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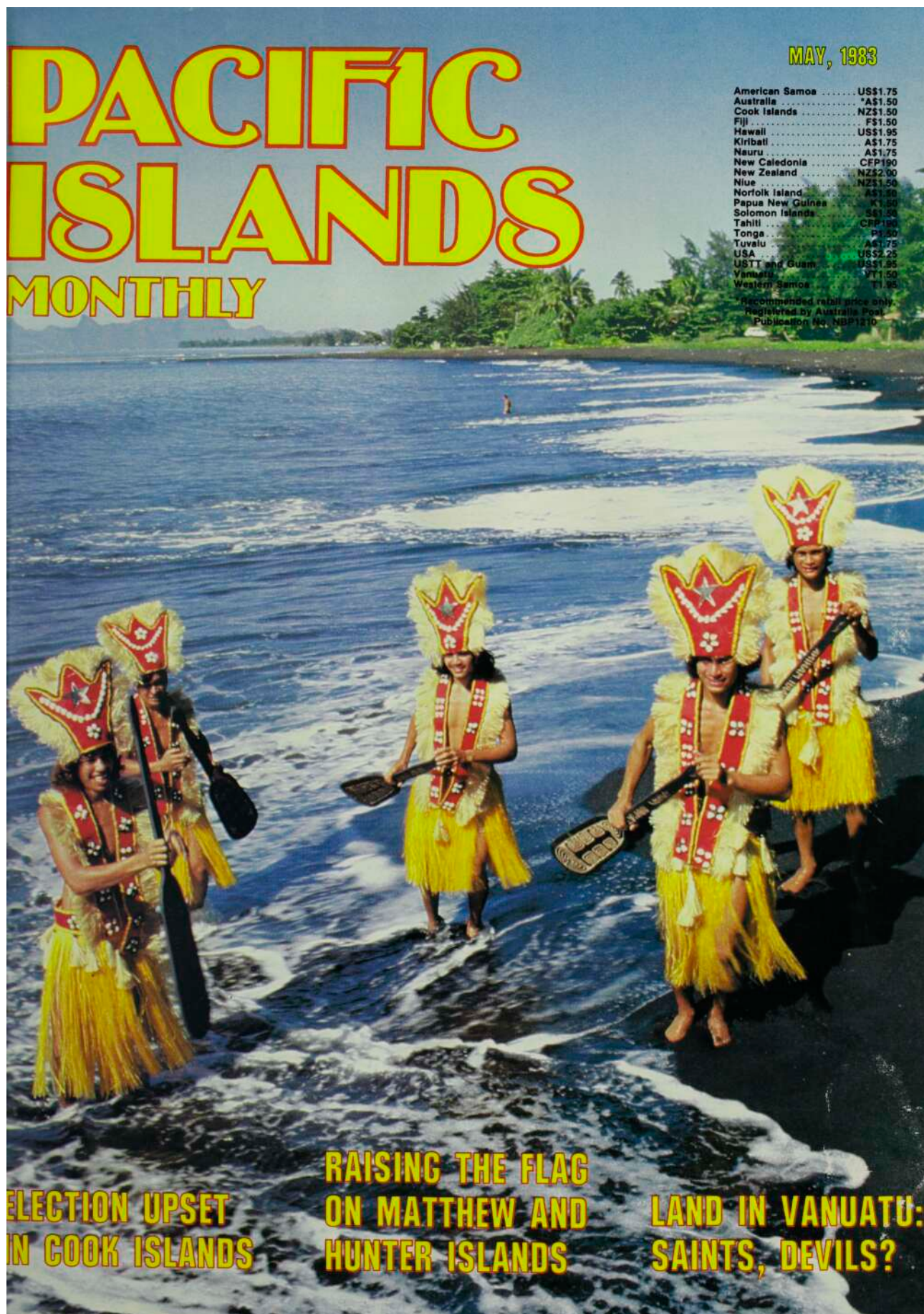
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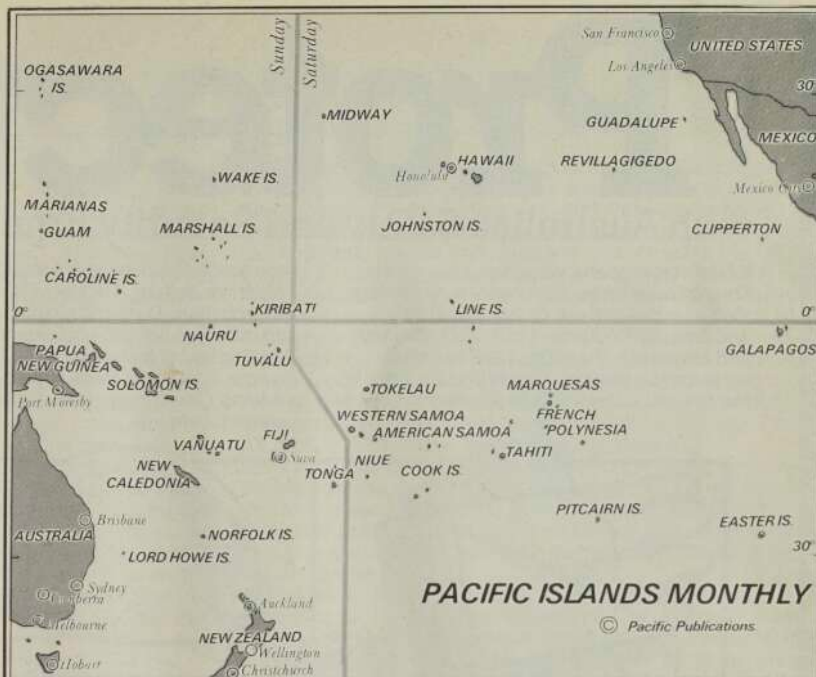
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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY — MAY, 1983

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Cover picture: This month's cover picture shows a colorful traditional group on Taharaa Beach, Tahiti, with a backdrop of blue sky and the swirling waters of the Pacific. The photographer was Sherée Lipton.

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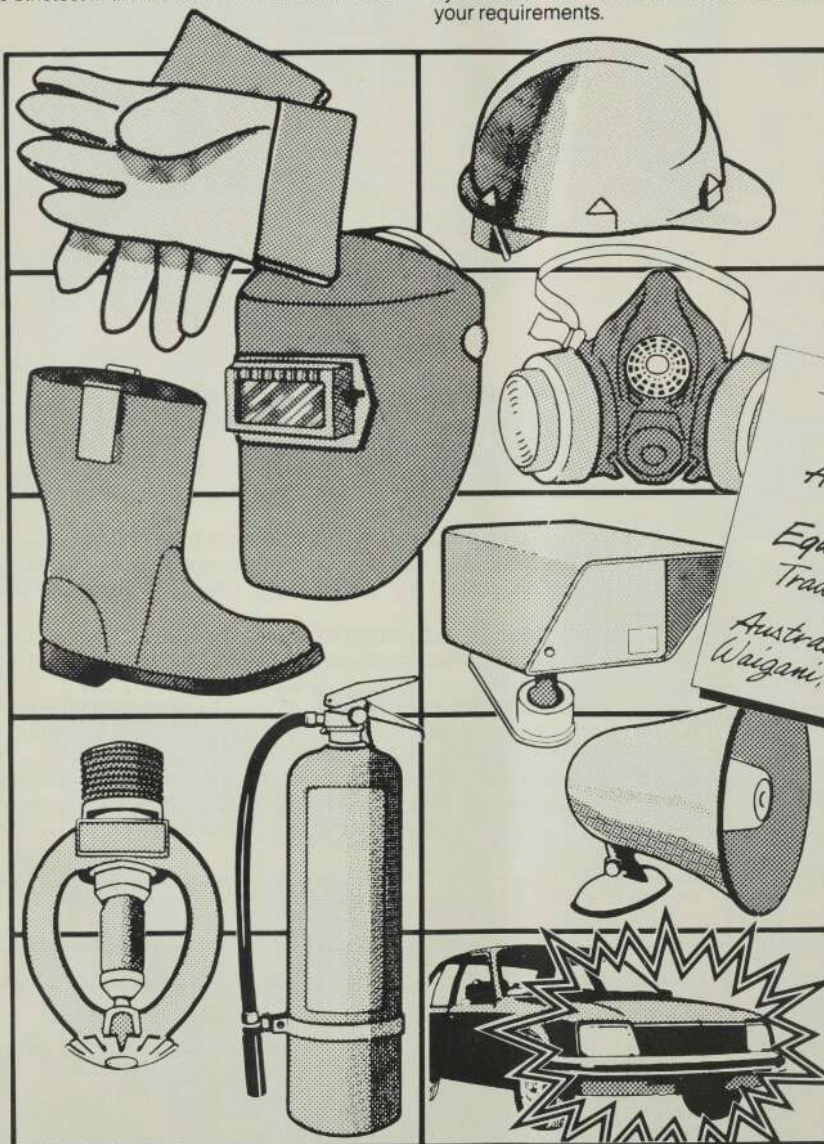
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Pacific Report

LINI SURVIVES, SOKOMANU SPEAKS OUT

Vanuatu's Prime Minister Father Walter Lini survived a no-confidence motion in parliament in April, but failed to win the full support of his Vanuaaku Party MPs. Four former Vanuaaku Party ministers voted in favor of the motion, while three other members of the party abstained. The motion, lost 22 votes to 13, alleged that Fr Lini had contravened the constitution by securing an overseas loan. Fr Lini told parliament he had been involved with the loan as a private individual, not as PM, and threatened legal action against the movers of the motion. A week earlier, another no-confidence motion against him had been ruled out of order by Speaker Maxime Carlot. In a separate development, Vanuatu's President Ati George Sokomanu has sharply criticised the Lini-led government in an interview with an Australian newspaper. Of the no-confidence motion, he told Colleen Ryan of the Sydney-based weekly *The National Times* that Fr Lini "had brought the whole thing on himself." "There has not been proper consultation with the executive. He is not following party rules. The whole problem has come because of lack of administration and know-how at the top. It is on the executive side — the Vanuaaku Party has no proper co-ordination." President Sokomanu made it clear in the interview he saw himself as a credible alternative prime minister.

EXTRA AID FROM AUSTRALIA FOR PNG

Following an April visit to Port Moresby by Australian Foreign Minister Bill Hayden, Australia is unlikely to go ahead with planned cuts in aid to Papua New Guinea over the next few years. Australian aid this financial year amounts to about \$U.S.210 million, roughly a quarter of the total PNG budget. Under present arrangements, aid is supposed to drop by about five per cent a year, but the PNG Government, hard hit by the world economic recession, and facing the threat of disintegration of some government services, is asking that there should be no decrease in aid over the next two years, and a decrease of only two per cent for the following two years. On his return to Canberra, Mr Hayden said that the Australian Government would give an extra \$10 million in bridging aid to PNG "as an expression of faith and commitment, while it considers the PNG request."

MAMALONI SACKS TWO MINISTERS

Solomon Islands Prime Minister Solomon Mamaloni in April sacked two ministers, and postponed the next sitting of parliament for two months. The sacked ministers were Peter Salaka and John Ngina. Mr Salaka held the portfolio of Lands, Energy and Natural Resources, and Mr Ngina that of Transport, Communications and Government Utilities. Mr Ngina had shortly before been convicted and jailed on a charge of causing another man bodily harm, and Mr Salaka last year drew a High Court reprimand in a case involving a foreign logging company. Both men are members of Mr Mamaloni's People's Alliance Party, and are reported to have strongly supported him in cabinet. Following announcement of the sackings Mr Mamaloni left for his third overseas trip within a month. He went to South Korea.

PRIESTS DEPORTED, SAY IRIAN JAYA REBELS

Rebels in the Indonesian province of Irian Jaya claim that the Jakarta government has deported to the Netherlands five Dutch priests working as missionaries in the province. The claim was made in a report from the rebel movement sent to the Port Moresby office of Radio Australia in April. Signed by the "field commander" of the largest Irian Jaya rebel grouping, Donald Derey, the report said the priests had been deported because the Indonesian Government wanted the people of Irian Jaya to become Muslims. He also accused Indonesian officials of interfering with the supply of food and medicines to drought victims in the province.

FRENCH HELICOPTERS ON HUNTER ISLAND

The Vanuatu Government has claimed that France is moving to establish a presence on the usually uninhabited islands of Matthew and Hunter which are in dispute between the two countries. The islands lie between Vanuatu and New Caledonia. A statement issued in Port-Vila late in March said that Vanuatu

will pursue the matter in international forums if France continues to refuse recognition of Vanuatu's sovereignty over the islands. The statement added, however, that Vanuatu remained convinced that the matter can be resolved amicably with France. Quoting radio reports from Australia and Vanuatu, the Noumea daily *Les Nouvelles* said that, even though the French Government remained silent on the matter, French naval vessels had been active in the vicinity of the islands, and that Puma helicopters had landed on Hunter. The daily speculated that their goal was to prepare a helicopter landing pad on the island and to replace the plaque announcing French sovereignty over Hunter which had been removed some weeks before by a Vanuatu Government mission (See report this issue PIM).

KILAUEA ERUPTION DESTROYS HOUSES

Lava from Hawaii's Kilauea volcano, which has been active for several months, continued to flow through hillside areas in April, destroying several houses. Authorities said about 150 people had been ordered to evacuate their homes on April 9 as a wall of lava five metres high and 300 metres wide flowed down the volcano's side.

W. SAMOA: DEVALUATION, PLEA TO UNDP

Following a 16 per cent devaluation of Western Samoa's currency in March, the cost of diesel fuel and kerosene in the country rose by 57c. Price of a gallon of petrol became \$WS3.87, or about \$A2.60. Fares on the country's flag-carrier Polynesian Airlines rose by 11 per cent. Some imported goods soared in price by as much as 350 per cent. In an effort to ease its severe economic problems, the government announced in April that it would ask the United Nations for aid equivalent to \$75 million. It said it would approach the United Nations Development Program for the aid in the form of a grant. The UNDP was set up to help the world's 33 least developed countries. Western Samoa is the only South Pacific country eligible for the aid. Prime Minister Tofilau Eti said the aid request was small by international standards, and justified because the country had received no increase in foreign aid during the past three years.

OFFICIALS QUIZZED ON TTPI AFFAIRS

Members of an Interior and Insular Affairs Sub-committee of the US House of Representatives have sharply questioned administration witnesses on the administration's Fiscal Year 1984 budget for the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands and particularly on the health needs of the islanders and a recent outbreak of cholera on Truk. Administration witnesses, including Pedro San Juan, assistant secretary for territorial and international affairs in the Department of the Interior, and Janet McCoy, high commissioner of the TTPI, said the cholera outbreak, which occurred at the end of August 1982, has now been halted. Danger, however, remains, and longterm improvements in sewerage, water, and health-care facilities must be undertaken before the island can be considered cholera-free. In addition to the \$US1.6 million appropriated in December 1982 on an emergency basis to combat the epidemic on Truk, Secretary San Juan asked for another \$2 million for Truk water improvements to continue longterm health improvements. Mr San Juan requested \$87,909,000 for operations and construction in the TTPI for FY 1984, a five per cent increase over last year's request. Committee members questioned the witnesses sharply on the adequacy of American efforts to aid the region. Questioning focused on the closing and reductions in force in US Government offices formerly concerned with TTPI liaison and administration, on the need to maintain the existing territorial infrastructure, and particularly on health, water and sewerage facilities on Truk and Ebeye Island in the Marshalls. Members expressed concern about over-crowding and slum conditions on Ebeye Island near the Kwajalein Missile Range, which they feared might lead to cholera outbreak there similar to the one on Truk. In reply, administration witnesses pointed out that the US Department of Defence had recently contributed \$2 million to help improve water treatment on the island, and that another \$2 million was on the way. The US Government is hoping to resettle some of the inhabitants of Ebeye on nearby atolls,

Pacific Report

witnesses said, relieving the crowded conditions on Ebeye. Congressmen expressed concern at the large debt to foreign governments currently owed by the government of the Marshall Islands. They pointed out that foreign governments lending the Marshall Islands money may assume that the US Government will repay the loans, should other means of repayment prove impossible. The Congressmen pointedly declared that the US Government would not be responsible for such debts.

SOLOMONS TO CHANGE TIMOR STAND?

The Solomon Islands Government co-ordinating committee has unanimously recommended a reversal of the country's position on East Timor at next year's general assembly of the United Nations. A member of the committee, Josés Tuhānuku, said that the Solomons' vote in support of Indonesia earlier this year had taken the committee by surprise. The co-ordinating committee is made up of two representatives from each of the three groups in the country's coalition government. Mr Tuhānuku said the committee would recommend to Prime Minister Solomon Mamaloni that the Solomons support the Portuguese resolution which calls for self-determination for the people of East Timor. Mr Tuhānuku also said that his party, the National Democratic Party, wanted the Solomon Islands to offer asylum to Seth Rumkorem, rebel Irian Jaya leader, who has been in Papua New Guinea for several months waiting for a country to offer him asylum. He fled Irian Jaya late last year but the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees has been unable to find a country prepared to accept him.

SAMOA TO MIX GAMES, INDEPENDENCE FEST

Western Samoa's cabinet agreed in March to defer the country's annual independence celebrations from June to coincide with the Pacific Games in Apia in September. Secretary of the Games Organising Committee, John McDonald, said the committee had requested the deferment to enable overseas visitors to the games to see the celebrations. Between 30,000 and 40,000 people travel to Apia from all over the country for the elaborate independence celebrations, which last three days. Mr McDonald said the Pacific Games in September are expected to be attended by about 2000 athletes. He said that catering problems had been solved through offers of assistance from the Australian army, the United States navy and the loan of a United Nations catering consultant, David Aite, who is normally involved with training schemes for the South Pacific hotel industry.

KWAJALEIN ISLANDS GO BACK TO OWNERS

Six islands in the Kwajalein Atoll were returned to their Marshallese owners in March, when Marshalls Chief Secretary Oscar deBrum signed quitclaim deeds on behalf of the government of the republic. The six islands were Ninni, Gea, Gugee-gue, Ningi, North Loi and South Loi. The United States had held use rights to the islands since the 1950s in conjunction with the Kwajalein Missile Range. The U.S. agreed to return them during negotiations on the current Kwajalein Interim Use Agreement. When the chief secretary signed the quitclaim deeds on March 17, ownership immediately reverted to the rightful owners under Marshallese tradition and custom.

PNG: 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE "BIG WALK"

March 28 saw 50th anniversary observances of what is known in the modern history of Papua New Guinea as the Big Walk: the expedition begun on March 28, 1933, by the two gold-prospecting Leahy brothers, Mick and Dan, and Australian government officer Jim Taylor. It was the first expedition in PNG to use aircraft for reconnaissance, and the first to use film. It led to the discovery of the Wahgi Valley in the Chimbu District, and of about 200,000 people whose existence had previously been unknown. Jim Taylor, 82, a long-time resident of the Eastern Highlands town of Goroka, took part in the 50th anniversary celebrations, as did Danny, the last of the Leahy brothers. Several hundred people, blacks and whites, took part in the 50th anniversary emulation of the Big Walk. Reporting the event, Peter Hastings, foreign editor of the *Sydney Morning Herald*, quoted PNG Prime Minister Michael Somare as addressing Jim Taylor at a reception held for the occasion: "You are a legend in your lifetime, the living link between Australia and this country". Hastings noted that film of the expedition shot by the late Mick Leahy "has been made into a dramatic documentary film called

First Contact due to be shown later this year on (Sydney's) Channel 7". Hastings said the film "comprises some of the most dramatic visual records of Highland reaction to the white intruders".

UPNG STUDENTS TO HELP ABORIGINALS

Students at the University of Papua New Guinea have opened a fund to sponsor Australian Aboriginal students through university studies in PNG, believing that Australia's Aboriginals do not get enough encouragement or opportunity to study at university level in Australia. Mr Burford Maiago, president of the UPNG branch of the PNG Aboriginal and Islander Cultural Society, said that preparations are being made for Aboriginal students to begin studies on the Port Moresby campus next year.

AID FROM TONGA FOR FIJI, OZ

Tonga is giving financial assistance to victims of recent bushfires in Australia and those affected by Cyclone Oscar in Fiji. Bushfires in the Australian states of Victoria and South Australia in February killed 71 people and destroyed more than 2000 homes. In Fiji, Cyclone Oscar killed seven people and caused extensive damage to housing and crops. The Acting Prime Minister of Tonga, Baron Tuita, said late in March that his country would give \$17,600 to Australia and \$8800 to Fiji. He said in making these donations, Tonga was mindful of the various forms of assistance it had received from these two countries in the past, particularly following the devastation caused by Cyclone Isaac in March last year. Baron Tuita said he regretted Tonga was not able to provide larger amounts of financial assistance.

U.S. SENATE COMMITTEE APPROVES TREATIES

The U.S. Senate Foreign Relations Committee has approved four friendship treaties with Pacific countries that had been blocked by objections for more than a year. The treaties will now be considered for approval by the Senate. Under the treaties the U.S. will drop claims to 26 islands and atolls, including four in the Cook Islands. The then Economic Development Minister in the Cooks, Vincent Ingram, in a statement in March described as scurrilous claims by some American senators and witnesses before the Foreign Relations Committee which suggested that the Cook Islands were likely to become pro-Soviet. He said he did not see any Soviet threat to the Cook Islands, nor to any nation in the South Pacific.

W. SAMOA SLASHES BUDGET SPENDING

The Legislative Assembly in Apia in March passed the Western Samoan government's 1983 budget. Two opposition members voted for the budget, while four others were not in the house, when it divided 25 to 16 in favor. The budget originally presented was for \$46.3 million, but this was later pared down by \$134,000 by the public accounts committee. By comparison the Western Samoan Government budgeted for \$47.4 million last year.

INTERNATIONAL PRESSURE ON PTUF

A leading Pacific trade unionist has claimed that the Brussels-based International Confederation of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU) is trying to sabotage the independence of the Pacific Trade Union Forum. The secretary of the Solomon Islands National Union of workers, Josés Tuhānuku, claims the ICFTU is pressuring its Pacific affiliates not to go ahead with the establishment of a PTUF secretariat. This was to be discussed at the co-ordinating meeting of the PTUF in Vanuatu in April. Australian, New Zealand and Fiji trade union councils are members of the mainly Western ICFTU. The Solomons National Union of Workers is affiliated to the Leftwing World Federation of Trade Unions (WFTU), while trade unions in Western Samoa, Vanuatu and Kiribati are not attached to either group. Mr Tuhānuku said the PTUF should stay independent of both, but he is not optimistic that this can be maintained because of ICFTU pressure.

MORE OZ, NZ, HELP FOR FORUM LINE

The Australian and New Zealand Governments have formally signed an aid agreement to help finance a regional shipping service from Fiji to Tuvalu and Kiribati. Under the agreement, each country will provide \$300,000 to the Pacific Forum Line. The agreement is to be reviewed at the end of the year. The Pacific Forum Line has been losing money since it was set up five years ago to serve Pacific Island countries.



LETTERS

Statistician strikes back

In your February issue I read the article by Bengt and Marie-Thérèse Danielsson headed "Fact, fiction, and figuring in the budget debate."

For the information of your readers, I want to go into a little more detail about employment and unemployment figures, and the inflation rate, in French Polynesia.

The "huge proportion of expatriate Frenchmen" employed as civil servants and government employees is about 28 per cent when military personnel are included, and 14 per cent if only civilian personnel are counted.

I agree with the authors when they say that unemployed people are "statistically non-existent" in French Polynesia. But it's the same in many other countries in the Pacific and elsewhere. Only the big developed nations have good figures on unemployment. At the last census (April 29, 1977), 1689 unemployed persons were recorded, and the unemployment rate was 3.8 per cent. Even if it's logical to think that this rate has increased, it is not reasonable to suggest that "there are probably about 20,000 poor devils" without jobs in 1983 in French Polynesia. It's a gratuitous affirmation absolutely without foundation. The next census (October 15, 1983) will provide the answer.

The article further says: "Officially it (the inflation rate) was 15 per cent in 1982, but was actually at least twice as high." With this statement, the authors question my honesty, and the probity of my collaborators.

I don't claim that the consumer price index of French Polynesia is the best in the Pacific — no price index in the world is perfect. I just think that this index is a good and objective "tool". It has been built up from the results of a survey of household expenditures in 1979. Every month 8000 prices are recorded from about 200 shops and markets around Tahiti and Moorea.

As a statistician's office, we try, and I think successfully, to

apply international recommendations (Commission of Statistics of the United Nations, New Delhi, November 8-19, 1976), and particularly the following one: "The credibility of statistics requires that the office of statistics is, and has the reputation of being, impartial and objective." This is a rule that all statisticians, even French ones, try to follow.

When the authors write that the inflation rate is actually twice the official result, I think it's another gratuitous affirmation.

I hope Marie-Thérèse and Bengt Danielsson will explain in an early issue of PIM how they arrive at this conclusion. Then your readers will be fully informed.

GERARD BAUDCHON

Director, Territorial Institute of Statistics

Papeete Tahiti
French Polynesia

How "independent" after all?

The process of granting independence to the former colonies is almost completed, and what we get is trouble and uncertainty for all.

Why? It is because some former colonies became militant, too poor to feed themselves, and not experienced enough to look after their own affairs.

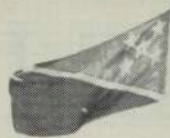
Economically, they haven't got a chance of competing with the already developed countries. The only alternative is to beg for a fair deal, or flirt with the superpowers as some are doing at present.

Sometimes those who led their people to independence had to sacrifice their own people's freedom by aligning themselves with communism, or some other form of socialism.

Socialism is a social state like that of Hitler's Germany. World War II had to be fought for individual freedom.

The Russians didn't die in the Pacific to liberate us, or even in Africa, so why do we have to look to Russia for help? Some people are trying to pit the United States and its Western allies against the Soviet and its Eastern bloc, just because the developing countries cannot run the race.

Mismanagement and corrup-



What cost for a new nation — any new nation — to keep its flag flying?

tion cannot be tolerated in any independent country, and least of all in poor developing independent countries.

There are more killings now than in colonial days. They appear to be wanton killings, similar to those in Nazi Germany. There is more uncertainty about the future for most people, except for those in power.

There is no such thing as non-alignment in developing countries. One is either dependent on the Soviet and its bloc, or on the United States and its allies in one way or another, even if this dependence is concealed.

It is a matter of choice — freedom for all, or for just a few who are in power for the time being.

We cannot all be equal. But at least we should enjoy freedom.

TIMOTHY DEJE

Nauru
Central Pacific

Indigestible pancakes

I wish to express both my amazement and disappointment about an article in the February issue of PIM.

As one interested in Pacific Island studies and an active researcher into Pacific Island affairs, I have always enjoyed reading your magazine. I find the contents diverse and informative. However I believe that the article in the Tropicalities section, page 23 (PIM Feb 1983) on the Pancake Manor in Brisbane has lowered your previously high standard.

This article is quite pointless and trivial and its attempts to give it a Pacific connection are miserable.

Am I to understand from this that PIM has gone the way of other less illustrious publications and is going to make general restaurant appraisals a regular feature? Perhaps I can anticipate a column by some self-appointed wine expert covering the "wines of the region".

NGAIRE REA

Arncliffe NSW
Australia

There's no "Chinese Wall" between the Pacific Islands and the rest of the world, and there are forms of pancake in the Islands just as there are everywhere else. We found Professor Richardson's article of considerable interest, and its "Pacific connection" quite adequate. We have no present intention of introducing a column on wines. — PIM.

We flew off course . . .

I would like to correct an error which appeared in your publication dated January 1983. The error appeared in an article on Edward Akilo Piawe on page 39 of that issue.

Mr Piawe was awarded a pilot scholarship from Australian Aerospace Pty Ltd, agents for the De Havilland Aircraft of Canada range of aircraft in Australia and the Pacific, and not from the Australian Flying Training School, who were the people contracted to train him.

Mr Piawe who has since returned to Papua New Guinea is



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LETTERS

now employed by Air Niugini as a trainee pilot and is soon to start his Fokker F27 course.

We of Australian Aerospace wish him every success and happiness in his new career.

D. C. NEWSON
MANAGER

Australian Aerospace
Yagoona
NSW
Australia

On superior outsiders

Dr Matthew Spriggs, I imagine, sees nothing invidious in the fact that he, rather than a native Hawaiian, is assistant professor of archaeology at the University of Hawaii at Manoa. "It just so happens," I can imagine him saying, "that there are no native Hawaiians who are qualified archaeologists like I am." As an archaeologist, Dr Spriggs is therefore superior to the native Hawaiian.

Dr Spriggs sets a good deal of store by superior qualifications. With a doctorate of philosophy from the Australian National University, he finds that the reporting in PIM of anthropological and particularly archaeological research in the Pacific is "often inaccurate" (PIM Feb p10). He therefore suggests that PIM should get a qualified archaeologist to "check the accuracy of the reports that are published in its pages".

Dr Spriggs cites several cases in the September and October issues of 1982, which, he claims, were inaccurate. One was my review of Richard Feinberg's

book *Anuta* in which I suggested that two outsiders — a Prussian and a Lascar — who were left on Tikopia in 1813 may have had some influence, both genetically and culturally, on the subsequent history of that island and on neighboring Anuta.

I did not suggest that the Prussian and the Lascar had to be superior to the Tikopians to have had children — merely that, being human, it would have been strange if they did not. On the other hand, I did imply that as the Prussian and the Lascar would have arrived on Tikopia with some knowledge that the Tikopians didn't have, it could well be that the Tikopians were smart enough to learn something from them.

