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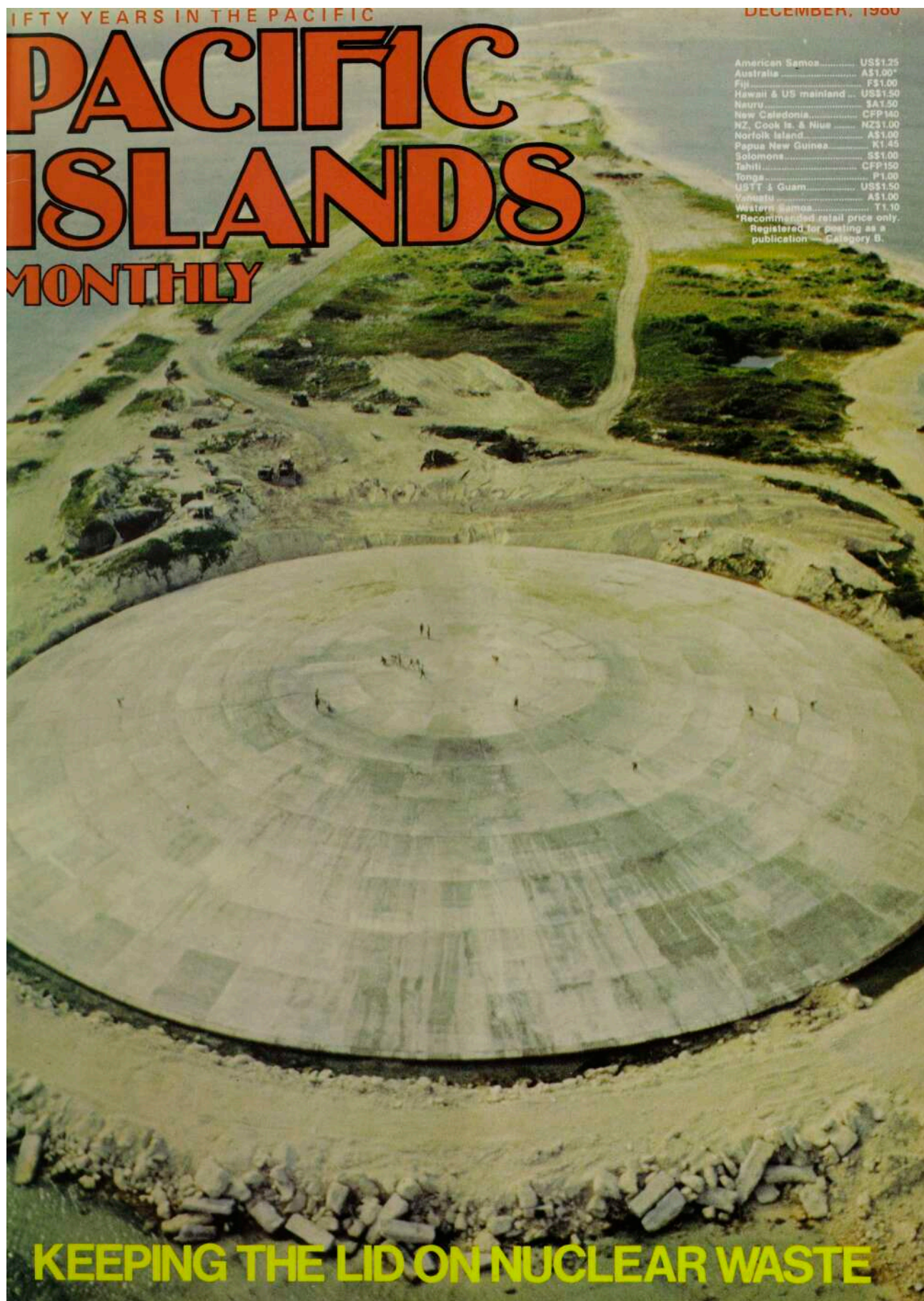
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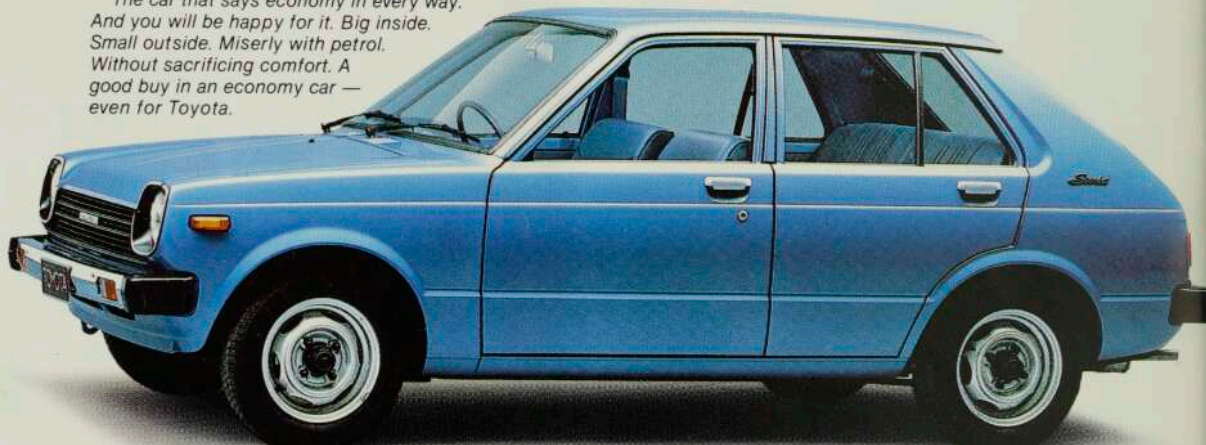
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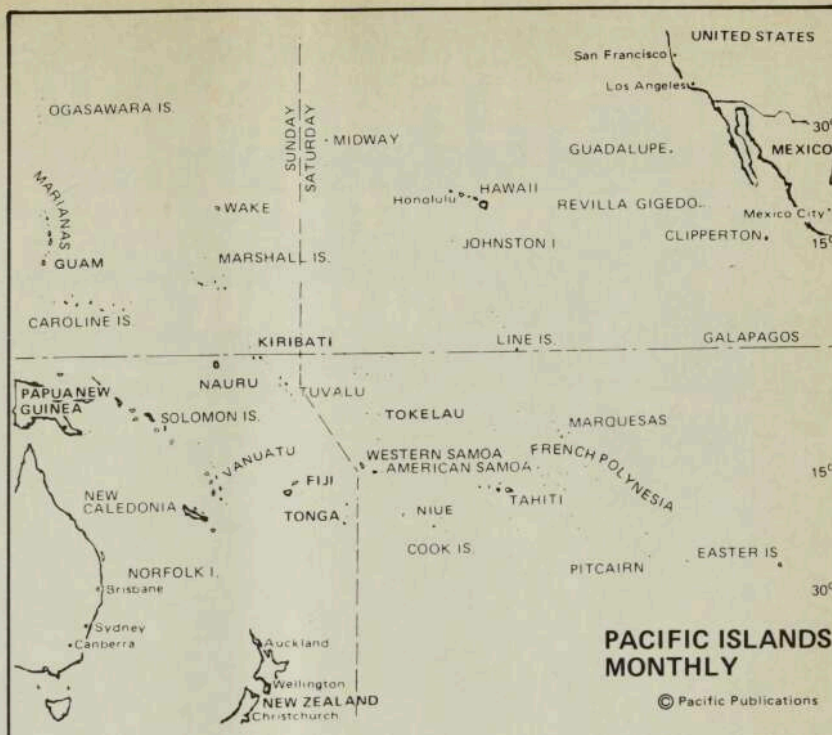
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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

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This Month's Features

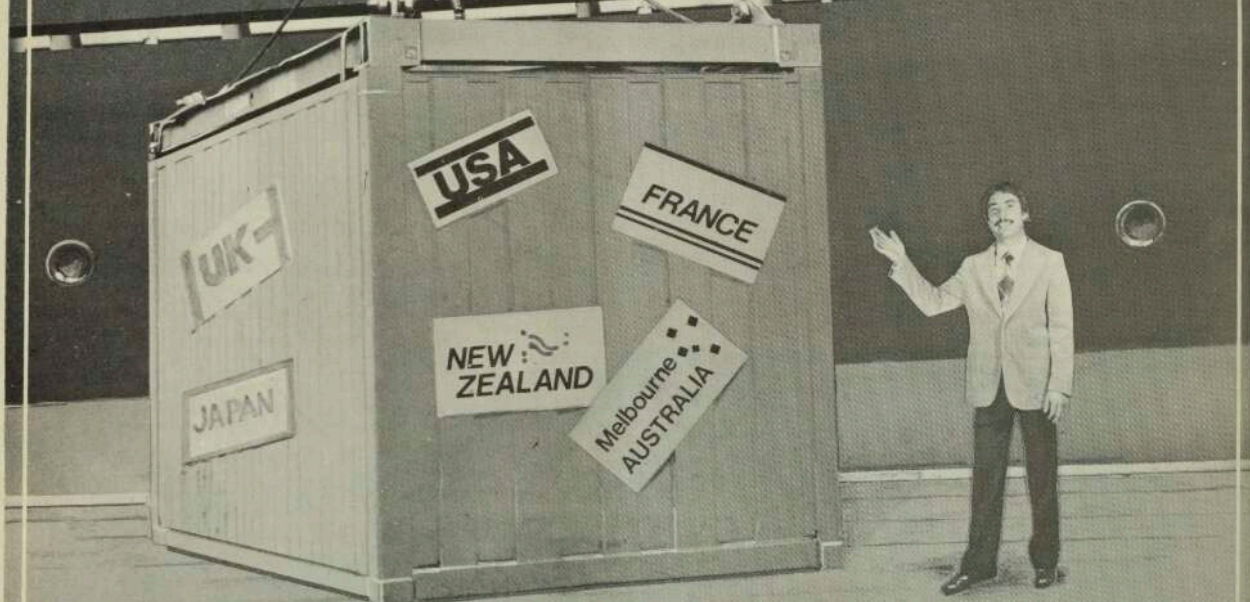
- **PACIFIC AFFAIRS** — The 20th South Pacific Conference was held in Port Moresby in October. PIM Editor Angus Smales was there, and files an exclusive report 11
- **UNITED NATIONS** — For the first time the UN agency, the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, has an office in a Pacific Island country. Peter Cummins reports on the opening of an ESCAP liaison office on Nauru 17
- **BUSINESSMAN VINDICATED** — One of the biggest civil actions in Papua New Guinea's history ended with the complete clearing of the plaintiff and an award to him of more than \$500 000 against the company he created in the first place 21
- **'THE TERRIBLE BARON'** — Bengt Danielsson, experienced in unorthodox ocean crossings himself, has what looks like being the last word on the windsurfing exploits of Baron Arnaud de Rosnay. His conclusion? The baron was 'an honest cheat' 25
- **BOOKS** — Bengt Danielsson reviews a new work on the 1976 journey of the *Hokule'a*, which attempted to reproduce the conditions of the Polynesian navigators of yore — with results that were sometimes amusing, sometimes almost disastrous 43

Cover: Under this gigantic dome of concrete, recently completed on Runit Island in the Marshall Islands, lies the radio-active residue of the US atomic tests at Enewetak Atoll 22 years ago. The concrete is more than 100 metres wide and nearly half a metre thick, and may well be off limits for 25 000 years. But how successful are the nuclear nations in keeping the lid on atomic waste? PIM reports in this issue on the concern of island nations, expressed at the South Pacific Conference, that their environment may be used increasingly as a dumping ground for nuclear waste. The report of the conference begins on page 11.

Books.....	43	Postmark Papeete	55
Cook Islands	31	Shipping Services	71
Deaths	63	Ships	67
ESCAP	17	Solomon Islands.....	47
Fiji	29, 33	South Pacific Conference	11
French Polynesia	25, 55	Tonga.....	27, 61
Islands Press.....	23	Tuvalu.....	61
Kiribati	51	Tradewinds.....	63
Letters	7	Tradewinds Intelligence	47
Micronesia	29, 31, 33	Travel	27
Pacific Report.....	5	Tropicalities	51
Papua New Guinea	21, 31, 41, 45	Tuvalu.....	35
People	57	US and the Pacific.....	29, 37
Pitcairn Island.....	27	Vanuatu	65
Political Currents.....	35	Yachts	51
		Yesterday.....	51

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Pacific Report

'FREE ASSOCIATION' COMPACT INITIALED

Two Pacific Island groups took a long step towards self-government in October when, as the culmination of 11 years of negotiations, they initialled a compact of free association with the United States. Taking part in the ceremony at Kailua-Kona, Hawaii, were President Carter's personal representative to the negotiations, Ambassador Peter R. Rosenblatt, and representatives of the US Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands and an observer from Palau. Palau was unable to take part in the initialling because the voters of that small island group in the Western Carolines were to elect their first national government on November 4. A Palau representative is expected to initial the compact some time after that date. A formal signing will not take place until after further negotiations on several subsidiary agreements, and following approval of the accords in a plebiscite to be held in Micronesia early in 1981. According to US officials, the new agreements have no exact precedent in international law, or in previous US constitutional practice. The officials say the autonomy which the island states will exercise is greater than that of US territories. But, US defence authority in the freely associated states is comprehensive, and therefore of a different nature from the treaty relationships with even America's closest allies. The initialling marks the virtual completion of a negotiating process that began in 1969, and advances the goal, announced by President Carter in 1977, of ending the trusteeship in 1981. Under the new compact, the three Micronesian entities will acquire full internal self-government and authority over all aspects of their relations other than those which the US determines to be defence and security-related. In defence and security matters, the US will retain plenary authority. The 64-page compact also describes conditions for financial and other types of assistance which the US will provide over a 15-year period. The aid and defence provisions may continue beyond 15 years, depending on mutual agreement. After completion of the remaining subsidiary agreements — which cover such subjects as telecommunications, extradition and military land use — the compact will be presented to the voters of Micronesia for approval by plebiscite, and to the US Congress as a joint resolution — for enactment into law. If the compact is approved the US will present it to the United Nations to seek termination of the trusteeship agreement. Ambassador Rosenblatt, addressing Micronesian representatives Andon Amaraich of the Federated States of Micronesia and Anton Debrum of the Marshall Islands, said that 'the most important feature of the new relationship is that decisions will be yours'. The US, he said, has assumed significant and long-lasting defence and security obligations towards the islands. Mr Rosenblatt said it was significant that the decision on free association was made freely and in consultation with the local people. Mr Amaraich said the occasion marked 'an important event in our history, taking us closer to the goals and objectives of the UN Trusteeship Council'. Mr Debrum said the compact set the stage for a new relationship between the US and the Marshall Islands, and for the latter's international status as a freely associated state. When initialled, the compact with Palau will embody a balancing of the Palauan constitution's provisions on Law of the Sea matters and nuclear materials with US positions. Palauan voters have adopted by referendum a 'nuclear-free' constitution. Talks between the two sides were being held on Guam in October.

TAURU POLL ON DECEMBER 6

December 6 is the date set for the next general election of Tauru's Parliament. The Speaker, David Peter Gadaraoa, read out to members in chamber on October 16 an instruction from President Hammer DeRoburt to dissolve parliament seven days from that day.

PAGO: KOREAN FISHERMEN END STRIKE

Korean fishermen based in Pago Pago, American Samoa, took strike action in protest at the killing of three of their compatriots by a group of Samoan men early in October (PIM Nov p6).

Despite their extreme reluctance, they were eventually persuaded to return to work by the Korean Consul and Fishing Officer Chul-sik Park. Mr Park said that the fishermen are 'very simple and peaceful' people, who have been beaten repeatedly in brawls and regularly cheated by taxi drivers. 'Never in my time here have I received a report of a fisherman starting a fight against a local youngster,' he said. At last report a fourth Korean was on the critical list and was not expected to live. A dozen others are also in hospital, with injuries ranging from broken bones and bruises to a near-blinding. There are 2500 Korean fishermen based in Pago who man 103 boats, and 1500 Taiwanese manning 90 boats. — *Joseph Theroux in Pago Pago.*

PNG 'SUPPORTS' ASEAN POLICIES

Papua New Guinea wants to co-operate with the Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN), and supports its policies, the PNG Information Minister Clement Poye said in Jakarta in October. Winding up a 10-day visit, Mr Poye said that PNG kept in close touch with ASEAN and sent observers to many of its meetings. Mr Poye said he saw many opportunities for co-operation with Indonesia, especially in the light of its experience in using television as a means of spreading information to remote areas and in forging national unity. ASEAN groups the governments of Indonesia, Thailand, the Philippines, Malaysia and Singapore.

VANUATU: BOULEKONE HEADS OPPOSITION

A big step towards consolidation of the parliamentary set-up in Vanuatu was taken in October when Vincent Boulekone was named as Leader of the Opposition, a post vacant until that time. In a statement after his appointment, Mr Boulekone said a nation cannot be built with violence and in a spirit of revenge. He called for all Vanuatians, custom leaders, church leaders, the government and all members of the opposition to work actively for the unity of the country. Mr Boulekone affirmed his recognition and support of the government led by Prime Minister Lini as the legal government of the country. He called for an independent commission of inquiry to be set up to investigate charges of police brutality against prisoners in custody, and condemned deportations, which had created social conflicts in islands and villages. At an extraordinary session of the parliament — attended for the first time by Tanna MP Charlie Nakau, an opposition member — Mr Boulekone charged that in Santo prison, a building designed to hold 200 prisoners, 400 were now being held. They were forced to sleep in soft mud when it rained, he said. Replying, Prime Minister Lini said an independent commission was being set up to examine such charges, and charges of police brutality in general. He said the constitution provided for police officers to be tried if found guilty of brutal treatment of prisoners of anyone else. In a related development, Vanuatu Government spokesman John Beasant said the 'black list' of 110 French nationals declared prohibited immigrants affected 'too many people,' but that a list had to be made. French Ambassador to Vanuatu, Yves Rodrigues, had said that the 'government should give a kind of pardon for both French and Melanesians, and there should be no French being held in prison'. The issue of the release of such prisoners is being closely tied by the French Government to the as yet unresolved problem of future French aid to the country. Meanwhile, a Nourmea paper has hinted at a possible amnesty to be proclaimed on November 29, first anniversary of the election which put the Vanuaaku Party in power in the Representative Assembly with 26 seats, a majority of 13 in the 39-member house.

KENILOREA WARNS TRADE UNIONS

Solomon Islands Prime Minister Peter Kenilorea has warned that his government will not tolerate trade union activity directed at the pursuit of political power rather than reasonable conditions for workers. He said such activity would be 'one of the worst forms of exploitation of our people'.

IRIAN JAYA: WELCOME COMMENT, BUT ...

In a statement made after a recent tour of Irian Jaya, Indonesian Vice-President Adam Malik said that civil servants there were facing difficulties because of low wages, and that there were problems in creating jobs for the Irianese and giving them greater opportunities to take part in the development process. Reporting this *Sydney Morning Herald* Jakarta correspondent Peter Rodgers quoted an MP from the province as welcoming Mr Malik's remarks. Steef Nafuni said that comments such as these by Irianese themselves would lead to them being interrogated on suspicion of involvement with the rebel Free Papua Movement

(OPM) which seeks an end to Indonesian rule in the province. Rodgers quoted Mr Nafuni as saying that fear of being stamped OPM in Irian Jaya was the same as the fear of being stamped as a member of the outlawed Communist Party in Java. The OPM was a 'death card,' he said.

POST-COPENHAGEN MEETING IN SUVA

A sub-regional Pacific meeting as a follow-up to the World Conference of the United Nations Decade for Women held in Copenhagen in July (PIM Oct p21) was held in Suva from October 30-November 5.

VANUATU RECRUITS OFF TO PNG

New recruits to Vanuatu's Mobile Force flew out to Papua New Guinea in two groups late in October. Twenty members of the existing Police Mobile Units have also gone to PNG for training together with new PNG Defence Force recruits. The Port-Vila weekly *Voice of Vanuatu* reported: 'It was with great excitement that our boys, soon to be in camouflage, waited to be off and into their new uniforms. "Can't wait!" they told *Voice of Vanuatu*. But they are under no illusions about how hard the training will be. "It'll be tough," they said.' The 100 had been selected for the three-months training course from 1000 applicants. The Vanuatu Government has announced that the men will not form a defence force as such, but will be used as reinforcements for the existing Police Mobile Units. Earlier, there had been talks between the Vanuatu Government and military representatives from Australia and New Zealand. Pointing out that Australia and New Zealand were present under quite separate arrangements, a New Zealand spokesman said that talks had nevertheless taken place between the two countries and the Vanuatu Government on mutual co-operation in police and defence force policies.

KANAK INDEPENDENCE FOR XMAS '83?

A spokesman for New Caledonia's Kanak Independence Front told a Port Moresby seminar in November that on December 25, 1983, the Kanak flag will be hoisted throughout New Caledonia, the French flag lowered, and Kanak independence declared. Jean-Marie Tjibaou, speaking at the 1980 Waigani Seminar, said that the Kanaks expected opposition not only from the official French riot police, but also from the so-called MOP (*Mouvement pour l'Ordre et la Paix*), which has many similarities to the terrorist OAS (*Organisation de l'Armée Secrète*), which was established by French settlers in Algeria to fight independence there. Mr. Tjibaou said of the MOP: 'They are saying, "In Vanuatu the French Government did not defend us" — and so they are building up their own defences.'

ENEWETAK PEOPLE FACE DECISION

All Enewetak people living at Ujelang Atoll have returned to their home atoll as part of an experimental three-month 'homecoming' designed to allow the Dri-Enewetak to decide for themselves which families will permanently settle on the home atoll. Because trees planted as part of the extensive planting programme at Enewetak will not bear fruit for several years, individual families will use this opportunity to determine whether (a) to live in the 116 homes constructed on the islands of Medren, Enewetak and Japtan at Enewetak Atoll and subsist on imported food obtained through the Trust Territory, or (b) return to Ujelang Atoll until a later time.

FRANCIS SANFORD 'GUNG HO' ON AIR LINK

French Polynesia's Vice-President of the Government Council, Francis Sanford, has welcomed the establishment of an independent air link between his country and Hawaii. A statement approved by Mr Sanford said in part: 'We have here an opportunity to show that we are able to act successfully on our own without recourse to government subsidies or private capital bent on making a profit. If some people consider this a revolutionary way of going about things, let them think so.' (Full report, *Postmark Papeete*, p55.)

HOW MUCH IS THAT IN VATU?

Vatu will be the name of the new currency of Vanuatu. Vatu was chosen from two names — Vatu and Franc — submitted by the government to the Representative Assembly in October.

CALEDONIA TO CUT NICKEL OUTPUT

The managing director of New Caledonia's giant nickel company, *Société le Nickel*, Yves Rambaud, has said that production must be reduced next year from the present annual level of 45 000 — 48 000 tonnes to 43 000 — 45 000. He said the reduction was necessary because of the 'very gloomy' situation on the world nickel market. Mr Rambaud said it was too early to estimate the effect of the production cuts on employment in the company.

A NEW MEMBER FOR CPLF

Vanuatu has been admitted as a full member of the *Conférence des Parlementaires de Langue Française*, French counterpart of the English-speaking world's Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. The grant of membership followed a visit to a meeting of the organisation in Ottawa in September by the Speaker of the Representative Assembly Maxime Carlot and the now Leader of the Opposition Vincent Boulekone.

NEW PAPERS BURST OUT ALL OVER (2)

Following our report of a plethora of new newspaper ventures in Island countries (PIM Nov p6), Western Samoa has joined the act with a vengeance. The Apia weekly *The Observer* reported on October 30: 'The *Apia Star* and the *Samoa Post* will be making their debuts in the near future, making things harder for the choosy readers not only in choosing what to buy or read but in making out which is which.' The paper suggests that Western Samoa must be close to a world record for the number of newspapers per head of population (Any comment from Islands statisticians?) The *Observer* article, written by columnist Lemi, added: 'With the anticipated emergence of two more newspapers onto the already over-newspapered market, Apia will soon be running out not only of paper boys but also of selling space in front of the Post Office, not to mention running out of readers.'

FIJI'S '10th' FETED ABROAD

Fiji's diplomatic missions in London, New York, Brussels, Canberra and Wellington held receptions to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the country's independence on October 10.

NIUE MARKS GOSPEL ANNIVERSARY

October 27 was a public holiday on Niue to mark the bringing of the gospel to the island by Peniamina in 1846. Peniamina was a Niuean who became a servant to Dr Turner, a missionary in Samoa, who taught him to read and write. He had first returned to Niue in 1842, but was turned away as 'a foreigner'. Four years later he returned again, armed with a large quantity of goods such as the Niueans had not seen before. He was thus able to buy a large number of friends at the cost of his belongings. Finally, he was allowed to land and start preaching.

FATAL QUEST FOR HIDDEN KINA

An elderly woman died and about 130 people were left homeless after fire virtually destroyed a village in Papua New Guinea's Central Province in October. The blaze, at Bukuku village, near Kupiano, burned down 23 houses and a trade store made of bush material. It started in a house and was fanned by strong winds. Most of Bukuku's 300 villagers were either in their gardens, hunting or visiting nearby villages when the fire started. Only elderly men and women and children were left behind. The dead woman, aged about 80, tried to retrieve K1300 in cash hidden inside a sewing machine in her daughter's house, when she was trapped by the flames.

CANCELLED PASSPORTS MAKE DISPLAY

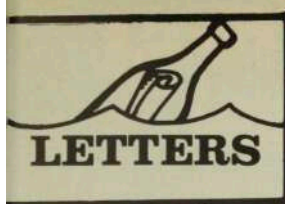
'Raising public awareness of the Pacific region' was one of the purposes of an exhibition of cancelled diplomatic, official and regular passports staged in Melbourne in late November and early December, according to organiser J. Newton-Browne. The exhibition included cancelled passports from Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Solomon Islands, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Australia, the Philippines and Japan. The exhibition received assistance from United Nations headquarters in New York and a number of governments, including the Australian Government.

ART SHOW PROMOTES LORD HOWE

The annual Lord Howe Island Art Exhibition and Competition was held in Sydney, October 20-29. Bill Lambourne of Pacific Maps, joint sponsors of the event with the Lord Howe Island Tourist Promotional Committee, reports that 80% of the paintings of the island in the exhibition (by artist Erwin Weber) were sold. The competition was won by Albert King, a Lord Howe resident, for his painting of the Lord Howe supply ship *Barrenjoey*.

KING WITHDRAWS SON'S RIGHT TO THRONE

Tonga's King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV on November 7 formally withdrew from his second son and any of his offspring rights ever to succeed to the throne. The king's action follows his September proclamation annulling the marriage in Hawaii of Prince Fatafehi 'Alaivahamama'o Tuku'aho to commoner Heimataura Salmon Anderson (PIM Nov p15). An earlier plan for the couple to go to Tonga in October in an attempt to effect a reconciliation fell through at the last minute. The young couple remain in Hawaii.



No spoof in that bottle

Since writing you the letter which you were kind enough to publish (PIM Aug p41, 'Sense or spoof in a bottle?'), we have reliable information that the letter is indeed no spoof. The writer is Mr Teka, a part-Cook Islander, part-Tahitian at present working on the *Awahnee* of Honolulu, and the message was thrown overboard while the *Awahnee*, then on charter to the Oceanic Institute, was between the Marquesas and California. The letter is written in a mixture of Rarotongan, Tahitian and English and this explains why it can be only imperfectly translated.

For this information we are grateful to a number of people:

- To Dr George M. Balazs of the Hawaii Institute of Marine Biology, who passed the letter on to Professor Jack H. Ward of the University of Hawaii, Department of Indo-Pacific Languages.

- To Professor Ward, who identified the languages and provided the paraphrase below, and contacted Dr Steve Montgomery of the University of Hawaii, Department of Entomology.

- To Dr Montgomery, who contacted Ms Nancy Griffith, owner of the *Awahnee*, and established Teka's identity.

- To Ms Griffith and to Teka for supplying the background information.

- And to Teka and the *Awahnee* crew for providing many people with a fascinating puzzle.

We are also grateful to all those people who wrote to us or contacted *La Dépêche* or *Les Nouvelles Calédonniennes*, and take this opportunity to thank in advance those readers of PIM who will do the same.

The original text appeared to read as follows: 'August 1978 10 Teia tutu ari a matou no te

avae August 10 no tera mana gigi muri mai o troni tapae matou i nuhiva 12 tapae matou i tahuia i nia ite pai o awahnee oceanic institute ... e reira farue matou no Tahiti. Nateka, Jon, Mary, Mike, Tom.'

Professor Ward's paraphrase/translation is as follows: 'August 10, 1978. This new picture (message?) of ours (is) of August (and) today is the 10th. Gigi (another name for Mary?) is (standing?) behind John (Jon?). We (have) arrived at Nukuhiva. (Depending upon where the sentence ends, it could also mean 'We will arrive at Nukuhiva on the 12th'. Tense is not indicated.) (On the 12th) we will reach Tahuata (I know of no island named Tahuia in the Marquesas.) aboard the ship *Awahnee*, Oceanic Institute. Then we will depart for Tahiti. NATEKA (or it could be NA TEKA, i.e. (written) by TEKA), Jon, Mary, Mike, Tom.'

As a result of this interest, a member of our staff is preparing a *South Pacific Bulletin* article which will highlight the historical, human and scientific aspects of a message which took 15 months to travel from an as yet undetermined spot off the Marquesas to the Ile des Pins south of New Caledonia.

D. W. J. STEWART
Director of Administration
South Pacific Commission
Noumea
New Caledonia

A place of honour for PIM

Please convey to Mr Robson and Judy Tudor the delight I felt when I heard that they were celebrating the 50th anniversary of the *Pacific Islands Monthly*.

For many years this publication was of considerable importance to me. I first made its acquaintance during the war when copies reached Espiritu Santo, and how avidly I read them, for they introduced me to a whole new world.

After the war, when I travelled the area frequently, the green-covered PIM became a kind of Bible, informing me of my friends on the 40-odd islands I had known during the war years.

After that I subscribed to the journal, allotting it a place of

honour on my table, because it served as a kind of letter-from-home. I was always delighted with its success, impressed by the large amount of information it contained. Such success was due principally to the efforts of Mr Robson and the challenging articles of Judy Tudor.

Their many friends in the United States wish them well, as do I.

JAMES A. MICHENER
St Michaels Md
USA

Birthday wishes from FSP

Belated but nonetheless very warm congratulations to PIM on its 50th anniversary.

ELIZABETH SILVERSTEIN
President

Foundation for the Peoples
of the South Pacific
New York NY
USA

An American Speaks Out (2)

My wife pointed out to me the letter 'An American Speaks Out' (PIM Aug p35).

I'm an American citizen and I agree with Mr Robinson that not everything 'done in the name of the flag' has been positive and responsible.

There was an informative TV show on here in DC called 'Welcome to Yap', produced and directed by Dennis O'Rourke. It showed some of the grotesque, unhealthy effects of some of the contacts with 'advanced foreigners'.

I received a copy of a transcript of the programme. More might be available from WGBH Transcripts, 125 Western Ave, Boston, MA, 02134. Thank you.

ROBERT J. JONES
Washington DC
USA

Not Orokolo but Koriki

In the article by Jimmy and Gwenda Cornell on the Third South Pacific Festival of Arts (PIM Sep p18) the picture said to depict an Orokolo dancer is not an Orokolo dancer but a Koriki dancer from Baimuru District in the Gulf Province.

