

Vol. 51, No. 2 (Feb. 1, 1980)

Date : 7/17/26, 3:09 AM

<https://nla.gov.au:443/tarkine/nla.obj-339025972>

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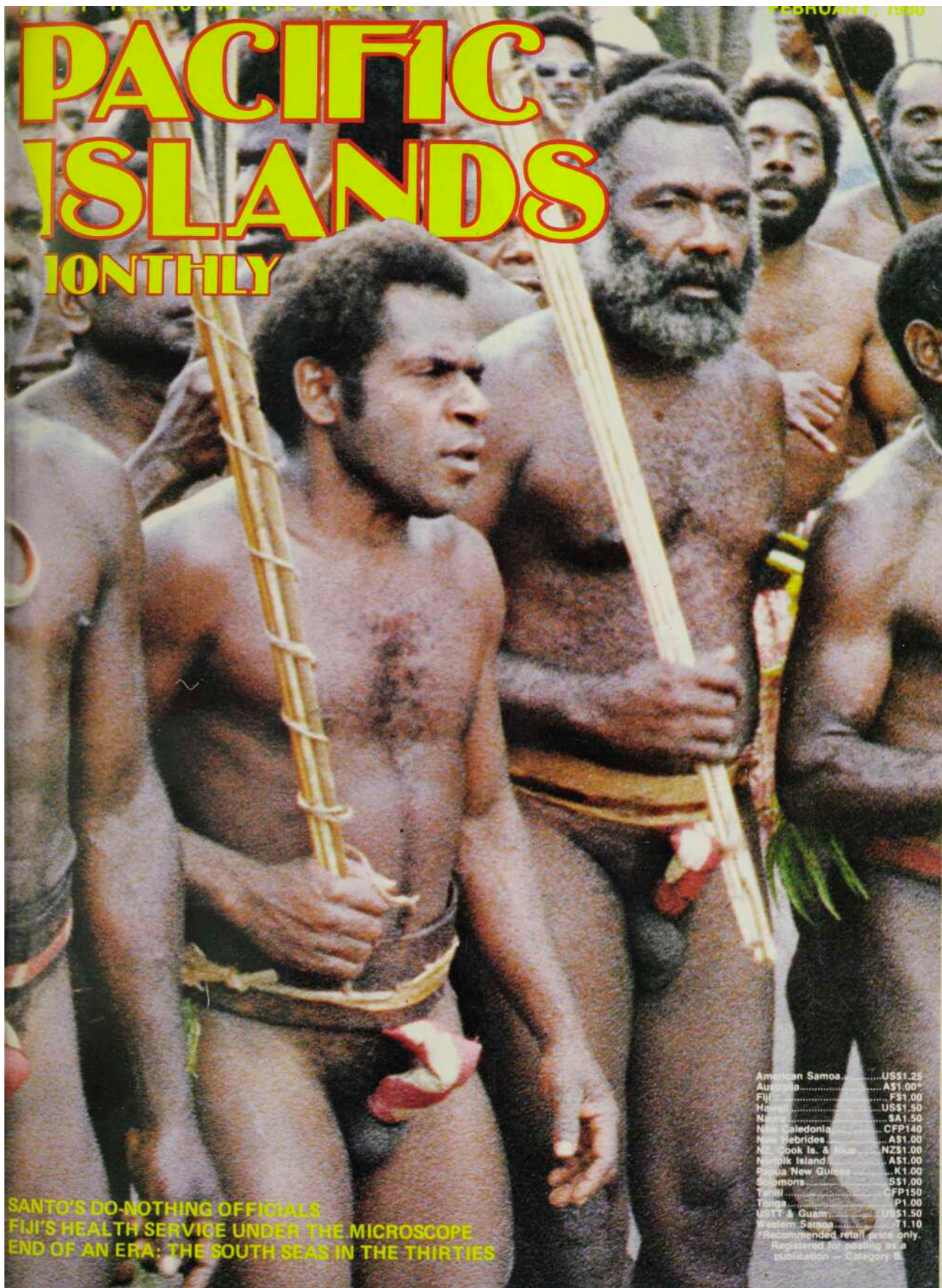
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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

Vol 51 No 2 February 1980 [USPS 952480]

Founded 1930 by R. W. Robson

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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
Cook Islands	\$13	
Fiji	\$12	\$F12
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REPRESENTATIVES

AUSTRALIA: Distribution: NSW & ACT: Allan Rodney Wright (Circulation) Pty Ltd, PO Box 907, Darlinghurst NSW 2010. Elsewhere: Gordon & Gotch (A/asia) Ltd, Box 40, PO Rosebery, NSW 2018. Advertising — Melbourne — Pacific Publications (Aust.) Pty Ltd, Newspaper House, 247 Collins Street, Melbourne 3000, telephone 63 0211, ext 1565. Jeff Gates, ext 1858. Ida Padgett, Brisbane — D. Wood, Anday Agency, Box 1918, GPO, Brisbane 4001, telephone 44 3485, 44 1546. Adelaide — Hastwell Media, PO Box 30, Glen Osmond, SA 5064, 233 Glen Osmond Rd, Frewville, SA 5063, telephone 79 1869. Perth — Adrep, 62 Wickham St, East Perth, WA 6000, telephone 325 6359.

FIJI: Distribution and subscriptions — Desai Bookshops, PO Box 160, Suva, Fiji, telephone Suva 23036. Advertising — Fiji Times & Herald Ltd, 20 Gordon St, Suva, telephone 312 111, telex F2124.

FRENCH POLYNESIA: Distribution — Hachette Pacifique, 10 Ave Bruat, Papeete, telephone 25810.

HAWAII, UNITED STATES: Distribution PIM, Hawaii, PO Box 22250, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822. Advertising: Roger I. Brookes, PO Box 10217, Waialae — Kahala, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816. Tel: 521 4521. Telex: 743 0296.

JAPAN: Advertising and subscriptions — Universal Media Corporation, CPO Box 46, Tokyo, telephone 666 3036.

MICRONESIA: Advertising: Roger I. Brookes, PO Box 10217, Waialae — Kahala, Honolulu, Hawaii 96816. Tel: 521 4521. Telex: 743 0296.

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

NEW ZEALAND: Distribution — Gordon & Gotch, PO Box 584, 2 Carr Road, Mt Roskill, Auckland 4. Advertising — International Media Representatives Ltd, PO Box 2313, Auckland, telephone 795 487, 493 389. Cables: Intereps, Auckland. Subscriptions — Ross Haines & Son Ltd, PO Box 1289, Auckland, telephone 769 042.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: Distribution — Gordon & Gotch (PNG) Pty Ltd, PO Box 3395, Port Moresby, telephone 25855. Advertising — PNG Post-Courier, PO Box 85, Port Moresby, telephone 21 2577.

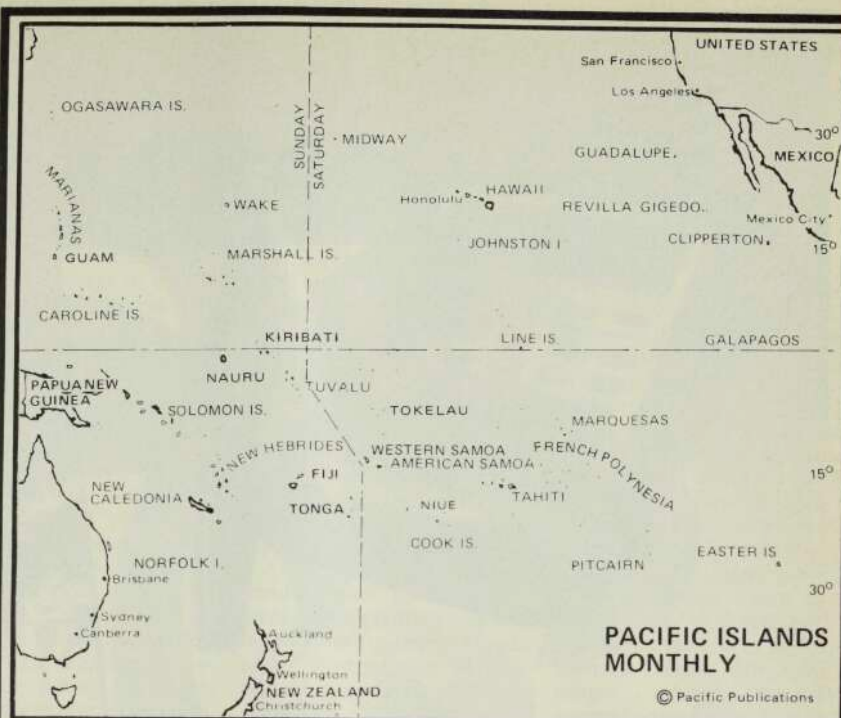
UNITED KINGDOM: The Herald & Weekly Times Ltd, 8-10 Clifford's Inn, Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1BU, telephone 01 831 6041, telex London 21989.

UNITED STATES MAINLAND: Advertising — Joshua B. Powers Jr, Powers International Inc, 551 Fifth Ave, New York, New York 100 017, telephone 867 9580, telex 236514. Subscriptions — PIM Hawaii, 2812 Kahawai St, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

Published monthly by Pacific Publications (Aust.) Pty Ltd and 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.

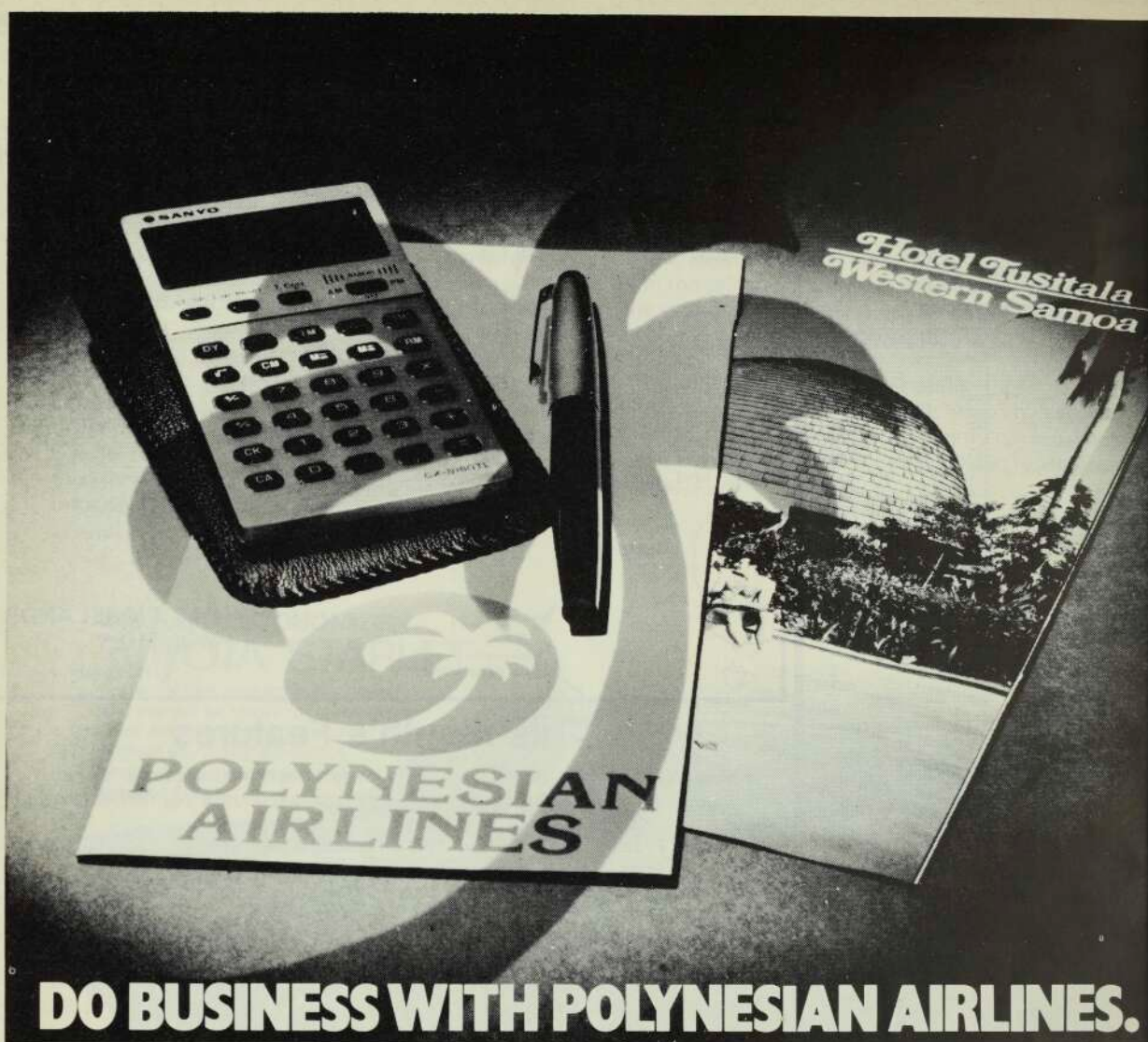


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Cover: A group of young Small Namba men — so-called from the type of penis covering they wear and to distinguish them from the Big Nambas — travelled from the island of Malekula to take an active part in the highly successful National Arts Festival held in Vila in December. Despite some attempts at sabotage, the festival turned out to be an impressive display of the growing sense of national unity as the New Hebrides approaches independence. It was the first time in history that people from the various islands of the group had got together to display their various arts, crafts and customs in a range of activities which took in everything from dancing to cooking. Photo Christine Coombe.

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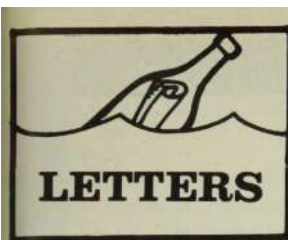
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What's wrong with the U.S. Trust Territory

I have just returned to Europe following a six weeks' visit to the South Pacific on the MV *Lindblad Explorer* which took me to several islands collectively referred to as the United States Trust Territory but with such singular-sounding names as Merir Island, Palau Atoll, Yap, Sorol, Woleai, Ifalik, Lamotrek, Satawal, Pulap, Tamatham, Truk, Ponape and Pingelap.

There is no doubt that among these are some of the most attractive coral and volcanic islands I have ever visited, inhabited by some of the friendliest and most colourful people in the world.

But as an individual with considerable experience in the running of an island archipelago (Chief Minister of Seychelles 1970-75, Prime Minister 1975-76 and President 1976-77), I could not help being appalled at what I consider to be an obvious lack of a defined, comprehensive and coordinated policy for the islands on the part of the administering power.

Knowing the American people and the bureaucratic system which characterises their government relatively well, I am certain that the prevailing situation is more the result of benevolent neglect than benign malice. That is why I have not hesitated to seek publication of the following observations:

1. On several islands visited it was shocking to see in the midst of authentic native settlements of thatched houses that the recently completed churches, hospitals and schools were mostly built of corrugated iron sheets, without the least regard for the aesthetic beauty of the islands. Surely it would have been more heartwarming if

those responsible for these necessary contributions to island life would have used the occasion as an opportunity to promote and encourage the survival of traditional skill and craftsmanship instead of putting up what can only be described as 'ugly scars on a beautiful face'.

In my view a church built in the style and image of one of those impressive native fish traps would have been far more in harmony with the local setting and certainly more pleasing as the House of God in the eyes of both natives and visitors! Native skill must be preserved at all cost. The US Government must look at their welfare hand-out philosophy with a better sense of enlightenment. The motivation could be kindness but the long term consequences of such an attitude must not be overlooked. For example I saw very little fishing going on around the islands but noticed around several villages hundreds of empty tins of canned fish from California and Japan.

It was also obvious that the skill to build and operate traditional outrigger canoes may soon disappear. The backyards of several homes were 'decorated' by huge outboard engines prominently displayed on imported stands. This reminded me of what happened in Seychelles when the engine craze hit our shores. It spelt the end of an era when one could tell a fisherman just by looking at the healthy body he sported!

2. In as much as I am a traditionalist, I can see no reasonable argument to justify the preservation of customs and habits that are non-hygienic and a threat to health. In this respect I believe there is an urgent task of educating people on those islands where the beachfronts are now being used as latrines and refuse dumps.

3. Certainly one of the more serious problems on some islands is alcoholism resulting from the indiscriminating tapping and drinking of toddy. When one realises that the average coconut tree can produce four bottles of toddy a day, that fresh toddy can be as potent as wine and four days later be-

come as strong as whisky, gin or vodka, one can see the danger inherent in a situation where an island is covered with coconut trees and the inhabitants enjoy maximum leisure hours. In Seychelles where a similar situation prevailed for many years we were compelled to introduce a licensing system under which a householder could only legally tap one tree at a time.

4. Perhaps the greatest problem I see on the horizon of tomorrow is the political future of the 2000-plus islands spread over 7.7 million square kilometres of the Pacific which constitute the US Trust Territory. What will happen to them when the US Trusteeship expires in 1981?

At the moment I find the trend towards political fragmentation most disturbing and the following questions appear to me most relevant and important for urgent consideration:

a) Bearing in mind the international climate for independence or so-called independence — is the US doing enough to prepare the islanders for the challenge of responsible nationhood?

b) Considering the actual state of affairs, is there time enough?

c) Can an island or a group of islands, not economically viable, be truly independent?

d) Will the islanders be able to safeguard their peace and relative happiness when they find themselves in the middle of the vicious current of big power politics where geo-political considerations are far more important than the well-being of indigenous people?

I hope that the observations I have made and the questions I have raised will be taken notice of, or at least be the subject of discussions and debate by those involved and/or interested in the political and socio-economic development of this area.

In conclusion let me state that I remain ready at all times to lend my personal support and share my own background experience with anyone engaged in the complex task of formulating and defining a policy for the future good

government of these beautiful islands and the well-being of its people.

JAMES R. MANCHAM
Ex-President,
Republic of Seychelles

London

Courage of the Tannese dancers

For me the most moving spectacle at the December New Hebrides National Arts Festival was the entrance of the Tannese dancing group.

This group had been stood over by the Tanna Kapiel strongarm men and threatened with their houses being burnt and families killed if they attended the festival. They were prevented from going to Vila on the ship which was despatched for them, simply because the ship was turned away by the 'Moderate' party representative, or so he claimed. These frightened people were eventually escorted onto various ships and aircraft which were passing by, and so arrived in Vila. They hastily teamed up with some of the Tannese in Vila and made up a troupe which emerged on the second last day of the festival.

A spontaneous cheer went up from the audience and many a tear was shed for these courageous people, who danced with gusto and abandon.

The Kapiels and Jonfrums threatened to beat them on their return but the people of Tanna rose in wrath and a large force of young men occupied the whole beach area to meet the ship that brought the dancers back and escorted them ashore. The would-be attackers retired in confusion to the sanctuary of the French District Agent.

Tanna
New Hebrides

KATHERINE PAUL

Tribute from Neil Naessens' fan

While I am appreciative of the standard of PIM, I feel I must make one critical comment. Here in Suva, we have TWO daily newspapers, *The Fiji Times* and the *Fiji Sun*.

Anyone outside Fiji regularly reading PIM would not be aware of this simple fact, as I can't remember ever having seen a mention of the *Sun* in

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LETTERS

your columns. The *Times* is frequently quoted, but you totally ignore the *Sun*, obviously deliberately.

I would have to agree that the *Times* is possibly the better paper, but the *Sun* does have a wide following here, particularly since the arrival of Neil Naessens eight months or so ago. Naessens is without a doubt the best-known journalist in Fiji today, while still remaining a bit of a mystery figure. Few people know him personally or have seen him around the social scene; he doesn't appear to mix very much.

I would have thought PIM would at least have made mention of Naessens' existence, and possibly do a story on him, where he comes from, what sort of man he is, etc. I travel a lot around the Pacific because of my business, and from what I have seen elsewhere I am pretty sure there isn't another journalist anywhere in the Pacific (including Hawaii) who could hold a candle to him. That isn't just my opinion, there are thousands of people here who buy the *Sun* for no other reason than to read Naessens' daily column, 'Today' and his articles are being discussed all day in factories and homes all around the country.

He has an amazing, easy-flowing style and manages to come out with some very strong viewpoints without being offensive. I simply don't understand why PIM has not bothered to tell us more about the man. I, for one, am curious. Have you got something against the *Sun*, or Fiji, for that matter?

HASAN SUBRAMANI

Suva, Fiji

•We wish to assure PIM readers that we have met Neil Naessens, consider him to be an admirable member of our craft, and are satisfied he did not write us this letter under the nom-de-plume of Hasan Subramani. — Editor.

East is East, not South-East

Your article on the Easter Island Conference (PIM Dec p21) quoted me as saying that for the next century, South East Asia will be the most important influence on the Pacific

Islands. What I said was *East* Asia (ie Japan, China, the Koreans, Hong Kong — and one should include that piece of overseas China, Singapore). South East Asia, I would have thought, is likely to be of interest to the Pacific Islands, but not of great significance.

R. G. CROCOMBE

Director, Institute of Pacific Studies

Suva
Fiji

'Intelligent comments'?

Apropos of the article by Bob Jones about Tonga (PIM Dec p34) I would like to make the following comment.

Having read Bob Jones' printed thoughts about my own country, New Zealand, I have not been surprised that a poor boy who has become a financially rich man can think that he can make intelligent comments. What does surprise me is that a rich magazine (which is now obviously becoming poor) thinks that Bob Jones can make intelligent comments about a Pacific nation such as Tonga.

J. G. ROBERTS

Nukualofa
Tonga

Small storm in a desert

Finally I received a copy of the November issue of PIM. The reason the November issue was not available in Hawaii this year only you know. Some friends of mine from the South Pacific sent me a copy.

In regards to your November Pacific Report item (US REAL ESTATE AGENTS ACTIVE IN PACIFIC) it is obvious that you don't know what you are talking about.

(1) The real estate agents are not U.S., the land is. The company selling is not Human Resources and Development but C.I.L. of Hong Kong.

(2) The selling price is not \$US5000 an acre, it is \$US6000 for FIVE acres.

(3) By implication you are making a liar out of a highly respected U.S. agricultural scientist, Dr Sam Little, whose credentials are B.S. in agronomy, M.S. in soil fertility and a Ph.D. in soil chemistry. He also has over 20 years experience in the Texas area.

(4) The Van Horn area where the land sold is located is known for its vast underground water resources.

(5) Desert land as a rule is very fertile (ours is) and can be made to produce in abundance if water is available. Israel is making a fortune from its desert land.

To back up the above I have enclosed the following documentation. An agricultural report by Dr Sam Little; a brochure by the Van Horn Chamber of Commerce, who credit our development worthy enough to include it in their brochure, and a company brochure. So next time you feel inclined to write about this land, you at least can know what you are talking about. Furthermore, the subdivision meets all US legal requirements.

In my book honest people don't hide behind an unnamed official; to do that usually means a made-up story. This letter was written at the urgent request of Mr Bula O'Brien, a very fine gentleman to those who know him, which obviously excludes you. I usually don't bother to reply to slander magazines.

Also upon his request copies will be sent to all Pacific Governments, agencies and other potentially interested parties including all land purchasers.

A. HOLGEN

(Chairman Board of Directors)

Collateral Investments Ltd
407-409 Gloucester Building
Hong Kong

Exactly what Mr Holgen is going on about is beyond us, unless it is a ham-fisted effort to get some free publicity for some real estate deal he may have in the wilds of Texas. PIM's brief report was a warning from a US government official against Islanders investing in real estate in America unless they first saw the land. It was sound advice, and worth repeating. The report did not mention the Van Horn area, Dr Sam Little, Mr A. Holgen or Collateral Investments Ltd, none of whose names we had heard before the receipt of Mr Holgen's slightly hysterical letter, but we thank him for giving us the opportunity of adding his name and his company to our research dossiers. In view of Mr Holgen's charges of dishonesty

and slander, might we suggest he ponder his own likely position in respect of libel before he sends his letter to 'Pacific governments, agencies', etc. The November PIM was on sale in Honolulu as usual — Editor

Back in the Time Before

The article by Percy Chatterton (Afterthoughts, PIM Sept. p 87) on the subject of booze and money in Papua New Guinea is most saddening and takes me back to the time span 1927-1941 when I was a resident of Salamaua.

It was then a criminal act to supply an indigene with liquor. There were rumours that the occasional house-boy had been known to dip into his master's household supply, but in all my years there I never experienced any instance of this in my household, where beer was kept in an unlocked ice box and spirits stood openly on a sideboard. To my houseboys it was something quite apart from their lives and experience.

Before ships unloaded at Lae all cargo was discharged at Salamaua, 18 miles away, and taken by launch to Lae for air-freighting to Bulolo and Wau. Beer came in straw-encased bottles, four dozen to a wooden case, and I remember a stack of 40 such cases remaining unguarded on the beachside at Lae for several weeks.

Similarly security screens and locked bedroom doors were not necessary. Few bedrooms sported a door.

What an uncomplicated existence we led.

BERT E. WESTON

Wollstonecraft NSW,
Australia

•Percy Chatterton's popular thought-provoking column Afterthoughts, will in future make only an occasional appearance in PIM, when he 'feels I have something to say'. Percy adds, 'I've recently celebrated my 81st birthday and feel a need to relax.' PIM has never published a column from Percy Chatterton in which he had nothing to say, but agrees he has earned the right to relax, even though he is unlikely to take it. — Editor.

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Pacific Report

HIGH LEVEL TURBULENCE IN FIJI

After making it clear that he thinks it's time the country's British chief justice should quit office in favour of a local judge (PIM Dec 1979 p9), Fiji's Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara has also made it known he thinks it's time for a change of governor-general. Governor-General Ratu Sir George Cakobau has held office since 1972. Ratu Mara said in a December statement that this seven-year term was due to 'peculiar circumstances', and that he believed five years to be the right term for a G-G. In the course of the chief justice affair there were strong undercurrents of antagonism between the prime minister and the chief justice, and also between the prime minister and the governor-general.

REFORMS FAVOURED FOR SAMOA POLLS

All citizens of Western Samoa of 21 and over should vote in general elections, but only *matai* should be candidates, according to recommendations of a special committee appointed by the Western Samoa cabinet to investigate election methods in the country. The report is now before the parliament. At present, only *matai* may stand for election and have a vote in elections.

MICRONESIA'S BUSY POLITICAL ACTIVITY

January was a busy time for developments affecting the various bits of the US Trust Territory of the Pacific — now quickly separating. The most important was the resumption of political status talks in Kona, Hawaii, between the US Government and representatives of the Marshalls, the Federated States of Micronesia and Palau. The Marshall Islands Nitijela (parliament) had earlier indicated it was willing to endorse the Compact of Free Association with the US. The Seventh Palau Legislature opened on Koror, and was described by Trust Territory High Commissioner Adrian Winkel as 'hopefully the last pre-constitutional Palauan legislature and the beginning of a new era in Palau'. Toshiwo Nakamura was elected speaker. But the Palau legislature found itself without a Political Status Commission to send to Kona following the resignation of Roman Tmetuchl, its long-time chairman. While it was electing a new chairman and commission it sent a small group to the Kona talks with limited authority to keep the seat warm. The Yap Legislature on January 21 was to consider a bill calling for a constitutional convention for Yap.

STRANGE WAYS OF MR KEVIN EGAN

Papua New Guinea's outgoing Public Prosecutor Kevin Egan has circularised Australian newspapers with his final official report. A covering letter by Mr Egan contains a bitter attack on the Somare Government and predicts 'a military coup ... to save the nation from the politicians'. The copy received by PIM is on official letterhead with the words 'Secretary for Law, Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea' 'xed' out by typewriter. However, the letterhead still bears, unmutated, the bird of paradise coat of arms of PNG, which is reserved for official purposes. In a comment on Mr Egan's resignation, Prime Minister Somare has said that while the former public prosecutor had publicly foreshadowed his resignation in the wake of the Rooney affair (PIM Nov 1979 p17), he was privately sounding out senior officers of the Prime Minister's and Justice Department, as well as those of the Judicial and Legal Services Commission, about the chances of reappointment for another term as public prosecutor.

COOKS FREEZES FOREIGNERS' LAND DEALS

The Cook Islands Government has frozen all purchases of land by non-Cook Islanders who are not permanent residents, any company with less than 50% local shareholding, and any non-Cook Islander (not a permanent resident) who is married to a Cook Islander, unless the lease arrangements are in their joint

names. The move follows growing concern at speculative purchases of land by people who have no real stake in the country.

MRS STORY'S CASE RULED OUT IN CI

Cook Islands Chief Justice Sir Gaven Donne has ruled that the High Court cannot hear a case brought by former Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Mrs Marguerite Story alleging libel against the government-controlled *Cook Islands News*. The alleged libel was contained in an article written by former CI Health Minister Dr Joe Williams. Chief Justice Donne said to proceed with the case would involve receiving evidence of proceedings of the legislative assembly, thus infringing parliamentary privilege. Mrs Story was claiming \$225,000 damages.

