

FIJI 1990s
GEORGE BALAZS
FILE FOLDER
2 OF 3



IN THE MATTER OF THE CHARITABLE TRUSTS ORDINANCE (CAP. 67)

We hereby apply to be incorporated under the Provisions of the charitable Trusts Ordinance.

1. The name of the society is OCEAN (Oceania Conservation and Environmental Awareness Network).
2. The registered office of OCEAN shall be where the executive committee sees fit.
3. The names and addresses of the Executive Committee are:

- a. **NAME:** Miss TARAIVINA COSTELLO
OCCUPATION: Divemaster and Community Arist, Environmentalist
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 364
Lautoka.
- b. **NAME:** Miss TRISA CHEER
OCCUPATION: Communications Officer
Fiji Women's Rights Movement
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 14194
Suva.
- c. **NAME:** Miss PENELOPE MOORE
OCCUPATION: Co-ordinator
Fiji Women's Rights Movement
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 14194
Suva.
- d. **NAME:** Miss JOSE NAVAVIA
OCCUPATION: South Pacific Computer Studies
ADDRESS: 234 Nicole Road
Muanikau.
- e. **NAME:** Mr BIRENDRA SINGH
OCCUPATION: Director of National Trust
ADDRESS: P.O. Box 2089
Government Buildings
Suva.

4. The Executive Committee were duly appointed during OCEAN's inaugural meeting held at Suva.
5. The proposed device of the Common Seal shall be kept in the safe custody of the Executive Committee.



16 OCT 1992

No. 323

10AM



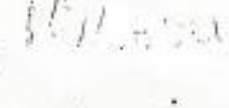


Registered

Registered Officer

The objectives of OCEAN are:

- a. Heighten public awareness on Environmental issues.
 - b. Start tree planting' campaigns and beautification programmes.
 - c. Promote "Extinction is Forever" and other environmental documentaries to the grassroots community.
 - d. Organise environmental workshops and community productions.
 - e. Raise funds for the purpose of furthering its objects.
 - f. Borrow money and give security to further OCEAN's aims through resolutions passed by the Trustees.
 - g. Enforce the Fisheries Laws of Fiji (cap.158) through public education and honorary Fish Wardens.
7. Attached is a certified copy of the constitution constituting the charity.

Dated at Suva on this 21st day of September 1992.

Miss TARAIVINA COSTELLO	-	Execitive Committee	
Miss TRISA CHEER	-	Executive Committee	
Miss PENELOPE MOORE	-	Executive Committee	
Miss JOSE NAVAVIA	-	Executive Committee	
Mr BIRENDRA SINGH	-	Executive Committee	

CONSTITUTION OF OCEANIA CONSERVATION AND
ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS NETWORK.

1. NAME:

The name of the Association shall be OCEAN (Oceania Conservation and Environmental Awareness Network).

2. INTERPRETATION:

In the interpretation of these rules the following words and expressions shall have the following meaning:

'OCEAN' Oceania Conservation and Environmental Awareness Network.

'FRIENDS' Any person, firm or corporate body or any affiliated commercial and or industrial organisation who is a member of OCEAN.

'NGO' Non Government Organisation.

3. OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of OCEAN shall be:

- a. To co-operate with other NGO groups or corporate and community organisations in encouraging and supporting the work of OCEAN by:
 - (i) Promoting and publicising OCEAN.
 - (ii) Promoting OCEAN's educational programmes.
 - (iii) Promoting the production and distribution of OCEAN products, publications, documentaries and world Environmental updates through OCEAN in Fiji and elsewhere.
- b. To raise funds by means of:
 - (i) Donations and fundraising from other individuals and organisations.
 - (ii) Sale of OCEAN Art ie, posters, stickers, clothing and other things.
 - (iii) Quarterly newsletter to financial friends of OCEAN.
- c. Reinforce Fisheries Legislation of Fiji through public education.

- d. Create grassroots community awareness on the importance of the environment and sustainable development.
- e. Implement marine environmental awareness programmes through the media.
- f. Create marine sanctuaries, coastal sanctuaries and national terrestrial protected areas with wardens to protect them.
- g. To acquire an inter-island educational and research vessel.
- h. Start major Turtle programme.
- i. Expand to other South Pacific Islands, create a South Pacific and International network and support the SPREP strategy on turtles.
- j. To enter into any arrangement with any persons, firms, companies, statutory or other organisations, Government, municipal or other local authorities or other association which may seem conducive to OCEAN's objectives and to obtain from any such person, firm, company, statutory or other organisation, government, municipal or other authority or association any privileges and concessions.
- k. To purchase, take on lease or otherwise acquire lands, buildings and boats for the furtherance of the objectives of OCEAN.
- l. To purchase, erect, maintain, alter and repair any property that may be required for the purpose of the association.
- m. To buy or otherwise acquire chattels of all descriptions, books, paper, machines and other things required for or of use in connection with the affairs of OCEAN.
- n. To manage, let, sell, exchange or otherwise deal with the property of OCEAN in such a manner as the OCEAN shall deem expedient.

- b. The Executive Committee shall meet together on business matters, adjourn or otherwise regulate their meeting as they think fit. A quorum at a meeting shall be three officers who shall be personally present.
- c. The Executive shall be entitled to delegate any of its powers or authorities to any persons, corporation or bodies.
- d. The executive shall have the power to invest the funds of OCEAN in such investments as the Executive shall decide.
- e. The Executive shall have the power to distribute appropriate information on the environment.

6. ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

- a. The president, vice president, secretary and treasurer shall be elected at each Annual General Meeting and shall hold office until the Annual General Meeting next following their elections or until their successors are appointed, when they shall retire.
- b. All retiring officers shall be eligible for re-election.
- c. Should a vacancy occur in any offices the Executive may elect a member to fill such vacancy. The member so elected shall hold office until the Annual General Meeting following their election, when the member shall retire.

7. TREASURER:

- a. There shall be an officer of the OCEAN who shall be called Treasurer and who shall be appointed upon such terms and conditions as the Executive shall think fit.

- b. It shall be the duty of the Treasurer to pay all accounts for debts and services incurred by OCEAN; to keep proper books of accounts with the prior approval of the Executive Committee; to prepare and submit to the Executive for its approval of Annual Accounts of OCEAN and any such other accounts and or statements incurred by OCEAN.
- c. The Treasurer shall be a member of the Executive.

8. SECRETARY:

- a. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to conduct the correspondance of OCEAN; to keep a complete membership register; to keep correct minutes of all meetings; generally carry out and perform such other duties as from time to time be assigned by the Executive with power to delegate all or any such duties to other offices of OCEAN with the consent of the Executive.

9. REMOVAL OF OFFICERS:

- a. Any member of the Executive or Trustee may be removed from office by a vote of the majority of those present at a Special General Meeting of OCEAN, expressly called for the purpose of considering such removal.
- b. The Officer or Trustee whose removal is to be considered shall be given full opportunity of answering any charge against him or her and of calling evidence before such Special General Meeting.
- c. The voting at such Special General Meeting shall be by secret ballot.

10. BANKING ACCOUNTS:

- a. The Current Banking Account of OCEAN shall be kept at a Bank or Banks approved by the Executive. All monies received on behalf of OCEAN shall be paid into such account and all cheques drawn thereon shall be signed by any two of the following; the President, Vice President, the Secretary, and the Treasurer.

- b. The Executive may authorize the establishment and operation of an Imprest Banking Account for any class or classes of routine payments required to be made on behalf of OCEAN. The Account shall be kept at a Bank approved by the Executive and shall be operated only by such persons as the Executive may from time to time specifically appoint for that purpose. All cheques drawn on the Imprest Banking Account shall be signed by any one of the signatories as appointed.

11. **AUDIT:**

- a. An Auditor or Auditors shall be appointed at the Annual General Meeting. The remuneration shall be fixed by the Executive.
- b. It shall be the duty of the Auditor(s) to make a report to the members at the Annual General Meeting during their tenure of office, and the report shall state:
 - (i) Whether or not they have obtained all the information and explanation they have required.
 - (ii) Whether in their opinion the Balance sheet referred to in the report is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and fair view of the state of the OCEAN's affairs according to the best of their information and explanations given to them and as shown by the books of OCEAN.
 - (iii) The Auditor(s) shall have the right of access at all times to the books and accounts and vouchers of OCEAN and such explanations as may be necessary for the performance of their duties.

12. **COMMON SEAL:**

- a. There shall be a Common Seal for OCEAN.
- b. The Secretary shall have the custody of the Common Seal.

13. **MEMBERSHIP:**

- a. Any person, partnership, business, firm or corporate body or any other form of society registered under Fiji law desirous of becoming a member of OCEAN shall make application to the Executive for consideration.
- b. The Executive shall consider the application together with such information concerning the applicant as the application shall require, and if the applicant is, in the opinion of the Executive, qualified to become a member or friend of OCEAN, the Executive may thereupon declare the applicant a friend of OCEAN. The Executive in its absolute discretion may refuse the application without giving any reasons for so doing.

14. **TRUSTEES:**

- a. There shall be three Trustees who shall be elected by members in General or Special General Meeting and shall continue in office until death, resignation or removal at a General Meeting.
- b. The property of OCEAN, subject to the liabilities thereof, shall be vested in the Trustees upon trust for the friends for the time being subject, however, to any resolution of any duly convened General or Special General Meeting of the Association.
- c. Trustees shall not be under any personal liability in respect of the assets or liabilities of OCEAN, and OCEAN shall indemnify the Trustees against liability, costs, expenses or claims.

15. **HONOURARY AND LIFE MEMBERS:**

- a. On the recommendation of the Executive and in view of exceptional services rendered to OCEAN, the Association by majority vote of members present at a General Meeting may elect any of its members as an Honourary member.

- b. On the recommendation of the Executive and in view of long membership of or meritorious service to OCEAN, the Association by majority vote of members present at a General Meeting may elect any of its members as a Life member.

16. **SUBSCRIPTIONS:**

- a. The annual subscription and entrance fee shall be determined from time to time by the Executive.
- b. Life Members and Honourary Members shall be exempt from the payment of any annual subscription.

17. **MEMBERS BOUND BY RULES:**

- a. Any new member shall be entitled upon request to receive a copy of OCEAN's constitution free of charge upon request.
- b. Every member shall be deemed to consent to and be bound by the Rules of OCEAN and no member shall be entitled to appeal to any Court by reason of anything done in accordance with the provisions thereof.

18. **GENERAL MEETINGS:**

- a. The Annual General Meeting of OCEAN shall be held when the Executive shall decide.
- b. At any General Meeting of OCEAN, each duly qualified member shall have one vote which must be given in writing.
- c. Any resolution passed at a duly constituted General Meeting of OCEAN held in substantial conformity with these rules shall be conclusive and binding in all members of the Association.

19. **EXPULSION AND DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS:**

- a. If it should come to the knowledge of the Executive that a member has been guilty or appears to have been guilty of a breach of any of the rules or by-laws of OCEAN or of any conduct unworthy of a member which is or might be injurious or prejudicial to the interest of OCEAN or its members or any of them, the Executive may expel such member.
- b. The delinquent member shall upon expulsion from membership forfeit all rights and interest in the property of OCEAN, but shall continue to be liable for any unpaid subscription or other money owing by the member to OCEAN at the date of his or her expulsion.

20. **TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP:**

Membership of OCEAN may be terminated in such manner as is here in after provided.

- a. Any member desirous of terminating their membership of OCEAN must tender their resignation to the Secretary in writing. Such resignation shall be reported to the Executive at its first ordinary meeting held after receipt thereof by the Secretary, and the Executive may, by resolution, accept such resignation.
- b. The Executive may in any of the following cases by resolution expel a member whether an officer of OCEAN or not:
 - (i) Where such a member has failed for a period of twelve months after the same became due to pay the whole or any part of any subscription, levy or money payable by the member pursuant to these rules.
 - (ii) In exercise of its power under rule "EXPULSION AND DISCIPLINE OF MEMBERS".

21. ALTERATION OR RULES:

- a. No addition to, and no alteration, amendment, recision or revision of the rules of OCEAN or any of them shall be made except at a Annual General Meeting or at a Special General Meeting called for the purpose, the notice of which meeting shall contain particulars of the addition, alteration, amendment, recision or revision to be proposed.
- b. The votes of at least two thirds of all financial members personally present at such a meeting shall be necessary before any changes in the constitution and rules of the Association can be sanctioned.

22. BY LAWS:

OCEAN may make by-laws for its good government and for the ethical conduct of its members not inconsistent with these rules.

23. WINDING UP:

- a. OCEAN may be wound up by a resolution passed at a Special General Meeting of the Association called for the purpose of considering the winding up of OCEAN. Such meeting shall be held no less than one month from giving of notice to the members of the intention to move the winding up resolution.
- b. The votes of at least two thirds of all members personally present at such a meeting shall be necessary before such resolution can be passed. On the winding up of OCEAN, the assets are to be given to another Environmental organisation chosen by the Executives.

SIDE B.

Annex A



FUJI
REGISTER OF NATIVE CUSTOMARY FISHING RIGHTS

VOL. 1.

FOLIO 17

The Yavusa Nukutabua of Yanuca Island in the District of Serua the members of which are enumerated in the Register of Native Landowners of the Province of Serua, Tokatoka Nos. 22-25-----
are

recorded as the proprietary unit owning the Fishing Rights situated and contained within the following

commencing at western tip of the reef in the centre of Dorokavu (Frigate) Passage (Point 40) thence around the north edge of the reef following the northern boundary of Yavusa Nukutabua and Yavusa Naduruvesi and Nacurumoce Fishing Rights in a direction of 083°(M) to the north-east corner of the said Fishing Rights (Point 41) thence in a direction of 001°(M) following the western boundary of the Yavusa Naduruvesi and Nacurumoce Fishing Rights to the eastern edge of Caesar Reef (Point 39) thence following the north-western edge of the said reef in a south-westerly direction to Cakaunisici Reef thence along the western edges of Cakaunisici Kauviti and Nayamotu Reefs to the point of commencement at Dorokavu (Frigate) Passage:

being more particularly delineated and marked 5 in the plan NFC 001 kept at the office of the Native Fisheries Commission.

Approved at the Native Fisheries Commission inquiry held
at Naitonitoni on the 14th day of February, 1961.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF I have hereunto affixed my signature this _____ day
of _____ 19 _____

(sgd) Penaia Ganilau
Native Fisheries Commissioner

UNLQAT

B-4

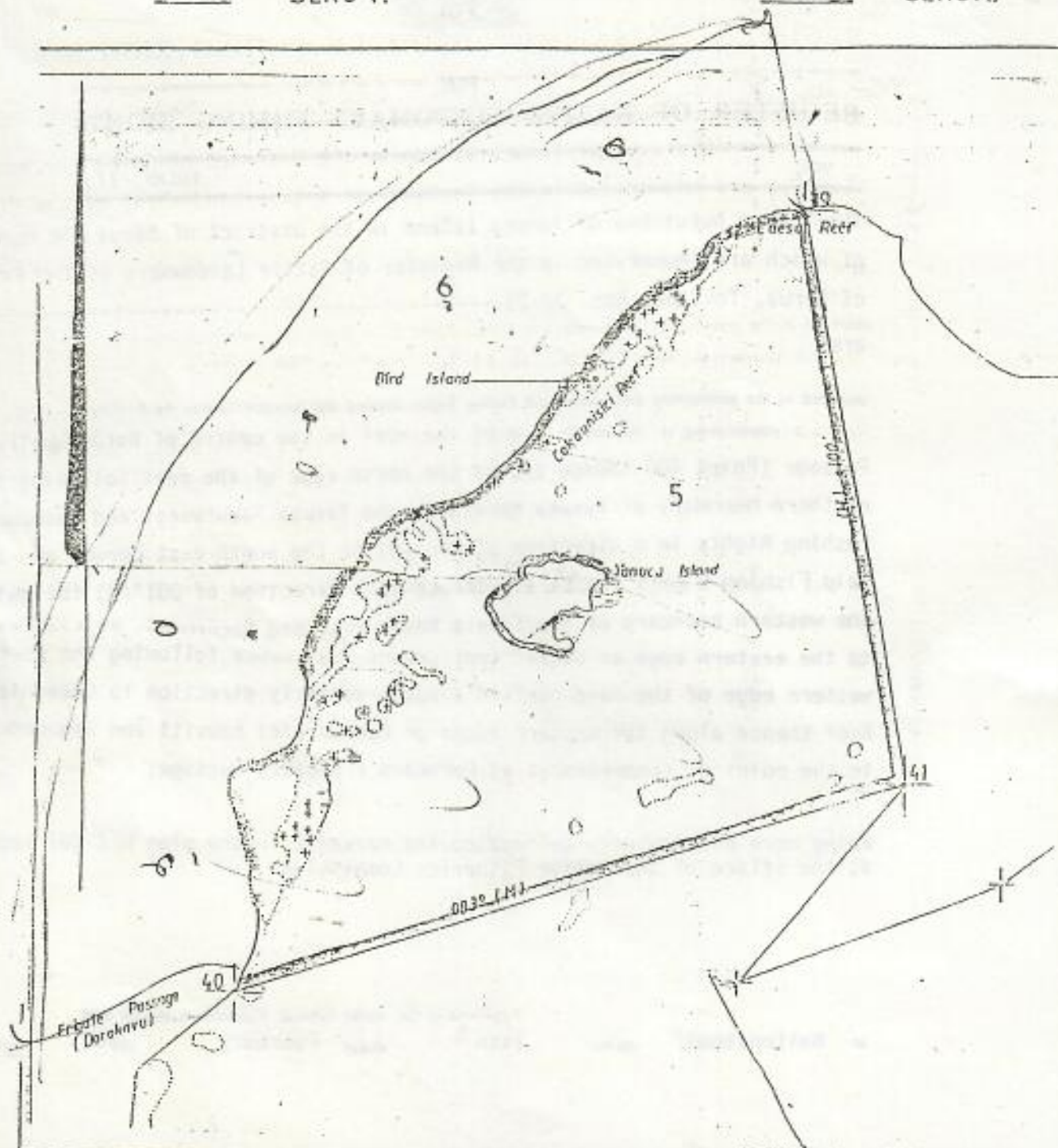
SIAE A-
PLAN OF NATIVE CUSTOMARY FISHING RIGHTS

Ownership: Yavusa : NUKUNITABUA.

