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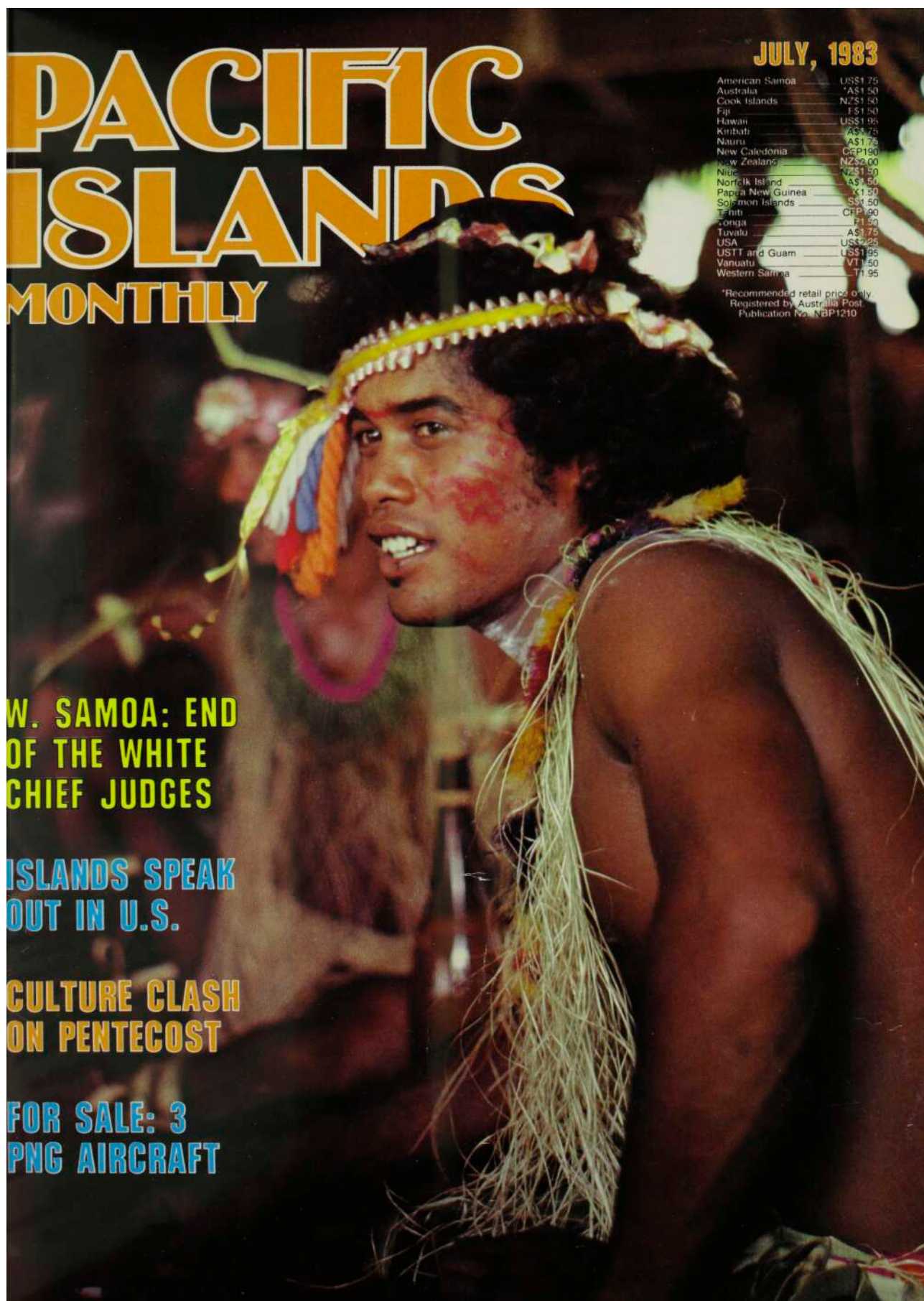
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YOU ARE NOW WITNESSING THE BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA IN AUDIO TECHNOLOGY.



The image shows a Hitachi DA-1000 Compact Disc Digital Audio Player. It is a black, rectangular device with a front-loading disc tray. The left side features a control panel with a 'POWER' button, a 'LOCATION INDICATOR' scale, a 'TIME COUNTER' display showing '55:03', and buttons for 'PRISM PLAY', 'REPEAT', and 'OUTPUT VOLUME'. The disc tray is open, showing a compact disc with a rainbow-colored reflective surface. The right side has a 'HITACHI Key Play computer control' section with buttons for 'PLAY', 'PAUSE', 'STOP', 'OPEN/CLOSE', and 'VOLUME'. A 'COMPACT disc DIGITAL-AUDIO' logo is visible on the right side of the device.

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DA-1000

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The Hitachi DA-1000 plays digital audio compact discs (CD), the disc



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The DA-1000 was crafted to ensure superior performance as well as optimum convenience. The vertical design offers the space-saving bene-

fits of component rack installation, as well as the ease of a cassette-style front loading system.

The DA-1000 delivers a comprehensive playback control. With a simple touch of the fingertip, the user may elect to pick-up Forward or Reverse, Cue, Repeat, and Auto Search. The DA-1000 also has Program Playback, a feature which allows the user to program up to 15 selections for playback in any sequence, automatically.

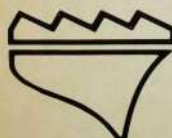
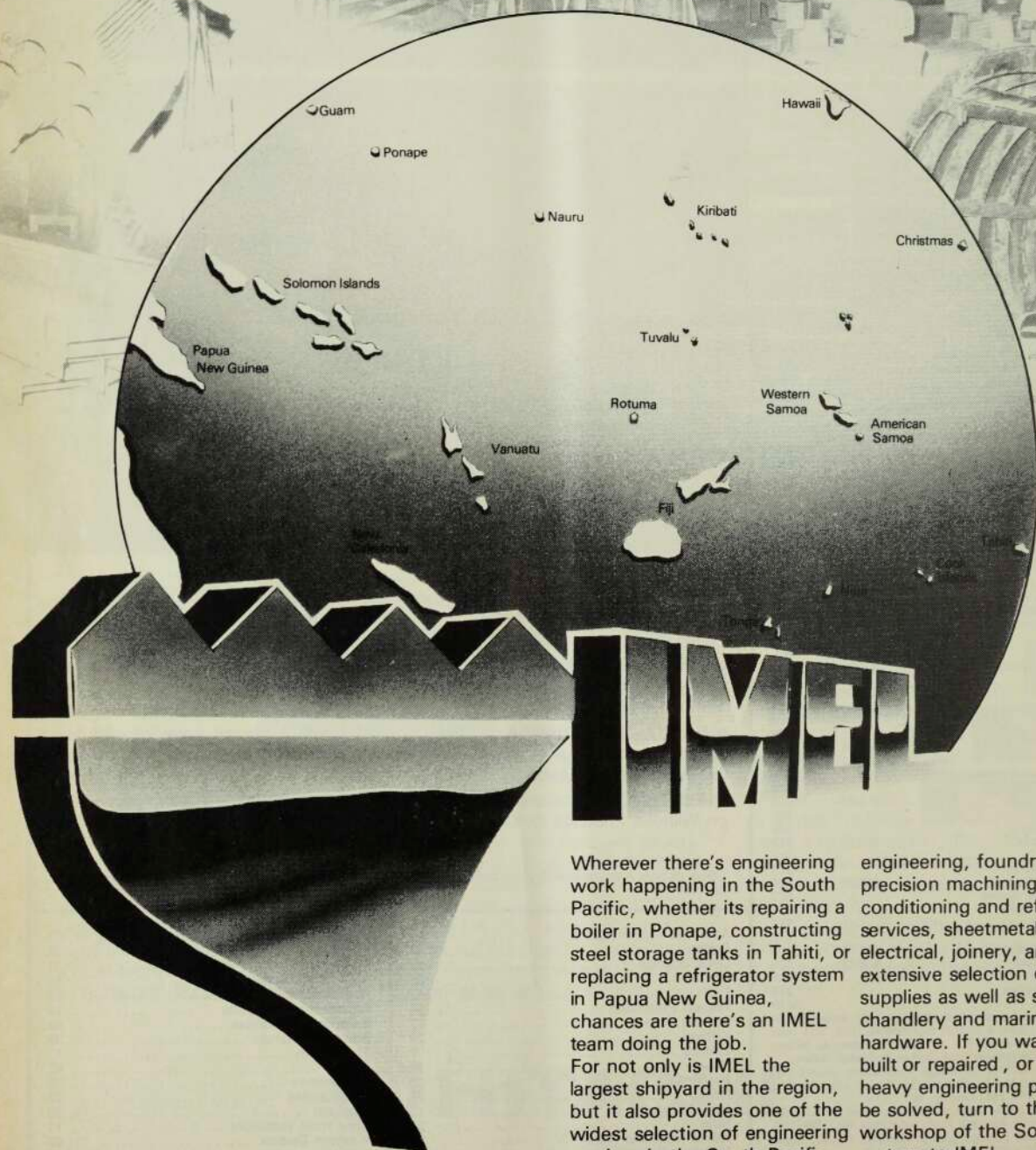
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Pacific Report

A DIKE AROUND MORUROA?

The French Government is seeking tenders for a CFP300 million (about \$A2.5 million) project at its sensitive nuclear testing site of Moruroa Atoll in the Tuamotu Islands group, French Polynesia. The project is believed to involve the design and construction of a protective dike-type structure around the atoll to protect it from wave damage during storms. Moruroa has been lashed several times — reportedly severely damaged — by this year's extraordinary series of cyclones in the area.

"FAKE" DOCUMENT IN FIJI INQUIRY

Siddiq Koya, a former leader of Fiji's parliamentary opposition, has branded as "faked" a document allegedly signed by him committing any National Federation Party government in Fiji to "co-operative" and "friendly" relations with the Soviet Union. According to the document, the party would adopt this policy in return for "help" given by the Soviet Union in the campaign for the July 1982 elections. Among steps that would be taken, according to the document, were Fiji's granting of permission for the organisation of Soviet scientific experiments in Fiji territory, and the establishment of a "USSR Embassy for the South Pacific" in Fiji. The ruling Alliance Party distributed copies of the document to media offices in Suva late in May, just two days before a commission of inquiry into the conduct of the July elections (PIM Jun p29) was due to resume hearings. In a statement accompanying the copies of the document, Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara expressed concern about the length and cost of the inquiry, but added that "efforts by counsel for the principal parties to abbreviate the hearings had proved fruitless." The *Fiji Times* reported that NFP leader Jai Ram Reddy had turned down an offer by the Alliance Party to shorten the inquiry by discarding the remaining four issues to be dealt with by it. These included the allegations about NFP links with the Soviet Union. Mr Reddy was insistent that Alliance Party charges on this matter should be aired at the inquiry. Release of the alleged secret document followed.

PNG, SOLOMONS, CONFRONT SOVIETS AT ESCAP

Fallout from last year's oceanographic research cruise in the South Pacific of the Soviet vessel *Kallisto* (PIM May '82 p6) was thick at the annual commission session of the United Nations body ESCAP in Bangkok in April. Soviet representative Ernest Obminskiy attempted to have read into the minutes the fact that oceanographic data collected by *Kallisto* had been made available to ESCAP's committee on offshore areas, which is known internally as CCOP/SOPAC. The Hong Kong-based weekly *Asiaweek* reports: "This met immediate resistance, notably from the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea delegations. They protested that they had not been informed about the *Kallisto*'s 'research' activities, and they reminded fellow delegates that a similar offer of access to this information had been 'thrown out the window', as one delegate put it, during an earlier CCOP/SOPAC. Therefore, they said, the Soviet offer was 'irrelevant' to the ESCAP report. The Solomon Islands and PNG members accused the Soviets of 'trying to force this offer down the throat' of the South Pacific states in order to give the *Kallisto*'s activities an aura of respectability. (The *Kallisto* is, of course, a highly sophisticated intelligence-gathering craft). A mood of confrontation developed as the Soviet delegation, led by Mr Obminskiy, adopted what even the most charitable witnesses describe as a bullying and hectoring attitude towards the Solomons and PNG delegations. As a consequence, the meeting's closing ceremony had to be put off for four hours while the Bangladeshi chairman sought a compromise. In the end, the paragraph with which the Soviets were so obsessed was accepted. But an additional note recorded the majority's regret that the USSR had 'persisted in pressing its offers of marine research on CCOP/SOPAC members (though) these offers were clearly unwelcome'."

BREAUD KILLERS SENTENCED IN TAHITI

Two men who three years ago kidnapped and murdered the son of a wealthy French banker in Tahiti (PIM Jun '80 p19) were sentenced to jail for life at hard labor in May. Yves Le Goff and

Daniel Chellé were convicted of the unlawful abduction and murder of 26-year-old Olivier Bréaud. They had demanded a ransom of \$1.5 million for him, but, according to prosecution lawyers, had panicked after the kidnapping, beaten Bréaud to death, burned his body, and thrown the remains over a cliff. Le Goff's wife Claudine was found guilty of helping the two and was sentenced to 15 years' imprisonment.

COOKS PM SPEAKS OUT ON ADB

Cook Islands Prime Minister Geoffrey Henry told the annual meeting of the Asian Development Bank in Manila in May that he was "disturbed" to see ADB aid to South Pacific countries fall last year to \$US25.5 million from the level of \$37.7 million the year before. He said the ADB was the South Pacific's bank as much as it was that of the Asian member countries. Mr Henry said he was pleased that the ADB planned to open a regional office in the South Pacific, and immediately offered the Cook Islands as a home for the office. He added that he expected nationals of South Pacific countries to play a part in running the regional office, pointing out his concern that among the 1400 employees of the ADB at present there was not one national of a developing South Pacific country.

NAKAYAMA, OLTER ELECTED IN FSM

The third Congress of the Federated States of Micronesia unanimously re-elected Tosiwo Nakayama as FSM president in May. Mr Nakayama, from the Truk group, became first FSM president when constitutional government was introduced in 1979. Elected as vice-president was Bailey Olter, from Ponape. Mr Olter stood successfully against the outgoing vice-president, Petrus Tun of Yap.

OUTS AND INS OF PRESIDENT DeROBURT

Nauru's President Hammer DeRoburt was out of office for four days in May. He resigned on May 16, and was re-elected by the parliament by 11 votes to four on May 20. Unsuccessful candidate for the presidency was the member for Ubenide, Derog Gioura. Reason for this latest manifestation of the Byzantine character of Nauru politics was ostensibly a difference over the timing of the next sitting of parliament. But some observers see Mr DeRoburt deliberately testing his support in view of a rumored serious challenge to his position later in the year. Back in the presidential chair, Mr DeRoburt immediately reappointed his former Cabinet.

NEW CALEDONIAN STUDENTS IN FIJI

Fourteen high school students from Lifou Island, in New Caledonia's Loyalty group, arrived in Fiji in May for a three-week course to improve their English and their knowledge of neighboring countries.

FRANCE'S 70-KILOTONNE N-TEST

Following a blast of an estimated 50 kilotonnes in April (PIM June p5), France detonated a 70-kilotonne nuclear device at Moruroa, French Polynesia, in May. The explosion drew strong protests from a number of quarters, including Australian Foreign Minister, Bill Hayden, who, as well as protesting against the test, reiterated his government's commitment to the idea of a nuclear-free southwest Pacific. His Papua New Guinean counterpart Rabbie Namaliu said Pacific nations should protest more strongly about French nuclear testing and consider trade as a means of bringing pressure on France. Mr Namaliu said the issue was certain to be raised at the South Pacific Forum meeting in Australia later in the year.

BUGGING CHARGE — PNG NOTE FOR AUSTRALIA

The Papua New Guinea Government in May lodged a diplomatic note with the Australian Government concerning allegations of telephone-bugging. The country's Secretary for Foreign Affairs Paulias Matane called Australian High Commissioner Ron Birch to his office to hand over the note, whose text was not disclosed. The move followed reports in an Australian weekly newspaper, *The National Times* that the Australian High Commission building at Waigani housed sophisticated electronic monitoring equipment capable of listening in at will to telephone calls anywhere in PNG. The day before the note was handed to Mr Birch, PNG Prime Minister Michael Somare told parliament

Pacific Report

that he believed assurances from the Australian Government that there was no eavesdropping equipment in the High Commission, but that the government would still be lodging a diplomatic note expressing its concern. He planned to discuss the matter with Australia's Prime Minister Hawke when he visited PNG in June.

ABSENT — QUARTER OF A MILLION

Almost 250,000 Pacific Islanders are estimated to be no longer living in their countries of origin. Seventy-five per cent of these no longer live in the Islands at all, but in the metropolitan countries of New Zealand, the United States, Australia, Canada and France. The figures are contained in the South Pacific Commission's monthly newsletter for May, 1983. The SPC's Dr John Connell says in an accompanying article that present trends in the economies of the South Pacific region suggest that migration to metropolitan countries fringing the Pacific will continue. He said this was especially true for the Polynesian countries. According to the figures, about 90,000 Pacific Islanders live in New Zealand and a similar number in the United States.

WESTERN SAMOANS IN U.S. UNIFORMS?

A senior U.S. coastguard official was in Apia in June to discuss with the government of Prime Minister Tofilau Eti problems associated with surveillance of Western Samoa's exclusive economic zone. Earlier, Tofilau had held talks in Hawaii with U.S. military authorities on questions of technical assistance to Western Samoa, defence, and the surveillance problem. Tofilau also had an exploratory discussion on the sensitive issue of recruitment of Western Samoan citizens into the U.S. armed forces. He told a Radio Australia reporter in Apia that while he had got a sympathetic hearing on this matter, there were still some problems to be ironed out.

PNG'S CRACKDOWN ON CRIME, GROUP FIGHTING

Papua New Guinea has introduced stiffer prison sentences in an attempt to reduce tribal fighting and urban crime. From now on those convicted of breaking and entering will be jailed for at least three years. Those taking part in group fighting in which someone is killed are to be jailed for at least four years. The changes went through the PNG parliament in May with almost unanimous support from government and opposition members. Government member Thomas Negints, who introduced the measures, said rapid changes in PNG had brought an ever-increasing breakdown in law and order. Police Minister John Gehino said that many people in urban areas were now so afraid they will not go out at night.

SEPTEMBER CUT-OFF DATE FOR FISHERMEN

From September 1, any foreign fishing vessel operating in the 200-mile exclusive economic zones of South Pacific Forum countries without being registered with the Forum's Fisheries Agency will be liable to arrest. Announcing the date, a spokesman for the agency said from its Honiara headquarters that South Korean, Taiwanese and American tuna fishing companies had expressed willingness to comply with the registration requirement. But Japanese companies were proving noticeably reluctant to recognise the agency, preferring as they do to make agreements with individual countries. Ships registered with the Forum will be required to report to it by radio each Wednesday on their position and their catch.

SOLOMONS TOLD "CUT BIRTH RATE"

Governor Tony Hughes of Solomon Islands Central Bank has warned of lower living standards if the country does not cut its population growth rate which is now running at three and a half per cent a year, one of the highest in the world. Mr Hughes said in his annual report released in May that real income per head will drop unless the birth rate is reduced. He said that in 1983 a quarter of a million people in Solomon Islands were sharing cash income of \$100 million, or about \$400 per head. He said a reasonable assumption about real economic growth, and a continued population increase of three and a half per cent, would mean a fall by one quarter in the level of welfare over the next 20 years.

MONEY: SAN JUAN RAPS MARSHALLS, PALAU

The Marshall Islands Republic's Chief Secretary Oscar deBrum has told the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington that

his government is "critically confronted with a serious financial crisis, created in large part by a series of unfulfilled expectations based on calculated projections of funds under the Compact of Free Association, approval of which has been unexpectedly delayed." Explaining that his government based its borrowing on the pledge of a previous U.S. administration that the United Nations trusteeship would terminate in 1981 when compact-level funding would be available, Mr deBrum said they obtained overseas loans to build badly needed infrastructural projects basic to the development of their economy. The government now found itself with \$US37.1 million in disbursed long-term debt, and inadequate resources to meet loan repayments during this fiscal year and subsequent years. Debt service payments would range from \$2.7 million in this fiscal year to \$9.5 million in 1984, obligating 93 per cent of their local revenues. The Marshalls Attorney-General Carl Ingram told the U.S. committee that the Marshall Islands Government wants the United States to help defer the payments to the Midland Bank (England) for the power plant. The power plant referred to was installed by the British firm of Ipseco International Power Systems with a loan package guaranteed by the British Government and banks on a similar deal to one negotiated with Palau. Pedro Sanjuan, assistant secretary of the interior for territorial and international affairs, told the Marshallese delegation that Britain had been advised through the U.S. State Department that the U.S. would not bail out the Marshalls or the Midland Bank. U.S. auditors began a review in April of the Marshall Islands' financial transactions after a U.S. Congress sub-committee meeting at the end of February had expressed concern at the size of the Marshall Islands' debts. Mr Sanjuan told the U.S. House of Representatives' committee that the Marshalls and Palau had proved they were not prepared to make sound financial decisions. The Marshalls had bought aircraft and electrical generating equipment far in excess of the islands' needs and ability to pay. Palau had entered into an over-designed project (power station), and Palauan leaders had admitted Palau may not be able to repay the loan. He added that the American Samoa Government was experiencing a very severe financial crisis brought about, completely, he said, by local mismanagement.

JAF TO JAWS, JOURNALISTS GET ORGANISED

Journalists in Western Samoa have formed their own association, the Journalists' Association of Western Samoa, or JAWS. The first of its kind in the country, the association aims to raise professional standards and to improve relationships — for example, with exchange programs — with journalists in other countries. A constitution has been approved and the publisher of *The Samoa Times*, Faalogo Pito, has been elected president of the association. Formation of the Journalists' Association of Fiji, JAF, was announced earlier this year (PIM May p44).

SIX AUSTRALIANS DEAD IN PNG AIR CRASH

Six Australians died when a light aircraft crashed about 70 kilometres from Port Moresby in May. Papua New Guinea's Air Search and Rescue Centre said the bodies of three men, two boys and a girl were winched out of the jungle by helicopter near the Kokoda Gap. The Australians, all from Newcastle, New South Wales, had borrowed the plane for a holiday in PNG.

MITTERRAND'S OUI TO SCIENTIST'S VISIT

New Zealand Prime Minister Robert Muldoon announced in May on his return from a visit to Paris that French President Mitterrand had agreed to his proposal that a New Zealand scientist be allowed to visit the French nuclear testing site at Moruroa Atoll, French Polynesia.

INTRODUCING UMAENUPNAE AND UMAENEAG

Vanuatu has demonstratively underlined its claim to the islands of Matthew and Hunter (PIM Jun p7) by issuing a series of six stamps featuring the islands, which are identified as Umaenupnae (Matthew) and Umaeneag (Hunter) Islands. The stamps also highlight the notion of Vanuatu's exclusive economic zone, and show a number of fish species found in the area. (See also Tropicalities.)

CHINESE PING PONG COACH IN APIA

Ren Guo Ji, a table tennis coach from the People's Republic of China, has arrived in Apia to help coach Western Samoa's table tennis team for the South Pacific Games in Apia in September.



LETTERS

"Everything's got a moral . . ."

In my judgment you could not have chosen anyone better qualified to comment on my recently published book *Margaret Mead and Samoa: The Making and Unmaking of an Anthropological Myth* than the shrewdly insightful and acutely knowledgeable Samoan poet and novelist Albert Wendt. While being highly appreciative of his review (PIM Apr. p10) I would, if I may, like to clarify a crucially important point concerning the sexual mores and behavior of the Samoans.

Professor Wendt suggests that I have accepted "too readily" the testimony of Samoan elders concerning the sexual morality of their society, and so have overlooked the extent to which Samoans depart from this morality.

In her account of Samoa, Margaret Mead asserted (as I note on p.289 of my book) that pre-marital promiscuity was "expected"; that there was (as I note on p.91f), a "passive acceptance" of this pre-marital promiscuity by the "religious authorities"; and that "the society" was "not interested" in adultery when it occurred. She is here, obviously, making assertions about the sexual morality of the Samoans. It is with the refutation of these assertions that I am primarily concerned in Chapter 16 of my book, and in showing that, in Albert Wendt's words, the Samoans, in their public morality, "forbid pre-marital and extra-marital sex and promiscuity".

That this was indeed the public morality of Samoa in the 1920s (the period to which Mead's writings on the Samoans specifically refer), with sexual intercourse between unmarried persons being held to be both a sin and a crime, is demonstrated by cases in the archives of the courts of American Samoa. For example, on May 6, 1929, in the district court at Fagatoga, on the island of Tutuila, Lafitaga, an unmarried male, having admitted that he knew it was wrong for a



Growing up in Samoa: Whose controversy?

man and woman to have "intercourse with each other unless they were married," was accused of committing "the crime of fornication" by "lewdly and lasciviously co-habiting" with a woman while not being legally married to her.

As is evident from this instance, sexual intercourse of a kind that was explicitly forbidden in Samoan society did nonetheless occur in the 1920s, as, I have no doubt, it always has. And, indeed, in my book I give not a few instances of adultery, sexual assault and the like. I am then by no means unaware of the realities of Samoan sexual behaviour and my field-notes contain detailed information on numerous cases quite as florid as any to be found in Albert Wendt's remarkable novels about Samoa.

The extent to which adolescent girls engage in pre-marital intercourse I examine in my study of 1967 of a sample of 67 young females (varying in age from 12 to 22 years) from a village on the south coast of Upolu. This study (which is reported on p.239 of my book) showed that pre-marital intercourse had been engaged in by about 20 per cent of 15-year-old girls, about 30 per cent of 16-year-old girls, and about 40 per cent of 17-year-old girls. Thus, while my investigations show that, in Wendt's words, the public morality of Samoa forbids pre-marital sex and promiscuity, they also document that deviations from this strict morality do indeed occur,

and to a far from inconsiderable extent. It is however crucially important to realise that these deviations are, in terms of the public sexual morality of the Samoans, viewed as illicit, and are liable, if detected, to social disapproval and punishment. Samoa is thus very far from being, as Margaret Mead quite erroneously reported, a libertarian sexual paradise where dalliance is all.

I would also note that the rhetorical utterance: "Ask the sailors!" — to which Professor Wendt refers — did not originate with me and is not to be found in my book. It is the unaided invention of one of the newspaper reporters at whose hands I have suffered much during recent months, being his somewhat compacted version of my having mentioned to him that Captain Charles Wilkes, U.S.N., of the United States Exploring Expedition, when he visited Samoa in 1839, recorded in his journal that among the Samoans "there was no indiscriminate intercourse", the women of Samoa, in the estimation of this eminent sailor, "exhibiting a strange contrast to those of Tahiti."

