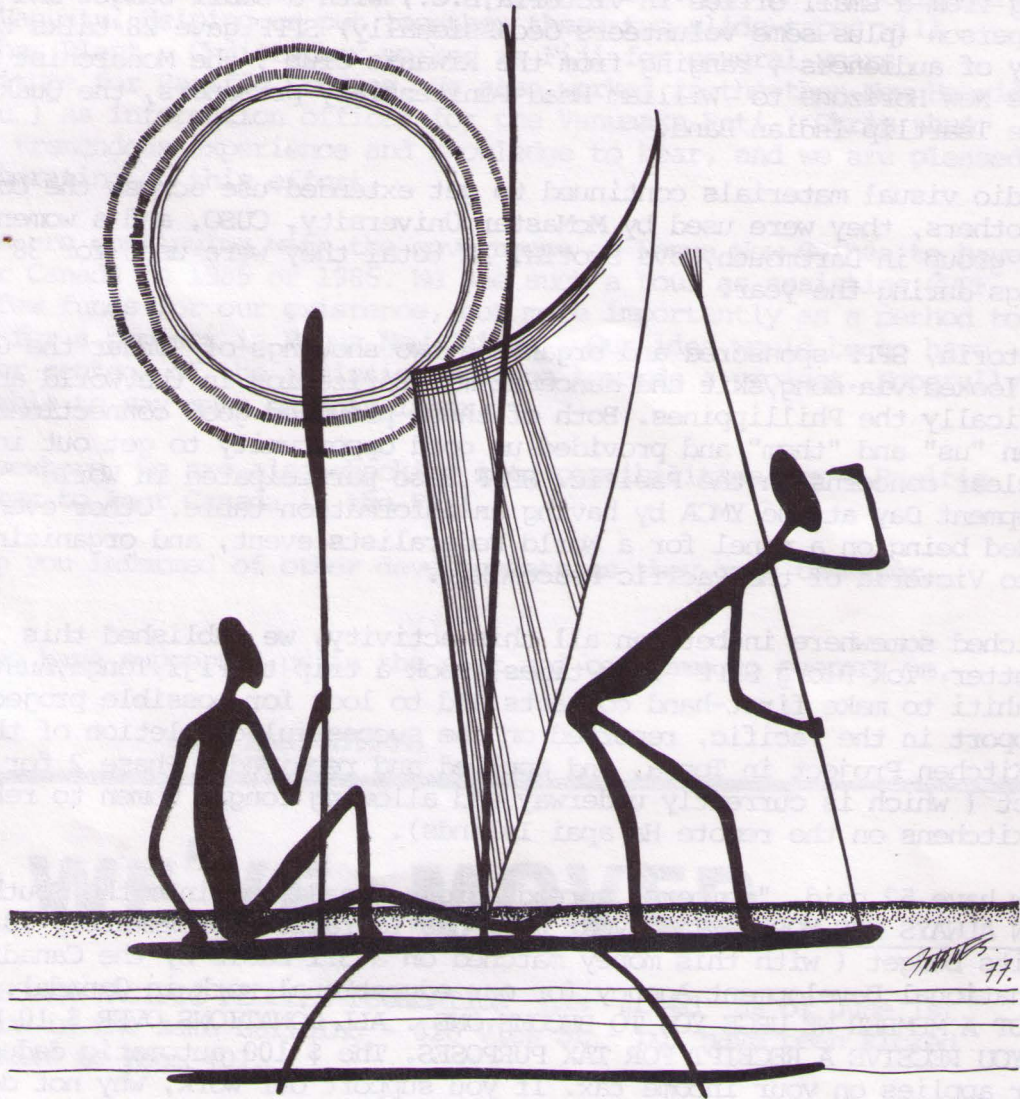


# Tok Blong SPPF

SPRING/SUMMER 1984 #8



**ABOUT THE COVER:** This design is by Powesiu Lawes of Papua New Guinea, and is from his book *Wati Kui*, which was printed in November, 1978. For those of you not familiar with this PNG artist, we recommend it to you. Contact the Expressive Arts Department, Sogeri National High School, Sogeri, Papua New Guinea.



# SPPF IN REVIEW

Over the year April 1, 1983- March 31, 1984 , the South Pacific Peoples Foundation of Canada (SPPF) continued to expand its educational programmes in Canada.

Working from a small office in Victoria, B.C., with a small budget and one staff person (plus some volunteers occasionally) SPPF gave 28 talks to a variety of audiences , ranging from the Kiwanis Club , the Monarchist League, and the New Horizons to William Head Penitentiary prisoners, the Quakers and the Tsartlip Indian Band.

Our audio visual materials continued to get extended use across the country. Among others, they were used by McMaster University, CUSO, and a women's church group in Dartmouth, Nova Scotia. In total they were used for 38 showings during the year.

In Victoria, SPPF sponsored and organized two showings of "Under the Gun", which looked via song, skit and dance at militarization in the world and specifically the Phillippines. Both of these provided good connections between "us" and "them" and provided us good opportunity to get out info on nuclear concerns in the Pacific. SPPF also participated in World Development Day at the YMCA by having an information table. Other events included being on a panel for a World Federalists event, and organizing the trip to Victoria of the Pacific Peacemaker.

Sandwiched somewhere in-between all this activity, we published this newsletter "Tok Blong SPPF" four times, took a trip to Fiji, Tonga, Australia and Tahiti to make first-hand contacts and to look for possible projects to support in the Pacific, reported on the successful completion of the SPPF Kitchen Project in Tonga, and applied and received a Phase 2 for that project ( which is currently underway and allowing Tongan women to rebuild more kitchens on the remote Ha'apai Islands).

We now have 52 paid "members" spread across Canada and into the South Pacific. WE CAN ALWAYS USE MORE. Each year SPPF has to raise approximately \$8,000 to meet its budget ( with this money matched on a 3:1 basis by the Canadian International Development Agency for our educational work in Canada). IF YOU ARE NOT A MEMBER WE URGE YOU TO BECOME ONE . ALL DONATIONS OVER \$ 10 WILL ENSURE THAT YOU RECEIVE A RECEIPT FOR TAX PURPOSES. The \$ 100 automatic deduction no longer applies on your income tax. If you support our work, why not do it financially as well ?

## CIDA CONTINUES AID

The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) is again supporting SPPF's educational programming within Canada. Through the Public Participation Programme, CIDA supports a variety of groups ( Churches, educational centers, development organizations, etc) in raising the awareness of Canadians to issues of concern facing developing countries. SPPF could not exist without this support, nor without the support of its donors, as CIDA will only provide matching monies.



# OUR PLANS

Plans for the 1984-85 year include a continuation of our current programs—such as this newsletter, renting of audio-visual materials, development of brochures, etc— as well as some new programs. As you will read elsewhere, we are involved in bringing an Hawaiian to western Canada to explain the State of Hawaii's concern over the shelling of a sacred island by naval forces ( including Canada'a ) during RIMPAC exercises. We also plan to develop, with some professional help, two slide shows: one on New Caledonia and one on Vanuatu. Helping us put together these two slide-tapes will be Christopher Plant . Christopher worked in Fiji for several years at the Institute for Pacific Studies. He also worked in the-then New Hebrides (now Vanuatu ) as information officer for the Vanuaaku Pati . Chris thus brings some tremendous experience and knowledge to bear, and we are pleased to be collaborating on this effort.

Negotiations are continuing with the government of Papua New Guinea to have SANGUMA tour Canada in 1985 or 1986. We see such a tour as assisting SPPF to raise a few funds for our existence, but more importantly as a method to raise funds for a project in Papua New Guinea . Our idea would be to have a certain per centage of the admission cost go towards a project. Hopefully we will be able to say more on this later.

As noted elsewhere, we are also checking into possibilities for a Pacific Island speaker to tour Canada in the Fall.

We will keep you informed of other developments as they come together.

For those who have supported us in the past and continue to support us,

MANY THANKS

## WE'VE MOVED

THE SOUTH PACIFIC PEOPLES FOUNDATION has moved as of June 1st. We are in the same building - 620 View St - but have been kicked upstairs to Room 407.

Previously we were sharing office space with VIDEO ( the Victoria International Development Education Association ) in Room 303. We and they have moved to Room 407, and another group - The Greater Victoria Disarmament Group - is moving in with us. The new space will work out for everyone. For those of you who have visited us you will notice the change immediately in that you will not have to walk through everyone elses's office to reach our backroom cubbyhole. If you are ever in Victoria, please drop in and let us know of your interests, what you think of the newsletter, etc.

South Pacific Peoples Foundation  
407-620 View St.  
Victoria, B.C.  
Canada V8W 1J6



# NFIP SUPPORTED

On March 1-2, 1984, a group of about twenty persons with an active interest in the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Movement (NFIP) gathered in Vancouver to discuss the possibility of establishing a Canadian support network. Some participated out of their concern as individuals while others also attended as representatives of local groups or national organizations. They were joined and supported by several representatives from the United States NFIP Network.

After viewing a videotape report of the 1983 NFIP Conference held in Vanuatu the group discussed the action proposals emerging from the Conference. As a result of these discussions, the group agreed to constitute itself, and seek to expand, as a Canadian Support Network for the NFIP movement.

The purpose of the network is to support the Pacific Islanders and the concerns they identify through the NFIP Conference and the Pacific Concerns Resource Centre, and to foster linkages between Canadian issues and Pacific concerns. The Network will be a loose, functionally-oriented body to start with, and will primarily be responsive to the strategic and programming interests emerging from the Pacific. It was agreed that a national meeting would be held once a year.