Villages: YANUCA.

District: SERUA.

Province: SERUA.



Scale: 1 : 100,000.

Map 1 of: Area 5 NFC C

This plan has been produced at the Hydrographic Office, Suva under the direction of the Hydrographer.

P. Walsh
.....
Lieuten Commander, Royal Navy Hydrographer, Fiji.

Date: 11 Nov 1987

Certified correct

R. Amin
.....
Native Fisheries Commissioner

Date: 17 Nov 1987

15-000
TRADE MARK No. 23157

TRADE MARKS ACT
(CAP. 240)

APPLICATION FOR REGISTRATION OF TRADE MARK

TO: The Administrator-General,
SUVA

WE, Oceania Conservation and Environmental Awareness Network,
a charitable organisation of Martintar, Nadi, C/- P O Box 364,
Lautoka. *Charitable organisation*

HEREBY APPLY to be registered as proprietor of trade-mark consisting of
the word Ocean in stylized form and a picture of a turtle which is represented
in the paper annexed here to



We desire that the said trade-mark may be registered in respect of the
description of goods following that is to say tee-shirts, sulus, hats of all
kinds, caps and bornets and all articles of clothing included
in class 38.

DATED this 4th day of March, 1992.

Craig Marlow
.....
SIGNATURE/CRAIG P MARLOW (TRUSTEE)

Taraivina M Costello
.....
WIT/SIGNATURE/TARAIVINA M COSTELLO (TRUSTEE)

OCEANIA CONSERVATION AND ENVIROMENTAL AWARENESS NETWORK



Mangroves is where life begins for a large number of marine animals



Mangroves protect the land from large waves and hurricanes. Fish and other sealife also find shelter among the roots when seas are rough.



A bare coastal mudflat is made up of soil which has been washed from land,



carried by streams to the sea. These deposits contain mineralis and nutrients which is used as plant food.

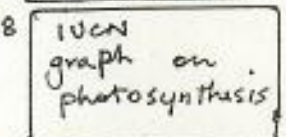


This is the basis in which mangroves grow.

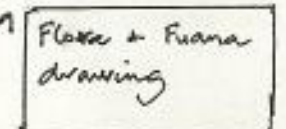


The nutrients are processed by the leaves,

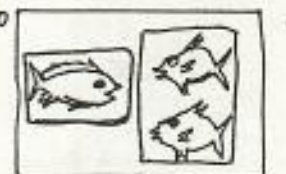
twigs and stems of the mangrove.



As leaves fall onto the muddy surface below, they are broken up and fed upon by a large number



of marine animals. Some are microscopically small.



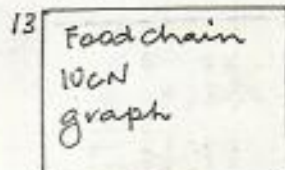
These in turn may be eaten by larger animals like small fish.



then bigger fish eat small fish.



These fish maybe eaten by larger fish which in turn is eaten by us.



This is called a "Foodchain".



Healthy growing mangroves is able to support an abundant amount of sealife



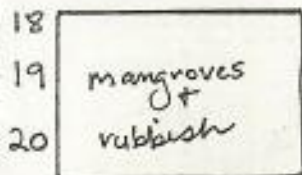
compared to sick mangroves. This has happened through soil erosion from a new road construction in Serua, the breathing roots are clogged so the mangroves can't breathe.



This is the result at a later stage.



Sick mangroves can happen through
1) Pollution



i) dumping ground for rubbish



ii) industrial waste outlets in the area of mangroves.



23 left - natural mangroves
right - originally mangroves, now a man made sea wall which dumps YOUR pollution into the sea.





2) Over use - i) cutting too much mangrove area



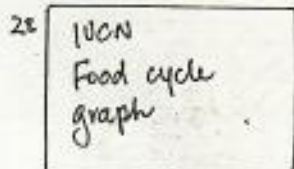
so it can't regenerate.



catching under sized crabs and



prawns so they don't have a chance to grow and breed and there by decreases our food supply. Chemicals are now being used to catch prawns! Is chemicals harmful to the body??? These are just a few of the reasons.



Mangroves not only provide food for animals but assists in the rapid recycling of this food so that much more animals can be supported then on bare mudflats.



Many different kinds of fish lay their eggs



in the rich mud of the mangroves.



The tangle of mangrove stems and roots



and the murky muddy water provide protection for these young fish until they are old enough to trek back to the reefs as young adults.



In fact, some of these fish which depend on mangroves for their life cycle maybe caught by fishermen long distances from mangrove areas.

WHEREVER MANGROVES ARE DESTROYED FISH NUMBERS,
INSHORE AND OFFSHORE, WILL DECLINE.



Just as there is a continual flow of nutrients and
other substances from land to mangrove areas,



so there is movement of fish from mangroves into
lagoons



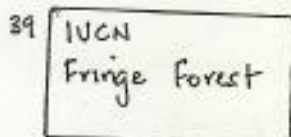
and among reefs.



Thus, it is important to recognize that the value
of mangroves extends beyond the areas they occupy.



They also contribute to a high rise in fisheries
in waters close by.



Some of the reasons why mangroves need protection

- stops coastal erosion;



- protects land and habitation from storms and sea



- protection of young fish, crabs and prawns from
rough weather and predatory animals. Yachts and
boats also take shelter among mangroves.



- many different kinds of fish spawn (lay their
eggs) in the muddy waters of the mangroves which
may later mature and be caught by fishermen on the
reef.



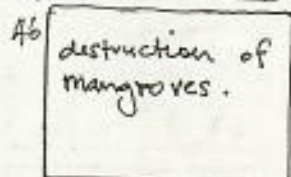
- the trappings of mud caused by soil erosion, thus protecting the coral reefs.



our traditional communities have evolved alongside mangroves for thousands of years



and continue to be dependant on them, even today.



Mangroves is an important part of our lives so they should be managed correctly or future supplies of fish will not be as plentiful.

ANIMALS THAT LIVE IN THE MANGROVES IS AN IMPORTANT FOOD SOURCE FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

Some that we eat.

Fish

53

Non fish

Sonisoni

Qari- mud crab

Damuđroka , Ki saqa.

54

Mana- lobster

Nuqa

55

Ura- prawn

Walu, mackeral

56

Kuka- crab

Kake

- 47
- 48
- 49
- 50
- 51



ogo

Can you name some marine animals in your area that is relative to the mangroves ?



Birds also nest and roost in mangroves like the



Grey heron



White heron



and the Booby bird

MANGROVES AND MAN

Mangroves play an important part in our quest for survival.

Apart from food, there are many different uses.



Firewood - cooking food
- smoking fish
- charcoal



Timber - building houses
- boats, canoes
- fence posts, tool handles
- furniture, lali.



Stem - ropes, stringing fish
- floats for nets
- grass skirts



Leaves - vegetables, medicine
 - washing dishes
 - coarse mats
 - fish poison



Seed - necklaces
 - fish poison
 - medicine



Fruits - Fish poison
 - food
 - floats for fishing
 - medicine

The uses are so many, maybe you know of other uses in your area? or described to you by older persons like your grandmother or grandfather?



The community's uses of mangroves has a large impact of our way of life as we know it.



It is important that we protect the mangroves and manage them properly, for our own survival.



These are some of the things YOU can do to help mangroves and it's animals survive

1) Don't use mangroves as your rubbish dump



Mangroves may survive pollution but animals will die!



2) When fishing mangrove areas,



undersized fish and crabs should be released back in the water so they have time to grow and to breed the next generation for you to eat.



3) Contact your friends, classmates and teachers to carry out a mangrove planting expedition in areas near you which have lost their mangrove trees.



The children of today can make a change.
The future is in your hands



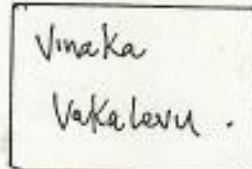
and we can make a difference,



it is now up to YOU to look after your resources



for the future is yours.



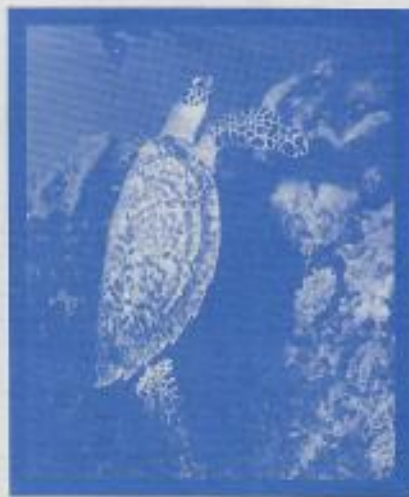
Vinaka
Vaka levu .

Vinaka vaka levu!

OCEAN

OUR OCEANS
NEED
YOUR HELP...

TAKE A
MOMENT TO LOOK
BENEATH THE
SURFACE



(PLEASE TICK APPROPRIATE BOX)

- Student Member:** **F\$2.50.**
I will receive the OCEAN* membership card and quarterly newsletter.
- Full Member:** **F\$5.50**
I will receive OCEAN* membership card and quarterly newsletter, plus 10% discount on all OCEAN products. (\$10 postage charge payable for overseas members)
- Family:** **F\$15.00**
I will receive OCEAN membership card and quarterly newsletter, plus 10% discount on all OCEAN* products.
- Life Member:** **F\$500.00**
I will receive a lifetime OCEAN membership card, a certificate and quarterly newsletter, plus 20% discount on all OCEAN* products and invitations to all OCEAN* events.
- Sponsor:** **F\$250.00**
I will receive an OCEAN membership card, a certificate and quarterly newsletter.
- Benefactor:** **F\$1,000.00**
I will receive a lifetime OCEAN membership card, a certificate and quarterly newsletter, the Extinction is Forever Video plus 20% discount on all OCEAN* products and invitations to all OCEAN* events.

Unless otherwise stated, this is an annual subscription from date of payment.

OCEAN
P.O. Box 14641, SUVA, FIJI.

OCEAN is a charitable trust based in the Fiji Islands, it is dedicated to protecting Oceania's marine environment.

It's aim is to raise local awareness of the importance of marine conservation and to create marine, coastal and terrestrial hinterland sanctuaries.

Oceania, the Pacific, covers one third of the surface of the Earth. It is the last frontier.

The importance of saving this threatened ecosystem containing innumerable species of plant and animal life cannot be over estimated. Global warming and increased soil runoff from deforestation have already killed or severely damaged over 70% of the World's coral reefs. In the face of these vast problems what difference can we make?

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE.

Your donation or membership can help to preserve this vast, unique environment, not just for our future enjoyment but for our very survival.

YES-I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
I would like to join OCEAN and help protect and preserve Fiji's marine environment.

First Name:

Surname:

Postal Address:

Telephone:

TURTLE RESEARCH

IF A TURTLE IS SEEN, PLEASE FILL IN THE FOLLOWING. WHERE THERE IS A CHOICE, CIRCLE THE CORRECT ANSWER:

Latitude _____ Longitude _____

International waters/EEZ of country _____

Water depth _____ Date _____ Time _____

Species (see ID sheet) _____ Carapace length _____

Head width _____ Size estimate: small medium large

Activity: resting trapped swimming mating other _____

Associated with: log net debris long line other _____

Are there tags on the turtle? Yes No

What are the tag numbers? Left _____ Right _____

What is the address on the back of the tag? _____

Were any tags applied to the turtle? Yes No

What are the new tag numbers? Left _____ Right _____

Was the turtle alive or dead? Alive Dead

Was the turtle released? Yes No

If not released, what became of the turtle?

Eaten Taken to aquarium Other _____

Any other comments about the turtle? _____

C-3,4

Tag No. _____ Posn. _____ **Turtle Research** Entered.....0

Recapt. _____

Latitude _____ Longitude _____

New _____ Locality _____ Date _____ Time _____ a.m. p.m.

Clutch..... Nest Depth
 Yolkless..... Top.....
 Egg Diam..... Bot.....
 Temperature (°C)
 Sand.....
 Air.....
 Water.....
 Egg.....

Commensals etc.
 barnacles.....
 Chelonibia.....0
 burrowing.....0
 fluted.....0
 Lepas.....0
 Algae, thick.....0
 Mud, thick.....0
 Other.....

Nest Location
 dune 2nd.....0
 dune 1st.....0
 grass slope.....0
 below slope.....0
 below HW.....0
 under tree.....0
 under shrub.....0
 in grass.....0
 in bare sand.....0

Species
 green.....0
 logger.....0
 flatback.....0
 hawksbill.....0
 ridley.....0
 luth.....0

Weight _____ lb
 _____ kg

Notes

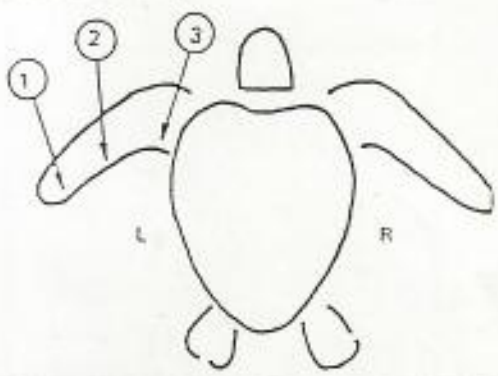
Damage
 carapace.....0
 LFF.....0
 RFF.....0
 LHF.....0
 RHF.....0

No. Egg Ch.....
 Why > | ?
 Cause of disturbance

Activity
 laid.....0
 laid/dist.....0
 no laying.....0

Clutch destruction
 No. eggs dist.....
 Tag No.
 Date

Recorders
 Measured.....
 Recorded.....



Tag No. _____ Posn. _____ **Turtle Research** Entered.....0

Recapt. _____

Latitude _____ Longitude _____

New _____ Locality _____ Date _____ Time _____ a.m. p.m.

Clutch..... Nest Depth
 Yolkless..... Top.....
 Egg Diam..... Bot.....
 Temperature (°C)
 Sand.....
 Air.....
 Water.....
 Egg.....

Commensals etc.
 barnacles.....
 Chelonibia.....0
 burrowing.....0
 fluted.....0
 Lepas.....0
 Algae, thick.....0
 Mud, thick.....0
 Other.....