DEREK FREEMAN
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Palau compact "unconstitutional"

Floyd Takeuchi in his April article "The Super Tangle that is Palau" has effectively presented

the United States Government's point of view on Palau. But that position ignores key legal and political issues which demonstrate concerted U.S. attempts to undermine the democratic process in Palau. Some background:

1) Palau is still part of the U.N. Trust Territory. In 1979, the Palauans drafted a constitution banning military use of land and prohibiting the entry of nuclear weapons and nuclear waste without 75 per cent approval by voters. Despite strong U.S. objections to these provisions, Palauans approved this constitution by a 92 per cent margin. In two subsequent referenda — necessitated by U.S. insistence that the Palau constitution and U.S. military plans were "incompatible" — the Palauans first rejected a "sanitised" version, and then reapproved their original nuclear-free constitution in 1980 by a 78 per cent vote.

2) Since U.S. military plans were first announced in 1972 for use of 32,000 acres (almost 30 per cent) of Palau land for jungle warfare training, nuclear and conventional weapons storage and transit of nuclear vessels and aircraft, Palauans have been opposing the military. So it is not surprising that in the February 10 vote on the "Compact of Free Association" the Palauans again refused to provide the 75 per cent vote needed to allow a U.S. nuclear presence in their islands.

3) On the February 10 ballot were two questions: The first on the compact and the second on the nuclear provision. The second question clearly stated that the compact could not "take effect" unless 75 per cent of the people voted yes. International law expert Roger Clark's examination of the drafting history of the ballot makes it clear the U.S. not only agreed beforehand on the ballot wording but in fact dictated the language to Palau Ambassador Salii in a November 11, 1982 cable. Prof. Clark concludes that "the U.S., having acquiesced in, or perhaps even insisted upon, the way in which the issue was presented is surely bound by the results. The voters were asked for a 75 per cent majority; they did not give it . . . The compact cannot take effect."



The advertisement features a woman with long blonde hair, wearing a pink dress and a necklace, leaning over a stack of Pioneer stereo components. The stack includes a turntable at the bottom, followed by a cassette deck, a tuner/amplifier, and a graphic equalizer. To the right of the stack is a large, black, three-way speaker with a prominent woofer and two smaller tweeters. The Pioneer logo is visible on the top of the stack and on the speaker. The word 'Personna' is written in large, stylized red letters in the top right corner. The model number 'S-99' is printed below the stack of components.

So nice to come home to. Pioneer Personna.

If home is where your music is, here's the system for you. Pioneer's Personna S-99 is the personal-sized system—only 32 centimeters wide and 21 centimeters deep. But unlike so many other small-size systems, this one has true hi-fi specs and sound. The separate components include an Integrated Stereo Amp (65W/Ch), a Quartz-PLL FM/AM Synthesizer Tuner, a programmable front-loading Full-Auto Turntable packed with extras, and an Auto-Reverse (REC/PLAY) Cassette Deck with Dolby® B/C noise reduction and lots more. Each of these works through Auto-Function for one-touch operation, and

each has an array of conveniences (many of them computerized) to make life a lot easier for you. The three-way speaker systems have special Ribbon Supertweeters for tingling highs. And available at option is the matching Sound Processor CA-X7 with a 7-band graphic equalizer, echo unit, mixing panpots and lots more. Come home to the system that delivers sound you can really live with. The Personna shelf component system S-99, from Pioneer.

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American Samoa: Transpac Corporation, P.O. Box 1477, Pago Pago, American Samoa 96799 Tel: 633-5224
Rarotonga: South Seas International Ltd., P.O. Box 49, Rarotonga, Cook Islands Tel: 2327
Papua New Guinea: Bali Merchants Pty. Ltd., P.O. Box 6103, Boroko Tel: 254887



LETTERS

4) The State Department and Mr Takeuchi now characterise the conflict between the compact and the Palau constitution as an "internal" matter for the Palauans to resolve. Contrary to Mr Takeuchi's and the State Department's position, *it is in fact time for the U.S. to reconcile the compact and its military plans with the Palau constitution.* As Prof. Clark states of the compact: "An unconstitutional treaty is just that — unconstitutional." Through four referenda in as many years, the Palauans have repeatedly voted in favor of their constitution over the compact.

Although Mr Takeuchi and the State Department disagree, Prof. Clark states that "there is nothing in the U.N. Charter which binds the people of the Trust Territory to permanent servitude to security interests defined in Washington, D.C." But U.S. actions threaten Palau's right to freely determine its future. Ignoring the principle of democracy in its U.N. Trust Territory, the U.S. is attempting to railroad through its military plans. History has demonstrated, however, that the people of Palau will rise to the occasion.

GIFF JOHNSON
Honolulu, Hawaii
USA

From a Jayapura diary . . .

The following is an extract from my diary which I think could be of interest to your readers.

Jayapura, November 27, 1982.

I go to the immigration office. So the turmoil starts. I tell them (officials) that I want to go to Vanimo by boat, do I need a visa? (I have an Australian passport and enough money for a ticket to Cairns). Three different people, three different desks, couldn't get any sense.

No. 3 official insists that I need a visa and that I have to apply to PNG embassy in Jakarta. Of course I don't believe him, he's wanting money out of me. "Maybe I can help you." "Twenty dollars," he says, I don't answer, he comes down to \$10.

And this business of trying to extract money. An Indon friend smiled, shrugged his shoulders,

and said "Something Indonesian" when I told him.

Oh well! Perhaps it is "something Indonesian." Nevertheless I disapprove strongly. Nowhere else did I encounter demands for money. Indeed I found officials and ordinary everyday Indonesians very helpful. Tarakan, Ambon, I'd go again.

DAVID RICHARDSON
Cairns, Qld.
Australia

Dr Gajdusek gives progress report

Early this year the Nobel Prize recipient Dr Daniel Carleton Gajdusek spoke to a standing-room-only audience at the University of Hawaii. He outlined the progress being made by him, together with colleagues from various countries, in supplying the answers to several neurological mysteries which have confronted medical researchers. Of particular interest to those involved in the Pacific Islands were his remarks on the elimination of kuru, the mysterious and fatal disease which afflicted the Fore people at Okapa in Papua New Guinea's Eastern Highlands. He also reported on work being done in Irian Jaya to unravel the mesh of factors relating to a set of neurological syndromes appearing among the people of certain Auyu and Jakai villages.

Dr Gajdusek now offers a scenario which with great certainty predicts the ultimate disappearance of kuru. There were 12 deaths from the disease in 1982, whereas over the last 25 years there have regularly been between 100 and 300 deaths each year. Although the disease continues at this diminished rate, evidence has been adduced which gives the answer to the mysterious incidence of kuru: the people previously practised a form of ritualised cannibalism, eating the brains of deceased relatives.

Dr Gajdusek gave the instance of two brothers and a sister who all went down with kuru in the same year and had last been together as a group in 1957 when they had consumed the brain tissue of a deceased woman. From evidence such as this it had been possible to plot the extended incubation period of kuru and

to assert that changed social behaviors will lead to its elimination.

Dr Gajdusek also pointed out that whereas the parent generation among these Fore people was illiterate, the Fore now number among their society "two with Royal College of Surgeons qualification from Glasgow, others with medical degrees, several helicopter pilots and several lawyers". The spread of literacy and higher levels of education among the Fore people will ensure that they are unlikely to return to the practices which brought such misery to their ancestors.

The most convincing proof of the victory over kuru is that the youngest patient in 1982 was over 30 years of age, and that each year the initial onslaught of the syndrome strikes down older victims. The passing of time will certainly see the final disappearance of kuru.

The other neurological puzzle to which Gajdusek and his colleagues have been addressing themselves relates to some of the Auyu and Jakai peoples of Irian Jaya. They have had the highest incidence in the world of the combination of the crippling syndromes of the conditions known as amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, parkinsonism-dementia and poliomyeloradiculitis.

The affected villages are situated on a low coastal plain 100-200 kilometres inland from the tidal swamplands, and they are drained by slow-moving localised rivers.

There are only two other places in the world where there has been a high incidence of a combination of amyotrophic lateral sclerosis and parkinsonism-dementia. These are the southern villages of Guam and the Kii peninsula in Japan. In these two instances the people were relatively isolated from outside influences, but since the end of World War II, as contacts have increased, so the incidence of the syndromes has diminished.

Gajdusek and his co-workers have turned the focus upon the one environmental element common to the Irianese, the Guamanians and the Kii Japanese. The water used by all three communities, is extremely soft.

Analysis of the water in the area concerned in Irian Jaya has shown that it is extremely low in calcium and magnesium but high in aluminium, silicon, titanium, chromium and manganese. In fact the calcium and magnesium deficiencies are higher than those found in southern Guam or on the Kii peninsula.

Dr Gajdusek says categorically that as the affected Irianese come into closer contact with the outside world and start to use imported foodstuffs and encounter other new products, the mineral deficiencies will be redressed. Indeed, he says that if they moved from their traditional homelands to areas watered by the mountain-fed rivers of Irian Jaya their health would immediately be improved.

In fact, the Indonesian authorities are at present engaged in a forcible re-location of the afflicted Auyu and Jakai to the neighborhood of the major river systems where they are used as labor in the lumber industry. So, in a perverse manner, this traumatic movement of population for narrow economic purposes could result in the eventual disappearance of maladies which for decades have brought misery to these communities.

W. G. COPPELL
Waverton, NSW
Australia

How many canisters?

Thank you very much for publishing my article on sub-seabed disposal of radio-active waste (PIM Apr. p15).

However, there is an error in it as it appeared.

In listing the number of canisters I wrote that there were "10⁶ to 10⁷ canisters," which has been translated as "one million to 10 million" when in fact it is *one hundred thousand to one million*.

As I do not want to overstate my case by making exaggerated claims, I was wondering if you could print a correction for this in a future issue. I am sorry about this but I do not wish to mislead people who probably have no other access to information.

GEOFFREY P. GLASBY
Wellington,
New Zealand

Islands concerns well aired at seminar in Washington DC.

A seminar sponsored by the Pacific Islands Association on the subject "Strategic Interests in the Pacific" brought together more than 170 high-ranking participants in the U.S. capital of Washington, DC, in May.

Co-hosting the seminar, which was held in a committee room of the US Congress, was the National Institute of Public Policy (NIPP), a leading US "think tank" on strategic issues.

NIPP chairman George Wittman opened the seminar with an overview of the subject. He said: "Strategic interests in the South Pacific on the one hand involve large to medium size nations that seek to maintain or expand an influence regionally, and on the other a group of small to extremely small nations and territories that wish to gain from the major powers interest in their continued political and security alignment."

New Zealand's ambassador to the US Lance Adams-Schneider made a strong statement in which he praised the relationship between New Zealand, Australia and the US, but strongly criticised the US for claiming sovereignty over about 25 islands in four Pacific countries — Tuvalu, Kiribati, the Cook Islands, and Tokelau.

Mr Adams-Schneider said: "The US has claimed sovereignty over these islands since 1939. But it has never administered any of them, nor has it borne any of the responsibility for their upkeep or the development of responsible government in them, or for the welfare of the people."

"These claims have not been recognised by any other country."

The US position was introduced by Thomas Shoesmith, acting assistant secretary of state for East Asian and Pacific affairs.

He was followed by Richard J. Dols, newly appointed director of Pacific Island affairs in the State Department.

Mr Dols told the seminar: "The United States has a long

New York-based Pacific affairs writer NICKY HOLFORD reports on a recent seminar held in Washington DC which dealt with major political, economic and military issues in the Pacific today.



Cordial exchange at the seminar: Richard J. Dols (left), Pacific Island affairs director in the U.S. State Department, and Fofo I. F. Sunia, congressman from American Samoa. — Caroline Yacoe picture.

history of contact with the Islands, a history that has little to do with global strategic issues and much to do with competition for dollars and souls."

Calling the US interest a "recent one", and one that was previously "a kind of strategic insulation," Mr Dols said the US "has an obvious direct interest in protecting US territory in the Pacific, and defence responsibilities in Micronesia."

"The primary American defence concern is security of lines

of communication — air and sea — to our friends and allies in Asia to Australia and New Zealand and to the Islands themselves."

The threat of Soviet Far Eastern forces that have "grown alarmingly" in the last decade is one that the US takes seriously, he said.

The strategic interests of the Federated States of Micronesia were outlined by Asterio Takesy, secretary of external affairs.

Only a month away from the

planned signing of the Compact of Free Association with the US, Mr Takesy said that the years of negotiating with the US have given Micronesians "a good start in forming relationships with other countries." "Today we are more optimistic than ever before concerning the security, stability, and economic future of the Pacific region."

Australia's ambassador to the US, Sir Robert Cotton, outlined his country's "long-standing historical ties with the nations of the South Pacific," emphasising that his varied political career has enabled him to fully appreciate "the Pacific way."

"In the years ahead we will undoubtedly face considerable economic, political and strategic problems," he said. "But in our view the Pacific is in a better position than many other regions to weather the difficult times which might lie ahead."

The potential for economic exploitation of many Pacific nations was covered by Papua New Guinea's ambassador to the United Nations and the US, Kubulan Los, who said: "The Pacific region is open and to an extent unprotected. Similarly, its economic resources are largely untapped and attractive."

"Having abundant resources which are mostly unexploited poses potential security problems to the region. Just as defence, security, and political stability are important, so is economic security."

American Samoa's Congressman Fofo Sunia told the seminar: "For those of us who live in and are part of the Pacific it is of paramount importance that our part of the world does not become the next arena for the sport of confrontation against those competing for supremacy in this world."

Although not formally represented, France sent a high-ranking official from its Washington embassy, Philippe Selz, to reply to questions on France's policies in the Pacific region.

Questions were directed to Counsellor Selz about the status of French territories in the South Pacific. "The general status of French territories in the South Pacific — New Caledonia and French Polynesia — is under review by the French Government, and the future of these islands will be newly defined in a few weeks, maybe a month," said Mr Selz.

When asked about continued nuclear testing in French Polynesia, Mr Selz said he could not answer such questions until Paris had reviewed the situation.

The subject of nuclear testing and disposal of nuclear wastes dominated much of the question-and-answer period.

"We are sensitive to the nuclear concerns of the Islands peoples — the same concerns are a matter of debate in our own

society," said Richard Dols of US policy.

"But to allow what began as opposition to nuclear testing to expand into an opposition to all things nuclear is only to decrease our common security."

Director of the Pacific Islands Association, Lelei Lelaualu of Western Samoa, explained the background to the seminar as follows: "Our purpose is not to take a political stance but to raise the level of attention given to Pacific Islands affairs by policy and decision makers at the highest level of the United States Government."

"This seminar has been our first tentative Washington approach. It has turned out to be a bold step towards greater understanding of the issues in our region. — Nicky Holford in New York.

THE MONTH



A View from Honolulu

Robert C. Kiste

A Pacific role for Hawaii?

There is a difference of opinion within the United States as to whether or not it has a Pacific policy. Some observers, particularly in the U.S. State Department, believe that a policy was articulated in 1978 and that there has been considerable continuity in that policy. In the state of Hawaii, however, those in the executive and legislative branches of government with an interest in the Pacific believe that the Reagan administration has no policy, and this opinion is apparently shared in the offices of the governors of the other American flag islands, American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, and Guam. Indeed, this sentiment was reviewed in two articles in PIM, September, 1981.

What accounts for this discrepancy of perspectives? Several issues seem to be involved. First, under President Carter the federal government did assemble a Pacific policy and it had two facets. First, beginning in 1978, the State Department did articulate a policy regarding the entire Pacific region. Among other things, it was announced that the U.S. would establish a larger presence in the Pacific. A separate office of Pacific Island Affairs was created for the first time (previously, the Pacific was doomed to obscurity as it was lumped with the office of Australian and New Zealand Affairs); diplomatic missions in Fiji and Papua New Guinea were upgraded to embassies, with ambassadors with multiple accreditation; a modest aid program was launched; active participation in

and support of regional organisations was pledged; and an effort to improve co-ordination among American and multi-lateral programs was made.

Second, and with the main thrust coming from the Departments of Commerce, Energy, and Interior, a policy regarding American islands was formulated. It resulted in the founding of the Pacific Basin Development Council, composed of the four governors of the American flag islands. As discussed in this column in June, part of PBDC's function is to promote co-operation between the American islands and the federal government.

Officials in Washington have encouraged Hawaii and its governor, George Ariyoshi, to become more involved in the Pacific. Even before such encouragement, however, Hawaii was looking in this direction, and a central figure in shaping Hawaii's potential role was Hideto Kono, director of Planning and Economic Development (see PIM, March, 1982). He has recently retired and been succeeded by Keith Kent.

That the state of Hawaii is committed to greater involvement in the Pacific was reflected in two recent speeches by Governor Ariyoshi, one of which was his inaugural address last December which marked the beginning of his third and last four-year term as governor. On both occasions, the governor referred to "the New Pacific" and the role Hawaii might play in the region.

Thus, policies were for-



Top: Kubulan Los (left), Papua New Guinea ambassador to USA and United Nations, and Sir Robert Cotton, Australian ambassador to USA. Above: George Wittman (left), chairman of the U.S. National Institute for Public Policy, and Lance Adams-Schneider, New Zealand ambassador to USA. — Washington seminar pictures by Nicky Holford.

THE MONTH

mulated under the Carter administration, and Hawaii wishes to expand its Pacific role. So what is the problem? One basic issue that the Reagan administration has developed a Caribbean Basin policy which addresses itself to economic and social development as well as security concerns. At the same time, no comparable or explicit attention has been given to the Pacific. At least one experienced Pacific hand in the State Department does not see this as a problem. From his point of view, it is encouraging that the Reagan administration has not "disassembled" the Carter initiatives and there has been considerable consistency since 1978 even if by default. From the viewpoint in Honolulu, however, the lack of explicit goals from Washington over the past three years is seen as a policy vacuum which makes it awkward for the state to chart a course of direction.

Even if it may be assumed that the Carter policies are still operative, they are lacking from the point of view of those in Honolulu. There is no doubt that PBDC does provide a framework for interaction between Hawaii and the other American flag islands. However, State Department policy regarding the Pacific

as a whole is viewed as one that is primarily concerned with security and strategic interests. With the exception of American Samoa, it does not provide a framework which assists Hawaii in relating to island nations south of the equator in such areas of concern as trade, shipping, air transport, education, the sharing of technologies, etc.

The state of Hawaii has a unique position in the U.S. While it is a state of the union, it is also located in the insular Pacific. State offices, the University of Hawaii, and the East-West Center (EWC) are not infrequently asked by Pacific nations for assistance in education, economic development, information, and various training programs. For example, one nation appealed for assistance in aquaculture, assessment of its tourism potential, and training in health fields. Only a limited response is possible. The East-West Center does provide some fellowship support for individuals to be involved in its programs and to pursue advanced degrees at the University of Hawaii. Much greater opportunities are available for citizens of the American flag islands, under a variety of federally financed programs.

As a state, Hawaii cannot have its own foreign policy nor can it be anticipated that its legislature will appropriate funds for educational and assistance programs. Even if it were so inclined, any such efforts would be subject to State Department purview. While Hawaii is only beginning to attempt to develop more ties with the South Pacific, one may ask: What has been accomplished to date?

Over the past four years, Governor Ariyoshi has met with an increased number of island leaders, and his office directly coordinates affairs pertaining to Pacific nations. Several guidelines have been laid down. First, it is not assumed that what is good or appropriate for Hawaii is also good for other Pacific Islands. Second, no mutually beneficial involvement can occur without input from leaders in the Pacific. Governor Ariyoshi has asked for such input, and he has also asked for feedback and suggestions from those citizens of Hawaii who are knowledgeable and interested in the region. In a generally related move, the morning newspaper, the *Honolulu Advertiser*, has recently increased its coverage of Pacific affairs. Third, Hawaii must be sensitive to its size and mainland

connections and avoid any hint of a role of dominance in the Pacific.

As has been reported, Governor Ariyoshi was a charter member of PBDC when it was formed in 1980. The past three years have given him the opportunity to become more familiar with the problems and concerns of the other American islands. As reported here last month, the governor has also recently become a member of the EWC's Pacific Islands Development Program's standing committee which directs its efforts and involves the entire Pacific region. The governor's involvement with PIDP is seen as the next step in moving Hawaii into a greater involvement with the rest of the Pacific.

What is going on in Hawaii that might be useful to other islands? A substantial amount of research in aquaculture has been conducted in the state, and there is a willingness to share the results. Similarly, the state is attempting to become more self-sufficient in the area of energy, and its experiences can also be shared. The state is developing its telecommunications capacity, and this can include a concern for the needs of the region. The

— Continued on Page 65.



Postmark Papeete

Marie-Thérèse and
Bengt Danielsson

Scheming: Zany, and criminal

As he celebrated the first anniversary of the May 1982 election that returned him to power, French Polynesia's Vice-President of the Council of Government, Gaston Flosse, was fac-

ing a massive array of problems created by the six successive cyclones that have ravaged the territory in recent months (PIM Mar. p31, May p23, Jun. p21).

Not the least of them arose

from the large number of people who, as interested in self-promotion as anything else, had rushed forward with ingenious but quite unworkable schemes for raising the CFP16,000 million needed to reconstruct the government buildings, schools, roads, and 10,000 private dwellings totally or partially destroyed by the cyclones.

The first lot to launch a relief scheme were Lions Club mem-

bers and a number of other service-minded French businessmen who sought to appeal to the generous impulses of the local community (which comprises a relatively high percentage of millionaires) by the simple expedient of placing collection boxes in the supermarkets. The result was far below expectations: it took a whole month to raise the paltry sum of CFP3 million — about \$US30,000.

For his part Senator Daniel Millaud (who was elected by the former Autonomist majority headed by Francis Sanford) counted on the spirit of "national solidarity" which the French people are supposed to harbor towards their *compatriotes* overseas. To stir their emotions, he secured from Papeete's TV service a number of newsreel films showing the awful cyclone damage, and flew off with them to France to arrange their nationwide distribution.

Unfortunately, the campaign backfired. The few donations that came in were mainly from metropolitan Opposition leaders like the Gaullist Mayor of Paris Jacques Chirac, who did not miss the splendid opportunity presented by the occasion to make snide remarks about the indifference of the ruling socialist majority.

There were also messages of sympathy from four former governors and high commissioners of French Polynesia — but no money.

What is more, the Hiroshima-like images of a paradise turned into a hell scared many people who had planned a holiday in Tahiti this year so badly that they immediately cancelled their bookings. In the end the local tourist authority had to mount a counter-offensive in the French media, saying that temporary visitors would find the same beautiful beaches and lovely *vahine* as usual.

Our Number One Crooner, Gabilou, who has made quite a name for himself in the USA, was convinced that the American people would be more generous, and set as his modest goal a campaign to persuade each and every one of them to part with a dollar apiece. The only trouble with this simple scheme to raise \$US228 million was that in order to launch it the local authorities would have to spend huge sums on US TV and radio time, as well as space in the leading US newspapers — which they wisely refused to do.

A slightly more realistic plan, hatched by the territory's Deputy Jean Juventin called for the French Parliament to launch a national appeal.

But the parliamentary machine was so slow in producing the



required piece of legislation that by the time it came France itself had suffered flood disasters of such magnitude that the cyclone damage in French Polynesia was all but forgotten.

All this left the CFP16,000 million bill still firmly in the deft hands of Gaston Flosse. Undaunted, he set up a special relief agency, and, as a stopgap measure, slapped new taxes on the earnings of the big commercial

companies, and on beer (three francs per bottle or can, an impost which will produce CFP60 million a year). At the same time he sought a CFP3500 million loan at two per cent interest from the French Government, repayable over 20 years. This was designed to defray relief costs at least until the end of the year.

The only piece of pruning to meet with serious opposition was the cancellation of the CFP40

Bréaud murder trial (see next page): Daniel Chellé (top left) and Yves Le Goff (top right), life sentences; Claudine Le Goff (above left), 15-year sentence; Marie Guylene Chuttoo (above), acquitted. — *La Dépêche* pictures

million subsidy for the forthcoming TIURAI (July 14) celebrations. The subsidy is mainly earmarked for cash prizes to be paid

THE MONTH

to all and sundry who perform — some of them of very dubious talent. Not surprisingly, this cooled the patriotic fervor of a great number of dancers, musicians and singers, who announced either that they were no longer interested in the celebrations or that they were migrating to the greener fields of the hotels and nightclubs of Honolulu. This could well turn out a blessing, since the TIURAI celebrations have gradually lost what used to be their special charm: the spontaneous warmth and merriment of happy Polynesian fishermen and farmers who took great delight in coming to Papeete once a year to defend the honor of their small and distant home islands.

For one short week at the end of May all the "trials" described above were forgotten as the belated trial of the brutal murders of Olivier Bréaud, got underway. Olivier Bréaud, the son of wealthy French banker Jean Bréaud, was murdered in March 1980 (PIM May '80 p17, Jun '80, p19).

Why it took the examining magistrate three long years to gather his evidence is extremely hard to understand, considering the clear guilt of the two French carpet-baggers Yves Le Goff and Daniel Chellé, who had committed the fourfold crime of kidnapping, illegal detention, torture and murder.

The most commonly heard explanation in official circles is that long promised and essential reforms in the whole old-fashioned, colonial-type judicial system were in the offing, and that it was better for all concerned to wait until they were implemented (PIM Aug '78 p29).

More malicious private gossip had it that the many postponements of the trial were due to the politically explosive nature of the revelations which the murderers would be able and willing to make. For example, they had been on very friendly terms with persons working in the office of Vice-President Francis Sanford. These people had helped them to get loans of up to CFP60 million to launch a textile venture, which was a transparent swindle. And had not these same people been guests at the lively sex orgies put on by the killers' wives (both

legal and de facto), who also ran a massage parlor based on the Oriental model?

Whatever the reasons for this extraordinarily long delay, it definitely worked to the killers' advantage. For while the case was in limbo, the new Socialist government in France had abolished the death penalty (despite the fact that opinion polls showed that two-thirds of the French people were in favor of retaining it).

Since it was a foregone conclusion that the two would get life sentences, there is no doubt that it was the expected airing of lurid details that drew huge crowds to the court hearings, which lasted four full days, from May 17 to 20. For those who were licking their lips in anticipation of juicy scandals, however, the trial was a terrible disappointment: the names of only a few small fry politicians were mentioned, and, worse still, the so-called sex orgies turned out to be of very poor quality. This was proved by the color pictures which had been conveniently mounted in albums by the murderers, no doubt with the aim of blackmailing the people portrayed in them.

But the real revelation of the trial was the monstrous and thoroughly evil character of the mastermind behind the scheme, Yves Le Goff, who, incidentally, had already committed another murder in France — he shot his mother-in-law — been sentenced to an eight-year-old term, and been given back his freedom after only six years as a reward for "good behavior". . .

The charges ran to 62 pages and took two and a half hours to read out. They recounted in gruesome detail how Le Goff and Chellé had captured Olivier Bréaud in order to extract a ransom of \$2 million from his parents, but then got so scared by the ensuing police hunt that they clubbed him to death, breaking both his arms and his legs before crushing his skull. Their attempt to dispose of their victim by dousing him with petrol and setting him on fire failed miserably. The charred body, hastily hidden in a creek near Le Goff's luxurious villa, was the ultimate proof of their guilt.