Some of the initial work of the network is to amass an inventory of materials that members have. There will also be an update sheet indicating the actions and plans of member agencies.

An initial project some member agencies are supportive of and are assessing is the bringing to Canada of an active Pacific Islander during disarmament week. This person would tour Canada and raise NFIP issues for Canadians.

For more information on the network, please contact Phil Esmonde at S.P.P.F.



## Tahitian Protest Against French Nuclear Testing

In a significant demonstration in Tahiti to mark Nuclear Free Pacific Day (March 1st), 500 people marched peacefully through Papeete. They were protesting against continued French nuclear tests in 'French' Polynesia and calling for Tahitian independence.

The previous week a crowd estimated at more than 1000 marched against France's 17-year nuclear testing programme in their territory. The marches were the largest since 1973 when an estimated 5000 people demonstrated.



# SACRED HAWAIIAN ISLAND SHELLLED BY CANADIAN NAVY



On May 14, naval vessels from Canadian Forces Base Esquimalt, located just outside Victoria, B.C., left on their way to Hawaii to join naval forces from New Zealand, Australia, Japan and the United States in the biennial RIMPAC exercises.

Part of the RIMPAC exercises includes the shore shelling for target practice of Kaho'olawe island. Kaho'olawe has been controlled by the U.S. navy since 1941 is, according to the U.S. navy, the site of no less than 544 archaeological sites. Through the efforts of an indigenous group--the Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana-- the archaeological, historical and cultural significance of the island was brought to light. In fact, the island provides one of the few remaining links to 1,000 years of Hawaiian history and pre-contact culture. So significant is the island that it was entirely placed on the U.S. National Register of Historical Places in 1981.

Despite this designation, and despite resolutions from both the House of Representatives and the Congress in Hawaii asking that the island not be used for target practice during RIMPAC 1982, the shelling took place, with Canadian forces participating. Copies of the 1982 resolutions were sent to Prime Minister Trudeau, as well as leaders of other allied countries in the exercises.

Again this year, the two State Houses have passed resolutions asking that the island not be shelled and that it be returned to Hawaiian control. The governments of New Zealand, Australia and Japan have indicated to Protect Kaho'olawe 'Ohana (PKO) that while they will be participating in the exercise, they will not shell Kaho'olawe. But, Canadian forces and U.S. forces will be using the island as a shelling target.

To help increase public awareness in Canada on this issue, SPPF has assisted in an organized tour of the west coast of Canada by Keoni Fairbanks of PKO. The tour will start with a public meeting in Victoria on May 28, coinciding with the opening of RIMPAC exercises, and will go from there up Vancouver Island and then to Vancouver.

PKO is asking Canadians who oppose the shelling of Kaho'olawe to write to Prime Minister Trudeau with their concerns, and to also copy the letter to opposition members of Parliament.

Right Honorable Pierre Trudeau  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ont.  
KLA 0A6

Honorable Jean-Jaques Blais  
Minister of Defence  
House of Commons  
Ottawa, Ont  
KLA 0A6



# PEACEMAKER IN HAWAII

The Pacific Peacemaker, the 54 foot floating symbol of peace , is now in Hawaii after leaving Seattle on April 2, 1984 on its second trans-Pacific voyage. While in Hawaii, the boat is assisting in visits to the historical island of Kaho'olawe during the limited access to the island provided by the U.S. Navy. Kaho'olawe is used by RIMPAC countries as a shelling target during joint naval exercises ( see Kaho'olawe story on page 5 ).

The Pacific Peacemaker has a crew of seven, and is to be joined in Hawaii by Anne Pask of Victoria, B.C., the only Canadian to crew on the vessel.

When it leaves Hawaii, the Peacemaker plans to sail to the Marshall Islands to express support for the peoples struggle to get adequate medical and financial compensation for the damages caused them and their environment by the 66 atomic and hydrogen bombs tested by the United States between 1946 and 1958. They will also be protesting the continued use of Kwajalein Atoll by the United States for missile testing from California. As the main test site for U.S. missiles, the Kwajalein Range provides much of the momentum for the world's arms race. The crew of the Peacemaker hope to raise awareness of the significance of Kwajalein, and also the second-class treatment afforded the land-owners in Kwajalein-- 8,000 of whom are jammed onto 66 acres on Ebeye Island , which has been called the "slum of the Pacific". People on Ebeye are denied easy access to the first-class medical facilities set up for military and civilian employees of the missile range, and also need a pass to even use the banking facilities on Kwajalein, as well as the airport.

From the Marshalls, the Peacemaker will sail to Palau where they will provide support of a moral nature for maintaining the integrity of Palau's nuclear-free constitution, which the United States has tried to scuttle three times. Palau's current status is still unclear as negotiations continue between Palau and the United States as to Palau's status after the Trust Territory is disbanded.

After Palau, the Peacemaker will sail to Japan to participate in the annual August Remembrance Conference at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and then will hopefully go on to the USSR to express concern about its part in the arms race, and to also make personal connections with concerned Russians.

The Peacemaker's new flag for her second voyage was made by the Language Preservation Group of the Tsartlip Indian band, located on the Saanich Peninsula, just outside of Victoria, B.C.

The exact meaning of the flag ( pictured opposite ) as stated by the group is:

"Our flag is representing creation, life. Each morning we face the new coming day with our hands raised in thanks for the day. The pair of fish are salmon, representing food. We honour our brother the salmon. He gives up his life so that we may live. In turn we ask the creator to bless him so the salmon people may survive in creation also."

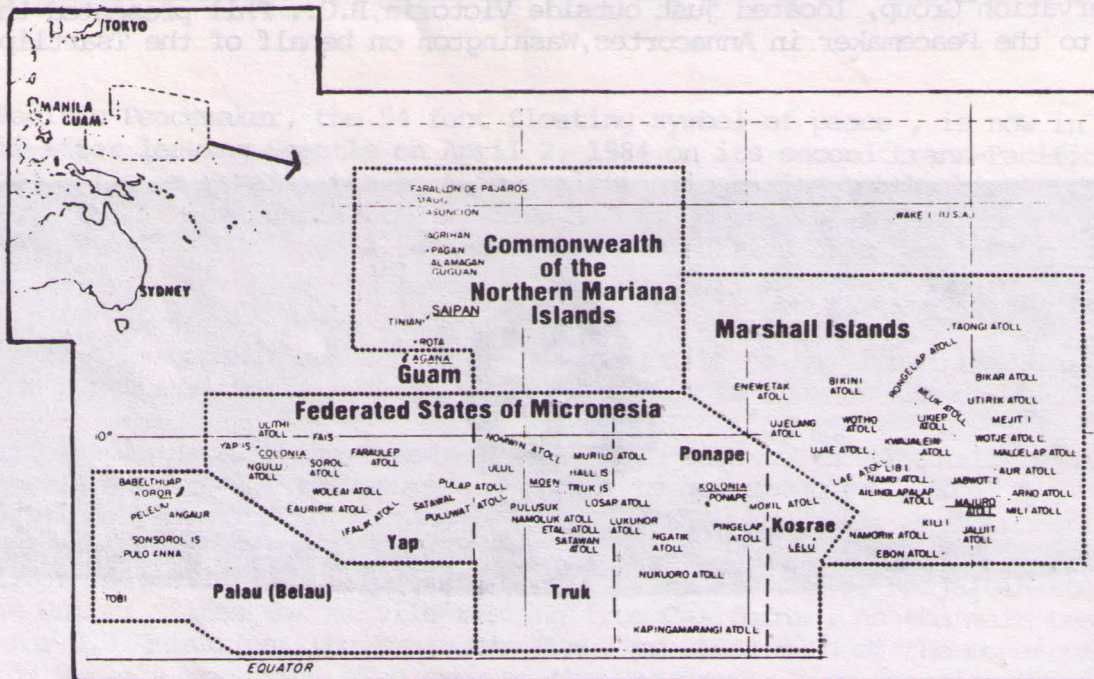


Phil Esmonde of the South Pacific Peoples Foundation holds the flag designed and made for the Pacific Peacemaker by the Tsartlip Indian band Language Preservation Group, located just outside Victoria, B.C.. Phil presented the flag to the Peacemaker in Anacortes, Washington on behalf of the Tsartlip.





# MICRONESIA



**MICRONESIA** is one of the three great island groups of the Pacific. Micronesia's three island chains—the Carolines, Marshalls and Marianas—contain 2,141 islands, about 100 of which are inhabited. The total population is about 130,000. Micronesia covers an ocean area the size of the continental U.S. The islands are divided into 5 separate political units: The Federated States of Micronesia (Yap Truk, Kosrae, and Ponape); Republic of Palau; Republic of the Marshall Islands; Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and the Territory of Guam. Since 1947, Micronesia has been controlled by the United States as one of eleven United Nations trusteeships. Micronesia is the only trusteeship which has not become self-governing. Micronesia is the only territory designated a "strategic" trust by the United Nations, giving the U.S. the right to build military installations there. The U.S. has used the islands for nuclear weapons tests, naval and air bases, missile testing, germ warfare experimentation and as a CIA training base for Nationalist Chinese guerillas. In 1954, hundreds of Marshall Islanders were severely injured by radioactive fallout from the "Bravo" hydrogen bomb test at Bikini Atoll. And six islands were vaporized as a result of 66 nuclear weapons tests. Large scale oil storage and refinery complexes (superports) have been proposed for Palau and the Marianas by U.S. and Japanese interests.

