

Vol. 61, No. 1 (Jan. 1, 1991)

Date : 7/17/26, 4:45 AM

<https://nla.gov.au:443/tarkine/nla.obj-342891167>

Copyright varies by issue and article

Reason for copyright status: Serials have an open range of dates.

Copyright status was determined using the following information:

Material type: Literary, dramatic or musical work

Copyright status may not be correct if data in the record is incomplete or inaccurate. For more information regarding Copyright in Library Collections visit <http://copyright.org.au> and <https://www.library.gov.au/services/copyright-library-collections>

The National Library of Australia supports creativity, innovation and knowledge-exchange but does not endorse any inappropriate or derogatory use. Please respect indigenous cultural and ethical concerns.

JANUARY 1991

PACIFIC ISLANDS

M O N T H L Y

Lifestyle: Our violent homes

Focus: Faces of paradise

BUSINESS

Living up to '91

Women Of The Year

There are no winners just those who do so much for so little



Geua Tau,
champion bowler



Late Lady Davis,
outspoken leader

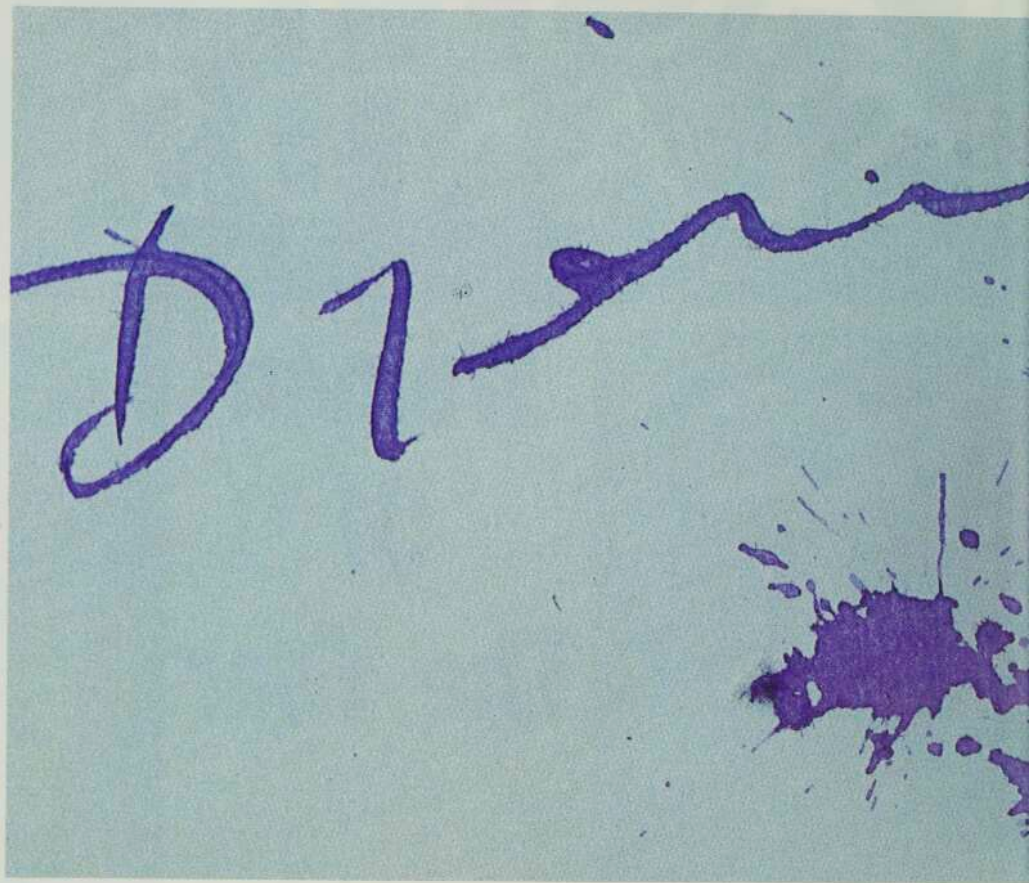


Kathy Solomon,
Vanuatu Council of Women

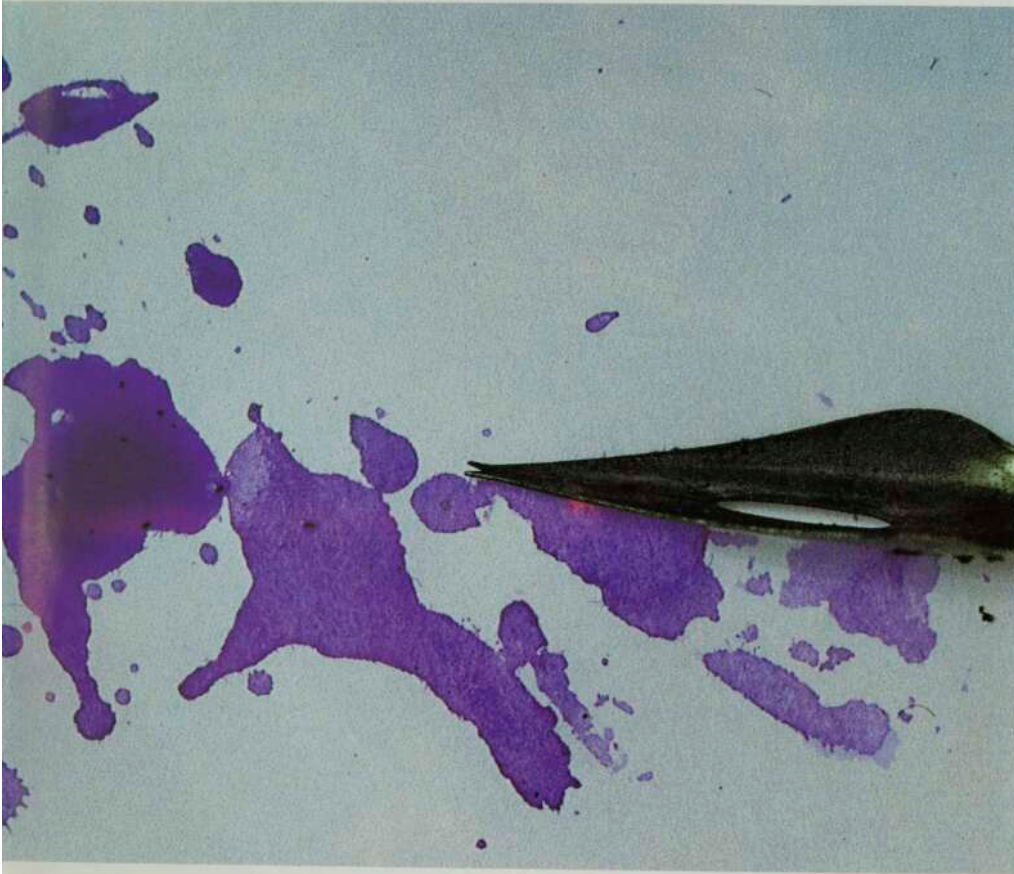


Penl Moore
Fiji Women's Rights Movement

American Samoa US\$2.50; Australia A\$2.50; Cook Islands NZ\$3; Fiji F\$1.75; FS Micronesia US\$3; Hawaii US\$3; Kiribati A\$2.50; Nauru A\$2.50; Niue NZ\$3; Norfolk A\$3; New Caledonia cpf250; New Zealand (incl GST) NZ\$3.45; Nth Marianas US\$3; Papua New Guinea K3; Palau US\$3; Marshalls US\$3; Solomon Islands A\$3; French Polynesia cpf300; Tonga F\$2; USA US\$3; Vanuatu VT\$200; West Bank & Gaza US\$3.50



What inspired that rebellious young poet called Rimbaud? What drove him to reach into the innermost part of his soul in search of the undiscovered? It allowed him to take words that already existed and yet express himself in a completely new way. Some

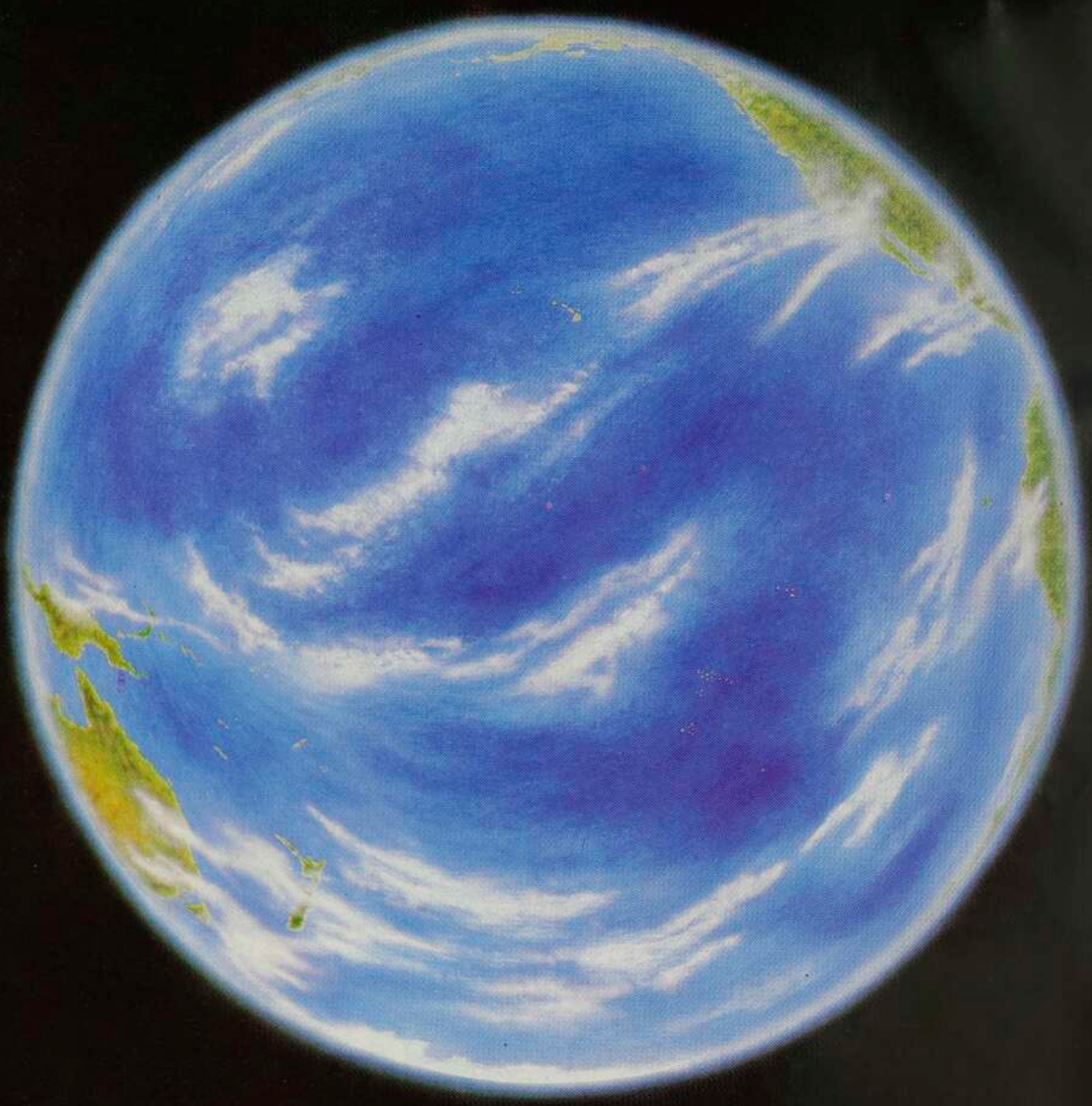


creators are brave enough to realise their dreams without compromise. It is men like this who created the MX-5 in 1989. By ignoring the rules they are constantly reshaping the future. Even now they are realising a new dream. They work for Mazda.



SINCE 1920

On the road to civilization. Mazda



Fuels and lubricants.
Plastics. Chemicals. Bitumen.
Aviation Services. Bunkering.
Shell has penetrated
even more of the Pacific
to widen its network
of offices, terminals and
distributors as well
as service stations.
Now you can re-assess
your source of supply, because
Shell quality and value is
close at hand, with the
service to back it up.

**Network Shell,
now servicing
even more
of the Pacific.**

REGIONAL OFFICES: GUAM 671 477 4350. Also servicing Marshall Islands (Majuro), Northern Marianas (Saipan), Palau.
JI 679 313 933. Also servicing Tonga, Cook Islands, American Samoa, Western Samoa • PAPUA NEW GUINEA 675 228 700. Also servicing Solomon Islands.
NEW CALEDONIA 687 285 720. Also servicing Tahiti, Vanuatu.



PACIFIC ISLANDS

M O N T H L Y

Vol 61 No.1

VOICE OF THE PACIFIC

JANUARY 1991

Interview

JON Jonassen: The Cook Islands' new Ministry of Cultural Development, known locally as *Tauranga Vanaga*, is aiming to promote indigenous language, customs, traditions and practices. The secretary of the new Ministry, Jon Jonassen, spoke to *Pacific Islands Monthly* about its work, future directions, and the 1992 Pacific Arts Festival. / 51.

LIFESTYLE: A new study published by the Hawaii-based Institute for Polynesian Studies reveals the violence behind closed Pacific doors. Sometimes, domestic violence against women is sanctioned by cultural and social practices. **Karen Mangnall reports.** / 17

FOCUS: Irish artist/illustrator Helen Averley recently visited French Polynesia, and recorded her impressions of two special islands — Huahine Nui and Huahine Iti. The result is a refreshing look at some precious glimpses of the artist's Polynesian experience, presented through her own words and pictures. / 24



Pacific Women of the Year



Cover:

Women hold up half the sky, or so the saying goes. For many women in developing nations, including most of the Pacific, the burden is wide and heavy, and recognition is scant. In profiling Women of the Year, *Pacific Islands Monthly* looks at 10 different women and women's groups, who have succeeded in spite of the obstacles. The chosen 10 range from politicians and lobbyists to welfare workers, sportswomen and the courageous women of Bougainville. / 11

Business

1990 was not so bad for the Pacific as a whole, given the problems faced by other economies. But still the end of the year marked the end of the road for some industries. The future fortunes of Pacific nations will be sharply divided between those who have economic potential, and those who do not. / 31

SHIPPING: The cruise ship business is looking better for the South Pacific. *Pacific Island Monthly's* analysis of the semi-annual, comprehensive tabulation of cruise ship schedules world-wide, shows a doubling of South Pacific listings. / 41

MOVIES: A new film looks at one Samoans' inner search and outer rebellion, providing a perceptive, moving, and powerful interpretation of the impact of colonialism on a South Pacific society. / 45

COMMENT: Hot on the heels of controversy over United States plans to destroy chemical weapons on Johnston Atoll, environmental groups and the state of Hawaii are protesting a scheme to test fire missiles across the Pacific for 'Star Wars' research. The US Army wants to begin launching new rockets for the Strategic Defense Initiative next year from the Kauai Test Facility in Hawaii. **Margot O'Neill reports.** / 10

Publisher: Geoffrey Hussey
Editor: Jale Moala

Correspondents: Al Prince, Angela McCarthy, David North, David Robie, Diana McManus, Dykes Angiki, Frank Senge, Franc Madoeuf, Irene Nisbet, John Hunter, Karen Mangnall, Lito Villisoni, Macel Manua, Nicholas Rothwell, Pesi Fonua, Richard Dinnen, Ulafala Aiavao, Wally Hiambohn

Business Correspondent: Robin

Bromby Columnists: David Barber (Wellington), Futa Helu (Tonga, covering the Pacific Islands), Jemima Garrett (Sydney), Margot O'Neill (Washington)

Advertising Manager: Lionel Heffernan

Advertising Sales:

● Fiji: Salen Narayan, Tel (679) 304111, Fx (679) 303809

● Sydney, Melbourne: Fergus MacLagan, Tel (61-2) 4134689, Fx (61-2) 4123918

● Brisbane: Robert Walker, Tel (61-7)

3710533

● Adelaide: Hasiwell Williamsons Representations, Tel (61-8) 799522

● Japan: Universal Media Corporation, Tokyo. Tel (3) 6663036, 6663094, Cable: UNIMEDIA Tokyo, Tx 2524665

Founded 1930 (USPS 952480). A Fiji Times Limited production.

Cover prices are recommended retail only. Registered by Australia Post, Publication No. NBP 1210. © Copyright Fiji Times Limited, 117 Victoria Parade,

Suva, Fiji. Tel (679) 304111, Fx (679) 303809, Tx FJ2124.

Pacific Islands Monthly is published monthly by Fiji Times Limited, a division of Nationwide News, 2 Holl Street, Surry Hills, Sydney, NSW 2010.

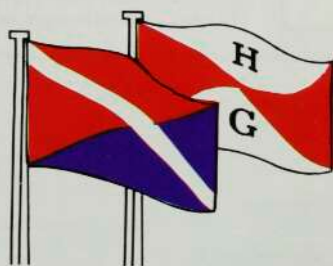
Send address changes to:

● Pacific Islands Monthly, PO Box 1167, Suva Fiji.

Typeset and printed by Fiji Times Limited, 117 Victoria Parade, Suva, Fiji.

BANK LINE and COLUMBUS LINE 24 day service to Europe.

Need we say more....



The Joint Service Partners offer facilities for shipment of: **Containers (FCL/LCL) and Break-bulk Cargo** plus reefer space and deeptanks for carriage of vegetable oils and other liquid bulk cargo.

Carriers also accept heavy lifts, overlength and cumbersome parcels.

Please contact our regional offices for further information:

The Bank Line
P.O. Box 2225
Lae, Papua New Guinea
Phone: 422 988/Fax: 422 925
Telex: 44265

Ports of Service:

Loading: Papeete, Apia, Suva, Lautoka, Noumea, Port Vila, Santo, Honiara, Port Moresby, Lae, Madang, Kimbe, Rabaul, Kieta, Darwin. For: Rotterdam, Antwerp, Hamburg, Hull, Dunkirk, Le Havre.

Additional ports on enquiry.

The South Pacific Specialists for over 75 years

COMMENT

Old wine in new bottles

IT was understood from the first instalment of this column that we would go on to look a little closer at some Pacific states in this and following pieces. With a little more detail in my remarks, I can only deal with one or two at a time.



Here I treat Papua New Guinea and Fiji. And banish any thought that this column furnishes the last word on the situations under discussion. Nothing can be further from the truth. It may have nothing of consequence to say about them. It merely represents a very personal point of view. The most I hope to achieve is to provide a fresh angle from which to regard our subjects.

I said that one of the most serious problems faced by PNG is the immense socio-economic gulf which divides the numerically insignificant urban elites from the rural multitudes. At any rate the condition underlines almost all her

other complaints. And it is important to realise that the relative pulls of these two segments of the population, in social and political terms, have remained much the same since early missionary days.

PNG is not unique in this regard for many other countries, most notably in Africa and even in parts of Asia, possess the same features. But PNG is the outstanding example in our corner of the globe. In her case, however, only a miracle could quickly close the gap between Honolulu-like communities of Konedobu and downtown Lae, and the stone-age cultures of the highland vastnesses. Therefore the situation could have been helped only by an optimal system of education. This is so because such a situation calls for leaders with breadth of vision and much wisdom and in PNG society and culture only education can provide these. This is the type of leader that has been lacking in PNG ever since it became independent.

It has always been the practice of colonists not only to follow hard behind the pioneering missionaries and set up their institutions after the latter have opened up the unknown territories, but they also follow them in the type of school systems they introduce and maintain. These have always been practical and relevant. In its elementary levels this system is nothing but education for submissiveness. Such education may be supportive of a subsistence economy and the preservation of peace in rural settlements. But it is the very type of education which most conspicuously fails to help people when they are at the interface between different economic systems during times of rapid social and political changes. It is at this interface also that brutal values (greed, naked egotism, etc) predominate, and these are not foreign to PNG at this stage of her development.

We cannot blame the people of PNG for present ills for they were not equipped to have foreseen, and much less to forestall, them. Culpability must be seen in the politics and actions of her former colonial masters. Had they instituted a truly formal type of education, PNG would have found it smoother sailing nowadays. Instead she was given a system based on principles of relevance and economic application. The result has been the production of leaders who may be good in tit-for-tat sparring in diplomatic and political games but lack the

largeness of view that can grasp the present and future in one unified vision and therefore can save the situation. Usually a prospective leader in a colony is taken for a tour of the cities of the colonising country where he is feted and made to feel important and also grateful to the colonists. His education is then considered complemented and complete. However, PNG must change her educational system and opt for one that is more responsive to her special needs, the acutest of which is the production of leaders of sanity and understanding. The forces of modernisation are catching up with peoples' lives and they shall wreak havoc if not tempered by the sobering effect of the right kind of education.

Let's turn to Fiji. Here we find a different situation. Unlike PNG the cult of leadership, hierarchical social structure, traditional diplomacy, politicised social relationships, have always been basic to Fijian society, which is culturally more Polynesian than Melanesian. Therefore when the British went to Fiji they found they could not go direct to the populace but through a chiefly class. This arrangement was welcome to the colonists since they could use this buffer class in whatever way they wanted and was quite a saving in terms of man-hours of unnecessary headache. But it deprived them of two things: firsthand knowledge of the commoner classes and the opportunity to be of more benefit to them. At the same time the Fijian chiefs, especially the Eastern Fiji ones, manipulated the policies and sentiments of the colonial masters to their own advantage. However, their practice, too, cut both ways. They basked in the sunshine of the colonists' support for so long that when the British implemented policies that were later to spawn deleterious complications they did not recognise them for what they were.

When the outlines of the problems began to loom large the Fijian chiefs looked away from them and trusted that any inconveniences involved would be borne mainly by the lower social orders. Thus the opportunity to bypass much of the present day conflicts was missed, and it was only when this traditionally chiefly influence received such thorough trouncing in legitimate democratic process that the chiefs deemed it time to do something. And they over-reacted. I say over-reacted because the aims of their exertion cannot be consummated. The reason for this circumstance are many but two stand out. Firstly, the use of force to administer a political-legal solution to this Fijian problem is far too out of date. All things required to be eradicated are too far gone. Secondly, the world of today is such that it will not allow this eventuality, and not only because the metropolitan powers are opposed to the spirit of this reaction. The only solution that could have worked in the circumstances is a socio-cultural one but that is an abysmally difficult one and has been consistently but unwisely avoided. We can understand aspects of the Fijian argument and the general desire for Fijians to appropriate political power. Unfortunately the writing on the wall says no.

What we see then in many Pacific islands are malignant outgrowths of ancient mistakes. They cannot be resolved overnight and they retard the functioning of new economic and political forms adopted by Pacific states. Likewise these old mistakes can erupt again and again like a second, third, etc. fermentation. They are endemic to all the Pacific communities. We need a lot of wakeful restraint and sagacity.

Finally in case the reader gets me wrong. My remarks here are a clear case of being wise after the event. Yet I do not consider that a serious drawback since our age is the age of wisdom after the event. □

COMMENT

Peacekeeping or sabre rattling

THE suggestion that the South Pacific nations establish a regional peacekeeping force has been around for a decade; since PNG's Kumul force helped smooth Vanuatu's transition to independence from British-French rule by putting down the separatist rebellion on the island of Santo.

SYDNEY



JEMIMA GARRETT

While the possibility of a peacekeeping force has often been raised in the context of security problems facing the island nations, it has never met enthusiasm from crucial regional bodies such as the South Pacific Forum.

Despite that, Canberra-based Pacific Security Expert, Greg Fry, says the formation of a regional force is likely — that recent events such as the Bougainville crisis, the 1988 riot in Vanuatu and the Fiji coups opened the door to the formation of an ad hoc regional force to deal with specific crisis. Not only is a collective force a strong possibility according to Fry but, he warns, it would most likely be formed under emergency conditions with little time for forethought.

Before that takes place, he says, there are a number of serious questions which need answering. For example, who is to determine whether intervention is justified and on what criteria? What groups will it assist or disadvantage? If the action is to protect the interests of a 'legitimate government', who is to decide whether the government is legitimate?

For Australia, likely to be the main actor in such a force, the questions are all the more urgent.

The sort of regional force Pacific governments are likely to be talking about in the 1990s is a very different proposition from the traditional idea of a 'peacekeeping force'. Peacekeeping forces set up by the United Nations are neutral, invited in by both sides usually to supervise an agreement. In Namibia, for instance, the UN peacekeeping force oversaw the withdrawal of South African forces and it acted as an impartial observer, verifying the fairness of the new nation's first elections.

In the South Pacific, a regional force would most likely be deployed against one group of a nation's citizens without their permission. Urban riots, secessionist or separatist movements, military uprisings and major law and order problems such as rascal gangs, all have their beginnings in the people's perceptions of the fairness with which wealth and power is being shared out by their elected representatives.

In Bougainville and in Vanuatu in 1988, Australian military assistance came at the request of the government for use against its own disenchanted citizens. In Bougainville, as Fry points out, the military solution has not only been effective but is likely to exacerbate tensions.

If an ad hoc regional force were to be set up it would most likely compromise Australia's Operational Deployment Force, the New Zealand Ready Reaction Force and the Papua New Guinea Defence Force. It might also involve police or para-military units from other island nations.

Australia, with by far the biggest forces, would most likely play a leadership role — an experience without historical precedent.

So far the Australian government's thinking on the possibility of regional intervention has been developed with little community debate and has been almost entirely dominated by a defence establishment which, under former Defence Minister Kim Beasley, was widely perceived as being all too anxious to play a role. Although the new Defence Minister, Senator Robert Ray, does not seem to have the same schoolboy fascination with military hardware, policy is unlikely to change.

Since the Fiji coups, the Bougainville crisis and the Vanuatu riot, Paul Dibb, the architect of Australia's new 'self-reliance' defence policy, has described the situation where Australia is approached for assistance by a democratically elected South Pacific government as "the dilemma for Australian defence policy".

In Australia the move away from its earlier focus on "forward defence" in favour of self-reliance has increased the focus on the South Pacific. Those changes have come at a time when, in international defence circles, the security problems of micro-states are being scrutinised anew.

Greg Fry says that since the 1983 crisis in Grenada, there has been a shift in perception which has, at its worst, characterised micro-states, with which their own particular security problems, not just as "potentially unstable" but so "dangerous" to Western interests. The over-reaction to fishing deals with the Soviet Union and the Libya scare spring to mind as examples of where this thinking leads.

While Australia sees direct military intervention as a last resort it has admitted that if Australian forces are to be deployed overseas, in the short to medium term the South Pacific is the most likely site.



Ray: unlikely to change

Fry argues that there is another factor pushing Australia to positively "manage" security issues, rather than merely debate them. This is a perception in Washington and London that Australia has not lived up to its security responsibilities in the region.

Australia has already been asked to help a national government with internal problems twice in the past two years. Despite the moral questions, it has been quick to send arms and advisers. In their joint white paper of 1989, the ministers of foreign affairs and defence pointed out that it would be preferable to involve other nations in any direct intervention.

The legitimacy of a multi-country force, or even a regional force endorsed by the South Pacific Forum, is more difficult to question than a single force from the region's big power.

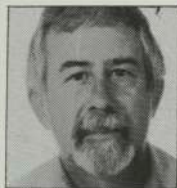
For all Pacific countries, those likely to be seeking assistance or those involved in the intervention, whether in a central role or not, there are questions crying out for an answer. □

COMMENT

Waking up from a nuclear dream

WHEN New Zealand's new National government and the United States talk about restoring a security relationship, it's a bit like Pollyanna meeting Rip Van Winkle.

Wellington



**DAVID
BARBER**

Prime Minister Jim Bolger and his senior colleagues have all the qualities of Pollyanna, defined by Webster's Dictionary as "a blindly or overly optimistic person", when they prattle gaily about mending the traditional ties fractured by the former Labour government's anti-nuclear policy.

And their friends in Washington (for they are understandably more friendly to Mr Bolger & Co than they were to David Lange) appear to have been asleep for at least the last six and a half years when they talk confidently about New Zealand reversing the same policy.

In these early days of the new National administration, with both parties bent on being all sweetness and light to each other, we cannot yet call it a stand-off — as was certainly the case during Labour's reign. But it's not difficult to see that it will head in that direction unless a bit of commonsense is applied before too long. And it has to be said there is not much sign of that at present.

The heart of the matter, of course, is the United States' neither-confirm-nor-deny policy on the presence of nuclear weapons on visiting ships.

It was this policy that prompted the Lange government to enshrine its anti-nuclear stance in legislation. It did not demand that the Americans break their policy by guaranteeing that a ship coming to New Zealand was not nuclear-armed, but it required the Prime Minister to be satisfied that was the case. The US, inevitably, saw that as being effectively the same thing.

The Americans (and the British), mad as they were at not being able to twist New Zealand's arm, took comfort from the fact that the National Party bitterly opposed the policy and was pledged to reverse it. Politics being the business it is, it was inevitable that National would return to power at some time and the problem would be over.

But in March last year, facing a general election it never dreamed of winning as easily as it did, National suddenly did a U-turn, saying it would maintain the legislation and continue to ban nuclear ships from New Zealand ports. The decision recognised the domestic political reality — the majority of New Zealanders, unhappy though they might be about their exclusion from the Anzus defence pact, just didn't want nuclear ships in their ports. National's policy, which made it look pro-nuclear, was an electoral liability.