Nest Location
 dune 2nd.....0
 dune 1st.....0
 grass slope.....0
 below slope.....0
 below HW.....0
 under tree.....0
 under shrub.....0
 in grass.....0
 in bare sand.....0

Species
 green.....0
 logger.....0
 flatback.....0
 hawksbill.....0
 ridley.....0
 luth.....0

Weight _____ lb
 _____ kg

Notes

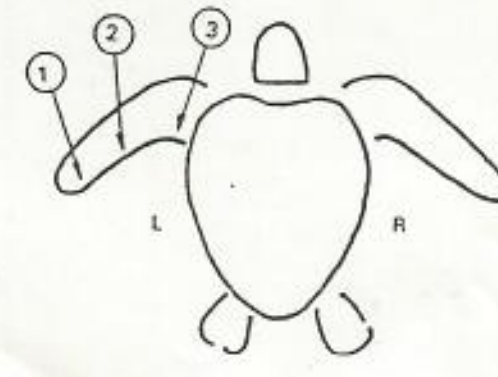
Damage
 carapace.....0
 LFF.....0
 RFF.....0
 LHF.....0
 RHF.....0

No. Egg Ch.....
 Why > | ?
 Cause of disturbance

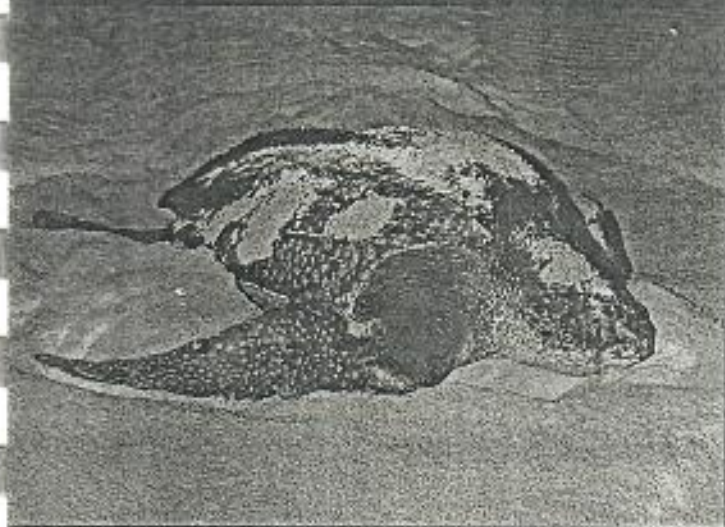
Activity
 laid.....0
 laid/dist.....0
 no laying.....0

Clutch destruction
 No. eggs dist.....
 Tag No.
 Date

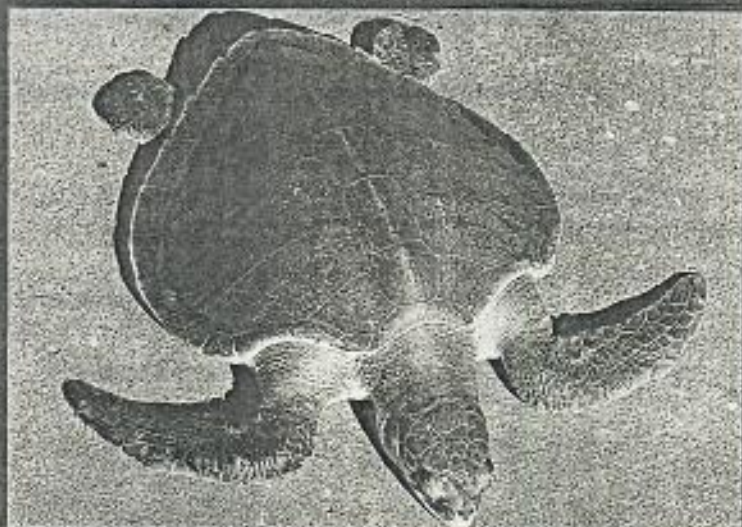
Recorders
 Measured.....
 Recorded.....



Indo-Pacific marine turtles



Dermochelys coriacea (Leatherback turtle)



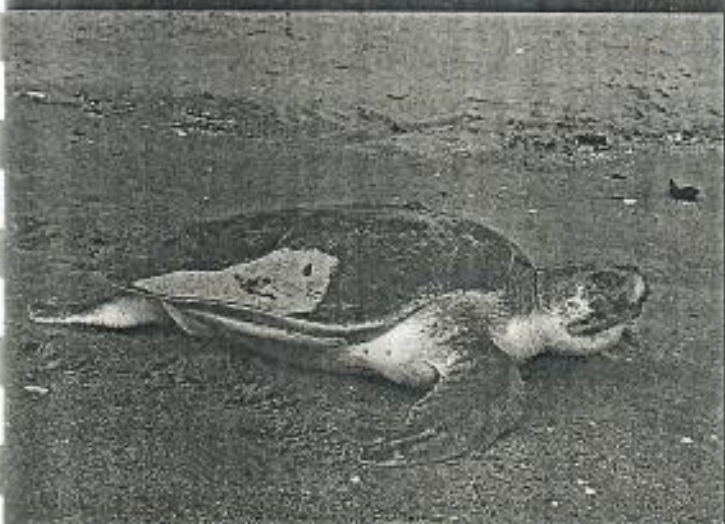
Lepidochelys olivacea (Olive ridley turtle)



Eretmochelys imbricata (Hawksbill turtle)



Caretta caretta (Loggerhead turtle)



Natator depressus (Flatback turtle)



Chelonia mydas (Green turtle)

Sponsored by

GREENPEACE



Queensland
Department of
Environment and
Heritage

Indo-Pacific marine turtles

IDENTIFICATION KEY

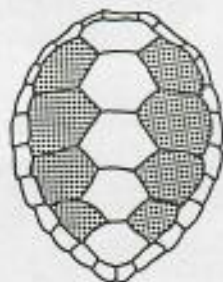
Carapace with
- 5 distinct ridges
- no large scales



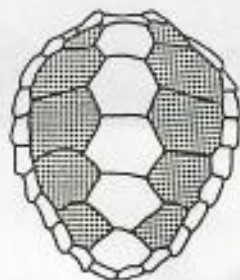
Dermochelys coriacea
(Leatherback turtle)

Carapace with
- no continuous ridges
- large scales

4 pair costal scales

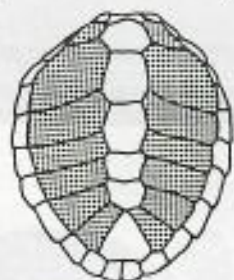


5 pair (rarely 6) costal scales
- carapace longer than wide
- colour red-brown to brown
- no pores in scales of bridge



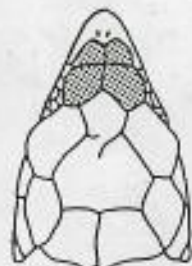
Caretta caretta
(Loggerhead turtle)

6 pair or more costal scales
- carapace approximately circular
- colour grey green
- pores in scales of bridge



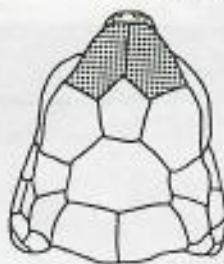
Lepidochelys olivacea
(Olive ridley turtle)

2 pair prefrontal scales
- thick overlapping carapace scales



Eretmochelys imbricata
(Hawksbill turtle)

1 pair prefrontal scales
- no thick overlapping carapace scales



- carapace low domed with upturned edges
- preocular scale
- colour olive grey

- carapace high domed
- no preocular scales
- colour light to dark green with dark mottling



Natator depressus
(Flatback turtle)



Chelonia mydas
(Green turtle)

CORAL REEF MONITORING DATA SHEET

Locality	Date	Recorder								
Circle number										
Location on reef										
Water depth										
FISH COUNTS (100 metre line)										
Predators										
Butterfly fish										
PERCENT COVER	Code: 0% = 0 1-5% = 1 6-30% = 2 31-50% = 3 51-75% = 4 76-100% = 5									
Sediment										
mud										
sand										
rubble										
blocks										
Live hard coral										
Soft corals and sponges										
Dead standing coral										
Crustose corallines										
Marine plants										
FORMS PRESENT AND DOMINANT	Size code: fist = 1 forearm = 2 arm span = 3									
Hard corals	branching	PRES	DOM	SIZE	PRES	DOM	SIZE	PRES	DOM	SIZE
	staghorn									
	massive									
	encrusting									
	tabulate/flat									
	erect foliose									
	cup-shaped									
mushroom										
Soft coral and sponges	massive									
	fans and whips									
Plants	thick turf									
	long filaments									
	large browns									
	halimeda									
	other fleshy									
sea grass										
COUNTS OF ANIMALS										
Mushroom coral										
Giant clams										
Synaptids										
Other holothurians										
Acanthaster										
Other starfish										
Urchins										
Trochus										
Other (specify)										
VISIBLE POLLUTION (specify/count)										
OTHER NOTES										

Figure 11. Coral reef monitoring data sheet

C-5

REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL FIELD PROJECT

20TH OCTOBER
RAMPUR COLLEGE

Completed my programme at Rampur College on the morning of 6th October. I did two programmes consisting of Forms 1, 2 and 3 and totalling 132 students.

I feel my programmes were too advanced for these students so would have to create something different. I found the students attention, span only lasting 15 minutes.

I would have to create a special programme for Junior Secondary school level.

I only showed the "Extinction is Forever" tape and talked to them on how they can help the environment.

No questions asked and I couldn't break the communication barrier with these students.

Again these students need special attention and a specific programme set out for their level of knowledge.

SAINT THOMAS HIGH SCHOOL

I wanted to get a different prospective of Western schools, so I showed my programme at Saint Thomas High School, Natabua, Lautoka.

Arrived at 8.00am to start class at 8.30am. I completed two programmes for forms 5&6 which included 102 students. Showed Extinction Video and Mangrove Slide programme.

I found the students effected by the gruesome turtle slaughter but not relating it to their environment.

Spoke on the importance of the Vanua and how the students can make a difference in their survival by not buying turtle meat and its by-products and how they can influence their family and friends.

Minimum questions were asked but I think it was due to shyness.

REPORT ON EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMME FOR SCHOOLS

I have been charged with the responsibility of putting together environmental programmes and to field test for the National Trust.

A small funding grant was allocated to the National Trust by SPACHEE for such a programme but was not utilized till now due to lack of personnel.

After completion of the field test we intend to find funding to implement a Mobile Education Unit. I have put a slide show together on mangroves and Green Peace have given rights to a video called "Extinction is Forever" on the plight of the endangered sea turtles.

The first school I visited was Navua High School on 18th September 1992 and I did 4 presentations.

The first presentation was for 6th formers which included 60 students. I found the students very receptive, asked a lot of questions and had a good standard of awareness. Their Geography class studied Climate Changes and the Green-House effect so I was able to answer relevant questions on the topic.

The second presentation was for Form 7 and Form 4 which included 62 students.

Found the younger more receptive to my talk. Form 4 were studying in their Social Science classes, "Man and the Ecosystem" so found my presentation very relevant and asked good questions on endangered species in Fiji.

Their knowledge was very limited on the variety of endangered species.

The 3rd and 4th presentations which consisted of Forms 4 and 5 with a total of 100 students.

These students were shy to ask questions and participate. They realised the importance of the environment but it was very difficult to judge their level of awareness. I feel that if I had more teaching tools e.g. posters etc. I would have made more of an impact.

I later compiled information from the National Trust library for students on their relative subjects which I then sent to the schools.

On 22nd September 1992 I went to Rampur College and could not complete all the classes due to their enthusiasm. Have set a date to complete presentations.

My 2 presentations took 1 hour 20 minutes compared to the normal allocated time of 40 minutes per presentation with a total of 150 students from Forms 3-6. I found their standard of awareness was not that high due to the lack of

resources. Students very enthusiastic to become National Trust members and do something positive for their environment. We talked on how they and the school could take a positive steps towards recycling paper and plastics. Also gave the teachers informations on all aspects of the environment for them to distribute appropriately.

Speaking to the students from the two schools, I found out that they did want to know what was happening to their future. I just had to overcome their initial shyness. They seemed very concerned of the state that the environment is in.

I feel with future presentations to schools, we will be able to raise the awareness level of our youth. The few presentations that I have done has already made an impact on the students.

The students and teachers need to be able to have access to necessary information on the environment. The lack of their awareness is due to lack of resources and information.

Vinaka.

**THE MONEY FROM THE SALE
OF THESE T-SHIRTS
GOES TOWARDS THE PROTECTION
OF SEA TURTLES**

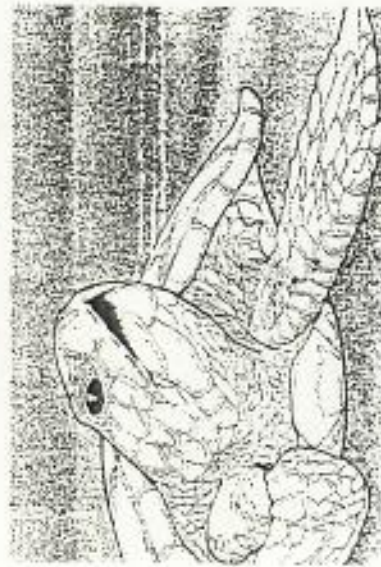


YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

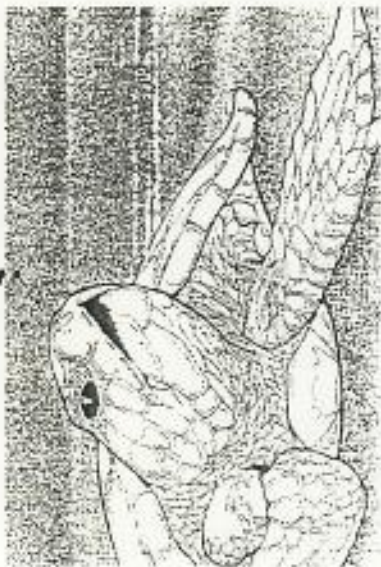
O C E A N

OCEAN OCEAN OCEAN

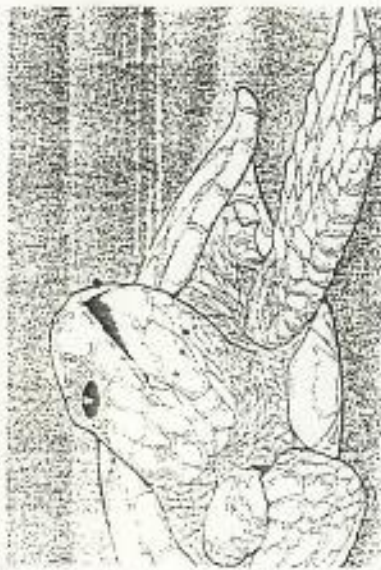
TAKE A
MOMENT TO LOOK
BENEATH THE
SURFACE



TAKE A
MOMENT TO LOOK
BENEATH THE
SURFACE



TAKE A
MOMENT TO LOOK
BENEATH THE
SURFACE



YES-I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
I would like to join OCEAN and help protect
and preserve Fiji's marine environment.

First Name:

Surname:

Postal Address:

Telephone:

YES-I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
I would like to join OCEAN and help protect
and preserve Fiji's marine environment.

First Name:

Surname:

Postal Address:

Telephone:

YES-I WANT TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE
I would like to join OCEAN and help protect
and preserve Fiji's marine environment.

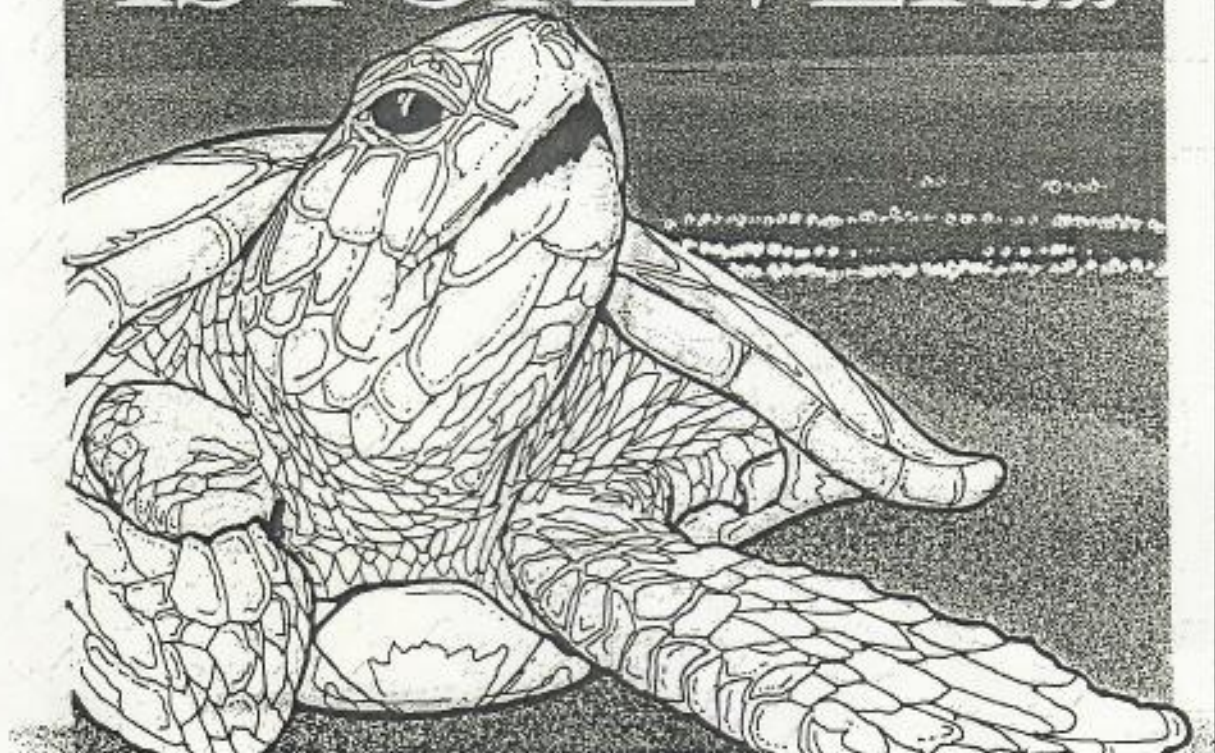
First Name:

Surname:

Postal Address:

Telephone:

EXTINCTION
IS FOREVER...