BACK TO FIRST-PAST-THE-POST ON NORFOLK

At a referendum in December Norfolk Islanders rejected the proportional representation voting system under which the present Norfolk Island Legislative Assembly was elected. They voted 463-339 for a return to the first-past-the-post system used in elections to the old Norfolk Island Council. Immediately the results were known Norfolk's Chief Minister David Buffett announced the assembly would introduce legislation to return to the old voting system in future elections. But meanwhile there is a strong move developing on Norfolk for the present assembly to be prorogued and for new elections to be held under first-past-the-post rules.

FIJI'S GAOLS ERUPT

Fiji's prison system was in chaos in December-January with riots and breakouts occurring at Suva, Lautoka and Labasa. In Suva a bulldozer was used to smash down the prison gates after 145 prisoners had taken control of the gaol. At Lautoka 129 prisoners broke out of Natabua prison on New Year's Eve. As PIM went to press, recaptures were continuing. At Labasa, several prisoners went on a rampage of destruction on New Year's Eve, breaking furniture and smashing down a dormitory door. Rahimat Ali, 23, was gaoled for six months by Lautoka court on January 8 for supplying three bottles of methylated spirits, yagona cigarettes and tobacco to prisoners on the night of December 24. Ali had been released from the gaol that day.

HEAT KILLS THREE SOLDIERS IN NC

Three young French soldiers collapsed and died from heat exhaustion at the New Caledonian military camp of Plum on January 9. The soldiers, two aged 20 and one aged 22, had just completed a training march. They had only arrived in the territory on December 28.

INDEPENDENT PAPER FOR NAURU

January 1 saw publication of the first issue of an independent weekly newspaper for the Republic of Nauru. The *Nauru Post* is published by Nauru Publications, whose executive directors include two former presidents of the Republic, Bernard Dowiyogo and Lagumot Harris, now both in private enterprise. Other directors are Reuben Kun and Rene Harris. Bernard Dowiyogo is Editor-in-Charge, and it was clear from the first two issues that the paper won't hesitate if need to be critical of Nauru government policies. Issue number 2, under the heading 'Rights Denied', reports that a big number of voters in the Menen electorate for the important Nauru Local Government Council elections on December 29 were disenfranchised because their names were missing from the roll. The elections brought some surprises. The Republic's President, Hammer DeRoburt, was returned to the council unopposed and re-elected Head Chief of Nauru but Buraro Detudamo, one of the president's right-hand men, and a councillor since before independence, lost his seat. New faces were those of Bernard Dowiyogo, Kennan Adeang and Obeira Menke.

FRANCE AUSTRALE BOWS OUT AFTER 90 YEARS

New Caledonia's oldest daily, *France Australe*, has ceased publication. The daily's main shareholder, the nickel company *Société le Nickel*, decided to stop picking up the tab for the financial losses the paper has been suffering over a number of years. *France Australe* was first published in 1890.

Ken Hutton, Australian-born long-time resident and community leader, including Red Cross representative, on Santo, New Hebrides, in this report gives a first-hand account of the end-of-the-year troubles on the island. His description of the events, dealt with more briefly in PIM Jan (p14), vividly reflects the anger of citizens at official incapacity to deal firmly with trouble-makers.

Santo lawlessness follows official paralysis

The situation in Santo became grim immediately after the November 14 election results were announced. Firstly, threats were broadcast over the Na Grialmel Radio Vanafo that people from islands except Santo would be attacked and beaten, and their homes and possessions destroyed because they had voted for the Vanuaaku Party.

People who did not hear the Radio Vanafo broadcasts were threatened by delegations from Vanafo, including plantation workers along the east coast. Consequently, large groups of people began to descend on the town to take refuge. Others left by strip or plane for their home islands. So much for the secret ballot. Those who ran were obviously confessing that they had voted VP. There were 30-odd people on board the *Henry Bonneaud* which was disabled due to engine trouble; however, they took refuge there in spite of the fact that the ship could not sail.

People were sleeping 20 to a room in houses on the British Paddock, with over 350 people crowded in there. The British School and Wai School classrooms and the Anglican Church were sheltering more than 400 people. We had a refugee problem. It was not so bad while the weather remained fine, but when it rained it was impossible to keep the classroom clean. The toilet facilities were seriously overstrained and it looked like developing into a serious health problem.

There were shortages of food

as soon as the refugees' immediate supplies ran out. The Market ceased to function. However, some stout hearts in South Santo brought in their utility trucks loaded with yams, taro and beef. Great credit goes to the organisers of this relief. A lot of people were sheltering on various plantations on Aore Island.

As the representative of International Red Cross I constantly inspected the areas of refugee concentration to see if we could help. As food became short during the latter part of the week Vila Kiwanis voted me FNH50 000 to buy food. It was decided to hand out this food (mainly tinned fish and rice) through the Women's Club and to people who were going back to their homes so they would not go back to an empty larder. Peter Toa, Anna Tevi and others helped with the distribution.

Meantime the business sector of the town came to a grinding halt simply because there was no staff. Burns Philp had lost 70 of their people; Barclays Bank lost most of theirs, and Chinese stores were operating with little or no staff.

The economic loss to the town due to this non-week cannot accurately be gauged. BPs estimate a FNH4 000 000 loss of sales revenue; certainly other business houses suffered proportionately. Naturally these losses are never made up; they are irretrievable.

The Na Grialmel people meantime came to town in numbers of up to 20 at a time, armed with sticks, clubs and

iron bars. There were no incidents within the town as far as I am aware, merely abuse and threats.

In the outer town area Mr Jack Ulas from Paama, a man with a bad heart condition, had the screws ripped off his house and was dragged out and threatened with a bow fully stretched and an arrow at his throat. All good fun, but tragic if the arrow had accidentally slipped. Ezra William at Sarabou was also threatened and beaten. This invasion of private property, disregard of human dignity and threats of physical violence to citizens of the town are deplorable and the full arm of the law must be felt by the aggressors before we degenerate into a state of complete lawlessness.

The teachers and staff of the British School were abused when a mob of 200 marched through the grounds. As chairman of the board of management I should like to pay a tribute to the headmaster and teaching staff for their steadfastness and courage in facing this mob, and for their assistance rendered to the refugees during this very trying week.

A tour of the residential Sarakuta area of the town revealed that most homes were locked and shuttered with temporary barriers across the entrances. The pathetic thing was that almost every house had a patient, faithful and no doubt hungry dog awaiting the return of the occupants.

The performance by the two administrations — British and French — during this emergency leaves some room for criticism. There apparently was no agreement to put a roadblock on the Vanafo road to prevent other than legitimate visits to the town by mobs of people. There was no effort to stop the townspeople who were supplying transport and logistics to the Na Grialmel. Doubtless if they had to march 32 kilometres to town to demonstrate there would be few starters and fewer finishers.

It is unbelievable that certain business people of this town lent trucks and buses to transport these demonstrators to town, and also to Palekula to disrupt the operations of the South Pacific Fishing Company.



We were led to understand that the Police Mobile Unit — PMU, and less effective than Pick-Me-Up sauce — was arriving to reinforce the Santo police. But apparently the French police who were already on board the *Alize I* were withdrawn at 11 pm, an hour before sailing, on order from the French resident commissioner. The Brits, forever playing cricket and not wanting to act unilaterally, subsequently also withdrew the *Euphrosyne* and their police.

One can imagine the feeling of the innocent citizens of Santo to realise they had become pawns in the eternal game of British/French political manipulating. Just when commonsense seemed to prevail and badly needed reinforcements were on the way, we suddenly have the rug pulled out from under our feet. No wonder the metropolitan governments are fast losing

their credibility in this arena; if it has not yet been lost it is certainly sadly tarnished as a result of this effort, or rather non-effort.

Where do we stand now? The town has not recovered from this debacle. Even the festival of arts and the normal Christmas shopping spree were not enough to wipe out the damage already done. The threat still hangs over us. Any time some misguided character announces over that illegal Vanafo radio that the attack is on again (the most recently quoted date was 28 December and it did not happen) — what do we do? We demonstrably are not able to rely on the two metropolitan governments for protection of our fundamental freedoms. The New Hebrides Government does not control the internal security of the country. The police forces are worse than useless in their present structure. The law has not acted, or even been seen to act, after this latest wave of threats of violence.

Airfields are closed down. At Big Bay, for example, there are logs and trees making it unusable. A woman died of tetanus at Big Bay because she could not be evacuated by air — that's only one of the tragedies. A child died because she was evacuated by the frightened parents instead of being admitted to hospital. And no one seems to give a damn — the administrators, the politicians, the police, the parsons are all guilty men because they have not the guts to face up to this deplorable situation which threatens lives, the livelihood, the economy, indeed the very future of this town.

Chief Minister Walter Lini was to head a delegation of senior ministers to Paris in January where discussions were planned with the responsible British and French ministers, Messrs Blaker and Dijoud. On the agenda for the talks were an exchange of views on the exact date of independence, and the problems of future economic aid from the metropolitan powers to independent New Hebrides. French and British delegations were expected to visit New Hebrides in this connection towards the end of January.

A French caning for the Australian press

The Vila weekly *Nabanga*, published in French and Bislama, carried in its December 22 issue a stinging attack on Australian press treatment of recent events in the New Hebrides.

Nabanga's director, Jean Massias, leads off by saying: 'New Hebridean news appears only rarely in the Australian press. For the mass of Australians the New Hebrides archipelago is a distant group of islands far removed from the centre of their concerns. Only the monthly PIM carries in each issue an article, or several articles, devoted to this country.'

'However, on the occasion of the elections of November 14, 1979, several newspapers sent to the spot reporters who, each in his fashion, reported on events.

'We have received *The Age*, *The Sydney Morning Herald*, *The Canberra Times*, *The Australian*, *The Herald*, *The National Times*, *The Financial Review*, as well as a number of despatches from the Australian Associated Press agency. The various reports cover the period November 15-December 1.

'Reading these articles leaves one dumbfounded at the low level of these dailies — with one exception. Generally speaking the articles examined seem to have been written by people who are either ill-informed or who have gathered their information from one source only (which amounts to the same thing). All the clichés, all the tired old repetitions, are ponderously present to remind us of with whom we are dealing. The develop-

ment of the political life of the New Hebrides has been highly complicated in the period since 1975, full of turn-arounds, marked by subtle light and shade, replete with official talks, corridor discussions and conversations held in strict privacy. But it appears in these publications as an affair reduced to the crudest of pictures in which the roles are played by Englishmen who are content to let everything go to pot, colonialist Frenchmen who maintain bands of planters who are armed to the teeth, and ready at any moment to impose their rule, French-speaking Melanesians who are a bit stupid because they speak French (really, I ask you ...) and good English-speaking Melanesians (good because they speak English and worship a God who replies to them in the same language). Australia is rarely mentioned, despite the various untoward initiatives of its brilliant representative in Vila who appears sometimes to overstep a little the bounds laid down by the Vienna Convention [governing the behaviour of diplomatic representatives].

'An example of this simplification of things? In all the 20 articles we have read we have found not a single reference to Gerard Leymang, despite the capital and vital role he has played as statesman, negotiator and conciliator in resolving the crisis!'

With that off his chest, Mr Massias proceeds to a savage dissection of the articles of *Sydney Morning Herald* correspondent Mark Baker ('our old mate', as he calls him, with heavy sarcasm), and AAP's Tony White.

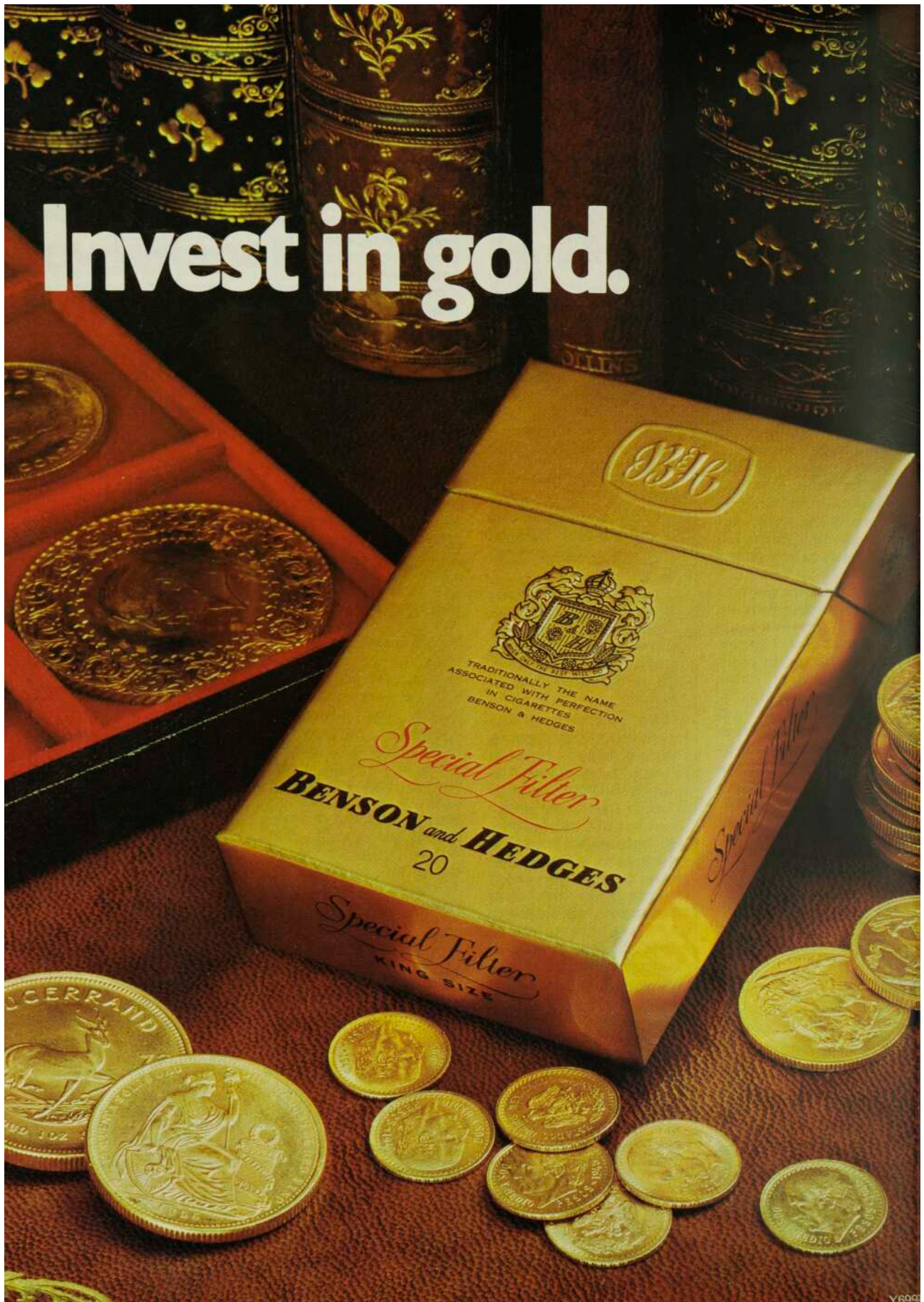
His ire is particularly — and understandably — aroused by Baker's suggestion that the new Vanuaaku Party government is likely to permit the establishment in the New Hebrides of a government-in-exile of the Kanak liberation party in New Caledonia, Palika.

Mr Massias comments: 'Nowhere is there any reference to the formal denial issued by Walter Lini of this false claim which has been widely publicised in the Australian press (see *Nabanga* 134 of November 21 1979, p11): 'Fr Lini has not promised to support the creation of a government-in-exile in the New Hebrides, and he has on several occasions told journalists that he is not convinced that this would be the best or most appropriate way of promoting the interests of the independence movements concerned.'

There is no doubt that Mr Massias has a point when he comments on the general indifference of the Australian public to New Hebridean affairs (one wonders however if the situation is much different in France). And he has certainly uncovered a good number of examples of less-than-responsible journalism in the course of his onslaught on the Australian press. So far so good.

But he is on much less secure ground when he widens the attack in passages like the following: 'There is an old law in the world of information which claims that a country gets the press it deserves. If ever that theory began to be proven, we would be most concerned for our neighbours to the south-west because it could mean that Australia is suffering from an inferiority complex. We are not able to discuss further how well-founded such a complex would be.' And, further on, a little more of the same ...

— Malcolm Salmon





TROPICALITIES

Tonga's lively Pacific Week

Pacific Week, an annual event on the University of the South Pacific Suva campus since 1976, went walkabout in 1979, to fetch up in Tonga, Labasa and Solomons Extension Centres of the world's most decentralised university.

Under the banner 'The Weight of Tradition - Is it Worth Carrying?' USP Tonga launched a lively programme between November 6-11 which coincided, most happily and quite fortuitously, with an equally lively Tourism Week, and produced a convincing affirmative answer to the theme question.

The activities mix embraced a keynote address, panel discussion, and essay competition; book and photographic displays; documentary films about the Pacific region; songs and dances of the Pacific; a two-day manual arts competition at the Centre, with 'umu lunches for competitors; and a traditional elaborate Tongan-style feast on the Friday evening.

The manual arts contests, with categories for weaving, *tapa'ingatu* painting, and wood carving, attracted entrants of all ages. The many visitors who watched the two-day creative workshops were clearly fascinated with the traditional techniques used and with the quality of the finished products.

In fact, many of the entries were sold before completion, by agreement between contestants and fast-workers among the spectators, who chose their own No 1 favourites long before the official judges got a look-in.

Tonga's traditionalists, dedicated to preserving her ancient skills and values in the teeth of increasing external pressures and influences, have good reason to feel encouraged by the USP Pacific Week. They



Things were popping in November for Tongans at home (see story at left) and in Australia (story below). But for King Taufa'ahau Tupou IV it was 'business as usual' as he and Queen Halaefalu Mata'aho paid a 10-day state visit to the chilly climes of Western Germany. The king signed two agreements on technical and financial co-operation between Western Germany and Tonga. Left to right, Queen Halaefalu Mata'aho, King Taufa'ahau, West German President Karl Carstens and Mrs Carstens, on the terrace of the Villa Hammerschmidt, the president's official residence.

can now point out that:

- A widely representative cross-section of the Tongan people took enthusiastic part in the programme, either as participants or as eagerly appreciative audience members, with teenagers and young adults well to the fore on all fronts;
- Tongan wood carvers were clearly encouraged to move away from tourist gimmickry (such as the derivative Maori tiki) towards original creative sculpture of genuine ethnic value;
- The Pacific Week programme opened a window through which visitors and the resident expatriate community were able to glimpse more of the 'real Tonga' than can ever emerge from a cruise ship market or a tourist floor show.

Although the small and over-extended staff at the USP Centre may pale at the thought, Pacific Week '79 indicates a real need to establish such a programme on an annual footing, preferably co-ordinated with current planning for an annual Tourism Week.

One is tempted to suggest, too, that the prize-winning

entries from the associated handicrafts contests could form the nucleus of a National Fine Arts Collection, properly housed and permanently on display along with what rare artifacts remain from Tonga's long and fascinating cultural past. — Penny Hodgkinson.

Sydney's Tongans turn it on

'A girl can't expect to be a Tongan beauty if she's skinny.' This is how, with a laugh, Mrs Fatai Slender introduced the Tongan girls who recently presented a great evening of Polynesian entertainment in south Sydney, organised by the newly-formed Tongan ladies' charity group *Lei'ofa*.

Against a huge painted tapa cloth backdrop, the evening brought together about 200 Australians and Tongans who were welcomed with a Tongan-style feast — roast suckling pig surrounded by about 20 different dishes. Rich coconut cream was served with vegetables and chicken, while many Australians had their

first taste of raw fish salad marinated in coconut milk. Preparation of this Polynesian feast was supervised by Mrs Maa'ta Taufa and Mrs Susana Thompson, who were among the estimated 2000 Tongans living in Sydney.

Guests included the pianist John Toutai Tupou, first cousin of the King of Tonga, and Mrs Joyce Harkness, formerly a missionary in the kingdom.

The entertainment began with the youngest of six dancers — 18-year-old Sydney high school student Miss Meleane Tio. Accompanied by three Tongan drummers, she was soon bedecked with dollar notes tucked into her necklace, her bracelets, and at the waist by appreciative guests. Another graceful young dancer was Miss Luseane Sikuvea, who oiled her skin so that it shone and the dollar notes clung to her bare arms and shoulders.

Fiery torches in a Rarotongan dance, castanets with their keen Hawaiian rhythms and the swirling skirts of the Tahitian *tamure* soon had guests vibrating in Polynesian mood. These dances were performed by a skilful foursome — Norma Lufe, Amalani Latu, Ofa Lowry and Fatai Slender. They were joined on stage by young singer Miss Nancy Mataiasia

TROPICALITIES

Lomu, from Nuku'alofa, who is studying at the Conservatorium of Music in Sydney.

This night of South Sea island treats was the first social function organised by the Tongan ladies' charity group *Lei'ofa* (meaning 'current of love'). The group has been formed by seven Tongan women living in Sydney, who want to help disadvantaged families and children in the islands. As explained by Fatai Slender, who has been in Sydney for more than 10 years, the idea was prompted by a tragic shipping disaster about a year ago when many families were bereaved through a voyage to the island of Niuatoputapu. This small island, in the north of the Tongan group, is not far from Mrs Slender's home of Tin Can Island, or Niuafu'ou, where she was known before her marriage as Fatai Moe-Manu Mounga'afi. The other six founders of *Lei'ofa* are Maa'ata and Lisita Taufa, Susana and Rosaline Thompson, Luseane Sikuvea and Ofa Lowry.

As the guests' mood warmed up at the island night in Sydney, the grand finale came from Tavake (Terry) Vaivao, who performed a daring fire dance as he tossed about two Samoan cane-knives with flames darting from both ends. As the blazing knives lit up the darkened hall, guests were given a fiery farewell to this very successful evening organised by Sydney's Tongan community — Helen Rouseau

Problems in Tom Neale's paradise

The rats have taken over the domain of the Hermit of Suvarrow Island, Tom Neale, who died on Rarotonga of cancer in December, 1977, but his house and the outbuildings are still in good repair. So reports Ronald Syme in the *Cook Islands News* after returning from a tour of the outer islands which he made with the Premier, Dr Tom Davis.

'The late Tom Neale's old house and outbuildings were still in reasonably good condition and their simple contents appear to have been left



Tom Neale's old house on Suvarrow Island in the Cooks . . . in good repair, but rats and rhinoceros beetles are causing problems.

largely untouched,' Mr Syme writes.

'The galvanised water tanks were rust-free and sound and filled with an abundance of good, clean water. Rats were extremely plentiful and would undoubtedly prove a great plague to anyone attempting to live on the island.

'There was no sign of any wild descendants of the cats owned by Tom Neale during his years of living in Suvarrow.'

Which suggests (a): the rats turned the tables on the cats or (b), some visiting yachties shanghaied the cats believing that life on a yacht would be preferable to island living.

And, on the question of visiting yachties, Mr Syme reports, 'The spectacle of two yachts anchored at Suvarrow did not meet with the Premier's approval. Apparently, the boats, both of them illegal entrants, have been there for the past two months.

'One of them at least had come direct from Western Samoa, where rhinoceros beetle and termites are a considerable pest. Thus, it was not surprising to discover on going ashore that a large number of coconut palms had been destroyed by such termites.'

The day of the spirit healer

The success of a Samoan spirit healer in treating a young Samoan boy in Hutt Hospital, Wellington, has underlined the value of using traditional healing techniques with certain culture-bound syndromes. Hutt Hospital paediatrician, Dr Michael Short, and a Health Department researcher, Dr Patricia Kinloch, now advocate the use of experienced healers in cases such as spirit possession or *musu*. They say the cultural background of patients should be considered, especially in the diagnosis of social or mental disorders. This follows their analysis of a case (last May) involving an 11-year-old Samoan boy whose behaviour caused concern after a clash with his father.

According to their report in the December issue of the *New Zealand Medical Journal* the boy became uncommunicative after some harsh words and mild physical punishment. He was seen by the hospital's casualty department but sent home when no physical problem was found. When his withdrawn behaviour continued his general practitioner arranged for

his admission to hospital for observation.

The boy had had a similar episode lasting five days a few months before after conflict with his Samoan school teacher. The problem disappeared after the teacher's parents and the boy discussed the affair.

On examination the boy had no symptoms of fever and was alert but he stared vacantly into space. In response to direct questions he shouted 'yes' or 'no'. No conversation was possible and he gave the impression of not understanding English.

A wide range of tests failed to show any physiological abnormalities.

On the third day after admission a Samoan health assistant conducted a counselling session to see whether the boy's symptoms were indicative of *musu* or spirit possession. The latter was confirmed and the health assistant urged the use of a Samoan spirit healer. The boy was given temporary leave from hospital to visit a Samoan healer who exorcises spirits and to attend church with some of his extended family. On that day the healer exorcised the boy's maternal grandfather.

The boy's condition had improved markedly when he returned to hospital and he was later discharged after five days there. He was well, alert and progressing normally at school when checked after three and six months.

Drs Short and Kinloch said the most likely diagnosis was drug ingestion, elective mutism (an emotional disorder), or childhood schizophrenia. All were rejected.

'The question also arose as to whether we were confronted with a culture-bound syndrome, a *ma'i fa'a Samoa* — "Samoan sickness".

'Superficially this seemed unlikely because our patient was born in New Zealand and had grown up here. And he spoke English. Further investigation of the family revealed that Samoan was still the first language of the family, particularly of the patient's mother. She had believed the boy was possessed by a spirit *ma'i aiu* prior to taking him to the general practitioner. Her

husband, however, had dismissed this idea and insisted on Western medical treatment for his son. That the mother was prepared to consider the possibility of spirit possession made it possible for her son to have manifested it. The relations between husband and wife were found to be very strained and their tensions were often "worked out" through their relationship with the boy.

'It was possible that the patient's response, a culturally accepted one in the face of great anxiety, enhanced his importance in the family and made possible the control of his parents. Therefore, with some scepticism we entertained two additional diagnoses: *musu* and spirit possession.'

Drs Short and Kinloch say the symptoms of *musu* and spirit possession are similar to one another and also to childhood schizophrenia.

'Since we were dealing with a Samoan patient whose symptoms characterised a "Samoan sickness" it was decided to pursue this before coming to the favoured diagnosis of childhood schizophrenia. The scepticism with which the possible diagnosis of *musu* or spirit possession were received was ameliorated by the "matter-of-fact" manner of the Samoan health assistant in her counselling session and in her obvious concern to do the right thing for the patient.'

Drs Short and Kinloch say the acceptance of her recommendations was an experiment in treating patients from other cultures by recognising their cultural heritage and in using the healing skills within the patient's own cultural group. 'Since the Samoan spirit healer's treatment was successful we have concluded that our patient was possessed. He had no recollection of the time during which he was possessed or of the treatment ritual of exorcism.'

They say it is useful to recognise *musu* and spirit possession as culture-bound syndromes and recommend the use of healers with the skills to treat such conditions. — James Tully.



With the three stamps purchased in a block, the 1979 Norfolk Island Christmas stamp issue (above) provides a wide-angle view of Emily Bay, the island's popular beach resort, especially visited at Christmas. In the New Hebrides, the country's first — and highly successful — National Arts Festival, held from December 1-8, inspired a special stamp issue of four. Illustrated (right) is the FNH20 denomination, depicting a puppet peculiar to the country. Also in the series are a FNH5 denomination (a mask from the south of Pentecost Island), FNH10 (a group of clubs and spears), and FNH40 (a headdress).

Love from Luganville

PIM's Department of Heart Affairs has received a puzzling letter from the New Hebrides, and with the letter a gilt necklace. Somewhere, it seems, there's a young lady who may have aroused the ardour of Robin Maki, of Luganville (Santo). She might be on a PIM cover or on a photograph inside the magazine, but the letter was addressed to a Miss Reader, at PIM. Mr Makin implied that a young lady had written to him — 'I find your nice letter', he wrote. And added, 'Well, well darling, here is my best love'.

Enclosed with the letter was the necklace, a gilt chain — we don't think it's 18 carat — from which was suspended a heart-shaped pendant of glittering something or other.

The thought was as nice as the generosity, so it's all here at PIM's office waiting for its owner to whom Mr Makin sends his 'best love', if she will kindly identify herself.

The golden mothers of PNG

The mothers of Papua New Guinea are saving the country's families about \$20 million a year, an academic has discovered.

And how they do it is by breast-feeding their babies instead of putting them on the bottle, which estimates Dr Barry Shaw, of the Australian National University's Development Studies Centre, could

cost families as much as \$20 million a year.

As PIM reported (July, 1976, p13) Dr Cam Bowie, the Provincial Medical Officer at Goroka, led a campaign to ban bottle feeding because it was a health hazard, resulting in sickness and semi-starvation as well as being unhygienic if bottles were not cleansed sufficiently. He estimated the cost of bottle feeding at about K10 million a year.

