she does not regret it. 'I'm so pleased that by investing money in that property I was able to come and discover this beautiful place,' she said.

From the Arawa Bulletin, North Solomons Province, Papua New Guinea

If anyone has recently had the opportunity to see the jungle growth along the banks of the Bovo, they would realise the potential danger of it harbouring rascals and 'flashers'. The growth rate of the bush has been rapid. Previously the ATC would come and cut it all back but since the changeover in that department, no one seems at all interested and the jungle just continues to grow. Residents along this section have recently been harassed by undesirables just appearing 'starkers' out of the undergrowth. How about it ATC or BCL Security, could immediate action be taken to do something about this problem thus relieving the nervous tension being experienced along this section of the Bovo - PLEASE?

From the Fiji Times, Suva

Young Ideas. This week's question: What new things have you learnt during the school holidays? Alec Morris, 10, Stella Maris Primary School: 'I learned how to drink grog, smoke and do night awling...'

From the Honolulu Advertiser

Alcoholism is a serious problem in Micronesia, where technological and social changes have not always proceeded apace. One Micronesian group that has tried to do something about this is Truk, where most islands are dry... Now the Truk State legislature has proposed the government, through the Alcoholic Beverage Control Board, take charge of selling spirits. A bill now before the body would make the control board the only legal importer and wholesaler of alcohol in Truk. It would also require alcohol identification cards. Permit systems have been tried before, and most people ignored them. It is quite probable a new system would be just as ineffective, in spite of \$500 fines and the threat of imprisonment. And given Micronesia's propensity for lax accounting procedures, it is interesting to speculate the probability of misplaced cartons of Schlitz and bottles of J&B scotch whenever a big party is planned. In Truk, apparently, they believe whenever you have a problem, the government will take care of it. And it seems government now believes if you can't beat 'em join 'em...

From a letter to Papua New Guinea Post-Courier, Port Moresby

So the National Executive Council has approved TV. Must we have it? There is so much more that should come first: more and better schools, more and better roads, more and better medical care, employment opportunities, cultural development, rural development, the eight aim. TV won't get us any of these. Developing countries do not have the people or skills to make their own programmes except to a limited scale. They are forced then to buy cheap Western TV programmes. Often these are the worst programmes that Americans or English people wouldn't watch. And old movies...

From Town Talk in the Arawa Bulletin

Newcomers to Bougainville were told they could get any amount of plants by just picking them out of the jungle, so off they went seeking their shrubbery and found some beautiful banana trees growing wild (or so they thought), so proceeded to pick them. Imagine their surprise when a beautiful, bare maiden popped up out of the nearby river swinging a bush-knife and screaming in pidgin at them! We hear they are still without their shrubbery, but boy, what a story to report to friends and relatives south!

From The Samoa Times, Apia

The organisers of the Relief Fund Campaign for the recent landslide at Nua and Seetaga, American Samoa, this week sent an orator to thank the people of Western Samoa for their help. The orator, Fualautoolasi Leulus'o Leatutufu, is the executive director and secretary of the National Samoan Chiefs Council of America, which is co-ordinating the campaign... Fualautoolasi said total donations towards the relief fund have come to approximately \$20 000. Of this amount some \$11 000 was raised in the United States and Pago. The rest was donated by people living in Western Samoa...

From an editorial in The Fiji Times, Suva

What a relief it must be for Pacific Island governments, individually and collectively as members of the South Pacific, that their region's western boundary stretches no further than the border between Papua New Guinea and West Irian. This fortunate geographical convenience enables the South Pacific to pointedly ignore mass murder in West Irian. An authoritative report yesterday described how Indonesian rulers are conducting a campaign of oppression as bloody and brutal as any of the many others being pursued so vigorously in other parts of the world. Secret executions, massacres, napalm, starvation, prison camps - West Irians suffer them all. Luckily for the South Pacific, the West Irians no longer count as Pacific Islanders.



The turbulent postwar years 1945-50 are the focus of this month's article by JUDY TUDOR in her anniversary-year review of PIM's 50 years in the Pacific. The magazine's campaigns, pro and con on a variety of issues, are vividly recalled.

The bitter and the sweet of Islands postwar rehabilitation

Although peace had been the objective for almost six years, the euphoria that the cessation of hostilities brought in 1945 soon wore off. Disillusion was, however, more complete for some than for others. If evacuees from Papua, New Guinea, British Solomons or the Gilberts ever imagined that they would immediately take up where they had left off four years before, they were soon undeceived.

At the time PIM blamed the socialist governments in Australia and UK for this, because they made rehabilitation more difficult and protracted. But with 1980 hindsight, it is obvious that whatever the political colour of the administering authorities, getting back to normal in islands that had been battlefields, where the fabric of existence had been torn apart, was going to be slow as well as painful.

Furthermore, if conditions in 1939 were to be regarded as 'normal' then it can be said now that no island or territory ever became normal again. The war speeded up communications and produced new ideas of social justice.

People who had never been nearer a Pacific island than King's Cross or Palmerston North, Birmingham or Cincinnati, who had never spared a thought for them or the people who lived in them, now had developed fixed opinions about them. That they were often cock-eyed and uninformed opinions seemed beside the point at the time.

Islands that had not been battlefields but had been blessed with so-called dollar-prosperity by providing American support bases or airfields, had not escaped what British Prime Minister Macmillan, years later, called the winds of change but in comparison with the hurricanes that raged in P-NG and BSI



they were gentle zephyrs. My own personal experiences emphasised this point. I was then based in Sydney as PIM's assistant editor.

I arrived in Suva in September 1945, when peace was only a couple of weeks old, to find colonial society in full blast, no clothes or food rationing, beer and liquor flowing freely, dinner parties, cocktail parties, even balls, the standard forms of entertainment.

The Grand Pacific Hotel was providing rooms then regarded as high class, solid Union Steam Ship Company-type food and pussy-footed Indian servants that brought you tea with the dawn, turned down your bed and arranged the mosquito net at night, and in between scrubbed, cleaned, served food and drink and remained unobtrusive.

The only inconvenience that I could see was lack of passenger ships, the only regular visitor being the *Matua* from New Zealand. She had been built in the 1930's to carry 40 passengers plus general cargo north, and bananas and fruit south. During the war and for a considerable time after it she carried 100 passengers and always had a waiting list a mile long.

Who was to have the privilege of travelling on her was decided by a Movements Control Board. For some reason — the alleged power of the press I presume — the MCB decreed that I could travel to New Zealand on her, in a bunk in a two-berth cabin with a third body on a mattress on the floor. This was de luxe.

Others not so fortunate were accommodated in what had been the lounge, where tiers of bunks had been built, or in one of the holds. The ex-lounge was known as The Jungle and the hold (males only) as The Concentration Camp. Meals were served in two or three sittings, depending on the state of the sea and the number of people who felt strong enough to face them. In spite of the discomfort, Fiji people were grateful to *Matua* which had provided their only link with the outside world during the war and who had given the owners a brass plate stating this fact.

The MCB not only allowed me passage to Auckland but an excursion around the islands and back to Suva — Apia, Pago Pago, Nukualofa and Vavau. In October 1945 war already seemed so far removed from these places as to make me

wonder if it had ever happened at all.

A year later, in October 1946, I went back to New Guinea, in a Qantas DC3, overnighing in Townsville. Viewed from afar most of Port Moresby's landmarks appeared to be in place, including BP's store with its distinctive tower. Closer inspection showed many of the buildings to be hollow shells but further round the harbour there was a mushroom growth of permanently, temporary hutments, ex-military, now occupied by the public servants of the Provisional Administration, which came to be known collectively as Konedobu, in the same sense that Whitehall means British or Canberra Australian governments.

The Provisional Administration had been functioning for a year and every ship and plane brought more returning or joining Territorians who had screwed the necessary Permit to Enter out of Eddie Ward's Department of External Territories.

I had arrived in Moresby in the middle of a public service fracas over non-existing accommodation and as counter to their threats the Director of the PWD stated that, if left alone, he could produce a house every two weeks. The challenge was taken up and he actually performed the miracle in 11 days — a 4 rm. bung., all mod. cons., with external and internal walls of Sisalkraft (a sandwich of a heavy brown paper with bitumen filling). The paper house had a tin roof and was not far from the 'native hospital', then situated on the Ela Beach side of Paga Point.

There were also regular houses being built of fibro-cement, usually referred to as Stubbs' houses, after the contractor. The most outstanding feature of these was that they

50 YEARS OF PIM

were usually pinned up against Moresby's steep hillsides, perched on spindly legs, 12 ft to 20 ft high in places.

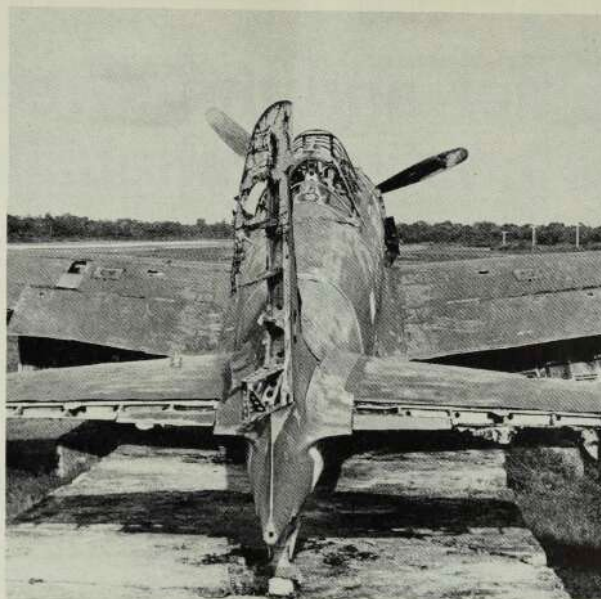
The 'bottom pub', Hotel Moresby, was functioning, over-full and supposed to accommodate only bona fide travellers like me or the dozens of Australian buyers of War Disposals Commission goods who were descending like vultures from South. But apart from us, all and sundry who were living in hidey-holes God-knows-where all over Moresby, ate all their meals there. The bottom pub was at the bottom of the hill.

The Top Pub, the Hotel Papua, which had been built at the top of the hill on the site of an older establishment, and completed just as the balloon went up in 1942, had functioned as a club during the war. In October 1946 all furniture had disappeared from it, all the electrical fittings had been torn out by their roots, even lavatory fittings had been detached and were lying around. Huge holes had been bashed in the interior walls. Burns Philp, who owned both hotels, was weeping over the state of its Top Pub.

I went across to Lae and from there to Bulolo and Wau by courtesy of Lee Ashton who drove a vehicle called a weapons carrier, and to Mt Hagen, courtesy of Administrator J. K. Murray and the RAAF, as it was still a closed area. Little or nothing remained of Wau and Bulolo, but embryo Hagen, eventually to be HQ town of Western Highlands district, looked cool, neat and civilised.

I went by pinnacle across Huon Gulf to Salamaua, once the port and HQ town of Morobe goldfield and of which nothing remained and which had been permanently abandoned by the administration. Lae, on the other hand, which had had few buildings before the war now had many, all Quonsets or made of native materials and thatch, black iron and Sisalkraft.

The District Office was functioning in a large native materials building, ex-US Army, on the terrace, everything else including a Burns



Postwar PNG was littered with war material such as this Japanese Zero in Kavieng. Photo Bruce Adams.

Philp store was down on the flat. Two miles out, across the Butubum River, Mrs Flo Stewart had taken over a women's army barracks as a temporary hotel. The long dormitory blocks were partitioned into cubicles with tar paper and furnished with hospital beds; the primitive ablutions block, mess hall and amenities room were scattered at varying distances and although Mrs Stewart and her daughter Ela worked like demons, it was a pretty depressing place. For transport one depended on the good nature of anyone who had managed somehow to acquire an ex-Army jeep.

During this time I went from Lae to Madang and back on the old *Montoro* which was struggling to keep some sort of service going. Never a luxury ship, all the amenities she had had, including the fans that stirred up the languid air in cabins, had disappeared. The heat inside that ship was incredible.

We were stuck at the wharf at Madang about a week due to a shortage of labour while Captain Bill Wilding gave out even more heat than his old tub. *Montoro* was a coal burner and chewed up 12 tons of it a day even in port. There were no bunkers in P-NG and 'Wild Bill' had to calculate down to the last lump of coal just how

long he could delay and still get to Bowen in North Queensland, the nearest supply. In the end he sailed, leaving 1500 bags of copra on Madang wharf.