PROTECTED AREAS

Mangroves is where life begins for a large number of marine creatures. It is also an important source of food for our coastal communities and has many traditional uses. Mangroves is also a buffer zone for storms and marine life shelter in the roots.

Proper management is essential especially with our growing urban population which is putting a great strain on these resources.

It is imperative that we create corridors of protection from the mountains to the sea. We should not create pockets of protected areas but a whole river source, and the marine environment surrounding the area where the river meets the sea. Traditional Fijian rights should be the only source of use for these corridors and Matagali's to warden the area as a source of employment as well as keeping traditions alive.

Each ecosystem is some how dependant on the other so corridors of protection is essential for survival of these ecosystems in the future .

MARINE PARKS/ SANCTUARIES

The majority of the people in Fiji depend on the ocean in some way. All our towns and cities are situated in coastal areas and with the influx of people to urban centres it is putting major pressures on our resources. These pressures are the direct result of an accelerated rate of development, an expanding population and an increasing dependence on marine and nearshore resources for food and for export.

The ocean is also a major source of income, the tourism and Fisheries industry is dependant on it so certain protective measures need to be undertaken.

Fisheries has laws that gives some protection but is not being enforced either due to lack of manpower or capital but with it's limited resources more should and can be done. Enforcing these laws are not on the fisheries priority list, even though it would ensure that fish stocks would not diminish in the future.

The principal problem facing marine conservation in Fiji is how to control the continued destruction of productive habitats (such as mangroves, estuaries and coral reefs) that are important to the livelihood of local residents and to the national economy.

Marine protected areas needs fall into three broad groups:

- 1) protected areas for habitat conservation.
- 2) For the safe guarding of Fisheries.
- 3) For species conservation.

A number of protected areas are required to meet these needs.

Protection and management of these areas would give Fiji a system of marine and coastal protected areas which would adequately safeguard it's marine resources for future generations

Ways to make marine parks economically viable.

Diving is becoming one of the fastest growing sports in the world, with over 700,000 people getting certified annually. 70% of that keep up the sport.

Fiji is rated number two in the world in hot dive spots. More and more tourist coming to Fiji, come specifically to dive our magical coral reefs.

These divers could then contribute to the costs of maintaining our marine parks.

The Great Barrier Reef National Park is a good example.

Eco-tourism is a very profitable industry and should be considered as a viable way of conserving our Vanua.

Antifouling in Suva Harbour

Antifouling is a tin-based marine paint which has the compound Tributyltin (TBT) which is toxic to the marine environment.

Studies had been done by USA, Sweden, Canada and Singapore on the impact TBT has on organisms and found unwanted side-effects. Recently the only serious studies of TBT in the South Pacific were from New Zealand University. Their results showed that levels of TBT were "unacceptable" and that the rate of decomposition was slower than previously expected.

As a result of the discoveries, many countries now regulate the use of TBT antifouling paints.

Two assessments of TBT in the Suva area were undertaken in 1990-1991. Comments on data are as follows:

"TBT concentrations in Suva Harbour are similar to Auckland Harbour, with the exception of the extremely high results found in the intertidal and near shore sediments near the main slipway".

At the concentrations observed in shellfish, there is every reason to expect that adverse biological effects will be occurring.

Fiji is using antifouling not acceptable to international standards, certain protective measures have to be undertaken to control TBT in our Harbours.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

R. J. Morrison and Johnson Seeto, USP, Tributyltin (TBT) compounds in the Marine Environment around Suva.

RECYCLING

What is recycling ?

The word describes the process of recovering materials used in the industry or in the home for further uses.

Fiji does not know the meaning of recycling, and it is very important that we start educating the urban population and redefine people's ideas about the term "rubbish".

We must understand that our resources are indefinite so it is imperative that we re-use as much as possible, we can not afford to be a throwaway society.

Paper and bottles are being recycled by Tiko industries, Coca Cola bottlers and Carlton Brewery. They only cater for a minimum of the possible materials capable of recycling.

Tiko industries collect 15 tonnes of waste paper a week which would normally go into the municipal rubbish dump. Also local employment for over two dozen people and more as the demand increases.

Their target is 30 tonnes a week, once attained a recycling paper plant would be viable in Fiji.

Recycled paper saves trees.

Waste paper should not be seen as garbage recovered but as a source of secondary fibre to be used where possible and suitable for quality end use product.

Plastics take over 300 years to bio-degrade. It is choking our sea life, strangling our Birds and even suffocating our children.

People don't realize the impact plastics have on the environment and again it takes education to get our people aware. The public should be encouraged to re-use plastics and use substitutes whenever possible.

There is no glass recycling plant in Fiji, so tax incentives should be given to companies willing to start such a plant. We should not be recycling for recycling's sake. Recycling should only be done when it is economically viable.

Alot of Councils rubbish sites are filled with household vegetable or organic matter. This could be minimized thru households having compost piles. Organic matter is good for the earth so should be put to good use.

Every Fiji household should have a compost pile.

Why do we have a growing need to recycle?

When we recycle we reduce our demand for raw materials and therefore reduce our demands on our fragile environment.

BAN ON CATCHING FEMALE CRABS AND PRAWNS

We all notice in the markets how the prices of crabs and prawns are sky-rocketing and their sizes are getting smaller daily, again this is due to urbanization and the demand outstripping the supply.

The only way a ban would be effective would be if it was imposed at the Tikina level. Traditional Taboo of catching female crabs and prawns would greatly revive stocks. We would have to do studies before the ban to establish baselines. Appropriate questions to ask would be what they catch now, what they caught 5, 10 years ago?

It is now time for drastic measures before stocks aren't able to recover from this onslaught.

The Queensland government has placed a ban on catching female crabs and they are now seeing their stock level rising to an acceptable level.

It is imperative that these bans be imposed for the sole reason of that we have a future food supply.

MARINE RESOURCES REPORT

Proposed National Marine Park - Beachcomber, Treasure Island.

There is currently only one Marine Park in Fiji, at Makogai in the Lomaiviti Group of the Koro Sea. 17 25S x 179E.

Unfortunately this is limited in duration and sphere by the parameters of the agreement between the custodian and the Fisheries Department.

Makogai area along with much of Viti Levu and all Vanua Levu were surveyed between February and July 1992 to determine the status of the inshore marine resources in general. As a result it is considered that all the inshore reefs and coastal fringes in the area surveyed and probably all areas of Fiji (except perhaps some of the very remote reefs) are consistently depleted and in many cases exhausted of all species of marine resources, especially edible reef fish, clams and commercial resources eg. beche-de-mer, trochus and pearl shell.

Most of this depletion is due to overfishing and the successful restocking of these reefs is being hampered by the continued commercial harvesting of the low lying reef stock, that consists of the remaining stock in many instances and constitutes the brood stock that produces the eggs, spat and spawn for the continuation of each species. These low lying reefs are not as abundant in species as the shallower accessible reef tops (due to light and nutrition) and are only accessible to fishermen with diving equipment.

It is evident that the wisdom of the fishing right custodians and the National Trust is required to establish several national marine parks to preserve natural stocks of marine resources for future generations of Fijians and to allow further research and development of more environmentally friendly marine pursuits and industries.

Tourism is largely dependant on a healthy marine environment to attract and sustain a viable level of visitors to Fiji. The proposed national marine park for the Beachcomber Treasure Island area will allow continued enhancement of the natural resources of reefs in the vicinity of the park during the seasonal spawning from September to March.

MARINE RESOURCE SURVEYTrip Report No.7

Dates : Wednesday 23rd September - Tuesday 28th September, 1992

Personnel: Paul Thunder and several boatmen from Beachcomber Island

Objectives: Beachcomber or Tai Island.
11.5 miles West South West of Lautoka
.5x.25 miles reef surrounding a .1x.1 mile well vegetated sand bank.

Sand Cay:
.9 miles South East of Beachcomber
.3x.15 miles reef surrounding a 500m sand bar.

Treasure Island or Levuka Island
.5m East of beachcomber
.5x.3 miles reef surrounding a .1x.3 miles vegetated sand bank.

The general prevailing current is East -> West. The islands and reefs have larger shoal areas or patches surrounding them with numerous bombies (approx. 26 outcrops) extending up from a predominant sand bottom, some to within a few feet of the surface.

They are the first most Easterly Islands of the Mamanuca Group which extends West to the Yasawas. They are surrounded by coral fringes extending 15'-20' down to a gradually sloping sandy bottom.

Coordinates : 117 15'E x 17 40'S.

History : The Tui Vuda is the water rights custodian. The Vuda region is traditionally known to be the first area of settlement in Fiji.

Mr Dan Costello originally leased Beachcomber Island approximately 25 years ago and Treasure Island was leased approximately 18 years ago. Over that time they have developed into significant Tourist Resorts.

NOTE: At the commencement of dive 1 and subsequent dives approximately 1.5 tons of debris including excise blocks, pipes, drums and trailing iron was observed at the southern end of the island. This was due to an overturned barge and the effects of 2 cyclones over the year.

DAY 1

Wednesday 23rd and Thursday 24th September were utilized for initial research and adaptation of a punt, provided by the Resort, with a hooka unit and the necessary boom and rigging system to access the lay of the reefs and bottom under tow (Drift and Diving). I had swam the reefs some weeks prior to the survey and was familiar with the condition of the corals etc. on top of the reef.

DIVE REPORT NO. 1

Date : Friday 25th September
 Local : Deeper water approx 2-300m off the South West edge of the Beachcomber reef
 Method : Drift Dive and Hooker
 Time : 1400 hours
 Dis.&Dir.: 1 mile S.E->N.W.
 Curr : N.W. 1\2 KT
 Vis : 15'
 Duration : 70 min
 Depth : 40' - 50'
 Bottom : Sand, sloping with numerous low lying scattered bombies and coral out crops. Abundance of staghorn and small fan corals.
 Stats : 2 Clams
 1 Spider shell
 6 Coral trout
 2 Cod
 1 Pearl shell
 Doz Beche-de-mer
 15 Oyster clams
 1 Swimmer crab
 4 Thorney oyster
 1 School rabbit fish
 2 Dead clams

NOTE: At the commencement of dive 1 and subsequent dive 2 approximately 1.5 tons of debris including engine blocks, pipes, drums and roofing iron was observed at the southern end of the Island. This was due to an overturned barge and the effects of 2 cyclones over the years.

The rubbish observed over the insuing days seemed to be concentrated in 2-3 areas only and there was odd bottle or two from passing yachts etc.

DIVE REPORT NO. 2

Date : Saturday 26th September

Local : The shallower water along the South West edge of Beachcomber reef.

Method : Drift dive - Hooker'

Time : 1000 hours

Dis & Dir: 1 mile S.W. -> N.W.

Curr : .5 KT -> Deadlow

Vis : 20' decreasing to 10'

Duration : 60 min

Depth : 15'-30' along the walls and bottom

Bottom : Rich hard and soft corals and coralines toward the surface and top of the reef wall
Rubble on sand sloping gradually away from reef.

Stats : 2 Cod
6 Coral trout
2 Pearl shell
1 Trochus
Doz Beche-de-mer
3 clams
20 Oyster clams
2 Large spider shells
3 Groups of parrot fish
1 School travelly
1 Double headed parrot
2 Sea perch
1 School rabbit fish
2 Spotted reef crabs
5 Thorney oysters
1 Pen shell

DIVE REPORT NO.3

Date : Saturday 26th September
 Local : off the edge and along the wall of the North West section reef of Beachcomber
 Method : Free diving and swimming
 Time : 1200 hours
 Dis & Dir : 1 mile N.W. - S.E.
 Curr : Low Tide - N.W. 5 KT
 Vis : 15'
 Duration : 80 min
 Depth : 0-20'
 Bottom : Rich hard and soft corals with rubble on sand at the base of the walls. Several extending fingers and gullies
 Stats : 4 Coral trout
 1 Pearl shell
 4 Clams
 10 Oyster clams
 1 Spider shell
 3 Groups of parrot fish
 1 School of travelly
 1 Spotted reef crab
 2 Thorney oysters
 1 White tip reef shark
 2 Dead clams

DIVE REPORT NO.4

Date : Saturday 26th September
 Local : Deeper water approximately 200m off the North East edge of Beachcomber Reef (following contour)
 Method : Drift diving and Hooker
 Time : 1440 hours
 Dis & Dir: 1.5 miles N.W. - S.E.

Curr : .5 KT S.E.

Vis : -15'

Duration: 60 min

Depth : 45'-50'

Bottom : Patches of Rubble on mainly discoloured sand and some scattered coral outcrops.

Stats : 1 Cod
 1 Double headed parrot
 2 Oyster clams
 1 clam
 4 Travelly
 10 Beche-de-mer
 2 Sea perch
 1 School rabbit fish

NOTE: Observation : In the immediate reef edge around Beachcomber the schools of Parrot Fish presented the widest range and variety of colours and schemes that I have ever observed on Parrot Fish. One school feeding on corals numbered in the 30's.

DIVE REPORT NO.5

Date : Monday 27th September

Local : Shoals approx 400m South West of Treasure Island.

Method : Drift diving - Hooker

Time : 1000 hours

Dis & Dir: S.W.- N.E. and around some large sunken patches

Curr : South East .5 KT

Vis : 15'

Duration : 60 min

Depth : 15'-60'

Bot Bottom : Coral patches with rubble on sand
 Rither and thicker hard & soft corals
 closer to the surface

Stats : 1 Pen shell
 2 Winged oysters
 2 Clams
 2 Dead clams (recent)
 10 Oyster clams
 1 Trochus
 1 Cod
 2 Coral trout
 6 Parrot fish

DIVE REPORT NO.6

Date : Monday 27th September
 Local : Large bomble and reef section 400 yards
 North East of Beachcomber
 Method : Drift dive and Hooker
 Time : 1410 hours
 Dis & Dir: Round the reef then transverse the top twice
 Curr : N.W. - .5 KT
 Vis : -10'
 Duration : 30min
 Depth : 15'-50'
 Bottom : coral outcrops decending to rubble on sand. Thick
 hard and soft corals on top.
 Stats : 1 Large pearl shell
 1 Live clam
 3 Dead clams
 10 Oyster clams
 6 Parrot fish
 1 Small cod

DIVE REPORT NO.7

Date : Monday 27th September
Local : Bombie (1) 300m - North West of Treasure Reef.
Method : Dive - Hooker
Time : 1445 hours
Dis & Dir : Round top, Down the sides and round again
Curr : N.W. .5 kt
Vis : -15'
Duration: 15 min
Depth : 20'-50'
Bottom : Hard and soft coral top. Decending coral rock to rubble on sand at bottom
Stats : 1 Spider shell
1 Pearl shell
1 Pen shell
6 Oyster clams

NOTE : Several lengths of railway track and some electrical wire were observed. Also some bottles and fishing lines.

DIVE REPORT NO.8

Date : Monday 27th September
Local : Bombie (2) 100m - North West of Treasure Reef
Method : Dive - Hooker
Time : 1505 hours
Dis & Dir : Round top, down the sides and round again
Curr : N.W. .5kt
Vis : -15'
Duration: 15min
Depth : 10' - 50'

Bottom : Hard and soft coral on top. Decending coral rock
to rubble on sand

Stats : 1 Cowrie
5 Oyster clams

NOTE: Some fishing lines and Electrical wire.

DIVE REPORT NO.9

Date : Monday 27th September

Local : Bombe (3) 150m West of Treasure reef

Method : Dive - Hooker

Time : 1525 hours

Dis & Dir : Round top, down the sides and round again

Curr : N.W. .5kt

Vis : -15'

Duration: 15 min

Depth : 15' - 50'

Bottom : Hard and soft coral on top. Decending coral rock
to rubble on sand.

Stats : Some flighty fish
6 Oyster clams
1 Pen shell

DIVE REPORT NO.10

Date : Monday 27th September
 Local : Off the East edge of Sand Cay Reef and South West
 along the wall
 Method : Drift dive , Hooker and free
 Time : 1600 hours
 Dis & Dir : N.E. - S.W. then N.W. at end
 of wall
 Curr : S.W. .5kt
 Vis : 10'
 Duration: 60 min
 Depth : 0-30'
 Bottom : Rich hard and soft corals and coralines decending
 to light rubble on sand bottom with many fingers
 and gullies along the way.
 Stats : Some Parrot fish
 6 Coral trout
 4 Travelley
 2 Cod
 1 Dead clam (recent)
 5 clams
 6 Oyster clams

DIVE REPORT NO.11

Date : Tuesday 28th September, 1992
 Local : South West of Sand Cay Reef round the end and South
 East along the edge crossing the top at intervals
 and along the walls. Covered the Bombies in the
 channel towards Treasure.
 Method : Drift and dive and free swim - Hooker and free
 Time : 1020 hours
 Dis & Dir : South West - North East
 Curr : North .5kt

Vis : 20'

Duration: 80 min

Depth : 0-30'

Bottom : Very rich and thick hard and soft corals on edges and top extending in 50'. Rubble on sand on bottoms of walls.

