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No 144 March - April 2001

Paradise is published bi-monthly by **Morauta & Associates**
PO Box 1267
Port Moresby 121
Papua New Guinea
Tel: (675) 3217986
Fax: (675) 3214375
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Paradise Magazine
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Annual subscription rates for six issues including postage are:
In Papua New Guinea - K30
Australia - K60
Rest of the world - US\$50

Manufactured by: Pica Colour Separation (Overseas) Pte Ltd

Articles express the opinion of the authors and not necessarily of Air Niugini or Morauta & Associates. Editorial contributions will be handled with reasonable care. The publisher, however, assumes no responsibility for the safety of photographs, artwork or manuscripts.

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Cover: Happy smiling child
Photograph: Eric Lindgren



Welcome aboard

Natural scenic beauty, history, culture, people – these are the essence of Papua New Guinea. This issue of Paradise gives you a glimpse of all four.

Read about the superb fauna and flora you will find on a bushwalk in Oro Province, or the wonders of the 'underworld' (the sea) at Walindi in West New Britain.

For history, start with some oral history, an ancient legend from Western Province. Then move to the beginning of last century, when a young colonial administrator set off exploring from the Papuan coast to the mountainous hinterland. Follow this with the review of a book set at the end of colonial administration in the 1970s.

Culture. What could be more enticing than the rituals, carvings and architecture found in villages along the Sepik River – seen in style from the comfortable Melanesian Discoverer?

And then people — the Wau family, from Simbu, who befriend a young French couple and prepare a mumu in their honour. Lynette Keda, a dental nurse who continued providing services to the people of Bougainville right throughout the crisis, and the children of Awala in Oro Province, who welcomed Australian students to their school and homes. Finally, study the faces of youth from all over Papua New Guinea in Eric Lindgren's marvellous photographs, and see the bright future of our country in front of you.

Enjoy your in-flight reading, and your Air Niugini flight.

Hon Vincent Auali, MP
Minister for Privatisation
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CONSERVATION AND COMMUNITY IN THE MANAGALAS PLATEAU

Managalas Plateau in Oro Province lies protected by a circle of mountain ranges under the shadow of towering Mt. Lamington. A peaceful place of about 10,000 people in hundreds of clan groups, the Managalas is Oro's 'Brigadoon' — an oasis of 'time before' beyond Port Moresby, nestled between the Owen Stanley, the Sibusu and the Hydrographer Ranges. So close, and yet so very far from the Capital. This is a place where the kids speak Tok Ples, women walk safely to the rivers to wash, and people greet you warmly when you arrive as a stranger in their village.

It is also an area that has dedicated itself to conservation and sustainable development. The Managalas Sustainable Development Project is the collaborative effort of the local people, the NGO Partners With Melanesians, and a handful of other funding organisations. Its objective is to preserve the biological resources of the plateau and promote sustainable development at the same time, with the long-term hope of establishing a Conservation Area.

The Managalas people have organised themselves into ten culture zones with clan elders and facilitators in a plateau-wide forum, which works to build consensus around common sustainable development guidelines, and invite a variety of enterprises into the plateau. Grafted to traditional leadership institutions, it is also intended to grant expanded authority over the land to the next generation.

I took a *walkabout* through the plateau in 1999, along with Richard Brunton of Partners With Melanesians, and a few landowners and zone leaders. The idea was to see how some form of eco-tourism could be established.

Story and photographs by Nancy Sullivan

The area's biggest draw to outsiders has always been *lepidoptera* — its butterflies. The Managalas Plateau is the home of the world's largest birdwing butterfly — the Queen Alexandra Birdwing. About the size of two spread palms, or 30 centimetres, the Queen is just large enough to make you think you've fallen through the looking glass when she flaps by. But many species of butterflies flit above the flowering bushes in Managalas — it's one of the sparkling secrets of the place.

*Trekking the Managalas Plateau
— through secondary regrowth
rainforest*



What we found during the *walkabout* was a wonderful trekking destination for mildly to very fit walkers. We flew from Port Moresby to Itokama, in the southwest of the plateau. The first night we stayed with one of the zone leaders, a wealthy businessman farmer who has built a *haus kapa* with linoleum floors and plenty of rooms for all his wives and children. As evening fell, we sat talking tourism by the light of a kerosene lamp with a few local leaders, while we passed shots of rum, and pigs honked beneath us and kids giggled in the doorways. The whole house swayed and trembled when anyone shifted against the wall, yet when the host's first wife brought us coffee, her shuffling was barely perceptible.

Everyone remarked on a china cup and saucer set with the primeministerial insignia. This is a souvenir from a meeting with (former Prime Minister) Bill Skate, they told me.

From Itokama our route ran clockwise around the plateau, to cross the Ujaya River, then passed Buambu hamlet, Kokoro and the big village of Serefuna, where someone walked me through a garden to a tall beech tree where a male Raggiana Bird of Paradise was perched. There, the bird did his best to entice two of the local females, performing 'Full Monty' in shimmering burnt orange. The ladies, perched on adjacent branches, seemed less than truly impressed, staring blankly back.

From there, we walked two days through Koruwo, Jorura, Okapa, Ugunomo, Dea, across the Usia River and on to Numba at the northeast corner of the plateau. Once you reach Numba, it's only a day's walk east to Oro Bay, where you can catch a PMV to Popenetta, or walk a little longer south to Afore, where the mission is also connected by road to the coast.

But within the plateau, only one rough track serves coffee and oil palm buyers. The sight of a vehicle is rarer than that of a plane. Through the bush, we washed in clear bubbling streams, and relaxed during light afternoon showers at roadside *haus wins*.

At Jorura, evening was falling when we found a *haus win* and settled down to food and hours of storytelling. There was the tale of a station manager who, expecting a new Aid Post Officer, set about decorating the road to the Aid Post with inflated condoms. A story about some friend who slept so heavily that they covered his body with flowers, took a shot of him, and when he woke, they told him he'd missed his own funeral. Then there were the tales of Sir Pita Lus in Parliament. *Mi laik dispela toktok go insait long Memba bilong Manus and Speaker! Speaker! What about this policy of 'pus pus North'?*

The next day our walk took us along the old Higatura oil palm road, which is now the coffee access road, through secondary regrowth and gardens, breaking out to views of long flat plains across the plateau to Afore. We walked into the bush, into denser re-growth, primary forest and increasingly more rugged terrain. The route had us scaling ridgetops, villages and descending to cross clear rocky streams, twisting our aching feet in liana vines, and passing huge coral ferns and giant okari nut trees. There were tiny orchids and ginger flowers sprinkled across the undergrowth. The under canopy was filled with squat high-altitude pandanus palms. We saw monitor lizards, imperial crown pigeons, Brahminy kites and happy hornbill couples soaring overhead.



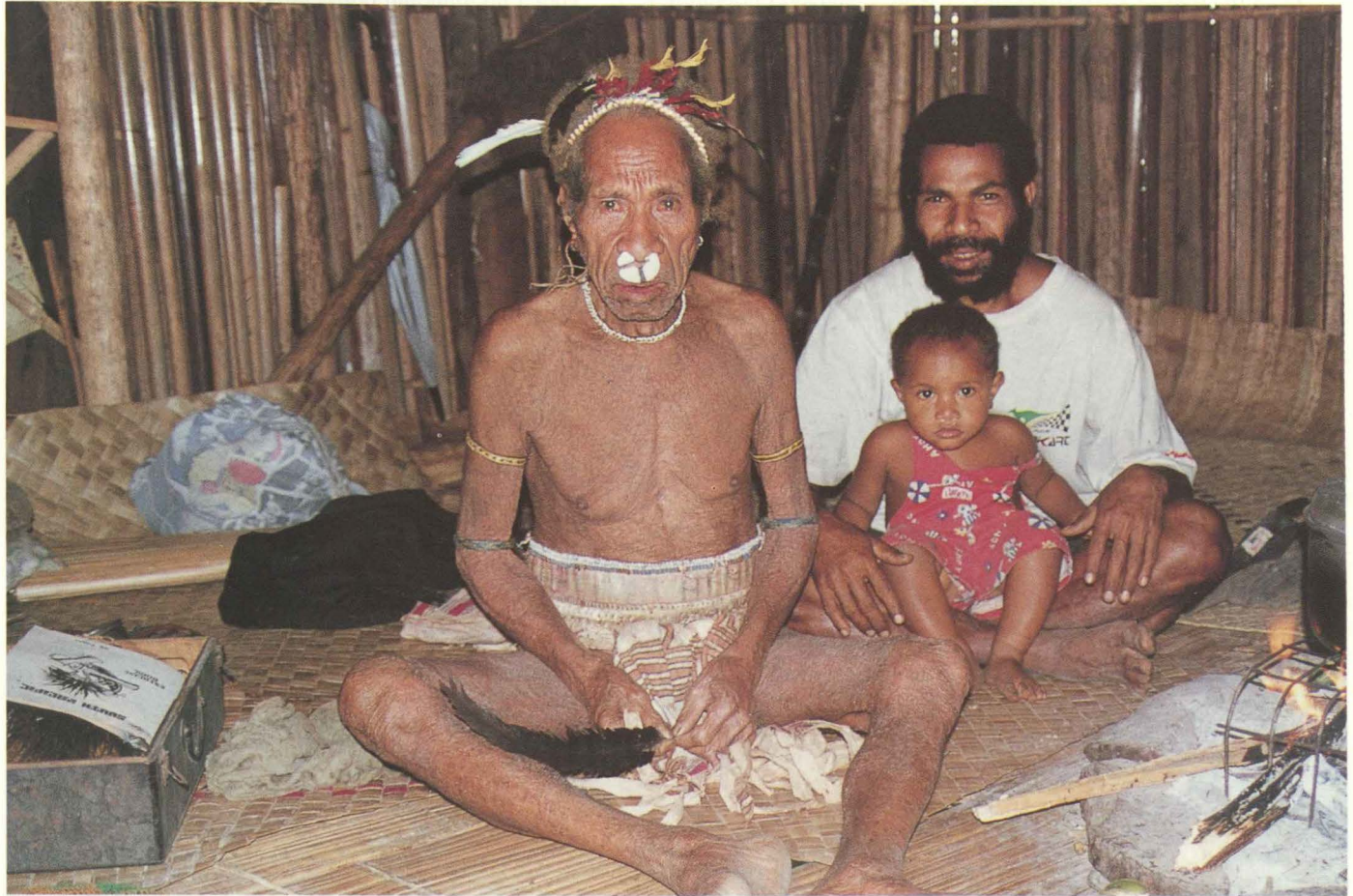
*Brideprice ceremony,
Itokama in Managalas Plateau*

At our feet were fallen galip nuts, kapok seed pods, oil palm seeds and overripe pawpaw. At one point I disturbed a tree filled with tiger-striped butterflies that twinkled into disappearance. All the villages had *buai* trees banking their clearings, and in a couple of hamlets there seemed to be more of these high elegant palms than coconuts. This is the land of *buai*, where you only have to nod for someone to hand you a betelnut — the trees are so plentiful here.

Our destination, Numba, a big village of 1,009 people, falls away from both sides of a wide well-swept path descending to a market green and a river at the foot of town. The zone leader, Kingsford, took us into his home where his cheerful wife served up *kaukau* with a delicious chilli tomato sauce — its recipe the legacy of a nutritionist who once worked here. Kingsford's father had, we noticed, delicate tattoos all over his very fair, slackened skin. Later a neighbour of the same age joined us, and his tattoos were similar, but not exactly the same, running up his legs, across his chest, arms and back. They were both initiated at the same time, about 60 years ago. Now the two friends are the sole survivors of that generation of initiates.

This long weekend was an endless party, because all the zone leaders had converged in Numba for their biannual meeting. People were housed everywhere. I drew the lucky room of my own in the Pastor's house, where his children kindly showed me the outhouse and the river for washing. The next couple of days were filled with daytime meetings and evening card games, endless pots of tea, hours of storytelling, and meal after meal after meal.

Kingsford and father — Numba village



On Saturday, I was given the floor at one of the meetings to present the case for eco-tourism. Last on the agenda, I wound up sitting through several hours of impressive, well-organised presentations and question-and-answer sessions. It was all remarkably uncontentious, reflecting how far the plateau was in the process of consensus building.

All the paperwork I'd read on the Managalas Conservation Project, the discussions I'd had with Damien Ase, a Managalas lawyer with the Centre for Environmental Law and Community Rights, and the Chairman of Partners With Melanesians, were not, I realised, just words. These people really did appear to think as one, agreeing on all the major points and ironing out the little ones with reasoned lucidity. At my turn to speak, everyone asked the appropriate questions and seemed eager to hear more, so I planned an informal meeting later in one of the *haus wins*.

This was where the pros and cons of eco-tourism really got hammered out, and where I learned the most about the different zones. The simple building soon became burdened by the crowd of women, men and children who wanted to hear more, drink tea and just hang out, hungry for an evening's entertainment. Husbands arrived with their wives, who spoke up with their own suggestions. Neighbours dropped pawpaws and kettles of hot water every few minutes. I heard about all the best sights and possible treks around the plateau. Places I hope to get back to see — caves of bats and back-end routes up Mt. Lamington, brilliant views and bird of paradise display trees.

I learned that you can walk six hours northwest of Numba to Gora, where you can wait for a PMV or walk another six hours to Popendetta, which is the fastest way out by land. From Pop, there's a daily Air Niugini flight to Port Moresby. I also learned that beyond Gora there's an airfield at Asapa that had just been opened to Northcoast Aviation and MBA. In the other direction, walking northeast from Numba, towards Togofa, are the caves and rivers of Sigara, which everyone described as truly beautiful.

Other walks include Sigara, Afore, Numba, then Silimbo, Kororo, Karamas and Itokama; or Afore to Toma, where there are gorges, and then to Imowate and Itokama. Everyone's guffaws when I pointed on the map to Dawadua just above Numba, and Ulove near Afore, warned me that both were really nonexistent villages. No one seemed to know how they got on the map. Maybe these hamlets are the real 'Brigadoons' of the Managalas Plateau, re-emerging from a fog to fool some mapmaker. It might be worthwhile exploring for them.

Returning from Numba we took a counter-clockwise route back to Itokama, through Dea and on to Natanga for the night. Dea to Natanga is a beautiful walk, the second half of which becomes the 'Seven Steps' — seven climbs and descents, and six river crossings. The entire plateau is within 600 to 1000 metres, so these climbs and descents weren't really extreme, just taxing. And we were rewarded on the last hour of the walk by fantastic views over the central plateau from the hillside beneath Natanga.

When we reached the tidy ridge top village of Natanga, throngs of kids crowded us squealing and squeezing each other with disbelief. Someone barked *Klia! Klia!* as we made our way to a *haus win* where, with precision timing, it began to rain.

Natanga village



The distant view of receding mountains fell under a dark cloud that unfurled like a heavy blanket toward us. We heated the kettle and broke out the biscuits, only to discover that Daniel had purloined the last Wopa packet for his infant daughter, who sat gurgling on his lap. Everyone who could make it up the ladder now crowded around to hear Richard, Marcus, Daniel and several of the older Natanga men talk about World War II. They explained how the Japanese came to Natanga first, from Oro Bay. 'Bloody Buna' is what they called Buna at Oro Bay, where the Japanese had their base in the War. (It's also the name of a book Marcus remembered reading about the War.) The Japanese would get re-supplied in Oro Bay by ships from Rabaul. Then the Allies bombed one of these ships just outside Gona, where you can still see the mast in the harbour, and took Girua, the site of Popendetta's airport, as a base.

But the Japanese in Natanga laid claim to everyone's garden, so many villagers fled to the bush. Someone mentioned to us that the Japanese also dug a big tunnel to store their ammunition — but no one knew where it was. No one was imprisoned or interrogated, they told us. Just frightened.

When the Allies came inland, people remember seeing planes dropping bombs and being convinced the Allies would bomb them, too. That's when the Japanese went bush, some of them running off to Pungani and Gilalo. The Natanga people came back, started gardening for the Allies, and some went searching for Japanese with them. Others as porters went with soldiers to Kokoda. The Allies brought salt, someone recalled. Meanwhile, the Japanese were starving in the bush.

At some point a US 4-prop cargo plane with a man, a woman (probably a nurse) and a dog crashed just over the ridge where we were sitting. Only the dog survived. The nose and engine could still be seen in the bush below.

Baraji village



After a restful night, we headed to Kiara, Ambua and Umboware. Kiara has been newly constructed on a ridge above where the village burnt down in 1997. Someone seems to have taken to reconstruction with particular zeal, I noted as we passed a three-story pitpit house. Ah, Marcus nodded, smiling. *Nogut yu ting yu tasol gat skaiskrepa bilong ples.*

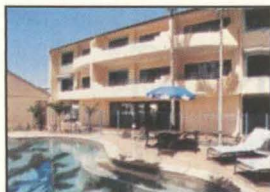
If you read through conservation literature on Papua New Guinea, you realize how much of the country is still scientifically unknown. Tim Flannery, in his 1995 *Mammals of New Guinea*, acknowledges the work yet to be done, both in Papua New Guinea and across the border in Irian Jaya. It is a race against time in many places, to record the species diversity that may be lost by the whims of short-sighted landowners, politicians and resource developers.

Birds are the best known animal group in Papua New Guinea. Birds and butterflies were the two groups of greatest interest to the many European naturalists of the 19th Century and early 20th Century. Many expeditions were funded by armchair European naturalists.

In Papua New Guinea, these resulted in excellent studies of the birds, butterflies and to a lesser extent, mammals and plant life, of several areas surrounding the Managalas Plateau — the Topographer's Range, Mt. Lamington, the Owen Stanleys, the Safia Savannah above the Owen Stanleys, and Mt. Albert Edward (where, in 1981, Tim Flannery searched for yet-unnamed tree possums in the Neon Basin). It is thought that the Mt. Lamington/Popendetta area is especially rich in herpetofauna — frogs and lizards. But according to the 1993 Conservation Needs Assessment Report by the Department of Environment and Conservation and the Biodiversity Support Program, no formal study of the region has actually been made.

If this area just north of the Managalas is so rich in lizards and frogs, and the Managalas itself is uniquely host to the Queen Alexandra (where it feeds on a vine at the top of the canopy that is poisonous to other species), what other riches is this region hiding — a rare lizard, or another endemic butterfly? Maybe an echidna or tree possum we otherwise don't know exists.

It is a safe bet to say that flora and fauna species not yet named in English already exist in the Barai, Samoi and Managalas languages, and we need only ask a local to point them out.



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UMILI

Story and photographs
by Keith Briggs

This is a legend of the Gogodala people enacted by the children of Biula Primary School at Balimo during their Independence Cultural Show 2000. Each clan of the Gogodala has a slightly different version of the story.

The girls just loved Umili. Groups of them tittered and giggled whenever he was in their presence. Although only in his mid teens, he was a happy, well-built and handsome lad with a winning smile and laughing eyes.

Because he was such a favourite with the girls, the other young men in the village were jealous of Umili. They thought of a scheme to get him out of their way in the hope that the girls would take some notice of them.

In their envy they persuaded one of Umili's distant relatives to help them carry out their plan. He invited Umili to go hunting with him. Umili was keen to go so they gathered their bows, arrows and spears, called the dogs and set off.

Arriving at a point of land jutting out into the lagoon, the relative lifted Umili into a buliya tree and sat him up in the branches. He told him to wait while he went off with the dogs, saying he would return and pick him up on the way home. As part of the deceptive trick the relative did not come back, but returned to the village another way, leaving Umili sitting alone in the tree.

Umili sat and waited but his friend did not return. Days went by but no one came near him. The birds brought him fruit to eat. As the months passed by, he grew a beard. Because he was not getting a balanced diet, he became so thin that his bones poked out. Sitting still in the tree, day after day, caused his legs to become crippled so that he could not move.