**HISTORY:** Micronesia was "owned" by Spain from about 1520-1898. Spain concentrated its colonization in the Mariana Islands, reducing the native Chamorros by genocide from about 100,000 to 10,000. The Americans won Guam in the Spanish-American War (1898), at which time Germany bought the rest of Micronesia from the Spanish. Japan gained control in 1914 and administered the islands under a League of Nations mandate until they lost the islands to the U.S. in bloody fighting during the Second World War. Since 1947, Micronesia has been administered by the U.S. as a United Nations trusteeship. Its future political status is now being decided.

**GOVERNMENT:** Micronesia was run by the Department of the Navy until the early 1950's. Since then, the U.S. Department of the Interior has administered the islands. Micronesia's governmental system is modelled after the U.S., with legislative, executive and judicial branches. The legislative part is made up of Micronesians elected by the people of Micronesia and until 1978 was known as the Congress of Micronesia (now the Federated States of Micronesia Congress, the Palau National Congress, and the Marshall Islands Parliament represent Micronesia). But all the laws and policies are subject to the veto of the American High Commissioner, the head of the Trust Territory Government, who is appointed by the U.S. President.



**ECONOMY:** Micronesia "has a weak economic base" and the economy is "virtually stagnant," according to United Nations reports. Many Micronesian leaders feel it is because of the "aid" policies of the U.S. that the economy is so weak, and that this has hindered steps toward full independence. During the fiscal year 1976, Micronesia imported goods valued at \$38 million but exported only \$5 million. In 1980, the U.S. appropriated about \$130 million, most of which went for administrative costs and the capital improvement program. A 1976 U.N. Development Program report said "the placement of proposed infrastructure may leave Micronesia more economically dependent by 1981," because there is no budget for maintenance and operations of the facilities.

**MILITARY PLANS:** Micronesia is slated to become a key U.S. post-Vietnam fallback position as part of an island-based defense line running in a broad arc from the Indian Ocean to Japan. A major \$300 million airbase and supply center (with possible storage for nuclear weapons) is planned for Tinian in the Mariana Islands, the island from which planes took off to atomic bomb Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945. Nearby Guam is the home of more than 100 B-52 bombers and a Strategic Air Command base. The Navy has outlined plans for a jungle warfare training base, weapons storage and use of the main commercial port and two airports for nuclear-powered warships and submarines in Palau, the closest U.S.-controlled territory to Southeast Asia. Virtually all of the U.S.'s strategic nuclear weapons delivery systems, including the MX, have been tested and continue to be developed at the Kwajalein Missile Range in the Marshall Islands.

**NUCLEAR WASTE DUMPING:** Since the mid-1970's the U.S. Department of Energy has been studying the possibility of sub-seabed storage of nuclear waste containers in the ocean north of the Northern Marianas. In 1979, the Japanese government announced plans to begin a two to three year "experimental" dumping program of approximately 10,000 barrels a year, in waters between Japan and the Marianas. Strong opposition from Micronesian and other Pacific Island leaders has forced the Japanese government to delay their plans, originally scheduled to begin in early 1981.

**FUTURE POLITICAL STATUS:** In 1969, Micronesia began negotiating with the U.S. for a new political status. In 1971, the Micronesians rejected outright a U.S. offer of commonwealth. Only in the Marianas was there any sentiment for long-term ties with the U.S. After the other islands rejected the U.S. commonwealth proposal, in 1972 the Marianas and U.S. began separate negotiations that resulted in commonwealth status for the Marianas.

Military "requirements" for 2/3 of Tinian Island and other parts of the Marianas were an integral part of the negotiations. Marianas and U.S. negotiators signed the commonwealth agreement in 1975, the voters approved it in referendum and the process was completed in 1976 when President Ford signed the commonwealth into law.

In ensuing rounds of status talks with the other Micronesian islands, a "Compact of Free Association" has been negotiated which would allow Micronesia to control internal and foreign affairs to the extent these do not conflict with total U.S. military control of the islands.

Following the example set by the Marianas—and because of additional military plans for Palau and the Marshalls—the U.S. recognized those two districts to negotiate their political status separately. In 1982, the U.S. and the Marshall Islands, Palau and the Federated States of Micronesia representatives signed the Compact of Free Association, ending negotiations which had spanned four Washington administrations.

**CITIZENS' MOVEMENTS:** Since the U.S. military plans for 30% of Palau's limited land were announced in the early 1970's, a strong grassroots movement has vigorously opposed the plans. In 1979, 92% of Palau voters approved the world's first nuclear free constitution—and continue their struggle to implement it in the face of increasing U.S. pressure. The Save Palau Organization effectively pulled together strong grassroots and international opposition to a massive \$20 billion U.S./Japan oil superport planned for their islands. Construction of the port was to begin in the late 1970's, but Palauan protests forced the Japanese-U.S. promoters to shelve their plan, at least temporarily.

Leaders from Truk and other parts of the Federated States spearheaded the Micronesian independence movement during the early 1970's. In 1973, Tinian farmers and students led protests which forced the U.S. to reduce its plans from taking the entire island and evicting the people, to using 2/3, although this still includes the most fertile farming land.

Beginning in the late 1960's and culminating with a four-month long "sail-in" in 1982, Kwajalein landowners have strongly protested their relocation onto tiny 78 acre Ebeye Island, where 8,000 people now live crowded, to make way for the missile tests in Kwajalein's lagoon.



# MICRONESIA: the AMERICAN IMPACT

## A Visit to Belau *by Stewart Firth*

One of the ways of getting to Belau, where I went recently, is to fly from Honolulu to Guam and then south-west to Belau. For gaining an understanding of the American impact in this part of the Pacific, this is the best way to go, because you island-hop to Johnston Island, Majuro, Kwajelein Missile Range, Ponape and Truk along the route.

Not that the civilian traveller is permitted to look around at Johnston Island or Kwajelein. As the air hostess explains, these are military installations reserved for people with military clearances. Still, having to stay inside the hot plane during these stopovers is a reminder of just how militarised the islands of Micronesia are, and of the United States' determination that they should remain so.

### MARSHALL ISLANDS

The Marshall Islands are so small: that is the impression which overwhelmed me at Majuro and Kwajelein. They are mere spits of sand in the surrounding ocean, tiny resources of land in the middle of the sea, yet it is here that we find the entire island of Kwajelein occupied by the US military as a centre for the testing of ICBMs which are targeted here from California.

As the plane takes off to the north, it rises over a huddle of huts on the island of Ebeye. This is where the displaced Marshallese live - 8,000 people on sixty treeless acres which even US Ambassador Fred Zeder admits is a 'terrible slum'.

### GUAM

Unlike the Marshalls, the Federated States of Micronesia (FSM) and Belau, Guam is American territory, acquired as a naval base in 1898. With its huge military bases, uncontrolled commercial development and southern California life-style, Guam is unrecognisable as a Pacific Island. The US Department of Defense spends over \$750m here each year,

and no part of the economy or society is untouched by the military dollar. Guam is a warning of what Belau could become, if the US were to gain and exercise its military land options there.

### NUCLEAR-FREE BELAU

And so to Belau. Belau is physically beautiful, with lush tropical vegetation, transparent tropical waters and hilly terrain. To arrive at the capital of Koror, which consists of a straggle of buildings along a single road, is to remember that this is a tiny country of 14,000 people, who have nevertheless stood up to the repeated attempts of the US to make them surrender their nuclear-free constitution. Also to realize just how little the Americans have done since the Second World War to replace the impressive buildings, roads and bridges which Koror had in Japanese times.

Plenty of American dollars have come in, but they have gone on private consumption rather than public investment: the Belauans, like other Micronesians, have had plenty of food and beer under the Americans, but nothing much to enable them to be less dependent on US aid. Now they are in the position of depending on Uncle Sam for economic survival, yet insisting on keeping their country nuclear-free.

But Uncle Sam has his price for helping Belau, a price which requires the Belauans not only to abandon their constitution but also to provide the US Department of Defense with six 'defense sites': on the main island of Babelthuap at Malakal Harbour, Ngardmau, Ngaremlengui and Airai Airfield, together with a huge swathe of 30,000 acres across the northern part of the island for use in training troops in jungle warfare.

To the south, on the island of Angaur, the Americans are requiring a further 565 acres and the right to extend the runway to 12,000 feet, which could accommodate even the largest US military aircraft.



## U.S. FALLBACK

What it all amounts to is that, if it wishes, the US could control the greater part of Belau's territory. And the argument put to me by some Americans - that the US 'might not even take up the options' - seems weak in the extreme. Why take so much trouble to negotiate the defence site options if there is no intention of using them?

The real motive on the part of the US military is probably to have a fallback position in case the Americans are driven out of the Philippines after the forthcoming collapse of the corrupt Marcos regime. Even without that, the idea seems to be to build an arc of US bases in the area, stretching from Belau to Guam to Tinian.

To the chagrin of the Americans, the Belauan negotiating position has hardened since the Supreme Court decision of last August which held that, by refusing to alter their nuclear-free constitution, the Belauan people had failed to ratify the Compact of Free Association with the US.

The most recent counter proposal by the Belauan negotiating team was uncompromising: it provided for no military bases or land areas at all, no authorization of nuclear or hazardous substances and an investment fund of \$60 million in return for strategic denial of Belau to third countries over a period of 50 years.