Madang was the end of the shipping route. Anyone wanting to go further out, such as Wewak, the Sepik River or Manus, was in dire distress, as the old hotel at Madang, which had been built in German times and looked like a transplant from Bavaria rather than a tropical pub, had been destroyed along with most of the coconuts of Modilon Plantation which extended right into the town and had been the private estate of Mr James Burns, of BP & Co. Until they could get an onward schooner or pin-nace, travellers decanted at Madang were forced to camp in abandoned war-time huts if they did not know someone who had a more respectable roof over their heads.

Such was the state of Islands life immediately after the war.

Back in 1945 PIM began its peace-time activities by demanding an inquiry into the loss of 300 NG civilians on the *Montevideo Maru*. Of these, eight had been heads of government departments, including the Government Secretary, Mr Harold Page; 25 were well known plantation

owners; 58 merchants, managers or professional people; 68 plantation managers; 100 public servants, 11 missionaries and 60 in various types of private employment.

'These men should never have become prisoners of the Japanese,' said PIM. 'They should have been evacuated from Rabaul on a ship in the harbour within 40 hours of the invasion, between the time when it was known the Japanese were coming and when they arrived.' The Australian Government remained silent on the subject.

The fate of others who had been abandoned in Rabaul was coming to light in the first months of peace. Early in the Japanese occupation, four men were chosen to look after the local freezer. Apparently their selection was a matter of luck, as one of the men, J. H. Ellis, was an electrician but the others were not and included Gordon Thomas, editor of the local newspaper, the *Rabaul Times*.

Twelve others were also detached for special duties and lived in a special camp. They were known to be there in late 1944 but then were seen no more and it was believed that they had been killed by the Japanese.

Another group, including some well known planters, held out in the bush for some time after the invasion but in July 1942 went into Rabaul and gave themselves up. The Japanese apparently thought they had been too long about it. The freezer group saw them taken away in a truck one day, after which they were not seen again.

These and endless other stories of malign fate or of escape and rescue, a whole saga of now-it-can-be-told, appeared in the PIM for years following the war, wonderful source material for endless novels of adventure and heroism, should anyone ever tap it.

Rehabilitation: In Papua New Guinea the Provisional Administration began to function on October 31, 1945, but it was not until mid-1946 that the last of the 90,000 Japanese POW's were repatriated from

New Britain and the whole of the old Mandated Territory reverted to civilian administration. What Administrator Murray and his officials were left with then was complete devastation. From this distance one can wonder how they did as well as they did, as soon as they did.

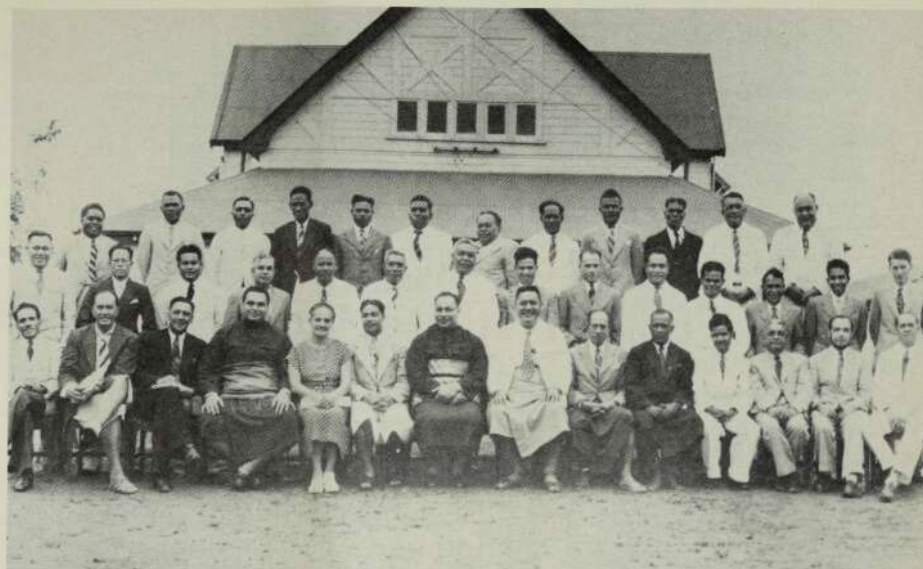
With all their troubles, however, Territorians had one great piece of luck. Just under £10 million — probably equivalent to at least \$100 million in today's terms — had been distributed to claimants by the Australian War Damage Commission and this even PIM acknowledged was exceedingly generous.

In contrast, private individuals in the British Solomons got nothing, although hopes were raised when the UK Government announced that a commission was being set up in 1946 to inquire into the matter.

It was made clear at the time that compensation hinged on whether or not Japan paid war reparations and, as by 1949 it seemed it would not, compensation was off as well. PIM, never short of solutions, half seriously suggested that Australia should take over the BSI and use the £5 million left in Australia's War Damage Compensation Fund to put Solomons' planters and traders on their feet.

Apart from compensation, the rehabilitation of private individuals in BSI was far more difficult than for Territorians in neighbouring P-NG. There were comparatively few of them and they must have seemed very unimportant in London's Whitehall in the second half of the 'forties. Territorians, on the other hand, howled long and loud and were heard all over Australia even if ignored by Canberra.

By January 1946 permits to return to the Solomons were no longer required but as there was no transport of any kind, except a small government vessel running between Suva and Honiara, no accommodation in Honiara and nowhere to purchase stores, evacuees were left seething in Australia and elsewhere. In March 1946 a dozen planters got away by



The official photo of the historic first South Pacific Conference, held in Suva in 1950. Lots of famous faces, many of them now gone.

working as crew on the 250-ton mission vessel *Southern Cross* which had just been released from Navy service.

In the next year, by dribs and drabs, other individuals found their way back to the Solomons, only to be greeted by the news that a 15% export tax had been put on copra. They took this as final proof that the socialist masterminds in Britain did not want private individuals to return to the Solomons.

The Good Pickings: In the Solomons and New Hebrides the Americans, at the end of hostilities, deliberately destroyed millions of dollars worth of equipment, the story being that the US Government had agreements with US manufacturers to do this. So called Million Dollar Point in Santo, New Hebrides, was an example. Here jeeps, trucks, earth-moving equipment, freezers and all manner of machinery were dumped in the sea in 1945-46, not far away from the entrance to Segond Channel where the *President Coolidge* had come to grief early in the war. She had brought 6000 troops and much gear to Santo only to be misdirected into a defensive minefield. The captain, trying to extricate himself in narrow waters, reversed into another, then beached the sinking vessel

on a reef. She later slipped off it into deep water and lay there for a decade, most of her cargo intact.

The salvage of ex-war material, everything from the steel plates called Marsden-matting used to surface bush airstrips, through sunken vessels to the duralumin of wrecked planes, kept hundreds occupied for years, all the way from the Marianas to the Hebrides. It became a great overseas currency earner for dozens of islands — for some their only export — and a great deal of the scrap found its way to Japan.

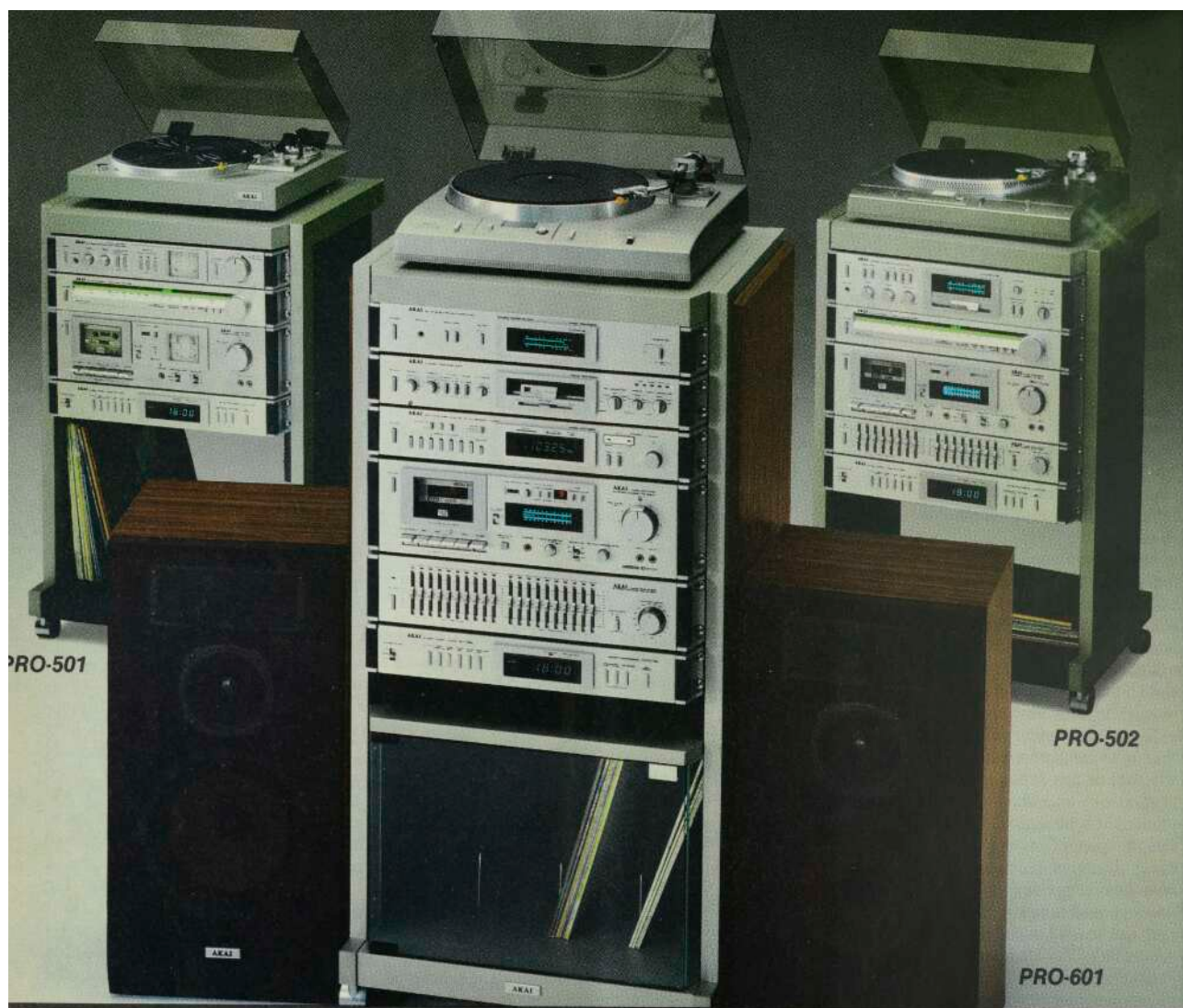
In Papua and New Guinea the scrap merchants were preceded by the Australian customers of the War Disposals Commission, scarcely waiting for the body to grow cold before they began cutting it up. In the early months of 1946 these sales were in full swing, to the chagrin of returning Territorians who saw ex-military materials as a means of rehabilitation. They couldn't compete with buyers who bought in bulk, but that was not to say that hundreds of jeeps, small trucks, freezers and the like, timber, black irons and whatnot were not 'liberated' by some of the more enterprising Territorians.

All the main PNG centres

had so-called car-parks covering many acres, in which jeeps and trucks were parked in long rows, jungle creepers already festooning them. One Melbourne dealer bought 900 vehicles from one of these parks for 38/- each; and the whole of Lae park was bought by a dealer named O'Connor. Up the Markham Valley at Nadzab there was a 'plane park' which was bought and worked on at a later stage for the duralumin and instruments.

Ships Out, Planes In: The world wide destruction of shipping during the war took years to make good; on the other hand the wartime development of air power and the construction, in the Pacific, of literally thousands of airstrips, some of them in remote and lonely islands which would never have aspired to one normally, provided a ready-made basis for a whole series of air services that developed in the last half of the 'forties.

On the shipping side, *Matua* and the NZ Government's *Maui Pomare* continued to service Fiji and the Polynesian groups until *Tofua* was built and went into service in the early 1950s. P-NG and the Solomons continued to suffer until *Malaita*, hit by a torpedo off Port Moresby in 1942, and *Bulolo*, after nine years war ser-



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vice, were back in business.

In August 1948 the Canadian-Pacific liner *Aorangi*, which also had been on war service, recommenced Pacific voyages linking Australia and New Zealand with US west coast ports via Fiji and Honolulu. But she ran at a loss from the outset and was finally withdrawn in the early 1950s.