Dr Shaw, who has been working on the economics of human milk production in Papua New Guinea, as part of a much larger study on food supplies and nutrition in PNG, has found that about 2.5% of total food consumed in PNG is in the form of human milk. This amounts to about 67 million litres a year.

A reduction in the practice of breast-feeding could also cost the government dearly and raise the birth-rate!

'Any significant reduction in either the practice of breast-feeding or its duration will result in increases in government expenditure, a decline in human welfare and an increase in food imports,' Dr Shaw believes.

'Any increase in child illness or mortality would increase health costs and reduce the capacity of the health system. There was growing evidence that poor feeding very early in life could impair later learning ability.'

'PNG women traditionally breast-fed their babies for the first three to five years, and this often acted as a birth-spacing



mechanism as breast-feeding resulted in a much slower return of ovulation after birth. A reduction in breast-feeding could result in an increased birth rate which would require increased spending on family planning programmes.

'Any marked reduction in breast-feeding would have adverse budgetary, balance of payment, welfare and demographic effects.

'A high-income country could cope with these changes, but for Papua New Guinea with a per capita income of around \$500 a year, it would be far more serious, especially in the long term.'

A Highlands' Helen of Troy

Members of a clan in the Papua New Guinea Western Highlands kidnapped a girl belonging to another clan. As a result, there was a battle involving 800 tribesmen. Three died, shot to death by arrows. More than 100 ha of crops were destroyed. Eight hundred houses were burned down.

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Auckland — Polynesian city



Auckland has been tagged the biggest Polynesian city in the world. James Tully, Pacific affairs writer with The Auckland Star, looks at some of the problems which have sprung from New Zealand's hitherto generally relaxed immigration policy toward people from certain Island groups, mainly the Cooks, Niue, Tokelau, Western Samoa and Tonga. Things are not as bad as they were, he reports, but race relations and the need to improve the lot of the disadvantaged Island minority in New Zealand remain major problems for government and local authorities to tackle.

It is bustling, colourful, Karangahape Road which gives Auckland the feel of a big, cosmopolitan city generally lacking in this sprawling, soulless metropolis. 'K Rd', Auckland's tame and tatty version of Sydney's King's Cross, is Instant Polynesia, a focal point for Auckland's big population of Maoris and Pacific Islanders. Especially Islanders — Tongans, Samoans, Niueans, Cook Islanders, Fijians and Tokelauans. For the many who live in the surrounding suburbs of Ponsonby, Newton, Freeman's Bay, Grey Lynn, K Rd

is their local shopping centre. It caters for their needs.

Fruit shops sell taro, yams and coconuts. The fish shops carry a wide range of seafood not often served in *palagi* (European) homes. Fabric shops have bright printed materials for lavalavas and other island-style dress. Basketware and other island handicrafts are sold. There are travel agents who specialise in arranging trips home to the Islands.

On Sunday, Island families in long skirts and picture hats, lavalavas and dark suits, bibles

in hand, stroll along K Rd to the churches which still play a big part in their lives. Some wait for buses outside the pubs, strip clubs and massage parlours that make K Rd a tawdry focus of night life.

The skyline of K Rd recently acquired an island flavour with the opening of Samoa House which has a large *fale*-style hall. The building houses the Western Samoan consulate in Auckland and Nauru's consulate-general.

Step away from K Rd and Ponsonby and there isn't much to suggest that Auckland is home to more than 40 000 Islanders, even in South Auckland suburbs like Otara and Mangere which have large numbers of Islanders.

Surprisingly, there are no restaurants specialising in Island dishes. Aucklanders apparently prefer French, Italian,

Niuean family with new home in Ponsonby, Auckland ... K Rd their local shopping centre. Photo: Auckland Star

Greek and Lebanese food. The city's night life has little with an Island flavour apart from two dance spots popular with the Island community — Tangaroa's Hut and the Reefcomber.

Visit Auckland international airport and you might see crowds of Islanders with leis and shell necklaces waiting to meet or farewell relatives and friends on flights to and from Apia and Rarotonga.

Auckland has been tagged the biggest Polynesian city in the world but it doesn't show very much.

It's not surprising that K Rd has become identified with Auckland's growing Pacific Island population. Over the years, migrants lured by the prospect of jobs in New Zea-

land factories, have tended to live in cheap housing areas. Very often, that meant the old inner city suburbs around K Rd.

Housing is a major problem for Auckland's Island families. The wages for unskilled workers — especially those with large families — don't stretch very far. The old wooden villas of the inner suburbs may often provide only adequate accommodation but rents are high.

Samoa-born Stephen Niumata, a legal executive, who is president of the Pacific Islanders' Housing and Welfare Association explains: 'Once they have obtained a place to stay the majority are faced with the problem of meeting payments of about \$NZ50 or \$60 a week. The average labourer earns only \$80 or \$90 a week, which means they are paying out more than half their wages on rent.

'Many try to solve this problem by inviting relatives or friends to live with them and thus share the burden but this is interpreted by landlords as overcrowding.

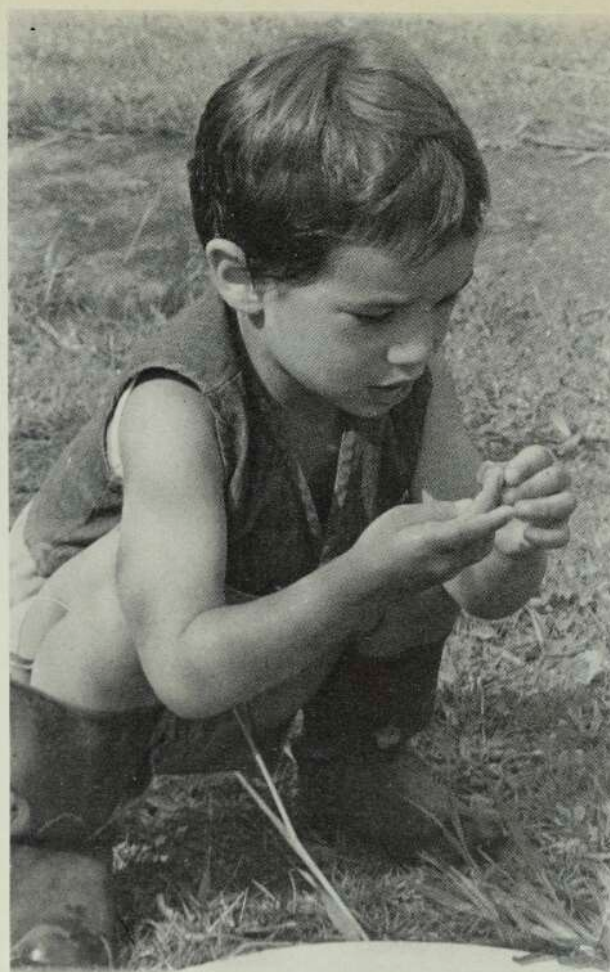
'If the rental is high there can be anything up to a dozen people occupying a house. We receive many complaints of overcrowding each week and try to balance this by complaining that rents are too high.'

Mr Niumata says bond requirements — usually two weeks rent — create problems too. An islander may have to put up a \$250 bond. Some arrive in Auckland with as little as \$10.

'Some stay at their relatives' place for a while but this usually results in arguments. We used to lend money but unfortunately we went broke as more often than not we were never repaid.' The association still helps people over the Christmas period when everything is closed.

Another problem is knowing where to look for accommodation. Until recently, Auckland accommodation was not advertised in the islands. Western Samoa has taken the lead in helping prospective migrants by running advertisements in the Apia Press.

According to Mr Niumata, Islanders still face racial prejudice from landlords. The level,



he says, is 'tolerable'. It used to be 'very bad'.

In recent years Islanders have had to look increasingly to the outer suburb for accommodation. They've faced competition for the old villas of Ponsonby from young professional couples who realise the advantages of living close to the offices where they work. It has become trendy to buy an old villa and restore it.

Mr Niumata says some Islanders are getting into financial difficulties because they have bought houses in outer suburbs without seeking the advice of lawyers.

Housing is just one of several problems faced by Pacific Islanders living in New Zealand. The picture is one of a disadvantaged minority. Immigration and its associated socio-economic problems only emerged as an issue when the New Zealand economy began to falter five years ago. Until then it was convenient to

Donovan Summers, 4... grandson of Mr and Mrs Tangiaua of Rarotonga, Cook Islands and Mr and Mrs John Summers of Christchurch, New Zealand. Photo: Jan Mudrovich

'import' unskilled workers to do the dirty jobs and fill the gaps in industry. When the economic situation changed, Islanders became a scapegoat. Long-ignored problems came out into the open.

Auckland was seen to have ghettos-in-embryo. Low-income Island families were living in overcrowded, sub-standard accommodation. Migrants faced immense problems adjusting to a new urban dollar-oriented life style for which they were largely unprepared. Too little was being done to combat the social problems arising from educational and other disadvantages. The disaffected young were seeking radical solutions, some forming street gangs with names like 'The Niggs' and 'Polynesian Panthers'.

In its successful 1975 election campaign, the National Party played on *palagi* bigotries and exploited the immigration issue. A year later the word 'overstayers' became part of the New Zealand vocabulary as random checks were made on Islanders to see if they had overstayed their work permits.

The overstayers issue has died down but visit Auckland magistrate's court and it becomes obvious that immigration officials are still busy. Cases are usually heard on Mondays and Tuesdays.

The corridor and stairwell adjoining the courtroom are usually crammed with relatives and friends of those defending alleged breaches of the Immigration Act. At times there are more than 80 cases on the list. There is often confusion as to who is who and court officers frequently have difficulty pronouncing names.

On a more positive note, the education department has extended specialist services to schools with large numbers of Polynesian students and reviewed the needs of Island children. Closer attention is paid to the all-important language skills needed to succeed in the education system. Two schools have 'reception classes' for newly-arrived migrant children who are given intensive language instruction and an introduction to aspects of the *palagi* way of life.

Several schools have made a determined effort to foster a true multi-cultural atmosphere and make education more relevant to the needs of their students.

Technical institutes are taking English language courses to the factory floor. Auckland University is giving special help to Polynesian students, and Radio New Zealand has opened a Maori and Pacific Islands broadcasting unit in Auckland.

Another welcome move has been the establishment of the Pacific Islands Educational Resource Centre which has a staff of 12 including tutors for all the main Island groups. An old school in Ponsonby was refurbished as the centre's home.

Orientation officer Edga Tu'Inukuafe talks about some of its services:

'The centre runs courses at both the Auckland and North Shore Teachers' Colleges to educate student teachers in the Pacific Island point of view. This includes the understanding of languages and differences in culture and ways to assist Island children adapt to the different way of life in New Zealand.

'Another course familiarises public servants with the five main Pacific Islands groups — Samoans, Tongans, Cook Islanders, Niueans and Tokelauans.

'Because many new migrants have no transport the centre trains voluntary workers who can then go out into the homes to teach basic English. There is special tutoring in school certificate and university entrance examination English.'

Mr Tu'Inukuafu said a translation service is offered free to schools. The centre publishes resource material for schools and community groups — some of its publications are in demand in countries such as the United States where sizable numbers of Samoans and Tongans have migrated.

Pacific Islanders do a great deal themselves to cope with their particular problems and to preserve a cultural identity. Three examples of this self-help approach are the formation of the women's organisation Pacifica, the work of the Polynesian Panthers, and the tremendous effort of a group of secondary school students in initiating a suburban recreational and cultural centre.

Pacifica, with its 18 branches throughout New Zealand, works to assist Pacific Island women and to promote the role of Polynesian women in general. More than 400 women attended its last national conference. Workshops discussed such topics as the problems faced by young adult Islanders. Pacifica has mounted a successful fashion contest to raise funds for the continuing education of Island women.

The Polynesian Panthers, now nine years old, had a bad image when they first appeared in Auckland. They were seen as a lawless Black Power gang bent on warfare with Whites.

Panthers leaders say they are



English classes for Polynesian railway workers at Manukau Technical Institute ... and strong emphasis too on self-help. Photo: Auckland Star

working for better European-Polynesian understanding and to help Polynesians survive in a city orientated to European living without losing their cultural identity.

The Panthers are fighting the front-line battle. They have been involved in community service, citizens' advice and legal aid and provide emergency accommodation. They run homework schemes and have become a first-stop for all kinds of Polynesians in trouble. Much of their time is devoted to counselling young people.

Otara's Hillary College has many Maoris and Pacific Islanders on its roll, reflecting the racial balance of this much-maligned suburb.

Five years ago a fourth form class talked about the reasons why young Polynesians seemed to be involved in crime. They decided a lack of recreational and social facilities was a big factor. Young people had nowhere to go and nothing to do. Their own suburb was a classic example of bad planning — hundreds of houses built before adequate social services and facilities were provided.

that for European children. Most of the children in Auckland Hospital's infectious diseases block are Polynesians. A study showed that Polynesians in Auckland have a greater risk of being admitted to hospital, a greater chance of dying as a result of admission, and stay in hospital nearly twice as long as Europeans. The incidence of tuberculosis — said to be of epidemic proportions — is 30 times greater among Pacific Islanders than among Europeans.

Medical school lecturer, Dr Ian Scott: 'We're talking about a socio-economic problem. Low socio-economic areas are less likely to attract doctors.' Health services that depend on voluntary support and local fund-raising are not easy to promote in poorer suburbs.

Major crime files reflect the social scene. In 1976, Islanders committed 27.38% of all assaults yet made up only 4.86% of the population. Another survey showed that although Maoris and Pacific Islanders aged between 14 and 30 were only 2.75% of the population, they committed 34.85% of detected violent offences.

Suggesting induction courses for Islanders entering New Zealand, Secretary for Maori Affairs Kara Puketapu said factors which probably contribute to the high incidence of violent offending included the breakdown of family discipline, urbanisation, below-average academic attainment, excessive numbers in unskilled occupations and excessive drinking.

In 1976 an *Auckland Star* investigative team studied the city's Island population and their problems. They concluded:

'This could be the issue historians say the city failed to see or neglected to deal with (in the seventies). Not rapid rail, or urban sprawl, but the growth of decadent suburbs, ghetto accommodation for unskilled Island labour, either enticed here by agents for industry, or drawn by their own unsophisticated ambition.'

Things have improved since then but the basic premise remains valid in Auckland in 1980.



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Two very well known and popular identities, **Stan** and **Olive Breusch**, left the New Hebrides in December to retire in Sydney, Australia.

Stan had been in the group for over 40 years and originally came up as a mission carpenter. When his contract had finished he married Olive Newman and settled at Whitesands, Tanna, on a trading post. From there he eventually went to Santo where for some time he was condominium public works manager in charge of the vast array of equipment left behind by the American forces.

Olive, his wife, was born at Tongoa in the New Hebrides, being the daughter of a Scandinavian trader who had settled there. Olive was reared on Tongoa and has many stories to tell of early days there and the struggle for existence during the depression. She is the elder sister of the very well known **Oscar Newman** who died recently in Vila. Stan and Olive eventually set up a trading post at Nugugu, Aoba, where they were lavish hosts to all comers and their house a favourite stopping-off place for visiting government officials and passing ships.

Stan was one of the original members of the New Hebrides Advisory Council and remained a member for many years. His understanding and interest in the New Hebridean people made his contribution invaluable. The Breuschs' knowledge of the pre-World War II period in the New Hebrides is vast and their stories well worth hearing. Their many friends in the New Hebrides wish them well in their new life. — *Katherine Paul*.

Knighthoods were conferred on Fiji's former Cabinet Secretary **Robert Sanders** and the Fiji Ombudsman Justice **Moti Tikaram** in the Queen's 1980 New Year Honours List. Sir Robert, a Scot, left Fiji last year



Gus Smales, MBE

after 28 years service with the Fiji and Tongan governments, and now lives in Britain. Sir **Moti Tikaram** becomes the second Fiji Indian to receive a knighthood and is the eight living local citizen to hold the distinction.

Among those who were appointed Members of the Order of the British Empire (MBE) were PIM's new editor, **Gus Smales**, of Papua New Guinea, and **Greg Quintal** of Norfolk Island.

Gus Smales comes to Sydney in February to edit PIM after 23 years in PNG as a journalist, mostly with the *Herald* and *Weekly Times*, and his honour was awarded by the PNG Government in recognition of his journalistic services to PNG.

Greg Quintal, a descendant of a *Bounty* mutineer, was a longtime member of the Norfolk Island Council, which last year was replaced by the Norfolk Island Legislative Assembly. His award acknowledges at last some of the work he has put into the Island's community affairs, particularly in his efforts to win recognition from the Australian Government that Norfolk is not an appendage of the Australian mainland, but an island community in its own right.

Senior New Hebrides broadcasting official **Godwin Ligo** returned to Vila in late December from a UNESCO-sponsored meeting in Paris at which he reported on South Pacific cultural problems. Mr Ligo is generally credited with being the main driving force in December's highly successful National Festival of Arts held in Vila.



Only a few days before his arrival, **Crown Prince Tupouto'a** in January cancelled his arrangements to spend several months on a course at the Australian Joint Services Staff College. The Crown Prince explained that his recent appointment as Tonga's Minister for Foreign Affairs and Defence was making new demands on his time, and he would have been unable to devote his full attention to the course.

Once upon a time (not long ago at all, actually) there was a young girl called **Vai'ufia** who taught in a little primary school in a little, isolated island community called Ha'apai, in the Kingdom of Tonga.

One day this young girl said to herself 'What am I doing here for goodness sake when what I like best in all the world is meeting people?'

So she applied for a receptionist job in a big hotel in the big (comparatively speaking) city of Nuku'alofa, and asked her Good Fairy to give her application a bit of a helpful push along.

And she got the job and was quite convinced that she simply couldn't be happier.

Then, only one short week later, the manager of the hotel said to her 'Next week is Tonga's first Tourist Promotion Week and we want you to be 'Miss International Dateline



Vai'ufia Afeaki

Hotel' in the 'Miss Tonga Tourism contest.'

So Vai'ufia came out from behind the reception desk again, and was quite convinced that she simply couldn't be happier. She put on her prettiest clothes, practised her solo dancing, went to interviews and dinners and promotions and a Grand Tourism Ball, made a little speech about 'What Tonga can offer to Tourists', met lots and lots of people — and kept pinching herself to make sure she wasn't dreaming.

At the end of the week the judges went into a huddle and added up the marks for poise and grooming, general knowledge and English ability which they'd awarded during the week to the baker's dozen of pretty Polynesian 'misses' representing the kingdom's various tourist enterprises.

And guess who came out with the gold-lettered sash and the trip to Australia in February, to take part in tourist promotions in Sydney and represent her tiny kingdom at the Moomba Festival in Melbourne?

Yes, the newest comer to the field of tourism, the one who only made the starting line by the skin of her superlative teeth — **Vai'ufia Afeaki** from Ha'apai. She knows that in 1980 there are Good Fairies. — **Penny Hodgkinson**

Jack Keith Murray was a scholar, a fact which taught him to discipline himself. But then he had been the principal of an agricultural college, a professor, and a colonel in the Australian Army (he served in the two world wars), and these positions gave him a certain authoritarianism, and a consciousness of status. He had also learned to make a case by putting down each factor he thought germane, and he expected anyone who refuted his argument to answer each point.

I don't think he ever understood the public servant who made his decisions only on those facts he thought relevant, and the fewer facts the better. He never understood why the head of each colonial service in the South Pacific — be it American, British, Dutch, French or New Zealand — was "His Excellency", whilst the head of the Australian service, which embraced nearly as large a land mass and a greater population than all the other services put together, should simply be "His Honour" — the lowest in the pecking order.

Murray was appointed by the then Minister for External Territories Eddie Ward, who had announced that Australia's policy was to develop the native people. But then Ward gave Murray little support. He didn't visit the territories between the resumption of civil administration in October 1945, and the defeat of Chifley's Labor Government in December 1949.

The other group which could have given Murray the strength he needed to deal with the hotch-potch, disparate public service he inherited was the Australian Army's Directorate of Research, but this group disintegrated, so Murray was virtually on his own with old New Guinea public servants almost despising their Papuan opposites and the new-comers being liked by nobody. He travelled constantly and widely, he showed no fear of fabric and wire aeroplanes. Each trip was full of incident: the sight of 5000 naked and unarmed men at Maprik; the genital 'hand-shake' that caused Murray to jump back and slam the door of the aircraft with the crutch of his



Sir Jack Murray, better known perhaps as Colonel J. K. Murray, first postwar Administrator of Papua New Guinea, died in Brisbane in December, aged 90. He was a man of interesting facets, as this personal reminiscence of him by Sir John Gunther clearly reveals. In the photo above Sir Jack (left) is shown in Port Moresby with two other men who had great influence on the development of PNG, Sir Paul Hasluck and the late Sir Donald Cleland.

SCHOLAR AND GENTLEMAN

white duck trousers covered in pig grease and soot: the three trips to Lae to present Simogun Pita with his BEM (Civil Division) — the first time the medal wasn't there, the second time the citation was not, and on the third occasion Malcolm Wright wrote out what he remembered of his original recommendation (one should read Wright's *If I Should Die* to see how Simogun earned his BEM, an action that would have earned a Victoria Cross had he been an Australian).

The aggressiveness of planters and some ex-servicemen was fairly constant on these trips.

Then there was that walk in 1947 across southern Bougainville, because some one said the people were starving. Charges of neglect and starvation had been given great coverage in the Australian press. Murray was always the one who wanted to see for himself! Not only did he take doctors, but agriculturalists and native affairs officers, and there were special visitors such as Hal Wootten, today Chief Justice-designate of Papua New Guinea and James McAuley, a splendid poet and later a professor of English.

Murray had two 'dicky' knees and ankles; when we got to Buin each one was blown up with fluid, he must have been in great pain. Bob Cole was ADO, Buin, when with our carriers, scores of us descended on his station and his young bride was asked to care for us. On

Christmas Day, 1979, Bob and Kay, his wife, and I were able to laugh about it, at dinner in Queensland. Murray's great thoughtfulness and charm won the day with the Coles back on Bougainville.

In 1947 Manus Island was a political issue. The U.S. naval base and the China contract were causing social problems. Murray again went to see for himself. He was met by a Nationalist Chinese guard when he went to inspect the surplus war supply dump which he considered was on Australian territory. He was challenged and then had a bayonet pressed against his stomach.

Later, by appointment, he visited the naval base commander, accompanied by Ivan Champion, Stan Pearsall, in RAAF uniform, and he had 'borrowed' the First Lieutenant from the RAN ship on which we had travelled, who was also in uniform. The U.S. base commander was silly enough to say they reoccupied Manus 'by right of conquest'. He was a very worried and contrite commander by the time we left. Murray could in his quiet voice, be devastating. It would be interesting to know what the archives say about this episode.

In 1951 the long extinct volcano, Mount Lamington erupted in Papua. It killed more than 3500 people, smothered in the impossible heat of a cloud of incandescent ash. It was without doubt Australia's greatest civil disaster.

Murray was deeply affected by it. He had to make decisions that must have been anathema to him. To have collected all the dead for burial was impossible. His Christian beliefs said they should be buried, but he accepted the inevitable. But, should you bury the 30 or more whites? He quietly said this would be discrimination.

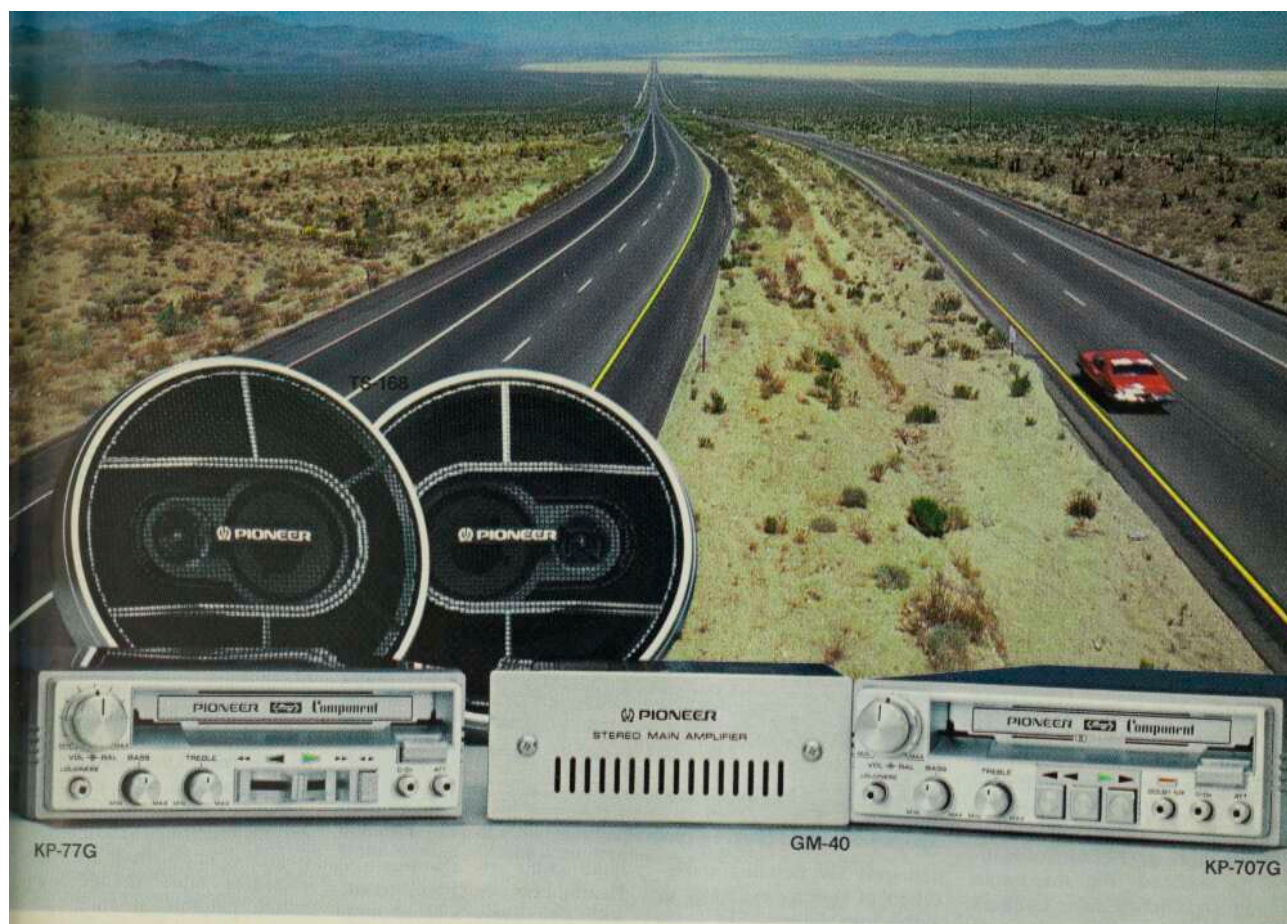
The care of the refugees was carried out quickly and surely, and, I was going to write almost with elan, because of the inspiration of Murray. I don't think the Australian Government ever thanked him for an extremely magnificent effort on its behalf.

In his time, Murray suffered many insults. They hurt him. On the few occasions he was invited back to Papua New Guinea he mostly stayed with my wife and me. We talked about his dismissal, but he had no ill-feeling against any who might have been involved, except one senior Australian public servant, and he *hated* him. He greatly admired the policy of Paul Hasluck, Minister for Territories.

The day after his cremation, I talked with the very charming Papua New Guinea consul in Brisbane. She was partly educated in Australia, and she well remembers with great affection a benign old man visiting her at school, in fact visiting all Papua New Guineans wherever they were being educated in Australia. Murray was a kind of father-figure to them. The idea that he should visit the schools was Hasluck's, who offered Murray an honorarium and expenses. Murray would not take the honorarium.

Finally who will forget that Independence Day in 1975 when a frail man was accompanied by a young Papua New Guinea Defence Force officer to get him to his seat in the stand at the Sir Hubert Murray oval. He had come through a side gate as being the shortest way in, but he was immediately recognised and the very large crowd quite spontaneously and enthusiastically applauded him.

Murray was deeply touched — he knew his work for Papua New Guinea had not been forgotten, nor will it. — *John Gunther.*



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PAPILOA IN POLITICS

Take a parliamentary system on the Tongan pattern — seven elected representatives for the 33 hereditary nobles, another seven for the 95,000 populace, nine monarch-appointed ministers and area governors (also predominantly noble).

Inject into this traditionally all-male and highly hierarchical assemblage a single woman commoner, as one-seventh of the people's representation.

Can she make the slightest impact on what is anyway little more than a rubber-stamping machine for cabinet policy?

When Papiloa Foliaki stood for election in 1978 (PIM, June '78) there were plenty of cynical ho-hums. But the cynics underestimated Mrs Foliaki's unique combination of intelligence, common sense, determination, courage, wit and charm. Those same gifts had already turned a triple-certificated nursing sister with nil business experience in the managing director of the thriving 19-unit Halatukutonga Bus Line, which efficiently services the whole Nukualofa area.