Stats : 1 Pearl shell
 1 Cray fish (juvenile)
 3 Coral trout
 1 School parrot fish
 2 Thorney oysters
 3 Clams
 2 Dead clams
 15 Oyster clams

DIVE REPORT NO.12

Date : Tuesday 28th September

Local : Shoals and Bombie patches - .6 ->.9 ml South of Beachcomber

Method : Free swim - Hooker

Time : 1145 hours

Dis & Dir : Round the reefs and extended low lying bombies swim from one to another and check sides & tops.

Curr : West .5kt

Vis : 12'

Duration: 30 min

Depth : 15-50'

Bottom : Coral on tops and Bare ridges of reef extending to coral bombies with hard and soft corals. Rubble on Sand bottom.

Stats : Doz Oyster clams
 2 Pearl shells
 1 Cray fish (Juvenile)
 1 Clam
 1 Cod

OVERALL ASSESSMENT

Of all the reefs and shoals surveyed by this consultant, the reefs and bombies in the immediate area of the proposed Marine Park are comparatively richer in quantity / variation of species than 90% of all similar reef types and atmosphere observed in Fiji thus far.

This is perhaps due to the foresight of the leasee in declaring the area a private Marine Sanctuary for the past 20 years of management, environmentally significant considering the volume of tourist traffic and associated industry required to sustain them.....

Treasure reefs do not appear to have the same abundance of fish, gastropods or Bivalves. The reefs themselves appear to be healthy and with a wide variety of coral species. The N.W. of Beachcomber and the N.W. of the Sand Cay, are more prolific than all other sections surveyed.

RECOMMENDATIONS

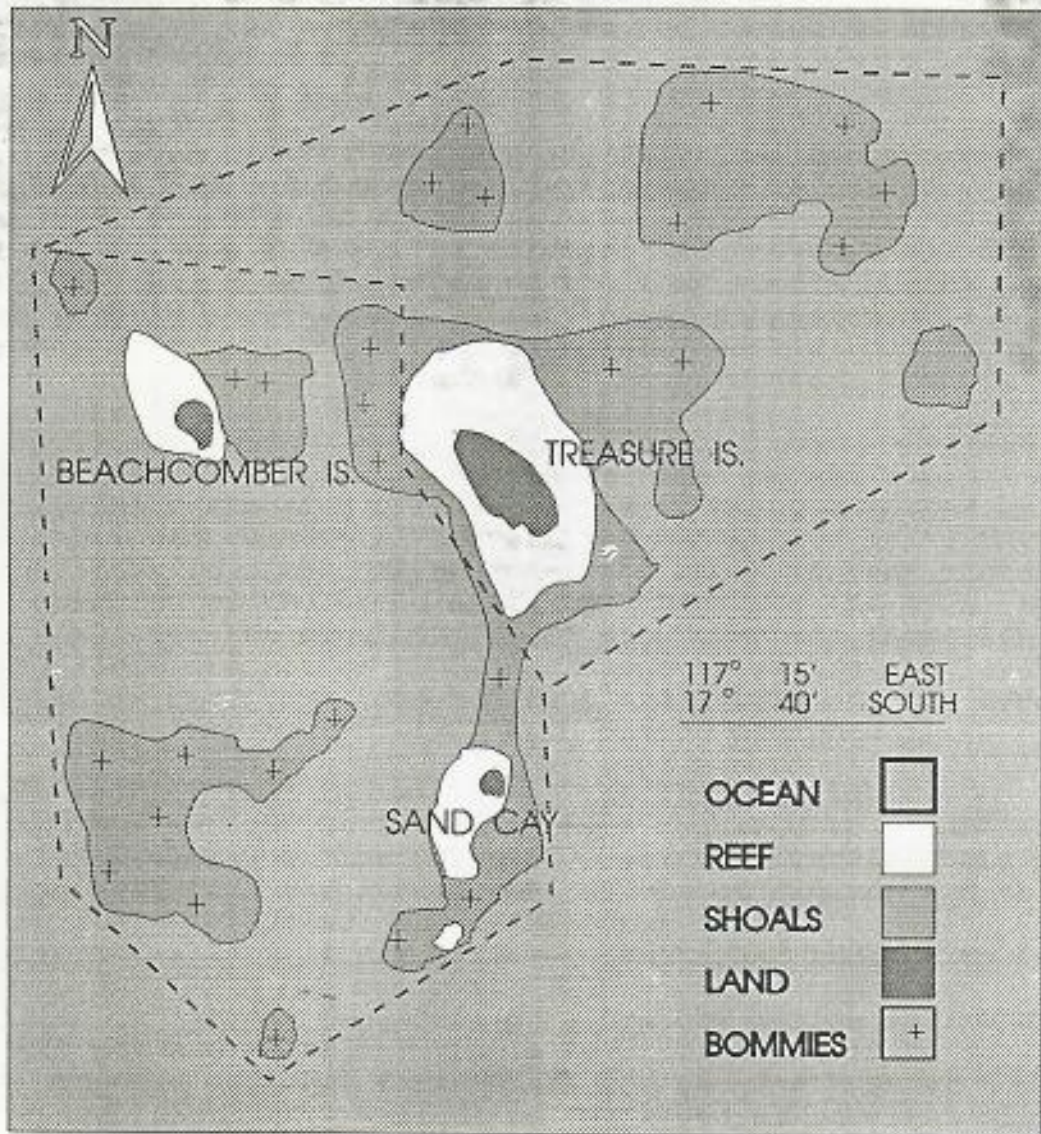
Continue to apply a no nonsense commonsense approach to the management of the areas reefs and resources. Both National Trust and Fisheries Department should be forthcoming regarding implementation of ordinances, advice and assistance.

- * The overall management should be left in the hands of the present caretaker and or a Council who will accept responsibility for and implementation of Park regulations.
- * Environmental Impact Assessment considering :
 - Resource Management
 - Vessle traffic
 - Placement of moorings
 - Allowance for existing and further tourism
 - safe unloading of fuels from barges etc.
 - Erosion
 should be undertaken in an annual survey at the Reserve to monitor developments and record changes.
- * Consideration should perhaps be given to the establishment of aquaculture research and development program for restocking and display purposes.
- * This consultant has agreed to undertake the extraction of debris scattered through the area as soon as is convenient.

CONSULTANT PAUL THUNDER MURRAY

Paul Thunder Murray

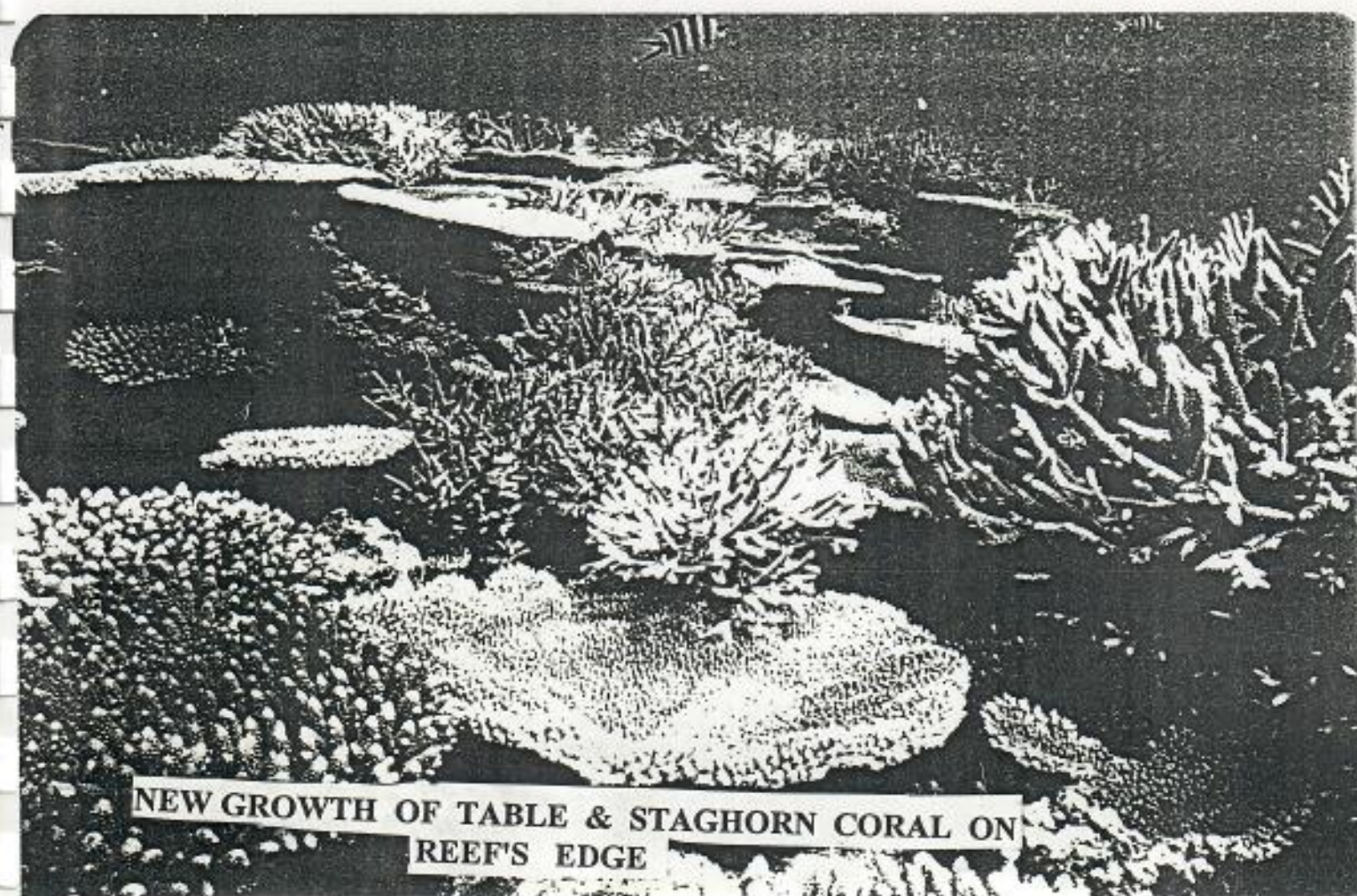
PROPOSED RESERVE FOR BEACHCOMBER & TREASURE ISLAND



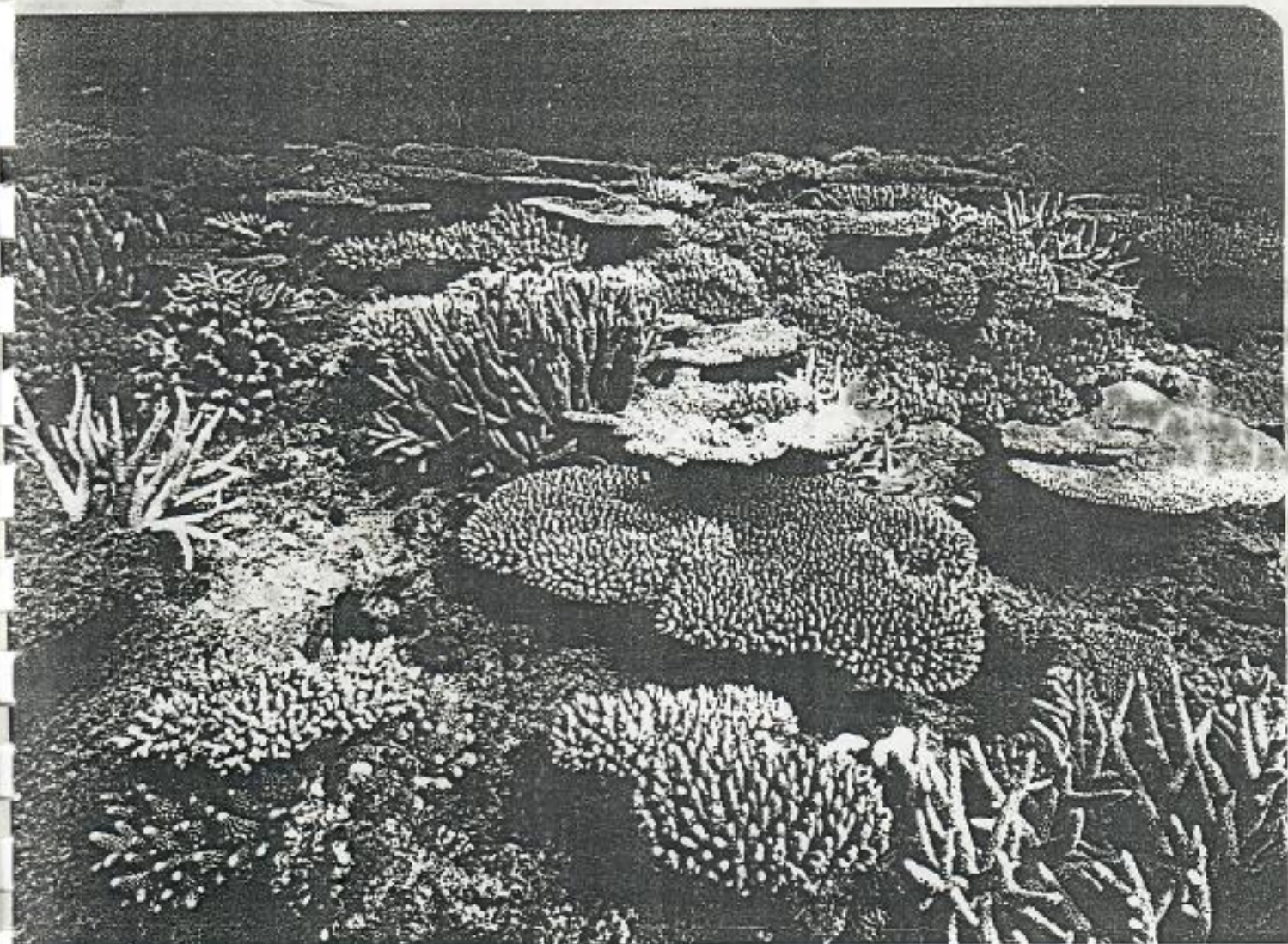
BEACHCOMBER ISLAND



SOFT-CORAL MIXED WITH STAGHORN & HARD CORAL



NEW GROWTH OF TABLE & STAGHORN CORAL ON
REEF'S EDGE



STAGHORN CORAL UNTOUCHED OR DAMAGED





GEORGE H. BALAZS

ZOOLOGIST AND LEADER,
MARINE TURTLE RESEARCH

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN, IUCN MARINE TURTLE SPECIALIST GROUP

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NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE
Southwest Fisheries Science Center Honolulu Laboratory
2570 Dole St. • Honolulu, Hawaii 96822-2396
(808)943-1221 • Fax: (808)943-1290

31 AUGUST

DEAR MR. BATIBASAGA:

I AM VERY SORRY AND APOLOGIZE
FOR THE DELAY IN SENDING YOU THESE
SMALLER TAGS THAT YOU ASKED FOR IN
APIA, THE APPLICATORS THAT I AM
SENDING WORK VERY WELL WITH THESE
TAGS (X201 - X250; X260 - X300; X401 -
X500), 191 TAGS TOTAL. PLEASE

CONTINUE TO SEND ME COPIES OF
YOUR TAGGING DATA SO I CAN KEEP
A SET OF HISTORICAL RECORDS HERE
IN HAWAII.

I WAS GOOD TO SEE YOU
AGAIN. BEST REGARDS AND ALOHA -

George Balazs





MINISTRY OF HOUSING, URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND ENVIRONMENT
P.O. BOX 2131, GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS, SUVA, FIJI

FAX NO: (679) 303515

PHONE: 211 416

REF: 708/30/2-II

FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

FROM: PERMANENT SECRETARY FOR HOUSING, URBAN DEVELOPMENT & ENVIRONMENT
TO: DR V FUAVAO, DIRECTOR, SPREP
FAX NO: (685) 20231
SUBJECT: LOU FOR TURTLE NESTING SURVEY : FIJI GROUP
REF: AP 2/15/1 XB1020A2781.
DATE: 24 DECEMBER 1993
PAGES: 3

SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENT	
PROGRAMMS ACTION FILE	ip 2/15/1
	AP 1/1/1
DATE	29 DEC 1993
ACTION OFFICER	ALCM

The LOU is returned signed.

I suggest you deal directly with Fiji Director of Fisheries attention Aisake Batibasaga regarding the transfer of funds as it would be more practical for that Department to operate the account themselves. By copy of this fax, I would alert Batibasaga about this arrangement.

I thank you for the assistance and wish you a happy Christmas and prosperous 1994.

