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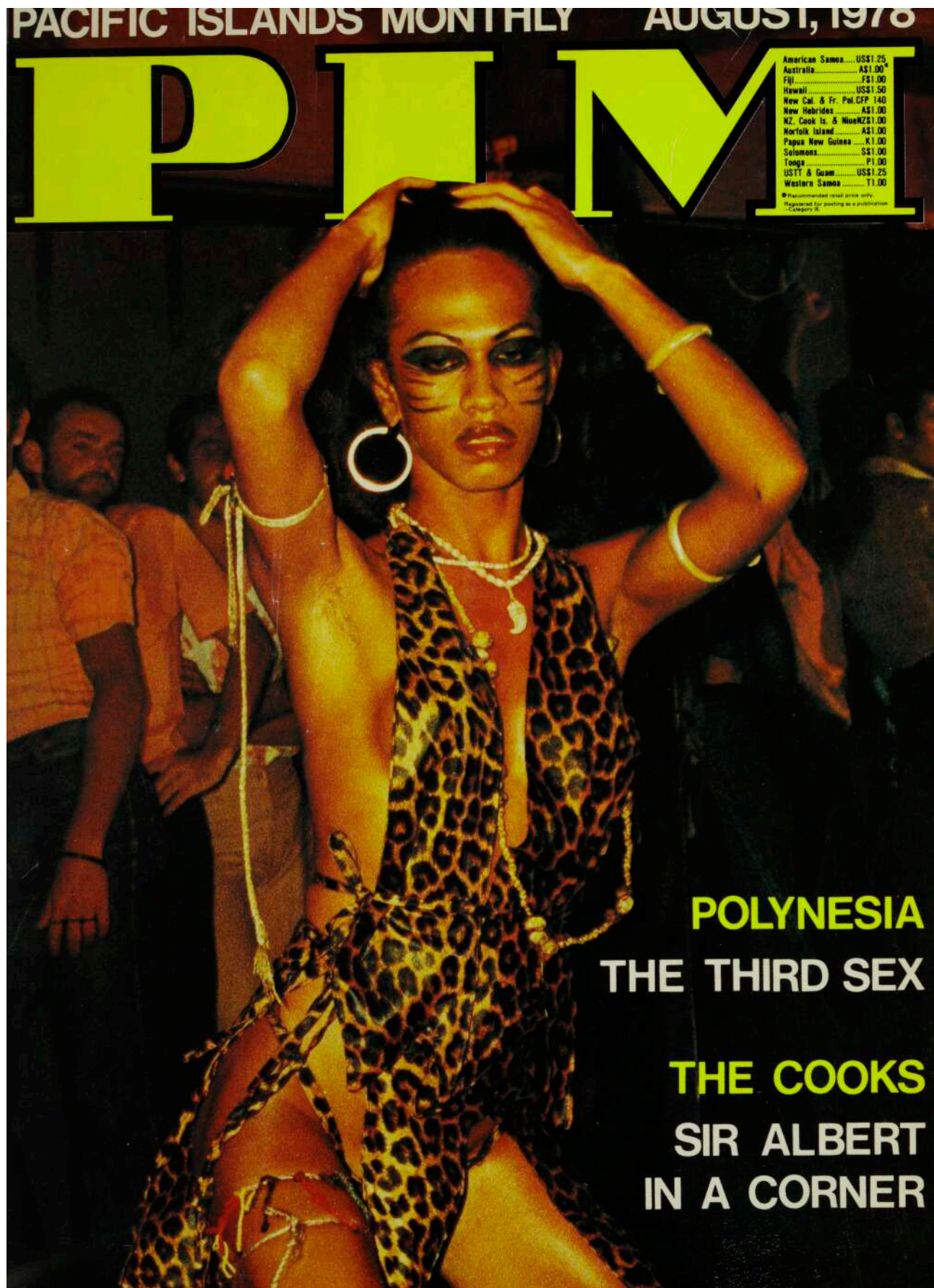
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Pacific Report

JIMMY CARTER'S NUCLEAR PLAN

US President Jimmy Carter in June unveiled a plan for a nuclear fuel storage and reprocessing plant in the Pacific for use by Australia, Japan and South-east Asian nations. He wants the plant built on the Marshall or Caroline Islands. He believes such a plant would discourage construction of nuclear facilities by many countries, and would make international surveillance easier.

CONFERENCE PLANNED ON NUCLEAR ISSUES

With reports that further French nuclear testing in French Polynesia is imminent, the Pacific Conference of Churches and the Pacific People's Action Front announced they are jointly sponsoring two conferences to be held in Micronesia in September. Subjects will be: Nuclear issues in the Pacific; and independence and people's movements in the Pacific.

NAURU'S DENIAL ON MARSHALLS LOAN CLAIM

Nauruan officials have emphatically denied a claim by the Guam-based Pacific Daily News that their phosphate-rich island lent a sum of \$600 000 to bolster separatist forces in the Marshall Islands. (See PIM, p39.)

INDEPENDENCE CLASH

A shadow over the Solomons' independence celebrations (pages 14/15) was a clash between Malaitians and men from the Western District at Gizo. Two were taken to hospital and 43 arrested on drunk and disorderly charges. It was reported that the fight began when Malaitians attempted to raise the Solomon Islands flag. Gizo boycotted the celebrations.

PACIFIC ART PAYS BOLIVIAN CRIMINALS

Two treasures of early Pacific art — a scowling wooden warrior believed to have been acquired during one of Captain Cook's expeditions, and a wooden face mask from Pentecost Island, New Hebrides — fetched a total of £430 000 (about \$A700 000) at a June 30 art auction in London. The £250 000 paid for the warrior was said to be a record price for a piece of primitive art. The pieces were from the collection of Bolivian tin tycoon, Mr Jorge Ortiz. He was obliged to sell them to recoup a \$2 million ransom paid to kidnappers of his five-year-old daughter.

RUSSIANS REPLY TO FIJI'S MARA

The only sign of a Russian interest in Fiji had been a recent visit by the Soviet Ambassador in Australia, who is responsible for Soviet diplomatic relations with Fiji, according to an official of the Soviet Embassy in Canberra. He was commenting on remarks by the Fiji Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara (see PIM, p41). Ratu Sir Kamisese had said he would be "pretty scared" to have a Soviet embassy in Fiji. The Soviet spokesman said it appeared the Prime Minister had been over-impressed by anti-Soviet statements he had heard on his recent visit to China. Russia never took sides against legitimate governments in other countries, and her contacts with Fiji were "very small and not well developed".

FINBAR KENNY THREATENS SIR ALBERT

American millionaire Finbar Kenny has threatened in a telex message and a letter to withdraw from the Cook Islands Philatelic Bureau and sever all ties with the country. His ultimatum was revealed in correspondence placed before the Chief Justice

of the Cook Islands in Rarotonga during the July hearing of petitions alleging bribery and corruption in the Cook Islands' March general elections. Mr Kenny asked the Premier, Sir Albert Henry, to clear him and the bureau of all connection with Sir Albert's election campaign and funding. Sir Albert refused. (See Sir Albert in a Corner, (p17).

ISLANDS TO FORE AT COASTAL TALKS

Sydney was the venue for a major international symposium in June on problems of coastal protection in the light of national proclamations of 200-mile exclusive economic zones. Among more than 20 countries represented were Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Tonga, Gilbert Islands and Nauru. The South Pacific Commission and the South Pacific Bureau of Economic Co-operation also sent representatives.

SIR ALBERT, BJELKE CONFER ON BRYCH

Two controversial and colourful political figures huddled in Brisbane in July with the declared aim of settling "once and for all" whether Milan Brych is a cancer-curing wizard or a quack. They were the Premier of the Cook Islands, Sir Albert Henry, and the Premier of the Australian State of Queensland, Mr Joh Bjelke-Petersen. Brych practices cancer therapy in the Cook Islands, and recently visited Queensland at the invitation of Mr Bjelke-Petersen. Sir Albert paid a four-day visit to Queensland, also at the invitation of the State Premier.

TORRES BORDER FOR INTERNATIONAL COURT?

Rejection by the Queensland Government of the Torres Strait border negotiated between Papua New Guinea and Australia (PIM, July, p41) could go to the International Court of Justice if the question cannot be settled privately. This announcement was made in June by the Acting Prime Minister of Australia, Mr Anthony, in response to a statement by Queensland Premier, Mr. Bjelke-Petersen, that he would hold a referendum if the existing border was not recognised. (See PIM, p41.)

THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE (I)

Showing commendable Gallic initiative, a New Hebrides firm is treating and canning for sale large quantities of the Great African Snail. Transforming a major pest into a major delicacy will be a profitable exercise, according to the company. Export markets to which it is looking include Australia.

THE SPIRIT OF ENTERPRISE (II)

The Anglo-Saxons were not far behind. Not quite so dramatic, but still full of the spirit of enterprise, was the action of a firm of Australian wine and spirit merchants who marketed well in time for the celebration of Solomon Islands' independence in July a range of wines known as Independence Claret, Independence Riesling, and Independence Demi Sec. Labels bore an attractive and colourful version of the new flag of Solomon Islands.

TONGA'S SPACE-AGE COMMUNICATIONS

Telecommunications to and from Tonga stepped into the space age in June with the inauguration of the Cable and Wireless satellite earth station in Nukualofa. The station was formally opened by King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV as part of a four-day programme of celebrations of his 60th birthday. Among foreign guests present were the Governor-General of Fiji, Ratu Sir George Cakobau, and President Hammer DeRoburt of Nauru.

The monarch's birthday was also marked by the issue of four commemorative coins.

LOOKING FOR CANNABIS ON POCKLINGTON

Cannabis worth \$40 million was seized from a yacht near Port Macquarie on Australia's New South Wales coast in June. Australian narcotics agents believed that the total hoard from which the seized cannabis came was so big that some of it had to be left behind at a trans-shipment point. So they joined with Papua New Guinea Customs authorities in a search of rusty hulks on Pocklington Reef, a graveyard of wrecked shipping. The reef is in PNG waters, 180 km from the nearest land, Rossel Island, and 600 km from the most easterly tip of the PNG mainland.

HEBRIDES FREE BY '80 — PLEDGE AT U.N.

A British United Nations delegate, Mr Ian Woods, has told the sub-committee on small territories of the General Assembly's Special Committee on Decolonisation that France and Britain are determined to bring the New Hebrides to independence in 1980. He said the two governments were now making efforts to ensure the territory's economic viability.

FIJI'S NEW GOLD PROSPECT

Another gold prospect is opening up in Fiji, near Balevuto, in western Viti Levu. The prospect, covering 240 ha, is close to Atherton Antimony porphyry gold prospect in the Vuda Valley. Siberia Nickel NL has joined the Greenvale Mining group to explore the prospect, paying \$155 000 in cash and issuing 250 000 30¢ shares for a 25% interest.

CANING FOR PNG'S ACCOUNT METHODS

Gross misuse of public money, losses, wastages, inefficiencies and failure to observe statutory financial reporting procedures were among criticisms made by a parliamentary committee set up to study Papua New Guinea's national book-keeping. The strong words were uttered by the committee chairman, Mr Warren Dutton.

"HEBRIDES WILL STAY A TAX HAVEN" — C.M.

The Chief Minister of the New Hebrides, Mr George Kalsakau, has reassured Australian and other companies taking advantage of the New Hebrides as a tax haven that his government is fully committed to "fostering and advancing" the tax haven system.

LABOR TO KILL NORFOLK ACCORD?

A change of government in Australia could jeopardise the agreement reached on the future of Norfolk Island (PIM, July, p51), according to Australia's Minister for Home Affairs, Mr. R. J. Ellicott, QC. He quoted a Labor Party spokesman as voicing hardline support for the provisions of the Nimmo Royal Commission into Norfolk Island.

FIJI EXTENDS OIL SEARCH

The Fiji Government has approved a new oil exploration agreement for the US-based Pacific Energy and Minerals Ltd. It will extend the search to the Yasawa Islands off the northwest of the main island of Viti Levu and to the Great Sea Reef area, north of the second largest island in the group, Vanua Levu.

"THREE-TIER US POLICY" CALL BY COLEMAN

A three-tier Pacific policy has been recommended to the United States by the Governor of American Samoa, Mr Peter

Tali Coleman. He said in Hawaii that the policy should be divided three ways: to take care of Japan and other highly populated areas, such as China and India; then the Philippines and other South-east Asian countries; and finally the South Pacific Islands and countries. He said he believed the recent interest of China and the Soviet Union in the South Pacific was "primarily economic". Unless the US had a policy for economic development in the region, the "other offers" would attract interest.

EX-MINISTERS CRASH IN PNG POLLS

Three former Ministers in the Papua New Guinea Government made unsuccessful bids in June to regain seats in parliament. They were the former Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister, Sir Maori Kiki, the former Minister for Police, Mr Patterson Lowa, and the former Minister for Labour, Mr Gavera Rea. They stood in by-elections for two seats in the capital, Port Moresby.

INDONESIA'S "OVERKILL" ON BORDER

The "informally co-ordinated" border operation by Indonesian and Papua New Guinean armed forces on the Irian Jaya border in June (PIM, Jul, p5) involved the use on the Indonesian side of OV 10F jet aircraft fitted with rockets and Sidewinder missiles. Revealing this, an Australian correspondent in July described the use of such planes against about 150 guerillas as "an exercise in overkill". He said it made a difficult situation less controllable and worse for all concerned, "the Indonesian and PNG Governments in particular, and the Australian Government at the end of the line". It could also create difficulties for Indonesia in securing further aircraft from the US Government. The OV 10Fs were made in the US specially for Indonesia and were delivered in 1976.

MORE RUSSIAN SHIPS TO CALL AT FIJI

Fiji will see more Russian ships, mainly trawlers, in the next few months, according to Seatrans (Fiji) Ltd, agents for Russian ships. They will call mainly for provisions. The number of Russian fishing vessels in the South Pacific has increased, following an agreement which allows Russian ships to fish in NZ waters. According to a Seatrans representative, the Russians like Fiji as a port of call because of efficient services and good opportunities for the crews to enjoy themselves.

CARDS, DRINK UNDER HIGHLANDS SIEGE

A group of Papua New Guinea highlands leaders believe that drinking and card playing should be "weekend occupations only". On behalf of their eight village communities in the Lufa region of the Eastern Highlands Province, they have asked for a provincial government law banning drinking and card-playing in their area on weekdays.

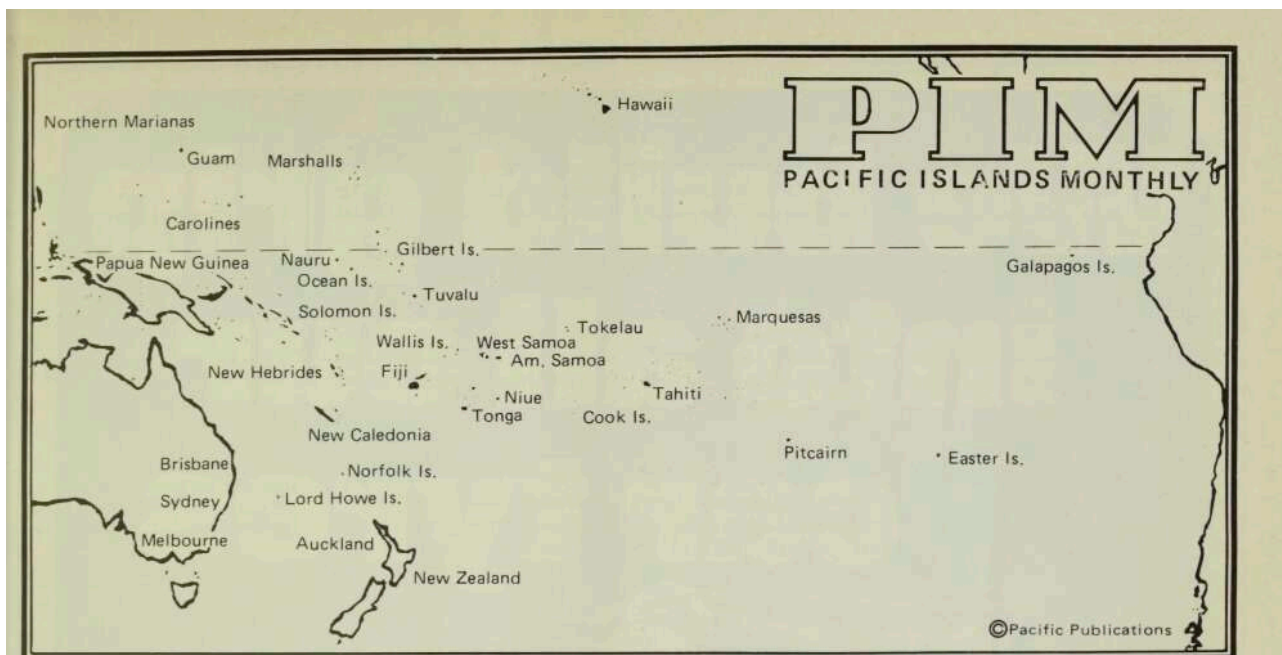
TWO TONGAN SEAMEN DIE

Two Tongan seamen died as a result of a fire which gutted a freighter, the Kemphaan, 5 000 tonnes, off Banks Peninsula, New Zealand. They were Samisolia Palu, 19, who was burnt to death in the ship, and Vili Vavafisi, who died later in a Christchurch hospital. The Kemphaan was owned by Mr Peter Warner, who operates a cargo fleet from Tonga.

WHITE WOMEN LOOTERS AT MT HAGEN

White women were among looters when fire swept through shops and offices in the Papua New Guinea highlands town of Mount Hagen in June. They took furniture, glassware and stainless steel goods. The fire, which caused \$1.5 million damage, destroyed the offices of Queensland Insurance and Remingtons, and Burns Philp's wholesale trading section.

COVER PHOTO: Going gay in a Papeete night club — a modern 'raerae', or 'mahu' does his thing. The picture vividly illustrates the feature on Polynesia's third sex, which opens on page 10.



PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY
EDITOR: JOHN CARTER

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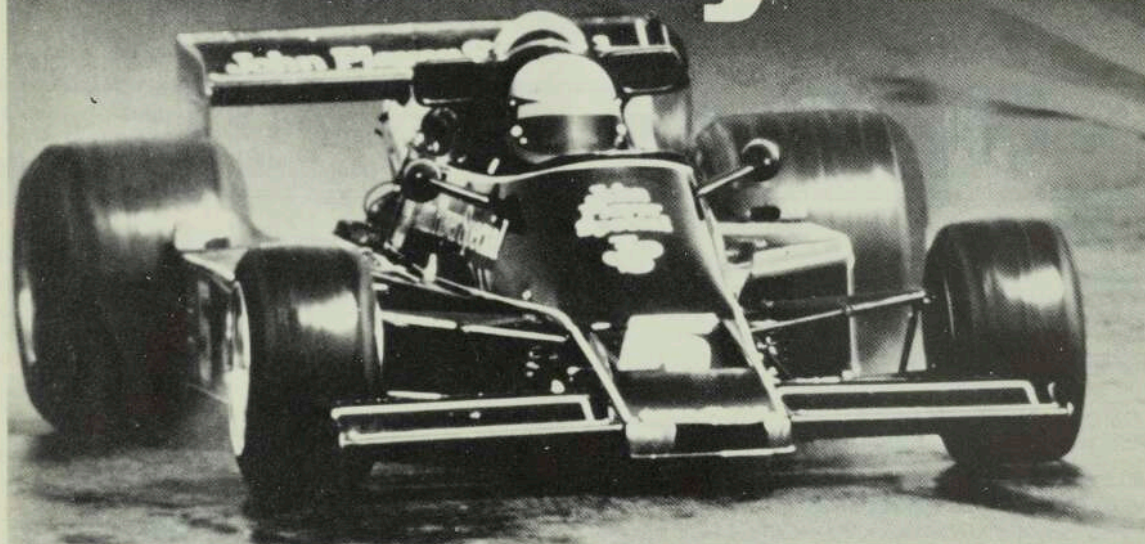
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LETTERS

GOOD ON YOU LASARUSA!

May I congratulate Lasarusa Vusoniwailala, the writer of the excellent article *Stop the rock*. (PIM, June, p11). It is remarkable for its scope, balance, accuracy and depth of understanding. I hope that it will be read and remembered by our political and economic leaders throughout the Pacific area.

How good it would be if more of the Islands people were to put down on paper for publication their thoughts and ideas.

J. D. POWDRELL
Sydney, NSW

PS: There's only one problem with PIM — too many people borrow my copy!

TOURIST PROMOTION

The need for a regional body for the promotion of the South Pacific Islands has been considered at a number of meetings and the problem remains to be resolved.

Conflicting views have been expressed by leaders of the travel industry regarding the role of regional organisations such as PIDTC and even PATA.

Due to limited financial resources, the smaller territories in Melanesia find it particularly difficult to generate interest in distant markets such as Europe and North America. The Melanesian Tourist Federation was mainly created for this purpose and achieved excellent results for a couple of years. There was no loss of identity for the territories members of the Federation (Papua New Guinea, Solomons, New Hebrides, New Caledonia) but due to major political changes in Melanesia

and the great loss of Don Barrett for the whole area, I, as the last chairman, had to disband the federation in 1976. However, contacts between the tourist authorities were maintained and joint promotions were arranged at opportune times, particularly in Australia and Japan, thanks to our regional airlines.

Recently, I proposed a regional promotion for the area on the European market and as a result of the full support given by the NTOs (PNG, Sol, NH, NC, Fiji), and the kind co-operation of the Paris and Frankfurt Pata chapters, Melanesian presentations were held in those cities. A function was held in Brussels, and calls were made in Amsterdam and London.

Obviously, due to the nominal financial contributions from each territory, this regional promotion of Melanesia was low key. But it had the distinction of being the first marketing effort staged in Europe on behalf of Melanesia as an area in its own right.

Many valuable contacts were made, and will help to define future marketing activities.

It is most gratifying to receive the full co-operation and trust of all concerned, despite the communication problems between the far-flung islands.

J. MULDER

Secretary-General,
Tourist Information Bureau,
Vila,
New Hebrides.

WHEN HELL'S POINT BOOMED

The article *Hell's Point is Booming* (PIM, March, p 26) recalls to me one of the most colossal mistakes of military judgment I have known, and one that must have set our "drive to Tokyo" back by a considerable amount.

True, Hell's Point was an ammo dump. Rumour at the time had it that 56 000 tons of ammunition were stacked there. In addition, however, some military genius had decided that the US Army's 197th Base Ordnance Depot (largest, most forward-positioned such depot in the South Pacific) be built just on the edge of the

dump and nearly 200 personnel of that depot company be tented in precise rows down the side.

Around noon, one day in November, 1943, we began to hear what seemed to be random small arms fire and someone reported that a member of a work detail had fired a pistol into one stack of ammo which was then going off in all directions. Other stacks were soon hit and began adding to the din. Then, when heavier shells began to blast, some personnel headed for bomb shelters while others ran to the motor pool and started driving the huge military vehicles to safety.

At 20th Station Hospital nearby, screaming, battle-fatigue patients had to be evacuated to Koli Point and there was much discussion as to whether or not the entire unit should begin moving. Instead, however, everyone stayed awake all night to witness the most fantastic fireworks display most of us had ever seen.

When morning came, an armoured half-track vehicle crunched into the now rather quiet area to pick up those who had remained in the shelters. Now and then some small calibre shell would explode from heat of the ashes and provide more excitement. But the area was razed. Trees, tents, buildings, ammunition, depot and valuable stores were all gone

together with many, carefully-stored and unopened Christmas presents from home.

Nearly 35 years have passed since that event but I have never forgotten it and the ironic fact that, although a commendation of merit was given to those who helped to save the vehicles, no one was ever blamed for the brilliant decision to position men and vital stores in the middle of an ammunition dump.

After building another depot just south of Hell's Point and operating it for about a year, our company then made our final and even larger depot across the Matanikau in the quonset huts around which I am told, was built the city of Honiara. I can hardly believe it.

In 1954, my curiosity got the better of me and I wrote to the British Public Relations Officer at Honiara asking for current information. To my surprise, I was soon corresponding with a Marist Brother, Joseph Chanel, who had been an anti-aircraft gunner at Henderson Field near us at the time of our Hell's Point incident. During our correspondence, he sent me a copy of PIM. My curiosity and your fine reporting have kept me a subscriber ever since.

Thank you for a publication which improves each year.

Paul W. Durbin
Los Angeles, CA.

COVERING THE COVER

The writer lent a copy of the May issue of PIM to a friend in order for that person to read the interesting correspondence about the Coral Route. He received back the cover in the enclosed form. You may find the subtle change interesting.
A. SATYANAND
Auckland, NZ.



They are called 'Mahu' in French Polynesia, 'Fakaleitis' in Tonga and 'Fa'a Fafines' in the Samoas. They are the true transvestites, the Third Sex of Polynesia, with a life-style which, in the case of the Samoans, has been thrust upon them from birth through custom. PIM prints their story, not as a sideways glance at a situation which has been the butt of comedians for years, but as a serious study of a phase of life in the Islands. Husband and wife authors Bengt and Marie Therese Danielsson in Tahiti write about the Mahu, Robin Pierson tells the Samoans' story and a Tonga correspondent brings out both the sad and the glad side of the Third Sex.

POLYNESIA'S THIRD SEX: THE GAY LIFE STARTS IN THE KITCHEN

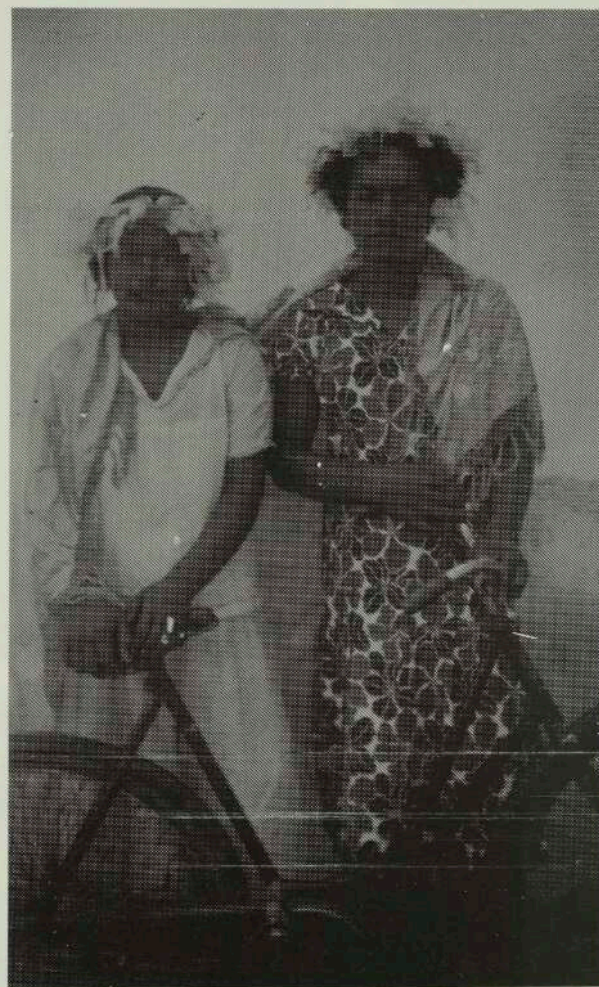
IN TAHITI

Ever since its discovery Tahiti has enjoyed a world-wide reputation for being the *Island of Love*, and the earliest European visitors all describe in the most glowing terms the islanders' untrammelled promiscuity, their unashamed public intercourses and their artful strip-tease shows. Another amusing example of this general permissiveness was recorded in 1789 by Lieutenant George Mortimer of the British ship *Mercury* which, on her way to the American Northwest coast to engage in the fur trade, made a short call at Tahiti.

As Mortimer himself tells the story, during a *heiva* show, one of the mates, "took it into his head to be very much smitten with a dancing girl, went up to her, made her a present of some beads and other trifles, and rather interrupted the performance by his attentions. But what was his surprise, when the performance was ended, and after he had been endeavouring to persuade her to go with him on board our ship, which she consented to, to find that this supposed damsel, when stripped of her theatrical paraphernalia, was a smart, dapper lad! The Otaheiteans on their part enjoyed the mistake so much that they followed us to the beach with shouts and repeated peals of laughter".

This anecdote from Mortimer's *Observations and Remarks made during a Voyage to the Islands*, which appeared in 1791, is the first published account we have of a Tahitian *mahu* transvestite.

Shortly afterwards a group of ministers and brethren from the London Missionary Society



A traditional Tahitian *mahu* (right) with his lady's bicycle and one of his many female friends. The picture was taken in the early 1930s by a staff member of Honolulu's Bishop Museum.

arrived on the scene and succeeded gradually in converting the Tahitians to their puritan and sectarian form of the Protestant faith.

Yet today, 180 years later, in spite of all the attempts made by the church and civilian authorities to stamp out all the

obscene and lascivious practices that delighted the early navigators, the *mahu* is still a popular and honoured member of every village throughout the Society Islands. Similar comedies of error — where love's labour is definitely lost — are also constantly being re-

enacted, and produce always bursts of laughter among the Tahitian spectators.

Under other names, true transvestites have existed from immemorial times in most other Polynesian islands. The most complete and detailed coverage of this fascinating subject can be found in a book which we wrote in the early 1950s and which has often been reprinted since then — *Love in the South Seas*.

A typical Tahitian *mahu* begins at an early age to associate and play with girls and stays at home to do household chores, while the other boys go fishing with their fathers. When reaching puberty, he will start wearing women's clothes, including brassiere. The use of jewellery and cosmetics is also common today in more sophisticated places like Papeete.

An adult *mahu* will gladly do the cooking and look after babies. But above all he loves to sew, mend, wash and iron clothes. He will spend most of his considerable leisure time in the company of the womenfolk whose manners and voices he will imitate. If he dances — which he usually does with consummate skill and grace — he is invariably a member of the female team.

Although nobody will object if a *mahu* chooses to live alone, most individuals belonging to this distinct social category prefer to be inmates of a family household. As a matter of fact, the *mahu* transvestites are much sought after as maids.

Europeans often take for granted that they are all homosexuals which is not the case. Those who are (and they may form the majority) observe as a rule great discretion and modesty. Lasting liaisons are

rare and the most common pattern for a mahu is to have occasional, furtive contacts, usually with adolescents still at an experimenting, exploratory stage of their sexual development.

