

Vol. 50, No. 11 (Nov. 1, 1979)

Date : 7/17/26, 8:16 AM

<https://nla.gov.au:443/tarkine/nla.obj-337845816>

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PIM11

PIM

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY
Vol 50 No 11 November 1979 (USPS 952480)

Founded 1930 by R. W. Robson

Editor and Publisher: Stuart Inder
Associate Editor: Malcolm Salmon
Editorial Adviser: John Carter
Manager: John Berry
Advertising Sales Manager: Steve Gray

A Pacific Publications production
76 Clarence Street, Sydney 2000
GPO Box 3408 Sydney 2001
Cables: PACPUB Sydney
Telex: Pacpub 21242
Telephone: Sydney 29 6693

SUBSCRIPTIONS

PIM is airfreighted to most subscribers and agents in the Pacific Islands and the United States.

	Aust	Other
American Samoa	\$13	\$US16
Australia	\$12	
Canada	\$14	\$US18
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Fiji	\$12	\$F12
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Elsewhere: \$A16

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REPRESENTATIVES

AUSTRALIA: Distribution: NSW & ACT: Allan Rodney (Circulation) Pty Ltd, PO Box 907, Darlinghurst, NSW 2010. Elsewhere: Gordon & Gotch (A/asia) Ltd, Box 1, PO, Rosebery, NSW 2018. Advertising: Melbourne: Pacific Publications (Aust.) Pty Ltd, 5th Floor, Alley Building, 75-77 Flinders Lane, Melbourne 3000, telephone 63-0211, ext 1565. Jeff Gates, ext 1858. Ida Padgett, Brisbane: D. Wood, Anday Agency, Box 1918, PO, Brisbane 4001, telephone 44 3485, 44 1546. Adelaide: Hastwell Media, PO Box 30, Glen Osmond, SA 5064, 233 Glen Osmond Rd, Freewille, SA 5063, telephone 79 1869. Perth: Adrep, 62 Wickham St, East Perth, WA 6000, telephone 325 6359.

FIJI: Distribution and subscriptions: Desai Bookshops, 7 Box 160, Suva. Fiji: telephone Suva 23036. Advertising: Fiji Times & Herald Ltd, 20 Gordon St, Suva, telephone 312 111, telex FJ2124.

FRENCH POLYNESIA: Distribution: Hacriette (Circulation), 10 Ave Bruat, Papeete, telephone 25610.

HAWAII, UNITED STATES: Distribution: PIM, Hawaii, PO Box 22250, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

JAPAN: Advertising and subscriptions: Universal Media Corporation, CPO Box 46, Tokyo, telephone 6 3036.

NEW CALEDONIA: Distribution: Depot Centre de Presse Michel Pentecost, CBP2, Noumea, telephone 2434, 27 4729.

NEW ZEALAND: Distribution: Gordon & Gotch, PO Box 4, 2 Carr Road, Mt Roskill, Auckland 4. Advertising: International Media Representatives Ltd, PO Box 2313, Auckland, telephone 795 487, 493 389, cables Interpex, Auckland. Subscriptions: Ross Haines & Son Ltd, PO Box 1289, Auckland, telephone 769 042.

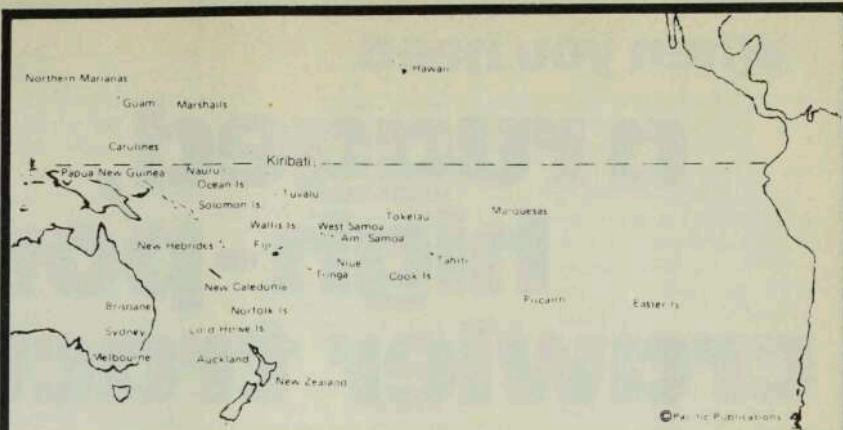
PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Distribution: Robert Brown & Assoc, PO Box 3395, Port Moresby, telephone 25855. Advertising: PNG Post-Courier, PO Box 85, Port Moresby, telephone 21 2577.

UNITED KINGDOM: The Herald & Weekly Times Ltd, 8-10 Bedford's Inn, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1BU, telephone 831 6041, telex London 21989.

UNITED STATES MAINLAND: Advertising: Joshua B. Powers Jr, Powers International Inc, 551 Fifth Ave, New York, New York 100 017, telephone 367 9580, telex 6514. Subscriptions: PIM, Hawaii 2812 Kahawai St, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

Published monthly by Pacific Publications (Aust.) Pty Ltd, printed in Australia by Paramac, Alexandria, NSW. Australian cover price is recommended retail only. Registered at the GPO Sydney for transmission by post as a publication — category B. Second class postage paid at Honolulu, Hawaii. Copyright © 1978 Pacific Publications (Aust.) Pty Ltd.

Postmaster: Honolulu. Send address changes to PIM, Hawaii, PO Box 22250, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.



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Prof Yash Ghai... Hebrides problem 'not so much a constitution, as national unity'

Cover: Linda, a performer at Nett Cultural Center, Ponape, in repose. Photo: Harry Hargett

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Yesterday 64

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More on the reluctant missionary

I entirely agree with Nigel Krauth (PIM, Aug. p 6) that the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies should be concerning itself with the present as well as the past, though perhaps in the field of factual material rather than that of fiction.

I doubt whether the institute, in the long run, doing a good turn to Papua New Guinean creative writing by providing a sheltered workshop for PNG's novelists and a subsidised publishing channel for their novels. This kindly process deprives them of the kind of rough editing' which Nigel Krauth admits John Kolia's work stands in need of.

Some sort of a case could, no doubt, be made for giving this kind of aid to beginners in the art of novel writing, though it should be noted that our pioneer PNG novelist, Vincent Eri, managed very well without it and finished up in the Penguin list.

But John Kolia, currently the acting director of the institute, is not a beginner. *My reluctant missionary* is his fourth novel, and it is surely time for this writer to be thrown in at the deep end and left to sink or swim.

Nigel Krauth suggests that commercial publishers have lost interest in PNG. If so, I think that their interest would be quickly revived if a new novel of the calibre of Vincent Eri's *The Crocodile* appeared in their in-trays.

Nigel Krauth accuses me of lack of sympathy with 'dis-aught humanity'. Not so. I could have very much sympathy with John Kolia's Judy, a reluctant christian. But a reluctant missionary is a contradiction in terms. One does not, or at least one should not, try to convert others to a faith one is not sure about oneself. Nigel Krauth refers to the

'policy' of the institute. I find this hard to gauge; but I notice that out of 10 publications listed back of the title page of *My Reluctant Missionary*, no fewer than seven are by John Kolia. Of the remaining three, only one is by an indigenous Papua New Guinean.

John Kolia is, of course, quite entitled to write what he likes, and to get it published if he can. But I am one of a number of PNG taxpayers who would like to be reassured that public funding of the institute is not being used to subsidise the publication of such highly tendentious fictional material.

PERCY CHATTERTON

Port Moresby
PNG

'Reflections by a Coral Reef'

I wrote the attached poem very late one Saturday night when I was teaching on Guam back in 1974-1976. It summed up a few of the changes a Statesider like me had to get used to, from phones not working, to drivers passing you at 90 mph on the street shoulder, to no buses or public transport, to learning that one had to live with all of these 'O.O.G.'s' (only on Guam's).

Now that I am living the quiet life of a graduate student at the University of Colorado at Boulder, it seems a shame that there is no one I can share my little poem with any more who could enjoy the meaning of life on an island in Micronesia. If possible, I would appreciate it if you could print my poem in your magazine. It seems a shame to let it sit in a drawer in Boulder, when there are so many Islanders who could appreciate the little differences that make island living so unique.

MARILYN KAMINSKI

Boulder
Colorado
USA

'REFLECTIONS BY A CORAL REEF'
To the tune of 'Home on the Range'
By Marilyn Kaminski
Sunday, Nov 23, 1975, 2.45 am.

- 1 Oh, give me a land,
Where the snowstorm is banned,
And tropical breezes blow sweet,
Where never is heard,
"Yon comes an iceberg!"
And you never wear shoes on your feet.

CHORUS: Guam, Guam in the sea,
Oh, you look awfully good to me,
Though you go far and wide,
You will just find your stride,
Takes you back to the island of Guam.

- 2 You eat Australian beef,
And get high on a reef,
And the mountains inspire you to heights,
Though it always is hot,
It's a pretty nice spot,
From the dawn to the tropical nights.

CHORUS.

- 3 How could anyone lurk,
Where the telephones work,
And they take the mail right to your door?
Where the houses are brick,
Without louvres to click,
It's so easy it must be a bore.

CHORUS.

- 4 And how could you take,
No coral to make,
Your car wheels skid from lane to lane,
Few mosquitos or boonie cats,
And there are no fruit bats,
Or many earthquakes or typhoons with rain.

CHORUS.

- 5 Oh, how could you live,
Where a bus ride would give,
You a look at too many pale faces?
Where subways go fast,
And the radios blast,
Twenty stations from the world of rat races.

PIM regrets that space problems preclude us from publishing the final four verses of reader Kaminski's pome,

And trusts she is now settling down in her far-off Colorado home.

That 'Pacific Quebec' again

In the past, local politicians in Tahiti and New Caledonia have occasionally protested against the hypocritical stand of their 'home' government in Paris which is all for the independence of French Quebec but refuses to grant more freedom to its own 'territories' in the Pacific.

A former French journalist, Daniel Tardieu, who lived for some time in Tahiti in the early 1970s, has now added, in a letter published in PIM, June, a new twist to the Quebec Saga — by twisting the facts.

In his view, the only problem is the 'incorrect' attitude of the English-speaking peoples of the Pacific, the editor of PIM and us, the under-signed correspondents of the magazine, towards 'the French-speaking

islands, with their population of some 320 000 people' who are all perfectly happy with the present system of government.

The simple truth, of course, as everybody knows, is that in the whole of French Polynesia, New Caledonia and the Wallis group there is not a single island where the French language is the commonly spoken mother tongue of the majority of the inhabitants, who are either Polynesians or Melanesians. And how does Mr Tardieu arrive at a population figure of 320 000? Even if we leave out the New Hebrides, as he has obviously done, because of the embarrassing fact that they will soon achieve independence, the total is definitely wrong. As for Mr Tardieu's contention that the majority of peoples in the French possessions are not in favour of independence, it is flatly contradicted by the recent territorial elections in New Caledonia, the only ones so far where independence was the main issue. Not less than 82.5% of the Melanesians voted for independence. What the figure would be in French Polynesia, if a similar choice were given to the Islanders, is anybody's guess.

Certainly, there can be found in some of the large islands a varying number of French officials, troops, nuclear test technicians, gendarmes, businessmen, planters, missionaries, and so on. But to equate the situation of these minority groups with that of the compact majority of French Canadians living in Quebec, as Mr Tardieu does, constitutes a deliberate attempt to create confusion in the minds of PIM readers, to say the least. Incidentally, if any valid comparison between Canada and the South Pacific can be made at all, these 'French-speaking Islanders' are rather matched by the cordially detested 'English overlords' in Quebec.

Having fabricated a totally fictitious 'Pacific Quebec' consisting of 320 000 French citizens, Mr Tardieu makes a strong plea for a more tolerant attitude, meaning a hands-off policy and no criticism of the

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LETTERS

old-fashioned colonial methods, from the governments and mass media in the so-called English-speaking part of the ocean. It must therefore have been a rather chilling experience for him to read in the June issue of PIM, immediately after his own letter, what the most conservative and well-disposed statesman in this 'English' half of the Pacific has to say on this subject: 'New Zealand's Prime Minister Robert Muldoon has spoken of the "growing difficulties" faced by France in the South Pacific as "the major French colonies, New Caledonia and French Polynesia, become more and more restive in aspiring to independence". He said New Zealand's position was that it wished "to see in the time a wholly independent South Pacific" ...

As for ourselves, we shall continue to report as correctly and completely as possible, in spite of all the pressures, threats and abuse to which we are subjected, all major events in French Polynesia.

MARIE-THERESE and BENGT DANIELSSON

pehuc
hiti

What are the Games all about?

One can expect that the South Pacific Games will eventually develop towards the point where it will be too expensive for any of the Pacific Islands countries realistically to stage them.

What are the South Pacific Games all about anyway? Surely they at best can be called a third-rate gathering of sporting virants who will never make the grade in the Big One. The Big One is the Olympics — not the ex-British Empire's second-class Olympics called the Commonwealth Games. Our local Pacific-style mini-games should be called a friendly get-together.

Many participants are not nationals of the country they represent. Surely this must stop! What is the point of sending a New Zealand golfer, or Australian tennis player, to represent Papua New Guinea in Suva? Does this mean that PNG has no national golfer or tennis player of sufficient stan-

dard to represent this country? If this is the case, then surely no one should represent Papua New Guinea in that sport!

The size of any contingent can easily be limited by setting minimum standards, and limiting participants to nationals of each country — and none of this 'four years residence rule' nonsense, either.

Participant numbers can also be limited by looking hard at the type of sports covered. In particular, sailing stands out to me. Ten years ago the boat selected was a Fireball; a good boat, capable of being built by the sailor for much less than K1000 then. The committee then selected the Laser — K1200 or so, professionally built only. Now they have moved into the big class — Hobie Cat 16s — more than K2100 (\$US3000) in PNG. This is an expensive class. Has the committee ever considered what chance any national has (certainly in PNG, but probably every other place too) of ever owning or sailing a Hobie 16? PNG can't even boast one national boat owner who races regularly — so perhaps the selection committee could have a second thought about boats.

Why not eliminate sailing unless it is done in a lakatoi? I'm serious. Port Moresby sails up to 80 of these each weekend. But if that type is not widespread in the Pacific it would be unfair to select lakatois.

It seems to me the Games have run their predictable course and should be stopped, on account of the cost/benefit analysis. The cost is great and just what benefit does anyone but a select group of (often expatriate) second-rate sports aspirants get from such expensive hoo-ha?

Boroko
PNG

JOHN GARDNER

Goodbye Tim!

PIM has always had an unsurpassed reputation for predicting forthcoming events as well as its ability for exercising an impeccable sense of timing. There is no better illustration of this than the message that appears on pp 34-35 of August PIM.

Dr Tim Kuberski, who has



Clever PIM's message for Tim.
(See the letter from Zim.)

been the epidemiologist with the South Pacific Commission for the past two years, is about to leave that post to return to the United States. During his time with the commission, Dr Kuberski has contributed considerably to the SPC's health programme. Dr Kuberski has been held in high regard by both Pacific Island and overseas medical workers who will all be very sorry to see him leave the SPC. PIM could have found no better way to farewell him than with the message on that double page Sansui advertisement.

PAUL ZIMMET
Associate Professor

Southern Memorial Hospital
Caulfield, Victoria
Australia

Sharing his Holiday Love Affair

As if I had not told enough people yet! Friends, workmates, neighbours and even an assorted group of patients in the doctor's waiting room, but here I go again, talking about my recent ocean voyage to the Pacific Islands.

Here I was on the mature side of 50 about to start a new extension of my life as a winemaker, — a consultant, — but my wife decided that she wanted to experience a sea cruise. I had just never got around to it. In any case, I had worried about wasting the time and money, being seasick, and of having to attend the cap-

tain's cocktail party, and Bingo nights.

But there I was doing all the 'done' things, like having a cabin party, throwing streamers and waving farewell as the white liner pulled away from the wharf at Sydney Cove. With some 800 other passengers I was embarked on my first sea voyage.

Life on board was not how I had envisaged it at all. I very quickly developed an affection for the ship, and the atmosphere made all of us friends. The ship's roll was a gentle roll. It was luxury afloat, with port breaks to ensure that the luxury is appreciated. Returning to the ship was like 'going home'.

The crew, intent on providing service, succeeded magnificently, and nowhere was this more apparent than in the dining room. Entertainment was virtually continuous — and there was broadening of the mind with lectures. Certainly the time never dragged, and I even made it to the Bingo.

Having served in the New Guinea war zone in R.A.A.F. aircrew during World War II, I was anxious to experience again the real tropics and the real jungle, and I was more than satisfied. Fiji, New Hebrides and New Caledonia stirred the memory, but my real return was in the Solomon Islands, in a jungle setting with a Guadalcanal Museum organised by the Solomon Islanders — very sad, but satisfying.

The various market places visited and the happy natives —

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LETTERS

do not know why one always says "happy", but it seems anonymous with the Islanders — met my anticipations. However some islands are showing signs of "commercialism". This is a great pity and should be curbed by the authorities. The sight of native children begging was fortunately not common, but it did occur.

I found life on board particularly pleasing because, at approximately half the Australian price, I battled on with a daily bottle of 1973 vintage foet and Chandon champagne — another pleasant side benefit of the trip.

It is neither right or proper to presume that my friends will enjoy the same vacation, but I have been boldly recommending a life on the ocean waves — all and sundry. After all, a 4-day cruise 'away from it all' in the South Pacific without a blemish must create some loyalty in me.

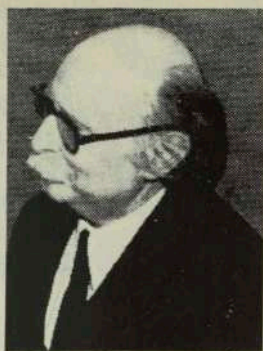
R. W. 'SCOTTY' IRELAND
Port Harbour
NSW
Australia

Questions for Mr Malandain

Find it surprising that Bernard Malandain of the French Embassy in Fiji has been extremely quiet of late on French nuclear testing. Why is he, who has so often defended these tests on the grounds of their harmlessness, and nothing to say on the July explosion at Moruroa? With the South Pacific Games now well under way, Mr Malandain could be seeking maximum publicity for the humanitarian benefits of French nuclear tests.

Could it be that the South Pacific Games participants, particularly those from French Polynesia, might just react dangerously if a debate on the question were going on now in the Fiji papers?

One thing is clear: history does not teach the French Islanders anything. French nuclear experimentation is like those developments which in 1946 culminated in 'Operation Crossroads', an operation which, according to the US military governor of the



French biologist Jean Rostand ... 'every increase in the radioactive dose, however small, increases the possibility of a mutation'

Marshall Islands at the time, involved experiments designed 'for the good of mankind and to end all wars'. And yet three decades later the innocent inhabitants of Bikini and Enewetak are still plagued by these 'humanitarian' American experiments!

Marie-Thérèse Danielsson (PIM, Aug, P5) raises six questions about nuclear testing. I am also anxious for Mr Malandain's answers. And, in the interest of truth, I would also ask the following of Mr Malandain:

(1) An explanation and justification, on humanitarian grounds, of the underground explosion of July 25.

(2) An explanation of the accidents which occurred on Moruroa on July 6, which incidentally killed two and injured four.

(3) To deny the claim of French biologist Jean Rostand that 'every increase in the radioactive dose, however slight it may be, enhances the possibility of a mutation'.

If France has a conscience then its leaders must immediately put an end to its testing programme. The peoples of the Pacific can no longer tolerate the 'official lie' (Monod, Nobel Prize-winner). In the words of Albert Schweitzer, 'those who claim that these tests are harmless are liars!'

For Pacific peoples, it is imperative that the French Government is confronted so that it will take heed of Nelson Anjain's words (PIM, Aug, p14). A magistrate who, unlike Malandain and his colonial cohorts, has acquired wisdom

from history! And though Anjain speaks specifically of US deception, his words are just as applicable to French betrayal of the true peoples of French Polynesia and the Pacific.

'For me and the people of Rongelap, it is life which matters most. For you it is facts and figures.' We want our life and our health. In all these years ... you've never once treated us as people ... you've never sat down among us, and really helped us honestly with our problems ...'

J. J. HERMAN

Suva
Fiji

Once more on that word 'Fijian'

I belatedly came across PIM's July issue and I am prompted to express to you my disappointment with Laz Vusoniwailala's article (p13) advising other races to become 'Fijian' in order to solve the national identity problem. Your readers certainly deserved more enlightening analysis and solutions than vague statements such as 'walking the same road (to) evolve a set of shared values and perceptions of the meaning of life'. I wonder whether there is any validity in the belief that we indigenous Fijians have identical 'values' and 'life concern'?

On the one hand, Laz Vusoniwailala wants a plural society, but then enjoins other races to make sacrifices 'to become Fijian'. People can't choose the culture they are born into, hence a person of Indian stock cannot miraculously transform himself into a native Fijian any more than Mr Vusoniwailala can choose to become an American Indian in Washington! The suggestion is not only impracticable but also culturally arrogant.

Instead of asking their races to do the impossible, why shouldn't native Fijians make the sacrifice, and allow every citizen to adopt that name? After all, it is not an indigenous word because it was what our former colonial masters chose to call us. If the natives are sincerely an 'accommodating

people' then why shouldn't such a gesture in the interest of national unity be made?

Mr Vusoniwailala put the cart before the horse when he said that the lack of a common name in Fiji is a result of a lack of national consciousness. On the contrary, there is as strong a sense of national identity in Fiji as in any other country but what is lacking is the political will on the part of the present leadership to come to terms with the question of a common name. It had been raised many times before and was always fobbed off with lame excuses such as Fijian opposition or the lack of a nice-sounding, widely acceptable alternative name.

So far, no attempt has been made to find out by survey, poll, or referendum what the general populace actually thinks. It seems that the Fijian leaders prefer to leave the matter in benign neglect because they can't afford to bury old political myths about Indian designs to grab Fijian land etc, as they still have their political use nowadays for arousing ignorant suspicions and false fears for the purpose of maintaining political support.

If the natives' possessiveness about the name 'Fijian' cannot be ignored or dispelled by rational argument, then why not circumvent the issue by having the country adopt a new name altogether?

The different groups can retain their present racial identification and strengthen the sense of belonging together by a new national name. There are numerous countries in the world that discarded their old colonial names without any difficulty and the best examples are Fiji's neighbouring countries such as Kiribati and Tuvalu.

With the races in Fiji now more than ever divided as a consequence of disputes over entry to the University of the South Pacific, and within the major political parties, the time may be right for the leaders to do at least something positive that will not cost much financially and is in everyone's long-term interest.

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Pacific Report

NEW HEBRIDES SETTLES CONSTITUTION

A vitally important step along the New Hebrides' painful path to independence was taken in September when the country's constitutional planning committee unanimously agreed on a constitution for the new republic. This agreement clears the way for elections to be held on November 14, with independence slated for the first half of 1980. May is tipped as the most likely month. (See PIM's exclusive background report beginning p13.)

FIVE PNG JUDGES STEP DOWN

Five of the eight judges of Papua New Guinea's National Court have resigned in the wake of the country's controversial 'Rooney affair' (see p17).

HISTORIC TREATY FOR US, KIRIBATI

The US and Kiribati have signed an historic treaty in which the US renounces its previous claims to 14 islands in the Line and Phoenix groups, and which contains provisions for widespread co-operation, including joint economic ventures between Kiribati and American Samoa (see p20).

SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE IN SESSION

The 1979 annual South Pacific Conference was meeting in Papeete, Tahiti, as PIM went to press. Stuart Inder, editor and publisher of PIM, was in Papeete for the conference and will report on its work in PIM December.

SECOND PNG MINISTER GAOLED

Papua New Guinea's National Planning Minister, John Kaputin, was gaoled by the National Court for 10 weeks with hard labour in mid-October for disobeying a court order to produce an annual report and other documents of the New Guinea Development Corporation within a stipulated period. Mr Kaputin is chairman of the corporation which is owned by villagers in New Britain. He is the second PNG minister to receive a gaol sentence in recent weeks. The Justice Minister, Mrs Nahau Rooney, had been sentenced to eight months imprisonment a month before for contempt of court.

RIOT SCENES IN NOUMEA

Riot police and pro-independence demonstrators faced each other in Noumea for two hours during September 24 celebrations to mark 126 years of French rule in New Caledonia. About 800 demonstrators, mostly Melanesians, had marched from a park where they had been authorised to hold their only public meeting on the day of the anniversary. They were confronted in a narrow street by police armed with batons, tear-gas and riot shields. A delegation of protesters was taken to see French officials. The rest returned to the park to continue their meeting. Several kilometres away, the highlight of the anniversary celebrations — a parade by about 800 French soldiers, sailors and airmen — was watched by about 2000 Melanesians, Europeans and Polynesians. Among those impassively looking on were 100 riot police flown in specially from Paris for the occasion. In Suva on the anniversary day about 500 chanting demonstrators occupied the French embassy and hurled abuse at the charge d'affaires Bernard Malandain. They were led by the New Caledonian Kanak independence leader Pastor Jubily, and members of a leftwing Suva-based group, the Pacific People's Action Front. Earlier in the month, 70% of New Caledonia's schools were closed by a strike in protest at the sacking of three Melanesian teachers. In one demonstration six people were seriously hurt and 18 arrested. Riot police used tear-gas and batons to break up the 200-strong demonstration.

FRENCH EXPERTS CONFIRM N-ACCIDENTS

A scientific investigative party sent from France at the insistence of the territorial assembly confirmed late in September that there were two unrelated accidents at Moruroa on July 5 and 25. Two men died in the first accident when acetone gases exploded in an underground laboratory. The second occurred when a bomb stuck partway down an atoll shaft and was exploded, causing a tidal wave which injured seven people on Moruroa.

Scientists insisted neither event brought radioactivity hazards and said defence secrecy was the reason for initial official denials of the accidents. The bomb explosion was obviously massive as Wellington recorded 6.3 on the Richter scale at that time. (See PIM reports on both incidents, Sep p7, Oct p23).

TUVALUAN ISLANDS ON HARD RATIONS

Tuvalu's outer islands had a near famine in September because the country's only ship, the MV *Nivaga*, was in dry-dock in Suva for overhaul. Imported foodstuffs ran out and people on four of the islands were said to be existing only on local produce. Three islands had resorted to rationing. 'In spite of this problem,' reported the *Tuvalu News Sheet*, 'life on the outer islands seemed to be jolly-well fun'.

DEOKI FIJI'S NEW A-G

Andrew Deoki, Fiji's former director of public prosecutions who emigrated to Australia three years ago, has been named by Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara as the country's new attorney-general. He took over from Sir John Falvey in October. Sir John, who resigned from the job in 1977, had been temporarily doing it following the dismissal of Sir Vijay Singh (PIM Sep p7).

FIRE DAMAGES PNG LONDON DISPLAY

A fire in September partly destroyed Papua New Guinea's permanent cultural exhibition in London. PNG's high commission reported that about K15 000 worth of artifacts were damaged when the fire broke out in the PNG gallery of the Commonwealth Institute.

NEXT GAMES IN APIA, 1983

The South Pacific Games Council has approved Western Samoa's request to postpone the Seventh South Pacific Games to 1983 from the planned date of 1981. The unanimous decision was taken following Western Samoa's plea that the extra time was needed for preparations.

MARSHALLS TIE TAIWAN KNOT

The government of Marshall Islands will establish diplomatic relations with Taiwan when the US trusteeship ends in 1981, according to a report in the *Honolulu Advertiser*. Other Micronesian groups are expected to follow suit.

STRIKE ACTION HITS KIRIBATI

Newly independent Kiribati in September was in the throes of a strike which disrupted ferry services between Bairiki and Betio, overseas air flights, and some essential services, and resulted in the sacking of a number of workers. A trade union covering government workers on Bikenibeu, Bairiki and Betio ordered its members, including co-operative federation workers, to strike in protest at the alleged forced retirement by the public service commission of an employee, Highland Muller. Later, about 100 of the sacked unionists marched to the president's office to petition for their reinstatement.

POPE UPGRADES MICRONESIAN VICARIATE

Pope John Paul II has raised the apostolic vicariate of the Caroline and Marshall Islands to the level of a diocese, the apostolic delegate in the United States announced. The Pope named Nishop Martin J. Neylon, a US Jesuit who has been serving as vicar apostolic since 1971, as first bishop of the new diocese.

PNG SEEKS OVERSEAS HELP ON FORESTS

Papua New Guinea's Department of Commerce is calling for applications from overseas companies or groups to manage three forestry development corporations. The corporations, owned jointly by the government, the respective provincial governments and the people of the areas to be logged, plan to harvest by selective logging 160 000 ha in Sagarai-Gadaisu (Milne Bay Province), 70 000 ha in Kumusi (Northern Province), and 95 000 ha in Umboi (Morobe Province). The contracts for three management teams of four to eight persons will be for an initial period of five to eight years and production for each corporation is expected to reach 7000 to 10 000 cubic metres a month over about 20 years of logging.

CHURCHES URGE NC INDEPENDENCE

The Pacific Conference of Churches has supported a call for independence of the Melanesian people of New Caledonia. In a September statement, the PCC said its support followed 'unanimous action' taken last month by the 45-member synod

PACIFIC REPORT

of the Evangelical Church in New Caledonia and the Loyalty Islands. It was the first time the church had gone on record supporting Melanesian independence. The statement urged member churches and related organisations 'to bring the Evangelical Church's statement to the notice of their governments' and to make 'special prayers for all the people of New Caledonia in this critical time of tension and difficulty'.

US REAL ESTATE AGENTS ACTIVE IN PACIFIC

American real estate agents have been busy in Kiribati and Fiji offering land for sale in the United States and their sales talk has prompted an American official to issue a warning through PIM. 'It is folly,' he told PIM in Sydney, 'to invest in real estate in America unless the would-be purchaser has seen the land. Some land dealers are genuine but some land being offered, especially in states like Texas, is desert and certainly not a sound investment.' The people of Nuito and Nanumanga in Tuvalu have bought land in the USA offered for sale at \$US5000 an acre by a part-Tuvaluan, Mr Bula Tokotasi O'Brien, who is employed by the firm Human Resources and Development Inc of Majuro in the Marshall Islands. The people of Nanumea in Tuvalu, who also bought land, have decided to cancel contracts, the *Tuvalu News Sheet* reports. Mr O'Brien was in Tuvalu in September with Californian real estate Mr Sidney Gross. Mr Gross has invested more than \$554 000 of Tuvalu's money in the United States at an interest rate of 15 per cent and is helping Tuvalu to establish a fishing industry. Mr Gross told the Tuvaluans during his visit in September (PIM Oct p7) that their investment had already earned them \$31 560.50 in interest.

1980 SOUTH PACIFIC CONFERENCE IN PNG

Papua New Guinea's National Executive Council has agreed to host the 1980 South Pacific Conference, probably in one of the provinces outside Port Moresby. Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Ebua Olewale said the success of the recent South Pacific transport ministers and civil aviation and shipping conference held in Mt Hagen proved that major conferences could be staged outside Port Moresby.

HAS THE US STOPPED LOOKING FOR N-DUMP?

The US Ambassador to Western Samoa, Mrs Anne C Martindell, has said that the US Government has 'halted' plans to find a Pacific island or atoll which could be used as a dump for nuclear waste from such countries as Japan, Korea and Taiwan (PIM Oct p23). The Apia newspaper, *The Observer*, quoted her as saying: 'We realise it's a sensitive issue since France has been testing its nuclear bombs in the area. This is why we have immediately stopped the studies of the islands.' However, an October report from Washington said that the US and Japan have agreed to 'look further' into a proposal to store nuclear waste on a remote Pacific island. The report said talks in Tokyo between senior officials had resulted in both sides moving towards a decision on whether a full-scale feasibility study was warranted. Each government would now examine such factors as the cost of research, and whether it is prepared to pay for it.

SOUTH PACIFIC GAMES IN THE BLACK

The South Pacific Games Committee will make a profit from the 1979 Games, despite earlier fears that there would be a loss. Committee treasurer John Creighton said he was sure the committee would do better than break even, mainly thanks to the soccer and rugby finals. Creighton said that during the two finals, more than \$20 000 was taken at the gates for each of the games, not including money raised from sales of season tickets. Basketball and boxing also helped as money-raisers. Other sports chipped in, but to a lesser degree. Timesball, the *Fiji Times* — Qantas FunRun and other fund-raising bodies made valuable contributions. Creighton said more than \$500 000 had been put down as expenditure.

FIJI PARTY OFFICIAL RESIGNS

The secretary-general of Fiji's ruling Alliance Party, Senator Akanisi Dreunimisisimi, has resigned her position. Earlier, Prime Minister Ratu Kamisese Mara had told the senator he could not continue working with her. He said he had been concerned about a flow of information from Alliance headquarters without his knowledge. The senator had also been asked about rumours concerning the prime minister circulated at the height of the Sir Vijay Singh affair (PIM Aug p31).

FAO PLAN TO HELP FISHERIES

A new programme established by the Food and Agriculture Organisation aimed at helping fisheries development in countries with extended ocean fishing limits could greatly benefit many Pacific Island nations and territories. Announced in August by the Rome-based organisation, the programme covers every aspect of fisheries management. According to FAO, more than 90 nations now have extended sea limits, many of them up to 200 nautical miles, as opposed to eight countries only 12 years ago. Nearly all island nations in the Pacific have established their own 200-mile fishing and economic zones.

ADB ANALYSIS OF ISLANDS AGRICULTURE

'Pacific Agriculture — Choices and Constraints' was the theme of a report on the South Pacific Agricultural Survey, a pioneer project of the Asian Development Bank. All seven South Pacific developing member countries (DMCs) of the bank — Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga and Western Samoa — were covered in the survey. A sub-regional seminar will be held in Apia in January to discuss the survey's findings. Major matters to be taken up include: the need for increased adoption of the plantation mode of management for major crops, and the associated need for new forms of landholding; shortage of rural labour in some areas and consequent need for capital-intensive development; the generally poor state of the coconut industry; the need for rural service centres and for co-ordination of transport and agriculture; problems of providing services/facilities for populations in economically non-viable places; the role of government in national development, including the key role national development banks; and the scope for regional co-operation, especially in the field of marketing.

OLEWALE AT TAHITI INDEPENDENCE RALLY

Papua New Guinea's Deputy Prime Minister Ebua Olewale absented himself from a dinner for delegation leaders at the South Pacific Conference hosted by the French High Commissioner in Papeete in October to attend a pro-independence rally instead. The rally was organised by four small local political parties advocating independence. According to press reports, he was rebuked for his action by Australia's Minister for Productivity Ian Macphie. Mr Olewale calmed Mr Macphie had told him he had 'encouraged the people to revolt against France', and added: 'What nonsense, I just told them that we supported their demands for independence.'

\$55 000 FOR A TUVALU PASSPORT?

The Tuvalu Government is considering a suggestion from Californian real estate dealer Mr Sidney Gross on how to raise \$27 million by selling citizenship to stateless people. Mr Gross, who is handling Tuvalu's financial affairs in the United States, saw Prime Minister Toalipi Lauti in Funafuti in September and outlined the scheme by which Tuvalu passports could be sold to about 500 stateless families at \$55 000 each. Opinions in Funafuti are mainly against the scheme, arguing that such a scheme would upset Tuvalu's cultural, social and economic balance. Some fear international terrorists would be 'in the market' for such facilities. Mr Gross has also asked for a Tuvaluan charter to open a bank.

TONGAN ROYALS IN NZ, AUSTRALIA

King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV and Queen Mata'aho of Tonga made state visits to both New Zealand and Australia in October. The visits followed invitations issued during celebrations of the King's 60th birthday last year.

EXPANSION FOR FORUM LINE

The Pacific Forum Line is to open offices in Suva and Wellington. By February next year the line plans to have disposed of its conventional ships and have three new roll-on-roll-off container ships in their place.

RESIDENT AUSTRALIAN HICOM FOR APIA

Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs Andrew Peacock has announced the appointment of Allan Deacon as Australia's first resident high commissioner to Apia, Western Samoa. Previously Australia's high commissioners to Fiji were accredited to Western Samoa.

DIPLOMATIC TIES FOR W. SAMOA, INDONESIA

Indonesia and Western Samoa are to establish diplomatic relations. Indonesia becomes the 26th country with which Western Samoa has such relations.

Vila's 'political miracle': A New Hebrides constitution

Hailed as 'a marvellous minor political miracle' by the British resident commissioner in the New Hebrides, Andrew Stuart, the success in September of the country's constitutional planning committee in reaching agreement on a constitution for the soon-to-be independent republic is one of the most important developments in Pacific politics for some time. In the article below, a PIM correspondent who was in Vila during the final stages of the committee's work, and in a position to observe this work closely, backgrounds the momentous events which have cleared the way for general elections in the New Hebrides on November 14, and for New Hebridean independence in the first half of 1980 — with May widely tipped as the most likely date.