The Orokolo contribution to the festival arose from their



Koriki, not Orokolo

revival of the art of making the Kovave masks. This art form has been dormant for more than 40 years, the last Kovave mask being made in 1939.

JOYE SOLOI HAREAVILA
Provincial Co-ordinator for
Participants

c/o Gulf Province Cultural
Committee
Kerema
Papua New Guinea

An Un-Christian Reverend?

The Rev. K. C. Calvert's 'Martyrs and Mercenaries' from Tanna island, Vanuatu (PIM Sep p29) caught my attention since American TV carried filmed reports from Tanna.

I thought the article was very un-Christian and irreverent for the Reverend missionary.

Our papers had full reports on the Vanuatu uprisings. With 'many years' experience of missionary work on this Vanuatuan island, one would think that Mr Calvert's response to this situation would generate reconciliation and not provocation.

RONALD E. HOSKINS
Philadelphia Penna
USA

France in the South Pacific

I read your translation of 'La France et le Pacifique Sud' (PIM Sep p25) with interest, particularly the bit starting at the end of p27 about the presence of France in the South Pacific.

Rightly or wrongly I get the

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LETTERS

feeling that France's special leading about 'communities endowed with specific status' only arises because these territories are deemed French and that the case would not be argued by France were these communities to have the same status with some other industrial power — for example, Germany, Portugal, Netherlands, Japan, Russia.

In the French view, is *esprit de Santo* a failed *Mayotte*?

W.J. SIMPSON

Port Moresby
Papua New Guinea

Clarification from SPEC

I take this opportunity to correctly state, for the benefit of our readers, the position of the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC) which I feel was incorrectly reported by Mr Robert Keith-Reid in his article titled 'Forum Backs Hebrides Government' (PIM Aug p17).

The report which recommended the amalgamation of SPEC and the South Pacific Commission (SPC) into a single regional institution, to which Mr Keith-Reid referred, was not a SPEC report but the report of an independent joint committee. This committee, which was created as a result of a decision by the 10th South Pacific Forum held in Honiara, Solomon Islands, July 1979, and the Nineteenth South Pacific Conference held in Papeete, French Polynesia, consisted of three Forum member governments (Australia, Cook Islands and Solomon Islands), three SPC member countries/territories (American Samoa, New Hebrides (Vanuatu) and French Polynesia for France) and an independent chairman, nominated by the Director of SPEC and the Secretary-General of SPC. Its primary function was to investigate the possible rationalisation of institutional arrangements between SPEC and SPC with a view to ensuring that overlapping of responsibilities was minimised and that the resources available to the region were utilised most effectively. In accordance with the Forum directive, the com-



mittee tabled its report at the recent 11th South Pacific Forum held in Tarawa, Kiribati, July 1980 through its chairman, Tuala Karanita Enari of Western Samoa. The report was also tabled at the 20th South Pacific Conference held in Papua New Guinea, in October 1980.

I hope that the above information will clarify the position of SPEC in relation to the Report on Regional Institutional Arrangements referred to in Mr Keith-Reid's article.

G.B. GRIS
Director

South Pacific Bureau
for Economic Co-operation
Suva
Fiji

Poem for Vanuatu independence

I am a regular reader of your highly informative and well recognised PIM.

I enjoy reading it and I have a special interest in your poems like those supplied by *Mana*. It is in this spirit that I would like you to publish a poem I wrote for the recent independence of my country of Vanuatu, formerly the New Hebrides (Condominium), which I would like to share with other PIM readers.

I have attempted to convey some of the main historical events of Vanuatu from the 'Old Blackbirding Days' to the present 'Independence Era'.

I would be more than grateful if you would kindly publish the poem in your letters column or wherever suitable, in your

The flag goes up in July this year for Vanuatu independence — and a nationalist poet writing on this page claims his country has been delivered out of the hands of thieves, blackbirders, traders and missionaries.

next issue. I hereby enclose a copy. Thanking you in advance.

THE TIDAL WAVES

I sat quietly, motionless.

Suddenly came

A Tidal Wave—

A Wave of Evil!

A Wave of—

Blackbirders who robbed my ancestors
Selfish-Traders who chopped down my woods

First-Class Thieves who stole my land
and

Missionaries who messed-up my custom.

I thought that was all.

But came

Another Tidal Wave.

Another Wave of Evil!

A Wave of—

Colonisation
Condominiumism
Civilisation and
Christianity.

My arse pains with rage.

Unreal but ...

My land stolen!

My children separated!

My resources exploited!

My custom detribalised!

Unreal but ...

That's Mr Two-Faced Monster!

Helpless, I lament my misfortunes.

Suddenly came

Another Tidal Wave!

Another Wave of Evil!

No! It's a Wave of—

Freedom
Liberty and
Unity.

It's that victorious Wave of INDEPENDENCE!

SAMPSON D. NGWELE
(Vanuatu)

University of PNG
Port Moresby
Papua New Guinea

The Club strikes back

Let me make a somewhat late protest at the article 'Tourism in New Caledonia Awaits its Flowering Still' by André Chaville (PIM Aug p61).

I'm truly surprised that a publication as respected as yours would publish such an inaccurate, misleading and totally out-of-date mishmash of half-truths, misinformation, unverified rumours and innuendo.

In the first place, the article is 12 months stale. It refers to the 'closing of the Château' and 'when the Club Med reopens ...'. As at the time of publication, the Club had been operating already for 10 months.

The article snidely refers to Club Med as 'The "Sea, Sun & Sex" holiday camp'. Your author, who has evidently never set foot in a Club village hides his ignorance behind cheap innuendo.

Your readers should know — and I trust you will publish this rebuttal — that the Club to date has catered to some 14 000 Australians and New Zealanders, mostly families with children. In August, there were 180 children, age four and up, present at the peak school holidays.

I leave you to decide whether so many middle and upper income parents would bring their children to a 'sea, sun and sex camp'.

The article states there are no organised coach tours. Untrue. It says the accommodation is insufficient. Untrue. Ask the hoteliers who complain about their occupancies.

I do think that the New Caledonia tourist industry and its bright future bear review by your publication but, please, couldn't you entrust the task to a more responsible author?

JOHN P. YOUNGMAN
Regional Director

Club Méditerranée
Sydney NSW
Australia

One or two things slipped under our guard in the course of producing our special anniversary issue for August, which was more than twice the nor-

LETTERS

mal size of our magazine. Mr Youngman is right: the article was out of date, and we are grateful to him for updating the facts on Club Méditerranée activities in New Caledonia. Meanwhile, we hope Mr Youngman was to some extent mollified by the very favourable account of this French territory as a tourist destination given by Ian Downs in a later issue (PIM Travel Oct p59). — Editor.

'Come home Dorothy'

I have been a regular PIM reader for a couple of years now and I am very proud of the great and wonderful job PIM is doing in elaborating communication between the whole South Pacific Region. Well done! Congratulations!

I now would like to express my concern over the letter written to you by a reader called Dorothy Wakau who claimed to have come from Cairns (PIM Sep p6).

The letter began by saying 'I'm probably wasting my time ...' I agree that Dorothy Wakau was wasting her time.

Dorothy Wakau claims to be a Papua New Guinean, but also ignores the true and valuable identity that she should respect in her country of origin, and everything it contains, its people first of all.

Why doesn't she come back to PNG to experience the real practical climate of a Melanesian society?

MICHAEL D. RUIMB
West Koma Community
Mt Hagen
Papua New Guinea

A disclaimer from Nauru

I refer to 'From the Islands Press' (PIM Sep p51) where you quoted *The Nauru Post* reporting that 'Nauruans devote most of their energy to eating, and in the process have become a race of unhealthy blimps. It is a rare adult Nauruan who weighs less than 200 lbs. Temptation lurks at the island's only supermarket where shoppers waddle blithely past nutrition posters to fill their carts with cookies, cornflakes, canned meat and

mountains of beer and soda pop — and these are just snacks ...'

I must protest most strongly at the manner in which you have edited the quoted text as if it originated from *The Nauru Post*. The *Nauru Post* disassociates itself from any such suggestion as may be implied by the way you published the quoted text.

The quoted text was originally written by *Time* magazine correspondent Ross H. Munro in their edition of May 12, 1980. Although we republished it in our Issue No. 21 of May 21, 1980, *The Nauru Post* does not agree with the text you have quoted.

BERNARD DOWIYOGO
Editor

The Nauru Post
Nauru

PIM is extremely sorry that this item was presented with an incomplete identification of its source. The sentiments expressed don't reflect PIM's opinion, either — Editor.

PIM 'paranoid' about French?

I am puzzled by PIM's apparent paranoid fixation on liberating the 'French Provinces' in the Pacific area to independence.

Is this out of a genuine concern for the islanders (Aborigines in Australia, Maoris in New Zealand), or some kind of dread of French influence in the Pacific?

Doesn't PIM have any concern over American influence in the Pacific? I have not noticed any PIM stories pushing a pro-independence drive for Hawaii or American Samoa.

Why the discrimination against the French?

WILLIAM R. PLATO
Cleveland Ohio
USA

For 50 years PIM has sought to reflect and support the aspirations of the peoples of the Pacific. If we sometimes give publicity to pro-independence, or pro-self-government, movements in French Pacific territories it is because they exist. But where are the comparable movements in

American Samoa or Hawaii? On three occasions the American Samoans actually rejected by referendum a proposal that they should elect their own governor or, rather than have governors appointed by Washington. Only on the fourth occasion did they accept the idea. This hardly suggests a public opinion in favour of independence. As for Hawaii, it is an historical fact that majority opinion in Hawaii was strongly in favour of becoming the 50th state of the USA. President Eisenhower's proclamation of Hawaii as the 50th state of the union on August 21, 1959, was the culmination of a long struggle in Hawaii to attain first-class American citizenship. — Editor.

Lou Hitchcock's 'problem'

With reference to Lou Hitchcock's comment (PIM Aug p38) on the lady with the beautiful breasts on the cover of the November 1979 PIM, perhaps he would be happier if her beautiful smile was covered with a veil. The man's got a problem.

Next April my yacht *Ella* will once again be in the Pacific Islands, and hopefully reported in your fine magazine. Keep us shorebound 'islanders' informed — we appreciate it.

WALT POITEVENT
Bellingham WA
Australia

A Banaban plea for help

Since I started reading the *Pacific Islands Monthly* way back during my secondary school days, I have found that the articles were very interesting and informative. Your Souvenir Edition August, 1980, was one that inspired me very much and also made me want to write to your office.

As a Banaban, the articles in the August issue which were based on Ocean Island or the Banabans were the most interesting and informative for me. We are trying very hard to revive our own culture, as well as our language and history. The main difficulties we are facing are the sources of information and we have found that

your *Pacific Islands Monthly* is one of the resources we can rely on if you are willing to help us.

Our only humble request is if it is possible for you or any of your readers to supply us with all articles as well as photos on Ocean Island or the Banabans from the first article that you published until your latest edition. We are willing to meet the costs.

We sincerely hope that you will understand our problems and help us.

TEIWAKI BENAIA
Principal

Rabi Junior Secondary School
P.O. Nuku
Rabi
Fiji

We will do what we can to help. — Editor.

Requests from correspondents

Robin Anderson, of Post Office Box 194, Glebe, NSW, Australia 2037, writes that in conjunction with Bob Connolly of Arundel Productions she is making a film about the history of Papua New Guinea from the turn of the century to independence in 1975. Any home movies or old black and white pictures which show the PNG activities of Australians and other non-nationals of PNG are urgently required for the present segment of the production programme. The sort of material involved could be in the home, the club, at work or in sport, or could illustrate politics, plantations or celebrations. The material will be well cared for, and returned.

Judy MacDonald, of 14 Ward Avenue, Greenmount WA, Australia 6056, is seeking material for research into the ill-fated Marquis de Rays expedition which sought to establish settlers on New Ireland (now part of Papua New Guinea) towards the end of last century. Mrs MacDonald first became interested in the history of the settlement, and the tragedy and deaths it caused, when she worked in Port Moresby with the *Papua New Guinea Post-Courier*. She would very much appreciate hearing from anyone who can provide information about the expedition itself and the settling of survivors in the Duke of York Islands, the New Britain mainland, and in Australia.

Delegates from 26 metropolitan and Pacific Island countries met in Port Moresby in October for the 21st South Pacific Conference, hosted this year by the Papua New Guinea government. They approved a budget of \$A3.8 million for the continuing work of the South Pacific Commission, they debated the problem of nuclear waste in the Pacific environment, they turned a deaf ear — for the time being — to a PNG proposal for a Pacific Island political alliance, and they heard some strong words from women who want a bigger role in Pacific affairs. PIM Editor Angus Smales, who was at the conference, writes this report.

Politics without protest emerge from South Pacific Conference

A significant aspect of this year's South Pacific Conference in Port Moresby was the intrusion of political issues without protest. Traditionally the conference is a non-political affair in which delegates from participating governments of the South Pacific Commission look at their environment, their society, their technology and their welfare. They share their ideas and concentrate on the similarities of ambition and background which override traditional, cultural and political differences.

At earlier conferences there have been walk-outs and protests over what delegates saw as political trends in discussion, but this year two issues were heavily loaded politically without interrupting the work or the flow of the conference. The first, and the most sensitive, involved the political tensions surrounding Japanese proposals to dump nuclear waste in the Western Pacific. Diplomatic co-existence involving some of the metropolitan countries watered down the attitude of the conference but the important point was the willingness of delegates to discuss the issue dispassionately and to accept the opinions of participating governments despite widespread objections by Island governments themselves to waste-dumping in the Pacific.

The second political issue was a proposal by PNG to form a political alliance of Pacific islands 'so that we can talk with one voice in the world forum, and through United Nations if necessary'. The proposal received an apathetic reception, but no one became steamed up over it on the basis of politics.

Speaking informally after the conference senior delegates said that the emergence of fringe political issues was not

unexpected in the new nation atmosphere of today's Pacific region. They believed that political issues would increasingly intrude on general debates involving the SPC, but did not see this as a threat to the traditional work or structure of the SPC.

The inclusion of Micronesian countries in this year's conference added to the scope of debates. The countries were the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Marshall Islands and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. All are north of the Equator, leading to informal supposition that the names South Pacific Commission and South Pacific Conference are fast on the way to becoming outdated.

Nuclear waste

Unofficial reports from Japan last month suggested that the Japanese government may back down — at least for the time being — from its controversial intention to dump low-level encapsulated nuclear waste in the Western Pacific. The proposed site is about 900km from the Mariana Islands.

However the conference met earlier when Japan was still insisting that the dumping would go ahead, and delegates were presented with an impassioned plea from Governor Carlos Comacho of the Commonwealth of Northern Mariana Islands. He asked the conference to endorse a motion of protest, and delegates from seven Pacific Island nations voiced the opposition of their governments to the Japanese plan. Carefully avoiding any direct initial reference to Japan Governor Comacho said 'We have been shown an arrogant and malicious disregard of our

rights as people of the Pacific. We reap no benefits from nuclear energy but we are being forced to share its hazards.'

Other delegates spoke of 'the untold dangers which are only now being revealed' and described the huge clean-up campaign which USA 'had been obliged to shoulder in an attempt to bury the wastes from nuclear tests on Eniwetok Atoll'. (See PIM cover picture, this issue.)

The leader of the PNG delegation to the talks, Primary Industry Minister Roy Evara, said the Pacific remained one of the few major areas of the world not generally polluted by the results of nuclear activity. He believed pressures should be exerted politically to keep it that way.

Vanuatu told the conference through its delegate, Primary Industry Minister Thomas Seru, that nuclear powers should dump their waste in their own areas 'and leave our areas alone'.

It was at this stage that Britain and US intervened in the talks — with France showing tacit acceptance of the intervention — and won acceptance of a watered-down motion dictated by diplomatic considerations. In its final form the resolution adopted by the conference did not protest against the Japanese plan but merely 'noted the concern expressed by Pacific Island countries' over the Japanese plan. The resolution also 'noted the desire of Pacific Island countries that alternative means and areas should be used for the disposal of nuclear waste'.

Governor Comacho said after the debate he was disappointed that the final resolution had not been more strongly worded but he believed the Islands people had made their

point and would continue their campaign to keep the Pacific nuclear-free.

Norfolk Island

In a statement issued outside the conference room the Chief Minister of Norfolk Island, Mr David Buffett, claimed that Australia was suppressing Norfolk's role as a member of the Pacific community. Norfolk Island, off the east coast of Australia, is technically part of Australia but has been granted a degree of autonomy. Mr Buffett attended the conference as a member of the Australian delegation.

In his statement Mr Buffett said that Norfolk Island had attended last year's South Pacific Conference as an adviser to the Australian delegation. Since then, he said, Norfolk had evolved from 'a colonial-type administration to a fully-elected legislative assembly with legislative and executive authority.' He said Norfolk had anticipated that this would empower it to exercise a conference vote, taking up an unused voting potential nominally held by Australia on behalf of Norfolk Island.

He said he was deeply concerned to find that as a result of Australian intervention a procedural meeting preceding the conference had excluded Norfolk Island from the opportunity to vote in its own right. Norfolk Island had protested strongly to the Australian government on the grounds that it was preventing Norfolk from 'drawing closer to the Pacific family and having a voice in Pacific affairs'. He said he had sought to address the conference on the issue but the leader of the Australian delegation, Senator J. P. Sim, had refused permission.

Senator Sim commented out-

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Name.....

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side the conference that he was aware of the Norfolk protest but he believed the basis of the protest was not valid. The simple legal fact remained that Norfolk Island was part of Australia and funded by Australia although it had an autonomy within that structure. He said that it was unthinkable that different parts of a single country could have individual voting rights in an international body. Senator Sim said research had failed to establish

why Norfolk had been listed several years ago as a potential voting entity, and Australia's recent action had been to correct this anomaly. He believed that Norfolk Island political leaders had not been unaware of the anomaly despite their current protest.

Political bloc

A feature of the conference was a bid by Papua New Guinea to sponsor a political alliance which could speak in world forums with one voice on behalf of the Pacific Islands. PNG invited delegates from all Island countries to an unofficial meeting to discuss the proposal. The meeting did not eventuate however, apparently from hesitation rather than from outright opposition. There was a feeling

among some delegates that the matter was too political for association with an SPC occasion. Some of the smaller nations appeared to have vague suspicions of PNG, possibly based on size and possibly fuelled by PNG's recent military intervention (although by request) in the affairs of Vanuatu. Whatever the reason, the PNG proposal received some token support but little more.

The proposal was made by the leader of the PNG delegation, Primary Industry Minister Roy Evara, who praised the work of existing regional institutions but said the Pacific was too unco-ordinated in the way it faced the world at large. The original text of his speech called for a 'political alliance', although in delivering it he changed the words to a 'strong organisation'. Later in talks with newsmen and other delegates he confirmed that the real nature of his proposal referred to a political bloc.

By acting individually, he said, the Island countries lacked the strength to protect their region effectively against major international pressures and attitudes.

In his prepared speech for the conference Mr Evara had planned to suggest that his proposed organisation should be 'structured along the lines of the Organisation of African Unity with similar goals and functions'. He obviously became aware of the sensitivities which developed, and deleted this part of his speech. However the text had already been circulated and added to the reluctance of delegates to commit their support. Mr Evara said later that his sole concern was for a unified Pacific, and PNG would continue to work in that direction.

Women's role

The proceedings of the conference were enlivened during a morning recess when 20 women carrying placards demanded a better deal for women in Pacific Island communities. Delegates were at morning tea when the women filed into the room and sought leave to present a petition. One of the placards read 'The time will come when you will be sorry that you have left behind half the population —

THE SPC COMMUNITY

The South Pacific Conference, often referred to as the United Nations of the Pacific, is the annual 'general assembly' of delegates representing governments which participate in or are linked with the South Pacific Commission. The governments are from Pacific Island countries and from metropolitan countries which have a Pacific presence or Pacific links.

The commission has existed for 33 years but the recently-concluded South Pacific Conference in Port Moresby was only the 20th because the earliest conferences were not held annually.

The commission was formed in 1947 following the suggestion of the then Australian External Affairs Minister, Dr H. V. Evatt. At first it consisted solely of the six metropolitan countries which administered territories and trusteeships in the Pacific — Australia, France, New Zealand, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States.

The Netherlands has since ceased to be a member, but an increasing number of island countries are becoming full participating members in the wake of nationhood.

The commission is not a political alliance, but has developed from the common welfare, environmental, community and technical interests of the Island countries.

the women — in your clever development programmes.' Others were 'Men are born of women', 'Where are the Pacific women?' and 'Only women can understand women'.

The demonstration coincided with a general debate at the conference on the role of women. The debate led to a resolution to plan a conference of South Pacific women which will be hosted by French Polynesia next year and will make recommendations to the 21st South Pacific Conference.

Almost every country represented at the Port Moresby conference made submissions of commitment to advancing the status of women and conceding that by tradition and under modern circumstances women were in a secondary role.

Despite the high tone of the

A call for greater recognition of women in Pacific Island communities was made by women who demonstrated during a recess in the proceedings of the South Pacific Conference. Below: Angela Soso reads the petition which the women presented. Lower: Placards back up the petition.



What the conference decided

The 21st South Pacific Conference was held in Port Moresby late in October. Here's a summary of the main issues discussed and the resolutions adopted, starting with an outline of the South Pacific Commission budget for next year:

Financial reports were adopted, and the SPC budget for 1981 was fixed at a balanced income and expenditure of \$A3.8 million. The biggest single source of revenue will be \$A3.5 million in assessed and voluntary contributions from participating governments. The biggest revenue contributor will be Australia, providing 33.6% of the assessed contributions. The other major contributing governments will be USA 17%, New Zealand 16.3%, France 14% and UK 12.3%.

Under an established formula the new nations of the Pacific will each provide 0.85% of the SPC revenue. However the conference decided there should be an early review into the possibility that the smallest Island nations should be conceded a lower rate of contributions.

Australia, France, New Zealand and USA announced special voluntary grants which will provide nearly half a million dollars in the 1981 budget revenue and will be directed to consultancy services, the tuna fisheries assessment programme, the skipjack tuna tagging programme and for the provision of rural water supply and sanitation projects. Some of the grants include promises of continuing funds for later budgets.

The biggest single expenditure heading in the 1981 budget will be \$A662 thousand for SPC community services, followed by \$592 thousand for information services. Executive management will cost \$A263 thousand, and awards and grants valued at \$A256 thousand will be made available. Other major amounts will be spent on technical services involving food production, materials, marine resources, rural management and rural technology. Practical training schemes for Pacific islanders will be included in this expenditure.

STATUS AND ROLE OF WOMEN

The conference took note of problems faced by Island women in taking an equal place with men in the society, politics, economy and general life of their countries. As a result, delegates decided to seek external funds to pay for a major conference of South Pacific women.

The women's conference will be held in French Polynesia next year and its recommendations for improving the position of women will go to next year's South Pacific Conference. A decision was also made to seek outside funds to re-establish the former Women's Resource Centre in Fiji.

ATTITUDE TO NUCLEAR WASTE

In a debate marked by subtle sensitivities from UK and France, the conference 'noted the grave concern' which Island governments had expressed towards Japanese plans to dump nuclear waste in the Pacific. The conference also 'noted' that Island governments were urging the use of other methods or other areas for the disposal of nuclear waste.

The wording of the resolution was significant, and arose from a watering down by UK of a proposed resolution. In its final form the resolution simply took note of Island protests without expressing an opinion of its own. It also did not refer specifically to Japan, confining itself to 'the intention of some countries to dump radioactive waste in the Pacific'.

MERGER RECOMMENDATION DEFERRED

The contentious recommendation for amalgamating the South Pacific Commission and the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation into a single new organisation was discussed and deferred to next year's South Pacific Conference. The recommendation comes from a special committee on regional institutional arrangements. The special committee

included members of both organisations and independent members.

PNG REQUESTS ALLIANCE

Papua New Guinea made an impassioned plea to the conference for the formation of a Pacific Islands political alliance which could speak with one voice on matters of common interest. Such a body should then seek observer status in United Nations, PNG proposed, and could become a powerful lobby. PNG offered to convene an informal meeting to discuss the proposal, but some of the smaller nations showed hesitation and for the time being the PNG proposal has made no headway.

STABILISATION PLAN FOR STUDY

Discussion was re-opened on proposals to establish a South Pacific regional stabilisation scheme for agricultural products, and a commissioned feasibility study was examined. Delegates believed however that the matter was so complex and highly technical that further research was needed before any establishment decision could be made. Further studies and inquiries were authorised, with particular reference to the degree of finance which would be available from international and other agencies and to the general costs involved. The conference decided to convene a meeting of technical experts from SPC countries, to ask the technical experts to make comprehensive recommendations and to discuss the recommendations at next year's South Pacific Conference.

NEW NAME FOR ARTS FESTIVAL?

The South Pacific Festival of Arts may get a new name — possibly the Pacific Festival of Arts — following recommendations from the conference. Delegates said the present name failed to recognise the significant contributions to the festival which came from Island cultures north of the equator. The conference congratulated by applause 'the magnificent manner' in which Papua New Guinea had hosted this year's festival. The conference approved an annual fund of \$A56 thousand from the next four SPC budgets to help finance the next festival in New Caledonia.

REPORTS ON FISHING PROJECTS

The conference received wide-ranging formal reports on the progress of new and proposed fisheries projects in Island countries, but made no formal policy recommendations. Some delegates expressed concern at what they described as the continuing illegal presence of foreign fishing ships in Island marine resource zones.

YEAR OF THE PACIFIC

A proposal for the SPC to sponsor a 'Year of the Pacific' was discussed by delegates as a means for promoting development and interest in Island countries and to increase international awareness of the Pacific community. The proposal will receive a detailed study from the planning and evaluation committee preparing the agenda for next year's South Pacific Conference.

APPROPRIATE EDUCATION PLAN

The conference endorsed a proposal from the SPC secretariat to examine existing education programmes aimed at development for Island communities. During the first phase a detailed survey of education programmes will be carried out. In the second phase future developments will be planned at conferences of education and agriculture officers and teachers and parents from rural communities.

FOUR NEW NATIONS ADMITTED

Four new Island nations were admitted to full participating rights in the conference by virtue of their political status and under the rules of the conference. They were the Federated States of Micronesia, the Marshall Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands and the Republic of Vanuatu. It was also announced that the governments of the Cook Islands and Niue had filed their instruments of accession to the Canberra Agreement. The Canberra Agreement is the formal arrangement under which the South Pacific Commission is constituted, and is named after the Australian capital where the conference which founded the SPC was held.

NEXT CONFERENCE IN PORT-VILA

The conference accepted an invitation from Vanuatu to host the 21st South Pacific Conference in Port-Vila next year, but the date has yet to be fixed in negotiations between the Vanuatu government and the SPC secretariat. The conference also accepted an offer from the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to be host in 1982 or subsequent years.

HELP FOR ATOLL COMMUNITIES

The conference reaffirmed the intentions of the SPC to take wide-ranging steps to increase the self-sufficiency of small atoll communities throughout the region. The problems of remote and isolated atoll communities were first raised in detail at the 18th South Pacific Conference two years ago, and suggestions were made that aid donors, universities and other interested countries and organisations should be approached in the interests of increasing self-sufficiency in food, energy and water on the atolls of the Pacific.

The SPC secretariat reported to this year's conference that considerable progress had been made in defining the practical requirements of such a project and in estimating what would be entailed. It referred to earlier discussions on the problems of atoll communities, some going back more than 25 years. The costs of establishing and applying a suitable programme were estimated at \$A500 million. The conference was told that an approach had been made to the European Economic Community, through Lome Convention channels, for finance.

NEW MEDIA CENTRE SUGGESTED

The conference received reports and recommendations on a move which could lead to the establishment in Vanuatu of a media training centre to serve the Island countries of the South Pacific. A detailed examination of the proposal will be left to the SPC Planning and Evaluation Committee.

At present the SPC operates a media training and resource centre in Fiji, but the conference was told that there are increasing pressures from member governments and organisations to expand the facility because of the growth of publishing, newspapers, magazines, publicity material outlets, radio and some television in the region. In a preliminary proposal to the conference the secretariat suggested that an expanded media centre, which would train people from all over the Pacific, might benefit from being newly established in another country. Vanuatu was tentatively suggested, particularly because French and English are both widely used there. The preliminary proposal indicated that external funding would be needed for major expansion of the media centre.

WARNING ON FISHERY PLANS

The conference took note of a caution from the SPC secretariat that social and political factors could be expected to play an increasing role in plans for the development and management of fisheries. If fisheries were to be the economic success that Pacific governments expected, it was therefore essential that the highest standards of consultation and development should be followed, the secretariat warned. 'Bad advice is not cheap at any price' the report said.

reports and the sentiments expressed, many women were irritated by their nature, describing them as patronising and seeking to provide concessions for women. 'We want a position where we are recognised as part of the community — not concessions' they said.

Mrs Kila Amini, Executive Director of YWCA in PNG, put it bluntly when she said 'It's the attitudes that need to change. Why talk all the time about a role for women? Why not a debate on a role for men?'

But the women's prize for annoyance went to the delegate who told the conference smugly 'We recognise the position of women. We have a woman member in our delegation. She's sitting up the back there somewhere'.

Mosquito war

Fish, worms and artificially-cultivated germs may be used in Island countries as part of an SPC campaign against disease-carrying mosquitoes. Details of the biological control programme against mosquitoes were reported to the Port Moresby conference by the SPC Secretary-General, Mr Young Vivian.

Mr Vivian said that biological control of the mosquito population would be a new weapon in reducing the prevalence of at least five dangerous diseases carried by mosquitoes. The diseases are malaria, dengue fever, Ross River fever, filariasis and encephalitis. The SPC, working in conjunction with the World Health Organisation, will conduct a series of tests on a suitable small island — which has yet to be selected — and the results of the tests will be made available to SPC countries.

The standard method of control practised at present is to use chemical insecticides in either of two ways. One is spray fogging which indiscriminately kills mosquitoes in the immediate area, but which is impractical for the eradication of all mosquitoes. The other is residual spraying of vertical surfaces. Mosquitoes rest on vertical surfaces immediately after biting people or animals, and the selective killing of these mosquitoes breaks the disease transmission cycle.

Mr Vivian told the conference that biological control was aimed at a significant reduction of the overall mosquito population. This in turn would reduce the prevalence of diseases which were having a severe effect on the people and the economies of Island countries in the Pacific. The details of the preliminary programme were tabled at the conference in the SPC's budget and works programme for 1981. Conference delegates said that in many areas mosquitoes were developing a resistance to chemical insecticides, and there was also a risk to humans from the side effects of the insecticides. Concern was also expressed that the continuing use of insecticides in large quantities could produce serious community health problems which might not become apparent for decades.

The 'biological weapons' which the SPC will use in its test campaign next year will include a nematode worm which will be placed in breeding sites such as stagnant water, tree holes and coconut husks. The worms are expected to eat the mosquito eggs, reducing breeding potential.

Another will be a bacterial agent which is harmless to people and animals but which can be placed in village water supplies to destroy the mosquito eggs. Other possibilities under consideration are types of fish which eat mosquito eggs in rivers and lakes.