This leaves, however, a small number of mahu transvestites who must be described as indifferent or asexual. Bisexual individuals are not totally unknown, and some have even sired children, but all available evidence indicates that such blatantly heterosexual behaviour represents only short episodes in their lives.

In sharp contrast to the basically negative attitude towards homosexuals in our Western societies, the individuals in Polynesia who follow the traditional mahu way of life are not only tolerated but meet with general approval and praise. We can even go one step farther and say that there exists a definite social pressure to produce individuals with this deviant behaviour.

However, a very important point here which should be born in mind is that there must never be more than one mahu in each village or community. This unwritten law, as well as the fact that a new mahu will always emerge in the case of a vacancy due to death or departure, show even more clearly that we have to do with a sociological and not a biological phenomenon.

How it all started, we shall, of course, never learn, since there are no scientifically-valid traditions or legends, explaining the origin of this time-honoured institution. The only thing we can do, therefore, is to speculate about its possible psychological significance and social implications. The best hypothesis will be found in Professor Robert L. Levy's excellent study *Tahitians, Mind and Experience in the Society Islands* (University of Chicago Press, 1973), based on several years of intensive field work in Tahiti and Huahine, carried out in the native language.

His conclusions are briefly that the Polynesians, like all other peoples, need models and that a mahu is a sort of negative image that helps the boys to become men, or real males, by showing them in a particularly striking manner

the sex role which they must not choose.

Although the venerable mahu institution survived for almost 200 years, in spite of the constant opprobrium of all church and government dignitaries, there are now many signs that it will eventually disappear as a result of the brutal modernisation process — also called "progress" — to which Tahiti and the other Society Islands have been exposed during the last 15 years, or so. What is happening, ironically enough, is that the rising tide of Western type homosexual prostitution is rapidly engulfing the native style mahu transvestites. Like thousands of other Polynesians they have migrated to the Sodom and Gomorra called Papeete, where they are all bewildered and lost, since the French laws and European customs which prevail there are utterly incomprehensible. Having no other means of making a living in this new harsh environment, the mahu transvestites sooner or later resort to the expediency of selling their favours to the numerous foreign homosexual tourists.

Several bars and night clubs now openly cater to this special category — for which the special word *raerae* has been coined — even to the point of organising beauty contests for the title of *Miss Tane*, or *Miss Male*. The ultimate stage in this westernisation of the Tahitian sexual customs is the recent emergence of lesbian prostitutes whose behaviour all real mahu transvestites, of course, disapprove of as being definitely abnormal...

IN SAMOA

Mention the words *fa'a fafine*, and most Samoans giggle. Ask them what the words mean, and they'll tell you, "like a lady, you know, 50-50". Many think this definition is sufficient in explaining the large fellows who speak so sweetly, dress so finely, and carry a purse, but it doesn't, not quite. For the Third Sex in Samoa is unique — *fa'a fafines* don't choose to be gay, they are raised that way.

It so happens, that the children of Samoa are their families' work force, and a



A Samoan *fa'a fafine* turns on a warm smile for the camera.

continuous stream of tasks are bestowed upon them from the time they cease being babies, until they have children of their own.

Boys and girls tasks are segregated, integrating children into an accepted role within their community and family at an early age. Occasionally, a family may have an abundance of male children, which means there is a disparity in the work-load, and, basically, that the woman of the household needs more help.

At times like this, Samoan parents often find that little boys can do girls' work quite adequately, hence, the problem is solved — the labour remains equally distributed, and most importantly, it gets done.

So the young boys grow up doing women's work, associating primarily with women, therefore picking up feminine mannerisms and traits, and gradually they develop into *fa'a fafines* — like a lady, while at the same time, being very different from a lady.

Yet, an effeminate young man, who reaches maturity wearing women's clothing, is often disconcerting to the male members of his family, to the village priests he is sinful, and it is usually the school authorities who exert pressure on the individual to tone down his style while attending high school. But having been raised as a woman from day one onward, the individual's identity is established, and a transition at this stage would be

difficult to make. Besides, regardless of the changes the young man may make outwardly or inwardly, he has already been labelled as a *fa'a fafine*, making it extremely difficult to be anyone else in the eyes of his community and family. So, even though pressured during adolescence, most *fa'a fafines* continue to emerge and grow into the role they have been placed in. In other words, the *fa'a fafine* traits in most of these individuals do not die, but rather come into full bloom.

Many of the *fa'a fafines* of Samoa have lived, attended school or have been employed in the United States, and the general consensus is that it's a lot easier to be a *fa'a fafine* in Samoa. The practice of raising a boy child as a girl is accepted in Samoa and generally the end product is accepted also, as long as the individual isn't too blatant about it. But many are blatant. Feeling quite comfortable masquerading as women, and doing remarkably well at it, they're bucking powerful family and societal pressures, which is something that not many Samoans have the courage to do.

Others, who hold high positions within the community, have acquired a subdued *fa'a fafine*-type appearance, making them more acceptable to the general populace. Yet even these people will most probably stay within their role as *fa'a fafines* for the rest of their lives, for as with many things on the island, everyone knows your background, making it

difficult to change, but acceptable to remain as you are.

Each Sunday afternoon, a unique gathering takes place in downtown Fagatongo in American Samoa. Superficially, the scene is that of a small club meeting. The minutes from last week's meeting are read, donations to the club's treasury are commended, and new fund-raising projects are discussed. Some of the group's members are extravagantly dressed for this informal gathering. Some sport immaculately-groomed coiffures, heavy makeup and long gowns, while others are more casual in *lava-lavas* tied discreetly above the chest. Sitting close to one of the more elegant individuals, a small hint of a heavy beard becomes apparent. The laughter that emanates from the group comes in giggles — deep throated and husky, yet giggles just the same. It's the weekly meeting of the *Tamua Stars*, American Samoa's first and only fa'a fafine organisation.

The group represents the emergence of individual fa'a fafines who have accepted their unique roles and are striving to strengthen their own self-image within that role. They gather together to share their problems, their joys and to counsel others, especially younger fa'a fafines to make their unique path a smoother one.

In June, the *Tamua Stars* of American Samoa, along with *The My Girls*, the fa'a fafine organisation of Western Samoa, was to host the fa'a fafines of New Zealand for a gala, including a beauty contest, a fashion show, and an array of sports competitions. At a similar event last Christmas, the New Zealanders shone the brightest, but they probably found a bit of competition this year from the lovelies of American and Western Samoa.

Generally, the island's fa'a fafines are considered responsible and efficient employees and students, and having no sexual interest in women or their fellow fa'a fafines, they seldom marry, but instead provide intimate diversity for some Samoan males.

Though not readily nor openly discussed, the original

function of the village fa'a fafines was to introduce young men into the art of love-making. Though this practice seems to have rapidly diminished, the fa'a fafines are still a source of pleasure in the Samoan society.

They see themselves as vehicles of happiness and good feelings which they endeavour to share with others. To many it may seem that these men have been dealt an unfair hand by their family and society, but even a bad hand can result in an enjoyable game if the player's attitude is a positive one. The general open and candid manner displayed by the fa'a fafines of Samoa is refreshing and they are a source of delight to the majority of those living among them.

IN TONGA

Outside, men both young and old peered through openings in the foliage-screened front windows of the Dateline Hotel in Tonga's capital, Nukualofa. At the front door, a young, effeminate man collected happily a *one pa'anga* cover charge for those going in. Inside, a standing-room crowd looked on.

The occasion was the annual *Fakaleiti Ball*, an event that has become popular with both Tongans and foreign visitors to Nukualofa. Although the event was more toned-down this year than in the past, it still provided plenty of interest and a chance for Tonga's more visible *fakaleitis* to strut their stuff.

The beauty pageant format, used last year at Joe's Hotel, was discarded with the movement of the ball to the Dateline, Tonga's main tourist hotel, which has a much less rowdy reputation.

Instead, each of the five main participants was introduced and performed a dance routine on the hotel's main dance floor, surrounded by tables of interested spectators.

The audience was in good humour as participants performed their routines in outfits that ranged from short shorts and long nylons to long gowns with low necklines and even in-

'I was born to be like this'

When he was young, he liked to play with girls. But now, at 18, he still finds the ways of women more attractive to him. Because of this, he is occasionally taunted and has lost most of his male Tongan friends.

But, says Longosai Fineanganofa, "I was born to be like this".

Longosai is the youngest of a group of Tongan Fakaleiti who openly flaunt their femininity, usually in the small park area in front of the International Dateline Hotel, on the beachfront in Nukualofa. He is the youngest of a young group. He calls his friends of 30 "old".

But the Dateline scene has been a good one for him in the two years he has enjoyed it since finishing school. In addition to Tongan fakaleiti friends, he now corresponds with friends all over the world.

But at times, it is obvious that he is restless and concerned about his future.

"Those who understand my life don't talk badly about me, but some, they hate me," Longosai said. "I've been to New Zealand and Fiji and you get used to the way people treat you. But for myself, I want to stay in Tonga."

"I just can't change myself. Sometimes I think to myself 'why was I born to be like this?' But there's nothing I can do. Some people were born to be white and I was born to be like this."

Although Longosai has kept some of his female friends from his schooldays, he has few male friends. Many of his friends in Tonga are from the expatriate or papalangi community, because, "They show more interest in me".

He is an only child. Longosai's parents were separated and he has lived most of his life with his grandmother. He enjoys a good relationship with his family and lives at home most of the time.

"My parents leave me alone," he said. At home, he often fulfils the woman's role, cooking and sewing among his other chores.

Most of the time, Longosai keeps late days, going out in the evening and not returning home until early morning. Although he has never encountered trouble with the Tongan police, some of his friends have, he said. Tongan law prohibits two males from having sexual relationships with one another and some of his friends have been prosecuted, he said.

When his friends gather along the beach, the main topic of conversation is usually men, Longosai said. Some nights the group just gathers to talk. On other nights, they dress in women's clothes and wear makeup, moving along the beach to meet customers from the hotel or other visitors who might be interested in spending the night with them. When a cruise ship calls at Queen Salote wharf for an overnight visit, or a naval warship puts into port, Longosai stays busy, he said.

Generally, it is a style of life that satisfies Longosai. Financially, and in terms of gifts he often receives from overseas friends he has made, Longosai lives a comfortable life. "I could easily find a job," Longosai explains. "But I still enjoy this life."

Another hotel near the ocean, Joe's Hotel, is also a gathering place for the fakaleiti group. Once a year, the group holds a beauty contest at the hotel, each fakaleiti posing as a beauty contest winner from some other part of the world, such as "Miss Africa". The contests are popular among Tongans and expatriates, with Joe's usually jammed for the beauty finals.



This Tongan *fakaleiti* was unlucky enough to lose his wig during a performance at Nukualofa's International Dateline Hotel.

cluded one belly-dancing costume. One dancer, performing to a recorded version of *The Way We Were*, attracted wolf whistles and wows until a saucy jerk of the head sent his expensive wig flopping onto the floor. Then the audience roared.

Although word of the event did not circulate well among the island's *papalagi* community, limiting their attendance, a large group of hotel guests bolstered the number of foreigners in attendance. Some of them plainly did not know what to think of the event. Most missed the irony when a local *fokisi*, Tongan prostitute, danced a *lakalaka* — a traditional Tongan dance — to raise money for her *fakaleiti* friends.

Money from the cover charge and the fund-raising dances will be used to hold a party for the *fakaleiti* com-

munity and their friends, a spokesman said.

The audience proved to be well behaved through the performances. One drunk stumbled out onto the floor to harass one of the performers, but found himself quickly being escorted away by a grey-uniformed policeman.

The crowd, including many friends and relatives of the performers, was predominantly a female one. When the house band turned back to its own brand of Polynesian Rock after the last dance routine, the spectators were not to be denied their chance to dance. Finding not enough male partners, the women simply danced with each other.

There were plenty of partners outside the hotel, peering in trying to get a good view of the dance floor. But they would not pay the one pa'anga cover charge to come inside.

NZ hotels are Islanders' cultural centres says police commissioner

Hotels tend to become the cultural centres for Pacific Islanders living in New Zealand, according to Police Commissioner R. J. Walton, writes William Gasson in Wellington.

Mr Walton made the comment in a written submission to a parliamentary select committee on violent offending that forged a strong link between drinking and violence.

While he blamed liquor as a "lubricant of violence" overall, the submission spelt out the worrying disproportionate percentage of Pacific Islanders and Maoris arrested for violent offending.

A three-month survey in Auckland in 1976 showed that Maoris committed 27.38% of all assaults and Islanders the same number, although Maoris made up 8.28% of the population and Islanders 4.86%.

Maoris and Pacific Islanders together make up 13.14% of Auckland's population but they account for 55.25% of total arrests for violence.

Another survey showed that while Pacific Islanders and Maoris aged 14 to 30 represented 2.75% of the country's population, they committed 34.85% of detected violence.

Violent offenders tended to be in the lower social economic group and a high percentage of Maoris and Pacific Islanders fell within that group, the submission said.

In the case of Pacific Islanders, a strange environment and often a lack of ability to communicate caused problems. Islanders left their relaxed and informal villages for a way of life totally foreign to them and the hotel tended to become their cultural centres, Mr Walton said.

He believed there should be an education programme available to Islanders about New Zealand's way of life before they arrive.

As it was, domestic disputes reached a peak after hotel closing time when various welfare

agencies were unavailable to help in a family crisis.

The long-term answer to liquor-related offences could be educating people towards self-discipline in their drinking habits. However, until these social measures could be taken, violence must be countered by firm enforcement of the law.

In answer to critics who claimed that Auckland police arrested Maoris and Islanders simply because they belonged to minority ethnic groups, Mr Walton said: "It must be remembered that those arrested for drunkenness are in fact potential victims if allowed to wander the streets in that state."

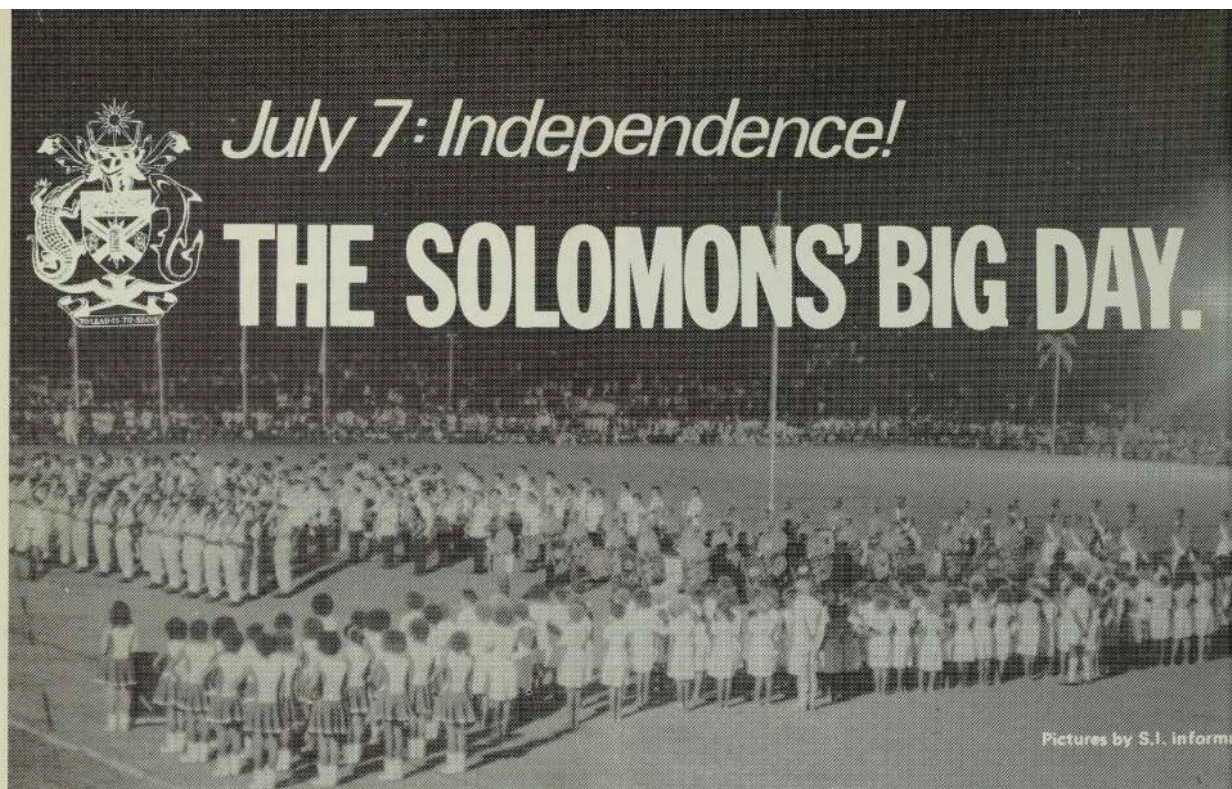
It was an "awesome sight" when dozens of hotel patrons spilled out of hotels at closing time armed with bottles, he said.

"It may be thought that the prime purpose in taking bottles from the bar is to consume the contents. In very many cases the bottles are taken for the sole purpose of providing a weapon either defensive or offensive."

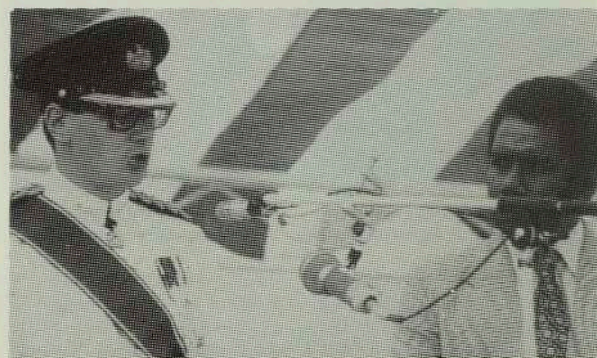
Mr Walton's comments were mainly aimed at the overall New Zealand drinking scene of which Islanders form a part. His submissions noted that whereas New Zealanders drank 107 litres of beer, wine and spirits per head of population in 1963 that figure had risen to 145 litres in 1975 and at the last count was 141 litres.

Mr Walton put his finger on two problem areas for all New Zealanders, as well as Islanders, when he said:

- "While it is the accepted thing to drink as much as possible in as short a time as possible — and this is the established rule in many sectors of the community — our problems will continue.
- "While we have large bar areas, the problems of control, violence, intoxication will remain."



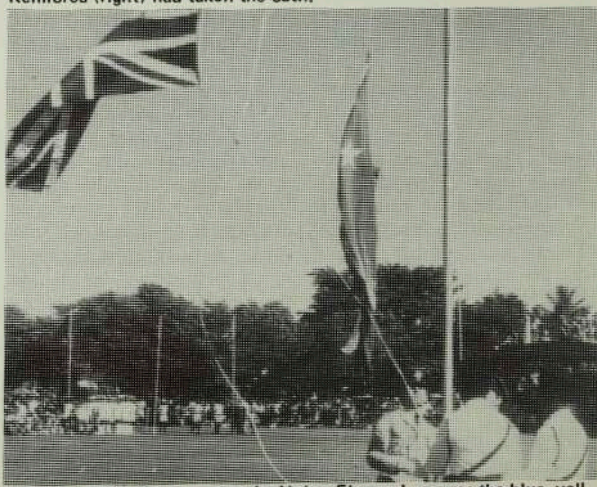
The beginning—Governor-General Baddeley Devesi takes the oath.



The Duke of Gloucester reads the Queen's message after Prime Minister Kenilorea (right) had taken the oath.



Archbishop Palmer blesses the new flag.

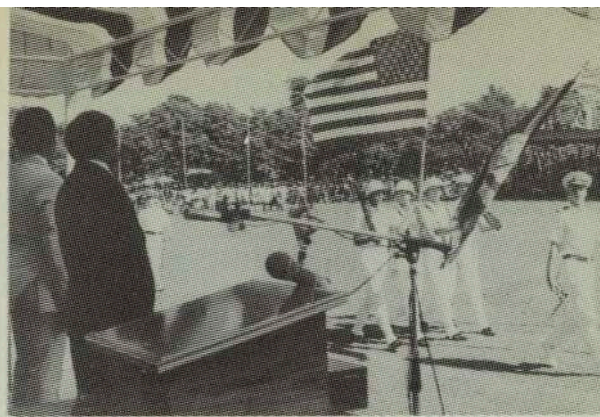


A colony ends—down comes the Union Flag and up goes the blue, yellow and green Solomon Islands' flag.

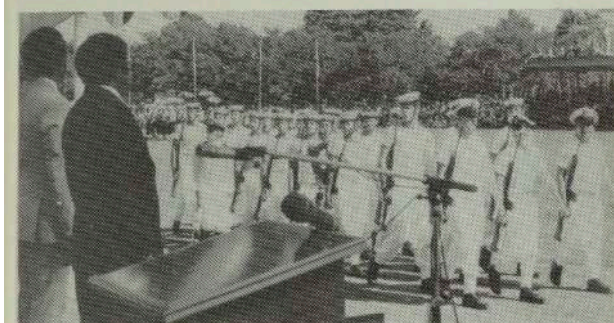
PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY — AUGUST, 1978



The Duke at attention for the Solomons' National Anthem.



The American Navy with Old Glory.



The Royal Australian Navy (HMAS Vendetta) marches past.



Eyes right from the Girl Guides.



A welcome at Henderson Airport for the Duchess from Rose Timothy ...and from mud-caked warriors at Auki, Malaita.

Those independent islanders.



A hula or a jive? The Duchess and a Cook Islander—Photo: Un Tak Fook.



The Ghurkas quick march to music.

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FOR SERVICE

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY — AUGUST, 1978

COOK ISLANDS — Politics came to the boil during and after the March general election in this self governing island group. Charges and counter charges filled the air. Premier Sir Albert Henry, in Hawaii for Cook Islands Week, talks with Sheree Lipton — of himself and his longtime associate, Finbar Kenny.

Sir Albert in a corner

"I was backed into a corner. I really had no choice." Sir Albert Henry, Premier of the Cook Islands, was explaining his position in the controversial March election. Was this the lion or the lion-tamer speaking?

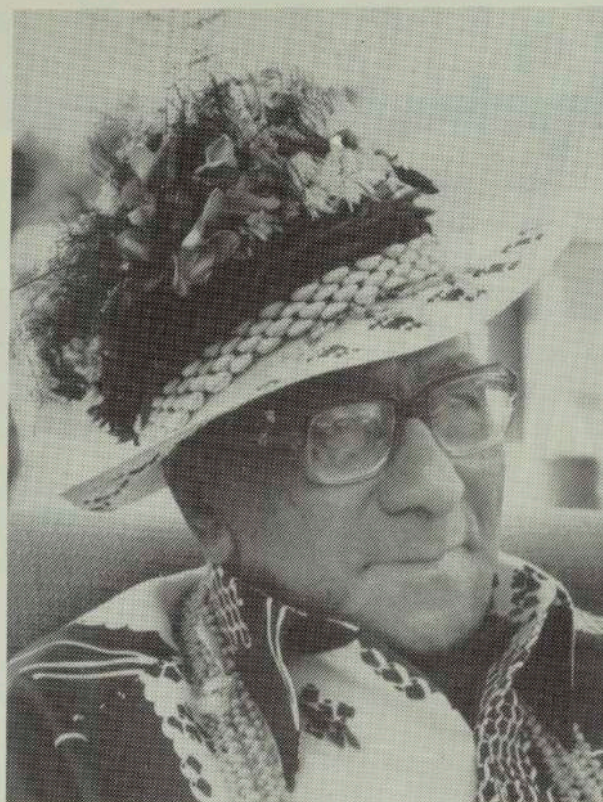
Since no one can squeeze inside another person's guts when a critical decision is being taken, the whys of the acrobatics in the Cook Islands Government probably will remain unsolved. But Sir Albert appeared anxious to clarify certain points.

We were in a suite at the Royal Hawaiian Hotel, Honolulu. Before me lay the complicated maze of Polynesian politics, personalities, platforms and ideologies which seems, for the moment, to have thrown the normally quiet Cooks somersaulting off balance.

Above all, the Premier appeared keen to absolve American millionaire Finbar Kenny from any implication in the election plane charter affair which was to become the subject of an inquiry into alleged bribery and corruption in the Cooks.

No one could find Finbar Kenny, it seemed. In light of the furnace under the post-election pot, Finbar Kenny had probably wisely retired into the steel and mahogany haze of some New York skyscraper. Kenny, after allegations that he illegally contributed more than \$300 000 to Sir Albert's two-thirds majority victory, had ducked out of sight without comment.

Sir Albert was introduced to Kenny by friends about 13 years ago at the United Nations in New York. Learning of the potential benefits that stamp income might reap, and of Kenny's expertise in the field,



*Yeah, the tide rolls in
The tide rolls out
And it rocks you like a baby
And if you think you can roll
Seven all the time
I'll tell you that you're crazy...*

**Lyrics from American folk
ballad 1978 by Kate Taylor**

Henry asked him to help set up a company in the Cooks.

An agreement was made and formalised in 1965 and the philatelic bureau was set up as a private company. According to Sir Albert, 50% of gross profits were to go to the Cook Islands Government, the other 50% to Kenny. Out of his profits Kenny was to pay for such things as the cost of buildings, wages for a staff of more than 20 and all other expenses.

The guarantee to the Cook Islands Government by the company at its formation in 1965 was to be at least £25 000 per annum to provide for an old age pension fund which Sir

Albert had promised during his first campaign. Sir Albert says that pensioners in the Cooks have been paid 10 shillings a month ever since from profits from the sale of stamps. The Cooks post office also got a share of Kenny's 50%, said Sir Albert, for selling stamps within the islands.

According to the Premier, by 1968-69, the philatelic bureau was grossing \$300 000 to \$400 000 per year, with printing and distribution costs still being paid out of Finbar Kenny's share in the private company. Sir Albert says he approached Kenny at this time and asked him: "Could you spend some of your own profit

in the Cooks?" Kenny agreed and it was at this point, says Sir Albert, that the Cook Islands Development Corporation (CIDC) was formed. The CIDC is headed by Jim Little, whose Rarotonga-born wife is in charge of the philatelic bureau.

Jim Little is a relaxed, middle-aged New Zealander, formerly one of the chief administrators in the New Zealand High Commissioner's Office in Avarua.

The Premier says that the CIDC was financed with the Kenny share of the funds. He adds: "There were special projects begun, of course, that I had to support."

An example he cited was the incorporation of 10 acres among 30 members of the same *angae* (family unit) for citrus development and income. With the 10 acres as collateral, the extended family unit could borrow from \$20 000 to \$30 000 to finance improvement, paying no interest whatsoever.

Sir Albert mentioned another example. With the increase of air traffic and tourism came the need for a self-drive hire car service. Sir Albert said he held off eager offers from Hertz and other rent-a-car agencies, firmly stating: "We want local people." But Cook Islanders interested in the car rental business only had \$3000. What Finbar Kenny did, the Premier told me, was to take a one-third share in a newly-formed car hire company and buy all the cars, his share giving him the right to invest \$30-40 000 for the purchase of the necessary vehicles.

"These are examples of his humanitarian efforts," Sir Albert told me. "When the Cook Islanders get to the point where they can operate successfully enough, they then have the option to pay off the loan and buy him out. The unique part of the whole thing," he laughed, "is that if the company fails, Kenny does not get anything."

But questions remain. The Democratic Party alleges that Kenny channelled up to

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\$350 000 through a company that was set up to help Sir Albert fly in his voters. While the way in which the money aspect was managed remains unclear, Sir Albert kept no secrets about the fly-in voters — nor did the opposing Democrats.

About 800 Cook Islands Party (CIP) voters flew in from Auckland on chartered Ansett jets accompanied by national television and press people, wondrous at the local colour and extraordinary voting system. The returnees were escorted to makeshift booths set up right at the airport terminal. Then after voting, they were greeted with cheers and ebullience by relatives, fragrant flower *ei's* and a Polynesian *umukai* which included sweet oranges, bananas, *poke* (pudding), *mitiore* (coconut) and fish.

Democratic Party voters flew in on a chartered Air Nauru 727, more modest in number. But they were greeted with the same enthusiasm.

However much all of this may have contributed to his victory, Sir Albert apparently wants no more of this type of fly-in voting system in the Cooks. He passed legislation against it almost immediately after taking office. Though he felt, as he stated, "backed into a corner" to fly in his voters, as the Democrats had done back in 1974 and again this year, he apparently is unhappy with the system.

"I want to prove that fly-by-night-voters will not, in the long run, be good for the future stability of our country. Take the Cook Islander in New Zealand, for instance. He has his life and interests 10 years away from Rarotonga." Sir Albert wrinkled his nose. "How can he decide what is right for the country? The one who is digging his hand into the dirt of his country," he went on philosophically, "he has the right to decide!"

Now the law is considerably changed. After the election he whisked Parliament into session and changed the electoral act so that only residents may vote. If other Cook Islanders wish to vote and have been residing outside of the Cooks for one year or more they must return home for a

three-month period prior to election. "This way," Sir Albert smiled, "you can really see if the government is doing any good or not! After all, how would we run our country if we had the majority of voters as non-residents?" (Current figures show that about 9000 eligible voters live in Rarotonga and outer islands. Eleven thousand Cook Islanders live in New Zealand or elsewhere overseas.)

Other legislative changes by Sir Albert since he took his new oath of office include controls for lawyers (Lawyers Practices Act), retroactive to April 1, 1978. It requires stricter supervision of solicitors in the Cooks and is designed to ensure that certain ethical standards are upheld. Immigration laws also have been made tougher.

So, who then is Sir Albert? Prince or frog? Saint or sinner? Father of his country or, as one prominent Cook Islander succinctly phrased it, "a Benevolent Cobra". Tough and ballsy, or gentle and caring? Or could it be a combined tapestry of all these components that lend the man the dynamism he so profoundly possesses?

Because of alleged illegalities on the validity of fly-in voters, court proceedings in New Zealand and Rarotonga have intensified the drama. One would speculate that the Cook Islanders are rather enjoying the stimulus and complexities of this fascinating 'whodunit'. There is, in any case, no longer excessive public credulity lent to anyone and this may be a good thing.

The outcome may be decided from a legal viewpoint even before this article is published. But it is likely that the controversy of the players and their varying roles in the drama will be carried down through the next several centuries in the sleepy Cooks, much like the oral genealogies of their ancestors.