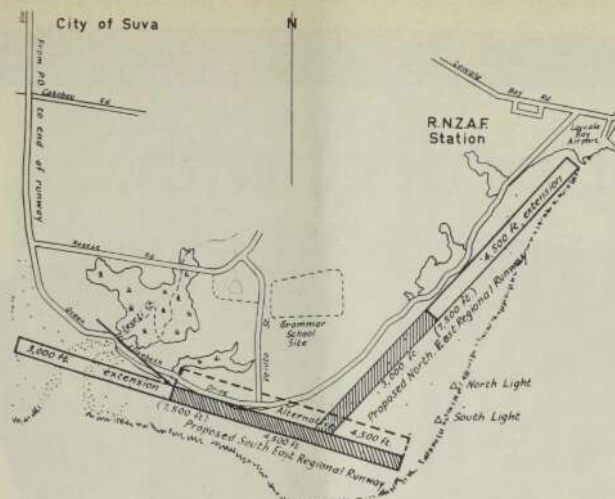
Meantime air services began to take up the slack. Pan-American Airways announced resumption of its trans-Pacific service within months of the end of the war; Australian National Airways, then owned privately (much later bought out by Ansett), announced a parallel service. Both used 'giant Skymaster aircraft', carrying 40 passengers¹, reported an admiring PIM.

ANA's enterprise lasted two years, carrying out the service on behalf of the governments of Britain, Australia and New Zealand who had formed British Commonwealth Pacific Airlines (BCPA) in 1946, in order to keep all international air services in government hands. BCPA began to operate on its own account in April 1948 and ANA reluctantly was forced to return to internal services. Canadian Pacific Airlines, the third trans-Pacific service, did not begin operating until 1949.

Meantime controversy raged in Fiji as to whether Nausori or Nadi would be the international airport. Nadi, at the time was regarded as a hot, flat area covered with sugar-cane and without tourist potential; Suva, on the other hand, just 17 miles from Nausori, wet and all as it was, was regarded as the place to be.

Finally the choice went to neither — a fine new airport would be built at Suva Point, within spitting distance of the city itself, although it meant resumption of land and destruction of some houses. Surveys were actually made before wiser counsel prevailed. Jet airliners were already on the drawing board, and Suva Point looked a bit cramped for those. It was back to Nadi and the eventual development of that area as a tourist trap in its own right.

The RNZAF was running



Suva Point airport plan. It never happened.

services from Auckland to Fiji, Western Samoa and the Cooks before the war ended, and continued to keep these services warm until NZ's National Airways Corporation could take over. Qantas ran DC3's to Port Moresby, Lae and Rabaul; flying-boats to Fiji via Noumea; privately owned Trans-Oceanic was putting the New Hebrides and the Solomons on the air map and venturing even as far as Tahiti on charter runs. Air France and TRAPAS were taking care of New Caledonia. In short, although much in the Pacific was still bogged down in post-war depression and red-tape, the air age was off to a good start in 1950.

Advancement of the Islanders: A conference to plan the advancement of South Pacific people, attended by 43 delegates representing UK, USA, France, Netherlands, Australia and New Zealand, was held in Canberra in January-February 1947. An agreement was drawn up which, in effect, established the South Pacific Commission. Twelve commissioners, two from each country were provided for, also a secretariat with a secretary-general and other permanent officers. A working fund of £stg40,000 was agreed on, of which Australia was to provide 30%. The next meeting was not held until May 1948 when a committee was set up to recommend a headquarters. Suva or Noumea were the hot favourites, with the choice finally falling to

Noumea, in the old Pentagon building vacated by the Americans at Anse Vata which not only had office space but living quarters for the SPC's first Secretary-General, Mr W. D. Forsyth, of Australia. Appointments were made to the research council, and it was announced that a South Pacific Conference, at which the delegates would be Islanders, would be held in Suva in April 1950.

The conference was duly held and pronounced a success although some territories obviously had difficulty in finding delegates advanced enough to know what it was about.

Operating in a wider field, the Trusteeship Council of the United Nations had nothing to do until the end of the Japanese war. It then set about converting old Mandated Territories (West Samoa, New Guinea, Nauru and the Marianas, Marshalls and Carolines) to Trusteeships.

New Zealand was quick off the mark, sending its draft trusteeship agreement on Western Samoa to Samoan leaders for their comments. The Samoans turned it down and asked UN to grant independence instead. A Trusteeship mission subsequently visited W. Samoa but was not in favour, merely asking NZ to give a larger measure of self-determination. NZ fell into line, giving Samoa a High Commissioner instead of an Administrator, a Council of State of the three Fautua and

a Legislative Assembly instead of a Legislative Council when the group became a Trusteeship in November 1947.

Nauru became a Trusteeship territory in October 1947 without fuss but New Guinea remained technically a Mandated Territory due to the fact that Australia wished to make permanent the Provisional arrangement of administering Papua and New Guinea together. It was allowed to do so.

The former Japanese Mandate of the Marianas, Marshalls and Carolines became the US Trusteeship of the Pacific Islands on July 18, 1947 but it was a TT with a difference, designated a strategic area under the administration of the US Navy. What went on there, especially in Saipan, was so secret even the HQ was kept in neighbouring Guam, while various nuclear devices were tested in the Marshalls and visitors were unwelcome everywhere.

Bits and Pieces

Copra and the MOF: In the early post-war the price of copra rose steeply in spite of the fact that someone had invented a substitute for soap called detergent. All Commonwealth territories kept a firm hand on things by setting up control boards, stabilisation funds, export taxes and the like. Fiji, West Samoa, and the BSI had their copra sold to the UK Ministry of Food and in 1949 Papua-New Guinea joined this club. The price was fixed annually and could not rise or fall by more than 10% in any one year. The price for 1949 was £stg48, fob islands ports but by the time the various government instrumentalities got at it, planters actually received about 50% of what copra was bringing on the free market.

By late 1950 they were fed up with this. BSI planters threatened to defy their copra board and P-NG planters sent a delegation to Canberra. Needless to say, the MOF contract continued for the full nine years.

Honour Roll: In January 1946 PIM published an 8-page supplement carrying the names of servicemen and civilians of the South Pacific who had lost

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their lives, been casualties or had been decorated. It had a coloured Union Jack on the cover which must have made the Frenchmen spit, whose names appeared in it.

A Knighthood for Western Samoa's retiring Administrator Alfred Turnbull was announced in the New Year Honours of 1946.

Manus Base: Sir Thomas Blamey, C-in-C Australian forces, said that P-NG's Manus base, built by the Americans into a junior Pearl Harbour, should stay in Australian hands. PIM called him a 'dangerous dreamer'. It went on to say that Australians were fools in international affairs but even they must see that Australia alone could not defend herself. 'If America (who saved us in 1942) wanted a few square miles of tropical island as a base let us give them gladly.' Of course, Australia didn't; the Americans pulled out and Manus disintegrated.

Mrs Ruby Boye, BEM: All women did not leave the BSIP during the general evacuation. Mrs Boye stayed with her husband on Vanikoro, HQ of the Kauri Timber Co. and manned the radio station, sending weather and other reports to the Allies in the face of threatened Japanese reprisals. For this she received the BEM, one of the few women in 1946 New Years Honours to receive it, and the personal congratulations of Admiral Halsey, USN.

The CIPA: In mid-1946 trouble was continuing in the Cook Islands between the Cook Islands Workers' Union and the Auckland-based, Albert Henry-led Cook Islands Progressive Association as to who would work ships. It came to a head the following year when a plane-load of New Zealand police were sent to Rarotonga to straighten things out. The CIPA later set out to run stores and an inter-island ship.

Banabans of Ocean Island were said, in June 1946, to be settling in on Rabi, the Fiji island bought for them, with Major D. G. Kennedy, DSO, who had had distinguished war service in the Solomons in charge. This transfer of 703



Tonga's royal wedding, June 1947. Prince Tungi (heir to the throne, and now King Taufa'ahau), with his brother Prince Tu'ipelehake (now Premier) en route for the chapel to claim their brides.

Banabans and 300 Gilbertese from a semi-barren phosphate island to copra-producing Rabi was interesting, PIM thought, but would the experiment meet with success? (We all know the answer to that.)

Candle-nut Oil was a new industry in Fiji in 1946, made from nuts gathered in Fiji, Tonga and Samoa. It was a substitute for linseed oil used in paints and varnishes, flourished for a few years and then faded out as linseed oil became more plentiful and people tired of gathering nuts.

The King's Medal was awarded to C. H. Meen (Hoi Meen Chin) of Rabaul in October 1946. The citation said in part that although he was interned with a small group of Chinese in Japanese-occupied Rabaul, he managed to make contact with Allied Intelligence and began to work for them. In 1943 he sent detailed maps and written information which enabled the Allied forces to make successful air attacks on Japanese installations. He had also managed to hide Allied airmen and arrange for them to be evacuated.

Niuafoou, in the Tongan Group, was devastated by an

eruption in September 1946 and the whole population of 1800 evacuated to Eua.

Casino: It was reported in June 1947 that a large casino and modern 200-room hotel was to be built at Anse Vata beach in Noumea and was expected to become the 'most brilliant resort in the South Seas'. PIM's paragraph did not say when this would happen but, in fact, 20 years later the report became true.

Royal Marriages: Tonga was en fete in June 1947 when Prince Tupouto'a Tungi, heir to the throne, married Miss Halaevalu Mata'aho, and Prince Tu'ipelehake married Miss Melenaita Tupou-Mohefo, in a double ceremony. The Methodist Church wedding was followed by Tongan ceremonies.

Kon Tiki: In July 1947, PIM reported that six young Scandinavians led by Thor Heyerdahl were out in the Eastern Pacific somewhere on a raft trying to prove that Polynesians could have come from South America. In the following month PIM was able to report their arrival in the Marquesas, 81 days after they had left the port of Callao.

Eniwetok atoll in the Marshalls was taken over in

December 1947 by the US Atomic Energy Commission to test a 'super secret atomic weapon'. The 145 inhabitants of the atoll were relocated elsewhere.

NG Timber Scandal: What turned out to be a *cause célèbre* broke in December 1947 when Mr Jock Garden, a friend of Australian External Territories Minister Eddie Ward, was charged with forging a letter purporting to give a timber lease in the Bulolo Valley to Brisbane timber merchants Hancock and Gore, for a consideration of £50,000. The sensation and all its ramifications dragged on, involving three other members of Garden's syndicate — a man named Farrell, Garden's son and veteran flyer Ray Parer, and finally Minister Ward himself who was the subject of a Royal Commission. Garden went to gaol, the other members of the syndicate were cleared and the Royal Commission found Mr Ward not involved in any way.

Blue Lagoon: Miss Jean Simmons, then 18, arrived in Suva in December 1947 with other actors to star in the film *Blue Lagoon* part of which was made in the Yasawas, a fact that indirectly started popular cruises to those isolated islands, originally run by Mr Trevor Withers.

Oil: It was announced in June 1948 that the NG Petroleum Co of Dutch New Guinea expected to begin production from wells in the extreme tip of the Vogelkop, near Sorong, by the beginning of 1949.

Tuna Fishing: In late 1948, Mr Harold Gatty, who had done much to establish Pan-Am's air service across the Pacific, went in for a new venture when he registered South Seas Marine Products in Suva with the idea of catching and canning tuna for the insatiable American market. Three modern tuna clippers, two live bait vessels and a refrigerated vessel were purchased plus a long range spotter plane. It took little more than a year to show that whatever tuna did elsewhere they could not be caught in Fiji waters by the pole-method employed in the north-



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ern hemisphere. The ships were sold and the company wound up. The Japanese who came in later proved that it could be done by the long-line method, but that was another story.

The Fingerprint Murder: Three Brisbane detectives who had gone to Ocean Island in April 1949 and fingerprinted everyone on the island before charging a Chinese labourer, Tai Shek, with the murder of Mr T. Allen, a BPC engineer, and his wife, were off again on their travels in September. The accused had been sent to Suva for trial, some technical hitch arose, he was then sent back to Ocean for re-arrest and re-committal and returned to Suva. On the strength of his fingerprints being found on a window sill in the Allens' house, he was found guilty and eventually hanged at Suva gaol.

Devaluation: In October 1949, Britain devalued the £Stg against the US dollar by 30% and all British Pacific countries followed suit. The price of

commodities written in US dollars rose in terms of devalued £'s but as far as the Pacific was concerned this mainly affected gold, which shot up from £A10.15.0 an ounce to approx £A15.10.0. But as far as the US was concerned gold remained at \$US35 per ounce and was to stay that way for the next 20 years.