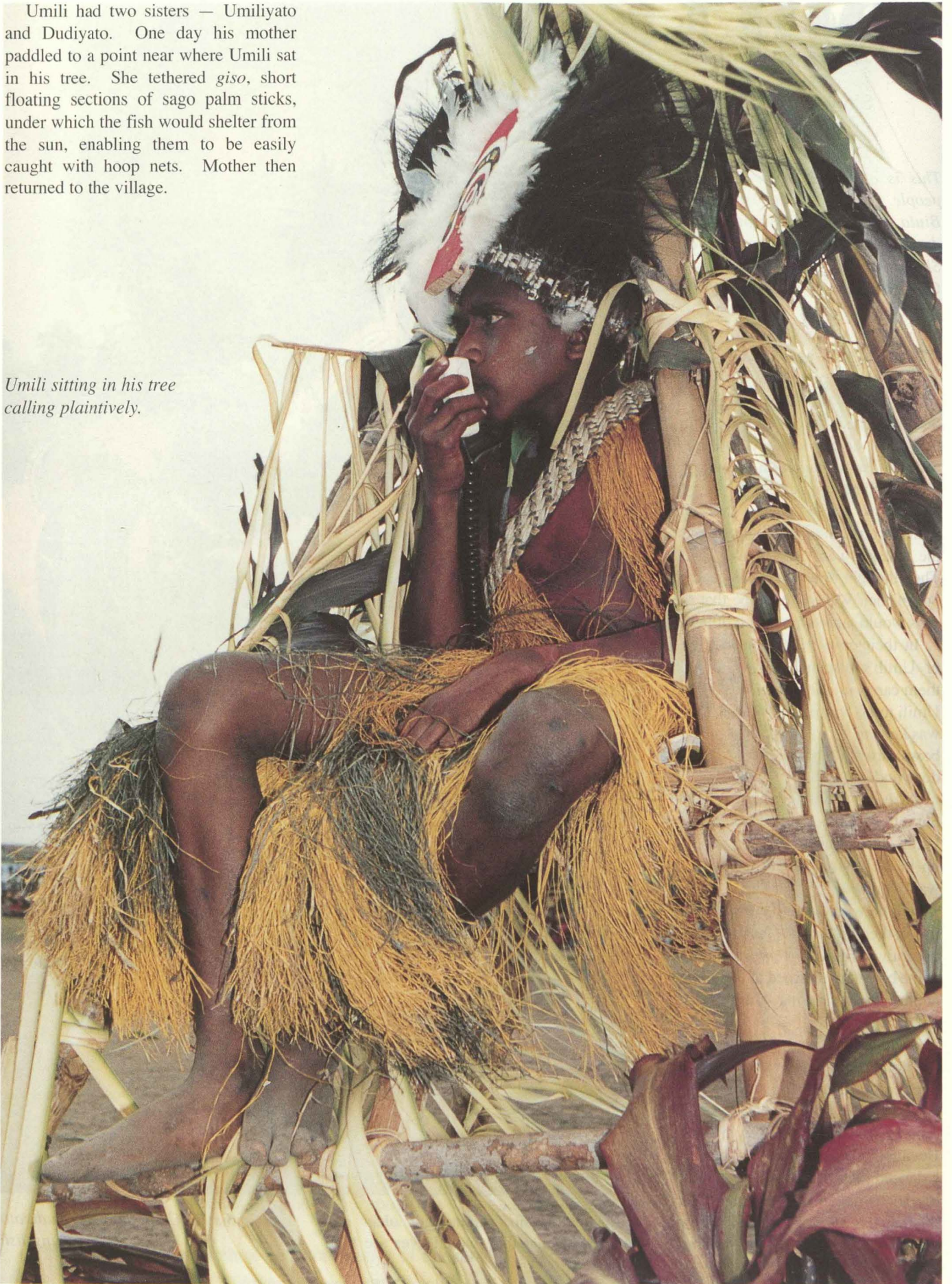


Meanwhile his parents got older and hope faded that they would ever see their son again.

Sisters Umiliyato and Dudiyanto scooping fish

Umili had two sisters — Umiliyato and Dudiyato. One day his mother paddled to a point near where Umili sat in his tree. She tethered *giso*, short floating sections of sago palm sticks, under which the fish would shelter from the sun, enabling them to be easily caught with hoop nets. Mother then returned to the village.

Umili sitting in his tree calling plaintively.




Next morning Mother told Umiliyato and Dudiyato to go and scoop fish from under the giso. As the sisters paddled around the lagoon scooping fish Umili started calling out. When they heard his voice they said to each other, *Can you hear a bird calling our names?* As they paddled back to the village they discussed how unusual it was for a bird to do that. Arriving home they excitedly told their parents about the bird that had called their names.


The parents looked at each other and nodded. Next morning Father, Mother and the two sisters paddled to where the girls had heard the bird the day before.


As they listened and wondered, they heard the calls. Father and Mother said they must go and see what it was. They all paddled towards the point where the big buliya tree stood. High in the tree was someone singing a plaintive song and calling out in his loneliness. They shouted excitedly, *Umili is that you?*

In his song he answered that he was indeed Umili.




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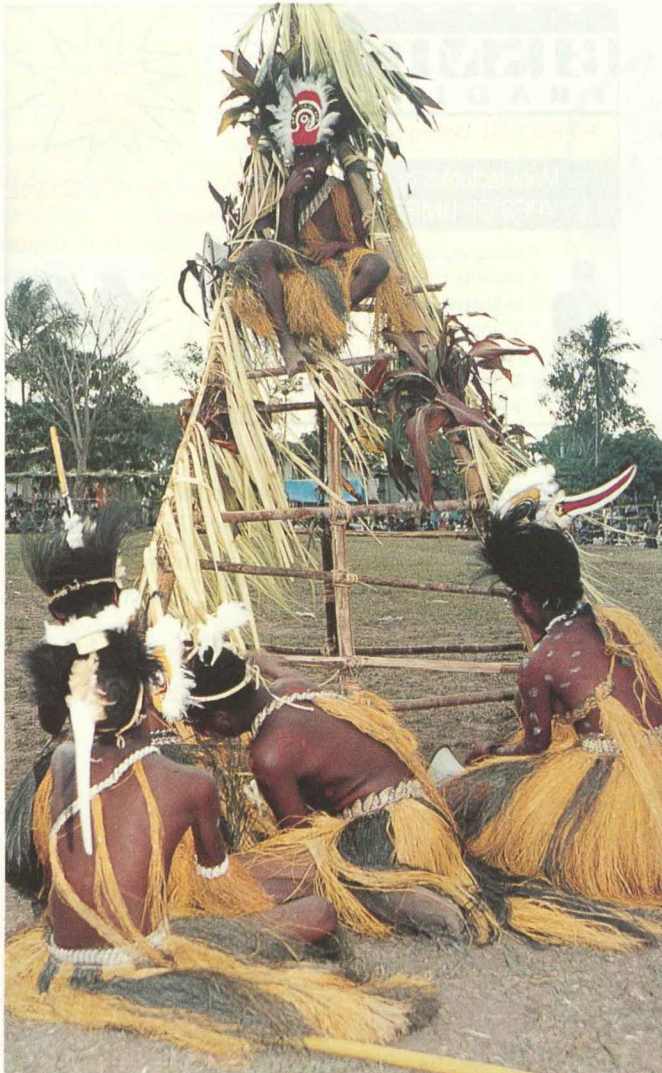


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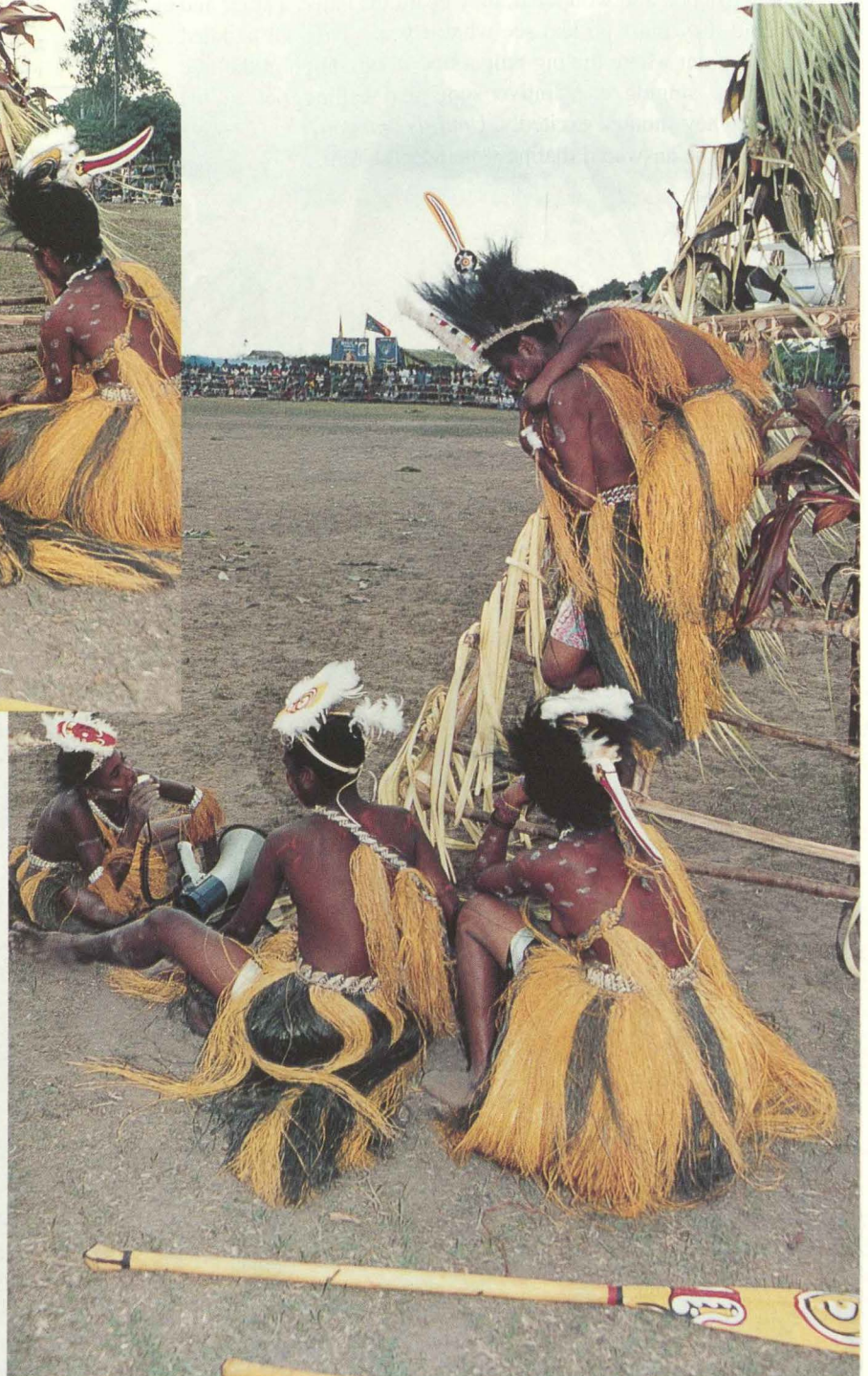
Family paddling to the place where the girls heard the bird calling their names.





Left: Family weeping and wailing when they found Umili sitting up in his tree.

Below: Umiliyato bringing Umili down out of the tree to the waiting, weeping family.



Overjoyed at finding Umili and overcome with emotion, they all collapsed on the ground wailing and crying. The parents asked Umiliyato to climb up and bring her brother down, but she said she would not. The girls started quarrelling with each other. Small sister started to climb the tree, but slipped and fell to the ground.

Umiliyato then climbed the tree, got her brother on her back and gently brought him down to his waiting parents. They hugged and held him, wailing and weeping with great emotion.

Father went and dug some ginger, chopped it up and boiled it. With the ginger soup, he washed Umili. Mother gave him good food. The food and the ginger wash made him strong and his crippled legs were healed, so they all paddled joyfully back to the village with their newly found son who had been lost for so long.

The village people were so excited to see Umili that they all formed a large circle and danced and danced around him with great happiness.

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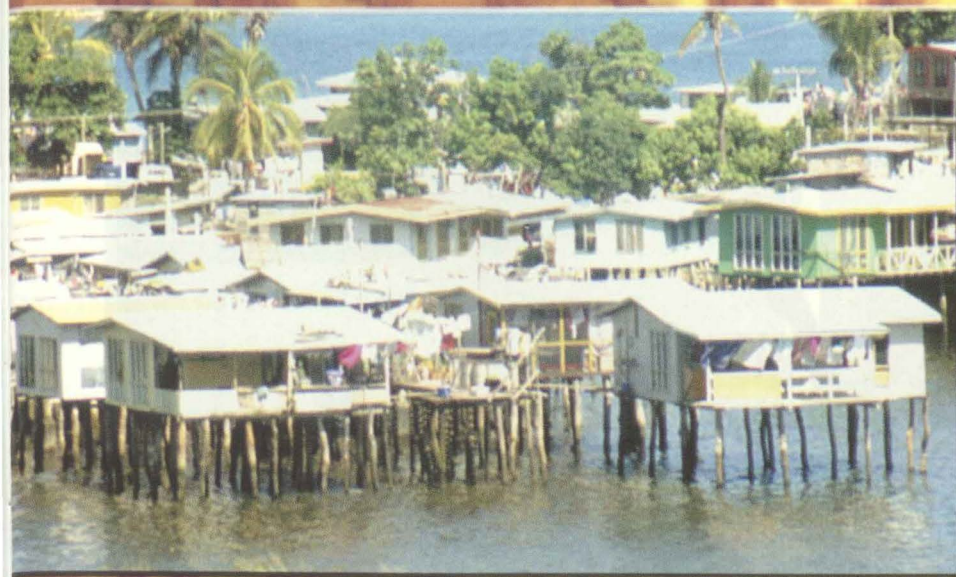
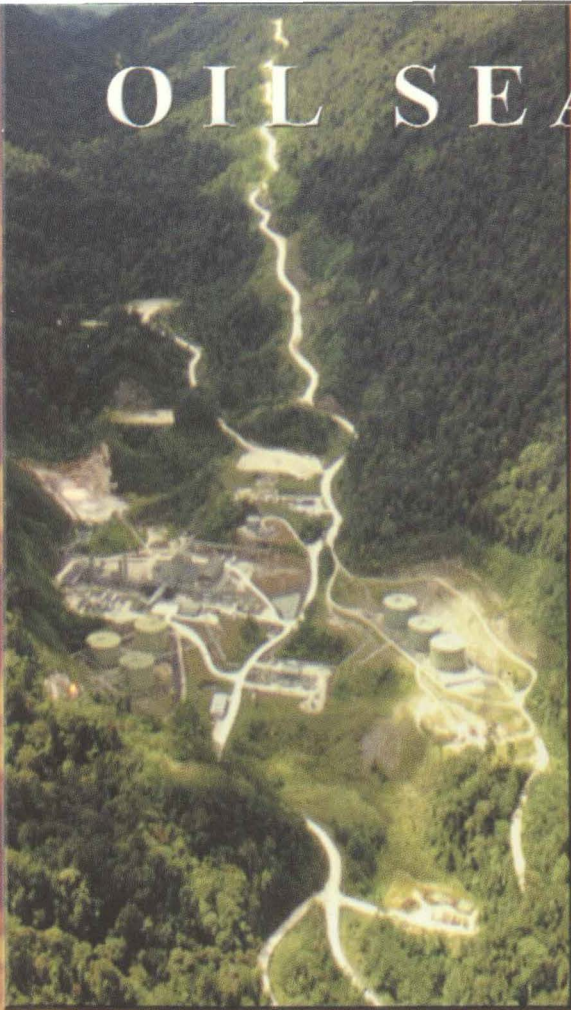
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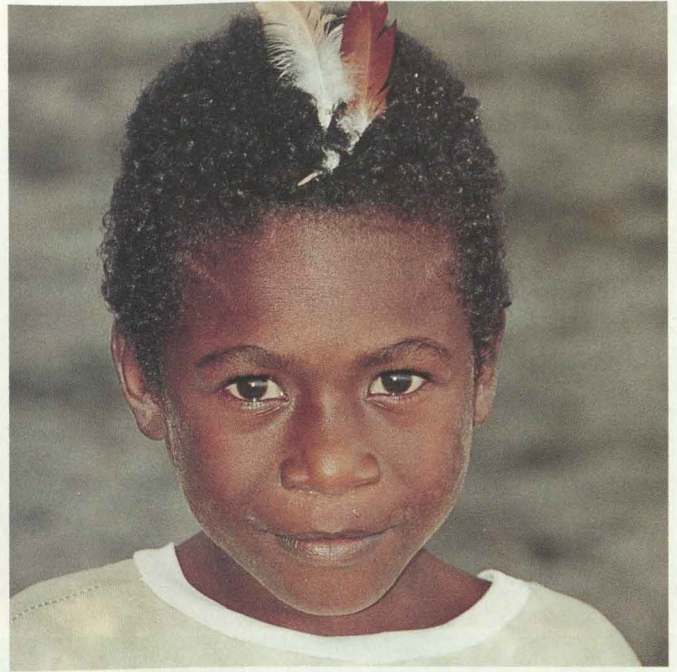