Dr Spriggs, with his PhD from ANU, finds my ideas about Tikopia just as invidious as the theory expounded in my book *The Lost Caravel*. This is that castaways from the Spanish caravel *San Lesmes*, lost in the Eastern Pacific in the early 16th century, played a significant role both genetically and culturally on the various Polynesian islands where they happened to settle. According to Dr Spriggs, my argument on this matter is of the same order as Erich von Däniken's claim that Kiribati was influenced by spacemen.

"When will Pacific prehistory and culture be properly credited to Pacific islanders themselves rather than to 'superior' outsiders?" Dr Spriggs asks.

I believe, Mr Editor, that I know the answer. It is when "superior" outsiders such as Dr Spriggs, the Prussian, the Lascar

and "my" Spanish castaways don't happen to be around to exert an influence on the Pacific islanders' history and culture.

Please note, however, that "superior" is Dr Spriggs' term, not mine. I would expect that, in some accomplishments, Dr Spriggs, for example, would be considerably inferior to many Pacific islanders.

ROBERT LANGDON

Canberra ACT
Australia

Shark callers not news

Dr W. G. Coppell's praise of Dennis O'Rourke's documentary film *The Shark Callers of Kontu* (PIM, Mar. p21) is good news, indeed. But those shark callers are not news.

Readers may remember my review of Glenys Koehnke's fine book *The Shark Callers* (PIM, Aug. '75). They may have read, too, Ian Stuart's review of that book (*PNG Post-Courier*, May 2, 1975), and Hank Nelson's (*Journal of Pacific History*, Vol. 12, Pt. 4, 1977).

There are accounts of the shark callers by Hortense Powdermaker (1933), W. C. Groves (1936), Gil Patten (1954), Bengt Anell (1955) and others. Perhaps the best one is in Otto Schläginhaufen's *Muliam: Zwei Jahre unter Suedsee-Insulanern* (1959). And, of course, Abel Janszoon Tasman, the great sailor, bartered beads for a shark off New Ireland on April 7, 1643. Tasman's journal has a drawing of three islanders in a

canoe, one of them blowing a conch shell, an important tool used by shark callers.

HARRY H. JACKMAN
Angaston, South Australia
Australia

Give the credit to France

While it is true that Mme Solange Petit-Skinner is "an anthropologist and psychologist from the United States" (PIM Feb.) in terms of residence, I am sure that those of the U.S. academic community who are familiar with her work would not want to deny France the credit for her training.

ALBERT J. SCHUTZ
University of Hawaii
Honolulu, Hawaii,
USA

"Thank you, Papua New Guinea ..."

Since returning from Papua New Guinea in January, I have been purchasing PIM to keep up with the country's events. I was interested in PNG before travelling there but now my interest has deepened a lot. My experiences in PNG will never be forgotten.

I am only 19 and it was my first venture alone anywhere, so there was some apprehension. But what I found there was better than anything I could have wished for.

My thanks go to so many of PNG's people who extended such a warm and unconditional welcome to me. Not only is the country itself beautiful, but, more importantly, the people are also.

My month in the country went much too quickly, every new face brought more stories and a new friendship. I have never felt warmth and care to such a degree before — thanks Papua New Guinea.

Sure, Papua New Guinea has got its problems, so has Australia and every other country. But I found a very special people there, a people the country can be very proud of. Thanks again for everything, PNG, and keep up the great work.

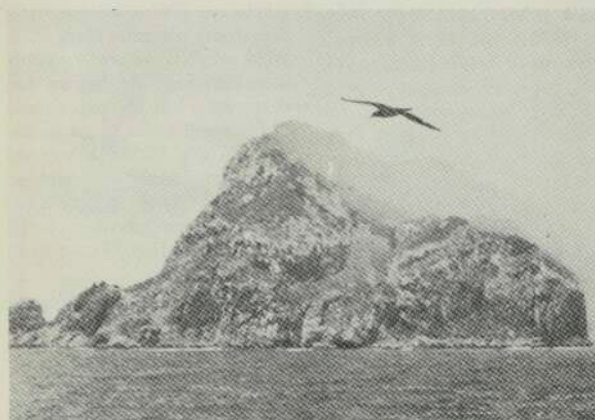
MARK COOPER
Geelong, Victoria
Australia



An 18th century drawing from one of Cook's voyages, showing Hawaiians whose masks may have been copied from Spanish helmets. Not a superior influence, but rather an interchange of ideas, writes Robert Langdon.

Matthew and Hunter: Their greatness has been thrust upon them . . .

A proclamation of sovereignty over two uninhabited islands was made in March by a Vanuatu expedition which visited the islands by sea. The Vanuatu flag was raised on Hunter Island, and the expedition circled Matthew Island. France disputes the Vanuatu claim, saying that the two islands are part of New Caledonia.



It is said that some men are born great, others have greatness thrust upon them.

The same could be said of islands.

Lying at the extreme southern end of the Vanuatu chain, the islands of Matthew and Hunter, for example, certainly lack any semblance of inherited greatness. PIM in April 1963 described Matthew Island as "one of the most useless parcels of land in

the South Pacific," adding: "It is miles from anywhere. There is no water on it. It has no vegetation except grass, and no animal life apart from crabs and seabirds."

But with the advent of the United Nations' Law of Sea, these two tiny remote volcanic — Matthew tripled in size in the 1950s after an eruption — and uninhabited islands suddenly assumed the greatness of their sur-

rounding 200 miles of ocean — as an exclusive economic zone.

The fact was not lost on French Government officials in Noumea, hundreds of miles to the west. In December 1975, they sent out the French warship *La Bayonnaise* to officially take possession of the islands in the name of France. A plaque was affixed to each island to commemorate the grand occasion.

The following December, the

French Government passed a law stipulating, for the first time, that the two islands were part of the territory of New Caledonia and its dependencies.

The only problem was that the French — with the assent of the British — had already declared the islands to be part of the New Hebrides. Their maps were the official maps of the Condominium. (The French had been responsible for the country's en-



The Vanuatu flag is raised to the masthead on Hunter Island, watched by government officials, observers, traditional chiefs and crew members of the government ship *Euphrosyne*. Opposite page: Craggy Hunter Island shows its profile, and the ship stands off the rocky inlet while the landing party goes ashore.

Howled down as hoax

tire mapping program, but after 1960 France retained topographical mapping while the British undertook geological mapping.) The French-made maps clearly showed the islands as part of the New Hebrides, within the administrative jurisdiction of the Tanna district agent.

The French had, in fact, been mapping the islands as part of the New Hebrides for more than a century.

Thus it was no surprise when Vanuatu, upon its independence in July 1980, repudiated the belated French claims to its territory.

Now Vanuatu has gone ahead

and successfully asserted its authority over the islands by raising its flag on Hunter Island.

An official government party led by Tafea local government council secretary, Joe Joseph, hoisted his country's colors on March 9.

Radio Vanuatu broke the story two days later, but in New Caledonia it was howled down as a hoax by the pro-French media.

The media claimed that Vanuatu could not bypass French navy radar, that Hunter Island was almost impossible to land upon, and that the island did not smoke in the way described in Vanuatu reports.

On March 10, the French patrol vessel *Dunkerquoise* met up with the Vanuatu government vessel *Euphrosyne* on its way back to Aneityum from Matthew Island. Discounting its radar, all the *Dunkerquoise* may have seen was the *Euphrosyne* rounding, and then leaving, Matthew Island.

At least this appears to be what was reported to the French authorities. It led to France's Defence Minister Charles Hernu denying that the Hunter Island flag-raising took place.

But the question remains, did France turn a blind eye?

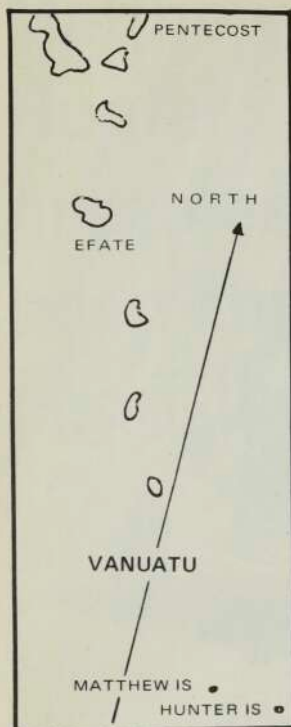
In Port-Vila French Govern-

ment officials had spoken knowingly of Vanuatu's intentions a week before the event.

In any case, the French diplomatic response had been to continue to repeat its assertion that its claims to the islands are "incontestable". Unlike the Vanuatu Government, France has studiously avoided publishing any evidence to support its "claims".

For its part the Vanuatu Government refuses to accept that any French claim to the islands exists. All that exists, it says, on the French side is a half-hearted attempt at annexation.

Vanuatu strongly contrasts the



The French Dunkerquise which shadowed the expedition, and a map showing the islands.



basis of its sovereignty to the Matthew and Hunter Islands based on customary ownership, to the colonial territorial ambitions of the French.

To emphasise this point, three custom chiefs accompanied the government team and performed custom ceremonies on Hunter Island before the flag was raised. The chiefs were from South Tanna, Futuna and Aneityum. All three islands have strong customary ties to both Matthew and Hunter Islands.

It was on this basis that New

Caledonia's Independence Front last year recognised the sovereignty of Vanuatu over both islands.

That Vanuatu's tour of Matthew and Hunter Islands was successfully carried out under the nose of the French navy has caught some Pacific nations by surprise.

Vanuatu has proved that it is free to come, put up its flag, and go, with practically no interference. All the French did was wave goodbye.

At least one Pacific state, Fiji,

whose delimitation agreement with New Caledonia implicitly recognises French control of the area, must be left wondering about that.

Other countries, such as Australia, who have publicly declared themselves neutral in the dispute, are simply hoping France accepts reality and agrees to the Vanuatu request to come to the table to resolve the matter as soon as possible. — *Special correspondent in Vanuatu.*

See Page 5: French helicopters on Hunter Island.

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From the ISLANDS PRESS



The Samoa Times, Apia, Western Samoa

Two journalists from two of the world's best-known newspapers the Observer in Britain and the New York Times in the United States, Messrs Gaven Young and Richard Bernstein respectively, have been gathering material in Apia for articles on the controversy over Margaret Mead's book about coming of age in Samoa and about Derek Freeman's book which contradicts her conclusions. Mead found in the 1920s that Samoans had an open attitude towards sex, and allegedly hid nothing from their children. Coupled with the freedom of the children to move from natural parents to de facto parents in aunts and uncles, Mead concluded that this was the reason the Samoans were free from guilts and hangups. Freeman on the other hand is arguing in his book that Mead's Samoa of free-loving natives did not exist at all. Where the truth lies will probably never be satisfactorily determined. But one thing is certain: For better or for worse, Samoa is getting more publicity from this controversy than from any other event in its history.

From an article by Phyllis Rex in Tohi Tala Niue, Niue, on the need to protect the Niuean language from inroads by the English language

The pressures exerted by the English language are enormous. English is forever adopting words from other languages without a second thought. Where English is introduced as a second language it generally has more status attached to it than the local language and could eventually replace the local language altogether. English has often been described as "greedy and all-devouring." With the help of all who are interested, we can prevent Niuean from being devoured. Apart from the ever-increasing danger of using English only, we also face the task of coping with terms made necessary by new technology. It will be interesting to observe how well the Niuean language copes with computers and all their associated terminology.

Part of a letter to The Fiji Times, Suva, in which Meli Bogileka suggests that the famous song Isa Lei should be identified with Fiji, not merely with Suva

The Isa Lei song which we hear every night when our radio programs close should have new words at the end. The last verse which goes "... mai Suva nanuma tikoga" means "... do always remember Suva." Since this song is more or less a national farewell, I suggest that a national name such as Fiji or Viti should be substituted for Suva, so the line reads "... mai Fiji (or Viti) nanuma tikoga."

A statement by Micronesian Senator Henchi Balos, published in the Marshall Islands Journal, about families displaced from Bikini Atoll by nuclear tests

Our desires are very simple. In 1946, when we were moved away from home we were told that the move would be temporary and that the United States would care for us until we could return home. Thirty-seven years have passed and we are still not home. We are told that Bikini will not be safe to live on for more than 100 years. We ask only that the United States continued to care for us until we can return home. As you know we are unhappy with the Compact of Free Association because we do not want to be left in the care of the Marshall Islands

Government. The Marshall Islands Government did not cause the damage at Bikini and it should not be asked to take care of us as a result of that damage. We do not want the United States to walk away from us and close the book on Bikini.

From a news feature by Bernard Maladina, published in The Times of Papua New Guinea, Port Moresby

Some areas of Port Moresby are so rascal-ridden that they have become a financial risk to insure. And insurance firms in the national capital will not issue insurance cover on people's homes that do not have a burglar alarm, a watchdog, security bars and lights and a fence.

The Samoa Times, Apia, Western Samoa

We should stop relying on other people's advice which, over the years, has been found most unreliable. Over the years because of deep respect for Christianity and fear of the white missionaries, Samoans have progressively surrendered to the power of the foreign gods. Anything a white man said must be good, and only white men were to be trusted. This is the saddest part of the whole exercise, because it is not the foreigners who do not trust the Samoans, but the Samoans themselves who have no faith in their own people.

From Akio Heine's column in the Marshall Islands Journal

"Aarrgh, you touch my woman, me clonk your head with big rock!" Beware of Neanderthal men hanging out at disco bars. Friday and Saturday nights. If you go near their women, either by intention or mistake, they are likely to beat your head with Stone Age tools like rocks, instead of using words to convey how they feel about your asking to dance with their women.

From a letter published in the Vanuatu government newspaper, Tam-Tam, complaining about the closing of a road beneath State House in Port-Vila

People who are working at the Prime Minister's Office now have to walk up the hill. Think about that when it rains sometimes, what will happen if they arrive at their offices with their shorts and shirts full of mud? Please, people who have been involved in setting up the road block, wake up to the fact that by taking such a step, you have not solved the security problem, but helped to make it worse by creating a new situation where the lives of little children are going to be endangered by the heavy traffic and also civil servants at the PM's Office are going to arrive very late for work.

Comment from The Reporter, published by the Papua New Guinea University of Technology in Lae, PNG

For the past few months we have been greatly disturbed by a number of cars moving in and out of the numbered lodges at any time of the day and night as if it was a public road. I would like to kindly ask those directly responsible to ask their visitors to leave their cars out on the streets if he/she is not spending the night with you. Taking cars in for a short conversation and then leaving at any time of the night is very disturbing to innocent students who are either asleep or studying.

A reference in the Cook Islands News to police investigation work on Palmerston Island (population 53)

He (the police commissioner) said of all the reported incidents on the island, no charges had been laid as none could be substantiated, apart from three domestic assaults which were not proceeded with.

Information Bulletin of the University of the South Pacific, Fiji

It's an ill wind which blows no good, and Hurricane Oscar has actually helped two British scientists doing research on Fiji fungi. Some of the trees which were blown down contain fungus specimens which were previously inaccessible because they were growing so high in the tree canopy.

From a letter to the editor appearing in The Times of Papua New Guinea, Port Moresby

It is difficult to gauge the extent to which the Papua New Guinea Department of Education actually deceives itself in its energetic attempts to deceive everyone else.

COOK ISLANDS

Quiet election campaigning leads up to dramatic result

The March 30 general election in the Cook Islands saw the Cook Islands Party (CIP) swept back to power after five years in opposition, and the former prime minister, Sir Thomas Davis, lose his seat in Parliament.

Another casualty was former senior cabinet minister Iaveta Short, once regarded as top contender to succeed Sir Thomas as leader of the Democratic Party (DP).

The lead-up to the election had been in marked contrast to the highly charged 1978 election campaigns, and their explosive aftermath of electoral petitions over the fly-in voter issue.

Although the DP had governed with a 16-six majority over the CIP as a result of the 1978 electoral petitions, the popular votes for the two parties had been very close. A closely fought election in 1983 was expected, and indeed occurred.

But the lead-up of 1983 was almost a non-event compared with 1978. Absent were the T-shirts emblazoned with party slogans, public banners, and the nightly packed public dances. Absent also were the fear, intimidation and other emotions that led to deep differences between neighbors, friends and families. Public speakers avoided personal attacks.

A conscious effort had clearly been made to tone the campaigning down. This was contributed to by a new policy of the government-controlled radio and newspaper which restricted the availability of time and space to the political parties. (This policy of course gave an additional advantage to the ruling DP which retained the use of the media for "government" publicity.)

The spate of electoral petitions which have followed recent elections in the Pacific influenced campaign organisers to ensure that there was no hint of electoral offences such as treating and bribery.

But the Cook Islands could not

TREVOR CLARKE reports from Rarotonga on the general election held in the Cook Islands on March 30. The election saw the return to power of the Cook Islands Party under the leadership of Geoffrey Henry, a cousin of the late Cooks leader, Albert Henry.

completely abandon its penchant for sensations.

With the CIP under the leadership of Geoffrey Henry returned to power on preliminary results of 14-10, the sensation occurred with the loss by Sir Thomas Davis of his seat to a moderate ranker in the CIP, Rei Jack. Although Mr Jack is relatively prominent in his district he had not been a clear-cut choice of candidate for CIP, and he is not a forceful public speaker.

Sir Thomas was clearly stunned by the result and announced to reporters his intention to retire from politics before he informed his party.

Iaveta Short was defeated in the Ngatangia Constituency Rarotonga by first-time candidate Dr Terepai Maoate. Dr Maoate is a former director of clinical services in Rarotonga, but in recent years has been living permanently in Aitutaki.

As in previous elections, the key to success lay in the constituencies in Rarotonga. Here the CIP took seven seats to the DP's two in the preliminary count (the DP had previously held all nine seats). This was amended on the final count when sitting member Harry Napa (DP) regained his seat by two votes over Raymond Pirangi (CIP). This trimmed the 14-10 victory to a narrow but workable 13-11.

CIP leader Geoffrey Henry made a major contribution to his party's success by leaving his safe seat in Aitutaki and standing for what was regarded as a marginal seat in Rarotonga. His clear victory in that seat stamped extra authority on his leadership, putting to rest the challenge for leadership from Tupui Henry.

The parties retained all seats previously held in the outer islands, with the DP winning the newly created third seat in the island of Mangaia. The CIP for its part took the new Overseas constituency.

The Unity Movement led by former CIP cabinet minister Dr Joe Williams and comprising persons formerly prominent in the CIP and DP contested 19 of the 24 seats but failed badly. Only Dr Williams, who polled 18.8 per cent of the votes in his constituency, had any effect on the result. The margins in all other constituencies were such that vote-splitting by Unity was not a reason for defeat.

The overall popular vote for all constituencies gave the CIP 50.1 per cent, DP 44.9 per cent, and Unity five per cent. As with the previous three elections, the difference between CIP and DP was less than five per cent — 4.4 per cent this time. The turnout for the polls was 89 per cent of registered voters, with the Overseas constituency having the smallest voter turnout at 77 per cent.

As the pre-election campaigns had been so quiet the reasons for the swing from DP to CIP were more subtle than previously. Few widespread issues had emerged in the debates. There was no doubt though that the CIP had retained its solid core of supporters and had won over others.

The loss of the DP probably began in 1981 when it increased the life of Parliament from four to five years without prior reference to the electorate. This had been seen by many as wrong in principle, but even more so be-

cause of a belief that the increase had been chiefly designed to secure pension benefits for incumbent ministers. Widespread criticism of high non-accountable expenditure on ministerial overseas travel was another factor.

To a lesser extent the turnover tax introduced by the DP, although now generally accepted by the business community, provided scope for dissatisfaction.

Of greater significance however was the individual performance of members and candidates in their constituencies. Sir Thomas Davis was regarded as having grown increasingly remote from his constituency of Avatiu, Iaveta Short as having



Geoffrey Henry

left his involvement in Ngatangia to the last year only. The CIP candidates by contrast were seen as performers, or at least potential performers, at the constituency level.

Geoffrey Henry has a growing reputation as a moderate and articulate leader. His successful candidates include a number with cabinet experience, including the highly respected George Ellis. Dr Maoate is a likely addition to cabinet with the health portfolio. The party manifesto of the CIP does not give any indication of fundamental changes in direction by the new government, but a number of areas, such as taxation, are to be the subject of a general review.



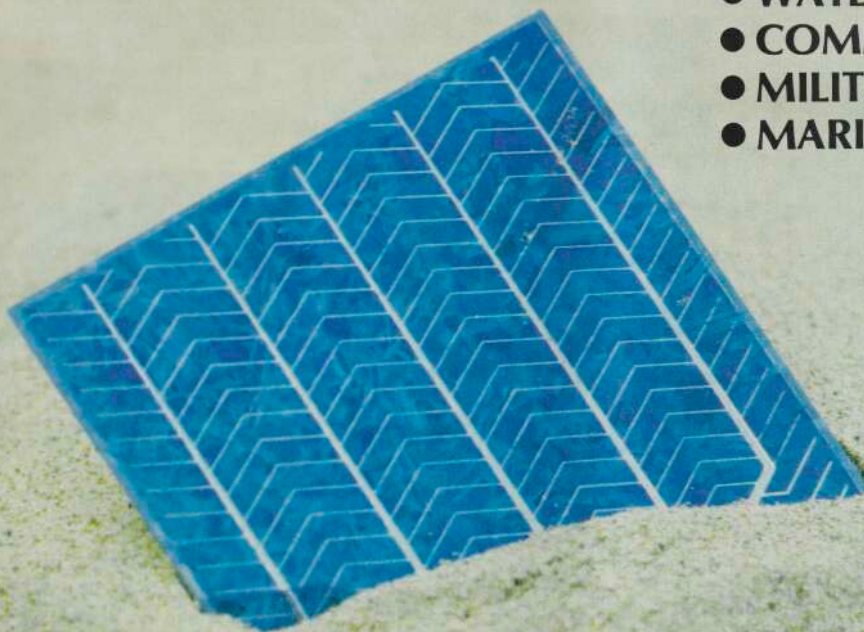
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THE MONTH

● Long exile for
Bikini people — P19

● France unveils
new plan — P21

● Regional role
of Hawaii — P27

● Stormy weather,
stormy vote — P23



Report from Vanuatu Christine Coombe

Inside story of a deportation

"When are you leaving? You're in danger."

The words coming over the phone lacked any trace of concern. The voice of the man describing himself as "John Smith" reminded *Voice of Vanuatu* staff people of a source which is seldom far from the prime minister's side . . .

Then, screeching to a halt outside the newspaper's office, came a truck of the Mobile Force, the military wing of Vanuatu's police.

The truck was filled with soldiers. One got out, came to the office, and asked for a three-month subscription to *Voice of Vanuatu*. When I asked him to come back the following week, he left with a broad grin on his face . . .

These were two incidents, minor frustrations, which occurred during a morning in the last week of production of *Voice of Vanuatu*.

At any time from March 12 when the "Order of Removal from Vanuatu" and the "Notice to Leave Vanuatu" were served, I could have been jailed.

The order, signed by the Minister of Home Affairs, Sela Molisa, said I might be kept in prison or in police custody, at his discretion, and while in jail this would be lawful custody.

My priority was clear. If I

were to stand by the freedom of the press and speech, granted by Vanuatu's constitution, then I had to exercise the right to continue producing the newspaper.

The order and the notice gave me two weeks to leave Vanuatu. The notice described me as an undesirable resident, and as a security threat.

The papers were served on Saturday, March 12, at 9 p.m. in my office, by Commissioner of

English-born Christine Coombe was a freelance journalist in Vanuatu, and was established there before independence. She established and operated the *Voice of Vanuatu* newspaper, and she was Vanuatu correspondent for PIM and for Radio Australia. She was deported in March following an unsuccessful appeal against an order signed by Home Affairs Minister Sela Molisa. The order declared her to be an undesirable resident and to be a security risk. Here she tells of her last weeks in Vanuatu before being put on an aircraft for Australia.

Police and Principal Immigration Officer, Bill Horman.

When the news got out, there was a public outcry throughout Vanuatu. A petition was circulated at the instigation of readers. Page by page it was delivered to the prime minister's office.

The petition was headed "We

want *Voice of Vanuatu* and freedom of speech". All but one of the signatures were from Melanesians.

Foreigners put their heads in the sand. Friends insisted the telephones were tapped and the office bugged. Local advertisers grew scarce. One said the company feared to be seen supporting *Voice of Vanuatu*.

While reporters tend to be quick to notice policemen and police cars, I'm confident my movements were being watched. I rarely went anywhere unaccompanied by a staff member. They knew to contact our lawyer if I didn't come back when I said I would.

Their support and the support

enough. But what they needed was to see it being exercised. From then on they confidently snubbed the many attempts to undermine their will.

Privately we kept our spirits up by re-writing a few hymns. The favorite was "Amazing Grace". I threatened staff with immediate dismissal if they sang it in the streets. They laughed.

Port-Vila lawyers, Hudson and Co., were instructed on the Monday morning following the notices being served.

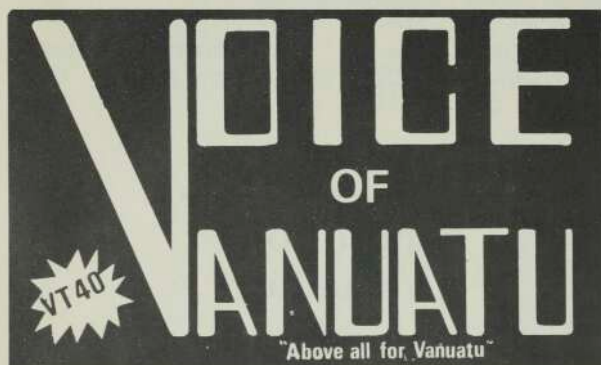
Parliament opened that week and the first point of the opening speech from Leader of the Opposition Vincent Boulekone was that the constitution had again been defiled by the deportation order on the editor of *Voice of Vanuatu*.

Voice of Vanuatu has closed its doors, he said, government has 100 per cent control of its information weekly and the national radio. There will be no freedom of speech, the Opposition Leader said.

While *Voice of Vanuatu* was rolling from the presses on the Friday following the opening of parliament the leader of the opposition fought to have his opening speech accurately recorded. The official parliamentary records had blurred his comments on freedom of speech, he said.

Hudson and Co. wrote to the minister for home affairs asking for reconsideration of the order and notice on the grounds that they infringed the constitution and proclamations by the general assembly of the United Nations which both uphold the freedom of speech and the right to work.

THE MONTH



Masthead of Christine Coombe's newspaper *Voice of Vanuatu*. The paper was published weekly, although there was a gap in continuity at one stage of its production life. The total number of issues produced was about 145, and the paper was first produced in 1979. Port-Vila has one other paper, the weekly *Tam Tam* which is published in English, French and Bislama by the government.

The appeal claimed the people of Vanuatu would have no outlet for freedom of speech if *Voice of Vanuatu* closed.

The appeal stated that I published statements from a sacked minister and two ministers who resigned, and investigated all information provided by Melanesians without fabrication or distortion. I had merely exercised a democratic right, in no way threatening security. Vanuatu's standing as a democracy would be thrown into question by my deportation, the appeal stated.

In a letter dated March 24, Home Minister Molisa *refused*, and *dismissed*, the appeal.

On Friday, March 25, the court sat before Chief Justice Freddie Cooke. The following Melanesians brought action against the minister for home affairs claiming their freedom of speech would be lost with my deportation: MP John Naupa, MP Thomas Reuben Seru, MP George Worek, MP Kalmer Vocor, and Morrison Tangarasi.

The chief justice dismissed the preliminary hearing. On the Saturday morning the court sat again. An appeal against the chief justice's decision to dismiss the preliminary hearing was heard by judges from Noumea and Tuvalu, present in Vanuatu

for the sitting of the tribunal which hears matters relating to the constitution. "Ingenious" was the way they described David Hudson's grounds for appeal. They dismissed the case.

My attempts to contact the immigration department, the principal immigration officer and home minister, who was also contacted by Hudson & Co., failed to establish that I might be given a compassionate extension of time to fix up business matters.

It seems the authorities kept the deportation time under wraps as they feared a truck convoy might attempt to block the airfield if my departure time was known.

This idea came from readers who said they would block the airstrip to keep me in Vanuatu. But when they came to buy what was to be the final issue of *Voice of Vanuatu*, I asked them not to break the law and they agreed.

Early on Sunday morning police came to my home and I was told to pack a bag. The police helped me pack. I was told not to use the telephone. At police headquarters I was told I would be put on a flight to Brisbane.

Both staunch Presbyterians, my assistant, Allan Andrews, and reporter, Simeon Robert, had turned up at the office on Sunday without being asked, to help me clear up the newspaper's affairs. Police allowed them to come with us to the airport.

It can only be assumed that my deportation is a result of the prime minister's embarrassment at my publishing statements from his former ministers claiming he was a dictator, and that they



feared a military dictatorship. He was also no doubt embarrassed by the revelation in *Voice of Vanuatu* of his reaching an agreement, without consulting cabinet, with a bank to borrow \$US350 million which would have financially crippled Vanuatu for generations, with interest payments alone exceeding the country's national income.

Significantly, in the five weeks of revelation on these and some other matters, readers' let-

Christine Coombe: "The only failure in the *Voice of Vanuatu* was that it did not achieve my dream of being run by the Melanesian people who read it".

ters to the paper concerned the immediate family problems of the day, and the saga of "Veronica", which revolved around the marriage of Melanesians to people of other races, and the pros and cons of such relationships.