As dawn was about to break on the morning of September 19, 1979 over Vila, New Hebrides, the constitutional conference was still deadlocked over two questions on the constitution. One concerned the powers to be vested in the regions or districts, and the other the method of adoption of the constitution. After a long, intense and emotional debate, the conference resolved these questions, and thus cleared the path to general elections on November 14 and independence to follow as soon as the question of the powers to be vested in the districts of Santo and Tanna is resolved by the new representative assembly. The new assembly will have considerably more powers than its predecessor; and its election and the installing of the new council of ministers will clearly mark the establishment of self-government, with only defence, currency and certain aspects of internal security reserved to the metropolitan powers.

The conference, at which the French minister Paul Dijoud and the British minister Peter Blaker were participants, was the culmination of several months of work by the constitutional planning committee. The boycott by the Vanuaaku party, generally acknowledged to be the majority party, of the 1977 elections to the assembly produced an impasse in the country. The assembly, elections to which produced no contest, consisted entirely of francophones, variously labelled as the moderates, or

federal party. The council of ministers came from the same group. The legitimacy of the assembly and the council was questioned from the very beginning. Meanwhile, the Vanuaaku Party carried its earlier boycott to what it considered the next logical step — the establishment of a provisional independent government, which was facilitated by the thinness of administration on the ground and the overwhelming support for VP in some parts of the country. The impasse was broken by the VP agreeing to call off its own government, and to join with

the moderates in a council of ministers as the government of national unity. Given the history of New Hebrides politics, the GNU was an inherently unstable body, and was unable to provide the momentum towards constitutional progress that was expected of it.

The impasse was further broken by an important initiative of Paul Dijoud in February 1979 when he visited Vila. He then lifted what was generally referred to as the French veto on independence. But he insisted that the country must first prepare and adopt a constitution for independence, be-

fore the 'unrepresentative' assembly was dissolved, and fresh elections held, a position which was contrary to that of the VP, who considered that elections and a genuinely representative assembly were pre-requisites to the preparation of the constitution. Dijoud went on to make suggestions for constitutional provisions: bilingualism, proportional representation, and decentralisation or powers, all concerned to ensure suitable minority protection. Further, he set a tight time table. The council of ministers, assisted by two foreign experts, were to prepare the draft constitution, to be submitted to the metropolitan powers in June, and then referred to a referendum. Under his proposals, independence could well come before the end of the year.

The Dijoud Plan met with considerable opposition, apart from that of the VP. Many complained that the time table was too tight, and, more importantly, the francophones became nervous at the imminence of independence implicit in the proposals. Thus, when the constitutional advisers came there was considerable confusion about, and some measure of opposition to, the proposals. The idea of a referendum had already been dropped at the behest of the GNU, but precisely how the constitution would be adopted was unclear. The two advisers were Professors Yash Ghai and Charles Zorgbibe, the former with considerable experience of constitutional work in the Pacific, the latter with none.

Professor Ghai's analysis appears to have been that the fundamental problem was not the drafting of a constitution but creating the conditions for



British Minister Peter Blaker (left) makes a point to his French counterpart Paul Dijoud during their September visit to Vila for the successful conclusion of the New Hebrides constitutional conference. Nabanga photo.

national unity. There was no doubt that the country was deeply divided, but the divisions were the result of the condominium. It was important that the New Hebrideans should transcend these divisions in order to find the true basis of unity in their common Melanesian heritage. In many ways this was the last opportunity for them to find the basis of unity, and so Professor Ghai reportedly urged the council of ministers, the different parties, churches and chiefs to expand the membership of the body charged with the basic responsibility for drafting the constitution, so that its deliberations would begin the process of healing the national wounds, and the constitution would enjoy greater legitimacy. The constitutional planning committee was thus established in early April, on the initiative of the New Hebrideans and owing nothing to the metropolitan powers. Although its legal status was ambiguous, it was as representative a body as it was possible to put together in the circumstances, and the success with which it was established was an early indication that if the New Hebrideans were left to themselves, they were capable of resolving their differences in an amicable way.

Once the CPC took on board the task of drafting the constitution, the vast majority of its members worked diligently and honestly. With the help of option papers prepared by the consultants, the committee held long debates on various aspects of the constitution, debates which showed a sure grasp of the problems of the country and which were evidence of the wish of the members to find common ground and to understand the points of view of other sides. As the discussions proceeded, they cut across party lines. There was very quickly agreement on a parliamentary system, but there was considerable controversy as to whether there should be a 'constitutional' or executive head of state.

Two of the most difficult issues were the system of elections, the moderates wanting proportional representation, and the VP wanting single-member constituencies, and



the powers to be vested in the districts or regions (the term preferred by the moderates). The latter issue threatened to abort the committee's work of many months, and was not resolved until the last minutes of the conference.

There was a wide measure of agreement on the judiciary, public services, languages and land. It was also easy to find agreement on citizenship, despite at one point a rather rigid and racist line taken by the British Government (withdrawn later when it was discovered that there was little in the proposals of the CPC which need arouse the wrath of the Enoch Powells).

The conference concluded with the decision that the committee would travel round the islands to explain the constitution to the people and seek their views on it. The committee would then reassemble in Vila when the two resident commissioners would sign the constitution on behalf of their governments, and it would then come into effect on the eve of independence. Despite some of the attacks which have been made on the constitution it is generally acknowledged that it is very democratic; it provides for free and fair elections, and the government will always be responsible to the unicameral parliament. The judiciary is completely indepen-

dent, and the Supreme Court is the final arbiter of disputes about the constitution and responsible to ensure that constitutional rights and guarantees are respected. The constitution protects the fundamental human rights of all citizens, and provides for the establishment of an ombudsman to investigate complaints of maladministration, discrimination, etc. The status of English and French as official languages is preserved, and Bislama will become the national language as well as an official language. There is to be a council of chiefs with the primary responsibility to safeguard and promote custom and tradition, and with important consultative functions in respect to certain kinds of legislation, including land.

On land, the constitution provides a basis for the return of alienated land to the indigenous people and enables the government to exercise greater control over land transactions than before.

One issue the constitution does not resolve definitively is decentralisation. The committee was unanimous in its support of the need to decentralise, but there was disagreement on the extent of decentralisation and the procedure to determine this. An overwhelming majority wanted the question to be re-

Four o'clock in the morning of September 19 — the conference is over. From left: British Minister Blaker, Chief Minister Gerard Leymang, Deputy Chief Minister Walter Linl, French Minister Dijoud. Nabanga photo.

solved by the new Assembly after receiving the report of a special commission; a small minority wanted regional powers agreed at the conference and entrenched in the constitution.

The ultimate compromise was that the assembly would retain the power to make the decision on the devolution of powers to the regions and islands, but that Santo and Tanna would elect their regional assemblies on the same day as the general elections, and these would enter into negotiations with the central government on the powers to be devolved, leaving the final decision on the assembly before independence. All in all, the constitution provides suitable guarantees for all groups, and in particular the French-speaking 'minority'. It is clear that each group has had to make compromises in order to reach agreement.

The constitution is therefore not only a considerable technical and political achievement of the committee, but it is also evidence of the fact that the New Hebrideans are capable of solving their own political differences, especially if the

metropolitan powers do not interfere unduly. There was a strong suspicion among the members of the committee that on issues on which it was difficult to get an agreement, one or the other metropolitan power was inciting a small minority to be recalcitrant. Despite such interference, which the 'cognoscenti' freely acknowledged, the committee succeeded in its mission.

The ultimate success of the committee can only be judged over time, but it can be stated that its work has truly laid the basis of national unity, fragile though the basis may be. It was the view of many observers that the work and the spirit of the committee may have brought about a qualitative change in the politics of the New Hebrides. Under the patient and gentle chairmanship of Father Leymang, the committee worked on the basis of consensus, which meant in practice that even one member of the Committee could hold up agreement on any point. There was therefore a strong incentive to concede points, to compromise and to persuade rather than to threaten. The debates helped to clear the air, and better understanding of the points of view of the different groups by others was established. It was clear that the political groups could no longer be facily divided into anglophones and francophones. Many prominent francophones co-operated with the VP, while among the moderates there were at least two anglophones. A very positive role was played by the

Tabwamesaana-Nakamal alliance. Many observers were impressed by the sense of responsibility and maturity shown by the VP, not least by those members of it who have been constantly attacked for being 'communists' and 'Marxists'.

A factor which ultimately facilitated co-operation among the New Hebrideans was their realisation that if the matter was left to the metropolitan powers, the interests of the New Hebrides would be poorly served. They realised that the NH was a small pawn in the game of international relations, including the EEC, that Britain and France conduct with each other, and that this pawn would be lightly sacrificed. Those who saw the supine performance of the British minister would have been more than confirmed in their suspicions. Few expect that the two metropolitan powers will now desist from their intrigues. Yet others may decide to try to divide the leadership of the VP in their mistaken and simplistic belief that a few communists exist who should be isolated. Unless these outsiders want to see an area of instability in the Pacific, they would be well advised to let the New Hebrideans get on with the already difficult task of national integration and unity without external sabotage.

If the urge to carry on the Battle of Waterloo is too strong, they should be told to carry it on elsewhere, as Professor Ghai stated in his farewell message to the committee.



Custom demonstration in Santo organised by the moderate parties to bring home to visiting ministers the parties' concern that regionalism and custom did not figure largely enough in the draft constitution. Nabanga photo.

Mrs Rooney won't go back to Justice

Received just as PIM went to press, the following story from Angus Smales in Port Moresby brings Papua New Guinea's 'Rooney Affair' up to date to mid-October. Smales' background account, written earlier, begins on p17.

Although the immediate crisis posed by the Rooney affair has passed, its repercussions and long-term effects are still with Papua New Guinea. Mrs Rooney is still a member of cabinet, but without portfolio, and Mr Somare has made it clear she will not be getting back the justice portfolio.

For the time being Mr Somare himself is continuing to act as justice minister, and he has given no indication of who will eventually take over the portfolio and of what responsibilities in cabinet will be given to Mrs Rooney.

Mrs Rooney has lodged a non-legal appeal process against her contempt conviction, approaching a statutory committee known as the Advisory Committee on the Powers of Mercy which is headed by the United Church Bishop of PNG, Bishop Ravu Henao. The committee has power to recommend to cabinet full or conditional pardons or remissions of sentences.

It is believed the committee has already formally recommended that she should be pardoned, but the matter lies with cabinet and no statement is expected before November.

In any event the decision — although no doubt of profound personal importance to Mrs Rooney — has little bearing on the chain of events which brought so much criticism on the government.

One of the major manifestations of the criticism was a wave of unrest through at least nine Papua New Guinea gaols, including confrontations with warders, destruction of property, mass escapes, and clashes with police who replied on three occasions with teargas.

Four weeks after order was restored in the gaols more than 100 escaped prisoners were still free (500 were free at one stage) and it is now doubtful that they will all be recaptured.

Mr Somare has established a committee of inquiry to look at

what happened in the gaols, and it will be chaired by a senior magistrate, Joseph Iramu.

Its terms of reference will include whether there was collusion with some warders in the events, and whether the media and organisations outside the gaols helped to promote the trouble.

The parliamentary opposition has criticised the terms of reference on the grounds that they ignore what the opposition sees as the real source of the trouble — the government's action in overriding its own judicial processes.

In the long term, Mr Somare says cheerfully that his country has not been damaged by what the government did and he denies strongly that his government has interfered with judicial processes.

The judges carried out their duties correctly and properly, he says, there was no interference with them, and the government subsequently made a decision which it believed was fitting.

Mr Somare says there was no need for the judges to resign, and he will have no hesitation in appointing other Australian judges if necessary. 'In fact there are already telephone calls and letters for me from suitably qualified people,' he said a few days ago.

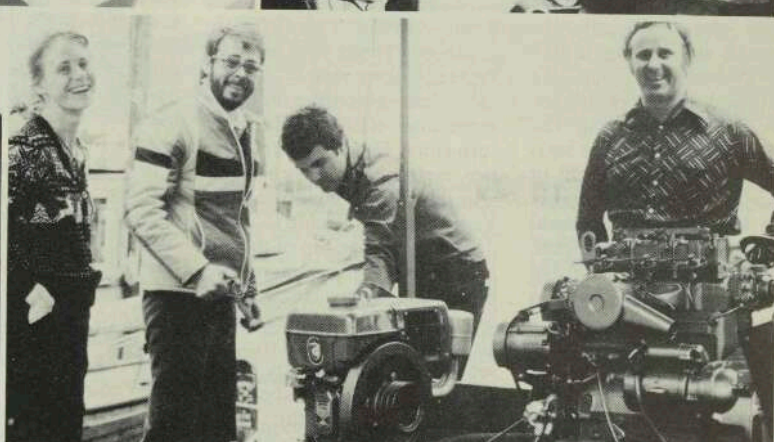
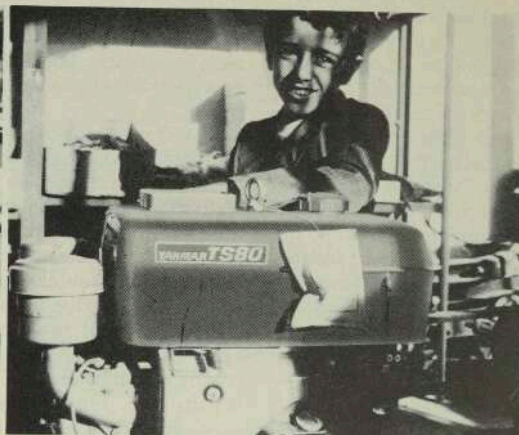
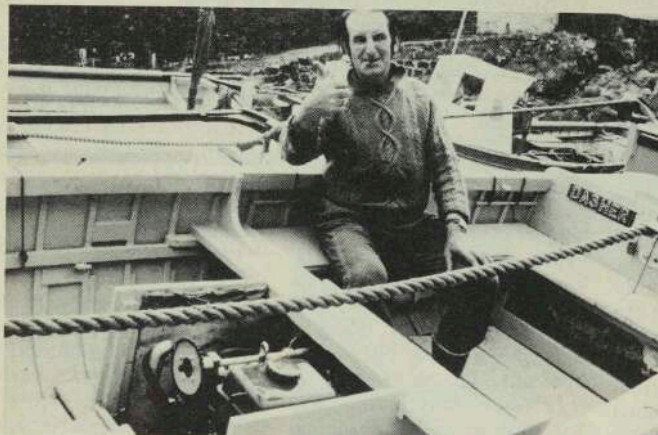
But Mr Somare has also indicated that some of the new appointments to the bench will be from Papua New Guineans.

Two names unofficially tipped are those of the present secretary for justice, Kubulan Los, and the former law reform commissioner Bernard Naro-kobi.

The first of the present judges to be leaving PNG will be Mr Justice Pritchard in December, and the others will probably leave in March and April next year.

Mr Somare does not expect to announce new appointments until about February.

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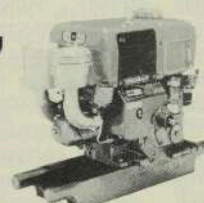
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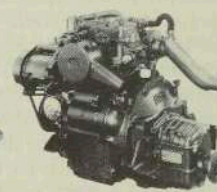
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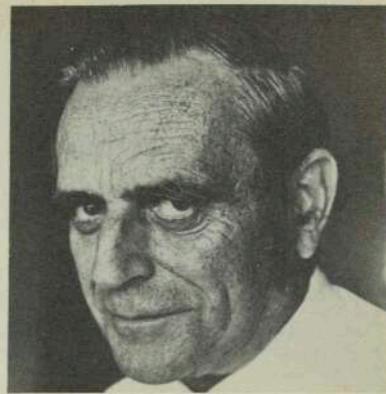
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Mrs Nahau Rooney



Mr Michael Somare



Sir William Prentice

PNG's 'Rooney Affair': A mix-up of two issues

Angus Smales in Port Moresby reviews the constitutional crisis which has shaken Papua New Guinea since July, and is far from having worked itself out yet. He sees the crisis as basically involving two distinct issues, which regrettably have become 'completely mixed up with one another'.

My Dear Chief Justice ... began the Papua New Guinea Justice Minister, Mrs Rooney, in a letter she wrote to the Chief Justice Sir William Prentice. The date was July 11 this year. In the months since then the letter has become a centre-piece of political controversy, and the constitutional clash it has created is still unresolved in many essential issues.

It initiated a clash of concepts over the relationship between the government and the judiciary, and the chain of events which it started has included the resignation of five judges, the gaoling — and ungaoling — of a minister of state, and now it has produced perhaps a question mark over the role and future of the judiciary. And somewhere in California the bearded, bespectacled, political scientist who unwittingly triggered the entire tangle is about to write a book on what he describes as the need for a miracle if democracy is to be preserved in PNG.

Now I don't necessarily agree with his remarks, but that political scientist is Dr Ralph Premdas, who modestly told a meeting of Port Moresby

Rotary Club shortly before he was expelled from PNG that he has something of a reputation for 'giving governments a bit of a jolt'. Dr Premdas had six years in PNG as a university lecturer, and government and opposition alike found him a helpful honorary adviser — for a while, anyway. But in June he had his residence permit revoked. He was accused by the Prime Minister, Mr Somare, of meddling in affairs of government and of undermining the sovereignty of PNG nationalism.

He lost a ministerial appeal, but he successfully applied to the National Court to remain in Port Moresby while he pursued a legal appeal. His appeal (which he subsequently lost) was preceded by Mrs Rooney's famous letter to Sir William Prentice, a letter which she circulated very widely at the time.

In the letter Mrs Rooney asserted the right of the government to deport whom it liked, she criticised the court for intervening in a matter which 'is a sole prerogative of government' and she rounded off her remarks with a little homily to the judges to use

'greater discretion in making their decisions'.

In many respects it was a naive letter and it could have been a thoughtless mistake — all this was argued later in court — but it disturbed Sir William because of its circulation and because of the notion it contained that the state could direct the courts. Mrs Rooney wouldn't withdraw it, and in open court Sir William disclosed it (and the subsequent correspondence) and then, as he put it, 'invited the government to defend the constitution and the courts'.

The inference was clear — some form of government initiative was necessary to withdraw the letter, apologise, and reassert the concept of the independence of the courts.

Mr Justice Pritchard, who had granted a breathing space to Dr Premdas in the first place, resigned and wrote a stern letter to Mrs Rooney in doing so.

But the days passed, the government took no action, and Mrs Rooney dug in her heels. She was quoted in the media as 'having no confidence in foreign judges who are only interested in administering foreign laws'. This was a direct reference to the fact that so far PNG has none of its own nationals on the bench. Seven of its judges are Australian and the eighth is a Briton.

Eventually the parliamentary opposition initiated an action to gaol Mrs Rooney — and those who — 'abetted her' — for unconstitutionally interfering with the independence of the courts.

The Public Prosecutor, Mr

Egan, intervened by right, and then proceeded with a Supreme Court notice of motion alleging three counts of contempt against Mrs Rooney.

By a four to one majority, Mrs Rooney was found guilty and she was gaoled for eight months. Mr Justice Kearney dissented by proposing dismissal of one of the charges and proposing a total fine equivalent to 400 Kina on the other two.

Hardly was Mrs Rooney in gaol — and indeed there was considerable sympathy for her even from her detractors — than the government got her out again. The Prime Minister, Mr Somare, who had assumed the Justice portfolio, exercised a constitutional and criminal code process freeing her on licence, although not nullifying the conviction and the sentence.

Now whatever may be the rights or wrongs of what has happened, the judges saw themselves in a situation where they had gone to great lengths to demonstrate the independence of the courts only to have the end result effectively — and somewhat emotionally — negated by the state.

In addition they had undergone an experience suggesting that in some matters at least the government is no longer interested in wanting an independent judiciary.

In the upshot, four of them — the Chief Justice, Sir William Prentice, the Deputy Chief Justice, Mr Justice Raine, Mr Justice Wilson, and Mr Justice Saldanha — followed Mr Justice Pritchard's course by resigning. The three



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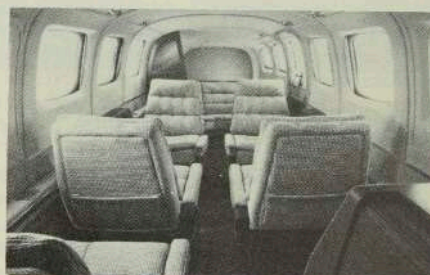
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judges who did not resign were Mr Justice Kearney, Mr Justice Greville Smith and Mr Justice Andrew.

Although the issues involved in the contempt hearing against Mrs Rooney are complex and wide-ranging, the political issues stand out very clearly.

From the prime minister down there seems to have been a genuine inability to appreciate the real distinction between executive and judicial powers, although this system was freely chosen at independence and it was written into the PNG constitution.

The current government attitude appears to rest on what can be described as a distinct cultural gap between Mr Somare's society and the societies which developed a rather precise system of judicial separation. The suitability of the system for PNG's requirements may well be open to serious question, and the present controversy in fact highlights this situation.

But what has happened is that the argument about the suitability of the situation is being confused today with the arguments about what has happened to Mrs Rooney.

When Mrs Rooney's letter was first disclosed, the solution would have been so simple if the government had recognised the issues, but the government continued to think in terms of 'thrashing out a precedent'. But the government wasn't powerless to legitimately make its points about Dr Premdas, either, as we shall see shortly.

The judges indeed are foreign in terms of citizenship. There is no denying that this is a regrettable situation. But PNG itself gave them the constitution and the laws under which they operate — and charged them by oath to follow these principles. This is the point which Mr Damien Kereku made so well the other day. Much of the emotional argument in this issue has claimed that the legal system used by PNG is a foreign concept or a hangover from colonialism or some equally emotive background situation. There may well be much validity in this argument, but there is one very important point which appears to have been



From the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier

largely overlooked. When Mrs Rooney wrote to the judges, she was indeed cutting across a line of separation which under the present constitution and structure she had no right to cross.

But this doesn't mean that a government — to use a rather blunt way of putting it — is 'at the mercy' of its judiciary. Everything that Mrs Rooney wanted to achieve could have been engineered as a concept within the law by taking the matter to parliament and getting parliament to make appropriate legislation. 'The power lies with the people' says the constitution. Parliament is their forum, and parliament makes the rules for the judges. This is what a democratic Westminster Parliament system is all about — to use the ideas of the people and their elected representatives to lay down the rules about the sort of controls that you want in

your society. (You also determine the sort of society that you want, but here I am referring specifically to controls and checks in any national situation which may arise.)

I'd like to look, too, at what I think is another over-emotive issue concerned in this situation. My wife expressed sympathy to a Papua New Guinean lawyer the other day over the fact that Mrs Rooney had been gaoled. What she said had nothing to do with the legal issues involved, but no one likes to see people go to gaol over issues of society rather than over issues of what perhaps we could call vice.

Now we were quite upset by the lawyer's answer. He said 'your people put her in gaol'. If this highlights one thing, it highlights the urgent need to phase Papua New Guinean judges into the system as soon as possible. If an intelligent lawyer who thinks that white

judges applied some law of their own, then the country indeed is heading along a sorry road.

I might add, too, that the judges themselves have been aware of this need for a long time, and there is no shortage of material on record about their attempts to achieve a planned phasing out of responsibilities.

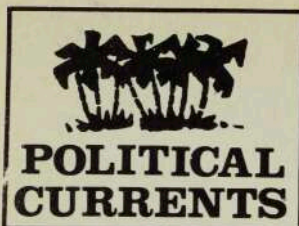
The position now is that two different issues are being criticised and two different issues are being questioned in public. But sadly these two issues are being completely mixed up with each other. The first issue is whether or not PNG is at the mercy of some foreign imported law which is quite unsuitable for a Melanesian society. There is much to support this argument, but I don't think the structure is necessarily as foreign as some people believe. It's not as foreign as they believe if parliament is used properly and if urgent steps are taken to train in Papua New Guinea judges. It's not the structure so much but the laws within that structure which perhaps need very close attention.

The second issue — and this is certainly the stronger in terms of public criticism — is that the government has intervened in a manner which appears to negate what the court hearing was all about. It's intervened in a matter concerning the separation of executive and judicial functions. Many of the critics say it has flown in the face of its own laws. In fact the process used to free Mrs Rooney was designed to allow the release of long-term prisoners slightly ahead of time to help their rehabilitation.

Of course Mrs Rooney should never have gone to gaol.

But the real tragedy was that she and the government followed an illegitimate course to achieve a result which could have been achieved quite legitimately through parliament.

The echoes of her letter will take a long time to die away, but in the meantime PNG appears to be courting trouble by claiming allegiance to one system and sometimes practising another.



MICRONESIA: NEW FACES

For the many people in the Pacific who have difficulty keeping up with political developments in the US Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, here is a brief guide to the four new states slated to succeed to control of its 2000-plus islands spread over 7.7 million square kilometres of the Pacific when the US trusteeship expires in 1981.

- **Federated States of Micronesia:** In the central area of the trust territory, the districts of Yap, Truk, Ponape, Kosrae and a large number of atolls will form the FSM. Ponape's Kolonia will be the capital. Land area: 108 square kilometres, population 65 000 (approx.).

- **Marshall Islands:** In the east of the trust territory, the Marshall Islands will have an independent political set-up. The government centre of Majuro has about 8000 population. Land area: 179 square kilometres, population 25 000.

- **Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas:** In the northwest of the trust territory. About 12 000 people live on Saipan, the main island. All inhabitants of the commonwealth will become US citizens in 1981. Land area: 471 square kilometres, population 15 000.

- **Republic of Belau (formerly Palau District):** In the southwest of the trust territory. Government centre Koror. Land area: 461 square kilometres, population 13 000.

US, KIRIBATI SIGN PACT

A treaty of friendship between the Republic of Kiribati and the United States was signed in Tarawa in September. Signing on behalf of their nations were President Jeremia Tabai of

Kiribati and Mr William Bodde Jr, Director of Pacific Island Affairs of the United States Department of State.

A witness to the signing was Mr Peter Tali Coleman, Governor of American Samoa, who accompanied Mr Bodde to Tarawa. Governor Coleman represents the US in the joint administration of Canton Island and in any future joint ventures based on Canton.

The island is one of 14 in the Phoenix and Line groups to which the US has relinquished all claims in the new treaty of friendship. The relinquished islands are Caroline, Christmas, Flint, Malden, Starbuck, and Vostock, all in the Line group, and the atolls of Birnie, Gardner, Hull, McKean, Phoenix and Sydney, and the islands of Canton and Enderbury, all of the Phoenix group.

In the treaty the two governments agree to consult on matters of mutual concern and interest and to promote economic and social development. They also agree to consult concerning any military use of the 14 islands by third parties, and that facilities constructed by the US on Canton, Enderbury and Hull islands would not be used by third parties for military purposes without US agreement.

Mr Bodde said the treaty looked forward to especially close and friendly co-operation between American Samoa and

Kiribati, using the American-built facilities on Canton island for joint fishing ventures.

WHEN CUSTOM, LAW CONFLICT

'The term "political crisis" is frequently over-used,' writes Mike Field in Wellington's *Evening Post*. 'But what other expression could be used when a nation faces the possibility of having almost all its elected representatives in a criminal court dock?'

Despite the many differences, the Western Samoan situation discussed by Field also has telling parallels with recent developments in Papua New Guinea.

In a lengthy review of recent events in Western Samoa, Field notes that the root of the issue was a series of judgments made earlier this year by a New Zealander, the country's Chief Justice Bryan Nicholson, concerning charges of 'bribery' and 'treating' in the country's February elections.

He writes: 'In 1963 Western Samoa's legislative assembly enacted an electoral act which was taken almost word for word from a similar New Zealand act. Although banning corrupt practices like bribery and treating, in the words of one lawyer, the members who passed the act gave little or no thought to the conflict that could arise between the act and the *fa'a Samoa* ... a catchword

to describe traditional customs in the country.

'The conflict remained virtually unnoticed until in February this year the country's 10 000 matais, extended family heads and the only people entitled to vote, went to the polls to elect 47 members of the new legislative assembly.

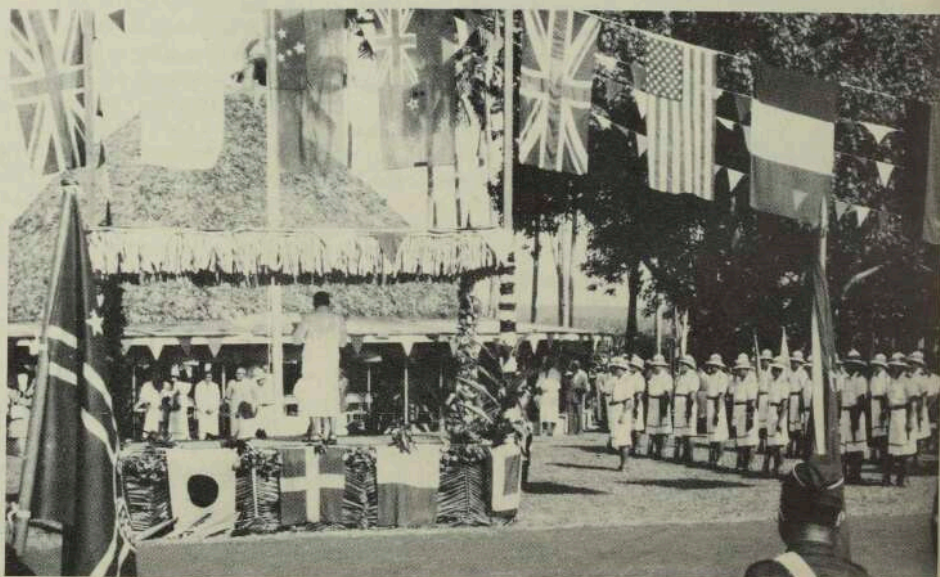
'In many constituencies voters only total about 200 people, and margins between candidates can average out at about five votes. In spite of warnings from electoral officials, a great deal of money, food and alcohol was handed out by candidates to likely voters.'

Field records that in one court challenge an unsuccessful candidate, Frances Moore, charged that a successful candidate, George Lober, had committed corrupt electoral practices by handing out food and beer at election meetings.

Field writes: 'In his judgment, Mr Nicholson noted that Moore had served home-made cordial and sandwiches as refreshments at her meetings. This, he said, could not be seen as an attempt to induce voters.'

'But Lober, in handing out beer and kegs of salt beef, went "far beyond the category of light refreshments".'

Field sums up: 'Since Western Samoa's independence celebrations, 1962 ... after 17 years, second thoughts on some institutions.'






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POLITICAL CURRENTS

independence 17 years ago. Samoa's Westminster system has apparently worked well. Problems have arisen, and it would seem that inexperience has meant that the implications of some bills have not always been fully thought out. One obvious example is the electoral act.

'In a way, it has been the inexperience of a Westminster style of government that has produced the problems.

'An interesting moral problem comes with the issue. Samoa is run by an elite, the *matais*. The *matais* themselves wrote out the rules for themselves. Now, suddenly, they do not like the rules and apparently will not follow them. In a way the issue strikes at the very basis of parliamentary democracy.

'There are more shocks to come. Shortly after becoming prime minister three years ago Prime Minister Tupuola Efi established a commission of inquiry under the chairmanship of a former prime minister, Tupua Tamasese Lealofi IV.

'Late last year the commission reported back to government, but because of the pending elections, Tupuola did not make the report public, even though other commission reports had been made public.

'The reason for the secrecy is that the commission apparently recommends that Samoa scraps *matai* suffrage, and instead goes for universal suffrage.

'In an atmosphere of "corrupt practices" none of the ruling class can afford to have such a recommendation made public.

'Samoa's politicians are not "criminals"... Nor are they the innocent victims of a circumstance which has meant that the *fa'a Samoa* can be seen as a crime. There is evidence that many of the politicians were trying to see how far things could be pushed.

'What is now taking place is part of the cut and thrust of Samoan politics which has suddenly found itself in something of a bog. The year's events are a tough test for the adopted system. From what I have seen and reported in over two years



in Apia, I believe the system will probably survive with some modifications. The personalities may not...

'NO DISSENT HERE'

In this delayed report from Papeete, Marie-Thérèse and Bengt Danielsson relate some of the behind-the-scenes doings during the July visit to Tahiti by President Valéry Giscard d'Estaing:

The teller of this rather unpleasant tale is a member of the legally constituted Socialist Party of French Polynesia, *Ia mana the nunaa* (Power to the People), which is fighting for independence from France and an immediate stop to all nuclear testing. Its programme has attracted a rapidly growing number of Polynesians who, during the June general elections, gave the party 10% of the total vote. This is what happened to two dozen of its activists on July 18-20:

'On the day the president was due late at night, we gathered in our party headquarters to paint anti-colonial and anti-bomb slogans on banners that we planned to display in various places where he was to speak. While we were at work we saw through the windows that a large number of policemen and seven police

cars had surrounded the building. We nevertheless went ahead with our task, as the law certainly does not forbid a citizen to express his opinions freely in public, provided he does not disturb order or block traffic.

'At 4.30 pm the first batch of banners was loaded into the car of one of my comrades who set off on his way home. He was soon overtaken by a car which forced him to stop, while three other cars came up behind. The occupants were all plainclothes policemen who opened the rear door of my comrade's car and read the slogans on a few of the banners. One of them then climbed into his car and ordered him to drive to the police station. The chief inspector interrogated him briefly, told him that he was not allowed to display any banners and locked him up in a cell. His repeated requests to be allowed to phone a lawyer or his wife were turned down.

'Fortunately, a sympathiser who had witnessed his capture informed us about what had happened, and our party secretary hurried over to the police station to find out what the charges were. He was told that our comrade was detained as a "safety measure", in order to protect the president of the republic, and that the inscrip-

Gendarmes surround would-be demonstrators during French President Giscard d'Estaing's visit to Papeete. (See 'No Dissent Here'.)

tions on the banners were "offensive".

'Our secretary next phoned the public prosecutor and protested in vigorous terms against this illegal detention and against the police encirclement of our party headquarters. As a result, our comrade was at long last released, at 8.15 pm. The banners were kept by the police.

'Having been told by the public prosecutor that the police siege of our headquarters had been carried out by order of the French High Commissioner, our party secretary tried to phone him, but was told that he was too busy to take the call. To prevent the policemen from breaking into our headquarters and stealing the remaining banners, two of us kept watch inside all night.

'The following day we gathered again, this time 24 men strong, at our headquarters, from where we marched, with our banners neatly rolled up, to the de Gaulle monument, where President Giscard was to lay a wreath. We assembled peacefully on the adjacent parking lot, which was reserved for onlookers. Almost immedi-

POLITICAL CURRENTS

tely a police car drove up and out stepped an officer who asked us what we were doing here. We replied that we were here, like everybody else, to demonstrate our feelings towards the president. He asked us to show him the logos on our banners, but we refused, saying that they were not for him, but for the president. He shouted back: "No demonstrations are allowed here!"

"We retorted: "Then you ought to chase away all the people standing here with French flags in their hands. By having these flags, they're also demonstrating their feelings towards the president." The police officer seemed quite puzzled by our bent for logical reasoning and called up the French High Commissioner on his car radio to obtain spiritual comfort and guidance. His

boss's reply was so loud that we could all hear it: we were to be taken straight to gaol before the president appeared on the scene. The police officer made the mistake of invoking the law, for we were very eager indeed to hear which law or regulation it was that forbids a citizen from standing in a public parking lot to demonstrate his disapproval of the policies pursued by the government. He was, of course, unable to quote any precise law and therefore decided to tackle, without further delay, a task he was better equipped for: he beckoned to a squad of about 40 police and the drivers of two big vans to come over and fetch us.

"Well aware that the slightest resistance on our part would be an extremely welcome pretext for beating us senseless, we let them herd us into the vans. We

were driven to the police station, where 10 of us were packed into a two-man cell, while the remaining 14 were locked up in a slightly more spacious one. There was only standing room in my cell and the heat almost suffocated us. We asked for a little water, but this was refused, as well as our requests to be allowed to go outside to urinate.

"In the meantime, as we learned later, our wives had phoned the public prosecutor who seemed surprised by this new, illegal detention. They told him that they were all going to Place Tarahoi, with our children, at the time when the president was to deliver his key speech and heckle him until we were released. Since all 36 journalists and radio and TV reporters who had come out from France to cover the

great event were present such an eventuality appeared so distasteful in ruling circles that we were soon liberated."

Let us only add that the *Ia mana te nunaa* group, much wiser after this harrowing experience, eventually succeeded in displaying a few banners before the eyes of the startled president when he was returning from a visit to historic Point Venus. However, none of the metropolitan journalists witnessed the incident. Since they were, of course, kept in complete ignorance of the other abortive demonstrations, nothing was ever published in the French and foreign press to tarnish the official image of the beloved president receiving the unanimous homage of the happy inhabitants of French Polynesia. This, after all, was the main aim of the whole police operation.

The case of the agitated scientist

A few months back I was working away in the Hamilton Library in Hawaii, writes a PIM correspondent from Honolulu. I gradually became aware of the presence of a neighbour who was leafing in a rather agitated manner through reference books on the Pacific Islands, including the Pacific Islands Yearbook.

His search seemed to be getting him nowhere, and his evident exasperation grew accordingly. Eventually, the librarian introduced him to me, suggesting that I might possibly be of some help.