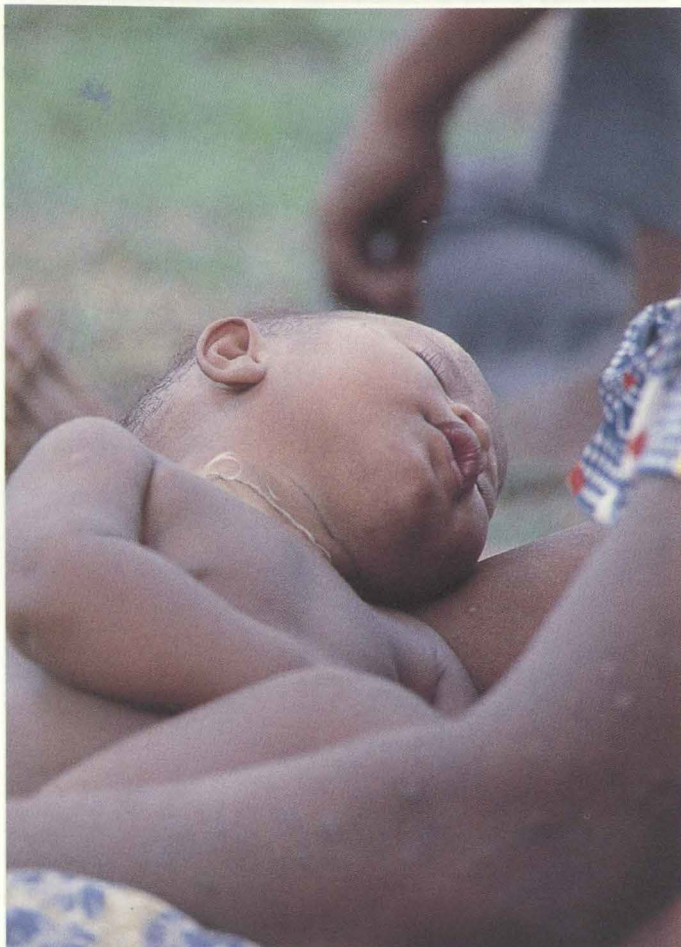
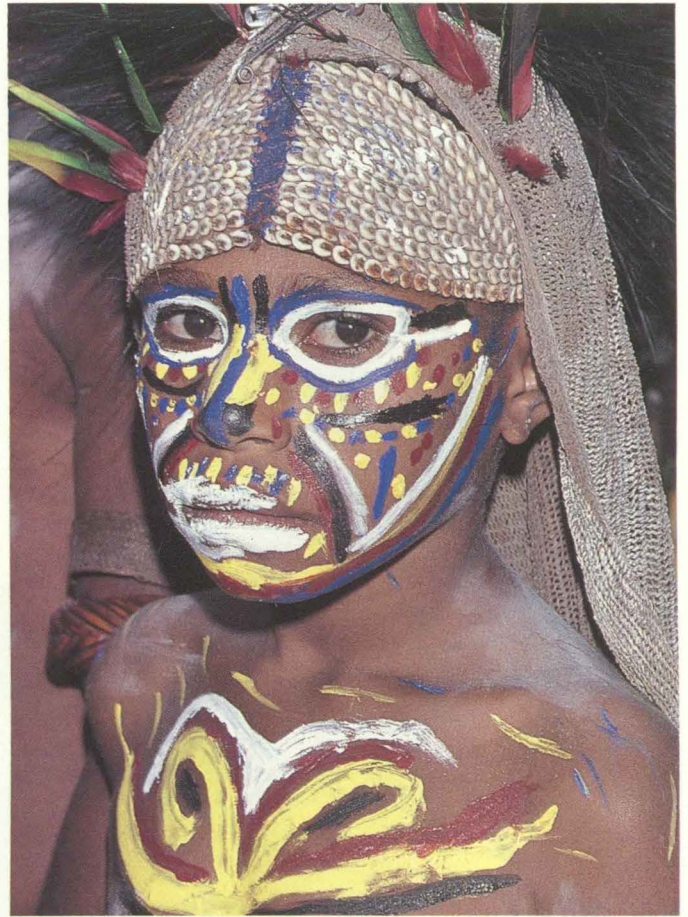
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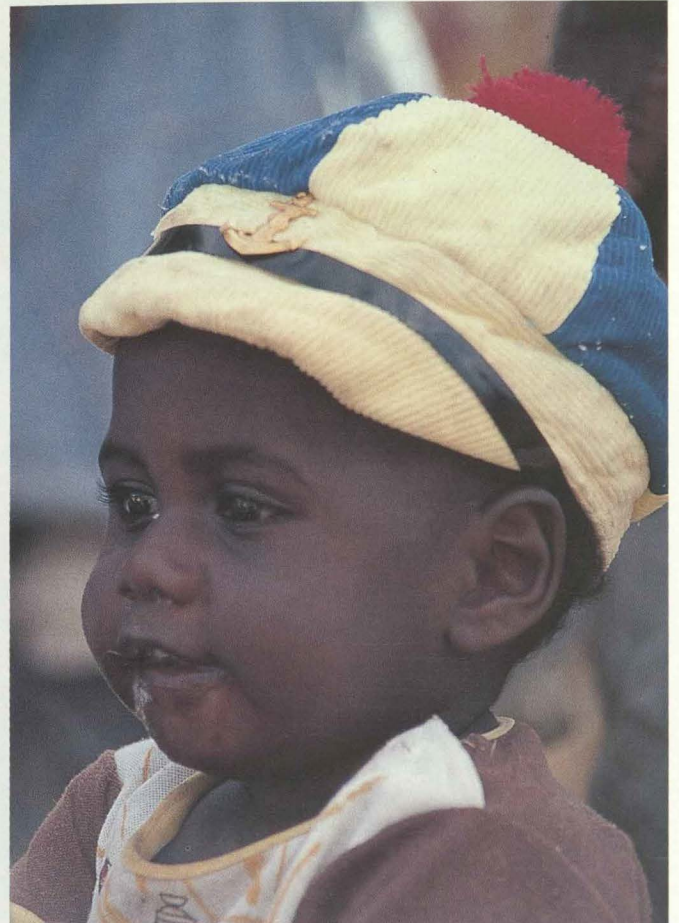
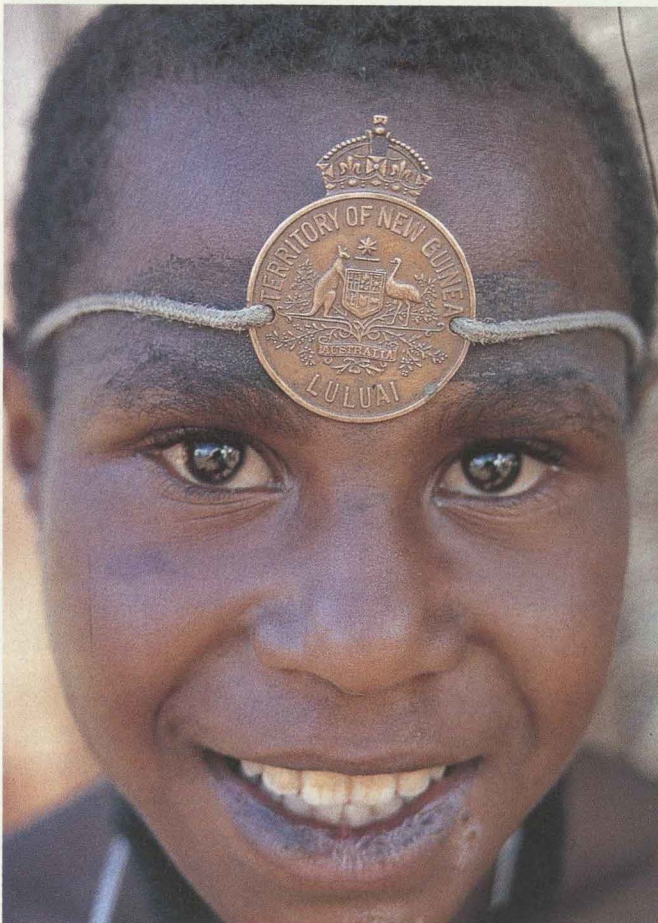
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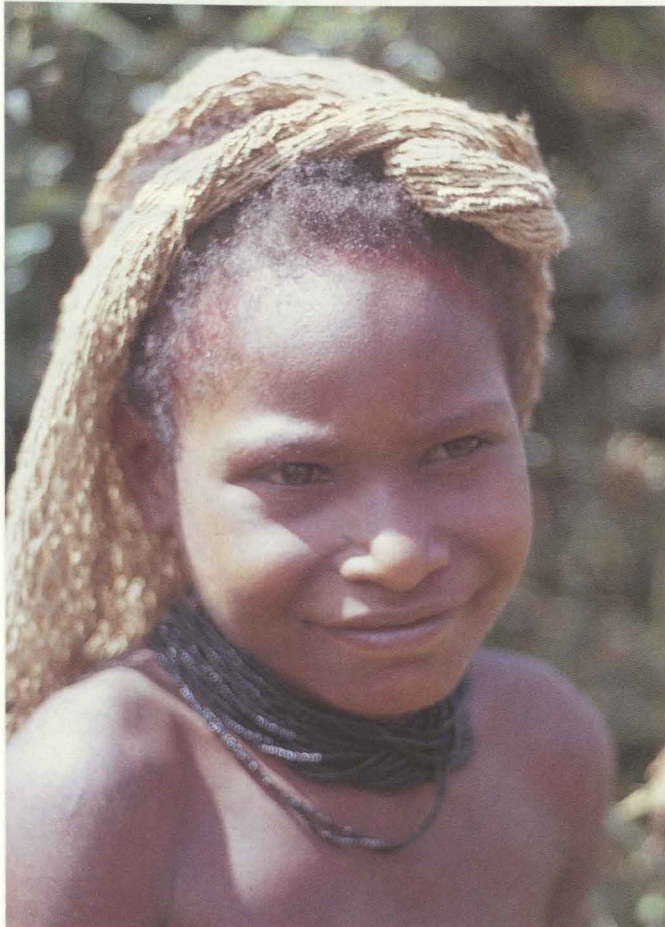
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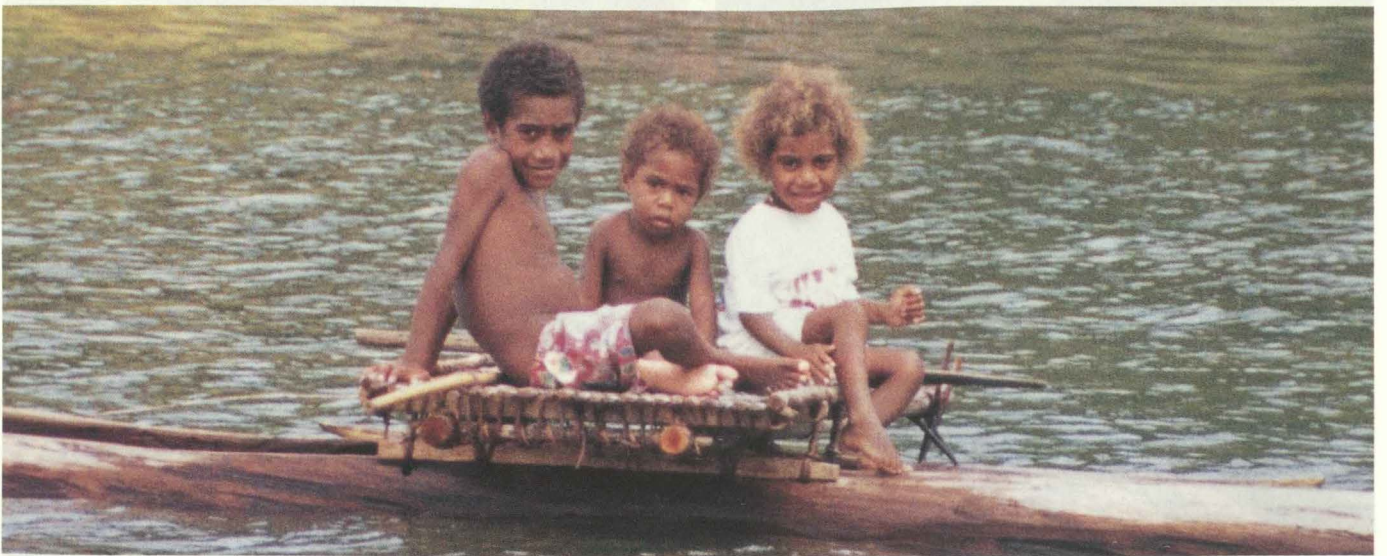
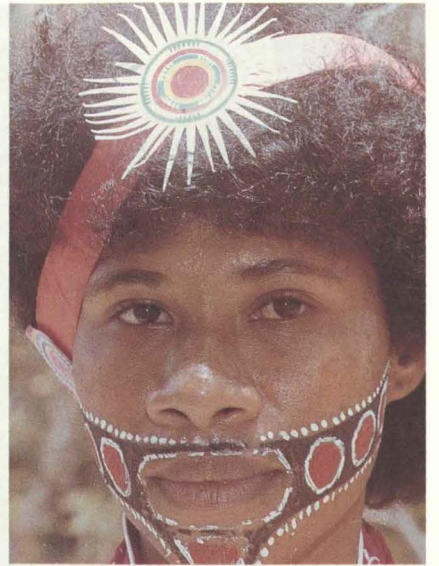
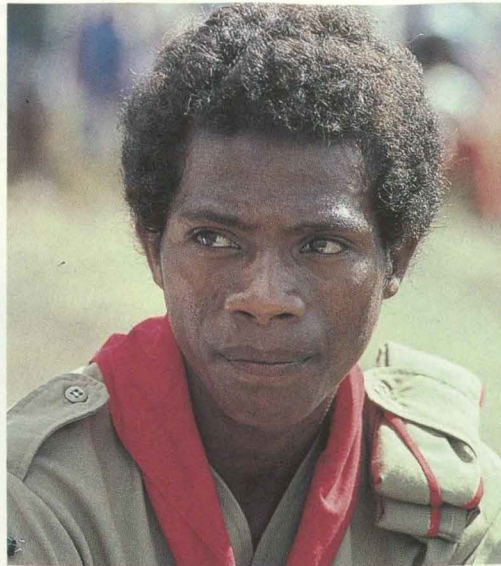
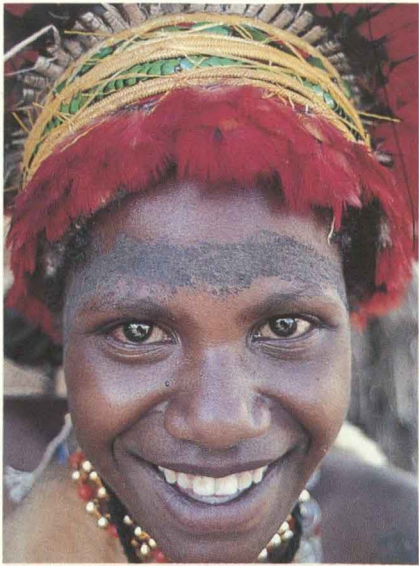
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Simbu Mumu

Story and photographs by Marc Dozier

Recipe by the Wau family

Everybody in Papua New Guinea knows what a mumu is. But the first day I arrived from France, I could not imagine that there was any way to cook other than in a good French oven. My host family in Simbu, the Waus, saw it as a point of honour to begin my education.

I discovered then that a mumu is a traditional way of cooking, where the food is cut into pieces, placed on softened banana leaves and cooked in a closed dug-out hot stone oven.

The first time Claire and I participated in a mumu, we were impressed throughout the whole preparation by the knowledge required. The ground oven is not just a hole where food is cooked. There are special ways to prepare the food and place the dish in the oven, special stones and special 'cooking' instruments.

A mumu creates a characteristic taste, with greens and meat mixed together in the banana leaves. It is truly fine cuisine, since it is created in a certain way with specific knowledge. Every element is an authentic natural version of the western way — fire replaces electricity, stones are the oven, banana leaves are plates, bamboo sticks are cooking instruments and hands the fork. Nature is a very well-equipped kitchen to make fine cuisine.

Contrary to the western way of cooking in which stereotypically a man and more often a woman is alone in the kitchen, the preparation of the mumu is a big community effort in which everybody takes part. Men collect firewood and prepare the pigs, talking about feasts of the past, with big oversized eyes of ravenous appetite. Old men or experienced ones cut the pigs taking care not to damage anything, especially the dangerous *pekpek ples* (intestines).

Meanwhile, women are peeling the kaukau, taro and cutting up the greens. Children are hanging around, jumping through the preparations, driving their mothers crazy. If *wantoks* (relatives) are passing through (generally not just by chance but because they heard about the mumu), they will come and give a hand, killing a *kakaruk* (chicken) or looking after the fire. A good community atmosphere always pervades this big preparation with everybody telling stories, jokes and laughing.

Open Sesame said Philip with a majestic arm movement during our first mumu session. After a few hours of cooking, Christian Wau and Philip KC carefully removed the leaves.

The unique smell filtered from the leaves — a smell coming straight from nature from the cooking leaves, plants and spices mixed together. A truly magical odour!



Diamond taro, golden kaukau, jade kumu, beans like pearls ... to open a mumu is like opening Alibaba's cave. A treasure is inside but no thief will come to cut your throat.

The sharing of the mumu is probably the most solemn time, full of intricacies and importance. Arguments rarely occur because everybody knows which part belongs to whom. For ages, men and women have shared the feast food with a perfect equality and respect of hierarchy as well as clan traditions. In some traditional areas, the whole clan would know the ancestry and the family tree of the pigs. The men would talk about it during the preparation.

This pig is the piglet of the pig of Mondo and the pig of Cain. The daughter of Mondo was looking after him and now will have to share it between Olo, Carino and ...

Contrary to the western way of eating, where the dish is put in the middle of the table, mumu food is dished out and then served. It is conscientiously shared between each member of the clan and eaten only when everybody has his share.

We ate so much of this 'Mumu à la Alibaba' that we were not able to eat again until the next day. After this wonderful demonstration of a mumu, we decided to give something back — since Papua New Guinea is the country of exchange.

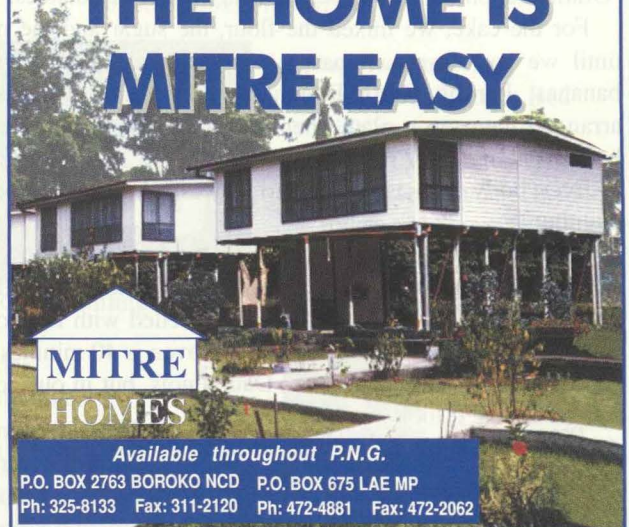




The following day, we tried to make a French 'Yoghurt cake' and a French speciality called 'Gratin Dauphinois' in the ground oven.

First, we had to find the main ingredients – baking powder, flour, margarine, eggs, sugar and fruit for the cake; milk, eggs, cheese and English potatoes for the 'dauphinois'.

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We went to the market and into some small shops but it was soon obvious that we had to adapt our dish to Papua New Guinea. There were no apples, pears or apricots, so we decided to use bananas for the cake which then became a 'French Papua New Guinean banana yoghurt cake'. As for the 'Gratin Dauphinois', we used kaukau instead of potatoes.

For the cake, we mixed the flour, the sugar and the milk until we had a smooth pastry and added the mashed ripe bananas. For the 'Gratin Dauphinois', we peeled the kaukau, arranged them on a plate, then added mixed milk and eggs before spicing.

Everybody was astonished to see us mixing ingredients like that.

When we had prepared our dishes, we found it impossible to cook them in the ground oven, so we decided to build a village oven, with a huge petrol drum fuelled with firewood. The normal cooking time in an electric oven is 40 minutes for the cake and 60 minutes for the Dauphinois, but in our do-it-yourself-oven, it took more than 4 hours.

When the food was cooked, we carefully distributed it and our wantoks tasted this French-Simbu fine cuisine.

Ssswwweettt ... Yaaa !!!! (It's good!) Exclaimed all the voracious eaters in pleased Simbu style. All of us took some more of these delicious cross-cultural dishes and our friends asked for the recipe.

Every region, province and family has its own particularities and cooking secrets, but I've picked the Wau's recipe to cook this unique, tasty meal.

Mumu (for 8 people)

Preparation time: between 2 and 3 hours

Cooking time: 2 hours

Ingredients

- 10 fresh banana leaves, softened
- 1 medium sized pig or 3 chickens
- 10 sweet potatoes (kaukau)
- 10 taro
- 10 cooking bananas
- 5 tapioca
- local vegetables
- greens (kumu)
- local leaves as spices
- 1 litre water
- salt, pepper

Preparation:

Dig a hole 80cm deep. Preheat smooth (river) stones. Peel tapioca, sweet potatoes, taro, cooking bananas and other vegetables. Pick up the hot stones with a bamboo stick and arrange them in the hole to create an internal wall. Remove the hard pith of the banana leaves and cover the stones with them. Cut the meat into pieces.



Grate the tapioca, add water and pour the mixture in the bottom of the ground oven. Cover with more banana leaves. Arrange sweet potatoes, taro, cooking bananas, vegetables and meat, making sure there are hot stones around each parcel. Add some water and cover the whole oven with banana leaves.

Leave the food in the oven for about 2 hours.

Open the oven and serve contents hot on clean banana leaves, ensuring every family member receives a share. Enjoy.

Gratin Dauphinois (for 8 people)

Preparation time: $\frac{1}{2}$ hour

Cooking time: 1 hour in an electric oven and 4 hours in a fire oven

Ingredients: 1kg English potatoes or sweet potatoes

30g of butter or margarine

50g grated cheese

$\frac{1}{2}$ litre milk

1 egg

garlic, salt, pepper

Preparation:

Peel the potatoes and cut into thin rounds. Grease a large oven-proof dish with butter. Arrange garlic and potatoes on the dish. Add half the cheese. Pour boiling milk on the potatoes and cook for 40 minutes.

Add salt, beaten egg and cook 10 more minutes.

Spread grated cheese and butter on top, cooking for a few more minutes until the sauce becomes thick.



Marc is a French artist-photographer who has worked with the National Museum and Art Gallery. Marc acknowledges all his Simbu wantoks, Roger Gaertner and Julie Richard.



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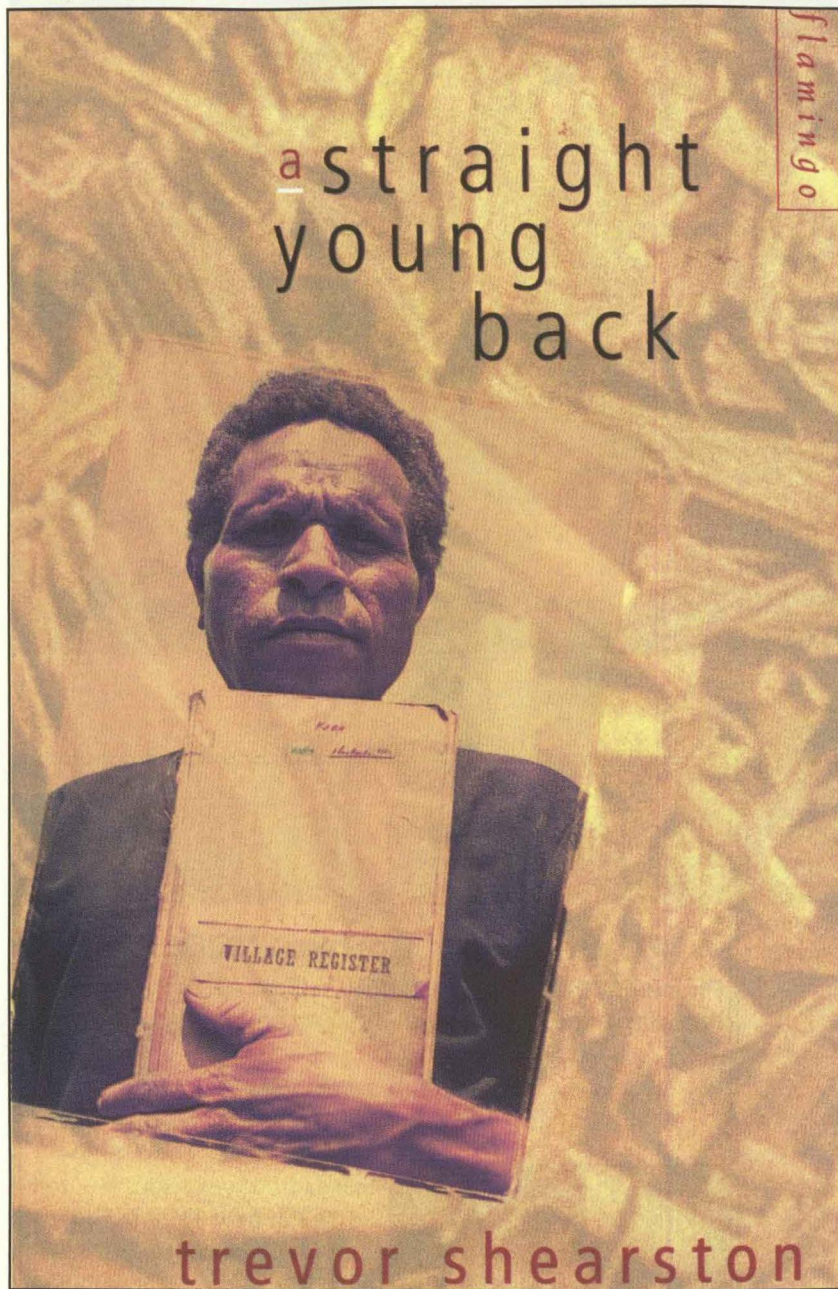
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Book Review

by Mark Hird



As Papua New Guinea approaches Independence, Franklin — now a district commissioner — is brutally murdered. His death is an indicator of the changing political arena and way of life as a result of looming independence that this book revolves around.

Nineteen years later, David has the opportunity to return to the country and confront the killers, and perhaps achieve some kind of atonement for his own past. What he discovers is a side to Hal Franklin he never guessed at.

Inspired by the true story of what is one of the very few political assassinations in Australian history, this powerful novel explores the seduction and impossibility of colonial rule, and the corruption, idealism and complexity of the men who served it.

Shearston's ability to illuminate a whole situation in a few sparse sentences is exhibited in this book, however it requires some experience of Papua New Guinean culture by the reader to gain maximum enjoyment from it.

Occasional Tok Pisin phrases and words test the reader's knowledge of this language and some experience of life and the culture of this unique country is necessary to grasp the full meaning of these references.

Trevor Shearston was born in Sydney in 1946 and spent seven years in Papua New Guinea as a teacher and a wanderer, and has revisited the country a number of times since 'going finish'. As a result of this he has a good grasp of the country and has written an entertaining and informative story that would be appreciated by anyone, but is particularly recommended for the reader with some experience of life in Papua New Guinea.

First published in Australia in 2000
by Harper Collins Publishers Pty Limited
Suggested retail price at book shops
and newsagencies is \$24.95

Other books written by Trevor Shearston
are:

Something in the Blood
Sticks that Kill
White Lies
Concertinas

Yet another book depicting the experiences of a patrol officer in the pre-independence days of Papua New Guinea, but this time with a difference.

The book, written in autobiographical style, weaves the reader through the the main character's real estate experiences in Sydney, his concern for the people of the Southern Highlands, the implications of pending independence, the death of his friend the local pilot, and the murder of his immediate superior and father figure.