Even more worrying for the Americans is the fact that the Belauan negotiating delegation, comprising all Belauan political factions, was totally united in supporting this position. 'If this solidity holds', the pro-US Washington Pacific Report commented, 'there could be serious obstacles in the future'.

Early in February the Belauan Council of Chiefs called upon the Belauan government to negotiate with the US for the complete independence of the country. And the Senate approved a report advocating suspension of negotiations until after the Belau and US Presidential elections this year and that a comprehensive re-evaluation of Belau's political status options be undertaken.

## U.S. AIMS

The aim of the US will now be twofold: (1) to break the solidity of the Belauans; (11) to isolate the Belauans by gaining Congressional approval of the Compacts with the Marshall Islands and the FSM, so that new moneys will start flowing into those countries, leaving Belau behind.

What is at stake in all this for the US was neatly expressed in an exchange between Ambassador Zeder, who is in charge of American negotiations with the Microneasians, and Senator Hayakawa of California in the US Senate on 10 December, 1982:

"Senator Hayakawa: What is the view of the Defense Department, Mr Ambassador, concerning the kind of military and defense links the islands should have with the United States after their political status, free association, has been established?

Ambassador Zeder: Mr Chairman, we work, of course, very closely with the Defense Department. As a matter of fact, about half my staff is from the Defense Department. I believe the Defense Department is in complete accord with the provisions of the Compact, and Defense has co-operated with us very well during the drafting, not only the drafting of it but the negotiation of it.

One of the basics of this entire exercise is our defense posture in the Pacific. Again, I believe the Defense Department is very happy with the arrangements that have been spelled out in the Compact."

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Stewart Firth is a Lecturer in the School of History, Philosophy & Politics at Macquarie University, NSW.





# MICRONESIA -- AMERICAN IMPACT

AGANA, Guam -- A leprosy epidemic has hit the Federated States of Micronesia, a group of Pacific Islands under U.S. care for the last 37 years, FSM health officials said last week.

Medication is in critically short supply, they said. A health team had spotted 1,102 cases in the four FSM states as of Jan. 19, said FSM medical care coordinator, Dr. Kiosi Aniol. More than half of the combined population of two isolated atolls is infected. Most cases were found on outer islands rather than in population centers.

FSM and Guam doctors said visitors to the FSM are safe from leprosy, formally known as Hansen's disease. It takes an average three to six years of constant exposure to contract the disease.

FSM President, Tosiwo Nakayama, recently said interior official, Richard Montoya, made no promises that the U.S. government would fund leprosy treatment or programs.

"The leprosy is in alarming proportions, it is in the epidemic stage," Nakayama said. "On the outer islands, there is no treatment and they are free to roam around in society."

MONTOYA, WHEN asked if the United States was slow in improving health care in the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands, said great improvements have been made during the 37 year trusteeship, but that budget constraints hamper progress.

"These islands are a long way from the United States," said Montoya, assistant secretary for Territorial and International Affairs. "The administration is working as rapidly as possible. But you have to understand. How much money can the United States afford?

Budgetary constraints are real world problems."

Nakayama said part of the blame lies on FSM officials for not detecting the extent of the disease sooner, then asking for help.

The small amount of leprosy medicine will supply all lepers in the FSM for less than six months, Aniol said. But to be cured, they must take daily medication for three years to ten years or more, depending on the stage of the disease.

Aniol said health officials have boat transportation to the outer islands once a month. Medicine can be distributed by dispensaries on the islands.

PATIENTS STOP infecting others after about three weeks of regular medication, Aniol said. But Guam doctors said it can take up to three months of medication before the disease stops spreading.

The World Health Organization, funded by the United Nations, will send free medicine for one year, Aniol said.

"I don't know what will happen then," he said. FSM health officials plan to ask the Center for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., for help.

Health officials counted 700 leprosy cases in Ponape, 321 in Truk, 41 in Yap and 40 in Kosrae.

Aniol said about 80 percent of the Ponape cases, or 560, were found in two isolated atolls: Kapingamarangi, the southernmost island in Ponape State and Pingelap, about 200 miles east of Ponape's capital, Kolonia.

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Honolulu Star Bulletin, May 7/84





# Pandanus Periodical

Number Four

October, 1983



## Development in Vanuatu: From the Bottom Up

By Larry Traub

During the seventy year rule of the Anglo-French Condominium in Vanuatu, formerly the New Hebrides, very few goods and services reached the rural area. In some ways, that in itself might have been the greatest, although unintentional, gift of the Condominium to the peoples of Vanuatu.

Currently, 80% of ni-Vanuatu still live in the rural villages amongst the eighty islands of Vanuatu. The vast majority of Vanuatu's 120,000 people have very little cash, virtually all of it coming from copra. It has been estimated that only 15-20% of the rural population live within one kilometer of potable water. At this time only 20% of ni-Vanuatu children can continue their education past the sixth grade. How then, one might ask, can this be considered a gift?

Very few developing nations have been able to choose their own design for development according to their own needs and wants. From the Condominium's negligence in the rural areas comes Vanuatu's unique position of starting development from scratch. With rural areas virtually untouched, there is no foreign vision to be reckoned with, no precedent to be supported and no colonialist investment to be protected. This can allow the rural areas to deal with their needs from their own economic, social and cultural context within the broad spectrum of Vanuatu's progressive National Development Plan.

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**The Nasonal Komuniti Developmen Trust was initiated in 1978. The aim was to develop the islands in a self reliant and technologically appropriate manner through grassroots collaboration and cooperation.**

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Villagers can approach development in a manner supportive to their values and lifestyle in a way that could allow the people themselves to decide what they want to change and what they want to keep for all time.

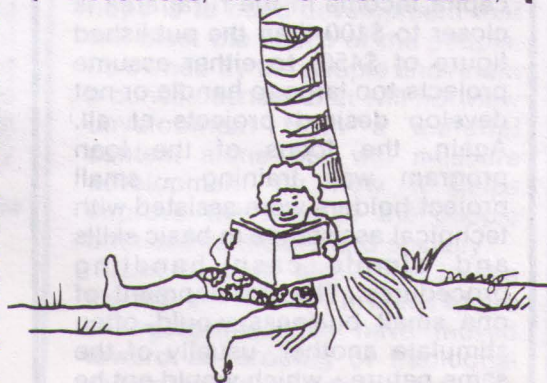
In 1978, prior to Independence, Fr. Walter Lini, the current Prime Minister of Vanuatu, and Rev. Sathy Regenvanu the current Minister of Lands and Natural Resources, then church leaders,

initiated the beginnings of an agency known as the Nasonal Komuniti Development Trust. The aim of the Trust was to develop the islands of the (then) New Hebrides in a self-reliant and technologically appropriate manner through grassroots collaboration and cooperation.

It was, as well, a movement to foster the local peoples' control and ownership of the development process. Initially it took the form of providing rural villagers and local groups with technical assistance toward the development of community projects such as water supply, school-leaver training and small scale agriculture. The Trust would then negotiate with aid donors for project development funds to support the village initiated projects. In addition to the village initiated projects other projects were supported in an attempt to further local self-reliance and independence such as the establishment of a ni-Vanuatu run printery in the capitol city of Port Vila which would publish useful information in Bislama, the lingua franca of Vanuatu. (At the time, British and French influence over the existing printing facilities would not allow for the publication of certain controversial issues, e.g. Independence.)

After Vanuatu's independence in July of 1980, the Trust remained an NGO (non-government organization). Although the Trust

Continued on next page...







supported projects up to \$35,000 US, the focus of the Trust after independence was on small scale projects (\$750 US average). Every project, no matter how small, was considered a training experience for the rural peoples. A village which had requested assistance with their water supply needs would receive assistance in the development process – the focus of which was, at first, their water supply needs.

The village would be introduced to the collaborative planning process. If, for example, the village requested a water reservoir at the top of a hill with water pumped by diesel pump to the tank from a river below, the Trust staff (all ni-Vanuatu with the exception of one advisor) would assist the villagers in looking at the situation from a perspective of self-reliance and local control as well as tangible needs. The villagers would plan the project with the Trust staff which would also address questions such as; who will fix the pumps when they break?, who will pay for the fuel – can the village afford such recurrent costs or will they be dependent on foreign aid and technical assistance to meet their basic needs in the future?, is there a better, less costly way to do it? The process would allow the community to develop the most effective way of meeting the development need and integrating a process that could be easily used in future projects as well. In many cases an original proposal for a \$30,000 water supply – that would cost cashless villagers a fortune in future payments and work – would turn into a project easily handled by the villagers with little loss in tangible results and great gain in

self-reliance and self-confidence.

As community projects progressed, there seemed to be a need for cottage level enterprises expressed by rural residents. Villagers would request that the Trust help support a private piggery enterprise, for example, in which the village wanted more pigs available for purchase but did not want to develop it as a community project. This encouraged the Trust to start a small loan program to help develop village “businesses” that would also meet a need or want expressed by a village. The profit and product in this program had to remain in the village. While the Vanuatu Development Bank assisted with loans above \$US500,

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**The workshop would ask the participant “what was good about life on their island in the past and now . . . what wasn’t so good about life on this island in the past and now?” The result enabled people to more easily identify what about their lives they want to remain fairly unchanged and what they would like to change and in what manner.**

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the Trust believed that a loan so high forced individuals with little technical and financial experience (in a country where the realistic per capita income in the rural area is closer to \$100 than the published figure of \$450) to either assume projects too large to handle or not develop desired projects at all. Again, the focus of the loan program was training – small project holders were assisted with technical assistance in basic skills and simple cash handling procedures. The development of one small business would often stimulate another, usually of the same nature – which would not be



## Development

helpful to either the first project holder or the second. The Trust and the community could then work with the newly interested party in establishing a business that would meet another need identified by the community. Currently, the loan program has an 85% on time payback rate.