The report said that the nematode worms and the bacterial agent had already demonstrated an effectiveness in killing mosquito eggs, but full-scale field tests were needed to demonstrate whether the proposition was practical.

The report stressed that the necessary health assurances in relation to people has already been obtained, and there was also an assurance of environmental protection. The approval on safety grounds had been provided by the World Health Organisation and by the United States Environmental Protection Agency.

If next year's SPC tests are successful the project will be gradually extended to other islands and remote areas to develop a pool of information. The cost of the immediate project will be about \$20 000.

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 **HITACHI**

PETER CUMMINS* reports on the opening on Nauru in October of a new United Nations office, the Liaison Office for the Pacific of the UN's Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). He calls the office 'a bridge' — 'a bridge over which UN aid, technical assistance and transfer of technology will flow to the South Pacific, and a bridge for the flow of technical co-operation among the developing countries of the South Pacific themselves'.

Brand-new Pacific liaison office for ESCAP — and Nauru's the host

Friday, October 3, 1980, was not a day like any other for the tiny island republic of Nauru. At 10.30am on that day, the President of Nauru Hammer DeRoburt and the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) Mr J. B. P. Maramis, raised the United Nations flag over the new ESCAP Liaison Office for the Pacific.

As the blue and white flag unfurled in the warm trade wind, the UN emblem symbolised a promise to the peoples of the developing island states. A package of aid, spanning the vast fields of competence of the UN, would as a result flow into the region, affecting trade promotion, natural resources, energy, shipping, population and related problems, training, offshore prospecting, industrial and social development, statistics, food and agriculture, transport and communications, transnational corporations, the role of women in development, tourism and the transfer of technology.

The office will be the 'bridge' in the flow of technical co-operation from the UN system to the region. It will also foster technical co-operation among the Pacific countries themselves, a prime goal of the UN development strategy for the 1980s.

The liaison officer's principal

tasks will be to improve linkages and maintain effective liaison between ESCAP and the countries of the Pacific, and to assist ESCAP's executive secretary in the programming and implementation of needed activities.

The opening of the liaison office signifies an end and a beginning. It marks the end of an era which began 33 years ago in Shanghai when the United Nations Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East (ECAFE) was established, with 10 original members. Then, the islands of the Pacific were either under colonial rule or were trust territories won as 'prizes' in global conflicts.

It also marks the beginning of the Third Development Decade, a decade where phrases like interdependence, self-help, regional co-operation, new international economic order, North-South and South-South dialogue, bridges across the South, and Brandt Commission will be key terms in the language of development. It is the beginning of an era of increasing assistance to the developing island countries of the South Pacific. As one Pacific Islander said during ESCAP's annual session in Bangkok last March: 'The Pacific Islanders' call for assistance has been heard'.

As the UN emblem flies for the first time in this northern area of the South Pacific, it flies in a region whose peoples have largely gained their freedom and independence. And, 33 years later, the commission, now called the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, has 35 members and eight associate members, covering a region which stretches from Iran to Indonesia, from Kiribati to

Korea. Almost half of the world's surface and considerably more than half the world's population, including the world's most populous countries, China and India, fall within ESCAP's mandate for the 1980s.

The Brandt Commission report, otherwise known as *North-South: A Programme for Survival*, points clearly to the type of situation now existing in the South Pacific. In his introduction, Willy Brandt notes: 'As a result of decolonisation in most parts of what came to be called the Third World, long established power structures crumbled or collapsed, leaving vacuums and giving birth to new political and economic groupings.' Countries which thus were released from colonial dependence, Brandt goes on, 'have been struggling to gain equality of opportunity in their development, (requesting) beneficial co-operation, assistance and transfer of resources ... goods and technologies ... to overcome their poverty'.

There is a special significance in the opening of this office for the two principals involved, President Hammer DeRoburt and Executive Secretary J.B.P. Maramis. Mr DeRoburt led his



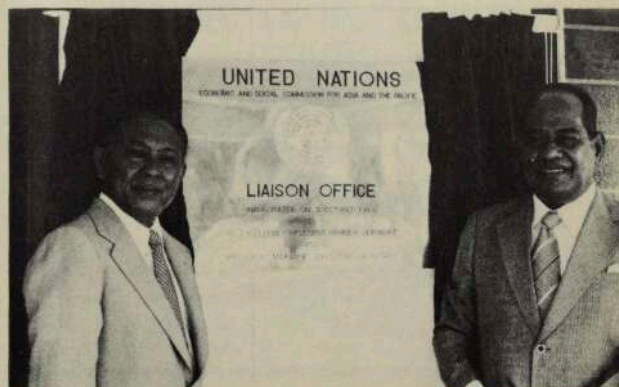
Lilliputian-sized country's deputations to the UN Trusteeship Council, finally winning independence for Nauru on January 31, 1968.

He became the first president of the new republic, and he was elected chairman of ESCAP's 32nd annual session, held in Bangkok in 1976, at which time he remarked that his election was 'evidence of ESCAP's increasing involvement in the development of the Pacific Island states'.

It was at this same session that the first 'special measures in favour of the least developed, land-locked and island countries' were adopted.

DeRoburt has championed

J.B.P. Maramis (left), Executive Secretary of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, and Hammer DeRoburt, President of Nauru, at the unveiling of a plaque to mark the opening of ESCAP's new liaison office in Nauru.



* N. Peter Cummins MSc is Information Officer for the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). Based in Bangkok, Thailand, he visited Nauru for the opening of ESCAP's new Liaison Office for the Pacific in October.



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the cause of the developing island countries of the South Pacific. There is poetic justice in the liaison office being located in his own island republic.

Mr Maramis was appointed as fourth Executive Secretary of ESCAP on 1 August 1973, after a distinguished career with the Indonesian Government, during which he gained broad experience in international organisations. He came to ESCAP, in fact, from a posting as ambassador to Belgium and Luxembourg and head of the Indonesian Mission to the European Community.

One of the executive secretary's first acts was to change the name of the former Economic Commission for Asia and the Far East to Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific, 'to reflect', he said at the time, 'the commission's new responsibilities to the people of the region, particularly in the South Pacific'.

The opening of the Pacific Liaison Office is a tribute to Maramis' dedication to one of his goals: that the South Pacific area, particularly, which is among the most disadvantaged of the world's least developed areas, should directly benefit from UN assistance programmes.

No doubt the influence of the president, Hammer DeRoburt, one of the South Pacific's best known leaders, was a large factor in the choice of Nauru for the site of the office. As DeRoburt said in his address at the opening: 'Earlier this year in Bangkok, the government of Nauru was pleased to be able to offer Nauru as a possible location for the Liaison Office in the Pacific, and Nauru was supported in Bangkok, in the South Pacific Forum countries and in Micronesia. This morning sees the inauguration of the Liaison Office in premises which have been provided by the government of Nauru.'

A decentralisation of such offices is in any case desirable. For example, Fiji to the south hosts a UN Development Advisory Team, a UN Development Programme (UNDP) office, the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation and its South Pacific Forum, the University of the South Pacific and a number of UN specialised agencies. Western Samoa

on the eastern periphery houses another UNDP office, and there is the South Pacific Commission in New Caledonia on the western edge.

Mr Maramis summed up UN attitudes in his October 3 address: 'The role of Nauru in bringing about the establishment of the ESCAP Liaison Office in the Pacific was demonstrated in the active part that the delegation of Nauru played, and which led to the adoption by the commission of the two resolutions concerned. It was in recognition of this role that the Pacific Island countries agreed to Nauru as the site for the liaison office.'

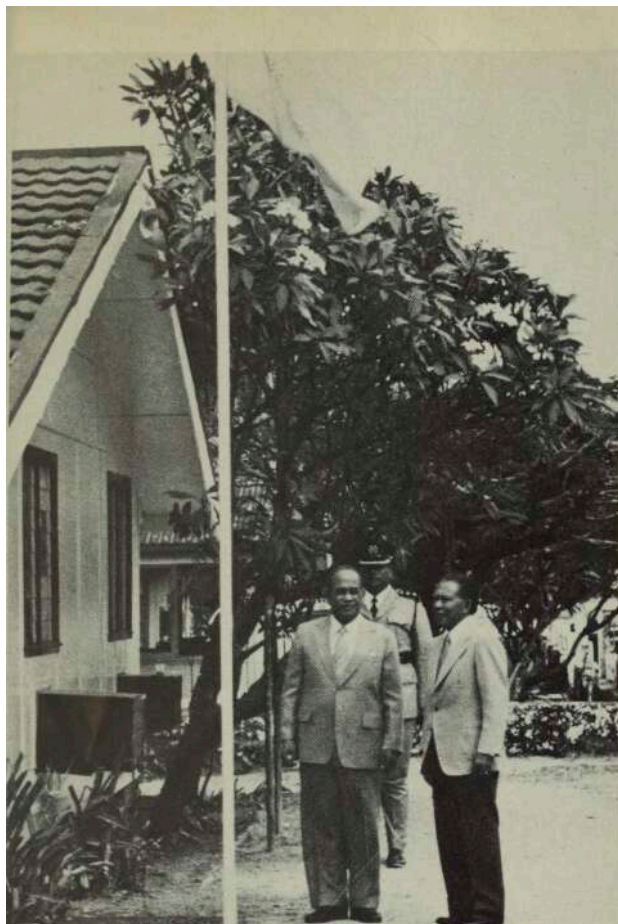
Finally, the island has good telecommunications facilities, and Air Nauru offers frequent and efficient pan-Pacific air services.

Twelve Pacific Island States are members of ESCAP. Fiji, Nauru, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa, Solomon Islands and Tonga are full members; Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Western Samoa and Solomon Islands are also members of the UN. Cook Islands, Kiribati, Niue, Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, Tuvalu and Vanuatu are associate members. Associate membership could be regarded as 'trial membership'.

ESCAP, often called the 'Parliament of Asia and the Pacific', is one of five regional economic commissions of the UN. It is administratively responsible to the secretary-general of the UN, and, at the same time, it is responsible to its member countries and is subject to their guidance in policy matters under the overall supervision of the UN Economic and Social Council.

ESCAP's primary role is to serve member countries by identifying areas of social and economic development problems; by providing a forum for debate on development issues, and by providing technical assistance and advisory services and helping member countries to attract outside assistance. It does not itself provide capital resources but has helped to establish institutions to attract funds for regional and sub-regional projects which, in turn, supply development aid.

Nine legislative bodies guide the work of the commission in



agricultural development, development planning, industry, human settlements and technology, natural resources, population, statistics, trade, shipping and transport and communications. Additionally, a number of special bodies report to the commission, such as the Committee for Co-ordination of Joint Prospecting for Mineral Resources in South Pacific Offshore Areas.

Even before the opening of the liaison office a large number of programmes for the island countries were under way, supported by the UN system and a number of the ESCAP member countries.

One example is the UN Development Advisory Team, created in 1971 and operated by ESCAP since 1977. Now based in Suva, it consists of a team of UN experts who advise island governments, on request, on almost every conceivable problem of economic and social development. The head of the team, Arthur McCutchan, who is well known around the Pacific, has been designated as interim head of the new Nauru

The United Nations flag flies above the newly-opened ESCAP office in Nauru. The office is being administered by Mr Arthur McCutchan, head of the UN Pacific Development Advisory Team, but a Pacific Islander is to be appointed as permanent head.

office until the appointment of an Islander is made.

There is also a combined ESCAP/UNDP three-year (1979-81) programme of about \$US12 million, being run in collaboration with the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation and the South Pacific Commission. With this programme past the half-way mark, planning for a new three-year cycle is under way. Sea transport is expected to be its centrepiece.

A brief look at a selection of priority areas of aid — both ongoing and planned — seems in order here.

The problem of *energy* has been designated as the theme for the 37th commission session to be held in Bangkok in March 1981.

So acute is the energy problem in the Pacific Island

countries that Cook Islands Premier Dr Tom Davis recently appealed to the 'corporate conscience of the oil companies' for relief against the crippling cost of commercial energy which, he said, 'hits the island countries like a hurricane'.

The islands can expect special efforts on their behalf in the search for new, alternative and reusable sources of energy.

Closely allied to the energy crisis is that of the *environment*, and a South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme has been established. It will help island countries in many fields, including contingency planning for environmental disasters, such as oil spills.

The *Natural Resources Division* of ESCAP started a three-year, \$US2.5m programme in January 1979, funded by UNDP, to investigate the mineral potential of the South Pacific. Surveys have been carried out in the waters of all member countries in a vessel chartered for six months each year by UNDP.

Transnational corporations are also of much concern to the Pacific and the ESCAP unit has undertaken studies of joint-venture agreements, examining ways to increase the negotiating capacity of host governments vis-a-vis transnationals. Mr Maramis, in fact, just before the opening of the Nauru office, attended a high-level Sub-regional Training Workshop on Regulating and Negotiating with Transnational Corporations, in neighbouring Tonga.

There, the executive secretary observed: 'The increasing interdependence of the world economy is, to a great extent, associated with the activities of transnational corporations ... in view of their global command over vast resources. Pacific Island countries, and indeed host developing countries in general, must firmly and effectively exercise their sovereign rights over their national resources. This depends significantly on the abilities of Pacific Island governments to carefully regulate and effectively negotiate with transnational corporations'.

In *social development*, considerable emphasis has been placed on the role of women in the development process, as the International Decade for

Women (1976-1985) reaches its half-way mark. For example, as a follow-up to the recently held World Conference on the UN Decade for Women: Equality, Development and Peace in Copenhagen last July, a sub-regional meeting of Pacific women was held in Suva in October-November.

Shipping is of vital concern to the Pacific Islands, with their enormous distances and lack of port facilities, and, as noted earlier, it will be a priority area for UNDP in 1982/1986. ESCAP's Division for Shipping, Ports and Inland Waterways is bringing together shippers and shipowners on the European-Asia/Pacific trade routes which represent half of the global international trade. The South Pacific particularly stands to gain much from future co-operation and a growing interdependence between shippers and shipowners.

International trade is playing a strong role in development of the Pacific. A trade expansion and diversification programme, to be based in Fiji, is planned. It will assist countries in the region in their endeavours to increase trade and trade promotion generally.

At a world conference on Technical Co-operation Among Developing Countries in Buenos Aires in 1978, UNDP Administrator Bradford Morse referred to this concept of co-operation as a 'bridge across the South'. Paraphrasing Morse at a meeting of senior planners from developing countries of the region in Suva last year, Mr Maramis added the word 'Pacific' to Morse's 'bridge across the South' concept. 'For I assure you,' the executive secretary informed the senior planners from the Pacific, 'of ESCAP's assistance in your efforts to build a bridge across the Pacific, to facilitate the flow of technical co-operation among the developing island countries in the region, and between Asia and the Pacific'.

The ESCAP Liaison Office represents this bridge: the bridge over which UN aid, technical assistance and transfer of technology will flow to the South Pacific, and a bridge for the flow of technical co-operation among the developing countries of the South Pacific themselves.



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Alan Morris, company director, associate of Papua New Guinea political leaders and once mastermind of a plan to keep two political parties in funds, has emerged from a turbulent 20 months of bitter boardroom in-fighting which touched the fringe of PNG politics. PIM Editor ANGUS SMALES, who was in Port Moresby when the judgement was handed down, describes how one of the biggest civil actions in PNG legal history has found Morris was the victim of a boardroom campaign to discredit him and has awarded him more than half a million dollars against the company he created.

Politics in the boardroom — the story of an expensive campaign

There's always been something of the go-getting politician in the make-up of Alan Arthur Morris, Australian ex-serviceman from World War II, one-time carnival showman, taxi operator, and eventually chairman, managing director and driving force of PNG Associated Industries which he built into a prosperous Papua New Guinea company listed on the Sydney Stock Exchange. The company's interests involve automotive sales and service, air conditioning, solar heating and air freight services.

Morris climbed to all the trappings of the 'establishment' businessman. He fought his way back to health and work after a stroke which would have warned many men to step down. He was an extensive overseas business traveller, his Volvo car was registered AAM.000, he was active in Rotary and had travelled to Rotary conventions throughout the world, he had a readiness to lend his influence to causes which caught his attention, and his house (complete with swimming pool) was high on a Port Moresby hill looking out to the ocean. But for all this he never fitted neatly into the 'establishment' image, and that may well have been an ingredient in the turbulence which surrounded him. 'He is an abrasive man' a witness told civil court proceedings in Port Moresby which have now cleared Morris of allegations of misconduct.

At the height of his personal power and influence in business five years ago and on the eve of political independence in PNG Morris was on the calling lists of government and opposition alike. Earlier he had been involved solely with backers of the United Party which became PNG's first official parliamentary opposition. By 1975, however, he was associating also with advisers to the Pangu

Party which became PNG's first national government under Michael Somare.

There's little doubt his involvements at first were the reactions of a prudent businessman who seeks to protect his investment in the arena of new nation politics, but he was clearly a man who liked to be in the middle of things. Into the picture then came Samoa-born Walter Lussick who had been a member of parliament in pre-independence PNG and had subsequently become senior advisor to the prominent Papua New Guinea politician Sir Tei Abal, PNG's first leader of the opposition after independence.

Morris and Lussick developed a plan in which the Morris company was to be taken over by a holding group, removed from public listing and effectively owned by the two main (and opposing) political parties of the time — Sir Tei Abal's United Party and Michael Somare's Pangu Party. The check and balance of having opposing parties was seen as a means of removing the sensitivities of linking politics with big business, while at the same time ensuring a source of political funds. Somare and Sir Tei both signed letters of intent, although Pangu pulled out at the last moment and other PNG national groups were brought into the structure.

Lussick (who has since become chairman) and Sir Tei Abal went on to the board. Morris was retained as chairman and managing director under a five-year contract which provided retirement settlements as well as salary. The financing relied on the fact that by transferring ownership to PNG nationals the firm qualified for a five-year tax holiday, helping it to pay out Morris and other original shareholders and to be fairly

generous in salary settlements for Morris and other non-nationals being phased out.

In retrospect it was probably unfortunate that Pangu pulled out because the way was left open for less-satisfactory liaisons. There were subsequent rearrangements of the company structure, growing boardroom tensions, arguments about the real extent of United Party holdings and finally what was referred to in court as a personality clash between Lussick and Morris.

A turning point came on March 2, 1979 when a meeting of directors purported to sack Morris. Subsequently he was accused by the company of grave misconduct as a result of which his retirement deed was not recognised. The grave misconduct was said to involve his manner of obtaining a personal loan, arrangements under which a company car was maintained in Brisbane, the manner in which a financial guarantee to a Port Moresby football club had been minuted, alleged over-drawings of salary, some book-keeping matters, alleged concealment of over-payments to the company by a government department, claims that confidential information was leaked and claims of conflict between duty and personal interest.

Morris fought back with a successful injunction when the company attempted to evict him from his company house, and he settled down to a long fight in a situation which increasingly polarised political and business factions in Port Moresby.

Morris launched an action against the company on grounds of wrongful dismissal, claiming damages based on salary and retirement contracts. It became one of the biggest civil actions in PNG legal history, heard over more than

three months by Mr Justice Andrew Wilson in the National Court, Port Moresby, and running to more than 2000 pages of transcript. Three parliamentarians, including Sir Tei Abal, were among the 16 witnesses for the company.

In a highly-detailed judgement Judge Wilson has now found that none of the allegations against Morris amounted to misconduct, let alone grave misconduct. Meetings purporting to sack Morris were invalid, he said.

Judge Wilson was critical of much of the company's defence evidence, referring to selective memories, half-truths, evasions and cover-ups. He said he had been impressed by the demeanour and candour of Morris whose evidence 'was credible and had the ring of truth'. He found on the evidence that control of the company had moved into the hands of Lussick and Sir Tei Abal. Lussick believed Morris was a threat to him, and accordingly a plan was formulated to get rid of Morris. A man described as 'a tough young solicitor', Russell Hay, had been brought on to the board with the initial task 'to engineer the sacking' of Morris, Judge Wilson said.

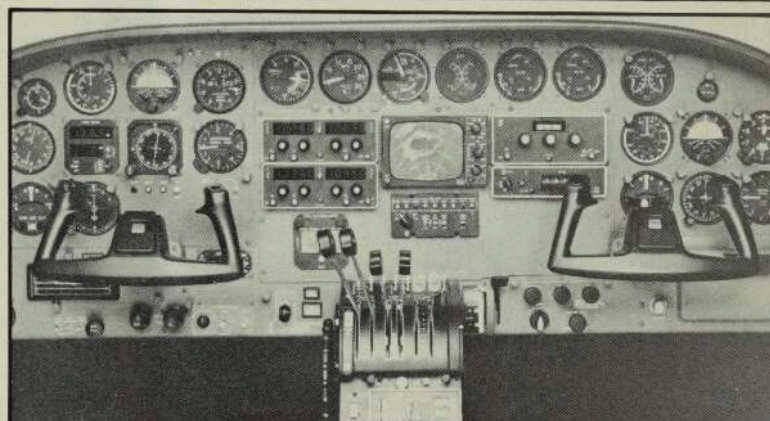
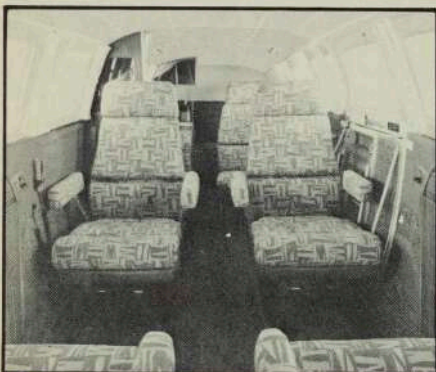
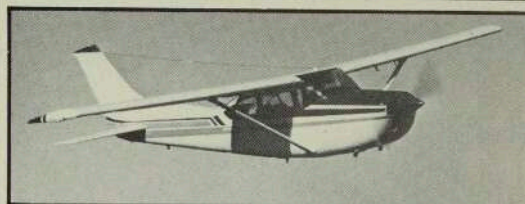
The court awarded Morris a total of K433 598 (equivalent to about \$590 000) made up of his retirement deed entitlement of K270 000, salary and salary-associated claims. He was also awarded costs. The court upheld a counter-claim by the company that it be repaid the K45 000 loan it had made to Morris.

The company has announced it will appeal.

(Mr A. Goldberg, QC and Mr G. Beaumont, instructed by Francis and Francis for Morris; Mr F. McAlary QC and Mr B. Rayment, instructed by Russell Hay and Company for PNG Associated Industries).

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From the ISLANDS PRESS

From the Nauru Post, Nauru

Young girl being interviewed by local employment service officer was asked if she had any special hobbies. She said her main interest was in spending weekends with her boyfriend, touring the country on the back of his motor bike and camping out under the stars. 'Really,' said the interviewer, 'doesn't that worry your mother?' 'Oh, no,' said the girl, 'I always wear a safety helmet.'

From Micronesian Independent, Majuro

The Ralik Ratak sunk in the Majuro lagoon on the night of Sept. 15. A group of potential spectators had gathered at Monkabuk membership club in hopes of witnessing the final voyage but the ship waited until after dark to depart. It had been anchored for several years. The Evangeline anchored nearby is now listing and seems to be following the route of the Ralik Ratak. The Ralik Ratak was owned by MIECO and was a field trip ship in the sixties and seventies.

Geoff Sinclair in the Cook Islands News

Here's the letter of the week, and I quote it in full. It was posted from Rarotonga: 'I was trying to organise our wedding night. First point was accommodation, so I rang the resort hotel, The Rarotongan, asking the tariff for the bridal suite. "Just a moment," came the reply. A couple of moments later the receptionist returned. "Is that for two persons or one?" The writer adds: 'It's true. . . . It could only happen in the Cook Islands.' (Thanks to W. R. Tschan, Rarotonga, for directing our attention to this item — Editor, PIM.)

From the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier, Port Moresby, reporting criticism of overseas trips for parliamentarians

The member for Gulf, Mr Tom Koraea, called for an end to the gross wastage of public funds. 'I find it hard to believe that an elected member of parliament can effectively look after the people of his electorate when he is spending his time in a girlie bar in a foreign country,' he said.

From a tongue-in-cheek column by 'The Nose', Micronesian Independent, Majuro

Secret sources placed in highly secret places have indicated that the Kili Council has been given the State of Alaska to resettle on. This word comes from a source in the Kremlin that indicated that several high level talks had gone on between members of the Kili Council and several Soviet ambassadors in the United Nations. The Kili Council has been complaining that the United States has not given them an adequate place to live after blowing up their home island of Bikini years ago and leaving it a nuclear wasteland. The Soviet Union further explained that the territory of Alaska was sold to the United States for the sum of 12 million dollars back in 1867, and that that agreement was made by the old Defunct Czarist Regime. Since, as far as the Kremlin is concerned, that agreement is a hundred plus years old and was made by the old Czarist government, the Soviet Union does not recognize that deal and maintains now that Alaska is once again Russian territory. The Soviet Union said that while Alaska may be colder than what most people in Kili are used to, the place has several choice islands in

the Aleutian Chain as well as vast mineral reserves that could be used to buy lots of cola and USDA food . . .

From Tohi Tale Niue, Niue

A poor unfortunate lady and her three children were robbed of their fish lunch last Friday in Alofi by a big, brown, hungry dog. Although the woman reported the matter to the police hoping to receive compensation from the dog's owner, little could be done. Moral of the story — beware of big, brown, hungry dogs.

From a letter signed 'Love Game', Tam Tam, Vanuatu

While I appreciate wholeheartedly the PNGDF soldiers' promptness in calming within a mere three weeks the situation on Santo which highly trained British and French Commandos could not tackle, I cannot help criticising our women for their unshameful cheatings of their husbands and boyfriends, by going off, flirting and sleeping with some of the PNGDF officers . . .

From Marshall Islands Journal (successor to Micronesian Independent)

Adding to the normal confusion at the start of the school year is the lack of school buses. The two large yellow buses which normally carry most of the students are both out of operation. One lacks only a fan belt but the other needs major parts, according to an Education dept. official. By Thursday October 9 one of the buses was back in operation.

From Our News, published by the Office of Information, Papua New Guinea

The United Church has called for a stop to the sale of Playboy magazine, and to make rules harder for the selling of liquor in villages. The Church made this decision after the 13th Urban Regions United Church Synod at Vabukori village in the National Capital District. It said these things were both bad for the welfare of the people . . .

From Tam Tam, Vanuatu

Southern District's or TAFEA's Agricultural Show held at Lenakel, Tanna, from October 9-10, attracted at least 4000 people from all islands of the South. His Excellency, President Ati Sokomanu, who declared the Show open on the second day, told the crowd that Tanna Island, being the most fertile island in the whole of Vanuatu, producing the best and largest potatoes, onions and other tropical vegetables, means that her people must work even harder to increase their agricultural produce so that the country will eventually decrease its imports from Australia . . .

From the Tonga Chronicle, Nukualofa

Some people in Tonga have been trying to smuggle Eua parrots into New Zealand to sell them at very high prices, the Ministry of Police revealed in a recent statement. Superintendent of Police, Paula Vivili, said that on September 25 he received a telephone call from New Zealand Customs Department informing him that it had confiscated 16 parrots on board the Frysma. This species of parrot is only found on Eua, and nowhere else in the world. According to Superintendent Vivili, individual birds have been bought in Eua for between \$3 and \$10 and sold in New Zealand for prices ranging from \$200 to \$300. The Eua parrot is included in the list of birds which are protected all year . . .

From The Nauru Post, Nauru

Further to our article World War 2 Relics Unearthed of Issue No 39, another underground concrete chamber's still air was disturbed after 35 years, when high spirited Romanus Billy and Ricky Kun broke through the phosphate-filled entrance, last Thursday. This chamber is situated close to the other one found the previous week, and from it the youngsters dragged out to the surface what appeared to be part of a metal operating table and trolley, which suggests the use of this underground chamber by the Japanese during World War II as an operating theatre. The interior appeared to have had an application of veneered panelling which had been charred either by deliberate burning or as a result of a flame thrower. Since the last issue, a number of people have visited the area to have a look at the findings.



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Cook Islands Branch, P.O. Box 529, Rarotonga, Cook Islands.

It is most fitting that PIM correspondent in Papeete BENG T DANIELSSON should have what looks like being 'the last word' on the affair of the windsurfing 'Terrible Baron' and his controversial ocean-crossing in French Polynesia (PIM Nov p18). Dr Danielsson is one of six men who made up the crew on the 1947 Kon Tiki raft expedition (which first brought him to Tahiti). He is therefore no stranger to ocean-crossing by unorthodox means. In an October article in the Papeete daily *La Dépêche* he seems to have pulled the whole story together at last. The article, headlined 'Was the Baron an Honest Cheat?' is translated in full below.

Windsurfing baron was 'an honest cheat'

For some time now we have been witnessing a rather curious war of words. On the one hand that astounding figure, Baron Arnaud de Rosnay, like some Cassius Clay of the high seas, has been loudly proclaiming that he is the greatest and handsomest windsurfer of them all. On the other, a number of champion French exponents of this new sport have been disputing — with somewhat more calm and dignity, it is true — the accuracy of the baron's account of his feat. Among them is the record-holding Stéphane Peyron, who has windsurfed 136 miles in 24 hours! He says quite categorically that what Arnaud de Rosnay claims to have done is far beyond the limits of human endurance. The metropolitan windsurfers seem united in concluding that the baron cheated, and are more or less convinced that he had a support vessel on hand throughout the trip.

Who's right? Several friends of the baron have at once leapt to his defence, showering his detractors with the crudest insults, but failing to offer the necessary kinds of clarifications on the dubious aspects of the matter of what — precisely for this reason — has become known as 'the Rosnay Affair'. Luckily for all, Jean-Pierre Marquant has just published an article in *La Dépêche* which abounds in valuable information and perceptive comments. The only thing wanting in this latest addition to the 'Rosnay file' is a conclusion.

But a conclusion is nevertheless forced upon us with a logic that is quite irresistible. It could be put this way: Yes, the baron did cheat, but in a quite honourable way...

The key to the mystery is in the impressive list of things that Arnaud de Rosnay took with him on his journey — a list recorded by Marquant. We should take special note of the two 'wishbones' he had with him. 'Wishbone' is an English word describing a forked bone found in poultry, which is still today used in simple family wish-fulfilment rites, especially with children. But the baron had 'wishbones' made of metal, and — this is the main point — they enabled him effectively to transform his surfboard into a catamaran. How? Quite simply by first furling his sail around the mast and then using the mast as a kind of boom (*iato* in the language of those who invented this type of craft). With his two metal 'wishbones' (in Tahitian *tiatia*), the baron could then attach his two floats (*ama*), to the ends of the boom, which extended for equal distances to port and starboard. Obviously the floats were made not of wood, but of inflatable plastic. So Arnaud really left Taiohae a bit before midnight on August 31 on a zodiac outrigger, rather than an ordinary windsurfer.

According to his own statements, he could lie down every night on his board, but this did not stop him from making progress at reduced speed —

thanks to an ingenious arrangement by which a kite pulled the craft along. He has never himself quite claimed it, but the public seems to have gathered the idea from what he's said that he spent the daylight hours standing on his board, travelling flat out in the usual windsurfing way (apart from a few hours when the solar still was operating to keep him in fresh water).