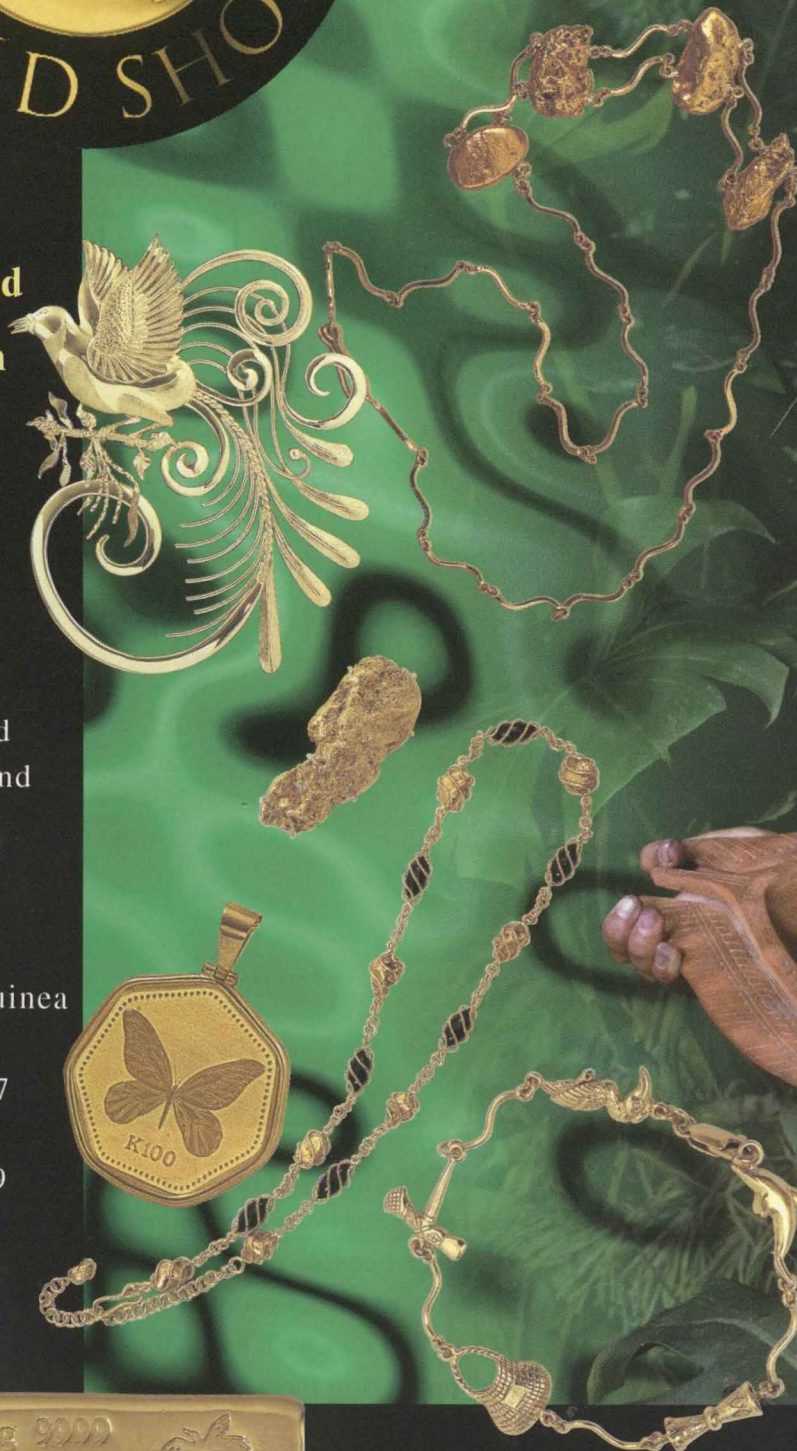
David Apps is just 23 when he is appointed patrol officer for the district of Eraro. His mentor and boss, the charismatic Hal Franklin, had undertaken the first government patrols in the area, and carries a deep arrow scar in his thigh from a confrontation with villagers. Eraro brings David the heady taste of power and temptation. The author uses this in an attempt to spice up the action with coy sexual references and an occasional coarse word, which seem out of character with the rest of the book.

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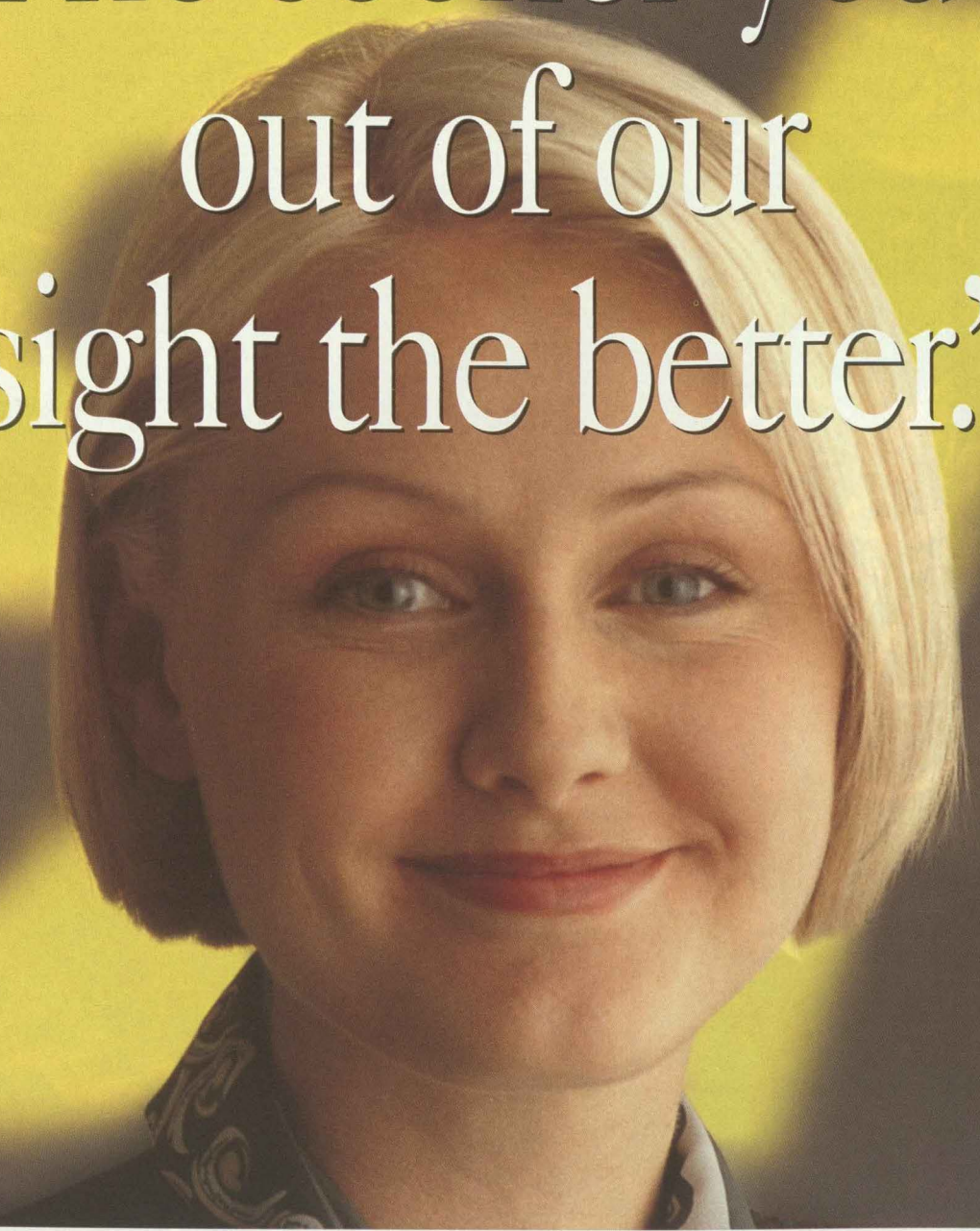
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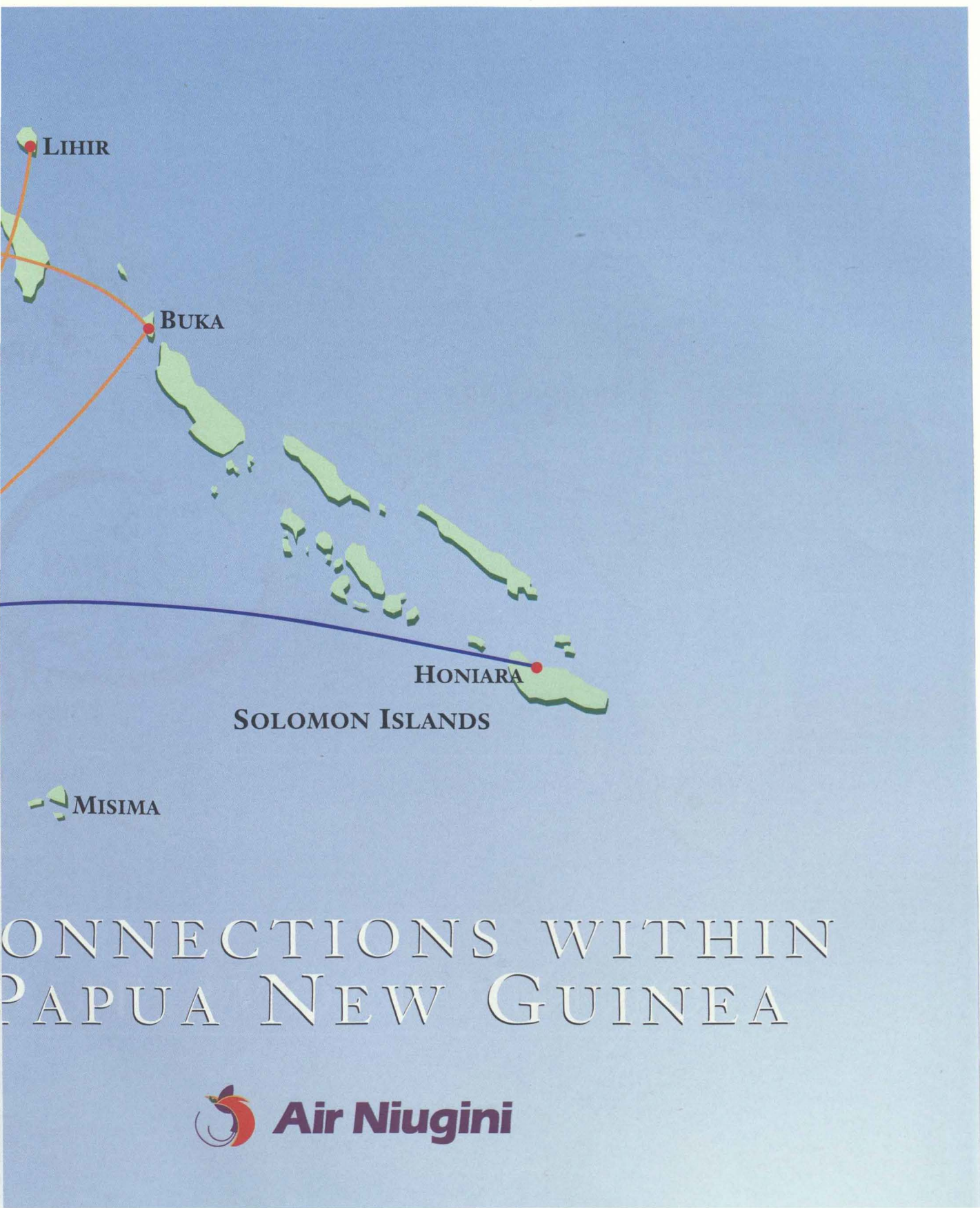
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F28-4000 Fokker The Netherlands	29.61	25.07	2 Rolls Royce RB183 - 15H	750	9,000	74 pax + bags + 667kg cargo	1,600
F28-1000 Fokker The Netherlands	27.60	23.58	2 Rolls Royce RB183 - 15	750	9,000	60 pax + bags + 794kg cargo	1,600
DHC-8-202 Bombardier Canada	22.25	25.89	2 Pratt & Whitney PW123D	550	7,600	36 pax + bags + 331kg cargo	1,700

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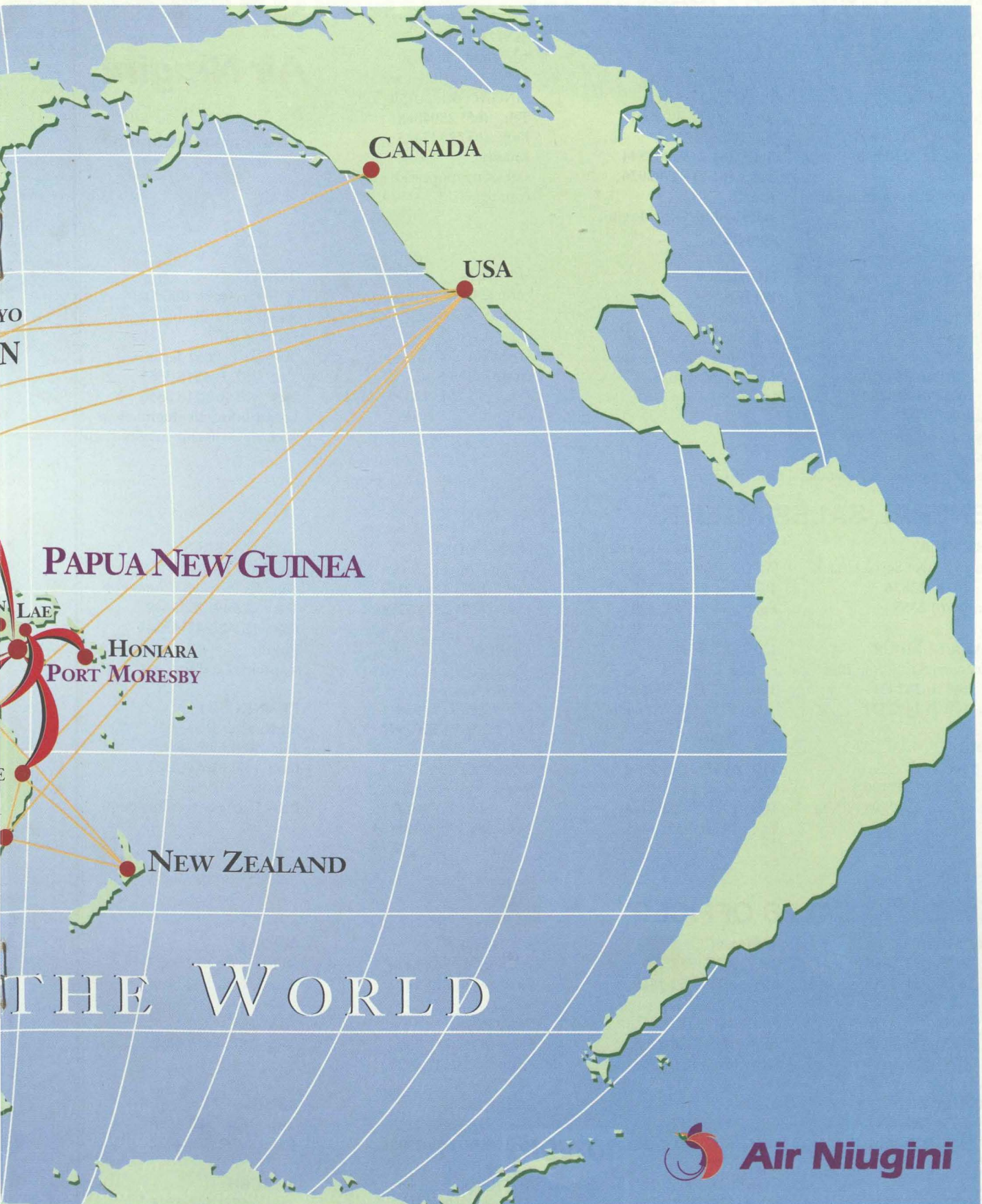
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need to minimise the impact we make on the landscape, while maximising the benefits for the people. After all, it's only natural that a country as beautiful and rich in resources as PNG, should continue to remain pristine while advancing into the next millennium. We'll be maintaining our close eye on the environment as we continue our close contact with PNG.

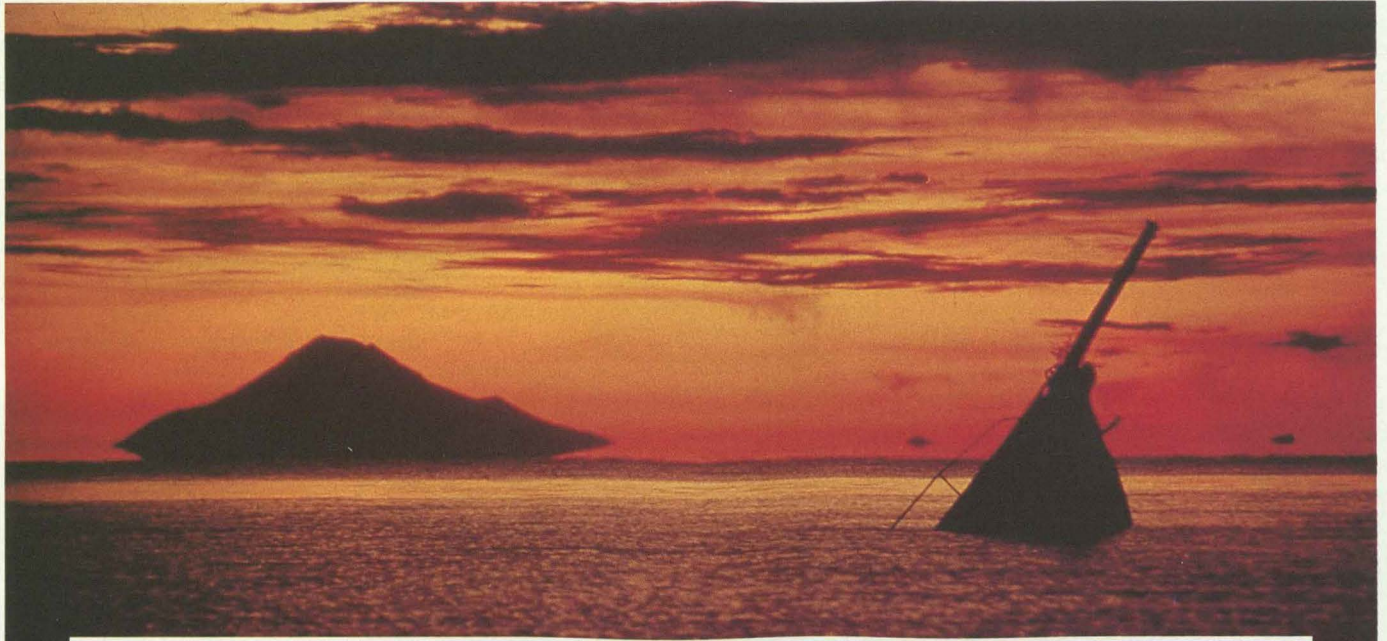


Photo above Pat Manly
Photo left Bob Mansfield

Reef Protection at Walindi

Story by Liz Thompson and Simon Coate

I was watching a salmon coloured anemone twist and turn at the base of a huge smoky blue Elephant Ear coral. That morning we had dived on Vanessa's Reef, a site covered in Gorgonian fans, spraying out in enormous lace-like lattices. We had been surrounded by a school of barracuda swimming around the mooring line, their underbellies a wall of silver as they twisted themselves towards the ocean's surface and caught the rays of the tropical sun.

Over four days I had dived on 12 sites — all completely different — displaying either rich and varied fish life or incredible gardens of soft and hard corals or, on more than one occasion, both. We were visiting Walindi Diving Resort in Kimbe Bay. This region is part of what marine biologists call the centre of diversity. It is the region with the highest diversity of corals, fish and marine invertebrates. In fact Papua New Guinea has one of the richest marine fauna in the world and, after diving for four days at Walindi Resort, this is easy to believe.



Anemone on Caltex Reef

Photo by Peter Miller

A recent survey conducted by the Nature Conservancy discovered over 320 species of coral on the reefs around Walindi and the coral experts on the survey considered that the reefs were amongst the most diverse they had ever seen. A figure made more astounding when you appreciate that this is more than half of all the coral species in the world, located in one bay. Over 700 species of fish were recorded, and this figure is expected to increase dramatically with more extensive research.

Max and Cecily Benjamin, the owners of Walindi Diving Resort are committed to maintaining the quality of reefs and fragile marine eco-systems in the area. They have taken very definite measures at Walindi to ensure that the local reef environment is protected. Reefs are probably the oldest eco-systems on the planet, up to 450 million years old. Coral organisms are responsible for creating the largest structures made by life on earth. As well as providing scuba divers with a rich world to explore, coral reefs function as a natural breakwater, protecting the land and coastal settlements from ocean and providing natural harbours. Awareness is increasing as to the potential for a huge range of medicines for which reef animals and plants may be a source.

The tragedy is the extraordinary level of damage that is taking place. According to a book brought out by Greenpeace, an alarming 75 per cent of the world's reefs are dead or dying. A survey in the 1980s found that damage had occurred in 93 of 109 countries with reef and coral. Traditionally people have always used the reef for food, fish, lime for building materials and for betel nut chewers — a common habit, particularly in the Asia Pacific Region.

Today some of these practices are becoming unsustainable. The increasing use of dynamite by local fishing communities produces tragic results. Blasting the reefs means the fish floating dead on the surface are easier to catch. However these methods also leave behind large quantities of dead coral and marine life.

As populations and international trading in reef produce have grown, the exploration of reefs in general has increased to unsustainable proportions. There has been high demand for products such as mother of pearl shells and giant clams. A Greenpeace report states that one Indonesian company crushes clam shells to make floor tiles. About 650 tonnes of giant clams per month were brought to Jakarta for processing in the 1980s. Invariably international markets focus on one species, which causes serious depletion and obviously completely undermines traditional fishing systems, which were usually in reasonable harmony with the natural environment.