J Teaiwa
J T Teaiwa
Permanent Secretary

COPY : Director of Fisheries
(Attention : Mr Aisake Batibasaga
Fisheries Officer)
(FAX : 361 184)

*The money from
this account*

SPREP

SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRAMME

PO BOX 240
 APIA, WESTERN SAMOA
 TELEPHONE: (685) 21929
 FAX: (685) 20231



PROE

PROGRAMME REGIONAL OCEANIQUE DE L'ENVIRONNEMENT

PO BOX 240
 APIA, WESTERN SAMOA
 TELEPHONE: (685) 21929
 FAX: (685) 20231

LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING

This LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING is made on the 9th day of December 1993 between the South Pacific Regional Environmental Programme (SPREP) and the Government of Fiji (GF), regarding the implementation of the project "Turtle Nesting Survey- In part of the Fiji Group."

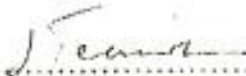
WHEREAS SPREP has decided to commission the above-named project, AND WHEREAS the GF is willing to implement this same project, this Letter of Understanding witnesses that it is now agreed between these parties as follows:

1. The GF shall carry out the work as described in the attached document.
2. The GF shall ensure that the project is carried out under the direction of Mr. Aisake Batibasaga, Fisheries Officer (Fisheries Division: of the Ministry of Primary Industries Cooperative and Forestry), who shall serve as the principal investigator of the project and as the main point of contact between the GF and the SPREP Programme Officer, in regards to this project.
3. The GF agrees to complete all activities as detailed in the project document and to provide SPREP with a report after the completion of the project. Such a reports will describe the work undertaken and funds expended during the project. Within thirty days of completion of the project, a terminal report of all project activities and financial matters will be submitted to SPREP.
4. The following is identified as the substantive report of the project:
 - Preparation of a final report, (i) outlining the methods used in the development of the management plans; (ii) problems and successes; and (iii) copies of all reports, plans and other materials produced during the project.
 - The funding for this project is provided by South Pacific Biodiversity Programme (SPBP) to the amount of: FJD \$13,296 and as such should be acknowledged in any reports, plans, etc.
5. SPREP agrees to transfer the following funds to the GF for the implementation of the project (see attached project document for budget details):

- 6. Either party to this Agreement may in writing request the other party hereto to consider the making of variations to this Agreement, and any such request shall be duly considered by the other party and consent thereto shall not be unreasonably withheld by either party.



 Dr Vili A. Fuavao
 Director
 South Pacific Regional
 Environment Programme



 Mr. John T. Teaiwa
 Permanent Secretary
 Ministry of Housing and Urban
 Development
 Suva, Fiji

Date signed: *4.1.93*

Date signed: *24.12.93*

PROJECT DOCUMENT

Project Title : Turtle Conservation:

Survey of Turtle Nesting population in the Part of the Fiji Group.
(Lomaiviti Group : position 17.00°S-17.8°S - 179°E-179.8°E).

Department: Fisheries Department

Ministry of Agriculture, Forest and Fisheries
P O Box 358 - Suva.

Location: Fiji : Lomaiviti Group (Eastern Division)

The 6 small islands selected for monitoring of turtle nestings are largely, small resort islands - with very small human inhabitations. They are well known turtle nesting sites, especially for Hawksbill turtle (*E. imbricata*) in the Eastern Division of the Fiji Groups. From the present rate of high turtle harvest in Fiji - the survey could also be a good 'indicator' of how the Nesting population has been affected. Green turtles, which had been reported by local residents in the 6 islands to have nested previously as from the 1970's and early 1980's - have not been encountered in this islands from the past 10yrs. For example, the last green turtle found nesting in Namena Lala island was in 1982 and in Makogai Is. (where our small turtle hatchery is) was in 1984. Perhaps, it is helpful to note according to research findings (From tagging information) that Fiji Green turtle population is being maintained by recruitment from outside population - especially from French Polynesia (Scilly Atoll).

Project Status

Project starting date : December 20 1993
Completion date: until February 10 1994
Project Directors: Fiji Fisheries Research Staffs
No. of Personnel/fieldworkers: 12 personnel altogether.
(6 to be recruited as trainees) and to be paid at the normal Fiji Government labour rate of \$2.48. per.hr.

Introduction:

Fiji, badly needs to update informations (data) on Turtle nestings. It is not an easy task (which we are all aware of) - that is why we have selected these 6 sites (islands) which are close to one another (only in the Eastern Division) and which we believe to be easiest to monitor for nestings. And most cheaper. Also, these islands are only partly inhabited as resort sites- while most of the island are left intact, with very limited human interruptions. They are known for very recent turtle nesting activities (as from 1992, with most nests unfortunately destroyed by Cyclone Kina from January 1993).

The last turtle surveys were carried out from 1970 and 1980 (the later by M. Guinea). That is, to my thinking a very long time away - when we consider and think of the advance and efficient method of harvesting turtle (and high market demands). In Fiji, the turtles are 'efficiently' slaughtered by night diving - when most are sleeping and very vulnerable.

Objectives:

The objectives of this study (survey) are:

- To determine : 1) presence of a nesting population, and if possible, the number of nesting females.
- 2) the actual nesting sites - to be marked out as reserve areas for the future. To be left intact - and not to be developed as resort or residential sites.
- 3) possible nesting of green turtle, Chelonia mydas
- nest very rarely encountered in Fiji.
- Also 4) compare nesting data with past statistics.
- 5) and come up with proposal for turtle management guidelines - in agreement with that of SPREP.

Personnel for fieldwork: a total of 12 people - all from the Fiji Fisheries department.

There are 6 main islands (almost all are less than 2 square kilometers to be continuously monitored for turtle nestings. The peak nesting period in Fiji is from late December through to February - each year.

The table below shows the name of the island, the length of monitoring time on the island, and the number of fieldworkers in that monitoring period.

	<u>Island</u>	<u>Duration</u> - period of monitoring	<u>No. of Workers</u>
1.	Namena Lala	December 27-Jan 25 (4wks)	2
2.	Makogai Is.	Dec 20-Jan 20 (4wks)	2
3.	Wakaya Is.	Jan 1 - Feb 2 (4wks)	2
4.	Caqclai Is.	Jan 15 - Feb 2 (3 wks)	2
5.	Lelcuvia Is.	Jan 1 - Jan 22 (3wks)	2
6.	Vatu-i-cake	Dec. 30 - Jan 20 (3wks)	2

List of Required basic items and costs (FIS)

<u>Items</u>	<u>Number or amount</u>	<u>Costs/unit (\$/unit)</u>	<u>Total Cost (\$)</u>
1. Coleman benzine light	4	95	380
2. High powered torch	8	75	600
3. High-power batteries	12 cartons	18 (24 batteries/ cartons)	216
4. Rain coats	12	40	480
5. Sleeping bags	4	275	1,100
6. Kerosene stove	4	35	140
7. Log books	12	6	72
8. Jungle boots	12 pairs	45	540
9. Cane knives	6	\$11	66
10. Camera	1	350	350
11. Lube oil	4x20L	29 per 20L	116

Total Cost: \$4,060.00

Travels:

Fisheries vessel trips (using diesolene fuel at \$97.50 per 200L)

<u>Trip starting point</u>	<u>Destination</u>	<u>No. of trips</u>	<u>Fuel cost per trip</u>	<u>Total cost</u>
1. Makogai Is.	Namena Is.	2	\$195	\$390
2. Makogai Is.	Leleuvia Is.	2	195	390
3. Makogai Is.	Vatu-i-cake	2	195	390
4. Makogai Is.	Caqclai	2	195	390
5. Makogai Is.	Wakaya	2	100	200

Total Cost = 1,760.00
(fuel)

Contractual Services:

There will be 12 personnels altogether - involved in this Turtle nesting survey in the Lomaiviti Groups (position : 17-17.8°S, 179-179.8°E).

6 staffs will be from the Research section of the Fisheries Department.

6 field workers (trainees) will be recruited - and to be paid at present labour rates of \$2.48 an hour. The survey will involve night camping and night watches. At least 2 people will be stationed in an island for the duration of the survey (monitoring period) which will be up to 4 weeks or even more.

The 6 field workers (trainees) will be recruited for 4 weeks and be paid 50 working hours per week plus field allowance of \$10 per day.

* All the 12 personnels in the survey will be entitled for field (day) allowance.

Hence: a) Salary for the 6 trainees : (50hrs/week) for 4 weeks
= \$124 per person (per week)
Total = \$2,976.00

b) Field allowance for the 6 trainees : \$1,800.00 (at \$10 per day for 30 days)
 $10 \times 30 \times 6 = 1,800$

c) Field allowance for Fisheries research staff (6) : (at \$15 per day for 30 days):
\$2,700.00.

Contractual services (budget) : Total = \$7,476.00

AMOUNT OF FINANCIAL AID SOUGHT FROM SPREP.

We request the following financial support from SPREP towards the above budget:

- a) Travel \$1,760.00
- b) Consumable goods/equipments 4,060.00
- c) Contractual services 7,476.00

Total requested = \$13,296.00 FJD

SPREP agrees to transfer the following amount to the Government of Fiji for the implementation of the project (see attached project document) for the period of 12 months.

X 736

Ravirani, I want

P.O Box 277,

BA

Fiji.

SEP 13 1993

WRITE HIMB.

UNIVERSITY,

HAWAII. 96744.

Dear Sir,

I would like to know about the turtle, which I had found in the sea in BA area. on 2th of September 1993. It had the clips on the leg with the address: WRITE HIMB

UNIVERSITY

HAWAII. 96744

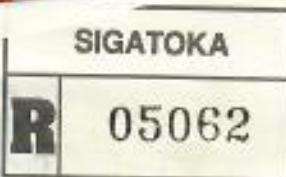
and the another side it had the No: X 735. I caught it in the fishing line. The line was 12 lbs test. About 20 year long I have stayed in Ravirani this is the first



PAR AVION CORREO AEREO



WRITE HIMB
UNIVERSITY
HAWAII. 96744



BX1346 9/10/93 Amy



FIJI 81-06

25 X

time I had caught the turtle with
the Hawaii address in the fishing
line. I had keep the clip with
the address.

So I would like to
have a reply as soon as you can.

THANKS

yours faithfully
Hamja Ali

ADDRESS:

HAMJA ALI F/N USMAN ALI
RAVI RAVI

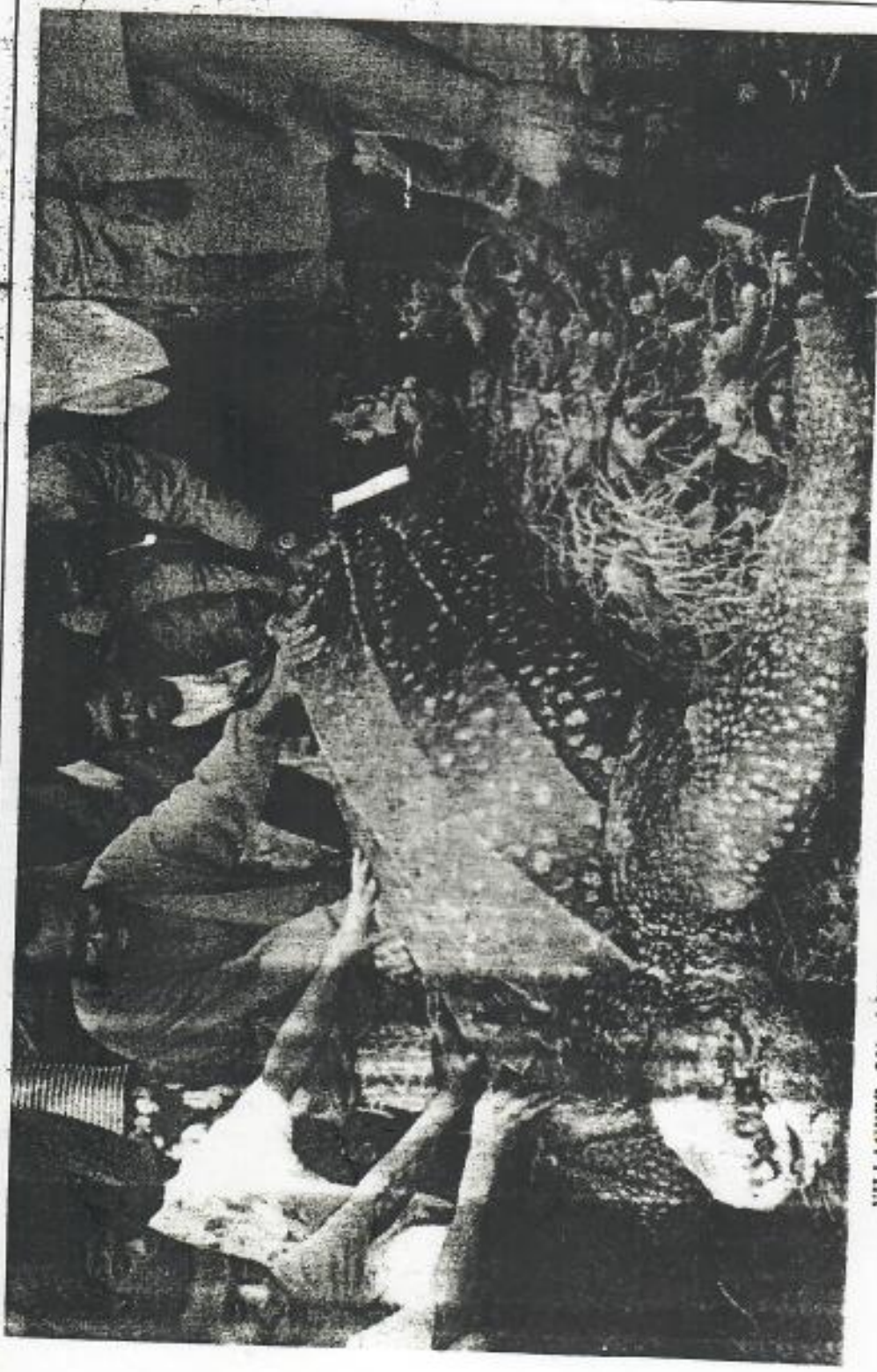
P.O Box 277

BA

Fiji.

Phone No. 676647.





VILLAGERS of Nawi Village, Buca Bay in Vanua Levu with the Leatherback turtle. PHOTO: CORPORAL MANUELI DAKAI

Leatherback's visit surprises villagers

VILLAGERS of Nawi Village in Buca Bay, Vanua Levu were surprised when they saw a rare Leatherback turtle on their beach on January 17.

Corporal Manueli Dakai, who was on holiday at the village,

said the 2½-metre long and 350 kg turtle had come ashore to lay eggs.

"We kept her for 20 hours during which she laid 29 eggs," said Corporal Dakai.

"This was the first time a

turtle of this species and size had been found on our beach."

He said the eggs were buried and the turtle put back in the water.

He said some villagers wanted to kill the turtle but were told not to do so.

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California street musician.
Photo by
Robert Keith-Reid.



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AIR PACIFIC'S
Islands
Volume III 1994

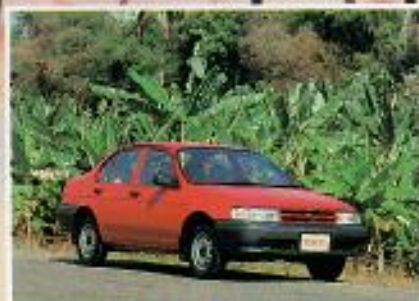
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LETTERS

Economic progress

SIR - I was completely flabbergasted by comments attributed to Prime Minister Sitiveni Rabuka in the newspapers that the country's slow economic progress was due to the review of the Constitution and the ALTA issue.

If anything, the slow economic progress can be attributed to the unfair and racially biased Constitution and the short term nature of some of the native leases which expire in the near future.

These factors create the uncertainties that affect the economy.

Mr Rabuka and his Government should expedite the review of the Constitution and the ALTA if they want faster economic progress for the country.

RADHIKA PRASAD
Lautoka.

Ministers' allowances

SIR - I refer to the recent publicity given to the Prime Minister's decision to use his constituency allowance to pay off some of SVT's general election debts to the bank.

Taken at its face value this appears to be quite a lofty gesture and was no doubt highlighted as a good PR exercise.

However, how philanthropic is the gesture really when one considers that the Prime Minister's constituency allowance of \$8000 a year goes to simply fill up his pocket since he visits his constituency at government expense.

In fact, it seems that not only the PM but all other Government ministers

Who said yaqona drinking is bad?

SIR - Dr Armie C Ramos asks about the good and bad effects of kava (FT 1987).

The effect of yaqona pervades the whole social, religious and political decision-making process of this little paradise.

Kava has a place of great importance among the Fijian and Indian communities.

Let me start at the top.

At the meetings of the Great Council of Chiefs, important decisions affecting the whole nation are made by grog-doped chiefs.

The same holds true for Parliament which is around the tenoa.