Papiloa claims that it's the strong will inherited from her father along with her first aged bus that enabled her to become a successful businesswoman. And that the resulting financial independence has strengthened her political stance. To underline her total disinterest in pecuniary advantage, and in keeping with her pre-election promise, she disburses every seniti of her parliamentary salary and expenses to local charities and needy cases, blithely ignoring mutters of "vote buying" from the small but vociferous core of detractors who resent her enormous popular appeal.

In parliament, Papiloa frequently paralyses ministers with her probing queries and



Tonga's Papiloa Foliaki . . . courage, drive, wit, charm.

demands for detailed clarification of sketchy estimates or ambiguous clauses. She is an ardent champion of the needs and views of the grassroots majority, and to a devastating debater when she feels flow-on effects of proposed legislation could be adverse to it.

Fulfilling another election promise, Papiloa opened an office in central Nukualofa, where she is available to all comers between fixed hours on Tuesday and Thursday mornings. This is another 'first' in the Tongan parliamentary context and the number of callers speaks for its success. They come with pro-or-con comments on current legislation, to present petitions, to seek advice or assistance on village or personal projects or problems. And not infrequently a dignified village elder comes simply to say, on behalf of his community 'Malo 'aupito Papiloa, for all you are doing'.

Super-abundant health and energy enable Papiloa to undertake her demanding parliamentary and associated obligations, plus personal and social support for a busy hus-

band who is Director of Health, plus close involvement with five lively and adoring children and a large extended family.

She represented the kingdom at two major international conferences on women's affairs during 78-79; she is a member of the executive committee of numerous community and charitable organisations; gives radio and Peacesat talks and school addresses on topical affairs; and somehow manages to keep one keenly supervisory eye on her bus company, and the other on the progress of her 'Friendly Islander' tourist motel, due shortly to open its very modern doors on the Nukualofa seafront.

Tongan women have always been a powerful behind-the-scenes influence on public affairs, but the Hon. Member for Tongatapu's emergence as a charismatic centre-stage public figure in her own right has caused a lot of talk, both for and against. Her powerful and dynamic personality, verging at times on the flamboyant, and her enthusiastic support of the recently-formed Tongan National Council of Women, inevitably lead entrenched

status quo supporters to brand her as a militant women's liber — a label Papiloa firmly rejects.

She is ardently in favour of retaining the monarchy and upper-crust layer of nobles, but believes Tonga's traditional system requires carefully planned and gradually implemented modifications, now that the kingdom is increasingly involved in regional and international affairs.

She believes the monarchy would be strengthened — not weakened — by gradually divesting itself of day-to-day involvement in and control of politics and government, while retaining the right to approve or veto all legislation, and further developing the royal image as the essential focal point of the kingdom at home and abroad.

'Inevitably', she says, 'we have some radicals, particularly among the younger people who have worked or studied abroad. But the vast majority of Tongans are, like myself, confirmed traditionalists. We know that external pressures must change our social patterns whether we want it or not. But we believe those changes will do the most good and the least harm if they are introduced from the top in the traditional Tongan way which has shaped our society over many centuries.'

Papiloa hopes that other women candidates will come forward at the 1981 election, now that Tonga's first ever commoner woman MP has broken the political ice.

She says her own political future is squarely in the hands of the voters. In down-to-earth Papiloa fashion, she intends to stand or fall on the '81 poll reaction to her first term in office. 'According to the numbers verdict, I'll carry on . . . or bow gracefully out' she promises. — Penny Hodgkinson, in Nukualofa.

SENTENCES QUASHED

France's *Cour de Cassation* has quashed the sentences handed down on February 3, 1979, in Papeete, French Polynesia, on Charlie Ching and the members of the *Toto Tupuna* group

(PIM Apr 1979 p9). This means that a new trial will take place, this time in a French court at Versailles, near Paris.

The French *Cour de Cassation* is not to be confused with a supreme court in the British or American tradition, for it does not judge the case as such, but only the formal aspects of the trial. Its purpose is purely to determine whether the law has been respected or not.

Its judgement in the present case was as follows:

- Although French law is applied in French Polynesia, the courts are not constituted and do not function in the same manner as in metropolitan France, but in accordance with a special colonial decree from 1933, reducing the jury from nine members to four, and requiring them to be able to speak French, which certainly is very unfair to the Polynesians who make up three-quarters of the population.

- Serious irregularities were committed when the police interrogated the accused, and legal advice was repeatedly denied them.

(Both these points were strongly emphasised in the PIM report referred to.)

The Papeete court sentenced Marcel and Jonas Tahutini to 20 years hard labour, Viriamu Tauira and Roland Tefana respectively to 18 and 10 years hard labour for consorting with criminals, the murder of French businessman Pierre d'Anglejean-Chatillon (on August 26, 1977), attempted murder, acts of violence, an attempt to blow up the Papeete post office, and theft. Charlie Ching and Prosper Faana were sentenced respectively to 10 and five years imprisonment (in solitary confinement) on consorting charges, and Guy Taero to five years imprisonment.

OVERSTAYERS NZ CITIZENS?

Although Western Samoa has been independent since 1962, many of its nationals are still New Zealand citizens, or so the argument has been going in a series of court cases in New



Samoa's Tupuola Efi and New Zealand's Robert Muldoon. The NZ press wanted to force a confrontation, said Efi.

Zealand recently.

Western Samoans are the biggest single group of 'overstayers', the New Zealand term for those who overstay their permitted time in the country.

But thanks to a novel argument put forward by Wellington lawyer George Rosenberg, colonial history has meant that court action against Western Samoans has recently ground to a halt. About 200 Samoans are immediately involved, but on a broader scale, just about every Samoan in New Zealand and Western Samoa has a stake in the debate.

After going through the Magistrate's Court and the Supreme Court, Rosenberg took his case to the Court of Appeal. He claimed that by reason of the British Nationality and Status of Aliens (in New Zealand) Act 1923, the father of the Western Samoan on overstayer charges was a New Zealand citizen.

In short, because New Zealand was controlling Western Samoa prior to independence, Western Samoa, at the time, was an area within 'His Majesty's dominions and al-

legiances at the time'.

The learned judges of the Court of Appeal gave the issue extensive consideration, as was reflected in the 11-page judgement they handed down.

They even mentioned the Treaty of Versailles and the New Zealand laws and regulations of the day. The Samoa Constitution Order 1920, for example, said executive government of Samoa 'is hereby declared to be vested in His Majesty in the same manner as if the territory was part of His Majesty's Dominions'.

But the judgment also quoted Oppenheim's 'International Law' and Lewis's 'Mandated Territories' which stated that a mandate did not cause the people of the territories to become British subjects.

Various other points against the claim were put forward, and the three judges concluded: 'Those are the reasons which lead us to the view that the New Zealand Parliament did not in 1923 intend to make all persons thereafter born in Western Samoa *ipso facto* natural born British subjects. The result is

POLITICAL CURRENTS

that the appeal must be and is dismissed.

Rosenberg has not surrendered. He is preparing a case which may take the issue before the Privy Council in London. If he gets leave to go to London, he will be asking that all court actions against Samoan overstayers be suspended until a result comes through, and that could be years.

Meanwhile, on a recent visit to New Zealand, Western Samoa's Prime Minister, Tupuola Efi, faced questions from journalists about his reaction to the overstayer issue.

He showed no irritation at talking about the issue, and apart from calling on Samoans to obey the laws of New Zealand, said there was little his government could do in what was essentially an internal affair of New Zealand. But he said he was nevertheless concerned, and described the overstayer issue as a 'trauma'.

This was reflected in his meetings with the Samoan community in New Zealand where many of the questions he received were about immigration problems.

Back in Apia he attacked New Zealand journalists for allegedly trying to force him into a confrontation with New Zealand's Prime Minister Robert Muldoon.

Tupuola's attack on the New Zealand press showed a remarkable ability to forget immediate history. It has been the New Zealand press which, virtually alone, has taken up the causes of his people in New Zealand. One notable example was the infamous street checks of Polynesians in New Zealand in 1976, something which was exposed by the press, which eventually forced the government to back down. One reporter got the country's top journalism award for such coverage.

Certainly New Zealand newspapers have probably done more for Polynesian migrants than any Pacific government, and perhaps that is the way it should be. Tupuola should recognise it. — Mike Field.

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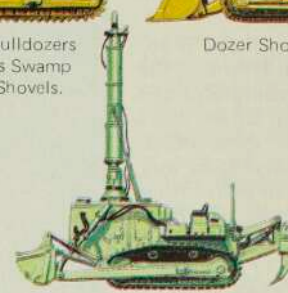
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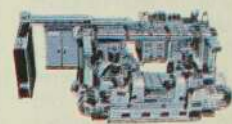
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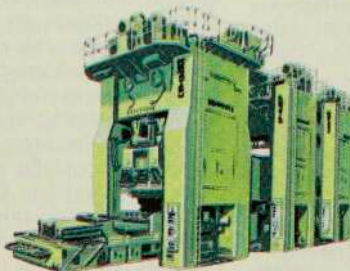
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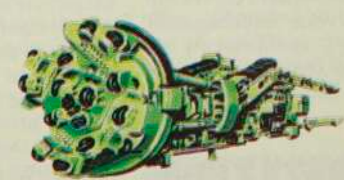
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POLITICAL CURRENTS

WHITHER THE PROVINCES?

During the final years of Australian rule in PNG, regional demands for greater control over local affairs developed rapidly.

Doubtless these growing pains were to be expected in a land of many distinct cultures — most of them mutually antagonistic — in a time of dramatic political change.

Many observers thought that these demands for authority should have been satisfied through the existing local government council system but, sadly, insufficient emphasis had been given to the development of local government since its introduction after the Pacific war and now, when the need was greatest, local government did not hold the answer.

In 1972 — just one year from self-government — Area Authorities were introduced in half-a-dozen PNG districts, intended to satisfy the clamour for local autonomy. They were introduced in haste, with inadequate powers and responsibilities, and hardly had time to prove themselves. For the PNG Constitution was soon to provide for the establishment of provincial governments in the districts — called 'provinces' after independence — with very real, but inadequately defined, powers.

By thus delegating to the provinces much of the responsibility for their own administration, central government hoped to satisfy the aspirations of provincial politicians and power groups and yet hold the infant nation of PNG together.

It surprised nobody who had followed the modern history of PNG that the first provincial government was established on the troubled island of Bougainville, in 1976. In February, 1977, the Simbu Interim Provincial Government was created in the Chimbu Province.

The birth and early development of the Simbu P.G. was watched and studied by a sympathetic academic observer with long experience of PNG,

Bill Standish. Under the auspices of the Institute of Applied Social and Economic Research (PO Box 5854 Boroko PNG), Standish has now published a monograph entitled *Provincial Government in PNG: Early Lessons from Chimbu* which contains invaluable lessons for the PNG Government, but which makes gloomy reading.

Admittedly, the Chimbu example is not typical of PNG (Standish notes that the Chimbu people as a whole are looked upon as 'wild men' in Port Moresby bureaucratic and political circles) but it is becoming apparent that what happened in Chimbu is tending to occur in other provincial governments.

This is what happened in Chimbu over the period of the Standish study (1977-78)!

Provincial politicians were preoccupied with status and the trappings of office, and showed almost no concern with policy. They voted themselves large salaries and allowances (when compared with the income of the average villager) and wasted money on unnecessary motor vehicles, often used only for purposes of display.

What decisions they made were frequently made hurriedly and illogically, often in the face of contrary advice from qualified advisers.

Many provincial politicians were reluctant to face the public and spent most of their time in town, away from their home base. Some ceased to attend the meetings of the local government councils who originally put them into office. The Premier frequently arrived late for public occasions, and left early.

There was a continual struggle for supremacy within the province. Public servants in a position to help or hinder the workings of provincial government were often abused and humiliated by provincial politicians, in public. Relations between provincial and national politicians in Chimbu were generally sour; there was little co-operation, and public servants were torn between their loyalties to the two tiers of

government. Their morale and performance plummeted. Some Simbu provincial ministers were even hostile to their own Provincial Secretary, who carried the major workload.

Favouritism was rife.

Field services of all kinds to the mass of the village people deteriorated alarmingly.

The financial affairs of the provincial government were handled sloppily, extravagantly and in some cases improperly, with little regard for the strict accountability of public funds.

Acute local problems such as the upsurge in tribal fighting remained unresolved.

Standish is forced, obviously reluctantly, to the conclusion from his study of Simbu that frustration within the provincial governments throughout PNG can only increase, given the unrealistically high expectations which have been allowed to rise.

'Conflict with national bodies is likely to be perpetual as provincial politicians pursue their own interests, occasionally in defiance of national aims and sometimes going against the best interests and welfare of the province and the mass of its people,' Standish notes. He thinks conflict among the provinces themselves will probably continue, as each battles for an ever-larger slice of the national cake.

The picture is not entirely unrelieved; Standish shows that there are *some* benefits to be gained from provincial government in the administrative sphere, but he believes the time is overdue for a major review of provincial government and all of its implications. — *James Sinclair*

THEY OPPOSE WASTE PLAN

Although the US Government has made it clear that it is a long way from deciding whether to use a Pacific island as a storage facility for spent nuclear fuel (PIM, Jan. p21), its own Pacific territories are making sure the government knows how they feel about the idea.

The matter came up for a hearing at a US Congressional subcommittee in Honolulu on December 27, when a number of US Island leaders had their say. At the hearing, Richard Scribner, a State Department special assistant, confirmed that preliminary evaluations had been made of Palmyra, Midway and Wake — and nowhere else. The US had made no firm decisions, he said.

The lieutenant-governor of Guam, Joseph Ada, opposing any dumping plan, said the State Department had a history, specifically in Guam, 'of becoming very nonchalant, of not caring about the Pacific and its peoples'.

Peter Coleman, governor of American Samoa, told the hearing that the United States would do irrevocable damage to its credibility if the nuclear spent fuel problem was not handled with sensitivity and foresight.

Also speaking in opposition was Carlos Camacho, governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, who declared the Pacific was only being considered because it seems far away to the vast majority of the American population.

'Fobbing off the risk on to distant people is immoral and barbaric, and is out of place in a government that prides itself on the observance of human rights', Camacho said.

Hawaii Governor George Ariyoshi filed a statement with the congressional hearing that storing nuclear waste on Palmyra Island would be a great security risk.

Leslie Fullard-Leo, one of three brothers who own Palmyra, testified that prospective lessees for sport fishing and industry had halted negotiations for the island after the nuclear storage report became public knowledge.

Several other witnesses also spoke against the plan, including four scientists from the University of Hawaii.

Conducting the hearing were US congressmen Cecil Hefelt and Daniel Akaka, both of Hawaii. Philip Burton of California and the Guam delegate to Congress Antonia B. Won Pat. — *Lynn Thomas*

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From the ISLANDS PRESS

From consecutive issues of the monthly Pitcairn Miscellany, Pitcairn Island

Ever seen a film eight times? Well that is how often 'Silver Streak' was shown at the Court House before being sent back. Most of those who saw the film eight times knew the script better than the actors.

The feature films which arrived on the last ship have catered for all kinds of tastes. Titles received were: Sherlock Holmes' Smarter Brother, High Time, Super Cop, Wonderful World of the Brothers Grimm, Bad Day at Black Rock, Peeper, French Connection II, Orchestra Wives, Pirates of Tortuga, Hombre. (Admission 40¢ first showing, 20¢ second showing, 10¢ third. Children half price.)

From Oliana's column in The Observer, Apia, Western Samoa

The year is drawing to a close and despite the spectre of petrol at \$4 a gallon before the end of next year, the continued French bomb tests on our back door; the US contemplating dumping nuclear wastes on some Pacific island, and New Zealand's immigration policy as tough as ever against Samoans, there still seems to be an air of optimism about the future. We can afford to be optimistic for should the civilised world collapse, we are one of the few places that could survive without much trouble

Arawa Bulletin, Arawa, North Solomon Province, Papua New Guinea

If you thought Kung-Fu mania had struck Panguna on Sunday afternoon, with all the children wandering around town in the judogis (hope that's right Hugh and Gary!!) you were almost right. The Junior Judo Club held their gradings at the Squash Courts on Sunday. Congratulations to the 13 children who attended and were graded to their different classes.

Fiji Times, Suva

A Fiji Visitors Bureau board member watched an elderly woman tourist pay \$98 for a vau wood sword, he told a board meeting yesterday. 'There was nothing I could do about it... If I tried the sword seller would have pushed me in the sea', Mr Rajendra Singh said. He said the woman was accosted by the sword seller at the bottom of the gang plank of a cruise ship. 'He asked her name and when she told him, he carved it on the sword straight away. She was embarrassed into buying it.' FVB executive manager, Mr Malakai Gucake, said this sort of thing 'happened all the time'...

Niugini News, Lae, Papua New Guinea

The East Sepik Provincial Government's main office in Wewak closed on Monday for a week. The reason for the closure is not known. The people are very concerned about the sudden closure of the office, and have called on provincial government officials to explain the reason for it. The Prime Minister, Mr Michael Somare, was notified of the closure this morning, and has expressed his deep concern. There appears to be no good reason for the closure, and officials of the provincial government cannot be located for comment...

From Pacific Area Travel Association's 'Events in the Pacific'

November 1—All Saints Eve. Candlelight procession to Roman Catholic cemetery on Rarotonga to decorate graves with thousands of flower garlands. Accommodation tight.

Samoa Times, Apia, comment by the managing editor, Leulu Felise Va'a, after visiting Suva

One of the most impressive things about Fiji, and Suva in particular, is its advanced stage of development compared to Western Samoa. Suva is comparable to any Western city. In fact, some visitors say it is even better than many Western cities... In short, Fiji shows all the signs of a wealthy country where the wages are high and the relations between the races are peaceful...

The Tuvalu News Sheet, Funafuti

Nukufetau: The annual Day of the Volunteer (Aso Ote Volenitia) usually celebrated on 1st July was this year recognised on 9 November due to a shortage of imported food supplies at all the islands. Instead of local foods this year's celebration was centred around newly-arrived luxuries such as bread, rice and corned beef. Food cargoes brought last week aboard the Nivanga were completely sold out on the beach, with people buying supplies directly from the workboat when it landed ashore.

An incident during a golf match, reported in Atoll Pioneer, Tarawa

There were some strange goings-on at the Ambo on Saturday morning. Some innocent passers-by thought they saw an enormous bird thrashing around high up in the fronds of a coconut tree... The buccaneering Ieuan Batten, disappointed at not having his name mentioned in last week's golf column, had hit a ball into a coconut tree from whence it did not descend. Being a man of infinite resource, Ieuan ascended with a skill acquired of many years practice and insisted on playing the ball as it lay, in the true spirit of his Welsh forefathers. With restricted swing and precarious balance, he finally returned the ball to a less elevated plane. It took five strokes...



"Great shot! But that coconut was too big for the hole!"

During the 1978 mid-year sitting of the House of Representatives in Suva, K. N. Rao, MP, called for an independent inquiry into the 'apparent low morale of staff, and deterioration of health services', and cited as an example the case of a man who had been taken to the Colonial War Memorial Hospital following a road accident, examined by two trainee internes, and then sent home where he died almost immediately from undiagnosed internal bleeding, fractured pelvis, and shock. He also recalled another incident in which it was alleged that an attempt by a trainee interne to obtain a specimen from a patient had resulted in the needle penetrating the heart 'and killing him'.

These statements, following as they did complaints from Councillor Ravindra Singh, deputy mayor of Nadi, and allegations that negligence had resulted in the death of a young Indian girl at Lautoka from a ruptured appendix, and from a priest at Vatakoula that 'a perfectly healthy baby' had died following two injections at Tavua Hospital, left little doubt in the public mind that, as far as health services were concerned, 'something was rotten in the State of Denmark/Fiji'.

The matter was also complicated by staff resignations, of which the most spoken of was that of Mr Dutt Sharma, senior surgeon at the CWMH, a resignation associated with some acrimony. Secretary of health Dr Jona Senilagakali issued a statement that 'people should not be concerned about surgical treatment available in Fiji', although he admitted that the number of doctors and nurses was inadequate to serve Fiji's expanding health services.

However, the public was very much concerned, and a debate followed in which Vijay Parmandam, MP, called upon the Minister for Health Ted Beddoes to resign. Eventually the government accepted an amendment which requested the government 'to institute a thorough and independent inquiry into the health services with a view to removing such difficulties as may exist', and upon this motion, a committee

Nineteen seventy-nine saw publication of the report of an independent committee of inquiry into Fiji's health services. The committee was set up following exposure of a number of hair-raising examples of the inadequacy of the work of the services. Dr LEONARD GOODMAN, who until 1973 was senior tutor in surgery at the Fiji School of Medicine, reviews what he calls 'the most searching and comprehensive survey of a government department in Fiji's history'.

Fiji health service under the microscope and found deficient

of inquiry into health services in Fiji was appointed.

Under the chairmanship of Dr James Maraj, vice-chancellor of the University of the South Pacific, the committee had four other members: Dr Kwa Soon Bee, medical superintendent of the Singapore General Hospital, Dr S. B. Tabua, senator and private medical practitioner, Lautoka, F. M. K. Sherani, barrister and solicitor of Suva, and A. D. S. Anderson, retired magistrate, Levuka.

The committee started work in September 1978 and had completed its task by June 1979. Its terms of reference were extremely wide, but the report it produced in such a short time is a monumental tribute to its industry. It would be safe to say that never in the history of Fiji has there been such a searching and comprehensive survey of any government department.

This trenchant report hits hard, without fear or favour, at every aspect of departmental activity, but supplements its criticisms by providing in every instance a reasoned and succinct recommendation — and there are 270 such!

Before setting about its task, the committee called for a comprehensive set of resource papers to obtain the necessary background. Having studied this large collection it 'noted with surprise' that there had been 'no report on the ministry of health since 1974', which proved indicative of what they were later to discover through-

out the department. It also received many written and oral submissions from the profession, interested bodies, and the general public.

The investigations of the committee found that, in general, the failings of the department fell into three main, and closely interrelated and interdependent, categories — administration, staffing, and finance — and that from these derived the serious deterioration of service to the public and of staff morale at all levels.

The committee commented that whilst the present doctor-population ratio of 1:2063 in Fiji compared favourably with other developing countries — Indonesia 1:18,160, West Malaysia 1:7270, Thailand, 1:8530, Singapore, 1:1400 — the distribution of medical manpower in Fiji is very uneven: 53.7% of doctors are in the three main centres looking after 27.1% of the population, whilst 46.3% of the remaining doctors care for 72.9% of the population spread throughout the remainder of the country.

Since 1972 there had been a 24.5% increase in the workload as shown by hospital admissions, and 14.1% increase in outpatient attendances in the same period, notwithstanding that there had been no increase in medical establishment. The resultant overwork was not only a major cause of poor morale, but gave rise to situations where senior staff were too busy to supervise and train their juniors who were thus left

in charge of positions where their inexperience led to misdiagnosis, dangerous action, and a serious fall in the standard of medical care.

The committee recommended an immediate increase of a minimum of 40 senior doctors, with special priority to the registrar grade, and advised specifically that juniors should not be employed in casualty or accident departments.

The introduction of the registrar grade is a recommendation of great significance. In the usual concept, these are doctors with 10 or more years of experience who have attained — or are in the process of attaining — post-graduate qualifications in their chosen specialties.

In Fiji hitherto, although some have acted as such, this grade has not received official recognition, mainly because doctors of this seniority have been needed to staff district and sub-district hospitals, and also because facilities for post-graduate training either in Fiji or overseas have been virtually non-existent.

In conventional practice, registrars are the backbone of hospital organisation, being responsible for the supervision and training of the juniors, the routine clinical work, and assisting — and sometimes relieving — the consultant staff. The establishment of this grade will not only vastly improve the standard of treatment, but also have an immense effect upon the morale of the doctors who will now see this as a definite stage in their advancement in the career structure within the service.

The committee viewed with concern the new category of medical assistants now in training, and feared the 'tendency to create "half-baked doctors" with all the attendant dangers', and expressed the need to evaluate the teaching and performance of the first few 'graduates' to determine how they met the problems of health care in rural areas.

Investigations into the nursing establishment revealed staffing and other problems. The nurse-bed ratio not only fell at times to 1:10, but less than fully trained nurses sometimes found themselves in that situation.

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The committee made three main recommendations: (1) that a category of nurse-aides be trained, which it was estimated would relieve the nursing staff of approximately 25% of their non-nursing duties, (2) that a new category of nurse-practitioner be developed to relieve doctors of many routine procedures, and (3) the re-introduction of sister-tutors from overseas to strengthen the teaching at the Fiji School of Nursing.

The pharmacy service was found to have been a constant source of complaints, usually because of shortage of drugs. The committee pointed out that whilst the annual allocation of funds to the government pharmacy service had increased by 12% annually since 1974, this had been neutralised by the inflation rate of 10%, and took no account of the increased demand arising from increases in admissions and out-patient attendances.

The committee was concerned about the preferential treatment and free supply of drugs to civil servants, and discovered that this group were the recipients of 10% of prescriptions which absorbed 30% of the total drugs supplied to the pharmacy. It recommended that this colonial legacy should be discontinued.

Further recommendations were for increased staff, and schemes to enable the supply of essential but expensive drugs to be obtained through private pharmacies at subsidised prices.

The dental services were discovered to be little more than a school dental service, and the ministry was advised to upgrade 'forthwith' to the more complex services the public had a right to expect, together with a decision as to the level of sophistication and subspecialisation within the field of dentistry, and the financial contribution the patients would be required to make.

The radiology services were praised for the quality of their work with outdated equipment and crowded accommodation. Both these defects are recommended for correction together with an increase in staff.

Major changes were recommended for the pathological

laboratory at the CWM Hospital. It should be enlarged and upgraded to become the National Health Laboratory and increase its present scope to incorporate the virus laboratory, food and drug control, water standards, and forensic investigations, and to be the coordinating authority for all government laboratories throughout the country. To achieve this a second consultant pathologist should be appointed, together with the engagement of honours graduates in bio-chemistry and microbiology, and a pathology tutor.

The committee was 'most concerned' at the present state of the blood transfusion service, and noted that 'insurmountable differences of opinion' which existed between the Ministry of Health and the Fiji Red Cross Society had resulted in an almost complete breakdown of the service. It discovered that the refrigeration system had ceased to function, and that blood was being taken by junior technicians without medical supervision from donors who had no preliminary examination either to protect them or to exclude the possibility of the transmission of disease, and concluded with the horrific statement that 10% of the blood collected at the CWMH for transfusion is either syphilitic or hepatitis positive.

The committee recommend a complete reorganisation of the service and its reconstitution under the complete and autonomous control of the head of the proposed National Health Laboratory, together with every effort to re-establish amicable relations with the Fiji Red Cross Society.

Several far-reaching and long overdue recommendations were made in respect of the Fiji School of Medicine of which the most important were the formal integration of the teaching staff into the work and clinical responsibilities of the hospitals, and the recognition that these highly qualified and often very experienced doctors should have status as consultants.

This removes a long-standing source of friction and contention. The corollary is that the consultant staff and the

Some headlines from The Fiji Times in 1979.



registrars should be obliged by the terms of their employment to share in the training of students, which, until now, however willing, they have been unable to do from pressure of work.

The committee recommends that, in collaboration with the University of the South Pacific, the present diploma course should be upgraded as soon as possible to a full MB, BS, degree. This, of course, has been suggested on a number of occasions by several authorities in the last 10 years, and has always been rejected by the USP on the grounds that the tutor-student ratio in any faculty of medicine is so high as to render it financially impossible.

However, perhaps this long desired advance may now take place, and remove many sources of friction and discontent, not the least being the present anomaly whereby students returning to Fiji with a university degree and starting side by side at the same level with FSM graduates, receive four increments in the salary scale above that for the local men. The committee recommends that this immediately be reduced to one increment for the overseas graduate.