It is increasingly important in the face of these developments that awareness is raised and a greater attempt made to protect reef environments. At locations such as Walindi Diving Resort, interesting moves are being made to do exactly this.

Max and Cecily Benjamin are committed to environmental conservation and research. This takes place on an everyday level, with a talk to divers before they leave the boat pointing out the fragility of the reef environment and they way they should act. These talks always stress the importance of touching absolutely nothing — not even holding onto a tiny piece of coral if you are an avid underwater photographer who needs to hang on to something to get that perfect shot.



Hot sulphur river overhung with tree ferns
Photo by Liz Thompson

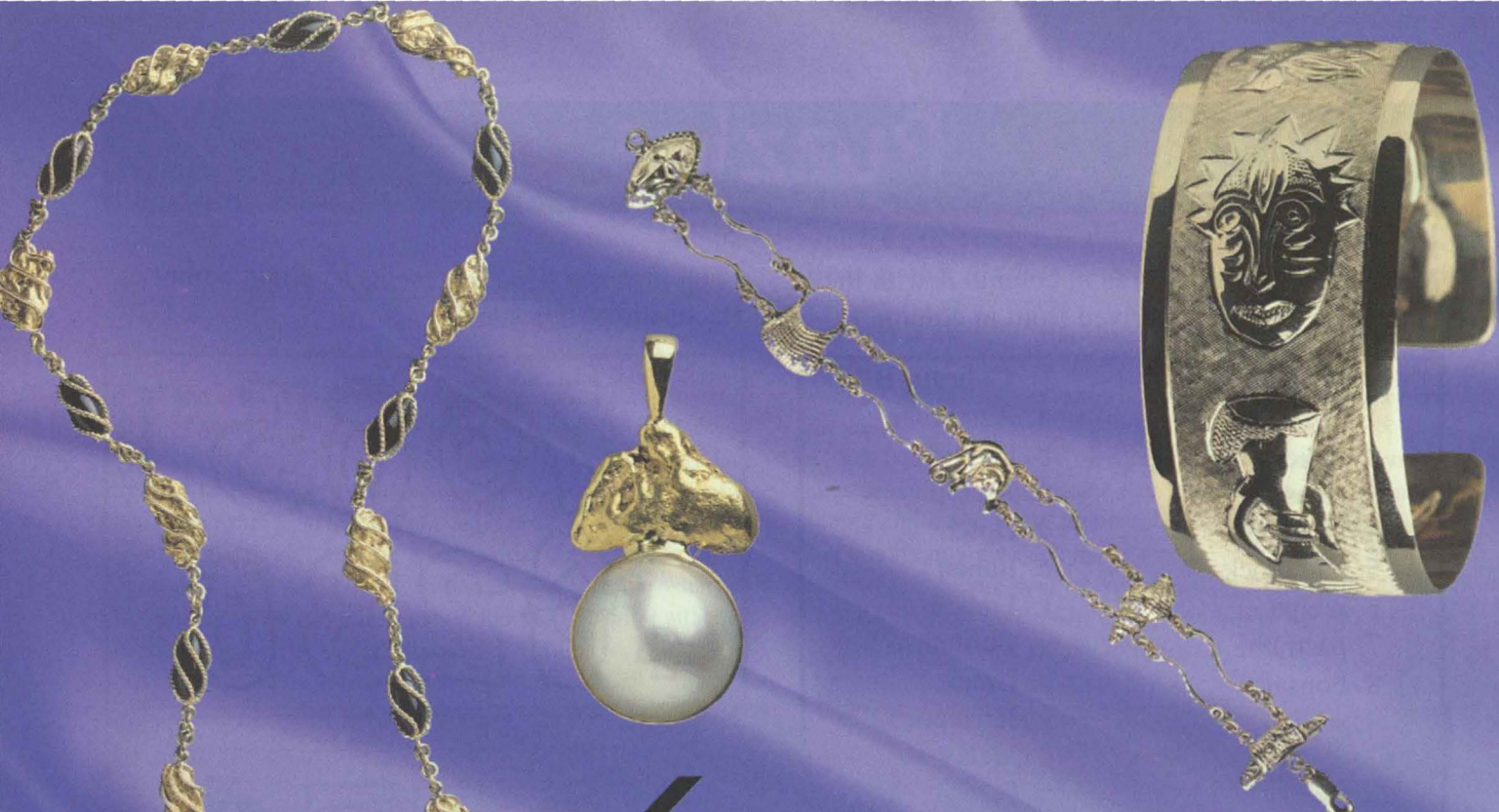
They end this talk by threatening not to take the diver out again into these incredibly beautiful waters if they disobey the rules, and they mean it. The resort always sinks moorings on their diving sites to avoid the damage done each time an anchor is dropped. They are establishing energy saving practices and recycling waste.

In the long term Max Benjamin hopes to have the area registered as a Marine Park. This would mean there would be no commercial fishing, no spear fishing, no shell collecting, no aquarium collecting and no dynamite fishing. It would not encroach on traditional fishing rights. However, this is a long term objective and, on a more immediate level, the resort is deeply involved in the establishment of an environmental programme. This programme is designed with the specific aim to better understand and protect the local reef environment and, at the same time, to encourage awareness amongst the local community in relation to these issues. In conjunction with these objectives is the desire to develop an eco-tourism approach in the area.

Walindi Diving Resort has made land available for the building of a nature centre and home for the 'Islands Region Environmental Programme', which is being funded by the European Union. The project will house both marine and terrestrial research facilities. These will be open for use by individual scientists and various organisations for research on fish and coral identification, reef monitoring, environmental conservation, and marine and terrestrial biology.

At the same time the centre is establishing an Islands Region Environmental Programme, which will pursue efforts in eco-forestry and eco-tourism, environmental awareness and education, applied research and conservation. The nature conservancy will be concerned with broader marine and terrestrial environmental research and the long-term management of these resources. Stress is placed upon the importance of developing environmentally sensitive means for generating income, which will benefit the local community. Obviously large-scale logging is unsustainable and environmentally damaging. The soil erosion, which accompanies large-scale logging, and the inevitable run-off that results, damage the marine environment.

The Benjamins are well aware that if large scale resource exploitation is to be discouraged, viable economic alternatives need to be offered to the local community. Around Walindi there are a number of unique sites, which make a diving trip even more interesting, and which offer a great opportunity for the development of eco-tourism. A well-managed eco-tourism industry could provide the local population with a sustainable and regular source of income. The Kimbe Bay area has unique volcanic features, hot springs and mud pools, dense forest with many species of birds, as well as the rich diversity of local cultures. One of the most extraordinary experiences is lying in the hot sulphur river, a short drive from Walindi Resort. The temperature of a bath, this river flows from hot springs across smooth grey stones. Lying in the water, looking through the overhanging tree ferns, listening to the sounds of the surrounding jungle is a truly magical experience.



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Puzzles

Answers on page 58

LANGUAGES

Match the everyday words in column A with the languages they were derived from in column B.

Column A

1. chalet
2. delicatessen
3. catastrophe
4. carnival
5. hammock
6. recipe
7. pastrami
8. bonsai
9. wagon
10. apricot
11. bazaar
12. budgie
13. rattan
14. bungalow

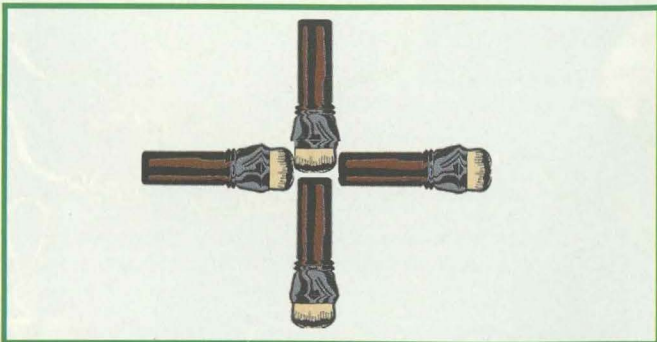
Column B

- a. Australian
- b. Hindi
- c. Arabic
- d. Dutch
- e. Italian
- f. French
- g. German
- h. Greek
- i. Japanese
- j. Malay
- k. Persian
- l. Latin
- m. Spanish
- n. Yiddish

SQUARE

This question tests your IQ ability to observe and move objects around in your mind's eye in two and three dimensions.

Here are four small paintbrushes — each one is 2cm long. By moving just one paintbrush, can you form a square a little bigger than three? (If you find this difficult, look closer at the question.)



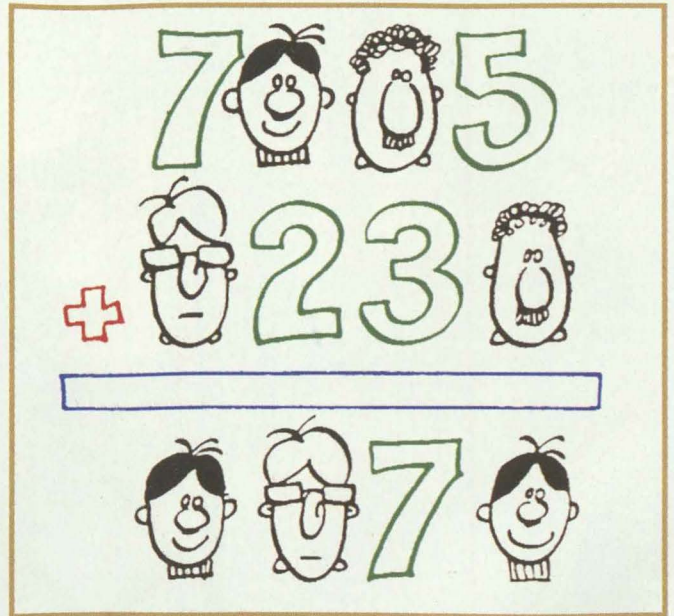
SPORTS

The letters in the phrase below can be rearranged to form the names of a piece of sports equipment and two games pieces. What are they?

THUMBED PROPOSITION

SUM

Each face and head represents a certain number. Reconstitute this sum.



SACKS

Pika weighs 60kg and is carrying 3 sacks each weighing 10kg. The bridge he is to cross cannot take more than 80kg. There is a way to cross it in one journey with the 3 sacks and without jumping. What is it?



Island Dentist

Story and photographs by Phillip Smith

The sign hanging on the green tent read, *Starship Denterprises, Captain Kirk commanding*. Obviously a big fan of his Star Trek namesake, Captain Kirk had trekked to Bougainville on a mission to go where no dentist had gone for at least the last ten years or so. Glenn Kirk hails from New Zealand, but the Kiwi dentist was working in the open maw of a decaying bulk ore shed beside the wharf at Loloho. A series of tents made up the field hospital attached to the Bougainville Peace Monitoring Group.

Like the other Captain Kirk, Glenn found new life on his missions, when he met Lynette Keda. Through nine years of bitter conflict, putting her faith in text books and God, the young Dental Assistant had provided the people of Arawa with the only dental care available. Captain Kirk met Miss Keda in what remained of the Arawa Hospital and worked with her for many weeks.

I learnt from my experience with the previous dentists, explained Lynette. I have no high school or college education, but I helped many of the people coming back from the bush.

She had little by way of equipment or drugs, but Lynette sees around 25 patients per day. Those patients get more than a smile and some treatment. She is determined to see her community get back on its feet.

Still our people need more education. I'm trying to help the young girls especially, encouraging them to go back to school and help our people in Bougainville.

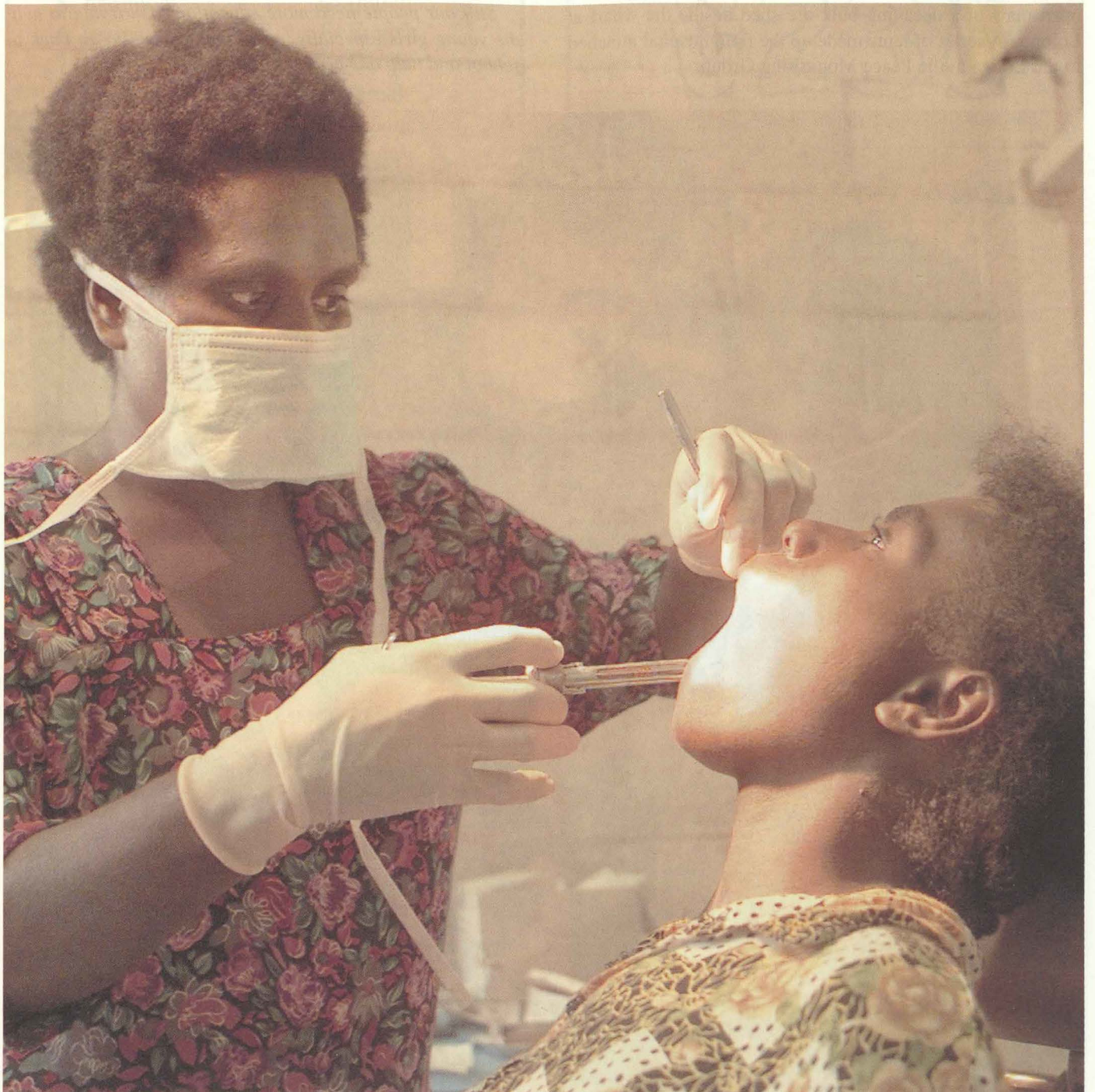


When asked why she never left Arawa during the conflict, her answer was simple, *Because I felt sorry for my people and I wanted to help them. Plenty of times I went through the bullets, but I prayed that the Lord would help me while I was working.*

For almost three years the Peace Monitoring Group has been part of that divine intervention, and Bougainville has come a long way towards a lasting resolution. The Field Hospital is the same type of unit that was sent to help survivors of the tsunami near Aitape, and while its primary purpose is to support the troops from the four nations of the Peace Monitoring Group, the medical and dental teams have been working on education programmes and surgery for local people.

Captain Kirk said it would take time to rebuild what was some of the finest medical infrastructure in the South Pacific. *The local people are rebuilding their skills and progress will be made on the medical and dental challenges in Bougainville.*

And for the woman described by the troops as a saint, the Peace Monitoring Group has been a Godsend. *I really appreciate working with them here, because I've learnt plenty of things I had not seen before.*





The Melanesian Discoverer anchored at Woimbit village

The Sepik from the Discoverer

Story and photographs by John Rei

Simon is 13 years old and has two younger brothers: Stanis aged eleven and Ludwig, nine years old. Their father Paulus is a recognised master craftsman in Kanganamun. This village is situated along one of the spectacular water catchments of the world — the Sepik River basin. The boys' grandfather is Yonbum, who has lived through two generations of master craftsmen and continues to excel in his speciality today.

At each golden sunrise, these kids quietly sneak out of their sago palm thatched stilt houses and wander down to the riverbank. It's the perfect thing to do if you appreciate a golden lit sunrise. While admiring nature's creativity, the boys also stand and wait to see what the gentle currents of the chocolate brown Sepik River will deliver to their part of the river's heavily silted river bank. Usually, there is driftwood in all sizes and shapes, followed by the most common weed — water hyacinth. At times, a large group of men paddle past with logs attached to their canoes. These men may be from neighbouring villages close by or farther down the river. Similar expeditions are irregularly made up river to cut and deliver large logs to be carved into dug-out canoes.

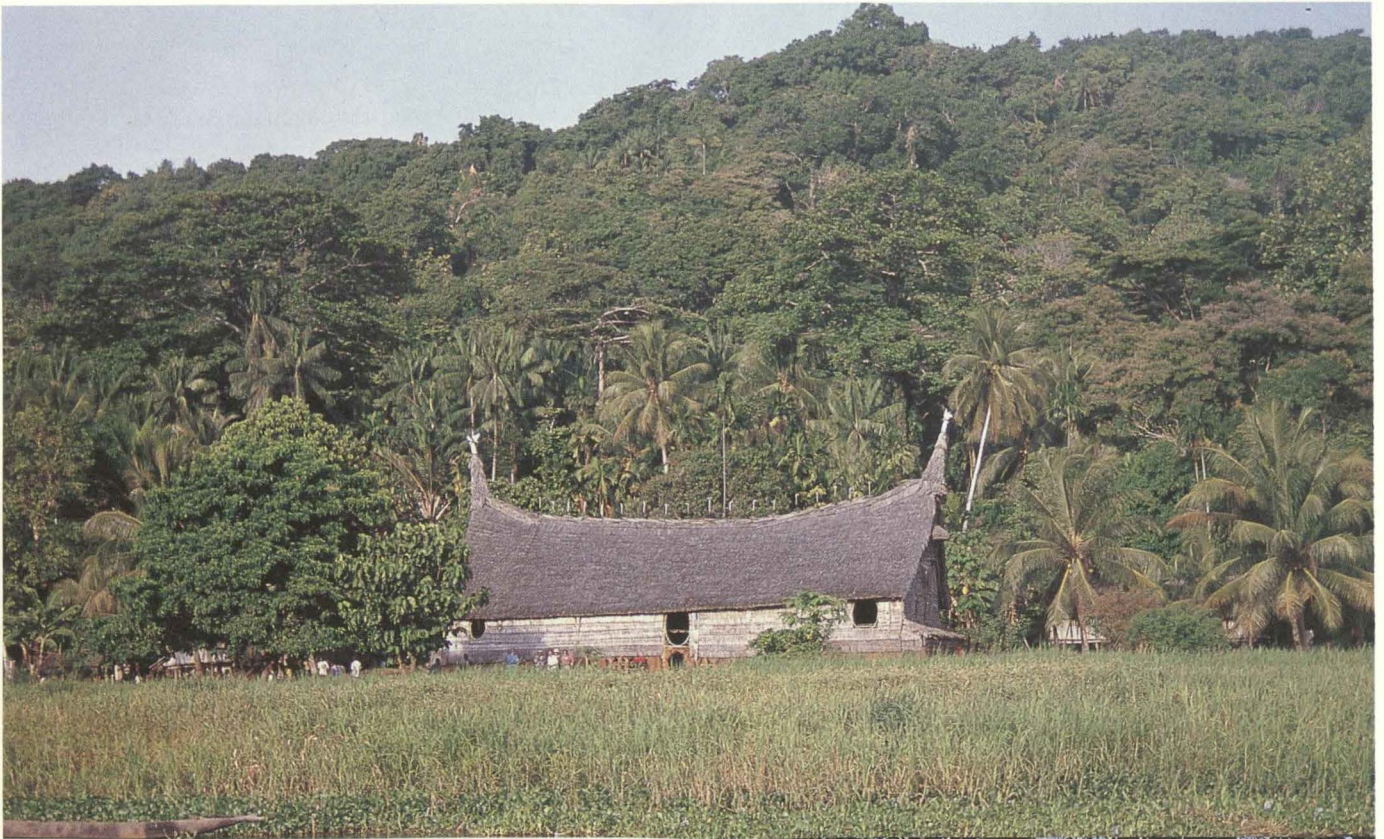
On various occasions, when a quiet but authoritarian sound echoes through the elephant grass in the far distance, the boys get excited. As soon as they hear this sound, they get up and dash for their canoes. The race is to see who gets to the middle of the river first to the big white tourist cruise ship — *Melanesian Discoverer*.

Simultaneously, from around the bend appear two very sharp points, gradually forming into a great white catamaran making its way through the silent morning fog. When this double hull ship meanders up the river past canoe people or villages, they shout *sip bilong Barter, em Discoverer*. This ship is no newcomer to the river, as its operator Melanesian Tourist Services has been providing tours there for almost 30 years.

The *Discoverer's* captain (known to all as Augie) and his crew are constantly out on the bridge on the lookout for oncoming canoes or logs tied together and levelled at the river bank to form makeshift jetties for the locals. As the boat comes to a gradual halt, the crew move to the bow of the ship to prepare to anchor. Often, Simon, Stanis and Ludwig moor alongside the ship to greet the tourists.