Bolger, Lange: ban on nuclear ships

The Americans were stunned, but amazingly — and this is where they confirmed that they had slipped into Rip Van Winkle mode — seemed to miss the point. When national was elected, the White House, State Department and Congressional leaders woke up and started talking excitedly about a restoration of ties when New Zealand changed its policy and accepted the neither-confirm-nor-deny principle. The Americans' response not only showed little respect for the New Zealand public's overwhelming support of the anti-nuclear policy, but gave Bolger no more credit for sincerity and steadfastness than they gave Lange in years of pressuring him to see things their way.

The American ambassador to Wellington even suggested anew that New Zealand could adopt the Japanese and Scandinavian blind-eye positions of accepting ships on the assumption that they are nuclear-free.

What all the American responses overlooked was the fact that any move which even hinted at a backdown of the anti-nuclear stance would rouse the country to a frenzy of protest not seen since the South African Springbok rugby team toured here in 1981 — and nobody wants to see that happen again, particularly a government which already has an indigestible mix of economic recession and unemployment on its plate.

It would also set back any efforts to repair the New Zealand-United States relationship for years.

There is one common thread in all the American responses — as there has been since this whole business began — and it is one that disturbs the most ardent New Zealand fans of the United States. That is that any move to improve the relationship must come from New Zealand; that while a compromise is clearly needed, the American position is the only one that is unnegotiable.

In his recent book, *Nuclear Free — The New Zealand way*, David Lange insists that he believed initially an accommodation could be found that would reflect both countries' positions. But he says he had to give up.

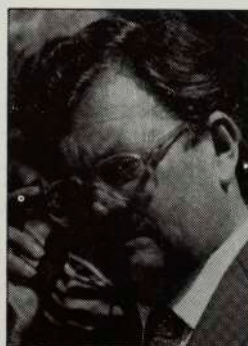
He warned Bolger that if he wants a military relationship with the United States, he will have to accept the shelter of the nuclear umbrella. And he added that this was no longer an option for any New Zealand government. "A nuclear-free New Zealand is beyond the power of any politician ever to influence.

"There is now engrained in the New Zealand public a conviction that New Zealand was right to deny access to nuclear ships and right to stand aside from the nuclear arms race."

Lange is almost certainly right, and Bolger almost certainly knows it, which is why he changed National's long-standing policy.

His Deputy Prime Minister, Don McKinnon, who resigned in protest as National's defence spokesman when the policy was changed but now has to deal with the US as an anti-nuclear Foreign Minister, also knows it,

but is still bent on finding a solution. The best hope lies in the end of the Cold War and a gradual lessening of reliance on nuclear deterrence, but it will take time. What is clear is that a continuing stand-off between traditional friends and allies is in nobody's interests. But don't hold your breath for a Pollyanna-Rip van Winkle wedding. □



COMMENT

Big noise over Star Wars test

HOT on the heels of the controversy over United States plans to destroy chemical weapons on Johnston Atoll, environmental groups and the State of Hawaii are protesting new military scheme to test fire missiles across the Pacific for 'Star Wars' research.



MARGOT O'NEILL

The US Army wants to begin launching new rockets for the Strategic Defense Initiative next year from the Kauai Test Facility located on the western edge of Kauai Island, in Hawaii. The missiles to be tested are reportedly larger and more dangerous than those fired previously and will land at Kwajalein Atoll in the Marshall Islands.

The State of Hawaii and the Sierra Club environment group have taken legal action to try and delay the tests until a full environmental impact study is conducted. Their concerns include the use of 20-year-old Polaris solid fuel boosters. They cite a September 6 accident at Edwards Air Base in California when part of a Titan 4 rocket burst into flames and forced the evacuation of 1200 people.

The transportation of highly toxic fuels on narrow, winding roads between Nawiliwili Harbour and the Kauai test site more than 30 miles away has also upset state officials. "We are dealing here with a situation involving extremely dangerous chemicals and old propellants that could be transported to Kauai by ocean, unloaded at Nuwiliwili Harbour, carried over Kauai's roadways and ultimately blasted into the atmosphere over Kauai," said Hawaii's Attorney General, Warren Price, when he filed the state's lawsuit against the tests.

Congressmen from Hawaii have introduced legislation in Washington to try to force the Army to conduct a full environmental inquiry. The tests "could have a devastating effect on the people of Kauai and its pristine environment," said Senator Daniel Akaka. Akaka said a 1988 government safety assessment of the Kauai Test Facility acknowledge the potential for an in-flight missile to fail over land.

"It is imperative that the (US) Administration understand how upset the people of Kauai are that their concerns have been ignored by the Department of Defence," he said. Known as the Garden Island, environmentalists are anxious to preserve rare wildfire and vegetation on Kauai with numerous endangered species in the area of the test site including waterfowl in a state refuge not far from the launch site.

There are also native Hawaiian burials in the Nohili Dones where the launches would take place. But the Army has not consulted with historic preservation officials and some fear important archaeological sites could be disrupted. The Sierra Club has also raised the impact of the rocket launches on adjacent parklands such as the closing of nearby shoreline for two weeks.

Other criticisms include the effects of the fuel Freon, a chlorofluorocarbon which damages the Earth's protective ozone layer, and the possibility of acid rain from leftover rocket fuel. The Army supports the findings of an earlier, smaller-scale assessment which concluded that the environmental consequences would be insignificant.



Akaka: opposition to test

The July assessment conceded that the liquid fuels to be used "are highly toxic and injurious to humans, if a spill or leak occurs" but that special safety precautions would prevent such accidents. "It's a missile test facility that has been there for a number of years, firing other types of missiles. The impact can be mitigated," an Army spokesman has said.

But "economic difficulties, social dislocations and ethnic tensions will still offer the potential for outside meddling," it says. "Sources of instability do exist, to varying degrees, throughout the region and this could become an increasing problem."

Prepared by the State Department earlier this year, the report says US objectives in the region include increasing port visits by the US Navy to island countries, promoting democracy, strengthening diplomatic relations and encouraging governments friendly to the United States. □





Who can you bank on to help serve 11 key Pacific Island markets?

The South Pacific is a vast area of ocean covering almost 8 million square miles.

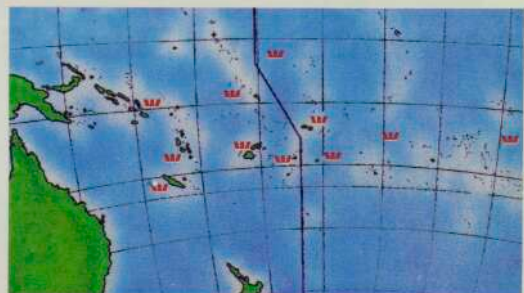
It's also an area which is rich in potential.

But how do you tap this potential? Through Westpac.

This part of the world has been home to us for almost 90 years now, and our presence is a strong one. With representation in 11 Pacific Island countries, we service every major developing business market in the region.

We see our role as one of being closely involved in the development of the Pacific. Not only through multi-nationals and major companies, but also small local business people and entrepreneurs.

Westpac is here to serve your banking needs. And that's a service you can bank on, all over the South Pacific.



You can bank on Westpac

Pacific Branches: Cook Islands • Fiji • French Polynesia • New Caledonia • Niue • Solomon Islands • Vanuatu •

Subsidiary: Kiribati (Bank of Kiribati, Tarawa)

Affiliates: Tonga (Bank of Tonga, Nuku'alofa) • Tuvalu (National Bank of Tuvalu, Fuaifua) • Western Samoa (Pacific Commercial Bank Ltd., Apia) •

International Representation: Beijing • Chicago • Columbus • Frankfurt • Hong Kong • Houston • Jakarta • Kuala Lumpur • London • Los Angeles • New York • San Francisco • Seoul • Singapore • Sydney • Taipei • Thailand • Tokyo • Wellington •

WOMEN OF THE YEAR

Pacific Women of the year

By Karen Mangnall

WOMEN hold up half the sky, or so the saying goes. For many women in developing nations, including most of the Pacific, the burden is wide and heavy, and recognition is scant.

One of the problems is that much of what women do is "invisible". It is difficult for women to burst into the media spotlight. With the exception of newsworthy political figures such as **Adi Kuini Bavadra**, women feature rarely on their own and even less frequently as "talking heads" quoted as experts.

Pacific women are only just beginning to break into areas such as business, government, and the professions. Usually, it's only once they stamp their mark in these fields of endeavour, as individuals, that they rate any recognition.

This year, PIM is devoting its annual review to Pacific women, in the plural — "Pacific Women of the Year". It's not an easy task. Not because women don't do enough, but because they do so much.

Women in most Pacific nations form the backbone of traditional society. Women raise the children, do much of the labour for subsistence agriculture, and act as unpaid health and social workers. Often, it's women's groups

which form to organise small development projects.

Frequently, women's groups cut across otherwise trenchant political and racial divisions. In the midst of Fiji's crisis in 1987, one senior Fijian chief cast her eyes skyward and passed the opinion that if the women were in charge, none of it would have happened.

Women are equal partners, and some would say more than equal partners, in the struggle for greater economic development in their own countries. Yet they also struggle to assert their rights within domestic structures which often hold them back traditionally, and continue to do so in different ways as Western models of behaviour are adopted.

So, when looking across the range of women's activities in the Pacific in the past year, what do we see? A mixture of individual achievements and group successes which illustrate the diversity of Women's roles; a diversity which illustrates the precarious balancing act between the individual opportunities of the modern world and the threat that world poses to tradition.

Remember **Dame Kiri Te Kanawa**,



Amalaini Ligalevu: a local authority first

New Zealand's famed international soprano who finally returned home to sing and was stunned when 140,000 came out on a balmy summer night to pay tribute.

Mililani Trask and her sister **Haunani Kay-Trask**, Hawaiian indigenous activists in a country which has been doubly colonised — by the *haole* Americans and then Japanese.

Mary Beetham, American Samoa's

Last battle for Elaine Shaw

One of the Pacific's quiet battlers finally met something she couldn't overcome. Greenpeace campaigner Elaine Shaw died in October after an 18 month fight with cancer.

The New Zealand mother of three had devoted most of her life to Greenpeace. She spent 10 years as a voluntary worker before becoming a paid employee in 1985. One of her personal missions was to focus more of the organisation's time and money on the Pacific. She was a strong advocate of indigenous self-determination, something which brought her into conflict with the Greenpeace International hierarchy.

Her successor as Pacific Campaign coordinator, **Bunny McDiarmid**, believes Elaine was the right person for the times.

"I'm not mythologising Elaine, be-

cause she was a stropky person to work with," says **McDiarmid**, "but she was very courageous. She had principles and was willing to stand up for them."

Even in the mid-1970s, when Greenpeace was a small organisation focussed mainly on Europe and North America, Elaine was backing New Zealand visits by indigenous activists. She helped sponsor Kanak writer **Dewe Gorodey** and present Vanuatu Justice Minister, **Donald Kalpokas**, long before his party became the independent government.

Years of her internal lobbying resulted in the Rainbow Warrior Pacific Campaign of 1985. After evacuating the residents of Rongelap, in the Marshall Islands, from their radiation-contaminated atoll, the ship went on through Vanuatu to reach Auckland on

July 10, 1985. At midnight the French secret service blew up the ship in Auckland, killing one crew member.

Ironically, that tragedy has proven the making of Greenpeace. Internationally, it has more stature and money. In New Zealand, its membership has rocketed. Today, Greenpeace has two ships stationed in the Pacific, campaigning on drift-netting, the Antarctic and French nuclear testing.

But the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior devastated Elaine Shaw. "It was almost too much for her," says **McDiarmid**. "I don't think she ever really recovered".

A few months after the bombing, Elaine left for six months aboard the Greenpeace yacht, *Vega*, and then quietly left the organisation. From the time she returned to New Zealand to fight the cancer, Elaine remained invaluable for advice and her extensive network of Pacific contacts. □

WOMEN OF THE YEAR



Hilda Lini: launched a women's magazine



Adi Kuini Bavadra: making headlines

first female Supreme Court judge, also the first without a *matai* title.

Majorie Crocombe, director of the Pacific Studies Centre at Auckland University. **Marie-Claire Beccalossi**, appointed French Government delegate for women's affairs in New Caledonia. Or **Marie-Claude Tjibaou**, compiling an archive of her late husband's materials for the Kanak Cultural Agency.

Hilda Lini in Vanuatu and **Bernadette Rounds Ganilau** in Fiji for launching two new magazines.

Amalaini Ligalevu, of Waitakere City Council, in Auckland, who is the first Pacific Island policy officer in any local authority in New Zealand.

Sharon Fawcett of the fundamentalist Christian group which sparked the devils and mercenaries scare in Tonga.

Then there are the stalwarts of women's affairs in the region — The YWCA and the South Pacific Commission's **Women's Resource Bureau**.

This year's selection for Pacific Women of the Year, isn't a matter of picking winners. Instead, we've chosen 10 groups or individuals to show the range of Pacific women's activities and achievements during the past year. □

A strong voice laid to rest

ONE of the strongest voices for Pacific women and the rights of traditional leaders was silenced in February with the death of Pa Tapaeru Lady Davis, aged 66.

It was a mark of her mana that she was accorded the largest state funeral ever seen in the Cook Islands. Hers was the only death recognised by an official day of mourning. Flags flew at half mast for two days.

Pa Tapaeru Ariki was the Ariki of Takitumu vaka, the largest of the three vaka in Rarotonga. For the 10 years before her death, she had also been the elected President of the House of Ariki, the highest traditional position in the Cook Islands.

The House of Ariki is considered to be



Pa Tapaeru Ariki Lady Davis

the final authority on land issues, and it was on these matters which Pa Tapaeru Ariki was most outspoken. Her belief in

the sanctity of traditional land ownership even brought her into conflict with her husband, former Prime Minister Sir Tom Davis, and drew her criticism from some quarters for being too political.

From the age of nine when she received her title of Pa Ariki, Tapaeru was raised in the knowledge she was to become the Takitumu leader. Much of her early childhood was spent in New Zealand.

She was educated at Hukarere College and spent many holidays on marae of tribes with canoe links to the Cook Islands. Later, she gave her second daughter to be brought up in the tribe of the Maori Queen, Dame Te Atairangi Kaahu.

And it was in New Zealand, surrounded by her family, that Pa Tapaeru Ariki died. Despite some dispute about the succession, her daughter Marie Napa was formally installed as the new Pa Ariki a few months after her death. □

WOMEN OF THE YEAR



Geua Tau: into the hall of fame

Winning start to the year

Geua Tau got the year off to a winning start for the Pacific women. The 32-year-old Port Moresby housewife won Papua New Guinea's first ever Commonwealth Games gold medal in the women's singles bowls.

Geua's victory also stamped her name forever in the Pacific's sports hall of fame: first ever gold medal by a female Pacific athlete from the Islands (she was pipped by five days by Nauru's Marcus Stephen in weightlifting).

On her way to the winner's podium, Geua beat the world's best. She overcame defending champion, Wendy Line of England, and the eventual bronze medalist, Margaret Johnston of Northern Ireland.

To make the final, Geua thrashed the world champion, Janet Ackland of Wales.

Her success was all the more remarkable because Papua New Guinea only boasts about 200 women bowlers, and only 18 at Geua's club, Boroko. She says what the female bowlers lack in competition, they make up in the aggressiveness by sharpening their skills in games against their men.

Her husband and coach, Tau Tau, describes his wife as "a pretty cool player". And it was that coolness, even under pressure, which helped Geua take the gold by out-drawing the New Zealand favourite Millie Khan in front of a huge and noisily partisan Auckland crowd.

Khan, who went on to be voted New Zealand Sports Personality of the Year, later commented: "She could have won standing on her head." □

Women get their work done

A woman's work is never done, goes the cliché, and for the past decade the United States Government has been making sure of it in the tiny Republic of Palau.

That's how long the Americans have been trying to get the Palauans to ditch their nuclear-free for a Compact of Free Association which trades several billion dollars in financial aid for sovereignty over Palauan land designated for military use.

The anti-Compact campaign has been waged and led by Palau's women. The republic has a matrilineal society, and it's been female chiefs at the forefront of the campaign since the late 1970s.

Pro-constitution lawyer, Roman Bedor, says he's been working with the women against the Compact since he left school more than a decade ago. The first women's group was the Kital-Reng, formed when the US first began objecting to the 1979 constitution.

"The campaign for the constitution faced problems," Bedor recalls. "The government owned the radio stations and local TV was beyond our means." So the women organised a house-to-house campaign. In three successive votes, the constitution was supported by more than 80 per cent.

Bedor says that since then they've fought 10 other plebiscites on the Compact, winning each time despite massive expenditure on "voter education" by the US Government.

"The US government ran its campaigns as if they were in America, where men always run the community," he says. "So they offered jobs and other incentives to all the male chiefs." They were taken into the government, and had to rely on US advice and lawyers when dealing with the Compact. But it left the female chiefs back in the villages, free to organise.

"If the US had taken out all the older women and the female chiefs," Bedor says, "it would have been really hard for the people of Palau to mobilise a campaign against the Compact."

The American editor of *Belau Update Newsletter*, Charles Scheiner, observed the February 1986 plebiscite and found

the campaigns "almost invisible".

"The women were going from house to house and setting up meetings to explain the legalities and try to undo the government's politically biased voter education," says Scheiner. "But an awful lot of work was pretty subtle, talking to each other at the markets."

When it finally seemed the US Government had pushed through the Compact, it was a woman's group which came to the fore. Some original Kital-Reng members, including the second-ranking female chief of Koror, Gabriela Ngirmang, filed suit in the Palau Supreme Court challenging the legality of the US simply declaring the Compact adopted, despite an insufficient vote. The group they formed took the name Otil A Belaud, which means "the anchor of our land". The suits were filed in 1988.

Before the re-filing, Otil A Belaud went to testify before a US Senate committee. Gabriela Ngirmang had a heart attack in Washington, and her niece Isabella Sumang ended up testifying.

"It was a pretty dramatic confrontation between the Palauan women and the Senators who think they know everything," says Scheiner. "The women came out best."

He says the Senate committee's chairman kept pestering Isabella to say when their law suits would be refiled. "Isabella had been very controlled," says Scheiner. "But finally she shot back: 'What's the hurry? It's our future we're deciding here.'"

The latest plebiscite early in 1990 returned the lowest pro-Compact vote ever. Instead, the US Government has resorted to "direct rule", a controversial decision to run Palau from Washington via a local representative.

Bedor sees it as a last ditch attempt by the US. "They have just announced they're shutting down government services and laying off workers on December 28. I'm fearful they're trying to create the kind of atmosphere that led to the violence of 1987."

Bedor believes it's a strategy to turn the blame on Compact opponents. Now the anti-Compact movement is shifting its case to Washington, showing how well they've learnt a lesson in democracy. □

Survival was their achievement

THE women of Bougainville deserve special mention in the light of recent events — two years of guerrilla warfare, killings, rapes, reported torture, isolation and economic blockade, and deteriorating health, especially among children.

Their's is an unseen and untold tale of survival in the face of hardship, and of the special qualities of women. In the case of the Bougainville women, simply surviving has been one of Pacific women's greatest achievements. □

WOMEN OF THE YEAR



Kathy Solomon: organising and training women, and still time to lobby government

Maori leader honoured

The first day of 1990 belonged to Maori women, when Miraka Rataruhi Petrezevich Szaszy was made a Dame in the New Year's Honours. For the woman who describes herself as a "geriatric radical", it was fitting recognition of five decades of dedication to Maoridom, and particularly to the rights of Maori women.

Dame Mira is of Ngata Kuri descent, with links to Te Aupouri and Te Rarawa. She was one of the first Maori women university graduates and did post-graduate work in Hawaii, before returning to work for the Maori Affairs Department. She was a founding member of the Maori Women's Welfare League in 1951, later secretary and president.

Dame Mira's roll call of achievements would be impressive spread over the lifetimes of several women. A former board member of the Maori Education Foundation and the Broadcasting Corporation, she was also a member of the Race Relations Committee and once a nominee for the position of Race Relations Conciliator.

Although much of her career was spent as a social worker, Dame Mira was also a senior lecturer in Maori Studies at the Auckland Teachers College and, later, director of the Nga Tapuwae College community centre in South Auckland. She was in the first women's delegation to Parliament seeking equal pay for work. She is also a member of the Auckland Synod, the Social Security Commission, the Muriwhenua Runanga and the Maori Fisheries Commission.

Dame Mira was in the forefront of the

Not just a rib, but the backbone

THE Vanuatu National Council of Women celebrated its 10th birthday in May - appropriately in advance of the country's 10th anniversary - with a women's festival. The Women Ibildimap Vanuatu Nasonal Festival, as one organiser Hilda Lini put it, was to show "it is the women of Vanuatu who are the backbone of building this nation".

About 2000 women took part in the festival, which was so successful that May 15 - the founding date of the NCW - will now be observed as Vanuatu Women's Day.

When the NCW was formed in 1980, it had already proven the backbone of the push for independence. Now it is the most organised and active national body in Vanuatu, with 77 local branches and 13 regional councils.

National co-ordinator Kathy Solomon says it took the first decade to establish

branches and island councils in the isolated areas. "Now we are looking to base more workers on each island to help with income-generating projects."

The plans took a backward step when the Vanuatu Government cut back female community workers from seven to three, all based in Port Vila. But Solomon says the Interchurch Organisation for Development Co-operation agreed to fund three island community workers.

So far most women's branches have identified their first project as getting their own building. This year the women of Malekula will have two Japanese women with them on handicraft production and exports. A trial small business loan scheme, funded by the South Pacific Commission, is proving popular in Port Vila. The NCW is also lobbying the Government for legislation on domestic violence and rape. □



Claudine Pare: survivor

A test of a woman's will to live

A 42-year-old Noumea woman, Claudine Pare, joined the ranks of the great ocean survivors after spending 20 days adrift off Papua New Guinea. Pare was on a solo voyage from Noumea to Japan, via Guam.

Her ordeal began on May 30 when her yacht sank after hitting a reef about 200 nautical miles off Bougainville. Pare says she jumped into the 1.5 metre liferaft with "a few packets of noodles and some water". After three days the wind rose and she managed a makeshift sail. But the wind dropped a few days later, and she resorted to paddling.

When the noodles went rotten, Pare says she caught a fish with her hands and ate it raw. But the jettisoned remains

attracted sharks, some of them twice the length of the raft. Pare says she was frightened, but she screamed at the top of her voice and rattled cans in the water to scare the sharks away.

On the seventeenth day, a passing cargo ship failed to respond to her signal light. But the next day she sighted what turned out to be Tanga Island in PNG's New Ireland Province. Two days later, Pare's liferaft drifted into a small bay where canoes came out to rescue her.

She was unable to walk and had to be carried from the liferaft by villagers. "If you really don't want to die," Pare explained later, "you can use the last energy you have to keep alive." □

WOMEN OF THE YEAR

Mums and daughters tackle politics

THERE are two intriguing sets of mothers and daughters prominent in public affairs in Micronesia.

In one case the mother is an elected member of the legislature and her daughter, a lawyer, is fighting against her mother's own legislation in the courts. In the other, both women quietly run different kinds of social service organisations.

The first story is about Guam and the Arriola family, and the second is about Chuuk and the Mori family. The stories reflect the two quite different worlds of cosmopolitan Guam and less cosmopolitan Chuuk (formerly Truk).

Elizabeth Arriola, a Democrat, is one of Guam's 21 senators. Re-elected to another two-year term in November, she is a senior member of the majority party.

Early in 1990 she introduced a comprehensive and drastic bill which would make all abortions illegal on Guam. Among its provisions was one stating that it was a crime even to inform a pregnant woman that an abortion was one of the possibilities open to her. Urged on by the vigorous island Archbishop, the largely Catholic Legislature passed Senator Arriola's bill unanimously.

Although Governor Joseph Ada's Attorney-General, Elizabeth Barrett-Anderson, told him that the bill was unconstitutional, he signed it anyway, and the resulting furor was duly reported from Agaña to New York City.

Enter Anita Arriola, the Senator's Mainland-trained lawyer daughter. She called the bill to the attention of the American Civil Liberties Union, in New York, and with the help of that agency sued in federal district court to have her mother's bill ruled unconstitutional.

Attorney Arriola beat Senator Arriola at the district court level — abortions continue at the rate of about one per week on the island — while the decision is being appealed to the US Circuit Court of Appeals in San Francisco. The case may wind up before the US Supreme Court, which has been showing signs of reversing its long-standing sup-

port of abortion rights. Meanwhile, mother and daughter get along fine, but probably avoid talk on the abortion law.

Women are not only becoming actively involved in public policy issues, they are also becoming involved in the political process.

While Madeleine Bordallo did not succeed in her effort to become Guam's first female governor in the November elections, she won the contested Democratic nomination handily and gave Governor Ada a close race. Ms Bordallo, a widow of former Governor Ricky Bordallo, gave up a safe seat in the Senate to make the race.

Guam's senate continues to have, by either Mainland or island standards, a large number of women as members — seven out of 21. Ms Arriola and five other sitting women senators were re-elected, and will be joined by a Democratic newcomer, Marilyn Won Pat, daughter of Guam's late Congressman Antonio Won Pat.

Women holding elective office are rare, but not unknown, in the Federated States of Micronesia; instead women determined to render public service tend, like the Mori mother and daughter, to do so outside the political sector.

Umiko Mori is the founder and president of an organization in Chuuk which is modelled after, but is not affiliated with, the Red Cross. Its thrust is to reach out to the area's most disadvantaged people — the elderly, the disabled and the dying.

Ms Mori's associates, using cars and boats, provide food, clean clothes and bedding around the Chuuk lagoon, and to the outer islands; they are caring for about 450 people on a regular basis, using volunteers to do all the work.

Ms Mori's daughter, Lind Mori



Madeleine Bordallo

Hartman, has helped create the Fairo Institute in Chuuk State, which seeks to strengthen ties to the traditional culture. The Institute teaches the historic chants and rituals, and seeks to use "cultural therapy" as a means of fighting the all-too-frequent suicides in the area. (See *Pacific Islands Monthly*, January, 1990). It is also active in the rehabilitation of young offenders, and in efforts to control alcoholism.

In the Marshalls two women hold major appointive positions in the national government. Carmen Bigler, once a member of the Congress of Micronesia, is now Secretary of the Interior while Marie Maddison is Secretary of Health. Each reports, in this Westminster-style government, to a male Cabinet member. One of the health-related

concerns in the Marshalls is the remarkable birth rate of the islands. A group of Marshallese women, Women United Together for the Marshall Islands (WUTMIT), a coalition of local women's organizations, wants to become involved in family planning activities, and is seeking to do so without disrupting the community.

Meanwhile, far away, Stella Guerra holds the powerful position of Assistant Secretary of Interior for International and Territorial Affairs. A Texan and a Republican, she is charged with US relations with Guam, the Marianas and Palau, and has some residual responsibilities with the Marshalls and FSM.

In recent months she and her staff have established a new, and firmer control over Palau's government, despite early, vehement opposition of Palau politicians (all males), and she has been given the assignment of negotiating, for the US, the financial relationships between the Mainland and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands for the period 1993-1999. □

Muriwhenua fishing claim to the Waitangi Tribunal in 1988. The northern tribes' victory established Maori fishing rights and, now, a Maori fishing industry.

Among many younger Maori, particularly young Maori women, Dame Mira is revered for her empathy with radical views — if not tactics — and for her public campaign for speaking rights for Maori women on *marae*. She once described the *marae* as the "last bastion of male supremacy". Her public challenge to the validity of claims that

tradition denies women speaking rights on the *marae* — Dame Mira says it is not common practice in the rest of Polynesia — has drawn criticism, not surprisingly, from Maori men.

Undeterred, Dame Mira was instrumental in setting up Te Ohu Whakatupu, the Maori women's secretariat of the Ministry of Women's Affairs.

After the death of her husband, Albert, in 1984, Dame Mira retired to the tiny settlement of Ngataki. But her search for peace and quiet was short-lived, as she came out of the Treaty of Waitangi.

"I have settled on the belief," she once said, "that the Treaty of Waitangi is where I may find the spirituality that is needed by our people. If that treaty is truly honoured then the people will have their dignity and self-esteem as a race re-established."

Dame Mira says her feelings on the Treaty meant she had to search her soul long and hard before accepting the New Year's Honour. She says her title can "lie idle" if necessary, but hopes it will provide her with extra credibility when speaking in Pakeha forums. □

WOMEN OF THE YEAR

Door opened on domestic violence

A new study looks into Pacific attitudes and customs which hurt women and hold them back

By Robin Bromby

ANTHROPOLOGISTS have rarely tackled the subject of domestic violence, so a new study just published by the Hawaii-based Institute for Polynesian Studies breaks new ground with a penetrating account of just what goes on behind closed doors in Pacific societies.

The study ranges far beyond Polynesia, and, in fact, focuses more on Melanesian and Micronesian practices.

But the disturbing theme which runs through the studies is that many Pacific societies consider a certain level of family violence to be normal and acceptable. Yet some are relatively free of such problems, as is the case between the Wape people of Papua New Guinea.

Where it does occur, its origins and reasons vary widely, from the suppression of women in Indian-Fijian households to the encouragement of violence as a means of social control among some parts of the Marshall Islands.

In Kiribati, nose-biting is a form of sexual mutilation practised traditionally upon Tugaru women. A paper by David E. Lewis of the University of California, San Francisco, explains that a woman in the Gilbert Islands, who, continually provoking her husband by what was considered immodest behaviour, would be subject to an escalating series of punishments with the full backing of custom. Beatings would be the first stage, but the final recourse for the husband would be to take his wife into the bush and bite off her nose.