It was only when my deportation was ordered that the public wholeheartedly supported *Voice of Vanuatu's* stand, apart from one letter written by Grace Molisa, wife of the minister for home affairs. It amounted to a bitter personal attack.

Whatever the consequences for me, I am confident that *Voice of Vanuatu* preserved its integrity.

It failed only in my dream of it being run by the Melanesians who read it.

Voice of Vanuatu was supported totally by funds from the tourist service paper *What's Doing in Vanuatu*, and I earned a living from freelance work.

Voice of Vanuatu came a long way, but in a long time. When I first sold copies on the street, Melanesians would ask where I got the newspaper from. When I told them I made it they said "Don't tell us lies".

I never did. — Christine Coombe.



John Naupa, an influential member of the parliamentary group claiming that speech freedoms are being put at risk.

THE MONTH



Notes from the North Floyd K. Takeuchi on Micronesia

Exile without end for the Bikinians

Size is everything for Americans. They come from a country that has vast distances. Their culture is built upon the notion that bigger is usually better.

So they often have a very difficult time understanding in an empathetic way the concerns of Islanders who live their lives on small, isolated spits of sand. Americans simply have no reference point.

In many respects, this has been the central problem that has plagued relations between Americans and the people of Bikini atoll in the Marshall Islands. For 37 years, they have been talking past each other — not intentionally, but that has been the effect.

This long-standing issue in Micronesia is again in the news following the March visit to Washington of most of Bikini's senior leaders. The 11-member delegation, headed by Magistrate Tomaki Juda and Marshalls Senator Henchi Balos, spent 45 minutes with Vice-President George Bush in the White House.

It was the first time that the Bikinians had met with such a high-ranking American leader. Most of their official dealings have been with members of Congress, who may enjoy considerable clout but who are not a heartbeat away from the presidency.

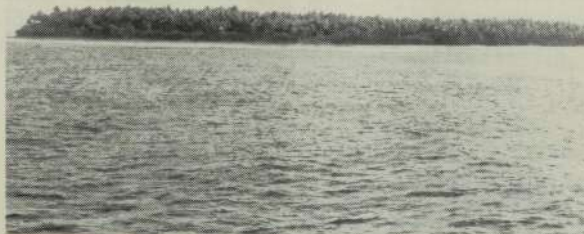
The historic meeting, which took place on March 3, was arranged by Fred Zeder, President Reagan's personal representative to the Micronesian status

negotiations. Zeder is a long-time Bush supporter, and a personal friend of the vice-president. Indeed, it was that close tie that got the wealthy Honolulu businessman his appointment as U.S. ambassador to the status talks.

The Bikinians came away encouraged by the meeting with Bush. Not optimistic — they have had too many hopes dashed over the years. But to have had their case personally heard by the United States' second highest leader counts for something.

Senator Balos, who was born on Bikini shortly before it be-

Bikini atoll in the far north of the Marshall Islands. It is now 37 years since the entire population — fewer than 100 people — was resettled to the south in the interests of atom bomb tests. Radio-activity still prevents a return.



came an atomic testing ground in 1946, spoke for the group at the meeting with Bush. He told the vice-president:

"Our desires are very simple. In 1946, when we were moved away from home, we were told that the move would be temporary and that the United States would care for us until we could return home. Thirty-seven years have passed and we are still not home. We are told that Bikini will not be safe to live on for more than 100 years. We ask only that the United States continue to care for us until we can return home."

What concerns the Bikinians is that under the proposed Compact of Free Association, the United States and the Marshall Islands government agree to close American courts to any claims arising out of the 12 years of atomic testing in those Islands. The Bikinians have a \$450 million claim pending against Washington in a federal court.

Thus, Balos told Bush: "The Marshall Islands Government did not cause the damage at Bikini and it should not be asked to take care of us as a result of that damage. We do not want the

United States to walk away from us and close the books on Bikini. This is our fear about the compact . . .

"All but three of the Bikinians here today," Balos continued, "were born on Bikini. We want to die on Bikini and we want our children and grandchildren to live and die on Bikini, our only home. We ask you and President Reagan to do all in your power to help us return to our homeland."

Since the mid-1950s, the Bikinians have lived on Kili Island, an unprotected island in the southern Marshalls. It does not have the lagoon Bikini did, and it does not have the emotional or cultural significance Bikini has.

Their homeland, unfortunately, is also still very radioactive. So much so that U.S. scientists do not expect most of the atoll's islands to be safe for habitation for at least 60 years, if ever.

What Balos and the others want is a continuing pledge from Washington that the needs of the Bikinians will be met until Bikini is safe enough to return to. Those needs are all-consuming — everything from a trust fund to most of the food they eat. That is in the form of U.S. Department of Agriculture canned and packaged goods.

It is here that the hopes of the Bikinians, and the outlook of Americans, are so far apart.

The Americans see a group of about 1100 people being supported by the United States government and wonder what the "complaining" is about. These people are fed and even housed by Uncle Sam, and still their leaders travel to Washington — as often as four times a year — to press the case for more.

The Bikinians, who come from a culture with paramount chiefs who traditionally care for the welfare of their people, have

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Our Super 80 gives four out of five passengers a window or an aisle seat.

The first thing you'll feel when you step into our new Super 80 is a sense of space – from front to back and side to side.

You won't find that in narrow-cabin jets with six-across seating. They stuff 159 passengers into 28 rows. Our new Super 80 stretches 152 seats along 32 rows. Four additional rows, all only five seats wide, take away the crowded feeling.

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Super 80
MCDONNELL DOUGLAS

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long seen the United States as their new chief. It was the United States Navy, after all, that asked them to leave their home for the good of mankind. They left, and their lives have not been the same since. They cannot understand how such a large and rich country as America can be so tight-fisted with its money. There is no sense of obligation or reciprocity involved, and that is alien to the Bikinians, too. Like the Americans, these Islanders lack a common point of reference.

Of course, one should keep in mind that while the major problems of the Bikinians were brought on by the United States, in recent years the Islanders themselves have made their condition more difficult.

This has been brought on by that attitude of complete dependence, the Bikinians' almost blind belief that Washington will take care of them. Thus, it was possible for Magistrate Juda five



Bikini children, photographed during one of several resettlements which followed the displacement of the Bikini atoll population.

years ago to say under a pandanus tree on Kili that if they have any problems, they would "go to Washington." Thus, Senator Balos believes that the U.S. government should "do everything that is right and just."

Where will this all lead? A deeper dependence on the United States is not likely. But there may be some unexpected political implications for the Bikinians, the government of Marshalls President Amata Kabua, and the people of the United States.

Balos, one of Micronesia's most articulate young leaders, insists the Bikinians are deadly serious about not wanting to be under the tutelage of the Marshall Islands government. If the proposed free association arrangement is approved, Balos said: "We will do everything possible to secede from the Marshall Islands." That is a threat heard before, but rarely in such a public way.

He also says the Bikinians are

once again seriously considering asking the U.S. government to relocate them outside of the Marshalls — at least until Bikini can be resettled. A few years ago, a group of Bikini leaders toured part of the Hawaiian Islands and Palmyra atoll as possible new home sites.

Now according to Balos, there is renewed interest, particularly in Hawaii. "It may sound unrealistic," he admits, "but the people would want to come to Hawaii."

The Bikinians "want to be relocated in a place where the U.S. government can take care of them," Balos says.

When asked how they would expect to live in Hawaii, Balos answers in a quiet voice: "Many of the people," he says, "think the U.S. can put up a fence around the place where they are to live."

And the problems of size and perception continue. — *Floyd K. Takeuchi.*



**Noumea
Notebook**
Helen Fraser

France unveils autonomy plan

France presented the broad outlines and philosophy of its proposed statute of autonomy to New Caledonian politicians in mid-March. They have not been widely welcomed in the territory.

The statute follows the introduction by decree in 1982 of seven reforms in New Caledonia by which France aimed to "remove the inequalities and injustices existing in the territory." The reforms, which are now getting off the ground (PIM Mar. p.37), include the returning of much tribal land to customary

Melanesian owners, the setting up of an office of Kanak culture, economic development of the interior and the islands, and the introduction of Melanesian "assessors" to the judicial system.

The aims of the proposed statute rest upon three requirements: "increased responsibility for territorial politicians, the responsibility of the French state in its work of emancipation, and the insertion of the territory in its geographic environment, the South Pacific."

The statute would alter the

present hierarchy of high commissioner (governor), government council and territorial assembly to one which increases local executive powers.

More power would be concentrated in the "territorial government" (former government council) whose president would be elected by the assembly, with the president choosing his own ministers. Most importantly the role of the French high commissioner would be re-defined. No longer governor of the territory, he would represent the French Republic and be chief of the French state services. However, he would retain control of public order and justice, and powers over the territorial institutions.

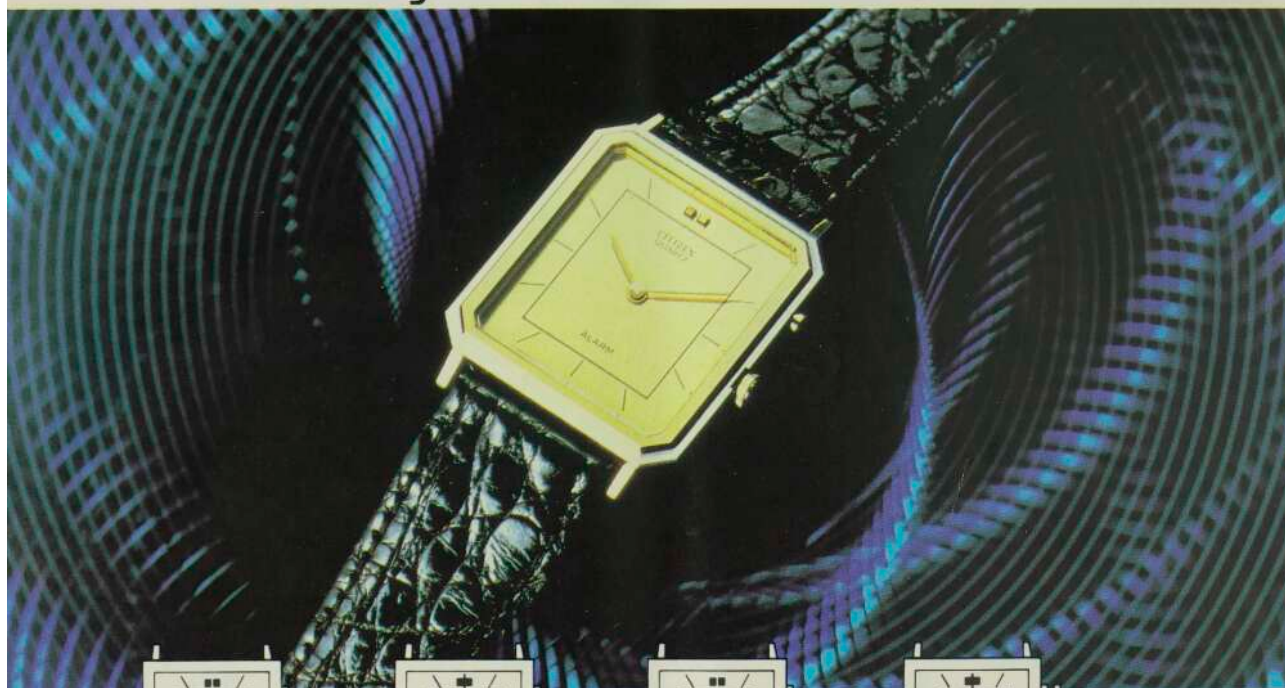
Independence Front leaders issued a communique recalling that their politicians had been

elected on a platform of Kanak socialist independence and that IF members had confirmed this position at their various party congresses (PIM Jan. p.15). The IF regards autonomy as a question of the past, stressing that it does not figure in their platform.

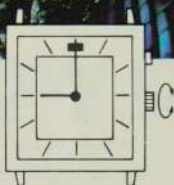
However it could be accepted, their communique says, if it were in the framework of a time table leading towards independence. The IF warns that if France persists with plans that go no further than autonomy, they will establish a provisional government of the Kanak National Liberation Front and will withdraw from government institutions in New Caledonia.

Union Calédonienne leader and Vice-President of the Government Council, Jean-Marie Tjibaou, describes the IF com-

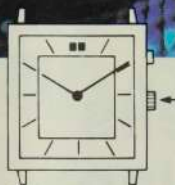
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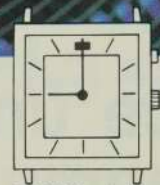
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Pull the crown
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and set as you
would any watch.



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one notch. Hands
automatically
move to the last
alarm setting, and a
Chime tells you that
the alarm is ready
to be reset.



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THE MONTH



Jean-Marie Tjibaou: New role

munique as the "necessary response to the French government, who have made a declaration of its intentions . . . the IF has replied by making a declaration of its intentions."

Front leaders Yann Uregei and

Yeiwene Yeiwene then visited Vanuatu where they enlisted the support of Vanuatu Government leaders for the provisional government plans. Mr Uregei said on his return that the Vanuatu Government would seek a resolution from the Vanuatu Party Congress in June in support of the IF plans.

The Rightwing anti-independence Republican party, RPCR, responded to the autonomy statute outline by pointing out that elections would have to be held in the territory before it could participate in autonomy discussions. The RPCR claims the present IF-Centre party coalition in the Government council is not representative of the majority, and last June petitioned President Mitterrand to call fresh elections. The Centre party, FNSC, quit its former partners, RPCR, and formed a government last June together with the IF.

The RPCR also launched a strong attack on the IF moves towards the creation of a provi-

sional government. In an early April communique they denounced "the excessive publicity" given to the voyage of Uregei and Yeiwene to Vanuatu and the threat to establish a provisional government.

RPCR said the creation and installation of such a government in Vanuatu must be considered as an act of hostility against the French Republic. They underlined their opposition to all forms of violence, but declared they are ready to take any means to block any attempt at secession, which they say would be against the wishes and economic and social interests of the New Caledonian majority.

Discussion on the autonomy proposals were due to start after Easter but have been delayed by the recent French cabinet reshuffle, in which the secretary for state for overseas territories, Henri Emmanuelli, was replaced by Georges Lemoine.

Mr Lemoine, 49, a former university teacher, was first

elected to the French National Assembly in 1978. He is expected to visit New Caledonia before the end of May.

On March 31 the "Cultural, Scientific, Technical and Kanak Office" (known locally as the Office of Kanak Culture) was inaugurated, and elected Jean-Marie Tjibaou as president. It has three representatives of the French state, three from the territory, and six representatives of the customary chiefs. — *Helen Fraser*.

Correction to report "New Caledonia Clash Leaves Police Dead," PIM Feb. p.15: The last sentence of the fourth paragraph of this report said: "More teargas was fired at the villagers and return shots were fired by the gendarmes who then left the scene." This should have read: "More teargas was fired at the villagers — no return shots were fired by the gendarmes who then left the scene." French gendarmes are instructed not to return fire. — *Helen Fraser*.



Postmark Papeete

**Marie-Thérèse and
Bengt Danielsson**

Sea, sky, local polls, all stormy

In PIM March (p.35) we wrote of Cyclone *Nano* which devastated the Tuamotus in January. "such disasters occur in this part of the Pacific at most once in a lifetime." Our article was written in the first days of February. On February 14, the "impossible" happened: another cyclone, this time dubbed *Orama* (Tahitian for "Vision") was born between the Equator and the Marquesas group. Unlike *Nano*,

which had travelled in a well-established pattern along an arc-like path from north to south, *Orama* didn't seem to know where to go.

Its first sudden change of direction occurred at 15 deg. latitude when it veered off due east through the Tuamotus all the way to the *Kon-Tiki* island of Raroia, causing terrible havoc on all atolls in between. It also sank an old wooden ship, the *Tamarii*

Takehau, which should long since have been condemned, causing the loss of five lives.

Everyone expected *Orama* eventually to peter out in the empty vastness of the ocean east of the Tuamotus, as cyclones have tended to do in the past. It did exactly the opposite: it stopped dead in its tracks at Raroia, then quickly returned to the scene of its earlier crimes in the centre of the Tuamotu group, flattening the few houses still left standing from its first assault.

Then, on February 23, it set out for Tahiti. Or at least, so it seemed. But it soon changed course once again, taking off, at increasing speed, in a southeasterly direction. On February

27 it inflicted extensive wave and wind damage on the nuclear testing base at Moruroa, which had been severely hit by *Nano* only a month before (PIM Mar. P.31).

Naturally, there wasn't much the authorities could do during these two anxious weeks except issue well-meaning but totally ineffectual advice to the poor atoll dwellers who, unlike the Tahitians, have no mountains to flee to. This did not stop a green French administrator from urging them to take refuge "on the highest point of the atoll," and to do so "in good time" — before they were hit by the cyclone whose peculiar characteristic was that it was behaving in a manner that was totally unpredictable! or

THE MONTH

they were told to nail down the roofs of their houses more securely — something the few house-owners who *had* nails (the nearest hardware store is in Papeete) would certainly have done already.

However, as soon as the storm had blown over, warships, government vessels and aircraft fanned out through the devastated Tuamotu atolls and began distributing food, blankets, clothing, and even some building materials.

The main problem was, and still is, housing. On Anaa, the whole village, where 1000 people used to live, is gone. If destruction on other islands is less complete, few of the houses still standing have a roof. Since the coconut palms have either been uprooted or have lost their foliage, the sun is beating down on people camping in the ruins. With piles of debris everywhere, and the numerous corpses of dogs, pigs and cats beginning to rot, there is a grave risk of epidemics.

As we wrote in our report on *Nano*, beyond the immediate survival problem there is the other, longer-range, danger: this is the widespread tendency of cyclone victims to get away from the whole mess by going to Tahiti where, more often than not, they have no relatives, or anybody else, to take them in.

Showing his usual political flair, Territorial Assembly Vice-President Gaston Flosse flew off immediately in the wake of the cyclone to the Tuamotus to as-



sure the dispirited islanders that they would be receiving relief money and loans to rebuild their houses — on the old sites. The estimated cost is a staggering CFP2500 million — and this is in addition to the 700 million *Nano* had already cost us. Flosse, of course, counts on France to provide most of the money "out of a sense of national solidarity," while reaping some political kudos for himself.

Other politicians launched their own charitable relief programs — always making sure that a press photographer was on hand to snap a picture or two whenever relief goods were handed over or despatched.

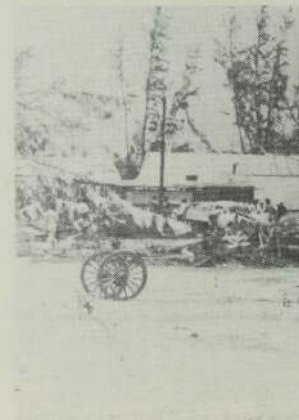
This ostentatious solicitude on

the part of local politicians no doubt had something to do with the imminence of the municipal elections, which occur only every six years.

For no good or discernible reason, the elections are held in two rounds — that is, if one list of candidates obtains 50 per cent of the votes in the first round, that's the end of it. But if no list secures so high a percentage, a second round of voting must be held.

Another strange rule provides that the winner takes all seats in the council — even if he had only a one-vote majority in the second round. In such a situation in France, the seats are distributed on a proportional basis.

However, the most surprising feature of the legislation, which was enacted especially for our benefit, is that in Polynesia municipalities are not required to raise taxes, as they do elsewhere in the world. Instead, a quarter of the total territorial revenue, which amounts to about CFP30,000 million and is mostly derived from customs duties, is automatically set aside for the municipalities and disbursed to them in amounts calculated on the basis of their relative populations. The seldom-acknowledged reason for this quite irresponsible arrangement is the desire of the government in Paris to insulate the municipalities from the pernicious rule of the party bosses in



the Territorial Assembly, who, when they held the purse strings, used to make the mayors dance to their tune. All that was changed by the existing legislation brought in in 1971.

At the beginning of March, chaos still reigned in the Tuamotus. Voters and electoral rolls, had been scattered far and wide by *Nano* and *Orama*. So elections in the seven municipalities in the group were postponed.

But in the rest of French Polynesia almost 60,000 of the 85,000 registered voters went to the polls on March 6. As usual, the main issues were down-to-earth matters such as garbage disposal, sewerage, water and electricity supplies, school and sports facilities, roads, crime, and medical care. Again as usu-



Outside the polling booth at Paea for the March 6 vote

al, to a much larger extent than in territorial or national elections, the incumbent mayors and their challengers either had only weak affiliations with political parties, or no affiliations at all, counting mainly on the strength of their personalities and local family ties. This is especially the case in the outer islands.

But in Tahiti and Moorea at least, the three major political parties were all represented in the elections, and the results therefore furnished some indication of their present relative strengths. The question uppermost in all minds was whether Flosse and his Tahoeraa party had managed to consolidate their position since they ousted the Autonomist *Front Uni* of Francis Sanford from control of the Territorial Assembly and the Council of

ken into account, they vary greatly, from a few hundred inhabitants to more than 20,000. In this light it was a serious setback for Tahoeraa when it failed miserably to unseat Jean Juventin, the mayor of Papeete, the largest city in the territory and its capital. Juventin secured a second six-year term with a whopping 68 per cent of the vote. (It's worth noting that the huge Chinese electorate in Papeete this time split almost 50/50 between Tahoeraa and the Autonomists). In Punaauia, with a population of 8000, Flosse's right-hand man Alexandre Leontieff failed to topple the incumbent Autonomist mayor. The *la mana te nunaa*, which stood candidates everywhere except in the Marquesas, was severely handicapped by the "winner take all" rule. It cap-

prestigious mayor of Moorea, John Teariki, had been forced into a run-off was itself a partial defeat.

The campaign for the second round was barely under way when the weather station announced the almost unbelievable news that a third cyclone, *Reva*, was heading for the Leeward Islands from the north. Being by now accustomed to the capricious ways of the new, 1983, generation of cyclones, we were all holding our breath in Tahiti as well. Well, if the very worst did not happen, we were nevertheless pretty close to disaster on Saturday, March 12, when *Reva* passed 100 kilometres northeast of Tahiti. This seemed to be a safe enough distance. But the cyclonic wind, whirling around the dead eye at a speed of 150

and drowned less than 50 kilometres from Papeete.

If the cyclone had been just a little slower, the assault on Tahiti would have occurred on election day and prevented most voters from reaching the polling stations. As it was, when election day dawned, *Reva* was already on its way to Moruroa, where the damage once again was fearful.

A comparable disaster in the world of politics was the defeat of John Teariki on Moorea, whose mayor he had been for the past 30 years. Teariki's defeat can no doubt be put down to the influx of hundreds of new settlers on the island, both French and part-European, many of whom are involved in Moorea's booming tourist industry. These people clearly preferred the dynamic, pragmatic business philosophy of the Tahoeraa challenger, Franklin Brotherson, to the strict, London Missionary Society, morality of the 100 per cent Polynesian like Teariki.

In Papara too the Tahoeraa challenger, Tuainu Legayic, won over the incumbent Autonomist mayor, Mithou Lehartel. But the margin — 16 votes — was so tiny that the result could almost be regarded as a draw.

In Faaa, to the surprise of everybody — including himself — Oscar Temaru, leader of the pro-independence, anti-bomb *Front de Liberation de la Polynésie* won easily. His win was due to some extent to the failure of his adversaries to knock together an alliance. But it was due even more to his well-tailored policies. In the context of the municipal election Oscar Temaru had nothing to say about the urgent need for independence, or why the nuclear tests must be stopped at once. Instead, he promised again and again that, if elected, he would do his utmost to find jobs and better housing for the thousands of poor devils who live in the huge slum areas in Faaa.

The fact that he won by such a wide margin demonstrated once more that, in municipal elections, the issues capable of galvanising voters are simply not the same as in other elections. — *Marie-Thérèse and Bengt Danielsson.*



Damage from a cyclonic wind that did "a crazy and unexpected thing". — *La Dépêche* pictures.

Government in May last year (PIM Jul '82 p.22), or whether the pendulum was already swinging back. The third party to be watched was the *la mana te nunaa*, made up of angry young Polynesians who favor an independent socialist republic, and who won three seats in the May '82 elections to the 30-member Territorial Assembly.

Apparent winners in the first round were the candidates of Flosse's party, who captured five municipalities, with the Autonomists taking only three. But two re-elected independent mayors — Emile Vernaudeau in Mahinad and Jacuie Graffe in Paca — now lean towards the Autonomists, making the first-round score almost even.

The size of the 48 municipalities should also be ta-

lured only one small municipality in the Austral Islands.

In the Windward Islands, this left only the three municipalities of Faaa, Papara and Moorea involved in the second round on March 13.

Faaa, whose population is now about 17,000, about half of them recent immigrants from the outer islands, was once the fiefdom of Autonomist leader Francis Sanford, who resigned as mayor in 1977 when he became the territory's chief executive. In the first round of voting on March 6, Sanford's mumbling and bumbling successor scored only a poor fourth, and seemed bound to lose his position. On Moorea and in Papara the first round had ended more or less in a draw, and the final outcome was impossible to predict. But the very fact that the

kilometres an hour, did a crazy and completely unexpected thing: it jumped over the Tahitian mountains and descended through the narrow valleys on the west coast, slamming into all buildings that stood in its way. Although more than 1000 houses were either destroyed, unroofed, or damaged in other ways. This added at least another 2000 million to the disaster bill for 1983. By some miracle, nobody was crushed by the falling trees, walls and roofs. But, as we later learned, two passengers on the trading vessel, *Taporo III*, which was returning from the Marquesas, were washed overboard



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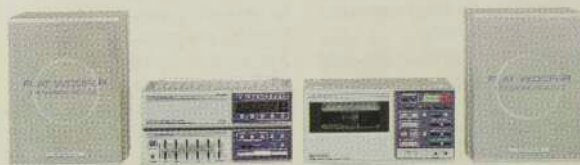
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THE MONTH



PTC 83: Sir Thomas Davis (above) gives a keynote address and Chairman M. Israel speaks from the podium.



A View from Honolulu

Robert C. Kiste

PTC: A Hawaii success story

As mentioned previously in this column, a number of events served to rekindle United States interest in the Pacific in the late 1970s. As one consequence, three international conferences relating to the Pacific were held in Hawaii during 1979 and 1980, and each resulted in a new organisation headquartered in Honolulu. Two of these — the Pacific Islands Development Program and the Pacific Basin Development Council — were described in the March and April issues of PIM.

The discussions which eventually led to the third conference and organisation did not at the outset include the Pacific Islands. As early as 1975, representatives from both government and private sectors in Japan and the United States were discussing their inability to keep abreast of and manage the rapid technological advances being made in telecommunications. By the following year, bureaucrats in President Ford's administration proposed an annual conference in which nations of the "Pacific Ocean Basin" could meet to exchange

views and data on telecommunications and to work toward harmonising telecommunications facilities, services, and policies in the region. Representatives from several U.S. government agencies, large U.S. corporations, and the academic world gathered in Washington DC to discuss the idea. As commonly happens, even the best laid plans of mice and men go by the wayside with changes of administrations — and with Carter's defeat of Ford in 1976, the proposal died in Washington.

It was to remain alive, however, in Hawaii. Upon his return to Honolulu, Richard Barber, an administrator at the University of Hawaii and one of the academic participants at the Washington meeting, had shared his observations with an informal telecommunications interest group at home. While enthusiastic about a "Pacific Ocean Basin" conference, Barber and the Honolulu group's conception of the region was broader than that held in Washington. In their view, such a conference should include the Pacific Islands, Central and

South American, and South-east Asian nations, Canada and Australia, as well as Japan and the United States.

The Honolulu group gathered support from several organisations including the State of Hawaii's Department of Planning and Economic Development, the University of Hawaii, the Hawaiian Telephone Company, and the Hawaii Telecommunications Association. A two day conference, PTC '79, co-chaired by Barber and Dr Norman Abramson, also of the University of Hawaii, was held during January 1979. It attracted 315 individuals from 18 countries, and over 60 papers were delivered which explored matters ranging from technical issues to the social and cultural impacts of newly developed telecommunications systems.

Following the conference, a steering committee of about two dozen conferees began planning for a permanent organisation to continue and expand on the PTC '79 activities. Among the planners were three well-known Pacific personalities: Stuart Kingan, scientific officer, Cook Islands; Rex Lee, twice governor of American Samoa; and John Sheppard, then deputy director of SPEC.

A second annual conference, PTC '80, was expanded to three days in January 1980. Ratu Sir

Kamisesse Mara, Prime Minister of Fiji, gave one of the keynote addresses focusing on the telecommunication needs of Pacific Island nations. The conference was again successful with 425 participants from 23 countries. The efforts of the steering committee had also borne fruit, and the Pacific Telecommunications Council was established as a non-profit organisation located in Hawaii. A board of trustees with an executive board was elected, and Barber left his position at the university after he was named the council's first director.

The objectives of the council are several: to provide a forum for the interchange of information and ideas regarding telecommunications in the Pacific; to promote an awareness of the varied telecommunication needs of different parts of the region; to address specific telecommunication issues and to assist in solving them; to make available the viewpoints and recommendations of the council to national, regional, and international organisations responsible for telecommunication policies. In Barber's view, "perhaps the main purpose of the council is to serve as a catalyst to bring different people together who normally don't talk to each other."

The council refers to the "Pacific Hemisphere" and indicates that, for its purposes: "The

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THE MONTH

Pacific area comprises the Pacific Ocean and the countries within or adjacent to its contiguous seas." Council members are of three types: profit-making organisations, non-profit organisations, and individuals.