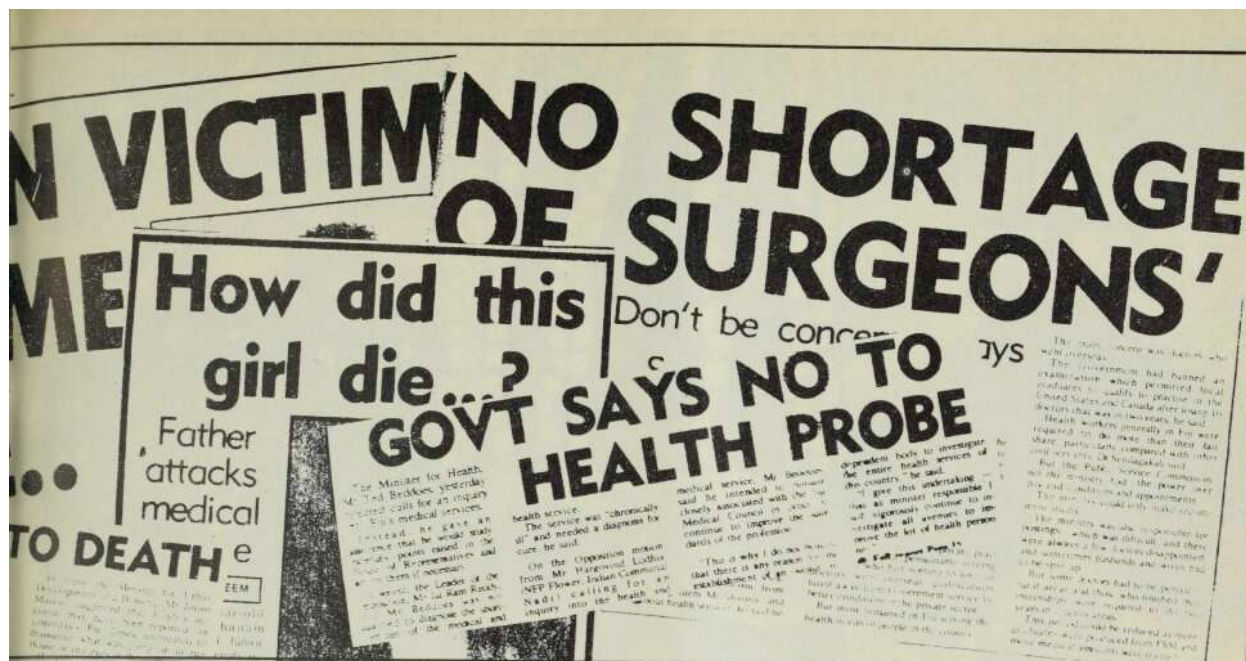
The committee was greatly impressed by the Ba Methodist Hospital, and nursing training school, which it found to be

well run, well equipped, and with a very high level of staff morale notwithstanding that salaries and wages there are well below those paid in the government sector. This hospital is maintained mainly by the Methodist Church in America but is in serious debt and grave danger of closure. The committee recommends that such is the importance of this hospital to the Ba area that the present totally inadequate government subsidy should be increased substantially.

Similarly the committee was impressed by the facilities and 'obvious administrative efficiency' of the Twomey (Leprosy) Hospital and the Tamavua (Tuberculosis) Hospital, and made recommendations for increased staff, equipment and training programmes for interested officers.

The administration of the ministry came in for much criticism, arising mainly from the lack of delegation of authority to lower levels, the arbitrary, and seemingly unreasonably frequent, transfer or staff, the paucity of consultation at district level, poor housing and transport facilities in many distant stations, and a general shortage of drugs and supplies.

These and many other grievances, together with a growing failure of communication between headquarters and staff at



all levels, were, perhaps, the most significant factors responsible for the obvious lowering of morale throughout the service. The committee commented that it found unanimous agreement throughout the country that the deterioration of morale and efficiency in almost every phase of departmental activity had begun about four years before its investigation, and had since sunk to its present depths.

In fairness to the permanent secretary and the headquarters staff, it must be mentioned that since promotion for clinical officers beyond the maximum of their salary scale could be only by transfer to the administrative sector, the most senior positions have, for very many years, been filled by erstwhile clinicians, and whilst some have proved to have had high administrative ability, others have not. Furthermore, these sometimes reluctant administrators of recent years have had to administer the department at a time of unprecedented economic stringency, which also coincided with increasing demands from a growing population.

The committee has recommended that a superscale of remuneration equivalent to that for directors be instituted for the most senior consultants. This should retain these very experienced and senior officers

in the active clinical field.

Nevertheless, the recruitment of some administrative grades from the ranks of doctors with long clinical experience does have its advantages, since these officers are well aware from experience at first hand of the problems of their colleagues in often remote situations, and can interpret their administration accordingly.

The committee has provided a detailed plan for the reorganised structure of the administration of the Health Department which involves a stratified establishment with a plethora of directors, principal assistant secretaries, and other administrators to the utmost limits of the service.

It seems to the writer that in the very perfection of this plan lie the seeds of future discontent, for there is a very real danger of creating an elite hierarchy of bureaucrats unfamiliar with clinical medicine since they left medical school out of touch with, but controlling from their ivory tower on the third floor of Government Buildings, the lives and actions of practical doctors who, at grassroots level, are endeavouring to perform those tasks for which the whole departmental structure exists, namely the prevention of disease and the relief of individual suffering.

The unhappy results of such dichotomy to the harmony of

the profession in England should be borne in mind, and the possible divisive effect on staff morale carefully evaluated before excluding clinicians from the administrative grades.

The committee was aware that the adoption of the very numerous recommendations offered in its report will have grave financial implications, even if the recommended substantial increase in staff cannot immediately be recruited. Except for the relatively minor adjustments — such as increases in out-patient fees and the enforcement of their collection, and the removal of the privilege of free treatment and drugs for civil servants — it realised that increased cost must be met from general revenue, and commented that it is for government to decide to what extent it is prepared to subsidise the health services.

It makes the pointed comparison that whilst the percentage of the country's operating budget allocated to health fell from 9.8% in 1973 to 8.6% in 1977, that for education rose from 20.3% to 22.1% over the same period.

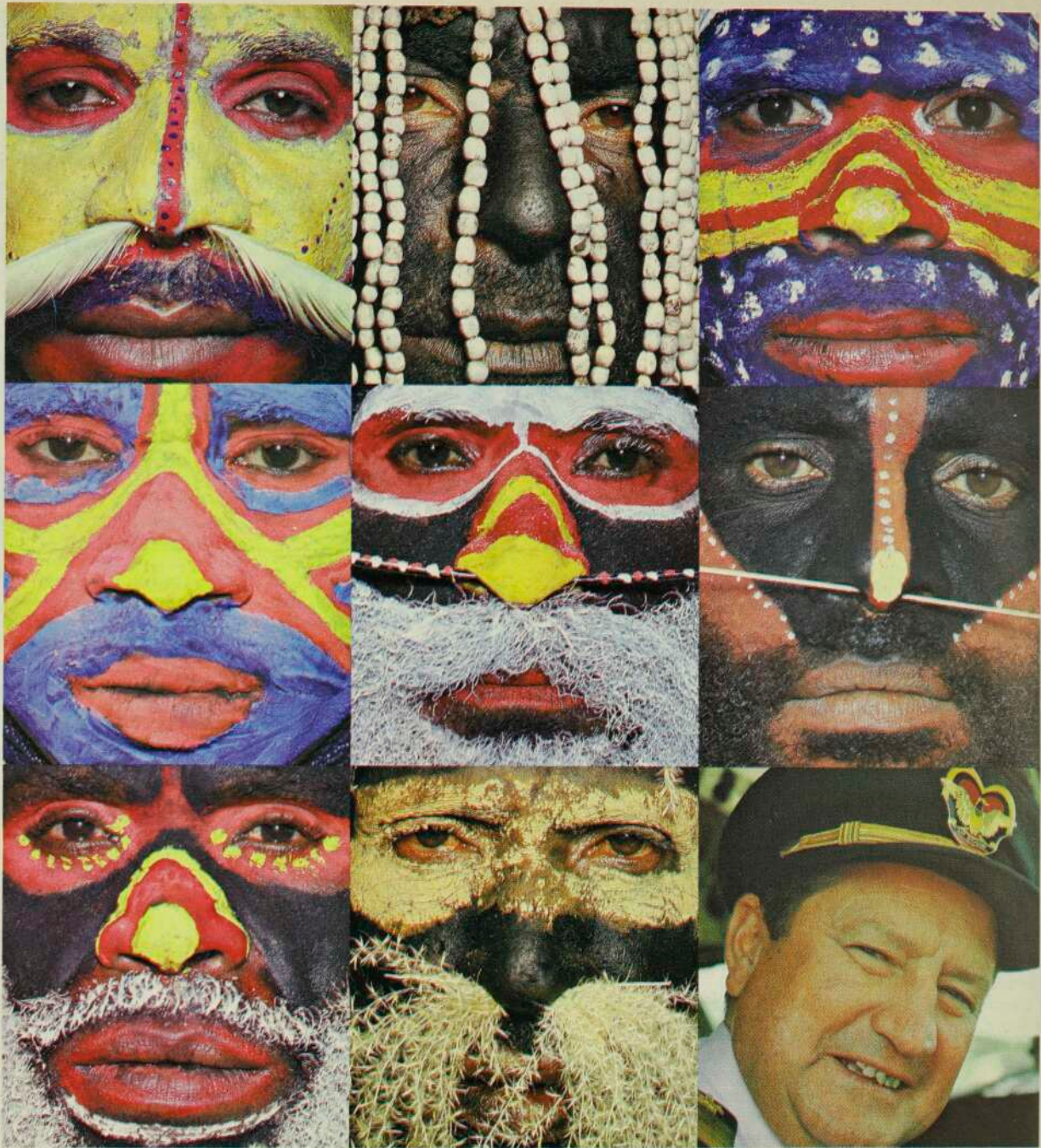
Finally, the committee recommended that notwithstanding the present serious economic situation, reduction in expenditure for health services cannot be contemplated. On the contrary, it advised as essential, an increase in this

sector, which, because of neglect has now reached a dangerously low level. It appreciated that steps taken by government to implement this proposal will not be popular, and comments that 'whilst we must not rob Peter to pay Paul, we feel that it is time that Paul had some consideration'. But the committee does not offer any suggestion as to where 40 experienced doctors are to be found at this time.

The publication of this report has already had repercussions. A substantial and vociferous group within the department has accepted it as a censure on the present departmental administration, and called for the dismissal of these officials. This has provoked an equally substantial and vocal section to issue a letter declaring their confidence in the present secretary of health and his staff.

These demonstrations, however, are but an outward manifestation of an occult division throughout the department, of which the committee could not have been unaware, but upon which it made no comment — namely racial dissonance.

Until this latent suspicion can be overcome and replaced by the mutual tolerance of all races in a united effort for the common purpose, no development plan for any community service in Fiji can truly succeed.



some of our chiefs

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Wallis: Exploring a little known corner of Polynesia



I tried to send a telegram from Vavau to Wallis, but no one in the Neiafu telegraph office seemed to have heard of this island some 500 km to the north-west of Tonga. The operator searched his list of telegraph stations, in vain, and the telegram wasn't sent.

I thought this was an exceptional case, but then the situation repeated itself at the Customs office in Apia, where I was met by the same blank stare when I mentioned Wallis as my next destination. 'Wallis? Where's that?' asked the customs officer full of suspicion, so I patiently explained to him that it was their nearest neighbour to the west. Visibly annoyed with me for not having chosen some better known place for my cruising, he put down 'Wallace' on my clearance papers, but I decided to overlook the spelling mistake as by now I had started having my own doubts about the existence of this mysterious land. Even the modern nautical charts warn the mariner that Wallis may be lying about five miles further to the west than its charted position, so it was with no little satisfaction that I watched a speck of land appearing out of the waves three days after leaving Savaii behind. Thank God, Wallis does exist and, what's more, exactly where it was marked on the map some two centuries ago by the English captain whose name it now bears.

Ashore in Mata Utu, the capital of the group of which Uvea is the largest island, set in a large lagoon, I noticed that the people looked and sounded very much like their brethren to the east. After all, this is still Polynesia, even if the official language is now French. Georges Piliako, the curator of the as yet non-existent museum

Jimmy Cornell, yachtsman and scribe, finds that the island of Wallis does indeed exist, despite the doubts of some people he met in Apia just before his departure. He also found that the Wallisians have shown great skill in preserving ancient Polynesian ways in the modern world, and that among their strongest desires is that they should become better known among their South Pacific neighbours.

of Wallis, didn't seem at all surprised at the ignorance of their neighbours and put the blame squarely on the 'official' language barrier. Wallis, along with Futuna, a slightly larger island to the south-west, are surrounded by English-speaking countries with which the tiny French territory has virtually no contacts at all. There are no regular shipping or air links with neighbouring Tonga, Western Samoa or Fiji, although an air service to Suva and Apia was under consideration. Yet the language and customs of the 6000 Wallisians are very similar to those of Tonga, while the 3000 Futunuans have more in common with the Samoans.

Although the show is very much run by the French administration, the traditional hi-

erarchy has been preserved on both islands, Wallis being still ruled by a king, Futuna by two, one for the district of Singave, one for Alo. I could not speak to the king of Wallis, Lavelua Tomasi Kulimoetoke, because according to custom he is not supposed to be spoken to directly, so instead Georges Piliako took me to the village of Vaimalau, on the western side of the island, to see one of the former district chiefs, Petelo Polelei.

An excellent road runs all around Uvea and nearly all 19 villages that make up Lavelua Kulimoetoke's realm are situated on it. A few people live on some of the smaller islands in the lagoon, the only proper village outside Uvea being on the island of Faioa.

Driving along the hard

packed coral road I was impressed by the neat appearance of the villages, hardly any European type houses being visible anywhere. The traditional thatched Polynesian *fale* has been kept in its original form, although in most instances the plaited pandanus walls have been replaced by corrugated tin walls with openings protected by plywood shutters. Both the walls and the shutters are painted white and blue or white and red giving the villages a cheerful appearance. Nowhere else that I have seen in the Pacific have local style and imported materials been blended so skilfully, thus preserving the airiness and simplicity of the traditional *fale* but taking advantage of the durability of manufactured building materials. Between the villages, the road passes well kept gardens, the greatest part of this fertile island being cultivated. The allocation of the customary lands for planting by villagers, as well as the regular rotation of crops, is one of Lavelua's responsibilities.



Mata Utu's main crossroads, apparently not on a busy morning. Photo Jimmy Cornell.

TRAVEL

Assisted by a number of ministers, the king deals successfully with all such practical matters with the tacit approval of the French administration.

At the southern tip of Uvea, the road passes through Mua, a village dominated by a huge Catholic church, its sombre style being more suitable for the grey skies of Normandy than the sunny South Pacific.

Finally, we arrived at our destination, Vaimalau, the next village along the circular road, pleasantly set on the shores of the western lagoon. Petelo Polelei ceremoniously received us in the *kava* house, adjacent to the main building, where to my surprise the whole village choir had also been summoned. Fresh *kava* was prepared in a large bowl by two young men who throughout the long evening kept a constant supply going for the large congregation. With Georges interpreting from Wallisian into French, Petelo described at length the traditional hierarchy still kept alive on the island, stressing the considerable amount of respect the king still enjoys among his subjects. To prove this, the older members of the choir sang the village of Vaimalau's traditional song of respect for the Lavelua, a stirring chant of pure Polynesian harmony. A few more old chants followed, then the ubiquitous guitar was produced and the rest of the evening was taken over by the younger men who sang a selection of local songs. Georges assured me that the two choirs of Vaimalau are the best in Wallis and will probably represent the territory at the Arts Festival in Port Moresby.

The newly established government radio station has conducted a series of recording



A traditionally shaped Polynesian *fale* (with tin walls) on the island of Wallis stands in sharp contrast with (see right) the typically French brick architecture of the church of Notre Dame in the Wallis/Futuna capital of Mata Utu, and the Levelua's residence, also in Mata Utu. — Photos Jimmy Cornell.

sessions around the island, each of the 19 villages forming the subject of a special programme broadcast on consecutive Wednesdays. In the absence of a local newspaper, the long awaited radio service proved to be a success right from the beginning, even if *Radio Wallis et Futuna* only reaches listeners in Wallis so far. The transmitter should be powerful enough for the signal to be also picked up on Futuna, only 200 km away, but the antenna has proved to be of the wrong type and is also located in an unfavourable position. Teething problems that will soon be sorted out, I was assured by the Parisian director of the radio station, who had been transferred to Wallis after a similar tour of duty in Tahiti.

While in Uvea I witnessed one of the oddities of the French administrative system. Posters were urging all Wallisians of voting age to go to the polls for nothing less than to elect their representative in the European Parliament. These elections attracted little attention among European voters, but it was not so in Wallis where the local people, exercising their constitutional rights as French citizens, had a record turn-out giving the majority of their votes to Mme Simone Veil, minister of health in the Paris government.

Several people told me that a spectacle not to be missed was the weekly arrival of the plane from Noumea, the island's only air link with the

outside world. Every Wednesday the villages empty, everybody heading for the airport at Hihifo. Cars, trucks and micro-buses make for the airport and from the number of motor vehicles on the road it was easy to believe that Wallis has a higher number of vehicles per head of population than any other island in the South Pacific. In pouring rain I was given a lift in the Gendarmerie's Landrover to join the crowds already waiting for the plane. Most of those descending from the chartered Air Nauru flight were coming home for a holiday from their work in New Caledonia, where the Wallisian community is now larger than on Wallis itself. Many of the returning young men were loaded with radios and cassette recorders,



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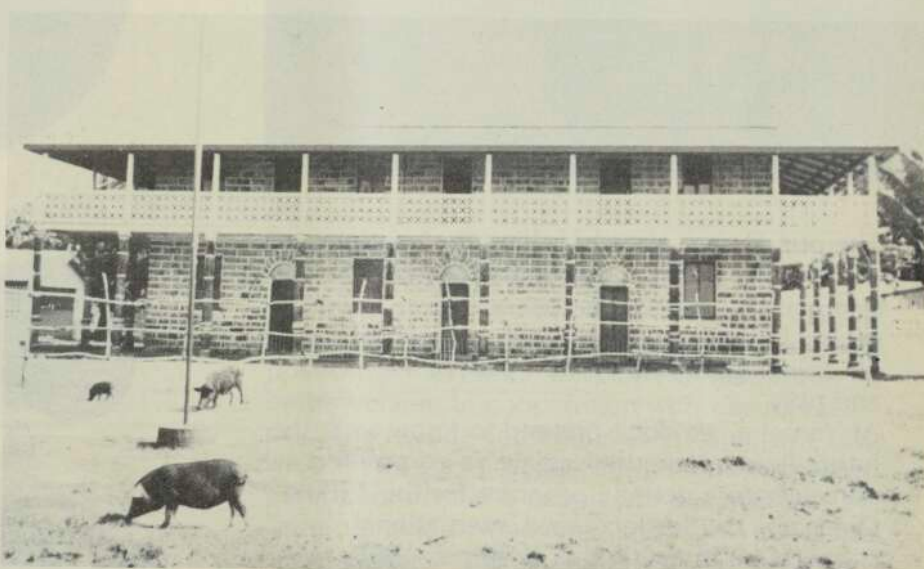
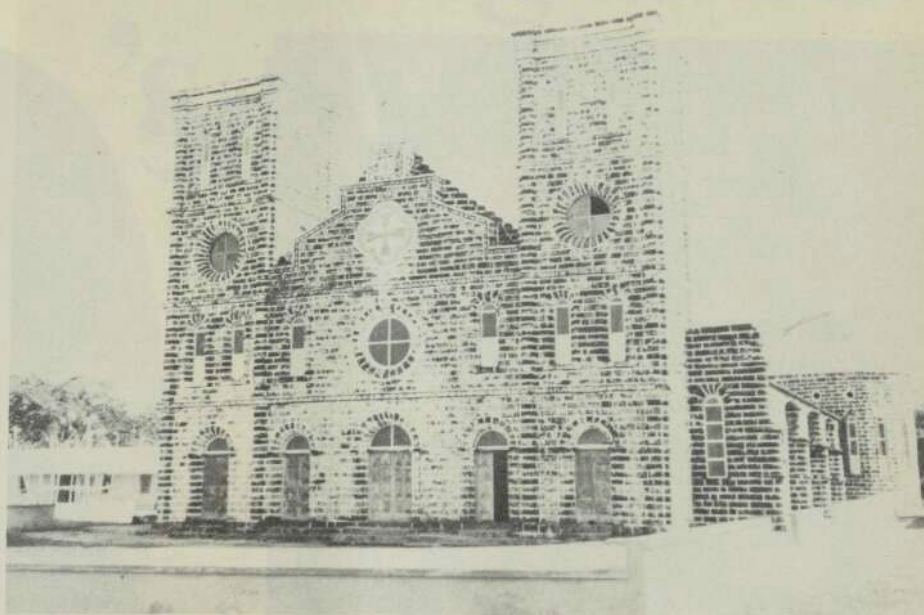
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fancy spear guns and other goodies purchased in Noumea, among them even a sack of French loaves, although Wallis itself has several bakers. Hardly had the garlanding of the homecomers quietened down, when the traditional farewells started for those leaving. There were many tearful scenes especially for those going overseas to do their military service in the French forces. The Frenchman who coined the expression *Partir c'est mourir un peu* must have had a Polynesian departure in mind because for most Polynesians leaving is like dying a little.

Talking to various people in Uvea, I got the impression that both the Wallisians and the French administration feel a bit cut off and would be happy to see some real links with their neighbours. Sport, and especially the South Pacific Games, has provided some opportunity for the Wallisians to make themselves better known among their South Pacific neighbours, but what is lacking are contacts of a more personal nature. One venue where such links could be forged is the forthcoming South Pacific Festival of Arts, and keen competition was already underway to gain a place in the delegation that would represent Wallis in Port Moresby.

Having proved for myself that Wallis does indeed exist I started preparations for the next leg of my Pacific voyage. The last visit I paid was to the Customs office in Mata Utu where I stated my next destination as Tuvalu. 'Tuvalu?' queried the customs officer, 'where is that?'



Fly the birds of paradise

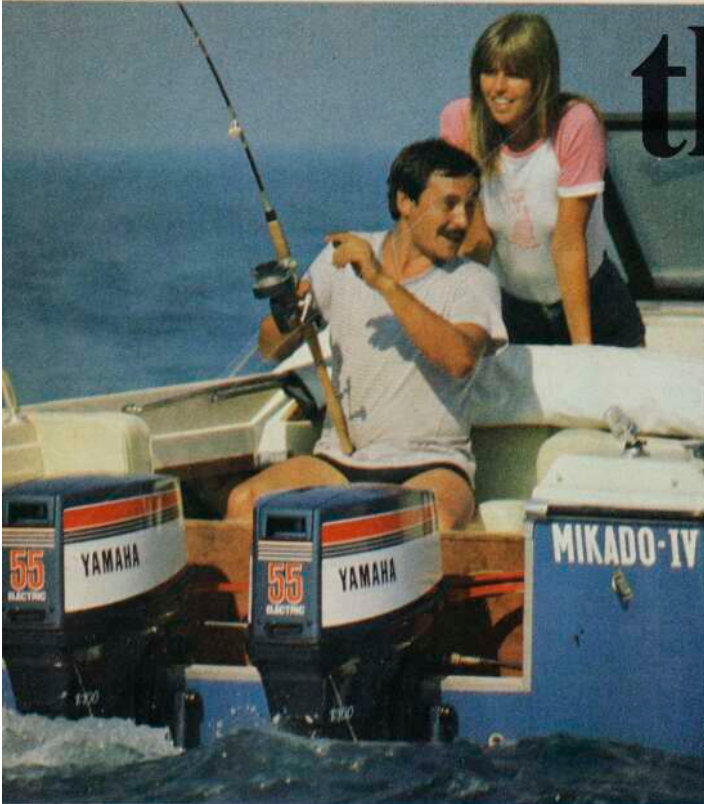
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Yamaha Welcomes the



8

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When they began to roll back the frontiers

By 1935 the worst of the Depression years had been left behind, especially in those islands that already had, or were establishing, gold-mining. Even more traditional ways of earning an honest quid, such as copra production, began to do better.

The period did have its quota of disasters, such as the volcanic eruptions that for a while obliterated Rabaul, then the capital of the Mandated Territory of New Guinea, but on the credit side, long-distance international air transport was making timid beginnings, a development that, while it was not realised at the time, was going to shatter the isolation of even the remotest Pacific Island group for ever.

In exploration, the frontiers of the last unknown part of the Pacific, the vast island of New Guinea, were being rolled back by men like Jack Hides, James Taylor, Ivan and Claude Champion, the Leahys and others.

It was still, by and large, a European Pacific; at any rate, it was the European element that called the shots. To be European then, even if you were an impoverished planter or the lowest grade clerk in some Administration, was to be a big frog in a distinctly small pool.

It was a good life, lived in a certain amount of euphoria; one in which you were aware of what went on in the wide world outside, where Hitler, Mussolini and what PIM called the 'Japanese menace' were

In this, PIM's 50th anniversary year, PIM is reviewing the half-century of news highlights reported in its pages. Last month JUDY TUDOR, former PIM editor and publisher, looked at the first four years. Here, she reviews the busy period from 1935 to 1939 and finds it a time when the Pacific frontiers began to expand, on the ground and in the air.

casting their shadows before, but where it was still impossible for Islands residents to believe that that world could impinge on his own hunk of coral and coconuts or mountain claim and jungle.

Politics: In the sense that it developed later, there was little local politicking, such heat as was generated being the general curses local residents brought down on relevant metropolitan governments in Canberra, Westminster, Paris, Wellington etc. These were generally held to have no appreciation of Islands life and problems.

One exception was the West Samoan Mau which remained unchastened and collected towards the appeal of O.F. Nelson against his 10 years banishment to New Zealand (See PIM Jan).

In May 1935 that appeal failed and there was gloom amongst the faithful in Samoa. However, help was nearer than anyone had a right to think because, at the end of that year, a Labour Government was elected in New Zealand.

Not only did the new boys waive the rest of the Nelson period of banishment but sent him and his family back to Samoa at government expense, despatching three ministers to

form part of the welcome-home committee.

During their visit the ministers announced that most of the laws that had angered the Mau would be repealed; that back tax they had refused to pay would not be collected and that Chinese plantation labourers would be repatriated — something that the Mau was enthusiastic about, but which others were not.

The ministers returned to NZ declaring that they had solved all Western Samoa's problems. PIM predicted that they had not, and was soon proved right.

Believing that it had won a famous victory, the Mau began to throw its weight about in the Fono of Faipule and the Legislative Council which it had hitherto boycotted and managed to oust the non-Mau High Chief Malietoa Tanu from the latter. Those who had been anti-Mau now considered that they were hard done by and Samoa remained split into factions.

Mau-ism, nonetheless, began to lose its *mana* over the years ahead and to merge with a general Samoan desire for independence, which did not occur until 1960.

Meantime in Fiji reorganisation of both the Suva municipi-

pal council and the Legislative Council was proceeding as Whitehall's way of getting round the Indian community's demand for a common-roll.

The demoting of the city council to a nominated town council caused most heat and the outgoing council held a referendum on the subject. Sixty-four voted for the new nominated council, 295 against. The government took no notice and in early 1936 installed seven government town councillors, two nominated Europeans, two nominated Indians and two nominated Fijians.

There was, however, an entertaining tailpiece to the municipal council's demise. At its last meeting it was decided as a sentimental gesture to give the retiring mayor the mayoral chain of office, the nominated board no longer requiring such a bauble.

When the town board auditor discovered this largess he refused to certify the accounts and the ensuing wrangle went on for months. Finally three of the ex-councillors responsible for the gift were taken to court and ordered to pay £13.10 each to the town board, that being the value put upon the mayoral badge of office. The accused refused, took their case to the Supreme Court, where the appeal was upheld.

The Old Unfaithfuls: Around March 1934 copra had sunk to £Stg8 c.i.f. London, its lowest price per ton ever. From there on it seemed that the way it went could only be up.

Sure enough, in January 1935 the price rose to £Stg12.15.0. — approximately

£16 in Australian currency — a rise attributed to the United States dropping its tariff against Philippines copra. Happy days were here again, or so it seemed. New Guinea planters were not even perturbed too much when the moratorium on repayments on plantations bought from the ex-Pro Board introduced in 1930, ended at June 30, 1936. Prices increased through 1936 and in January 1937 rose to a peak of £24 Stg. per ton in London. No one knew why it rose or why, by May 1937, it was back to £16.12 in London and continued to sink.

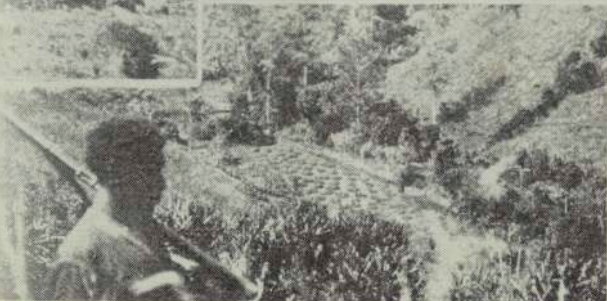
But in November 1937, 33 vessels, 12 of them British, sailed for the Antarctic for the 1937-38 whaling season. The very size of the fleet threw a scare into the already weakened copra market which continued its downward trend. In 1939 it rarely moved beyond £10 in London and at the outbreak of war in September 1939 went into limbo only to emerge in mid-October at a fixed price of £12.17.6 "until further notice".

Rubber, on the other hand, being regarded as a strategic material, kept on steadily rising in price from the mid-thirties, from almost 8d a lb to over 11d in December 1939.

Papuan rubber planters were home on the pig's back, at least for a while, and there was even renewed interest in the old neglected rubber plantations around Navua, Fiji. The only cloud on the rubber horizon was the invention of a synthetic substitute and a report that it was increasingly being used in the US.