The training aspect of project development was so well received by villagers that an offshoot program was developed by the Trust called the Village Training Seminars program. The Trust would be invited into the rural areas to conduct workshops involving the population of whole regions and in some instances whole islands in order to assist those communities in looking at their needs, wants and development priorities in a context appropriate to their desired way of

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**The training aspect of project development was so well received that an offshoot program was developed by the Trust called the “Village Training Seminars” program.**





## t in Vanuatu

life. The Seminars dealt with development issues such as; "development is not money alone," "self-reliance and the use of local resources," and "village technology." The Seminars also developed a process, particularly in the most rural and isolated areas, by which the community could identify their needs and wants and organize toward meeting those needs. As an illustration, one segment of the workshop would ask the participants (chiefs, church leaders, women, youth - all of the residents of the area) to divide into small groups and discuss the questions "what was good about life on this island in the past and now ... what wasn't so good about life on this island in the past and now." The result enabled people to more easily identify what about their lives they want to remain fairly

ect development was so well  
program was developed by the  
ining Seminar" program.

unchanged and what they would like to change and in what manner. Another segment of the Seminar invited the participants to identify and put priorities on the needs of that particular area and on a separate list note the wants of the people of the area. After this, a committee would be chosen in order to work on the identified needs with the Trust. The Trust would then assist with the project development. The Village Training Seminars produced a spin-off radio program (translated as), "Thinking About Development," which addressed the same issues brought forth in the Seminars. The radio program was aired by-weekly with a format promoting listener response and dialogue.

**In many cases an original proposal for a \$30,000 water supply - that would cost cashless villagers a fortune in future payments and work - would turn into a project easily handled by the villagers with little loss in tangible results and great gain in self-reliance and self-confidence.**

The Trust is now functioning on its own without the need for an expatriate advisor and doing well. The Solomon Islands and Fiji are beginning similar programs. The hope is to build development that will meet the needs of the people, be owned by the people and retain a consciousness that will not view development from a material context alone but will measure development by how it helps improve the lives of the people both economically and socially.

Can it work elsewhere in the Pacific - particularly in areas where changing lifestyles have moved toward an eroding of traditional values and created dependence on



foreign powers? The answer is most assuredly "yes." It is, however, much more difficult to realign an already existing perspective than to start afresh. Others are doing it in both the most industrialized nations as well as developing nations (e.g. the Sarvodaya movement in India and Sri Lanka). What it takes is a grassroots ownership process that can be initiated almost anywhere in the Pacific - even Micronesia.

The Nasonal Komuniti Development Trust, P.O. Box 966, Port Vila, Vanuatu invites any questions or comments as does the author.

*For the past two years, Larry Traub, the former Director of the Friends World College North American Center, was advisor to the Nasonal Komuniti Development Trust, Vanuatu's only indigenous Non-Governmental Organization supporting grassroots rural development throughout the Republic. He is currently an independent consultant based in New York.*





## BOOK REVIEW

# ISLANDS UNDER THE INFLUENCE

When the news of statehood for Hawaii arrived in 1959, Islanders showered confetti on downtown Honolulu streets, filled with noisy traffic jams. As auto horns joined church bells in a jubilant chorus proclaiming first-class American citizenship, local non-white residents congratulated each other on the crowded sidewalks, gleefully agreeing, "We all Haoles (Whites) now."

In Hawaii Pono: A Social History published in 1961, American social scientist Lawrence Fuchs celebrated the Islands's transition from a backwater plantation territory to "the world's best example of dynamic social democracy." Like Hawaii's political and business leaders, he envisioned the fiftieth state as a multi-ethnic paradise of the Pacific where "dreams of economic miracles would unfold" and "people of different races and creeds" would "live together, enriching each other, in harmony and democracy."

Today, the euphoria of statehood has dissipated. At statehood's silver jubilee, Hawaii's dream of becoming the business and commercial center of the Pacific has degenerated into the nightmare of a degrading, unstable tourism society under the domination of U.S. and Japanese multinational corporations. The promise of racial equality has faded before the reality of hotels in which Haole managers direct Filipino maids, Hawaiian entertainers, and local Japanese supervisors to wear the smile of "aloha" and cater to the whims and tropical fantasies of mainland U.S. and foreign visitors.

If Fuchs' Hawaii Pono expressed the optimism of the late fifties and sixties, Noel Kent's Islands Under the Influence reflects the despair and pessimism which hangs like a dark cloud over the Islands in the eighties. While Islanders welcomed statehood as the symbolic end of colonial status, Kent argues that the true beneficiaries of Hawaii's integration with the United States have been United Airlines, Hilton, Kokusai Kogyo and the other overseas-controlled corporations which dominate the visitor industry and siphon huge profits out of the Islands.

What happened to the "New Hawaii" which should have demonstrated America's promise of racial equality, democracy, and affluence to the world?

## HAWAII

Islands Under the Influence

HAWAII: Islands Under the Influence

Noel J. Kent

CL-617  
MR

Noel J. Kent





**Roland Kotani, a regular reader of CONTOURS and editor of the progressive Hawaii journal Ka Huliau ("The Turning Point") has reviewed Noel Kent's recent book on tourism in Hawaii**

In *Islands Under the Influence*, Kent, an ethnic studies professor at the University of Hawaii, describes the contemporary tourism society as the culmination of over two centuries of dependent development. Within 188 lively, well-argued pages of text, he provides a sweeping view of Hawaii's history in an effort to show that Hawaii's economic development has always been "a reflex of expansionist needs in some metropolitan center" since the arrival of Captain James Cook in 1778.

According to Kent, the self-sufficient agricultural economy of pre-contact Hawaii was disrupted after Cook's arrival in the Islands as native Hawaiian alii (chiefs) became enamored of Western goods and collaborated with American and European traders in the exploitation of the makaainana (commoners) for the fur, sandalwood, and whaling trades. During the early nineteenth century, "a colonial type of trading pattern" emerged under the control of foreign merchants in which Hawaii imported finished manufactured goods from the West and provided services and foodstuffs for visiting American and European ships.

Beginning in the mid-nineteenth century, some of the American, English, and German entrepreneurs of the trading era became sugar plantation owners. The Great Mahele (Land Division) of 1848, which established private property in land, dispossessed many makaainana of their traditional fields and allowed the Haole plantation capitalists to acquire large tracts of real estate. Although the native Hawaiian labor force was decimated by disease and cultural demoralization, the sugar planters were able to acquire a disciplined workforce by importing cheap labor from China, Japan, the Philippines and other countries.

After the Reciprocity Treaty of 1876 allowed Hawaiian goods free entry to the United States, the sugar industry in the Islands boomed. But Hawaii's economic dependency deepened as the plantation owners came to rely on access to the U.S. market. In an attempt to secure permanent economic advantages, the sugar-based elite in the Islands sought political integration with the U.S. After Haole rebels with the aid of American marines overthrew Queen Liliuokalani in 1893, Hawaii was annexed by the United States in 1898.

However, Kent characterizes Hawaii's territorial status as "limited dependency." Despite a monoculture economy dependent upon American markets and technology, the Islands remained under the domination of a local Haole elite tied together by intermarriage, social institutions, and interlocking corporate directorates. Unlike plantation societies of the Caribbean, the local elite in Hawaii which controlled the Big Five companies (Castle & Cooke, AmFac, Theo H. Davies, C. Brewer, and Alexander & Baldwin) retained significant autonomy from mainland U.S. economic and political centers until World War II.

The major contribution of Kent's book is the description of Hawaii's transformation from a plantation society into a tourism-oriented society in the post-war period. After World War II, the sugar and pineapple industries faced increasing competition from low-wage areas in the Third World while jet travel opened up new avenues for mass tourism. During the statehood era, the visitor industry skyrocketed from the fourth largest industry in the Islands to the main pillar of Hawaii's economy, accounting for five times the direct income of sugar and pineapple combined. Today, King Sugar has been dethroned by the Imperial Tourist.

Faced with changing global conditions, the Big Five companies and Dillingham Corporation which had dominated the economy of Territorial Hawaii shifted their capital from unprofitable plantations into land development and tourism in the Islands and various investments in Latin America, Asia, Africa, Oceania, and the mainland United States. However, this transition could not have been financed without overseas investors. Within two decades, the local corporations were no longer controlled by the descendants of Protestant missionaries or American and European traders in Hawaii. Today, the majority of stockholders in the Big Five companies and Dillingham reside outside Hawaii.