Olivier Bréaud, shortly before the kidnapping and murder. — *La Dépêche* picture.

But they still had the perverse satisfaction of hearing an anatomist, called in as an expert, explain that the exposure to fire may have been responsible for some of the broken bones that the police thought had been smashed by the sadistic murderers.

Throughout the trial, the two men showed not the slightest sign of remorse. In the most despicable manner, each accused the other of beating Bréaud to death. Even their own lawyers became so exasperated that they shouted at them to tell them that their only hope of getting any lightening of their sentences was to tell the truth. But it was all in vain.

As for Mrs Claudine Le Goff, and Daniel Chellé's constant companion, a Mauritian girl with the unlikely name of Marie Guy-lène Chuttoo, the court had much greater difficulty in ascertaining the exact extent of their participation in the crime.

Mrs Le Goff eventually admitted that she had made the phone call to Olivier Bréaud (posing as a former schoolmate) that lured him into death trap.

But the Mauritian girl kept on protesting her innocence, even though she had been present in Le Goff's villa on the day of the crime, and obligingly looked after the couple's children when Bréaud's body was taken away and hidden.

When all was said and done by the accused, the witnesses, and the eight lawyers engaged for the case, Le Goff and Chellé got life sentences, just as everyone had

expected from the start. Mrs Le Goff got a 15-year term, and Marie Guy-lène Chuttoo, whose involvement seems to have been of the same order, was acquitted.

The lawyers for Le Goff and Chellé immediately asked the French appeal court to quash the sentence and order a retrial in France. The grounds invoked were exactly the same as in several recent court cases in Papeete involving Tahitian freedom fighters — the unconstitutional maintenance in French Pacific colonies of a special judicial system which is unfair to the natives, who legally are French citizens (PIM '79 p29). What the condemned killers can reasonably hope is that less outraged and concerned French jurors will show a greater degree of clemency than could be hoped for in Papeete, the scene of their crime.

Whatever the outcome of the retrial may be, this sordid affair has served the useful purpose of highlighting the nefarious effects of present immigration policies. Even at the time when poor Olivier Bréaud was kidnapped, the *Tahoeraa* party leader, Gaston Flosse, asked the then minister for the French overseas territories, Paul Dijoud, why so many French criminals were allowed to settle in Tahiti (PIM Jun '80 p19). The minister replied lamely that a former criminal who had freedom of movement in France could also settle in any

overseas territory, since they are integral parts of the French Republic.

This reply did not satisfy Flosse — or any other Polynesian political leader for that matter. He has since hardened his position to the point of including in his present draft of a new constitution for French Polynesia a paragraph transferring responsibility for immigration from the French police to the local Polynesian government.

However, what worries him and other local leaders today is not so much the occasional immigrant with a criminal record as the steadily swelling tide of ordinary honest Frenchmen who come to Tahiti in quest of paradise.

Well, many of the 25,000 new settlers also hail from the former French colonies in Africa and Asia. (For instance, the Chuttoo tribe was imported from Mauritius by a former governor

and his wife, who were fed up with lazy Polynesian servants). This is why there is a growing — and justified — fear among the Polynesians that they will one day become a minority group in their own country, exactly as the Melanesians have in New Caledonia where they are outnumbered by the French and other Pacific Islanders.

The timing seemed perfect, therefore, when, right in the middle of the Bréaud trial, the pre-

sent minister for overseas territories, Georges Lemoine, stepped off the plane on his way home from Noumea to continue negotiations with local leaders for a new constitution, negotiations which had been broken off for the duration of the cyclone season.

But, sad to relate, the minister had not a word to say about this crucial immigration problem. — *Marie-Thérèse and Bengt Danielsson.*



Noumea Notebook Helen Fraser

Lemoine cools it — for now

As New Caledonians waited tensely for the mid-May visit of the Minister for Overseas Territories Georges Lemoine, a fatal shooting in the northwest sparked off a round of angry demonstrations by the Independence Front and the Palika Party.

On May 11, Louis Poitichily, 31, a member of the revolutionary socialist Palika Party, was shot dead at Temala village, 320 kilometres northwest of Noumea. Poitichily was killed after an argument between four Kanaks and a European outside the village store. A 47-year-old European, Alphonse Sauvageot, later gave himself up to police.

In retaliation for the shooting, a larger group of Kanaks then burnt five buildings in the village, including the post office and the store, as well as two cars. Police had arrived at the scene but were forced to leave for reinforcements. Before burning the buildings, the Kanak group had first thrown rocks at the houses. A woman and two children were reported to be slightly

injured by the rocks.

News of the shooting — which amazingly was first reported on local TV as concerning a different man — produced a quick reaction from Independence Front and Palika members. Several hundred Independentists marched that night through Noumea streets, and then held a sit-in in front of the French High Commission, protesting against what they termed "yet another assassination".

Central Noumea walls and footpaths were extensively spray-painted with protest slogans.

The following day, as Independence Front members demonstrated through Noumea and in the interior, Kanaks from Temala and neighboring villages carried Poitichily's coffin through the streets of Voh, the nearby town.

The burial of Poitichily that afternoon without a death certificate or an autopsy posed problems for the French judicial system. The family of the dead man had refused permission for the

authorities to enter the tribe and examine the body. A spokesman for the family said: "An autopsy won't bring him back to life and we are fed up with French justice."

Independence Front leaders organised another demonstration, of 1000 people, in Noumea on Friday, May 13, as well as smaller ones in the countryside.

The French prosecutor told reporters that Mr Sauvageot, unemployed since being laid off by the nickel company SLN, had admitted the killing. He said that an alcohol reading of 0.239 was taken from Sauvageot two hours after the shooting.

After appearing briefly in Noumea's court to be charged with wilful homicide, Sauvageot was sent to Noumea's jail Camp Est, pending trial.

Two weeks later, after discreet negotiations between the authorities, the Poitichily family and Palika, the body was exhumed and an autopsy conducted within the Temala tribe and in the presence of representatives from neighboring tribes.

For the arrival on May 19 of Georges Lemoine, more than half of New Caledonia's adult population turned out to demonstrate their feelings for and against the independence issue. A senior police officer estimated that

25,000 members of anti-independence groups marched through Noumea before assembling in Noumea's central park — the Place des Cocotiers. En route they delivered a motion to the French High Commission, calling for the dissolution of the Territorial Assembly and for new elections in the territory. They claim the Independence Front-Centre party coalition in local power is not representative of the majority. (The Centre party changed sides in June last year and the next elections are not due until July 1984).

For the Independence Front and Palika demonstration, police estimated 7000 to 8000, and again demonstrations also occurred in country towns. The Independentists marched through Noumea streets and later leaders handed the French High Commission a motion asking France to set a timetable for independence, with autonomy as the first step. The motion also called on France to recognise the legitimacy of the Kanak people as the first occupants of New Caledonia.

At one stage, as the opposing demonstrators assembled at either end of the Place des Cocotiers, they passed within yards of each other. Three squads of riot police successfully



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kept the two groups apart and there were no incidents. Both demonstrations had well organised marshals of their own and leaders had called on their supporters not to respond to any provocation. But Mr Lemoine, whose plane arrived three hours late, was taken to the French High Commission by helicopter, where he met political leaders in the afternoon.

On Thursday, May 19, Mr Lemoine visited the interior of New Caledonia and personally experienced the New Caledonian reality — that of a vocal and determined anti-independence movement, and, on the other hand, an equally determined pro-independence force, with very little middle ground.

During his helicopter trip around the countryside Mr Lemoine visited development projects, farms, schools, war memorials etc. At Poindimié on the east coast, 100 members of Palika demonstrated during the minister's visit. As Mr Lemoine approached the leader, he demanded to know if the minister really thought the land he was standing on belonged to France. To shouts from the demonstrators of "Reply . . . reply . . ." Mr Lemoine reflected for

some time before walking away in silence.

When Mr Lemoine crossed to Bourail on the west side of New Caledonia's main island he found among the welcoming crowd a demonstration of several hundred. The welcome speech of Bourail's Centre party mayor was interrupted by abuse and heckling, and calls for New Caledonia to remain French. As the minister left the town hall the noisy group shouted "Reply to us . . ." and followed him as he toured the town. Bourail mayor Jean-Pierre Aifa (who is also Speaker of the Territorial Assembly) later described the behavior of the demonstrators as disgusting, and said they were people from Noumea not Bourail.

But the long-awaited event was the speech given by Mr Lemoine before the assembly on Friday, May 20, concerning French intentions for the territory. However, to the packed and well-guarded assembly, the minister made a "solemn call for responsibility" and said that Caledonians must sort out their problems.

The speech, which was broadcast live by local TV and radio, offered something to both sides: for the Independence Front, re-

cognition by France of the legitimacy of the Kanak people as New Caledonia's first occupants, and a guarantee for anti-independence forces that all inhabitants (except itinerants) would be consulted on the territory's future.

Such a consultation would almost certainly lead to an anti-independence vote. The 60,000 Kanaks have become a minority (43 per cent) in their own land in recent decades due to France's encouragement of immigration to the territory and heavy settlement after colonisation in 1853. There are 80,000 white, Polynesian and Asian settlers in the territory.

On the question of self-determination the minister said "France rejects no hypothesis, including independence", but that all communities would decide this issue. "If New Caledonia decides one day to become a nation it will be because Caledonians themselves have decided to do so and not because the French government decreed it," he said. In a message to extremists from either side, Mr Lemoine told the assembly that France was determined to maintain law and order and would tolerate no further violence.

The minister also invited New Caledonian political leaders to come to Paris at the end of June for discussions on the proposed statute of autonomy. After the speech the leader of the anti-independence republican party (RPCR), Jacques Lafleur said he was "very satisfied" with its contents. "For the first time in the past two years the legitimate rights of all communities in New Caledonia have been recognised," he said.

However, Mr Lafleur is a moderate — harder-line anti-independence leaders were said to be most displeased with the speech. The Centre party (FNSC) also welcomed the speech. Their leaders said they had waited a long time to hear talk of dialogue and consensus.

In a cooler response, the Independence Front said the speech was made only to appease the population, and that it "categorically denies colonisation as the indisputable source of the present situation".

The brief statement added that the minister's words "cultivated ambiguity, and offered no guarantee for the future in disregarding the Kanak people's inalienable right to recover their sovereignty". — *Helen Fraser.*



Notes from the North

Floyd K. Takeuchi
on Micronesia

Marianas: The 'other' Micronesia

It is not surprising that one associates the term "Micronesia" these days with the island governments on the road to free association: Palau, the Marshall Islands and the Federated States

of Micronesia have dominated the news in recent months.

But tucked away in the north-west corner of the Trust Territory is the Northern Marianas which stretch from Rota in the south to

Farallon de Pajaros in the north.

The group, and its approximately 17,000 inhabitants, are something of a political anomaly. They are unabashedly pro-American, so much so that one of the hot issues there has been whether local residents can soon become officers in the United States military.

At present, Northern Marianas residents are eligible to serve in the enlisted ranks. But until the

group achieves "full" U.S. commonwealth status — that is, when the trusteeship is terminated — the highest rank a young man or woman from those islands could hope to achieve is sergeant.

It is an indication of how seriously the United States wants to keep the soon-to-be Commonwealth happy that efforts are underway to find the means to open commissioned ranks.

THE MONTH

Such is the irony of the situation, however, that if and when such an option is available, it is uncertain whether many would even qualify.

The U.S. Army maintains a small reserve contingent on Saipan. While there has been considerable interest by young men and women in wearing the Army green, many applicants have failed the entrance examination. Thus, it is hard to see how many would make the even more difficult cut for the officer corps.

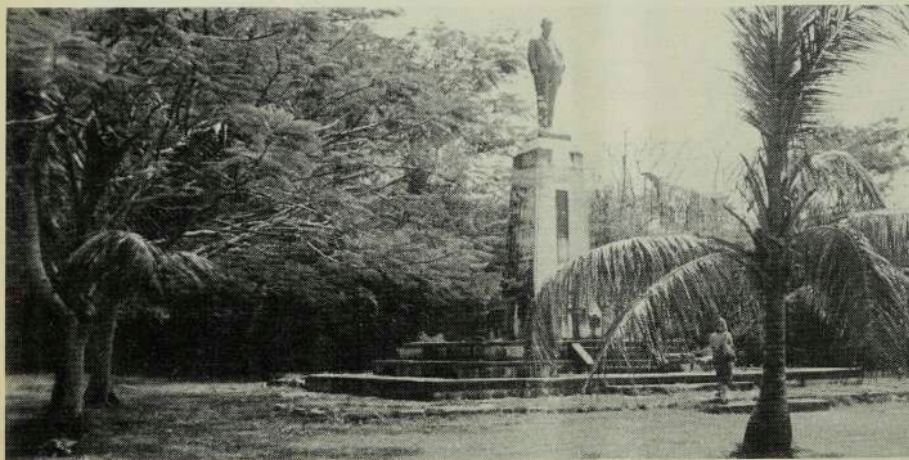
Still, like their cultural cousins to the south on Guam, which has been a U.S. territory since 1898, the Northern Marianas islanders can be expected to contribute significantly to the American armed forces in the coming years.

What will also be interesting to watch is the political maturation of the Commonwealth, particularly as it relates to Guam.

In the 1960s, Guamanians in a plebiscite resoundingly rejected any formal political association with the Northern Marianas. If a similar vote was held today, it is likely Guamanians would eagerly seek unification of some kind.

That is so because Guamanians are envious of the lucrative, and more flexible, relationship the Northern Marianas has been able to work out with Washington.

Park in Saipan: "The stunning beauty and more agreeable character" of Saipan are accepted by those who have lived there and in Guam, writes Floyd K. Takeuchi.



However, if the islanders to the north were asked today if they would accept unification with Guam, they would undoubtedly say "no" by a large margin. In the 1960s, they would probably have said yes.

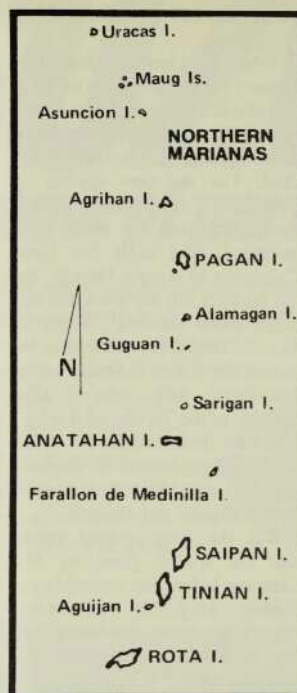
This difference of opinion will not be a serious problem for some time. Guamanians may eventually get around to agreeing on what new political status they'd like to pursue, although it seems clear any such relationship would include continued close ties to the United States. In the Northern Marianas, it will be some time before politics there will be able to get beyond its present internecine character.

But eventually, perhaps by the end of this century, both groups and the United States may be ready to look long and hard at the question of unification.

For one thing, it probably will seem nonsensical to members of the U.S. Congress that two expensive bureaucracies are being maintained with federal dollars in political entities of the same cultural background and with people who speak the same language.

For another, should Washington develop a significant military presence in the Northern Marianas — a possibility that today seems quite remote — there may be pressure from the Pentagon to consolidate the governments to make operations easier.

If present economic patterns continue, it seems likely there will be active trade relations between Guam and the Northern



Rota, the most southerly island of the Northern Marianas, is just north of Guam. Unification of Guam and the Northern Marianas would be complex, but not inconceivable.

Marianas. Certainly, if tourism continues to be the major non-governmental income producer, there could be pressure by business executives to consolidate the bureaucracies to increase efficiency.

And the same could be said for other sectors of the economy: agriculture, mariculture and light

industry, should that become a reality in either or both groups.

The major stumbling block to unification is Guam's larger population, now about 100,000. Unless a formula was devised to protect the Northern Marianas from demographic domination, talk of political consolidation is going to remain just that.

But there is reason to believe some way can be fashioned to bring the two together.

The constitution of the Northern Marianas, for instance, establishes a bi-cameral legislature. The lower house is based on population, but the upper chamber is composed of representatives from islands with no direct relationship to the number of voters.

In addition, each populated island other than Saipan, where the vast majority live, is guaranteed a certain percentage of funding.

It is not inconceivable to imagine a similar arrangement applying to Guam and the Northern Marianas.

Still, in the end, any such decision is not necessarily going to be made on purely rational grounds. It seems few political decisions in Micronesia are.

Rather, the success of the Commonwealth will be a major factor in determining how eagerly islanders in the north would consider unification, as well as how anxious Guamanians may be to link up with them.

Another factor will probably be where the capital of any federation would be located. Again, the rational approach would have Agaña in Guam serve the purpose. But for those who have lived on Saipan and Guam, it would be a most difficult decision given the former's stunning beauty and more agreeable character.

But that is for future generations to decide.

At the moment, leaders on Saipan would do nearly anything to hasten the demise of the trusteeship. The longer that anachronistic administration is in place, the longer it will be before they can enjoy what they voted for nearly a decade ago: full Commonwealth status and American citizenship. — *Floyd K. Takeuchi.*

THE MONTH



Report from Vanuatu Julie-Ann Ellis

Port-Vila resident JULIE-ANN ELLIS has taken over "The Month's" coverage of Vanuatu affairs. Ms Ellis is a staff member at the University of the South Pacific Extension Centre in Vanuatu, but writes here in her individual capacity.

Culture clash on Pentecost

Reporting of events in Vanuatu has this year seemed to concentrate on political clashes in the capital, Port-Vila. But 320 kilometres from Port-Vila, the long, thin island of Pentecost has its own political splits, and its own culture clashes.

In May, 10 young men, probably acting under direction of their chiefs, went from the Catholic mission area of Baie Barrière to burn houses and goods at the *kastom* (traditional religion and lifestyle) village of Ranji. This was the latest stage in a long-standing land dispute.

The intervention of police from Santo and Port-Vila forestalled any payback, and it seems the matter will be settled through the courts, but it serves to underline the extent of the divisions still existing between Christian and *kastom*, as well as more recent divisions of politics, and longer-standing ones of land disputes and old feuds.

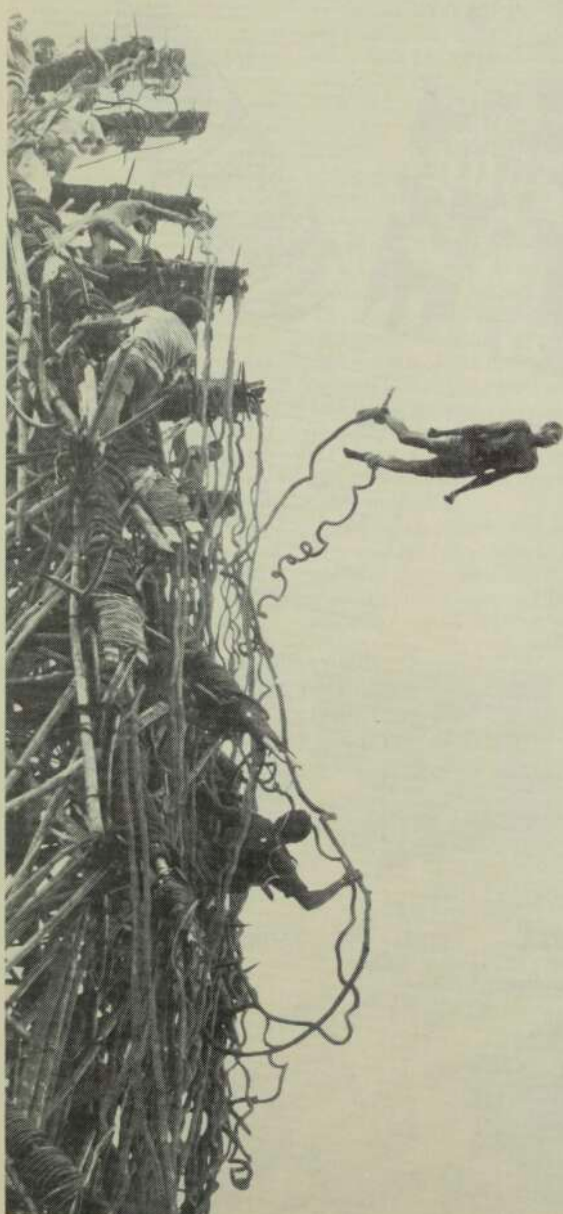
For many years, the Christian villages received support and status from visiting Europeans;

they found material wealth and education comparatively easy to come by. But the world has changed — the missions have lapsed, or changed direction, pop anthropology has boomed, and visiting Europeans no longer want to see rows of clean children, singing in a European language.

Vanuatu has changed — the mood of nationalism which came with independence, and the quest for unity, have found expression in a turning to *kastom*. An arts festival at Melsisi, in North Pentecost, last year united the entire island in new respect for old *kastom* ways. The balance of status seems to be shifting, and Christian villagers are uneasy.

I was in Pentecost, in the south, for a week, and was present for the preparations, the performance and the aftermath of a *nagol* — a land-dive. Nothing could have shown more clearly the contemporary culture clash in which Pentecost finds itself. This particular land-dive was at Wali Bay, and was held jointly by the villagers of Wali and the villagers of Bunlap.

Wali is a devoutly Church of Christ area; Bunlap is staunchly



The nagol: Land diving from a rustic tower with your life hanging on two pieces of cane.

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kastom. The two communities co-operated, and divided the income, but small things showed the difficulty the two groups had working with each other. The week prior to the jump was sodden with rain; Bunlap men told us not to worry about it, that they had a system for weather control. The day of the jump was one of burning sun; the day after, in Wali church, the sermon referred to Revelations for the damnation awaiting magic-workers.

The *nagol* itself was a success. Forty-eight tourists attended; 10 more, from a yacht that shall be nameless, tried to buy their way in with bottles of whisky and gin, a pig, and a handful of Australian dollars. (The organisers turned out not to be the drunken fools they were expecting.)

The ritual was long, exciting and spectacular. It is not a sacred tradition, but it is a serious seasonal ritual, rather in the same sense that the Grand Final is a serious seasonal ritual to football followers. Each participant climbs the tower to his appointed platform, while below men and women dance encouragement,

singing songs in an archaic language, whose exact meaning has been lost. The final jumps were breath-taking, and were each preceded by a display of superbly self-confident swaying, shouting and pose-striking, on a small, springy platform 12 or 13 metres above the ground.

The tourists watched, as did a large crowd of other villagers, each having paid a small amount for the privilege. The tourists were appreciative, if a little worn by the four hours of watching in the blazing sun. As they left the tower area for refreshments below, they seemed well pleased with their chance to see one of the most exhilarating and demanding traditions of the Pacific.

But they left behind them a certain amount of unease and division. The following day, at a meeting of Wali people interested in tourism, many doubts were expressed about the operation. These were partly about the use of income from the jumps — which is a local decision, as yet unmade — but also deeper questions about the whole way of life of the area, and, in particular, on the value of a Christian way of life compared with the new emphasis on *kastom*.

"We're Christians. We don't wear *nambas* (penis wrap)," ran one complaint. "But could we make the jump in trousers? Tourists only want to see *nambas*." Though the tone was one of

baffled irony, the speaker was putting his finger precisely on the point that worried so many.

The land-dive has been made before in Western clothes, but this won't do for tourists, partly because many are demanding the sort of "authenticity" that calls on Pacific islanders to dress up in a costume they have long since abandoned in daily life. Partly, also, as this speaker well knew, a good part of the lure of the islands is the vision of "primitive sexuality" in the minds of the tourists.

For the *kastom* villages of South Pentecost there is no problem, but for the Christianised areas the conflict is real — do they deny their actual way of life to gain status — and wealth — from visitors? Do they leave now the teachings they have treasured since the arrival of the first missionaries? The question is complicated by the fact that many of the churches have now themselves abandoned the stands they taught to the islanders, on such matters as "proper" clothing, alcohol, kava and dancing.

Tourism outside Port-Vila and Santo must follow the government guidelines — which means it must be owned and run by local people. The Christian villagers themselves must solve their problem, must decide if they want tourism and how to handle it. Certainly South Pentecost has much to offer beside the spec-

tacular *nagol*. At Wali Bay a committee, headed by Luke Fargo, energetic man-about-Pentecost, runs a comfortable, bush-style guesthouse, with meals available. A few kilometres away we saw a two kilometre-square water-taro garden, with irrigation canals bearing clear water, and individual plots marked by low stone walls and decorative plants — one of the most beautiful gardens in the South Pacific. There is peace and beauty of the island itself; there are quiet pleasures, such as fishing from an outrigger canoe. These may all become tourist attractions before long.

Pentecost, in common with the rest of Vanuatu and the Pacific, has survived the great culture clash of the European invasion and Christianisation. The Pacific Christian culture which has emerged is as strong and distinctive as the *kastom* cultures left. The lesser culture clash now taking place will undoubtedly result in further change; tourist money and tourist ways are bound to come to Pentecost, changing life for both Christian and *kastom* villages.

A new culture may emerge, as vigorous and "authentic" as its predecessors. Only a pessimist would assume that the change will be to sordid materialism; only an optimist could assume that all that is good will remain. — Julie-Ann Ellis.

"We're Christians, we don't wear *nambas*, but that's what the tourists want to see." Pentecost men wear shirts and shorts for their dance at the *nagol* tower. — Greg Conley picture.



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TROPICALITIES



CHRIS ASHTON, a Port Moresby-based journalist from 1972-75, tells how he made *Balus*, a 48-minute documentary film on the role of pilots and their planes in Papua New Guinea. (Balus is the PNG Pidgin word for aeroplane.)

Putting the *Balus* story on film

As so often happens when one looks back to the origins of an idea, *Balus* was born out of chance meetings and chance conversations.

I remember a weekend spent with two long-standing friends, John and Edith Watts, at their coffee plantation Ullia in Papua New Guinea's Western Highlands. Late at night and in our cups I told John I was getting stale in journalism and had enrolled for a month's crash course in film-making at the Australiana Film and Television School. (Not that this promised to turn you into a film-maker: you merely came away with an inkling of the very complex and exacting skills required in making films.)

I remember John saying that if I could come up with an idea for a documentary film with a Papua New Guinean setting, he would find the backers. That was a leap of faith: I had a record as a journalist and broadcaster in

Papua New Guinea, but none whatsoever as a film-maker.

At the film school there was another chance meeting and another chance conversation. The 30-odd people doing the course were divided into groups of five, and the supervisor assigned to my group was someone called Ian Stocks. We were much the same age. I couldn't remember him but he said we had met seven years before. He'd spent three months in PNG making a documentary, *Niugini Culture Shock*, which had later won a prize at the Sydney Film Festival.

I remembered him then, and told him of John Watts' offer. "You could make a great film about flying in Papua New Guinea," he replied. I agreed and he went on: "Well, if you want to write and direct, I'll produce it for you."

