

Vol. 57, No. 10 (Oct. 1, 1986)

Date : 7/17/26, 4:13 AM

<https://nla.gov.au:443/tarkine/nla.obj-335636810>

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PACIFIC ISLANDS

M O N T H L Y

OCTOBER, 1986

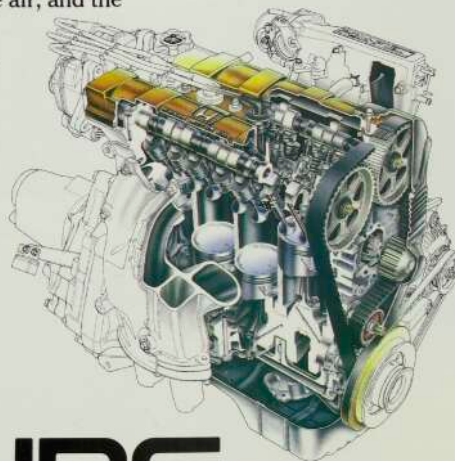
Official Channels



More than meets the eye.

Honda, constantly setting new standards when it comes to car design, now brings you the Prelude 2.0i-16. What does meet the eye is the Prelude's styling. Its low, angled front slices through the air, and the wide tread stance grips the road firmly for superb maneuverability. What you can't see is the heart of this elegant new model — the 2.0-liter 16-valve Double Overhead Camshaft (DOHC) engine. It comes with Honda's original Programmed Fuel Injection system (PGM-FI) for quick engine response.

This perfect marriage between styling and performance offers the ultimate in touring satisfaction. All this plus a long list of other Honda extras put the new Prelude into a class of its own. Find out what it really means to enjoy a car — all it takes is a test drive.



PRELUDE 2.0i-16

• Engine type: Water-cooled 4-stroke DOHC 16-valve in-line 4-cylinder • Fuel supply system: PGM-FI
• Displacement: 1,958cm³ • Maximum horsepower: 137PS/6,000rpm • Maximum torque: 17.3kg-m/
5,000rpm • Suspension: Double wishbone (front), MacPherson strut (rear) • Dimensions (L x W x H):
4,375 x 1,690 x 1,295mm

HONDA

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Vol. 57, No. 10, October, 1986.

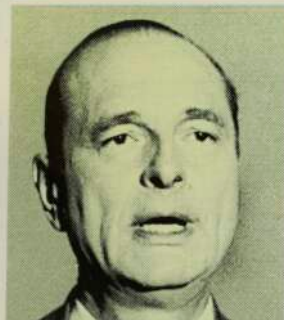
Editor Russell Hunter
Advertising Manager Richard Thomson
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A Pacific Publications production
Founded 1930 by R. W. Robson
(USPS 952480)

76 Clarence Street, Sydney, 2000.
GPO Box 3408, Sydney, 2001.
Cables: PACPUB Sydney.
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PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY is published monthly by Pacific Publications (Aust) Pty. Ltd. of 76 Clarence Street, Sydney, NSW, Australia. Second class postage paid at Honolulu, Hawaii. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY, PO Box 22250, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822.

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IMPORTED LEGAL HELP: The islands region is a net importer of highly qualified legal expertise. But within that framework there is a growing exchange of top lawyers within the islands. **14**

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WHAT KIND OF TELEVISION: Regional television is still a possibility. Although many questions on funding remain to be answered, SPEC has taken up the issue. Meanwhile, the commercial broadcasters are as determined as ever, despite a **24**

few apparent setbacks in terms of their relations with governments. In Fiji and in PNG, the law has been invoked, though for different reasons.

THE MONEY MEN LOOK NORTH: Australian stockbroking mogul, cigar-smoking Rene Rivkin and the media magnate Kerry Packer have turned their sights on PNG with shares in a proposed merchant bank. We ask what's in it for them and how they're going about it. **28**

WHO WAS DOCTOR LONG GHOST: The question was asked in PIM in May, 1945. Now, more than 40 years later, a PIM correspondent has at least part of the answer in an intriguing piece of detective work that took him through the pages of Herman Melville novels and to Penrhyn Island. **41**

A MILITARY MAN BACKS SPNFZ: And an American ex-general at that. Guam congressman Ben Blaz talks of his love for his home island and of his fears that nuclear forces could endanger its way of life. **11**

HISTORY RESTORED: Fiji's former capital, the historic and beautiful town of Levuka is likely to develop its tourist potential — while losing nothing of its unique character. **36**

THE COVER

Selecting the right channel. By guest artist Robert Bosch.

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PIM OPINION

Time to change the channels

It is important for every nation to see itself on television if that country's national cultural identity is not to be eroded. Thus Mr Martin of Television New Zealand which seeks to broadcast a region-wide public service system. (Page 24).

Meanwhile, NTN's Mr Finlay sees it as a natural progression for countries to support a state-run service as well as a commercial channel.

As a cornered politician might remark, there is much to be said for both sides.

A regional public service station is a fine idea. For once, people would be asked what they want to see on television as opposed to being offered something that advertisers want to buy time in. The problem arises in who it is that will be answering the question.

To expect politicians to stay out of that is asking too much of them. The TVNZ proposal of countries recording their own material for broadcast would, we suspect, open the floodgates. Once people have digested the novelty of seeing their own country on their own television, what then? Ministerial broadcasts? MPs officially opening pet projects?

There has to be a limit. But if TVNZ seeks to set that limit, shrill cries of neocolonialism will surely follow. An editorial board with representatives from the various receiving nations might overcome such a difficulty. But there's always the danger that these too might become political appointments.

Not that the commercial stations will be above giving time to politicians. But they, at least, are saddled with the constraint of keeping their advertisers on screen and on side. And therein lies another problem.

For if commercial TV sees its job as to entertain, the less appealing and possibly more vital areas will find it hard to compete for time — and advertising — with canned cops and robber-car chase-kitchen sink dramas that will do nothing to protect or develop cultural sovereignty.

And, on a more general level, television will have a murderous effect on individual countries' radio stations — which already reach more people than television can hope to find in the coming ten years.

At the same time, to pretend that television won't — or shouldn't — happen is to deny islands people the opportunity to see and judge for themselves.

For this reason the TVNZ proposal deserves con-

sideration in that it provides an alternative. At the same time, to ask it to do the job the commercials want to do is asking far too much of a basic four-hours-a-day broadcaster.

The vital question is: Who's going to pay for it? There must be an argument for the kiwis paying for their influence through support for the service. It seems fair. It may even seem fair to New Zealand at present.

But, as Radio Australia might discover, governments can take away as easily as they can give and external services are often the first to feel the pinch in times of domestic stress. That could leave the island nations with a choice of committing unbudgeted funds or accepting a reduced service.

Commercial stations, too, are not immune to financial sickness. For despite the high hopes of the advertising agencies (the real winners in the TV battle) and the stations themselves, there must be some doubt remaining in everybody's minds that the market is simply not big enough.

A solution might be to deregulate the airwaves. Let the professional risk-takers fight it out and may the best broadcaster win, while supporting a low cost public service system with inbuilt checks on political misuse.

It may not even be too much to hope that some portion of government revenue from television might go towards support for public service broadcasting.

Commercial broadcasters in most countries are prepared to compete for audiences with state-run television and there seems no reason why they should expect a clear field in the Pacific. In any case, satellite broadcasting is such that exclusive contracts are going to be hard to enforce.

For example, if a viewer in Fiji chooses to turn to a regional service to the exclusion of the local "exclusive" broadcaster, who can or should prevent him?

Fears of a population gorged on the Coca Cola culture to the exclusion of its own heritage are probably unfounded. The commercial stations will conform to sensible regulations covering content — if only to protect their licences. In any case, most island cultures are both vital and dynamic and probably well able to recover from the initial shock of broadcast television. They are not, as some people fear, unable to look after their traditions.

But freedom of choice in television is enjoyed practically world wide. Why not here?



pacific report

BOUGAINVILLE TREBLES PROFIT

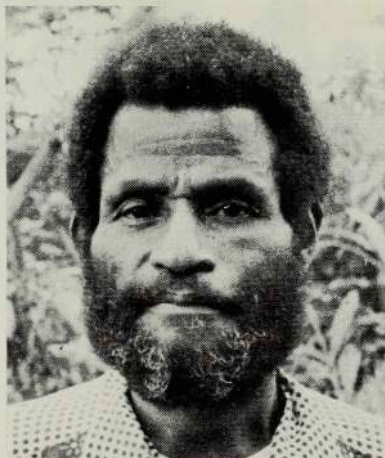
Bougainville Copper Ltd lifted earnings by more than 177 per cent in the six months to June 30. Higher gold prices and increased production coupled with lower net financing and operating costs resulting from the fall in oil prices and the collapse of the Australian dollar brought about an improved profit — from A\$13.42m in the corresponding period last year to this year's A\$37.18 million. Announcing an interim dividend of about 10c a share, the directors said bullion prices had risen from an average US\$310 per ounce in the first half of 1985 to US\$343. They predicted a continuation of these conditions, though political uncertainties could lift prices further. Copper prices fell to an average US\$64.5 cents per pound compared with 65 cents in the first half of last year. This represented the lowest price in real terms since the the 30s.

EQUALITY FOR SCHOOL CHILDREN

The three government-run high schools in Western Samoa — Samoa College, Avele and Vaipouli — will have sixth form students only from 1990 under a new policy announced by education minister, Le Mamea Ropati. The minister told parliament that the three schools will drop their form three classes, cutting out forms four and five over the following two years. The current discriminatory practice of allowing European or part European children to start school at five years while Samoans must wait a further six months, will be abolished. The selection of form two students for the high schools will also cease. Selection for entry to the sixth form schools will take place in the fifth form.

JAPANESE LEAD IN VEHICLE SALES

Japanese vehicle manufacturer, Toyota, led the Papua New Guinea vehicle market in the first half of this year, selling 1093 new vehicles out of a total of 3301, representing a 33 per cent market share. Next was the Nissan-Datsun range (18.5 per cent), Mitsubishi (12.4 per cent) and Isuzu (8 per cent). Mazda led in the passenger vehicles section with 25.5 per cent. Toyota was second (18 per cent), Nissan-Datsun (15.8 per cent), Suzuki (15.3 per cent) and Mitsubishi (12.9 per cent) followed. Toyota also headed the commercial vehicle section with 38 per cent. As the Australian dollar continued weak, however, Australian car makers may make some inroads.



OPM activist James Nyaro: Still held in Port Moresby's Bomana jail.

FISHING COMPANY REDUCES LOSSES

The Ika Fishing Corporation of Fiji, a government statutory authority which began operations in 1975, has reported an improvement in performance for the year ending June 30. Its losses were the lowest for seven years. General manager, Captain John Harrison said the corporation had expected to make a profit, but poor catches in May reversed the position. The current fishing season had been extended by two months because of improved catches and better prices offered by the buyer, Pacific Fishing Company, of Levuka.

RUNWAY TO BE EXTENDED

Work was due to be completed this month on runway extensions at Henderson Airport in Guadalcanal, Solomon Islands. International aircraft will now be able to land on the new sections covering 1100 metres. The \$6.5 million project is financed by Kuwait Funding and the contractor is Dongsan Construction of South Korea.

US MAY BACK NUCLEAR TREATY

The chairman of the US Senate foreign relations committee, Senator Richard Lugar, said he expected President Reagan would support the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone treaty. Sen Lugar said the United States would sign the protocols attached to the treaty because it appeared to be compatible with US foreign policy. His comments came less

than 24 hours after a senior Soviet foreign relations official, Mr Mikhail Kapitsa confirmed in Wellington that the Soviet Union would also sign the protocols as soon as the treaty was ratified by more Pacific countries. The protocols ban the use, manufacture, stationing and testing of nuclear weapons in the region.

SLN TO REDUCE NICKEL OUTPUT

Major New Caledonia nickel producer, Societe Le Nickel is to cut production for the rest of the year because of a world market glut. SLN manager, Mr Paul Bliet said in Noumea that the company was limiting output as its part in efforts to help nurse the industry back to health. He said the company would reduce its 1986 output target of 44,000 tonnes by up to 2,000 tonnes. The production cut was expected to lead to reductions in benefits for the company's 2,300 staff — more than six per cent of New Caledonia's total workforce. The territory is the world's third largest nickel producer after Canada and the Soviet Union.

FORUM TOLD OF URANIUM PLAN

Members of the South Pacific Forum were told in advance of Australia's decision to lift the ban on uranium sales to France, said Australian foreign minister, Mr Bill Hayden. He said they were told of the measure at the Suva forum meeting — ten days before it was announced in the Australian Budget. He said that they had had ample time to protest against the decision in that period but had not done so. PNG foreign minister, Legu Vagi — who had attended the forum — said after the decision was publicly announced that his country was "disappointed." He added: "It further confirms Papua New Guinea's misgivings about the shortcomings of the South Pacific Nuclear Free Zone Treaty."

CHIEFS WANT TO BRING BACK COURTS

Fiji's Great Council of Chiefs — the supreme body overseeing the interests of the Fijian community — has approved the re-introduction of the Fijian court system. This would mean that Fijians could be tried for minor offences by a village magistrate. Each of the four administrative divisions will have a Fijian magistrate. The move is part of an overhaul of the Fijian administration recommended by Mr Rodney Cole of the Australian National University.



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OPM REBELS KEPT SILENT

Four Irian Jayan independence movement leaders left Port Moresby's Bomana jail after nine months on the first leg of a journey to Ghana. PNG foreign minister, Legu Vagi, banned journalists from speaking to the four, who will later travel on to a Scandinavian country. The four were Gerard Tommy, Ries Wader, David Timka and Donald Derey. They had crossed the border into PNG last year seeking refugee status. PNG agreed to help find a host country. With them on the border crossing and in Bomana jail was self-styled OPM leader James Nyaro who was to have joined the Ghana-bound group but withdrew on health grounds.

STAR WARS ROLE FOR KWAJALEIN

The United States plans to build a US\$1.3 million complex on Kwajalein atoll next year as part of President Reagan's Strategic Defence Initiative (SDI) — often referred to as Star Wars — according to data sent to the US Congress. The complex would be used to launch targets for missiles known as Bradskill interceptors which are designed to hit enemy warheads in space during their journey towards the United States.

HAWKE ACCUSED ON AID CUT

Papua New Guinea has accused the Australian government of breaching a memorandum of understanding between the two countries concerning Australian aid. The complaint was contained in letter from PNG prime minister, Mr Paias Wingti, to his Canberra counterpart, Mr Bob Hawke. The letter said there should have been consultation before the Australian decision — to reduce aid by A\$10 million — was announced. PNG's finance minister Sir Julius Chan told parliament that this had not been done and that the country was disappointed. He said Australia had not done the right thing by not informing PNG before cutting its aid.

CASH GRANT FOR CAUSEWAY

Japan has given Kiribati a grant of A\$1.3 million for the second stage of a project involving the building of a causeway and navigation channel. The grant was announced in Suva after an exchange of notes by the Japanese ambassador to Fiji, Mr Kukuo Yoshida and the Kiribati communications minister, Mr Taomati Iuta. The money will be used to pave a 400-metre causeway between Betio island, the country's commercial centre, and Bairiki island, the administrative centre of the capital, Tarawa. Some of the money will be used to buy a

navigational marker for the fisheries channel. The first stage of the project, costing about A\$4 million involved the building of the causeway and a navigational channel.

NEW TUNA BOATS ON ORDER

Solomon Islands government has ordered two new tuna fishing boats from an Australian shipbuilder in what is thought to be the largest contract ever entered into by the government. The order is for two 57-metre purse-seiners at a cost of about A\$9 million each. Each boat is twice as large as the government's National Development Corporation's only operating purse-seiner.

RADIO AUSTRALIA BUDGET REVIEW

The management of Radio Australia is conducting a major review of operations, following large cuts in the organisation's budget. The controller, Mr Peter Barnett, said there was a strong possibility of restrictions on the current output. In an austere Budget handed down by Australian treasurer, Mr Paul Keating, Radio Australia's parent, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation, had its operating budget reduced by more than A\$10 million.

JAPANESE TOURISTS THE BIG SPENDERS

Japanese tourists are the biggest spending visitors to Fiji, according to the Fiji Visitors Bureau. The average Japanese tourist, it said, spends at least A\$100 a day. The bureau general manager, Mr Malalai Gucake, said of the other major national groups, Australians average \$60 per day, the Americans \$53 and the New Zealanders \$49. In the first half of this year, American tourists increased by 47 per cent to just over 31,000. There were smaller increases in the numbers of Canadian, British and New Zealand tourists while arrivals from Australia declined slightly.

US OPTIMISTIC ON TUNA DEAL

The United States is optimistic on reaching agreement on a tuna access agreement with Pacific island nations before the end of this year. US State Department spokesman, Mr Charles Redman, said Washington would welcome an agreement because of Soviet moves to conclude fishery agreements in the region. Nine rounds of talks spanning two years ended in the Cook Islands in August without success. A further round is due in Tonga this month. Some influential officials told PIM at the South Pacific Forum in Suva that they were now more hopeful of an agreement this year. (September PIM, P21).

FISHERMEN DRIFT FOR 88 DAYS

Three Kiribati fishermen who drifted 700 kilometres in an open boat over 88 days were reunited with their families. The men disappeared on April 4 when the outboard motor on their plywood boat broke down. They were found by a Nauruan fisherman off Nauru. They survived the ordeal by collecting rainwater in their waterproof jackets and by catching fish to eat.

FORUM LINE SEES SLUMP IN PROFIT

The Pacific Forum shipping line expects a 50 per cent reduction in profit this year, the chairman, Mr Dan Tufui, said in Suva. He said the line expected a profit of about A\$800,000, although the final figure could be higher. He told a meeting of representatives of the ten Pacific governments which own the line that a larger vessel to replace the "Forum New Zealand" was expected next February.

CROWN LAND HANDED OVER

Fiji's deputy prime minister, Ratu David Toganivalu, said it was unlikely that any more crown land would be re-classified as native reserves. His statement followed a row over the transfer of some 4,000 hectares of crown land into native reserves. The move was criticised by the opposition National Federal Party and the Labour Party which claimed it was a device to win Fijian votes in next year's general election. Ratu David assured the country, however, that the government approach to land matters would continue to reflect the multi-racial policy of the ruling Alliance Party. He said the land in question rightly belonged to native landowners and it could be argued that the crown held it merely in trust.

PUBLIC SERVANTS MUST RE-APPLY

The Solomon Islands government dismissed senior public servants and advertised their positions as part of a campaign to improve government administration. A government announcement said that all new appointments would be on a three-year contract basis. Among those dismissed were all permanent secretaries of ministries. All can re-apply for their jobs, although the public service ministry said there could be no guarantees that all would be re-employed in their previous positions. The government hopes to trim the size of the bureaucracy at senior levels. Other measures included the abolition of all vacancies, suspension of officials taking leave without pay, reductions in the sizes of some ministries and a call for voluntary retirements.



More to this island than caves

Tofua is known as the place in Tonga where Captain Bligh came ashore 196 years ago. In PIM of June last year, Bengt Danielsson claimed the re-discovery of the Bligh cave, without being able to produce a photograph of it.

In PIM of September last year, again attention is paid to Tofua and again to the Bligh cave. This time with a photograph that indicates that Kim Gravelle and Bill Verity have been there, although no cave is shown, but the opposite island Kao is.

All this might give the impression that there is nothing more interesting on Tofua than the "might-have-been-Bligh-cave". Tofua has many caves with stony beaches, as do many other less remote islands.

Tofua is a magnificent island with dense unspoiled jungle on steep slopes with huge ferns, parrots and wild pigs. There is one village, Hokula (10 houses and three churches), plus two smaller settlements called Ha'amatu'a and Manaka.

Tofua is, in fact, a half sunken volcano, almost round and five miles in diameter. The crater is two-thirds lake (called Lofia) and one third active volcano. Very few people on Tofua have been down to the lake.

Last July we went there ourselves — a zigzag voyage with whatever was available on boats — which took us 13 days. Traffic to and from Tofua goes mainly over the nearest inhabited island of Kotu.

There are several places to go ashore on Tofua, but all are difficult and tricky. Approaching

In August PIM the source quoted in the article "Foreign business beats a slow retreat," was wrongly identified as John Bailey. This should have read John Hailey whose report "Indigenous Business in Fiji" was quoted in the article. The error is regretted.



The writer, Paul de Leeuw with guide, Finau.

a possible landing place from a little fishing boat makes you think you're heading for a steep cliff and that you need to be a seal to get ashore.

Very close to the beach the helmsman says "*puna ki lalo palangi*", then, you've got to jump. If you miss that you wait for the next right wave.

Going to the east side of Tofua, passing a little settlement of kava-planters called Manaka, to the top takes three to four hours climbing over a foot-wide almost invisible track.

From the top it has a beautiful view over the lake and the impressive smoking volcano below. Going down into the crater over loose gravel is tricky. The slopes are steep. You've got to watch every step.

In the part of the crater that is still active, a desert of red-brown gravel, are in fact three little volcanoes. The two smallest are dead. The biggest produces constant sulphur fumes which can be seen on islands 50 miles away.

Down by the foot of the live volcano we revealed to our guide, Finau, a kava planter from Tofua, that the actual aim of this trip was to go up to the live volcano in order to see what it looks like inside. He didn't like the idea but was not unco-operative. With careful steps we went up.

sticky, but sweet and soft as rain water. With the aid of a snorkel the lake proved not to be lifeless at all.

Although the water was green from algae, which restricted the view, it was clear that the rocky bottom close to the edge was completely crowded with little shells.

Farther on, there were a lot of underwater insects.

After five days we managed to get a boat off from Tofua, a 14-foot boat mainly of plywood, driven by 40 hp outboard motor, which tends to stall at every wave. A nutshell loaded with 10 people, two dogs and luggage. No life jackets, no radio and sharks in sight.

Tofua is more than only a cave.