It turned out that my rather frantic neighbour was a scientist employed by one of the United States nuclear agencies, and that he had a profound interest in questions of the sovereignty of various islands in the Pacific, especially the smaller coral atolls.

He referred to an old map which showed that the US had formal claims to most of the northern Cook Islands, to Tokelau, to many of the islands of Kiribati (then still the Gilbert Islands) and of Tuvalu (formerly the Ellice Islands). The map also showed that

there was a sharing of sovereignty between the US and Great Britain over Canton and Enderbury Islands. He didn't hesitate to trot out the old chestnut of the US Guano Act of 1856, and took some convincing that the US did not indeed have any territorial rights, as suggested by that act, over the Cook Islands, Tokelau, Tuvalu or sundry other Pacific Island nations.

I was curious as to why a gentleman in his position was making such inquiries, and I asked. His reply was that the US had entered into agreements with countries like South Korea and Taiwan according to which, in return for certain provisions safeguarding the peaceful uses of nuclear energy, the US would undertake to dispose of nuclear wastes from these countries.

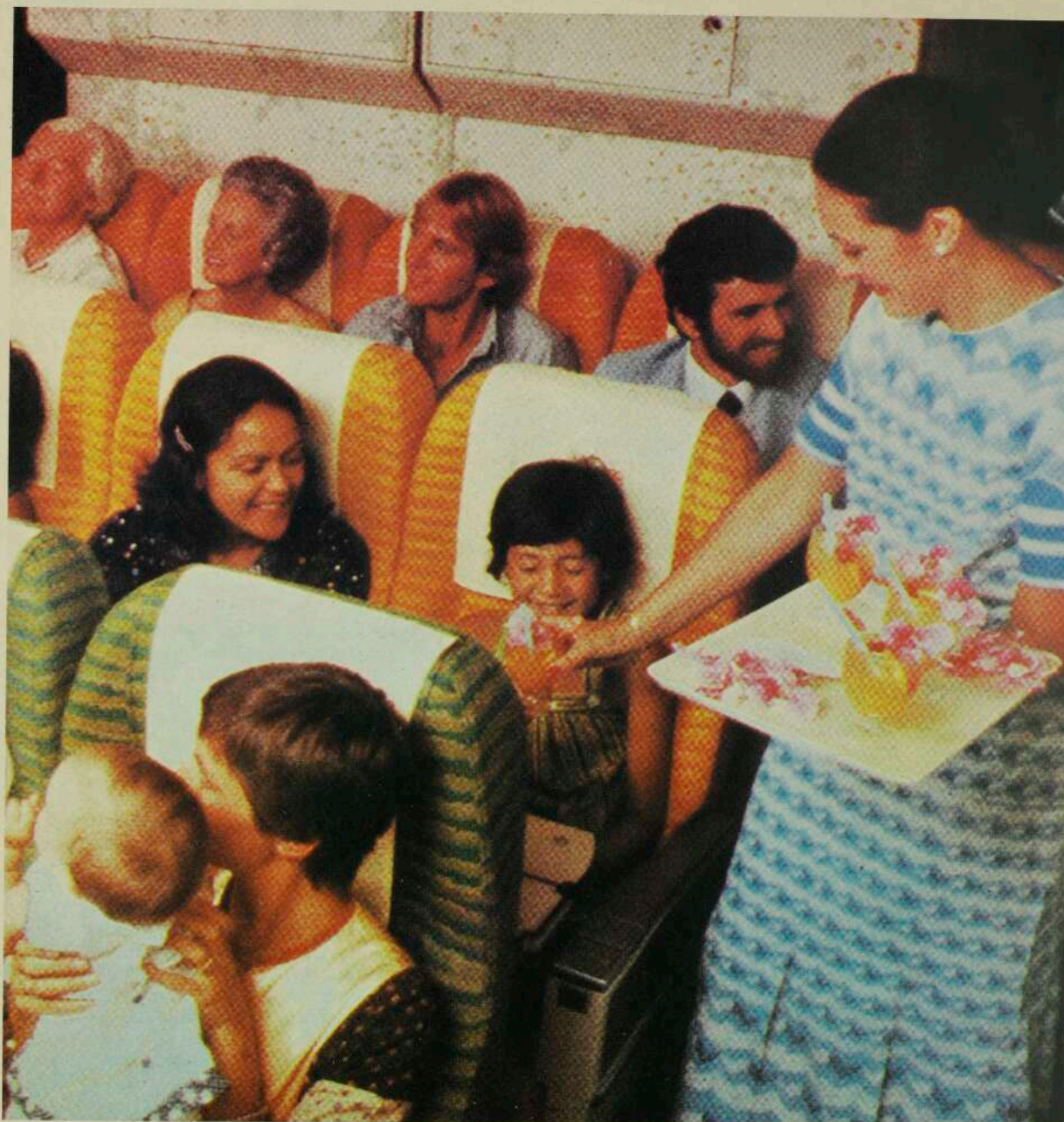
Because this was a federal matter it was virtually certain that no state within the US, including Hawaii, would sanction the dumping of these wastes within their territories. Therefore, it was essential to find some place or places over which the US had some claim, which were not incorporated within the US, where nuclear waste dumps could be set up. The argument then went that isolated coral atolls seemed to offer the best solution — an attitude that would certainly be challenged by the many people who are familiar with, and have been moved by, the examples set by the exploitation, for the purpose of developing nuclear weapons, of such places as Bikini and Moruroa.

I was naive enough to suggest that the US in fact did have some isolated islands over which her claims were undisputed. For instance, there was Johnston Island, which had already had a role in nuclear testing. Couldn't it be used? Oh no, came the scientist's reply, that would never do. Johnston Island was already being used to

store chemical warfare elements...

After this memorable personal experience, I was immensely gratified to learn of the firm attitude of opposition taken by Pacific Island Leaders at the July meeting of the South Pacific Forum in Honiara to tentative US plans to store nuclear wastes in either Midway, Wake or Palmyra (PIM September).

Perhaps it is appropriate at this point to recall an Associated Press despatch from Washington early this year which stated that the 'US Army plans to blow up 26 deteriorating land mines containing deadly chemicals, exploding them in place at Dugway Proving Ground, Utah'. The then US Secretary for Health, Education and Welfare, Joseph A. Califano, was quoted in the despatch as saying: 'It is clear that the existence of these land mines is a cause for grave concern. Because of their deteriorating condition and their exposure to the elements, their continued existence poses an ongoing danger to public health and safety.'



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TROPICALITIES

Coconut milk is many things

It's now official ... Add to the long list of useful things that come from the coconut tree the news that coconut water has definite medical value.

The August issue of the *New Zealand Medical Journal* carries a three-page paper headed up 'Coconut Water as a Rehydration Fluid'.

The paper looks at the use of coconuts, including using it intravenously, during a cholera outbreak last year in Kiribati.

The paper's authors were Dr Tim Kuberski, until recently South Pacific Commission's epidemiologist, (see Letters), Mr A. Roberts, a specialist with the ministry of health in Tarawa, Dr B. Linehan, the team leader of the New Zealand Cholera Relief Team, Mr R. N. Bryden, director of agriculture in Tarawa and Mr M. Teburae, a laboratory technologist in Tarawa.

It is well known in the islands that fresh coconut milk can be used in place of sterile water. But the team took samples of coconut water, and compared it with the usual fluids used for rehydration of cholera sufferers. It was found to have adequate potassium and glucose, but was deficient in sodium, chloride and bicarbonate.

The addition of table salt to coconut water is suggested to compensate for the sodium and chloride deficiency. In areas of the world where coconuts are plentiful, the advantages of sterility, availability and acceptability make coconut water theoretically feasible for oral rehydration of patients with severe gastro-enteritis when conventional fluids are unavailable.

The paper noted that during the cholera outbreak in Kiribati, some patients required more than eight litres of intravenous fluid, quickly depleting conventional fluids.



'Coconut water was used frequently for oral hydration (and) patients seemed to recover satisfactorily when given coconut water orally as an adjunct to their fluid therapy.'

The paper says the coconut presents distinct advantages in areas where it is not possible to prepare sterile solutions, especially in areas where contaminated water is the source of infections.

The paper concludes that the coconut should not be used as a substitute for conventional fluid replacements, but in emergency situations it could be an effective and life-saving alternative.

'Walk across the Pacific'

A 'Walk across the Pacific' was planned for late October to raise funds for the Third South Pacific Festival of Arts to be held in Port Moresby in 1980. The idea was not that participants should attempt any Galilee-like performances, but that in every country taking part in the festival national leaders should join in a sponsored walkathon to raise funds for their country's contingent. The start of each walk was to be at sunrise. East of the International Date Line the marathon would get under way at

Suspended under a Royal Australian Air Force Chinook helicopter, an old Ford Tri-Motor aircraft is airborne for the first time since November, 1942. The RAAF helped the Papua New Guinea Government recover the plane from a dry lake bed in the Owen Stanley Ranges. The old aircraft was used to evacuate wounded Australian servicemen over the range in World War II. It will go into Port Moresby's War Museum. Picture Bruce Adams, Defence Public Relations.

first light on Saturday, October 20, and west of the IDL, at dawn on October 21. Thus a span of six hours in real time would separate the start times of the most eastern walks in

TROPICALITIES

Tahiti and Hawaii and the westernmost walks in PNG and Guam.

The Tongans who never arrived

The original intention of British colonial planners who worked on the idea of settling Australia was that the bulk of the settlers should come from — wait for it — Tonga and China. Only felons and a few others would be sent from England.

This surprising piece of information emerges from one of the most significant acquisitions made this year by the National Library of Australia: a three-page pamphlet, dated 1785, in which Admiral Sir George Young recommended the establishment of a colony in New South Wales.

The extremely rare pamphlet, acquired from an antiquarian bookseller, was printed in London at the time of the recommendation. It became the basis of the official scheme for the colonisation of Australia.

Under the heading 'The

following is a Rough Outline of the Many Advantages that may result to this Nation, From a Settlement made on the Coast of New South Wales'.

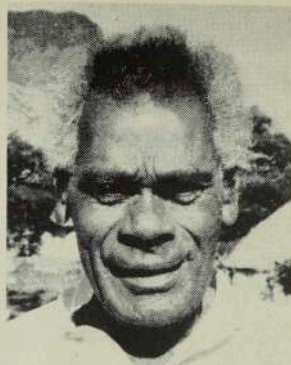
Sir George Young stated categorically: 'The Settlers of New South Wales are principally to be collected from the Friendly Islands (contemporary name for Tonga — PIM) and China.'

One off 1000 bokola

Udre Udre, a Tui (King) of Navitilevu, whose seat of power was at Rakiraki, Fiji, in the early 19th century, must be an unchallenged world record holder for cannibalism.

A report in *Fiji*, magazine of the ministry of information in Suva, says: 'Udre Udre had a very effective way of recording the number of *bokola* (human victims) he ate during his lifetime.

'Every time a man was clubbed for Udre's pot, a stone was put away in a certain spot. When Udre died, the stones had accumulated to 999, one short of 1000 *bokola*.



Ratu Emori Bolobolo ... 'nothing to be proud of, but ...'

'One of his descendants, the present Tui Navitilevu, Ratu Emori Bolobolo, said that although Udre Udre's achievement was not a thing to be proud of in a civilised society, nevertheless he was pleased that one of his ancestors had the initiative to preserve history.

'A tombstone was erected at a spot near the place where the pile of stones was and the foundation is made up of the 999 stones Udre Udre ordered to keep tally of his *bokola*.

'Ratu Emori said it was not

certain where Udre Udre was buried. But the tombstone was erected by the government near the turnoff to Vaileka town, near the place where the stones were originally heaped "by order of the King".

'The president of Suva Rugby, Mr Tom Vuetilovoni, is a great-great-grandson of Udre Udre.'

Fiji appropriately introduced the story with the words: 'The name of Udre Udre could easily have won a place in the *Guinness Book of Records* if such a book existed during his time.'

'Cavalier' Air Melanesiae

'Big balls-up yesterday,' writes a PIM correspondent in a September communication from Santo, New Hebrides.

'All the passengers were "bumped" off an Air Melanesiae Trislander so that Jimmy Stevens and his tribesmen could attend a command performance with (French Minister for Overseas Departments and Territories) Dijoud in Vila.

'The passengers, some of

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PAPUA NEW GUINEA: KIETA: Nikana Wholesalers, LAE: Faulkner-Tait (NG) Pty Ltd, MADANG: Burns Philp (NG) Co. Ltd, PORT MORESBY: S.A. Heath Co. Ltd, Steamships Honda Centre, RABAU: Elvee Trading Pty Ltd, WEWAK: Burns Philp (P.N.G.)

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...m with international connections to make, were over-
 ighted in Santo and flown out
 xt morning at 6 am on the
 ne Trislander which had re-
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 grial chief the night be-
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The French Government
 ked up the tab.

It certainly demonstrates
 w "free" Air Melanesiae is to
 ve their fare-paying passen-
 s treated in this cavalier
 hion.'

hot time in the d town

sidents of the charming old
 i capital of Levuka, on the
 nd of Ovalau, have been
 rified at the news that per-
 ssion has been granted for
 erection of a nightclub in

town. The Levuka His-
 ical and Cultural Preser-
 ion Committee in
 ptember held a special meet-
 , and fired off a unanimous
 test to just about everybody
 ely to help put a stop to it.
 The nightclub was first moo-
 a year ago, and the locals
 ught they had knocked it on
 head at that time.



The problem is that Levuka
 people have in recent years
 begun to take seriously their
 Historical and Cultural Preser-
 vation Committee, which was
 formed to preserve the charm
 of the old capital. They have
 recently, after two years, suc-
 cessfully got a guarantee that
 the old Morris Hedstrom
 building on the waterfront will

be preserved as a public
 museum-cum-library and
 meeting room, thanks to the
 co-operation of the owners of
 the building, Carpenters Ltd,
 and the government, which has
 given the lease of the land on
 which the building is standing.
 The National Trust of Fiji,
 which is now responsible for
 the building, is currently work-

Levuka's Royal Hotel, a sample
 of the town's architectural
 appeal, and typical of the
 atmosphere local preserva-
 tionists are out to retain.

ing on plans for its use and the
 townspeople can now see it
 really is possible to safeguard
 their historic heritage.

The nightclub is proposed
 for just along the street,
 opposite the fish canning

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TROPICALITIES

1979 International Year of the Child

NAURU 15c

1979 International Year of the Child

NAURU 32c

1979 International Year of the Child



freezer and factory. The town attracts Asian fishermen who supply the factory after spending weeks at sea.

The public meeting was told that the nightclub would be seen as an open invitation 'for this gentle and historic town to become the happy hunting ground of prostitutes, pimps, standover men and drug operators.'

Levuka on September 2 held successful celebrations for the centenary of the famous Levuka Public School — the oldest school in Fiji. Guest of honour was the school's most distinguished son, Ratu Sir George Cakobau, who spoke of 'the town's calm that refuses to be hustled by pressure or self-importance', and whose 'serenity rubs off on all who live in Levuka for any length of time.'

Historic BP get-together

For the first time in history, at least in living memory, there was a convivial gathering at the head office of many retired members of the Burns, Philp family, with some of the longer-serving current members of head office staff, on September 19. It was a move towards more human relationships with the company's loyal servants. Mr David Burns, the chairman, explained that he had been trying to initiate such a meeting for some years, to give the retired members a feeling of belonging to the family, and it was obvious that although some had left the company nearly 20 years ago, they still appreciated the wel-

come extended to meet their old friends in head office.

Most of the 70 people present, of whom 16 were ladies, had joined the company about 50 years ago; the oldest admitted to 88 years — Mr Lee, the secretary for many years.

Not all those present had served in the Islands, but there were some stalwarts from New Guinea, including Bernie Ryan of Lae, Monty Stobo, George Clarke and Jack Sherry, with John Beveridge who inspected plantations as far afield as Fanning Island. Among the tall poppies in the crowded function room were the present general manager, Philip Best, Arthur Furze of BP Trustee Company, and Ray Sharp, the personnel manager, as well as being a very active Brigadier in the Army Reserves.

The shipping side of the company's history included five ex-Captains, Gordon Howe, Alan Aitken, John Ealey, Frank Sadler and myself, with Arthur Lloyd, Lachie McQueen, George Hazell and Bill Williams of the shore staff. Two veterans were unable to be present owing to ill health, Roy Waddell, 86, the engineer superintendent, and Herbert Baker, 93, who was shipping manager until he was 78. There were some other notable absentees, but the invitation list had to be severely restricted, for the available space, and for the same reason no wives were invited.

The history of the company was certainly revived in the hours of personal contacts and reminiscences, and everyone was most appreciative of the chairman's initiative in holding the function. When asked jok-

ingly whether the historic event might be repeated every 50 or 100 years, David Burns said he hoped to repeat it, perhaps making it an annual event.

The party began at 5.15 pm and was to end at 7.30, but I noticed that it was 10.30 when I left, and I was not the last — though probably I was the only guest who had flown from Queensland specially for the occasion. The hospitality was generous in both food and convivial fluids, including the best Macleay Duff. — *Brett Hilder.*

Micronesia on US TV

A team from the top-rating CBS television programme *60 Minutes* has visited Micronesia and filmed an episode on the islands' progress and problems since the 1958 bombing moratorium.

Scheduled for screening in November, the film is based on a two-week visit by CBS correspondent Morely Safer and five CBS crewmen. They visited Guam, Ponape, Kwajalein and Palau.

Vavau piggery bogged down

After the success of a beach and entertainment area project developed communally by the 72 families making up the village of Tuanikivale in Vavau, Tonga, to entertain cruise ship passengers who visit their village, an even more ambitious programme was undertaken by the village co-operative, writes Jimmy Cornell.

All the pigs which normally roam undisturbed around the village, messing up the roads

Based on photographs of Nauruan children, the special Nauruan stamp issue for the International Year of the Child (above) appeared on October 3. The finished artwork was carried out by Julian Vasarhelyi, and the five stamps (denominations 8c, 15c, 25c, 32c and 50c) appear in se-tenant strips of five in sheetlets of 25 stamps (five rows of five different stamps with marginal inscriptions).

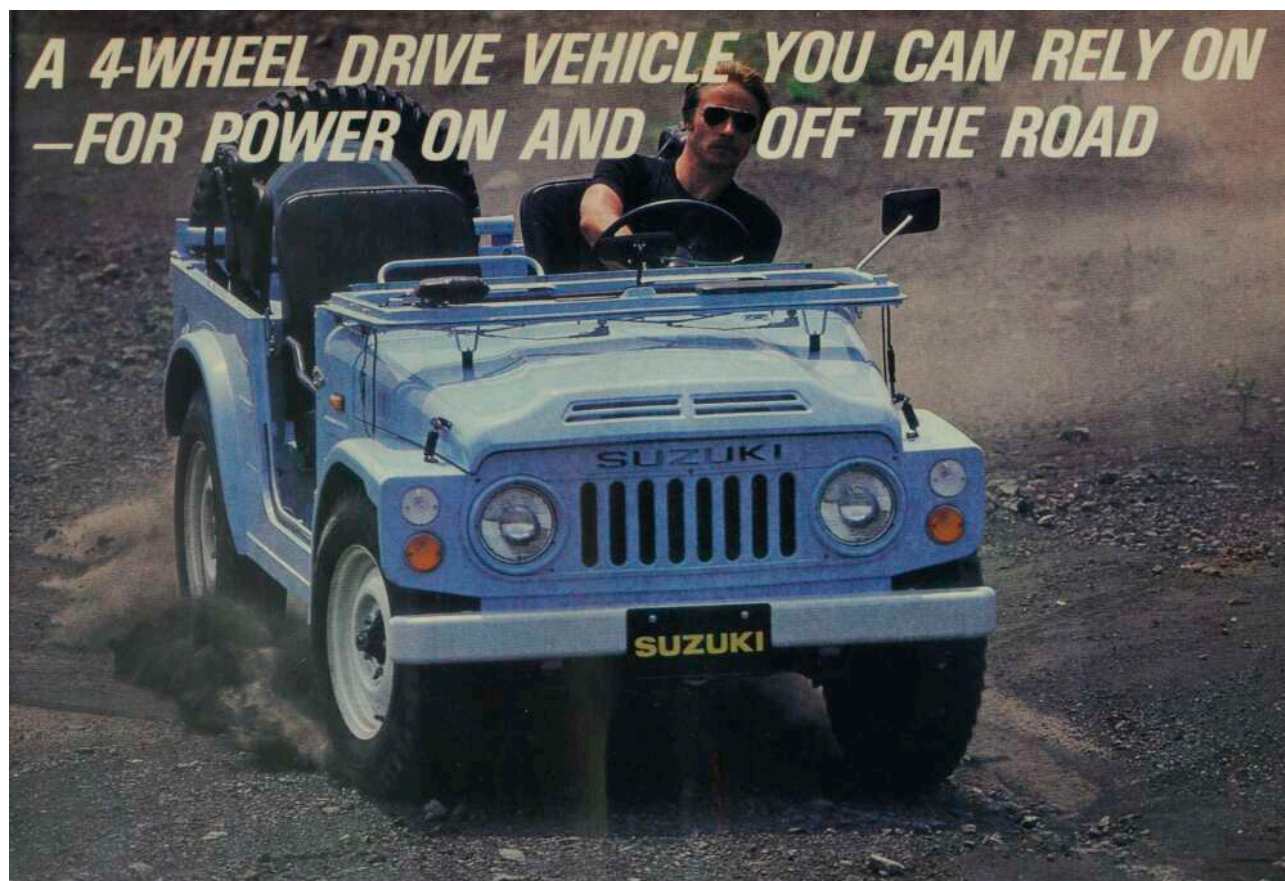
and ruining the crops, were to be housed together in a modern piggery. The plans for an integrated farming system including a piggery, algae and fish ponds and market gardening plots, were provided by the South Pacific Commission, which also contributed technical assistance, while the US-based Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific donated \$20 000.

The people of Tuanikivale put in thousands of hours of voluntary work providing all labour, but the whole project came to a halt with the departure from the SPC of Mr Chan, who had been directly involved with the project.

At the site of the piggery one building is complete, as are the gas digesters which were expected to supply the village with lighting and even cooking gas.

Unfortunately, according to village chief Hingano Palefau, who is also chairman of the co-operative, everything has come to a standstill, with no help coming from the ministry of agriculture in Nukualofa and no word from the SPC.

Meanwhile, the pigs are roaming the village, and the unused building will soon be swallowed up by the encroaching forest.



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An adventurous visitor stands on the SE corner of Lateiki, hottest part of the new island, amid steam, smoke and fumes arising from geysers.

Lateiki: Tonga's new jack-in-the-box island

The story of the Pacific's newest island — Lateiki, in Tonga's Vavau group — is told in detail by E. A. Crane, writing from Nukualofa. For good measure the writer seeks a fundamental explanation for the appearance of this (and other) islands as he outlines briefly the theory of 'plate tectonics', which is finding increasing acceptance among earth scientists throughout the world. E. A. Crane, MA, is assistant principal of Nukualofa's Tupou High School.

Another 'jack-in-the-box' island has been thrown up by a volcano on the western submarine ridge of Tonga. Lying between the volcanic cones of Kao and Late, it has been named by King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV of Tonga, Lateiki, which means 'it lies beside Late'. Although not so well-known as Falcon Island, renamed Fonua Fo'ou (new land) by the Tongans, which has been raised by an undersea volcano four times in the past 200 years and eroded away by the sea each time, Lateiki is already staking its own claim to fame by rising and sinking twice in the past 100 years. It has now been reborn for a third time.

In 1875 the British frigate, HMS *Metis*, while charting this area, found a small volcanic island protruding out of a shallow platform which the captain named Metis Shoal. Volcanic activity continued for the next

15 years, gradually building the island higher. When HMS *Sappho* saw it in 1878 it was 200m long and 37m high. In 1890 its height was given as 480m. From then on volcanic activity ceased, and by 1898 waves had worn away the loose ash and rock until it was again a shoal with 4m of water over it.

Twelve years ago, in December 1967, Metis Shoal erupted again, throwing up dense clouds of steam, smoke, and ash. A small island of loose rocks and ash was formed, and the King of Tonga visited the area by aircraft to see this small extension of his kingdom. But by the end of 1968 the island had completely disappeared under the relentless sea.

Then three months ago Metis Shoal began erupting again. On May 1 sailors on the New Zealand cargo ship *Marama* reported clouds of steam rising into the air on the

distant horizon. Sailors on the Tongan vessel *Niukavai*, on its way from Samoa to New Zealand, passed closer to the shoal and reported that the sea was boiling, and saw clouds of steam and ash rising high into the air. On May 10 an orbiting satellite reported steam rising from a Tongan volcano.

Reports then began to come in from distant ships and aircraft of a strange phenomenon — a 'sea of pumice' 190km long and 50km wide drifting away towards Fiji (PIM, August). Samples of the pumice were collected by two Fiji naval vessels near Vanua Balavu. In the first week of June the New Zealand navy frigate, HMNZ *Canterbury* sailed into the pumice field on its way to Tonga. The engine intakes sucked in the pumice and turned it to mud, but the ship was not damaged.

This pumice had originated from the eruption on Metis Shoal. The eruption had begun when gas building up in the underlying magma suddenly burst forth in frothing bubbles of red-hot lava. As these bubbles came into contact with the water and air above, they solidified quickly into light, buoyant rocks containing countless air pockets left by the escaping gas. One observer on a Tonga Air plane reported this pumice floating away from Metis Shoal still steaming, and with one piece 'as big as a motor car'.

As the eruption built up, ash, pumice and lava blocks were thrown out in continuous explosions up to 200 metres, and a pilot of Tonga Air saw a column of smoke and steam rising to 3000m, high above the cloud layer. Captain R. Jones, also of Tonga Air, said he saw the gradual birth of the island over four days, from June 19 to 23. He said: 'It was tremendously spectacular each time I flew back over it — a fantastic experience I will never forget' (PIM Sept).

Captain Jones said the eruption hurled small rocks as high as 150m into the air when he flew over it. There was no sign of land anywhere around, although round the centre of the smoke he saw the green outline of a subterranean peak in the midst of the blue sea. But instead of being deposited all around the rim of the crater, the ash, sand, and rock were deposited only on its northwest arc, probably due to the strong southeast winds blowing it in that direction.

A new island rising out of the sea was an event to celebrate with royal ceremony. On Saturday, July 7 His Majesty King Tupou IV sailed to the island on the MV *Sami*, and on Sunday, July 8, His Royal Highness Prince 'Aho'eitu led a landing party to the island to raise the Tongan Flag and claim it for Tonga.

When the flag-raising party returned to the ship to report to the king that the task had been carried out, a service of thanksgiving was held on deck. The president of the Free Wesleyan Church, Rev Hulualoholo Mo'ungaloa, mentioned that the new island was like a blessing from God to His Majesty on his 61st birthday (July 4). After the service the King named the island Lateiki saying: 'I believe that the island is given as a blessing to all Tonga'.

Geologists and vulcanologists visiting the island with the landing party, and others later from Fiji, report that Lateiki is composed of volcanic

ash, pumice, and dark grey or black basalt (lava rocks). It has an area of 3ha, is 320m long and 120m wide. Its steep southern end curves in an arc of cliffs rising 16m in the southwest to 10m in the southeast. From the tops of these cliffs the land slopes down almost to sea level on the northern end. A black volcanic sand circles the whole island. Scattered all over the island are large boulders of basalt, some being 3m high and 1m long. While the outer surface of these boulders is hard, black rock, the inside of the rocks is granular and softer. On the island too are many pumice holes (holes) emitting sulphur dioxide with its strong, salty odour.

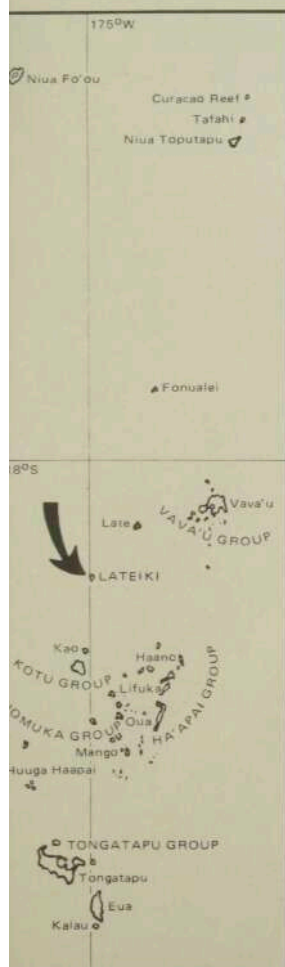
In front of the cliffs is the live centre of the volcano. When this is exposed at low tide, clouds of steam and fumes of sulphur dioxide come out of the central vent. These clouds

rise to over 20m and then spread over the whole island. At high tide, when the live crater is submerged, the sea boils and volcanic sands rise into the air in black fountains.

How did Lateiki arise? There is no doubt that it is part of a chain of volcanoes that have raised peaks and islands on the crest of a long submarine ridge stretching 3000km from Samoa to the southeast of New Zealand. In the Tongan group the existing volcanic islands of Ata, Hunga Tonga and Hunga Haapai, Tofua, Kao, Late, Fonualei, Tafahi, and Niuafoou rise out of the ridge from south to north. Kao, Late, Fonualei and Tafahi are perfect cones, but violent eruptions 10-20 000 years ago caused the sides of Tofua and Niuafoou to collapse into holes left by the ejected magma forming large calders 7-8km in width.

But in other places along the ridge less violent eruptions are occurring today which, after throwing out relatively small amounts of lava, pumice, rock and ash, quickly subside as they are washed away by the sea. They occur at Fonuafoou, just north of the Hungas, Metis Shoal, close to Late, and Curacao Reef 24km north of Tafahi. Three undersea eruptions have occurred at Curacao Reef since 1973, but although dense clouds of steam were thrown into the air, no islands were formed.

Most earth scientists today are accepting the new theory of plate tectonics as an explanation for these volcanoes. This theory, reinforced by findings from ships drilling the ocean floor, and submersibles that explore the rugged ocean terrain to depths up to 3000m, is that the earth's thin outer shell is split up into gigantic, irregular-shaped blocks called plates. These move slowly over the globe, only a few centimetres each year, carrying continents, islands, and oceans on their backs. Where two plates collide with each other or continents, they slowly pile the edges up into massive mountain ranges, but where they collide under oceans they form ridges and deep trenches, and



Continued next page



Top picture shows the extraordinary southern cliffs of the new island, bordering the live crater seen at left, which is exposed at low tide. Centre picture: King Tautua'ahau Tupou IV, aboard the MV Sami, takes part in a thanksgiving service as the ship stands off the newest island in his kingdom, and before a landing party goes ashore to raise the Tongan flag and claim it for Tonga (at right). All photos illustrating this article are from the Tonga Chronicle.



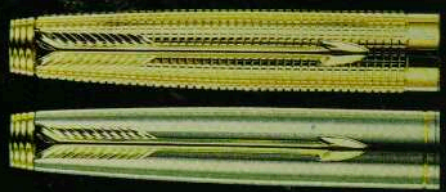


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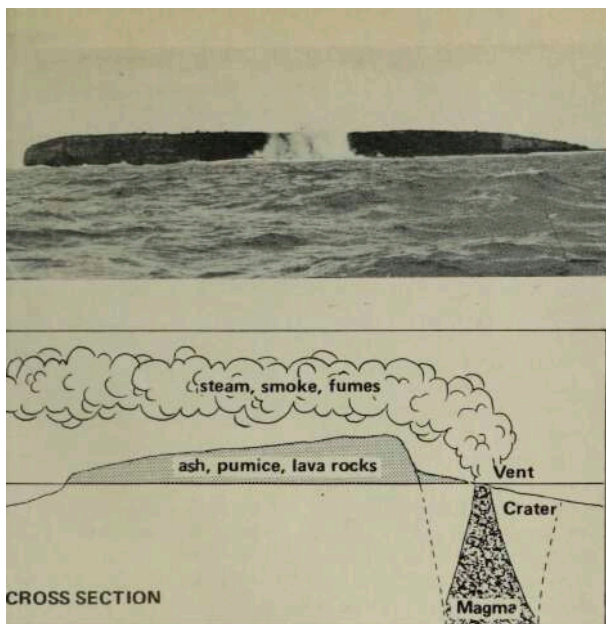
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along the ridges there is usually much volcanic activity.

Plate tectonics provides a convincing explanation of the formation of Tonga's volcanic islands, its deep eastern seas, and the occurrence of its severe earthquakes. It is believed that the plate carrying Asia and Australia is riding over the edge of the giant Pacific plate and the meeting-place of the two plates is the high submarine ridge extending from Samoa to New Zealand. The movement of the Asia-Australia plate eastwards is forcing the Pacific plate moving westwards to bend downwards and push it away at a low angle deep into the earth's mantle.

These contrary movements force up a ridge on the edge of the Asia-Australian plate, and push down a deep V-shaped trough where the Pacific plate begins to dip. This trough, known as the Tonga Trench, is nearly 3000km long, 100km wide, and extends to a depth of more than 10 000m at one point, the second lowest depth in the Pacific Ocean.

As the Pacific plate moves downwards some of its rocks melt at a depth of 100-160km. Most of this molten material pools and solidifies before it reaches the surface. Some of it, however, pours out as fiery lava erupting violently from volcanoes, while some of it is pushed up like putty through cracks in the surface. As a result the submarine ridge from

Lateiki, seen from the south, showing the active crater facing the line of cliffs. The sketch shows the anatomy of the new island.

Samoa through Tonga to New Zealand has become a 'fiery arc' of volcanoes, most of them dormant now but liable to burst out afresh at any time, as the new volcanic island of Lateiki shows.

Earthquakes occur when rocks under great pressure move suddenly to relieve the strain. Where rocks are shallow they are comparatively hot, pliable and 'soft', so when they break only gentle earthquakes occur. The cold, rigid rocks of the Pacific plate can withstand much greater pressures, but when they finally give way along the opposite moving edge of the Asia-Australia plate much more violent earthquakes occur. Such severe earthquakes have done great damage to life, property and landscape in New Zealand in 1931 and in Tonga in 1977.

A knowledge of plate tectonics is not really helpful in enabling us to predict future eruptions or earthquakes, as events occur across a slow-moving timespan of thousands of years. But it is helpful in explaining the reasons for present volcanic activity and earthquakes. At least in the short term we can predict with confidence that Lateiki, the world's newest island, is doomed to extinction before many years have passed.

**EXPORTERS
TO THE PACIFIC ISLANDS**



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FROM OVERSEAS MANUFACTURERS INVITED.**



PEOPLE

Warrant Officer **Ross Phillips**, an Australian army explosives expert spent July-October helping the government of Kiribati to dispose of potentially dangerous bombs and ammunition that have littered the area since World War II. The help was provided as part of Australia's defence co-operation programme with southwest Pacific countries following a request from Kiribati.

Researchers **Dr Grant McCall**, **Dr Alexander Mamak** and **Mr Robert Franco** of the University of New South Wales, Australia, are investigating Pacific Islander migration and adaptation. Funded by the Australian Research Grants Committee, their study involves interviewing Samoans, Tongans and Fijians living in Sydney, Auckland, Honolulu and San Francisco. One focus of the project is to determine the factors in the host community which have the greatest impact on the Islander communities.

Mr R. H. Harding has been appointed a director of Bougainville Copper Ltd, Papua New Guinea's major mining operation. He replaces **Mr B. B. Fairfax-Ross**, who has retired.

R. G. Irwin has been appointed Australian High Commissioner to Solomon Islands, succeeding **A. J. Melhuish**, who has held the post for the past two years.

After 35 years in broadcasting, **R. Geoffrey Haggett**, overseas programmes manager with Radio New Zealand, is retiring. Following service with the BBC forces programmes in India, Mr Haggett joined New Zealand Broadcasting in 1947. Among his many duties in the Pacific was a three-year stint in Tonga from 1960 advising on

the establishment of the Tonga Broadcasting Commission.

Director of the South Pacific Festival of Arts, **Mali Voi**, has made a four-week swing through the Pacific to brief member countries of the South Pacific Festival of Arts on plans and preparations for the festival which is to be held in Port Moresby in June-July 1980. He also visited non-member countries to find out how many people and items they would be sending to the festival. Mr Voi visited Guam, Saipan, Ponape, Majuro, Palau, Nauru, Kiribati, Tuvalu and Solomon Islands.

Papua New Guinea's former high commissioner to Australia, **Vincent Eri**, has been appointed acting secretary of the PNG transport and civil aviation department.

Toafi Atoa Manuula has been appointed official representative of the Samoan Visitors Bureau in Australia. She runs Pacific Area Promotions, which seeks to develop tourism in the Pacific. Toafi is a daughter of a High Chief and holds the Taupou title of Manuula. She was born in Apia and educated in New Zealand and Australia where she attended the University of NSW. She has worked in the travel industry in Sydney for several years, mainly in public relations. She has also assisted the ceremonial

hospitality section of the prime minister's department in Canberra. She will run the Samoan Visitors Bureau through her organisation, Pacific Area Promotions.