After partaking of a few bowls, with throats lubricated and itchy, and the brains numbed, they threaten each other with coups, call each other cheeky and spend time trying to enact monumentally foolish laws like the Fraud Bill.

The influence of kava in these deliberations and decision-making is indeed great.

Kava percolates down to the Government offices and officers - including the Central Police Station.

It allows our overpaid and underworked civil servants an opportunity to look busy.

Kava gives them the

We have just completed a major research exercise and we aim to begin a mass media campaign designed to highlight the major areas of discrimination faced by women workers and at the same time inform women workers of their rights under the cur-



courage to live through another dismal day doing nothing.

It is difficult to recognize these kava-addicted civil servants because they oil their exposed skin parts very diligently, twice daily.

Kava is now a favourite drink in schools and hospitals also.

The importance of kava at births, marriages and death ceremonies, both to Fijian and Indians, is not to be underestimated. As much as \$500 to \$1000



current eye infections and kava kava on the skin.

Kavikari saves money in that we do not have to tattoo ourselves like the Samoans.

It also helps the oil industry because kava kava requires a lot of oil to kava.

Kava in any decent quantity makes the drinker impotent. This is an important form of family planning to keep the population down.

If this impotence persists, it leads to divorces, and keeps our lawyers and the judiciary busy.

Most of these terribly kavikari guys sitting around the tenoa and bragging about their sexual prowess are lying through their teeth. There is nothing wrong with kava.

It is a wonderful drug which is turning a whole generation into a generation of layabouts, full of lassitude, fatigue, and lack of ambition.

Our Queen drank it, our chiefs drink it, our PM drinks it, our civil servants swipe it and our religious leaders consider it divine nectar.

I believe there are moves afoot to give kava as a milk substitute to our small babies. It would save us a lot of money that is spent on importing baby milk!

So how can kava be bad?

KALHOVA NAKAI
Lautoka.

First of all you failed to report on the actual event but instead highlighted the comment made by the Minister for Information.

Despite the clarification from the FYSL, you went ahead and made an issue in the editorial about the status of the late Ratu Sir

visit their constituencies at Government expense which means that their \$30000 annual allowance simply goes into their pockets as extras.

One must not forget that these visits, ostensibly for official business, earn them another \$100 a day in per diem allowances.

We all remember the controversy stirred up last year when it was disclosed that one particular Government minister had earned himself an additional \$30,000 in per diem allowances on visits out of Suva.

The point is that such practices hardly seem fair on the Opposition parliamentarians and Government backbenchers who really have to serve their constituents from their \$5000 allowance.

Can a fairer system not be devised whereby public funds are not siphoned by members of the Cabinet for such purposes?

ISIMELI NASAU
Nabua.

Garment workers

SIR - I am writing in reference to the letter titled 'Garment Workers' by Parvi Verma (FT 3/8).

On behalf of the Fiji Women's Rights Movement, I would like to state that it is not only for white collar workers.

We are very much aware of the problems that are currently faced by garment workers in Fiji.

In June 1986, we submitted a 14-page proposal to the Garment Industry Tribunal regarding the working conditions of garment workers, most of whom are women (80 per cent Fijians).

Currently as part of our Women, Employment and Economic Rights project, we plan to address issues facing women workers in Fiji, including garment workers.

rent labor laws.

We have already written to the Garment Workers Union requesting their assistance in identifying areas they wish to address in our newspaper articles and radio programmes.

We have also asked the union's assistance in helping us organise workshops for garment workers.

Being a non-Government organisation we have to rely on funding from donor agencies and due to a lack of financial resources, we will have to confine these workshops to the Suva area at present.

Our newspaper articles and radio programmes on employment issues will start from early September and through these articles and programs we hope to address the issues relating to women workers.

We would like to thank Ms Verma for highlighting the plight of women garment workers in Fiji and we agree with the issues she has raised regarding wages and working conditions.

It is ironic that while a first year trade level apprentice get \$1.33, a skilled garment worker is only entitled to 94 cents an hour.

One wonders whether even this low wage rate is given to garment workers!

Finally, we would request garment workers to call or write or visit and inform us on issues they would like to learn more about regarding work.

We would also like to receive information regarding wage rates, working conditions, sexual harassment etc, so that we can include these in our articles/programs in order to inform the public on the plight of women workers and thus get a reaction regarding these issues.

By making people more aware of the problems faced by women workers we hope that it will assist us in securing better conditions for all women workers, including garment and domestic workers.

The source of this information



EYEWITNESS

THIS is the ugly sight at Saqa Place, in Valelevu, outside Suva, which people in that neighbourhood have to live with. The huge heap of rubbish has blocked the driveway to a house and the owner is not at all happy. He says that the authorities concerned should act hastily and remove the rubbish. Picture: KISHIHA MANI

Information will be strictly confidential!

PRAVEEN SHARMA
Project Officer, Fiji Women's Rights Movement,
Suva.

Island of Ba?

SIR - I DON'T know if one should take this seriously or lightheartedly.

We know of the province of Ba, and the district of Ba where the soccer champions come from.

But where in this world is the island of Ba?

Is the district of Vuda also in the island of Ba?

With no malice to any one, I am raising this question because of several Government advertisements in your paper from the Registrar of Titles regarding the Land Transfer Act and Housing Authority.

This was published several times over past weeks and no one has corrected the mistake.

Usually our friend Sir Len Usher is always quick off the mark by correcting such errors.

His letters to your popular column usually make interesting reading most of the times, especially when he corrects glaring grammar and language mistakes, names and historical facts.

But it would appear that he is still recovering from his recent illness.

NEMANI V NADOLO
Nadi.

Black flags

SIR - Your editorial (FT 2/7) completely missed the point made by the Students League through the raising of the black flags around the country.

Lala Sukuna.

The point your editorial missed completely was the issue of a national holiday to mark the Constitution Day.

Is this necessary given the fact that the majority of the population in this country are against the 1990 constitution?

I have been a member of the Fiji Youth and Students League since 1989 and know the people who run the organisation well.

Your claim that they are a bunch of extremists is nothing short of exaggeration and deliberate ignorance.

The organisation has continually protested against the constitution and spoken on many issues of national concern and has contributed effectively on debates of national importance.

Apart from this they have run a scholarship committee which has been giving partial scholarship to needy students and these include some deserving Fijians students.

I have not read once in your paper where you have referred to the Fuvked Movement as an extremist organisation even when it threatened to use violence to achieve their demands.

In contrast the FYSL is run by level headed individuals who are concerned with the future of this country and the contribution that the youth of this country can make.

I urge the leadership of FYSL to continue their peaceful protest and campaign for a just constitution.

I for one have great respect for the late Ratu Sir Lala Sukuna and would be the first one to condemn any one who attempts to show disrespect.

However, I do not believe that the FYSL protest was directed at the statue of the late Ratu Sukuna, and the attempt by the minister and your editorial to portray a different picture is an attempt to divert

LETTERS

FM96 voice

SIR - I am a frequent listener of FM96 and every now and then there is this person with the most terrible voice in the world who comes on the air.

I am a very jolly sort of person and never like getting angry. But as soon as I hear this person on the air I lose my temper.

I have damaged my fax machine and at times have even cleared the top of my desk with an angry swipe of my hand.

Now I am no longer that jolly person anymore because everytime I try to cool down this person with the most terrible voice comes on the air again.

Would the owners of FM96 please change this person by taking him to that place in Reservoir Road so I can become a jolly and happy person again.

KHALID BUKSH
Samabula.

USP vacancies

Religious activities

SIR - It would be gratefully appreciated if Fiji One could screen religious activities from all sections of Fiji's communities.

With a multi-religious country such as ours we should be well versed about other religions as well.

There is an hour length programme aired on Fiji One on Sundays which focuses only on Christianity.

This becomes a boring programme for non-Christians.

The programme should be a blend of Christianity, Islam and Hinduism.

VINIL SINGH
Nadi.

Advertising alcohol

SIR - Why is the advertising of alcoholic beverages still allowed when cigarette advertising has been curtailed?

More people die from consuming too much alcohol than from smoking tobacco.

Alcohol destroys more

church. Who is better qualified to interpret the law and reflect the true mind of the church than the Pope himself?

True Catholics know whom they should trust and whom Christ wants them to obey.

BERT O'NEILL
Lautoka.

Indians and Fijians

My father came from India to work on the sugarcane field.

We love this country and the Fijians very, very much.

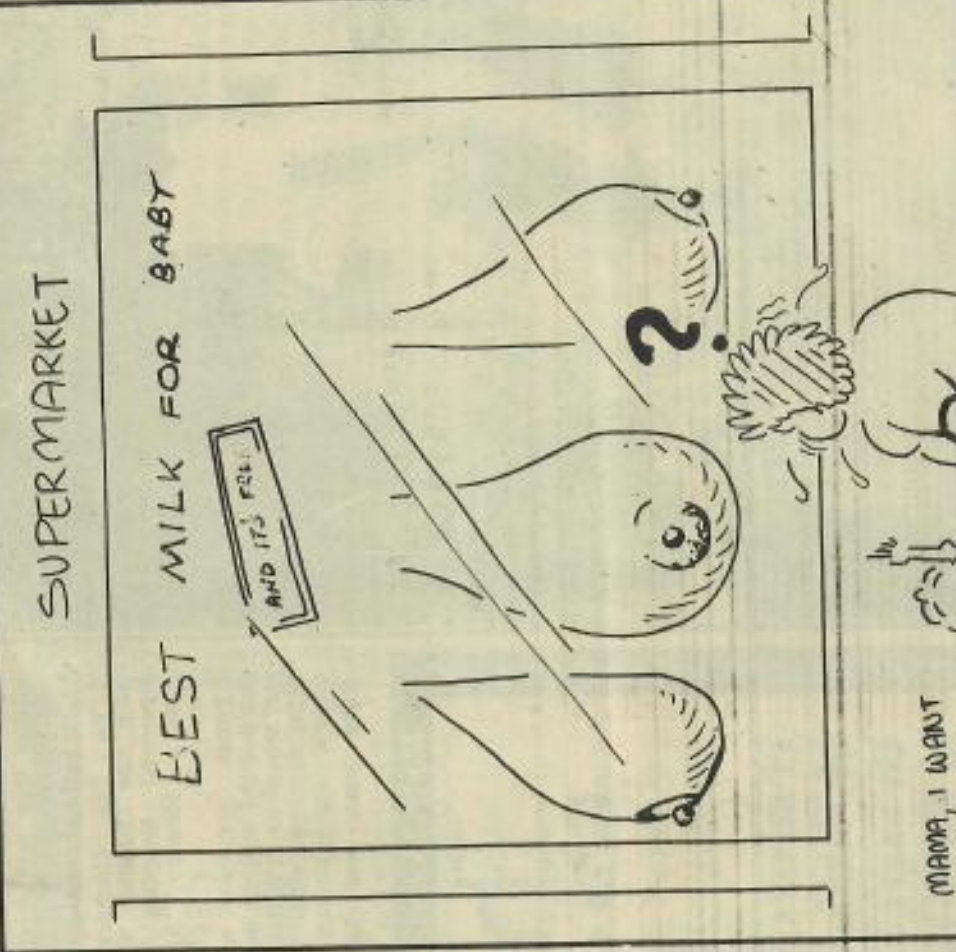
Fiji belongs to the Fijians. They own everything God has given them.

Indians work hard in this country but we must respect the Fijians.

If the 1990 Constitution is okay to the Fijian, all the citizens in this country will live in peace. I am 100 per cent sure of that.

If anything goes wrong, I will blame the two leaders Mahendra Chaudhry and Jai Ram Reddy.

SUNIL PRASAD
Nausori.



SIR - I refer to the letter from Shalindra Singh, of Westworthville, Australia (PT 1/8).

All appointments at the University of the South Pacific are made by properly constituted committees and follow laid down procedures approved by the University Council.

Posts are filled by the best available candidates, regardless of nationality.

These procedures were followed with reference to the positions Mr Singh applied for.

He was duly thanked for his interest in the positions and in the university and was informed that the offers had been made to other candidates.

The university usually receives quite a number of applications for the vacant positions it advertises.

The decision to appoint a particular applicant is based on merit and not, as Mr Singh seems to imply, on the number of times one applies.

The university is forbidden by its charter to make appointments on the basis of race, religion, gender, or political affiliation.

TITO ISAILA
Acting Registrar.

families than smoking. Some supermarkets use the shopping pages for their specials on wines and spirits.

These ads should be stopped and anti-drinking campaigns should be organised rather than anti-smoking ones.

SHUJIB SINGH
Nadi.

Women

priests

SIR - I refer to the letter by Father Michel Vial (PT 2/7) on women priests.

Father Vial's attention is drawn to Canon 230, paragraph 2 which states that lay persons may, by temporary deprivation, act as lector - the reader - commentator or cantor.

Contrary to his letter, Aoolyve, the one who serves Holy Communion is not mentioned in this paragraph.

Note that the above functions are to be performed on a temporary basis only.

Women reading the lessons 52 Sundays of the year can hardly be said to be temporary deprivation. Paragraph 3 of the same

THAT MILK!



BREAST FEEDING IS BEST

Canon does state that women may act as Aoolyves but only when ministers are lacking.

Doesn't that mean only in an emergency? We can't be having emergencies

every Sunday.

So when the ladies serve Holy Communion while the celebrant warms a seat or when there are ministers present at Mass it is an abuse. It then becomes un-

lawful!

In his post-synodal apostolic exhortation on the role of the Laity, Pope John Paul II speaking on abuses said: "It is also necessary that pastors guard against a facile yet abusive recourse to a presumed situation of emergency or to supply by necessity where objectively this does not exist or where alternative possibilities could exist through better pastoral planning."

Those words were spoken by the divinely appointed guardian and teacher of the

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Telephone: 661024 (newsroom) Fax: 6630352
LABASA OFFICE: Phone: 811-644 Fax No. 8125-49
NADI OFFICE: Phone: 702700, 702702 Fax 702705
Printed by Fiji Times Ltd

More letters on Page 16 today

School fees

SIR - Rising education costs do not justify the Government's decision to sharply increase school fees.

Surely these costs could have been met by cutting unnecessary Government expenditures in other areas like reducing the array of down-siding the various ministries and privatising Government business operations.

Every child in country has a right to education but unfortunately the Government has education unfaffords, many, especially in the lower income br

At a time when government is pursuing to elevate generous Fiji level of fee income able to Govern

For Reservations and Reconfirmations

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SUVA OFFICE : 315755

LAUTOKA : 664753

LABASA : 811454

AIRPORT : 812121

SAVUSAVU : 850141

AIRPORT : 850214

TAVEUNI : 880461

KADAVU : 42010 Ext 42

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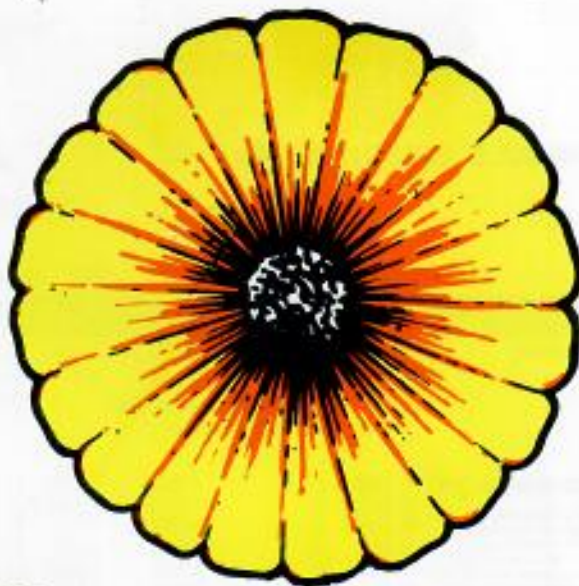
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SCHEDULE EFFECTIVE MAY 93

DIRECT SERVICES

FLIGHT D-DAILY DEP ARR FARE FIDS

FROM NADI TO

SUVA (SUV)	P1 011	D	0700	0745	\$60.00
	P1 015	D	1530	1615	\$60.00

WEEKLY EXCURSION RETURN (within 7 days) \$95.00

MALOLOLAILAI (PTF)

P1 083	D	0830	0840	\$27.50
P1 093	D	0930	0940	\$27.50
P1 103	D	1030	1040	\$27.50
P1 123	D	1230	1240	\$27.50
P1 133	D	1330	1340	\$27.50
P1 143	D	1430	1440	\$27.50
P1 163	D	1630	1640	\$27.50
P1 173	D	1730	1740	\$27.50

DAY TRIP EXCURSION WITH LUNCH \$58.00

TAVEUNI (TVU)

P1 080	D	0800	0930	\$116.00
P1 082	M.T.W.T.F	0900	1030	\$116.00
P1 086	D	1230	1400	\$116.00

SAVUSAVU (SVU)

P1 050	D	0800	0900	\$96.00
P1 054	D	1230	1330	\$96.00

LABASA (LBS)