Mining: In New Guinea, Bulolo Gold Dredging continued as the star turn. It had originally been thought that bedrock on BGD leases was at an average 22ft, but deep boring had established that that was false 'bottom' and that good returns came from 60 to 180ft. Deep-digger dredges were ordered and the first went into operation in November 1937. At the outbreak of war, eight dredges were working and BGD profit for the year ending May 31, 1939 was \$3,874,085 Canadian.

The other big Morobe gold-



Familiar enough now, but these photographs of the new 'Papuan Wonderland' supplied to PIM by Jack Hides and published in PIM in September 1935, created great interest. They show the wigs and carefully laid-out gardens of the people of the hitherto unknown Central Papuan Plateau, first seen by Hides.

mining company, New Guinea Goldfields, was not so fortunate and during the period under review came in for criticism from its shareholders, the government and PIM.

This company had been formed by a London group in the 1920's and when it entered the field it proceeded to buy up scores of claims and leases, the original owners for the most part receiving shares in NGG in return for their titles. As a result, NGG had a bloated

capital of £5 million and mighty little to show for it in the way of progress. It tied up a large part of the potentially rich ground which remained unproductive and the company was generally regarded as a barrier to progress on the Morobe field.

In April 1935, at a meeting in Sydney, NGG wrote down its capital to £1,118,081 and at the same time declared a dividend of 4% — the last for two years.

50 YEARS OF PIM

In the Solomons, various optimists came up with an occasional report that Guadalcanal could turn out to be another Bulolo (which it never did) and Cuthbert's Misima Gold Mines was doing handsomely by Papua.

But the real gold fever of the mid-30's was centred around the Tavua field in Fiji. After Pat Costello had interested E. G. Theodore in Tavua, and the latter had sent experts to Fiji to assess the find, Theodore and his friends — John Wren, Cody and newspaper magnate Clyde Packer — formed Emperor Gold Mining Co. in October 1934. In January 1935 another company was formed to work the adjacent Loloma leases which were regarded as richer than Emperor.

It was the signal for a mad flurry of Australian speculation, and dozens of Australian syndicates were trying to float what usually turned out to be dud ventures. At the end of 1935 a bill was introduced into Fiji Legco with the idea of stopping the speculation. Under it, proposed gold mining companies had to submit their prospectuses to Fiji's governor for approval.

By 1937 the fever had waned, leaving Fiji with two healthy mines, Emperor and Loloma. They were viable public companies that contributed much to Fiji in the years ahead.

Like all fields, there were stories of hard luck and of good luck. One of good luck concerned W. G. Lawler who had arrived from England in the 1920's and took on an assortment of odd jobs. In 1933 a Melbourne syndicate hired him to peg some leases on the Tavua field, and at the same time Lawler was pressured into buying a lease of 400 acres for himself for £20. The expert sent to Fiji by the syndicate was not impressed with the leases but Lawler decided to stick to his, which he eventually sold to Theodore for £10,000 plus 30,000 shares in what was to become Loloma. The hardest luck story was undoubtedly that of the fellow who had originally owned the lease, considered it worthless and sold it to Lawler for peanuts.

In New Caledonia, the



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interest was in nickel and chrome, not gold, and as war fever increased in Europe the value of these strategic metals increased along with it. Japan became actively engaged in mining in the French colony and PIM issued dire warnings.

Air Transport: In November 1935 Pan American Airways inaugurated a service with large flying-boats from San Francisco via Honolulu, Midway, Wake and Guam, to Manila. The elapsed time was five days and mail and 14 passengers were carried. In the same month, Pan-Am announced its intention of running another service from Honolulu to Auckland, New Zealand. New Zealand was willing, but there followed years of wrangling over reciprocal rights. Imperial Airways/Qantas also having Pacific ambitions.

There were other causes of delay as well, not the least of which was the fatal crash off American Samoa of Pan Am's China Clipper on January 11, 1938, which killed veteran pilot Capt E. C. Musick and his crew.

Nonetheless, Pan Am did make a couple of survey flights to Auckland, the first in April 1937 via Kingman Reef and Pago Pago. This flight took an elapsed time of 13 days — five of them storm-bound in Pago Pago harbour.

Although NZ was co-operating with the airline to get a service going, Canberra, said PIM, was "engaged in niggling opposition".

Because of the development in international aviation there was a quickening interest in formerly useless and neglected coral atolls that might be used as way stops for planes that had not then developed long-range capabilities. In October 1935 the United States formally claimed Howland, Baker and Jarvis Islands. Britain thereafter got busy and landed parties on others, including Christmas Is. to reinforce its claim to them. In July 1937 the U.S. put in a bid for Canton Is. but Britain landed a party there to reassert ownership and other hapless flag-carriers were put



This is how a PIM cartoonist saw Fiji Governor Fletcher when he moved against Fiji goldmining speculation in 1935. The lines say, 'Saint Fletcher and the Fiji Wild Cat'.

ashore to camp on Oeno, Henderson and Ducie. The US/British rivalry was carried out in very gentlemanly fashion even when opposing parties were occupying the same small coral atoll.

Eventually Canton and Enderbury became a British-U.S. joint administration and after World War II it became a fuelling stop between Nadi, and Honolulu. With the introduction of long-range aircraft, Canton was later overflown, although maintained for emergency purposes.

In 1936 Australia called tenders for the Rabaul-Sydney air service and this eventually went to W. R. Carpenter and Co. After many delays, the service got going at the end of May 1938. Four engine de Havilland aircraft were used and the service took three days each way, with overnight stops in Townsville and Salamaua going north, and Port Moresby and Townsville, southbound. Single fare, Sydney-Rabaul or Salamaua, was £35.

Guinea Airways, so successful in New Guinea and Papua, missed out on the Sydney service and in July 1936 finally folded up its Fiji Airways at a meeting of shareholders. It had used small planes in Fiji, equipped with floats as there were no on-shore landing strips. It had failed, the meeting was told, through official indifference and lack of public support. Later, G'Air switched surplus NG equipment to Australia and began an Adelaide-Darwin service.

It was also an era of adventurous non-commercial aviation. The first attempt by Amelia Earhart, famous American woman pilot, to fly around the world ended in March 1937 when her plane crashed on take-off from Honolulu. Within a few months she and her co-pilot Fred Noonan, set off again and reached Lae, New Guinea. On July 2 they left there for the U.S. base at Howland Is, 2600 miles away, and were never seen again.

For years rumours persisted

50 YEARS OF PIM

that they had crashed on one of the Japanese mandated islands, had inadvertently seen secret Japanese fortifications, been imprisoned and later murdered during the Pacific War.

In 1938, while Pan Am's service to Auckland was still grounded, a party led by American millionaire Richard Archbold, flew from San Diego to Hollandia in Dutch New Guinea, all without fuss. They used a three-years old flying-boat named *Guba II* — a colloquial Papuan name for a strong wind. The party was to carry out scientific work on the fauna and flora of (then) Dutch New Guinea.

Pushing Back the Frontier:

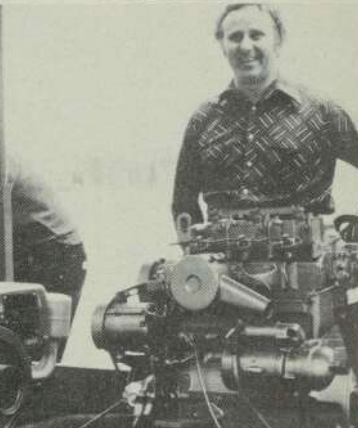
A five months patrol by Assistant Resident Magistrate Jack Hides and Patrol Officer James O'Malley into hitherto unknown parts of Papua ended at Kikori on the Gulf of Papua on June 19, 1935. Via the Fly and Strickland rivers they reached a point 350 miles from their starting point at Daru, crossed a ferocious limestone barrier that cuts across Papua south of the old Mandated Territory border and discovered what over 20 years later was to become part of the Southern Highlands District. For five weeks they followed the thickly populated, intensively cultivated valley of the Tari-Faroro river system, occasionally attacked by hostile natives who refused to sell them food, until the Tari joined the upper reaches of the Kikori River.

Their discoveries complemented those already made in the Mandated Territory highlands by James Taylor and the Leahy brothers.

Hides and O'Malley were given leave in Australia, where they caused a flurry in the media. Hides, who subsequently wrote several books, in this trip contributed articles to Australian newspapers, and the publicity given him did not go down well across the border in New Guinea where equally important patrols had passed almost unnoticed in the Australian press. As PIM pointed out, that was just the luck of the game.

Hides and O'Malley resigned from the Administrat-

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50 YEARS OF PIM

ion and went prospecting for an Australia syndicate in the country they had discovered. No mining eventuated but both contracted a strange form of beri-beri. O'Malley, aged 37, died at Daru in September 1937; Hides, 31, died in Sydney nine months later.

Hides' first book (*Through Wildest Papua*) was published in London in late 1935 and was well received by reviewers in Australia, but PIM complained that the publishers had made the "fatal mistake" of putting a price of 13/6 (\$1.35) on it, and said "Australians won't pay that sort of price for a book!"

In 1936 another important patrol was carried out in Papua by ADO Ivan Champion and Patrol Officer C. Anderson. They left Daru on May 1 and from the end of that month nothing was heard of them until they turned up at Port Romilly at the mouth of the Purari on December 29. Accompanied by 27 volunteer prisoners from Port Moresby gaol, they got as far as present-day Mendi, skirted Mt Giluwe and eventually found their way into the headwaters of the Purari River.

This patrol did not get the sort of publicity given to Hides and when a Dutchman, Dr A. Colijn, succeeded in climbing 16,400 ft Mt Carstens, in Dutch New Guinea, in the same year, it was not even mentioned in the Australian press.

Eruption at Rabaul: Following some days of 'quakes and volcanic rumblings, the citizens of Rabaul were horrified on May 29, 1937 to see a small island called Vulcan, at one side of the harbour, explode into violent eruption. The following day Matupi volcano, on the other side of the harbour, also erupted and the two volcanoes together proceeded to cover the town with layers of ash and pumice. Many people were killed. There was a general exodus and finally 8000 people were temporarily housed in a tent town near Kokopo about 20 miles away.

Volcanic activity continued into June, the formerly flat island of Vulcan ending as a 600 ft peak. European women and children were evacuated to Australia and the men returned

to Rabaul to clean up.

For months dust was a feature of the area and floating pumice a menace to shipping but arguments as to whether Rabaul should be abandoned and a new capital site chosen went on for years. A committee headed by former N.G. Administrator, Brigadier-Gen. T. Griffiths, was set up to locate a site and recommended the tablelands behind Lae. This was rejected by the Australia Government which sent the then Minister for Territories, W. M. Hughes, to take another look. He flew around for a week, then announced that the site would be Salamaua and that a road would be built from there directly over the mountains to Wau.

A storm of protests in New Guinea and Australia followed on both counts. Australia procrastinated and nothing of any note was done before the Pacific War intervened. (After it, Papua and New Guinea were amalgamated and the capital of the combined territories was Port Moresby. The Wau road awaited the war also, was built by the Army, and went by a different route to that chosen by Billy Hughes.)

Here and There: Atimaono Plantation in Tahiti was producing 900 tons of sugar annually and in 1935 a tax on imported sugar was advocated as protection for the local industry. Meanwhile, all thought of sugar planting in Papua had fizzled out — it would have interfered with the Australian industry, especially in relation to its export quota.

• Three missionaries had been killed in 1934, in the recently discovered New Guinea Highlands and as a result the whole area was closed to European settlement for 15 years.

• In March 1935 PIM published news of a new anti-malaria drug, Atebrin, manufactured in Germany. It was claimed that two injections prevented recurrence, which was far from the truth. The drug was to become known to thousands of troops in New Guinea during the war. One of its characteristics was that it turned the skin yellow and it was also suspected by many



Queen Salote and Crown Prince Taufa'ahau (now King Taufa'ahau of Tonga) photographed in Sydney in 1935. PIM printed it in its October issue.

servicemen of having a bad effect on their sex life. In the post-war it was superseded by more effective anti-malarials.

• Brigadier-General H. E. Hart retired as Administrator of Western Samoa in 1935. Mr A. C. Turnbull was appointed Acting Administrator and was still "acting" in 1939. Only the NZ Government seemed to know the reason for the delay and it wasn't saying.

• In 1936 the Union Steam Ship Co's new Islands vessel was christened *Matua* — said to be Maori for "parent".

• Ludwig Schmidt, who had been found guilty of murdering [at least] four New Guinea natives and raping native women, was hanged on March 25, 1936 at Rabaul gaol — the only European in Papua New Guinea ever to meet this fate.

• The Colonial Sugar Refining Co. made pineapple canning in Fiji a viable industry when it purchased plant and interests of two defunct canning companies in October 1936. The industry flourished until the best pineapple growing land was taken over at the beginning of the Pacific war to construct Nadi Airport.

• For most Islands residents the abdication of King Edward VIII in December 1936 came as a complete shock. Few had heard of Mrs Simpson. Notes from the Cook Islands, published in January PIM, said: "After a careful censorship of events which culminated in the abdication, information of an attenuated nature was released for the benefit of the native population. The Resident

Commissioner read out the public proclamation of accession of King George VI. Beyond the fact that the crown of Beritane has changed hands, the average Rarotongan knows little or nothing of what has recently transpired and that little is a strangely mangled version of the facts."

• In February 1937 the price of a copy of PIM went up by twopence — to eightpence.

• In the 1937-38 financial year, Papua cost Australia £48,810; New Guinea, £3650; and Norfolk Is. £4080. PIM asked editorially: "Is Norfolk Island worth £4,000 a year to Australia?"

• T. H. Harrison, an English ornithologist who took on the role of anthropologist when he spent some time in the New Hebrides, stirred up Condominium residents when his book (*Savage Civilization*) was published in 1938. Although defended by the celebrated Miss Evelyn Cheeseman, FRES, FZS, he was generally regarded in the NH as an eccentric who didn't know what he was talking about in relation to Big Nambas, or anything else in the condominium.

• By 1939 two-thirds of the total area of Papua had been parcelled out to oil prospecting companies — Papua Oil Development Ltd, Island Exploration Co. Pty Ltd; Oriomo Oil Ltd and Papuan Apinaipi Petroleum Co. Ltd.

• In mid-May 1938, the Sigatoka-Navua section of Fiji's Queen's Rd was completed, making it possible for the first time to drive right round Viti Levu.



Two highly qualified reviewers here look at two recent books that deal with aspects of the development of Islands medical services. Sir John Gunther who has a medical degree, is a former Papua New Guinea Director of Health and vice-chancellor of the University of PNG. Dr Leonard Goodman is a former surgeon with wide administrative experience in the Islands and Africa, including the post of senior tutor in surgery at the Fiji School of Medicine.

The first barefoot doctors

That They Might Live, by Ellen Kettle. Published by F. P. Leonard, 110 Bathurst St, Sydney. \$A20

That extraordinary, imaginative Australian, Dr 'Nugget' Coombs, arranged for the Commonwealth Reconstruction Training Scheme to be used for the communities of Papua and New Guinea. In Australia the scheme was to train individual returned servicemen, in Papua and New Guinea it could be applied to those communities affected by war. Was there one that hadn't been?

And so in 1946 the Department of Public Health was able to set up what became known as the aid post orderly training scheme. It had its own cash funds, and the department could deal directly with the Commonwealth War Disposals Commission. Five special schools were rapidly set up, and then a sixth. The idea was to promote in the quickest way possible a widespread grass roots net-work of village aid posts.

Four principles were established: a village would volunteer to enter the scheme; they would select a trainee, who need have no *lingua franca* indeed, he would be illiterate; they would build him a house; and plant a garden. The Department of Public Health would train him to treat the killer diseases: pneumonia, dysentery, malaria, cerebro-spinal meningitis. He would be taught to give intramuscular injections and if found adaptable enough, intravenous injections.

He would work for his own community and those adjoining, otherwise he would lead a normal village life. He would be paid about half the wage of the hospital assistant. The training would take a year at least, or as long as was required.

In 1946 the population of

Papua and New Guinea was estimated to be in excess of 1,000,000. The aim was to train one of these special orderlies for each 1000 of population. Years later, China using the same principles, launched the 'barefoot doctor' and earned world wide kudos, when in fact it was a marked first for Papua and New Guinea.

Matron Kettle, in her *That They Might Live*, seems to miss the main thrust of this 1946 scheme. Matron Kettle's book is dedicated to the Christian missionaries of Papua New Guinea.

Anything that brings back memories of friends and acquaintances is always pleasant. How well I remember Sister Clematia, of Anelaua Leprosy Hospital, with habit flying behind her like some great white bird of prey, as she came hurtling down the hill on her bicycle to greet and not to repel her visitors as their ship approached her island's jetty.

Then there were Constance Fairhall of Gemo, and Sister Camillus of St. Theresa's Hospital who got what they needed by their obvious devotion. Give them their inch and they could stretch it to their mile! And Theodore Braun and Agnes Hoeger — splendid doctors; the industrious survivors of the horrors of Ramale; and Jean Henderson and Pat Durdin, heroines of the disastrous Mt. Lamington volcanic eruption; Dorothy Beale and many, many others. They are all in *That They Might Live*.

The comings and goings of other nursing pioneers are recorded; whom they married and what children they had. There are anecdotes and many stories, some of which I'm sure are apocryphal. When put together it is the saga of brave people wanting to serve — suffering hardships, and indignities, improvising, and seldom if ever giving up.

Matron Kettle has managed to put together not only the activities of individual missionaries but some of the history of their church's secular role. She has taken more than 300,000 words to do it, although included are only brief mentions of government activity, which are sometimes critical and often incorrect, especially when she accuses the late Senior Matron Thorburn of being interested only in European hospitals.

In fact, Matron Kettle's comments about the development of health policy in 1946-47 made from hearsay and 23 years afterwards, are at the best her own views. Matron Kettle did not herself encounter the social and resource problems of that time, and the priorities. It is unfortunate that she should misspell the name of Mrs D. E. Ure, so well respected, who laboured greatly to relieve the lot of the Hanuabadans in those early days, as 'Ewer'.

The man behind Suva's FSM

Misi Utu: Dr. D. W. Hoodless and the Development of Medical Education in the South Pacific. By Margaret W. Guthrie. Published by the Institute of Pacific Studies, University of the South Pacific, Suva. Price unavailable.

It would have been quite impossible for Dr. Margaret Guthrie to have written her father's biography without at the same time relating the history of the development of medical education in Fiji, with which the name of David Winn Hoodless is synonymous. The two stories are intertwined.

Hoodless himself, born at the end of the 19th century in Nottingham, England, found his way to the Queen Victoria

BOOKS



That They Might Live although well worth-while, very badly needed a competent editor. The layout into regions and towns and missions is laborious; there is much repetition — we are told at least three times that Dr Cleazy trained as a reconstruction surgeon in Vellore, India. There are many errors of fact — Sogeri was not a jungle but a well developed plantation area before the 1939-45 war; there is much misspelling; some maps are almost impossible to use; the 300,000 words should be cut to 120,000; and it is a pity the covers were not of better material (those on my copy after three days are bent and disfigured). On the other hand the index seems excellent.

Matron Kettle is back in the Northern Territory. I wonder why the Commonwealth and the State governments have never used Papua New Guinea's medical teaching facilities to train aborigines to care for their own. — John Gunther.

College, Suva, in 1911 as an assistant master, and from there to the Lau provincial school in Lakeba in 1915 where, in this remote situation, he became an expert in the Fijian language

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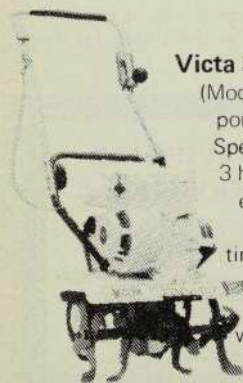
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and Fijian custom and, finally found a new interest in the study of human anatomy and physiology which made him determined to study medicine.

He had already, before arriving in Fiji, won himself a BSc in mathematics and had held academic appointments at the University of Manchester and the Nautical Training College, HMS Worcester.

With the ending of the war in 1918, DWH found himself with two years accumulated leave, during which he went to London and completed the pre-clinical course in medicine at King's College Hospital Medical School.

When he returned to Fiji it was as superintendent of schools, and in this position he made no secret of his conviction that a corps of young Fijians should be assisted to obtain an educational and societal background to fit them for future responsibilities. This was regarded at that time as an extremely radical view, but Hoodless persisted, and amongst those who benefited from his foresight were the late Ratu Jone Doviverata (brother of the late Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna) and who became the first Fijian graduate in medicine, from the University of Otago and as Dr. Tom Dovi, a much-loved medical officer in Fiji.

But Dr. Hoodless' story really starts in 1883, when Dr. (later Sir) William McGregor, chief medical officer of Fiji, had been so concerned at the devastating effects of introduced diseases to which the Fijian had no natural immunity, and fearful of a smallpox epidemic which could arise with the continuing influx of Indian migrant labour, conceived the idea of training a few Fijian youths of rank in the elements of the recognition and treatment of disease, and practical vaccination.

These young men were legally certified as Native Medical Practitioners, and under supervision, sent to remote areas where their newly acquired knowledge — reinforced by their social status — enabled them to give practical, if elementary, treatment, and

to vaccinate the population against smallpox.

The first NMP's were certified in 1888, and they proved so successful that they were in demand even in neighbouring territories. Over the years the course of training was greatly extended, and the opening of the Colonial War Memorial Hospital in Suva in 1923 marked a great advance in their training and the development of the medical services in Fiji.

About this time, Dr. S. M. Lambert of the Rockefeller Foundation was working in the South Pacific on public health measures, and was so impressed by the skilled assistance he received from NMP's that he suggested a Central Medical School be established in Suva to take young men from all South Pacific territories for training. With a substantial grant from the Rockefeller Foundation and the support of neighbouring administrations, the school enlarged, extended and renamed Central Medical School, opened in 1928 with D. W. Hoodless as its first principal.

It was in this role that Hoodless' educational experience, his genius for communication, and his extrovert personality found their fullest expression, and he, his life's work.

With students from different language areas the teaching had to be in English, and Hoodless not only had the task of organising and running the school, but also of ensuring that the students' knowledge of English became adequate for the basic science course and subsequent clinical instruction at the CWM Hospital. He had by this time married Hilda Adlington, headmistress of the Suva Girls' Grammar School.

In October 1934, while on leave in England, he completed his qualifying examinations from Charing Cross Hospital Medical School, after which he returned to Fiji to continue his work at the Central Medical School until his retirement in 1947. The school continued to expand and instruction was extended continuously to keep pace with the increasing complexities of modern medicine.

The present main building at Tamavua — a gift from the UK Government — was opened by the Queen in 1953, and in 1961 renamed the Fiji School of Medicine, and its qualified students, medical officers.

The progressive development and improvement of the academic instruction brought unexpected problems. On one hand some students complained that after so long and complete a course they finished not with a degree but a diploma which is not recognised for general registration outside Fiji (although it is now recognised by the Australasian Royal Colleges for entry to the Fellowship Examinations).

On the other hand there was the converse where some students complained that after such a long, technical training they were posted to rural areas or remote islands where they were frustrated and angry that their knowledge and skill did not have, in those situations, the supporting facilities they had been trained and taught to use and expect.

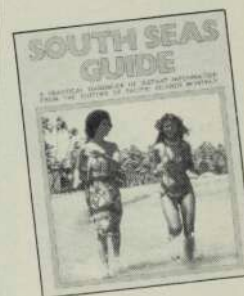
From time to time there have been suggestions that the training at the FSM should be up-graded to a degree course, but until now the heavy cost of establishing a medical faculty at the young University of the South Pacific has rendered these suggestions unacceptable.

However, presumably in anticipation of this, in 1975 the Ministry of Health in Fiji, instituted a three-year course for medical assistants, and so medical education in Fiji has gone full circle from its origin in 1888, and once again there is established a two-tier standard of medical care.

Hoodless retired to Suva and continued a very active life in the educational, medical and social fields, and travelled widely. It was during a visit to England that he died in 1954.

Those of us who knew him are now few, but his work will be remembered not only by the Hoodless House extensions of the FSM at the CWM Hospital, but by this monograph — long overdue — and which should be required study for all students at the FSM — past, present and future. — *Leonard Goodman*

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Touring Tahiti by leaps and bounds

Tahiti, Oasis of the South Pacific. By John H. Bounds, Maverrick Publishing House, Box 243, Bend, Oregon, USA. \$44.95.

This is not a scientific study or a textbook. Nor is it a guide-book, a manual or a travel book. And it is definitely not a novel or a work of literary merit. What is it then? Well, the only thing I can say for certain is that there are 160 printed pages glued together and provided with a blue cover representing a Tahitian girl with the word TAHITI on her belly.

The title, *Tahiti, Oasis of the South Pacific*, I find equally puzzling. Tahiti is an island and an oasis is a pool of water. I am at a loss to understand what the author means, unless he simply wants to say that Tahiti is a popular drinking place.

The author of the book is an American professor of geography at the Sam Houston State University whose information too often reads like a literal translation of the text in French tourist folders. Take these for instance:

'Tahiti and French Polynesia are marketed as tropical paradise islands to the mid-latitude citizen and their offerings are typical of what many other tropical islands offer to the vacation-conscious person.'

'The arts and crafts of Tahiti were at one time more varied in the traditional sense of the term than they are at present.'

'The local culture has a permanent schism with European culture.'

I find it quite revealing that Professor Bounds acknowledges a deep debt of gratitude to the French Tourist Board in Tahiti, the French airline UTA, the French Geographical Institute, 'and various branches of the French Government that provided research assistance'.

Considerably more annoying than the atrocious style are

the countless factual errors and the unwarranted or thoroughly biased interpretations of Tahitian culture and history which are to be found on almost every page. Most offensive to me is the author's racist mentality. The Tahitians are simply exotic specimens in a human zoo to be gaped and laughed at. For instance, though cannibalism never existed in Tahiti, the subject is deemed so titillating that the author, nevertheless, devotes much space to it. His foregone conclusions prove, of course, the civilising influence of the French colonisers: 'Cannibalism definitely occurred in the French area as late as the 1860s but was declared illegal by French law from the very beginning of their colonial government. The eating of other human beings was not a usual activity for most Polynesians, but a serious shortage of food and starvation sometimes incited the taking of human life for meat purposes.'

Another classic topic, analysed in the same ponderous vein, is the delightfully immoral life of the Tahitian 'hula girls'. Believe it or not, but 'many a European man took a Tahitian wife while he was in Tahiti, regardless of whether he was married to a European woman or not'. Of course, things like that never happen in Europe. Quite surprisingly, some native girls seem to have human feelings, for the author assures us in the same deadpan style: 'It is known that Tahitian girls have shown genuine love.' But that's not the whole frightful story: 'Europeans have been known to take advantage of Tahitian girls in these love affairs from the first explorers through the 1870s and even in the 1970s.' Let us hope the situation improves in the 1980s.

Interspersed with these masterful scientific analyses there are also many practical hints. As for instance: 'There may be

a need for some protective covering for those who have to be out in the weather.' And what do you do, if you get sick? No, you could never have thought of that yourself: 'The hotel desk, travel personnel, or the police or gendarme will help you contact a doctor.' This is probably what you will want to do right away, if you have read, in the plane, what Bounds has to say about the health situation in Tahiti: 'Malnutrition is almost universal in French Polynesia. Tuberculosis, syphilis, the common cold, pneumonia, elephantiasis (filariasis), tetanus, typhoid, leprosy, ulcers and others are common diseases that decimate the population.' After reading this chapter, the badly-shaken reviewer offered a prayer of thanks to the Almighty for being still alive. Since most tourists come to Tahiti in order to have fun, I think they should be warned not to do so on the dates suggested by the author. For the truth is that most of the events in his calendar of annual feasts are either no longer celebrated at all or consist of nothing more than nebulous plans that will never materialise. The strangest item is something called Adhesion Day, supposedly occurring every year on September 2, because this was the date when the local French settlers 'adhered' to General de Gaulle's Free French movement in 1940. I hope all prospective visitors will take my advice which is that almost any other day of the year will be better for converging on Papeete than this fictitious 'Adhesion Day.'

The book is illustrated with photographs showing mostly dreary buildings in Papeete, torn down years ago. There is, of course, also a sprinkling of so-called 'hula girls'. The prize goes to the picture of a Tahitian fashion model posing on the beach, with the caption: *The Traditional Tamare (hula). U.T.A. — Genest*. Supposing that *tamare* is a misprint for *tamure*, this is certainly not a traditional dance at all but the most modern of them all. And whatever the girl in the picture is up to, she certainly does **not** dance the *tamure*.

Bengt Danielsson

A case of cricket cargo

Melanesian Cargo Cults. By Friedrich Steinbauer. Published by University of Queensland Press. \$25.