Dr Dirk A. Ballendorf, former president of the Community College of Micronesia on Ponape, has been appointed director of the University of Guam's Micronesia Area Research Center (MARC). According to Micronesia News Service, the main purpose of MARC is to provide opportunities and facilities for the acquisition, organisation and dissemination of pertinent information concerning Guam and Micronesia as a whole in order to stimulate research activities. MARC was established in 1967.

A Papua New Guinea language specialist, **Thomas Tumun**, is doing advanced research at the University of Queensland. Mr Tumun, from Kup, Kerowgi District, Simbu Province, is studying his own language group, mid-Wahgi, and will write a research thesis as part of a course leading to an MA degree in anthropology.

The agricultural editor of the British Broadcasting Corporation, **Tony Parkin**, has left Fiji after a seven-week visit. Mr Parkin had been attached to the ministry of agriculture and fisheries information unit, and advised on agricultural broadcasting. He also held training sessions with the department's rural broadcasters. His visit followed a recommendation by Fiji's Prime Minister Ratu Sir **Kamisese Mara** who, during a visit to Britain, had been particularly impressed with a BBC programme produced by Mr Parkin.

Tom Ritako, Papua New Guinea's newly appointed chargé d'affaires to the Philippines, has taken up his post. Mr Ritako previously held the job of first assistant secretary (Citizenship and Migration Division). **Dominic Diya**, PNG's ambassador to Indonesia, will remain accredited as ambassador to the Philippines.



Toafi Atoa Manuula ... just starting

Belgium's ambassador to Niue, **Marcel Swinnen** and his wife flew from their base in Wellington to Alofi in July on a goodwill visit. Thanking his Niuean hosts for their 'fantastic' hospitality, Mr Swinnen told the paper *Tohi Tala Niue* before his departure that one of his reasons for coming to the country was to find out more about suggestions he had heard of possible uranium deposits on the island.

Stuart Nanton of St Vincent in the Caribbean, where he was the top-ranking player for several years, has been appointed head tennis professional at the Maeva Beach Hotel, Tahiti.

John Wilson left Funafuti at the end of August after two years as attorney-general for Tuvalu. He first came to the Pacific in 1976 and spent a year in Solomon Islands before going to Tuvalu. His appointment covered the crucial time of independence, and he played a major part in drawing up legislation for independent Tuvalu. A similar role awaits him when he takes up his new appointment as attorney-general of Montserrat, one of the few remaining British colonies in the Caribbean. John was accompanied by his wife **Anita**, who has built up the now thriving public library in Funafuti and spent much time classifying and documenting the Tuvalu Archives material which was dispersed from the Central Pacific Archives in 1978. John Wilson will be succeeded as Attorney General by **Richard Wood**, previously acting attorney-general in the Seychelles.



Geoff Haggett ... retiring

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YAMAHA

30

Back to Noumea for un grand mariage

Former PIM correspondent in Noumea Helen Rousseau returns to her old haunts after an absence of several years and turns in a lively account of her visit with something in it for almost everyone — from those interested in social and political developments in New Caledonia to potential tourist visitors.

French weddings are great times for drinking champagne, kissing everyone on both cheeks and wishing the defenceless couple 'lots of happiness, lots of good health and lots, but lots of *petits enfants*'.

Un grand mariage in Noumea can also be a time for bringing a whole town together, from the Mayor Roger Laroque and prominent politicians Jean Leques and Pierre Maresca to nickel king Philippe Pentecost, long-time football personality Guy Fouques and dynamic entrepreneur Raymond Frere. Weddings are also a great excuse for Sydney friends to hop on a Qantas Funjet for the two and a half hour flight which transports us almost to a different planet to stay with *grand'mere* and for that everyone says a big *merci beaucoup* to the happy young couple Joelle and Patrick.

'Have you noticed how folk in town don't look so pleased?' an old friend, a former Parisienne, greeted us. Well, we hadn't come to sample the latest perfume from Paris — *Gaz lacrymogène* (teargas); nor had we come to see the unfortunate clash between police truncheons and students at Noumea High School and the subsequent protest rallies, over the sacking of a Melanesian relief teacher and a replacement teacher to come from France. As an old friend remarked in typical French style 'If there is no drama, you have to provoke it'.

Instead, we had come to watch the little offshore islands grow bigger and smaller as the tide went out and in on Anse Vata beach; to take rides on the blue 'baby-car' bus whose laughing Martiniquais driver had painted *joie de vivre* on the sides; and to find suitable coconut palms for an exuberant six- and eight-year-old to climb.

We loved the clear blue skies, but maybe the locals

didn't... For clear blue sky in Noumea means no nickel dust, which means less smoke and hence less nickel from the SLN factory on the northern outskirts of town. Not only are the chimneys spouting fewer fumes, but a well-known landmark has disappeared from Noumea sunset postcards — the familiar silhouette of the three old blast furnaces. Victims of rising costs and advanced technology, they have been dismantled and sold as scrap. Nickel production this year is expected to be around 42 000 tonnes of metal compared with over 70 000 tonnes in 1975.

While the nickel factory looks less sooty, the surrounding hillsides suddenly look much greener, with a cultivated greenness. The recession has turned men back to the soil and all around Noumea stretch market gardens. They are overlooked by lofty towers of apartment blocks — some completely deserted, hurriedly built for a nickel boom which has collapsed. This has put a severe dampener on the real estate market.

As nickel exports dwindle, the locals are urged to curb the territory's import bill and 'buy Caledonian'. This campaign seems to be working; in three homes we were served venison, which cannot be obtained commercially but comes from deer hunted on inland properties.

Who can say life is tough? Salaries look high at close to \$A1000 tax-free per month for responsible clerical jobs in the government service. And someone has to pay for that, so goods in the shops look costly to outsiders, since they include hefty import charges and sales tax. Now Paris is keen to have income tax voted in next year.

In the meantime, there are still some bargains for tourists — the long 'wifebeater' loaf of French bread, *la baguette*, costs 25 cents; a *demie-jeanne* of rough red from Spain is around



A new bank building towers over Noumea's old town hall on the city's famous Coconut Square.

\$12 (the bottle is an interestingly-shaped bonus); locally-grown coffee retails at \$2.70 per 500 gm; and Boursin cheese *aux fines herbes* costing \$5 a packet in Sydney can be indulged in for only \$3 in Noumea. On the other hand, a telephone call costs 50 cents and petrol is 40 cents a litre.

Caledonian prices do not seem to deter the Japanese tourists, whose popularity in Noumea shops can be judged by the number of welcoming signs written in Japanese script, even in Roman letters. If English-speaking visitors imagine the Caledonians have discovered something new in their lagoon, they can forget it — the sign 'sangoh' on the shop shelf only means 'coral' in Japanese. Usually the Japanese are shopping for French labels — T-shirts boldly signed *Cour-règes* across the bosom, scarves with a Paris signature or bath towels with the PC motif from

Pierre Cardin, selling for \$20 each in duty free shops.

The Japanese tourist traffic has grown to such an extent that visitors from Nippon now rank second, after Australians, with New Zealanders displaced to third position in visitor statistics to New Caledonia. Especially popular are honeymoon trips — one Noumea hotel invited its guests to join in a Japanese wedding (at \$35) with a full day trip and feast in the Melanesian tribe at Goro, driving through the dramatic red-soil hillsides of the Yate district, south of Noumea.

Visitors who have no time to travel inland or to offshore islands, get their main taste of the 'French way of life' around the hotels on Anse Vata beach. Still a tranquil long stretch of

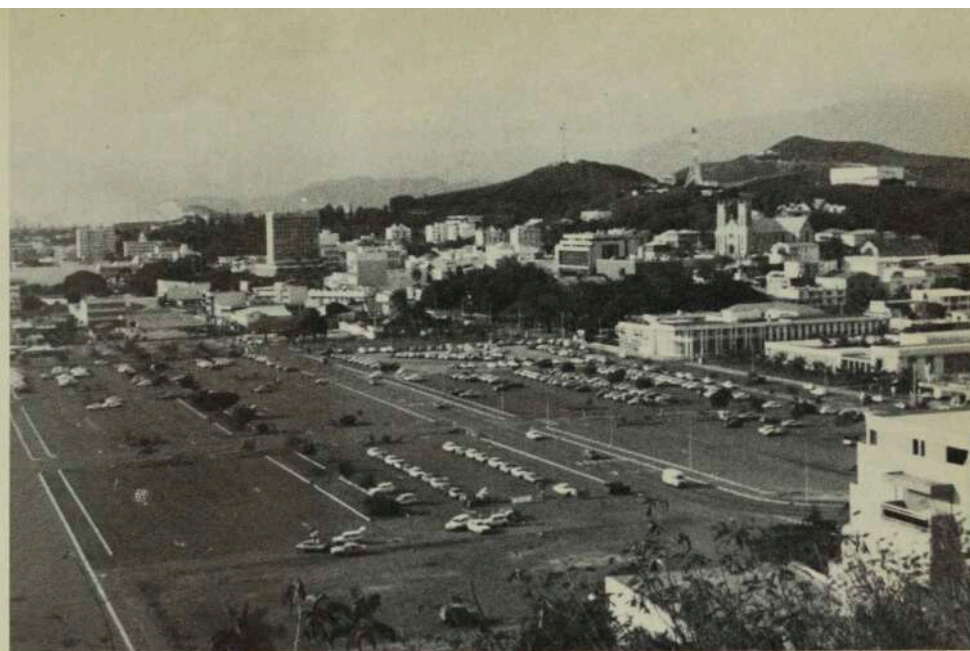
fine white sand only seven years ago, Anse Vata has been transformed these days into a busy lagoon filled with jet skis, windsurfers, Hobie Cat sailors and reclining sun-worshippers, most of them topless.

The habitual procession of leisurely cars along the Anse Vata promenade has been joined by an increasing number of local boys and girls on *motocyclettes* and tourists on bicycles, even tandem cycles. These are hired from the new Maison de Tourisme complex, built around what used to be the Lantana Hotel.

The Relais de Kanumera on the Isle of Pines has closed its hotel rooms, although day trips to the island are still organised. The Club Med. is trying to persuade the Melanesians to authorise a Club Med. installation on the island. Back at Anse Vata, the Chateau Royal Hotel, closed down since February, was due to open as a Club Med. resort in early November. Behind the South Pacific Commission, the Hotel Isle de France is building an extra 40 rooms to bring their total to 100, while around by the Baie des Citrons beach the Mocambo Hotel has been refurbished and is under new owners. Closer downtown, the new Paradise Park Motel offers comfortable accommodation with swimming pool and free bus to town from the handy suburb of the Vallee des Colons.

The most exciting new hotel project for Noumea is the internautele hotel-casino, being promoted by Raymond Frere's SOCOTOUR which has obtained several hectares of municipal land situated on an undeveloped beachfront at the northern end of Nouville. With its convict ruins and fine lagoon, this former Isle of Nou is now linked by causeway to Noumea on the mainland. A number of large hotel groups in Australia are keenly interested in the Frere project which has ambitious prospects as a luxury island resort.

Back in downtown Noumea, friendly general advice to tourists is available at the infor-



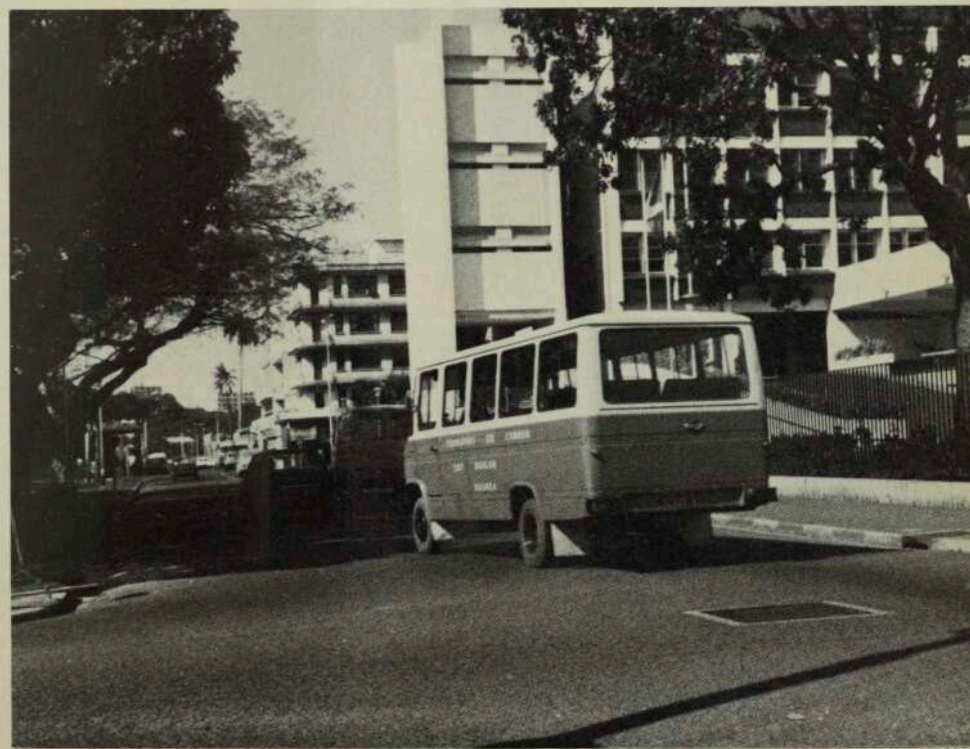
Parking area on Noumea's filled-in Baie de la Moselle.

mation bureau which has just been transferred from in front of the Qantas agents and reopened in the old colonial town hall building, overlooking Noumea's central square. Completely dwarfing the old wooden town hall is the 14-storey glass and concrete structure of the Bank of Indochina and Suez, across the street. At the other end of the square the imposing new town hall occupies a whole block. Across the corner, the Maison Barrau

department store beams out the daily local news with illuminated messages revolving over its shop front. Big splashes of white paint on buildings around the square try to obscure signs calling for *Indépendance Kanak*. The locals watch and wait, knowing that the territory is in the experienced hands of a highly-trained elite of skilled public servants from the best schools in France, who are convinced of the important role France

has to play in the Pacific.

Noumea radio and colour TV use satellite transmission to keep the Caledonians up to the minute with events in France. And French government officials urge them to 'open up to the outside world, especially the Pacific' for 'New Caledonia will in her own special way spread the French language and way of life in the Pacific'.



Babycar' buses stop outside Noumea's new town hall.

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HELPING ISLANDS POLIO VICTIMS

Not all the help Australia is offering to Pacific Island countries is of the government-to-government kind. Ngaio Mansfield has investigated an entirely different area: the help offered by Australian voluntary organisations — backed by the skills and devotion of some of the country's most eminent doctors — in helping Island victims of the scourge of poliomyelitis. Her report.

Softly, softly — the kind of help that changes lives

To Crippled Polio Patients
— Wherever They May Be —
In the hope that this book
will enable many of them to walk,
earn their own living,
and take their rightful place in society.

So reads the dedication of Professor Ronald Huckstep's book *Poliomyelitis*, written as a guide for approaches to the treatment of the disease in developing countries. The only work of its kind, it is expressive of his warm yet intensely practical concern for disabled people in these far-flung, economically disadvantaged, parts of the world.

In Sydney in August, PIM talked with Professor Huckstep, who is in charge of studies in traumatic and orthopedic surgery at the University of New South Wales. On the same day, John Mark Remy, 14, from Santo, New Hebrides, had flown home from Sydney, able to walk for the first time in his life. His legs, bent at a 90° angle at the knees by a severe polio attack when he was two, had been straightened in a series of operations at the children's department of the Prince of Wales Hospital. His feet, which had been turned out almost at right angles, had also been realigned.

John Mark was flown to Australia by Randwick Lions Club, but no charge was made for medical or hospital expenses incurred during his four-month stay. Professor Huckstep, who performed 5000 operations for polio deformities during 12 years as head of the department of orthopedic

surgery in Uganda, praised the hospital for its 'first-class' support of the case. However, with approximately 40 million untreated crippled children and adults in the developing countries, there are obvious limits to the number likely to receive this kind of help (although Joe Price, president of Randwick Lions, already has another, similar, case in mind).

But the figures need not appear so daunting. Professor Huckstep sees home-based solutions as both possible and practical, except in especially difficult cases. He has a three-pronged approach — prevention, treatment and rehabilitation.

Immunisation programmes for poliomyelitis are, he feels, a neglected area, simply because developing countries often cannot afford them, and because once begun they must be continuous. To run one-off programmes is 'worse than not doing it at all', he says. In such situations, polio epidemics are likely to become more fre-

quent, rather than less, with children in developing countries particularly vulnerable.

Improved community health situations have altered the polio 'pattern'. Previously babies were prone to infection at a very early age when, protected by their mothers' antibodies, they were likely to recover unparalysed and with their own immunity. Now, after unsustained polio immunisation campaigns, the tendency is for a child to contract the virus after it's two or three, and then to become paralysed, to a greater or lesser extent.

Professor Huckstep instanced Papua New Guinea as one Pacific Island country which did not have a nation-wide immunisation programme.

Smaller Island countries have usually been able to control their epidemics, although they must still contend with birth abnormalities and paralysis due to accidents.

Some developing countries are receiving help to begin immunisation programmes: the Rotary International project for 1980 and beyond is an immunisation scheme in the Philippines.

Clearly, if money can be found, prevention makes the

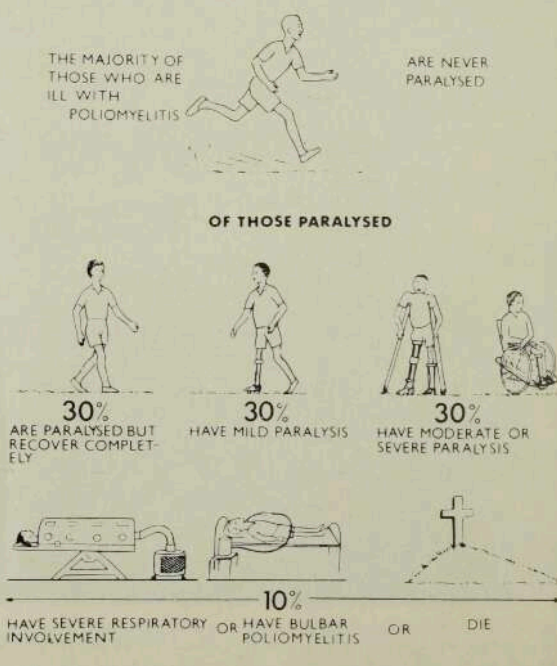
best economic sense — quite apart from humanitarian considerations.

In the treatment of the disabled, Professor Huckstep has pioneered simple yet effective solutions. The vast majority of cases can be corrected by uncomplicated surgery which does not require visits to more developed countries. Wheelchairs, calipers and other appliances to support patients can be made locally, using designs such as are illustrated in his book.

These make use of local labour — in Uganda the patients themselves became involved — and everyday items: tree roots and discarded shoes for hand supports used by crawling or crouching patients; galvanised iron, leather and wooden clogs for calipers; bicycle wheels and household chairs of wheelchairs. 'It doesn't look so glamorous, but it works,' says the professor.

Moreover, the locally made appliance may be more suited to local conditions. A wooden clog for someone who doesn't normally wear shoes is more appropriate (and comfortable) than a boot. Home-grown

ANALYSIS of PATIENTS PARALYSED in POLIOMYELITIS



Prof Ronald Huckstep's book, *Poliomyelitis: A Guide for Developing Countries*, contains the graphic account (right) of the wide variations in the effects of the disease.

wheelchairs can be built to cope with coral and rough roads, a contingency with which more sophisticated (and expensive) overseas models may not be able to cope.

The Pacific, as well as Africa and Asia, has benefited from this approach. From March to September 1970 Professor Huckstep undertook a Commonwealth Foundation lecture tour visiting, among other countries, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.

In Solomon Islands he saw 608 paralysed people not one of whom had previously been treated. (Most of them would have been crippled as a result of the two major polio epidemics in that area in 1948 and 1952.) As a result of Professor Huckstep's visit, Honiara Red Cross started an appliance workshop and a rehabilitation hostel. This was visited about three months ago by one of the professor's fifth-year medical students, Uldis Bardulis, who reported that it was 'thriving', and that several hundred crippled patients are now walking as a result of treatment. North Sydney Rotary are in the process of establishing another workshop, in Port Moresby.

Whatever success is achieved in the future control of polio, there are already millions of children and young adults with a lifespan averaging fifty years who need help.

Rehabilitation is the step that follows treatment. It is not enough, the professor says, just to restore the use of limbs. The final aim of treatment should be 'a patient returned to his own village or town, accepted and integrated into his own community, earning his own living among his friends'.

Sometimes crippled children are wrongly regarded as mentally defective. Professor Huckstep tells the story of a 14-year-old crawling boy brought for treatment who had been living his days kept in a soap box since he contracted polio at the age of one. In six weeks he was able to stand. Later, he became a medical student and is now a doctor working in India.

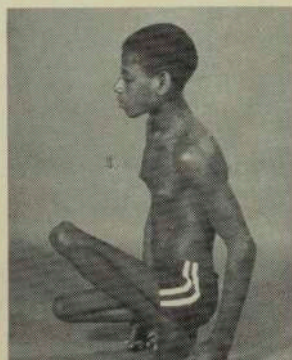
So, important work is already being done. Is it poss-

ible to do more? Professor Huckstep thinks so. Apart from the cost of immunisation programmes, the big difficulty is in providing training. Here the Australian Government could help by sending surgeons and doctors to developing countries to train local doctors, paramedics and technicians. He believes there are young qualified doctors in Australia who have 'quite a conscience', and would willingly spend six months or a year doing this on a basic, by no means generous, salary and living allowance.

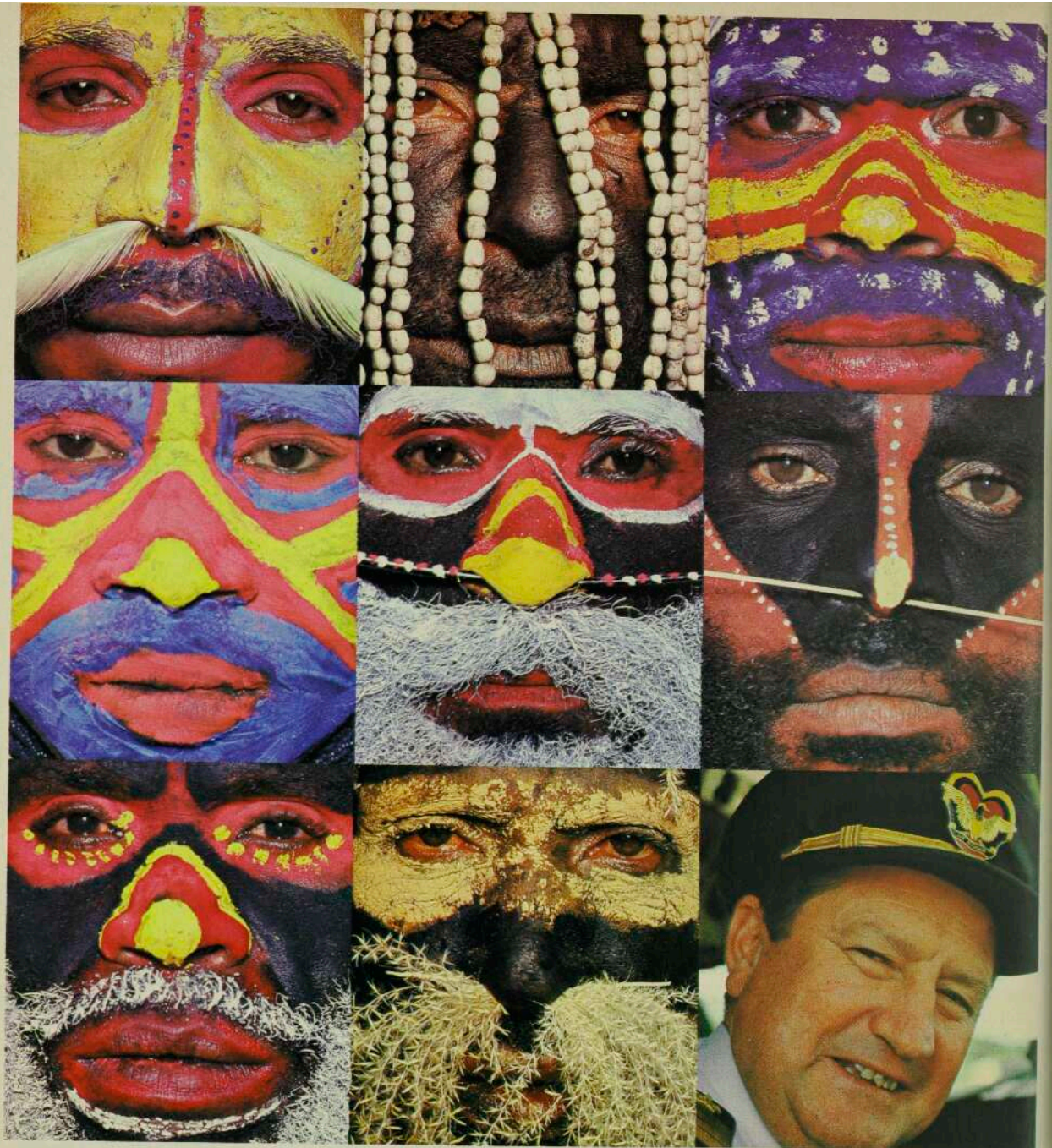
But at present they are afraid of not having jobs to return to, of falling behind in the career race at home. If the government were to second them for such work, and pay only a bare minimum of attention to their re-integration into the Australian medical scene on their return, this barrier would soon melt away.

Such a scheme would not only do a tremendous amount of good for people desperately needing attention, and at relatively small cost, but would show that Australia cared. Small, developing countries would stop saying 'Australia has pinched another doctor off us'. Instead they would be saying 'Australia is showing us how'.

Voluntary organisations such as the Lions, Rotary and the Red Cross are already showing how. So are the 250 surgeons belonging to World Orthopedic Concern, an organisation founded on the initiative of Professor Huckstep in 1973. These highly trained individuals are pledged to visit developing countries to pass on their skills in orthopedic work to local doctors. And they do it at their own expense.



John Mark Remy of Santo, New Hebrides, is pictured (left) in the permanently disabled condition in which he lived before he came to Australia for treatment. Above: John Mark, after a series of operations which straightened his legs (they had previously been bent at a 90° angle at the knees), and realigned his feet (formerly turned out almost at right angles), is ready to board the plane for home — and it can be hoped, a vastly brighter future.



some of our chiefs

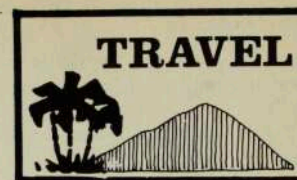
In Papua New Guinea there are 717 different cultures, each represented by its own language and its own "chief". Few men know this country better than our chief pilot, Captain John Regan. He's logged more than 16,000 hours flying, much of that in Papua New Guinea.

John Regan is one of ninety highly skilled Australian, New Zealand, British, and American pilots flying our aircraft to seventeen places in Papua New Guinea and eight destinations overseas.

AIR NIUGINI 
THE NATIONAL AIRLINE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

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A Sydney medical specialist whose great love is surfing ('after,' he says, 'my family and my work') has spent many of his holidays over the last 11 years travelling the South Seas, more often than not with his surfboard. One of these trips took him to the island of Rurutu, in French Polynesia. He has written this account of it for PIM, with the accompanying comment that since one of the great areas of potential economic assistance for many of the South Pacific islands is the tourist industry, the continuing growth of surfing, especially professional surfing, might prove to be a significant contribution. Most South Pacific islands have surf. This is my justification for offering this article.' We think 'Dr Geoff', as he prefers to be known in print presumably for reasons of medical ethics, needs no such justification. We hope to see more of his warm and sensitive reports.



mining expert acting for the Papeete consul during the early 1900s), returned to me. He had described Rurutuans as being 'intelligent and industrious' but 'noted for their lack of cordiality to strangers' and a desire 'to keep their island to themselves'.

Within a short time, the dark green peaks of Rurutu etched their way into view. Point Toatatarata, the southernmost tip of this whale's-tooth shaped island, was surrounded by a maelstrom of white water. Huge southerly swells battered onto the step-to reef, exploding upwards against the sheer cliffs. A small pass in the reef a few kilometres along the eastern shore remained in my memory.

A pulsating whiteness assaulted me on alighting. The coral airstrip, the freshly-painted white observation tower, and the airport hut gleamed and shimmered in the hot sun. Definitely a change after the diesel ambience of Papeete.

Timothea, one of Jacques' relatives, and the local gendarme, slowly drove the regulation Toyota along the recently 'constructed' bumpy coral road, to the principal village of Moerai. Although Rurutu's total population of 1514 resides principally in Moerai (on the NE shore), and Avera (on the W shore), scat-

With surfboard to Rurutu, in the French Australs

My interest in making a trip to Rurutu, for some reason, surged into an obsession. Its roots lay somewhere in my readings of early European Pacific explorations. The flower grew as I questioned my Tahitian friend, Remy, and then procured a naval chart of the Austral group. Rurutu itself then blossomed in my mind.

For some 10 years I had been consistently returning to French Polynesia, extending my explorations and friendships.

Remy and his family warmly accepted me as one of them, teaching me Tahitian history and culture. At a farewell *ma'ara'a*, Remy introduced one of his friends, Jacques, a native of Rurutu. Jacques described his island and asked whether I would see his father who some years before had suffered a stroke. There were no unrealistic expectations in this request — merely the natural concern of a son for his father.

Rurutu is one of the seven islands comprising the Austral group. Of volcanic origin, the Australs geologically represent the S-E extension of a vast, underwater, mountain chain originating in the Cook Islands.

Five of the seven are inhabi-

ted — Rurutu, Rimatara, Raivavae, Rapa and Tubuai — with a population (1971 census) of 5079 persons, spread over a total area of 141 square kilometres. European contact with the group began in 1769 when Captain Cook 'discovered' Rurutu (Oheteroa). As white contact increased, infectious disease dramatically reduced the native population from 2800 to about 350. The major portion of this epidemic occurred around 1818.

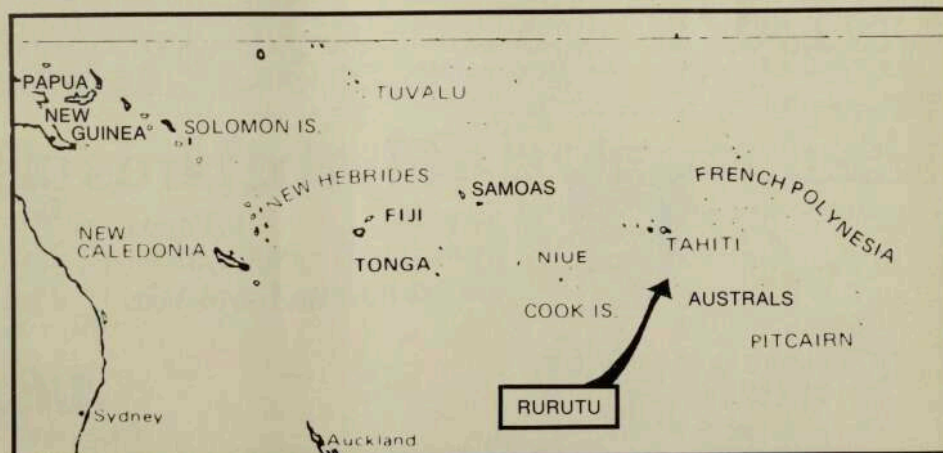
Missionary contact did not take place until 1821. Two teachers from the London Missionary Society at Raiatea returned with the occupants of a large *pahi* (canoe) said to

have 'drifted' the 760 kilometres from Rurutu. Christianity was adopted on Rurutu soon afterwards.

In response to the growing threat of German influence, Rurutu became a French 'protectorate' in 1889, finally becoming annexed in 1900.

Tubuai was the first island in this remote Austral group to have an airstrip. Rurutu followed in 1977, ending over 200 years of relative isolation.

For my visit, the Air Polynésie F27 once again droned into the cumulus-shred Pacific sky, leaving behind the 'market-garden' island Tubuai, and headed WNW for Rurutu. The words of a Mr Russell (a



TRAVEL

tered houses are nonetheless found along the island coastal strip.

As Timothea delivered the newly arrived mail, a far quicker islands communication source — the coconut radio — was in action. Shy children, and friendly adult faces stared at the *popaa* (white man) with his strange *poti* (my surfboard).

After showing me the administration building and dropping my belongings at Pa's place (where I was to stay), Timothea took me to Catherine's for lunch. Even though it was the only 'eating place' — at least to my knowledge — in Moerai, there was nothing mundane about this food: it was at least equal to any I'd tasted in French Polynesia. Taro from Rurutu is renowned amongst Tahitians as 'the best'. Today I became a disciple. Raw fish, washed down with lime-juice, completed the fine repast.

It felt strange giving Pa and his wife a gift of Australian rice. However, I could tell they appreciated it. Neither of them could speak French (that I could understand) so conversation was limited to textbook Tahitian.

My *fare taotoraa* (bedroom) was upstairs, off the large lounge, in the huge rambling wooden house. Beautifully set out, the lounge was like those found in elderly persons' homes throughout the Western world. Handcrafted items, numerous family photographs, personal treasures and the Bible were proudly exhibited. Pa showed me a ship's lamp which had been in the family for many generations. This priceless antique would be a talking point in anyone's home.



Late that afternoon I climbed the slippery road to Avera. Just on dark I stopped near Mt Rurutu. On the coast a few kilometres away lay the beautifully set out village of Avera. Languid wavelets licked lazily away at the brittle lagoon sands. Outside the reef, gun-metal grey corduroy swell lines ended their vast trek by obliteration onto the fringing coral reef. Tomorrow would give me my *'raison d'être'* — I would take out my board.

It's a strange feeling stepping off shore and paddling towards the kinetic forces of mother ocean. It had taken me all morning to walk to Avera with my surfboard, check the tides, reconnoitre the general area of Avera bay, time sets through the channel and recheck the chart.

Surfing a previously (as far as I knew) unsurfed location requires significant preparation — both physical and mental — especially with the swell as large as this.

Nearing the channel I became transfixed by the almost overwhelming masses of water, buckling, throwing out and

'My bedroom was upstairs in the huge, rambling wooden house

exploding onto the razor sharp coral of the fringing reef. On being swept through the tiny opening of Opupu pass, I began to wonder why I'd put myself in this somewhat perilous position.

After about 20 minutes I reached the take-off zone. I'd noted this area to be producing what, from shore, appeared to be perfect waves. But on paddling into a small wave and looking down I knew I'd made a bad error. A half metre under water lay the reef. Three metres above was a mass of curling energy about to dump its huge weight! I felt ominous vibrations as I hastily strained back on the surfboard to avoid death, or worse.

On reflection, my initial mistake had been to go out in the surf for the first time in such a large swell with waves in excess of three metres. The second had been to wait until near high tide, with the swell still to become bigger. Already it was no longer safe to try to paddle back through that channel.

Not allowing enough time to

paddle 16 kilometres back the safety of Moerai was the third mistake. This took a little longer to appreciate!

Relaxation only comes when the body and mind synchronise into a common rhythm. Paddling those 16 kilometres gradually produced the wanted harmony, and I became less scared. With the sun moving towards the horizon I nevertheless understood the reality of my situation. It was some hours later when I rounded the southern point. As the swell gradually diminished in the lee of the island I recalled my incoming flight in the F27 and the position of the pass I'd noted on eastern shore.

An eternity ended as I walked elatedly from the water and headed along the track to Moerai. Although exhausted, I felt invincible — the transient legacy of masses of adrenaline circulating throughout every fibre of my body. As an epilogue to a somewhat testing day the tap broke just as I was about to have a shower.

Using Jacques' letter as an introduction, I sat down with his elderly parents and via an interpreter explained the purpose of my visit. Even being partially blind, unable to converse, and paralysed down the right side, Jacques' father was still at peace within himself. Because of an intrinsic closeness he could 'communicate' with his family.

At the same time, by a series of automatic reflexes and willpower, he was able to hobble around using a bamboo walking stick. I didn't need to tell him, or his family, that nothing could (nor in fact need) be done. Everyone knew. He accepted his disabilities. His family and friends accepted and revered him. No medicine



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neither 'sophisticated' nor 'primitive' — could offer any more.

After church, Rurutu, like most South Pacific islands, comes alive. Sunday is the day to dress in white, listen to a sermon, and after, greet old friends.

It really was a pleasant feeling to be so far away from home and to experience the traditional

family custom of a 'Sunday drive' — a visit to Point Parari. Winding past the airport we finally came to the beautiful NW coast.

Sheltered from the trade winds and with the sun shimmering off the rich Pacific Ocean, we sat down to a peak Tahitian food experience — 'smelly fish'. Basic preparation is easy. But rigid adher-

ence to technique is important if serious illness is to be avoided. This version of raw fish is prepared by keeping the fish pieces in a nearly airtight coconut shell container, together with a small amount of salt water. Although the olfactory organs say 'no!', the first bite totally addicts one's taste senses.