PAUL de LEEUW
and SANITA TULIPULOTU
Nuku'alofa
Tonga

Wanted: History of sailing ships

I seek any information (in particular plans, half models, photographs) concerning the following sailing ships known to have plied New Zealand and South Sea Islands waters circa 1870 to 1924 as all were mastered and/or owned by my grandfather the late Captain William Wallace Wilson, Harbourmaster to both the Cakabau and British governments in Fiji. They were:

● 1: Cutter WAVE 15 tons previously owned and mastered by Captain Robinson, probably built in New Zealand;

● 2: Schooner ELIZABETH owned in partnership with A. A. Coubrough of Taveuni. Probably built in New Zealand;

● 3: Schooner ZEPHYR built in New Zealand or the UK, of 100 tons plus. Later owned by either Burns Philp Limited or

WR Carpenters said to be exceptionally fast and seaworthy.

● 4: Hermaphrodite LAURA possibly built by Baley Bros. or Bailey & Lowe, New Zealand. May have been 100 tons plus. Said to have been a very fast vessel.

● 5: Schooner HELENA built by either Nicholson & Sons, Suva or in New Zealand, later owned by Burns Philp (SS) Limited, sold post WWII and wrecked in the New Hebrides or Solomons.

No records remain in Fiji because a colonial Comptroller of Customs caused all old ships registers to be destroyed despite protests.

Any person who may be able to assist please address:

W.W.T. CALDWELL,
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A soldier goes home to his island

Guam Congressman Ben Blaz, who has emerged as the principal US political leader supporting nuclear non-proliferation in the South Pacific, says he does so because he is a son of the islands.

"We are all island people," he said recently on a visit to San Francisco. "We feed off the resources of the sea. Those resources are migratory.

"We eat tuna, for instance. The resources are so fragile. You can't see radioactivity. And there is the possibility of something going violently wrong. You could have an enormous tidal wave and island people could wake up some morning and their homes would be gone. And they would be gone."

These are not the customary sentiments of a customary American politician. Congressman Blaz, however, does not fit anyone's customary description.

Ben Blaz is a Chamorro, a native Guamanian born on the island on February 14, 1928. As an adolescent, he experienced the hardships of the Japanese occupation. That time of hunger and privation was not without its rewards, he says. "I was with my father and with my grandfather 24 hours a day. I was given the wisdom they had accumulated over the years. We suffered for every ounce of sup beans and corn.

"One day, my father said to me, 'I think you are going to be OK; you have discovered the sweetness of the saltiness of sweat'."

Inspired by the "sweetness of the saltiness of sweat," young Blaz won a scholarship to Notre Dame University at South Bend, Indiana. Upon graduation in 1951, he entered the United States Marine Corps. Promotions and decorations came regularly.

He had been liberated on

Guam Congressman Ben Blaz, a Republican, has suddenly emerged as the most prominent American politician supporting the New Zealand position on atomic weapons and atomic-powered warships. Because he is a retired US Marine Corps brigadier general and a member of the Armed Services Committee of the US House of Representatives, his views carry special weight. RALPH CRAIB interviewed him in San Francisco.

Guam by the Ninth Regiment of the Marines; he later assumed command of that regiment in Japan after being promoted to full colonel. "When I took command of the Ninth Marines," he says, "it was a supreme moment. I only wished that the guys in the village on Guam could have seen me."

Congressman Blaz ended his military career in 1980 with the rank of brigadier-general after 29 years of active duty. He served as military representative of the US Joint Chiefs of Staff in talks with the Soviet Union in Helsinki and holds a whole galaxy of medals for combat service and meritorious achievement.

On return to civilian life, he taught at the University of Guam, trying to inspire his young Chamorro students with the unlimited possibilities he believes the future holds for them. His own "incredible odyssey" is a model, he says.

"When I look back on my career in the Marine Corps for all of those years, I realise that the place that means absolutely the most to me, in the twilight of my years, is that little island of Guam," the member of Congress says.

"The people who mean most to me are my people, the island people of Guam. The farther away I travel, the more I want to be back with the people of Guam."

The travels, his experience negotiating with the Soviet Union and travelling within it, have all made the congressman

acutely aware of the dangers of nuclear proliferation. He has visited Tahiti and finds that the French "are being arbitrary" and not "giving any thought to New Zealand and Australia."

He muses about the fact that the Enola Gay left Tinian, part of the same island chain as Guam, to deliver the first atomic bomb in Japan and talks about the continuing effort to clean up Bikini at both economic and human cost. And he thinks about the Chernobyl accident and the possibility of accidents elsewhere, particularly somewhere in the Pacific.

"I find this problem very difficult," he says. "Maybe we (mankind) need a few little areas where there's a haven from nuclear worries. I think that the focus may be changing. People are saying, 'hey, this lake is getting choppy. We better take another look.' I don't think that the United States ever realised what a precious gem this ocean is, what gems these islands are."

The congressman defines himself, as do many American military men, as a "peacekeeper." His career in the Marine Corps was largely that of being prepared to use force — so that its use would never be necessary. His public pronouncements, however, stress the strategic value of Guam and of its Air Force and Navy bases. He placed particular emphasis upon Guam's military importance during the long period of instability in the Philippines before the Marcos regime collapsed.



Brigadier General Ben Blaz, USMC.

Some time ago, because of public criticism of some former military men receiving both pension and a salary in a new job, legislation was enacted prohibiting former active duty officers from receiving pensions while in Congress. Congressman Blaz is the only member of Congress so penalised.

He receives an annual salary of \$75,000 as a member of the House of Representatives but has had to give up his Marine Corps pension of \$45,000 per annum. This, not surprisingly, disturbs him. "I think soldiers should have the same rights as shoemakers, doctors and lawyers," he says.

One of Congressman Blaz's highest priorities is his pursuit of Commonwealth status in Guam's relationship with the United States. The proposal, first put forth seriously in 1980, would give Guam greater autonomy while preserving its ties to the United States.

Some Washington observers feel that Blaz's many abilities and strong force of personality gives Commonwealth status a better chance of attainment than has existed in the past.

Row over missile range lease

Leaders talk of 'revolution'

Where now for the Republic of the Marshall Islands (RMI)? One year on from the eruption of protest when the land lease agreement for Kwajalein Missile Range (KMR) expired — on September 30, 1985 — the row rumbles on.

Landowners of the Kwajalein Atoll Corporation (KAC) led a series of demonstrations, sit-ins and blockades in a campaign of civil disobedience aimed at halting the work of the KMR.

Now one of the protest leaders, Senator Ataji Balos has warned that the protest is far from over and could culminate "in revolution."

Balos (who is also KAC chairman), Ebeye mayor, Alvin Jacklick and KAC treasurer, Julian Riklon also assert, however, that their campaign is against "American apartheid" as well as for nuclear disarmament and independence.

They claim segregation at Kwajalein where some 10,000 Marshallese crowd into the tiny island of Ebeye, while 2,500 Americans live in far more acceptable conditions at the missile base — which is 13 times larger than Ebeye. (PIM, June P13).

This led the protest leaders to oppose the Compact of Free Association between RMI and the USA, with Balos lambasting the compact at the May session of the UN Trusteeship Council.

The situation was somewhat defused with the May announcement of a state of emergency and the promise of negotiations by RMI to examine the demands of the protesters.

Balos agreed to sit down rather than sit in, though he suspected that the move was designed to avoid embarrassment of the US at the impending UN meeting.

However, it was subsequently announced that the KAC would be fined both by the RMI government of President Amata Kabua and the US.

An official RMI letter to Balos explained: "The demonstration costs and expenses will be deducted from land use payments which would have been made available to the KAC and its individual landowner members had they provided peaceful and quiet use and had the demonstration expenses not been incurred."

The fine was set at \$1 million to cover costs of additional security at KMR during the demonstrations as well as transport bills for officials engaged in shuttle diplomacy around the far-flung archipelago in an effort to mediate.

The US has already deducted \$675,000 from its rent to the islanders, while the RMI seeks \$300,000 in damages.

The letter went on to accuse the KAC of "irresponsibility and inability to conform to the laws of the republic" and stated that the government would no longer deal with the KAC, other than to collect payment of the sum demanded. The US military, meanwhile, claimed that the protesters "interfered with missile operations."

Balos told PIM: "These moves are part of an attempt to crush the KAC. The RMI government are puppets forced to do this by the US. We're a small people, but we're not going to give up the fight."

"If they break up the KAC, Kwajalein will be the first place in Micronesia to have a revolution."

He said his group would take its case to the courts — without real hope of any positive result: "The same judge in the Mar-

shall who evicted us from KMR will hear our case, while the US federal courts have never ruled in our favour."

He refused to rule out further demonstrations.

This, combined with the outburst of protest at the proposed US radar installation in the

Northern Marianas, talk of secession in Pohnpei and the continuing compact impasse in nuclear free Palau, will give the Soviet Union a further supply of ammunition when the US trusteeship matters come before the Security Council. — E. Rampell



Crowded Ebeye (foreground) with Kwajalein in the background.

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Beyond the call



Judges join the legal trade

One of the most intriguing items in the South Pacific import-export trade is that of judicial talent.

Britain, New Zealand and the United States are among the exporters: American Samoa, the Cooks, the Solomons and Tuvalu among the importers; while Fiji plays both roles, simultaneously importing and exporting judges.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of these arrangements, to American eyes, is the role played from a distance by London's Law Lords. They serve as the highest court of appeal for Fiji, Tuvalu and other island jurisdictions, as they do for all of New Zealand's legal contests and for some cases arising in the Queensland courts. (Australia's own High Court serves as the highest tribunal for most Australian legal matters).

The Law Lords, more formally the Judicial Committee of Her Majesty's Privy Council, are selected from the membership of the House of Lords. They have the last word on the interpretation of the United Kingdom's statutes, and have preserved this role for many of the nations that used to be part of the British Empire.

Although the number of Pacific-based cases reaching the Privy Council is modest, the Law Lords' role can be a powerful one.

A few years ago, for example, they over-ruled the Government of New Zealand on an immigration case, holding that a New Zealand statute should be interpreted in such a way as to make most of Western Samoa's population legal residents of New Zealand. (PIM, Jan., '85).

The Prime Ministers of the two countries had a hurried summit meeting and subsequently New Zealand's Parliament moved quickly (and unanimously) to limit the effect of the Law Lords' ruling, and, in the process, provided instant

citizenship to a number of Samoans resident in New Zealand who had previously been regarded as illegal aliens.

The setting for the Law Lords in session is an informal one according to Ratu Josua Brown Toganivalu, who visited their chambers while serving as Fiji's High Commissioner in London. "I thought I was going to see a truly impressive, formal operation," he told me once, "but it was just a bunch of men, sitting around a table in a small room, talking with each other and interrupting each other."

While the Law Lords extend their influence to the Pacific without ever leaving Westminster, there is a small body of men (no women seem to be in-

involved) who work full or part-time in the islands' judicial trade. Fiji's court system, for example, is largely staffed by such persons.

The highest of Fiji's courts is the Fiji Court of Appeal, which has five working members, three New Zealanders and two Fiji citizens. All are appointed by Fiji's Governor-General to serve in these part-time positions.

The Court meets three times a year, in March, June and October, for sessions of four to six weeks, depending on the workload. The presiding officer of the Court, who does not, in fact, sit on cases, is Sir Timoci Tuivaga, a Fijian who also serves as Chief of Fiji's

Supreme Court (the nation's principal trial court) from which decisions can be appealed to the Court of Appeal.

The five working members of the Court of Appeal are Sir Graham Speight, Sir Barry O'Reagan and Sir Clinton Roper, all New Zealanders, Judge Gyanand Mishra, a Fijian Indian, and Sir Ronald Kermode, a Fijian of European extraction who was named to the court in March.

The latter two are both retired members of Fiji's Supreme Court, while the New Zealanders are all retired judges from that nation. Sir Graham, in addition to his Fiji duties, also serves as Chief Justice of the Cook Islands.



Sir Ronald Kermode of Fiji's Court of Appeal. Photo: Fiji Times.

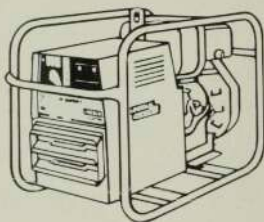
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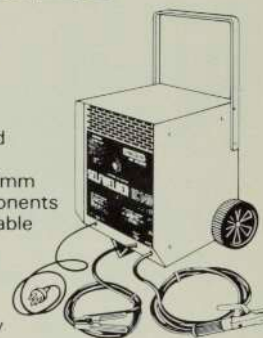
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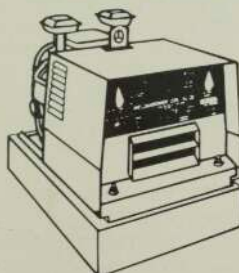
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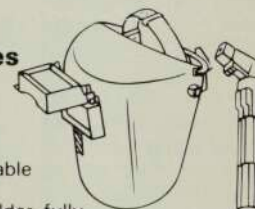


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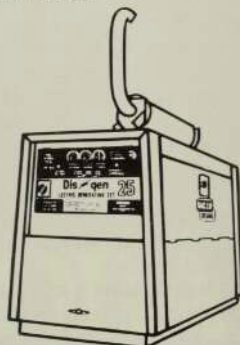
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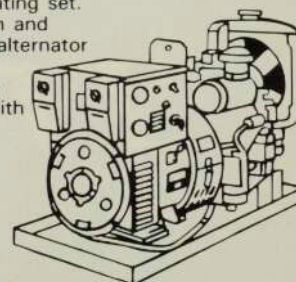
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Former Fiji chief magistrate and now Solomon Islands Chief Justice, Mr Gordon Ward. Photo: Fiji Times.

These judges work in groups of three, usually two New Zealanders and one Fijian citizen. The formalities of court are strictly observed, with wigs and gowns required of the judges and of the lawyers appearing before them. The only sartorial sign of the islands to be seen in their modest courtrooms is the uniform worn by the member of the Fiji Royal Police in attendance.

The judges, probably with their wigs and gowns in mind, have secured airconditioning for their rooms, though Fiji's Parliament, which meets in a small building a few yards from the courtrooms, does not indulge in that luxury. Fiji's Senate and House of Representatives, incidentally, take turns using a single room for their deliberations, an economy measure.

Fiji's Supreme Court is also dominated by imported talent. There are seven judges, four of them expatriates. The quartet includes a British lawyer, a New Zealander, and two Irishmen who spent a number of years in judicial positions in British Africa. The three Fiji citizens, probably not accidentally, are representatives of Fiji's three ethnic groups.

Fiji, however, is both an exporter and an importer of judicial talent, with the exports going to Tuvalu. That nation,

with only some 8000 inhabitants, has enlisted Fijian judges to help run its complex, six-layer judicial system.

Tuvalu's court system starts at the grass roots with Island Magistrate courts; the magistrates are not lawyers, but are older men respected by their communities.

A decision in these courts can be appealed to the national Magistrates' Court, and from there to a Senior Magistrate's Court. From there the appeal goes, sequentially, to Tuvalu's High Court, to the Court of Appeal in Fiji, and from there to the Law Lords.

To some extent the upper reaches of this structure appear only on paper. While Fiji's Chief Magistrate, makes about two trips a year to Tuvalu (at Tuvalu expense) to preside over the Senior Magistrate's Court, the High Court is without a Chief Justice.

Sir Timoci had held the post but resigned because of the pressure of other business. This is in keeping with his comments to the press, in April, that Fiji's Supreme Court was overburdened (a condition that relates to the fact that any Fijian citizen can take any matter directly to that court, short-circuiting the system of magistrate's courts).

According to Feve Tipu, Tuvalu's High Commissioner to Fiji (and to Papua New

Guinea), the Government of New Zealand has been asked to find a new Chief Justice for Tuvalu. He also told me that few cases have been heard by the Fiji Court of Appeal and none, to his knowledge, had ever gone as far as the Law Lords.

Now Fiji has become an "exporter" to Solomon Islands with departure of chief magistrate Gordon Ward, the new chief justice in Honiara.

Similarly, Fiji is not the only island nation exporting judicial talent. Papua New Guinea recently entered negotiations with Vanuatu to provide some judges.

While the appointment of expatriate judges and the use of the Privy Council are voluntary actions taken by the island governments, the situation in American Samoa is different, reflecting its colonial position, as well as the political partnership that often plays a role in the selection of American judges.

The recent selection of Grover Rees as Chief Justice of American Samoa reminded me of my own experiences with exporting judges to the South Pacific.

That occurred some 19 years ago when I was serving in a mid-level political position on the outskirts of Lyndon Johnson's White House. I was director of the Cabinet Committee on Mexican American Affairs, then newly-created but now a long-since abandoned arm of the U.S. Government.

One of my visitors was, as many of them were, a good Democrat, a Texan, a lawyer and a Mexican American. He wanted a job.

"But you **have** a job, a good one," I said "you are an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court of an American Samoa."

He agreed, but said that he had been there for close to five years and he wanted to get back to the mainland. "My kids are losing touch with America — I want them to attend American high schools. Besides, the Chief Justice is impossible."

The Chief was also from the mainland, an Anglo (i.e. non-Mexican) political appointee.

He and my Mexican American friend were, at the time, two of the very few lawyers in the territory (I think no Samoans had completed law school at that time). There were Samoans on the Supreme Court (as it was then known) but they were non-lawyers, older men steeped in the traditions of the islands, who gave advice but had no votes on the Court.

I made a few phone calls and eventually the U.S. Post Office Department, then a thoroughly political agency, found a position for him, full-time and in Washington, in a quasi-judicial role roughly analogous to a post as a federal magistrate.

At this point we were able to pull off a minor coup for the Mexican American Democrats. We knew that the Associate Judgeship of the Samoan Supreme Court was vacant and no one else, at least in Washington, had that information.

Without a thought for the residents of American Samoa (I blush to say in retrospect), but with a real concern for what was then another colonial population (the Mexican Americans) we found another good Texas Democrat, a lawyer and a Mexican American, who was seeking a job.

We told him about the opportunity, he liked the idea, and our contacts in the Office of the Secretary of Interior arranged for his appointment. I never heard from him again, and have no clue as to how he fared in the islands.

While the U.S. continues to send mainland political appointees to the Samoan High Court, it does not do so for the other island territories (Puerto Rico, Guam and the Virgin Islands). Those jurisdictions select their own territorial judges.

Federal district court judges in those three territories are appointed, as federal judges are on the mainland, by the White House. (There is no federal district court judge for American Samoa). The one federal district court judge in a Pacific Territory is a native of Guam, Cristobal C. Duenas; he has been the Federal district court judge for Guam since December, 1969 — David S. North.