In the back of the minds of these playful young lads clinging onto floaters alongside the *Discoverer* is the hope that their father will make a sale today. A sale of carvings they had been working on for the last four weeks. The tourists come ashore to visit local villages.

It is late January and a crucial time for these lads' father and elder brother to make a sale or two. These handicraft sales will go towards paying school fees for the young boys. If they are lucky, there will be some money for a second-hand shirt or trousers.



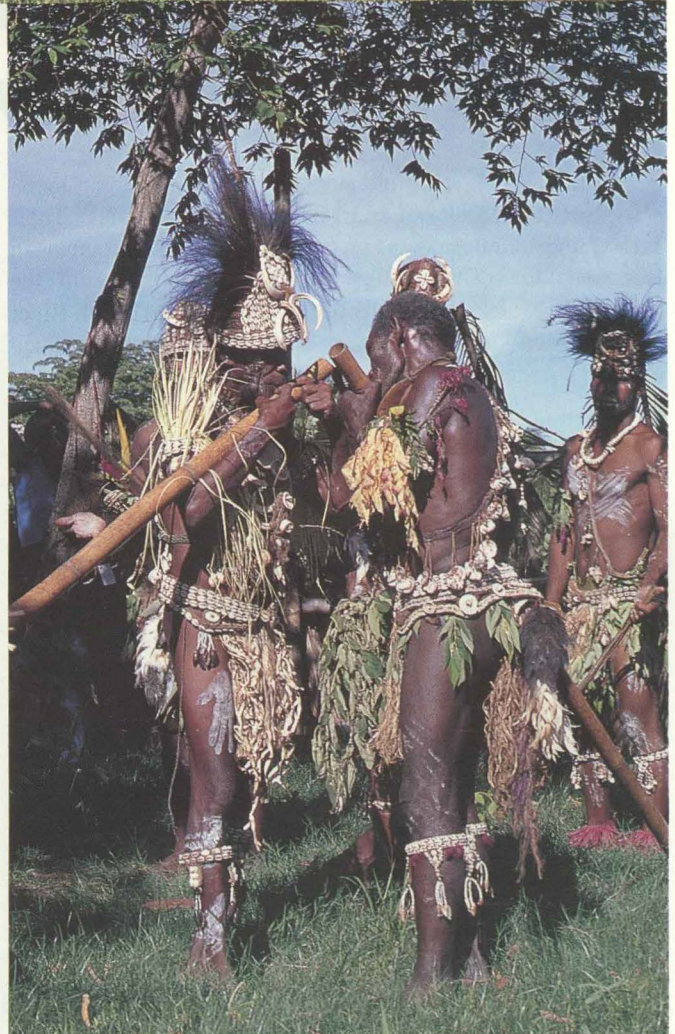
Above: A traditional men's house, always one of the most outstanding features of Sepik River villages

Right: Sacred bamboo flutes at Kamanabit village

In the early days, being creative or artistic in the *Haus Tambaran* was a prerequisite for high status among Sepik men. Today, while the principle remains, there are slight amendments to its purpose. Where the essence of creativity and artistic skills continue to remain important, today the main objective is to attract tourists' interest to purchase. The money made may be exchanged for school fees, tinned food to supplement the staple diet of sago, or to buy second-hand clothes from Angoram if someone is going down river using a motorised single-hull canoe. What used to be creative and artistically enticing to American, German and Australian anthropologists has turned commercial.

I spent four nights along the Sepik River visiting and mingling with young men and women of Woimbit, Mindem, Karambit, Aibom and Kanganamun. Almost 75 per cent of the Sepik Basin is swampland, so the land is too wet to cultivate. Its vegetation is mainly grassland but does not allow food gardens to grow well. But regardless of how it is presented, the Sepik River still maintains its reputation as the epic centre for arts and handicraft. The whistling melodies of the panpipes of Palembang, across the river to the soprano vocals of the Yiengens, seems to breed life into the river.

Before arriving in Timbungke to do the Sepik River from Tari in the Southern Highlands Province, I had thought this part of the East Sepik Province would be sparsely populated. But many people go about their daily lives along the extremes of the Sepik basin.





Boarding the Discoverer



The *Melanesian Discoverer* (photos this page) offers cruises of four to seven nights including winding river cruises through to Chambri, the Murik, canoe rides at Mindem, village tours and bush walks, singsings and traditional re-enactments of myths and folktales.

On the second evening after completing a long day's tour of Kanganamun, Woimbit and Aibom, I was relaxing over a lime and lemon bitter punch when a log-like figure popped out of the river and onto the river's muddy bank. Focusing attention on the spot, I saw a freshwater crocodile spreading almost two and a half metres in length.



It was my first glimpse of a crocodile in its natural habitat. The crocodile in these parts is seen as the king of the river and stands out as a god — just as the lion is referred to as lord of the jungle in many other parts of the world.

Many of the people carve out skin tissues as a sacrifice to the river god crocodile. The wound heals up to form a rough surface on their back, similar to that of the crocodile. The ship's passengers were given the privilege of seeing a 17-year-old young man's back that was scarred six weeks earlier. All the scars had healed and the pattern stood out well in the morning sun, displaying what appeared to be a crocodile's back.

Just viewing the scars on his back sent a painful sting running through my back, as it was obviously an arduous experience. While I sympathised with the guy, I knew it was an initiation and that he had been brave.

Other highlights were traditional performances in the various villages. We witnessed at least eight different performances during our cruise. Traditional ornaments and attire differed from one village to another, depicting the different beliefs the people possessed. To preserve their traditions and customs, young people take the lead in singsings. Their chanting and singing create a sense of security when you are among them, and draws your memory back to your own area of origin.

The third day coincided with the day primary and high school children started the school year. As I sat at the breakfast table, I noticed a couple of canoes passing. Upon inquiring, I learnt they were school children paddling down the river to school. I shouted morning tru and like a choir they all shouted back morning. Then, they started singing a song as they continued. Some children asked for a pencil or a pen and some of the passengers gave some to them. Usually, passengers are encouraged to give to the Melanesian Foundation — a non-government organisation, which is making an enormous contribution to improving living standards along the river.

A traditional performance for visitors at Woimbit

On the Sepik, when the rain sets in, don't expect your land excursion or village tour to end. According to the crew, the rain makes it more adventurous and the atmosphere is much cooler, so guests push on. Although we were expected to visit Tambanum, Kabaramba and Mendam in the lower Sepik River area, rain determines water levels and accessibility to villages. But with 25 years of cruising up and down the Sepik, James Kingamali, the assistant cruise director on the ship was able to get us through the sago flanked tributaries out into the Murik Lake to our destination, Mendam, an isolated sparsely populated village in the mangroves of the Murik. People in this village are heavily dependent on sago starch for food. Fish and eels from the river supplement their diet. Although Mendam is quite like Kabaramba, which is situated over two metres of water, the Mendam people are known for the humour they create through their outdoor theatre plays staged for the ship's passengers.

I was certainly impressed to see this very remote community welcome us to their village in such a well-organised way. The Americans in our group had never seen anything like it before and were astonished.

This beautiful part of Papua New Guinea with the unique lifestyle of the Sepik River people is unquestionably one of the world's most exquisite destinations in terms of culture, nature and river cruising.



The Lost Patrol

Story by John Brooksbank

It was 19 January 1911 and Miles Staniforth Smith was lost. His overly ambitious expedition to discover mineral wealth in the interior of Papua was in tatters. No radio, GPS or air drops in those days — Port Moresby must have seemed a long way away! Rafts had capsized and broken up in the rapids, drowning carriers and leaving one half of his party washed up on the other side of the raging river he thought to be the Strickland. Although he did not realise it at the time, he was probably the first European to enter the Highlands of Papua New Guinea.

The commonly accepted wisdom is that the first Europeans to venture into the Highlands were Michael Leahy, his brother Dan and patrol officer James Taylor. They discovered huge horticultural societies settled in the fertile alluvial valleys of the Wahgi and other major rivers that the Leahy brothers prospected for gold in 1932 and later years. In 1935 Hides and O'Malley from the Papuan side of the island travelled east across the top of Mount Bosavi. They reached the Hegigio River and traversed present day Southern Highlands Province, thinking they were the first Europeans in the area.

The possibility that these two groups may have been preceded by Staniforth Smith almost two decades earlier is a result of some careful detective work by two anthropologists, Ed Schieffelin and Hiroyuki Kurita, who lived with the Foe and Fasu speaking people of the Lake Kutubu area. Oral histories they collected did not quite agree with patrol reports of explorers, missionaries and government officers who they knew had visited the area earlier in the century. Village recollections mixed up Staniforth Smith with patrol officer Jack Hides who travelled through the area 20 years later with O'Malley.



Map showing the reconstructed route of Staniforth Smith's party and other early patrols

Staniforth Smith's expedition had travelled up the Kikori River from the notorious Goaribari Island, where the Reverend James Chalmers had been murdered just ten years before, on 20 November 1901. They left the river and marched to Mount Murray where MacKay, an Australian mining engineer, had recently reported finding possible commercial deposits of coal.

Sending half of his party back to the coast to conserve supplies, Staniforth Smith and the remainder travelled westwards hoping to reach the headwaters of the Strickland River. The group crossed the Samberigi Valley and despite the rugged limestone terrain, tried to travel in a north-westerly direction. After crossing a number of rivers they came to a large gorge cut by another river travelling south-west, which Smith assumed to be the Strickland. They descended into the gorge and built rafts, which unfortunately did not last long in the fast flowing waters.

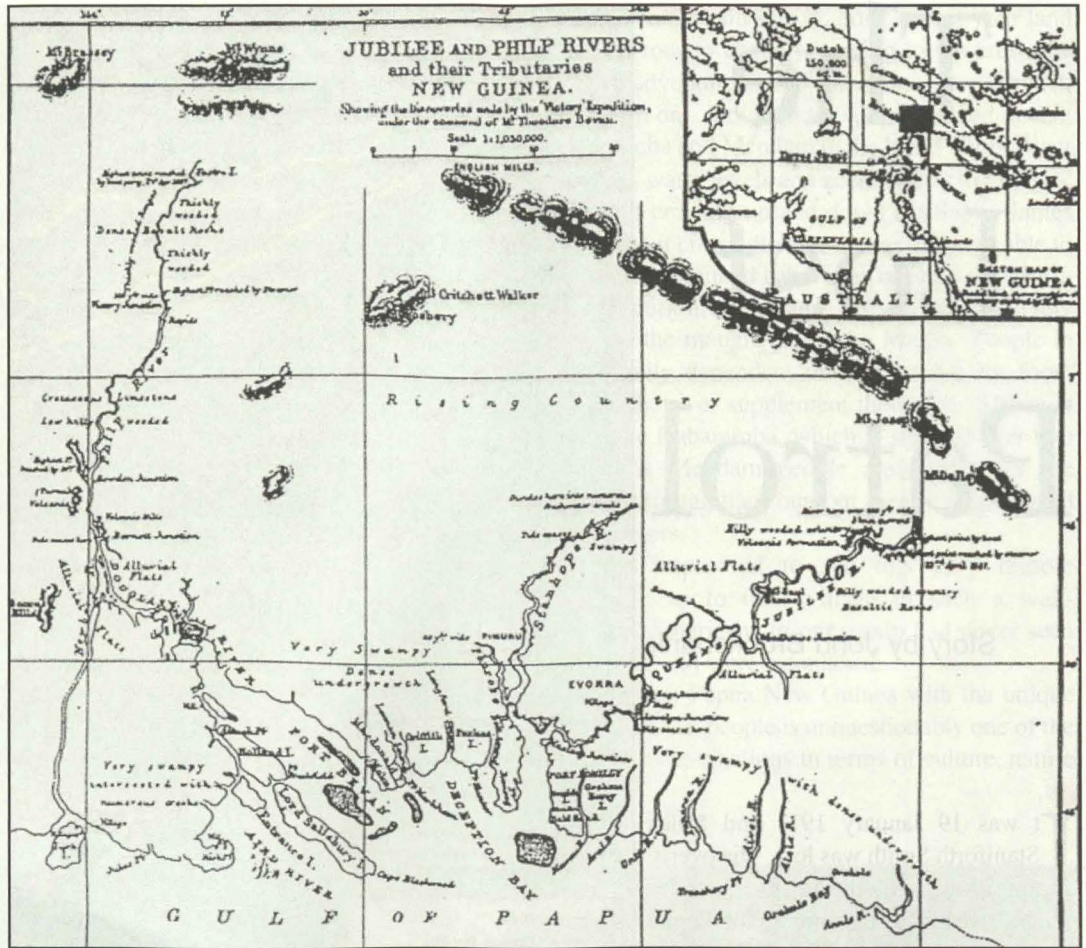
It took five days before the surviving members of the expedition could all join up on the same side of the river and yet another 29 days of trekking, a near starvation diet and a further eleven deaths before smoother waters were encountered. They then commandeered two small local canoes to travel down the river.

A couple of days later they encountered members of a search party under Wilfred Beaver, who had been sent out to find them. They were amazed to find that the river they were travelling down was the Kikori, and in fact they were close to where they had started three and a half months before!

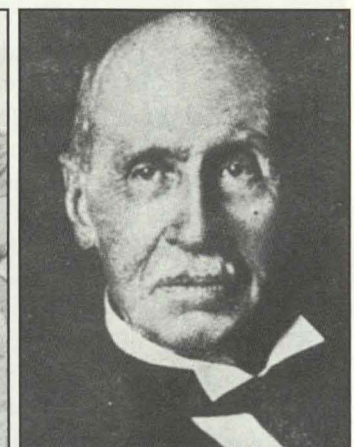
During his efforts in trying to locate Staniforth Smith, Beaver found the spectacular waterfalls, now named after him, formed by the Mubi River as it drops from the highlands down to join the Hegigio River on the Kikori floodplain.

At the time it was understood from Beaver's assessment that Staniforth Smith had not travelled much further north than the junction of the Mubi and Kikori Rivers. However, in order to clear up their oral history discrepancies, Schieffelin and Kurita re-examined Smith's official report and accompanying map prepared by Pratt, a surveyor who was a member of the expedition.

The anthropologists reconstructed a route that corresponds with local oral history, place names recorded by Staniforth Smith, Pratt's map and an estimated daily travelling distance to coincide with overnight camping locations commensurate with local topographical features.



Above: Map of the Gulf country of Papua showing how little of the interior was known outside the immediate environs of the Philp (Kikori) and Queen Jubilee (Baimuru) Rivers (1887)



Above: Sir Hubert Murray, Lieutenant Governor of Papua (1908-1940)
Left: Jack Hides, one of Sir Hubert Murray's 'outside men', with a contingent of Papuan Constabulary (1930s)



What emerges is a patrol route along the banks of the Digimu River, which was crossed to enter the Hedinia Valley. Staniforth Smith just missed seeing Lake Kutubu, in fact only a ridge away to his north-east. It appears that Staniforth Smith's party passed through Hedinia village and continued until they reached the Hegigio River gorge near present day Sisibia village. It was the Hegigio that wrecked their rafts and which they followed downstream where, swollen with the waters of other tributaries, it becomes the mighty Kikori.

Staniforth Smith had not achieved his goal of proving exploratory prowess to Lieutenant Governor of the colony, Judge Hubert Murray, and in fact was unable to prove where he had actually been in the months he had been away. Smith, an aspiring colonial politician with little field experience, did not have and had not recruited the expertise to take proper readings or make decent maps of his travels. His defence that his personal effects had been lost in the river, although true, did nothing to ameliorate the disgrace he endured as a result of losing a third of his party during the expensive and fruitless expedition.

The magnificent Beaver Falls on the Mubi River, discovered by the group sent to find Staniforth Smith's long overdue expedition.

Hubert Murray, admonishing Staniforth Smith for being away from his post of Administrator for almost four months, and apparently beating his carriers stated, *The loss of a third of the party is something quite unprecedented in Papuan exploration ... and the expedition cannot be looked upon as otherwise but disastrous.*

Although reprimanded and never again trusted by Hubert Murray, Staniforth Smith remained in the Papuan administration until his appointment as Acting Administrator of Northern Territory after World War I. He returned to Papua for nine years before retiring to Western Australia. The position of Lieutenant Governor, which he had coveted for virtually his whole working life, was still held by Sir Hubert Murray when Staniforth Smith died in 1935.

DESTINATION

Heritage Singapore A will to survive

Story and photographs by Tom Cockrem

Singapore, as we all know, is the definitive global city-state. Words spring to mind like 'futuristic' and 'economic marvel'. And we all duly grieved when we learned of the systematic demolition of the 'old' Singapore — the shop houses, the corner coffee shops, the budget Chinese-run hotels, which together are the signature of south-east Asian cities, and which had helped earn Singapore its status as the region's most alluring destination, a magnet for the likes of Kipling, Conrad and Maugham.

'There'll be nothing left!' 'Nobody will want to come any more!' were the cries increasingly heard when the Urban Renewal Department was doing its relocation thing. 'How could they pull those gorgeous old houses down?'

Of course, those who said these things didn't live in the places whose sad fate they bemoaned. They were not crammed into partitioned cubicles — as many as ten to one compartment — with sanitation all but non-existent.

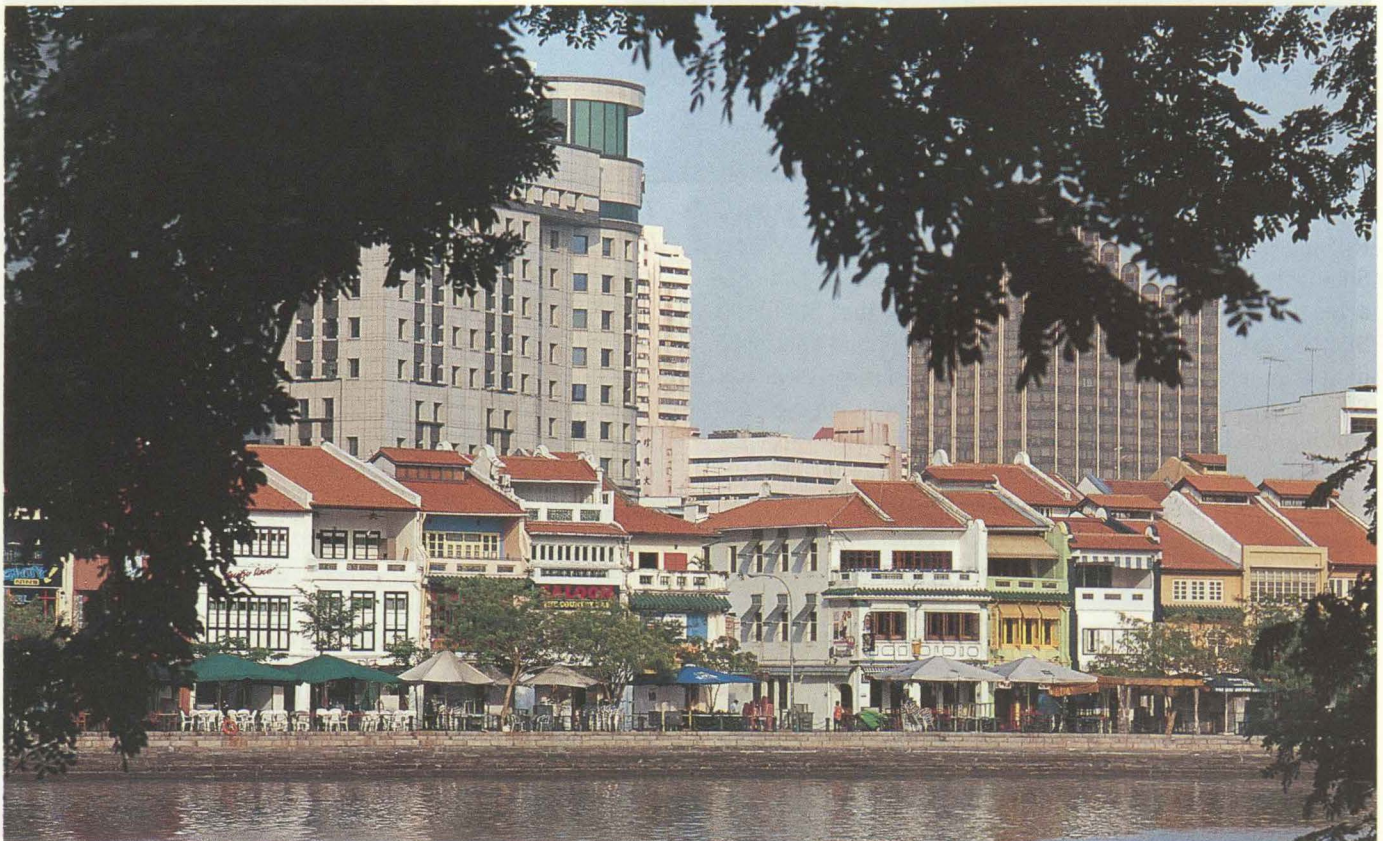


Prior to the 1960s, when the rehousing programme was earnestly begun, more than half a million Singaporeans lived in slums. Now, there are almost none. But where does that leave the modern visitor, who comes to Singapore with a view of breathing Asia, with all the exotic connotations that entails?

The answer is not so badly done by after all.

It was not until the late 1980s that serious conservation moves were made. Five thousand pre-war houses were gazetted for preservation.