Surely, one of the emotions that Sir Albert feels at present is a sense of betrayal amongst the bedlam. Some of the fledgeling chicks he helped to raise not only have left his side, but moved against him — like Doctor Joe Williams, former minister of health and Sir Albert's personal physician. Williams is now the leader of

his own Unity Party which, while it did not fare well in the March 1978 elections, nevertheless managed to make its opinions and platforms known to the voters.

And, aside from internal dissension, Sir Albert feels rather strongly that much of the problem comes from what he labels 'a copied influence'. A few weeks after the March 30 victory, Sir Albert returned one night from New Zealand to be greeted not only by traditional kudos and *ei katus* but by some young members of the Democratic Party. Smiling for the cameras but apparently not so friendly toward Sir Albert Henry, the opposition waved large placards proclaiming

'Corruption! Injustice! Persecution!', and compared the Premier with Idi Amin.

The warrior, now 73, looked tired and sad. He had been in Hawaii for a week to escape from some of the pressures, to celebrate the now annual Cook Islands Week in Hawaii, but he had hardly left the hotel room. We talked about his almost fatal heart attack back in 1974 when he fooled the grave-faced doctors in Rotorua who only gave him four days to live.

"And," I asked, "if the doctors told you now the stress was life-threatening, would you stop?" "No," he shouted, "if I retire now, I'll get old. I'll stay to the end of all this and fight!"

MRA POSES CHALLENGE TO AUSTRALIA

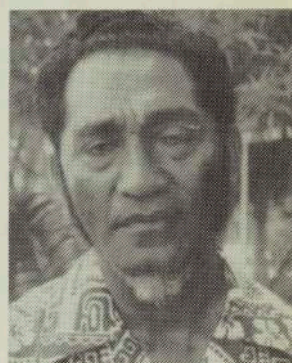
Three hundred and fifty people from 26 countries attended the International Conference for the Pacific-Asian region called recently in Brisbane, Queensland, by the Moral Rearmament movement.

Among Island countries represented were Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Western Samoa, New Caledonia and Tonga.

Yann Celene Uregei, a leader of the independence movement of the Kanak people of New Caledonia, and a member of the Territorial Assembly, said at the close of the conference: "We go from here with a deep sense of finding God's will for our countries."

"We are grateful for the direct contact, the reconciliation of hearts and the way each one here has carried the other's burdens. This has presented us all with new goals."

Kumalau Tawali, poet and teacher of Pacific literature at the University of Papua New Guinea, said: "Only months before my country became independent political experts were predicting bloodshed and chaos. Independence came on September 16, 1975, and not a single shot was fired nor a single drop of blood shed. The flag of our former colonial masters was lowered with respect, reverence and tears. I believe that the act of mutual agreement between my people and the Australian Government was one based on



Yann Celene Uregei . . . a new set of goals.

sensitiveness and understanding.

"I say this with a challenge to the white Australians today. If you could do this with my people who are far away I believe you can do it for your own people — the Aborigines."

"In the plan of the creator of the dreamtime, the Aborigines, with their great spiritual strength and insight, have a role to play in the humanisation of mankind before it destroys itself."

Fijians at the conference brought a message from their Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara. He wrote of "the selflessness and dedication, high-hearted gaiety and courage" of the young people who had called on him from Moral Rearmament, and conveyed his wish that the conference would be a "blessing to the Pacific".

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From the ISLANDS PRESS

From the Cook Islands News, quoting Premier Sir Albert Henry:

Yesterday morning, Tuesday, in the Assembly, the Premier made a statement, that as he said, "I want to record in this House as my statement as Head of this Government. I raise a strong objection as Head of this government, this country and of the Public Service of this country to a member of the New Zealand bar, a high-ranking lawyer of New Zealand, Mr Paul Temms, Queen's Counsel, coming into the Cook Islands and entering government offices without the proper etiquette of requesting permission from the Head of this government, and because of his position as Queen's Counsel, using that position to try and intimidate a Government official into making statements to him ... a Queen's Counsel walking uninvited into the offices of a Knight of the British Empire ..."

From Uni Tavar, the University of Papua New Guinea student newspaper:

The health services at UPNG should help students to overcome their problems and miseries, the student counsellor, Mrs Parames said. She said, in institutions individuals are away from parental guidance and supervisions and they are now free to meet the opposite sex. We all know that students will be making love so why not prevent the miseries resulting from unplanned and sometimes unwanted pregnancies. She said also that it would be an act of responsibility for couples to approach the health clinics, family planning clinics or to the student counselling service for contraceptive advice.

From a letter by Denise Lachance in the Tonga Chronicle on problems experienced by visiting females:

... I can cite the experience of three acquaintances of mine from three different countries other than my own. On a recent boat trip to Ha'apai they were shamelessly harassed by young men attempting to crawl under their blankets with them, among other things. Perhaps the vigorous protests of the young women were interpreted as perfunctory coyness but they certainly were not ...

From the American Samoa News Bulletin:

If you sometimes feel that you are knee-deep in dogs, or you curse every morning when you discover that a dog pack has raided your garbage can, scattering debris in all directions, there's something else to think about. Public Health Officer Nofo Siliga reports that 38 dog bite victims were treated by the Department of Health during the month of May — and 146 have been treated in the first five months of 1978. In addition, there is no way of knowing how many dog bite victims did NOT report to Public Health nurses or dispensaries.

From the Lae Nius:

The Morobe People's Association (MODIPE) during its meeting last month unanimously agreed to express opposition to the proposed overseas trip of Lae City Councillors ... If the councillors insist on undertaking the proposed trip, the Modipe Association demanded that the K20 000 grant by the Provincial Government for drainage work in Lae city should be returned

to the Government for use on other projects in the province. "We believe that if Lae City Council can afford to go overseas, then they also can afford to finance drainage works in Lae," a spokesman said.

From the Tohi, Tala Niue:

"Niueans are eating a lot of rubbish — they eat apple, pears and vegetables both fresh and tinned from overseas", said the Minister for Agriculture, Mr Young Vivian. "What's wrong with our pawpaws and a lot of other fruit and vegetables grown locally," he said.

From the Lae Nius reporting on a speech by PNG Minister for Health Wiwa Korowi at the 31st World Health Assembly at Geneva:

... "Here, I must state that Papua New Guinea may differ from many recently independent states. We feel no shame in acknowledging our debt to our previous colonial administrator, Australia."

From the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier reporting a speech by Sir Maori Kiki at a University of Papua New Guinea forum:

... Sir Maori said that by sacking the two employees of J. C. Waller Pty Ltd, the employers had insulted the unions. The two employees did not steal but borrowed six cans of beer, he said.

An announcement from Salt Lake City (USA) and reported in the American Samoa News Bulletin:

Mormon Church President Spencer Kimball announced today that black men will, for the first time, be admitted to the Mormon priesthood. The announcement ends a 148-year church policy of excluding blacks from the Mormon priesthood, which is open to all male church members in good standing over the age of 12.

From a letter on bride price by G. Walkersville in the Solomon Islands News Drum:

... This custom no longer plays its main role, that of the sealing of the marriage. Rather it has become a commercial venture for the girl's relatives. Thus, it is not uncommon these days to hear a girl's relatives claiming that the amount paid is not enough. How the hell do they measure the girl's worth. Back home I have frequently asked the question "Why do men have to pay bride price?" And the most frequent answer I get is "to repay the parents for bringing the girl up". What about the boy, was he not also brought up by his parents?

From Tohi Tala Niue on the travels of Niuean Toeono Tongatule, in Italy on a training course:

... Tonio seems to be settling in alright in Turin and is developing a taste for spaghetti and wine; perhaps when he returns he will start the first spaghetti plantation on our island.

From The Fiji Times, commenting on the current stagnant state of the tourist industry:

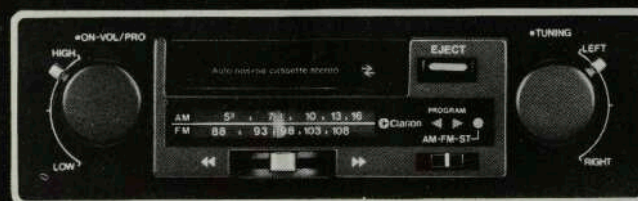
To some extent we ourselves are to blame for the unhappy state of affairs. During the boom years, some of us were too busy making fortunes to worry about the poor tourist.

From an article in the Tonga Chronicle by Minister of Police 'Akau'ola on passport offences:

According to Australian Immigration records ... the MV Tauloto has now taken on the status of cruise ship. Some Tongans legally entering Australia with a passport and subsequently found overstaying, have resorted to hiding their passports, giving a false name and alleging to have arrived as stowaways on the MV Tauloto. When deported, they can easily apply for re-entry under their correct name with a valid passport. This cover story has been used so often that the MV Tauloto is theoretically alleged to carry at least 20 stowaways on each voyage!

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New Hebrides' all-seeing sentries

Standing in the gardens of the Port-Vila Intercontinental Island Inn like an all-seeing sentry, is the largest slit gong in New Hebrides and most probably the world, writes Greg Nosworthy from Vila.

The six-metre monster, seemingly out of place in the New Hebrides premier international hotel, was commissioned in early 1975 to complement the hotels "Island Style" decor.

Constructed from a natora log from Tukumuk Ranch, Efate, by craftsmen from Ambrym, the awesome carving took a total of eight months painstaking work by hand. Although the monster was fashioned by Ambrym people it is not actually a custom slit gong.

The slit gongs, or tum-tums as they are also known are mostly found, in the New Hebrides islands of Ambrym and to a lesser extent, Malekula. In previous years the statues were more widespread through the group but due to the rush into westernisation they are now confined to the more primitive islands.

Stone figures have been found with similar forms to current slit gongs which some anthropologists believe date back a thousand years. The actual history behind the slit gong is vague, due to the villagers' reluctance to divulge information gained by them through years of complex ceremonies and rituals.

Previously the slit gongs were constructed from hardwood using stone tools but in more modern times have been constructed from breadfruit tree logs, also used for dug-out canoes.

The Ambrym gongs feature one, two or three of the familiar eerie faces with "full moon" eyes arranged in totem-pole fashion above the actual resonant body of the tum-tum. There is rarely any individuality in the statues which seems true of other items of oceanic art. Beneath the faces of the gong are usually carved replicas of the tusks of the pig

killed to commemorate the construction of the gong. These would be normally an almost complete circle tusk which signifies the importance attached to the piece.

Apart from deep-seated spiritual and ceremonial uses the slit gongs serve a useful purpose by summoning villages to emergencies, meetings, and the like. Their distinct sound can sometimes be heard for 10 km. During the lengthy processes of construction they are tested by the carver for resonance usually first by hollowing out the right-hand side of the log.

The various details of the decoration of the carving are secret and open to speculation. The serrated edges on the tops and bottoms of the faces are believed by some to depict hair and beards while there are various theories on the paint used for decoration.

Upon completion the slit

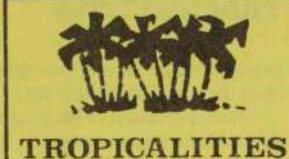
gong is normally placed in the village *nakamal* (open meeting place, usually sacred) upright in the ground, slightly-angled back. The village *nakamal* may contain a number of slit gongs all angled backwards seemingly to complement the facial features on the tum-tums.

All gongs are believed to contain spirits which transfer from old to new gongs and are all part of the New Hebrides complex pig-killing ceremonies.

Fortunately, there seems to be little chance of young Ambrym people abandoning their custom and succumbing to western/urban ways.

Fiji is on the ball

Fiji is in line to stage late this year the biggest golf tournament in the world — the



Eisenhower Trophy for men and the Espirato Santo for women — at the Pacific Harbour championship standard course, Deuba, about 50 km from Suva.

The Eisenhower Cup tournament is held each year at a different venue by the World Amateur Golf Council, of New Jersey. Both the Eisenhower Trophy and Espirato Santo events are staged over four days. Four players from each country play 72 holes, but at the end of each round the top scores of only three are tallied.

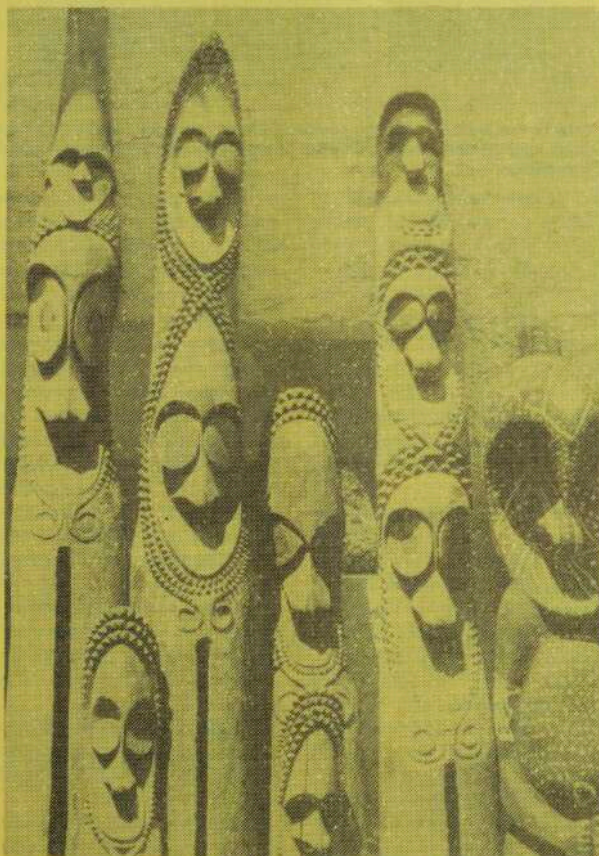
The only bar to Pacific Harbour being the venue relates to South Africa. Fiji signed the Gleneagles Accord along with other Commonwealth Prime Ministers in 1977. Under this accord the countries concerned agreed not to maintain sporting ties with South Africa. The Fiji Government is believed to have found a way round the accord. If that is so Fiji golf enthusiasts will have the opportunity of seeing South African Gary Player, one of the world's greatest golfers, in action.

Houses for a 'special class'

Papua New Guineans have been told they can't move into the government's best houses. They are needed as an "attraction" for Australians and other overseas recruits into the public service.

The PNG Public Service Association, the country's biggest union, has angrily attacked the ruling.

"The most privileged group in the country is having its privileges protected at our expense" the association secretary, Mr W. Edoni, said in Port Moresby. He said he couldn't see much point in political independence when out-



Silent sentinels — slit gongs from the collection in Vila of anthropologist Ron Van der Platt — Photo: Peter Lord.

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siders were given a better deal than Papua New Guineans.

The instruction which has angered the union was given in a Public Service Commission circular regarding the allocation of government-owned houses to public servants.

The circular said that for the time being no more "high covenant reserved houses" were to be allocated to public servants who were PNG nationals.

The houses were needed for public servants being recruited from overseas to fill specialised positions, the circular said.

The main outside sources of public service recruiting are Australia, New Zealand, UK and the Philippines.

Mr Edoni said the government was betraying its own people in the interests of "so-called experts". The government didn't mind that its own people had to live in sub-standard houses or stay with relatives simply to make good housing available to outsiders.

He claimed that Papua New Guineans were being treated as subordinate people because their government believed that outsiders were in a special class.

"People forget that these so-called experts are already receiving four to five times as much pay as we get and pay absolutely nothing for rent," said Mr Edoni. "On top of that they have a multiplicity of allowances which must make them the most privileged group in the country."

Shadows of death at night

The road carnage in Fiji has reached such proportions that a Suva magistrate, Mr Kenneth Moore, when dealing with a case of a driver having caused death by dangerous driving, felt bound to speak out. He called for urgent action to prevent a mountain of deaths creating a monument to Fiji's reckless drivers.

Mr Moore said pedestrians should wear bright garments when they walked on the streets at night. Something had



This is the special stamps souvenir sheet issued in June from the Cook Islands commemorating the silver jubilee of Queen Elizabeth's coronation.

to be done immediately to cut down the number of people being killed or injured in road accidents. Between January 1 and April 30 this year 683 drivers had been convicted of careless driving, 12 for having caused death by dangerous driving, and 46 for having driven while under the influence of alcohol or drugs.

This is what Mr Moore said:

"If what is wanted is the creation of a monument to reckless, dangerous or careless drivers, or those under the influence of drink or drugs, by building a mountain of dead bodies or by filling the streets, towns and villages with maimed, broken and crippled men, women and children, then the position should be left as it is.

"If such a monument is not wanted then it is time something is done, apart from bringing more offenders before the courts. A start could be made

by asking people who use the roads at night-time to wear white garments, or perhaps even a belt or sash of luminous or reflective material which will show up at night.

"Many people are just shadows on the road at night. Mrs Kamikamica (the driver charged) said she did not see the man she hit, even though he was standing on the road in front of her. If a driver loses concentration for an instant it can prove fatal, as it did in this case. There are too many road deaths in Fiji.

"This is a matter which requires to be looked into now; not tomorrow or the next day or the day after that, but today and now."

He directed the police prosecutor to take the matter to his superiors so that they could act as soon as possible.

Just as Mr Moore was about to pass sentence in Mrs Kamikamica's case, a 17-years-old canecutter died at Labasa

when he was knocked from his bicycle by a vehicle which first carried him for about 50 m and then ran over him.

Mr Moore found Mrs Kamikamica, who is president of the Fijian Teachers' Association, guilty of having caused the death of a 35-year-old man by dangerous driving. He fined her \$100 and barred her from driving for 12 months.

And while they are launching the campaign suggested by Mr Moore, the authorities might like to consider a series of safety-first lectures for children living in villages along the Queen's Road.

As soon as the road is completed, some drivers are going to revel in trying to "do a tonne". Up to now the state of the gravel road has prevented drivers from driving at top speed and villagers have always been aware of the approach of traffic through the clouds of dust.

The Commodore on the Russians

"The super-power that styles itself the natural ally of the Third World and uses 'support for national liberation' as a cover is trying by every means to barge into the South Pacific," said Chinese Vice-Premier Li Hsien-nien in his welcoming speech to Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, Prime Minister of Fiji, during his visit to China in June. The remark prompted a walkout by Soviet-bloc diplomats at the reception (PIM, July, p5).

A considerably more sober estimate of Soviet intentions — and capacities for action — in the South Pacific has been made by one of Australia's top military analysts, Commodore K. D. Gray, who until recently was military adviser to Australia's Joint Intelligence Organisation.

Writing in an Australian newspaper, Commodore Gray said: "To compensate for the loss of fishing grounds through the establishment of national resources zones, the Soviet Union will probably seek additional fisheries agreements with Indian Ocean littoral and

island states and perhaps with some Pacific Island states ...

"In areas of importance to Australia but with which it is only indirectly concerned strategically — Middle East oil source areas for example, the western Indian Ocean and South Atlantic — the Soviet Union has a high capability for projecting power.

"In areas of direct strategic concern to Australia such as the eastern Indian Ocean and South Pacific, the Soviet Union's capacity to project power is greatly reduced. In the South Pacific, for example, it is difficult to see that the Soviet Union has any real strategic interests short of a situation of global conflict.

"It is not likely to resort to force in this area unless major political and strategic objectives emerge in the future which cannot be achieved in any other way. These seem unlikely."

Writing from an Australian viewpoint, Commodore Gray concluded that "the development of appropriate Australian military capacity, and the will to use it, combined with sensible regional policies, including those of aid, will tend further to inhibit Soviet capacity to intervene."

The Senator said a mouthful

Congress of Micronesia Senator Bailey Olter took full advantage of the coincidence of the ending of the United Nations Trusteeship Council hearings in New York on the US Trust Territory of the Pacific, and the simultaneous opening of the special UN General Assembly session on disarmament. He used his closing speech to the council to share with its members Micronesians' thoughts on disarmament.

According to Micronesian News Service, he said that Micronesians were "not unfamiliar" with either nuclear or conventional weapons, noting that "some of the fiercest battles of World War II were fought in Micronesia."

He went on: "The first nu-



Bailey Olter, who said a mouthful.

clear weapons used against human populations were launched from Micronesia. The first thermo-nuclear weapons in the world were exploded in Micronesia, and to this day delivery systems of such weapons are being tested in Micronesia, at Kwajalein, in the Marshall Islands.

"Micronesia, voluntarily and otherwise, has perhaps made one of the single most important contributions to the security interest of the United States and the international community.

"Particularly, the people of the Marshall Islands district who have been displaced, irradiated and made ill by nuclear testing saw the real horror of this supposedly civilised weapon.

"Therefore we wish to express our support for both the concept and the practical application of disarmament, and recall some of the thoughts expressed in the preamble to the Micronesian constitution: 'Having known war, we hope for peace. Having been divided, we wish unity. Having been ruled, we seek freedom. We extend to all nations what we seek from each: peace, friendship, co-operation and love in our common humanity'."

All present were agreed that the senator had said a mouthful.

A man who's lured a million sharks

A million sharks is a lot of sharks. But that is the lifetime tally of sharks killed and claimed by Mr Nason Takau, who practises the mysterious

craft of "shark calling" in the waters of Lavongai village, on the east coast of Kavieng, New Ireland, in Papua New Guinea.

Talking through interpreters to John Foster of the PNG Office of Information's monthly Hiri, Mr Takau said:

"My grandfather taught me how to call sharks when I was a little boy.

"I don't know what brings on the mood in me to call sharks or when the mood will come. Perhaps it comes once a week.

"When it does I stay in my house for 24 hours.

"I know I must not have anything to do with women. I know that I must not step in black soil or excreta. If I do the sharks will pick up the smell and refuse to answer my calls.

"I just walk around and around in my house. My wife brings my food but she must not enter the house."

After the 24-hour isolation period, Mr Takau and his wankers go out in their narrow wooden canoe which is about 14 m long.

"I use a coconut shell rattle to attract the sharks. Then I begin a secret sing-sing in the old traditional Kara language.

"When the shark hears the song he comes towards me. I then show the bait which can be a small fish or big fish, it doesn't matter.

"The bait is on a bush cane which is fitted with a noose. I pull the bait towards me until the shark gets trapped in the noose.

"The shark then begins to thrash around.

"When it does I begin to talk to it in Kara. Gradually it becomes calmer and we slowly guide it towards the canoe.

"When the shark is close enough to the canoe it is hit over the head with a kamumbeo, speared to death and dragged aboard. (The kamumbeo is a weighty wooden mallet-type instrument over 1 m long. It is made from a special hardwood which has no Pidgin name).

"If everything is going right

for me I can catch up to 10 sharks, which is as many as we can get into the canoe."

Foster commented: "The elders sat around with us during the interview. The solemnity of the gathering prevented even a suggestion of doubt about Mr Takau's story ... He is all the more remarkable in that although he has caught a million sharks, there is not even a scratch, let alone a scar, on his body."

Heavying his way into the world

A record-breaker from birth is Young Master Manggin who weighed in after delivery at Lae's Angau Memorial Hospital in June at 5.3 kg (11 lb 12 oz). Hospital authorities were confident he had set a Papua New Guinea record for birth-weight.

His father Mr Manggin, who hails from Sohano in the North Solomons province, and Mrs Manggin, from Payawa village, Morobe province, thanked hospital staff for their care in delivering their fourth child.

Said Mr Manggin: "Without their assistance, the mother or the child might have died."

Knit one, purl one in Tonga

Tongans could be making knitwear for American skiers. A New Zealand company, Norsewear Industries Ltd, based in Hawke's Bay, hopes to establish an industry in Tonga making a particular line of ski jerseys.

These fashion garments feature intricate patterns and are made on hand-operated knitting machines rather than automatic machines used by the Norsewear company. Managing Director, Mr Ola Rian, who has exported specialist outdoors knitwear to the United States for the past six years, has neither the room nor the labour to make these special jerseys. So he has opened negotiations with the Tonga Government to have the ski jerseys made there.

The response has been en-

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thusiastic. "It only remains for agreement to be reached with the airlines serving Tonga on the question of freight concessions and we will be in business," he said.

Tongan government officials have visited Mr Rian's plant to see what is required for the island factory which will operate from an industrial centre in Tonga.

Norsewear will supply the knitting machines and one of his managers will train Tongan staff to operate them. Norsewear was established 10 years ago as a cottage industry and now has an annual turnover of more than \$2 million.

Marx's disciples in Morobe

A new party, the Melanesian People's Party, has been formed in Papua New Guinea's Morobe Province.

Based on research work said to have lasted three years, the party is made up of Papua New Guineans who have come to believe in socialism.

They say it is based on collective ideas from scientific socialism as developed by Karl Marx, democratic ideologies, and Melanesian culture, which is also socialistic.

As reported in *Hailans Nius*, the party in its priorities aims to equalise the present inequality in economic standards and to eliminate the classification of human beings that accompanies capitalism.

The party has already been registered and the platform has been laid down, according to the party's secretary. It is said to receive its support from the East New Britain province and its province of origin Morobe.

PNG artifacts as Kina-spinners

The government-approved export of artifacts is proving a profitable business for Papua New Guinea.

Taking February 1978 as a sample month, an official news release says that K24 227-worth of artifacts left the country in that period.

Australia was the biggest receiver, with K13 777-worth, followed by the United States with K8 478.

Smaller quantities went to buyers in the Netherlands, Japan and Canada.

Shell scheme for scholarships

The Shell Co, to mark 50 years of doing business in Fiji, has not only put out a handsome commemorative publication, it is also sponsoring 15 new secondary school scholarships for students resident in Fiji.

The first 15 students are expected to study for four years and to take themselves to university entrance standard.

They will then be replaced by another 15 students.

Priority will be given to students from outer islands, or isolated inlands areas where a high school education is not readily available.

'Snail Day' in Port Vila

For the second year in succession the Kiwanis Club of Port Vila recently held their "Snail Day" to help ease the Great African Snail (*Achatma fulica*) problem in and around Port Vila.

Originally from Eastern Africa the snails were introduced to the Pacific by the Japanese in World War Two as a food source. They have become a widespread pest since then and arrived in the New Hebrides in early 1973 with a ship-load of timber. The problem has now grown to unmanageable proportions despite the introduction of predator snails and the availability of poisons.

The Snail Day was organised by the Kiwanis in 1977 after discussions with the Condominium Agriculture Department and requests from concerned residents. The volunteer collectors, vying for various prizes, last year collected 30 tonnes. This year's catch was 25 tonnes which was well above expectations.

The largest snail caught was a 385 gram monster, although the snails are known to grow much larger.

VD a top worry in Lae

Papua New Guinea's Morobe Interim Provincial Government is looking for ways to help combat the increasing number of prostitutes in Lae, the second biggest city in PNG. Prostitutes are playing a major role in the spread of venereal disease.

The government had asked Mr George Afo, the New Guinea Regional Venereal Disease Control Officer, to find suitable ways to fight the spread of this sickness, and report to the central government.

Mr Afo said that most cases were girls of 15 and older.

He said the majority of his female patients were from the Highlands and male cases occurred all over the country.

Towards a Pacific bloc?

Expanding on his idea of a future federation of Pacific states (PIM, July p5), New Caledonian Territorial Assembly member and independence advocate, Yann Celene Uregei, told the Papeete newspaper *La Depeche*:

"You know, they tell us: 'You can't be independent, you'll be gobbled up by China, by the Americans, by Russia, by the Japanese.'

"What we say is that such a federation of Pacific states is the best guarantee against any such dangers.

"There is in any case already in existence a sort of collaboration to defend the liberation struggles of the Pacific peoples. Involved in it are the New Hebrides, and countries like Fii, Papua New Guinea, New Zealand, Australia, and so on.

"They all want to see a free Pacific."



Snail Day organiser Martin Watson holding the largest snails caught.

AFTERTHOUGHTS

The current system of primary/secondary education in Papua New Guinea provides for 12 years of schooling, starting at the age of seven and progressing through 12 grades, graduation from Grade 12 constituting matriculation for entry to university.

Grades 1 to 6 are provided for in "community schools"; grades 7 to 10 in "provincial high schools", of which there are nearly 100 scattered across the country; while grades 11 and 12 are handled in "national high schools", of which there are currently only four. Due to shortage of places at the higher levels, there is a process of weeding out the less promising students at grades six, eight and 10.

It will be noticed that the first weed-out takes place at the age of 13, and at that tender age thousands of PNG primary school pupils are tossed out of the system. The entry age for the vocational centres which are intended to provide for them is 15, and they can't get a job, except with special permission from the Department of Labour, till they are 16. Not that that matters much, because most of them haven't a hope of getting a job anyway.

It has been suggested that the primary range provided by community schools should be extended to cover grades 1 to 8 instead of grades 1 to 6. This proposal seems to me to make a lot of sense. It would mean that the first weed-out would be of 15 year-olds, and at this age those not eligible for high school would at least be able to enter vocational centres.

Incidentally this is not such a revolutionary proposal as might be supposed. In the early post-war years the primary course was an eight-year one, though this fact was masked by the nomenclature used — two "preparatory classes" followed by six "standard". Regrettably, the course was later pruned down to six years by the elimination of the preparatory classes. The comment made to me by one experienced primary school teacher at the time was: "We are now being asked to achieve in six years what we have so far been unable to achieve in eight."

Education Minister Oscar Tammur, himself a teacher of proved ability and originality, has suggested that national high schools should be phased out and that provincial high schools should include grades 11 and 12 in their range. This seems to me to be sound in principle, but probably difficult to implement in practice for reasons both of finance and staffing.

Even more difficult of implementation is another of the minister's proposals, namely, that the performance of our mainstream schools should be upgraded to a level of international acceptance which would render the existence of the present "international schools", to which I referred in a previous article, unnecessary.

This would be a very neat solution to one of our thorniest problems. Is it practicable? This brings us to the question of the teaching of English.

I do not think that there can be much doubt that the standard of high-school English in PNG has deteriorated during the last decade, or that this deterioration is related to the progressive localisation of the teaching service. To say this is not to criticise or denigrate our national teachers or those who have trained them. But it is unrealistic to suppose that teachers who speak English as a second language, however well-trained and however dedicated, can do as well, as teachers of English, as others, equally well-trained and dedicated, who speak English as their first language.

If international acceptability is our aim, the only way to

get it is to provide every high school with at least one specialist English language teacher who speaks English as his mother tongue. Such a teacher should teach English language as a subject throughout the school. Such teachers need not necessarily be palefaces. It might be possible to recruit West Indian teachers who speak English as their mother-tongue for this purpose. Although West Indian English may not be BBC English, it is at least as acceptable internationally as Australian English and perhaps pleasanter to the ear.