Following a slightly euphoric snooze, Jean-Pierre took us to a grotto. There are many such caves in French Polynesia but only the 'locals' seem to know of their existence. Following a long trek through papaya, mango and *uru* (breadfruit) stands, we reached the huge cavern. Sunlight filtering through a large hole in the roof gave an impression of a surreal, lunar landscape. Bats, stalactites and the constant drip, drip, drip of water slowly pulsating through limestone completed the Fellini-like scene. I could almost feel the resident *tupapua* (phantom).

That night an 'excuse' for a party was made.

Rurutu, with its dark green peaks, surrounded by a maelstrom of white water. Huge southerly swells batter the reef where 'Dr Geoff' went surfing.

Soulful Tahitian hymns, screams of laughter (especially when I 'sang'), copious quantities of rum punch (a mixture, I swear, of aviation gasoline and pineapple juice) and beer, congealed into a confused, manic night. Never was the *tamura* so wildly danced.

By early afternoon I struggled to Tetuanui plateau. The scenery was a contrast of massive movement and eerie sameness. A southerly wind screamed off the frenzied Pacific. Rolling hills of bracken, interspersed with occasional trees, spread out towards nearby peaks. An omnipresent, subtle beauty, sombrely reflecting the isolated environment of this remote island.

The storm that was growing would go on to batter Rurutu for five days, though at the time I didn't know. Although drawn to this island in a very deep way by the warmth and friendship of its people, its natural beauty and its potential surf quality, it was time to return north.



'Pa' against his house. He has a priceless antique ship's lamp which has been in the family for generations.

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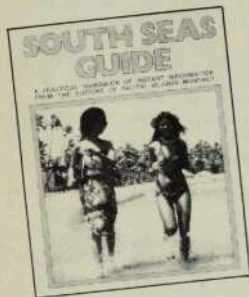
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'Downbeat' is the very least one could say about Suva reader John McGrath's assessment of the city's annual Hibiscus Festival. Read it and see — and if lots of Suva-ites don't share his miserable appraisal of the event, PIM hopes they'll let us know.

A critical eye looks at Suva's Hibiscus Festival

Sunday, September 2, and the Hibiscus Festival is over.

We can tell that it's over because the rain has stopped for the first time in a week.

Not that the Fijians care. They stroll around, beaming happily, admiring each other's festive finery, and having a thoroughly good time. Their determined good humour is contagious, and here and there one sees an Indian, or even a European tourist, smiling. The resident expatriate Europeans, however, remain dismally aloof from any suggestion of frivolity.

Just what the Fijians find so jolly in the festival is rather hard to discern. In fact, apart from the improvement in the weather, it's not easy to tell that the festival is now over.

Along the waterfront the stalls are still selling grossly over-priced food, the streets are still crowded with smiling Fijians, with many Indians and a sprinkling of Europeans, Chinese and Pacific Islanders.

The Hibiscus Festival consists of an extremely protracted series of non-events, interspersed with great intervals of time during which nothing happens. The pace is so slow, the organisation so appallingly inept, that one is never quite sure whether something is not happening, or whether, perhaps, nothing is happening.

The nine-day 'festivities' of the Hibiscus Festival are as crassly commercial a cornfest as any in the Pacific, and almost the only music to be heard is the tinkling of cash registers.

Every hotel room in Suva is occupied. Private householders rent spare rooms. Nightclubs raise their cover charges. Duty-free stores bring out their most

extortionate price lists, and are allowed to trade on Sundays as the *Sea Princess* is in port.

Also in port, by the same sort of coincidence that so often takes them to Melbourne at Cup time, is the British Navy — a guided missile destroyer and a supply ship. And the freighter *Southland Star*.

There are prizes to be won, but most of them are reserved for the businessmen who profit so heavily from the festival. They award each other prizes for such cultural feats as 'Best Shop', 'Best Stall', 'Best Window Display', and select somebody's daughters as 'Miss Hibiscus', and 'Miss Charity'.

The successful Miss Hibiscus entrant gets to represent Fiji in a grand meat market contest: 'Miss South Pacific'. This year's Miss Hibiscus, Miss Margaret Singh, is Indian, although the competition attracts few Indian or Fijian entrants. The commercial beneficiary of this part of the festival is CP Air.

In Cruickshank Park what appears to be a semi-derelict ferris wheel provides some entertainment for Suva's kids, together with a merry-go-round, unwinable card games and hoop-la stalls where the hoops, apparently won't fit over the prizes.

There is a Baby Show (Morris Hedstrom), an Arts and Crafts Exhibition (sundry manufacturers), a Charity Lottery (Burns Philp), a Coconut Tree Climbing Competition (Rothmans), the Fiji Fun Run (*Fiji Time*) and Morris Hedstrom for 'official' T-shirts, 'Clothes Encounter' (Estée Lauder, Stinson Pearce and the Isa Lei Hotel), and a Hibiscus Ball (Isa Lei Hotel).

The only Fijian flavour apart

from the tree climb is the Bili Bili, a race between bamboo rafts.

A Box Car Derby (Shell must be a masterpiece of misorganisation. Staged

around a right angle curve with all entrants starting square, the car on the inside travels about half the distance of the outside competitor and so wins inevitably. Each heat takes about 30 seconds, and the races are staged, in driving rain, at intervals of about half an hour. Splendid piece of entertainment.

Some hard-working New Zealanders provided an acrobatic act, and an Aboriginal choir sang splendidly. There were scheduled lunch-time and evening concerts which were either cancelled because of the rain, or simply didn't happen. Three 'cultural evenings', separately Indian, Islander and Fijian were held in the Phoenix Theatre at the tourists-only price of \$2.50 per seat.

As a tourists' festival Hibiscus is pathetic but profitable. As a Fiji festival it is an atrocious affront to the people of Suva, who are involved as victims rather than participants.

(Curiously, Fiji has a European festival — Christmas; a Hindu festival — Divali, the Festival of Lights; a Muslim celebration — Id-ul-fitr; a Chinese festival — Chinese New Year. But no Fijian celebration.)

The whole sad, soggy, sorry mess is rounded off by a parade — a procession of floats which could more accurately be described as mobile billboards. Supreme in this class was a motor car enclosed in cardboard with the inspiring message: 'Plan Ahead with ANZ'.

As Sukuna Park's clock chimed midnight, signalling the end of the festival, all three of Suva's bikies roared past with derisively crackling exhausts; a bus blew a tyre to loud cheers. The gods, unpropitiated again for the 23rd year, allowed the clouds to clear and the Hibiscus Festival was over.

As the *Fiji Sun* editorial said: 'Thank goodness the Hibiscus Festival finishes today'.

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AFTERTHOUGHTS

with PERCY CHATTERTON

Is freedom of movement a luxury that PNG can't afford?

Freedom of movement was the one commonly accepted 'right' I left out of the Human Rights Bill which I successfully sponsored in Papua New Guinea's House of Assembly in 1971. A few years on, the framers of our constitution saw fit to include it therein.

Since then, it has become increasingly apparent that complete freedom of movement is a luxury that PNG may not be able to afford, and that anyway a large number of Papua New Guinean leaders, particularly at provincial level, don't want. They are apprehensive of the effects on their own people of an uncontrolled influx of people from other provinces, and particularly of the problems created by an uncontrolled influx from rural into urban areas.

It is worth noting that freedom of movement within PNG was a colonial achievement; it was the *Pax Britannica* and later the *Pax Australiana* which made it possible. In pre-colonial PNG, for reasons of inter-tribal enmity, there was hardly any freedom of movement at all, except along well-defined traditional trade routes; and in post-colonial PNG freedom of safe movement is steadily dwindling, whatever the constitution may say. Indeed in the national capital, Port Moresby, as a letter writer in our national newspaper, the *Post-Courier*, recently pointed out, the only people who enjoy unrestricted freedom of movement, especially at night, are the 'rascal' gangs. The rest of us cower in our houses.

I mentioned last month that my house had been repeatedly stoned. Since then a local gang, disappointed at being unable to force my front door open, hurled the crowbar with which they had been making the attempt through the fly-wire and louvres, with such force that it flew across the lounge and all but, though fortunately not quite, penetrated the wall of the bathroom, within which I was enjoying a shower. Had it come right through, I might not have been writing this article. As

it was, the sudden appearance of a hole in the wall and a resounding crash outside came as quite a shock. Although they may not have actually meant to scupper me, it was definitely aimed at the part of the house in which they knew I was.

My Papuan neighbours, alerted by the noise, were marvellous. Before I had dried myself off and pulled on some clothes they were erupting on to the verandah clamouring to know if I was all right. Several of them stayed with me until the police arrived an hour and a half later, and one of them stayed with me for the rest of the night.

For the benefit of my old friend Josephine Abaijah and her Papua Besena cohorts, who have recently been campaigning for the repatriation of New Guineans from Port Moresby, I must emphasise that this attack was made by an all-Papuan gang, drawn from an old-established migrant group in whose welfare I have taken considerable interest over the years.

Now I have had my house securely wired all round, something I've always declared I would never do. But when the alternative was sleepless nights, I gave in and added one more to the tally of Port Moresby's cage-dwellers.

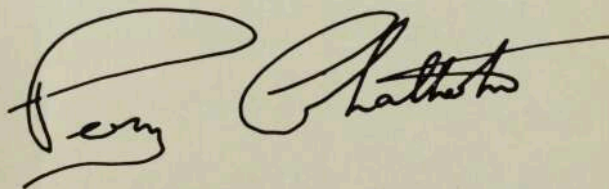
I'm not grumbling. Compared with some — the robbed, the bashed up and the raped — I've been very lucky. Compared with some of my low-wage-earning neighbours who have come home to find that their houses have been broken into and all their meagre belongings taken, I've been lucky. But I do get just a bit rattled when one of our city councillors tells us that this is just something we've got to learn to live with.

Have we?

Admittedly the task facing our national and municipal leaders is a formidable one, and anything they do may be too little too late. That's another reason why I'm not grumbling. But it's worth a try.

First and foremost, a larger, better trained and better organised police force. I don't think that extra police powers are needed, rather more clues and more determination in using the powers they've got already. Perhaps identity cards would help. A curfew? If not an all-over one perhaps one that could be clamped on to a particular area to cope with a local upsurge of crime. Repatriation of law-breakers to their home areas where this is possible; but where they are second or third generation migrants, as were the ones whose target I became, that's not practicable. Above all, on the positive side, more job training and more job opportunities — hard to achieve perhaps, but the only long term solution. In the meantime I would like to see more support and more funding going to school-leaver centres, whether vocational or recreational.

Finally, to the constitution framers, the law-makers and the starry-eyed I would like to say: Let's have a bit more freedom of movement for the law-abiding and a bit less for the law-breakers.





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Monumental work traces Pacific discovery

The Spanish Lake. By O.H.K. Spate A.N.U. Press, Canberra 1979, being Volume 1 of **The Pacific since Magellan.** \$A35.00. Deluxe signed edition \$A90.

This beautiful volume is monumental in its conception and scholarship, and treats the Pacific Ocean as a European concept in space and time.

It traces the discovery of the Pacific from before it was known to exist, and through the shaky period when it was thought by some to be part of the Indian Ocean, following the voyages of Columbus and Vasco da Gama. But they were both before 1500, and this book is mainly concerned with the century from 1500 to 1600. Later volumes will no doubt deal with the following centuries.

After the ocean was first sighted by Balboa in 1513, near Panama, and first traversed by Magellan in 1519, its great extent was still not known, and the mapmakers drawing maps and globes of the world had a tendency to stretch the distances of the known lands both east and west from Europe so that there wasn't much room left for the Pacific.

While all the century of expansion of voyages, trading and political developments were taking place, and they fill this volume to overflowing, the ancient land of Australia was sleeping undisturbed in its Dreamtime.

Professor Spate deals with the geographical, economic, historical and political situation of Europe leading up to the Pacific's first century, and while this largely concerns the Spanish and Portuguese nations and their colonies and trade ventures, the Chinese voyages of Cheng Ho and the Arab and Indian trading routes are also included where they affect the fringes of the Pacific. This book cannot limit itself to the Ocean itself, but must include the maritime activities of

all the then-known lands surrounding the Pacific. So we have the story of Spanish expansion from the West Indies to the Pacific coasts of America, south to Peru, Chile, and the Strait of Magellan, and north to California.

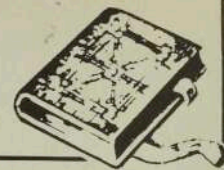
The internal histories of Japan and the East Indies are given as far as they affect the trading policies of these maritime areas. The islands in the Pacific do not figure much in this book, for they were discovered one or two at a time, and mostly were very small, or atolls without shelter or anchorages. The natives generally appeared to be hostile, or otherwise were either treacherous or thieving. The result was that the islands and their natives were unimportant to their discoverers, for practically all the Pacific voyages were only concerned with the trade in spices, gold, silver and pearls.

To the Europeans concerned, the Pacific was just a highway for trade, an alternative highway to the route around Africa and across the Indian Ocean. For this reason the northern and southern coasts of the Pacific were neglected except for the early searches for a route around the north or south of the American continent.

The first two great circum-navigations, by Magellan and by Drake, are not given very much navigational detail in this book. But by the time the backgrounds and reasons for the voyages are given, there is only room for general mention of the practice of navigation, which is a kindness to the general reader.

I found the treatment of Drake's voyage very satisfying, and there are aspects of it which will surprise the average reader. Drake must have had nine lives to have survived the three-year voyage, for unlike most explorers, he kept looking for trouble in addition to the

BOOKS



Professor Oskar Spate (right) discusses his new book with PIM publisher Stuart Inder.

troubles which descended upon him from natural causes or the angry gods above.

Although Drake used Magellan's Strait to get into the Pacific in quick time, he was immediately struck by very bad weather and one of his ships went back into the Strait for shelter and returned to England. Another was lost at sea in the bad weather, which forced Drake well to the south. At the end of a month he was back at the western entrance with only his *Golden Hinde* left of his original five ships.

Here he was again struck by impossible weather, and driven by stages around the rocky coasts to the south until he was finally somewhere near Cape Horn, and where he realised that there was a clear sea between Tierra del Fuego and any land which might exist further south. This was a great discovery, and Drake's Passage was henceforth used by most ships which wanted to get from the Atlantic to the Pacific. Between Magellan in 1519 and Drake in 1578 the Spanish expansion north and south of Panama had been in ships built

on the west coast of America, and this continued for centuries.

After Drake had passed up the western coasts of America, to the site of the present San Francisco and beyond, causing a lot of havoc and taking a lot of plunder, he set forth across the vast Pacific on July 23 1579 and met only one island, (Yap or Palau) before reaching the Philippines in October. He worked south down the coast of Mindinao to Ternate, the chief port for the Spice Islands or Moluccas. Here he made a verbal treaty with the Sultan, in opposition to the Portuguese presence, loaded six tons of cloves, and sailed away before things could go wrong. The ship was careened in the Celebes, then ran aground and was saved with difficulty.

After passing Timor a fortnight was spent on the little-known south coast of Java, and they took fresh provisions again at Sierra Leone before reaching Plymouth, after a magnificent voyage which brought the first Englishmen into the Pacific.

Well before Drake's time, the Pacific saw an annual shuttle service between Mexico and the Philippines, and by

1565 the regular routes were established for the galleons, which took three months from Mexico to Manila, and six months to return, due to the pattern of the trade winds.

The galleon service across the Pacific was connected by land routes across Mexico with the galleon service across the Atlantic, with valuable cargoes and bullion which was the envy of the rest of the world. What kept the trade possible was the vast amount of silver produced in Peru, where the production of silver was made possible by the discovery of quicksilver, also in Peru, which was necessary for the refining of the silver ores.

The strange thing about the whole trade was the amount of silver, both in coin and in ingots, which travelled both ways along the trade routes. This was needed to pay for the silks and other precious goods from China, and to pay for the goods carried from Europe.

Professor Spate explains the economics and the policies of the Spanish state, which like all government regulations, would have hindered trade if they had been faithfully observed.

Despite the wealth in gold and silver extracted from the American possessions, the Spanish state needed more and more money for the maintenance of its far flung settle-

ments, and new lands for exploitation were constantly sought. The fabled land of Ophir, from whence Solomon had obtained his gold and pearls was still undiscovered, which led to three Spanish voyages in the South Pacific being undertaken in the years 1567, 1595 and 1605.

The first was led by Mendana, who found the Solomon Islands, the second began under Mendana but was completed by Quiros, while the third was led by Quiros but completed by Torres.

These three voyages are well known to us, but we in Australia and the South Pacific are remarkably ignorant of the much more important activity of the Spanish in the North Pacific which lasted for centuries. *The Spanish Lake* is therefore enlightening on the subject, and it's a very valuable history of the first 100 years of European involvement in the Pacific.

It is very lucidly written, and Spate has a gift with words and phrases that adds spice to his writing. We shall look forward to later volumes on the story of the Pacific and the slow process of discovery and charting of the island groups as well as of the shores of Australia and New Zealand, in the years from 1600 to 1800. — Brett Hilder



One of the nicest photographs of Aggie on record is this one taken a few years ago in Western Samoa with Fiji's Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara.

and reached its full strength in the late 1920's and 1930's when Western Samoa was administered by New Zealand as a C-class Mandated Territory.

It was a period of truculence and non-cooperation on the part of the Samoans and ham-handed bureaucracy on the part of the administrators. It ended in bloodshed and the exile or banishment of some of Samoa's best-known citizens. If anything similar had happened in Papua New Guinea, 57 varieties of academics would have already sprung into print about it, all in the sacred quest for PhD's.

An account of the Mau movement, now all but forgotten by present generations, is one of many incidental pieces of history that appear in *Aggie Grey of Samoa*.

Aggie, the best-known hotel keeper in the South Pacific and probably the first of her profession in the world to have her portrait on a postage stamp (it happened in 1971) had nothing to do with the Mau, but the period of her life — she is now in her 80's — spans pretty well the modern or European period of Samoa. Although the

book is called her biography, it is more correctly a short history of Samoa during the last century, using Aggie and her family as convenient pegs on which to hang it.

Aggie's father was William J. Swann, son of an English family which settled in Fiji in 1867 to open a chemist shop in the then capital, Levuka. William also trained as a chemist and eventually opened his own pharmacy in Apia, Western Samoa, in 1889. Two years later he married Pele, a local girl who bore him three daughters, Maggie, Aggie and Mary, before she died at the early age of 31.

Nothing much that happened from that date, either to members of the Swann family or to Samoa, escapes mention by author Eustis, including full documentation of the various stages of Aggie's Hotel which had begun life as the International Hotel, on a different site, last century.

Much later it became the

LIFE AT AGGIE'S PLACE

Aggie Grey of Samoa. By Nelson Eustis. Published by Hobby Investments, Adelaide. Paperback, \$A3.95. Available through PIM's Mail Order Bookshop, Box 3408 GPO Sydney at \$A4.50 or \$US5.50 posted.

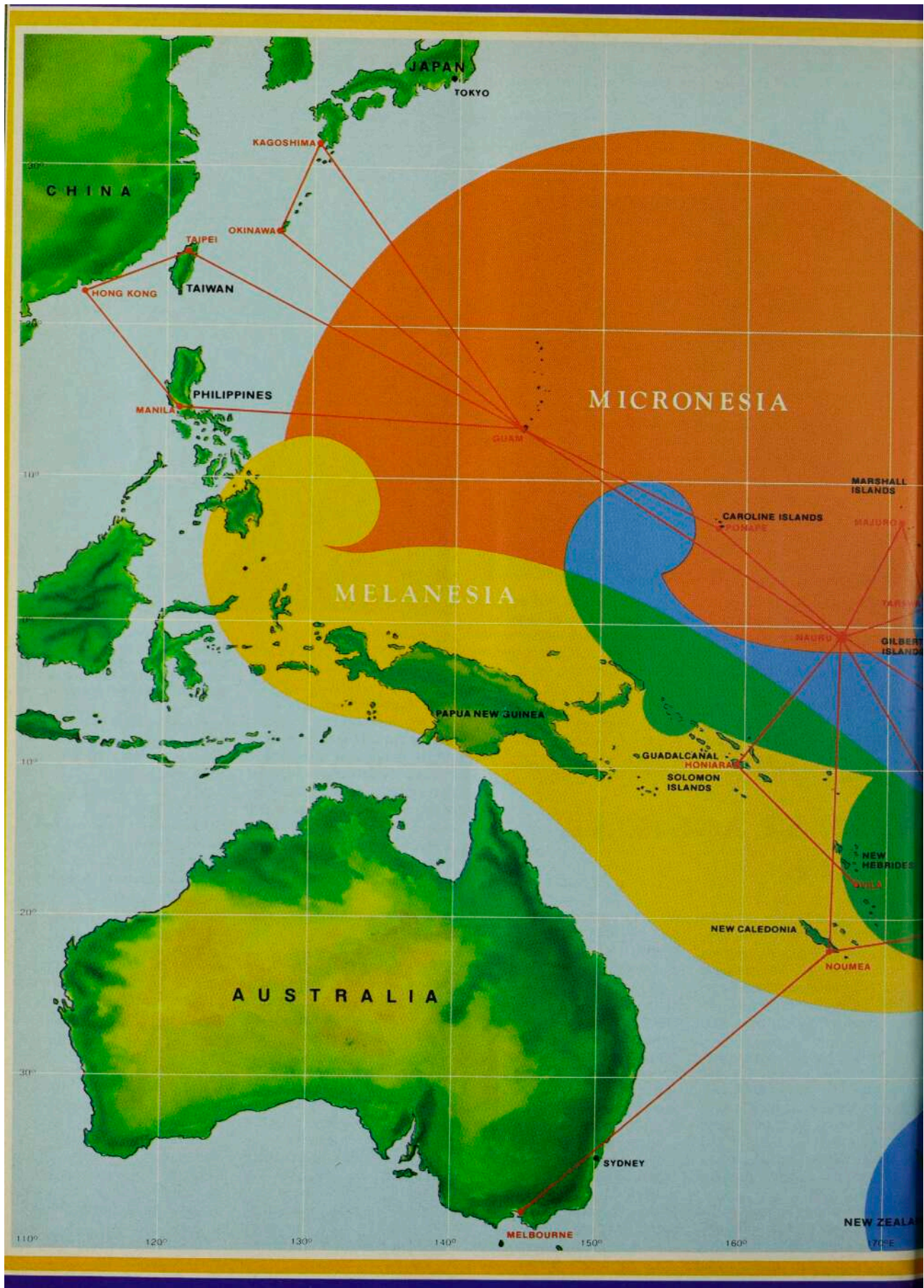
Although screeds have been written and published about the backwardness and/or politics of Melanesia, and further creeds about the glamour and romance islands of Tahiti and Hawaii, not much can be found in print about Western Samoa.

This is strange in view of the fact that Western Samoa had some stirring history including

what, in these days, would be called Freedom Fighters — the members of the underground movement called the Mau.

The Samoan Mau was unique in the South Pacific in that while most former colonial territories in the region were content to let independence be imposed upon them from above when and as it suited their former administrators, the Western Samoans were prepared to fight for theirs.

It is even more remarkable that the Mau had its beginning as far back as the early years of this century, under German administration, then went underground for some years



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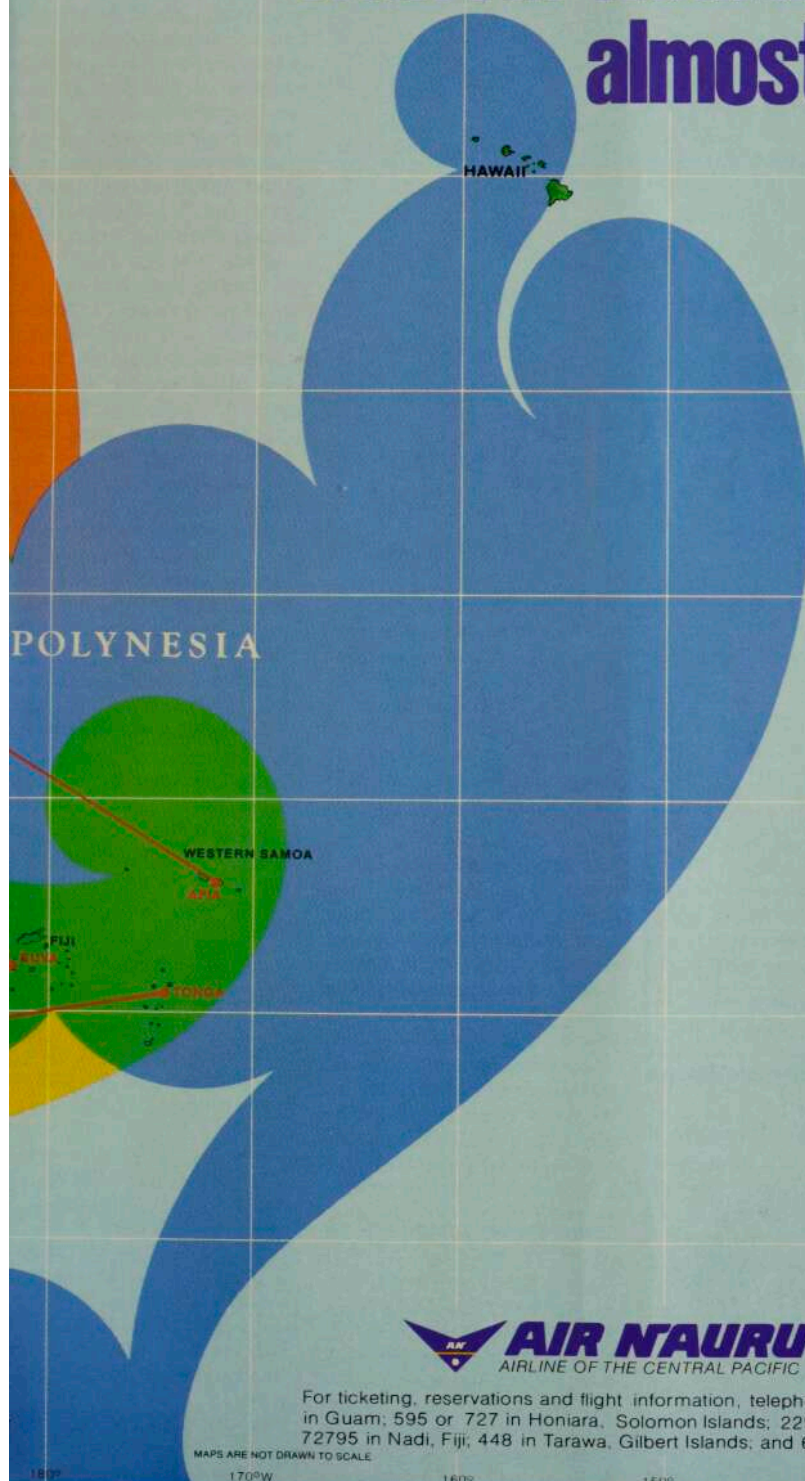
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BOOKS

headquarters for New Zealand police members during the Mau troubles, then turned into the British Club whose members were anything but as staid as the name suggests. Finally, under Aggie's ownership, the establishment became a rendezvous for bored GI's stationed in Samoa during the Pacific War, while Aggie sold coffee and hamburgers from what is now her store next door. Today, extended and revamped many times, with swimming pools, air-conditioning and all the frills, the old pub is all but lost under its improvements.

There are, of course, even classier hotels in the Pacific but no one can be considered a real Pacific traveller who has not sampled life and hospitality at Aggie's in Apia. It's run now by son Alan, but Aggie is still there.

For real Pacific status, of course, he or she should also be old enough to have experienced the original building, ex-International Hotel, with its alfresco bedrooms, and to have grappled with the business of getting a drink in the days when all liquor in Western Samoa was regarded as 'medi-

cine' and doled out by a government medical officer through 'points' on a permit.

In those days, according to Aggie, blessed were those who drank little or not at all and who, upon departing, left behind unused points to satisfy the bigger thirst of other tourists.

With numerous black and white illustrations, *Aggie Grey of Samoa* provides a quick run down of Samoan history as well as being a memento of one of its most entertaining citizens. — Judy Tudor.



Australia's most prolific travel writer, Colin Simpson rests on a pile of some of his 20 travel books.

Simpson's pleasure islands of the South Pacific

Pleasure Islands of the South Pacific. By Colin Simpson. Published by Methuen of Australia. \$A14.95.

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After 19 other travel books that have covered most places on earth between Russia and Bali and Japan and Spain, Colin Simpson, Australia's most prolific travel writer, is back in the Pacific where he began (with *Adam in Ochre* and *Adam with Arrows*) some time in the early 1950's.

Pleasure Islands of the South Pacific covers Fiji, New Caledonia, New Hebrides, Rarotonga and Aitutaki, French Polynesia and Easter Island. He had planned to cover Tonga and the Samoas also but no one in authority answered his letters or seemed interested, which is par for the course in those islands where government officials apparently consider letter writing is a disgusting European habit.

Simpson is no purist when it comes to travel — he sees nothing wrong in being a tourist or writing for tourists. As such he takes on schedules that are strenuous to say the least, often leaping across landscapes in a series of one-night stands. Not that that blunts his perceptions — experienced travellers don't have to stay a month to

find out whether the place is agreeable to them or not.

On this swing across the Pacific a week in Easter Island is the longest he stayed anywhere which probably has more to do with air schedules than a belief that this isolated island would hold the interest of the average tourist for that length of time. Simpson himself was obviously carried away by its mysterious past and its enigmatic statues, devoting twice his average amount of space to this section of the book, although he admits that it hardly qualifies for the normal pleasure resort in spite of the modern 60-room hotel with swimming pool that is a decided advance on the tent accommodation supplied when Chile's national airline first put the island on the travellers' map. Apart from guided tours of the historical sites, every other tourist gimmick is conspicuously absent.

Fiji, says Simpson after two weeks on the run there, has a lot to offer and is very good at looking after the visitor, who doesn't easily forget the Fijian with the big grin and his 'Bula'. Thousands of happy Australians will agree with him.

New Caledonia and its capital Noumea, a blown-away French provincial town, he makes sound far more interesting, although the average Australian and New Zealander, to whom it is the nearest piece of foreign soil, probably prefers Fiji.

Rarotonga, in the Cooks, was much to the Simpson liking, 'as Tahiti used to be,' but Aitutaki turned out to be much like Rarotonga used to be, before its jet airstrip and conversion to tourism.

After a few halcyon days in Raro, the author decided to take a side trip to Aitutaki. The flight was uneventful but at the motel he is booked in by the cook, the manager having gone golfing. A girl shows him to room by standing outside on the steps and pointing. 'If she had come in,' says Simpson, 'she would have seen that the previous occupants had left two very dead and salty crabs on the occasional table.'

What he doesn't say is that

the girl wouldn't have cared anyway.

When he went to the bar, the whisky bottle was empty. 'Boss, he got the key to the store room, so no whisky' gin and tonic was off because there was no tonic. The barman (surprise, surprise) had never heard of a Bloody Mary and hadn't any tomato juice anyway.

Dinner was worse; breakfast next morning — still no tomato juice. Paw-paw? There was one, says the waitress, 'but they ate it at that table over there.'

Simpson returned thankfully to Rarotonga, realising that whatever you go to Aitutaki for, it isn't food or drink.

French Polynesia, scenically beautiful as ever, the people unchanged by tourism at least so far as they are still like Kipling's cat that walked on its wild lone in the wild woods, they don't really give a damn for anyone they don't find interesting, which covers most visitors. Waitresses still treat you like the Invisible Man; tourists and hotel managements sigh for big gangs of happy Fijians with wide grins and many bulas, and a bit more friendly inefficiency.

On Bora Bora an Australian tells him a story that, he thinks, illustrates the local attitude.

At eight a.m. the Aussie is wakened by two Bora Borans, the older of whom says: 'We gotta paint this door.' After breakfast the Australian returns to find that the door has been removed and rests on trestles under a tree.

The younger Bora Boran stands by the door, drumming a rhythm at one end. A maid who was doing the rooms leaves what she was about and joins him, and drums at the other end of the door. The gardener joins them to drum in the middle, then runs off and comes back with a guitar. With the guitar going, the maid goes into a dance. Then back comes the older Islander with the tin of paint, sits down, puts the tin between his legs and proceeds to slap out rhythm on the lid of the can.

On Moorea, Simpson samples the Club Med and two other hotels; moves on to Bora Bora for another Club Med and another hotel; flies to

Huahine and finally to Rangiroa in the Tuamotus.

In brief, *Pleasure Islands of the South Pacific* is good, average Simpson, a tourist with decided views of his own but a writer who has a gift of taking all the well-known things most of us know about an area and

turning them into something new and interesting.

Like all Simpson books it is very well produced, with excellent maps and dozens of colour plates, mostly from the author's own camera.

— Judy Tudor.



Novel is classic New Guinea

Dudley McCarthy, centre, at the time closely involved in Papua New Guinea affairs, photographed in Hollandia, Dutch New Guinea, in 1960, with (left) Dr John Gunther (now Sir John), and Dutch New Guinea Governor Dr Platteel.

The Fate of O'Loughlin. By Dudley McCarthy. Published by McGraw-Hill, Aust. \$A12.95.

Dudley McCarthy's two or three years as a Patrol Officer in the New Guinea bush when he was in his early 20s seem incidental in a career that went on to include a whole assortment of experiences: school teacher, airline employee, soldier in the Middle East and Islands, finally with the rank of major, Commonwealth public servant, adviser to government, Australian Minister to the United Nations and, finally, Australian Ambassador to Mexico and then Spain.

But the fact that he has based his first novel — *The Fate of O'Loughlin* — on New Guinea proves not so much that the impressions of youth go deepest but that lonely living in the remoteness of a New Guinea bush outpost indelibly marks the individual who has experienced it. More so, perhaps, in the 1930's, when both McCarthy and 'O'Loughlin' were having their early experiences, than today when there is

always an airstrip just around the corner.

In a foreword, the author makes the conventional denial that the novel is autobiographical or that the scene of the action is the Sepik River. It is hard, however, to believe that either statement is entirely true, particularly for anyone who knew the area about the same time and who instinctively puts tags on people and places. For this reaction, the author can only blame his own very good writing.

Co-incidentally, at the time that O'Loughlin was supposed to be living on his patch of mud beside the great river, I was living between the Sepik and the sea and having my own experiences, which did not include taking our brand of law to the jungle or, thank God, stringing up recalcitrant head-hunters — the incident with which the novel opens and one which haunted O'Loughlin all his life.

But it is easy to identify with O'L, to sit again in memory within the small circle of light shed by a hissing petrol lantern,

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to smell again the mouldy dampness rising from the forest floor, to hear the noises of the night and — induced partly by constant low fever that quinine seemed incapable of quenching — to feel great aloneness and the sinister presences in the dark, in an atmosphere unreal and five-dimensional.

O'Loughlin, as well as being introspective to the nth degree and indulging in long soliloquies and think-pieces, was also fey — an affliction, if ever there was one in the bush situation in which he found himself.

He was, in fact, not the archetypal Patrol Officer although he carried out a P.O.'s duties without (thanks to the author) agonising with 1979 thoughts and hindsight in a 1936 situation. He put down sorcery (with one exception), waged war on superstition and savagery, pursued head-hunters and attempted to bring concepts of Western law to stone-age people.

Because he was a sensitive and intelligent man, he lived

with fear but strove to overcome it and believed himself to be one of the few white men who could see into the native mind, although this appeared to do little for his comfort in spite of the special empathy that developed between himself and his police sergeant, Imago, who shared his forebodings.

The first tragedy O'L foresees; the second takes place some years later, by which time he is in the Army. This second incident is based on a real life drama of 1942 when a European official, temporarily unhinged, barricaded himself in his house and fought off those sent to relieve him of his post. He eventually took his own life while his native police rampaged up and down the river, killing and pillaging.

Another tragedy at this 'place no good' eventuates long afterwards when O'Loughlin, now a UN official, sets out at the instigation of the PNG Prime Minister to investigate a movement that appears to be a cross between old cargo-cult

and a local version of the PLO. Hi-jacking, abduction and mayhem follow in a surprising, if modern, ending which critics may feel is out of context with the rest of the story, something that wouldn't or couldn't happen there. Non-critics may not be so sure.

The Fate of O'Loughlin is not a pretty island story but a grim one about a country that — away from the Australian-type

suburban towns and townlets — was, and perhaps still is, a grim country, dark with its own mysteries and in which O'Loughlin's and Imago's forebodings are entirely believable and relevant.

Perhaps it's a story for New Guinea old-timers more than others but, above all, one that is excellently, even classically, written.

— Judy Tudor.

Fascinating island portraits

More Pacific Islands Portraits. Edited by Deryck Scarr. Published by the Australian National University Press, Canberra. \$A18.50 cloth; \$A9.95 paper.

More Pacific Islands Portraits is the second book of short biographies of personalities who were influenced by, and influenced the development of the Pacific area in the century

preceding the last war.

The 13 portraits are divided almost equally between local worthies and expatriate or colonial characters of European origin. Of the former, many may not have been very well known outside their own areas, and these essays will bring them before a wider public, and give a surer understanding of the historical background to

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day's territories. All the biographies illustrate the reaction of individuals to the dynamic situations which arose in the interplay of newly introduced factors, colonial, religious, political and commercial. Some resisted, passively or actively, some played off one power or religious sect against another, and some soon employed the new ideas of commerce to their personal advantage. In all the varying geographical areas certain local individuals reached prominence or notoriety, such as the sailines in the Loyalty Islands, the Nanpei family in Nape, Apolosi in Fiji. The activities of these and many others changed the history of these areas and so also the eventual route to independence.