While non-residents were acquiring stock and buying out the major Island companies, U.S. and Japanese multinational corporations began investing in Hawaii's tourist industry, often in cooperative arrangements with local firms. If the Island corporations could provide land and political influence, the multinational corporations offered huge amounts of capital, managerial expertise, and the vertical integration which characterizes the global visitor industry. By 1975, Hilton, Hyatt, Holiday Inns and other major hotel chains controlled 75 percent of the larger (over 100-room) hotels and 60 percent of the entire room plant in Hawaii. In addition to controlling the travel of tourists to







# PACIFIC QUIZ

by Peter D. Jones

- 1 What have the Society Islands, the Loyalty Islands, and Wallis & Futuna all got in common?
- 2 Which people is the island of Kaho'olawe sacred to, and why are they denied access to it?
- 3 Where is the Strait of Omi-Wetar and why is it important?
- 4 Which two important US bases are on the island of Luzon?
- 5 What would you find in Talanskaia Bay?
- 6 Who controls the islands of Etorofu, Shikotan, Kunashir and Habomai, and who disputes their claim?
- 7 Where is Babeldaob (Babelthuap), and why is it important to the US military?
- 8 What happened to the people of Rongelap in 1954?
- 9 What will you find stored on Johnston Island?
- 10 What plans have the US and Japan for Palmyra Island?
- 11 What will you find being built at Komsomol'sk na-Amure?
- 12 Which islands are claimed by China, Taiwan, Vietnam and the Philippines?
- 13 Where is Okusi Ambeno and what happened to it in 1975?
- 14 Which is the last British colonial possession still in the Pacific?
- 15 Who reached the shores of the Sea of Okhotsk in 1639?
- 16 What is stored on the island of Lanyu (Orchid Island)?
- 17 53% of the 106 US bases in Japan are on one island. Which one?
- 18 Which atoll is the terminal of the US Pacific Missile Test range which commences at Vandenburg Air Force Base in California?
- 19 What happened on Amchitka Island in 1971, or rather under it?
- 20 Why is the westernmost part of the Alaskan mainland named the Seward Peninsula?
- 21 Which group of islands in the Pacific have been claimed and controlled by Spain, Germany, Japan and the USA in the last 300 years?
- 22 Which islands in the Pacific were divided between the USA and Germany at the turn of the century?
- 23 Which was the first island in the Pacific to get independence?
- 24 After East Timor, which is the last Portuguese colonial possession in the Far East?
- 25 Who did the United States buy Guam from in 1898?

- 1 They are all "French Overseas Territories" (French Polynesia, New Caledonia, and Wallis & Futuna).
- 2 Native Hawaiians (Polynesians); it's a US Navy bombing range.
- 3 In the Indonesian archipelago — it's used by US submarines going from the Pacific to the Indian Ocean. This is why the US told Australia not to annoy Indonesia when the military invaded East Timor in 1975; the Strait is just north of Timor.
- 4 Clark Air Force Base and Subic Bay Naval Base.
- 5 It's the Soviet Pacific Fleet Nuclear Submarine base at Petropavlovsk Kamchatskiy.
- 6 USSR occupied them in 1945; still claimed by Japan.
- 7 It's on Belau (Palau) in the Western Caroline Islands; the US Navy has its eye on the harbour as a possible forward base for Trident submarines while the Marines are interested in using the island for a jungle warfare training area.
- 8 They were contaminated by the first US H-bomb test on March 1st, 1954, when the wind changed direction.
- 9 Chemical munitions are stored on the island.
- 10 It is a possible site for storing high-level nuclear waste.
- 11 Nuclear powered submarines for the Soviet Navy can be built here — one of only two yards able to fulfil this naval shipbuilding role in the USSR.
- 12 The Paracels and Spratleys in the South China Sea.
- 13 It is an enclave in Timor controlled by Portugal till annexed by Indonesia in 1975 at the same time as they invaded East Timor.
- 14 Pitcairn Island.
- 15 Russian traders who pushed on over the Bering Strait and as far as California by the eighteenth century.
- 16 Taiwan's nuclear waste.
- 17 Okinawa.
- 18 Kwajalein.
- 19 It was the site of a US underground nuclear test; they only held one there because of international protests that led to the birth of Greenpeace. Later tests were held in Nevada.
- 20 US Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs who bought Alaska from the Russians in 1867.
- 21 Micronesia — the Marianas, Marshall Islands and Caroline Islands.
- 22 Samoa.
- 23 Western Samoa, 1962. (from New Zealand).
- 24 Macao (opposite Hong Kong).
- 25 Spain in 1898.

ANSWERS:



# Technology Transfer in the Pacific

*A critical issue for small-scale energy projects in developing countries is transferring the technology from the project to local people who might find such a technology beneficial. During the last five years Charles W. Case\* has travelled throughout the Pacific, an area of the world for which there has been very little data, offering technical assistance to small projects funded by the United States Department of Energy (DOE) in the US Pacific Territories.*

## Aramas Kapw (Ponape)

The US Pacific Territories include the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands. This is composed of 2,000 islands scattered across 8 million km<sup>2</sup> of Pacific Ocean between the equator and 22°N latitude, and from 130° to 172°E longitude. This area is often referred to as part of Micronesia. After World War II the United Nations placed these islands under the protectorate of the USA and the islands are now deciding on their degree of independence.

Ponape, along with Yap, Truk, and Kosrae, belongs to the newly created Federated States of Micronesia (FSM). This state includes the main island of Ponape, together with thirty-three surrounding islands and atolls. The population is about 21,000, one-third of whom live in Kolonia, the main town and seat of the FSM government.

Ponape's problems include a shortage of sanitation and housing facilities. Unemployment is about twenty per cent and becoming more of a problem as migration is increasing from outlying rural communities to Kolonia. They rely mainly on imported petroleum, and electrical use is increasing, but the petroleum-powered generators are difficult to maintain and expensive to operate. There is little local industry and US development strategies are rapidly changing traditional ways.

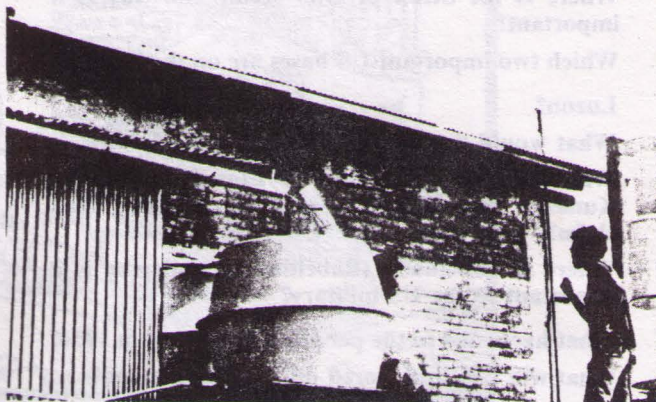
On a point of land near Kolonia there is a renovated warehouse containing the headquarters for Aramas Kapw ('Changed Person'), a school modelled on the US Outward Bound schools, providing educational programmes for young people from all parts of Micronesia. They also offer programmes for adults, and training for the Peace Corps.

The small staff includes people from the US Mainland and from Ponape. All of them have had extensive experience working with young adults.

The US Department of Energy (DOE) gave Aramas Kapw a grant for US\$26,400 to build, install and demonstrate the following energy devices:

- a Savonius Rotor wind machine as a demonstration unit;
- a 1.5 kW Aeropower wind machine for powering a small freezer, radio communication, indoor lighting, and a navigational beacon;
- a 300 W ARCO solar photovoltaic array as the back-up electrical system;
- a water catchment and solar heating system;
- solar crop and fish dryers, and water distilling units.

During summer programmes the students built the water catchment and Savonius Rotor systems, and installed the photovoltaic system. The catchment system collects water from the warehouse roof, and stores the water in two 250 gallon tanks. The students installed the Aeropower wind machine on a 20 metre Rohn free-standing tower and have



*The water catchment system and Savonius Rotor wind machine which the students at Aramas Kapw built, together with some other energy devices.*

also built solar and wood-fuelled cooking devices which they took back to their home islands.

In the author's view the school has been successful in transferring technologies because:

- The right combination of local leadership, Mainland expertise, and mutual commitment to an established educational programme has been achieved. This combination has enabled the team to overcome some of the cultural barriers to technology transfer.
- Unreliable shipments from the USA have been a critical problem for other projects. Often, orders went unanswered, prices increased, shipments were delayed, or the wrong equipment was sent. To solve this problem Aramas Kapw sent one of their staff to the USA to select and order supplies.
- They have combined commercial and home-built systems effectively. Commercial wind machines have not, in the past, performed well in remote Pacific areas. Problems include storms, corrosive atmospheres, vandalism, and the lack of repair parts. Some islands may have good wind regimes, however, and so it is useful to test commercial machines to see if they can actually withstand these particular conditions. On the other hand, home-built systems are simple, and can, by definition, be built with local supplies.
- The staff have been careful in the selection of technologies to demonstrate, taking into account local conditions and needs. There is an interest, for example, particularly on the outer islands, in photovoltaic systems, simple crop and fish dryers, and efficient woodstoves.
- The staff have been teaching the students the fundamentals of mechanical and electrical equipment. For the last few decades the USA has been providing systems which the villagers often have not been trained to maintain properly. Interpreting plans and using preventative maintenance are new concepts for many. Local schools now teach these ideas but the ideas are not widely practised yet.

\* Charles W. Case is a Staff Scientist in the Energy & Environment Division, Lawrence Berkeley Laboratory, University of California, Berkeley, California.



## Fish By-Products Co-operative (Truk)

Truk includes about ninety islands in the Eastern Caroline Islands. Fifty of these islands are within a great encircling reef about 50 km in diameter. Truk is the most populated of the states with approximately 35,000 people, most of whom live on the island of Moen, the population centre. Despite the increasing migration to Moen, many of the people still live in small, rural communities scattered throughout the outer islands.

The people remaining on the outer islands are isolated from Moen. There are no commercial air flights or telephone links, and travel by small boat is dangerous and expensive. Because of this isolation, the villagers have retained much of their traditional culture. However, they are now being exposed to new technologies. The increasing population places stresses on day-to-day subsistence living, and there are critical energy demands, primarily for communication systems and for better health facilities. These communities are also searching for ways to encourage local small-scale industries.