But is international acceptability what we want? Many people in the rural areas would probably say "no", and go on to demand a less academic and more practical slant. That's fair enough too, so long as they understand that they can't have it both ways.

How effective is our present teaching of English? To judge from the "Letters to the Editor" page of our national newspaper, *"The Papua New Guinea Post-Courier"*, it is not very effective. True, there are some excellent letters from nationals, clear, concise and to the point. But there are many, some of them signed by young people who claim to be, and no doubt are, high school or university students, which just don't make any sense at all. With a sincere desire to know what these young people are thinking, I find myself at a complete loss to understand what they are trying to say.

Often this is because they use pretentious phrases and currently popular "in-words" the meaning of which they obviously don't understand. Sometimes they trot out international conference style gobbledegook which doesn't mean anything anyway. If our teachers at secondary and tertiary level could encourage their students to express themselves in plain, simple English and not to show off, much good would accrue.

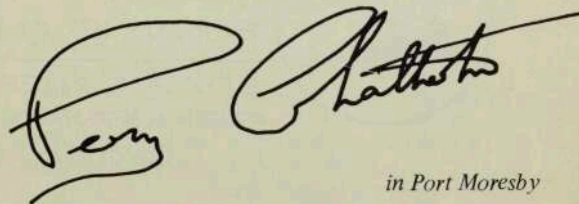
But some of the difficulty one has in making sense of these letters is that their writers are muddled thinkers, and for this I blame the Department of Education's "English only" policy.

It is too often overlooked that language is not only a medium of communication. It is also a medium of thought. I myself speak two Papuan languages reasonably well. I have been speaking one for over 50 years and the second for nearly 40. I can, and often do, think in them. But I would not like to have to do all my thinking in them. Like everybody else, I can think best in my mother tongue.

The strongest argument in favour of including a vernacular segment in Papua New Guinea's education system is that it gives the students an opportunity to think, and to express their thoughts, in the medium in which they can most easily do so, their mother tongue.

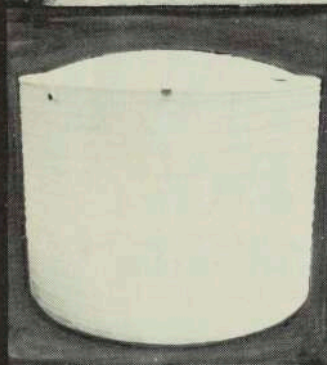
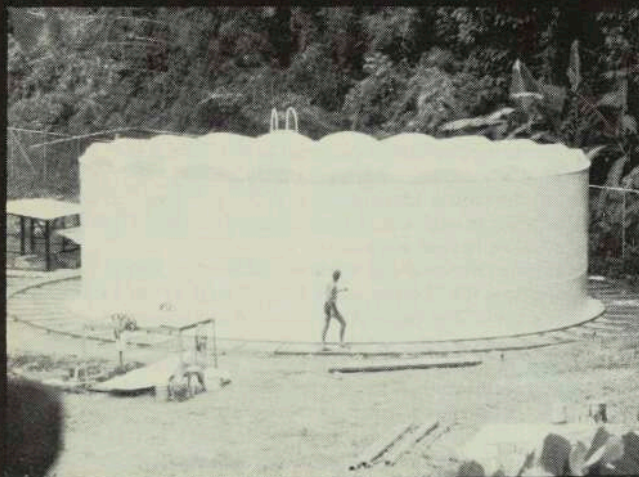
This does not mean that English is not important in PNG education. It is, very important. But our system of education, and particularly of primary education, has suffered too long and too deeply from making the parroting of English the be-all and end-all of schooling.

Let's give the kids a chance to think.



in Port Moresby

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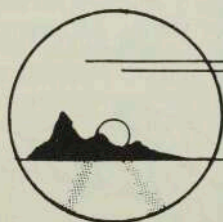


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Of trials in Tahiti, and a talkative Minister

For months, French Polynesia's *procureur* (attorney-general) built up his case against the *toto tupuna* activists who bombed the Papeete telephone exchange and murdered a French businessman in August-September last year (PIM, Nov, p16).

Eventually, the date for the big trial was set for May 10, and it seemed a foregone conclusion that the accused would all suffer the death penalty.

At the same time, the 'bothersome' Charlie Ching, president of the Polynesian Independence Party, was to be disposed of for good with a life sentence for his alleged crime of consorting with these politically-motivated young Tahitians (PIM, MAY, p31).

Then, in a great anti-climax, on the day before it was to open, the whole trial was postponed. What had happened was that friends and relatives of the accused had taken the unprecedented step of engaging as defence lawyers four outsiders well-known for their espousal of civil and human rights causes.

Two of them, de Felice and Sarda, were metropolitan Frenchmen, one was the famous Swiss barrister Nicolet, and the fourth a Tahitian barrister, Tehio, a resident of New Caledonia.

It took this quartet only a few hours to discover anomalies in the local judicial system and in the pre-trial procedures so serious that they decided to lodge an appeal to a higher court in France.

Especially revolting, in their opinion, was the biased selection of the jury, still based on a colonial decree of 1933 which disqualifies from jury service persons who cannot read or write French, as well as "servants".

Accordingly, without even bothering to apply any language proficiency tests, all *procureurs* have ever since consistently selected as jurors French and part-French businessmen and government employees, although the solid majority of the population, 80%, consists of Polynesians.

The French court of appeal is bound to hand down a decision within three months. However, legal experts here consider it most unlikely that the defence lawyers' request to have the accused tried in France will be granted. Such a decision would constitute a potentially dangerous breach in the present legal system here.

The chances are equally slim that the trial of the accused *toto tupuna* will be transferred, as requested by them, to the Special State Security Tribunal, permitting them to be judged not as common criminals but as politically-motivated freedom fighters.

Another example of the survival of colonial-type justice is offered by a trial that *did* take place a few weeks ago in Raiatea.

Nano Tanoa, the 22-year-old man in the dock, is a typical product of the vicious, new social and economic forces at work in the islands, since the nuclear era began 15 years ago.

Tanoa's difficulties began when, at the age of 18, he moved from his home island of Huahine to Papeete. Like thousands of lads from the outer islands, he felt lost and bewildered in the harsh new urban environment, and soon took to drinking. But it was not until he had completed his military service in France that he began committing assaults and robberies.

He was sentenced first to six months, and then to two years, the latter term to be served in Raiatea.

In accordance with long-established practice, Polynesian, but not French, prisoners are often employed in the households and gardens of high-ranking French officials. Which explains why, on French National Day last year, Tanoa was hauled out of prison and entrusted with the rather pleasant task of mixing drinks for the guests of the French administrator of the Leeward Islands, at the glittering garden party he gave at his residency on Raiatea.

Naturally, Tanoa also served himself rather generously. This kindled a fire that soon spread to his whole body, and, without anyone noticing, he sneaked away from the party and began looking for a female companion with whom he might share his euphoria. Having entered a house where he saw a Polynesian girl of adult years, according to the local standard (she was 15), he grabbed a kitchen knife and invited the girl to come outside. She was not particularly scared or unwilling, and intercourse took place in the garden. In the end, Tanoa let a warder lead him peacefully back to the prison.

Appearing in court 11 months later, Tanoa was sentenced to 13 years at hard labour for rape. Nobody should now be surprised if Tanoa one day joins a *toto tupuna* gang and takes to mixing much stronger stuff than whiskies and rum punches — Molotov cocktails, for example.

* * *

The most important event in French Polynesia during recent months (or so at least the local administration would have us believe) has been the visit of the new minister for French overseas departments and territories, Mr Paul Dijoud.

The minister turned out to be an exact replica of his numerous predecessors, all wearing dark suits and ties and all making practically identical speeches.

It must be admitted, however, that from the quantitative viewpoint Mr Dijoud's performance was particularly impressive. As he was coming down the steps of the plane that brought him from France he started talking. He didn't stop for the next five days, until the very minute he disappeared into the plane that took him back to Paris.

The message he had to convey differed in no way from that of his predecessors: the French army and administration are here to stay, for the great benefit of the whole population.

The only aspect of Dijoud's marathon oratorical effort not reported by the local mass media was his speech to the special conference of French ambassadors accredited to Pacific countries which took place during his visit.

Enough is known, however, to enable us to affirm that the main aim of this closely guarded conference was to co-ordinate the often arduous tasks faced by these diplomats in defending French nuclear testing and colonial rule in the Pacific against rude critics, especially in New Zealand and Australia.

Personally, we two feel rather proud that our own small efforts excited some comment at this august assembly.

Very honourably, the participants seem to have concluded that nothing can be done to punish us for our insolent books and articles, short of expelling us from the island that is our home.

But expelling writers simply because of their non-conformist opinions and their habit of telling unpleasant truths is, after all, a totalitarian method that has been repudiated time and again in the strongest terms by most democratic countries, including France.

— Marie-Thérèse and Bengt Danielsson.



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NZ firm to build Bounty replica

The mutiny led by Fletcher Christian on April 28, 1789, when he took command of HMS Bounty, remains a landmark in nautical history and has inspired many books.

Captain William Bligh's subsequent voyage in the ship's launch, which he commenced with 18 loyal crew members, was a remarkable feat. His detailed log of these experiences makes fascinating reading.

A further book, entitled *Captain Bligh and Mr Christian*, has been written by Richard Hough and published in 1972. This book has led to plans for the making of two films which will be called *The Lawbreakers* and *The Long Arm*.

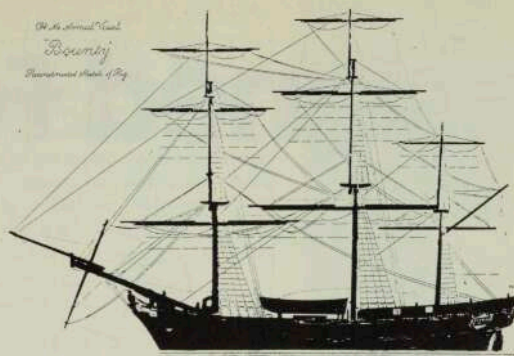
David Lean will direct the films to be made by the Dino de Laurentiis corporation of California. David Lean's earlier films include *Lawrence of Arabia* and *Ryan's Daughter*. Phil Kellogg is the producer for the project. An investigation team led by Phil Kellogg commenced research work early in 1977. One of their main tasks was to obtain an authentic replica of HMS Bounty and consideration was given to building this either in Europe, the Far East or New Zealand. This team first visited New Zealand in September of last year and consulted Whangarei Engineering and Construction Ltd as one of the possible builders.

WECO submitted a budget price of approximately \$NZ1 500 000 early in October and a contract to build the replica of HMS Bounty was signed with the Dino de Laurentiis corporation on December 8, 1977. It is interesting to note that this contract was obtained by WECO in competition with several other shipyards and is a significant export order. The masts, rigging and sails will be supplied and installed by Spencer Thetis Wharf Ltd from the Isle of Wight.

Whangarei Engineering and Construction Ltd have accepted the project as a "design and build" contract, and a detailed technical analysis, together with working drawings, are now being prepared.

The Dino de Laurentiis corporation have appointed Mr J. McGuire as owner's representative at the shipyard and he has been seconded as senior surveyor from Lloyds Register of Shipping for the duration of the contract. Mr McGuire is at present supervising the design work and coordinating the procurement of machinery and materials. He has been directed by David Lean to ensure the complete external authenticity of the replica. This will require considerable ingenuity on the part of all concerned.

The building time for the replica of HMS Bounty is approximately 12 months and she is scheduled to sail for the filming location in Tahiti early in 1979.



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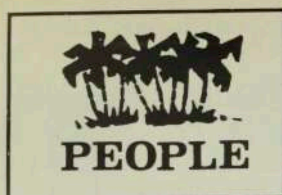
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Sir Angus Sharp, who retired in July as Commissioner of Police in Western Samoa, took the unusual course of publicly naming the man who should succeed him. He suggested that Inspector Sonny Schuster, then overseas on high level police training was best qualified, but added that it was a matter for government decision. Sir Angus is a former New Zealand Commissioner of Police, and was invited to take over in Western Samoa when the position became vacant. He said it was always understood that his appointment in Western Samoa was temporary. He served for 17 months.

Mention of 80-years-old Aggie Grey automatically brings Western Samoa and Aggie Grey's Hotel to mind. Air New Zealand obviously took that view when it used a colour picture of Aggie on the cover of *Jetaway*, the airline's in-flight magazine. The particular issue devoted much space to Western Samoa with emphasis on the tourism aspect. There was also a full page

picture of Aggie in a recent issue of *Mana*, Auckland's Polynesian newspaper. This was used to promote the Auckland-Apia air service.

But Aggie is not the only Western Samoa VIP to have her photograph used to promote tourism. A full-page picture of the Civil Aviation Minister, Mr Asi Eikini, was used in the *Pacific Travel News*, a magazine for travel agents published by the Pacific Area Travel Association (PATA). The advertisement carried a clip-out coupon which led to his office being swamped for information about Western Samoa, Asi said.

Mr Frederick Reiher has been confirmed as Papua New Guinea High Commissioner to the United Kingdom after an initial acting period of 18 months and Mr Peter Donigi has been named as Papua New Guinea Charge-d'affaires in Brussels pending the appointment of an ambassador. Up to now PNG has been one of three island countries with representation below ambassadorial level in trade negotiations with EEC countries. Creation of the post of ambassador is in line with PNG's involvement in the EEC/Lome convention.

Mr Jack Kovaea Karukuru, 35, Secretary of the Department of Provincial Affairs in Papua New Guinea, has been appointed PNG High Com-

missioner to Fiji. The Fiji post has been vacant since 1976, when Mr Evertius Romney was recalled. At that time PNG eliminated or downgraded some overseas posts for economic reasons. Mr Karukuru was educated at Kerema and Toowoomba Grammar School. He joined the PNG public service as a cadet patrol officer in 1963. He is married and has three children.

Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, Prime Minister of Fiji, was able to "stride proudly" along the Great Wall of China because he had acupuncture treatment for an ankle which had persistently troubled him. He sought medical advice about the ankle on his recent visit to China and was taken to hospital. There he was introduced to a "plump lady", of about 60, who worked on him with needles for three days — the first day with three, the second day with six and the third with nine. The treatment was painless, except for a numb feeling as the woman probed about with needles, and it did the job. Ratu Sir Kamisese was possibly the first Prime Minister from the western world to receive that ages-old Chinese treatment in China.

As a pastor in New Britain during World War II, Peni ToVartovo's life was threatened more than once by soldiers of the Japanese occupation forces. But Mr ToVartovo has certainly had the last laugh: he now pulls in a handy income from a war museum he has established on his land at Karavia village, near Rabaul. Star attractions of the museum are five World War II Japanese landing barges.

According to Mr ToVartovo, towards the end of the war the Japanese forces were directed to conceal the barges to protect them from the repeated Allied bombings. The plan was to wait until the raids ended and then re-launch the barges.

Prisoners of war, including Indians, Fijians, Papua New Guineans and others, were mobilised to drive a tunnel — one of the many made under Japanese orders in the area — into a hillside. They were then ordered to push the barges,



First Officer Gordon Bosanquet, of Air Niugini, gets his eye in for the Commonwealth Games at Edmonton, Canada, practising at the Port Moresby Pistol Club shooting range. With two other members of the club, he has been chosen to represent Papua New Guinea in the pistol events.

mounted on large rollers, from Karavia beach into the tunnel. There they still rest, the war having ended before they could be launched again.

Mr ToVartovo first got the idea of a museum in 1970. His first windfall was the visit of a cruise ship with about 500 tourists in that year. Virtually all of them paid a 20 toea entrance fee for a visit to the tunnel. With the money thus gained, Mr ToVartovo fenced off the entrance to the tunnel. Now, nearly every month, hundreds of tourists make visits and hear the tale of how the barges got there.

"Self-reliance has always been practised in Papua New Guinea, even before we made contacts with Europeans," Mr ToVartovo told PNG Government Information Officer, Wesley Peni.

Robert Keith-Reid, 36, a senior journalist on the staff of The Fiji Times at Suva, has been awarded a Fulbright-Pacific Islands News Association fellowship in journalism. This involves enrolling at the School of Journalism at the University of Hawaii and working with Honolulu newspapers. He has been a journalist for 16 years — six with the Fiji Broadcasting Commission, where he became news editor, and 10 with The Fiji Times.



Aggie Grey on her eightieth birthday.

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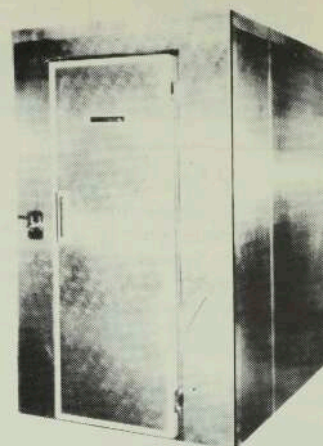
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An end to the PNG butterfly-by-night operators

Papua New Guineans are cashing in on a natural asset — the colourful and spectacular butterfly and insect life. Some people have made fortunes out of butterflies, but no more. The government has taken over through a commercial venture with the responsibility of seeing that local people instead of black market operators get the benefit.

No up-to-date lists of these fauna have been recorded. However, there are about 1 000 known species of butterflies, and about 35 000 species of beetles.

The butterflies include the largest birdwing in the world, which is found near Popondetta. Up to \$US1 800 has been paid for birdwings on the international black market.

In 1974, the PNG Government set up the Insect Farming and Trading Project under the control of the wildlife branch of the Department of Primary Industry. This is not only a commercial venture; it is also a promotional exercise de-

signed to attract village people into a viable industry.

Under the scheme villagers collect and export insects and benefit from the prices paid by overseas dealers.

Before the scheme came into operation the trade was mainly in the hands of foreign businessmen who monopolised the large scale export of beetles and butterflies, particularly the larger and more colourful birdwings.

The villagers were exploited — there is no other word for it. They were paid 10t to 20t a butterfly. Prices on the overseas market ranged from 50t to K10 for an unprotected butterfly, and K80-K200 for a protected one.

When the government set up the scheme in 1974 there were less than 30 Papua New Guineans, from three of 20 provinces, involved in the trade at village level. Wildlife officers, to promote the government project, told the villagers which local insects and butterflies were valuable, and how

to farm collect, prepare and sell them. They taught villagers control and harvesting methods, and how to avoid over-collecting and habitat destruction.

Villagers who wished to diversify into profitable butterfly farming were encouraged to grow more of the food plants required by the larvae and adult butterfly and then to harvest the pupae from the plant. Farms were usually located round food gardens, in the scrub close to the village, or in old garden sites.

Today, more than 500 Papua New Guineans are involved in collecting and exporting unprotected butterflies and other insects. There are about 10 villages actively farming unprotected butterflies as a business, and more villages are expected to join in. New York dealers' prices for unprotected butterflies range from 30¢ for common species to \$US50 for rarer types.

The 1978 net earnings of families engaged in butterfly



Birdwing butterfly used as a decoration on New Britain, an illustration from *Butterflies of Australia and New Guinea*.

and insect farming should be from K700 to K1 500. Farm-gate value of the project should be more than K60 000 — a small amount perhaps, in a national context, but exceedingly useful in the villages.

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PNG: POLITICS IS BORDER KEY

Predictably, Papua New Guinea's first real life military operation since independence has occurred along the Indonesian border, writes Angus Smales from Port Moresby.

At one point in June about 480 members of the PNG Defence Force and 30 police were deployed in the northern area of the border on a search-and-arrest mission against anti-Indonesian rebels who may have sought refuge in PNG territory. The rebels were believed to be holding a number of hostages, including senior Indonesian officials. (PIM, Jul, p51).

Tensions were aggravated by the crossing of about 100 Indonesian soldiers into PNG territory during the search. Confronted with PNG diplomatic representations, Indonesian authorities claimed the crossing was "accidental". The troops quickly went back into Irian Jaya, but not before claims were made by PNG villages that they had destroyed food gardens during their stay.

From the PNG side, the operation had the trappings of a political exercise more than anything else. The real conflict was not soldiers versus rebels (none had even been sighted at last report) but international obligations versus home-front politics.

It was not the rebels who were in the hot seat but the PNG Government itself, faced with the need to balance international policies with an emotional ethnic and human rights issue.

The real extent to which human rights and freedoms may be involved is very much open to interpretation, but that doesn't make the conflict of issues any less real.

The border where the troops

went rebel-hunting separates PNG from Irian Jaya, the most easterly province of Indonesia where separatist native-born guerrillas are calling for independence. Politically, the native-born people of Irian are Indonesians. The United Nations accepts this. So does PNG.

But a big proportion of the native-born Islanders, certainly towards the border, are ethnically part of the Melanesians of PNG, distinct from South-east Asian people.

Indonesians themselves, for all their official line of "one country, one people", occasionally let the cat out of the bag. In Jakarta, for instance, it is not uncommon to hear the expression "our aboriginal people in the east".

PNG came to nationhood less than three years ago on the edges of this largely inherited political situation, and established formal ties with Indonesia. The affairs of Irian were accepted as purely Indonesian-domestic, and Indonesia's sovereignty up to the border was not disputed.

At home, the PNG Government has walked a tightrope ever since because of the inherent sympathy of many of its constituents for "the cause of our brothers across the border".

If Indonesia were phlegmatic towards the situation, the



PNG troops... their first encounter of a close kind.

problem facing PNG would be far less pressing. But Indonesia's border and rebel sensitivity is so intense that PNG has been forced by its diplomatic ties to act in a more decisive manner than it otherwise might.

In return it has had to suffer the condemnation of many of its own people in a situation which is fast becoming another example of the skin colour game, and which extends to other parts of the Pacific. Increasingly vitriolic literature is being circulated from so-called Black Unity groups in the Pacific, labelling the PNG Government a traitor to "the black brotherhood of the world".

Australian Aborigines have joined Fijians and New Hebrideans in signing some of the circulated material, and student bodies in PNG are quick to back it.

The decision by the PNG Cabinet to conduct a military search and arrest operation on its own side of the border in the north has created a new spate of criticism at home.

The government no doubt expected this and was prepared to wear it.

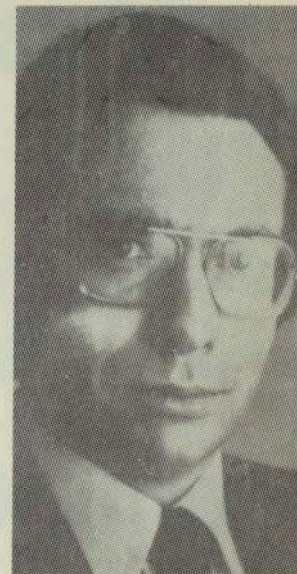
But more importantly the move seemed to be a calculated political action to display clearly the government's colours for the benefit of long-term relations with Indonesia.

Whether any rebels were found or arrested didn't matter very much. What seemed the most important factor was that PNG was out to desensitise its border relations with Indonesia by demonstrating a strong commitment to the policies it has talked about for long enough.

10 000 MARCH IN NOUMEA

Nearly 10 000 people marched through the streets of Noumea in June in a massive union-organised protest against the effects of the economic crisis, writes Andre Chaville from Noumea.

There were many reasons for their anger. The workers at Societe le Nickel had been on strike since June 1 in protest



Paul Dijoud... he might even mean Melanesians.

against a 12% cut in their wages since employers put them on a 35-hour week. Employees claimed that savings could have been effected elsewhere in the company, and condemned the import tax exemptions enjoyed by it.

Public servants joined the demonstration, announcing an indefinite strike from the following day. The strike had only limited success. Most public servants were back at work 48 hours later.

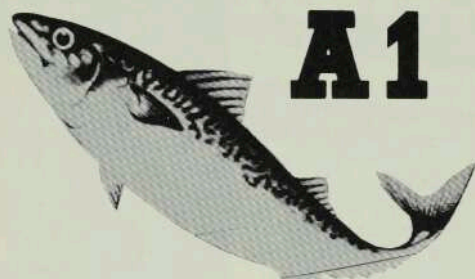
The public servants' grievance was that Vice-President Caillard had unilaterally announced a cutback in the "corrective index" from 2.02 to 1.95. (This is the index by which the salary of a civil servant in France is multiplied to arrive at the salary of his Caledonian counterpart.)

Andre Caillard is a very unpopular man yet, if he is to obtain subsidies from France, he has been warned that the territory must raise new taxes and cut back on spending.

The public service, grossly overpaid in the opinion of private enterprise, was the obvious target.

In fact, the public servants' salaries will not be reduced, as the cut in the corrective index will be compensated by an increase in the consumer price index. Since the end of the

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boom, the public service has been a haven for the greedy, but access to it has become increasingly difficult.

The High Commissioner, opening the winter session of the Territorial Assembly, invited its members to take rapid action before the arrival of Mr Paul Dijoud, the new Minister for Overseas Departments and Territories, who was expected at the end of June. Without mentioning salaries, the High Commissioner pointedly noted that New Caledonia employed as many public servants as the old colony of French Morocco which had a population of 13 million.

The threat of the introduction of income tax also worries the trade unions. They say that while there is no room for cheating with the salaries of public servants or employees in private enterprise, individual traders, contractors or professional people have never been required to keep accounts or record their incomes, and will thus escape the full weight of taxation.

But perhaps the most important threat of change comes from Mr Dijoud himself. In two television interviews he has stated that in New Caledonia there are social injustices which are contrary to French tradition, and in complete contradiction to his own feelings. He declared solemnly that he would do all he could to fight this, and to right the wrongs suffered by the underprivileged.

It has not yet dawned on many people here, but it is possible that when Mr Dijoud speaks of the "underprivileged" he means the Melanesians. While their standard of living may be much higher than that of their kinsmen in neighbouring islands, they have been considered for too long as living "on the wrong side of the tracks".

If one is interpreting correctly some of the recent measures taken by the French State, this could be the great surprise awaiting New Caledonia. A serious move to promote the Melanesian people could bring drastic changes in local custom.

STAND-OFF FOR HEBRIDES

"French and British colonialism" in the New Hebrides came under fire at the eighth congress of the Vanuaaku Party on Lamén Island in June.

In one of its 23 resolutions, the congress criticised the self-government status "purportedly held by the present Kalsakau Government" as "false self-government", set up by "French and British colonialism".

The resolution said: "The congress especially considered the necessity to reiterate such a statement because many people in Vanuaaku (the party's name for the New Hebrides — Editor) are under the mistaken belief that French and British colonialism are over."

But despite such hard words, the congress was far from reversing the positive processes of negotiation with the government which characterised the months of April-May (PIM, Jul, p39).

The congress reaffirmed its position that elections for a new Representative Assembly are essential for the re-establishment of democratic and representative institutions in the country. It also said that acceptance by the present Assembly of fresh elections early in 1979 would "truly show the sincerity of the 'New Hebrides Government' about peace and unity which everyone has been hearing so much about".

Arising from this consideration, the congress declined to take a decision on Chief Minister Kalsakau's offer of three ministerial seats for Vanuaaku Party nominees. The congress instead empowered the party's 24-person executive council to make the final decision after the Assembly had taken its stand in July on the date of new elections and other matters dealt with by the recently established ad hoc committee on electoral reform on which representatives of the government and the VP work side by side.

The congress also dealt

extensively with problems of land, and of Island governments (favoured by the VP) as against the community councils set up under the Kalsakau regime.

The Provisional People's Government established by the VP, which represented one of the greatest stumbling blocks to any rapprochement between the two sides, remains suspended.

The French/Bislama fortnightly summed up the situation this way: "Generally speaking, the Lamén congress gave the impression that the majority and the opposition are eyeing each other off, with neither side inclined to start any shooting, leaving to the



Chief Minister George Kalsakau with rival Father Walter Lini, president of the Vanuaaku Party.

other the advantage, or the risk, of making the first move."

As for the government side of the New Hebridean political equation, one well-informed Australian source hinted in June that strains had appeared between Chief Minister Kalsakau and French *colon* interests within the Representative Assembly over the question of the negotiations with the VP. The source indicated that the Chief Minister had strongly — and so far successfully — defended his negotiations with the VP, but that the opposition from the *colon* forces remained strong.

NAURU'S LOAN TO MARSHALLS

Senior officials of the Republic of Nauru have reacted angrily to a story in the Guam-based Pacific Daily News claiming that the phosphate-rich island was secretly backing the separation of the Marshall Islands from Micronesia, writes Paul Addison from Nauru.

Nauruan Secretary for Justice David Lang said he had been involved in arranging a loan by the Republic of Nauru Finance Corporation to the Marshall Islands. But officials were unwilling to say how much the loan was for and exactly to whom it had been paid.

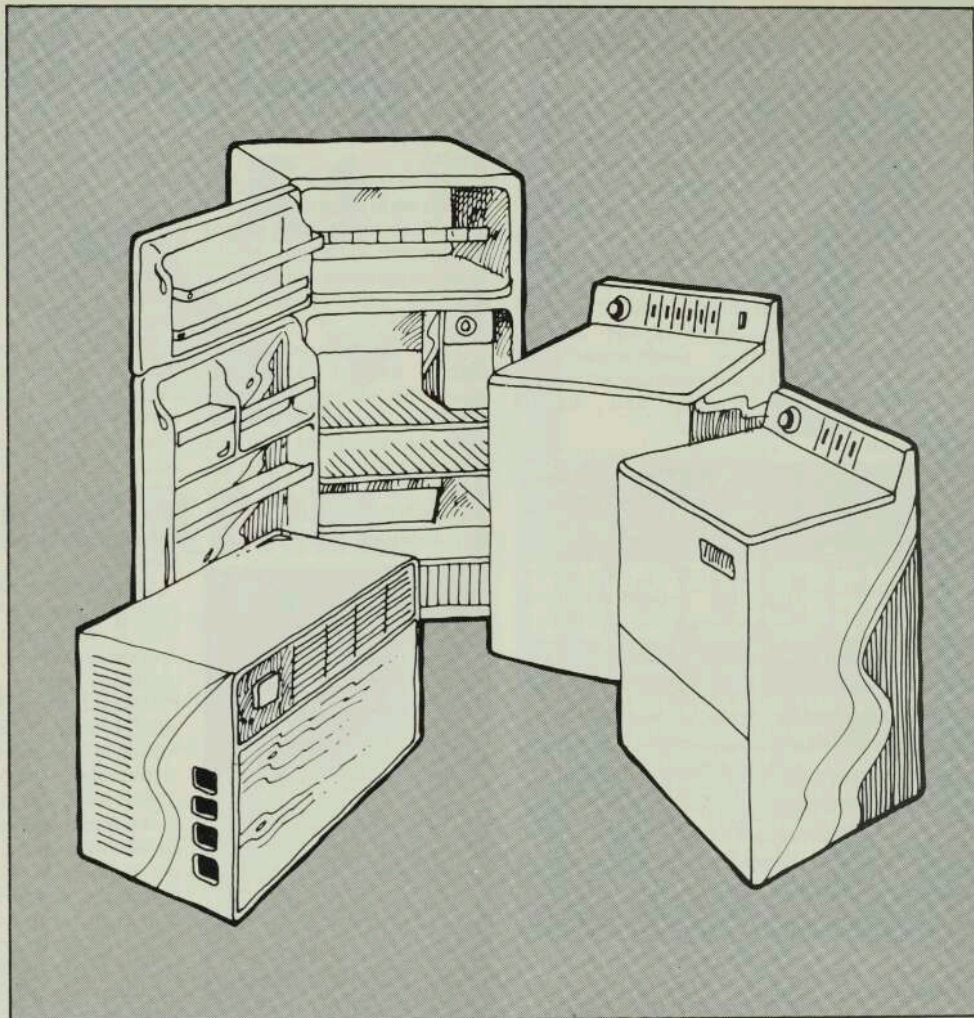
Lang said the Finance Corporation was not connected with the government and operated as a separate statutory company. Neither Lang nor President Hammer DeRoburt's chief secretary Peter Jones was willing to give any more information about the loan.