Members include users, suppliers, and carriers of telecommunications equipment and services, along with educational institutions, government agencies, and research and professional organisations. Individual members include engineers, researchers, academicians, policy-makers, consultants, broadcasters, and other telecommunication professionals. As of March 1983, total council membership was 153 (53 profit making organisations, 24 non-profit entities and 76 individuals).

The council and the annual conference are both self-supporting through the annual dues of the membership and conference registration fees respectively. The council's staff is small, consisting of Director Barber, two staff assistants, part-time professionals on contract, and student help from the university. Its office is located near the university at: 1110 University Avenue, Suite 303, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96826, USA.

Reflecting upon the council's activities and accomplishments, Director Barber points to six areas:

1. The annual conferences have continued to be quite successful with a diverse mix of participants. The three-day January format has been maintained and the site has continued to be Honolulu, although it may vary in the near future. PTC '81 included a symposium on "Pacific Island Telecommunications" and a round-table discussion on "Pacific Island Needs-Solutions." Keynote speakers for PTC '82 included Sir Thomas Davis, then Prime Minister of the Cook Islands, and Hawaii's Governor George Ariyoshi. A number of informal sessions on the Pacific Islands were part of PTC '83. The number of participants continues to average a little over 400 from approximately 25 countries. Each year, there are about 25 exhibitors of telecommunications products and services.

2. Beginning in 1980, mid-



year seminars are held in conjunction with meetings of the board of trustees. The seminars bring telecommunications issues of interest to the attention of leaders and opinion-makers in various countries concerned with the region. The 1980 seminar was held in Tokyo. The 1981 and 1982 sessions were in Washington, DC and Manila. Average attendance has been about 250 individuals and New Zealand is being considered as a meeting site in the near future.

3. The council has compiled *The Human Resources Directory* which is an electronically stored and indexed data base of telecommunication professionals in the Pacific area. It lists over 500 individuals with their occupations, interests, languages, and mailing and telex addresses. Individuals or organisations may have access to the *Directory* for a fee, and its purpose is to help build inter-personal networks and to serve as a reference for those seeking professional expertise.

4. A *Survey of Other Entities* has also been concluded. It lists over 150 regional and other organisations with an interest in telecommunications in the Pacific.

5. In August, 1980, a quarterly newsletter was launched. It reports news of the council as

well as general information on telecommunications activities, issues, and concerns in the Pacific.

6. The council has a publication program. Proceedings of each of the annual conferences have been published. To appear in the next month or so is a volume *Telecom Pacific* which contains 20 papers on Pacific telecommunications. Ratu Mara has contributed the foreword and one of the papers, "Telecommunications and Developing Countries in the Pacific," was written by Thomas Davis.

There is no doubt that the council is enjoying considerable initial success. The number of its members has doubled in the last two years and the annual conference and seminars are well established and supported. The council has received international recognition by governments and other organisations in the area. Its short history has already been the subject of a M.A. thesis (*Origins, Growth and Future Directions of the Pacific Telecommunications Council* by Kari J. Anderson, University of Hawaii, 1981). Director Barber obviously believes in the council and its future. He left a secure position to take the directorship during the council's infancy, and he has obviously been the guiding hand behind it.

Richard J. Barber (centre), Director of the Pacific Telecommunications Council, travels the Pacific as part of his commitment to wider communications. In New Zealand he talks here with F. K. McInerney (left), Director General of the New Zealand Post Office, and D. R. Murphy, Deputy Director General.

At present, the council's membership is dominated by North America and East Asia, with over 100 of the total of 153 members. However, in order at least partially to offset this imbalance, the board of trustees is structured to give equal representation to seven sub-regions of the area: North America, Central America, South America, East Asia, Southeast Asia, South Asia, and Oceania.

Barber is concerned that the interests and needs of Pacific Island nations should not be overlooked. He believes that the council provides a forum in which island needs can be heard and can serve as an alternative to governments, official agencies, and suppliers as a reliable source of information. The council has responded to requests for information from island countries, and a demonstration of satellite equipment especially suited to small island countries is planned for PTC '84. — Robert C. Kiste.



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The 15th Pacific Science Congress: An appraisal

The 15th Pacific Science Congress was held from February 1 to 11 at the University of Otago, in Dunedin, New Zealand. These congresses are held at intervals of about four years, and are organised by the Pacific Science Association — an international, non-governmental regional scientific body which has a membership drawn from over 40 countries and areas within or bordering on the Pacific Ocean or having territorial responsibilities within the region.

The objectives of the association are "to initiate and promote co-operation in the study of scientific problems relating to the Pacific region — more particularly those affecting the prosperity and well-being of Pacific peoples; and to strengthen the bonds of peace among Pacific peoples by promoting a feeling of brotherhood among scientists of all Pacific countries."

The congresses are open to all who are interested in the objectives of the association. The 15th Congress, which had as its general theme "Conservation, Development and Utilisation of the Resources of the Pacific", at-

The Pacific Science Association is an organisation which is contributing to closer links in the Pacific through research and information exchange involving a wide field of scientific knowledge. Here DR DAVID WALSH, of the Anthropology Department at the University of Sydney, gives an appraisal of the association's 15th congress.

tracted over 1500 scientists and other interested people from a wide selection of member countries.

A comprehensive range of specific fields within the physical, medical and social sciences was represented within the various symposia and sections of the congress.

The program included four general symposia: Energy in Agriculture; High Latitude Resources; Their Assessment and Development; Resources, Science and the Law of the Sea; and Pacific Island Potentials.

There were also 14 section programs in the fields of Ecology and Environmental Protection, Solid Earth Sciences, Geography, Museums in Pacific Research, Marine Sciences, Coral Reefs, Botany, Forestry, Fresh

Water Sciences, Entomology, Social Sciences and Humanities, Public Health and Medical Sciences, Nutrition, and Science Communication and Education.

At a congress organised on this scale, with 14 sections and one symposium or more usually in session concurrently, and often with six or more sub-sections within a given section operating concurrent programs, obviously no one individual can keep in touch with, let alone participate in, everything that is going on even within one particular section.

As an anthropological linguist I was primarily interested in some of the sub-sections within

A major contributor to Pacific research: The University of the South Pacific, Fiji.

Section K — Social Sciences and Humanities. Something of the range of specific interests covered by this section can be inferred from the titles of its various sub-sections.

In the linguistic field there were "Reconstruction and Classification in the Austronesian Language Family", "Structural Analysis and Classification of Papuan and Australian Languages", "Pidgin and Creole Languages in the Pacific: Past, Present and Future", and "Dictionaries for Oceanic Peoples."

In the field of prehistory and archaeology there were "Prehistoric Food Production Systems in the Pacific", "Archaeology in Micronesia", "The Origins of Food Production, Metallurgy and the State in Mainland Southeast Asia", "Settlement Pattern Archaeology in the Pacific", "Studies in Pre-European and Traditional Fishing in the Pacific", "Archaeological Science in the Pacific Region", "The Prehistory of Australia and Papua New Guinea", and "Public Archaeology in Pacific Countries".

Also within Section K there were sub-sections on "Physical Anthropology in the Pacific", "Development of the Arts in the Pacific", "Maori Studies", "Transformations of Polynesian Culture", "Shame, Embarrassment and Related Notions in Micronesian Culture", "Political Developments in Micronesia", "Pacific Trade and Investment Patterns", "Telecommunications in the Pacific: Its Impact on Economic, Social and Political Conditions", "Urbanisation in the South Pacific and Southeast Asian Areas", "Technology Transfer in the Pacific Region", and "Inter-cultural History: The Ecology of Culture Contact in the Pacific".

Most of these sub-sections had programs lasting two, three or four days, with morning sessions from 9.00 until noon and afternoon sessions from 2.00 until 5.00 or 5.30. In addition, plenary sessions of the Congress were held each week-day from noon until 1.00 in the auditorium of the Otago Museum. At these sessions addresses were given by various distinguished invited speakers, among whom, in the social sciences field, were Sir Edmund Leach (Cambridge) speaking on "Ocean of Oppor-



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tunities?", and Professor R. Gerard Ward (Australian National University) speaking on "Agriculture, Size and Distance in Pacific Island Futures". Some of the evenings were taken up with section dinners, and others were used for meetings of various learned and scientific societies whose members, usually dispersed throughout Australasia and the Pacific, were gathered in Dunedin for the Congress.

While most of the papers in the linguistic sub-sections and certain specific papers in other sub-sections (notably a couple of linguistically oriented papers in the "Maori Studies" sub-section, several papers in the sub-sections concerned with Oceanic prehistory and cultural anthropology, and even a couple of papers in the sub-section on "Pacific Trade and Investment Patterns") were of interest to me, my main concern was with the papers in the sub-section on "Reconstruction and Classification in the Austronesian Language Family". This sub-section had a program of 23 papers (including my own offering on the lower-order reconstruction of flora and fauna nomenclature within the East Austronesian linguistic subgroup) which occupied four days of the congress.

The Austronesian language family is a grouping of related languages which is of about the same linguistic status as the Indo-European language family. It has over 800 member languages distributed throughout the Pacific region, from Easter Island in the east to Hawaii and southern Taiwan in the north to New Zealand in the south, and even to Madagascar in the west. It includes all the indigenous languages of Polynesia and Micronesia, most of those in island Melanesia and coastal Papua New Guinea, and most of the languages of the Philippines, Indonesia and Malaysia.

Much of the recent and current research on these languages is historically oriented, being concerned with the reconstruction of aspects of ancestral languages at various levels within the family (e.g. reconstruction of Proto-Polynesian, the language immediately ancestral to the Polynesian sub-group of languages),

and with investigating the patterns of sub-grouping within the family, i.e. with finding out which groups of Austronesian languages have members that are more closely related to each other than they are to other languages in the family.

The keynote address in the sub-section dealing with reconstruction and classification in the Austronesian family was given by Professor George Grace (Linguistics Department, University of Hawaii at Manoa). His topic was "Oceanic Sub-grouping: Retrospect and Prospect" — a consideration of what had been achieved in the sub-grouping of the Oceanic, or East Austronesian, languages since the late 1940s (when his involvement with the field had begun), and of what was likely to be achieved during the next two decades.

This particular sub-section attracted about 40 linguists from universities throughout the Pacific region and even from two in Europe.

One of the great values of meetings such as the Pacific Science Congress is that they bring together, from many different locations, the experts in a given field, such as the above-mentioned historically-oriented investigation of the Austronesian languages, and provide them with opportunities to consider aspects of each other's work.

These opportunities exist not only, nor even always primarily, in the formal conference sessions, but also in informal discussions which often go on well into the small hours of the morning.

This particular congress brought together most of the specialists in one of my own main fields of research and gave me ample chance to talk at length with them. If the other 1500 or so participants found the Congress to be similarly productive then part, at least, of its objective will have been achieved.

Another part will have been achieved if the longterm results of these contacts between scientists from many specific fields eventually contribute to the well-being and harmonious co-existence of all of us who live in the Pacific region. — *David Walsh.*



POLITICAL CURRENTS

FISHERIES

Breaking ranks on the Nauru pact?

The Foreign Minister of Papua New Guinea, Rabbie Namaliu, and his Solomon Islands counterpart, Dennis Lulei, had lengthy talks in Port Moresby in March. Subjects covered included a suggested "Melanesian alliance" between PNG, the Solomons and Vanuatu under which they would share patrol boats to protect their fishing grounds from foreign trawlers, improved arrangements governing border crossings between Bougainville (PNG) and the Shortland Islands (Solomons) by nationals of both countries linked by strong family and traditional ties, expansion of trade between the two countries, and a common front in dealing with the American Tuna Boat Association in negotiations for fishing licences.

Both ministers said negotiations between their countries and the American association in February had ended with the American delegation going away empty-handed.

They also recalled that in early 1982 seven Island countries, including PNG and Solomon Islands, had agreed at a meeting in Nauru to adopt a joint approach towards foreign fishing nations attempting to exploit the fish resources in their combined 200-mile economic and fishery zones.

Separate agreements which the Tuna Boat Association had with Papua New Guinea, the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM), the Republic of Marshall Islands and the Republic of Palau, expired last year and have not been renewed.

Meanwhile, *Te Ukeru*, national weekly newspaper published by the Kiribati Government's Broadcasting and Publications Authority, reported in its March 4 issue that in recent negotiations in Honolulu between the American Tuna Boat Association and representatives of the FSM, Palau and Kiribati, an "access agreement" was reached "whereby the association

member vessels will be licensed to fish within the zones of the three coastal states".

Another report which suggests that the FSM, Palau and Kiribati may have broken the Nauru pact in reaching agreement with the Tuna Boat Association comes from the FSM Information Service which quotes Mike A. McCoy, executive director of the Micronesian Maritime Authority, as saying that an agreement was reached between the three countries and the association, which agreed to a 20 per cent increase in fees over the next two years.

The agreement is subject to approval by the FSM Congress, Palau Legislature and the Kiribati Cabinet.

The association will be allowed to increase its fishing fleet which, under the previous agreement with the FSM, Palau and Marshall Islands, numbered 24 purse seiners which paid a total of just over \$US1 million in fees to the three Micronesian governments.

Representatives of the Micronesian Maritime Authority went to Japan in March for preliminary talks on a new agreement with the Japanese Fishing Association following the lapsing of the old agreement on April 30. Further talks were scheduled to begin in Guam on April 21.

"Neglect" says Pago's man in Washington

President Reagan has announced his Fiscal Year 1984 budget totalling \$848.5 billion, but with a decrease in funding to American Samoa. According to American Samoa's Congressman Fofo Sunia, the president recommended a \$2.6 million decrease in funds going to Samoa, and the country as a whole faces severe



Solomon Islanders on fisheries patrol duty: A growing area of responsibility.

cuts in social programs. The president's budget shows that the largest reduction affecting American Samoa involves operations grants and a small portion of High Court grants. Economic development and special programs grants have been completely eliminated.

"This reduction amounts to a major setback for American Samoa," Fofo said. "Not only do we lose various program fundings, but we lose decision-making authority," he continued. Fofo was referring to the Interior Department's decision to instigate an Insular Development Bank in Washington upon which Samoa would have to draw its federal allowance after proper authorities approve local requests. This is to replace the old grant system where Samoa received a lump allocation and utilised it on its own accord for capital improvements.

Fofo indicated that this cut back comes as no surprise to him after having seen Secretary of the Interior James Watts' lack of concern for the territories in the past. "I saw it in fine print in Interior's annual projection report, and I had a feeling it was coming in the president's budget," Fofo said. This particu-

lar Interior report instigated Fofo's contention that the Department of Interior has accumulated many examples of territorial neglect.

Final figures on Palau plebiscite

The U.S. State Department has released the final tally of votes in the Palau plebiscite on February 10. They show a marginal gain for the pro-compact vote over earlier returns.

In the first part of the ballot, on question A, which asked whether or not the voter approved of the Compact of Free Association with the U.S., 4452 votes were in favor, 2715 against. Out of the total 7167 cast, 62.1 per cent were in favor, 37.9 opposed.

On question B, which asked the voters whether they were willing to amend the Palau constitution ban on nuclear materials in Palau territory, there were 3717 yes votes against 3309 nos. Out of a total of 7026 votes cast on this question, 52.9 per cent were in favor, 47.1 per cent opposed.

This fell short of the required 75 per cent approval vote necessary to amend the nuclear clause of the Palau constitution.

In the second part of the ballot, where voters were asked to indicate alternative preferences should free association fail, 2250 voted for consideration of a closer relationship with the United States, 1800 voted for a consideration of independence. Of the 4050 votes cast on this question, 55.6 per cent favored a closer relationship, 44.4 per cent independence.

Only 55.9 per cent of those voting on the first part of the ballot voted on this question.

A State Department press release on the plebiscite said of the outcome of the vote on the nuclear issue that "the Palauan authorities must now devise an acceptable method of reconciling their constitutional provisions to comply with the mandate of the Palauan electorate for free association with the United States ..."

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POLITICAL CURRENTS

Fiji tunes in to the big post-poll inquiry

All Fiji has been listening to and reading reports on the Commission of Inquiry in Suva into allegations made by all political parties of Russian, Australian and other foreign interference in Fiji's general elections held last July (PIM, Dec. '82 p.7).

The inquiry, presided over by retired New Zealand High Court Judge Sir John White, began on March 15 and is likely to continue for some time yet. At time of writing, only the ruling Alliance Party had been under fire with three of its leading members appearing in the witness box, L. G. Usher, Alliance publicity sub-committee chairman, Mahendra Motibhai Patel, a member of the Alliance management board, and Isimeli Bose, the Alliance general election campaign manager.

All have denied allegations by the Opposition National Federation Party (NFP) that the Alliance based its campaign on a report made by Australian business consultant Allan Carroll, copies of which were obtained by the NFP.

Mr Patel said he commissioned the report as a business report on how his company should develop. The completed report went to him and not to the prime minister. He was so impressed by Mr Carroll that he thought the prime minister should have access to him.

Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara suggested that Mr Carroll should prepare a report on "selective polling" of public opinion to help the Alliance Party.

Some "scenarios" in the report were regarded as repugnant and were not implemented by the party as being against party policies.

Mr Patel denied there was a secret plan produced by Mr Carroll, or that the Alliance tried to divide the NFP by exploiting the

ethnic and religious differences among Indians. Both Mr Usher and Mr Bose have denied the NFP allegations.

There was a sensation at the opening of the hearing when the Western United Front (WUF) announced through its leader Ratu Osea Gavidi that it was withdrawing from the inquiry. Among the reasons for the withdrawal was that there had been a sustained expression of public opinion that the commission would affect the country's economy and, in particular, cause an erosion of confidence in Fiji and overseas.



Ratu Osea Gavidi: Withdrew

Solomons provincial leaders study Malaysian model

A visit to Malaysia by a group of Solomon Islands provincial premiers late last year could be the forerunner to much closer relations between the two countries, according to the group's leader, the Minister for Malaita Provincial Affairs, Adrian Bataiofesi.

On the trip were Makira Province Premier Mathais Ramoni, Isabel Province Premier Culwick Vahia, former Guadalcanal Province Premier Stephen Paeni, the deputy secretary to Makira Province David Sita and Lency Misros of the Solomons Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr Bataiofesi said the trip had permitted mission members to broaden their outlook on things and events. The mission had visited six of Malaysia's 13 states, as well as development projects including palm oil, rubber, timber-milling and manufacturing industries.

He said their study of Malay-

sian local government had been beneficial and relevant, "because some aspects of Malaysian local government had been adopted by the Solomons". Mr Bataiofesi recalled that, before independence, a Solomons parliamentary team had visited Malaysia to study the country's local government structure. "Some of the ideas they learned there were processed and can now be seen in our Provincial Government Act," he said.

The minister said one thing that had struck him most strongly was that although Malaysia is developing rapidly, the people still maintain their cultural and traditional ways. He said there was an important lesson there for Solomon Islands, as it faced its own development challenge.

Mr Bataiofesi said he had noted that it has only been in recent times, 25 years after independence, that the government of

Malaysia has moved to redirect its economic policies towards, and provide incentives for, its disadvantaged sector, mostly native Malaysians living in rural areas.

He asked the government to arrange more such trips for the decision-makers of Solomon Islands, especially at the provincial level.

The trip had its origins in a brief conversation between Solomon Islands Prime Minister Mr Mamaloni and Malaysian Prime Minister Dr. Mahathir when the latter's plane made a brief refuelling stop at Honiara in mid-1982.

Chinese puzzle for Solomons

Solomon Islands Prime Minister Solomon Mamaloni was in Taiwan in March to discuss the establishment of diplomatic relations between Solomon Islands and the Taiwan governments. Taiwan is interested in investing in the Solomons, and has offered to help establish a para-military force in the country.

While Mr Mamaloni was in Taipei, accompanied by Foreign Minister Dennis Lulei, the Solomons Minister of Finance, Bart Ulufa'alu was in Peking heading a delegation for talks with the government of the People's Republic of China over aid for the Solomons, including finance for a new National Parliament building in Honiara.

Before going to Taiwan, Mr Lulei said it was hoped to establish relations at ambassadorial level with the People's Republic of China and at consular level with Taiwan. But, if the experience of other governments over establishing diplomatic links with both Peking and Taiwan is any guide, the Solomons will be told by Peking that it will not agree to a diplomatic exchange if the Solomons recognises Taiwan as an independent state.

A few years ago, Fiji had to choose between Peking and Taiwan over the establishment of diplomatic missions. It chose Peking, which now has an ambassador in Suva, while Taiwan has an unofficial "trade" representative.

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TROPICALITIES

Waikiki: Developing, but dusty

"Although Waikiki Beach has a world reputation as a glamorous vacation spot, its physical assets have for many years been nibbled at by currents and tides. What was once a wide expanse of fine sand has now become a tiny strip that often disappoints visitors and causes Island residents to assume an apologetic attitude."

This observation, made by an anonymous contributor to the April 1949 issue of *Paradise of the Pacific* magazine, could not be made today of Oahu's favorite resort area.

The beach-widening project the writer then anticipated from Diamond Head west along the shore as far as the Kewalo Basin has long been completed. It was one of many development projects undertaken in the last 100 years on Waikiki and its environs.

The latest of these projects is "Waikiki 2000". The ambitious aim of "Waikiki 2000" is to improve the beachfront, as well as nearby Kapiolani Park, and to expand recreational facilities on Diamond Head and along the Ala Wai Canal to include jogging and bicycle paths, volleyball and tennis courts, an archery field and a variety of other sports grounds at a projected cost of over \$US9 million. Mrs Eilene Anderson, mayor of Honolulu, has recently spoken of Waikiki as not only the centre of Honolulu but of Hawaii itself. Development, therefore, is likely to continue apace for the foreseeable future.

Waikiki itself is bounded by the Ala Wai Canal to the west and north and by the Honolulu Zoo and Kapiolani Park to the east. The apartment houses and condominiums just east and south of the canal, before you enter Waikiki proper have become a *de facto* retirement village for elderly Americans and Hawaiians, who are especially noticeable on the public buses in the late afternoons as they return from the Alfa Moana Shopping Center (just west of the Ala Wai Canal), or from a day at the beach. Among them is Robert

Trumbull, noted newspaperman and author of *Tin Roofs and Palm Trees*. During the day, the beach is the main centre of activity as thousands congregate to sunbathe, swim and girlwatch. One of the more arresting scenes there is that of a young man in a wheelchair who regularly feeds pigeons and doves in the afternoons. The birds know him so well they settle down on his wheelchair and his arms and legs and the top of his head as he's feeding them. More than a few shutterbugs have captured the scene on film before the feeding has ended.

At night, the many hotels, restaurants and nightspots become the focus of interest, and the beach lies deserted. A dozen free publications are available on the sidewalks to help the undecided into a suitably priced restaurant, or to inform the curious about the offerings at the various clubs on any given day. The International Market Place has a

enthusiasts pass out tracts or "free" copies of commentaries written by their gurus on some Eastern scripture. Commentaries on the *Bhagavad-Gita* are in fashion now, it seems.

Such unabashed religious proclamation is made in a Waikiki that has gradually taken on a raw edge. There are bookstores with sexually explicit materials. Some nightclubs offer topless entertainment, while across the street others feature bottomless dancing. Teenage girls and young women, some claim as many as two hundred of them, roam a three-block area off Kalakaua Avenue for male companionship. (One would have thought the 83 legitimate dating-escort-massage services, many of them 24-hour-a-day operations, listed in the Oahu telephone book's yellow pages would have more than met this particular tourist need.) The aggressiveness of the women often leads them to rush up and grab the arms of those who don't

rying walkers flow around them) co-exists with hustling along Kalakaua Avenue.

When King Kalakaua set aside this area for public recreation in 1888, he intended it as a place where the "dust of the city streets" could be shaken off on weekends and holidays. It now remains to be seen if Waikiki can be given an effective "dusting" by a concerned public and the city government to shake out the "city dust" that has gradually been deposited there and to restore the wholesomeness which King Kalakaua envisioned and which would greatly enhance Waikiki's intended development.

— M. L. Berg in Honolulu.

Truk has a new paper

The state of Truk has an independent newspaper again for the first time since 1980. The *Truk News Chronicle* is apparently a revival of an earlier newspaper, the *Truk Chronicle*, which disappeared more than two years ago.

The paper is edited by Marciana Akasy, and Alanson Cholymay is listed as the publication's assistant editor and business manager. The staff box also lists two graphic artists, two photographers, and nine other contributors.

The *News Chronicle* is now believed to be the only independent newspaper in the Federated States of Micronesia. The four states have a combined population of nearly 75,000.

Articles in the first issue of the paper cover such topics as the State's cholera epidemic, nuclear dumping, a legislative review, and an interview with the chief of police.

An editorial in the first edition is entitled "Bank Lines Too Long," and calls for upgrading banking service, or the addition of another bank on the island.

Former subscribers to the *Truk Chronicle* are asked to write to the *News Chronicle* at P.O. Box 244, Truk, E.C.I., 96942, for four months free subscription. The subscription list from the *Chronicle* was lost in the Truk High School Counsellor's office fire, according to a page 7 announcement — *Marianas Variety, News & Views*.



Diamond Head beach last century: An improvement project still in progress.

speaking English or to address lewd remarks to those who do.

The local police do a good job in keeping Waikiki a safe place to visit at all hours, but they have not yet been able to keep the streets clean. Concerned Honolulu residents have recently asked judges to enforce a 1981 law fining prostitutes \$US500 for a first offence, and jailing them for up to 30 days on subsequent offences. Judges have not, so far, been meting out such punishments. For the present, Bible reading by laymen (some of whom enthrall passers-by as hur-

caricaturist who works at night drawing profiles of customers on transparencies mounted on an overhead projector; as customers pose, onlookers admire the artist's fluid speed. Close by, a woman carves thick multi-colored candles into myriads of shapes.

A walk along Ala Wai Terrace running along the south-east bank of the Ala Wai Canal is one of the most refreshing, serene pleasures still available near Waikiki after sunset. But it's a different story in Waikiki proper. Along Kalakaua Avenue, Bible readers preach at random to no one in particular in an effort to reach people *en masse*. Other

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TROPICALITIES



Long nightmare of Pastor Iupeli

As the books are written on the history of the spread of Christianity in the Pacific and the history of Kiribati, a Samoan missionary, known simply as Pastor Iupeli, is at long last winning the recognition previously reserved for his white counterparts.

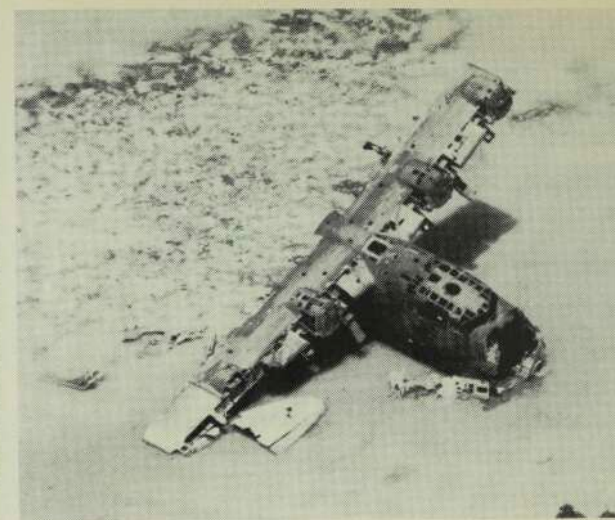
But what none of the books have revealed is the terrible nightmare that Pastor Iupeli was forced to live with in the latter part of his life: his presence at the murder of 22 men on Tarawa, Kiribati, by the Japanese during World War II has never before been revealed.

He is dead now but his story has been revealed by his granddaughter who now lives in Wellington, New Zealand. Because she is seriously ill she prefers to remain nameless. She told the story after Wellington's *Evening Post* newspaper published an article on the killings from previously secret New Zealand Army files.

Iupeli was born in Faalili, Western Samoa, towards the end of the 1880s and like many Samoans found his calling with the London Missionary Society. As a young man he worked with missionary William Goward and at the turn of the century both men went to Rongorongo on the atoll of Beru, 380 kilometres southeast of Tarawa. There they set up a training school for local

pastors. Before leaving Samoa Pastor Iupeli had married Sera and during their many contented years on Beru they had a daughter, Simoli.

Among the first signs that the world was to come crashing in on them was the arrival of the Fijian naval vessel *Viti* at Beru. Two young New Zealanders, A. L. Taylor and T. C. Murray came ashore. They were post office radio operators and they had been placed on Beru to watch the movements of Japanese ships and aircraft and report back to



ed them with bullets," the woman said. "My grandmother was lying with the women and after the plane had gone she got up and said 'Is everybody all right.' This other woman said, 'No, I don't think so.'" A bullet had taken away the side of her face.

Later, at home as Sera changed, Pastor Iupeli noticed blood on his wife's back and discovered a small fragment of bullet had wounded her.

"None of the people could understand why this had happened, why they had been attack-

Pastor Iupeli and he told them to destroy their radio and go and hide.

The Japanese troops raped most of Beru's women at bayonet point and seized retired missionary Tony Sadd and Pastor Iupeli. The Samoan was something of a mystery to the Japanese.

"The Japanese didn't know what to make of him," his grand-daughter said. "He looked different from the other islanders, he was bigger. They asked where he was from and he said Samoa, but the Japanese didn't seem to know where Samoa was."

