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**PEOPLE'S VISIT
PICTURE PAGES INSIDE**

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

JUNE, 1984

IRIAN JAYA! CRISIS AGAIN

The cartoon depicts the map of Irian Jaya with a vertical line of barbed wire running through its center. Three circular caricatures of Indonesian officials are shown: Hayden (top left), Mochtar (top right), and Namaliu (bottom left). The map is labeled with 'JAYAPURA' at the top, 'LAKE' on the right, 'MERAUKE' at the bottom left, and 'PORT MORESBY' at the bottom right. The background is blue with white wavy lines representing water.

HAYDEN

MOCHTAR

NAMALIU

JAYAPURA

LAKE

MERAUKE

PORT MORESBY

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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY



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IN THIS ISSUE

WEST IRIAN, and the border with Papua New Guinea remain the focus of the most serious political problem in the Pacific this month, and for several months past. Our latest up-date and reports from on the spot

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FIJI'S OPPOSITION party, the N.F.P., sails sluggishly, without a captain and with dispute among the crew. Will Jai Ram Reddy stay top or give way to Sid Koya?

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THE PETTINI Brothers continue their travels around the Pacific, calling this time on the relaxed Trobriand Islands

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THE POPE has made an historic visit to Papua New Guinea, home for 700,000 members of the Roman Catholic Church. We have pages of news pictures of his wildly enthusiastic welcome, beginning on page

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A MASSIVE YACHT HAVEN, and what may be Australia's most luxurious condominium will be celebrated by a new Pacific ocean yacht race. Details on page

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THE COVER
Noted political cartoonist, Aubrey Collett, caricatures the three foreign ministers watching the fragile situation on the border of Papua New Guinea and West Irian.



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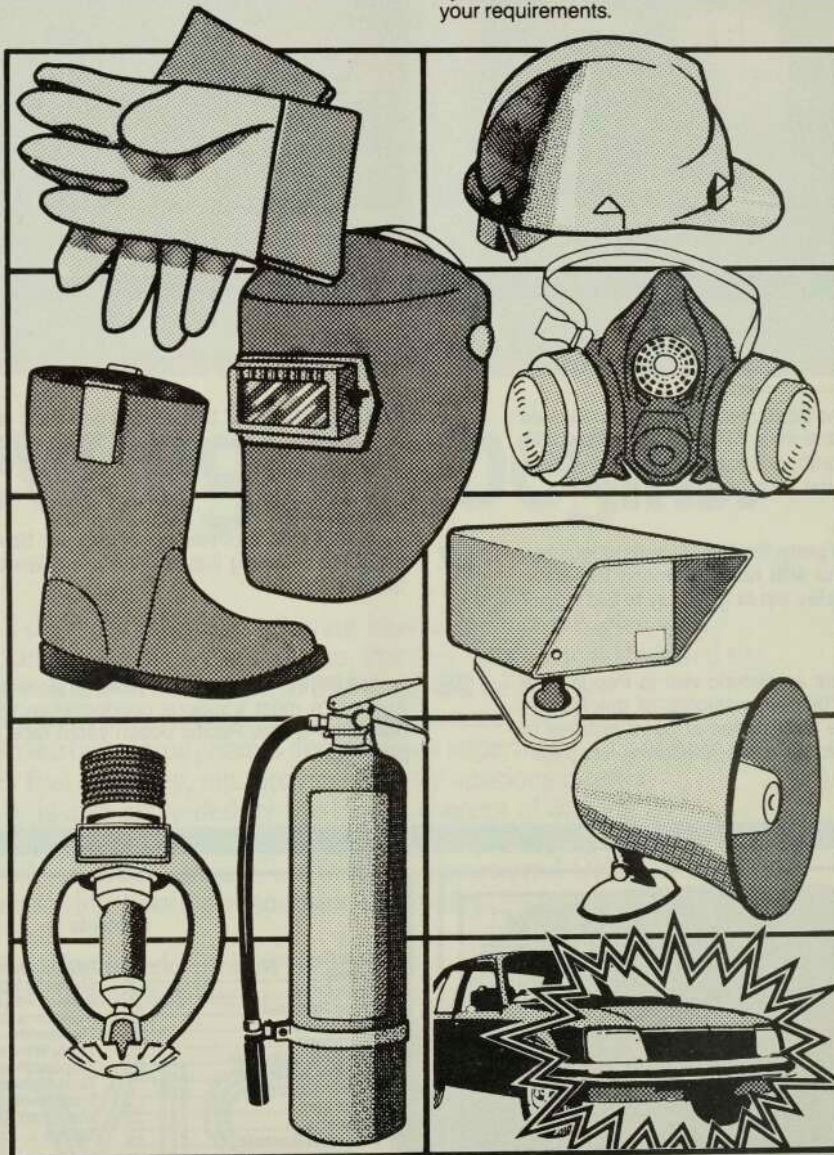
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PIM OPINION

In August, 1969, shortly after good sense, humanity and principle were once more thrown to the political winds at the United Nations, this magazine denounced the "act of free choice" in West Irian as a fraud and a sham. We were of the view then that Indonesia had no more right to take over that Melanesian territory than to take over the Rotterdam urban transit system. We forecast that much misery, and not a little anxiety among nations of the region would arise because of what was, in fact, a sell-out in the name of short-term political expediency.

Nothing which has occurred since has led us to change our views and the events of the last month or two have served only to confirm them.

But those were the days of Soekarno, the demagogue, high upon his wave, leading his millions of countrymen in the chant for Indonesian rule "from Sabang to Merauke."

The American ambassador Elsworth Bunker led the merchants in the U.N. temple as they traded their political markers, claiming that theirs was the true realism, ignoring the utterly sincere dismay, and thoroughly well-founded apprehensions of not only West Irian leaders, but also those who, soon, would come to lead Papua New Guinea.

Australia accepted the Bunker formula because it seemed to make good political "banking" sense at the time. Indonesia was playing a heady, bullying game. They had already "confronted" Malaysia. They threatened to be very difficult over West Irian. Western nations wanted Indonesia in their camp fearing, at the time, a Soviet intrusion if they did not accede to Jakarta's demands. But, as plenty of knowledgeable people said then and have continued to say, the United Nations was only feeding a monster.

In the end, however persuasively the "realists" argued, and however tempting their rationalising, the fact remained that Indonesia was being helped to re-colonise a people, not of their race, who had been told that their own independence from the Dutch was on the way. Given the hue and cry in the United

Nations about the evils of colonialism, this left a lot of people gasping.

In fact, and belated as they were, the Dutch had been doing quite a good deal to develop West Irian, to identify and promote an elite which might have taken over and governed the territory with an efficiency and aplomb approaching that achieved across the border in Papua New Guinea.

Having thus pointed out, without any pleasure, that "we told you so" it must also be recognised that the "freedom fighters" of the Operasi Papua-Merdeka (OPM, or Free West Papua) movement are neither numerous, nor likely to throw the Indonesians out of their territory. The unfortunate, and unnecessary, sore will continue to fester and upset relations between Jakarta and Port Moresby.

PNG's prime minister, Michael Somare, and his foreign minister, Rabbie Namaliu, are angry about what they see as the arrogance of the Indonesian government. But both will do their best to at least keep talking and contain outraged public opinion in PNG. Indeed, it is this sense of Melanesian brotherhood, and feeling for clansmen betrayed, which is the fuel for the ongoing fire.

The Indonesians could, and should, have done much more from the beginning of this latest outcry, to appear cooperative with Papua New Guinea. Instead they acted in some way like colonial masters, treating in very cavalier fashion attempts to talk about the facts of the border-crossings and the reasons for them.

Australia, quite rightly, kept off the stage, but did what it could to persuade Jakarta to own up to what was going on in Jayapura and its environs and to talk constructively with PNG about the OPM refugees. Australia will continue to follow this policy, but at the same time must view with anxiety this sort of bad blood between its biggest neighbor and a developing country with which it is inextricably involved.

The only lesson to be drawn is that when basic human rights are cast aside, and when principle is ignored for expediency, there is always a bill to be paid.

Pacific Report

FOREIGN MINISTERS CONCLUDE S.R.O. TALKS

Foreign ministers from four South Pacific countries have agreed on an interim report to this year's conference of the South Pacific Forum on the setting up of a single regional organisation (SRO). After two days of talks in April in Wellington, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea's Foreign Minister Rabbie Namaliu said it was not likely that any new body would be formed in the next year or so. Mr Namaliu said the interim report would go before the South Pacific Forum meeting in Tuvalu in August. A new body has been suggested as a replacement for the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC), the regional secretariat of the forum, and the South Pacific Commission (SPC). Apart from Mr Namaliu, the Wellington talks were attended by the foreign ministers of New Zealand, Fiji and Tonga. They were delegated to study the problem by the 1983 meeting of the forum which was held in Canberra.

REGULAR TALKS FOR SOLOMONS, PNG

The prime ministers of Papua New Guinea (Michael Somare) and Solomon Islands (Solomon Mamaloni) have agreed, in talks in Honiara, that their countries will hold a series of talks each year on subjects of mutual interest.

BIKINIANS PLAN NEW LEGAL MOVE

Former residents of Bikini Atoll say they will take new legal action in an effort to force the United States Government to clean up radioactive material from atomic bomb tests so they can resettle their central home island. The Bikinians were removed in 1946 to enable the U.S. to conduct a series of nuclear tests. Their lawsuit, to be filed in the federal court in Honolulu, seeks an injunction to require the government to make the atoll safe for human habitation. Last November, a committee of scientists reported that decontamination of the atoll was technically feasible. In March, the

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House of Representatives Committee on Interior and Insular Affairs recommended that \$US10 million be spent annually, beginning in the 1985 fiscal year, to clean up the atoll. The Bikini Atoll Rehabilitation Committee, which was funded by Congress, estimated it would cost up to \$130 million to decontaminate Bikini's two main residential islands — Bikini and Eneu. American Associated Press said the nearby atoll of Enewetak, the site of 43 nuclear tests, was cleaned up and rehabilitated in the late 1970s at a cost of \$150 million. The U.S. returned the Enewetak people to their atoll in 1980.

A.C.P. NATIONS BALK AT HUMAN RIGHTS TIE

Delegates from more than 50 African, Caribbean and Pacific nations say they are opposed to a plan to link aid from European countries to their records on human rights. The African, Caribbean and Pacific Council of Ministers was meeting in Fiji in April-May to discuss aid under the Lome Convention with officials of the European Economic Community. A press spokesman said the ministers had no objection to discussing human rights, but said it should not be linked to aid or trade concessions.

TRADITIONAL COURT SET UP IN MARSHALLS

The first Traditional Rights Court has been established on Majuro under the new constitution of the Marshall Islands Republic with nine judges and a clerk sworn in by Judge Kabua Kabua, presiding judge of the District Court. The new rights court will define and protect the customs and traditions of the Marshallese concerning their land rights, titles and other rights. Speaking at the swearing-in ceremony, Judge John C. Lanham, Chief Justice of the High Court, said the new court "will protect and define the customs and traditions of the Marshallese people ... your lands will not disappear into the hands of missionaries and greedy businesses as did the Hawaiian lands in Hawaii." Chief Judge of the new court is Berson Joseph.

FRENCH POLL LOOMS LARGE IN NOUMEA

Among reasons why New Caledonia's Independence Front leaders are rejecting the French Government's proposals for the territory's future is that they fear that the French socialists will lose their parliamentary majority in France's elections in 1986, and that the new, conservative National Assembly will scrap the socialists' plans anyway. Making this point in the Paris daily *Le Monde* in April, Alain Rollat, who had just returned from Noumea, added: "They also fear that the new statute for internal self-government, once in operation, will work to the advantage of both the European and Kanak communities, and that in consequence a good number of Melanesians might be turned off the idea of complete separation from France. Because they have made a similar analysis of the situation, and are convinced that the moves set in train by the Left will not have time to be fully worked out, the leaders of the main conservative movement, the RPCR — whose president, Jacques Lafleur, is one of New Caledonia's two deputies to the National Assembly in Paris — have shown moderation in their attitude to the government's plans."

ESCAP TO SET UP SHOP IN VANUATU

The Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) has decided to establish its regional headquarters in Vanuatu, to be known as the ESCAP Pacific Operations Centre. At its recent annual session in Tokyo, the commission endorsed the plan to merge its offices in Suva and Nauru as part of the process of launching a program of special projects to meet the needs of the Pacific Islands. Earlier this year, the Asian Development Bank announced its decision to establish its regional headquarters in Port-Vila, Vanuatu's capital. Some observers feel that this emergence of Vanuatu as an important centre of the activities of international agencies will do much to keep the country within the ambit of the Western powers, as Vanuatu has been seen by some as a potential power vacuum in a sensitive South Pacific.

UNESCO GOES TO APIA

Unesco plans to open its first regional office for the South Pacific at Apia in June, if the Western Samoa Government approves. The office will handle all business involving its member states in the South Pacific, Western Samoa, Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Tonga, Australia and New Zealand, at present administered, along with the Asian states, from Bangkok.

GREECE'S PACIFIC PUSH (U.N. IN MIND)

Greece is to open diplomatic relations with five countries in the Pacific, the European Affairs Minister, Theodore Pangalos, said in April. Mr Pangalos, about to leave for Fiji for a meeting between European Community ministers and the African, Caribbean and Pacific states associated with the bloc, said he would take the opportunity to agree on starting diplomatic ties with Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Kiribati and Vanuatu. He said that Turkey, which competes with Greece at the UN for votes over the Cyprus issue, had relations with the Solomons and Tuvalu. He expected the Greek Ambassador to Australia to be accredited to the five countries.

JAKARTA PAPER HITS GOVT. ON IRIAN JAYA

Indonesia had made little progress in developing Irian Jaya, the *Jakarta Post* newspaper said in May. "The majority of the people in Irian Jaya are still living in the stone age," an editorial in the English-language daily said. This was partly because the government, despite spending millions of rupiahs, sent in "second if not third class officials when what was needed were top-rated and dedicated government servants," it said. The *Post* said Indonesian administrators often looked down on the Irianese. The officials' attitude irritated the locals and made them easy targets for the propaganda of the rebel Free West Papua Movement, which was fighting for independence from Indonesia, the *Post* said.

HUSTINGS IN THE HIGHLANDS

It's election time in the PNG Highlands provinces of Chimbu and Western Highlands. Nominations opened on April 24 in Mt Hagen and Kundiawa. Observers expect Western Highlands premier, Nambuga Mara to face a stiff battle to retain power, and even his own seat. His Chimbu counterpart, Matthew Siune, who has held office for the past four years is said to be under no immediate threat, although Henry Tokam, formerly police commissioner at the time of the Chan/Okuk government, is said to be interested in nominating. Mara's opponent is a wealthy planter, Clement Leahy, son of the Australian explorer and a Mt Hagen mother. Leahy has a large local following and is said to identify more closely with the Melanesian side of his ancestry, despite his smart Mercedes-Benz. Many feel Leahy will have an easy win. He has represented the area on a number of local government bodies and is at the centre of a movement to reform the provincial government. He has accused Mara's administration of withholding funds earmarked for rural development and of failing to establish proper communication between themselves, councils and the people. As in all Highlands elections campaigns, candidates are distributing free beer and food and many of them are back in their villages for the first time in years, distributing goodies and promises. Aside from the usual charge and counter-charge among the hopefuls there has been a dispute over the reason why Leahy's name apparently did not appear on the election rolls. Mara said that disqualified Leahy from standing, but the campaign is proceeding with Leahy's name still on the candidates' register. Ballots will be counted on July 3. — *Leo Scheps*.

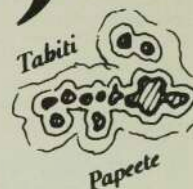
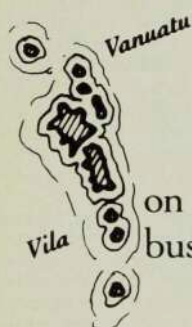
'ROTTEN EGGS TREATMENT' FOR OZ PROFESSOR

Professor Harry Lander, newly appointed head of the Fiji School of Medicine, had a mixture of rotten eggs and milk dumped on him in an incident in Suva on May 2. The man doing the dumping was Dr Deo Dutt Sharma, president of the Fiji Medical Association, who claimed the mixture was his "lunch". Dr Sharma denied the incident had anything to do with his earlier threat that any expatriate who took on the job would be given "the rotten egg treatment". Dr Sharma said his car was chased and stoned by officers of the health ministry as he drove away after the incident. Police were investigating complaints relating both to the rotten eggs affair and the alleged stoning of Dr Sharma's car. Professor Lander, formerly of Australia's University of Adelaide, was appointed by the Fiji Public Service Commission. On behalf of the Fiji Medical Association, Dr Sharma claimed that Professor Lander's appointment was "a waste of Australian aid money, because there are local people qualified to do the job". The association has said it will refuse to co-operate with Professor Lander.

RAMPHAL TO MAKE SMALL-STATES STUDY

Commonwealth Secretary-General Shridath Ramphal in May completed a three-day visit to Tonga, which has the largest

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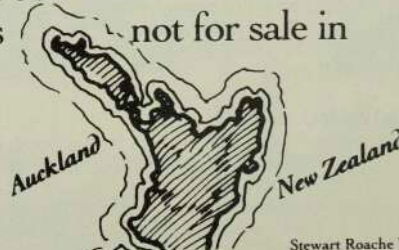
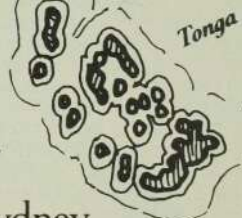
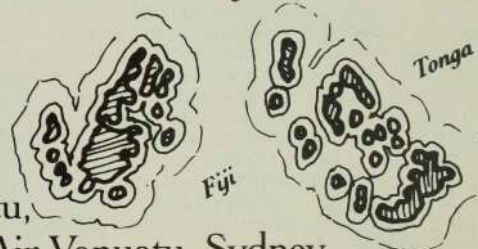
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Commonwealth development program in the Pacific. Before leaving Nukualofa Mr Ramphal said he would be carrying out the first major international study on the special needs of small states. He said the study had been recommended by the last Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM). According to Mr Ramphal, the Pacific makes up a large part of the study, and, because of this, island countries like Tonga, Western Samoa, Tuvalu and Kiribati would be given particular attention. He said that when Papua New Guinea opens its new parliament buildings in August, the heads of governments would meet to discuss the future of Commonwealth Heads of Government Regional Meetings (CHOGRM). Mr Ramphal added he hoped they would preserve the regional meetings because they helped to develop a world more peaceful, habitable and prosperous for the majority of its people.

WORLD'S LARGEST TELESCOPE FOR HAWAII

The world's largest telescope will be built on a mountain peak in the Hawaiian islands at a cost of \$US100 million. Construction is expected to be completed in 1990. The telescope — which is being financed in part by a \$36 million grant to the University of California — will be placed on Mauna Kea, a 4300-metre high peak on the island of Hawaii. A spokeswoman for the university said the peak had been selected because it was generally free of cloud cover and provided excellent possibilities for making observations. She added that the project would open new windows on the universe. United Press International said a working demonstration of the telescope was scheduled for completion in June at the Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory in the United States. UPI said the model is expected to demonstrate that the full-scale telescope and its 36 mirrors can be controlled with precision.

BULK-BUY PLAN BY CO-OPERATIVES

A group of seven Pacific Island countries have agreed to go ahead with a major regional scheme, under which their national co-operative societies will place joint orders for a wide range of consumer goods. Approval for the bulk purchasing scheme followed a week-long meeting of co-operative officials in Suva. Countries represented were Fiji, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Tonga, Western Samoa, Tuvalu and Kiribati. A statement issued at the end of the conference said a committee of three, chaired by Fiji, had been set up to co-ordinate the scheme. The statement added that delegates had agreed that the committee should be operating effectively by July, with an initial working period of one year. A follow-up meeting with the managers of the seven co-operatives is to be held in Fiji later this year to review the committee's progress.

NEW CALEDONIA'S BULLISH MARBLE INDUSTRY

New Caledonia has set up a Territorial Marble Service which will co-ordinate the activities of the administrative and Melanesian customary authorities concerned with the exploitation of the territory's marble deposits. The service will work to discover new deposits of the stone, offer assistance to investors, and train craftsmen. According to a spokesman for one company founded only a few months ago: "We're up to our eyes in orders. . . . New Caledonia's marble looks like being a rich lode to work."

REAGAN'S MAN QUITS SUVA POST

Fred Eckert, the U.S. ambassador to Fiji and four other Pacific countries, has resigned and will return to his home state, New York, this month to run for election as a congressman. Mr Eckert, a political appointee to the Fiji post, replaced career diplomat William Bodde early in 1982 as part of the customary ambassadorial reshuffle in the wake of the arrival of a new U.S. president, in this case, Ronald Reagan. Mr Eckert, a leading Republican politician in Rochester, New York, was formerly a state senator and, in that position, had a good deal to do with President Reagan's successful campaign. Diplomatic speculation suggests that Mr Eckert's resignation has touched off a vigorous competition for the important Pacific post. Leading the race is a strong posse of U.S. Department of State bureaucrats who want to see the job back in the hands of a career officer, and away from U.S. political patronage. Of the posts available in the Pacific, and on the rim, the politicians have four embassies, Tokyo, Canberra, Wellington and Suva. The career men have three, Port Moresby, Manila and Jakarta. Mr Eckert's appointment to Suva was a loss to this faction for the Fiji embassy had been a professional appointment since 1977 when it was raised from the status of a consulate.

NEW CALEDONIA'S BIBLIOGRAPHY ROUNDED OFF

New Caledonia's Historical Studies Society has announced in its second quarterly bulletin for 1984 the publication of a 350-page book, *Bibliographie de la Nouvelle-Calédonie, 1955-1982*, designed for use in libraries throughout the world. The new publication carries on from where French Pacific scholar Father Patrick O'Reilly's bibliography left off. Father O'Reilly's work, published in 1955, covered the period from European discovery in 1774 to 1954.

VANUATU SEEKS MALAYSIAN AID

During a four-day visit to Malaysia in April, Vanuatu Prime Minister Fr Walter Lini asked the Malaysian Prime Minister, Dr Mahathir, for more help in developing Vanuatu's cocoa industry and for Malaysian investment in his country's hotel and airport construction projects. Fr Lini said he wanted a further supply of cocoa seedlings. A previous gift of seedlings helped Vanuatu to start a cocoa industry. Dr Mahathir told Fr Lini that it was Malaysia's intention to extend training facilities in youth leadership and radio broadcasting for ni-Vanuatu in Malaysia.

BIG WAR MEMORIAL PROJECT IN SOLOMONS

The Solomon Islands Government has approved a plan to build a multi-million dollar war memorial complex on Guadalcanal, scene of some of the fiercest fighting of the War in the Pacific. The complex, a memorial to all who fought on Guadalcanal, will contain a chapel and shrine, a war museum and a Solomon Islands cultural centre. Dedication ceremonies are scheduled for September 2, 1985, the 40th anniversary of the end of the Pacific War.

BEEF-CANNING UNDERWAY AT BOULOUPARI

A beef-canning operation at Bouloupari, about 80 km west of Noumea, has begun production. New Caledonia's official weekly news release says that the company, Conseb, is at present producing 1000 cans of beef a day, and plans gradually to raise output to 2000 cans daily.

TAHITI CORRUPTION CHARGES QUASHED

A court in Papeete, Tahiti, has dismissed charges of corruption against Rodrigue Legayic, a former director of Papeete's Port Authority, and Napoleon Spitz, a member of the Territorial Assembly and president of the French Polynesia Permanent Commission. The charges were based on allegations that port authority workers were used to build a house for Spitz's mother. Other charges are still pending against Legayic and a local businessman alleging corruption and misuse of funds.

HAWAIIAN AIR'S RECORD HIGH

Hawaiian Airlines in April reported that in the first quarter of 1984, the company achieved its best operating results for any quarter in its 54-year history. Hawaiian Air's first-quarter operating profit of \$US4.2 million exceeded any previous quarterly operating profit by a considerable margin. The net income during the quarter was also the best in the company's history, excluding any gain from the sale of aircraft and extraordinary items in earlier quarters.

"COME INLAND" LURE FOR N.C. TOURISTS

New Caledonia's tourist operators catering for visitors outside Noumea have set up a Tourist Development Office for the Interior and the Islands. The two bodies representing the operators of Melanesian-style accommodation, Melatour and Melanesian Holidays Service, have joined in setting up a Tribal Lodgings Federation. The moves are part of an officially sponsored drive to attract tourists to the interior of the main island, to its lush but seldom visited east coast, and to the Loyalty Islands and the Isle of Pines.

FIRE CLOSES FIJI RESORT

Fiji's Treasure Island Resort will be closed until September 1 after a fire which caused about \$1 million damage on April 28. The decision to close the island was announced by Bill Waddell, general manager of Islands In The Sun, operators of the resort near Lautoka. He said closure was necessary to ensure reconstruction at speed. The fire destroyed the resort's central building complex, containing the kitchen, powerhouse, dining room, lounge and administration offices. About 100 guests and 40 staff were in the building at the time of the fire but no one was injured.



New Zealand's RDF: A second opinion

The rapid deployment force that New Zealand is currently organising should serve as a reminder to the Pacific Islands that gunboat diplomacy and colonialism are well and truly alive in the Pacific region.

Contrary to Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara's confidence that the proposed force would serve as a security deterrent for the Pacific region, I believe that such a force under the sponsorship of a single nation is very dangerous. My view is that there is no guarantee that a force of this kind would *not* be used to suppress smaller island nations who fail to see matters eye to eye with "Big Brother".

Should the Cook Islands, for argument's sake, invite a power unfriendly with New Zealand to participate in and assist in their development, there is no guarantee that New Zealand would not use its rapid deployment force to discourage Cook Islanders from exercising their democratic right to free association with whoever they wish.

Another factor that should not be overlooked is the destabilising effect that the New Zealand proposal is likely to create in the region. There already exists within the region a degree of suspicion by smaller Polynesian states of the Melanesian states. This has been especially apparent following the Papua New Guinea Defence Force aid to Vanuatu in its bid for independence.

The fact that New Zealand, which was formerly completely against PNG's proposal for the establishment of a Pacific peace-keeping force, has seen fit to reverse its position following upon Vanuatu's recent decision to permit the establishment of a Cuban diplomatic mission in Villa may *not* be simply coincidence.

Enthusiastic support for Prime Minister Muldoon's pro-

posals by another opponent of a Pacific peace-keeping force, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, appears not to have been given simply to please Sir Robert but rather as an indirect manner of signalling agreement between New Zealand and Fiji as to the *real* nature and purpose of such a force which appears to me to be to act as a deterrent to other Pacific nations.

I suspect that Sir Robert's next move, now that he has gained Fiji's support, will be to bulldoze his proposals through the South Pacific Forum. I hope and trust that the Melanesian states, namely PNG, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu, will not lend blind support to them. The broader implications of such a single-nation rapid deployment force must be honestly and thoroughly examined by all nations of this region if the proposals are tabled at the next Forum meeting.

At a time when the less-fortunate nations of the Pacific region are making attempts to help themselves through gaining membership of co-operative organisations in the Pacific, they are on the point of being blatantly subjugated by the region's so-called "elder statesmen", who appear to be simply awaiting their opportunity to gather support for proposals that on the surface appear benevolent but in fact are characterised by a diabolical interest.

I detect the germination of a most unfavorable set of values in the South Pacific. Such values pose a very real threat to peace and co-operative development within the region. These misplaced values appear to be being nurtured in New Zealand and Fiji, and perhaps to a lesser extent within Australia as well. I fear that if continued growth of such values is permitted they will soon lead to the undermining and break-

down of the spirit of co-operation that gave rise to the Forum and the other co-operative organisations of this region.

I question the sincerity of New Zealand's rapid deployment force proposals, and feel that Pacific support for such proposals would amount to unprecedented political hypocrisy.

Sir, my letter is written in my capacity as an elected leader within this region. I am concerned for the welfare of the small island states that make up a large part of the Pacific.

I firmly believe that Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara's spontaneous support for Muldoon's proposals cannot result in any practical contribution to resolving the basic problems of practical development in the Pacific.

W. NOEL LEVI CBE MP
Member for New Ireland
National Parliament
Port Moresby
Papua New Guinea

E. E. Luxford

Some years ago, with the aid of a metal detector, I found a stainless steel identity disc. It was unearthed on Horn Island, Torres Strait, and was owned by E. E. Luxford, NX 149971, a New Guinea volunteer.

Does any PIM reader know anything about E. E. Luxford?

DAVID RICHARDSON
Cairns, Qld.
Australia

'Bombay factor'

I was saddened to find, under the heading "PIM Opinion" (February PIM, p5), reference, in some comment on a recent political event in Fiji, to "what might be termed the 'Bombay Factor' adding . . . curry to an already active pot". I hope and trust that most of your readers will, like me, regard the "Bombay Factor" wording as a deplorable lapse from the good sense and good taste which have for quite some time now

characterised the phraseology of PIM. As for the culinary metaphor — the sooner that is consigned to oblivion the better.

DAVID WALSH
Anthropology Department
University of Sydney,
Sydney, NSW
Australia

Our thanks to Dr Walsh for writing. We regret that he took offence, but his is the only such reaction received from anywhere — and that, of course, includes Fiji. — Editor.

Micronesia

Not only do I find Floyd K. Takeuchi's bias extremely distasteful in its openly subversive "Uncle Sam-ism", but I am surprised that PIM constantly allows him to air his emotional personal opinions to the detriment of the constructive alternatives given by Pacific Islanders who are not ashamed to become independent of "Big Brother" paternalism.

How many times must the Palauans be humiliated and belittled by their U.S. "superiors" telling them to take their brilliant, world-influencing, mature constitution back to their parliamentary "schoolrooms" and wait until their U.S. masters correct all the "mistakes"?

Recently a U.S. presidential adviser, who is also a leading academic, was questioned by me during a seminar he gave in Perth. To my question "When will the U.S. accept that autonomy and independence mean governments in places like Palau must be left to make democratic policies and decisions for the good of their people and their future?" he replied: "The Reagan administration cannot be asked to consider seriously the opinions of countries of 15,000 people in opposition to the views of the political leaders of the U.S."

That just about sums it all up! Just as the political leaders in the U.S. adore our own Labor prime minister because he is

prepared to go all the way with Reagan, even on such issues as the mining of uranium (against the stand of a majority in his own Labor Party), the Palauans are expected to behave "rationally" and let the U.S. continue to control their future by using their country as a base to accelerate the arms race.

My suggestion to PIM if it wishes to continue as a credible magazine representing views from the Pacific Islanders is to find a less openly biased reporter than its Micronesian correspondent. Obviously, my bias is as strong as his in the opposite direction, but I'm sure there are proficient Micronesians able to strike a healthy balance, just as those who report to the magazine from the other islands appear to do.

DIANA RICKARD
Bullcreek, WA
Australia

Nauru

PIM has received five letters from correspondents commenting unfavorably on the story headlined "Unchanged Change in Nauru" (PIM Feb p49).

All are strongly critical of the article, which one writer described "a fawning and servile load of rubbish".

Likewise all are strongly critical of President Hammer DeRoburt ("one man band", "thinks he talks to God").

Again, all strongly support Bernard Dowiyogo ("someone you can talk to", "didn't let the job go to his head when he was

president").

In view of the fact that the letters are so similar, and especially that none of the writers signed his/her name, we are able only to summarise their content here. — Editor.

Western Samoa

I read with interest your article entitled "Smooth Talking, Rough Times" (PIM Jan. p23) on the Western Samoan economy and would like to offer a number of comments.

I was surprised at the bleak picture painted by your correspondent of the Western Samoa economy and of the performance of the Tofilau government in view of the remarkable turn-around in Western Samoa's economy in the past 12 months. It is common knowledge that Tofilau and his government inherited an economy that was all but bankrupt after six years of mismanagement. The country had no foreign exchange reserves left. Instead it owed millions overseas. Internally, government had borrowed most of the money from the banking system to finance its over-spending, leaving nothing for the private sector.

The measures the new government implemented to avert a total collapse included a severe cutback in government spending and in the flow of some imports. Devaluation and other measures were taken to stimulate production and exports. Such measures do not win popularity but they were necessary for an economy that

had been made to live beyond its means for too long.

The success of these measures is now apparent. The country's external trade position is healthier now than it has been in years. This is reflected in the availability of more imports and the reported fall in the rate of inflation for 1983. The reduction in the government's overdraft with the banking system has meant that the private sector has money for investment. Overall, a very happy position to be in for an economy that was on the blink only a year ago.

Your correspondent may find it useful to compare Western Samoa's 1984 budget with some of the other island countries in the region to see how they are faring before he criticises. I would also refer your writer to an editorial in *The Samoa Times* recently, which, while referring to the economy's performance under Tofilau's leadership, said, "these achievements were all made within 12 months and no one can take the credit away from government." As no one could ever accuse that paper of a pro-government bias, that is praise indeed! It went on also to warn the government against "eating these gains away". And yet that seems to be the kind of policy which your writer advocates.

Tupuola, as reported in your article, now criticises what he refers to as government corruption. Really, one can only wonder at such hypocrisy. As your correspondent points out himself, scandals and corruption were part of the reasons for the failure of the Tupuola government. But if enough muck gets thrown around, some of it is bound to stick. Never mind that he may be covered in the stuff himself.

His criticisms of the prime minister's overseas travel are equally without any basis. Western Samoa, like most other nations, has joined the major forums of the world. This necessitates a certain amount of overseas travel. It is also quite normal for heads of governments to take officials to advise if necessary. No one is an expert on every issue these days. Tupuola himself used to take an entourage on his extensive overseas trips. And what is

more, his entourage consisted mainly of his *papalagi* cronies and advisers. Really he should be the last person to want to raise such an issue!

Your correspondent will no doubt be producing other reports in future on the Western Samoan situation. If he does, one hopes that he will be a little more factual and a little less biased, with these accounts. One could be forgiven for thinking that Tupuola himself wrote the last one. Better to leave politics to the politicians and let reporters stick to providing information so people can make up their own minds.

(NAME AND ADDRESS SUPPLIED)

Apia
Western Samoa

Grenada

In reporting on a rapid-deployment force for the Pacific, your writers dragged in the irrelevant analogy of Grenada — and then proceeded to garble the story.

The U.S. invasion was not in response to a Cuban "attempt". Grenada had long had a Marxist government, aided by Cuba. But when the Grenadan leaders feuded bloodily among themselves, the U.S. took its opportunity to depose them.

Please stick to PIM's area of expertise: the Pacific.

Supportively,

G. MAXWELL

Sydney NSW
Australia

While we would expend our last breath in defence of Mr Maxwell's right to interpret international politics as he chooses, we rather thought we were dealing with the Pacific and its defence problems. Grenada was used simply as an example, probably fresh in most minds, of a small nation under threat of political hijacking. In politics, we fear, much depends upon viewpoint, and the truth in any situation as complicated as the Grenadan affair may hardly be summed up in 40 words.

It is perhaps also worth noting that in a speech welcoming the establishment of the N.Z. rapid deployment force Fiji's prime minister, Ratu Sir Kaminesse Mara, also used the Grenada analogy.—Editor.



Uncle Sam in the Pacific: Admiral William Crowe (third from right) is received by France's Admiral Montpellier (second from left) at the French naval base at Fare Ute, Papeete. The commander-in-chief of the U.S. Pacific Command made a three-day visit to French Polynesia in April, returning an earlier courtesy call made by Admiral Montpellier to Pearl Harbor. — *Les Nouvelles de Tahiti* photo.

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Two independence movements are now running in Melanesia -- the painful affair in New Caledonia, and the much more violent and potentially dangerous upset in Irian Jaya. Both occupy the attention of regional governments but none so much as the tangled and fragile situation along the 141st meridian of longitude which divides Papua New Guinea from Irian Jaya.

Time, and the race, running out

Three foreign ministers are involved in trying to keep some sort of order and balance. Indonesia's Dr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja and PNG's Mr Rabie Namaliu have had direct talks, have been seen to disagree on most things, but agree about the need for continued communication. Australia's Bill Hayden appears on the scene mostly as a pair of wary eyes in a window, but his concern is probably sharper than most, for an accident along that remote 455 mile border and a serious

further deterioration in the now very strained relations between Jakarta and Port Moresby, could involve Australia in at least some difficult choices between her biggest neighbor and her prime regional responsibility or, at worst, an expensive, on-going, no-win policeman role.

Each of the three nations caught in its web, Indonesia, Papua New Guinea, and Australia, has a very different attitude to the claims of the Melanesians in Irian Jaya who

say they were sold down the river of international political expediency when they were given to Indonesia in 1969.

Pessimists watching this affair suggest that unless all three governments exercise the utmost caution it could drag them ultimately into a difficult and dangerous confrontation. Some feel that it presents opportunities for meddling by such as the Soviet Union, always anxious to have a foothold in the Pacific and particu-

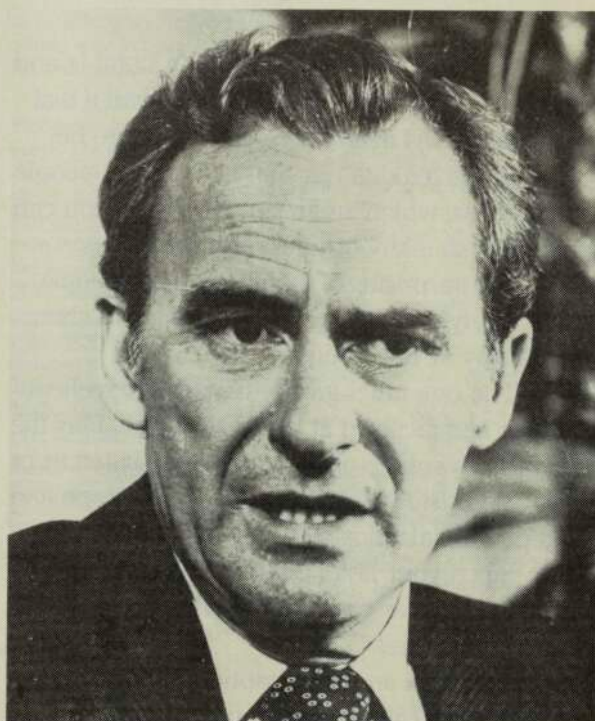
larly in a territory rich in minerals.

Others say the continued trouble worries possible investors who think, in their darker moments, that Soekarno's ambition to annex the whole territory remains part of Indonesian long-range planning.

Optimists believe that while trouble will continue to flare from time to time, and that Melanesians and Indonesians will continue to be killed in armed clashes, the situation will not get out of hand and will

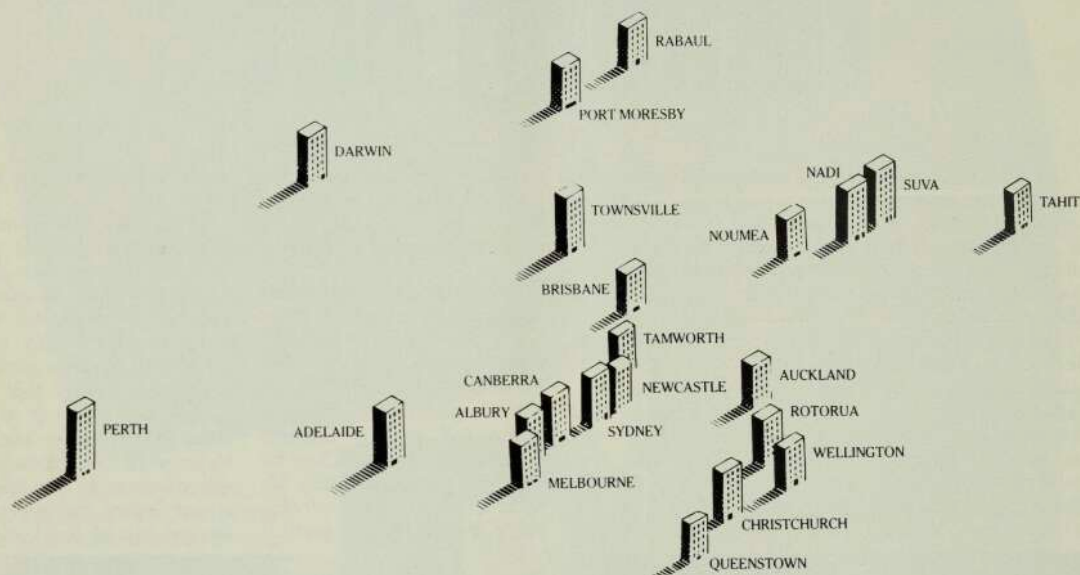


MOCHTAR ... arrogant?



HAYDEN ... a wary eye.

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involve no-one in more than police operations.

Murphy's law of politics says that if a situation can be handled badly, and go wrong, it will. But only time will tell.

In this present angry round the Indonesian position has been marked by refusal to admit that a problem exists, and an attitude which Papua New Guinea has found to be arrogant and callous.

After some difficulties, which the PNG foreign minister, Rabib Namaliu, saw as something of a snub to his office and person, talks were held in Jakarta late in May. These were not notably successful although a sort of agreement on repatriation of border-crossers was reached.

The agreement is more form than fact for there is not much doubt that Free West Papua Movement refugees will not want to be handed over to the Indonesian army, despite assurances that only "criminals" among them will be punished. Equally, it will be very difficult for Mr Somare's government to enforce the return, given the outrage felt, particularly in Port Moresby, about the Indonesian presence in Irian Jaya and all that has gone with it.

Australia has so far preserved a very careful pace or two of distance between itself and the

argument between Jakarta and Port Moresby, at least publicly. Behind the scenes Canberra's men have been doing what they can to keep tempers cool and also to help PNG with some of its technical problems. Nonetheless the Indonesian foreign minister, Dr Mochtar, blamed Australian "influence" for continuing PNG suspicions about Indonesia's ultimate plans for the territory.

So far about 4500 men, women and children have crossed the border, fleeing, they say, from the attacks of strengthened Indonesian Army and field force police units seeking to punish the OPM (Free West Papua Movement) for its latest uprising in Jayapura.

Dr Mochtar said that future good relations depended upon securing the border by which he meant, in effect, denying the OPM the chance of sanctuary among their Melanesian cousins in PNG.

He conceded in an interview that Indonesia's image was poor on the question, but said it was unfair to continue to blame his country for what Soekarno did. Asked if Indonesia's annexation of East Timor (in 1976) could have anything to do with regional suspicions of Jakarta's motives, he said: "We were forced to do that. There is a certain segment, young people, and university progressives, who refuse to listen and they are doing a lot of damage in Port Moresby. PNG's view of Indonesia as a threat is baseless," he said.

Dr Mochtar said there was "no need" for PNG to expel the Indonesian military attaché from Port Moresby as a sign of their displeasure over border incidents, including an alleged intrusion by two Indonesian FE 5 jet fighters. He said Mr Namaliu had made "offensive and provocative" statements upon his arrival in Jakarta for their talks. (Among other things Mr Namaliu offered to "help Indonesia understand" the culture and values of the Melanesian people.)

Dr Mochtar asserted that Indonesia had acted quickly to meet with Mr Namaliu and had bent over backwards in the cause of maintaining good relations. He said it was vital now to have close co-operation on bor-

der security if "Indonesian suspicions" that PNG was "aiding and abetting" the OPM rebels were to be allayed. However he did say that he believed PNG had done its best to honor the 1979 joint border agreement to bar OPM activities on its soil.

Papua New Guinea's approach to the problem is compounded by the very strong feelings of brotherhood expressed in PNG for Melanesians in Irian Jaya. From the very beginning the Bunker proposals, and the "act of free choice" were regarded in PNG as a sell-out and a fraud. Indonesia, they said, had no right to assume the mantle of the Dutch colonial masters and had no business in a Melanesian territory. More militant people accused Indonesia of planning "Javanisation" of Irian Jaya which, they said, was a form of genocide.

Mr Somare's government, however, avoided the temptation to look backwards for political gain, although it was clearly conscious of the outrage in its community and unhappy with events in Irian Jaya. The real problem, however, between Jakarta and Port Moresby seemed to arise because of the extreme difficulty Mr Namaliu's ministry seemed to have in getting any information out of the Indonesians.

They sent a senior official to Indonesia to ask for some reports. He was fobbed off with some minor pen-pusher who either did not, or could not, tell him anything. Mr Namaliu was then incensed by reports of two Indonesian jet fighters buzzing PNG territory on March 27, a matter which the Indonesians still appear to deny. Angry statements in Port Moresby drew nothing from Jakarta and finally the Indonesian military attaché was, in effect, expelled.

Prime minister Michael Somare, who has always held very strong reservations about Indonesian rule in Irian Jaya, has done a manful balancing act between the emotions of his own people and the needs of international diplomacy. He said the Irian Jaya issue was "a major concern" to his government, but "the welfare of Papua New Guineans must be considered first."

His government would help refugees if they were genuine, he said. "But if people come into PNG thinking this is a refuge, it is a different story altogether. We are human beings, and human beings have a concern for others, but only to an extent."

His first duty, he said, was to keep peace and stability in the region. He did not want PNG used as a training ground for outside armed groups.

Yet there is no doubt Mr Somare and his government are in no way likely to be pushed about by Indonesia. There is an agreement between the two countries on how the border is to be handled, and Article VIII of that document demands that each side tell the other, well in advance, of any military operations in the border zones. Mr Namaliu's point was that if Indonesia had honored this there would have been more understanding, and less panic all round.

The Australian view is that moderation, good sense, close communication, and goodwill are all necessary to preserve peace, stability and order on the border. Mr Hayden and his people have not the slightest desire to become involved either in a public slanging match, or a private choice between the two countries.

Thus, statements from Canberra have been notably spare and cautious, although diplomats have been active in offering "good advice" wherever it could be dropped.

The feeling in Canberra seems to be that the border will provide alarms and problems for many years yet but that a major upset is fairly unlikely, provided no-one paints himself into a corner, or exhibits the sort of clumsiness which was apparent on both sides in the early days of the present upset.

Meantime newspapers in Australia and PNG have recently carried pictures of Indonesians killed by arrows and bone daggers wielded by OPM guerrillas, together with statements by OPM men calling themselves ministers in the "Senate of West Papua New Guinea" of which, it appears, the motto is "One People, One Soul."

One of these, Yarisetouw, who said he was senate chair-

Numbers puzzle

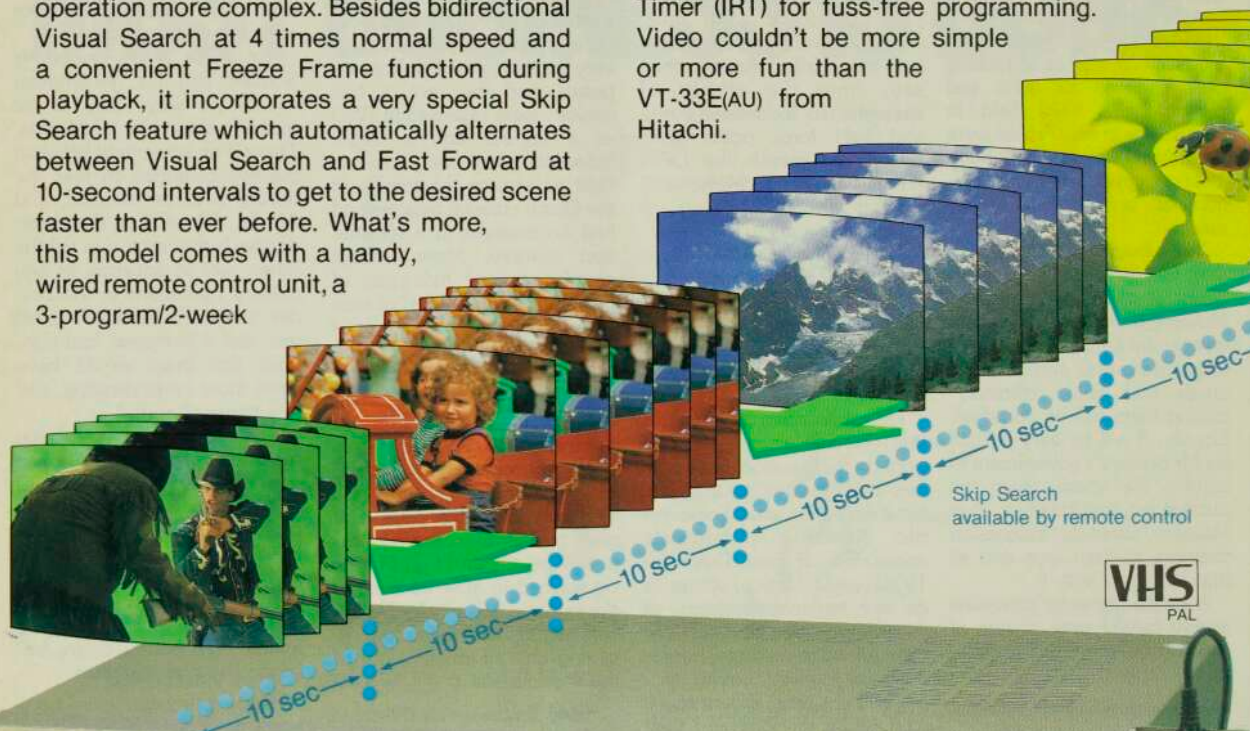
Accurate figures are almost impossible to obtain from the border region but at least one report from Port Moresby puts the number of Melanesians who have so far fled into PNG ahead of Indonesian Army sweeps as high as 4500. Of these about 2600 are said to have crossed into Western Province since Easter.

The Indonesian government has so far offered to give about \$25,000 to help PNG feed the refugees. Mr Namaliu said there were now 759 refugees at Vanimo, 600 at Mamamura village and 640 at the Kamberatoro Catholic mission in West Sepik province. About 100 more are said to be at Green River. Unconfirmed reports say 1900 crossed into Komopkin near Ningerum and 760 at Benlim, near where the Alice river flows into the Fly river.

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man, said he had been in the jungle since 1969, had started out fighting the Dutch, but was now fighting the Indonesians.

He said a split which had developed in the OPM in 1971 had now been healed and a new group formed with a cabinet of 20 self-appointed ministers drawn from the ranks of the jungle fighters. Their transport is their feet and their arms a mixture of old Dutch rifles, the guns they take from Indonesian soldiers killed in clashes, bows and arrows or bayonets made from the leg bones of cassowaries.

Yarisetouw said the OPM regarded Indonesia as a communist country and thought communism was no good. "We believe in Christianity and democracy," he said. He claimed 5000 men on the border (Port Moresby puts the figure at 1000).

Some of these appear to be Melanesian deserters from Indonesian units and, indeed, such men, in uniform and with their weapons, are among the border-crossers now detained in PNG.

They said that a rebellion had been planned in Jayapura for February 13, but that it had failed and the rebels had scattered into the bush. The Indonesian Army had been ordered to pursue and arrest or kill them and was embarked on a three or four month campaign. The OPM rebels said this campaign was being handled with brutality and that there had been cases of rape and houses set on fire.

They expressed all along, the reports said, concern that, if they were not wiped out in armed clashes they would be bred out in the end by mixture with Javanese men and women brought in under the Indonesian transmigrasi system.

In this, too, they saw grave injustice on grounds that their traditional lands were being taken from them, often, they said, without compensation or consultation, and given to Javanese peasants.

But, in the end, no-one, not even the OPM, offered a reasonable solution. Like everyone else involved, they ride the juggernaut of time and events, hoping not to be among the victims to fall under its wheels.

Rebels, rhetoric and jets mar area relations

PIM correspondent PAMA ANIO reports from Port Moresby on recent events which have strained relations between Papua New Guinea and Indonesia, its big neighbor to the west.

Papua New Guinea's relationship with its big and powerful neighbor Indonesia has come under great strain in the past few months. Source of the latest conflict has once again been the border region.

Since early February, hundreds of Irian Jayans have been crossing into PNG, reportedly fleeing major clashes between the Free Papua Movement (OPM) and Indonesian troops.

As the influx continued, pressure mounted on the Somare government to make a decision on the fate of the border-crossers, most of whom were camped in PNG's border province of West Sepik.

PNG's Foreign Minister Rabibie Namaliu sought an urgent explanation from Indonesia on the Irian Jaya situation, and a week later received a "sufficient enough" reply from his counterpart Dr Mochtar Kusumaatmadja.

It confirmed an incident in the Irian Jaya capital of Jayapura on February 13 when OPM supporters raised a "West Papua" flag at the provincial parliament building.

According to one border-crosser, an Indonesian army defector who was an OPM supporter was shot dead by Indonesian troops in the incident. It is believed it was this incident that sparked off clashes, leading to the exodus.

The reply however did not satisfy critics in PNG, and one of them, East New Britain Premier Ronald Tovue, accused the government of taking an "evasive and fearful" approach to the border problems.

Mr Namaliu hit back, saying that administering any international border was a "sensitive, complex, and time-consuming matter".

Mr Namaliu's departmental head, Paulias Matane, tried to soothe feelings when he said,

on his return from special border liaison meetings in Jayapura in mid-March, that the government might repatriate some of the border-crossers if their safety were guaranteed by Indonesia. He added that a third country may have to be found for those who were identified as defectors, and active members of OPM.

The day after Mr Matane made this statement, 73 Irian Jaya men were jailed for six weeks by Vanimo district court in West Sepik for illegally entering PNG. Another 38 were found guilty, but were not convicted and were discharged.

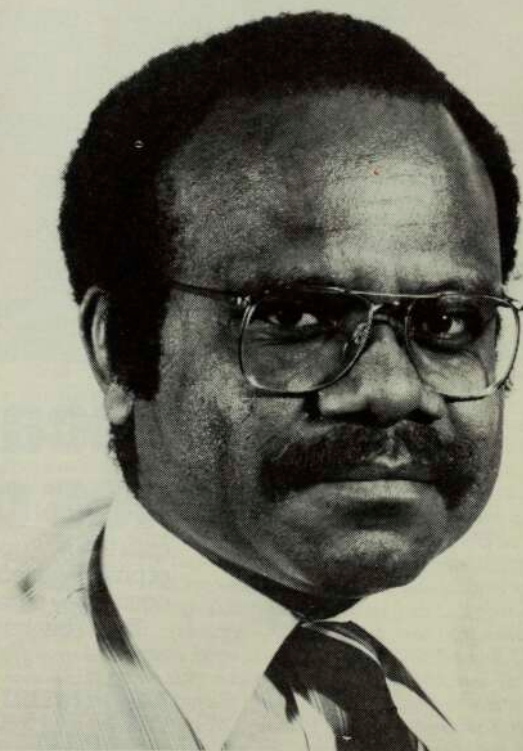
The decisions to charge and jail the border-crossers caused an uproar throughout the coun-

try, and many felt the government had ignored humanitarian factors.

Even the magistrate who jailed the men seemed reluctant to do so. "I sympathise with your reasons for crossing the border into PNG, but I am by law required to administer the laws of this country," he told them. The 73 were later released pending an appeal.

Amid criticisms of the legal proceedings, Mr Namaliu said: "We are not doing anything different from the past. Under normal circumstances, if they are illegal crossers, the police will deal with them."

His comments only reaffirmed the government's stand on the crossings — that the Irian Jayans were not refugees, but illegal border-crossers. PNG, like most South Pacific Island nations, is not a signatory to the United Nations conven-



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tion on refugees.

On March 27, almost a week after the jailings, two unidentified jet fighter planes flew into PNG and, according to witnesses, circled the Green River government station three times. The station is about 20 km from the Irian Jaya border. The witnesses said the planes flew very low — "two to three hundred feet above the ground" — and left in the direction of Irian Jaya.

The government was convinced from initial reports that the jets were Indonesian, but Indonesia, through its Port Moresby embassy, immediately denied owning the jets.

Prime Minister Michael Somare was not impressed by this denial and instructed Mr Namaliu to seek an immediate meeting with Dr Mochtar.

The government then threatened to expel an Indonesian military attaché in Port Moresby over what it called Indonesian "lack of response" over the border matters, including the jet violations.

Jakarta withdrew the attaché, but later accused PNG of expelling him.

PNG was also accused of allowing the OPM to operate inside its territory.

This charge followed the kidnapping of the Swiss pilot of a mission aircraft by the rebels at an Irian Jaya outpost on March 26. The pilot was released unharmed, but the rebels shot dead two of his Indonesian passengers — a doctor and an army officer.

PNG at the time denied knowledge of the whereabouts of the secret negotiations between the OPM and Swiss government representatives for the pilot's release. It has now been confirmed that the talks took place in West Sepik.

The two countries finally came to the conference table in Jakarta on April 15 to attempt to resolve their differences and discuss the fate of the border-crossers (who totalled almost 1800 by the end of March).

The PNG delegation, led by Mr Namaliu, presented a formal protest against the alleged air intrusions. In turn the Indonesians, led by Dr Mochtar, formally protested against the expulsion of their attaché.

Both sides firmly maintained



REBELS REVEL ... Some OPM members photographed at a gathering point deep in the bush of West Irian.

their stances, and after an unscheduled third day of deliberations finally "agreed to disagree", as Mr Namaliu nicely put it.

On other matters concerning the border crossings, the two sides came to terms. A joint communique said they had agreed to co-operate in returning the border-crossers to their homes in an orderly manner.

Dr Mochtar assured Mr Namaliu that the safety of the returnees would be guaranteed, provided they had not broken any laws. Mr Namaliu in turn assured his counterpart that PNG would not allow its territory to be used as a sanctuary by anti-Indonesian elements.

Both ministers agreed that misunderstanding may have occurred because of inadequate communication, and said measures should be taken immediately to rectify the problem.

They also agreed to meet in Port Moresby for further talks.

The Jakarta talks are seen by many as a turning point in PNG-Indonesian relations. At the very least, many hope relations will improve from now on.

The outcome of the talks was in fact a success for PNG. For the first time PNG has got the Indonesians to listen and not

take her for granted, as it has done for the past decade.

For a country of its size and status, it has been a difficult task for PNG to maintain good relations with a neighbor which not only has a military government but which has failed to recognise that the land border it shares with PNG cuts through ethnic ties. Lack of communication and dialogue is certainly a stumbling block to better relations, as both sides admitted at the talks. "We don't know enough about each other," Mr Namaliu said on his return from Jakarta.

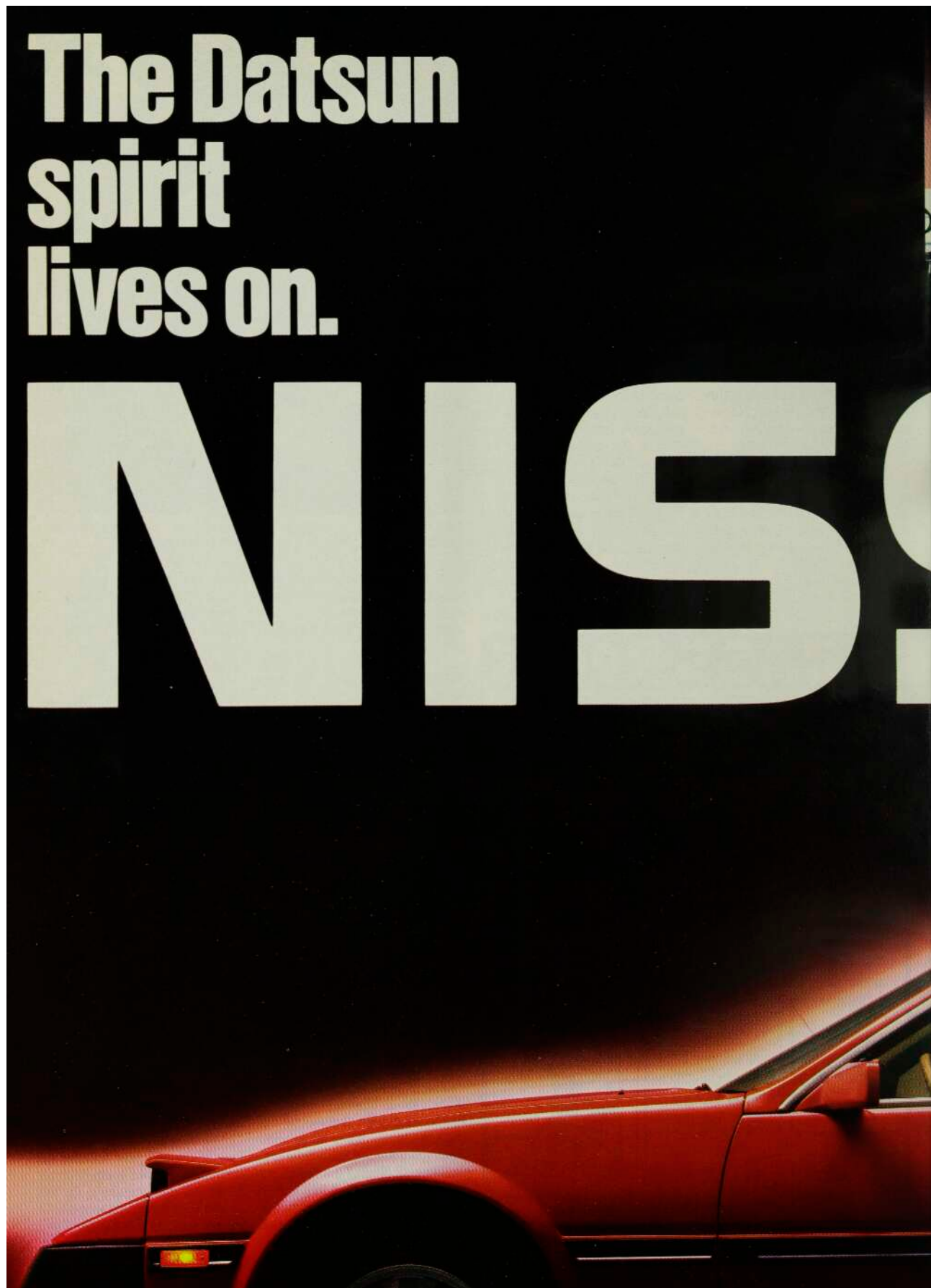
The comment signified the fact that, to all intents and purposes, both countries have made little or no effort to improve relations beyond diplomatic exchanges ever since Mr Somare made his first official visit to Indonesia in 1973 (he was chief minister at the time), and President Suharto's return visit to PNG in 1979.

Such basic requirements as trade and educational links, and cultural and sporting exchanges, are non-existent.

Maybe Mr Namaliu's proposal to Dr Mochtar for an Indonesian soccer team to visit PNG will do something for the present tattered relations. — *Pama Anio in Port Moresby.*



PNG Post-Courier's cartoonist, Grass Roots, takes a lighter view of a serious affair





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Jai Ram Reddy



Siddiq Koya

Fiji Opposition in disarray

What made Reddy run

Editor of The Fiji Times, VIJENDRA KUMAR, traces the recent turbulent history of Fiji's opposition National Federation Party, whose leadership is once again in a state of crisis and up for grabs.

Fiji's Leader of the Opposition, Jai Ram Reddy, 48, has created a major crisis in his National Federation Party by a shock announcement in April of his decision to quit.

A scramble for the leadership has already started, bringing to the surface the deep cracks within the party which were patched up three years ago, largely through Mr Reddy's own efforts. In the running are lawyer and former leader, Siddiq Koya, 58, whom none other than Mr Reddy ignominiously defeated and temporarily sent into the political wilderness seven years ago, and the present Deputy Leader of the Opposition, Mrs Irene Jai Narayan, 50.

But at the time of writing, frantic efforts were being made by party people to persuade Mr Reddy to withdraw his resignation and continue as leader. While greatly flattered by a groundswell of support, Mr Reddy was giving no hint to anyone whether he would be staying on.

The Opposition now has 23 seats in the House of Representatives, discounting a rebel MP, Vijaya Parmanandam, whom the party expelled two years ago for criticising Mr Reddy. At first, Mrs Narayan, the only woman in parliament, held a comfortable edge over Mr Koya in the leadership race, but Mr Koya's lieutenants have been busy mustering support from grassroots party members to bring popular pressure on parliamentarians to vote for Koya. This strategy has worked well.

Mr Reddy's decision to resign both the leadership and his seat in the house stemmed from growing dissatisfaction among his colleagues over a decision to boycott parliament to protest against what the Opposition claimed were insults and unfair rulings against it by the Speaker, Tomasi Vakatora.

On December 15, Mr Reddy had a heated exchange with the Speaker during an emergency sitting of the house to approve a Bill granting civil servants a pay rise. Mr Vakatora ordered Mr Reddy to stand up to address him, after Mr Reddy had interjected angrily while the speaker was giving a ruling. Mr Koya was on the floor at the time.

Mr Reddy retorted that he would not stand up for Mr Vakatora. The Speaker then ordered Mr Reddy to leave the chamber, but Mr Reddy shouted back: "You have me removed".

Mr Vakatora obliged him, but as the Sergeant-at-Arms moved in to eject him, Mr Reddy walked out. All his party colleagues followed him. Shortly after, Mr Reddy called a news conference and announced that he and his colleagues would not be returning to parliament as long as Mr Vakatora sat in the Speaker's chair.

As for himself, personally, Mr Reddy said his decision to stay out was "irrevocable" ... "and I keep my word," he said.

By his "irrevocable" decision Mr Reddy boxed himself in firmly. Observers were astounded that a politician of his stature would



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Ratu Mara

make such a decision, leaving for himself no line of retreat. Mr Reddy wrote to the Prime Minister, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, asking for a discussion on the event in the house. But the Prime Minister was not going to help Mr Reddy and the Opposition out of the situation into which Mr Reddy had forced himself. He pointed out to Mr Reddy that since he (Reddy) had already made it clear at his press conference what his intention was, he could be of "no assistance" to him.

This rebuff from the Prime Minister gave a clear message to Mr Reddy that the crisis was of his own making, that he was firmly pinned on it, and that he could expect no help from the Alliance government in extracting himself from the boycott or with his complaints against Mr Vakatora.

In the succeeding weeks, as was inevitable, Opposition MPs began to have second thoughts about boycotting parliament. Quite plainly, not one of them was keen to lose his seat which, clearly was well on the cards if the NFP members continued with their boycott. (Under Fiji's Constitution, any member who misses three consecutive meetings of the House will forfeit his seat).

All Opposition MPs have already missed one sitting. Two, including Mrs Narayan, have so far missed two.

As the reality of the situation, and their vulnerability, began to dawn on them, hurried meetings were held and a group within the party began a move to have the boycott lifted. Mr Reddy found himself under increasing pressure to resolve the issue, but he had no solution with which he felt he could live.

He decided to call a meeting of his colleagues in March where, fortunately for him, the MPs took a majority vote to continue the boycott. But, the pressure would not lessen. Mr Reddy called another meeting on April 15 where he came prepared with his resignation speech.

He urged his colleagues to return to parliament and asked them to elect a new leader by May 15, the date on which he said he would resign.

The MPs were stunned. Urgent and excited discussion after Mr Reddy's departure from the meeting ended with a vote to end the boycott and, to mollify Mr Reddy, a resolve to move a motion of no-confidence in the Speaker at the next sitting of the House in June.

That, of course, went only some way towards solving the NFP's crisis.

There is no doubt that Mr Reddy enjoys immense popularity within the party, and people would like him to continue as leader.

But he has been a reluctant leader most of the time. The leadership was thrust upon him in 1977 when the party split into two factions. Mr Koya was leader at the time, but there was mounting discontent with his autocratic style of leadership and his fondness for toadies who salaamed him obsequiously and fed his vanity.

Mr Reddy, who had entered politics as Mr Koya's protege, threw in his lot with Mr Koya's opponents. They promptly chose him as their leader because of his "clean" and youthful image. In the September, 1977, general election, Mr Reddy's faction, dubbed the "flower" group because of its choice of a flower as its election symbol, routed the Koya faction, which had styled itself the "doves." Mr Koya suffered the added humiliation of being soundly thrashed in his own home constituency by Mr Reddy.

Soon after becoming Leader of the Opposition, Mr Reddy began the difficult and painstaking task of reuniting a badly-splintered party. It took him nearly five years to achieve unity of a sort. In the general election of 1982, the National Federation Party formed a coalition with the ethnic Fijian party, the Western United Front, led by Ratu Osea Gavidi, and contested virtually every seat. It came close to winning power, capturing 24 of the 52 seats in the House.

But now, the papered-over cracks are reappearing. If Mr Reddy stays on the party would probably maintain its fragile unity. But if the leadership battle is fought, it will be a very bloody fight. Mr Koya and Mrs Narayan cannot be expected to work well together. They have been bitter political foes since 1977. Moreover, most of the present Opposition MPs have little love for Mr Koya.

Mr Koya was Fiji's first opposition leader after independence in 1970. He played a crucial role with Ratu Mara in ensuring a peaceful and orderly transfer of power from the British to local people. In his younger days, Mr Koya was a fire-breathing politician, but he has mellowed considerably since. He is now projecting a new image of a mature, wiser and more tolerant leader.

But his record in parliament is unimpressive. He has been more absent than present at sittings, and has not made any significant contribution to debates in recent times.

Mrs Narayan is sometimes described as an "iron lady." A former teacher, she is a brilliant speaker and a fearless campaigner for causes in which she believes. She has been seen to be leading the party because she has been its main spokeswoman on issues of public interest. She has not shied from attacking the government while other Opposition MPs have ducked for cover. She is the darling of the media because she is always available to talk.

But in the past few weeks she has been losing ground because it is evident that Mr Reddy does not want to see her as leader. That is, if he decides to go. Although Mr Reddy has said he would not have anything to do with the election of a new leader, he has hinted that Mr Koya is likely to emerge victor ... a clear indication as to where his choice lies.

So, the odds and the gods appear to favor Mr Koya. It would indeed be a remarkable comeback for this Tasmanian-trained lawyer who is now better known as a criminal lawyer than as a politician.

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Mark Sinclair has taken up duties as New Zealand's deputy high commissioner in Honiara, Solomon Islands.

The 29-year-old Aucklander replaces **Ian Kennedy**, who has returned to the foreign ministry in Wellington.

Mr Sinclair joined the ministry in 1977, and served as second secretary in New Zealand's Tokyo embassy in 1980-82. Back in Wellington, he assumed responsibility for Asian affairs. At the time of his posting to Honiara, he was an executive assistant to the secretary of foreign affairs. — *George Atkin in Honiara.*

Tonga's tourist newspaper *What's On In Tonga* has a new editor, **Will 'Ilolahia**, who uses the pen name **Takafalai Brown**.

Holder of a Bachelor of Arts degree in anthropology and sociology, Will, who was born in New Zealand of Tongan parents, has also had considerable experience in promotional work. He has managed several rock bands, and, before his return to Tonga, was running a record company and publishing firm.

Two Fiji Indian sisters have gained medical degrees at the **Patrice Lumumba** Friendship University in Moscow. They are **Drs Devi Lata Sharma** and **Devi Saraswati Sharma**.

Former pupils at the Shri Vivekananda High School, Nadi, the girls studied in Moscow on scholarships awarded in 1976.

They are the daughters of Mr and Mrs **R. P. Sharma**, of Narewa, Nadi.

The doctor sisters plan to practise medicine in Fiji.

Mary Mills is a remarkably active woman. She completed her Bachelor of Divinity just last year and was ordained as a minister of the Methodist Church, the first woman to hold such a post in Fiji.

The Rev. Miss Mills is 68 years old.

In her busy lifetime she has held a variety of jobs from

youth worker to primary and secondary school teacher. Christian education worker and librarian, until "retiring" at the age of 60.

"My grandparents and parents were strong healthy people and were active into their 70s," she said. "I also decided to do something of value between the age of 60 to 70."

Miss Mills was a lay preacher previously, familiar to English-speaking congregations of the Methodist Church in Fiji.

Now she conducts communion, baptism, marriages and funeral services, which were not possible as a lay person.

Miss Mills does not feel it is too late to get involved in a new field of work.

"I believe God has His own timing for your life. This was opportune timing and an unexpected opportunity to study and consider the ministry," she said.

When the door opened for her she went through, and she says that when one person leads the way others will follow.

Now there is a young Fijian woman studying at the Pacific Theological College to become a church minister.

Miss Mills is confident that women will be widely accepted as ministers, and feels it is good for Christian women and the church to have more women in the ministry.



Fiji's doctor sisters: Dr Devi Lata Sharma (left), and Dr Devi Saraswati Sharma.

Joe Lynch, Tuvalu's attorney-general until last December, when he returned to Australia, is back in Tuvalu working on the redrafting of the country's constitution.

Air Pacific captains **Kava Konrote** and **Sam Nasu** have successfully completed a DC-10-30 ground simulator course at Western Airlines operations centre in Los Angeles, and Captain Konrote has made his first flight (Honolulu-Nadi) in command of a DC-10.

Supervising pilot on the April 12 flight, Captain **Ray Gunnell** of Western Airlines, said that Captain Konrote did an outstanding job. "For his first time on a wide-body aircraft, he flew like a true professional. He is surely a professional aviator, and a credit to Air Pacific," said Captain Gunnell.

The two Fijian pilots spent six weeks on the ground course and were due to fly on-line on Air Pacific's three flights each week from Nadi to Honolulu for about two months under the supervision of check and training captains before qualifying to command the aircraft.

Air Pacific's DC-10 has at present a contracted flight crew and the training of Captains

Konrote and Nasu is the first phase in enabling the airline to fly its own DC-10 with its own personnel.

Air Pacific at present provides the cabin crew for the aircraft.

Appointments made this year to the staff of the Suva-based South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC) include:

Peter Moore, research and planning officer. Mr Moore is on leave without pay from the Australian Government. In his new job he will be working in the areas of regional development planning and aid to South Pacific Forum Island countries. He will also act as liaison officer with the UN's Economic and Social Council for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), the United Nations Development Program (UNDP), and the Australian Development Assistance Bureau (ADAB).

Paul McDonnell, transport and communications officer. Mr McDonnell recently left the job of secretary of the department of trade, labor and transport in the Cook Islands Government. In his new post he will be involved in a number of projects, including the Pacific Forum Line (PFL), the regional transport survey, uniform maritime standards, and shipping and civil aviation matters in general.

Tinian Reiher, project officer. Mr Reiher is on leave without pay from the Kiribati Government.

At SPEC he is responsible for a number of projects, including SPEC's dialogue with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the regional sugar agreement, and quarantine. He will also be liaison officer with the University of the South Pacific (USP).

President **Reagan** has designated Congressman **Robert J. Lagomarsino** to be a member of the Northern Mariana Islands commission on federal laws.

Mr Lagomarsino will succeed the late Representative **Phillip Burton**, who died last year.



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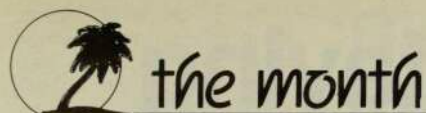
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Reaganomics for the islands

The training conference and trade exhibition "Pacific Island-United States Trade Through Private Sector Development", held in Honolulu in March (18-24), reflected the present U.S. administration's economic orientation and emphasised its faith that the private sector can play an important role in the development of Pacific Island economies.

This emphasis was consistent with the involvement of private business interests in the last two South Pacific Conferences, both held in American territories. As will be recalled, American Samoa's Governor Peter Coleman arranged to have about 50 private sector sponsors for the 22nd conference in Pago Pago in 1982. The Northern Marianas followed suit with the 23rd conference at Saipan last year and had a pre-conference session for private interests.

With regard to the recent Honolulu affair, the attendance was substantial. At least 16 nations and territories were represented — the Marshalls, Nauru, New Caledonia, and Wallis and Futuna were absent. The participants were approximately 220 in number. About 150 of them came from the island Pacific outside of Hawaii, and while there was a sprinkling of expatriate faces, the majority were indigenous islanders. The other 70-odd people were representatives of various federal agencies, business concerns, and interested observers.

A total of \$75,000, or about half of the funding in support of the conference and exhibition, was provided by the U.S. Agency for International Development. Other major contributors were the Foundation for the Peoples of the South Pacific, the Asia Foundation, and the United Nations Development Program.

About 80 of the islands parti-

cipants received some financial subsidy which allowed them to travel to Honolulu. The aid was entirely for non-American regions — participants from American flag islands were financed by themselves or their governments. The main organiser was the recently formed Pan Pacific Alliance for Trade and Development, a private organisation designed to foster U.S./Pacific interests (PIM, Dec '83 p15).

The conference dealt with practical issues such as how to: assess potential American markets; promote products in the U.S.; deal with federal regulatory agencies such as customs, food and drug administration, agriculture, etc., and develop business contacts. Problems of transportation and shipping were also discussed.

The organisers were quite pleased with the results, and there may be an attempt to stage a repeat next year.

To this observer, the quality and success of the conference's sessions were quite uneven, and at times there were organisational problems. In a good number of instances, it was painfully clear that U.S. officials did not know enough about the Pacific to understand

or to be sensitive to its developmental needs. A few island participants also expressed some distaste — if not distrust — about the rah-rah glad-handing style of some of the business types. As most observers in the region are well aware, aggressive self-aggrandisement is not appreciated in most of the Pacific.

There was no doubt, however, that there was a good deal of enthusiasm on the part of all, and the island participants evidenced an eagerness to crack American markets. There was also no doubt that the trade fair was well received. Pacific products were attractively displayed, and the event was enjoyed by all concerned.

As far as American policy is concerned, much of the U.S. Agency for International Development's effort in the region over the next five or so years will be guided by a focus on the development of private enterprise. It is projected that training will be offered in technology transfer, marketing skills, management and understanding the marketplace.

At the core of such a developmental focus is the belief that the private sector might well play an important role in promoting the local manufacturing of goods that can be substituted for items that are now imported. For example, it does seem unfortunate to import such things as cooking oils and many soap products when

A View from Honolulu



**Robert C. Kiste
looks at
the Pacific**

the oil of coconut palms is available locally in abundance.

It would seem, however, that when dealing with the private sector, it cannot be assumed that the "profit motive" works in the Pacific as it does in North America. Priorities often lie elsewhere as most island peoples still place value upon their kin and other social obligations.

'Pacifica '84'

Turning to another matter, when the office of the High Commissioner, U.S. Trust Territory of the Pacific, began phasing out its operations a few years ago, the Micronesian News Service was closed down.

It had been the main source of news that reached Honolulu from Micronesia, and reporting has been spotty at best ever since. This has been a source of



At the private-sector trade conference in Honolulu, left to right: Edgar C. Harrell, acting assistant administrator, Bureau for Private Enterprise, U.S. Agency for International Development; Governor Peter Tali Coleman, American Samoa; Ambassador Fred M. Zeder, U.S. Office of Micronesian Negotiations; Phillip Cridge, assistant secretary, trade and investment promotion, Papua New Guinea. — Caroline Yacoe photo.

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LEADERS IN BATTERY TECHNOLOGY

concern to those of us in Honolulu with an interest in the area, and Micronesians have also not been pleased. What has been reported has often been the spectacular or negative, e.g., the Kwajalein landholders' demonstrations, cholera on Truk, and arson in Palau.

To remedy this situation, a new publication has been launched. Volume 1, Number 1 of *Pacifica '84*, a news magazine first appeared in April. It comes in tabloid size and is published by Pacifica Publications, Post Office Box 1048, Agana, Guam 96910.

The editor-publisher is Mike Malone, a long-time Micronesian hand, former correspondent for newspapers in Guam, the Northern Marianas, and the Marshalls and more recently, editor of *Glimpses of Micronesia and the Western Pacific*, a glossy quarterly magazine also out of Guam.

It is often observed that contemporary lines of communication tend to flow along the old channels between the islands and the metropolitan centres. Unfortunately, this appears to be the case with *Pacifica '84*. The targeted audiences are Guam, the separate polities of the dissolving trust territory, Hawaii, and, to a lesser extent, the U.S. mainland. Subscription information is complete for these areas. Foreign subscriptions are available, but the details must be obtained by writing to the publisher.

Pacifica '84 should be of interest to readers outside American areas in the Pacific. The first issue covers a wide range of topics about current events in Micronesia. There are also articles about the U.S. involvement in the larger Pacific, including a substantial interview on U.S. policy in the region with Richard Dols, the career diplomat in charge of the Office of Pacific Affairs, U.S. Department of State. The format of *Pacifica '84* is attractive and it is well illustrated. In his opening editorial comment, Mike Malone tells us *Pacifica '84* is now a monthly but will appear twice monthly in the near future. This new publication is to be welcomed, and we wish Mike the best of good fortune. — Robert C. Kiste.

'Rick' Montoya's tough message

There has not been anyone like Richard Montoya to hit Micronesia and Guam in years. The 35-year-old Hispanic, who comes from the State of New Mexico, was confirmed earlier this year as the assistant secretary of interior for territorial and international affairs. He replaces Pedro Sanjuan, and is the top official in the Reagan administration for territorial matters.

"Rick" Montoya has the suave, debonair looks of an Italian movie star. That's especially so when he dons one of his favorite tropical outfits: a well-cut light blue suit, white shirt and a gold chain around his neck.

But if he might initially strike some as a pushover, they could be in for an uncomfortable surprise. Montoya, who has paid his dues in Republican Party politics, is a man with a mission in the territories. His role is to take the Reagan administration message of fiscal austerity to the debt-ridden Pacific Islands and put the fear

of God into local officials.

"The day of reckoning is here and it's time that (Island leaders) started acting like responsible officials," Montoya said during a recent interview. "The message I have been trying to get across is that government employment is not the answer to economic development." "I think the U.S. Government is sending a very clear message to them" — about as clear as a speeding tank.

The line Montoya has been pushing in Micronesia and on Guam is not new to this administration. The Carter territorial team, in its last year in office, began talking with some seriousness about fiscal accountability.

But coming from Montoya, who works for one of the most conservative American governments in decades, the message has a starkness that has more than a few Micronesians and Guamanians wondering.

And it is more than Montoya's quiet forcefulness — and

Notes from the North



Floyd K. Takeuchi
on Micronesia

numerous trips to the Pacific — that is driving the point home. Montoya says the new philosophy will survive the Reagan administration because it has become ingrained in those Americans who have the most direct influence on territorial funding: congressional staffers and policy experts who usually survive changes in administration.

"They aren't getting a dollar's worth for a dollar appropriated," Montoya says of the all-important senators and congressmen. "I really think that this is more than just the president's initiative."

And territorial officials should not expect Washington to come to their aid if they exceed their budgets — a rather common practice.

"There is that false perception that there is a bail-out available," Montoya acknowledges. "But Washington has a consistent policy that is going to stand. They're going to have to live within their means."

Right now, Montoya claims, his efforts are "nudges" rather than "slaps on the face." Persistent nudges, to be sure.

He hopes the gentle approach will lead to a "privatisation" of hospitals, telephone systems, electrical power generation, commercial ports and airports.

But what if such methods don't work? If Ronald Reagan wins a second term, and if Rick Montoya stays at his Interior Department post, many islanders could find that the net four years will be very long indeed. — Floyd K. Takeuchi, in Honolulu.



Richard T. Montoya — U.S. Department of the Interior photo.

A difficult visit for Mr Lemoine

Independence Front (IF) members boycotted the visit in early April of French Minister for Overseas Territories, Georges Lemoine. Mr Lemoine, who visited New Caledonia twice in 1983, came this time to discuss the five-year autonomy statute proposed by his government. However, unlike previous trips,

the minister spent most of his time in the countryside and only met with political leaders the day of his departure.

In calling the boycott, and for demonstrations in the villages visited by the minister, the IF accused France of using the autonomy statute to continue colonialism for another five

years, and of ignoring their call for a precise timetable leading to independence.

But the first demonstration encountered by Mr Lemoine was put on by the Caledonian Front, a hard-line group opposed to independence. About 100 Caledonian Front members, led by Republican member of the territorial assembly, Justin Guillemard, demonstrated outside the administrative headquarters at La Foa on the west coast. The demonstrators told the minister they were fed up with harassment from the IF in the countryside and with land occupations. They called for an end to the land reform system, and for respect for private property and for democratic rights. One Caledonian Front member warned there could be "regrettable incidents", because European farmers had reached the limits of tolerance.

Throughout his tour of the northwest and the top half of the east coast Mr Lemoine encountered a cold reception from Kanak villagers. At Noelly, in the mountain chain, demonstrators told the minister they rejected his autonomy project, and the tribal spokesman hesitated to accept a custom gift. At Neamy, further on in the chain, the village was deserted save for an old man and children at kindergarten.

At Bopope, members of the Palika Party demonstrated against the autonomy statute and later discussed some of their claims with the minister. At Hienghene, on the northeast coast, Mr Lemoine lunched with mayor and IF leader Jean-Marie Tjibaou, as well as the great chiefs of the region. Mr Tjibaou explained to PIM that arrangements for Mr Lemoine's visit to his town had been made before the IF decision to boycott. At the site for the Hienghene Cultural Centre Mr Lemoine was greeted by a demonstration and the Kanak independence flag flying from a traditional house.

Later the minister encountered a road block outside Ponerihouen where IF and Palika members told him they rejected the autonomy plans, and accused him of trying to divide the Kanak people. However, Mr Lemoine received a

Noumea Notebook



Helen Fraser

warm welcome at Neoueta tribe at Ponerihouen where he spent the night. The minister was also greeted with traditional welcomes in the tribal villages in the southern district of Yate that he visited.

However, it was in Noumea that the largest demonstration awaited Mr Lemoine. About 600 IF and Palika members demonstrated on the minister's last day in the territory, while he was holding talks with local political leaders. Led by IF leaders and members of the Territorial Assembly, the demonstration met up with a cordon of helmeted and shield-carrying police, with the *garde mobile* behind them.

The police had received orders not to allow the demonstrators to approach the gates of the French High Commission where the minister was engaged in the talks. However, faced with the evident determination of the demonstrators to advance the 30 metres requested, even if it meant a battle with police, they were allowed to move forward. After speeches a delegation of 12 IF and trade union leaders were received by Mr Lemoine and spent 90 minutes with him.

The result of these talks was a joint statement, in which the IF and the minister agreed on the creation of a special state-territory committee. The task of this committee will be to prepare what was termed "the exercise of the innate and active right of the Kanak people to independence by way of a referendum." This right was recognised by France during the round table talks held at



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Nainville-les-Roches in France in July last year, and the IF has since been calling for it to be put into practice. The state-territory committee will also deal with the tricky question of who can vote in a referendum on the territory's future. The IF demands that the vote be restricted to Kanaks and others with at least one parent born in the territory, a proposal firmly rejected by the Republican Party (RPCR), while the French Government describes the demand as unconstitutional.

IF leader Jean-Marie Tjibaou told the demonstrators later that the creation of the committee was a small step forward, but that it should be looked at in historical terms.

But the IF remained wary and informed Mr Lemoine of the formation of the Kanak National Liberation Front (KNLF). This new, more militant organisation will come into effect if the French parliament imposes the autonomy statute, accompanied by an IF boycott of New Caledonia's elections (due to be held before September 15) and withdrawal of IF politicians from territorial institutions. The French parliament is expected to debate the autonomy plans during the sitting which began in May.

However, all of New Caledonia's political groups voted to reject the autonomy statute when it came before the Territorial Assembly for its opinion during a special sitting, opened on April 16. The IF boycotted the opening leading to the lack of a quorum, and the

sitting resumed three days later.

In his opening speech the French High Commissioner, Jacques Roynette, said that he felt conditions were right for dialogue. Concerning the debate over the political future of New Caledonia, Mr Roynette said that calls for reason and moderation had been often heeded in the past and that he was convinced they would be heeded again.

Speaking against the autonomy statute in the assembly debate three days later Yeiwené Yeiwené of the IF said the French plans contained no undertaking towards independence. He said use of terms such as 'president' and 'minister' were an attempt by France to trick the territory's South Pacific neighbors into believing that decolonisation was taking place.

The small centre party, the FNSC, voted against the statute because the 75 amendments it had proposed were not taken into account by Mr Lemoine. The FNSC is pro-autonomy but had many technical criticisms of the French statute.

A spokesman for the anti-independence Republican Party, RPCR, speaking against the statute, said it introduced racism into New Caledonia's institutions and would produce civil war if the French umbrella and tutelage were removed.

But the Territorial Assembly is only asked for its opinion — although it can suggest amendments. The real decision is to come from the French parliament. — Helen Fraser.



Jean-Marie Tjibaou (second from left) greets French minister Georges Lemoine on his visit to the north-east New Caledonian town of Hienghène in April.

Much ado about a Catch-22

Since 1973 the official platform of the French Socialist Party has enshrined the noble principle of self-determination for the inhabitants of France's remaining overseas territories. In the last presidential election campaign, candidate Mitterrand frequently reminded the voters of New Caledonia and French Polynesia of this firm commitment. He told French Polynesia's political party leaders in a message: "If the Polynesians wish to change the existing statute, I promise to undertake this task in close collaboration with all their political parties and elected leaders."

By the time of the 1981 presidential election all of French Polynesia's leading politicians were clamoring for full internal self-government of the Cook Islands type. In March 1980, even the most pro-French and pro-nuclear of them, Gaston Flosse, had joined the chorus (PIM May '80 p.27). Some political parties, representing about 20 per cent of the electorate, had gone further and come out in favor of independence.

To the surprise and delight of all concerned, President Mitterrand, once elected, seemed keen to live up to his campaign promises. First indications of this came from no less a person than the new Secretary of State for Overseas Departments and Territories, Henri Emmanuelli, who, only a few months after the socialists took office, invited Francis Sanford, then the majority leader in the Territorial Assembly and vice-president of the Government Council, to send a few of his trusted aides to Paris to make propositions as to how to recast the old-fashioned colonial system in a more liberal mould (PIM Oct '81 p.23).

The task turned out to be tougher than anyone expected. Over the next 10 months the Polynesian negotiators travelled no fewer than six times to Paris to participate in what were

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Marie-Thérèse and Bengt Danielsson

called "round table talks". (Why these encounters were so named is still a mystery to us, since press pictures of the occasion invariably showed stern-faced Polynesians and Frenchmen sitting at opposite sides of a rectangular table.)

The reason for the constant deadlock was that the French negotiators flatly refused to grant the Polynesians any real power of decision in the areas which mattered to them most: exploitation of the wealth of the sea, large-scale investments, international air and maritime traffic, external trade, control over immigration from metropolitan France, radio and TV programs, and land tenure.

Not only that, but Emmanuelli and his clever aides in their grey flannel suits were also bent on keeping control of the police, the judicial system, banking and credit, higher education, scientific research and municipal affairs — leaving as the chief task of the Polynesians, as before, the irksome business of trying to balance the budget with the help of locally raised revenues.

For once, the official explanation offered for this stubborn refusal to loosen up the colonial bonds seemed to be

the true one: to give the natives any real power would set them on the slippery path to independence. This the French Government could not abide, as long as Moruroa and Fangataufa were needed as testing sites for nuclear weapons.

The already stiff attitude of the Paris bureaucrats hardened even further when, in the May 1982 territorial elections, Francis Sanford was booted out of office by the *Tahoeraa* party leader Gaston Flosse, who by this time had become a staunch supporter and close friend of Jacques Chirac, boss of the Rightwing RPR party, and Mitterrand's most acerbic critic (PIM July '82 p.22).

Sure enough, when the draft of the "new statute granting internal self-government to French Polynesia" was at long last completed in August 1983, under the supervision of Georges Lemoine (who had succeeded Emmanuelli), it turned out to be nothing more than a muddled rewrite of the existing statute, long ago rejected as totally inadequate by all Polynesian parties.

Flosse, who had been quietly fuming for some time, exploded and vented his anger in the Territorial Assembly on September 31, 1983, accusing French Government officials who had conducted the negotiations of being "mean haggles, insensitive to the rightful aspirations of the Polynesian people". The *Tahoeraa* majority in the assembly sent the draft bill back to Paris accompanied by some equally rude remarks.

Senator Daniel Millaud, the chief spokesman for the opposition parties — which have been fighting for self-government since the early 1960s — for once agreed with his political adversaries, and used such terms as "monstrosity", "joke", "caricature", to describe the proposed "new" statute. The pill was all the more bitter to swallow since the Melanesian leaders in New Caledonia were at this very time being promised far-reaching statutory reforms leading eventually to independence.

The problem confronting Flosse — as it has confronted all his predecessors — is of the Catch-22 type: in order to



Gaston Flosse: A Catch-22 on a new statute — "in order to change the rules, the rules must first be changed ..."

change the rules, the rules must first be changed. It sounds crazy, but the fact is, according to the rules laid down in the present statute, only the French Government has the right to propose any statutory changes, and the only thing the Territorial Assembly can do is offer a non-binding opinion. Whereupon the French National Assembly makes its own sovereign decision, which becomes law, even if it flies straight in the face of the wishes of the Polynesians.

Flosse took the only course left open to him: he sought an audience with President Mitterrand, in the hope that the rebuffs he had experienced so far were mainly the work of ministerial underlings. Mitterrand set aside an hour for Flosse on October 19, 1983, and listened attentively and sympathetically to his complaints.

But when a Paris news bulletin next referred to "the liberal reforms the government planned to introduce in French Polynesia", the draft bill had already been sent to the National Assembly, without any significant changes.

Flosse made a last valiant attempt to stop the French juggernaut from rolling over him by convening the Territorial Assembly on April 12. What he obviously hoped for was a strong endorsement across party lines for a motion requesting the French Government to

do a last-minute about-face and completely rewrite the worthless draft bill.

Jean Juventin, the new leader of the main opposition party, *Here Aia*, quickly dashed his hopes. He argued, with unassailable logic: "Why try to mobilise the Territorial Assembly, which has no power of decision in the matter? The right forum for a counter-attack is the National Assembly, where the territory is represented by two deputies, myself and Flosse's man Tutaha Salmon. You can count on us. When the draft bill comes up for debate in Paris we'll introduce so many amendments that the final version will give us the full internal self-government we want."

This stand, coupled with a declaration that the six *Here Aia* assemblymen intended to abstain during the planned special session, brought Flosse's tactics undone.

Not surprisingly, the debate into which the government and opposition assemblymen plunged on the appointed day soon degenerated into a noisy free-for-all, with insults being traded across the house. The worst offender, as usual, was the majestic Napoléon Spitz who fired off furious tirades against all those miserable wretches, inside and outside the assembly, who had the temerity to advocate secession from the glorious French fatherland.

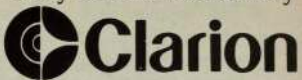
The one statesmanlike

speech came from former majority leader Francis Sanford, who in sum told his colleagues: "There is no way of stopping the historic forces working towards independence, here as elsewhere in the world. One day this territory will be independent, whether you like it or not. The right to independence is moreover inscribed in the French constitution. To work for independence is therefore neither an offence nor a crime."

To underscore the point, Sanford voted during the rest of the session with the three assemblymen from the party most rabidly in favor of independence, *la mana te nunaa*. In the end, the *Tahoeraa* motion, politely asking the French Government for a better deal, was approved by only 17 of the 27 assemblymen present.

At time of writing, the National Assembly has not yet placed "Draft Bill No. 1871 of December 7, 1983, tending to endow French Polynesia with a new statute" on its agenda.

But in view of the fact that the Socialist Party has an absolute majority, and that their conservative opponents have even more retrograde opinions on colonial problems, there is practically no chance that the two Polynesian deputies will be able to persuade the parliament to put an end to the colonial Stone Age in which we still live here in these islands. — Bengt and Marie-Thérèse Danielsson.

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"Popjonpul, mipela laikim yu!"



The Pope greets two tiny Highland children during the open-air Mass at Mt Hagen. AP color radiophoto.

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Grandstand view from a tree on Mt Hagen golf course for fifteen Highlanders attending the open-air Mass.



Highland warriors declared a truce in tribal fighting, left their bows and arrows at home, and turned up in their splendid traditional ceremonial dress, with spears, to greet the Pope.

The faithful came from near and far, dressed in their finery: tall feathered head dresses, wondrous face-paint, and grand, wild raiment. Never was there such a gathering as occurred in Mount Hagen to greet the arrival of a chunky Polish cleric, clad in the white robes, and the great aura, of the Pope.

The Church estimates it has about 700,000 adherents in Papua New Guinea. Nearly 200,000 of them turned up in Mount Hagen to see His Holiness and to hear him say Mass in pidgin. Some had travelled for weeks through the rugged Highlands to get to the rain-sodden Mt Hagen golf course and stand, ankle-deep in mud, through the three-hour service. Some Tribesmen from remote villages among the mountains had even dragged 9 metre crosses to Mt Hagen for the Pope's blessing. This done they will haul them back again and erect them in their villages, as a sign of their faith, and to remind them of the great visit.

There were warriors, dressed as they have been for aeons of time, carrying spears and axes. There were bare-breasted maidens, old women and marvelling children, all chanting "PopJonPul, mi laikim yu" as the Pontiff arrived. Then a 100-member choir sang "Happy Birthday," and "For He's a

Jolly Good Fellow" in English; the Pope's 64th birthday is on May 18.

The Pope himself was almost as bright as the tribesmen ... clad in shining white, wearing his broad-brimmed red hat during his ride through the throng, and then donning the splendid white and gold robes of his office as he said the Mass, surrounded by cardinals and bishops in red vestments. Vatican pressmen struggled to get good pictures of the extraordinary scene, and ran foul of baton-wielding PNG policemen, struggling even more determinedly to protect their visitor. One photographer was munched on the leg by a police dog caught up in the general enthusiasm.

Earlier, in Port Moresby, the Pope was treated to a grand official welcome at Jackson's Airport, by the Governor-General, Sir Kingsford Dibela, and the prime minister, Mr Michael Somare, accompanied by all the dignitaries and chief citizens of Port Moresby, and other cities and towns.

From PNG the Papal party went to Honiara for one day, but non-Vatican journalists were banned from covering the visit because of Solomons government nervousness about terrorists slipping in disguised as newsmen.

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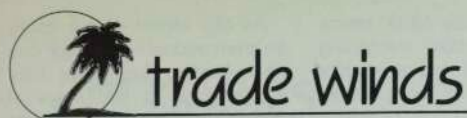
Nearly 200,000 people thronged Mt Hagen for the Pope's visit. Flanked by police cars, attended by cardinals, he was given a tumultuous welcome.



A gift of arrows, hunting variety, for the Pope, handed up to his Land Rover from the pressed-tight crowd.



Off to Honiara: The Pope boards an Air Niugini F28 jet airliner for the trip from Port Moresby to Honiara on May 9.



Tuna: Experts warn of 'pockets of fishing pressure'

Tuna occupies a favored place on the economic platter of Pacific Island countries.

Right across the South Pacific, national development plans are highlighting the prospect of a tuna bonanza based on nationally owned export operations, joint ventures, or the licensing of foreign vessels — or a combination of all three.

Many of the smaller states regard the tuna fishery — at least, their portion of it — as the means by which they can progress towards, if not ultimately achieve, economic self-sufficiency.

But in developmental terms the island countries are only just acquiring a taste for tuna. And it is not altogether clear they will get what they order.

Clouding the prospect, at one level, is a biological factor: tunas move about a lot. Some species track across thousands of kilometres of tropical and sub-tropical ocean, unmindful of territorial waters, 200-mile economic zones, or relative economic interests. Regional research programs have yet to plot the tuna migrations with any degree of certainty. But the research has shown the total resource to be considerable.

The fishermen know that now. The chase is on — by foreign fleets and some locally owned vessels — for the main commercial tunas, yellowfin and skipjack. Other species, including bonito, bluefin and albacore, are of interest too.

Fisheries scientists report the possibility of "extremely large" yields and "phenomenal" catches by the purse-seine fleets.

Fishing methods, catching patterns and vessel size and origin have all changed dramatically in recent years.

Back in the 1950s tuna fisheries were the preserve of

NEVILLE PEAT, a New Zealand ministry of foreign affairs information officer, reviews developments in the tuna fishing business in the South Pacific.

subsistence fishermen and a few small-scale operations. Longlining was introduced by Asian fleets in this decade, but they sought only the larger species of tuna and fished far from shore. Their impact on the

subsistence fishing grounds was unnoticeable.

In the 1960s, pole-and-line vessels from Japan entered the region.

By the early 1970s, some island governments were sup-

porting joint ventures based on the pole-and-line technology, which involves the entire crew of a vessel individually trying to hook and hoist aboard the smaller tuna, like skipjack.

The late 1970s saw the arrival in force of the expensive purse-seine technique, which involves the encirclement of schools of fish with nets, a much less selective method than pole-and-line.

Japanese and American



Part of the might of Japan's fishing fleet assembled at the port of Shimonoseki. — Japan Information Centre, Sydney, photo.

purse-seine vessels made an impact in a short time.

In the last few years, the tuna catch by purse-seining in the Central and Western Pacific has exceeded that by all other gear types. Indeed, as the use of purse-seining has spread, there has been a decline in pole-and-line and longline fleets.

In 1983 the American purse-seine fleet was estimated at between 50 and 60 vessels — a number which is expected to increase to 90 this year.

Yet last year the industry was in the throes of a slump. Tuna prices were low. A glut affected some American canneries. And changes in oceanic conditions in the Eastern Pacific (the Southern Oscillation/El Niño de Navidad phenomenon) altered tuna migration habits and caused many of the American vessels to work more assured fishing grounds in the South-west Pacific, far from their traditional areas of operation.

The purse-seiners seek mainly the big yellowfin tuna, a species more abundant in the South Pacific than previously thought. Studies show this, and

so do catches.

Catches by certain foreign fleets now exceed in value the gross national product of some of the smaller island states.

But the fisheries scientists are beginning to sound warnings.

Pockets of fishing pressure are expected to have a regional bearing given the migratory nature of tunas.

There is now officially "cause for concern" about the increasing exploitation of tuna fisheries by vessels engaged in purse-seining.

As for the skipjack tuna, the goal of pole-and-line vessels, catches are well within the maximum sustainable yield of known stocks, although the scientists are quick to point out that fishery inter-action is still poorly understood.

Optimum yields will only be achieved, they say, if fishing effort heeds the distribution of fish — in other words, some form of management is required at regional level.

Fisheries officers in island governments are warned to look out for evidence of "heavy localised exploitation" by, in

particular, purse-seine operations, which take everything, yellowfin tuna and everything else enclosed by the great bite of the net.

This year the regional research work will try to win more catch-and-effort data from the distant-water fleets — data which can be used to better evaluate the standing stocks of tuna and the inter-action between and among fisheries that comes from the fishing pressure.

What regional bodies such as the Forum Fisheries Agency (Honiara) and the South Pacific Commission (Noumea) are trying to demonstrate is that although the total resources may be great, they are not infinite, and that the best-laid management plans for one country's 200-mile zone can come unstuck if due account is not taken of the fishing activities going on next door.

These two organisations are committed to identifying the resources available to each of the island member countries, and to maximising economic returns.

As one aspect of this effort, an international conference due to be held in Noumea in June will attempt to find ways of improving the tuna catch data available to research scientists from foreign fishing fleets.

The conference arises from the work of the South Pacific Commission's Tuna and Billfish Assessment Program (TBAP), which is trying to evaluate the region's resources and determine the impact of fishing pressure on tuna fishery in particular.

Up until now research has been hampered by the lack of catch-and-effort data from foreign fishing fleets.

The TBAP was set up in October, 1981, as a successor to a four-year program of research into one commercial species of tuna, skipjack.

New Zealand, under its official regional aid program in the South Pacific, contributed \$80,000 towards the TBAP in 1982-83 and \$60,000 in the current year.

continued on page 50



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Governor's memoirs long on dash, short on detail



Sir Ronald Garvey in full-dress uniform during his term as Governor of Fiji, 1952-58. Now in his 80s, he "evidently retains his youthful exuberance, if this book is anything to go by ..."

Gentleman Pauper. By Sir Ronald Garvey. Published by New Horizons (Transeuros Ltd), Bognor Regis, United Kingdom, 1983. ISBN 0 86116 885 2. Price UK 4.95 pounds. About the time R. W. Robson was laying the foundations of his *Pacific Islands Monthly*, a young man with an inexhaustible appetite for life and an accompanying fund of good humor was in the early stages of his own career at one of the most out-of-the-way corners of the Pacific — the south-eastern Solomons.

A decade later we find the two travelling together to Ocean Island, only weeks away from the outbreak of the Japanese War, with Robbie's identity mysteriously cloaked in a pseudonym. PIM is now 53 years old, its former proprietor in his 99th year, and the young man over 80 — but he evidently retains his youthful exuberance, if this book is anything to go by.

Sir Ronald Garvey emerges from its pages a romantic figure, yet one well endowed with the resilience and resourcefulness to cope with the problems that were always liable to beset an administrator in isolated island communities.

The first two chapters of *Gentleman Pauper* concern boyhood and university days, the rest deals with the author's varied experiences from cadet to governor in the former colonial service. The list of territories touched on is an impressive one: the Solomons, the Gilbert and Ellice (now Kiribati and Tuvalu), Tonga, the New Hebrides (now Vanuatu) and New Caledonia, Ocean Island or Banaba, Nyasaland (now Malawi), St Vincent, British Honduras (now Belize), Fiji and Pitcairn Island. Two-thirds of his service were devoted to the South Pacific and few men had

a wider knowledge of it in his day. "Whatever the circumstances," the secretary of state for the colonies roundly declared after a slip-up in his own office had gravely embarrassed Sir Ronald, "we could rely upon you to take the right action."

The plan of the book is to introduce each territory with a brief, descriptive note and then the author launches into his rich reminiscing. It would be a mistake, however, to assume it is all light-hearted summoning up of a past which is gone for ever. The Belize chapter with its reference to Soviet infiltration in Central America at the beginning of the '50s has a distinctly topical ring about it: "It is as well", the author comments, "to remember the Cuban saying that revolution is like a water melon: the more you slice it the redder it gets."

The spread of the money economy throughout the third world has brought in its wake special problems for peoples whose way of life has hitherto been largely a subsistence one. Sir Ronald makes a strong plea (the most serious section of the book) in support of credit unions the aim of which is to teach people how to manage money. The movement has achieved much during the last 30 years in Fiji, where a training school has been established to cater for the needs of the surrounding islands. In the book's prologue there is a positive barrage of home truths voiced by the Fijian director of this credit union school, underlining the sensitivity of many small nations — in particular, towards the patronising attitudes adopted by metropolitan developers.

For the most part, however, throughout these memoirs the raconteur takes first place. The



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style is expansive without bothering over much about inaccuracies. Textual errors occur fairly frequently and one gains the impression that the contents have been put together unrevised. There are, for example, within 27 pages no fewer than three descriptions in similar terms of the Fijian *yaqona* (kava). The author avowedly relies on memory and personal record but, when it comes to certain events over 40 years ago, this reviewer for one would hesitate to depend on his memory alone — without recourse to official documentation. A case in point is the celebrated coup d'état of September 19, 1940, when the government of New Caledonia was taken over by Gaullist elements under the leadership of Henri Sautot, French resident commissioner from the New Hebrides.

Sir Ronald at that time was assistant to R. D. Blandy, the British resident commissioner in the condominium, and he has this to say: "By the time I had settled into my new job it was time for Blandy to go on leave so that I became acting resident commissioner at a particularly interesting time. France had fallen, the Pétain government had been brought into being by the Germans and de Gaulle was about to establish the Free French movement." In reality the general had already issued his rallying call à la France Libre some two months earlier (June 18, 1940), the author having assumed duty as assistant at Vila on August 25, while Blandy did not proceed on leave until January of the following year. The latter's name does not appear again in the pages of *Gentleman Pauper* but he was one of the principal participants in the build-up to the historic event at Noumea and should be remembered as such.

Although the coup turned out to be bloodless, it was no pushover as might be inferred from its treatment by the author. A recent, carefully researched work (*The Cross of Lorraine in the South Pacific* by John Lawrey, reviewed in PIM, July 1982) indicates it was a rather more complicated affair. While it is not the function of this review to describe in detail the sequence of happenings, it has to be recorded that *Gentle-*

man Pauper ignores one of the major issues. This was the confrontation between a French warship, the *Dumont d'Urville* whose captain, a forceful character once met, never forgotten, was a strong supporter of Vichy, and H.M.A.S. *Adelaide*, laid on as a result of London/Canberra consultations to escort Henri Sautot from Vila to Noumea. Far from having left for Indo-China as asserted by Sir Ronald, the *Dumont d'Urville* was in Noumea harbor. She remained there for six days after Sautot's arrival and it was only after some tense negotiating by Captain H. A. Showers of the *Adelaide* that she and her formidable commander withdrew — without a clash. *Adelaide* continued on at Noumea for another nine days, her presence helping to stabilise conditions ashore. Second only to the gallant Sautot himself, the Australian captain was the right man for the occasion. Memoirs inevitably tend to emphasise the personal side but, when it comes to events of



Sir Ronald Garvey (centre) is led into Fiji's Legislative Council by the Speaker, Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna.

historical significance, there is an added obligation to present a balanced record.

Apart from that aspect, however, there is much to interest the reader in the less frequented byways of the South Pacific featuring in this book — such as the kingdom of Tonga,

Pitcairn, the Line Islands or the Santa Cruz group. The chapter on the last-named is a delightful melange of history, archeology, ethnology — and adventurous voyaging in search of a "lost" island to claim for the Crown. This is the stuff at which the author excels. — A. C. Reid.

Well-crafted novel on turn-of-century British New Guinea

Sticks that Kill. By Trevor Shearston. Published by University of Queensland Press, 1983. pp ix, 592. ISBN 0 7022 1804 9. Price \$A14.95.

I had greatly enjoyed Trevor Shearston's book of short stories, *Something in the Blood*, and I set out to read this novel, *Sticks that Kill*, with great interest. I was not disappointed.

It is an historical novel set in the period from 1901 until June, 1904 when British New Guinea, which became known as Papua after 1906, was legally under the Colonial Office but was being transferred to Australian control as Australian Federation was achieved. It was a time when the senior officials came from Britain, the majority of subordinate officers were Australian, there was some Australian resentment over government restrictions on

European enterprise, and the London Missionary Society mission was out of sympathy with the government.

The first chapters are devoted to the *mise en scène*. The extent of the author's knowledge of the country and the depth of his research are revealed in his excellent descriptions of places, whether of the uninspiring little colonial backwater that was Port Moresby, or the swamp-ridden villages of the Papuan Gulf, or the mountains of the Binandere country. In his picture of life in Port Moresby, some of the sub-plots are based on fact. There was a white market gardener, for example, who died in the circumstances described in the book; and an official who died when he fell down some steps, probably when drunk, and whose widow married another local official.

Events are largely seen through the eyes of John Rhys, a young Australian clerk who has come to New Guinea in search of adventure. He includes an account of events and his comments on them in letters to his brother. He quickly learns Motu, the local Papuan language, which enables the author to provide some insights into Papuan society. Rhys forms, or rather has imposed upon him, a friendship with Judge Tyson, in spite of his disapproval of some of Tyson's attitudes and actions. This brings him close to the main theme of the book — the killing of missionary James Lockhart and Tyson's reactions, and the subsequent punitive expeditions carried out by the administration.

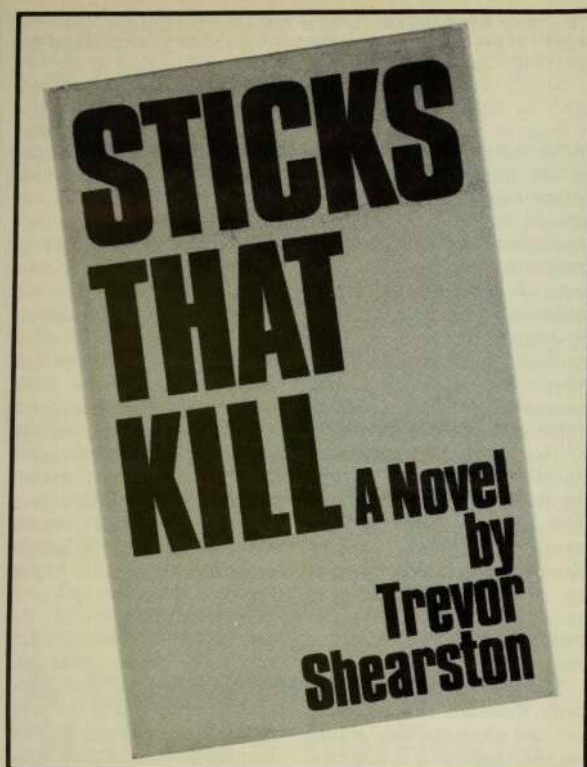
The novel follows history very closely. Tyson resembles Christopher Robinson, an Australian lawyer who became acting administrator at the age of 32. Lockhart is James Chalmers, still affectionately known to many Papuans as Tamate, who with Tierney (Tomkins), a young white missionary, and a party of Papuans, was killed on

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with the problem of assessing the author's characters as fiction and also in their historical context. Some of the characters are splendidly drawn from both points of view: the bureaucratic, always gentlemanly but alcoholic Ellison (Musgrave), and the sardonic, cricket-playing and alcoholic Hallett (Ballantyne) are examples. While the author may plead that he was portraying them through Australian eyes, the characterisation of some British officials and missionaries is less convincing. My sense of reality was shaken by the familiarity of address and contact between senior officials and their subordinates, which was certainly not true of the British service in the 1950s, or even of Australian judges in the 1960s.

I find it hard to believe a governor would destroy a missionary's will, as Lambert does that of Lockhart (Chalmers), let alone tell a judge that he had done so. However, the missionaries might well have been pleased if Chalmers' last testament, in the form of the conclu-

sion to his autobiography in which he strongly criticised his fellow missionaries, had been suppressed. Captain Fabian (Barton) is portrayed as being somewhat ineffectual, with an unhealthy interest in tattooing. One Australian who knew Barton, and who later had a distinguished career in the Papuan service, told me that he had a great respect for Barton and thought that he had been hard done by by the 1906 Royal Commission. The missionaries do not fare better. Cooper, who resembles Abel, is almost a caricature. Fox (Lawes) is said in the last page to have shown contempt for Tyson, when he had no choice, given his beliefs, but to speak as he did. Lawes was a humane man.

In spite of possible criticisms, this is a well-written, well-crafted book. Those with a knowledge of Papua New Guinea and its history will find *Sticks That Kill* fascinating, and others will find it a rewarding and exciting novel. — Nigel Oram.

Goribari Island by the people of Dopima Village on April 8, 1901. The only significant departure from history is that Tyson is made to arrive two years earlier than Robinson arrived in fact.

Anthony Burgess (*The Age Saturday Extra*, February 11, 1984) was recently quoted as saying that "A novel is primarily a presentation of human beings in action," and he goes on to say that the novelist in creating characters endows them with a free will which to some extent determines the plot. The historical novelist, especially one who sticks closely to his script, cannot let his characters have too much free will. But in this book the ready-made plot is a good one.

If the essence of tragedy is that the flawed character of the hero drives him inevitably to his fate, it is the only major weakness of this novel that Tyson's character does not explain the dramatic event at the end of the novel. He is shown not to be averse to shedding Papuan blood in the cause of pacification as in his patrol with Willson (in real life, Robinson accompa-

nied Monckton) in the Northern Division; but there is nothing in his character as presented which prepares the reader for his final actions. Even two factors advanced by historians to explain Robinson's behavior, his youth and lack of administrative experience, are not clearly brought out in relation to Tyson.

For me, a major interest lay in recognising historical characters disguised by fictional names in the book. Among government officials are George Le Hunte, lieutenant-governor, Anthony Musgrave, the government secretary who had served in British New Guinea since the establishment of the protectorate in 1885, Captain Barton, who later became administrator, and David Ballantyne, the treasurer. The missionaries are there: besides Chalmers, W. C. Lawes and his wife who were the first white people to settle in the Port Moresby area, and Charles Abel, displaced from the Milne Bay District, who so fiercely attacked Robinson.

When considering an historical novel, the critic is faced

Tribute to Pacific basketmakers

Pacific Basketmakers — A living tradition. Edited by Suzi Jones. *Catalog of the 1981 Pacific Basketmaker's Symposium and Exhibition. Published for Consortium for Pacific Arts and Cultures, P.O. Box 4204, Honolulu, Hawaii, 96813, by the University of Alaska Museum, Fairbanks, Alaska. Library of Congress publication data GN 431 P 32 1982. No price provided.*

This book is an impressive display of the basketmaker's arts in the American areas of the Pacific basin, principally Alaska, Hawaii, California, Guam, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, and American Samoa. The symposium participants came from these areas.

It contains 80 pages of text and illustrations. This includes a beautiful display catalogue of baskets, fish traps, hats, trays, and ornamental curios illustrat-

ing the many varieties of materials in use over these very different areas and cultures. The skilful methods of construction in plaiting, weaving, braiding, wickerwork and sewing are clearly set out. "Fascinating" is the word for the clever use of birch bark, wild rye beach grass, spruce and willow roots, as well as coconut, pandanus and bamboo. Among the most artistic items shown are a "pine-apple" basket and the "grass-hopper and bird" made from plaited coconut leaf. The latter shows such delicate and lovely lines that one wonders if there is possibly either Chinese or Japanese art influences happily fused with the ubiquitous coconut uses.

Several useful studies are included in the book. "Cultural Preservation and Pluralism" by Steven F. Arvizu of the Cross-Cultural Resource Center, California State University, speaks



Carolinian basketmaker Balbina Kintaro from Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, with a coconut frond basket and weaving.

of the continuing importance of culture in the survival of a people even though it can be ignored in the daily affairs of government and the policies of community organisations. He says: "A great debt is due to indigenous artists from the Pacific region, for their work is symbolic of the importance of recognising, preserving and transmitting cultural traditions within and between groups."

"Northern American and Pacific Basketry: Some Perspectives" by Roger G. Rose, Head, department of ethnology, Bishop Museum, Hawaii, is very useful, highlighting as it does the different basketry techniques and the great variety of raw materials used.

"The Basket Imperative" by Barre Toelken, director, folklore and ethnic studies, University of Oregon, is a strong plea for the values of tribal or folk art. Such art "can provide the

best of indications that art can actually be an integral part of an entire culture's expressive output". He adds a new dimension to our understanding through his summing-up of the results of the symposium. It is warmly sensitive to the integral relationships between nature (its gift of materials to be used), the individual weaver, and the wider connections to the wholeness of the life within the weavers' community through many generations, binding past, present and indeed the future in a concept that basket-weaving makes containers not just for "objects", but for highly esoteric concepts as well.

He also speaks of the association of basketmakers with song, prayer, tales and symbolism. The following quotation from one of the participants in the symposium, Rita Blumenstein, is important for all to consider: "These baskets are not just things to be put into a



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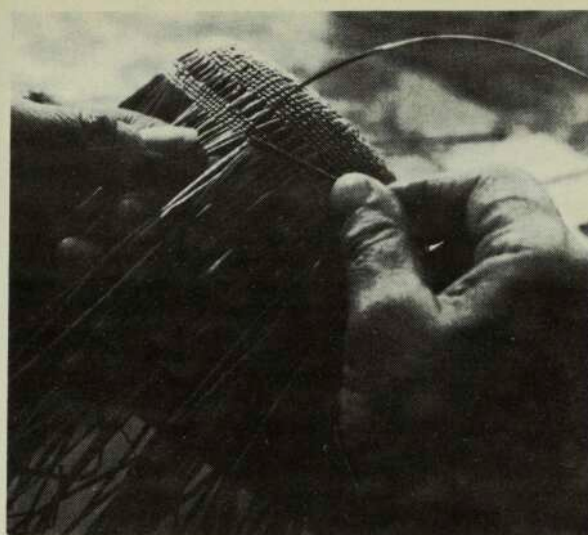
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glass case, they're like music, like songs: each has its own melody, its own words, its own rhythm or style." Barre Toelken argues: "Anything that has rhythm to it comes from the deepest part of our being; and any art form that has maintained such rhythms through such incredibly long periods of human existence must surely have its sources in the deepest and most meaningful aspects of our inheritance. If these baskets are not art, and if these basketmakers are not true artists, it would certainly be difficult to make any case for any art whatever."

The book is well produced and contains over 70 photographs, 23 of them in full color as well as some useful drawings illustrating basketry techniques, and a bibliography. It is unfortunate in such a fine book

that it does not go further and include the wealth of basketmaking tradition in the islands of the South Pacific.

However, recently at Pago Pago, this lack of recognition was somewhat remedied when a stimulating Symposium of South Pacific basket-weavers was held under the auspices of the Jean P. Haydon Museum. A centrepiece of this display was the fine white Rito weaving by the Cook Island representative who, in the celebrated Manihiki style, used the rare centre shoots of new palm leaves. Because of its beauty, Rito work is in great demand, but lack of quantity of the natural resource means firstly that it is little known outside the Cook Islands, and secondly that it cannot serve a large market, and will remain a skill of rare finesse. — Beth Dean.



Aleut weaver Mary Simeonoff adds another row to her twined basket.

A beautiful 'lei' for Hawaii's heritage

'Olelo No'eau. Hawaiian Proverbs and Sayings. By Mary Kawena Pukui. Published by Bishop Museum, Special Publications No. 71, Honolulu, Hawaii, 1983. xix, 351pp. ISBN 0 910240 92 2.

In this splendid and sumptuous collection of over 2900 sayings, Mary Kawena Pukui emerges as one of Hawaii's most skilled and persevering artists — or, to put it in the fine imagery of saying 714, she is "A lone tree, a lehua of Ka'ala". (Ka'ala is a mountain on Oahu.)

The sayings recorded here represent the work of a lifetime for Pukui, since she collected her first ones around 1910 at the age of 15, and continued to do so throughout her long career at the Bishop Museum. Long before she was officially hired as a translator in 1937, her uncle had predicted that she would one day work in "Pauahi's house."

Although her father was an American, Pukui was released to her mother's mother and grew up in her household. Two results of this were instruction in traditional ways, and a more

than usual interest in the Hawaiian language. Over the years her interests have led her to collaborate with S.H. Elbert, a University of Hawaii professor, on three separate Hawaiian dictionaries (published in 1957, 1964 and 1971), a book of Hawaiian place names (1974), and a Hawaiian grammar (1979).

'Olelo No'eau is the fine culmination of Pukui's concern for the preservation of the Hawaiian language, and her admiration for its traditional charm and character. In this book she shows herself a first-rate artist who indeed gives "the voice of life" to the Hawaiian heritage. The Russian novelist Solzhenitsyn turned to collections of Russian proverbs to get at the best in the Russian language, and he is said to keep these at his side while writing. All who wish to approach the Hawaiian language in this spirit will find themselves able to do so here. "Tutu Haole", as she was once called because her father was Caucasian, deserves the deepest gratitude for placing them on record.

The 2942 sayings are arranged alphabetically according

to the Hawaiian alphabet of 12 letters. Nearly half of the entries fall under just two letters (758 under H and 668 under K), with three letters getting more than 200 entries (A, P, O), five letters getting more than 100 (M, N, E, U, I), and two letters fewer than 100 (L, W). The sayings are arranged in two columns on a page, and each one has the Hawaiian saying followed by an English translation, and in most cases an English gloss.

The content of the sayings is most varied, ranging from proverbs, aphorisms and adages to practical lore in a variety of fields, as well as folklore and historical allusions. Others might simply be Hawaiian renderings of English phrases, such as "bad luck", or similes and sentence fragments. Geography and nature are often used as symbols to convey human meanings. The brief "Is at Koloa" (saying 47) is glossed as "A play on ko (drawn) and loa (long) — drawn a long way under. Drunk." Another saying (854) states "Only a covering of mist", which is "Said of a person who is a mere figurehead... Like the mist, he merely nestles on the peak." At least one (saying 2900) has the makings of a beast fable. We learn that "turkey-feathered women" are really "prostitutes who carry on with sailors in order to obtain finery to adorn

themselves." An especially fine instance of natural imagery is found in 2940: "The whirlwind twists, and up goes the dust." "With wrath, out come words that are unpleasant to hear."

'Olelo No'eau is richly illustrated with small motifs (eight in all, four of flora and four of fauna) interspersed throughout the book, and full-page illustrations opposite the first entries under a letter. These were done by Dietrich Varez, who moved from Berlin to Hawaii in 1948.

The book has six indexes at the end. The general index (pp324-44) is a virtual concordance to the English translations and glosses; the other five (pp344-51) concern place names, personal names, birds, marine fauna, and flora.

The preface by Bishop Museum editorial staff and the introduction (really a biography of Pukui) by Eleanor-a-I Williamson convey the impression that their labors, though not represented as essays, are offered in the spirit of a *Festschrift* to Mary Pukui, who entered hospital in 1980. This should be only the first of many tributes offered to her. Since she was born in Ka'u, Hawaii, she is undoubtedly one of the most outstanding people ever to come from there, and she richly deserves the acclaim found in one of her recorded sayings (1605): "Ka'u, regal in the glades." — M. L. Berg.

from page 42

The proposed September, 1984, completion date was extended by two years at the 23rd South Pacific Conference at Saipan (Northern Mariana Islands) last October.

The same meeting accepted a recommendation from a technical committee that the program's priorities be revised in 1984-86 to give emphasis to assessing levels of exploitation of the commercially-important tuna species. This would be achieved largely through observer programs on distant-water fishing vessels, and increased catch sampling.

In addition, the TBAP will study "inter-action" in greater depth, from three perspectives: *Regional* — how fishing pressure on highly migratory species is reflected in the various country fisheries.

National — how the various fisheries within a country interact (for example, the impact of foreign fishing vessels' activities on subsistence fisheries).

Technical — a comparative study of the different gear types, including purse-seine,

pole-and-line, and longline, and their impact on various fisheries.

Other priorities in the 1984-86 extension period include studies to compare the biological data of major species with relevant oceanographic and environmental information, studies of baitfish biology and ecology, and monitoring of the use of fish aggregation devices such as anchored rafts.

In support of the new priorities, the Saipan conference agreed to the idea of a round-table meeting of coastal states, distant-water fishing nations and international organisations with experience in the field, with the aim of improving the "input" of distant-water fishing nations.

The SPC Secretariat was directed to consult with the Forum Fisheries Agency in Honiara about convening this June meeting in Noumea.

A draft budget for the TBAP in 1984-86 estimates expenditure at over \$4 million with more than half of the cost being for vessel charter. — *Neville Peat.*

New grant for Tonga, Solomons, farm research

A grant of about \$350,000 has been made to the University of New England by the Australian Centre for International Agricultural Research (ACIAR), a statutory authority established by the Australian Government to promote research on the agricultural problems of developing countries.

The grant will enable research workers headed by Associate Professor Brian Hardaker and Euan Fleming, of the UNE's department of agriculture economics and business management, to investigate opportunities for development of small-holder agriculture in Tonga and the Solomons.

The project is to start in mid-1984 and will finish towards the end of 1986.

This will allow the researchers the time to carry out an intensive study of the agriculture of each country for at least 12 months and thus to collect

data over a full seasonal cycle.

Most of the on-site work will be undertaken by specially appointed research staff who will be assisted by local people in both Tonga and the Solomons.

Professor Hardaker said that as well as employing other short-term consultants, he and Mr Fleming hoped to use the services of an anthropologist whose role would be to assess the acceptability of different technologies which may be introduced into the existing Tongan and Solomons socio-economic framework.

ACIAR will simultaneously fund a project parallel to that directed by the UNE to allow Dr Satish Chandra of the Australian National University to review the available improved agricultural technologies in the South Pacific. His conclusions will be useful to the UNE workers in suggesting improve-



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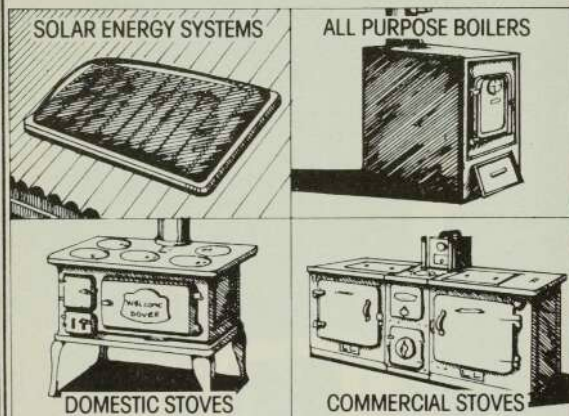
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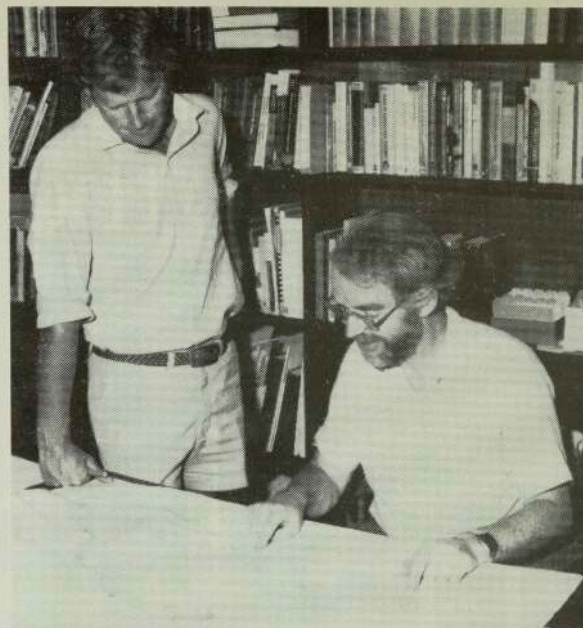
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Euan Fleming (left) and Brian Hardaker study a Solomon Islands map in preparation for their work on the ACIAR farm research project.

ments to the existing farming systems.

Both Mr Fleming and Professor Hardaker already know the South Pacific region well. Mr Fleming spent two years teaching in the agriculture faculty of the University of the South Pacific in Western Samoa and has worked in other South Pacific countries, as has Professor Hardaker who, over the last 15 years, has made several working visits to Tonga.

Flip-flop op. in Ponape

Ponape, in Micronesia, has opened a factory to make what most people call flip-flops, New Zealanders call jandals, Australians call thongs, and Japanese call zoris. Production seems to have gone well with 15,000 pairs made in the first month, according to Anson Chong, director of Ponape's Economic Development Authority.

Sales have been good. The locally-made zoris are cheaper than imported brands. However, a slight problem developed with the larger sizes. "Heavier people tended to wear down the sole faster, so we have had to order tougher material."

The factory was established

to replace imports and thus save foreign exchange, but Ponape is looking towards exports to other FSM states and then Pacific countries as soon as local demand has been satisfied.

Solar deal to Rheem

Rheem Australia Ltd., has won a three-year contract for the supply of solar water heaters to the government of Papua New Guinea. The previous contract, also held by Rheem against stiff international competition, was valued at almost \$500,000.

Under the terms of the contract Rheem will supply solar water heaters to government organisations and Rheem officials believe demand will exceed predicted levels because of the government's increasing commitment to solar water heating as a cost-saver in energy use.

The contract was awarded to Steamships Trading, Ltd., Rheem distributors for PNG. The company's solar water heater features a copper collector panel with a selective surface developed by the Australian C.S.I.R.O. This surface prevents heat loss from the collector panels

Trobriands: The cult of yams, and of sexual exuberance

Among Papua New Guinea's many island groups, the Trobriands are certainly the most renowned.

For the people in the Highlands, the Trobriand Islanders are famous for their sexual mores, so free and so different not only from their own, but also from those of all other cultures in the country.

On the coast, the Trobriands are known as the "islands of yams and feasts."

In Milne Bay Province, everybody knows them from the "kula," the traditional exchange of custom money, performed every year between certain islands in the province.

We had also learned that the Trobriand Islanders represent a very rare example of Papua New Guineans who have developed a system of hereditary chieftains, who continue as the local aristocracy to this day.

Fate decreed that during our time in Port Moresby we should meet Martin Morobubuna, only son of the chief of one of the villages in Kiriwina, main island of the Trobriand group. Martin was studying at the art school, and as soon as he learned that we were on our way to his home islands, he urged us to go to Obulabula, the village where his parents and many of his clan live.

So this time the story started like this: with a lucky encounter in the city and a letter of introduction, but with few other indications that in the place where we were headed we would end up living one of the most beautiful stories of our whole journey.

We arrive in Obulabula in the late afternoon. The village is in the interior, a few hundred metres from the single dusty road which starts from the southern swamps and crosses the whole island, right up to the beaches on the northern coast.

Outside the house of Morobubuna and Isoba — Martin's father and mother — we are completely surrounded by the village folk. The Trobriand

ROBERTO and MARCO PETTINI continue their "Melanesian Journey," sharing the daily lives of the villagers of Obulabula, on Kiriwina Island in Papua New Guinea's Trobriand group. It is, they say, "one of the most beautiful stories of our whole journey. . ."

"We will never know to what extent our amorous exploits depended on Isoba, rather than our particular charms. . ."

Islanders have very strong Polynesian features. Many of them are very handsome. Some come to shake our hands, others to ask for tobacco. We are given betel nuts and asked scores of questions, all at the same time. As soon as Morobubuna finishes reading

his son's letter and publicly invites us to stay, the enthusiasm and general confusion increase. Plates of yams and piping hot cups of tea arrive. We are adorned with flower necklaces and bracelets of colored leaves. We are even asked to repair an old wrist

watch, while a couple of dogs that have infiltrated the group try desperately to avoid being trampled on.

Obulabula is a typical Trobriand village. It's circular and completely surrounded by coconut palms and tall, slender betel trees. The dwellings are all built on the ground and are very small in relation to the number of people who eat and sleep in them. A great part of the day, though, is spent in the open — in the gardens, or sitting and chewing betel, chatting and smoking under the huts without walls built in front of the dwellings of each family group. Then there are the yam houses, also located in a circle, like a ring internal to the village itself. They are taller, better finished, painted and decorated, and much more beautiful, than the dwellings themselves.

Water for drinking and cooking must be fetched every day from caves and natural springs quite a distance from the village, while to have a wash people use water from tiny wells dug in among the vegetation, and only far enough away for privacy.

The village is full of life. There are always people coming and going, some carving ebony, others talking loudly, others arguing, others waving to you as they walk by. There is always someone to whom you have to give something and to receive something from in exchange. It is not conceivable here to possess something that can be distributed and not do so, as the whole of Trobriand society is based on a system of continuous exchanges.

This time we didn't have to wait long. Unexpectedly, and from the very first days, we found and felt ourselves part of the Morobubuna family and consequently involved in their exchange relationships. Practically every time we came back to the village with fish or a bunch of bananas, only a part was left for us. Likewise, it's



Milamala time is coming — and it's time for Ikubatma to have her grass skirt shortened.



Morobubuna and his pyramid of yams.

practically inconceivable even to consider smoking a whole cigarette, or even — this happened to us several times — chewing a bit of bubble gum without having to pass it on

sooner or later, for someone else to chew. . . They even get to the extreme position that those who tend to isolate themselves are readily thought to be sick, or are suspected of having

been hit by witchcraft. Such was the case of Aliadou, a mature man who for this reason hadn't succeeded in getting himself a wife.

We stay more than a month in Obulabula.

Wearing a "kaleko" and always — like other single youths and girls in the village — with flowers in our hair, we live the same carefree life reserved for all young unmarried people on the island. We spend most of the day with the other young folk of Obulabula. Sometimes we all go fishing together on the coral reef, often we spend the day in some neighboring vil-

lage. But every night, straight after dinner, we sprinkle our hair with talcum powder, put perfumed leaves in our bracelets, paint each other's faces, and go dancing. While two or three guitars pass from hand to hand until late at night, our joy is expressed in a thousand laughs, in constant teasing and good-natured mockery, in spontaneous physical approaches which always end with a quick escape into the bush. Amorous encounters are very often the final phase of this play. Each unmarried person of either sex here is not only free, but is in fact positively encouraged to have as many amorous experiences as possible before deciding on the most suitable partner with whom to start a family.

Morobubuna and Isoba are wonderfully warm and kind to us, and show their attention in a thousand ways. For example, a few days after our arrival, they thought that we would feel more free if we were lodged in two different huts, and together with us built the walls to transform their meeting house into a proper dwelling. Marco will live there until we leave, while I'll remain alone in Martin's little house — now empty — next to his parents' place.

Isoba, who for the time being considers us her adopted sons, will be the organiser of our intricate love affairs. Many nights she will wait patiently for us, to whisper to us which girl she has done witchcraft on for us, and to explain in detail the rules to follow so as not to allow the intrigue to be discovered. We will never know to what extent our amorous exploits depended on Isoba, rather than our own particular charms. . . With both Morobubunas, husband and wife, we go quite a few times to their gardens. They have four in different places, and the time just flies as we chat, cut weeds and dig out the yams to take home for dinner.

In the Trobriands, yams are not only the staple food but also part of a ritual, a sign of status and a link among villages and clans. They are so important that Morobubuna once told us:



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"If a man has yams, he can get anything else he needs." Clearly the most important period of the year for the Trobrianders is their harvest, "Milamala time," when the whole population of this island group lives the event as an enormous feast. In every single garden yams are piled up in pyramid-shaped heaps to be exhibited, studied, admired. In this matter there is great competition, and some yams even reach a metre in length!

When the time comes to carry them to the village, the men, in pairs, hold the long sticks from which the baskets full of yams hang, and, while their wives watch the procession, the unmarrieds amuse themselves by performing highly erotic dances. Once at the village, yams are again stacked in pyramidal towers, before being stored in the yam houses. The chief's yam house is always the first to be filled. Traditionally every man had his own, supplied according to the number of wives he had, as it was a duty of his brother-in-law — in other words, of his wife's clan — to fill his yam house.

Isoba's head is completely shaven and she has a piece of black string tied around her neck. She's been in mourning for months. For a few days we see her bustling about preparing many little bundles made of narrow strips of banana leaves; and then, one morning, we go with her to a funeral ceremony in Tilakewa village, half an hour's walk away.

Along the way we meet other women who, like Isoba, have their faces and bodies covered with ash and who are carrying on their heads, in wide coconut-leaf baskets, several skirts of colored fibre and hundreds of bundles of banana leaves. Looking at them from behind as they walk in single file, it's amusing to see all their grass skirts swinging together, from side to side, in perfect unison with the movement of their hips.

Then there are some of the girls who are wearing short red grass skirts (which would be cut even shorter during "Milamala time") and have their faces painted black and white.

When we get to Tilakewa we find a lot of people already there. They are all related in

some way to a man who died here several months ago, and for whom the period of mourning will be officially closed today. Shortly after, the "Sagari feast" starts. For hours we see women putting on the ground, in the middle of the village, bundles of banana leaves and whole grass skirts, and other women picking them up and taking them away. The men sit to one side, but like the women they are shouting, laughing and making a big racket.

It's an act of redistribution of goods among all the women who in one way or another — in the complex family relationships of the island — are related to the family of the deceased. At some stage we see two lines being formed, of women and men together. Every woman holds, in full view and holding it by its ends, a decorated fibre skirt, and every man a clay pot or a piece of calico. One line goes to the house of the father of the deceased and the other to his widow's house. At these places everybody leaves his or her portion, and comes out with tears in their eyes.

Isoba explains that this is the last payment, the balance, in the chain of exchanges that all these people have had with the deceased during the entire span of his life. Only now do we see the lengths of black strings around the necks of the women being discarded.

Today we learned that two

canoes from Kawa and Sim-Sim have arrived. Kawa and Sim-Sim are the only two inhabited islands of the Lusancay Archipelago, to the west of Kiriwina. We knew that contacts with these islands are very rare — the only scheduled link is the visit of a medical patrol boat on one day a year. This time the "Sim-Sim," as they are commonly called, have come especially to get extra canoes to use for the "kula," and will sail again in a couple of days. It doesn't take us long to realise that for us this is a golden opportunity, even though in Obulabula everybody tries to talk us out of going:

"Watch out for the Sim-Sim girls, they can do a kind of witchcraft that won't let you leave for ever and ever . . . and then there are no yams what are you going there for?"

We run to Matawa, the village on the west coast where the Sim-Sim have anchored their canoes, and where fortunately Morobubuna has relatives. When we arrive we notice the Sim-Sim straight away. In the shade of a hut there is a group of men who don't seem to want to mix with the rest of the village. Their hair is longer and their bodies are covered with salt, but their looks are as friendly as those of the Trobrianders.

With the help of Morobubuna we talk with two "big men" in the group, while all the others

remain silent, listening. We ask to go Kawa or Sim-Sim with them and stay there for a little while, but they reply that it's impossible because they will soon be leaving home again for the "kula," and they don't want to leave us alone with the women in the village. We become insistent; we try to find out more exactly how long they intended to stay at home and how long they intend to spend going around for the "kula." Useless questions, as the timing depends on wind and sea conditions, and in any case it's obvious they have no intention of taking us with them.

We are getting ready to head back to Obulabula when suddenly a man comes to sit near us. Calmly he tells us that his name is Talabubu, that he comes from Kawa, and is sorry about the whole matter. Then he adds: "The problem with the women is their problem, not yours. If the others are scared it means that their wives are no good, or that they aren't good husbands. If you like you can come on my canoe and stay in my village. Don't worry, I'll look after you."

Morobubuna smiles approvingly. He too has understood and appreciated Talabubu's words, and before we leave he'll tell us to treat Talabubu in the same way as we have treated him.

• Next month: Kawa and Sim-Sim Islands.



Kiriwina Island's main yam house.

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Aucklander J. EDWARD BROWN takes a nostalgic backward look at the 1950s when he was stationed in Tonga's capital, and drew much comfort from belonging to the Nukualofa Club.

MEMORIES OF THE NUKUALOFA CLUB

In off the palace roof . . .

The British flag flew outside the Nukualofa Club, and bougainvillea cascaded over the front of the building.

"In off the palace roof," was the irreverent late night description of a poorly played billiard shot by bachelor expatriate members. Just across the road was the palace of Queen Salote, but that was another world we had no part of.

The Nukualofa Club was a gentlemen's club, not an anachronism in those times of the mid-1950s, though one could not become a member unless one was male and white. It was elitist, and the 40 members enjoyed it. In the atmosphere, even a New Zealander could almost imagine that he was an English gentleman enjoying a part of "home" he had brought with him to that distant part of the empire.

It was still the age of starched cotton shirts and longs for work, white dinner jackets for formal evening affairs, and tins of 50 English cigarettes, though it was Australian canned beer, it was Australian rum, and Australian flying boats on the lagoon.

The club's architecture was galvanised iron, clapboard walls, and tongue-and-groove — preserved colonial era.

It was a pleasant billiard room, the baize green under the old fashioned coolie-hat lights, brushed and ironed regularly by the club stewards. The leather settees were suitably old and cracked. The slate billiard tables were levelled by a specialist who called into the kingdom for the purpose at intervals.

The high stud bar room had a slowly turning ceiling fan, and portraits of the rulers of England from the days of Edward VII to Queen Elizabeth II on the walls. It had mahogany tables and chairs with white linen seat covers, and swift silent Polynesian stewards, a brass rail at the bar, comfortable.

Females were not allowed inside the club, except on the occasion of the annual ball, and on Tuesday and Friday mornings between 10 am and noon (unless it was also a steamer day) when they could visit the library to borrow books. Because that room

could be approached off a side verandah, they did not have to enter the main rooms.

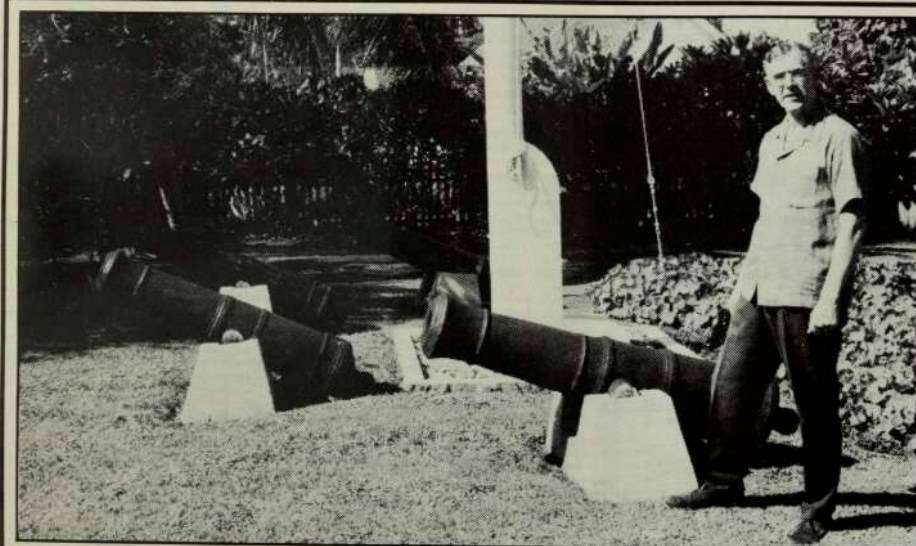
One afternoon an innocent female member of an air force aircrew did enter. The steward looked aghast. One of the older members almost frothed at the mouth, "No females in here," he shouted in a very ungentlemanly voice.

The Nukualofa Club was founded in 1914 by some 15 gentlemen, mostly wealthy planters, of whom Tonga had many in those days. In its early days it was very, very exclusive, the members bound to England by the mails which brought the *Sphere*, *The Illustrated London News*, the *Manchester Guardian Weekly*, *Punch*, the airmail edition of the *London Times*, all of which still lay on the long green baize-covered reading room table encircled with old-fashioned cane baskets chairs. Over each was a hanging light and a push button for summoning the steward.

Around the walls of the reading room were photographs of Royal Navy ships which at various times were based in New Zealand. In the balmy days before World War II these ships visited the Pacific islands every year on winter cruises. The officers were always automatically visiting members.

There were worm-eaten ancient volumes of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*. There were three silver cups on the long table for snooker and billiard contests long since forgotten and discontinued. There were writing tables where nobody ever wrote, and government gazettes which nobody ever read. There was Webster's dictionary, leather-bound and ancient, but often referred to along with *Whitaker's Almanack* and the newly published *Guinness Book of Records* to settle bar arguments.

On the writing table lay the suggestions book dating from 1914. A series of entries concern a suggestion that spittoons be provided for the members. The original proposal had many comments appended, but the final curt one by the secretary wrapped it up, "Gentlemen don't spit."



"Ancient muzzle-loading guns" in the garden of the residence of the British consul and agent in Nukualofa, Tonga. Standing by the guns is Mr A. C. Reid*, who held the post in the 1960s. The guns are from the British privateer, *Port au Prince*, which was captured by the Tongans in 1806. Tonga presented the guns to Britain on the 50th anniversary of the UK-Tonga Treaty of Friendship in 1950.

* Retired and living in Sydney, Mr Reid is an active 68. His review of Sir Ronald Garvey's memoirs, *Gentleman Pauper*, appears in the Books department of this issue of PIM.

The club had hundreds of books on its shelves and a new parcel arrived from England once a month. A curious collection, or maybe not so curious in the circumstances, the author with the most books in it was P.G. Wodehouse. What could be more British than Wodehouse novels with characters like Jeeves and Bertie Wooster?

However, there were very few English members then, they were mostly New Zealanders or Australians. Fresh copies of the magazines and newspapers were a relic of the old days. Other magazines were gradually being introduced — the American *Saturday Evening Post*, *Time*, the Australian *People*, though there was opposition.

The president was English, for by custom he was always the British consul, but the secretary was a New Zealander, and the treasurer was stateless.

In the old days, when members of the committee met, they dressed in white tie and tails. In the '50s, it was sufficient if they wore ties, and sometimes they didn't even do that, though the line was drawn at hula shirts — after all, it was still a gentlemen's club.

On the billiard tables the gentlemen's game of billiards had been replaced by snooker or perhaps pool, or games like slosh or rafferty snooker. Though once a month there was a formal games evening when billiards and snooker competitions were held. The general, who was English, retired, touring, came along one night. "I can't play," he said in his barking voice. "They wouldn't let me play in the mess in India, too bad a player, had to wait until there was nobody there and play the steward. Only man I had a hope of winning against."

He then proceeded to rack up a large score and win the competition, in fine old English style.

There was a small card room, but nobody played cards, though years ago the members played regularly, and for high stakes, and one night a member lost his plantation on the turn of cards, so it was said.

There were difficulties in running a club in remote Nukualofa. A

visiting ship's officer complained that he didn't like drinking gin with raspberry (though it said ginger beer on a bottle). It had to be explained to him that this was just one of the trials of living in Nukualofa. Aerated waters were made locally, but nobody knew what they were going to get when a bottle was opened. Apparently the system the manufacturer used was to make a batch of waters, be it lemonade or anything else, then pick up a handful of assorted labels and slap them on the latest brew, so that ordinary lemonade became ginger beer, raspberry, kola, tropical fruit salad, or more exotically pineapple champagne.

In my time the stewards were Lua and Ella, somewhat Laurel and Hardy-ish. Lua was a stern man of massive Tongan proportions, his skirt-like *vala* held up by a large leather belt with an enormous brass buckle, while Ella, who was actually a Niuean who had lived in Tonga a long time, was a laughing old man.

Inside the club it was a world without women, except when the telephone rang. Perhaps Lua knew his place, but sometimes he couldn't resist stepping out. He would answer the telephone and then bend deferentially over the wanted member: "Telephone, sir." And if it was a woman he always added dead pan, "long-haired voice." Or, in a tone of disappointment, "short-haired voice." And if a member should commit the *faux pas* of bringing out a book of Yacht Club bar tickets to pay for drinks he lifted them disdainfully from the silver tray, "no picture tickets."

George Quensell, a member of the Nukualofa Club, died. He was the only man who had swum to Tonga, and in later years established the famous Tin Can Island postal service. His coffin was carried to the cemetery on the back of a truck. The only two persons allowed aboard the truck were the two club stewards, Lua and Ella.

Twenty-four hour drinking was possible in those days in Tonga. One could get a morning bracer at 8 am when the club opened and cold beers could be had through until 11 pm but the services of the steward could be retained by paying 10 shillings an hour overtime. There was no limit on overtime and some nights the club never closed, overtime being paid until 8 am when it normally opened.

There was another gentlemen's club at Vavau in northern Tonga, the Vavau Club, run on more or less conventional lines, but it couldn't compete with Nukualofa Club. A European who had lived in Vavau said thoughtfully: "They have no jiggers for their billiard table, so that members climb up on the table to play those difficult shots. Not done, old boy."

The Nukualofa Club was the nearest I'll ever get to being a member of a club modelled on a London gentlemen's club. Sure, the sweet aphrodisiacal scent of frangipani often wafted through the bar room, smothering the aroma of beer and whisky, and the trade winds rustled the coconut palms, and the sun was hot and blinding, but it was an English club, despite the steady antipodean erosion of its values and its customs.

A hansom cab outside would not have been out of place, and late at night, moonless, it was akin to a pea soup London fog for some members who had imbibed.

There was Her Majesty's palace adjacent, but of course that was wooden, with colonial fretwork, corrugated iron, hardly Buckingham Palace; and there was that damned tortoise, Tu'imalila, allegedly brought to Tonga by Captain Cook, which often wandered from the palace into the club grounds, hardly corgi-like, and a danger to an unsteady body who had been attempting to forget the isolation and exile. Nevertheless it was an oasis of civilisation, comforting. One could lounge there drinking Australian Foster's beer and stare at the picture of Queen Elizabeth newly ascended to the throne, and know that with orb and sceptre underhand she was thinking of this kingdom which was under her protection.

Only a few hundred yards down the road, past the palace, was Her Britannic Majesty's Agent and Consul's residence, also with the British flag flying in the front garden, with ancient muzzle-loading cannons pointing seaward, ensuring that the Tongans' foreign relations didn't go wrong, that the kingdom's finances didn't go awry. It was a different age and one felt so — secure. — J. Edward Brown.

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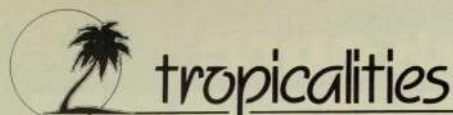
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Bringing order to the Pacific babel

Pacific Island nations are different from nations of the rest of the world in many ways: they are exceptionally small in land area and population, exceptionally large in sea area, exceptionally beautiful, and exceptionally young politically as nations. They are also, of course, exceptionally diverse in terms of culture and language.

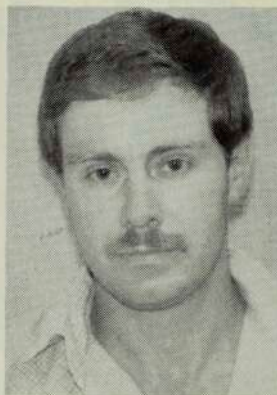
The Pacific represents, with no doubt whatsoever, the world's most polyglot area. Each country has at least one completely unique indigenous language, that is shared by no other nation, and many countries have considerably more than one. Papua New Guinea has a staggering 750 languages. Of all the countries of the world, Vanuatu tops the list in terms of "language density", even ahead of Papua New Guinea, with over 100 distinct languages (and I definitely *do* mean distinct languages, and not just dialects of languages!), spoken by a population that is considerably smaller than a city the size of Newcastle in the Australian state of New South Wales. Even the largest Pacific languages, such as Tahitian, Melpa (of PNG) and Western Dani (of West Papua) with 100,000 speakers each, or Enga (of PNG) with over 150,000 speakers, or even Samoan with a quarter of a million speakers, are absolutely tiny by world standards. Who in the Pacific has ever heard of Lahnda — but it has eight and a half millions speakers. (It is spoken in India.)

Eleven of the Pacific's micro-states have banded together in an international agreement to provide a unique system of tertiary education, in the form of the University of the South Pacific. This agreement links Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Fiji, Tonga, Western Samoa, Kiribati, Tuvalu, Nauru, Nive, Tokelau and the Cook Islands. The

university is now in its second decade, and has produced a large, and growing, number of much-needed graduates to supply the higher-level labor market of these small Pacific nations.

Until 1983, it could be said that the courses of the USP did very little to reflect the linguistic diversity of the region that it was set up to serve. There are approximately 220 indigenous languages spoken in the 11 countries of the USP region, yet almost all courses offered to Pacific students were either in or about English, which in the eyes of some can be called a colonial language. The ministers of education of the countries that "subscribe" to USP met together in December, 1981, and collectively asked that the university provide courses that better reflect the actual linguistic situation, in all of its diversity.

The university was daring enough to set up this new unit, not in Suva, where most of its



Dr Terry Crowley, the language unit's co-ordinator.

other courses are taught, but in Port-Vila. However the choice of Port-Vila for such a unit was only logical. Not only does Vanuatu have more languages per head of population than any other country in the world, but it also contains about two-thirds of all the languages of the USP region.

Vanuatu is also the only country in the USP region in which a Pacific language is declared by its constitution to be the national language. (The national language is Bislama.) And Vanuatu is the only USP

country in which French is an official language of education, in addition to English. If you determine the size of a nation's language problems by the number of its languages, Vanuatu certainly has the biggest! The university set up its Atoll Research and Development Unit in Kiribati — where the atolls are. So too, it set up its Pacific Languages Unit in Vanuatu — where most of the languages are!

However, while this unit is based physically in Port-Vila, it is intended to service the needs of the region as a whole. Courses are being taught by correspondence to students in a number of countries simultaneously, with tutorials being conducted regularly by means of a satellite hook-up. Courses are also taught in special summer schools, in which staff go to different places in the USP region and teach concentrated courses which have full university credit.

Nobody has suggested that it will be an easy job to organise such a system. It is obviously going to be impossible for the university to allow students to major in all of the 220 languages of the region. A more



The polyglot signboard of Port-Vila's polyglot unit. Languages are Bislama, French and English.

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practical aim is to teach courses that will enable Pacific Islanders to analyse the language situation in their own countries, and to try to develop solutions themselves to the particular problems that are found there. Just as Pacific countries are diverse linguistically, so too are they diverse in the kinds of problems they face. The problems faced by Western Samoa, for example, with its relatively large, single language — which it shares with a neighboring country, American Samoa (a unique situation in the USP region, incidentally) — are quite different from those faced by countries like Vanuatu and Solomon Islands, with their many, tiny languages.

So far, students in Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, Kiribati and Cook Islands have taken the first-year level course Introduction to Language Studies, and more students throughout the region will be taking the course in 1984. During the summer schools held in January and February this year, students in Tuvalu and Vanuatu were taking courses in translation techniques, which was also at first-year level, and students in Kiribati were taking a course in language planning and development. In co-operation with the Vanuatu ministry of education, the unit conducted a workshop on Tanna in Vanuatu which looked at the possibility of producing teaching materials for primary school children, using Vanuatu languages themselves as the medium of instruction, rather than English or French. This is a concept that is new for many people in Vanuatu, who have become accustomed to thinking that only English or French could ever be used for such purposes.

There is clearly a long way for the university to go in recognising the linguistic diversity of its region. Without a doubt, the original languages of colonialism, English and French, will always remain important to the development of the Pacific, but it is also vital that we recognise and develop the original languages of the area. — Terry Crowley.*

*Dr Crowley, a linguistic specialist whose main interest is Oceanic languages, is co-ordinator of the USP Pacific Languages Unit, Port-Vila.

Book honors 40th anniversary of the liberation of Guam

Forager was the American code name for the capture of the Marianas from the Japanese in 1944. Principally, the islands of Saipan, Tinian and Guam were included in the planning, with Rota being an island allowed to "die on the vine", in the operation.

The American commander-in-chief of naval forces in the Pacific, Admiral Chester Nimitz, had several purposes in mind when he selected these islands for capture.

First, they would provide bases from which the new, long-range American bombers — the B-29s — could fly raids directly against the home islands in Japan. A second reason was that the Marianas would provide bases which could isolate and neutralise the central and western Carolines. The Japanese had bases of considerable size at Truk, and also Woleai.

Stevadore was the code name for Guam in particular. A

lot of planning went into the Guam operation. Guam had been American territory since 1898, and the people there were seen as avidly loyal to America. In the months before the invasion word went about among the American commands that would be involved that if there were any Guamanians serving in them, they could have the chance to be connected with the force that would invade the Marianas. Many took them up on it.

D-day was July 21. Assaults were made in the middle of the island along the west coast. The troops went ashore on two separate beaches and the supporting fire came from the battleships and cruisers offshore. The ship fire support was assisted by carrier-based



Preservation of Pacific culture was probably never lovelier than when in the hands of these three Port Moresby high school students. All of them are city girls but they kept the Toana (national dress day), and attended classes in their traditional skirts. The girls are, left to right, Theresea Sova, Barbara Sirigoi, and Clara Vaia. Their costumes are in the traditional style of the Trobriand Islands, Milne Bay Province.

planes. Inland from the beaches was high ground which had to be secured by the Marines before the beaches would be safe for greater organisation, regrouping, and just plain living, for the Marines. As advances were made on to the high ground, the Japanese repulsed the attacks with a series of bloody banzai charges which resulted in heavy casualties on both sides — but worse for the Japanese. The Marines 3rd Division and the Army's 77th Infantry Division made up the American assault strength.

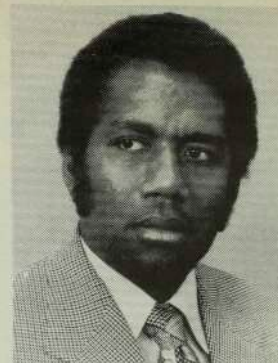
Enter now, 40 years later, Don Farrell. He has prepared a book — *The Pictorial History of Guam: Liberation 1944* — which more than adequately tells the story of the Guam invasion from the historical accounts available. This research has been done quite effectively. But, the great strength of Farrell's effort lies in the story he tells of the people of Guam and the suffering they endured under the Japanese occupation, and also through the days of the invasion holocaust.

The Chamorros had many heroes during the war years. There was Father Duenas, a local priest who could never abide the Japanese presence on the island, and resisted continuously after repeated efforts by the Japanese to make him cease and desist. Several days before the American invasion and recapture, he was martyred in his cause of resistance when the Japanese beheaded him.

There were many Chamorros who suffered quietly under the heavy hands of the Japanese task masters who impressed them into labor duties in the closing months of the war which were as arduous, humiliating and terrible as any reported in the war. In a number of instances, these Chamorro patriots rose up against the Japanese when the opportunity presented itself. All this, and much more, is recorded by author Farrell in a series of exciting tales which are highlighted with poignancy in the greatest collection of pictures of the Guam war years and invasion that has ever been assembled in one volume.

Because of the photos, and the amount of new data which Farrell brings to light through his many interviews with surviving eye-witnesses, *Liberation — 1944* is more than a memorial to all those who struggled, it is a contribution to the historiography of the Pacific War, and of Guam's role in it particularly. Not only will the people of Guam and succeeding generations feel a gratitude for this effort of Farrell's, but historians will as well.

Finally, and of special significance, this entire effort was a local production. Not only is Don Farrell a Guam resident and contributing member of the community, but many others who were involved in the book's publication are also local people resident on Guam. Farrell made optimum use of all the local resources available to him. For this he is to be especially congratulated since he joins in and encourages the growing competence and intellectual energy that is presenting itself, not only on Guam and in Micronesia, but throughout the Pacific. — Dirk Anthony Balleldorf in Guam.



Sir Peter Kenilorea... challenge in Honolulu

agriculture, industry and the armed forces. This year, however, the governor had invited not only Sir Peter, but also other distinguished delegates from Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Vanuatu, New Caledonia, Fiji, Tonga and the Australian Aborigines. In his keynote address, Sir Peter called on everybody to affirm and to show the world that the Pacific Way, the Pacific style of servant-leadership, the Pacific Christian spirit, are not only effective in our own region, but also joyfully infectious everywhere else.

Following the breakfast, the visiting leaders spent two days in conference under the auspices of the Pacific Leaders Fellowship, which was founded in 1982 by Pacific leaders who were keen to provide one another with an informal, neutral forum in which they could meet as brothers and sisters to share concerns of the heart. Among those who spoke during this seminar was Congressman Daniel Akaka, who represents Hawaii in Washington, and who lent his personal and enthusiastic support to the concept and the objective of the Pacific Leaders Fellowship.

The power of this idea was proved when, immediately after their arrival in the States, the visiting leaders were formally introduced on the floor of the Hawaiian Senate, whose session was suspended to allow a time of welcome, fellowship and cheerful Pacific encounter. Global peacemaking is a Pacific priority right now! — John Key.*

*The Rev John Key is field director of World Vision International, South Pacific Field Office.

A memorable breakfast in Honolulu

The future importance of "the Pacific Basin" is often talked about. The 1200 Pacific citizens who attended the governor's and mayors' Prayer Breakfast in Honolulu on March 23 witnessed a demonstration of its present significance. For the first time on such an occasion, a Melanesian leader, Sir Peter Kenilorea, opposition leader in Solomon Islands, addressed the people of Polynesian, Micronesian, Melanesian, American, Chinese and Japanese stock and challenged them to affirm their solidarity and their worldview as "Pacific Islanders".

The breakfast — the fifth to take place in Honolulu in successive years — has become a major event in the state's calendar. Many leading citizens were present, representing political life, the judiciary, education, commerce, tourism,

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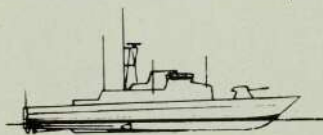


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from the islands press

From a speech by Marshall Islands businessman Robert Reimers in favor of U.S. Commonwealth status for Marshall Islands reported in the Marshall Islands Journal.

... When asked why the people did not go to the outer islands where there is not too much population and food to gather, Robert said: "No way they want to go to the outer islands — there is no beer in the outer islands, no taxis in the outer islands, no ice cream either. At least there is beer in Majuro. Better when the Japanese were here, at that time everyone had everything they wanted. The Japanese government took good care of everyone."

From an editorial in The Samoa Observer, Apia, commenting on a government decision to declare April 19 a public holiday for the purpose of "beautification and cleaning of cemeteries."

Quite apart from the economic cost to the country in terms of lost production, especially in these difficult economic times, the very act of according an honor normally reserved for occasions of national and historical importance to such a non-event as cleaning cemeteries reflects a misguided sense of priorities. But why cemeteries?

From the Marshall Islands Journal:

On Tuesday at Bing's restaurant a little boy got real lucky: he was having lunch with his father and to play he put a quarter in the poker machine. Then, lo and behold, a full house appeared. Of course the machine mal-functioned and the cashier had to give the tyke twenty quarters (\$5.00) and with this the papa and son paid for their lunch. They left with a smile leaving behind the envious stares of other customers ...

From Radio Vanuatu, Port-Vila:

The latest bulletin of the Chamber of Commerce contains an article which analyses where your money goes when you buy a tin of beer or a packet of cigarettes. Close to half the cost of the tin of beer (44 per cent) goes to the Government as duty, and two-thirds of the price of a packet of cigarettes (67 per cent) goes into general Government revenue. Along with the duties on fuel and vehicles, the beer, wines, spirits and tobacco duties provide 20 per cent of Vanuatu's total Budget. It could be said that they are able to finance a service like Health, which absorbs 15 per cent of the total budget.

From Te Uekera, Tarawa, Kiribati:

A new history page was recorded on Saturday when the women in their colorful uniforms stood gentlemanly and listened to an address by the wife of the Vice-President of the Republic of Kiribati, Mrs Maria Teannaki, at the opening of the first women's soccer league ever in the Diary of Sport in the country ...

From a letter by Concerned, Mt. Hagen, in the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier:

I am concerned about the high bride-prices paid in Papua New Guinea. My special concern is that you, the fathers and mothers, of the girls should try to lower the bride-price. Sometimes, bride-prices go up as high as K20,000. I would like to ask the parents of the girls this: Is your daughter a big ship or truck which you want to make a business out of. Shame on you, parents. Your daughter will just get old and bear children and she may even die after a year or two of marriage, then the man has just wasted his money.

From the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier, Port Moresby:

Stories of a disease-infected "mushrooms man" are turning people away from using Goroka's main water supply system. Most residents and nearby villagers have stopped using water from the town's supply since last week following rumors that a man who grew mushrooms on his body was bathing in the water supply dam at Komiufa. They fear catching the man's disease if they used the water for drinking or washing ... According to the rumors, the man's skin cracks open when it is hot and mushrooms grow through the cracks ... However, the Town Council clerk, Mr Himony Lapiso, has dismissed the rumors. He said three tests were done on the dam water last week and proved the water to be safe

From Tam-Tam, Port-Vila:

The people of Paama Island are suspicious of the latest shark attack on a young woman in their lagoon this month, they even urged their Local Government Council to investigate the incident, and a man currently believed to be in Vila, has been summoned to return to Paama for questioning. They said the suspected man, Marcel of Pentecost, is known to be involved in "black magic" and that, between 1977 and 1978 in Tavulai Village, he was seen to be performing custom rituals to attract fish to catch them, and that on one occasion he caught a fish in this spot and threw it to the graves. Another reason for their suspecting human involvement, they claimed, is that each time a victim was dragged ashore, the victim's wound just stopped bleeding which to them "is not normal."

From The Drum column, Papua New Guinea Post-Courier:

Selecting a top spot to watch the eruption is a popular pastime in Rabaul. Walter Darius, our man there, says many people have picked vantage points from where they hope to capture the blast on video or film. Malmaluan United Church's training centre, on a safe ridge overlooking the caldera, has had numerous inquiries from people wanting to book rooms. Villagers in the same area have also given permission for people to camp on their land.

From the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier:

The men had been fighting for some time on land that had been earmarked for women's gardening project. The members of the Kumak Pinat Women's Group stepped in. The male fighters received, so it was reported at the time, quite a tongue-lashing, which obviously hurt more than the spears and bows and arrows as the two clans laid down their arms and departed from the scene of the fighting ...

From The Fiji Times

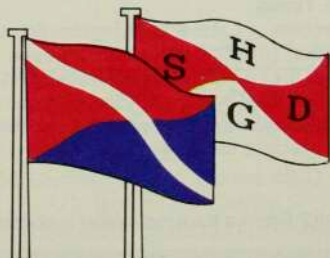
Disgruntled members of Labasa Club bombarded the club house with empty bottles, smashed doors and windows and assaulted other members at the end of the annual meeting on Sunday. Only the intervention of the Divisional Police Commander Northern, Superintendent Waisele Vakaloloma, stopped the dozen or so members from wrecking the place ...

A Fiji gold rush? From a caption under a photograph in The Fiji Times

Yellow affluent from the Fiji Foods Limited factory at Walu Bay. The yellow discharge from the plant has been the cause of much concern for National Trust of Fiji officials.

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Vast new plan for yacht harbor on Gold Coast

No less vigorous and political a figure than Queensland's premier, Joh Bjelke-Petersen, has lent his name to a grand new yacht race, scheduled to be run for the first time from Sydney to the Gold Coast in 1986.

The race will be worth \$50,000 in sponsorship money and is expected to be the fore-runner of many large-scale boating events which, its organisers hope, may eventually rank with the annual Sydney-Hobart, Sydney-Suva, and other such classics.

The inaugural race in 1986 will be run by the Sydney-based Cruising Yacht Club of Australia which held the first Sydney-Hobart race in 1945 and, in July, 1965, was sponsor for the first Australian challenge for the Admiral's Cup.

The success of the new Bayview Harbor race depends upon stabilisation of the Southport Bar, a notorious, shifting slab of sand which so far has spoiled what should be a magnificent yacht and boating harbor close to the bustle of the Gold Coast tourist area.

Sponsors of the 1986 race are the developers of Bayview Harbor who include the Queensland-based McMaster-Suares Group, and Jardine Matheson, of Hong Kong. Bayview Harbor will be Australia's biggest and most modern residential marina complex and will feature four luxury tower blocks of apartments, totalling 320 units, fronting the Southport Broadwater, eight km north of Surfers Paradise.

Two marinas, an outer harbor which is already open, and a middle harbor yet to be built, have direct access to the Broadwater and can hold 200 boats.

The site is of 2.2 hectares and, in addition to the condominium apartment blocks will have a restaurant and function centre called the Clipper Club, tennis courts, swimming pools, gyms, spas, saunas and other facilities.

Total cost of the complex will exceed \$115 million.

The first tower, of 35 floors, is now nearing completion with apartments selling for between \$185,000 and \$325,000. Other blocks will be

smaller, with apartments of different layout, some very large and costing close to half a million dollars. Prices include a marina berth.

The marinas will be run by the Bayview Harbor Yacht Squadron, restricted in membership to apartment owners. Patron is Jock Sturrock, twice skipper of an Australian America's Cup challenger.

Stabilisation of the infamous Southport Bar at the mouth of the Nerang River, and doorway to the Broadwater, will cost the Queensland Government about \$33 million. It will involve construction of two large walls out to sea from the northern end of the Southport Spit, and a wave-break island just inside the mouth.

According to Bill Laver, chairman of the Gold Coast Waterways Authority, the entrance and its sand bar has migrated several kilometres to the north over the last century and is still moving, chopping away the tip of South Stradbroke Island on the northern side of the bar. If unchecked the entrance would continue northwards, he said, de-

stroying fish habitats and endangering waterfront suburbs along the western foreshore.

The stabilisation project began 10 years ago when Delft Hydraulics Laboratories of Holland made a detailed study of Gold Coast erosion problems. The design was then developed in laboratories commissioned by the Queensland Department of Harbors and Marine between 1973 and 1978.

The walls will be built from dry land at the northern end of the Southport Spit and about 500 metres south from the existing entrance. The southern wall will jut 500 metres out to sea from the present high water mark, while the northern wall will run 300 metres. Both will point north at 15 degrees to provide protection from the predominant south-east seas, making the entrance safer for navigation.

The walls will stand 300 metres apart and the new channel will be maintained at 6 metres depth at low water. About one million tonnes of quarry rock will be used to build the walls.

The wave-break island just inside the bar will be 900 metres long and 300 metres wide, built up of dredged sand, reinforced by small rock walls at each end.



Artist's impression of Queensland's new Bayview Harbor project, showing apartment blocks fronting Southport Broadwater, seawalls and a wave-break island.



Willing Mind rides at anchor in Port Moresby. — Kay Bason picture.

KAY BASON reports from Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea:

The wind was light but it didn't deter the members of the Royal Papua Yacht Club welcoming the start in April of the 1984 sailing season with their Opening Day Regatta. *Poisson* won the prize for the best dressed yacht. The crew gave spectators a delightful display of colored balloons spilling from their spinnaker as it was raised. *Champion* won the prize for best-dressed power boat. Max Kean and his crew looked splendid in their official "whites" on board *Sarabande*. A few "paybacks" with buckets of water between various yachts kept the crews cool and everybody certainly entered into the spirit of events. A light south-easterly breeze arrived prior to the race, and Peter Sharpe on *Mekim Save* was the first cruiser home beating a few Hobie cats. Following close behind was *Scorpio*, Tom Fawcett, and *Big Moale*, Chris Wiley. Prize for the best-dressed Hobie was *Qantas*, Nick Jones.

With the start of the south-east trade winds a few yachts have called into Port Moresby. Here are some of the visitors:

● **WILLING MIND.** Is a 40-year-old 10 m wooden sloop which was built in Falmouth, England. Freeman Paugh, who's been cruising for the past 11 years, finds *Willing Mind* a comfortable home afloat. He's sailed from Micronesia where, he said, there were no problems with pirates, but found food was very expensive. The market in Rabaul, in Freeman's opinion, was a great place, very much like the markets in South America. He was surprised at how quiet Rabaul was with the volcano scare. Freeman was enchanted with Samarai Island, he loved the atmosphere and lack of cars. He's thoroughly enjoyed cruising in PNG. From Port Moresby *Willing Mind* will set sail for Darwin, Indonesia and the Orient.

● **SEA LARK.** She's a fast modified Crowther 10 m design cat with a 6 m beam which Edward and Caroline Clarke fitted out in Caboolture, Brisbane. Caroline is at present overseas working to support the venture. Edward is a "cat man" from way back, and still has a stiletto cat in Australia. *Sea Lark* surfed into Cairns on her sea trials, doing 20 knots with the main reefed — exhilarating sailing. Passage from Cairns to Port Moresby was completed in just three days. Edward had intended to stay in Port Moresby but stories of break-ins and theft changed his plans. He will

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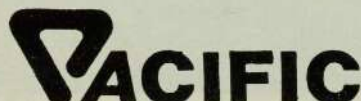


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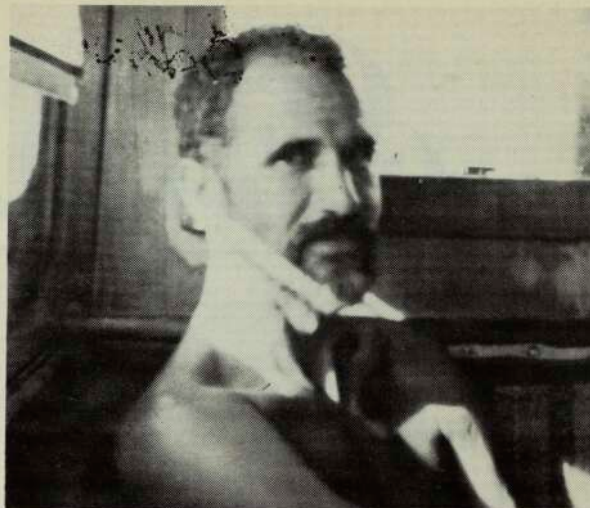


now return to Cairns to finish fitting out the interior of *Sea Lark*, which certainly is a roomy boat.

● **SENAW.** Jim Clark and Barbara Siddle have been cruising in their beautiful 13 m Swanson for the past seven years, on and off. They had sailed the "milk run" up and down the Queensland coast and decided to venture further offshore. After 12 days in the Sydney-Noumea yacht race, Jim and Barbara sailed to a few "off the track" places and highly recommend a visit to the Isle of Pines on the south-east of New Caledonia. They also said that the south side of San Cristobal Island in the Solomons is fabulous. Not many yachts cruise this side and the villagers are delighted to have visitors. Jim found good secure anchorages without any problems. *Senaw* was one of six yachts in Rabaul searched by PNG Customs because they were given incorrect clearance papers in Kieta. All these people were unaware of the regulations regarding clearing in and out of PNG ports. They said it was a rather embarrassing and uncomfortable situation which happily did not result in fines. Jim and Barbara intend to sail to Thursday Island and then coast-hop back to their home port, Lake Macquarie, New South Wales.

● **ALEGRIAS.** Mike Robinson and crew were sailing back to Darwin after a successful charter in PNG when the boat hit a large submerged log. This incurred damage to the rudder, prop and shaft on this famous 19 m schooner. Mike stopped at Bramble Cay to check and assess the damage in a safe south-eastern anchorage. During the night the wind changed direction and a mean north-east squall hit. The seas became heavier and *Alegrias* dragged anchor and slew sideways onto the reef where she took a hell of a beating. Mike said his opinion of ferro has been heightened: "It's a fantastic material to have withstood such heavy smashing and battering," he said. *Alegrias* was totally immobilised but the crew managed to kedge her around head into the swell. Eventually they moved boulders and made a bed for the yacht in the reef. They were surprised how easy it was to break up the big coral heads. Mike put out a PAN call on the radio and mackerel fishing boat *Tenggari* came to the rescue. In calmer conditions *Alegrias* was hauled straight off and towed to Daru. The *Niugini Trader* was employed to tow *Alegrias* to Port Moresby where she was slipped. Mike is certainly glad he has insurance, even though it entails a lot of paperwork. Once repairs are completed *Alegrias* will again set sail for Darwin, her home port.

Right: Freeman Paugh of *Willing Mind*. Middle: Visiting cruising yachts at Port Moresby in April. Bottom: Barbara and Jim Clark of *Senaw*. — Kay Bason pictures.



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shipping schedules

Should any shipping company wish to have its services — cargo and passenger — included in these listings they should contact PIM.

AUSTRALIA - FIJI

KKL (Kangaroo Line) Pty. Ltd., operates a 4/5 weekly cargo service from Sydney and Melbourne to Suva and Lautoka.

Details from KKL (Kangaroo Line) Pty. Ltd., 4th Floor, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (235-0322), Dalgity 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 three 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), Newcastle, Sofrana Sydney (27-9851), Clements and Marshall, Burnie, Tasmania (31-1833), Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson Street, Suva, Fiji (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

AUSTRALIA - SAMOAS - TONGA

Warner Pacific Lines operates a regular cargo service from Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne to Nuku'alofa, Pago Pago, Apia and Vavau. Feeder service available from Apia to Cook, Christmas, Fanning and Washington Islands.

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, P.O. Box 796 Auckland; Union Bulkships, 333 George Street, Sydney, Brisbane and Melbourne; Union Co., Lautoka, Suva, Nuku'alofa; Pacific Forum Line Apia; Polynesia Shipping Pago Pago.

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

KKL operates a 5/6 weekly service from Melbourne and Sydney to Kiribati (Tarawa). Details: KKL (Kangaroo Line) Pty. Ltd., 4th Floor, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (235-0322) and Dalgity Shipping, World Trade Centre, Melbourne (616-6700).

AUSTRALIA - NEW CALEDONIA AND/OR VANUATU

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

Details from Sofrana-Unilines, 19 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-9851), 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), Newcastle, Sofrana Syd-

ney (27-9851); 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 - NAURU - MARSHALL IS - KIRIBATI

Nauru Pacific Line operates regular cargo service from Melbourne to Nauru, Majuro and Tarawa. Passenger service to Nauru only.

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

AUSTRALIA - NEW ZEALAND

The Australian National Line (ANL) and the Shipping Corporation of New Zealand operate a 10-day container service between Sydney and Melbourne to Auckland, Wellington, Lyttelton and Port Chalmers.

Details from ANL, 20 Bond Street, Sydney (232-0444) and Shipping Corporation of New Zealand Ltd., P.O. Box 3420, Auckland, (797-210).

AUSTRALIA - NZ - FIJI - HAWAII - US

P & O liners call at Auckland, Suva, Pago Pago and Honolulu on eastbound and west-bound 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 - NEW GUINEA

Sitmar Cruises operates a year-round cruise program to include the above countries.

Details from Sitmar Cruises, 39 Martin Place, Sydney (239-9000); NSW, reservations & enquiries (008 42-2277); Rest of Australia, reservations & enquiries (008 22-2277).

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; 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: N.P.L. (Australia) Pty. Ltd. Nauru

House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709); Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522).

AUSTRALIA - TUVALU

KKL operates a 3 monthly service from Sydney and Melbourne to Tuvalu (Funafuti). Subject inducement.

Details from KKL (Kangaroo Line) Pty. Ltd., 4th Floor, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (235-0322).

AUSTRALIA - PNG

KAP New Guinea Lines cargo vessels call at Melbourne, Sydney, Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Wewak, Manus, Kimbe, Rabaul, Popondetta.

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty. Ltd., 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (232-2277), Dalgity Shipping, World Trade Centre, Melbourne (616-6700).

AUSTRALIA - PNG - SOLOMONS - VANUATU

A consortium of NGAL/PNGL and CON-PAC/NEL have four vessels operating a joint service from east coast Australian ports to Port Moresby, Lae, Alotau, Madang, Wewak, Rabaul, Kavieng-Kimbe, Kieta, Honiara, Vila, Santo.

Details from Burns, Philp & Co. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney, (2-0547); InterOcean Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney, (2-0522); New Guinea Express Lines, 37 Pitt Street, Sydney, (241-3991); Vila Agents, PO Box 971, Port-Vila (2490) Tlx. NH1044.

New Guinea Express Lines operates a weekly container service from Melbourne, Sydney, Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Alotau, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta, Honiara, Kavieng, Madang, Wewak, Santo, Vila.

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); Niugini Island Cargo Services Pty. Ltd., Rabaul (922-467); Bougainville Agencies Pty. Ltd., Kieta (956-089); Alotau Stevedoring & Transport, Alotau (61-1318); Ngatia Wholesalers Pty. Ltd., Kimbe (93-5102); and Trading Company, Mendana Avenue, Honiara (22588); Vila Agencies Ltd., PO Box 971, Vila, Vanuatu (2490); John Lum & Associates, PO Box 65, Santo, Vanuatu (329).

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates a monthly service from Sydney to Papeete, for containerised and break bulk cargo.

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

AUSTRALIA - TAHITI - US

KKL operates a 4/5 weekly cargo service from Melbourne and Sydney to Papeete, and a fortnightly service to US west coast.

Details: KKL (Kangaroo Line) Pty. Ltd., 4th Floor, 19-31 Pitt Street, Sydney (235-0322) and Dalgity Shipping, World Trade Centre, Melbourne (616-6700).

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 (59096), Tlx. 30331.

SINGAPORE - HONG KONG - FIJI - ISLANDS PORTS

Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd. operates a monthly service from Singapore, Hongkong to Lautoka, Suva and then to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson 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, Kashiung and Hongkong to Lautoka, Suva and thence to NZ.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson 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., PO Box 1, Port Moresby (22-0222).

Kyowa Shipping Ltd. operates monthly services from Japan to Guam, Saipan, Solomon, 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.

GUAM - NORTHERN MARIANAS

Saipan Shipping Co. Inc. operate a weekly service via barge carrying containers and conventional cargo between Guam and Saipan and Tinian.

Details from Saipan Shipping Co. Inc., PO Box 8, Saipan, CM 96950 (Tel: 9707) Tlx 783619; Guam agents Maritime Agencies of the Pacific Ltd.

INTER PACIFIC ISLANDS

South West Pacific Containers Line offers a scheduled container service with 23 day frequency between Apia, Honiara, Kieta, Lae, Noumea, Nuku'alofa, Pago Pago, Port Moresby, Santo, Suva and Lautoka, Vila. Trans-shipment to overseas markets can be arranged. Breakbulk cargo, heavy lifts and refrigerated accepted.

Details from Burns Philp and Co., 7 Bridge Street, Sydney (20-547) Tlx AA20290.

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Telephone 22 356.

VANUATU

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Telephone 329.

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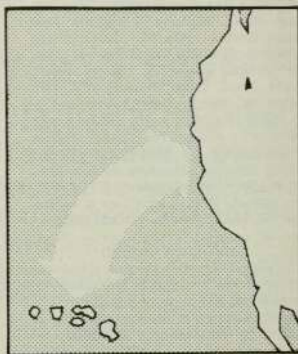
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PAGO PAGO: Polynesia Shipping Services, Inc.

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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, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson St., Suva (312-244). Tlx FJ2199.

JAPAN — FIJI — ISLAND PORTS

Bali Hai service operates a monthly service from main ports of Japan to Lautoka and Suva and thence to island ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson 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 — MICRONESIA

Saipan Shipping Co. Inc. operates a monthly service from Japan to Saipan, Guam, Truk, Ponape, Majuro (Kosrae and Ebeye on inducement).

Details from Saipan Shipping Co. Inc., P.O. Box 8, Saipan, CM 96950 (Tel: 9707) Tlx 783619; Japan agents Kyowa Shipping Company Ltd; Guam Agents Maritime Agencies of the Pacific Ltd.

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., P.O. 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 from Noumea and Suva to Honolulu and West Coast USA and Canadian ports.

Details from Sofrana-Unilines SA, BP 1602, Noumea (27-51-91), Tlx NM048; Carpenters Shipping Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson St., Suva (312-244). Tlx FJ2199.

PNG — INTER — MAINPORT

Papua New Guinea Line offers scheduled 10-20 day coastal liner services linking all PNG major ports with containerisation, reefer, heavy lift and transshipment facilities.

Details from PNG Line, Box 543, Port Moresby, PNG (21-1174). Tlx 22269.

PNG — UK CONTINENT

The Bank Line & Columbus Line operate a regular joint 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 (Asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041); Tlx AA24063; Columbus Line, Lae (423466) Tlx NE 44171; or lines' local agents.

SOLOMONS — UK CONTINENT

The Bank Line & Columbus Line operate a regular joint cargo service from Honiara to Hull, Hamburg, Rotterdam, Antwerp and Le Havre.

Details from The Bank Line (Asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041); Tlx AA24063; Columbus Line, Lae (423466) Tlx NE 44171; or the lines' local agents.

NEW ZEALAND — VANUATU — SOLOMON ISLANDS — PAPUA NEW GUINEA — AUSTRALIA

Pacific Forum Line operates a 28 day cycle container shipping service from New Zealand direct to Vila, then on to Honiara, Lae, Port Moresby, Brisbane, back to Lyttelton, Napier and Auckland.

Details from Pacific Forum Line, P.O. Box 796, Auckland (790-050) Tlx 60480; P.O. Box 971, Vila, Vanuatu (2490) Tlx 1044.

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., P.O. Box 3420, Auckland (797-210). Waterfront Commission, P.O. Box 61, Rarotonga; Cook Islands: Niue Govt. Offices, Niue Island Compagnie Maritime Polynesienne, BP 368, Papeete, Tahiti.

NZ — FIJI

Reef operates a regular 18-day service from Auckland to Suva and Lautoka.

Details from Reef Shipping Agencies, P.O. 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 three-weekly ro-ro cargo service New Zealand, Lautoka, Suva.

Details: Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland (773-279) P.O. Box 3614, Tlx: NZ2313; Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thomson 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., P.O. 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.

Pacific Forum Line operates a four-weekly service from Tauranga to Noumea, Lautoka, Suva, Apia, Pago Pago and Nuku'alofa. Details from Pacific Forum Line, Auckland; Union Co., Tauranga, Lautoka, Suva, Nuku'alofa, Polynesia Shipping, Pago Pago.

NZ — N. CALEDONIA — VANUATU — PNG — SOLOMONS

Sofrana Unilines with three ships operate to Vila and Santo, to Honiara and Papua New Guinea and to Norfolk Island and Noumea (No passengers).

Details from Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland (773-279), P.O. Box 3614, Tlx. NZ2313.

NZ — TAHITI

Compagnie Tahitiennne Maritime SA (as CTM-Tahiti Line) operates one ship, MV Bounty 111, monthly Papeete — New Zealand. (No passengers).

Details from Sofrana Unilines, P.O. Box 3614, 18 Customs St., Auckland Tlx NZ2313; Agence Maritime Cowan, P.O. Box 9012, Papeete (39042), Tlx Tahiti 322 FP Tahiti).

NZ — TONGA — SAMOAS

Warner Pacific Line services Auckland, Nuku'alofa, Vavau, Apia, Pago Pago fortnightly carrying general and freezer cargoes.

Details from McKay Shipping Ltd., Downtown House, 21 Queen St., Auckland, P.O. Box 1372 (30-299). Cables MACSHIP, Telex NZ2554, Warner Pacific Line, Box 93, Nuku'alofa, Tonga; Mealelei (Western Samoa) Ltd. Private Bag, Apia, Western Samoa, Kneubuhl Maritime Service, Box 39, Pago Pago, American Samoa, 96799.

NZ — NEW CALEDONIA

CP Line operates a monthly cargo service from Auckland, Napier and Mt Maunganui to Noumea.

Details from McKay Shipping Ltd., P.O. 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).

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See insert for
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Service is also offered utilising the same vessels on the same 21-day frequency from the Philippine ports of Manila, Cebu, Cagayan de Oro, Davao and General Santos to Hawaii, San Francisco Bay Area and Los Angeles. Details from PM&O Lines, 181 Fremont Street, San Francisco, California, 94105, U.S.A. (415) 543-7430, Tlx. 278016, Cable PMONAV SFO; PM&O Owner's representative, P.O. Box 803, Saipan, N.M.I. 96950, Cable — COMMONTIME SAIPAN, Tlx. 783605; Soriamont Steamship Agencies Inc., Soriamont House, 801 United Nations Avenue, Manila, Philippines, Tel 50-1831 and 50-1851, Tlx. 40138. ANSHIP PN.

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Marshall Islands Maritime Co-operates a service every 32 days between Honolulu, Papeete, Pago Pago and Apia.

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deaths

Sir John Gunther

Sir John Gunther has died in Melbourne at the age of 73 and a remarkable man has left the scene.

The bare facts of his life are sufficient to indicate his achievements. John Thomson Gunther was born on October 2, 1910, at Sydney, NSW, and was educated at the King's School, Parramatta, and at the University of Sydney, graduating in medicine and joining Lever Brothers' Pacific Plantations Ltd., in the British Solomon Islands Protectorate in 1935. He was chairman of the medical board investigating lead-poisoning at Mt Isa in Queensland from 1938 to 1940 and, in 1941, joined the R.A.A.F. as a medical officer. He did valuable work in malariaology in 1943 and was commanding officer of the 1st Australian Tropical Research Field Unit in 1944-45.

In 1949 he was appointed Director of Public Health in the Papua New Guinea Administration, and for the rest of his life he was closely involved in the affairs of PNG. He ran P.H.D. until 1957, with fierce effectiveness. He saw malaria as his principal enemy, and he fought hard ... he was always a fighter ... for the manpower and funds he had to have if the malaria scourge was to be beaten.

When Sir Paul Hasluck became Minister for Territories in 1951 he was exceedingly critical of the overall quality of the PNG Public Service as he found it, and as he makes very clear in his 1976 book, *A Time for Building*. He says this of John Gunther: "he was easily the strongest single driving force in the Administration ... here I had someone who needed no pushing ... Gunther had not yet received any major policy decisions on health and he had been given scant funds, but he had gone ahead without waiting for either..." That was typical of John Gunther.

So effective a director was he that nobody in PNG was in the least surprised when in 1957 he

was appointed to the vital position of Assistant Administrator. He now had a wider field for his talents. He was a powerful force in the Legislative Council and later in the House of Assembly, and he was one of the first in high places to realise that the pace of constitutional change in PNG was about to accelerate. Although an obvious representative of entrenched authority, he was still able to forge close links with emerging national figures like John Guise, Oala Oala-Rarua and Matthias Toliman. He was chairman of the 1962 Select Committee on Constitutional Development set up by the Legislative Council to go to the people and seek their views, and which recommended changes that heralded the beginning of the end of the colonial era in PNG.

The third phase of John Gunther's official life in PNG began in 1963 with his appointment as a member of the Commission on Higher Education in Papua and New Guinea, chaired by Sir George Currie. The Commission recommended the immediate establishment of a University at Port Moresby. There was tremendous controversy, but the decision to establish the university was taken and, in 1966, Gunther accepted the appointment of Vice-Chancellor. He virtually created the university as it is today.

There was much speculation in PNG at the time about the real reason for Gunther's retirement from the powerful position of Assistant Administrator to that of university vice-chancellor. Most observers thought that he would naturally succeed Sir Donald Cleland upon his retirement as Administrator, due in 1966. I saw much of John Gunther during his final years of retirement at Buderim, and he told me that he had every reason to believe that had Hasluck remained Minister for Territories he would have been offered the appointment, but in December, 1963, Hasluck left Territories.

I believe that Gunther, al-

ways a realist, came to the conclusion that the top Public Service job in PNG would not from then on come his way. The vice-chancellorship offered him the chance of a new career, in a field in which he passionately believed.

History shows that he was just as effective in his new role as he had been in the old. The University of Papua New Guinea owes him a massive debt.

In 1972 Gunther retired. He had been in ill-health for years and had never spared himself physically throughout his time in PNG. Along the way his work had been acknowledged by the award of the OBE and CMG, and in 1973, he was knighted. He shared his retirement with his beloved wife, Dot, who survives him. A son carries on the Gunther name and there are three daughters.

Few men had a greater influence on the affairs of Papua New Guinea than John Gunther. His interest in the country never flagged, and he was greatly disturbed by the reappearance of malaria on a serious scale after independence. The disease, in Gunther's view, the greatest single scourge of the PNG people, was well on the way to containment during the Australian era, but many of the control measures were unpopular and after independence were relaxed.

Many times Gunther was urged to write about his years in PNG, for his testimony would have been invaluable to the historians of the future, but strangely enough for a man of his quality and intellect he did not find writing easy, and his health was too fragile.

No-one who knew him is ever likely to forget him. — James Sinclair.

Vivian George Plant

Vivian George Plant In Sydney, on March 9, aged 68, following heart surgery. George Plant first settled on Norfolk Island in 1956 with his wife Enid. He managed the Hopkins Store and then joined the whaling station until it closed in 1960.

He was an active member of the Norfolk Island community, serving on the committee of the R.S.L. sub-branch as well as being its welfare officer.

Jane Hammond Usher

In San Francisco on February 28, aged 68. Mrs Usher collapsed and died in her hotel room during a stopover on a business trip. She was the wife of L.G. Usher, of Suva, Fiji, who is among the most prominent figures in Fiji politics and society, and a former executive director and editor of the Fiji Times and Herald Ltd.

Mrs Usher was on her way home from one of her regular buying expeditions to Italy and the United States. She operated the Suva boutique, Crossroads, which specialised in high-quality china and crystal.

Born in Oakland, California, Mrs Usher graduated with a Bachelor of Arts degree at San Jose State College and qualified as a certified teacher, working in a number of schools before going to Fiji in 1961.

Adi Lefulefu Talo

In San Francisco, reportedly aged 122. Adi Lefulefu Talo was the great grand-daughter of Ratu Seru Cabobau, her father being Ratu Etuate Wainiu, grandson of Ratu Seru. She married an American naval officer at the age of 15 and spent most of her life in American Samoa. She leaves a family of 112, including many great grand children.

Mrs H. Simmonds

In Auckland, on March 26, aged 86. Mrs Simmonds was the wife of Hubert Simmonds who was the government entomologist in Suva, Fiji, between 1919 and 1936, when he retired. They were married in 1924, and lived in Suva until around 1938, returning to Australia. Hubert Simmonds died in 1966 after which Mrs Simmonds moved to Auckland, New Zealand. She died after a period of failing health, leaving two children, seven grandchildren and four great grand children.



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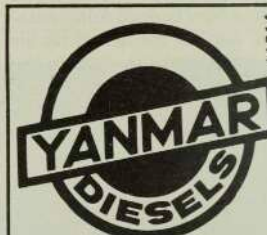
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