According to the Daily News, sources said shortly after DeRoburt's re-election as president (PIM June p5) he flew to the Marshall Islands to deliver the separatist Marshalls Political Status Commission a cheque for \$600 000. The Status Commission lobbied Marshall Islanders to reject the Micronesian constitution voted on in the referendum of July 12.

The loan comes at a time of unstable politics on the 21 sq km (8 sq m) island of Nauru, partly because of concern about the country's future. With only 15 years or so left before the phosphate deposits are scheduled to run out, most families are investing their money in nesteggs overseas.

The Nauruan government, under the auspices of the Local Government Council, has built a \$7 million complex in Saipan and a 53-storey office building in Melbourne.

This year Nauru has already had three presidents. DeRoburt was ousted as president in December 1976 by a group of young Nauruans led by former law student Dowiyoogo. Dowiyoogo resigned



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POLITICAL CURRENTS

in April this year, after his budget failed to win government support. He was succeeded by Lagumot Harris whose budget also failed. DeRoburt again became President of the island's 4000 Nauruans in May.

PNG ALOOF ON TORRES

Papua New Guinea is staying out of the dispute over the Torres Strait border question between Australian Prime Minister Malcolm Fraser and Queensland Premier Joh Bjelke-Petersen.

PNG Prime Minister Michael Somare told Angus Smales in Port Moresby that negotiations leading up to a proposed settlement of the border question had been carried out on a country-to-country basis between his government and the Australian Government.

Any discontent felt by Queensland was an internal matter for Australia to settle, said Mr Somare. PNG could recognise only the Australian Government as the legitimate authority to negotiate Australian border arrangements with PNG, he said.

Mr Somare would not comment on whether he believed the attitude taken by Queensland was sufficiently strong to upset arrangements already reached by Australia. He could not comment on Australian internal issues, Mr Somare said.

Mr Bjelke-Petersen at first welcomed the terms of the agreement, but then changed his mind, possibly after sensing mutterings from black Queenslanders in the strait.

RUSSIA: MARA SPEAKS OUT

Warnings about a Russian presence in the South Pacific were voiced late in June by the Fiji Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, and the vice-president of the New Zealand Labour Party, Mr Michael Moore. At the same time the first resident United States

Ambassador to Fiji, Mr John Condon, said his country intended to strengthen its ties with Pacific Island countries.

Ratu Sir Kamisese, speaking after his return from a visit to China and South Korea, said he feared the Russians' objective in Fiji was to upset him and get him out of government. He said he did not harbour the same fears about the Chinese.

The Prime Minister said he would be "pretty scared" to have a Russian embassy in Fiji. He had spoken to the Russians, through their ambassador to New Zealand, three or four years ago, telling them it was disturbing to him as head of government to see that, without consulting him, they had gone to Fiji and selected people from the opposition camp to be trained in Russia.

"I will not have a government which will be of that mood established here," he said.

Ratu Sir Kamisese said he did not think Fiji workers would be influenced by the political ideologies of any Chinese advisers who went to Fiji to help to improve agriculture and industry.

The main interest of the Chinese in the South Pacific was to see that the Russians did not intrude into the area. The Chinese had mentioned to him that perhaps Fiji would be better off to be friendly with the Americans than with the Russians.

In New Zealand, Mr Moore said that the danger of superpower rivalry in the South Pacific was very real. Echoing the sentiments of Prime Minister Muldoon, he said that the Russian courtship of Fiji, Western Samoa and other Pacific countries spelled danger for New Zealand.

Mr Condon, speaking to the Nadi Rotary Club in his first formal speech in Fiji, said the freedom of the sealanes in the Pacific was vital to the security and well-being of the US and all maritime powers. "We will protect them," he said.

He described the Pacific Basin as the most dynamic economic zone in the world. Its prosperity was shared by all

except those nations who rejected the market system.

He said US trade with the Pacific nations was crucial to the health of its economy and would be expanded. Multilateral trade agreements should be concluded.

Mr Condon said the US mission was preparing to intensify the exchange of people and ideas with Fiji.

On other matters, the US envoy expressed admiration for Fiji's respect for democratic rule and human rights; reported that a survey team from the University of Hawaii had submitted an analysis of the region's future food needs; and voiced the hope for joint projects in the region to meet the challenge of finding new ways to use US technology in development of indigenous Pacific sources of energy.

PNG: NEW-LOOK ACTION

Students at the University of Papua New Guinea in Port Moresby staged an often violent fortnight-long strike in May against the two-year suspension of a student for striking a lecturer.

In a close analysis of the strike written for PIM, PNG journalist Andy Supeke finds that it contained a number of features new to student political action at the UPNG.

He writes: "This was the first strike by students at the university that displayed real student solidarity.

"The question was asked repeatedly: 'Why should students fight over only one student's problem?' Many said: 'If Vincent Toliman got fired for striking a lecturer, he got fired — tough luck for him.'

"Such attitudes were characteristic of similar situations in the past, but they were not the dominant ones this time.

"In the first place, the students were unimpressed with the degree of assault on the lecturer. ('I expected to see the lecturer all messed up, but surprisingly he didn't even have a scratch on his face or anywhere,' said one student.)

"The vice-president of the

Student's Representative Council, Joe Mac Teine, expressed a general view when he said that what mattered was that the principle of justice should be maintained. Students did not dispute that Vincent should be punished, but believed that the decision of Vice-chancellor Renagi Lohia was 'arbitrary and excessive'.

"He said: 'If we just sit back and watch Vincent get fired, anyone of us could well be in the same boat next time for not so serious an assault'."

Another unusual aspect of the strike, writes Supeke, was that its development cut across many conventional ideas of regional loyalties. "Probably the biggest surprise was the support given by the Highlands United Front on the campus to the Students' Representative Council.

"The Front is one of the most politically sensitive groups ever formed on the campus, representing students from the five highlands provinces who make up more than a third of the student population.

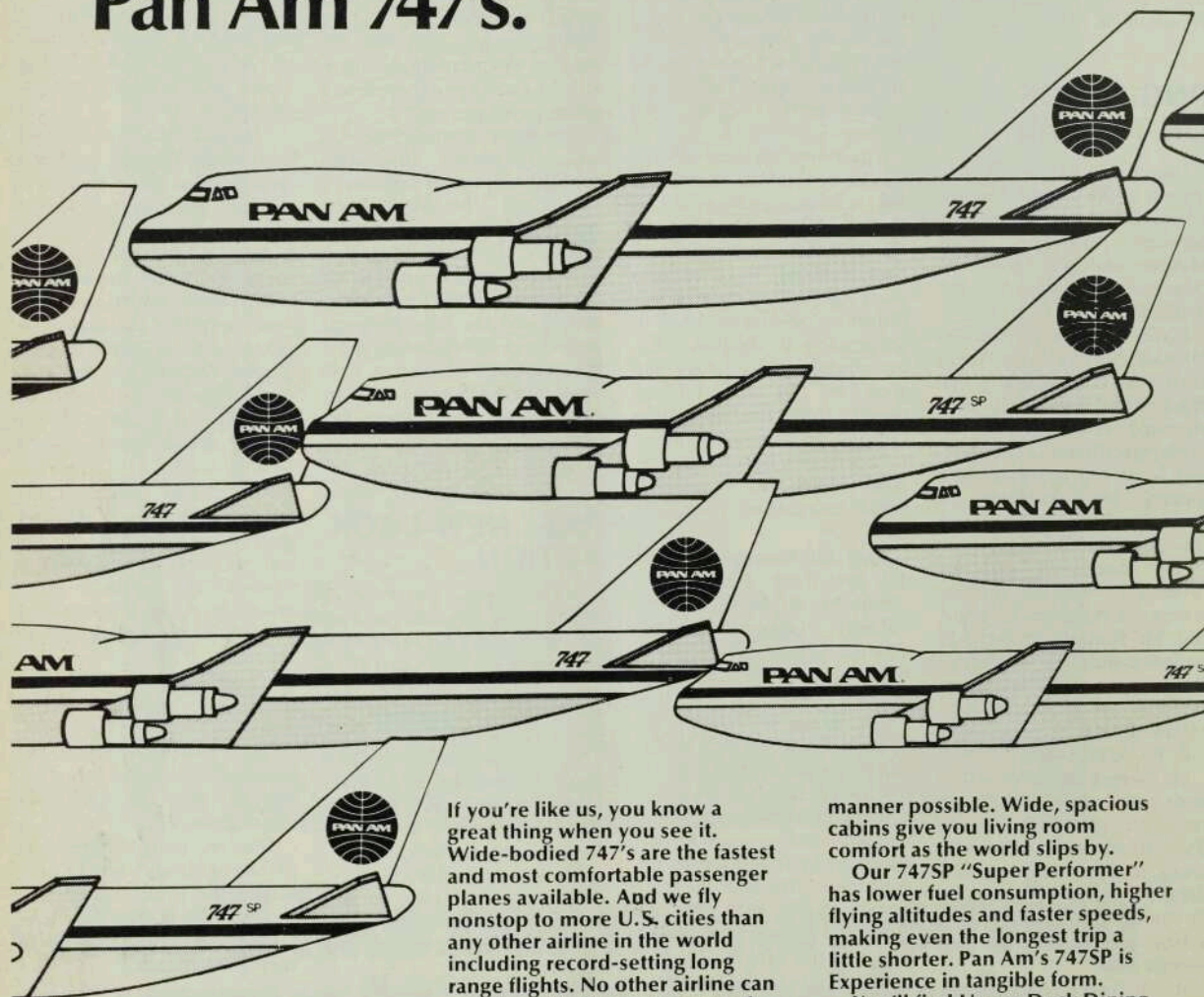
"Only about a month before the strike, the Front said it would not support any SRC strikes or demonstrations because an application for its affiliation with the SRC was rejected.

"For one thing the president of the Highlands United Front, Malipu Balakau, and Vincent Toliman, both political activists on the campus, have been very good friends.

"Since they met in 1975, Vincent has been associated with the highlands students more than he has with students from his own area. (Vincent Toliman, a third-year political science student, is a Tolai from New Britain, son of the late United Party leader, Mathias Toliman.)

"Asked whether Vincent's friendship with him and the highlands students had anything to do with the support they gave to the SRC, Balakau said: 'Friendship played a part in our support, but we were fighting for a basic principle that was at stake. Justice was at stake'."

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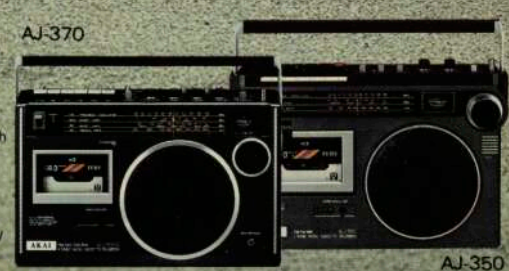
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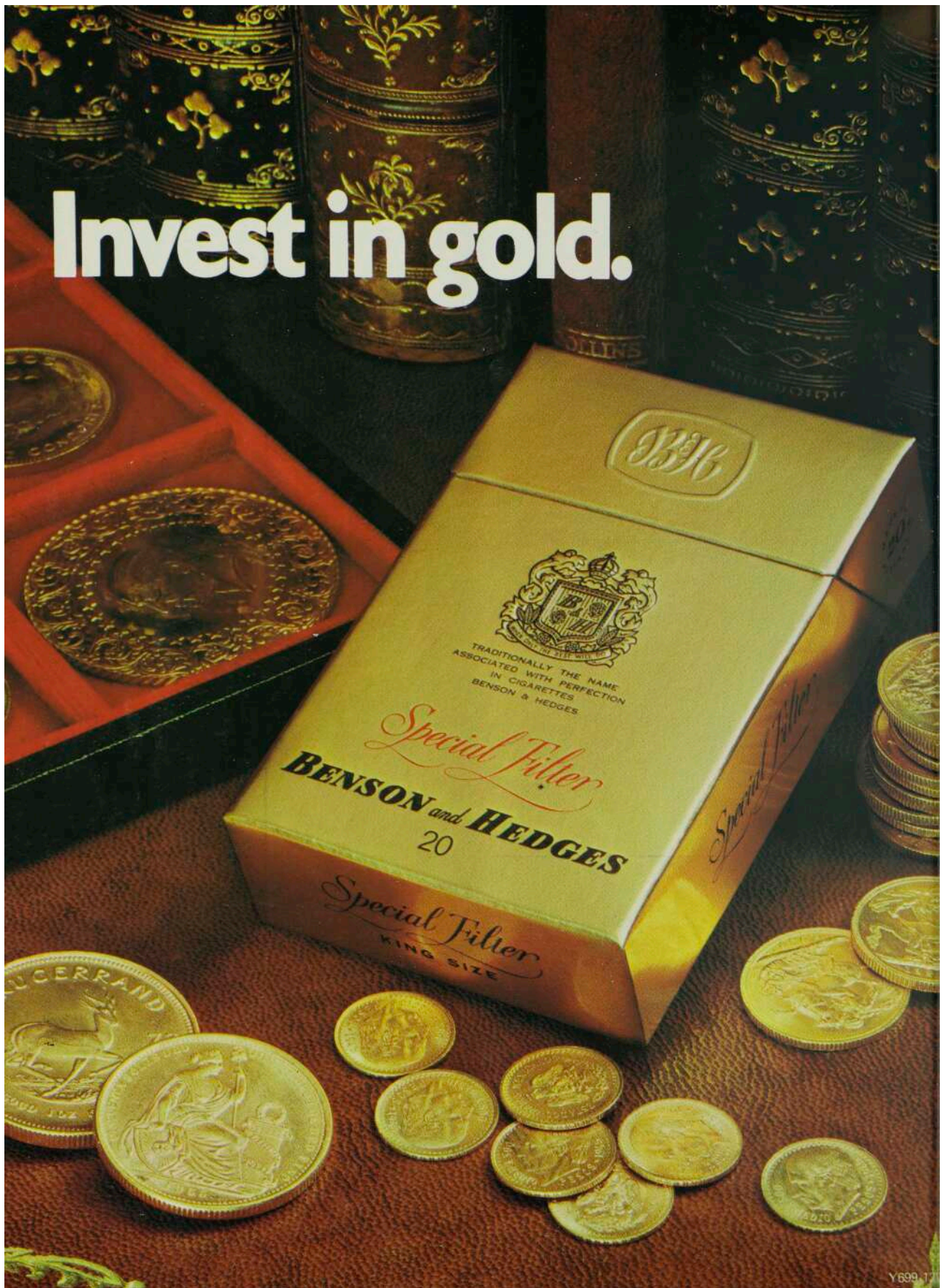
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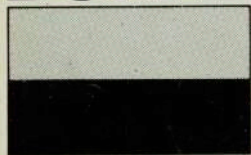
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UNCLE SAM'S HEAVY BOOT LEAVES FOOTPRINTS IN MICRONESIA

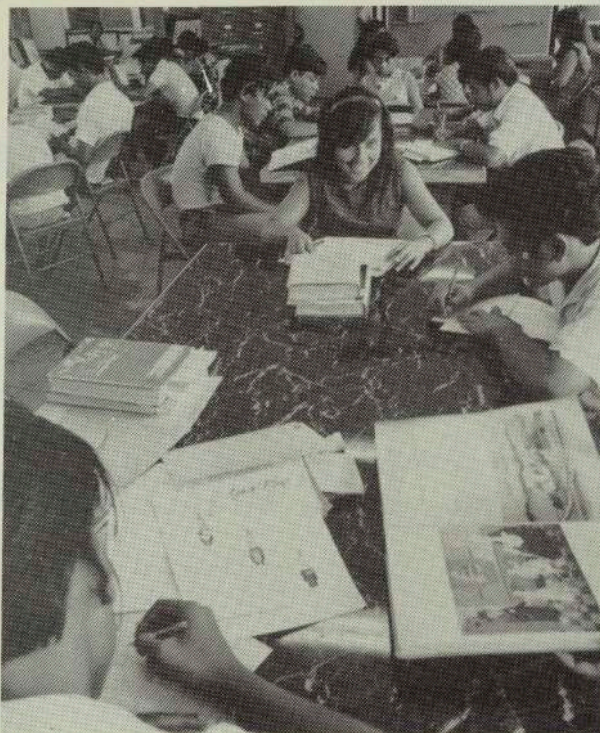
During World War II it took the Japanese but a day to occupy Guam. Hundreds of American servicemen lost their lives in the capture of military bases in the Japanese-administered League of Nations mandate in Micronesia. It is therefore not surprising that the United States sought a strategic trusteeship over the islands.

The Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, the last remaining UN trusteeship, is close to being 'wound up', but it is highly likely that Uncle Sam's strategic presence will continue, no matter how fragmented the Micronesian body politic may become. The islanders may achieve self-government or, as those in the Northern Marianas have already done, opt for a direct political association with the US, but Washington will retain control of their defence and foreign affairs. Indeed, the more fragmented Micronesia's internal government, the better will the Pentagon like it.

We need to keep all this in mind when reading *The American Touch in Micronesia*, a strongly critical account of US education policy and practice in the islands. After all, Uncle Sam did not become a trustee to promote the islanders' development — he sought to strengthen his strategic position.

David Nevin, a journalist, observes that US efforts in educating Micronesians have been a disaster, a reproduction of a mediocre American urban system, not adapted to Micronesia's ecology and cultures. Only the Pacific Islands Central School (PICS), a junior high school, and Father Costigan's Ponape Agriculture and Trade School (PATS) have done something to equip the islanders to cope with the socio-economic problems caused by the German, Japanese and American invasions of their islands.

In 1972, the year of the statistics quoted in this book, the Trust Territory's exports were



Students at Ponape Island Central School — little help for them to cope with the problems of a colonial heritage.

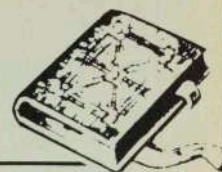
a paltry US\$2.4 million whilst imports amounted to \$26.3 million and much of those imports went on tinned foods, alcoholic beverages, juke boxes and other consumer goods of little, if any, value in building up a self-sufficient and balanced economy. Of the annual budget, \$70 million came from US subsidies but only \$2 million was raised internally, an annual subsidy of \$600 a man, woman and child. This situation has worsened since then because of an annual population growth of about 3.5%, among the highest in the world. If continued, this rate of growth will result in 250 000 islanders in 20 years from now.

On July 20, 1962, President Kennedy announced that education was the key to all further progress, political, economic and social. Government and other teachers began to pour in from the States. In 1966, at its peak, the Peace Corps had over 900 volunteers — its highest per

capita programme in the world: one volunteer for every 90 Micronesians, of which 300 teachers, and many of those were social activists rather than educators. The whole effort became counter-productive: it raised the islanders' expectations even further beyond their capacity to satisfy them.

During my six months' work with the Trust Territory's staff economist in 1963 I told the

BOOKS



then-Director of Education, Dr Robert Gibson, that his programme of teaching grades 1 to 4 in the vernacular might turn out to be a better way of introducing an appropriate amalgam of Micronesian-Western education than an all-out assault in English. However, as the author mentions, Gibson's policy was discontinued and the all-American approach taken since then has not produced anything of value to the islanders.

There are now far too many poorly-prepared high school graduates and college alumni. Of course, David Nevin is right in saying that Washington's endeavours in the education field have been a dreadful mistake; but there is no facile solution — perhaps, none at all — in a situation where US strategic interests have been, are, and continue to be the foremost consideration. If ever the big nations begin to see that peaceful co-operation, not 'defensive strategy' (a misnomer of preparing for war), is the best way to conduct international relations, then the Micronesians will get an opportunity to develop education and other systems to meet their particular needs.

— Harry Jackman

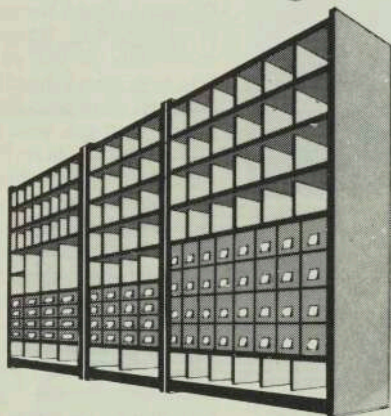
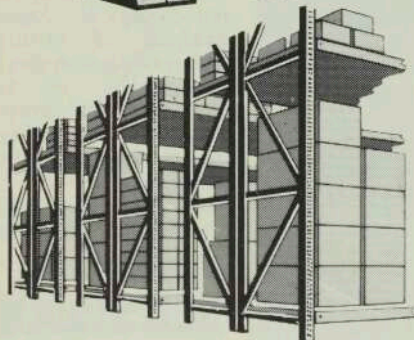
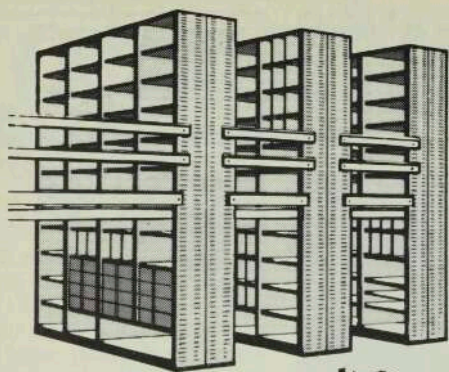
(The American Touch in Micronesia. David Nevin. Published by W. W. Norton, New York. US \$9.95.)

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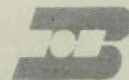
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The Banabans, modern Hebrews and their Promised Land

Treasure Islands by Pearl Binder is a book which had to be written. It is the story of the delightfully naive Banabans and the rape of their homeland, the island of Banaba or Ocean Island.

It tells of their continuing trust in British justice despite a history of disappointment, deceit and dishonesty.

Basically, the book is a careful recounting of the trials of the Banabans since the day in 1900 when Albert Ellis first discovered that Ocean Island was almost pure phosphate. He negotiated a contract with the unworldly and kindly Banabans for the Pacific Islands Company Ltd. This first contract gave that company the right to mine phosphate over a significant area of the island for a term of "nine hundred and ninety nine

years" for the payment of only £50 per annum, "or trade to that value."

From that day on, the ruin of Ocean Island began.

It has forced the Banabans out of their villages and homes, despoiled the land and destroyed the trees. Eventually, the Banabans had to leave. They were resettled on Rabi Island off the coast of Vanua Levu, Fiji. Although they have been on Rabi since 1945 they continue to long for their home island with a strength only paralleled by that of the Hebrew people for Israel.

Time and time again the British Phosphate Commission, who followed the Pacific Islands Co in mining the phosphate, negotiated further contracts from the Banabans with what can only be described as "bullying tactics". Today,



The wreck of Ocean Island.

Ocean Island lies barren — a nightmare wasteland of coral pinnacles denuded of earth.

However, the book *Treasure Islands* goes much further giving us an insight into the previous history of the Banabans; their fishing, their heroic perseverance through years of drought and hardship; their communal life and their wealth of legends often expressed through stylised dance formulas.

Above all, this is a book about survival: "The Banabans who have been deprived of their language, their religion, their culture and their homeland, nevertheless, have managed to survive. They

nearly died out during the first desperate winter on Rabi in 1946. But they had a vision of their Jerusalem to cling to. Today there are over 3 000 Banabans alive. And many of them are determined to return to their Ocean Island homeland."

Pearl Binder (Lady Elwyn Jones) has written a very readable book and she has gathered and presented her facts with care and concern ... only in minor aspects when she drifts away from the core of the Banaban story and touches on Fiji does she get a little shaky in her facts. Overall she has developed her theme very well indeed. Starting from the heroic distant past, she follows the Banabans through the era of blackbirding — the pathetic beginnings of the phosphate story, the desperate expulsion of the entire population during World War II and the final banishment from their destroyed homeland to Rabi.

Treasure Islands can be recommended to all who care about justice mislaid ... who care about the innocents of this world and who care about today's continuing despoiling of our earth without thought of the future. — Victor Carell

(TREASURE ISLANDS: THE TRIALS OF THE BANABANS. By Pearl Binder. Published by Angus & Robertson, Sydney, Australia. \$13.95).

All about the Islands — with aid in mind

The outside world is much more aware of the Pacific Islands than it was, even 10 years ago, a fact brought about by the extensive use of modern means of communication and a proliferation of publications. As the Island groups have become independent or self-governing there is a growing outside awareness that politics are very real in the world of waving palms, reef-enclosed lagoons and white beaches.

One of the latest publications, *South Pacific Dossier*, is a useful dual guide to the area. Published by the Australian Council for Overseas Aid, the co-ordinating body for 35 Australian non-government organisations working in the field of overseas aid and development, it gives an insight into 17 Pacific groups.

A potted guide to what makes each group tick is followed by fairly topical articles, all by people well-versed in Pacific affairs. The guide gives bare essential details about the various areas such as an

estimate of the population, the name of the capital or administrative centre, a brief history, the form of government, the economy, communications and trade with Australia.

As it is an Australian publication there is an understandable emphasis on Australian aid in the guide. There is a mention of some other major suppliers, such as Japan, the US, France, the UK and New Zealand, which shows that Australia does not now enjoy the once pre-eminent position it had in Pacific trading.

For many years the Pacific Islander was content to languish under the patronising umbrella of the colonial powers. But with a political awakening after World War II, as many authors in *South Pacific Dossier* point out, they are learning to cope with the 20th century, while still retaining as much as possible of their own customs and cultures.

Perhaps the best version of what the Pacific needs, is set out by Tongan Sione Tupouniua, graduate of Harvard, who did post-graduate studies at Oxford. He tries to show how political independence gives an opportunity to create. Apart from this article which does not set out to give the answer to the problems of the Pacific, most authors chronicle what has happened or what is happening, possibly in the hope that Australia, and other metropolitan powers, may interpret this as appeals for assistance in development.

Such appeals to Australia should not fall on deaf ears for Australia has done pretty well commercially out of the South Pacific; perhaps now is the time to step up putting a lot more back than she is at present, notwithstanding the handsome annual grants to Papua New Guinea. — NB

(SOUTH PACIFIC DOSSIER, edited by Gay Woods. Published by Australian Council for Overseas Aid, PO Box 1562, Canberra, ACT, Australia. 2601. \$4.00)

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Is PNG TV-free? Well, yes, and then again no . . .

The Papua New Guinea Government has set its face against introducing a national television service for at least five years.

But that doesn't mean that increasing numbers of people in PNG are not enjoying TV programmes.

The reason lies not in any illegal operations by pirate stations, but in the rapidly mounting popularity of video cassette players in PNG.

Video equipment was introduced commercially into PNG in December, 1976. In the past 12 months the two main manufacturers — JVC (Japanese Victor Company, or Nivico) and Sony — have each enjoyed gross sales of more than K1 million. These have netted K300 000 for PNG government revenue from the import duty of 50%, plus a 2½% levy.

Sales are growing particularly in the government and commercial sectors, which are increasing their use of video as a training tool, replacing the traditional 16 mm film.

The video cassette recorder/player is connected to the aerial input of a normal domestic TV receiver. It operates in much the same way as the sound cassette tape player, but permits the recording of both pictures and sound on magnetic tape. This may be erased and the tape used over and over again. Since it stores both visual and sound images, a wider tape than the conventional audio cassette tape must be used. The cassette is therefore somewhat bigger.

It is simply a matter of loading the pre-recorded cassette into the TV receiver and pressing the start button, as with a conventional sound cassette. The cassette may be rewound, and the programme viewed time and again. The machines generally have the same four functions as ordinary tape recorders — start, stop, fast forward and rewind.

More sophisticated ma-

chines have, in addition to a pause control, a still frame control which allows one frame to be held for as long as desired. This is particularly useful when people want to have a critical discussion about a given film.

It is possible with some video cassette players to play back sound from either of two audio tracks or both. This means one sound track could be in English, and the other in, say, Melanesian Pidgin. By using both tracks, it is possible to reproduce stereo sound.

Playing time of a video tape cassette depends on the length of tape loaded in the cassette and the speed of the cassette player. This can vary from an hour to three and a quarter hours per cassette.

There are three main video cassette types in popular use throughout the world. They are:

- U-Matic System, 19 mm (¾ in) tape: This system is widely used for commercial and government work where heavy duty conditions and handling are expected. The tapes have the advantage that they can be used with Sony, JVC, Rank, National and all other types of U-Matic machines. They can also replay two or three of the different world TV transmission systems (PAL, NTSC, SECAM), and have two audio track facilities.

A disadvantage of the U-Matic type is that apart from having a 60-minute maximum recording time for each cassette, it is larger and heavier than the 12 mm (½ in) types. A 60-minute cassette weighs 750 grams.

- Sony Betamax System, 12 mm (½ in) video tape: A relatively new type designed specifically for home television systems and offering three and a quarter hours of recording time per cassette. The cassette weighs only 250 grams. It is actually cheaper than a single 60-minute U-Matic cassette.

- JVC VHS (Video Home

System), 12 mm (½ in) tape: Like Betamax, a relatively new system designed for the home entertainment market. Unfortunately, it is not possible to interchange cassettes between any of the three types — for example, a programme recorded in the U-Matic format cannot be replayed on either VHS or Betamax players. Neither VHS nor Betamax has the facility of selecting various TV transmission systems, or dual sound track facilities, offered by the U-Matic machine.