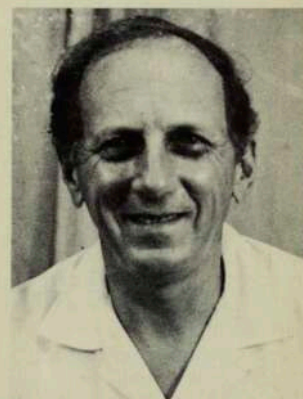
Most of the personalities of European origin represented in this book are well known and legendary names, but these sayings add flesh to the bones, and the figures which emerge are not always recognisable as

the persons we had thought them to be. Arthur Grimble now appears as a frustrated academic, a difficult man both to his superiors and his inferiors, and although we had become to suspect as much from the recent disclosures at the Banaban trial in London, he certainly was not the urbane figure we mentally built up whilst listening to him reading his stories on the BBC 25 years ago. Possibly by then he had been mellowed by a transfer to the Caribbean and a knighthood.

Being the man on the spot changed the lives of many of these expatriates. Stevenson, seeking health, became involved in Samoan politics, both local and international; Woodford, chasing butterflies, emerged as a reluctant administrator in the Solomons, and Thurston, a bare-footed castaway on Rotuma, the defender of Fijians, became High Commissioner of the Western Pacific, Governor of Fiji and grand panjandrum of the South Seas.

But perhaps the most enigmatic of this collection of exceptionally individualistic personalities is St. Julian. A man of confusingly obscure origins who became a successful journalist in Australia with a long-standing interest in Pacific territories, he left a secure job in Australia, relatively late in life, to accept the offer of Chief Justice and Chancellor of Fiji, notwithstanding that he was completely bereft of any formal legal training. His appointment ended with Cession, and on his final exit from the scene he had only his Hawaiian knighthood and a compassionate pension — which he did not live to draw — to show for his work.

These monographs by various authors are a fascinating addition to our knowledge of the men who influenced the Pacific at a time when it was evolving rapidly under the impact of the European, and this slim volume is worthy of its dedication to the late Professor Jim Davidson, of the ANU. Well printed, and with



The late Professor Jim Davidson, first Professor of Pacific History at the Australian National University, to whom 'More Pacific Island Portraits' is dedicated.

extensive bibliographies, it is of that high standard of scholarship that we have learned to expect from the ANU's Department of Pacific History. It would have been nice to have had the lily gilded with photographs or drawings of these influential and colourful personalities. — Leonard Goodman.



From the ISLANDS PRESS

The Coconut Telegraph, Savusavu, Vanua Levu, Fiji

The outstanding impression of Children's Day, August 6th, in Savusavu, was the eager enthusiasm of the children, who threw themselves into it, heart and soul, from the moment they came marching through town, banging on a biscuit tin, and assembled at Khemendra School, where the events in honour of the International Year of the Child were held. An overcast, but cool, fine day, gave everyone lots of energy and the programme went with a swing...

Tohi Tala Niue, Alofi, Niue

To People Who Use To Wait In The Waiting Room: Health Department. Please do not tear the posters on the wall. Please do not cut the hardboard lining of the walls. There are two big holes in one wall being cut by someone who was waiting. Look after your children and do not let them play with posters, wall furnitures or anything in this room. Replacing broken articles is very costly — we do not have any money to pay for these. Keep the room tidy and comfortable for you to rest in while waiting for the doctor.

Tonga Chronicle, Nukualofa

The talk of the town these days is the recent passing by the Parliament of a New Amending Act to the Land Laws which could take away an allotment from a Tongan who has been naturalised as a citizen of a foreign country as well as a Tongan who has been away from the Kingdom for more than two years...

Tuvalu News Sheet, Funafuti

A Royal Navy frigate, the HMS *Dido*, was expected to make a goodwill call at Funafuti for two days early this month, but the visit was cancelled due to the captain's concerns about the safety of entering the island's lagoon... Although Government offered to provide a local pilot for the ship the offer was turned down by the commanding officer who in turn put forward that he and about 12 members of the ship crew call briefly at Funafuti via helicopter, while the *Dido* lay drifting somewhere close by. The plan was unacceptable to Government on the grounds that the amount of time to be spent ashore was limited to four hours, while a much longer visit had been anticipated by both Government and the Funafuti people...

The Observer, Apia, Western Samoa, (Editorial)

Those people who are addicted to scrawling threats and abuses on other people's walls must check themselves before placing their tools against the walls... graffiti are meaningful only if they are meant to amuse. And these are amusing only when one is bored waiting and one is reading them on a bus-stop shelter wall. Or bored sitting on a public house bowl and one is reading it on the inside of the door.

The Norfolk Islander

'... the small but very proud team' was the description given to the Norfolk Island team by the Prime Minister of Fiji, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, at a reception hosted by the Mobil Oil Company after the opening ceremony of the Sixth South Pacific Games... We arrived in Fiji on Friday 24th August after a most enjoyable flight on Norfolk Island Airlines and someone said to us after our arrival 'You Norfolk Islanders certainly caused a stir when you arrived in your own aeroplanes!'

Tonga Chronicle, Nukualofa

This should be in the Guinness Book of Records. Tonga is the only country in the world to beat five countries in a period of 11 days. The Tonga (Rugby) team defeated Western Samoa 18-10; Tahiti 74-0; Solomon Islands 92-3; New Caledonia 58-3 and also Fiji 6-3. Tonga scored 248 points against 19 countries or 47 tries and 30 conversions to two tries, a conversion and three penalties by Fiji, Western Samoa, New Caledonia, Solomon and Tahiti. An average of 49.6 to 3.8 points.

Fiji Times, Suva

When William Shakespeare wrote the tragedy of *Othello*, a performance of it in Fiji would have been beyond his imagination — if indeed he knew that Fiji existed. However, the students of Queen Victoria School in Tailevu have tackled the play and produced a remarkably good version of it...

Micronesian News Service, Saipan

The Marshallese man who was on Saipan in May to buy pigs for the Marshalls Government returned to the island Friday... Asked what happened to the 33 pigs he bought on Saipan during his last trip, Joaje Aisak said that they have been sent to the Marshalls' outer islands hit by Typhoon Alice last December for breeding purposes... 'All the pigs arrived in Majuro in good condition,' Aisak indicated. 'Some people travel to buy cars and other imported items. But sometimes I travel to buy pigs. I enjoyed the pig-buying mission very much.'

Fiji (magazine of the Ministry of Information, Suva)

'The hurricane is not monopolised by Fiji. Fiji is not the only place you get hurricanes. They get typhoons in Hong Kong, Japan, Manila and in Singapore. If there is recession in Fiji, Fiji is not the only place where there is recession — there is recession in other countries too.' (Quotation from Hargovind Lodhia, Opposition backbencher in the Fiji Parliament.)

News Drum, Honiara, Solomon Islands

The whole work force of the Province Headquarters in Honiara spent all morning on Tuesday killing rats from their furniture shop. An assistant administrative officer who helped in the killing of more than 105 rats said the animals were discovered when they wanted to get furniture for shipment. He said the 20 workers started to kill the rats about 8 am, and by about midday they were still busy chasing the rats.

Papua New Guinea Post-Courier, Port Moresby

The member for Nipa-Kutubu, Mr Ibne Kor, wants the Government to immediately knight him for his services to the country. Mr Kor told Parliament this week he had done as much work as those who have already been knighted and deserved to be called 'Sir Ibne'...

Atoll Pioneer, Bairiki, Kiribati

King George V and Elaine Bernacchi Secondary School, Tarawa, closed for the school holiday on Tuesday. The school closed three days early because of disciplinary problems at the school. The problems arose when Fifth Form students demanded to use the school dormitories during the school holidays. The Headmaster refused to allow them to do this because similar arrangements had been abused in the past but agreed that classrooms would be available from 8 am to 6.30 pm on weekdays for study purposes and transport arrangements would be made. The third term will commence early so that students will not lose any school time. Meanwhile, the Board of Governors of the school will meet to consider what action to take about students who caused trouble at the school, including damage to property.

Atoll Pioneer, Kiribati

Faced with the need for a repaint job on the church, the local Catholic community on Makin set out to create a lime whitewash for the purpose. The method used is not new by any means but is seldom used in islands closer to imported convenience. A large pit was dug about five metres square and firewood was placed in the bottom. The firewood was a complete green *teren* tree cut into convenient pieces. Then coral was placed on top and the lot set to burn, stoked occasionally by coconut logs. The fire lasted

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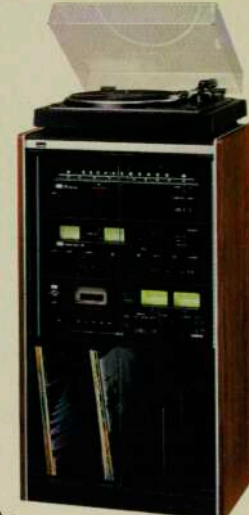
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MILNE BAY — THE PLACE WHERE TURNBULL FELL

The jungles of Papua New Guinea have silently obliterated scores of battlefields, airfields and war relics since the dark days of 1942. Even so, it is a tribute to the protective powers of the jungle that an important relic of the Battle of Milne Bay can be found, still in its original crash position, within the town boundaries of the provincial capital of Alotau. Squadron-Leader Peter Turnbull's broken Kittyhawk lies almost forgotten on the floor of a picturesque gorge within 200 metres of the main coastal road. Paul Croft reports.

Of the very few people who are aware of the existence of Peter Turnbull's aircraft, most know nothing of its historical importance and those who do have no funds to preserve it. For the time being, it is safer where it rests.

When Milne Bay in south-east PNG was a key military base, supporting two airfields, it was the staging area for more than a million military personnel. The lucrative war souvenir business saw to it that all battlefields were stripped. Turnbull's plane suffered too. The only item known to be officially saved is a single Browning 0.5 inch machine gun, now on permanent exhibition at the Canberra War Memorial.

The wreckage today consists of the main fuselage with nose and tail sections missing. It is quite possible that they lie scattered and buried in the jungle and mud and will be found one day. The wreckage is lying on its back, in the position it crashed 37 years ago.

All that remains of the port wing is a short stump with a jagged edge, a grim reminder of how Turnbull met his death when his Kittyhawk hit a lone palm tree at the edge of the gorge.

It is astonishing, after so many years in a wet tropical climate, that some parts on the undercarriage still move; some are so shiny and new-looking someone might recently have polished them. Most of the cabin frame, in which Turnbull died, is intact.

When Squadron-Leader Peter Turnbull was killed he was only 25. Born in Armidale, Australia, he joined the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) as a career pilot eight months before war was declared in

Europe. In the month the war began, September 1939, he graduated from Point Cook Officer Training School, Victoria, and was soon in the Middle East flying Tomahawks with No. 3 Squadron RAAF. The Tomahawk was an early version of the famous Kittyhawks.

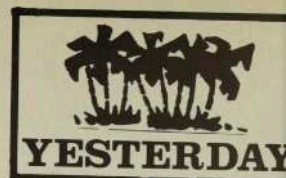
While in Libya he distinguished himself and won the DFC after shooting down three Messerschmitts in one engagement over the desert. By the time he arrived in Milne Bay, in command of his own squadron, he had built up a successful flying career over three long years of war. His strong leadership and administrative abilities were recognised and he had a reputation as an intrepid fighter pilot.

The shock entry of Japan into the war in December 1941 forced the Australian Government to withdraw most of its military personnel from Europe and the Middle East to protect the homeland. With the capture of Rabaul in late January 1942 and the first Japanese air raid on Port Moresby on February 3, the need for immediate action was even more apparent. A month later 75 Squadron was formed at Townsville in northern Queensland, the first RAAF fighter squadron in Australia. It had 24 Kittyhawks and was led by Squadron-Leader J. F. Jackson, DFC (after whom Jacksons Airport, Port Moresby was named).

The backbone of this squadron consisted of men like Turnbull and Jackson who had just returned from the Middle East but most of its pilots had no combat experience. Only nine days were allowed for training and familiarisation on the new Kittyhawks. No. 75 was im-

mediately sent north to strengthen the hard-pressed defences of Port Moresby which was just experiencing its sixteenth air raid.

On March 21, after a long round-about flight from Townsville, Flight Lieutenant Turnbull led the vanguard flight of four Kittyhawks at low level into the approach to Port Moresby aerodrome. To the pilot's horror, Australian machine gunners opened up, perforating three of the aircraft so badly they needed extensive repairs. Miraculously no pilot was injured. The beleaguered Australian troops had never seen friendly fighter planes over Port Moresby and had abandoned hope of ever being sent any. The rumoured reinforcements, which never seemed to arrive, were called 'Tomorrowhawks'. From bitter



experience the gunners had learnt to expect the worst and only ceased firing when Turnbull had actually landed and the other three pilots had dropped their undercarriages.

The squadron quickly forgave the army its rude welcome and organised an attack on the menacing Japanese aerodrome at Lae. Turnbull again distinguished himself by shooting down a Zero. So intense were those daily encounters that the squadron was a spent force within five weeks. Squadron Leader Jackson, along with many others, had been killed and few if any planes were suitable for combat.

Despite the sickening cost in young lives, their efforts had provided a much-needed breathing space to prepare reinforcements. The action of those brave pilots who flew against overwhelming odds in inferior machines often is com-

A July 1942 picture of Squadron-Leader P. J. Turnbull, DFC, climbing into the cockpit of his Kittyhawk for a mission over Buna, then in Japanese hands. (AWM Neg No 26055.)



ed with the Battle of Britain. Turnbull had fought with a squadron for a couple of weeks but had then been called to Australia to help form and lead a new fighter squadron.

Kittyhawk Squadron No. 76 (AAF) was formed in Townsville in April 1942. It had a nucleus of veteran Australian pilots who had fought in Britain and Europe, the most famous of these being Squadron Leader K. W. (Bluey) Truscott, DFC, who was Turnbull's second-in-charge, in July the squadron was ordered to Milne Bay but had to wait at Port Moresby while the Gurney airfield was being prepared.

The day after Turnbull's squadron landed in Papua New Guinea, July 21, the Japanese mounted a major assault on Gona at the eastern end of the Kokoda Trail. This formidable mountain track is straight across the rugged ridges into Port Moresby. As Japanese troops poured off their ship transports onto the Kokoda Trail, Turnbull loaded his Kittyhawks and flew to attack. However the mission was unsuccessful. They were surprised by a large number of enemy fighters and had to jettison their bombs in order to fight off their pursuers.

The Japanese had planned to invade Milne Bay two weeks before the Kokoda campaign began. However the Americans stunned them by launching a massive offensive to drive down all the Japanese troops who had been assigned to the attack on Milne Bay. This extremely fortunate event delayed the Milne Bay invasion by three weeks, thus saving the base from capture. So, the timing was so fine that the final contingent of 10 battle-hardened Australian troops from the Middle East arrived only four days before the Japanese actually landed.

Turnbull finally led his full squadron into Milne Bay on July 25. Even though the pilots had been forewarned, they could have prepared for the actual experience.



Milne Bay has an annual rainfall of about 280 cm and July is the middle of the wet season. So, when the pilots flew in, they were landing on a narrow strip, hastily carved out of the jungle, which was virtually under water. Interlocking steel matting laid over its length to a width of 27 metres alone made the landing possible.

The pilots had never experienced anything like it before. As they touched down their aircraft sprayed water like hydroplanes and skidded, some so violently that they swung off the runway and became bogged in the morass at the side of the matting.

It was a raw jungle camp with little comfort. Everyone slept in crowded tents, pitched on a sea of mud, and was plagued by hordes of insects. No one and nothing could remain dry for very long because of the rain and intense humidity.

To those who had so recently returned from England, like Bluey Truscott, it was an especially difficult experience. They had fought their war in comparative comfort, in clean clothes, with hot baths, warm beds and good food to come home to at night.

Milne Bay was badly affected by malaria-carrying mosquitoes but, because of the

December 1942 drawing by Australian war artist Roy Hodgkinson 'Peter Turnbull's Last Landing'. (AWM Neg No 36449.)

extremely tight secrecy surrounding the military base, it was impossible to build up adequate supplies of medical equipment and drugs. Consequently, the incidence of malaria was extremely high.

Gurney airfield had been built to accommodate only one fighter squadron and conditions became very cramped when the now re-equipped and refreshed No. 75 Squadron turned up, led by Jackson's younger brother, Squadron Leader Leslie Jackson. The second squadron had been rushed into Milne Bay after news of the surprise attack on Gona was flashed to Australia.

The tight security, which included strict radio silence, combined with the constant low cloud cover saved the squadrons from air attack for nearly two weeks. On August 4 a small armed reconnaissance flight consisting of four Zeros and a dive bomber casually entered Milne Bay to gather information for the proposed Japanese attack.

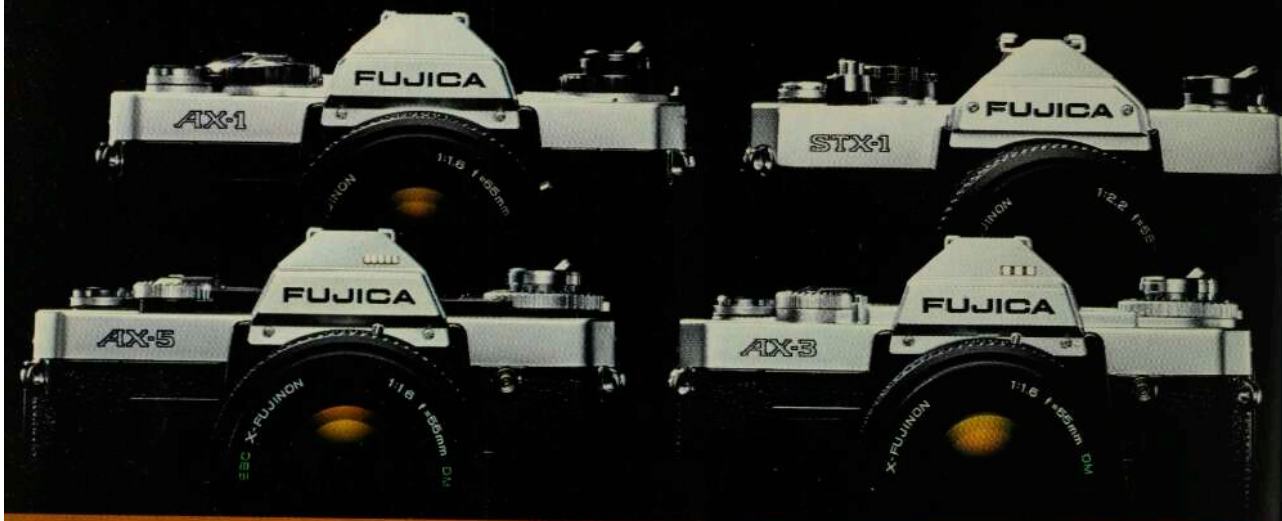
The airfield radar was not

fully operational at this stage and both sides received an unpleasant surprise when they suddenly encountered each other. Gurney was strafed and a Kittyhawk was destroyed on the ground but a patrol of eight Kittyhawks from No. 76 returned in time to destroy the dive bomber and chase off the others. This was the first kill for Turnbull's new squadron. But the secret was out and more raids quickly followed.

Initially the squadrons paid a high price for the inexperience of some of their new pilots. But, no matter how experienced the pilots became, their aircraft were at a dangerous disadvantage to the Zeros, particularly when employed as interceptors. The Kittyhawk had a slower rate of climb and its weight made it sluggish and difficult to manoeuvre above 4000 metres.

Nevertheless, the single-engined Kittyhawk was an excellent army co-operation and low-altitude fighter. It was heavily armed with six 0.5 inch Browning machine guns, it could carry bombs and was ruggedly built to take considerable punishment. In fact, it was a lethal fighting machine in the role of strafing ground targets and was extremely suitable for

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YESTERDAY

the vital role it played in the story at Milne Bay.

Eight days before the Japanese landed the Allies had been forewarned of the attack. This remarkable piece of intelligence was possible through the work of ingenious American technicians who had secretly broken the famous Purple Code, the highest code of the Japanese Government. Consequently, a flight of Hudsons, long range armed reconnaissance aircraft, arrived on August 23 and immediately began patrolling out towards the Trobriand Islands in search of the expected Japanese landing fleet. On August 25 their efforts were rewarded when a large Japanese convoy was spotted speeding towards Milne Bay. No help could be expected from the American Navy which was already heavily committed in the Solomon Islands.

All afternoon the air force tried to find the convoy. Nine American Flying Fortresses had flown up from Australia but could not locate it through the thick cloud cover. However, as night drew closer the convoy finally came into range of the waiting Kittyhawks which had been loaded up with bombs.

Turnbull led the last and most successful attack. Swooping in to little more than mast-height through a storm of anti-aircraft fire, his squadron relentlessly bombed and strafed the convoy. The attack resulted in a corvette being sunk and two other vessels damaged. Machine gun fire killed and wounded many troops crowded on the ships' decks.

Turnbull led his squadron back to base in complete darkness.

Behind them the Japanese convoy entered Milne Bay and began unloading troops and equipment on a deserted beach on the northern arm of the bay. They were undefeated warriors with a fearsome reputation and an enthusiasm born from an unbroken string of victories on land. But they had gravely underestimated the strength of the Allies at Milne Bay and were landing on the wrong beach, an area surrounded by

swamps and a long way from Gurney, their objective.

As a light-hearted gesture of determination, the men of 75 and 76 Squadrons vowed never to shave clean again until the battle had been won. 75 Squadron vowed to shave only on the right side of the face and 76 Squadron the left.

The next couple of days proved exhausting. Everyone gave completely of themselves under extremely difficult conditions. Few men in the squadrons slept as ground staff prepared the aircraft for battle. Probably never before had a squadron been based so close to troops in action. The Kittyhawks were in effect airborne artillery, being over their targets within minutes after taking off.

At first light Turnbull led his squadron off the water-logged runway and scudded under the low ceiling of dense cloud to bomb and strafe the landing craft and supply dumps that the Japanese had put ashore during the night. The deadly strafing attack continued unmercifully as often as the aircraft could be refuelled and re-armed. By the end of the day the Japanese had suffered heavy losses from which they never really recovered.

During the night of August 26, the Australian troops were forced back from K.B. Mission (now a suburb of Alotau) and a new Japanese convoy arrived with reinforcements. The Japanese control over the local seas meant that no one knew whether a second attack would be launched from a completely new direction. The Japanese were now fighting at night and resting during the day in order to avoid the lethal strafing attacks of the Kittyhawks. The position looked serious and even greater efforts were required.

Turnbull carried a frightful responsibility. A shortage of staff dictated that he must devise and direct the operations for his squadron as well as fly them.

At first light on August 27 Turnbull raced his squadron into the air to repeat the previous days successes. He had only just returned from his first dawn raid when a very strange

incident stunned everyone into momentary bewilderment and disbelief. Out of the heavy clouds and low early morning mists appeared eight Japanese dive bombers escorted by 12 Zeros which had dropped into the Gurney landing circuit with their landing gear down. The optimistic Japanese had expected the attack to be moving on schedule and by this stage Gurney airstrip should have been captured.

As the moment of realisation dawned on both sides, all hell broke loose with the Japanese pilots diving to the attack and every gun on the ground opening up at the low flying aircraft. Turnbull raced to an anti-aircraft gun at the edge of the runway and fought shoulder to shoulder with the gunners. Luckily, Squadron Leader Jackson's Kittyhawks were still in the air and they returned to help disperse the attackers. This engagement lost the Japanese at least seven aircraft to the Allies' two.

As the attackers disappeared, Turnbull's squadron was quickly in the air. Their efforts forced the Japanese troops to retire and enable the Australians to retake the strategic K.B. Mission. So determined were the pilots that their guns belched 85 000 rounds during the course of the day's feverish fighting. The barrels had worn smooth and widened from 0.5 to 0.6 inches, making them suitable only for strafing attacks.

Before the morning's air raid one of Turnbull's returning pilots had spotted a Japanese tank bogged in a creek east of K. B. Mission. This creek runs through a short jungle gorge into Sandersons Bay, a picturesque inlet on the north coast of Milne Bay. It is now used as the small boat harbour for Alotau. The Japanese had landed with two light tanks which were causing havoc among the poorly-equipped Australian troops in the front line. However, by the time the pilot could return to attack the tank, it had been moved and hidden in the jungle. Despite a continuous search for the two tanks all day they remained undiscovered.

This situation was extremely

frustrating for the weary Turnbull who felt a personal responsibility to save the army from further harassment from these tanks. He reasoned that since the Japanese were only coming out at night he should make a final search before nightfall.

Turnbull rushed his flight to K. B. Mission and began sweeping southward along the track, skimming low across the tops of palm trees at around 500 km an hour. Within minutes his aircraft had arrived at Sandersons Bay where a large body of Japanese troops were spotted just emerging from the gorge onto the main track. Turnbull instinctively twisted his aircraft into a tight turn and swooped in over Cameron Plateau where the Alotau hospital now stands. As the plateau forms one wall of the gorge this manoeuvre enabled Turnbull to obtain a clear line of fire down the ravine and onto the track.

As the Kittyhawk crested the edge of the plateau it was seen to strike a tall palm tree with the left wing. It then flipped on its back and plunged straight into the gorge. Within seconds the crumpled wreckage had been swallowed by the jungle. It was more than a week before Turnbull's body could be reached by the advancing Australian troops who by then were very familiar with the legend of Peter Turnbull.

No one really knows how an experienced pilot with Turnbull's reputation could make such an error of judgement. One theory is that his aircraft was damaged by enemy fire. However, most believe the accident was the result of excess stress on both man and machine.

In honour of Squadron Leader Peter Turnbull and in recognition of the significant contribution made by his pilots in the Battle of Milne Bay, the second airfield constructed at Milne Bay was called Turnbull Strip. It was at this partly constructed airfield that the Japanese advance was finally stopped and Milne Bay became famous as the site of the first land defeat for the Japanese in the Second World War.



The big Bougainville copper mine at Panguna was developed with the aid of Australian capital and Australian management.

PNG, focus of the Australia-Pacific connection

PIM's Port Moresby correspondent Angus Smales reports below on the current state of relations between Australia and its 'special case' Pacific neighbour, Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea is the focus of Australian external involvement in the Pacific, it's the country where the Australian presence is strongest, and the country where Australian overseas investment is highest. Looked at the other way round, PNG is the biggest recipient of Australian foreign aid – not only in the Pacific but in the world.

Geography and a hundred years of history have combined to forge the link.

Geographically PNG is Australia's nearest neighbour, with a sea border running from north of the Torres Strait Islands to south of the Gulf of Papua and out across the Coral Sea. The mainland-to-mainland distance is only 110 km, but less than two hours paddling a canoe will cover the most northerly of the Australian islands to the PNG coast.

Historically, Australian involvement began with freebooting, missionary and trader influence and contacts about 100 years ago.

Australia eventually assumed control of the

southern regions of PNG as a colonial possession, and qualified control of the northern regions under internationally-recognised agreements. There were two consecutive agreements for the northern administration, the first a League of Nations mandate and the second a United Nations trusteeship.

The colonial possession during this period was Papua, and the mandated and trustee territory was New Guinea – once a German colony. For the final 27 years of Australian control Papua and New Guinea were under a joint administration, although Australia was still obliged to recognise the separate status identities which they held.

The current chapter of the relationship began four years ago when the politically unified nation of Papua New Guinea achieved its independence with a population of three million, a Westminster-type democracy and membership of the Commonwealth and the United Nations.

With independence came an Australian guarantee of high-level aid which has since been formalised into an immediate five-year programme, and the inferred continuation of substantial continuing aid afterwards.

There was never any serious formal consideration of early suggestions that PNG should have become a State of Australia. However the mere fact that such a possibility was advocated as little as 15 years ago – with the support of a small body of Papua New Guinean opinion – indicates the historical strength of Australia-PNG involvement.

Today formal diplomatic links between the two countries are strong, and Port Moresby and Canberra share a fairly common line towards the Pacific as a region. Neither has any significant criticism of the role played by the other as a member of the region.

But the Australian presence in PNG – as distinct from the Australian Establishment and what it has to offer – is not so easily defined. In theory, the whole thrust of modern PNG national and provincial politics is to remove the Australian presence from the workforce, the economy and perhaps the community. Most of the country's political leaders don't like to express the situation quite so bluntly as this, but their own laws and the trend of their parliamentary debates say it for them.

What is really happening is that PNG is striking a sort of commonsense compromise in its own long-term interests affecting its economy and its national stability. There is not great affection today for the Australian presence and its size, but neither is there any significant ungraciousness for the time being in tolerating that presence.

Formal links: Australia and PNG, as geographic neighbours and as members of the Commonwealth, each has a high commission in the other's country.

The Australian High Commission in Port Moresby is the biggest diplomatic post maintained by Australia with the exception of Australia House in London. The 12-floor high commission building (part of which is used by the New

Zealand High Commission) is the tallest building in Waigani the Port Moresby suburb specially created for national administration.

The High Commissioner Gerald Nutter, sees the posting as filling a predominantly practical 'service' situation created by the extensive requirements of aid, trade, investment, special services, agency work, movement of people, defence co-operation and the presence in PNG of more than 20 000 Australians.

There are sensitivities at times, but in the context of day-to-day working relationships they are not great. The only sensitive public incident of any real note which has directly involved the high commission was when allegations were made that a staff member was a political spy with particular interest in university radical politics. Students marched on the high commission, throwing mud onto the lenses of security monitor cameras outside the building, trampling the garden and tearing branches from bushes and young trees.

Despite the extent of Australian involvement – or perhaps because of it in the post-independence period – Australia has deliberately kept a low diplomatic profile. An aid project from New Zealand or a helpful business offer from Japan tends to attract more ballyhoo than the fact that something like one dollar in every three spent by the PNG Government comes from Australian aid grants.

The adoption of a low-key image was encouraged by the Australian presence to bolster the concept of political disengagement which was inherent in independence.

Now, four years after independence, there are suggestions that the emphasis may shift slightly. Informal information from the PNG Government itself indicates

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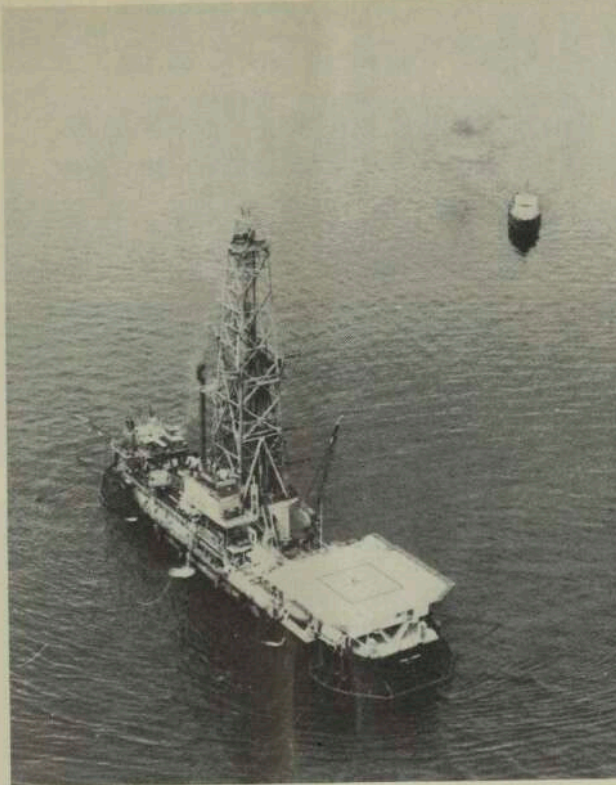
Australia has been given approval to make a bit more noise about its contribution to PNG development projects. Certainly Mr Nutter is working on a widened schedule of visits to projects which have been made possible by Australian aid.

The formal links also include a shared approach to Pacific affairs through involvement in the South Pacific Forum, and a series of agreements between PNG and Australia on marine resources, trade, agriculture and defence.

Attempts are being made to develop greater reciprocity in legal processes. Many overlapping legal situations which had not been taken for granted before independence have ended by independence, in PNG the loser in some circumstances. Not the least of these is the inability of the PNG tax office and other government agencies to enforce orders and to make collections in Australia. The departure of many Australians following income and company taxes has left PNG with a deficit running into several million dollars. Legal teams in both countries are now examining the situation and before the end of the year they expect to have made recommendations for some form of reciprocal tax collection process.

The border between Australia and PNG is another facet of the Australian presence which was not as simple to establish as might have been expected. Ironically, of all four international borders inherited by PNG, the Australian one is the most difficult to formalise. To the west, a land border definition and management treaty with Indonesia has been signed, and although this is currently under review there are no suggestions of serious dissent. To the north PNG has a high seas border, and to the east a tacit and non-contentious interim sea border with Solomon Islands.

But to the south the delimitation and management of a border with Australia was not settled until more than three years after independence. The protracted and highly



Drilling for oil is now being carried out in the Gulf of Papua.

technical negotiations were friendly enough but frequently encountered delays and differences over the sharing of resources and over the situation of the Torres Strait Islanders.

The Islanders at the time were adamant they wanted to retain Australian status, but PNG has now expressed concern at reports that some of them are seeking a form of independence.

The elaborate border treaty which PNG and Australia have signed establishes a shared marine resources area, protects the traditional use of the sea by Papua New Guineans and Torres Strait Islanders alike, and has created Australian island enclaves in a PNG sea. But even today there is some PNG irritation about its Torres Strait border relations because of statements by the Queensland Premier, Mr Bjelke-Petersen, that PNG is waiting for a chance to 'take over the islanders'. Recently the PNG Foreign Minister, Mr Olewale, said he would not allow Mr Bjelke-Petersen's 'offensive' remarks to cloud re-

lations with federal Australia, but Mr Olewale and some of his fellow-leaders are nonetheless annoyed.

Australian aid programme: Australian aid to PNG in this year's budget is \$A234.8 million — a shade over half of the total Australian foreign aid programme. The main allocation to PNG is a single grant of \$223 million which is an untied payment of funds for budget support and represents about one-third of the total budget revenue in PNG.

The bulk of the remaining funds Australia is paying to PNG this year is a defence co-operation agreement grant, representing the lion's share of defence co-operation funds which Australia allocates to PNG, Singapore, Indonesia and Malaysia.

The Australian Foreign Minister, Mr Peacock, said recently that Australia recognised in principle that its greatest overseas aid responsibility was to PNG and that this attitude would continue to guide Australian aid policies.

One of the biggest problems which confronted the newly-independent PNG was budget

planning rather than budget aid itself. Australia has guaranteed substantial budget support in general principle, but PNG claimed that if it was going to plan its financial affairs properly a year-by-year aid negotiation was not good enough. As a result Australia agreed to a five-year aid commitment which started in 1976. Under this commitment a minimum annual grant of \$180 million is guaranteed, with a supplement to be fixed each year by negotiation, taking into account special requirements, currency movements and other factors. This year's supplement was \$43 million and the overall effect was that Australian aid to PNG increased in figures, dropped slightly in real spending terms and also dropped as a proportional component of the PNG budget. This effect has the support of the PNG Government which wants its budget to become increasingly less reliant on Australian aid, rather than to face a sudden cut-off in some future year.

The most important development in Australia-PNG aid involvement in the immediate future will be negotiating the form and content of aid when the present agreement ends in 1981. 'Substantial but reducing support' is the general undertaking Australia has already given.

A significant aspect of Australian aid is the manner in which PNG is spending the budget support which it gets. As a matter of PNG Government policy the money is being directed where possible to development projects which will become self-generating rather than to recurrent government expenses. This attitude, despite some obvious deficiencies in PNG financial management, is one of the most encouraging signs Australia has seen in the aid relationship. It will certainly go a long way towards ensuring continued Australian support.

In addition to the formal government-to-government aid relationship, Australia and Australians provide a wide range of less-measurable assistance in PNG. This includes the presence of volunteers from the Australian Volunteers

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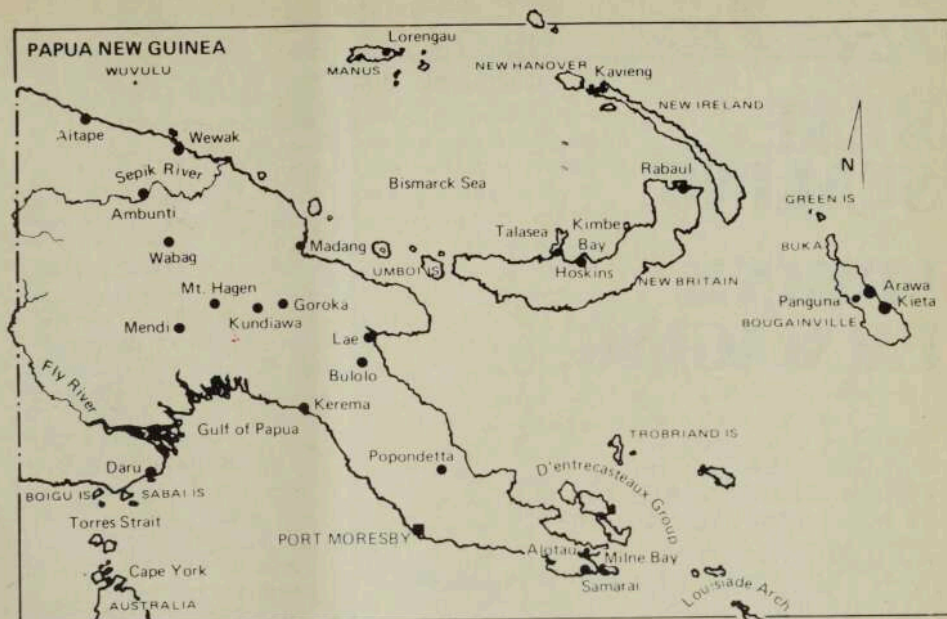
broad scheme, and volunteer health, education and technical workers in church missions. Australian community service organisations also direct many of their projects to PNG.