Timber: Commonwealth New Guinea Timbers was born at the end of 1949 — 49% owned by Bulolo Gold Dredging, the Australian government having the balance. Object was to harvest the klinkii and hoop pine of the Bulolo Valley and turn it into plywood and veneer while at the same time, through reafforestation, create a permanent forest asset.

Goodbye to Socialism and all That was the headline in PIM in December 1949. Labour governments had been defeated in both New Zealand and Australia in that month and PIM commented that no communities had suffered more under their controls and regulations than their 'voiceless

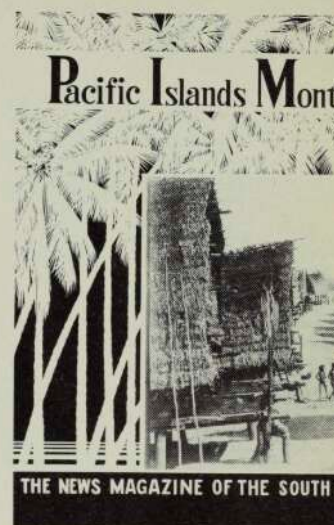
people of the South Pacific territories'. Events were to show, however, that eggs, once scrambled, are hard to re-assemble.

US Navy Out: American Samoa was given a year's notice that after 51 years the USN would bow out of administration of the territory on July 1, 1951, the US Department of the Interior taking over. The Samoans were unhappy at the prospect of losing their Fairy Godfather, not expecting their new bosses to be so open-handed.

SPP: After months of frustration and delays, P-NG got its first post-war newspaper. First issue of the *South Pacific Post* was published on September 26, 1950.

Deputy Administrators were to be appointed in Papua-New Guinea — two of them, at salaries ranging from £2000 to £2500.

1950 Ended — on a happy note. The price for copra sold to the United Kingdom MOF would rise in 1951 by the full 10% allowed.



This PIM cover never appeared. It was designed by a regular PIM reader and contributor who signed himself Kupa. Many readers over the years sent unsolicited cover designs, invariably including the coconut palms that have become PIM's motif.



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Tuvalu's Prime Minister Toalipi Lauti, with (left) John Ionatana, secretary to government.



Exit Mister Gross

Tuvalu Prime Minister Toalipi Lauti's dream of achieving prosperity for his country through a partnership with Californian real estate dealer Sidney Gross has ended. In a radio address on Funafuti he said that the joint venture with Mr Gross for the creation of a fishing fleet for Tuvalu was off. Such a scheme would lose money, he said, in what was widely regarded as an honest and dignified admission that he had been wrong in planning the deal.

This seems to have ended an adventurous dream which began for Mr Lauti when he flew to the United States in February, 1979, and handed a cheque for \$A550 380 to Mr Gross, who promised to invest it at 15% and negotiate for the purchase of fishing boats to be financed from a \$5 million loan which Mr Gross would raise. The fleet, of four ships, would earn more than \$US 9 million in four years, 80% of the profit going as repayment for the \$5 million loan. The rest would go into Tuvalu's investment account to be handled by Mr. Gross.

In his radio address, broadcast in the local language, Mr Lauti told his people that the Planning Department had advised him that a joint fishery venture would be a loss to Tuvalu and to Mr Gross. He had seen Mr Gross in Honolulu and told him that the venture was ended because of the high cost of running a fishing fleet.

Mr Gross, said the Prime Minister, had asked him to postpone his decision to end

the scheme until his experts had reviewed the situation. He had expected one fishing boat to be ready by February 1.

Mr Lauti told his listeners: 'Since the Planning Officer has revealed that nothing will be gained from it, you are now informed that this will be postponed until such times that the world currency is more stable.'

He added that his government was having preliminary talks with interests in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan and 'from what we know the talks are progressing well'.

In December, parliament was told that Mr Gross had been asked for the return of the \$555 000-plus which Mr Lauti had invested in Mr Gross' Blue Chip Realty. The money was needed to buy the Tuvaluans into a joint venture with Barclays Bank International which will open a bank on Funafuti.

Meanwhile, many Tuvaluans who had paid a total of \$75 000 for land in Green Valley, Texas, are also asking for their money back.

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All-in-all, it seems clear that Mr Gross and Tuvalu have parted company.

PROFIT LIFTS FOR BP, WRC

The South Pacific's two trading giants, Burns Philp and Carpenters, have reported big lifts in profits for the half year to the end of 1979 — Burns Philp up by 20.8% to \$7 111 000 and Carpenters by 73% to \$6 090 000.

The former's islands subsidiary, Burns Philp (South Sea) Co Ltd, contributed its quota to the group's profitable six months through its branches in Papua New Guinea and the New Hebrides which showed increases in sales and profits, mainly in the motor divisions. For some reason Fiji and Western Samoa don't merit a mention in the interim report to the Sydney Stock Exchange.

Carpenters reported lower profits from Fiji, mainly through the merchandising operations and the copra mill, but there were strong profit contri-

butions from the motor division and the engineering support services, thanks to the Monasavu hydro-electric project. The Papua New Guinea operations increased their profit through the motor, plantation and oil mill divisions and merchandising, but the tea and coffee estates had reduced output and profit because of drought.

Burns Philp has also announced a rights issue of shares, the first cash issue to its shareholders for 24 years. It will be on a 1 for 4 basis at \$1.80 a share to registered shareholders. This will raise \$16 736 932 to supplement funds required for the continuing growth of the group's operations. During the six months the group acquired Cope Allman (South Pacific) Ltd, which has a biscuit factory and a soap factory in Rodwell Road, Suva, and Tutt Bryant Pacific Ltd, of Papua New Guinea which will contribute to the group's motor division.

Carpenters reported selling the Southern Pacific Insurance Co Ltd.

Windfall for Malolo

Malolo Islanders in Fiji received \$10 000 a block for 12 blocks on their small island on which luxury holiday homes are being built. On top of that they will get an annual rental for the land.

Mr Errol Fifer, a Sydney property developer, recently raised \$1.3 million from Australians to buy the luxury homes. The resort is expected to open in April.

The homes on Malolo Island, which is west of Nadi Airport, form part of a private club, the Naitasi, which is owned by residents of the resort. Each has two adjoining bures which may be used by friends.

PNG inflation up, but . . .

Papua New Guinea's inflation rate for 1979 was 7.9%, up 1.9% from the previous year.

Finance Minister Barry Holloway said the rise was

reasonable by world standards.

He added: 'Most countries in the world, especially our major trading partners, have much higher inflation rates. Our country inevitably feels the effect of that when we import products from countries with higher inflation.'

Of SPEC and OPEC

Armed with a brief prepared by the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC), a delegation of Islands countries will go to Vienna later this year to ask for aid from the Organisation of Petroleum Producing Countries (OPEC).

The delegation will ask for guaranteed fuel supplies at concession prices as a help in cushioning the shock of high energy costs on their fragile economies.

The delegation, which will be at ministerial level, aims to have a report ready for the next

South Pacific Forum meeting later this year.

Members of the delegation have not yet been chosen.

3 times to Honolulu

Air Micronesia will restore its third weekly flight between Ponape and Honolulu from May 1. The flights were discontinued last October when the airline withdrew its third jet operating in Micronesia after it failed to secure the right to fly between Osaka, Japan, and Saipan.

President of Continental Air Micronesia Dan Peck told a conference on Ponape in February that he did not know how long the third flight would be in operation. It may be discontinued after September if traffic falls off seriously after summer.

Hydro-power plans in PNG

Papua New Guinea's Electricity Commission (Elcom) is planning a massive power scheme which could involve as

many as 12 power stations on the Vanapa River outside Port Moresby.

The scheme could eventually produce between 1200 and 1500 megawatts a day.

Port Moresby at present uses only 38 megawatts a day. The scheme is aimed at encouraging large-scale foreign investment in the national capital district.

Water used in the scheme would drop several thousand metres from two lakes built on the 4000-metre Mount Albert Edward, about 90 km north of Port Moresby. It would cascade through a series of hydro-electric stations on the Vanapa River, and into a third weir closer to the coast.

The scheme is planned in stages, with moves from one to another depending on development of demand.

In another move to develop PNG's hydro-power resources, Australia's Snowy Mountains Engineering Corporation signed an agreement in February for a \$A73 million scheme to be built in the Western Highlands.

TRADEWINDS INTELLIGENCE...

NEW ZEALAND in March sent 850 sheep to Papua New Guinea under its bilateral aid programme. The sheep — 800 Corriedale and 50 Perendales — went to a PNG Government farm near Goroka. The farm is the centre of a sheep management project for smallholders in the New Guinea highlands.

SUVA ARCHITECTS John Rounds, Lee and Partners Co Ltd have formed an association with a leading Australian firm of architects, Devine, Erby and Mazlin Pty Ltd. The two teams will pool resources to handle large undertakings in Fiji and the South Pacific region. Mr Rounds worked for some years in Sydney as an architect.

NORFOLK Island was visited by 21 000 tourists in 1978-79 including 12 370 from Australia and 8630 from New Zealand.

CONSTRUCTION firm Downer-Turner of New Zealand began a preliminary survey of Palau's airport and the site of their base camp in February before the arrival of their heavy equipment due sometime in April. The company was awarded the multi-million dollar contract last November. Scope of the work contracted for includes improvements to the existing Airai airport which include earthwork, grading and fill for widening and extending the present runway to 2194 m, including appropriate taxiway and aircraft parking apron and paving.

AIR NIUGINI's in-flight magazine *Paradise* has doubled its print run from 25 000 to 50 000 and increased its size by eight pages. The increase in production was in response to reader demand and increased passenger traffic, partly due to the opening of new flights to Honolulu, Jakarta and Singapore. *Paradise* is published every second month.

DAVID Lincoln-Gordon has been appointed Regional Controller for the Pacific Islands of the Commonwealth Development Corporation. The CDC's office in Suva was upgraded to Regional Office status from February 1. CDC's Islands operations were



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TRADEWINDS INTELLIGENCE...TRA

formerly part of the East Asia and Pacific Islands Region and were controlled from Singapore. CDC's existing commitments to projects in the new region (Fiji, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands) total about £33 million sterling.

AN AUSTRALIAN consortium of Leighton, Hornibrook and Thiess Bros Pty Ltd has won a contract worth \$51 million to construct a water supply scheme for the Nadi-Lautoka area of Fiji.

THE AUSTRALIAN Government is providing \$250 000 worth of flour and vegetable oil as a follow-up for victims of Hurricane Meli, which struck Fiji in March, 1979.

MORE than 30 000 tonnes of pine will be processed into wood products in Fiji this year for local and export markets, including 13 000 tonnes for sawn timber. A new \$F150 000 sawmill has just been completed at the Fiji Pine Commission's Drasa wood processing depot.

EMPEROR Gold Mining Co, Vatukoula, Fiji, is budgeting on record tonnages and drilling development this year. Emperor general manager Geoffrey Reid said in February that with the price of gold almost double what it was a year ago the company was finding it economic to extract lower grades of ore. Drilling at the mine was up to levels comparable with peak periods of the past.

WESTERN Samoa exported 18 500 tonnes of copra worth more than \$8 million last year. Cocoa production totalled 2000 tonnes, of which 1400 tonnes worth \$3 500 000 had been sold by the end of 1979.

SOLOMON Islands and New Hebrides governments have signed an agreement under which vessels of the Santo-based South Pacific Fishing Company can fish in Solomon Islands waters and catch up to 1500 tonnes of tuna a year. The agreement is valid for one year, and subject to renewal after negotiations.

SINGAPORE-based forestry operator Inchcape Berhad will take over the management of Papua New Guinea's largest timber concern, Commonwealth New Guinea Timbers Ltd. According to a February announcement the company will hold a 30% interest in CNGT. To set up the deal, the PNG Government, which holds 9% of CNGT, will buy the majority interest of Sohbu Trading Corporation of Japan, then resell 30% to Inchcape Berhad. Under the 1973 agreement, the government has first refusal on the Sohbu shares.

THE \$F50 limit on Fiji currency allowed to be taken out of the country by travellers was raised to \$100 on February 1. At the same time the \$200 limit on foreign currency notes was raised to \$500. It became legal on the same day to buy, sell, borrow and lend old coins in Fiji. But restriction on dealing in gold bullion remained as before.

TRANS-Micronesia Airways began a daily Monday-Friday service between Ponape and Kosrae on February 18. Aircraft used is a 16-seat turbo-prop Nomad. Another service between the islands is operated by the Pacific Missionary Aviation (PMA) airline.

AN X-RAY machine which has been gathering dust in the Cook Islands for three years, is at last to be installed in the Rarotonga hospital. The \$50 000 machine, supplied under New Zealand aid, could not be used earlier as the X-ray room lacked the required lead shielding. The shielding has now been installed.

AIR PACIFIC will take over its ground-handling operation from Australia's Qantas Airways Ltd at Nadi Airport from August 1. Air Pacific general manager Captain Alan Bodger said that the takeover was based on economics, after Qantas increased its ground-handling fees by 80% on January 1.

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The boatyard at Sasapi, building now in ferrocement

\$5m plans for fishing boats, ports, in Solomon Is., Tonga



Projects with price tags totalling more than \$5 million are under way in Solomon Islands and Tonga with the purpose of upgrading the fishing industries of the two countries.

- In Solomon Islands, 10 pole and line ferrocement fishing vessels are being built with a \$3.6 million loan from the Asian Development Bank, and

- In Tonga, the European Economic Community and the Tongan Government have agreed on a \$2 million EEC-funded fishing harbour project at the Nukualofa waterfront.

Jimmy Cornell reports on the developments in Solomon Islands: Ten pole and line ferrocement fishing boats are to be built by a shipyard set up for the purpose by National Fisheries Development Ltd at Sasapi, on Tulagi, an island some 32km from Guadalcanal across the notorious Iron Bottom Sound, graveyard of scores of Japanese, American and Australian warships. The project is financed by a \$3.6 million loan from the Asian Development Bank, the company itself having a 75% participation from the Solomon Islands Government and 25% from Solomon

(Taiyo,) a joint Solomons-Japanese fishing venture.

General manager of the Sasapi shipyard is Trevor Holmes, a UK fisheries expert from Grimsby, who is convinced that building in ferrocement is the most advantageous method for a developing nation. In his opinion, building of the hulls can start more or less immediately, using locally available labour and very little equipment, provided one has a ferrocement expert supervising the initial stages of the project.

Building in ferrocement is usually a labour-intensive method, and thus expensive in a country where wages are high. But it can be very economical where labour is easily available and cheap. The Solomons were ideally suited for it, as there were a few welders, metal workers and plasterers available, who had worked in ferrocement before, and even some shipwrights who had learned their trade on locally built timber boats.

According to Trevor Holmes, one of the ferrocement hulls should cost only 60% of the price of a similar hull built in steel, fibreglass or timber.

The project started in August 1978 on the site of a former boatyard. By the end of 1979 the first hull was ready for launching, while the second hull was reaching the plastering stage. The boats will have a typical Japanese look about them, with an elongated beak and fishing platforms all around. They will carry Japanese skippers and fishing masters from Okinawa. But the entire crew of 23 will be made up of Solomon Islanders. The fishing method employed by these boats will be the proven Japanese technique of spraying the chosen area first, followed by pole and lining with live bait.

Designed by Auckland naval architect Jerry Breckveldt, the boats will be 24 m LOA the hull having a length of 20 m, breadth 6 m, draft 2.73 m. They will have an ice capacity of 27.5 m³, but no refrigeration, as they will be used as day boats only, returning to base each night to land the catch and load the bait for the next day's fishing. Propulsion will be provided by a 450 hp Caterpillar engine, giving a speed of 10.5 knots. Each boat will be equipped with two generators to provide electricity, drive the

pumps etc, a G & M of 34 KVA, and a smaller Yanmar of 4 KVA for emergency use.

Aware of one of the major shortcomings of a ferrocement hull — poor lateral impact resistance — Trevor Holmes is trying to build the boats as strong as possible, but without making them too heavy in the process. Watson's mesh is used throughout, with two layers inside and three outside. The side decks will be of ferrocement, but superstructure and interior will be timber. The estimated fishing weight will be about 130 tonnes.

The shipyard has a large building shed in which two hulls can be finished side by side. Projected time from hull-laying to commissioning is 12 months four months for lofting and armature work, four months for plastering, curing, painting and launching, plus a final four months for the fitting-out, to be carried out afloat.

Obviously the first two boats are taking longer: the first will be 17 months, the second 15 months. But the next eight hulls should be rolling off every four months after that, so that the projected 10 vessels

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should take only four years to build.

Besides the general manager, three foreign experts — a ferro specialist, an engineer and a shipwright — are also employed by the yard, all provided by either British or New Zealand aid.

A total of 120 local men work at the shipyard, about 75% of them employed on the boats under construction, the remaining doing general work as the Sasapi shipyard also offers maintenance and repair facilities for private commercial shipping, which cannot use the government shipyard, also based at Tulagi. Two slipways up to 80 tonnes are available at Sasapi, the shipyard being capable of carrying out all basic repair work. Plans are also underway for a larger 350 tonnes slipway to be built soon.

The shipyard will also build 20 bait-catching boats, two for each catcher boat. The bait catchers will be 8 m long, breadth and a draft of 1 m. Two have already been built in ferrocement, but as this material tends to be too heavy for this size, the remaining boats will be probably built of GRP. The shipyard also has on order 15 8 m plywood fishing boats for the Solomon Islands Development Bank, which will sell these on credit to local fishermen.

The boatyard at Sasapi is already operating two line and pole fishing boats of similar dimensions to those under construction. Built in Japan, one of steel, one of fibreglass. They have already proven to the management that neither of these materials is suitable for the Solomons, as major structural repair work cannot be carried out in the islands. In case of serious hull damage — as has already happened — the boats had to be sent to Japan for repair.

Both the existing boats and the projected 20 will be operated by National Fisheries Development Ltd and will sell their catch to Solomons Taiyo, whose freezing and canning factory is also on Tulagi.

Agreement on the Tonga project was reached at a February meeting in

Nukualofa between government officials and two representatives of the Suva regional office of the EEC.

The project includes extension of the eastern side of the Fuaa Wharf, removal of the old slipway and building of a new one.

A new mooring site will be built for the new fishing vessels now being built at Sopu by the Fisheries Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries.

A fish market will be built and freezing units installed.

A spokesman for Tonga's Central Planning Department said that the new extension of the Fuaa Wharf will be used by cargo vessels for loading and unloading purposes when proposed extension work at Queen Salote Wharf gets under way.



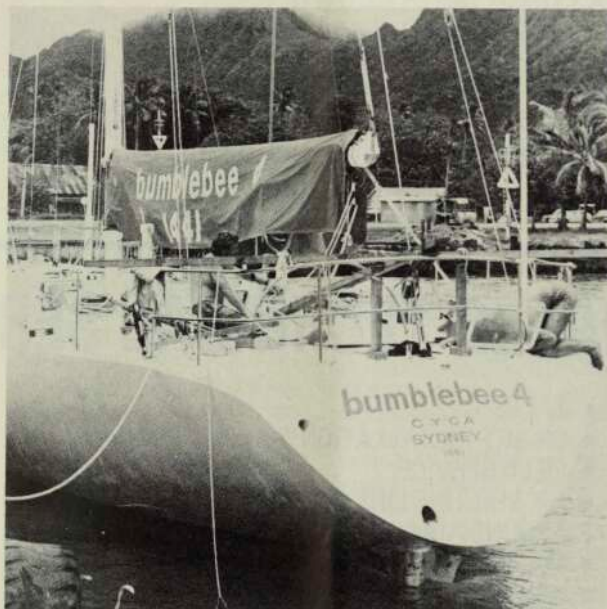
YACHTS

• **BUMBLEBEE 4:** This 22 m Maxi ocean racer in transit from Sydney to Tahiti, the Caribbean and the United States, called into Avatiu Harbour in the Cooks to repair a broken rudder, sustained in heavy seas in the second week of February, reports Karen Garner-Williams from Rarotonga. *Bumblebee 4* left Sydney on January 31, with a crew of six including skipper Graham Freeman, who sailed in the *Bumblebee 3* in the 1975 Admiral's Cup. Along with Graham Freeman were

Peter Gardner, Mike Taylor, Col Broomfield, Peter Dyball and John Munson, who sailed in the 1979 Admiral's Cup in *Ragamuffin*. The sleek, white *Bumblebee 4*, an unusual guest in Avatiu harbour during the hurricane season, left the Cooks on February 19 bound for Antigua, Bermuda, New York and further afield, and expects to be away from Sydney for 18 months. The break meant that the *Bumblebee 4* was a week behind schedule and would probably have to cut short its call in Tahiti. The *Bumblebee 4* was first across the line in the 1979 Sydney to Hobart yacht race and is said to be one of the fastest ocean racers in the world. The temporary replacement rudder was constructed locally. A permanent replacement has been ordered from Holland at an estimated cost of \$10 000.

Thanks also to Dr Stephen R. Weinstein for his report of *Bumblebee 4*'s enforced call at Rarotonga. Dr Weinstein records that the rudderless racer almost collided with a trawler when entering Avatiu Harbour.

• **MATA MOANA.** Viliami Fehoko, better known as Tonga Bill, is presently cruising the coast of Papua New Guinea in his self-built 5.50 m sloop *Mata Moana*, the 'Eye of the Sea' in Tongan, reports Jimmy Cornell. The young Tongan is one of the very few yachtsmen among the Pacific Islanders and the craft in which he has already covered many thousands of miles in the South Pacific is hardly larger than the sailing boats of his home island of Haano, in the Haapai Group. In 1974 Bill met Mike Bales, a retired Lt. Commander (RN), and joined Mike's 8 m yacht *Jellicle* as crew, sailing to New Zealand. During a year's stay in New Zealand, Bill started building *Mata Moana* in a shed in Auckland while earning his living as a galvaniser. Sailing on *Jellicle*, Bill and Mike made a 34-day passage to Raevaevae in French Polynesia and spent 10 months in the Society Islands before returning to NZ via Rarotonga. Bill finished his own boat in 1977 and in June sailed singlehanded to Raro-



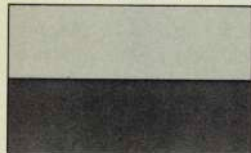
Above: *Bumblebee 4* in Avatiu harbour, Rarotonga, Cook Islands. Photo: Karen Garner-Williams. Below: *Wotan* at Tubuai, Austral Islands, French Polynesia. Photo: Don Travers.

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tonga. Trying to be in Huahine for Bastille Day, he put to sea again and arrived there on July 13. In April 1978, after nearly one year in French Polynesia, he left for Rarotonga from where he sailed non-stop to his home island, Haano, to a hero's welcome. After cruising the Tongan islands, *Mata Moana* returned to NZ and in April 1979 the small yacht sailed for the New Hebrides. From Santo, Bill took his boat to Port Moresby arriving there in September 1979. In December he left for Madang, the engineless boat being forced to spend Christmas at sea, becalmed in the Vitiaz Straits. Bill has no precise plans for the future, but is confident that *Mata Moana* will take him wherever he decides to go.

• **NAGADA II.** This Calypso 13.50 m ketch designed by Frans Maas was built of foam sandwich by amateur builder Eddie Haering. Eddie, who comes originally from West Germany, joined Air Niugini as an aircraft engineer when the airline was founded. It took him over five years of his spare time to build the boat in Port Moresby, *Nagada II* being launched in May 1979. Accompanied by wife Ute and daughters Katja (12) and Iris (6), Eddie sailed the Hamburg-registered yacht on a shake-down cruise to Samarai, Lae and Madang. Plans for 1980 include a trip to the Philippines and beyond.

• **APTERYX.** A Cavalier 39 fibreglass sloop crewed by New Zealanders Peter and Jo Smith, *Apteryx* is spending the cyclone season in Madang, PNG. In the last seven years Peter has built over 300 yachts at the Cavalier Boatbuilding Co in Auckland, his own luxury yacht having taken just over one year to be completed. *Apteryx*, named after the ancient flightless bird, left New Zealand in July 1979 bound for Fiji, then carried on to the New Hebrides, Solomons and PNG.

• **MAIAU.** This 16.50 m fibreglass ketch called at Rabaul on her way from Brisbane to San Francisco. Skip-

per Tim Towers took delivery of the boat in Taiwan in 1975, sailed to Hong Kong, the Philippines, PNG and Australia. On the present voyage he is accompanied by crew Eric Lawton. From Rabaul, *Maiau* sailed to Bougainville, then on to Nauru, Kiribati and Hawaii.

• **WOTAN,** a 15.91 m gaff-rigged yawl of Danish registry was a recent visitor to the Austral Islands from Tahiti, reports Don Travers from Tubuai. On board were captain Jorgen Hansen, wife Rosa, daughter Ninette, sons Michael and John, nephew Palle Jorgensen and Tahitian guest crew Marie. *Wotan* is a motor-sailer with a 165 hp diesel. Built in Denmark in 1942 as a fishing trawler, she saw many years of service after the war in Danish coastguard and spent time in Greenland waters. The Hansens bought *Wotan* in 1976 at government auction and converted her to sail. They left Denmark in 1978 on a world cruise and have made many stops including Plymouth, Lisbon, Canary Islands, West Indies, Venezuela, Colombia, San Islas Islands, Panama, Cocos Island, Galapagos, Marquesas, Tuamotus, Tahiti, Rurutu and Tubuai. They returned to Tahiti from Tubuai with plans to cruise the Society Islands and then head west through the Pacific Islands, New Zealand and Torres Strait.

The following completes Jimmy Cornell's account of the craft and crews which spent Christmas-New Year 1979-1980 in Rabaul. For others see Cruising Yachts (PIM Mar. pp73-76).

• **MERRY MAIDEN:** This Philip Rhodes 18.60 m ketch built of wood in 1947 is on its second voyage around the world. Skipper Seaton Gras accompanied his father Ranulf Gras and family on the first voyage, which lasted nearly six years from 1969-75. Seaton enjoyed sailing so much that with his father's permission he took *Merry Maiden* and set off again. Leaving his homeport of Salem in Massachusetts in October 1976, he sailed to the Caribbean and

Panama, arriving in the Pacific in July 1977. After visiting Ecuador, *Merry Maiden* sailed to the Galapagos, Easter Island, Pitcairn, Marquesas, Tuamotus, Society Islands, Rarotonga, the two Samoas, Tonga and Fiji to New Zealand. After 10 months in New Zealand *Merry Maiden* left in September 1979 for Fiji, New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Santa Cruz and Solomons to arrive on Christmas Eve in Rabaul. After a short trip to Australia, *Merry Maiden* will return to PNG and sail on to Micronesia. The crew has changed several times since leaving the USA, the only original member being Larry Smith, who joined the yacht in Florida.

• **RAMA:** This 12.20 m ferrocement ketch was built by skipper Ralph Junger. Accompanied by Dorothy Hillis, *Rama* left their homeport of Townsville in August 1979, sailing inside the Great Barrier Reef to Cairns and then on to PNG. After the cyclone season a trip to the Solomons is envisaged.

• **GALATEA IV:** This 14.50 m Kennedy-designed cutter is taking retired Canadian dentist Bob Miller and his wife Marg on a leisurely trip around the world. They left their homeport in May 1978 sailing first to the Marquesas, Tuamotus, Society and Cook Islands. After visiting Tonga and Fiji, *Galatea IV* arrived in New Zealand for the 78/79 cyclone season. Fiji was revisited in 1979, after which the Millers sailed to the New Hebrides, Solomons and PNG. In 1980 they plan to sail to the Philippines and Malaysia, and later possibly to the Mediterranean.

• **RANGER:** Also in Rabaul for Christmas was Gene Williams on his Garden 35 ketch *Ranger* from Victoria, British Columbia. After leaving Canada in September 1976, *Ranger* sailed down the coast to California, and from there to the Marquesas. One year was spent in French Polynesia, before heading for the Cooks, the Samoas, Tonga, Fiji and New Zealand. After the summer in New Zealand, Gene sailed to Fiji, the New Hebrides, Ontong Java and Rabaul, planning to spend the



'Tonga Bill', or Villami Fehoko, aboard his self-built 5.5 m sloop *Mata Moana* — 'Eye of the Sea' in Tongan. Villami is one of the few Islander yachtsmen, and already has behind him many thousands of miles of South Pacific sailing in his boat which is not much bigger than the sailing boats of his home island of Haano, in the Haapai group. Villami built *Mata Moana* in a shed in Auckland, while earning his living as a galvaniser. Photo: Jimmy Cornell.

cyclone season in PNG waters.

• **JOALIE II:** John Sladek, a mechanical engineer from Port Kembla, New South Wales, designed and built his own 16 m steel ketch *Joalie II* in only 18 months. With wife Joan and daughter Julie, he left home in May 1979 bound for New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Banks, Solomons and PNG. The Sladeks plan to sail around the north coast of PNG to Indonesia to arrive in Singapore towards the end of next year.

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EGAN REPORT

(continued from page 14)

lot of them. I have recently re-submitted my staffing proposals to the Secretary for Justice for onforwarding to the Public Service Commission. I am not optimistic enough to believe they will be accepted — perhaps they may be graced with somebody's consideration.

Ombudsman Commission:

The Ombudsman Commission has referred a number of matters to me in the year of this report. To date *none* of them has been actioned by me. I have explained to the Chief Ombudsman that I refuse to waste the precious few resources that I have in prosecuting national leaders for breaches of the 'Leadership Code' when the government demonstrates immediately the contempt it has for such proceedings by immediately reappointing such leaders, disgraced by convictions, back to positions of equal or greater prestige and power. I have invited the Ombudsman Commission instead to refer clear instances of criminal activity by leaders to either the police force or myself, as we both have (at least *technical*) constitutional guarantees against outside interference.

The Committee of Mercy: If any one body in this country is contributing more than any other to the judicial process of sentencing becoming a complete laughing stock, it is the committee that advises on the power of mercy.

It does not comprehend the proper notion of what 'mercy' means in the judicial sense, it over-reacts, it is amateurishly naive, it assumes powers that it does not have and all this in good faith, for I do not suggest for one moment that it acts with anything but absolute *bona fides*. I trust I am not being unfairly critical when I say that only on two occasions that I can recall has my office been asked to appear before the Committee or make detailed representations in support of a sentence properly imposed.

To give an idea of what takes place during the normal operation of the judicial process,

the prosecution calls all its evidence, the accused is allowed to adduce whatever evidence he wishes to place before the court, and the Judge then decides whether he is guilty or innocent. If found guilty, the accused is allowed to call evidence on the question of sentence, is *always* given the opportunity to say anything he wishes to say on his own behalf, and then his counsel is allowed to make submissions in mitigation of sentence. Only after all these safeguards have been observed, does the trial Judge impose what to him, on the facts, is a proper sentence. All possible factors are first carefully weighed and balanced.

However, the more astute prisoners these days, and especially the younger and more educated prisoners, immediately upon entering prison, are despatching letters to the Mercy Committee asking for clemency. The letters are invariably heart-rending tales, detailing all the 'injustices' that surrounded their convictions and sentences, and generally speaking contain exactly the same material that was placed before the sentencing Judge at trial and which was either rejected as untrue or given due weight by the Judge in imposing sentence.

The problem is that the Mercy Committee, with buoyant enthusiasm, invariably adopts these piteous complaints as being gospel truth, untested as they are by cross-examination, unopposed as they are by the prosecutors because we know little or nothing about them, and so the prisoner has the benefit of having *his* side of the story taken into account *twice* on the question of sentence.

This process had led to some outstandingly stupid results.

Perhaps the most arrogant misconception as to their proper role and powers by the Mercy Committee to date relates to the case of a very well educated young Papuan gentleman who pleaded guilty to two counts of dangerous driving causing death (that of his wife and eldest son) where the aggravating factors of alcohol, speed and recklessness were involved. A non-custodial sentence was imposed by the trial Judge. An appeal by my

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office against leniency of sentence was successful, and in a very strong and determined judgment, the Supreme Court unanimously imposed an 18 months gaol sentence. The young gentleman immediately wrote to the Mercy Committee, which, when it sat, had the temerity to unanimously recommend to cabinet that the original sentence of the trial Judge, a sentence already pronounced by the highest court in the land to be legally improper, be restored. Cabinet in its wisdom rejected this recommendation. With greatest respect, I recommend that the present composition of the Mercy Committee be drastically *changed* so as to reflect a balance of interests, experience and professionalism. Otherwise the mercy *prerogative* will be reduced in status to that of the mercy *ritual*.

Acting Appointments: There was one acting appointment made during the period of this report, that of Mr Gavara-Nanu for the period of one month that I was on leave between May 4-June 4 1979. This appointment was contrary to my recommendation and made upon the insistence of the former Minister for Justice, Mrs Nahau Rooney. On my return from leave I was surprised to find Mr Gavara-Nanu acting in my position. After making a quick check of the register of counsel held at the Supreme Court I confirmed my first impression which was that Mr Gavara-Nanu had been improperly appointed as Acting Public Prosecutor, in that he failed by a period of three

months, to fulfil the barest minimum qualification for appointment under the *Organic Law* — that of three years experience post-full admission.

I wrote to the Judicial and Legal Services Commission pointing out their error. To date I have not received a reply in any form.

The 'Rooney Affair': This is not the place to dwell upon this matter, although it is the reason for the late submission of this report. I will say only this about the Rooney affair.

History will prove, I am sadly confident, that this calamity that has befallen the legal system of this country, will mark the watershed between the integrity of our judicial system and the upholding of the rule of law, and the slow downhill turn toward tyranny and anarchy. The judicial system, its status, its independence and its impartiality have been dealt a body blow from which it is unlikely to truly recover. There are many proverbs attributed to the sixth century BC Chinese philosopher Confucius — many are unprintable and in fact emanated from Australian schoolboys — one that did not reads as follows: 'By three ways we may learn wisdom: First by reflection — which is the noblest; Second by imitation — which is the easiest; And third, by experience — which is the bitterest.'

The 'Rooney Affair' has placed the legal system of this country squarely on the path of 'bitter experience' in its search for wisdom — and justice.

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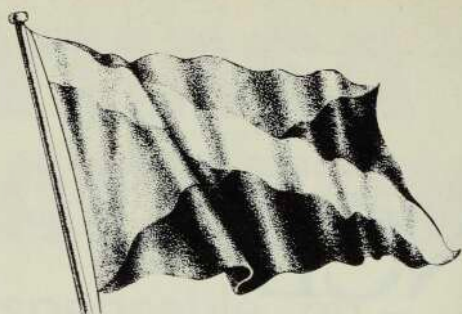
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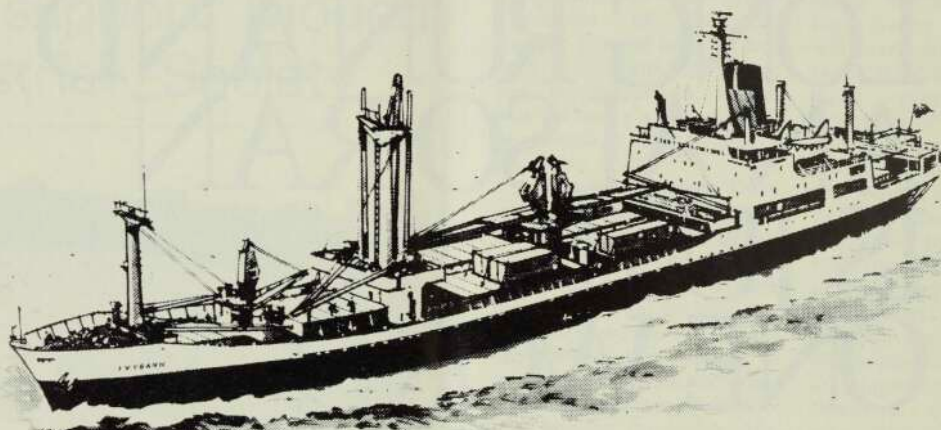
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SHIPPING SERVICES

Should any shipping company wish to have its services — cargo and passenger — included in these listings they should contact PIM.

AUSTRALIA - FIJI

Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd operates monthly cargo services from Sydney to Suva and Lautoka.

Details from Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301), Dalgety Shipping, 461 Bourke Street, Melbourne (60-0731), Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva and Lautoka.

Sofrana-Unilines (Fiji Express Line) operates to Suva and Lautoka every three weeks from the main ports on the east coast of Australia and monthly to Lautoka from Melbourne and Sydney.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 37 Pitt Street, Sydney, (27-2031), Trans-Austral Shipping Pty Ltd, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne (67-9162), ACTA Pty Ltd, Brisbane (221-3116), Elders-ANL Pty Ltd, Port Adelaide (47-5688), ANL, Newcastle (049-24364), Clements & Marshall, Burnie, Tasmania (31-1833).

AUSTRALIA - FIJI - SAMOAS - NEW HEBRIDES - TONGA - NORFOLK ISLAND

Pacific Navigation of Tonga operates five-weekly refrigerated general cargo/container service from Sydney and

Brisbane to Vila, Santo, Suva, Lautoka, Apia, Pago Pago, Nuku'alofa and Norfolk Island.

Details from Beaufort Shipping Agency Co, 2 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (239-1022).

AUSTRALIA - FIJI - SAMOAS - TONGA

Pacific Forum Line operates a fully containerised service (Gen/Reefer) from Melbourne, Sydney to Lautoka, Suva, Pago Pago, Apia and Nuku'alofa.

Funafuti cargo transhipped at Suva. Details from Union Bulkships, Sydney; ANL Melbourne; Burns Philp, Lautoka and Suva; Polynesia Shipping Services, Pago Pago; Burns Philp, Apia; and Union Steamships Co, Nuku'alofa; or Pacific Forum Line, Head Office, Apia.

AUSTRALIA - LORD HOWE IS - NORFOLK IS

Compagnie des Chargeurs Caledoniens operates four-weekly cargo service Sydney - Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Island.

Details Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

AUSTRALIA - NAURU - KIRIBATI

Nauru Pacific Line operates regular cargo/passenger service from Melbourne to Nauru and Tarawa.

Details: Nauru Pacific Line, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709), Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA (AND/OR) NEW HEBRIDES

Karlander operates a monthly service from Sydney to Noumea.

Details: Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301).

Sofrana-Unilines ships serve Noumea every three weeks from the

main ports along the east Australian coast.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 19 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2031), Trans-Austral Shipping Pty Ltd, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne (67-9162), ACTA Pty Ltd, Brisbane (221-3116), Elders-ANL Pty Ltd, Port Adelaide (47-5688), ANL, Newcastle (049-24364), Clements & Marshall, Burnie, Tasmania (31-1833).

Compagnie des Chargeurs Caledoniens operates a three-weekly containerised cargo service from Sydney to Noumea.

Details Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney to Noumea, Port Vila and Santo, using a self-sustained fully containerised vessel.

Details Compagnie Generale Maritime, 12 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (231-3700).

Daiwa Line operates 30 day service from Sydney to Vila and Santo.

Details Meridian Shipping & Transport Agencies Pty Ltd, Box 3410 GPO Sydney 2001 (290-1633), Tlx: AA25970.

AUSTRALIA - NZ - FIJI - HAWAII - US

P & O liners call at Auckland, Suva, Honolulu and Vancouver on eastbound and westbound voyages between Sydney and the US.

Details from P & O Booking Centre, World Travel Headquarters Pty Ltd, 33 Bligh Street, Sydney (231-6655).

AUSTRALIA - NZ - FIJI - TONGA - N. HEBRIDES - NOUMEA - PNG - SOLOMONS - SAMOAS

Sitmar Cruises operates a year-round cruise programme to include most of the above countries.

Details from Sitmar Cruises, 47 Elizabeth Street, Sydney (232-7511).

P & O liners call at Auckland, Bay of Islands, Honiara, Lautoka, Noumea, Nuku'alofa, Pago Pago, Papeete, Port Moresby, Santo, Savusavu, Suva, Vavau and Vila on cruises from Australia.

Details from P & O Booking Centre, World Travel Headquarters Pty Ltd, 33 Bligh Street, Sydney (231-6655).

AUSTRALIA - MICRONESIA

Nauru Pacific Line operates a regular container service from Melbourne to Majuro, Kosrae, Ponape, Truk, Guam and Saipan.

Details Nauru Pacific Line, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne, (653-5709), Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA - PNG

New Guinea Express Lines operates three-weekly conventional and container services Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul, Alotau.

Details from New Guinea Express Lines, PO Box R73, Royal Exchange PO, Sydney (241-3991) MacArthur Shipping Agency Co, 82-92 Eagle Street, Brisbane (229-3777), New Guinea Express Lines, 327 Collins Street, Melbourne (61-3053), Niugini Express Lines in Port Moresby (21-4572), Lae (42-1536), Rabtrad Niugini Pty Ltd, Rabaul (92-2911), Alotau Stevedoring & Transport (61-1318).

Karlander New Guinea Line's cargo vessels call at Melbourne, Sydney, Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Wewak, Manus, Kimbe, Rabaul, Popondetta.

Details from Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301), Dalgety Shipping, 461 Bourke Street, Melbourne (60-0731).

AUSTRALIA-PNG-SOLOMONS

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 Kiri: Burns Philp (N.G.) Ltd. • Kimbe: Harrison & Crossfield (P.N.G.) Ltd. • Rabaul: New Guinea Cocoa (Export) Co. Pty. Ltd. • Honiara: Island Co-operative Shipping Federation Ltd.

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Details from Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd, 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (2-0547) and Intercoast Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney, (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA - SOLOMONS - KIRIBATI - MICRONESIA

Daiwa Line operates a container service every 30 days from Sydney to Honiara, Kieta, Tarawa and Guam. Gizo cargoes transhipped at Honiara, Saipan, cargoes transhipped at Kobe.

Details Meridian Shipping & Transport Agencies Pty Ltd, Box 3410 GPO Sydney 2001 (290-1633). Tlx. AA25970.

AUSTRALIA - SOLOMONS - NORTHERN MARIANAS - TAIWAN - JAPAN

Daiwa Line offers a four-weekly service Sydney-Honiara-Guam-Taiwan-Japan with transhipment at Kobe for Saipan.

Details Meridian Shipping & Transport Agencies Pty Ltd, Box 3410 GPO, Sydney 2001 (290-1633). Tlx. AA25970.

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney to Papeete using a self-sustained fully containerised vessel.

Details Compagnie Generale Maritime, 12 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (231-3700).

AUSTRALIA - TONGA - SAMOAS - TAHITI

Karlander operates a monthly cargo service from Melbourne and Sydney to Nuku'alofa, Apia, Papeete, US west coast.

Details: Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd,

19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301).

AUSTRALIA - W. SAMOA

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney to Apia, using a self-sustained fully containerised vessel.

Details Compagnie Generale Maritime, 12 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (231-3700).

FAR EAST - FIJI - NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Unit Express (NZUE) operates a fortnightly palletised cargo service from Manila, Keelung, Kaoshiung and Hong Kong to Lautoka, Suva and thence to NZ.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Suva (312-244), Burns Philp, Suva (311-777), P & O S.N. Co, Wellington (736-477) or Nedlloyd Swire Pty Ltd, Sydney (20-522).

Nedlloyd operates bi-weekly cargo service with four ships from Surabaya, Jakarta, Bangkok, Port Kelang and Singapore to Suva and NZ ports.

Details from Nedlloyd (Aust) Pty Ltd, 8 Spring St, Sydney (27 3801), Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva and Lautoka.

FAR EAST - MID-S. PACIFIC

China Navigation's New Guinea Pacific Line (NGPL) operates a regular cargo service from Hong Kong, Taiwan, Manila, Port Kelang and Singapore to Wewak, Madang, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta, Lae, Port Moresby, Honiara, Santo, Vila, Noumea, Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia, Tarawa and Nauru.

Details from Steamships Trading Co., Port Moresby (21-2000).

Kyowa Shipping Ltd, operates monthly services from Hong Kong, Taiwan, S. Korea and Japan, to Guam, Saipan, Solomons, New Caledonia, Fiji, Western and American Samoa, Tahiti, Cook Is., Tonga and New Hebrides.

Details: Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

Daiwa Line operates 30-day service from Moji, Kobe, Nagoya and Yokohama to Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia, Suva, Lautoka, Noumea, Sydney, Honiara, Kieta, Tarawa, Guam and Taiwan.

Details: Meridian Shipping & Transport Agencies Pty Ltd, Box 3410 GPO Sydney 2001 (290-1633) Tlx: AA25970.

JAPAN - FIJI - NEW ZEALAND

China Navigation, operates a monthly service from main ports Japan to Suva and Lautoka and thence Noumea and NZ.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Suva (312-244).

JAPAN - PNG

Mitsui O.S.K. Lines operates a monthly service from main ports Japan and Port Moresby, Rabaul, Lae, Madang, Kieta and Kimbe.

Details from J. C. Waller, Port Moresby (21-1755).

JAPAN - GUAM - FIJI - TAHITI - SAMOA - N. CALEDONIA - SOLOMONS - KIRIBATI

Daiwa Lines runs a monthly cargo service from Japan via Guam to Lautoka, Suva, Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia, Sydney, Noumea, Honiara, Tarawa, Guam.

Details from Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva.

HAWAII - SAMOAS - TONGA

Warner Pacific Line operates unitized/palletized and reefer cargo service every 30 days Honolulu/Pago Pago-Apia-Nuku'alofa. Line Islands and Suva by inducement.

Details from Hawaii-Pacific Maritime Inc., Honolulu, HI 96801. Tel. (808) 521-9806 Freight Dept. Tlx (RCA): 723-8330 ITT 743-0040 Cables 'Oral'.

NEW CALEDONIA - FIJI - WEST COAST NORTH AMERICA

PAD Line operates an approx. 3 weekly ro-ro service from Noumea and Suva to Honolulu and West Coast US and Canadian ports.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, Box 1602, Noumea (27-51-91), Tlx NM041 W. R. Carpenter, 100 Thomson St Suva (31-11-22), Tlx FJ2199; Trans Austral Shipping, Box R232 PO, Royal Exchange, NSW (27-2441), Tlx AA21204.

PNG - UK/CONTINENT

Bank Line operates regular cargo service from Kieta, Rabaul, Kimbe, Madang and Lae to Cardiff, Hamburg, Rotterdam and Antwerp.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041) Burns Philp (PNG) Ltd, ports.

PNG - US

Bank Line operates regular cargo service from Kieta, Rabaul, Kimbe, Madang and Lae direct to New Orleans calls at other US and Gulf and East Coast ports on inducement.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041) Burns Philp (PNG) Ltd, PNG ports.

SOLOMONS - USA - UK/CONTINENT

Bank Line operates regular cargo service from Honiara to New Orleans, Cardiff, Hamburg, Rotterdam and Antwerp.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041) Trading Co, Honiara (389).

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Philippine

To: Papua New Guinea, Other Pacific Islands.

AGENTS

Taiwan: Royal Steamship Corp., Ltd., Taipei

S. Korea: Dong Sue Shipping Co., Ltd., Seoul

Hong Kong: Dahzun Enterprises Ltd

Singapore: Ocean Shipping & Enterprises Pte., Ltd

Guam: Maritime Agencies of The Pacific Ltd., Guam

Saipan: Saipan Shipping Co., Inc., Saipan

Solomon: Solomon Taiyo Ltd., Honiara

Tahiti: J.A. Cowan & Fils, Papeete

Cooks: Eastern Associates Ltd., Rarotonga

Tonga: E.M. Jones Ltd., Nukualofa

New Hebrides: Pentecost Pacific S.A., Port Vila

Philippines: Sky International Inc., Manila

Ponape: United Micronesia Development Association, Ponape

A. Samoa: Island Pacific Agencies Inc., Pago Pago

W. Samoa: Morris Hedstrom Ltd., Apia

Fiji: Carpenter Shipping, Suva & Lautoka

Nauru: Nauru phosphate Corp

PNG: Carpenter Shipping Agencies, Port Moresby, Rabaul

New Caledonia: Agence Maritime Du Rond Point Du Pacific, Noumea

Indonesia: P.T. Porodisa Raya Shipping Lines, Jakarta

Sabah: KOH Han Ming Shipping & Forwarding Agent, Kotakinabalu

Sarawak: Pan Sarawak Agencies Sdn. Bhd., Sibu & Kuching

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797-210), Waterfront Commission, PO Box 61, Rarotonga; Lighterage and Stevedoring Co, Aitutaki; Niue Govt Offices, Niue Island Compagnie Maritime Polynesienne, B/P 366, Papeete, Tahiti.

NZ - FIJI

Reef operates a regular 18-day service from Auckland to Suva and Lautoka.

Details from Reef Shipping Agencies, PO Box 3382, Auckland, NZ 77-1221-3.

Pacific Line with one ship operates fortnightly ro-ro cargo service New Zealand, Lautoka, Suva.

Details: Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland (773-279) O Box 3614, Telex: NZ2313.

NZ - FIJI - NORTH AMERICA (W)

Blue Star Line Ltd Pacific Coast liner services. Only direct service to and from New Zealand. Blue Star vessels call at Suva and Honolulu on NZ-US-West Coast voyages.

Details from Blueport ACT (NZ) Ltd, PO Box 192, Wellington (739-029), Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, GPO Box 355, Suva, Fiji (311-777).

NZ - FIJI - PNG

Pacific Forum Line operates a containerised unisited/palletised service (Gen/Reefer) from Lyttelton and Auckland to Suva, Port Moresby, Lae and Kieta.

Details from Shipping Corporation of New Zealand Ltd, Auckland, Lyttelton Burns Philp, Suva, Steamships Trading Co in Port Moresby, Lae and Kieta. (As from end March, Service will be fully containerised)

NZ - FIJI - SAMOAS - TONGA

Pacific Forum Line operates a containerised service (Gen/Reefer) from Lyttelton, Napier, Auckland to Lautoka, Suva, Pago Pago, Apia and Nuku'alofa.

Details from Shipping Corp of New Zealand Ltd, Napier, Lyttelton and Wellington; Union Steamship Co, Auckland, Lautoka, Suva, Apia, Nuku'alofa; Polynesia Shipping Services, Pago. Funafuti cargo transhipped at Suva.

Z-N. CALEDONIA-N. HEBRIDES-PNG-SOLOMONS

Sofrana Unilines with three ships operates to Vila and Santo, to Honiara and Pua New Guinea and to Norfolk and Noumea.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland (773-279), PO Box 3614, Telex NZ2313.

NZ - TAHITI

Compagnie Tahitiennne Maritime SA with one ship operates monthly service New Zealand - Papeete.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, PO Box 3614, 18 Customs St, Auckland (73-279), Tlx NZ2313.

NZ - TONGA - SAMOA

Pacific Navigation of Tonga operates four-weekly cargo service, Auckland Nuku'alofa - Pago Pago - Apia - Auckland.

Details from McKay Shipping Ltd, Wintown House, Queen Street, Auckland (30-229).

Warner Pacific Line services Auckland - Nuku'alofa/Vavau/Apia fortnightly carrying general and reefer cargoes. Also Timaru - Nuku'alofa/Vavau/Apia every 21 days carrying freezer cargo.

Details from Air Marine Services (NZ) Ltd, PO Box 2505, Auckland (96-841), Telex NZ21555.

EUROPE - TAHITI - NEW CALEDONIA

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates services from Europe and Mediterranean ports to Papeete and Noumea through three Ro-Ro and two multi-purpose vessels thus ensuring a bi-monthly sailing to and from.

Details Compagnie Generale Maritime, 12 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (11-3700).

Hamburg-Sued operates monthly cargo services from Hamburg, Dunkirk and Le Havre to Papeete, Noumea, via Panama.

Details from Columbus Overseas Services Pty Ltd, 333 George Street, Sydney (290-2966), Columbus Maritime Services, 17 Albert Street, Auckland (77-3460).

EUROPE - TAHITI - W. SAMOA - FIJI - N. CALEDONIA

Nedlloyd offers regular cargo services from Northern Europe and UK to Papeete, Apia, Fiji and New Caledonia.

Details Nedlloyd (Aust) Pty Ltd, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (27-3801).

UK - N CONTINENT - FIJI

The Bank Line operates a regular 28 day cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp and Rotterdam to Suva and Lautoka.

Details from The Bank Line (Australia) Pty Ltd, 1 York St, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (South Sea) Co Ltd, Suva and Lautoka.

UK/N. CONTINENT - PNG - SOLOMONS

The Bank Line operates a regular 28 day cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp and Rotterdam to Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta and Honiara and on inducement to Yandina.

Details from The Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (PNG) Ltd, PNG ports; Trading Co Honiara.

UK/N. CONTINENT - TAHITI - N. CALEDONIA - N. HEBRIDES

The Bank Line operates a regular 28 day cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp and Rotterdam to Papeete and Noumea.

Details from The Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041); Ets A M Fare UTE, Papeete; Ets Ballande, Noumea.

US - FIJI - TAHITI - NZ - AUSTRALIA

The Bank and Savill Line Ltd, operates regular cargo services from US Gulf ports to Australia and NZ. Calls at Suva, Lautoka and Papeete on demand.

Details from The Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041) or Howard Smith Industries Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-5611).

US - HAWAII - MICRONESIA

Philippines, Micronesia & Orient Navigation Co (PM&O Lines) operates regular container service on self-sustained ship with ro-ro capabilities from Oakland, Portland and Honolulu to Majuro, Kosrae, Ponape, Truk, Saipan, Yap and Koror.

Details for Micronesia can be obtained from Larry Guerrero, PM&O Owners Rep, PO Box 803, Saipan, MI 96950, Cable COMMONTIME; PM&O Lines, 181 Fremont St, San Francisco, California 94105, Cable PMONAV.

US - HAWAII - NAURU - MICRONESIA

Nauru Pacific Line operates regular conventional/container and passenger service from San Francisco and Honolulu to Majuro, Ponape, Truk and Saipan. Cargo is accepted for Nauru and Kosrae with transshipment at Majuro and Ponape.

Details from Nauru Pacific Line, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709); North American Maritime Agencies, PO Box 7302, San Francisco, California 94111 (981-0343).

US - NOUMEA - FIJI

PAD Line operates an approx 3-weekly ro-ro service from West Coast USA and Canada to Noumea and Suva.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP 1602, Noumea (27-51-91), Tlx NM048; W. R. Carpenter, 100 Thomson St, Suva



DEATHS of Islands People

CHRISTOPHER DALWOOD RITCHIE

In Sydney in February, aged 64. Twice manager of Air Pacific, which was known as Fiji Airways during his first tour of duty. It was under Chris Ritchie's management that the airline started regional services with four-engined Heron aircraft from Fiji to Tonga, Samoa, the Solomons, Tuvalu and Kiribati. He was seconded from Qantas for his tours of duty in Fiji, the first from 1959 to 1965, and the second 1973 to 1974, when he retired because of ill-health. He was a twin brother of Captain Bert Ritchie, general manager of Qantas for seven years. Chris Ritchie served in the RAAF during World War II, reaching the rank of flight-lieutenant.

STANLEY QUIGG

At Sydney, on February 16, after a long illness. Stanley Quigg was general manager of Air Pacific from 1974 to 1978 on secondment from Qantas. He went to Fiji in 1972 as deputy general manager when Chris Ritchie, who predeceased him by a few days (see above) was on his second spell in Fiji. Mr Quigg left Air

(31-11-22), Tlx FJ2199; Trans-Austral Shipping, Box R232 PO, Royal Exchange, NSW (27-2441), Tlx AA21204.

US - TAHITI - SAMOA

Pacific Islands Transport operates a five weekly cargo service from North America west coast ports to Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia.

Details from Polynesia Shipping Services Inc, PO Box 1478 Pago Pago (9-6799).

Polynesia Line operates container and general cargo service from US west coast ports to Papeete and Pago Pago.

Details from Polynesia Shipping Services Inc., PO Box 1478, Pago Pago (9-6799).

US - TAHITI - SAMOA - NZ - AUST

Farrell Lines Inc, operate a fast regular lash/container cargo service from west coast ports Canada/USA to Papeete and Pago Pago thence to NZ and Australia.

Details Wilh Wilhelmson Agency, Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane, Tlx AA20136, Cable FARSHIPS Sydney; Dalgety (NZ) Ltd, Auckland and Wellington, Tlx NZ2445, Cable DALSHIP Auckland; Compagnie Maritime Polynesienne, Immeuble Franco Oceanienne, PO Box 368, Papeete, Tahiti, Tel 26393, Tlx 258. FP ANSB Taporo, Cable OCEAN Papeete; Kneubuhl Maritime Service, PO Box 39, Pago Pago, Telephone 633-5121; Tlx 782505.

Pacific in 1978 to become a substantial shareholder in a company which bought control of the Blue Lagoon Cruise fleet, which operates out of Lautoka, Fiji.

AGNES MAUD HEALY

At Ipswich, Queensland, recently. Formerly of Port Moresby. Mrs Healy was the mother of the late Mick Healy, a former District Commissioner in Papua New Guinea, Clarrie Healy, a former District Officer, and Maurie Healy, long-time employee of Burns Philp, Port Moresby.

ALFRED LEPPER

At his home in Savusavu, Fiji, recently, aged 83. From a well-known pioneering family, Mr Lepper's funeral was attended by 400 people from many parts of Fiji.

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FORUM FISHERIES AGENCY HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS

DIRECTOR

Applications are invited for the position of Director of the Forum Fisheries Agency (FFA). The FFA is an international organisation based in Honiara, Solomon Islands, which is responsible for providing assistance to member governments in the development of fisheries resources in the South Pacific Region.

DUTIES: The Director will be responsible to the Forum Fisheries Committee (the executive arm of the agency) for the direction and control of the agency, which at present comprises a staff of five professional officers plus clerical staff.

QUALIFICATIONS: The successful applicant should have proven managerial abilities and be able to liaise with Forum Government and relevant organisations within and beyond the South Pacific Region. A knowledge of fisheries would be desirable.

The appointment which will be initially for a period of two years, attracts a salary of S.I.\$32,000 per annum free of Solomon Islands income tax. Attractive transportation, housing, education, recreation leave and superannuation provisions are applicable.

DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Applications are also invited for the position of Deputy Director of the agency.

DUTIES: The Deputy Director will be responsible to the Director for the conduct of supervision of work of the agency including the collection and dissemination to Member Governments of statistical and marketing information on tuna and the provision of assistance on the development and management of all living marine resources.

QUALIFICATIONS: The successful applicant will have had long experience in the field of fisheries management and administration.

The appointment which will be initially for 2 years attracts a salary of S.I.\$28,000 per annum free of Solomon Islands income tax. Attractive transportation, housing, education, recreation leave and superannuation provisions are applicable.

Applications for the above positions, together with the names of three referees familiar with the experience and abilities of the applicant, should be addressed to:

SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS
DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
SOLOMON ISLANDS
HONIARA, SOLOMON ISLANDS

The closing date for application is
Monday 12th May 1980

NOTE: The Forum Fisheries Agency was established in 1979 by the South Pacific Forum. Membership of both organisations comprises the Governments of Australia, The Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, New Zealand, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Western Samoa.

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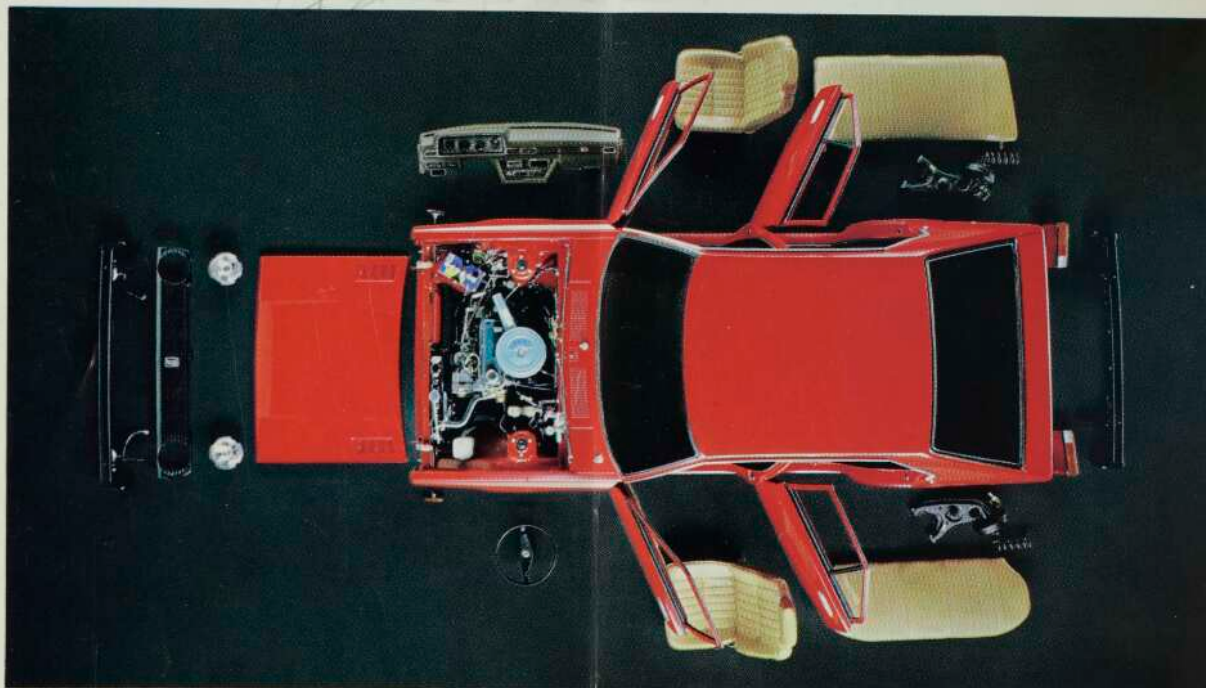
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