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PACIFIC ISLANDS

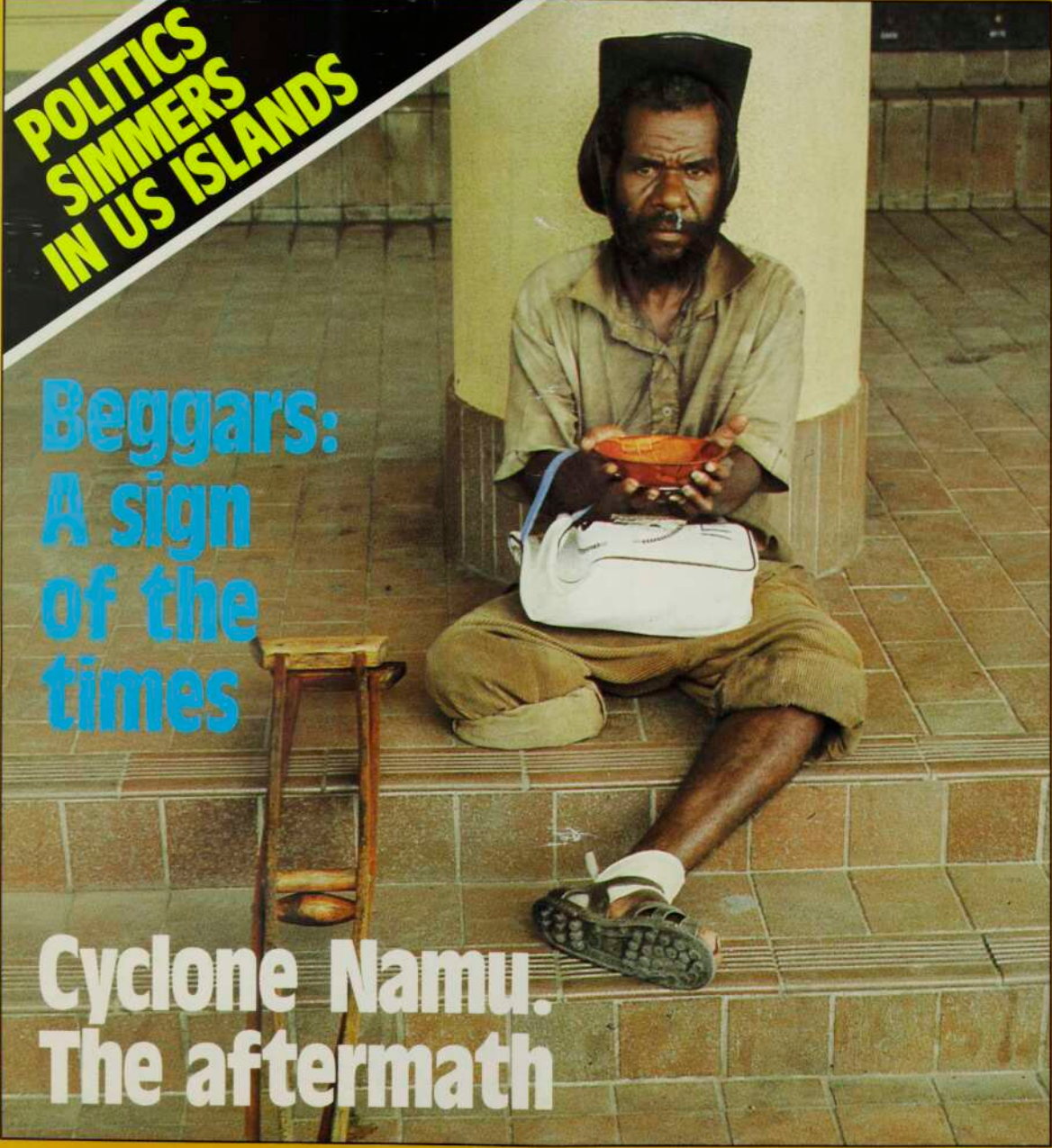
M O N T H L Y

SEPTEMBER, 1986

**POLITICS
SIMMERS
IN US ISLANDS**

**Beggars:
A sign
of the
times**

**Cyclone Namu.
The aftermath**

A photograph of a man with a beard and a black head covering, sitting on a tiled floor. He is holding a small orange bowl in his hands and a white bag with a blue strap. He is wearing a light-colored shirt and shorts. The background shows a tiled floor and a wall.

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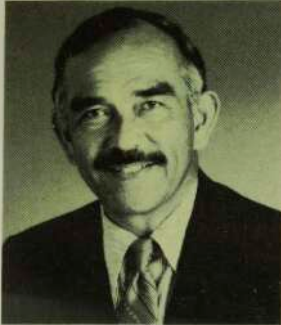
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18

23

20

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A Port Moresby beggar waits for a handout.
 Photo: Patrick Matbob.

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PIM OPINION

US losing the moral high ground

Once again, the Russians have upped the ante in the diplomatic poker game with the Americans. The pot is commercial and political influence in the South Pacific.

The Soviet announcement that Mr Gorbachev would support the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone concept came just after the US and the forum island countries failed to reach agreement on a fisheries access deal.

The Soviet leader also appeared to have occupied the moral high ground by announcing that he intended to start talks on limiting the movements of nuclear weapons within the region.

Meanwhile, instead of attempting the near-impossible multilateral fisheries treaty, the Russians have opted for bilateral agreements which are easier to establish.

It's a Russian victory in a wider war for the hearts and minds of the people of the region. At the same time, however, Mr Gorbachev's statement (page 6) deserves close examination. He does not, for example, specify who he is going to talk to about restricting nuclear weapons in the region. Nor when. If he really wanted to be taken seriously, Mr Gorbachev might have committed the Soviet Union to the protocols of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty which would require the Soviet Union not to manufacture, station or test nuclear devices in the region; not to use or threaten the use of nuclear weaponry against signatories to the treaty; not to test nuclear armaments in the region.

For the Soviets, it's not too much to ask. They have nothing to lose. Also, they lack the restriction placed on the US administration by democratic controls, which, ironically, mitigate against the treaty. The US Congress delegation which toured the region early this year (PIM, July P23) was of the view that the treaty would only encourage people to distrust the nuclear deterrent.

It's a view that has torpedoed US relations with the

island nations for some time past. And without an educational effort in Washington by those who know better, it's a view that will continue to sour any US efforts in the region.

As things stand, the US is sidelined without a fishing agreement, while the Soviet Union continues to gather friends and influence. The Russian attitude to the nuclear issue is also in contrast to the US stance, which pushes Washington further into the cold.

But the US effort has not been botched beyond repair. With the benefit of hindsight, it's possible to say that the multilateral tuna effort on which so many hopes were placed was over ambitious. Through the Forum Fisheries Agency, there were those attending the talks who had little interest in distant-water fishing fleets. This has led, inevitably, to other issues being dragged into an arena already crowded with claims and counter claims.

Again, with hindsight, it's possible to speculate that the US might have been better advised to deal only with those countries which signed the Nauru agreement and which have a fairly uniform policy on distant-water fleet access. But that could still be done, using the contact and trust that has been built up over the past two years of talks.

The bilateral aid negotiations with Fiji (PIM, August P20) also represent cause for optimism.

But the Americans must know that they can't have it both ways. It's not possible for them — or Australia — to express doubts about other nations' foreign dealings while, for example, the US proposes to sell subsidised wheat to the Soviet Union with which it also has a fishery agreement.

So while that battle for hearts and minds is by no means over, the Americans are beginning to look like losers. Washington really needs to get its act together.



pacific report

SOVIETS BACK NUCLEAR FREE ZONE PLAN

The Soviet Union supported the declaration of a South Pacific nuclear free zone and would start immediate talks on reducing naval activity in the area. The statement was issued by the Soviet embassy in Wellington in the name of the Russian leader Mr Mikhail Gorbachev. However the statement did not say with whom the talks would be held nor did it make clear whether Russia would sign the protocols attached to the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty. Mr Gorbachev also said the Soviet Union wished to extend ties with "the youngest independent participants in the region's political life." However US spokesmen remained sceptical about the Gorbachev speech. The US view is still that Moscow's plans in the regions are "purely disruptive."

COUNTRIES AGREE ON SALT DEAL

Five Pacific countries have reached agreement to buy solar salt, a new export product from Kiribati bringing mass produced on Christmas Island. Fiji, Hawaii, American Samoa and Western Samoa have agreed to import about 20,000 tonnes of the salt following negotiations with a promotional team from Kiribati. The team also hopes to conclude deals with Tonga, Vanuatu, Solomon Islands and New Zealand.

PRIVATE HOSPITAL PLAN APPROVED

The Fiji government has approved a plan to build a major private hospital in Suva. The one-hundred bed hospital will be run by the US-based Mercy International Health Services and will cost \$10 million. The hospital is also intended to serve as a medical training centre, in co-operation with the Fiji School of Medicine and other South Pacific institutions.

REFUGEES 'READY TO GO HOME'

Up to one third of the Irian Jayans now living in refugee camps in Papua New Guinea are ready to return to their homes across the border, according to the UN High Commissioner for Refugees. The 10,000 Irian Jayans crossed the border in 1984 following clashes between independentist OPM guerrillas and Indonesian authorities. A new UNHCR report says more than 600 have already returned voluntarily this year. However, although one third are ready to return, another third will return only if their safety can be guaranteed.



TOP: Refugees arrive in Vanimo in 1984. Now some may be ready to return to Irian Jaya.

ABOVE: After the cyclone — a child in terror at the scene of destruction in a Solomon Islands village.

TEACHERS PROTEST AT 'ROUGH TREATMENT'

The Australian Teachers Federation has formally protested to the French embassy in Canberra over what it described as the intimidation of an official in New Caledonia. The federation's deputy general secretary, Mr Richard Walsham, said he was searched and questioned by officials at Noumea's Tontouta airport when leaving the territory. He said officials had photocopied his diary containing names and addresses, confiscated a cassette tape and asked him who he had seen during his visit. Walsham said he had been to the territory to discuss a possible aid program with Kanak schools. He said he met with teachers, trade unionists and what he described as militant members of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front. The federation has requested an apology, the return of the tape and a promise that those named in the diary would not be harassed.

CASH AID FOR CREDIT UNIONS

American Catholic Relief Services (CRS) signed a four year grant agreement with the South Pacific Association of Credit Unions totalling US\$250,000. The CRS grant is designed to provide new and existing credit union leagues throughout the South Pacific with technical assist-

ance and special start-up services. The project co-ordinator is Professor Jose Avila of the Bergengren Credit Union Training Centre in Suva.

NEW SHIPPING ROUTE DISCOVERED

The Australian Navy announced the discovery of a new shipping route off the north coast of PNG. Helped by satellite photographs, the Navy ship, Flinders, found the new passage through the Star reef between Ward Hunt Strait and the northern port of Lae. The new route could cut 30 to 40 nautical miles off journeys between the southern coast and Lae and about 160 nautical miles off journeys between Australia and PNG. The route would also be strategically important in time of war.

EEC GRANT TO IMPROVE AIRPORTS

The European Commission has approved a grant of US\$5 million to assist the development of South Pacific air communications. The three and a half year program will help upgrade five airports: Nausori (Fiji), Bonriki (Kiribati), Fua'amotu (Tonga), Funafuti (Tuvalu) and Bauerfield (Vanuatu).

ATHLETES MAY BE COMPENSATED

PNG prime minister Mr Paias Wingti said he would consider reimbursing the country's athletes for the expense and effort in training for the Commonwealth Games. Mr Wingti stopped the PNG team from attending the Edinburgh games in protest at Britain's lack of commitment to economic sanctions against South Africa.

LABOUR PARTY WOULD NATIONALISE

The first annual convention of the Fiji Labour Party heard that a Labour government would nationalise the gold mining industry, public transport and the country's tuna cannery. Party president, Dr Timoci Bavadra told the Lautoka convention that nationalisation would boost the domestic economy and that public transport was too important to be left to the private sector. He also called for a more equitable distribution of land and indicated that a special body to monitor the activities of the Native Land Trust Board would be considered. The Labour Party is backed by the majority of the country's trade unions.

SHOPKEEPERS UNHAPPY OVER TAX

Shopkeepers in Tonga are reported to be unhappy at having to act as tax collectors for the government through the new sales tax. The retailers have to collect the tax and then pass it on to the authorities. The shopkeepers feel the work should be done by public servants.

PLAN TO BOOST AGRICULTURE

Papua New Guinea prime minister Mr Pias Wingti announced a \$200 million program to boost the country's agricultural output. He said the money would be spent over four years on research, extension services and the development of food production. All sectors of the rural economy would receive an allocation, he said.

GARMENT MAKERS 'UNABLE TO PAY'

An inquiry into Fiji's garment industry concluded that the industry could not afford to pay a wage rate of 90 cents per hour. The inquiry recommended, however, that a rate of 65 cents for adults and 55 cents for trainees should be set.

GIRLS DEMANDED IN COMPENSATION

A tribe in PNG's Western Highlands province has demanded heavy compensation from another clan for the death of one of its members. The Maki clan asked the Kisu clan for A\$48,000 in cash, 100 pigs, 10 cassowaries — and two young girls. The Makis said the inclusion of the two girls would found an everlasting friendship between the two clans.

TUNA TALKS IN DEADLOCK

South Pacific island nations and the United States failed to reach agreement on a multilateral tuna fishing treaty. A meeting in Rarotonga ended with the islands and the USA still at loggerheads over fees for access to tuna fisheries. The US had offered US\$10 million for Pacific-wide fishing rights — an offer some island states consider unacceptable. The parties hoped to meet again this month.

NEW AIRLINE TAKES OFF

Cook Islands International airline was launched last month. The new airline will fly a weekly service between Sydney and Rarotonga. The airline is wholly



ABOVE: Fr. Walter Lini . . . wants forum countries to join the non-aligned movement and speak out on world issues. ABOVE RIGHT: PNG lands minister, Paul Torato . . . resigned pending an investigation of allegations of malpractice. FAR RIGHT: PNG opposition leader Michael Somare . . . wants to see Japan help the smaller nations of the South Pacific.

owned by the Cook Islands Government who have signed an agreement with Ansett Airlines to operate, manage and market the venture. Ansett is providing a new generation Boeing 767 with crews. The aircraft seats up 30 business and 181 economy class passengers. The one-way business class fare from Sydney to Rarotonga is A\$1,051 and the economy class fare A\$914. Flying time from Sydney is six hours.

THREE PNG MINISTERS QUIT

The Papua New Guinea government announced a third ministerial resignation in three days. Prime minister, Mr Pias Wingti, said the minister for lands, Mr Paul Torato, had been asked to resign following allegations of malpractice. The allegations relate to lands matters near the giant gold prospect at Porgera in Enga, for which Torato is also MP. He was also head of the United Party group in PNG's five-party coalition. Torato was to stand down while the allegations were investigated. Wingti earlier announced the resignations of education minister, Mr Aruru Matiabe and environment minister, Mr Tom Muliap. Both were awaiting the outcome of court proceedings against them. Matiabe's case involved alleged misappropriation, while Muliap's concerned alleged drunken driving.

LINI WANTS FORUM BLOC

Vanuatu prime minister, Fr Walter Lini, told the South Pacific Forum in Suva that he wanted to see forum countries join the non-aligned bloc and speak out on

international issues beyond the region. Lini said that until the forum took a position on such issues as recognising the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the South West African People's Organisation (SWAPO), it could not be regarded as a political group in a specific area of the world. Lini said that, with the decision to refer the question of independence for New Caledonia to the United Nations Decolonisation Committee, the forum should also press for independence for the other French territories of French Polynesia and Wallis and Futuna. He said the forum should also campaign for independence for Irian Jaya and East Timor. New Zealand prime minister, Mr David Lange, however, said the value of the forum lay in its concentration on the political, economic and social development of the region. Lange said that if Vanuatu wanted to turn the forum into a mini-United Nations, then New Zealand would not attend the meetings.

SOMARE LOOKS TO JAPAN

Papua New Guinea's opposition leader, Mr Michael Somare, wants more involvement by Japan in the development of the South Pacific. Somare said Japan's advanced technology could be used to assist small island nations develop their natural resources. He was speaking after meeting the outgoing Japanese ambassador to PNG, Mr Taniguchi who said Japan wanted to further develop the fisheries resources of the island states and welcomed requests for help from the smaller island states in that area.

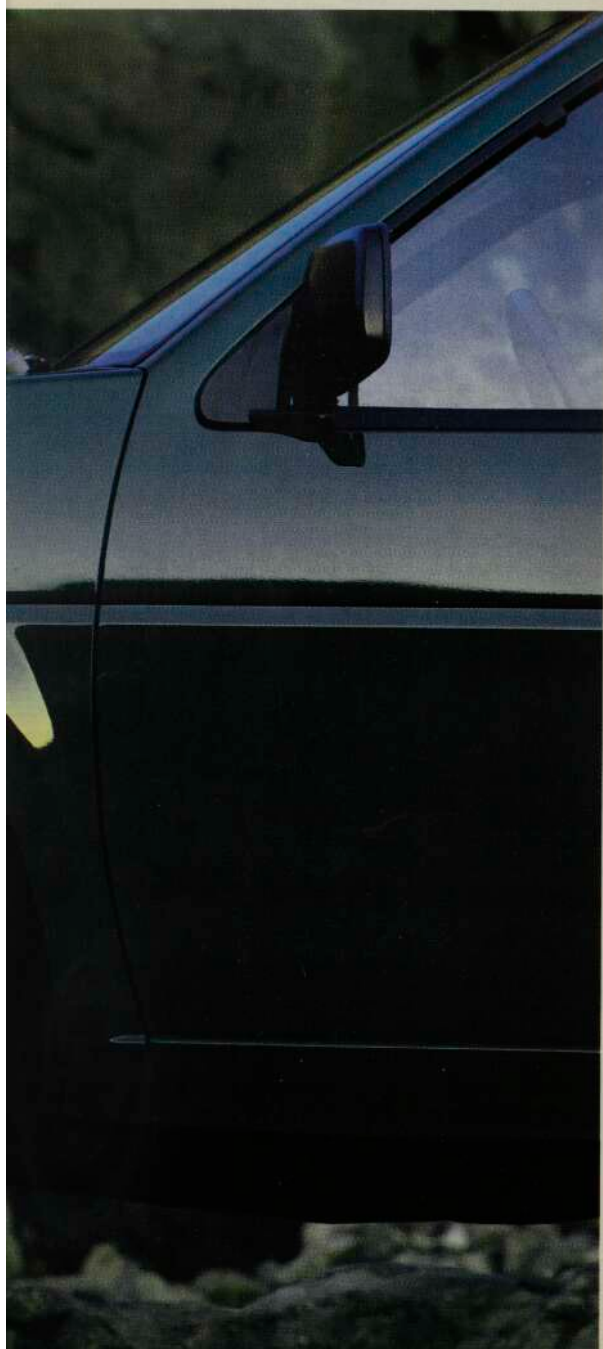
CLAMPDOWN ON BLUE MOVIES

Police in Vanuatu are clamping down on video hire shops for possession of obscene video tapes. Two shop operators — one in Port Vila and another in Santo — were fined for possession. Police in Luganville destroyed 25 tapes while 50 were seized in Port Vila.

THE NISSAN



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Quality in motion





Pathetic opinion and sloppy production values

Recent issues of PIM strongly suggest that the venerable publication is doing its best to make its regional competitors look good.

As a regular reader of PIM over a 15-year period, I feel entitled to comment on the lamentable decline in both content and layout in recent years.

The quality of feature articles has become so thin as to be almost non-existent and the general appearance of the magazine would do little justice to a suburban charity newsletter with its ill-matched headlines and sloppy production values.

One can't help observing that some of the contributors who helped PIM maintain a reasonable standard, such as Robert Kiste, Floyd Takeuchi and Norman Douglas do not seem to be writing for the magazine any longer.

Did they know something sooner than the readers? Thank God at least the Danielssons are still submitting copy.

But probably the most obvious aspect of this decline in standards is the quality of the editorials these days.

The effort calling itself 'PIM opinion' on Libya and Vanuatu was as pathetic as I have ever seen. I note the editorials these days seem to feature a lot of blank space.

Is this an indication of the editor's understanding of his topic?

If PIM can't lift its game it deserves to be consigned to the trash can of journalistic history. Perhaps the kindest thing its publishers could do would be to acknowledge its advancing years and increasing feebleness by giving it a golden handshake and sending it into retirement.

WILLIAM BENNETT
Flora Street
Sutherland, NSW

***The ill-tempered Mr Bennett is in a minority. PIM sales continue to increase — editor.**

The cost of links with Libya

The spectacle of Fr Walter Lini expressing solidarity with Col Ghaddafi has sent a shockwave through the region. Fr Lini and his fellow party members, meanwhile, spread their hands in a gesture of puzzlement and ask why everybody is suddenly so interested in the Libya connection.

At the same time, Mr Uregei points out that the perpetrators of local terrorism are certainly not Libyan. Fr Lini confides to the Colonel that he regrets the fact that small children were killed by the bombs of a superpower.

He then announces formal diplomatic relations with Libya, adding that it's nobody's business but Vanuatu's. The Vanuatu prime minister, his aides pointed out, was the first in the region to express his feelings regarding the US raid on Libya and the events that followed.

All well and good, so far. That is until we recall that Fr Lini was less than vocal when terrorists, wherever they may have struck, gunned down or bombed innocent children. Mr Uregei's voice, too, was somewhat muted on these occasions.

There seems to be a perception here that there are "good" terrorists and "bad" terrorists. It's a pretty poor perception. From wherever you stand on the political spectrum, it is not possible for any respectable government to condone the slaughter of innocents. Nevertheless, that is the attitude both Fr Lini and Mr Uregei have adopted by default in their one-sided approach to Col Ghaddafi's Libya.

They are dealing, let's remember, with a man who routinely orders the executions of political opponents, a man who has at the very least sheltered terrorists and encouraged if not directly supported them.

The notion that it is necessary to accept money and/or support from any source available is a dangerous one for two reasons.