Defence: One of the strongest links in the Australia-PNG relationship today is in defence co-operation, but this is also an area where misunderstanding of the Australian role can easily occur. Australia has no defence 'presence' in PNG and has no defence or military treaty with PNG, but the two countries have letters of understanding on defence co-operation and this arrangement has a wide effect. Like all such arrangements there are ultimate political considerations on both sides, but in essence the relationship is a technical one.

Under the arrangement Australia makes an annual defence co-operation grant to PNG — was about \$10 million in the 1978 budget — helps train Papua New Guineans for their own defence force, provides access to equipment and expertise, makes available the services of skilled Australian personnel, and detaches some formed Australian units for specific tasks (usually engineering) in PNG.

PNG permits Australia to use its territory and facilities for training exercises, an opportunity taken particularly by the RAAF for its Caribou and Hercules squadrons. Recently, too, there was a major combined infantry exercise in PNG.

There are two main considerations in the Australian approach to defence co-operation in PNG. One is the simple extension of aid which applies to the entire PNG community under responsibilities acknowledged by successive Australian governments. The other is that Australia's own defence concepts are far better served by supporting a loyal and efficient defence force in a neighbouring country than by any attempts to negotiate an Australian military sphere. As a result Australia extends funds, general aid, personnel and expertise to the PNG Defence Force — but PNG calls the tune and controls its own defence affairs.



At present there are 247 Australians in the PNG Defence Force, of whom 170 are on direct loan from all three Australian defence services. They cover a broad range of special skills — engineers, signals experts, pilots, technicians, ship's company and medical and headquarters staff officers. Many of them fill training roles, but not necessarily so. The number of Australians in the PNG Defence Force is being gradually reduced as a matter of policy, but there is no target date to phase them out and specialists on short-term attachments are likely to be with the force for many years yet.

In addition there are 161 Papua New Guinean officers and men at Australian training establishments — 109 Army, 29 RAAF and 23 RAN — but because of what the PNG Defence Force calls 'culture shock' problems, it prefers to train as many of its men as possible on home ground.

Investment: Australia remains the biggest overseas investor in PNG, following the pattern set in pre-independence times. The Australian involvement is mainly direct investment, but it also provides a channel for the investment of some funds originating in other parts of the world. This occurs when inter-

national companies use their Australian subsidiaries for PNG expansion.

The nature of Australian investment covers every facet of service, manufacturing, business and commerce in PNG, and a declining share in agriculture.

In the past 10 years — as accurately as widely divergent records and currency approximations allow — the rate of Australian investment in PNG has been running at an average of \$105 million a year. Repatriated earnings on Australian investment were \$60 million last year, but the amount of capital generating this figure is not available from current records.

The Australian investment pattern of the past 10 years included two high-intensity periods — the first in the very early 70s and the second quite recently. But it also included the year of self-government, 1973, and the year of independence, 1975, when more Australian capital was pulled out than was put in.

The total net loss of Australian investment during those years was about \$40 million, not a large figure in the overall pattern. However, it is a significant indication of the somewhat mercurial attitude of Australian sources towards political and allied factors in PNG. This attitude runs

through the whole range of Australian involvement — the investment market itself, the firms already established in PNG, the Australians who may have expertise as well as capital to offer, and the financial institutions.

Many of the current investment statistics, depending on their source, vary widely. This is because of differing definitions involving branch and subsidiary funds, the position of unremitted and undistributed profits, and the situation of Australian money controlled by permanent residents who are classified as financial temporaries. One point is clear, however, and that is that Australian investment attitudes in particular are increasingly sensitive to PNG conditions and politics, and this in turn in the eyes of Australian investors is increasing the speculative component of PNG investment.

Recent suggestions of attempted government interference in a court matter (although the matter was of a non-financial nature) affected at least one finely-balanced investment deal.

It is doubtful if this sensitivity is fully grasped by many PNG leaders who say they are committed to encouraging external investment. There appears to be a belief that Australian investors are clamouring to get in or to hang on to

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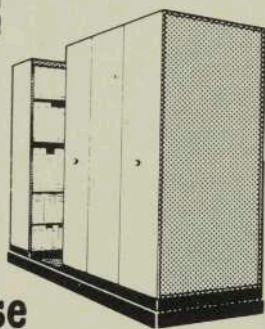
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TRADEWINDS

what they already have at any price. Australia is probably more sensitive than other countries to the PNG financial scene because of the earlier long-standing association when PNG politics were simply an extension of Australian management and conditions.

It is true that PNG contains good, continuing and new investment potential for Australian capital, but certainly not at any price. The speculative issues are now high enough to dictate a raised threshold for assessing viability. This situation exists despite guarantees on the repatriation of earnings, on capital, and on non-discrimination, which are extended to all approved investment enterprises.

Agriculture, once the backbone of Australian financial involvement in PNG, is no longer a proposition for the investor from outside except for special major developments which are usually partnerships between government and a developer.

Plantation properties, many of them Australian soldier-settler allocations in the 1920s, are being acquired by the government for resale to PNG village communities. The Lands Minister, Mr Sali, told parliament recently that the government planned to have all plantations out of the hands of non-nationals within three years.

PNG is also expressing concern that its private banking system, dominated by Australian banking firms or their subsidiaries, is not sufficiently flexible. Some critics claim that even the nationally-owned PNG Banking Corporation is too much steeped in Australian concepts.

The government is expected to make an early announcement for plans to establish an internationally - connected merchant banking company, although on present indications Australian interests will have a share of the proposed company.

Tourism: Just under 60% of all tourists flying to PNG are from Australia, not counting visitors from further overseas who come via Australia. This

amounts to about 12 000 visitors a year - not a large number for a big island country right on the Australian doorstep.

In the accommodation and travel industries, too, there's some questioning of how many of these visitors should be classified as tourists in the strict sense. Many of them are seen more accurately as 'short-term visitors' coming to PNG because they have friends or relatives already there.

Lack of uniformity in the migration and travel cards of the two countries also tends to obscure the facts, although many of these statistical record problems are now being corrected. (Cruise ships bring 15 000 visitors from Australian ports and through PNG ports every year, but the 'hullo and good-bye' nature of these visits is not the hard-core type of tourism which PNG would like to attract. In any event there are indications that the cruise ship visits are producing a declining number of visitors as far as PNG is concerned.

A number of factors appear to be discouraging a really high level of Australian tourism in PNG, not the least of which is the psychological factor which says, 'if you're going overseas anyway, there's not much point in only going as far as your own front door'. More practical is the comparatively high cost of air travel from Australia and on PNG internal routes. This is heightened today by new cheaper fare structures on popular long-haul tourist routes which do not include PNG.

There is also some criticism in the Australian travel industry that Air Niugini, the PNG national carrier, pays lip service to PNG tourism but is unwilling to pay the 'wholesale' agency commissions offered by some airlines from other countries.

Whatever the reasons, many PNG interests criticise Australian agency interests for allegedly not really trying hard to sell the PNG tour. There are tentative plans to increase promotion in Australia.

Like investment - but often with less reason - PNG political and social developments

to have a significant impact on tourist interest from Australia. The so-called 'state of emergency' proclaimed recently in the PNG highlands to bring down on tribal warfare a good case in point. The 'state of emergency' sounded more dramatic than the one it named and caused a drop in tourist interest. There probably be long-term effects however because business in the highlands, being cleaned up, was hitting the tourist industry on very practical grounds. **Trade:** Australia is PNG's best trade partner and the balance of trade runs strongly in Australia's favour. Figures for 1978 put the value of Australian exports to PNG at \$290 million, and the value of PNG exports to Australia at \$60 million. **Products:** Goods of all types, — foodstuffs of all types, — dried, packaged, fresh and frozen — are a major part of the Australian export market in PNG, but the overall trade consists of a big range of raw materials and manufactured

goods of all types ranging from clothing and stationery, through electrical and mechanical equipment, to vehicles and machinery.

The vehicle market has suffered heavy inroads at Japanese hands in the past six to eight years, but generally Australia has retained its PNG markets at constant or rising levels.

Despite the growth of Japanese electronic equipment sales throughout the Pacific, Australia continues to provide a significant export to PNG of specialised electrical and electronic equipment and domestic appliances.

Australian purchases from PNG are made up of cocoa, coffee, gold, timber and rubber.

Existing terms of trade between the two countries are not complex, with Australia granting special export access to PNG products. Endorsed by successive governments, Australia has given undertakings that PNG will continue to retain special access.

PNG FREEZES PLANTATION TAKE-OVERS

Papua New Guinea has set a three-year target date to acquire all plantation properties owned by non-citizens.

The properties are mainly owned by Australians, Australian-based companies and Chinese with Australian nationality. PIM's Port Moresby correspondent Angus Smales comments on the problems raised by the plan, and how they have led to a temporary freeze on its implementation.

About 80 plantation properties previously owned by non-nationals of Papua New Guinea have been taken over by the government since the plantation acquisition scheme was established about the time of independence.

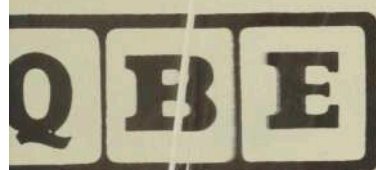
They have been sold to nationals — individuals, community and village groups, companies — either as going concerns, as nucleus-type

estates, or divided for smallholder use. The transfers from non-national interests have generally been trouble-free, with the government showing a willingness to negotiate where there has been difference of opinion over values.

The total number of properties to which the acquisition act could apply was estimated at 1200 when the scheme was first established. However, this is now being reviewed, and it is believed that 800 would have been a closer estimate. The confusion was caused by the fact that many properties consist of up to four individual parcels of land, often physically separated, and the original estimate was based on the separate parcels rather than on properties as entities.

There is also some doubt now about whether the statement by Lands Minister Boyamo Sali that all properties will have been acquired within three years will necessarily apply. The entire scheme has been frozen while a committee

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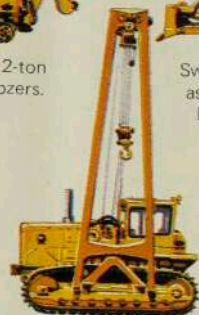
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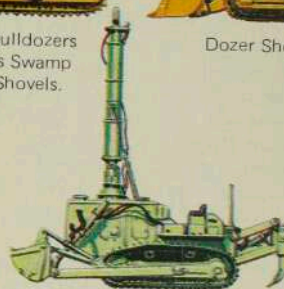
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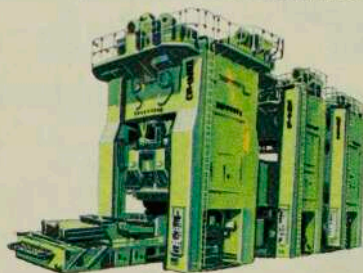
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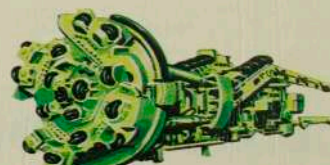
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Mr. Marriot, newly appointed port sales engineer for Monoprops (Australia) Pty Ltd. Mr. Marriot's main responsibility is to service the company's expanded operations in the South Pacific.

review looks at it and makes recommendation to cabinet. The recommendations were expected to be made early in November. They were to take account land pressures, available finances, statistics on what has already been achieved and the problems of making sure that management OK under the new national partnership.

A register of properties to which the act applies is also being drawn up.

Many groups who have been over the first 80 properties have run into financial problems, sometimes because of an obvious lack of expertise, and sometimes claiming that previous owners let the properties run down when time was running out.

There is some political opinion that in areas where land pressures are not urgent retention of property and early run foreign-owned or leased properties is an advantage to an area.

Basic government policy is that the acquisition of all properties not owned by nationals, but the mechanics and time-scale of the process is subject to continuing review to suit general and specific circumstances.

OK FOR OK TEDI?

Final decisions by the consortium of mining companies on the multi-million-dollar Ok Tedi copper project in Papua

New Guinea are expected by the end of November.

Senior executives of the companies met top PNG officials and politicians in Port Moresby in September to discuss PNG's economic outlook and development strategy.

The consortium partners sent a delegation headed by the Sir James McNeill, chairman of Australia's largest company, Broken Hill Proprietary, the president of AMOCO Minerals, Ray Ballmer, and directors of the German company, Kupfer Exploration.

PNG Prime Minister Michael Somare told them at a dinner in their honour: 'Knowing the potential effects of the project, and knowing that PNG is exploiting a non-renewable resource, the government has set out to make sure our country receives a fair bargain.'

The Ok Tedi project, if it goes ahead, will cost K500 million. More than K12 million has already been spent by the consortium on feasibility studies.

There will be a large cost to the PNG Government as well, Mr Somare said. 'If the government takes up its entitlement to 20% equity in the project, that will involve a commitment of K35 million.'

GUAM TALKS ON ENERGY

An energy technology workshop held on Guam in August-September is believed to have been the first time Trust Territory and Guam government officials have got together to pledge support for alternate energy research.

Participants included energy experts from the United States, Peace Corps officials, various governors, legislators and Trust Territory officials.

Unable to attend due to pressure of other business, High Commissioner Adrian P. Winkel had a speech read to the workshop which named solar, wind, hydropower, ocean thermal, and fuel from biomass as some of the indigenous energy resources that can be developed in the Trust Territory.

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R. CARPENTER Holdings Ltd increased consolidated operating profit to \$6 623 000 in the nine months ended March 1978, the company journal *WRC News* reports. This amount compared with an operating loss of \$147 000 in the corresponding months of 1978.

THE FOOD and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations sent a team to Fiji for a seven-weeks study tour of the country's coconut industry. According to the *Savusavu Daily The Coconut Telegraph*, the team will study: whether coconuts are the best use for land now planted with them; which coconut products have the best long-term prospects; the possibility of exporting coconut oil; the form of organisation needed to develop the industry; and the development of a more appropriate pricing formula.

W. KER Siddeley Engineering Pty Ltd's New Zealand branch has been appointed as New Zealand and South Pacific agents for Onan equipment. The company hopes it will be able to meet problems faced by owners of cruising yachts who often have difficulty in obtaining service and spare parts in the region for Onan marine generating sets.

EXPORTING of Tongan tomatoes is a serious threat to New Zealand's glasshouse industry, according to Mr K. Seagrave, chairman of the glasshouse growers' sub-committee of the Vegetable and Process Growers' Federation. He said increased imports would achieve nothing but a lowering of prices to a level that will be uneconomic for the Islands, as well as damaging for the New Zealand glasshouse industry which the consumer now relies on.

ROBERT R. 'Bert' Unpingco became general manager of the Tourism Visitors Bureau on July 1 and Joseph B. Cepeda has assumed the newly created post of deputy manager. Mr Unpingco replaced Martin Pray who resigned on June 30 to return to Honolulu.

THE NEW Zealand Government recently handed over to the Western Samoa government four new blocks at the Tuasivi District Hospital, worth about \$WS120 000. The new unit is reported to be a gift of the New Zealand Government under NZ bilateral aid.

THE PONAPE Development Bank (PDB), which opened for business early this year, may be bankrupt, according to a report in the *Saipan paper, Commonwealth Examiner*. The paper reports that testimony given to the Federated States of Micronesia Congress committee on resources and development by Ponapeans who invested money in the bank revealed that the bank may be insolvent for good.

THE CONTRACT for the new School of Social and Economic Development buildings at the University of the South Pacific (USP) in Suva has been won by the Suva-based Milan Group (Pty) Ltd. The contract is worth \$F1 787 000 and is part of more than \$2 million being provided for buildings, furniture, fittings and consultancy under Australia's South Pacific Aid Programme administered by the Australian Development Assistance Bureau.

THE AUSTRALIAN Government recently handed over a \$500 000 grant to Western Samoa to assist with development programmes. \$300 000 was given to increase the Western Samoa Government's equity in the Development Bank of Western Samoa, and the rest went to the Rural Development Fund. The nations were part of Australia's bilateral aid to Western Samoa.

FOUR AUCKLAND hospital administrators and a nursing sister went to Tonga in August to help set up a new 28-bed hospital.

...TRADEWINDS INTELLIGENCE...

in the Haapai group. The hospital, which replaces an old one, is paid for from the New Zealand foreign aid programme.

AUSTRALIA is providing agricultural equipment to help farmers clear land and plant crops in the New Hebrides. Most of the equipment will be used on the island of Efate and hired out to farmers, from small vegetable gardeners to cattle owners.

BRITAIN'S Trade Minister John Nott has said that his country would resist pressure to replace its cane sugar supplies from Fiji with European beet sugar. Mr Nott said Britain realised sugar was 'crucial' to Fiji and would protect the interests of cane sugar producers in talks with the European Common Market.

AIR PACIFIC'S two new Brazilian-built Bandeirante aircraft were ferried to Fiji from Brazil by Air Pacific pilots in September.

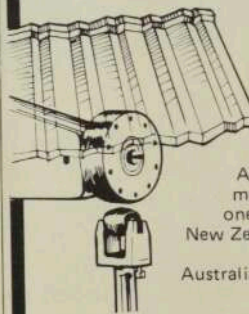
THE PROS and cons of Qantas' use of Boeing 747s on flights to Port Moresby came under scrutiny in the Australian Senate in September. Replying to a question suggesting that arrivals of fully loaded 747s overstrained Port Moresby's terminal facilities and PNG's domestic aircraft fleet, Transport Minister Peter Nixon said that although there had been some criticism, the use of smaller aircraft could result in higher costs per passenger kilometre, and might lead to fare increases. He said: 'This would possibly attract stronger criticism than that levelled at existing services.'

THE LONGEST recorded distance that a skipjack has travelled is between Solomon Islands and New Caledonia, officials of the South Pacific Commission's skipjack programme report. When found in Solomon Islands the fish, which had been tagged in New Caledonia 276 days before, had migrated 1636 km travelling at an average of 5.9 km a day. It had grown in length from 41 to 52 cm.

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A press tool measuring approx. 1.8 x 1.4 metres and weighing 4.5 tonnes (possibly one of the largest press tools to be built in New Zealand) designed for the manufacture of steel roofing tiles has been exported to Australia and 2 more similar tools are currently in negotiation for the U.S.A. market.

CRAIG KAY ENGINEERING

invite overseas manufacturing companies and similar interested parties to contact them with regard to manufacturing under licence in New Zealand and can offer, as consultants, assistance in establishing agencies and plants and analyses of markets, locations, availability of specific skills etc. in New Zealand.

For further information contact

Murray Greenwood, Manager, CRAIG KAY ENGINEERING
P.O. Box 58-074 East Tamaki, Auckland, New Zealand.
Margate Industrial Park, Harris Road, Otara.
Phone Papatoetoe 46-935



SONY

CFM-31S/L

Fill your leisure hours with the fresh sound of Sony's CFM-31S cassette-recorder with FM/MW/SW₁/SW₂ radio.

The 2-way speaker produces three watts of incredibly sharp sound through a 12cm woofer and a 5cm tweeter. A fine tuning knob gives precise SW reception indoors or out.

At a touch of a button, you can record simply and conveniently. There is also a built-in electret condenser microphone, a pause button, a 3-digit tape counter, plus cue and review. This model also shuts itself off automatically after playback.

The CFM-31S is lightweight and travels with ease. Anywhere you go, it's the portable with the fresh sound. (CFM-31L with FM/MW/SW/LW is also available.)

**Sony's portable
with the fresh sound.**

TRADEWINDS INTELLIGENCE...TRADEWINDS INTELLIGENCE...TRADE

STEADY improvement in prices for nickel ore and nickel on the world market has been greeted with highly audible sighs of relief by New Caledonian business circles.

HEBRITEL satellite telecommunications ground station in Lae became operational in June. It will offer 24-hour, seven-day telephone, telegraphic and telex services to all points on the globe. Users will have to wait until 1980 before they can dial international numbers on their own phones, as the necessary equipment has not arrived.

CORDING to the Noumea daily *Nouvelles Calédoniennes*, P585 million (\$A5.573 million) has been invested over the past years in the hotel trade in 'Noumea and the bush' (this sum includes investments in the Chateau Royal Hotel). The paper said that all indications were that, despite inevitable difficulties, the next decade will be marked by an enormous increase in investment in New Caledonia's tourist sector.

MINI-GENERATOR driven by the water of a nearby stream designed by an electrical engineering lecturer and his students at the NSW Institute of Technology, Sydney, will supply villagers on Kolombangara Island, Solomon Islands, with electricity. The idea came from an Australian non-profit organisation called ACE (Appropriate Technology and Community Environment) which researches technologies for the Pacific and Asia.

OUT 77 villages in the New Hebrides will get better water supplies during the next two years with the help of a grant of \$30 000 from Australia, according to the Australian Information Service (AIS) newsletter. The project, which started in

1976, will continue providing materials, equipment, technical supervision and installation costs. The newsletter adds that the New Hebrides Government is giving high priority to the rural water supply programme.

MARIE BAILEY, Norfolk Island tour operator, has spread her wings with the purchase of a Cessna 172 which will give visitors the opportunity of scenic air flights around the island.

GORDON Sioni Pacific Advertising, Papua New Guinea's largest advertising agency, has opened a Lae office to meet the growing needs of the private sector in Lae.

THREE third-level airlines in Lae, Papua New Guinea — Co-Air, Talair and Chee Air — because of increasing costs, including fuel prices, raised all air and charter fares by 10% from June 4.

TOKELAU Islands' administration, based in Apia, is negotiating with the Cook Islands shipping company, Silk & Boyd, to charter a vessel to take supplies to the three atolls in the group. The atolls have been without shipping since the *Cenpac Rounder* ran aground during Fiji's Cyclone Meli in April.

COST OF transforming Noumea's Chateau Royal Hotel into a Club Mediterranée resort will be higher than expected, according to Jean Combard, president of the French firm Sodececotour. Mr Combard told the Noumea daily *Nouvelles Calédoniennes* that the conversion would cost CFP300 million (\$A3.371 million), making 'all profit estimates very tight'. On staffing questions he said that after collective bargaining had been completed, an employment office would be opened.

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BUILT: Holland 1952
CLASS: Lloyds 100 A1
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**APPROXIMATE
DIMENSIONS:**
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Beam 8 m
Loan Draft 3,15 m
TONNAGE:
Gross 425
Net 238
DWT 600 MT
MAIN ENGINE: Single Screw 6 Cylinder Werkspoor
375 BHP
AUXILIARIES: 1 x Volvo 70 HP
1 x 4LX Gardner 60 HP
1 x Single Cylinder Deutz 9 HP
BALLAST/FUEL: 77 tons
FUEL CAPACITY: 45 Tons
FW CAPACITY: 52 Tons
REMARKS: Engine in need of repair.
SITUATION: The vessel is laid up at Salamaua near
Lae in the Morobe province, Papua New
Guinea. To be sold on "As is where is"
basis. No warranties as to specification,
condition or otherwise can be given.
ENQUIRIES TO: I. J. Conway
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Big savings in operating and service costs are achieved in commercial frozen food rooms through the use of a hot gas defrosting system instead of electrical defrosting. This is not a reverse cycle system.

The system, developed by Triangle Refrigeration Pty. Ltd., is eminently suitable for tropical and sub-tropical areas, where most frozen food is imported, and where an inefficient freezing system can cause heavy losses.

The hot gas defrost system operates much more efficiently and does not impart as much heat to room and product during defrosting, when compared with electric defrost systems. This permits more frequent defrost periods, resulting in a clean coil and rapid recovery of temperature after defrost.

It is more economical in power consumption, an important factor in areas where electricity costs are high.

Service is reduced to the lowest possible level as there is merely a flow of hot refrigerant gas to the coils — there are no electrical elements, replacement of which is the most common problem with electrical defrosting.

The system may be used in all commercial frozen food rooms including retail, wholesale and distribution points.

It is particularly advantageous in places such as Papua New Guinea where a number of Triangle systems are operating very successfully.

Accessible Hermetic Compressors may be used to further reduce service costs, as there are no shaft seals which are a potential leak source and no belts which require adjustment and replacement.

The horsepower required is less than that required for belt driven systems.

Triangle manufactures Forced Draft Coolers, Blast Freezer Coils, Air Cooled Condensers and special coils to customer requirement. They are also major distributors for Kelvinator and Prestcold Commercial Equipment.

They have recently added to their range a special "quick couple" type refrigeration system for frozen food rooms and cool rooms.

This system has flexible hose connections between the unit and the room. The system is pre-charged with refrigerant and completely pre-wired.

This eliminates the need for a qualified refrigeration mechanic to install them. The only requirement is for a licensed electrician to provide power to a 3 phase or single phase outlet.

These "quick couple" units can be supplied with either belt driven compressors or accessible hermetic compressors.

The manufacturers also specialise in water chillers, air conditioning, glass door cabinets and refrigeration equipment for supermarkets and for all types of commercial and industrial refrigeration.



All enquiries are welcome and should be directed to:

TRIANGLE REFRIGERATION PTY. LTD.

47-49 Buckley Street, Marrickville, NSW, Australia 2204.
Phone (02) 519-4622. Cable "TRIFRIG" Sydney.

North Sky in debut as new servant of Pacific ports

2000-tonne trader, *North Sky*, has begun a new service between Australia and Pacific ports, including Fiji, the *Tonga Chronicle* reports.

The vessel's captain is Mr C. Hill-Willis, former general manager of Pacific Navigation Ltd.

The ship is beginning a new trading venture for Pacific Salt Ltd of Whyalla, South Australia. She was owned formerly by Australian National Lines and was used as a bulk carrier around the Australian coast.

Since July, the ship has been fitted from grain carrier to general cargo vessel. She has undergone a name change from *North Esk* and a flag change, as she is now registered in Tonga.

North Sky will also carry quantities of steel products.

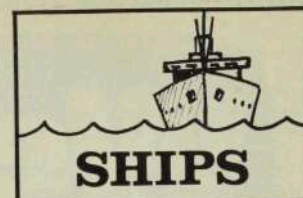
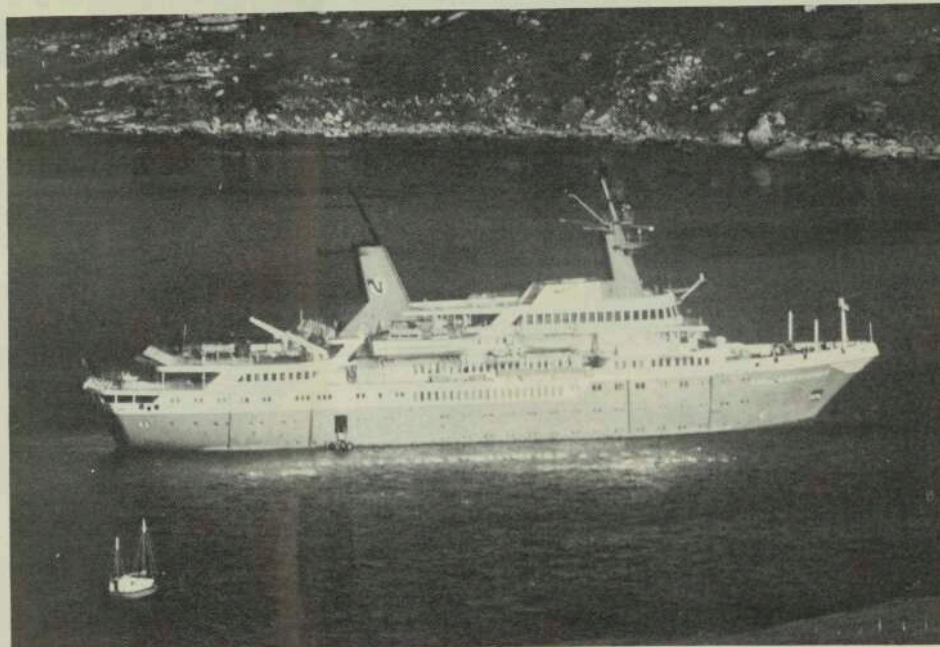
She is now owned by the overseas-based West Pacific Shipping Co and is on longterm charter to Pacific Salt.

The manager of Pacific Salt Whyalla, Bob Morris, said the ship would establish one of the first regular trade links with Tonga. He said shipments of steel products would be made from Whyalla every two months, calling at Port Moresby and ports in Fiji and Solomon Islands, as well as Tonga.

He said the salt products would include cooking and table salt, as well as larger quantities of other grades for use in canneries, and bakeries.

STRIKE by owners of small boats servicing the inter-island routes in French Polynesia ended in September after more than two months.

THE FRENCH oceanographic vessel, *Le Suroit*, was in the Pacific in September as part of its work on the Pacific Nodules Co-operation project conducted by France, West Germany and the United States. Aim of the operation is to compare seabed mineral nodules in various representative areas of the North and South Pacific.



TUVALU MARINE TRAINING SCHOOL IS 'IN BUSINESS'

Australian High Commissioner to Tuvalu, Gordon Upton, officially opened Tuvalu's marine training school on Amatuku islet, Funafuti, in September.

The school, which will train Tuvaluans as seamen for employment on overseas ships, is a half-million-dollar Australian aid project.

At the opening ceremony, attended by Tuvalu's Governor-General, Sir Fiatau Penitela Teo, government ministers and 100 invited guests, Mr Upton said it was fitting that an island people with a maritime culture should have such a training school. The Captain-Superintendent of the school, Ken Barnett, said it was hoped that within a year the first intake of 26 cadets would be working on overseas ships and sending remittances home to their families in Tuvalu, and also depositing money in their own personal bank accounts.

The training courses, each of a year's duration, are broken down into three stages. Thus,

the first intake which started at the end of August will move up to stage two in December, and a new intake will enter at stage one. The course includes a one-month shipboard session which will be carried out aboard the Tuvalu government's vessel *Nivanga*. It is hoped that a ship may be obtained specifically to provide sea-going training in future.

Tuvalu seamen already have a good international reputation and as long as employment can be found for them the school should be able to turn out 60 trained people per year.

In the past, before separation of the Gilbert and Ellice Islands, cadets from both areas were trained at the marine school in Tarawa, Kiribati. — Peter McQuarrie.

Billed as 'the world's most sophisticated expedition ship' is the M/S *World Discoverer* (above). Carrying passengers for the US-based company Society Expeditions, the 3200-tonne ship, built in Germany in 1974, has many unusual characteristics which fit her for her role.

Her hull is ice-strengthened (a tour of Antarctica is on her itinerary), and bow thrusters make her capable of sideways movement.

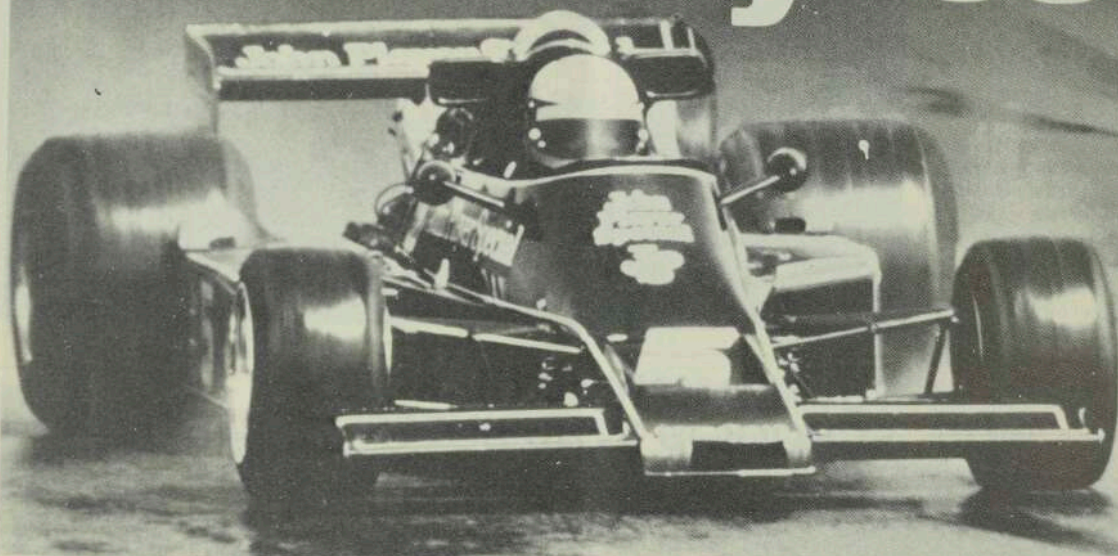
Her shallow draught allows her to travel safely in areas inaccessible to most other vessels of her size. Roll dampers minimise the effects of heavy seas.

She carries inflatable landing boats, with a capacity of 12 to 14 persons, based on a design developed by Captain Jacques-Yves Cousteau for expedition work.

World Discoverer will be in Pacific waters in 1980-81 on the 'Melanesia' cruising expedition, which will take her to New Hebrides, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea's Sepik River area.

PIM this month introduces — or rather reintroduces — a department specifically devoted to developments in Pacific shipping, and related activities. Return of the department, which for many years figured in the magazine, follows insistent requests from readers.

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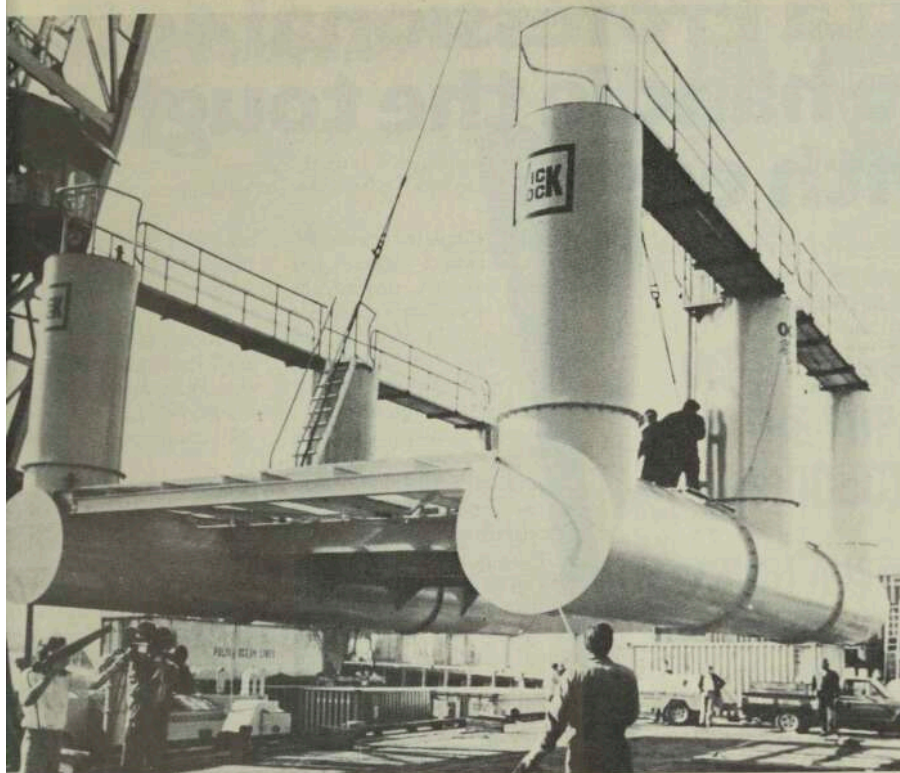
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Goodyear International Corporation
Room 1603, Wing On Center
111 Connaught Road Central
HONG KONG, Tel. 5-433331

HRME171 0252

SHIPS



Vickers Cockatoo Dockyard, Sydney, Australia, have developed a new-style floating dock for smaller commercial and pleasure craft (pictured left).