Romanum is typical of these outer lagoon islands. It has an area of about 5 km<sup>2</sup> and has a population of around 200 people. There are no businesses or a cash economy. Because of its relative proximity to Moen and the contact with the people there, its traditional ways of living are changing.

In 1978 the DOE awarded the Romanum chief and a Peace Corps worker a grant for US\$12,000 to build some solar dryers and equipment for processing fish by-products for chicken feed. They planned to start a business to sell the chicken feed to neighbouring islands.

Shortly after they submitted the application, the Peace Corps worker left and was replaced by a new one who didn't arrive for a few months. The DOE therefore sent the money directly to the chief. During the last few decades Micronesians have received many federal grants, often awarded without much awareness of how this money might affect local cultures. Often agencies did not check up on the results of these grants, and the money appeared to the recipients as hand-outs. As a result of such experiences the chief took a broad definition of what the money could be used for: he was sure no one would check on the progress of such a small grant.

When the chief heard that the author planned to visit Romanum he wanted to show him some equipment, but he did not know how to build the solar dryers originally planned, so he bought materials for some new fishing boats. The author explained that the fishing boats might be necessary, but the chief must complete the project for which the money was intended. The author was assured that the work would be done. The chief had good intentions, but he needed help. The new Peace Corps worker also had good intentions, but he had severe disagreements with the chief, and so, caught in the middle of local politics, his help was refused. After two years no work had been done and, as a result, the grant was terminated.

Among the reasons for the project's failure are:

- The change of leadership. The person who instigates a project of this nature should be responsible for the project throughout its life. When the leadership changes, the original impetus is lost, the technical skills available change, and the purpose of the grant changes. These are small, simple projects, designed to be completed in a short time. There should be continuity, and this continuity is lost when the leadership changes.
- The leadership should come from a local person with the technical skill necessary to complete the project. In this

case the community did not really support the project. The villagers should be involved in the project, either by providing material or volunteering labour.

- Agencies should be sensitive to the cultural effects of grants. This grant disrupted a culture which was unfamiliar with a cash economy and with the ways of US funding agencies. The US funding structure is designed for the Mainland: grant requirements may be reasonable in that context, but often they are not for developing countries. Sensitivity is necessary to reach a balance between local ways of working and funding agency requirements.

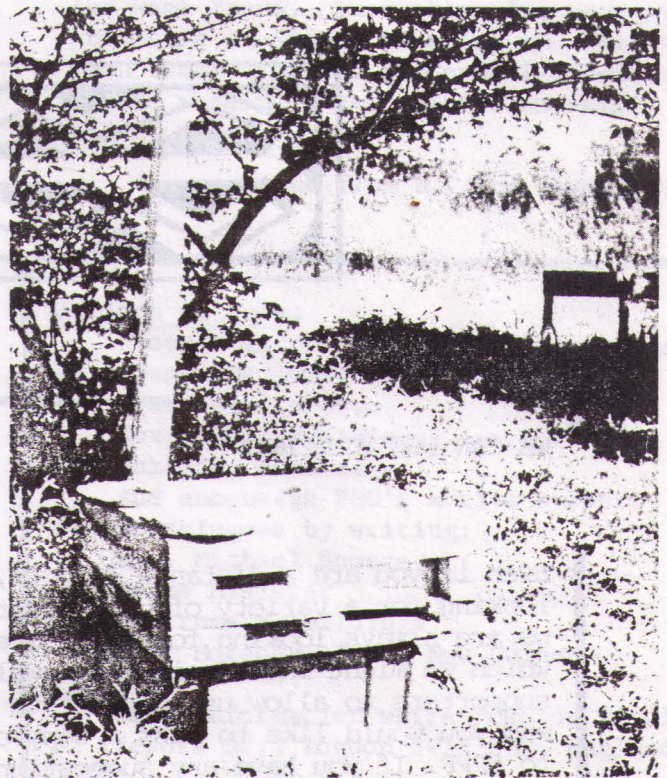
## Yap Institute of Natural Science (Yap)

Yap consists of fifteen islands and atolls in the Western Caroline Islands. Yap has probably retained more of its traditional culture than the other states. Many people still live a subsistence life, and farming and fishing are the major occupations. Many of the small villages have no electricity; an occasional diesel generator provides electricity for health and communication needs.

Yap is one of the least populated states, with about 8,500 people. Populations are increasing and people are migrating to Colonia, the population centre. Colonia is handling the growth better than some of the other centres, but there are still severe problems in health and sanitation, employment, housing, and fuel supplies.

In such a setting, the Yap Institute of Natural Science has been encouraging appropriate technology. The Institute is a non-profit-making organization with a staff of family, volunteers, and part-time help. Their purpose is to: 'Fill the gaps between pure science, the wealth of traditional knowledge and experience of the people of Yap Islands, and the practical needs which scientific knowledge may benefit.'

In 1979 the DOE awarded them US\$4,600 to build and demonstrate a solar oven for the cooking or drying of copra



*The Yap Institute of Natural Science Stove.*



or food, a domestic passive solar ventilator, and a variation of a Lorena cooking stove. Heat is controlled in the oven/dryer by varying air flow. (Traditional drying methods take four days in a smoke house, use large amounts of coconut husks, and contaminate the copra.) The passive solar ventilator creates a natural circulation by warming air with a solar collector on the roof. Cool air is drawn into the building through low wall vents.

Finding a suitable wood-burning stove is a critical problem here, as it is elsewhere in developing countries. Local construction materials are not right for Lorena stoves. Sand has either a high coral content or is salt laden; water for washing the sand is scarce; and imported concrete mixes are expensive. The Institute is experimenting with materials and designs which use Lorena heat-channelling principles. The most promising design uses cast concrete slabs stacked on top of each other, forming a single unit.

The Institute has been successful in its operations so far because:

- It transfers technologies by complementing local traditions rather than disrupting them. Often an aid programme promotes new ideas aggressively, inflicting changes rapidly without consideration for local interests and traditions. The Institute uses a more sensitive and common sense approach. If an idea works, improves the quality of life, and is acceptable culturally, people will try it without aggressive promotion.
- Devices must not be experimental because they have to work reliably over a long period. Too many alternative energy devices fail in the harsh Pacific environment. Replacement parts and technical expertise are hard to find, and if there are too many failures people become discouraged and return to non-renewable or non-

conserving energy devices. The Institute attempts to transfer only proven and culturally acceptable technologies.

- This Institute, like Aramas Kapw, has been very careful in its selection of which technologies to transfer and is using an effective combination of local talents and visiting experts.

One final conclusion that it seems possible to draw from the experiences of the projects mentioned briefly above is that if Pacific island societies are to solve their energy problems while maintaining their cultural integrity, local institutions are a critical element for success. Governments and sponsoring agencies should encourage their work and ensure that all development projects work with and through such bodies. ●

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# PACIFIC BULLETIN

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In Support of the Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Movement  
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Volume 4 Number 2

## West Papuan Rebellion

Hundreds of West Papuan refugees have fled across the border to Papua New Guinea, after reports of fierce fighting in the Irian Jaya (West Papua) capital, Jayapura, between OPM guerrillas and Indonesian troops. Guerrilla operations are thought to have started in the area on 9th February, culminating in attacks on military installations and the raising of the West Papuan flag on 13 February, in the centre of Jayapura. The OPM has now requested 500 guerrilla reinforcements to come from the border area. Because of the loss of communications with Jayapura, it is not certain to what extent fighting continues.

The resurgence of OPM activity comes in the wake of increased pressure on the Papuan population from the influx of Javanese transmigrants, and a recent wave of arrests and imprisonments by Indonesian security forces. It is thought that the OPM had intended a bigger show of strength, but that the plan was discovered beforehand by Indonesia. In the event, OPM forces were joined by a large number of army deserters, around 100 according to refugees.

By the end of the first week of March there were over 300 refugees in PNG, and new arrivals spoke of 2000 more waiting to come across the border. Most have come by boat, and although it is not yet known how many may have walked over other parts of the border. There have been OPM guerrillas among the refugees, but most are civilians from Jayapura. Refugees have been frightened by the fighting in Jayapura and the reprisals by Indonesian troops as they conduct house-to-house searches for OPM guerrillas.

The PNG government, anxious not to upset Indonesia, has ordered the arrest of refugees as illegal immigrants, which means they may be fined, imprisoned or deported, in spite of the fact that the

UN High Commission for Refugees has offered thousands of dollars in support of the West Papuans coming into PNG.

Many people in PNG openly support the West Papuan cause, and there has been much criticism of the government's treatment of the refugees. Under international law, they should not be treated as criminals, and there are complaints that the refugees did not have proper legal representation, and that the government acted unconstitutionally by ordering police to make the arrests.

Prime Minister Somare is prepared to mediate between Indonesia and the OPM, but in the past Indonesia has completely ignored such offers, and denies that the OPM called for a U.N. peace keeping force for West Papua. There has also been much pressure on Somare to raise the West Papuan issue at the U.N. General Assembly, but he remains non-committal on this point.

-edited from a TAPOL Memorandum

### Actions to take:

Protest Indonesian aggression against West Papua by writing:

President Suharto  
Government Buildings  
Jakarta, Indonesia

And encourage PNG's active support of the refugees by writing:

Hon. Michael Somare  
Prime Minister  
Government Buildings  
Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea

For more information write PCRC or TAPOL,  
82 Treport St., London SW18 2BP, England.