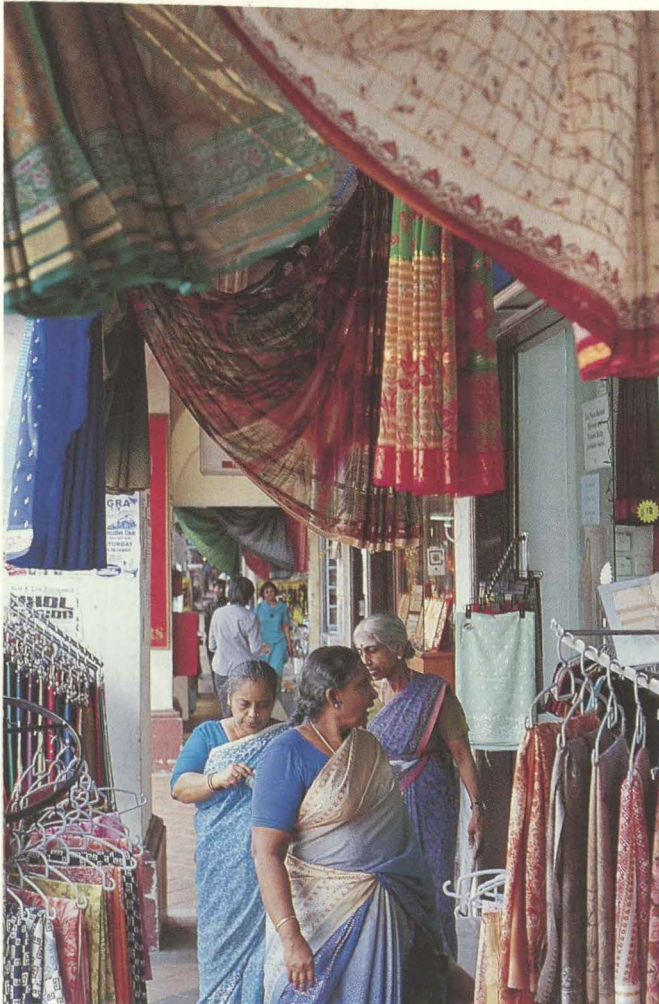
Above: *Art Museum*
Below: *Boat Quay*





Above: *Chinese houses*

Below: *Little India*



As welcome as it was, the programme was implemented with a little too much zeal. Chinatown's Tanjong Pagar has been remodelled almost out of recognition. Its 'confectionery' shophouses are mostly given over to trendy businesses, restaurants and karaoke bars. But they are, at least, preserved.

The fate of the early 19th century warehouses at Boat Quay was similar. Few could quibble, though, with a brand new lease of life for these grand old servants of the state. The relocation of the port to Pasir Panjang saw them facing certain doom. Refurbishment now sees them sparkling and behaving as they never did before, playing host to a whole string of super trendy restaurants and pubs.

Thankfully, not all parts of the old town have been gentrified this way. Walking the streets of Little India, you might think you were in some forgotten corner of Penang, so cluttered are the five-foot ways (undercover walkways), and original the old stucco facades. There are, of course, the showpieces, their pilasters, pediments and floral embellishments picked out in primary colours. But these are not what you would come to these parts for. You might come for the sari shops on Serangoon Road, or for the old Hindu temples, or for the food, and find your taste buds tingling from the heady aromas of the curries. They are prepared and served just like they've always been, and in the same kinds of outlets — the hole-in-the-wall cafes and the corner coffee shops.

Singapore's most elegant old survivors grace the slopes of Emerald Hill, which lies adjacent to the main tourist belt at Orchard Road. These three-storey mansions were built and occupied in the early 1900s by the professional and entrepreneurial elite. They now enjoy that status again, after decades of neglect.



There are many other pockets of exquisite originality to be found throughout the city. Among them are the eminently ownable — but nigh impossible to own — Peranakan (Straits-style) terraces on Blair Road. The shophouses along Mohamed Sultan Road have been transformed into another trendy nightlife strip. More Peranakan beauties reside in the northeastern ‘suburb’ of Katong, and the earthy originality of Little India is replicated in its Muslim counterpart at Kampung Glam.

The conservation programme eventually extended to the colonial town which, as Stamford Raffles directed, was confined to the northern side of the Singapore River. By the time it did, scores of heritage structures had gone. The ‘ideology of pragmatism’ ruled. Not even national treasures like Raffles Institution and Adelphi’s Hotel were spared. The thirty-two that did would surely have to be the cream.

It’s best to see this area on foot. The highlight for most will be Raffles Hotel (*photo above*). This most graceful of the orient’s colonial hotels was opened in 1887 by the Starkies brothers, who also gave us the Eastern and Oriental in Penang and the Strand in Rangoon. Substantially rebuilt and refurbished in 1991, the ‘Savoy of Singapore’ is still the place to go for a Singapore Sling — at S\$17 a pop. Also preserved, thankfully, are two masterpieces by George D Coleman, the colony’s first Superintendent of Public Works. These are Caldwell House, the city’s oldest freestanding house and the Armenian Church. The sturdy colonnades, deep all-round

verandahs and louvered windows of the little white church exemplify Coleman’s early ground-breaking work, which set the bench mark for many classic structures to follow.

The Convent of the Holy Infant Jesus was once an orphanage for abandoned children, especially baby girls unfortunate enough to be born in the year of the tiger. It has recently been given the full restoration treatment. Now known as ‘Chijmes’, its spacious grounds host a string of fashionable restaurants and boutiques. The centrepiece is Caldwell House, set in a sunken courtyard and refreshed with a waterfall and fountains. The complex is fronted by the gothic grandeur of the chapel, which is noted for its delicate frescoes and copious stained glass.

Other colonial highlights include the gleaming white St Andrew’s Cathedral, the grandly domed Supreme Court (*photo below*), the Victoria Theatre and the Padang, which is a large rectangle of greenery used by the once ridiculously exclusive Singapore Cricket Club. It has also been the scene of many civic celebrations and pivotal political events.

It is true that the Singapore we knew in the Sixties is all but gone. But many substantial enclaves of the original ‘Emporium of the East’ still remain. Some of these, I am sure, would set the pens of Maugham and company dancing on the page. And who knows, one or two of those glass and metal towers might have the same effect. For the venerable scribes would be sure to recognise that today’s Singapore offers the smoothest of all entrees into futuristic living as well as a tantalising one into the past.



Many Papua New Guinean students travel to further their education in Australian schools, but this can happen in reverse. Recently a small group of Mentone Grammar Junior Students attended lessons in the normal classes of Awala Primary School on the Kokoda/Popondetta Road in Oro Province.

The experience for this group of Australian 12-year-olds was educational, challenging, adventurous and innovative. The Australian students were exposed to a different cultural lifestyle with an open, natural attitude towards beliefs.

An Unforgettable Week at School

Story and photographs by Nick Toovey
Headmaster of the Mentone Junior School

We arrived as strangers in their midst and left, only nine days later, as much loved members of their families. This transformation resulted from the genuine nature of our hosts, the warmth of their welcome and the generosity of their hospitality. The hosts did all in their power to ensure that this would be a week that we wouldn't forget. They succeeded in this, beyond our wildest expectations.



From left: Headmaster Nick Toovey, Pat Fountain, Junior School Teacher Jane Bryne, Matt Plumridge, Brad Simmonds, Robert Hatch
Seated: Shaun Ferris, Tom Fisher

Six Junior School students from Australia joined the students of Awala Primary School in their classes for normal lessons, took part in assembly presentations, exchanged gifts, shared meals, danced in their ceremonial dress to the beat of the kundu drum, joined in worshipping at the village church, visited historical memorials and observed the rich cultural traditions and customs.

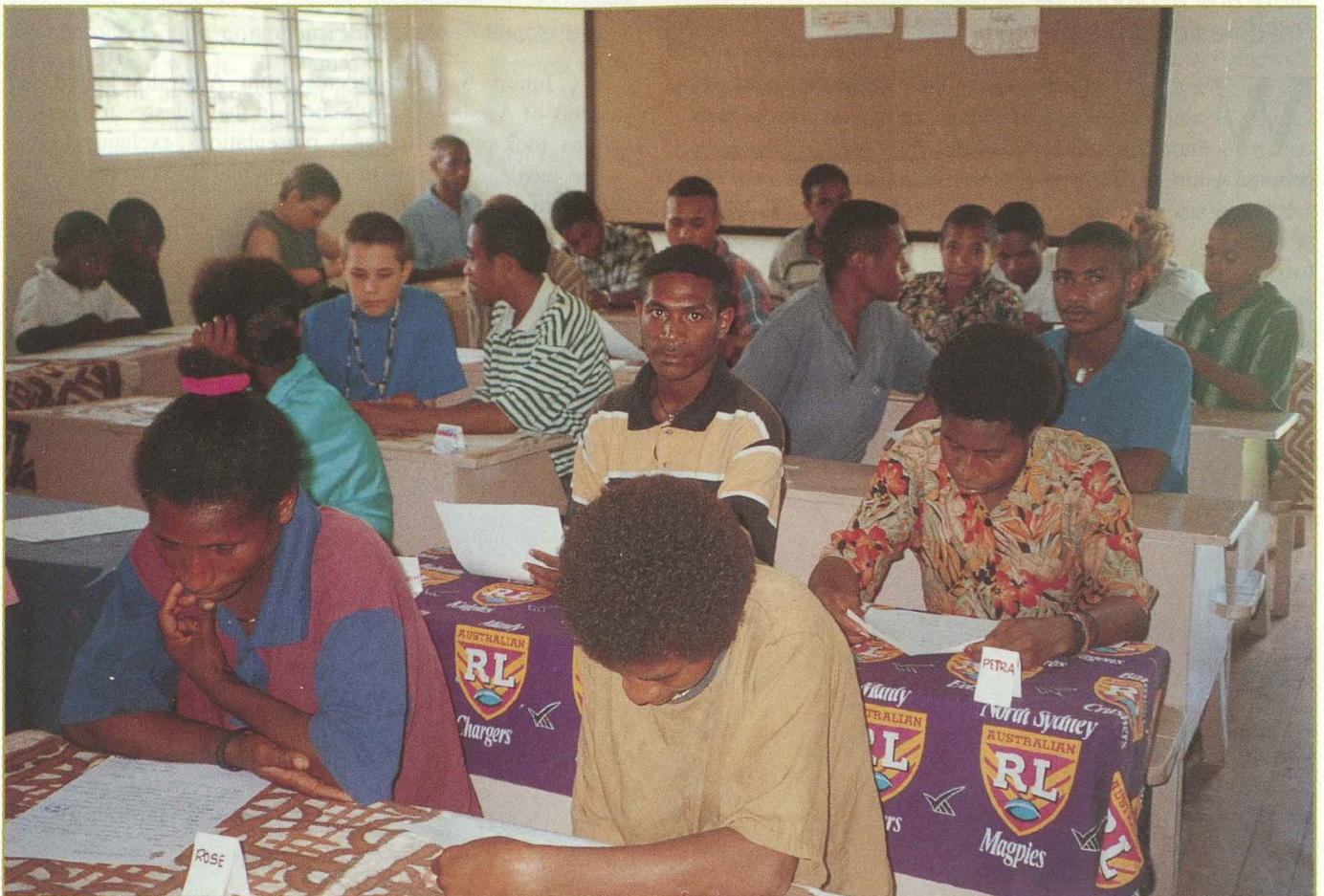
Early morning assembly at Awala Primary School



Each Australian student stayed with a student from Awala and their family in their home. This meant taking part in the day-to-day tasks of the family, telling stories, answering their many questions, sharing their meals and chores — culminating in an experience unlike anything had before.

Our visit was immensely significant for them. It was the first time ever that an Australian Junior School has forged a friendship with this village in such an intense way and also a first with a Papua New Guinean Primary School. We wrote a new page in the history of Awala Primary School and of our own school too.

Right: *Swimming in the local river*
Below: *Classroom at Awala School*





The generous donation of money raised by the students of our Prep School and our boxes of clothes, pencils, toys and exercise books were distributed soon after our arrival.

Above: Out in the gardens gathering some of the vegetables for the evening meal

Below: Killing and gutting the pig in the nearby river, in readiness for the feast and celebrations





The six boys — Patrick Fountain, Robert Hatch, Tom Fisher, Shaun Ferris, Matt Plumridge and Brad Simmonds represented their Mentone Grammar school, and were fine ambassadors. They accepted the challenge and have added another, richer dimension to their lives. Mrs Jane Byrne — a staff member of our Junior School — was a wonderful fellow traveller and became everyone's favourite mum and sister. Her art classes at Awala introduced new styles. The letters from the boys in Years 3, 4 and 6 in Australia were seized upon by the Awala boys and girls, read and responded to quickly.

Above: *Awala village scene*

Below: *Presentation of the banner (made of tapa cloth) commemorating the visit and union between the two schools*

The Governor of Oro Province Mr Silvanus Siembo, the School Council Chairman Mr Cecil Siembo, the Headmaster of Awala Primary School Mr James Bill, school staff, especially Mr Graham Kaiyabe whom I first met in 1997, the students and parents of Awala combined on the last day of our visit to present us with a banner commemorating our friendship. This banner hangs in the new Don Ingram Centre of our Junior School.

We are looking forward to another group of Junior School students travelling to Papua New Guinea in April 2001. It is possible that girls from a Junior School will also join the boys. It is very much hoped that at some time in the future, our school will welcome Awala students into our community.



AUDIO ENTERTAINMENT

CLASSICAL Channel: 5

**Russlan and Ludmilla:
Overture** (Glinka)
Bavarian State Orchestra
Conductor: Wolfgang Sawallisch
EMI

Concerto VIII in A Minor
(Vivaldi)
Australian Brandenburg Orch
Artistic Director: Paul Dyer
ABC

**Sonata No 8 in G - Tempo di
minutetto, ma molto moderato
e grazioso** (Beethoven)
David Oistrakh: violin
Lev Oborin: piano
PHILIPS

Gymnopedie No 2 (Satie)
Richard Stoltzman: clarinet
Nancy Allen: harp
RCA

**Waltz of the Flowers from
'The Nutcracker'** (Tchaikovsky)
Royal Philharmonic Orchestra
Conductor: George Weldon
EMI

**Classical Symphony - Finale:
molto vivace** (Prokofiev)
London Philharmonic Orchestra
Conductor: Kurt Masur
TELDEC

**Sinfonie Di Concerto Grosso
No 5** (Scarlatti)
I Musici
PHILIPS

**The Barber of Seville:
'Una voce poco fa ...'** (Rossini)
Cecilia Bartoli: mezzo-soprano
Orchestra e coro del Teatro
Comunale de Bologna
Conductor: Giuseppe Patane
DECCA

**Symphony in C Allegro vivace
(Third movement)** (Bizet)
New Zealand Symphony Orch
Conductor: Donald Johanos
NAXOS

**Rondo from 'Eine Kleine
Nachtmusik'** (Mozart)
Academy of St Martin-in-the-
Fields
Conductor: Neville Marriner
EMI

POP Channel: 6

Teenage Dirtbag
Wheatus
COLUMBIA

Who Let The Dogs Out
Baha Men
S-CURVE

Cruisin (Even Hotter Mix)
Gwyneth Paltrow
& Huey Lewis
HOLLYWOOD

Independent Woman
Destiny's Child
COLUMBIA

He Don't Love You
Human Nature
COLUMBIA

Don't Tell Me
Madonna
MAVERICK

7 Days
Craig David
WILDSTAR

Love Don't Cost A Thing
Jennifer Lopez
EPIC

Lady (Hear Me Tonight)
Modjo
BARCLAY

Not That Kind
Anastacia
EPIC

Let Love Lead The Way
Spice Girls
VIRGIN

If You're Gone
Matchbox Twenty
ATLANTIC

Yellow
Coldplay
PARLOPHONE

**Stuck In A Moment You
Can't Get Out Of**
U2
ISLAND

Again
Lenny Kravitz
VIRGIN

Midal
Telek
ORIGIN

EASY LISTENING Channel: 7

Moonshadow
Cat Stevens
ISLAND

You've Got a Friend
James Taylor
WB

Like a Natural Woman
Carole King
EPIC

Nothing Compares 2 U
Sinead O'Connor
CHRYSALIS

My Love
Westlife
RCA

Everybody Hurts
The Corrs
ATLANTIC

Under The Milky Way
Jimmy Little
FESTIVAL

Ain't No Sunshine
Kenny Rogers
DREAMCATCHER/EPIC

Tired Of Being Alone
Al Green
CAPITOL

I Wanna Know
Joe
JIVE

Waiting In Vain
Bob Marley & The Wailers
ISLAND

I Love The Lord
Whitney Houston with
The Georgia Mass Choir
ARISTA

Unforgettable
Natalie & Nat King Cole
ELEKTRA

Scarborough Fair
Sarah Brightman
ANGEL

Orinoco Flow
Enya
WEA

PAPUA NEW GUINEA Channel: 8

Kobiai
Mailu village (Magi)
Central Province

[Panpipes]
Gomri village (Chimbu)
Chimbu Province

Sore Mama
Rock band by Cicilia 'Zenna Greg'
Morobe Province
Chin H Meen Recordings

Uuyambe
Kilalum village (Sulka)
East New Britain Province

Awalif
Ilahita village (South Arapesh)
East Sepik Province

That day is coming closer
Sonoma Adventist College Choir
Recordings by TCPNG

Kaapaumma
Iraabo village (Usarufa-Auyana,
Usarufa dialect)
Eastern Highlands Province

'Iabuti'
Irelya village
Enga Province

Papa Paulo
Harahara Band of Miaru Gulf Province
Walter Bay Company Recordings

Kanipu iyi
Karurua village (Purari)
Gulf Province

Gunal
Gohe village (Mawan)
Madang Province

Vuvu Ialire
Rock Band by Narox
Pacific Gold Studios Recordings

Kasama
Kepara village (Hunjera)
Oro Province

Wakuwko
Malasanga village
Morobe Province

Pipa Man
City Hikers Stringband of
National Capital District
Kalang Recordings

Tatarore
Waidoro village
Western Province

Gawa
Walete (Huli)
Southern Highlands Province

E Pain Ta
Riwo Bamboo Band of Madang Province
Kalang Recordings

Sawo
Kwomtari village (Kwomtari)
West Sepik Province

Twigul 'Vasu korekore'
Voniskopo village (Hahon)
North Solomons Province

Iurusalem
Gospel Band by Exiles Gospel of Rabaul
Pacific Gold Recordings

Leleki
Patsui village
Manus Province

**COMEDY
Channel: 9**

Green Berets
Guido Hatzis
GRUDGE

Observations -3
Elliot Goblet
BELLY LAUGH

Observations -4
Elliot Goblet
BELLY LAUGH

**Carpet Layers
Night On
The Tiles**
Club Veg
SICK DAY RECORDS

Organic Fitness
Franklyn Ajaye
N/A

Vegetarians
Ben Elton
BBC

Mechanic
Guido Hatzis
GRUDGE

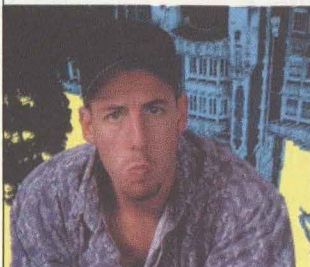
Babies/Christopher
Robin Williams
POLYGRAM

Children
Ellen DeGeneres
ATLANTIC

The Grandparents
Bill Cosby
MOTOWN

Air Travel
Jerry Seinfeld
UNIVERSAL

Dip Doodle
Adam Sandler
WARNER BROS.



Adam Sandler



**COUNTRY
Channel: 10**

**Don't Make Come Over
There & Love You**
George Strait
MCA

My Next Thirty Years
Tim McGraw
CURB

Born To Fly
Sara Evans
ARISTA

Tell Her
Lonestar
BNA

Ode To Billy Joe
Bobbie Gentry
BOX

Ashes By Now
LeeAnn Womack
MCA

Burn
Jo Dee Messina
CURB

Me & Bobby McGee
Kris Kristofferson
COLUMBIA

**You Shouldn't Kiss Me
Like This**
Toby Keith
DREAMWORKS

Let's Make Love
Faith Hill with Tim McGraw
WARNER



Faith Hill

**Lucky 4 You (Tonight I'm
Just Me)**
SheDaisy
LYRIC STREET

Freight Train
Kasey Chambers
EMI

Clean Up Our Own Backyard
Slim Dusty
EMI

**COUNTRY
Channel: 10**

Wichita Lineman
Glen Campbell
BOX

Red Dirt Girl
Emmylou Harris
NONESUCH

**I'm Holding On To Love
(To Save My Life)**
Shania Twain
MERCURY



Shania Twain

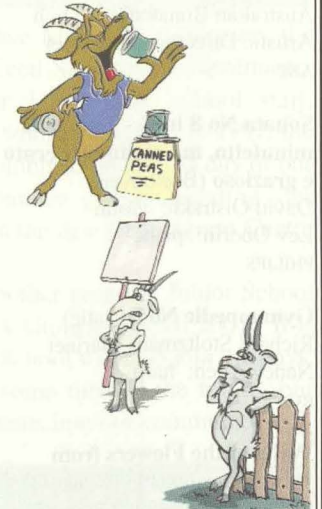
Margaritaville
Jimmy Buffett
BOX

**CHILDREN'S
Channel: 11**

Pecos Bill
Robin Williams
WINDHAM HILL

So Many Animals
Hi-5
SONY WONDER

The Three Billy Goats Gruff
Holly Hunter
WINDHAM HILL



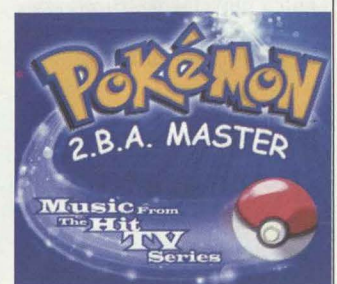
**The Second Star
To The Right**
Walt Disney
DISNEYLAND

**How The Stars Were
Put In The Sky**
Clive Waters
ASTOR

Special Days
Hi-5
SONY WONDER

Andy Umm
Anna Paquin
SIMPLE ENTERTAINMENT

Pokemon
Pokemon - Music From The
T.V. Series
KOCH



**Puzzle
Answers**

LANGUAGES

1-f; 2-g; 3-h; 4-e; 5-m; 6-1;
7-n; 8-i; 9-d; a0-c; 11-k; 12-
a; 13-j; 14-b

SQUARE SUM

Move the
paintbrush on
the right over
to the left to
make a
number "4".
Note: 4 is the
square of 2.