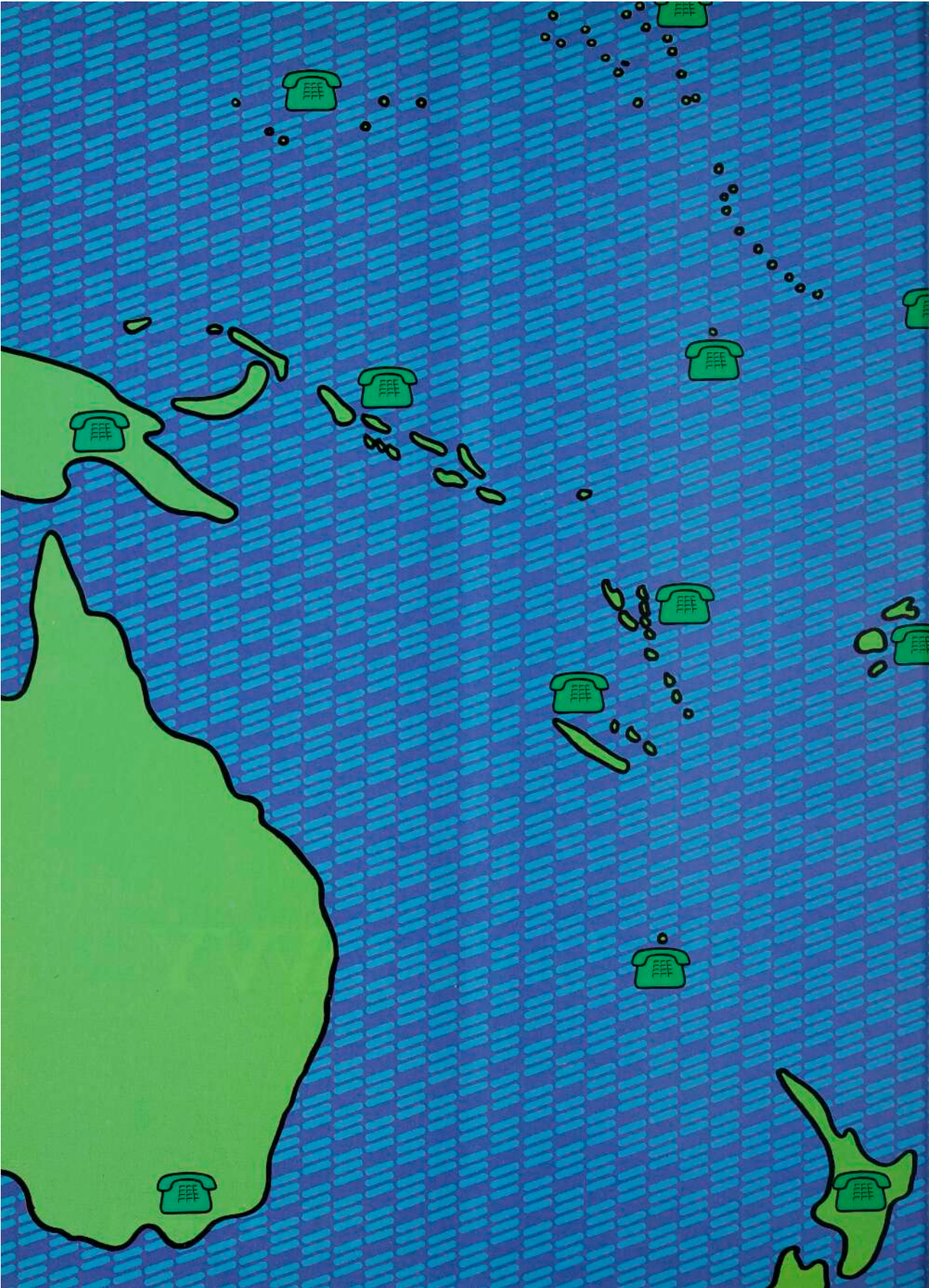
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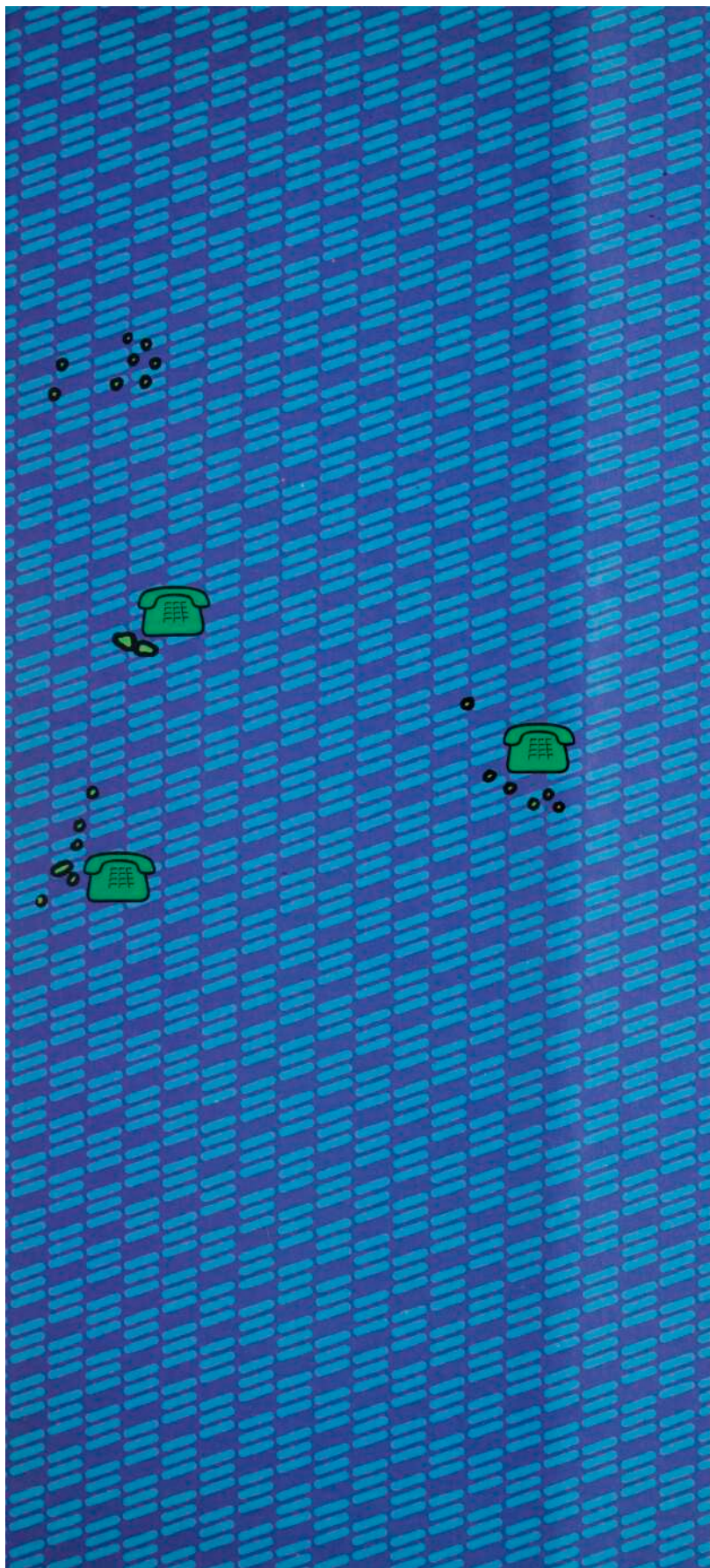
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For the Kanak Socialist national Liberation Front (FLNKS) this year's South Pacific Forum meeting in Suva represents a major milestone.

The forum decision to support the territory's re-inscription on the United Nations decolonisation list does not mean independence is just around the corner.

However, it does represent an important moral victory for the front and a considerable source of pressure that the Chirac administration in Paris will find difficult to ignore.

The unanimous vote by the 13 forum members has given the front a new credibility that it could not otherwise have achieved. The UN committee of 24 probably won't consider the issue before January. But already the new status that the forum decision has conferred

A milestone on the road

With France and the forum on a collision course over New Caledonia, tension is mounting again in the territory. At the same time, the UN has been brought into the debate for the first time — a notable lobbying coup for the pro-independence FLNKS. Here, PIM writers survey the scene.

on the FLNKS has begun to take effect.

A delegation from the front was likely to be granted a hearing in the US State Department in Washington as a direct result of the forum decision.

It's understood the arrangements were made through the US embassy in Fiji between the FLNKS forum delegation and US officials.

The FLNKS and the New

Caledonia issue was also likely to be raised at a conference of the non-aligned movement last month. Vanuatu had been charged by the forum with the responsibility to bring the kanaks' case before the meeting.

An FLNKS delegation led by Jean-Marie Tjibaou and Yann Celene Uregei also planned to attend the Zimbabwe meeting to lobby in the FLNKS interest.

Jean-Marie Tjibaou was to travel to Washington after the Harare meeting. Such a representation of the kanak case can not be easily dismissed — despite the French show of indignation immediately after the forum decision. Noumea loyalists who had also sent a delegation to Suva in an effort to nullify the FLNKS presence, accused the forum members of meddling in French affairs.

"The future of Caledonia is up to the Caledonians," said the president of the territorial congress, Dick Ukewei, a member of the anti-independence RPCR party.

The French minister responsible for the New Caledonia portfolio, Bernard Pons, claimed the forum decision showed a lack of understanding of the territory's problems among its regional neighbours.

Once the issue is before the Committee of 24, however, France is unlikely to win much sympathy with such sentiments and re-inscription (New Caledonia was on the list until 1947 when it was taken off in a unilateral action by France) is virtually a foregone conclusion.

Little appreciated as it was by France, the forum decision has also helped maintain a certain equilibrium in New Caledonia. It was certainly a major factor keeping the FLNKS from quitting the territory's political institutions — the four regional councils and the territorial congress.

At least two powerful parties within the front — FULK and UPN — had wanted the FLNKS to pull out in protest at the new plans for the territory's future which, they had been convinced, clearly showed the Chirac government's intention of keeping New Caledonia firmly under French rule.

However, at the FLNKS congress at Lifou in August the biggest party, Union Caledonienne, led by Jean-Marie Tjibaou, successfully argued that the regions — three of which the front controls — had become an "important tool"

The committee of 24

The UN Special Committee on the Implementation of the Declaration on Decolonisation, often known as the Committee of 24, is currently chaired by Cuba.

The chairman is almost always a country's permanent UN representative and works more on a personal than a national basis.

Current membership is: Afghanistan, Bulgaria, Chile, China, Congo, Cuba, Czechoslovakia, Ethiopia, Fiji, India, Indonesia, Iran, Iraq, Ivory Coast, Mali, Sweden, Sierra Leone, Syria, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, USSR, Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia.

The committee meets throughout the year and aims to complete its business prior to the opening of the General Assembly.

A meeting in January will draw up a list of work for 1987, when the New Caledonia issue will be formally discussed.

The committee has a list of countries which it considers to be non-self governing territories. The forum request is for the committee to add New Caledonia to that list.

Once a country or territory appears on the list, the committee examines developments there at least once a year. Any member of the committee — or any

interested non member — can address the hearings.

The committee is also able to hear petitioners from interested non-governmental bodies.

But what is most likely to annoy France is the fact that the committee, on a more or less regular basis, sends visiting missions to the listed territories to examine developments, including those towards a change of status.

France, however, is under no obligation to allow entry to such missions.

A sub committee draws up a report which, if adopted by the whole body, is then transmitted with any recommendations to the General Assembly for consideration.

The committee has in the past overseen acts of self determination in other non self-governing territories but is not in a position to force the pace towards any referendum.

Again, however, France is under no obligation to co-operate with the committee and would be within her rights to ignore it completely.

This, though, would almost inevitably lead to anti-French resolutions being debated by the General Assembly, drawing international attention to the status of New Caledonia — which is what the FLNKS and the forum seek to achieve.

and that the front should, at least for the time being, continue to take part.

Had the congress opted out, there is little doubt that trouble would have erupted again. That is something the front does not want.

However, the congress made it clear that it was prepared for that risk if the French government refuses to play ball. The meeting passed a motion reaffirming the front's position that only the kanak population should be allowed to vote in next year's independence referendum.

Should the French government ignore this demand, the referendum will be boycotted, the political institutions dumped and "civil disobedience" recommenced.

Certainly, the referendum is shaping up as the next major

hurdle for New Caledonia. The forum vote and the likely re-inscription on the UN list are likely to increase the pressure on France for electoral reform in time for the referendum.

So far, however, there is no sign that France will submit to that pressure.

Pons is adamant that all those on the electoral roll will vote despite the FLNKS demand which, he says, is ridiculous.

But it's not yet clear that these seemingly entrenched and opposed positions are final. Both sides have said they are willing to negotiate, but if the provocative rhetoric, taken as gospel by the territory's volatile and passionately involved population, continues, how much ground will either side be able to give? — Sue Williams.



A Kanak takes time out in Thio. Now the graffiti is disappearing. Photo: AP.

Wibaux: Trust in France

ernand Wibaux, former French ambassador to Lebanon, was High Commissioner to New Caledonia from June 1985 to July this year.

Shortly before his departure, he discussed the Pons plan for the territory, re-inscription of New Caledonia with the UN, the role of the military in tribal areas and the achievements during his stay.

Wibaux arrived in New Caledonia only weeks after some of the worst violence the territory has seen.

He said: "Here we have a population who live together in the territory but who've become separated in recent years. The French government had to deal with a violent movement not only in 1984 from the Melanesian world which demonstrated its feelings, but in May, 1985, faced a European reaction which was equally serious.

"I don't think a happy solution can be found in disorder and conflict and my task was at all costs to achieve a calming of tempers as much on one side as on the other."

Wibaux felt his term as High Commissioner went some way towards achieving this goal as all sides took part in the September '85 regional elections which enabled the electoral potential of each group to be seen.

"I understand the worry of the FLNKS that there is not a majority in favour of independence for the time being — that is clear enough. But I believe that (FLNKS) work in the regions can bring about a change in the behaviour of Caledonians," he said.

"From the moment when people weren't frightening each other we can come to a better understanding of the problem, to a more rapid evolution of the political situation. The current drama is that each side wants to make the other afraid. It's the most tragic situation you can have when you are seeking a political solution."

He said that many of the aims of the socialist government as reflected in the Fabius-Pisani plan can

still be met despite the changes brought about by the Chirac regime.

"The principle of regionalisation is preserved, that is to gain a more active participation of the people in the interior in public affairs and, at the same time, to allow an apprenticeship and evolution in political affairs.

"Jean-Marie Tjibaou has said many times that it is up to Melanesians to prove their capacity as managers, and particularly in economic development," he said.

"And I don't doubt their capacity."

In recent months the French government has taken to stationing French army units for short stays in tribal areas, a practise known as "nomadisation" of which the FLNKS has repeatedly complained.

"What is happening," said Wibaux, "is that the minister sought a useful way to provide economic resources for the country, and thought to use the troops that are here. For instance the army doctor is available if people want his services. The army provides roadworks, transport and so on."

He did not think the move by the forum countries to have New Caledonia re-listed before the UN decolonisation committee "would add or detract from the intentions of the French government."

"I don't want to upset the UN, to lack deference, but working in the Ministry of Overseas Territories, I saw the problem we had with Togo and Cameroon — who were under the control of the UN committee — and I saw the evolution of other countries who were not listed, such as Senegal and the Ivory Coast.

"I believe that evolution was easier for the latter countries ... The problem is to trust in France, in their determination to emancipate the territory. If you don't have this trust, you can seek all the political platforms, all the tribunes possible. But I don't think that advances things." — Helen Fraser.



A photograph of an Air Pacific Boeing 747-400 aircraft in flight against a clear blue sky. The aircraft features a special livery with a rainbow-colored band across the fuselage. The tail is dark blue with a circular logo containing a stylized bird. The text "AIR PACIFIC" is visible on the upper fuselage, and "VH-EBK" is on the rear fuselage.

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IIIJ

Dien Bien Thio: calm returns

The French called it Dien Bien Thio — a bitter recollection of the prolonged siege and then defeat of their armed forces by Ho Chi Minh during the Vietnamese war of independence 30 years earlier.

For three weeks in late 1984 the FLNKS held the east coast mining town of Thio under siege.

Several days before, the kanak independence flag had flown at the gendarmerie when it was captured by the FLNKS — the first of several throughout the territory to be captured by them and later released.

The name became a household word in France — for the right wing a symbol of the shame brought on France by the socialist government, and for the left a word to denote the kanak struggle for independence.

Led by militant kanak leader Eloi Machoro, the FLNKS cut the town into sectors, with seven road blocks separating and controlling them. Mines, shops and businesses were closed. The National Front mayor was forced to leave while cars, petrol and boats were commandeered by the FLNKS.

Townfolk were allowed out for exercise at dusk and the French army evacuated those who could produce medical certificates.

When the FLNKS conducted a house to house search and requisitioned all guns and ammunition, the French decided to act. Elite marksmen were sent in by helicopter to ambush Machoro and his band.

But due to a navigational error, the helicopters landed on

the wrong side of the bridge and the men were captured by the FLNKS.

The symbols became intensified — humiliation for France, pride for the kanaks.

Today the kanak flag no longer flies at the town hall, the sandbags around the gendarme post have gone and there are no besieged gendarmes squatting behind their tripod-based machine guns. Burned out houses are being rebuilt, vandalised offices repainted and some of the graffiti has disappeared.

But the FLNKS has recaptured the town — this time through the ballot box. When the territory went to the polls in September last year to elect four regional councils, the people of Thio also elected a new town council.

In buses and cars, the refugees came back from Noumea to vote, National Front supporters and FLNKS militants calmly sharing the same queue at the polling booth.

Louis Maperi, at 32, is New Caledonia's youngest mayor. A member of the revolutionary kanak independence party,

Palika, he studied law and social sciences at university in France before working for a time in the French administration.

Along with the FLNKS throughout the territory, Maperi's aim is development — giving the kanaks a say in the running of the economy and at the same time demonstrating their competence to non-kanaks.

Thio is New Caledonia's principal nickel mining centre and it was FLNKS disputes with the management of the SLN mining company that led to closure of the mines during "the troubles" of 1984-85. Pollution and a reluctance to employ kanaks were the main complaints against the company.

Now, says Maperi, SLN employs 95 kanaks in their Thio workforce of 243, there is one kanak foreman and another melanesian is in France with a company scholarship to study computing and management.

Those who lost homes and goods in Thio have been compensated by the French government, and the SLN (owner of many of the burned out

homes). Meanwhile, the town council has been cleaning up since the elections.

As a result of the FLNKS campaign against pollution from the nickel mines, the French government has released more than A\$50 million to improve living conditions and housing in the area. Thio and two neighbouring municipalities have formed a construction company with the money. It is based at Thio.

"We are slowly rebuilding," said Maperi. "There is now one restaurant, three shops, the post office, the bakery and a hotel — as well as the SLN."

"Relations with the gendarmes are not as bad as before. Unlike other FLNKS strongholds, we have not had the army stationing men in our tribal villages. Perhaps they are leaving us alone because it's Thio? Or because we took things in hand ourselves and normalised the situation?"

Maperi smiles as he says, "My main problem with the gendarmes is the French flag on the town hall — it keeps disappearing. We've lost four in seven months. I don't know where they go."

However, he adds, a more serious problem is the condition of kanak youth. High unemployment, delinquency and alcohol and drug abuse are all apparent.

"There is a generation of youths who experienced the events of 1984-85. They haven't taken the step and understood that at a given moment they must stop."

"The events with Eloi Machoro (shot dead in January 1985 by French police marksmen) are engraved with everyone. And they are proud, but also arrogant and stubborn. If I don't master the situation it will be because of this."

"We are different from other municipalities because of our role in the events. People are very proud and very motivated."

"Not all those who fled have returned. The Europeans who are here at first thought I was too young. But our relations are improving. They want to see development too." — *Helen Fraser.*



The FLNKS flag flies above a sandbagged sentry post during "the troubles". Photo: Helen Fraser.

Chirac: You don't understand

French prime minister, Mr Jacques Chirac, defended his government's policies in New Caledonia — with a mighty sideswipe at his Australian counterpart Bob Hawke.

Shortly before the end of his visit to the territory, Chirac said he was confused and disappointed by comments by Hawke published in the French press in the week before his voyage to France's Pacific possessions.

Hawke was quoted as saying that he was disappointed that the previous socialist government's plans for the territory had been dropped and warning of the potential for tragedy. The French prime minister produced a letter from Hawke in which the Australian leader said: "Our wish is to help ensure that the problems (in New Caledonia) are resolved peacefully in the interests of all inhabitants of that multi-racial society."

Chirac retorted: "This is very different to the public comments of Mr Hawke. French policy in New Caledonia is not dangerous. We are going to do exactly what he wants us to do."

The French prime minister



French prime minister Jacques Chirac (right) with overseas territories minister Bernard Pons in Noumea. Photo: AAP.

was responding to questions following remarks he made to PIM's Sue Williams at his official reception the night before at which he had accused Hawke of acting stupidly and indicated his willingness to welcome a change of government in Canberra.

At his press conference, Chirac also explained that he wanted to reinforce links between Australia and France which had existed for a very long time. He similarly wanted to improve France's standing with other South Pacific nations and stressed that this had been one of the goals of his voyage along with a relaunch of New Caledonia's battered economy and the start of negotiations on the territory's status after next year's scheduled independence referendum.

As a public relations exercise for the French loyalists, his visit was an unmitigated success. Chirac was everywhere warmly received, although he visited only loyalist strongholds.

For the rest, however, the prime minister would not take long to count his achievements. Considering his comments on Bob Hawke, he could hardly claim to be nearer his declared goal of improved relations between France and Australia.

He did, however, promise a large injection of French money to restart the economy, but a

question mark remains over the territory's political stability in the coming years and the input of private investment to support state money and ensure long term development.

His talks with the independence movement, the FLNKS, did not go well. Both sides emerged from an hour of talks saying they had been "useful." However, FLNKS leader, Jean-Marie Tjibaou, admitted that little had been achieved except the formal opening of negotiations on the formula for the referendum.

France says all those on the electoral roll will take part. The FLNKS insists that only kanaks should vote. The independence movement has warned that if this demand is not met it will boycott the ballot and boycott the political institutions. This could result in a return to the turmoil and violence of 1984-85.

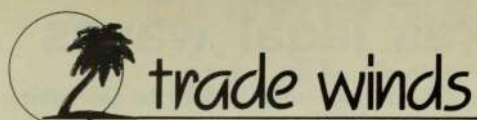
France to increase effort

Mr Chirac said in Papeete that his government would increase its diplomatic effort to improve France's image and its co-operation with other countries in the region.

During a stopover on his way back to Paris, he admitted that his foreign ministry had slightly neglected relations with the Pacific nations. He said France needed to make a greater effort to make itself known.

In this respect, the secretary of state in charge of Pacific issues and the president of the territorial government of French Polynesia, Gaston Flosse would have a much greater role to play.

Meanwhile, New Zealand asked Paris to explain remarks by Chirac that the Rainbow Warrior agents were not being detained in Hao and that he regarded them as heroes. New Zealand prime minister David Lange said in Wellington that, if Chirac was reported correctly, France was in breach of the UN-brokered agreement under which the two agents were released into French custody.



New runner enters the TV race

It's a troubled time for television. With PNG effectively banning broadcast TV until 1988 and Fiji hinting that the exclusive deal with PBL of Australia may not be so exclusive after all, the picture is hazy.

Adding to the interference has been the TV New Zealand proposal to broadcast public service television to the whole region.

The proposal was received by the Suva forum meeting with some countries known to be broadly in favour.

This, coupled with PNG prime minister Paiaf Wingti's adamant opposition to the immediate introduction of broadcast television, has made most observers think again.

The TVNZ plan, as outlined by consultant Allan Martin in a keynote address at the 1986 Parkinson Memorial Lecture series at USP, is to broadcast to the region by means of its Instelsat facility.

Societies such as those in the Pacific, he said, "have a right to expect that such a medium as powerful as television will be used to protect local culture."

"The stimuli for behaviour and standards should still come from local pulpits and platforms and not from the West Coast of America."

"It is important for every nation to see itself on television if that country's national cultural identity is not to be eroded ... ultimately, political sovereignty rests on cultural sovereignty."

But where will the money come from?

The proposal now in place would require increased or diverted funding from the forum with support from other agencies.

Critics point out, however, that without long term guarantees, the forum would not be in a position to commit itself to funding such a service — because if the funds dry up the forum could be left with a financial millstone.

Also, there may simply not be enough



Media magnate Kerry Packer. His PBL Ltd. has several proposals in place.

spare cash in the forum kitty.

One man undeterred by the New Zealand plan is PBL managing director, Mr Lynton Taylor. "I don't view them as competition," he told PIM. "That's not because they're not commercial, but because, at the moment there's no indication of where the money will come from."

"As I understand it, they are asking the forum countries to come up with some money. And I don't know if any of the forum countries are eager to do that."

Mr Taylor is of the view, also, that Fiji has not specifically reserved the right to enter into something like the TVNZ proposal as it stands. "Fiji has retained the right

to establish its own internal service," he said.

But if the Fiji parliament decides to proceed with a New Zealand option? "That's a hypothetical question and I don't propose to answer it."

In any case, the TVNZ plan is still some way in the distance.

The paper read to the forum has been referred to a SPEC sub committee to evaluate and report. This effectively ended its discussion in the forum meetings in Suva.

SPEC director, Mr Henry Naisali, told PIM: "The experts will examine the various aspects of the proposal and report back to the full SPEC committee. I don't think that's likely to happen before the end of this year."

The New Zealand proposal contained a costing, he explained, but the question of funding "is still up in the air."

Meanwhile, in PNG, Niugini Television Network (NTN), the first TV broadcaster to be granted a licence, has been stymied by legislation.

The company had challenged the decision by Wingti to suspend broadcasting until after a commission of inquiry into its likely effects had reported — probably next year.

The PNG national court looked as though it would find in favour of the company, so Wingti, as predicted by several insiders, promptly took his case to a higher court — Parliament — and passed a Bill outlawing broadcast TV before 1988.

The National Court, two days after the Bill was passed, did find in favour of NTN, a subsidiary of the Parry Corporation's Newcastle Broadcasting Network (NBN) in Australia.

The agreement with the previous Somare government should stand, ruled chief justice Sir Buri Kidu. NTN then moved to challenge the new legislation on constitutional grounds. With an election in

PNG next year, of course, all things can change, although NTN will still be out of pocket at least A\$12 million. The company had employed a substantial staff and, even after the parliament decision, continued to film news events and shot some library footage of parliament.

The company also remained committed to its staff training program.

PBL's Taylor is, understandably perhaps, undeterred. The legislation puts them back at level pegging in the race to be the first TV broadcaster in PNG now that NTN's plan — to commence operations on July 18 — has had to be ditched.

PBL had planned to commence in January. Said Taylor: "I think PNG is quite right to delay television until its impact can be properly estimated."

But to put all plans on hold until 1988? "Well, it may not actually take that long."

Depending on who forms the PNG government at this time next year, he could be right.

By then, however, the New Zealand proposal is likely to be firmly in place and will have been discussed at the 1987 forum meeting in Apia.

But the funding question remains crucial. Naisali told PIM: "The forum made no decision on funding because there was no paper. It was down for discussion under any other business, but it was never raised, mainly because the decision was made by the pre-forum committee to have it thrashed out by SPECTEL (the telecommunications sub committee)."

Would that body be able to make a recommendation on funding? "Possibly, but that's speculation. They might also say SPEC should look around for potential donors and I might put my begging cap on and go begging."

General manager of NTN, Mr Murray

Debate makes legal waves

The law has been brought into the TV debate — in more ways than one. In PNG, NTN mounted a legal challenge to the decision by Parliament to ban broadcast television until 1988. The challenge was on constitutional grounds.

In Fiji, the minister for economic development, planning and tourism, Mr Peter Stinson, invoked the law in another manner by issuing a writ against *The Fiji Times* and the Fiji Labour Party alleging defamation and claiming damages.

The writ also sought to prevent the publication of further similar matter. The newspaper had reported a call by the Labour Party for an investigation of

the agreement between the government and PBL.

The PNG case was set down for hearing this month — unless resolved jointly before then. However, in an unusual move, the government and NTN issued a joint statement in which Mr Wingti acknowledged that an agreement existed between the state and the company and that it was realistic to expect the company would not waive rights under that agreement without recompense.

For its part, NTN declared itself mindful of the wishes of the National Parliament in passing the act.

All of which appeared to set the stage for an early settlement.

Finlay, is unworried by the TVNZ move. "I don't know if it will ever get off the ground," he said. "I think it will be hard to get agreement with 13 different countries all with different needs who won't want to stump up their money to pay for it."

Finlay sees some benefits from the new legislation. "We have a fully valid and binding agreement with the state which was fully endorsed by the national court. That is still a document that says we are entitled to broadcast."

All that this present Act has sought to do is defer it. We still have a right to broadcast, albeit deferred — a right which I might add no-one else has. This act significantly changes the game in that PTC (Post and Telecommunications Corporation) licences are no longer sufficient. There now has to be a licence from the head of state acting under advice.

"Under the terms of our agreement which has now been pronounced true and valid, the state now has to assist us to get our licence. It is under no obligation to assist anyone else to get a licence."

Finlay is adamant that the PNG market cannot support two commercial television stations. "We have always seen the logical progression for PNG as having a state-run broadcaster and a commercial station."

"All the worthy objectives that Mr Wingti talks about are perhaps best served by a state-run national broadcaster and there ought to be a commercial broadcaster who does what a commercial broadcaster does best — and that is entertain people."

Mr Kerry Packer, owner of PBL, may be less than entertained, however, by the fact that the TVNZ play is being masterminded by Mr Nigel Dick — a former Packer television executive.

TVNZ offers 'a small basic service'

TV New Zealand sees its offer to broadcast public service television to the South Pacific as aid project, but failing that, said TVNZ's Mr Allan Martin, there could be the possibility of a government-supported loan system. "This would necessitate some commercials being built into the system to pay for the loan interest," he told PIM.

"The media keeps seeing it as a battle between Packer and us," he said. "Some people here might even see it that way, but as far as I am concerned if Packer and the others can pull off these commercial deals around the Pacific, then that's good commercial business."

"But we're talking about a public service system that's designed to do something else and operate on a different basis altogether."

He said it would be a small basic service operating four hours per day that would give the outlying islands a service also. "It would give them a basic system on to which they could build a degree of sophistication later on," he said.

He said it would also be a "truly Pacific" system, presented by Pacific islanders. "We are talking about setting up a Pacific islands broadcasting organisation that would tell us what they want."

So what's in it for TVNZ? "That's quite a common question. But there's not a lot in it for us because we would be supporting the system to the extent of about half a million dollars a year so there would be no money involved for us."

He said the trigger for the offer was the announcement by Australia of the third Aussat with a footprint covering the Pacific. "When that happened Intelsat reduced its prices, making this proposal possible."

There was little in it for TVNZ, though there was a possibility of some influence in the region for New Zealand "and a chance to do something worthwhile on a public service system."

He said it was not a commercial conflict with the Packer organisation or anybody else, "although we have influenced some of the islanders to think again about what commercial television would do to them."

Brewers get ahead in export market

German-style beer, brewed in the South Pacific, is about to make a major effort in the competitive Hawaii market.

Western Samoa Breweries Ltd hopes to be able to fund all imports of packaging and raw materials from export earnings within the next 12 months.

The company is aiming at the Hawaii market with its 350ml export lager bottles, with a modified up-market label.

The target is to sell between 1500 and 2000 cases a month after an introductory phase, said manager Mr Wolfgang Hofmann.

It was an expensive risk, he told PIM, but one that the brewery had to take. "Obviously, small breweries do not have the mighty power of large concerns, so we have to find a niche in the market," said Hofmann.



Ready for export . . . production at Vailima.

It required very thorough market segmentation, with target groups clearly defined for effective promotions.

"We brew in the German beer tradition," he said, "and tastings carried out have given us a very promising, positive response."

The company, with a workforce of 90, also brews San Miguel under licence. The Brauhaase group of Hamburg, West Germany currently provides brewing consultancy and management services.

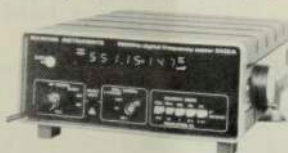
The expected 1986 output of 4.5 million litres is split 85 per cent for the domestic market and 15 per cent for export. The company's market leader, Vailima beer, accounts for 80 per cent of local sales and 60 per cent of exports.

The company is owned by the Western Samoa government (54 per cent), the West German government finance company (12.7 per cent), the Republic of Nauru (10 per cent) with three private West German investors, the San Miguel Corp and local and overseas investors holding the remainder.

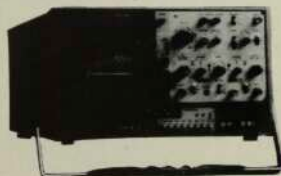
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Rene Rivkin — The Sydney stock broker has been among the first financiers to see the possibilities among Australia's nearest neighbours. Photo: Keith Bariow, The Bulletin.

Money men look to the north

There is nothing more exciting for a fast bowler than a hard-grained wicket. It's bound to bring out his best and instil fear in opposing batsmen.

Similarly, fast money men Rene Rivkin and Kerry Packer thrive in an economy that is diversified and ready for a great leap into the 21st century.

Papua New Guinea is but a stone's throw away from becoming one of the world's most important gold producers. With such developments in the offing, there's no shortage of interested investors.

Messrs Rivkin and Packer, however, have made an early start with the establishment of a

merchant bank in Port Moresby. The wholly PNG-owned finance company Credit Corporation at once became the subject of the duo's intense interest.

Rivkin, who owns 35 per cent of Dylup Investment Corporation (formerly Dylup Plantations Ltd, largely owned by the Middleton family) through his company Oilmet Resources NL and Mr Packer, with a 15 per cent stake, wanted to merge Dylup with the Credit Corporation to become the country's second merchant bank.

The plan would double the number of merchant banks in

Continued on page 35

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TOYOTA

Fortunes to be made on the deep slopes

The fishery resources of Pacific islands are often thought, even by people familiar with the Pacific, to consist only of the open ocean species such as tuna and billfish and the near-shore fishes and crustaceans found on shallow coral reefs.

However, on the deep slopes of the islands, there are fishery resources which are heavily exploited in only a few places, such as Hawaii. These resources represent an opportunity to expand island fisheries for small and medium sized multi-purpose vessels.

The ex-vessel value of the fisheries for the deep slope resources in Hawaii for 1985 was conservatively estimated to be over \$10 million.

The Southwest Fisheries Center Honolulu Laboratory, National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has conducted research on deep slope resources in Hawaii and the Marianas.

One aspect of this work has been to estimate the maximum sustainable yields for a number of the deep slope resources. Many of the same deep slope fish and invertebrates occur throughout the Pacific.

The maximum sustainable fishery yields per area of appropriate habitat appear fairly constant among the Pacific islands. Thus the yields found in Hawaii and the Marianas can be used as first approximations for fishery development in other Pacific islands.

Perhaps the most common to all the islands are the bottom fish — jacks, snappers, and

groupers found along the deep slopes at depths from 80 to 300 m. These fish usually weigh from 2 to 10 kg although some of the groupers can weigh over 100 kg.

The South Pacific Commission's outer reef fishing program, together with NMFS survey work, has produced data for over 20 island archipelagoes. These show that most of the same species are found all across the Pacific but that the

relative contribution of any species to the group at any island varies considerably.

In Hawaii the bottom fish resource is fished by recreational and commercial fishermen from vessels primarily in the 6 to 15 m range; hook-and-line gear operated with electric or hydraulic gurdies is used.

These fish command a high price. In 1984, the average wholesale price was \$5.83/kg, while the two highest priced

species averaged \$8.80 and \$7.37/kg. However, these prices vary considerably with supply.

Based on our research in Hawaii and the Marianas we have found that it is useful to measure the habitat for these fishes as the length of the 100 fathom depth contour. We estimate that a yield of 250 kg of bottom fishes per nautical mile of 100 fm isobath appears to represent a reasonable



Right: A large snapper caught in the Hawaiian Islands. (Photo J. Rutka). Far right: A large grouper caught in the Mariana Islands.



archipelago average for the maximum sustainable yield that can be expected from the bottom fish resource.

Thus an island chain with a length of 100 fm isobath of 500 nmi (about the size of the Marianas) can expect a maximum sustainable yield of 125 metric tons per year from its deep slope bottom fish fishery.

At a price of \$5/kg this landing would be valued at \$0.6 million. If the resource were fished by a fleet of 20 vessels the average landing per vessel would be 6.3 metric tons valued at \$31,250.

Another deep slope resource which appears Pacific wide is deepwater shrimp. These are caught in baited traps in depths from 400 to 750 m. Although these shrimps (there are several related species) command a

premium price (about \$5.50/kg in Hawaii), the depth at which they are caught makes fishing for them an expensive proposition.

There have been several commercial ventures for these resources both in Hawaii and the Marianas but most have not proven successful. We estimate an archipelago average maximum sustainable yield of 200 kg of shrimp per square nautical mile of habitat.

Thus for an archipelago which has 1000 square nautical miles of habitat in the appropriate depth range (which is about the area of the deepwater shrimp habitat in the Marianas) the annual maximum sustainable yield for the deepwater

shrimp resource is 200 metric tons. At a price of \$5.50/kg the value of this landing would be \$1.1 million.

Again, a fleet of 20 vessels harvesting this resource would have an average annual landing per vessel of 10 metric tons with a value of \$55,000.

Although the value of these deep slope resources is very small in comparison to tuna, they are significant compared to the shallow water reef resources. Further they can be fished with small to medium sized vessels and can be marketed locally on most islands to hotels and restaurants.

The biggest concerns facing development of deep slope fisheries are over capitalisation

and overfishing. Initial catch rates in certain areas may be very high and when extrapolated over the habitat area of the archipelago may encourage large capital investment in the fishery.

However, these initial catch rates should not be taken to represent long term averages. Due to the limited habitat area it is easy to heavily fish the deep slope resources; to avoid the boom and bust cycle which often occurs in island fisheries it may be necessary to regulate the fishery. — Jeffrey Polovina. The author is leader of the Artificial Reef and Enhancement Program at the National Marine Fisheries Service, Honolulu Laboratory.



Naturally Good...



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Tourism boom in French territory

French Polynesia is in the middle of a tourism boom.

A combination of factors including increased airline capacity, a new cruise ship pattern and, possibly, a decline, in the early part of the year, of New Caledonia's attractiveness as a destination have all combined to post a 39 per cent increase in the first five months.

The number of tourists was 64,746 compared with 46,414 for the first five months of 1985.

Figures for the first quarter are even more spectacular when the total showed an increase of 44 per cent over the same period for 1985.

Arrivals from the US in the first quarter were up by a massive 83.5 per cent — from 13,385 to 24,566.

And despite the nosediving Aussie dollar, arrivals from Australia were up 20 per cent — from 1,770 to 2,124 — in the first three months.

Average stay also increased from 8.92 days to 9.28.

The French Polynesia Tourist Department's *Statistiques Touristiques* puts the increase down to American Hawaii Cruises' new program of internal island cruises.

The territory recorded 8,387 tourist nights for the duration of one cruise on board *The Liberty*.

A large number of the cruisers, says the report, spent nights before or after their voyage in

traditional Polynesian hotels.

It estimates the number of hotel nights spent by such people at 30,000 — 13.5 per cent of the total for the period.

However, even without the

Liberty cruises, total tourist arrivals were still up by 12.6 per cent over the period.

The number of scheduled aircraft seats available to the territory also increased by 10

per cent, from 69,003 to 75,624.

UTA, Qantas and Air New Zealand returned seat occupancy rates of 75.6 per cent, 80.5 per cent and 81.5 per cent respectively.

The number of non-scheduled seats also increased dramatically in the first quarter — from 1,133 to 14,310 — mainly, said *Statistiques*, due to the twice-monthly charter flown by Transamerica Airlines.

Blocks for docks

n "instant dock" made of plastic building blocks is about to be marketed in the islands region.

The square interlocking blocks can be assembled in a matter of minutes to form a

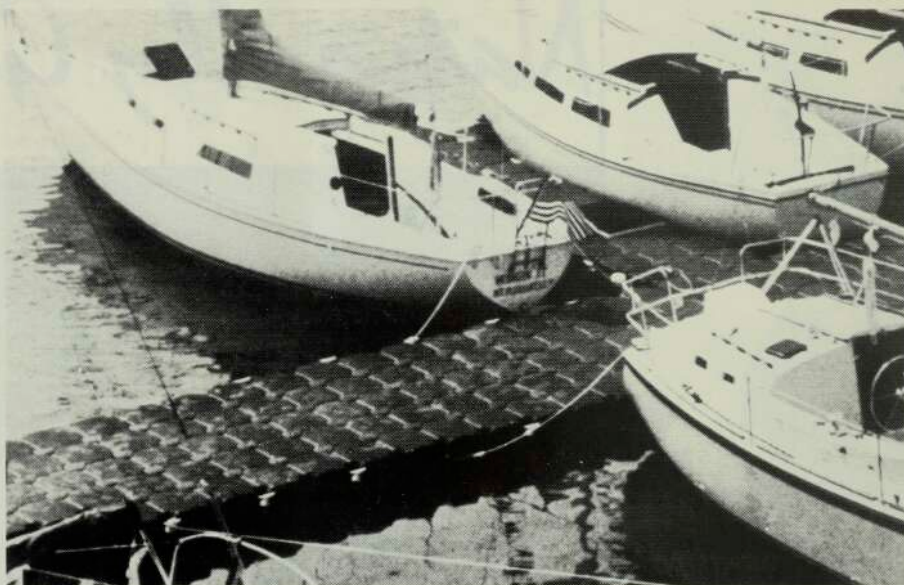
long lasting floating jetty.

A spokesman for the marketing company, Johnson Diversified of Australia, said tests had shown the blocks to be totally resistant to oils and sea water.

He said the blocks had already been used overseas for

small private docks and for large commercial floating pontoons, jetties and marinas.

They were used to form the temporary yacht and boat docks at the yachting and rowing venues of the Los Angeles Olympic Games.



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MONEY MEN LOOK TO THE NORTH

Continued from page 28

PNG. Resource Investment Finance Ltd, jointly owned by the PNG Banking Corporation (a government-owned commercial bank), the Commonwealth Bank of Australia and the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, set up as a merchant bank in 1982.

The reason for the Credit Corporation play was that Dylup Investments, while classified as an investment bank, could perform only as a passive investor in established companies.

The company — like its plantation forefather — operates in PNG but is listed on the Sydney exchange from where it derives a strong capital base.

So, from being a "mere" investment banker, the company wanted to see itself in the more diversified world of merchant banking.

Dylup's first major acquisition — PNG Associated Industries (September PIM P6) — after talks with other possible suitors had all fallen through, was seen as a natural precursor to a Dylup-Credit Corporation marriage.

PNGAI is a \$50 million dollar a year operation which has the nationwide franchise for Mazda and Suzuki motor vehicles, an alcoholic drinks distribution company and an air conditioning and refrigeration company.

Credit Corporation has operated since 1978 and has been competing in the lease finance market with three others — PNGBC-owned Nambawan Finance, Westpac-controlled AGC Pacific and the Burns Philp-Indosuez Bank joint venture, Indoniu Finance.

In terms of size, Credit Corporation ranks second with assets of K13.8 million (A\$22.6 million). The largest is Nambawan with K21 million (A\$43 million). AGC is third with K13.7 million (A\$22.3 million). Smallest is Indoniu with K6.9 million (A\$11.2 million).

Politically, Credit Corporation would be a good partner for Dylup, being a totally PNG-owned company. The Dylup proposal of a 45 per cent stake in Credit Corporation in exchange for a similar holding in

Dylup was put to the Credit Corporation board by Rivkin the day after he signed the PNGAI deal.

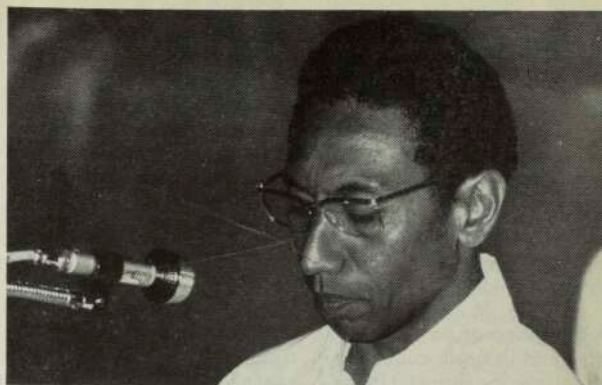
Dylup's managing director Truc Nguyen told PIM at the time: "If they don't want to come to us, it will be up to us to set up a competing organisation — which we don't want to do."

"In the meantime, I'm pushing for a merchant banking licence and I'm confident of finding a local partner if the corporation doesn't want to come forward."

"As you know from the experience in Australia, small finance companies which try to start up fall to the established large ones."

"We have a large network and sophisticated training facilities," said Nguyen. He added that Credit Corporation was well managed, with founding managing director Mr Garth McIlwaine still at the helm.

He agreed that a merger with Dylup would present the corporation with a ready-made market in vehicle financing through Dylup's ownership of Mazda agents, PNG Motors,



Sir Julius Chan: Keen to see a stock exchange.

which is estimated to have about 30 per cent of the passenger vehicle market.

Dylup, meanwhile, continues to study its PNG portfolio with an eye to further acquisitions and investments.

With A\$35 million to spend, the company is in a happy position.

Further down the track for Dylup, the plan to launch a PNG stock exchange (May PIM P32) is certain to be a big attraction. The Placer Pacific float highlighted the potential

when 3,000 people in this comparatively small nation bought shares, with many others losing out as the issue was heavily oversubscribed.

In fact, finance minister Sir Julius Chan mentioned the need for share trading in Port Moresby when addressing the local chamber of commerce.

Sir Julius has been keen on the idea for some time (May PIM P32) and the advent of Dylup Investments will give him further encouragement. — Bill Chakravarti.

Bid to contact city dwellers

An islands community worker is looking for island communities in Sydney.

Pesamino Tavalai Aloisio of Western Samoa is working for three months at the South Sydney Community Aid Centre at Redfern.

His part time job is financed with the aid of a Ethnic Affairs Commission grant.

"I'm trying to contact friends from all throughout the region," he told PIM. "We know there are several island communities in Sydney and I want to find out where they are and what their problems are."

Pesamino said he also hoped to help organise community

development programs within the various groups.

Awareness, he said was vital, if the communities were to make progress — awareness among islanders of mainstream and specialist Pacific island services and awareness of the needs of the island communities among mainstream bodies.

He also wants to establish a referral service and and maintain a record of those using it.

"This is so that we can make an analysis of the islands groups in the city at the end of the project," he said.

He said he also planned to establish networks of island groups, by making them aware

of each other and by developing contact between the various communities.

He will produce a report at the end of his three month stint.

"I would appreciate the opportunity to meet people from the islands and talk about their needs in Sydney," he said.

Until the project ends in min-November, Pesamino can be contacted at home on Sydney 516-1895 or at work on Sydney 699-9391.

"Anybody is welcome at the centre in Redfern," he said.

"Or I'd be happy to go and meet individuals or groups whenever it suits them. All they have to do is give me a call."

At last it seems as though the beautiful old South Pacific town of Levuka will get its seal of safety when the Fiji government fulfills its promise and gazettes the town as a historic site.

This follows a strong community effort over the past eight years to preserve the beauty, historic quality and importance of Levuka — not only to Fiji but also to the wider world beyond.

The old Morris Hedstrom building is now functioning as a busy and valuable community centre with the beautiful Patter-son Gardens alongside.

Recently five eminent international experts completed a survey and report on the historical value of Levuka. Titled: "Levuka and Ovalau Development through Community Restoration" it speaks glowingly of the future possibilities.

For many years all who have travelled to old Levuka have been charmed by its beauty, its obvious historical interest and the warmth and friendliness of its inhabitants.

And no wonder. For Levuka is a beautiful place — a spreading half circle of waterfront inside the ridge of reef and stepping steeply up to dramatic hills. Snug in the security of those hills, the town's old stores cover the narrow level of the foreshore.

At one time as a rip-roaring mid 19th century port and commercial centre, its streets were lined with grog shops and hotels and thronged with sailors from all over the world. Now it is serene and smiling — browsing in the sun. Levuka's history begins that of modern Fiji. It was here that the proud Ratu Seru Cakabau along with other principal chiefs of Fiji, joined together to sign the Deed of Cession giving the Fiji Islands to Great Britain.

An interesting quote from the 1907 Cyclopaedia of Fiji explains: "Levuka came to be the most prominent settlement in Fiji — before the transference of the seat of government to Suva — because of its central position and the unvarying friendliness shown by the leading chief of the district, the Tui Levuka.

Historic town to be saved for the future

"The town consists of a double row of houses, three-quarters of a mile in length, extending along a narrow strip of beach, which it fully occupies. There is properly only one street, the open beach, as the buildings at the back have been jumbled together without any order. The Roman Catholic and Anglican Churches are the most imposing structures.

"At the back, a couple of hundred yards from the beach, high volcanic mountain ranges rise abruptly, and it is hemmed in at either end by two immense spurs of rock. As the extreme ends of the town long ago reached these natural boundaries, a more suitable site for a metropolis had to be chosen, and Suva was selected in the early eighties."

The picturesque ruggedness of its mountains and the beauty of its harbour and reef make Levuka a singularly attractive spot.

"A perfect gem, nestling at the base of mountain ranges, most picturesque, smiling its welcome in the glowing sunshine and inviting us ashore."

That description by an early traveller is just as true today. To wander along Beach Street past the 100 year old stores with false fronts and some gingerbread verandahs that evoke a taste and fashion of a forgotten era; to pass the lovely churches, among the oldest in the Pacific, the graceful Levuka Public School, the nostalgic Queen Victoria Hall and Municipal Offices standing between the Masonic Temple and the Ovalau Club or to visit Draiba Cemetery, where so many of Fiji's pioneers are at rest, after passing the hallowed ground of the Cession site where three immense boulders stand, is to

see history as a living part of today's Fiji.

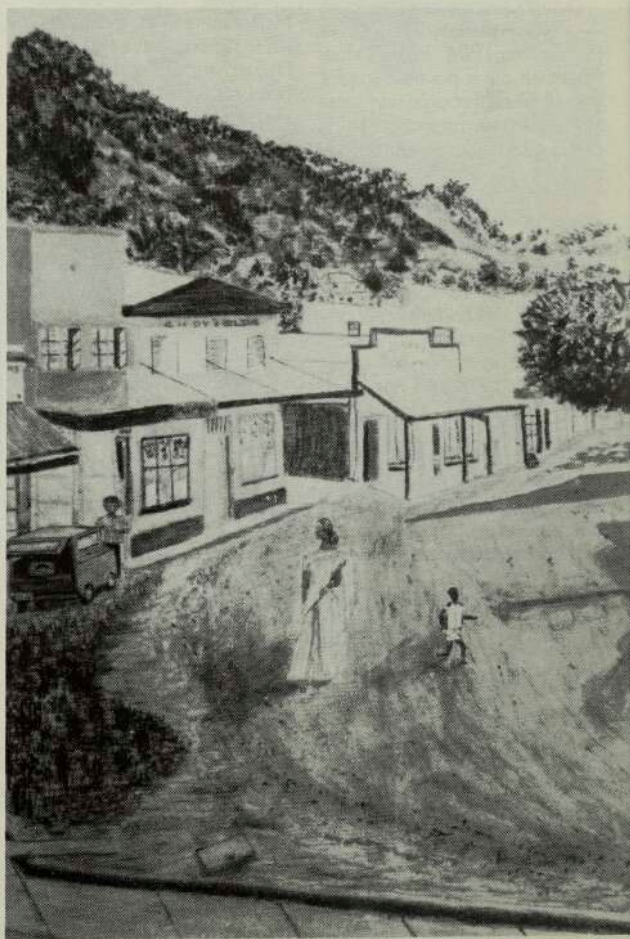
One of those stones commemorate the signing of the Deed of Cession in 1874, the second the granting of Independence to Fiji in 1970 and the third the Centenary of Cession in 1974.

The 1973 Belt, Collins report emphasised the value of old Levuka to tourism in the Pacific. It was followed by many verbal reports and opinions ex-

pressed by a succession of knowledgeable visitors and became also the subject of a thesis by Jeffrey Melrose, a Town Planner of Hawaii. All of this gave birth to the Levuka Historical and Cultural Society which was formed "to preserve and improve Levuka as the living heart and pride of Fiji".

This committee realised from the beginning that what was most needed was a town plan to safeguard, and preserve all buildings of cultural and historical value, and where possible to restore them to their original condition. In this aim the society led the way. When the original old Morris Hedstrom buildings were transferred to the National Trust of Fiji, the Society took on the responsibility to convert the empty shells into a community centre.

The job of restoration and conversion was gigantic. The



entire sea wall around the area had to be restored, strengthened and widened. The large "back building" along the sea front had to have its roof jacked up, the floor ripped out and the foundations remade. Timbers from the floor of the old copra storage building were used to make some magnificent furniture, tables, chairs and cabinets. That fine-grained hardwood is difficult to get today and is perfect for furniture making. The work took twelve months, resulting in as Jeffrey Melrose wrote: "A dream come true; a most remarkable achievement."

Now that the government of Fiji, through its Fiji Visitors Bureau, has commissioned the task force of international experts under the Development Authority of the Pacific Area Travel Association, to report on the viability of preserving and enhancing Levuka's old build-

ings and historic sites, that dream is about to come true.

This PATA report has received the enthusiastic support of all sections of Levuka and the island people of Ovalau. Led by the municipal councillors under the mayor, Angus Sword, and the Levuka Historical and Cultural Society under its chairman, Hoteshe Subrail, public meetings were held with the Fiji Task Force members and the Director of Town and Country Planning. A later meeting was held with a number of cabinet ministers, including the Deputy Prime Minister, Ratu David Toganivalu and Edward Beddoes, Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs whose responsibility includes Town and Country Planning. These ministers showed enthusiastic support for the preservation of Levuka.

In the fight for economic growth, especially in the Fiji

tourist trade, the statement by the investigating Task Force is particularly important: "Levuka is a prime competitor for tourism as an alternative destination to the established resort areas. With its wealth of nationally-important historic sites and its architectural charm, Levuka has the potential to be of interest to a wide range of both domestic and overseas tourists."

One of the charms of Levuka remains the old-world Royal Hotel. It is the only remnant of the 50 or so hotels and drinking bars that once flourished in Levuka. The Royal retains an aura of Victorian days and one can easily imagine ladies in starched gowns and parasols escorted by frock-coated gallants, sweeping into its public rooms.

As the site of the original capital and of Cakabau's government, Levuka is obviously the place and focal point of the Cession/Fiji Independence Day Celebrations each October. (It is also the port where the first Indian indentured labourers landed over 100 years ago).

This was highlighted very successfully in the first "Back to Old Levuka Festivals" held in 1980 and 1983. In those years a re-enactment of the signing of the Deed of Cession was held at Nasova. During the week long festivities there were parades of floats and marching groups and many sporting events, including the annual Suva to Levuka boat race and the round Ovalau Island relay race.

A committee continues to stage festivities during this important national holiday but the festivals need upgrading to be, as were the 1980 and 1983 festivals, truly national and important events.

Levuka has always remained the centre of some of Fiji's best schools. Levuka Public School today progresses through secondary school to New Zea-

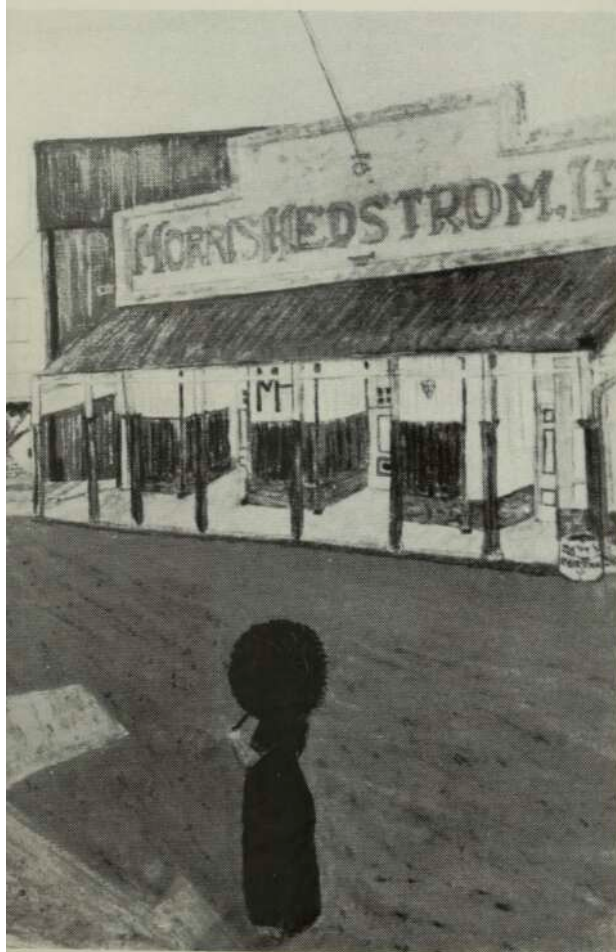
land University entrance level. The Catholic Convent is in the centre of the town. About nine kilometres away, the imposing St John's College at Cawaci nestles in a wonderful valley spread between surrounding hills and peaks. Its fine French style church stands like a sentinel on the shorefront. Up famous Mission Hill (with its 199 steps) is the old Methodist Mission and Delana School. Below is the Rambling Royal Hotel and the town's busy sports field directly behind it.

With so many schools, children congregate on the field each day. Rugby, soccer and hockey teams vie for space and time. This points up the need for other sports areas. A kaleidoscope of colour and energy illustrates the multi-racial harmony in Levuka. There are Chinese, Fijians, Indians, Japanese, Europeans and Polynesians all enjoying their sports together.

In their recommendations to the Fiji Government the Task Force stressed: "In the next national development phase there must be, in the name of tourism, a new emphasis on the quality of community life and amenities and on the countryside of Fiji. Levuka provides the ideal place to begin."

"The resorts of Fiji are charming and successful. But a large and growing proportion of today's travellers are looking for more than just resort life. They are not satisfied simply to hop from one resort to another. They expect to see and to get to know the country and its people, their way of life, their history and the natural attractions of the country's geography, wildlife and fauna."

A restored Levuka would be an added element to any tourism plans but the main need is to save this unique charming oasis in the Pacific for future generations. — Victor Carell.



A painting by Beth Dean: "The view along beach street" (looking north), Levuka township, Ovalau Island, Fiji, 1980. The painting was photographed by the author.

Yachts

IAN MENZIES reports from Darwin:

Francesca. This American yacht which has been cruising the Pacific for the past five years, has taken both line and handicap honours in the cruising division of the 1986 Foster's Darwin to Ambon international ocean yacht race.

Owned by Fred and Francesca Denton of San Francisco and registered with the Sausalito Cruising Club of California, *Francesca* covered the 560 nautical mile course in 97.18 hours. She was second across the finish line only two hours behind the overall line honours winner, the classic offshore racing sloop, *Evergreen*.

The Dentons, together with their two Darwin-based crew members, Roger Collins and Kim Wharton, are to be congratulated on a remarkable effort. Throughout the race they constantly challenged the faster *Evergreen* and, at one stage had the lead on her. Thirty knot winds and rough seas, however, favoured the heavier and lengthier *Evergreen* so that she was able to draw away in the closing stages.

Francesca is a Sparkman and Stephens 11.27 metre fibreglass sloop built by the Tartan Marine Corporation and launched in 1978. Though fitted out as a cruising yacht with five metres of cruising paraphernalia on board and a circumnavigation yet to go, she has proved that the S&S designs are indeed fast, long distance performers.

Celebrating its 10th year as Australia's first and only international offshore race, the '86 Fosters Darwin to Ambon fielded a record fleet of 30 yachts. Of these 14 came from further afield than Fannie Bay, home of the Cruising Yacht Association of the Northern Territory (CYANT) and the Darwin Sailing Club.

Split into two divisions, racing and cruising, the 30 starters competed for over 15 valuable trophies and prizes. The 19 competitors in the cruising division not only represented six of



A cheery wave from Hugh Richardson (standing aft at the helm), skipper of the now Darwin-based Formosan 46 *KARANA*. Hugh and Shirlie Richardson will be fondly remembered by their many friends in P.N.G., where they spent almost twenty years. *KARANA* not only doubled as the radio relay vessel, but also went on to take out 2nd. on handicap in the Racing Division. Ian Menzies photo.

the seven Australian states but also included an entry from Gibraltar as well as three from the United States.

Second and third placings in the cruising division went to *Morando*, a Swanson 32 from Melbourne owned by Robert and Michael Hossack and *Scimitar*, a UFO owned by Peter and Ruth Read of the Geraldton Yacht Club in Western Australia.

Morando competed in the 1969 and 1980 Sydney to Hobart races. Now converted to cruising and just beginning a world circumnavigation, she still knows how to show the fleet a clean pair of heels (or is it transom).

Though Bill Gibson's *Evergreen* from the Gove Yacht Club in the Northern Territory took out line honours overall, she was only able to score fifth

on handicap. For those with long memories, *Evergreen* is the former *Even*, line honours winner in the prestigious 1954 Sydney to Hobart. Now restored to her former glory by Bill Gibson, she revels in the challenge of long distance offshore racing.

First on handicap in the racing division was Charlie Wall's *Hope*, a superbly maintained 1971 Ludders 10.0 metre from the Cheoy Lee shipyard in Hongkong. This is the fourth time that *Hope* has competed in the Ambon race and her third major win.

Other place-getters were the Formosan 46 *Karana*, owned by Hugh and Shirlie Richardson of Darwin (formerly Port Moresby) and another S&S, John McCormack's 9.16 metre *Stampede* also of Darwin.

Virtually all of the entrants

will go on to cruise Indonesian waters for periods ranging from two weeks to three months. Race entry qualifies competitors for an Indonesian cruising permit at very reasonable cost. Bulk processing through the Indonesian yachting fraternity considerably reduces the normal overheads.

Each year sees a steady growth in the popularity of the Fosters Darwin to Ambon, not only for the camaraderie a race of this nature engenders, but also for the access it gives to one of the last unspoiled and fascinating cruising grounds of the world.

Planning for the 1987 race is now underway. Yachtsmen interested in competing in this unique race or merely in cruising Indonesian waters should contact "Yachtscene" GPO Box 1677, Darwin, NT 5794, Australia.



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from the islands press

From Vanuatu Weekly, Port-Vila

Pisces Restaurant on the Nambatu road had closed its doors since last month. A board with writing saying "CLOSED! GONE FISHING! ADIOS AMIGOS!" was placed on the gateway. According to an employee of the restaurant, it was closed because they were no longer getting much business. He said the owner, Mr Boyd Johnson, had left for Australia at the end of last month. However he will re-open the restaurant after two more months.

From Uni Tavor, the student newspaper at the University of Papua New Guinea.

The chairman of the Waigani Seminar says he is concerned that there is a lot of shady dealing, drug trafficking, mismanagement of money and unfairness in land dealings in PNG. Prof John Waiko said: "These are the causes of corruption in this country. Corruption is a big question. What are we going to do about it?"

From Solomon Nius, Honiara

The out-going Ombudsman Mr Daniel Maeke has said it appears that Solomon Islanders are money minded people because of the fact that most complaints reaching the Office of the Ombudsman were related to money matters. These were to do with salary scales charge and acting allowances, and pensions and gratuities which were not paid by employers.

From the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier, Port Moresby

Two young girls, K30,000, 100 pigs and 10 cassowaries are being demanded by a Western Highlands clan. The Maki clan of Jimi is demanding the compensation for the death of Nugus Wie, an Elcom linesman who was alleged to have been murdered by Kisu clansman at Kudjip the previous Sunday while working on a power line.

From the Tohi Tala Niue, Alofi, Niue

Heard in the last proceedings of the House — "Not one person has ever been convicted of Sunday trading in this country." This may not be a word for word translation but the gist is there. Now, we have a law which strictly prohibits Sunday trading. We also know that the law is being broken every Sunday. Which leads us to conclude that it is perfectly in order to break some laws but not others.

From The Pitcairn Miscellany, Pitcairn Island

I'm not sure who was the first writer to conclude a publication by informing readers that Pitcairn, as a community, is nearing it's end, but many have tried to give this impression. Perhaps they feel their efforts will sell better if they can create the impression that they are among the last to visit and write about this "dying" outpost of civilisation. It's fairly obvious to us on Pitcairn that such opinions are not shared here. Perhaps the most glaring evidence of this is the fact that there are now new houses being built.

From an advertisement in the Vanuatu Weekly of a meeting by Mama Blong Vanuatu

Toilet training, a discussion led by Sue Webb. Everybody welcome — please bring a small plate.

From the Cook Islands News, Rarotonga

A headline — "Noise pollution to be stopped in Parliament."

From a parliamentary debate on a Bill to amend the Penal Code Act as reported in Solomon Nius, Honiara

Peter Salaka (Shortlands, PAP) said Solomon Islands laws should be based on Christian concepts. Bribery in the language of Western society meant 'crime', but where he comes from in the Shortlands, Mr Salaka said, whether a person commits bribery left or right he cannot be punished because the terminology does not exist. Ninety per cent of Solomon Islands laws were not applicable to the Melanesian standard of behaviour, he said, and some people had been punished unjustly.

From an editorial in The Samoa Times, Apia

Reports from Faleolo indicate that the Airport Authority has so far shot some six asses and one horse following the halving of one ass and the sucking of another into the jet engine of the Polynesian Airlines Boeing 737 last Thursday night. The problem of the asses and other animals on the runway is not new because the pilots are known to have informed the airport authorities of it on at least two occasions.

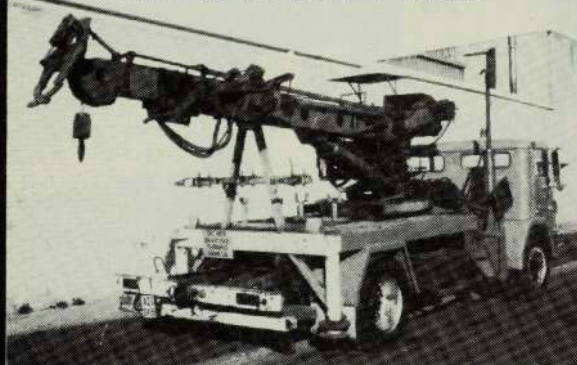
From the Papua New Guinea Post-Courier, Port Moresby

It began as a farce and ended in tragedy. A bull decided yesterday it did not want to fly — and after a 10 km dash for freedom collapsed and died. Three bulls imported from Queensland were to be freighted to Safia, Oro Province.

Under the heading "You're dead ref" in the Cook Islands News, Rarotonga

A visibly upset referee Alan Munro briefly summed up his feelings following his sensational abandonment of Saturday's Match of the Day. "I had been sworn at and threatened throughout most of the match. After yet another incident I sin-binned Amene Rangi. He swore back again so I sent him off. When he wouldn't go off and I was surrounded by players abusing and threatening me. I abandoned the game."

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In search of Doctor Long Ghost

In 1842 Herman Melville spent several months travelling through French Polynesia with an eccentric beachcomber nicknamed "Doctor Long Ghost". Four years after they had parted, never to meet again, Melville immortalised his erstwhile companion in *Omoo: A Narrative of Adventures in the South Seas*.

The book went on to become a classic, yet surprisingly little is known about the "Long Doctor", its most colorful protagonist. His origins are a mystery, only the barest fragments of his later life have been documented, and even his true identity has never been conclusively established.

Nevertheless, like many of the characters in Melville's works, Doctor Long Ghost was a real person. Various references to him — some of them fantastically brief — can be found in nineteenth-century writings on the Pacific, and it is possible, by piecing these together, to produce a shadowy history of his life. There are numerous gaps, but what remains is often fascinating.

The two men met in the Marquesas on August 9, 1842. Having jumped ship, Melville had been exploring the island of Nuku Hiva, as he later recounted in *Typee*, his first book. Lame, and fearful for his safety among the reportedly cannibalistic "Typees", he signed on as an able seaman aboard the *Lucy Ann*, a small Australian whaling barque whose crew had been depleted by desertion. Doctor Long Ghost had joined the ship in Sydney, as its surgeon, and Melville was delighted to have him as a shipmate:

"His personal appearance was remarkable. He was over six feet high — a tower of bones, with a complexion absolutely colorless, fair hair, and a light, unscrupulous grey eye, twinkling occasionally with the very devil of mischief. Among the crew, he went by the name of the Long Doctor, or, more frequently still, Doctor Long Ghost. And from whatever high estate Doctor Long Ghost might have fallen, he had certainly at some time or other spent money, drunk Burgundy, and associated with gentlemen.

In May, 1945, PIM published an article by John D. Earnshaw entitled *Who Was Doctor Long Ghost?* Earnshaw had done some research on the character who appears, in various guises, in several stories and accounts of life in the islands of over a century ago. Now, more than 40 years after Earnshaw's question, ANDREW CAMPBELL can provide a fascinating answer as a result of research on Penrhyn Island.

As for his learning, he quoted Virgil, and talked of Hobbes of Malmsbury, besides repeating poetry by the canto, especially *Hudibras*. He was, moreover, a man who had seen the world. In

the easiest way imaginable, he could refer to an amour he had in Palermo, his lion hunting before breakfast among the Caffres, and the quality of the coffee to be drunk in Muscat; and about these places, and a hundred others, he had more anecdotes than I can tell of. Then such mellow old songs as he sang, in a voice so round and racy, the real juice of sound. How such notes came forth from his lank body was a constant marvel.

Upon the whole, Long Ghost was as entertaining a companion as one could wish; and . . . an absolute godsend".

In the early part of the voyage, according to Melville, Doctor Long Ghost had lived in the cabin, with nothing but his professional duties to attend to, as was customary for ships' physicians. He had passed his time by drinking "flip", playing cards, and exchanging yarns with the young captain, Henry Ventom.

On one occasion, though, they had an



A view of Papeete, engraved in the 1860s.

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argument about politics, and Long Ghost, getting into a rage, ended it with his fist, rendering his opponent unconscious. As punishment, he was locked up in his stateroom for 10 days, on a diet of bread and water. Humiliated by the experience, he stole away from the vessel at one of the islands a short time after his release, but was captured and again incarcerated. Upon being set free for the second time, he swore he would no longer tolerate Ventom's company, and moved into the forecabin with the men. Having handed in his resignation, he declared himself a passenger for Sydney, and took things easily.

This, at least, is Melville's version of the events. Other accounts, however, paint a less romantic picture. For a start, Doctor Long Ghost was not the ship's doctor at all, but its steward. As such, he was the custodian and dispenser of medical stores — a position whose occupant was commonly given the name of "doctor" — though he may not have been medically qualified.

Furthermore, Long Ghost did not voluntarily withdraw to the forecabin; he was demoted for stealing medical supplies, and jumping ship with three other men, at Nuku Hiva. This sordid episode was later related by Benbow Byrne, the *Lucy Ann's* Maori harpoonist, in an affidavit . . . which we shall come to shortly.

Melville's lameness prevented him from taking up active duty straight away, apart from an occasional "trick" at the helm. He therefore spent most of his time in the forecabin, with Doctor Long Ghost for company. The latter's books, which included a learned treatise on yellow fever and a collection of Sydney newspapers, were invaluable to Melville. Though they were "sadly torn and battered", he read them repeatedly.

Despite his sophistication and his occasionally grave manner, Doctor Long Ghost enjoyed a practical joke. He was, as Melville put it, "a decided wag." Whenever the ship's cook found old boots in his soup pots or "cakes of pitch candying in his oven", the Long Doctor was never far away. On one occasion, he decided to teach some men who had fallen asleep during the night watch a lesson:

Fastening a rope's end to each sleeper, he rove the lines through a number of blocks, and conducted them all to the windlass; then, by heaving round cheerily, in spite of cries and struggles, he soon had them dangling aloft in all directions by arms and legs . . . like a parcel of pirates gibbeted at sea by a cruiser".

Conditions on board the *Lucy Ann* were atrocious. The quarters were overcrowded, the mate was a drunkard, five of the 16 seamen were incapacitated by

venereal disease, and the food — which had been purchased at an auction of condemned navy stores — was almost inedible.

Moreover, Captain Ventom, as well as being incompetent and ineffectual, was sick. Suffering, apparently, from an abscess in the perineum, he could no longer walk by September 4, and was confined to his cabin. Four days later, recognising the need for medical attention, he gave orders to sail for Tahiti instead of continuing the search for whaling grounds.

On the 20th, having touched at Vaitahu, Hiva Oa and other islands, the ship reached Papeete. To prevent disgruntled sailors from deserting, it remained outside



Herman Melville (1819-1891); adventurer, novelist and philosopher.

the harbor, while the mate was sent ashore for a doctor.

Dr Francis Johnstone came aboard several hours later and, after examining the captain, insisted on his removal to the town. So, the following day, Captain Ventom was taken ashore, leaving the first mate, James German, in command.

Realising that the *Lucy Ann* was to continue its course, merely touching at Tahiti to pick up the captain when he had recuperated, the crew became furious, threatening mutiny. If Melville is to be believed, he and Doctor Long Ghost managed to placate them by proposing that a round robin be sent to the British Consul on shore, stating their grievances and requesting that he come on board immediately and investigate the situation. This was duly dispatched — written on the flyleaf of a book aptly entitled *A History of the Most Atrocious Piracies* — and the Acting British Consul, Charles B. Wilson, duly arrived. He was, however, far from

sympathetic, ruling that the *Lucy Ann* should resume its voyage, with German as commander.

This was the last straw. By September 23, to cut a long and confused story short, 10 men had refused to do their duty, including Doctor Long Ghost. With mutiny threatened, the mate decided to take the *Lucy Ann* into the port of Papeete, contrary to the captain's orders, without even waiting for the harbor pilot to come off to him.

Shortly afterwards, the consul again came on board, where he proceeded to separate the "mutineers" from those who had remained loyal. The former were then transferred to a French frigate lying at anchor nearby, *La Reine Blanche*, and placed in the brig. After being kept in irons for three days, the recalcitrants, who by now included Melville, were taken ashore and marched to the British jail, the "Calabooza Beretane", where they remained for the next three or four weeks.

On September 28 the consul examined the prisoners, in the vain hope of persuading them to return to their duties. For the historian, this was a propitious event, since it resulted in the writing of several documents — which have survived. One of them was Benbow Byrne's affidavit, mentioned earlier. Among other things, these papers disclose that Doctor Long Ghost shipped under the name of John B. Troy. It is clear, however, that he used more than one alias during his roving around the Pacific, so I shall continue to refer to him by his nickname.

Discipline in the Calabooza was virtually non-existent. For the first few days the men were kept in stocks, but "Captain Bob", their indulgent Tahitian jailer, subsequently allowed them to roam freely, providing they returned at night. During this period of enforced idleness, some of the Long Doctor's idiosyncrasies revealed themselves.

"Like all lank men," noted Melville, Doctor Long Ghost "had an appetite of his own. Others occasionally went about seeking what they might devour, but he was always on the alert." To cope with the lack of salt, which Tahitians seldom used with their food, he took to keeping some in a small leather wallet tied around his neck. "In my poor opinion," said Long Ghost, as he tucked the wallet out of sight, "it behooves a stranger, in Tahiti, to have his knife in readiness, and his caster slung."

The Long Doctor's appetite for drugs was also unusual. When Dr Johnstone visited the Calabooza's convalescent seamen, his tall colleague took him aside for a "private confabulation". Melville couldn't hear what was said, but "from certain illustrative signs and gestures" he inferred that Long Ghost "was describing the symptoms of some mysterious disorder."

ganisation of the vitals, which must have come on within the hour. Assisted by his familiarity with medical terms, he seemed to produce a marked impression. "The following morning, a small purple phial was delivered to Doctor Long Ghost, who, after an hour or two, was found "lying behind the stocks ... as if life were extinct."

Six years later, Lieutenant Henry A. Wise discussed this episode with Dr Johnstone during a visit to Tahiti. According to Johnstone, the "embrocation" so relished by Long Ghost "was a villainous preparation, having the least taste of gin in the world, and made up from laudanum, turpentine, and soap linament!" Doctor Long Ghost, concluded Wise, "must have been seriously indisposed; he had a large quantity."

On October 15 the *Lucy Ann* finally set sail, Captain Ventom having recuperated. The "mutineers" were never officially released from jail, but they were evidently able to come and go as they pleased. Before long, Melville and his lanky companion had done a midnight flit to the neighboring island of Moorea little more than 10 miles away from Tahiti, but far less westernised. Adopting the aliases "Peter" and "Paul", they obtained work as laborers on a Matea potato plantation run by a pair of runaway seamen.

After a few quiet days, during which they did sufficient work to whet their appetites, avoiding any severe toil, the two men set off to explore some more of the island. Lacking a supply of European clothes, they were obliged to improvise. Long Ghost's outfit consisted of a local tapa-cloth cloak, a pair of huge, dilapidated boots, and an ancient Panama hat. By setting the latter at a jaunty angle, he reminded Melville of a "mendicant grandee".

Tamai, a small, secluded community, was the first port of call. Here they were fortunate enough to witness a clandestine performance of the "Lory-Lory", a traditional dance that had been banned by puritanical missionaries. While this was going on, Melville could barely manage "to keep the doctor from rushing forward and seizing a partner." The next morning, his libido undiminished, Long Ghost went in search of the dancing girls. He eventually succeeded in finding one, but his approach evidently lacked subtlety: "She all at once turned round upon him, and, giving him a box on the ear, told him to ... be off with himself."

At "Loohooloo", the village they visited next, Long Ghost's luck improved: "With a pleasant companion, he was for ever strolling inland, ostensibly to collect botanical specimens". The area of botany in which the doctor specialised was revealed during a lavish feast held in honor

of the European visitors. Before the meal had even begun, "he snatched a morsel from a sort of fruit of which gentlemen of the sanguine temperament are remarkably fond; namely, the ripe cherry lips of Miss Day-Born, who stood looking on."

Doctor Long Ghost's popularity in this village was not confined to nubile members of the opposite sex. Through "a hundred whimsical oddities", he became a great favorite among all the people, who "bestowed on him a long, comical title, expressive of his lank figure." Thus there was a sad leave-taking when he and Melville resumed their journey, heading for the prosperous settlement of Papetoi where they hoped to make the acquaintance of Queen Pomare. The doctor, aware of the queen's well-known passion for music, intended to dazzle her with his fiddle playing. In this he was disappointed; her majesty declined an audience with the two beachcombers and had them removed.

Unsuccessful in his efforts to ingratiate himself with the queen, Melville decided to go to sea. He soon managed to join the crew of the *Charles and Henry*, a Nantucket whaler, though the captain distrusted Doctor Long Ghost and would have nothing to do with him. Having already decided to tarry a while longer, the doctor was not unduly concerned. Melville gave him half of his advance — 15 Spanish dollars — before the ship set sail on November 6. "As he stepped over the side," recalled Melville, "I shook the doctor long and heartily, by the hand. I have never seen or heard of him since."

It is at this point that most people's acquaintance with Doctor Long Ghost ends; but my story is only half-done.

The doctor's early history, according to Melville, "was enveloped in the profoundest obscurity though he threw out hints of a patrimonial estate, a nabob uncle, and an unfortunate affair which sent him a-roving. All that was known, however, was this. He had gone out to Sydney as assistant-surgeon of an emigrant ship. On his arrival there, he went back into the country, and after a few months' wanderings, returned to Sydney penniless." It was then that he joined the *Lucy Ann*.

Thomas Trood, a one-time British vice-consul in Apia, met Doctor Long Ghost several years after the publication of *Omoo*. In his autobiography, *Island Reminiscences*, he claims that Long Ghost was present at the murder of John Williams, the evangelical missionary, at Eromanga. Although Trood gives no details at all, and no supporting evidence exists, it is not inconceivable that the doctor was there. Being an educated man, and one prone to temporary piety when there was something to be gained from it, he may well have befriended the mis-



E. H. Lamont, from the frontispiece of *Wild Life among the Pacific Islanders*.

sionaries for some reason of his own.

The dates tie up: Williams died on November 20, 1839; Melville and Long Ghost did not meet until 1842.

Information about Doctor Long Ghost's later life is no less fragmentary. One snippet is provided by Edward T. Perkins in his book *Na Motu: or, Reef-Rovings in the South Seas*. During a visit to Tahiti in 1853, Perkins discovered that, after Melville's departure, the doctor had stayed on a plantation owned by Mr Bell, a character mentioned in *Omoo*. Bearing in mind his amorous disposition, it is quite possible that Mrs Bell, whom Melville described as "the most beautiful white woman ... in Polynesia", was the chief attraction. In any case, he "led a free-and-easy life for some time, and afterwards took his departure."

In November, 1848, Lieutenant Wise, the author of *Los Gringos: or an Inside View of ... Polynesia*, also made inquiries about Long Ghost while in Tahiti. "The Ghost", he reported "was supposed at the period of our visit to be in Sydney, or after gold in California".

Whether or not the doctor returned to Australia is unknown, but by September, 1850, he was in California. We know this because he wrote to Melville from there. Unfortunately, the letter itself is lost; only a passing reference to it has survived.

In 1858 the second Pacific classic to have Doctor Long Ghost as one of its principal characters was published, namely, E. H. Lamont's *Wild Life among the Pacific Islanders*. He now styled himself Dr Rouke, though Lamont refers to him as Dr R. . . ., possibly to avoid risking a libel suit. H. B. Sterndale, who wrote a series of articles on the South Sea Islands for the

Auckland Weekly News in 1890, was the first person to point out that Doctor Long Ghost and Dr R . . . are the same person, but this should be obvious to anyone who has read both books.

Lamont met the doctor in San Francisco during the second half of 1852. He was arranging a trading voyage through the South Pacific and, after hearing about Long Ghost's knowledge of the region, gladly took him on. The *Chatham*, an American clipper brig commanded by George Snow, accordingly set sail on October 14 with the two landmen and a crew of eight on board.

After a month or so at sea, the ship called at the Marquesas, the scene of Long Ghost's abortive attempt to abscond with his ship's medicines 10 years before. The voyage then continued through the Tuamotus, the Society Islands, and southern Cooks, before heading back to California.

Lamont, unlike Melville, did not enjoy Doctor Long Ghost's company. He quarrelled incessantly with him, and swore that they would never work together again, even if the doctor "opened . . . a path to the wealth of Croesus." The cause of their mutual dislike is not clear, but perhaps Lamont was simply too strait-laced to enjoy the eccentric traits in his partner. It is also likely that Long Ghost's high-handedness grated on Lamont, whose own ego was somewhat inflated.

At one stage, the doctor almost caused the expedition to be abandoned. After a series of arguments with Lamont, he irritably ordered the ship's cook to prepare him some food. The cook refused, pointing out that his fire was out, where-

upon:

The Doctor, who had taken an antipathy to the boy, after some coarse language, knocked him down. The captain, who had already retired to his cabin, now interposed, saying, very properly, that he would not allow any one to interfere with his crew, and that if they did wrong it was his business to correct them. The Doctor replied that he was quite able to correct them himself, and would strike any man on board, from the captain to the cook, who was insolent to him. The captain declared this an act of mutiny, and going on deck, ordered the vessel hard up for Tahiti . . .

Doctor Long Ghost's mood was not improved by an incident that occurred a few weeks later. On the morning of January 7, as the *Chatham* proceeded homewards, she struck a reef off Penrhyn Island. Nobody was injured, but the ship was wrecked. Although the island had been on the charts since 1788, Lamont and his companions were probably the first Europeans to go ashore.

Understandably, they were frightened for their lives. Penrhyn Islanders were reputed to be cannibals at that time, and this seemed to be borne out the next morning, when the castaways were rounded up and escorted to an isolated marae. After a series of rituals had been carried out, Lamont and the doctor were each handed a coconut, which convinced them that they were about to be sacrificed. Stretching out a "long, bony hand" to his companion, Long Ghost said: "I think we may bid farewell to each other, Lamont; we are selected first to be cooked; I suppose they want to put us in condition by feeding us first."

In fact, the Americans' fears were completely unfounded. Penrhyn Islanders were not cannibals; the performance at the marae was simply a kind of ceremonial welcome; and they were treated with kindness throughout their stay.

Doctor Long Ghost did not take to the life of a castaway. There was no alcohol, or other artificial stimulants, and the only other educated man present got on his nerves. Consequently, when his shipmates built a large hut in which to store materials for constructing a boat, he volunteered to take charge of it, rarely emerging from his self-imposed confinement.

Penrhyn Island's strict marriage rules were particularly irksome to the doctor. Since he, like all the other castaways, had been adopted by a local family, he was prohibited from dallying with any of his newly acquired female relatives. When one of them rejected his advances on these grounds, he was piqued, becoming an instant misogynist.

Suddenly, to the surprise of those who had been acquainted with his amorous character in the other islands, he issued a ukase to the effect that whoever harbored a regard for any of the nut-brown maids . . . would fall under his displeasure and forfeit his esteem.

Meanwhile, the captain and some of his crew had been enlarging and decking over the *Chatham's* boat, which had been washed ashore, in the hope of escaping from the island. By the middle of March, it was ready, and they decided to set sail as soon as there was a fair trade wind. Before departing, Lamont wanted to explore parts of the atoll he had not yet visited, so he arranged to rendezvous at the boat in ten days' time.

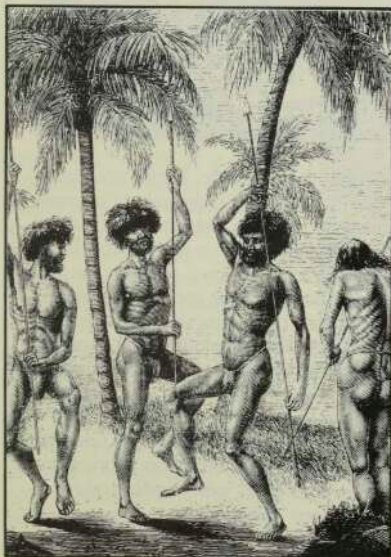
Lamont kept the appointment, but Doctor Long Ghost did not. With Captain Snow, the mate, and the second mate, he had done another one of his characteristic midnight flits. As the islanders cried, "The boat is gone, the Long Man is gone", it dawned on Lamont that he had been abandoned.

Contemporary newspaper reports show that the doctor and his fellow deserters reached Manihiki, some two hundred miles to the west-south-west, on March 26. There they were informed by a Mr Williams, agent for Hort Brothers, that a vessel would soon be arriving to collect mother-of-pearl. After waiting for more than a month, the captain became impatient and decided to risk sailing to Samoa. Long Ghost did not relish the idea of another voyage in their frail boat, however, so he sabotaged it while the others were away obtaining provisions.

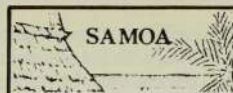
All four were therefore forced to remain on Manihiki until August, when the *Caroline Hort* finally arrived. Its master, Captain Hort, reluctantly agreed to take two of them to Valparaiso, providing they promised not to reveal the location of Penrhyn to anyone else, as he wished to establish a pearl fishery on the island before it became widely known. Forty-two days later, Captain Snow and Doctor Long Ghost arrived in Chile.

★

Shortly afterwards, the Long Doctor disappears from contemporary records. In 1856 Thomas Trood met him in Concepcion, where he had married and settled, but it is not known whether he ever returned to the South Seas. Although he had revealed to Lamont various "schemes for amassing great fortunes" there — such as establishing a pearling operation on Penrhyn, or settling on Mauke to grow "tobacco, coffee, cotton, indigo, and all the spices of the East" — none of these appear to have gone beyond the pipe-dream stage. In short, unlikely as it seems, the beachcomber finally succumbed to domesticity . . . the Ghost was laid.



Penrhyn Islanders, 1853; despite their fearsome appearance, they treated Doctor Long Ghost and his companions with kindness.



SOLOMON
ISLANDS

Pacific stamp box



With John Hunter

No doubt many of you were able to find the bicycle on the PNG Lutheran centenary stamp. A boy is holding the bike on the verandah of the Lutheran Seminary Church on the 70t stamp. Well done those who spotted it.

Another question: what was the world's first commemorative stamp? Many believe it was the set of Queen Victoria stamps issued in 1887, the year of Queen Victoria's Golden Jubilee. However, this set was in fact a replacement definitive issue that remained until the Queen died in 1901.

Britain's first commemorative stamps did not appear until 1924 to commemorate the Wembley Empire Exhibition. No, the title of the first commemorative stamps belongs to the New South Wales Centennial issue of 1888/89. Eight stamps were issued for the event. The stamp designs were chosen from 956 designs submitted by 250 competitors in a special competition.

There is now pressure mounting in stamp circles to have the internationally recognised Gibbons stamp catalogue accept the fact this set of stamps was the world's first commemorative set on NSW's 1988 Centennial celebrations. My thanks to the Australian Stamp Monthly for this item.

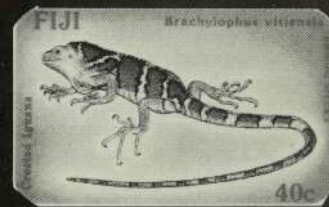
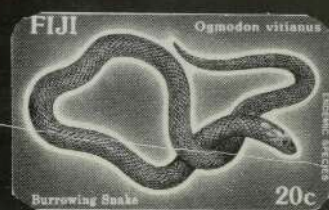
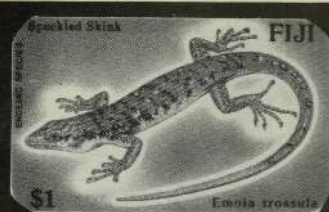
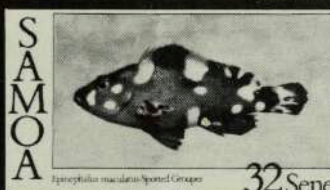
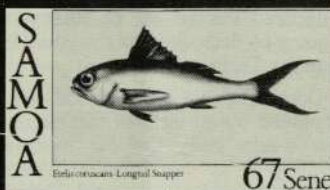
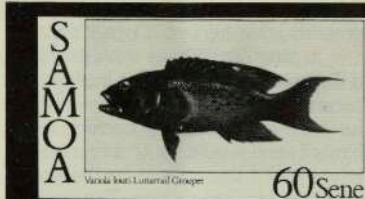
Many new issues during the last month or so featured the marriage of Prince Andrew to Sarah Ferguson. However, there were some issues from Pacific countries featuring other subjects.

Samoa issued, on August 13, an attractive set of five stamps featuring fish of the Samoan waters.

Fiji issued, on August 1, a set of six stamps featuring reptiles and amphibians. This is a very attractive set highlighting each animal with a white boarding space surrounding each animal.

On August 4 Cook Islands issued two souvenir sheets of stamps commemorating Stampex '86 and the birthday of Queen Elizabeth, the Queen Mother. Cook Islands are first off the mark with the Queen Mother Birthday issue. On the Stampex '86 sheet is in fact an overprint of the Ausipex '84 souvenir sheet featuring scenes of Captain Cook in Australia.

This makes for quite an interesting item. The Stampex '86 logo is printed over the Ausipex logo. The Ausipex logo on each stamp in the sheet has been colored over with a gold circle. The islands of Penrhyn and Aitutaki in



the Cook Islands have also issued souvenir sheets commemorating the same two events and have also overprinted the Ausipex sheet with the Stampex logo. In the case of Penrhyn the value has also been overprinted.

On July 21 Nauru issued a set of four stamps commemorating the Bank of Nauru's 10th anniversary. The designs for the stamps are very attractive and were submitted by school children in a competition run by the bank. The bank takes an active role in school education, visiting schools discussing the advantages of using the national bank.

French Polynesia keeps up cultural education with two more stamps issued on July 17 featuring traditional festivities — this time weaving. A pity more Pacific countries don't follow the idea.

I still believe much can be done with

philately in the Pacific. Pacific countries depend so much on the sale of stamps and with franking machines and electronic mail taking over the postage stamp is a threatened species. Pacific nations need to look seriously at stamp promotion. The number of stamps issued, quality of printing and designs need to be checked. Combined theme issues, stamp exhibitions and promotions are a must.

It is good to see Papua New Guinea using September for stamp promotion in conjunction with independence anniversary celebrations.

Papua New Guinea stamps are always a favorite with collectors. You can see PNG stamp exhibitions in Sydney at the GPO, 52 Hunter St (Government Information Office) and at 100 Clarence St.



Need the Danielssons fear an accident?

Poisoned Reign. *French Nuclear Colonialism in the Pacific.* By Bengt Danielsson and Marie-Therese Danielsson. Published 1986 by Penguin Books Australia. ISBN 0 14 008130 5. Price \$9.95.

On June 15, this year, in a large tree grove on the grounds of Chateau Vaucennes, at the end of one of the Paris Metro lines, thousands of Frenchmen gathered in front of three stages for music and speakers, around dozens of food (mainly) and information stalls for a Peace Festival.

Amidst the familiar slogans (albeit, in French), I looked for familiar themes. Where were the stands against uranium mining and nuclear power? The reactor disaster at Chernobyl had been only a few weeks before.

And, where were the stands against (French and/or American) nuclear testing in the Pacific?

There was one display, against the French, by a travelling artist, consisting of large paintings of Polynesians in various stages of agony, that attracted some attention, mainly from photographers.

But there was nowhere a mention of the French sabotage, sinking and murder, in Auckland harbor in 1985, of the "Rainbow Warrior", on that sunny Parisian afternoon.

On sunny days in Papeete, too, one is hard pressed to find even a peace festival, let alone mention of the French nuclear establishment, a few island groups away.

Nor is there a mention of the 25,000 "metropolitans" (European French) who along with that establishment, provide the

town with its sleek chic, from the downtown Vaïama Centre to the elegant mansions overlooking sea views of Mahina, Punaauia, Paea and other delicious names.

Just so. Designer spies, Major Alain Mafart and his "wife" for a few days, Captain Dominique Prieur of the GDSE (Gallic dirty tricks department) will be not very far from that Tahiti serving their "confinement" on Hao atoll, not far from Moruroa, in the picturesque Tuamotus.

Amid the most recent videos from Paris, comprehensive water sports facilities (including skin diving, one presumes) and disco nights, those who carried out the bombing of a peace boat, killing one of its crew, are

to spend the next three years. They are, after all, agents only following orders.

People who "only obey orders" had a rougher time of it forty years ago, at Nuremberg; today, the same excuse rates a kind of Club Med version of Devils Island.

The confinement of Mafart and Prieur is part of a deal negotiated by the UN Secretary General, Mr Javier Perez de Cuellar, between Paris and Wellington that includes a general apology (but not explanation) for the commando operation (see the book below) on New Zealand soil, payment of some millions in compensation and an end to French obstruc-

tion of New Zealand imports to the EEC.

Under the banner of *liberte* (for obedient agents), *egalite* (except for Polynesians), *fraternite* (but not with Greenpeace), the nuclear tests are to continue. Once again, a big country proves what a cynical world knew all along: that might (and trade sanctions), makes right.

Does anybody care?

The Danielssons do and they have updated their 1977 *Moruroa Mon Amour* study of French colonialism in the Pacific to provide the context of the extraordinary "Rainbow Warrior" episode.

The details of the poison story begin in the 18th century explorations, and end in an Epilogue dated February 1986. Whilst *Reign* is based on a mountain of published and unpublished material, the Danielssons wear their scholarship lightly.

The style is highly accessible, though openly polemical, and belongs to quality feature journalism that is all too scarce these days in our print media.

Unlike many other modern historians, the Danielssons are not only keen chroniclers of the trials, deceptions and bureaucratic brutality they describe, but also witnesses for more than thirty years from their lagoon-front home. Marie-Therese Danielsson, as a local councillor, is an active participant in the political arena, as well.

What will the French make of this book? Need the Danielssons fear an "accident", more competently carried out than "Rainbow" for their outspoken opposition?

Will the French deny in particular the chapter, "An un-



Marie-Therese and Bengt Danielsson.

healthy situation", wherein officially supplied health statistics show the deteriorating health situation for Polynesians for cases of cancer, as well as other medical and environmental damage they report?

As with the "Rainbow Warrior", there may be some French people who will criticise the competence (or incompetence) of those responsible for what the Danielssons describe. They may even be temporarily disciplined.

The French Defence Minister during the time of the "Warrior" sabotage, Hemu, was forced to resign and Admiral Lacoste, of Intelligence, was relieved of his post.

But Hemu is still a close colleague of French President Mitterand and enjoyed considerable electoral success in

the recent elections. As for the Admiral, he was recently appointed head of the Foundation for National Defence Studies.

No one, it seems, of any significance in France questions the legitimacy of "la bombe" or France's right to test it in the South Pacific which, they argue, is French territory in any case.

And, Australia and New Zealand government protests and opposition?

The motives of antipodean governments, some French intellectuals say, are far from pure. From a French perspective, the goal of both Canberra and Wellington is to remove the more powerful France from a region that they regard as their inheritance.

It was, after all in 1888, in

Melbourne, that these two countries got together even before they were both separate from the mother country and divided up their part of the world.

With France in New Caledonia (in Australia's Melanesia) and Polynesia (New Zealand's sphere), these two cannot easily dominate their smaller neighbors. With the more powerful France absent and some sort of independence for the French territories, Canberra and Wellington could call the tune instead of Paris.

And, what about the Polynesians?

They seem to be scarcely remembered, even at festival time little more than the exotic meat in the fast food sandwich (or, is it a pie?). — *Grant McCall*.

Concern is expressed by some about the motives of those who are the strongest advocates of the community concept — in particular the USA. What do they really want it for? Trade benefits? Security reasons? Unspoken but evident is the suspicion that the U.S. is supportive because that country itself stands to gain.

Here surely is exposed the hub of the matter which is touched on by surprisingly few delegates. No community — just as no family — can function properly if self-interest is the prime motivation for each member. There has to be a wider vision of what the community would exist for. One aim expressed which just might be big enough to unite such a disparate group of nations is "to tackle questions in the North-South debate."

Perhaps the major weakness of the book (and of the conference) is that it does not offer a single South Pacific island view. Only one delegate, Roniti Teiwaki of Kiribati (representing the University of the South Pacific) was even present; but his utterances, if any, are not recorded. The New Zealand and Australian delegates do their best to fill the gaps, but it is insufficient. It seems preposterous that the insights and imaginative contribution of the Pacific islands are ignored.

Much of the book is concerned with specific detailed aspects of the subject. But on the whole it avoids falling into the kind of super-fine detail which makes all but the super-specialist feel decidedly drowsy. Even the language is relatively free from jargon, the one notable exception being a Canadian academic who stupefies one with sentences such as this: "The basic rules to guide the structuring of a regional collective decision-making system will have to orient the interactions of the participating governments toward collaborative measures in the common interest."

This is an important book because it deals with an important issue. It offers a good amount of input for those concerned with the question of the future of the Pacific nations as a community of interests — and that ought to be most of us. — *Edward Peters*.

The Pacific Basin Project: Who stands to gain?

The Emerging Pacific Community: A Regional Perspective. Edited by Robert L. Downer and Bruce J. Dickson. Published by Westview Press, Colorado, USA, and supplied in Britain by Bowker Publishing Company, Epping, Essex. 245p. ISBN 0 86531864 6. Price £20.75.

The proceedings of a conference (such as provides the text of this book) may not at first glance offer promise of an interesting volume. But when the book is about an idea, not about a conference, the result can be valuable.

Little is said about the conference, or the interaction of its participants, and so on. All we are told is that it was a gathering held in Washington D.C. in late 1983 of some 200 scholars and others from 16 nations to assess progress and prospects of the Pacific regional community concept. This forum marked a major milestone in three years of research into the Pacific Basin Project, by the U.S.-based Centre for Strategic and

International Studies.

What follows is a collection of addresses given by eminent persons from the Pacific rim countries, which, taken as a whole, offer a valuable view of both the problems and the opportunities presented by the idea of a formalised Pacific community.

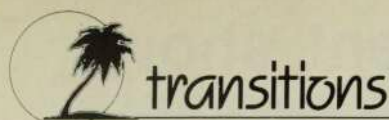
The keynote comes from former Australian PM, Malcolm Fraser, the delegate with the greatest governmental experience. He is both practical and visionary, leaving no doubt about his own intense support for the community idea. He proposes a new code on protection to cover industrial goods and services: "The first element in the code would be a total and absolute commitment on the part of any signatory not to raise protection of any form — direct, indirect, legal or "illegal" — against any other signatory ..."

He goes on: "There are times in the history of states, of nations, and, indeed, of the world when the timely act of

great and farsighted people can move the course of history for the better ... I believe there are very real sensitivities in the world at present ... and that is one reason why I quite unashamedly use this particular forum to make a plea to those in a position of authority and power to do what they can to see that we do not repeat the mistakes of earlier times. Let the Pacific states build a great community of nations and give governments the wisdom and the strength to overcome the difficulties."

As the dialogue develops, many different viewpoints are offered, each naturally depending on the background of its giver. Some delegates from ASEAN countries are apprehensive about something that might over-shadow their hard-won regional unit. They want "assurance and credible guarantees that the proposed Pacific Community (1) is not a camouflaged anti-Communist or simply anti-Soviet group. (2) is not a subtle device to split the ASEAN countries from the rest of the developing world ... (3) will not manoeuvre ASEAN countries into a relationship of dependency on the United States and Japan ..."

Others are concerned about the question of membership. Would China and the Soviet Union be included? Difficulties are foreseen whether the answer is yes or no.



Invited: To dinner with the Queen. Western Samoan light-heavyweight boxer **Don Ulberg** was among 50 guests invited by Queen Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh to a special dinner to mark the closing of the Commonwealth Games.

Ulberg and the other guests met the royal family at the function which took place in the garden of the historic Holyrood House in Edinburgh, the games venue.

He was also selected as one of the guests to attend a lunch hosted by the Prince of Wales. "We talked with Princess Diana all throughout the lunch," he said.

Resigned: Professor of Biology at the University of Papua New Guinea, **Dr Dick Morton** following an alleged assault on his girlfriend at a party.

Prof Morton was quoted by the campus newspaper *Uni Taur* as writing that a student asked his girlfriend for a cigarette and then snatched the packet saying he would keep them all.

When she protested, "he ripped the rings from her nose and ears and the tee-shirt and bra from her breasts.

"I realise that this assault is very minor compared to abduction and rape or even the black eyes and swollen lips that we often see on girl students.

"But I am human and with this has gone all interest that I had in the development of this university." He said he would stay on to give the university time to find a replacement.

Acting vice-chancellor, **Mr Nick Kuman** accepted that Prof Morton's resignation will be effective from November 30.

Mr Kuman wrote to Prof Morton: "I understand how you feel about this incident because even I, as a full-blooded Papua New Guinean, have failed to understand why many of my countrymen behave in that manner without any provocation.

"Even fairly high levels of education have done nothing to erase that streak of violence

that seems to run through most Papua New Guinean males.

"A lot of well-meaning people are going to be chased out of this country and others are not going to come here only because of the actions of a small percentage of the population."

Prof Morton had been in PNG for five and a half years.

Appointed: New provincial secretary for Malaita, Solomon Islands, **Mr Emilio Bulu**.

He replaces former secretary, **Mr Tim Leni** who had been suspended and returned to his former position as administrator in the Ministry of Home Affairs and Provincial Government.

Seconded: From the University of PNG's Language and Literature Department to the Prime Minister's Department, **Dr Micael Olsson**.

Known to students as "the man in black" because of his frequent all black attire, Dr Olsson is due to return to the department at the beginning of next year.

Dismissed: Air Pacific company secretary, **Mr Rajendra Singh**.

The airline's chief executive, **Mr John Schaap**, said he had been summarily dismissed following an internal investigation. He refused to say why Mr Singh was dismissed or why an inquiry was found necessary.

Mr Singh had worked for the airline for 15 years, being appointed company secretary in July last year.

Resigned: Female warden at the University of PNG, **Ms Dorothy Tekwie**.

Ms Tekwie, a former female student vice-president, said she was leaving to pursue a career in politics.

"I feel cramped here. I'm leaving for higher ambitions and I think it's time for a change," she said.

Ms Tekwie was to return to her native West Sepik province as a Pangu Pati organiser.

Appointed: Chairman of Fiji's Constituency Boundaries Commission, retired Supreme Court judge, **Sir Ronald Kermode**.

His appointment was announced by the governor-

general, **Ratu Sir Penaia Gani-lau** who also announced the appointment of new commission members **Mr Jonetani Bai** and **Mr Ram Vilash**.

Sir Ronald's appointment was made on the advice of the prime minister, **Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara** and opposition leader **Mr Harish Sharma**.

Left: Archivist at the New Guinea Collection at UPNG, **Mr Andrew Griffin**.

Mr Griffin was also a co-editor of the Papua New Guinea Dictionary of Contemporary Biography (May PIM, p24) which work will be continued by chief editor **Mr Jim Griffin**.

Andrew Griffin's position has been localised by **Mr Sam Kaima**.

Transferred: Labasa magistrate **Mr Howard Morrison** after a nine month term in Fiji's northern division.

Mr Morrison has moved to Suva and is replaced by **Mr Timothy Broad** of Bay of Islands, New Zealand.

Declared: First "Mrs Samoa" **Mrs Lia Meredith** at a pageant organised by the St Marys Old Girls Association at Apia's Tusitala Hotel.

Returned: To Norfolk Island as new manager of the Hillcrest Hotel, **Mr Stephen Christian** after an absence of some 12 years.

Mr Christian had worked for Ansett in Sydney before operating a snack bar and delicatessen in Brisbane. With him on the island is his wife of four months, Debbie.

Appointed: To the governor of American Samoa's staff, **High Chief Faiivae A. Galea'i**.

Faiivae, a former senator, is the governor's special assistant on cultural, legislative and political affairs.

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Dropped: From the board of the Fiji National Provident Fund, secretary of the Trades Union Congress, **Mr Mahendra Chaudhry**.

He has been replaced as an employees' representative by the president of the Public Employees' Union, **Mr Joveci Gavoka**.

Colonial Mutual Life Assurance general manager, **Mr Tomasi Vuetilovoni** replaces British Petroleum chief executive, **Mr Paul Manuelli** as one of the employer representatives.

Admitted: To the Fiji Bar, former magistrate **Dr John Lewis Cameron**.

Dr Cameron, a barrister from Christchurch, New Zealand, joined the Fiji magistracy in May 1984.

He was admitted to the bar by chief justice, **Sir Timoci Tuivaga**.

Resigned: USP registrar, **Dr Isireli Lasaqa**. The former cabinet secretary resigned for health reasons.

DEATHS

Ratu Peceli Rinakama, 70, of Naivucini Village, Fiji.

A high chief of Naitasiri, Ratu Peceli was awarded an MBE in the Queen's birthday honours list in June.

He was buried in the village's chiefly burial ground.

Ratu Peceli was received his MBE for a distinguished career in Fiji's administration and for dedication to his people and his country.

Mrs Flora Paul, wife of the first leader of government business in Western Samoa, the late **Mr Eugene Paul**.

A large group of mourners was led by the head of state **His Highness Malietoa Tanumafili II**.

Deputy prime minister **Tupuola Efi** excused himself from parliament to attend the funeral.

James Makasiale, Fiji's permanent secretary for primary industries, of heart failure at the Colonial War Memorial.

Family spokesman, **Mr Steve Yaqona** said a private Tongan mass would be held at Mr Makasiale's home for members of the family, before a public service at the Sacred Heart cathedral.

Student shows the Pacific way

The South Pacific has thrust its perceptions into the hallowed halls of Oxford University debate.

A New Zealander of Tamil extraction and Western Samoan upbringing has ascended to the presidency of the world famous Oxford Union Society.

This exclusive club, often thought of a breeding ground for the world's top politicians, is best known for its regular debates which attract big names from all over the world.

Now, for the first time in its 163-year history, the society's top three positions are all occupied by women.

At their head sits Jeya Wilson.

She was born in Sri Lanka but her parents, being of the Tamil minority, thought their children would have better opportunities elsewhere and when she was still young the family moved to Western Samoa.

Her father was assigned to help establish the first secondary teachers' college in Apia where the family remained for 10 years.

Jeya's mother is buried there.

Her parents' decision to emigrate was, she said "a bit of foresight on their part."

Some of Jeya's schooling took place in Apia. She attended the Samoa College when Albert Wendt was principal.

"I really love that country very much," she said.

Mr Makasiale was an agricultural graduate of the University of Hawaii. He joined Fiji's civil service as an agricultural officer after his graduation. He had also served as commissioner for the Eastern Division.

Mr Makasiale was buried at the Suva Extension Cemetery. **Dr Sherif Charouti**, of the department of dentistry at UPNG, in an aircraft crash at Daulo Pass, Eastern Highlands, PNG.

Dr Charouti was also consultant oral surgeon to the Port Moresby General Hospital and



Jeya Wilson — President of the Oxford Union Society. — Photo Edward Peters.

Had she had to overcome many male barriers? "Yes, all the time. It's a case of trying to take disadvantages and work them into advantages."

Jeya is only the sixth woman president of the society and the first married woman to reach that office.

She wants to take the society out into the international sphere. "I suppose it's become a cliché to say that the future lies in the Pacific, but I actually believe it and have done for a long time."

"The place is vibrant. I love Britain, I'm an unashamed anglophile, but this country lacks the vitality I feel in the Pacific. That to me is the difference between the old and the new." — *Edward Peters*.

travelled around the country to treat mouth cancer and other diseases.

The light aircraft was owned by University Publications manager, **Ms Adri Grovers** who survived with severe injuries.

Dr Charouti was born in Cairo in 1948 of Lebanese parents and received his Bachelor of Dental Surgery from Cairo University in 1970 before becoming a Fellow in dental surgery at the Royal College of Surgeons in London in 1983.

He went to Papua New Guinea in 1984.

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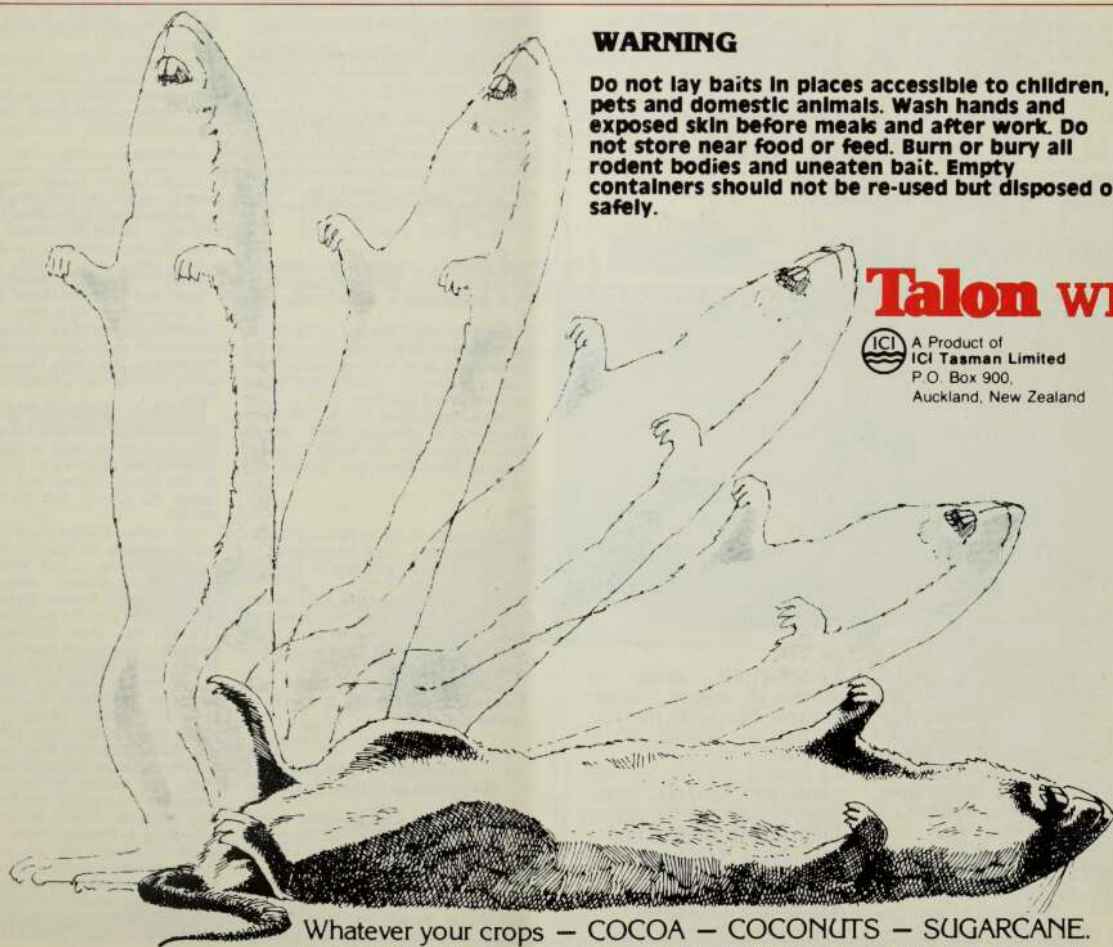
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shipping schedules

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

AUSTRALIA — FIJI

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, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944), Tlx AA 70090; Wiltrans Agency Pty. Ltd., 21st Floor, 60 Market St., Melbourne (614-4788); Tlx 30163 ACTA Pty. Ltd., Brisbane (221-3116); Elders-ANL Pty. Ltd., Port Adelaide, (47-5688); Newcastle, Sofrana Sydney (264-8944); Websters-ANL, 58 Charles St., Launceston, Tasmania (320-555); 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, 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

K. Asia Pacific operates a 5/6 weekly service from Melbourne and Sydney to Kiribati (Tarawa).

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty. Ltd., Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143.

KAP New Guinea Lines call Tarawa after PNG ports on a 35 day basis from Melbourne and Sydney/Brisbane.

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty. Ltd., Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143.

AUSTRALIA — TUVALU

K-Asia Pacific operates Direct service every 2nd voyage to Tulalu (Funafuti)

Details from K. Asia — Pacific Pty. Ltd., Goldfield House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay Sydney (232-2277) Tlx 122143

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, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944), Wiltrans-Agency Pty. Ltd., 21st Floor, 60 Market St., Melbourne (614-4788) Tlx 30163 ACTA Pty. Ltd., Brisbane (221-3116). Elders-ANL Pty. Ltd., Port Adelaide (47-5688), Newcastle, Sofrana Sydney; Websters-ANL, 58 Charles St., Launceston, Tasmania (320-555).

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, Melbourne and Brisbane 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 and the New Zealand Line operate a 10-day container service (TRANZTAS) between Sydney and Melbourne to Auckland, Wellington, Lyttelton and Port Chalmers.

The Transz service has been extended to cover Burnie and Fremantle on a direct call monthly basis linking to the main New Zealand ports.

Details from ANL Shipping Agencies, 20 Bond Street, Sydney (232-0444) and ANL Shipping Agencies, "World Trade Centre", cnr Flinders and Spencer Streets, Melbourne (611-2323) or New Zealand Line, Pastoral House, 98 Lambton Quay, Wellington (728-5000).

AUSTRALIA — NZ — FIJI — TONGA VANUATU — NEW CALEDONIA SOLOMONS — NEW GUINEA

Sitmar Cruises operates a year-round cruise program from Sydney to include the better-known ports in the above countries, plus a number of unspoilt, and largely unknown, island paradises.

Details from Sitmar Cruises, 39 Martin Place, Sydney (239-9000); NSW, reservations and inquiries (008 42-2277); Rest of Australia, reservations and inquiries (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, Savu-savu, 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 — PNG — SOLOMONS — VANUATU — NZ

Pacific Forum Line operates a containerised and ro-ro from Brisbane to Port Moresby, Lae, Honiara, Port Vila, Lyttelton, Napier and Auckland.

Details from Union Bulkships, Brisbane Steamships Shipping, Port Moresby and Lae; Sullivan's Ltd, Honiara, Vila Agents, Port Vila; SCONZ Christchurch, Napier and Auckland.

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 — NEW CALEDONIA

Sofrana Unilines operates a 3-4 weekly service from East Coast mainports to Noumea.

Details from Sofrana Unilines 432 Kent Street, Sydney. (Tel. 264-8944), Tlx AA 70090.

AUSTRALIA — TUVALU

K. Asia Pacific operates a three monthly service from Sydney and Melbourne to Tuvalu (Funafuti). Subject to inducement.

Details from K. Asia Pacific Pty Ltd, Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143.

Warner Pacific Line operates a six week containerised/breakbulk service to Funafuti from Melbourne/Brisbane/ Sydney and Auckland.

Details from Hetherington Westfarmers Shipping Agency, 37-49 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-1671); MacKay Shipping Ltd, Downtown House, Queen Street, Auckland (30-229).

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, Goldfields House, 1 Alfred Street, Circular Quay, Sydney (232-2277), Tlx 122143. Dalgely Shipping, World Trade Centre, Melbourne (616-6700).

AUSTRALIA — PNG — SOLOMONS

Sofrana Unilines (Aust.) P/L operates a 3-4 weekly cargo service to PNG, ex-main ports on the east coast of Australia.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944), Tlx AA 70090.

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., P.O. Box R124, Royal Exchange, Sydney, 2000 (2-0547); Nedlloyd Swire, 8 Spring Street, Sydney (2-0522); New Guinea Express Lines, 37 Pitt Street, Sydney (241-3991); Vila Agents, PO Box 27, Port-Vila (2456). Tlx NH1011.

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, P.O. 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 (602-5544); 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); Robert Laurie (PNG) P/L, Madang (82-2157); Garamut Enterprises P/L, Wewak (86-2106); Burns Philp (PNG) Ltd., Kavieng (94-2133); Alotau Stevedoring & Transport, Alotau (61-1318); Ngatia Wholesalers Pty. Ltd., Kimbe (93-5102); and Tradco Shipping, Mendana Avenue, Honiara (22588); Vila Agents Ltd., P.O. Box 971, Vila, Vanuatu (2490); John Lum & Associates, P.O. Box 65, Santo, Vanuatu (329).

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AUSTRALIA — TAHITI

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

Details Compagnie Generale Maritime, 12 Castlereagh Street, Sydney (231-3700).
Sofrana Unilines (Aust.) P/L operates a 3/4 weekly cargo service to Papeete ex main ports on the east coast of Australia.

Details from Sofrana Unilines, 432 Kent Street, Sydney (264-8944) Tlx AA 70090.

SINGAPORE — HONGKONG — FIJI ISLANDS PORTS

Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd. operates a monthly containerised and break bulk cargo 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) now operates a monthly service accepting containerised and break bulk cargo from Manila, Keelung, Kaohsiung and Hongkong to Lautoka, Suva and thence to New Zealand ports.

Details from Carpenters Shipping, Harbour Centre Building, 1st Floor, Thomson Street, Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ 2199; Burns Philp, Suva (311-777); New Zealand Unit Express Maritime Building, 2-10 Customhouse Quay, P.O. Box 890, Wellington; Cables: ENZUE-MAN WELLINGTON Telex: NZ31340 NEDLNZ Telephone: 727-865 or Nedlloyd Swire Pty. Ltd., Sydney (20-522).

Nedlloyd operates bi-weekly cargo service with four ships from Surabaya, 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, Raratonga and Tarawa will be shipped via Japan on the monthly Ball Hai service.

Details from Steamships Shipping, P.O. Box 634, Port Moresby (22-0289).

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

Details: Heterington 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., P.O. Box 8, Saipan, CM 96950 (Tel. 9707), Tlx 783619; Guam agents Maritime Agencies of the Pacific Ltd.

HAWAII — TAHITI — SAMOAS — TONGA — KIRIBATI — FIJI — SOLOMONS — PNG

Star Shipping Associates operates a monthly service originating in Honolulu and destined for Pago Pago, Papeete, Apia, Nuku'alofa, Suva, Vila and Port Moresby.

Details from Star Shipping Assoc., P.O. Box 25968, Honolulu, Hawaii 96825, Ph. (808) 396-4256; Polynesia Shipping Services in Pago Pago and Burns Philp Agency in Apia, Nuku'alofa, Suva and Port Moresby.

JAPAN — FIJI — ISLAND PORTS

Kyowa Shipping Co. Ltd. operates a monthly containerised 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.

Bali Hai service operates a monthly containerised 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 Yokohama, Nagoya, Kobe, Guam, Saipan, Truk, Ponape and Majuro, returning via Yokohama, Nagoya and Kobe.

Details from Burns Philp & Co. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (2-0547).

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 Japan, Wewak, Lae, Rabaul, Kieta, Port Moresby. Details from Robert Laurie Carpenters Pty. Ltd., P.O. Box 1032, Lae/PNG (Tel. 42-3642, 42-3811).

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 (A'sia) 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 (A'sia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041), Tlx AA24063; Columbus Line, Lae (423466), Tlx NE 44171; Tradco Shipping Ltd., Honiara (22588) Tlx 66313.

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

Pacific Forum Line operates a containerised and ro-ro service from Lyttelton, Napier and Auckland to Brisbane, Port Moresby, Lae, Honiara and Port Vila.

Details from SCONZ Christchurch, Napier and Auckland; Union Bulkships, Brisbane; Steamships Shipping, Port Moresby and Lae; Sullivans Ltd., Honiara; Vila Agents, Port Vila.

NZ — COOK IS. — NIUE — TAHITI

New Zealand Line operates cargo services based on pallets and similar units from Auckland to Niue, Cook Islands and Tahiti.

Details from the NZ Shipping Agencies International Ltd., P.O. Box 3420, Auckland (797210); Waterfront Commission, P.O. Box 61, Raratonga; Cook Islands; Shipping Office, Govt. of Niue, P.O. Box 107, Niue Island; Compagnie Maritime Polynesienne, P.O. Box 36, Papeete, Tahiti.

NZ — FIJI

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

Details from Reef Shipping Agencies, PO Box 3382, Auckland, NZ (77-1221-3), Tlx 60633; MV Fijian Shipping Agencies Ltd. Private Bag, Suva, Fiji (31-1056).

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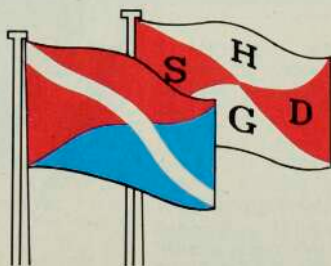
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Details: Sofrana Unilines, 18 Customs Street, Auckland (773-279) PO Box 3614, Tlx NZ2313. Carpenters Shipping, 100 Thomson Street, Suva (312-244), Tlx FJ2199.

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-U.S.-West Coast voyages.

Details from Blueport ACT (NZ) Ltd., PO Box 192, Wellington (739-029). Burns Philp (SS) Co. Ltd., GPO Box 355, Suva, Fiji (311-777), Tlx FJ2168 Burship.

NZ — FIJI — SAMOAS — TONGA

Pacific Forum Line operates a containerised and ro-ro 21 day service from Auckland to Lautoka, Suva, Apia, Pago Pago and Nuku'alofa.

Details from Pacific Forum Line, Auckland and Apia, Union Maritime, Lautoka, Suva and Nuku'alofa; Polynesian 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), PO Box 3614, Tlx NZ2313.

NZ — TAHITI

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

Details from Sofrana Unilines, PO Box 3614, 18 Customs St., Auckland, Tlx NZ2313. CTM-Tahiti Line, PO Box 9012, Papeete (39042), Tlx Tahitini 322 FP Tahiti.

NZ — TONGA — SAMOAS

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

Details from McKay Shipping Ltd., Downtown House, 21 Queen St., Auckland, PO Box 1372 (30-299). Cables MACSHIP, Telex NZ2554, Warner Pacific Line, Box 93, Nuku'alofa, Tonga; Mealelele (Western Samoa) Ltd. Private Bag, Apia, Western Samoa, Pacific Maritime Services, PO Box 2617, Pago Pago, American Samoa (633-2728), cables: Pacmar SX205.

TAHITI — NEW CALEDONIA — VANUATU — SOLOMON IS. — NEW ZEALAND — PNG — SINGAPORE — EUROPE

Polish Ocean Lines operate in a semi-container type vessel to the following ports, from Papeete, Noumea, Santo, Vila, Yandina, Honiara, Auckland, Rabaul, Lae, Singapore, Port Klang, Penang then to Mediterranean ports and Europe via the Suez Canal. (Other New Zealand ports subject to inducement).

Details from Universal Shipping Agencies Ltd., 6th Floor, 38 Fort Street, Auckland 1, New Zealand (390931, 390727, 32104), Tlx 21517.

EUROPE — TAHITI — NEW CALEDONIA

Compagnie Generale Maritime operates services from Europe and Mediterranean ports to Papeete and Noumea using three ro-ro and multi-purpose vessels thus ensuring a bi-monthly sailing to and from.

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

EUROPE — TAHITI — NEW CALEDONIA — NEW ZEALAND — VANUATU — SOLOMONS — PNG — EUROPE

Polish Ocean Lines offers regular monthly sailings for containerised and break bulk cargo, also conventional reefer space and reefer containers from Hamburg, Rotterdam, Dunkirk, Rouen to Papeete, Noumea, Auckland, Santo, Honiara, Rabaul, Lae, Singapore, returning to Europe via Suez, other ports in South Pacific can be served directly with inducement or otherwise via transhipment.

Details from Sotama, BP 9170, Papeete, Tel. 427805 — Tlx 373 PF/SATO: BP C2 Noumea Cedex Tel. 272094 — Tlx 163NM/ Universal Shipping Agencies PO Box 2282 Auckland — Tel. 30930 Tlx 21517/Vanua Navigation PO Box 44 Vila — Tel. 2027 — Tlx 1033/Melan Chine Shipping Co. PO Box 71 Honiara — Tel. 21678 — Tlx 66335 Steamships Shipping & Transport PO Box 1512 Rabaul — Tel. 922952 — Tlx 92929 Steamships Trading Co. Ltd. PO Box 85 Lae — Tel. 424666 — Tlx 42423/Union Steamship Co. of NZ Ltd. PO Box 50 Apia — Tel. 21781 — Tlx 225/Warner Pacific Line PO Box 93 Nuku'alofa — Tel. 22088 — Tlx 66219/Fiji Agents — TBA.

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

Nedlloyd offers regular cargo services from Continental ports to Papeete, Apia, Fiji and New Caledonia.

Details Nedlloyd (Aust.) Pty. Ltd., 8 Spring Street, Sydney (27-3801); Carpenters Shipping, 1st Floor, Harbour Centre Bldg., 100 Thomson St., Suva (312-244), Tlx 2199FJ and Vetari Street, Lautoka (63988), Tlx 5215FJ.

UK — N. CONTINENT — W. SAMOA — TONGA — FIJI

The Bank Line & Columbus Line operate a regular joint cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Le Havre to Apia, Nuku'alofa, Suva and Lautoka.

Details from The Bank Line (A'asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041), Tlx AA 24063, Columbus Line, Lae (423-466), Tlx NE 44171, or lines local agent.

UK — N. CONTINENT — PNG — SOLOMONS

The Bank Line & Columbus Line operate a regular joint cargo service from Hull, Hamburg, Bremen, Antwerp, Rotterdam and Le Havre to Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta and Honiara and on inducement to Yandina.

Details from The Bank Line (A'asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041), Tlx AA 24063, Columbus Line, Lae (42-3466), Tlx NE 44171, or lines local agents.

UK/N. CONTINENT — TAHITI — N. CALEDONIA — VANUATU

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

Details from The Bank Line (A'asia) Pty. Ltd., 51 Pitt Street, Sydney (27-2041), Tlx AA 24063, Columbus Line, Lae (42-3466), Tlx NE 44171; Ets. A.M. Fare UTE, Papeete; Ets. Ballande, Noumea and other local agents.

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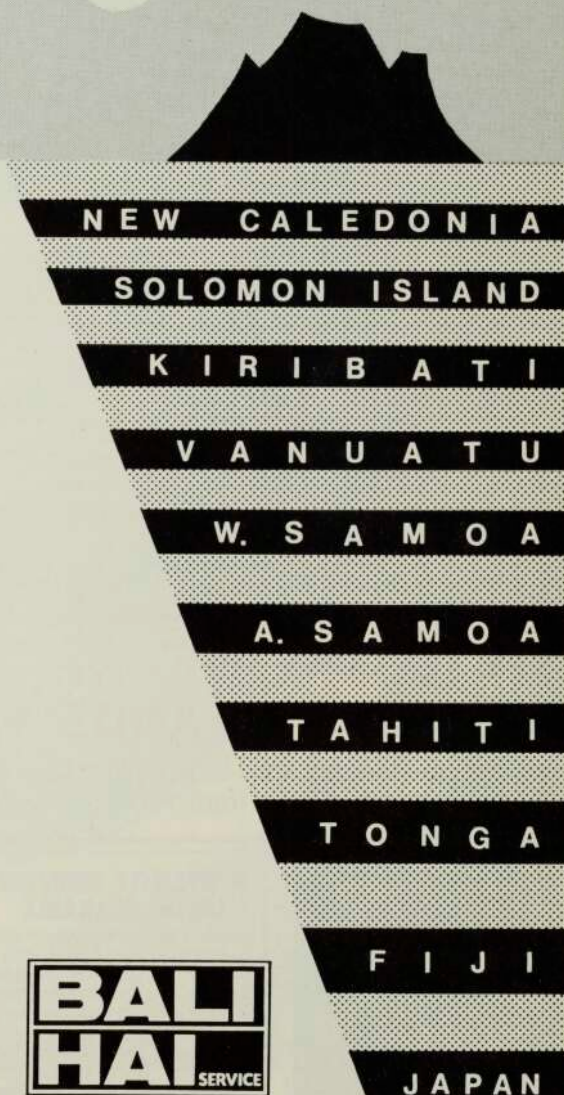
Details from PM&O Lines, 353 Sacramento Street, San Francisco, California 94111, U.S.A. (415) 421-5400, TLX 278016 PMO UR; Owner's Representative P.O. Box 803, Saipan, N.M.I. 96950, PH: 234-6819 TLX 783-605 CMCAA; 1414 Soledad Ave., Agana, Guam 96910, PH: 472-1897, TLX 721-6637 PMONAV GM.

U.S. — HAWAII — SAMOAS — KIRIBATI — NAURU

Nauru Pacific Line operates regular conventional and container services from San Francisco and Honolulu to Christmas Island, Pago Pago, Apia, Tarawa and Nauru.

Details from N.P.L. (Australia) Pty. Ltd., Nauru House, 80 Collins Street, Melbourne (653-5709), Nauru Air and Shipping Agency, Suite 2803, 185 Berry Street, San Francisco, California 94107 (415-543-4517), Nauru Air and Shipping Agency, Suite 506, 841 Bishop St., Honolulu, HI 96813 (808-523-0441).

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Published monthly by Pacific Publications (Aust.) Pty. Ltd. and printed in Australia by Quadricolor Industries Pty. Ltd., Mulgrave, Vic.

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(114 i/min.)

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(02-5FD25)
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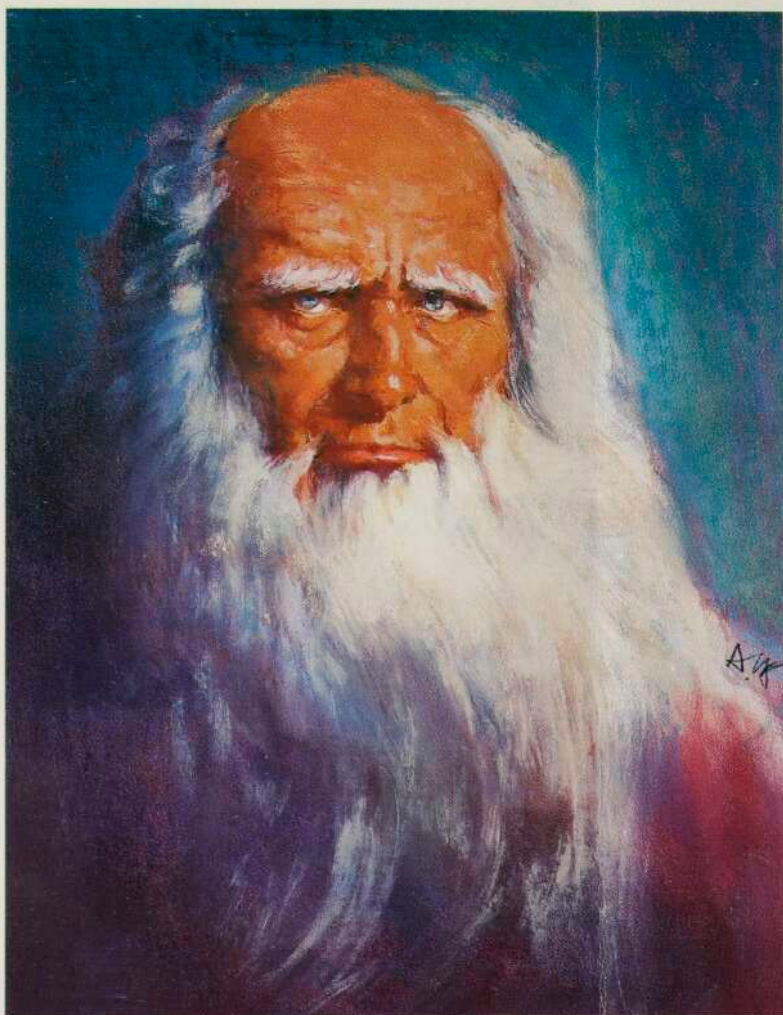
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