But both Betamax and VHS enable the recording of one TV station while the transmission of another is actually being viewed. The machines may also be preset at a specified time to start recording while unattended. (These features are useful in TV broadcasting areas, for which the machines were designed. They appear to offer an answer to the problem of TV channels, fighting for ratings, offering their best programmes at overlapping times).

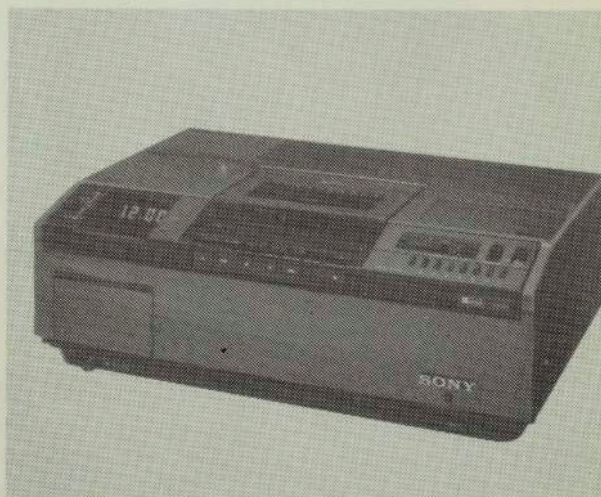
The first formal meeting of the Pacific Group members of the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association was held in Suva in July, 1977. The meet-

ing was attended by delegates from Fii, PNG, the Solomons, Tonga, Western Samoa, Australia and New Zealand. Also present was the secretary-general of the CBA.

The meeting decided that, for the next five years at least, the Pacific's main field for expansion and improvement would be radio broadcasting. There was agreement that television, partly because of its enormously expensive character, ought not to be introduced prematurely and at the expense of the proper development of radio services. The introduction of television, the meeting decided, "should be properly planned at the appropriate time to take account of proper training so that each country would be able to develop its own expertise in the production of local television programmes".

It was at this meeting that Mr Sam Piniau, chairman of the PNG Broadcasting Commission, named a target date of five years for the introduction of TV in PNG.

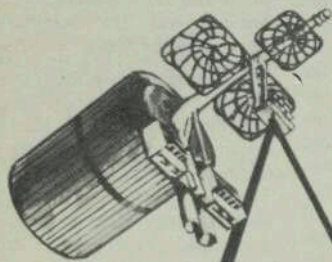
Television has a far greater impact than radio, especially in countries with strong oral traditions, where speech and action are much more highly-



This is Sony's new PAL model of the Betamax home video recording unit, model SL-8000.



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ISLANDS TELEVISION

developed than print. Its combination of sounds and images can be used to "extend people's eyes and ears" much more effectively than in large, anonymous, urban societies. People who are good at communicating by speech, music

and dance are more likely to find they can use television easily and profitably than are those with strongly developed reading and writing communication patterns.

Although American Samoa has for some years operated its

own TV station, which in general is easily received in Western Samoa, it seems that it will be some time before broadcast television is generally available throughout the South Pacific.

But owners of video equipment in many remote areas have reported that at various times they have received broadcast TV programmes from distant countries following the installation of a relatively cheap high-gain antenna system.

Reception reports have been received from Vanimo, Wewak, Manua and Kimbe in PNG of TV transmissions from Malaysia, Indonesia and Guam, while Port Moresby often receives Queensland television.

New Zealand and Australian transmissions have been reported from Norfolk Island and Fiji — in the latter almost daily during day-time in the summer months.

Unfortunately, there is no magic formula to ascertain if a particular area can receive

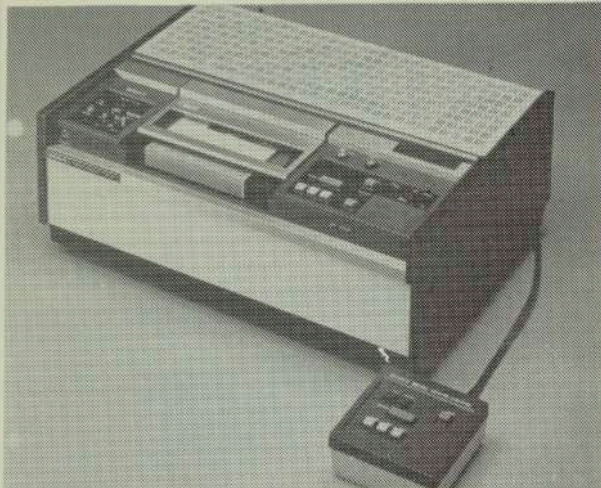
long-distance TV broadcasts — but the chance is always there.

The largest distributor of pre-recorded video cassette programmes in the South Pacific is the Sohbu Group, based in Port Moresby and Sydney, who handle the Sony product.

Following the growth of demand in PNG, Sohbu recently established a video cassette library in the Solomons.

Sohbu-Australia staffer, Mr Fraser Hickox, told PIM that the company hoped to expand throughout the Pacific wherever video equipment is sold.

Sohbu also represents Link Television Pty Ltd, a subsidiary of the Sydney TV station TCN9. Link Television produces specialised programmes such as "Medilink", a monthly medical video programme of continuing education for doctors, "Race Link", a weekly review of horse races for punters and bookmakers, and "News Link", a weekly review of news services.



The Sony VP-2030 U-Matic colour videocassette player. It is capable of replaying two or three of the different world TV transmission systems — PAL, SECAM, NTSC.

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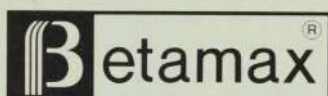
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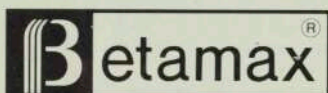
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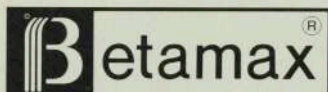
Betamax starts your television set working—right now!



What is it. Basically, Betamax is a Home Video Recording System. It works on similar principles to a regular music cassette recorder but as well as sound, the Betamax records colour pictures. And it can be connected to any television receiver to record and play back cassettes of up to 3¼ hours duration.



How to use it. Betamax lets you buy your favourite pre-recorded programs and replay them in the privacy and comfort of your own home and of course you get perfect full colour and sound. And together with the Video Camera, Betamax lets you make home movies. Record the kids at play, the party in progress – and keep the happy memories forever on colour video.



A few details. Betamax is the most advanced concept in home video recording. Video cassettes can be erased and re-recorded time and time again. Your initial investment is never wasted. As an optional extra, the Betamax Video Camera allows you to make home movies.



The Betamax Home Video Recording System. Starts your television set working - right now.

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Stray images from beyond the fringe

All over the world, optimistic viewers and enthusiastic amateurs are regularly obtaining television signals from sources far beyond the recognised limit of individual transmitters.

To understand these phenomena one needs a basic comprehension of television propagation and reception. This is an extremely technical subject which requires more space than is available. However, we can suggest a few ways in which South Pacific viewers, normally regarded as 'beyond the fringe' of television viewing, can take advantage of these quirks of nature which break the general rule.

Though there are a number of television stations in the South Pacific — in American Samoa, New Caledonia, Tahiti and Micronesia — because they are generally served by low-powered units, for practical purposes the stations likely to prove useful to island viewers are those transmitting from Australia's east coast and from New Zealand's North Island.

Both countries have the 625-line PAL system and high powered transmitters and both transmit at VHF (very high frequency) within a range of 45-225 MHz (megahertz).

The secret to television reception 'beyond the fringe' lies in the way in which the signals in the VHF frequency spectrum strike various layers of the atmosphere. Long distance reception becomes possible when the signals are reflected back to earth off certain layers.

The layers which reflect can be likened to a cloud which in some cases are only tiny in area while others can be hundreds of square kilometres.

These 'clouds' can drift with prevailing winds and when they are about — depending on the climatic conditions — signals are reflected over distances up to 2 500 kilometres.

The reflective layers are in the ionosphere which starts at about 760 metres. Below this is the troposphere which, according to climatic conditions, can also affect long distance transmission.

Some viewers in the South Pacific may have noticed that during very settled, warm, anti-cyclonic weather, normally weak signals from distant transmitters improve, providing very viewable pictures. In both cases, viewing is better at night.

Having skipped the details of 'why', it is more valuable for

viewers to know 'how' to take advantage of these phenomena.

Since lower frequencies are invariably most successful in long distance penetration, these sources may be useful to people in the South Pacific region:

New Zealand: Auckland Ch 2 (55.25/60.75 MHz); Wellington Ch 1 (45.25/50.75); Christchurch Ch 3 (62.75/67.75).

Australia: Brisbane Ch 0 (46.25/51.75); Brisbane Ch 2 (64.25/69.75); Sydney Ch 2 (64.25/69.75); Coffs Harbour Ch 2 (64.25/69.75); Stanthorpe (Qld) Ch 1 (57.25/62.75); Rockhampton Ch 3 (86.25/91.75); Townsville Ch 3 (86.25/91.75).

One problem which may well be encountered, since two programmes on the same channel may be roughly in the same direction, is that of cross-viewing — one channel adversely affecting the other at the receiver.

Anyone seeking regularly viewable pictures should fit low band yagi type antennae on a mast which can be oriented by a 'rotator' unit. The antenna could be pointed in one direction most of the time but variations, due to climatic conditions, can necessitate periodic realignment of the antenna for optimum effect.

As 'over the horizon' signals are hardly affected by antenna height, the use of very high towers would not produce startling effects. However, the antenna should be well clear of ground clutter. A mast of approximately 12 to 15 metres would serve you best. Use of a rotator permits one to 'search' over a wide area for the best possible pictures.

For the real enthusiast with some technical knowledge, considerable room exists for experimentation with various types of receiving antennae. Certainly it is worthwhile fitting more than one type of antennae. For example a broadband antenna or phased array type of antenna would be useful to seek out the periodic Band III signals. Whatever is used, it is recommended that suitable mast head amplifiers are incorporated.

People who wish to go into this matter should contact, via their local radio and television suppliers, one of the reputable antennae equipment manufacturers.

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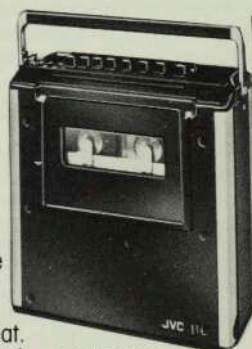


GC4800E

can be operated locally, or with the addition of the optional Control Unit, can be operated remotely. Can be used with a TU20E Tuner Timer. Additionally, NTSC colour signals can be played back at the touch of a button.

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A unique feature of the CR4400E 3/4" U-Format is the Automatic Edit Function which allows the user to avoid the need for elaborate studio editing equipment, as each pause during recording is automatically assembled edited on to that already recorded. This compact, lightweight colour video recorder accepts power from three sources — battery pack, or car battery, or 240V. AC. It records and plays back video cassette tapes in the 3/4" U-Format. The colour amplifier is built-in, and the extensive use of IC's enable JVC to build-in functions normally found on much larger units. To complement its compact design, we have the GC4800E Colour Camera. The main feature is its ease of use. Simply select the Lighting Selector and record. Complete with inbuilt microphone.



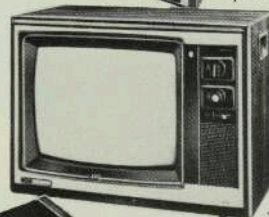
CR4400E

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CR6000E Recorder

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AGRICULTURE

Like other developing countries Papua New Guinea has a long and difficult struggle towards a viable economy. Not least of the tasks is that of feeding its people with home-grown food, of making the nation self-sufficient. This article by Geoff Harris, formerly of the University of Papua New Guinea and now research economist with the Agricultural Economics Research Unit at Lincoln College, Canterbury (NZ), examines agriculture's role in improving the villagers' living standards.

Cash cropping or subsistence farming — a PNG dilemma

The PNG Government's 1976 *National Development Strategy* has emphasised the need to maintain the ability of subsistence agriculture to feed village people. Thus far, it appears that production per head has generally remained steady. A study by the author in two high population pressure areas (Wabag and Chimbu) found that there were adequate amounts of good quality land, and that the growth of resident population has been much slower than anticipated. In addition subsistence farming has engaged its workers, on average, only four or five hours a day.

Population in an area may increase to such a level that soil productivity declines because the ground is subjected to increasingly frequent usage and spends less time under fallow.

However, it is the relationship between increasing population and the carrying capacity of the area concerned that is of crucial importance. Calculation of the carrying capacity of group land areas is difficult, but estimates have been made in some areas and these provide useful bases from which to consider the impact of population growth. This article examines two of these — the *Intensive Agricultural Survey 1962/64* carried out in Wabag and Chimbu and, in particular, a 1960 study in Naregu, central Chimbu.

The intensive agricultural surveys were carried out in high population-pressure areas and collected data which allowed estimation of the minimum long-term requirements of land per head consistent with maintaining soil quality. The figure for Chimbu was

0.17 ha of best quality equivalent land per person for sweet potatoes, pandanus, coffee and pigs. In 1962/63 on average, the mean proportion of available land actually required was 52%; in 1973 it was 54%.

Taken as a whole, Chimbu, often regarded as the most densely populated province, does not appear to be facing severe population pressure. Aggregate figures, however, cover up problems in small areas. For example, there is evidence to suggest that people in the most densely populated areas of Chimbu are staying at home, not migrating, probably to protect their rights to land.

Aggregate figures, as we have mentioned, hide important features at the local level. Therefore we turn to examine population growth in one community — Naregu (present population about 3 000) in Central Chimbu — originally studied in 1960 by Harold Brookfield and Paula Brown. Overall, Brookfield and Brown found that 64% of the available land was actually required by the population at that time. However, when figures for the 12 component sub-clans were analysed, there was a range between 22 and 97%. When these figures were updated to 1973, four of the 12 sub-clans had reached the maximum carrying capacity of their land.

The National Development Strategy sees dangers in an over-emphasis on cash cropping: "too much land may be used for cash crop production in periods of high prices. Soil fertility may be depleted and the land may be unable to provide adequate subsistence in periods of unfavourable prices. A related danger is that a lot



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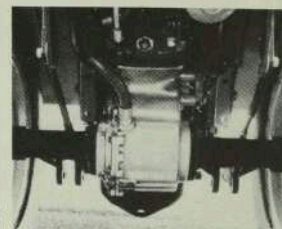
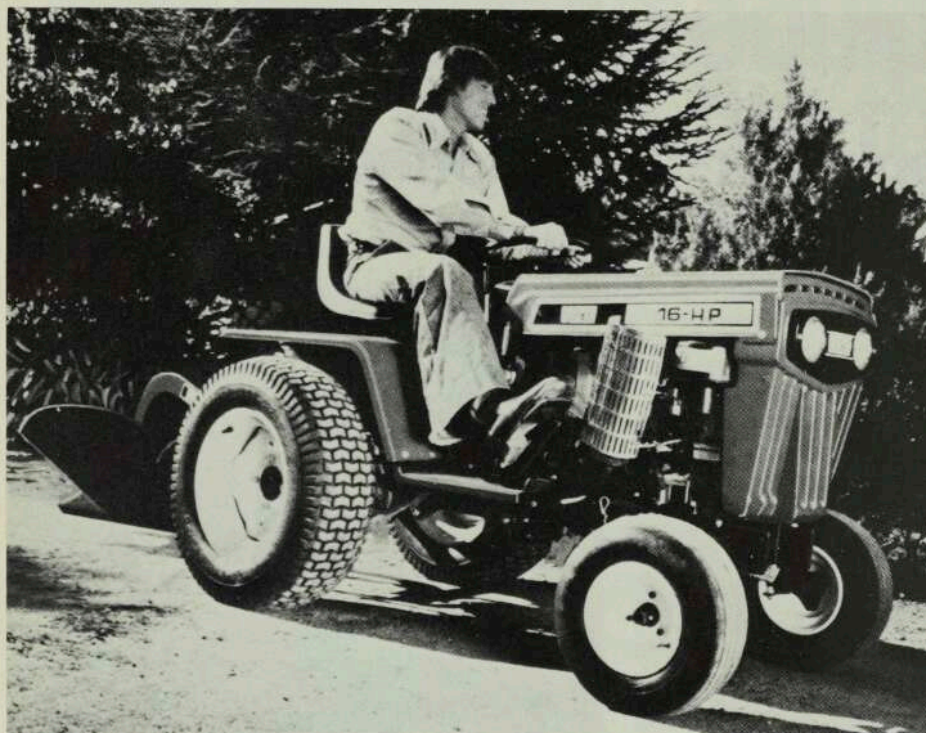
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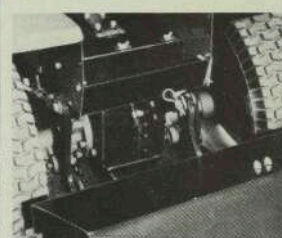
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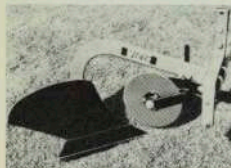
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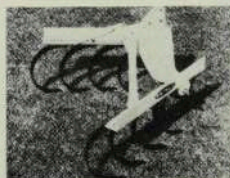
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AGRICULTURE

of income derived from export production will be directed to imported foods and may build up a reliance on imports. It will be extremely difficult to switch rapidly back to food production when export prices fall or import prices rise."

This section compares the amount of land required for a "pure subsistence consumer" (deriving his calorific requirements solely from sweet potato), with the amount needed if he consumed only tinned fish and rice and earned the necessary cash by growing coffee.

Under a set of assumptions about food requirements, food values and yields, a sweet potato grower will need about 0.07 ha of best quality land to produce all his food requirements, allowing for periods of fallow.

At the other extreme, we consider a farmer who consumes tinned mackerel and rice, financed by coffee production. Under a set of assumptions about food requirements, food values and yields, it can be shown that the

amount of land required to grow sufficient coffee to live on tinned fish and rice is considerably greater than 0.07 ha. This casts doubts on the efficacy of an agricultural policy which has concentrated upon production of export crops for sale.

This does not necessarily mean that cash cropping is responsible for the disturbingly high levels of malnutrition found in many parts of rural Papua New Guinea, especially amongst pregnant and lactating women and young children. One puzzling aspect of malnutrition is that it does not appear to be related to the amount of land available.

A study of Enga children, for example, has shown that high volume traditional staples may satisfy the consumer's hunger before he has obtained adequate nutrition. The importance of low volume foods such as peanuts and winged beans is at once apparent. This is all the more important given that in the highlands protein deficiency is much more important than calorie deficiency.

As we have noted, the National Development Strategy is concerned about transference of garden land to cash cropping during high price periods and the difficulty of reverting to food production if prices fell. Another possibility is that villages may develop a preference for imported foods while earning high incomes and not be willing to reduce their consumption when prices fall.

Finally, we consider the influence of absenteeism on the work-load of those remaining in the village. It is not uncommon to find 20% of a village's population absent, and the proportion is highest among young single men.

Clear evidence of the precise impact of absenteeism on village agriculture is hard to collect. It can be expected that the absence of young energetic men would mean harder work for the remaining and, possibly (since males are responsible for clearing and fencing) longer use of gardens between fallows than would otherwise occur.

We have a picture of a sys-

tem which has developed to meet the needs of its people in a highly efficient manner. This article has shown that its use of land is efficient when compared to cash cropping; other studies, notably Eric Waddell's *The Mound Builders* (a study of Enga agriculture), show that it provides adequate food from small inputs of labour, and that its methods are "finely tuned" to the particular environment it faces in different areas.

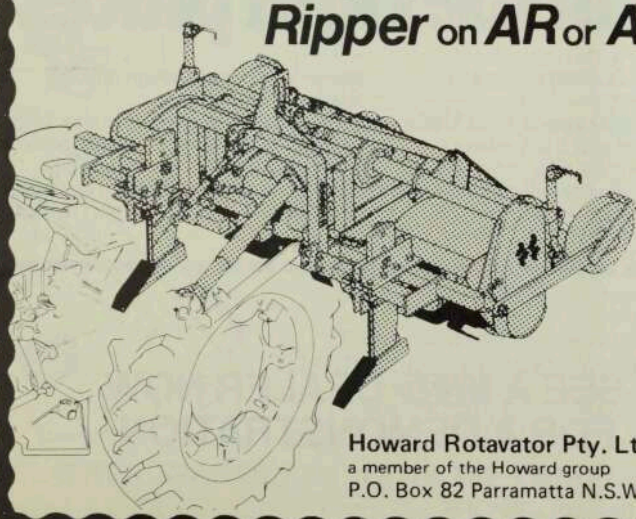
The major threats to subsistence agriculture appear to be population growth and cash-cropping and these should form the major areas for planners' attention. In addition there is, in my view, a need for a reorientation of planning efforts.

The initial question has to be "In what ways can the village environment be improved?" This leads to a search for problems, which in PNG include malnutrition and other specific health problems, lack of basic access, lack of knowledge (eg in the care of cash crops), lack of accessible water supplies and adult illiteracy.



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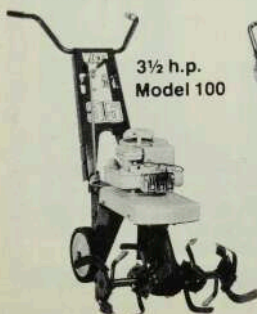
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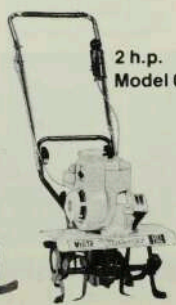
Victa 3½ h.p. single speed Tiller Model 100 features 3½ h.p. B & S 4-stroke engine, easy pull start, cast iron gearbox, housing, and simple tine adjustment. Alternative cultivation widths from 305 mm to 660 mm (12"-26"). Furrow

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AGRICULTURE

Back to the land for Fijian hillside farmers

About 24 300 ha of hilly and largely undeveloped Fijian-owned land is gradually being brought into production at Yalavou, in south-west Viti Levu under an Australian aid project. The aim is to establish 103 individual farm holdings, with emphasis on livestock grazing.

The project is the largest agricultural development proposal for which Australian aid has been sought in the South Pacific. Initially, it is expected that about 500 people will benefit directly from the project. The ultimate carrying capacity is expected to reach about 8 400 head of cattle and 1 400 goats.

Fiji has been aiming at self-sufficiency in beef for many years, and Yalavou will go some of the way towards achieving that aim. There are thousands of hectares of hilly country in Fiji, chiefly Viti Levu and Vanua Levu suitable

for cattle grazing, but little else. Aerial fertilisation would ensure an adequate supply of feed.

One of the principal objectives at Yalavou is to increase rural participation in the national economy by involving Fijian landholders in cattle raising. Yalavou could be the pilot project (on a huge scale) for other parts of Fiji. It is expected to bring important social benefits.

A firm of Australian consultants engaged to investigate the project completed its surveying in May, 1976. Following a study of the recommendations and explanation to the communal landholders of the development benefits and their obligations, the Fiji Government asked Australia to implement the project and emphasised the high priority and critical importance it had in Fiji's overall development. Important components of

the project will be the establishment of a local farm and service centre devoted to farmer training and supervision, and construction of 90 km of access roads, together with other infrastructure.

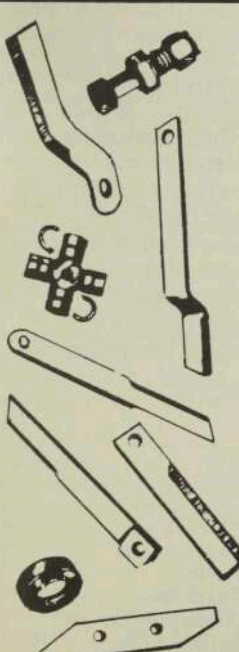
Although the project's economic rate of return is not high, and the number of farmers taking part is necessarily limited, the Fiji Government believes success will encourage the development of other areas of Fijian land and will assist in accelerating the divergence in rural and urban incomes.

The project is estimated to involve an investment of \$A7.522 million over 10 years, of which Australia's share will be about \$3.83 million, principally for consultant management fees, plant and equipment, road construction, farm and other infrastructure development, and the purchase and shipment of cattle from Australia and within Fiji. The Fiji Government will meet local costs, estimated at \$2.037 million, and the Fiji Development Bank is expected to advance loans of \$1.655 million over the life of the project.

Care has been taken to ensure that development takes account of social and environmental factors. The pilot farm will be established first, with work on basic community facilities simultaneously with individual farm development. Watershed protection and development will take place in the fourth year of the project. About 2 830 ha will be developed and managed as a watershed protection reserve.

Because of the need to ensure that implementation of the project is responsive to lessons learned in the early phases, progress in achieving planned objectives will be monitored. The evaluation will be quite independent from the management of the project and will be undertaken by an institution or consultant firm in conjunction with the Australian Development Assistance Bureau.

The Yalavou Rural Development Board, consisting of representatives of landowners and the Fiji Government, was established in January. The project general manager also started work in January.



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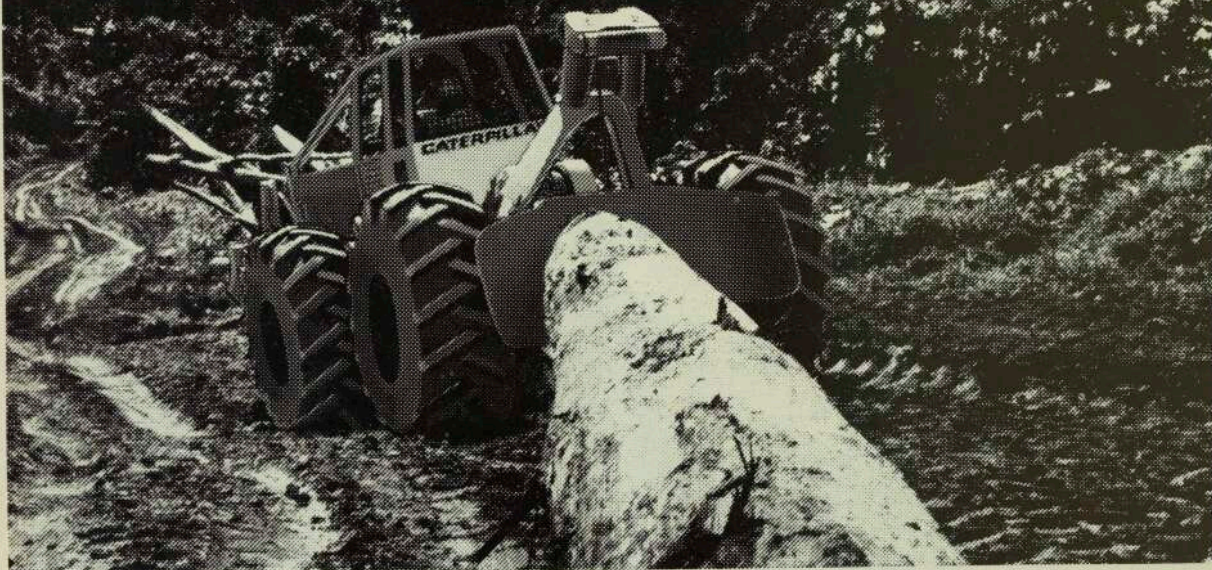
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They were stirring days in the New Guinea goldfields half a century ago. They were also the days when men flew in "crates," of string and cardboard. Bert Weston writes of those days and of a flight in a "crate" to deliver a cargo of gold dust to Australia.

Stirring days in the New Guinea gold fields — or gold dust in the sky

The history of most of the world's richest alluvial goldfields has followed the same pattern of discovery, boom and eventual petering out and abandonment to fossickers.

The fabulously-rich Morobe goldfield on the mainland of New Guinea from which many millions of ounces were won during the 15 years before World War II was no exception in its progress from the day of the individual miner with his team of native labourers working with a sluice box and shovels on to the era of big business winning gold by hydraulic sluicing, lode mining with its attendant stamp batteries and cyanide treatment and to floating dredges operating to a depth of over 31 metres.

The Pacific War brought total stoppage of all forms of mining activity and much destruction of equipment and plant; work was resumed after the war but never to the same degree of productivity and, in fact, with the inevitable tailing-off indicative of a worked out goldfield.

The gold rush of the late 1920s following discovery of the rich Edie Creek alluvial deposits brought all kinds of hopefuls to the field and when I reached there in 1928 a number of individuals were already famous as owners of high-producing claims with winnings of over 100 ounces a day.

Until the advent of air transport in 1927, the sole method of bringing in supplies of native rations such as rice and tinned meat and of provisions and mining gear for the Europeans was on the back of native carriers and it was essential for a miner to periodically send part of his labour line out to Salamaua on the coast to pick up and tote back the required goods. This entailed at least a two-

week trip over difficult mountain country and at times under attack by hostile tribes.

On these trips the accumulated gold dust would be entrusted to the miner's boss boy for delivery to the agent or the store manager at Salamaua who would credit the owner's account with an interim payment pending receipt of final assay and treatment returns from the Australian Mint.

In contrast to goldmining in Australia last century with its history of armed hold-ups and robbery of coaches and drays taking gold to banks and to the coast, the killing of police escorts, claim-jumping, race riots involving the hordes of Chinese miners and murders by the dozen, there was no disorder on the Morobe field and vast quantities of gold were carried to the coast by the most haphazard means

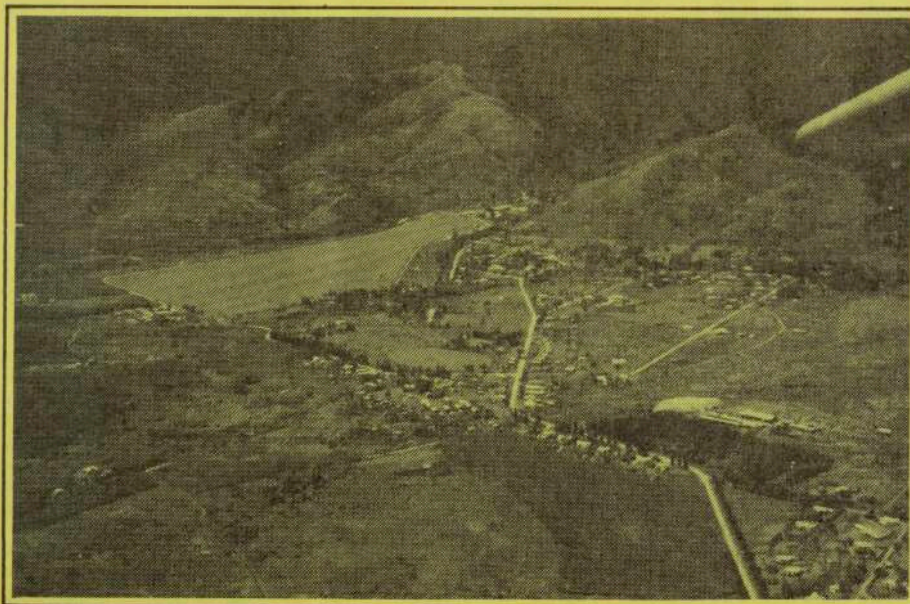
with never a recorded loss by robbery or theft. Everyone trusted the next man down the delivery line.