Dr Steinbauer, an anthropologist and Lutheran missionary, has spent many years collecting and studying the cargo cults of Irian Jaya, Papua New Guinea, and islands further east as far as Fiji. In all, he has gathered information about 186 cultic movements in the Melanesian zone, itself a labour of devotion and meticulousness.

In the present book, Dr Steinbauer presents short accounts of 39 of the movements, followed by a systematic interpretation of their tendencies and characteristics. It must be said, I think, that the attempt to describe such a large number of cults in under 100 pages of text tends to deprive them of the colour and originality each displays, so that at times the reader grows weary of the repetition of general facets of cult activity such as the establishment of depots to receive the anticipated but invariably non-materialising artefacts of the white man's industrial world.

Nonetheless, there is fascinating material in these accounts, some of which of course have been recounted in greater detail by Peter Lawrence, Peter Worsley and other cult analysts whose contributions are fully documented and acknowledged. After all, any subject which combines such diverse and engaging elements as naive magic, political rebellion, free love, and 'patrons' as varied as President Johnson and the French Communist Party, can hardly be dull.

My favourite story comes from Fiji, where officials sought to capture cargo passions and redirect them into the thoroughly safe and approved channels of cricket, with unexpected results: 'Everywhere

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BOOKS

new cricket clubs were opened ... and a multitude of offices with high-sounding names were created, such as major-general, lord high admiral, and secretary for foreign affairs. Soon the play became serious. The group elected its own governor, and a supreme court judge. The cricket clubs became the cells of a political movement ...

Friedrich Steinbauer well understands, however, that behind these often bizarre manifestations there lie serious and profoundly moving crises brought on by the attempt of Melanesians to comprehend, assimilate and adapt to rapid and drastic changes which have vastly changed their lives and upset the cosmology by which their ancient ways were ordered. Indeed, I believe that Dr Steinbauer, in his introduction, is inclined to over-dramatise the current significance of the cultic movements by claiming that 'they affect indeed the worldwide political, religious and intellectual spheres in which we are all involved' and that 'what takes place today in

the Pacific is of greater importance than was once thought'.

These are obviously truisms in one sense, but they tend to downgrade the *overall* tendency over time for the cults to become transformed into or subsumed within movements with more modern aims and procedures, such as co-operatives, welfare associations and even political parties. Cults and cult manifestations will be with us for some time to come, and the aspirations and frustrations they express will surface in many different forms, but they themselves are essentially transitional movements which are in the process of being transcended.

Dr Steinbauer has elaborated the most comprehensive and detailed typology of the cargo cults to date. Broadly, he divides them into three groups based on their predominant characteristics: 64% are labelled magico-mechanical, having the acquisition of wealth as their main aim; 18% are classed as religious in

nature; and a further 18% are viewed as primarily social-political. The predominance of each type is related to a specific environment: magical cults are concentrated among mountain dwellers, religious cults among the more sophisticated coastal populations bordering Indonesia and Polynesia, and political cults among long-established marine populations with a well-defined identity. Dr Steinbauer goes well beyond this ordering, however, exploring such variables as bioclimatic differences, the influence of drugs, and the characteristics of the leaders.

A full analysis of the Steinbauer technique would require a learned article to do it justice. I can only say that, while I find his samples often too small to support his conclusions, and the data on many of the cult movements too sparse to justify firm type-casting, there is undoubtedly much in his approach to stimulate further specialist study in the field. The general reader may find this half of the book dense and technical. — Rex Mortimer

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TRADE WINDS

Blue Chip out, Barclays in on Tuvalu

Tuvalu plans to withdraw the \$550 380 which Prime Minister Toalipi Lauti invested with Californian real estate dealer Mr Sidney Gross and his Blue Chip Realty Investments. (PIM, May, 1979, p42). The money is needed to buy the Tuvaluans a share in a bank which Barclays Bank International will establish in Tuvalu as a joint venture with the Tuvalu Government.

Parliament was told at its December session that the government had accepted proposals from Barclays to establish the bank with the government owning 75% and Barclays 25% of the capital share issue. Prime Minister Lauti said the money invested with Blue Chip Realty was now needed for the banking venture. The long-term aim was for Tuvalu to acquire Barclays' share so that, eventually, the bank would be wholly owned by the government and people of Tuvalu.

While at Funafuti last September, Mr Gross told the Prime Minister that the original investment had earned \$31 560.50 so that Tuvalu's stake in Blue Chip was almost \$582 000 by last September. While in Funafuti Mr Gross asked for a charter to open a bank in Tuvalu. No further information was offered to Parliament by the Prime Minister.

The 'Speech from the Throne' given by the Speaker, Elia Tavita, in the absence through illness of the Governor-General, Sir Fiatau Penitela, was strongly criticised by the four-member Opposition which claimed that the government used the speech for self-praise. Mr Faati Naisali (Nukulaelae) challen-

ged the government to have Parliament dissolved and have fresh elections because he was losing confidence in the government's policies.

Opposition members also attacked the government's monetary policies, alleging that so far as money was concerned, Tuvalu's relations with the United Kingdom had gone sour and complicated when, previously, they were simple and easy.

FROM COPPER INTO GOLD?

If the price of gold keeps rising, perhaps Bougainville Copper will change its name to 'Bougainville Gold', according to a January comment by an Australian financial writer.

The price of gold had just passed \$US600 an ounce on world markets.

The 740 000 ounces of gold produced annually on Bougainville had a current market value of just over \$A400 million. This compared with the market value of \$350 million of its annual production of 175 000 tonnes of copper.

If the price of gold remains anywhere near present levels, Bougainville's profits would benefit very considerably — as would the Papua New Guinea Government, which is entitled to 70% of 'excess' profits made by the company.

NEW PAPER ON GUAM

The *Guam Tribune*, the island's second daily newspaper, struggled into existence on December 1, 1979. The first 120-page, tabloid-size issue featured a congratulatory letter from the White House addressed to publisher Mark Pangilinan and signed by President Jimmy Carter.

The *Tribune*, christened by 50 people who shared a US \$1000 prize in a pre-publication contest, is the capstone in Mark Pangilinan's commercial empire on Guam. The astute, 51-year-old Filipino entrepreneur laid his business cornerstone when he arrived on the war-ravished island.

In 1946 the 18-year-old

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sailor from the Philippines was persuaded to establish a tailoring shop to cater to the thousands of Filipino construction workers who were too small in stature for available U.S. ready-to-wear garments. His string of prosperous companies, which employ 1000 persons, ranges from a propane gas distributor and Honda automobile dealership to a five-storey department store with supermarket and escalators. His only serious business blunder was a million-dollar amusement park which failed to catch the interest of honeymooning Japanese tourists.

Marcus Pangilinan's organisational and management skills have been lent to the Guam Power Authority and the University of Guam Board of Regents. He served successfully as chairman of both bodies, an accomplishment of no little significance for a high-school graduate. Pangilinan has also been a central, unifying figure in the linguistically

and politically divided Filipino community of Guam, which treats him as an elder statesman.

The *Guam Tribune* meets the *Pacific Daily News* (PDN) head-on in the morning market. The 'Trib' bills itself as "your community newspaper," a jab at the national and international scope of its competitor, the western link in the hundred-U.S.-cities Gannett newspaper and television chain, which proclaims that it is published "Where America's day begins."

The *Tribune's* maiden issue, which was delivered free to every household in Guam, followed on the heels of three mediocre practice issues. Major technical problems cropped up in establishing a dependable connection with the Washington Post/Los Angeles Times Wire Service. Most of the syndicated comic strips got lost in the mail and the new equipment for processing photographs onto rubberised mats arrived in defective condition.

On the positive side, the publisher corralled a four-months' supply of newsprint in a tight-supply market.

The Compugraphic typesetter, which produces type from strips of film, and the new 8-unit Goss Community web offset press, which prints a single-colour, 64-page edition at 18,500 copies per hour, have worked perfectly, except during a four-hour island power cut which occurred the day before the printing plant's emergency power generator was hooked up.

George M. Dobry came in from California as associate publisher and Glenda Moore, an experienced figure in Guam newspaper work, is managing editor. Moore writes the editorials.

In the paper's first week the staff squarely faced the difficult decision whether to print a news story that came out of the local courts. The *Tribune* broke the news that Mrs Jan Chargualaf Tanaka, wife of

Thomas Tanaka, speaker of the Guam Legislature, had requested separate maintenance for herself and their six children and a monthly stipend of US\$3,500 on grounds that he had committed adultery. Mrs Mary Elaine Sa Nicolas Cadigan, the director of the Guam Department of Education, was named in the suit. The 'Trib' reported this with a headline on page 4. The PDN buried the same report in police news the following day.

Subsequently, Mrs Cadigan submitted letters of resignation to Gov. Paul Calvo and to the elected Board of Education. She wrote that she wished to pursue 'further studies in education.'

Advertising money is the lifeblood of Guam's communications media. With two commercial colour television stations (including a multi-channel island-wide cable TV company) and four commercial radio stations seeking

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shares of the advertising expenditures of a rather anaemic, if not artificial, civilian economy, can the inflation afflicted Guam public afford to support another 25¢ daily?

Whether it can or not, it appears that the M.V. Pangilinan family of enterprises, always heavy advertisers in the pages of the *PDN*, are cautiously beginning to throw a share of their budgets in favour of their sibling, the *Guam Tribune*. The reading public, still hungry for the variety of news it was promised, has found the hard news in the two papers largely repetitious.

When establishment of the *Tribune* was still a rumour, Joseph C. Murphy, editor of the rival *PDN* for over a decade, estimated that an investment of four million dollars would be required to start a new daily in Guam. Publisher Pangilinan recently stated that he is committed to keeping the fledgling newspaper alive for three years. — Larry Lawcock

NAURU FLIES TO NZ

A weekly air service between Nauru and Auckland began on December 1. And Nauru's consul-general, Mr Les Davis, expects trade between the two countries to 'take-off' with the arrival of a fast, direct and reliable air service between the two countries.

Air Nauru is offering a special commodity freight rate of 38¢ a kilogram for perishable goods as an incentive for Auckland exporters.

The one-way economy fares to Nauru (\$271), Port Vila (\$170) and Honiara (\$230) are well below those available on other airlines.

From December 8 Air Nauru's flight schedule was for a 10.30 pm arrival at Auckland on Saturdays and a 12.15 pm departure the next day.

The inaugural flight on December 1 was celebrated that night at Auckland's swish Hotel Inter-Continental when President Hammer DeRoburt hosted a buffet dinner. The

following day New Zealand's Transport Minister Colin Maclachlan joined the President on the return flight.

Air Nauru won landing rights to Auckland after a seven-year battle with the New Zealand Government. President DeRoburt explained why the republic wanted to fly here when he opened the Consulate-General in Auckland a year ago. He said then that it would enhance closer relations between the two countries and help Air Nauru's 'north-south operation' — the linking of New Zealand and Australia with Central Pacific islands like Guam and Kiribati.

He agreed that Nauru was turning to New Zealand rather than its traditional mentor Australia for certain kinds of assistance.

Almost all the expatriates working on Nauru come from New Zealand. Others are being recruited. Six couples will go there in January to take up teaching posts and seven computer operators are wanted. — James Tully

NC NICKEL, NZ SMELTER?

A New Zealand businessman, Ernest Smith, wants to process New Caledonian nickel ore at a new smelter he plans to build in the South Island.

'We have the energy, New Caledonia has the ore,' he says. 'We're islands in the same area — I think we should be helping each other.'

New Zealand's renewable energy resources would be a major attraction for such a plant — and the New Caledonian ore is of high quality.

French trade commissioner in New Zealand, Christian Beaupou says his office has approached five large groups on Mr Smith's behalf.

Should the right partner turn up, finding the \$60 million required for the project might not be much of a problem. The plant would be a small one by world standards.

New Zealand's Minister of Energy, Mr Birch, said that Mr Smith's company, NZ Nickel

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Smelters Ltd, could negotiate a bulk electricity tariff concession with the government.

NAURU: SEABORN POWER?

Nauru is moving heavily into an experiment designed to generate electricity by using temperature differences in the sea. If the experiment is successful the Nauru Government will order four 2500 kw plants at an estimated cost of \$60-80 million. The electricity will be used to desalinate water which will be used for the island's agriculture. Contractor for the project is the Tokyo Electric Power Service Company Ltd.

CI PRODUCE FOR USA

The door permitting Cook Islands produce to enter the United States mainland opened a little in December when the US Department of Agriculture approved the entry of CI fresh pineapple, taro and tarua.

The items are the first from a list of CI produce to be given the go-ahead. The list was sent to the USDA by Cooks Premier Dr Tom Davis.

Describing the move as 'a useful start', a CI Ministry of Agriculture spokesman said there were still many CI products for which entry rights were being sought. One of these is pawpaw. The spokesman said he believed the local variety would be welcomed by American consumers.

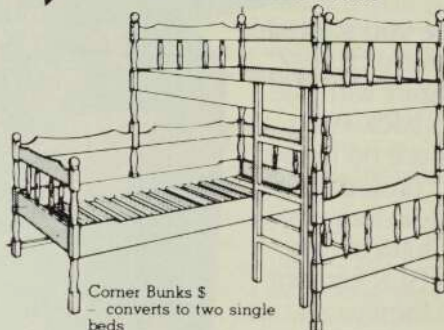
BHANABHAIS SELL BIG

In one of the biggest foreign property investments in Fiji for some time, a trust company, Prescom, has paid a total of \$F2 025 000 for two buildings in central Suva, the Hotel Suva and a property on the corner of Cumming St and Renwick Rd. Prescom Ltd is a Fiji-registered company with head office in the Channel Islands and three Dutchmen as directors. Both properties were sold by the Bhanabhai family, most of whom live in Hong Kong or India.



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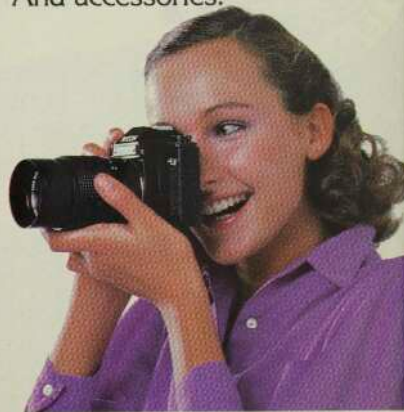
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FIJI ELECTRICITY Authority launched mid-December a \$2.5 million bond issue to help finance the Monasavu hydro-electricity scheme in Viti Levu. Fifteen year bonds totalling \$1.5 million will return 8.4% a year interest and the balance of \$1 million is at 7.5% for five years.

COMMERCIAL BANKS in Fiji are restricting loans to duty free dealers, Bank of New Zealand regional manager John Galt has said according to a *Fiji Times* report. Mr Galt said this was in line with the Central Monetary Authority's guidelines that banks should lend more to 'productive' areas and less to duty free store owners with stockpiles of goods. Those dealers had a lot of dead stock financed by bank overdrafts.

EMPEROR GOLD Mining Company at Vatukoula, Fiji, recruited 234 workers last year, bringing the payroll figures to 889 by the end of November, demonstrating the improvement in mining operations. If exploration, which has increased, uncovers more gold deposits, the workforce will be increased to 1600.

NAURU HOUSE, the 52-storey building in Collins Street, Melbourne, one of Nauru's intelligent investments, which can house a bigger population than the island, has a new, and impressive tenant, the Australian Conciliation and Arbitration Commission. And all eyes and ears were on the building recently. The first decision to come out of the commission's quarters was the ruling of the Full Bench on the national wage hearing.

THE DRAMATIC December take-over of the giant Australian company Ansett Transport Industries by media tycoon Rupert Murdoch was aided by the action of the Nauru Phosphate Royalties Trust in selling to Murdoch 1 075 000 shares it held in Ansett.

The sale took place at a critical moment for the massive take-over bid.

KIRIBATI announced in January that it would increase customs tariffs on a wide range of consumer goods including staple foods, beer and tobacco to compensate for loss of revenue from phosphate mining on Banaba. Finance Minister Tiwau Awira said in his budget speech that 1980 revenue would fall by more than \$A7 million compared with 1979. Estimated total revenue was \$13 million.

THE AUSTRALIAN Government has decided not to approve a new air fares package proposed by the International Air Transport Association (IATA) for the Australia-Japan route. The Australian Minister for Transport, Mr Hunt, said in December that one of the fares proposed for a Sydney-Tokyo round trip is about 50% higher on a cents per kilometre basis and the comparable fare for a Sydney-Singapore round trip. He said a request for immediate talks had been made to the Japanese Government.

AIR PACIFIC has decided to buy two more Brazilian-built Bandeirante aircraft. The Fiji airline already operates one Bandeirante. Air Pacific's net profit for 1978-79 was \$151 000, compared with \$627 000 in the previous year. The loss occurred in spite of increases in earnings and passenger and cargo business. There was a loss of \$500 000 caused by delays in starting extra flights to New Zealand.

BURNS, Philp & Co gained control of more than 50% of the ordinary capital of Hanimex Corporation Ltd, manufacturers of photographic and electronic equipment, over the end-of-year period. In late December BP bought 40% of Hanimex for \$19 million from Melbourne businessmen Abe Goldberg and Morris Joss. Subsequent acquisitions brought its share to 52%.

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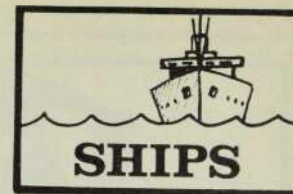


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Whatever happened to British ships serving Pitcairn?



The editor of *Pitcairn Miscellany*, the monthly newsletter of Pitcairn Island, recently had something to report about the dearth of ships now serving the island — particularly British ships.

Pitcairn has two kinds of shipping visitors — trans-Pacific vessels which make a stop at the island if the mood and weather permit, and supply ships which bring in regular supplies and occasional visitors or returning islanders from New Zealand. There are also occasional visiting yachts. Unfortunately the regular supply ships haven't been too regular in the last year or so.

This is what the *Pitcairn Miscellany* said in its report, under the heading, 'Where have all the ships gone?'

The importance of shipping to Pitcairn has often been stressed in these columns, for without ships, Pitcairn could not survive. The island relies on ships for almost all its needs, from food and fuel, to new issues of postage stamps. In addition, sales of curios to ships' crews provide a large proportion of most Pitcairners' income.

Fewer ships calling means fewer sales, and therefore less income. And in these times of high inflation, no one wants a reduced income.

So far, this year seems to have been a disastrous year for the number of ships calling here. In fact, at the time of writing, we had not had a ship call for almost two months. But to obtain a more general picture of the shipping decline, I prepared the attached table, which compares the number of ships calling up to the end of July each year, for the last five years.

There are some obvious conclusions to be drawn from this table. The most important is that the total number of ships calling at Pitcairn has declined markedly over the last five years. Today, only about a third of the ships call which

SHIPS CALLING AT PITCAIRN UP TO JULY FOR THE LAST FIVE YEARS

Year	Total Ships	Nationality
1975	24	9 British, 4 German, 3 Australian, 3 Danish, 1 Norwegian, 1 New Zealand, 1 French, 1 Yugoslavian, 1 Korean, (4 supply ships)
1976	20	11 British, 2 German, 3 Norwegian, 2 Danish, 1 Dutch, 1 New Zealand, (6 supply ships)
1977	17	4 British, 4 Norwegian, 4 German, 3 Dutch, 1 New Zealand, 1 Danish, (3 supply ships)
1978	17	7 German, 4 Norwegian, 3 British, 1 Belgian, 1 French, 1 Dutch, (1 supply ship)
1979	9	3 Norwegian, 3 Australian, 2 German, 1 British, (1 supply ship)

used to call in 1975.

Visits by supply ships have also fallen, especially since the cancellation of supply ships from the United Kingdom. A third interesting fact which emerges is that Britain, most certainly, no longer rules the waves, for even only three years ago, there were approximately three times more British ships stopping here, than any other nationality. In 1979, a British ship appears on the table, only because it was designated a supply ship, and therefore paid to stop here.

Many of us on the island are a little frustrated by the attitude of British ships, which regularly pass within 1000 m of our island, but refuse to stop here, even when 'chased' by the men in our longboats. And as we are a British island, it does seem strange to us that British vessels steam past, whereas similar foreign vessels are able to, and even welcome, a short stop here.

In any case, we here on Pitcairn continue to ask — 'Where are your ships?', and hope the situation will improve in the near future.

A DOCK FOR A YAP ATOLL

A new dock to replace the lightering system is planned for the south-west side of the island of Falalop on Ulithi Atoll in the Yap District of Micronesia.

The wharf will be about 6 m wide and 18 m long and connected to the shore by a causeway 64 m long. A berthing slip, 100 m by 30 m in front of the dock will have a depth of about 5 m.

NEW ENTRY PORT WANTED

The Town Council of Savusavu on the south coast of Vanua Levu in Fiji has applied to the Director General of the Ports Authority of Fiji, Mr Loh Heng-kee for the creation of its port as a port of entry for Fiji.

At present, Fiji has three ports of entry, Suva and Lautoka on Viti Levu and Levuka, the old capital on Ovalau. The creation of a fourth port of entry at Savusavu was mooted some time ago when cruise ships began to include it in their itinerary, but at present ocean-going ships have to lie off shore and transport passengers by boat as there is no deepwater berth at the present wharf.

The council suggested that, as the present wharf is the biggest on Vanua Levu, it could be used as a temporary port of entry until another site was found.

STORMS HIT PORTWORKS

Most of the wharf area on Niue was flattened when a cyclone struck the island in December. One person was killed in the big blow.

In the same month Tuvalu too suffered heavy storm damage, estimated at \$50 000, to its new deepwater wharf project.

Peter McQuarrie reports from Funafuti that recent work on the wharf was demolished by high seas and the pile-driver barge was seriously damaged when it was driven into the wharf by the storm.

SEVEN REEFS OPENING UP

A New Zealand army reef clearance team started work early in 1978 to blast boat-channels in the reefs of Tuvalu's islands. The object is to create passages which are workable at all states of the tide, and so speed up shipping operations throughout the group.

Tuvalu's nine islands are all atolls and raised coral islands with encircling reefs which dry at low tide. Only two atolls, Funafuti, the capital, and Nukufetau have lagoons which may be entered by ships. On all remaining seven islands ships must either anchor or drift offshore while passengers and cargo are transported through the surf by small work boats. This can only be done for a few hours around high tide. When the tide is out, all work must stop.

Work started on Nui Island in 1978 with a four-man team, outboard motor boat, digger and some explosives. Some blasting and clearance work was completed but delays in getting supplies to the island and an inadequate digging machine hampered progress. At the end of the five month fair-weather season the team was forced to withdraw with only about half its job done.

Last year a new team arrived with a greater supply of explosives and with a much larger machine, a front-end loader, to complete the passage at Nui.

Tuvalu has only a single ship to serve all nine islands and so once the teams are established on particular islands they must be self-sufficient for weeks at a time. It is sometimes a month between shipping calls. The four-man teams are under the leadership of a lieutenant and are the only non-locals on the islands where they work. They are treated very much as VIPs and enjoy the islanders' hospitality. The personnel are



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changed once during each season so each group has a three-month stretch away from New Zealand.

Now that the teams are coming to better understand the problems of reefblasting on coral atolls the project is speeding up. But it looks as if the operation will go on for several years before passages are created on every island. In the long term, it is a very worthwhile project striking directly at one of Tuvalu's basic communications problems. — *Peter McQuarrie*.

THE PACIFIC Forum Line's new container ship *Forum Samoa* reached Apia in December on her delivery voyage from Hamburg, Germany. *Forum Samoa*, built in Germany as a gift from the West German Government, can carry more than 350 containers and has storage room for refrigerated goods, general cargo, vegetable oils and caustic soda. She will ply between Fiji, Samoa and New Zealand. Built at a cost of \$21 million, she boasts a gantry crane which is multi-functional.



About 13 yachts, the smallest being 10.7 m, set sail from Jakarta in Indonesia on March 12 on the famous 'Spice' route to Rotterdam. They will take part in Spice Race 1980 sponsored by the Dutch shipping group Nedlloyd, well known in the South Pacific. After a stop in Cape Town, the yachts will complete the course in the first week in June, having covered 12 500 miles in one of the longest yacht races in the world. The ambition of every competitor is to beat the sailing record for the course between the Straits of Dover and Sunda Straits which is held by the famous *Cutty Sark* which covered the 12 000-mile stretch in 73 days in 1876. Entrants registered in December were: **Spirit of**

Ramfish, 15.24 m, Dutch, skipper Adriann Van Stolk. **Gauloises III**, 19.2 m, French, skipper Philippe Facque. **Gypsy Moth V**, 17.37 m, English, skipper Peter Hambly. **Batavier**, 22 m, Australian, skipper Jos Maasackers. **Seltrust Endeavour**, 16.76 m, English, skipper Michael Dunham. **DLC Zanzara**, 10.7 m, Dutch, skipper Ewald Niejenhoff. **Bubblegum**, 13.1 m, English, skipper Iain McGowan Fyfe. **Nutmeg**, 15.24 m, Dutch, skipper Dirk Dehaan. **Flying Wilma**, Dutch, skipper Gerard Dykstra (winner of Whitbread Round the World race). **Prodent**, 12.5 m Dutch, skipper Dirk Navta. **Caleo**, 13.4 m, Singapore.

• **ROGUE**: 12.6 m one-tonner racing yacht from Sydney is cruising in Fiji, Tonga, Samoa and Wallis with owner Roger White, a retired merchant banker, accompanied by ever-changing crew. *Rogue* left Sydney on June 16 for the race to Noumea, a month later taking part in the Noumea to Vila race. From the New

Hebrides *Rogue* started cruising and had a rough but very fast four-and-a-half day passage to Suva.

• **KIWI**: This 13.3 m Atkins-designed wooden ketch left San Diego in April 1978 with Dick and Sherri Lenz on board. After calling at Hawaii, *Kiwi* sailed to the Society Islands, Vavau and Fiji. The cyclone season will be spent in New Zealand, from where the crew plan to return to French Polynesia and possibly home.

• **SHA MAR**: Walter and Gloria Streifling, with children Shauna and Marc, left their home in San Diego in February 1979 for a two-year circumnavigation of the Pacific. After the Marquesas, *Sha Mar* sailed to the Tuamotus, Society Islands, Suvarrow, American Samoa, Tonga and Fiji. The cyclone season will be spent in New Zealand. In 1980 the crew plans to return to Tahiti via the Australs, then carry on to Hawaii, Canada and home.

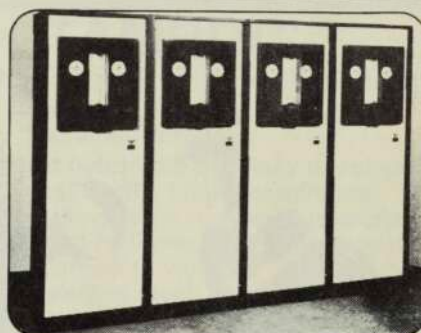
• **VELELLA**: 10 m Angelman ketch from San Diego is taking



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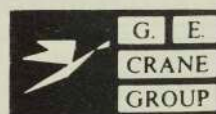
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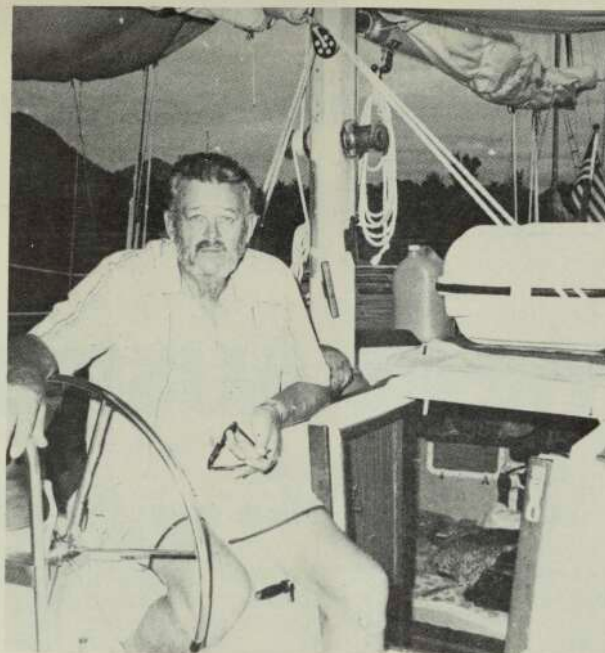
American singlehander Pete Bartoe on a leisurely trip around the Pacific. He left home in June 1978, sailing to Maui, in the Hawaii Islands, as part of a small fleet of veteran sailors participating in the Ancient Mariners' Race. From Hawaii he sailed to French Polynesia, where he spent a year before heading for Rarotonga and Fiji. Next destination is New Zealand, and possibly Australia in 1980.

• **BRIGAND I:** This Spencer 30 sloop (9.3 m.) is taking Diana and Ian Jones on a short cruise around the Western Pacific. They left their homeport of Melbourne in May, 1979, sailing via Lord Howe Island to New Caledonia, New Hebrides and Fiji. After cruising in Fiji as far as the Yasawas, they are returning to Australia via the New Hebrides, planning to return to the islands in a larger boat in two years time.

• **KLEENA KLEENE II:** Canadian couple Bill and Frances Stocks left home in Victoria, British Columbia, in September, 1977 for a planned circumnavigation. Their Fortune 30 cutter (9.3 m) has so far taken them to California, French Polynesia, Rarotonga, Pago Pago, Tonga, Fiji, the New Hebrides and the Solomons. Last year's cyclone season was spent in Fiji, while this year they are heading for PNG.

• **ALEGRIAS:** Australian author Alan Lucas spent two years building this three-masted ferrocement schooner. The 18 m yacht is home now for him, his wife Patricia and sons Ben (3) and William (13). *Alegrias* left Maryborough in Queensland in December, 1977, sailing to PNG, back to Australia, then to New Caledonia, New Hebrides and the Solomons. In 1980, the Lucas family plan to sail to the Philippines and Indonesia.

• **WARAMBA:** *Waramba*, meaning *Turtle* in Australian aborigine, is a dream come true for Trevor Davill. Working as an engineer on the ill-fated Betio-Sairiki causeway in Tarawa, Kiribati, Trevor spent every spare moment of his 20 months contract completing *Waramba*. The hull of the 0.4 m Manitau ketch was



sent out from Australia and he had to import every single fitting to finish off the yacht. He finally left Tarawa at the end of October with the barely-finished boat making a slow 18-day passage to Honiara, with American Tom Carsen as crew, who flew in from Brisbane just for the passage. Trevor was met in Honiara by his wife Jan and children Maria (11), Jamie (9), Claire (8) and Timothy (6) for a shakedown cruise in the Western Pacific.

• **MAGIC,** a 10.3 m yacht in Suva until May has a magician as her owner-skipper. He is Austrian Hagen Tremmel, known on stage in his own country as Scaramouche. An illusionist and holder of a black belt in judo, Hagen has been entertaining people at the Tradewinds Hotel marina with his tricks, which, he says, are an aid to communication. 'When we call into a port for the first time,' he said, 'I just show a few tricks to immigration and customs officials and it makes communications much more easy'. Magic left Hamburg in May, 1978, and sailed to Britain, Spain, Portugal, Gibraltar, Morocco, Canary Islands and through the Panama Canal to the Pacific calling at the Marquesas, Tuamotus, Tahiti, the Cook Islands and Tonga before

reaching Suva. Hagen and his wife Waltraud hope to move on to New Zealand and then to Australia before returning home via Suez.

American World War II veteran Boysie Day (left) aboard his yacht *Sugar Bear*. Boysie is on a sentimental journey to the spots in the Western Pacific where he fought nearly four decades ago. In Papua New Guinea waters, Boysie went straight to the Laughlan and Woodlark Islands where he first arrived as a company commander of the 'Bushmasters' infantry regiment in January 1943.

• **TERN:** 11 m fibreglass sloop from Knysna, a small port on the East coast of South Africa, skippered by singlehander John Travers. He left home in November 1977 calling in at Capetown, then crossing the Atlantic to Martinique via St Helena, Ascension and Fernando de Noronha. Three months were spent cruising in the Caribbean before sailing to Florida, where John worked for six months. He entered the Pacific via Panama early in 1979, calling at Galapagos, French Polynesia, Rarotonga, Tonga and Fiji. *Tern* is heading first for Australia, but will later cross the Tasman to New Zealand, where John hopes to settle.

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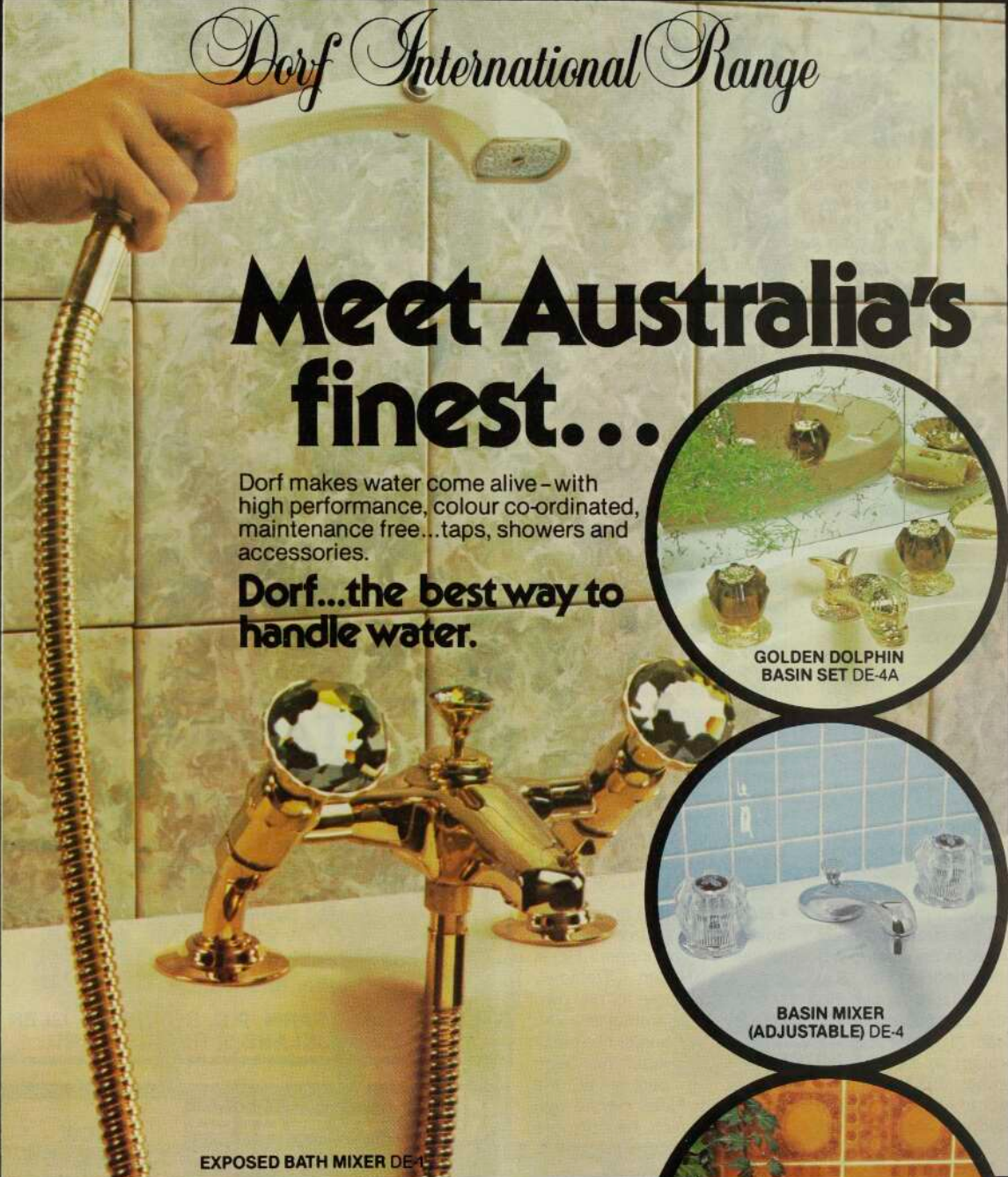
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SHIPPING SERVICES

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 listings they should contact PIM.

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), Dalgely 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 - FIJI - SAMOAS - NEW HEBRIDES - TONGA - NORFOLK ISLAND

Pacific Navigation of Tonga operates a five-weekly refrigerated general cargo/container service from Sydney and Brisbane to Vila, Santo, Suva, Lautoka, Apia, Pago Pago, Nuku'alofa and Norfolk Island.

Details from Beaufort Shipping Agency Co, 2 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (239-1022).

AUSTRALIA - FIJI - TUVALU - SAMOAS - TONGA

Pacific Forum Line operates a container, utilised/palletised and reefer cargo service from Melbourne and Sydney to Lautoka, Suva, Funafuti, Pago Pago, Apia and Nuku'alofa. 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, Nuku'alofa; PWD, Funafuti; or Pacific Forum Line, PO Box 655, Apia, W. Samoa.

AUSTRALIA - LORD HOWE IS - NORFOLK IS

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

Details Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

AUSTRALIA - NAURU - KIRIBATI

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

Details: Nauru Pacific Line, Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (553-5709), Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA (AND/OR) NEW HEBRIDES

Karlander operates a monthly service from Sydney to Noumea.

Details: Karlander (Aust) Pty Ltd, 9-31 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 Pty Ltd, Port Adelaide (47-5688), ANL, Newcastle (049-24364), Clements & Marshall, Burnie, Tasmania (31-1833).

Compagnie des Chargeurs Caledoniens operates a three-weekly containerised cargo service from Sydney to Noumea.

Details Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney to Noumea, Port Vila and Santo, using a self-sustained fully containerised vessel.

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

AUSTRALIA - NZ - FIJI - HAWAII - US

P & O liners call at Auckland, Suva, Honolulu and Vancouver on eastbound and westbound voyages between Sydney and the US.

Details from P & O Booking Centre, World Travel Headquarters Pty Ltd, 33 Bligh Street, Sydney (231-6655).

AUSTRALIA - NZ - FIJI - TONGA - N. HEBRIDES - NOUMEA - PNG - SOLOMONS - SAMOAS

Sitmar Cruises operates a year-round cruise programme to include most of the above countries.

Details from Sitmar Cruises, 47 Elizabeth Street, Sydney (232-7511).

P & O liners call at Auckland, Bay of Islands, Honiara, Lautoka, Noumea, Nuku'alofa, Pago Pago, Papeete, Port Moresby, Santo, Savusavu, Suva, Vavau and Vila on cruises from Australia.

Details from P & O Booking Centre, World Travel Headquarters Pty Ltd, 33 Bligh Street, Sydney (231-6655).

AUSTRALIA - MICRONESIA

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

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

AUSTRALIA - PNG

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

Details from New Guinea Express Lines, PO Box R73, Royal Exchange PO, Sydney (241-3991), MacArthur Shipping Agency Co, 82-92 Eagle Street, Brisbane (229-3777), New Guinea Express Lines, 327 Collins Street, Melbourne (61-3053), Niugini Express Lines in Port Moresby (21-2466), Lae (42-1536), Rabitrad 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), Dalgely 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.



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FOR INFORMATION CONTACT AGENTS:

AMERICAN SAMOA:

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

AUSTRALIA:

The Australian National Line, 50 Queen Street, Melbourne.

Union Bulkships Pty.Ltd., 333-339 George Street, Sydney.

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:

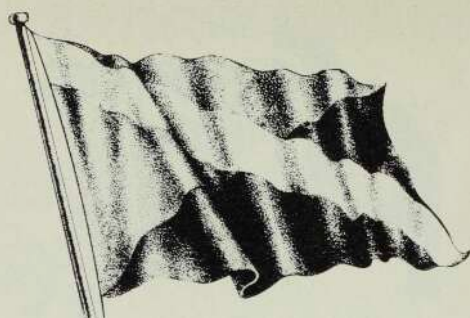
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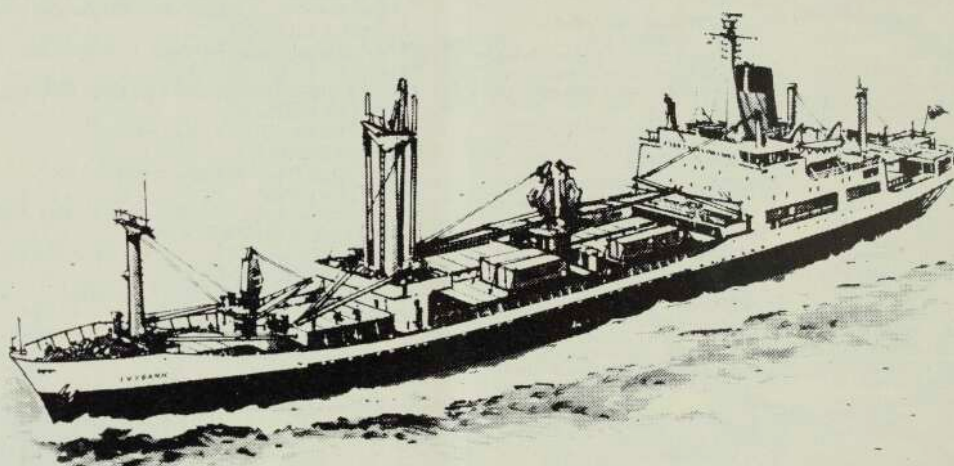
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Details from Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd.
51 Pitt Street, Sydney (2-0547) and
Interocean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Syd-
ney. (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA - SOLOMONS - KIRIBATI - 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 - SOLOMONS - NORTHERN MARIANAS - TAIWAN - JAPAN

Daiwa Line offers a four-weekly ser-
vice Sydney-Honiara-Guam-Taiwan-
Japan with transhipment at Guam for
Saipan.

Details Meridian Shipping & Trans-
port Agencies Pty Ltd, Box 3410 GPO,
Sydney 2001 (29-4987). Tlx.
AA25970.

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI

Daiwa Line offers a four-weekly ser-
vice from Australia to Papeete.

Details: Meridian Shipping & Trans-
port Agencies Pty Ltd, Box 3410 GPO,
Sydney 2001 (29-4987). Tlx.
AA25970.

Compagnie Generale Maritime oper-
ates a monthly service from Sydney to
Papeete using a self-sustained fully
containerised vessel.

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

AUSTRALIA - TONGA - SAMOAS - TAHITI

Karlander operates a monthly cargo
service from Melbourne and Sydney to
Nuku'alofa, Apia, Pago Pago, Papeete,
JS west coast.

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

AUSTRALIA - W. SAMOA

Compagnie Generale Maritime oper-
ates a monthly service from Sydney to
Apia, using a self-sustained fully con-
tainerised vessel.

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

FAR EAST - FIJI - NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Unit Express (NZUE)
operates a fortnightly palletised cargo
service from Manila, Keelung,
Kaoshiung and Hong Kong to Lautoka,
Suva and thence to NZ.

Details from Carpenters Shipping,
Suva (312-244), Burns Philp, Suva
(311-777), P & O S.N. Co, Wellington
(736-477) or Nedlloyd Swire Pty Ltd,
Sydney (20-522).

Nedlloyd operates bi-weekly cargo
service with four ships from Sourabaya,
Jakarta, Bangkok, Port Kelang and
Singapore to Suva and NZ ports.

Details from Nedlloyd (Aust) Pty Ltd,
8 Spring St, Sydney (27 3801), Burns
Philp (SS) Co Ltd, Suva and Lautoka.

FAR EAST - MID-S. PACIFIC

China Navigation's New Guinea Pa-
cific Line (NGPL) operates a regular
cargo service from Hong Kong, Taiwan,
Manila, Port Kelang and Singapore to
Wewak, Madang, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta,
Lae, Port Moresby, Honiara, Santo,
Vila, Noumea, Papeete, Pago Pago,
Apia, Tarawa and Nauru.

Details from Steamships Trading Co.,
Port Moresby (21-2000).

Kyowa Shipping Ltd, operates
monthly services from Hong Kong,
Taiwan, S. Korea and Japan, to Guam,
Saipan, Solomons, New Caledonia, Fiji,
Western and American Samoa, Tahiti,
Cook Is., Tonga and 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.

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).

JAPAN - GUAM - FIJI - TAHITI - SAMOA - N. CALEDONIA - SOLOMONS - KIRIBATI

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.

HAWAII - SAMOAS - TONGA

Warner Pacific Line operates uni-
tized/palletized and reefer cargo ser-
vice every 30 days Honolulu/Pago
Pago-Apia-Nuku'alofa. Line Islands
and Suva by inducement.

Details from Hawaii-Pacific Maritime
Inc., Honolulu, HI 96801. Tel. (808)
521-9806 Freight Dept. Tlx (RCA)
723-8330 ITT 743-0040 Cables
'Oral'.

NEW CALEDONIA - FIJI - WEST COAST NORTH AMERICA

PAD Line operates an approx. 3-
weekly ro-ro service from Noumea and

Suva to Honolulu and West Coast USA
and Canadian ports.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP
1602, Noumea (27-51-91). Tlx NM048;
W. R. Carpenter, 100 Thomson St.,
Suva (31-11-22), Tlx FJ2199; Trans-
Austral Shipping, Box R232 PO, Royal
Exchange, NSW (27-2441). Tlx
AA21204.

PNG - UK/CONTINENT

Bank Line operates regular cargo
service from Kieta, Rabaul, Kimbe,
Madang and Lae to Cardiff, Hamburg,
Rotterdam and Antwerp.

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

PNG - US

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

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

SOLOMONS - USA - UK/CONTINENT

Bank Line operates regular cargo
service from Honiara to New Orleans,
Cardiff, Hamburg, Rotterdam and Ant-
werp.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Pty
Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041);
Trading Co, Honiara (389).

NZ - COOK IS - NIUE - TAHITI

Shipping Corporation of NZ Ltd oper-
ates 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 Mari-
time Polynesienne, B'P 368, Papeete,
Tahiti.

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Pt. Moresby: Nuigini Express Lines • Oro Bay: Cornell Carriers, Popondetta PNG • Madang: B. J. Back • Lae: Nuigini Express Lines • Wewak: Burns Philp (NG) Ltd
Kieta: Burns Philp (NG) Ltd • Kimbe: Harrisons & Crossfield (PNG) Ltd • Rabaul: New Guinea Cocoa (Export) Co. Pty. Ltd. • Honiara: Guadalcanal Import Export Co.

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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 - KIRIBATI - SOLOMONS - PNG

Pacific Forum Line operates a container, utilised/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) Sullivan, Honiara; Kiribati Shipping Corporation, Tarawa; Steamships Trading in Port Moresby, Lae and Madang or Pacific Forum Line, PO Box 655, Apia, W. Samoa.

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 - 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 Norfolk Island and Noumea.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland (773-279), PO Box 3614, Telex NZ2313.

NZ - TAHITI

Compagnie Tahitienne Maritime SA with one ship operates monthly service New Zealand - Papeete.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, PO Box 3614, 18 Customs St, Auckland (773-279), Tlx NZ2313.

NZ - TONGA - 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.

EUROPE - TAHITI - NEW CALEDONIA

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates services from Europe and Mediterranean ports to Papeete and Noumea using three Ro-Ro and two multi-

purpose vessels thus ensuring a bi-monthly sailing to and from.

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

Hamburg-Sued operates monthly cargo services from Hamburg, Dunkirk and Le Havre to Papeete, Noumea, via Panama.

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

EUROPE - TAHITI - W. SAMOA - FIJI - N. CALEDONIA

Nedlloyd offers regular cargo services from Northern Europe and UK to Papeete, Apia, Fiji and New Caledonia.

Details: Nedlloyd (Aust) Pty Ltd, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (27-3801).

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 (Australia) Pty Ltd, 1 York St, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (South Sea) Co Ltd, Suva and Lautoka.

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) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (PNG) Ltd, PNG ports; Trading Co Honiara.

UK/N. CONTINENT - TAHITI - N. CALEDONIA - N. HEBRIDES

Bank Line operates regular cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen,

Antwerp and Rotterdam to Papeete and Noumea.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041); Ets A M Fare UTE, Papeete, Et Ballande, Noumea.

US - FIJI - TAHITI - NZ - AUSTRALIA

Bank and Savill Line Ltd, operate regular cargo services from US Gulf ports to Australia and NZ. Calls at Suva, Lautoka and Papeete on demand.

Details from Bank Line (A'asia) Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-2041) and Howard Smith Industries Pty Ltd, 1 York Street, Sydney (27-5611).

US - HAWAII - MICRONESIA

Philippines, Micronesia & Orient Navigation Co (PM&O Lines) operates regular container service on self sustained ship with ro-ro capabilities from Oakland, Portland and Honolulu to Majuro, Kosrae, Ponape, Truk, Saipan, Yap and Koror.

Details for Micronesia can be obtained from Larry Guerrero, PM&O Owners Rep, PO Box 803, Saipan, N 96950, Cable COMMONTIME; PM&O Lines, 181 Fremont St, San Francisco, California 94105, Cable PMONAV.

US - HAWAII - NAURU - MICRONESIA

Nauru Pacific Line operates regular conventional/container and passenger service from San Francisco and Honolulu to Majuro, Ponape, Truk and Saipan. Cargo is accepted for Nauru and Kosrae with transshipment at Majuro and Ponape.

Details from Nauru Pacific Line Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709); North America Maritime Agencies, 100 California Street, San Francisco, California 94111 (981-0343).

US - NOUMEA - FIJI

PAD Line operates an approx



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To: Australia, Papua New Guinea

Hong Kong, Taiwan, S. Korea, Japan

To: Guam, Saipan, Truk, Ponape, Majuro, Yap, Koror, Other Pacific Islands.

AGENTS

Taiwan: Royal Steamship Corp., Ltd. Taipei
S. Korea: Dong Sue Shipping Co. Ltd., Seoul
Hong Kong: Dahzun Enterprises Ltd.
Singapore: Ocean Shipping & Enterprises Pte. Ltd.
Guam: Maritime Agencies of the Pacific Ltd., Guam
Saipan: Saipan Shipping Co. Inc., Saipan
B.S.I.P.: Solomon Taiyo Ltd., Honiara
Tahiti: J.A. Cowan & Fils, Papeete
Cooks: Eastern Associates Ltd., Rarotonga
Tonga: EM Jones Ltd., Nuku'alofa
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
Sabah: KOH Han Ming Shipping & Forwarding Agent, Kotakinabalu
Sarawak: Pan Sarawak Agencies Sdn. Bhd., Sibul & Kuching
Australia: Hetherington Kingsbury Pty Ltd., Sydney, NSW
New Zealand: Sofrana Unilines SA, Auckland

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OSAKA OFFICE

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 Phone: 06/22710422 (Rep.) Cables: "MARIQUEEN" Osaka. Telex: 522-3896 Kyowa O.



DEATHS of Islands People

CARLOS GARCIA CAMACHO

Carlos Garcia Camacho, 55, the last appointed governor of Guam (1969-70) and the first elected governor of the island (1971-1974), died at the Medical Center of the Marianas, Guam, in December. Gov. Camacho, a dentist, made three trips to Vietnam where he delivered Christmas greetings from folks at home via video tape to Guamanians in American military units in the war zone.

The son of the late Judge Felix Camacho, he is survived by his mother, his widow Lourdes, six sons and a daughter. Carlos Camacho was one of the founders of the Republican Party on Guam, and is not to be confused with the governor of the Northern Marianas, who has the same name.

Weekly ro-ro service from West Coast USA and Canada to Noumea and Suva.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP 602, Noumea (27-51-91), Tlx NM048; J. R. Carpenter, 100 Thomson St, Suva (31-11-22), Tlx FJ2199; Trans-Austral Shipping, Box R232, PO, Royal Exchange, NSW (27-2441), Tlx A21204.

US - TAHITI - SAMOA

Pacific Islands Transport operates a weekly cargo service from North America west coast ports to Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia.

Details from Polynesia Shipping Services Inc., PO Box 1478 Pago Pago (6799).

Polynesia Line operates container and general cargo service from US west coast ports to Papeete and Pago Pago.

Details from Polynesia Shipping Services Inc., PO Box 1478, Pago Pago (6799).

US - TAHITI - SAMOA - NZ - AUST

Farrell Lines Inc. operate a fast regular lash/container cargo service from east coast ports Canada/USA to Papeete and Pago Pago thence to NZ and Australia.

Details With Wilhelmsen Agency, Sydney, Melbourne and Brisbane, Tlx 420136, Cable FARSHIPS Sydney; Sigety (NZ) Ltd, Auckland and Wellington, Tlx NZ2445, Cable ALSHIP Auckland; Compagnie Maritime Polynesienne, Immeuble Franco-canadienne, PO Box 368, Papeete, Tahiti, Tel 26393, Tlx 258, FP ANSB, Aporo, Cable OCEAN Papeete; Teubuhl Maritime Service, PO Box 39, Pago Pago, Telephone 633-5121; 6782505.

AKAITA PONGA

At Virua, Mangia, Cook Islands, in late November 1979, Mrs Akaiti Ponga had lived all her life on Mangia. She is survived by her husband Akaiti, and 15 children. She was the loving grandmother of more than 60 grandchildren, 50 great grandchildren and two great-great grandchildren.

REX MORTIMER

In Sydney, Australia, on December 31, aged 53. Professor Mortimer held the chair of political studies at the University of Papua New Guinea for the three years 1974-76. At the time of his death he was an associate professor in the Department of Government and Public Administration at the University of Sydney.

BRAHAMANAND RAGH-VANAND

Brahamanand Raghvanand, former member of the Fiji Legislative Council and a leader of the Indian community in Fiji, aged 87. After education in Fiji and New Zealand he joined the Fiji civil service and became Assistant Native Lands Commissioner under the late Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna.

LESATELE RAPI

Western Samoa's longest serving Member of Parliament, Lesatele Rapi, died suddenly in December after collapsing outside the Fono House at Mulinuu. His death at the National Hospital at the age of 70 came on the 68th birthday of his brother, Vaai Kolone, also an MP. He began his parliamentary career in 1948, and had served as Minister of Public Works and Minister of Lands and Survey, and was Minister of Broadcasting when he died. He leaves a widow, Tiresa, and 12 children.

KAU MAPU

Holder of the title of Tearikivao Putokotoko Pareraka Mataiapo, and direct descendant of several Ariki families, suddenly at his home on Aitutaki in the Cook Islands on November 20 at the age of 72. He was in the Public Works for 21 years and served as representative of Aitutaki in parliament for 43 years.



The late Tom Smith

He gave SPC its thrust

Tom Smith, who died in Wellington, New Zealand, in November (PIM Jan p73), won added respect for and gave new directions to the South Pacific Commission following his appointment as its secretary-general in 1958.

Some of the commission's most productive projects were launched in his time. The Women's Interests Scheme, later to evolve into the immensely successful Community Education Training Centre in Suva, was started in his first year of office.

Dr Richard Seddon had earlier recommended that the commission's social development activities should be concentrated on literature promotion, education and guided self-help, so the Literature Training Centre was set up in Honiara to teach Islanders how to produce low-cost educational material.

In 1959, a regional education seminar was held in Noumea on the basis that more help be given to Island educationists for the teaching of English as a second language. From this beginning, the commission's innovative English language-teaching programme, under the supervision of George Pittman and the late Gloria Tate, grew and flourished. It was one of the most ambitious ventures the SPC had ever launched.

The SPC's boat-building scheme, though first suggested by the then Western Pacific High Commissioner, Sir John Gutch, in 1957, was organised and finally launched at Auki in the Solomons by Tom Smith. It was a down-to-earth, practical, modest project geared to the availability of men and

materials in the area. And it was sparked off by the obvious and increasing necessity of teaching Islanders to build the kind of vessel which would take them to fishing grounds outside the reef.

These programmes, though different now in form from their beginnings in the late fifties, are still a memorial to Tom Smith's wide-ranging ideas and to his fresh approach to Pacific problems.

His work brought him great satisfaction and much joy. Encouraged and supported by his talented wife Sylvia he was able to give the benefit of his knowledge and understanding to newly-fledged Pacific nations. His book *South Pacific Commission*, written in his retirement, is required reading for everyone interested in the development of the region.

Other men set up the South Pacific Commission. Tom Smith gave it thrust and meaning.

Earlier aspects of the activity of this son of a Northland New Zealand farmer included a period as a UN adviser in public administration in Indonesia in the early years of that country's independence, and a later stint as secretary to the government of Western Samoa. This later posting was particularly significant for the Smiths, and their future activity in Pacific Islands affairs. Sylvia Smith's researches on Western Samoa for her MA thesis had kindled in her and her husband considerable curiosity about Samoan society, and not long after his appointment the new secretary to government, Tom Smith, was speaking fluent Samoan and becoming absorbed in Polynesian history and culture. — Kathleen Hancock.

MRS MARY D. PINNEY

Widow of Mr C. R. Pinney MC, Administrator and Chief Magistrate of Norfolk Island from July 1, 1932 to December 3, 1937, has died at Bowral, New South Wales. Mr Pinney was the last Administrator to hold the dual titles. They are survived by a son, Peter, who has written several popular books of travel.

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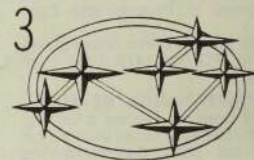
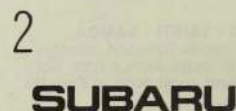
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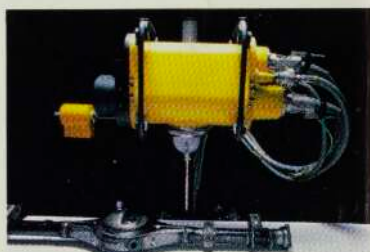
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