That was the start of it: a journalist can soon learn how to research, write and pull together ideas for a film. But working out a budget, recruiting crew, negotiating deals with film labs, and the 100 other details of a producer's role were quite beyond me.

The months that followed were given to researching — Jim Sinclair's massive tome, *Wings of Gold*, was invaluable as a standard reference work — drafting and redrafting a "treatment" of the film, budget estimates and revisions of the budget, discussions with prospective investors, lawyers, accountants and airline executives, securing approval of the project by the PNG Government and unearthing "Early-birds", pre-World War II pilots who had pioneered aviation in one of the most hostile, impenetrable land masses on earth.

A syndicate of eight businessmen was formed to finance *Balus*. All were Australians by birth, though some had become PNG citizens, and all either lived in PNG or had lived there. They were putting their money in a risk investment that may or may not return a profit one day, but they went into it quite as much because they believed in the theme of the film: a celebration of the men and their magnificent flying machines for the part they had played in building up that wild, mountainous country.

I make particular mention of Dennis ("Junior") Buchanan,



Top: A Junkers G34 of Gibbes Sepik Airways makes a supply drop over Papua New Guinea about 30 years ago. **Above:** A recent picture of Bobby Gibbs, one of the aviation developers featured in the Ashton film.

boss of PNG's principal third-level airline, Talair. Thanks to its support Ian and I were able to fly up to PNG, and all over the country to check out pilots, planes and locations. Without Talair's help, we could not have



TROPICALITIES

brought the film in for a budget of less than \$100,000.

Unforeseen delays kept pushing back the shooting schedule, closer and closer to the wet season. There were problems with getting the money from investors into the bank, with settling a contra deal with Air Niugini, and with the PNG Government's Office of Information approving our project. But it all came together at last.

Ian flew into Port Moresby on November 1 with the cameraman (Steve Newman) and sound recordist (Bruce Emery). I had already arrived to prepare the way. Everyone assured us we should be safe, that the rainy season didn't begin until December, but that it was not something you could set your watch by. In fact we finished on November 21, and the wet started two days later.

Those three weeks are imprinted on my mind in indelible ink: a succession of motel rooms blurring into one another, of 150 kilograms of film equipment —

the absolute minimum — lugged to and from airports, of hire cars and airport waiting rooms, of 34 flights in 19 days, of Cessnas, Islanders, Fokkers, choppers, even an RAAF Hercules transport, half an island criss-crossed in a round trip from Sydney that spanned 15,000 kilometres.

The logistics of filming on a limited budget in a limited shooting schedule, entirely dependent on aircraft and the vagaries of weather, brought home to all of us just what the point of our film was.

At one point I was escorting the film crew into the remote Frieda River mineral exploration camp in the West Sepik by Islander and helicopter. Some of our surplus film equipment had been left at Madang airport to reduce our weight; the rest was in Port Moresby. Ian was on his way to Port Moresby via Lae, and half our unused filmstock, earlier consigned from Port Moresby to Mount Hagen, had disappeared. Three days later we were

reunited in Port Moresby, surplus gear included.

The filmstock was discovered afterwards in Talair's operations room in Port Moresby, never having left, and stored there to keep it cool.

To illustrate how diverse and even bizarre are the cargoes carried by PNG's air services I persuaded Talair's one female pilot, Juliet Chubb, to let me film her flying cardboard cartons of baby crocodiles from a crocodile farm in the Papuan Gulf to a large commercial farm outside Port Moresby.

Juliet is slim, blonde and pleasing to the eye in her bell-bottom jeans and high-heeled boots. This was a sequence, I knew, that would wow television audiences in Europe and America. But at the last minute she backed out, fearful that her male colleagues would mock her for being singled out for stardom. An amiable male pilot flew in her place but somehow he lacked the element of whacky comedy that Juliet would have brought to the

sequence. It ended on the cutting room floor.

Back in Australia the long and arduous task of post-production began. From the musty film archives of Film Australia, the War Museum, Cinesound Movietone and the National Library in Canberra I had already unearthed quite extraordinary segments showing the feats of pilots and planes in the early days of aviation.

The pioneer of cinema photography, Frank Hurley, had led the expedition which flew a seaplane, a Curtis Seagull, for the first time over Papua in 1922, and had filmed it. From a variety of sources I also uncovered ample film of the first great airlift in aviation history: the cumbersome Junker G31s which flew thousands of tons of dredge parts into the Bulolo Valley so that vast deposits of alluvial gold might be mined in the 1930s.

The War Museum provided film showing RAAF Beauflights in action and Mitchell bombers of the U.S. Fifth Air Force

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bombing Rabaul, a sequence underlined by an interview with Group Captain Brian "Black-jack" Walker talking to camera; and Film Australia supplied film of tiny Norseman planes air-dropping supplies to Australian patrols penetrating remote Highland valleys for the first time, underlined by Wing-Commander Bobby Gibbes whose charter service played such a vital role in early post-war development.

There are other sequences too numerous to mention here. But week by week the story was stitched together by the editor, Kim Moodie. Music was composed by Nic Lyon. Titles and credits were designed and laid against the image. Sound tracks were mixed.

Out of a succession of exacting technical processes a cinematic drama emerged, a story which, while it cannot possibly chronicle every character and incident deserving mention, pays homage to them all by focusing on the most spectacular images recorded in film of the role of the *Balus* in nation-building.

Balus is available as a video-cassette. For further information, please write to Doug Anderson, PO Box 990, Crows Nest, Australia, 2065.

An Oscar victim opens her heart

Under the simple headline "Thanks Fiji", The Fiji Times has published a moving and evocative account by an American tourist of her experiences during and after Hurricane Oscar in March. Ms MAGGIE STAFSNES of San Anselmo, California wrote:

On March 1 I was a guest at the Sea Shell Cove resort on the coast near Sigatoka when Hurricane Oscar hit Fiji. I feel extremely fortunate to have survived the terrifying night. The loss of all my belongings, including my passport, airline ticket and money, seems insignificant when I consider how close I came to losing my life.

During the past few weeks I have relived the horror of the storm over and over but although the hours of the hurricane are still



Film crew in the PNG Highlands (left to right): Director Chris Ashton, cameraman Steve Newman, sound recordist Bruce Emery, producer Ian Stocks.

very vivid, the moments that I continually recall are the many acts of compassion, kindness and help that were extended to me and to many other tourists who were with me at Sea Shell Cove.

In a time of great personal loss, the Fijians came to the aid of people like me who were stranded, frightened and in need of help. I don't know the names of many of these people, but I will recall their kindnesses and be thankful to them for the rest of my life.

I will never forget the first feelings of comfort and safety after the horror of the night at the hotel. Along with over 30 other tourists, I spent 12 terrifying hours as the hurricane battered the coastal resort — first we gathered in the dining room on the first floor until we were driven to the second storey by the high water which eventually reached the second storey balcony; the increasingly high winds ripped apart this area and finally tore off the roof forcing us to flee to a bathroom where we huddled in darkness for six hours hoping that the walls would not collapse on us.

When the winds stopped and the tide receded, we held hands and went in search of shelter on higher ground as high tide would return again in a few hours. We walked to the first home we found with a roof. The Indian

family who lived there opened their home to us as we straggled upon their house. Within minutes they were serving us hot tea with milk.

These first signs of order and the warmth of human beings, the pouring of tea by a woman into porcelain cups held by young children who served us, signalled an end to the insanity of the night. Soon food was prepared and offered, quietly and graciously, food I'm sure could have fed the family for many weeks. When money was offered by those who hadn't lost theirs, it was refused.

Within hours of our departure from the ravaged hotel, the owner's son travelled three miles on horseback to ask a local bus driver to help us. The man, who had had one bus blown over during the storm, immediately drove to where we were.

When I asked him how his home had weathered the storm, he said it was very badly damaged. I asked him why he had come, and he said he heard we needed help, and he came. During the next five hours he skilfully drove his bus through the devastated countryside — around fallen trees, under wires held up by passengers, often having to manoeuvre dangerously close to the flooded, muddy ditches beside the road.

Throughout the drive I looked at the destruction of the countryside — homes, schools, power and telephone lines, gardens, sugarcane fields, trees — and I was filled with great sadness and a sense of how small my losses

were compared to those of the people of Fiji.

Yet, my spirits were continually lifted with the waves and greetings from the people we passed. At one stop, people cut pieces of sugarcane from the field and brought it to us. The bus driver drove on expertly toward Nadi, his sole purpose being to deliver us to safety, and once again any offers of money were refused even though the bus was damaged during the rough trip.

When we arrived at the outskirts of Nadi, we discovered that flooding made it impossible for the bus to continue, and we would have to walk through waist-deep water to get into the town. Many of the children, older tourists and those with injuries from glass broken during the hurricane, could not cross alone.

Someone volunteered their truck to take these people over the distance the bus could not travel, and other bystanders pitched in and helped carry those who needed assistance through the water.

Once across the river, another man offered his tractor and trailer to carry those who had been helped across the water.

I was not prepared for the flood and the storm damage to Nadi, but once again people put their personal problems aside when they heard of our story. People at the Nadi Motel found four dry beds on the top floor — most of the other areas were wet and damaged.

They listened to our stories and were concerned for our

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TROPICALITIES

plight and were helpful in many ways. They offered food, drink, clothing and comfort.

I headed for the airport as soon as I could the next morning and began the overwhelming task of getting home without any identification, money, ticket or with no way to contact anyone as Nadi had no outside communications.

I was in great need of the love and comfort of my family after the shock of the preceding 24 hours. I didn't have to explain this need to anyone. Everyone I talked with at the airport showed compassion and wanted to help.

An immigration officer explained my circumstances to a taxi driver who drove me to the police station so that I could make a report. The security employees opened a locker where I had stored gifts for my children upon my arrival as soon as they heard that the key had been washed out to sea with my belongings. People came up to me who had heard of my misfortune and offered money to help me out until I could get home.

The employees of Air New Zealand, Sharon Bower, Pat Fraser and especially Aziz Mohammed, the head of Traffic Services for the Nadi Airport, worked relentlessly for two days in an effort to get me on any departing airplane for the U.S. to unite me with my family. They never stopped trying, and their hard work and warmth gave me strength as the three days wore on.

As I finally cleared immigration about seventy-two hours after the ordeal began, I was to get one more dose of "Fijian concern." The immigration officer looked at my paper from the police which explained the loss of my passport and property and said, "Where have you been? We've been looking for you as our boss heard about you and wanted to take you to his home so you could rest."

I returned to the safety and comfort of my home and to the love of my family and friends, but my thoughts continue to return to the devastation I left behind and to the hardships that will face the small country of Fiji because of a storm that stayed

less than 24 hours. My sadness is great for this country where people gave so much to me when so much had been taken from them.

Words can never express the tremendous feelings of respect, warmth and thankfulness I will always carry in my heart for the people of Fiji, but I hope these words can somehow convey my deep and everlasting gratitude to the many who cared.

Mercy flight with toddy

On a recent Friday afternoon Nauru's Department of Civil Aviation received a telephone request from Sydney for assistance from Air Nauru to undertake a "mission of mercy". The mission involved securing some Gilbertese palm toddy from Kiribati and carrying it to Sydney on the first available flight.

The toddy was being requested

"I looked at the destruction . . . and I was filled with great sadness, and a sense of how small my losses were compared to those of the people of Fiji." — Maggie Stafsnes in her message to the people of Fiji.



by a Dr Cramdon of Westmead Hospital, Sydney, on behalf of an I-Kiribati woman, Mrs Mikaere, who had been flown from Tarawa two weeks earlier by a Royal Australian Air Force Hercules C130 aircraft on a mercy medical flight. Mrs Mikaere was seriously ill following complications in giving birth to her first child. The child subsequently died and Mrs Mikaere was suffering from severe depression.

Dr Cramdon was anxious to satisfy a plea from Mrs Mikaere for some toddy and turned to Air Nauru for help.

There were no flights from Tarawa scheduled before the following Monday to connect with the Sydney flight. However the delayed ON121 flight leaving on Saturday presented an opportunity to carry some down.

Hearing of the need for toddy, a member of the Nauru airport staff, Sika Tulua, a Tuvaluan, offered to supply some from his own brewing, and two bottles of a potent-looking mixture were despatched per safe hand care of a returning visitor from Sydney.

At last report Mrs Mikaere had undergone major surgery and had

not yet tasted her toddy. But Dr Cramdon said that the fact that it was there as a gift from Nauru had cheered her no end. She had thanked the sender and was looking forward to polishing off the toddy when she had sufficiently recovered.

Dr Cramdon has extended his thanks to Air Nauru, and especially Sika Tulua for his humanitarian gesture. — *Nauru Bulletin*.

Niuean paper launched in NZ

The Niue Consular Office in Newton, Auckland, New Zealand, in April took a hand in launching *Niue News*, a well-produced 12-page "newsletter" printed in English and Niuean.

Reflecting on past failures in attempts to produce multilingual newspapers, the editorial in the first issue suggests that they may have failed because they were multi-lingual. The editorial said: "... the fact that the Samoana paper is still being published indicates an implied preference for a bilingual publication, thus pointing to an identity factor."

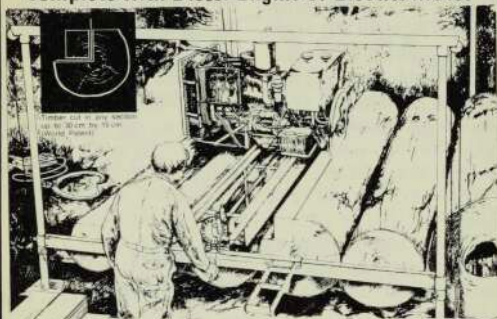
Subscriptions are sought to *Niue News*. They can be had by sending \$NZ12 or its equivalent to the paper at P.O. Box 68-541, Newton, Auckland. Although at first it is being helped by the Niue Government, it is hoped that the newsletter will become financially self-supporting.

UNICEF helps in the Cooks

Co-operation has begun between the government of the Cook Islands and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) on the provision of clean water supplies and improved sanitation to several remote northern islands including Rakahanga and Manihiki. A total of \$US11,670 was recently released to the Cooks ministry of health by the office of the UNICEF representative for the Pacific in Manila. In the latter half of 1984, it is expected that UNICEF will give further support to sanitation efforts on the remaining Northern Islands. These efforts comple-

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TROPICALITIES

ment the water supply work of the Australian Development Assistance Bureau in the Cook Islands.

UNICEF is acting in the belief, that adequate clean water supply, and the use of proper sanitation facilities, reduce such childhood diseases as intestinal parasites, diarrhoea and skin infections.

The Cook Islands Government demonstrated its support of UNICEF activities by recently contributing \$US1000 to UNICEF's general resources.

Games: Maoris try again

Previously unsuccessful in its bid to win membership of the South Pacific Games Council for New Zealand's Maoris, the New Zealand Maori Sports Federation (Inc.) is pressing ahead with its campaign in the lead-up to the Seventh South Pacific Games to be held in Apia in September.

It is seeking an amendment to the charter of the SPGC along the following lines: "Associate membership shall be open to the indigenous peoples (whose countries are members of the South Pacific Commission, Forum, and Conference) of the South Pacific who are not already members of the council."

In its action it has the full

New Zealand Maori Sports Federation: Pre-season tournament for women in Auckland.



support of the New Zealand Maori Council, Maori Women's Welfare League, and the endorsement of New Zealand's Minister of Maori Affairs.

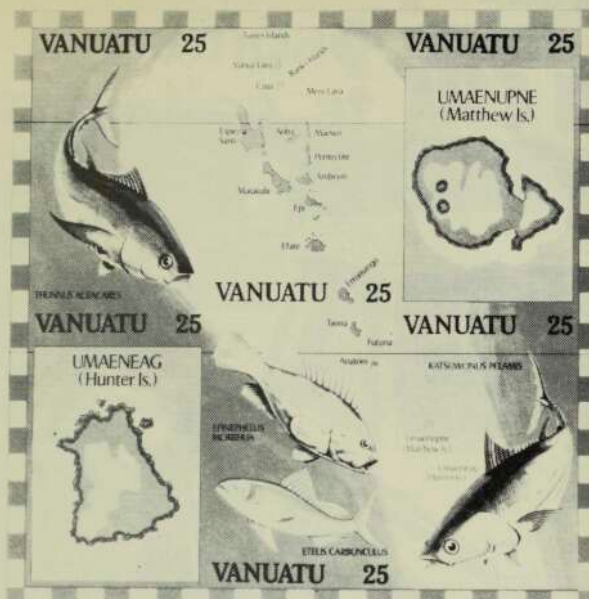
New Zealand is a member of the South Pacific Commission, Forum and Conference, but has never been officially involved with the SPGC. Government policy has been not to interfere with sports organisations, but to offer assistance where appropriate.

A statement issued by the federation says: "Participation in the South Pacific Games will strengthen our cultural heritage with our relatives, as well as provide a basis for on-going contacts and exchanges in sport."

"Whilst the Maoris may appear to dominate in such sports as Rugby Union, their participation in the Games could well provide an incentive for other Rugby-playing countries in the South Pacific. Likewise it could be said that Maori Rugby could improve its own style. Of particular interest are the skills inherent in tackling.

"The Maori Lawn Tennis Association is affiliated to the New Zealand Lawn Tennis Association and holds an annual tournament. In the past the association has made contact with other tennis countries, and participation in the Games will enhance these contacts.

"Soccer and cricket appear to offer very little interest for the Maori, but the Games may provide an incentive to develop that interest.



"Canoe racing is a sport practised with great vigor by some tribes here. Although not a Games sport, this could develop as such. Tahiti and Hawaii have such events on a much larger scale."

Vanuatu has issued a miniature sheet of six stamps bolstering its claim to possession of Hunter and Matthew Islands to the south. The two islands, which are uninhabited, are also claimed by France on behalf of New Caledonia.

Suva's mixed-up corpses

The body of a woman was "rescued" from a funeral pyre at Suva's Vatuwaqa Cemetery in May seconds before it was to be cremated. The "rescue" followed discovery that the dead woman's family had taken delivery of the wrong corpse from the Colonial War Memorial Hospital mortuary.

Instead of the Hindu Bacchi, the family were about to set light to the body of Anglican Mary Ram Pyari. The two women had died on the same day at the CWM Hospital.

After a medical team arrived at the cemetery and explained the mix-up, Bacchi's family retrieved her body and went through the Hindu funeral service again at their home before the cremation.

Pyari's family attended a delayed funeral service at Nasinu Cemetery.

Bacchi's son, Bobby Ramos, told *The Fiji Times*: "We all

thought our mother somehow looked strange, but none of us said anything aloud, probably because of the state we were in at the time."

Speaking for Pyari's side, her son Ram Autar told the same paper that CWM staff had been "discourteous". Throughout the confusion, no one had apologised to them for the error, he claimed.

"When we went to the hospital mortuary we could not find the body of our mother. A matron or a sister said 'If the body is not there, there is no point'," he said.

Marathon to be run in Noumea

New Caledonia's first international marathon race will be run on a 14-kilometre circuit around Noumea on July 24.

A large number of runners are expected to take part. A charter flight of 300 participants has been organised from Japan alone.

All in for maths

The 1983 Australian Mathematics Competition held in June attracted 27,500 entries from New Zealand and Southwest Pacific countries.

With a total entry of over 270,000, the sponsors of the competition, Canberra College of Advanced Education, Westpac Banking Corporation, and the Canberra Mathematical Association, will award over \$A30,000 in prize money as well as approximately 122,000 certificates of merit.

Vanishing birds of Christmas?

The Wildlife Conservation Unit of Kiribati has discounted claims by the American ornithologist Ralph W. Schreiber that 16 million birds had "disappeared" from the republic's Christmas Island.

Schreiber put the mass exodus

of the birds down to a sudden increase in the temperature of the ocean waters, the phenomenon now being discussed throughout the world as "El Niño". His speculation was that the warmer water had changed the patterns of fish populations, and hence the food sources of the birds.

The Kiribati WCU described his report as "sensationalised and exaggerated".

Quoted in the Kiribati weekly *Te Uekera*, the unit said its latest estimate of the total bird population of all species on Christmas stood at 4.5 million pairs.

The 1981 census of the wedge-tailed shearwater was 1 million, and sooty terns 4-6 million.

The paper continued: "Schreiber last visited the island in November last year and the birds were not there because of the bad weather conditions (El Niño).

"WCU said the breeding season of June 1982 ended successfully before the occurrence of El Niño, and that the adult birds are returning in large numbers."

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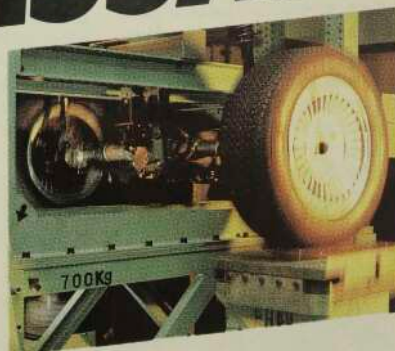
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POLITICAL CURRENTS

A Samoan chief justice at last

The Western Samoan public has now got what it has been screaming for for years: a Samoan chief justice. The man picked for the job is MP Vaovasamanaia Filipo, better known in the courtroom as Reginald Paul Phillips, aged 58.

He became the first Samoan to hold the country's highest judicial post when he was sworn in in May.

But although Vaovasamanaia's appointment is seen as a landmark in the decision-making of the new government of Prime Minister Tofilau Eti, sceptics feel that the move was designed as much as anything else to sap further the confidence of the opposition party of former Prime Minister Tupuola Efi.

Vaovasa was minister of finance for six years in the government of Tupuola and is considered one of the former PM's staunchest supporters. In fact, Vaovasa, observers believe, had a lot to do with Tupuola's election as prime minister in 1976. He was one of Tupuola's two right-hand men in the 1976 pre-election campaigns, the other be-

ing "radical" up-and-coming politician, Asi Eikene, who later became Tupuola's minister of civil aviation and justice.

With his departure now from parliament, Tupuola's party has been reduced in strength to 21 votes against the government's 25.

A by-election to elect Vaovasa's replacement in parliament will be held on August 27. The general feeling is that the government will be all out to win the seat.

Outside politics though, Vaovasa's appointment is being considered a "right move" by the government.

In announcing the appointment, Prime Minister Tofilau said it had long been a dream that one day a Samoan would become chief justice. Vaovasa said it had been made quite clear to him that the offer had nothing to do with politics when he had been approached about the post by Tofilau.

Vaovasa now replaces former Chief Justice Russel Callander, a New Zealander who resigned in May after serving only three months of his two-year contract.

The Head of State, Malietoa Tanumafili II, who, under the constitution appoints the chief justice on the advice of the prime minister, accepted Vaovasa's appointment.

The whole thing has come as a relief to many Samoans who believe that Samoan customs and tradition had not been well



understood by the European chief justices in the past.

Over the last five years, three different chief justices have had to rule on election petitions, and a number of their rulings were widely criticised.

His honor Bryan Nicholson, when ruling that bribery had been committed during election campaigning a few years ago, had been questioned as to how he could have defined bribery from the Samoan manner of giving gifts.

The other chief justice, R. B. St John, who ruled that the freedom of religion guaranteed by the constitution was breached when village *matai* (chiefs) punished a man who refused to at-

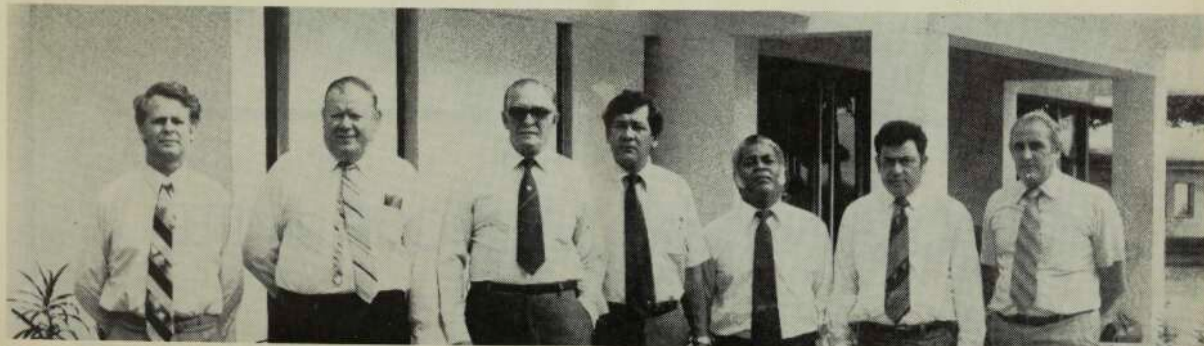
What the people have screamed for: A Samoan chief justice.

tend church, was also criticised.

When Chief Justice Callander ruled in favor of the petition against former Prime Minister Vaai Kolone, thus costing Vaai his seat in Parliament, Callander was bitterly criticised.

After that ruling had been delivered, Callander showed to the police a threatening letter that had been sent to his office. His wife soon returned to New Zealand permanently, claiming that she had been threatened at her home. It is believed that Callander's wife's departure led to his resignation.

Vaovasamanaia Filipo, new chief justice, is shown (second from left) with members of the Western Samoa National Provident Fund board. Those with him are (from left) Financial Secretary Alaistair Hutchinson, businessman Kurt Von Reiche, former Attorney General Neroni Slade, educator Ugapo Pusi, company manager Charles Aresi and provident fund manager Nigel Burr.



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POLITICAL CURRENTS

But whether Vaovasa's rulings now will be met with universal approval is not yet clear. However, Vaovasa told *The Samoa Times* that even though he had been involved in politics, his legal training would "assure the fulfillment of the role of chief justice without fear or favor".

As far as legal ability and training are concerned, many believe that Vaovasa is the best Samoan for the job. He is the second longest practising lawyer in the country, after G. Jackson, setting up his law office in Apia in 1954 after graduating with an LLB degree from Victoria University in Wellington, New Zealand, in 1953. He was elected an MP in 1973 and has remained in parliament since, during which he served a three-year term as minister of agriculture and a six-year term as minister of finance.

He was the first president of the Western Samoa Law Society when it was formed in 1976 and held that post until 1980.

Vaovasa enlisted in the Royal New Zealand Air Force in 1942 aged 18, before he entered university. He was trained as a pilot and served in the RAF in Great Britain in 1944-46.

Vaovasa received his primary education in Apia before leaving for secondary school in Auckland at Sacred Heart College.

Commenting on his appointment, Vaovasa said: "I feel very privileged to hold this position. I don't have any doubts in being able to perform the duties of chief justice."

He had some good words to say about Prime Minister To'filau: "Naturally I think the prime minister deserves to be commended on his decision," he said. "Ours is a young bar which is still building up its reputation."

Vaovasa is married to a New Zealand-trained nurse and the country's first woman MP, Leapepe Taulapapa Faimala.

Leapepe became an MP in 1973 and remained in parliament until 1976. During her parliamentary term she was deputy speaker of the house for three years.

Vaovasa and Leapepe have two children of their own and an adopted daughter. — *Sano Mali-fa in Apia.*

SOLOMON ISLANDS

Why two ministers got the sack

MARGARET ATKIN in Honiara backgrounds the dismissal of two ministers in April by Solomon Islands Prime Minister Solomon Mamaloni (PIM May p5).

The troubles of former Solomon Islands minister of transport, communications and government utilities, John Ngina, returned to jail in April to complete a three-months sentence, go back to a land dispute on his home island of Savo.

The sentence, imposed on February 1, followed his conviction on a charge of causing actual bodily harm to a certain Michael Viu at Honiara Market on December 8, 1982.

Early in 1982 Ngina made a complaint to police that a concrete post he had erected had been wilfully damaged. As the police had taken no action, after several months, he informed them that he would take the law into his own hands. Ngina had appeared in court four times before.

On March 1, the committee on the prerogative of mercy met and recommended to the governor-

general that Ngina be released after serving one month of his sentence. They recommended his release on medical, family and social reasons. Shortly afterwards Ngina was released.

There was an immediate public outcry. A street poll conducted by the independent newspaper, the *Solomon Tok Tok*, revealed that 97 out of 104 people interviewed felt that Ngina should not have been released. Eighty-three of these people said the decision showed that people are not equal under the law and that politicians are above the law. They felt the law should apply to everyone whether or not they are "big men".

On April 2, Prime Minister Solomon Mamaloni sacked both the minister of lands, energy, and natural resources, Peter Salaka, and John Ngina.

This move followed a public statement made by the two ministers after being asked by the prime minister to assume different portfolios. The prime minister asked Mr Ngina to move to education and training. Mr Salaka was asked to move to police and justice.

Both ministers publicly refused, saying they would rather resign than change portfolios.

Mr Salaka had also featured in an article in the March issue of *The Sun*, an independent monthly news magazine.

The Sun revealed that Mr Salaka held shares in a company called Sagalu Exim Ltd. This company held 50 per cent of the shares in another company, Cape Esperance Co. Mr Salaka had given Cape Esperance permission to log in an area of Guadalcanal, the main island of the Solomon Islands. However, the licence was disputed as it was alleged that some of those who signed the agreement were not true landowners and had no right to sign.

The Sun pointed out that there seemed to be a clear conflict of interests in this case, which was contradictory to the Leadership Code.

Leader of the Opposition, Sir Peter Kenilorea, applied to the High Court for a declaration that the committee on the prerogative of mercy was improperly constituted and therefore its decision to release Mr Ngina was null and void. This application was placed on March 18 and was heard in the High Court by Mr Justice Daly on April 8.

Judge Daly ruled that the committee had been improperly constituted on two grounds. He said on March 4, the date the committee met to consider Mr Ngina's case, there was no representative present from Mr Ngina's province as required by the constitution. In fact none of the five provinces in Solomon Islands had nominated a representative to sit on the committee.

The judge also found that the social worker appointed to the committee, although qualified in the field of social work, was not a practising social worker at the time of his appointment, or at the time of the meeting.

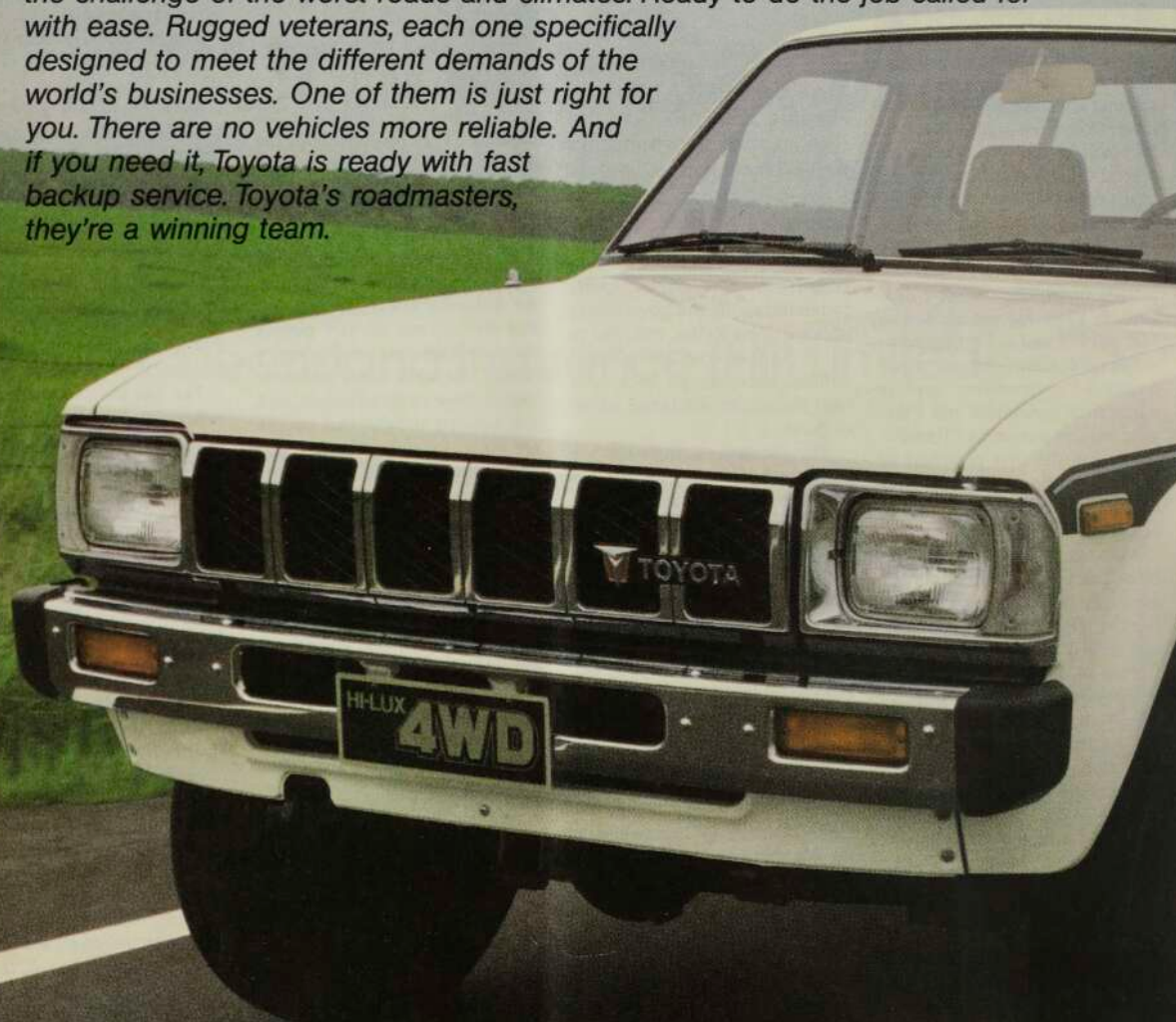
He then ruled that as the committee had been improperly constituted at that meeting it was not capable of giving advice to the governor-general and consequently the governor-general's pardon was null and void. On April 11, the day the judgment was given, Mr Ngina was re-arrested and put back in prison.



Australia and Papua New Guinea are negotiating PNG's request to vary budget aid arrangements. Foreign ministers of the two countries, Rabbie Namaliu (PNG, left) and Bill Hayden are pictured in Canberra at the resumed talks.

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TRADE WINDS

FRENCH POLYNESIA

Scandal rocks port authority and mayors move on garbage

After months of rumors of scandalous goings-on in the multi-million dollar operations of Papeete's port authority, its director Rodrigue Legayic has been arrested and jailed. Joining him on the prison trail was prominent local businessman Philippe Chungall.

The two men face charges of corruption and misuse of public funds in connection with harbor improvement works. In particular, it is alleged that Mr Legayic established a "front" company, Sopomat, which won tenders to do earth-moving and embankment work around the harbor.

Two other companies engaged in work for the authority, Sot-relec and Polyphone, are alleged to have won their tenders by corrupt means. Mr Chungall has links with all three companies.

The local English-language weekly, *Tahiti Sun Press*, said there was "speculation that the information thus far made public is only the tip of an iceberg of a major scandal involving several prominent persons".

On cue in mid-May Tahiti newspapers reported that Napoléon Spitz, chairman of the standing committee of French Polynesia's Territorial Assembly, had been arrested and charged with "offences committed over several years in the management of the port authority".

Earlier, Jean Juventin, Papeete's mayor and one of French Polynesia's deputies to the National Assembly in Paris, had publicly accused the vice-president of the local Government Council, Gaston Flosse, of pressuring one of Papeete's two daily newspapers into withholding the story of the port authority scandal and the arrests of Legayic and Chungall. Flosse replied by accusing Juventin of receiving the sum of CFP30 million (about

\$US235,000) from the port authority a few days before the March municipal elections in the territory.

Juventin claimed there was nothing illegal about the money, which had been owed by the port authority to the city under contract since 1981. After the territory endured six cyclones in as many months, French Polynesia's political and business community is now bracing itself for a storm of another kind.

A lesser, but still significant, storm could erupt over a new idea for tackling Tahiti's long-standing garbage disposal problem.

Two California-based companies, the giant Bechtel construction firm and Bryan Energy, plan to spend \$US50 million putting in a garbage incinerator-cum-power station in Tahiti.

Power would be generated through the burning of an estimated 43,000 tonnes of garbage a year from the island's three most urbanised municipalities: Papeete, Faaa and Punaauia.

The U.S. firms plan to recoup their investment in part from the sale of electricity to the local power authority. They also plan to help the three municipalities establish a unified garbage collection service, in which they would have an interest.

Garbage disposal has been a controversial issue in Tahiti for years, but none of the many projects put forward has ever got off the ground. The present method — open air burning of the contents of rubbish tips in valleys behind the town areas — presents grave pollution and health hazards. With winds in the wrong quarter, the inhabitants of some areas find themselves almost asphyxiated. The mayors of the three municipalities concerned are the prime movers in the

scheme. They are well aware that it is French policy to retain full control of energy production in the territory, and that they can expect official French objections to the U.S. project.

But they have their reply prepared in advance: Well, the garbage problem's been there for years, and France has done nothing about it. If we can solve the problem, and give a much-needed boost to power production at the same time, why should you try to stop us?

Observers in Papeete expect at the very least a sudden discovery of interest in Tahiti's garbage problem on the part of French companies who are in the same line of business as Bechtel & Co.

Fiji's voice heard at ISA conference

Speaking at the recent United Nations negotiating conference in Geneva on the new International Sugar Agreement (ISA), Fiji Foreign Affairs Minister Mosese Qionibaravi has appealed for the retention in the new agreement of the existing marketing arrangement under the Lomé Convention which has given Fiji a market in the European Economic Community for more than 170,000 tonnes of its sugar each year.

The Lomé Convention embraces more than 60 developing countries. Mr Qionibaravi said any new regulatory mechanism should not impose further burdens on small developing countries which depended heavily on the sugar industry.

Fiji and other sugar exporting countries are worried that attempts may be made by European sugar beet farmers to have

them excluded from the EEC market.

The Queensland (Australia) Minister for Primary Industry, Mike Ahern, who attended the conference, has told the Queensland Cane Growers' Council that he was greatly encouraged by the willingness of major sugar-producing countries to achieve a new and workable ISA.

Commenting on the Geneva conference in his 1982 annual report of the Fiji Sugar Board, the independent chairman, J. S. Thomson said: "It is to be hoped that the message can be got through to the bigger importing and exporting countries at the conference that it is not good enough to expect the smaller sugar exporting countries of the third world to accept quota restr-



ictions, or to have to hold in store large stocks of sugar *pro rata* with those agreed by the bigger exporting countries, whose economies, with one exception, Cuba, are more diversified than those of most of the third world."

Still on the conference, Mr Thomson commented: "One of the positive actions I would like to see emerge from the International Sugar Conference this year is a program sponsored by the international community of exporters and importers to search for uses for sugar other than in human foods and drinks. Hitherto experimentation has been nationally inspired. Brazil has, of course, established an ethanol industry, which uses cane and avoids the sugar-making process, but the feasibility of introducing it into other countries has largely shown negative results, including Fiji. If an ethanol industry is established here, it is likely that molasses would be the base rather than cane. It is, however, in the field of sucro-chemistry that the best hope lies for uses of sugar other than in foods and beverages, and it is there that international collaboration is required to find alternatives."

Fiji manufactures on display in Australia

There's a promising future for Fiji's manufactured exports in Australia, especially in Sydney. That's what 17 Fiji companies discovered when they took their wares to Australia early in May.

They showed them off to Australian buyers in a three-day exhibition at Melbourne's International Trade Development Centre. Then, on their way home, they called in at Sydney and held a five-hour display in the South Pacific Trade Commissioner's newly opened exhibition room.

The result of the Sydney show surprised everyone. Five hours work and around 100 hard-headed Australian businessmen looking for bargains brought "sales under negotiation amounting to almost \$A500,000," says Neville Smith, trade adviser to the Fiji consulate-general, "and sales over the next 12 months expected to exceed \$500,000."

New agencies were also discussed and three joint ventures are being negotiated.

The three days in Melbourne brought "actual product sales of \$85,000," Mr Smith says, "sales under negotiation of \$539,000 and estimated sales over the next 12 months of approximately \$910,000." Which made the whole exercise worthwhile.

Ratu David Toganivalu, Fiji's minister for economic planning and development, opened the shop in Melbourne and told the customers: "Fiji has an image overseas of languid lagoons, tourists, resorts and waving palms. It is all those things, but it is now much more for we have a very rapidly expanding manufacturing sector."

"We are virtually at saturation point with our own import substitution, and now must look to export for our expansion. SPARTECA, the special relationship between Fiji and Australia and New Zealand, is seen as a means of redressing the trading imbalance."

"We have always said we prefer trade to aid, and this is an opportunity to trade. We will grow by our own efforts. Doing business with Fiji just might be the best move you make this year."

Ratu David was also at the Sydney mini-exhibition but there wasn't time for speeches — only for business.

The two displays probably surprised many of the visitors, especially those who only know Fiji as the place of "languid lagoons" etc. It can also turn out some very impressive goods. "Fiji can really make it," all the goods shouted. There were sweet biscuits, dry crackers and flexible black PVC water pipe, all produced by one exhibitor, snack foods, spices, curry powders, margarine, soaps, shirts, dressing gowns, plastic ware, knitted sportswear, trousers (no suits!), candlesticks, paints, primers, wood glue, polyurethane ropes, coir twine (from coconuts), ropes, doormats, toilet soap (also from coconuts), skin cream, after-shave lotion, books, packets, calendars and also "some high-quality, genuine handicrafts" — all goods which can compete well on Australian markets as they are all on the SPARTECA list which allows them into Australia, and New Zealand, free of tariff.

Three firms exhibited their furniture for homes and offices, furniture equal to furniture from anywhere as it was almost all fashioned out of Fiji's magnificent grained timbers — dakua, damanu, kauvala, qumu and yaka, king of all the furniture woods, plus others.

The only drawback where the wooden furniture was concerned is that it isn't on the SPARTECA list. It carries a 30 per cent tariff, but Fiji and some other island countries, Vanuatu for instance, are working on that right now. It's likely that shortly it will be included but as furniture components.

PIM's stable companion, The Fiji Times & Herald Ltd., was an exhibitor but it wasn't showing its newspapers. It was showing its multi-colored boxes, packets, wrappers, brochures, in fact everything it prints, and many of the other exhibits were wrapped up in its productions.

There'll be other exhibitions



A long way to the bottom: This Driltech crawler-mounted chip-sampler is now operating high in the mountains of Papua New Guinea as part of the Ok Tedi copper and gold mine development. The unit was shipped from Australia, taken across the Gulf of Papua by barge from Port Moresby to Kiunga, carried inland on a low loader over bush tracks, and then driven under its own power over Mount Fubilan to begin chip sampling. Sullair Australia Ltd. supplied the unit.

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

W651



TRADE WINDS

from Fiji and from other island countries. Australia wants them to come, the permanent secretary for trade in Australia, Mr James Scully, told them at the exhibition in Melbourne.

Said Mr Scully: "There is a trade imbalance of 20-1 in Australia's favor between our two countries and so we have a very special obligation to ensure that you have the opportunity to redress the balance.

"We want you to sell your products in Australia, not to displace our labor but to displace our other imports by competitive and healthy trading. Trade diversion is the name of the game.

"Not only are you welcome in our country, but we are making a special effort to ask all Australians to bear Fiji in mind when you come to sell your goods."

And that goes for all Fiji's neighbors who have anything to sell. — John Carter.

And now, cheese from coconuts

A Taveuni, Fiji, copra planter has produced cheese from coconuts.

Mr Brian Leonard, of Nevada Estate, is keeping his cheese making process from coconuts a secret.

Mr Leonard said it was the first time in the world that cheese had been produced from coconuts.

A dairy technologist for 15 years in Australia, Mr Leonard came up with the idea of making cheese from coconuts after he noticed the similarities between coconut meat and milk.

"Cows' milk contains protein, fat, sugar and water, coconut meat contains the same," Mr Leonard said.

Fiji Times food connoisseurs and news gatherers who are always on the cocktail circuit had the opportunity to taste half a pound of cheese that Mr Leonard brought to Suva.

Sandwiched between snack biscuits the chilli and smoked flavored cheeses tasted:

"Delicious, very nice."

"It's just right for the Fiji market; something like taroro (a Rotuman delight made from coconuts)."



Fiji shows its products to Australia: At the Melbourne display Ratu David Toganivalu, Fiji economic planning minister, shows an ornamental carving to Jim Scully, secretary for trade in Australia. — Norman Plant picture for AIS.

"Unique flavor. This could go a long way!"

Mr Leonard has submitted samples to the University of the South Pacific for analysis.

He said he wanted to be sure of the new product's quality before exporting.

"It has worldwide potential and would be much in demand with Seventh-day Adventists and Jewish people who try to avoid products derived from animals," he said. — Pranesh Nageshwar in The Fiji Times.

Famine threat in FSM drought

The worst drought in Micronesia since 1902 could plunge the four states of the Federated States of Micronesia into years of famine President Tosiwo Nakayama has warned. The drought began in December.

The United States Trust Territory High Commissioner Janet McCoy has asked for a federal emergency management administration field team to assess the impact of the drought in each state.

Yap Governor John Mangefel said they were already experiencing a drastic decrease in food

production and an increase in disease outbreak and general deterioration in health.

Oz catering gear on show in Fiji

Australia's Department of Trade and Resources is organising an Australian catering equipment and hotel supplies display to be held in the Hotel Mocambo, Nadi, from 20-22 September, 1983.

This display, according to a departmental press release, will be a "hard-sell" promotion directed to the expanding needs of the hotel and catering trade in Fiji which is undergoing a growth period with new ventures and refurbishing projects being undertaken in the period from 1983-85. In 1982 the total number of Australian tourists visiting the Pacific area increased by about 20 per cent.

Products envisaged for this display are expected to reinforce Australia's position as a supplier to Fiji and other Pacific Islands, particularly Vanuatu, New Caledonia and French Polynesia.

The product range covers catering equipment, cool rooms, commercial/industrial air condi-

tioning, light fittings, carpet, furnishing fabrics, manchester items, floor/wall tiles, hotel/restaurant glass, crockery, cutlery and furniture, and outdoor sporting equipment.

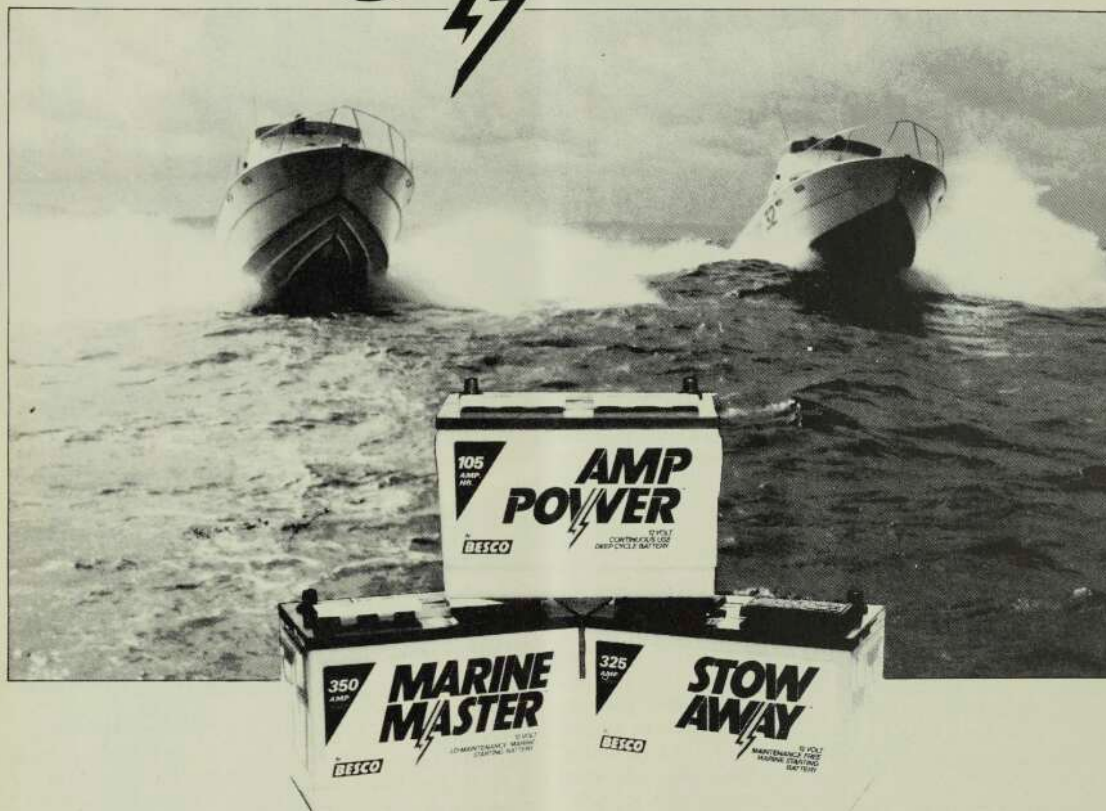
Sun-run video in Vanuatu

A community centre opened on Nguna Island off Efate in Vanuatu is powered by solar energy which generates electricity to operate a water pump and a video television set. Funds for the centre came from the United States Embassy in Suva and the Australia High Commission in Port-Vila.

Mormons are a-building

A temple costing \$US2.5 million is being built by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints at Pesega in Western Samoa. It is one of four Mormon temples being built in the South Pacific. One has been completed in New Zealand and others will be built in Tonga and Tahiti. A Baha'i temple is also nearing completion at Tiapapata in Western Samoa.

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LEADERS IN BATTERY TECHNOLOGY



TRADE WINDS

Dashing out of an arrangement

Air Niugini, the government-owned airline of Papua New Guinea, is disposing of all three of its Dash 7 aircraft on the grounds that lease-purchase payments are too high. How much economics and how much politics was behind the Dash 7 experience?

In the big-money world of building, selling and operating aircraft for regular passenger transport services it's probably true to say that there is no longer such a thing as a bad aeroplane or an uneconomic one. Industry, technology, experience and related factors have seen to this. There is no doubt that any aircraft designed for airline operations has well and truly been through the mill these days before it goes on the market.

But specialisation, technical complexity and vastly differing market requirements have produced a penalty which can be described in one word: Suitability. Matching the aeroplane to the job (or in some notable instances, matching the job to the aeroplane) has become an increasingly difficult task. And unless the match is near to perfect, then it doesn't matter how good the aeroplane is. To apply a good aircraft to something which doesn't suit it will mean financial disaster.

It is now a year and a half since the Papua New Guinea national airline, Air Niugini, took delivery of the first of three De Havilland Canada Dash 7

airliners for part of its internal route structure. Since then a change of government, a consultant's report and a frightening preview of finances has led to a decision to get rid of the three aircraft. Two will go immediately, the third will hang on until early next year because of charter commitments associated with development of the Ok Tedi gold and copper mine.

If the government-owned airline had been able to put its hands on about \$24 million in hard cash, the situation may have been rosier. Financing arrangements are, after all, part of the overall picture of equipment suitability. But an enthusiastic politician committed his country to a lease purchase arrangement which in total would have cost close to \$40 million over a period of between eight and nine years. It just wasn't working out.

The Dash 7 was an interesting and much-vaunted design when it was first publicised and demonstrated in the South Pacific about three years ago. Demonstrations in Australia included a flight over Sydney Harbour while members of a symphony orchestra played soft music to highlight cabin quietness. In Papua New Guinea the big at-

traction was short-field capabilities, and the political leader who fancied the Dash 7 was the controversial Iambakey Okuk. The Dash 7 represented a trunk-route aircraft which could operate from small strips in his Highlands electorate. Fokker Friendships, then carrying the bulk of the domestic traffic, couldn't match this trick.

Okuk was a former transport minister who had been sacked by Prime Minister Somare for unpredictability. When Somare lost office, Okuk, who had switched allegiances, became deputy prime minister and was the central figure in the controversial purchase of the three Dash 7 aircraft. Okuk lost his seat in parliament in the election which returned Somare to office. A major government review has since been undertaken in transport and other matters, backed by international consultants in a number of fields. The decision to get rid of the Dash 7s is part of this operation.

In a statement in June the present deputy prime minister, Paia Wingti, stressed that no politics were involved in the Dash 7 reversal. The decision was a carefully-considered economic one, he said, and had been taken because the lease payments were simply too expensive for the revenues being generated. Certainly on the produced figures there can be no argument with his statement, but in a wider sense it is begging the question to

rule out politics completely. The history of the arrangement was very political and very controversial from the start. The present structure in which Air Niugini has a management consultancy agreement with the highly-experienced KLM Royal Dutch Airlines is expected to minimise political meddling, although ultimate government control will continue.

If any argument exists about the Dash 7 experience, it is probably a complex academic one about Air Niugini's real financial situation — a subject which in any event is open to varying interpretations. The collapse of the Dash 7 arrangement is a serious matter for the Australian company Hawker Pacific which negotiated the sale. Because of the importance of equipment suitability in airline economics it is inconceivable that an experienced sales organisation would ignore Air Niugini's operational patterns. There would be far too much to lose in the long run.

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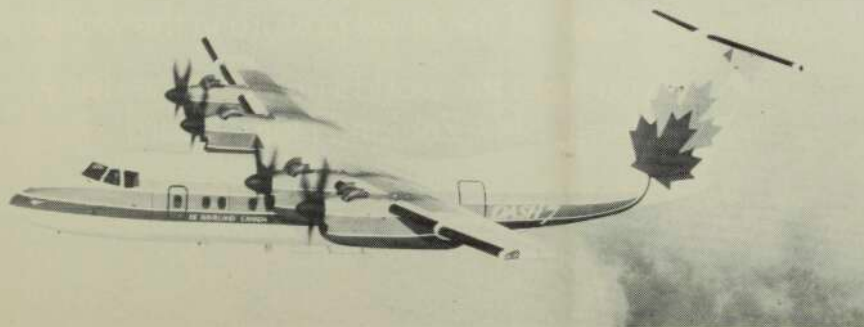
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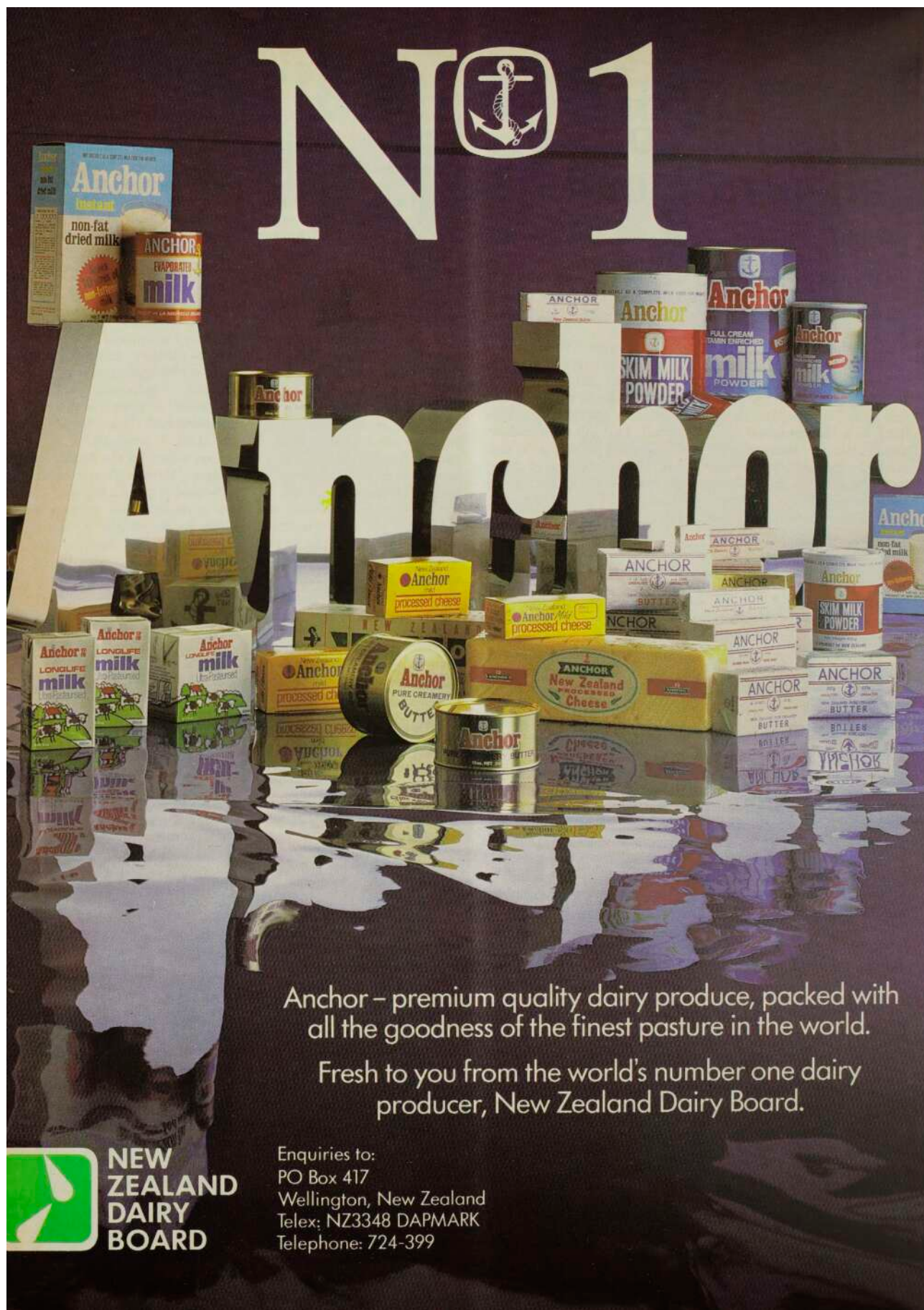
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PEOPLE

A Papua New Guinean sculptor, **Gigmai Kundun**, 26, won an Australian cultural award which took him to Brisbane, Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Adelaide in May-June. Mr Kundun left Port Moresby on May 8 for a 27-day stay in Australia where he met sculptors, art lecturers, visited galleries and attended art classes.

Mr Kundun is described by colleagues as a "skilled and talented sculptor". His work has centred on constructed metal sculpture and he has carried out numerous commissions for public buildings, churches and private individuals.

Examples of his work include the swinging gate of "Nambawan Haus" for the PNG Banking Corporation, Boroko; lifesize male and female figures for the Port Moresby Travelodge; and the national emblem and lettering on the entrance wall of the PNG High Commission in Canberra.

He is at present working on K3000 worth of work for the new national parliament house making mosaics to be mounted on the front of the building.

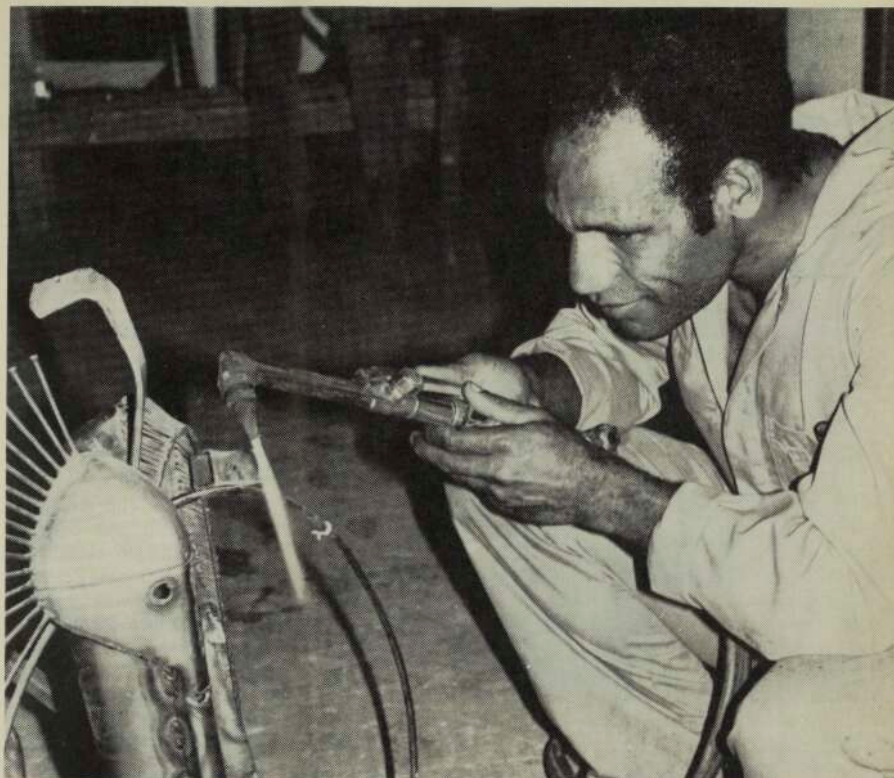
After graduating from Mt Hagen High School in 1975, he enrolled at the National Arts School the following year. During his first year he did painting, but switched to welding the following year.

"The director asked me to help him weld some things for him. I did it well and from then on I have been doing welding and sculpture."

The following year he staged a combined exhibition with another artist **Benny More** at the National Arts School, titled "GARBAGE", as sculptures were made from pieces of metal collected from the nearby Baruni rubbish dump.

Bob Connolly, co-director of the documentary *First Contact* — which deals with the Leahy brothers' visit to the Papua New Guinea Highlands in the 1930's — visited PNG in May. Mr Connolly attended screenings and gave lectures on the award-winning documentary in Port Moresby, Goroka and Lae.

The film, which Mr Connolly



With welding torch in hand, a supply of salvaged materials and plenty of imagination, Gigmai Kundun produces one of his metal sculptures. — Picture by Auri Eva.

co-produced and directed with Ms **Robyn Anderson**, describes the visit to the Highlands of the gold-prospecting Leahy brothers. It tells how they landed their aircraft in the Highlands — the home of a million people thought to have had no previous contact with Europeans.

The Leahys captured their contact with the Highlanders on 16 mm film. The reels of film lay unnoticed for decades until they were recovered by Connolly and Anderson who used them to form the basis of *First Contact*. The resulting 48-minute long documentary is described as a unique record of an event unlikely to be repeated again — the first meeting of representatives of two cultures.

First Contact has already won the prize Cinema du Réel at the International Festival of Ethnographic and Anthropological

films in Paris, and the best-of-category award at the San Francisco International Film Festival.

Dr Bupendra Pathik is back in his position as principal of the Fiji School of Medicine after being exonerated of all charges against him.

Disciplinary charges were laid against Dr Pathik by the Permanent Secretary for Health, Dr **Mesake Biunaiwai**, last December. He was asked to vacate his office at FSM on December 22.

The charges followed complaints by four second-year medical students that they had been victimised when they failed their examinations in November last year.

The four had failed their exams three times. When they first failed in 1981, Dr Pathik had asked the FSM Academic board to let them do supplementary exams, but they failed those too in January 1982.

An inquiry team, headed by Professor William Maxwell of the University of the South Pacific,

was formed to investigate the complaints and report to the Public Service Commission.

Although the text of its decision was not made public, it is understood that the PSC found that the charges against Dr Pathik could not be substantiated and ordered that they be withdrawn.



Barry Sinclair, whose appointment was announced by the Burns Philp group as manager of the International Trading Division of Burns Philp (New Zealand) Ltd.



PEOPLE



James William Harris

James William Harris, 46, former manager of co-operative education at the Polynesian Cultural Center, Honolulu, has been appointed director of central planning and development for the kingdom of Tonga.

Mr Harris is the first top-level government official appointed from outside Tonga and will report directly to Tonga's Prime Minister, Prince **Fatefehi Tu'iipelehake**.

In his time at the Polynesian Cultural Center, he wrote a manual for both the Center and Brigham Young University-Hawaii Campus, where he taught Pacific history and regional development courses.

Married, and with five children, Mr Harris was born in Tonga but attended elementary and high school in New Zealand. He completed his undergraduate studies at the then Church College of Hawaii (now BYU-Hawaii Campus) where he has graduated valedictorian. He later earned a master's degree at

Brigham Young University, Provo, with honors.

A staunch member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (the Mormons), Harris served as superintendent of LDS church schools for Tonga, Fiji, Tahiti, Kiribati, Niue, Rarotonga, and Tuvalu in 1974.

Former Community College of Micronesia president **Resio Moses** has been sworn in as the second elected governor of Ponape State, Federated States of Micronesia.

Former Governor **Leo A. Falcam**, who lost to Moses in a runoff election on March 29, handed the Ponape State flag to Moses as a symbol of the transfer of power.

The Palau Senate has approved the appointments of **Noriwo Ubedei** and **Charles M. Matsutaro** as Palau representatives to head liaison offices in Washington, DC, and Guam.

Noriwo Ubedei, who will head

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A smile from Malinda Meredith of Western Samoa after receiving her Bachelor of Arts degree at a university graduation ceremony in Australia. She is one of four Western Samoans who have been studying at Newcastle University in Newcastle, NSW, under Australian South Pacific aid programs.

the Washington mission, has most recently been associated with the Community College of Micronesia in Palau. He is described as "soft-spoken yet tough in his convictions".

Charles M. Matsutaro, who will be in charge of the office on Guam, leaves the job of production manager on the *Pacific Daily News*, a very influential paper in Micronesia. He is vice-president of the Palau Association on Guam, most Palauans who have visited Guam have received his personal assistance on a host of problems, ranging from a lift in his car to the airport, to immigration matters.

An American priest who has served in Papua New Guinea for 49 years was awarded the Cross of the British Empire in April for mission work in the North Solomons Province.

It was a double celebration for Bishop Leo Lemay, 74, coming as it did in the week after he had celebrated his 50th anniversary as a priest.

Bishop Lemay was presented with the medal by the Governor General, Sir Kingsford Dibela, at Government House, Port Moresby.

Bishop Lemay still teaches at the mission vocational centre in

Talena in the North Solomons. The bishop will shortly leave for Rome where he will report on the church in PNG.

Surprised but highly delighted with the award, Bishop Lemay modestly said: "I do not know why they gave me this."

Not far away from Bishop Lemay's diocese, in Honiara, Solomon Islands, there is a new Catholic bishop. He is the Most Reverend **Adrian Smith**, 43, an Irish Marist father who has been doing missionary work in the country since 1967.

He will act as Assistant Bishop to Archbishop **Daniel Stuyvenberg**, 74. Archbishop Stuyvenberg became Vicar Apostolic of the South Solomons in 1958, and Archbishop of Honiara in 1966.

In an effort to expose her two daughters to the "goodness" of other Polynesian cultures, Tonga's Princess **Pilolevu Tuita** recently visited Hawaii's Polynesian Cultural Center, a visitor attraction which depicts the cultures of seven Pacific island groups.

On her one-day visit to the Center, Princess Pilolevu and daughters **Lupepau'u** and **Fanetupouvava'u**, were the guests of the Center's Tonga village at a special kava ceremony.

The princess is the only daughter of King **Taufa'ahau Tupou IV**.

The Cultural Center was opened in 1963 specifically to provide jobs for foreign students

from the South Pacific. It now employs more than 1000 persons and has been dedicated by the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints (the Mormons) to help preserve the cultural heritage of the groups represented. These include Tonga, Samoa, New Zealand (Maori), Fiji, Tahiti, the Marquesas, and Hawaii.

Most employees are students at Brigham Young University-Hawaii Campus who work their way through college in various jobs at the Center.

Sports writer **Jim Webster** reported in *The Sydney Morning Herald* in May under the headline "Big time for Ratu":

Randwick Rugby Union Club's **Qele Ratu** must be the only third grade player selected to travel overseas to play in a match with some of the world's leading players.

He is among four Australian players who have accepted an invitation to play in Buenos Aires on June 20 in a charity match for Argentine flood victims.

The new government in Australia has reaffirmed its regional links with Vanuatu, and formal recognition was given when Prime Minister Walter Lini of Vanuatu visited Canberra in May. Father Lini is shown here with Australian Foreign Affairs Minister, Bill Hayden, shortly before entering talks which concerned regional trade, the political future of New Caledonia, Australian Pacific aid and nuclear testing in the Pacific. — John Crowther picture for AIS.



The others are **Mark Ella**, **Brendan Moon** and **David Campese**. Which puts Ratu in distinguished company.

Although Ratu is now playing in the lower grades for Randwick, he has distinguished himself in the past at higher levels.

He represented Fiji and has played for Fiji and Australia in the international seven-a-side tournament in Hong Kong.

He was in the Australian team again in March when they successfully defended the sevens title.

It was through the sevens that he became known to Argentine players, resulting in his invitation to play there.

John Waiko of Papua New Guinea has won his PhD with a break from academic tradition: he has produced a written history of his people, the Binandere of Northern Province, in their own language and in English.

Dr Waiko graduated in May from the Australian National University, Canberra, to become on the second Papua New Guinean to gain a doctorate, and the first in the social sciences.

Pauline Bona writes in *The Papua New Guinea Post-Courier*: "Staunch defence of his people's identity and history hindered Dr Waiko's academic career, but it has also influenced his strong views on historical research. 'Our approach to PNG history must be different from the Western tradition — if we cannot communicate the people's ideas in the language they understand — then it's useless,' says John Waiko, PhD."

Bruce Strong, the Guam teacher who took court action to change his name to God (PIM May p47) has now changed not his name but his mind.

In a letter to presiding judge **John Raker**, of Guam's Superior Court, Mr Strong said the turnabout had been prompted by "undue public reaction upon some of those people who are near and dear to me." he added that his only motive for wanting to be called "God" had been because "I so wish."



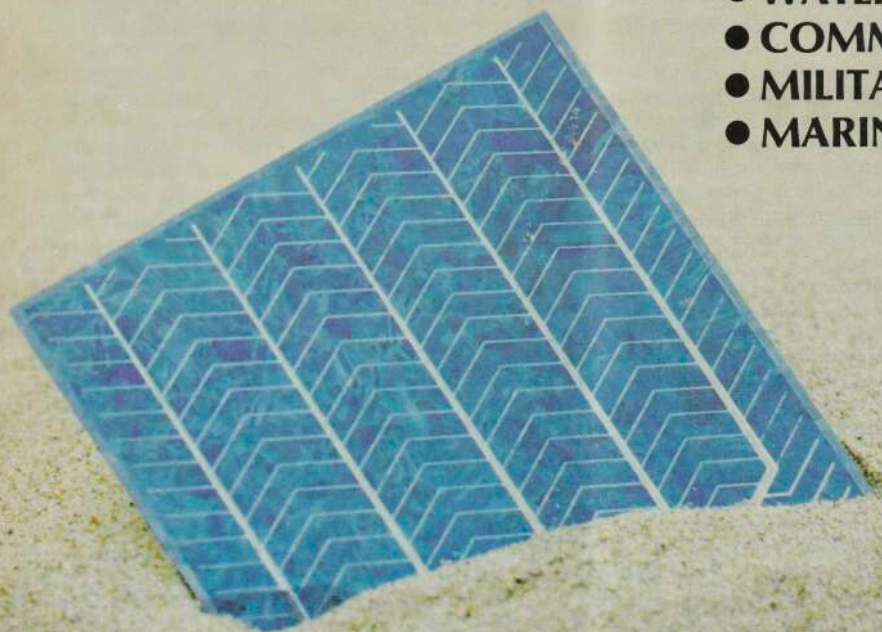
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BOOKS

Two books on major disasters:
Dissecting the past
and protecting the future



**A 'time of darkness'
that could well come
again . . .**

The Time of Darkness: Local Legends and Volcanic Reality in Papua New Guinea. By R. J. Blong. Published 1982 by the Australian National University Press, Canberra, and the University of Washington Press, Seattle, USA. ISBN 0 7081 1096 7. Price \$A23.95.

Touring through the mountainous Highlands region of Papua

New Guinea in bright clear weather is a memorable experience in which the eye is attracted by lofty forest-clad peaks, by the vivid colors of the region's unique birds, plants, and butterflies, and by the exotic traditional costumes of the Highlands people.

Few spellbound tourists travelling by road would have much occasion to cast more than a glance at the dull layers of vol-

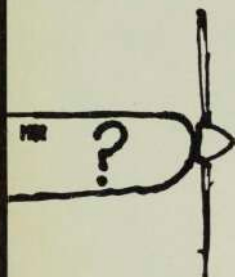
canic ash that are exposed in roadcuts throughout the Highlands, but one of these layers — which Australian scientist Russell Blong has called Tibito Tephra (tephra is the name used by geologists for a layer of volcanic ash) — provides evidence that as recently as about 300 years ago the majestic face of the Highlands was ruined by a heavy rain of ash particles.

The sun was blotted out for days, and the Highlanders of the time must have suffered starvation, deprivation, and death as crops were destroyed, streams and pools were polluted, houses collapsed, and edible bush marsupials and pigs perished in the ashes.

Stories of this "time of darkness" in one form or another have been passed down from one generation to the next, and many of them tell of fearful days when the lush green of one of the most beautiful places in the Pacific was mantled by a deathly pall.

Eruption on Kar Kar Island off the north coast of the Papua New Guinea mainland. — Picture by Brian Mennis.

WHAT'S GOING ON!

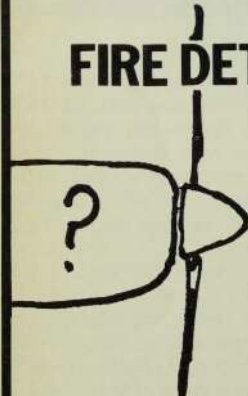


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BOOKS



when psychological stress — even terror — must have reigned as the fine volcanic ash fell to depths of several centimetres, abruptly interrupting the seasonal pattern of life.

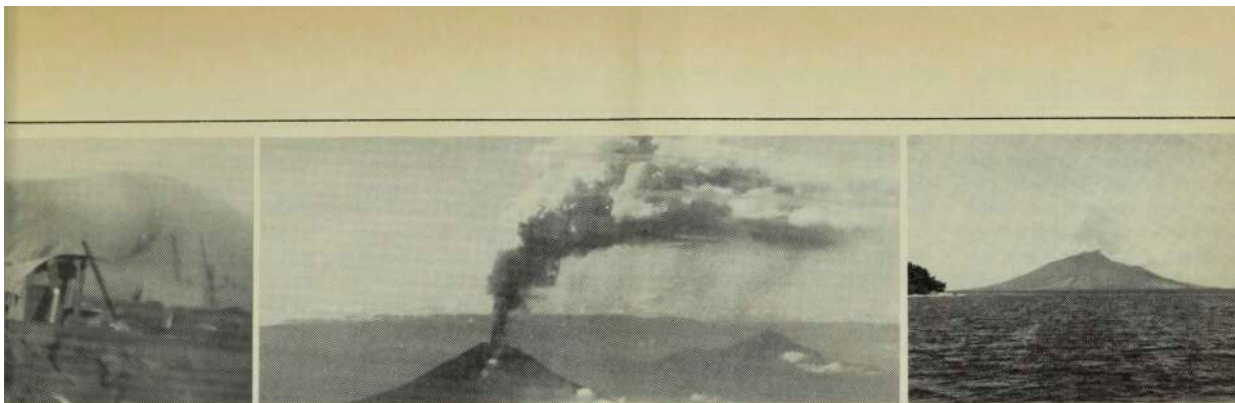
Dr Blong, a lecturer in geomorphology at Macquarie University in Sydney, has collected together and made a special investigation of the stories of the Time of Darkness (what better title for the book). He distributed a questionnaire to many centres in the Highlands and so acquired from almost 100 informants (mainly social anthropologists and staff of the Summer School of Linguistics) data which they in turn obtained by questioning people in their respective areas of interest. Dr Blong then combined these responses with previously documented stories of the Time of Darkness and with his own geological observations and interpretations of the ash layer, and assessed all of this information with reference to what is known about the effects of volcanic ash falls elsewhere in the world. His book is a fine piece of scientific detective work, drawing together the results of several years of research and creating for us a vivid picture of what the ash fall must have been like and what its effects must have been.

Dr Blong has written his book in mainly non-technical language, and the Australian Na-

tional University Press has maintained the high standard of presentation that it normally accords to books on the Pacific. Some chapter headings are not especially informative and the contents list does not include chapter sub-headings, which means the task of re-locating particular sections of interest is hindered somewhat; a few photographs would also have enhanced the text. However, these are minor criticisms of a book that can be strongly recommended, not just to oral historians and vulcanologists, but to the non-specialist interested in the cultural and natural history of PNG.

The book contains some unexpected conclusions. For example, the ash of Tibito Tephra probably did not originate from one of the geologically youthful volcanoes in the Highlands region (many Highlands peaks are volcanoes — the Hagen Range, for example, near the town of the same name, consists of three extinct volcanic centres). Rather, Dr Blong believes the ash came from Long Island volcano in the Bismarck Sea about 150 kilometres east of Madang, off the north coast of New Guinea. A vast eruption cloud was formed that may have risen as high as 30 kilometres. This cloud was caught by high-altitude easterly winds that drove the ash plume westwards across New Guinea dumping its uninvited load on the





unsuspecting Highlanders. The spectacular caldera (or large volcanic "crater") now seen in the centre of Long Island may have formed at this time.

Another perhaps unexpected finding of this study is that the Highlands ash fall is portrayed in several of the traditional stories as a beneficial, rather than a harmful, event. Soils in the seasons following the time of the ash fall were apparently of exceptional fertility, and crops — especially sweet potato — were bountiful. One informant relates that the Time of Darkness became "a time of plenty, numerous pigs and numerous healthy children", and that ceremonies were performed with the aim of bringing the return of the ash fall!

Was the ash fall that affected the Highlands 300 years ago an

extraordinary event — a vulcanological "one-off" which will not be repeated and which is now only of historical interest? The answer to this question is unequivocally *No*. The Australasian region, from Indonesia round to New Zealand, contains many of the active volcanoes of the world, and studies of their geology provide convincing evidence that extremely powerful eruptions, such as the one that produced Tibito Tephra, have taken place in the geologically recent past. These eruptions are many times more powerful than any of those witnessed in modern times. Some elderly Tolais and Australian expatriates may recall the disastrous PNG eruption of Vulcan and Tavurvur volcanoes in the Rabaul area in May 1937 when about 500 villagers perished and the town was evacuated.

Many PIM readers will also remember the 1951 eruption of Mount Lamington that caused the deaths of almost 3000 Papuans on the northern slopes of the volcano; and the whole Pacific community has been well informed recently of the effects of the 1980 eruption of Mount St Helens in the western United States. But these three eruptions are all relatively minor compared to the scale of those whose effects we see recorded in the deposits of some circum-Pacific volcanoes.

Dr Blong's book can be regarded as a reminder that past disastrous events should be pointers to the future and be used as lessons in preparedness. The last sentence in the final chapter of the book reads: "Contingency planning for the next time of darkness . . . should already

Lava, ash and smoke in Papua New Guinea; fire, wind and flood in Fiji. Pictures (clockwise from top left) show: Matupit, East New Britain; Vulcan, East New Britain, with damage in foreground; Ulawan, West New Britain; Manam, off the PNG mainland north coast; Bagana, on Bougainville; floodwaters at Labasa; urban fire in Suva; hurricane damage at Nadi.

have begun". Are in fact circum-Pacific countries examining their attitudes to volcanic risk and hazard? Is scientific surveillance of active circum-Pacific volcanoes of a sufficiently high standard? Do we know enough about the behavior of active volcanoes in our region? Questions such as these immediately come to mind after reading *The Time of Darkness*. — R. W. Johnson.

Methods for the moments when nature goes mad

Disaster Preparedness and Disaster Experience in the South Pacific. By Angela Barzelatto Franco, Michael P. Hamnett, James Makasiale. Published by the Pacific Islands Development Program from East-West Center,

Honolulu, Hawaii. No price, ISBN, provided.

This is a distinctive publication. Fundamentally a work of reference and therefore by definition staid and prosaic, it nonetheless

manages to convey a strong sense of purpose and eagerness to help. Perhaps this is because, as the authors themselves state, it is intended to assist government officials, relief agency personnel and others in the essentially

humanitarian task of dealing more effectively with the problems of disaster in the Pacific Islands region.

The book deals with 11 countries; Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, Papua





BOOKS

New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa. It consists of a regional overview, plus three profiles of each of the countries: a country profile, a disaster experience profile, and a disaster preparedness profile. Some useful though necessarily limited case studies of natural disasters are also included. A prominent feature of the publication is the excellence and clarity of its many maps. These are invaluable, particularly to the specialist reader.

As the authors readily concede, any document of this nature, aiming as it does to provide current information across a very broad spectrum, inevitably becomes quickly out of date. However, as submitted later in this review, this shortcoming can to some extent be controlled. In any case, a considerable proportion of the statistical and other information will remain valid in the much longer term.

As to detailed contents themselves, the regional overview comprises a commendable effort to present in succinct and readable form adequate information on subjects which are, by their very nature, complex and diverse. These include the nature of Pacific societies, regional economies, disaster threats and effects, some broad comment on disaster preparedness and a major segment on problems and prospects.

As a general observation, it might have been more effective in terms of format not to segregate disaster preparedness on the one hand from problems and prospects on the other. A smoother run through past, current and desirable future aspects could have produced stronger identification and emphasis of requirements for the years which lie ahead. However, this comment in no way detracts from the value of the regional overview. The way in which the latter quite rightly highlights important facets of planning, mitigation, warning, emergency management, relief aspects and so on, constitutes eminently useful reference material and comment for those directly concerned with the disaster affairs of the region.

It is when it comes to regional

co-operation that the overview finds some difficulty in proposing a clear overall strategy; and perhaps, in a way, this helps to underscore the realism and therefore the value of the publication as a whole. Much recent experience in the region, including a Disaster Preparedness Strategies Seminar held in March 1983, tends to indicate that a selective rather than a blanket approach to disaster preparedness and response is generally preferable. This is not to say that the regional countries should not and will not seek to work together on major matters of mutual concern in the disaster field. What it does suggest is that, for a variety of reasons and differences, national programs supported by bilateral assistance and support arrangements in most cases offer the best prospects for offsetting and recovering from disaster events.

It is, of course, in its country profile material that the publication runs its greatest risk of inaccuracy through outdated. To be otherwise in areas so diverse as government expenditure, cash crop agriculture, medical

then remains of how, in practical terms, to keep the document current. Here, a possibility might be to place a collation responsibility with the proposed disaster preparedness staff officer shortly, it is understood, to be established in SPEC (the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation), whilst leaving the publication responsibility with the originators, East-West Center.

One further major point is worthy of mention. It concerns the general ambience in which this publication is likely to be used. Counter-disaster effectiveness in the South Pacific is a many-sided affair and it has now reached a stage where, in many cases, firm and positive programs are needed if, in the future, governments and communities alike are to deal satisfactorily with their disaster problems. As a distinguished and very experienced government minister, Dr S. Langi Kavaliku of Tonga, recently said: "The time has come for concrete actions, particularly concerning national issues, the role of regional and

undertaking. They would undoubtedly wish this review to acknowledge the effort and contribution made by all those who helped to research and collate the mass of detailed information which had to be considered before the final shape of this publication could be determined. — W. Nick Carter.

* Air Vice-Marshal Carter is an international disaster consultant who from 1969-78 was director of the Australian Counter Disaster College.

Books received

The Winds of Change: Norfolk Island 1950-1982. By Mervyn Hoare. Published 1983 by Institute of Pacific Studies, University of the South Pacific, Box 1168, Suva, Fiji. No ISBN, no price given.

The Birds and Birdlore of Samoa. By Corey and Shirley Muse. Published May 1983 by University of Washington Press, Seattle, Washington 98105. ISBN 0 295 95983 5. Price \$US15.00.

The Language of Easter Island: Its Development and Eastern Polynesian Relationships. By Robert Langdon and Darrell Tryon. Published 1983 by the Institute for Polynesian Studies, Brigham Young University, Hawaii Campus, Laie, Hawaii 96762. ISBN 0 939154 32 2. No price given.

Solomon Islands Trade Directory 1983 and Republic of Vanuatu Trade Directory 1983. Published by B. J. S. Agencies Ltd, PO Box 439, Honiara, Solomon Islands. No ISBN. Copies are free of charge.

The Resolution Journal of Johann Reinhold Forster 1772-1775, Volumes I-IV. Edited by Michael E. Hoare. Published 1982 by the Hakluyt Society, c/o the Map Room, British Library Reference Division, London WC1B 3DG. ISBN 0 904180 10 7. Price £40 sterling for the set of four volumes.

Bushwalking in Papua New Guinea. By Riall W. Nolan. Published 1983 by Lonely Planet Publications, PO Box 88, South Yarra, 3141, Australia. ISBN 0 908086 41 5. Price \$A6.95.

Micronationalist movements in Papua New Guinea. By R. J. May. Published 1982 by The Australian National University, PO Box 4, Canberra, ACT 2600. ISBN 0 908160 27 5. No price given.

Fijian Artefacts: Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery Collection. By Rod Ewins. Published 1982 by Tasmanian Museum and Art Gallery, GPO Box 1164M, Hobart, Tasmania 7001. ISBN 0 7246 1099 5. Price \$A14.90.

Pacific Constitutions. Edited by Peter Sack. Published 1982 by Research School of Social Sciences, Australian National University, PO Box 4, Canberra. ISBN 0 86784 164 8. No price given.

Pacific Profiles: Personal Experiences of 100 South Pacific Islanders. Edited by Robert A. C. Stewart. Published 1982 by University of the South Pacific, PO Box 1168, Suva, Fiji. No price or ISBN number given.



The disaster profile: Looking backward to look forward.

facilities and port capacities would border on the miraculous. In its other profiles, covering disaster experience and disaster preparedness, the problem of outdated is not so marked; though clearly these, as with all other aspects, must be periodically reviewed if the whole document is to maintain its viability and usefulness. It is in this connection that the loose-leaf format used by the publishers is eminently sensible. The question

international organisations, and joint ventures between countries for coping with disasters. In the final analysis, each country must present and develop its own case with respect to its needs and resources".

There seems little doubt, therefore, that many planning, organisational, training and other activities will be put in train during the coming years. The publication under review has a very real place in such activities.

The authors are to be congratulated on the end-product of what has clearly been a long, painstaking and complicated



BOOKS

New light on Nikolai Miklouho-Maclay

N. Miklouho-Maclay, *Travels to New Guinea: Diaries, Letters, Documents*. Edited by Daniil Tumarkin. Published 1982 by Progress Publishers, Moscow, USSR. No ISBN. Price \$A9.

The people of Bongu and nearby villages on the Rai Coast of northern Papua New Guinea revere the memory of Nikolai Nikolayevich Miklouho-Maclay, the Russian scientist who lived there during 1871-72 and 1876-77, and paid a brief visit in 1883. Their language has words such as *gugurus* (Russian: kukuruz — maize), *bika* (byk — bull) and *shkapor* (topor — axe), for plants, animals and tools introduced by him. More important, his stay, the first of its kind and length among New Guineans by a white man, was marked by mutual respect and friendship.

Miklouho-Maclay, early follower of Darwin and friend of Haeckel, Huxley, Virchow, Tolstoi and other great men, is well remembered, too, in the country of his birth. The editor of this book, Dr Tumarkin, tells us that the Soviet people have profound respect for the memory "of this outstanding scientist and fighter for the rights of oppressed peoples." The Institute of Ethnography of the USSR Academy of Sciences and a street in Moscow are named after him. The academy published a collection of Miklouho-Maclay's works in five volumes (1950-54) and hopes to bring out a new and more complete edition by 1988, the centenary of his death. It regularly awards prizes for outstanding works on countries and peoples of the Pacific. Miklouho-Maclay is the favorite hero of millions of Soviet children.

In her lengthy review (PIM, December 1975) of Charles Sentinella's excellent English translation, with biographical notes, of Miklouho-Maclay's New Guinea diaries, Judy Tudor traverses the scientist's account of his life



among the Bongu and their neighbors and she adverts to his scientific and other endeavors in western New Guinea, other parts of that region, and Australia. She suggests that patriotism, a desire to spread Russian influence, brought him to Bongu, but she also says that "back in Australia later in 1883, Maclay threw himself into any move that would safeguard the future of the New Guineans, meantime hoping that the conflicting colonial interests of Germany and Britain would keep both from making any definite move . . ."

The diaries translated by Sentinella, and this translation by Dr Tumarkin, both highly readable, speak for themselves: Miklouho-Maclay does not need a public relations man. But Tumarkin's edition also offers a much more detailed biographical account, through Soviet eyes, and 27 letters and documents which tell us more about the scientist's "other endeavors". Let us take a very brief look at these letters and documents.

Having witnessed some of the brutality of the Labor Trade, the recruitment of Pacific Islanders for plantations in Queensland,

House on the Rai coast, 1876, one of Maclay's many drawings included in his *Travels*.

Fiji, Samoa, etc, Miklouho-Maclay petitioned persons in high places in Britain, Russia, Germany and Australia. The petitions contained statements such as:

"It is certain that, as long as . . . kidnapping slave trade and slavery are suffered or even sanctioned by the Government (under the name of 'free labor trade') and that shameful spoliation which goes by the name of 'trading' continues in the islands, the results — the massacres — will constantly recur. The least that the blacks have a right to expect from the civilised races is neither pity nor sympathy, but justice . . ."

As for the people of the Rai Coast, a system of self-government, based upon indigenous customs and usages, something like Fiji's council of chiefs, was proposed by Miklouho-Maclay. Roads, bridges and wharves would be built, primary schools established, plantations developed and trading in beche-de-mer, copra, sago, etc, under-

taken. All adult males would be taxed, payable in natural products or labor for the public good. With him as adviser-manager, Javanese overseers, local workers, etc, would be employed and a steamer hired. The annual budget would be about £2000. A limited liability company with an initial capital of £15,000, provided by philanthropic capitalists, would finance the scheme. It was, of course, an impracticable proposition for its time and, no doubt, ridiculed by the advisers to Gladstone, Bismarck, Lord Derby, Sir Arthur Gordon and other addressees of Miklouho-Maclay's petitions. but he deserved much, much better than ridicule, if only for these sentences in his letter of January 23, 1879 to Gordon: ". . . the inhabitants of the Maclay Coast (the part of the north-east coast of New Guinea between Cape Croisilles and Cape King William) . . . 15,000 to 20,000 people at least, are strictly left to the soil which they cultivate, each piece of ground, each useful tree of the forest, the fish in each stream, etc, etc, has a proprietor! That ownership is known and respected by the neighbors. The invasion of strangers who wish to occupy a land already occupied and cultivated for centuries would put the inhabitants between the firearms of the whites and the weapons of the inhabitants of the mountains . . . I demand for the protection of the inhabitants of the Maclay Coast that the Imperial Government:

1. Recognise the complete right of the natives . . . to their soil.
2. Prevent (or render improbable by heavy taxation) the importation and the selling to the natives of alcohol, firearms and gunpowder.

No other foreign scientist of Miklouho-Maclay's international stature, Robert Koch and Carleton Gajdusek excepted, has worked in New Guinea, and none has surpassed him in his active concern for the islanders.

Dr Tumarkin and the publishers have done the great scientist and humanitarian proud with this scholarly, highly readable and inexpensive edition. — *Harry H. Jackman.*



YESTERDAY

Wilhelm Heinrich Solf, good governor of German Samoa

JOSEPH THEROUX begins a two-part series on one of the most remarkable and successful of German colonial administrators in the Pacific, Governor WILHELM HEINRICH SOLF of German Samoa.

George Orwell once wrote of British colonial rule as not much good, but preferable to "the newer governments that are going to supplant it". In many ways he was right. One thinks of the chaos certain African nations were thrown into upon receiving independence. And elsewhere, where there was little or no violence, inefficiency became the normal state of affairs, economic insanity ruled with a will.

In the Pacific, island nations achieved independence gradually and with seeming peacefulness. The one exception was Vanuatu, having struggled under two governments, a condominium. With generous outside aid, many of the island nations have managed to hobble along.

But think of an island nation, torn by inter-district warfare, village fighting village, three native leaders claiming kingship, and under the jurisdiction of not two foreign governments, but three: a *tridominium*. The battles which raged were political, obviously, but economic as well: German planters, American and British businessmen, joined in eagerly. Its records read like the Hundred Years' War.

When this intolerable situation was finally resolved, at the cost of countless lives, by the Tripartite Decision of 1899, this island nation needed a hand so strong, a brain so understanding and a heart as full of right as intrigue, that one would have despaired of ever identifying such a leader. He would need the wisdom of Solomon, the training of a linguist, the insights of an anthropologist, the tact of a diplomat, and the authoritarianism of a Bismarck. And the wondrous thing was — the man appeared. He was the greatest ad-

ministrator Western Samoa has ever seen.

Wilhelm Solf was a judge, was a linguist, was a student of culture, was a diplomat, and, in fact, looked like Bismarck.

C. Brunsdon Fletcher (in *The Problem of the Pacific*) tells us: "He was Bismarck's counterpart in size and girth . . . he was physically a man to appeal to the heroic in Australasian imaginations. Standing four inches over six feet, he was proportionally broad and large."

J.C. Furnas (in *Anatomy of Paradise*) agrees: "... a granite-faced, monocle-eyed, rigidly hefty satrap of empire whom the islands still remember as a most considerable man."

Nelson A. Rowe (in *Samoa Under the Sailing Gods*) adds: "Dr Solf took over a country where there were practically no public buildings, and but few roads, and which recently had been riven with civil war . . . During (his) time roads were made, bridges built and public buildings erected. The administration appears to have been a model of quiet and easy-going efficiency."

Strangely, Fletcher notes: "Before Dr Sol left Samoa, his name could be found in the German *Who's Who*, but with no particulars. He was just Governor of Samoa. No dates or triumphs marked the line and a half of the announcement . . .". It was as if a man had merely surfaced, as often happens in history, to do a particularly difficult task, and then disappeared.

However the truth was not as simple as that. He was, among other things, decorated by the Kaiser and awarded honorary degrees. He was, briefly, his country's foreign secretary, and the subject of a Nazi interrogation.



But few encyclopedias mention him, and no English biography of him exists. Who was this Dr Solf?

• • •

Wilhelm Heinrich Solf was born in Schönburg, a suburb of Berlin, on October 5, 1862, the son of a burgomaster, of a merchant family. He studied linguistics in Berlin, Kiel and Göttingen. His speciality was Sanskrit, but at the "Orientalischen Seminar, Berlin" he also studied Hindi, Urdu and Persian. In 1885, he earned his doctorate of philology. He worked in the library at the university at Kiel for several years.

Then the Foreign Office took note of him and his special

Wilhelm Solf, a 1908 photograph on the occasion of his decoration by the Kaiser. Oval-shaped portraits were a fashion of the time, and this one was reproduced only a few years ago on a postage stamp issued by Western Samoa.

abilities, and on December 10, 1888, he joined them. Less than a month later, on January 1, he was assigned to the German Embassy in Calcutta as attaché, and remained there for a year.

On February 28, 1891, he resigned from the Foreign Office and began to study law at the university at Jena. By 1893, he was a junior barrister. On March



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YESTERDAY

20 of that year, he took a job preparing legal briefs for the county judge. By 1896, he was an assistant judge and later that year he joined the Colonial Department of the Foreign Office and was to be associated with it for much of the rest of his life, eventually becoming Foreign Secretary for Colonial Affairs in the government of Prince Max of Baden, and later the Weimar Republic's Ambassador to Tokyo.

Prior to his Samoan assignment, he was District Judge in Dar-es-Salaam (from April 5, 1898 to January 14, 1899). All his life up to this point seemed merely a prelude, a preparation for the onerous task ahead.

All he had learned in university, in the colonies as attaché, and as judge, he would need for what turned out to be his longest foreign assignment: 10 years as Imperial Governor in the strife-torn islands of German Samoa.

He arrived in Apia, the capital, on May 3, 1899, only 36 years of age having stopped in Fiji to study the British methods of administration. ("... a Prussian in Samoa ... the mildest of administrators, British rather than German in mind and method ... — Fletcher.) On August 6, he was elected President of the Municipal Council of Apia. But changes were swift. He was no longer the ruling consul by December. The Three Powers (Germany, England and the U.S.) divided the Samoas, leaving Western, or German, Samoa, a new colony of the Kaiser. Solf announced his governorship in February 1900 and on March 1 the German flag was raised at Mulinu'u, the historic Samoan peninsula, "to the strains of 'Heil Kaiser Dir'." (Watson's *History of Samoa*.) The islands of Upolu, Savai'i, Apolima and Manono, including the surrounding islets, were now under the *Malo Kaisalika*, "the Imperial Government," with *Solōfa* as *Gouverneur*.

Paul Kennedy (in *The Samoan Tangle*) wrote: "... the L.M.S. missionaries, who had originally feared the effects of the new arrangement, were soon praising the German administration and voluntarily started to learn Ger-

man." Furnas, writing as late as the 1930s, said: "Samoan children playing soldier in remote villages are heard to shout: 'Achtung! Ein, zwei, drei, vier ...'".

Solf had learned his school lessons well. He set about learning the Samoan language and customs, and issuing regulations with the no-nonsense closing: "This is my word; everyone must obey it. Solf." He forbade the sale of alcohol to the natives; he decreed that "all firearms in natives' possession must be turned in"; he fought the importation of both Chinese labor and small German planters. (The former would create, he said, "an undesirable mixed race" and "and the Chinese would (eventually) dominate commerce there"; the latter he was against for they "were apt to become a burden on the little tropical colony" — Watson, *History of Samoa*.) German was proclaimed the language of education, and he instituted the *Malaga* Regulation of 1903, "which forbade parties of more than eight persons to travel" between German and American Samoa (aslarge travelling parties — *malagas* — were sometimes prone to reduce their hosts to paupers); and the 1902 Regulation, which required each chief to plant 50 coconuts per year.

His first act as governor, and perhaps his greatest, was to halt the alienation of land, for which every Samoan should be grateful. Except for the area surrounding Apia (called the Plantation District, seven square miles), and government land acquired as freehold, no property could be "sold, mortgaged, leased or otherwise ...", "with the intention of saving for the natives their landed properties for themselves and their issue ..." (quoted by Felix Keesing in his *Modern Samoa*.)

The largest German plantation was originally founded by the commercial empire of Godeffroy and Sons in 1855. It eventually became the DH & PG. (Its land claims were among the few that had been adjudged legal by the Land Commission of 1891-1894.) Its full name was *Zweigniederlassung der Deutschen*

Handels-und Plantagen-Gesellschaft der Südseeinseln zu Hamburg, but was known as simply "the German Firm" or "the Long Handle Firm". Part of Solf's job was to encourage its successes in oil, copra and rubber production. (The business still exists as the Western Samoa Trust Estates Corporation, or W.S.T.E.C.)

As a student of Samoan culture, Solf had read Augustin Kramer's exhaustive study, done in the 1890s, *Die Samoa Inseln* (still unsurpassed as a sourcebook). Nevertheless, early in 1904 he issued a memo to his staff cautioning them not to rely too heavily on it and listing its errors. He also tried to correct what he saw as abuses in Samoan custom, such as excessive *malagas*, or traditional punishments like banishments:

Whereas many reports have reached me saying that some of the Samoan people have been banished and forced away from their own homes and villages. It is also said that such is the Samoan custom.

I hereby make known to you that such custom is a very bad one, and I have now decided that I cannot uphold such a bad custom. I do therefore declare that if anyone, whether

This office with residence in Apia was built more than 100 years ago for Godeffroy and Sons, founding company of "The Long Handle Firm" which gained Solf's official approval. Western Samoa Trust Estates corporation evolved from "The Long Handle Firm."



he be a chief or a *tulafale* (orator) or a common person, whether he be a government official or not, again take the law into his own hands and remove a person away from his own home and family, he will be severely punished with imprisonment not less than six months.

That is my word; everyone must obey it.

Solf,
Governor.

Apia
16th September 1901
(quoted by Rowe)

Early on, Solf decided that the *ali'i sili* or "highest chief" (then Mata'afa) was incompatible with the *tupu sili* or "highest king," who for Solf, of course, was the Kaiser. Before Mata'afa's investiture as *ali'i sili* was held in June of 1901, Solf made a particular study of the intricacies of the ceremony. He realised the paramount function of the fine mats in the cultural economy and also that, as an old man, Mata'afa had not long to live. Solf decided therefore, to let the investiture take place, with modifications, and to allow the title of *ali'i sili* to lapse upon the death of the old chief.

Keesing wrote: "(Solf) devised a scheme by which the mats should be gathered to do honor to the Kaiser and then redistributed by him (*Solf*) through the *ali'i sili*." One thousand nine hundred and thirty-two fine mats took several months to distribute. It was a clever coup by Solf the tactician and Solf the student of culture. He had only been in Samoa two years.

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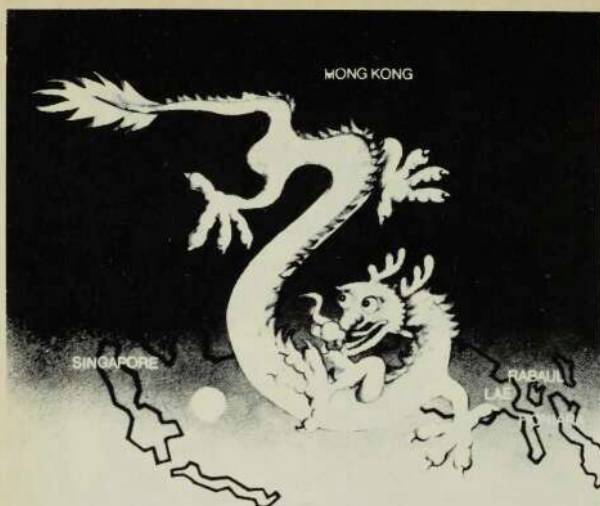
In late 1902, he toured Savai'i. There he visited chiefs and traders alike. "He would call upon the trader; and, if the trader were



Spot the difference: Wilhelm Solf and his two-horse carriage in Apia about the turn of the century. The top picture is from the photographer's original print. The smaller picture is from a published version which appears to have undergone editorial censorship in the interests of purity.

at all a decent fellow, was not above sitting down with him to a meal. The traders were of course appreciative of this treatment, and were strong partisans of the government," wrote Rowe, himself a trader at one time. (He also noted: "It was in Sili, Savai'i, that the old obscene dances and games were staged by the Deputy Administrator, for the informa-





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YESTERDAY

tion of the governor; probably for the last time.")

But the German planters, oddly enough, were not "strong partisans".

A certain Richard Deeken, an ex-lieutenant turned cocoa planter, had published a book in 1902 of "travel sketches and observations" called *Manuia Samoa!* (sometimes translated as *Heil Samoa!*). He included inviting descriptions of the islands as a German settlement and alluring photos of scantily clad Samoan girls. He envisioned a "little Germany", ruled by German planters and worked by imported coolie labor from China. Solf, against imported labor and in favor of "the Long Handle Firm", came down hard against him, and Deeken retaliated by beginning a long campaign to have Solf removed by the Reichstag.

Keesing records the opinion of a mysterious "German official" (probably Solf) as to the agro-economic future of the islands:

Samoa is not the country for small settlement and I cannot write too strongly against the emmigration of small settlers. The economic exploitation of this well-promising colony shall and must be the task of the person of medium and great capital. The work now done by small settlers — traders, planters or craftsmen — will need to be done by employees of individuals or companies with sufficient means, selected people who by contract are entitled to leave for home after so many years.

Actually Solf failed to prevent the importation of Chinese laborers. In 1903, 208 of them arrived. He sought, instead, three-year contracts for them. They would then return to China. In 1905, 550 swelled the ranks. Legislation was passed to keep Chinese laborers away from Samoan women. It, too, failed. ("Race-contamination" was a common liberal belief in those days. Solf was not immune to it. Rowe waxes indignant on the subject. So while many Chinese did return, some stayed and went into business and married Samoan girls, who loved being treated like queens. And as for the races mixing, they produced beautiful families, girls like goddesses.)

Solf also had run-ins with the Catholic clergy. Though he pre-

ferred them generally to other missionaries, for their tolerance of Samoan customs, he disagreed on educational grounds. Bishop Broyer, as described in Hugh Laracy's essay "The Solf-Broyer Dispute" (*NZ Journal of History*), sought an agricultural school supported by the government but staffed by Catholics. Solf wanted a religiously mixed school. Broyer, like Deeken, contacted his connections in the Reichstag, and he and Solf eventually compromised. It was to the ruling Central Party's credit that they never lost faith in Solf.

"Old-timers in Apia still look back on his regime as a sort of grim Golden Age when, however arbitrary government was, everybody knew just where he stood, or at least could rapidly find out," Furnas wrote, "by stepping out of line . . ." An example?

Once, as Solf rode his carriage through Apia, a Father Wilhelm Halles saluted Solf with his left hand. Halles later maintained that he was unable to salute with his right hand as he was carrying packages. Solf had Broyer transfer (banish?) Halles to Leone in American Samoa. German justice could be harsh.

His relations with Samoans were generally cordial. Speaking to the *Fono*, or Legislature, ". . . Dr. Solf is remembered to have said that he wished them to attend their fonos attired in their *tappa* (sic) cloths and hung with their *ulas* of scented flowers, for so he could admire them; while dressed in imitation of white men they looked like apes; and with this dictum they are said to have been much pleased." (Rowe). After all, he was praising their native costume, at a time when few Europeans, let alone Germans, saw much to compliment in it.

"Dr Solf is about the best man that anyone could sit alongside at any function, as he knows every allusion in every language, and if his near neighbors are not so well versed as he is, he will willingly give them a helping hand so that they can understand the gist of what is going on." (*Samoanische Zeitung*, September 24, 1910.)

o Next month: A revolt defused, achievements, departure from Samoa, and an old lady's recollections of 1982.

From the ISLANDS PRESS



A letter signed Embarrassed Cop, published in the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier, Port Moresby

I wish to air my views on the police commissioner's order for policemen to shave off their moustaches. Mr Commissioner, this order will not help to detect crime. We policemen feel frustrated to lose our moustaches. Some of us have had them for a long time. Moustaches make us tough, and people feel frightened of us — but shaving them off makes us just like young boys.

From the Flotsam and Jetsam column in The Fiji Times, Suva, reporting an exchange between witness and counsel at the Royal Commission into last year's election

Sir Vijay Singh, the National Front lawyer, asked Mr Surendra Prasad if he were not "running with the hounds and hunting with the hares." Mr Prasad replied: "There are no hounds — only hares, and they are being split."

From The Observer, Western Samoa

Although the government's goal admittedly of solving the country's economic problems is good, it has sadly withheld most of its policies from the public. The first the Samoan public has heard of the government's major decisions over the past few months has been from overseas reports.

From the Marshall Islands Journal, Majuro

The President's face will be back in print shortly, as the Marshalls will be issuing their own stamps. It is rumored that the currency of the Republic will feature all the members of the Cabinet on different denominations — henceforth to be known as funny money.

Extracts from an article in the Cook Island News, Rarotonga, claiming a lack of application among small exporters of fresh fruit to New Zealand

In New Zealand if you don't earn enough money you don't eat, and you're likely to be cold at night. Here, if we don't earn money, we still eat. There are fish in the lagoon, there are coconuts, mangoes and other fruits and vegetables. And the nights are warm . . . Some of the growers tend to regard their business simply as a way to obtain immediate requirements, a new motor scooter or maybe a car, for instance, then they tend to let matters slide a little.

Part of a letter signed by Paul Cox, of Boroko, published in the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier, Port Moresby

When I first came to this country a large number of years ago, I was told that Papua New Guineans were among the worst drivers in this world. This is a filthy lie, properly spread by the white colonialists to confuse their enemies. It would be obvious even to a blind man on a galloping horse at midnight that Papua New Guineans are THE worst in the world.

From the Samoa Times, Apia, reporting Prime Minister Tofilau Eti who said that too many Samoans lacked willpower, yearned for the easy life, and confused their values

Many Samoans, he added, wanted to adopt overseas lifestyles and this desire in turn was encouraged by frequent movie-going. They did not realise that what they saw in the movies was

artificial and totally out of place with the reality of the traditional Samoan way of living. "It is not easy to go to the movies and then afterwards go to the plantation to grow taro," he said.

From the Pitcairn Miscellany, Pitcairn Island, describing a rare sight there — an aeroplane in flight.

The first plane to be seen in Pitcairn skies since 1978 swooped low over the island at 8 am. It had been chartered by National Geographic photographers David Hisler and Melinda Berge. Almost all the population had gathered on Ships Landing Point Ridge, and the plane flew over the ridge very low, as everyone waved and cheered. If only we had a landing strip . . .

From an editorial in The Observer, Western Samoa, on the shortage of cigarettes

We have heard habitual smokers express their craving for cigarettes more intense than their hunger for food. That might have sounded silly during the times when there were plenty of cigarettes available. But with the continuous short supply over the last few months, the obvious desire of smokers for cigarettes has been glaringly shown. On the street, smokers seeing someone puffing his cigarette would unabashedly draw up begging for a drag.

From a report in the Marshall Islands Journal, Majuro, on the U.S. Senate debate on future constitutional links between Micronesia and U.S.A.

Vice-president Bush rose to the podium to point out that "the Committee of Free Association has nothing whatsoever to do with Japan." "Ah'm surprised at the stupidity of my fellow senators. don't ya'll know that this deals with the Micro-nesians, or them that's livin' in the north Pacific," the Down South senator said. He concluded with "I believe that we should free those slaves of the U.S."

From the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier, Port Moresby

Only Papua New Guineans should be allowed to judge the Miss Papua New Guinea contest, the Secretary for Foreign Affairs and Trade, Mr Paulias Matane, believes. "The way we look at people and their beauty is different from other people," Mr Matane said . . . In Japan a girl with tiny feet was thought to be beautiful. In some African countries a woman with "a big backside" was considered very pretty, he said.





YACHTS

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

• **INDEPENDENCE:** Named after owner James Wycoff's home town in Kansas, *Independence* is a flush-decked 10 m Islander sloop in GRP. Wycoff is a single-hander who revels in the cruising life. A former pharmacist and bush pilot in Alaska, James purchased *Independence* in 1975. For five years he cruised Alaskan waters out of Juneau and then headed for warmer climes in the South Pacific.

A leisurely cruise across the Pacific to the Queensland coast, and then up through Solomon Islands eventually brought James to Rabaul, where *Independence* was lifted out of the water and cradled for anti-fouling and minor repairs. One of those repairs is to replace the main hatch, which was shattered when James plummeted from the mast. The severe cuts and bruises that James suffered, and the shattered hatch, are healing well.

One of the problems that James has encountered with this particular Islander 33 (let's face it — no boat is



perfect), is that most of the stowage is on the starboard side. With the large volume of stores required for long-distance cruising, there has been a problem maintaining the balance of the vessel. James hopes to correct this with an interior refit before his departure for Port Moresby and the next major leg of his circum-

navigation across the Indian Ocean.

• **FLEETWOOD.** Originally launched as yawl in 1949 for the Mackinac Races on the Great Lakes, *Fleetwood* is a delightful John Alden 40 built of strip plank and proudly displaying the graceful lines of her era. During her racing career she took out the blue ribbon no fewer than five times

from '50 to '56. Now cutter-rigged, she is lovingly maintained as the cruising home of Jamie and Randy Brown.

The Browns purchased *Fleetwood* in '74 and eventually started cruising from their home port of San Diego in '79. Their cruise across the Pacific took them to Whangarei on the north

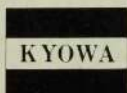
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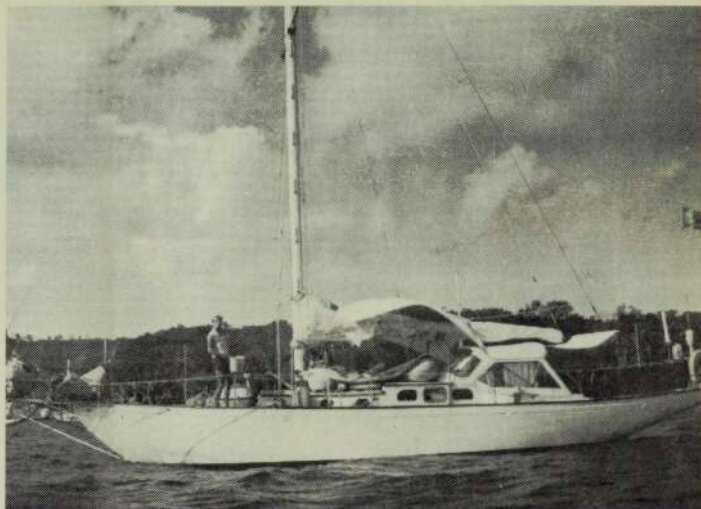
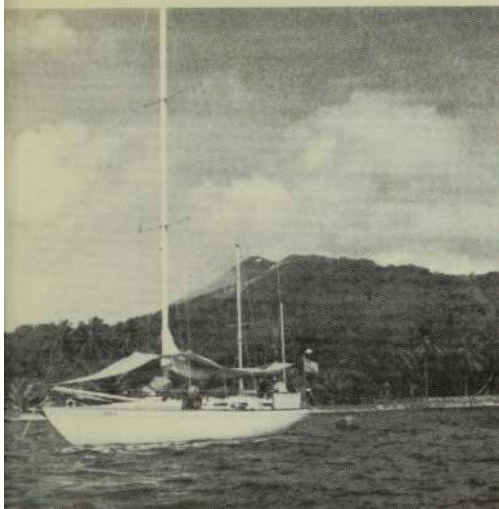
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island of New Zealand. There they bought an old car and spent three months towing a caravan around both the north and south islands of that beautiful country.

From New Zealand they sailed north through the Solomons to Rabaul where they decided to slip *Fleetwood* for anti-fouling. All went well until the yacht was just about to settle into the cradle, when the passing pilot boat set up a wash which lifted the vessel and stove in three metres of planking. What was intended to be a two day up-and-down turned out to be seven days hard labor. As luck would have it, however, the couple had decided to fully insure the vessel over the week that it was slipped — so the insurance company had to foot the bill. Insuring against mishap while slipping is not such a bad idea. *Fleetwood* now not only has a fresh coat of anti-fouling, but also a deal of new planking and a hull that really sparkles with new paintwork.

From Rabaul Jamie and Randy will make for Kiribati where they hope to cruise for several months.

● **COBBER.** In the Australian idiom, the word "cobber" is probably best translated as "mate", which in turn means "a working companion; a habitual companion". And that's exactly what the yacht *Cobber* is to the trio who sail aboard her — a friendly, outgoing crew who are obviously relishing every moment of the cruising life.

Barry and Roberta Symonds, together with their long-time "cobber" Colin Theiss, decided to give up the dusty world of earth-moving and heavy machinery, for the sweet smell of the open seas. With their self-built 12 m GRP sloop, a Sparkman and Stephens design, they sailed north

from Fremantle in Western Australia in April '82.

In Darwin they linked up with Carl and Margaret Bridgman of *Scallywag* and Lou Marchant of *Windfall*, and the three yachts decided to head through Indonesia to Palau. Permit problems in Indonesia separated *Cobber* from the other two yachts, so instead of making direct for Palau, they detoured to Helen Reef some 200 miles south. Here, among untouched reefs and crystal-clear waters, they experienced superb diving. *Cobber* touched briefly at Palau and then pushed on to Yap where they enjoyed the hospitality of the U.S. Navy Seabees. Their southeast passage to Rabaul took them to Sorol and Woleau, but they by-passed Truk because of an outbreak of cholera on the island.

Cobber entered Papua New Guinea waters via Kavieng in New Ireland, where the crew experienced a warm welcome from the local people and were able to sample the fresh fruit and vegetables from the waterfront market. Lobsters and crabs are a specialty of this part of New Ireland — worth a visit for that alone.

It was not until *Cobber* reached Rabaul that the trio aboard finally caught up with their previous sailing companions. *Windfall* had long gone, but *Scallywag* appeared on the scene a few days later — what a reunion that was! The timing was almost perfect — a "guria" (local pidgin parlance for earthquake) struck Rabaul with a force of 7.6 on the Richter scale. There was a lot of spilt beer in the Rabaul Yacht Club that night — including a trayful being carried by your friendly correspondent at the time.

A six weeks stopover in Rabaul

will see the "cobbers" heading south for Kieta and several months cruising in the Solomon Islands.

● **COSCOROBA.** Originally built in Finland in 1969, *Coscoroba* is a vintage Swan 36, which now carries Trinidadian registry. This classic heavy-displacement cruiser was purchased by Michael Camps in April '81. With his first mate Louise Varley, he set out to circumnavigate a year later.

From Panama the couple, without the assistance of a motor, sailed via the Galapagos and the Marquesas to Tahiti. It was in the Tuamotu archipelago, east of Tahiti, that they first wished they had an operable motor — it took five attempts to negotiate one of the many narrow

In Rabaul, left to right: James Wycoff with emergency transport and *Independence*, *Cobber* against the distinctive Rabaul mountain profile, *Fleetwood* after four years in the Pacific.

reef passages to gain a sheltered anchorage in the lagoon beyond. Despite this, they felt that the untouched beauty of the Tuamotus was well worth the diversion from their intended course.

From Tahiti, with their motor repaired, they pushed on to Fiji, from where they were caught in the tail-end of a cyclone that had backtracked on itself. For three days they rode out 60-knot gusts under a small storm jib. This unwelcome experience was later offset by a scuba diving adventure at Kadavu, Fiji. There, amidst deep grottos, they encountered the largest, friendliest gropers they had ever seen — they said it was a unique experience.

Thereafter, their passages were un-

Rabaul Yacht Club reunion for the *Scallywags* and the *Cobbers*. Left to right: Robyn Ingram, Colin Theiss, Margaret Bridgman, Rabaul Yacht Club Commodore Boris Marian, Carl Bridgman, Roberta Symonds, Barry Symonds.





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YACHTS



Trinidad-registered *Coscoroba* anchored off Madang in PNG.

eventful as they sailed through Solomon Islands, to Kieta, Rabaul and then Madang. Both Michael and Louise are keen fish-eaters and they were disappointed that they had caught not a single fish in the entire passage from Honiara to Madang. Their luck changed just as they entered Madang harbor — their home-made "black lily" lure landed them a yellow-fin tuna that measured a metre-and-a-half from nose to tail!

While they await approval of their cruising permits for Indonesian waters, Michael and Louise will moor off Steamships Madang Slipway and take a two-week ride into the New Guinea Highlands by local bus. That in itself will be a rare adventure.

● **PAMIR.** When Paul Wheeler was asked why he started cruising, he promptly replied: "It was the only way to get out of Australia without flying. So, in January '82, Paul (who originally comes from the UK), purchased *Pamir*, a 4.5 m Van de Stadt sloop built in double bond-wood, and named after the famous German wool clipper of earlier years.

With a crew of three, Paul departed Cairns in November '82 and made his first PNG landfall at Samarai, where his crew left him to return to Australia. For the next six weeks Paul single-handed through the Louisiades making, as he put it, "a long list of navigational blunders". Notwithstanding all this, he eventually mastered the "full celestial bit" and safely made his way to Port Moresby, where he is currently enjoying the camaraderie of the Royal Papua Yacht Club. From Port Moresby, Paul hopes to head west to Thursday Island and then to Darwin on the long trip back to the UK.

● **VAGABOND.** Helio Setti from Brazil and Cindy Dumas from California, first started cruising as crew-members aboard the 13 m *Brasileirinho* out of Florida, USA.

When they arrived in Sydney, Australia, they decided to go their own way and purchased *Vagabundo* in May '82.

A Peter Cole-designed Bounty 35, *Vagabundo* — Portuguese for vagabond — is a flush-decked cruiser-racer built of GRP, that displays the sleek, fast lines of a real greyhound of the seas. Helio and Cindy's shakedown cruise north along the Australian coast revealed no problems, so they sailed across the Coral Sea to Honiara in Solomon Islands.

Their departure from the Solomons about three months later was north via The Slot — well-known to cruising yachts in this part of the world. Their passage however was to be a little different, for as *Vagabundo* entered the Bougainville Straits and the shallows that lie east of Fauro Island, they were to meet with a weird set of tides and seas that proved to be rather frightening. Under a full moon they were swept through seas that were breaking in mid-channel into a veritable maelstrom of boiling cross-currents. Finally they were whirled around, and for end, in a vortex that spun them out into deeper water and a dead flat calm. The tide then changed and, despite all their efforts, the next morning found them right back where they had started the evening before. That day they sailed right through the same passage without incident.

It is always interesting to hear comment on equipment being used by cruising yachtsmen — for it is on the high seas that it meets the ultimate test. Two pieces of equipment for which Helio had nothing but praise were his Swedish Sailomat wind vane which "really was another crew member", and an Autohelm 3000 that had "worked remarkably well — did not expect it to perform so well".

While in Port Moresby, Helio and Cindy will take in the New Guinea Highlands and, after provisioning, will make passage for Darwin in the north of Australia.

The Fiji Times reports from Suva:

● **GITTE GRY.** A recent arrival at Suva's waterfront was the Danish yacht, *Gitte Gry*.

Gitte Gry, named after a Danish girl, is on her maiden voyage around the world.

The 21 m yacht, sailing the South Seas at the height of the hurricane season, had a few lucky escapes, thanks to the experience of Torpen Foss Jensen, 36, her skipper, and the experienced crew of three Danes, an Australian and an Englishman.

Jensen said in Suva that the owner of *Gitte Gry* is a well-known actor in Denmark, Eric Wedersoe, who is known for his high seas escapades.

Veteran seaman Jensen spoke highly of his crew, describing them as "very well-disciplined and good seamen".

Jensen has a friendly manner but is known to be very serious about his role on the high seas.

During this maiden voyage, he has been firm but fair with his crew, and commands the full respect of his fellow adventurers.

All crew members know that they have to be good when sailing into unknown and unpredictable seas in the Pacific and Atlantic Oceans.

Gitte Gry has made brief stopovers on her long maiden voyage in the Friendly Isles of Tonga, Western and American Samoa, the North Tokelau and Tahiti over a period of months.

Jensen, who has a flair for writing,

has been doing research work in Tahiti for a book he is writing on nuclear testing and its adverse effects on marine and human life.

According to him, his research was progressing satisfactorily until officials in Tahiti learnt about it.

Then the mood changed, he said. "Red tape" and official obstacles were piled on them when they tried to get their visas renewed.

In the end, they were flatly turned down.

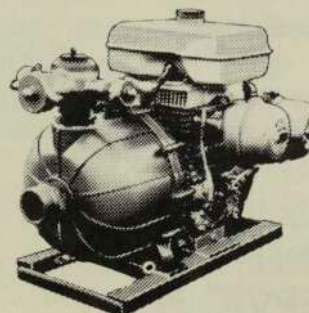
Jensen said most of his research had been completed and he hoped to have put his material into proper perspective by the time he gets back home.

Despite the "red tape" in Tahiti, Jensen had very good memories of his friendly encounters in the Pacific.

He hopes to come again to Fiji and sail the South Seas again on board the \$100,000 *Gitte Gry*.

Jensen said that they should be back home by June next year.

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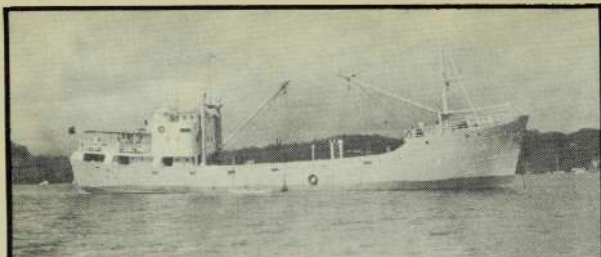
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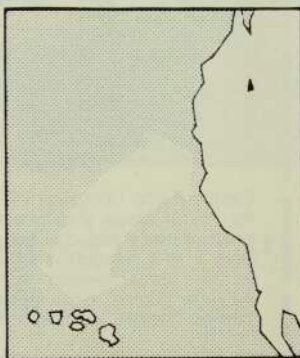
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PAPEETE: Agence Maritime Internationale, Tahiti

PAGO PAGO: Polynesia Shipping Services, Inc.

APIA: Burns Philp (South Sea) Company, Ltd.



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 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), Tlx 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 service from Melbourne and Sydney to Kiribati (Tarawa).

Details: Karlander (Aust) Pty. Ltd., 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (232-1011).

AUSTRALIA - NAURU - MARSHALL IS. - KIRIBATI

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

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, Nuku'alofa, Pago Pago, Papeete, Port Moresby, Santo, Savusavu, Suva, Vavau and Vila on cruises from Australia.

Details from P & O Booking Centre, World Travel Headquarters Pty. Ltd., 33 Bligh Street, Sydney (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 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), Inter-ocean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522) and Vila Agents, P.O. Box 971, Port-Vila (2490), Tlx. NH1044.

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); Rabaul 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 breakbulk cargo.

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

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI - US

Karlender operates a monthly cargo service from Melbourne and Sydney to Papeete, US west coast.

Details: Karlender (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), Tlx 25970; Melbourne (67-5907); Brisbane (267-6355); Adelaide (47-6600); Oceanbridge Shipping Ltd., 22 Emily Place, Auckland (33-279), Tlx 60523; Ian Taylor Y Cia Ltda, Prat 827 — Of. 301, Valparaiso, Chile (50996), Tlx. 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), Tlx FJ2199.

FAR EAST - FIJI - NEW ZEALAND

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

Details from Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thompson Street, Suva (312-244), Tlx 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 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 Bali 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 Westfarmers 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

Bali 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 Yoko, Nagoya, Kobe, Guam, Saipan, Truk, Ponape and Majuro, returning via Yoko, 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 ser-

vices 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

Pacifique Polynesie 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.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, PO Box 3614, 18 Customs St., Auckland Tlx NZ2313; Agence Maritime Cowan, PO Box 9012, Papeete (39042), Tlx Tahitlin 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.

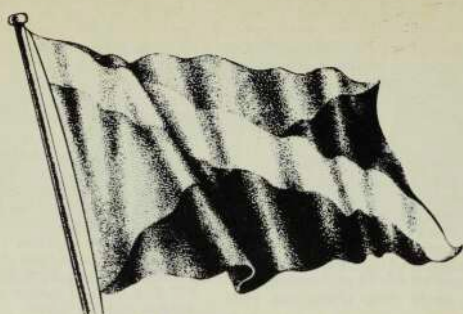
EUROPE - TAHITI - W. SAMOA - FIJI - N. CALEDONIA

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

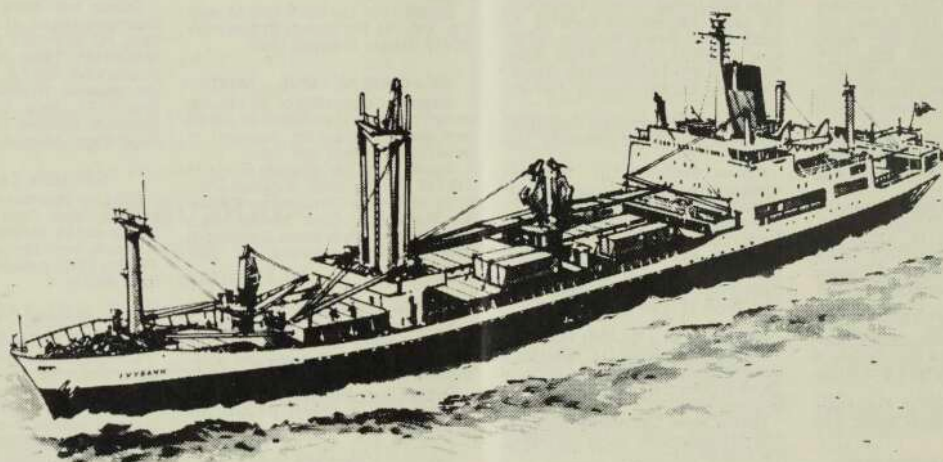
Details Nedlloyd (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 8 Spring Street, Sydney (27-3801); Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thomson St., Suva (312-244), Tlx. 2199 FJ and Vetari Street, Lautoka (63988), Tlx. 5215FJ.

EUROPE - TAHITI - W. SAMOA - TONGA - FIJI - SOLOMONS - PNG - VANUATU

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SHIPPING SCHEDULES

erates 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 - W. SAMOA - TONGA - FIJI

The Bank Line operates a regular cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Le Havre to Papeete, Noumea, Port-Vila 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 - VANUATU

The Bank Line operates a regular cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Le Havre to Papeete, Noumea, Port-Vila and Santo.

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); Nauru Air and Shipping Agency, Suite 2803, China Basin

Building, 185 Berry Street, San Francisco, California 94107 (543-1737).

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.

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.

Role of Hawaii

— From Page 12

University of Hawaii is providing special training programs in the areas of health and medicine for students from the American flag islands, and these programs might be made available to others. The promotion of island products in the state is mentioned as another possibility.

The concern for Pacific affairs in Hawaii is also found in the state legislature, particularly in the House of Representatives. Clayton Hee has taken the master's degree in Pacific Islands Studies at the university. Byron Baker has had long interest in the area, and he is the author of the text in the photo-essay book *Micronesia: The Breadfruit Revolution* which appeared some years ago.

The most active on the scene is Fred Rohlfing, House Minority Leader, former Attorney-General for American Samoa and current U.S. alternate delegate to the South Pacific Conference. In the first session of the Twelfth Legislature of the State of Hawaii which adjourned in late April, he successfully introduced a resolution which encouraged the U.S. Senate to ratify the treaties of friendship that were negotiated by former Ambassador William Bodde with the Cook Islands, Kiribati, Tuvalu, and the Tokelau Islands and New Zealand during the Carter administration and which, after review, have been supported by President Reagan (PIM June, p6).

All of this activity in Hawaii is

in its beginning stages and there is a vague quality about the lot of it. It is fair to say that Hawaii is groping to find a role in the Pacific, and it would like some clearer signals from the nation's capital. Hawaii is a giant in the Pacific, and with all the best of intentions, there are substantial dangers involved. As state officials tend to the business of satisfying their own constituencies and promoting the interests of Hawaii, it will be difficult to remain truly sensitive to the needs of small island states.

Also, there needs to be an awareness that there are considerable reservations in the Pacific about a greater U.S. involvement. Essentially, the policy initiated in 1978 by the State Department was a sign that Washington intended to play a greater role with its ANZUS partners — Australia and New Zealand — in promoting regional security in the Pacific. The very fact of a greater U.S. presence, whether Hawaii is part of it or not, can precipitate super-power rivalry in the region, a situation unwanted by the island states.

Lastly, the discussions about a greater role for Hawaii refer not only to insular island states but the larger Pacific Basin, and the latter is defined to include the giant rim countries of Japan, the People's Republic of China, Taiwan, South Korea, etc. As Hawaii carves out a future in the Pacific and develops its economic and other ties with the rim countries the small island states are correct to fear that they will be the losers in the larger game.

— Robert C. Kiste.

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DEATHS of Islands People

Dr Vincent Zigas

In Brisbane, Queensland, on March 25 at the age of 63.

Vin Zigas, a specialist doctor in neurology and virology, was the medical worker who revealed the existence of the neurological disease kuru — popularly known as laughing sickness — among the Fore people of Okapa in the Papua New Guinea Eastern Highlands.

In 1956, while working as a medical officer for the then Australian administration of PNG, he was the first to clinically document the sickness and to initiate research. The project became of wide interest in international medical circles and attracted a team of researchers, including Dr D.C. Gajdusek whose work on it won him the 1976 Nobel Prize

for Medicine and Physiology.

Although never as widely known as Dr Gajdusek, Dr Zigas was recognised as the man who first realised the existence of a puzzling disease and who took steps to do something about it.

Vin Zigas was an outgoing and entertaining man who had the unusual background of becoming an Australian citizen after being an officer of the German military forces in World War II. He was born in Estonia, one of the Baltic states of Europe, and trained as a doctor in Germany. At the outbreak of war he became an army medical officer, first with the celebrated Afrika Korps and subsequently at Munich Military Hospital.

Four years after the war he entered Australia under a major

migration scheme sponsored by Australia, and within a few months joined the PNG Department of Health. He established a highly successful career in PNG over a period of more than 20 years before returning to Australia to live in Brisbane.

He was a contributor to medical and scientific journals. After his initial researches into kuru he spent some time in USA, including a period as Visiting Scientist with the U.S. Government and on post-graduate training in virology. He applied this to his work in PNG on his return. He was a member of the American Academy of Neurology which published the results of his work on the effects of kuru on the central nervous system. — *Angus Smales.*

Mrs Vera Gibson

In Labasa on May 4 aged 69.

Mrs Gibson was born in Rakiraki but spent most of her life in Labasa.

In 1938 her late husband built the Grand Eastern Hotel, which she managed until ill-health forced her to sell it in 1982. She was involved in the Red Cross and the Girl Guides movement, and was a member of Labasa Hospital's board of visitors.

ADVERTISING

Aggie Grey's.....	41
Aiwa patents.....	29
Amatil.....	38
Asian Ladies.....	66
Asia Tonga Trading.....	66
Atlantic Trading.....	66
Bank Line.....	64
Besco Jarwil.....	40
Cameron Aviation.....	48
Clarion Shoji.....	68
Columbus Line.....	60
Gatman.....	54
Gow.....	20
Hawker Pacific.....	24
Henry Cumines.....	54
Hitachi.....	2
Hudson Homes.....	28
IMEL.....	4
Island Enterprises.....	65
Kyowa Line.....	58
Lincoln Electric.....	44
MacQuarrie Industries.....	28
Mankinyan.....	66
Matsushita.....	26
New Zealand Dairy.....	42
NG Pacific Line.....	56
Nissan.....	30
Pacific Pumps.....	61
Papua Hotel.....	41
Perhen Game.....	66
Pioneer.....	8
P.I.T. Line.....	63
QBE Insurance.....	32
Shilla Hotel.....	53
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