This happy state of affairs was due to the large content of Australians among the goldfields population and, furthermore, most of them were ex-servicemen with a highly developed sense of mateship and fair play. It was not at all uncommon for a man to step off the steamer at Salamaua, broke and jobless owing to the depression in Australia, and, within hours, to be befriended by a successful miner and given a claim to work on shares. This was not always entirely altruistic as a mining claim, once pegged and recorded, had to be manned and worked after a stated time or otherwise forfeited. But some penniless newcomers achieved prosperity in this manner.

In the late 1920s I was cargo manager at Lae, on the coast, for the Taylor and Ross air service and almost every flight from the mining centre at Wau brought large and small parcels of gold dust from trusting miners for onward delivery in cockleshell launches to Burns Philp or Carpenter's stores across the Huon Gulf at Salamaua.

It would reach me packed in 1 lb tea tins, tobacco and cigarette tins and in jam-jars with the lids secured with a strip of sticking plaster. Some more careful types would make up small canvas packages, edges sewn and all of them addressed and identified in indelible pencil. I remember several hundred ounces reaching me tied up in a pair of dirty white socks and inscribed "B.P. from Snowy". It reached Burns Philp safely.

All this wealth was carried



Wau, centre of the Morobe goldfields with its famous uphill airstrip, left of centre — obviously, a difficult place to fly out of.

YESTERDAY



One of the DH86s which flew on the gold-dust trail.

by plane without knowledge of the pilot and without benefit of protection by receipts or freight notes. On one occasion a tin containing 300 ounces was found in a seldom-opened small locker on the side of the aircraft after travelling to and fro for over a month. The owner had never queried its safe delivery.

My usual practice was to collect the assorted packages of gold from the plane and toss them into a wooden box under my bed to await the arrival of a launch from Salamaua when they would be loaded into a barrow and wheeled by a native down to the beach and handed over to the native crew for delivery to the store and, later, to the bank at Salamaua.

There were times when I slept above an accumulation of several thousand ounces with no qualms as to its safety.

At the end of 1928, Hector Wales — one of the very successful miners — together with two of his cronies was flown down to Lae by World War I fighter pilot Jerry Pentland, who operated a one-man service with a Moth small plane. They were en-route for a Christmas in Sydney taking with them a quarter of a ton of gold packed in a number of

pinewood boxes. By the time that Jerry had landed the gold at Lae, wind and rain had stopped all launch traffic to Salamaua and the boxes lay out on the airstrip for three days while Hector and party staged a wild grog-spree.

Only two thefts come to mind. These were of company gold at Bulolo when in one instance, several bars of smelted gold were taken from the treatment room one night and the other theft was from a dredge. The sluices in which the gold was caught and held lay behind locked gates and every week these were opened and a team of trusted employees entered to remove the accumulated ore.

Figures indicated that pilfering was taking place and a detective was flown up from Brisbane incognito and employed as a dredge-hand. He soon discovered that two members of the clean-up crew, a father and son combination, were slipping handfuls of dust into their coat pockets. Their trial at Salamaua by Judge Wanless earned them long gaol sentences.

Gold was shipped by sea from Salamaua to Sydney every few weeks by the ordinary process of registered mail.

However, these movements were halted in 1940 owing to the presence of, and uncertainty as to the whereabouts of, enemy raiders in Australian waters. For the same reason, Australia's bullion stocks were secretly moved from Melbourne to an emergency 'Fort Knox' located in the interior of the gaol in the NSW inland township of Broken Hill.

The stoppage of shipments from New Guinea soon imposed hardships on miners awaiting final payment from the Mint and also left dormant a national asset in the way of many hundredweights of untreated gold dust and it was, therefore, decided to fly a consignment to Australia per medium of W. R. Carpenter Ltd, holders of the air-mail contract.

The aircraft in use were De Havilland 86 biplanes of duralumin, wood and fabric construction, powered by four Gipsy Six motors and carrying a crew of two and 14 passengers. A special trip was organised for the operation and one of the fleet duly arrived at Salamaua with passengers and mail and in charge of pilot 'Joss' Crisp and second pilot-cum-radio operator Ron Doyle.

The plane was prepared for

its return flight by bolting a large metal cabin trunk to the floor about the centre of gravity and this was packed with a score of small mailbags each holding about 50 kg of gold done up in canvas packages. The trunk was then double padlocked and the aircraft left overnight under guard by three armed native police.

Four passengers only could be carried and these comprised miner Bob Franklin, veteran pilot Ray Parer, an elderly woman who had become ill while visiting relatives at Wau and myself.

At first-light next morning passengers and crew together with the local European police officer were taken out to the drome by truck. An untidy heap under the plane revealed itself as being the sentries, fast asleep. Leaping from the still-moving vehicle the police officer was among them like a tiger, and with fist, tongue and boots dished out summary retribution for their dereliction of duty. With this small item settled the motors were started and we embarked, our lady passenger confiding to me that this was her first long flight. She was terrified of flying and exhibited a flask of brandy for use, I imagined, in case of air-sickness or snake-bite.

YESTERDAY

Fifty minutes later we landed on Kila Kila airstrip at Port Moresby and were rushed into the township for breakfast; then followed a three-hour crossing of the Coral Sea, landfall at Lizard Island and a touchdown at Cooktown where an official wearing an HM Customs cap cleared us into Australia. The same jack-of-all-trades then took the solitary mailbag to the post office and, in his postal capacity, sorted the letters. Reputedly once a week he donned a cap labelled Station Master and flagged out the rail motor to Laura on the Palmer River goldfield.

Here again we were driven into the township for lunch, passing en-route along a street of mainly empty houses tenanted by ruminating goats. Returning to a refuelled machine a run of 45 minutes brought us in for a mail stop at Cairns where a perfect landing ended in a loud report and a swerve into the rough with a blown tyre. The local agent telephoned Townsville where a spare wheel and tyre were kept for just such an emergency and arranged for it to be flown up by light plane. In the meantime the "86" was jacked up and the offending wheel removed.

Late in the afternoon, the Moth arrived with the spare roped to the side of the fuselage. It was soon fitted and with assurances of emergency lighting for our landing at Townsville we were in the air again by dusk. "Joss" poured on the coal and at a low altitude fast progress was being made when a dense pall of smoke and miles of flames ahead denoted that sugar cane farmers were burning off dead leaves and "trash" along our route.

To avoid being suffocated and to see the way a detour was made out to sea until Townsville lights showed up with the airfield picked out by a double row of flares composed of dozens of buckets of burning petrol. Following a very rough landing, the plane was immediately surrounded by a platoon of infantry with fixed bayonets; police swarmed everywhere and a team of bank officers rushed on board flashing identity papers and requesting the keys to the treasure.

A fleet of taxis drew alongside and a bag of gold was locked in the boot of each and

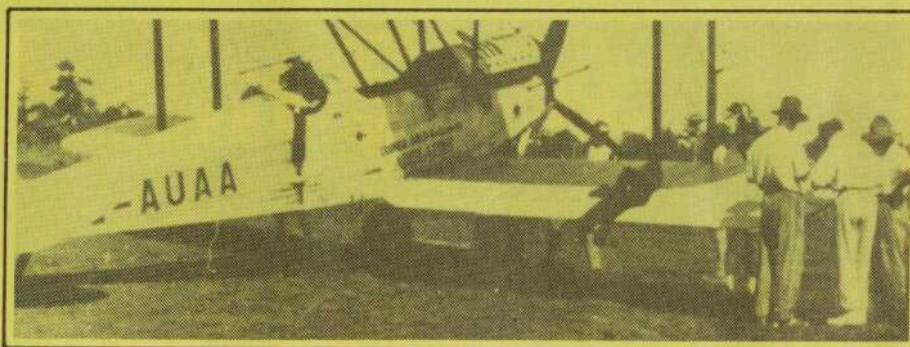
with bank staff and police riding shotgun they were driven under army escort into the city where the gold was placed in a vault overnight. After a stay at the Queen's Hotel and an early breakfast the process was reversed when we and the cargo were taken back to the plane and packed aboard for a 7 am take-off. Hour after hour the scenery rolled past at 6 000 ft and 120 knots under a cloudless sky. Following a short stop at Rockhampton we

reached Brisbane for a one-hour lunch and fuel break.

The weather report gave warning of flood rains and strong head winds on the NSW coast and with a gallon vacuum jar of tea (4.54 L) and a cardboard box of sandwiches added to the cabin amenities the final stage of the odyssey was entered into.

A rampart of cloud towered up ahead over the Macpherson Range on the NSW border and with the pilot riding the

beam from Kempsey DF station the plane headed up into the murk. Ray Parer, who in 20 years of pioneer flying had never flown an aircraft fitted with electrical power and navigation equipment and who flew by the seat of his pants and ground visibility, grew very disturbed and remarked to me that we were over the high country where a former New Guinea pilot — Rex Boyden — had hit a mountain in a Stinson tri-



Guinea Gold DH37 "Old Faithful" with Pard Mustar in the cockpit and Mullins collecting a fare.



A goldfields incident 44 years ago — a pancake landing on an island in the Watut River. The single-engined bi-plane, once owned by Sir Charles Kingsford Smith and used as a freight carrier by George Mendham in the New Guinea goldfields, stalled after take-off from Bulwa 'drome for Wau. Pilot Mendham and passengers Sid Wilkins and Fred Marshall escaped with bruises.

YESTERDAY



Bert Weston, the author, in his "gold-mining" days.

motor with fatal results to himself and all but two of his passengers.

I reminded him that with the cabin altimeter showing 16 000 ft there was a lot of air space between the floor and the peaks and the beam had us on course. He was still muttering his distrust of instruments and new-fangled navigation aids when our attention was drawn to the lady

across the aisle who was blue in the face, gasping for breath and fumbling with a spilt bottle of capsules.

Realising that we had a heart emergency on our hands, Ray sprang to tell the pilot who immediately put the nose downhill while I and the other passenger crammed a few pills and a brandy chaser into her mouth.

With the altimeter still unwinding rapidly, it was a comforting sight when a hole in the clouds revealed farms and coastal scenery about 8 000 feet below denoting that we had crossed the range and could bring the patient down to survival level. Although she had somewhat recovered, it was certain that the rest of the flight would need to be at low altitude so, on reaching Kempsey, we made a hedge-hopping run over flooded farmlands to the coast and, bucking a wild southerly under an extremely low cloud base, flew from headland to headland and followed the beaches during the rain squalls into increasingly bumpy conditions the further south we travelled.

Somewhere off the mid-coast the co-pilot came aft to serve refreshments and, setting out six cups on the floor, had just filled them with tea when the plane dropped like a brick. He and the food hit the ceiling leaving it dripping with tea and festooned with sopping fragments of tomato sandwich. It was a wonder that the sudden jolt at the bottom of the downdraft did not send the concentrated weight of the gold through the floor. Tea-less, the flight pushed on under cloud so low that the wingtips almost combed the hair of a solitary watcher on the gallery of Nobby's Lighthouse at Newcastle.

Turbulence and bumps became so bad along the beaches and bluffs in the Hawkesbury area that the final 80 km were flown some distance off the coastline and almost at sea level followed by an entry through Sydney Heads at dusk and a roof-top skip over the Eastern Suburbs to a landing at Mascot and a meeting with more armed troops, police, Treasury officials and an ambulance.

To present-day air tra-

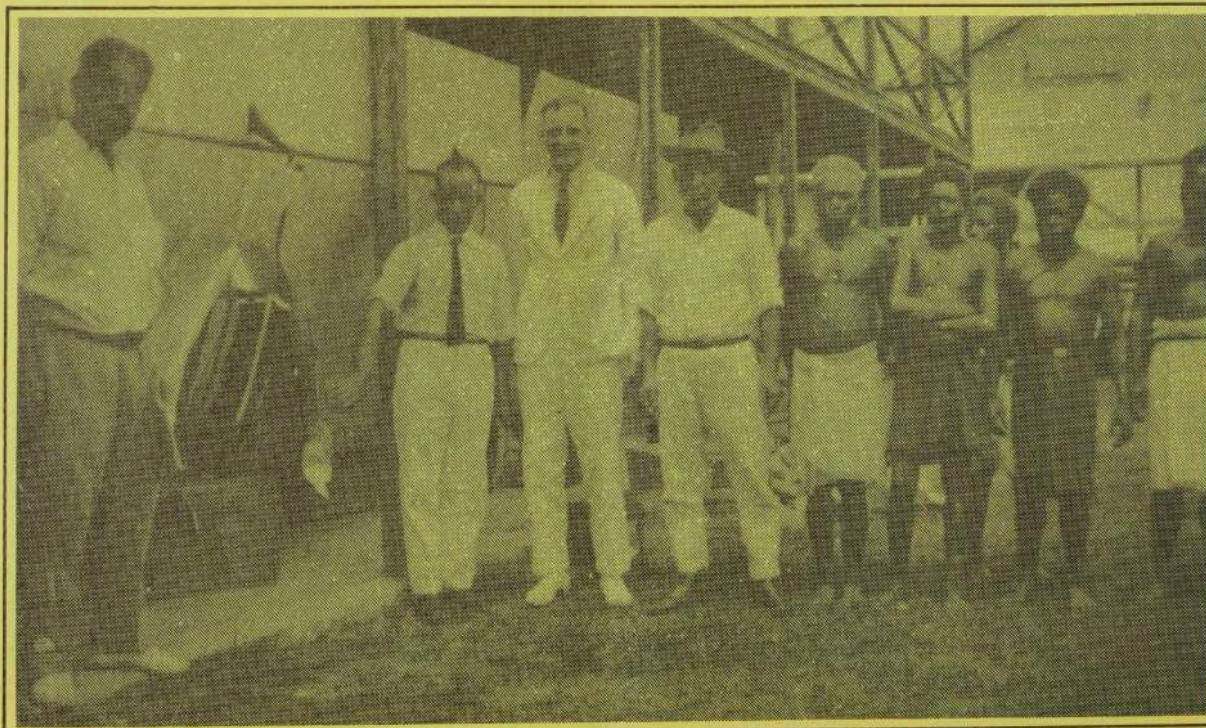
vellers, who streak in air-pressurised cabin comfort between Papua New Guinea and Australia, six miles above the weather, the foregoing may seem to be the height of trauma and discomfort.

To us of those pioneer flying days, it was a fact of life. We were more impressed with the vast difference between panic-stricken security measures in Australia and the casual manner prevailing in New Guinea.

WINGS OF GOLD

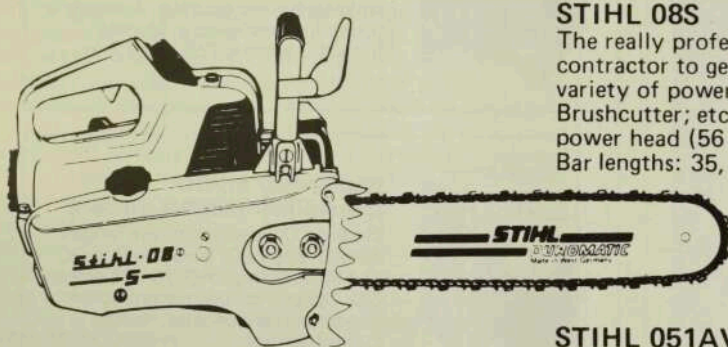
The full history of the aeroplane in the island of New Guinea, "Wings of Gold", by James Sinclair, will be published shortly by Pacific Publications in Sydney.

This is the complete history of the development of aviation in the island of New Guinea, particularly in the development of the Morobe gold fields.



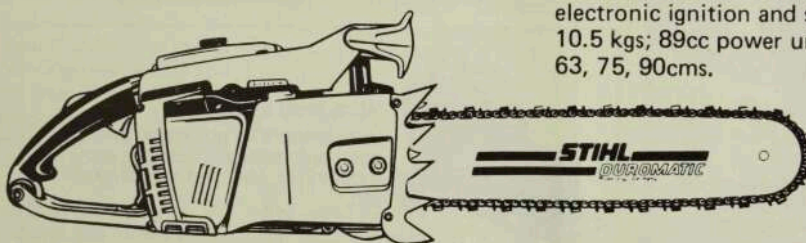
This historic picture, taken 51 years ago, records a goldfields incident — the crash of a DH4 which robbed its owners, the famous flying pair Ray Parer (second left) and Lexius Burlington (third left) of the distinction of being the first airmen to operate on the Edie Creek goldfield.

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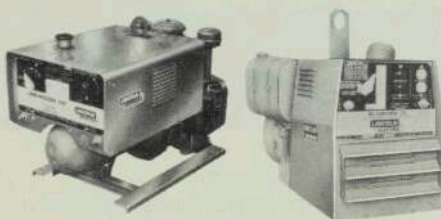
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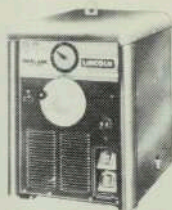
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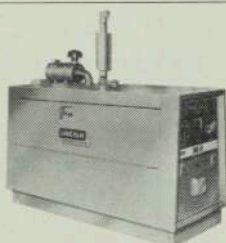
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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY — AUGUST, 1971



DEATHS of Islands People

High Chief Soliai

High Chief Pinemua Muliufi Soliai, of Nu'uuli, American Samoa, has died, aged 93. He joined the Fita Fita Guard in 1906 and retired in 1926 when he became a *matai*. He is survived by five of his eight children, 50 grand-children, 46 great grand-children, and one great-great-grandchild. One of his surviving sons is Suaavamuli Po'u Pine Soliai, a member of the Fono.

K. Weqas

Keith Weqas, an assistant superintendent in the British division of the New Hebrides Constabulary, has died, aged 59. He became a policeman in 1958 and reached commissioned rank 10 years later. In 1977 he received the Colonial Police Long Service Medal. He attended a number of overseas courses for police. ASP Weqas is survived by his wife and four children.

Mrs H. S. Aidney

Mrs Helen Smith Aidney, mother of Fiji businessmen Ron and Basil Aidney, has died, aged 87. She went to Fiji from New Zealand in 1912 and married the late Mr Cyril William Aidney. In her younger days she played hockey, golf and tennis.

Mr J. Loughry

The death has occurred in Port Moresby of Mr John Loughry, Auditor-General of Papua New Guinea. Mr Loughry, 58, was an Australian who earlier had represented the Australian Auditor-General in PNG. When PNG became self-governing it appointed him as its first Auditor-General.

Dr G. Mukherji

Dr Girin Mukherji, a surgeon at Nadi, Fiji, has died at Melbourne. He was in his 70s. Dr Mukherji was born in Calcutta and went to Fiji to prac-

tise medicine after graduating from a German university. Outside his profession he was a member of the Ramakrishna Mission and Rotary and was an amateur photographer. He leaves a widow and a daughter.

Mary Young

Mary Young, of the American Samoa Office of Information, has died. She was in her 30s. She was 18 years in the Fono as administrative assistant in the Legislative Reference Bureau.

Mr R. Farquhar

Mr Robert (Bob) Farquhar, the man who finally convinced the Governor of Fiji that the Southern Cross had left Honolulu for Fiji on the first trans-Pacific and that it would be necessary to quickly cut down a row of trees in Albert Park, Suva, so the aircraft could land there, has died, aged 97. He was born in the UK and went to Fiji as a radio operator before World War I.

After the war he returned to Fiji to continue his radio career, and served in several centres. Soon after World War II broke out he went to Nauru and Ocean islands to advise on radio communications. On his retirement from the radio service he worked for the Carpenter organisation in Fiji for some years.

In 1928 he was the radio operator who guided Charles Kingsford Smith, captain of the Southern Cross, to a landing on Albert Park.

Mr E. Thomsen

Mr Edward Thomsen, a public accountant and tax consultant in American Samoa, has died, aged 61. For 20 years he was assistant manager for the Western Samoa Trust Estates Corporation. He left Western Samoa in 1958 to take a position with B. F. Kneubuhl in American Samoa and in 1963 set up his own practice. He leaves a widow, three sons and two daughters.

Dr Ram Lakhan

Dr Ram Lakhan, a Suva dental surgeon and a prominent figure in sporting and civic affairs in Suva, has died, aged 63. He was the first Fiji-born Indian to go into private practice as a dentist.

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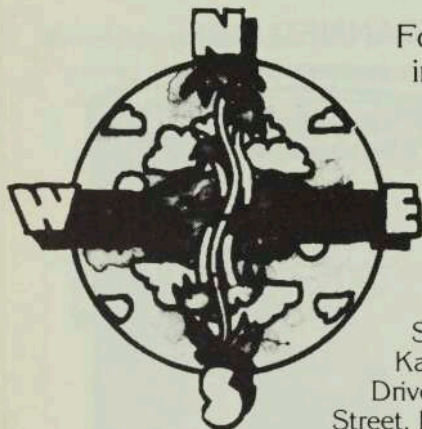
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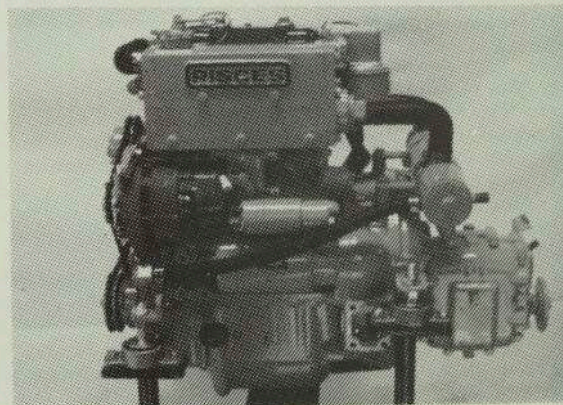


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CRUISING YACHTS

● **STUVWXYZ**, 11.6 m sloop, arrived at Rarotonga on May 18 from Whangarei, NZ, with Jacques Raybaud, his wife, Michelle, and friend Francois Roujet. They encountered two gales, sprung a leak and put in to Rarotonga for repairs. They were bound for Tahiti where Jacques had lived for four years and where his artist wife held two art exhibitions in 1976 and 1977.

● **LEEDEZAN**, 18.3 m Herreshoff ketch, arrived at Rarotonga from Auckland on May 1 with Captain Richard Browne and eight crew, bound for Tahiti. They hope to race in the "clipper" series in Honolulu before proceeding to Los Angeles.

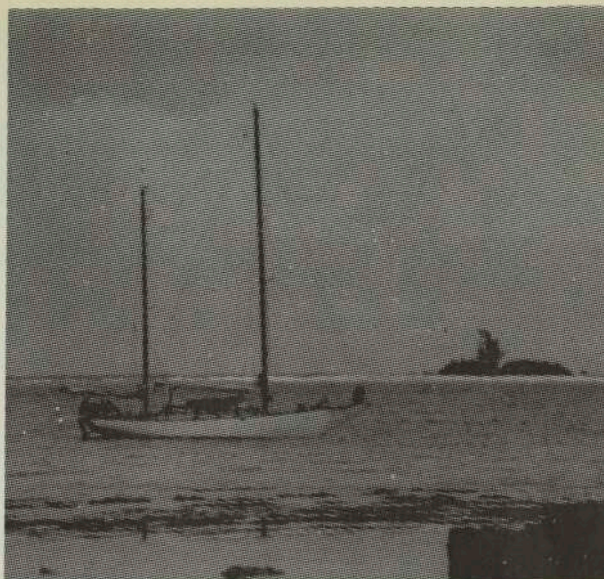
● **MERRY MAIDEN**, 15.85 m ketch registered at Boston, Mass., and powered by a 110 hp diesel, arrived at Rarotonga on May 22 from the French Polynesian islands. On board were Captain Seaton Gras, Dick King and Larry Smith, all US citizens. The yacht, owned by Mr Gras' father, made a six-year circumnavigation with the Gras family some years ago and Seaton Gras is now trying to do another one with Larry Smith and another crew member who will join the **Merry Maiden** at Rarotonga after flying from the US. Dick King will leave the ketch in NZ to continue his education. The current leisurely voyage started from Boston in October, 1976. Several months were spent in the Caribbean Islands and Pacific ports of call included the Galapagos, Easter and Pitcairn, the Marquesas and the Societies. Next ports of call are to be in Samoa or Tonga, Fiji and New Zealand.

● **OCARINA** was in Suva in April with Mrs Roderica Laymon on board and planned to head for New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Solomons, Thursday Island and Darwin. Will Mrs Laymon write to PIM,

please! Your letter was delayed in transit and arrived too late for a reply to your Suva berth.

● **RIMUIMATA**, 9.86 m British sloop, arrived at Rarotonga from Papeete on May 26 with skipper Richard Turpin and one crew. The yacht left for Nukualofa on June 3.

● **SUZY-Q**, a 12 m Alden ketch built in 1938 at Portland, Oregon, arrived at Tubuai in the Australs at the end of May from New Zealand after a difficult 24-day passage against headwinds. On board were skipper Ian Keith, of US, and crew Claire Jones, of UK, and Mike Smith, of NZ. The voyage is a delivery job to San Francisco. Mike planned to get off at Tahiti. Ian and Claire were to continue to Hilo in Hawaii and then on to California. They left for Tahiti early in June. It is their second yacht delivery voyage from New Zealand to San Francisco. They called at Tubuai in November, 1975 with **TA'AROA**. Their own yacht, **NUNKI**, remains in New Zealand. **Nunki** was at Tubuai for three months in 1974 on a voyage from



Suzy-Q at Tubuai.

California to New Zealand. It is planned to call at Tubuai with **Nunki** next year.

● **SEA HELEN**, 9.1 m Canadian steel auxiliary schooner was the first cruising yacht to visit Niue Island in the current season. On board were owners Klaus and Jose. Sea Helen sailed from

Squamish, British Columbia in 1977, and arrived at Niue via San Francisco, the Marquesas, Tahiti, Moorea, Huahine, Bora Bora and Rarotonga.

● **MIUNA**, 10.98 m Australian sloop, arrived at Rarotonga from Papeete, bound for Niue, with Captain Horst Kanngieser and one crew member, on May 28.

Bigger fields in yacht races

Domino, of the Royal NZ Yacht Club, and Ragamuffin, (S. Fisher) of Australia, were the winners of May-June ocean yacht races. On handicap, Domino, from the Royal NZ Yacht Club, won the Tauranga-Vila race, and the Australian yacht, Ragamuffin, 14.32 m, won the Sydney-Suva race. Each event was held for the second time, and attracted bigger fields than in the first races in 1976. The interest shown, and the success of the latest races, augur well for the next race, scheduled for 1980.

Line honours were taken by Tequila, from the Lake Taupo Yacht Club, in the Tauranga-Vila race and Anaconda, a huge 25.3 m yacht in the Sydney-Suva race.

Other placings were:-

Tauranga-Vila — International offshore rules division: Bobby Shafto, Royal Suva Yacht Club 2, Impact, Panmure (NZ) Yacht Club 3. Division A: Domino 1, Impact 2, Snow White (Panmure Yacht Club) 3. Division B: Bobby Shafto 1, Quasar, Onerahi Yacht Club, Whangarei 2, Auriga, Royal Akarana Yacht Club 3.

Sydney-Suva — International offshore rules division: Vittoria 2, Jasuma 3; Cruising division: Ile Ola 1, Embrace 2, Amazing Grace 3.

Several of the yachts in the Tauranga-Vila race encountered strong winds. There were also radio failures and other minor troubles.

Anaconda, skippered by Josko Grubic, in taking line honours, covered the distance between Sydney and Suva in eight days, nine hours, 46 minutes and seven seconds. She took 13 hours nine minutes from the inaugural race record set by Boomerang in 1976.

CAN ANYONE HELP?

Mr William Ewing, father of Mercy Ewing, 20, is still keen to get information about **I Love You II**, 16.8 m ketch-rigged catamaran, which sailed from Vavau for Auckland on November 18, 1977. He would like to know if a reported sighting by the Australian ore carrier, **Jeparit**, at 9 am on December 22, 1977, was a "good sighting". The **Jeparit** reported she believed she sighted **I Love You II** about 150 nautical miles north-west of New Zealand, and headed west.

Mr Ewing considers the only way he can ascertain if this was a good sighting is to find out whether any boats which arrived in Australia during the two weeks after December 22 were about 150 miles north-west of New Zealand that morning.

He may be reached at The Ewing Trusts, 140 Broadway, New York, NY, USA, 10005.



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Governments dither and American Samoa's tourist trade suffers

American Samoa is caught in the crossfire over Australia's procrastination over cheap air fares and the US determination to de-regulate air transport, not only within the USA but on all routes serviced by US airlines. American Samoa is eagerly waiting for Continental Airlines to begin a service to its Tafuna airport.

Continental has rights to fly into Tafuna, but won't go there till rights are granted in Australia. And Australia's Transport Minister, Mr Peter Nixon, a farmer, is dithering as usual, unable to make up his mind about cheap fares, and calling for a report about the effect Continental will have when it flies to the South Pacific, as it surely will, having been named the second US carrier to that part of the world by President Carter.

Mr Nixon, naturally, wants to protect Qantas, which will suffer to some extent from competition with two US airlines, which will increase seat capacity, without necessarily generating much more traffic. He has a point, but the US — which, in June, agreed to buy huge quantities of Australian beef — in these days of resources diplomacy is likely to seek a quid pro quo, which could well relate to air traffic.

Mr Peter Tali Coleman, the governor of American Samoa, unhappy at air services into his territory, has filed with the US Civil Aeronautics Board (CAB) a reply to an application of Continental Airlines to delay inauguration of its service into American Samoa and the South Pacific.

Mr Coleman does not oppose outright an extension, but argues that the CAB should not grant an extension unless it provides a better interim service for American Samoa. He has asked the CAB to combine consideration of an earlier pending action against Pan American World Airways for improved service with the



American Samoan Governor Peter Tali Coleman...unhappy with the air services.

newer Continental application for delay.