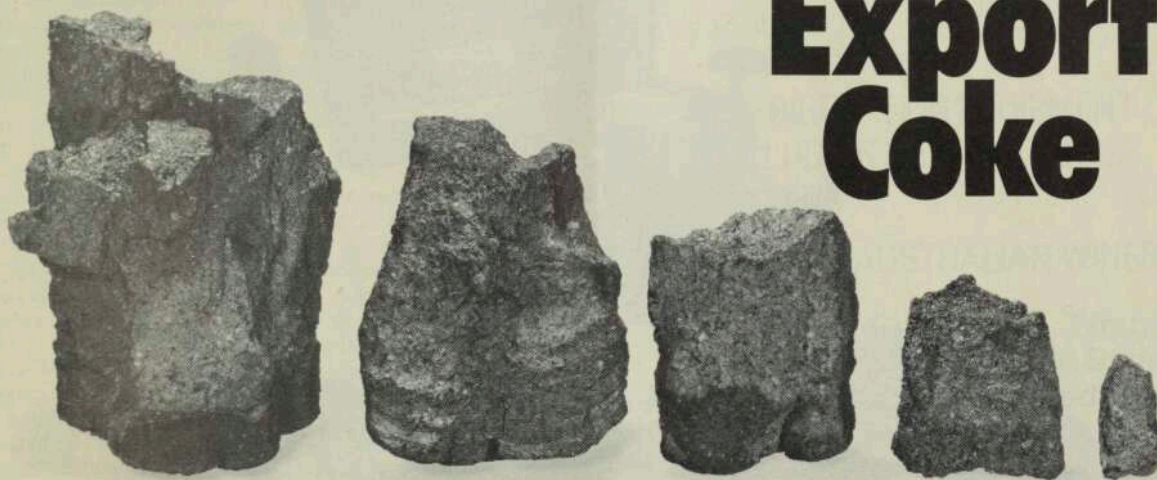
The first model, called Vick-dock 20, can lift vessels weighing up to 20 tonnes but the range caters for vessels weighing up to 100 tonnes.

Conventional floating docks are lowered by flooding tanks until a vessel can float over them. Water is then pumped from the tanks, raising the dock and the vessel with it. The new Vickers product uses the submarine principle of blowing its tanks clear of water with compressed air. It is designed to carry its own diesel or petrol-driven air compressor which also operates tools and equipment used for working on the vessels.

On a recent Pacific tour, Vickers Cockatoo representative Graham Cole found considerable interest on the part of government and other circles in a number of countries where slipways are in short supply.

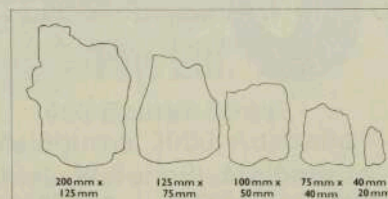
The first model has already been launched in New Zealand, where it will be used at a marina for hull cleaning, painting, propeller repairs and general maintenance.

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8 position height adjuster
Noise reducing muffler
Side chute with safety cover
Lightweight (weighs only 54 lb)
Rugged 14-gauge steel baseplate

*Specifications and models subject to alteration
without notice or obligation*



VICTA
TURNS GRASS INTO LAWN

SHIPS

Computer, the electronic navigator

Senior mariner Captain Vic Sanderson writes on a revolutionary electronic device, the so-called Digital Navigation Computer NC-77, which vastly simplifies the work of the navigator.

A small transistor radio has not only brought news, music and entertainment into homes, schools and boats — to the navigator it has brought accurate signals, which are of the same importance when calculating longitude. For practical purposes, it has made the chronometer superfluous.

Again, the small hand-held cassette recorder makes it possible for the navigator of any vessel, however large or small, to record course changes, transits of landmarks, weather conditions and everything that could be written in the ship's log at times when writing would either be difficult or interfere with other duties.

But a slightly more complex device is the pocket calculator which has reduced the time required for solving complex calculations, including the stability of the ship, to a fraction of that required by other means and with greater accuracy than, say, with logarithmic tables.

At the heart of the pocket calculator is a tiny silicon chip, no bigger than a little finger, which contains many minute electrical components and circuits. Initially it cost millions of dollars to complete the design and set up the production line, but once the output paid for the initial costs, they became available for a very few dollars each.

When we come to the most time-consuming task of all for the navigator, conservatively estimated at one and a half hours of calculation per day, which is the daily ritual of publishing the ship's position from celestial observations followed by sight reduction. With the development of microcircuitry, as used in modern pocket calculators, it is only a matter of time before a calculator for sight reduction was created. This was first achieved by the well-known nautical instrument manufacturer C. Plath of Ham-

burg. Now a slightly different but even more versatile instrument, at about one-fifth the price, has been produced by Tamaya of Japan. It is known as the Digital Navigation Computer NC-77.

This computer, which is only a little larger than the average hand-held calculators, produces results for a multitude of navigation problems, ranging from running fix to distance off by vertical sextant angle. It includes dead reckoning by Mercator sailing; course planning by great circle sailing, together with distance, initial course and intermediate points on the great circle.

Other features are finding the height and tide for a selected time and velocity of the tidal currents at any time required; also, finding the course and speed made good through a current and the course to steer and speed to maintain to make good to the intended point.

Above all, the NC-77 will compute celestial navigation problems and solve these by producing position lines and fixes in less than 90 seconds.

The NC-77 is programmed with astronomical data for the sun up to the year 2000, and from this data can compute Greenwich hour angle by the sun, Aries, equation of time and declination for the sun without using a nautical almanac — with the latter only required for planets, stars and moon.

The instrument is supplied with an excellent handbook, not only explaining step by step how the available information is to be fed into it in order to get required results, but also explaining at great length the fundamentals of astronavigation.

In Australia at a price of around \$300 to the professional navigator, and, because of sales tax, slightly more to the yachting fraternity, it must be considered an absolute steal.



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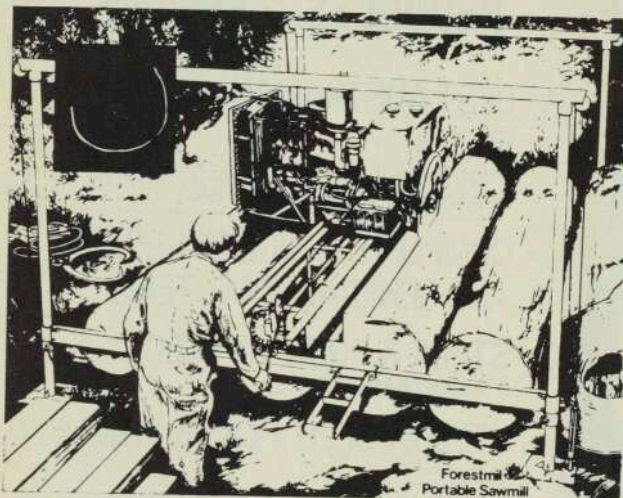
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YACHTS

• **JELICIE.** Veteran Pacific voyager Mike Bales was encountered recently in Funafuti by PIM's yachting correspondent Jimmy Cornell. On his well-tried and worn 8 m wooden folkboat, Mike has already spent many years cruising Pacific waters to become a familiar sight in many of the islands. A retired naval officer, veteran of World War II, twice court-martialled but still honourably discharged from the Royal Navy, Commander Mike Bales, RN, left the UK in 1959 aboard *Jellicie*. In his 14 years spent in the Pacific, Mike has worked on various islands, but always returns to Tonga, for which he has a special affection and where he has been involved in several projects, from skippering the ship *TOFUA* to teaching navigation. Speaking Tongan well, he always sails with a Tongan crew, sharing with young Tongans his vast experience of the sea. His latest crew is Peter Pasikala, with whom he has sailed from New Zealand to Fiji, Wallis, Futuna and Tuvalu, before continuing to the New Hebrides, New Caledonia and PNG. Life aboard *Jellicie* is kept as simple as possible. Mike is a purist who believes in following the tradition of the early small boat sailors such as Joshua Slocum. After 20 years and nearly 160 000 km of sailing in his small boat, Mike still has no desire to change it for anything bigger or more fancy.

• **ROSCOP.** This 14 m fibreglass ketch from Antwerp is taking Belgian couple Rein and Marie-Louise Mortier on a voyage around the world. They left Belgium in April 1977, sailing for the Canaries and across the Atlantic to the West Indies. They cruised the Caribbean Islands before transiting the Panama Canal in July 78. From the Galapagos, *Roscop* sailed for Easter Island, then the Marquesas and the rest of French

Polynesia. American Samoa was the next stop en route to Fiji, from where the Mortiers plan to sail to Australia for the cyclone season.

• **ORPLID.** Headed for New Zealand and Australia is the German yawl *Orplid* from Bremen, with Rolf and Steffen Stukenberg on board. Built in 1960, *Orplid* is a classic wooden yacht and was previously well known as

HAMBURG VI. She took part in several trans-Atlantic races before being bought by Peter Mortier who cruised for nine years in the Mediterranean before

Sydney & Suva

The third Sydney to Suva yacht race over a course of 1734 nautical miles, the longest race in the Australian ocean racing calendar, begins on May 24 1980 and is expected to attract a record number of entries including yachts with famous names in the racing world. The race, held every two years, is being sponsored next year by the Sydney brewers, Tooth and Co. and is a supporter of several yachting events in Australia. Support for the event comes from the top, the Australian Governor-General having started the races and the Governor-General of Fiji presenting the trophies. The 1978 winner was **RAGAMUFFIN** skippered by Syd Fischer, who led the Australian team to victory in the tragic Admiral's Cup contest in Britain's waters in August. One big attraction for competitors is that the race dovetails with the Pan Am Clipper Cup in Hawaii, many of the yachts, after reaching Suva, continuing on to Hawaii for the Clipper event. Middle Harbour Yacht Club of Sydney, organiser of the Tooths KB Sydney to Suva race, is one of the leading Australian clubs. Its managing secretary is Alan Cameron, well known in Suva where he worked for several years with Air Pacific.

YACHTS

off on the present world
e. Leaving in 1976. *Orplid*
t two years in the Carib-
entering the Pacific in
h of this year. The route
Fiji included Galapagos,
ch Polynesia and
merican Samoa.

VI. This 13 m wooden
n from Seattle called in at
n September on her way
ew Zealand. The Califor-
couple Dick and Sherri
t left in April 1978 bound
Hawaii, Tahiti, American
oa and Tonga. After the
one season they plan to
rn to French Polynesia and
probably home.

LEMARK. The 10.7 m
man class sloop has been
e for the last 10 years for
British couple Beryl and
Allmark. They left the UK
their previous yacht, 8 m
FIN, cruising for two years
European waters. After
quiring the larger *Telemark*,
Allmarks set off for the
ibbean, where they spent
years among the islands.
ama Canal was transited
in 1978 on the way to the
quesas, Tuamotu and So-

ciety Islands, Tonga and Fiji.
En route to Australia, they plan
to visit New Caledonia.

• **POTPOURRI.** *Potpourri* of
Port Hueneme, California, was
cruising in Fiji waters during
August and September. Al and
Karen Huso left the States on
board their 10.6 m cutter in
August '78 bound for Hawaii.
Since then they have visited
Tahiti, Rarotonga, American
Samoa and Vava'u. From Fiji,
Potpourri is planning to sail to
the New Hebrides and New
Caledonia to spend the cy-
clone season in New
Zealand.

• **DIOGENES.** Gustaf Wollmar
is on his second circum-
navigation in his 16 m yacht
Diogenes. On the first voyage
he left Massachusetts, in 1974
bound for Panama. Crossing
the Pacific via Galapagos,
French Polynesia, Cook
Islands, New Zealand, Fiji and
Papua New Guinea. *Diogenes*
returned to the USA via South
Africa and the Cape of Good
Hope. After watching the
America's Cup in Newport in
1977, Gustaf left immediately
for a second trip around the

world. This time from Panama
he sailed up to San Francisco,
then on to French Polynesia,
Cooks, American Samoa and
Fiji. Although sometimes
taking crew, he has single
handed this large yacht on
several of the passages. From

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Hawker Siddeley Engineering
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cific agents for Onan equip-
ment.

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Zealand manager, Mr T.
Arthurs, reports that owners of
cruising yachts fitted with
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have often had difficulties
obtaining service and spares
while in the South Pacific.

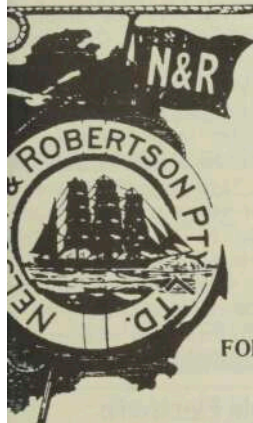
The company aims to mini-
mise the resulting disruptions
to yachts' programmes.

The company may be con-
tacted by letter at PO Box
33-787, Takapuna, Auckland,
9, and by cable to 'Hawking',
Auckland.

Fiji he is bound for Australia.

• **LE VOYAGEUR.** *Le
Voyageur* is American
singlehander Sam Craig. He
left Los Angeles in his Catalina
27 sloop in July '78 and made
a 21 days passage to Hawaii.
He worked and surfed a
season there, before sailing
for the Line Islands, American
Samoa and Tonga. En route
for Australia, Sam plans to
stop in the New Hebrides and
New Caledonia.

• **FAWN OF CHICHESTER.**
Another yacht bound for Aus-
tralia is the British Cavalier 30,
Fawn of Chichester from
Cowes. Alice Sampson and
Roger Morgan left Burnham-
on-Crouch in August 1977,
crossing the Atlantic via
Madeira and the Canaries. The
Lesser Antilles, Columbia and
Panama were visited before
entering the Pacific in May,
'78. They sailed via the
Galapagos, French Polynesia
and the Cooks to spend the
last cyclone season in New
Zealand. This year *Fawn of
Chichester* has cruised in
Tonga and Fiji and plans to call
at the New Hebrides and New



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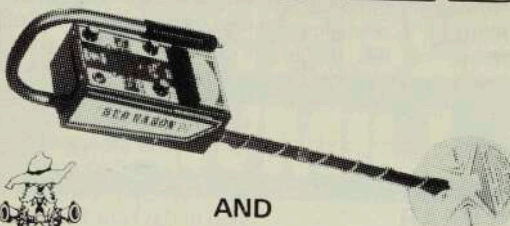
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P.O. Box 2092, Govt. Bldg., Suva, Fiji. P.O. Box 258, Lautoka, Fiji.
P.O. Box 2420, CPO Auckland 1, New Zealand.

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YACHTS

Caledonia on her way to Brisbane.

• **ARAGON.** This GRP 10.4 m cutter in the Skookum class from Portland, Oregon, is taking Doug and Janet Bogardus on a Pacific cruise. So far they have visited the Marquesas, Tuamotu and Society Islands, the two Samoas, Vava'u and Fiji. After New Zealand their future plans are still undecided.

• **CANARD LAQUE.** The black Hong Kong-built Clipper 42 ketch is named after the Chinese delicacy Peking Duck. Her owners Swiss couple Ute and Pierre Graf, have already logged over 65 000 km in eight years of cruising in European, Atlantic and Pacific waters. Their Pacific cruise started in 1977 and has taken them to French Polynesia, Hawaii, Alaska, British Columbia and California. Back in Tahiti, Ute and Pierre sailed in June 1979 for Suva, both Samoas and Fiji. En route to Queensland, they plan to visit the New Hebrides, Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea.

• **BECAUSE.** Dick Thuiller, a retired building contractor from Victoria, BC, Canada, is seeking a new way of life on the ocean, after his wife was killed when a plane he was piloting crashed. He built *Because*, an 11 m cutter, sturdy enough to take him anywhere in the world. Sailing the yacht singlehanded he left Canada in June '78 calling at Hawaii, French Polynesia, Rarotonga, American and Western Samoa, Tonga and Fiji. His next stop — New Zealand.

• **TARA II.** The Vancouver 27

sloop of Canadian co-George and Suzanne Hart left Vancouver, BC, in Aug '77. After sailing the US West coast, the Hartleys spent a year in Hawaii working on a Pacific cruise. Kiribati, Tuvalu and Fiji were visited en route to Australia.

• **TRUST.** 11.9 m cutter from Whakatane, New Zealand taking yacht designer Mick Orchard on a shakedown cruise among the islands of the south-western Pacific. Eight yachts have so far been built in this fast cruising class — Orchard 39. Mick singlehanded the boat from New Zealand to Tonga in April where he was joined by crew members Ian Williams and John Craig, the first of a batch of people to join Trust at various stages of the voyage, the object being to experience offshore cruising. After visiting Haapai and Vavau, Trust sailed on to Western Samoa with Wallis and Fiji on the itinerary before returning to New Zealand.

• **SHANNON.** 12.2 m ketch from Santa Barbara, California, in the Sea Wolf 40 class arrived in Vavau, Tonga, at the end of May. Singlehanded Jack Knapp left home in March 1978 hoping to eventually fulfil his dream of sailing around the world. After spending three months in Hawaii, Jack sailed to Tahiti, where for six months he sailed among the Society Islands. En route to Tonga, Western Samoa and Fiji. For 30 years Jack has worked as a commercial fisherman fishing, mainly for albacore, from Mexico to Canada.

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DEATHS

Islands People

K. B. BORRON

es Sawers Kidston Brad-
Borron, born in Suva in
at his house there after a
illness. Together with his
Zena, who died two years
he was well known for his
anthropy and generosity.
home, Borron House, used
the Allied Command Head-
quarters in World War II, was
ated by Jimmy Braddon to
Fiji National Trust. He
erited the Mago Island
te, which is now managed
his son James. A true *Kai*
he will be remembered by
y friends.

ONE TUI KLEIS

former Speaker of Tuvalu's
se of Assembly, on his
e island of Nui, aged 48.
cated at the old Elisefou

School on Vaitapu, and in
Western Samoa, New Zealand
and Italy, Sione Tui Kleis did
a short stint in the former Gil-
bert and Ellice Islands Colony
civil service before being
ordained a Catholic priest in
1961. In 1964 he left the clergy
to return to government ser-
vice. After working as a broad-
caster with Radio Tarawa, he
was elected to the GEIC Legis-
lative Assembly, and later
selected as minister for com-
merce and natural resources
before the Gilberts and Tuvalu
separated in 1975. He was
fluent in Tuvaluan, Gilbertese,
Samoan, French, Italian and
English.

JOHN SACHS

At his home in Suva, of a mas-
sive heart attack, on September
23. John Sachs, 45, was on the
staff of *The Fiji Times* for 20
years, lately as commercial
printing manager. He was born
at Nausori, one of an old
European family in Fiji, his
grandfather being one of the
original settlers at Tailevu.
John Sachs was involved in

many community activities in-
cluding YMCA and Harry
Charman's sports club, and was
president of the Fiji Master
Printers' Association. Former
executive director of *The Fiji*
Times, Mr L. G. Usher, in a
tribute, described Mr Sachs as
'having absolute integrity, in
both his working and private
life, and he could be depended
upon completely'. He leaves a
wife, Dorothy, and four chil-
dren.

ROGER HEARD

Suddenly in Sydney in August,
aged 82. He designed the pile
light at the entrance to Suva
harbour, having gone to Fiji in
1920 to join the Public Works
Department. He returned to
Australia in 1924. He married
Florence Beddows, second
daughter of William Beddows,
who operated the Vunivasa
copra estate on Taveuni.

M. J. RANIGA

At Ba, Fiji, aged 64. Coming to
Fiji from India in 1939, Mr
Raniga worked as a goldsmith
in Ba and Suva before return-
ing to Ba in 1953 to found
Popular Novelties Ltd, spring-
board for Maganlal Jiwa and
Sons, the town's biggest indus-
trial concern. Founded as a dis-
tribution company, Popular
Novelties later began manufac-
turing its distribution lines,
beginning with curry powder
and moving on to confec-
tionery. Retired, Mr Raniga
spent his last few years concen-
trating on a private charitable
trust set up in the family name.
He is survived by his wife, four
sons, two daughters and 16
grandchildren.

REV MINORU LOUIS

On Guam, aged 42. Originally
from Ponape, at the time of his
death, he was assistant pastor
of the Faith Presbyterian
Reformed Church on Guam.
He was also director of Faith
Hospitality House, a ministry
for Micronesian students on
Guam, and a representative of
the United Bible Society to
Guam and Micronesia.

KUNJU

A *Girmitiya*, Kunju, at
Savusavu, Vanua Levu, Fiji,
aged 87. Kunju survived the

Girmit Centenary (of the first
arrival of indentured Indian
labourers in Fiji) by only three
months.

FR LAWRENCE ISA

The first Shortlands man to be
ordained a Catholic priest,
Father Lawrence Isa, at Gizo,
Solomon Islands. Father Isa
had been working with the Gil-
bertese settlement around
Gizo. He was ordained in
1968.

E. J. ROBSON

Eric John Robson, in Lae,
Papua New Guinea, aged 65.
Born in New South Wales,
Australia, Eric Robson first
went to Rabaul, New Britain,
in 1938 as a police officer, later
transferring to the medical ser-
vice.

In World War II, he was
attached to the Allied
Intelligence Bureau, and be-
came one of the elite band of
coastwatchers, operating along
the Morobe coastal as well as
inland areas behind Japanese
lines.

After the war he was posted
to Mumeng, in Morobe, where
he remained until his death.
The building of Mumeng's
hospital and primary school
was largely due to his efforts.
Among his other activities were
the running of a roadside res-
taurant at Mumeng, and a spell
with the Commonwealth
Department of Works.

He was awarded the
Independence Medal (PNG)
and received it at Mumeng on
the country's second Indepen-
dence Day in 1976, along with
his better-known fellow resi-
dent, the late Mick Leahy (PIM
April p7, May p68). By this
time Eric Robson had become
a PNG citizen

A. P. ELKIN

Emeritus Professor A. P. Elkin,
Anglican minister, anthropol-
ogist, and author, in Sydney,
Australia, aged 88. Professor
Elkin was a former editor of
Oceania, a journal mainly con-
cerned with the study of the
indigenous peoples of Aus-
tralia, Papua New Guinea and
the Pacific Island countries.
His field work took him to
many remote places in these
areas.

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C. HILTON

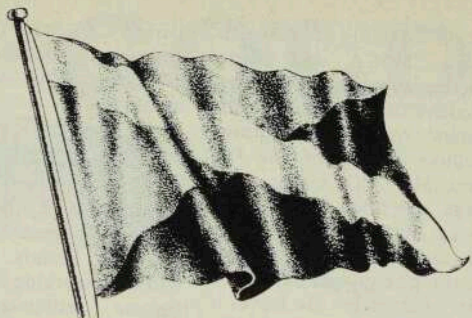
PRIVATE BAG, ROTORUA, NEW ZEALAND.
PHONE ROTORUA 53533.



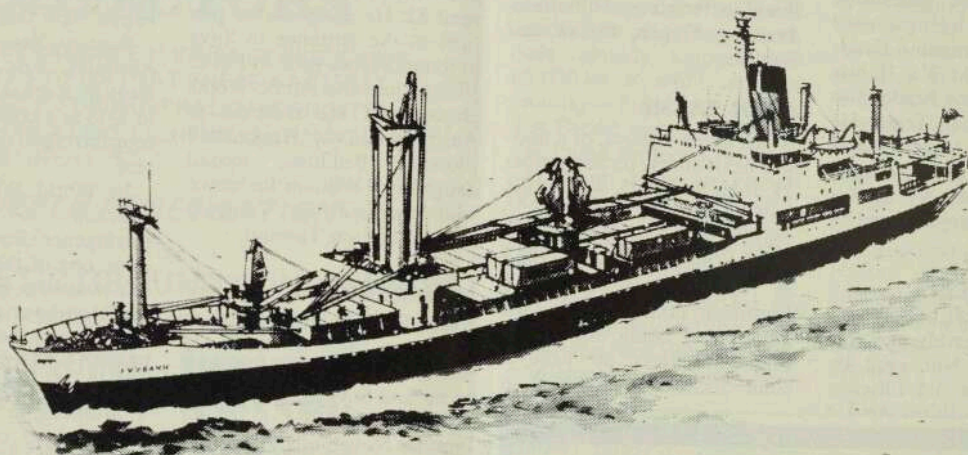
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These listings do not necessarily cover all services to island ports. Should any shipping company wish to have its services — cargo and passenger — included in these lists they should contact PIM.

SYDNEY - LORD HOWE IS - NORFOLK IS

Compagnie des Chargeurs Nationaux operates four-weekly service Sydney - Lord Howe Island and Norfolk Island. Details Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (231-671).

SYDNEY - NZ - FIJI - HAWAII - CANADA - US

P & O liners call at Auckland, Suva, Honolulu and Vancouver on eastbound westbound voyages between Sydney and the US. Details from P & O Booking Centre, Travel Headquarters Pty Ltd, 33 Pitt Street, Sydney (231-6655).

AUSTRALIA - NZ - FIJI - TONGA - NEW HEBRIDES - NOUMEA - PNG - SOLOMONS - SAMOAS

Mar Cruises operates a year-round programme to include most of above countries.

Details from Sitmar Cruises, 47 Beth Street, Sydney (232-7511). P & O liners call at Auckland, Bay of Islands, Honiara, Lautoka, Noumea, Nukualofa, Pago Pago, Papeete, Port Moresby, Santo, Savusavu, Suva, Suva and Vila on cruises from Australia.

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

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

Pacific Navigation of Tonga operates a weekly refrigerated general cargo container service from Sydney and Papeete to Vila, Santo, Suva, Lautoka, Nukualofa, Pago Pago, Papeete and Norfolk Island.

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

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA (AND/OR) NEW HEBRIDES

Karlander operates a monthly service from Sydney to Noumea.

Details: Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 31 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-6301). Sofrana-Unilines ships serve Noumea every three weeks from the main ports along the east Australian coast.

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

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

Details Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (231-671).

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

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

AUSTRALIA - FIJI

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

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

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

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

AUSTRALIA - W. SAMOA

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

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

AUSTRALIA - FIJI - TUVALU - SAMOAS - TONGA

Pacific Forum Line operates a container, unitised/palletised and reefer cargo service from Melbourne and Sydney to Lautoka, Suva, Funafuti, Pago Pago, Apia and Nukualofa. Other ports are included on inducement.

Details from ANL Melbourne and Brisbane, Union Bulkships, Sydney, Hobart, Port Adelaide and Fremantle, Burns Philp (SS) Company Ltd, GPO Box 355, Suva, Fiji (311-777); Polynesia Shipping Services, Pago Pago; Union Steam Ship Co of NZ Ltd, Nukualofa; PWD, Funafuti; or Pacific Forum Line, PO Box 655, Apia, W. Samoa.

AUSTRALIA - NORTHERN MARIANAS - MICRONESIA

Union 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 four-weekly service from Australia to Papeete.

Details: Meridian Shipping & Transport Agencies Pty Ltd, Box 3410 GPO, Sydney 2001 (29-4987), Tlx: AA25970.

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

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

AUSTRALIA - PNG

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

Details from New Guinea Express Lines, PO Box R73, Royal Exchange PO, Sydney (241-3991) MacArthur Shipping Agency Co, 82-92 Eagle Street, Brisbane (229-3777), New Guinea Express Lines, 327 Collins Street, Melbourne (61-3053), Niugini Express Lines in Port Moresby (21-2466), Lae (42-1536), Rabaul

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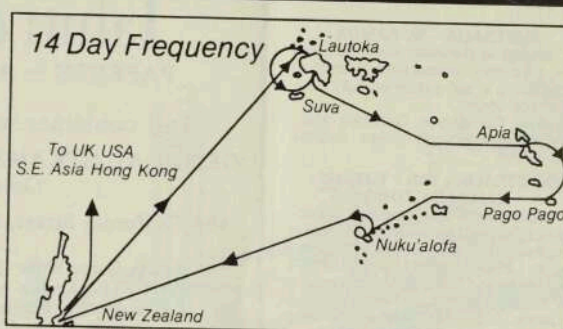
AGENTS

PAPEETE: MORGAN, Vernex Boite Postale 449, Papeete
Phone: 309 Cables: MOREX

PAGO PAGO: POLYNESIA SHIPPING SERVICES, INC., Pago Pago
Phone: 633-5169 Cables: POLYSHIP

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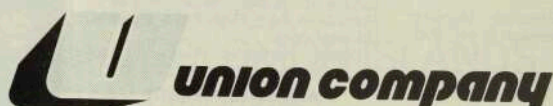
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The Australian National Line, 50 Queen Street, Melbourne.
Union Bulkships Pty. Ltd., 333-339 George Street, Sydney.
GILBERT ISLANDS:
Gilbert Islands Shipping Corp. P.O. Box 495, Tarawa.
FIJI:
Burns Philp South Sea Co. Ltd. GPO Box 355, Suva.
NEW CALEDONIA:
ETS Ballande, BP. C 4, Noumea.
NEW HEBRIDES:
Burns Philp New Hebrides Limited, Vila.
NEW ZEALAND:
The Shipping Corp. of N.Z. Ltd. P.O. Box 3344, Wellington.
PAPUA NEW GUINEA:
Steamships Trading Co. Ltd. P.O. Box 1, Port Moresby.
SOLOMON ISLANDS:
Sullivans S.I. Ltd. GPO Box 3, Honiara.
TONGA:
Union Steam Ship Co. P.O. Box 4, Nuku'alofa.

Niugini Pty Ltd, Rabaul (92-2911),
Alotau Stevedoring & Transport
(61-1318).

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

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

AUSTRALIA-PNG-SOLOMONS

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

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

AUSTRALIA-SOLOMONS- NORTHERN MARIANAS-TAIWAN- JAPAN

Daiwa Line offers a four-weekly ser-
vice Sydney-Honiara-Guam-Taiwan-
Japan with transshipment at Guam for
Saipan.

Details Meridian Shipping & Trans-
port Agencies Pty Ltd, Box 3410 GPO,
Sydney 2001 (29-4987). Tlx.
AA25970.

AUSTRALIA - SOLOMONS - GILBERT IS - MICRONESIA

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

Details Meridian Shipping & Trans-
port Agencies Pty Ltd, Box 3410 GPO
Sydney 2001 (29-4987). Tlx.
AA25970.

AUSTRALIA - NAURU - MAJURO

Nauru Pacific Line operates regular
cargo/passenger service from Mel-
bourne to Nauru and Majuro.

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

PNG - UK/CONTINENT

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

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

PNG - US

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

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

SOLOMONS - USA - UK/CONTINENT

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

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

FAR EAST - FIJI - NEW ZEALAND

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

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

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

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

JAPAN - FIJI - NEW ZEALAND

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

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

JAPAN - PNG

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

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

FAR EAST - MID-S. PACIFIC

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

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

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

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

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

Details: Meridian Shipping & Trans-
port Agencies Pty Ltd, Box 3410 GPO
Sydney 2001 (29-4987) Tlx:
AA25970.

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 Mari-
time Services, 17 Albert Street,
Auckland (77-3460).

EUROPE - PACIFIC ISLANDS

Compagnie Generale Maritime op-
erates services from Europe and Mediter-
ranean ports to Papeete and Noumea
using three Ro-Ro and one multi-
purpose vessel thus ensuring a bi-
monthly sailing to and from.

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

EUROPE - TAHITI - W. SAMOA - FIJI - N. CALEDONIA

Nedlloyd offers regular cargo ser-
vices 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 Lau-
toka, Suva, Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia,
Sydney, Noumea, Honiara, Tarawa,
Guam.

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

NOUMEA - FIJI - WEST COAST NORTH AMERICA

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

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP 1602, Noumea (27-51-91), Tlx NM048; W R Carpenter, 100 Thomson St, Suva (31-11-22), Tlx FJ2199; Trans-Austral Shipping, Box R232 PO, Royal Exchange, NSW (27-2441), Tlx AA1204.

WEST COAST NORTH AMERICA - NOUMEA - FIJI

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

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP 1602, Noumea (27-51-91), Tlx NM048; W R Carpenter, 100 Thomson St, Suva (31-11-22), Tlx FJ2199; Trans Austral Shipping, Box R232 PO, Royal Exchange, NSW (27-2441), Tlx AA1204.

NZ - NEW CALEDONIA - FIJI

Pacific Forum Line operates a unitized/palletized and reefer cargo service from Lyttelton and Auckland to Napier, Noumea, Lautoka and Suva. Other ports are included on inducement.

Details from Shipping Corporation of NZ Ltd, Auckland, Christchurch, Wellington, Burns Philp (SS) Company Ltd, GPO Box 355, Suva, Fiji (311-777); Polynesia Shipping Services, Pago Pago; Union Steam Ship Co of NZ Ltd, Nuku'alofa or Pacific Forum Line, PO Box 655, Apia, W. Samoa.

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 - NEW CALEDONIA - SOLOMONS - GILBERTS - MICRONESIA

Union Co/Daiwa Line operates a container service from New Zealand

through Sydney to Guam.

Details: Union Steam Ship Co of NZ Ltd, PO Box 12, Auckland.

NZ - TAHITI

Compagnie Tahitienne Maritime SA with one ship operates monthly service New Zealand - Papeete.

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

NZ - FIJI - NORTH AMERICA (WC)

Blue Star Line Ltd Pacific Coast container services. Only direct service to and from New Zealand. Blue Star vessels call at Suva and Honolulu on NZ-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, PO Box 3382, Auckland, NZ (77-1221-3).

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

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

NZ - FIJI - GILBERTS - SOLOMONS - PNG

Pacific Forum Line operates a container, unitised/palletised and reefer cargo service from Lyttelton and Auckland to Suva, Port Moresby, Lae, Honiara, Tarawa, Madang, Lae and Port Moresby. Other ports are included on inducement.

Details from Shipping Corporation of NZ Ltd, Auckland, Christchurch and Wellington, Burns Philp (SS) Company Ltd, GPO Box 355, Suva, Fiji (311-777) Sullivans, Honiara; Gilbert Islands Shipping Corporation, Tarawa; Steamships

Trading in Port Moresby, Lae and Madang or Pacific Forum Line, PO Box 655, Apia, W. Samoa.

Union Steam Ship Co of NZ operates a roll-on, roll-off, container/unitised 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 - TONGA - SAMOA

Pacific Navigation of Tonga operates a four-weekly cargo service, Auckland - Nuku'alofa - Pago Pago - Apia - Auckland.

Details from McKay Shipping Ltd, Downtown House, Queen Street, Auckland (30-229).

Warner Pacific Line services Auckland - Nuku'alofa/Vavau/Apia fortnightly carrying general and freezer cargoes. Also Timaru - Nuku'alofa/Vavau/Apia every 21 days carrying freezer cargo.

Details from Air Marine Services (NZ) Ltd, PO Box 2505, Auckland (796-841), Telex NZ21555.

NZ - COOK IS - NIUE - TAHITI

Shipping Corporation of NZ Ltd operates cargo services based on pallets and similar units from Auckland to Niue, Cook Islands and Tahiti.

Details from the Shipping Corp of NZ Ltd, PO Box 3420, Auckland (797-210); Waterfront Commission, PO Box 61, Rarotonga, Lighterage and Stevedoring Co, Aitutaki, Niue Govt Offices, Niue Island Compagnie Maritime Polynesienne, B'P 368, Papeete, Tahiti.

UK - N CONTINENT - FIJI

The Bank Line operates a direct, fast monthly service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp and Rotterdam to Suva and Lautoka.

Details from the Bank Line (trading as) Pty Ltd, 1 York St, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (South Sea Ltd, Suva and Lautoka).

UK/N. CONTINENT - TAHITI - N. CALEDONIA - N. HEBRIDES

Bank Line operates regular cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp and Rotterdam to Papeete, Noumea.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041); Ets A M Fare UTE, Papeete; Ballande, Noumea.

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.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (PNG) Ltd, PNG port; Trading Co Honiara.

HONOLULU - SAMOAS - TONGA

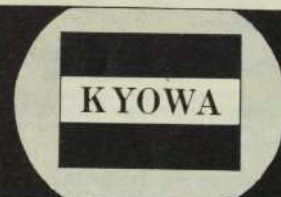
Warner Pacific Line operates unitized/palletized and reefer cargo service every 45 days Honolulu/Pago Pago-Apia-Nuku'alofa. Line Isla and Suva by inducement.

Details from Hawaii-Pacific Maritime Inc, Honolulu, HI 96801. Tel. (808) 531-4841 Tlx (RCA): 723-8330 743-0040. Cables 'Oral'

US - FIJI - TAHITI - NZ - AUSTRALIA

Bank and Savill Line Ltd, operates regular cargo services from US ports to Australia and NZ. Calls at Suva, Lautoka and Papeete on demand.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041); Howard Smith Industries Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-5611).



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

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

W. Samoa: Morris Hedstrom Ltd., Apia

Fiji: Carpenter Shipping, Suva & Lautoka

PNG: Carpenter Shipping Agencies, Port Moresby, Rabaul

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

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

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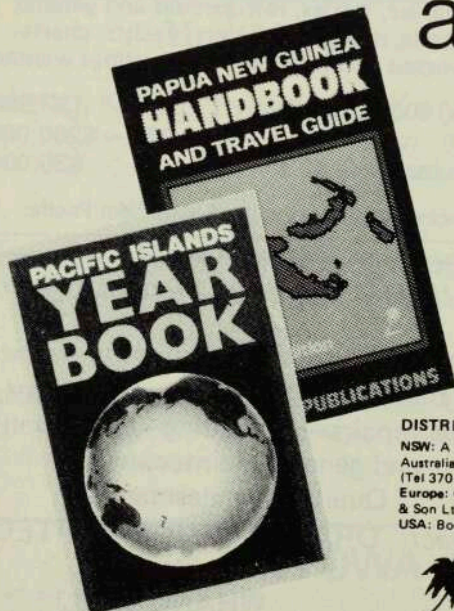
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