SPORTS

Bishop (chess)
Putter (golf)
Domino

SACKS

By juggling with the 3
sacks – one of them will
always be in the air (10kg).

FEATURE FILMS

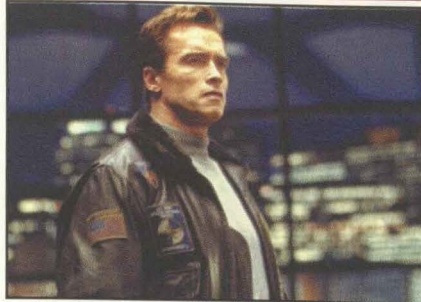
International flights:

from Port Moresby

to Port Moresby

JANUARY

The 6TH Day



Genre: Action, Thriller **Rated:** PG-13
From: Columbia 124 mins
 Adam Gibson comes home from work one day to find a clone has replaced him. Taken from his family and plunged into a sinister world he doesn't understand, Gibson must not only save himself from the assassins intent on keeping their secret, but uncover who and what are behind the deadly scheme against him.
Featuring: Arnold Schwarzenegger, Wendy Crewson, Robert Duvall
Director: Roger Spottiswoode

Meet the Parents



Genre: Comedy
Rated: PG-13
From: Universal 108 mins
 Greg Focker is in love with Pam and goes to New York for her sister's wedding. Greg intends to ask her father Jack for her hand, and pop the big question. But everything goes wrong. Jack, an ex-CIA where his specialty was psychological-profiling with the extra talent of being able to tell if you are lying or not, thinks that no one is good enough for his first-born daughter, let alone a cat-hating male nurse with a vulgar-sounding name! While Greg tries to make a good impression, his weekend turns into a hilarious series of disasters.
Featuring: Robert DeNiro, Ben Stiller, Blythe Danner, Teri Polo
Director: Jay Roach

FEBRUARY

The Family Man



Genre: Comedy, Romance
Rated: PG-13
From: E-Source 126 mins
 Thirteen years ago, when Jack Campbell left for London to pursue a prestigious internship, he promised his girlfriend Kate that they'd only be apart for a year. Now, Jack's a high-paid, Wall Street bachelor and Kate's a distant memory. One night, Jack falls asleep, and wakes up in a cluttered suburban New Jersey bedroom next to Kate, to whom, it turns out, he's been married for 13 years! And with whom he has two children! That's only the beginning of the surprises for Jack.
Featuring: Nicolas Cage, Tea Leoni, Don Cheadle, Jeremy Piven
Director: Brett Ratner
Channels 1 and 2

Charlie's Angels



Genre: Action, Comedy
Rated: PG-13
From: Columbia 100 mins
 They're beautiful, they're brilliant and they work for Charlie. Natalie the bookworm, Dylan the tough girl, and the intelligent and multi-talented Alex. Eric Knox, a soon-to-be-billionaire, is kidnapped from his office at Knox Technologies, and the company is in jeopardy of losing a billion dollars. Under the sure hand of their mysterious and reclusive playboy boss, the Angels use feminine charm, high-tech gadgets and hand-to-hand combat to save themselves and thousands of innocent people.
Featuring: Cameron Diaz, Drew Barrymore, Lucy Liu, Bill Murray
Director: McG

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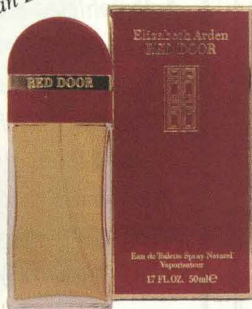


DUNE Eau de Toilette Natural Spray 50ml
Christian Dior

ANAI ANAIS Eau de Toilette Natural Spray 50ml
Cacharel



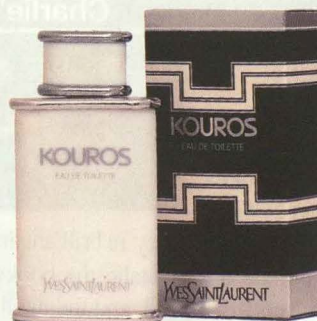
RED DOOR Eau de Toilette Natural Spray 50ml
Elizabeth Arden



OPIUM Eau de Toilette Natural Spray 50ml
Yves Saint Laurent



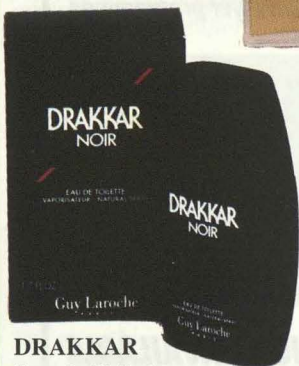
KOUROS Men's Eau de Toilette 50 ml
Yves Saint Laurent



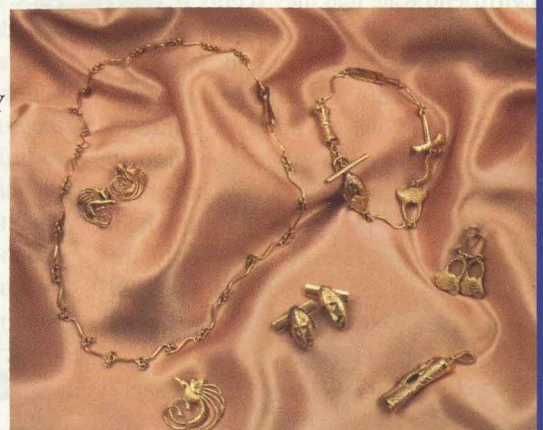
PACO RABANNE Men's After Shave



DRAKKAR Eau de Toilette Natural Spray 50ml
Guy Laroche



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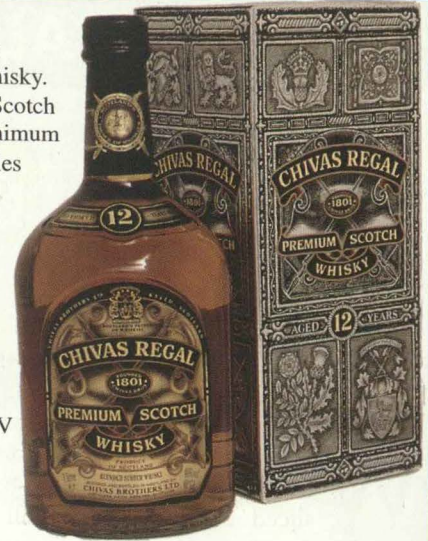
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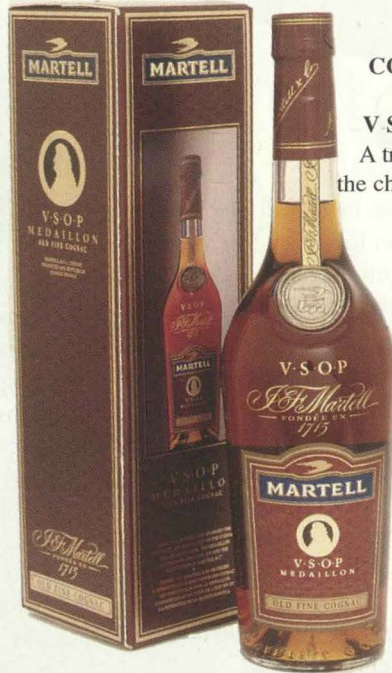
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Martell**

V S O P Medallion
A truly fine cognac,
the choice of Louis XIV



BUNDABERG RUM

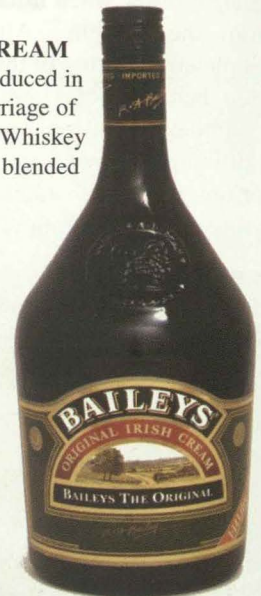
1.125litre

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Overproof Rum



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cigars made for Air
Niugini



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Winfield 25s popular Red and Mild Blue

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VODKA 1 litre**

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finest Vodka —
the national
drink of Finland



**GORDON'S LONDON
DRY GIN 1 litre**

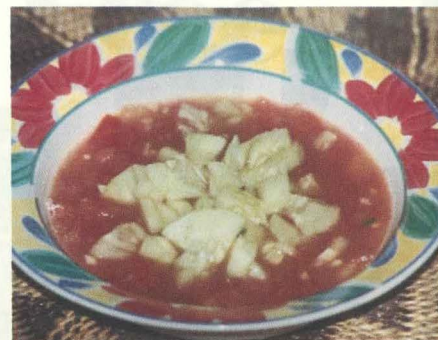
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London Dry Gin, Gordon's is a
unique blend of juniper berries and
natural botanicals. This gives
Gordon's its truly distinctive and
enlivening flavour.



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LOCAL CUISINE — Cucumber

By Céline Peter



Tomato and cucumber soup

1 clove garlic, split
5 ripe tomatoes
2tbsp olive oil
1½tbsp vinegar
1½ cups cold water
¼ tsp paprika
1 cup chopped cucumber
salt and pepper

Add all of the above together, except cucumber. Let mixture sit for one hour and then crush through a strainer or mash (or use a blender if you have one). Add seasoning to taste.

Divide into four bowls. Serve on a bed of cucumber.



Cucumber and yoghurt salad

½tsp cumin powder
½tsp garam masala
¼tsp ground black pepper
2 medium cucumbers
½tsp salt
1¼ cups plain yoghurt (not sweetened)

Wash the cucumbers and grate them through the large holes of a metal grater. Squeeze out the excess liquid. Combine the cucumber with all the other ingredients. Toss and serve chilled.

What is more refreshing after a walk in the bush than a sliced cucumber with salt and ginger? I have enjoyed it many times after strenuous walks in Papua New Guinea, and marvelled at how better it tastes when it has been picked from the garden. Although many people enjoy eating in this most simple way, there are other ways of preparing cucumber, which enhance its taste. The following recipes are inspired by various countries' traditional ways of eating cucumber. Enjoy!

Meanwhile, in a small saucepan, melt the butter over low heat. Stir in flour and mix thoroughly. Pour the orange juice and keep stirring on moderate heat until the mixture thickens and comes to the boil. Reduce the heat to low and simmer for about 3 minutes.

Once cooked, stir in the orange rind, salt and pepper. If the orange sauce is too thick, you can add another tablespoon or two of orange juice. Pour the sauce over the cucumbers and serve at once.

This recipe is very nice with steamed fish or chicken.



Boiled cucumber with orange sauce

3 medium sized firm fresh cucumbers
3tbsp butter
1tbsp plain flour
½ cup strained fresh orange juice
1tsp orange rind
½tsp salt
salt and black pepper

Peel the cucumber and cut them in half length-wise. Remove the seed with a small spoon and cut the cucumbers in half cross-wise. Boil salted water and drop the cucumber slices so that they are well covered. Cook for 5 minutes or until they show only the slightest resistance when pierced with a knife.

Drain the cucumbers and transfer them to a large bowl.



Pickled Cucumber

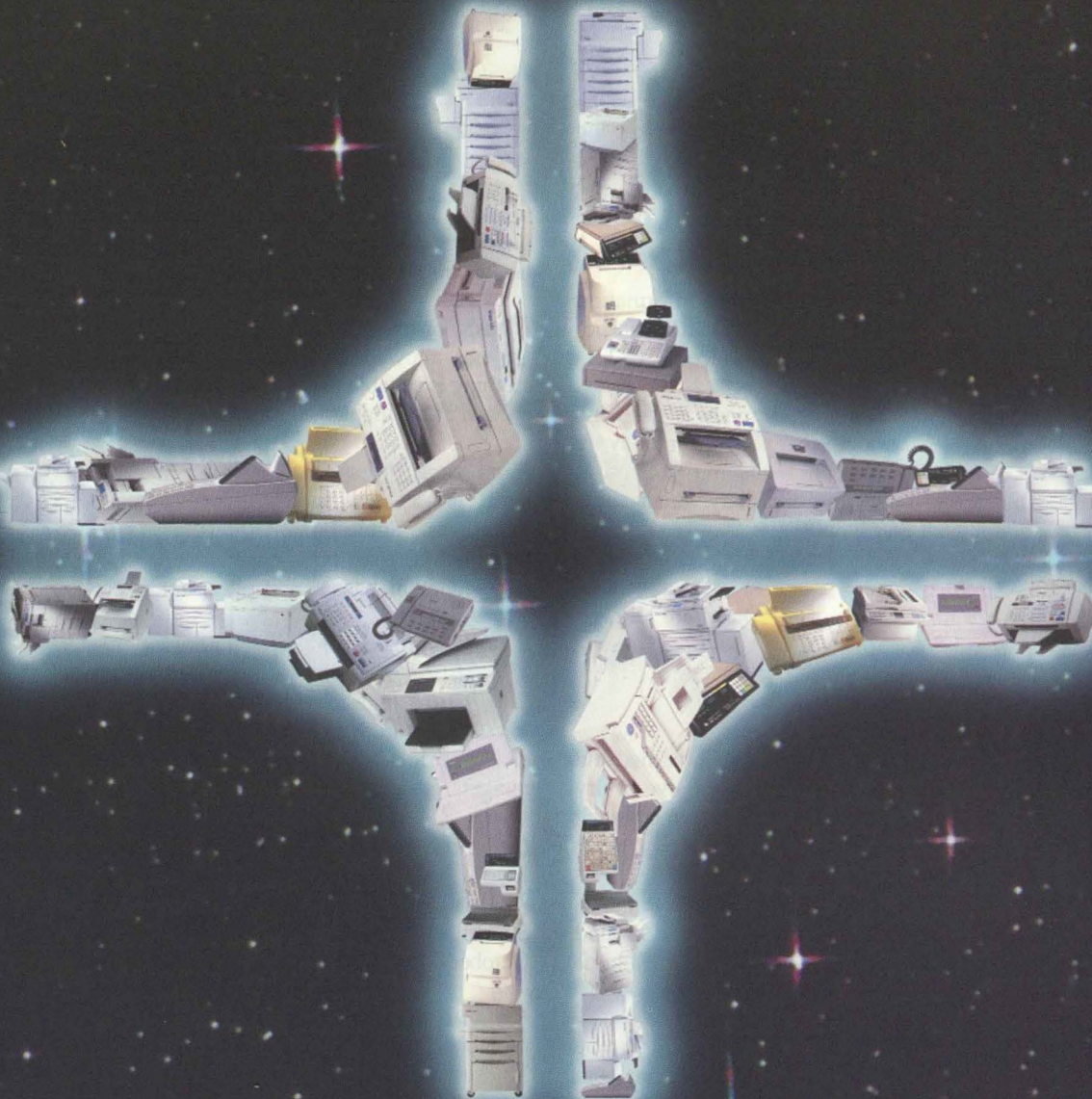
2 cups water
1 cup vinegar
1tbsp salt
3 medium cucumbers
glass jar (recycled jam or peanut butter jars)

Boil jars to clean and disinfect them.

Place sliced cucumbers into the clean jars. Heat water, vinegar and salt to boiling point. Cover cucumber in jars with liquid and cap the jars. Leave one week before eating with your favourite meat or fish.

Cucumbers, stored in jars in the refrigerator, can be preserved for several weeks.





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Welcome!

Getting Around: At Jackson's Airport, which is 11km from the centre of Port Moresby, there are rental car counters, a bank and duty free shops. Major hotels have a courtesy bus to and from the airport. Taxis have meters. Within the city, PMVs (public motor vehicles) cost 50 toea per journey.

Elsewhere, PMVs, taxis and hire cars are available.

Useful Port Moresby Numbers: Air Niugini Information 3273480; Reservations & Confirmation 3273555 (Domestic) and 3273444 (International); Police 000; Ambulance 3256822.

Currency: Papua New Guinea's unit of currency is the Kina which is divided into 100 toea. Exchange your money at Jackson's Airport or in banks which are open from 8.45am to 3pm, Monday to Thursday and until 4pm on Friday. Credit cards are accepted in leading hotels and shops.

Customs and Quarantine: Adults over 18 have a general allowance of new goods to the value of K250 and are allowed duty free:

- 200 cigarettes or 50 cigars or 250grams of tobacco
- One litre of alcohol
- A reasonable amount of perfume

Drugs, pornographic literature or video tapes, firearms and weapons are prohibited. Food items, seeds, spices, live or dry plants, animals, animal products and biological specimens such as cultures and blood need special import approval.

Languages: Although over 800 languages are spoken in Papua New Guinea, English is the language of education and commerce. Tok Pisin is widely spoken and Hiri Motu is common in Papua.

Time: Papua New Guinea is 10 hours ahead of GMT, in the same time zone as Eastern Australia. There is no daylight saving.

Communication: ISD, STD and facsimile services are available in most areas. Large towns have public telephones. Phone cards can be used in some. Many rural areas have radio phones.

Driving: Drivers' licences issued in other countries are valid for 3 months after arrival. Vehicles travel on the left side of the road; speed limits are 60kph in built-up areas and 80kph out of town.

Electricity: Electricity supply is 240 volts AC 50 Hz. Some hotels have 110 volt outlets for shavers and hair dryers.

Health: Water quality is within WHO standards in most towns. Bottled water is available. In rural areas it is advisable to boil water. As malaria continues to be a health risk in the country, anti-malaria tablets should be taken two weeks before arrival, during your stay and for 4 weeks after departure. Use insect repellent and wear long-sleeved shirts, trousers and shoes in the evening. Dentists, doctors and hospitals are in all major centres. Rural areas have health centres and aid posts staffed by trained health workers.

Dress: For most occasions, dress is informal. Thongs and shorts are not allowed in some bars and restaurants. Lightweight clothing is suitable for coastal areas but a sweater or jacket will be needed in the highlands.

Restaurants: Western cuisine is available in hotels, restaurants, guest houses and lodges. Port Moresby has several Asian restaurants. Some hotels especially in the provinces serve local food such as roast pork, chicken or fish with sweet potato, taro, yam, pumpkin, banana and greens cooked in coconut milk.

Tips: Tips are neither expected nor encouraged.

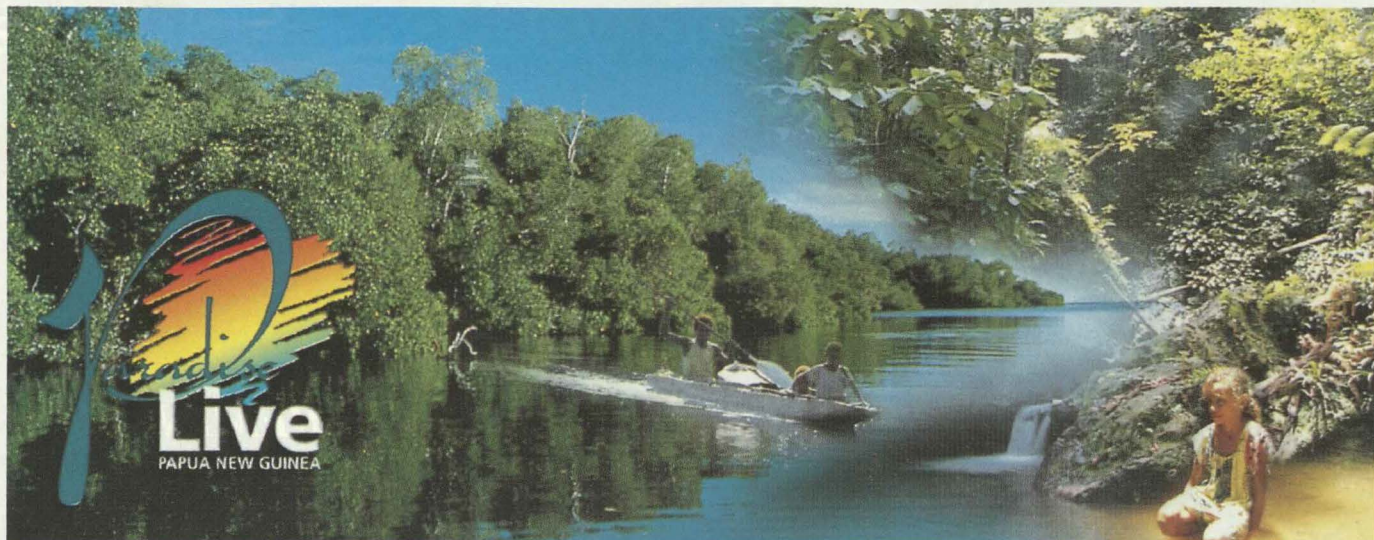
Shopping: Large stores and artifact shops offer a variety of goods for sale. Saturday is a half day for most shops and nearly all are closed on Sunday. Artisans sell their craft beside the roads or in markets. All markets sell a wide range of fruits and vegetables.

Cultural Events: Celebrations of traditional culture include:

June	Port Moresby Show
August	Mt Hagen Show
September	Hiri Moale Festival Port Moresby; Goroka Show
October	Maborasa Festival Madang; Morobe Show

Export Rules: Many artifacts, historical and cultural objects are prohibited exports. Others require a permit from the National Museum. Export permits for wildlife and animal products are issued by the Nature Conservation Division of the Department of Environment and Conservation.

Tourism Promotion Authority,
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Email: tourismpng@dg.com.pg





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