Firstly because nobody gives aid for nothing. There is the risk that island groups will not be able to keep Libya at arm's length while taking its money and/or its assistance and support.

Secondly because countries or movements siding with Libya could find themselves isolated within the South Pacific region whereas Libya will never be more than a distant friend.

Both Fr Lini and Mr Uregei are politically experienced enough to know of the risks, yet both seem prepared to accept them. That's their right.

But their neighbors have a right to be worried.

The editorial that is causing controversy

Much better than the mutual back-slapping

As a former PIM reader who has returned to the fold after a number of years, I write to record my appreciation of how the magazine has changed.

From what I recall in the old days, PIM was something full of social chit chat and academic mutual back slapping.

The latest issue I have seen, (August) is, by comparison, full of news and analysis as opposed to rehashed reports that appeared in the local press some time ago.

However, I must agree with Mr Crain (August PIM, letters) that your editorial in June "The Cost of Links With Libya" is wide of the mark.

One suspects that, for one thing, Vanuatu simply seeks to make the point that it does have the right to establish relations with whomsoever it pleases. As a sovereign nation, surely that right is undeniable.

The "concerns" voiced by Australia and others smack of paternalism — we're big enough to deal with Libya and the Soviets, but you'll have to grow up first.

Likewise on fisheries dealings. Both New Zealand and the USA have fisheries agreements with the Soviet Union, as PIM has reported on several occasions. How then can these two countries get upset when Kiribati or Vanuatu or anybody else seeks similar commercial agreements?

As for Vanuatu becoming isolated, it seems increasingly that the majority of island states are swinging round towards the Vanuatu-Kiribati position.

That said, thanks for the "new" PIM. I now look forward to it each month. — (Name withheld for professional reasons), Boroko, PNG.

Pitcairn pen pal, please?

I am writing to PIM to seek a penfriend on Pitcairn Island.

I am deeply interested in the fascinating history of this island, which sheltered the *Bounty* mutineers of 1789. I have studied the story so closely that I am able to draw a map of the island from memory, which I enclose.

My great dream is to correspond with a girl who lives on Pitcairn Island. Beyond that, I hope one day to be able to go to Pitcairn to see first-hand what it is like.

I am 26 years of age, and I love black hair and deep brown eyes.

PIERO PIRISI
Via Silvestro II N21
00767 Rome,
Italy

Politics simmer in US islands

GUAM faces two hotly-contested rounds of elections this year, while American Samoa may have an interesting, one-round election.

The political fates of Guam's governor, Ricardo Bordallo, its congressman, Ben Blaz, and Samoa's congressman, Fofō Sunia, will be on the line.

Guam's voters will elect both a governor and a lieutenant governor, a congressman and all 21 members of the one-house legislature, the senate.

At least two slates for governor and lt. governor are expected to run in both the Republican and Democratic primaries this month with the surviving tickets competing with each other in the November general elections.

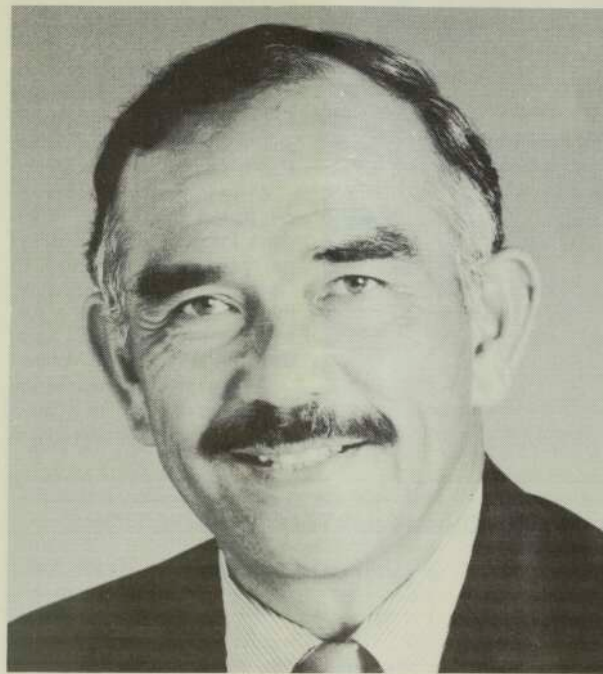
The two mainland political parties are well-organised on Guam and are roughly evenly matched. The incumbent congressman is a Republican, while the sitting governor is a Democrat. The current line-up in the Senate is 11 to 9 Democratic, with one vacancy.

The governorship of Samoa is not up for grabs until November, 1988; this year Congressman Sunia is running for re-election to his seat in the House of Representatives and may be opposed by former governor Peter Tali Coleman.

Sunia sits with the Democrats in the National House, while Coleman is the chairman of the newly organised Republican Party of Samoa. The Samoan legislature, historically not elected along party lines, is to be chosen as well.

Facing off against each other in Guam's September 6 primary are the four governor/lt. governor slates:

Democratic: Governor — Ricardo Bordallo, Carl Gutierrez, Lt. Governor — Edward Reyes, John Aguon.



Top: Congressman Ben Blaz
Above: Congressman Fofō Sunia

Republican: Governor — Joe Ada, Tommie Tanaka. Lt. Governor — Frank Blas, Tony Unpingco.

Bordallo and Reyes are the incumbents; Gutierrez is Speaker of the Senate, and all five of the other candidates are members of the Senate. (That six of the twenty current members of the Senate, all men, are **not** running for re-election is a plus for the four women in the Senate, all of whom **are** running for re-election.)

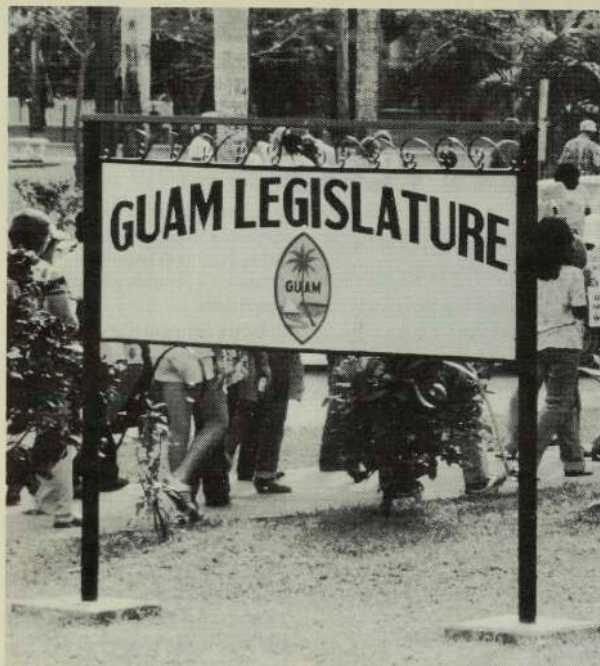
The race for the seat in the House of Representatives may be a hot one again this year; Blaz, after losing once to the longtime House member, Won Pat, narrowly defeated him in November, 1984. Pat then tried to use his contacts among the Democrats of the House (who have controlled that body for 52 of the last 56 years) to overturn the Blaz victory, claiming that Blaz needed an absolute majority of the vote, not the plurality that he enjoyed. Pat's efforts were in vain.

This year the Democratic candidate is expected to be General Frank Torres, the head of Guam's unit of the U.S. National Guard.

Torres has announced for the seat and appears to have no contest in the primary, as Blaz has no contest in the Republican primary.

The Democrats have apparently decided that Guam voters like Generals (Blaz won his star in the U.S. Marines, the first islander to secure flag rank in the American's regular armed forces). Governor Bordallo appointed Torres Adjutant General of Guam's National Guard.

Torres announced that he was taking a leave of absence from this position when he declared his candidacy (on June 30); Torres' non-resignation from the Guard may be a subject of controversy as the mainland tradition has been



that one does not run for political office in uniform.

Although Blaz has not yet made an issue of it, one of Guam's Democratic senators, Frank Santos, has done so. Santos is chair of the key Federal-Territorial Relations Committee of the Guam Senate. (Blaz had retired from the Marine Corps when he ran for Congress.)

Guam's primary election is a political institution introduced from the mainland, and is probably not used elsewhere in the Pacific (except in Hawaii).

While in most nations political parties select their candidates for public office through party-created systems, in Guam, and on the mainland, the government creates a system for selecting such candidates by all interested voters.

On the mainland one usually states a preference for a given party, and then votes in only in

that party's selection process.

But this year, on Guam, a new system has been introduced, which certainly will prove to be interesting and may prove to be confusing. As we heard it described each voter is allowed to vote for a candidate for Congress, for governor and for Lt. governor, and for 21 members of the Senate, and may do so regardless of party.

One could, for instance, vote for Governor Bordallo, Congressman Blaz, seven Republican Senate candidates, and 14 Democratic ones.

This month's primary, then, will not only select the candidates for the November election, they will also provide a preliminary indication of voter sentiment.

This is particularly true for the Blaz-Torres race, as the candidates in September and November, apparently, will be the same two men.

While it is clear who is running against whom in Guam, things are less settled in American Samoa. Sunia will run for re-election. Perhaps former Governor Coleman (who apparently yens to become governor again) may run against him.

Or perhaps Coleman's ally, Soli Aumoeualogo will do so. Aumoeualogo was Sunia's opponent two years ago, losing 5946 to 3120.

That neither the delegate from Guam or Samoa has a vote on the floor of the House of Representatives apparently does not dim interest in these positions. While they lack that crucial vote, they can (and do) vote in the committees where Congress does most of its bread-and-butter decision-making; further they can vote in their party caucuses, and Blaz, as a matter of fact, was elected President of the Republican House members' freshman class in January of 1985, a minor but unprecedented honor for a voteless delegate from the islands.

In Washington their staff refer to Blaz and Sunia as "Congressman"; in Guam, at least, the older term "Delegate" is used in the publications of the Guam Election Commission.

— David S. North.

THE LEGISLATURES OF THE US-AFFILIATED JURISDICTIONS

Territory and Legislature	Members, Terms	Next Election	Party
American Samoa			
Senate	18, two years	late 1986	none (matai elected)
House	20, two years	Nov. 1986	none
Guam			
Senate (unicameral)	21, two years	Primary, Sept. 86 General, Nov. 86	11 D, 9 R and 1 vacant
Northern Marianas			
Senate	9, two years	Nov. 1987	5 R, 4 D
House	15, two years	Nov. 1987	9 R, 6 D
Federated States of Micronesia			
National Congress (unicameral)	14, 4 for four years 10 for 2 years	March 1987	none
Republic of the Marshall Islands			
Nitijela	33, usually 4 years*	Nov. 1987	informal
Council of Iroij	12, one year	varies	composed of traditional chiefs or their designees
Republic of Palau			
Senate	18, four years	Nov. 1988	none
House of Delegates	16, four years	Nov. 1988	none

* A special election could be called if the President lost the confidence of a majority of the Nitijela.
D = Democratic, R = Republican

Soviets have a say in decisions

A strange crew of decision makers, including Russian diplomats, will decide when — and perhaps if — the three Micronesian nations are to receive the billions of dollars promised by the United States.

The governments of the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau want to enter into their new associations with the US, which, for its part, is keen to get with the new arrangements.

Congress has already voted the first money to the islands, but none will be handed over until the Compact of Free Association takes effect.

And that's where the unusual group of decision makers comes into the picture.

Normally, the US Congress votes to spend money and, normally, the administration does so, unless the president vetoes the appropriation Bill or otherwise blocks the money.

So far, there have been no roadblocks in Washington as far as the promised US\$3 billion is concerned. The problems have arisen in Palau and in New York.

Justice Gibson, a mainland, sitting in the Supreme Court of Palau, has ruled that the republic did not vote to approve the Compact of Free Association. His decision was that the 72 per cent support for the compact in the most recent Palau referendum is insufficient.

He ruled that Palau's constitution clearly requires a 75 per cent margin — a defeat for President Lazarus Salii and a victory for the plaintiff, Chief Ibedul Yutaka Gibbons.

Salii immediately appealed against the ruling to the appellate division of the nation's supreme court. And like many island courts that lack a steady stream of business, Palau's appellate division sits irregularly.

It meets when required and its members — normally three — are appointed by the chief justice.

Whoever hears the appeal, Washington observers point out that, even if Justice Gibson's ruling is upheld, there is another avenue for the pro-compact forces.

The 75 per cent rule is written into the Palau constitution (July PIM, p7) which could probably be amended to a lower figure by the compact's supporters.

The Palau establishment has,

however, consistently avoided this in the past.

It is also not inconceivable that the government in Washington might decide, unilaterally, that 72 per cent is enough of a majority to show that the Palauans on the whole are in favour of the compact.

And that's where the Russians come back into the picture.

The view from Moscow is that the US is steadily throwing a ring of bases around the Soviets and sees the compact as a strategic device.

This makes the situation at the UN murky. While the UN Trusteeship Council has voted overwhelmingly for termination — only the Russians disagreed — the next step is up to the Security Council where the Russians have hinted strongly

that their veto may come into play.

But a security trusteeship has never been terminated before. There are no clear precedents on procedure so that the US and its allies as well as the Russians may find themselves jockeying for position.

And since procedural questions are often determined by the views of the presiding officer, the timing of any hearing will be vital.

During this month the Security Council is chaired by the Soviet representative. Next month it rotates to the pro-west United Arab Emirates and then to the United Kingdom and then to the US itself.

The US, therefore, is quite likely to seek to delay any moves at least until after September. — David North.

How the leaders come to power

The legislature of *American Samoa* is called the Fono; the lower house is apportioned by population and elected by universal suffrage; the upper house is elected by persons (largely men) holding the traditional title of matai.

The governor is elected directly, and although the current governor identifies himself as a national Democrat, as the previous one called himself a national Republican, elections are non-partisan.

Mainland type party-line elections occur in *Guam*, where all 21 members of the Senate are elected at large; two months before the general election each major party picks up to 21 candidates in primaries.

Each voter can vote for up to 21 candidates in the primary and in the general. The Governor is elected directly in a partisan election.

The Senate of the *Northern Marianas* is divided three seats per island; the lower house is apportioned by population, with 13 seats allocated to the more populous Saipan, and one each to Tinian and Rota. The Governor is elected directly.

The *Federated States of Micronesia* have one of the more complex systems among those described here. Each of the four states (Kosrae, Pohnpei, Truk and Yap) elect a four-year senator; the president and the vice president are chosen from these four by the fourteen members of the National Congress; then by elections are held to replace the president and the vice president.

The other ten seats are apportioned by population and elected directly for two-year terms. Thus, comparing this system to that of the mainland, a single body, the National Congress, plays the role of the U.S. Senate (equal representation for states), of the U.S. House of Representatives (representation by population) and of the Electoral College (which formally chooses the U.S. President).

The *Republic of the Marshall Islands* follows the British pattern; the lower (and more powerful) house is elected directly, and the members then choose a president who is the head of government.

If the president were to lose the confidence of the majority a resignation would be expected; there is an informal division between 23 members supporting the government, the Ailin Kein Ad (Our Islands) party, and ten members backing the opposition, the Ainikien Dri Majol (The Voice of the Marshalls).

The other legislative body — *Marshall* — do not use the concept of an upper and a lower house — is the Council of Iroij, which consists of twelve traditional chiefs or their deputies. The Council does not have the power to overrule the Nitijela, and has powers confined to traditional matters, such as titles and land tenure.

In the *Republic of Palau* the senate is based on population and the House has one representative from each state. The president and the vice president are elected directly and separately.

Compliments to the Senator

I see a lot of state senators, and you do not look like one."

The comment, meant as a compliment, was accepted as such by Guam Senator Marilyn Manibusan.

Making the comment was the chief clerk of the committee, a woman who had seen many a state senator, but few were young, petite, female and Chamorro. The senator is all that and more.

She had made the long trip to Washington to testify on the proposed Guam Commonwealth Act before the House of Representatives Committee on

Interior and Insular Affairs; Guam's congressman Ben Blaz had facilitated her appearance.

While in Washington she was also working on a conference to protest against the dumping of nuclear waste in the Pacific.

Senator Manibusan carried a collection of titles into the hearing room. In addition to being the only Republican woman in the Guam Senate she is the minority leader of the body, a representative of the Senate on Guam's Commission on Self-Determination and the Territorial chair of the Republican Party.

Born on Guam, she spent



Senator Marilyn Manibusan.

Women stay in the background

The number of women holding elective office in the U.S. flag territories varies widely, with women, apart from Mrs Aquino, playing larger roles in the Caribbean territories than in the Pacific.

There are six U.S. flag territories in the Pacific: Samoa, Guam and the four jurisdictions in Micronesia that the U.S. has ruled since World War 2.

As a rough measure of women's political strength we have noted below the percentage of women elected to the legislatures. Two not terribly encouraging yardsticks are those of the mainland Congress.

There is the U.S. Senate, with 2 per cent women (Senators Hawkins and Kassebaum), and the U.S. House of Representatives, with a little over 5 per cent.

Jurisdiction	Percentage Women in Legislature
Virgin Islands	27.7
Guam	19.0
Puerto Rico (both houses)	10.2
U.S. House	5.4
Republic of the Marshall Islands	3.0
U.S. Senate	2.0
Northern Marianas (both houses)	0
Republic of Palau (both houses)	0
Federated States of Micronesia	0
American Samoa (both houses)	0

Four members of Guam's unicameral legislature are women as is a single member of the Marshalls' governing body, the only one of the territories that uses the British parliamentary system.

Except for the four women in Guam, and the presence of Evelyn Konou in the Nitijela, the Marshallese Congress, there are no other women currently serving as elective members of the U.S.-related legislatures.

Five women serve in the House of Iroij, the other (and less powerful) legislative body in the Marshalls which reflects the islands' traditional chiefs.

The current absence of women in most of these legislatures results from political practices, rather than institutional arrangements. Women have the same right to vote and to run for office as men do in all of these legislatures but one, the Senate of Samoa.

The government in Samoa, at first glance, appears to follow the typical American pattern. There is a governor, elected for a four-year term by universal suffrage, and a 20-member House of Representatives, apportioned by population, and elected by all voters. Women have served in the House, though none do now.

But then there is the 18-member Senate. Its members are elected by village councils called fono, and the members of the fono are matais. Matais in turn are (roughly translated to mainland terms) clan chiefs or heads of extended families, selected in a traditional manner.

More than 99 per cent of them are male, usually middle-aged to elderly. Only the most exceptional woman, under the most exceptional circumstances, can become a matai. None has been elected to the Senate, and no one remembers a woman even seeking election.

The reason the anomaly of the matais persists is because the U.S. Constitution rests lightly on the islands. (Trial by jury, for example, arrived only in the last few years). Similarly Samoa's residents, though they may become U.S. citizens on the mainland, are not automatically considered to be citizens of the United States.

A well-mounted challenge to the constitutionality of the matai voting system could probably succeed should some women's organisation carry the battle to mainland courts. No such suit has been filed. — David S. North.



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several years in San Francisco, going to college and securing a paralegal's certificate. Marilyn Manibusan returned to Guam in 1978, married, had a child, went into several businesses and became concerned about Guam's relations with the mainland.

"I first was involved in politics when I fought the proposed constitutional referendum; it did not solve our problems and was defeated."

In 1982 she was elected to the Senate, was re-elected two years later and this year has turned aside suggestions she seek the Lt. Governorship and instead is seeking another term in the Senate. She points out she is the only woman ever elected to the Guam Senate while using her maiden name.

While other women have been elected to the Guam Senate in the past and to legislative bodies in American Samoa, Palau and the Northern Marianas, there currently are only five women serving in elective positions in U.S.-affiliated legislatures in the Pacific.

The other three Guam Senators are Elizabeth Perez Arriola, Herminia Duenas (Pepero) Dierking and Pilar C. Lujan; all three are seeking re-election and all three are Democrats.

Further, all three secured their bachelor's degrees on the mainland (it seems to be a pattern) and two of them (Senators Arriola and Dierking) earned master's degrees there as well. All three spent part of their lives teaching in church or public schools.

Senator Arriola, who is in her second two-year term, has served on the Territorial Board of Education and the Board of Regents of the University of Guam and is currently a member of the Diocesan Board of Education.

She is chair of the Senate's Committee on Youth, Senior Citizens, Cultural Affairs and Human Resources.

Senator Lujan's early career was devoted to education, moving up from a teacher's job to that of assistant principal of one school and principal of another.

She was Associate Superintendent for Curriculum and In-



Senator Elizabeth Arriola.

struction at the time of her retirement from the Guam school system. She subsequently became chair of the first elected Board of Education.

She has been active in the promotion of the Chamorro language, was an instructor in the language at the University of Guam and served as chair of the Chamorro Language Commission for several years. She, too, is in her second term in the Senate.

Senator Dierking is the

newest female member of the Senate, being elected for the first time in 1984. With her academic degrees in business administration she taught that subject at the University of Guam, rising to become chair of the Accounting Department. She also ran her own accounting firm, HERMCO, Inc.

Senator Dierking's campaign literature is interesting because about a quarter of the space is devoted to a list of her relatives,



Left: Senator Herminia Dierking. Right: Senator Pilar C. Lujan.

living and dead, all of whom have Chamorro names (Castro, Duenas, Guzman, etc.).

This presumably is a way to emphasise her family connections while continuing to use the (somewhat less Chamorro) name of her husband. Senator Manibusan's decision to run on her maiden name may, in part, relate to the fact her own name sounds more like an island one than that of her spouse, Mr Colbert.

The fifth woman serving in an elective American flag legislature is Evelyn Konou, a member of the Nitijela of the Republic of the Marshall Islands. She is a member of the Opposition Party.

Five women serve in the House of Iroij, the 12-member body in the Marshalls which passes on traditional matters such as titles and land claims but which can not override the political decisions of the Nitijela.

The members of this body are not elected by the voters generally, they are persons with chiefly rank, that of Iroijaplap; when more than one such person lives in a Council of Iroij district (usually an atoll) those holding the rank choose a member of the group to sit on the Council.

Rotation in office is advocated (but not mandated) in article III of the Constitution of the Marshall Islands. The Constitution is very clear, however, one can not sit in both the Nitijela and the Council of Iroij; if a member of the Council is elected to the Nitijela that member can appoint a deputy to serve on the Council and this is why two of the women sit on the Council.

One woman, Neilang Loeak, sits in her own right while two others have been appointed by male members. Amata Kabua, the President of the Marshalls, is also a chief and has appointed his cousin, Atama Zedkaia, to represent him in the Council of Iroij.

Similarly, his uncle, Kabua Kabua, has appointed Niemata Makamura to sit for him. There are two other women on the Council, Limelang Jawin and Likbar Anni, but how they were named is not clear. — David S. North.

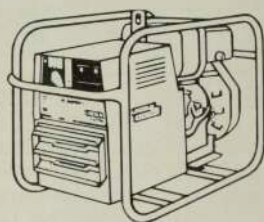
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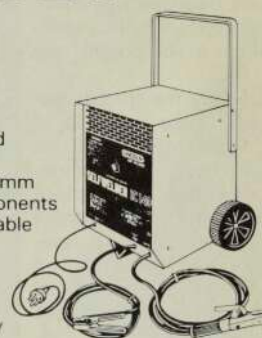
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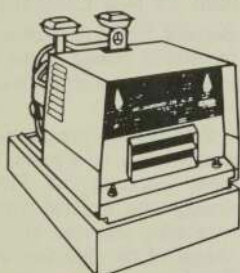
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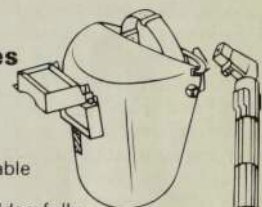


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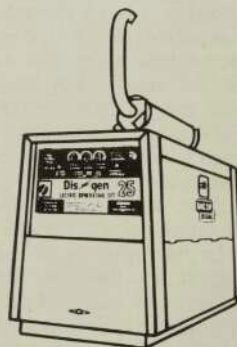
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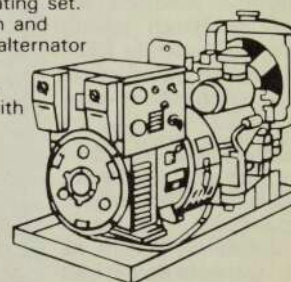
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The calm after the storm

The offices on the seventh floor of Noumea's Indosuez Bank building give the impression of emptiness.

Furnished only with functional desks, barely enough chairs and telephones, the office walls, apart from a few posters, are bare.

But despite the spartan surroundings, there is an air of quiet determination and industry. Architects' plans for major tourist complexes, details of a proposed information service as well as several other development projects are laid out on the desk tops and are mulled over, added to and discussed by a handful of staff.

The offices are the main administrative bases for three of New Caledonia's four regions — the three controlled by the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS).

It's a far different environment from the ramshackle two-storey house on the poorer side of the city, which served as the front's HQ at the start of its struggle for the French territory's independence and denotes significant progress towards that goal.

It also signals a clear strategy change. The emphasis is now on development of the regions to demonstrate the ability of the Kanak people to govern responsibly.

Despite warnings of a possible return to violence in the face of the French government's new plans for the future of New Caledonia, it's clear that that is an option nobody wants to see revived.

FLNKS leader Jean-Marie Tjibaou has tried to remain positive. Shortly after the plan was endorsed by the French National Assembly in Paris, he declared that there were at least some good aspects.

The regions had been left in place and an all-important referendum on the question of independence had been scheduled for the latter half of next year.

Signs of normality are returning to New Caledonia. The economy is recovering from a stormy two years. Building has started again; car and furniture sales are buoyant. There are even a few tourists to be seen. But the independence movement is still active while maintaining a low profile. SUE WILLIAMS reports

While the front was not expected to accept the new statute which strips the regions of much of their autonomy and scraps the office which had been responsible for buying back land for the Kanak people, it was expected to vote to stay within the institutions of the regions at the FLNKS congress due to be held after the South Pacific Forum.

A decision along such lines would certainly fit the new image the front wants to present and, more importantly, could indicate the existence of a deal with the Chirac government in Paris ensuring an open door for the independentists and a readiness to consider the demands of the Kanaks' elected representatives.

While this prospect would be less than palatable to the strong anti-independence forces in Noumea, there appears to be a more positive attitude to the future of the territory in that camp as well.

Most loyalists would say that, since the election of the conservative Chirac government last March, the territory's problems have been solved.

They are now convinced that they have a Paris government sympathetic to their views. Consequently there has been a return of confidence in Noumea. There is a new energy about the city.

There is also emerging a new and somewhat paternalistic (cynics might say patronising) view of the Kanaks, perhaps indicating a willingness to "forgive" the events of the past two years and work for the future.

The daily newspaper *Les Nouvelles*, in these days full of goodwill-type stories. We are told, for instance, what a mar-

vellous job the military is doing in the Melanesian villages — giving medical assistance, staging sporting events and generally getting involved.

Not seen, however, are the reports carried by the FLNKS newspaper, *Bwenando*, of alleged abuses by the military such as the early morning raids and the destruction of property.

We are also told by *Les Nouvelles* that the Melanesians living outside of Noumea are to be given the opportunity to prove they are responsible citizens by being allowed to once again buy alcohol during the week.

Alcohol sales in the bush had been banned since the eruption of political unrest before November 28, 1984. The ban stayed in place in Noumea at weekends as well.

Although news of the work in progress or being attempted in the regions is now being reported in the press, the extent of the organisation involved and the determination of the FLNKS-held councils to succeed is not well understood in the loyalist camp.

Most of these people live in Noumea and most would consider the regions a useless enterprise and that the return to order in the bush can only be attributed to the efforts of the conservatives whose return to power in France has put the FLNKS in its place.

Certainly the front has maintained a low profile, but it is obviously in its long term interest to keep things calm and avoid arousing the passions of their opponents who have already proved themselves a militant force.

It is also in the interest of the right wing to help keep the

peace and foster the new found optimism.

The economy has taken a fearsome battering over the past 20 months and this could not have continued without heavy social cost to the whole community.

Now the tourists are starting to return. The holiday industry is not out of trouble yet, but the 4,500 bookings which flowed from an intensive television campaign in Australia have brought a few sighs of relief.

Building has also started to recover and general consumption — such as car and furniture sales — is now back to normal.

A further injection of A\$100 million in aid promised by the Paris government will further boost the economy.

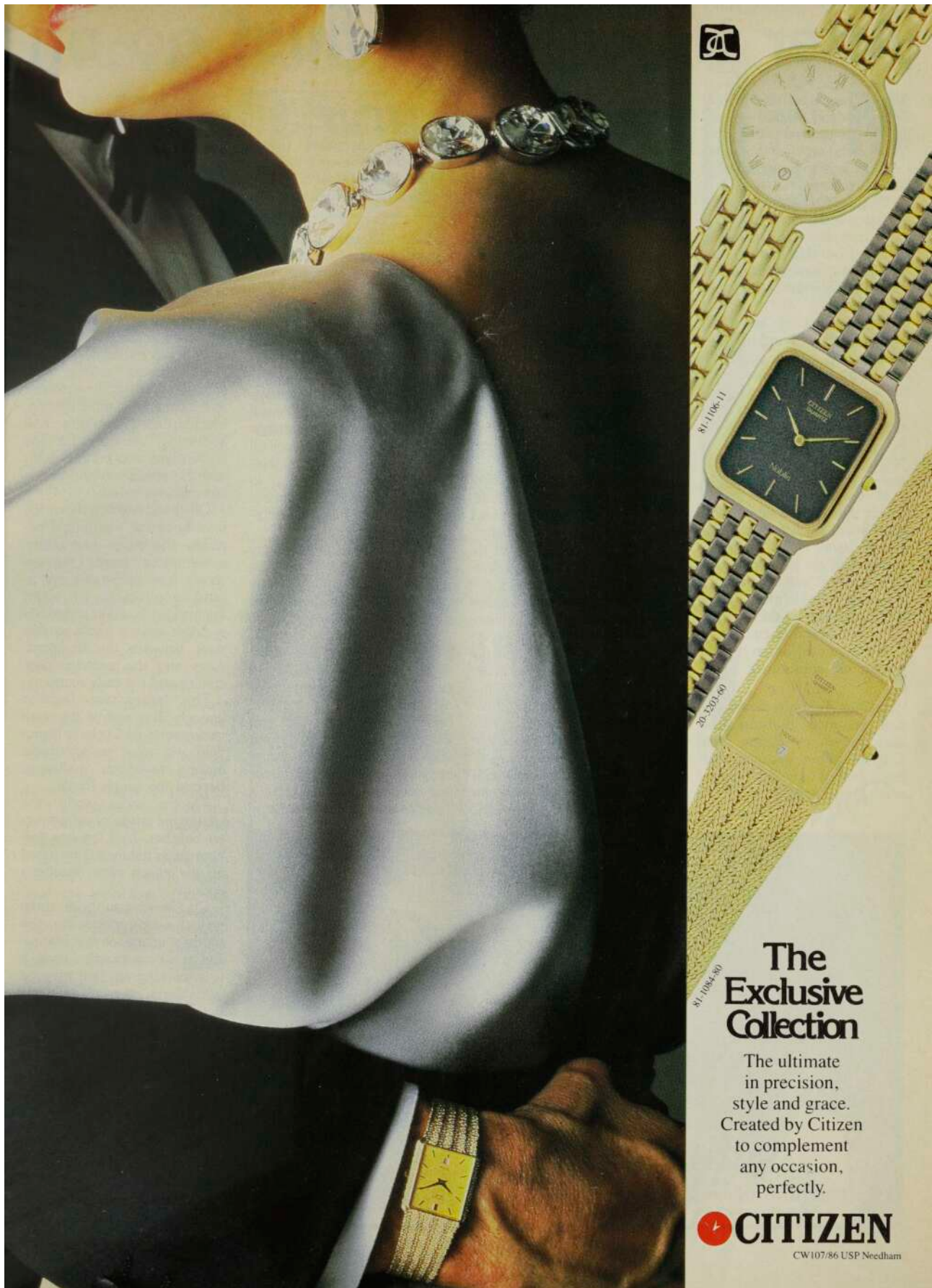
Despite the FLNKS criticism of the French government's plans for New Caledonia, Mr Bernard Pons, its author and minister in charge of the territory, may have struck a workable formula.

With the right wing tamed by a new sense of security, he is tacitly allowing the FLNKS, through the regional councils, to solidify its base and take charge of the direction of the Kanak people.

But there remain in the front many who doubt the minister's motives. Most of his public pronouncements, after all, have been blatantly pro-loyalist.

But behind the rhetoric, Mr Pons and his government must realise they cannot afford to ignore the FLNKS and risk further outbreaks of violence — particularly in view of their hopes to dislodge president Francois Mitterand in the 1988 elections.

The socialist president has already proved to be a thorn in the side of the conservative government and has the constitutional power to dissolve parliament and declare fresh elections — a step he would no doubt take if he thought he could bring his own party back into power.





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After Namu: Life must go on

More than 1000 people dead, 90,000 — that's one third of the population — homeless and damage to property put at A\$100 million.

The bald statistics are the measure of the worst cyclone in living memory and, indeed, in oral legend that hurled itself against the east coast of the Solomon Islands on May 18 this year.

The trauma of lives lost, homes destroyed and property damaged is bad enough, but the long term repercussions of Cyclone Namu go further.

Entire communities are now dependent on international relief agencies, on hand-outs of food, clothing, shelter and cooking implements.

In the absence of thatch, plastic sheeting is used for roofing. Where swollen rivers have swept away food gardens, where soils are leached, where villagers must wait five years for new sago palms to mature, their staple diet is now tinned meat or fish and hard biscuits.

Will they ever return to their traditional subsistence liveli-

** Chris Ashton is an Australian freelance journalist who was based in Papua New Guinea before its independence. He has travelled throughout the Pacific.*

The devastation caused by Cyclone Namu caught the attention of the world when it struck Solomon Islands on May 18. Here, CHRIS ASHTON* discusses the aftermath of the tragedy as seen through the eyes of an Australian documentary film unit who landed in the disaster area within days of Namu's deadly arrival.

hoods, or will they now acquire a taste for the imported fare?

And how is this island state, with a fragile cash economy at the best of times, to recover so much lost ground?

These are among the questions posed by a one-hour documentary program produced by the Australian Government film unit, Film Australia, with funding by the Australian Development Assistance Bureau.

The central focus of the film is the aftermath of Cyclone Namu. A four-man film crew flew into Honiara six days after the cyclone struck and spent 18 days recording the havoc left in its wake.

Villagers, impressively fluent English speakers, told them what had happened and what their communities must now do to rebuild their shattered lives.

A doctor flown in by the National Safety Council of Australia tells of an operation carried out under near-impossible conditions in the early hours of the morning to save the life of a small girl suffering from an abscess.

Prime Minister Sir Peter Kenilorea tells of his country's commitment to recovery.

One of the hazards of a calamity like Cyclone Namu was the breakdown of the traditional sanitary systems and the consequent spread of disease.

The nation's health department and the National Council of Women broadcast warnings to the village people to boil all drinking water, to wash their hands after the toilet and to drain off stagnant pools, breeding grounds for malaria-carrying mosquitoes.

But the old adage that every cloud has a silver lining also applied. The National Disaster Council and the public services swung into action and were equal to the crisis.

The Solomons also drew support from a wide variety of neighbours: Red Cross personnel from PNG, Australia and New Zealand; Hercules air transports from the Australian and New Zealand air forces carrying fuel, medical teams and supplies.

Other emergency relief came

from the Australian and French navies. Australian sailors defused explosives that, until the arrival of Namu, had lain buried since World War Two, blew up log jams where swollen rivers had swept whole forests downstream, repaired buckled bridges and brought in vital water purification plants.

The film is not solely about Cyclone Namu and its aftermath, however. This is set, rather, against a profile island mini-state in many ways typical of its South Pacific neighbours.

A Methodist mission film, shot in 1910, offers splendid re-enactments of tribal fighting, blackbirders recruiting and abducting islanders for the Queensland and Fiji cane fields and the activities of the Christian missions.

Other archival film shows the ferocity of the war fought between the Allies and Japan while more recent material shows how vulnerable are island economies to slight fluctuations in world commodity prices and the fragile equilibrium between the traditional ways and the western 'pop' culture and the cash economy.

The issues are familiar enough. But against the stark background of Cyclone Namu they will raise consciousness among television audiences beyond the South Pacific.

To the wider world, the stereotype image of palm-fringed beaches, blue lagoons and bounteous nature will be jolted by the effects of a disastrous cyclone.

Cyclone Namu goes some way towards correcting the tourist's image of the islands. But at a more practical level, it is a teaching aid that may be valuable in other island states that have also, and will again, face the fury of a cyclone.

The Australian Broadcasting Corporation screened *Cyclone Namu* in two parts in successive weeks in July. It is now available as a video cassette in Fiji, PNG, New Zealand and Solomon Islands. The price will be less than A\$20.

Part of the devastation left by Cyclone Namu.



Forum changes tack on fishing talks

The next round of multilateral fishing talks between the United States and South Pacific nations is likely to result in a happier outcome, according to senior participants at the South Pacific Forum in Suva last month.

After five years of sometimes bitter exchanges, high seas arrests of US registered fishing boats and a drift of disaffected states towards agreements with the Soviet Union, forum delegates emerged confident that a satisfactory cash deal will be struck, perhaps late this month.

"We felt that it won't be too hard to resolve at the next talks," one insider candidly told PIM.

The next round of multilateral negotiations is scheduled for a Micronesian venue.

In a comparatively brief discussion which followed the presentation of a report by the Forum Fisheries Agency chief, Mr Philip Muller, nations voted to speed up the process.

Both in the plenary meeting and later in the informal discussions at their Fijian Hotel retreat, regional leaders worked over the terms on which a settlement might be reached with Washington and how the proceeds might be distributed around the region.

Countering an American offer of US\$7 million yearly over the next five years, the forum members will drop their claim of US\$16 million annually to US\$10 million per year together with a licencing fee per boat of US\$50,000.

Forum leaders are likely also to settle on a distribution formula for the proceeds. This would involve 25 per cent of the fee being distributed among the treaty signatories with the balance being apportioned according to reported catches from the various EEZs.

This fits closely with the kind of agreement Vanuatu has been negotiating with the Soviet Union. Interestingly enough, Moscow's latest pro-

posals are due for presentation to the Lini government on the eve of the next scheduled round of US multilateral talks — in which Vanuatu has also been taking a close interest.

However, according to forum sources, there has been no criticism of "brinkmanship" over the Vanuatu position.

In an interview before the forum, Vanuatu foreign minister Mr Sela Molisa downplayed regional fears of a Soviet presence, saying it is all a question of selling fish to the highest bidder.

And Vanuatu has apparently convinced at least some Pacific

neighbours of the validity of this strategy.

According to New Zealand prime minister, Mr David Lange, who only a matter of months ago was expressing concern at Vanuatu treating with the Soviets, "Vanuatu is in the business of securing the best return for its fish. If the Americans outbid Moscow, I am sure that Father Lini will be delighted."

The Vanuatu leader, said Lange, was misread by both Lange's predecessor, Sir Robert Muldoon, and by former Australian prime minister, Mr Malcolm Fraser.

Continued page 35

'A diplomatic watershed'

As a telex to the United Nations was on the wire from Suva to New York, where it was to be delivered by the Vanuatu permanent representative, French observers continued to express displeasure.

The telex requested the UN to relist New Caledonia in the number of non self-governing territories through the committee of 24 — the UN Committee on Decolonisation.

The decision was recognised in Suva as a watershed. France successfully asked the UN in 1947 to consider the territory an integral part of the mother country, and so it has remained.

French leaders, however, still have formidable weapons in their armoury and both diplomatic and trade pressures can be expected as France attempts to stem the flow towards support for independence.

For while the forum once again expressed support for a peaceful transition to independence and acknowledged some positive aspects in the approach of the new French government, it was disappointed that "the change in French policy ... was a significant backward step."

Forum members will now pursue their objective of relisting New Caledonia through their memberships of various international groupings.

The forum members noted also that, if the coming referendum ruled out the prospect of independence, this was likely to exacerbate rather than resolve problems in the territory.

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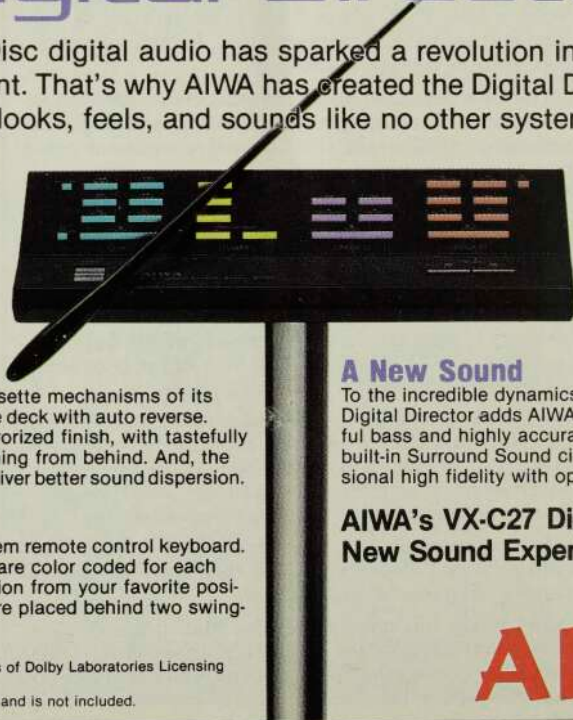
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A new force in the land

French Polynesia enjoys a high standard of living, essentially due to the political and military presence of the parent country.

But this conventional wisdom is about to be challenged by an up and coming local politician who sees "the main problem" as "the unfair distribution of wealth which profits only a small minority, while thousands of Polynesians live in near misery in slums on the outskirts of Papeete."

This is not the statement of a rabid left wing radical. It is the considered view of a self-made businessman turned politician.

Enrique Braun-Ortega, elected this year to the Territorial Assembly, hopes to forge an opposition alliance capable of toppling Flosse at the next election.

He pulls no punches. "I am glad that a Polynesian was named Under Secretary of State in charge of South Pacific affairs. However, I regret that it had to be Gaston Flosse as I fear that his self serving attitude and his irresponsible megalomania will tarnish further the image of France and Tahiti in this part of the world," said the man known as "Quito".

Braun-Ortega and Flosse have crossed swords in the past — but in the world of business rather than politics.

The Papeete-born new politician, who went to school in Hawaii and spent four years in the US Navy at the height of the Vietnam war, returned to Tahiti at the end of 1974 to join the family company *Enterprise J.A. Cowan et Fils* which was founded in 1924 by his grandparents.

Elected chairman the following year — a position he still holds — he set about diversifying the business through a New Zealand shipping link which became the CTM-Tahiti Line whose freight and passenger services have steadily increased over the years.

In 1985, the company's MV *Bounty 3* transported 82,430 tons of freight from New Zealand to Tahiti, representing 27

The most successful and best known French Polynesian politician of recent years is Gaston Flosse, winner in both the territorial and national elections this year. Now, however, a rival of similar training and background is beginning to emerge, report MARIE-THERESE and BENGT DANIELSSON.

per cent of the total tonnage unloaded in the port of Papeete. The vessel, he said, is manned by an all-Tahitian crew with the exception of the chief engineer.

However, Braun-Ortega accuses Flosse of attempting to stifle this initiative as well as another.

"As early as 1982," he said, "we took a 10 per cent interest in Tahiti Conquest airline, a local charter company."

"In August, 1984, at the request of the local government, we participated in the creation of Tahiti Airlines, whose prime objective was the reorganisation of inter-island air services in French Polynesia as a stepping stone to an international air transport project."

However, he said, at the same time Flosse was negotiating with the French airline UTA and the Tahiti Airlines project died.

"I finally decided last year to enter politics," he said. "It was because I disagreed very strongly with Gaston Flosse's political system which operates against the economic and social interests of the territory and its people."

The opposition to Flosse in this year's campaign was at an immediate disadvantage, however.

"The vastness of French Polynesia and the cost of transport restrained the movements of the opposition parties because they lacked the financial resources to travel everywhere," Braun-Ortega said.

On the other hand, he said, Flosse and his allies were able to make use of official means to tour all the islands carrying their political message as well as gifts.

"Gaston Flosse's victory was above all achieved with the

help of the enormous financial resources he used to influence the voters of the distant Marquesas, Tuamotu-Gambier and Austral islands," he told PIM.

"He owes his majority to the millions of Pacific francs the government poured into the remote islands."

This, he said, explains why Flosse's Gaullist RPR-affiliated party, *Tahoeraa* obtained up to 71 per cent of the votes in the Marquesas, while winning only 36 per cent on the islands of Tahiti and Moorea.

Disunity among the opposition parties, however, also contributed to Flosse's sweeping overall victory.

The goal of the Alliance had been to gather all moderate opposition parties under one banner "promoting the general welfare of the people."

This alliance was concluded by the presidents of *Amuitahiraa*, *Here Ai'a* and *Maohinui*.

However, the president of *Here Ai'a*, Jean Juventin, later pulled out of the alliance, "thus demoralising those voters who wanted a change," according to Braun-Ortega, who said he still did not know the reason for the sudden change of heart.

"The election results show," he said, "that an alliance including *Here Ai'a* would have obtained the majority in the Territorial Assembly and Jean Juventin would have been re-elected to the National Assembly."

He said his other concern was the eventual termination of the French government's assistance and "the vital importance of planning substitute economic activities to provide employment for the 2,500 young Polynesians entering professional life each year."

"But before even talking about economic policies, we must give back to each Polyne-



"Quito" Braun-Ortega: "How long can we resist?"

sian his freedom and his dignity.

"Then, in opposition to Flosse's government ... we wish to give the elected officials, especially in the distant islands, more responsibility in the decisions that affect the future of their islands and people."

To do that, Braun-Ortega proposes to create six geographical regions with largely decentralised powers.

"The major economic development we can hope for is an economy based on tourism," he said. "But we want to tailor our tourist industry to our size and to take into consideration the geographic, cultural and social realities of our territory."

He said he strongly opposed Flosse's "gigantic" tourist plans.

According to Braun-Ortega, there are early signs of social unrest in the territory which, along with economic uncertainties, made change desirable "very soon".

"We have brought these problems to the attention of the government of France through the Minister for Overseas Territories in Paris and the High Commissioner in Tahiti."

The import of Korean cement, he claimed, was a typical example of political interference against the best interests of the Polynesian companies.

"Fortunately, and thanks in part to the determination of the employees and seamen of CTM-Tahiti Line, we have managed to save our business and our jobs."

"But how long can we resist this man?"

FOR A FEW PENNIES MORE



Every morning when the lucky ones set out to go work, a less fortunate man takes a bus to Port Moresby's Boroko shopping centre to begin his day's toil.

Orovo Taita, in his late 40s, originally from Kerema in Gulf Province, says there is nobody to look after him. He has no means of support so he does what he has to do.

Every morning Taita positions himself outside the Brian Bell Plaza and begs for money.

Begging has become common in the capital's major shopping centres. Beggars now line the pavements where street vendors once ruled supreme. They hold out rusty plates, plastic cups, anything that will hold a coin to the countless luckier lives that walk by.

Taita took up begging after his only son died. He does not know how much money he collects in a day and says he uses the money to buy rice, sugar and bread.

He sticks to a set routine of 8.30 till 4pm each day.

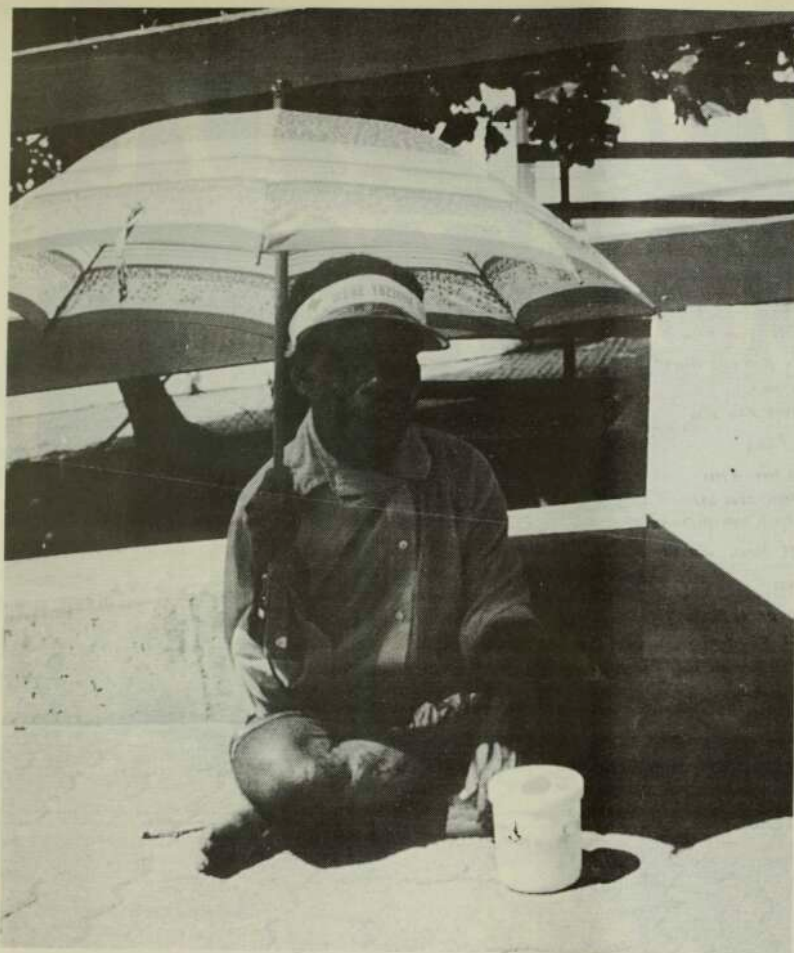
There are two ways to beg in Port Moresby. The old, infirm and handicapped sit quiet, hoping their condition will attract sympathy. The young boys — aged between 8 and 12 — are more shrill, exhorting shoppers to part with a few coins.

Jack was tugging at passing skirts and trousers when I found him. He was a sight that would make most want to cry. But begging is commonplace now, and few people took notice. Jack is nine years old.

His father died in 1982 while Jack was in grade two at Bumbu community school in Morobe Province.

Jack, the only boy, comes from a family of three of which he is the middle one. He

ABOVE LEFT: An old man waits and hopes. **ABOVE:** Under the shelter of an umbrella, a man begs while a cardboard explains his plight. **Photos:** Patrick Matbob



It used to be said that Papua New Guinea had the world's best inbuilt social security service.

The wantok system normally means, among other things, that no one person has to go in need. Relatives will help and, in return, the recipient of that aid will pay back in goods or kind when his turn comes.

Kindness begetting kindness on a sort of contractual basis. But there is a new kind of citizen being bred in Port Moresby.

Often born in the city of parents who drifted away from their villages, the new landless ones have little or no links to any village society. They speak no language other than pidgin — if that. They cannot think of "home" as other than a squalid squatter settlement. They have no wantoks.

Recently, and for the first time, beggars have begun to appear on the streets of Port Moresby.

THERESE PIRIGI asked them how this has happened.

now lives with an uncle in a Port Moresby suburb while his sisters are still with their mother in Lae.

After Jack's father died, his uncle, a cleaner employed by a construction company, bought him a ticket and he came to Port Moresby in 1984.

Jack says he comes to Tabari Place, Boroko every day to "find" money, usually working his patch from 9am until 3pm.

In contrast with other beggars, he wanders from shop to shop looking for a

friendly face which he then asks for a few toea.

His uncle, says Jack, can't give him money because he has a wife and six children of his own to care for on an already low wage.

Mi save stap long haus, les na kam raun painim moni long Tabari, he says. (I stay at home but get bored and come to look for money at Tabari). He says he usually approaches older people who, he thinks, have softer hearts.

He says he gets about K1.50 (about A\$2.25) a day with which he buys scones and Fanta. If he could get K2, he'd buy a pair of trousers, he says. He also collects empty bottles in an effort to supplement his "income."

Just a few metres away sits another Kerema man, Lagu Iarifita. He's silent, waiting patiently for whatever kindness might come his way. The lower part of his right leg has been amputated as witnessed by the crutches that lie nearby.

Lagu thinks he is 20. He had K1.95 in a plate beside a notice which explained that he was very small when his parents died and had nobody to look after him. The notice was written by someone else. Lagu cannot speak, read or write in either pidgin or English.

Outside another shop, another beggar sits waiting. His cardboard sign gives some background, identifying him as Varo Hiri.

Half his body is paralysed and the notice says he comes from a family of five, four men and a woman. The eldest, says his signboard, is unemployed, the second is married with seven children, the fourth is a preacher in the North Solomons and the fifth is away from home.

Referring to this youngest one, the notice proclaims: "I believe he'll never make it home because messages passed to him have fallen on deaf ears.

"I am left alone. Both parents have come to that age when they can do little to help support the family. I am appealing to the kind public to drop black pennies which will be a great help to my needs." He says he usually gets K3 a day and buys rice, tinned fish, meat and sugar.

Along the walkway between the Brian Bell Plaza and the PNG Banking Corporation building is yet another Gulf man. He has K1.22 in his cup.

Hary Haikaea insists on spelling out his name for me and says he used to work for various building companies. He quit when he developed a cough and asthma. He is married with five children.

He left his lhu home in 1950 to go to work for a building company whose name he has forgotten. Asked why his wantoks did not support him, he replies very loudly that while it is PNG custom to help wantoks, not everybody puts the principle into practice.

Sometimes there are more beggars than others. On government pay day, for example, they gather at "strategic" locations around the city hoping for largesse. Most of the beggars we spoke to said they took it up in order to eat.

In the past, their "pitches" would have been occupied by street vendors selling everything from betel nut to vegetables to artifacts. But the council turfed them out as part of a campaign to keep the city streets clean.

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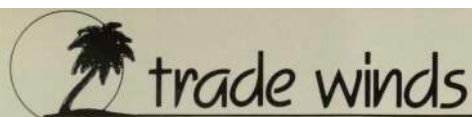
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Sail power hoists shipping efficiency

Fiji, like all Pacific Island nations, depends on inter-island shipping sustain its economic, political and social life. The small inter-island passenger-cargo vessels, generally built in times of cheap fuel, are not efficient to run.

Shipping consumes a large proportion of the fuel and foreign exchange budgets. All fuel has to be imported and one sixth is used for shipping.

In the ten years between 1970 and 1980, fuel costs rose fourteen times, consumption by 70 per cent and the total import

bill rose nearly twenty-five times.

Despite the tragic loss of a vessel and two lives during a cyclone, an experiment in inter-island shipping using sail as well as diesel power is proving to be a success. Sail power has helped reduce fuel bills and has made voyages less unpleasant for passengers.

At the request of the Fiji Government, the Asian Development Bank funded a study to assess the value of fitting auxiliary sail to existing vessels to save fuel. MacAlister Elliott and Partners Ltd., a British firm of international marine and fisheries consultants, were re-

cruited to carry out this study on the Fiji Government Fleet of inter-island vessels.

The project selected a typical inter-island motor ship from the Fiji Government fleet for conversion to auxiliary sail. She was the *Na Mataisau*, a 27 metre LOA, 274 GRT steel passenger cargo vessel, powered by a single GM V6-71

diesel engine.

An appropriate rig was designed to satisfy the requirements of simplicity, reliability and ease of handling within a modest budget.

A soft sail ketch rig was chosen, with manually operated roller furling on all sails. The sail area of 201 sq. metres was designed to give a heel angle of 10 degrees in about 20 knots of apparent wind, when reefing would begin.

The layout of the ship lent itself to a two masted configuration with the mainsail over the cargo hold. A standing wish-

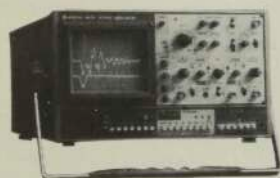
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bone was employed on the mainsail to give a quadrilateral sail that could be furled on a vertical luff spar.

The boomed jib and Bermudian mizzen were also furled on luff spars. The mainsail boom was designed to operate as a 1.5 tonne cargo derrick, using the existing cargo winch and gear.

Spars were aluminium alloy; the standing rigging galvanised steel wire, and the sails terylene. The rig and sails were supplied from New Zealand. The Fiji Government Shipyard in Suva carried out the necessary conversion work.

The funnel was also modified to cool the exhaust gases and divert them away from the mizzen sail to prevent damage.

The ship was fitted with instruments to monitor performance. These comprised a through hull log and speedometer, a masthead anemometer, a fuel flow meter on the main engine, and a satellite navigator.

The total budget for the supply of the equipment and the cost of the conversion work was US\$40,000.

After conversion to auxiliary sail, which was completed in September 1984, the ship was operated on normal Government fleet schedules, carrying passengers and cargo between Suva and the outer islands.

The sails were set whenever the wind was favourable, and a log was kept to record performance data.

This was subsequently analysed in the U.K. at Southampton University.

The ship performed satisfactorily under sail alone, achieving speeds of over 4.5 knots with an apparent wind speed of 15 knots at 70 degrees. She could sail at 50 degrees to the apparent wind, and motor sail slightly higher.

When motor sailing, the ship's maximum service speed could be increased from 8.5 knots under engine alone to 10 knots with the apparent wind abeam at about 15 knots.

Steering was well balanced with sails set, and no significant helm was required.

The stability under sail was better than expected with a maximum heel angle of 10



The ill-fated 'Na Mataisau' under sail.

degrees in 25 knots of apparent wind with all sails set.

The sails reduced rolling significantly which had a dramatic effect on passenger comfort. Under engine these motor ships are uncomfortable in the big Pacific swell and most of the passengers (and animals) are continuously sea sick.

Under sail, sickness stopped with the slight disadvantage that mobile passengers occupy more space.

Significant fuel savings could be made by the reduction of engine revolutions with the sails set while maintaining an acceptable service speed.

The rig is easily handled by a small number of crew. The sails are set by tensioning outhauls on self tailing manual winches, and furled on the rotating luff spars by tensioning the furling lines round drums at the base of the spars. Main and mizzen sheets are operated by electric capstans.

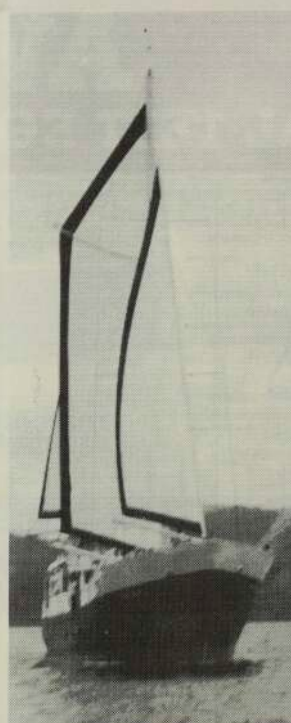
All three sails can be set or furled by three men in a few minutes. The sail area can be reduced as a means of reefing in strong winds by partial furling.

When stowed the furled sails and spars offer lower windage than the ship's tripod mast, awnings, and supports removed from the original layout.

The main boom is quickly converted for use as a cargo derrick by attaching the topping lift and cargo blocks. The light weight of the aluminium alloy

spar compared to the original steel derrick makes it much easier to swing athwartships with the guy tackles. This is an important benefit, as all general cargo as well as the two heavy 6 metre ship's workboats are handled by the derrick.

In January 1985, when about 100 miles out of Suva on passage to the Lau Group, with the Prime Minister of Fiji, Ratu



'Cagidonu' carries on the good work.

Sir Kamisese Mara, on board *Na Mataisau* suffered main engine breakdown in the path of the approaching Cyclone Eric.

The ship made way under sail to Moala, the nearest island about 15 miles away, and anchored off the reef to land the Prime Minister and his party.

Unfortunately, no sheltered anchorage could be attained before the cyclone struck, and at the height of the hurricane on the night of the 17th/18th January, *Na Mataisau* dragged on to the reef in winds of over 100 knots, and foundered in a depth of 20 metres, with the loss of two of her crew.

The Marine Department report on the loss acknowledged that, had the vessel not been able to make a landfall under sail, the lives of all on board would have been lost.

Because of the position of the wreck inside the reef, it was not worthwhile attempting to salvage the ship. However, the Fiji Government decided to salvage the rig, which was virtually undamaged, for use on another ship.

The spars, rigging and winches were salvaged from the casualty and with some modifications, fitted to another Government vessel, the *Cagidonu*.

Conversion of *Cagidonu* was completed last December, and she is currently operating on regular Government fleet schedules. Among the crew are four survivors from *Na Mataisau*.

Analysis of performance data collected from normal operational voyages shows significant fuel savings of 20-30 per cent. Greater savings could be made by planning routes to maximise the advantages of sail.

Despite the tragic loss of *Na Mataisau*, this experimental study has provided encouraging results.

It shows that it is possible to fit auxiliary sail to a typical inter-island vessel at a modest capital cost and achieve significant fuel savings on normal operating routes.

The Pacific Islands will always need their small passenger-cargo vessels for the outlying island communities to survive and this is one effective way of reducing their running costs. — C. R. H. Temple

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TOYOTA

French do best in cash column

French Polynesia returned a higher gross national product (GNP) rate than New Zealand, according to figures recently released by the World Bank.

The preliminary 1984 data, calculated in US dollars, for the island states were: French Polynesia (\$8,210); Guam (\$6,580); New Caledonia (\$6,240); American Samoa (\$4,690); Fiji (\$1,840); US Trust Territories (\$1,100); Papua New Guinea (\$760); Kiribati (\$460).

Generally, it appeared that, on this scale, the French territories did best economically, the Americans next and then the former British colonies.

The GNP data covers total economic activity, and makes no distinction between money raised by local industry and money invested or spent on, for example, social services by a metropolitan power.

By way of comparison, the corresponding figures for neighbouring nations were Australia (\$11,890), New Zealand (\$7,240) and Indonesia (\$540).

The World Bank collected other data on Solomon Islands, Tonga, Vanuatu and Western Samoa but had no GNP information on them. Its listing of 184 countries and territories did not include Nauru, Tuvalu, and Cook Islands.

The most recent decade covered by the World Bank

(1973-1983) was not one of growth, although preliminary reports for 1984 look more encouraging.

Those showing the best growth — on a per capita GNP basis — were Fiji with a 5.2 per cent increase and French Polynesia with 3.4 per cent.

The World Bank, which pays almost as much attention to matters social as matters fiscal, also released a series of social indicators for the nations of the world, measuring such things as infant mortality rates, life expectancy and the percentage of school age children attending school.

While the bank makes it clear that its figures — both social and financial — are not necessarily precisely accurate, they do provide a broad brush picture of economic and social conditions.

The figures indicate that a baby's chances of surviving the first 12 months of its life are best in the region in American Samoa, followed by Tonga and Guam.

But to put this in context, however, no Pacific state came near to the infant mortality rate of eight per thousand recorded by Sweden. And nor did any of them match the many African nations with rates in excess of 100 (such as Malawi with 164).

People born in Guam and the trust territories have the longest life expectancy at 71

years and those in Kiribati the least — 52 years.

The figures for Australia and New Zealand were 74 and 73.

The school enrollment data appears hard to collect, because several nations recorded more than 100 per cent attendance, a statistical impossibility.

Fiji, New Zealand and Australia all fell into the category. David S. North.

TABLE I

Gross-National-Product-Per-Capita Growth Rates in the Pacific		
Jurisdiction	Real Growth (annual average '73-'83)	Real Growth ('83-'84)
	%	%
French Polynesia	3.2	3.4
Guam	-1.7	-0.5
New Caledonia	-1.1	1.6
American Samoa	-1.4	0.4
Fiji	1.1	5.2
US Trust Territories	-1.1	-0.4
Papua-New Guinea	-0.8	2.4
Kiribati	-12.6	2.6

Source: *The World Bank Atlas, 1986*

TABLE II

Social Indicators in the Pacific, 1983		
Jurisdiction	Infant Mortality Rate per thousand for first year of life	Life Expectancy at birth
American Samoa	17	n.a.
Guam	26	71
Tonga	26	63
Fiji	28	68
US Trust Territories	31	71
New Caledonia	42	66
Western Samoa	51	65
Solomon Islands	52	57
Papua-New Guinea	97	53
French Polynesia	n.a.	63
Vanuatu	n.a.*	55
Kiribati	n.a.	52

* Rate was 49/1000 in 1970.

Source: *The World Bank Atlas, 1986*.

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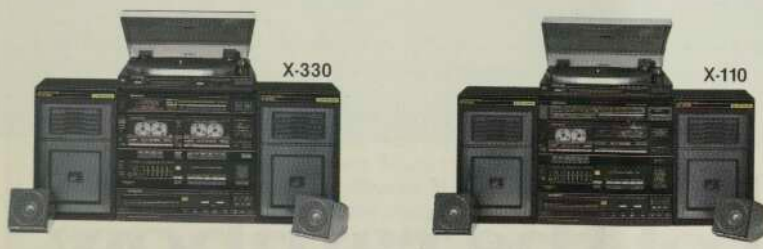
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A photograph of an Air Pacific Boeing 747-400 in flight against a clear blue sky. The aircraft features a special livery with a large rainbow graphic on the fuselage, transitioning from yellow to orange to red. The tail is dark blue with a circular logo containing a stylized bird and a rainbow. The text "AIR PACIFIC" is visible on the upper fuselage, and "VH-EBK" is on the rear fuselage. The landing gear is deployed.

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III

Forum changes tack

From page 21

"What happened after a combination of Messrs Muldoon and Fraser leaning on him was that he went to Cuba, Libya and Russia — and I doubt that was their strategy," said Lange.

"It is better for us not to move him on to another axis," he added, downplaying previous pressure on Vanuatu.

"They are not given to the worst excesses of Marxist-Leninist rigorous economy drives. They are people who take the best prices for commodities, register the most profitable ships, provide tax havens and go to church," Lange said in a briefing for New Zealand journalists.

Forum leaders individually stressed that they felt now was the time for a settlement with Washington since the US had given so much ground.

"The United States has come to grips with the fundamental problem," said Lange, "that it cannot allow its foreign policy interests to be directed by the (American) Tunaboat Association."

"And the Pacific has come to

Hard to hold down two jobs

For Monsieur Bruno Gain, it was a difficult time. For a start he had difficulty in recalling the name of the Tahiti newspaper for which he worked.

That was understandable. Holding down two jobs is hard at the best of times. Harder still, M. Gain's other job, as first secretary at the French embassy in Canberra, was a long way from Suva.

But it's not as though his employer would

disapprove. Indeed, M Gain was at the forum to report — except that his readers might be a select group in the Quai d'Orsay anxious for an assessment of what could prove to be a serious setback for French diplomacy.

For that is only how any failure to block New Caledonia's reinscription on the UN decolonisation list could be viewed.

— Denis Reinhardt

grips with the problem that it cannot allow its most valuable resource for some countries to go unexploited or exploited without a return."

In words which other members of the forum indicated to PIM reflect their views, Lange added: "It is in the interests of them all to have an understanding between the US State Department and the Forum Fisheries Agency, whereby an economic return is guaranteed."

"That may well mean a form of assistance which is beyond that which fishing companies are able to pay — in fact you can call that a subsidy, or you can call that common sense."

Denis Reinhardt.



Lange: "Call it common sense."

Nuclear treaty: 'Half a loaf is better than none'

Sponsoring nations of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty expect that all nuclear powers except France will sign the treaty protocols by the end of this year.

This follows additional drafting, allowing signatory nations the right to opt out which was approved by the forum members in Suva.

Barring last minute rejection by member parliaments within the region, the document may soon have treaty status following statements by nine South Pacific countries that they intend to proceed to ratification. This would allow the United Nations to grant treaty status.

Although several South Pacific leaders, most notably Vanuatu's Fr Walter Lini, feel that it doesn't go far enough in matters such as the exclusion of nuclear warships, while others such as Tonga and the Cook Islands have worried that it goes too far, forum officials regarded agreement on a final draft and its likely acceptance by the major nuclear powers as a diplomatic milestone, leaving room for later additions.

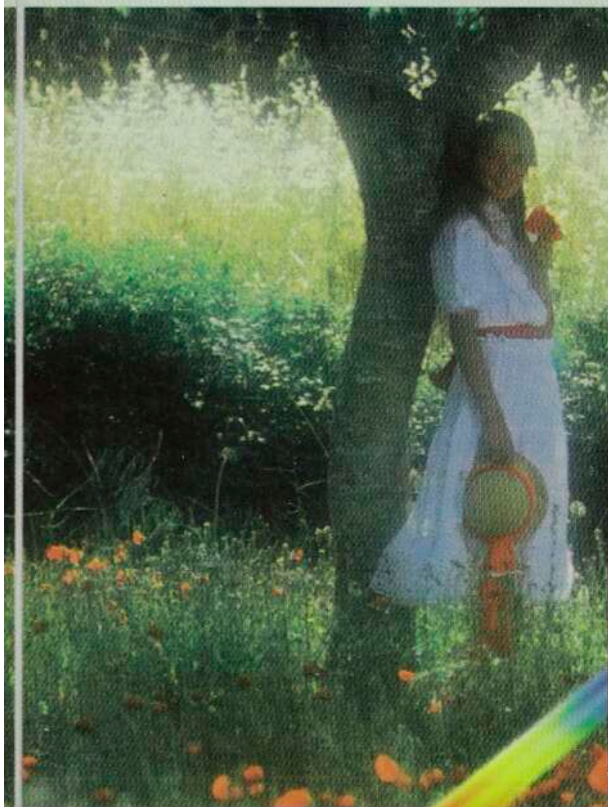
"Half a loaf is better than none," one senior Melanesian diplomat told PIM.

But while debate over the treaty was relatively brief, senior regional figures did not overlook its significance in its potential to heighten tensions between France and the forum countries. France is ineligible to sign the protocols, even if Paris should wish to, as the treaty specifically bans nuclear testing in the region.

Australia's deputy prime minister, Mr Lionel Bowen, summed up forum feeling, linking nuclear matters with decolonisation. "I think the French have never realised the problems they have in the region because of the testing at Morurua and matters relating to decolonisation," he said.

Noting that Australia had had to take Paris to the International Court of Justice to stop atmospheric testing in the early '60s, Mr Bowen continued: "Of course the reason given by France for testing underground is that they haven't got any basalt in France. This is not really a satisfactory reason for testing in the Pacific."

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Self employed bear the brunt of adjustment

Fiji's self employed — especially the sugarcane farmers — have borne the brunt of the government's tough measures to adjust to plummeting export prices.

According to an IMF survey of the Fijian economy, sugar growers' real incomes fell by more than half between 1980 and 1984.

The IMF traces the reasons back to the late 70s. Since 1977 annual cost of living adjustments have been based on wage guidelines announced by the Tripartite Forum comprising representatives of the government, the trade unions and the employers' associations.

Fiji, nevertheless, is poised to resume economic growth after a period of crippling deterioration in its terms of trade.

The country was hit hard by the sharp decline in commodity prices during 1984 when the world price of sugar, Fiji's major export, fell by 40 per cent only to tumble by another 20 per cent the following year.

And while a large proportion of Fiji's crop is sold under long term contract at fixed prices, the weighted average price declined by about 20 per cent between 1983 and 1985, said the survey.

Meanwhile, the world price of coconut oil, another export staple, plummeted by about 50 per cent in 1985 following an '84 peak.

Price dives in Fiji's other exports — fish, gold and forestry products — were less spectacular, but average returns were down by about 10 per cent last year.

With import prices edging up slightly, the country's terms of trade deteriorated by an estimated 14 per cent last year after a 4 per cent decline in 1984.

In 1984 the government stepped in. Convinced (they were proved right) that commodity prices would deteriorate still further in 1985, they instituted an adjustment program.

Fiji's process of adjustment to plummeting commodity prices has had the most effect on the country's self-employed, particularly the sugarcane growers whose real incomes were more than halved between 1980 and 1984. However, according to an IMF survey, the nation now has real prospects for economic growth.

This involved a wage freeze, budget tightening and a squeeze on domestic credit and money supply — the classic IMF response.

The package of measures was painful, but it seems to have worked. Reduced domestic demand contained inflation (4.4 per cent last year) while the balance of payments position improved.

Real gross domestic product (GDP), however, fell by about 2 per cent largely due to the ravages of cyclones.

"While real incomes," said the IMF (adjusted for the terms of trade) were declining, wages and salaries were protected by the forum guidelines.

"The burden of adjustment — and the consequent pressure to lower real incomes — thus fell entirely on workers not protected by these guidelines — the non unionised workers and the self employed, including sugarcane farmers."

Others were protected by the Tripartite Forum guidelines under which wages were normally increased by a margin closely resembling the previous year's inflation rate.

This led to the 1984 introduction of the wage freeze after the forum members failed to reach voluntary agreement to curb wage increases.

The wage freeze, in effect, lives on. The government had originally hoped to replace it with something more flexible at the end of last year by which time the forum might have negotiated a formula.

It didn't happen and a government-imposed 2.25 per cent cost of living increase for all workers was decreed.

"The implied further decline in real wages is an essential

element of the government's strategy to increase public sector savings, restore cost competitiveness and promote external adjustment," said the IMF.

The wage policy pursued until 1984, says the survey, saw the wages and salary bill soar by 50 per cent between 1981 and 1984 — about twice the rate of increase in tax revenue.

"In order to contain the budget deficit, the government accommodated the increase in the wage and salary bill by reducing its investment outlays — capital expenditure as a

proportion of total expenditure in fact fell from 27 per cent in 1982 to 13 per cent in 1984," said the survey.

And although some other current expenditure increased sharply last year (including the cost of repairs to damage caused by four cyclones), total current expenditure declined slightly — the first such decline ever recorded.

On the other side of the equation, however, the external position was helped significantly by insurance payouts for the same cyclone damage.

These amounted to about F\$31 million in the first half of 1985 with a further F\$12 million expected in the second half.

This contributed to a balance of payments surplus of F\$12 million, about the same as the previous year.

"This represented a substantial improvement over the previous three years when deficits were recorded," according to the report's author, Sukhdev Shah of the IMF's Asian department.

He is carefully optimistic on the prospects for growth.

Fiji's ninth development plan (1986-1990) aims at real GDP annual growth of 5 per cent.

The government intends to place emphasis on resource-based industries, such as forestry and fishery products, sugarcane, coconuts, cocoa, ginger and gold.

Wage restraint and a planned shift towards consumption-based taxes to control demand complete the basic picture.

The development plan's objectives, however, "will depend substantially on both weather conditions and the world economic environment," said Shah.

"The immediate outlook for the latter has improved as a result of sharp declines in world oil prices and interest rates.

"Thus there is cause for reasonable optimism that Fiji can achieve sustained growth."

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THE ISLAND OF MISIMA: A STORY OF MANY MINES

Misima, the largest of the Louisiade Islands, lies some 140 miles east of Samarai.

It was also known as St Aignans Island and is mountainous (the highest point, Mt Oatou, rises to 3400 feet) with a difficult shore surrounded by very deep water.

The island is some 20 miles long and eight miles wide at its widest point.

Although gold was found there in 1884, the island was then better known as a supplier of labour for the Queensland sugar trade — the blackbirders knew Misima well enough.

The islanders, possibly as a result, had acquired a reputation for what was then regarded as treachery and the Royal Navy shelled and burned homes and canoes on Misima and neighbouring islands in 1886.

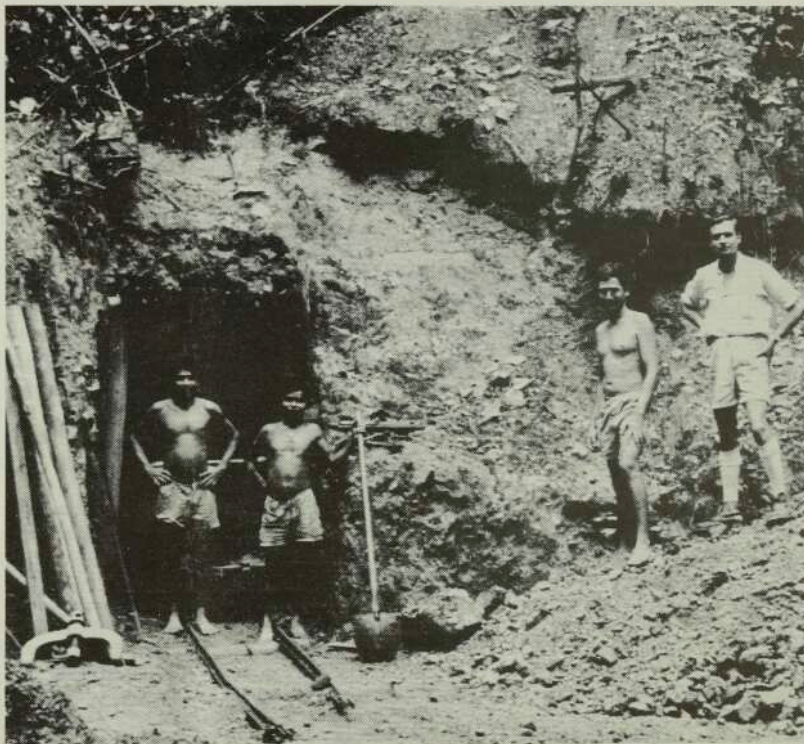
Two years later, miners from the Sudest Island field moved to Misima, their numbers rapidly expanding to 80 by the following year.

They had been working alluvial gold in St Patricks Creek but had found no heavy metal. Most was small, almost flour, gold and the miners moved on to Woodlark Island which was richer and more suitable for these "grass roots" miners.

The Massive Lode, or Umuna Lode, however, was found early in the Misima action and several attempts were made to sluice it profitably where it crossed Cooktown Creek. None were successful as the gold was too fine to be caught in the usual sluice boxes.

In 1911, however, one Robert Boyd came over from Woodlark on behalf of a syndicate based there to prospect Misima.

Placer Pacific, owner of the exciting Misima gold prospect in PNG, which was launched last month in the largest ever Australian share float, is not the first company to extract gold from the island. JOHN D WILKINSON has charted the history of mining on the island since the last century.



At the opening of the shaft at Misima.



Cultus Explorations Ltd. of Canada sank a deep adit in 1968. Miners had to clear a lot of light rubble.

The sheer size of the Massive Lode so impressed him that he immediately took up, with the syndicate's consent, a ten-acre lease on the northern side of the creek. The Woodlark syndicate was already over-committed and instructed Boyd to sell the show while continuing sluicing on his own behalf as agreed.

The following year Boyd was able to sell the lease to a small company composed mainly of retired mining men from Charters Towers called the St Aignans Gold Mining Co Ltd.

This company took over the lease, the Woodlark syndicate to receive a paid up interest and royalties. The company installed a Huntington mill and a 25hp suction gas engine, hoping to recover the gold on amalgam plates in the orthodox way.

But although the head values were high, the recovery was too low to be commercial.

It was then that William Griffiths Jr, an ex-assayer from Gympie, embarked on a series of experiments before deciding that the cyanide process was the only way to recover the Misima gold.

It was discovered that most of the values were in the friable lode material with

comparatively little in the stone. So the miners screened the ore through a grizzly and took the fines direct to vats where they were pickled in a cyanide solution for five days.

The stone was stacked for later crushing.

The method paid well and was probably one of the first places in the world where ore was cyanided direct from the mine without crushing.

Several adjoining leases were taken up by various teams, both to the north and south along the line of the lode, and it was from the Number 2 South, taken up in the name of Charlie Coppard from which much of the gold was later to be won.

Coppard himself died on Misima during World War Two.

In 1913 a Mr Munt, who had started a general store at the island's only safe anchorage at Bwagaoia about five miles from the mine site, offered to build, with his associates, cement vats at the Coppard lease together with the necessary offices and buildings for a cyanide process.

In return, Munt and his partners would take a 50 per cent interest. The deal was agreed and another company, the Massive Samarai Syndicate, was formed to hold

that interest, Munt taking 25 per cent of that.

Orders were placed in Sydney for the agreed equipment but while the miners were waiting for it to arrive, a Mr McGeorge arrived in Papua on the lookout for a large low grade show for a Melbourne syndicate composed of directors of various large scale mining interests.

A visit to Misima convinced him that he need look no further and negotiations that led to an option agreement began at once. The option was later transferred from the McGeorge syndicate to the Block 10 Broken Hill Company of Melbourne.

In 1914, Block 10 decided to exercise their option, but the title was by now much complicated. It was found that a man called Paddy Dunn, then in the Dulwich Home for Indigents near Brisbane, had become possessed of the full right and title to the Massive principle lease, having been given a compassionate half interest in the original share in Boyd's Woodlark Syndicate all those years before.

The title weakness caused a considerable delay and the vendor's share was steadily whittled down.

Continued on page 40

The day the luck ran out

Continued from page 38

When the advance party of Block 10 arrived on Misima, they carried the news of the Great War of which the people there had been, until then, in total ignorance.

By 1915 the titles were clear and the company began to erect an extensive plant under the management of Osmer B Ward. Sadly, however, Ward fell down a shaft and later died of his injuries. He was an extremely capable man who knew the local conditions well and it was ignorance of these that was to cause the company much trouble later.

The war led inevitably to higher costs and the company was in financial trouble just as it was scheduled to reach profitable production. For a time all but urgent and necessary operations were closed down, and eventually these too were halted.

The last underground work to cease was the shaft that was being sunk to the lower levels. It was estimated at the time that only two more sets of timber were needed to strike the lode but when the big Pulso-meter pump was withdrawn the water followed rapidly, filling the shaft.

And so it remained. Block 10 had committed an enormous sum and had installed a railway line from Bwagaia to the mine where an excellent plant now stood idle.

In 1919 the plant, stock, railway line and leases were sold to Miller and Co. of Sydney for a nominal sum, though some of the original Woodlark and Samarai syndicates formed a small company and bought some plant including vats, pipes, pumps etc.

They were later able to pay small dividends by treating the ore by the method pioneered by Griffiths. But it wasn't all plain sailing.

There was so much rain that the cyanide solutions in the uncovered vats were diluted which interfered with the treatment. The solutions had continuously to be brought up to strength and costs increased alarmingly due to landslides on the road and the amount of water running through the mine.

Then, an intrusion of sulphates in the main and best drive, or tunnel, brought

production practically to a standstill. The big question was whether to raise more capital to cover the vats and install more suitable plant or to close down and look for a buyer.

They decided to sell. Gilbert Wilkinson of Gympie, the mine manager, was deputed to travel south. After talking with several groups, he reached agreement with Fred W Cuthbert of Croydon fame and they returned together to decide on a plant.

Part of the deal was that Wilkinson would invest a modest amount and remain at the mine as manager. From then on, Cuthbert's proverbial luck was evident. The heavy rain had eased and the sulphide intrusion was found to be small, the drive soon entering oxidised ore once again.

But there was one event which all but stopped the new company before it had started.

The Burns Philp ship *Morinda* was the only vessel on the run small enough to enter the harbour at Misima, so all the heavy cargo had to be shipped on her. On the trip prior to shipping the Cuthbert machinery, the *Morinda* ran on to the reef at Dedele on the Papuan coast and had to be dry docked for extensive repairs, causing considerable delay to the Misima project.

On her first trip out of dry dock, the machinery was loaded but Cuthbert, now strapped for cash, decided against insuring it on the principle that "lightning never struck in the same place twice."

Maybe lightning didn't, but the *Morinda* did run on to the same reef at exactly the same place, and all the gear was unloaded at Dedele where it remained for months.

Cuthbert decided to cut his losses and call the deal off. Meanwhile, however, Wilkinson had managed to raise enough money locally to get the machinery to Misima and the company began mining. By 1928 most of the machinery was on the lease and a motor road linked the mine to the wharf.

In the early stages of this road, the truck always travelled with a large team of Misima Island men whose task was to haul it across difficult stages. They were frequently called upon.

The original cost of building the five



miles of road was 5,000 pounds. Constant improvements over the years brought it to a reasonable standard, but originally it took two hours to travel the five miles on a dry day.

In the rain, the journey, at least once, took a whole month. This was because of landslides along the steep hillsides.

Cuthbert, however, was so impressed with the work of his small staff that he promised them 10 per cent of the dividend, a pledge he honoured when the gold price jumped and New Misima Gold Mines began to pay. It was now a gold mine in fact as well as in name.

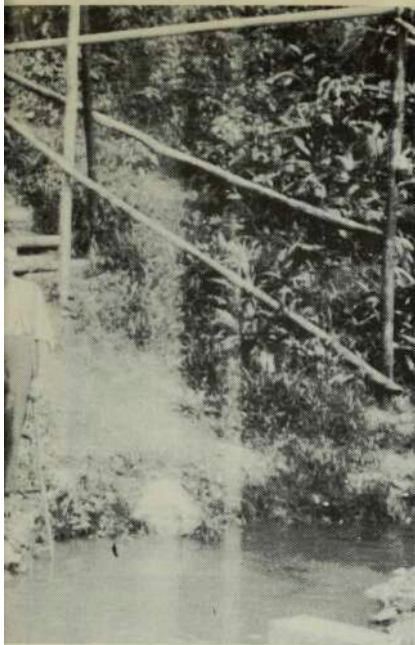
The gold boom of the 30s brought more companies to Misima, but only one, Gold Mines of Papua at Mt Sisa, a Pratten company, reached the production stage. Several people offered for the New Misima Mines, but none could match the asking price.

Frank Hambridge of Sydney visited Misima about this time and took an option over the property. From this option a new company, Cuthberts Misima Gold Mine, was floated and by 1936 had taken over the operations.

Under the careful management of Cliff Rutledge, with James Quintrell as mine manager, the old plant was kept running while considerable extensions were made. By 1938 the extra plant was in full operation and the company's production increased.

From the time of the demise of Block 10, all the underground work had been in the southern lease until 1940 when the northern was re-opened.

The longest drive south was nearly



ABOVE: Early explorers panning for gold on Misima. **RIGHT:** The Cultus team forge a path through the rubble.



6,000 feet long and the total length of the southern drives was over five miles. In the upper levels, the ore grew poorer, but carried payable values 5,000 feet from the shaft.

The northern side did not extend so far but the total length of the lode worked would be altogether over 6,000 feet. From the lowest level to the highest on the south side was approximately 400 feet, with another 450 feet to the top of the hill.

Cuthbert's mine had a 20-head stamper battery and the throughput of ore averaged 3,300 tons per month. In 1940 the company toyed with the idea of opening up the lower level 100 feet below the existing workings. This was the shaft that Block 10 had sunk before closing down.

Preliminary surveys were carried out before a tentative plan was forthcoming. But a new war intervened. In 1942 the company closed down and evacuated its staff to Australia.

Until then Cuthberts Misima had paid dividends of \$350,000.

During the shutdown period many of the drives and adits collapsed and, shortly before the end of the war, two men were sent in to clean up and get the buildings in order for resumed gold mining.

But the Cuthbert luck had run out. High costs after the war and, to an extent, mismanagement put the company into liquidation.

Cuthberts Misima Mine, as it had been worked, was very dependent on under-

ground operations. But heavy rainfall caused the ground to swell and timbers to break. Every drive had to be carefully and regularly checked and repair work carried out.

The amount of timber required was large and it would not have been too many years before logs would have to have been imported. Two motor trucks and a workforce of 80 village men were constantly employed in cutting wood and carting it to the mine.

Very little explosive was used in the mine although some hard places were encountered. Most of the work, though, was done with pick and shovel. So although the treatment plant had been modernised, the underground work had not altered.

One strange thing about Cuthberts Misima was that no gold specimens were ever found. No gold showed in the stone,

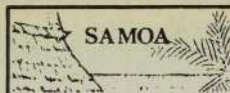
although the values were there for sure. One manager said in 1928: "Since I have been here we have treated over 20,000 tons and not seen one specimen, yet the values are there."

Misima was proclaimed a gold field in 1889, Woodlark in 1895 and Yodda in 1900. On Misima the village people sluiced for gold in several of the creeks and were able to show small returns.

In the years since Cuthberts Misima closed down several companies have prospected the island, the last being Placer, the Canadian mining giant who are now going ahead in a big way.

With the big barges available these days it will be much easier to land heavy equipment on the island than it was in the early days.

And there is no doubt that there is still a lot of gold on Misima. But there is also a lot of Misima earth still mixed with it.



SOLOMON
ISLANDS

Pacific stamp box



With John Hunter

Papua New Guinea is a country whose stamp issuing policy assures it of the support of collectors.

Issue numbers are modest, values are those of normal postage rates and design and quality are of a high standard. When an error is made in a PNG stamp, then, the result is well worth collecting.

And an error has just been made.

Hands up those who can tell a Rhipidwa Rufifrons from a Pitta Erythrogaster. I wouldn't have known what they are, far less the differences between them.

It turns out, however, that they are birds featured in a set of four bird stamps recently issued by PNG.

A keen bird watcher at the Baiyer River Bird Sanctuary did know the difference and spotted the fact that the names were transposed on two of the stamps — an error worth keeping as there will be no re-issue with corrected names.

Still on PNG, keen collectors may find it useful to examine the recent queen's birthday commemorative issue. A few of the 35t stamps have an extra silver line in the design.

Non bird fanciers may have failed the Rufifrons test. But they may do better with the next one.

Papua New Guinea issued two stamps on July 3 to mark the centenary of the Lutheran Church in the country.

They were designed by Sydney artist Graham Wade. Now Graham loves push-bikes and whenever he designs a stamp, you should look for a bicycle in there somewhere.

The question is: where's the bicycle in this issue? It's so hard to find that I'll reveal the answer next month.

After so much dust was stirred by the auction of its excess archive material, Australia Post has decided that the auctions will not include decimal material.

However there is still much opposition (including my own) to these auctions. I maintain the released material will cause ripples in the prices of similar items in the market and will shake overseas confidence in Australia as a dependable collecting country.

For those collecting the Crown Agent's Omnibus Collection of stamps celebrating the queen's 60th birthday, the list of Pacific countries issuing stamps is: Fiji (5), Kiribati (5), Papua New Guinea (5), Pitcairn Island (5),



Western Samoa (5), Solomon Islands (5), Vanuatu (5), Cook Islands (3 and 3 m/s), Niue (3 and 1 m/s) and Penrhyn (3).

The Crown Agent Stamp Company also planned to issue a special omnibus series to commemorate the wedding of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson. So far the Pacific island countries participating in the issue are Pitcairn Island and Solomon Islands.

On May 22, the Federal States of Micronesia issued a set of five stamps plus a miniature sheet commemorating a man of "infamous practical notoriety" unparalleled even in the last century — one William Henry Hayes, known as "Bully", the last of the buccaneers.

Between the 1860s and the 1870s Bully Hayes travelled the Pacific stealing ships, supplying ammunition to the Maoris in the 1863-64 wars, forging copra orders to local chieftains on government stationery and forging the Hawaiian Kamehameha stamp issue among other felonies.

His end came after a dispute with a Norwegian cook in 1877 over the Norseman's steering ability. The Norwegian hit Hayes on the head, tied him to the largest anchor he could find and threw him overboard.

The \$1 miniature sheet depicts one

of Hayes' adventures. It shows him holding an island chief to ransom for 5,000 coconuts and a young girl — just one more of his rascally deeds.

Several Pacific countries are featuring the anniversary of the US Peace Corps as part of their stamp issue for Ameripex '86.

Tonga and Niua'ou issued a set on May 22 to commemorate the birthday of this organisation that has sent about 800 volunteers to Tonga to teach medicine and agriculture or as technicians. A set of four stamps and two miniature sheets was issued.

Fiji, on June 23, issued two stamps commemorating the International Year of Peace.

Vanuatu, meanwhile, issued a set of three stamps commemorating the sinking of the ex-luxury liner, troop ship SS President Coolidge which struck an American mine while entering Santo harbour in October 1942.

The ship carried 6,500 passengers and, although she sank within two hours, only two lives were lost. The troops were en route to the heavy fighting in the Solomons.

This link with America has formed the basis of Vanuatu's Ameripex '86 issue.



A white man caught in the middle

Time of Rain by John Stafford. Published by Rigby, Sydney. 326 pp. ISBN 0 7270 2035 8.

In 1972 I discovered the literature of Papua New Guinea through the work of Ulli Beier. Forced to leave Europe he had gone first to Nigeria where he founded a remarkable journal, *Black Orpheus*.

He gave voice to a second people's literature when he moved to Papua New Guinea and created his Papuan Pocket Poets series and another journal, *Kovave*. (Marjorie Crombe paid tribute to his work in the August, 1980 issue of PIM).

The silence of Papua New Guineans was broken when Albert Maori Kiki published his autobiography *Kiki: Ten thousand years in a lifetime*, in 1968. In *Black Writing from New Guinea* (1973) Beier tells us that among the colonial circles of the day Kiki's book "was received with a great deal of distrust and sometimes hostility."

John Stafford was born in Sri Lanka and was educated in New Zealand. He became a Cadet Patrol Officer in Papua New Guinea ten years before Kiki appeared. He later became a plantation manager. Stafford currently lives in Brisbane.

Many of the characters in *Time of Rain* are developed with great authenticity. When Tom Torrens first enters the valley of the Tengit in 1938 we can imagine Stafford discovering such a valley himself, on one of his own patrols. When the Tengit smear their bodies with earth to express their farewell the details seem so

striking we feel we have almost been there ourselves.

He is sensitive to tribal differences and seems to describe all his characters even-handedly. No one is deliberately stripped of their dignity. Not the alcoholic manager McMullin nor the vada Gigira.

Torren's difficulties with the present administration are no more than Kerevo's with an earlier Australian one. (If there are villains in *Time of Rain* they are usually government administrators of whatever era. We are reminded that the author left the government service for a civilian life.)

Time of Rain is about people (Torrens and Kerevo in particular) who wish to put the mistakes of the past behind them, but who are confronted with the difficulties inherent in change.

Time of Rain is written in those two lingua franca of Papua New Guinea: English and Pidgin. Stafford has caught the way Australians spoke in "the Territory". He has an ear for such things.

In 1949 a "Territorian" shouts to another as he leaves a Sydney pub, "Eh, twopela, noken play nogood long all meri, laka?" Pidgin had become their badge of identification down in the "Big Smoke".

Reuben Parap is the Police Commander in Kurimba. There is a patch of conversation between him and his wife Lena which admirably establishes their relationship. Just listen to them:

... Reuben looked at her with fury.

"Bloody, bigheaded Papuan bitch?" He stood up, his fists clenched. ... He had never yet struck his wife, but he felt the time was near.

"Don't call me those names!" Lena turned, furious. "You big black pig! Go to your stupid kanaka party. Go and celebrate a little girl's first menstruation, and help her father make plans for selling her off."

Close to tears, Lena bit her lip to regain control of herself.

No Pidgin. But Lena and Reuben come from different linguistic areas and presumably use both English and Pidgin when they are talking to each other. They are believable nonetheless.

This novel takes us through three different times. It falls into

three sections. It opens on the Torrens family property several miles out of Port Moresby in the 1920s.

They employ a Papuan named Kerevo among their workers. He becomes a friend of one of the sons, Tom.

In the next section, set in the 1950s, Kerevo returns to his village after serving with the police. He has been to Brisbane, fought the Japanese and represents the future for his people, or, at least, someone who understands it.

The local Assistant District Officer, Bill Hardman (Stafford



Commonwealth Secretariat

Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP) Tutor CYP South Pacific Centre

Applications are invited from Commonwealth citizens for the post of Tutor at the CYP South Pacific Centre, Suva, Fiji.

The Centre, which is part of the Commonwealth Youth Programme (CYP) administered by the Commonwealth Secretariat, provides, in addition to a residential Diploma Course in Youth and Development, short training courses and workshops at regional and national level on a wide range of topics on youth affairs, relevant to needs of member governments. It also operates an information service and provides advice to governments.

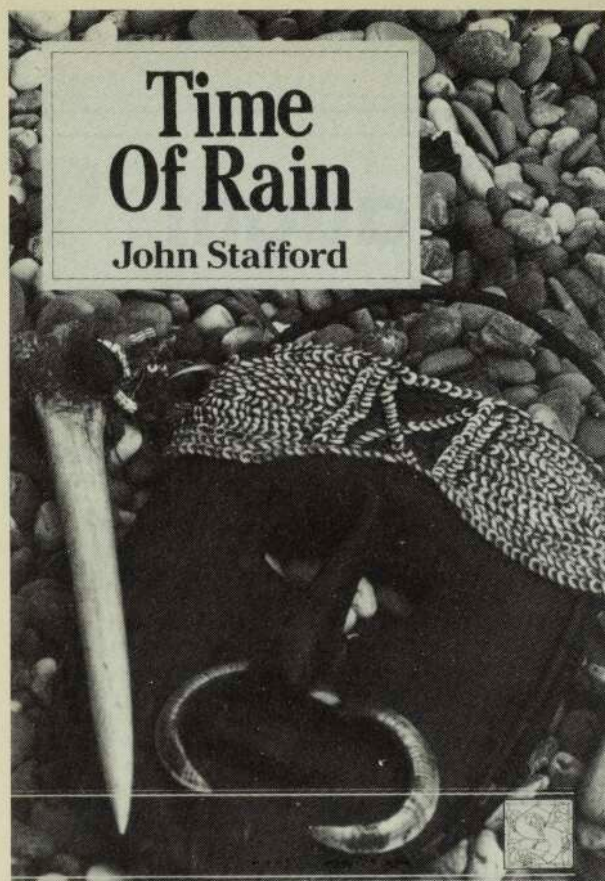
The Tutor will be required to teach selected courses in the Diploma programme, organise short-term training courses, advise on the design and evaluation of youth projects, undertake research, advise member governments, and assist in the Centre's administration.

Candidates should have a university degree with qualifications in a relevant social science, skills and experience in training in cross-cultural settings and in course design/evaluation and, preferably, practical field experience in youth work. Preference will be given to candidates aged 35 years or less.

The appointment will be for two years in the first instance. The salary, linked to the USP Scale, will be in the range SF13,921-18,919 per annum plus a 10% gratuity, accommodation, education and other allowances.

Applicants should notify the Secretariat of their interest by telephone or telex not later than October 15, 1986. Full cv's, including the names and addresses of three referees, should be forwarded to reach the Secretariat not later than October 31, 1986. Please contact:

John Saddington
Recruitment Section
Commonwealth Secretariat
Marlborough House, Pall Mall, London SW1Y 5HX
Telephone: 01-839 3411 Ext 8146
Telex: 27678 COMSEC G.



?), doesn't oppose him when he sets up a village based co-operative, the Kompani. The Kompani is a direct threat to Baxby, an Australian trader.

A clash seems inevitable.

Part three follows Tom Torrens into the Highlands. He has become a citizen of the newly independent Papua New Guinea. His wife has died but he still plans to run their coffee plantation.

When tribal fighting breaks out he is caught in the middle. Used to the casual, institutionalised cruelty of the colonial administration (and the terror of the War), this latest violence profoundly upsets him — perhaps because he no longer has a means of controlling it.

He is an old man and Reuben Parap is in charge. Without wanting to admit it to himself, Torrens would prefer an officer like Hardman to be there to deal with the situation.

Time of Rain does not tell us how Kerevo's Kompani fares under Hardman's administration. What was the reaction

after the plantation manager Baxby was killed? (Kerevo and his village had nothing to do with it.) Like Torrens in a different period we are left suspecting that he must become a victim.

Does Torrens stay on in the Highlands or does he retreat to Brisbane? Does the fighting spill on to his plantation?

Stafford has designed a novel that feels like one of those old divining rods water-dowsers used to use. From a handle set in the 1920s it branches out into the two pointers of Kerevo and Torrens.

The novel then begins to shake in our hands. Stafford finishes it just before we discover what we have found. He wants us to find answers for ourselves.

Ulli Beier accuses outsiders of giving us a "distorted" view of Papua New Guinea. John Stafford isn't an outsider, but the view he has chosen to give us is a different one . . . from the view we are getting from Papua New Guinean writers themselves. — D. S. Long.

Mystery of a failed colony

The Prehistoric Archaeology of Norfolk Island. Pacific Anthropological Records 34. Published by Department of Anthropology Bernice P. Bishop Museum, Honolulu, Hawaii 96819. ISBN 0.910240.95.7 \$US6.00.

New aspects of Pacific Anthropology have captured both public and professional imaginations like the prehistoric settlement of Polynesia.

The Polynesians' success in colonising places as far flung as Hawaii, Easter Island and New Zealand has impressed Europeans at least since the time of Cook's voyages through the region in the 18th Century.

That interest persists today as archaeologists, ethnographers and linguists bring to light new and more exact details of what is, without doubt, a fascinating episode in human prehistory.

It is perhaps to be expected that much of the interest and commentary, both public and professional, is preoccupied with the more dramatic, remarkable and above all, **successful** efforts of the Polynesian seafarers. Equally intriguing, though, are their seeming failures. It is one such failure that Specht examines in his compact report.

Norfolk Island, lying east of Australia, halfway between New Zealand's North Island and New Caledonia, was uninhabited when Europeans first went there in 1774.

As Specht notes "since the first British settlement in 1788, however, various chance finds have suggested prior occupation . . . by Pacific Islanders". Encouraged by the fact that local historians are still finding things, the author undertook a short archaeological study of the island and reassessed previously documented evidence in an attempt to resolve matters.

The questions he wished to address were: did Pacific Islanders reach the island prior to

European arrival? And if they did, why did they not establish a successful colony there? Was Norfolk a case of unsuccessful colonisation, or a casual visiting without settlement?

The archaeological evidence consists of one possible shell midden discovered during an otherwise fruitless examination of the coast and selected inland parts of the island; a variety of stone tools variously reported but now lost, held by the Australian Museum, or in private collections on Norfolk; and a range of similarly dispersed human skeletal material.

The stylistic characteristics of the stone artefacts were examined by the author, with petrological identifications being handled by a specialist whose results are appended to the study.

Integrating these two data sets, Specht argues for a minimum of four source areas for four identifiable groups of tools. Only one group of items is thought to be "convincing evidence" for pre-European habitation. Of the remaining 3 groups, two probably relate to post-European activities while the third may indicate a more recent, pre-contact visit to Norfolk.

Like the stone tools, various samples of the extant human skeletal material have been examined by specialists. Reports of two recent studies are presented as appendices. Neither is definite about the racial origins of the specimens. It is most likely they represent European X Oceanic hybrids such as the Pitcairn Islanders brought to Norfolk in the 1850s.

The discussion of indirect evidence is a good example of how widely archaeologists can spread their nets in searching for clues. First, Specht outlines the clear evidence for bananas having been well-established on the island when the first British penal colony was only starting up.

As he points out, bananas

grow vegetatively (i.e. from suckers) and so it is extremely improbable that they drifted to the island and then established themselves over one kilometre inland and some height above sea level.

Second, there is a suggestion that a species of rat, *Rattus exulans*, was introduced before Cook's first tour. A small, delicate creature, *R. exulans* is native to the Pacific but owes its distribution to human agencies.

It may be the small rat described in early journals as having devastated the colony's food supplies.

While previously thought not to have been on Norfolk, its presence today has lately been demonstrated and its early introduction made reasonable definite by the discovery of an *R. exulans* skeleton in 700-800 year old sediments in the island's old cemetery area.

Summing up his exhaustive survey of the evidence, Specht argues that: "the best interpretation . . . is that there was certainly one arrival from Eastern Polynesia, probably about AD1000 to 1400, and possibly a second between AD1400 and 1774.

"The first landing may have originated from North Island New Zealand, the Cook Islands, or the Society Islands; the putative later landing would most likely have come from South Island New Zealand."

He buttresses these contentions with the results of computer simulations of drift voyages in the Pacific. Although the Kermadec Islands near New Zealand are the point of origin for most of the successful simulated landings on Norfolk, bananas do not grow there.

The simulations suggest Tonga, and the Cook and Society Islands as other possibilities, the latter two of which are most likely in view of the nature of the stone tools and drift material.

Having got this far, Specht points out that regardless of where people may have come from or how many times they came, the question of their fate on Norfolk remains unresolved.

While there is some support for the idea that the island was not a regular port-of-call for Polynesian sailors, this does not mean people did not attempt to settle permanently there.

The planting of bananas, which take 12 months to mature, certainly suggests people intended to stay. What, then, prevented their survival in the longer term?

The answer may be that many of the food crops normally used in the Pacific were not brought to Norfolk and this, coupled with the relative poverty of local marine and other resources, meant the settlers were doomed from the start.

Alternatively, the group may not have constituted a viable breeding population, regardless of the state of their resource-base.

Disappointingly, the evidence available does not allow the author to do more than present these possibilities. He can only conclude that more archaeological work needs to be done if we wish to more fully explore the constraints on human settlement in the Pacific.

Like its companion volumes in the Pacific Anthropological Records series, Specht's report is well-produced and very reasonably priced. Its clearly printed text is interspersed with quite a few adequately labelled figures and tables.

The only criticism I have with regard to presentation is that most of the black and white

photographs are unclear. The body of the text is written in an academic rather than popular style, but is as jargon-free as could be expected and so is accessible to both professionals and interested laymen alike.

However, some of the tables and, more particularly, the three appendices, are strictly for the technically-minded who are familiar with arcane geological and osteological terms and methods. In short, the report is not for everyone, but — frustrating as its inconclusiveness is — it would be a useful addition to the library of any student of Pacific anthropology.

— Ian Lilley.

Movements away from the centre

Decentralisation in the South Pacific: Local, Provincial and State Government in Twenty Countries. University of the South Pacific, 1985

The above book covering decentralisation in most of the many islands of the Pacific contains contributions from almost an equal number of authors. A mammoth task has been attempted.

The book is divided into three sections corresponding with the major areas of the Pacific — Melanesia, Polynesia and Micronesia.

Each island is dealt with separately although more detail is given to some rather than others. Tonga gets short shrift whereas Papua New Guinea receives prime attention. It appears that some authors have first-hand information of the island on which they wrote — others appear to glean their information solely from secondary sources.

It is a pity that more information and opinions was not sought from Islanders themselves, nevertheless a wealth of detailed information is provided on administrative structures, political development and their history. As such, *Decentralisation in the South Pacific* appears as an excellent reference book.

But any book becomes more

valuable when it goes beyond the details to provide analysis. The discussion is generally put within the context of former colonial overseership, modern political development with some attention being paid to indigenous forms of political control.

The different chapters vary in amount of analysis paid to the juxtaposition of all three in the administrative forms which have evolved to their present state.

If the book proves one thing it is that decentralisation is not a uniform movement in the Pacific. In French Polynesia it is more or less a transfer from the French system rather than a natural process which reflects the aspirations of those islanders.

In Western Samoa, local government is based on the values inherent in a hierarchically valued system of chiefly titles. In Fiji there is a dual system of local government — one for Melanesian Fijians and the other for the Indian Fijians. Decentralisation obviously serves different purposes, it can also give rise to different emotions.

Obviously attitudes to decentralisation change through time. PNG is a classic example. In the wake of independence in the 70s, decentralisation was

fashionable. It was equated with decolonisation.

Yet even before the 80s there were those who saw extensive decentralisation as a step towards secession.

So, in PNG, caution came to be expressed. In countries of ethnic or provincial diversity, governments may want to make symbolic gestures to decentralisation. Yet, at the same time, fears may be aroused.

As in Vanuatu, there may be apprehension over regionalisation or separatism. In contrast in more homogenous or smaller island states such as Tuvalu or Cooks, the hope exists that local government can hasten development.

At times, the book does delve into vital enquiry such as whether or not local structures are actually facilitating or hindering the development process.

Pam Thomas' chapter on Western Samoa is one of the best. She outlines the outcome of the central Government's policy of strengthening the linkages between villagers and national policy makers.

Rural Development projects were to be based on commercial village ventures. Once discussed in the village council (*fono*) a project request was sent to the Rural Development Unit. The traditional system of local government provided the organisation needed for raising the initial costs and labor force.

The Rural Development Program in Western Samoa started off very successfully because the central Government could plug into the existing

Continued on page 48

A tale of two islands

There used to be a theory, supposedly endorsed by Albert Einstein, that everyone in the world had a twin, a double, living somewhere in the world. I don't claim to subscribe to it, but I have seen evidence of places having doubles.

There is a village in Britain, Medford, that is as drab and uninspired as my hometown of the same name in Massachusetts. Parts of New York City eerily resemble the Black Hole of Calcutta.

At a party once, I was cornered by an excitable Arab named Pierre Christophe, who insisted that my home at the time, Samoa, was the exact antipode of Mecca. The implication, of course, was that if there were any Samoan Moslems they were perfectly entitled to pray in any direction they wished.

This all brought to mind the

story of two islands, geographic doppelgangers if there ever were any.

They're thousands of miles from each other and yet they're alike in scores of ways, in shape, in topographical features, active vulcanism, copious rainfall, archaeological formations, native people, place names and in their relation to the others of the group: they are the yokels.

Samoans call Savaiians *kuapaka* (bumpkin); the pidgin version is F.O.B. (Fresh Off the Boat).

When I was first dispatched by the Peace Corps to the Samoan Group, back in 1975, I chose the westernmost island, the largest and most traditional, Savaii, on which to serve. It gave me my first teaching job, my first fluent, foreign language, my first foreign culture, my first house, on the easternmost point of the island.

Ten years later, I am again teaching on the eastern side of a Polynesian island, the largest and most extreme of the group, with plenty of rainfall and trade winds. But my thatch roof has become tin and I've traded my foreign-speaking neighbours for equally baffling pidgin-spouting Portuguese.

I takes notes. And I've found that, just as I did ten years ago, I need a woollen blanket at night. Well, even the Sahara gets cold then.

But the similarities of the islands are striking. In 1976, I visited an inland village on Savaii called Paia. I was told that nearby was a strange place called *Le Ana* (The Cave), where *sa'a* (Little People) lived.

A half mile or so inland through the jungle was an unprepossessing hole in the ground. Yet it was an opening to a lava tube as impressive as the famous Thurston Lava Tube at Kilauea. And Hawaii also has a Paia (Paia ha'a) near Ka'u. (there is a Ka'u — or Ta'u — in Samoa also. But I'll only mention names common to both.)

Of course the very names of

the islands — Savaii and Hawaii — are linguistically speaking, identical. No one knows just what the word means, and while some have speculated that it is Proto-Polynesian for "homeland", no linguist will commit himself to this.

It has many versions throughout the Pacific: Hawaii, Havaiki, Avaiki and Savaii. Since the letters S, J, and H are linked, I subscribe to the unsubstantiated but romantic notion that the name traces back to Java-Iki, or Little Java, the Asian homeland of the Polynesians.

But there are other, more convincing similarities in place names. The Vailoa ("Long Water") on the south coast of Savaii is recalled in the Wailoa river and State Park at Hilo.

Both islands have a Vaitoloa in their northwest quadrants. Cape Vaitoloa looks upon one

of the loveliest sunsets in the world, while Hawaii's Waikoloa describes a pretty hill and a stream. Both mean "Duck Water." (In Polynesian T equals K and the Hawaiian W is pronounced V. Don't ask me why).

Papa is a seacoast village and bay of particular beauty on the south coasts of both islands. Hawaii's sometimes snow-capped Mauna Loa recalls the two volcanic cones and one crater on Savaii, which are all called Mauga Loa. Other place names are identical, but geographically reversed, just as the islands themselves are the east or west extremities of their respective groups.

There is a Puapua on the east coast of Savaii, the west of Hawaii; Malae is found on the east coast of a aii, the west of Hawaii; Vaifou, too, is reversed and Waihou is on the west coast of Hawaii.

ALL THE NEWS IN A FLASH

The South Sea Digest tells you what you want to know about the Pacific Islands in a few words. All the leading firms and diplomatic missions read it.

See insert for
subscription details:
THE SOUTH SEA DIGEST



Akaka Falls, near Hilo — photo by Diane Theroux.

One north-to-south switch is "Loincloth Bay", each naming some forgotten battle, where a thin girdle was worn by the warriors: Fagamalo on Savaii and Hanamalo on Hawaii.

Another is Vaipouli, also on Savaii's north coast. It becomes Hawaii's southern Waipouli Bay. Hawaii's Puna district, south of Hilo, recalls Savaii's Mount Puna. Scores of other Samoan place names (Upolu, Tuasivi, Vaimea, Faga, Apia, just to name a few) were carried over the oceans along with dogs, chickens, coconuts, a language and a culture.

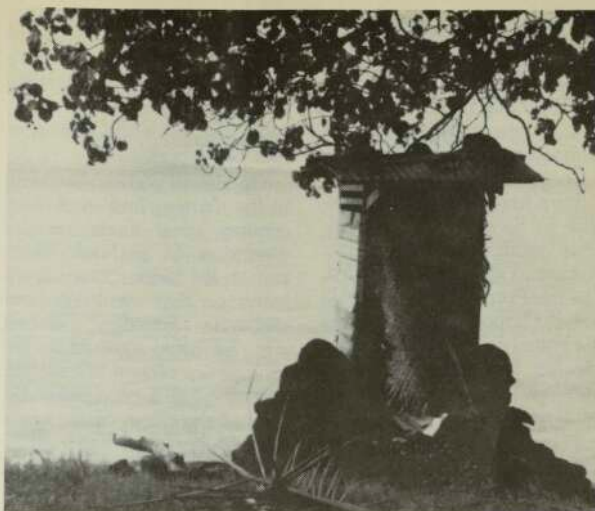
Both islands were formed of volcanic activity, the lava field on Savaii as strange a moon-scape as any of those on Hawaii. But because of the hundreds of inches of rainfall, the islands are lush, with thick timber forests. There is *toa* wood on Savaii, "warrior's wood", like koa wood on Hawaii, valued for its strength as well as its reddish beauty. Boar hunts can be arranged on either island. In some ways the islands are clones. Or so it seems.

But for perspective: Savaii is a mere 703 square miles, while Hawaii, at 4034 square miles deserves its name as the Big Island. Hawaii is 76 miles by 93 miles, nearly twice the size of all the other Hawaiian Islands combined. Savaii is but 45 miles by 26. There are also more than twice as many people on Hawaii: 110,000. Savaiians number only about 50,000.

Recently, the Mayor of Hawaii, Dante Carpenter, referred to the Big Island as the "sleeping giant of the Pacific."

One would be hard put to find a more apt description. Its potential for tourist development, alternate energy production, agricultural benefits, as a playground for astronomers, archaeologists and sociologists, has only recently been realised.

Experiments in the field of alternate energy include wind machines, burning biomass and geothermal energy: these actually are in production, though not nearly as much as they could and should be. Only the Kona side of the island is



Fale-sami, or sea toilet, Tuasivi — photo by Diane Theroux.

beginning to flourish as a tourist haven.

They have not taken their rental cars and cash to the Hilo side, and that bothers the business community. Part of the problem has been the island's very name: everyone thinks that because he has been to the Hawaiian Islands he has seen

Hawaii, when he has only seen Waikiki and *that* island (Oahu, remember?).

The attempt to sell Hawaii as the Orchid Isle has met with only partial success. It has no distinction in the tourist's or developer's mind, in the way that Molokai does, for example.

Savaii's problems are similar,



City of Refuge, Kona — photo by Diane Theroux.

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AUSTRALIA

and also tied up with nomenclature. Though they are called the Samoan Islands, there is no island by that name. Countless articles refer to the "island of Samoa" where none exists.

To compound the problem, tourism has never been acceptable to Samoans, though various "tourism committees" feel obliged to give lip service to it. The late Prime Minister Mataafa actively opposed it and limited the number of cruise ships allowed into Apia Harbor to one or two a year, as late as the early seventies.

They fear their young people will adopt objectionable styles (as they frequently do). So Savaii also has great potential for tourist development, especially since, generally lacking minerals and any major industry, their economy and balance of payments are as shaky as a banana tree in a typhoon.

To fly over Savaii, or to hike across it, it is to be awed at the great tracts of land and virgin timber forests, its own potential for wind and biomass energy, agriculture and so on.

Though anthropologists have worked the place dry, astronomers would be delighted at the clear nights and the sky even freer of lights than Hawaii where you can see satellites sail by with the naked eye (they only recently strung an electric wire around the island). Archaeologists would have a field day climbing about on previously unstudied star mounds (of forgotten purpose) and the massive stone mounds that the Samoans themselves squint at doubtfully.

Savaii's other name is Puleono, in the chiefly language, but the Samoans are as tight with their lore as they are with sharing their land with tourists or developers and possibly with good cause. They've heard how Fijians and Hawaiians have ceased to control their lands.

The island of Hawaii has been called a continent in miniature. What other island has a snow-capped volcano, black sand beaches (and brown and green), rain forests, cattle ranches, lava fields and jungle waterfalls. Hawaii has the only

coffee industry in the United States and the Parker Ranch, one of the largest privately-owned ranches in the U.S., providing the island with one-fifth of its beef.

On Hawaii you can be skiing in the morning and snorkelling among coral reefs in the afternoon. Or as Mark Twain put it in 1866: "One could stand on that mountain, and while he nibbled a snowball . . . he could look down the long sweep of its sides and see . . . the tufted coco palms [in fact] all the climes of the world at a single glance."

You can see where Captain Cook was beaten and eaten or brouse the most extensive orchid nurseries in the world. Like Savaii, it is considered the country bumpkin of the group, but its cultural offerings are wide. In the short space of two months in 1985, I saw the Hino Community Players stage a competent *Othello* in the rain, the Honolulu Symphony do an evening of Bach and a Japanese Heritage Parade; I brought my daughter to a rodeo, a country fair, a carnival and a circus.

There is a bunny farm near her babysitter's: the girl's in hog heaven.

It was just those sort of things I felt she needed in Samoa. Though there she was free from street people, disease, traffic, AIDS and pidgin. So you trade off a few things.

The Hawaiians say that their islands were hooked by a great fisherman named Maui, who brought them to the surface, and that was creation.

Their traditions tell of their ancestors in the southern islands of Kahiki. Samoans tell you that the islands were created by Tagaloa but that the people never arrived: they were created in the islands, from worms and vines. Indeed, many believe that the Garden of Eden is located somewhere in Samoa, though exactly where no one knows.

Perhaps its location has been obscured by the mischievous *sa'a*, Samoan cousins of the *menehune*, Polynesian twins separated by a great sea. — *Joseph Theroux*.



Grandmother and child at their house at Papa (south).

Books

Continued from page 45

system of local government. However, after the three years the promise tarnished.

Pam Thomas argued that an important contributory factor was the lack of adequate communication between central Government and village leaders. There was insufficient central supervision of projects.

Alternatively, however, if the government had exercised more control, a collision may well have occurred between it and traditional leaders.

Perhaps the most valuable asset of the book is that it amply demonstrates that there are no straight answers as to the benefits or disadvantages of decentralisation.

However, there are probably lessons to be learned on when decentralisation favors development and when it does not. This sort of analysis is not really provided in the book.

A summary of **conclusions**, however, is presented at the end of the book. In many ways it is its best part. Peter Lamour begins by telling us that the book is mainly concerned with formal structures.

He then adds that this "may not be a good guide to political content". Nor, I might add, may formal structure be a good guide to planning development

strategies. Many informal structures, such as women's committees on Samoa, can be very useful. Lamour would argue that only formal authority is capable of furthering development.

He contends correctly that even constitutional and legal autonomy means little if local governments lack resources such as staff, budgets or authority.

Lamour goes on to identify three types of local government:

- **Minimal** in that local governments do little themselves without consulting with central governments. These types of local governments are generally involved with minor works and keeping roads and villages clean and tidy.

- **Weak developmental** where local government functions are broad and developmental but which lack the resources to carry out the plans.

- **Decentralised** in that the local government is the object to which certain national functions have been transferred.

Sources of local government revenues are then explored.

On the whole, then, the book is useful. Even when it does not provide sufficient analysis, it provides enough information for readers to pose their own questions and come up with their own guidelines. — *Sandra Rennie*.

transitions

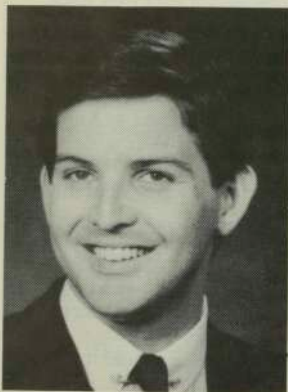
Honoured: USP senior physics lecturer, **Dr Geoff Dougherty** by two separate professional bodies.

Dr Dougherty has been elected a senior member of the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers in the United States.

He has also been admitted as a fellow by the Australian Institute of Physics.

Resigned: Papua New Guinea Combined Trade Union Congress chairman, **Napoleon Liosi**.

Mr Liosi, who is president of the Public Employees Association, has also indicated his intention to quit the chairmanship of the Workers Education Advisory Committee.



Mr William Douglas Long.

He said the decision had been made necessary due to preparations for an 11-month overseas study leave.

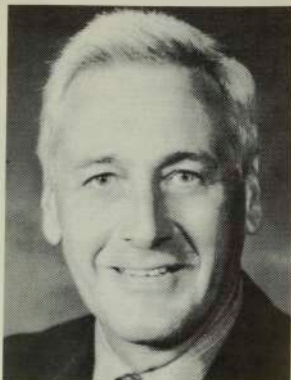
Promoted: As general manager of Pacific Resources Inc (PRI), **Mr W. Douglas Long**.

In other moves, **John E. Harmes** has been promoted to manager of marketing operations, while **Robert H. Rath**, formerly general manager of South Pacific operations, has taken the new position of manager of petroleum business facilities for all PRI's petroleum activities.

Mr Long joined PRI in 1983 when the company acquired Marlex's South Pacific business.

Mr Harmes was formerly a logistics officer for the US military and joined PRI in 1984.

Mr Rath joined PRI in 1977



Mr John E. Harms

after working for C. Brewer and Co and Union Oil.

In another appointment, **Jayprakas Mulki** becomes PRI's marketing manager for South Pacific operations.

He was formerly petroleum economist at PRI having joined the company in 1983 from Hawaiian Telephone company.

PRI's restructuring is aimed particularly at the South Pacific where they envisage increasing opportunities.

In addition to its terminal and operations in American Samoa, PRI South Pacific includes joint ventures in the Cook Islands and Fiji with supply agreements in Kiribati and Australia.

A 4,400 barrel petroleum terminal has just been completed in Tonga.

Appointed: Four new Solomon Islands cabinet members — **Mr John Tapaika**, **Mr Ben Foukona**, **Mr Daniel Fa'asifoabae** and **Mr Joini Tutua**.



Mr Robert H. Rath

Mr Tapaika (Rennell and Belona) is reappointed to the transport, works and utilities portfolio; Mr Tutua (Gizo and Kolombangara) is minister for education and training; Mr Foukona (Lau and Mbaelelea) becomes trade, commerce and industry minister, while Mr Fa'asifoabae (East Kwaio) is the new public service minister.

Returned: To Britain, former magistrate and Commissioner of the High Court of Solomon Islands, **Mr John Freeman** after a three year assignment.

Mr Freeman has returned to his former barrister's practice in England.

Remembered: The great hurricane of 1889 and the heroism of the Samoans who rescued the crews of three German and three American warships in Apia harbour.

An anchor, believed to belong to the German ship *Adler* was installed at Maututu as a hurricane monument.

Peter Meredith jr who raised the anchor with the aid of a Fijian fishing vessel told the *Samoa Times* that archeologists agreed with his theory that the anchor belonged to the German vessel whose wreck now lies beneath the sand of the harbour's reclaimed area.

Elected: New president of the Journalists Association of Western Samoa (JAWS), **Falesu Leute Fua** editor of *Savali*. He was elected following a request by *Samoa Times* editor, **Fata Faalogo** to be relieved.

Appointed: PNG's high commissioner to Malaysia, **Sir Alkan Tololo** a former director of education and high commissioner to Australia. **Appointed:** Manager of Fiji's first merchant bank, Suva businessman **Mr Lyle Cupit**. The Merchant Bank of Fiji Ltd was due to open its doors on September 1.

Left: His post as chief magistrate of Fiji, **Mr Gordon Ward**. He and his wife **Margaret** were

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PIM associate editor dies

Malcolm Salmon, associate editor of PIM for the last ten years has died.

Mr Salmon had a long and distinguished career in journalism. His first contact with the Pacific region was as a young rating on HMAS Australia during World War II.

He once said of his war service that ratings were sent to cruisers either because they were thought to be officer material or for disciplinary purposes. He said he was one of the few who were selected in the first category and ended up in the second.

He was on the Australia when she was devastatingly bombed by Japanese kamikaze aircraft.

After the war Mr Salmon entered journalism. A long-time colleague said of his early working life: "Faced with the prospect of being groomed for management positions, he decided that was not for him. He took a sharp left turn and joined the Communist Party ... His early experiences helped shape his cosmopolitan knowledge and understanding and, while he remained vigorously Australian, deepened his sense of the oneness of humanity."

Mr Salmon worked for the Tribune newspaper before he resigned from the party. He later joined PIM as a sub editor

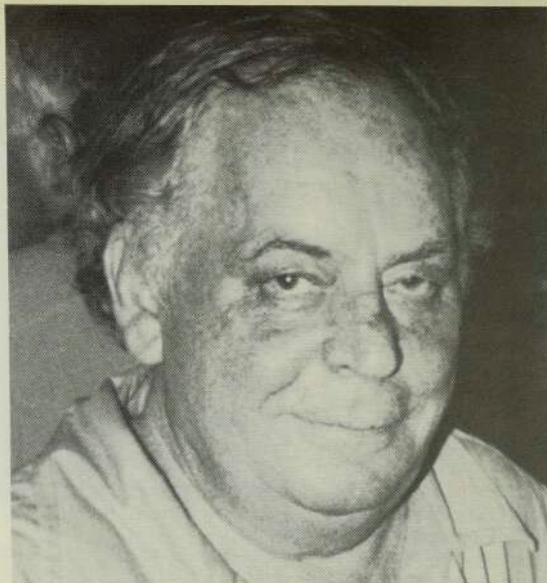
His work as a journalist took him to France, Spain, England and Southeast Asia as well as the Pacific.

Noted for his fluency in and love for the French language, he spent considerable periods in North Vietnam during the Vietnam war.

One of the first western journalists to interview Ho Chi Minh, Mr Salmon conducted the conversation in French, simultaneously transcribing it in English in Pitmans shorthand. The North Vietnamese later preferred his version as the official transcript of the interview.

It was this knowledge of the French language that enabled Mr Salmon to bring an added dimension to PIM's coverage of the region.

He aimed to get across important messages in a style



Mr Malcolm Salmon

that had immediacy, validity and literary integrity. In particular his personal convictions meant that PIM gave full and sympathetic support to the aspirations of the people of the Pacific islands.

Sadly, an old PIM tradition of having regular literary lunches has gone. However, there are many people associated with the Pacific islands who came to know those meetings over the last decade and were able to meet with Malcolm Salmon and come to appreciate his wit, his adherence to a humane philosophy and his bonhomie.

It was fitting that one of his colleagues said in a eulogy: "He was concerned above all with the right of all nations to self-determination, the right to develop their economies and cultures in peace and democracy and freely exchange material and cultural values.

"He was deeply concerned that Australia should live in peace and friendship with all peoples, and he had a long association with the peace movement," — Bill Coppel

presented with a silver set by the judicial department. Mr Ward was to take up a senior legal post in Solomon Islands.

Resigned: After 18 years with the PNG Correctional Institutions Services, **Supt Robin Polis**. He is replaced as New Guinea Islands regional commander by **Acting Supt Dennis Piandu**.

Left: The law courts of Western Samoa, **Judge David Lowe** after a brief term. The government had requested an extension to Judge Lowe's term so that he could head the Commission of Inquiry into the Salelologa logging equipment fire in January.

However, the New Zealand government decided that press-

ure of work at home was too great.

At a farewell ceremony at the justice department, members of the Law Society saluted the judge who has returned to New Zealand.

Mrs Ruby Drake thanked the judge for the way in which he had always dealt with matters she and other lawyers had argued before him.

Judge Lowe is replaced by **Judge Derek Paine** of Christchurch.

Awarded: Fulbright scholarship to Port Moresby city manager **Mr Vili Maha** who will study for a professional master's degree in urban and regional planning at the University of Pittsburgh.

Scholarships were also

awarded to **Mr Florian Gubon** a lawyer in the international branch of the Justice Department and Public Solicitor's Office lawyer, **Mr Salamo Injia**.

Mr Gubon will study for a master's degree in law and marine affairs at the University of Washington while Mr Injia will study for a master's at Harvard Law School.

The scholarships are all for 12 months.

Appointed: Director of the Pacific Islands Development Program at the East-West Centre, **Mr Charles Lepani**.

Mr Lepani was director of PNG's National Planning Office from 1976 to 1980 when he left to study for a master's degree in public administration at the

John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University.

Since then he has been involved in a series of business projects in Papua New Guinea.

Appointed: Senior administrative officer in the Department of Chief Secretary, Nauru, **Mr Donald Stewart**.

Mr Stewart was executive officer in the Department of External Affairs from 1975-78. He was earlier a district officer in Apia.

After leaving Nauru in 1978, Mr Stewart was director of administration at the South Pacific Commission until 1981 when he left to take up a teaching position at the University of New South Wales.

Yachts

JUDITH SELLARS reports from Suva:

Picture the classic English sailor, compulsive rum swiper and all, and you have the correct image of solo yachtsman, Charlie Smith, aboard his 27 ft British Nova design sloop, *Aquila Nova*.

A Royal Navy officer for 13 years, the last eight in the submarines, Charlie purchased *Aquila Nova* for £7000 during his final year in the service, and after reading books on sailing and navigating, and a couple of successful runs up the English coast to Ireland, he sailed out of Plymouth on his first offshore passage.

He crossed the Atlantic in 32 days and headed for South America and the Caribbean.

Once he dropped anchor at the port of Tortola, in the British Virgin Islands, he got himself a

job at the newly established Pusser's Rum factory.

The job suited him down to the ground since Pusser's Rum (Pusser's being slang for the Royal Navy), had been an old tradition in the navy until it was abolished in the 1970s.

A wealthy American then came along, bought the rights to commercialise the tradition of more than 300 years and opened up a factory in Tortola.

Charlie, of course, acquired many benefits with the job, and used to mix his own special rum potions of 160 proof, from the usual 95.5 proof of which Pusser's Rum is so proud.

After working at the factory for 18 months, Charlie met his Canadian crew, Robyn, ended his reputation as a solo sailor, for a while at least, and via the Panama Canal, cruised through the Pacific to Tahiti, Tonga and then Fiji.

After a short stay in Fiji, where Charlie seems to be

enjoying the local Bounty Rum, he plans to sail to Adelaide to visit his family, who he has not seen in over 10 years since they left England to settle in Australia.

Charlie says he plans to get a temporary job there and hopes to fulfil some of his sailing dreams such as a trip through the East to Russia or a cruise around the Antarctic.

Fibreglass hulled *Aquila Nova* is quite ship-shape considering her small size. And with Charlie's engineering specialities, he has made her a very efficient and independent cruiser.

Without much faith in electrical appliances, Charlie's home-made refrigerator is an Igloo icebox, fitted with compartments and an electrical compressor which is powered by a wind generator, purchased in the United States.

His two burner propane gas stove is complete with a grill and oven, and Charlie proudly bakes his own bread every couple of days while at sea.

For navigation, the solo sailor relies totally on a plastic sextant he bought in England for £21 and a watch, for which he paid £17.

Aquila Nova is also equipped with a VHF radio, a Seafarer depth sounder, and an Aries wind vane self steering system, which Charlie says is in operation the very minute he hoists his sails.

For auxiliary power, a Saab single cylinder diesel 10 horsepower engine is installed, although Charlie says he rarely finds a need for it.

After three years of sailing, Charlie says that the Atlantic crossing was far easier than the Pacific, for he experienced rough seas and gales, although he boasts that his 27-footer handled it quite well, considering she was designed as a day sailor.

Solo Sailor Charlie Smith (left) with friend Hugh Maybin aboard "*Aquila Nova*". Photo: Judith Sellars

● **ISH-KA-BIBBLE.** Husband and wife team, Dawn and Orron Hickling, recently cruised into Suva harbor aboard their 39 ft Caraff Vulcane III centre cockpit cutter-rig *Ish-Ka-Bibble*.

Steel-hulled *Ish-Ka-Bibble*, which is an American Yiddish expression for "What the hell!", which according to Dawn, expresses their life-style really well, was purchased in Panama in 1983.

The couple first began sailing more than eight years ago in *Pleiades*, a wooden hulled sloop which they owned at the time.

They cruised the Alaskan coast extensively for about two years before they decided to break out and sailed from Homer, their home town on their first ocean passage.

They cruised the U.S. West Coast, down through Mexico, then sailed about 100 miles off-shore to Costa Rica and South America.

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After cruising between Costa Rica and Panama for about a year and a half, Dawn and Orron were home-sick and headed for Alaska, stopping along the way to visit family and friends.

They embarked on their first pacific voyage last September, and headed for Hawaii, before sailing on a 10 day passage to Palmyra.

The island atoll, which is privately owned by an Hawaiian family, was once a U.S. naval base, so a number of buildings are still standing, with fresh water from tanks always available.

Dawn described an old log book that has been on the island for many years, in which they faithfully entered their visit alongside other yachties, and seamen from navy ships and research vessels.

They finally sailed on to American Samoa for provisions, before continuing to Tonga and Fiji.

After a short stay in Fiji, the couple plan to visit New Caledo-

nia before sailing to New Zealand and Australia, where they hope to stay for a year in each country.

Ish-Ka-Bibble's comfortable interior consists of the main saloon, which is surprisingly very spacious with no bulkheads, and is nicknamed the "mountain cabin" because of its cosy wood finish.

The master cabin is located aft, while a small stateroom, now a workshop and the galley is located amidships.

The yacht is well equipped with a satellite navigator and a sextant, while for communication, the Hicklings have a VHF and a ham radio, which Dawn proclaims is the best thing to have ever happened to ocean cruising.

She says she makes at least two calls per week to friends and family all over the world, and never has to worry about missing out on birthdays.

For refrigeration and cooking, power is supplied by propane tanks located at the stern, while a propane detection unit and a shut-off safety valve is installed in both units.

'Ish-Ka-Bibble' lying at anchor at the Royal Suva Yacht Club.

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shipping schedules

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

AUSTRALIA — FIJI

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

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944), Tlx AA 70090; Wiltrans Agency Pty. Ltd., 21st Floor, 60 Market St., Melbourne (614-4788); Tlx 30163 ACTA Pty. Ltd., Brisbane (221-3116); Elders-ANL Pty. Ltd., Port Adelaide (47-5688); Newcastle, Sofrana Sydney (264-8944); Websters-ANL, 58 Charles St., Launceston, Tasmania (320-555); Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson Street, Suva, Fiji (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

AUSTRALIA — SAMOAS — TONGA

Warner Pacific Lines operates a regular cargo service from Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne to Nuku'alofa, Pago Pago, Apia and Vavau. Feeder service available from Apia to Cook, Christmas, Fanning and Washington Islands.

Details from Hetherington Wesfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney, (27-1671).

AUSTRALIA — NEW CALEDONIA FIJI — SAMOAS — TONGA

Pacific Forum Line operates a fully containerised service (general, reefer and ro-ro) from Sydney to Noumea, Lautoka, Suva, Apia, Pago Pago, Nuku'alofa, Sydney, Cargo centralised from Adelaide, Melbourne, Brisbane.

Details from Pacific Forum Line, P.O. Box 796 Auckland, Union Bulkships, 333 George Street, Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne, Union Co., Lautoka, Suva, Nuku'alofa, Pacific Forum line Apia, Polynesia Shipping Pago Pago.

AUSTRALIA — LORD HOWE IS. NORFOLK IS.

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

Details Hetherington Wesfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

AUSTRALIA — KIRIBATI

K. Asia Pacific operates a 5/6 weekly service from Melbourne and Sydney to Kiribati (Tarawa).

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty. Ltd., Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143.

KAP New Guinea Lines call Tarawa after PNG ports on a 35 day basis from Melbourne and Sydney/Brisbane.

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty. Ltd., Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143.

AUSTRALIA — TUVALU

K-Asia Pacific operates Direct service every 2nd voyage to Tuvalu (Funafuti)

Details from K. Asia — Pacific Pty. Ltd., Goldfield House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay Sydney (232-2277) Tlx 122143

AUSTRALIA — NEW CALEDONIA AND/OR VANUATU

Sofrana-Unilines ships serve Noumea every three weeks from the main ports along the east Australian coast.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944), Wiltrans-Agency Pty. Ltd., 21st Floor, 60 Market St., Melbourne (614-4788) Tlx 30163 ACTA Pty. Ltd., Brisbane (221-3116), Elders-ANL Pty. Ltd., Port Adelaide (47-5688), Newcastle, Sofrana Sydney, Websters-ANL, 58 Charles St., Launceston, Tasmania (320-555).

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

Details Hetherington Wesfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Noumea, Port Vila and Santo, for containerised and break bulk cargo.

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

AUSTRALIA — NAURU — MARSHALL IS. — KIRIBATI

Nauru Pacific Line operates regular cargo service from Melbourne to Nauru, Majuro and Tarawa, Passenger service to Nauru only.

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

AUSTRALIA — NEW ZEALAND

The Australian National Line and the New Zealand Line operate a 10-day container service (TRANZTAS) between Sydney and Melbourne to Auckland, Wellington, Lyttelton and Port Chalmers.

The Transz service has been extended to cover Burnie and Fremantle on a direct call monthly basis linking to the main New Zealand ports.

Details from ANL Shipping Agencies, 20 Bond Street, Sydney (232-0444) and ANL Shipping Agencies, "World Trade Centre", cnr Flinders and Spencer Streets, Melbourne (611-2323) or New Zealand Line, Pastoral House, 98 Lambton Quay, Wellington (728-5000).

AUSTRALIA — NZ — FIJI — TONGA VANUATU — NEW CALEDONIA SOLOMONS — NEW GUINEA

Sitmar Cruises operates a year-round cruise program from Sydney to include the better-known ports in the above countries, plus a number of unspoilt, and largely unknown, island paradises.

Details from Sitmar Cruises, 39 Martin Place, Sydney (239-9000); NSW, reservations and inquiries (008 42-2277); Rest of Australia, reservations and inquiries (008 22-2277).

AUSTRALIA — NZ — FIJI — TONGA VANUATU — NEW CALEDONIA SOLOMONS — SAMOAS — TAHITI

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

Details from P&O Booking Centre, World Travel Headquarters Pty Ltd, 33 Bligh Street, Sydney (237-0333).

AUSTRALIA — PNG — SOLOMONS — VANUATU — NZ

Pacific Forum Line operates a containerised and ro-ro from Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Honiara, Port Vila, Lyttelton, Napier and Auckland.

Details from Union Bulkships, Brisbane Steamships Shipping, Port Moresby and Lae; Sullivan's Ltd, Honiara, Vila Agents, Port Vila; SCONZ Christchurch, Napier and Auckland.

AUSTRALIA — MICRONESIA

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

Details: N.P.L. (Australia) Pty Ltd, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709), Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA — NEW CALEDONIA

Sofrana Unilines operates a 3-4 weekly service from East Coast mainports to Noumea.

Details from Sofrana Unilines 432 Kent Street, Sydney. (Tel. 264-8944), Tlx AA 70090.

AUSTRALIA — TUVALU

K. Asia Pacific operates a three monthly service from Sydney and Melbourne to Tuvalu (Funafuti). Subject to inducement.

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty Ltd, Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277). Tlx 122143.

Warner Pacific Line operates a six week containerised/breakbulk service to Funafuti from Melbourne/Brisbane/ Sydney and Auckland.

Details from Hetherington Wesfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671); MacKay Shipping Ltd, Downtown House, Queen Street, Auckland (30-229).

AUSTRALIA — PNG

KAP New Guinea Lines cargo vessels call at Melbourne, Sydney, Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Wewak, Manus, Kimbe, Rabaul, Popondetta.

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty Ltd, Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143. Dalgely Shipping, World Trade Centre, Melbourne (616-6700).

AUSTRALIA — PNG — SOLOMONS

Sofrana Unilines (Aust.) P/L operates a 3-4 weekly cargo service to PNG, ex-main ports on the east coast of Australia.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944), Tlx AA 70090.

AUSTRALIA — PNG — SOLOMONS VANUATU

A consortium of NGAL/PNGL and CON-PAC/NEL have four vessels operating a joint service from east coast Australian ports to Port Moresby, Lae, Alotau, Madang, Wewak, Rabaul, Kavieng-Kimbe, Kieta, Honiara, Vila, Santo.

Details from Burns Philp & Co. Ltd., P.O. Box R124, Royal Exchange, Sydney, 2000 (2-0547); Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522); New Guinea Express Lines, 37 Pitt Street, Sydney (241-3991); Vila Agents, PO Box 27, Port-Vila (2456). Tlx NH1011.

New Guinea Express Lines operates a weekly container service from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Alotau, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta, Honiara, Kavieng, Madang, Wewak, Santo, Vila.

Details from New Guinea Express Lines, P.O. Box R73, Royal Exchange, Sydney (241-3991); New Guinea Express Lines, 127 Creek Street, Brisbane (221-9333); New Guinea Express Lines, 327 Collins Street, Melbourne (602-5544); Niugini Express Lines, Port Moresby (21-4572); Lae (42-1536); Niugini Island Cargo Services Pty. Ltd., Rabaul (922-467); Bougainville Agencies Pty. Ltd., Kieta (956-089); Robert Laurie (PNG) P/L, Madang (82-2157); Garamut Enterprises P/L, Wewak (86-2106); Burns Philp (PNG) Ltd., Kavieng (94-2133); Alotau Stevedoring & Transport, Alotau (61-1318); Ngatia Wholesalers Pty. Ltd., Kimbe (93-5102); and Tradco Shipping, Mendana Avenue, Honiara (22588); Vila Agents Ltd., P.O. Box 971, Vila, Vanuatu (2490); John Lurn & Associates, P.O. Box 65, Santo, Vanuatu (329).

AUSTRALIA — TAHITI

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane to Papeete, for containerised and break bulk cargo.

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

Sofrana Unilines (Aust.) P/L operates a 3/4 weekly cargo service to Papeete ex main ports on the east coast of Australia.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944) Tlx AA 70090.

SINGAPORE — HONGKONG — FIJI ISLANDS PORTS

Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd. operates a monthly containerised and break bulk cargo service from Singapore, Hongkong to Lautoka, Suva and then to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson Street, Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

FAR EAST — FIJI — NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Unit Express (NZUE) now operates a monthly service accepting containerised and break bulk cargo from Manila, Keelung, Kaohsiung and Hongkong to Lautoka, Suva and thence to New Zealand ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson Street, Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ 2199; Burns Philp, Suva (311-777); New Zealand Unit Express Maritime Building, 2-10 Customhouse Quay, P.O. Box 890, Wellington, Cables: ENZUE-MAN WELLINGTON Telex: NZ31340 NEDLNZ Telephone: 727-965 or Nedlloyd Swire Pty. Ltd., Sydney (20-522).

Nedlloyd operates bi-weekly cargo service with four ships from Surabaya, Jakarta, Bangkok, Port Kelang and Singapore to Suva, Lautoka 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 operates a regular container service from Hongkong, Taiwan, Manila, Port Kelang and Singapore to Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul and Honiara monthly and to Wewak, Madang and Kieta every three months. Cargo from the same Far Eastern ports to the South Pacific

ports of Noumea, Santo, Vila, Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia, Rarotonga and Tarawa will be shipped via Japan on the monthly Bali Hai service.

Details from Steamships Shipping, P.O. Box 634, Port Moresby (22-0289).

Kyowa Shipping Ltd. operates monthly services from Japan to Guam, Saipan, Solomons, New Caledonia, Fiji, Western and American Samoa, Tahiti, Cook Is., Tonga and Vanuatu.

Details: Heterington Westfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671); Carpenters Shipping, Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

GUAM — NORTHERN MARIANAS

Saipan Shipping Co. Inc. operate a weekly service via barge carrying containers and conventional cargo between Guam and Saipan and Tinian.

Details from Saipan Shipping Co. Inc., P.O. Box 8, Saipan, CM 96950 (Tel. 9707), Tlx 783619; Guam agents Maritime Agencies of the Pacific Ltd.

HAWAII — TAHITI — SAMOAS — TONGA — KIRIBATI — FIJI — SOLOMONS — PNG

Star Shipping Associates operates a monthly service originating in Honolulu and destined for Pago Pago, Papeete, Apia, Nuku'alofa, Suva, Vila and Port Moresby.

Details from Star Shipping Assoc., P.O. Box 25988, Honolulu, Hawaii 96825. Ph. (808) 396-4256; Polynesia Shipping Services in Pago Pago and Burns Philp Agency in Apia, Nuku'alofa, Suva and Port Moresby.

JAPAN — FIJI — ISLAND PORTS

Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd. operates a monthly containerised service from main ports of Japan to Suva and Lautoka and thence to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson St., Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

Bali Hai service operates a monthly containerised service from main ports of Japan to Lautoka and Suva and thence to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson St., Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199 and Burns Philp, Suva (311-777).

JAPAN — MICRONESIA

The NYK Shipping Line operates a monthly cargo service from Japan to Micronesia, calling at Yoko, Nagoya, Kobe, Guam, Saipan, Truk, Ponape and Majuro, returning via Yoko, Nagoya and Kobe.

Details from Burns Philp & Co. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (2-0547).

Saipan Shipping Co. Inc. operates a monthly service from Japan to Saipan, Guam, Truk, Ponape, Majuro (Kosrae and Ebeye on inducement).

Details from Saipan Shipping Co. Inc., P.O. Box 8, Saipan, CM 96950 (Tel. 9707), Tlx 783619, Japan agents Kyowa Shipping Company Ltd.; Guam Agents Maritime Agencies of the Pacific Ltd.

JAPAN — PNG

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

Details from Robert Laurie Carpenters Pty. Ltd., P.O. Box 1032, Lae/PNG (Tel. 42-3642, 42-3811.)

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; Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson St., Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

PNG — INTER — MAINPORT

Papua New Guinea Line offers scheduled 10-20 day coastal liner services linking all PNG major ports with containerisation, reefer, heavy lift and transshipment facilities.

Details from PNG Line, Box 543, Port Moresby, PNG (21-1174), Tlx 22269.

PNG — UK/CONTINENT

The Bank Line & Columbus Line operate a regular joint service from Port Moresby, Oro Bay, Kieta, Rabaul, Kimbe, Madang and Lae to Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Le Havre.

Details from The Bank Line (A'asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041); Tlx AA24063; Columbus Line, Lae (423466), Tlx NE 44171; or lines' local agents.

SOLOMONS — UK/CONTINENT

The Bank Line & Columbus Line operate a regular joint cargo service from Honiara to Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Le Havre.

Details from the Bank Line (A'asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041), Tlx AA24063; Columbus Line, Lae (423466), Tlx NE 44171; Tradco Shipping Ltd., Honiara (22588) Tlx 66313.

NEW ZEALAND — AUSTRALIA — PAPUA NEW GUINEA — SOLOMON ISLANDS — VANUATU

Pacific Forum Line operates a containerised and ro-ro service from Lyttelton, Napier and Auckland to Brisbane, Port Moresby, Lae, Honiara and Port Vila.

Details from SCONZ Christchurch, Napier and Auckland; Union Bulkships, Brisbane; Steamships Shipping, Port Moresby and Lae; Sullivans Ltd., Honiara; Vila Agents, Port Vila.

NZ — COOK IS. — NIUE — TAHITI

New Zealand Line operates cargo services based on pallets and similar units from Auckland to Niue, Cook Islands and Tahiti.

Details from the NZ Shipping Agencies International Ltd., P.O. Box 3420, Auckland (797210); Waterfront Commission, P.O. Box 61, Rarotonga; Cook Islands; Shipping Office, Govt. of Niue, P.O. Box 107, Niue Island; Compagnie Maritime Polynesienne, P.O. Box 36, Papeete, Tahiti.

NZ — FIJI

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

Details from Reef Shipping Agencies, PO Box 3382, Auckland, NZ (77-1221-3), Tlx 60633; MV Fijian Shipping Agencies Ltd. Private Bag, Suva, Fiji (31-1056).

Pacific Line with one ship operates two weekly ro-ro cargo service New Zealand, Lautoka, Suva. No passengers.

Details: Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland (773-279) PO Box 3614, Tlx NZ2313, Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thomson Street, Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

NZ — 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 NZ-U.S.-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), Tlx FJ2168 Burship.

NZ — FIJI — SAMOAS — TONGA

Pacific Forum Line operates a containerised and ro-ro 21 day service from Auckland to Lautoka, Suva, Apia, Pago Pago and Nuku'alofa.

Details from Pacific Forum Line, Auckland and Apia, Union Maritime, Lautoka, Suva and Nuku'alofa; Polynesian Shipping, Pago Pago.



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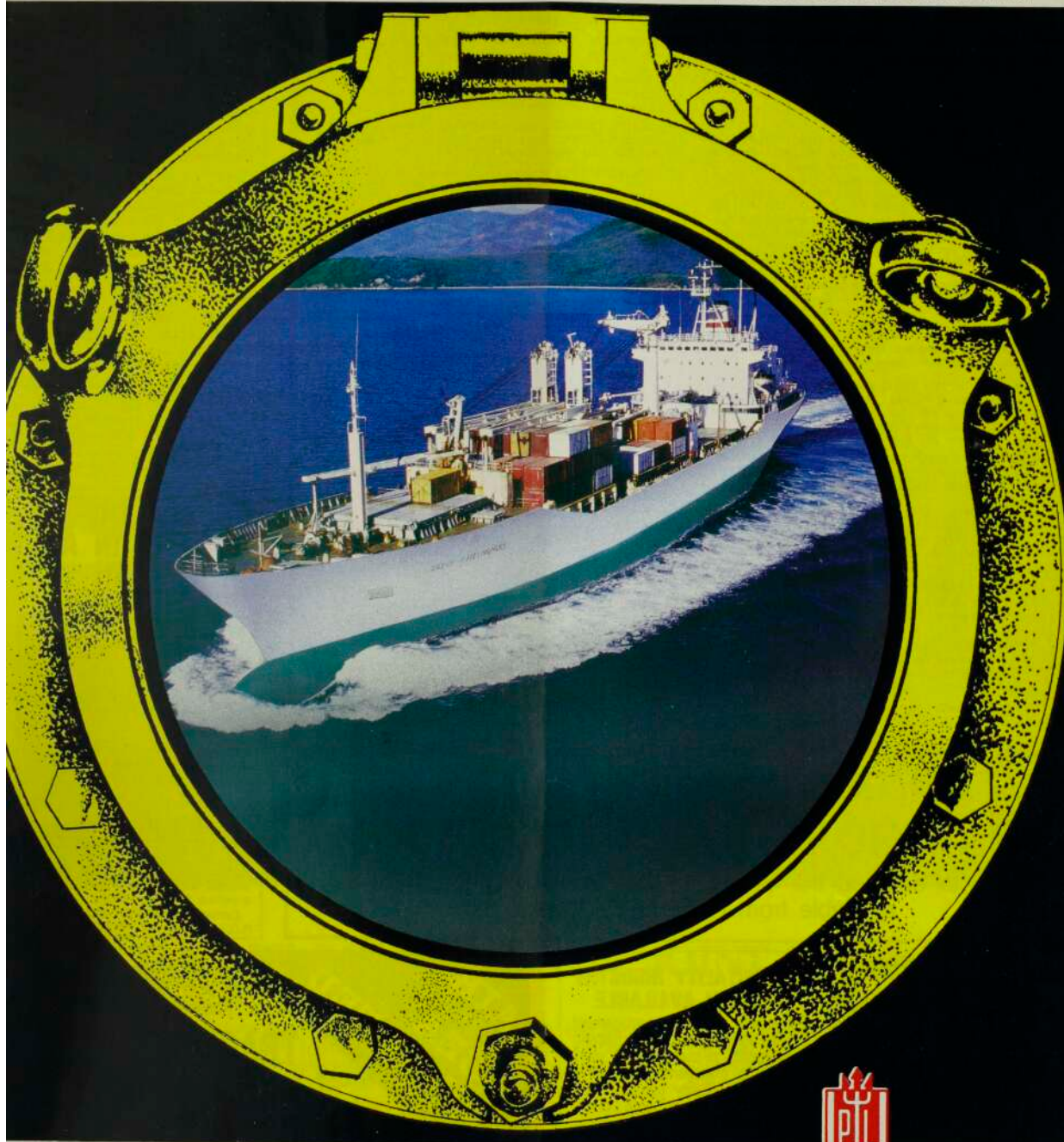
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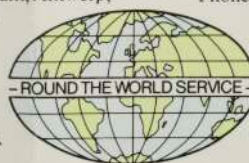


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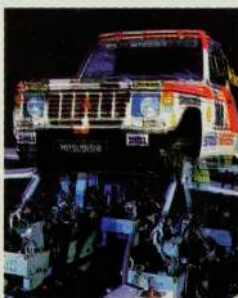
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The three-dimensional simulator is just one way we test our vehicles. Our goal is to make

sure vehicles wearing the Three Diamonds brand travel the roads of the world with confidence. Marco Polo, we hope, would be pleased to know that we looked to him for inspiration.



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