He is sympathetic with the problems Continental faces in starting its South Pacific service, and does not formally oppose the application for delay. Neither does he support that application "because of the accelerating economic damage that is being visited upon this isolated piece of American soil by forces totally outside the control of the people of American Samoa."

Visitor traffic has declined by 68%, comparing April, 1977, and April, 1978, which could mean a net loss of about \$US400 000 to the American Samoa tourist industry. Should such trends continue the economic loss to the American Samoan economy could be at least \$1 million a year.

Mr Coleman noted the irony that, in spite of the clear and unequivocal recognition of American Samoa's air needs by the CAB in earlier proceedings, ever since the decision to give South Pacific routes to Continental, the quantity and quality of American Samoa's air service has consistently declined.

American Samoa is not likely to receive a Continental service this year. The viability of Continental's South Pacific venture depends on when it is granted rights in Australia, and even if they were granted right away Continental could not mount a service for several months.

PAA has applied to the Civil Aeronautics Board for fares 25% to 50% below those now offered between New York and Los Angeles on its Aus-



tralia service. PAA wants to carry passengers between the two cities on its weekly New York-South Pacific flight. At present only international passengers are allowed on the US section of the flight to Auckland, Sydney and Melbourne. If the application is granted a reserved "coach fare" between New York and Los Angeles will cost \$US165 compared with \$US220.

Another comment about airlines came from a conference in Tahiti.

Islands between the United States and Australia and New Zealand could be starved of visitors because of budget fares and overflying policies of the trunk carriers, the Western Samoa Minister for Civil Aviation, Mr Asi Eikeni, said at a Pacific Islands Tourism Development Council tourism conference in Tahiti.

"If we break even, we'll be laughing": PFL's modest aim

"We're not out to make profits — if we break even we'll be laughing" — such is the modest aim in life of the Pacific Forum Line, according to Mr Francis Hong Tiy, its commercial manager.

Interviewed by PIM during a recent visit to Sydney, Mr Hong Tiy reviewed the background to the first PFL voyage which began on May 6, when the Tauloto II, of 4 800 dead-weight tonnes, sailed from Melbourne with her Tongan crew and Norwegian master, inaugurating the operational life of the long discussed line.

She was to call at Suva, Lautoka, Pago Pago, Apia and Nukualofa. Another ship, the

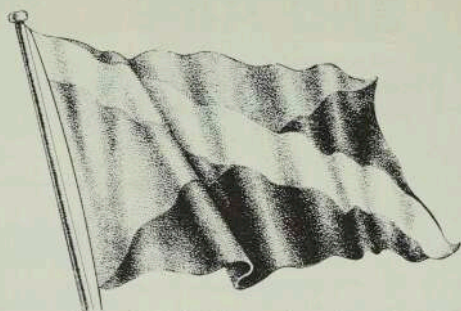
Toa Moana, would shortly begin serving the same ports, but sailing out of New Zealand. The two ships would provide the PFL's South Pacific service.

A Central Pacific service was also planned out of New Zealand, sailing to Fiji, the Gilbert Islands, the Solomons and Papua New Guinea.

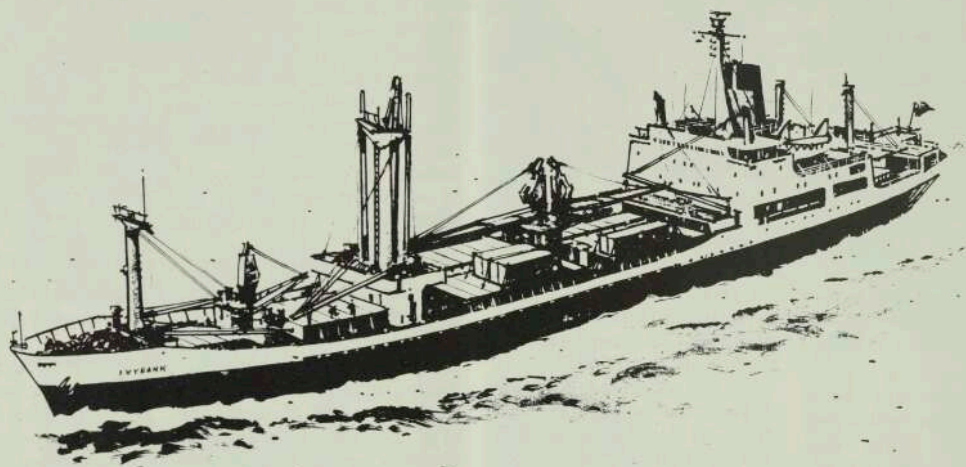
These three services constituted "phase one" of the line's operations, according to Mr

Hong Tiy.

"Phase two", due to begin in 1979, would see the introduction of containerised cargoes. The new ro-ro and lo-lo ships would be provided by the governments of Western Samoa and Tonga. They would be built with aid funds from Western Germany, administered through Hamburg's Columbus Line. The containerised service, to be known as the "Boomerang" service,



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TRANSPORT

would call at Australian and New Zealand ports, and Tonga, the Samoas and Fiji.

Mr Hong Tiy was enthusiastic about the prospects of the PFL. He said: "There are eight members at present. The four who provide ships — Nauru, Tonga, Western Samoa and New Zealand — are known as shipping members'. The other four, who don't — are Papua New Guinea, the Gilberts, Fiji and the Cook Islands." The government of the Solomon Islands has made formal application to join as a non-shipping member after independence in July.

He said: "One of our great strengths is that all members pay financial contributions of the same amount. So bigger countries have no more say than smaller ones. This across-the-board equality in our operation should, we hope, prevent the growth of disillusionment on the part of smaller countries.

"Another strong point working for us is the centralised character of our operation. Un-



Forum Line commercial manager Mr Hong Tiy acting as host at a party in Sydney to "launch" the Forum Line.

like the regional airlines, which all have separate operational and control centres, our entire operation, using ships owned by Island governments, is centred in Apia.

"This gives the PFL a much more authentically regional character than other regional transport enterprises, it seems to us."

Mr Hong Tiy saw the main reason for the years-long delay in getting the PFL operational as the early lack of an in-depth study of the organisational and financial aspects of operating a regional line. Early plans to base the operation on existing Tongan and Nauruan merchant shipping services founded on this rock — adequate

feasibility studies, details of cash flows, etc. were simply not available to the interested governments.

The last of many experts on regional shipping to tackle the problems was Mr Bob de Vlaming, a retired director of Nedlloyds who was made available to the South Pacific Forum by the Netherlands Government and the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific.

Subsequently, Mr Hong Tiy, formerly an assistant research officer with the South Pacific Bureau of Economic Co-operation, headed a team, which included two Papua New Guineans, one Fijian, and one Australian, in a feasibility study on the line.

Once the study was completed, and the principles were agreed upon the way was clear for the historic first voyage of the Tauloto II.

Mr Hong Tiy, 40, was born in Fiji. Educated at Suva's Marist Brothers' High School, he later majored in geography at Auckland University.

BRIEFLY

● Sail power is unsuitable for Ovalu, according to a Sydney naval architect, Mr Warwick Hood. Mr Hood made a study of the possibility of sail power when looking at alternatives to diesel-powered shipping. Weather information from the South Pacific Air Transport Council's station at Funafuti showed there was not enough wind for sailing boats. There is too much calm weather and winds blowing in the wrong direction to make the sailing ship idea technically possible on the inter-island route required.

● The Fiji Medical Department ship, Vuniwai, sank mysteriously at the Marine Department wharf at Walu, Suva, in April, and nobody ever found out why. But what is known is that the cost of replacing equipment and engine fittings will be between \$100 000 and \$150 000. When

she will get back into service depends on the availability of the money required. She is being repaired and restored by the Fiji Marine Department. It took the Marine Department two days to refloat the Vuniwai. The police are investigating the possibility of sabotage.

● Passing almost unnoticed amid the excitement over independence for the Solomon Islands was the opening of a new air service by Solair between Honiara and Santo in the New Hebrides. The service, apart from the convenience for local people wishing to travel between the two countries, will give the tourist industry in the area a boost. It will also be of benefit to company representatives.

● Air Pacific is looking at the Australian-designed Nomad, the Canadian Twin Otter and the Northern Ireland Skyvan, as possible alternatives for its three Trislanders. According to Mr Alan Bodger, general manager of the airline, the Trislanders are too small and have too short a range for the

future needs and development of Air Pacific's routes. As well as carrying more passengers, the three aircraft under evaluation had a longer range and could service airfields as far away as Funafuti, which were out of range for the Trislander and too small for the turbo prop HS748s.

● Pacific Line Ltd, which has been operating a New Zealand-Fiji service for three years, is about to replace the Tui Cakau with a roll-on roll-off ship. The switch is being made because of the high cost in operating a conventional ship such as the Tui Cakau. Pacific Line Ltd chartered the Tui Cakau from Sofrana Express Line. Pacific Line Ltd is owned by Sofrana, Carpenters and a trade union which is now deregistered. The union covered seamen and waterside workers.

● South Pacific Island Airways, which operates internal services in Tonga, in addition to services between America and Samoa, plans to add another Otter aircraft to its fleet in October. The aircraft,

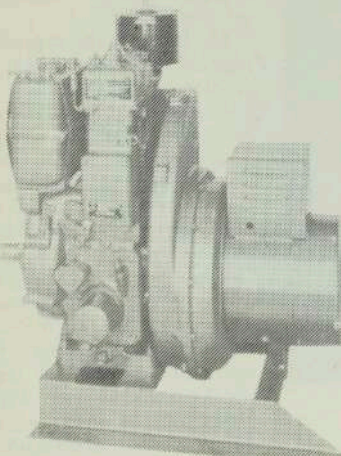
which the president, manager and owner of SPIA, Mr George Wray, estimated would cost \$US920 000, will carry 20 passengers. It will have a completely furnished rest room, and a specially designed cargo pod.

● The Fiji Government will spend more than \$300 000 to buy two landing craft. They will be used in the inter-island trade. The purchase is necessary because in 1977 the Tabilai foundered and the Duiyabaki grounded. The loss of those two vessels was offset to some extent late in 1977 when the Yaubula was commissioned. The government decided to buy replacements as it would take much longer to build new craft.

● Mr C. A. Shaw, recently a tutor in aircraft engineering at the New Zealand Technical Correspondence Institute, has gone to Western Samoa to set up a civil aviation training centre in Apia. He will train Polynesian Airlines maintenance staff from new entrants to experienced engineers.

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY AUGUST 1978

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Details from P & O Booking
Centre, World Travel Head-
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Details from Sitmar Cruises, 47
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Details from Wilh. Wilhelmsen
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AUSTRALIA - FIJI - SAMOAS - TONGA - NORFOLK ISLAND

Pacific Navigation of Tonga op-
erates a five-weekly refrigerated
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Details from Beaufort Shipping
Agency Co, 2 Castlereagh Street,
Sydney (221-2388).

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA (AND/OR) NEW HEBRIDES

Daiwa Line operates a container
service from Sydney to the New
Hebrides.

Details: Union Bulkships Pty Ltd,
333-339 George Street, Sydney
(2-0238).

Karlander operates a monthly
service from Sydney to Noumea.

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

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

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

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Caledoniens operates a three-
weekly containerised cargo ser-
vice from Sydney to Noumea.

Details Hetherington Kingsbury
Pty Ltd, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney
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Compagnie Generale Maritime
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Santo, using Ro-Ro vessels.

Details Compagnie Generale
Maritime Head Office 4-6 Bligh
Street, Sydney (221-2522), Freight
Dept, 261 George Street, Sydney
(241-2872).

AUSTRALIA - FIJI

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

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

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

Details from Sofrana-Unilines,
37 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2031).
Trans-Austral Shipping Pty Ltd,
570 Bourke Street, Melbourne
(67-9162), ACTA Pty Ltd, Bris-
bane (221-3116), Elder-ANL Pty
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Clements & Marshall, Burnie, Tas-
mania (31-1833).

AUSTRALIA - W SAMOA

Compagnie Generale Maritime
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vessels.

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Maritime Head Office 4-6 Bligh
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bourne and Sydney to Lautoka,
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Details from ANL Melbourne
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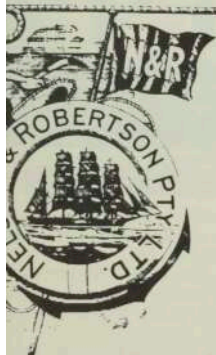
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AUSTRALIA - NORTHERN MARIANAS - MICRONESIA

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

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

AUSTRALIA - TONGA - SAMOAS - TAHITI

Karlander operates a monthly cargo service from Melbourne and Sydney to Nukualofa, Apia, Pago Pago, Papeete, US west coast.

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

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI

Daiwa Line offers a six-weekly service from Australia to Papeete.

Details: Union Bulkships Pty Ltd, 33-339 George Street, Sydney (2-0238).

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney to Papeete using Ro-Ro vessels.

Details Compagnie Generale Maritime Head Office 4-6 Bligh Street, Sydney (221-2522) Freight Dept 261 George Street, Sydney (241-2872).

AUSTRALIA - PNG

Containers Pacific Express (Burns Philp and AWP Line) and GAL/PNGL Operate chief Container Service from Australia to PNG-Solomon Islands ports on a slot sharing basis. Three container vessels operate on 28-day turn-around from Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul, Kavieng, Wewak, Madang, Kieta and Honiara.

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

Farrell Lines operates a service every month from Tasmania, Melbourne, Sydney and Brisbane to Lae and Rabaul.

Details from Wilh. Wilhelmsen Agency Pty Ltd, 13 Bridge Street, Sydney (2-0517), 60 Market Street Melbourne (61-3031), J. C. Waller (Rabaul) Pty Ltd, Rabaul, Robert Laurie-Carpenter (NG) Pty Ltd, Lae.

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

Details from New Guinea Express Lines, PO Box R73, Royal Exchange PO, Sydney (241-3991) MacArthur Shipping Agency Co., 92 Eagle Street, Brisbane (29-3777), New Guinea Express Lines, 327 Collins Street, Melbourne (61-3053), Niugini Express Lines in Port Moresby (214436), (42-1536), Rabtrad Niugini Pty Ltd, Rabaul (92-2911).

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

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

Bourke Street Melbourne (60-0731).

AUSTRALIA - SOLOMONS - GILBERT IS - MICRONESIA

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

Details from Union-Bulkships Pty Ltd, 333-339 George Street, Sydney (2-0238, telex AA20397).

AUSTRALIA - NAURU - MAJURO

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

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

US - PNG

Farrell Lines operates regular services from all US west coast ports to Lae and Rabaul.

Details from Wilh. Wilhelmsen Agency Pty Ltd, 13 Bridge Street, Sydney (2-0517), Farrell Lines, 1 Market Plaza, San Francisco, L.A. (9-4105), J. C. Waller (Rabaul) Pty Ltd, Rabaul, Burns Philp (NG) Ltd, Kieta, Robert Laurie-Carpenter (PNG) Pty Ltd, Lae.

PNG - US - CANADA

Farrell Lines operates regular services from Lae and Rabaul to US west coast ports and Vancouver.

Details from J. G. Waller (Rabaul) Pty Ltd, Rabaul, Robert Laurie-Carpenter (PNG) Pty Ltd, Lae, Farrell Lines, 1 Market Plaza, San Francisco, L.A. (9-4105), Wilh. Wilhelmsen Agency Pty Ltd, 13 Bridge Street, Sydney (2-0517).

PNG - UK/CONTINENT

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

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

PNG - US

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

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

SOLOMONS - FIJI - TONGA - W. SAMOA - UK/CONTINENT

Bank Line operates regular cargo service from Honiara, Suva, Nukualofa and Apia to Liverpool, Hamburg, Rotterdam and Antwerp.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Fiji, Tonga, W Samoa; Trading Co Honiara.

FAR EAST - FIJI - NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Unit Express (CNC, MNOL, RIL) operates a three-weekly cargo service from Hong Kong to Lautoka, Suva, NZ ports, Manila, Kaoshiung, Keelung, Hong Kong.

Details from Nedlloyd, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

Nedlloyd operates monthly cargo service with three ships from Surabaya, Jakarta, Bangkok, Port Kelang and Singapore to Suva and NZ ports.

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

JAPAN - NZ - PNG

China Navigation Co, with three ships operates a monthly cargo service from Japan to New Zealand calling at Lae on return journey.

Details Nedlloyd, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

FAR EAST - MID-S. PACIFIC

China Navigation Co's vessels operate a regular cargo service from Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore to Rabaul, Wewak, Madang, Lae, Port Moresby, Honiara, New Hebrides, Noumea, Papeete and Samoa.

Details from Nedlloyd, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd, operates monthly services from Hong Kong, Taiwan, S. Korea and Japan, to Guam, Saipan, Solomons, New Caledonia, Fiji, Western and American Samoa, Tahiti, Cook Is., Tonga and New Hebrides and 45-day container/break bulk cargo service from Kobe, Nagoya and Yokohama to Guam, Suva, Lautoka and Noumea.

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

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

Details: Union Bulkships Pty Ltd, 333-339 George Street, Sydney (2-0238).

NORTH EUROPE - TAHITI - NEW CALEDONIA

Hamburg-Sued operates monthly cargo services from Hamburg, Dunkirk and Le Havre to Papeete, Noumea, via Panama.

Details from Columbus Overseas Services Pty Ltd, 333 George Street, Sydney (290-2966), Columbus Maritime Services, 17 Albert Street, Auckland (75-509).

EUROPE - PACIFIC ISLANDS

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

Details Compagnie Generale Maritime, 4-6 Bligh Street, Sydney (221-2522).

EUROPE-TAHITI-W. SAMOA-FIJI-N. CALEDONIA

Nedlloyd offers regular cargo services from Northern Europe and UK to Papeete, Apia, Fiji and New Caledonia.

Details Nedlloyd (Aust) Pty Ltd, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (27-3801).

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

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

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

NZ - FIJI - TONGA - SAMOAS

Union Steam Ship Co of NZ operates a roll-on, roll-off, unutilised service from Auckland to Lautoka-Suva-Pago Pago-Apia-Nuku'alofa on a 14 day frequency.

Details from Union Steam Ship Co of NZ Ltd, PO Box 12, Auckland or from Branch offices/agents in Fiji, Tonga and the Samoas.

NZ - N. CALEDONIA - N. HEBRIDES - PNG - SOLOMONS

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

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

NZ - AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA - SOLOMONS - GILBERTS - MICRONESIA

Union Co/Daiwa Line operate a container service from New Zealand through Sydney to Noumea, Honiara, Tarawa and Guam, Transshipment to Saipan, Majuro and Gizo.

Details: Union Steam Ship Co of NZ Ltd, PO Box 12, Auckland, or Union Bulkships Pty Ltd, 333-339 George Street, Sydney, (2-0238).

NZ - PNG

Farrell Lines operates regular service every 30 days from Auckland to Lae and Rabaul.

Details from Dalgety NZ Ltd, 41-45 Albert Street, Auckland (7-1859) J. C. Waller (Rabaul) Pty Ltd, Rabaul, Robert Laurie (NG) Pty Ltd, Lae.

NZ - FIJI - NORTH AMERICA (WC)

Blue Star Line Crusader service to West Coast North America. Only direct service to and from New Zealand. Blue Star vessels call at Suva and Honolulu on NZ-US-West Coast voyages.

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

NZ - FIJI

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

Details from Reef Shipping Agencies Ltd, PO Box 3382, Auckland, NZ (7-1221-3).

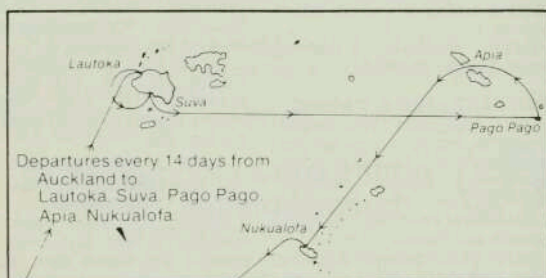
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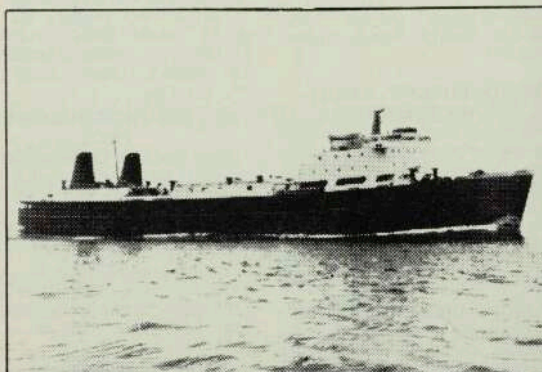
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Flexibility in cargo modules catered by this new service can provide for shipping operators and exporters the advantage of reaching international markets using onforwarding services through Union Company contacts and expertise.

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(Internal) Length 15'6" (4.77M) Width 6' (1.830M)

W. Containers

These containers are totally enclosed suitable for the movement of smaller consignments or valuable ones.
(Internal) Length 5'7" (1.75M) Width 4' (1.22M) Height 5'6" (1.70M)

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This covers cargo that is unable to be containerised or is not covered by the term 'mobile equipment'. These unit loadings must be of a secure nature to facilitate handling by a forklift with 5" gluts (loading forks).

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The following containers will be available
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Details: Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland 773-279) PO Box 3614, Telex: NZ2313.

NZ - FIJI - GILBERTS - SOLOMONS - PNG

Pacific Forum Line operates a container, unitised/palletised and refer cargo service from Lyttelton and Auckland to Lautoka, Suva, Tarawa, Honiara, Madang, Lae and Moresby. Other ports are included on inducement.

Details from Shipping Corporation of NZ Ltd, Auckland, Christchurch, Lyttelton, Wellington. Burns Philp (SS) Company Ltd, GPO Box 355, Suva, Fiji (11-777) or Pacific Forum Line, PO Box 655, Apia, W. Samoa.

NZ - FIJI - SAMOAS - TONGA - AUSTRALIA

Pacific Forum Line operates a container, unitised/palletised and refer cargo service from Timaru and Auckland to Lautoka, Suva, Pago Pago, Apia, Nukualofa and Melbourne. Other ports are included on inducement.

Details from Shipping Corporation of NZ Ltd, Auckland, Christchurch, Lyttelton, Wellington. Burns Philp (SS) Company Ltd, GPO Box 355, Suva, Fiji (11-777) or Pacific Forum Line, PO Box 655, Apia, W. Samoa.

NZ - SAMOA - TONGA

Pacific Navigation of Tonga operates a four-weekly cargo service, Auckland - Nukualofa - Pago Pago - Apia - Nukualofa - Auckland.

Details from McKay Shipping Ltd, Downtown House, Queen Street, Auckland (33-656).

Warner Pacific Line services Nukualofa - Vavau nightly, and Timaru - Nukualofa - Vavau monthly and Onehunga - Apia and Pago Pago every 21 days carrying general and freezer cargoes and Timaru - Apia every 21 days carrying freezer cargo.

Details from Air Marine Services (NZ) Ltd, PO Box 2505, Auckland (96-841).

NZ - COOK IS - NIUE - TAHITI

Shipping Corporation of NZ Ltd operates cargo services based on vessels and similar units from Auckland to Niue, Cook Islands and Tahiti.

Details from the Shipping Corp of NZ Ltd, PO Box 3420, Auckland (7-210); Waterfront Commission, PO Box 61, Rarotonga, Heritage and Stevedoring Co, P.O. Box 1, Niue Govt Offices, Niue and Compagnie Maritime Ilesienne, B.P. 368, Papeete.

UK/N. CONTINENT - TAHITI - CALEDONIA - N. HEBRIDES

Bank Line operates regular cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp and Rotterdam to Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta and Honiara and on inducement to Yandina, Tarawa and Nauru.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041); Ets A M Fare UTE, Papeete; Ets Ballande, Noumea, Burns Philp (NH) Ltd, Vila.

UK/N. CONTINENT - PNG - SOLOMONS

Bank Line operates regular cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp and Rotterdam to Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta and Honiara and on inducement to Yandina, Tarawa and Nauru.

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

SAN FRANCISCO - HONOLULU - NAURU - MICRONESIA

Nauru Pacific Line operates regular conventional/container service from San Francisco and Honolulu to Majuro, Nauru, Ponape, Truk and Saipan.

Details from Nauru Pacific Line, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709); North American Maritime Agencies, 100 California Street, San Francisco, California 9411 (981-0343).

US - FIJI - TAHITI - NZ - AUSTRALIA

Bank and Savill Line Ltd, operates regular cargo services from US Gulf ports to Australia and NZ. Calls at Suva, Lautoka and Papeete on demand.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041) or Howard Smith Industries Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-5611).

US - A. SAMOA - NZ - AUST

Farrell Lines LASH ships operate regularly from US to Australia, via Pago Pago and Auckland and Canada.

Details from Wilh, Wilhelmsen Agency Pty Ltd, 13 Bridge St., Sydney (2-0517); 60 Market Street, Melbourne (61-0301); Farrell Lines, 1 Market Plaza, San Francisco, L.A. (415-777-3300); Dalgely NZ Ltd, Auckland (7-1859); Kneubuhl Maritime Services, Pago Pago (633-5121).

US - TAHITI - SAMOA

Pacific Islands Transport operates a five/six weekly cargo service from North America west coast ports to Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia.

Details from Trans-Austral Shipping Pty Ltd, 19 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2441).

Polynesia Line operates container and general cargo service from US west coast ports to Papeete and Pago Pago.

Details from Polynesia Shipping Services Inc., PO Box 1478, Pago Pago (9-6799).

● South Pacific Island Airways has added a Vavau-Nukualofa shuttle service to its schedules. The shuttle is sandwiched into regular Pago Pago-Vavau-Nukualofa return services to make four Vavau-Nukualofa return flights a week. The airline also operates Pago Pago-Apia and Pago Pago-Niue services, and a domestic service in American Samoa.

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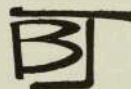
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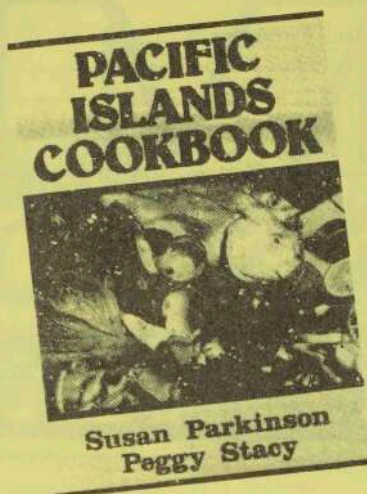
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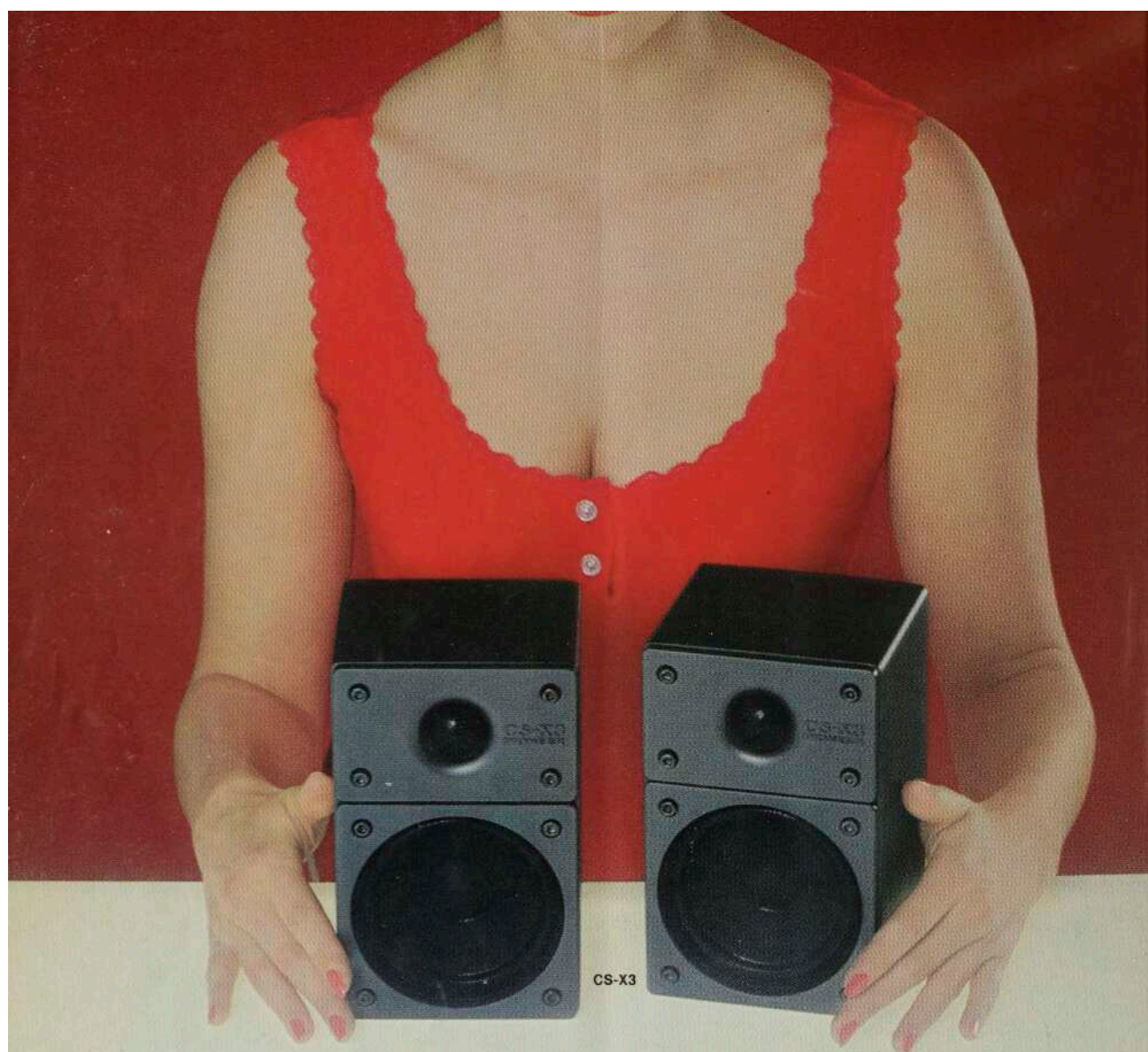
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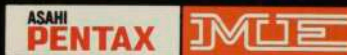
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