# etc

## **AMERICAN SAMOA PRESENTS ITS CONSTITUTION**

Governor of American Samoa, Peter Tali Coleman, has submitted the territory's new constitution to the United States Congress. American Samoa is an unorganised, unincorporated territory of the United States. The Samoans, at a constitutional conference in January and February, spent much time on defining an "American Samoan citizen" and, eventually, defined a citizen as "a person born in American Samoa of American Somoan ancestry or who was born in the United States, or any of its territories or possessions, of American Samoan ancestry." The proposed constitution also requires that all candidates for public office must be of American Samoan ancestry instead of, as at present, being United States nationals. Another important amendment is that "No organic act or similar legislation alienating Samoan communal land or destroying the Samoan way of life, including its customs and traditions, shall be enacted by the Congress of the United States or any federal agency without the expressed consent and approval of the traditional leaders and people of American Samoa."

## **More tourists visit Vanuatu**

Vanuatu had 21 000 tourist visitors in the nine months to September 30 last, an increase of 2000 over the total for the corresponding period of 1982. Of the total, 67% were from Australia, 11% from New Zealand and 9% from New Caledonia. In the third quarter of 1983, 15 000 ship cruise passengers came, an increase of 40% over the total for the third quarter of 1982. Hotel occupancy rate (based on room nights used) for the nine months to last September 30 was 68.2% against 65.2% for the same period in 1982.

■ The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has selected Vanuatu's capital, Port-Vila, for a South Pacific regional training programme for 1984, incorporating "in house" training of hotel and restaurant staff, tourism administration and organisation. Plans are being developed to establish a permanent training school in Vanuatu for South Pacific countries.

## **From the Pedro Malas column in the Marianas Variety News and Views, Saipan, Mariana Islands**

Six congressmen from the Northern Marianas flew to Honolulu recently when they learnt that an aid conference was in progress there. One was babbling on about the need for more federal aid when the conference chairman interrupted him and set the record straight. The conference was not on aid, but on AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) and genital herpes.

## **TAX/PLANT EXPANSION TRADE-OFF IN PAGO**

Van Camp Seafood, one of two tuna canneries operating in American Samoa, has announced the conclusion of an agreement with the territorial government for a 10-year tax exemption in exchange for the company's investing \$US3.5 million in plant expansion. Under the agreement, full tax will be paid on the first 25,000 tonnes of annual production, but no tax on the next 25,000. The company is also reported to have settled a claim by the territorial government for tax arrears.

## **NIUE GETS DROUGHT AID**

Drought assistance of \$15,000 has been given to the government of Niue by the South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation (SPEC). A one-month state of emergency was declared in Niue in December, and authorities were considering extending it. Drought on the island has lasted for nearly two years. Niue has also asked the United Nations and Australia for assistance.

## **Bikini Atoll needs \$100 million clean-up**

The Bikini Rehabilitation Committee has been advised by scientists that a \$US100 million clean-up of Bikini Atoll in the Marshall Islands is needed before food grown on the atoll can be eaten. US atomic bomb tests at Bikini 30 years ago caused widespread radioactive pollution. The scientists reported that rain-water and fish are safe for ingestion on the atoll's 36 islets, but, without the clean-up, any food grown would still be dangerously contaminated with radioactivity for the next 100 years.

## **From the Police Patrol column in Marianas Variety News & Views.**

September 7.5:44 a.m. — Moses Pangelinan told police that someone had siphoned gasoline from bus No. 4. September 8.6:18 a.m. — Moses Pangelinan reported that someone drained 10 gals. of gasoline from a school bus. September 9.5:58 a.m. Moses Pangelinan reported that someone siphoned gasoline from a school bus. September 11.5:46 a.m. Moses Pangelinan called police and reported that someone drained the gasoline from one of the school buses.

*FROM: PACIFIC ISLANDS MONTHLY &  
SOUTH SEA DIGEST*



# THE ULTIMATE POLLUTION

The South Pacific has been the testing ground for American and British nuclear devices. The French continue nuclear testing in the region, with radiation leaking into the seabed surrounding Moruroa Atoll. Pressure continues to build for yet further environmental damage and destruction in the Pacific, as the following excerpt from Peace Dossier (Australia) shows. The article is written by Michael Hamel Green, who is engaged in research on militarization in the Pacific.

"As if using the Pacific as a testing and staging ground for genocide were not enough, Pacific people have also been subjected to another kind of nuclear threat: radioactive waste dumping. As the numerous nuclear reactors of Japan, Taiwan, South Korea and North America accumulate huge quantities of low- and high-level nuclear waste - with no 'economically-viable' solution to waste disposal in sight - Pacific Rim governments are more and more turning to the idea of flushing their nuclear excreta into the marine environment on which Pacific Islanders depend for their primary food source, fish. Ocean dumping appeals because it is cheap, irreversible and avoids the domestic citizen resistance that would occur if Pacific Rim countries tried to permanently store nuclear waste on their own territories.

"Unfortunately, according to marine ecologists and radiobiologists, nuclear waste dumped on the ocean floor is upwardly mobile: it gradually works its way up to the marine food chain and finally ends up in the seafood on our dinner table.

"The Japanese, with their customary attention to detail, have already selected a spot at 30 degrees N latitude and 147 degrees E longitude between the Northern Marianas and the southernmost Japanese islands for the planned annual dumping of approximately one to two million drums of radioactive waste containing 100,000 Curies\* of radiation. Following universal opposition from South Pacific and Micronesian countries, and the recent decision of the 1983 London Dumping Convention (LDC) Conference to call for a moratorium on nuclear dumping pending a scientific study of its effects, the Japanese Government postponed its waste dumping plans. However, Britain's Thatcher Government has already served notice that it intends to ignore the London Dumping Convention ruling; and the Japanese delegate to the October 1982 South Pacific Conference in Pago Pago assured South Pacific countries that Japan would be dumping its nuclear waste at the designated spot 'at an appropriate time in the future.'

"The nuclear powers will be doing their best to ensure that the LDC scientific study brings forth recommendations that open the way to nuclear dumping - and if this happens, Japan will probably have no hesitation in proceeding with its plans, perhaps offering islanders economic aid to anaesthetize

\*The total radioactivity of 3 tonnes of uranium is 1 Curie

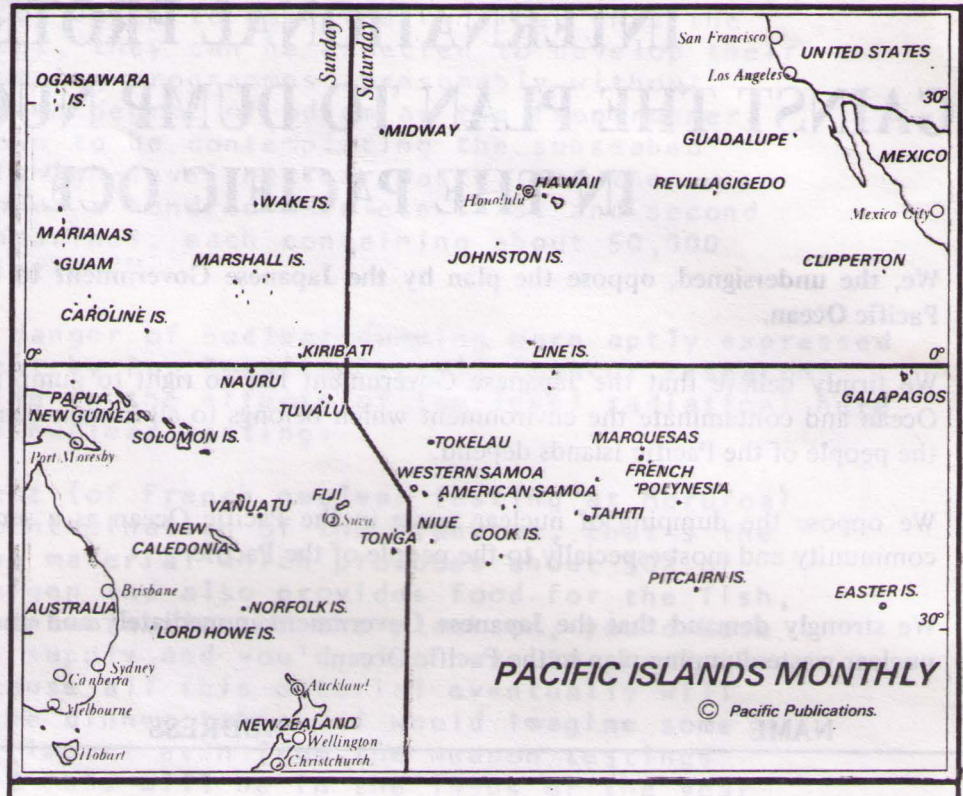
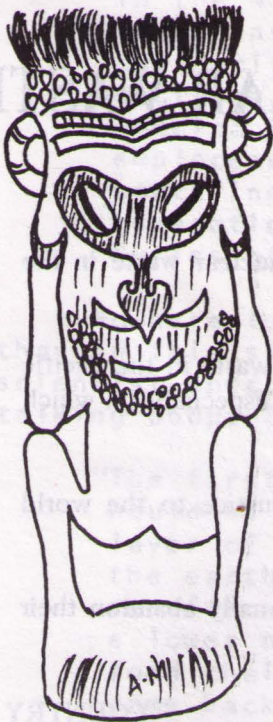


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TO: