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Pacific Islands Monthly

NEWS MAGAZINE OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

AUGUST, 1974

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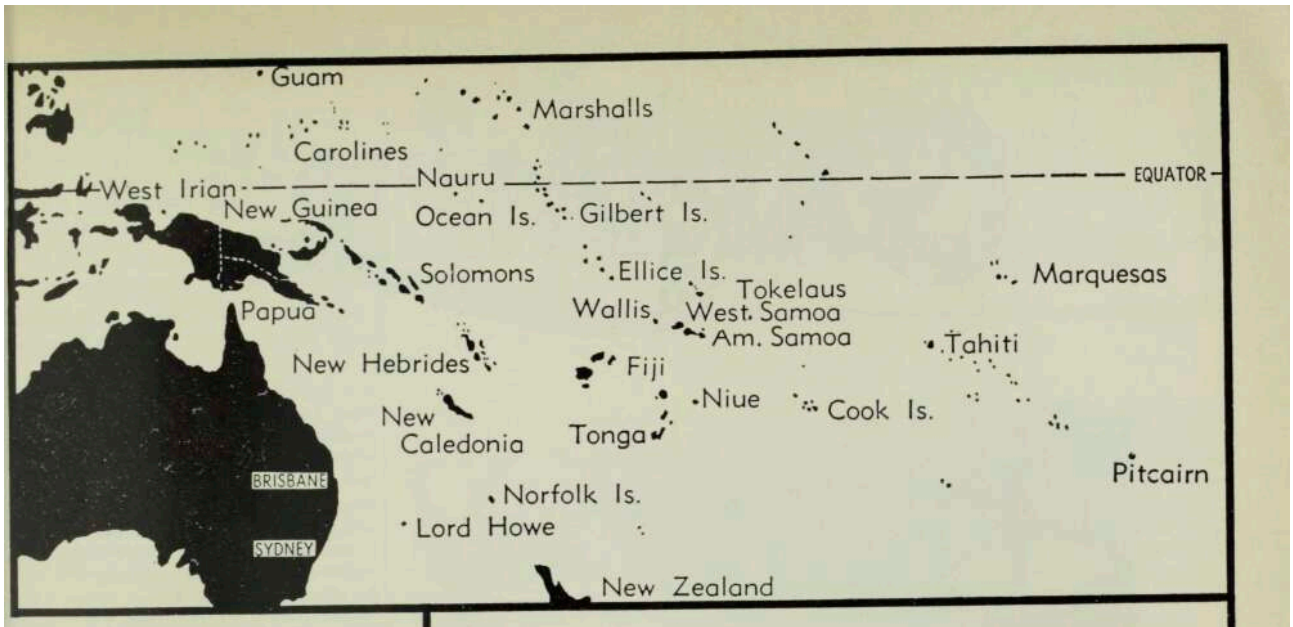

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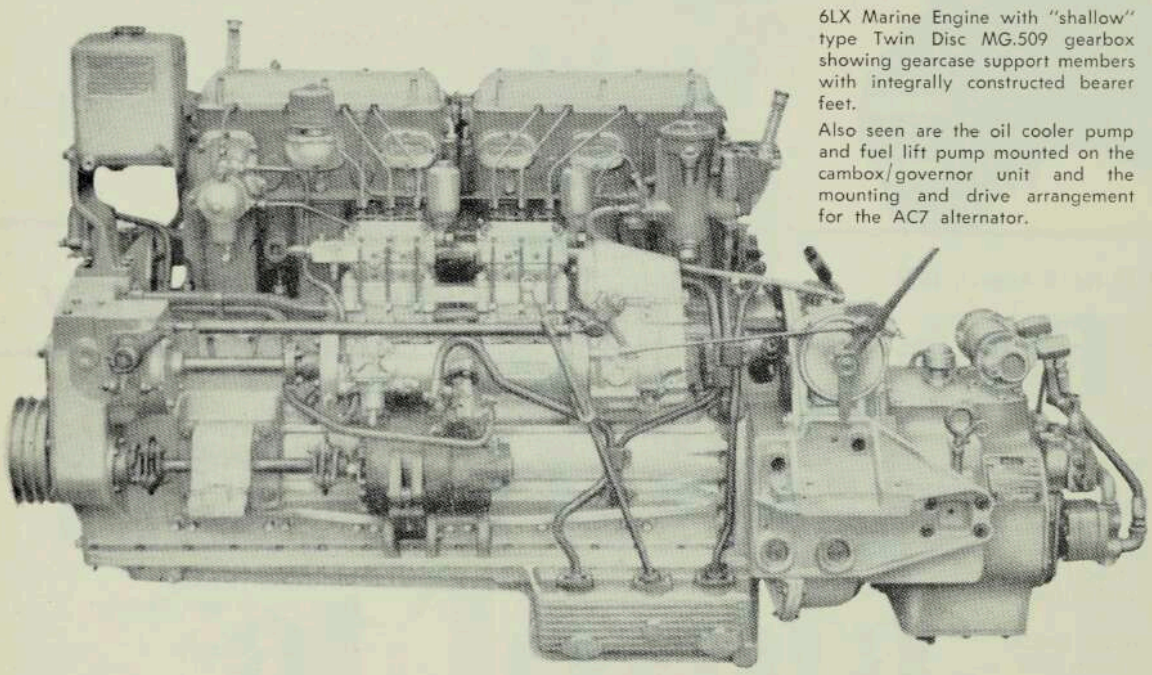

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AUDIT BUREAU OF CIRCULATIONS

August, 1974
Vol. 45, No. 8

Up Front with the Editor

There are, according to Fiji Minister without Portfolio, Ratu David Toganivalu, special requirements of the Press in a developing country. The Press, he submits, is an alien concept in the Pacific Islands, having been developed most often to serve the interests of the traders, the colonisers, the teachers and all the other members of the expatriate population.

Furthermore, the Press in those territories that have been under British rule has continued in the British tradition, just as the Press in the American Pacific territories has followed the American tradition and that in the French territories has followed the French tradition.

Ratu David asks whether there is not now room for a concept of a Press in a Pacific tradition?

It's a good question, and he asked it in the course of a constructive and well-balanced address to the inaugural session of the Pacific Islands News Association in Suva at the end of June. That session was called to get the association started—an association open to newspapers, broadcasting organisations and government information offices in the South Pacific Commission area. Its aims are to promote and protect freedom of expression in the Pacific Islands and to foster responsible journalism and professional standards in the Pacific news media.

Taking part in this important get-together were editors from Papua New Guinea, the Solomons, Fiji, Tonga, Western Samoa, Norfolk Island, Tahiti, the Cooks, the Gilbert and Ellice, Micronesia, Australia and New Zealand. I turned out to be the Australian delegate.

The association has got off the ground because of a heck of a lot of work by Jim Richstad, Research Associate at the East West Communications Institute, Hawaii, and Len Usher, former publisher of The Fiji Times, and because of some immediate cash grants by the Papua New Guinea Post Courier and The Fiji Times. Widely experienced Len Usher, appointed by the conference as the organising director, now has the big job of following up the details, and as he will certainly do that as competently as he organised the big Suva conference, there is no doubt about the future of the Pacific Islands News Association.

But back to Ratu David and his concept of a Press in a Pacific tradition.

Ratu David sees this tradition as revolving round a concerted effort by governments and the Press in the Islands to examine, together, those areas where national interest can take priority over sectional interests.

In Fiji, for example, the minister sees Press responsibility—and he's referring to Press in the broadcast sense, to include radio—as the need to heighten awareness of modern methods of farming and land use, as the need to generate enthusiasm for self-help schemes and rural development, to inform people who may not be aware of the importance of financial management, of such things as birth control, and education. The Press has the responsibility of explaining the complexities of political processes, of inflation and the balance of payments.

It has, in a sentence, he feels, the responsibility to help in the creation of a sense of national unity and purpose, and it must keep in mind that when it criticises, its criticism will be read by people who might react in a different way from the newspaper readers of Sydney or Auckland.

As one way of achieving some of these objectives, the Fiji minister would personally like to see an extension of the sort of combined operation seen in wartime Britain, with the government and editors getting together for off-the-record exchanges about national problems and aims.

Ratu David Toganivalu is an enlightened cabinet minister with a

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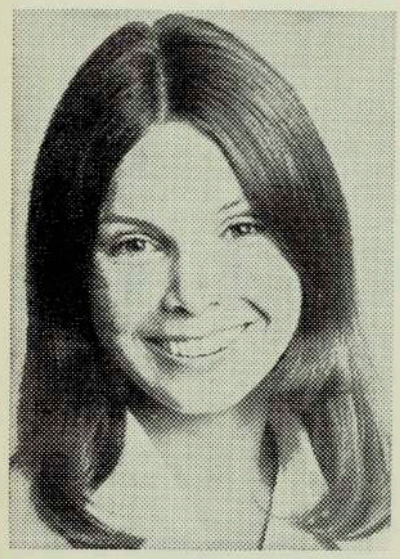

good working relationship with the Press. One could say that his concept is one that should ideally be shared by the Press everywhere and not merely in the Pacific Islands. But it is particularly applicable to the Islands, for anybody with any experience of these emergent nations knows that what might, in the Western tradition, be a bright way of treating events and utterances might be viewed there in quite a different light.

A different approach is required and I should think will certainly be developed, as indigenous journalists take control of their own newspapers and radio and produce the kind of Press they think best suited to their needs.

But there are, I believe, dangers in government and Press working too closely together if this means the Press gives up some of its independence.

About two years ago in these notes I said that with the emergence of self-government and independence in Papua New Guinea the Press there could expect new pressures from the bureaucrats—a new kind of intolerance, more dangerous to the Press freedom because it will have as its base a nationalistic fervour with the dedication almost of a religious crusade.

That is, the belief by newly-emergent governments in newly-emergent nations that they have a divine right to be excused from public criticism because they are trying so hard to govern in the best interests of the people. They have a belief that the Press cannot be both friend and critic in developing countries where, allegedly, democracy is so fragile.

Democracy so fragile that it cannot stand the light is of course not democracy at all. Freedom of speech is a basic freedom in the Pacific Islands as anywhere else, and any attempt to restrict it, using the argument that the Islands are "different", that the Pacific way means suppression of public debate, has to be resisted.

—Stuart Inder

OUR COVER

Lining up for a canoe race on Bairiki on the GEIC's atoll capital of Tarawa, an attractive scene from the film made by Karl-Heinz Stellmach, Sailing in the Trade Winds, which was seen by the Queen in a special screening at Buckingham Palace.

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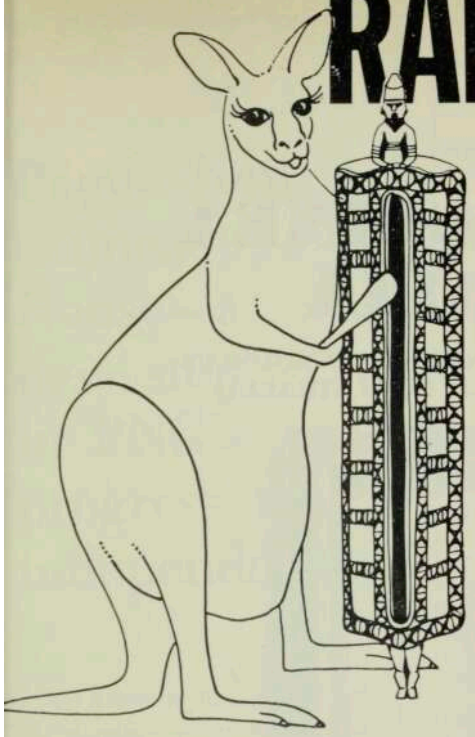

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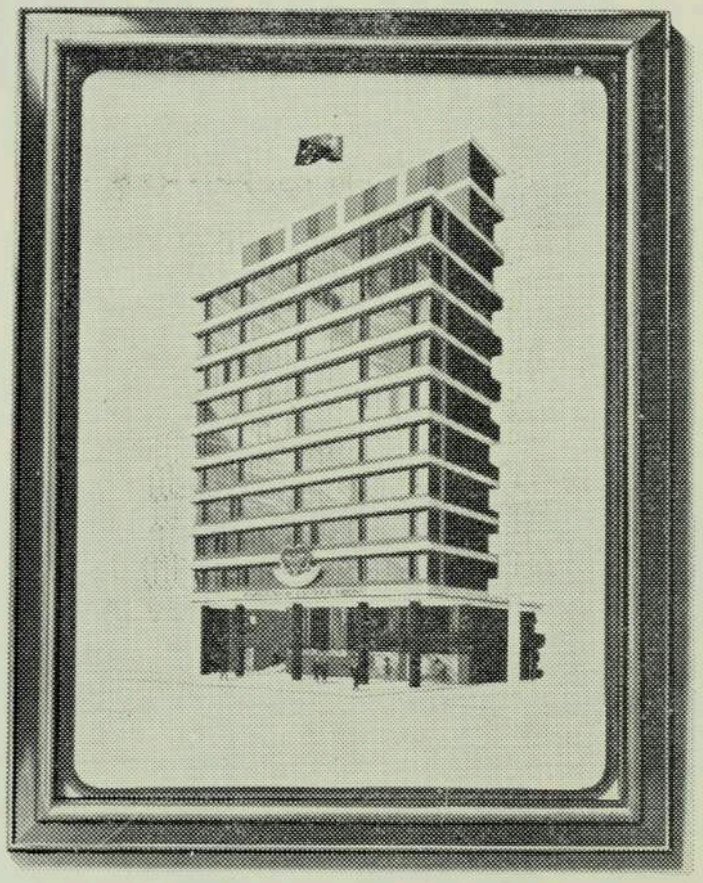

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Papua New Guinea House—a new step in PNG's progress to independence

As Australia has assisted in the development of Papua New Guinea for so many years and Sydney is Australia's largest city, it was no surprise that the city was chosen as the site for the soon-to-be-independent nation's first office block outside of Papua New Guinea. Papua New Guinea House, a worthy shop window in which to display the country is being opened with appropriate ceremonial on July 26.

In a special feature beginning on p 93 PIM gives the background to PNG House, what goes on there and an illuminating glance at the plans for the country's prosperous future.

Pacific Islands Monthly

Papua New Guinea is ready for independence. And so is the Cooks. And perhaps the Gilbert and Ellice. The stories are on the following pages.

INDEPENDENCE—NEARER, YET FURTHER AWAY

From a Port Moresby correspondent

Papua New Guinea in July finally got its long awaited Constitutional Planning Committee report giving a blueprint for the future of an independent nation. The uproar which followed the tabling of the bulky document, which was in preparation over a period of two years, and is still only in draft form, had died down by early July, but the lull might only be temporary. The House of Assembly went into recess for a month to give members a cooling-off period, and in August the debate will continue at a special session.

But meanwhile the fuss did demonstrate once again the Papua New Guinea ability for compromise.

The report recommends sweeping changes to Papua New Guinea's system of government (for the details, see page 1), but Chief Minister Michael Somare, and his deputy Dr John Guise, have opposed some of its major points.

Mr Somare found himself in face-to-face conflict with Father John Momis, the Constitutional Planning Committee's deputy chairman and the man who has had the strongest influence on the committee of parliamentarians drawn from all sides of the House.

It is not the first time Father Momis has trodden on Mr Somare's toes. He is a highly articulate and single-minded politician from Bougainville, and his outspoken criticism of the Somare government is often supported by the Minister for Justice Mr John Kaputin, from Rabaul, who is more a sniper than a stormer of trenches.

Earlier this year on the national radio Father Momis said bluntly that PNG could finish up with "mediocre leadership" unless "radical steps" were taken immediately. Mr Kaputin has been equally critical of the leadership.

When the CPC report was tabled at the June/July meeting, Mr Somare submitted a draft minority report on behalf of himself and Dr Guise. The House then retired temporarily to digest the meaty documents.

It wasn't an easy job. The Pangu Party, Mr Somare's own party, was split into parliamentary and non-parliamentary divisions, and in the accompanying rumpus Pangu's national president, Mr Moi Avei, threatened to resign unless the parliamentary wing listened to the "voice of the masses" as represented by the non-parliamentary members. His complaint was that the executive was entitled to express its opinions, and not be dominated by the parliamentary members. He and other executive members walked out of the meeting, leaving the party MHAs. But the fracas died when Mr Somare said he agreed with the stand of the executive members.

But the real confrontation was yet to come. At a subsequent meeting of the coalition Pangu and National parties, three members including Father Momis were ordered from the table.

Father Momis said that he, Mr Pikah Kasau (of Manus), and Mr Toni Ila (Lae), had been ordered from the meeting by Mr Somare and the chairman, Mr Albert Maori Kiki, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade, after having criticised "deals" between Mr Somare, the coalition People's Progress Party and some members of the opposition United Party.

Father Momis also claimed that when he and the others left the room, expatriate advisers had been called in to address the meeting on the Somare-Guise minority report.

Mr Somare refuted the allegations.

In the meantime, Mr Kaputin let

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December 1 target date is dropped

his barrage loose challenging the "moral position of the minority report", suggesting that it had been written in a night and querying the Chief Minister's right to make it.

It appeared as if Mr Kaputin was again having his nibble at the leadership, and with the support of Father Momis.

Mr Somare immediately stated that he was prepared to take up the challenge on the floor of the House. It's unlikely that the Chief Minister would not win such a challenge.

At a press conference after the Momis and Kaputin attacks, Mr Somare criticised both members saying that Mr Kaputin would have to explain his statement challenging the minority report, to cabinet. And he went on to make the telling point that it Mr Kaputin had bothered to attend cabinet meetings he would have known that the report had not been written in one night.

(Mr Kaputin's come-uppance followed soon after, when Mr Somare asked for Mr Kaputin's resignation).

Then just when the situation looked as if it would get out of hand came the news that Father Momis had agreed to compromise on the CPC report.

"We want the Chief Minister to know we don't see the report as unchangeable," he said.

The committee agreed to alter some of its recommendations, particularly those relating to citizenship.

The Opposition United Party's senior man on the CPC, Mr Paul Langro, told the House of Assembly that the amendments to the report had been made as "an indication of willingness" on behalf of the CPC to reach consensus.

The "willingness" finally permeated the whole of the House on every important issue, culminating in agreement by Mr Somare to drop his December 1 target date for independence.

He had given notice of his intention to introduce a motion asking for December 1 as long ago as March, but in the closing hours of this House he moved instead for independence "as soon as practicable" after a constitution has been enacted by the House of Assembly.

For good measure, he did not vote against an Opposition amendment requesting that the House itself endorse any independence date, and not merely the cabinet, although he felt that PNG was back where it had started in March, with no decision on independence.

The House passed the measures on the voices.

What this means is that while the passage of the constitution is the key to the independence date, it is unlikely that because of machinery measures independence should follow in much less than three months after the constitution is decided on.

Mr Somare said later at a news conference that he hoped that after debate in August and September the constitution would be passed by the House in November, and that formal independence would come before February, although he declined to name another target date.

It still is possible, but unlikely, that December 1 is the date.

Perhaps the Australian Government thought it was likely when in July it put into the mouth of the retiring Australian Governor-General, Sir Paul Hasluck, in his speech opening Federal Parliament, the statement that pending the declaration of independence, Australia would conduct its relations with PNG as if it were an independent nation.

Editorialised Port Moresby's Post Courier: "In one respect this might be taken as a compliment from a beneficent foreign government. But it could also be seen as pre-empting the decision of the House of Assembly and putting another pressure on the PNG Government at a time when it already has enough pressures of its own. It looks like a unilateral declaration of independence for one country by another, and that, to say the least, is presumptuous, however well-intentioned."

And why there was a minority report

From a Port Moresby correspondent

Why did Chief Minister Somare and Deputy Chief Minister John Guise make their minority report on the Constitutional Planning Committee's work?

It's probably the most interesting question of a whole lot of interesting questions thrown up by the unprecedented debate on Papua New Guinea's constitution.

During the acrimonious scenes in and out of the House during the debate, Mr Somare retorted that he and Dr Guise had every right to make a minority report—as had every other member of the CPC who mightn't agree with the major report. This was true, but why should both Mr Somare and Dr Guise be the ones to team up to produce an amended report?

When Mr Somare had the complicated task of putting together the coalition government in 1972, Dr Guise stood apart to the end, keeping with him a group of about six politicians. He joined the coalition, but even today he claims no party affiliation, although he holds the job of Deputy Chief Minister and has a ministerial position.

Mr Somare has used him because it has paid him to have the elder statesman, known for his political wiliness, and a Papuan as well, in a top position. It has helped the cause of compromise, so necessary if the coalition is to survive. And it has suited Dr Guise to remain up there where the power is, to keep an eye on his own future.

Dr Guise sees his future as President of an independent Papua New Guinea. He has always advocated a presidential type system of government for PNG, but the CPC report doesn't want such a system. It wants a cabinet system and a Prime Minister, and no head of state. The Somare/Guise minority report argues for a President.

What's in it for Mr Somare? In a sentence, the Prime Ministership, and thus the power, because he sees a President of an independent PNG as a figurehead. He argues that this is in line with PNG tradition, with the elder statesman as the head of the clan but not necessarily wielding the power.

By backing Dr Guise for the presidency, Mr Somare is free for the exercise of power—which, let it be said, he has become adept at handling. He would be a good Prime Minister—once free of the possibility of pressures from Dr Guise.

Mr Somare and Dr Guise also want relaxation of the citizenship laws as recommended by the Momis report. Under the Momis provisions even Dr Guise would not become a citizen, and certainly none of Mr Somare's expatriate friends, but in any case both men genuinely feel that the proposed restrictions are too severe.

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Autopsy on blueprints for PNG's nationhood

From PERCY CHATTERTON in Port Moresby

After repeated delays the "final" report of Papua New Guinea's Constitutional Planning Committee, still incomplete, was tabled in the House of Assembly on June 27. Simultaneously, a minority report, necessarily also incomplete, was presented by Chief Minister Michael Somare, and the Deputy Chief Minister, Dr John Guise. Both Somare and Dr Guise had been ex-officio members of the CPC; indeed Mr Somare was its titular chairman, but they had not taken a regular part in its activities, and it had been its Deputy-Chairman Father John Momis, who had spearheaded the committee's work.

The report is a massive affair, comprehensive in its coverage and sonorous in its style. The thoroughness with which the committee has tackled and carried through its job cannot but be admired; but there seem to be many, both inside and outside parliament, who feel that at this stage in Papua New Guinea's emergence into independent nationhood the national need would have been better served by something simpler sooner. This is one of the themes of the minority report.

After a week of acrimonious exchanges between Chief Minister Somare on the one hand and Father Momis and Mr John Kaputin on the other, it now looks as if the CPC, recognising that Mr Somare can count on support from the People's Progress Party component of his National Coalition as well as from some members of the opposition United Party, is prepared to modify some of its recommendations, and that, when the House reconvenes in August, a "post-final" version of the report may appear. Whether it will go far enough to satisfy Messrs Somare and Guise remains to be seen.

The part of the report which has received the most publicity has been that which relates to citizenship. But its most important part is that which deals with the machinery of government. The House of Assembly is to be renamed the National Parliament, but its reality is not much changed, the committee having opted for a basically "westminster" system. The 18 "regional" seats of the present House will be abolished, and the official seats (already a dead letter) will formally disappear. The number of "open" electorates will be correspondingly increased, leaving the House, as at present, with a membership of just over 100. This means one member for every 25,000 of the population; and the committee recommends that the allowable variation from this norm should be fixed at 20 per cent, giving a range of 20,000 to 30,000. This range has been very substantially exceeded in the past (18,000 to 44,000), and such a limitation would seem to be very desirable.

The most important innovations in this part of the report are the establishment of "watch-dog" committees on the American model and, rather startlingly, the rejection of the concept of a Head of State. Under the committee's plan formal functions such as assent to bills would be vested in the Speaker, while the head of state would in effect be the Cabinet, or, as it is to be renamed, the National Executive Council. The report argues that a collective rather than an individual head of state will be more "Melanesian".

On both these issues the minority report dissents. Messrs Somare and Guise want a President as head of state, and would prefer a strengthening of the present "subject committee system" to the plan proposed by the CPC.

CPC has proposed a literacy test for candidates for election to the National Parliament, but this is opposed by the minority report and by many members of the present House, and it is likely to be one of the points on which the CPC will give way.

Perhaps the most far reaching of the report's recommendations is that dealing with decentralisation. The CPC accepts the concept of provincial government, but rejects the present four "regions" (Papua, Highlands, New Guinea lowlands and New Guinea islands) as a basis for such government, which it prefers should be established at district level. This will mean 19 or 20 provincial assemblies with a total membership of about 300. Has anyone done any arithmetic on the cost to the taxpayers, I wonder! But costly or not, this proposal appears to have general support, and a Bill to implement it has already been passed without dissent.

I think that provincial government

Now Cooks want independence

The Cook Islands is moving towards full independence. The Premier, Sir Albert Henry, in a broadcast from Rarotonga on July 15, said he intended to have Clause 5 of the constitution amended to allow the Cook Islands to manage their own foreign affairs. New Zealand, which is responsible for the CI foreign affairs and defence, is unlikely to object.

Sir Albert said that when he returned from the Law of the Sea conference in Caracas a referendum would be held on independence. If necessary a general election would be held.

In Wellington, the NZ Prime Minister, Mr Norman Kirk, said New Zealand would co-operate to the fullest extent if the Cooks wanted full independence from NZ. Sir Albert planned to stop off in Wellington on the way to Caracas for independence talks with Mr Kirk, and with the Minister of Island Affairs, Mr P. Amos.

Mr Amos said he knew some members of the Cook Islands Cabinet wanted a review of the constitution. As far as he knew, the Cooks was not seeking to give up reliance on NZ for defence.

The Cook Islands has a population of about 20,000. There are another 12,000 Cook Islanders living in New Zealand, mainly in Auckland.

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Burden on taxpayers

district by district may work very well in the New Guinea islands region, where most of the boundaries are natural ones. Will it work equally well on the mainland, where district boundaries are artificial? The district boundaries were drawn into the map by the now-execrated colonial government to suit the requirements of a *kiap* system of control; and relabelling them provinces does not make them less artificial or less colonial.

In its chapter on provincial government the CPC seems to me to be using the same set of arguments on the one hand to reject regional level government and on the other to support district level government. But it is undoubtedly right in claiming that this is what the people have asked for. Whether they will like it when they get it, and have to pay for it, remains to be seen.

The report sets out in some detail the functions and powers of provincial governments and the channels open to them for revenue raising. The fact remains that the cost of this potentially very expensive scheme, whether it be financed from national or provincial revenue, will fall on the taxpayers, and in Papua New Guinea this means on the wage and salary earners, since Finance Minister Julius Chan does not seem to have been any more successful than his colonial predecessors in extracting income tax from primary producers who can plead illiteracy as an excuse for not keeping records.

The report and the minority report differ only marginally on the issue of provincial government. The latter wants more flexibility in determining areas to be designated provinces. Reading between the lines, one may guess that Dr Guise would still prefer larger units as "provinces" — a term which, incidentally, he first suggested the use of.

The citizenship issue has, perhaps, loomed larger in public debate than its importance warrants. The CPC proposals are certainly tough. Under them an expatriate would have to have lived in Papua New Guinea for 160 years to qualify for immediate naturalisation. Others would have to wait for periods of from three to eight years before becoming eligible. I think that the CPC is right in not wanting too many naturalised citizens around in the early formative years of independence, and, after all, we whiteskins do tend to be bossy.

But the recommendations seem unduly harsh towards people of mixed race, many of whom have no white "taint" in their ancestry, and some of whom are of pure Melanesian descent. The CPC has conceded that the definition of "indigenous" should include people from neighbouring Irian Jaya, the Torres Strait Islands and the Solomon Islands. But what about those from other parts of Melanesia such as the Loyalty Islands and Fiji? It seems odd that a committee so bitterly anti-colonial as this one should be prepared to regard as aliens people who trace their descent from a Melanesian born under a different colonial yoke!

The authors of the minority report and their supporters are in favour of more liberal citizenship rules, and it seems likely that a compromise will be reached on this issue before the House reassembles.

One chapter of the report sets out a Bill of Rights designed to replace the present Human Rights Ordinance and largely covering the same ground, though in some areas a distinction is made between the rights of citizens and those of non-citizens. Another lays down a leadership code to regulate the activities of politicians and senior public servants, and recommends the appointment of an "Ombudsman Commission" to see that it is adhered to. This commission will also carry out the functions more generally associated with ombudsmanship, namely that of being available to attend to the complaints of ordinary people who feel aggrieved about their treatment by the bureaucracy.

The report comes down firmly on the side of an independent judiciary and a non-political public service, and recommends the establishment of two commissions a Judicial and Legal Service Commission and a Public Service Commission, to ensure that these ends are secured.

In a chapter on "The Disciplined Forces" the committee sets out its views on the functions and responsibilities of the Police Force on the one hand and the Defence Force on the other. It recommends that both

Niue moves to self-government

Niue Island is on the way to a new constitution which will give it full self-government, with New Zealand remaining responsible for defence and foreign affairs. The appropriate bills will not come into effect till a referendum is held on the island to see if the people favour self-government on the basis of the constitution attached to the bill.

The proposed constitution was drawn up in close consultation with the Niue Island Assembly, by the Assembly's constitutional adviser, Professor R. Q. Quentin-Baxter, Professor of Constitutional Law and Jurisprudence at Victoria University, Wellington.

The constitution provides for the general direction and control of the island to be in the hands of an executive council of four—the Premier of Niue and three other members of the Assembly. The Assembly will elect the premier, who will choose the other three members.

The Assembly will consist of a speaker and 20 members. Fourteen of the 20 will be elected from village constituencies, and six from a common roll.

The NZ Minister of Island Affairs, Mr Amos, when he introduced the Niue Constitution Bill and the Niue Amendment Bill in the NZ Parliament, in July, said the Constitution Bill protected the status of Niue Islanders as New Zealand citizens. It provided for a NZ Government representative to be stationed on the island. It also established the basis for co-operation between the two governments.

The bill met the wishes of the Niue Island Assembly, set out in a resolution presented to the Prime Minister, Mr Norman Kirk, when he visited the island in March. It also implemented the NZ Government's promise to give the people self-government by 1974.

Mr Amos said the Constitution Bill was a further step in the programme for constitutional progress agreed between the NZ Government and a delegation from the Niue Island Assembly in February, 1973. Then, the Assembly asked NZ to take appropriate steps to prepare Niue for self-government during 1974.

When it made the request it emphasised its overwhelming desire for Niue to remain in close association with NZ after achieving self-government. The bill will soon be tabled in the Niue Island Assembly.

The two bills will be studied by the Islands Affairs Committee of the NZ Parliament. Ultimate passage is a formality as the opposition has welcomed the measures.

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these forces should be under the control of the National Executive Council, acting through civilian ministers. It is emphatic that the Defence Force should be used to assist in maintaining internal security only when a state of emergency has been declared by processes laid down in the Constitution.

In an important final chapter the committee lays down the principle of "one person one office" and lists a number of offices whose holders should be, it considers, free from outside direction and control. These, it suggests, should be designated "Constitutional Holders". They are listed as: The Chief Justice and other judges of the National Court of Justice; the Chief Ombudsman and other ombudsmen; the Public Prosecutor; the Public Solicitor; the Electoral Commissioner; the Clerk of the National Parliament; the members of the Public Service Commission; the Auditor General; and the Chief Magistrate.

A basic principle underpinning the whole CPC report is that set out at the beginning of the chapter on the National Executive Council (that is, the Cabinet) namely that "Power belongs to the people". The report adds: "In the great majority of the societies that make up our nation it was from the people, rather than kings or chiefs, that power was taken by the colonial rulers. It is therefore appropriate that it be the people to whom that power should now be returned."

"Power belongs to the people". A noble ideal indeed, and one which very few nations have successfully put into practice. Will Papua New Guinea take its place among that select few?

● Behind with its legislative drafting programme because of a lack of staff Papua New Guinea will be helped out by Australia, Chief Minister Mr Michael Somare assured questioners in the middle of July. Mr Somare said he had spoken with the Australian Attorney-General, Senator Lionel Murphy, during Senator Murphy's visit to PNG.

The Chief Minister said Senator Murphy had given him an assurance that he would "do all possible" to assist Papua New Guinea in its legislative drafting programme. Apart from the work that would soon be necessary in preparing a draft Constitution Bill, there was also a considerable backlog of legislative drafting work to be done.

ANOTHER CALEDONIAN MP RESIGNS

From a Noumea correspondent

A second Caledonian politician has resigned from the Territorial Assembly, expressing his despair at the lack of Caledonian control of their own territory. Mr Fredy Gosse resigned his seat at the end of May, shortly after the resignation of Georges Chatenay, explaining that he shared the same feeling of weariness and futility. Mr Gosse, a young business agent, educated in France, was an autonomist breakaway from the Mouvement Liberal Caledonien and had spent almost two years in the assembly.

Giving his motives, Gosse claimed that for him *autonomie* meant decentralisation, to give more power locally, but not independence as most Europeans were made to fear. Gosse said that after all his efforts and sacrifice of family life for the Caledonian cause, his only result was to earn the label of "revolutionary" and "communist".

He noted that locally everyone insisted that "things must change" but they refused to take the necessary action to bring about the change. He noted that he had also earned the label of being "ambitious": he admitted he was ambitious for his country, but regretted that the powers of the Territorial Assembly were rapidly shrinking so that the assembly "no longer plays a driving role in this territory's economy". For himself, he had little interest in attending interminable debates on the insignificant subjects submitted to the assembly—subjects such as fixing the price of taro and yams.

And so the common French habit of in-fighting among ideological leaders, of name-calling to discredit those who make a disinterested appeal to enlightenment in face of heavily vested outside interests, has claimed another victim.

Fredy Gosse is succeeded in the House by Evenor de Greslan, of the Liberal Party. And as one autonomist newspaper pointed out, there goes "another Caledonian intellectual who the French administration has disheartened to the point of making him resign . . ."

While the jostling for power continues, the latest party split has occurred in the Union Multiraciale. This has not been the first rupture inside this predominantly Melanesian group,

Mr Gosse . . . ambitious for his country.

and amid expulsions and breakaways, Mr Yann Celene Uregei continued as party leader.

A parliamentary delegation from Papua New Guinea was scheduled to visit Noumea mid-July as part of a South Pacific tour which will include Fiji, New Hebrides, Tonga, the Solomons and Western Samoa. This will be the first such visit to New Caledonia. A PNG parliamentary constitutional committee failed to receive permission from the French to visit the territory four years ago during a tour to study political structures in Pacific islands.

The July mission from PNG was preceded four weeks earlier by a further demand for internal self-government voted by the New Caledonian Territorial Assembly by 17 to 15.

As far as Paris attitudes are concerned, no change can be noted. The new French Minister for Overseas Territories, Mr Olivier Stirn, has been quoted by Tahiti politician Gaston Flosse as saying that he would go ahead with the study of new political statutes for French Polynesia. In Noumea, a visit is expected by the minister before the end of the year, probably after the French senate elections in September, when each territory must elect a senator to Paris and *autonomie* is bound to be the vital issue.

FRENCH AIR CRASH

A French pilot and two engineering executives were killed in New Caledonia late June when the Cherokee Six plane in which they were crossing the island crashed in mountainous forest, evidently lost in cloud and mist.

Those killed were the pilot, Marc Levis, Rene Gastaud, company director and Yvon Mottin, engineer, both of the CITRA civil engineering group.

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Fiji's political pot boils as land lights the fire

From a Suva correspondent

Fiji MPs may brandish nooses and daggers in parliament, according to a ruling by the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Mr R. D. Patel, during a turbulent session late in June. Since then he has had second thoughts, following a plea by the Deputy Speaker, Mr Vijay R. Singh, and is reconsidering the matter.

Tempers really boiled. These were some incidents:

- The Leader of the Opposition, Mr S. M. Koya, brandished two nooses and invited two Indian members, Mr Vijay R. Singh, and Mr Krishna Reddy, both Government members, to hang themselves;
- Mr Maleli Raibe, a Government member, asked if it would be in order to produce two daggers and ask opposition members to make use of them on themselves;
- The chairman of the Native Land Trust Broad, Ratu William Toganivalu, who is also Minister for Fijian Affairs, said that while he was in office, he would refuse leases of Fijian land to any more Indian applicants;
- Mr Koya withdrew from the House of Representatives after the Speaker told him to leave. (The Speaker and Mr Koya are both members of the National Federation Party).
- The Opposition Whip, Mr Karam Ramrakha, faced the possibility of a criminal charge for allegedly having served subpoenas in the House of Representatives while it met.

Mr Koya, brandishing the nooses, said to Messrs Singh and Reddy: "In the name of the Indian community I say hang yourselves". He said Indian Alliance (Government) members were telling Indians that Federation Party leaders had let them down over land lease conditions and rents. He was wrongly accused of being responsible for some sections of the law which led to raising the rent for Fijian land and the 10-year minimum period for the issue of leases.

The Speaker ruled the daggers were "in order" or at least not out of order, following a discussion on whether nooses were parliamentary. But he did go against Mr Koya, when Mr Koya said Mr Reddy would have to go to his leader and lick his boots before he (Mr Koya) would make any compromise about land.

Mr Patel sat on the matter for a couple of days, then discussed it in chambers with Mr Koya and Leader of the House, Mr Wesley Barrett. Later in the house he told Mr Koya to leave, ruling the remark was unparliamentary. Mr Koya accepted the ruling that the remark was unparliamentary but refused to retract, saying Mr Patel should have ruled at the time.

Ratu William Toganivalu, after Mr Ramrakha condemned and called for abolition of the Native Land Trust Board, said that as long as he was chairman of the board, he would not entertain any more applications for land from Indians, nor for the renewal of leases. He repeated his statement outside the house, and was backed by the board.

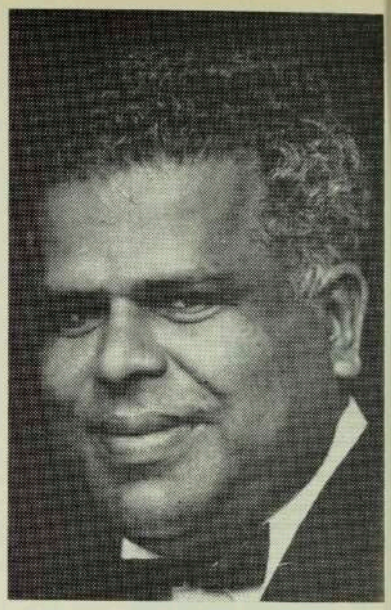
The board expressed its "grave concern at the gross misrepresentations and half-truths made in parliament by members of the Opposition".

The Deputy Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Penaia Ganilau, tried to soothe matters, when he said the government expected the Native Land Trust Board to resume issuing leases to Indian applicants after hot tempers over the land debate cooled. He got to the kernel of the matter, highly sensitive feelings among the Fijians when a land issue is raised, when he said the reaction of Ratu William and the NLTB was both understandable and predictable.

Statements by politicians from the Opposition about Fijian land had caused much bitterness. The innocent victims of political manoeuvring were "thousands of our Indian friends who depend on the use of Fijian-owned land for their livelihood".

An Opposition member, Mrs Irene Narayan, said Ratu Sir Penaia's statement was evasive. Mr Koya, outside Parliament, called on the Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, to make a clear statement about the land issue—whether the government accepted or rejected Ratu William's statement.

Ratu Sir Kamisese was not very impressed. He had considered the matter and saw no reason why he should intervene. He not only agreed with Ratu Sir Penaia's statement, but saw no reason why he should make any other statement.



Nooseman Mr Koya . . . Go and hang yourselves.

As a finale, a Fijian member, Mr Militoni Leweniqila, the Assistant Minister for Fijian Affairs, complained that Mr Ramrakha had served a notice on him to quit the house he was renting. The notice was served in a corridor while parliament was sitting. Mr Ramrakha had also signalled in the house to the Minister for Lands, Ratu Josua Toganivalu, to go outside and receive a subpoena.

The Attorney-General, Mr John Falvey, referring to the Parliamentary Privileges and Immunities Ordinance, said to serve court orders in parliament while it was sitting was illegal. The allegations against Mr Ramrakha could fall into the field of criminal law.

The Speaker suggested that the privileges committee could deliberate coolly over the matter and make a recommendation. The house could then take its own action. His suggestion was adopted.

Overall the session was one of the nastiest ever in a Fiji legislature. There could be more nasty sessions if the question of Fijian land is raised again.

The air was cleared a little on July 18 when the Prime Minister announced that NLTB agents had been given instructions to resume transactions in native leases with Indian tenants. An order against such leases made by the NLTB after its chairman's comment in the House of Representatives had been withdrawn.

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Did Mataafa sack the UNDP for friendship's sake?

From an Apia correspondent

The United Nations Development Programme office in Western Samoa closed its doors for the last time at the end of July—expelled by Prime Minister Fiame Mataafa. For what? For the sake of friendship? Or for something far more subtle, like rivalries between Pacific nations served by the UNDP?

At June's beginning, without any formal announcement to the public, Prime Minister Mataafa gave the agency 60 days notice to close down and get out. He sent a cable to that effect to UNDP in New York and later, in a 60-second conversation with UNDP's acting regional representative in Apia, Ray Fort, confirmed the order.

Parliament was not told in what way the UNDP had offended. The public was not told and, at the time of writing, Mataafa, despite protests from MPs, had maintained an aloof silence. Strongest rumour current was that the Prime Minister had laid his career on the line—and that's what they are saying in Apia—for friendship's sake: friendship with Mr Bill Hussey, UNDP representative in Western Samoa, whose five-year term of office had ended and was not being extended by the UNDP. Mr Hussey wanted to stay and sought the support of his friend.

Mataafa had delivered an ultimatum. Either Mr Hussey stayed or UNDP got out. UNDP got out. It is now operating from Manila and making tentative approaches to other Island nations for a base.

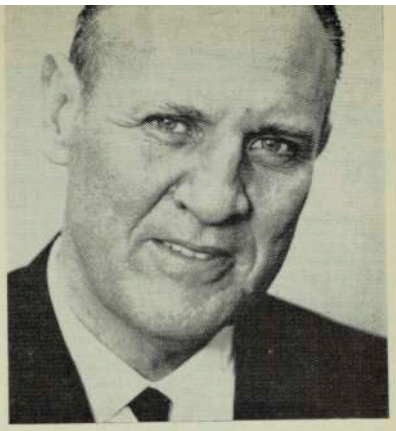
Fiji has been mentioned as a likely base in the South Pacific but, according to Ratu Mara, it's not on the cards at the moment.

The Fiji Prime Minister said in July that the UNDP approached Fiji about a base in the country even before receiving Mataafa's notice to quit, but Fiji would not agree to a condition that it should provide office space and pay the salaries of a local staff.

"We felt that, if the United Nations wants to come here, they should foot the bill like all other agencies who are already established in Fiji," said Ratu Mara.

If the Samoan Prime Minister's action was a piece of heavy-handed bluff, UNDP called his bluff. Twenty Samoan employees have lost their jobs; Western Samoa has lost the decided advantage of having such an agency in its house and can hardly have any friends at the New York headquarters who can be useful, especially at this stage of Western Samoa's development when there are plans to boost the economy, plans which need plenty of cash and advice.

Other reasons have been advanced for Mataafa's action. One is that the Prime Minister expected, but didn't get, the help he needed from the agency in his efforts to establish Samoa's national airline, Polynesian Airlines, against opposition from the Air Pacific consortium. UNDP, it is said, sided with Fiji and Air Pacific. Another is that he was tired of providing accommodation. But neither of those reasons holds as much water as the one based on his friendship with Bill Hussey. The UNDP, however, says it has an inflexible rule—no-one serves more than one term in any country. It wasn't prepared to make an exception for Mr Hussey.



Mr Bill Hussey.

Although Mr Fort declined to say much—"I'm merely on the sideline"—he has indicated that the main reason for expulsion was personal, and also explained the rule regarding a representative's length of stay in any one country.

But, whatever the reason, the MPs have been in full cry. Their letter to the Prime Minister complaining that they had been left in the dark, underlined the "deep debt" Samoa owed to UNDP, a debt which "had been enlarged many times over since independence because of the economic and other benefits that have accrued to Western Samoa".

The MPs wrote that they feared the image and credibility of their country would suffer as a result of the drastic step taken by Mataafa and asked: "Prior to it being taken, was this action assented to by the cabinet, by his Highness the Head of State? Is this not a matter of grave public importance that parliament should be called, informed, and the proposal debated so that the will of the people be declared?"

The MPs also wrote an "open letter" to Mr Fort asking for clarification of the supposed issues, leaning heavily on the Hussey question and asking for United Nations comment on any other reasons which might exist for Mataafa's decision and the UNDP's reaction. Had it to do, they asked, with Mr Hussey's administration of UN funds; his promotion of certain personalities and policies which exceeded the "allowable limits of neutrality"; his promotion of projects without proper authorisation or promotion of commercial interests which had nothing to do with the UN programme?

The rest is silence!

Tupuola wins a title

The Leader of the Opposition in Western Samoa, Tupuola Efi, has won an important title case against opponents who included the Head of State, Malietoa Tanumafili II, and Prime Minister Fiame Mataafa.

The title was that of "Taisi". Malietoa and Mataafa, who are blood cousins, contended that the "pule" (authority) over the Taisi title belonged to them and that, therefore, Tupuola had no right to take the title.

The Land and Titles Court, however, ruled in favour of Tupuola and confirmed his taking of the Taisi title.

Tupuola said he did not intend to use the Taisi title as the official name by which he would be called. He still preferred to be called Tupuola. "I am not a Tofa," he said.

Tofa, the previous Minister of Finance, used three different matai titles in three different elections to try to get elected into parliament. He was Taneolevao in one election. Tofa in another one, and Tuataga in the last one, his only unsuccessful one.

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'DEMOCRACY' PREVAILS IN TONGA

From a Nukualofa correspondent

Tonga's Legislative Assembly "took on" the government in June and refused to pass the estimates for 1974-75. No one could remember such a thing happening before. The 8-4 vote against accepting the estimates was a protest against the government ignoring a parliamentary resolution of 1973 over a review of salaries for the civil service and members of the assembly.

The 1973 resolution was that any salary increase recommended by the review should take effect from July 1, 1973. The Privy Council, however, directed that there should be a cost-of-living allowance of 20 per cent, effective from April 1, 1974.

Masao Passi, No 1 People's Representative from Vavau, said the government had no right to violate a House resolution. It was not the fault of the House that the government took so long to decide the cost-of-living allowance.

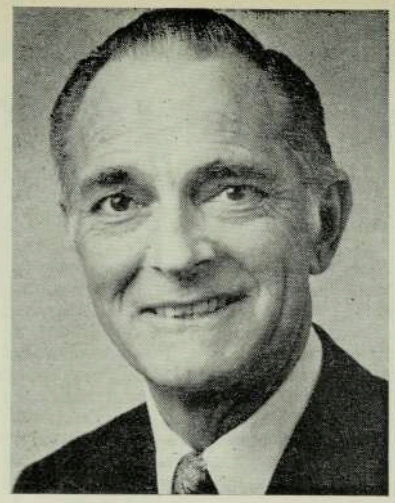
Next day, the Acting Prime Minister and Minister of Lands and Survey, S. L. Tuita, asked the House to reconsider its resolution. If members were adamant he would introduce an alternative—that the House approve only half the stipulated amount as a token vote, to which could be added a special warrant should there be approval of the requested revision of the cost-of-living allowance to be back-dated to July 1, 1973.

Siosiua H. Fonua, editor of the Tonga Chronicle, commenting on the House resolution, said: "The year 1974 will probably go down in the history of Tonga's parliamentary sessions as being one of the most significant insofar as the power of the Legislative Assembly is concerned. In my own opinion, it took a lot of courage and perseverance on the part of the people's representatives and the nobles to attempt what seemed an impossible task, ie, to have the Privy Council amend their original decision for the Cost of Living Allowance (COLA) payable from April 1, 1974, to be backdated to July 1, 1973, for the parliamentarians. This, indeed, is not a small undertaking for the Privy Council. . . .

"They, (the MPs) felt that the government had ignored the authority of the House, and hence weakened the status of the Legislative Assembly. . . . The issue in question was therefore of paramount importance for the benefit of maintaining the democratic principles of the Tongan system of government.

"True, Tonga's is not a wholly democratic government, but a constitutional monarchy, but the principles adopted by a Tonga Legislative Assembly involve a certain amount of democracy. This victory must mean therefore that the government do respect the resolutions of the House and its deliberations and the amendment of their original decision is by no means a sign of a prejudiced government, but a realisation of the power of democracy and the willingness to maintain the harmonious relationships that exist between the people and the government. . . ."

The Legislative Assembly, on June 28, approved a record $T6.57 million for 1974-75.



Mr Frank B. Elliott, who has been appointed chief manager of the Bank of South Pacific Limited, the new bank which has been formed to conduct the Papua New Guinea operations of The National Bank of Australasia Limited from October 1. Mr Elliott has been an assistant state manager in the National Bank's New South Wales state administration since 1969. He joined the bank at Murwil'umbah, NSW, in 1939 and has also served in Queensland. The Bank of South Pacific, which has an authorised capital of $5,000,000, will have its principal office at Port Moresby, at the National Bank's present location in Douglas Street, and will take over the National's branch network at Boroko, Lae, Mount Hagen, Rabaul and Kieta. As well as being chief executive of the Bank of South Pacific, Mr Elliott will also be a director.

Somare will fight corruption

From a Port Moresby correspondent

Papua New Guinea is acting speedily to suppress corruption, described by Chief Minister Michael Somare as "The disease of developing countries".

Under legislation now being prepared at his direction, politicians, public servants and businesses will be required to surrender "presents" at a state gift registry.

The Chief Minister's proposals, presented in a statement to the House of Assembly will result in a tightening up of present legislation by defining a wide range of acts deemed to be corrupt.

"Loss of position and lengthy imprisonment seem to me to be very justified in a case where a man or woman has betrayed his or her own people for personal gain", said Mr Somare.

Pointing out that Papua New Guinea was rich in natural resources and potential for development in partnership with foreign enterprise, Mr Somare revealed that overseas interests had already attempted to reward senior government decision-makers with "tokens of appreciation".

"I can tell you that in each case the 'token of appreciation' was returned after a brief and firm 'no thank you' ", he said.

The plan for a state gift registry, he explained, would require various investors to furnish a complete list of gifts and include the names of the recipients who were also obliged to make a declaration.

Any company or investor, said Mr Somare, would not be permitted to enter into any form of business arrangements with a New Guinean to whom a gift had been made.

"I believe it is also necessary that through the proper diplomatic channels, overseas governments with nationals participating in investment in our country should be informed that a gift from these people will not be tolerated in any form", he added.

It turned out later that Mr Somare's actions were mainly directed at Japanese businessmen, one of whom had given a cabinet minister a cheque for $75,000 (it had been returned), and another who had offered a senior public servant a large diamond. The PNG Government officially complained to the Japanese Government about the practice.

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HOME AGAIN

Back in Alotau, Papua, in July after a world tour lasting eight months is Canon John Bodger, Canon of Dogura and Rector of Alotau, who has lived in Papua since 1929. Still hale and active at 73, he's the last surviving member of the pre-war Papua Legislative Council. He doesn't plan to retire for another two years yet, and then will do community work on Papua's north-east coast. On his trip he visited the UK, USA, Canada, NZ and Australia.

Even atolls like the GEIC have their labour troubles

Permanent staff of the GEIC Government had to take over some main government services in June when more than 200 daily-paid employees (unestablished staff) went on strike for higher pay, demanding in some cases almost 50 per cent more. The BKATM, the union representing the employees, rejected a government offer of increases of 3c to 7c an hour, back-dated to June 1.

The Chief Minister, Mr Naboua Ratieta, went on the air to warn of a threat to the economy should the government concede the demands. The government had made a generous offer, which would put the GEIC rates among the highest in the Pacific. To give in to the demand would encourage the GEIDA workers to look for higher wages; then there would be demands by government workers, and so on.

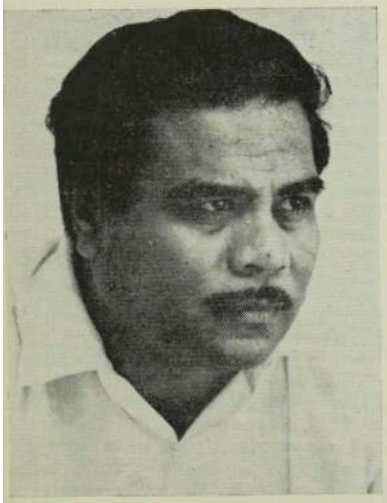
The government wished to attract industry to the GEIC, but would not be able to do that if the GEIC paid higher wages than elsewhere. The overall cost of wage increases could run into millions of dollars, leading to highly inflated costs and unemployment. No one wanted that.

Some non-union members did not offer for work after the strike started, not because they supported the strike, but because of threats by the strikers.

There was some inconvenience to the Central Colony Hospital at Bikenibeu, without orderlies to care for mental patients, attend to the hospital linen and cook. The hospital also lost its labourers and the supply of toddy which they provided. Some patients had to use mats for sleeping to save linen, and admissions were restricted to emergency cases.

Apart from that matters seemed to go along smoothly. Nursing staff operated the washing machines, and kitchen staffs seemed bigger than before. Patients were even getting decorations on their meat pies. In fact, the staff seemed to be enjoying the change from normal routine.

The strikers returned to work on July 1, a little more than a week after they went out. The government's position was that it would not enter into negotiations on wages for unestablished workers at present. However, the government reopened the offer already made, effective from July 1, for workers who returned on that date. Workers who did not strike received the new rates from June 1.



. . . "A threat to the economy", says Chief Minister Naboua Ratieta.

ISLANDS WANT A SHARE IN OCEAN'S WEALTH

By a staff writer

With their fingers crossed, as their demands might seem to be far-reaching, delegates from the Island territories voiced their desires for a place in the ocean during the Law of the Sea conference at Caracas in Venezuela in July.

Acting as unofficial spokesman for the Islands, Fiji, through its Minister without Portfolio Ratu David Toganivalu, told the 149-nation assembly that a solution to the problems posed by the archipelagic states was long overdue.

Ratu David said the archipelagic states sought to establish in conventional form what was always regarded as theirs by tradition.

"We seek", he said, "to establish the essential political unity of the various components of our oceanic nation and to preserve our inherent right over the resources within the waters that surround our island group and give it the character of a single entity.

"It is proposed that this unity can best be established by drawing archipelagic baselines around the outer extremity of low water mark of all of the islands and reefs of an archipelagic state which are intrinsically linked one to the other geographically, politically and economically as a unit".

There are indications that the majority of the major powers are sympathetic to the Islands' views up to a point, but want to ensure that all nations have free passage of their ships through archipelagic waters.

The wealth on the ocean bed may be the main snag. The existence of vast quantities of minerals such as manganese nodules, which litter the ocean floor like large pebbles on the beaches, is arousing the cupidity of the big powers, especially now that methods of mining even to great depths are being perfected. It can hardly be expected that the big powers will hand this wealth over to countries like the Cooks which is sitting on top of a massive field of manganese nodules.

And powers like Russia and Japan, who sail the seven seas in search of fish, are sure to oppose the erection of liquid boundaries enclosing millions of square miles of ocean with a few islands scattered around exercising sovereignty over the whole.

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MOMENT OF DECISION FOR ELLICE

From a Tarawa correspondent

The 7,000 Ellice islanders forming "junior" partners in the GEIC will know by early October where they are going—along independence road with the Gilberts or along the colonial road with Britain, which is trying hard to shed its remaining colonies.

The islanders are busy voting on a referendum on their future political status. Voting started in July but so many ballot papers will have to be brought from outlying islands and collected from Ellice men serving on foreign ships that completion and counting has been set as late as October 1.

The choices open to them on the ballot paper are:

- The establishment of a separate Ellice Islands Colony;
- To remain with the Gilberts as part of the GEIC and what the colony becomes when its status is altered.

The referendum was agreed to by Britain, and by the Gilbertese, after the Ellice people, through their representatives, objected to plans to make the colony self-governing. They feared political domination by the Gilbertese, who outnumber them by seven to one.

Britain, however, has left the Ellice people in no doubt of the hard road they'll have to tread if they opt for separation. At first, they seemed to expect that they would get a generous share of the colony's possessions. This isn't on, Britain told them, and then listed the conditions for separation.

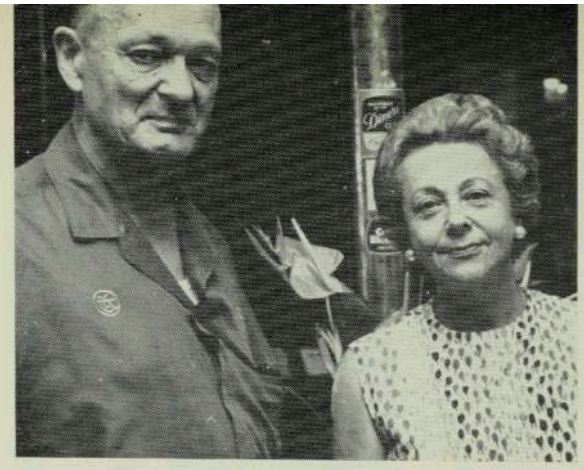
These are:

- The Ellice Islands would become a separate dependent territory of the United Kingdom;
- The Ellice Islands would receive no part of the Revenue Equalisation Reserve Fund of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony;
- The Ellice Islands would receive no part of present or future phospate royalties.
- The Ellice Islands would have no claim to any of the assets (whether fixed, moveable or in cash) belonging to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony and situated outside the Ellice Islands themselves, except for one ship which would be transferred from the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Development authority; and
- An Ellice Islands Colony would be limited to the Ellice Islands Group and would have no right to any other territory of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands Colony.

If the islanders vote for separation and the Gilbertese agree, there will be discussions on the future constitution of the Ellice Islands Colony and other details such as schooling and employment outside the Ellice Group and the level of British aid to the new colony.

Since Britain made the conditions known, there has been little comment from the Ellice people. So far only several of their leaders have spoken—all but one favouring separation. It will be no surprise if the majority, voting in the referendum, do an about-turn rather than accept the obvious disadvantages associated with separation.

Going it alone is fine if you've the strength to stand on your feet!



Sir George and Lady Proud, who are hoping to settle permanently in Fiji where Lady Proud, youngest daughter of Sir Walter Carpenter, was born. Sir George, managing director of Prouds (Fiji) Ltd, owners of Proud's jewellers' shop in Suva, is hoping to expand to branches in Sigatoka, Lautoka and Nadi. They are having a house built at Tamavua.

East meets West and the air is warmer

From an Apia correspondent

A one-day meeting between Western Samoa's Prime Minister Mataafa and Governor John Haydon of American Samoa forecasts closer union between the two Samoas separated by 75 miles of the Pacific Ocean.

Mataafa went to Pago Pago at the beginning of July and talked about mutual problems and areas of mutual help.

The value of the talk probably lay in the subjects covered rather than on decisions made because in only a few fields was agreement reached. American Samoa has agreed to open the door a little wider to Western Samoans, removing a grievance the Western Samoans have held for years.

Under American Samoa immigration laws, the brothers across the water had to have permits to enter what many of them regard as just another part of the same country while American Samoans had free entry into Western Samoa for up to three days duration.

The American Samoan Immigration Board agreed at the meeting to a six-month trial period allowing Western Samoans free entry for up to seven days, effective from July 10.

A jubilant Mataafa declared after the meeting, "This topic typifies best of all the value there is in these meetings and the benefits that come from discussion. We in Western Samoa, because our legislation provides for permit-free entry for up to three days, might have thought the American Samoa position unfair.

"These discussions have, however, given us the opportunity to learn the reasons for their position and to make representation about it. There are good reasons for their views".

The only other decisions arrived at, according to an Apia release, were closer co-operation in agriculture—pest control and sharing fertiliser imports—a suggested partnership in a brewery and joint promotion of the two Samoas in the world of tourism.

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STUDENT SURVEY ALARMS SAMOANS...

From a Pago correspondent

A survey of graduating high school students in American Samoa has revealed disturbing trends in employment preferences and failures in the territory's educational system.

The survey, which was done for the Department of Manpower Resources by Peter Creevey and Eliu Paopao, was taken in the public high schools in mid-May to "learn something about the students' career awareness, their exposure to the world of work, their job preferences and their plans."

The most disturbing finding was that 90 per cent of the students interviewed wanted to work for the government, rather than in the private sector. Of 8,000 in the total territory work force, more than 4,000 work for the government. The growth of government employment has increased by more than 400 per cent since 1956.

The Department of the Interior has repeatedly talked about decreasing the role of government in the local economy, but there seems to be little indication that this is being done. And more importantly, as the survey showed, there is increasing dependence on government employment.

A total of 62 per cent indicated that they planned to leave American Samoa for the United States after graduating. The outflow of young people from American Samoa—and most of them are the best and the brightest of the students—seems to be continuing also. Only 37 of the almost 400 graduating students said they planned to attend the Community College of American Samoa.

And the survey found that "the students seemed handicapped in their job-finding prospects by a lack of counselling and work exposure". It pointed out that only one in 10 students taking a United States Navy recruiting test could score over 30 per cent, which is a minimum score for entering the Navy.

The survey recommended immediate job counselling for graduating students and an improvement in the Department of Education's counselling and career-awareness programmes.

"I think that the trends we have found in American Samoa," said Creevey, "are true of many other island communities, and I would like to see the study extended to other areas by the South Pacific Commission."

Creevey, who has written a good deal about the South Pacific, said: "Although many Island territories are now independent or self-governing, they are still shackled to the economic chariot wheels of the metropolitan powers. Only a well-educated and well-trained indigenous work force will enable the South Pacific to really control its own destiny."

...AS DARK AGES RETURN TO PAGO

Promises of improved electrical power conditions in American Samoa have fallen through. For almost five months the island of Tutuila has been on severe power rationing, begun by the breakdown of one of the main generators at the Satala power plant.

Public Works Director Lloyd Gallagher had promised that the power situation would be improved by July 1, when the new $US1 million generating plant in the Tafuna area would go on the line. However, due to negligence, one of the two generators at the Tafuna plant was badly damaged during the testing period. Then two more generators went out at the Satala plant, reducing the power supply to about 30 per cent.

Large areas of Tutuila have been without power during the days for many months and other areas have been hit by frequent unscheduled power cuts. Gallagher said the latest crisis would be the most severe yet, and there was little chance on immediate improvement.

Many businesses have suffered loss of revenue and spoilage of goods, especially frozen foods, during the crisis. Most homes have been without power, especially during the early evening when power consumption is high. KVZK television has been operating on a shortened schedule and on only one channel. For several weeks KVZK had been announcing that full broadcasting services would begin on July 1, because of "predicted improvements in the power situation." Instructional television, which is heavily used in the schools of American Samoa, was off the air during the last month of school.

Many other services, such as WVUV radio station, Lyndon B. Johnson Tropical Medical Centre and Pago Pago International Airport have been operating on auxiliary generators.

By the middle of July, consumers' patience was exhausted and about 100 of them mounted a demonstration in Pago Pago for the eyes of Stanley S. Carpenter, America's Director of Territorial Affairs, who was in American Samoa for meetings with government officials.

Waving banners bearing legends like "Electrical power to the people" and "We need electricity and water", the demonstrators faced Carpenter on the steps of the Legislature building on July 13.

The demonstrators were led by Taleni Aumoeualogo, who described himself as a "local citizen of American Samoa". Taleni, who said that the group was not a formal organisation, said he hoped to "get a response from Carpenter relative to the long-term electrical power problems in American Samoa because he is in a position to help us".

Taleni pointed out that the electrical power operated water pumps in most villages and when the electricity was off, the water was off also.

Carpenter told them that he had "talked with the people responsible for the power", and he could assure the people that "We are over the hump".

After a brief exchange with the crowd, Carpenter addressed a joint session of the Legislature, where he was asked the same questions and where he gave the same answers.

Electrical power problems in American Samoa, however, do not seem to be improving but Public Works Director Lloyd Gallagher said he hoped "We will be out of the woods by the end of July".

● A Japanese company has signed an agreement with the Western Samoa Government to build a 200-room hotel near Faleolo Airport. The hotel will help to cater for an expected influx of Japanese visitors to both American and Western Samoa. The Japanese company, Japan View Hotel Co, of Tokyo, will manage the hotel, which will be partly financed by the Western Samoa Agricultural Public Corporation.

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Tropicalities

The stuff of PNG history

According to calculations by Canberra's Pacific Manuscripts Bureau (for details of what the bureau is doing see p 71) something like 3,000 to 3,500 patrols were carried out in the Australian Mandated Territory of New Guinea between 1915 and 1941.

These patrols varied from short hikes of two or three days to arduous exploratory treks of five or six months. Some were so full of adventure that the officers involved could have pretty well filled a book with the details had they been so minded.

Indeed, whether the officers were literary-minded or not, it was their duty to write a report on what they had done when they returned to home base, and to submit one copy to the central administration in Rabaul and another to the local district office.

The pre-war patrol reports that have been preserved in public institutions constitute valuable source material for a wide range of present-day research. However, most of the reports that were once on file in the former Mandated Territory were lost during World War II. In fact, only about 230 are now positively known to exist.

Of those, about 50 are in the National Archives of Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby; seven are in the Dixson Library, Sydney; 13 in the National Library of Australia, Canberra; and 47 in the Australian Archives (formerly Commonwealth Archives), Canberra.

The remainder have been located in private hands by Mr Kevin Green, director of the PMB's Papua New Guinea Records Project. These are now on microfilm in the 19 sponsoring libraries of that project.

Mr Green's success in uncovering approximately half of the present total of known reports has encouraged him to hope that further reports will eventually be forthcoming.

More than 160 district officers, assistant district officers and patrol officers are known to have served in the Mandated Territory between the wars.

Reports (not necessarily all they wrote) have been located for only 26 of the officers—apart from those filed in Port Moresby. So it is to be hoped that others may yet be forthcoming. The list is printed below.

Bob Langdon, executive officer of the Bureau, tells us that anyone knowing the whereabouts of any of the officers in the list, or of relatives or descendants of them, is invited to get in touch with Mr Green, C/- the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau, Australian National University, Canberra. Where reports by an officer have been located, his name is preceded by an asterisk. The names are part of history.

T. G. Aitchison, J. Appleby, G. Austin, W. B. Ball, E. M. Bastard, *C. D. Bates, J. W. Bell, G. W. Benham, *J. R. Black, A. A. Bloxham, H. A. Booth, R. H. Boyan, S. W. Brearley, *K. W. T. Bridge, A. W. Cains, *B. Calcutt, H. C. Cardew, E. K. Carlile, D. G. N. Chambers, S. J. Chapman, C. G. Clifton, R. R. Cole, H. F. Cook, J. A. Costelloe, W. I. Crichton, H. G. Cunningham, D. W. Dally-Watkins, *J. E. Daymond, N. J. Dillane, N. Douglas, H. L. Downing, *I. F. G. Downs, M. S. Edwards, W. M. Edwards, D. S. Elliott, G. M. R. Elliott, G. Ellis, W. M. English, C. Falkner, R. M. Farlow, E. A. Feldt, D. M. Fienberg (Fenbury), H. L. Fletcher, A. C. Forte, H. S. Foulkes, G. K. Freeman, W. B. Giles, E. R. Gittoes, J. A. Grant, G. Greathead, H. A. Gregory, N. S. Griffiths, H. Hamilton, G. C. Harris, *H. W. Hartley, D. Heaton-Brown, H. B. Hempsted, *G. Hickley, J. W. Hodgekiss, W. J. Hook, L. F. S. Hore, L. F. Howlett, A. J. Hunter, *E. E. Jones, J. H. Jones, N. Judd, J. T. Kenny, *G. Keogh, *A. F. Kyle, L. G. R. Kyngdon, W. N. Leach, C. J. Levien, N. C. Lineham, J. H. Lukin, I. D. Lyon, J. Kyng, I. M. Mack, T. L. McAdam, *J. K. McCarthy, E. C. McDonald, J. H. McDonald, F. Macdonnell, *J. B. Mackay, R. K. C. McMullen, N. D. McWilliam, R. G. G. Mader, F. W. Mantle, J. W. Mason, R. Melrose, J. I. Merrylees, C. J. Millar, P. J. Miller, *J. S. Milligan, E. H. F. Mitchell, P. J. Mollison, *L. Morris, G. W. Mostyn, F. H. Moy, J. C. Mullaly, J. J. Murphy, G. Naess, M. Wilder Neligan, *C. T. H. Nelson, *H. L. R. Niall, H. M. Nickols, *A. Nurton, *E. W. Oakley, G. C. O'Donnell, H. L. S. B. Ogilvy, W. M. B. Ogilvy, R. G. Ormsby, N. Penglase, P. M. Penhalluriack, V. B. Pennefather, E. F. Phibbs, M. J. P. A. Pitt, W. G. Pooley, L. Pursehouse, J. R. Rigby, A. A. Roberts, A. L. Roberts, *E. D. Robinson, T. L. Roper, A. H. Ross, A. J. Samson, W. E. Sanson, A. H. Scroggie, F. N. W. Shand, B. W. Sherman, G. E. Simcocks, S. S. Skeate, R. I. Skinner, H. G. F. Somerset, *C. W. Slattery, R. B. Strudwick, E. Taylor, *J. L. Taylor, J. T. Tennent, *K. H. Thomas, O. J. Thompson, *G. W. L. Townsend, W. J. Townsend, N. R. Tutton, D. H. Vertigan, L. G. Vial, P. Vivian, T. W. Walker, J. Walstab, C. F. Warde, J. Waterhouse, D. Waugh, E. C. Webster, J. P. White, H. Wickham, W. M. Wilkin, H. L. Williams, A. H. Wilson, C. A. Wittkop, *H. E. Woodman, R. A. Woodward, *Y. G. Yanner.

Details of all the patrol reports whose existence is known—except those in the National Archives, Port Moresby—have been published over 14 pages of the latest issue of the Pacific Manuscripts' news-sheet Pambu, No 35, April-June, 1974, which deserves to be a collector's item. Don't ask us, ask Bob Langdon for your copy.

A pilgrimage by canoe

A two weeks voyage in the open seas from Satawal to Saipan in May and June may become an annual pilgrimage for the people of Satawal to pay a tribute to their ancestors. As a side effect, the voyages would be used to train future navigators from among the young people of Satawal.

Two sailing canoes carrying 11 people set out on May 28. They stopped at West Fayu, a turtle-breeding ground to capture six turtles for relatives on Saipan. The crews were greeted by cheering Carolinians. After reaching Saipan the men from Satawal made a pilgrimage to the Island of Managaha to pay homage to their ancestor King Aghrub, who was buried there after leading a mass migration from Satawal to Saipan when Satawal was devastated by a typhoon in the 19th century.

The canoes carried for part of the way a correspondent for the National Geographic Society Magazine who was gathering material about the trip, particularly the navigation techniques of the people of the area.

Volunteers for Yap wanted!

There'll be some funny goings on among the teenagers of Yap in the United States Trust Territory of the Pacific if the youngsters respond to an appeal by James Mangafel, a member of the Yap District Legislature.

Alarmed at the smallness of Yap's population in relation to those of the other five districts, Mr Mangafel introduced a resolution during the legislature's July session.

He expressed concern over the small population, which, he said, "has rendered us somewhat politically impotent and ineffectual in our relations with our sister districts especially with

respect to lobbying efforts in the Congress of Micronesia".

Expressing the belief that a Yapese population boom would "enhance our political power and influence in Micronesia and increase the economic and social capacity of this district for growth and development", Mr Mangafel called upon all "parents, boys and girls of child-bearing age to do everything within their power and ability to increase the population of Yap."

Andree Millar's new miracle

Jealous members of other branches of the armed forces who, during World War II, dubbed those in the Royal Australian Air Force "blue orchids" may be surprised to know that they exist. The orchid is called *Dendrobium lasienthera*, or more commonly, Sepik Blue, and comes from the upper reaches of New Guinea's giant river and its tributaries.

It is a species unlikely to survive the march of development but looks like being saved for posterity and the orchid lovers of the world by the efforts of the University of Papua New Guinea, or more particularly the efforts of UPNG's indefatigable Mrs Andree Millar.

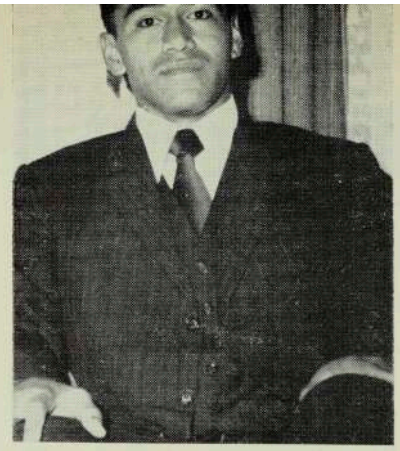
Mrs Millar worked wonders in Lae botanical gardens adjacent to the war cemetery and then transferred to the University in Port Moresby where miracles were called for. She performed them and now the brown scrub land of Waigani has been turned into the landscaped gardens surrounding the university.

In the last couple of years the orchids of the Sepik and Upper May Rivers have been her special care and in this she has been helped by grants from the American Orchid Council. It is believed that Sepik Blue has economic potentials and the stage has now been reached where flasked seedlings of this species will soon be available to orchid enthusiasts throughout the world.

Rose Atoll—for scientists only

American Samoa's Rose atoll, one of the world's smallest and most remote, has been set aside as a National Wildlife Refuge. The announcement was made in May by the director of the US Fish and Wildlife Service who described the atoll as an 18 acres reef of pink coral with a 100 ft wide boat passage linking its lagoon to the sea. A stand of 80 ft buka trees provide nests for red-faced boobies and frigate birds in the top branches, and for fairy and Hawaiian noddy terns in the middle and lower branches. There are two clumps of about 40 coconut trees and scrub over the rest of the islets. At least 16 species of birds live there including boobies, plovers, curlews, tattlers, herons and tropicbirds. The only mammals are rats but it is an important nesting area for the green sea turtle which is a rare reptile.

Public use of the atoll will now be restricted to scientists and educators on a permit basis.



A new recruit for Tonga's Defence Force, Prince Uluvalu Tukuaho, eldest son of the Prime Minister, Prince Tuipelehake. The prince was photographed recently on his return from the two-year training course at the Indian Military Academy at Dehra Dun, India. A second-year Bachelor of Arts student at Auckland University, Prince Tukuaho had to study psychology, chemistry, physics, physical training, horse riding and army tactics during his two years in India.

Solomons' council goes bankrupt

The Mungava Mungiki local government council on Rennell and Bellona islands in the Solomons is bankrupt and out of action.

The council owes $1,500 dollars plus interest to several Honiara companies; its tax collection operations have foundered and there's no money in the kitty, not even to pay staff wages over the last six months. The registered nurse running clinics on both islands hasn't seen a cent of her wages since the beginning of the year; yet she continues to work, with the hope that the council will be salvaged. Which it will be when the councils of Rennell/Bellona, Savo, Russells and Gela are merged into one council later this year.

The council's financial troubles began with the building of the council rest house at White River in Honiara and a new clinic on Bellona. Materials and labour for the rest house cost $3,700. To pay part of the bill the council hoped to collect $1,350 in taxes. To date, they've got a mere $648 and the people are refusing to pay more because they claim the council's funds have been mismanaged. They are even demanding punishment for whoever is guilty of mismanagement.

If the council hoped to make a profit out of its new rest house, it has been sadly disillusioned. Although the rest house has been well used since it was built, the revenue from it totalled only $50, and there's a caretaker to pay.

Bread cheaper than newspapers

Bread still costs less than newspapers and cigarettes in Noumea, but all three items were on the tide of recent price rises hitting the Caledonian pocket.

Local daily papers went up to 30 francs CFP per copy (22 cents Aust), in July. This second rise has meant a total increase of 50 per cent on newspapers so far this year. If you happen to smoke as you read, you suffer a double price hike, since cigarettes in July went up 10 per cent for French brands, 15 per cent for others, with packets now costing from 31 to 80 francs each.

Even if they can go without newspapers and cigarettes, the French can never be expected to cut down on their tasty, crisp bread—latest price rise here brings the 300 gramme "wife-beater" loaf to 23 francs (17 cents).

To help wage-earners cope with the situation, the Caledonian minimum wage (SMIG), which in fact applies to only a few workers such as low-paid farm labourers, rose in June to 119 francs per hour (90 cents), enough to buy nearly four packets of French cigarettes or a packet and a half of the costliest foreign brands.

Election promise comes good

In October hopefully, Mr Ron Kermode, a former parliamentarian in Fiji, will see an old election promise come to fruition when the new Lautoka hospital is finished. The

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hospital has been having labour troubles, plus other problems, which delayed the target date for opening by almost 18 months.

Mr Kermode, elected to the Fiji Legislative Council in 1958, representing what was then the North-West Division, made a new hospital for Lautoka one of his election targets, and he hammered that theme at every opportunity during council debates.

Project manager for the hospital, Mr G. S. Scotney, said recently that the builders had a lot of difficulty getting suitable labour because of many other development projects. High rainfall, Hurricane Bebe and delay in getting materials from overseas, also held up the project.

The hospital, when finished, will cost about $8 million. The British Government is providing most of it; the Fiji Government will pay the rest.

The hospital will have a five-storey ward block, a three-storey technical services block (including operating theatres, X-ray suite and central sterilising equipment) and three two-storey blocks for administration, a pathology department, mortuary, laundry and boiler-house.

The old hospital will probably be turned into a hostel for medical students, nurses and interns. Some students will move from the Fiji School of Medicine at Suva to the new hospital.

French cargo cult

"See New Caledonia in 1974—Captain Cook did it in 1774" is the message to be proclaimed on Caledonian tee-shirts when some 600 New Zealand travel industry representatives visit Noumea in October for the annual conference of the Travel Agents Association of New Zealand (TAANZ).

The Caledonian Tourist Office is going all out to welcome the New Zealanders, with the locals being urged to make generous hand-outs of souvenir perfume, writing paper, pens, *manous* (colourful lap-laps) and lots of smiles. It is the smiles that could be hardest to dispense as the island continues clouded by an economic situation that is far from cheering.

But great importance is being placed upon the reception to be given to the TAANZ conference delegates. Now that the nickel bubble has burst beyond foreseeable repair, the French are virtually invoking the help of Australian and New Zealand tourists to buoy up the territory's sources of revenue. The big white nickel ships can no longer be counted on to sustain the islanders so Paris is introducing a new cargo cult—the glistening big jumbo jets flying in full of dollar-laden Anglo-Saxon tourists.

Meantime, tourist figures were soaring early this year as a result of the particularly low fares offered by UTA airlines to promote the new installations at the Chateau Royal Hotel.

And more help is on the way, from the north.

As New Caledonia awaits the opening of the Noumea-Tokyo air link around November, various forerunners of the Japanese tourist current are being welcomed in the territory.

A TV film crew from the Tokyo Broadcasting System recently flew to the island, accompanied by young actress Reiko Ike. The group's itinerary included the offshore Isle of Pines and Ouvea Is for TV filming. Another visitor prompted by tourism was Mr Hisao Endo, who came from the large Fujita travel group.

The television cameraman is John Usman of Holy Trinity Youth Club in Suva but the locale is not Suva. Fiji has no television yet. John was operating the camera at Campbell River in Canada where he and a group of Fiji youths were guests under the Canada World Youth Exchange programme. He was filming a programme which dealt with the geography, climate and customs of Fiji.

Saipan's gamble in tourism race

"One-arm bandits" could give Saipan the edge over Guam in the race for tourists. Saipan has adopted an ordinance allowing slot machines in clubs and hotels at an annual tax of $150. In Guam, the Governor, Mr Carlos G. Camacho, has resolutely refused to allow gambling.

The Mayor of Saipan, Mr Vincente Sablan, expects all hotels to install the machines. Three hotels already qualify for permits—the Royal Taga, the Hafa Adai and the Continental.

Most visitors to Guam and Saipan are Japanese. The average stay in Guam is 4½ days as a package deal, which includes an overnight stay in Saipan. The "bandits" could reverse that trend. Guam in 1973, had about 200,000 visitors; Saipan had about 56,000.

A temple bell goes home

A bell cast in 1690 for a temple in Japan, and which was in a temple in Saipan for about seven years, is now back with its owners, returned via Saipan and America. The temple in Tokyo housed the bell for 154 years, and was then burned down. The new temple had no bell-tower, so the bell, the Genkakuji Bell, was kept in storage till 1937, when it was lent to the Nanyooji Temple in Saipan, where there was a small colony of Japanese.

When Saipan fell to the Americans during World War II, the bell was scarred by shrapnel and holed by a bullet. It was "souvenired", by a serviceman, and taken to America. The Buddhist authorities searched for it, but no trace could be found till 1965, when a Japanese woman, married to an American, saw it in Texas.

It disappeared again, and was not found till 1973, when the temple authorities traced it to a collection belonging to an Oakland businessman, Mr Donald V. Clair. Mr Clair, on learning the Buddhists wanted it back, gave it to the Buddhist Church of America for return to Japan. It was handed over to the traditional owners at a ceremony at Nihonmachi, the Japanese centre in San Francisco. On the bell are engraved the names of the 300 people who gave the bell to the temple. Mr Clair's name has now been added as a latter-day donor.

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Islands' stake in Europe

'COME VISIT US' SAYS MARA TO THE COMMON MARKETEERS

From a Suva correspondent

Doubts about the future of key exports in major markets should disappear for Fiji, Western Samoa and Tonga in February, 1975. The three countries are likely to be associate members of the European Economic Community by then. That status would give them access, with some strings attached, to a market of upwards of 250 million people for sugar and copra, as well as other commodities.

Two officials from EEC headquarters in Brussels recently visited Fiji. They were Mr Michael Laidler, head of the Pacific and Caribbean Affairs Department, and Mr Pirzio Biroli, head of the Department for Development Aid and Co-operation. The invitation to visit Fiii was issued by the Fiji Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, who said it was "high time" EEC delegates visited the Pacific.

Fiji, Western Samoa and Tonga are among 44 nations from the Caribbean, Africa and the Pacific, seeking associate status with the EEC. They are expected to sign an agreement with the EEC by October next. Papua New Guinea may come into the picture later. Mr Laidler, after his Fiji visit, made a brief call at Port Moresby. He had informal talks with the Chief Minister, Mr Michael Somare, the Minister for Defence, Foreign Relations and Trade, Mr Albert Maori Kiki, and senior officials. Mr Kiki said later the talks were exploratory only, as the government wished to consider all possibilities before making any firm arrangements with the EEC.

Mr Laidler and Mr Biroli, in Suva, were cautiously optimistic about Fiji's formal association with the EEC. Two obstacles, which could be overcome were the conditions under which the EEC would buy sugar and copra. The beet growers of Europe once opposed the admission of 1.4 million tonnes of cane sugar bought each year by Britain from Commonwealth suppliers. Now they agreed there might be room for that sugar.

But Fiji, Western Samoa and Tonga looked like losing their European markets for copra under the EEC proposals for admitting commodities. Those proposals envisaged

Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara.

minimum prices as compensation if the world price dropped below a fixed level. Mr Laidler said that recent developments, while not guaranteeing a preferential treatment for copra, meant that any final export stabilisation scheme would not automatically exclude it.

Mr Biroli explained benefits available to associate members of the EEC, and also to non-members. The EEC nations had contributed $US800 million in the first five years of aid to associates, and $US1,000 million in the second five-year term, which would end this year. Ninety per cent was in outright grants and 10 per cent in loans. The EEC preferred to make grants as loans were not real aids. If they were made, they were for economic projects, at interest rates as low as one per cent for 30 to 40 years, with a 10 to 15 years period of grace before repayments started.

The EEC would help to contribute part of the interest payments, if associates took out an ordinary market loan.

One category of special grant is for regional groupings of associated countries. Some countries in a region, even though not associate members of the EEC, would become eligible.

The EEC also had a disaster fund for associate countries hit by such catastrophes as earthquakes, hurricanes and drought.

There are some strings, however, to associate status. This can be described as equal treatment in several areas, except where there is some benefit given to developing neighbours in a regional agreement. Tariffs imposed by Fiji, for example, on goods from Australia, New Zealand or Japan, or other nearer non-EEC countries should not be lower than those for EEC countries. But to encourage regional trade, tariffs could be lower for places like Western Samoa, Tonga and other nearby island groups.

Soon after the EEC officials visited Fiji, Britain reaffirmed to Commonwealth partners, including Fiji, its commitment to securing satisfactory long-term arrangements for the access of Commonwealth sugar to the EEC. Mr Fred Peart, UK Minister of Agriculture, said that was Britain's position when he formally opened a three-day conference of ministers and officials from Commonwealth sugar-producing countries in the Pacific, Caribbean, Africa and Asia. Fiji was represented by the High Commissioner in London, Mr Josua Rabukawaqa, and other officials.

Mr Albert Maori Kiki.

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Pacific Harbour resort making progress

Southern Pacific Properties Ltd expects the new Beachcomber Hotel at Deuba, Fiji, to contribute to group profits in 1974. In 1973 it did not.

The company's profit for the year ended December 31, 1973, was equivalent to $A3.1 million compared with $A3.02 in 1972.

The board reported that the company's major development, the 7,500-acre Pacific Harbour resort at Deuba, showed considerable progress. The major engineering and construction of the first 1,150 acres were completed, and the first tourists were accepted at the Beachcomber Hotel.

"The hotel's primary function during the year was to operate as a showcase for the overall development and as a result was not profitable," the directors said.

During 1973, a major study of Fiji tourism, financed by the United Nations and the World Bank, forecast a continued increase in tourists, which could result in 800,000 visitors in 1981 compared with the current 200,000.

"This dynamic growth of tourism will reflect, in turn, on Pacific Harbour in its role as the major centre for Fiji tourism," the directors said.

Tonga baits the hook for investors

Tonga is having a close look at attracting foreign investment to provide employment. It has several inducements to offer, such as cheap labour, good leasing arrangements and an embryo tax plan, which is almost as good as a tax holiday.

The idea behind the tax plan is that there should be a flat registration tax every year, after which earnings would be tax free. Added to that is the fact the overseas companies have always been able to remit profits, and difficulties for new companies are unlikely.

A number of Tongans are now learning manufacturing skills in New Zealand, and when they return home they will provide the nucleus of at least a semi-skilled pool of labour. Government officials consider Tongan industry could import processed materials and make them into finished articles.

Meanwhile, the Tongan budget for 1974-75 provides for record expenditure of $T6.57 million, but makes provision for two major projects which have attracted wide attention—the establishment of a jet airline and infrastructure and purchase or charter of a 76,000-ton ore carrier.

It looks like a serious conference but Mr Ron Haddock (left), new manager of the Isa Lei Hotel on the Queen's Road outside Suva, the outgoing manager Mr Les Pearson and training manager Mr Isireli Kini look on as Mrs Pearson admires a wooden turtle given to her as a farewell present by the hotel staff. The hotel, from the air ,looks like a giant turtle. Mr Pearson is taking over management of the Tusitala Hotel in Western Samoa.

The expenditure side of the budget is estimated at $T4.6 million for various departments, and $T1.97 million for development. The $T4.6 million is an increase of more than $T1.13 million over the 1973-74 expenditure, and includes an estimated deficit of more than $T68,000.

Revenue is estimated at $T2.38 million from foreign trade taxation, $T1.08 million from government services, $T310,000 from domestic direct taxes, $T201,400 from indirect taxes (interest and rents) and $T12,826 from capital receipts.

The biggest undertaking to be financed from development funds is the new district hospital for Ha'apai, for which $T250,000 has been allocated. But this will not go ahead till overseas aid is available. Housing will get $T246,705, but $T141,680 of that will be used to buy a larger residence for the High Commissioner in the UK.

Some other development undertakings are: Extension of Dateline Hotel, $T200,000; tourism, $T213,700; civil aviation, $T173,331; agriculture and forestry, $T118,610; roads, $T102,400.

Major departmental allocations are: Education, $T692,242; health, $T615,815; Prime Minister's office, $T510,156; works, $T397,989.

Tuna fishing project for Truk

A foreign business permit has been granted to the Truk Development Corporation to set up a skipjack tuna fishing enterprise. The catch will be processed in Truk. The principal place of business will be on Uman Island, in Truk Lagoon. The corporation plans, initially, to operate five fishing boats with an estimated minimum catch of 7,000 tons a year.

There are several conditions attached to the permit. The corporation will be required to start fishing within seven months, otherwise the permit will be subject to revocation, and fish must be sold locally. Only after local needs are met will the company be able to export fish.

The managing director of the corporation is Mr Kenneth J. Robinson, of Tokyo, who is also an officer of the Kendel Corporation, a US company. Micronesian officers of the company are Messrs Robert Narruhn and Enis Nedelic.

Solomons enjoy a trade boom

The Solomon Islands are enjoying a trade boom, mainly through the continued high prices for copra. Should copra prices remain high the protectorate, in 1974, could have its first trade surplus for many years.

But in 1973, the main export was timber, which earned $3.894 million in foreign exchange. Copra prices started to rise strongly in the second half of 1973. Earnings for the whole year from copra were about $3 million; the earnings of about $1.4 million for the last quarter of 1973 showed how prices boomed.

Fish exports were next to timber and copra, and were worth $1.538 million. Timber, copra and fish made up 92 per cent of the total domestic

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exports for 1973, compared with 94 per cent in 1972.

Imports for 1973 were valued at $11.3 million and exports at $9.6 million. In the second half of the year exports overtook imports—$6.6 million against $5.7 million.

Australia's domination of the import market increased, probably because the world fuel crisis meant fewer ships trading between the Solomons and Japan and Hong Kong. The value of Australia imports was $5.132 million, compared with $5.097 million in 1972. Australia supplied 45 per cent of the imports in 1973, compared with 42½ per cent in 1972. The UK was second with imports valued at $1.772 million, and Japan third with $1.556 million.

Japan is still the biggest customer of the BSIP. She took 54 per cent of the exports in 1973, compared with 57 per cent in 1972. Those exports included most of the timber and fish. Exports to British Commonwealth countries increased from 16 to 20 per cent.

Tonga revives its first co-op

The first co-operative society in Tonga registered under the Agricultural Organisation Act has been revived after a period in the doldrums caused through members' apathy. The society, the Toahola Co-op Produce Marketing Consumer Society Ltd, was founded by Mr Paula Halatoa Fua, who had been in Fiji and seen co-operative societies operating.

He started the society with 10 members and water-melons, which helped to realise enough money for a banana venture. In 1966, the society was producing enough bananas to build a packing shed. In 1967, a tractor was bought, in 1968 an office was added to the packing shed, and in 1970, the society bought a bus.

Then apathy set in. The members became very lackadaisical about growing produce, and financial difficulties mounted. The society attracted the attention of the Co-op Development Department, which did not wish to see such a promising venture fail. After a series of meetings the society has been rejuvenated. The bus has been sold, efforts have been made to settle all debts, and the office has been converted into a store, with a society member as storekeeper.

Now with a proper bookkeeping system and an enthusiastic membership of 23, the society, with Mr Fua as chairman, looks to better things.

The latest thing in nutcrackers

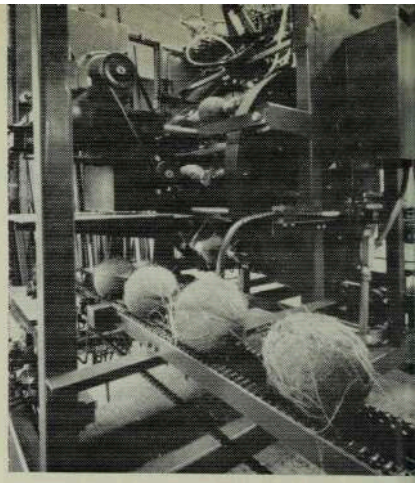
Cutting copra by hand is a tedious, and expensive task. Some attempts at mechanisation have been made over the years, without any conspicuous success. Now Goodrich Products, of El Segundo, California, has designed a machine for Tonga, which eliminates all hand shelling, leaving a snowball of white meat intact and the water still inside.

The machine, a "coconut lathe" has a production rate of more than one millions units a year, says Goodrich. Now plans are under way to establish a pilot plant in American Samoa with a capacity of 20 million lb of desiccated and fresh frozen coconut a year.

It would be interesting to learn what happened to the mechanical copra-cutter invented by a French-Tahitian, Mr Henri D. Rey, more than 20 years ago. The inventor claimed his machine, operated by an unskilled man, could put through 5,000 nuts in an eight-hour day. A fast operator could better 8,000 nuts in the same time. The machine split the coconut and then gouged out the flesh in a second operation.

No (fruit) flies on Niue's passionfruit

The Niue Island Development Board has taken delivery of two new high-powered spraying units to improve its regular lime and passionfruit spraying programme. The Australian-made units have a 400 gallon tank which holds the spray mix under constant agitation, spray regulation controls and a spraying platform all mounted on a trailer chassis, which is towed by a tractor. The whole spray unit body is fibreglass ensuring resistance to climatical conditions, and lightness during operation. The



actual spraying is done by two operators on the rear spraying platform, and the thrust can be varied from a full throttled needle burst to a fine mist. The sprays have been introduced into the spraying programme, and already are ensuring better coverage of trees and vines over a given area, as well as better individual plant cover.

The Niue Development Board and the Agriculture Department are encouraging more and more growers to join passionfruit schemes aimed at high production and high quality. The success of passionfruit pulp on the New Zealand market has been immediate, and now more areas are being planted out to cope with increased sales. The board owns and operates a modern juice and pulp processing factory on the island which prepares passionfruit and limes for export.

Often the passionfruit vines are grown under the most difficult conditions. Vines are planted in pockets of soil located among the outcrops of coral which are typical of Niue. But they respond to care and attention, and are producing well.

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PORNBROKERS BEAT THE FILM CENSORS

From VIJENDRA KUMAR in Lautoka

Fiji's film censors are waging a losing battle against a flood of semi-pornographic films and others depicting "explicit" scenes of violence. Theatre owners continue importing them despite the censors' scissors. Film fanatics pack theatres to see these films, even though cuts by censors often give a disjointed version of usually pretentious plots.

Much in vogue are karate films which virtually show nothing but 90 minutes of gore and mayhem with little that could pass as a story. Likewise, films showing frontal female nudity and sex scenes attract huge crowds. One such film, Cherry, Harry and Raquel, ran for more than a week at a Lautoka theatre.

Politicians and religious leaders have been hitting out at these films, blaming them for poisoning the minds of youth through the glorification of violence and depravity. The police say that the high increase in the national crime rate is due to films which portray sophisticated techniques of committing crime.

A veteran detective told me that thieves and burglars these days not only used special burglary kits but organised their crime well. They "cased" the place they planned to rob, had get-away cars with dare-devil drivers and, in some cases, used speedboats to cover their tracks.

All said and done, films provide the only cheap form of entertainment for a vast majority of the people. Probably the greatest film fanatic is the bored Indian suburban wife who seldom misses an Indian film.

Indian films are a different kettle of fish from the usual English fare. They uphold traditional Indian standards of morality and never portray explicit sex scenes or excessive violence. Even kissing is taboo. But virtually all Indian films, which may run from two to three and a half hours, are purely escapist in theme and have little relation to reality.

And yet, they are the biggest money makers. One top film ran at the same theatre for six weeks. All Indian movies basically have a love story as their theme interspersed with numerous songs and dances which can be utterly boring to the uninitiated.

They draw their biggest crowds at matinees. Schoolgirls and their beaux will cut classes to meet clandestinely in a dark corner of the theatre. They form liaisons which result in expulsion from the school and early marriages forced by outraged parents.

Housewives have been known to pawn their valuables to merchants in the town to pay for a few hours' fun watching the silver screen. A woman colleague tells me that wives would sometimes tell lies to their husbands and ask for money to go to the hospital or a shop and then sneak into a theatre.

Besides the legitimate films screened in theatres, Fiji has its own little illicit trade in porn flicks. A few small groups exist in Suva and Lautoka which have private viewing at homes or at secret meeting places.

These are usually 8 mm films which are imported from America, Hong Kong and European countries. Travellers from Fiji often bring them in without much problem because of an easy customs entry system. Others come in spools of magnetic tape or in hollows cut out in thick books sent as parcel post.

The dictum that forbidden fruits are sweet is probably responsible for attracting so much attention to such filth. I remember reading an article in an American magazine reporting that theatres there which specialised in screening pornographic films had to close after a year or two. The reason? The audience finally just got bored. Perhaps Fiji should experiment with the idea.

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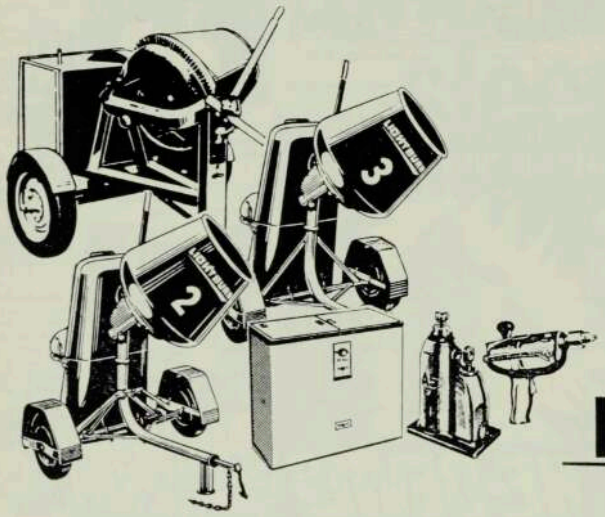

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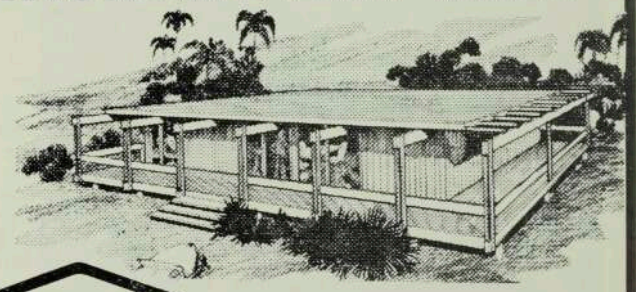

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NO, NO AND NO AGAIN TO SAMOAN ELECTIONS

From a Pago Pago correspondent

The voters of American Samoa have, for the third time, rejected a proposal to elect a governor and a lieutenant-governor by popular vote. The result of the June 18 referendum was close, with 2,093 (47 per cent) voting for the proposal and 2,341 (53 per cent) voting against. However, 21 per cent of the registered voters failed to vote.

This marks the third time in recent years that American Samoans have turned down proposals which would have led to local election of governors and lieutenant-governors. Both positions are currently filled by appointment from the Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C. In 1973 only 34 per cent of the voters favoured the proposal and in 1972 the issue was favoured by 17 per cent of the registered voters.

The idea of electing their own governor is beginning to appeal to the Samoans, however. The gap between the ayes and the noes has narrowed from 66 per cent in 1972, when the first vote was taken, and 32 per cent in 1973 to a mere six per cent in the June election.

American Samoa's Office of Samoan Affairs and various local groups made great efforts to interest voters in the election and sent voter registration teams into every village to sign up qualified voters. However, total voter registration was down from previous elections. The failure of voters to cast ballots may be an expression of disinterest on the part of many people who feel that there have been too many elections on the issue in recent years.

Secretary of the Interior Rogers C. B. Morton had indicated that he would, if the issue passed, call for the first popular election of the governor and lieutenant-governor in 1976. Plans are now uncertain.

American Samoa's Governor John M. Haydon, who has repeatedly said that he intended to be the last-appointed governor, has not commented on the election. However, in an interview in his home city of Seattle (Washington) shortly before the election, Haydon called American Samoa "an anachronism in the American political system." He told Associated Press, that "other territories are changing to an elected governor. I hope we do too." Haydon also said that the Department of the Interior would not order a popular election, "because," he said, "we don't want to force on them something they don't want."

Reaction to the results of the election was mixed and local political analysts were at a loss to explain the meaning of the vote or the reasons for the failure.

Local political activist Roy T. Hall said voters were confusing the elected governor issue with independence from the United States. Hall also felt that many people were looking beyond the basic question of electing a governor to the issue of who would be governor. "I would suggest that Interior have an independent group—such as the Harris Poll people—conduct a survey in American Samoa on the simple question of electing a governor and lieutenant-governor," Hall said.

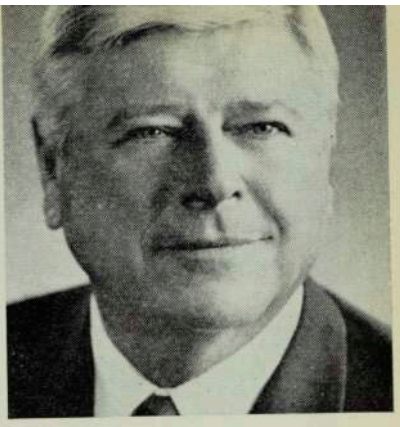
Senate President Salanoa S.P. Aumoeualogo, who supported the proposal, said Washington should consider the change in the number of people supporting the issue in the June 18 election. "Washington has to consider the small difference in this election," he said, "and be guided by that fact." With that in mind, President Salanoa suggested that "the congress should go ahead and enact a law calling for the election of a governor." He also indicated that he felt that Washington would appoint a Samoan governor, after Haydon, but cautioned that this should be done "with the approval of the Legislature."

In the previous two elections the question of an elected governor has been part of other issues on the ballot and some critics have maintained that this caused confusion of the issue and, thereby, the failure of the proposal. In 1972, the issue was part of a series of propositions, including a constitutional revision, longer legislative sessions, and a salary increase for members of the legislature. All failed.

In the 1973 election, a package of constitutional revisions was offered to the voters on an all-or-nothing basis. This also failed.

The June 18 election, however, was a simple "yes" or "no" vote on the single question: Shall the people of American Samoa elect a governor and lieutenant-governor by popular vote?

Though there are no clear-cut reasons for rejection of more internal self-government, especially at a time when other territories, and other Pacific nations, are on their way to self-government, some feel that American Samoa would lose the massive doses of federal aid that it now receives if a Samoan were elected governor. Both the Department of the Interior and members of congress have told them this would not happen.



Secretary of the Interior, Morton . . . would have called elections in 1976.

Others fear that an elected Samoan governor would pack the government payrolls with members of his own family, in a sort of spoils system. While this may be a valid fear, it is not likely to happen. Part of this problem lies, perhaps, in the failure of political parties to develop in the territory. Political parties, which could offer the voters definite positions on subjects, would effectively divide family blocs and serve to replace the family as the total holder of political loyalty. Political candidates now run on their family village and direct strengths and not on political issues.

It is an almost forgotten fact that there was a Samoan governor in American Samoa—Peter T. Coleman, from Nu'uuli who was the Governor of American Samoa from 1956 until early in the Kennedy administration. During that time the territory continued to function and was not without funds. Coleman is now the Deputy High Commissioner of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and is often mentioned as a possibility for governor again.

Still other persons feel that the territory should attempt to upgrade its political status before electing its own governor. The territory is now an unorganised, unincorporated possession of the United States and American Samoans are classed as US Nationals, not citizens. The first obvious step in this direction, would be an organic act, but this is not likely to happen.

It seems that the people of American Samoa will continue to be content with governors appointed by Washington and to avoid the responsibility of self-government, at least for the foreseeable future.

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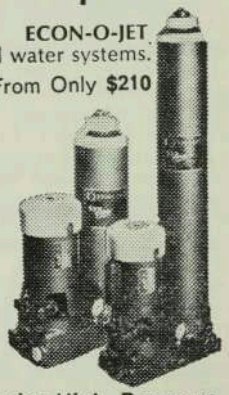

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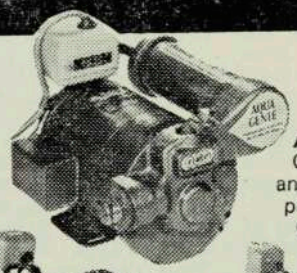

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The Editor's Mailbag

MINDLESS CLAPTRAP

I, for one, am sick of the mindless claptrap being sung to sycophants by the chiefs of state of "newly-emergent nations".

The most recent example, in late May, was the imposing figure of the Prime Minister of Fiji in Papua New Guinea proclaiming the brotherhood of his and Principal Minister Somare's tribes. The Prime Minister even invented some history, referring to an ancient intercourse between their ancestors! Any serious historian knows that such intercourse, if it had existed at all, would have consisted of barbeques rather than barter. The fragile Melanesian boats carried spears and cooking pots, not treaties and cultural missionaries.

All this nonsense would be laughable if it were not being used by Melanesian politicians on gullible people to create a fictitious historical unity, the objective of which is to steal the lands and businesses of non-indigenes settled in their respective islands. On the one hand the gifted leading ministers urge their former patrons—and everybody else—to pass out millions of dollars as "guilt offerings" to the new sovereign states and simultaneously they kick the citizens of these former patrons—Australia, New Zealand, Britain and France—in a tender spot by "localising" and nationalising the lands and businesses of these expatriates. Have these great leaders no pride? Have they no sense of justice?

Fiji Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara (left) and PNG Chief Minister Mr Michael Somare at a state dinner in Port Moresby. Ratu Mara, alleges Mr L. N. Nevels jr, "even invented some history".

The popular hymn of these new leaders is "hate the white man". This hatred is based on the occasions—some of which undoubtedly occurred—of patronising pomposity and some cases of outright cruelty toward the ancestors of the present Melanesians by the predecessors of the present non-Melanesian owners and entrepreneurs. Without doubt some lands now owned by non-Melanesians were acquired for less than fair value—indeed by outright theft by these predecessors.

However, let us face facts. There is not an acre of land in all of Melanesia, or of any other country, which over the past milleniums has not been stolen or acquired by trickery or massacre from some prior owner.

It is not very logical to hate the posterity of despoilers; but at least let us be consistent. Let us hate as much the posterity of the principal despoilers of the Melanesians—the Melanesians themselves! Of course, what it boils down to is that the Europeans (and the Chinese) are a visible minority in Melanesia and their ancestors were the most recent "despoilers"; thus it is easy to direct all hatred toward them! And let us continue the inconsistency of this hatred with the equally illogical casting away of Melanesian pride by begging dollars from the previous rulers (while kicking out their citizens).

If this be nationhood and leadership, then an old Byzantine expression is fitting—Bosh!

I respectfully suggest to the new "leaders" of the South Pacific that they quit seeking scapegoats for their own inadequacies and just plain get themselves and their peoples to work on the economies of their countries—now sliding from bad to grim. Making flowery speeches to each other and naming parks in honour of each other will not solve the real problems of the real world, any more than would stealing the most productive lands and enterprises from expatriates.

Who knows, some of these expatriates may just kick back, with or without the lily-livered support of their home governments.

L. N. NEVELS, Jr.
Honolulu, Hawaii.

WE'RE GREAT PRINTERS!

I have been following the articles in PIM very closely on the subject of status for American Samoa and the US Trust Territory. During the early forties, I, and some millions of other Americans, became very familiar with the area—a "GI vacation". For myself—Saipan, Tinian and the Philippines. I wish to compliment you on a fine reporting job.

PIM has come a long way since I first became aware of it in the Philippines in 1946. Now four colour printing of superb quality. I'm in the business and I know fine printing when I see it!

E. J. MURNANE,
Vice-president,
E. H. Brown Advertising Agency.
Chicago, Illinois.

AUST-NZ UNION

As a New Zealander I cannot allow Mr Teitler's letter to go unchallenged (PIM, June, p 28), and I am sure he would not wish it so. While I have the impression that Mr Teitler was writing with "his tongue in his cheek", I would suggest that his observations about New Zealanders wishing to join their country to Australia have no foundation in fact.

In the first place, the origin of the two peoples are quite different although they may have originated in the same country. I am sure that Mr Teitler will forgive me for reminding him that the original settlers of Australia were hardly volunteers, as was the case with New Zealand. The New Zealand pioneers fought for their country against our Maoris—and the descendants have since attempted to repay for the consequence of the battles. Whereas in Australia the Aborigines are still fighting for their civil rights the Maori in New Zealand enjoys exactly the same educational, social, and political opportunities as the European.

Secondly, the two countries are separated by a vast body of not always friendly water and such physical separation would hardly be conducive to a happy partnership. If Mr Teitler had studied his history he would have known that the alliance had already been tried, with unfortunate results.

Thirdly, the methods of government in the two countries are quite different: it has been said that Australia has one of the best government systems in the world, having formed her constitution from the best of Great Britain and the United States of America. But Australia's system

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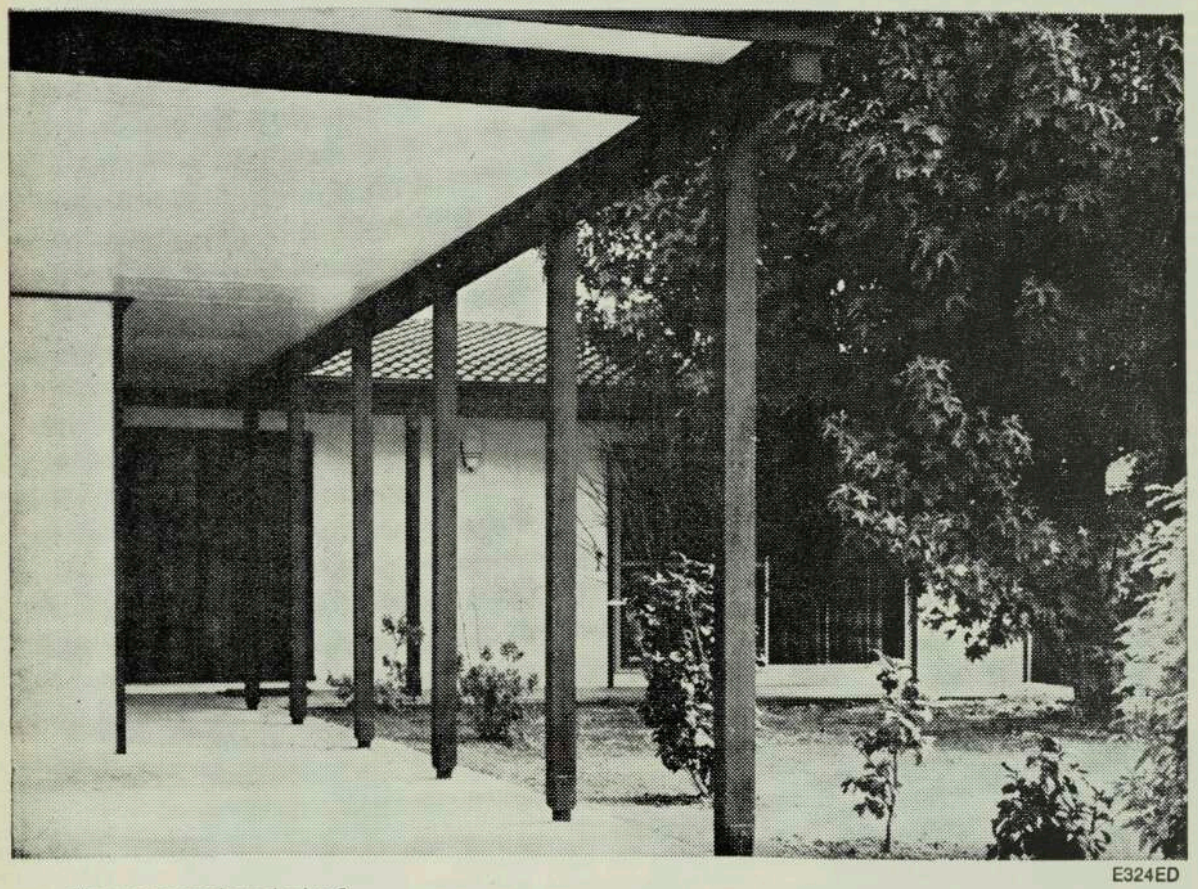

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Letters

of government, with its complexities, would be too much for the simple New Zealander.

It is possible that Mr Teitler has been misled or has been incorrect in his interpretation of the remarks made to him. Here is a nation which has much in common with Australia: natural resources, hard-working people, vast areas of land, cosmopolitan population, similar government problems, just as many restless unions and labour shortages —and plenty of hot air. The question in many New Zealanders' minds (I cannot speak for all my countrymen) is not "when will New Zealand join the Commonwealth of Australia?" but "when will Australia become the next state of the United States of America?"

Mr Teitler may have been better employed in drawing our attention to the rather peculiar attitudes of our Pacific Islands friends. While Fiji and Samoa are actively denouncing the deportation by Australia and New Zealand of illegal immigrants, the same nations are just as vociferously expecting these countries to assist them with their annual budgets. It seems appalling to me that small Island territories are gaining independence and yet expect their associate bigger nations to carry on contributing to their mismanaged economies. This is true not only of the Cook Islands (who, in my opinion, are the worst offenders) but also of Fiji and, to a lesser extent, Western Samoa and Tonga. Fiji, in particular, has followed the Cook Islands example of reducing the number of Europeans who may work in her islands —and many of these Europeans have assisted to give Fiji its present economic independence, such as it is. I notice that the rot is now setting in in British Solomon Islands as well. Surely one of the prime moves in the Pacific Area should be the free exchange of peoples, irrespective of colour, creed, or nationality.

In conclusion, may I say thank you, thank you, Stuart Inder! Your timely, accurate, and honest observation on the New Hebrides is the best thing that has been written about these islands. Of all the peoples in the Pacific who need both economic aid and friendly assistance, it is the New Hebrideans. Here again, the self-centred interest of the smaller Pacific territories is evident. The New Hebrides has been overlooked too long—not only by the rest of the world but also by its sister islands in the Pacific.

OLEG WHIMP.

Luganville,
New Hebrides.

NAURUAN WORKERS

To all those interested in Nauruan affairs, Mr Keke's reply (PIM, May, p 29) to Mr Deiye's letter (PIM, March, p 15) raises some interesting questions about President DeRoburt.

Mr Keke forecasts that negotiations the Nauruan Workers' Organisation (NWO) will have with President DeRoburt will be "tough and gruesome". Why? Has the President, since he first fought for the Nauruan workers, changed sides and sympathies? Does he not now see the wisdom in paying Nauruans a reasonable salary to live on, and Nauruans with European skills, commensurate salaries?

As long as the government displays a distressing lack of concern for its skilled workers, expatriate labour will be "permanent stop-gap" —at least until the phosphate runs out!

If the NWO has "tough and gruesome" negotiations with the President, it will not be because their claims are unreasonable but because the President, who is never on the island long enough to catch any of the local epidemics, has lost his feeling for those who are. In which case the old saying that 'power corrupts' will ring true on Nauru.

A. M. KANANI.

Melbourne, Vic.

CAMPUS WILD MEN

It is unfortunate that PIM has not been above the Fiji Times in its story about University of the South Pacific students headed: "Wild Men of the Campus" (PIM, April, p 16).

The Fiji Times (the source of your story) had sensationalised and distorted out of proportion the incidents it reported.

As a student, I would like to give my perspective on the incidents:

- The alleged "fight between Indian and Samoan students . . . with the Indians producing cane knives" is totally false because it never occurred. The story is based on an incident between one Indian and a Samoan student in August, 1973. The

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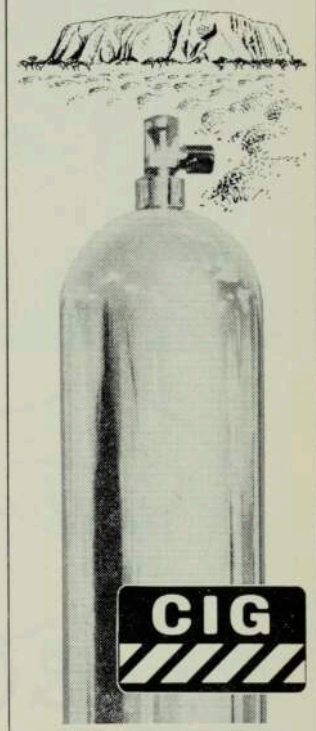

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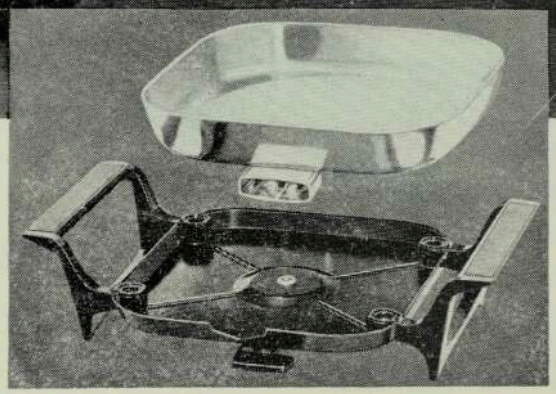

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Letters

two students settled their differences immediately.

● In February, 1974, a small group of Fijian and Samoan students had a fight because of a misunderstanding and this was settled amicably afterwards.

● The Fijian politicians who spoke to a group of students were guests of the Fijian Cultural Society whose visit had been arranged by students (not members of the staff) a long time before and only coincided with the Fiji Times publicity attentions on USP. Their comments were elicited to give the public the impression that relations between students created a grave situation.

● The Fijian student taken to hospital was not "seriously injured". Fights occur almost every weekend at the dance halls and public bars near the Fiji Times office, and yet it twice headlined these and other unrelated incidents at USP (and wrote two admonitory editorials) months after they occurred and had been settled. In giving people a misleading impression and arousing unwarranted alarm and criticisms, the Fiji Times had severely damaged the image of USP and this will take a long time to repair.

The staff members that the Vice-Chancellor chose to listen to before he banned the sale of liquor in the campus had never been to what was supposed to be a Staff/Student club. If the USP Club failed in any way, it was by default of the majority of staff. These are the people whose reactionary attitude is strengthened by hearsay and gossip about students they don't know and incidents which don't affect them. If they had used the club, they might have learnt that "incidents" on campus are solved informally on student initiatives without reference to the USP Disciplinary Committee.

There was no need for the introduction of the ridiculous draconian measures of discipline which the innocent majority now suffer (eg any gathering of more than six people making "excessive" noise can be deemed to be a "party", regardless of the type of beverage consumed, and those involved liable to expulsion!).

Most students feel that the USP Disciplinary Committee — which is virtually composed of members of staff — hasn't any right to impose punishment on them. The Student Council has therefore asked the Vice-Chancellor to reconsider his decision about the USP Club and to accept the formation of a Disciplinary Committee composed entirely of students.

JONE DAKUVULA.
University of the South Pacific,
Suva, Fiji.

In the June issue of PIM, under the section headed Tropicalities, an article was published under the sub-heading Wild men of the campus.

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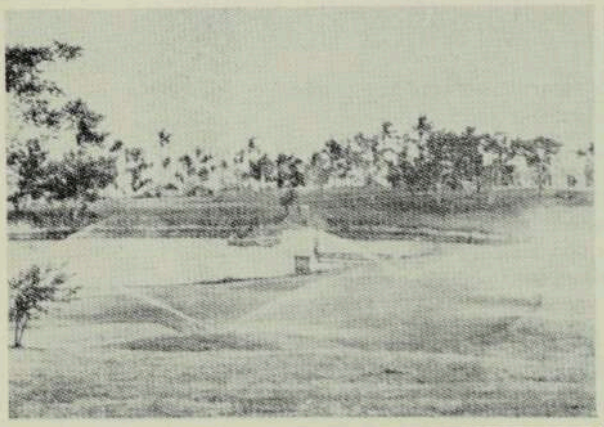

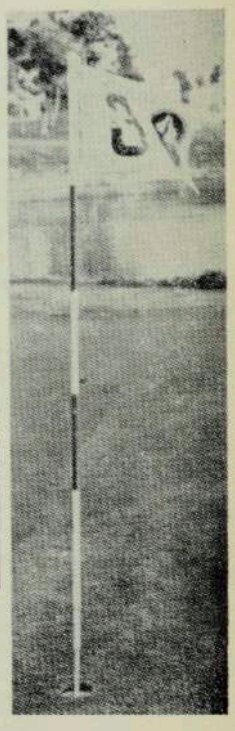

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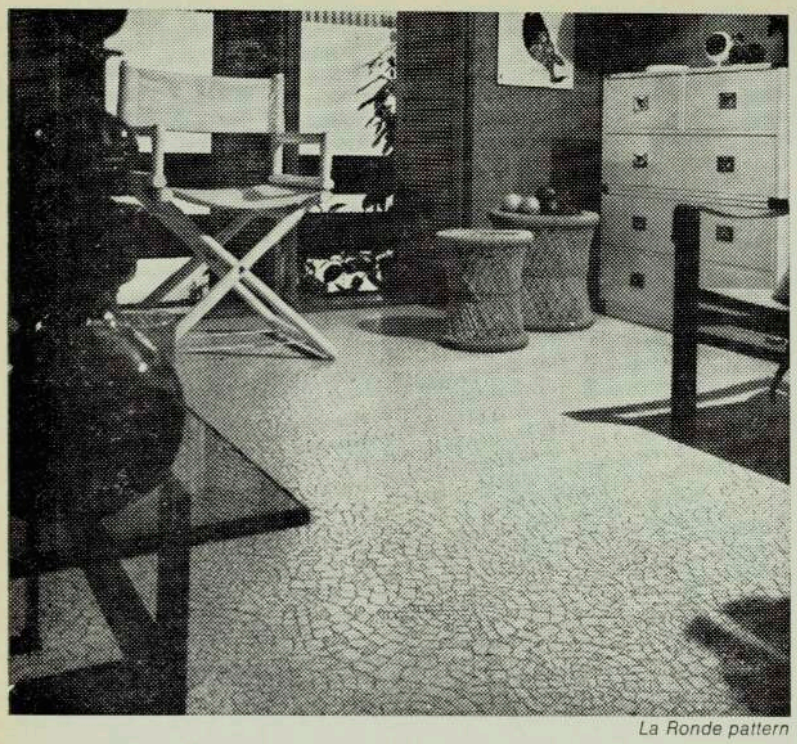

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Association, I cannot let such articles go unchallenged without correcting some of the distortions. The article clearly indicated that your correspondent for the section headed Tropicalities, has deliberately distorted the contents of the press release I made to the Fiji Times on May 22, 1974.

A copy of the release I made to the daily reads:

The University of the South Pacific Students Association is astonished at the information that has been published by the Fiji Times about student activities and other matters related to social life. While it has been very difficult for the USPSA to determine the sources of this information, the press has capitalised on them to create biased views of student activities in the minds of the people of this country.

The USPSA would like to express their views on the recent articles published in the Fiji Times in the following points:

- There has been an overemphasis of the various incidents that do take place on campus. Incidents which have occurred in the existence of this university have been condensed to look as if they took place during the last six months.
- The credibility of the students and their activities has been construed and irresponsibly reported. Consequently, parents have begun to lose their confidence in the university.
- The USPSA appreciates the communicating role of the Press about student activities to the community of Fiji. But we would like that whatever information the people of Fiji get about university students should not be construed and irresponsibly reported.
- The USPSA is not happy with minimal effort of the university administration to clarify the information that has been reported in the Press.
- The USPSA is alarmed at the emphasis that the Press has placed on incidents on campus as being racial. Most of the incidents that develop between students on campus would be the same if the individuals were from the same ethnic groups.
- Most of the constructive activities of students on the campus don't

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Letters

find their way into the limelight of the Press.

ISIKELI MAITAITOGA
(Public Relations Officer, USPSA)
University of the South Pacific,
Suva, Fiji.

THE FIJI BROWNES

I was very interested in an article, Arundel, the shy Cecil Rhodes of the Pacific Islands (PIM, April, p 59).

I remember my grandmother Caroline telling me of Mr Arundel and how my grandfather, Captain Joseph Thomas Browne, used to take him to different islands.

My grandparents were stationed on Starbuck Island and I believe Caroline Island was named after my grandmother. They also lived for a time on Fanning and Vostock islands. My grandfather gathered guano from the different islands and took the shipments to Sydney or New Zealand.

The Brownes had six children, all boys, and all born in the Line Islands. They came to Fiji in the 1870s and took up land from the Chief of Rewa known as Tukiwai, and part of Malata. They cultivated the land and planted cotton, sugar cane and bananas and brought in cattle and pigs.

Capt Browne came from the Isle of Wight and his wife Caroline was the daughter of the Rev Mugridge Orsmond, minister of the London Missionary Society stationed at Tahiti. I would be most grateful for any help in obtaining information about my grandparents' families.

R. F. BROWNE.
Nausori, Fiji.

INFORMATION WANTED

I am engaged in research on Australian trade with the Pacific Islands, particularly Fiji, in the 19th and 20th centuries. If any of your readers could assist me with information about any of the following business firms which had offices in Sydney in the late 19th century and were involved in Pacific trading activities, I should be most grateful:

A. M. Brodziak & Co; W. & A. McArthur; Moore & Moore (W. Marshall Moore was a member of this firm); George Morgan & Co; William E. Morgan (also of Adelaide); Ebenezer Vickery & Sons.

DERYCK SCARR,
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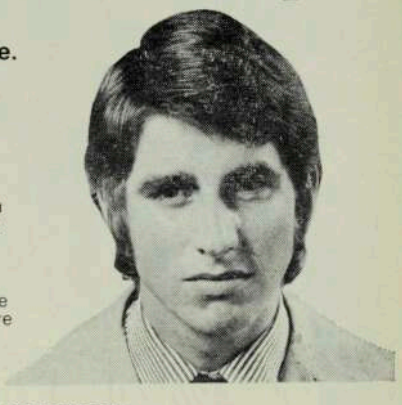

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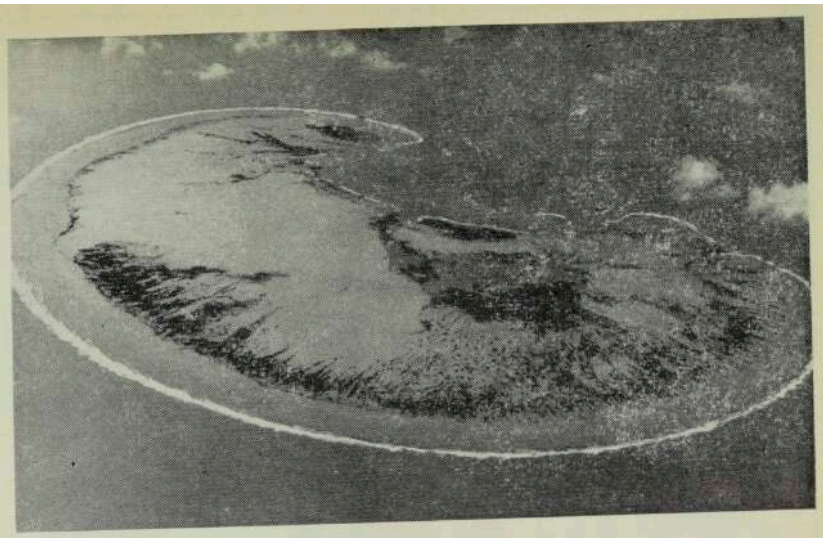
Reef with a horrible history . . .



Middleton, graveyard of the Pacific.

By W. G. COPPELL

Marooned for 44 days on one of the most dangerous and deadly reefs in the South Pacific, Middleton Reef, about 170 miles north of Lord Howe Island, four yachtees, owner-skipper Irfon Nicholas and his crew of three, a youth and two girls, were rescued on June 10 by the well-known fisherman-businessman Peter Warner in his Tonga-based and Tongan-crewed Ata.

The castaways, who had found refuge in the wreck of a Japanese fishing boat high on the reef about a mile from where their yacht, the Sospan Fach had stranded, were in good shape. They had lived on food salvaged from the yacht. Not one of them had any real experience of the sea or survival methods. Yet they came through. They were the luckiest people ever wrecked on Middleton, the graveyard of dozens of ships and scores of mariners and ships' passengers. Others fortunate to escape from the reef had nightmare experiences and sufferings to relate.

Peter Warner put this escapade in its right perspective when he said "So there's nothing heroic about getting people out of trouble at sea. It's been going on since men put to sea in ships. For young people, boys or girls, who are adventurous, this is my advice: Assess the capabilities of the vessel and its captain before venturing into the wild blue yonder".

The four people from this latest wreck were taken from Middleton Reef by Peter Warner and the crew of the Ata hale and hearty after six weeks there when the past history of the reef tells us that they might have been fortunate to have survived six days or even six hours.

Middleton and the companion reef Elizabeth have a history of ensnaring ships and their crews which goes back into the early days of the colony in New South Wales. Middleton was discovered and named on July 20, 1788, by Lieutenant Shortland, on the Alexander as he was returning to England after the voyage of the first fleet.

Captain George Holford of the SS Tofua . . . his habit of examining the reef saved five lives.

Like many of those who followed him in these waters, Shortland fell victim to the vagaries of the ocean currents. The next day he reported the discovery of a new island, with a remarkable peak, which he named Sir Charles Middleton's Island, but it is clear that he had drifted to within sight of Lord Howe Island.

The first vessel reported as having come to grief upon Middleton was the whaler Britannia on August 24, 1806. As the captain deposed, "The sea was then breaking violently upon the ship, so as rendered it impossible to have got her off, or even were it possible to have got her off, she would have sunk immediately. We were then under the necessity of having recourse to our boats to save our lives. The first boat we attempted to lower into the water was unfortunately stove by a surge of the sea, and the lives of the crew were saved with difficulty".

Eventually, the whole crew were able to quit the wreck in the ship's boats, but of the three boats only two survived the voyage to the coast of New South Wales. A close examination of the depositions of the officers, however, cast doubts on the actual location of the stranding and it more than likely was upon Elizabeth Reef, 30 miles to the southward.

The two reefs, like many Pacific Ocean landmarks have had a variety of names. Middleton was also known as Golden Grove Reef after the ship of that name, which sighted the reef on November 10, 1788, when returning to Sydney from Norfolk Island. It is generally thought that Elizabeth

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Reef was discovered by the ships Claudine and Marquis of Hastings in 1820 and that the reef was named after the brig Elizabeth, which is said to have been wrecked there in 1831. However, the circumstantial evidence is that the discovery of Elizabeth was much earlier.

The variant names for this reef are Seringapatam, Clarke and Eliza. The Seringapatam, Captain Edward Clarke, was a letter of marque whaler, the arrival of which is reported in the Sydney Gazette of July 15, 1808. The ship had been aground in the Galapagos and had sailed to Tahiti, where "every possible assistance was rendered by King Pomarree, who housed all her cargo under his own roof". The Seringapatam had captured several prizes and had on board a quantity of prize goods. Later the Seringapatam cruised in company with the whaler Elizabeth, and the Sydney Gazette of July 17, 1808, reported that the Elizabeth had been spoken to in latitude 29 deg south, the approximate latitude of Elizabeth Reef.

Since the demise of the Britannia, a long succession of vessels have met their end on the twin reefs. Among the toll on Middleton have been the Constitution, Defender, Mary Catherine, Mary Lawson, Ramsay, Errol and Annasona, and the more recent Runic and Island Trader, and Elizabeth has claimed among others Askoy, Douglas, Naiad, Packet, Rosetta Joseph and Tyrian.

The accounts of two of these disasters vividly illustrate the menace presented by the reefs and show clearly how fortunate the Sospan Fach people were. The barque Mary Lawson, en route from Sydney to Shanghai was totally wrecked on Middleton on June 10, 1866. The captain, his wife and almost all the crew perished in the wreck. The chief officer, the second officer, a seaman and the carpenter took to the longboat and although they tried to stand by the wreck they were driven to leeward. These survivors made for the Australian coast, which they reached north of Clarence Heads four days later. It is said that the carpenter, afraid that the boat would capsize in the surf, jumped overboard and was drowned. The remaining three survivors made the shore at Clarence Heads, seven days after the wreck.

The most horrendous event occurred on June 15, 1909, when the Norwegian barque Errol came to grief on Middleton. The parallels between the situations of the survivors of the Errol and the Sospan Fach are coincidental and poignant. Both crews survived the strandings, both were near habitable wrecks already resting on the reef, yet stark tragedy came to one group and comic relief to the other.

The survivors of the Errol, who included the captain's wife and four small children, found themselves upon a disintegrating hulk and resolved to try to make their way to the remains of the Annasona, some eight miles away. They set to work to make a raft but the captain and second mate were drowned in the turbulent sea.

The sea was alive with sharks and the Daily Telegraph (July 15, 1909) carried a survivor's account.

"The captain, yes. He was lost launching the raft the first time. We saw legs washed up afterwards. They were his legs. I know they were, because they had his sea-boots on. A head was near. It was his head, I think, but all the hair and the skin, too, was all gone."

Some of the crew managed to reach the precarious shelter of the Annasona, but Mrs Andreassen and her children, and nine seamen including John Lawrence, a seaman of Sydney, remained isolated on the remnant of the stern.

Continued on p 34

. . . AND, MAYBE, A USEFUL FUTURE

By NORMAN BAXTER, staff writer.

Middleton Reef, firm land at low tide only, has had but two claimants.

The first claimants were an official museum expedition. The second were a private expedition.

He was probably unaware of it, but, during his brief and dramatic reign, King Edward VIII had his empire added to in April, 1936, when an expedition from Australia claimed Middleton and Elizabeth reefs, notorious graveyards of many ships, off the east coast of Australia. In 1970, another expedition from Australia claimed both reefs and adjacent waters, and set up the independent state of Middleton with a simple constitution, "Love Thy Neighbour".

With such a constitution, there is unlikely to be any violence, should ownership of the area come into question. The leader of the 1970 expedition, Mr Lex Ure, a Sydney retired public accountant, told PIM in Sydney at the end of June that he would be quite happy if the Australian Government made a deal with him over the "state", which is in international waters.

Before setting out, Mr Ure received advice that Middleton Reef was not part of Lord Howe Island and was not regarded by NSW as part of its state. Australia had not formally lodged a claim to the reef. No other country had claimed it. The question of whether the reef was within the continental shelf was irrelevant because Australia's claim to the shelf related only to the seabed, and did not affect the status of waters above the seabed.

The claim by Mr Ure had its genesis during the oil boom of 1969-70, with its reports that aircraft compasses behaved erratically when over Middleton Reef. He thought that could have been caused by minerals. Perhaps there was oil there. He bought the hulk of the Runic, the Shaw Savill and Albion freighter which went aground on Middleton Reef in February, 1961. In March, 1970, with a team of professionals, he sailed from Brisbane to Middleton Reef in the San Pedro.

Surveys by geologists in the party failed to reveal any traces of minerals or oil. But the beauty of the reef fascinated Mr Ure, who then laid claim to it, on his own behalf and on behalf of those with him. He recorded his claim in the Runic hulk.

The constitution led to a second expedition in September, 1971. Mr Peter Dabbs, who was in charge, installed a light and radio beacon in the Runic and left food there. On the way back to Australia the ketch, One and All, carrying Mr Dabbs and his party, sank in heavy seas. The crew was rescued from a liferaft by a submarine.

Mr Dabbs says there is a problem in replacing the beacon light batteries. These last about 12 months, and cost $250 to replace. Ships' masters sailing from Brisbane to New Zealand have been asked to replace the batteries, but unless the weather is fine they shy clear of the reef.

Mr Ure says that although the survey did not locate oil, the reef could be used as a base for underwater oil or mineral exploration. It has a sheltered harbour, Herald Haven, in which there is an underwater mooring of cement in 44-gallon drums. Herald Haven is from three to eight fathoms deep.

A chart of Middleton Reef made in 1853 during a survey by HMS Herald under Captain H. M. Denham, shows a sloping approach to Herald Haven, which is inside the western horn of the crescent on the north side.

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The accounts of the survivors lack coherence but it is plain that the mother and children suffered cruel deaths. A survivor stated, "The captain's wife saw him drown, she took it quite easy. She never said anything. She just looked and looked. She took it so well. She never screamed. She held her children close to her. She kissed the baby. She was a happy baby. She laughed after her father was drowned".

The Daily Telegraph reported, "The stories of the survivors are conflicting. One man, withering in pain while he told his story in broken sentences, has alone given several versions of the horrors that followed. But certain it is that the unfortunate woman and all her children are dead. One survivor believes that the distracted mother threw the children overboard under the cover of darkness rather than they should be eaten. This proposal was made in an undertone, but the mother seemed to divine that something of the sort was suggested. Lawrence, however, scouted the idea, but next morning all the children had disappeared. That day the mother died."

Of the complement of 22 on the Errol five survived for four weeks, before being rescued by the Union Steamship Company's Tofua, whose captain made a habit of examining the reef in case there were castaways.

● **Only survivors of the Errol (left from the rear) Eilert Jensen, P. Palmer, J. Lawrence, Anders Johansen and Bjorn Oftedal.**

The survivors had some time previously seen the smoke of a steamer, and the captain of the Suva was later to admit that a passenger had brought to his notice that there was a strange wreck on the reef.

"The captain replied that the wreck was an old one, and that sometimes when the tide was low two wrecks could be seen. The course of the Suva was not altered and the incident had passed out of the traveller's mind until today when he read of the account of the tragic fate of the Errol and her crew."

Ralph Stock, a well-known yachtsman cum-author, wrote of Middleton in 1916. "It was worth seeing. Anything more desolate and sinister than this gigantic horseshoe of coral out in the open sea, a menace to every storm-driven ship in a radius of a hundred miles, it would be difficult to imagine."

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PNG's 'simple answer' to price problem

From BARRY WHEELER in Port Moresby

Faced with the spectacle of women battling police in the streets during a violent protest against rising prices, Papua New Guinea has moved hastily to pacify its angry housewives by formulating a long-range plan to reduce the country's dependence on imported foodstuffs.

The protests, which early in June had politicians scurrying for cover before the wrath of the burly Papuan women of Port Moresby (PIM, July, p 7), were widely condemned as both an irresponsible and unlawful method of dramatising their grievances.

The women, wading into battle with a baby in one arm and a placard wielded weapon-like in the other, provided the government with ample proof that not even police road blocks barring the way to Chief Minister Michael Somare's offices would dissuade them from insisting the situation was serious enough to warrant extreme action.

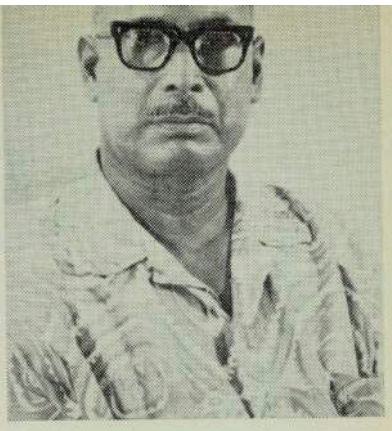
Even the most chagrined of the politicians had to admit they were successful. The government immediately launched an anti-inflation drive which included the withdrawal of a general import levy on foodstuffs and the introduction of a more rigid system of controlling profit margins allowed to wholesalers and retailers.

As a placatory gesture it was more than enough to satisfy the enraged housewives, but the problem of highly priced imported foodstuffs supplementing a relatively meagre domestic production persisted.

The simple answer, according to a plan announced by Agriculture Minister John Guise, was to reduce PNG's dependence on imports by stepping up the domestic production.

This could then be retailed at a much lower cost without the artificial loadings of freight charges and imported inflation.

Should the plan be successfully implemented it will not only provide local producers with higher incomes and enable the housewife to make more purchases from the basic urban wage of $15, but will gradually sweep costly imports off the supermarket shelves.



Dr John Guise . . . we must use our grassland.

The first stage of the Agriculture Department blueprint calls for a more scientific and methodical approach to a traditional style of food production—more or less unchanged since tribesmen began sticking sweet potato plants into a backyard plot centuries ago.

A stock of seed supplies and a variety of suitable vegetables will be built up and dispensed to local growers along with technical assistance and easy access to centralised marketing agencies. The government proposes to construct a number of deep freezer units at strategic points along the coast for the storage of fish and fresh foods which will be collected at regular intervals by a government-chartered ship supplied with financial aid from New Zealand.

Inland agriculture officers will go into the villages to buy fresh foods, then sell the produce themselves or assist local businessmen to market their goods.

To service more remote areas, privately-owned trucks will be hired by the government to transport the vegetables between pre-arranged pick-up and vending points.

The lack of sugar production in Papua New Guinea has long been claimed by the government as a glaring example of Australia's failure to develop properly certain areas of the country during the colonial era.

One of Chief Minister Michael Somare's oft-stated criticisms of Australian stewardship was that it purposely discouraged the creation of a sugar industry so that it could unload a large portion of its own export crop on Papua New Guinea.

Now the government has earmarked $500,000 in the next financial year to establish two plantations and mill complexes as the first step towards commercial production.

Technical advice sought from both Fiji and New Zealand will enable

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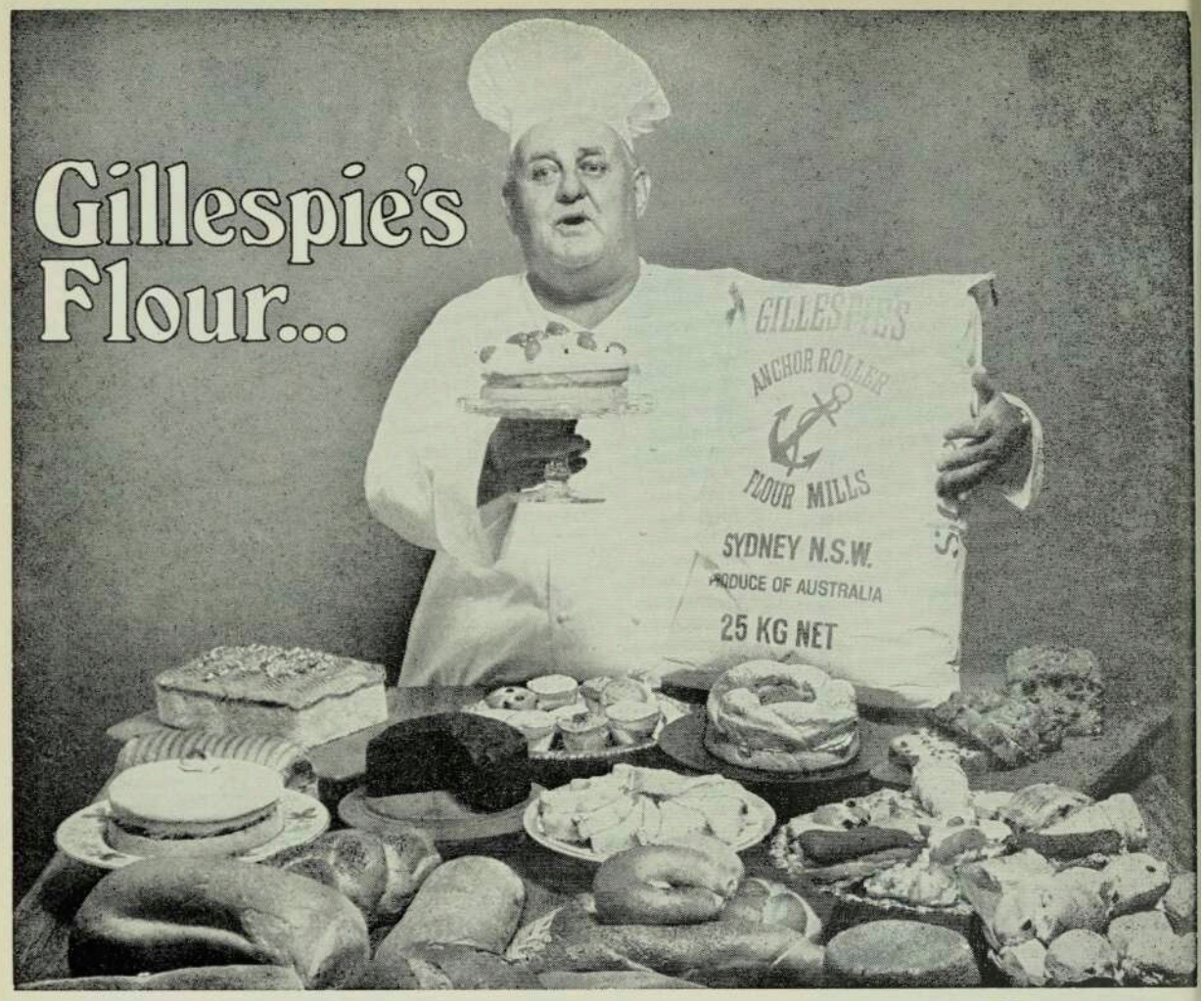

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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY—AUGUST, 1974

ocal planners to determine the mill capacities, location and type of processes to be used for maximum output.

"In the medium term I hope to see Papua New Guinea supply its own sugar needs and in the long term to export sugar," said Dr Guise in a report to the House of Assembly.

The plan states that current beef cattle production numbers 15,000 carcases a year from a total of 150,000 head of cattle compared with imports of about 10,000 carcase equivalents of fresh beef and 40,000 carcase equivalents of canned beef.

With the assistance of a two-stage World Bank Credit, the Agriculture Department is aiming at the replacement of all fresh meat and some canned meat imports with locally-produced fresh and frozen beef by increasing the national cattle herd to 300,000 head by 1982.

"Although there are sufficient breeding cattle available within Papua New Guinea to enable increases of this magnitude to be achieved, the success of the programme will depend heavily on our ability to make use of the thousands of acres of grassland which still remain to be developed in our country," said Dr Guise.

One of the biggest single items on the PNG food bill—and also one of the biggest imports—is rice. According to Dr Guise the growth of the domestic rice industry has been slowed in the past by the poor return to a typical villager who plants an average of one acre for an annual income of about $60. Consequently, village people have drifted into the better paying coffee and cocoa growing industries.

This has resulted in an annual domestic rice production of 2,000 tonnes while consumption is 56,000 tonnes. Moves are already under way to introduce a new, high-yielding variety of rice, but according to experts village growers will not be able to expand their foreseeable rate of production to make PNG self-sufficient in the near future.

By inviting the participation of overseas companies and requesting technical aid from the United Nations, the government hopes to introduce large-scale mechanised and irrigated rice projects to supplement village production.

Also detailed in the plan are recommendations covering poultry, tuna and buffalo. Meanwhile, the Papuan women of Port Moresby, now the self-appointed watchdogs of rising prices, have promised to let the government know in their own fashion if the measures fail to have any effect.—*AAP.*

So perturbed was Chief Minister Michael Somare over the women's campaign against rising prices that, as the picture shows, he took a personal hand along with Finance Minister Julius Chan (left) in checking weights and prices of rice and other food packets bought in Port Moresby stores.

After the joint examination, Mr Somare announced that he had instigated immediate investigations into the retail and wholesale prices of essential foods. He was concerned, he said, that early investigation had revealed apparent disparities between the government's controlled price and the actual price of rice in city retail stores.

His examination, with Mr Chan, of the bags of rice bought by one of his staff at four sample stores in the Hanuabada, Koki, Badili and Kila Kila areas of the city showed that, with one exception, all the bags were sold at 20c a lb, which was above the correct retail price and four of the five bags tested were underweight. Rice should wholesale at 17c a lb and retail at 19c.

"The long-term answer to inflationary problems," said Mr Somare, "is, of course, national self-reliance; for Papua New Guinea to grow and provide its own food needs. That we are not doing this already, in a country as rich as ours, is a comment on past policy priorities."

Later, Mr Chan announced that import levies and profit margins on staple foods were to be cut and stricter price control introduced. Rice, sugar, flour, tinned fish and tinned meat would be exempted from the government's 2½ per cent general import levy. Wholesale and retail profit margins on those items would also be reduced.

At June's end, new food prices were gazetted showing that the reduction in profit margins, along with the abolition of the general import levy on the five listed staple foods, had resulted in reductions of 4c on a 12 oz can of beef; 4c on 1 kg of sugar; 2c on 2 lb packet of flour; 1c on 15 oz tinned fish; and 1c on 1 lb rice.

The voice of Leader of the Opposition Mr Tei Abal was also heard in the clamour. Commenting on a decision to make small increases in the retail prices of 12 items, including butter, flour, corned beef, powdered milk and cooking oil, to offset increased freight rates on cargo carried from Australia, Mr Abal said that was not the best answer to freight rate rises. The government should subsidise staple basics like rice, fish and sugar.

Inflation was an international problem, but Papua New Guinea could have been better prepared if the government had applied itself more to economic development within PNG, instead of to the political development, which was pleasing Australia and the United Nations, but was not immediately necessary as far as PNG's welfare was concerned.

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News in a Nutshell

The dismissal of a Western Samoa public servant, Toleafoa Mataitusi, for alleged drunkenness during working hours led to two inquiries, after which two senior officials of the Health Department, Tuataga Lafaele (managing secretary) and Lamositele Aukusitino (chief accountant), were also sacked. Toleafoa Mataitusi, after his dismissal, had made a long report in which he alleged the other two had used government goods for their own purposes, had employed departmental painters and carpenters for their own work during government working hours and had paid them from government funds. The Public Service Commission, after receiving a report from a commission of inquiry into the matter, dismissed the two men. Mataitusi announced later that he might appeal to the Supreme Court against his dismissal.

CONGRESS MEETS

The Congress of Micronesia was scheduled to meet in special session at Saipan for not more than 15 days beginning on July 23. Members asked for the special session, the first such session since September, 1972. The agenda includes the return and reapportioning of public lands, amendments to the Constitutional Convention Law, congress revenues and future political status. The last-named item could prepare the way for resumption of the political status talks between the Micronesians and the United States. It will be the final session of the Fifth Congress as a general election is scheduled for November with the first session of the Sixth Congress following at Saipan next January.

$3 MILLION WANTED

The Pacific Islands Development Commission is making a major effort to raise $3 million in US federal funds for tuna research. This council consists of the chief executives of Hawaii, Guam, American Samoa and the US Trust Territory. The Trust Territory High Commissioner, Mr Edward E. Johnston, said recently there was room for major investment to tap the vast fisheries resources in the three million square miles of ocean of Micronesia. Major companies in the US and Japan had shown interest in the area.

THRIFTY MICRONESIANS

The remarkable growth of co-operatives and credit unions in the US Trust Territory is shown in statistics for 1973. Gross sales of co-operatives realised $7.7 million, 22 per cent higher than the 1972 figure. More than 12,000 Micronesians own and operate about 50 co-operatives. They have invested about $1 million of their own money in shares, and total assets are valued at more than $4 million. Credit unions made loans of more than $4 million. More than half of them were for home improvements. The average savings for each member are now $325, which is 27 per cent higher than 1972. There are 46 credit unions, owned and operated by more than 10,000 Micronesians, who have savings of $3.4 million in the unions.

NEARLY A WIN!

Fiji is getting close to a rugby victory over one of the majors. On June 11, Fiji went down to the New Zealand All Blacks, by one point, 14-13. The All Blacks scored 10 points in the last five minutes to win. In 1973, Fiji was beaten by one point, 13-12, by the English team on its way for a short tour of NZ.

SOPHISTICATED NIUE

The economy of Niue Island in five years has changed from subsistence plus protein to something more sophisticated involving more imported foods, and consumer durables such as cars and refrigerators, says Mr Don Evans, who left the island recently to return to New Zealand. He was Secretary of the Administrative Department on Niue from March, 1969.

The most notable change he saw in his five years related to people and their living standards. People now had more money to spend, which allowed the private sector of business to develop and expand.

The introduction of the regular air service removed the feeling of isolation which Niue Islanders and expatriates had experienced. All were now pleased to receive a weekly mail from friends and relatives.

Mr Evans returned to New Zealand for a post in the Treasury Department in Wellington. His replacement is Mr A. Armistead, of the NZ Maori and Island Affairs Department. Mr Armistead's appointment is in an acting capacity, suggesting that the post will be localised. The post has been advertised on the island.

PIED PIPER WANTED

A large rat recently threatened Pitcairn Island's links with the outside world. The rat crawled into the ham radio rig of Tom Christian, the island's radio officer, and set up a short circuit. Christian reported there was an explosion in the power supply.

Checking through to find out what had happened, he found the rat. "He was pretty well dried out from the high frequency power that had gone through him," Christian reported. "I removed him and that removed the trouble with the rig."

Rats are a pest on Pitcairn, although by constant trapping, the islanders manage to keep them under control. They infest the gardens, and have a particular preference for sweet potatoes.

JAPANESE BANK FOR SAIPAN

The Bank of Tokyo of California hopes to open a commercial bank on Saipan, "with particular emphasis on servicing and financing of new investment coming into the Trust Territory". The bank has applied to the authorities for a permit. It will also put major emphasis on arranging joint ventures between Micronesians and foreign investors. The bank is the US subsidiary of the world-wide Japanese Bank, which already has a branch on Guam.

PILL GOES RURAL

Papua New Guinea Government intends to take family planning information beyond clinics, where it is mostly based, to villages throughout the country. Advice on contraceptive techniques, at present available mainly for town dwellers, will be offered to villagers.

Dr Nell Muirden, medical officer in charge of family planning in the Public Health Department, recently gave details of contraceptives which would be available. The condom

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would be sold in villages for about a third of the previous price; the pill, the loop, injections, sterilisation and instruction on the rhythm method would be made more widely available.

Rural stores will probably be outlets for some of the contraceptives. Dr Muirden said one drug wholesaler was prepared to sell condoms to store owners at 10 for 50c.

SECOND RETIREMENT

Judge Arthur A. Morrow and his wife, Louise, have left American Samoa for retirement in Sun City, Arizona. Judge Morrow, his wife and two children arrived in Pago Pago in 1937 during the US Navy regime. He was to take two years off from his post as dean of Drake University Law School to serve as Chief Justice at the naval base. They stayed 32 years, the judge after his official retirement in October, 1965 staying on as legal adviser.

SOLOMONS' NEW INDUSTRY

Locally-processed spices have gone on sale in Honiara for the first time. The spices, chillies, turmeric and cinnamon, come from several parts of the Solomons and have been ground and packaged at Greenacres farm, west of Honiara.

The chillies sell for 30c for an eight oz bag, and turmeric sells at 20c for an eight oz bag. Cinnamon costs 20c an oz.

Mr Ollie Torling of Greenacres said the spices were only for local consumption at present because the duty on processed products entering other countries was too high. But hopes are high that negotiations with Fiji for importing some of the spices would succeed.

PNG'S NAVY!

Lieutenant Karry Frank, 28, is the first Papua New Guinea officer to take full-time command of a Royal Australian Navy warship. On June 17 he took over the patrol boat HMAS Ladava from Lieutenant Geoffrey Smith. The ship also carries a Papua New Guinea crew. Lieutenant Frank joined the RAN in 1965.

PREMIER'S BRAINCHILD

Sir Albert Henry, the Cook Islands Premier, has established a committee of senior government officials to review government policies and administration and make recommendations to him. Sir Albert described the committee as the most important one set up since the Cooks became self-governing and said the committee's finding would help the progress of their little nation. Heading the committee is Mr T. C. Clarke.

A garlanded Judge Morrow, a picture taken when he retired "officially" in October, 1965.

PARTY FOR SIR ALBERT

Cook Islands Premier Sir Albert Henry and his wife were guests at a tea party in his office in June to celebrate his 67th birthday and his wife's 65th birthday two days before. The function, arranged by cabinet ministers and government staff, gave Sir Albert the opportunity to make a speech in which he said he was lost for words but managed, so the Cook Islands News said, to bring "tears to most of those present".

FAMILY AFFAIR

There are three sets of brothers in a Fiji men's hockey team at present touring New Zealand. The coach, Harry Apted, a double Fiji international (cricket and hockey), has two sons in the team, Alan and Bill. The other brothers are Steven and Fred Dickson, and Karl and Lloyd Williams.

TAHITI CUTS PRICES

Tahiti is taking new measures to fight the territory's rising prices. Local traders have signed an agreement with the French administration to reduce import taxes and price mark-ups on a list of basic commodities. By this means, importers and retailers have agreed to lower profits in this field by up to 20 per cent. The administration, in turn, will not charge import duty on the items which include basic items most likely to ease the budget of low-income earners such as rice, meat, milk, butter, oil and sugar.

SALVAGING WAR DEAD

Japanese Government officials have arrived at Saipan for talks on the planned salvage of Japanese war dead believed to be buried in a mass grave in the Tanapag Matanza area near the Marpi Plain. The unmarked grave holds the remains of about 2,000 soldiers killed in the last days of Saipan's last battle. The salvaged remains will be cremated and the ashes taken to Japan.

STREAMLINE JOB IN PNG

The PNG Government is planning to streamline and simplify the local government system, PNG's Minister for Local Government, Mr Boyamo Sali, said in Sydney in late June at a graduation ceremony of the fifth local government course for PNG officers at the International Training Institute. This would help council staffs to take on managerial and executive tasks more effectively and speedily. Staffs had a vital part to play in the government's policy of developing rural areas and providing employment with development funds channelled through councils and area authorities.

FLYING COWS

The United States Air Force flew four purebred Santa Gertrudis cattle, a bull and three heifers, from Saipan to Palau in the US Trust Territory. The animals will be used to improve Palau's cattle stock. The Navy also plans to airlift six cattle to Ponape.

PNG FORCES' CUTS

The PNG's Constitutional Planning Committee's recommendation that a commission of inquiry should be held into the relative size of the Defence Force and the Police Force has brought a promise from Minister for Defence Mr Albert Maori Kiki that the proposal will be examined by the government. "The question of the size of a nation's defence force is one which must be reviewed periodically in the light of changing circumstances," he said. He added that the decision to reduce the size of the Defence Force to 3,500 had been taken only after most careful consideration. The government had been careful to ensure that PNG members of the Force were not retrenched and that the Force's localisation programme was not retarded.

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FOOTLIGHTS SHINE ON THE VILLAGE GREEN

From KIRSTY POWELL in Port Moresby

Papua New Guinea now has its first professional theatre company, the National Theatre Workshop Company, and the company has mounted its first production, and gone on tour for the first time.

The truck in which the company travels has been a familiar sight around Port Moresby for some time. It is flamboyantly decorated with a variety of PNG designs, and looks something like a 20th century mobile *haus tambaram*. Lately it has been rattling its way to 20 villages in Central District, and to schools and colleges and even a pub, Bluff Inn, a few miles out of Port Moresby.

Theatre in Papua New Guinea has so far been rather an elitist affair, mostly in English, and largely for expatriate, university, college, and school audiences. The National Theatre Workshop, however, is setting out to create a people's theatre. The two plays in this first production have been workshopped by the whole company, working on very slender scripts. Drawing freely on PNG and Western traditions of mime and dance, costume and mask, legend and humour, they have created two contrasting plays with village audiences mainly in mind: a serious dance mime and a light-hearted slapstick comedy.

The season opened in the sophisticated setting of Port Moresby's new Waigani Arts Centre Theatre, where all mod cons in the way of movable stage, lights, sound equipment, tiered and padded seats, and so on, are laid on. Both plays went over well in this very Western setting, but I for one enjoyed them more the night I spent sitting on the sand in the open space of the Motuan village of Papa. The truck had become a dressing room, and the plays were acted in front of a painted backdrop suggestive of falling leaves, forest and new growth. The village was in darkness, but the company's generator with two floodlights brilliantly illuminated the patch of sand that had become a stage in an open-air theatre.

First on the programme, The Old Leaves Fall, is based on a Northern District creation myth. In the beginning, there was a man and a woman. Then the woman cut her finger, and from two blood-stained leaves which she threw on a pile of leaves, came two children who ventured forth in the world to struggle with the spirits, and to win from them the knowledge of gardening, and hunting, and fishing, and magic. The dance mime which the group achieves after wrestling with this story, is visually and musically beautiful, evocative, and at times baffling: too baffling, I felt, for those not familiar with the story.

William Takaku (left) and Golila Pepe cavort as flying foxes.

And perhaps too eclectic: for the mixture of traditional Papua New Guinean costume and freely-imagined creations is not entirely satisfying. Nevertheless, there is no doubt about the sympathetic response of a village audience to the attempt to visualise and dramatise the Melanesian perception of a world in which spirit and human beings mingle.

The second play, The Evil Firefly, by Alois Jerowai is riotous, but rather long-drawn out fun. It would make a good children's play for Broadway or the West End, complete with foolish school teacher, masked figures, cassowary, crocodile, giant leech, owl and others, though it is a pity that these eye-catching creatures are exposed so briefly in a crowded and somewhat ill-explained episode at the end of the play.

The play tells the story of some village boys frightened of spirits, who, being forced to spend the night

The flamboyant workshop truck which takes the theatre to the villages.

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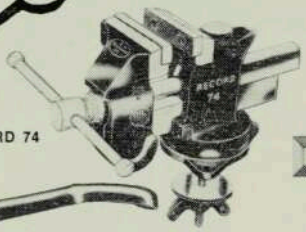

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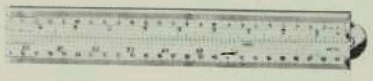

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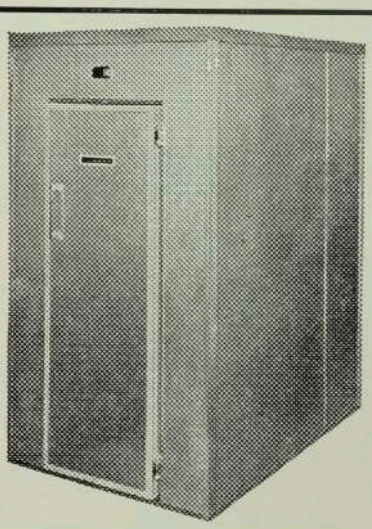

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n the bush, have terrifying experiences with flying foxes, a firefly, and wo sorcerers. The actors who play he parts of the sorcerers provide the comic centre of the play. They are a study in contrast. William Takaku s an ex-university student, a Bougainvillean, tall, slim, black. Golila Pepe began as the driver of the company's truck until someone discovered his gift for comedy. He is older than most of the rest of the actors, a light-skinned, plump Papuan. He speaks in Motu, to the delight of the Papa audience, while the rest of the actors speak English, with an occasional fragment of pidgin thrown in. Multi-lingual theatre is certainly a possibility in a multi-lingual society.

Papua New Guinea is also a society in ferment, and one may ask what other possibilities there are for theatre here. Recently, we have seen village women storming the gates of government in serious political protest. A people's theatre that mirrors the concerns of the people will explore not only timeless questions but also the questions of the times. It will seek to generate not only laughter but ideas. Perhaps in its next production the National Theatre Workshop Company should attempt some topical plays.

Some PNG tourists are real, and some are not

There is a difference between short term and real tourists, according to the Papua New Guinea Minister for National Development, Mr Gavera Rea, who explained it all recently. He announced also that tourist figures for the country were up in 1973—the number of short term visitors, at 43,594, being down 0.3 cent on the 1972 figure, while the number of "real" tourists rose by 18 per cent from 18,516 in 1971 to 21,925 in 1973.

The definition "short term" tourist had been adopted by the United Nations and was applied in PNG, Mr Rea said. It included anyone who travelled, for any reason, to another country for any period between one day and one year. In PNG, it would include children of PNG residents returning from schools in Australia, and people entering for short term employment, business reasons or sporting events, plus the normal tourist visiting PNG on holidays.

He explained the drop in short term visitors to the fact that fewer people were going to PNG for short term employment.

Mr Rea did not say what real tourists were, but presumably they are people who visit PNG for longer than the "normal" tourist holiday. The fact that the number of real tourists increased in the two-year period, indicated something—maybe that there is growth in the PNG tourist industry.

The Minister said the PNG government was aware of the economic benefits which could flow from tourism, but it was determined that the country would not suffer the associated cultural and other disadvantages that had happened elsewhere.

"A government mission has been appointed to examine the tourist industry in several nearby countries so that the government can then guide the future development of the tourist industry to the greatest benefit of Papua New Guinea", Mr Rea said.

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BISHOP JABS AUSTRALIA'S CONSCIENCE

By a staff writer

Tonga, through Bishop Patrick Finau, is the latest South Pacific Islands territory to bring pressure on Australia to open the door to more migrants from the Pacific Islands, and also to cater for guest workers. Bishop Finau, Roman Catholic Bishop of Tonga, visited New Zealand and Australia in May. About the time he visited New Zealand, the NZ Government decided to extend from June 1 to August 1 the deadline for all Tongan overstayers to leave the country.

Bishop Finau kept his most stinging comments for Australia. He spoke to Federal Government officials about Australia's immigration and labour policies. He was frank. He said he was trying to stir the conscience of the Australian people over hardships suffered by a near neighbour—Tonga.

These were some of his comments: "Australia professes to be a Christian country. Well Tonga is also, and it is suffering."

"If you cannot be Christian, at least be human."

"I am asking Australia to put aside what is no more than an historical anachronism, its White Australia policy."

He proposed a pilot scheme which would allow Tongans to come into Australia and work for six months. This would allow them to go home with enough money to buy a home, agricultural equipment or fishing nets. Tonga did not want handouts; only the opportunity for the people to help themselves.

With the guest worker scheme, Bishop Finau is not likely to get much change. Australia's ex-Immigration Minister, Mr Al Grassby, set himself resolutely against such schemes. As he was carrying out government policy, it is likely that his successor Mr Clyde Cameron will take up where Mr Grassby left off. Mr Cameron is also Labour Minister.

Bishop Finau was critical of the Australian policy which sought people with special skills which Australia lacked. If there were such people among what he called the serfs of Tonga they would be well off, and would have no need to come to Australia.

Bishop Finau believes that permanent migration will ease the problems of over-population and lack of employment, but it will not solve all the problems in Tonga.

Meanwhile, in New Zealand, time was on the side of hundreds of Tongan "overstayers". The NZ immigration authorities had set June 1 as the deadline for all Tongans who had overstayed their permits to leave the country. So many came forward that it was soon apparent it was a physical impossibility for all to comply with the order. The date was changed to August 1, with a proviso that overstayers had to have letters from employers saying they were keen workers who would be hard to replace.

Manufacturers had earlier made representations to the government seeking a reprieve for many overstayers. A number of employers are practically dependent on labour from the Islands.

New Zealand is in the process of revising its immigration policy. This will probably give quotas to places like Fiji and Tonga which do not enjoy rights automatically given to Cook, Niue and Tokelau islanders and Western Samoa, which has an annual quota of 1,500.

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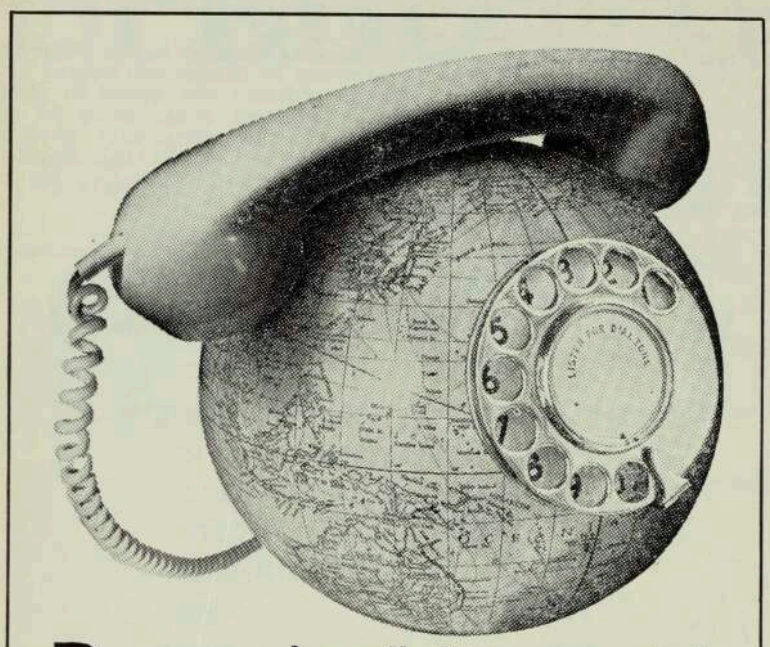

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TONGUES IN CHEEKS AT THE UN!

By a staff writer

There were, as usual, several tongues in cheeks when the United Nations Trusteeship Council held its hardy annual in New York—discussion of the report on America's administration of the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

As usual, there was criticism of the United States stewardship. Two of the severest critics were Soviet Russia and France whose representatives, in the now familiar hypocritical style, took the US to task for the self-same sins committed by their countries.

Said Soviet delegate V. Kovalenko: "The Soviet Union wishes to see the people of Micronesia, just like those of other colonial territories, exercising their inalienable rights to self-determination and independence as soon as possible".

Adhering to the time-honoured custom of keeping a closed mouth on matters which might rock the UN boat, no member of the council mentioned the Soviet "colonies" of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia! There was the same reaction when the French delegate expressed hopes that the TT administration would successfully develop a plan for Micronesia's transition to a new status; that further authority over the Budget would be given to the Congress of Micronesia; that the political education programme would show meaningful results and that there might be a more thorough role for the district legislatures in a future governmental structure. Which would have brought hollow laughs from representatives of the autonomist parties in French Polynesia, New Caledonia and the New Hebrides.

With a clearer conscience, the Australian delegate questioned why the target date for Micronesian self-government had been set for 1981 when progress made over the past 12 months in the US-Micronesia talks on future status indicated an earlier date? He also called for the appointment of more Micronesians to responsible positions in the TT.

Mr Joab Sigrah, one of Ponape's representatives on the Congress of Micronesia, told the council that he wished the Trusteeship Council would, as it had done in the past, make a strong recommendation to the United States about greater control of the Budget by the Congress

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of Micronesia. He also asked for restriction on America's power of veto over legislation approved by the Congress.

This plea didn't fall on deaf ears, as indeed few pleas from Micronesians to the Trusteeship Council ever do. The council, in its final report, called for the regulation of the veto power by "appropriate legislation" which drew a line between "special interests of territory and the international obligations" of the United States.

The council also asked that the Congress should be given final authority over a larger percentage of the Budget.

But the problem which troubled the Trusteeship Council the most, and rightly so, was the threat of fragmentation hanging over a future United States of Micronesia.

Earlier, Senator Wilfred Kendall of the Congress of Micronesia had said the Congress was disappointed at certain actions of the United States over the question of future status. Presumably, the certain actions were in connection with the separate talks between the United States and the Marianas. The senator said that, while the Congress recognised the rights of the people of the TT to self-determination, America should not close the door on any possibility of future unity.

He said he noted that America had indicated that it would hold a plebiscite in the Marianas on the question of future status, whether or not negotiations had been completed with the other districts.

"This course of action", he said, "will prevent the people of the Marianas from having a real choice on the question of political status".

He urged the council to persuade America to respect and honour the Congress view that voting on a future political status choice by the people of Micronesia should be all at the same time.

The point was taken by the council which, in its report, asked the United States to do just that and called for the maintenance of the closest possible links between the Marianas and the other districts.

The call by the council for the United States to "preserve the unity of the Marshalls and the Carolines" without including the Marianas seems to indicate that the council recognises that the negotiations between the Marianas and America will end with the severance of the former from the rest of Micronesia.

Probably, the only realistic view to come from this annual study of America's stewardship of the Trust Territory.

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From the Islands Press

From the Fiji Times:
A quarter of a ton of biscuits burned to cinders at a Lautoka factory when the Fiji Electricity Authority cut off the power supply. Bakery workers were unable to get the biscuits out of the $50,000 automated oven and black smoke from the charred biscuits filled the factory.

From Niue Island's Tohi Tala Niue:
The administrative area is getting a real facelift at present. What with park benches under the trees on the green, the road being upgraded and rolled and new urinals in the public toilets, it is almost enough to make one flush with excitement.

From the Arawa Bulletin, Bougainville:
It is now six months since the central government deferred the establishment of an Arawa Town Council. Your town, Arawa, is rapidly becoming the second largest in Papua New Guinea, and yet it is administered by a government-appointed commissioner who lives in Kieta, a BCL-appointed commissioner who must follow the company line, a village-appointed commissioner who has never been sighted and finally your gallant features editor who is the only elected commissioner in the whole town. Who would have the audacity to call it representative or democratic?

From a letter by "Disappointed" in Cook Islands News:
I am writing to say that I want to write you a letter, but I want to read it in print. . . . I hope I shall receive my paper tomorrow or the next day so that I can read this letter if you print it. When I am sure of receiving the paper I pay for, I will write to you regularly.

From a letter by Abel Bule in the New Hebrides Nakamal:
Many people say old times were best . . . This is a matter of opinion. Some like to know and worry a lot. What you don't know you don't miss and so don't have to worry. We used to be guided my our missionaries and planters and occasional D.A. who dropped by to see that everything was alright. These people lived a long time in the New Hebrides and understood us. Now it is different. Most D.A.'s are only here for a brief visit. They are like tourists, collect shells and artifacts.

From Papua New Guinea Post-Courier:
Two cars assigned to the Fijian Minister's party broke down. It seems that the batteries were flat because the air-conditioners were kept on with the engines switched off. Ah well, it's nice to be cool

A leading article in The Fiji Times:
A comment by Suva's Mayor, Cr Isireli Vuibau, that people ignore anti-litter laws because the penalties are too light is a sad reflection on citizens' attitudes. Many of the people who casually throw litter about the streets of Suva and other Fiji centres are probably the types who commonly accuse their council and the government of failing to do enough for them. Their lack of civic pride is symptomatic of a disturbing worldwide trend towards the breakdown of community and national standards. A tightening-up of discipline is necessary to keep Fiji clean and to make all citizens aware of their responsibilities.

From a letter by "The Black Boy Beautiful" in Tohi Tala Niue:
. . . I ask for you, Why you treat Niue labour different from the people in the office of govt. Why Boss you give increase to April 1973 for them people and not for me and us together labour. This is the too much the very big wrong Boss. Us labour buy things from store just like the hei pene people in office of govt. . . . I promise to you all Boss you give me the April 1973 pay and I give all to wife and kids and put in the bank and no Steineka. I drink bottle. No bottle no drink. I write again about bottle in next time. But I wait first for me to get bit angry about no bottle Steineka.

From a letter by Kane, Honiara, in the BSI News Letter:
. . . How about all the talks that centred around mini skirts; what is the result. NOTHING. Some countries made laws against mini skirts, but you will say this is too harsh or Communistic. I wonder could it not be that they are forced to make laws as they are all out to preserve what is dear to them, their Custom, indeed their Culture and perhaps fought evil if not directly then indirectly. Perhaps I am not right to say we achieved nothing re mini skirts we achieved the freedom of seeing women's asses a practice very much against Solomon Islands Custom once calico was introduced if you like. A practice which is now accepted and the Custom has gone down the drain. . . .

From the GEIC's Atoll Pioneer:
Two war helmets and skeleton bones were uncovered yesterday by workers digging trenches for water pipe lines at Betio. They are believed to be remnants of Allied Forces during the assault on Betio in the Second World War.

From an editorial in the Tonga Chronicle on negligent driving:
. . . One overseas visitor came in the other day, still shaking from a near miss, said a police vehicle with a blue flashing light drove straight at him. Being a newcomer, he did not know what he'd done wrong, but had enough sense and presence of mind to swerve to the side and avoid a collision. He learned later that the police vehicle was escorting the Prince Regent but instead of waving down the ignorant visitor the police just drove straight at him. He got the message all right but with two young passengers with him, he shuddered to think of the consequences . . .

From a report in The Fiji Times:
The Leader of the Opposition, Mr Siddiq Koya, brandished two nooses, specially made from new rope, in the House of Representatives yesterday with a request that two Government members hang themselves. He told the Deputy Speaker, Mr Vijay Singh, and the national member for the South-Eastern seat, Mr Krishna Reddy: "In the name of the Indian community I say hang yourselves".

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PIM's Apia correspondent was upset in August, 1954, about an acute shortage of beer, causing a lot of complaints from residents. The correspondent wrote that it was hard to understand why the government could not keep sufficient supplies in hand to meet the increasing demand, especially as it was more desirable for the younger generation to take beer rather than turn to hard liquor. Beer, like spirits, was a government monopoly, dispensed in quotas by the Health Department like a medicine. But stocks of "medicine" should never be allowed to dwindle. The government seemed to prefer to keep large stocks of hard liquor on hand. The last shipment of the Matua brought in about 1,000 cases of whisky, gin, wines and liqueurs—all "medicine".

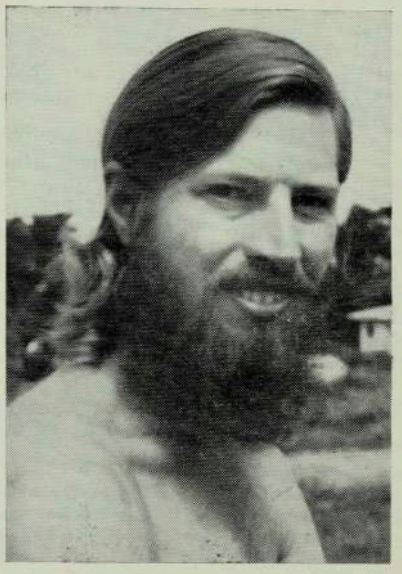
Yesterday

The importance of yaqona (kava) to members of the Fiji Battalion trying to rout out communist terrorists in the Malayan jungles received prominence in a Queen competition in Suva to augment Lady Garvey's fund for gift parcels for the troops. Colonel Tom Campbell, Commander of the Fiji Military Forces, broadcasting an appeal for gift parcels, said that in spite of gifts of biscuits, soap and cigarettes, there was a clear need to raise more money, particularly for yaqona. "Nobody will deny the importance of yaqona in the everyday life of Fijians," he said. "If you could see the delight that it brings to the troops, either before proceeding on a patrol or when they come in from a long and tedious patrol, you would realise how important it is to make this Fijian custom possible in a country 5,000 miles away".

Cook Islanders were flattered that the NZ Minister for Territories, Mr Clifton Webb, planned to visit them in August, 1954, as head of a fact-finding government mission. He was expected to inquire into such things as taxation (a sore point in the islands following an earlier visit by "sleuths" from NZ Inland Revenue Department), the citrus replanting scheme, the cool store, health and education services.

A correspondent of PIM, writing from the Cook Islands, referred to a previous report when a former CI Fruit Control Director had said, "with a grim smile", that the day of the native orange, which had grown uncultivated for over a century since Captain Bligh supplied the first pips, was over. That official had long since left the Cooks, and the grim smile was on the faces of those who viewed the dying-out of the introduced Valencias and the continued productiveness of the Bligh-derived item. Nothing could kill the old "bush orange" which, if a little coarser than the fancy, imported fruit, retained all the virtues of its species. There were numerous crackpot prophets who had predicted its disappearance—it was the prophets who vanished!

PIM was quick to respond to an invitation from the Pacific Island Group of the UK Conservative Party to people in the area to discuss problems of the Islands. PIM posed several questions: Will the Conservative Commonwealth Council tell us why the request of the Fiji Legislative Council of November, 1952, that Britain should make a formal inquiry into Fiji's acute population problem, has been ignored by the Colonial Office? Does the council think that the unlamented departure of Mr Lyttleton from the Colonial Office will open a new era, in which the more urgent problems of Britain's colonies may receive attention? Will the council try to explain what the British Colonial Office is trying to do in relation to the High Commission for the Western Pacific, where a highly-qualified Governor, in the person of Sir Robert Stanley, has been given the hopeless and heartbreaking task of making a silk purse out of a sow's ear —the silk purse being the potentially rich archipelagoes of Solomons and New Hebrides, and the hungry atolls of the Gilbert and Ellice chain; and the sow's ear being a fitting name for the insufficient resources at the Governor's disposal? Does the Colonial Office believe that private enterprise should be encouraged to go in and develop those three territories? If so, why has the Colonial Office carried on the policy of the Attlee Socialist Government, which forbade the re-entry of trading firms in the Solomons and the G & E Colony when the latter were recovered from the Japanese, and created a glorified socialist economy for the archipelagoes?



Tonga's nature man Tavi Kaufmann . . . Going back to nature has its drawbacks.

Twenty years ago, New Caledonia was about to receive a new governor—Mr Hoffeherr, formerly of the French Cameroons, and reputed to be an able financier and economist. His predecessor, Mr Raoul Angamarra, left New Caledonia with a fine reputation as an administrator.

Did the Western Papua crayfish industry ever get off the ground—or out of the sea? PIM, in August, 1954, told how the Toyer family and associates had not given up the thought of wealth from crayfish and were about to depart again for Daru. Fifteen months earlier the venture got away to a blast of publicity in the Australian Press, when the C-Gull left Sydney for Daru with a large party on board. C-Gull bogged down at Townsville, the crew dispersed and no more was heard about the industry till July, when it was reported that the C-Gull was being prepared to carry on to Daru from Townsville. The promoters were only waiting for their company to be formed into a £100,000 public company and the arrival of a freezer ship, the Cygnet.

Tonga's nature man, Tavi Kaufmann, who had been living entirely on coconuts, leaves and berries on his island, was in Nukualofa recently for treatment for inflamed eyes, PIM reported in August, 1954. Kaufmann, a Dane, had a theory that only by reverting to the stone-age could man cure his modern ills. After building his house on lonely Hunga Island, he proposed to throw his 20th century tools into the sea. He was not sure whether he would keep any books to read, either. The latest report was that he built two huts on his island to accommodate visitors, and that he was teaching mathematics to two Tongans. PIM asked: "Why? Surely mathematics come within the category of modern ills."

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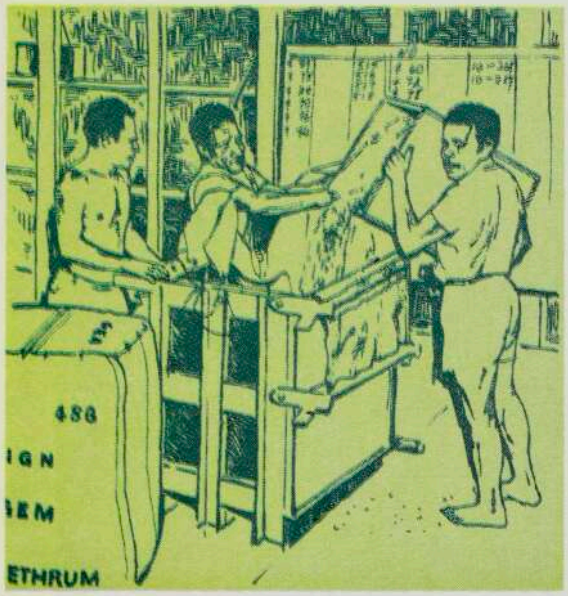

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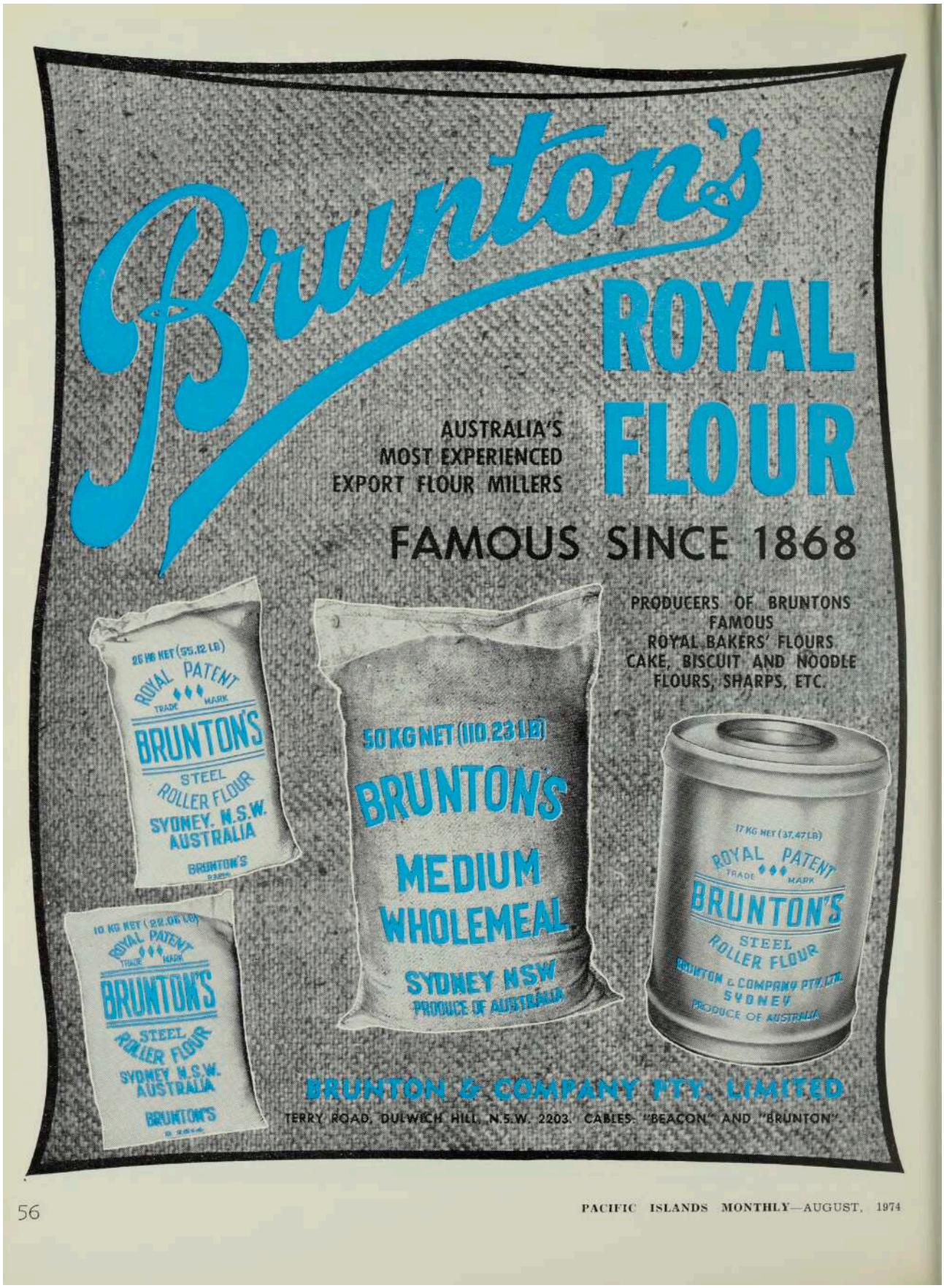

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Magazine Section

FROM SOLITUDE ON WAKE ISLAND TO HIGH DRAMA

By W. G. COPPELL

In March, 1974, the population of Wake Island was 437 men—25 military, 106 American contractor employees and 306 Filipino contractor employees. These men live upon a coral atoll of a little over 2½ square miles, none of which rises more than 12 ft above sea level. They are there to maintain Wake Island Air Force base which provides for island support and emergency aircraft.

There has been no commercial air traffic through Wake Airport since June 30, 1973, at which date the US Federal Aviation Administration gave up control of the island to the Air Force. Yet, it is unrealistic to think that Wake is now a forgotten corner of the Pacific, passed over by the major powers as the changing patterns of military strength and deployment have rendered impotent the island bases over which the great and bloody battles of World War II were fought.

On March 9 this year, from Wake was launched a rocket with the code name Athena which was 143 in a series of launches with at least five more shots to follow, the last being on or about June 20. As the Wake Observer comments, "Athena pulsated into the blue sky in a faultless launch and an equally superb performance down range until it impacted in the ocean near Kwajalein Atoll and why not? Her name alone indicates what is expected of one of the Air Force's most successful missiles". This ultimate level of military sophistication achieved on Wake is far removed from events, many of them primitive and crude, which have gone before in the history of this atoll.

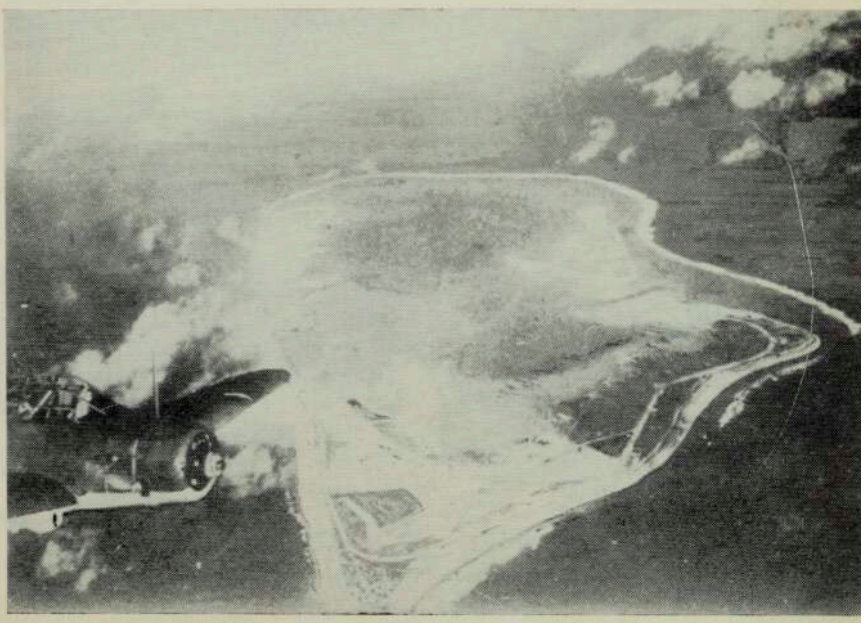
Wake is, in fact, made up of three islets—Wake, Wilkes and Peale, which form a vee shape, open to the north-west. Although the island was probably discovered by the early Spanish voyagers travelling between America and the Philippines, it did not receive its present name until Captain Wake, of the British schooner Prince William Henry came on the island in 1796. Like many Pacific outposts, the atoll has had several names, including Wake's Island, Waker's Week, Wreck, Halycon, Helscon, Helsion and Wilson. Early visitors included the USS Vincennes in 1840 under the command of Commodore Wilkes. Titian Peale, a naturalist on the expedition, was able to carry out a brief scientific survey.

Several large vessels have come to grief on Wake's reef, probably the most notable being the Bremen barque Libelle, which went aground on March 4, 1866. The cargo, which was valued at over $300,000 included specie and flasks of quicksilver. Among the passengers was the noted concert singer Anna Bishop. All aboard survived and reached shore in the ship's boats, but a lack of water brought about the decision, after three weeks ashore, to make for Guam, 1,400 miles away. Anna Bishop was among the 22 survivors who reached Guam in the 22 ft boat. As the Hawaiian Gazette reported, "the dangers which were imminent from the frequent squalls, cross seas and shipping seas encountered were the greatest trials, and in 13 days, the boat being 6 degrees of latitude in error, arrived off the town of Guam all in pitiable and forlorn condition". The captain and eight other persons, who were in the other boat, were not heard of again. Another vessel to strike the reef was the renowned China tea clipper Dashing Wave out of Foochow for Sydney, which became a victim on August 31, 1870. The survivors made Ualan Island in the Carolines after a voyage of 30 days.

Wake was formally proclaimed an American possession by Commander Edward D. Taussig in USS Bennington on January 17, 1899.

Wake remained off the beaten track, apart from visits by Japanese fishermen and by scientific expeditions, until 1935 when Pan-American Airways began to pioneer the trans-Pacific air routes with its clipper flying boats.

The supply ship New Haven arrived at Wake on May 5, 1935, and initially it was thought that Wilkes



A high altitude view of Wake Island.

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Island would be used for the shore installations, but as W. S. Groach who directed the work, reported, the site was unsuitable. "The shore survey party had a dismal tale to tell. They were well scratched up by the thick brush and reported that they had been all over Wilkes Island. It was no place to build an air base because it showed plain evidence of having been under water. They had found logs in the centre of the island that could only have been washed up by the sea. In many places driftwood was lodged in the trees overhead."

It was decided to develop Peale Island and a short railway was constructed joining it to Wilkes and wagons were built using Ford automobile wheels as bogies. The first commercial flight through Wake was that of the China Clipper, captained by Edwin C. Musick who was later to lose his life in the Samoa Clipper, off Samoa.

In those days, there were 60 Pan-American Airways personnel stationed on Wake, including 40 Guamese and one woman, Mrs Colleen Merrill, who supervised the hotel, the food for which was largely grown in hydroponic tanks. One traveller who passed through Wake at this time could not have visualised the trauma which was to follow. "Wake Island, due to its many unique features, may become a popular resort. It is far from worldly cares, with a healthy climate and wonderful fishing. The tired businessman who wants real rest and relaxation can count on a complete absence of any form of temptation at Wake."

The US Navy took a decisive role in the history of Wake when it began the construction of bases at Wake and Midway as counters to Japanese expansion. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbour, the population of Wake was 1,732, of whom 1,216 were civilians, mainly contractors engaged in building the base. On December 8, 1941, 18 Japanese two-engined aircraft began the attack on the base and of the 12 American fighter aircraft, eight were destroyed on the ground.

The story of the battle for Wake has been told many times and for the American defenders it ended on December 23, when an estimated 453 service personnel and 1,150 civilians were captured. Lt-Colonel Walter L. J. Bayler, who was the last man to leave Wake by flying boat on December 20, has described the conditions under which the Americans withstood the Japanese aerial bombardment, these conditions contrasting vividly with those which the Japanese were to endure in their due turn.

"If Dan Teeters was a good soldier, even before December 8, he was a one-man army after it. He took over the food department for the whole island, and at dawn and dusk his chuck wagons, loaded with hot food, both nutritious and appetising, would deliver the goods to every spot where marines might be stationed.

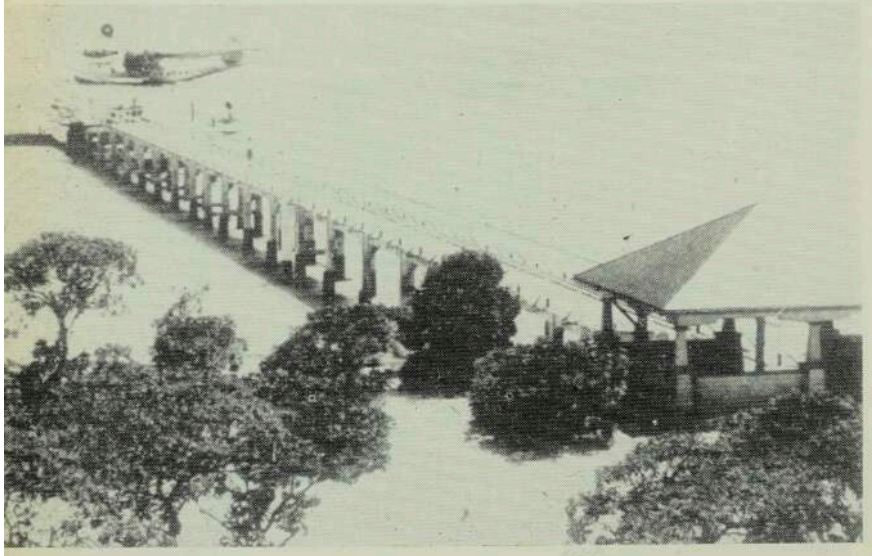
"He tried to ascertain our every need and supply it. He threw open his stores to us, giving us food, clothing, candy—anything he had, we wanted. It was he who sent over large working parties to dig foxholes and construct shelters—and he supplied the timber, tools, nails and general equipment with which to do the various jobs."

Most of the American prisoners were removed by the Japanese, but 98 civilians were never sent out and death came to them as a Japanese atrocity. Captain E. A. Junghans, USN, who has written a history of Wake Island, recounts the incident. "It appears that at the time the island was under heavy attack by a carrier task force, the (Japanese) admiral considered it necessary to remove a possible menace from his rear, in order to prepare for the defence of the island against what he thought would develop into an assault. The captives were marched from their barracks, on the north-east tip of Wake near the road, across the road to the north shore. There they were bound hand and foot, blindfolded and required to face the ocean, whereupon three platoons of Japanese soldiers shot them in the back with rifle and machine gun fire." A war crimes trial was to be held ultimately at Kwajalein and Rear-Admiral Sakaibara and his adjutant, Lieut-Commander Soichi Tachibana, were sentenced to be hanged.

The Americans did not wait for long before turning their retributive attention to the Japanese garrison, the first carrier-borne air attack being launched on February 24, 1942. An intense blockade was eventually mounted but no attempt was made to take Wake by direct attack and indeed the constant bombardment of the Japanese positions was used as a means of training American crews destined to fight in front-line positions. As Captain Junghans says "There was so little food to be rationed out and so few pieces of automotive equipment to furnish transportation that the Japanese lived, starved and died in the vicinity of their battle stations. They made their little gardens there and when they gave up the ghost they were covered with a few inches of sand or coral where they fell . . ."

On September 4, 1945, Rear-Admiral Sakaibara surrendered on the US destroyer escort Levy and of the original garrison of 4,100 of two years previously, 1,242 remained. Among the debris of war were found two diaries of the deceased Lance-Corporal Watanabe Mitusumasa, the entries of which graphically spell out the impoverished condition of the Japanese on Wake.

"**July 3, 1944.** Rumours are flying that a ship might come in. If wishing will help it will surely arrive; empty



In days gone by, Wake was linked to the American mainland by clipper flying boats such as this one tied to the jetty.

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stomachs cause many groans. Hunger gives me more pain than fighting the Yankees.

"**July 20, 1944.** Had a hot water bath which is rare indeed. Our food is terrible: three small crackers and a few beans. We are getting accustomed to tree leaves.

"**August 17, 1944.** Four enlisted men and one officer died of starvation today. We all desperately want a ship to come, but only planes come to this cursed place.

"**October 14, 1944.** American bombers at night drove all the birds from Ashishima (Wilkes). This is a tragedy because the sea swallow provides us with meat and eggs.

"**October 20, 1944.** The corporal committed suicide by taking mercuric chloride. He had stolen some food.

"**December 12, 1944.** Thinking about our homeland, nice rice and vegetables. But what's on Wake but salted soup and beans. Recently I weighed only 101 lbs.

"**March 11, 1945.** All depends on fish from now on. We can't stand the miserable dried rations any longer."

Watanabe died of malnutrition sometime before September 4, 1945, and the last entry in his diary for some time in August said, "For eight months until August 7th suffering with many hardships, wandering between life and death, which it could not be forgotten. Hoping I don't have to put down more reductions in diet in next diary. Praying to God to have more food. This is the end of Diary No. 6".

What of life on Wake today. The Wake Observer gives us an interesting commentary on the life of a caretaker garrison on a base which now seldom makes the headlines. Golf is played on "this 6 hole, par 20 Red Monster, one hell of a course"; a bowling league conducts matches for some six teams, fishing is a popular sport, one resident raises orchids in his arboretum and a chess match between Rosales and Jatico is reported as a battle to equal those of Fisher and Spassky.

It may be that the time-wheel is completing its cycle and that Wake may return to its earlier, untrammelled mode. In the March 16 edition of Wake Observer, the acting base commander writes of the future fiscal support for Wake, "as it stands right now, we still do not know what level of support the Air Force needs next year. One thing is fairly sure, the Air Force will operate Wake Island for at least one and possibly two more years".

Coral lime cottages in the village of Roto on Pukapuka.—Photo: W. H. Percival.

Pukapuka — remote but changing

From W. H. PERCIVAL in Rarotonga

Pukapuka Atoll, 715 miles northwest of Rarotonga, is probably still one of the most isolated places in the world according to Miss Julia Hecht, an anthropologist of the University of Chicago, who returned to Rarotonga recently after spending 13 months on the atoll carrying out field studies, mainly on social organisation. During her stay the longest period between supply vessels from Rarotonga was, as she put it, "One week short of six months".

Yet, in spite of this isolation and being the most conservative of the 15 Cook Islands, things have changed in Pukapuka during recent years. The old-style village houses built of local timber and palm fonds are fast being replaced by modern, concrete block bungalows, more durable and hygienic.

New meeting houses are going up, built by community effort—and it seems that the Pukapuka people are gripped by a craze to build more and more. Some families who must know that their relatives in New Zealand will never return are, nevertheless, building new European-style houses for them.

The large outrigger canoes capable of carrying seven people and using paddles or sails have been replaced by flat-bottomed boats powered by outboard motors. They are used for lightering ships, visits to the food reserve lands of Motu Ko and Motu Kotawa and for hauling copra cargoes.

Today, the islanders are migrating to New Zealand and using Rarotonga as a staging post. This is a general pattern in all the inhabited Cook Islands, said Miss Hecht; as many Pukapuka people live in NZ today as in their home islands.

In January, 760 people lived on Pukapuka and about 170 in Nassau, a small island of about 300 acres lying 42 miles south-east of Pukapuka. Nassau was bought by the Pukapukans in 1951 with money raised from copra sales and during the last few years has become permanently settled.

Pukapuka was made famous about 30 years ago by the novels of American author Robert Dean Frisbie who made the island his home and raised a large family there.

Even today, the islanders live on a basic diet of coconut dishes and fish, helped out by taro from the extensive swamps. "They really know how to prepare taro up there," said Miss Hecht. "I could live on coconuts, fish and taro—cooked Pukapuka style that is—forever." In addition there are some bananas, sugar cane and a few limes and pumpkins.

Ernest and Pearl Beaglehole spent 7½ months on Pukapuka from November 1934 to June 1935, later publishing their Ethnology of Pukapuka and since then, except for short visits by Peter Vayda and Jeremy Beckett, no anthropologist had worked on Pukapuka before Miss Hecht's visit.

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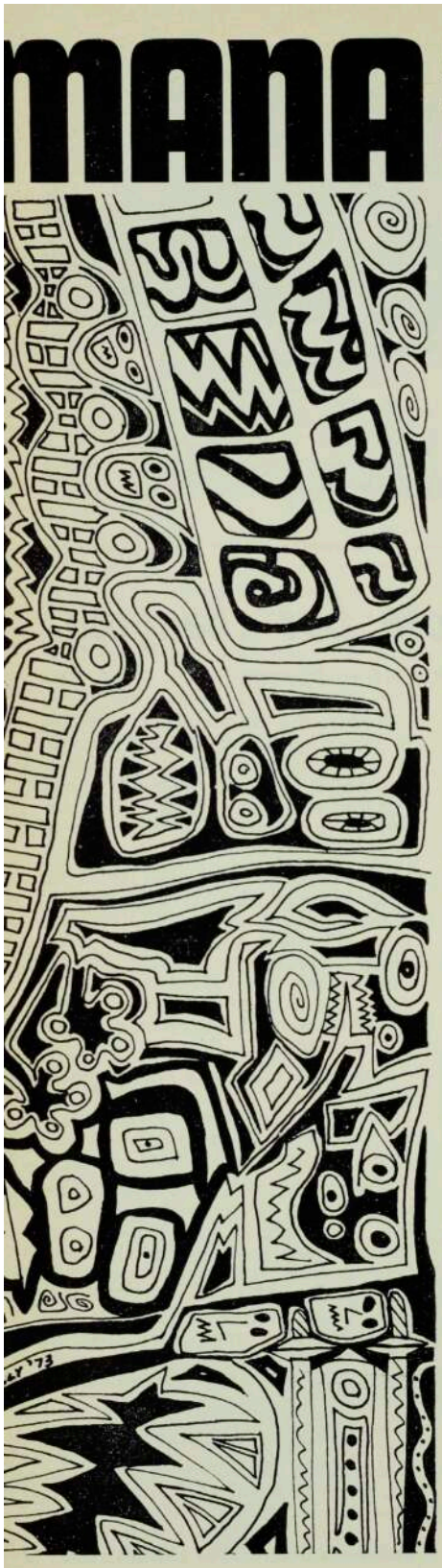

MANA is a vehicle for Pacific Islands' writers and artists to publish their work. It is an organ of the South Pacific Creative Arts Society and its editorial committee comprises writers from many islands.

Material for publication must be sent direct to MANA's editor, Marjorie Crocombe, South Pacific Creative Arts Society, Box 5083, Suva.

Contributors to this month's issue are University of the South Pacific students Seri, from Fiji, and Tere Tuakana, from the Cook Islands; Satendra Nandan, who lectures in English at the university; and from Papua New Guinea, Earnest Mararunga and Nathalia Buamai.

THE LOAD OF FIRE WOOD

By EARNEST MARARUNGA

"WAKE up, Kallii, and throw some wood on the fire."

I was getting fed up with this. Kallii fetch water. Kallii start the fire. Kallii do this and Kallii do that. I wished I was only a little bit bigger, I would leave this mob and go to the mission station and work there as some of the other boys had been doing. I rose from my cosy nook next to the fire place and threw some wood on the embers, sending up sparks and ash. The solemn group in the hut shifted uncomfortably, and I had to smile but broke off abruptly when . . .

"Watch out, boy! You want to burn the house down round our ears or something!"

It was my turn to feel uneasy as the voice belonged to Kaii and, if there were anything I was frightened of, it was Kaii. A man as old as time itself, with skin laying in folds over his skeleton, and eyes sunk so deep into his skull that when he looked at you it was as if death itself was facing you. It was reputed that in his youth, he had killed and eaten a lot of young boys, raw. I cleared my throat. Pretending to look for more wood, I disappeared behind the broad back of one of the men.

THE sparks had settled and the fire was throwing out more flickering light, darkening the interior more with shadows than ever. Some smoke lingered about the low ceiling. The heat was bearable, a cosy, sleep-inducing type of heat, very bearable. With droopy eye-lids I took in the scene. The bearded faces were all serious as they listened. The flickering light played on their faces, sometimes darkening them and at other times bringing them out a golden brown colour. I was fascinated.

It was the youth from the neighbouring clan who was holding their attention. I saw him when he came that afternoon. He was dressed in whiteman's clothes, and was carrying a pack on his shoulders. Later when we were eating at the men's house, I found out that he had gone to the coast and had worked in a big place where they grew a tree known as a coconut, and where everyone wore whitemen's clothes and spoke with whitemen in the language which only the 'tanim talk' from our clan understood. In fact I heard him use it once when the Kiap came to collect our names. I shook sleep away, pricked up my ears and listened. His voice was light and carried very well in the closely packed hut.

"It is true that some of you have been on the mission station and you have seen the type of houses the 'patas' live in and the kind of food they eat and the clothes they wear and the lights they have at night. It is not beyond our means to have those things. In fact, during the time I was down at the coast, I saw many people of our colour who had these things and, besides these, some even had cars and motor bikes." (I had seen a motor bike but, after he had explained, I found out that a car was a four-wheeled thing that carried more people.)

"All we need is to have some of our younger boys go to school and learn about the ways of the whitemen, and a side reward from this education, the things we now think are for the privileged whitemen only, will be ours."

A sigh of disbelief rose from those assembled.

He continued, "I hear that some of you are now asking your ancestors to bring you things, but this is im-

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possible. How can the dead bring the living any thing?"

Before he could go on, the voice of Karipan cut in. It was sharp and very authoritative and precise: "Then why does the Pata ask somebody who was now long dead to help him out all the time?"

"What do you mean by that remark?" the youth asked.

"It is true, the white Pata at the mission station does ask a dead person, and that person supplies the Pata with everything that he asks for."

Being the orator he was, Karipan did not beat around the bush once he had the audience under the grip of his oratory. His voice was cool and calm and had the confidence that comes with many years of practice. In fact, Karipan was the leader of a movement that was telling my people that if we desired any thing that the patas or the kiaps had, all we had to do was to destroy our gardens and our tree crops, kill some pigs, and then ask the ancestors' spirits to give us houses of corrugated iron, kerosene lamps, tinned food and blankets and mats, and that we would never have to work again in our lives. Recently his movement was losing some of its followers. No wonder! We lived through a famine because of his preaching, and recently we had slaughtered some pigs but still there was no indication of when the ancestors would heed our requests.

Karipan went on, "When I was on the station a couple of years back, the Pata gathered all of us and we went inside this big building, and the Pata, who was dressed in clothes that rivalled the sun and the moon and put the birds and the flowers to shame, went to this little platform where there were some light sticks and he bowed and he begged, and some people in the crowd sang but there was no dancing, and next morning the shiny bird came and I personally helped to unload rolls of cloth, crates of food, and drums of liquids".

His voice was very firm. "Those things could not have come from anywhere else but from the person he was bowing to the day before."

The youth shook his head in disbelief.

Karipan continued, "There was a man from the coast, who was on the station with the Pata, and he told me that even the Pata gets his things from the spirits of the people that were already dead. He even said that some of the goods the Pata gets are sent to us by our ancestors, but the Pata does not redistribute these to us, the rightful recipients. I am not saying that our young guest is wrong. I am saying that he was misled when he was down on the coast. You all know that I was given £5 money when I went and swept my father's grave. I have always said that you will get your just rewards if you can only bear with me for a while longer". Once his old grip was established over them again, he sucked in the air and settled back on his buttocks.

I watched the old con-man smile to himself knowing that no youth could break his hold over the clan. I withdrew in disgust. I wondered how many times my father had killed pigs at his father's grave and had come away frustrated because his request had not been granted. I wondered how many times he had complied with Karipan's requests and had burned his gardens and cut down his trees so that he could not be ridiculed by the men of the clan for his non-conformity.

I made up my mind, there and then, that I would go with the young man to the mission station and get educated for a day, and come back and lead my people away from the influence of the rogue Karipan. The fire was down to its embers again. We rose and went to sleep when Parou said it was very late.

I COULDN'T sleep that night. I tossed and turned and my imagination ran riot. There I was wearing whitemen's clothes, eating their food. I imagined I could even come home with a stomach as big as the kiap's and I might even have something to cover my feet. I laughed loudly to myself in the dark only to catch an elbow in my stomach. I grunted and rolled over on to my side. Minutes became hours. A rooster crowed. Other roosters took up the call, and it re-echoed up and down the length and the breadth of the valley. Birds called to one another, and, at last, after what seemed a million years, dawn broke. The grey light crept in through the holes in the bark walls of the hut. I rose.

Not bothering about the other sleepers, I threw back the dried bamboo leaves. The cold engulfed me as I stepped out into it. It was a biting cold, wet and clinging. Around me the mist was hugging the ground. Further away the mist broke up into gigantic balls and went leap frogging over the kunai patches and pitpit grass. I stepped up to the nearest clump of bananas and lifted up my apron cloth. Finished, I returned to the hut for my leaves to cover my buttocks and then raced for my mother's pig house. Behind me voices called to me to close the entrance, others implored me to get the fire started. Not today! This boy was off to get his share of education and the whiteman's goods.

I arrived at the pig house out of breath, the body heat steaming from my body. My mother was up already. Smoke was lifting slowly from the thatched roof, and lingering in the still air. I poked my head through the low opening.

"You are early, boy. Don't tell me you are hungry. I sent enough to the men's house last night. Didn't you get enough to eat?"

She went back to spinning her strings for a new string bag. She would pause now and then to throw more wood on the small fire. Hell, here was I about to go out into the world and claim my share of fortune, and there she was concerned only with whether I was fed or not, and that infernal fire.

"Mother, I am going to the mission

B—block

By SERI

Slave, slave, slave, brothers,
Up there on Naboro hill there's
Lilies dancing, caressing and
Kissing wild forest breeze.
I wish we're sick, so we can have bed peace
And escape this blazing police ring
I know we have earned it from up there
But wounds awakening like nightmares
Someday cops, judges, prosecutors must pay
When we're free to express our love in the
ancient way.

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My father's son

By SATENDRA NANDAN

the airport metallic, tarred,
rising from the deep blue sea;
a white watchtower erect,
watching darkly.
jumbos idle like oiled white bodies
on the beach;
while sea-fishes feed to be fed.
a few hotels on the landscape
bruises on the peasant face;
the village—dark and dumb
so sullen in the sun;
a muddy lost track
hobbles to a hut on the hill.

a red hill with four coconut trees,
under the mango tree a dozen goats;
a red flag withered and holy.
children—naked, ribs dancing in the light,
teeth beaming with stolen sugarcane,
growing with the mynah birds.

below the hill, a well
full of frogs. two boys, a girl
shrieking with killing stones.
four frogs are floating, eyes to the sun,
their white bellies up.

quiet and ageless as the hill
the old man comes leaning on a 'lathi':
a sudden slap, a scream, and I run.
he curses my mother,
pulls them out one by one
and buries them under the red earth.
the cow grazes and gazes and moos for a second birth.
that was years ago,
i was young and unkind—
to the frogs, i mean.

II

now in this conditioned office
on a swivel chair and farted air
i batten on—a civil servant—
defined, secure in a sinecure.
i see the island in the sea
where my father was quarantined.
"for two weeks only," he said.
but the journey? i asked.
his eyes withdrew into himself:
"the dark waters and the blind winds
the landless sea forever raging
it was 'narak', many died, I survived.
what retribution for leaving a loving home
and the cows grazing beside the 'mandir'
and my friends playing 'gullidanda'.
sleeping and eating we arrived!"
that's how he remember'd
the passage of one life into another.

III

early morning—rain, rain, rain,
like the nagging of a wife.
the phone rang 'wrong number'
yawned the woman in my bed.
my brother simply said: 'pitaji' is dead.
oh, well, i'll forego the dinner.
death comes without invitation.
worse, such dinners are so rare
with the permanent secretary's wife
with so promiscuous an air.

IV

the old village was there
in the old man's old bure.
a tattered mat on a three-legged bed,
the black blanket that made my childhood so warm,
the mosquito net with knots and patches.
near the grog basin sat the frog,
eyes bulging, ineluctable as ever.
the basin was empty
but the smell of grog was in the corner
where i used to serve the 'tauki'.

the village was there,
toothless, faceless, nameless,
except old pookladdu, the peasant politician,
and buddhu, the 'purjari',
who burnt his arse fire-walking
(how father had laughed!)
and wanted to lift the hill like hanuman.
others' heads grown grey,
hearts grown old
a hundred years scribbled
in a hundred wrinkles.
i looked too well-fed,

station to get educated and claim my share of cargo there," I said impatiently.

"Oh, yes?" she replied, without a trace of interest in her voice. "And don't forget to bring in a load of wood this afternoon," she added.

Women! I cursed. What do they know about education and cargo. I'll show her. Without waiting for her to say more, I raced back to the men's house. The men were all up and were now gathered around the fire.

"I am going to the mission station with the man in European clothes," I said uneasily as I had not yet asked the youthful speaker of last night to take me to the station with him.

"You are not!" My father was a man of a few words.

"Yes I am!" I was on the verge of tears.

The young man in European clothes came to my assistance, and, after telling my father that he would take me there and bring me back himself, my father gave his permission but added, very strongly, that I was not to be educated. I reminded him that I would be away only for a day. My father made it clear that I was not to be educated not even for a day. With this ringing in my head, we took off for the mission station. And what a sight we made, the youth in his white shirt and khaki shorts, and me in my apron cloth with a bunch of leaves to cover my backside, and him towering above me. But that morning I was the bigger person. My head was already in the clouds.

WE followed the old track, which had been worn smooth by countless feet over the years, until the hills were miles behind us, and the grass plain, unbroken by not

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mumbled 'ram ram',
and sank into the only chair.

they said there was no need to weep
he died in his sleep
he was so old—no one knew his age.
besides, he had to go
his land, on which his wife was buried,
was 'reserved' two weeks ago.
in the children—the parents live again.

V

they washed the dead old man,
i poured a 'lota' of water
and saw his ribs rippling.
his grotesque loincloth like christ's
i wonder'd if he, too, had paid the price?
for his children's children?
but around me there was only death and decay
and there were flies round the corners of his eyes.

next to the airport there's a crematorium
built by a shopkeeper for his drowned son
(or was it for an election he ne'er won?)
the logs covered him
the pundit gave a speech
and blessed us all with the dead,
read a few 'mantras' from a red book
which neither the living nor the dead understood;
they poured 'pure australian ghee'
my brother lit the pyre,
while i stood looking at the sea.
in an hour—ashes to ashes.
thank god it didn't rain.
om shantih, shantih, shantih . . .

VI

the sea beat against the shore
with the monotony of the heart,
the sun sank like a shark
under the ocean,
the sky was red as a mutilated hibiscus,
while i sat on the beach till the spittle
of the sea touched my feet.
and i flew back to my retreat.
it's different here. i see the island
touched by a rainbow, a yacht,
and a black mynah bird.

even a solitary tree, stretched before us. The sun was high in the sky by the time we arrived at the station.

I had never seen such a collection of buildings at one place before in my life, and I was astounded. (Very much later in life, I found out that there were only 12 huts of crude corrugated iron and bush timber dressed down.) My friend went up to one of the buildings and tapped on the wall, and a door was opened and a person looking very much like the Kiap appeared. He too was white and had a fat belly. This must be the Pata, I thought. They talked for a long while, and pointed at me occasionally.

The Pata beckoned to me, and I went towards him with some misgivings. Before I could come to my senses, I was introduced to a lot of other boys, and my apron cloth was taken away. I was washed, dressed in an old pair of shorts sizes too big for me, and was told that I was going to school with them.

Now, 20 years after, I am still wondering how my mother got her load of firewood that afternoon.

KONO

By NATHALIA BUAMAI

ONE evening, after being out all day, my grandmother and I were sitting by the firelight cooking yams with fish and other vegetables for our evening meal. All the family had been to the seaside where our gardens were and on our way home we stopped to catch some fish. It was a day I will never forget.

While we were still preparing our meal we heard angry voices from the beach, coming closer and closer. Because our house stood alone at the end of the village, we could plainly hear what the people were saying and could distinguish their voices. The gruff voice happened to be that of a well-known sorcerer in our village at the time, Kono, and the other voices were from the family of Dari, an old village man. What surprised us most was that Kono was arguing about a piece of land that wasn't his at all. Dari was very rich with many possessions and land, and was respected by the village people.

"Dari, why did you go and pull out the coconuts from my piece of land? They had already taken root and you spoiled them by pulling them out."

"I pulled them out simply because that piece of land is not yours at all. You don't own it. My ancestors handed it down to my family and it has been ours ever since. What right have you to take yourself on to our land and work it?"

We heard the sound of something heavy being dropped on the front verandah of Kono's house, and he began shouting at the top of his voice.

"Why didn't you talk up when we were alone on the beach? Now you just shout out and tell everybody about it and the next thing all the people will be saying I'm a thief."

"And what's wrong with you being called a thief?", asked Dari, "because that's just what you are, and it serves you right because you have no respect for other people's property. You just go and take anything you want from the people, and they can't say anything against you because they live in fear of your old magic. You know this and just take advantage of them and keep on stealing. Why don't you live and work on your own land? A curse on you and your poison," shouted Dari, as he threw down his basket and bundle of wood.

"I'll teach you to talk that way to me," roared Kono, and started

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pulling out his spear from under the house.

BY this time we were all outside watching the scene.

Before we realised what was happening we saw Kono, running at full speed towards Dari, with his spear held high in his hand. We were so afraid for Dari that we started screaming a warning at him, but this only encouraged Kono to go on. As he came closer to Dari he snarled:

"You won't live to enjoy your old age."

Dari, busy with untying his bundle didn't realise how risky it was to be in his position. He turned around just in time to see the spear coming at him through the air and was able to dodge it. Kono was fiery with rage. With his blazing eyes nearly popping out of his head and without saying a word, he rushed at Dari and started fighting him. Although Dari wasn't expecting to fight Kono, when he realised what was happening he managed to avoid some of the blows and fight back. Dari soon found his full strength and began giving Kono blows which sent him reeling.

Again and again Kono got to his feet to charge at Dari, but Dari was always waiting for him. Once again Kono was thrown to the ground with blood flowing from his nose and mouth. While rolling on the ground Kono saw his spear and planned to use it.

We were all shouting for Dari to run away but he just stood there and prepared to face the coming danger. Kono, with the spear held firmly in his hand ran towards Dari. This time, instead of throwing the spear, he just ran with it towards Dari determined this time to have his victim, but Dari was still very alert.

As Kono ran at Dari with such high speed Dari stepped aside to avoid him. Kono, unable to control his speed kept running until he was halted by thrusting the spear into the post supporting Dari's kitchen. The post was shattered and the kitchen came tumbling down on top of him and only his head could be seen popping out from under the sago leaves which had been used for building the kitchen. Dari's wife was very angry when she saw her kitchen a complete wreck and seizing a piece of wood struck Kono on the head with it.

By this time all the village people were around Dari's house watching the two men fighting. Kono was swearing and saying that Dari and his family wouldn't live much longer because of the way they treated him in front of everybody. As Kono was coming out from under the sago leaves to fight Dari's wife, one of the men, Kura, stepped in and stopped him.

"If you keep on fighting like this you won't have any peace and neither will Dari and his family. You will make life very hard for yourself because every day you make more enemies."

"I don't care whether I make enemies or not, but I will give something to everyone I know—something that will make them all think," screamed Kono.

"You and your old poisons. That's the only thing you can think of to save yourself," Dari said.

"You shut up."

"Don't tell me to shut up or else you might find yourself spearing another log," shouted Dari. At this the people laughed.

BOTH Kono and Dari were bleeding from their noses and mouths. When they were taken into their houses, Kono wasn't going to keep quiet but began shouting out again. He cleaned himself and started chewing betelnut.

After a short while he turned to Dari.

"I will never forget what you have done to me. I could have killed you if I had wanted to, but I had pity on you at the very last moment."

"A person who is angry like you cannot possibly be merciful to anyone," Dari replied. "You're just covering up because you missed killing me with your spear. For a skilful man like you it's a great shame to miss his target. Furthermore, when you had your chance you could have done a mighty good job, but instead you speared that lifeless post and ruined our kitchen. Why didn't you use your poisons and magic to help you?"

"I'm keeping my eyes on you and your relatives. One of these days, one of you will lie dead in your bed and then your eyes will be opened."

At this point, Kura (the man who protected Dari's wife), came out of his house and said:

"I think both of you had better settle down and have some peaceful talks instead of these harsh and threatening words."

SO after that, we heard no more shouting but only a low grumbling coming from Kono's house.

The moon was very bright and from where we sat, Kono's house was visible against the skyline. He was sitting on his verandah but in that position we could not see him clearly. We heard him making much noise with his lime container. At times he seemed to be singing but then would stop and appear to be doing something different.

My grandmother and I weren't tired so we sat and enjoyed the moonlight.

After an hour or so we heard Kono's dogs whimpering then he jumped down from his house and started looking for something. Afterwards we discovered that it was his spear he was after. He had a few things gathered together in a bundle and we wondered what he was planning, as he looked rather sinister.

He picked up his bundle and started walking along the road towards the beach. Not realising just what we were doing, my grandmother and I followed him. We were afraid that his dogs might smell us and chase us, but we were fortunate because the wind was blowing in our faces.

We seated ourselves in a position where we could see Kono quite clearly but could not be seen by him, and it wasn't long before we heard some loud noises coming from where he was.

AFTER Kono sailed out to sea that night we never heard of him again. We don't know if he went to live at some distant village or if he was lost in his small canoe in rough seas. What we do know is, that without him in our village, life has become much more peaceful and pleasant, and everybody is able to live and go about his work without any disputes or quarrelling caused by Kono to upset them.

This old man

By TERE TUAKANA

Surrounding an evening fire
A group of children listen,
They listen and listen to the words,
The words of an old man.

This old man he draws a story,
A story from the ashes,
Together with the flickering fire.

This old man he weaves a story,
A story from the fire,
Together with the rising smoke.

This old man, he plants a story,
A story of the past,
And he plants it calmly.

The story rises with the smoke
To plant itself in
Minds that are green.

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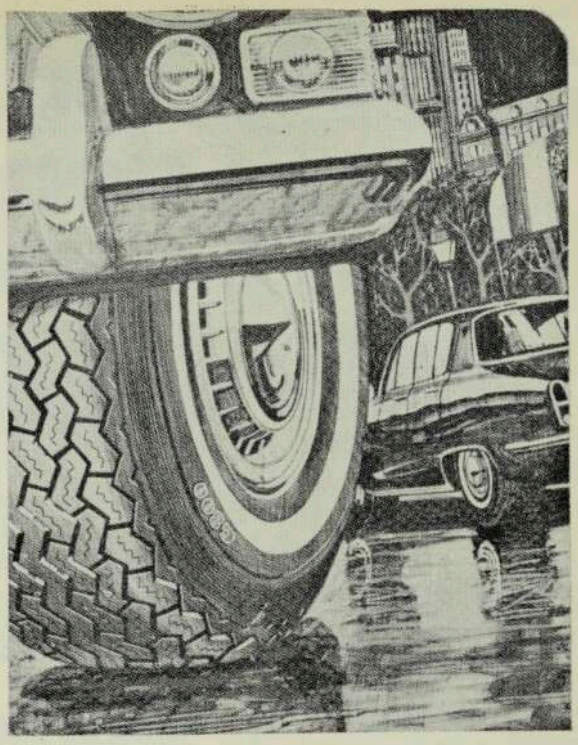

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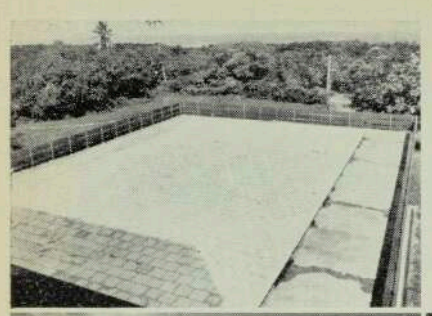

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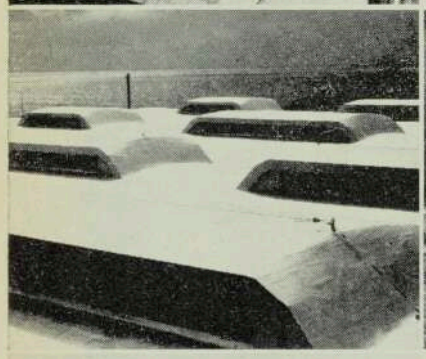

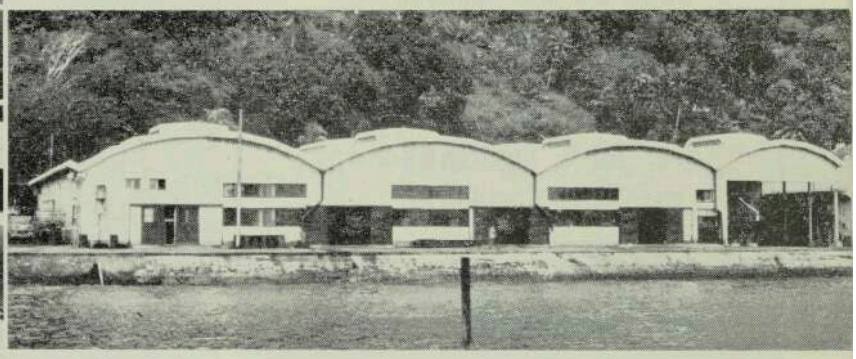

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Books, Reviews, Writers

THE NEW PACIFIC—A QUESTION OF BIAS OR NON-BIAS

Any author who sets out to promote the social, economic and political cause of an ethnic group other than his own is faced with a fundamental dilemma. No matter how closely he has been associated with the other ethnic group and no matter how long he has been associated with it, even at the most intimate levels, he cannot claim to speak without reservation for that group.

The very stuff of his personal socialisation into his own racial group raises a barrier which means that for evermore he has very fundamental values and attitudes which identify him with his own people.

As a Rarotongan once said to me "no matter how long you live in Rarotonga and no matter how closely you live with us you will never learn to think like a Maori, just as we will never come to think like a *papa'a*".

A natural consequence arises when an author sets out to speak for a group other than his own, in the efforts to avoid the criticism of being ethnocentric he may project his thinking into avenues which reflect prejudices which may not necessarily be those of the group whose cause he espouses.

When I came to read R. G. Crocombe's The New Pacific I felt an unease—a feeling that here was an author who was so intent upon pleading the case of the Pacific Islander and so anxious to make sure that the reader understood the ways in which the European has often affected the islander's way of life to his detriment that there was emerging a predilection to over-state the case.

Crocombe does not admit that his book is biased, but biased it is, and I am not saying here that to be biased is necessarily of a negative valency. If a book is to get over a fundamental social message, and this is what Ron Crocombe is attempting to do, then he must, per se, be biased, but I think that he would do his cause a greater measure of good if he stated boldly that he is biased, and if need be tell the reader why he is biased.

There are many very worthy features about The New Pacific, but I would have accepted the inbuilt premises contained in the book if the author had rather more plainly stated his personal position. By way of comparison, it is worthwhile looking at Humphrey McQueen's recent publication, Aborigines, Race and Racism, the contents of which in many ways parallel those of the Crocombe book and which addresses itself to what one must presume is a similar audience.

McQueen from the very outset tosses the matters of prejudice, stereotyping, racism, exploitation and other fundamental and controversial issues into the reader's court. McQueen issues a clear challenge. He says, "This book is deliberately biased. It has to be biased in order to tell the truth. For nearly two hundred years white Australians have lived a lie about the Aborigines. To see the truth clearly the balance has to be drawn in favour of the Aborigines, which means that this book begins by accepting that white Australians are prejudiced against Aborigines."

In his preface Crocombe states that his book "aims to provide a brief and personal view of some major trends in the past, present and possible future of the diverse and stimulating societies of the world's most widely-scattered region". A personal view by its very nature must be biased and it is better to admit that bias than to attempt to cloak it in the guise of pseudo-objectivity.

To return to Humphrey McQueen — here is a book that makes clear the audience to which it is addressing itself, that is students in schools and colleges. I presume that this must also be the readership towards which The New Pacific is directed. If this is so, it serves its purpose adequately as it sets out succinctly and with a great deal of illustrative material a range of topics which are the standard stuff of texts about the developing regions of the world.

However, in order to have encompassed this task more adequately the book should have been tailor-made for its ultimate purpose. Throughout its entire length the book makes obvious its origins—a series of talks given at the University of the South Pacific, which were in turn used by the New Zealand Broadcasting Commission. If I were to sit down and have The New Pacific read to me I would undoubtedly enjoy it more than I did the reading, and, perhaps, I wouldn't have become so aware of the book's deficiencies.

I do not in any way cavil at the sentiments expressed in the book, nor at the arguments concerning the directions to be taken in the future development of the South Pacific Region. However, I do feel that its very format leads this book into the dubious realms of generalisations.

Sure, it is very necessary to stress the pressures of population growth in the regions, but it is also imperative to let the reader appreciate that these pressures are not uniform and that they range from the 320 persons per square kilometre at Nauru (with its quite specific raison d'etre) to the 170 of the Tokelaus to the 5.3 of Papua-New Guinea.

Yes, it is valid to assert that Aus-

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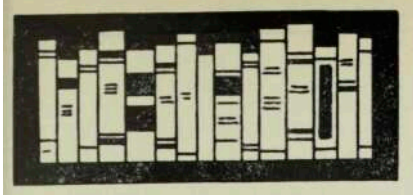

tralia has been tardy in advancing the interests of Papua-New Guinea, but in a book published in 1973 it is just not good enough to say, "Government policy is for eventual independence for New Guinea and most parties agree that it will be within the next five years and perhaps sooner". True, as the book says, the ethnic mixture in Fiji has been considerable, but surely this rather glibly glosses over the fundamental areas of attitudes and values which continue to largely set apart the two major ethnic groups.

The happiest moments come in The New Pacific when the author does wear his heart on his sleeve. Any person who has gone beneath the superficialities of the Pacific scene can more than appreciate the description of the neck-tie syndrome, of the lack of significance placed by many Pacific Islanders on the accumulation of property, of what Crocombe calls the religion of commerce. There is a perceptive statement on the role of Christianity in the Pacific and the question posed of "was the baby thrown out with the bathwater" gives perspective to an understanding of the religious practices of the region.

I feel that too narrow a view has been taken of whom to include in the generic term Pacific Islander—I agree that it is proper to give prime importance to the indigenous peoples but it would be flying in the face of reality to consign to some obscure corner the very considerable group of peoples, whose origins are from outside the Pacific Basin, but whose home forevermore will be there. This must be especially true of the Indian community in Fiji and The New Pacific would have had a better balance if it had given its readers a greater insight into the problems faced by these people.

I am conscious of the dangers of damning with faint praise, but I think that it is fair to say that The New Pacific is a book that should have been written, but as I said earlier, written as a book in its own right. Unfortunately we have been left with a curate's egg, which is unfortunate as the ingredients and expertise were there to have produced a really significant work.—*W. G. Coppell.*

(THE NEW PACIFIC. By Crocombe, R. G. Australian National University Press, P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T. 2600. $4.50.)

- *The Pacific Manuscripts Bureau was established in 1968 as part of the Research School of Pacific Studies, Australian National University, Canberra. Its purpose is to locate unpublished documents of value concerning the Pacific Islands and to obtain copies of them on microfilm for five world libraries specialising in Pacific research. The five libraries are the National Libraries of Australia and New Zealand; the Mitchell Library, Sydney; the Library of the University of Hawaii, Honolulu; and the State Library of Victoria. This report from Canberra tells of some of the bureau's latest acquisitions.*

OUT OF THE PACIFIC'S PAST

Manuscript dictionaries on Islands languages, a collection of newspaper clippings in Polish on Micronesia, a series of private diaries spanning nearly half a century, patrol reports from pre-war New Guinea, and a large collection of papers relating to the reign of King George Tupou II of Tonga are among the latest documents to have been recorded for posterity on microfilm.

They are now among more than 550 titles in the Pacific Manuscript Bureau's manuscript series.

One of the Island dictionaries, the work of the Rev G. H. Eastman, an LMS missionary in the Cook and Gilbert Islands for many years, was sent to the Pacific Manuscript Bureau for filming just before its compiler died in England late last year at the age of 92.

It is a Rarotongan-English dictionary, which Mr Eastman compiled between 1913 and 1918 'partly as a means of obtaining a fluent use of the language, and partly as a hobby'. In 1918, the New Zealand Government decided to publish it, as no published Rarotongan dictionary then existed. However, because of shortages of labour and materials, the project fell through. According to the compiler, a copy of the dictionary later formed the basis of Stephen Savage's A Dictionary of the Maori Language of Rarotonga, which was published posthumously by the Department of Island Territories, Wellington, in 1962. The Eastman dictionary should therefore be of considerable value to Cook Islands linguists in particular and Polynesian linguists in general.

Two other Islands dictionaries that have been filmed recently were obtained under the bureau's Papua New Guinea Records Project. A few copies of both were multigraphed from script in the eighties of last century. But copies are now extremely rare.

One dictionary is of the Duke of York Island language of New Britain. It was compiled by three of the first Methodist missionaries in that area—the Revs George Brown, Benjamin Danks and Isaac Rooney—and is accompanied by a grammar. The copy filmed was once owned by Rooney and has manuscript additions and corrections by him.

The other dictionary is of the New Britain dialect. It is the work of the Rev R. H. Rickard, a Methodist missionary, who went to New Britain in 1882. Some letters and other papers written by his wife were filmed in 1968.

Other material on Papua New Guinea filmed recently includes:

- Patrol reports and other papers of a former senior Administration official, Mr J. K. McCarthy, now of Melbourne. They cover the years 1926-52 when he was a patrol officer and later district officer in New Guinea.
- Press clippings on Papua New Guinea covering the years 1967-73. The clippings fill 49 reels of film. They were copied in the now-defunct Department of External Territories, Canberra, just before it ceased to exist in December last year.
- The reminiscences of Henry Dexter, a storekeeper in Papua from 1910 to 1936.
- Reminiscences of Mr J. D. O'Neill, of Buderim, Queensland, a prospector in New Guinea in the 'thirties.

The diaries and other papers of John T. Arundel, a dominating figure in the Pacific phosphate and copra industry from 1870 until his death in 1919 were filmed in March this year.

The papers relating to the reign of King George Tupou II of Tonga were brought to Australia from Tonga by Mrs Eseta Fusitua, who has been working on a thesis on that topic. The papers include Tonga Cabinet and Privy Council minutes for 1898-1920 and a few files con-

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cerning the reign of Queen Salote Tupou III.

The newspaper clippings in Polish referred to above are clippings of articles by the Polish ethnologist Jan Kubary, who was employed by J. C. Godeffroy and Son to carry out scientific work in Micronesia and Polynesia. The clippings cover the period 1873-80 and relate to the Caroline, Cook, Ellice and Marshall Islands, Samoa and Tokelaus. A film of the clippings was made available to the bureau by Dr Saul Riesenberg of the Smithsonian Institution, Washington.

Two diaries of labour-recruiting voyages to New Caledonia and the New Hebrides have been filmed. They were kept by W. G. Farquhar, a farmer at Maryborough, Queensland, who made his first voyage in the schooner City of Melbourne in November 1870-January 1871 to recruit labourers for himself and other Maryborough farmers. On his second voyage, beginning in September 1871, Farquhar was a government agent under the Polynesian Labourers' Act of 1868. He made his second voyage in the schooner Petrel. His diaries give some vivid glimpses of the labour trade.

Another useful diary is that of George H. Bardsley, a carpenter, of Brisbane, who built the first houses at the Methodist Mission at Dobu, D'Entrecasteaux Islands, Papua. The diary covers the period 21 June 1891 to 24 January 1892.

Other mission material added to the bureau's growing list in recent months comprises:

- The minute books of the Overseas Missions Department of the Methodist Church of New Zealand, 1903-55. The books cover the activities of New Zealand missionaries in the Solomon Islands from 1902, and, more recently, in Papua New Guinea.
- Minute books of the Tangoa Training Institution, Tangoa, New Hebrides, April 1947-October 1970. (This institution was established by the Presbyterian Mission to the New Hebrides in 1895 as a training centre for New Hebridean teachers. Other records of the institution were filmed in 1969).
- The diaries of two Mormon missionaries to Hawaii, Simpson Montgomery Molen and his wife Mrs Jane Hyde Molen. The diary of the first-named covers the period 17 September 1857-3 January 1858—part of a term of three years and three months that Molen then spent in Hawaii. The second diary, kept by Mrs Molen, is for a much later period, May 1876-February 1877, when Molen, having married, returned to Hawaii for a second term. He and his wife were stationed at Laie, Oahu.
- An account by a French Marist missionary, Father Paul Montauban, of life on Buka, Solomon Islands, during the Japanese occupation of World War II. It is entitled *Trois Ans de Captivite a Buka* and covers the period March 1942-September 1945. Montauban was one of three Marist missionaries who remained on Buka while the Japanese were there. He spent more than forty years on the island, from 1914 to 1958.

Two films of interest to the nautically-minded contain (1) the journals of one Samuel Hill, who made two voyages to the Pacific in the ships Ophelia and The Packet in the period 1815-22, and (2) a provisional index to source material on British naval vessels in the Pacific Islands, 1800-1900. The Navy index was sponsored by the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau and compiled by Mrs Catherine Dengate, of Canberra. It is in alphabetical order by ship, and gives the captain's name, description of the vessel, period of voyage, the location of published and unpublished accounts, and the vessel's itinerary, particularly in the Pacific Islands. The index does not claim to be exhaustive, but it should prove to be a useful research tool.

Two manuscripts which emanated from the Cook Islands are an unpublished novel entitled White Natives, by Julian Hillas (ie the late Julian Dashwood of Mauke) and a diary edited by Mr W. H. Watson of Rarotonga, entitled William Oliver, Yeoman.

Watson says in an introduction to the latter work that Oliver left Devonshire, England, to seek his fortune in Australia in the early 1860s. The narrative is 'an account of his adventures taken almost word for word from a diary kept between 1862 and 1892'. The narrative gives an informative account of life in Rarotonga and the Society Islands at that time.

A better deal in the NZ sun

Just how often historical mistakes repeat themselves is given emphasis by Alan Ward's A Show of Justice in which he writes about the relationship between Maoris and European settlers in 19th century New Zealand.

There was the same old urge on the part of the Maoris on first contact with the better-endowed foreigners to have a slice of their material wealth and, to better participate, a desire by many a Maori chief to have his own pet *Pakeha* (European) trader established in his village. Jealousy and occasionally violence followed if the trader looked like dispensing his favours elsewhere.

As an extension of this, and a growing appetite for European goods like guns, ammunition, axes and so forth, many Maoris "sold" parcels of land which frequently they had no right to do. Their poor understanding of what land ownership meant to the foreigners frequently led them to think that what they were parting with was temporary land use, and not the permanent alienation of the land itself.

This sort of thing was to repeat itself again and again in the South Pacific but the lessons that should have been learned from the Maori-Pakeha land troubles of the mid-19th century had to be learned all over again right into the 1970s.

The Tolais who squat on plantations of the Gazelle Peninsula in New Guinea, and insist that the land had never been legally purchased from

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their ancestors, had their counterparts almost 100 years ago in the Taranaki Maoris who refused to recognise European purchase or confiscation of land by moving in and ploughing up Pakeha farms.

By the same token, the recalcitrant Mataungan Association of the Gazelle is small beer in comparison with the efforts of the Taranaki and King Country Maoris of NZ who kept both the colonial government and the settlers on the hop between 1860 and the 1880s, sometimes through full-scale war, frequently by flaunting European laws which they had no hand in making.

Basically it was the age-old battle of who was to own the land—the Maoris who had got their first or the whitemen who came 500 years later.

In the end those with the greatest material advantages won the day—helped by a section of the Maori population which had, almost from the outset, been pro-Pakeha. New Zealand then entered a phase of what officially was supposed to be an integrated, multi-racial society in which Maori and Pakeha were to have equal rights and opportunities and which was held up to the world as an example of how well a plural society could work.

It has never been as simple as that. Individual Maoris of the 1970s benefit not at all from what were once tribal lands and now, according to the author, many believe that their ancestors were got at and milched of what was rightfully theirs so they attempt to turn back the historical clock and demand a better place in the NZ sun. It hasn't exactly come to a brown-power movement but many are vociferous.

This book is interesting for anyone seeking enlightenment on colonial land matters but, as it is based on a doctoral thesis, it is pretty hard slogging for the lay reader with its multiplicity of detached footnotes, etc.

The author, not surprisingly, was a consultant on the recent commission of inquiry into land matters in Papua New Guinea which came up with pretty revolutionary ideas on land tenure for that country.

He is a New Zealander but at present is a lecturer in history at Latrobe University, Melbourne. His writing is straightforward, with one idiosyncrasy— with him "Maori" is neither singular nor plural and seldom merits a preliminary "a" or a "the" as in (to quote). "The Crown Prosecutor rejected this saying that Maori became British subjects when New Zealand became a British colony".

There is probably some professional reason for this but for the moment it escapes this reviewer.—*Judy Tudor.*

(A SHOW OF JUSTICE, by Alan Ward, Australian University Press, Canberra, ACT. $10.95.)

OLD-SCHOOL PACIFIC ADVENTURE

The more I read books like The Journal of Lieutenant George Peard of HMS Blossom 1825-1828, the more I am convinced that the education system of 100 to 200 years ago must have been far in advance of that which passes for education nowadays.

Certainly, it was not spread so thinly over so many, but it seems to me that today education is no longer the stimulus to living that it was then, no longer gives men that individual incentive which makes them enquiring, interested in what is around them for the sake of being interested, the master of many skills, masters of the art of living, and all of it not for the mere sake of income. People like Matthew Flinders, William McGregor, Richard Burton of Africa, Captain James Cook, and now Lieutenant George Peard of HMS Blossom.

Peard's journal of the voyage of Captain Frederick William Beechey RN and HMS Blossom to the Pacific and Arctic in 1825-8 is a lucid account of one of the most comprehensive British naval voyages to the Pacific. The Blossom made her way via Cape Horn to the Pacific, called at various places within the Pacific rim, and searched in vain for the expedition of Captain William Edward Parry and John Franklin expected at Baring Strait. George Peard, first lieutenant of the Blossom gives detailed descriptions of the places visited and the inhabitants, among them Pitcairn and the Gambier, Tahitian and Hawaiian Groups. No less valuable are his accounts of Kamchatka, California, the Northwestern extremity of North America, and various parts of South America.

It is interesting to read of the attitude of mind of some Pacific inhabitants which took a 100 years and more to change: Peard writes: "It is complained of by the English and American residents that these gentlemen (Christian Teachers) who have been sent here by the United States Missionary Society, by compelling the attendance of grown persons at their schools, take up time that would be better employed in cultivating the ground or in learning arts and manufactures, and thus encourage the habit of Idleness prejudicial to the Interest of the country . . ."—*Peter Livingston.*

(TO THE PACIFIC AND ARCTIC WITH BEECHEY. Edited by Barry M. Gough. Cambridge University Press. Boutley House, 200 Enston Road, London. $A11.00.)

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Pacific Transport

TONGA BID FOR WORLD-WIDE WINGS CASTS A SHADOW OVER FIJI

By a staff writer

Tonga is aiming high in civil aviation. A number of moves are in train which could see the extension of Nukualofa's runway to 12,000 feet, capable of taking any jet aircraft, with a lot to spare. Tonga could become a serious rival to Fiji's Nadi, known since World War II as the hub of South Pacific aviation.

Tonga's High Commissioner in London has been instructed to approach the head offices of airlines operating out of Europe for money to help extend the runway. Approaches will be made to the head offices of other airlines interested in Pacific routes also.

King Taufa'ahau Tupou said early in July he wanted Tonga to become the key in a new service across the Pacific linking Australia with South America and Europe. Airlines to be approached include JAL, Alitalia, Lufthansa, KLM, SAAA, SAS, and Varig. Sydney offices of airlines have been advised of Tonga's plans.

These moves must worry Air Pacific, and also cast a cloud over the meeting in Suva this month of South Pacific civil aviation ministers, who will decide the future of Air Pacific as a co-operatively-owned airline.

On his way back to Tonga recently, King Taufa'ahau, speaking in Fiji, uttered soothing words about Friendly Islands Air not offering a serious threat to Air Pacific. He said the only route the two airlines would have in common would be that between Nadi and Tonga.

But should Tonga become a rival for Nadi, Pacific air routes would really be in the melting pot. The Pacific would no longer be the close preserve of a few carriers operating from Australia and New Zealand to the US, or from the US to those two countries.

King Taufa'ahau Tupou did not mention Qantas, Air New Zealand and British Airways in the initial list of people asked for money. Those are the three airlines with a major interest in Air Pacific. But he said he would not exclude them.

"We would expect to negotiate reciprocal rights with Qantas, Air NZ and our own airline," he said. "As far as the Commonwealth carriers are concerned, it would be very useful for them to have an alternative to Nadi as a hedge against the continuing industrial troubles in Fiji.

"Australia-Tonga-Easter Island-Rio de Janiero is a possible route. Most of the airlines approached already fly to Australia and South America from Europe. We are offering a link across the Pacific."

Tonga has offered Polynesian Airlines a 20 per cent cross-shareholding in its airline, for which All Nippon Airlines will supply a Boeing 737-200, crews, technical and other staff. But the hostesses will be Tongan. The aircraft is expected to arrive in Tonga in October. Tonga may take delivery of a second Boeing early in 1975, and a third later in 1975, if required.

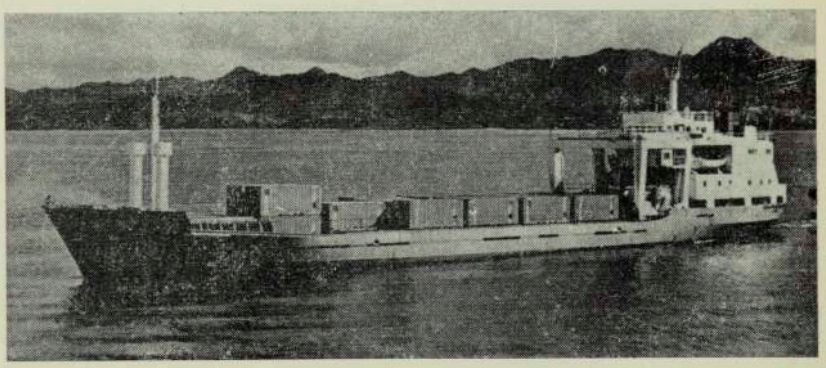
The king expects the airline will operate first of all to Fiji and Samoa. He would like to see later extensions of services to Auckland, Norfolk Island and, possibly, New Caledonia.

Extensions to the runway at Nukualofa are expected to cost at least $4 million. By the time all other requirements are taken into consideration the cost would be much higher. The cost of localising the operation will take time, and a lot of money.

Tonga's moves into at least regional carrier services, do not end there. There is also talk in the kingdom of upgrading the strip in Vavau to take HS748 turbo prop aircraft.

All this adds up to a situation fraught with peril for the South Pacific Forum for Fiji's Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, has made it plain that he sees continuing co-operation in civil aviation —meaning, of course, co-operation in Air Pacific—as the real test of Pacific regional co-operation.

There are those in the Islands who see Tonga as a pawn and Japan's offer of aid to establish an international airline as the carrot dangling before the king when, in reality, Japan is using Tonga as another stepping



The Tarros class container ship, Union South Pacific, which was damaged during a storm north of Auckland early in June. The ship started to take in water, and returned to Auckland instead of continuing her run to Fiji and Western Samoa. She off-loaded in Auckland and then sailed to Sydney for repairs, which could not be carried out in New Zealand. Damage was minor generally, with the crane the worst affected. The ship is expected to return soon to Auckland with a full load of containers and then resume the Pacific Islands run. In the meantime the Union Steam Ship Co Ltd, which operates the Union South Pacific on charter, has an option to charter another Tarros container ship from Sea Containers Charters Ltd, UK.

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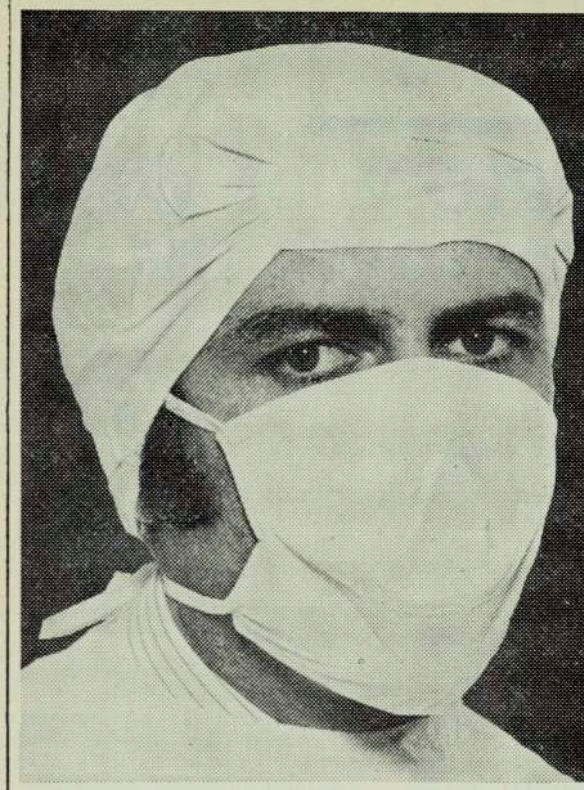

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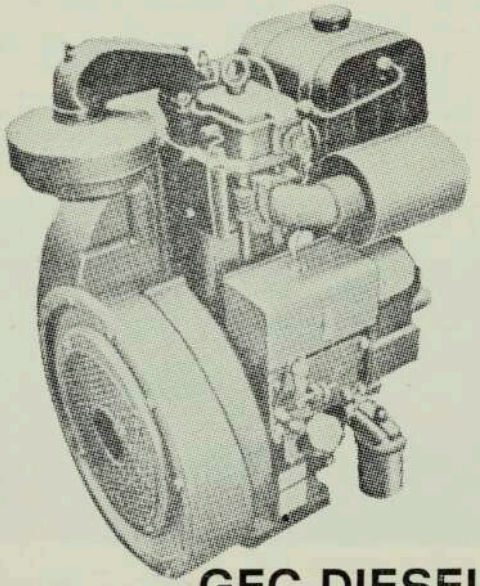

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	6.20		18.60
2YWA	25.5	2YDA	27.00
	23.5	3YDA	40.7
	19.6	4YDA	53.9
	15.4	6YDA	81.00
	12.4		

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itone in its ambition to establish economic hegemony of the Pacific.

While Tonga talks of going into civil aviation in a big way, Air Pacific has chartered one of its BAC111s to Air Malawi for five months because there is not enough work for it. And Air Nauru, which was to take delivery of a second F28 in July, has ordered a Boeing 737-200C for delivery in July, 1975.

Fiji's Finance Minister, Mr Charles Stinson, during a recent debate in the House of Representatives on a motion to lend Air Pacific $230,000, spoke bluntly about the airline. Three comments were:

- Air Pacific, because of the nature of its services, was not likely ever to become highly profitable;
- It was far from correct to say that the airline was near the end of its days;
- "Little Fiji" was far too small to carry the burden of what might not be an economic airline.

He said that if any of the shareholders withdrew, Fiji might have no alternative but to increase its own financial stake. To some extent, profits from Air Pacific's regional services had subsidised local services in Fiji. That was a bone of contention among shareholders.

The House approved the loan at per cent. The loan is interest-free till after the civil aviation minister's meeting.

Mr Stinson's remarks about Air Pacific's profits from regional services subsidising local services suggest a possible way out of what is becoming a growing problem of Air Pacific—maintaining the high standard of services it offered. There has been a lot of criticism about internal services in recent months.

Air Pacific, if it aims to be a regional operator of standing, could quit internal services, leaving them to Fiji Air Services, which is operating profitably with its Islander and Beechcraft Barons. Most countries these days operate international or regional services with one airline, and internal services with others.

NAURU INCREASES ITS SHIPPING FLEET

Nauru Pacific Line is quietly extending its fleet. Recently two ships were added, one a purchase and the other on charter. The Hydra, which was on charter, has been returned to her owners.

The line recently took over the phosphate ship, Triellis, from the British Phosphate Commission, and has renamed it Triphena B, after the wife of the Nauru Minister for Health and Education. The Triphena B is under the command of Captain Jim Brunton, formerly master of the Eigamoiya.

The recently chartered Lama is servicing Suva, Lautoka and Apia from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane.

The passenger/cargo ship, Enna G, at present on a Pacific cruise, will soon go into dry dock in Hiroshima. When she returns to Australia from the present cruise she will call at Devonport (Tasmania), Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul and Guam before going to Hiroshima. She is expected to return to a cruise/cargo service in October or November, sailing from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane for Lautoka, Suva and Apia.

Nauru Pacific Line now owns six ships—Kolle D, Rosie D, Cenpac Rounder, Eigamoiya, Enna G and Triphena B. On charter are the Lama, Elizabeth Bornhofen and Weser Despatcher.

- Carpenters Fiji Ltd is offering the Santa Teretia III, a new ship, for sale. The ship was designed and built for inter-island passenger/cargo trade. She is a twin screw ship, 85 ft, with 10 passenger berths, and capacity for 3,500 cubic feet or 60 tons of cargo. Her service speed is 9 knots. The Santa Teretia III is fitted with modern equipment.

CAB flays airline rivals

The United States Civil Aeronautics Board's Bureau of Enforcement strongly criticised two applicants for the Saipan-Japan air route when it made a recent recommendation about allocation of the route. The applicants were Pan American Airways and Continental Air Micronesia.

The CAB had reopened its investigation into the case to examine the conduct of carriers seeking support for their applications, and to discover the views of local civic and government parties. The CAB, before it makes its recommendation, has to sort out differences of opinion between two of its agencies. The Bureau of Enforcement favours Continental Air Micronesia, while the Bureau of Operating Rights wants PAA to operate the service.

The Bureau of Enforcement used strong language about the campaign conducted by PAA and Continental Air Micronesia for support for their claims.

"The violations involved in this proceeding are far more subtle and therefore insidious, directed as they were to the solicitation of local civic and governmental support through misrepresentations, threats, and offers of favour, and which, by their nature, tend to corrupt the purpose of carrier preference testimony", the bureau said. "Working in the fertile ground of trusting and often unsophisticated minds, both Pan American and Continental sought local support for reasons well outside of the service proposals in the record . . ."

"Both carriers encouraged its supporters to bring their cases to all possible United States Congressional and Executive Department personnel . . . pressures were exerted by the applicants themselves on US executive departments to take or not to take positions before the board. In short, pressures, whether they be labelled 'lobbying' or otherwise, were exerted which could have no other effect than to introduce extra-record considerations into the board's hearing process . . ."

A BETTER LIFE FOR FIJI'S STEVEDORES

Fiji stevedores won some improved conditions in an award handed down in June by Mr Ramanlal Kapadia, who was arbitrator in a dispute between shipping companies and the Fiji Waterside Workers' and Seamen's Union. Annual leave goes up to 14 days, in place of 10, men who report for work but don't get any, have the reporting allowance doubled from one to two hours' pay. They should also have free transport to and from work.

On the debit side the stevedores missed out on a five-day week, for the present. The working week stayed at six days. Mr Kapadia ruled that the work force should remain at 452. The shipping companies suggested a cut of 200, the union suggested the number of registered workers be lifted to 600.

Mr Kapadia said that according to the Fiji Ports Commission of Inquiry vacancies caused by natural wastage and dropouts should be left unfilled. The evidence was clear that there was a high percentage of idle time. For that reason a five-day week was undesirable at present. With a six-day week more casual men could work on Saturdays, while registered

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workers still received a minimum of 40 hours' pay.

Mr Kapadia ruled a fixed retiring age was undesirable, without giving fairly long notice to the men affected. Men of retiring age now would get little from the national provident fund because they had not been members for long. They should be allowed to continue working till they retired of their own accord. The alternative would be for employers to pay "reasonable compensation".

Mr Kapadia said there was a need for better rest, recreation and refreshment facilities at Suva wharf. Also, a training programme was needed to upgrade dockers' skills.

FINE NO DETERRENT FOR REEF POACHERS

A Taiwanese ship released by the Micronesian courts after the owners paid substantial fines for poaching apparently returned immediately to the place where it had been "arrested" and repeated the offence. This was revealed in a report from the Palau District Attorney's office on the arrest of 12 Taiwan fishermen at Helen Reef.

It was reported that the men went ashore in a small dory while the mother ship remained outside the reef. When the Hafa Adai arrived on the scene on a field trip the mother ship sailed away, leaving the 12 men stranded. The men were taken aboard the Hafa Adai to be charged with illegally taking marine resources from the reef.

Confiscated were nine bags of trochus, two birds and many eggs, three clams and other items.

The report from the Palau District Attorney's office suggested that the boat involved was the Nob Tei Sheng Gen No 6, which had recently been released.

TONGA'S KING HOPES TO ADD BIG SHIP TO FLEET

The Tongan flag could be flying on a 76,000-ton bulk carrier in about a year. King Taufa'ahau Tupou suggested that after a recent visit to the UK and the Middle East. He expects the ship to carry minerals from the South Pacific round the Cape of Good Hope to Europe, and then return to the South Pacific via the Mediterranean, the reopened Suez Canal and the Red Sea.

He called at Saudi Arabia on his tour and discussed with the authorities there the question of picking up bulk fuel. He hopes to come to an arrangement under which Tonga will be guaranteed supplies of fuel in the event of any further embargoes. Tonga wanted to remain independent of the large oil companies, which were themselves dependent on Arab fuel.

The king's hopes depend on establishing diplomatic relations between Saudi Arabia and Tonga. He expects Saudi Arabia to set up an embassy in Canberra. If that happened the ambassador could be accredited to Tonga as well as Australia.

It's understood that nothing firm has been arranged about the bulk carrier, and that the idea was conceived as a result of the need for an ore carrier to operate out of South Australia. King Taufa'ahau feels that Tonga could charter and operate such a vessel if there was steady work for it.

CAPTAIN WILLIAMS LEAVES THE COOKS

After 18 months of trading in the Cook Islands with his 500 tons MV Moana Captain Hugh Williams has sold out and decided to go home to Sydney.

"The Cook Islands are not as happy a place as they were 10 years ago," he told PIM. "There are too many controls and not enough cargo." The reason for the decline in cargo, he thought, was the mass exodus of Cook Islanders to New Zealand since Rarotonga's international airport was opened last December.

Captain Williams sold Moana to fellow Australian Mr R. Mellor who said if business prospects in the Cooks were not good enough he would take her to New Guinea. Hugh Williams plans to return to Sydney and may buy a 1,000 ton ship with the idea of chartering it to New Guinea or Far Eastern ports.

COOKS GOVT TO TAKE OVER THE STEVEDORES

Maritime circles in the Cook Islands are dismayed at a decision of the government to use its powers under the recently-passed Waterfront Industry Act to control stevedoring. The act also gives the government power to control wharves.

The two stevedoring companies, the Union Steam Ship Co of NZ Ltd and Silk and Boyd Ltd, have been told their services are no longer required. The repercussions from this are serious, as those companies will have to dismiss their stevedoring staffs, or the government will have to absorb them.

While the industry has been subject to criticism in the past, it has been running smoothly recently. The government has been advised by Mr Jim Gatt, a New Zealander, about wharf and stevedoring matters, and Mr Gatt is expected to be appointed to take charge of the waterfront controlling authority as general manager.

PNG UPGRADES ITS SEAMEN'S STANDARDS

All seamen working in Papua New Guinea vessels over 10 metres, except traditional fishing boats, will be required to undergo training. As well as this seamen will have to have one year's service at sea before they are considered qualified.

The Minister for Transport and Civil Aviation, Mr Iambakey Okuk, outlining the proposed enabling legislation, said every vessel would be required to have a minimum number of qualified seamen. The

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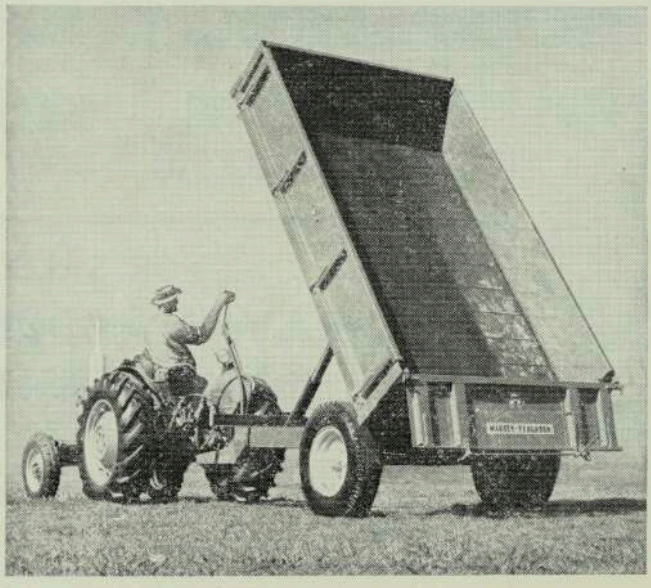

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imber would be governed by the ze of the vessel.

The scheme was aimed at improv- g safety and efficiency standards n local vessels where there had eviously been inadequate training navigation, emergency procedures id lifesaving appliances.

The government plans to re-equip fleet over the next three years ith about 50 ships. The cost would more than $3.5 million.

The courses will be at Madang autical School. Initially, the intake ill be about 100 men a year and ch course will last about eight eeks.

Experienced seamen now serving on ips will be considered qualified.

REIGHT RATES OOM AGAIN

Another setback to Fiji, Tonga nd Western Samoa in their battle ith inflation was a heavy rise in eight rates for cargo from Sydney om July 1. The Sydney-Suva rate se by a whopping 32.32 per cent. onga and Western Samoa did even orse. Cargo for Tonga will have nother 6.43 and Western Samoa an- ther 7.5 per cent added to the new ydney-Suva rates.

The new rates for general cargo om Sydney to Suva and Lautoka re $52.60 a tonne (up $12) and 47 a cubic metre (up $10). The in- ease has been applied by all lines ervicing the three countries. But the unkering surcharge has been re- uced from 8.02 per cent to 6.08 per ent.

Constantly rising costs are blamed or the latest round of increases. In- fficient systems on the waterfront, n spite of the efforts of shipping ompanies to streamline ways of andling cargo, weather, port con- estion, and shortage of labour are ll adding to costs.

The Pacific Navigation Co's Tau- oto on its last trip to Sydney was in ort for 28 days. The turn-round for ship of that class only a few nonths ago was less than eight days. t does not require much imagin- tion to guess what that sort of hing can do to wharf charges.

There was a grain of comfort for Papua New Guinea importers after he July 1 hike in the freight rates n cargo from Australia to PNG orts. This was a reduction in the unker surcharge from 8.02 per cent o 6.48 per cent. The freight rates vent up by 18 per cent, plus an ad- ditional $10 a tonne on refrigerated argo.

The new rates from Sydney and Brisbane for general cargo are (old rates in brackets):

Port Moresby-Samarai — $40.20 a cubic metre ($34.05); $44.80 a tonne ($37.95).

Lae-Rabaul-Madang — $41.50 a cubic metre ($35.15); $46.20 a tonne ($39.15).

Kavieng-Kieta — $46.65 a cubic metre ($39.55); $52 a tonne ($44.05).

Honiara-Gizo — $49.25 a cubic metre ($41.75); $54.95 a tonne ($46.55).

Refrigerated cargo for Honiara-Gizo costs $77.20 a cubic metre ($56.95), while for the other destinations it is $72 a cubic metre ($52.55).

BUT RATE CUT FOR PNG COASTAL TRADE

Papua New Guinea introduced a completely new freight tariff for coastal vessels on July 1. One of the major effects is a cut in the rates for carrying staple items. The reduction, of 10 per cent, applied to such items as flour, sugar, rice, tinned meat and fish, wheatmeal and similar products.

To pay for those concessions, to recover cost increases and to allow a start to be made on introducing more reliable coastal vessels, freight rates on other commodities will rise by varying amounts. However, the rates on produce—copra, cocoa, coffee, etc—remain unaltered.

The Minister for Transport and Civil Aviation, Mr Iambakey Okuk, said the standard flat general cargo rate covering most commodities, irrespective of value, was abolished. Rates would be charged in a completely flexible manner in proportion to value, sensitivity or characteristics of each individual commodity.

A new committee, the Coastal Freight Rates Committee, will advise the minister on all matters related to coastal freight rates.

The Union Steam Ship Co of NZ Ltd has increased freight rates on the Auckland-Pacific Islands service by 7 per cent, plus a 3.33 per cent bunker surcharge. The increase is an interim one as the company has applied for a further rise. The increase became effective with the first voyage of the Union South Pacific after June 21.

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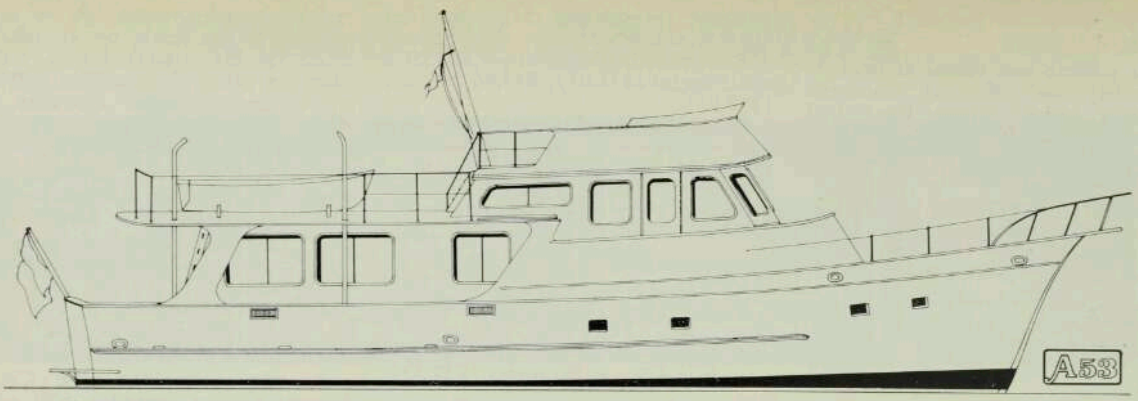

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Cruising Yachts

● **WANDERER IV,** Eric and Susan Hiscock's 48 ft steel ketch, arrived in Port Moresby on June 17 from Auckland via the New Hebrides. After a couple of weeks' stay, **Wanderer IV** sailed for Torres Strait, Darwin, South Africa and England.

● **VALHALLA,** a 45½ ft Block Island ketch from Hawaii arrived in Port Moresby on June 28 from Fiji and New Hebrides. On board were Phil Deming and crew Dave McAdams, Lee Stopher, Doug Mitchell. After a short stay **Valhalla** plans to sail for Indonesia and Singapore.

● **ESQUILO,** a 29 ft steel cutter from France sailed from Auckland, Noumea and the Loyalty Islands to arrive in Port Moresby on June 28. After a short stay, Don Nealey, his French wife Nicole and their two-year-old daughter Sabrina plan to sail for Darwin, Ceylon, the Seychelles, then on to South Africa.

● **LOTOS II,** a 32 ft fibreglass sloop from Germany, arrived in Port Moresby on June 29 from Vila. Skipper Dr Gunther Schneider told PIM he had a pleasant trip except for a collision with a whale 100 miles west of Malekula. Fortunately **Lotos II** suffered no damage but Dr Schneider received some bruised ribs when he was thrown from his bunk. After four weeks' stay, **Lotos II** plans to sail for Torres Strait and Indonesia.

● **KALEWA,** 37 ft sloop, registered in Vancouver (BC), arrived at Rarotonga on June 27 from Whangarei, New Zealand, with owner-captain John Cofrin, Carl Straubel and Gretchen Waters, Americans living in Canada. The cruise started from Sydney and it was planned to call at Bora Bora and Hawaii before returning to British Columbia.

● **WINDAWAY,** 36 ft ketch registered in Vancouver (BC) arrived at Rarotonga on June 25 from the Society Islands with owner-skipper A. Clements, his wife and their two sons. Their cruise started from British Columbia a year ago and since then they have called at California and the Marquesas and Society Islands. Plans were to visit New Zealand.

● **VOORDEWIND,** double-ender ketch registered at Ghent, Belgium, arrived at Rarotonga from Bora Bora on June 28 with owner-skipper L. Vallaman. Mr Vallaman, who built the yacht, is an ex-shipwright, and hopes to complete a circumnavigation. He left Zeebrugge on September 17, 1972, and ports of call included the Canary Islands, Barbados, Panama, the Galapagos, Marquesas and Society Islands. From Rarotonga, he planned to sail to Tonga, and said that future plans would depend upon the weather.

● **SEEKER,** a 30 ft fibreglass yacht, made her first visit to Fiji in June with single-hander Jim Kennedy who is cruising the Pacific after retiring last year as a space engineer in the United States. **Seeker** came to Fiji from Samoa where she went on a reef off Pago Pago, and spent three weeks in a land-locked lagoon before being lifted out. From Fiji, **Seeker** is expected to sail for the New Hebrides and then on to the Solomons and the Caroline Islands.

● PIM was brought up to date on the movements of **SHEBESSA,** an English ketch, in a note from skipper Norman Martin and wife Sheila. During 1973 **Shebessa** cruised from Melbourne to Sydney, Lord Howe Island, Noumea, New Hebrides and the Solomons to New Guinea. She spent the cyclone season in Madang then left in April for Samarai; thence to Cairns where she was joined by Johnny Matthews, from London, and John Stockton, from Adelaide. After cruising the northern part of the Barrier Reef, **Shebessa** headed for Thursday Island then Darwin. They expected to leave Darwin late June for Dili, Bali, Christmas Island, Cocos Keeling, the Maldives, Seychelles, Mombasa, then down the east coast of Africa to Durban. Next year they'll return to England to complete a circumnavigation, either direct or via Rio. The Martins send their regards to all other cruising yachties.

● **KEEWAYDIN,** 61-year-old Bermuda-rigged ketch, is on her first round-the-world voyage after 10 years of extensive refitting. Her new owners, Lundin Bartil and David Sundbaum, are operating their passenger/crew basis world cruise out of a small Swedish town. When she left Suva for Vila (June 27) only seven hands were aboard, most of them crew members. From Vila, **Keewaydin** will sail for Cairns, Australia, and from there work her way slowly towards home. She is powered by a 160 hp auxiliary motor and has wall-to-wall carpets, central heating and 16 spacious bunks.

● **CORAL SEA,** 31 metre Polish yacht, was a recent visitor to Rarotonga, carrying Captain Michelowski and a crew of 10. She arrived via Amsterdam, Casablanca, Galapagos and Rangiroa.

● **STRANGER IV,** a 41 ft ferro-concrete yacht registered in Auckland, called at Suva during June on a round trip from New Zealand to Fiji. On board were New Zealanders Ian Reid, Philip Dumper, John Nash and Glen Miller.

● **THURSTON,** a 23 ft fibreglass sloop, registered in San Diego, California, arrived in Fiji at the end of May with Gordon and Sylvia Thurston and their daughter Sherry (12). The Thurstons, who are Canadian citizens, are emigrating to Australia.

They left San Diego, where they had

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Your friends would like to know where you are, your plans, etc. PIM would too, so drop us a note or card with details of your boat (photo if you have one), crew, ports of call and anything of interest.

● **Top picture, Keewaydin in full sail on Suva Harbour and at right, at anchor at Suva wharf.**

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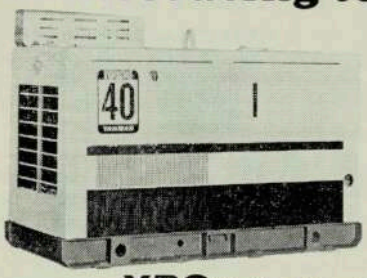

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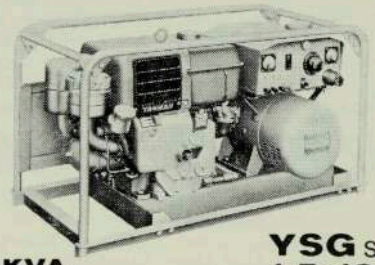

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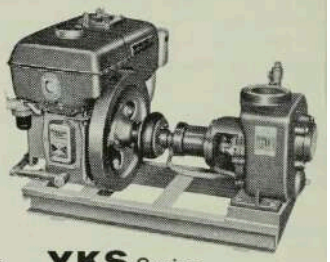

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been living, last year and spent some months in Honolulu before coming to Fiji. They intended staying in Fiji only long enough to re-rig **Thurston** and take on fresh supplies. However, Gordon is at present in hospital with hepatitis and will not be fit to sail for at least another six weeks.

● With the hurricane season over a number of harbours in the Pacific are "alive" with cruising yachts. One of these is Pago Pago which, early in June, provided mooring space for 21 ocean-going yachts. Some of these were locally-owned, others came from such places as Switzerland, Sweden and New Zealand. The visitors included **TE MOANA, ILLIHEE, MERRY MAIDEN, SEVEN SEAS, STORM-STRUTTER, LISSA, FABJOUS JOY, WILLI-WAW, KEEWAYDIN** and **MAGIC DRAGON.**

● **BOOMERANG,** 35 ft trimaran, arrived at Rarotonga on July 5 with single-hander Elmar Lundgren. His cruise started from Vancouver and took him to Hawaii, Tahiti and the Leeward Islands. He will visit Tonga, Fiji and New Zealand.

● **TRIPTYCH,** the 65 ft ketch-rigged trimaran with Canadians Matthew Burpee and wife Betty on board was in Fiji in June, writes Matt in response to an appeal (PIM, May, p 107) from a reader for news of the pair. "Since leaving Fiji in August, 1972," writes Matt, "we have visited the New Hebrides—our favourite spot being Tanna. We then went to New Caledonia—Yate, Noumea and Isle of Pines. **Triptych** was left in Noumea while we took an air trip home for Christmas, our first in nine years—lots of snow and temperature down to minus 35F degrees. In early March we sailed to New Zealand, stopping at the Bay of Islands before continuing to Auckland. Since then, we have done a complete refit and are just on a short cruise before settling down to a shore job for a while. We expect to get back to NZ in early to mid July."

● **RONAKI,** a converted clinker-built fishing boat, was in Suva in June during a cruise of the Fiji Islands. On board are her skipper and owner, Mr Ron Ray of Auckland, New Zealand, and his two crew members, brothers Derry and Alec Woods of Nelson, New Zealand. **Ronaki** has no ballast keel. It was removed during her conversion from a fishing boat to a pleasure boat, after spending 25 years fishing out of Port Chalmers, New Zealand. She draws only 3 ft 9 in. and to make up for the lack of keel she carries 3½ tons of concrete as ballast. She has left for New Zealand by way of the west coast of Fiji and Tonga.

● **SOFIA,** 90 ft topsail schooner registered at Gloucester (Mass), USA, arrived at Rarotonga on June 21 from Bora Bora with skipper Eric Thiel and an all American crew of 10 young men and women. The cruise started from Sweden, where **Sofia** was built 53 years ago, and calls were made at Portsmouth, England, Kiel, Germany, and Vigo in northern Spain. Two years were spent in the small Spanish port of Alicante on the Mediterranean coast, then the voyage continued to the West Indies, Costa Rica, Panama, the Galapagos, Marquesas and islands of French Oceania. After a week in Rarotonga **Sofia** was to sail for Tonga, Fiji, and New Zealand. "If funds hold out," one cheerful girl crew member said, "we'll probably visit Indonesia and then complete a circumnavigation." **Sofia** still has her original single diesel engine, but the masts, rigging and sails are all new.

● **MANYANA,** 38 ft ketch, anchored at Rarotonga on July 3 from New Zealand with owner-captain George Swinbourne, who built the yacht himself, Robert Brunswick, David Weir and Hugh Todd. The cruise started from Melbourne and after a call at Lord Howe Island they spent six weeks cruising in New Zealand's Fiordland without sighting another yacht. Calls were made at Wellington and Auckland and they made headlines in NZ when they were granted an interview by Prince Charles who later had a carton of beer sent to **Manyana** by helicopter. Except for New Zealander Hugh Todd, captain and crew are Australians. Prince Charles went to school in Australia. From Rarotonga, George Swinbourne plans to cruise to Sweden with calls at Tahiti, Bora Bora, Hawaii, Panama, West Indies and the Mediterranean. He will then return to Australia with stops at Rio de Janeiro, Tonga and Fiji.

● The NZ Shipping Corporation's **LORENA** was diverted to Raoul Island in June to pick up the crew of the yacht, **MOEROA.** The **Moeroa** was an entrant in the Auckland-Rarotonga yacht race, and put into Raoul after it was damaged in a storm. While at Raoul she dragged her anchor and was dashed against the rocks and wrecked. On board were owner-skipper Gary Treadgold, Debby Lee, Sharon Reid, Murray Williams and Murray Cornwall.

● **INTERLUDE I,** 33 ft sloop, arrived at Rarotonga on July 2 from New Zealand with John McKenzie, Allan Lee and Rob Blackburn. The yacht is a steel-hulled, professionally built half-ton cup racer which was to have entered the recent Auckland-Rarotonga yacht race. However, because of the time involved in fitting out for cruising they could not make the race-starting date. Plans were to sail to San Francisco with calls at Tahiti, Christmas Island and Hawaii.

This is JAHAMA, a 36 ft fibreglass sloop registered at Honolulu, pictured in Suva Harbour on her fourth visit to Fiji in the five years that her skipper, single-hander Jack J. Ross, of Honolulu, has been cruising around the Pacific. Jack, a retired US Army major, came to Suva via Pago Pago, Apia and Wallis and Futuna. At one stage of his voyage, he was at the wheel for 13 hours when his auto-pilot broke down and he had to steer by hand. Jahama left for Honolulu early in July—quite a trip for a lone yachtee at this time of year with both wind and current against him.

● **VICTORIA,** 72 ft ketch, arrived at Rarotonga from Whangarei, NZ, on July 5 with American owner John Barkhorn and seven crew. The yacht was built in New Zealand recently and this was her maiden voyage. Next ports of call are Tahiti and Honolulu where Mr Barkhorn lives.

● PIM has had a note from a girl teaching in a Tongan outpost who wants to spend her vacation (December 1974/January 1975) under sail. She's a 25-year-old Canadian Erika Steinhubl, and she'd appreciate hearing from any yachties planning to be in the Tonga area about this time. Her address: PO Box 27, Pangai, Ha'apai, Tonga.

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HOLIDAYS FOR THE NARROW-MINDED

By ANNE BOLT

AT the little town of Stourport in Worcestershire I join the pair of narrow boats that are to be my home for a week. They are 70 feet long by just under seven feet wide—or should I say seven feet narrow. The motorboat Snipe, has a saloon and bar. It is diesel powered and tows the engineless Taurus, the "butty", with dining room and kitchen. Each boat accommodates six passengers in one double and four single cabins. Along the corridor is a hot shower.

It's surprising how comfortable the miniature cabins are, with plenty of running water for their hand-basins, a tiny wardrobe and honey-coloured pine panelling that makes them look pleasantly ship-shape.

Stourport still has a few pleasant Georgian corners. The town grew up around the important junction of the Stafford and Worcestershire Canal and the Severn river. (By and large England's canals were dug out and rivers made navigable at the end of the 18th and beginning of the 19th century. The inland waterways system really dates from 1761, after the third Duke of Bridgewater decided to build a canal to carry coal from his mines to Manchester.)

In Snipe and Taurus we start our journey from a complex of basins and locks. Stourport used to be the busiest of inland waterway junctions, with warehouses for cargoes, several hostelries for travellers, cottages for bargemasters, and rows of stables for the horses that towed the boats. Though nowadays commercial traffic has virtually ceased, the basins are bright with pleasure boats, the customs house has become a boat club and the clock-tower still functions.

We "lock down" to the tranquil waters of the Severn and slide gently downstream. On the river the speed limit is six miles an hour upstream and eight downstream. Stretched out in the sun on the cabin top I pretend to myself that I might read a book, but really I indulge in pure inactivity, unqualified relaxation. We pass a Severn Trow, one of the vessels which used to sail up from Bristol to tranship cargo at Stourport, now used by a sailing club.

Holt Reach, lined with weeping willows, is particularly beautiful, and so too are the swans which decorate the river as it winds beside the city of Worcester. The Cathedral and the Bishop's Palace overlook the water, and on the right bank the meadows provide what must be one of Britain's most perfectly situated county cricket grounds.

Next day we follow the Worcester and Birmingham Canal, finding a different sort of world. The banks seem almost close enough to touch and are lined with water lilies, purple loosestrife and orange balsam. We see herons standing sentinel along the banks. A wooded cutting leads us to

Eating out in Hong Kong

Having acquired a copy of "How to Order Chinese Food", which is available from the Hong Kong Tourist Association, a visitor will probably wonder where to go to try out his new-found knowledge.

There are numerous food guides available in Hong Kong, but one that has proved very popular with visitors and residents alike is "Eating Out in Hong Kong". This book was originally written by Judith Brodie, and it recently came out in a new edition with updated information by Peggy Printz.

This guide represents a very personal selection of what the author considers are the best restaurants in Hong Kong.

Personal visits have been paid to all the restaurants and all types of cuisine are included.

There are of course a number of Cantonese restaurants in the book, after all Cantonese food predominates in Hong Kong. For more exotic fare try one of Chiu Chow or Swatow restaurants or perhaps the very hot food served in Hong Kong's Szechwan restaurants.

But there are also Mexican, Italian, Indian and French restaurants in this very extensive selection, something for every palate.

The restaurants are listed according to type of cuisine at the beginning of the book, and then appear in alphabetical order throughout. There are selections from the menu for each establishment, and approximate prices. Those restaurants which accept credit cards have been marked accordingly.

There is a list by location as well, very convenient if you are trying to find somewhere near your hotel, and an outline map at the back of the book will identify the various areas.

The book is available in Hong Kong from book-shops and stationers at HK$7.

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the 236 yard long Dunhampstead Tunnel, the first of five on the route. There is no towpath through the darkness, and the horses used to walk over the hill while the boatmen pulled themselves along by handrails, some of which one can still see.

We pass Hanbury Wharf, now the site of a marina crammed with small pleasure craft, and a few miles farther on we get our first glimpse of the "industrial archeology" that is all the rage: the Stoke Works, built in 1828. Now a nostalgic ruin, the installation once pumped brine from underground sources. It was in demand for industrial use and provided much of the canal's trade, but eventually, following the pattern general throughout the English canal system, the trade was taken away by the faster railways. The steam locomotive companies ran their lines on routes corresponding to the waterways, and the competition of greater speed and cut-throat rates finally caused the slow, sad commercial death of the canals—though the next 20 years may bring a reversal of that fate.

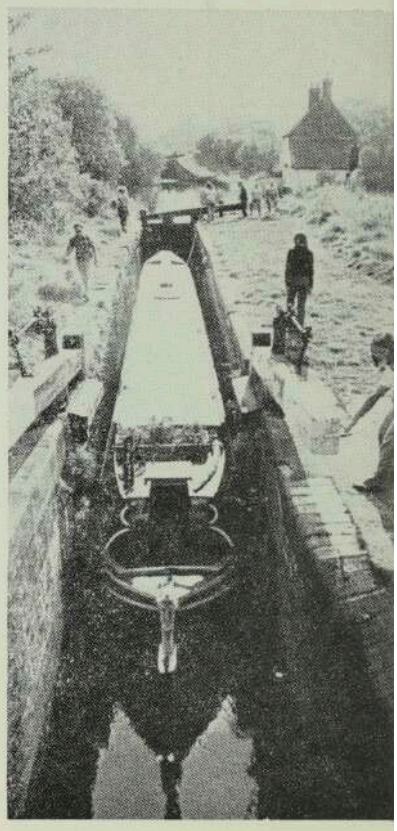
On our second evening we moor near Stoke Pound and go to look at Avoncroft Open Air Museum, which is less than a mile away across the fields. Among the old buildings rescued from demolition and re-erected here are a post mill, a granary on curved brick supports and an iron and nail works.

Next morning it is our turn to climb the hills via 58 locks in 16 miles, the most heavily locked section of the whole British waterways system. On the River Severn locks are electrically operated by professional lock-keepers, but we have had some practice manhandling the unattended locks on the Worcester and Birmingham Canal. The famous long flight of Tardebigge Locks have well balanced gates with paddles in good order, and we reach the summit in time for lunch—quite proud of ourselves.

It is not strictly necessary for passengers on hotel boats to work the locks. Our crew comprises Skipper Dave Massey and his wife Marianne plus two girls, Elizabeth, an ex-nurse, and Jane, a medical student. Elizabeth says, "If passengers don't help, I never think badly of them. It is their holiday". But of course helping speeds things along and it is fun to learn a new skill. All the girls enjoy navigating. They share cabin duties and cooking watch by watch. Marianne is an imaginative cook, and the food is excellent.

Of the characters on the way I am struck by retired lock-keeper Mr Edwards, who leans over his canal-side gate and reminisces about the days when barge-masters' draught mules and donkeys were stabled at the bottom of his garden—at a charge of six old pence per night—plus the feed. John Heming, a "lengthman" who had kept a section of the towpath clear for 46 years, told me there was still one horse-drawn barge working the "cut".

Most evenings we enjoy the simple delights of a local canal-side pub with shove-ha'penny and darts. At the little rural Hopton Hotel, the manager says the barge captains used to sleep in his small top floor rooms, and points out the wide benches in the Public Bar where the "leggers" slept between jobs. In the days before engines, these men, lying on their backs on special wing boards, used to push against the tunnel walls with their feet and "leg" the narrow-boats along the dark, damp, dank four and a half mile journey through the King's Norton Tunnel.



Tardebigge Locks.

We leave the Worcester and Birmingham Canal, before it stretches a leafy green finger into the heart of England's second largest city, and turn on to the Stratford-upon-Avon Canal. At first we amble between well-kept gardens belonging to wealthy suburbs of Birmingham, but soon we are back in our rural environment enjoying our 18th century pace and style. There are long beautiful meandering reaches and sometimes we cruise level with the tree tops and the occasional cottage chimneys.

I sit on the cabin top chatting to the helmsman and watching for kingfishers. They are such beautiful birds with chestnut breasts, a white throat patch and blue emerald plum-

AN END TO CONFUSION

Sadler's Wells Opera at the London Coliseum and Sadler's Wells Theatre, Rosebery Avenue, Islington. Have you ever got the two confused? Many people have. So in August, the Opera Company is changing its name to the English National Opera. Among the productions it will perform under its new name, in the 74/75 season, will be Verdi's Don Carlos, The Bassarids by Hans Werner Hense and Mozart's Magic Flute.

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age which seems iridescent as they flash across the water.

Skipper Dave, steering Snipe, is happy to teach me canal lore, for in their three years on the water he and his wife have become fascinated by narrow-boat life. Their cabin was colourful in traditional fashion, with gleaming brass, hand-made lace and pretty plates, threaded with ribbon and hung on the walls.

The estuaries and rivers of Britain are navigated by sailors and sea terminology is current. Families working on inland waterways have evolved their own patois. There is no port and starboard for instance. You call to the "steerer" not helmsman, "Hold in", ie turn towards the towpath, or "Hold out". We pass an old narrow-boat, "That's a Josher", says Dave. The boat was once owned by Fellows, Morton & Clayton Ltd, and the late Mr Fellows was called Joshua.

On our last day we follow the Grand Union Canal, skirting the remains of Shakespeare's Forest of Arden. Instead of travelling tandem the waterway is wide enough for the narrow-boats to be breasted up, and thus side by side we navigate a flight of 20 locks in 1 hour 28 minutes. Dave says he has never bettered 1 hour 40 minutes before, and we are all particularly proud of a tiny round elderly passenger who walked the lot, taking it as her job to shut one of the gates behind the boats. Between locks we travel at a spanking 10 miles an hour, the speed limit, and so I am able to accept an invitation to inspect a newly converted narrow-boat, have a cup of coffee and still catch up Snipe and Taurus three locks farther on.

In the afternoon, we moor opposite the charmingly named Cape of Good Hope, a tiny waterman's pub on the outskirts of Warwick, and there is time to see historic Warwick Castle, which crowns a steep cliff above the meanders of the River Avon. Legend has it the first earth works were erected by Ethelfleda, daughter of Alfred the Great, in 916 AD. Certainly before William the Conqueror's day there was an imposing fortification and the castle as it stands now was largely built in the 14th century.

You don't come across a Warwick castle every few miles. Canal-side scenery and canal life itself is more intimate, more suggestive of a slowed down film of rural life as it still exists away from busy roads and city centres.

If you want to take a cruiser on the inland waterways James Hoseasons of Sunday House, Lowestoft, Suffolk, is agent for a number of hire firms based at a variety of locations.

If you prefer a more gentle journey with someone else to navigate and cook for you, Peter Froud, of Inland Waterway Holiday Cruises, Preston Brook, Runcorn, Cheshire, has three pairs of hotel narrow-boats, including Snipe and Taurus, which operate a number of different cruises including the beautiful Welsh canals as well as the English waterways.

Similar facilities are available from the Inland Cruising Company, of Braunston, Daventry, Northamptonshire.

YOU CAN BE IN DARWIN AND LONDON ON THE SAME DAY BY BRITISH AIRWAYS!

British Airways flight schedules which were introduced recently make it possible to be in Darwin and London on the same day!

The service leaving Darwin at 12.30 am on Tuesdays arrives in London at 3.55 pm the same day (London time of course).

There are now four British Airways flights a week from Darwin to London. The other three leave at 7.40 pm on Sundays, 8.10 pm on Tuesdays and 5.40 pm on Wednesdays. All arrive in London next morning.

The services are operated by super VC10 jetliners.

The four return flights leaving London on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays are all by 747 jumbo jets.

Fiji athlete joins British Airways in Sydney

A former Suva Grammar School boy with an outstanding record in the sporting field, has recently joined British Airways in Sydney as a reservations assistant.

He is Fiji-born 24-year-old Grahame Gillmore who first represented his country in a junior international event as long ago as 1963 when he swam for Fiji against Australia and New Zealand.

When the second South Pacific Games were held in Noumea in 1966 he represented Fiji in the swimming events.

While working in New Zealand in 1969, he and some friends from Fiji raced an 18-footer and finished third in the fresh water championships. Later that year, Grahame represented Fiji in yachting in the third South Pacific Games and gained a bronze medal.

In January 1971 he competed in the South Pacific javelin championships in New Zealand, again representing Fiji.

In the 4th South Pacific Games in August 1971 in Papeete, Tahiti, he captained the swimming team and competed in the yachting section.

In 1973, he won the Fiji open championships in yachting and represented the country in yachting in Australia in January 1974.

From 1965 to 1969 Grahame competed in the Fiji cycle races held in conjunction with the hibiscus festival and won the sprint twice and the distance three times.

Since leaving Fiji for Australia early this year, he has taken up motor cross riding. His next target? —the Sydney/Hobart yacht race.

Before joining British Airways, Grahame was a senior passenger agent with American Airlines in Suva.

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BIG PRIZES FOR THE B.A. JUNIOR JET-SETTERS!

Uncle Peter asks British Airways Junior Jet-Setters to write stories about their holidays, real or imagined, and is offering some wonderful prizes. Here is what he has to say:

Do you sometimes have the feeling that you could tell a good story (other than the ones you make up especially for Mum!)? Perhaps when you are older, you will write a book or . . . on the other hand maybe you are more interested in reporting the way things really are.

Well, here's a chance to try yourself out. I'm not judging your spelling or grammar (enough of that at school I guess), only how well you make up a story or how well you report an incident, picking out the principal things that interest more people.

Here is an idea to get you going: you could write a story of a family going on holiday in the year 2000 or 1974, or even 1674!

You could talk of the places, people and animals that they meet and see and you should do all you can to read and learn about the different people and use the facts that you have gathered together to build up your story.

What I need to know about you is: your name and address; your age; your junior jet club mileage; and whether the basis of your story is true or imaginary.

Prizes are the same for those who enter for the true story competition as well as for the imaginary story competition. They are:

1st. A Li-lo airbed 72 in. x 29 in.

2nd. A black leather writing case complete with notepaper pad and envelopes

3rd. The Travellers Digest—an interesting guide book covering six continents

4th. There are 20 fourth places of a pack of playing cards.

Every entry will be acknowledged. The closing date for this competition is September 30, 1974. You should mail your entries either direct to me:

Uncle Peter,
British Airways,
PO Box 1361
Suva, FIJI

or to your travel agent who will send it to me.

COMING EVENTS IN BRITAIN

Some highlights of the next few months

August

4 **Harrogate Festival of Arts and Sciences.** Harrogate, Yorkshire, to 17 August.
4 **Tall Ships Parade of Sail** Solent, Isle of Wight.
5 **Royal National Eisteddfod,** Carmarthen, to 10 August.
16 **Edinburgh Military Tattoo.** Castle Esplanade, Edinburgh, to 7 September.
17 **Royal Scottish Academy Festival Exhibition.** Royal Scottish Academy, Edinburgh, to 15 September (provisional).
18 **Edinburgh International Festival.** Edinburgh, to 7 September.
18 **Three Choirs Festival** Gloucester, to 23 August.

September

2 **International Air Show.** Farnborough, Hampshire, to 8 September.
7 **Braemar Royal Highland Gathering.** Braemar, Aberdeenshire.
12 **World 3-Day Event Championship (Horse Trials).** Burley, Ringwood,
14 **Horse Racing: St Leger** Doncaster, Yorkshire.
27 **Newcastle Festival** Newcastle upon Tyne, Northumberland, to 13 October.

October

4 **Windsor Festival** Windsor Castle & Eton College, Windsor, Berkshire to 12 October.
5 **National Brass Band Championships** Royal Albert Hall, London.
7 **Horse of the Year Show** Wembley, London to 12 October.
15 **Royal Ulster Agricultural Society Annual Show & Sale** Balmoral, Belfast to 17 October.
16 **International Motor Exhibition** Earls Court, London to 26 October.
19 **Bath Bach Festival** Bath, Somerset to 26 October.
19 **Ladies' Kennel Association Championship Dog Show** Olympia, London.
19 **Rugby: Wales v Tonga (Union)** Cardiff Arms Park, Cardiff.
21 **Kensington Antique Fair** Kensington, London to 26 October.

November

3 **RAC Veteran Car Run** London/Brighton, Sussex (provisional).
7 **International Caravan & Camping Show** Earls Court, London to 16 November.
9 **Lord Mayor's Procession & Show** Guildhall to Royal Courts of Justice, London.
10 **Queen's University Festival** in and around Queen's University, Belfast to 23 November.
10 **Remembrance Service** Westminster Abbey, London.
11 **Tennis: Dewar Cup** Royal Albert Hall, London to 16 November.
16 **Rugby Football: Ulster v New Zealand** Ravenhill, Belfast.
25 **Churchill Exhibition "Churchill the Writer"** Kings Library gallery, British Library, British Museum, London to January.
30 **National Cat Club Championship Show** Olympia, London.

December

2 **Royal Smithfield & Agricultural Machinery Exhibition** Earls Court, London to 6 December.
4 **Richmond Championship Dog Show** Olympia, London and 5 December.
16 **D'Oyly Carte Opera Company** Sadler's Wells Theatre, London to 22 March.
18 **Dunhill International Show Jumping Championships** Olympia, London to 21 December.

January, 1975

European Architectural Heritage Year Throughout Europe January to December.
1 **International Racing Car Show** Olympia, London to 11 January.
1 **International Boat Show** Earls Court, London to 11 January.
1 **Camping, Outdoor Life & Travel Exhibition** Olympia, London to 12 January.
4 **The Holiday '75 Show** Olympia, London to 12 January.

February

1 **Rugby: Scotland v Ireland (Union)** Murrayfield, Edinburgh.
1 **Rugby: England v France (Union)** Twickenham, Middlesex.
7 **Cruft's Dog Show** Olympia, London and 8 February.

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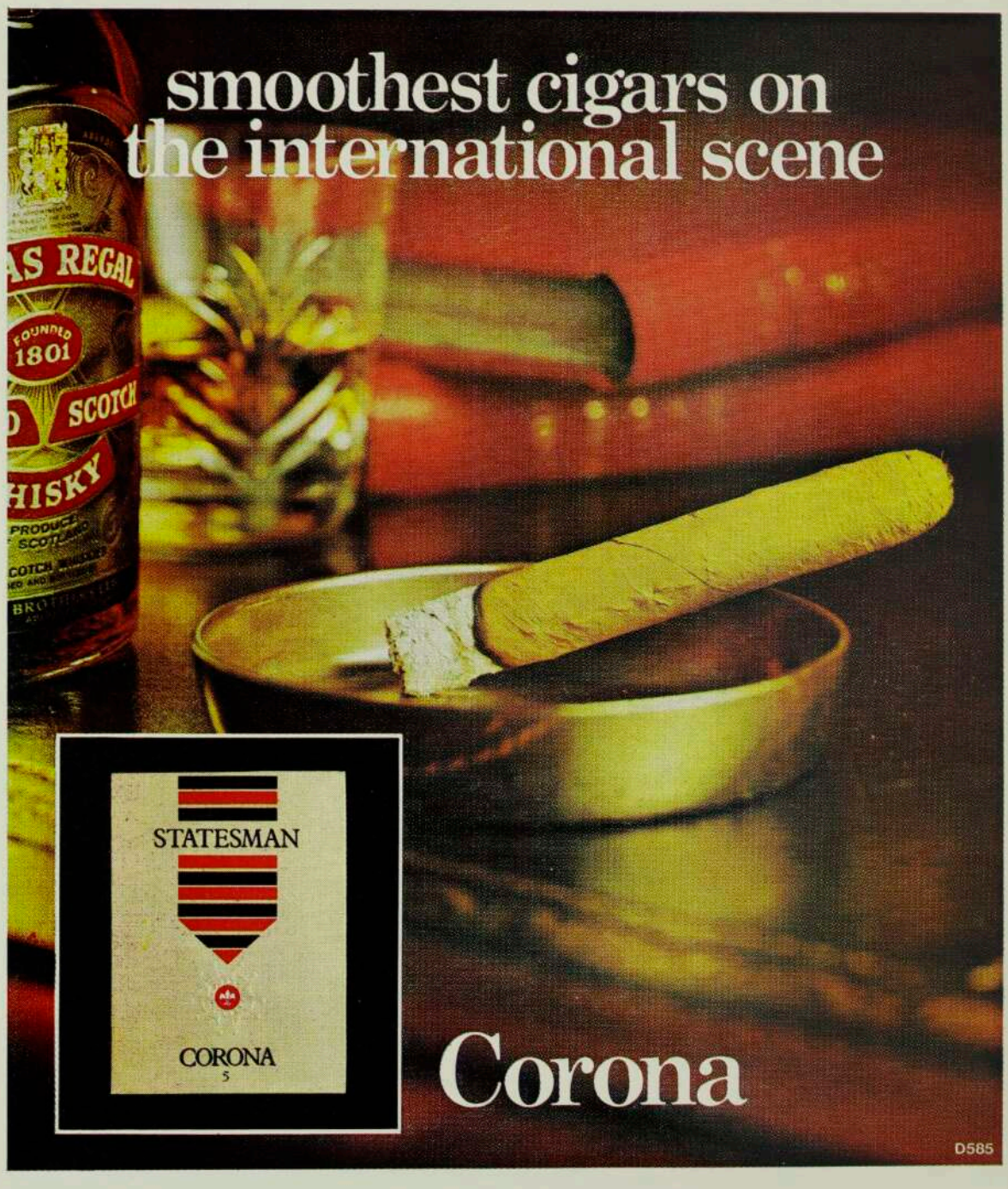

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PNG CHOOSES SYDNEY FOR ITS FIRST OFFICIAL CENTRE OVERSEAS

By OALA OALA-RARUA, Commissioner in Australia for the Papua New Guinea Government.

The opening of Papua New Guinea House in Sydney marks another step in our country's gradual involvement in the world community. Just over seven months ago we became a self-governing country. Self-government marked the beginning of a realistic and meaningful relationship between Papua New Guinea and Australia. Even though, until independence, Australia is still responsible for our dealings with other countries, the official opening of our first government office in Australia further reinforces the realistic and meaningful relationship our government wishes to achieve with Australia.

Papua New Guinea House in Sydney is not only the first official government office to be opened in Australia, but also the first to be opened in the world.

PNG was given naming rights for the building, to identify it as the major base for the country's operations and links with Australia.

It is fitting that this first office should be in Australia—a country that has assisted and helped us to advance to where we find ourselves today, ready to take our place in the world community.

As the first Papua New Guinea Government Commissioner to Australia I am sure that the opening of our government office in Sydney will assist Papua New Guinea and Australia to forge meaningful relationships as bordering neighbours.

The Papua New Guinea Government Commission in Australia, now has offices in both Canberra and Sydney. While the Canberra office will deal with the usual diplomatic matters and will be regarded as the headquarters of our mission in Australia, Sydney will remain the biggest and busiest part of our mission, looking after all our consular and trade activities.

Sydney activities

The old Sydney office of the former External Territories Department has now become part of our mission on loan to us from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs but working with us and responsible to our Government Representative, Mr Vincent Eri.

Our representative in Sydney will deal with the following activities:

- Procurement, including contracts and tenders.
- Permits.
- Trade promotion and research.
- Information and public relations.
- Accounts.

Mr Vincent Eri.

The Papua New Guinea Representative in Sydney, Mr Vincent Eri, took up his appointment in July, replacing Mr Robin Kumaina, who has been appointed PNG's first Commissioner in Jakarta. Mr Eri, born at Moreave Village, Gulf District, in 1936, three times acted as Director of Education, once for six months.

Education has been his forte since training as a teacher in the early 1950s. He taught at various Gulf District Schools, while continuing his studies, till 1962. He then became an acting District Inspector of Schools. He went into PNG University in 1967 and graduated BA. Near the end of 1973, Mr Eri was Acting Director of what was then the Department of Information and Extension Services. This is now the Office of Information.

Mr Eri is the author of "The Crocodile", the first novel published by a New Guinean.

This is where all the action is

The PNG Government has a three-year lease of five floors of the 10-storey Papua New Guinea House, with the option of a renewal for a further three years. While it has no rights over the rest of the building, the owners, A. V. Jennings, will give PNG first refusal when other tenants come along.

There is a New Guinean at the head of the staff in PNG House as representative, to become consul or consul-general when PNG becomes independent. The staff, mostly Australians, are paid by the Australian Government, and they handle mainly the details of entry permits and buying and contracts.

The permit section is processing hundreds of entry applications, on the split-level ground floor. The administration is on the first floor, and the buying and contract section, dealing in millions of dollars, is on the second floor. The third floor, used for the PNG festival in July, will probably be the showplace of the building.

This floor will depict many facets of life in PNG—her products, the way of life of the people, their traditions, their handicrafts. It will be open to the public. It could become the centre for promoting the tourist industry in Papua New Guinea.

The PNG Representative, Mr Vincent Eri, and his staff are on the 10th and top floor. There will also be a reference library on the 10th

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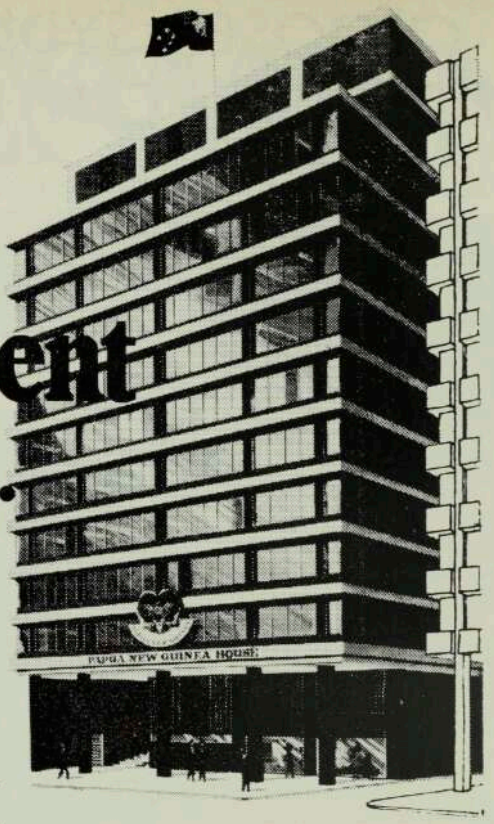
make an independent move...



Papua New Guinea House.

Move to the new headquarters of Papua New Guinea in Sydney. The new home of the Trade Commission, the centre of the tourist industry, the Head Office of Air Niugini and the centre of all other Consular activities.

The location: adjacent to the junction of Market and Clarence Streets (225 Clarence Street), which makes it a very handy place to be (right in the heart of things). It also can be a very handy place for you to be if your business involves doing business with Papua New Guinea.

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small piece of PNG

or, providing a wealth of informa-
n about PNG. This is in the pro-
ss of being built up. There is also
conference room on this floor.

There is an open verandah on the
th floor, looking over part of the
mmercial section of Sydney. A
lection of pot plants, and easy
airs, make a good setting for a re-
ked conference.

The visitor does not have much
ance to forget he is in a small
ece of PNG when he is in New
inea House. Artifacts, carvings,
at covers and so on all tell some
ory of PNG.

The Papua New Guinea Govern-
ent hopes that the remaining floors
ll be tenanted by firms which are
tively engaged in business with
NG.

A large area of one floor was
ased to Territory Airlines in June.

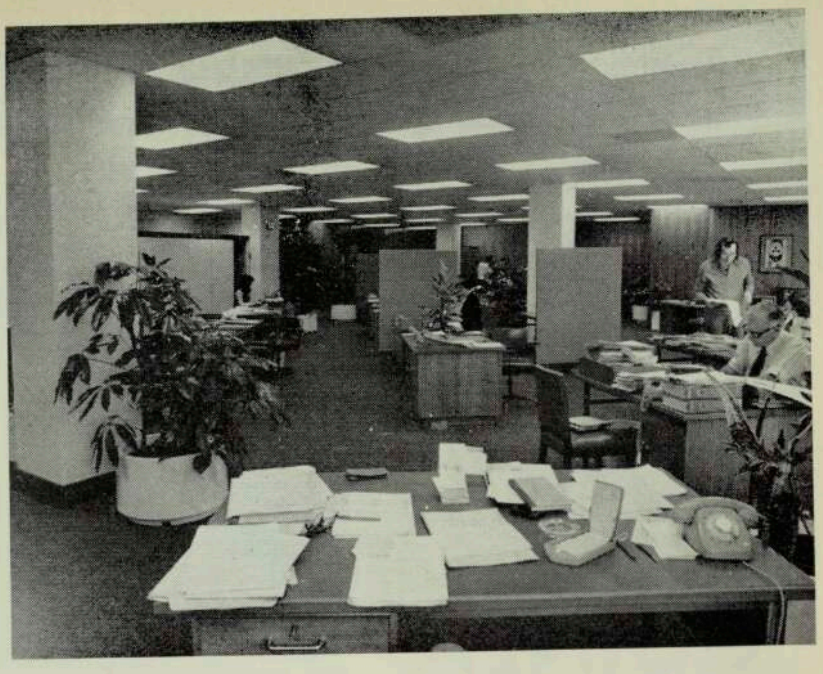
Papua New Guinea House is a
inforced concrete structure with
ab floors, which have upturned edge
ams to form an extensive facade.
he facade is finished in plastic-
ated window frames and incor-
orates gloss-finished asbestos cement
ature panels. An interesting feature
the building is the magnetically-
ded card key system which allows
hours access seven days a week,
hile maintaining office security.

The property is strategically situ-
ed, close to an underground rail-
ay station, and only a block away
om a bus terminal. It is within
alking distance of the heart of the
dney shopping area.

As a lead up to the official open-
g of PNG's first office overseas, a
ltural festival was arranged, start-
g on July 22. A continuous screen-
g depicted life in the country in
s many aspects, including exhibitions
natives carving wood. The Mekeo
ance group performed traditional
nces daily. On display were facets
life in the country—traditional,
mmercial, agricultural, etc.

Arrangements were made to have
rties of schoolchildren visit the
stival, which was open to the pub-
c.

The Chief Minister, Mr Michael
omare, was scheduled to arrive in
dney on July 25. He was expected,
fter the official opening, to go to
anberra for a couple of days, and
fly back to PNG on July 29.



INSIDE PAPUA NEW GUINEA HOUSE

These two floors in PNG House seemed quiet enough when these pictures were taken but they're really hives of industry. At top is the second floor where contracts and buying operations are being processed. Bottom is the split-level ground floor where entry permit applications are dealt with. As soon as the visitor enters the building, as the decor in the picture shows, he's in no doubt he's in a piece of Papua New Guinea.

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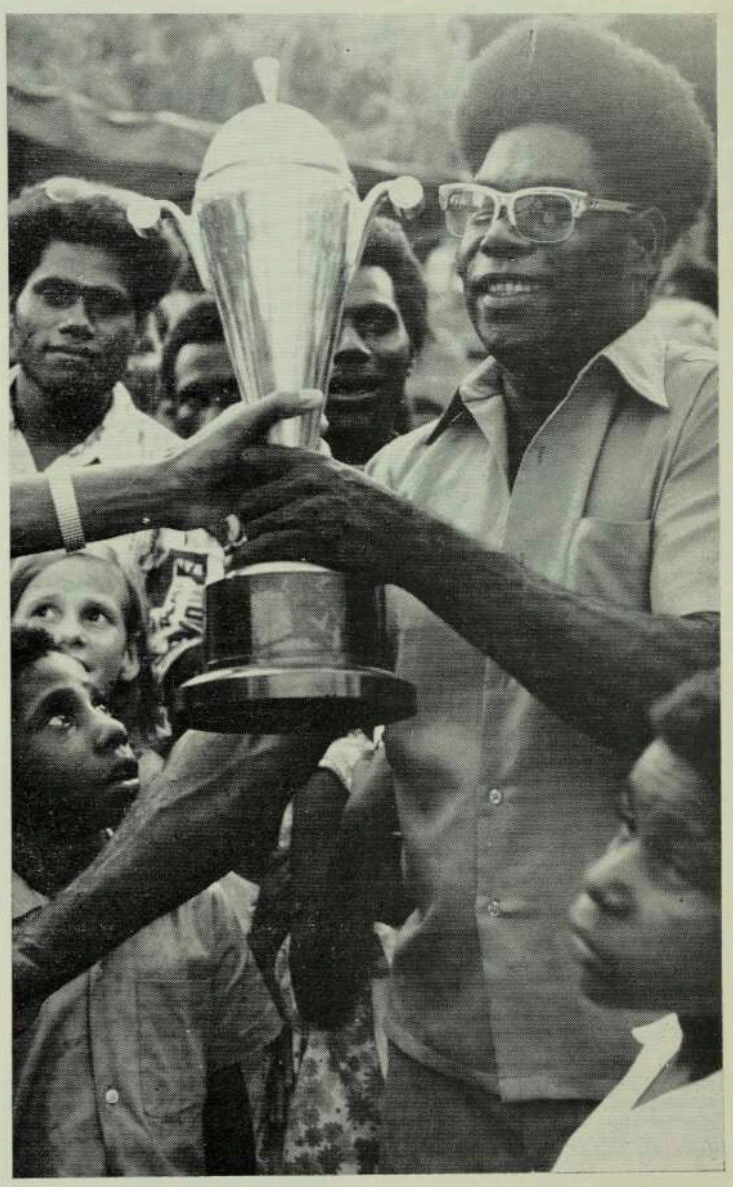
CONGRATULATIONS

TO PAPUA NEW GUINEA



Sure steps to self-government in 1973 established for Papua New Guinea a pattern of progress towards independence and a full place in world affairs.

The opening of Papua New Guinea House as a Trade, Consular and Tourist Centre in Sydney is a positive indication of the progress being made.

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AN 8-POINT PLAN FOR PROSPERITY

From a Port Moresby correspondent

Papua New Guinea's philosophy is an eight-point improvement plan which did not just happen overnight. It evolved from visits ministers, led by the Chief Minister, made to towns and villages.

The ministers soon realised, after meeting many people, that although different areas had different problems, there was an overall similarity. Many continuing policies, drawn up under earlier administrations, were out of date. They did not provide for the type of development PNG wanted.

Mr Somare reported that some of the problems were:

- Villages almost empty of young men who had gone to the towns for work;
- Unemployment in the towns;
- Sick people having to walk miles for medical help;
- Schooling which did not prepare students for life in the villages or towns;
- A lack of roads and bridges which stopped people from taking their produce to market;
- Small businesses and co-operatives not making profits;
- A wide gap in living standards between a few rich and a majority poor.

To tackle these problems an overall philosophy of development was laid down so that all government departments could work to the kind of development required. Many departments have produced new plans and ideas which will help to develop the eight-point plan philosophy.

The eight-point improvement plan is:

- A rapid increase in the proportion of the economy under the control of New Guinean individuals and groups, and in the proportion of personal and property income that goes to New Guineans;
- More equal distribution of economic benefits, including movement towards equalisation of incomes among people and toward equalisation of services among different areas of the country;
- Decentralisation of economic activity, planning and government spending, with emphasis on agricultural development, village industry, better internal trade and more spending channelled to local and area bodies;
- An emphasis on small-scale artisan, service and business activity, relying where possible on typically New Guinean forms of economic activity;
- A more self-reliant economy, less dependent for its needs on imported goods and services and better able to meet the needs of its people through local production;
- An increasing capacity for meeting government spending needs from locally raised revenue;
- A rapid increase in the activity and equal participation of women in all forms of economic and social activity;
- Government control and involvement in those sectors of the economy where control is necessary to achieve the desired kind of development.

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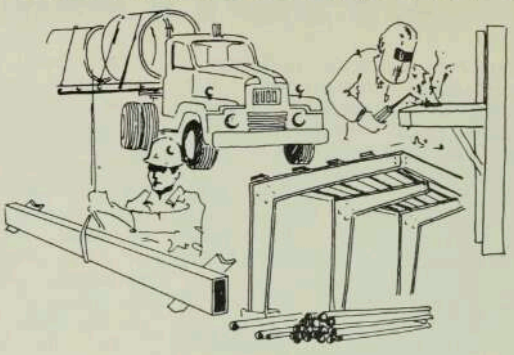

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PNG will fly the 'peace flag'

Although not yet independent, and although Australia is still responsible for her overseas affairs, Papua New Guinea is quietly developing a foreign policy.

PNG is keen to identify itself among the nations of the world, and already several countries have quietly "invaded" the country over the last year or so with foreign representation. These include Britain, Indonesia, New Zealand and Australia—a full-blown diplomatic corps in the making.

PNG has already set up overseas offices in Canberra and Sydney, and will soon add offices in Wellington, Suva, Jakarta, Tokyo and New York. These offices will undertake a full range of diplomatic, trade and consular functions.

The PNG Chief Minister, Mr Michael Somare, believes PNG must adopt what he calls a "universalist stance". While she was interested in the ideological and security questions which faced the world today, PNG would not neglect its commitment to her people by involving herself in international squabbling on those issues, he said.

PNG will not seek any form of ideological or military grouping with the big powers. PNG supports a zone of true peace and neutrality in the oceans which lie on either side—the Pacific and the Indian. PNG wants them to be kept free of the arms race in which the big powers competed for military prestige. Although not yet a member of the United Nations, PNG believes in the principles of the UN charter, and will co-operate with all efforts to promote peace, security and international justice.

The basic foreign policy has already been laid down by the Minister for Defence, Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Albert Maori Kiki and the PNG Cabinet. Mr Kiki's portfolio covers three important and sensitive departments of government, all closely linked. As time passes it is likely that each department will have a separate minister, as foreign affairs, defence and trade will be too much for one man.

PNG will be no fledgling in foreign affairs when it becomes independent. The country has already been directly involved in international meetings and negotiations—trade talks with Japan, and formalising border agreements with her nearest neighbour, Indonesia.

In foreign economic policies, Papua New Guinea enters what Mr Somare calls "a period of exciting economic challenge" as she realises the extent and wealth of her natural resources. In realising her resource potential, he says two factors will underlie every decision made on foreign economic policy:

- That about 95 per cent of the people live in a traditional village society;
- A system of real values, the mainstay of the country's society, has developed over hundreds of years.

Mr Somare says these values will not be destroyed for the sake of what is known as development and progress.

Several PNG leaders, notably the Chief Minister, and the Finance Minister, Mr Julius Chan, have laid down the terms for foreign investment. Basically foreign investment will be on PNG terms for the benefit of the PNG people, while still allowing investors profit from their enterprise (see p 102).

There is no intention on the part of the present government to take Papua New Guinea out of the British Commonwealth. Mr Somare, during

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Several generations have known and been associated with Burns Philp in Papua New Guinea, many of them employed and trained by our company. We've been involved in the development of the country through education and training programmes, business and economic development. Transport and shipping, agriculture and trading, stimulation of the tourist industry, programmes of community assistance — all are part of our continuing contribution to this diversified and fascinating country.

We're proud to be playing our part to improve the standard of agricultural, service and distribution industries, to develop valuable trading links world wide, increasing Papua New Guinea's international understanding and trade. We're committed to these things, and we're committed to making them better. Tomorrow in Papua New Guinea will be a good day.

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An office in Suva

The Royal tour of PNG by the Queen earlier this year said it was his personal hope that the flag of PNG would soon fly alongside the flags of other Commonwealth countries. PNG would benefit from contacts with the African bloc and Caribbean countries in the Commonwealth. Contact with those countries could lead to cultural exchange and a greater understanding and co-operation in solving similar development problems.

PNG would maintain its trade links with Britain, and through Britain with the EEC. Much of the foreign policy would be directed to relationships with other Pacific countries.

Mr Somare believes the Pacific Islands can best protect their interests and further their aspirations through regional co-operation. PNG will have a role in the South Pacific Forum, where she meets Island neighbours on an equal footing. An indication of the importance she attaches to her relationship with her Island neighbours is the decision to set up an office in Suva.

But PNG is also keen to have a better understanding with Indonesia and other Asian countries within the ASEAN regional grouping. PNG supports the formation of regional groupings of countries with common interests and objectives, and is keenly interested in proposals for a quadripartite grouping covering PNG, Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand.

Overall, PNG is aiming at a home-grown foreign policy, and not one with large sections grafted on by others, or borrowed from others. Thus, she is prepared to take her time about developing her foreign affairs policy, and not jump in too quickly to form alliances, or take sides on world issues.

Almost coinciding with the official opening of Papua New Guinea House was the appointment of three diplomatic appointments in overseas posts. Mr Robin Kumaina, Representative of the PNG Government in Sydney, will go to Jakarta as Commissioner and Representative to the Indonesian Government. Mr Leo Morgan, recently Assistant Secretary, Ministerial Services in the Department of the Chief Minister and Development Administration is Commissioner in Wellington and Representative to the NZ Government. Mr Vincent Eri is in Sydney as Representative (see p 93 for background).

OUT SOON!

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'WE WANT HELP, BUT

Papua New Guinea, which is rich in natural resources and manpower, lacks the capital and the expertise to exploit them. The Chief Minister and other ministers frankly admit they need outside help, but say that the outside help in the form of investment and know-how, must be on PNG's terms.

The country is well-placed to dictate its terms. The lessons, often bitter, learned by the many new independent countries since World War II, provide useful guidelines for the development of her policies. Some steps have already been taken.

Mr Somare recently went to Australia to address the Institute of Directors on his country's foreign investment policy. He left those captains of industry in no doubt that his people will share, in one way or another, foreign investment benefits.

Investors will have to be aware of local customs and traditions, of property rights which can differ from those elsewhere and realise that, in the eyes of New Guineans, return on investment is not as important as some other results of business activity. For example, a business could provide services to the members of one's own kin group, or it could make new goods available in a region.

The PNG custom of holding regular pig exchanges was based on demonstrating mutual obligations between groups and on sharing evenly. Those exchanges reinforced traditional values. Those objectives, as seen by the PNG people, were worthwhile, regardless of straight business profit.

Profit thus becomes, not an end in itself, but rather a necessity for staying in business.

If PNG people saw the role of business enterprises like that then it was logical to expect those ideas to have a real effect on their thinking on foreign investment in PNG, Mr Somare argued.

One consequence was that PNG investment priorities would differ from those which would be determined by purely profit considerations. A pig freezer might be preferred to highly profitable popcorn factories.

The PNG evaluation of investment proposals would be guided by the benefits the country expected from them in terms of her national objectives. Investment in underdeveloped districts might be preferred to investment in the already highly-developed towns.

The recently set-up National Investment and Development Authority will be the central body for co-ordinating dealings between an investor and the PNG Government. As a central agency it should make life easier for foreign companies which, at present, had to deal with as many as a dozen different government units. The authority would also make it easier for the government to follow a consistent policy towards all potential investors, and to enforce laws and arguments once investors went into business.

The NIDA will also work towards setting PNG priorities for investment. In some fields, such as petroleum and natural gas, PNG would actively seek foreign investment because only overseas companies had the capital and organised skills to develop the resources. But in other areas, such as road transport and agriculture, foreign investment would be actively discouraged and the field reserved for New Guineans.

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JST BE ON OUR TERMS,' SAYS SOMARE

vill also be required to provide train-
ng to increase the number of skilled
itizens.

Mr Somare believes PNG cannot
fford to allow major companies in
'NG to acquire a trained work force
imply by increasing wage rates and
ttracting workers from other indus-
ries. That would have a disastrous
ffect on efforts to control inflation.
t would also place an impossible
train on the limited manpower re-
ources available to the public service,
vhich could not compete at that
evel. Investors would be required
o train their own staff. If they did
et workers from other firms, they
night still be required to train ad-
litional people.

Newly-trained staff could then join
he national labour market. In that
vay every investment project would
nake a positive contribution to the
reation of a trained work force.

Investors will also be required to
uy supplies from local sources,
vhenever they are available at com-
etitive prices, as, for instance, from
he PNG highlands which can pro-
luce almost all vegetables.

Major investment projects create many service businesses. A good example is the town of Bulolo where practically every business was owned by the area's major industry, Commonwealth New Guinea Timbers. That sort of thing would not be allowed in future, Mr Somare warned. All service businesses would have to be in local hands.

A most important basic principle was that PNG's rich natural resources belonged to the PNG people. The government would make sure those resources were exploited in a way which contributed to PNG's own goals and needs. The people, through their government, would choose how and when those resources were developed.

The government would also make sure that resource development did not create a small privileged class of New Guineans. The benefits must go to the masses. For that reason, there would be increased emphasis on taxation of resource projects so that the benefits could be redistributed to the people through government projects. There would also be increasing emphasis on government ownership in partnership with foreign corporations.

Where there were windfall profits beyond the control of either the government or the company, the lion's share would be kept in PNG. While it was recognised that foreign companies often took risks in resource development projects, it was not intended to remove all possibility of profit. But foreign companies should be satisfied with a reasonable return on investments, and should not claim absolute rights to gigantic profits which were really produced by PNG's earth and water.

In secondary industry, PNG wanted investors who would help to set up industries which were needed to achieve the country's development aims. It would look for manufacturing industries which would process the country's agricultural products so that a greater share of the final value would stay in PNG.

However, there were limits to PNG's desire to attract manufacturing industry. PNG would look carefully at the costs and benefits of any proposals. The government did not

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...t to create industrial employment ... its own sake.
...he government had adopted a ...eral policy of incomes stability, ... did not want a reduction in the ... standard of living of people in ... towns. Similarly, the national ...t-point improvement plan called ... a greater equality of incomes, ... greater equality of services be...en the urban and rural areas.

'CHANGE IDEAS', AUSTRALIANS TOLD

...ustralian manufacturers and ex...ters needed to gear themselves ... change in their trading relations ...h Papua New Guinea as that ...ntry looked forward to indepen...ce. That was the theme of an ...ress by Mr C. B. Brown, Aust...an Trade Commissioner in Port ...resby, to a Sydney seminar on ...le with PNG and the Pacific ...nds.
...lso taking part in the seminar ...e Mr W. T. McCabe, Trade ...nmissioner, Suva, and Mr Henry ...mines, managing director of ...nry Cumines Pty Ltd, island ...nts, who spoke on the role the ...nt could play in developing trade.
...Mr Brown said new consumer ...ups were emerging in PNG. In ...e products the country could be...e more self-sufficient and less ...ant on exports. There were huge ...velopment projects in train or ...ng studied at which Australian ...nufacturers could look as possible ...pliers.
...hose projects included two copper ...sibilities—Ok Tedi and Weipa—... Purari River hydro-electricity ...eme and several timber under...ings.
...Mr Brown said that among the ...ple there were four main groups ...o could be looked on as con...ners: (1) New Guineans in urban ...tres; (2) Expatriates; (3) New ...ineans earning income from ...icultural products; and (4) Emer...g indigenous people not previously ...ked on as a consumer market.
...Australia could not afford to rest ... past success. There was a lot of ...dwill in PNG for Australia. Other ...ntries would be competing in the ...G market; Australia would have to continue to provide the service as in the past, and provide the best export prices. There was a need for individuals, or individual companies and organisations, to visit PNG to assess the demand, and see how their products could be fitted into the trading pattern.

Mr Brown warned there were some fields in which Australia could not compete, or had found competition very strong. These included the car market and electricity generating set markets. Yet in the timber industry, the Japanese had been told to go to Australia to look at sawmills because they were better than anything Japan had in Papua New Guinea.

Speaking on export opportunities in the Pacific Islands, Mr McCabe listed New Caledonia, the New Hebrides, the Solomon Islands and Fiji as the best prospects. Both Fiji and Western Samoa offered inducements for investment. The Solomons bought most of their goods from Australia, and it was an area where Australia should keep her fences mended.

There had been considerable economic growth in the New Hebrides. New hotels going up would help to develop the tourist industry. French Polynesia offered possibilities for cargo sent by air, as shipping was something of a problem at present for Australian suppliers. Mr McCabe said he hoped soon to appoint a trade correspondent in Papeete.

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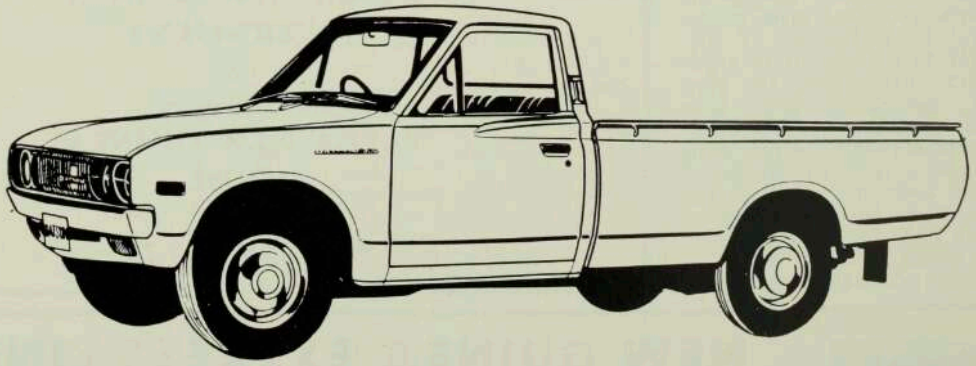

Cutting legal pattern to it people

From a Port Moresby correspondent

Papua New Guinea will reform law to make it fit its society and cumstances. Chief Minister Michael nare has outlined how laws from stralia have affected his people and ditions, and what it is hoped to ieve by change.

From the first contact with the ite man, the law and the courts l been weapons for a continuing ial revolution in PNG. New laws pped New Guineans from follow- customs or from continuing the toms of their ancestors. Some toms were made crimes under the oduced Queensland Criminal de.

Sometimes Australian law changed G society by what it did not do. groups could not operate within law. New Guineans' business nsactions, gardening activities and il compensation were based on kin ups—the clans. But they were er given a proper place in civil criminal law. When the people involved in western businesses public transport or haulage, the groups found they could not ally buy trucks.

They tried to overcome that by tnerships only to be told they e illegal. There were many prob- s over land usage. The various rts fairly rigidly applied the Aus- ian concepts of guilt—in terms newly-introduced offences. Pro- ures and evidentiary rules were same as in Australia. They were understood by New Guineans.

n some cases the law was hold- the people to values which had er gained acceptance, and probably er would.

Mr Somare said that to a certain ent the law started in the courts. t was where the people saw the in action. Alien procedures had dered development of a people's through the courts.

Now, as a first step, PNG was in- ducing village courts, which gave ited power to influential leaders, o had no real training. That would ead the network far wider than possible with the existing offici- trained magistrates. The jurisdic- n would be limited, but the aim s to reach sensible decisions, based

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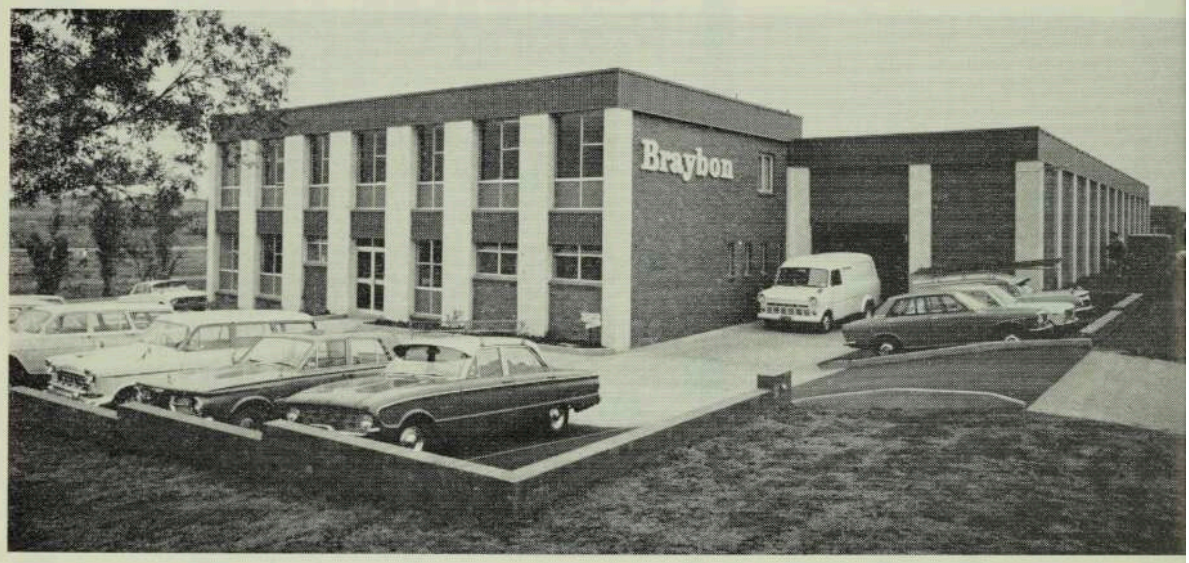

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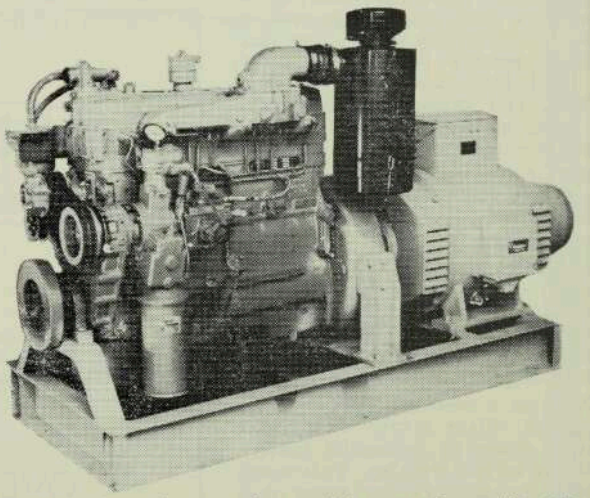

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'HANGING THE CRIMINAL CODE

ontinued from p 107)

tradition, and a modern blend of
v, acceptable to the community.

The government intended to rely
the good sense of the people to
velop a law suitable for them.

On decisions about bride prices and
ath payments, the village courts'
isdiction would be unlimited.
ediation and compensation would
the main techniques of the village
urts. The administration problems
uld be difficult, but PNG had to
ive to find law systems to suit.

The criminal code was also being
ised. The government was con-
ering whether or not compensation
r causing death should be paid,
gardless of fault. That was particu-
ly important because the people
re not very concerned whether a
rson caused death accidentally,
gligently or deliberately.

The dead person, Papua New
ineans reasoned, was still lost,
natever the responsibility of the
rson who killed. If compensation
s not paid there would be a pay-
ck killing, and that could tear societies apart, leading, in some areas, to large-scale tribal fighting.

A committee which studied tribal fighting had recommended the introduction of a form of group punishment, including fines of pigs, imprisonment and enforced community work. Some of the committee's recommendations could be included in the legal system.

The same "culture clash" occurred when one applied Australian civil law values to PNG communities. That could be overcome by changing the law so that there was automatic compensation, regardless of fault, payable to the kin group of the injured party.

Under a new Groups Incorporation Ordinance, kin groups and others would be able to achieve the benefits of incorporation by very simple procedures, which would avoid the expense and complexity of incorporation under the Companies Ordinance.

A new law would be introduced to settle land disputes in the early stages. It was believed that early settlement of such disputes would help solve the frustration which could lead to clan fighting.

There were often press reports of public order troubles in the towns. Although the publicity was out of all proportion, the government recognised there was a problem. Once again, the laws might solve the difficulties.

But in introducing a new law to cover such a situation, the government had to strike a balance between law enforcement and the basic rights of members of a free society. In the long term, it was hoped to solve that problem through the social programme, rather than through harsh enforcement of the law which had to be used to attempt to redress the social and economic balance that gave rise to problems of public order in towns.

PNG was also tackling social problems by studying regulations and legal procedures inherited from Australia. Some had restricted the development of PNG-style small businesses. In many ways, the present laws had killed PNG initiative. Pedlars, market vendors, small food stalls and small liquor bars had found Australian concepts too demanding. People with bright ideas had run into so much red tape that eventually they gave up their ideas.

KOROBOSEA DEVELOPMENTS PTY. LIMITED, for whom the ISLANDER HOTEL in PORT MORESBY is being built, congratulates the PAPUA NEW GUINEA GOVERNMENT on the opening of their prestigious offices in PAPUA NEW GUINEA HOUSE, 225 Clarence Street, Sydney, on July 26, 1974.

We offer the PAPUA NEW GUINEA GOVERNMENT our sincere best wishes on their impending emergence into nationhood.

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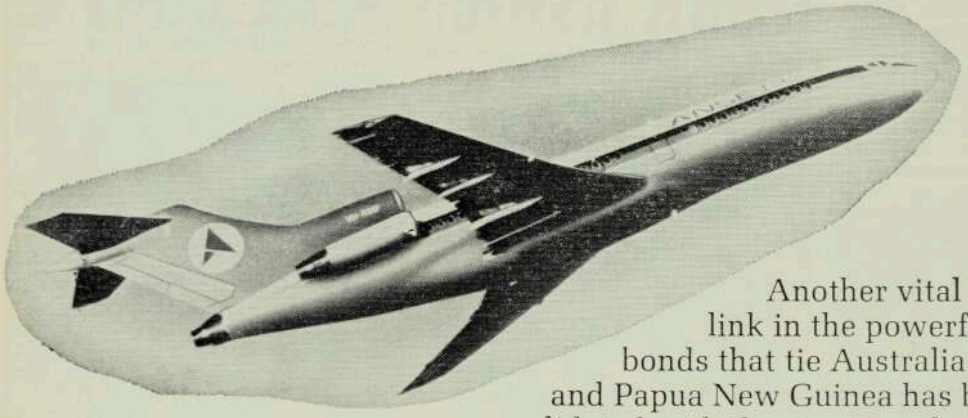
Congratulations, Papua New Guinea House.



Another vital link in the powerful bonds that tie Australia and Papua New Guinea has been consolidated with the opening of Papua New Guinea House in Sydney.

Ansett New Guinea Enterprises Limited joins Ansett Airlines of Australia in offering congratulations, and promising continuity of service to the people of both Australia and Papua New Guinea.

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Shipping & Airways Information

SHIPPING

AUST - WEST IRIAN

Karlander New Guinea Line operates cargo ervice every nine weeks from Sydney to ayapura.

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

SYDNEY - NZ - FIJI/TAHITI - UK

Chandris Lines maintains a twice-monthly assenger service from Sydney via NZ, Suva r Papeete.

Details from Chandris Lines, 135 King Street, ydney (28-2451).

SYDNEY - LORD HOWE IS - NORFOLK IS - NEW CALEDONIA

Karlander operates 21-day service from ydney to Lord Howe and Norfolk Is.

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

Chargeurs Caledoniens operates three-weekly argo service Sydney-Norfolk Island-Noumea.

Details: Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd, 7-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

SYDNEY - NZ - FIJI - HAWAII - CANADA - US

P and O liners call at Auckland, Suva and lonolulu on eastbound and westbound voyages etween Sydney and the US; occasional calls t Pago Pago, Tonga, Papeete, Yokohama, Vila, long Kong, Honiara.

Details from P & O Australia Ltd, 55 Hunter treet, Sydney (2-0317).

YDNEY - NZ - FIJI - TONGA - VILA - NOUMEA - SAMOAS - TAHITI

Shaw Savill liners cruise in the Pacific sailing rom Australia and New Zealand calling at uva, Lautoka, Tonga, Vila, Noumea, Pago ago, Tahiti, Apia, Vavau.

Details: Shaw Savill Line, 8a Castlereagh t, Sydney (28-1481).

Sitmar Cruises operates a South Pacific ruise programme to include most of the above orts plus the Solomons.

Details from Sitmar Line (Australia) Pty td, 22-30 Bridge Street, Sydney (27-4521).

Royal Viking Line, with luxury cruise ships oyal Viking Sea, Star and Sky, cruises the acific from Sydney, calling at most of the bove ports plus Port Moresby and Rarotonga.

Details from Wilh. Wilhelmsen Agency Pty td, 13-15 Bridge Street, Sydney (2-0517).

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA

Sofrana-Unilines operates a fortnightly service rom Sydney to Noumea.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 37 Pitt Street, ydney (27-2031).

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA - NEW HEBRIDES

Sofrana-Unilines' ships call regularly at Melbourne, Sydney, Noumea, Vila and Santo.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 37 Pitt Street, ydney (27-2031).

Polynesie maintains three-weekly passenger sailings—Sydney, Noumea, Vila and Santo.

Details from Omni Traders & Brokers Pty Limited, 261 George Street, Sydney (241-2872/6).

AUSTRALIA - FIJI

Sofrana-Unilines operates Sydney-Fiji every 28 days.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 37 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2031).

Nauru Pacific Line operates cargo/passenger service to Fiji and South Pacific ports.

Details from Nauru Pacific Line, 227 Collins Street, Melbourne (654-4977); Interocean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (20-522); Dalgety Shipping, 291 Elizabeth Street, Brisbane (31-0331).

Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd operates three weekly cargo services from Sydney for Suva and Lautoka.

Details from Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301.; Dalgety Shipping, 461 Bourke St, Melbourne (600731); Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva and Lautoka.

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI

South Pacific United Lines with Lama and Newfoundland maintains a regular service from Sydney to Papeete.

Details from Omni Traders & Brokers Pty Limited, 261 George Street, Sydney (241-2872/6).

AUSTRALIA - PNG - BSIP

Conpac Pacific Express (Burns Philp and AWP Line) operates three-weekly cargo service from Melbourne (direct) Sydney and Brisbane to Port Moresby and Lae. Tenos calls at Brisbane southbound.

Details from Conpac, 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (241-3816).

New Guinea Australia Line's vessels operate from Sydney and Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul, Kavieng, Honiara, Kieta, Gizo, Madang and Samarai.

Details from Interocean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (20-522).

New Guinea Express Lines with two ships operates three-weekly Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul.

Details from New Guinea Express Lines, 37 Pitt St, Sydney (241-1396) and 72 Eagle St, Brisbane (21-9333), Westralian Farmers Transport Pty Ltd, 459 Collins St, Melbourne (35-4366), Breckwoldt's Shipping Agencies in Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul.

Karlander New Guinea Line's two cargo vessels call at Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane, Lae, Madang, Wewak, Manus, Kimbe.

Details from Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301); Dalgety Shipping, 461 Bourke St, Melbourne (600731).

AUSTRALIA - NAURU - MARSHALL ISLANDS - GEIC - GUAM

Nauru Pacific Line operates regular six weekly cargo/passenger liner service from Melbourne and Sydney to Nauru, Majuro, Tarawa and Guam.

Details from Nauru Pacific Line, 227 Collins Street, Melbourne (654-4977); Interocean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (20-522).

AUSTRALIA - PNG - FAR EAST

E. and A. Line passenger ships make monthly round voyages from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane calling at Port Moresby, Manila, Hong Kong, Keelung, Kobe, Yokohama (Tokyo), and Rabaul.

Details from P & O Australia Ltd, 55 Hunter Street, Sydney (2-0317).

FAR EAST - FIJI - NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Unit Express (CNC, MOL, RIL) operates a three-weekly cargo service from Hong Kong to Lautoka, Suva, NZ ports, Manila, Kaoshiung, Keelung, Hong Kong.

Details from Interocean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (20-522).

Royal Interocean Lines operates monthly passenger/cargo service with three ships from NZ to Bangkok, Pt Kelang, Singapore, Djakarta to Fiji (alt. months) and NZ.

Details from Interocean Australia Services, 261 George Street, Sydney (2-0573), Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva and Lautoka.

FAR EAST - PNG - BSI - NEW HEBRIDES - NOUMEA - TAHITI - SAMOA

China Navigation Co's vessels operate a regular cargo service from Hong Kong to Rabaul, Wewak, Madang, Lae, Port Moresby, Honiara, New Hebrides, Noumea, Papeete and Samoa.

Details from Interocean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (20-522).

NORTH EUROPE - NEW CALEDONIA

Hamburg/Sued operates monthly cargo services from Dunkirk and Le Havre to Noumea, via Panama.

Details from Columbus Overseas Services Pty Ltd, 333 George Street, Sydney (29-2101).

Messageries Maritimes operates five cargo services a month from north and Mediterranean European ports to Papeete and Noumea.

Details from Messageries Maritimes, 332 Pitt Street, Sydney (61-6664).

JAPAN - GUAM - FIJI - SAMOA - N CALEDONIA - N HEBRIDES

Daiwa Line runs a monthly cargo service from Japan via Guam to Suva, Lautoka, Pago Pago, Apia, Vila, Santo and Noumea.

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

NEW ZEALAND - COOK IS

Lorena, owned by NZ Shipping Corporation, operates three-weekly freight service between Auckland and Rarotonga with occasional calls at Aitutaki and Lyttleton.

Details: Silk and Boyd, Box 131, Rarotonga, or CIS Co, Box 448, Auckland.

TONGA - SAMOA - FIJI - AUSTRALIA

Pacific Navigation Co Ltd operates a monthly cargo service between Nukualofa, Apia, Suva and Lautoka to Sydney.

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

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NZ - FIJI TONGA - SAMOAS - TAHITI

Union Steam Ship Co of New Zealand operates a fully containerised service Auckland, Suva, Pago Pago, Apia and Nukualofa every 14 days.

A service is operated Auckland, Lautoka, Suva, Apia, Nukualofa, Auckland approximately every two weeks.

Papeete, Apia, Nukualofa are serviced at 14 day intervals from Auckland.

A 26-day service is operated from Auckland to Papeete.

A two-weekly service is operated from Auckland to Suva and Lautoka.

Details from any office of the Union Steam Ship Co, Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Auckland.

NZ - NORFOLK

USS Co vessels operate 26-day cargo service Auckland, Suva, Norfolk Is, Auckland.

Details from Union Steam Ship Co of NZ Ltd, PO Box 12, Auckland.

NZ - N CALEDONIA - N HEBRIDES - FIJI - WALLIS IS - NG - BSIP

Sofrana Unilines with four ships operates to Vila and Santo; to Honiara and New Guinea; and to Noumea.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 42 Customs Street, Auckland (73-279), P.O. Box 3614. Telex: NZ 2313.

NZ - FIJI - US

Crusader cargo ships call at Levuka and Honolulu on NZ-US west coast trips and at Suva and/or Lautoka on US-NZ southbound trips.

Details from Blue Star Port Lines (Management) Ltd, P.O. Box 192, Wellington (7-0179).

NZ - FIJI

Fijian Swift operates a regular 18 day service from Auckland to Suva and Lautoka.

Details from Reef Shipping Agencies Ltd, P.O. Box 13-315, Onehunga, NZ. (Phone 663-918, 663-928).

UK - PANAMA - SAMOA - FIJI

The Fiji Direct Service, cargo only, is maintained by Conference vessels, sailing at regular monthly intervals out of London, via Panama, for Apia, Suva and Lautoka.

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

UK - PNG - BSIP - GEIC - N HEBRIDES - N CALEDONIA

Bank Line operates a monthly direct cargo service from Europe, via the Panama Canal to Papeete, Noumea, major PNG ports and Honiara, occasionally to Tarawa, Vila, Santo, Kieta, Jayapura and Yandina.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York St, Sydney (27-2041).

US - SAMOA - AUSTRALIA

Pacific Far East Line operates a three weekly freighter service from Pacific coast ports to Pago Pago, Sydney, Melbourne, Tasmania and Brisbane, returning via Auckland, Pago Pago, to Pacific northwest ports, Vancouver, San Francisco and Los Angeles. (No passengers carried).

Details from PFEL, 50 Young Street, Sydney (27-4272).

US - SYDNEY - GEIC - HONOLULU

Columbus Lines operates a three weekly cargo sailing from West Coast, US to Australasia, returning via Tarawa, GEIC and Honolulu to Nth America.

Details from Columbus Overseas Services Pty Ltd, 333 George Street, Sydney (29-2101).

US - FIJI/TAHITI - AUSTRALIA

Bank Line Ltd operate regular cargo services from US Gulf ports to Australia and NZ. Calls at Suva, Lautoka and Papeete on demand.

Details from Bank Line (A/asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York St, Sydney (27-204).

Pacific Far East Line cruise ships operate regularly from San Francisco, Los Angeles, Honolulu, Moorea, Papeete, Rarotonga, Auckland, Opua, Sydney, and return via Suva, Niuafoou, Pago Pago and Honolulu to San Francisco.

Freight is carried on these passenger liners.

Details from PFEL, 50 Young Street, Sydney (27-4272).

US - TAHITI - SAMOA

Pacific Islands Transport operates a five/six weekly cargo service from North American west coast ports to Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia.

Details from Trans-Austral Shipping Pty Ltd, 19 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2441).

AIRWAYS

TRANS-PACIFIC SERVICES

SYDNEY - FIJI - TAHITI - MEXICO

Qantas, with 707s, operates twice weekly out of Sydney to Mexico City via Nadi, Papeete and Acapulco.

SYDNEY - FIJI - TAHITI - CANADA

Qantas, with 707s, operates once weekly out of Sydney.

SYDNEY - FIJI - HAWAII - CANADA

CP Air, with DC8, operates twice weekly services out of Sydney.

SYDNEY - NZ - HAWAII - US

Air-NZ, with DC10's operates from Sydney to Los Angeles, via Auckland and Honolulu twice weekly.

PanAm operates two 707 freighter services weekly from Sydney to San Francisco via Auckland and Honolulu.

SYDNEY - NZ - TAHITI - US

Air-NZ, with DC10s, operates from Sydney to Los Angeles, via Auckland and Tahiti twice weekly.

SYDNEY - FIJI - HAWAII - US

Qantas operates four times weekly and return between Sydney and San Francisco via Fiji and Honolulu with 747Bs; 707s operate three times weekly and return to San Francisco via Honolulu. Additional 707 service Sydney/Nadi Tues and Sat and return.

British Airways with VC10s, operates from Melbourne and Sydney to Los Angeles and return five times a week.

SYDNEY - US (via NOUMEA, FIJI, NZ or TAHITI)

UTA operates out of Sydney on Thu, Sat and Sun, return on Sat and Sun.

SYDNEY - US (via N CAL, FIJI, HAWAII)

PanAm, with 747s, arrives Sydney from Los Angeles, via Honolulu and Nadi three times weekly and leaves on return flight the same days.

PanAm, with 707s operates four days a week return trans-Pacific service out of Sydney to Los Angeles, via Noumea and Honolulu. Mon, Wed, Fri flights to Australia go to Melbourne and return to Sydney the same day.

MELBOURNE - FIJI - US

Qantas with 707s and 747s operates Melbourne/San Francisco via Fiji and Honolulu three times weekly.

MELBOURNE - NZ - HAWAII - US

Air-NZ, with DC10s, operates weekly from Melbourne to Los Angeles via Auckland and Honolulu and return to Sydney.

BRISBANE - NZ - HAWAII - US

Air-NZ with DC8s and DC10s operates weekly from Brisbane to Los Angeles via Auckland and Honolulu and return to Sydney.

NZ - FIJI - HAWAII - US

Air-NZ, with DC10's, operates weekly from Auckland to Los Angeles, via Fiji and Hawaii and return.

NZ - AM SAMOA - TAHITI or HAWAII - US

PanAm, with 707s operates out of Auckland via Tahiti three times weekly, and twice via American Samoa. Out of American Samoa, PanAm operates to the States three times weekly and out of Tahiti to the States four times weekly.

AUSTRALIA-FAR EAST

SYDNEY - PNG - FAR EAST

Qantas operates a weekly 707 service from Brisbane to Hong Kong and return, and a weekly service from Hong Kong to Port Moresby and return.

PACIFIC-FAR EAST

NAURU - MICRONESIA - JAPAN

Air Nauru operates a weekly service Nauru-Ponape-Guam-Okinawa-Kagoshima and return. with a Fokker F28 jet.

Details: Air Nauru, Nauru Government Office, 227 Collins St, Melbourne.

JAPAN - TAHITI - PERU

Air-France, with 707s, operates twice weekly Tokyo-Lima via Papeete, and return.

AUSTRALIA-PACIFIC ISLANDS

(For other schedules touching these islands see trans-Pacific services.)

MELBOURNE - NOUMEA - HONIARA - NAURU - TARAWA AND MAJURO

Air Nauru operates a twice-weekly service, Melbourne-Brisbane-Noumea-Honiara-Nauru and return, using a Fokker F28 jet. Extra services are operated twice weekly to Majuro and

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ortnightly to Tarawa and return.
Details: Air Nauru, Nauru Government Office, 127 Collins St, Melbourne.

BRISBANE - FIJI

Qantas operates a 707 direct from Brisbane o Fiji on Sat and Fiji to Brisbane on Sun.
Air Pacific with BAC1-11s operates weekly rom Suva via Nadi, Vila and Honiara to risbane on Fridays, returning to Suva on aturdays via Honiara, Vila and Nadi.

SYDNEY - LORD HOWE IS

Airlines of NSW, with flying-boat, operates emporary return service from Rose Bay, ydney, to Lord Howe.

SYDNEY - NEW CALEDONIA

Qantas and UTA operate Sydney to Noumea our times weekly and return.

AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND

British Airways with VC10s, operates weekly risbane to Auckland and return, and a eekly service Melbourne to Auckland and eturn.

AUSTRALIA - NZ - AM SAMOA - HAWAII

PanAm, with 707s, operates two flights eekly, one from Sydney and one from Mel-ourne, to Auckland, Pago Pago and Honolulu nd return.

SYDNEY - NORFOLK IS

Qantas, with DC4s, operates three times eekly. More in holiday periods.

AUSTRALIA - PNG

TAA and Ansett, with 727s each operate times a week from Brisbane, Sydney or le'bourne to Pt Moresby.
On Tues, Thurs, Fri, TAA Fokkers fly ownsville, Cairns, Port Moresby and return ame day to Brisbane, Sydney and Melbourne.
Ansett, with Fokker, operates Cairns, Port Moresby, Cairns, Townsville, Sun, Wed and hurs.

NEW ZEALAND-PACIFIC IS.

(See also trans-Pacific services.)

NZ - AM SAMOA

PanAm, with 707s, operates from Auckland o Pago Pago and return twice weekly.
Air-NZ with DC8s operates a direct flight wice weekly to Pago Pago and return.

NZ - FIJI

Air-NZ operates a daily service to Nadi and eturn.

NZ - FIJI - COOK IS - TAHITI

Air-NZ DC8 leaves Auckland Tuesdays for Nadi, Rarotonga, Papeete, returning over same oute, arriving Auckland Wednesday.

NZ - TAHITI

UTA, with DC8-62, operates from Auckland nd return twice weekly.
Air-NZ, with DC8s, operates twice weekly rom Auckland and return.

NZ - NEW CALEDONIA

UTA operates weekly from Noumea on ri and return on Wed.
Air-NZ, with DC8s, operates from Auckland-Noumea on Sunday and returns the same day.

NEW ZEALAND - COOK IS

Air-NZ DC8 leaves Auckland Sundays for Rarotonga, arriving Saturday. Return flight eaves Rarotonga Saturday arrives Auckland unday.

NZ - NORFOLK IS

Air-NZ, with chartered DC4 operates to Norfolk Is every Sunday and Thursday. A ntas service returns every Saturday and Wednesday.

AUCKLAND - SYDNEY - SINGAPORE

Air-NZ DC10 leaves Auckland via Sydney for Singapore twice weekly and returns same days.

DAIWA LINE

DIRECT REGULAR SERVICE

JAPAN-SOUTH PACIFIC

TARAWA-PAPEETE-PAGO PAGO-APIA
SUVA-LAUTOKA-NOUMEA-VILA
SANTO-HONIARA

JAPAN-GUAM-TAIWAN

JAPAN-GUAM-KEELUNG BY
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JAPAN-WEST IRIAN-DILI

HONG KONG-TAIWAN-WEST IRIAN-DILI

AGENTS:

GUAM: ATKINS, KROLL (GUAM) LTD.
TARAWA: G. & E. I. DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY.
APIA: BURNS PHILP (SOUTH SEA) CO., LTD.
PAGO PAGO: KNEUBUHL MARITIME SERVICES CORP.
NUKUALOFA: PACIFIC NAVIGATION CO., LTD.
SUVA: BURNS PHILP (SOUTH SEA) CO., LTD.
LAUTOKA: BURNS PHILP (SOUTH SEA) CO., LTD.
NOUMEA: AGENCE MARITIME ET AERIENNE CALEDONIENNE.
SANTO: BURNS PHILP (NEW HEBRIDES) LTD.
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AUCKLAND - SYDNEY - HONG KONG
Air-NZ operates to Hong Kong from Auckland via Sydney twice weekly. Return service operates same day via Brisbane.

NADI - RAROTONGA
Air-NZ operates from Nadi to Rarotonga every Wednesday, and returns Tuesday.

INTER - TERRITORY SERVICES

TAHITI - EASTER IS - CHILE
LAN-Chile, with 707s, operates from Santiago to Papeete Mon and Thurs. Thurs flight calls at Easter Is. Return flights Thurs and Mon with Mon flight via Easter Is.

FIJI - GEIC
Air Pacific, with 748s, operates from Suva to Tarawa via Nadi and Funafuti on Wednesdays and alternate Sundays and returns to Suva via Funafuti and Nadi on Thursdays and alternate Mondays.

GEIC - NAURU
Air Pacific and Air Nauru each operate fortnightly between Nauru and Tarawa.

NAURU - MARSHALL IS
Air Nauru makes a twice-weekly flight Nauru-Majuro and return with a Fokker F28 jet.
Details: Air Nauru, 227 Collins St, Melbourne.

NAURU - WESTERN SAMOA
Air Nauru operates a weekly flight Nauru-Apia with return the next day.

FIJI - WESTERN SAMOA
Air Pacific, with BAC 1-11s, operates one service a week from Suva to Apia, returning the same day. This flight crosses the International dateline.
Polynesian Airlines, with 748s, operates three services a week.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA - SINGAPORE
Qantas, using 707s, operates once weekly from Port Moresby to Singapore via Darwin and return.

WESTERN SAMOA - TONGA
Polynesian Airlines, with 748s, operates three services weekly from Apia to Tonga.

FIJI - N HEBRIDES - BSIP - P MORESBY - BRISBANE
Air Pacific, with BAC 1-11s, operates from Suva on Sun, Wed and Fri, via Nadi to Vila and Honiara, the Sunday service extending to Port Moresby, returning Mon, and the Friday service extending to Brisbane, with return Saturday. Flight departs Honiara on Mon, Wed and Sat for Suva.

FIJI - TONGA
Air Pacific with BAC 1-11s and 748s operates from Suva to Nukualofa three times a week. Saturday service operates via Nadi.

FIJI - WALLIS/FUTUNA
Fiji Air Service operates charter services to Wallis and Futuna Is.
Details: Fiji Air Services, P.O. Box 1259, Suva (22-666).

HAWAII - AM SAMOA - TAHITI
PanAm, with 707s, operates from Honolulu to Pago Pago three times weekly; to Tahiti direct twice weekly. PanAm, with 707s operates to San Francisco from Papeete via Honolulu twice weekly; to San Francisco via Pago Pago and Honolulu weekly. Papeete flights operate from San Francisco via Honolulu and Pago Pago weekly and to Papeete from San Francisco via Los Angeles four times weekly.

HAWAII - MICRONESIA - OKINAWA
Continental-Air Micronesia with 727s operates from Honolulu three times weekly via Johnston, Kwajalein, Majuro, Ponape, Truk, Guam and Saipan; weekly to Okinawa from Guam and Saipan.

NEW CALEDONIA - FIJI
UTA operates out of Noumea to Nadi and return twice weekly.

NEW CALEDONIA - NEW HEBRIDES
UTA, with Caravelles, operates five return services a week, out of Noumea to Vila.

NEW CAL - WALLIS IS - NEW CAL
UTA, with Caravelles, operates on the first, second and fourth Sat of each month from Noumea.

NEW GUINEA - IRIAN/JAYA
Air Niugini operates DC3s Madang via Wewak to Jayapura and return Jayapura to Madang alt. Tues.

PNG - SOLOMONS
Air Pacific, with BAC 1-11, operates Sundays Honiara to Port Moresby and Mondays Port Moresby to Honiara.
Air Niugini operates to Honiara from Rabaul via Kieta and return on Sat, and from Port Moresby on Thurs, returning Fri. These services are under licence from Qantas.

TAHITI - US
UTA, with DC10 and DC8 operates from Papeete four times weekly.
Pan Am with 707s, operates regular return services to San Francisco, via Los Angeles; to San Francisco, via Honolulu; and to San Francisco, via Pago Pago and Honolulu.

W SAMOA - AM SAMOA
Polynesian Airlines, with 748s, operates between Apia and Pago Pago 18 times weekly.

TONGA - NIUE - W SAMOA
Polynesian Airlines with 748s, operates weekly service from Tonga to Apia via Niue.

TAHITI - COOK IS
Air Tahiti with Piper Aztec, operates charter service from Papeete to Rarotonga.
Details from Air Polynesie, P.O. Box 314, Quai Bir Hakeim, Papeete, and UTA offices.

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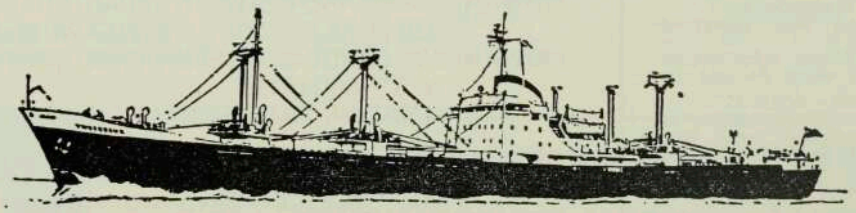

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INTERNAL SERVICES

FIJI

ir Pacific, with HS748s, BAC 1-11s and ons operates regular services to Labasa, euni, Nadi, Suva and Savusavu.
iji Air Services, with Britten-Norman nder and Beechcraft Baron aircraft, operates ices to Castaway and Plantation village rts, The Fijian hotel, Korolevu Beach hotel, ship Beachcomber hotel, Levuka, Lakeba, koula. Charter flights operate to anywhere he Pacific.
etails: Fiji Air Services, P.O. Box 1259, (telephone 22-666).

FRENCH POLYNESIA

ir Polynesie, with Fokker F27 Friendship, Otters and Islanders, operates to Bora, Huahine, Moorea, Rangiroa, Raiatea, ihi, Takapoto, Hiva Oa, Ua Huka, Maupiti Tubuai, Rurutu.
etails from Air Polynesie, P.O. Box 314, Bir Hakeim, Papeete, and UTA offices.
ir Tahiti, with light aircraft operates tle service from Papeete to Moorea and ter service to Raiatea, Bora Bora, Huahine, giroa and Manihi.

GUAM - US TRUST TERRITORY

ontinental-Air Micronesia with 727s operates lar service connecting Honolulu, Okinawa Guam with Saipan, Rota, Yap, Palau, Truk, ape, Kwajalein, Majuro and Johnston Island.
etails from Air Micronesia, Saipan.
ir Pacific International Inc (not connected the Fiji-based Air Pacific) with Piper ajo and a deHavilland Heron, operates lar services linking Guam, Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and charter services are available to r Trust Territory islands.
etails, Air Pacific International Inc, P.O. 7689, Tamuning, Guam, 96911, USA.
agoon Aviation Inc with Grumman Widns, operate charter services for the Marlls district, based on Majuro.

GILBERT AND ELLICE ISLANDS

ir Pacific, with Herons, operates regular ices between Tarawa, Butaritari, North iteuea and Abemama.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

ir Niugini, with Fokkers and DC3s, operates etwork of services between all major centres Papua New Guinea. These services connect - Ansett and TAA's 727 Australia-PNG ices.
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urther details from T.A.L., P.O. Box 108, oka, Papua New Guinea.
Melanesian Airline Company Pty Limited cair) operates throughout Papua New Guinea. ails: PO Box 556, Lae.
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ougainville Air Services operates daily ughout Bougainville. There are nine regular ices Kieta-Buin. Details: Arawa, Phone -159; Buka, Phone 16. Box 298, PO, Kieta.

NEW CALEDONIA

ir Caledonie with Twin Otters, and Isders operates regular services to Houal- Isle of Pines, Isle Ouen, Kone, Koumac, u, Mare, Noumea, Ouvea Touho, Mueo, p, Tiga.
etails from Air Caledonie, Noumea.

NEW HEBRIDES

Air Melanesiae with Britten-Norman Islanders and Trislander operates to Santo, Malekula Norsup and Lamap, Aoba (Walaha and Longana), Pentecost (Lonorore), Erromanga, Tongoa, Aneityum, Tanna, Epi, Sola and Vila. Direct connections are available to and from Santo for all international flights arriving in Vila.
Details from Air Melanesiae P.O. Box 72.

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Details from Solomon Islands Airways Ltd, Box 23, Honiara, BSIP.

TONGA

Tonga Internal Air Service, with Britten-Norman Islander aircraft, operates from Fua'amotu, (airport for Nukualofa) to Vava'u (daily except Sunday) and Eua (twice daily except Sunday). Aircraft available for sightseeing and regional charters.
Details from Tonga Tourist and Development Co, PO Box 91, Nukualofa, Tonga.

COOK ISLANDS

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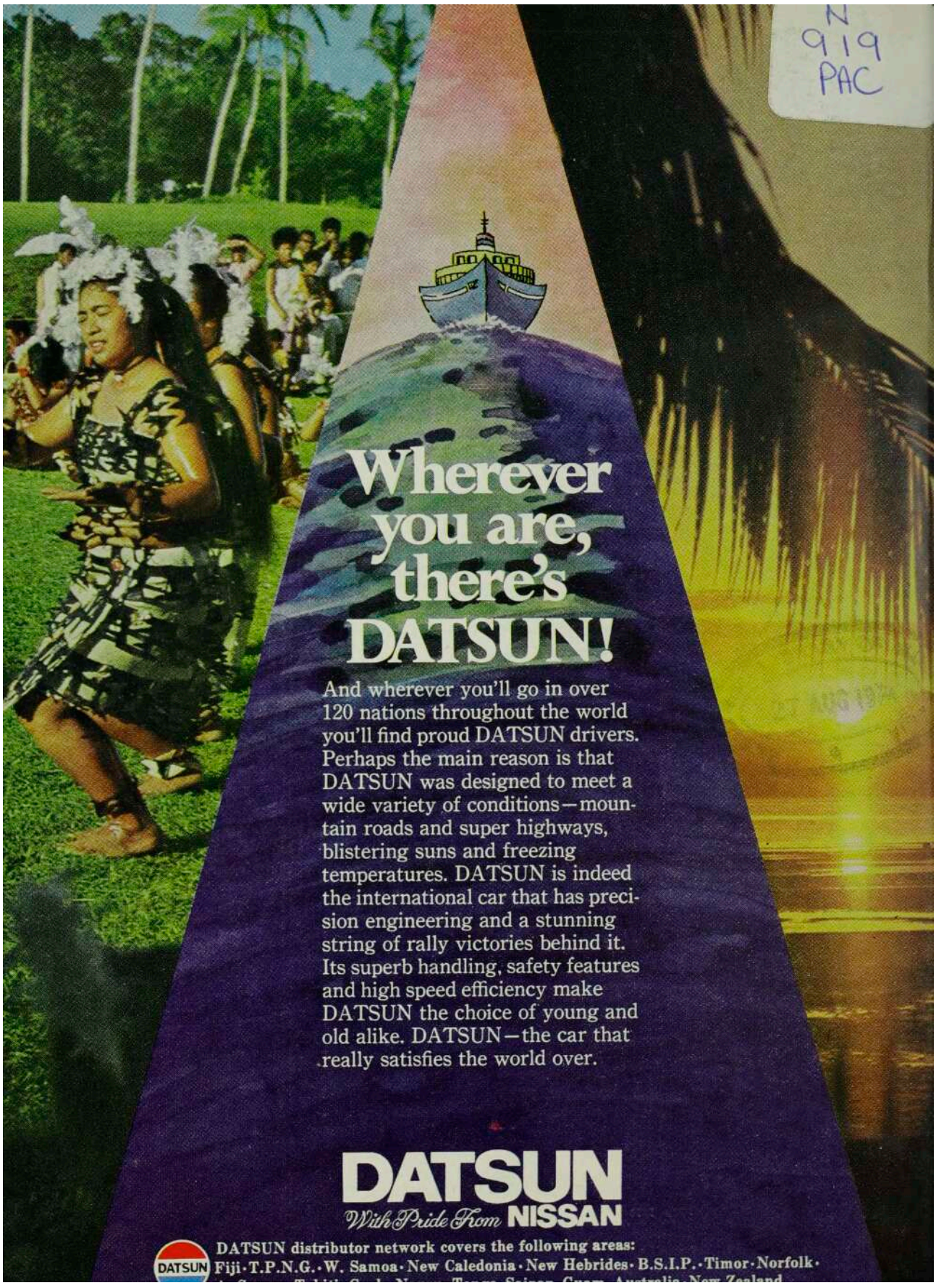

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