The two New Zealanders hid in holes they had dug in the ground and successfully evaded the Japanese who left the atoll after a day. But they knew about the two, and warned the islanders that they must not let them escape.

"Mr Taylor asked me how the Beru people would feel if they ran away," a young clerk, Ikamawa said later. "I told them the natives would be sorry if they ran away, as the Japanese would kill them all."

When, a week later, the Japanese returned, Murray and Taylor surrendered. Pastor Iupeli often commented later of the great bravery he felt the two had shown in surrendering for the sake of the islanders.

The two New Zealanders, Sadd and Pastor Iupeli were taken to Betio, main island in the

"He was a mystery to them, and so was Samoa itself"

Suva as fears of a Pacific war grew.

In all 14 New Zealand radio operators were posted to atolls in the Gilberts group. Three soldiers were also sent to keep the men company, but none was armed. The mother of one of them said later it left the men "like rats in a trap."

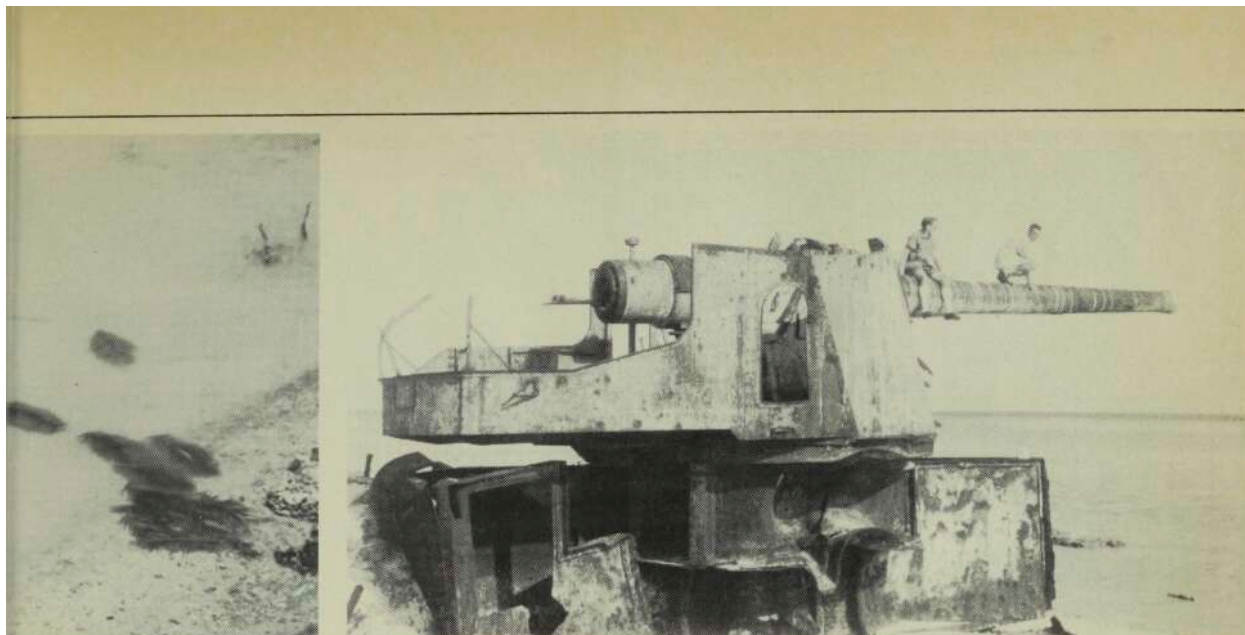
Then, at the end of the year, came Pearl Harbor. According to the Wellington woman's recollection of what her grandparents told her, the first people on Beru knew of war was when, several days after Pearl Harbor, a Japanese fighter flew over the atoll and strafed villagers.

"The plane came in and spray-

ed. They had nothing to do with the war."

Despite war and isolation the New Zealanders remained at their posts transmitting vital information back to Suva whence it was forwarded to Hawaii and New Zealand. In February 1942 *Viti* was able to take fresh supplies to some of the coastwatchers, and found that none of them wanted to leave.

Nine months after Pearl Harbor, the Japanese moved to rope in the coastwatchers. The Japanese arrived at Beru on September 26, 1942, as Taylor and Murray quickly sent out a last message: "Three enemy warships. Good luck." They had been living with



Tarawa atoll. Sadd and the New Zealanders were put among a total of 22 people who were all tied to coconut trees with telephone wiring. Their numbers included 17 New Zealand soldiers and coastwatchers and a blind 73-year-old retired mariner, Captain I. R. Handley.

After several days the 22 were moved to a hospital compound once used to house insane patients. During the day they were made to work on unloading ships.

Because of the Japanese con-

bishop's fence and showed him a sword which was stained with blood . . . It was fresh. The Japanese said that the European who had run away was dead."

The events of that day were later the subject of an inquiry conducted by Major D. C. I. Wernham, of the High Commission for the Western Pacific. The only eye-witness he could find to the events was Mikaere who, after seeing the blood-stained sword had gone to gather coconuts when he heard shouting from the hospital. He ran to a

reasons he never knew, the Japanese forced him to watch the killings.

"I can remember my grandfather telling me that the Japanese tried to make Mr Sadd walk over the Union Jack. He refused to do that so they killed him."

Pastor Lupeli watched as the men were beheaded.

"He was quite prepared to die too, but the Japanese didn't kill him."

Instead they warned him that if he ever said a word about what happened his wife back on Beru would be punished.

After the American landings on Tarawa in November 1943 he went back to Beru and tried to forget.

"My grandmother said he never said a word about it, he wanted to forget."

In 1948 Pastor Lupeli returned to Samoa to retire.

"He never said a word about what happened to adults, only to the children, and then, only to tell us of the horrors of war."

But as he slowly became senile, Pastor Lupeli began to relive that day of terror.

"I would be sweeping the veranda when he would say 'No, no, stop sweeping, that's a head there, look out, the head is rolling this way'.

"And sometimes he would stand up and start speaking English and say 'Come this way sir' and start bowing and acting all respectful. I would say to him 'who is it, who are you speaking

Impact of the Pacific War on Kiribati, background to Pastor Lupeli's nightmare: A memorial (left) recalls executions which Lupeli was forced to watch. Wreckage of a Japanese flying boat (centre) in shallow water off Butaritari Island, and (above) the gun installed on Betio Island where Lupeli was held — A. G. Shearer pictures.

to' and he would say 'Quiet, can't you see it is the Japanese'."

When word of the killings got back to New Zealand, Wellington wanted to press war crime charges against the Japanese commander on Tarawa, Matzu Shosa. But they were worried at the strength of the case. Mikaere, the only eye-witness they knew of, was not considered reliable enough.

Wernham had found two men, Frank Highland and local constable Takaua, who had seen the bodies.

"The bodies were all partly burnt," Highland told Wernham. "I lifted one body with just an arm burnt and showed it to Takaua. There were no heads on the bodies. I saw another heap in the pit and under the iron were the skulls." The grave was apparently blown up by an American shell during the landings and Wernham said that with about 7000 bodies on the atoll he doubted it was possible to find the New Zealanders.

"No doubt some human remains could be found, as there can hardly be a square yard in

"He wanted to forget, so he never told his story"

fusion about Pastor Lupeli, he was allowed to live with a local family, but on such a small island he was under constant watch.

Around midday on October 15, 1942, Betio was shelled by an American warship and two aircraft bombed Japanese ships in the channel.

When it was over the Catholic bishop, Octave Terrienne, later recalled that a gang of Korean laborers, armed with axes and knives, showed up at his house looking for a European who, they said, had escaped. The bishop's cook, Mikaere, recalled that the searchers later returned.

"One Japanese came to the

nearby empty house, 40 metres from the prisoners' compound, and looked out.

"While I was sitting in that house I saw all the Europeans sitting down in line in front of the first house inside the lunatic enclosure. There were a lot of Japanese coolies inside the enclosure.

"One Japanese stepped forward to the first European in the line and cut his head off. Then I saw a second European have his head cut off, and I could not see the third one because I fainted."

All 22 were killed.

Until today it was not known that there was another eye-witness: Pastor Lupeli. For



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TROPICALITIES

Betio where they could not be found."

Wernham had visited Beru in his inquiry, but he never spoke to Pastor Lupeli.

If Matzu Shosa had been found he would have been charged with the deaths of 20 men; Murray and Taylor would have been left off the indictment. Wernham could not find anybody who ever saw the two men on Betio. Pastor Lupeli had.

The fate of the Japanese commander was never known. During the battle for Betio, five American marines had attacked the Japanese bunker headquarters with gasoline and grenades. When the battle was over 200 charred bodies of Japanese were pulled out. Shosa's was probably among them.

Pastor Lupeli is today remembered for his outstanding contribution to the growth of Christianity in the Pacific. His terror of the war years remained essentially a private nightmare, and he made no attempt to have his story told.

He died in 1960. — *Michael J. Field in Wellington.*

"Drowned" man in Tahiti butchery

A French businessman who after shamming his own death tried to start a new life in Tahiti under a false name has been sentenced to a three-year suspended jail term for fraud.

Louis Jagut, once the manager of a prosperous wholesale butchery in Brittany, France, staged his own death by drowning off the French coast before fleeing to the Pacific with stolen identity papers.

He got a job as a butcher in a local supermarkets and was later joined by his former secretary who was his mistress.

But an insurance company which paid up about \$510,000 to his wife, last year grew suspicious that the death may have been phoney and set detectives on his tracks.

When finally arrested, Mr Jagut explained that he had wanted "to flee the fast life of a company manager with social obligation" and that his attempts to cover up his affair with his sec-



retary had become "unbearable."

But according to the sentence handed down by a Tahiti court in March, Mr Jagut will now have to work just as hard to pay back more than \$1700 a year to the insurance company he defrauded.

American Samoa, statistically

A few statistics on American Samoa are revealing.

It has the second highest birth-rate in the world. One out of every 10 women is pregnant.

American Samoa is third in the world in per capita beer consumption, just behind Australia and West Germany.

And American Samoa lost more men per capita in Vietnam than any other American community.

It is the only spot of U.S. soil below the equator, the place where \$US70 million dollars of U.S. aid goes every year to a population of just over 30,000.

And yet many Americans, if they have heard of the place at all, have no clear idea where it is. But this attitude is not new. The territory was signed over to the U.S. in 1900 — but the deed was not legally ratified by Congress until 1929.

The U.S. should be aware of her possession.

Immigration is increasing: estimates say that up to 120,000 Samoans now live in Hawaii and the continental U.S. They bring with them their language and customs and consider themselves loyal Americans. Those who join

the Army (and recruiters never have any trouble filling their quotas) were never drafted. Those who died in the not-so-different jungles of Vietnam were volunteers.

The changes have been great over the past 50 years. Thatch roofs have disappeared almost completely, given over to concrete houses with tin roofs. Canned foods and packaged, processed foods are now part of the Samoan diet.

Labor-intensive activities, farming, fishing, cooking in ground ovens and washing clothes in the river bed are now mostly chores "of the old days".

Most people are employed by the government, while laundromats and restaurants are booming and the main industry, tuna canning, is accomplished by other hands: Koreans and Taiwanese do the fishing, and Western Samoans, seeking better pay, arrive to can the tuna. — *Joseph Theroux in Pago Pago.*

Sitmar sweetens gifts to Tonga

Since the disastrous cyclone Isaac struck Tonga in March, 1982, the Sitmar line vessel *Fairstar* has freighted, free of charge, more than 120 crates of aid items from Australia to Tonga.

The secretary of the Tonga-Australia Association, John Slender, told PIM: "Had the Sitmar Line not made the generous offer to transport this aid equipment, we would have been faced with a freight bill of many thousands of dollars. Quite

Hand-fishing in American Samoa: One of the chores of the old days, writes Joseph Theroux.

frankly I don't see how we could have paid such an amount. These aid items may never have left our shores. The Tongan people owe a great deal of thanks to this fine shipping company."

Uniting Church history project

Historians of Australia's Uniting Church and academic historians have formed an advisory committee with a view to determining guidelines for a comprehensive history of the church in the Pacific.

In addition to the church's work in Polynesia, Melanesia and Micronesia, the multi-volume project aims to record the church's work among Aboriginal Australians and in East Asia. Chaired by Dr. John Brown, General Secretary of the Commission for World Mission, the committee includes Uniting Church historians Geoff Cummins, Ross Mackay and Andrew Thornley, while university Pacific historians are represented by Niel Gunson (Australian National University), Peter Hempenstall (Newcastle Uni.), Caroline Ralston (Macquarie Uni.) and Norman Douglas (Uni. of NSW).

A recent meeting benefited from the presence of John Garrett of Suva whose own book *To Live Among the Stars: Christian Origins in Oceania* has received very enthusiastic reviews. — *Norman Douglas in Sydney.*



PEOPLE

An American tourist with a difference recently visited the island of Rapa, in the far south of French Polynesia's Austral Islands group.

He is **Gustave Paulay**, a graduate in biology from the University of Washington.

Mr Paulay first visited Rapa in 1979-80, and became deeply concerned with the extent of soil erosion on the island.

The Tahiti daily *Les Nouvelles* commented: "For once it is not man and development that is the culprit. Mr Paulay points the finger at the island's wild animals — he says that cows by the hundred and goats by the thousand are destroying the local forests and little by little ruining the splendid prehistoric forts that are found on the island.

"He makes three initial recommendations. First of all he says the only wooded island near Rapa, Karapoo Rahi, should be completely cleared of the goats that now inhabit it. Otherwise he predicts the slow destruction of the vegetation on this small island.

"Next he recommends that protective fencing should be erected around the Morongouta and Pukutaketake forts. At present the free-roaming animals are constantly damaging them.

"Third the young biologist recommends that barriers should be put up to protect the summit of Namuere mountain, and another spot at Perau . . ."

If these measures are not taken, Mr Paulay predicts that the economy of the remote island will be destroyed, and the few hundred inhabitants, who are at present basically self-sufficient, will become dependent on outside sources for food.

While Mr Paulay is worrying about Rapa, New Zealand horticulturalist **Peter Money** sees a similar problem threatening the economy of Niue. He says soil erosion on the coral island has reached "crisis point".

A report in the *Auckland Star* says: "The 259 sq km island has a population of about 2500 which depends largely for a living on crops grown for export on small patches of soil lying in pockets between coral outcrops."

"Mr Money says centuries of



Two countries, similar problem: Gustave Paulay is concerned at erosion in the French Polynesian Australs (top); Peter Money at the decreasing pockets of soil which support the plant life of coral-based Niue (above).

subsistence-level farming, involving the burning of natural vegetation so that crops can be planted, has removed soil nutrients.

"Shrinkage caused by over-use and the fact that the island is naturally well-drained had caused the soil level to drop.

"He has warned the Niue Government to launch emergency soil conservation measures, including an attempt to get farmers to stop burning before planting".

Father **Etuale Lealofi** of American Samoa had the distinction of leading the United States House of Representatives in their opening prayer on February 3 in the United States Capitol building in Washington, D. C. Father Etuale was invited to lead the Congress

in prayer by Congressman **Fofo Sunia**. Fofo introduced Etuale to a full session of Congress, citing his many distinctions as a representative of American Samoa church people.

Father Etuale, from Aua, American Samoa, was ordained a priest on December 5, 1969. He subsequently pursued graduate studies at Ateneo of Manila and received a master's degree in religious education from that university in 1973. In 1975, he began studies in Rome at the Pontifical Urban University from which he received a doctorate in canon law in 1978. Father Etuale is at present the rector of the St Peter Chanel Pacific Regional Seminary in Suva, Fiji, which is the centre for priestly formation in the South Pacific.

Freelance journalist **Robert Keith-Reid** has been appointed by the Journalists Association of Fiji to head a three-man committee to draft a code of ethics for journalists in the country.

The committee was appointed at a special general meeting of JAF late last year.

Other members of the committee are *The Fiji Times* chief of staff, **John Richardson** and *Fiji Sun* chief sub-editor, **Dale Harvison**.

The committee will present its draft code at the annual meeting of JAF in August.

All meetings of the committee will be open to all working journalists, a press release from JAF secretary, **Josefa Nata** said.

One of the aims of JAF was to promote high standards in Fiji journalism. It was agreed that a code of ethics would help to achieve this aim.

The meeting also approved amendments to JAF's constitution to allow it to take action against members who violate the code of ethics.

Members also expressed concern at attacks on the press made in Parliament recently.

Government Ministers, **Militoni Leweniqila** and **Semesa Sikivou**, had attacked the press in the then current session of the House of Representatives.

"In the past there had been nobody to speak for journalists on issues affecting them, including attacks on their methods and standards," the JAF release said.

"While JAF is now able to speak for a majority of Fiji's working journalists, the meeting decided there was little to be gained from replying to the attacks on the press made in Parliament."

Training for local journalists was discussed at length. Members felt that proper training was needed for high-standard journalism. The JAF executive would work to secure such training for Fiji journalists.

The association now had 30 members, a majority of working journalists in Fiji.

If you are in any doubt about stubbornness being inherited, read on.

On March 30 nine men sailed out of Sydney in the *Oriana* only to be set adrift — quite voluntarily — in an open boat, *Child of Bounty*, for a 7000-kilometre voyage from Tonga to Timor.

While *Oriana's* normal passengers sail on, wining and dining and dancing the nights away, the nine will live on a strictly rationed vegetarian diet.

The leader of this unappealing cruise is one Captain **Ron Ware**, a seventh-generation descendant of Captain Bligh.

Captain Ware and crew will be cast adrift from the same position at exactly the same time that Bligh was set adrift on April 28, 1789 by the mutineers of the *Bounty*.

While on the *Bounty* theme, it seems that **Smiley Ratliff**, the American millionaire who has plans to help the people of Pitcairn Islands (PIM Mar p49), could have a rival.

Under the heading "Brando Set to be Islands 'Godfather'", the Sydney paper *Daily Telegraph*, reports: **Marlon Brando** could become the "Godfather" of Pitcairn Island of *Mutiny on the Bounty* fame.

The inhabitants of the remote British possession in the South Pacific claim they have been abandoned by the world and need \$4 million to survive.

Superstar Brando, who played rebellious sailor **Fletcher Christian** in the movie, is said to have responded to their pleas and offered to buy the island.

Recently, he talked to **Thomas Christian**, one of Fletcher's descendants, by ham radio from his home in Tahiti.

Pitcairn has no phone contact. Ham operators have to radio New Zealand for medical advice and island children go there for further education.

Pitcairn doesn't have a harbor and supplies have to be manhandled ashore from a ship.

The islanders' boats are falling apart and there are only 10 able-



Ron Ware takes his longboat *Child of Bounty* for a trial on Sydney Harbour before leaving Australia to begin his reenactment of Bligh's voyage.

bodied men left to handle them.

Another *Bounty* descendant, **Glynn Christian**, said the islanders still believed the British Government would take care of them.

"Pitcairners are loyal and trusting even though we're all descended from mutineers," he said.

"And I am sure if Marlon Brando comes to Pitcairn, he will find a way to help."

One of Brando's friends said the actor had met his wife, **Tarita**, on Pitcairn.

The friend said Brando was thinking about offering to buy the islands from the British Government and turning it into a tourist resort, to be run by the islanders.

Several years ago, Brando convinced France to sell him a Tahitian island where he plans to build a university.

Not for the first time, **Edwin H. Bryan, Jr.**, is about to retire from the Bishop Museum in Honolulu, with which he has been associated for over 60 years. It is worthwhile to listen to this noted Pacific entomologist

and geographer as he relates his career.

I was born in Philadelphia on April 3, 1898, but I went almost immediately to California where I lived in a number of places and went to school. My mother had a brother who was a professor at a college in Claremont, which was nearby, and he said: "When you are ready to go to college come and live with us and we'll make a home for you". However, the year before I graduated from high school he came over to Hawaii to become head of a school. He wrote back and told me that he could no longer make a home for me in California. "But we have a little college in our side yard and it's pretty high quality, come on over and we'll see what we can do." I arrived here in Honolulu on July 4, 1916. I attended the College of Hawaii until 1918 and then my uncle went back to California again.

When the war broke out I thought that in order to make a livelihood I would enlist in the army. However, I was asked if I would like to be assigned to the student army training corps. This I did and graduated as a result. One of my officer friends asked me to consider taking a correspondence course with the idea of becoming an officer.

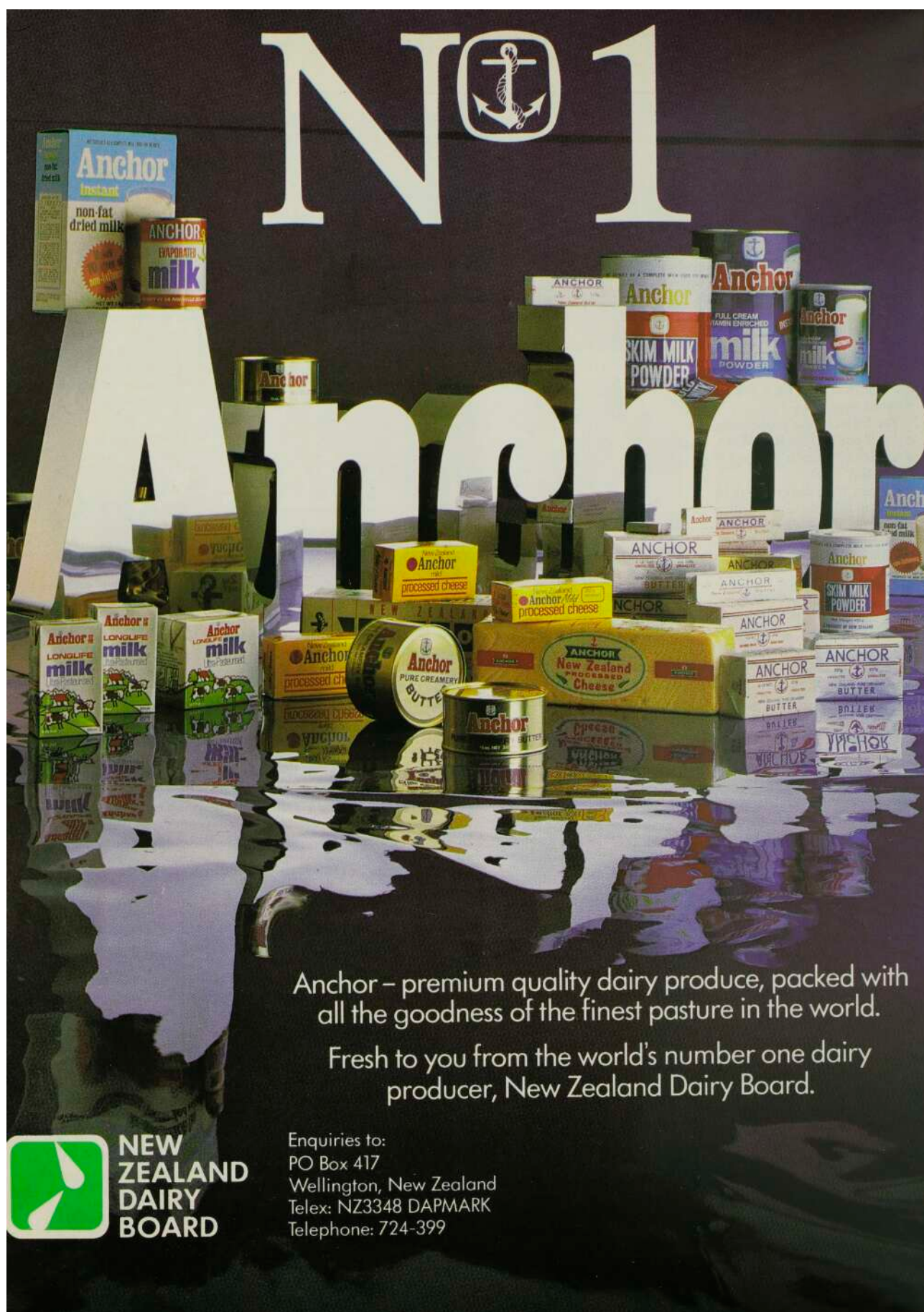
I became acquainted with the Bishop Museum through my professor of entomology at the College of Hawaii, who was a friend of my uncle and also was interested in meeting the request of the Museum for an entomologist to look after the insect collections.

I started in my junior year part-time and when I had any spare time. This I continued to do until I got my degree in 1920. Then I went up as full-time entomologist at the museum.

In 1920, the museum, through **Dr Gregory**, the director, arranged for the holding of the first Pan-Pacific Science Congress and I helped to organise that.

In return Dr Gregory sent me to Yale for another advanced degree to learn a few things he particularly wanted me to be familiar with. When I got back to the museum again in the early summer of 1921, he sprang on me the idea that I might teach at the University of Hawaii. My old professor of entomology had been asked to become president of the university and knew he wouldn't be able to teach and perform his administrative duties at the same time.

There was an expedition organised by the American Museum of Natural History to make a survey of the birds in the



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 PEOPLE



South Pacific Islands and they were running a yacht, the *France*, around practically all the islands starting in the southeast in French Polynesia, and planning to go on to Samoa and Fiji. Dr Gregory suggested that if they could take me along to collect things besides birds it would broaden the expedition's scope.

I joined them in Pago Pago in February, 1924, and I would say we went to 60 or 70 islands in the South Pacific. The trip lasted from February to October, and we came back with quite a big collection.

It was a great opportunity for me to get to know the islands. Later I was to do research on many of them when I was in the army again.

This knowledge proved particularly useful during World War II. Having visited the islands I was able to make comparisons between them and give advice as to their relative importance.

I was on active duty as an army captain assigned to the Central Pacific Base Command. The general would often call me in to explain a particular area in detail. It's strange how some people with great military knowledge know next to nothing about geography. That was a time when aviators were going out and taking pictures of different areas. They would come back to my desk and I would offer comments on what sort of places they were.

So my knowledge of the is-

lands contributed something to the general knowledge of the subject. It is curious that I became a geographer through contact, rather than formal study.

At the present I am very much interested in atolls. The Pacific Science Board began to list Pacific atolls and they asked me to try and see if I could add to their knowledge of them. So I made a list of all the atolls in Polynesia and Micronesia. I listed 271 that were of primary interest and I have been gathering information about them ever since.

I never seem to have time to write it all up. I doubt very much that I can do it myself, because I have nothing but jobs to do at present. People keep coming in wanting me to tell them about certain areas.

At the end of the war I was in a position to put in a little bit of argument for the the army not to burn all the maps of the Pacific that they held. That was one reason we started what we call the Pacific Scientific Information Center at the Bishop Museum. The civilians wanted to go back after the war and do their research which they hadn't been able to do when the islands were off-limits, so to speak. We have probably about 20,000 maps, and almost 10,000 aerial photographs of Pacific Islands, which weren't generally distributed around. In particular, we have a very fine collection of maps of Micronesia.

I have been on almost all of

the Line Islands, some of which are now part of Kiribati. People don't take easily to these new names, so my cartographer is trying to make a conversion table so that people who know the old names can catch up with the new ones.

After having hobnobbed with all those bird experts I couldn't help but learn something about the subject so I am trying to trace out the distribution of certain types of birds that live on high islands, those that live on atolls, and those that migrate.

I've had some very happy periods on some of the islands and Swain's Island, near Samoa, is one of those. I was a guest of **Mr Jennings**, whose family owns the island.

The street guides of Oahu I started from a relationship with the military. As new officers were brought in to originate new units they wanted their men to move easily about Honolulu. I made up an alphabetical listing of streets, and, one thing leading to another, I got out a series of street guides. The guides are now in their 40th year, and now carry 150 maps. — *W. G. Coppel in Honolulu.*

Bruce Strong, a 40-year-old Guam teacher, has applied to the local Superior Court to change his name to God. During a brief hearing in March, he told Judge **John Raker** that he had no religious affiliation but already uses God as his name sometimes and wants to make it official.

Teachers and education administrators from Western Samoa and Tonga earlier this year attended a curriculum planning course at Macquarie University in Sydney. The Australian Development Assistance Bureau sponsored the course. Pictures show (above left, from left) Siliata Tali and Fuatai Simano, Samoa; Ken Baumgarner, Macquarie senior tutor; Ale Ale Leauvaa, Samoa; (above, standing) Sione Maumau, Tonga; Robin Amm, course consultant; Tino Tofu, Tonga; (seated) Lavinia Matoto and Hailala Tuipulotu, Tonga. — Bob Maccoll picture for AIS.

Judge Raker said he would study the request and give his decision later.

Fiji's oldest surviving missionary teacher, Miss **Margaret Jennings**, turned 99 on March 16.

Miss Jennings went to Hong Kong from New Zealand as a missionary teacher and still has frightening memories of the World War II enemy occupation on the island.

She came to Fiji in 1947 to teach at the new Yat Sen Primary School at Flagstaff. Miss Jennings speaks and writes fluent Mandarin.

In 1981 she wrote her autobiography, *Aunt Pearl's Story*.

Barry Sinclair has been appointed manager of the International Trading Division of Burns Philp New Zealand.

Mr Sinclair was formerly general manager of the Auckland-based Beverage Services Ltd.

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BOOKS

VANUATU

A short, readable, non-academic history

To Kill a Bird With Two Stones: A Short History of Vanuatu. By Jeremy MacClancy. Published by the Vanuatu Cultural Centre, Port Vila \$A5 (approx.).

This publication, written by a young British social anthropologist, makes no pretension to being a thoroughly researched and tightly documented coverage of the kind which might have been produced by a professional historian. It is more in the nature of an attempt, undertaken at relatively short notice and without access to much of the relevant documentary evidence for the post-1870 period, to produce a short, general, popular history aimed primarily at a ni-Vanuatu audience. The author has had to venture outside the boundaries of his own expertise, and has often, as he freely acknowledges, had to rely heavily on secondary and tertiary sources. He had written what he regards as "only an introduction to the history of Vanuatu, merely a setting out of the main themes in chronological order." (p. 10).

The first chapter, "Beginnings" (pp. 15-17), essays a very brief overview of the earliest pre-history of Vanuatu. Here MacClancy seems at times to be out of his depth, as when (p. 15) he lists the speckled ground skink among "certain birds" which came from Australia, or when (pp. 15-17) he produces the substantially contradictory statements. "Before man came the islands were covered in forests" and "The north-west of many islands are (sic) in the rain shadow areas and have open grassland."

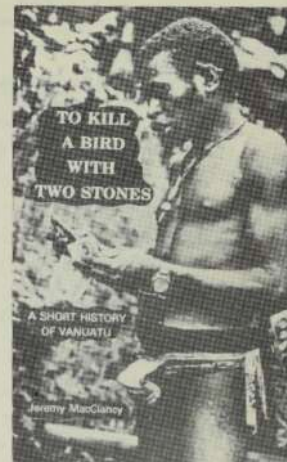
In the chapter on "Custom" (pp. 18-37) MacClancy ventures first of all into the as yet not too well elucidated field of the remote cultural pre-history of the

islands. Here he has perforce to rely heavily on the work of others, and again he seems on occasion to be out of his depth, as when (p. 18) he has the first human arrivals in the Pacific coming around 4000 to 5000 years ago and as moving from the north-west Pacific and Papua New Guinea via Solomon Islands to Vanuatu about 2000 years later, i.e. 2000 to 3000 years ago, and yet cites the earliest known Vanuatu settlement, on Malo, as being at least 3500 years ago.

In addition to this rather

cavalier handling of dates he does not adequately bring out the lack of firm consensus among the pre-historians on the migration route(s) and the dating of the peopling of the south-west Pacific.

In the field of linguistic pre-history MacClancy tells us that "the languages of Futuna and Aniwa for instance, are practically a Tongan one (sic) and are unlike almost all other ni-Vanuatu languages" (p. 18). In fact Futunan and Aniwan are dialects of the one language, Futuna-Aniwa, which is one of



the three relatively recently arrived Polynesian Outlier languages of Vanuatu (the other two are the Mele-Fila and the Emae languages.)

In common with other Polynesian outliers these all appear to have the Samoic, rather than the Tongic, languages as their closest relatives. The remainder (and the greater part) of this chapter consists of a description (again based on acknowledged sources) of ni-Vanuatu society, or rather societies, during the years before the impact of Europeans.

This coverage brings out something of the cultural variety of Vanuatu, but comes (p. 35) to what some might regard as an excessively sombre and ethnocentric conclusion as to the general quality of traditional pre-contact lifestyles in these islands. I have reservations about the statement (p. 22) that villages were "small isolated anarchic units" (my emphasis). I would also question the extent to which the notion of *mana* (ref. p. 24) was current within the range of ni-Vanuatu cultures.

The chapter "1825-1865" (pp. 38-53) considers the initial years of substantial contact with Europeans, and focuses on the sandalwood trade and the coming of Christianity, with only passing mention of the whalers. The resource-exploitative, self-destructive, and often violent nature of the sandalwood trade is effectively presented, as are the chequered early years of Presbyterian missionary endeavor in the central and southern islands (in-



Vanuatu nationhood: The flag goes up on July 30, 1980

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BOOKS

cluding Paton's infamous attempt at gunboat Christianity) and the beginnings of the Melanesian Mission (Anglican) presence primarily in the northern islands.

In "1866-1906" (pp. 54-79) the infamous "black-birding" period is well described and the impact on traditional ni-Vanuatu society of those who survived the labor trade and returned to the islands is considered. There is a brief but sound treatment of the effects of the labor trade on the beginnings and early development of Bislama. Also effective is the description of the background and lead-up to the establishment of that bizarre creation, the Anglo-French Condominium. Sound coverage is given to the beginnings of extensive alienation of land by European planters (mainly French) and to the increasing awareness among ni-Vanuatu of the potential during this period of the Christian missionary presence as a counter to the heavily exploitative aspects of the total European impact.

"1906-1939" (pp. 80-104) deals with the early years of the Condominium including its ineffectual Joint Court which succeeded only in furthering the alienation of land by Europeans. The vicissitudes of the plantation economy in the '20s and '30s are well described, as are the continuing and changing activities of the missions. There are glimpses in this chapter of changes in ni-Vanuatu notions about Europeans and the European presence, but more attention might well have been given to on-going indigenous value structures during this period.

"1939-1970" (pp. 105-22) deals with the impact of World War 2 on Vanuatu, with some indigenous millenary movements (especially John Frum), with the economic development of the '50s and '60s which saw the increasing involvement of ni-Vanuatu in the cash economy, with the substantial development of European-style education for ni-Vanuatu, and with the beginnings of ni-Vanuatu involvement in political activity above village level through local government councils and through Advisory Council's progression from be-

ing entirely nominated to being partly elected.

In "The Seventies" (pp. 123-39) MacClancy attempts a very difficult task, namely the necessarily brief description of the eventful and at times turbulent decade which culminated in the attainment of independence for Vanuatu. In my opinion the coverage gives insufficient recognition to the degree of political sophistication and organisational efficiency developed by the Vanuaaku Party during this period. This chapter includes brief accounts of the development of Nagriamel, of the emergence of independence-by-1980 as a viable proposition, and of the complex progression towards that independence. As MacClancy well recognises, these events are too recent for a definitive account to be possible. When that account does become possible it will merit and require not a chapter but an entire book.

"1980" (pp. 140-147) briefly recounts the final hectic rundown to the declaration of independence in July 1980 and the subsequent mopping-up operations. MacClancy, writing in October 1980, was too close in time to the events to be able to state the full extent of French official duplicity during this period.

I have at some points in this review been critical of some aspects of MacClancy's approach, but my overall verdict is that this book constitutes a very worthwhile attempt at a short, eminently readable, non-academic history — a history primarily of the European impact on Vanuatu. If it has a bias this consists of an over-concentration on events in the Presbyterian sphere of influence at the expense of those in the sphere of the Melanesian Mission.

The book, which was printed in Port Vila, contains many photographic illustrations which are of considerable intrinsic documentary and historical interest. The author has very laudably donated the copyright, and any profits from the book, to the Vanuatu Cultural Centre, from which it is obtainable. — *David Walsh*.

*Dr Walsh lectures in anthropological linguistics at the University of Sydney.



BOOKS

Not a book on oral tradition in Melanesia . . .

Oral Tradition in Melanesia.

Edited by Donald Denoon and Roderic Lacey. Published by the University of Papua New Guinea and the Institute of Papua New Guinea Studies, Port Moresby, 1981. 270 pp. Kina 4.95. No. ISBN.

Oral Tradition in Melanesia is misnamed. More exactly it is about the teaching of oral history at the University of Papua New Guinea during the 1970s. The chapters concentrate on PNG, ignoring the Solomons and Vanuatu, but include one on long-distance voyages in Polynesia and two relating oral traditions from parts of the world other than Melanesia.

For the most part it is a study of Papua New Guinean regional history. Areas covered include Enga, Oro, Central and Milne Bay provinces, written by leading national historians.

There are also more theoretical chapters on problems associated with oral sources, in PNG and elsewhere in time and place. Carl Loeliger's chapter on oral sources and Old Testament texts relates well to modern oral tradition and Christianity in the Pacific, in similar transition from an oral to a written base. But one wonders at the relevance of Stephanie Farrall's comparison of *The Song of Roland* to sung and written epics in Melanesia.

The best chapters show the

need for an inter-disciplinary approach to history and oral history. Russell Blong and Paul Mai write on the "Time of Darkness," legends associated with past volcanic eruptions in PNG. Nigel Oram, John Kolia and Pamela Swadling present a comprehensive study on Central Province pre-history, from various perspectives. Their three chapters, conclusions differing, make fascinating reading, show how painstaking oral, pre-history and linguistic research can reveal early settlement patterns.

Gathering oral traditions-cum-history in Melanesia requires a different approach from similar historical research in literate societies. Often what is gathered is consensus history, which is Melanesian "truth." Melanesians maintain memory of the past to explain the present, not out of dedication to historical accuracy. When unaware researchers come along searching for historical truth often they go away bewildered, or try to impose firm divisions between

"Time of Darkness": A major theme in Papua New Guinea oral tradition, and one of the subjects in the PNG book reviewed on this page. The picture shows smoke and cloud over volcanic Kar Kar Island off the north coast of the PNG mainland.—Picture by Brian J. Mennis.

myth and reality. The authors have wisely chosen to use the term "oral tradition" rather than "oral history" in the title of the book, even though the book is in most part a study of the history of PNG. Melanesian history, whether from PNG, Vanuatu or Australian Melanesians, contains a strong element of what the average academic regards as myth. Melanesian "history" is a challenge to conservative historians, and this book deserves their attention.

Oral Tradition in Melanesia is an in-house book, the product of an era, a high point in the development of oral history as a tertiary discipline in PNG. Including the editors, Donald Denoon and Roderic Lacey, the book is the product of the teach-

ing and research of 17 individuals, five of them citizens of PNG. Of the 12 expatriates, nine no longer live in PNG. Three of the Papua New Guineans are staff members of the university and will be responsible for shaping the teaching of history at a tertiary level for the future. One, John Waiko, has recently completed his doctoral dissertation at the Australian National University, on his people, the Binandere of Oro Province.

The book is invaluable for anyone interested in the history of PNG, the state of the art in a new nation, or for those seeking dialogue between oral and written sources in the Pacific. But a coverage of oral tradition in Melanesia it is not. — Clive Moore.

Islands poetry ancient and modern

The Path of the Ocean: Traditional Poetry of Polynesia. *Collected and edited by Marjorie Sinclair. Published by the University of Hawaii Press. Lan-gakali. By Konai Helu Thaman. Published by MANA Publications.*

Of all the language arts, poetry is the earliest, and remains the most intense and concentrated, form of communication. Poems deal with both reality and fantasy and with the fundamental concerns of human beings: birth, love, endurance, strife and death.

In *The Path of the Ocean*, these universal themes are treated in a selection of traditional poetry from the seafarers and island dwellers of Polynesia. The title of the anthology reflects the journeyings from Hawaii southward to New Zealand of the early Polynesians.

In the Pele and the Hi'i-aka poems from Hawaii there is frequent invocation of names, serving to recall an event or a person, summoning up a legend or myth or reminding the Polynesian audience of their links with land and sea, from the time of the



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BOOKS



great voyages., Hi'i-aka's chant to restore Lohi'au to life speaks of:

*The god Ku of the small cloud
Ku of the long cloud
Ku of the mackerel cloud
Ku of the red and ragged
cloud in the sky.*

When Hi'i-aka turns for home she has a vision of the burning of her ohia trees on Hawaii:

*Fire-split rocks strike the sun;
Fire pours on the sea at
Puna;
The bright sea at Kū-ki'i.
The gods of the night at the
eastern gate,
The skeleton woods that
loom.*

Apart from the songs of war, of loss, of death, creation chants and invocations to the gods in this satisfying collection, one thread that stands out is that of love. From Samoa there is the last farewell sung by the eel-man who loves Sina:

*And make a fan to fan
yourself
When meditating on your love
for me.
You will see my face in the
coconuts
And kiss it each time you
drink.*

A song from Vaitupu has all the compressed understatement of a Japanese haiku:

*I walked along the eastern
shore
Round the outskirts of Sapepe
Your footprints are hard to
forget.*

And a delightful poem from Easter Island that tells of a girl

leaving her lover, early in the morning:

*O Miru, you are dampened to
the bones by dew . . .
You won't be dry when you go
To soak the paper mulberry
To make the cloth for the
ribbon of your topknot.*

The Path of the Ocean, edited by Professor Marjorie Sinclair, who spent much of her life in Hawaii and who received the Hawaii Writers' Award in 1981, should be on the bookshelf of anyone with an interest in poetry, and in particular the traditional songs and chants of the Pacific. An introduction emphasising the importance of the Polynesian setting to the poetry which developed out of it, and an extensive bibliography, are bonuses. Most of the poems and chants have a sonorous magnificence. In fact almost all of them demand to be read aloud.

Amidst the incantations, lyrics and chants of Marjorie Sinclair's collection, there is the occasional note of unease, of concern as to what may happen to traditional values as the outside world further encroaches on Polynesia's islands and atolls. In the chanter Ka'ahu's song, the leprosy he refers to is as much figurative as real:

*What will become of
Hawai'i?
What will leprosy do to my
people?
What will become of our
land?*

Poetry of death, creation, loss and war . . . but the thread standing out is that of love. — Picture from Western Samoa.

A similar concern is expressed in *Langkali*, a second volume of poems by the Tongan poet Konai Helu Thaman, whose first volume *You, the Choice of My Parents* was reviewed in PIM in December, 1981. In the title poem of this second volume, addressed to the sweet-flowering tree which is itself rarely found

in the Tonga of today, there is a strong evocation of the way in which so-called progress can affect tradition:

*Langkali!
No longer do I see your face
Adorn our roads and roaming
grooms
Or perfume the evening sea
breeze.
Broken beer bottles
Greet the incoming tides
And gravelalk is no more,
For the unblinking eyes of the
plastic flowers
Stare away visitors from
Pulotu,
Home of our warriors and
conversationalists.*

Several of Konai Helu Thaman's poems have a note of pain in them or of disillusion, as in "Sunday Sadness," describing

*. . . tearless people with
velvet shoes
Who have ceased to walk
The good rich island earth
Of yam harvests
And plentiful Sundays . . .*

Mrs Thaman is perhaps at her best and most perceptive when examining relationships:

*your familiar face
is strange . . .
quiet pain lingers like coral
dust
we are both afraid to say
I love you as I love you.*

Langkali offers food for thought and for the emotions and in it Konai Helu Thaman displays once again her sure touch with language. — Ursula Nixon.

Peace Corps man's textbook surveys the Pacific

Pacific Nations and Territories. By Reilly Ridgell. Published by the Guam Community College, 1983. Available from the Bookstore, Guam Community College, P.O. Box 23069, Guam Main Facility, Guam 96921. \$U.S.13, plus postage.

This is a comprehensive textbook on the Pacific aimed mainly at secondary school pupils, although it contains useful information for any student interested in the Pacific and its people. It offers a background of Pacific

geography, history and culture, as well as some general information on every island nation, but without too much detailed information on any particular island group.

The book is divided into six units, the first half dealing with information of a general nature on geography, history and people of the Pacific, while the second half examines each island group individually. A lot of hard facts are crammed into the first few chapters in an attempt to give the student all necessary information

When only the best will do-and isn't that all the time?



BOOKS

about the geological formation of the islands, weather patterns, migration, traditional navigation methods and canoe-building techniques.

The historical rundown is presented in a clear and straightforward manner. This is particularly apparent when the author describes the various influences the islanders have been subjected to over the centuries, from beach-combers and blackbirders, to traders and missionaries. Ridgell has no kind words for any of them and some of the European missionaries come in for criticism for the negative role they played in the development of the islands and their contribution to the widespread destruction of traditions and rites. But he does get carried away with a sweeping statement of the alleged anti-communist feelings of the islanders. However, the author's way of not being afraid to take a personal stand on controversial matters can be regarded as both a plus and a minus in a work of this nature.

For an American who first came to the Pacific as a Peace Corps volunteer, Ridgell takes a refreshingly objective stand when he assesses the American presence in the Pacific, particularly in the Trust Territory. He obviously has no illusions about the true motives behind the United States' apparent generosity towards some islands and spells out quite clearly the crude self-interest that has determined U.S. policy towards the Pacific throughout the post-war years.

I only wished Ridgell would have been as adamant in his condemnation of the manner in which the French Government has treated its Pacific territories, as there are many parallels between the way Paris and Washington have treated their overseas dependencies, particularly in the field of nuclear testing.

Nevertheless, Ridgell attempts to highlight in clear and concise terms most major problems that bedevil the Pacific, whether it be the tough deal meted out to the Banabans by the British Government, the racial frictions in Fiji between Fijians and Indians, the efforts to stem the disappearance of *Fa'a Samoa* in both Samoas,

or the racial disharmony in Hawaii and the grave problems created by the influx of *haole* (Caucasians) from continental U.S.A.

Each of the 26 chapters in the second half, on the individual island nations, has five sub-headings dealing with geography, people and culture, economy and resources, political status, and major problems. Presenting the data on each nation in such a systematic fashion makes comparison very easy. The book is also well illustrated with a good selection of black and white photographs from all over the Pacific.

After Ridgell's dozen years spent as a teacher in various parts of the Trust Territory it is not surprising that the chapters dealing with Micronesia are the most detailed and comprehensive, while many other Pacific nations rate only one or two pages. Nevertheless the essential information is all there, with only a few factual mistakes having crept in.

The islands' problems, whether of an economic or developmental nature, are treated with understanding and sympathy, with the author in several instances offering his own suggestions how to solve some of these. It was interesting to read that Hawaii's unfavorable balance of trade is made up for by tourism, military spending and the sale of marijuana, although one hopes that the latter is not

going to be taken as an example of the kind of product that could help improve the balance of payments of other Pacific nations.

Each chapter ends with a series of review questions for the benefit of the teacher, as well as a list of further reading. Not surprisingly, one book mentioned extensively as a reference is *Pacific Islands Year-Book*. Otherwise the selection of recommended books offers the more serious student an adequate appreciation of island affairs and a good insight into their cultures.

Some people may disagree with Ridgell's personal comments appearing in some of the sub-chapters dealing with the major problems of the various

islands. It is a matter of debate whether one should include any personal comments in a book of this kind, or whether the students should only be presented with all necessary facts and left to decide for themselves what is right and what is wrong. In a few instances Ridgell has certainly strayed across the thin line dividing subjectivity from objectivity.

But at least no one could accuse him of not being well intentioned. Throughout the book it is unmistakably clear that the author has the best interests of the Pacific people at heart. This textbook, which fills a long-felt gap in Pacific education, is the best proof of his good intentions. — Jimmy Cornell.

One man's quest for the earthly Paradise

The Golden Window. By Len Staples. Published by the L.J. Staples Family Trust, Box 366, Rarotonga. Distributed in Australia by Kingfisher Books, Melbourne. \$A14.95. ISBN 0 9593678 0 2.

During most of 1957, Len Staples sailed through the pages of PIM's Cruising Yachts columns in his yacht *Solquest*. With his wife Joyce and their two chil-

dren, he had left Sydney that May, and headed for Honolulu via Auckland and French Polynesia, intent on gaining permanent entry to the U.S. by knocking directly on the door — for the family had no immigration permits.

Solquest's routine adventures en route were reported in PIM because Staples wrote regularly from his ports of call, but his story became exciting when *Solquest* made Honolulu landfall by driving herself on to a reef, and the family was rescued by the Coast Guard and local residents.

There was a sudden blaze of publicity when it was learned that Joyce Staples was soon to give birth, and that the child would be an American citizen although the parents were illegal immigrants and, as it turned out, virtually penniless. American hearts went out to the distressed mariners.

Over the next year or two PIM occasionally reported bits of the Staples' story as Len Staples, formerly a small businessman and advertising man in Tas-



Len Staples and *Solquest*, 1958: A disastrous landfall.



BOOKS

mania, fought a long fight to stay in the U.S. with their new son Kim.

They got much warm and unstinting help from ordinary people and from many officials who had to administer the system, appeals even being made to the President, and an Act of Congress passed.

But by 1959 Staples' attitude to the U.S. had soured, and the family returned to Australia, where his marriage to Joyce broke up, and from where he began a long search for new happiness in the islands of the South Pacific. He lives today in Rarotonga, after having tried Tahiti, New Zealand, Lord Howe Island (off the east coast of Australia), and Queensland.

The Golden Window is his autobiography, and it makes compelling reading. He is, to begin with, a competent writer, and his descriptive passages of small boat sailing, and storms at sea, are in themselves worth the price of admission. The narrative fairly dashes along, and there are no boring chapters.

The real fascination however is with the unfolding story of a restless soul in search of Nirvana. Time and again he fights through to rainbow's end, only to find no joy, and the search must go on. Again it will entirely consume his restless energy, and the energy of the people close to him, for Staples is entirely self-centred in his search, claiming the full attention and support of those around him.

Probably it is this aspect of Staples' character that makes *The Golden Window* compulsive reading. He demands our attention too, and he gets it, even at times against our better judgment. Why should we have to sit here while this prickly, inwardly suspicious personality presents us with a detailed account of his thoughts, fears and transgressions, and yet never once gives us his age?

Staples clearly is a remarkable persuader, who having convinced himself of the rightness of his course, knows how to take us along with him. But only until the end of his story. When the

words stop and he has no more claim on our attention, we are left with a feeling of relief that his life wasn't ours; that our involvement was only tenuous.

The passage in which he writes of his disenchantment with the America he thought would be his Holy Grail is an example both of his ability with words, and of his propensity for disillusionment.

"The idealism originally motivating our quest had long since withered and died. Rose-tinted spectacles of naive gullibility had been replaced by revealing magnification of close scrutiny, bringing into critical focus the country we had entered at such a frightening cost, with repayments made from an irreplaceable, irrecoverable and now depleted treasury of time, health and money.

"I discerned a paradox, in which the abundant American affluence created an insatiable hunger for still more, and all basic values were sacrificed to the pursuit of a nebulous ultimate Utopia, while no one possessed time enough to enjoy what they already held; and I recalled the languid islands of Polynesia, where the opposite was true.

"I perceived the American image, a mould of conformity impossibly emerged from a mongrel breed, in which there was an obsessive regard for group participation, group striving, group deprivation, and group dominance, wherein the possibility of plural harmoniousness was bastardised into brutalised competitiveness. Every frenetic minute of every frenetic day, Americans brought to bear on each other emotional, social and financial pressures forcing their fellow human into stipulated moulds of conformity, and those who did not conform were outcasts."

The aggressively non-conformist Staples sees Americans as living in "a corrosive society which distilled within them deep reservoirs of suspicion and mistrust". Americans at home were "at the one time generous yet selfish, companionable yet estranged".

In Rarotonga during his first lengthy stay on a beachfront leasehold he finds that Ura, his

French Polynesian girl friend, is not the lady he thought she was, and he leaves Utopia for Auckland where he meets and marries Temuana, from the Cook island of Manihiki, 19 years his junior.

As the Holy Grail is not in New Zealand either, they go to Lord Howe Island where Staples feels that "maybe our search is over". But there is unhappiness and tragedy for them there.

Staples takes on the bureaucrats over the sections of the Lord Howe Island Act which give perks to the locally born and is soon involved in "currents of discrimination, of deliberate obstruction and sucking quicksands of harassment."

But even worse was to come when the Staples' 13-week-old daughter was found to be dead after Staples one night had cradled her in his arms, and police charged him with murder, alleging he had suffocated the child. In Sydney, an inquest found she had died not of suffocation but of pneumonitis, a viral form of pneumonia, and he was released. They left Lord Howe forever, Staples expressing a contempt for the local people that might be actionable if it were possible to libel a community.

A great many tourists to present-day Rarotonga know the Staples' beachside motel, The Little Polynesian, and probably know Staples too. He says he wants to spend the rest of his time quietly painting and writing, perhaps on Manihiki, and educate his children.

"All searching is done," he writes, "and I have come to rest at the point of compromise . . . the half-way swing of the pendulum."

It is hard to believe that he truly has come to rest. — Stuart Inder.

Books received

Monopolists and Freebooters. By O. H. K. Spate. Published 1983 by Australian National University Press, P.O. Box 4, Canberra, A.C.T., 2600. ISBN 0 7081 1844 5. Price \$39.00.

Travels to New Guinea: Diaries, Letters, Documents. By N. Mikloucho-Maclay. Published 1982 by Progress Publishers, Moscow. Distributed by Current Book Distributors Pty. Ltd., 425 Pitt Street, Sydney, NSW, 2000. Price \$8.75.

Which Future for Norfolk Island? By Christopher Nobbs. Published 1983 by Norfolk Marketing, Box 114, Norfolk Island. No ISBN. Price \$6.95.

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YESTERDAY

Samoa calls, and Harry Moors concocts his 'Tiger's Milk'

In 1943 I was appointed chaplain in Western Samoa. My contacts, in a chaplaincy that covered everything east of a north-south line drawn immediately to the west of the Samoan islands, were with Polynesians who had retained much of their customs and their natural grace. This was probably due to their isolation from the main trade routes, from their natural racial conservatism, and because expatriates formed but a small portion of the population.

I have just turned up my Licence, the parchment adorned in the top left hand corner with the ornate seal and arms of the Bishop. As it is an official document of the Holy Church I guess I must agree to the terms used:

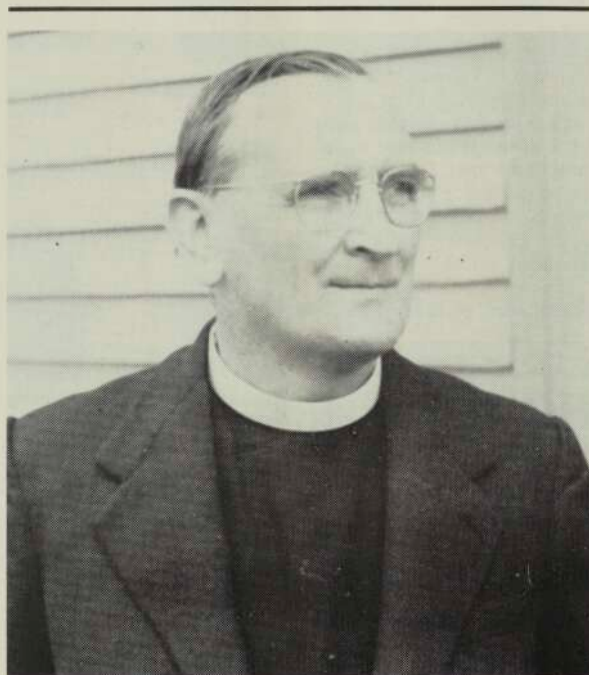
LEONARD STANLEY by Divine Permission Bishop in Polynesia to our well-beloved in Christ Charles William Whonsbon-Aston, Clerk in Holy Orders GREETING.

WE do by these Presents give and grant unto you in whose fidelity morals learning and sound doctrine and diligence we were assured . . . we fully confide Our Licence and Authority to perform the Office of Chaplain in the Territory of Western Samoa.

My "fidelity morals learning and sound doctrine" thus vouchered for, I proceeded to take up my duties in the most delightful of surroundings, feeling much like a country squire in three acres of grounds in which shrubs and trees from over the tropical world grew and thrived.

The big bungalow, its heart the temporary church, with its limited accommodation for the chaplain was spotlessly clean. I have never again experienced such care taken, by a Mrs Yandall, a woman with a family living in a Samoan *fale* under a huge mango tree just through a gap in the hedge. The flying

In the fifth, and penultimate, extract from his memoirs, the late Venerable Charles William Whonsbon-Aston writes of his arrival in wartime Western Samoa in 1943, and of a near-clash with authority over an Anglican Church-sponsored "Gymcarnival" in Apia.



foxes used to mass in that mango tree in the season, fighting and squawking, at times making the night hideous. The Yandalls had a kerosene tin loosely filled with pebbles attached to a long rope. There would be a clatter from the flying foxes, then the rattle of the tin as someone below jerked the rope — then silence for a space of time. Mrs Yandall "did for me", for a time getting my breakfast, doing the laundry and generally clearing up, as well as picking up every speck of dust from the whole set-up. I walked to the beachfront for a very hearty midday meal at the El Alcazar, a boarding establishment catering for schools staff and young government bachelor officials. It

Charles William Whonsbon-Aston, photographed during his time in Western Samoa and before returning to Fiji. He spent nearly 40 years in the Pacific Islands.

was hosted by a very fine elderly schoolmistress.

The presence of so many American troops, in spite of their value to the economy, made work complicated. The troops needed and demanded entertainment, liquid, which led the inhabitants of a more or less prohibition territory (under the League of Nations Mandate) to the brewing of most potent, sometimes poisonous brews, poisonous because of the unhygienic methods of brewing or distilling.

Some troops seemed to drink anything. I had to lock away my eau-de-Cologne shaving lotion, while a merchant told me he became interested in the amount of eau-de-Cologne being ordered by his village stores, disallowing the orders when he found the purpose to which it was being put.

The government interpreted the Mandate as forbidding liquor of any kind, save by medical permit issued to "convalescents," the High Priest of this Order of Bacchus was the Chief Medical Officer, Dr Monaghan, very deaf, who loved classical music, played for his benefit, at almost full pitch, just across from the hospital. Monaghan was the most erratic driver in town, who drove all over the road and spoke his mind to those who disputed his part of it. He knew from experience practically every drain or gutter. He was a thoroughly good sort, with a host of "sick" friends, and a High Priestly sense of power over them, for all liquor was imported by the government into their own bond, and none could be released without his authority — and that authority made him an arbiter on morals. Medical permits were restricted mainly to Europeans, some of the best of those of mixed descent, and some Samoans of chiefly standing. The Samoans on the whole were not interested. I was able to write to the Bishop a month after my arrival that I had spent an evening from 8 pm until the very late or early hours cavorting at the bank manager's house with a host of "near convalescents."

The young posed a problem. I found myself with a set of about nine or 10 lads with nothing to fill in their spare time. The one organisation I knew best, the scout movement, seemed the best idea, though, after so many years of active association from scoutmaster to commissioner in



YESTERDAY

Sydney, commissioner again in Fiji, I felt I had had a surfeit of it. However, in November 1943, my small band, augmented by friends from the Le Ifiifi School opposite us, decided to start a troop. The foundations we laid must have been sound, for today, nearly 30 years later, it is one of the few voluntary organisations in Samoa that has continued without a break, officered by its own people, most of whom have come through the ranks.

Hardly had I mentioned the matter in public when His Excellency, Mr Alfred Turnbull, called me up to request, almost plead, that I should not start a scout troop. The crux of the matter was that, during the Mau troubles, a chief of high degree (later to be a very close friend of mine) Mataafa Fiafe Faumunia Mulinu'u 11, had been the leader of the scout movement and had used his cohorts as a junior part of the military aspect of the situation. Turnbull's function during the war years was simply to "keep the peace," to let the

wheels of State turn over quietly. He suggested we should try something else, say, the Boys Brigade, which had become a sort of L.M.S. youth activity.

I grew to appreciate Turnbull and had much sympathy for him. He was a loyal civil servant left too long in an acting capacity, dependent in his actions very much on authorities in New Zealand, who had little appreciation of the mind of the Samoans. His loyalty as a government official could not guarantee a similar loyalty from his superiors. He seemed from both sides to have a Damoclean sword always poised over him.

Having viewed the situation I explained to Turnbull that I had no real knowledge of or attachment to the Boys Brigade and I felt I should stick to the movement I knew best. He then asked for an assurance that I would keep the movement strictly within the chaplaincy, to which I reluctantly agreed.

Ecumenism — that is a delightful word, much in use today,



A country of churches lining the roads, including churches of unusual design.

sometimes meaningfully empty. But when I arrived in Samoa in 1943 old rivalries still obtained. The view the tourist would get coming from the airfield (built during the war) would be of no fewer than 37 different churches built in villages on the 25-mile stretch, some of them as huge as cathedrals. On one stretch, some definitely Eastern motifs in their design were the work of a Chinese builder.

I made my first *faux pas* almost immediately on arrival, for the first Sunday in November, an extension of the old Armistice Day, had been named a National Day of Prayer, and I had the temerity (unwittingly) to ask the Apia Protestant minister to take part in a joint evening service. I had acted quite naturally, as representing the Church in which His Majesty the King had a special interest, but I had not realised that the London Missionary Society felt it had the status and dignity of the State Church. The service went along very

smoothly, though I could feel the tensions.

The Reverend H. W. Whyte, the head of the LMS and in charge of the Apia Protestant Church, could have easily walked the stage as a pirate. He had the build, the features, and an eye that, with a patch, would have given him just the character, a red cummerbund, with a hefty scimitar — and there you have him. He had a brilliant Master's degree, but had worked for LMS in India for some years, where local born Christians made real sacrifices to become converts and were Christian by deep conviction. Here in Samoa it was a convention into which everyone fitted, but without personal decision or conviction. It was commitment without tears. The result to the good pastor was disillusionment and a sense of frustration. He became somewhat embittered. My arrival seemed to be a challenge to him, and he did not lack folk who could take fanciful tales to him. Yet, I discovered, he was a great old man, most worthy. However, the Laying of the Foundation Stone of the Anglican Chaplaincy Church the following year brought again a shower of his bitterness in a refusal to attend, couched in terms that left no doubt as to his mind on the subject.

• • •

Yes, anything can happen in Polynesia. It was an axiom of the Jesuits that, no matter how tainted money was at its source, it was consecrated by the use to which it was put. This, I believe, also motivated General Booth of the Salvation Army in refusing nothing that could be put to good use. There seemed to me little doubt, when I arrived in Samoa, that his idea had certainly sunk in and was part of the working philosophy of the people I came to serve. I found a very loyal Chaplaincy Committee, the Tennis and Social Club, not strictly Anglican in membership, and the Women's Guild, a very useful organisation.

Each year a "Carnival" was held on the lines of the orthodox English "Garden Party," teas on the wide verandah, stalls with fancy work and garments made

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YESTERDAY

by the Guild, potplants and the like. These did not realise enough to keep the work going, the chaplain's salary being guaranteed by the Diocese. It was felt that they must branch out into something bigger — and we certainly did, and caused a stimulating stir in the whole of the capital.

An enlarged committee, which included two expatriate inspectors of police, with the wife of the chief of police as the reluctant, though efficient, organising secretary, was formed, and decided to hold a "Gymcarnival," the "gym" bit to encourage some of the youngsters into jumping and other activities.

A member of the committee, American-Samoan, Harry Moors, was given the responsibility for giving the soft drinks and light punch section its form. Moors had an extraordinary ability to devise new ideas for fund-raising. He was certainly "on form" in producing his "Tiger's Milk," which seemed to be very popular during the afternoon. Unknown to me, "Tiger's Milk" was much stronger than soft drink.

Consideration had not been taken, nor had it occurred to anyone, that this was Saturday, the first day of the new month. Those "convalescents" who had monthly permits would probably have used their "medicinal" liquor half way through the previous month, and the coincidence of Saturday the first and payday combined to bring a further element into the Gymcarnival. As a matter of fact, while Harry Moors was setting up his section, along came a helper, bent on setting up nearby another means of gathering in the shekels. He was bedevilled by his "medicinal" issue. He had already drawn his month's rations or imbibed sufficient to make him more than unsteady. Harry Moors asked if he would give his opinion on the "Tiger's Milk," which he pronounced excellent — and went off somewhere to "sleep his morning off."

The sergeant of police had, too, more than his fill of "medicinal liquor," when he arrived with his cohorts to supervise operations and stem irregularities

during the afternoon. He graciously accepted the sample of "Tiger's Milk" offered him in his official capacity — and soon passed out, though let me say with all truth, not purely from the potency of the brew. His assistant carried him home.

"Shorty," the dear, stumpy little Scot from Kirriemuir, James Barrie's home town, arrived next. He was one of the early arrivals, but his wife, another Scot, a regular worshipper at the Protestant Church, did not attend. Had she done so, the third element might have been eliminated or the whole excitement missed altogether, for we were about to have a "storm in a teacup" that rocked the little capital, though mainly with laughter.

The fete was well under way when His Excellency Mr Alfred Turnbull arrived, accompanied by another civil servant, the secretary for labor from Wellington. A heavy tropical shower washed out certain of the athletics in the early stages, then cleared. After tea on the verandah the governor started his rounds of the stalls, the first being the "soft drinks" one. A lawyer, one of the crowd about its counter, recognising a friend in the secretary for labor, invited him to try the "Tiger's Milk," on his recommendation. The latter turned to say, "Come along Turnbull, you must try this, it is excellent." Turnbull tried it, but refused another, always setting an example. The party moved on.

It was a very happy day that passed without any untoward incident. The "soft drinks" department seemed to be doing a roaring trade all the afternoon, with a ring and an echo of real Christian joy towards evening. It was not until later that I discovered that Harry Moors, captain of the Apia Golf Club, had insisted that all members should play but nine holes, bringing their contribution customary to the afternoon at the golfhouse to the "soft drinks" bar, making it the 10th hole.

A good friend, a Sussex man, mentioned with a twinkle in his eye that he dropped his wife and daughters (well able to look after themselves) at the church fete in perfect trust, while he went off



Inspection parade for Boy Scouts in Apia about the time that Whonsbon-Aston helped establish a troop there.

on duties concerned with a ship that was loading. His first sight as he came up the drive was that of a diminutive near-70-years-old planter taking a leap over the high jump and landing in a puddle on the other side. He too, had been taking his "Tiger's Milk" at the soft drinks stall. All was well and the "Gymcarnival" ended on a high note.

The stalls were all pulled down and stowed away, much of the cleaning up left for Monday. Early on Sunday, before coming into the Presence of the Friend of publicans and sinners, I did a special lookover of some of the "soft drinks" bar. All was well and I am almost sure I could have seen the good Lord wink at me, as the good Book suggests He is capable of doing.

My friend "Shorty" had returned to his home in good trim, had had a wonderful afternoon, nothing amiss, but he told his experiences at the "soft drink" stall to his good spouse, who, in "gud Dundee" fashion found it a welcome piece of gossip for her minister. On the Sunday evening, the congregation, among them His Excellency and his guest, were told of the sad plight of churches that had to stoop to the lowest of devices (or vices) in order to pay their way.

This challenge the governor could hardly overlook. On Monday morning Mr Braisby, the chief of police, rang me to say

His Excellency had called for a report. As an ex-civil servant, somewhat precariously in office, the good pro-consul was disturbed at his guest's presence, feeling some report might reach Wellington. Could I provide some sort of report for him? I expressed the view that there could hardly be anything to report, the affair went off splendidly, in the presence of his two inspectors, who had been quite satisfied. Had any liquor been beyond the strength provided for in law, the police had shown no concern and had taken no samples, as is customary. Braisby retorted: "We are aware of all that, but all I have to do is to quieten the old man's mind. You have a certain legal background and I am sure you can produce just what will satisfy him."

I wrote what could be described as a near perfect legal letter, which acknowledged nothing, yet contained a sort of mild apology for any misunderstanding or misconceptions that might have arisen. I had it vetted by my good friend the lawyer, who had enjoyed the "Tiger's Milk," and who agreed entirely with it. The matter seemed to satisfy His Excellency, for he took no further action.

Next month: In the final instalment of his memoirs the late Venerable Charles William Whonsbon-Aston writes on Western Samoa's advance to independence, and on the Joyita affair, with some harsh words along the way for the Maughams, Uncle Somerset and nephew Robin.



TRADE WINDS

The land issue in Vanuatu: White devils vs. Black saints?

Professor Jean Guiart's reply to my letter on the Vanuatu land question distorts the facts about the role of plantation agriculture in the Vanuatu economy and shows little understanding of the issue of payment for improvements on land.

Firstly, there is no question that payment to settlers for improvements would relate only to improvements of lasting usefulness and value. Government policy statements, the *Land Reform Regulation*, 1980, and the *Alienated Land Act*, 1982, all made it clear that mere speculators in titles, or those whose farming practices left land damaged rather than improved, would receive no payment. Indeed they might not even be recognised as "alienators". While director of rural lands I totally supported that policy and indeed strengthened it by recommending the adoption, from the Queensland pastoral lease system, of the principle that certain kinds of improvements, carried out before a certain date (after which their cost could be considered to have been well and truly recouped), would not attract payment even if there was still value left in them. That principle was adopted in the *Alienated Land Act*, 1982, and the relevant date fixed by government at July 30, 1970, 10 years before independence. Recent improvements were still to be recognised as meriting payment.

But there is a sharp difference between working within accepted conventions of compensation, which are grounded in economic rationality and supported by precedent, and doing away with payment for improvements altogether — which, despite his occasional disclaimer, is really what Professor Guiart's letter is supporting. And unfortunately two other provisions of the *Alienated Land Act*, 1982, come

close to introducing naked expropriation *de facto*. These are the provisions that an alienator not granted a lease must leave the land within six months of notification (i.e., without first receiving payment for improvements, except perhaps a first instalment); and the provision that payment could be made over 10 years at no interest.

These provisions opened the way to a grab for properties without serious regard to the value and scale of the enter-

the threat. To take some of his points:

1. It simply is not true to imply that *all* land was alienated by force and guile or that all land alienation was resented. Certainly a great deal of it was, but the historical record also shows that settlers were often encouraged, not so much for their cash payments but for the trade they attracted, new experiences they offered, or as allies and bulwarks in inter-tribal war. Some land alienations, especially by the

of the over-crowded islands to find work. Many of these migrant workers now fear for their jobs or already feed the drift to towns. The plantation sector, properly regulated, can contribute to decentralised development.

4. It is misleading to say that recent good development is "rare". It is not all that rare. Despite the plenitude of rundown and neglected properties, there were about 40 plantations well maintained and receiving new development and skilled management at independence.

5. Particularly when he disparages the running of cattle under copra or on improved grasslands Professor Guiart totally overlooks the importance of even a small number of well run plantations to the wider economy of Vanuatu. It is indeed true that in *New Caledonia* extensive cattle ranching on valley land is a wasteful use of a scarce resource.

But Vanuatu is a very different country, with hundreds of thousands of hectares of undeveloped arable land and a small population. The land produces superb quality beef and Vanuatu has the prospect of a sound beef export industry *provided* that regular supply and quality control are maintained.

For this purpose even a few large plantations, putting first-quality animals through the abattoirs in considerable numbers, can underpin the small-holder economy around them. They can also sustain the more expensive breeding programmes, whilst their heavy machinery, workshops, transport and other facilities can also service the small-holders. In short, small-holder farming and plantation farming are seen as complementary, not opposed. *Perhaps* government services can provide facilities similar, but they imply deeper dependence on aid and are not often as efficient as well-

Dr ALAN W. WARD, whose letter of resignation from the post of director of rural lands in Vanuatu was published in PIM (Nov '82 p8), here replies to comments in further letters on the subject from Professor JEAN GUIART and JEAN-CLAUDE ROULEAU (PIM Feb p7).

Dr Ward's reply is printed at length because the issues he discusses are relevant not only to the problems of economic development in Vanuatu, but in many other Pacific Island countries as well.

prises, and made it extremely difficult to preserve administratively the distinction between incompetent developers who did not deserve either a lease or a payment and the competent farmers whose well-run enterprises were still important to Vanuatu. It laid them open to the carpet-bagging activities of other expatriate residents (or newcomers), in collusion with some of the Vanuatu elite, and sometimes without opportunity for villagers to develop an informed choice on the matter.

I doubt if this is the effect that Professor Guiart would want, yet his generalised attack on the pre-independence planters reinforces

missions, were not challenged at all until the political mobilisation of the late 1970s.

2. It is also false to imply that *all* recent land development was resented by the villagers. Some was, some wasn't. The very best of the recently improved grasslands developments such as Rentabao Ranch and 4K Ranch on Efate were not objected to right up to independence.

3. Professor Guiart's assertion that settlers "mistreated the people for a century" also requires qualification. Indeed there was mistreatment and brutality on some plantations. There were also harmonious relationships and opportunities for the people



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TRADE WINDS

run private sector enterprises.

6. Villagers properly confronted with the range of options and allowed to give their *majority* or *general* opinion are not particularly opposed to or fearful of granting leases. Even the grant of a lease knowing that it may be transferred is not especially objectionable. There is considerable control on new lessees because the law requires the lessors' consent to the transfer (though they may not *arbitrarily* or *unreasonably* withhold it), the leases lapse if the development conditions in them are not met, and the government controls entry and residency permits. If Professor Guiart has any doubts about the usefulness of the leasehold system he should ask the people of Eton village, south-east Efate, who are making a variety of leasehold arrangements to gain both revenue from rent (the rents are re-assessed every five years) and assistance from the planters in the development of their own village-based enterprises.

7. As yet Vanuatu does not

have enough people skilled in large estate management (as compared with small farm management which I agree the people can handle very well) to maintain all of the big and useful plantations. This is generally accepted among much of government, as is the need for at least a transition phase of leasehold arrangements. What is not so well understood is that for sound development to be attracted matters such as payment for improvements do need to be handled within due and reasonable economic and legal processes. Otherwise confidence is shaken, and once again it is only the high-risk, quick-rip-off investors who will enter, rather than the committed farmers, satisfied with reasonable but secure returns for sustained work. I agree with Professor Guiart that it is a privilege to live and work in Vanuatu but it is stupid to expect expatriate farmers not to want at least to break even. And, whatever the glorious profits of the past (or the myths about them), these are not times for easy pickings from farming.



8. I agree that villagers are often willing to let long-standing settlers stay on as lessees or in semi-retirement on house sites. Unfortunately the confusion about who is truly custom owner sometimes allows the more aggressive or greedy claimants, when supported by militant politicians, to override their more tolerant compatriots. The process is regrettably not as reasonable as Professor Guiart would have us believe.

This is really the crux of the matter, and the only possible justification for these long discourses. The ni-Vanuatu people are indeed generally reasonable, willing and able to think about land and settlers according to the kinds of distinctions and considerations suggested above. Most are not given to stereotyping and are perfectly capable, when informed of all options, to work out mutually beneficial arrangements with settlers, and to bargain shrewdly. They are not particularly racially intolerant.

The trouble is that the stark dichotomy of wicked exploiting expatriates battenning parasitically upon innocent, susceptible and exploited villagers, was painted during nationalist mobilisation.

This is perhaps understandable when the goal to be won is political liberty and there is indeed a reactionary and speculator settler element to be got rid of.

But it is a very unhelpful dichotomy when it is persisted with at the stage of reconstruction.

My frustration in Vanuatu was that it was persisted with after independence to the point that rational, beneficial arrangements with the more genuinely creative

Two Toyota Starlet vehicles modified to use ethanol fuel have been under test in Papua New Guinea as part of the country's alternative fuel evaluation program. The Toyota corporation in Japan provided the vehicles, shown above, through its PNG distributors Ela Motors.

settlers and investors were going down the drain along with the rank exploiters. My complaint with Professor Guiart is that, despite occasional modifications, his letter also persists with that unhelpful dichotomy.

In this regard I fear that the professor, despite his good intentions, could be something of a false friend to the Melanesian people. It seems that, like most of the metropolitan French, he has difficulty in seeing and representing the Oceanic peoples, white and black, as they really are — varied and complex sets of peoples, trying more honestly than ever before to establish for themselves and their children in the region a genuine *modus vivendi* which is based on mutual respect across racial lines (whatever the majority race in each country), and sensible collaboration in economic development.

M. Rouleau's applause of my "sacrifice" in leaving my post in Vanuatu is misplaced. It was rather something of a retreat from failure to establish, amidst the political and cultural pressures, adequate reflection and consideration of the issues discussed above. The applause is really owing to the small band of people, ni-Vanuatu and expatriate, who are still there, toiling at the problems of land administration, upon which so much depends.

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YACHTS

CHRISTINE CAPRA reports from Tarawa, Kiribati:

●**BIG BEAR H.** During delivery from Pago Pago to Hawaii, Helmut and Anne Petrak's Down Easter 45 went on a reef at Christmas Island last October. Helmut was advised by doctors in Pago Pago not to make the sail up to Hawaii because of a debilitating back problem. He decided instead to have *Big Bear H* delivered. The delivery skipper said that the grounding occurred at night, during a severe squall. "The Satellite Navigator gave our position as 50 miles away from Christmas, and visibility was poor in the heavy rain. The next thing I knew, we hit the reef," he said. Helmut flew to Christmas with a team of salvage experts, hoping to winch *Big Bear H* off the reef. However, the boat was taking on water by this time, and they were only able to salvage equipment and engine parts.

●**PRINDI.** This 11-m Hartley design sloop was built by Larry Bardsley and Sue Olsen over a five-year period near their home on Horseshoe Bay, Magnetic Island, Queensland. After

a shakedown cruise along the Australian east coast, *Prindi* set sail from Sydney. Ports of call have included New Caledonia, Ouvea in the Loyalty group, Vanuatu, and Cherry Island, a Polynesian island in the Solomons.

Prindi has been in sailing company with a 15-m Garden ketch, *Phobos*,

since they met owner-skippers Reese Clark and Connie Rossitto in Port-Vila. Home port for *Phobos* is San Francisco. Reese and Connie have been sailing *Phobos* around the Pacific for three years, visiting French Polynesia, the Cook Islands, Samoa, Tonga, Fiji, New Zealand, Vanuatu and Solomon Islands. Crew-member Sam Abel of Vanuatu joined the boat in Port-Vila. During the passage from Port-Vila to Tabiteuea, Sam hooked a big marlin, as well as a sailfish.

In January, *Phobos* and *Prindi* called at Tabiteuea, in southern Kiribati. "The people of Tabiteuea could only recall one other yacht ever having visited their island," Sue said. Their eight-year-old son, Adriel, was invited to stay ashore during their week-long stay. "When it came to sail on, his Gilbertese 'family' asked if he would like to stay with them for a year or so," Sue recalls. Blonde-haired Adriel decided to continue sailing aboard *Prindi*.

Sue reports that they took two Gilbertese youths from Tabiteuea to Abemama, and were honored with a huge feast and traditional singing and dancing by the youth's families. "The Gilbertese people have been so friendly and generous, we'll be sad to

As reported last month the steel Van de Staadt sloop *Pavo* was nearly lost off Cape Gazelle on New Britain earlier this year when rising seas and a heavy swell combined with anchors that did not hold. The sloop, owned by Uwe Belschner and Salvatore Cillare, is shown here secured alongside coastal ships in Rabaul after being brought to safety. — Ian G. Menzies picture.



This is more than an attractive picture of the Nicholson 38 *Tropic Bird* — it's also the QSL card (verification record) used by amateur radio operators Alain and Gisele Martel. The Martels, a French couple, are frequent visitors in *Tropic Bird* to New Zealand and New Caledonia. Their radio call sign is FK 8ED, and the dipole antenna they use is strung between the mastheads. — Jane DeRidder.

leave here," she adds. *Phobos* and *Prindi* enjoyed a month-long stay in Tarawa lagoon before sailing for the Marshall Islands in March.

●**WANDOROBO.** Danish single-hander Jan Bagge has been sailing this sloop, a Rival 31, for six years. He began in South Africa, crossed the Atlantic to Brazil, and then up into the Caribbean and on through the Panama Canal to Ecuador. From there he sailed up to Hawaii, where he met up with Hurricane Iwa while berthed in the Ala Wai Yacht Harbor on Oahu. "I was lucky to have a secure berth. It was really eerie when the electricity failed and Honolulu was completely blacked out," Jan recalls. When the weather improved, *Wandorobo* sailed west to the Marshall Islands, where Jan enjoyed some excellent fishing. He explains: "I just cut up a piece of yellow plastic shopping bag, secured it to a hook, and trailed it behind the boat. Everytime I pulled in the line, there was a big tuna on it."

From the Marshalls, Jan sailed to Tarawa, finding a comfortable anchorage in the southeast corner of the lagoon in company with yachts *Phobos*, *Prindi*, and *Farouche*. From here, he plans to sail down through the southern atolls of Kiribati before going on to Fiji.



YACHTS

(Right) *Magic Dragon*, the 12 m Canadian sloop which is home to PIM yachting writer Jane De-Ridder, in a tranquil setting on the east coast of New Caledonia. Jane and husband Michel have been cruising for 18 years. (Centre) *Puka Puka II*, cruising out of Japan, is skippered by Hiroto Maruta, and was photographed here shortly before leaving New Zealand for Australia. *Puka Puka* means "floating sounds".



●**FAROUCHE**. A 12-m Sparks and Stephens sloop, with owner-skipper Derek Jarvis of Ontario, Canada, and crew Dave Davidsmeier and Mark Norris, called at Tarawa in February. Ports of call for Derek and *Farouche* include the Philippines, Hong Kong, New Guinea and Micronesia, as well as many South Pacific Islands and Australia.

Farouche celebrated the New Year in the Solomons, and then sailed to Tarawa. "It was a pretty rough ride from the Solomons to here, but it was definitely worth it," Derek says. "Kiribati is one of those out-of-the-way places, we understand not more than 10 yachts called here last year." Since January of this year, a total of

eight yachts have visited Tarawa. *Farouche* left Tarawa, bound for Majuro, where they plan to buy provisions for their up-coming passage to Hawaii.

●**REALM**. Newlyweds Bruce and Kris Remy, aboard *Realm*, their 9-m Bristol Channel Cutter, visited Tarawa after a three-and-a-half-day sail

from Majuro. Home port is Bellingham, Washington, and they have been sailing *Realm* for two years, taking in the Baja California Coast and parts of mainland Mexico, before sailing over to Hawaii.

In Hawaii, Bruce and Kris decided to get married and flew back to Washington for the ceremony in Sep-

tember. Bruce reports that they are enjoying their extended honeymoon, cruising to various parts of the Pacific. *Realm* will sail to Solomon Islands from Kiribati. Bruce sums up his stay in Kiribati saying, "The people are friendly, the weather is outstanding, and the surfing isn't bad either."

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IAN G. MENZIES reports from Lae and Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea:

Lae, located in the north-eastern corner of the Huon Gulf on the north coast of Papua New Guinea, is not usually a regular port of call for cruising yachties. Yet it has a lot to offer — an excellent Yacht Club, full chandlery and provisioning facilities close by, and, for who would like to venture further afield, it is the gateway to the fascinating New Guinea Highlands. The following two yachts have been recent visitors to Lae.

● **GROG.** When an intermediate shroud and a bottom spreader part company, you've got problems. But when it happens in three-metre seas, you've got real trouble! That's exactly what happened to Dennis Langtry

and Kathie Harris aboard their 15-m sloop *Grog* near Port Olry in Vanuatu. The result? Write-off one 23-m mast and all its rigging.

The nearest port where comprehensive repair facilities were available, and where they could take delivery of a new mast ex-New Zealand, was Lae. It took almost a month to make their way under jury rig and motor from Vanuatu to Lae, and a further month for the mast to arrive and be prepared for stepping. A time-consuming and costly exercise indeed.

(Below) Lae Yacht Club: Excellent facilities for visitors. (Below right) View from the upper deck of the Lae Yacht Club. Members' boats are moored in the foreground and small coastal shipping beyond. — Ian G. Menzies.



Dennis Langtry and Kathie Harris relax in the cockpit of their 50 ft sloop *Grog*, moored at Lae in Papua New Guinea. They had just finished stepping a new mast after a dismasting off Vanuatu two months earlier. — Ian G. Menzies.

"*Grog*", which is sturdily built of mahogany on oak frames, is a Ketterburge design, and was launched in San Diego, California, in '63. Dennis commenced this particular voyage in May '79 from Victoria in British Columbia, where the vessel is now registered. Since that date he has cruised the Pacific via Hawaii and Samoa before the mishap befell them in Vanuatu waters.

After re-rigging, Dennis and Kathie will explore the north coast of PNG, before heading north to the Philippines and Hong Kong.

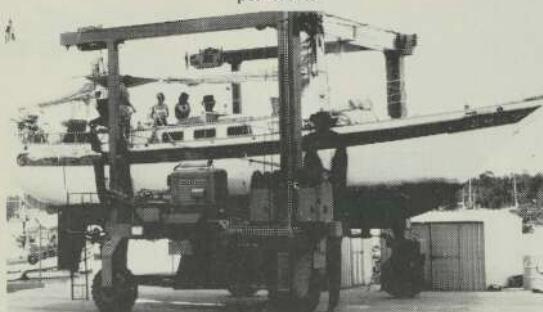
● **RAINBOW'S END.** Moored alongside "*Grog*" off the Lae Yacht Club, was Dave McKenzie and his Mason 33, "*Rainbow's End*". This delightful wooden ketch has been set up by Dave for single-handed sailing, though he generally has no problems picking up crew at his various ports of call.

Originally launched in Vancouver in '67, the vessel was purchased by Dave in '70 and subsequently fitted out by himself for long-distance cruising. "*Rainbow's End*" commenced her true cruising life in '79 and since then Dave has made leisurely passage across the Pacific. Following a year in Australia, Dave picked up a crew in Mackay and then entered PNG waters via the Solomon Islands. In company with "*Grog*", Dave plans to head for Madang and



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YACHTS



then venture up the mighty Sepik River before making passage for the Philippines.

● **WINDFALL.** Lou Marchant is one of those fortunate yachtsmen who have been able to combine a career with a desire to "go cruising" — he's a marine insurance broker. With his all-girl crew — Carolyn Hoag (San Francisco), Sue Taylor (New

Zealand) and Lorene Jenkins (South Australia) — Lou departed his home port of Darwin in November '82 for Port Moresby. As the south east trades were still blowing strongly, he was forced to motor against headwinds for almost 1000 miles!

"Windfall" is a 12-m Bore design steel ketch, which has an air of solidity and reliability about her. She

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was launched in Darwin in '74, just in time to compete in the last Darwin to Timor Yacht Race. When the disastrous Cyclone Tracy hit Darwin at Christmas of that year, "Windfall" survived with only superficial damage.

For the last eight years Lou has lived on board and regularly cruised Indonesian waters during that period. From Port Moresby, Lou will make passage for Truk in Micronesia, where they will cruise for several months. After that — as Lou says — "who knows?"

● **SAROENA.** When John and Ralda Bedford decided to build their 13 m ketch, *Saroena*, one of the requirements was that it should truly be "a home away from home". They succeeded admirably. Based originally on a 12 m Roberts Spray, the Bedfords extended the vessel, increased its draught, and added a substantial wheelhouse. Heavily built of klegcell and fibreglass, *Saroena* is a solid, sea-kindly yacht, constructed with long-distance cruising in mind.

The galley is extremely well designed with a diesel stove positioned almost on the centre-line so that it does not require gimballing. The stove also helps to create a cosy warmth in cooler climes. For quick meals there is a back-up gas system, plus deep sinks and spacious and accessible storage. A real kitchen.

After completing the vessel at Tweed Heads on the central coast of eastern Australia, the Bedfords spent a year cruising the Great Barrier Reef before eventually departing for PNG waters in November '82. Working their way up through the D'Entrecasteaux and Trobriand Islands, they sailed into the Huon Gulf and the port of Lae. There, moored right off the

Lae Yacht Club, they discovered two other yachts from their home port of Tweed Heads. You can imagine the reunion.

John and Ralda have nothing but praise for the hospitality showered on them by the members and staff of the Lae Yacht Club. If the Bedfords' praise is any recommendation, then perhaps cruising yachters should put Lae on their list of ports of call. It is the targets port in PNG, has a thriving commercial centre, and as mentioned earlier, is the gateway to the Highlands Region.

After two weeks in Lae, *Saroena* headed south to Samarai and on to Port Moresby, where the Bedfords were joined by their son Justin, and his friend Paul Barrett, who will help crew the vessel back to Cairns.

● **HONU.** Though one of the smaller ocean cruisers, the Cascade 29 *Honu* from Cordova, Alaska, has some of the biggest adventures. Her maiden voyage (this was before she was complete) took her up to Prince William Sound at 62 deg. north latitude. Of that early voyage across the Gulf of Alaska, Francine Matthews says, "I thought for sure we were going to die. I wrote my will." But as Mike Matthews explained, "We didn't have much choice. I was transferred." The young couple had had the fibreglass hull and decks shipped up to Biorka, a little island near Sitka where Mike was working on an aircraft navigational aid station. Here they began the interior finishing and fitting-out of *Honu* ('Sea Turtle') with Francine supplying the know-how. "I did a lot of reading to tell us how to do it," she said. Francine's book, "From a Bare Hull", was their most useful source of expertise. The project took the better part of two years. When they'd completed

(Above left) Dave McKenzie on board his Mason 33 *Rainbow's End*, moored off the Lae Yacht Club. (Above) Lou Marchant with Carolyn Hoag, one of the members of his all-girl crew on board *Windfall* in Port Moresby. Lou has been cruising Indonesian and PNG waters for seven years. — Ian G. Menzies.

Honu they had three garage sales in an attempt to fit everything in, then they were off — in May 1981 from Kodiak direct to Hawaii . . . or as direct as headwinds would allow. Priorities for the Matthews couple are somewhat different from those of many of their fellow cruising yachters. For instance, where an engine might have gone they carry two dive tanks. They not only carry two windsurfers — below decks on ocean passages — but also two regular surfboards. The only electrics aboard are a compass light and a tape deck powered by solar panel and car battery. They carry an outboard but seldom use it except for docking. They used only four gallons of petrol between Hawaii and New Zealand on a route which included a 39-day passage to the Marquesas from Hawaii. Though they admit that the boat "is a little tight", they have no intention of getting a larger vessel, for they have noticed that people with large and complex boats sometimes run out of time and money trying to keep ahead of maintenance and repairs. "We have time to have fun and our money is holding out well . . ." Mike and Francine plan on "going on round", but not until they've spent another season exploring the islands of the South Pacific.

● **SHAULA.** This is the second major offshore voyage for Echo and Merrill Shreve in their Portland, Ore-

gon, registered Kendall 32 *Shaula*, and their third visit to New Zealand. They'd raised their family and were tired of working. Both wanted to travel. Merrill had served eight years in the wartime navy, and as for Echo, "I'm happiest round the water". So they sold a smaller vessel and, from a bare hull, built *Shaula*, in design a predecessor to the well known Westsail 32. Simplicity is their byword. For instance, *Shaula* has a lead line instead of a depth sounder. She boasts no transmitting capabilities. To fill their water tanks, the Shreves catch rainwater off the deck simply by plugging the scuppers. Echo says: "Much of the pleasure from this way of life is discovering how we can depend on our own resources." Their route has taken them off the beaten track. They've visited Christmas and Fanning Islands, and Kosrae, as well as Queensland, Australia, and the more frequent South Pacific islands. Plans? They have to be back home by September to take care of rental property, but they hope to head for Alaska come the next northern summer.

● **BONNY LASS.** This 20-tonne, 13.7 m Taiwan-built ketch is cruising home for four joint owners. Don Zobel, Louise Sherman, Dan Curtis and Jim McCormick left San Francisco on their Brewer 45 in March 1982, heading west around. When they arrived in New Zealand they bought a van for touring. We talked with Don and Louise in Matauwhi Bay in the Bay of Islands. They pointed out that in joint ownership the main problem lies in determining route and agreeing on length of time to spend in each area. South Africa, the Caribbean and Florida are included in *Bonny Lass's* future cruising plans.

● **STARLIGHT.** "The boat is a being. She determines my plans. I'm only the helmsman," says Michael Davidson of his 11.6 m sloop, the one with the Port Orford cedar hull and the dusty bilge. Ed Monk drew up this Cascade design in 1935. Brian Lange built *Starlight* at his father's Port Townsend, Washington, shipyard in 1971 when he was a lad. Now foreman of Salthouse Bros. Shipyard in Greenhithe near Auckland, Brian has a chance to supervise the yacht's haulout and to check out his handiwork. The present owner, Michael Davidson, left Vancouver with *Starlight* in 1979, sailing through the South Sea Islands to New Zealand where he will have spent a year and a half by the time he heads back toward the Pacific northwest to "reconstruct financially". During his lengthy stay in New Zealand Michael has toured both north and south islands half a dozen times — by hitch-hiking, by train, in his own car, as well as on *Starlight*. He spent

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Jon Knedel, Teri Bonge and Tim Bonge from the ferro-cement yacht *Hummingbird*, recently in the South Pacific out of Texas, USA.

the winter in Akaroa harbor in Christchurch with a Dickenson diesel heater keeping the vessel snug below decks. Unlike other cruising vessels, *Starlight*, for aesthetic reasons, has no stanchions or lifelines. Instead, Michael, who frequently sails single-handed, relies on safety harness and handrails to stay aboard. Twice he has been washed overboard, once when crossing the Columbia River bar. At such times an extra surge of adrenalin helps him heave himself back aboard by means of a security line which keeps him tethered to the boat when he is in the cockpit or on deck.

● **KARANA**. Sharing the same Bay of Islands anchorage with *Starlight* as well as the same port of registry (Portland) and the same yacht club affiliation, *Karana* is another cruising vessel without stanchions or lifelines. *Karana* is so small (7.5 m) that they would only get in the way, her owner David Ingalls reckons. She's a Bahama 25 which David, architect, and Jan Lippen-Holz, teacher, built starting from a bare hull, making a superbly professional job for a couple of amateur shipwrights! David explains his choice of yacht with the comment: "It fits in the garage and it was affordable." Though he says his next boat will have standing headroom, he is aware of the many advantages of small craft. He says there's usually room for a tiny yacht to tie up in the most crowded of ports; the 1.19 m draught means they can anchor in shallow anchorages; and they're always glad of it when painting. After repainting the mini-sloop in Orongo Bay in the Bay of Islands, David and Jan headed off on a six-to-eight-week camping trip leaving *Karana* swinging on an Opua mooring.

● **VICTORIA**. Robert and Linda Ahbel sailed their hefty 30-ton steel vessel (15.3 m x 4.8 m by 2.18 m) into Opua in the Bay of Islands in September with the engine out of commission. Designed with a cargo hold where their double bunk



SHIPPING SCHEDULES

SHIPPING

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 (232-1011), Dalgety Shipping, World Trade Centre, Melbourne (616-6700), Burns Philp (SS) Co. Ltd., Suva and Lautoka.

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

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 19 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-9851), Trans-Austral Shipping Pty. Ltd., 570 Bourke Street, Melbourne (67-9162); ACTA

stateroom is now, Victoria is the smallest design from the board of east coast naval architect Murray Watts, known for his megabuck steel craft. The re-engined, repainted and refurbished vessel will set off homeward bound via the Australs, Papeete and Palmyra. Once home in Washington State's San Juan Islands, Robert and Linda plan to "blow up" *Victoria's* lines to 14m, and build a new vessel themselves in Friday Harbour where Robert has a shed, hoists and welding gear rented out during their absence. Here Robert — a tanker engineer by trade — has already built a steel crabber and two sailing boats. The Ahbels plan to use their next boat to fish for albacore, something they have done successfully in the past with *Victoria*.

● **DISTANT STAR**. Robert Ahbel recognised a bushy-bearded neighbor on a double-ended Honolulu-registered boat which was mastless on the hard at Oram's Marina in Whangarei as the proprietor of the "Bushwacker Barbershop" in Belmont, California. Though he still barbers for barter from time to time amongst the cruising community, Dean Poore says: "My scissors are pretty rusty now." Robert had a Seawitch Ketch for six years before buying his Danish-built foam-core Saggiata 30 *Distant Star*. About the Seawitch, Robert remarked, "She was too big, too slow, had too much maintenance and was strictly a downwind boat." He estimates that over the three years he has cruised the South Pacific in *Distant Star* almost 65 per cent of his sailing has been to windward. With cruising companion Lynn Oakley, Dean is headed on westward, but route and time reckoning have yet to be settled. At one time "in real estate", Lynn is a bit of a wine and food connoisseur which makes *Distant Star's* travelling extra interesting.

Pty. Ltd., Brisbane (221-3116); Elders-ANL Pty. Ltd., Port Adelaide (47-5688); ANL Newcastle (049-24364); Clements and Marshall, Burnie, Tasmania (31-1833); Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thomson St., Suva, Fiji (312-244); Tix 2199 FJ.

AUSTRALIA - SAMOAS - TONGA

Warner Pacific Lines operates a regular cargo service from Sydney to Nuku'alofa, Pago Pago, Apia and Vavau.

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

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA - FIJI - SAMOAS - TONGA

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

Details from Pacific Forum Line, Sydney; Union Bulkships, Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne; SATO, Noumea, Union Company, Lautoka, Suva and Nuku'alofa; Pacific Forum Line, Apia.

AUSTRALIA - LORD HOWE IS - NORFOLK IS

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

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

AUSTRALIA - KIRIBATI

Karlander operates a 5/6 weekly ser-

vice from Melbourne and Sydney to Kiribati (Tarawa).

Details: Karlander (Aust) Pty. Ltd., 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (232-1011).

AUSTRALIA - NAURU - KIRIBATI

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

Details: Nauru Corporation (Vic.) Inc. (Shipping Division), Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709), Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA (AND/OR) VANUATU

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

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 19 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-9851), 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 Westfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671).

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney to Noumea, Port Vila and Santo, for containerised and break bulk cargo.

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



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SHIPPING SCHEDULES

AUSTRALIA - NZ - FIJI - HAWAII - US

P & O liners call at Auckland, Suva, Pago Pago and Honolulu on east-bound and westbound voyages between Sydney and the US.

Details from P & O Booking Centre, World Travel Headquarters Pty Ltd., 33 Bligh Street, Sydney (237-0333).

AUSTRALIA - NZ - FIJI - TONGA - VANUATU - NEW CALEDONIA - SOLOMONS - SAMOAS - NEW GUINEA

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

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

AUSTRALIA - NZ - FIJI - TONGA - VANUATU - NEW CALEDONIA - SOLOMONS - SAMOAS - TAHITI

P & O liners call at Auckland, Bay of Islands, Honiara, Lautoka, Noumea, Nukualofa, 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 (237-0333).

AUSTRALIA - NZ - SOLOMONS - PNG

Pacific Forum Line operates containerised and general cargo service from Lyttelton, Napier and Auckland to Honiara, Lae, Port Moresby, Brisbane.

Details from Pacific Forum Line, Auckland and Sydney; Steamships Shipping, Port Moresby; Sullivans Ltd., Honiara; Union Bulkships, Brisbane.

AUSTRALIA - MICRONESIA

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

Details Nauru Corporation (Vic.) Inc. (Shipping Division), Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne, (653-5709), Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA - TUVALU

Karlander operates a three monthly service from Sydney and Melbourne to Tuvalu (Funafuti).

Details from Karlander (Aust.) Pty Ltd., 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (232-1011).

AUSTRALIA - PNG

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 (232-1011), Dalgety Shipping, World Trade Centre, Melbourne (616-6700).

AUSTRALIA - PNG - SOLOMONS - VANUATU

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, Honiara, Vila and Santo.

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

New Guinea Express Lines operates

a fortnightly container service from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Alotau, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta, Honiara.

Details from New Guinea Express Lines, PO Box R73; Royal Exchange, Sydney (241-3991); New Guinea Express Lines, 127 Creek Street, Brisbane (221-9333); New Guinea Express Lines, 327 Collins Street, Melbourne (61-3053); Niugini Express Lines, Port Moresby (21-4572); Lae (42-1536); Rabrad Niugini Pty. Ltd., Rabaul (92-2911) and Kieta (95-6185); Alotau Stevedoring & Transport, Alotau (61-1318); Ngatia Wholesalers Pty. Ltd., Kimbe (93-5102); and Trading Company, Mendana Avenue, Honiara (588).

Sofrana-Unilines (PNG Line) operates a monthly service to Port Moresby and Lae, from main ports on the east coast of Australia.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 19 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-9851); 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).

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney to Papeete for containerised and break-bulk cargo.

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

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI - US

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

Details: Karlander (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (232-1011).

AUSTRALIA - NZ - WEST COAST SOUTH AMERICA

South Pacific Seaboard Service offers a regular cargo service from Brisbane, Sydney, Adelaide and Melbourne to New Zealand ports Lyttelton and Tauranga and to the west coast of South America, calling at Beu Ventura, Guayaquil, Callao and other ports on inducement.

Details from South Pacific Seaboard Service agents, Meridian Shipping & Transport Agencies, 50 Clarence Street, Sydney (290-1633), Tix 25970; Melbourne (67-5907); Brisbane (267-6355); Adelaide (47-6600); Oceanbridge Shipping Ltd., 22 Emily Place, Auckland (33-279), Tix 60523; Ian Taylor Y Cia Ltda, Prat 827 — Of. 301, Valparaiso, Chile (59096), Tix. 30331.

SINGAPORE - HONG KONG - FIJI - ISLANDS PORTS

Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd. operates a monthly service from Singapore, Hong Kong to Lautoka, Suva and then to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thompson Street, Suva, (312-244), Tix FJ2199.

FAR EAST - FIJI - NEW ZEALAND

New Zealand Unit Express (NZUE) operates a monthly palletised cargo service from Manila, Keelung, Kaohsiung and Hongkong to Lautoka, Suva and thence to NZ.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thompson Street, Suva (312-244), Tix FJ2199, 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

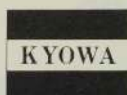
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SHIPPING SCHEDULES

Sourabaya, Jakarta, Bangkok, Port Kelang and Singapore to Suva, Lautoka and NZ ports.

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

FAR EAST - MID-S. PACIFIC

China Navigation's New Guinea Pacific Line operates a regular container service from Hongkong, Taiwan, Manila, Port Kelang and Singapore to Port Moresby, Lae, Rabaul and Honiara monthly and to Wewak, Madang and Kieta every three months. Cargo from the same Far Eastern ports to the South Pacific ports of Noumea, Santo, Vila, Papeete, Pago Pago, Apia, Rarotonga and Tarawa will be shipped via Japan on the monthly Ball Hai service.

Details from Steamships Trading Co. Ltd., P.O. Box 1, Port Moresby (22-0222).

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

Details: Hetherington Wesfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671); Carpenters Shipping, Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

JAPAN - FIJI - ISLAND PORTS

Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd., operates a monthly service from main ports of Japan to Suva and Lautoka and thence to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thompson St., Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

JAPAN - FIJI - ISLAND PORTS

Ball Hai service operates a monthly service from main ports of Japan to Suva and Lautoka and thence to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thompson St., Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199 and Burns Philp, Suva (311-777).

JAPAN - MICRONESIA

The NYK Shipping Line operates a monthly cargo service from Japan to Micronesia, calling at Yokohama, Nagoya, Kobe, Guam, Saipan, Truk, Ponape and Majuro, returning via Yokohama, Nagoya and Kobe.

Details from Burns Philp & Co. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (2-0547).

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 Robert Laurie (PNG) Pty. Ltd., PO Box 922, Port Moresby (21-2466/21-1898).

NEW CALEDONIA - FIJI - WEST COAST NORTH AMERICA

PAD Line operates an approx. 3-weekly ro-ro service with Noumea and Suva to Honolulu and West Coast USA and Canadian ports.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP 1602, Noumea (27-51-91), Tlx NM048; Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thompson St., Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

PNG - INTER - MAINPORT

Papua New Guinea Line offers scheduled 10/20 day coastal liner services linking all PNG major ports with containerisation, reefer, heavy lift and transhipment facilities.

Details from PNG Line, Box 543, Port Moresby, PNG (21-1174), Tlx 22269.

PNG - UK/CONTINENT

The Bank Line operates regular cargo service from Port Moresby, Oro Bay, Kieta, Rabaul, Kimbe, Madang and Lae to Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Le Havre.

Details from The Bank Line (A/asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (PNG) Ltd. PNG ports.

SOLOMONS - UK/CONTINENT

The Bank Line operates regular cargo service from Honiara to Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Le Havre.

Details from The Bank Line (A/asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041); Tradco Shipping (588).

NZ - COOK IS - NIUE - TAHITI

Shipping Corporation of NZ Ltd. operates cargo services based on pallets and similar units from Auckland to Niue, Cook Islands and Tahiti.

Details from the Shipping Corp. of NZ Ltd., PO Box 3420, Auckland (797-210); Waterfront Commission, PO Box 61, Rarotonga; Cook Islands; Niue Govt. Offices, Niue Island Compagnie Maritime Polynesienne, BP 368, Papeete, Tahiti.

NEW ZEALAND - TAHITI

Pacific Polynésie Line operates a monthly service carrying general and freezer cargoes to Papeete and outlying islands in the group.

Details from McKay Shipping Ltd., PO Box 1372, Auckland, (30229), Tlx 2554 NZ.

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); M.V. Fijian Shipping Agencies Ltd., Private Bag, Suva, Fiji (31-1056).

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; Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thompson Street, Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

NZ - FIJI - NORTH AMERICA (WC)

Blue Star Line Ltd. Pacific Coast container services. Only direct service to and from New Zealand. Blue Star vessels call at Suva and Honolulu on NZ-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), Tlx. FJ2168 Burship.

NZ - FIJI - SAMOAS - TONGA

Pacific Forum Line operates a fully containerised three-weekly service (Gen/Reefer) from Auckland to Lautoka, Suva, Apia, Pago Pago and Nuku'alofa.

Details from Pacific Forum Line, Auckland; Union Co. Auckland, Lautoka, Suva and Nuku'alofa; Pacific Forum Line, Apia.

NZ - N. CALEDONIA - VANUATU - 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, Tlx. NZ2313.

NZ - TAHITI

Compagnie Tahitienne Maritime SA (as CTM-Tahiti Line) operates one ship, MV Bounty 111, monthly Papeete - New Zealand.

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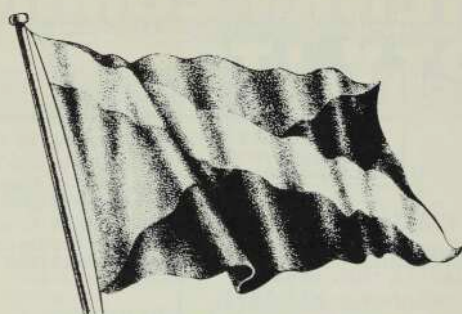
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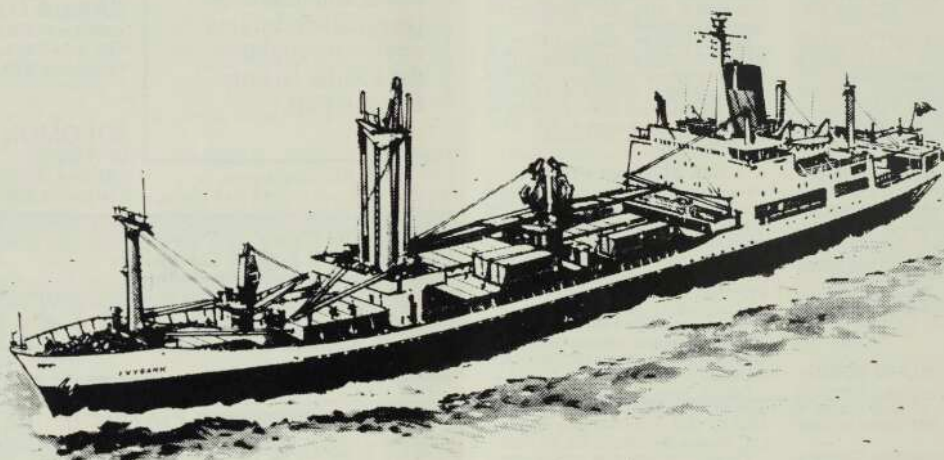
PAPEETE: Agence Maritime Internationale, Tahiti

PAGO PAGO: Polynesia Shipping Services, Inc.

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SHIPPING SCHEDULES

Details from Sofrana Unilines, PO Box 3614, 18 Customs St., Auckland Tlx NZ2313; Agence Maritime Cowan, PO Box 9012, Papeete (39042), Tlx Tahiti 322 FP Tahiti).

NZ - TONGA - SAMOAS

Warner Pacific Line services Auckland, Nuku'alofa, Vavau, Apia, Pago Pago fortnightly carrying general and freezer cargoes.

Details from McKay Shipping Ltd., Downtown House, 21 Queen St., Auckland, PO Box 1372 (30-299). Cables MACSHIP, Telex NZ2554, Warner Pacific Line, Box 93, Nuku'alofa, Tonga; Mealelei (Western Samoa) Ltd. Box 4171, Apia, Western Samoa, Kneubuhl Maritime Services, Box 39, Pago Pago, American Samoa, 96799.

NZ - NEW CALEDONIA

CP Line operates a monthly cargo service from Auckland, Lyttelton, Napier and Mt. Maunganui to Noumea.

Details from McKay Shipping Ltd., PO Box 1372, Auckland (9-30229); Tlx 2554 NZ.

EUROPE - TAHITI - NEW CALEDONIA

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates services from Europe and Mediterranean ports to Papeete and Noumea using three ro-ro and multi-purpose vessels thus ensuring a bi-monthly sailing to and from.

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

EUROPE - TAHITI - NEW CALEDONIA - NEW ZEALAND - SOLOMONS - PNG - EUROPE

Polish Ocean Lines offers regular monthly sailings for containerised and breakbulk cargo and reefer space, conventional and in reefer containers, from Hamburg, Antwerp, Dunkirk and Rouen to Papeete, Noumea, New Zealand, Honiara, Lae, returning to Europe via Suez. Other ports in the South Pacific can be served with inducement.

Details from Sotama, BP 9170, Papeete (27805), Tlx. 296; SATO, BP C2, Noumea (272094), Tlx. 163NM SATO: Union Steamship Co of NZ, PO Box 50, Apia, Tlx. 25; Williams and Gosling, PO Box 79, Suva (312633), Tlx. 2163; Warner Pacific Line, PO Box 93, Nuku'alofa (21089), Tlx. 66219; Universal Shipping Agencies, PO Box 2282, Auckland (30930), Tlx. 21517.

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

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

Details Nedlloyd (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 8 Spring Street, Sydney (27-3801); Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thomson St., Suva (312-244), Tlx. 2199 FJ and Vetari Street, Lautoka (63988), Tlx. 5215FJ.

EUROPE - TAHITI - W. SAMOA - TONGA - FIJI - SOLOMONS - PNG - VANUATU

Columbus Line Reederei GMBH operates regular services from Hamburg, Hull, Rotterdam, Antwerp, Dunkirk, Le Havre, to Papeete, Apia, Suva, Lautoka, Noumea, Port Moresby, Lae, Honiara, Kieta, Rabaul, Lae, and return to Europe.

Details from Columbus Overseas Services Pty. Ltd., 333 George Street, Sydney (290-2966). Columbus Maritime Service, 17 Albert Street, Auckland (77-3460); Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thompson St., Suva (312-224), Tlx. 2199 FJ.

UK - N. CONTINENT - FIJI

The Bank Line operates a regular cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Le Havre to Suva and Lautoka.

Details from The Bank Line (A'sia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (South Sea) Co. Ltd., Suva and Lautoka.

UK - N. CONTINENT - PNG - SOLOMONS

The Bank Line operates a regular cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Le Havre to Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta and Honiara and on inducement to Yandina.

Details from The Bank Line (A'sia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041); Burns Philp (PNG) Ltd. PNG ports; Tradco Shipping (588).

UK/N. CONTINENT - TAHITI - N. CALEDONIA

The Bank Line operates a regular cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Le Havre to Papeete and Noumea.

Details from The Bank Line (A'sia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041); Ets A M. Fare UTE, Papeete; Ets. Ballande, Noumea.

US - FIJI - TAHITI - NZ - AUSTRALIA

The Bank Savill Line Ltd. operates regular cargo services from U.S. Gulf ports to Australia and N.Z. Calls at Suva, Lautoka and Papeete on demand.

Details from The Bank and Savill Line Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041) or Orient Shipping Services, 32 Bridge Street, Sydney (241-2753).

U.S. - HAWAII - KIRIBATI - 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 Tarawa, Ebeye, 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, MI 96950, Cable COMMONTIME, Tlx 783605; PM&O: PM&O Lines, 181 Fremont St., San Francisco, California 94-105, 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 Corporation (Vic.) Inc. (Shipping Division), Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709); North American Maritime Agencies, 100 California St., San Francisco, California 94111.

HAWAII - TAHITI - SAMOAS

Marshall Islands Maritime Co operates a service every 32 days between Honolulu, Papeete, Pago Pago and Apia.

Details from the Maritime Co. of the Pacific, 567 South King Street, Suite 310, Honolulu, Hawaii, Morris Hedstrom, Box 189, Apia, Western Samoa and the Marshall Islands Maritime Co., Box 679, Majuro, Marshall Islands.

US - NOUMEA - FIJI

PAD Line operates an approx. 3-weekly ro-ro service from West coast USA and Canada to Noumea, Suva and Lautoka.



DEATHS of Islands People



Ida Bordes-Teariki

In Papeete on March 21, aged 67, of heart failure.

She was *une grande dame* with a royal bearing, in the line of "Queen Purea, or Oberea" who so much impressed the earliest European visitors to Tahiti. In fact, her very appropriate family name, Teariki, was bestowed by a Rarotongan ariki.

Born in 1916, Frida, whose name was soon shortened to Ida, took up one of the two professions which in those days were open to Tahitian women, nursing. (The other one, of course, was school teaching). Then, at the mature age of 27, she married the planter François Bordes, son of the chief of the district of Afaahiti, on the peninsula, to whom she bore three daughters.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP 1602, Moumea (27-51-91), Tlx. NM048; Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thompson St., Suva (31-2244), Tlx. FJ2199; Trans-Austral Shipping, Box R232 PO, Royal Exchange, NSW (27-2441), Tlx. AA21204.

US - TAHITI - SAMOA

Pacific Islands Transport operates a five 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 96799.

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 96799.

Together with her brother John, she joined in the early 1950s the newly founded nationalist RDPT party of Pouvanea a Oopa. When this charismatic leader was imprisoned and his party outlawed by the French Government, John and Ida founded a new party *Pupu here aia* (The Patriots), and Ida was elected president and made the party's wheels turn.

With incredible energy, the brother and sister team, who possessed a most un-Polynesian business acumen, simultaneously went in for large-scale farming, orange growing and breeding cattle and chickens. Ida moreover tended a huge flower garden and was a regular supplier of garlands of the national flower, the white gardenia, for feasts and official functions.

During the last 10 years of her life, Ida was actively engaged in efforts to improve the lot of Polynesian women. This led to her participation in the first Pacific Women's Conference, held in 1975 in Suva, and to her appointment as consultant for the Resource Centre set up by the conference. In 1980, she led a Tahitian delegation to the Non-Government Organisations Mid-Decade Forum in Copenhagen, and on her return home became a founding member of the local branch of the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom.

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DEATHS of Islands People

Having throughout her life been an active member of the Evangelical Church of French Polynesia, Ida Bordes-Teariki was given a moving funeral in the best LMS tradition, in her home district on the peninsula. It was attended by numerous church dignitaries and political leaders, as well as by hundreds of ordinary people to whom she had been a faithful friend and shining example. As a last, fitting tribute they showered her coffin with white gardenia flowers. — *Marie-Thérèse Danielsson.*

Mrs Aimak Tapangkai Sope
In Vanuatu on February 19, following a long illness.

Mrs Aimak Sope was the mother of government's chief whip and MP Efate Rural, Barak Sope.

Richard (Martin) Brown
On Norfolk Island on March 2, aged 76.

Martin Brown retired to Norfolk 10 years ago after working with the Ansett transport company in Melbourne for many years. He was a respected member of the community and a keen gardener, often exhibiting his produce at the Norfolk Island show.

Dr Yadram Sadhu

In Suva on March 29, aged 55.

Dr Sadhu was the assistant director of hospital services in Fiji's Ministry of Health and Social Welfare. He qualified as an assistant medical officer from the Fiji School of Medicine in 1954 and served in many medical districts including Lautoka, Nausori, Nadi, Ra, Tamavua and Suva during his 28 years of service to the government. He was promoted to principal medical officer in 1971 and became a senior clinical tutor in preventive medicine at the FSM in 1974, acting as principal of the school on several occasions.

Ambika Maharaj

In Suva on March 29, aged 46.

Mr Maharaj was the Fiji Broadcasting Commission's head of the special programs unit. He first joined the commission in 1959 as a Hindustani announcer but left in 1964 to join the Agricultural and Industrial Loans Board, the forerunner to the Fiji Development Bank. In 1968 he joined the Co-operative Department and then in 1972 returned to the FBC as a current affairs producer. Two years later he was appointed head of special programs and in 1982 was transferred to the Western Division to establish Radio West.

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