But this destruction of attractiveness — regarded as the ultimate sanction — was probably inflicted only rarely, according to Lewis. It is likely the threat of such action was sufficient to ensure that most Tugaru women conformed.

Actual violence is much more frequent in Indian-Fijian society. Shireen Lateef, from the University of Melbourne, reports that violence is accepted by that

community as part of being female; the control of women by the use of the *danda* (stick) is seldom seriously questioned by male or female Indian-Fijians.

The Indian population of Fiji tend to reflect the values of the male-dominated North Indian Hindu family pattern, with the ideology of *purdan* remaining deeply imbedded. Women must know their place in Indian households. If they go out to work — as increasing numbers do — it must be into approved types of employment, such as being clerks or typists.

Violence pervades the lives of the young women, said Lateef. Generally, the unmarried women were beaten for jeopardising the honour of the family by not sticking to the guidelines of *purdan*, while married women were hit for not demonstrating the required deference towards husbands and for failing to adequately perform their wifely duties. The violence takes the form of a range of acts, from a slap, then pushing, kicking, punching, belting or hitting with a stick. The most common and consistently used form is slapping the face. Often women are pushed against walls, their heads slammed against the wall or objects are thrown at them.

Lateef reports case studies of teenage girls being beaten for talking to boys, or married women being hit or questioning their husbands — even in one case, where the couple had a superficially Western-style modern relationship where the wife mixed freely, drank and smoked.

Pauline McKenzie Aucoin, of the University of Toronto, studied domestic life among the ethnic Fijians in Ba Province. Physical punishment is a daily part of children's lives there, especially for children over five years of age when their parents expect the offspring to perform chores around the house.

Boys tend to be punished for what is considered unmasculine behaviour and as a means of reinforcing the male's social role in adulthood, whereas girls get into trouble more often for neglecting

their household work.

As they get older, the punishment is concentrated on the teenage girls or young married women — often with the brother taking the role as dispenser. Yet Aucoin found that marital violence was generally disapproved of in Fijian society, and the women felt they had a right to argue without being hit by their husbands.

Men also generally disapprove of their fellow male villagers who resort to violence in the home. Some wives, if badly beaten, will return to their kin — and then her brothers will threaten to beat up the man who had injured their sister.

Reconciliation at this stage will require the husband to atone for actions, and offer gifts to the wife's family. The use of violence in marital disputes by husband against wife is seen as a contemptible act in Fijian society as observed by Aucoin, and one that can cause a serious breach between individuals and the clans of which they are part.

In Palau, people maintain that domestic violence was practically unknown before the territory came under Japanese rule between 1914 and 1944. But its incidence has increased markedly in the last few generations, with alcohol playing a key role.

Karen L. Nero of the University of California, Irvine, found that cases disproportionately involve young, educated elite couples. And wife beating is on the increase despite the fact that — historically — Palauan women have had a strong voice in economic and political decisionmaking. Most contemporary cases of marital violence involve successful, well-educated young men and women who hold good jobs in government or the private sector. The one common factor is drunkenness.

Nero found evidence that the Japanese use of corporal punishment introduced a new level of violence into Palauan life, and that it was only during the Japanese administration that Palau men began drinking on a serious level.

Giving credence to this is a study undertaken in Palau by Germans in the 1880s which recorded that there were penalties imposed on men who hurt their wives. Conversely, beer ran out on Palau and Yap in September last year and for a week the hospitals were nearly empty.

She also attributes part of the problem to the general level of stress on Palau: the splitting of families on political questions during the several plebiscites over the territory's relationship with the United States, and the internal political violence and assassinations. On top of that, the educated and employed young Palauans

WOMEN OF THE YEAR

face great pressure to support their extended families even though living in a nuclear household themselves and when they are trying to save for a house or a child's education.

On the Ujelang and Enwetak, the westernmost of the Marshall Islands, Laurence Marshall Carucci of Montana State University found that violence was deeply anchored in local patterns of child rearing and socialisation.

Children are teased into violence by male adults, taught to throw paving stones and — as the boys grow older — they are encouraged to take up wrestling, fighting with fists and clubs and throwing large rocks. Women believe in the acquisition of magical skills which they feel can help enact revenge on others.

Carucci described the Marshallese ideal of the male as one who travels around winning physical battles with males, and sexual battles with females. Marriage is often seen as a form of entrapment of the warrior, a feeling which can spill over into violence when alcohol is added to the question.

But there is the other side to the story.

Jill Nash from the State University College in Buffalo, New York state, was able to study the Nagovisi people on the island of Bougainville, in the North Solomons Province of Papua New Guinea. She found that physical violence happened only infrequently between

spouses — it was rare, in fact. She found that arguing husbands and wives were more likely to take out their anger by means of destroying property.

The study showed that the Nagovisi differed from many other societies in that physical violence between married people was neither common nor tacitly condoned. They also have provision for redress when it does occur, and the community has a system of fines; a partner may seek financial compensation from his or her spouse.

Nash said the Nagovisi seemed to take pride in their ability to control the expression of emotion. People were concerned about having their outbursts mocked as a form of gossip entertainment.

William E. Mitchell, of the University of Vermont, found that the Wape people of Papua New Guinea's West Sepik Province experienced little domestic violence. Wape men do not beat their wives, which is especially fascinating as wife-beating is such an accepted custom in most parts of Papua New Guinea.

As with the Nagovisi, the Wape place great importance on keeping emotions under control, and Mitchell reports that he himself was reproved for telling children in a loud voice to get off the verandah of the house in which he was staying. Aggressive acts are ignored: an enraged toddler is just left to scream on

the ground, or the Wape will just turn and walk away when told off by an outsider.

A large part of the Wape's social control is due to their belief that ancestral spirits can visit illness and bad luck on family enemies, and arguments are often followed by conciliatory rituals which include an appeal to the spirits not to punish the other party. Unlike many other Papua New Guinea peoples, the Wape family life involves the man in child care. There is also a near absence of alcohol among these people.

But while these examples of non-violence exist, wife beating continues to be prevalent in the South Pacific, the study concludes.

In Papua New Guinea, 73 per cent of the adult women murdered between 1979 and 1982 were killed by their husbands. The rate of wife beating varies — as high as 100 per cent in Western Highlands Province, but less than half that rate in West New Britain.

The reason why anthropologists have ignored domestic violence is their general view that the people of the Pacific hold different values from those of the European or North American, and there is a reluctance to sit in judgement (especially since domestic violence is so common in their own societies). Now, at least, the subject is out in the open and can at least be discussed. □

FORCE LINE IS RAPE

जबरजस्ती करना बलात्कार है



DON'T DO IT

FIJI WOMEN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT
GPO BOX 14194, SUVA, FIJI. PH: 313156

PROTECT CHILDREN FROM SEXUAL ABUSE

Taqomaki ira na gone
mai na vei vakaleqai ni
vei kucuvu.



THEY TRUST YOU

FIJI WOMEN'S RIGHTS MOVEMENT
GPO BOX 14194, SUVA, FIJI. PH: 313156

WOMEN OF THE YEAR

Fighting the battle against rape

A school teacher repeatedly rapes a 10-year-old girl and is sentenced to 18 months jail. A man rapes a young girl, gets a fine, a suspended sentence and is sent to another area to live. It's these kinds of "atrocious" sentences for rape which are the target of an anti-rape campaign mounted by the Fiji Women's Rights Movement.

The movement was founded in 1986 after a public meeting called by its sister organisation, the Fiji Women's Crisis Centre, and the YWCA. The anti-rape campaign is into its second year. Co-ordinator Peni Moore says the trigger was the decision in the early 1990 by the Chief Justice, Sir Timoci Tuivaga, to overturn his earlier sentencing guidelines for rape.

"About 18 months ago, he'd set down five years for rape and it made quite a difference to the sentences," says Moore. But under the latest guidelines, there's no longer a need for custodial sentence for rape. Moore says this has produced a "drastic change", with many more suspended sentences.

The rights movement is also disturbed by the recent trend for judges to accept in mitigation for rape sentences use of alcohol and so-called "traditional reconciliation". Moore says bulubulu, or traditional reconciliation was never used for serious matters such as elopements.

"Now the rapist goes to the girl's father, apologies and gives a tabua," says Moore. "Then he goes and tells the court they're reconciled."

So the anti-rape campaign mounted a telegram campaign to the Chief Justice. Moore says he's agreed to change his sentencing guidelines but wants to know what other measures the women want introduced.

Moore says they've drawn up a list which includes eight legislative changes such as need for the corroboration by rape victims, closed courts, no bail for rapists and so on. They also want the Chief Justice to direct that all rape cases be heard in the High Court rather than the Magistrates Court at present.

"That means the maximum penalties can go higher than five years," says Moore. "There will also be fairer trials with closed courts and so on."

The rights movement is also asking for compulsory counselling for rapists in jail and a ruling against accepting alcohol or

"traditional reconciliation" in mitigation.

Moore says the Chief Justice is being quite helpful and believes there's an 80 percent chance of getting the changes made. But the rights movement is in a Catch 22 over legislative changes, says Moore, because it disagrees with the new constitution and refuses to work with a non-elected government.

"We've had to change our tactics," says Moore. "We've gone from a really strong campaign for law changes to educating the public. If we can get social change we can do the law changes outside the law."

The rights movement is a collective of more than 100 women, encompassing all races and educational backgrounds. They have an office and three workers. Moore says most of their work is educational, speaking to women's groups, schools, holding workshops and doing radio programmes.

"When we first started, we were quite a different group," she says. "We were seen as a bit upmarket, a luxury reserved for the more educated women. Now we're more and more grassroots." Moore says most of the movement's work is focussed around Suva, where there is more than enough to keep them busy. The crisis centre runs a 24-hour hot line and will travel to outlying areas to help if needed.

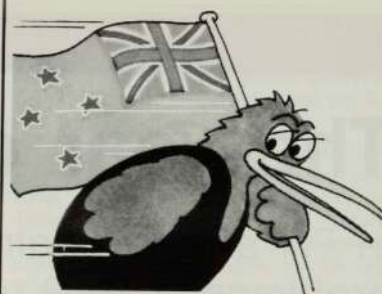
"What we're starting to discover," says Moore, "is that the majority of women have never experienced sex as it should be. They think 'acquaintance rape' is how it should be." When speakers talk of violent sex, often their female listeners say, "that's what happens to me everyday."

Moore says the Fiji police are "horrendous" to women who've been raped, often telling them they must have been asking for it. The rights movement is also regarded as pack of troublemakers by the Fiji Government, says Moore, especially as some members are active in the political opposition.

Their main ally is the Director of Public Prosecutions. "He's a trustee of the movement and is very supportive," says Moore. "The DPP's office realises we're doing some of their work for them, as a watchdog."



Peni Moore



THREE MILLION KIWIS

AT YOUR FINGERTIPS

And so too is a potential market of 3.2 million cosmopolitan New Zealanders.

As a Forum Island nation, exploration and development of new markets can be a difficult and frustrating exercise.

Now, through the establishment in New Zealand of the South Pacific Trade Office, you have direct access to a variety of services that are specifically geared to assist you in the export and promotion of South Pacific products into New Zealand.

Services include market research, marketing plans, identification of potential customers, office facilities, product displays, participation in trade fairs, and secondments.

For further details contact . . .



SOUTH PACIFIC TRADE OFFICE

Jetset Centre, 44 Emily Place,
P.O. Box 774, Auckland 1, New Zealand.
Phone (09) 302-0465, Fax (09) 776-642,
Telex SPTO NZ63328.

Madison 3734

THE REGION

The year of survival

In Fiji and Bougainville, the political problems of 1989 remained unresolved

By David Robie

THE New Year began with the Gulf crisis perilously close to war. "Aftershocks" from the economic and political upheavals in Eastern Europe continued unabated during 1990, and the debt burden strangled a growing number of Third World nations.

IN the South Pacific, the two major political and economic issues that cast a shadow over the region at the start of 1990 — Fiji and Bougainville — were still there at the beginning of 1991, posing uncertainties for the future. And political debate raged about the legitimacy of democratic integrity of other governments.

In the Solomon Islands, for example, beleaguered Prime Minister Solomon Mamaloni deftly saved his political skin by declaring himself "independent", sacking his ruling party and appointing a coalition government. But it was a disturbing reflection of the growing chaos and volatility in the political systems of both Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands.

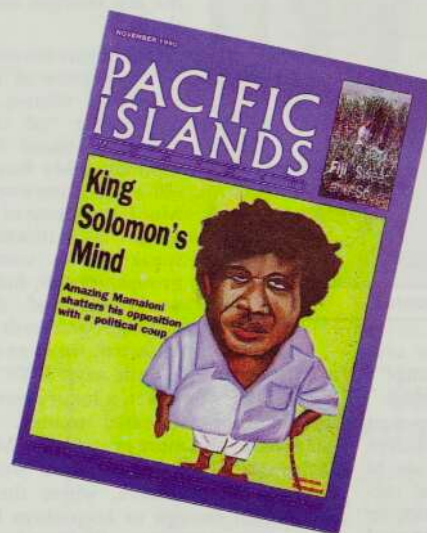
Australian Prime Minister Bob Hawke survived in office when the country went to the polls, but became increasingly unpopular in several island states. His Labour counterparts were dumped in New Zealand in the biggest election defeat of a government since the 1930s. Yet even though the new National government won 70 per cent of the seats, it gained only 48 per cent of the vote.

A fragile coalition in French Polynesia nervously ponders the territorial elections in March. Vanuatu's democracy will be severely tested at the next ballot, Western Samoa faces an uncertain election, and there is speculation on whether the interim government in Fiji will spring an early ballot under the post-coup constitution.

Aid from France and Japan, in particular, is becoming an increasingly vital and controversial factor in development for the region. Both countries have at times been accused of "chequebook diplomacy" or "buying silence".

Japan's Overseas Development Assistance (ODA) — "tied" aid channelled through Japanese companies — to the Third World has largely been used for

projects directly linked to tropical forest destruction. The money is used for construction roads, dams, port facilities, and large-scale agriculture schemes. In the Pacific, Japanese ODA and logging — mainly in Papua New Guinea — have



November 1990: Solomon Mamaloni features on PIM cover after forming a new coalition government in October

also been linked.

Japanese investors are in the lead in Fiji with the real estate and tourism sectors. Japan's corporate giant Electronic Industrial Enterprises (EIE), the biggest foreign investor in Australia, is the most prominent new investor in Fiji. From 1983 to 1987 alone, Japan in-

'Ratu Mara is very clear on our thinking on their constitution ... but we're not going there to re-write it'

creased its ODA to the Pacific from \$18 million to \$68 million.

French aid programmes are also rapidly expanding, particularly in the Cook Islands, Fiji and Tonga. More funds and places for foreign students are being provided at the new French University of the Pacific in Noumea and Papeete.

Ironically, while France has committed itself to new Pacific environmental programmes, its involvement in the

region is still overshadowed by continued use of Moruroa and Fangataufa atolls for underground nuclear-weapons testing.

The French connection gets stronger further east across the Pacific. Cook Islanders, who have close geographic, kinship and cultural ties with their neighbouring French Polynesians have been given a series of development soft loans totalling \$20 million. In Tonga, the aid has also been generous, with more than \$5 million being provided under the South Pacific Co-operation Fund.

But it is in Fiji that aid has raised most eyebrows, particularly after helicopters and 52 Renault trucks were provided for the military. Aid officials believe both

France and Japan have much to offer Pacific nations, but point out that development assistance should be geared more to economic needs rather than political agendas.

However, Australia and New Zealand are also criticised for putting economic self-interest first. Both countries are often viewed as surrogates for metropolitan influence. The policy review prepared for the ousted Labour government in New Zealand, *Towards a Pacific Island Community*, supported privatisation and increasing foreign investment in the region. This is ironical in view

of the failure of many of New Zealand's own privatisation plans.

Although the New Zealand report was pigeonholed, parts of it are still likely to provide a framework for some New Zealand policies in the region. The recommendation, for example, for a resumption of ministerial contact with Fiji was turned down by the Labour government, but new External Relations Minister Don McKinnon has moved quickly towards establishing more cordial relations.

McKinnon has already met Prime Minister Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara in Auckland. Now his planned visit to Fiji in late January as part of a whistlestop tour of the Pacific will be the first official stopover by any New Zealand cabinet minister since the 1987 coups.

But he has been quick to stress that the racially-weighted constitution will not be a priority item for discussion: "Ratu Mara is very clear on our thinking on

THE REGION

their constitution — but we're not going there to rewrite it!"

Along with Defence Minister Warren Cooper, McKinnon is also visiting Cook Islands, Niue, New Caledonia and Solomon Islands.

Fiji was one of the topics scrupulously avoided by the South Pacific Forum when it met in Port Vila in August, coinciding with celebrations marking the 10th anniversary of Vanuatu's independence. While seeking traditional consensus, Forum leaders have been reluctant to address "internal" crises even when they have vital implications for the security of the rest of the region.

As a result, issues such as Bougainville, the "restlessness" of Indonesia on the Papua New Guinea border and the controversial sale of Tongan citizenships to Asians and other foreigners also barely got an airing.

Ratu Sir Kamisese pointedly excluded both Hawke and then New Zealand Prime Minister, Geoffrey Palmer, from a briefing he gave to other Forum members and snubbed a function hosted by Palmer. In the end he consented to talk, but only on condition that the content of their discussion remained private.

At the opening of the decade for the eradication of colonialism, the Forum noted that most of the world's remaining non self-governing territories are in the Pacific. It called on the United Nations to send a special envoy to each country still on the decolonisation list.

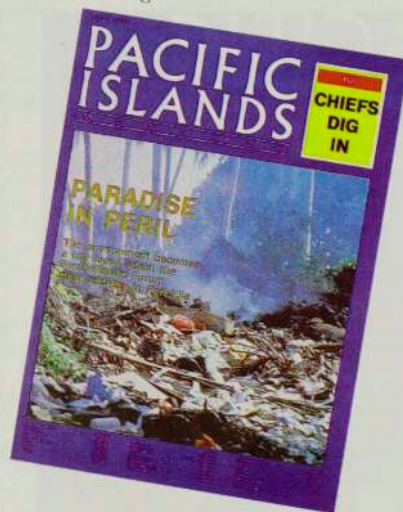
It also called on France to allow regular visits to New Caledonia by UN missions, and established a ministerial mission comprising Fiji, Nauru and the Solomon Islands to monitor events in New Caledonia, hopefully ensuring progress towards the vote on independence in 1998.

The Forum took steps to strengthen the South Pacific Regional Environment Programme (SPREP) which took effect in August. New Zealand provided \$500,000 for 1990 to help accomplish this, and is paying out a further \$1 million this year. Concern over the greenhouse effect and climatic change were important, but it was the Johnston Atoll controversy which dominated, and

continues as a major issue confronting the region until mid-decade.

While the Forum was in progress, delegations from Papua New Guinea and Bougainville were trying to negotiate a durable peace in the wardroom of the New Zealand supply ship, *Endeavour*.

Peace was desperately wanted by both sides — Foreign Minister Sir Michael Somare, Justice Minister Bernard Narokobi and senior officials for Papua New Guinea, and former North Solomons provincial premier Joseph Kabui, Bishop Gregory Singkai and Bougainville Revolutionary Army's James Singko for the secessionists. But, in the



July 1990: PIM highlights the environment, the Forum took steps to strengthen the regional environmental programme

event, the PNG *Post-Courier* was too premature when it carried a banner headline proclaiming "Peace at last".

Links with Bougainville had been cut off since May when the Port Moresby government imposed a naval blockade on the island in retaliation for the unilateral declaration of independence. The peace accord bound the national

The Forum noted that most of the world's remaining non self-governing territories are in the Pacific

government to re-establish health, education, banking, transport and electricity services. While the most crucial long-term issues such as secession and the future of the giant Panguna copper mine, controlled by the Australian mining transnational CRA Ltd, were deferred to a later unspecified date, the prospects for peace still seemed strong.

However, with the resumption of essential services on the northern island

of Buka, the Port Moresby government landed troops and riot police. Scores of people died in the fighting, and neither side trusts each other.

In Fiji, an announcement by Ratu Sir Kamisese to step down before the post-coup elections has fuelled speculation about the troubled nation's future. Surprisingly frank, Ratu Sir Kamisese admitted in an interview in *The Fiji Times* that he was a controversial and unpopular leader.

Defending his interim government's policies of helping indigenous interests push for greater participation in the private sector, he added: "We want somebody who will unite (ethnic) Indians and (indigenous) Fijians together."

Ratu Sir Kamisese insisted that peace and stability would be difficult to maintain without a fairer share of economic wealth for Fijians. The interim government moved to boost economic growth with fresh measures aimed at encouraging industrial development. A further \$5 million was made available to the Fiji Development Bank, and the European Economic Community granted \$13 million for a new tax-free zone at Suva.

But uncertainty remained about the election planned under the new constitution. Who would be likely to emerge as the new prime minister? While the Coalition, ousted from power in the 1987 coups, declared it would boycott any election under the constitution it rejected as discriminatory, there were signs of growing disagreement with that stance.

Widespread criticism of the constitution continued with the International Commission of Jurists taking up the cudgels. Justice Michael Kirby, president of the Australian section of the commission, described the document as "quite as bad" as the apartheid laws of South Africa. "Those who lift their voice against that form of entrenched legal discrimination must do so against this new and completely unacceptable constitution," he said. "The veneer of constitutionalism will deceive no one."

Still some critics were admitting that Fiji was at least taking steps forward democratic "normalcy" with the promulgation of the constitution, flawed though it was said to be. Meanwhile, democracy was taking a firmer hold on its neighbours to the east. Western Samoa, which gained independence from New Zealand in 1962, and the Kingdom of Tonga, formerly a British Protectorate, are regarded as the most conservative of Polynesian nations. But remarkable changes have taken place in both countries. In Western

THE REGION

Samoa, a referendum forced by growing pressure has endorsed universal suffrage. Until the promulgation of a new law after the historic referendum in October, voting in general elections has been restricted to the *matai* (traditional titleholders or chiefs). But the mushrooming number of chiefs and titles in recent years has eroded the system.

Although only chiefs can still stand for election to the Fono (parliament), the vote has been extended to men and women aged 21 and over. Almost 53 per cent of voters supported the change, but 60 per cent voted against a proposed upper house of parliament for customary groups.

In Tonga, reformist commoner MP and news-sheet editor 'Akilisi Pohiva is continuing to combat mounting pressure to silence him in his quest for open government and public accountability. He has filed a lawsuit over accusations of corruption and unconstitutional practices in the sale of Tongan passports to foreigners, mainly Asians.

Auckland-based lawyer Nalesoni Tupou believes the case could change the history of Tonga. He is confident the result will eventually lead to open government.

Pohiva caused an uproar in August when he called for replacement of the parliamentary Speaker, 75-year-old Malupo, a nobles representative. One noble threatened Pohiva during the angry debate, which was later struck off the parliamentary minutes.

Pohiva accused the Speaker of allowing to overspend by 35 per cent. Appointed by the King, Taufa'ahau Tupou IV, in 1987, Malupo rejected the accusation and said he had been trying to trim costs.

In New Caledonia the election of Paul Neaoutyine as president of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front (FLNKS) ended a 10-month period of limbo for the Kanak nationalists. Once the righthand man of Jean-Marie Tjibaou in the former Northern Region administration, perhaps it was fitting that he should succeed the assassinated leader to head the umbrella Kanak independence movement. Neaoutyine, of Palika, has the charisma and respect to heal the rifts between the dominant Caledonian Union, and the smaller partners in the FLNKS which have persisted since the 1989 assassinations.

But he is under no illusions about the Matignon Accords. He is sceptical about whether France's development aid pouring into New Caledonia will really help Kanaks gain independence in the 1998

referendum. Neaoutyine remains vigilant for the need to change tactics: "I know some see me as a revolutionary. I'm not renouncing my convictions, nor my militant past. But today I am obliged to represent all of the FLNKS ... We tailor our strategy to the circumstances of the struggle."

On a remote *marae* in the picturesque inlet of Pawarenga, of New Zealand's Northland, more than 130 delegates from indigenous and people's movements in 25 Asia-Pacific countries gathered in November to ponder the 1990s. Campaigning for a "Nuclear-free and independent Pacific", the delegates considered

and oppression can come from the indigenous people." And a Japanese Catholic nun, Sister Yasuko Shimizu, added: "There are indigenous who are oppressors of their own people or tribe."

It was on the debate on Fiji that the indigenous agenda made the strongest impact — after fierce discussions a resolution was passed condemning the "racist, divisive and authoritarian" post-coup constitution. "The debate on the indigenous issue," said Rita Baua, of the Philippines, "will go on as long as there are no sincere efforts on the part of the indigenous people's leaders themselves to study the real political-economic situation in present-day societies."

New Zealand's much vaunted sesquicentenary celebration year was judged by many to be a failure. According to one leading historian, Dr Jock Phillips, author of *A Man's Country*, 1990 failed because New Zealanders no longer knew what to celebrate in their society. The celebration was an embarrassment compared with the 1940 centenary, which had been one of unabashed enthusiasm.

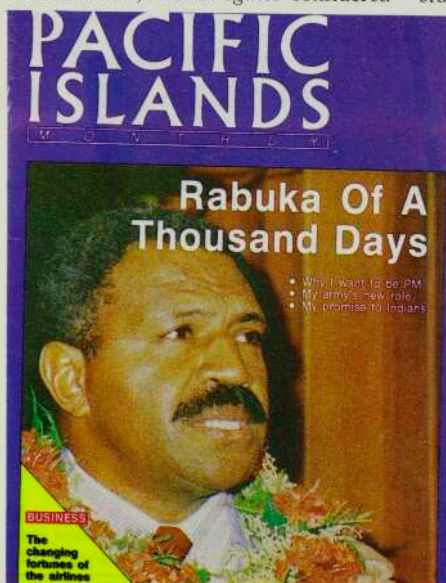
"In 1940 (New Zealanders) knew where they were going, which gave a sense of great energy and destiny," Phillips said.

At the time, New Zealanders accepted a broad consensus of values. They believed, for example, in a romantic image of Maoris as pioneers and warriors happily progressing towards total integration; a worship of the pioneer spirit; confidence in material progress; and an acceptance of the nuclear family with "mum at home looking after the kids".

What has really become striking now, believes Phillips, is the focus on the Treaty of Waitangi in 1990. In 1940 it wasn't.

"This is an expression of how significant the Maori perspective on New Zealand has become," says Phillips. "Today we have a much more diverse society with very distinctive groups — the radical Maori view of New Zealand, a small-town Pakeha view and a middle-class liberal view. They have very different voices and a very different vision of what New Zealand should be."

This was the year that the Labour government finally collapsed and was dumped in a devastating defeat in the October general election. Prime Minister Jim Bolger became the nation's fourth leader in 14 months. When Labour had been elected in 1984 it had the support of the unionists, feminists and peace



August 1990: Major-General Sitiveni Rabuka says he wants to be Fiji's next prime minister

issues ranging from foreign military bases and "development aggression" against indigenous peoples, to waste dumping, the greenhouse effect and human rights violations.

Founded in Fiji in 1975, the Nuclear-

'In 1940 (New Zealanders) knew where they were going, which gave them a sense of great energy and destiny'

Free and Independent Pacific (NFIP) movement's original sights were on establishing a nuclear-free zone — which evolved into the Rarotonga Treaty — and curbing foreign military control. In recent years it has adopted a more hardline "indigenous agenda".

However, through this sixth conference most delegates considered that being indigenous did not necessarily mean being oppressed all the time. Said one Kanak campaigner: "Exploitation

THE REGION

Living in someone else's rubbish

WHEN a Greenpeace environmental team entered a second time into the 12-mile exclusion zone around France's nuclear test site at Moruroa Atoll just a fortnight before Christmas the fireworks began. Taking plankton samples right under the noses of French authorities was just too much.

An earlier investigation team the day before had been detained and then released without charge. But this time, on December 11, hooded French commandos arrested the five environmentalists — including American scientist Norm Buske who alleged in a recent controversial report that radioactive waste leaking from each test could reach the sea in six years.

The team, towing a plankton net at four knots, was stopped by a French military inflatable boat carrying 11 commandos. After being held in their boat for 40 minutes, the Greenpeace team were ordered on board the French warship *Revi*.

After being detained for three days on Moruroa, they were flown to Papeete where officials in the French High Commission told them charges had been dropped and they were free to go.

Arrested were: Alain Connan, 57, president of Greenpeace France; Buske, 47; Martin Gotje, 41, a Dutch-born New Zealand resident; Tanya Popp, 24, a New Zealander; and Gaston Bernardino, 35, of French Polynesia.

Buske, Gotje and Popp were deported on a flight to Los Angeles. Later, back in New Zealand, veteran protester Gotje told newspapers he was "alarmed" at the development taking place on Moruroa at a time when France was supposed to be scaling down its nuclear testing programme. He described buildings and laboratories under construction and extensive equipment — including four barge-mounted drilling rigs.

On board the new *Rainbow Warrior* off Moruroa, nuclear tests campaigner Stephanie Mills said traces of radioactive

caesium-134 and cobalt-60 found outside the 12-mile zone the previous week had underscored the urgent need for exhaustive checking of the environment at Moruroa.