But how can it be explained that it took him more than 10 days to cover 9000km (500 nautical miles) between Nukuhiva and Ahe? (This amounts only to an average speed of two knots, about the same as the Kon Tiki raft,

which was very large and weighed 20 tonnes!) This slowness is all the more surprising and interesting if we recall that the baron had to give up his earlier attempt to get to Hawaii because he was travelling too fast (at about 10 knots) for the yacht *Zeus* to keep him company, as arranged. It's also a fact that the weather office has assured us that when he was on his way to the Tuamotu group in the first fortnight of September there was no lack of wind. So the baron ought to have been able to reach Ahe, after two good nights' rest, in three days.

The most likely explanation that comes to mind, now we have the information brought out by Marquant, is the following: Supposing that the terrible baron used the mast as a crosspiece for most of the time, the fact of his very low speed — which simply cannot be denied — would be accounted for by the small sail surface provided by the kite, and by the considerable braking effect of the floats, being dragged constantly through the water as they were. This hypothesis has the additional advantage of explaining the excellent physical state of our baron on his arrival at Ahe.

I would hasten to add that I can see nothing at all reprehensible in using this Polynesian-derived technique of propulsion. I have myself made use of a similar technique, but on land, in my homeland of Sweden. To conserve my strength during winter trips in the northern mountains, instead of travelling upright on my skis, with a huge knapsack on my back, I would follow the old custom of simply joining the skis together, using a sapling branch as a crosspiece on which I would place my knapsack. Sitting comfortably on this improvised toboggan of mine, I was able to slide along for considerable distances.

If Arnaud de Rosnay adopted similar means to 'slide' off towards the Tuamotus, it could be very well described as a form of 'honest cheating'. What's more, he should come clean and say so. This would be in his own interest because otherwise lots of people are going to continue calling him a cheat — full stop.



The baron's (unnamed) girlfriend, as pictured in the Noumea weekly *Corail*.

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Pitcairnese as she is spoke

With the help of the Pitcairn slanders, a study has recently been made of their dialect. What is this dialect like? Well, one could say it is English cut short. For example, the slanders say 'Bout you gwen?' instead of saying 'Whereabouts are you going?' 'V' is always pronounced 'w' and 'th' is pronounced 's' or 'd'.

But this short description is not very satisfactory, the Pitcairnese language is much more interesting than that. In fact, its vocabulary reflects very well the history of Pitcairn and the present situation on the island.

A study of the words used on Pitcairn confirms that:

- Some of the settlers in 1790 were Polynesians — many kinds of fish have Polynesian names — for example 'nanwe' 'hoee-fish', and other Polynesian words have also survived (example, 'umma-pola' means 'clumsy').

- The Pitcairners are, and have always been seamen — consequently they say 'flog' instead of 'spank', 'heave' instead of 'throw'.

- The island has been quite isolated for a long time — as a result words that have died out in modern English, or have been replaced by others, are still used on Pitcairn. Examples: 'muskiet' means any kind of gun or rifle, and 'paunch' means stomach.

- Not many people live on the island — every individual is important, and names of the islanders appear in many expressions. Example: 'Da's only William' means 'That's nothing important', because William used to put bandages on small wounds. 'Allen' means 'poor food' since the day when Allen questioned the customary grace, because there were only boiled kumaras and raisins for

dinner. One kind of fish is called 'Elwyn's trousers' simply because they looked like Elwyn's trousers.

- There has been an American influence — many of the ships that called during the 19th century were American whalers, and Americans have settled on the island (Warren, Brown, Coffin, Clark) and the Seventh-day Adventist Church has increased contacts with the USA. So the islanders say 'candy' instead of 'sweets' and 'corn' for 'maize'.

- Reflecting the importance of the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Friday is usually called 'preparation' and Saturday is 'Sabbath'.

Like many other small languages and dialects in the world, the 'Pitcairnese' is slowly dying. This is particularly true when it comes to Pitcairn words. Many of these, recorded in the late A. W. Moverley's book produced in the early 1950s, have already totally disappeared. Others like the word 'mamoo' (meaning 'silence', used like 'shut up') are remembered only by the older inhabitants. The reason for this, of course, is the influence of modern English.

Every day the children speak English in school, while Pitcairnese is not taught at all. As long as it isn't taught, it is probably impossible to save Pitcairnese as a second language on the island. Therefore we will have to accept that it is gradually dying out, and becoming more and more similar to modern English. — *Anders Kallgard, in Pitcairn Miscellany.*

NZ sees launch of Tongan paper

Tired of being shunned by New Zealand's daily newspapers, and searching for a voice of their own, an Auckland-based Tongan publishing co-operative has launched a new paper (PIM Nov p6).

The pan-Pacific venture is aimed at about 25 000 expatriate Tongans living in various places from Australia to Hawaii, as well as the 100 000 Tongans in their own kingdom. But its initial circulation of 2000 is firmly anchored within the 7000-strong Tongan community living in New Zealand.



Called *Talanga* ('Speaking out frankly'), the fortnightly paper is bilingual, while maintaining a strong emphasis on the Tongan language. It is published by Polinisia Communications, the publishing arm of the Fangufangu O Tonga Cultural Society, and printed by the *Northern Advocate*.

Papilioa Foliaki, the only woman member of the Tongan Parliament (PIM Feb p24), New Zealand's Immigration Under-Secretary Aussie Malcolm and deputy Labour Party leader David Lange gave their blessing to the paper at a September launching *hulohula*.

Early issues have been well-supported by advertisers such as Air Pacific, and the paper joins other ethnic publications in New Zealand like *Samoana* (circ. 9000) and *Te Maori* which have succeeded the ill-fated newspaper *Mana*.

An ambitious pan-Polynesian concept, *Mana* was launched in Auckland in 1978 as a multilingual paper with pages printed in English, Fijian, Maori, Niuean, Rarotongan, Samoan and Tongan. But the paper didn't survive because of financial difficulties.

'Our slogan *fakatonga ma'a e Tonga 'e he Tonga* (in Tongan, for Tongans, by Tongans) is an indication of our wish not only to communicate effectively but to strive for self-reliance and self-determination,' says Sefita Haouli, one of the paper's five joint editors.

The 31-year-old Haouli, also a Consumers' Institute advisory officer, says *Talanga* will play a vital role in keeping Tonga's language and culture alive,

First with the news — in Tongan. From left: David Lange, Deputy Leader of the New Zealand Labour Party; Papilioa Foliaki MP, of Tonga; and Aussie Malcolm, New Zealand Immigration Under-Secretary. They're looking through the first issue of *Talanga* — Kapil Arn photo.

particularly among Tongan expatriates.

He says New Zealand's dailies have largely ignored the Tongan community, except in a negative way, and the only Tongan access to the media was through the limited Polynesian programmes of Radio Pacific and Radio New Zealand.

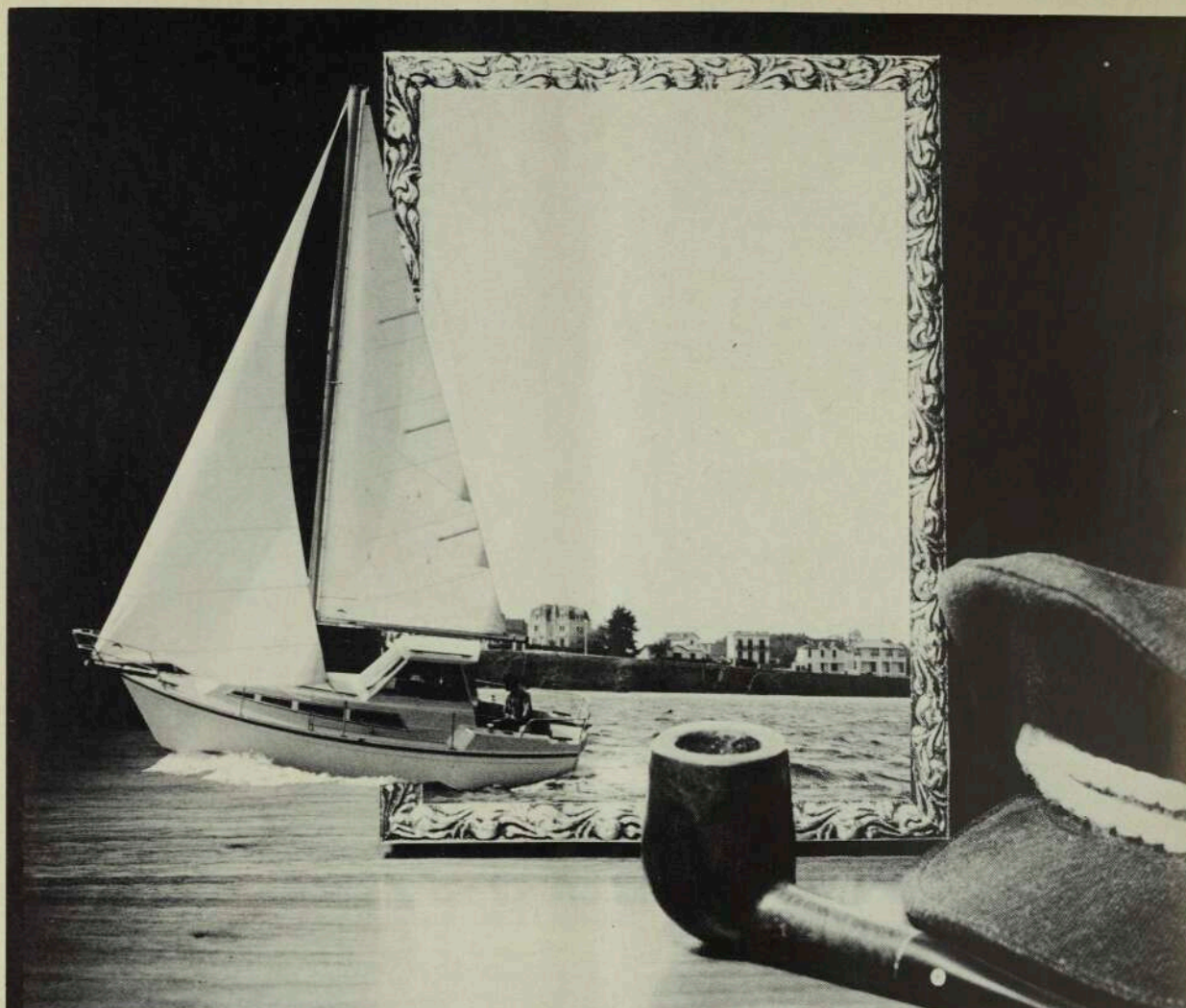
Haouli adds: 'The mainstream media in this country are not equipped to deal with Polynesian news. We will endeavour to set up our own network of Polynesian news.'

Gathered around him is a talented team of young editors: New Zealand-born social worker Will 'Ilohahia, sociology scholar Lita Foliaki, anthropology scholar 'Okusi Mahina, and court translator Ika Tameifuna.

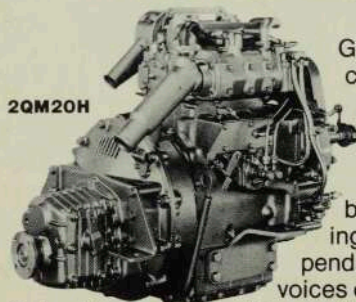
The paper is certain to provide a fresh, competitive voice to challenge the Tongan government newspaper *Kalonikali* (Chronicle) in Nukualofa which has enjoyed a monopoly until now.

'You can hardly call the *Kalonikali* a real newspaper — it's more like a royal diary,' says one Tongan, a long-time Auckland resident. 'Bringing out this new paper is one of the best things to have happened in our community.'

However, *Talanga's* editors reject any suggestion that their newspaper could be a threat to the *Chronicle*. And they will



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certainly be wary about treading on political corns.

As Haouli puts it: 'Of course, a newspaper is always a political tool. But *Talanga* is independent and we will not become politically partisan.' — *David Robie in Auckland.*

Michoutouchkine, Pilioko in Moscow

What could be more exotic for the Muscovite than the intricately painted ritual skulls, or the colourful Polynesian *tapa*, displayed at the 'Art of the Peoples of Oceania' exhibition at Moscow's Friendship House?

On the invitation of the Academy of Art of the USSR, the exhibition, which contained over 200 items, made a tour of the country. Besides Moscow it was played in Khabarovsk (Soviet Far East), Novosibirsk (Siberia), Tbilisi (Georgia) and Yerevan (Armenia).

The exhibition from Oceania was accompanied on its tour by its compilers and the authors of several works, the Polynesian artist Aloï Pilioko and the European Nicolai Michoutouchkine, who settled in Polynesia about 20 years ago.

Both artists put in a great deal of effort to find and preserve rare household utensils that have all but disappeared, articles used for religious rites, weapons and art objects of the peoples of Oceania.

Their collections have been displayed in France, Japan and Sweden. A number of canvases by Pilioko and Michoutouchkine are in private collections in the USA, Australia and New Zealand.

Aloï Pilioko, a resident of Port-Vila, capital of the newly independent Republic of Vanuatu (formerly New Hebrides), has been awarded the gold medal of the ministry of education of France. So far, he is probably the only Polynesian artist to win world recognition. The Soviet press compared his colourful drawings and embroidery with the original works of the well-known Georgian artist of the past century, Pirosmiani. The specialists have also noted Pilioko's creative interpretation of Polynesian



subjects, and his innovative techniques.

Dr Semyon Tyulyaev, art critic and Nehru Prize winner, pointed out that despite a certain conventionality, the works of the Polynesian artist attract viewers with 'their remarkable expressiveness and vitality'. Tyulyaev said that only the art of some African tribes still retained similar features.

'The exhibition acquaints Soviet people with the little-known way of life of Oceania. This is the first exhibition of its kind which, I hope, will mark the beginning of a fruitful cultural and scientific exchange between the USSR and the independent states of Oceania,' said the Soviet art critic.

In the opinion of Corresponding Member of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR, Alexei Kapitsa, one of the sponsors of the exhibition, the collection from Oceania has proved to be most valuable for Soviet scholars both in the artistic and scholarly sense.

Similar ethnographic material collected by the Russian scientist Nicolai Miklukho-Maklai in the 19th century constitutes the gold reserves of the Museum of Anthropology and Ethnography in Leningrad which, together with the Institute of Ethnography in Moscow, are the chief Soviet centres doing research on Oceania.

'Our collection was received with great enthusiasm and interest in the Soviet Union, with several thousand visitors com-

Nicolai Michoutouchkine (left) and Aloï Pilioko (right), whose joint exhibition in Moscow is described on this page, have held a series of exhibitions in Pacific countries over the past 16 years. Here they are shown in Sydney with Robert Hall, manager of Kabuki Gallery, displaying a Michoutouchkine wool tapestry during an Australian exhibition four years ago. — AIS picture.

ing to see it,' said Nicolai Michoutouchkine.

Aloï Pilioko added that the warm reception and hospitality of the people of Siberia helped him bear the severe Siberian frosts, to which he was completely unaccustomed, while he was in Novosibirsk.

Speaking at the opening of the exhibition in Moscow, Professor Grigory Bondarevsky, first vice-president of the Soviet Association for Friendship with the Peoples of South and Southeast Asia, stressed the fact that while the exhibition was touring the USSR, the country where Aloï Pilioko has made his home, the former New Hebrides, gained independence, and that the new state of Vanuatu had already been recognised by the Soviet Union.

— *Sergei Buranov, Novosti Press Agency.*

'Transcultural' study for nurses

Nurses from the US Trust Territory participated in a recent 'Transcultural Nursing Workshop' sponsored by the nursing division of the University of Guam.

TROPICALITIES

The workshop, run by Dr Madelaine Leininger, was funded by the Continuing Education For Nurses Grant of the University. This grant will also provide some limited nursing assistance for the Northern Marianas, Palau, the Marshalls, and the Federated States of Micronesia for the next two years.

Dr Leininger has been in Papua New Guinea for two years doing research work on nursing as it applies to local cultures.

'Culture, in the nursing context, refers to particular lifestyles, values, and practices of a certain group of people which a nurse must learn to identify and apply in her or his nursing work,' Dr Leininger said.

She said unless a nurse learns this, she may not be able to give complete and realistic care to the people she serves. Trust Territory Chief Nurse Mary O. Regan said the workshop came at a critical period because it is now apparent that there is a 'definite' need for Micronesian nurses to understand and utilise their culture when giving care to patients, or when they confront grieving family members. — *From the Micronesian News Service.*

Pros, cons of marrying young

'Marry young and keep yourself out of trouble' is the advice of Fiji's Minister for Tourism, Transport and Civil Aviation Tomasi Vakatora.

Mr Vakatora was speaking in a debate in the House of Representatives based on an opposition motion of concern at the law and order situation in Fiji. He said that young marriages were an aspect of Indian culture and they could well be adopted generally in the Fiji community as a contribution to social stability.

Mr Vakatora told the house that in Fiji society 'not many Indian lads get into trouble because they marry early, and that is a good thing'. By marrying early they established a stable life pattern and settled down as members of the community.

Other members heckled Mr



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Vakatora as he spoke, claiming that early marriage would contribute to population problems. 'That may be so, but there are ways of overcoming it,' Mr Vakatora retorted. He claimed that the stability of Indian family groups spoke for itself.

Earlier, at a party political meeting, Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara urged Fijian families to take note of the disciplined way in which Indian families raised their children.

Subsequently Mr Vakatora was criticised by sections of the Indian community for basing his argument on what they claimed was a false foundation.

In a letter to *The Fiji Times*, Dr T. U. Bavadra said that the trend in the past 15 years had been for Indians to defer marriage. He saw a priority for all people to establish a sound education and income-earning base before marriage.

Dr Bavadra wrote: 'I feel that the emphasis should be on advising Fijians to go back to the village and work the land if they have nothing useful to do in urban centres. Those Fijians with a regular income in towns should be advised and encouraged to save enough money for a house, and to plan the size of their families.'

Kokoda: Cadets meet Vets

Ten members of Sydney's Scots College Army Cadet Unit, wearing their Black Watch tartan kilts and the Papua New Guinea Defence Force badges presented to them after they had successfully completed a patrol over the Kokoda Trail in 1979, took part in a ceremony in October at which they met veterans who fought in PNG in World War II.

The occasion was the handover to the college by the Sixth Division (Second AIF) Association of the emblem of PNG mounted on PNG timber. The emblem had previously been presented to the association by a representative of the PNG Government as a memento of the Australia-Papua New Guinea Friendship Trust.

The trust was set up by the Sixth Division Association,



Major General Alan Murchison, a former Inspector General of the Australian Army Reserve, and Senior Cadet Under Officer Cameron Marks hold the newly-presented emblem following the ceremony described on this page. Others in the picture, left to right, are Major M. Frank, OC Cadets; CUO T. Hardwig; Mr G. Renney, Scots College principal; Captain Rev. Dr J. Croft; CUO T. McMullen; CUO T. Fisher; first-former Tangil Okuk, son of the Papua New Guinea deputy prime minister; Mr B. Oberleuter, PNG Consul; Dr T. Selby, convener of the Australian-PNG Friendship Trust.

along with other veterans' organisations, to present schoolbooks to primary schoolchildren in PNG. The books bear the message 'Australia remembers the help given by the people of PNG in World War II'.

The association selected Scots College to receive the emblem because cadets from the college have been over the Kokoda Trail four times in recent years, thus forming a close association with the PNGDF.

PIM vindicated — 28 years on

'Come January 1981 the Palauans will join other Micronesian political entities in sporting locally ratified constitutional government,' writes a commentator in the Micronesian News Service. 'When Palau ceases to be a "district" somebody in Washington will have to come up with a new official definition

for the term "Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands".'

The commentator went on: 'Twenty-eight years ago, in 1952, the *Pacific Islands Monthly*, the news magazine of the South Pacific, which is published in Australia, saw the problem with the title "Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands" and chastised the United States for using it.'

'The PIM editorialised at the time: "The Americans, with unusual lack of imagination, have named their Micronesian administration The United States Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands."'

'It went on to say: "The Territory comprises the well-known Micronesian groups of Palau, the Carolines, Marshalls and Marianas. The groups were held originally by the Spaniards, sold or lost by war by Spain, and became part of the German colonial empire; were handed over to the Americans as a Trust Territory after World War II."'

'The PIM was not in the least impressed with the new designation the Americans gave to their new Pacific wards. It said in its brave editorial: "The total area of the lot is only 715 square miles (they were called Micronesia because they comprised a lot of very small islands), and their total population is only 50 000. (Micronesia today has a population of about 130 000. MNS.) Yet they are called "The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands", irrespective of the fact that, apart from Philippines and Hawaii, all the Pacific Islands

TROPICALITIES

worth talking about lie south of the Equator, and are all British and French.'

'The PIM advised the United States: "In order to keep the description within focus and understanding, the four groups should be called the United States Trust Territory of Micronesia".'

The MNS writer concludes: 'By next year, there will be four Micronesian political entities, all with certain political ties with the United States, and the *Pacific Islands Monthly* may have been closer to the truth than many people realised in 1952.'

Dogs dogging Rarotongans

While experts in demography see a bleak future in world population statistics, Rarotonga, Cook Islands, is plagued with an overpopulation problem of a different kind: there are too many dogs on the island. Because the public is fed up with dogs knocking over rubbish tins, and wandering across the roads constituting a real hazard for motor cyclists, the Rarotonga Police Department has mounted a campaign that might lower Rarotonga's canine population. The public has been warned that all dogs over the age of six months must be registered (\$5 a year for a female and \$3 for a male) or they will be destroyed.

Unfortunately, there are several problems with this measure. Inspector Tiki Matapo of the Police Department points out that as Rarotonga has no pound or other facilities for destroying animals out of the public eye, the police will shoot the dogs where they find them. The impression created by rifle-toting police, shooting animals in full public view, is not a favourable one. The bigger problem is that if all the dogs are registered, Rarotonga's dog problem will still not be solved. It is small consolation to know that the dog that runs out in front of your motor cycle is likely to be registered, rather than not. — Paul Rysavy in Rarotonga.



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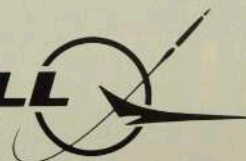
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10 countries get culture grants

Australia provided \$A100 000 to 10 South Pacific countries in the year ended 30 June, from its Fund for the Preservation and Development of South Pacific Cultures. Recipients of funds for specific projects were Vanuatu, Tuvalu, Niue, Tokelau, Cook Islands, Solomon Islands, Fiji, Tonga, Western Samoa and Kiribati.

For Pacific-wide activities grants of \$5000 each were made to the Institute of Pacific Studies and the South Pacific Creative Arts Association. The South Pacific Social Science Association received \$4000, and the University of the South Pacific \$6000. University of South Pacific Extension Centres in Solomon Islands, Fiji, Tonga, Western Samoa and Kiribati each received grants of \$1000 to sponsor cultural activities in the area served by each centre. The extension centre in the Cook Islands received \$800 and the centre in Niue \$400.

In Solomon Islands \$2500 was for the National Site Survey to finance archaeological studies and \$1000 to the National Library to buy books. The Solomon Islands Cultural Association will use its grant of \$400 to publish museum journals and custom story books. The largest single amount to the Solomons, \$5000, is being administered by the ministry of education to sponsor school cultural festivities and functions. A further \$150 was for school equipment in Malaita.

Kiribati's grants included \$3000 for district festivals, \$2000 for recording oral traditions, \$2500 for books in schools and libraries. Vanuatu received grants of \$5650 for its cultural centre, \$3000 to buy artifacts and \$2000 to support the country's First National Cultural Festival.

Tuvalu and Niue each received grants of \$1000 and Tokelau \$500 for general cultural activities.

In Western Samoa a grant of \$2000 was made to the Nelson Library to buy books and \$2500 was provided to Tonga to help

in the school advisory project.

The largest amount, \$20 000, went to Fiji for the Fijian Dictionary Project. A sum of \$11 000 is to assist a project for the documentation of Fijian ceremonial procedure, dance and music.

Marianas act on youth crime

The Northern Marianas House of Representatives has approved the creation of an office within the government whose sole job is to help the young people of the Commonwealth.

According to a report by the House Committee on Health, Education, and Welfare, juvenile delinquency and crime caused by the breakdown of traditional institutions and pressures and complexity of the changing Marianas society are becoming a serious problem.

The report cites the following statistics — 28% of all charges filed with the police are against juveniles; 63% of all burglaries are committed by juveniles; 39% of larceny charges are against youth and 60% of car thefts are committed by juveniles.

The House report also said that when compared with the rest of the Pacific, the Northern Marianas reports 'among the highest rates in juvenile burglary and larceny'. — *From the Marianas Variety News & Views.*

A witch doctor's bad advice

Witchcraft was the reason why a 58-year-old man and his young woman companion removed some of the ashes of a newly-cremated body from a cemetery, a court at Lautoka, Fiji, heard in September.

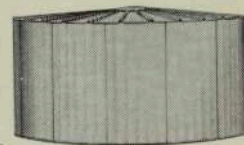
The woman had seen a witchdoctor for an illness and was told to bring some ashes from a crematorium to be used to cure her.

Mun Samy, taxi driver, of Natabua, and Premila Devi, 26, salesgirl, of Namoli Avenue, admitted trespassing on burial grounds.

Magistrate John Tomlinson fined them \$60 each in default three months in prison.

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Two US citizens from very different backgrounds here present very different views of the US role in the Pacific in the 1980s. Dr EVELYN COLBERT of the US State Department speaks in Suva of the 'low-key' role her government plans to play in the region, while Hawaiian poet WAYNE KAUMUALII WESTLAKE writes from Honolulu of what he sees as much less benevolent US intentions in the region.

'Low-key' U.S. role in Pacific

America's role in the affairs of the South Pacific will continue to be a low-key one, according to a US foreign affairs expert.

Dr Evelyn Colbert, until recently deputy assistant secretary of the US State Department's Bureau of East Asian and Pacific Affairs, told a meeting in Suva in October that her country wanted to avoid being put in a dominating position in the area.

'There is a broader, rather amorphous concern that while we might be nicer than the Russians, we are awfully big and all we really want is to do it by ourselves,' she said.

'I don't think that is true, but it is not unnatural that people feel that way.'

'It is up to us to make it clear that those suspicions are unfounded.'

Dr Colbert, who retired from the US State Department recently after 37 years with it, was speaking to a local audience about US interests in the South-west Pacific, and how it related to her country's East Asian policy.

America's view of the region had begun changing in 1976, when it saw that the emergence of independent states was creating a different situation, she said.

Russian approaches at this time had caused a flurry of concern in the State Department.

But this had receded when it was realised that reports of Russian intentions were exaggerated.

A firm Soviet footing in the region was regarded now as 'an unlikely development,' Dr Colbert said.

Talking about objections to US policy on tuna fishing rights which had led to the South

Pacific Forum's exclusion of her country from the regional fisheries agency, Dr Colbert said the US has since received indications from some Forum members, particularly Papua New Guinea, that they wanted the US to be part of a larger fishing organisation.

'We will be very interested in hearing what that plan is,' she said.

'Pacific leaders aren't blind'

'The Mediterranean is the ocean of the past, the Atlantic the ocean of the present, but the Pacific is the ocean of the future.' Thus spoke John Hay, US Secretary of State, 1898-1905.

'The Pacific is the most dynamic growth region in the world.' Thus spoke Walter Mondale, Vice-President of the United States.

'If there was ever an idea whose time has come, it is development in the Pacific.' Thus spoke James Joseph, present US Under-secretary of the Interior.

'It's in the Pacific ... where it all is, what it's all about and where our future lies ... The greatest potential in the world is in the Pacific ... And in this respect, the State of Hawaii is in a very important geographic and economic position as this huge and relatively underdeveloped area grows.' Thus spoke Mike Mansfield, current US Ambassador to Japan.

Pacific Islanders must be wondering why, after nearly a century of neglect, the United States is all of a sudden showing

'We would prefer a regulatory organisation.'

It looked as if the 1981 target for completing agreements with the remaining US Trust Territories — the Marshalls, Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia — would not now be attained because of the lengthy legal processes involved.

But after what are known as the Compacts of Free Association with them had been completed they would be free to run their foreign and other affairs provided that anything touching on defence matters had the sanction of the US Government.

The US hoped that the three territories would be admitted as full members of the Forum, but this depended on whether Forum members would accept them as being really independent. — *From a news report in The Fiji Times.*

such an intense interest in their homelands. And why Hawaii, a mid-Pacific island state, has so arrogantly assumed the self-appointed role of leader in this sudden move to influence and develop their territories and independent nations.

There is no question that the decade of the '80s will be the decade of the Pacific, and the 21st century the century of the Pacific due to its untapped potential for economic development. According to Governor Carlos Camacho of the Northern Marianas: 'Technologies, spurred by world shortages, are becoming available to harvest the immense potential wealth of our ocean floor and the ocean itself. And each island, each land mass, each square mile of ocean is now achieving strategic significance that we could not have foreseen or planned for as recently as 10 years ago.'

Yet Fiji's Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara cautions: 'I hope we are planning for a society which will enable us to preserve our own unique character and quality of life, while accepting such contri-

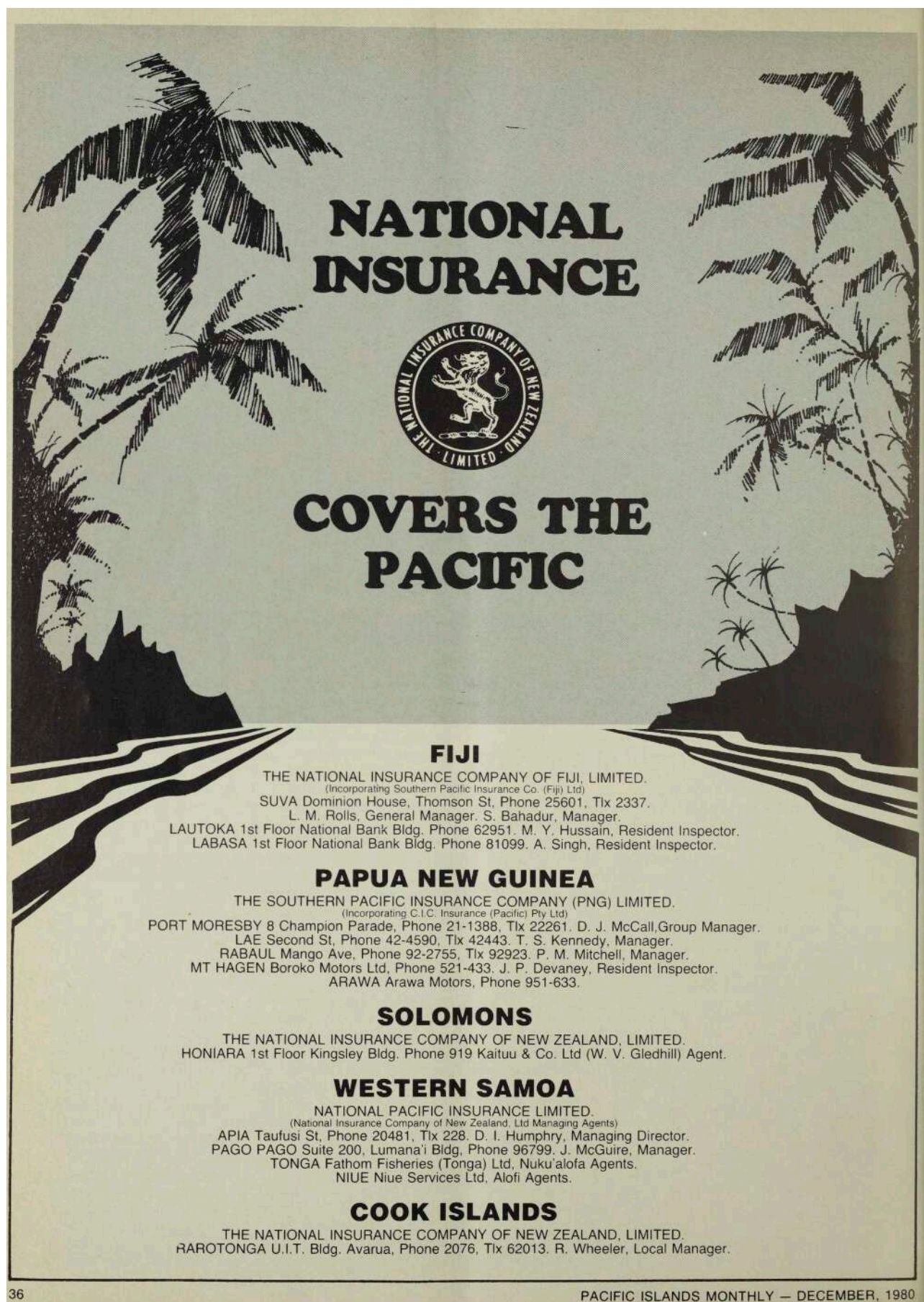


butions of modern technology and investment as are advantageous to us. The nature and the measure of such contribution should be for us to determine. Let the decisions be made in Apia, Nukualofa, Port Moresby, Honiara and Suva, rather than Sydney, New York and Tokyo.'