The events off Moruroa demonstrated that the nuclear testing programme was still just as big an environmental concern for South Pacific countries in 1990 as it had been for more than two decades. But during the year mounting controversy over United States plans for the destruc-

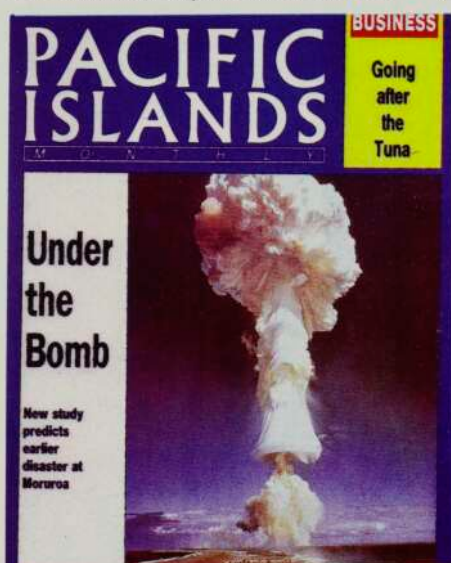
with Pacific leaders and news media. More than 70 media representatives attended a tour of the atoll in October. Yet surprisingly none of the three major US television networks were represented.

Countries of the Pacific region face environmental problems in the 1990s far more extensive and more serious than ever before. Many of the potentially most damaging problems are caused by the activities of countries outside the region. Problems of ozone depletion, climate change, hazardous waste dumping and driftnet fishing fall into this category.

According to a regional report, more than 60 per cent of Pacific island states have significant problems over soil erosion. More than half of these are concerned about the environmental impact of the extraction of construction materials such as sand and gravel — and 30 per cent have had major mining activity.

Water shortages and pollution affect 60 per cent of the countries. Deforestation troubles 70 per cent of the countries and two-thirds have problems of endangered species and nature conservation.

More than half the countries face conflicts over land tenure and use. Waste disposal is virtually a universal problem — 90 per cent have problems disposing liquid wastes without causing pollution, and 60 per cent cannot find satisfactory ways of getting rid of solid wastes. Toxic chemicals such as pesticides — to which small islands are particularly vulnerable — are another major worry. And more than 60 per cent of governments are concerned about their population growth. "The postcard view of the South Pacific visualises coral sand beaches, palm trees, clear water and clean air — the possibility that the area might be polluted is seldom considered," says Vili Fuavao, the director of the South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP). □



October 1990: A new study challenges French claims that nuclear tests at Moruroa are safe

tion of chemical weapons on Johnston Atoll became an even bigger issue.

After a vigorous day-long debate on the issue at the South Pacific Forum, a consensus was reached by Pacific leaders; chemical weapons already on Johnston Atoll should be burnt there, but no further stocks should be brought to the atoll. The following month, the US launched a public relations campaign

movement. At the time, then Prime Minister David Lange gave the impression that he would bring an Australian-style accord and that economic policy would be based on co-operation, not decree.

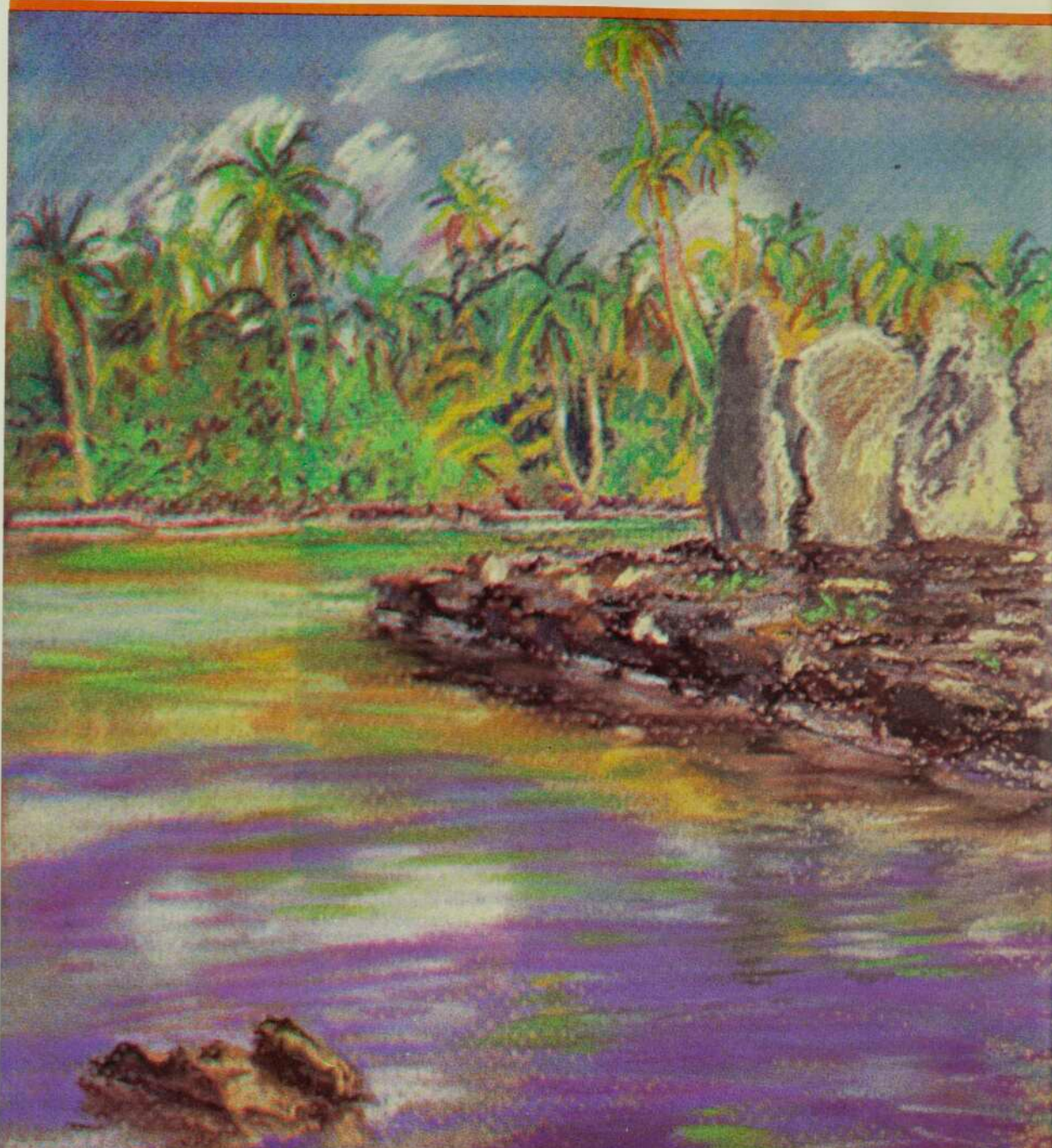
However, by the following year the rot had set in. It became apparent that the government was controlled by a "far right cabal of bureaucrats and businessmen", as one commentator put it. As the corporation policy gave way to

privatisation, and the hugely profitable Telecom, forests and other national assets were rapidly sold off, government popularity plunged.

It is an ironical footnote that as New Zealand's economic orthodoxy has spread to other Pacific nations, and while New Zealand trade unions are being weakened with new legislation, unions in Fiji and Papua New Guinea are gaining strength. Since Lawrence Titimur became general secretary of the PNG

Trade Union Congress in 1987 its membership has soared to 100,000. And the Fiji Unions have been flexing their labour muscles under the leadership of Fiji Trades Union Congress general secretary Mahendra Chaudry, garment workers unionist Emma Druavasi, and others.

Perhaps, along with 'Akilisi Pohiva and Paul Neaoutyine, these are the people to keep an eye on in the future as development directions increasingly become fiercely contested in the Pacific. □



Precious pearls of Polynesia

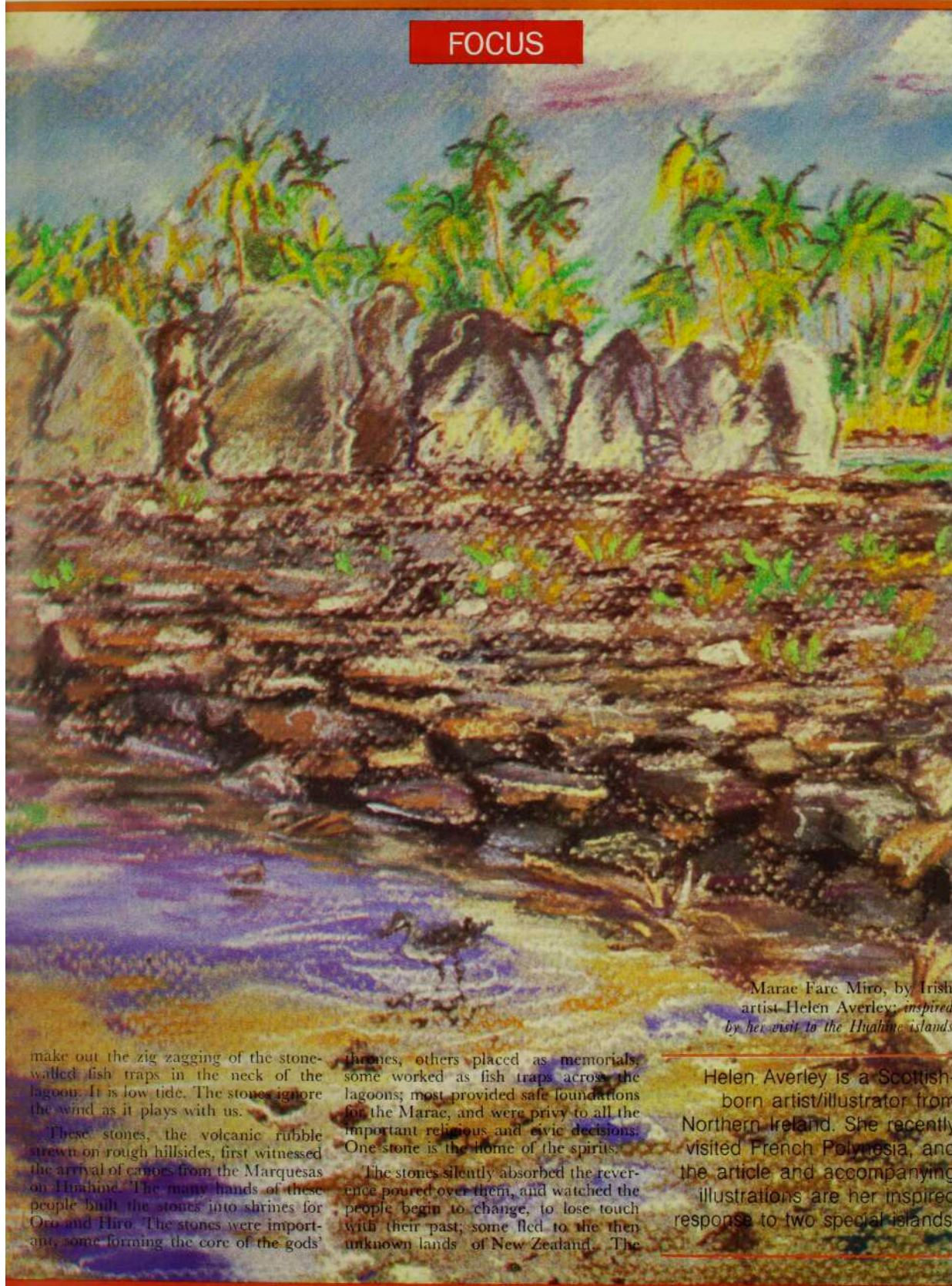
By Helen Averley

IN MAEVA school the youngest children run wildly, jumping up and down, pointing to the sky as the speck of metal, hanging in the air, comes into sight. In the plane, eager eyes scour the seascape. The twin islands of Huahine Nui and Huahine Iti, which are joined only by a bridge, are jewel-like. Together

they are ringed by low coral islands (*motu*), fringed with silver sand, set in brilliant turquoise shallows, laced with foaming surf and mounted on the lapis lazuli blue of the deep Pacific.

The little people, skipping and screaming, follow the little jet with their fingers, as it comes in low over the lagoon. I can see their village, the red tin roof and spire of Maeva's church standing out like organ pipe coral on a reef. Faintly I can

FOCUS



Marae Fare Miro, by Irish artist Helen Averley; inspired by her visit to the Hualine islands

make out the zig zagging of the stone-walled fish traps in the neck of the lagoon. It is low tide. The stones ignore the wind as it plays with us.

These stones, the volcanic rubble strewn on rough hillsides, first witnessed the arrival of canoes from the Marquesas on Hinahine. The many hands of these people built the stones into shrines for Oro and Hiro. The stones were important, some forming the core of the gods'

thrones, others placed as memorials, some worked as fish traps across the lagoons; most provided safe foundations for the Marae, and were privy to all the important religious and civic decisions. One stone is the home of the spirits.

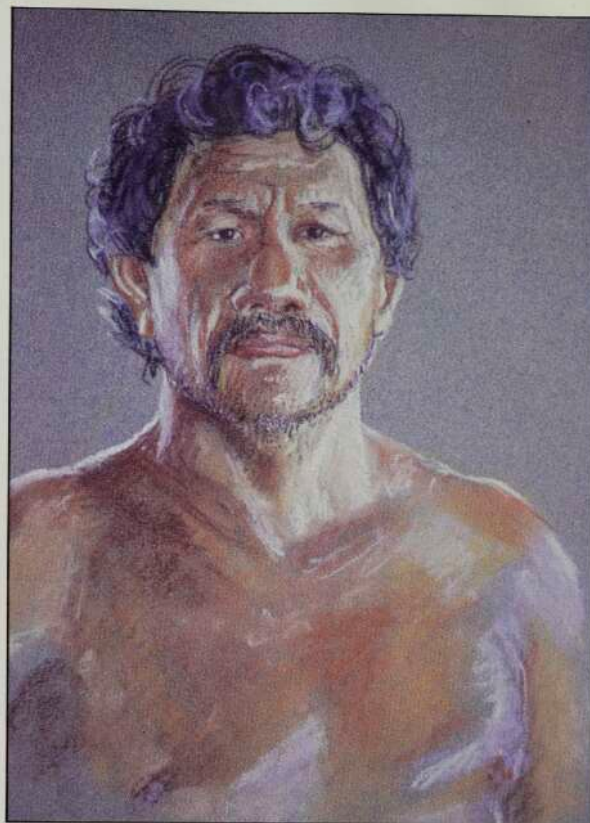
The stones silently absorbed the reverence poured over them, and watched the people begin to change, to lose touch with their past; some fled to the then unknown lands of New Zealand. The

Helen Averley is a Scottish-born artist/illustrator from Northern Ireland. She recently visited French Polynesia, and the article and accompanying illustrations are her inspired response to two special islands.

FOCUS



Halo of flowers: a girl from Maeva primary school



Fernand: assured Averley he has a guardian shark

stones, almost forgotten, were lost in smothering vegetation. One Marae lay consumed by the roots of a huge banyan. People remembered them in their times of distress and ran to them, wetting the stones with their tears.

We drop down towards the reef, flashing past the shiny red fire engine, which, no longer needed, drives off to fill the water tanks on the small dry coral *motus*. The main town of Fare has a half-dozen shops, packed with French imports — chocolate biscuits, condensed milk in

tubes, bottled water and colourful school books.

In the morning you can sit outside the mobile Patisserie, enjoying coffee and croissants while the town busies itself about the few vegetable stalls selling coconut milk and bags of kidney-shaped Mape. "Le Truck", (the local bus), fills gradually with its first load of passengers, while a young man waters a hank of fish hanging from the tree near the two telephone boxes. They glisten.

On a Saturday afternoon Fare is a ghost town save for the man seated outside the hotel. Eventually, the Chinese shop opens, and the whole island seems to enter, emerging, each with two long loaves.

The nights in Fare are loud. The geckoes quarrel, eating each others' tails; the cats prowl after the mice and rats which thump warnings on the ceiling. Clicking land crabs scurry on concrete floors. Crickets and dogs add to the chorus and, when the ferry is in port, the night becomes louder with busy attendant trucks. The ferry pipes a few quick blasts on the horn and, clanking, pulls out. A brief silence ends with the coughing of the Chinese man making dough for the next day's bread.

Dawn comes with the cockerels, earlier on a Sunday when the market must be finished by 7am, well before church.

In front of Fernand's house, a black tip shark flicking its tail to turn, patrols up and down inside the reef. As we climb into the small fibreglass boat Fernand reassures us, saying he has a guardian shark which protects him from danger.

The 25 horsepower engine is new like the boat. Shallow glass-green water — on its edge bright orange boats, suspended on stilts are high and dry. The channel through the lagoon is marked by sticks. As we meet deeper water, greens turn to blues, the engine is lowered fully and we dart across the water like an eager fish.

Backs to the sun, we duck under the bridge, into Bourayne Bay, which spills out towards the line of turquoise shallows. So bright it seems lit from underneath. The sharp edge blurs as we get closer. Soon it surrounds us, and through its shimmering broken shadows, slowly fly six rays. The calm waters seem full of them. We follow, alert tails fragmented by the ripples are sharp and barbed. As we pass over them, they burrow into the sand, there for the taking. We leave.

Near Fare we break out of the reef and head for the open sea, which plays with

PUMP DISTRIBUTORS WANTED EXCELLENT PROFIT AVAILABLE

As a Pacific Pump Dealer you would have access to some of the world's finest agricultural and industrial pump products.

The product range includes:

- HIGH PRESSURE WASHERS
- SUBMERSIBLES — Tsurumi — Toyo
- PRESSURE SYSTEMS — Espa
- GEAR PUMPS — Viking — Gorman Rupp
- PISTON PUMPS — Cat
- TRASH — Gorman Rupp — OP
- GENERATORS

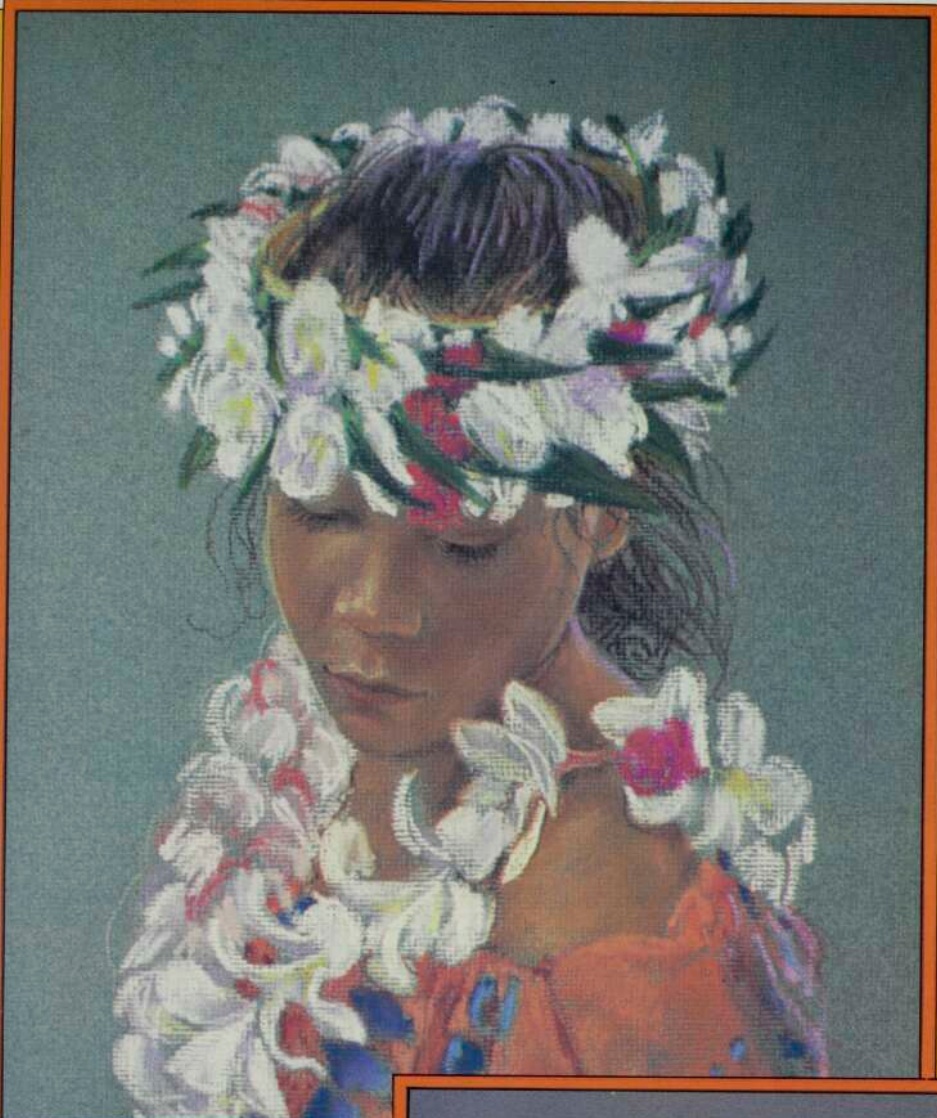
We provide sales literature, full technical support, price lists and a discount structure which enables generous profit margins when selling Pacific Products.

Phone or Fax for full distributorship details—

The Marketing Manager
Pacific Pump company
2 South Street
Rydalmere, NSW, 2116
NSW AUSTRALIA
Phone (02) 638 5600 Fax (02) 684 2184

FOCUS

Pensive: a Maevu Primary School girl thinks quietly as she waits to greet the visitors



Tranquil: a view of Motu and the lagoon



Serene: a Maevu Primary School boy watches events



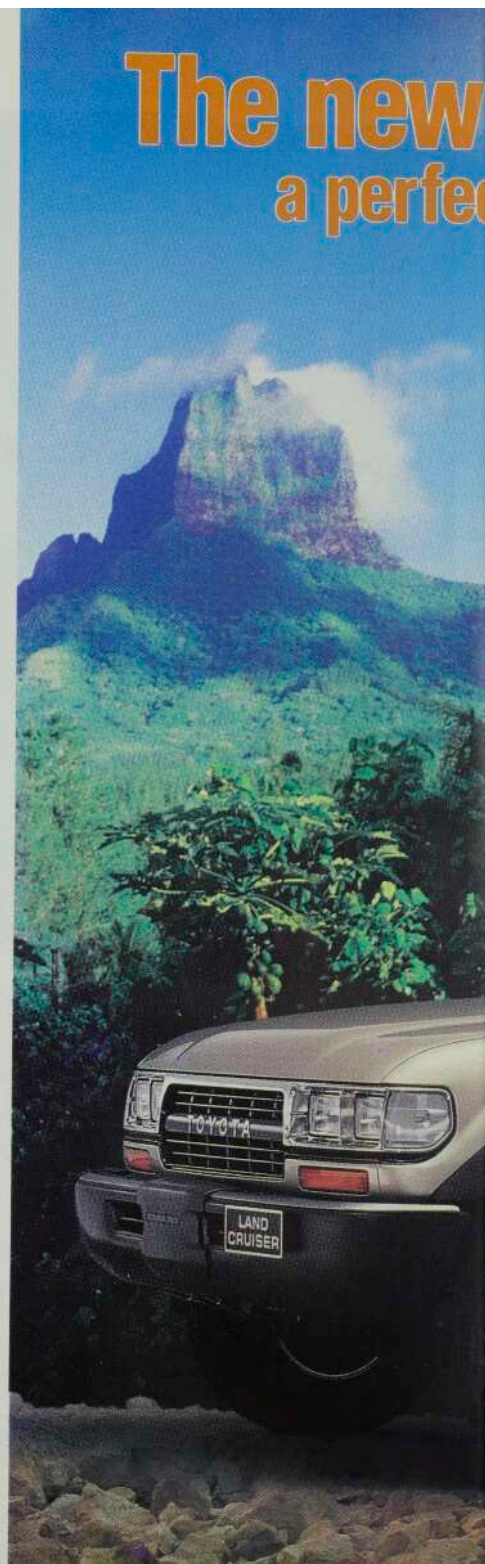
The new Toyota brand mark. Three ellipses forming a "T" which stand for our customer, our commitment to the satisfaction of that customer through our product and for our spirit of creativity.



It's not often that you hear descriptions like rugged or durable combined with refined and elegant. But then there's never been a vehicle quite like the new Toyota Land Cruiser Station Wagon. The unrivalled legend of off-road reliability is now unsurpassed in comfort and sophistication as well. Attention to detail is found everywhere, from the fine trim to the instrument panel to the graceful lines of its exterior. Even in places you can't see, like the heavy-duty ladder frame and suspension design that add to the superb luxury-car ride.

But Toyota's innovation goes beyond providing luxury and durability. The new Land Cruiser Station Wagon, and all of our cars, are designed to create a harmony between car and driver, and to provide you with the ultimate driving experience.

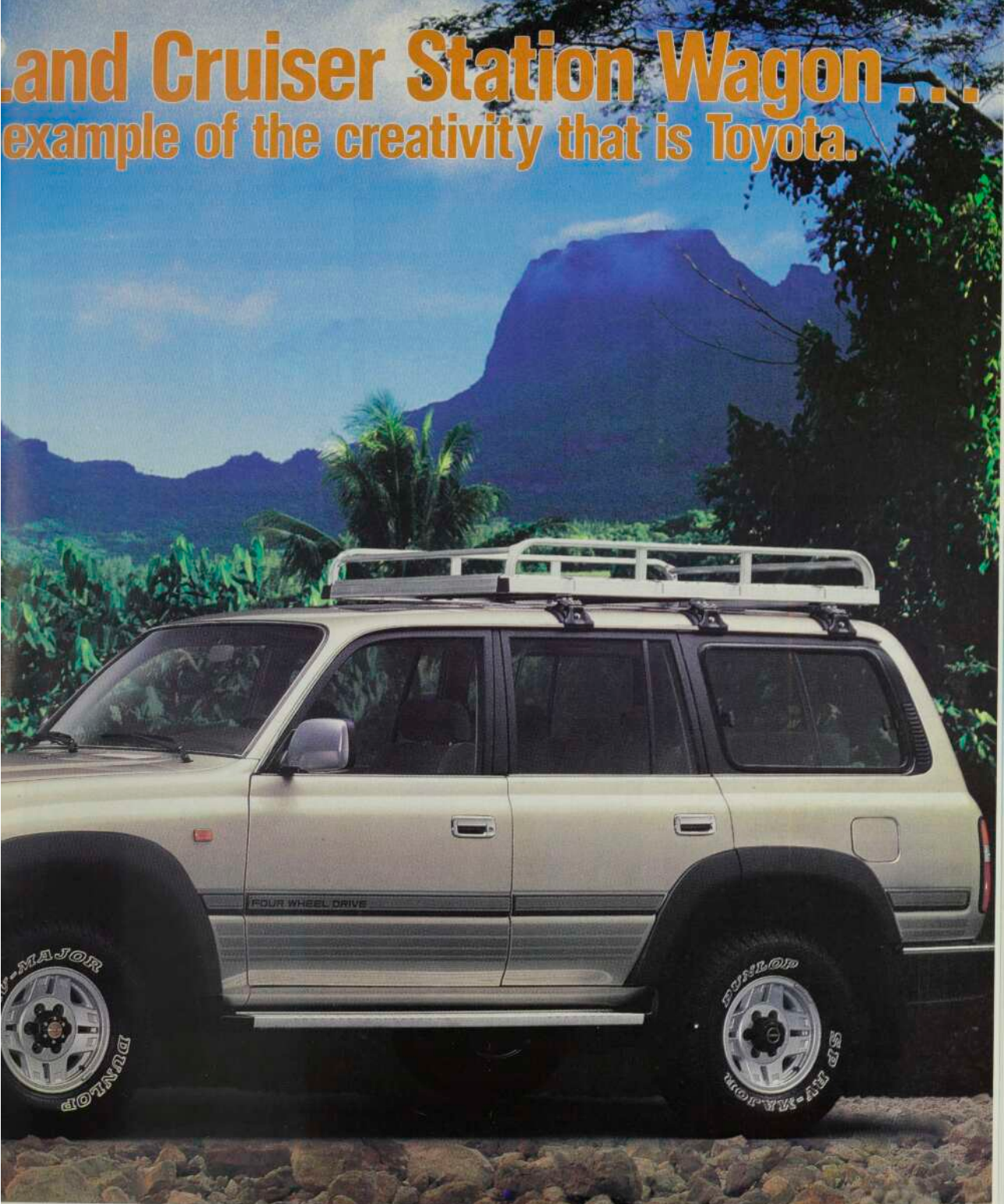
The new Toyota Land Cruiser Station Wagon. Think of it as much more than a spacious luxury sedan with four-wheel drive.



DISTRIBUTORS/DEALERS

AMERICAN SAMOA	BURNS PHILP (S.S.) CO. LTD.	PH 633-4281	COOK ISLANDS	PACIFIC MOTORS LTD.	PH 20796	FUJI	ASCO MC
GUAM & MICRONESIA	ATKINS KROLL, INC.	PH 646-1876/9	KIRIBATI	TARAWA MOTORS	PH 21090	NEW CALEDONIA	S.I.A.P.
NORFOLK ISLANDS	BORRY'S PTY LTD.	PH 2114	PAPUA NEW GUINEA	ELA MOTORS	PH 217036	SAIPAN	MICROL O
SOLOMON ISLANDS	MENDANA MOTORS	PH 22884	TAHITI	NIPPON AUTOMOTO	PH 429819	TONGA	BURNS PH
VANUATU	VANUATU MOTORS	PH 2341	WESTERN SAMOA	BURNS PHILP (S.S.) CO. LTD.	PH 20800		

Land Cruiser Station Wagon...
example of the creativity that is Toyota.



PH 312666
PH 262848
PH 234-5911
PH 23673

TION
GA) LTD.



TOYOTA

FOCUS

our little boat. The hull crashes down on the harsh slate-grey face of the waves as they come towards us.

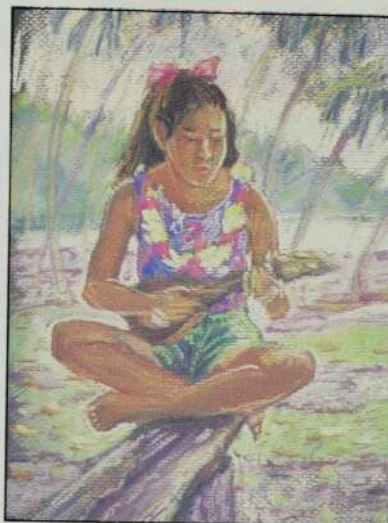
Turned towards the shore they show their other face, benign and blue. They push on to quench long beaches, which scream white like bleached bones. They ever reach them. Desperately they dash themselves against the reef, and echo white against the backdrop of dark hills.

We shock whole squadrons of flying fish out of the water, the tail-end-charlies forever trying to catch the flock. A brief glimpse of green as a turtle takes a sip of air and dives. We are joined by a school of dolphins, who come to tease us, to play hide and seek in the waves, like silent film stars in the distance. We catch up, but they are fickle. We're left, our necks straining after them.

We turn full circle, the little boat surfs. The huge wall of water racing behind pushes us into the lagoon, and the soothing, sedate calm waters rest us.

It is the "International Day of the Tourist", and the Maeva primary school has been preparing to entertain the tourists from one of the posh hotels. The children sit on the edge of their seats, waiting.

Unsuspectingly, while looking for the path to the ancient stones, we catch a glimpse of little heads wearing flower tiaras. We take a second look, and are beckoned to by a teacher. As we enter,



Sylviane: a study by Averley

a cascade of flower fairies pour out of the classroom, jumping around. Pushed back into the classroom, singing, they watch as the two tourists pass. We stare back.

In the assembly hall, the youngest children break free from the mat they've been tidily sitting on. Flowers everywhere. They catch the drone of another plane coming on the wind. They begin to rush about pointing to the sky.

Gradually the hall fills, the children growing in size, as each class swells the bouquet. We sit on the benches and watch.

Magic. The excitement is wild and brims over. The children are uncontrollable and run like confetti caught in a whirlwind. Singing, laughing, blowing whistles on plucked petals, grinning at our cameras. There is no sign of their other guests, and before it gets too much for them they are calmed down, their pareus fixed by the teachers, and like a flock of birds of paradise the children settle and adjust themselves.

They begin to sing, just for us. Breathless six year olds, mouthing exaggeratedly, the older girls fiddling with each others' hair, the boys throwing up clouds of petals. The older ones dance, the girls shaking their hips, whilst the boys clap their knees together.

Suddenly it is over, and our appreciation seems all too inadequate. The children then place flowers over our heads, a tidal wave engulfs us, thousands of flowers. A heady bouquet of frangipangi, tiare de Tahiti, mingled with wild basil and fern, we're almost drowned in blossom. The children disappear, and in their wake, as a receding tide leaves shells, they leave petals precious as pearls. □

Remember your Friend

There are times in your life when you feel your friends have been missing out on something good. Now's your chance to do something about it and share with them one of the good things you have. Buy your friend a subscription to Pacific Islands Monthly and let him or her join you and the thousands of other people worldwide who are kept informed of the latest political, social and cultural changes taking place in the Pacific.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

American Samoa	US\$45
Australia	AUS\$30
Canada	US\$45
Cook Islands	AUS\$46
Fiji	F \$24
French Polynesia	US\$45
Guam	US\$45
Hawaii	US\$45
Japan	US\$38
Kiribati	AUS\$46
Micronesia	US\$35
Nauru	AUS\$42
New Caledonia	US\$32
New Zealand	AUS\$42
Niue	AUS\$46
Norfolk Island	AUS\$42
Northern Marianas	US\$36
Papua New Guinea	AUS\$42
Solomon Islands	AUS\$46
Tonga	AUS\$46
Tuvalu	AUS\$46
United Kingdom	Stg£28
US (Mainland)	US\$45
Vanuatu	AUS\$42
Western Samoa	AUS\$50
Elsewhere	AUS\$63

Payments to Pacific Islands Monthly Subscriptions Dept, GPO Box 1167, Suva, Fiji.

Subscriptions rates includes the cost of airspeeding to all destinations set out above. Direct airmail rates on application.

PACIFIC ISLANDS
MONTHLY

Please send my friend Pacific Islands Monthly for one year (12 issues).

I enclose my cheque for \$..... (made payable to Pacific Islands Monthly) or debit \$..... to my:

☐ Bankcard ☐ Visacard ☐ Mastercard

Card No: _____ Expiry Date: _____

NAME _____

SIGNATURE _____

MY FRIEND'S NAME _____

MY FRIEND'S ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ COUNTRY _____

PACIFIC ISLANDS

M O N T H L Y

BUSINESS

It's the end of the road for some

1990 was alright for the Pacific as a whole, but future fortunes will be sharply divided

By Robin Bromby

GIVEN that the Pacific island nations have so much stacked against their aspirations for economic development, 1990 was not such a bad year. Fiji continued its recovery and is building a viable industrial sector, which adds a new dimension to an economy once reliant on sugar and tourism.

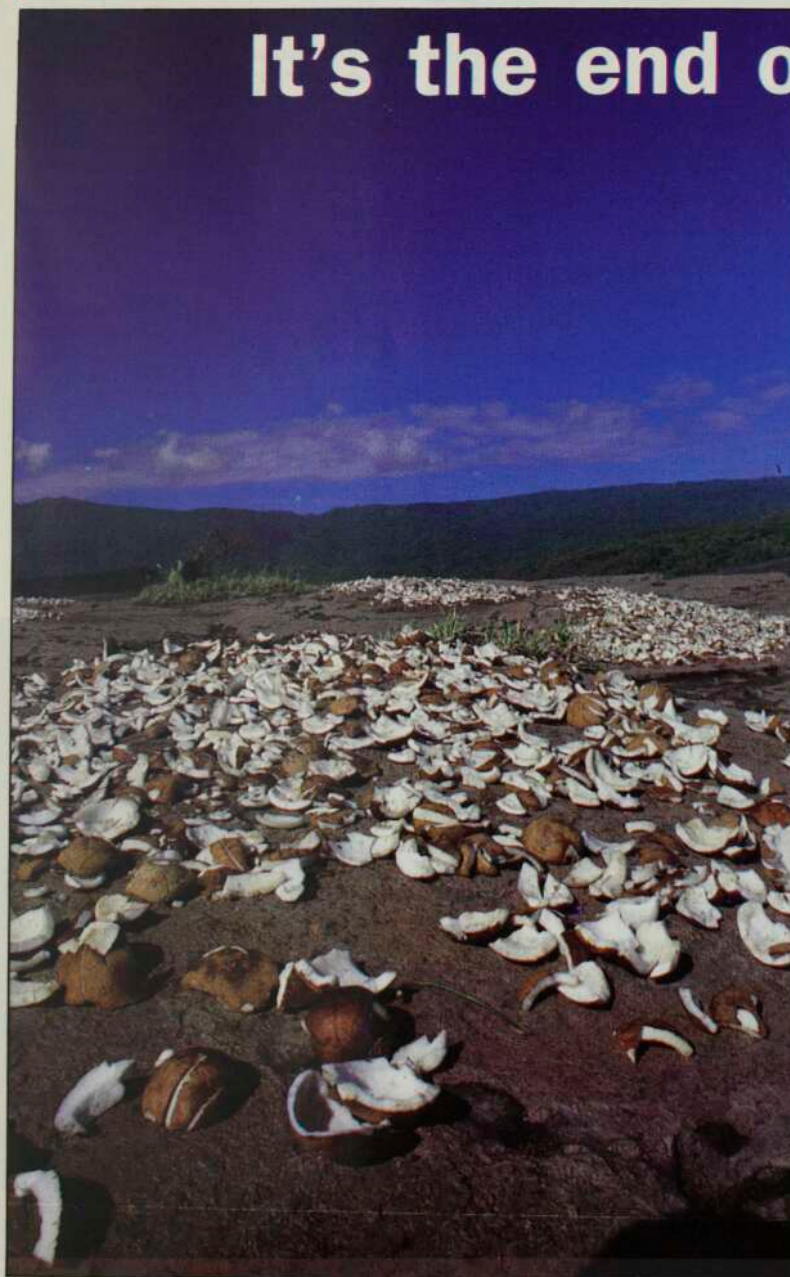
Papua New Guinea — which is looking more and more like a fragile national union — survived disastrous crop prices and the continued closure of its huge copper mine at Panguna, and ended the year with Porgera and Misima mines a reality and the Kutubu oil project about to become so.

On the regional scene, it looked as if driftnet fishing was becoming a thing of the past, and real progress was made in negotiations over a fishing agreement with the European Community.

Polynesian Airlines made a historic breakthrough by winning fifth freedom rights on the busy Auckland-Sydney air route, breaking out of the bind of having only low-profit routes which has hampered the small airlines of the islands. Tourism kept on growing especially in Micronesia where it is assuming boom proportions.

The problem, though, is that there is a continually widening gap between the nations which have economic potential and those which do not.

Fiji has its tourism and, now, a growing industrial workforce. Papua



Copra: the lucky island countries have new industries to develop

Philippe Melos

BUSINESS

New Guinea has sufficient mineral and oil wealth to outweigh the doubts generated by law and order problems and unreliable politicians.

Then there are the medium-sized (in South Pacific terms) states, which muddle through. Tonga has a handful of small industries now exporting, and has managed to attract Asian investment. The Solomon Islands has a growing fishing industry and considerable timber resources. Vanuatu and the Cook Islands have financial centres and tourism.

But for the others, economic develop-

ment seems as illusory as ever. Western Samoa has its own financial centre, but little else happened of economic significance in 1990 (apart from Cyclone Ofa which caused extensive damage). Kiribati, Niue and Tuvalu are no less dependent on aid.

The countries which are spread over vast areas of ocean also suffer from expensive internal transport. Kiribati and the Cook Islands will be helped by a new telecommunications system, but essential infrastructure will continue to be contingent upon foreign aid.

Looking at the Pacific in world terms, the outlook for 1991 is clouded by a looming world recession. There is also the very real prospect of more difficult trading conditions following the collapse of the Uruguay Round negotiations which were aimed at freeing world trade and breaking down protectionist policies among GATT nations. Most of the Pacific island states find it hard enough to sell their products as it is; either a world trade recession or greater protectionism would just add to their problems.

More particularly, a very real worry is that the state of the Australian and New Zealand economies — the dominant trade partners for most of the Pacific islands. New Zealand is, for all intents and purposes, engulfed in a fully-fledged depression with nil growth. Australia is not so badly off, but its recession and rate of business failure will ensure a flat economy for most of 1991, perhaps even beyond. The effects of economic slump in those two countries will cause a ripple effect through the islands.

Fiji's booming garment industry is heavily dependent on exports to Australia and New Zealand. Pacific companies exporting to those countries will also have to reckon in 1991 with the determination both in Wellington and Canberra to reduce their tariff barriers across the board, a move which will lessen the advantage the Forum states have under existing treaties which often give them duty- and quota-free entry to Australia and New Zealand.

One valuable resource common to the South Pacific region is the ocean and its living wealth.

There is no question that the region has made significant steps toward reaping a greater reward from fisheries, but there is still a long way to go. The United States tuna fleet seems to have come to terms with its (reluctant) commitment to pay fees to the states in whose exclusive economic zones they fish, and the Asian distant water fishing nations (Japan, South Korea and Taiwan) have bowed to pressure against the use of



Philippe Meoils

Coffee: promising

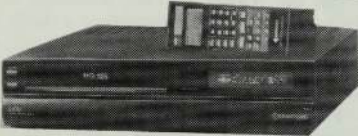


SAMSUNG

The World's Latest

PRODUCTS FOR PEOPLE WITH MORE SENSE THAN MONEY





To own a Samsung TV Screen, Samsung Video Deck and Samsung Remote Control Unit!

That's Great!

That makes the Samsung Combination the most inexpensive of its kind. Go for the best view. Should be ideal for your home!



SAMSUNG

SOLE DISTRIBUTORS:

CORRIE & COMPANY

HEAD OFFICE G.P.O. BOX 45, SUVA TLX: FJ2166 CABLES: 'CORRICO' SUVA.
TELEPHONE: 386777 BANKERS: WESTPAC, SUVA (FAX: (679) 370010

BRANCH OFFICE: 161 VITOGO PARADE P.O. BOX 83, LAUTOKA CABLES:
"CORRICO" LAUTOKA TELEPHONE: 60137

BUSINESS

Others reach new heights

the devastating driftnets. But Japan, in other respects, remains intransigent toward the aspirations of the region. It resists a similar common treaty which the Americans accepted; preferring instead to negotiate separately with each country and drive the hardest of bargains.

Papua New Guinea is one country which continues to refuse to accept what it considers to be inadequate fees from Japanese boats, and once again broke off fisheries agreements talks.

The Government in Port Moresby has done a deal with the Soviet Union, but regional leaders will be watching that with interest in the light of the economic collapse in the super power, and its previous and unimpressive fishing alliances with Kiribati and Vanuatu.

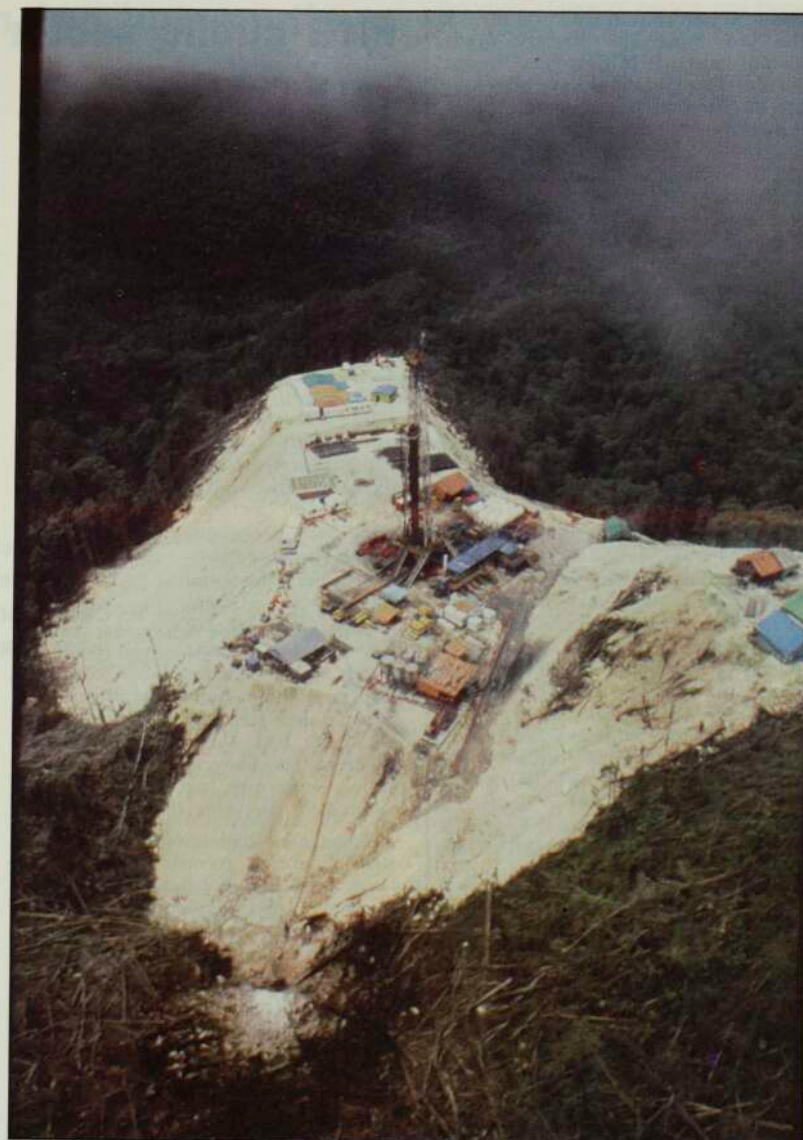
Now the Forum Fisheries Agency is negotiating with the European Community for an agreement; the agency's hope is that the Europeans will prove more willing to enter joint ventures and transfer technology than other fishing nations have been.

Probably the big question for 1991 is what will happen in Papua New Guinea.

The 10 per cent devaluation of the kina earlier in the year is a fair illustration of good intentions going awry. The plan was that coffee, copra, copra and palm oil growers would all benefit from the lower exchange rates.

Two events undermined the Government's plan: first, prices of most of the commodities kept dropping so that the rural sector was devastated financially, anyway; and, second, the lower kina meant that imported food became more expensive, thus adding to the level of discontent in both the rural areas and in the towns — the latter already under pressure from high rates of unemployment and crime.

On a broader plane, the devaluation upset busi-



Close to fruition: an exploratory oil well at Kutuba paves the way

The Cousseau Society

ness people who had assumed the Government's avowed strong kina policy meant what it said.

Provided the Government can manage in 1991 to come up with some — at least partial — solution to the law and order problem, and be seen to be doing something by way of improving financial rectitude in the public sector, particularly the provincial governments, then business will feel much more comfortable in Papua New Guinea.

The potential for the future is immense. Offshore, Papua New Guinea lies among some of the richest tuna fishing grounds in the world. A German-financed cannery to be built at Madang

is a good first step — one of the country's top priorities is to provide its own food, and canned fish is one of the biggest import items. In the longer term, fishing could be a significant export industry.

The agriculture sector must be sustained, simply because without it there is no source of income for the majority of people. Copra has probably had it (and that applies to all the island countries), but cocoa and coffee will eventually recover.

In 1991, the stabilisation funds will dry up completely and the Government — with no income from the Bougainville copper mine — will be stretched to provide the funds for grower bounties.

Its quandary is the knowledge that



BUSINESS

financial hardship in the rural areas is the last thing the country needs; already, in parts of East New Britain, some cocoa plantations have been hard hit by criminal harassment. Further, the country has made some real progress in improving coffee and cocoa strains and this will have been worthwhile only if it leads to greater economic benefit.

But it is mining and oil which hold out the greatest promise. The Porgera and Misima mines are now producing, but there are mines such as Lihir yet to come. Wells are being drilled right along the Papua Fold, and there is every chance that Kutubu is the beginning of Papua New Guinea's oil story.

For Fiji, the most likely advances during 1991 will be in the Government's plan to widen the industrial base. The garment industry has been a great success (except in terms of labour relations), but the country's hopes for a more dynamic economy rely on attracting a wider range of manufacturing to its tax-free zones.

A continuing effort to build more quality accommodation and arrange better air services will be needed throughout the region. Aviation took some important leaps forward during 1990 — the Polynesian Airlines trans-Tasman coup; the Airlines of the Marshall Islands flew a chartered Hawaiian Airlines DC-8 and Kiribati's Air Tuarua an Aloha 737, while Solomon Airlines became the proud operator of its own Boeing 737 (which it leased once a day to Niue Airlines, thus providing that small territory with a regular air link to Auckland, at last).

Air Pacific acquired its first 767 and signed a landing rights agreement with Malaysia, signalling its new thrust into the Asian markets. Air Niugini, despite having to close down a domestic subsidiary and losing money on some routes, made a success of its Port Moresby-Singapore service. Air Vanuatu also spread its wings.

But the vulnerability of the small regional was illustrated through Air Rarotonga. It entered the international business by chartering seats to Auckland with Hawaiian's DC-8. But when the Honolulu carrier withdrew its aircraft, Air Rarotonga was left high and dry. It then tried to find another aircraft, but was thwarted by Air New Zealand's announcement of an additional weekly service out of Auckland to the Cook Islands — a move which removed any hope of Air Rarotonga generating enough business.

Fisheries and tourism are the two avenues which offer real economic growth to all the nations of the area. It can therefore be expected that 1991 will see much greater efforts to try and reap some of the benefits of these. □

PNG public sector still not in order

PUBLIC sector financial control in Papua New Guinea continues to come under scrutiny, but there is also some progress being made to tighten up the system.

Serious management problems in the superannuation sector are being addressed, but it is a sign of the distance left to travel that Papua New Guineans have recently been told that more than 30 Government-owned companies do not have their financial records in order.

The acting Auditor General, Lobe Geno, reported to Parliament that in the 1989 financial year 35 companies, subsidiaries of statutory corporations, had not presented their financial statements for the 1987 and 1988 years. Geno's list included some major organisations: National Provident Fund, National Broadcasting Commission, Defence Force Retirement Benefits Fund, Public Officers' Superannuation Fund and the Papua New Guinea Retirement Benefits Fund — these had their 1988 audits in progress. The University of Papua New Guinea currently had its books being audited for the years 1986-88.

Those who had not submitted their 1988 financial records included the Forest Industries Council, the National Investment and Development Authority and the Fish Marketing Authority.

Geno also found that the finance committee and managing director of the Investment Corporation of Papua New Guinea had given out more money than it was permitted to, under their empowering legislation. The finance committee had authority to authorise investments up to K2 million, and the managing director up to K500,000.

The acting Auditor General reported that some senior staff of the Investment Corporation were provided with terms and conditions outside the specified terms in the Act, that long service leave had been paid to expatriate contract officers, one senior official was paid

entertainment expenses above his allowance, and cars owned by the Corporation did not carry the required type of licence plates.

The Government itself also came under fire. The Teaching Service Conciliation and Arbitration Tribunal said, when delivering a wage claim decision, that the National Government had failed to control prices in both urban and rural areas. It had heard evidence that price-controlled basic consumer items were being sold in rural areas for up to four times their price-controlled retail value.

"The same evidence also shows that the same neglect and careless attitudes of price control agencies are causing the same difficulties for teachers in urban areas, thus compounding and aggravating further the high cost structure/wage restraint dilemma of our economy," said tribunal chairman Alphmely Joel.

In all, the tribunal was highly critical of the Government's handling of the wages-prices relationship.

But there have been changes at the Public Officers' Superannuation Fund following the expression of concern and public criticism about how members' money was being handled. Contributors will now be able to obtain cheaper housing loans, a medical and insurance scheme, and day care centres for working mothers.

Board director Kuama Ariku said the fund had temporarily postponed its K17 million Waigani shopping centre and the K2.4 million Dagua prawn farm project in East Sepic Province. Instead, the board had opted for the establishment of a child minding centre, a play school and restaurant in Waigani to cater for the large numbers of public servants who are its members.

The prawn farm investment had been shelved when it was found that the Australian principals had not delivered on earlier undertakings. The fund had lost about K100,000 on the venture. □

**Neglect and
carelessness
cause problems
for teachers**

New appointment for Thomsen

SAMUEL B. Thomsen, until recently the United States Representative in the Marshalls, has been elected President of the Micronesia Institute.

The announcement was made by the organization's founder and chairman, Patricia Luce Chapman.

The Micronesia Institute is a non-profit, Washington-based organisation

which serves as an independent link between the island communities and developmental, education and charitable resources. It covers FSM, Guam, Kiribati, the Marshalls, the Northern Marianas, and Palau. Its programs include the encouragement of local chambers of commerce, medical training, aid to libraries, and the encouragement of traditional cultures. □

BUSINESS

Highlands Gold on top but cautious

HIGHLANDS Gold Ltd has reassured shareholders that no further significant borrowings would be needed for the Porgera venture, but at the same time directors have warned about the sharply deteriorating law and order situation in Papua New Guinea.

The good news dominated for the Papua New Guinea miner and explorer when it held its annual general meeting recently. The company had announced two months previously that the June 1990 year had seen a maiden profit, but has now revealed its profit for the September quarter was about K2 million (US\$2.12 million), with interest earned being the prime source of profits.

Chairman Norman Fussell told shareholders at the meeting that gold was being produced at Porgera for an extraordinarily low US\$65 an ounce. At the Wild Dog prospect in the East New Britain province, acquired last year from a cash-strapped City Resources Ltd, Highlands reported that drilling results revealed outcroppings with significant gold content.

Highlands was floated to acquire all the Papua New Guinea operations of MIM Holdings Ltd, with the parent still holding a 65 per cent stake. The Porgera mine in the Papua New Guinea highlands is the centrepiece of its activities.

Highlands Gold has 30 per cent of the project, as does Renison Goldfields Consolidated Ltd and Placer Pacific Ltd, with the Papua New Guinea Government holding the other 10 per cent.

Fussell told the company's annual meeting that directors were concerned about the declining state of law and order in the country. He said it was essential that the government in Port Moresby continued to address the problem and maintain the political will to act.

"The continual political manoeuvring, with threats of votes of no confidence, is indeed a concern to the board," Fussell said.

Papua New Guinea was on the threshold of receiving the benefits of new resource developments — Porgera, the Hides gas field and the Kutubu oil project — and about to host the South Pacific Games, both of which should galvanise the country.

"The outside world is watching and seeking reassurance that the country can surmount its problems and prosper," said Fussell.

While Highlands Gold could not affect the course of events in Papua New Guinea, it could formulate strategies to minimise their effects. "We must be able to live and work in the country," he said.

The closure of the Bougainville Copper Mine had significant repercussions in

the world's financial centres, and Papua New Guinea had to work to re-establish its reputation, he said.

Fussell also told shareholders that revenue from the Porgera gold mine is now almost covering the company's spending obligations on the project. This meant that only minor further borrowing would be required until other mine developments go ahead.

Total borrowings of the company have reached K81.6 million, and Highlands expects that only minor further borrowing will be necessary while Porgera Construction and development stay on schedule.

"I should also point out that, with K84.2 million in cash, Highlands Gold has effectively no net debt, an enviable position for a company that has just helped to fund one of the world's largest gold mines," said Fussell.

Highlands had hedged about half its share of the first two years of production from Porgera — about 234,000 ounces at a net selling price of \$US425 an ounce, compared with a gold price on the day of the annual meeting of US\$387 an ounce.

The company plans to spend 4.5 million kina on exploration in the current financial year. Further work is planned at the Wild Dog prospect to outline the mineable resource, and further acquisitions in Papua New Guinea are planned. The company currently has 30 properties — 22 of which Highlands was the operator. □

Pollution row resurfaces

CONTROVERSY about pollution from the Ok Tedi mine in the Papua New Guinea highlands has surfaced again.

The Wilderness Society's Dr Kevin Vang said at a recent world conservation union meeting in Perth that waste debouching from the Fly River into the Gulf of Papua could be more harmful than previously thought. He said it was possible to measure the impact of the toxic copper waste on the Great Barrier Reef off Queensland and the Torres Strait islands.

But the co-ordinator of the Australian Government's Torres Strait Base Line Study, Dr David Lawrence, has disputed this, saying there was insufficient scientific information and intensive sampling to back up Vang's assertions.

Estimates were that the Ok Tedi mine would add another 42 million tonnes annually during its peak production, and only two per cent might enter the Torres Strait area. □

Kutuba oil project set to start

CONSTRUCTION of the Kutubu oil project in Papua New Guinea is expected to start early in 1991, following the granting of a development licence by the government in Port Moresby.

Three oil fields — Iagifu, Hedinia and Agogo — will be developed in Papua New Guinea's southern highlands, about 550 km north-west of the capital. The development will also involve construction of a 170 km pipeline through rugged terrain to the coast, and a further 90 km of subsea pipeline to a marine loading terminal in the gulf of Papua.

Partners in the venture are the Papua New Guinea Government (22.5 per cent), Ampol Exploration Ltd (16.4 per cent), BP petroleum (9.7 per cent), BP and Chevron (19.4 per cent each), Japan Papua New Guinea Exploration Ltd (4.8 per cent) and Oil Search Ltd (7.8 per cent). BP Australia Ltd announced that the joint venture partners in the project have spent about US\$250 million on exploration and appraisal activity and expect to spend a further US\$900 million on development.

The company's general manager for exploration and production, Jay Smith, said during the peak output period the Kutubu project was expected to produce more than 100,000 barrels of oil a day.

"Kutubu is a major milestone in the development of Papua New Guinea as it will provide an important export opportunity for the country," he said, noting that the approval comes close on the heels of another government all-clear — Papua New Guinea's first petroleum development licence for the Hides gas project, where BP has a 95 per cent stake.

Smith said that "Papua New Guinea has an exciting oil and gas development potential, but this will only be realised if the government and the community recognise the risks undertaken by companies such as BP, Chevron and the joint venture partners in bringing large projects like these to fruition."

In a separate statement, the general manager of Ampol Exploration, Peter Power, said the company's output would double to about 40,000 barrels a day when the oil field comes onstream in late 1992. □

BUSINESS

Polynesian phosphate plans boosted

PLANS to mine phosphate in French Polynesia have been given a boost with the announcement from Tahiti that the project has been placed high on a list of economic priorities by the French-ruled Territory.

The most powerful local figure in Tahiti, the President of the French Polynesian legislative assembly, Alexandre Leontieff, said now that France was easing its control the territory would be looking to closer economic links with Australia and New Zealand.

He listed phosphate mining as one of the projects which would be given top priority.

The phosphate project joint venture, Gie Raro Moana, has plans to mine a large area of Mataiva atoll, 300km north of Tahiti. The partners in the joint venture company are Newmont Australia Ltd (49.5 per cent), Bureau de Recherches Geologiques et Minières (26 per cent, the project managers), and Cominco Ltd (24.5 per cent).

Newmont acquired its stake in its recent takeover of the Australian company originally involved in the scheme, Australmin holdings ltd, but the venture

has been the subject of long and drawn-out negotiations.

Mataiva atoll is estimated to contain 20 million tonnes of phosphate, with assays higher than those found at the other two main sources in the region, Nauru and Banaba island. Banaba produced 25 million tonnes before it closed, while Nauru will eventually pass the 100 million tonne mark. Mataiva atoll is 10km by 6km, and the mine will involve excavating a large area of the enclosed and picturesque lagoon.

Phosphate from Mataiva, apart from generally higher grades, also has another advantage over other sources — it has a slightly lower cadmium content.

Cadmium is considered one of the more polluting, non-degradable mineral elements. The deposit does have a slightly high calcite content but this is generally acceptable to Australian and New Zealand manufacturers.

The indication of encouragement from Papeete is especially significant at a time when Nauru is moving into the closing phase of its own phosphate operation.

Newmont's managing director, John

Quinn, said that he welcomed the indication that the project had been given enhanced priority. He said the scheme was a suitable replacement for Nauru as a source of phosphate in the region.

Before it was taken over, Australmin was pressing hard for the project to be approved. There was support from the territorial government in Papeete, and a taxation convention and mining concession had been approved by the partners.

Australmin reported last year that final approval rested with the residents of Mataiva.

The phosphate mine is important to French Polynesia as it tries to cut the apron strings with Paris. The territory had a merchandise trade deficit in 1989 of CFP81.4 billion.

A recent report from the bank of Hawaii said that, though an abrupt change in the French government's role was not expected in the near future, the territory's need to sustain itself on a more economically independent basis was still an important challenge in the coming years.

The report included mineral resources on the list of areas with good export growth potential. □

FYRAN • PARKERCRAFT

Exported & Serviced by:

Export Department,
Ullrich Aluminium Co.,
P.O. Box 22244,
Otahuhu,
Auckland, New Zealand.
Ph: (9) 2763789
Fax: (9) 2763342
Tlx: NZ 2572

**New Zealand's leading range of
8' — 18' Aluminium boats, de-
signed and manufactured in New
Zealand by Creative Leisure Prod-
ucts, are now available throughout
the Pacific region.**

**For strong, light, safe, and super
low maintenance all purpose boats,
call us now.**



Fyran

PARKERCRAFT

BUSINESS

Fiji harvests sweet deal on US sugar

FIJI fared considerably better than Papua New Guinea in the latest round of American decision-making on sugar imports.

A metric ton (2,205 pounds) of raw sugar in the closed American market was worth US\$494 at mid-December prices, about \$275 more per ton than the free, world price. Since this is the case, competition to secure as big a share of the American sugar import quota as possible is always hot.

Similarly, American sugar growers exert strong political pressures on Washington to minimise imports of foreign sugar.

The same political scenario is played out, with different numbers, in Europe and elsewhere, with the commercial sugar users (and sometimes the Foreign Ministries) of developed nations wanting to buy sugar from the Third World and the Agricultural Ministries wanting the sales for their own farmers. (Sugar beets can be grown in very cold climates.) As a result of these competing interests, a complex pricing global structure for sugar has emerged.

This time around, in the American market, the decision was that Fiji would get to ship 18,307 metric tons to the States during the US financial year (October 1990-September 1991) while PNG would have the opportunity to ship 8030 tons during the same period. There is no tariff on these shipments, and since the US price was (in mid-December) 22.41 cents a pounds, versus a world



Good times ahead: Fiji fared well in the latest US decision-making on sugar imports

price of only 9.84 cents a pound, the US decision represented a better than \$5 million break for Fiji, and a \$2.2 million advantage for PNG. (In fact, under most circumstances, relatively little South Pacific sugar is sold at the world price; it usually goes for higher levels as a result of bilateral deals with Europe, Japan, China and the US.)

In the recent past PNG's share of the American market has been lower than that of Fiji, but close to it. During the 21-month period which ended on September 30, 1990, Fiji had an allocation of 23,490 tons while PNG got 17,305 tons. Now Fiji has more than twice the quota of PNG.

Is the Bush Administration happy with Suva and mad at Port Moresby? Hardly. It seems that Washington's legislators and bureaucrats decided to allocate sugar quotas on a new basis using the flow of sugar to the States in the period 1975-1981 as the basis for most of the allocations; Fiji sent the US about 1.1 per cent of its import needs in those years, so it gets about 1.1 per cent of the total imports in the year to come.

Meanwhile, there are 10 nations who export sugar, who signed the International Sugar Agreement, but who did not export to the US in the base period. Among these countries are Mexico, America's neighbour to the South; the

Bank just in the black after Bougainville

CLOSURE of the Bougainville copper mine has worked its way through to Westpac Bank-PNG-Ltd's financial result, with the bank's bottom line staying barely in the black.

The 89.9 per cent owned Papua New Guinea subsidiary of Westpac Banking Corp managed a net profit for the year to September 30 of K242,201 (US\$255,240), compared to K6.53 million a for the previous year. The slim profit was based on revenue of K49.58 million a (K44.05 million a last year). Ad and doubtful debt provisions totalled K8.55 million, which the bank said was related to dislocations in the economy caused by the Bougainville problem.

Westpac-PNG directors decided not to strike a final dividend in view of the

earnings result. Chairman Sir Eric Neal said in the company's annual report that without the Bougainville related exposure, Westpac would have returned another record result.

"Several corporate connections felt the full brunt of these events and a major priority for 1990 became protection of the bank's assets while endeavouring to preserve the business base of many clients," the annual report said.

The report said that the narrow basis of the Papua New Guinea economy, with mining and agricultural goods accounting for almost all export earnings, has been highlighted by the impact of the Bougainville rebellion on the country's economy. Westpac-PNG joins Steamships Trading Co Ltd and Highlands

Gold Ltd in using their annual report to warn of the damage that law and order breakdowns are having on the economy.

Several proposed minerals projects should provide an impetus for longer term growth, but careful management would be needed to prevent law and order problems inhibiting foreign investment in these.

The Papua New Guinea government's tight monetary policy and other restraint measures led to a slowdown in economic activity.

The bank said its activities were affected by the depressed business climate and tight liquidity conditions in Papua New Guinea for most of the year. Falling prices for the main agricultural exports — coffee, cocoa, palm oil and copra — would mean further economic contraction. □

BUSINESS

sorely troubled island of Haiti; and PNG.

The US State Department did not want these nations left out of the action, and set aside 80,300 metric tons for these 10 nations. Since it does not make economic sense to ship less than a boatload of sugar, these 10 nations are, in the eyes of Washington sugar people, the "boatload countries." (A freighter can carry more than 8,030 tons of sugar, but this is the size of a boatload as defined through governmental compromises.)

The new US sugar programme contains another provision which might be useful to South Pacific sugar exporters.

Until this year, sugar quotas were absolute. From now on there will be an additional feature to the system — sugar exporters can ship to the US if they are willing to pay a 16-cent a pound tariff.

Thus, if a 17-cent gap shows up between US and world prices, it would make sense for exporters to start shipping to the American market. (It costs about a penny a pound to ship and unload raw sugar.) The current price gap is about 12.5 cents.

A gloomy note: a serious crop failure, which would open the market wider to South Pacific imports, is unlikely. Sugar

cane is grown in six scattered locations (including Hawaii), and a natural disaster is unlikely to hit more than one of these at a time; further, sugar beets are scattered through the lower 48 states.

Finally, because of the political power of the American sugar growers, the government funds basic research and extensive technical assistance programmes for the growers, and permits the Florida cane growers to bring in low-wage, foreign workers for manual labour.

So the domestic sugar industry continues to produce more product, and to crowd out Third World imports. □



FORUM SECRETARIAT

VACANCY

Applications are invited from suitably qualified and experienced persons, who are citizens of a member country* of the South Pacific Forum, for the following position with the Forum Secretariat:

EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, TELECOMMUNICATIONS DIVISION

The Executive Engineer is responsible for the engineering management of all development projects under the Forum Telecommunications Programme (FTP) which is administered by the Telecommunications Division of the Forum Secretariat. He/She will also be responsible for preparation of forward plans for telecommunications development, the preparation of project proposals, and the assembly and updating of the Regional Telecommunications Funding Schedule and associated project dossiers.

Applicants should have a degree or diploma in Communications, Engineering or Science with evidence of specialisation in telecommunications engineering and extensive experience working for a telecommunications organisation, preferably in one or most of the relevant technological areas (rural, satellite or radio transmission).

General Information

This appointment carries an attractive remuneration package payable in Fiji dollars. For non-Fiji citizens this is tax free and includes housing or housing allowance, education and child allowances. Other benefits for all employees include superannuation payments and medical, life and travel insurance coverage. The appointee will be based at the Secretariat's Headquarters in Suva, Fiji, but will be required to undertake periodic duty travel. Appointment would be for three years initially, renewable by mutual agreement.

Applicants should provide full information on education and career background and should list names, addresses, and telephone numbers of at least three referees with whom the applicant has been associated in a professional capacity. Applications should be addressed to:

**The Secretary General
Forum Secretariat
GPO Box 856
Suva, Fiji**

Telephone: 312600 Telex: 2229 FJ Fax: 302204/301102

Applications close on 15 February, 1991 and all enquiries should be made to Mrs Lailun Khan, Acting Head, Management Services Division on 313600, Ext. 263. Previous applicants for this position will be considered and, therefore, need not apply again.

* Forum Secretariat Member countries are: Australia, Cook Islands, Federated States of Micronesia, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru, Niue, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea, Republic of Marshall Islands, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa.

Sydney venture seeks a taste of beer market

A SYDNEY venture is planning to take on Carlton Breweries (Fiji) Ltd's near monopoly on the Fijian beer market. Austral Pacific Marketing is behind a new company to be known as Fiji Brewing Co Ltd, which aims to establish a niche market in the country's brewing market.

Austral Managing Director Jason Alexander said the company would not tackle Carlton head to head: the existing brewery just had too much muscle for any price-cutting war. Rather, Fiji Brewing will be looking to attract between eight and 10 per cent of the market, which would amount to about one million litres a year.

Its product line will include lager and premium beers, although no actual brand names have yet been chosen - a national competition will be held for this during the year.

One interesting aspect of the venture is that the Fiji Trade and Investment Board has not only approved the project, but granted it unspecified financial concessions and incentives.

Alexander said the brewery would be exporting some of its production after building its domestic base, but the government has not apparently insisted on the exporting of 95 per cent of production — a condition for companies operating under the tax-free zone rules.

Austral plans to take between 20 and 30 per cent of Fiji Brewing, and raise the remaining F\$2.3 million (US\$1.94 million) within the country. The plan is for the local shares to be available for over-the-counter trading. Twenty per cent of the shares in the new brewery will be reserved for Fiji residents wanting to apply for small parcels. It is planned that most of the staff will be Fijian.

Carlton has held its monopoly in Fiji since the closure of the Lautoka-based South Seas Brewing Co in the 1970s. □

TRADE WINDS

Ocean currents for power

A POWER station using differing ocean temperatures is being investigated for the Cook Islands. A consultant to the country's ministry of planning and economic development said a 1.5 megawatt plant could be built for about NZ\$32 million (US\$20 million) and significantly reduce the country's energy costs by lessening dependence on imported oil. The method under investigation

relies on the considerable differences in ocean temperatures at various depths, with the varying water sources being used to vaporise and condense ammonia, which in turn drives a turbine.

Kerosene prices leap

Prices of kerosene in the Cook Islands have been hard hit by the Middle East crisis, and the fuel leapt by 50 per cent in price in just one week recently — from NZ70c a litre to NZ\$1.05 a litre. The South Pacific has been hit since oil prices rose after the invasion of Kuwait.

SOPAC

South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission

Applications are invited from nationals of SOPAC member countries for the position of **Finance and Administration Controller** in the SOPAC Technical Secretariat, located in Suva, Fiji.

SOPAC

SOPAC is an inter-governmental organisation comprising fourteen South Pacific countries as members*. Its main objective is to assist its member countries in the identification and assessment of the marine mineral and other non-living resource potential of their offshore areas within their respective national Exclusive Economic Zones, in the planning and management of development in their coastal areas, and in the training of their nationals in all relevant areas within the SOPAC Work Programme.

The SOPAC Technical Secretariat currently has a staff establishment of 50 people and SOPAC has a staff establishment of 50 people and SOPAC has an annual budget of between F\$10 million each year.

The Finance and Administration Controller is responsible to the Director of the Technical Secretariat for the accounting and financial management functions, and for the general administration, of the SOPAC Technical Secretariat. Duties will include the preparation and management of the SOPAC Budget, the preparation of requests and financial reports to donor sources, the costing of work programme requests and the submission of regular financial reports to the member countries.

This is a senior management position and applicants must have a proven record and extensive experience at a high level in financial and general management. Relevant professional or tertiary qualifications, familiarity with accrual accounting and proficiency in appropriate computer skills are pre-requisites.

Appointment

Appointment to this position will be made by the Director of the Technical Secretariat.

The Finance and Administration Controller is in the professional staff category and the appointment will be by contract. The contract period will be for 3 years in each instance including a 6 months probationary period on first appointment.

Remuneration

An attractive remuneration package will be offered in accordance with the SOPAC terms and conditions of employment.

Starting salary will be within the range of F\$34,869 to \$43,600 depending on qualifications, experience and prevailing salary levels in country of recruitment.

For an appointee from outside Fiji, salary will be supplemented by an establishment grant, housing allowance, child allowance and education assistance, and remuneration will be exempted from Fiji income tax.

Details of general terms and conditions of employment may be obtained from Mrs Nazmeen Whippy on 381-377 or fax 370-040.

Application

All applications should be fully documented and include relevant details of qualifications and experience, and the names of three referees.

Applications to be marked "Finance and Administration Controller Application", should be addressed to the Director, SOPAC Technical Secretariat, Private Mail Bag, Suva, Fiji.

The deadline for applications is Thursday 31 January 1991.

* SOPAC member countries are: Australia, Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, Guam, Kiribati, New Zealand, Marshall Islands, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Western Samoa.

SAMOA

Inflation worries in Apia

Western Samoa's inflation rate has leapt from 4.2 per cent to 16.1 per cent in a year, those being the respective figures for the September 1989 and September 1990 quarters. Pacific Commercial Bank said the main cause is the influx of large amounts of money for cyclone relief and its use to buy imported foods to replace crops lost in the storms. Remittances from Samoans abroad also increased by about 30 per cent. The general manager of the Bank of Western Samoa, Bob de Courtney, said the rate could go as high as 18 per cent — higher than any other South Pacific island nation.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Fisheries talks collapse

Negotiations between Papua New Guinea and Japan over a fisheries agreement have been suspended for the fifth time. The problem is that the two countries can get nowhere near an agreement on catch payments. Papua New Guinea wanted six per cent of the value of each catch, but Japan offered only four per cent. The previous fishing agreement was terminated in 1987 in a battle over fees.

State spending to fall

Government spending is falling, according to the Bank of Papua New Guinea. The central bank said expenditure would be down by 5.6 per cent in real terms over the three years. Bank governor Sir Henry Torobert said there had been a sharp decline in spending for goods and services which required clear prioritisation within government departments.

Inflation keeps rising

Papua New Guinea's inflation rate increased to 8.1 per cent in the third quarter of 1990, and is expected to reach double figures in the three months ending December. This compares with an average rate in 1989 of 4.4 per cent. The major causes were higher food and transport costs resulting from the devaluation of the kina.

FIJI

Fiji clinches Japan sale

Fiji has acquired a third long term sugar contract with a Japanese company agreeing to take US\$36 million worth of the product over the next three years. The agreement will open the way for Fijian sugar to enter a market which it has not penetrated in any major way previously. Fiji's two main sugar customers are the European community and Malaysia.

Tax free zone limits

Tax free zones may not be needed in Fiji within 15 to 20 years if the economy

TRADE WINDS

continues to become more stable, the Permanent Secretary for Trade and Commerce, Nelson Delailomaloma, said at a recent conference in Suva. In the meantime, policies which have allowed the garment industry to grow could mean that other types of industries could be attracted by tax-free status which Fiji allows for export-oriented industries.

NZ bid for Fiji TV

TELEVISION New Zealand appears to be trying to get a jump on its competitors by offering Fiji a six-month free trial television service. The company is one of five on the short list compiled by the Fiji

Government to provide a national coverage once a decision is made to introduce the medium. The New Zealand offer is for the trial to cover only Viti Levu, but TVNZ is reported to want an exclusive contract to follow the trial period.

Changes to tax

Fiji is to have a value added tax (vat) from July 1992, and it will constitute part of the government's plan to change the taxation system. This was announced in the F\$612 million Fiji budget by Finance Minister Josevata Kamikamica. The new

tax will replace various indirect imposts, including customs and excise duties, hotel turnover tax and other miscellaneous taxes. But taxes on alcohol and tobacco products will remain.

The new vat of 10 per cent will apply to all local production and imports, and cover all businesses apart from a few such as farming, companies with a turnover of less than F\$10,000 (US\$7000) a year, domestic rents, non-processed fruits, vegetables, meat and public transport.

NEW CALEDONIA

Plans to build thermal station

International tenders are to be called for a 24 megawatt oil-fired thermal power station to be built in New Caledonia. The station is to be located in Nord province, about 300km north of Noumea. Two generators, each of 12 mw, are to be installed on a 12ha site, together with three tanks each capable of holding 10,000 tonnes of oil. The estimated cost of the project is US\$57 million, and the work is due for completion in late 1992.

TUVALU

Lagoon runway feasible

Tuvalu's government has received a preliminary study which shows that it is feasible to build a new runway on Funafuti incorporating a raised platform running into the island's lagoon. The study, undertaken by two French aviation experts from New Caledonia, was aimed at developing a plan for a new airport capable of taking Boeing 737 jets. Tuvalu's current airstrip is suitable only for prop or turbo-prop smaller airliners. It is unlikely the government will make any decision on the proposal in the near future due to the enormous cost.

MICRONESIA

Aid for Marshalls fishery

Fisheries resources in the Marshall Islands are to be assessed under an Asian Development Bank technical assistance grant of US\$100,000. The money will be used to prepare the first phase of the fisheries development project, which is designed to meet the government's development goals to increase employment and incomes and reduce imports. The project will aim at providing improved fishing gear and vessels, infrastructure and marketing services — with eventual expansion of private sector fishing.

More Guam air links

Rapidly expanding air services throughout Micronesia will grow still further now that Philippine Airlines has begun operating between Manila and Guam twice a week, using a 240-seater airbus 300. Meanwhile, Continental Air Micronesia has started up its planned Guam-Seoul service. ○

POSITION OPENING

Family Planning Project Officer

Applications are invited for the position of Project Officer with the South Pacific Alliance for Family Health (SPAFH), a non-governmental agency working to improve family planning programmes throughout the South Pacific region.

The position requires a person with a university degree (equivalent of a bachelor's degree) in a relevant area, such as medicine, nursing/midwifery, public health, or education, and 3 to 5 years of experience in the family planning field. Applicants must be citizens of the SPAFH member countries (the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Niue, Papua New Guinea, the Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu and Western Samoa).

The position carries a high level of responsibility for project development, implementation, and evaluation, proposal writing (for funding purposes), and providing technical assistance to various family planning groups. The position requires expertise in at least two of the following areas: 1) family planning service delivery, (i.e., logistics, clinic management) 2) family planning information, education, and communications projects, 3) family planning promotion and social marketing, 4) training of family planning workers, 5) population policy formation and analysis, 6) project management and/or proposal writing. Demonstrated familiarity with regional family planning agencies and issues is desirable. The position requires some travel.

The position is based in Nuku'alofa, Tonga and the initial contract will be for three years and is renewable. Benefits include a tax free salary of US\$15,000 to \$18,000 per year depending upon experience, a housing allowance of US\$3,600 per year, health insurance, and a relocation allowance.

Interested persons should submit:

- 1) a resume (curriculum vita) containing details of their education and past employment and experience, current address, telephone, FAX, and/or telex numbers,
- 2) a list of three professional references (with current address, telephone, FAX, and telex numbers for the references),
- 3) a writing sample (a short report or paper written solely by the applicant), if possible

The closing date for applications is January 20, 1991. Faxing a cover letter expressing interest (and providing a contact address and FAX/phone numbers) is recommended due to heavy holiday mail and resulting mail delays. Please submit applications to:

**The Secretary General
SPAFH
P.O. Box 729
Nuku'alofa Kingdom of
Tonga
South Pacific**

**Telephone: (676) 22-722
FAX: (676) 24-047
Telex: 6622 CW ADMT6**

SHIPPING

Cruise ships make a comeback

THE cruise ship business is looking better for the South Pacific. *Pacific Island Monthly's* analysis of the semi-annual, comprehensive tabulation of cruise ship schedules world-wide, published by the *New York Times* shows a doubling of South Pacific listings, compared to the last two *Times* tabulations.

Excluding both the cruise activity in the Hawaiian islands and the expanding business in the sub-antarctic areas of the South Pacific (more about this later), the October 28 *Times* listed 20 ships as visiting the islands of the South Pacific. This compared to nine such listings in February, 1990, and 11 notations in October, 1989.

Among the new listings are:

- A Trans-Pacific passage, with stops in Pago Pago, Suva and Lae, by the massive *Queen Elizabeth 2*;
- Calls upon a whole string of rarely-visited islands in FSM and PNG by Linblad's newly-launched *Frontier Spirit*; and
- The arrival of a third Soviet cruise ship in South Pacific waters, the *Fyodor Dostoyevsk*.

In general terms the cruise business is expanding rapidly, and the South Pacific gets relatively little of it, but that portion appears to be growing.

Estimates for the number of North Americans alone going on cruises of three or more days, somewhere in the world, shows a climb from half a million in 1970, to 3.3 million in 1989 and 3.6 million in 1990. The business is expected to keep growing, with more ships and more passengers. To some extent this is fueled by a combination of demographics, economics and politics in the First World. More people live longer, retire earlier, and have more in the way of public and private pensions than ever before in these nations, and that's good for the cruise business.

The South Pacific, however, is distant from most First World population centers, and it is easier, less expensive and quicker to do one's cruising in the Mediterranean or the Caribbean than in the South Pacific. So while the *Times* most recent cruise issued showed 20 South Pacific listings, the world-wide total was 184; the proportion with at least one stop in the South Pacific was thus about 11 per cent, compared to about 3 per cent six months earlier, but still most cruises go elsewhere. The most recent tally was for travel during the northern hemisphere winter, from the beginning of November to the end of February.

When a cruise ship arrives in port it does wonders for the local economy; let's assume a modest \$40 per tourist for taxis, drinks, lunch and shopping. This would

create a one-shot \$75,000 jolt to the service economy of any port visited by the 1,864-passenger *QE2*, or \$6,500 when the *Frontier Spirit* came to town. Cruise-ship tourism means that nobody has to invest in hotel rooms, or airport expansions, to accommodate the extra business — but it does jam the restaurants at lunchtime when the ship is in port.

Perhaps the best-known of the new-comer ships to the Pacific, after the *QE2*, is the 1050-passenger *Achille Lauro*; it secured its fame in a grim way off the coast of Egypt when, a couple of years ago, Palestinian terrorists killed one of its American passengers. The victim, partially crippled, was thrown overboard, wheelchair and all by the gang. The *Achille Lauro*, as a consequence, spends less time in Middle Eastern waters these days. It will be based in Sydney for a while, and will visit Noumea, Isle of Pines (both in New Caledonia) as well as the Australian islands of Norfolk and Lord Howe.

The most interesting of the newcomers is the *Frontier Spirit*. The ship is owned by the Linblad organisation (the Rolls Royce of the business), it is designed to be sensitive to environmental issues, and it visits truly out-of-the way places. The

ship, launched in Kobe in June, 1990, made its maiden voyage in November. Among its state-of-the-art features are its waste-disposal systems: the departing bilge water is filtered through an oil separator so that no oil is discharged. Further, non-biodegradable waste is frozen at sea for processing and disposal once it returns to port.

On its maiden voyage, the *Frontier Spirit* was scheduled to sail from Guam to Rabaul stopping at Chuuk and such oft-neglected FSM islands as Lamotrek, Puluwat, Satawan, and Kapingamarangi. After Rabaul, despite the civil disturbances, it was scheduled to call at Bougainville, the only cruise ship listed with such plans. Then it was to go through the Solomons, again stopping at islands not listed for others (such as Choiseul and Malaita) before heading via Vanuatu to New Zealand. Along the way it planned to visit two of New Zealand's remote and inaccessible Kermadec Islands (Raoul and Macauley.)

Four types of cruise ship

Would-be passengers have four types of cruise ships to choose from in the South Pacific.

There are the round-the-world ships, such as the *QE2*, the *Canberra*, the *Sagafford* and the *Royal Viking Sun*, all of which will pass through the area. There are also two Soviet ships, the *Azerbaydzhan*, returning again this

KYOWA

**KYOWA
SHIPPING
CO., LTD.**
Liner Service to Pacific Islands

FROM ○ JAPAN
○ KOREA
○ TAIWAN
○ THAILAND

○ HONG KONG
○ SINGAPORE
○ PHILIPPINES
○ MALAYSIA
○ INDONESIA

TO ○ SAIPAN
○ FEDERATED STATES
OF MICRONESIA
○ MARSHAL ISLANDS
○ AMERICAN SAMOA
○ NEW CALEDONIA
○ FIJI

○ GUAM
○ YAP
○ PALAU
○ WESTERN SAMOA
○ SOLOMON ISLANDS
○ VANUATU
○ PAPUA NEW GUINEA

HEAD OFFICE

6th Floor, Kikushima Bldg. 2-3, Hamamatsucho 2-chome, Minato-ku, Tokyo 105, Japan

Phone: 03(437)2885 (Rep.) Cables: "MARIQUEEN" Tokyo Telex: 242-4651 Kyowa J.

OSAKA OFFICE

Dai San Fuji Bldg. 3-13, Itachibori 1-chome, Osaka 550

Phone: 06(533)5821 (Rep.) Cables: "MARIQUEEN" Osaka Telex: 525-6271 Ssiosa J.

SHIPPING

year, and the newcomer, the *Fyodor Dostoyevsky*.

Then there are seven ships which are based in the South Pacific, and which sail waters close to their home ports. The *Melanesian Explorer* and *Discoverer* work the coastal and river waters of Papua New Guinea, while sail- and engine-powered *Wing Song* does a series of week-long tours from its Tahiti base. Similarly, though not listed by the *Times*, the *Fairstar* works the waters of Fiji and Vanuatu, and there are three ships that serve the Galapagos Islands.

Another specialised category is the ships, like the *Frontier Spirit*, which travel to out-of-the way places, including uninhabited islands. Included in this grouping is the *World Discoverer* which will start one of its voyages in Port Moresby this season. It, or its sister ship, *Society Explorer*, will visit Pitcairn, and uninhabited Dulcie and Henderson, later in the year.

Finally there are the six traditional cruise ships usually making two-to-three tours of some of the more traditional ports. These include the *Belorussiya* (an-

other Russian ship), the *Vistafjord*, the *Royal Viking Sky*, the *Pacific Princess* and the *Sea Princess*, and the *Achille Lauro*.

Islands Visited. Fiji and French Polynesia are the favorites of the cruise ship managers. Excluding the ships based in a particular location, eight cruise ships will call in Fiji and Mystery Island, with the *Sea Princess* paying the only record visit to Rotuma.

Tahiti, Bora Bora, and Moorea are frequently visited, with French Polynesia drawing seven ships. *Kona*, *Nuku Hiva* and *Rangiroa* are scheduled for single visits.

Papua New Guinea will be visited by six ships, with most of them calling at Port Moresby. Lae is only visited by the *QE2*, while Rabaul gets a couple of visitors, and Kavieng and Bougainville are on the *Frontier Spirit* schedule.

Tonga is also on the list for six ships, with most calling at Nuku'alofa, but the *Frontier Spirit* will also stop at Ata and the *Fyodor Dostoyevsky* at Vava'u.

American Samoa — perhaps because many of the passengers are American — draws five visits to Pago Pago, while Western Samoa get only one call, from the *Royal Viking Sky*. Vanuatu and New Caledonia will each play host to four ships, with several of them stopping at Isle of Pines.

The Solomons, in addition to the multiple stops for the *Frontier Spirit*, draws only one other listed ship, the *Belorussiya*.

There are single notations of visits to Guam, to the Cooks (Raratonga), and to Kiribati (Christmas Island) and of the previously-mentioned calls in FSM. Among the independent nations of the South Pacific, only Nauru and Tuvalu failed to make the listings. While the *Time's* tabulation is clearly not complete, it is at least a good sample of the cruise schedules.

One of the recent trends in cruise ship scheduling is to take passengers to Far South Pacific islands where there are no resident populations. Both *World Discoverer* and *Frontier Spirit* will spend much of this cruising season — the Antarctic summer — visiting remote islands in that area. These include the Snares, Auckland Island, Campbell Island, and Balleny Islands. The *World Explorer* will call also upon a chilly but inhabited place, New Zealand's Chatham Islands, on its cruise to Antarctica.

Costs. There is a wide range in costs, which are usually quoted per person (assuming double occupancy) and in US dollars; flying to and from the cruise ship is often included. The round-the-world trip on the *QE2* comes in a wide range of prices from \$22,935 to \$39,744. Two weeks on the *Pacific Princess*, going from Tahiti to Sydney, is about \$8,000. Three-to-seven night trips on the *Melanesian Explorer* and the *Melanesian Discoverer* come to about \$300 a night. □

SOPAC

South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission

Applications are invited from nationals of EC and Pacific ACP countries for the position of a **Programme Co-ordinator** in the SOPAC Technical Secretariat, financed by the European Community, European Development Fund.

SOPAC is an inter-governmental organisation composed of fourteen South Pacific countries as members. The primary objectives of the organisation are to survey the inshore, nearshore and offshore areas of its member countries, to identify the marine mineral and other non-living resource potential within their Exclusive Economic Zones, to undertake coastal management studies and to assist in providing training to Pacific Island nationals in all relevant areas. The Technical Secretariat is the Executive arm of SOPAC and is located in Suva, Fiji.

QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE

A University degree and/or relevant tertiary qualification. At least 10 years of extensive working experience in the management of aid programmes, especially administration, including the preparation and execution of contracts, financial accounting and reporting. Experience with EC projects would be an advantage. A background in the geo-sciences should also be an advantage.

LANGUAGE

Fluency in oral and written ENGLISH is essential.

JOB DESCRIPTION

- (a) the administration and management of the EEC supported component of the SOPAC Work Programme, i.e.
 - (i) preparing the annual work programme and budget for the "Technical Assistance to SOPAC" component of the Pacific Regional Marine Resources Programme funded under Lome III;
 - (ii) preparing documentation related to the tendering for and purchasing of major items of equipment;
 - (iii) other administrative matters relating to the implementation of the Technical Assistance to SOPAC component;
 - (iv) preparing documentation related to regular reporting on the programme's progress;
 - (v) preparing dossiers for application for assistance to SOPAC under Lome IV.
- (b) in the preparation of documentation relating to the formulation, planning and implementation of the SOPAC Work Programme as a whole, including the preparation of SOPAC's long term conceptual Work Programme, the annual SOPAC Work Plan, and approaches to aid sources for programme support;
- (c) any other programme co-ordination task, as required.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF APPOINTMENT

Tenure

Appointment to the above position will be 3 years in the first instance.

Remuneration

An attractive remuneration package will be paid to the appointee, depending on qualification and experience. Starting salary will be within the range F\$26,160 to \$32,700.

An appointee who is not a national of Fiji and who is recruited from outside Fiji will also be eligible for the following:

- passage and freight allowance;
- establishment grant, housing allowance, child allowance and education assistance;
- exemption from Fiji income tax on his or her remuneration;
- home leave passage after every second year of service.

Further information about the position can be obtained from SOPAC — Telephone 381-377, FAX 370-040.

Applications

All applications should be fully documented and include a copy of birth certificate, details of work experience and qualifications and the names of at least three referees. Applications marked PROGRAMME CO-ORDINATOR should reach the Director, South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC), Private Mail Bag, Mead Road, Fiji, by **15 February 1991**.

THE ARTS

Vanuatu: state of the arts

By Ngaire Douglas

THE strength of Vanuatu's indigenous culture and the introduction of a variety of outside elements have made the country one of the most artistically rich in the Pacific.

This is evident in the fact that Port Vila, though relatively small in size, boasts an impressive number of show places for both indigenous and exotic art.

The most important of these, in terms of native tradition, is the museum of the Cultural Centre. It is located in premises built by the condominium government but, because of the size and quality of its collection, it is fast outgrowing the centre. Development plans for Port Vila include the construction of a larger building near the Bamboo Royal restaurant to house the priceless artifacts and archives of the Cultural Centre. Depending on foreign aid, something may be achieved in the near future.

The museum's exhibits combine natural history — there are extensive displays of local shells, butterflies and birds — with products of human skill such as ritual objects, artefacts and weapons. The exhibit also includes historical and contemporary photographs, and video and audio tape collections of custom



Paysage Anthropomorphe: identification of ni-Vanuatu with their land, by John Joseph

celebrations and social behaviour.

The rarest piece in the collection is a piece of 3000-year-old Lapita pottery found on the island of Malo near Espiritu Santo. It is said to be the largest single piece so far collected.

Other outstanding exhibits include huge slit drums and tree fern figures from Ambrym, funerary objects from Malakula, and an assortment of clubs and spears for use against both man and beast. Next door to the museum, at Handikraf Blong Vanuatu, one can buy versions of the artefacts made specifically for sale to tourists. If purists find this disturbing, they might consider that the "authentic" pieces are not for sale at any price and, in any event, most people would be hard put to explain with precision the difference between the construction of a tree-fern figure for village use, and one for sale.

The dominant colours in the museum are brown, black and orange, the original dyes used by the people of Southwest Malakula. But a recent revival of traditional arts among the people of Southeast Malakula has seen the introduction of bright blues, yellows and reds into their work. According to Acting Curator, Jack Keitadi, many ni-Vanuatu did not understand the role of the museum when it was established in the 1960s. Slowly, through small scale education pro-

grammes and as a result of increasing familiarity with the Centre, people are donating for preservation artefacts which at one time would have been destroyed after they had served their specific purpose. Every piece in the collection has a special significance: there is also material which members of the opposite sex are forbidden to see. Jack Keitadi is working on the classification and preservation of male ritual objects, while a female expert is to be engaged to work with material from female rites.

In late 1989, the museum staff completed the first major cataloguing of the collection. They are also involved in actions to get the government to make large-scale archaeological surveys of land earmarked for development, in the hope that this may avoid destruction of valuable sites and artefacts.

Vanuatu's best-known practitioners of contemporary art are the prolific and justly acclaimed Nicolai Micoutouchkine and Aloï Pilioko (who were profiled in *Pacific Islands Monthly* in February, 1990). But in a small, bright, unpretentious gallery in Port Vila, other splendid examples of work by locals and expatriates are to be found.

This is Gallerie L'Atelier, located in a charming old wooden building on Rue Bougainville. The operators, ni-Vanuatu Hardy Leo and his wife, and Frenchwoman Suzanne Bastien, pride themselves on their collection of works by local artists. However, cream of the collection is work by Robert Tatin d'Avesnieres, a French artist and friend of Madame Bastien, who lived and painted in Vanuatu in the 1960s.

Much of Tatin's work depicts village life, but in the semi-urbanised communities which were growing even in his day.

Although Tatin was not strictly speaking a realist, these have a gritty accuracy



Masque: by Juliette Pita

THE ARTS

that puts them among his best work. Some Tatin paintings are for sale with profits going to his sister in Paris. Others Madame Bastien would not part with for any price, but she delights in showing them to anyone who is interested.

Ni-Vanuatu artists represented at L'Atelier include Erromangan Juliette Pita, whose colorful tapestries have been recorded on UNICEF stamps. Juliette's *Masque* is enigmatic — perhaps incorporating the fall of a Pentecost land-diver with the presence of a traditional spirit which might be guiding his descent.

Luma Clages works in watercolours in a more primitive style, Michael Busai of Malapoa college draws in felts, while Kautonga Sero depicts contorted human forms with grace and style. Sero's *Racines* is a virtual tree of life, the roots of the title are those of a *nabanga* (banyan tree), but within and among them one finds emergent parts of the human anatomy.

John Joseph incorporates Melanesian faces into natural objects such as flowers or rocks, as in his *Paysage Anthropomorphe*, identifying ni-Vanuatu in the closest way with the land they inhabit, while Joseph

Abel's fantasy paintings are often of masks and faces. Hardy Leo himself has been encouraged to paint, and some of his work may appear from time to time.

A few kilometres from Port Vila, along the road to Devil's Point, one comes to Acropora. This is the small workshop-cum-gallery of Emmanuel Watt, a local artist who works mainly in black coral, shell and wood. He can see forms and figures in old tree trunks or driftwood and, with sometimes minimal but skillful carving, he encourages their emergence. Under Emmanuel's hands, a small school of dolphin leap from a pandanus root, a distorted tree-root becomes a loping ni-Vanuatu villager.

Much of the best of his large work finds its way into private collections overseas, but at home many of the more unusual pieces of black coral or shell jewellery which are sold around Port Vila have been handmade by Emmanuel.

The Gallery of the French Embassy is a large exhibition room on the main street and the venue for regular displays of the work of local and overseas artists, past and present. The work of Jean Cocteau (no, he never lived here), Robert Tatin and Emmanuel Watt have all been represented. Exhibitions are usually free of charge and are open for viewing during normal business hours. The Treasure Chest at Le Lagon Pacific Resort is a shop rather than a gallery, but it hosts an excellent collection of art and craft from most of the islands of Vanuatu and Solomon Islands, the near northern neighbour.

Owners Jennifer and Justin West have lived and worked in the Pacific for nearly 20 years, acquiring a good knowledge of quality and style in art and craft production. Most of their stock is purchased directly from the artists, and they have recently been encouraging people at a small disabled workshop to make simple bracelets, small masks and so on.

The Treasure Chest yields funeral masks and circumcision sticks from Malakula, tam tams and tree fern figures from Ambrym, pottery by Sylvester Bulesa of Pentecost, Wousi pots from Santo, carved bowls and baskets from the Banks Islands, grassskirts from Tanna, model canoes and spears from Efate and beautiful shoulder baskets from Futuna.

It is not all that hard to find some of Vanuatu's distinctive and attractive art, and finding it can make one's visit so much more rewarding. □



TOURISM COUNCIL OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC

APPOINTMENT OF A PROFESSIONAL STAFF

Applications are invited for the position of Head, Division of Planning and Development of the Tourism Council of the South Pacific, an inter-governmental organisation of thirteen island countries of the Pacific. The main objectives of the Council are to promote, co-ordinate, plan and implement projects and activities designed to strengthen regional co-operation in tourism development and optimise the contribution of tourism socio-economic development of the member countries. Most funding is currently provided by the Pacific Regional Tourism Development Programme (PRTDP) financed by the European Economic Community (EEC).

The Head of Planning and Development Division is responsible to the Director for planning, organising and executing the planning and development work programme of the Council, including:

- economic and physical planning and development;
- product development studies and projects;
- conservation and protection of natural and cultural environment;
- advice and assistance to member countries on planning and development;
- all other planning and development activities.

The post is restricted to nationals of the member countries of the TCSP*. Applications should have qualifications and experience appropriate to the post and a record of achievement in tourism in the region at middle and senior level.

Those interested in the appointment are advised to obtain a copy of further particulars available from the Director at the TCSP Secretariat, Phone (679) 315277; Fax (679) 301995, before applying. Applications including a detailed curriculum vitae and names and addresses of three referees with whom the applicants have been associated with in a professional capacity must be submitted by 28th February, 1991, to the Director, Tourism Council of the South Pacific, PO Box 13119, Suva, Fiji. Envelopes should be marked "Professional Staff Application". The successful candidate is expected to take up his position as soon as possible.

* Member countries of the Tourism Council of the South Pacific are American Samoa, Cook Islands, Fiji, Federated States of Micronesia, French Polynesia, Kiribati, Niue, Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu, Vanuatu, Western Samoa.



Racines: tree of life
by Kautonga Sero

MOVIES

Troubled times reflected in Samoans' inner search

A new film portrays the painful struggle against colonialism

By David Robie

IT COULD have been a creative disaster — a *palagi* filmmaker exploring the theme of the conflicts created by the impact of colonialism on a South Pacific society. But no, the screen version of Samoan novelist Albert Wendt's *Flying Fox in a Freedom Tree* is a perceptive and moving, yet powerful interpretation.

It has been acclaimed by critics and has featured in the Tokyo, Cannes, Hawaii and Auckland international film festivals. The Tokyo jury awarded the film one of its top awards — best screenplay. It was the first New Zealand film to be selected for the Tokyo competition.

However, *Flying Fox* has not drawn the expected big Samoan audiences in New Zealand. The film may be too real; a graphic documentary of pain and suffering.

"The complication," says Samoan critic Samson Samasoni, "is that for people of Pacific Island origin (and perhaps other colonised people throughout the world) the exercise becomes a disturbing historical mirror for them to look at instead of being the academic and artistic challenge that it is for non-Pacific Island people."

Although this is director Martyn Sanderson's debut as a feature filmmaker, he has had acting roles in many features, including *Beyond Reason-*



Rebellion: A troubled Pepe (Taifua Amiga) ends up in prison

able Doubt, Never Say Die and Bad Blood. (In *Flying Fox*, he actually appears as an actor — as a crusty, expatriate police interrogator).

Sanderson, 52, has also worked professionally in film, television and theatre for 25 years and has produced, directed and edited several short films. He was founding director of Downstage Theatre in Wellington. His documentary *Keskidee Aroha* about a black African theatre group's tour of New Zealand, was highly praised.

In *Flying Fox*, Sanderson captures much of the nuances and subtlety of Wendt's story. "It was a challenge," he admits, "The whole process of filmmaking involves deadlines and money versus the spirit and sensitivity of the film."

"It's hard working on a location in a small Samoan village and not tramping on people's sensibilities. But that's very much the kind of conflict which this story

is about."

Even though Sanderson's sincerity and qualifications — he has a long-standing friendship with Wendt — are impeccable there have been some unpublished criticisms of his "right" to make this film. The creative environment in New Zealand is frequently hostile to the notion of a *pakeha* or *palagi* interpreting "indigenous" culture in film and print.

But this argument doesn't impress Samasoni and many other critics. "Such distractions are not constructive and, in fact, impact negatively on the fruitful development of Pacific arts," he says.

Samasoni points out that if Wendt's writing had only been exposed to Samoans, it would not have gained the international attention and praise it deserved.

"The lobby that advocates only the



Revenge: Tagata (Richard Von Sturmer), left, steals a wallet



Frustration: Pepe and Tagata fire a home-made cannon

STAMPS

PNG changes repurchase deal

By John Hunter

PAPUA New Guinea has joined an increasing number of countries in revising its repurchase of mint stamps. From August 1, Papua New Guinea only buys back mint stamps with a minimum face value of K100 and charges 35 per cent commission. In the past, no minimum value applied and the commission was 20 per cent.

Such changes stop "investors" buying up quantities of new issues. However, this has almost ceased with increases in face values of stamps worldwide and the increase in the number of issues.

Many Pacific countries have issued stamps featuring birds to coincide with Birdpex '90. The Philatelic exhibition was held during the 200th Ornithological Congress in Christchurch, New Zealand. Birdpex '90

was held from December 5 to 9. Countries which feature a bird theme included New Zealand, Norfolk Island, Papua New Guinea and Pitcairn Island.

So far Palau and Micronesia have issued stamps on the Pacifica theme of postal history and bear the Pacifica logo. Tuvalu recently announced that its planned issue has been cancelled. Each Pacific country watches the other to see whether to proceed. Once some of the larger countries take a lead the smaller ones follow, but none of the smaller countries can afford to take the lead in case it is left out in the cold.

In view of Australia's decision to dispense with one and two cent coins, Norfolk Island will not be issuing stamps with values less than five cents and those not divisible by five cents.

New issues include Vanuatu's first presentation packs, Tonga's Banded Iguana series, Pitcairn Islands Henderson Island Birds, Fiji's Native Timber Trees, and French Polynesia's Tapa series, featuring ladies in modern fabric tapa cloth. □



oppressed should tell the sad tales of the oppressed does keep some employed for a while, and diverts their attention from other issues that they could wreak havoc on," Samasoni wrote in *Illusions*. "This lobby's most attractive feature is the 'purist' entertainment which it provides for the rest of us."

Faifua "Junior" Amiga, who plays the leading role, is an unlikely film star. Just 20, he has already acted in three New Zealand feature films, including *Flying Fox*. He embarked on his film career when he was a 14-year-old student at Otago's Hillary College, auditioning for *The Silent One* so that he could skip a science class. He didn't win that role, but a year later he scored a part in *Kingpin*. He later had a role in *Mark II* and has gained several television parts.

Flying Fox is the tale of Pepe (Faifua Amiga), a young Samoan from the outback village of Sapepe who is torn between two cultures. From a naive village boy, he becomes a defiant city slicker rejecting the colonial ideals supported by his father.

Pepe has two mentors. One is Toasa, the old chief of his village — powerful and wise in traditional ways, impatient and sceptical over modern ways, mischievous and sardonic with innovations.

The other mentor is Tagata (Richard von Sturmer), a smart half-caste dwarf. Nicknamed "Flying Fox" because of his size, he proudly identifies as an oddity "flying fox with an eagle in the gut".

Pepe's father has been rejected by Toasa because of his passion for "god, money and success". However, Pepe rejects his father as well, and turns to violent crime in protest against his father's attitudes.

Pepe mimicks the "Yankee movies stars" by robbing his father's supermarket and then denounces the people's colonial hypocrisy in court. Imprisoned, Pepe is visited by his loyal friend Tagata.

As the story unfolds, the inner conflicts within both Pepe and Tagata grow. *The Flying Fox* spreads his eagle wings — he hangs himself.

But Pepe's destiny is to become his testament. He writes it while he is dying from

tuberculosis, ironically just like Tusitala, or Robert Louis Stevenson, died.

Creator Albert Wendt, now professor of New Zealand and Pacific literature at Auckland University, is the first Pacific Islander to hold a university chair in Australia or New Zealand. He contributed to each draft of the film script written by Sanderson.

The result, *Flying Fox* is an absorbing, poignant, moving and disturbing portrayal of Pacific cultural confusions and contradictions. □



Inspired: young Pepe sees himself as the folk-hero Pepesa

BOOKS



Duke of York Islanders with, in the background, the Samoan missionary and Steve, dressed as his wife

Hidden missionaries at work behind the scenes

Missionary Lives, Papua 1874-1914: a group portrait. By Dr Diane Langmore. University of Hawaii Press. Pacific Islands monograph series, no. 6. Honolulu, 1989. 408 pages: illustrated, bibliography, index, maps. US\$35.

Reviewed by Fabian Hutchinson

READING an old New Guinea travelogue, I noticed a rare view of missionary dress: the plate (Island films, 1926) mocks the Mother Hubbard image, and reminds us of two figures who are too often absent from the social history of missions: — women, and non-Europeans, who also “served”.

Diane Langmore's *Missionary Lives* dismantles stereotypes of the early missionary presence in Papua New Guinea (PNG). From sources in PNG, Australasia and Europe, she has produced a group portrait of the 327 European religious and lay workers in Papua before 1914. This work restores women to the picture.

However, her book (based on Australian National University doctoral work) excludes the Polynesian and Papuan missionaries, apart from marginal comments on European perceptions of their differences. The “native teachers” are

treated more closely in *Polynesian Missionaries in Melanesia* (USP, 1982); works by Dr David Wetherell *Reluctant Mission* (1977, on the Anglicans), Michael Young, and Miriam Kahin (in *JPH*) cover relations with Papuans.

Dr Langmore focuses on the lives and careers of the whole range of individuals within the four main agencies then in Papua: the London Missionary Society,

Methodists, Anglicans, and the Sacre Coeur mission orders.

Dr Langmore echoes veteran views of the pre-1914 era as a Golden Age of missions in Papua. Yet her work reveals uneven strands of development: from the rigidity of some earlier Pacific missionaries, to bearers of a new social gospel for “the brotherhood of man”.

Missionary stereotypes behind which



The South Sea Digest

The Newsletter on Islands Affairs. Every Other Friday.

South Sea Digest has all the latest business news, expertly streamlined and obtainable nowhere else.

Subscriptions: 25 issues — \$A150 for Australian subscriber; A\$175 overseas, all airmailed. Payment by cheque in A\$ and US\$, otherwise by bank draft.

Send payment to: The South Sea Digest, GPO Box 4245, Sydney, NSW 2001, Australia.

Name

Address

The Pacific Is Yours

Have all the information
at your fingertips — order
PIM publications NOW!



- Pacific Islands Yearbook
16th Edition — **AS\$45**
- Fiji Handbook
Business & Travel Guide — **AS\$14.95**
- Vanuatu, A Guide — **AS\$14.95**
- The Journal of
William Lockerby — **AS\$3.50**
- Map of Fiji — **AS\$3.50**
- Map of the Pacific — **AS\$3.50**

Number of copies being ordered:
 Pacific Islands Yearbook
 Fiji Handbook
 Vanuatu, A Guide
 The Journal of William Lockerby
 Fiji Islands map
 Pacific Islands map

◆ Enclosed is AS for payment
 ◆ Debit AS to my
☐ Bank Card ☐ VISA ☐ Master Card

Card No:

Expiry Date:

My Name:

Postal Address:

.....

.....

Country: Tel:

Post to: **PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY,
PO BOX 1167, SUVA, FIJI ISLANDS.**

BOOKS

she seeks the real actors were listed, as late as 1955, by James McAuley: the hero rescuing the heathen; the champion of native rights; the prude; the imperialistic exploiter; the religious bigot; and the anti-native-religion fanatic.

Dr Langmore surveys the missionaries' social backgrounds, and tries to construct "ideal types" for each of the four missions: but in all, "they were fairly typical products of their class and generation, distinguished ... by their common conviction of a particular call from god" (p.31). Another attempt to identify "ideal types" (p.262) is based on career styles: mystic, administrator, humanitarian, romantic.

The book broadly follows the stages in a missionary life, from background, training, and embarkation; into mission community, life-styles, recreation; roles and self images; the place of women; perception of the Papuan (problematic for cultural historians); on to wider contexts of Missions.

Motives (closely scrutinised in candidates' papers) varied: concern for the "perishing heathen"; more liberal later-19th Century soteriology; romance of foreign service; personal sanctity. Courses later added Comparative Religion, but "almost no-one was prepared specifically for the missionfield" (p.63).

Chapter 7 covers the women's impact, and the stresses under which they worked; only the LMS did not appoint women to Papua in this period (but did permit wives). Some SC nuns took a "fourth vow" of lifelong mission. Their "bush" life, rough, but without fears of violation, is vividly described.

In *Preaching, Teaching, Knocking around* (Ch.6, echoing her 1974 biography *Tamate*) we meet James Chalmers disavowing the home image of black-coated bible-bashers, at Exeter Hall. But his freer style of field work soon became exceptional.

Consolidation of evangelical work took primacy. Tensions with the non-European catechists are briefly observed: LMS and AWMS perceptions of native teachers as "bullying" in using the Old Testament, seem specious (p.146, 153-4). Worth more analysis are selective responses to a "new cosmology" by Papuan cultures, that so baffled the missionaries (p.147). While all the missions kept up village teaching, the author shows that the missionaries turned more towards settlement (translation, industrial training, administration) roles, and their contact with their flocks tended to lessen (p.162).

Dr Langmore views anthropology as

"crucial" in giving missionaries a "conceptual framework" (p.111), but at its most "diffuse" (p.113) this was just a discovery that Papuans were religious! The influence of Fraser and Tylor "opened shuttered minds" (p.114). But historians of religion will want to know how the new shutters (cultural evolutionism, acceptable levels of religion) worked in certain settings.

Among diverse impressions of "savages" ... with redeeming traits", and texts from ethnology to "cannibal" tales, we may find cases of dissonance: the same Saville who produced a study of the Mailu (p.112), wrote "laws" (p.129) for keeping mission/native distance and discipline. Attitudes or ideas of paternalism, monogenism or racial degeneracy partly explain this. But the colonial position of privilege allowed the missionary a very

wide range of choice.

In Papuan contexts, this made for new answers to the old question about "civilising or converting". Various missions took particular approaches to exchanging cultural traits.

Dr Langmore defends the Papua missionaries from charges of iconoclasm made by later anthropologists. Did they destroy traditional culture, substituting their own values? Her useful but brief account of attitudes to polygamy and other customs leaves room for further inquiry. As her astute observation on "paternalism" suggests, "a relationship ... could be exploited by both sides" (p.130). So could customs.

It is also ironic, in Langmore's view, that the Papuans often simply did not perceive the distinction between missionaries and officials. The claim that Papuans often used missionaries as mediators, or "exploited the differences" (p.230), deserves documenting.

Dr Langmore's work displaces stereotypes, yet readers need not accept a composite conclusion that the missionaries were mediators between two cultures (p.240). That they were "the main agents of European culture" (p.xi) is more apposite.

The work is clearly written, well illustrated, and a useful addition to PNG history. Its extensive biographical appendices, providing materials for further references, enhance its value.

Fabian Hutchinson is a Melbourne research archivist and author of reference guides to the region: *Pacific Archives in Australia*, finding the sources, 1990, and *Guide to historical sources of Missionary activities in the Pacific Islands in British institutions*, 1985. (microfiche, pub. by Past Papers, PO Box 218, Carlton South PO, Vic. 3053, Australia).

PACIFIC PEOPLE

Carving a path for art

By Angela McCarthy

IF versatility is the key to success, then Mike Tavioni has got what it takes. The 42-year-old Cook Islander, who is the most established artist on Rarotonga, is a tie-dyer, screen printer, carver, painter and poet.

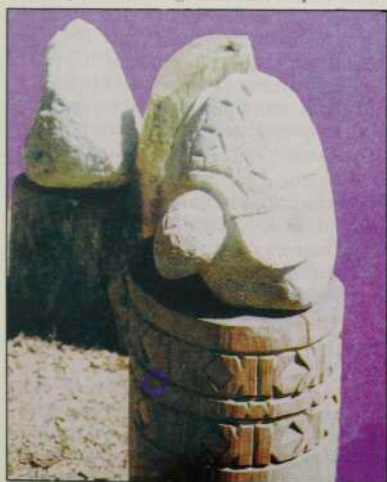
He is a short, bulky man whose surprisingly hoarse voice rattles off anecdotes at an increasingly fast rate as he warms to our conversation and, like his art, his conversation changes direction frequently.

"Maybe I'm too lazy, or doing too many things at once — when painting coral I can't keep up supplies of things like handpainted clothes. The fault's all mine — I have a problem — I get excited about something and then I get tired of it, so I try and pass on the ideas to others but it doesn't always work.

"Fortunately I enjoy working in all mediums. With oils, when things happen I enjoy it, but I get frustrated when things don't happen. In my situation I can always leave it until later. So I'm never bored — when I can't express myself anymore, I leave it a while."

This willingness to experiment with new things and to change direction has marked Mike's work since the beginning.

His interest in art began back in 1975 when he was going to New Zealand on holiday from his agricultural department



Carved turtles: decorative and saleable



Mike Tavioni: turns his hand to a multitude of art forms ranging from carving to painting

job. He wanted to wear a Cook Island printed T-shirt but couldn't buy one. He noticed the proliferation of printed T-shirts in New Zealand, bought a book on screenprinting and, once back in Rarotonga, began to experiment.

He says that initially he couldn't really understand the jargon of the book. "The book talked of squeegees — I had never heard of them. I couldn't make a screenprint at first so I used carved pieces of wood.

"Once I even used the top of an old battery top to print a pattern. Then I went on to using a plywood and particle board to develop a better screen."

In 1979 Mike and his family became involved in three shops, all selling Tavioni tie-dyed or screen-printed T-shirts, dresses and shirts. During the 11 years since his first commercial venture, he has tried many other art mediums and is presently selling from just one shop — Tavioni Arts — which stocks his carvings and other handcrafts, as well as hand- and screen-printed clothing that is now done by his wife Awhitia.

The screenprinting and tie-dyed garments also sell in other outlets in Rarotonga, as well as in Aggie Greys in Western Samoa. His workshop, which is situated on the back road to town attracts a lot of tourists who stop to watch him actually working on the products. It is full of carved products ranging from tangaroas and other traditional gods to wooden hooks, keyrings, and drums.

The major achievement to him is that

he is now self-employed doing something that he loves.

"I have had no art training in drawing or carving which I think is good, because I'm forced to create and use things that maybe I wouldn't otherwise use. I try anything.

"However it is a scary business. It was a good move for me to go beyond parous and t-shirts to handcrafts because I can't make enough of some of those things now for the tourist trade. Yet I'm scared to expand the company as I'm scared I won't be able to pay the wages. The trouble is that the numbers of tourists here ebb and flow," explains Mike.

Irregular tourist trade isn't the only problem for people like Mike who want to live off their artwork in the Cook Islands. Materials are not readily accessible on the island. Take wood, for example. Native wood such as tamanu — a good canoe-making timber — is hard to find on Rarotonga today, so he gets a lot of his wood from the rubbish dump, from people clearing land, and from demolition sites.

Tools are also a problem. "Access to the proper tools for painting, carving or whatever is a big headache. I buy them whenever I can. My first carving tool cot came from a Tahitian in the late seventies who was living next door and running out of money, so I bought his tools off him and started then to learn how to use them properly," says Mike.

"In the first years I wanted to carve

PACIFIC PEOPLE

coral, having seen it done in Tahiti, but I didn't want to use my only wood carving chisels on the coral because it would ruin them. When I became president of the Canoe Club and travelled with them, I was able to buy more chisels so now I have been able to experiment with the coral and it's been quite a success with the tourists."

To Mike, these and other difficulties, such as financing, restrict not only him but all Cook Islanders involved in art.

"I think we have a lot of creativity in our people — look at our dancing. But you see we need no tools to dance. I wish that creativity could move through all mediums to make art here complete. Of all the resources in the Cook Islands what is going to exist and remain in existence after us is our art. Local artists should be prepared to create art in whatever form. The ancestors created the tangaros for their own time — why do we just keep repeating it? We have to create our own things, keeping traditional flavours but not letting them restrict our creativity."

The irony with Mike is that, despite such beliefs, he must mass-produce the old traditional figures in various forms for the tourist trade so that he can make a living from his art. He believes that the government should do more for artists.

"Look at traditional canoe making! It is dying; it is already dead in Rarotonga. Some outer islanders still have traditional canoe-makers though. If they were recognised by government as professionals and helped more financially with the work, then the young people learning from them would feel assured of a living, and the art of canoe-making might not disappear.

"The governments run outer island carving workshops but workshops don't produce experts," says Mike. "The government needs to buy local art to give it status and prove they value and support artists. The business sector



Tribute to Father: Tavioni's painting shows his father's spirit moving over the shadows of the Rarotongan mountains towards a better life.

should follow suit. We get help sometimes from aid donors. I have just received aid money from Germany for a potter's wheel, bandsaw, etcetera. That sort of thing makes a big difference to what we can produce, but we need more support locally."

To increase production by and support for local artists, Mike set up an association in the mid-1970s which still holds annual exhibitions to press government to recognise the arts. These display a varied level of artistic ability, because one of the association's principles is to encourage people trying to create who can't make a living from it.

"For me, if I stuck to just painting I'd sell maybe six a year — I can't live on that," Mike says.

"I live off my art because of t-shirts, contract jobs, carving, etcetera."

Mike is well known on Rarotonga for his generosity and willingness to work with others. Over the years he has run workshops at the University of the South Pacific and at his own workplace, in everything from tie-dyeing to bonecarving. His intention is to pass on the basics to others.

For many locals on the island Mike is seen as a carver above all else, although his carvings can vary immensely in quality and design. Two of his most well-known pieces are with government: the panels on the Prime Minister's desk and the Tauranga Vananaga (Cultural Development Ministry) sign. The Cultural Development Secretary, Jon Jonassen, asked Mike to apply for the new Master Carver position in the Ministry of

Cultural Development department. He does not want to — he feels he is not experienced enough in canoe making despite his talents as both a carver and canoeist.

"For such a job you need to be experienced in three areas — traditional art such as canoe making, local decorative art, and creative contemporary art. It is going to be hard to find someone who can co-ordinate all three areas," says Mike. "I make accessories for canoes like paddles, but the truly traditional canoe-making is done by a priest for canoe-making — a traditional professional — not me."

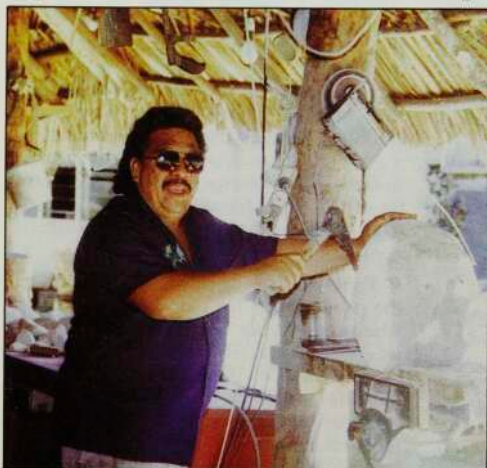
Jon Jonassen says the position has been vacant since March, and is the first of a number of art-oriented positions they hope to set up. They realise that it will be hard to find someone with the skills, but they're hoping to employ someone who could at least work towards it.

For Mike there are too many other things he'd prefer to do, and dislikes having to be in a certain place because it is his job to be there. He is happiest working for himself on whatever project appeals at the time, while keeping the basic shop products rolling out.

His latest project has been designing logos for the 1992 Pacific Arts Festival, after he won a competition in partnership with artist/carver Uango Williams.

At his workshop, Mike shows me the last of his coral carvings which are rough looking, simply designed faces and shapes. He then takes me inside and brings out a portfolio of meticulous ink drawings and designs.

The variety is astounding. His subject matter is always Rarotongan and a blend of the old with the new. It is Cook Island art, and he is making a living from it — and that for Mike Tavioni is as much as he could ask for. □



The ingenious Tavioni: he experiments with an array of tools to create art from coral.

INTERVIEW

Jon Jonassen: heading new cultural development body

THE Secretary of Cook Islands' new Ministry of Cultural Development, Jon Jonassen, is a composer and traditional drummer. He worked as Foreign Affairs Secretary and was Director of Programmes for three years for the South Pacific Commission in Noumea. His new ministry, known locally as *Tauranga Vanaga*, is geared to promoting the indigenous language, customs, traditions and cultural practices. One of Jonassen's major projects is the 1992 6th Pacific Arts Festival in the Cook Islands. Jonassen spoke to *Pacific Island Monthly's* Angela McCarthy in Rarotonga:

What is the work of the new ministry?

It is wide-ranging and looks not only at traditional arts and culture but contemporary aspects as well. The new Ministry is called *Tauranga Vanaga* (Nest of Knowledge) or Ministry of Cultural Development because the Prime Minister considers the emphasis should be on the development of art and culture. We don't just want our culture strong in ourselves but we want it to sustain people and encourage income-generating activities.

How do you see this happening?

This can happen across the board. Take *marae*, for example. They are important in terms of tourism so we need to develop on this so they become something tourists respect and want to know more about. But also they are important to us culturally so we want to encourage the use of *maraes* in the old ways too, such as for investitures. Investitures need the traditional costume of *tipute* which is made from the breadfruit or wild hibiscus bark. By encouraging traditional investitures we bring back the utilisation of this type of clothing and establish a trade. We are creating a need which creates a job and also provides for tourists.

Does this sustain a culture or does it just use or exploit it?

Look at Hawaii, shops are selling carvings, there is the Polynesian Centre, people always say "Aloha" ... these are all yardsticks of how alive a culture is.

But in some ways the feeling about Hawaii — or Waikiki anyway — is that you could be anywhere and that the carvings are so massproduced that they could be from anywhere.

Well it is not everyday culture any more ... maybe some of the spirit is gone from the carvings, but the carving is there as a Polynesian piece of art. It's difficult — but you can turn around the tourism and use it to sustain culture.

What is your personal brief?

I have two main projects. The first is to coordinate the ministry. You see, the

embryo was here from last year when preparations started for the 25th 1990 Constitutional Celebrations. I joined in February, and with the support of Cabinet and the Public Service Commissioner have added on staff and gathered in the other branches for which the department is now responsible — Archives, Museum and Library. In the past these three worked more or less independently and often overlapped. My second project is to get preparations underway for the 6th Pacific Arts Festival which we are hosting in 1992 ...

What is happening so far with the arts festival?

The Arts Council met here in December to approve the programme we have proposed. Then we have to move on it. It is a huge exercise to organise — from accommodation, catering and transport to the actual arts and cultural programmes. Using figures from the past festivals at Townsville and Tahiti we are predicting that at least 3000 people will be coming — a lot of people.

Our Ministry have set up a 1992 Arts Festival Committee to start organising the different areas. There are three of our permanent staff on the committee and more will be added, as well as a lot of voluntary help. We are pursuing many fundraising activities. I personally want to involve as many groups as possible — utilise the two art groups and the writers and music groups. It's a scary responsibility — the more help and involvement the better.

What is the theme for the festival?

The theme is *Seafaring Pacific Islanders*. The New Zealand Maori are retracing their tracks here to prove they did pass through the Cook Islands — the Hawaiians may also, and the Tahitians. Samoa and Tonga are said to have come here, too, and we would like them to prove it by retracing their journeys of the past as well.

A challenge?

Yes. As part of the preparation for the festival the Prime Minister announced earlier this year that a NZ\$20 million cultural centre will be built. There has been a lot of negative reaction to the cost of the complex, with people, including artists, saying it is not needed. To put it in perspective the original concept was proposed so that the Prime Minister had a total plan to present to potential donors. We need something better for the festival. Major activities like this often force the hand for establishing infrastructures. We got our National Stadium because we were hosting the Mini Games and it is used frequently now. The old Constitution Park (where the festival will be based) has a very old building. The new building will include sports facilities, better staging for the song quest, beauty pageants, dancing shows etc. However there is a budgetary constraint. For 1990 the ministry had only NZ\$300,000 to spend on the site. Most of that has gone in plans and landfill.



Dr Macu Salato

Former Fiji diplomat, South Pacific leader passes away in NZ

DR Macu Salato, who served as a Fiji diplomat, secretary-general of the South Pacific Commission and director of the Pacific Islands Development Programme, died in Auckland in November aged 75. Dr Macu was elected in 1970 as the first non-European Mayor of Suva in Fiji, and served as Fiji's Acting High Commissioner in London, and ambassador to the European Community in Brussels.

PACIFIC PEOPLE

Can you name some of the achievements of *Tauranga Vananga* last year?

One of the things I did when I came in was to look at the things shelved since the 70s and one was the Maori Language Committee. So the Ministry has been involved with the Education Department in setting up a committee that aims to strengthen the role of the Maori language through the Cook Islands.

We are also hoping to soon complete a book on the oral traditions of Aitutaki, which will be the first of a number of manuscripts we expect to publish. Much of the original work has come from the ministry that was disbanded in the 70s — we are editing it and looking for publishers. Getting everything in order and typed up has been quite a problem but with the addition of another typist we should go faster now. We were involved in the largest and most difficult constitution celebration yet held here, and organising the sale of an audio-cassette of the celebrations from which the artists involved will get royalties for the first time.

We ran the August *Tumu Korero* on the theme of seafaring oral traditions where we got all the outer islands (oral) specialists together and, from this, gathered important information relevant to the festival and to our history. This is now on tape and in documents at the archives.

We are also in the process of setting up a Cook Islands National Art Theatre, focussing on traditional dances etc. We are awaiting approval from Cabinet to go ahead with that one. There are also many proposals on paper like a culture video unit, slack guitar workshop and support for community self-help activities.

Disappointments?

One big disappointment here for me is that the islands do give low priority to culture. The Prime Minister gives it very high priority, but generally speaking people tend to take their culture for granted. Also the budget is too small for the aims and objectives of the ministry — NZ\$1,212,600. Lack of space is another problem. We presently have the Ombudsman offices in between ours although he is moving soon. It is hard to be organised when we are all on top of one another.

Some people in Rarotonga, including artists, feel that the ministry is more interested in making money out of culture rather than promoting culture for its own sake. What is your view?

I think that is a premature judgement. The ministry needs to be looked at in perspective — I believe its survival is linked with doing productive activity — I honestly do. A cultural division existed before and was done away with. Why was it so easy to wipe it out? Because people wanted to see results and didn't. People criticise our budget but they don't see that it cost NZ\$300,000 to bring the Northern Group islands alone to Rarotonga for

the Constitution Celebrations this year. I don't see the tourist as an enemy but as a friend. It's tourism that sustains people like (carver/tyedye t-shirt artist) Mike Tavioni. He supplies the same old products like *tangaroa*, but he also spends time creating. Then there is the t-shirt factory. They are creative and use traditional and new designs. People involved commercially, like them, are trying to bring back old motifs and incorporate them into their own designs — part of the presentation of what is the Cook Islands. If they are able to survive they become resource people that we can utilise, say, with workshops. That is not to say that we ignore uncommercial interests like *marae* and recording oral traditions. A blend of tourist production and creative production is needed.

Many overseas artists get government grants and fellowships to do certain projects — wouldn't that be a better way of encouraging creativity here?

That idea is incorporated into the Ministry Act and will hopefully be linked with the Cook Islands Art Council so that they can look at applications and choose candidates with us putting up the grant. But once again we have budgetary restraints. If we could get help from organisations overseas it would be more possible. Right now we are having amazing interest in canoe carving and groups are asking for help with purchasing tools, and we can't even help from our own budget with that. We're actually looking through other governmental channels for assistance. We hope in the future once we are more established that such things can happen.

I hear there is going to be a Cook Islands painting going to Namibia soon — how did that happen?

There has been increasing interest in us as a point of contact since we were set up, and particularly with the attention connected to the 1992 festival. We got a direct letter inviting us to donate a painting. We have to cover the cost of freight and insurance which is surprisingly expensive. The artist is donating the work for the Cook Islands.

How can you help people with their art right now?

We can be a channel for them to overseas grants and interested parties, and we are trying to promote arts with prizes etc. We hope to have something like an Artist of the Year award soon, similar to Dancer of the Year. We ran the logo competition for the Arts Festival and gave out NZ\$900 in prizemoney for that — we are now running a festival song composition competition in conjunction with the music association. We are using local artists to illustrate the book on islands' oral traditions we are editing — if possible using artists from the particular islands concerned. In fact

whatever work we have we want to give to local artists. Our new sign, done by Mike Tavioni, is a good example of this happening. We want to network with artists but we can only help them if they tell us what they want. They need to feel that it is their ministry too. □

PM appears in loan hearing

SOLOMON Islands Prime Minister **Solomon Mamaloni** has appeared before the country's Leadership Code Commission to give evidence on his connection with a proposed US\$250 million loan from an Italian lending agency. Opposition Leader **Andrew Nori** had called on the Commission to investigate, saying arrangements for the loan did not have Parliament's approval.

Independent Western Samoan parliamentarian **Tupuola Sola Siaso** has joined the Opposition Samoa National Democratic Party (SNDP). He said his decision was influenced by an overwhelming support in his constituency for SNDP leader **Tupua Tamasese Efi** and his deputy, **Vaai Kolone**.

Former Fiji Labour Party general secretary **Krishna Datt** has taken over from Australian **Richard Walsham** as secretary-general of the Council of Pacific Teachers Organisations. He will be based in Suva. Datt was a teacher and was president of the Fiji Teachers' Union, an Indian organisation, on two terms from 1974-77 and 1983-87. He was Finance Minister in the Coalition government ousted in a military coup in 1987. □

PACIFIC PEOPLE

Man of peace dies

Kanak father figure, Roch Pidjot, foresaw a bloody independence battle

About 400 people attended the burial of Roch Pidjot on November 25 in the tribal village of La Conception in the outskirts of Noumea. He was well known as the co-founder of the Union Caledonienne and the first Kanak to be elected to the French parliament (where he represented New Caledonia from 1964 to 1976).

"The old Pidjot", as he liked to be called, was the father figure of the long struggle of the Kanak people for independence. In a telegram sent to his family, President Mitterrand saluted the memory of "the careful and obstinate defender of the rights of the Kanaks, the one who symbolised their legitimate claim".

Pidjot's ancestors lived in Pouebo on the east coast of New Caledonia, but he was born and baptised in 1907 in la Conception, a catholic tribal village artificially created by the Marists at the end of the 19th century.

Until the age of 39, Pidjot lived like all the other Kanaks under the *code de l'indigenat* (indigenous people code) which meant taxes, restrictions of residence and travel, and compulsory labor obligation. He therefore had to sow seeds of mimosa on the hills and to carry mail on his back for the administration. As chief of his tribe, he had to collect taxes for the colony.

Father Luneau, a Catholic priest, spotted this bright young boy in the primary school in Paita. So when both the Catholic and Protestant churches created movements in order to promote the interests of Melanesians "by initiating them into public life", Roch Pidjot became the leader of the UICALO (Union des Indigenes Caledoniens amis de la Liberte dans l'ordre Union of Caledonian natives for Liberty in Order).

Its protestant counterpart was the AICLF (Association des indigenes Caledoniens et loyalties frangais, or Association of French Caledonian and Loyalty island natives).

The UICALO and the AICLF merged and prepared a platform in 1951 for a new political movement: the Union Caledonienne (Caledonian Union) which was officially created in 1953. Its motto was "two colors, one people", and its impact among Melanesian and working class settlers could be soon measured: the UC-backed Candidate for the 1951

legislative election, Maurice Lenormand, defeated the conservative candidate.

This was a thunderstorm in Caledonian politics. Kanaks who had been recently given the right to vote were clearly showing their strength.

In 1953 the elections for the "general council" saw the UC's second victory: it won 15 of the 25 seats. Nine of these 15 winners were Melanesians. Roch Pidjot was one of them. The UC was becoming the largest political party in New Caledonia.

Almost every single political leader of today was then a UC member.

The 1956 *Loi Cadre* (Framework law) increased local powers through new "councils of government" in overseas Territories.

Roch Pidjot thus became the minister for rural economy, then the vice-President of the local Council of Government. From 1952 to 1956 Labour laws, family allowances, legal paid leaves, and equal pay for Kanak workers were gradually passed. Pidjot was elected president of the UC at the first official congress of the party in 1956.

Later, in 1964, he replaced Lenormand at the National Assembly in Paris. Every attempt by the Conservative forces to stop the UC seemed to fail and Pidjot was almost constantly re-elected despite the various combined efforts made by the Administration and the local business interests. In Paris, Pidjot was first a member of the centre group then joined the socialists, before seating among the "independents". In 1976 he was elected President of the Territorial Assembly of New Caledonia.

In Paris, he stubbornly advocated reforms for New Caledonia leading to the emancipation of the Kanak community. But most of the time he felt that he was "preaching in the desert".

During the 1970s, the UC lost ground on its left and on its right: a new generation of radical, educated Kanaks emerged. On the other side, many settlers thought things were going too fast and either left or were expelled.

After a claim for the return to the *loi cadre* statute was turned down in Paris in 1975, the UC moved towards adopting an independence platform. It was in Pidjot's tribe, la Conception, that on June 7, 1975, representatives of various pro-independence movements officially asked for Kanak independence.

"The Kanaks must organise the trial of France after 120 years of French presence in New Caledonia. No to France. Yes to Independence," he said.

A year later, in an open letter in the French Newspaper *Le Monde* entitled "NC on the verge of sinking", Pidjot wrote: "Where is New Caledonia today?

She is sinking into a crisis whose end cannot be seen. This crisis is accompanied by a real desperation of the population looking for a future ... it is a country where some whites are beginning to be scared of blacks. They have been forced to pack up 100 years ago. They are still standing with their suitcases in their hands.

"This doesn't prevent well-off people from sleeping soundly. Twenty-four years before the year

2000, this is just astounding. For 25 years we have been endlessly claiming a statute of autonomy which is premised by the preamble of the French Constitution.

"... if the statute of the Territory does not lead to autonomy shortly and before 1978, the odds are high that Caledonians, in a desperate move, turn to independence for their survival."

Violence erupted in 1981/82 and 1984/85. In 1986, Roch Pidjot, who had become the honorary President of the umbrella group FLNKS formed in 1984, put an end to his political career.

The death of his wife in 1984, a long and painful illness, and the tragic killings of many of his companions saddened the final years of the man of peace.

According to Darnard Grasset, the High Commissioner of the French Republic: "Had he been listened to earlier by less deaf ears, then much blood, sweat and tears would have been saved." □



Roch Pidjot: Kanak defender

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY MARKET PLACE

For the benefit of our readers who would like to place a small classified advertisement in our magazine, Market Place will assist you in selling personal items, accommodation, real estate, boating or a service ... in fact anything you would like to sell to our over 50,000 readers. Market Place Advertising Rates are structured to allow you to place as many advertisements as you wish, economically.

CORRESPONDENCE

Sincere, eligible Australian gentlemen wish to correspond with Pacific ladies, all ages/races. Free registration. For full details, please write to: ASIAPAC, PO BOX 231, Maylands 6052, AUSTRALIA.

OVERSEAS FUNDING

Unlimited overseas funding for any National Government and private company's viable projects. No front fees. Send proposal to Pan Asia Management Consultants Center Box 4295, BOROKO, NCD, Papua New Guinea.

DISTRIBUTOR WANTED

Manufacturer of a line of spray aerosol products that speed production in the garment factory: Silicone Spray, Spot Lifter, Pattern Adhesive, Emery Sharpening Stone Wheel Cleaner, Fusing Machine Cleaner, etc. Write Sprayway, Inc., Addison, IL 60101-4468, FAX 1 (708) 543-7797.

TRUCK MECHANIC

32 year old with 12 years experience in Europe and New Zealand, seeks job on one of Pacific Islands. C.V. & references available. Eric Willers, Flat 3/36A Harman St., Christchurch, New Zealand, Tel (03) 3385629.

AGENTS/DISTRIBUTORS WANTED

Qualified Agents/Distributors wanted for small primary and rechargeable batteries. Products available include Alkaline, Carbon-zinc, Mercury, Silver, Lithium, NiCad, Gel-Cell and Lead-Acid. Please contact Pacific Power Products, P.O. Box 2756, Redmond, WA 98073 USA, Phone 206-881-0564, Telex 212495 PACPP UR

HYDRAULICS

Distributors wanted for all areas outside Fiji for our hydraulic fittings and hose. Send for our Company profile. Quality products at very competitive prices.

Hydraulink Fluid Connectors Limited PO Box 12 826, Penrose, Auckland, NZ. Ph: 64 9 643 787 Fax: 64 9 645 865

COMMERCIAL PRINTING

Top quality four colour printing, brochures, posters, packaging, product labels, fabric labels, billboards, books, magazines, stickers, books. Export quality. Contact Fiji's most experienced Commercial Printers. FIJI TIMES COMMERCIAL PRINTING, P.O. Box 1167, Suva, Fiji. Phone: 304111 Fax. 301521.

ANTIQUE BOOKS, MAPS & PRINTS

Antique Books, Maps & Prints of Pacific Islands. Free list available of items for sale. Colin Hinchcliffe. 12 Queens Staith Mews, York U.K.

HYDRAULIC EQUIPMENT

Comprehensive range of competitively priced pumps, motors, cylinders and valves. Agents for Sauer-Sundstrand hydrostatics. Australian Hydraulics Company, PO Box 227, Rydalmere NSW 2116, Australia, Fax: 61-2-638.0544.

SCRAP METAL

Good prices paid for your clean scrap Aluminium, Brass, Copper, Lead, etc. Contact Nonferral Pty. Ltd. 23 Davis Rd. Wetherill Park NSW 2164 Australia. Fax 61 2 604 1304 for prompt reply. Our Company is a long established and leading metal buyer and smelter. Telephone 61 2 604 8855.

IMMIGRATION

Migrate to Australia with our expert assistance. Businessmen/skilled people/teachers/professionals send details in confidence. CKP AUSTRALIA, Box 2252, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia.

JEEP TIRES

Jeep Tires * Heavy duty military surplus, 6ply nylon, 700 x 16LW on rims. US \$25.00ea or five/US\$100.00. Quantity discount available. On Maui, Hawaii 808-572-0462

SELF ADHESIVE LABELS

FORUM LABELS (FIJI) LTD

P.O. Box 1167, Suva., Fiji. Phone: 304111 We print self-adhesive labels in rolls, multi-coloured labels with hot foil, and die cut to shape, tickets and tags in rolls. We also supply labelling machines and fabric labels.

PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY

MARKET PLACE CAN WORK WONDERS FOR YOU ...

Promote your business, or service, sell your household items, cars or heavy machinery etc.

**ONLY AU\$1 PER WORD.
NO COMPANY LOGO. NO
DISPLAY. NO BOLD TYPE.**

Just forward your Advertisement together with payment to: PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY "Market Place", P.O. Box 1167, Suva, Fiji.

CONDITIONS:

- 1/ All Advertisements are subject to acceptance and approval of publisher.
2. Advertisements are published as space permits; we cannot guarantee date of insertion.
3. All advertisements must be prepaid and should be typed or printed clearly.
4. Deadline for receipt of advertisements is the 10th of the month prior to issue.
5. PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY assumes no responsibility for any service other than publishing paid advertisements in this section.

THE POSSIBILITIES ARE ENDLESS.



DIGITAL DIARY SF-9500

IC CARD SYSTEM
A flat-key version SF-9000
is also available

• Unlimited Memory Capacity

Each optional ES-100 RAM card provides an additional 64KB of external storage with memory backup.

• Expanded Application Software

- ES-600* Spelling checker and Thesaurus dictionary
- ES-610* Spelling checker with financial and legal terms
- ES-620* Spelling checker with medical terms
- ES-630** Casio Power Spreadsheet by Lucide 3-D (available soon)
- ES-800 Travel Conversations English-Spanish (available soon)

Many more IC cards will soon be available.

• Compatible with IBM PCs

Using the interface unit, you can link the SF-9500 with an IBM PC*** SFD TOOL-B (MF-4000) is also available for even wider use with IBM personal computers.

• Wide Range of Database Software

Database software are floppy disks storing special information for the SF-9500. Four Database software varieties are currently available, with more to follow. They are: MF-10, MF-11, MF-12 and MF-13, all are loaded with business and travel information for the world's major cities.

• Easy, Portable Printout of Stored Data

With the optional CP-9 Copy Pen, you can print SF-9500 data into a notebook. Or use the CP-9 as a compact copier to transfer data from any text onto almost any kind of paper.



Copy Pen CP-9 ▶

* International CorrectSpell system, Electronic Thesaurus, Right Word Usage Alert and Abbreviation Expander developed by Houghton Mifflin Company, publishers of the *The American Heritage Dictionary* and *Roget's II: The New Thesaurus*.
 ** Lucide 3-D is a registered trademark of PCSD, Inc.
 *** IBM is a registered trademark of IBM Corporation. Use limited to certain models. Refer to catalogs and other materials for list of applicable personal computers.

AUSTRALIA: MOEX PTY. LTD.
UNIT 1, GIBBS STREET
CHATSWOOD N.S.W. 2067
Fiji ISLANDS: BRILAL & CO., LTD.
G.P.O. BOX NO. 362
SUVA, FIJI ISLANDS
CALEDONIA: BRECKWOLDT SARL
BP 2369 NOUMEA

NEW ZEALAND: MONACO CORP. LTD.
41 POLAND ROAD, GLENFIELD
AUCKLAND, NEW ZEALAND
NORFOLK ISLANDS: BURNT PINE TRADERS LTD.
P.O. BOX 21, NORFOLK ISLANDS

PAPUA NEW GUINEA: SENGCO NIUGINI PTY. LTD.
P.O. BOX 1886, BOROBU
PAPUA NEW GUINEA
TAHITI: MAISON AURORE
30, RUE COLLETTE
PAPEETE, TAHITI
VANUATU: FUNG KUEI
P.O. BOX 51, PORT VILA

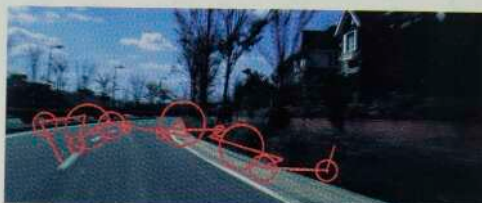
CASIO COMPUTER CO., LTD.
Tokyo, Japan

An Eye to Total Safety.



For Mitsubishi Motors both passive and active safety have equal importance, and rather than being added ingredients, are guide-lines that every component, system and stage of design must follow.

This approach to total safety involves exhaustive and innovative research methods, particularly into the physical reactions of motorists to various driving situations. In designing the Galant, for example, Mitsubishi's engineers mapped what drivers looked at while cornering. They found that drivers of some cars had much narrower fields of vision, indicating a high level of tension due to poor vehicle handling. By comparison, their tests with the Galant and its integrated drive system, Dynamic-4 showed that with better handling, wider



Vision tracking shows how the Galant's superior handling results in lower driver tension indicated by a wider field of vision.

fields of vision indicated lower levels of tension in the driver.

Using advanced technology to define and attain safety standards is further evidence of Mitsubishi's guiding principle of answering the needs and preferences of today's drivers—an on-going philosophy of putting technology to work for you.



MITSUBISHI GALANT

AMERICAN SAMOA: PACIFIC MARKETING INC. P.O. Box 698, Pago Pago, Tel. 699-9140/AUSTRALIA: MITSUBISHI MOTORS AUSTRALIA LTD. Box 1284, South Road, Clovelly Park, South Australia 5042, Tel. (08) 275-7297/
FIJI: NIVIS MOTOR & MACHINERY CO., LTD. G.P.O. Box 150, Suva, Tel. 383411/FRENCH POLYNESIA (TAHITI): SOPADEP S.A. P.O. Box 1617, Papeete, Tahiti, Tel. 4-202-58/NEW CALEDONIA: SOCIETE D'IMPORTATION
D'AUTO DU PACIFIQUE SUD S.A. B.P. 438 Rond Point du Pacifique, Noumea, Tel. 274144/NEW ZEALAND: MITSUBISHI MOTORS NEW ZEALAND LTD. Private Bag, Porirua, Tel. 370-109/NORFOLK ISLAND: BORRYS
PTY. LTD. P.O. Box 169, Norfolk Island, Tel. 2114/PAPUA NEW GUINEA: TOBA PTY. LTD. P.O. Box 503, Port Moresby, Tel. 21-7874/SOLOMON ISLANDS: HARVEST PACIFIC LTD. G.P.O. Box 823, Honiara, Guadalcanal,
Tel. 30128/TONGA: SITANI MAFI CO., LTD. P.O. Box 83, Nuku'ALOFA, Tel. 24-044/VANUATU: SOCOMETRA B.P. 06 Route de Lagon, Port Vila, Tel. 2314/WESTERN SAMOA: MOTOR DISTRIBUTORS LTD. P.O. Box 576,
Apia, Tel. 209577/SAIPAN/POHNPEI/MAJURO/KOSRAE/TRUK/YAP/BELAU: MICRONESIAN MOTORS, INC. 997 South Marine Drive, Tamuning, Guam 96911, Tel. 646-6827