Apparently, the Pacific leaders themselves want to weigh the advantages of economic development against the threat to their Pacific way of life. Their desire is to control the development of their islands and the seas around them, thus maintaining their self-determination and contributing in their own way to the world community, but with a minimum of outside influence. As Prime Minister Mara said, 'When it comes to identifying the problems, who knows better than the wearer of the shoe that pinches.'

As if to assuage the suspicions of Pacific Island leaders that America's newly aroused concerns are just a clever disguise for further colonialism, Hawaii's Myron Thompson, Governor George Ariyoshi's special assistant for Pacific Island affairs, sheepishly proclaimed: 'We are here to advance the quality of life of our Pacific peoples, whom we love. It's as simple as that. And by quality of life we do not mean only material progress. We are not here to impose alien economic or social methods on others; or to demonstrate better ways of harvesting coral to sell to tourists; or to help Pacific Islanders become unpaid caretakers of nuclear waste from continents that don't know what to do with such leftovers. No. We are here to help our Pacific peoples to grow; to prosper; to advance spiritually, mentally, emotionally, physically, at their own pace and in their own place.'

Evidently, to many Pacific



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POLITICAL CURRENTS

island leaders, Thompson's words rang hollow. Asi Aiken, Western Samoa's Justice Minister, expressed doubts: 'Our friend, the United States doesn't really care ... it's not what you say, it's what you do that matters.' And Guam's Governor Paul Calvo summed up his misgivings succinctly: 'Our collective fate as a people on this island in the Pacific is held in the hands of elected national leaders in Washington DC for whom we do not even vote.' The bottom line of course was expressed by President Carter himself: 'All options for political development should be open so long as their (Pacific islanders') choices are implemented when economically feasible and in a manner that does not compromise the national security of the United States.'

The Pacific Island leaders are not about to fall for the illusory promises of the American Dream. Nobody knows better than they do that progress in the wrong direction is not progress at all. They are not so

naive as not to know the real reasons why America is so suddenly interested in their affairs. It is clear as the ocean surrounding their islands that the United States wants something, in fact, needs something from them now desperately. And that something is obvious: instant windfall profits from massive over-development; a place to store and dump nuclear garbage; greedy exploitation of ocean resources; and, most of all, forward strategic military outposts.

Nor are the Pacific leaders about to be fooled by Hawaii's role in this American scheme. They are not so blind as not to see Hawaii as it really is: a 'super-colonised' US island state, culturally barren, physically over-developed and over-populated, economically dependent on tourism and the US military, and spiritually dead. They see Hawaii as a place where indigenous peoples' traditions and heritage have been raped and bastardised, crushed and demolished, all in the name of Progress and the

American Dream. Hawaii is no 'role model' for Pacific Island territories and emerging nations to imitate. If anything, it's an example to avoid.

Indeed, as Governor Peter Coleman of American Samoa declared, 'a new continent has arisen in the Pacific'. A 30-million-square-mile continent of islands and ocean which covers more than a third of the globe and sustains nearly as much of the world's population. A vast, young and emerging continent, the last area on earth to break the stranglehold of colonialism.

Less than a century ago, American imperialists plucked the luscious pear that once was Hawaii. Let us hope America is not about to pluck the luscious mango of the New Pacific. — *Wayne Kaumualii Westlake in Honolulu.*

Vanuatu an 'Algeria'?

Vanuatu could develop into an 'Algeria of the Pacific' if the sympathies of the ruling

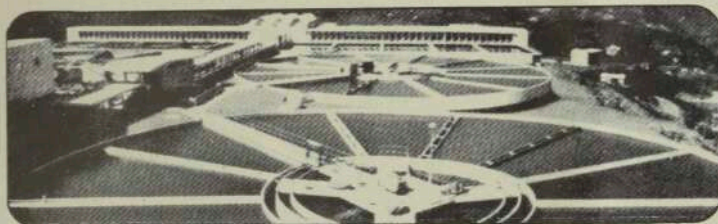
Vanuaaku Pati for resistance groups in the region were allowed to dominate governmental attitudes, according to Hilda Lini.

Ms Lini, a sister of Vanuatu Prime Minister Father Walter Lini, represented the Vanuaaku Pati at a Nuclear-Free Pacific Forum held in Sydney in September.

After Algeria gained independence from France in 1962 following an eight-year war, it developed into a crowded haven for rebel and insurgent groups from a large number of countries.

Interviewed by PIM in Sydney, Ms Lini said that the Kanak independence movement in New Caledonia, and independence forces in French Polynesia, wished to set up 'consulates' in Port-Vila, but it was unlikely that the Vanuatu Government would permit such a move.

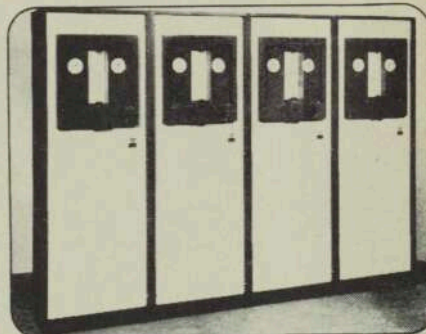
France had indicated that it would withhold all aid if Vanuatu assisted liberation movements in French Pacific territories. The Australian



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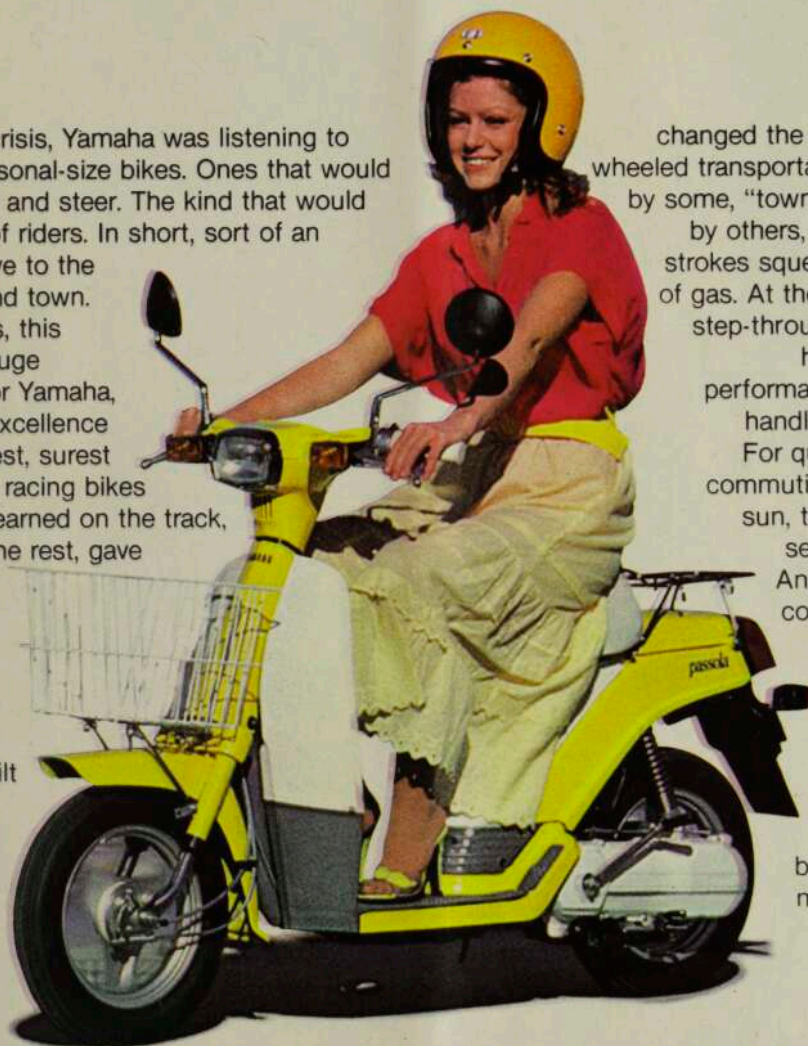
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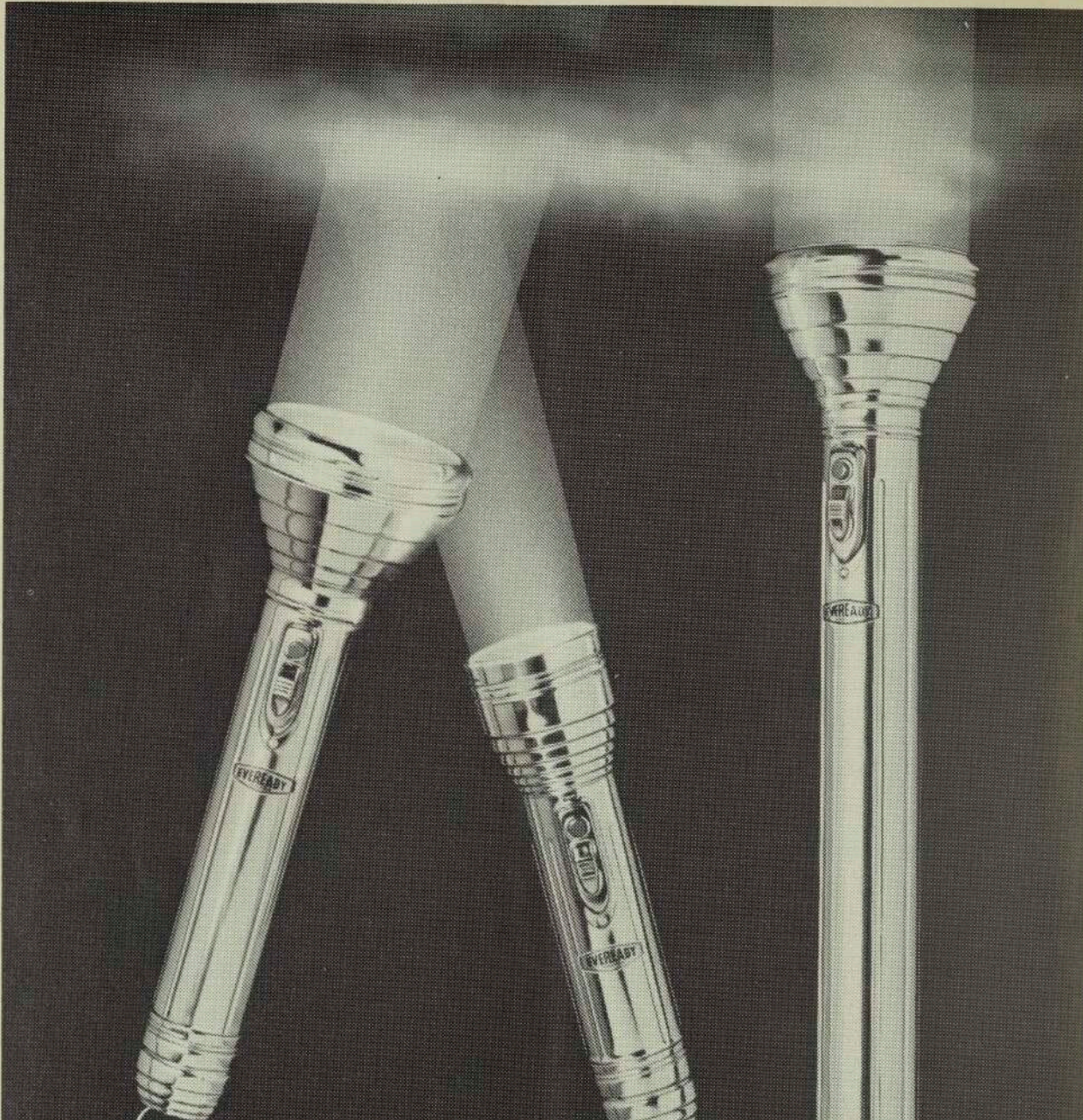
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government has also given private indications that it would not aid if such facilities were afforded the anti-Indonesian OPM movement in Irian Jaya.

One possibility was that a joint information centre could be provided in Vanuatu for use by such groups. This idea was under study by the government.

In one recent incident French representatives in Vanuatu warned the government against permitting the Kanaks to make a scheduled propaganda broadcast over Radio Vanuatu on September 24. On this occasion the warning was ignored, and the broadcast went ahead.

But the whole issue was highly complex, said Ms Lini. She appealed for international understanding of the dilemma in which it placed the government.

On the matter of the much publicised beatings by police of rebel prisoners brought to Port Vila following the quelling of the revolt on Santo, she said the government had no inkling that the police intended to take such action. Those involved had acted in retaliation for beatings they had themselves received in Santo at the hands of rebels after their capture at the beginning of the secession. — *Tony Cole*.

Chan stronger, analysis says

An official Australian analysis of the political situation in Papua New Guinea claims that the government of Sir Julius Chan has 'significantly strengthened' its position at the expense of the Somare opposition. (But see neck and neck popularity for Chan and Somare, Pacific Report, this issue).

Mr Michael Somare, the foundation prime minister of PNG was defeated on a parliamentary no-confidence motion early this year after more than six years of leadership before and after independence. Mr Somare spoke optimistically at the time of his belief that he would return to power as soon as constitutionally possible. There were early indications, too, that the new government of Sir Julius Chan was as vulnerable as Mr Somare believed.

But the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs has now published a background analysis which suggests that Sir Julius is consolidating his position. The analysis does not carry the weight of an Australian government statement, but it represents an authoritative assessment of current political factors in PNG. It says:

Towards the end of its first six months of office, Sir Julius Chan's coalition government has recovered from what ap-



Sir Julius Chan

peared to be some slippage in political support in parliament, and now seems to be in a stronger position than at any time since it took office.

The motion of no confidence which brought Chan to power was carried by a vote of 57 to 49. The Chan government did not appear to have an easy settling down period. It had to contend with difficulties in the civil aviation area, especially with the operations of Air Niugini. Problems with the judiciary have not been fully resolved following the leaking in Parliament of a highly critical letter to the Prime Minister from Mr Justice Wilson. In addition, the Government felt obliged to make a number of important changes at senior levels in the Public Service.

The fineness of the political balance was shown in parliamentary defeats suffered by the Government in July on three divisions relating to the timing of the next parliamentary session.

However, the political outlook has changed significantly, following the Government's decision to meet a request from the Prime Minister of Vanuatu, Father Walter Lini, for assistance in restoring law and order on Santo Island. Prior to this decision, 150 troops of the

Papua New Guinea Defence Force (PNGDF) had been sent to participate in the Vanuatu independence celebrations.

As the deployment overseas on active service of the PNGDF required parliamentary approval, the Prime Minister called an emergency session of Parliament for August 5. At this session, Opposition Leader Somare opposed the use of the PNGDF in Vanuatu on the basis proposed. He claimed that the Prime Minister had contravened the Constitution in sending troops to the independence celebrations, knowing they would stay on to play a peacekeeping role. Somare proposed instead a regional peacekeeping force, organised under the auspices of the South Pacific Forum. It soon became clear that the Government had the numbers to get the legislation passed. In general, the voting pattern indicated that the Government's position had strengthened significantly, and that it now had the support of up to 62 members, including the speaker, with 47 supporting the opposition.

A move to Asia?

The island nations of the South Pacific are moving towards a closer relationship with Asia, particularly the non-communist states of South-east Asia, according to a statement by Western Samoa Prime Minister Tupuola Efi, made in Honolulu in October.

Tupuola, who has travelled this year to India, China, Japan, the Philippines and

POLITICAL CURRENTS

Malaysia, said the independent South Pacific countries were looking to Asia rather than to the West for assistance in developing their economies.

Tupuola said South Pacific governments were pursuing approaches to the non-communist states belonging to the Association of South-east Asian Nations (ASEAN), made up of Thailand, Malaysia, Singapore, the Philippines and Indonesia.

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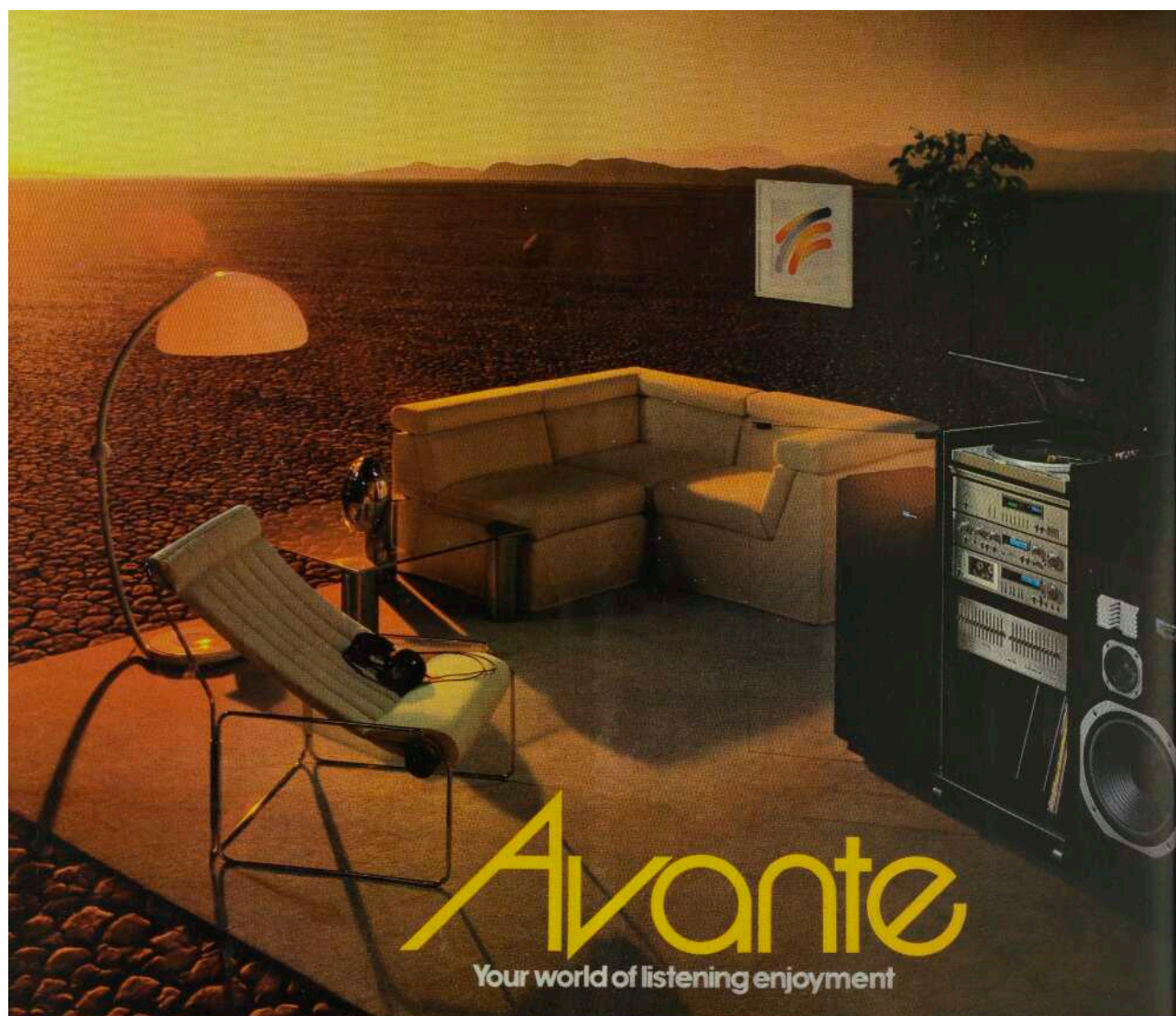
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Hokule'a: In pursuit of an unlucky star

Hokule'a, The Way to Tahiti.
By Ben R. Finney. Published by
Dodd, Mead & Company, New
York, 1979. (\$US17.50). ISBN
0-396-07719-6.

Hokule'a, the name of the Hawaiian double canoe which in 1976 sailed the ancient Polynesian route to Tahiti, means 'Star of Joy'. The name is terribly ironic, for from the beginning to the end it was a pathetic enterprise from which joy was most conspicuously absent.

In the opening pages of this related account, the leader of the expedition, Professor Ben Finney, who teaches anthropology at the University of Hawaii, declares that his main object was 'to demonstrate to the skeptics that the ancient Polynesians could have intentionally sailed across vast stretches of open ocean'. Who were the skeptics, stupid enough to doubt such a vague and therefore irrefutable statement? Ben Finney not only singles out the late Andrew Sharp as their leader and number one spokesman, but also reduces the whole complex problem of how the Polynesian islands were settled to a choice between only two possible explanations: it must have happened either through accidental or through intentional voyages.

This is, of course, absurd, since it is a well established fact that both sorts of voyages did occur, as they still do. It is also obvious that such clear-cut distinctions cannot always be applied. For instance, Polynesian seamen blown out to sea have often found their bearings and organised their life so well that they have eventually been able to reach land. On other occasions, sailors who try to reach a well defined destination get lost at sea and end up on an unknown coast.

Incidentally, there is no justification for postulating, as Ben Finney does, that all intentional voyages were carefully planned in ancient Polynesia. Prophecies and dreams often resulted in *impromptu* departures



Hokule'a — at rest in calmer waters

in the worst possible conditions, and we can find a fascinating example of this in *The Marquesan Journal of Edward Roberts, 1797-1824* (Australian National University Press, 1974).

After having founded in 1973 a Polynesian Voyaging Society, which in a remarkably short time raised \$US60 000, Finney set out to build an 18.9m canoe and collect a crew. The first questions that arose concerned the type of canoes used by the ancient Hawaiians during their long-distance voyages to Tahiti seven or eight hundred years ago — if we are to believe the oral traditions. No such canoes have ever been found by the archaeologists, and it was therefore all guesswork.

The most sensible solution would probably have been to make a faithful replica of a Tuamotuan sailing canoe with V-shaped twin hulls, a type of craft which is well documented. Instead, Ben Finney chose as his prototype the magnificent Hawaiian paddle canoe pictured by John Webber in the atlas of Captain Cook's third voyage. Compared with this unfortunate choice of a canoe model — the vessel lacked a keel and operated only on inter-island traffic — the fact that the hulls were made of plastic and the sails of canvas mattered less, although it is somewhat surprising to learn that the main reason for not using wood

and pandanus leaves was lack of time and money!

To make up for these compromises, Ben Finney did his utmost to find genuine Hawaiians to man the canoe. As everybody knows, this species is almost extinct today, but the

BOOKS



enterprising president of the Voyaging Society eventually succeeded in enrolling about a dozen men who were not only extremely good-looking but also looked as if they had stepped right out of the movie version of Michener's historical novel *Hawaii*. Three or four of them had been near the water before, when working as beach boys in Waikiki. Some were unemployed or 'drifters'. The rest of the bunch included a fireman, two cowboys, a carpenter and a college student.

In the eyes of Ben Finney and his fellow directors of the Voyaging Society, the crew members' appalling lack of seamanship was compensated for by their strong interest in Hawaiian culture. Ben Finney had from the beginning seen the

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whole enterprise as a powerful means to revive the ancient Polynesian culture. Among other things, he had organised a carefully researched and rehearsed canoe launching ceremony that made the professional showmen in Waikiki green with envy.

As it soon turned out, the Hawaiian crewmen played their part only too well, for they constantly resorted to spells, incantations and all sorts of magic rites. Sometimes, at their request, a professional *kahuna* was called in, and although his magic, of course, was genuinely Hawaiian, his often exorbitant fees had to be paid in American dollars. Ben Finney went along with all this mumbo-jumbo but balked, quite understandably, when the crew tried to get rid of all their *haole* sponsors, including the expedition leader himself!

Although this brash attempt should have served as a warning, Ben Finney kept his motley crew of rebellious landlubbers on the payroll, and after a few more disasters, including a swamping of the canoe, he eventually put to sea with eight of them on May 1, 1976. The captain he had chosen, a charming Hawaiian 'sunset cruiser' named Kawika (David), was even less able than himself to instil discipline and order. As if quantity could make up for quality, he signed on another four captains or navigators. One was the Micronesian master mariner Mau Pailug who was very popular but of little help, as he did not know this part of the Pacific and spoke no English. The remaining three were all *haoles* and included Dr David Lewis, but in spite of their profound knowledge of ancient and modern navigation the Hawaiians refused to take any notice of them, or if they did so, were openly hostile.

With a mutinous crew, a weak leader and too many unpopular leaders, the great experiment in Polynesian survival technique which was to be undertaken during the trip naturally came to nothing. According to the much-touted plans, the *Hokule'a* sailors were to live solely on dried bananas, pounded taro, salted fish, and

other Hawaiian delicacies. Once at sea, however, the Hawaiian crew members decided that cultural revival should stop at spiritual matters and categorically refused to touch the Polynesian foodstuffs. Their refusal no doubt had something to do with the easy access they had to American food and beer. They even got it free of charge. The generous purveyors were the captain and crew of the escort and rescue vessel *Meotai*, financed by the National Geographic Society, in exchange for permission to make a documentary film about the expedition. A few of the *haoles* bravely kept chewing on the dried bananas, only to discover shortly afterwards that most of these Polynesian provisions had been spoiled by careless preparation.

In one respect, and not the least important, the trip was nevertheless an unqualified success: the prehistoric navigation without charts, sextant, compass and chronometer offered not the slightest difficulty. Favourable winds and currents carried the canoe



Political as well as cultural history went to sea with *Hokule'a*. Here the old flag of Hawaii, with the Union Jack in the corner, flies from the rigging.

— as they carry dozens of yachts every year — all the way down to the Equator, and then, after a few days bobbing about in the doldrums, further on to the 80 atolls of the 1600km-wide Tuamotu archipelago northeast and east of Tahiti. To be absolutely sure, not so much to find these atolls as to avoid them, Ben Finney had taken along a well known Tahitian fisherman named Rodo Williams. His services were never needed, however, for due to side-drift the canoe came upon the westernmost atoll, Mataiva, and beyond it there was clear sailing all the way to Tahiti.

As may be gathered from this short summary of Ben Finney's gripping account of the expedition, the author in no way tries to hide the disasters, quarrels, fights and other ugly incidents (including his own beating up by the crew) which occurred during the two-year-long preparations and the 34-day-long passage to Tahiti. All readers will certainly applaud his candour which nevertheless would have been more engaging if he had only tried a little harder to be fair when he attributes responsibility for all that went wrong. Not once does he blame himself, while on the contrary all his companions and sponsors are constantly criticised for their stupidity, selfishness, turpitude, and so on. His harshest verdict is reserved for the film-makers, accused of being 'inane intrusive', although nothing in the book proves that they did more than what they had been hired (by Ben Finney) to do, i.e., to film all the events, however unpleasant they were.

Even in the unlikely event that Ben Finney is right in his sweeping condemnations of everybody who ever had anything to do with the ill-fated expedition, it is difficult to see how he can exonerate himself as thoroughly as he does. After all, he was personally responsible for selecting all these awful characters. And being so dissatisfied with them, why did he not replace them by another set of men possessing the same sterling qualities as himself, before sailing off? — *Bengt Danielsson.*

Karkar's volcano houses a 'factory'

The Past and Future People, Tradition and Change on a New Guinea Island. By Romola McSwain. Published by Oxford University Press, 7 Bowen Cres., Melbourne. AS\$9.95. ISBN 0 19 550563 8.

The Past and Future People is a sociological study of the people of Karkar Island which lies off the north coast of Papua New Guinea.

Dr McSwain gives a poetic description of the island. 'Karkar rises purple and steep from the ocean in a classical pyramidal shape, its peak wreathed in clouds.' She describes the 'lush green growth tumbling down the slopes and over the coastal plain to the water's edge'.

A tropical paradise? It would appear so at first glance with its tranquil villages where the people still perform their 'ancient daily tasks'. But underneath the tranquillity the people are having to grapple with disturbing changes.

The traditional Karkar world was full of spiritual beings — creator beings such as Kulbob and Manub; ancestral spirits such as Karkar; and non-creative beings, Misken and Kaulok, who lived on or near the crater, Bagia, the resting place of the souls of the dead. As well as these are the clan deities living in pools, springs and large trees.

Into this world from 1885 onwards came traders, missionaries, planters and administrative officers. A large part of Dr McSwain's study was concerned with the villagers' reaction to these expatriates, and to the changes that were introduced in the economic and religious fields.

The book is set out chronologically, which is logical in view of the fact that the people's reactions to these changes were coloured by their traditional beliefs.

One reaction to the changes was the birth of the Kukuaik cult in 1941. Dr McSwain writes that 'the movement was essentially an attempt to bring

the colonial order into harmony with the old world view, first in quasi-spiritual and later in clearly cargoist terms'. The synthesis that took place as a result between the traditional religious beliefs and Christianity is extremely interesting.

Mount Bagia is still the place where the souls of the dead are believed to go. But now their time is spent manufacturing cargo in factories run by Kulbob, the creator being, and Karkar, their ancestor. Ominous rumbles from inside the cone (and there have been many of these in recent times) are thought to come from this workshop.

Heaven itself is on the highest peak on Karkar, Kanagioi. To gain entrance, those on Bagia must die a second time and then proceed to the mountain where they will live in eternal happiness with God.

This is perhaps a simplistic presentation of the content of Dr McSwain's work, but it should help to whet the appetite of the wide range of people who would find it fascinating reading.

This book rates a place alongside Professor Lawrence's *Road Belong Cargo* in showing how the traditional beliefs of people have reacted with foreign contact to produce a changed intellectual system.

There are, however, basic differences between the two books. Dr McSwain studied an island people whose isolated position and economic potential meant that missionaries and planters had a stronger influence on their lives than was the case with the Garia people whom Professor Lawrence studied.

Furthermore, as Professor Lawrence himself says in the introduction, he believed that changes in the economic and political spheres would lead to the eventual disappearance of cargo cult, whereas Dr McSwain demonstrates that cargo beliefs can co-exist with economic and political develop-

ment. But then there is a time lag between the two studies. Professor Lawrence carried out his research between 1949-1958 before there was much socio-economic development.

This is one reason why Dr McSwain's book is so valuable. It is based on research in the Madang area from 1966-1969, after socio-political developments had taken place. In the intervening years cargo cult thinking has increased rather than decreased in the Madang area, and Karkar in particular. It will be interesting to study the situation again in the late 1980s, after a corresponding time lag.

As an oral historian I found the 'creation myth' about Karkar, the founding ancestor, intriguing. According to the Karkar testimonies 'after a large tidal wave and volcanic eruption', he arrived or came into being on the island some 10 generations ago, marking the transition from super-human to human ancestors.

Oral traditions along the north coast of Papua New Guinea indicate that there was a violent eruption of a volcanic island between nine to 11 generations ago. It was probably sited at Hankow Reef which lies between Karkar and Long Island. Most Austronesian (Melanesian-speaking) settlements along the coast trace their ancestry back to this island. Many traditions indicate that some survivors went to Karkar also.

The genealogy of Dr McSwain's book dovetails nicely with these other traditions. Although scientific research has yet to be done to validate or disprove these traditions, I feel they should not be dismissed as mere myths.

Maybe Karkar, the man who struggled ashore on Karkar Island so long ago, was the first Austronesian to settle on Karkar and was the real ancestor of the Takia people there, and not some mythical being of 'partly mortal state'. The Takias are closely related both culturally and linguistically to the Austronesian settlements on the north coast of Papua New Guinea, and these traditions point to a common ancestry. — *Mary R. Mennis.*



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To Solomons' Vilu Village for a special flag-raising



Anna Taylor describes a trip to Vilu Village, near Honiara, Solomon Islands, and a memorable meeting with Fred Kona, keeper of the village's noted museum. She discovers that there's much more to Mr Kona than the successful entrepreneur, and that his concern for the future of his recently independent homeland is deep and genuine.

One can't but be impressed with Fred Kona's vitality and his constant endeavour to promote Vilu Village, his outdoor cultural centre and war museum near Honiara, Solomon Islands. Although Fred's unique promotion campaigns are successful drawcards, he does have another message for his visitors: in the presentation of his museum he has given serious thought to the destiny of newly independent Solomon Islands, and the basification of its culture. This was evident on New Year's Day, 1980 when one year and five months after independence, he had his own flag-raising ceremony.

It was an extra hot day and the 250-odd guests, both islanders and expatriates, arrived coughing and spluttering after the arduous journey from the capital, Honiara, along the 1 km pothole-ridden, dirt road. The perfect host, a smiling, gesticulating Fred was waiting to greet his guests. 'lu o insaed — bi bi me kam — katem kwick taem.' (You go inside. I'm coming to start soon.)

So, leaving the swirling dust behind, we entered the spacious, pleasantly green grounds of Vilu Village, where Fred's assistants presented us with cans of chilled lemonade.

As we sat and sipped our life-saver drink, under the shade of the numerous hibiscus trees, the main topic of conversation was: What was the meaning of this ceremony, and why had Fred allowed so much time to elapse before raising the independent Solomons' flag.

Before anyone could arrive at an answer, Fred had ushered in the last of his guests and, Pied Piper fashion, led us to a cleared area in front of his prize possessions, two Japanese 150 mm howitzers.

Here, at the pavilion of flags, the central Solomons flag pole had been joined by red string to eight other national flags from Britain, USA, Japan, Australia, New Zealand, Canada, France and Korea.

Fred later fervently explained that this symbolised his wish for unity and co-operation between all nations. Fred is quite serious on this question and has been extremely honoured when an ambassador or official from these countries has presented him with a national flag.

Although Fred is a 'custom' man, believing in his ancestors' traditions and culture, he is also a devout Christian, so he began the ceremony with a Bible reading, and in the following sermon endeavoured to give an insight into the purpose of the

gathering. In his sophisticated Pidgin he stressed that the people of this newly independent country need to be united in their cause to build the country up, rather than destroy it. And here he gave the example of productive coconut trees that had been cut down by wild revellers on New Year's Eve. 'Mi sore bikos gayman in han of netiv, Taem olketa katem daon tri, hem bad saen,' and, with a lowered head, he ended, 'makem me sem'. (I'm sorry because the government is in the hands of Solomon Islanders. When the people cut down trees it was a bad sign. It makes me ashamed.)

So on the note that 'united we stand, divided we fall,' a Malaitan elder officially raised the Solomon Islands flag for the first time at Vilu Village — a little late, but with significance.

With the official ceremony over, Fred gathered everyone together, including several parties of lingering tourists, and insisted that we all help him rejoice on this special occasion by remaining for the feast.

Immediately on entering the outdoor entertainment area pretty dancers from Kiribati, wearing multi-coloured nylon string skirts, arrived to entertain us. The presence of these dancers, instead of Guadalcanal girls, at a special Solomon Islands ceremony seemed to be just another way that Fred showed his concern for a harmonious co-existence of people in the Solomons.

Before long Fred's efficient assistants reappeared with tubs of fresh pineapple and watermelon, all produce off Fred's land.

Fred Kona is a Solomon Islander proud of his traditions and culture. This became more obvious as he explained to us all that the feast 'buna cow' (beef), 'kumara' (sweet potato) and cassava pudding (a gift

from the village guests), had been cooked in the true Melanesian fashion, that is, in a 'biti' or stone oven. For plates, he continued in his expansive manner, we were to use large, green leaves from the bush.

Still, Fred is a practical man, realising the benefits of controlled modernisation, so soon an old truck arrived overflowing with the contents of the 'biti'. Being ravenously hungry, we queued up with our leaf-plates to be given a generous helping of 'kai' (food) by a beaming Mrs Fred.

And so, after the presentation of two gospel songs by Fred and his children, the day's feasting and entertainment was over, and we were free at last to tour Fred's Vilu Village! Firstly his reconstructed custom house, where a collection of genuine old fighting weapons, talking drums and a stone mirror, in which water is placed for reflection (sorry women's libbers, this ancient beautifying device was for 'men' only) takes the visitor back to pre-colonial days.

On days when large parties of tourists, especially from cruise ships, visit the museum, Fred dons his 'custom' calico and acts the fierce warrior or enacts a wedding ceremony, wearing the traditional bridal shell money worth at least \$200. And, if you ask him about his ancestral mark, he will most certainly show you the black spot on the palm of his hand, where as a week-old baby one of his grandfather's hairs was embedded in his flesh, thus giving him all the knowledge of his ancestors.

But without a doubt the greatest attraction is Fred's vast collection of war relics. There are an abundance of war remains in the Solomons. However, they are scattered along beaches and in the jungle, just as they were abandoned by the Americans and Japanese. The uniqueness of Vilu Village is



Guadalcanal dancers with Grumman Wildcat fighter at Vilu

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TRAVEL



Decorated dancers at Vilu museum

that Fred is the only person in the Solomons who has made a serious attempt to assemble and preserve these rusting and decaying relics.

Fred got his initiative in the late 50s, when as the first freeholder of land, the chief secretary of the time advised him on the set-up of an outdoor war museum. The potentiality of such a venture could not be overlooked, so by the late 60s he had started to collect an assortment of relics.

Even for those blasé about war relics and such, the collection at Vilu, ranging from small war pieces such as helmets,

water bottles, rifles, bomb shells, to larger items such as fighter-bombers and a variety of cannon from both Japanese and American forces, is impressive.

Before the jungle takes over, Fred plans to salvage one of numerous US amphibious craft from their graveyard at Tetere, where they were abandoned during the war. Here these ageing craft have remained to act as silent reminders of the extent of US involvement in the Guadalcanal campaign, and its importance to the final outcome of the Pacific War.

If you are fortunate enough

to have Fred as your guide, he will happily give you a history of each individual item. And his facts are probably accurate since many of his guests are visiting US and Japanese war veterans, who are only too willing to recall in detail the history, for instance, of the American Grumman F4F-4 Wildcat fighter-bomber, used in the Battle of the Coral Sea, or the 150mm howitzers, which Lieutenant-General Masao Maruyama of the disastrous Japanese Bloody Ridge assault remembers well.

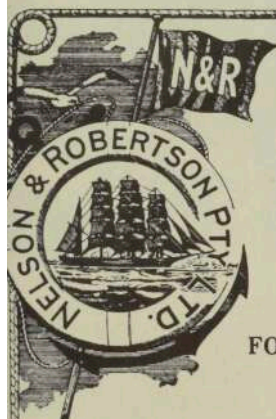
Finally, with the departure of the last guests, the grand host was free to relax and explain more to me about the significance of this special Solomon Islands day at Vilu Village. It appears that his gathering was not an original idea, but rather one borrowed from colonial days.

Apparently, as Fred remembers, before the war the British on Malaita gave a feast to celebrate New Year's Day. The government provided the meat, while the villagers supplied the

vegetables, following the tradition in the Solomons that everyone should contribute something on such an occasion. Not only was this a festive gathering, but it also had serious undertones since it was an opportune time for the government to speak to the 'big men', heads of villages, and for the people from antagonistic language groups to be united on a friendly basis.

Yes, undeniably, Fred's unique application of an old colonial idea proved to be a successful promotion for Vilu Village, but he is not merely an opportunist as one US war veteran suggested: 'Fred Kona raises the Stars and Stripes for us Americans and the Rising Sun for the Japanese.'

No, as Fred indicated on New Year's Day at his special flag-raising ceremony, one year and five months after the Solomons' independence, he is just as concerned about the destiny of his country and the co-operation of nations as he is in the promotion of Vilu Village.



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Where the trade winds blow

A MEMORY OF THE OLD GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS



a cable's length to starboard
ay Marakei, green and gold
nd glittering in the early
orning sunshine of the Gil-
ert Island — today known as
iribati. A sailing canoe was
imming lightly over the
ancing blue water toward us.
There were three men aboard
er: the Island Magistrate and
e Chief of Kaubere in uni-
orms of white shirt, navy blue
ilt and silver-buckled belt sat
ross-legged on the narrow
eck while a khaki-kilted
oliceman held the steering-
addle.

I hastily dressed in working
g of khaki bush-jacket and
orts, thrusting my cap, shoes
nd stockings into a bag, for it
as clear from the distant roar
f surf that we should not get
shore dry.

Dick Turpin who, as Lands
Officer, was visiting the island
n government business,
reeted the magistrate and
hief of Kaubere as old friends,
hich indeed they were. I had
nly recently arrived in the
ilberts and envied him his
uent Gilbertese. I was
ntroduced and shook hands —
o na mauri! (At least I knew
at much!)

We all balanced ourselves
recariously on the frail-
looking canoe and sailed for
e distant beach. Above the
atched houses and higher
ven than the lofty palm-trees
ose a mighty flag-staff flying
e Union Jack. The beach was
rowded with islanders.

Half way across Dick said,
They've got a reception com-
mittee for us. I can see all the
officials lined up and the local
orce is on parade too. Will you
sperct the police guard-of-
onour? I'll do the rest."

I was incorrectly dressed, but
was too late to do anything
bout that, so I waded ashore
nd took the salute from the
hief of District Police, stand-
ng in front of a single line of
ome half-dozen fine-looking

By Michael Hook,
former Superintendent
of Police. Illustrations
by the author.

island policemen, all as capless
and bare-footed as I was.

The inspection over, the par-
ade was dismissed. The line of
men made an immaculate right
turn — all except one, who
turned to the left by mistake.
This raised such a gust of de-
lighted laughter from the
crowd thronging the beach that
all formality was blown away
and everyone suddenly became
relaxed and human. Even the
poor fellow who had muffed
the movement was able to grin,
somewhat sheepishly.

In a pleasant open glade
amidst the coconut palms
above the beach was located
the local government "station".
In the centre was the tall flag-
staff set on a base of white-
washed coral with four ancient
bronze cannon grouped
around it.

On one side of this "square"
was the *maneaba*, under the
vast thatched roof of which
serious meetings or social
occasions took place. On other
sides were the magistrate's

office, the post office, police
station, court house and hospi-
tal. These buildings were all of
the simplest construction: the
roofs were thatched, the walls
(where there were walls at all
— and these were rarely above
waist height) were of *te ba* (split
coconut midrib, tied together
with sennit).

There was hardly any furni-
ture — a table or two which
served many purposes and
many people, a cupboard for
the hospital dresser and a chair
for the magistrate, but for the
most part folk were content to
sit on mats on the floor. The
magistrate's office was divided
by a flimsy partition from
another room which served the
double purpose of police
station and post office.

They would have borrowed
the magistrate's chair for me,
the Chief of Police explained
apologetically, but Mr Turpin
was already sitting on it in the
court house while he held his
meeting with the "Old Men" of
the Island Council. I assured
him it did not matter in the
least and the two of us sat cross-
legged on the floor while I
interviewed his men.

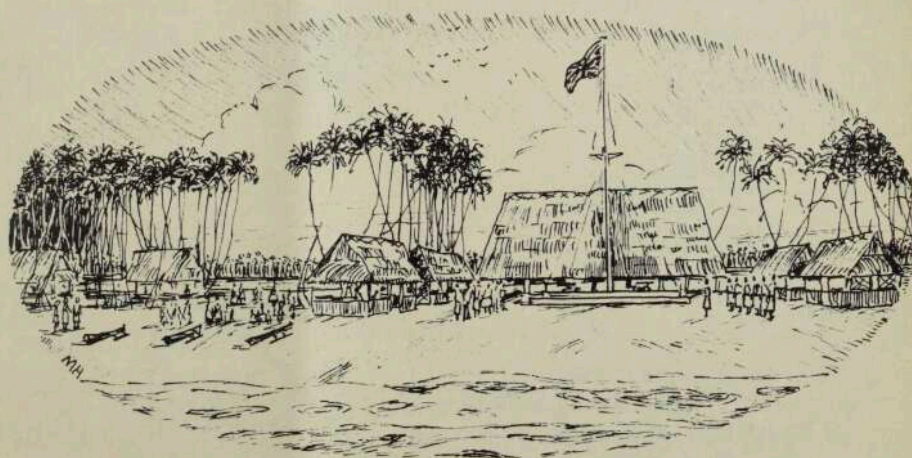
The only official records
were the Station Diary and

each constable's note-book.
The Chief of Police was di-
rectly responsible for law and
order to the magistrate. There
was very little crime, no motor-
cars and few problems. All re-
ports were verbally made, there
were no telephones and no let-
ters to write. Perhaps they also
have such a police station in
Shangri-la.

Only one thing was lacking
— a chair. And my back was
aching. My legs no longer be-
longed. Somehow I got to my
feet. My watch told me I had
over two hours until lunch —
time to get the stiffness out of
my joints and to see the island.
I glanced across at the court
house where Dick was sitting in
the island's chair, discoursing
with the island's kilted Coun-
cil.

The Chief of Police pro-
duced two antique bicycles
with back-pedal brakes and
handlebars which appeared to
have been fitted upside-down
and the wrong way round. My
mount looked like Don Quix-
ote's horse — ancient and
angular.

Accompanied by one of the
constables, I set off to circum-
navigate the island. I use the
word intentionally, for we



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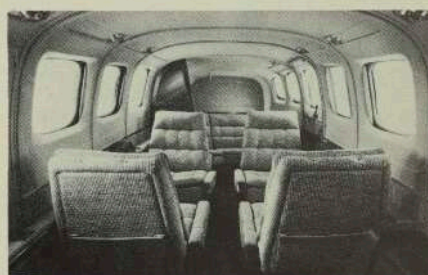
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YESTERDAY

ould scarcely have been closer to the sea all the way round and sometimes were actually in it. On our right was the ocean endlessly scouring the reef: on our left the turquoise waters of the shallow lagoon lay almost unrippled.

Between these the track ran for 10 miles round the atoll on a ribbon of land nowhere more than a hundred yards in width and no more than a few feet above the level of high tide. We made the circuit anti-clockwise, for the inhabitants say that anyone who travels in the other direction round Marakei will die within the year. Tall palms provided welcome shade and the south-east trade wind fanned us. Dead palm-fronds, fallen coconuts and potholes kept us alert.

Twice we came to shallow, narrow passages connecting the lagoon with the ocean. Over the first of these was a rickety wooden bridge, some 10 metres long. It was in fact a toll bridge and the toll was the Australian penny, but nobody had told me so and nobody asked me to pay.

I debated with myself for a moment whether to ford the passage carrying my bicycle or whether to trust myself to the bridge. I think it was the sight of a gaggle of women sitting outside a little house on the bank which made me choose that I hoped would be the more dignified way of crossing.

I edged "Rosinante" gingerly onto the bridge. The planks, which lay at right angles to my path, instantly began to jump up and down and to play a wooden tune like the keys of some ogre's piano. Doubtless the old bridge was protesting to its keeper that there was a rogue who had not paid his penny, and when I was more than half way across and nobody had answered its warning thumps, the bridge gave way beneath me.

I found myself sitting bolt upright in a foot of sea-water with Rosinante round my neck and my uniform cap still absurdly on. I was not hurt and my only thought at that moment was that this was just the situation which would appeal to the slap-stick sense of

humour of the Gilbertese and that I must get my laugh in first.

I let out a raucous bellow of laughter which I hoped sounded not too hollow. When I paused to draw breath I realised there was an utter, if not stony silence. Perhaps laughter was out of place: after all, it had been a perfectly good bridge until this clown started his gymnastic tricks.

I looked up and saw the policeman's anxious face peering down at me through the gap which had lately been two metres of bridge. He climbed down and helped me remove my mount to a drier place. I was sorry I had bothered to put on my shoes, which were now sodden and disagreeable.

At the first village we halted to have a rest in the spacious cool *maneaba*. It was full of people, mostly women and children, and much activity was going on. A World Health Organisation team was conducting an anti-yaws project on the island and here a young Gilbertese doctor was inoculating every person in the village. With the courtesy of his race he stopped what he was doing and smilingly offered me a seat.

"Would you care for a drinking-nut?" he asked in faultless English.

I said I would, and watched with interest while a man with an enormous broad-bladed *kaban* and an apparent disregard for the safety of his fingers, sliced the top off a coconut still in its green husk.

By the time we got back to

our starting point, my thirst was ready for quenching again. Gathered under the thick thatch of the house reserved for official visitors were Dick Turpin and the three European members of the W.H.O. anti-yaws team. Over glasses of ice-cold amber ale we became acquainted.

Dr Tross — large, fair-haired, musical and fun-loving — was German. Mr Maxwell — rotund, twinkling, good-natured, voluble and amusing — with his rimless spectacles resembled a Scottish Mr Pickwick. Quiet, gentle Dr Ramirez was Spanish.

It was a merry luncheon party. Sitting on boxes marked WHO, everyone talked at once. Everyone had had a satisfying morning. All had got through their work. Dick had got through his message to the Island Council and I had gone through a bridge.

The food was excellent: golden chicken, golden potatoes, golden pumpkin, golden gravy and golden beer. The cook came in and beamed at us and Dick complimented him in Gilbertese. Dr Ramirez kept our glasses filled. Dr Tross winked at the attractive, nut-brown, flower-crowned maids who served us, and Mr Maxwell, Pickwick-style, told endless funny stories and smiled and beamed and twinkled to see everyone so happy and contented.

When the last plate had been taken away and the last glass drained and cigarette and pipe-smoke began to mingle with

that of Dr Ramirez' cigar, conversation took on the note of a reluctant bumble bee on a summer afternoon. Outside, the tropic sun beat down, but under the pandanus thatch we sat in deepest shade and the trade wind wafted through the house.

That evening we sat out on mats on the shingle in front of the house while Dr Tross' Anti-Yaws Team String Band entertained us with lively Samoan, Gilbertese and Ellice songs. The lassies and lads of the village gathered round and the girls who had waited on us danced the graceful island dances and dragged us to our unwilling feet to cavort grotesquely in the moonlight to the merriment of the company.

It was after 10 o'clock when the magistrate, the Chief of Kaubere, the Old Men, the Anti-Yaws Team, all of the island police and most of the local inhabitants gathered on the beach to see Dick Turpin and me off to our ship.

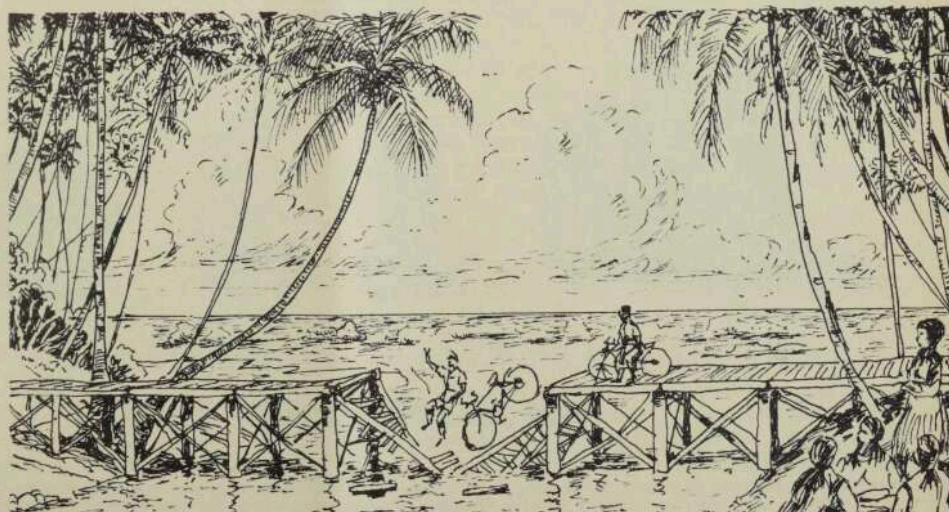
Paddles dipped and the canoe skimmed lightly over the black and silver sea. A full moon hung low over the swaying palms. Lanterns winked on the beach. Our little ship came as close to the reef as her captain dared and we scrambled aboard. Sticks of tobacco were passed to the paddlers.

"Kam raba" and "Tia kabo!"

The engine-room telegraph jangled. Engines pulsed.

"South-a-quarter-West."

The moon rose steadily and Marakei dropped astern.



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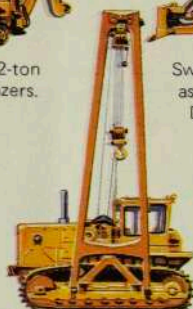
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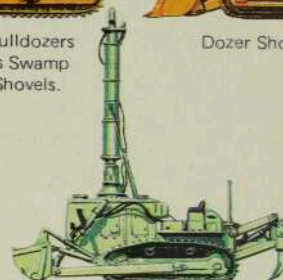
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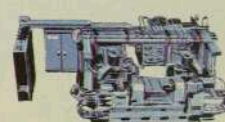
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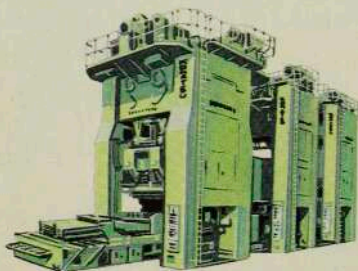
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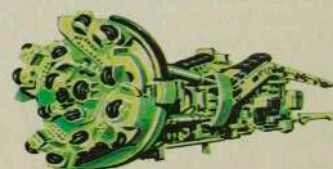
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POLYNESIE FRANCAISE



'Independence! Freedom! Liberty!' were the battle cries heard in Papeete during October and November. This time, however, the number one freedom fighter was no wild-eyed activist or terrorist ready to bomb and kill, but the staid and eminently respectable president of the Chamber of Commerce, Charles Poroi, who belongs to a family which has been staunchly pro-French for generations.

When Faaa international airport opened in 1961, local businessmen and politicians had high hopes that tourism would soon become the principal source of revenue for the territory. Thanks to generous tax exemptions, a dozen first-class hotels with about 2000 rooms were rapidly built. A tourist board with ample funds produced an endless stream of leaflets and posters, showing lovely hula girls, speeding outrigger sailing canoes and soft, white sand beaches.

The results of these determined (and not always so honest) attempts to make the world believe that French Polynesia is still an unspoilt paradise have been very disappointing. After having climbed slowly to 92 000 by 1976, the annual number of visitors levelled off, and when the 100 000 ceiling was eventually broken through last year, it was solely due to the shoddy stratagem of changing the statistical procedures and counting as bona fide tourists the 6000 or so French people who come out every year to visit sons, brothers and other relatives serving in the administration, the army, or the nuclear task force.

The official explanation for this half-failure was most succinctly formulated during the 1979 Great Tourist Conference in Papeete (PIM May 1979 p 25) by the French Minister for Overseas Territories, Paul Dijoud, who firmly maintained that it was 'all this loose talk about independence in which too many people in French Polynesia indulge that scares away the foreign investors'. Practically all local travel agents and hotel operators put the blame more or less squarely on another culprit: the French airline UTA, which enjoys a monopoly, dictates the fares to all other companies and frowns on all foreign charter traffic.

The first politician to speak up on their behalf (and his own, since he is part-owner of a travel agency) was Gaston Flosse, the dynamic leader of the local Gaullist party and one of the territory's two deputies, who said boldly that it was time to transfer the decision-making powers from the government bureaucrats in Paris to a Polynesian cabinet of elected ministers headed by a PM. Shortly afterwards, this proposal was given the more elaborate form of a draft for a new constitution of the Cook Islands type, giving the Polynesians full internal self-government (PIM May p 27).

In the meantime, things went from bad to worse in French Polynesia with the cancellation of all Pan Am flights, and the abandonment of the Air France round the world flights which had been bringing in droves of Japanese tourists. Even more galling to the local businessmen making a living from tourism were the repeated refusals of the French aviation board to grant any charter flights from the US. This explains why in the end it was Charles Poroi, by profession also a travel agent, who raised the banner of revolt. Unlike his friend Flosse, who was back in Paris trying once more to drum up parliamentary support for his constitutional reform, he chose the direct action method called by the French *un fait accompli*.

Without a word, he flew off at the beginning of October, not to Paris but to Honolulu, where a local businessman, Spence Weaver, who also happens to own the Hotel Tahiti outside Papeete, quickly put him in touch with the president of the small independent airline Evergreen, operating a weekly service between the American northwest coast and Hawaii. The rest of the story was told by the now extremely talkative Charles Poroi, on his return to Tahiti. He even called a special press conference, where he said as an (eye)opener: 'We are Polynesians, and this land belongs to us. It is therefore only normal that we control its air space. If we do not act, we shall still be in the same situation in 50 years time.'

Next he announced in a matter of fact tone the rather sensational news that he had actually, without prior French approval, signed an agreement with Evergreen airline to provide a weekly service between Honolulu and Papeete with a 156-seater DC-8 aircraft. All business and services at the Papeete end were to be handled by a local company owned by the people of Tahiti whom he invited on the spot to buy shares. Although he did not quote any figures, he promised extremely cheap fares. Even the date of the inaugural flight had been fixed: it was to take place on February 17, 1981.

To top it all, Poroi declared that he had the full support of all leading politicians in the territory.

In itself, it did not of course matter much to the French Government whether the much needed air service between Honolulu and Papeete was re-established or not. Instead, another question assumed the utmost importance, and it could be formulated thus: Would it not set a dangerous precedent and make a breach in the existing autocratic system for Paris to yield to the sort of blackmail used by Charles Poroi? Incidentally, it was exactly the same dilemma that the Polish Government was facing, ever since the workers had begun clamouring for free trade unions. The newscasters working for the government radio and TV station in Papeete nevertheless went on talking excitedly about the Polish workers' irrefutable rights to make their own decisions, without apparently seeing any parallels with the local situation.

Charles Poroi ended his press conference by declaring that his struggle was also to be long, and that he expected serious reprisals to follow upon his rebellious act.

His first confrontation with the French masters of the Polynesian skies took place in Paris on October 23. The way the outcome was reported by the official news agency was only slightly more positive than the simultaneously broadcast news bulletin from Warsaw, according to which 'the Polish Government has accepted the new statute of the free trade unions, after having changed them so as to conform to current practices'.

This is a literal translation of the French counterpart statement:

'During a meeting today of the National Aviation Board, all members declared themselves favourably inclined towards the scheme proposed by the Papeete Chamber of Commerce. This consensus will make it possible to place the future air service between Honolulu and Papeete in the general framework of the thinking process of the board.' — Marie-Thérèse and Bengt Danielsson

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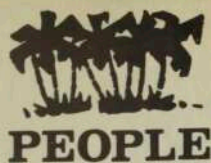
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The annual oratory contest for the Vijay Kumar Trophy has been won for the second time by Nikhat Shameem. The contest was initiated in 1979 during the university of the South Pacific Indian Students Association permit Centenary celebrations to commemorate the arrival of the first Indians in Fiji.

Nikhat beat off strong challenge to retain her cup. She spoke on 'Our Sense of Responsibility'. First runner-up was Mele Kila and second runner-up Hemant Vanmali, both speaking on 'World Peace: an impossible Ideal'. Other speakers were Satya Prakash on 'God', Satendra Shankar on 'World Peace: an Impossible Ideal', Chandra Ram Rattan on 'Nuclear Destruction' and Abdul Sattar on 'Why the scientist should Believe in God'.

The contest was chaired by Arun Lakshman and the panel of judges consisted of the Director of Community Services, Dr Aleniu Asaua, Raymond Pillai, lecturer in English, and USP Students Association Vice-president, John Herrmann. Prizes were presented by Dr Asaua.

After the conclusion of the contest in the USP lecture theatre the film *American Graffiti* was screened.

Western Samoa novelist Albert Wendt's third novel, *Leaves of the Banyan Tree* (reviewed 1M Sep p39) has won New Zealand's Wattie Best Book Award for 1980.

Mr Wendt says the prize of NZ\$4000 will go towards building his house.

Historian of Fiji Deryck Scarr in October presented to Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara the first copies of a book about the life of the great Fijian statesman Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna.

The book grew from an idea floated seven years ago by the

Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna Biography Committee.

Funded by the Fijian Affairs Board, Native Land Trust Board, Fijian Development Fund Board, and other donors, the committee commissioned Dr Scarr to research and write the work.

'I think we have succeeded in fulfilling the task,' said the prime minister. And President of the Senate Sir Robert Munro, who was a close associate of Ratu Sukuna, said: 'It's full of fascinating information.'

One of New Caledonia's top cyclists, Angelo Scoleri, has been bitten by the love bug, and has decided to leave the territory and settle in Australia.

Angelo, 22, decided to take a break from his teaching job about nine months ago and spend some time in Australia. There, in Adelaide, capital of South Australia, he fell victim to the disease. The vector? A charming 19-year-old, Maria Delasio. After a five-month courtship, they were married in October.

The Australian immigration authorities had been keeping an eye on things, and Angelo got his residence permit only the day before the wedding.

Reporting these happy events, the Noumea weekly *Corail* voices the hope that Angelo will have kept a soft spot in his heart for New Caledonia and that folk there might still see him again some day, handlebars in hand — and, of course, in the company of Maria.

Lyle Cupit has announced his retirement as managing director of Carpenters' South Pacific Ltd, effective December 31.

At a news conference, Mr Cupit, 49, said he would be developing the management structure of a new agricultural company, Consolidated Agriculture Fiji Ltd, after his retirement.

The company recently bought Carpenters' hurricane-ravaged pig and cattle farm at Navua. Mr Cupit, his family, and Mr Greg Blakeney are shareholders in the company.

The farm now carries 1700 pigs and Mr Cupit expects to increase the number to 2000 in the next three months. The new owners also hope to increase the

2000 head of cattle to 3000 as soon as possible. Mr Cupit would not say how much his company had paid for the farm, but said it was over seven figures.

Another three Papua New Guineans are off for training in Europe for which they received scholarships from the European Economic Community.

They are Baffi Russell Purai of Loi, Manus Province, a lecturer with the Administrative College, who has gone for two years to Liverpool University, United Kingdom, to graduate as Master in Public Administration; John Samar of Kiraguri Village near Wewak and Mickey Epikana of Kumasina Village in the Western Highlands Province.

John Samar, an industrial economist with the Department of Commerce is attending a two-months course in 'Project Implementation Operations' organised by the Irish Development Authority in Dublin.

For Mickey Epikana, an area mechanical engineer with the Department of Works and Supply, a special training course in 'Planned Maintenance' was arranged with the assistance of the Crown Agents.

He will follow lectures for 10 weeks in the United Kingdom and then will be attached for several months to hospitals and infirmaries all over Britain to get better acquainted with the maintenance of technical hospital equipment which is used in PNG.

The *Independent Journal*, Majuro, has secured the services of Dan Smith as its managing editor.

Mr Smith, who is married to Senator Evelyn Konou, has three children (at the time of this writing) and a new arrival expected shortly.

He first came to the Marshalls in 1967 with the Peace Corps as a volunteer and at that time was instrumental in setting up what became the widely disseminated Micronesian News Service. He obtained a BS in physics and an MA in communications, both from Stanford University.

Pramesh Raman has been named Fiji's first locally-born Commissioner of Police. He



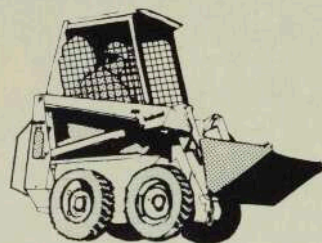
A happy mother ... Lise Asiatia with her four daughters (from top) Lise, Tuaula, Pato and Lakena after the babies left hospital in Auckland, New Zealand, late in September. The Asiatia quads will go home with their mother to Samoa. — New Zealand Herald picture.

will take over from John Orme, who will leave in February after completing his contract of service with the Fiji Government.

Mr Raman is now the Deputy Commissioner. In announcing his appointment, the Minister for Home Affairs, Ratu William Toganivalu, said Mr Orme's term would expire on February 2.

Mr Raman, 52, joined the Royal Fiji Police Force in 1947. He worked as a constable in Suva and at Labasa after completing his training. He has acted as commissioner several times, the longest being for seven months when the last commissioner, John Kelland, left.

Mr Raman has been awarded the Independence medal, the police long service medal, police medal for meritorious service and the Queen's Medal



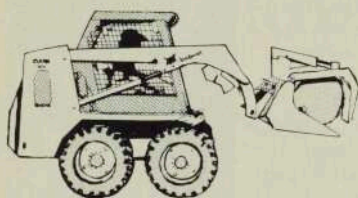
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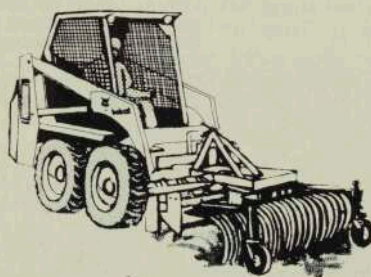
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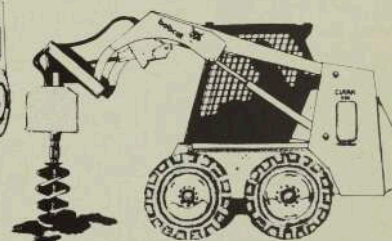
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Mr Raman, originally from Apia, is married and has seven children.

One of Australia's outstanding folk groups, **The Larrikins**, are on an extensive tour of the South Pacific in November and December under the Australian Government's cultural relations programme. They plan to visit New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji, Tonga, Western Samoa, Kiribati, Nauru and Solomon Islands — accompanied by an unusual assortment of instruments.

The group of five is noted for authentic Australian folk music and among their instruments are banjo, tin whistle, concertina, fiddle, harmonica, electric harp, bush bass, spoons and mandolin.

Folklorist **Warren Fahey** founded **The Larrikins** in 1974. Other members include **Cathie Sullivan**, **Jacko Evans**, **Brad White**, and **Dave de Hugar**. They have made previous overseas tours to Indonesia and New Zealand.

'Our material is anything but the bush band productions that people expect. We don't do very many of those foot-stomping, gerophone, slapping "Click Go Shears" type of things,' they said. 'The Australian tradition is not one of foot-stomping and so forth. It's fairly introspective with a pioneering rough and tumble attitude. There are a lot of story songs, and we are very much aware of the importance of the words in our songs.'

Professor **Michael Smithies**, head of the Department of Language and Social Science at Papua New Guinea's University of Technology at Lae has been awarded the title of *Chevalier de l'Ordre des Palmes Academiques* by the French Government.

Professor Smithies studied modern and mediaeval languages, including French, at Oxford University and, although most of his career has been involved with English as a second language at tertiary level, he has at different times taught French language at the

University of California at Berkeley and French literature at the University of Hong Kong. He recently conducted an extra-mural French course at the PNG University of Technology.

A woman believed to be (at 109) the second oldest person living in Britain today spent the 1890s in Fiji, writes **Philip Snow**.

She is Mrs **Alice Brewster**, whose husband, **Adolph Brewson Brewster**, was Commissioner in Fiji's Interior at that time. His *Hill Tribes of Fiji* remains the classic work on that area.

A. B. Brewster died in England in 1939. He has a street named after him in Suva.

Much younger than her husband, Mrs Brewster has lived in England since the couple left Fiji in the '90s.

She has been blind for several years, but in her 90s still retained vivid memories of her time in Fiji. These she recounted to Mr Snow, who himself served as Commissioner in the Interior about 50 years after the Brewsters' time.

A woman aged 110 is the oldest person alive in England, and it is understood that Mrs Brewster is the second oldest. She has had nine telegrams from the Queen, one each year since passing the century.

(*Philip Snow is co-author with Stefanie Waine of People from the Horizon: An Illustrated History of the Europeans Among the South Sea Islanders (reviewed PIM Aug p131).*)

Polynesian Airlines has confirmed the appointment of Tevaseu **George Sola Hunt** as its system traffic services manager after a 12-month training period.

Replacing **Keith Williams**, who is returning to Air New Zealand after two years secondment, Mr Hunt, who holds the chiefly title 'Tevaseu' in the village of Siumu, is the first Samoan to hold this position.

A man who played a leading role in piloting Western Samoa towards independence has been appointed the head of the New



Sir Buri Kidu, recently appointed Chief Justice of Papua New Guinea, shows a local touch in the design of his judge's robes.

Zealand Prime Minister's Department.

He is **Gerald Hensley**, 44, a career diplomat whose first post was in Apia. He takes over as the new permanent head from **Bernard Galvin** who has been appointed head of Treasury.

Mr Hensley was posted to Apia in 1959 as external affairs adviser to the High Commissioner of Western Samoa, **Sir Guy Powles**. Working from the veranda at Vailima, he was involved in the detailed negotiations between New Zealand and the United Nations Trusteeship Council. Mr Hensley was closely involved in discussions on *matai* suffrage, which the UN initially opposed.

In 1961 Mr Hensley was posted to New York where he was charged with helping pilot Samoa's independence through the council.

While in Samoa Mr Hensley was married to his wife **Juliet**. Their first child was also born in Samoa and was named **To'oa Hensley**, the **Malieta** family title which **To'oa Salamasina** was said to have agreed to.

Juliet Hensley's grandfather was Chief Judge, Judge **Henry Young**, of Samoa following World War II.

Mr Hensley was based in Washington from 1969 to 1973, during which time his house was mistakenly shot up by Black September terrorists. It had previously been owned by a Jordanian diplomat.

Before becoming deputy head of the Prime Minister's Department this year, Mr

Hensley was New Zealand's High Commissioner in Singapore. — *Mike Field in The Observer, Apia.*

Ian Thomson, independent chairman of Fiji's Sugar Industry, will soon be named chairman of the Economic Development Board.

Creation of the board, approved by the Fiji parliament a few months ago, is the government's latest attempt to get things moving in making more jobs by establishing new industries. The government hopes the board will give a much bigger and more effective thrust behind efforts to industrialise the country.

The board will have eight other members. *The Fiji Times* tips that they will be: For the Fiji Trades Union Congress: **James Raman** and **Mahendra Chaudry**. For employers: **Gerald Barrack** and **Eric Jones**. For rural areas: **Gus Billings** and **Joketani Cokanasiga**. For the government: Secretary for Agriculture **Robin Yarrow** and Director of Planning **John Samy**.

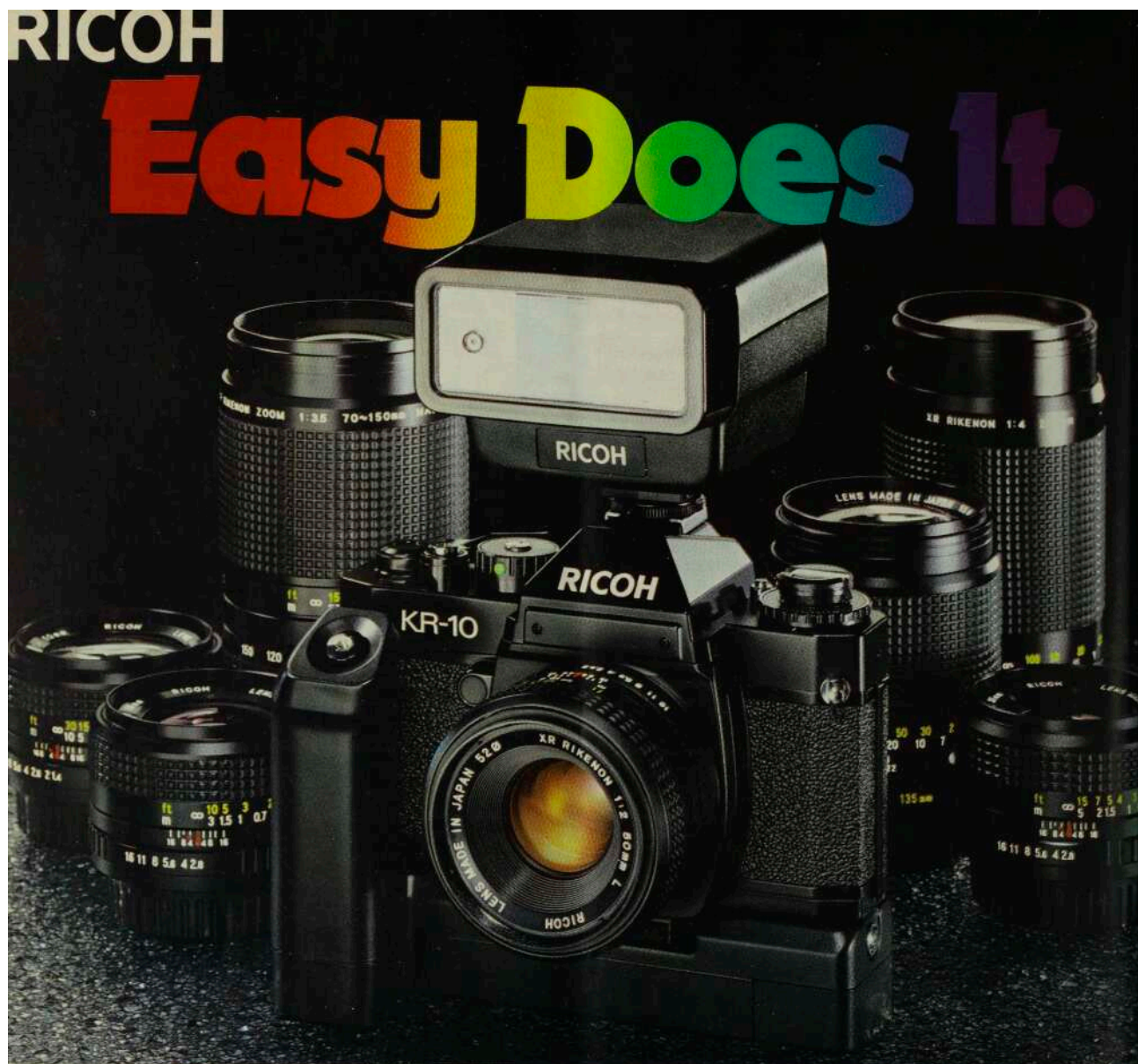
The Canadian High Commissioner to Australia, **J. Alan Beesley**, has presented his credentials to President **Ati George Sokomanu** of Vanuatu. He is the first non-resident high commissioner to be accredited to the country.

Mr Beesley said he looked forward to a closer relationship with Vanuatu, and that Canada may send technical assistance to the country when required.

The assistance was not long in coming: only a few weeks after Mr Beesley presented his credentials, a Canadian QC, **Gerard Bertrand**, arrived to spend a week in Vanuatu to assist in recruitment to top judicial posts.

These include judges, public prosecutors, legal draftsmen and a clerk of the National Assembly, a Vanuatu government spokesman said.

Canada's bilingual situation, and the fact that it had both British and French jurisdictions, made the advice of Mr Bertrand particularly relevant, the spokesman said.



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While Tonga develops its position as a trading partner of other nations in the South Pacific there are signs that its land and mining for concrete, its timber cutting for artefact production and even the new forced pace of its agriculture are contributing to a possible ecological problem.

Development poses problems in Tonga

Tonga Faces Ecological Disaster shouted a banner headline across the front page of a recent issue of the *Tonga Chronicle*.

Below it, the paper reported a public lecture given by a US Peace Corps Volunteer, Thomas Hubbard, who until recently had worked in the kingdom as a marine biologist and supervisor of Tonga's five designated marine national parks, in which all lagoon life, coral and beach sands are now fully protected.

Mr Hubbard cited a broad spectrum of causes for public concern, notably:

- Effect on land tenure and traditional subsistence farming of explosive population growth in a country with only about 300sq km of land area, and the consequent emergence of a new landless class.

- Sea-caused coastal erosion resulting from the escalation of sandmining, to meet an ever-increasing demand for locally-manufactured concrete and concrete blocks.

- Rapidly diminishing stocks of important culture trees as used in the making of handicrafts, cosmetic oils and folk medicines, and traditional dance costumes.

- Polluting potential of agricultural chemicals on land and of oil exploration and transport on the sea.

- Endangered wildlife, particularly among certain unique Tongan animal and bird species and the whales and turtles in territorial waters.

In his conclusion Mr Hubbard warned that time was running out and that there was an urgent need to pinpoint the problems and seek the solutions.

Inquiries at senior government level reveal that the problems are, in fact, very clearly realised and that solutions are being actively

sought, though within a framework which must, inevitably, strike a balance between developmental and ecological demands, and allow for both financial and cultural constraints. Relevant departmental heads proved most willing to provide PIM with information relating to their various areas of concern.

Under the constitution, every Tongan male attaining the age of 16 years is entitled to a 'tax allotment' of 3.3ha, but the combination of population explosion and finite land area is effectively nullifying this legal right. An estimated 70% of eligible young men have been unable to obtain a farming land allocation, thus becoming the new 'landless class' to which Mr Hubbard referred.

On the other hand, government surveys indicated that two-thirds of Tonga's available arable land is either uncultivated or capable of far more intensive cultivation; and that about 90% of the nominally landless have access to farming land through extended family links if they really want and need to grow traditional foods for themselves or their immediate families.

With population growth pushing up the demand for housing, development creating the demand for larger-scale commercial, industrial and tourist facilities, and the various religions constantly aiming for more and bigger churches, the volume of locally available building materials required has long since outstripped what can be safely supplied without damage to the environment.

With the assistance of aid funds and expertise, the forestry division is going all out on afforestation and sawmilling projects. But in the short term this can do little to offset the emphasis on concrete and the

consequent drain on the beach sands which are the natural buffer zone against sea-caused erosion.

Somewhat to the ire of local construction companies, desperate for more and more concrete to meet contract commitments, the ministry of lands, surveys and natural resources has imposed stringent licensing and supervisory controls on sandmining.

At the same time it has enlisted overseas experts to help evaluate the cost and feasibility of saving the threatened beaches by obtaining essentials and supplies from uninhabited offshore islands or by dredging the seabed.

Along with its industrial programme, the forestry division has for years been experimenting with the propagation of seedlings of culture trees and in publicising the need for tree-planting programmes by individuals throughout the kingdom.

Action has also been taken to put an end to the lucrative sandalwood export trade. Permission has been given to export stocks from trees already cut, under licence and supervision, but further felling has been banned. Meanwhile it is hoped that the successful propagation technique achieved in Tonga will in time replenish supply.

Tonga's most pressing pollution problem pertains to the stocks of agricultural pesticides and herbicides in the highly hazardous category which were dumped on this country as cut-price bargains after being banned in the producing countries.

The agricultural department is seeking watertight legislation to prevent further import of chemicals designated as dangerous and in the interim is issuing radio and press warnings, identifying highly and moderately hazardous products by brand name. It is also insisting that all agricultural chemicals brought into the country should have safety-and-usage instructions printed in Tongan as well as English.

The natural resources authority is also keenly aware of the potential problems associated with oil exploration and transportation. In view of the proposed oil-search programme by Webb (Tonga) Inc in the waters



between Tongatapu and Eua, and the real possibility of oil slicks being deposited by giant tankers plying territorial waters, it has sought expert advice on the formulation of stringent regulations on operational procedures and on penalties in the event of pollution occurring.

The government's national parks programme, under the ministry of lands, is designed to counterbalance the environmental effects of the present extensive agriculture, fisheries and economic development programmes.

The five designated marine parks are suitable habitats for breeding fish and shellfish populations whose progeny are expected to migrate from these protected areas to replenish overfished catchment areas.

The terrestrial national parks on the island of Eua and in the indigenous forest area of Pelehake will help to preserve rare and endangered species of trees, plants, birds and animals.

In addition to aiding conservation goals, the parks are intended to serve increasingly important recreational, educational and research purposes by providing areas in which human interference is now controlled and minimised.

Specific bans have also been imposed in territorial waters:

- In 1978 an indefinite moratorium was imposed on the catching of humpback whales, one of whose few identified breeding places lies within Tongan waters.

- A total ban on turtle-catching during the designated breeding season has existed for many years and has been recently extended over a longer period as a further safety measure.

On the broad front of the population problem, nobody questions Mr Hubbard's assessment that this is Tonga's most pressing problem. But it would be simplistic to assume that the

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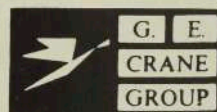
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obvious family planning solution can be implemented overnight, or even over one generation.

'Large families,' said one senior official 'have been part of our cultural tradition since time immemorial. In pre-Christian days they were demanded by the tribal chiefs who needed warriors for their tribal clashes. And in the 19th century the missionaries came and in their turn exhorted us to go forth and multiply. That indoctrination over generations is still powerful today. And, in a country

that cannot as yet afford many social services, a large family is in effect the poor man's insurance policy.'

Public education is obviously one essential but even that is not so simple in a country with a cultural taboo against discussions of sexual issues on radio, in newspapers or in the classroom.

There is a government-sponsored family planning programme under the direction of the ministry of health, backed up by a supportive voluntary one under the aegis of the

Regional Family Planning Association. Measurable results are being achieved but the latest official statistics on the annual birth rate (28.3 per thousand) indicate that effective stabilisation of a population already approaching 100 000 is still a long way off.

Singapore's solution of financial whips-and-carrots, India's experiment — sterilisation of males after two children — are unthinkable in the Tongan context of a proud and inherently independent people. So what alternative is there,

except education and more education?

It would seem that primary and secondary school curricula will have to be revised, so that the message can be pounded home — via geography, economics, social studies, mathematics and biology lessons — that X amount of natural resources in only 700sq km of land area cannot possibly support an ever-expanding population without leading to deprivation for all concerned. — Penny Hodgkinson in Nukualofa.

TRADEWINDS INTELLIGENCE... TRADEWINDS INTELLIGENCE... TRADEWINDS INTI

PAPUA New Guinea's 1981 budget was brought down in November, and, according to Finance Minister John Kaputin, it is directed at overcoming 'stagnation' in the private sector. The budget will provide for an expenditure equivalent to about \$A916 million — an increase of about 5% on the 1980 expenditure. Mr Kaputin believes PNG can continue its economic growth rate of 3%, which will require holding inflation below 10%, a revival of agriculture earnings, and continued high earnings from gold. The budget introduces an agricultural credit scheme in an attempt to boost earnings from smallholder agricultural properties. A feature of the budget is the abolition of a 30% duty on imported vegetables (tinned, fresh and frozen), most of which come from Australia and New Zealand. The duty had been imposed to stimulate local production. But local producers failed to accept the opportunity and simply raised their own prices with the result that consumers were penalised and local production failed to expand. The budget retains corporate tax at 36.5%, but has added trusts and superannuation funds to the taxed economy to prevent tax avoidance book-keeping.

FIVE international timber operators have submitted proposals to the Fiji Pine Commission (a statutory authority) for handling and processing pine logs. The commission is planting 60 000 hectares of Caribbean pine on the islands of Vanua Levu and Viti Levu. The proposals, which envisage multi-million-dollar capitalisation, are from Shell Fiji Ltd, M. K. Hunt Foundation Ltd of New Zealand, New Zealand Forest Products Ltd, United Marketing Corporation and British Petroleum (South West Pacific) Ltd. Canadian consultants to the commission will evaluate the proposals and make recommendations before the end of December.

TWO major hotels in Port-Vila, capital of Vanuatu, are upgrading. The 135-room Le Lagon is adding 15 new rooms, eight of which will be family bungalows, five beach bungalows and two garden bungalows. Food and beverage bars are also getting facelifts, and a new terrace bar with beach facilities is being built. The 166-room Intercontinental Island Inn is working on a new conference/ballroom with seating capacity for 200 people.

THE South Pacific Commission in September ended a three-year field programme of tagging skipjack and other tunas in the SPC region. Skipjack and baitfish resources of all countries and territories in the SPC area were surveyed and more than 152 000 skipjack and other tunas were tagged and released. This exceeded target by more than 50%.

NUKUALOFA, Tonga, stores were without bread in October due to a strike by Tonga's five bakeries. The bakeries, which supply the whole country, wanted to increase the price of a standard loaf by 6¢ to 28¢, but had been permitted only a 1¢ increase by the price-fixing authority. The government said it would consider a bigger increase after getting more information about costs and more talks. THE Lae Port Authority in Papua New Guinea received a loan of \$12 million from the ordinary capital resources of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) as part of the 1980 third quarter allocations. Coupled with an Asian Development Fund loan of \$8 million, the funds will be used to expand port facilities, particularly for handling containerised cargo, and to provide a sheltered tidal basin. The work will include construction of a 180m multi-purpose berth, a transit shed, a paved storage area and internal roads.

LIKIEP and Mejit atolls in the Marshall Islands are the latest to be linked by air with the capital, Majuro, as the government's aggressive programme to open up the outer islands to air transport by constructing small runways on them rolls on. Next on the list is Ailinglaplap, and another is being planned for either Mili or Jaluit Atoll in the near future. The government-owned Marshall Islands Airways flies two Australian-built Nomad aircraft.

BARCLAYS Bank International Ltd is to make an independence gift of \$A20 000 to the people of Vanuatu. The regional general manager of Barclays Denis J. Tabor and the Barclays branch manager in Port-Vila, Eric Crutchley, were to be present when the cheque was handed to President Ati George Sokomanu on November 4. The money will be used to buy medical equipment. THE Asian Development Bank is to make a \$US1 million loan to the Cook Islands and provide a \$70 000 technical assistance grant. It is the bank's first loan to the Cooks. Only one of the development projects to be financed by it will be on Rarotonga, where most development has taken place in the past.

EMPEROR Mines Ltd, Fiji, rode the crest of the gold boom in the latest year to post a sixteen-fold increase in after-tax profit. The company reported in October a profit of \$F1.52 million in the year to June 30 compared with \$95 000 in 1978-79.

STEAMSHIPS Trading Company Pty Ltd, a Papua New Guinea merchandising, manufacturing and service group, announced in November plans to acquire New Guinea Industries Pty Ltd for \$A10 million. The move would mean that PNG nationals' stockholding in Steamships would increase, as they already own about 30% of NGI.

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SAM 34



• **CAIRA.** A 12.9m ketch of the Trintella class was sailed to Fiji by Werner and Inge Friderich, reports Gunter Gross in Suva. They left their homeport Wesel on the Rhine in West Germany in July 1977. After spending a year in the Caribbean they entered the Pacific through the Panama Canal in January 1979. The first landfall was the Marquesas, then the Tuamotus, the Society Islands, Suvarrow, Pago Pago, and Vavau, Tonga. At time of writing Werner and Inge were preparing themselves at the beautifully protected anchorage of the Tradewinds Hotel, here in Suva, for the continuation of the circumnavigation via New Zealand, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea, and on into the Indian Ocean. In Hivaoa Atoll, in the Tuamotus, they had a lucky escape when a shark attacked their inflatable rubber dinghy and bit a hole approximately 0.3m in diameter into one air chamber. It happened while they were taking a friend back to the village in the evening; fortunately the only damage was to their nerves and the rubber dinghy. In Vavau they had their best time so far, and were greatly impressed by the helpfulness, hospitality and friendliness of officials as well as villagers.

• **HASARDEUR.** From Bremerhaven, West Germany, an 8.22m sloop, was built by owner Gerhard Behre. With his crew, Regine Wache, he left West Germany in 1979 for a circumnavigation. After clearing Panama they had pleasant stays in the Galapagos, Societies, and Vavau. From Fiji they plan to sail on to New Caledonia and Australia. There they plan to rest for a while before cruising on into the Indian Ocean on their way back to Germany.

• **MINTAKA.** From the USA is a 9.75m Colin Archer bought by Charlie and Nita Martin in

1977 as a bare hull and deck. From this they built their home for a possible circumnavigation. From Willow Creek in Montana where the boat was launched Charlie and Nita navigated the inland waterways to San Francisco and there, from the Stockton Yacht Club, they started on their first Pacific crossing to the Hawaiian Islands where they spent a year while friends from the States came for visits. In 1979 they sailed to the Society Islands and on the way Charlie, an experienced hand in off-shore game fishing, had a very successful time as they sailed through the doldrums. One of the nicest places in French Polynesia for Nita was Bora Bora where they spent some weeks at the local yacht club. The cruise went on via Suvarrow (where several weeks were spent snorkelling, fishing and socialising with other yachts), Pago Pago, Western Samoa, Vavau, and then Fiji. Here Charlie and Nita are taking it easy for a while as they prepare for their trip to New Zealand where they plan to have some work done to the *Mintaka's* accommodation because the original fitting out was done in a bit of a rush to get going. After the cyclone season they plan to return to the tropical South Pacific to visit Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Solomon Islands and then, after another stop in Australia, via Papua New Guinea into the Indian Ocean. Two further crew members are Callie a common or garden cat, and Coco a Siamese. They give the impression that the cruising life is to their liking also, probably not least because of the frequent feeds of fresh fish.

• **SKOOKUM.** An 8.84m Chuck Burns-design sloop was built by Dale and Pat Albin at their home in San Francisco in 1977. The boat is a pure sailing vessel because Dale and Pat reckon that they had had enough trouble with engines in their previous boats so to propel *Skookum* in an absolute calm a big sweep is used for sculling. It is normally strapped to the deck. In October 1978 the Pacific cruise started from San Francisco via San Diego, the Marquesas, the Society Islands and Vavau, to Fiji. Here in Suva the Albins are getting

ready for the crossing to New Zealand where they plan to spend the cyclone season. Pat reckons it is too soon to talk about plans after New Zealand as there are so many island groups that are just waiting to be visited. The Barrier Reef in Australia looks good too.

• **DING-DINGUES.** From La Rochelle France. This is a 9m French-design fibreglass sloop of the *Super Arlequin* class. She is skippered by Jacqueline and Christianne Darde, probably the most adventurous sisters in the Pacific at present. Not only are they enjoying their trip around the world but they make it a point to visit the more remote island groups. The circumnavigation started in September 1978 when *Ding-Dingues* left France to sail via Madeira, Canary Islands, and the West Indies to Panama. In March Jacqueline and Christianne set out on their Pacific crossing with the first call at Easter Island where they spent 35 days to experience for the first time the friendliness and hospitality of Pacific Islanders. Then on to Pitcairn Island for three days and Gambier Island for six weeks. After that up north again to the Marquesas, Ahe Atoll in the Tuamotus, and finally Papeete, in March 1980. The cruise went on through the Society Islands, Suvarrow, Pago Pago, Western Samoa, Wallis Island, and Fiji. Here Christianne and Jacqueline plan to have a look at the outer islands before setting off for New Zealand for the coming summer to do some refitting to their cruising home. After the cyclone season the voyage is to go on to New Caledonia, Australia, Papua New Guinea and into the Indian Ocean for a slow trip back to France.

• **MOANA NUI.** A 13.7m James Warren-designed catamaran and was built in Auckland in 1972. Dick Zohrab bought the boat in 1979 for a cruise through the South Pacific and to Australia. He left Whangarei, his homeport in New Zealand, in June 1980 with New Zealander Bob Laurie, and Paul Toth and Bill Caplin from the USA. Their first stop was Raoul Island in the Kermadecs where they spent five days enjoying the hospitality of the New Zealand meteorologists who are

stationed there. The trip went on to Fiji where in Suva the crew left to look at the islands at their own leisure and Dick was joined by his son Glen who flew out from New Zealand. Together they cruised extensively the Astrolabe Reef and northern Kadavu. But soon the time came to set sail again via New Caledonia for Australia because the cruising funds are running low and Dick plans to look for work in Queensland.

• **HOPE.** Was built in 1938 in Dunedin, New Zealand, an Ericson Class 9.75m Colin Archer. Skipper Graham Wright bought her in 1977 to be his floating home. The present cruise started for Graham and his crew Claudin Gordon and young Robert on April 15 when they left the Bay of Islands, New Zealand, bound for the Society Islands. But that was not meant to be: after battling easterly gales for 28 days, and experiencing one serious knockdown, they decided to go to Pago Pago instead. From there *Hope* sailed on to Apia and Asau in Western Samoa, then to spend two months in Vavau, northern Tonga, and now here in Suva Fiji Graham has plans to sail home to New Zealand for the coming summer.

• **FOREVER.** From San Francisco, was a stock Columbia 8.7m when skipper Bill Howell bought her in 1978 and started to modify to his own specifications the accommodation and standing and running rigging, and generally to strengthen the craft for extended cruising. Amongst other things Bill took out the engine and now *Forever* is a pure sailing craft, something to be found less and less often among modern cruising yachts. Fourteen days before departing San Francisco in November 1979 Bill secured his crew by marrying Laura, and they set off on a honeymoon cruise via San Diego to the Society Islands and Vavau to Fiji. The only plan Bill and Laura have at present is to sail to Sydney in the next month or so, and once there it will be soon enough to decide what to do next.

• **VINGILA.** Was designed by Brian Lello of South Africa, a 14.6m steel ketch. When skipper Frank Stilwell bought her

YACHTS

she was about half-finished and he with his family, wife Marien, son Robert and daughter Nicky finished her off for the launching in June 1977.

After more preparations they left their homeport Durban in January 1978 for a circumnavigation. Leaving South Africa from Capetown they stopped at St Helena, the Ascension Islands, spent several months in Brazil and some time in the Caribbean before crossing through the Panama Canal into the Pacific. After visiting the Las Perlas Islands on the Panamanian coast *Vingila* sailed down the coast of Ecuador, then to the Galapagos Islands, the Marquesas, the Tuamotus, Society Islands, to Penrhyn in the northern Cooks, Suvarrow, Pago Pago, Western Samoa, Vavau, and at present are well anchored here at Suva in Fiji. For the coming cyclone season Frank and Marien want to visit Australia, but next year they plan to come back to have a better look at the Fijian islands before carrying on with the circum-

navigation via Solomon Islands, Papua New Guinea and so on into the Indian Ocean.

• **LEMON BUTT.** Was originally a ship's lifeboat but in 1975 conversion started to make her into a 7.3m yacht. Pat Synge and Silvia Merope bought her in 1977 at St Vincent in the West Indies after sailing there from Europe in their 5.5m yacht. Completing the conversion and sailing for some months in the Caribbean they entered the Pacific through the Panama Canal at the beginning of 1979 to sail on to the Marquesas, Tuamotus, Society Islands, Suvarrow, Pago Pago, Western Samoa, Wallis and Futuna, Fiji, and New Zealand where they spent last summer. This year *Lemon Butt* was sailed back to Fiji because Silvia and Pat wanted to have a better look at the group. But now at the end of the cruising season they are making plans to sail to Australia with the aim of building a bigger boat there.

• **KERAMOS.** An early arrival in New Zealand this season was *Keramos*, an Ocean 75' flying a British flag, after a weeklong passage from Suva, on the wind in 20 to 25 knots all the way, reports Jane De Ridder from New Zealand. The Van de Staadt-designed 22.86m fibreglass ketch is one of the world's largest fibreglass production yachts, exceeded in size only by the 'Swan 76' and a series of 24.39m now under production in Poole by the British company which built *Keramos*, (Greek for 'ceramic'). *Keramos* is a fitting name for the vessel which belongs to Henry Podmore whose Stoke-on-Trent company provides all forms of pottery supplies — everything from firing kilns to cups and saucers — to firms the world over. *Keramos* left the UK in March of '79 for a proposed three-and-a-half-year cruise. She is powered by a German MAN 156hp 5-cylinder diesel, steered by Neco auto pilot. All systems are electric, including cooking. After a New Zealand refit, plans are to carry on to Australia, Papua New Guinea, Indonesia, and the Indian Ocean, skipper John Kemish said. The yacht sails with owner, skipper, and crew of three young men — Nick Allen engineer, Arthur Lane cook, and Simon Davis, the only remaining member of the original ship's company.

• **SILVERHEELS.** Is a Sparkman and Stephens 'Yankee 26' sailed to New Zealand by Dave and Pat Mancini. They were joined by a tiny crew member in the Bay of Islands — Sara Mancini. An entire quarter berth is now filled with baby gear, including a sheepskin-lined cradle. Dave admits that he never dreamed one extra person could take up such a lot of room. Dave bought *Silverheels* ('she shows her heels and leaves a silver wake') in San Diego in 1974. He and Pat left California in 1978, sailing the engineless yacht to the Marquesas and Tahiti, the Samoas, Tonga and Fiji. They spent a full year in Polynesia. Vavau was their favourite stop, though they feel it is not an area where they would feel comfortable staying

any length of time, for the people of the Friendly Islands are so poor, yet so giving, that it becomes difficult to know how to say no. Cruising on a small boat with no head and no engine is 'the only way to fly'. Dave and Pat agree. Dave said: 'A head is a contrivance our technological civilisation has foisted on us. When we think of the time others spent on maintenance while we were snorkelling!' While the Mancinis cooled their heels during the southern winter after the departure of most fellow cruising yachts, they enjoyed the company and hospitality of offshore voyager and Opuia resident Celia Reed with whom they had cruised for many months. Celia sailed her own 7.9m *Manu Iti II* to Tahiti and back in '78-'79, much of the time capably single-handing her yacht. Dave and Pat feel that the wonderful camaraderie among blue water voyagers is 'what cruising is all about'.

• **CAMEO.** A 10.43m wooden-built ketch arrived from Lyttelton, South Island, New Zealand, reports Don Travers in a delayed report from Tubuai, Austral Islands. On board were owner-builder Lionel Jefcoate, daughters Anne and Jennifer, and friend Owen Byfield, all of New Zealand. They left for Raivavae and Tahiti and the Society Islands, with plans to call at other islands to the west as they return home to New Zealand.

• **SIMPLA.** A Belgian-registered sloop, 8.53m *Simpla*, is also visiting Rarotonga. She is sailed by André Selen and his wife Solonge. Accompanying them are their two young daughters, Tamara and Wanda. *Simpla* left Belgium in August 1978 and sailed to England, Spain, the Canary Islands, Senegal, Barbados, the Caribbean, Panama, the Marquesas, Tuamotus, Tahiti and Rarotonga. The plan is to sail around the world in three years, but consideration for the children's education may dictate that the Selen return to Tahiti to enrol them in school.

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Pacific Forum Line: It could be later than they think . . .

A few bland-sounding words in an Australian Government statement on the future of the Pacific Forum Line could turn out to have a kick like a mule when their full implications strike home with member governments of the Line.

As reported earlier (PIM Oct 571), Australia agreed at the September Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meeting in New Delhi to contribute about half of the \$9 million required to keep the line operating until the end of 1981. New Zealand would provide the other half.

But the Australians stipulated that their contribution would be subtracted from the already announced commitment of \$120 million in aid over three years to South Pacific countries and from the aid commitment to Papua New Guinea, and would in no way be an additional contribution.

The Australian attitude provoked controversy in New Delhi, and some less than friendly remarks from New Zealand Prime Minister Robert Muldoon.

The Australian Government later issued a statement in which it said it 'accepted the consensus' of the New Delhi meeting, but 'wished to record' certain opinions. Among these were the following 'bland-sounding words': 'Australia is mindful of the possibility that in the light of experience, and in particular the impact of the proposed financial arrangements on Australia's aid to the Pacific Island states, island governments might well wish to reassess the decision taken at New Delhi. Australia stands ready to join in that reassessment, which in any case should be no later than 12 months from now.'

In an earlier passage the

statement had made clear that while bilateral aid projects for 1980-81 would not be held back, 'aid activities in 1981-82 and 1982-83 would inevitably be affected'.

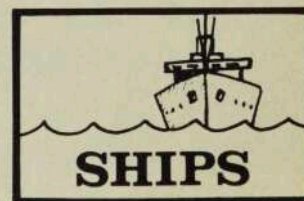
Australia undertook to make contact with island governments to discuss the new arrangements.

In the new, post-Delhi circumstances, a country like Fiji — which does not see itself as particularly advantaged by the PFL anyway — could well see itself losing up to \$1 million in Australian aid.

Papua New Guinea, for its part, could face an aid cut of more than \$2 million.

Other, smaller countries would face losses of smaller amounts, but these could prove equally devastating, in view of their meagre overall resources.

With hindsight, Solomon Islands and the Cook Islands were wise in their refusal to



accept the consensus. Their position was that they would make voluntary contributions of their own — \$S1100 000 in the case of the Solomons, and \$A200 000 from the Cooks — on condition that the aid due to them from Australia was unaffected. The amounts promised are substantially less than they would have had to pay under the consensus.

The question must arise as to whether the island governments will be prepared to accept such sacrifices in order to preserve what all are agreed is a losing proposition — however desir-

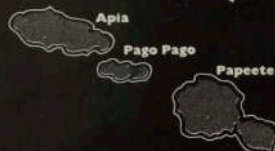
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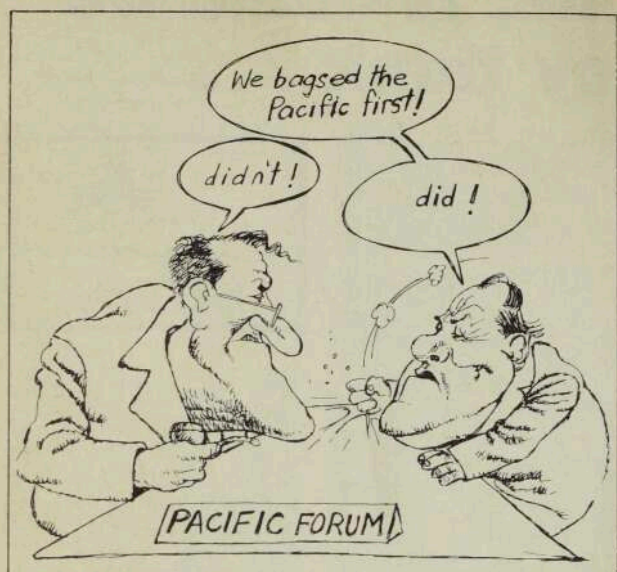
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Tom Scott, in *The New Zealand Listener*, gives his impression of the Pacific Forum controversy involving Malcolm Fraser, Australian Prime Minister (left) and Robert Muldoon, New Zealand Prime Minister. Scott claimed some Australian journalists had uncritically 'swallowed' the Fraser attitude.

able it may be in terms of regional prestige — or whether they will, as the Australian Government statement suggests, 'wish to reassess the decision taken in New Delhi'.

It could appear that the Australians are attempting to

'strongarm' island governments on the issue, but this impression does not square with the fact that they are also putting forward positive and even generous proposals for alternative arrangements to the PFL.

The post-Delhi statement said that the Australian Government 'was prepared to provide sums, additional to existing aid allocations, to subsidise what would otherwise be inadequate services to island states'. It said the 'offer was not reserved to those countries presently served by the PFL' but 'would encompass all disadvantaged states which could not attract an adequate commercial service at reasonable rates'.

The statement provided a hard-nosed rundown of Australia's objections to the PFL operation. Points made include:

- '... on the Forum's own estimates, which in the past had always proved to be extremely optimistic, not less than \$A1 million in Australian aid funds could be needed in each continuing year of operation'.

- '... the Forum Line is

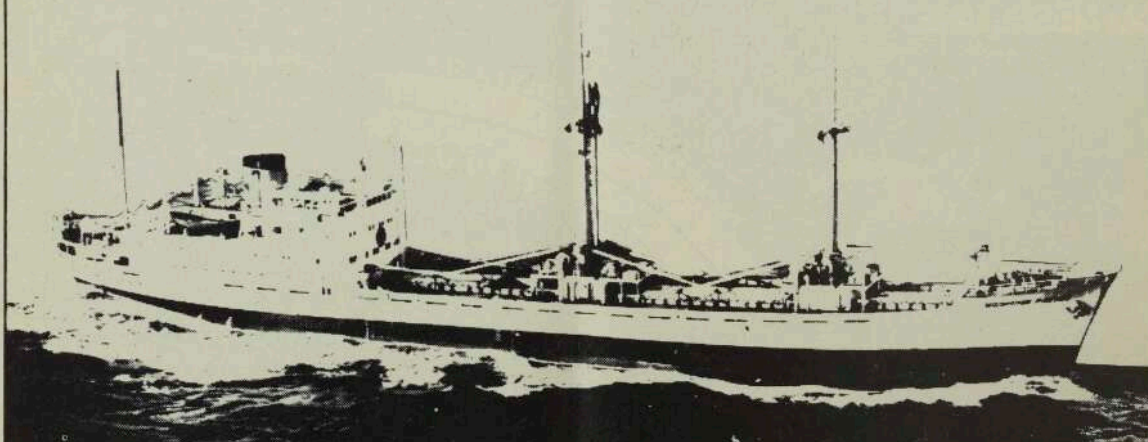
benefiting only three of four island countries', 'there were no plans for an extension of services to other countries', and 'on every route on which the Line would be operating from November commercial services were also available'.

- '... whatever the intentions of management had been, Forum Line rates were below economic rates, and in consequence private operators had been driven off certain routes'. If this went on, Forum Line member countries, 'instead of advantaging themselves, could be left with a reduced number of operators on routes, and a Line which required massive and continuing subsidies'.

- '... based on recent Forum Line figures, 45% of cargo loading were ex-New Zealand ports, 23% ex-Australian ports, and 17% ex-Fiji, which felt it did not need the Line to ensure adequate shipping service'. Consequently, 'very little benefit was provided to supporting the carriage of exports from island countries'. As a consequence, 'the Line was in effect

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subsidising exports from Australia and New Zealand'.

• The statement said: 'In summary, the Australian government had expressed its firm view that subsidised or unprofitable services should not be sustained out of Australia or New Zealand ports, and was concerned that the operations of the Line provide so little benefit to geographically disadvantaged states.' It also noted that the cost of liquidation of the Line was not the \$US21.5 million indicated by the Line's management, but something more like \$US8 million.

Not mentioned in the statement, but referred to frequently by Australian Prime Minister Fraser at the New Delhi meeting was the PFL's NZ-PNG service, which Mr Fraser claimed is losing more than \$1.5 million a year, and applying freight rates below conventional levels. He said such inefficient cost-cutting was forcing other Pacific regional cargo services out of business.

What he is not reported to have said, but what was probably very much on his mind, is that the NZ-PNG operation, heavily subsidised by Australia, is strongly favouring the present marked New Zealand push into a market which has long been largely an Australian preserve.

This factor is certainly one of many which determine New Zealand's favourable attitude to the PFL.

Among others is equally certainly the measure of relief offered by the Line to a country which has for years been up for heavy shipping subsidies for services to the Cook Islands and Tokelau.

All in all, the positions adopted by the Australian Government could bring on the denouement of the Forum Line drama much sooner than many people now think.

PNG men get UK training

Papua New Guineans are taking part in a series of training schemes which are being provided in the United Kingdom by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company, operator of the Port of Liverpool.

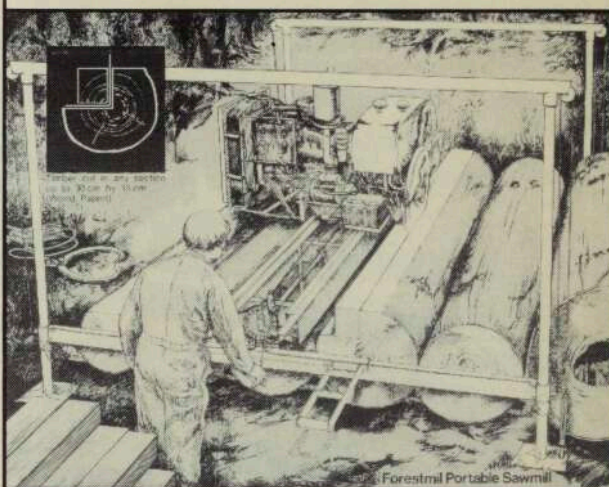
The scheme, which involves government to government arrangements between PNG and UK, is being used by the PNG Harbours Board to provide specialist training for some of its employees. In the past three years the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company has provided training for harbour technicians and executives from more than 20 countries, particularly from developing nations. The training is part of a consulting service which covers all aspects of port management, operations and training, including instruction in modern port equipment and systems.

Two port managers from Papua New Guinea undergo training in Liverpool while attending a course conducted by the Mersey Docks and Harbour Company. The course sets out to make managers familiar with the equipment their workforces will be using. Here Mr A Pakundu, manager of the Port of Kavieng, New Ireland, and Mr R Kaivepa, manager of the Port of Wewak on the north coast of the PNG mainland, receive instruction in mobile crane driving.



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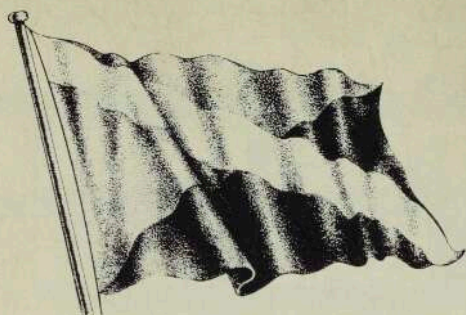
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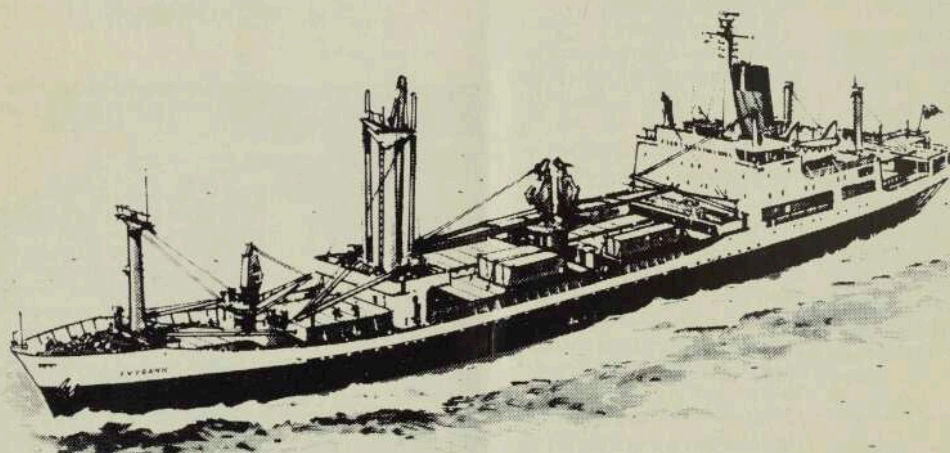


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Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd operates monthly cargo services from Sydney to Vila and Lautoka.

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

Sofrana-Unilines (Fiji Express Line) operates to Suva and Lautoka every two weeks from the main ports on the east coast of Australia and monthly to Lautoka from Melbourne and Sydney. Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 19 Pitt Street, Sydney, (27-2031), Transstral Shipping Pty Ltd, 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne (67-9162), ACTA Pty Ltd, Brisbane (221-3116), Elder-ANL Ltd, Port Adelaide (47-5688), ANL, Newcastle (049-24364), Clements & Marshall, Burnie, Tasmania (1-1833).

AUSTRALIA - FIJI - SAMOAS - TONGA

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

Unatuti cargo transhipped at Apia. Details from Pacific Forum Line, Sydney; Union Bulkships, Sydney; Bulkips, Melbourne, Brisbane; Burns Philp (SS) Co, Lautoka, Suva and Apia; Union Co, Nuku'alofa; Polynesia Shipping Services, Pago Pago or Pacific Forum Line Head Office, Apia.

AUSTRALIA - LORD HOWE IS - NORFOLK IS

Compagnie des Chargeurs Mèdoniens operates four-weekly cargo service Sydney - Lord Howe 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 (53-5709), Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA (AND/OR) VANUATU

Karlander operates a monthly service from Sydney to Noumea.

Details: Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 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), Transstral 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 (1-1833).

Compagnie des Chargeurs Mèdoniens operates a three-weekly con-

tainerised 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 ro-ro vessel.

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

Daiwa Line operates a container/breakbulk service every 30 days to Vila and Santo and every 60 days to Noumea.

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, Pago Pago and 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 - VANUATU - NOUMEA - PNG - SOLOMONS - SAMOAS - TAHITI

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).

Pacific Forum Line operates containerised and general cargo service from Australia and NZ to Fiji, Apia, Pago Pago, Tonga and other South Pacific ports.

Details from Polynesia Shipping Services Inc, PO Box 1478, Pago Pago 96799.

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), Rabaul 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, 31 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301), Dalgaty Shipping, 461 Bourke Street, Melbourne (60-0731).

AUSTRALIA - PNG - SOLOMONS

A consortium of Conpac, NGAL/PNGL have three container vessels operating on a 28 day turnaround from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul, Kavieng, Wewak, Madang, Kieta and Honiara supplemented by Daiwa vessels, Pacific Princess and Fiji Maru

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FOR INFORMATION CONTACT AGENTS:

AMERICAN SAMOA:

Polynesian Shipping Services Inc. P.O. Box 1478, Pago Pago.

AUSTRALIA:

The Australian National Line, 50 Queen Street, Melbourne. Union Bulkships Pty Ltd., 333-339 George Street, Sydney.

KIRIBATI:

Gilbert Islands Shipping Corp. P.O. Box 495, Tarawa.

FIJI:

Burns Philp South Sea Co. Ltd. GPO Box 355, Suva.

NEW CALEDONIA:

ETS Ballande, BP. C 4, Noumea.

VANUATU:

Burns Philp New Hebrides Limited, Vila.

NEW ZEALAND:

The Shipping Corp. of N.Z. Ltd. P.O. Box 3344, Wellington.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA:

Steamships Trading Co. Ltd. P.O. Box 1, Port Moresby.

SOLOMON ISLANDS:

Sullivans S.I. Ltd. GPO Box 3, Honiara.

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MADANG: W. Double, P.O. Box 22, Madang. Telephone 82-2696.

FIJI:

K. Witherington Ltd., P.O. Box 293, Suva. Telephone 22-356.

VANUATU:

John Lum & Associates, P.O. Box 65, Santo. Telephone 329.

SOLOMON ISLANDS:

Mr. Tom Lo, P.O. Box 327, Honiara. Telephone 399.

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extending from Sydney to Lae on a monthly basis.

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 Guam.

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 transshipment at Guam 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 ro-ro vessel.

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

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI - US

Karlender operates a monthly cargo service from Melbourne and Sydney to Papeete, US west coast.

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

AUSTRALIA - W. SAMOA

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney to Apia.

Details Compagnie Generale Mari-

time, 12 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (231-3700).

FIJI - LINE ISLANDS (KIRIBATI)

Sisco Shipping Co Ltd has commenced a 30 day service from Suva to Fanning, Washington and Christmas Islands. Back loadings from Suva for en route islands accepted.

Details from Sisco Shipping Co Ltd, PO Box 670, Honiara (808/809) Tlx 66346.

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 Sourabaya, 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 Vanuatu.

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, Vila, Santo, Honiara, Kieta, Tarawa and Guam.

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 (21-2466/21-1898).

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 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 USA and Canadian ports.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP 1602, Noumea (27-51-91), Tlx NM048; 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).

NZ - COOK IS - NIUE - TAHITI

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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

Vanuatu: 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., Sibul & Kuching

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Details from the Shipping Corp of NZ Ltd, PO Box 3420, Auckland 97-210), Waterfront Commission, PO Box 61, Rarotonga; Lighterage and Stevedoring Co, Aitutaki; Niue Govt Offices, Niue Island Compagnie Maritime Polynesienne, B'P 368, 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 7-1221-3). Pacific Line with one ship operates fortnightly ro-ro cargo service New Zealand, Lautoka, Suva. Details: Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland (773-279) PO Box 3614, Telex: NZ2313.

Z - FIJI - NORTH AMERICA (WC)

Blue Star Line Ltd Pacific Coast container services. Only direct service to and from New Zealand. Blue Star vessels call at Suva and Honolulu on Z-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 - SAMOAS - TONGA

Pacific Forum Line operates a fully containerised three-weekly service (Gen/Reefer) from Auckland to Lautoka, Suva, Apia, Pago Pago and Nuku'alofa. Details from Pacific Forum Line, Wellington; Union Co, Auckland, Lautoka, Suva, Apia and Nuku'alofa; Polynesia Shipping Services, Pago Pago or Pacific Forum Line Head Office, Apia.

NZ - N. CALEDONIA - FIJI - SOLOMONS - PNG

Pacific Forum Line operates a fully containerised service (Gen/Reefer) from Lyttelton, Napier, Tauranga, Auckland to Suva, Lautoka, Honiara, Lae and Port Moresby. Details from Pacific Forum Line, Wellington; Shipping Corporation of NZ, Lyttelton, Napier; Union Co, Tauranga, Auckland, Suva, Lautoka; Teamships Trading Co, Kieta, Lae, Port Moresby; Sullivan's (SI) Ltd, Honiara or Pacific Forum Line Head Office, Apia.

Z - N. CALEDONIA - VANUATU - PNG - SOLOMONS

Sofrana Unilines with three ships operates to Vila and Santo, to Honiara and Apua New Guinea and to Norfolk Island and Noumea. Details from Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland (773-279), PO Box 3614, Telex NZ2313.

NZ - TAHITI

Compagnie Tahitienne Maritime SA with one ship operates monthly service New Zealand - Papeete. Details from Sofrana Unilines, PO Box 3614, 18 Customs St, Auckland (773-279), Tlx NZ2313.

NZ - TONGA - SAMOAS

Warner Pacific Line services Auckland - Nuku'alofa/Vavau/Pago Pago fortnightly carrying general and freezer cargoes. Also imaru - Nuku'alofa/Vavau/Apia every 1 days carrying freezer cargo. Details from McKay Shipping Ltd, Powntown House, 21 Queen St, Auckland, PO Box 1372 (30-299), cables MACSHIP, Telex NZ2554.

EUROPE - TAHITI - NEW CALEDONIA

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates services from Europe and Mediterranean ports to Papeete and Noumea using three ro-ro and multi-purpose vessels thus ensuring a bi-monthly sailing to and from.

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

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).

EUROPE - TAHITI - W. SAMOA - TONGA - FIJI - SOLOMONS - PNG

Columbus Line Reederei GMBH operates 2-monthly service from Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Dunkirk and Le Havre to Papeete, Apia, Nuku'alofa, Suva, Lautoka, Noumea, Honiara, Port Moresby, Kieta, Rabaul, Lae, and return to Europe.

Details from Columbus Overseas Services Pty Ltd, 333 George Street, Sydney (290-2966), Columbus Maritime Services, 17 Albert Street, Auckland (77-3460).

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 (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 (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 (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 from 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, 100 California St., San Francisco, California 94111.

US - NOUMEA - FIJI

PAD Line operates an approx 3-weekly ro-ro service from West Coast USA and Canada to Noumea and Suva.



RON BERKING

At Taufusi, Western Samoa, on September 27, aged 48. Mr Berking, an Opposition MP, was reported to have been 'beaten to death' in his office by two young men, who were later questioned by police, and taken into custody on a 'holding charge' of 'grievous assault causing death'. According to

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP 1602, Noumea (27-51-91), Tlx NM048; 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.

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 96799.

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 96799.

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 With Wilhelmsen 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.

reports, Mr Berking, who was manager of Samoa Tropical Products, visited his office with his daughter on the Saturday afternoon of his death. Two men were 'loitering' in front of the office. When Mr Berking told them to leave they became angry, and entered the factory. There was a tussle in which cans of coconut cream were thrown at Berking. Berking's daughter called the police, but he was dead on arrival at the hospital, according to the reports. Mr Berking was generally regarded as a strong advocate of freedom of expression, and a determined questioner of government policies. His funeral was attended by the Head of State Malietoa Tanumafili II, Prime Minister Tupuola Efi, Leader of the Opposition Vaai Kolone, members of Cabinet, MPs, and others.

TOLEAFOA TALITIMU

At Faga, Savaii, Western Samoa in October, aged 62. He was an Opposition MP and a former Speaker of Western Samoa's parliament. But he was perhaps most famous as the youngest of the three liga brothers of concert-makers and songwriters. Gatoloai Peseta Siaoosi, the last of the liga brothers, was also 'Speaker' of the old Fono of Saipule, the forerunner of the present legislative assembly, from 1951 to 1953. Songs written by the liga brothers have been recorded on a long-playing disc by the choir of Avele Boys.

FANGUPO LATAVAO

On Tongatapu, Tonga, on October 23, aged 27. He was the only fatality when a sudden whirlwind hit Nukualofa and other parts of Tongatapu on

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ADVERTISERS INDEX

Aggie Grey	41	Portals	37
Air New Zealand	46	QBE Insurance	48
Aiwa	34	Rex Aviation	52
Akai Electric	12	Ricoh	60
Aquila	33	Sansui Electric	50
AWA	28	Sony	76
Bankline	70	South Sea Freighters	67
Berkey, Robert L.	74	Tatham	4
Berge-Lopez & Craft	43	Toyota Motors	2
Cable & Wireless	24	Union Carbide	40
Cessna	22	University of the South Pacific	33
Citizen Watches	30	Video Recorder	74
Civil Flying	64	Waterwheel Exports	18
Clarion Shoji	56	Watson & Crane	62
Clark Equipment	58	Wordest	41
Daddon, S.	74	Yamaha	38-9
Fliers	74	Yanmar Diesel	28
Firmess	68	Youth Mission	66
Henry Cumines	71		
Hitachi	16		
Holland, N.	74		
Honda Motor Co.	20		
ICI Tasman	44		
Komatsu	54		
Kleckham, Fred	74		
Kyowa Shipping	72		
MacQuarrie Industries	59		
Matsushita	26		
McDonnell-Douglas	32		
Meridian Shipping	73		
Middlemore Hospital	74		
National Insurance	36		
Nelson & Robertson	49		
New Zealand Dairy Board	75		
Pacific Forum	71		
Papua Hotel	41		
Pioneer	8		
Pioneer	42		

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that date. He was electrocuted when he tried to pick up a live broken power line lying on the flooded Vahaakolo Road at Vaololoa.

MICHAEL SELF

On October 31, in a road accident near Wagga Wagga, New South Wales, Michael Self, 19-year-old son of Ron and Della Self who lived for many years in Papua New Guinea and now live in Canberra. Michael, who was born in PNG and had lived with his parents in Madang, Daru, Samarai and Port Moresby, had joined the Royal Australian Air Force and was returning to the air force base at Wagga Wagga from leave when the accident occurred.

ROBERT CHEUNG

In July, aged 45. A pioneer trader in the Papua New Guinea Highlands town of Mt Hagen, 'China Robert' became a household word in the area because of his cheerful disposition and innovative business techniques. Despite many setbacks, including a 1971 fire which gutted his store, Robert Cheung always fought back. He is said to have rebuilt his business three times after troubles of various kinds. His friend, Bishop Bernarding, described him as 'one of the most humane men ever to be met'.

NORMAN DECK

In Sydney, Australia, in August, aged 98. A pioneer missionary of the South Seas Evangelical Church, Norman Deck first arrived in Solomon

Islands in 1913. Early students of Onepusu school, Malaita, remember his hard work to build the place, which many years later became the Onepusu Bible Training Centre. A dentist, Mr Deck practised this profession in Solomon Islands during World War II, returning to Australia after the war. He was a skilled photographer, musician and author, writing a number of books and translating the New Testament into the Kwara'ae language. He also captained his church's first mission vessel.

PHILIP TUI ANDREWS

At Savusavu, Fiji, aged 86. Philip Tui Andrews was a veteran of World War I in which he served with the 1st New Zealand Expeditionary Force in France, Turkey, Egypt and Palestine. He worked for Burns Philp in Western Samoa for about 30 years, returning to Fiji in 1949. He later became the owner of the Lovonisikeci copra estate in Kasavu, Savusavu.

ROY PALMER CLARK

On Pitcairn Island, in May, aged 86. American-born Roy P. Clark came to Pitcairn in 1909 with his father, Lincoln Clark. In 1913 he was married to Hyacinth May Coffin. He later became head schoolteacher, was Church Elder for some time, and finally became the Island's Postmaster, a position he held for 18 years. A tribute in *Pitcairn Miscellany* comments upon his passion for reading, the writing of poetry, and his love of animals.

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SONY

A woman with dark hair and a pink flower in her hair is leaning over a silver Sony CFS-45S stereo radio cassette recorder. She is holding the antenna. The recorder has a cassette tape in it and a frequency dial. The background is a blue pool of water. A glass of green drink is visible on the right.

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