P1 11/60	D	0700	0850	\$96.00 (via suva)
P1 090	M.W.F.	0900	1000	\$96.00
P1 096	T.THU.S.SUN	0900	1000	\$96.00
P1 098	D	1530	1630	\$96.00

WEEKLY EXCURSION RETURN (within 7 days) \$140.00

KADAVU (KDV)

P1 044	M.W.F.SUN	1430	1525	\$66.00
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VATULELE (VTF)

P1 444	M.W.F.SUN	1430	1455	\$62.00
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FROM SUVA TO

NADI (NAN)

P1 012	D	1030	1110	\$60.00
P1 016	D	1845	1930	\$60.00

WEEKLY EXCURSION RETURN (within 7 days) \$95.00

LABASA (LBS)

P1 060	D	0800	0850	\$72.00
P1 062	D	1630	1720	\$72.00

WEEKLY EXCURSION RETURN (within 7 days) \$116.00

FLIGHT D-DAILY DEP ARR FARE FIDS

FROM MALOLO TO

NADI (NAN)	P1 085	D	0850	0900	\$27.50
	P1 095	D	0950	1000	\$27.50
	P1 105	D	1050	1100	\$27.50
	P1 125	D	1250	1300	\$27.50
	P1 135	D	1350	1400	\$27.50
	P1 145	D	1450	1500	\$27.50
	P1 165	D	1650	1700	\$27.50
	P1 175	D	1750	1800	\$27.50

FROM TAVEUNI TO

NADI (NAN)	P1 081	D	0945	1120	\$116.00
	P1 089	M.W.F.	1050	1225	\$116.00
	P1 087	D	1410	1540	\$116.00

LABASA (LBS)

P1 094	M.W.F.	1050	1115	\$45.00
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SAVUSAVU (SVU)

P1 053	D	0945	1010	\$45.00
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FROM SAVISAVU TO

NADI (NAN)	P1 051	D	1020	1120	\$96.00
	P1 055	D	1440	1540	\$96.00

TAVEUNI (TVU)

P1 052	D	0910	0935	\$45.00
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FROM LABASA TO

NADI (NAN)	P1 61/12	D	0900	1110	\$96.00 (via suva)
	P1 091	M.W.F.	1125	1225	\$96.00
	P1 097	T.THU.S.SUN	1020	1120	\$96.00
	P1 099	D	1640	1740	\$96.00

TAVEUNI (TVU)

P1 092	M.W.F.	1010	1035	\$45.00
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SUVA (SUV)

P1 061	D	0900	0950	\$72.00
P1 063	D	1730	1820	\$72.00

WEEKLY EXCURSION RETURN (within 7 days) \$116.00

FROM KADAVU TO

NADI (NAN)	P1 045	M.W.F.SUN	1535	1615	\$66.00
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FROM VATULELE TO

NADI (NAN)	P1 445	M.W.F.SUN	1505	1615	\$62.00
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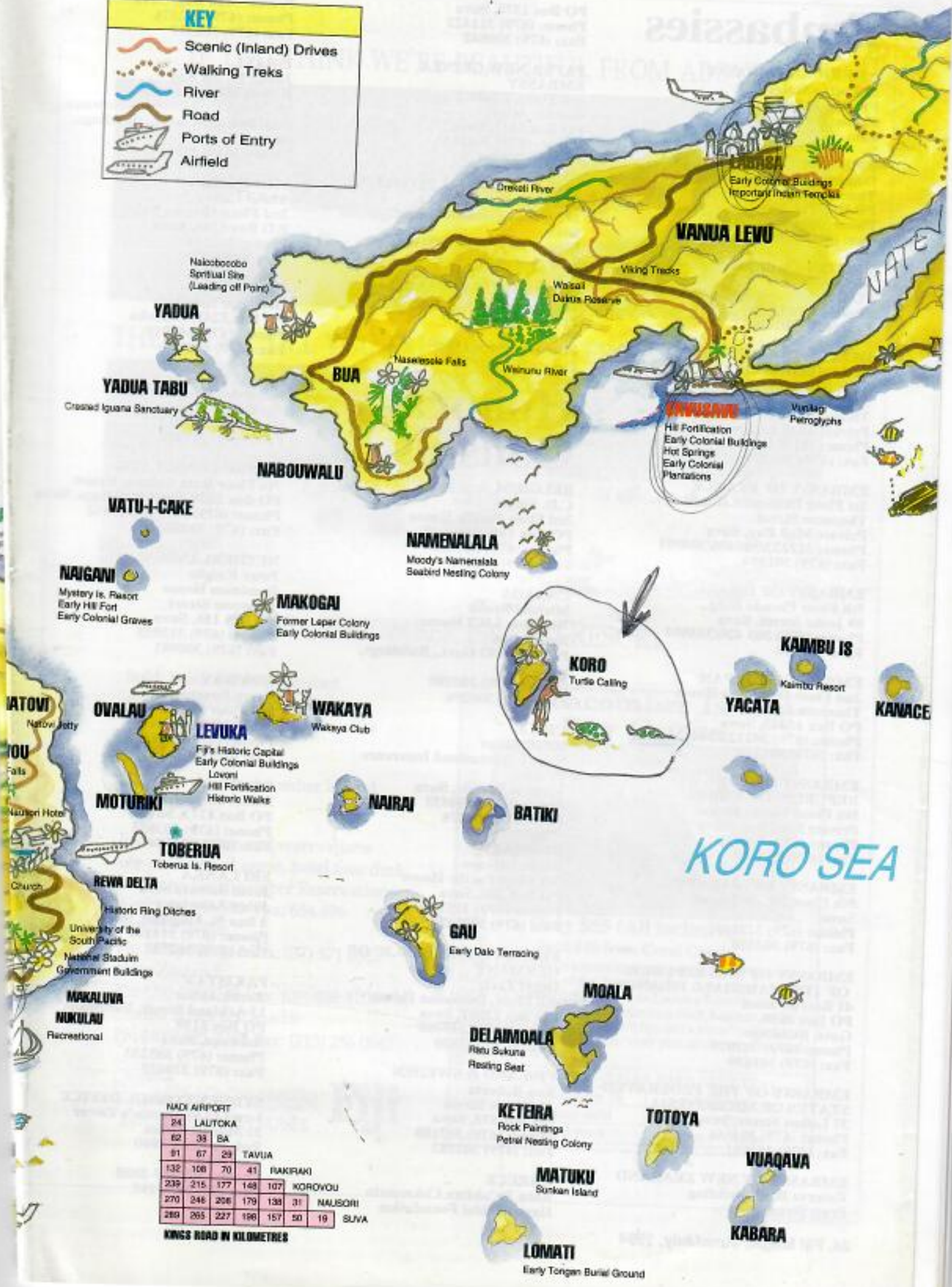


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BEACH RESORT

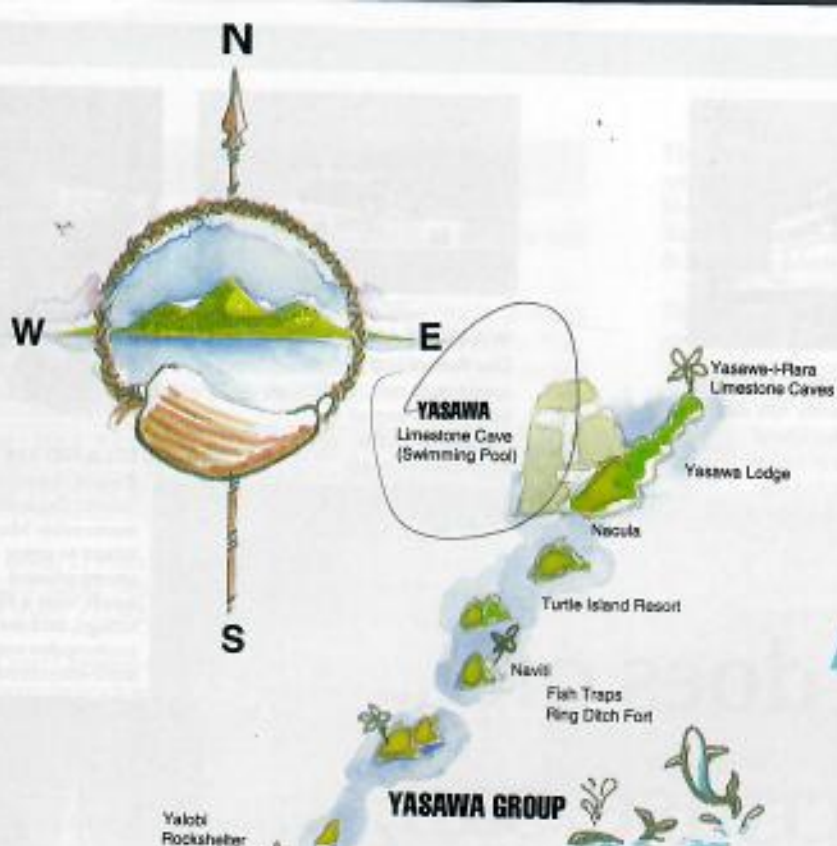
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	Walking Treks
	River
	Road
	Ports of Entry
	Airfield



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24	LALITOKA				
62	33	BA			
81	67	29	TAVUA		
132	108	70	41	PAKIRAKI	
239	215	177	148	107	KOROVOU
270	246	206	179	138	31 MALISONI
289	265	227	198	157	50 19 SUVA



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NADARIVATU



NADI



WITI LEVU



SIGATOKA



KOROLEVU



KOROTOGO



DEUBA



BEQA



VATULELE



KAI



CAPE WASHINGTON

QUEENS HIGHWAY IN KILOMETRES

SUVA									
49	PACIFIC HARBOUR								
90	47	KOROLEVU							
120	71	24	KOROTOGO						
127	78	31	7	SIGATOKA					
188	139	92	68	61	NADI TOWN				
197	148	101	77	70	9	NADI AIRPORT			
221	172	125	101	94	33	24	LAUTOKA		



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**SPECIAL DINING-OUT
SECTION**

VITI LEVU

The following listings of accommodation, tours, cruises and restaurants are provided by the operators. While every effort is made to keep listings current, some rates may vary.

NADI ACCOMODATION GUIDE

Anchorage Beach Resort: Vuda Point. 10 rooms plus dormitory. Tariff: Single \$70, twin double \$75 and dormitory with cooking facilities also available at \$15. Phone: 662099. Fax: 665571 P.O. Box 9472, Nadi Airport.

Coconut Inn: 20 rooms, air-conditioned and private facilities. Tariff: Superior rooms (single, twin, double) at \$22/\$45 and triple share \$11 per person. Phone: 701011. Fax: 701169. P.O. Box 2756, Nadi.

Club Fiji Beach Resort: 24 bures. Tariff: Beach front bures, \$59 (single/twin), oceanview bures, \$49 (single/twin), garden court bures, \$39 (single/twin). Dormitory at \$9. Rates subject to 10% VAT. Phone: 702189, Fax: 702324. P.O. Box 9619, Nadi Airport.

Dominion International Hotel: 85 rooms. Tariff: Single \$89, twin \$94, triple \$99 and quad accommodation at \$104, Executive rooms single \$109 and twin \$114 available. Phone: 720255, 720272 Fax: 720187, Telex: FJ5176. P.O. Box 9178, Nadi Airport.

Fiji Mocambo Hotel: Offers 128 rooms. Tariff: Single/double - standard \$125, single/double - superior \$135, single/double - deluxe \$155, single/double - suites \$225, extra bed \$35. All Vat inclusive. Phone: 722000. Telex: FJ5147, Fax: 720324. P.O. Box 9195, Nadi Airport.

Horizon Beach Resort: Tariff - single \$18; twin/double \$26; family \$33. Seaview: single \$25; twin/double \$30. Air-conditioned seaview: single \$29; twin/double \$34. Dorm at \$5. Rates are subject to 10% Vat. Phone: 722832, Fax: 720662. P. O. Box 1401, Nadi.

Hotel Kennedy: 16 Rooms with air-conditioned private facilities, I.S.D. telephones, T.V., mini bar. Tariff: Single rooms \$44 double and twin \$50, and 2 bedroom apartments \$99. Restaurant, bar, swimming and spa pool, putting green, pooltables, courtesy bus available. Most modern and state of the art "Presidential Gymnasium". Phone: 701703/702360. Fax: 702218. P.O. Box 9045, Nadi Airport.

Kon Tiki Lodge: Offers 16 rooms, all private facilities. Tariff: Single \$15, twin \$20 and dormitory \$6. Also restaurant/bar/swimming pool. Phone: 722836/694290.

Mediterranean Villa Hotel: Italian style bures (villas) on Vuda Hill overlooking ocean views. Special discount for house guests on Mediterranean Island Cruise (located 13km from Lautoka). Tariff: Single villa at \$90- \$165, deluxe suite with vibrating hot-spa-bath in your room at \$130-\$280. Phone: 664011, Fax: 661773, P.O. Box 5240, Lautoka.

Metro Inn: 60 fully air-conditioned rooms, swimming pool, restaurant and bar, gift shop, tour desk. 24 hour reception. Tariff: Single \$40, twin \$45 and triple \$50. Phone: 720088 Fax: 720522.

Melanesian Hotel: 18 rooms and 2 dormitories. Tariff: Standard single with fan \$23, double \$28, extra bed \$7 and dormitory accommodation \$8.

Family Room \$30, A/C room single \$30 and double \$38. Phone: 722438/722359. Fax: 720425, 770522. P.O. Box 9242, Nadi Airport.

Nadi Bay Motel: 24 rooms and apartments with 2 deluxe dormitories. Tariff: Single \$21, double \$28 and deluxe dormitory (rooms with fans) at \$9. Rooms with A/C. and cooking facilities single at \$35 and double \$42. Phone: 723599. Fax: 720092. Private Mail Bag, NAP 0359, Nadi Airport.

Nadi Hotel: 35 Rooms. Self contained with ceiling fan. Tariff: single \$20, double \$25. Superior rooms - self contained with A/C and fridge, single \$30, double \$35. Deluxe rooms self contained with tea and coffee making facilities and A/C - single \$40, double \$45. Dorms, self contained with ceiling fan, \$10. Extra person \$10. Phone: 700668/700402, Fax: 700280. P.O. Box 91, Nadi.

Nadi Motel: 14 rooms and 1 dormitory. Tariff: Single \$14, twin and double \$18, triple \$24 and dormitory accommodation at \$5 (these rooms are with fans). Rooms with A/C units - single, double and triple facilities also available. Phone: 700600. P.O. Box 1326.

Newtown Beach Motel: Rooms with ceiling fan and private facilities. Tariff: Single \$19, double \$25 and family room accommodation at \$30. Facilities include: restaurant, refreshment bar, TV lounge, tour desk and etc. For your reservation, Phone: 723339, Fax: 720087. P.O. Box 787, Nadi.

New Sunny Holiday Motel: Rooms with fans. Tariff: Single \$10, double \$15. Rooms with facilities single \$15, double \$18. Fully self contained single \$20, double \$25. Dormitory \$4. Facilities include restaurant, bar and swimming pool. Phone: 722158, Fax: 701541. P.O. Box 1326, Nadi.

New Westgate Hotel: 62 rooms. Tariff: Single \$55/\$85, twin \$65/\$95, extra bed \$15, baby cot free. Phone: 720044, Fax: 720071. P.O. Box 10097, Nadi Airport.

Raffles Gateway Hotel: 93 rooms. Tariff: Single \$83, double \$91, triple \$100, quad \$110 and suite accommodation (max 2 persons) at \$119. Phone: 722444. Telex: FJ 5177, Fax: 720620. P.O. Box 9454, Nadi Airport.

Rosies Serviced Apartments: 8 fully serviced deluxe apartments. Tariff: Studio deluxe (4 persons) \$96, 1 bedroom deluxe (5 persons) \$118, 2 bedrooms deluxe (8 persons) \$140 and extra beds available. Phone: 722755, 722935. Fax: 722607. P.O. Box 9268, Nadi Airport.

Sandalwood Inn: 25 rooms. Tariff: Single \$22/\$42 and twin at \$28/\$48 plus VAT. Phone: 722044, Telex: FJ5312. Fax: 720103. P.O. Box 9454, Nadi Airport.

Sandalwood Lodge: Lodge comprises 12 self contained units with kitchenettes. Tariff: Single \$54 and twin at \$60 plus VAT. Phone: 722044, Telex: FJ5312. Fax: 720103, P.O. Box 9454, Nadi Airport.

Seashell Cove Resort: 28 rooms. Tariff includes bures \$66, family bure at \$85 and lodges \$33 VAT inclusive. Phone: 720100/720393. Fax: 720294. P.O. Box 9530, Nadi Airport.

Sheraton Fiji Resort: 300 ocean view rooms. Tariff: Single, twin, double from \$295 and suites from \$450. Complimentary non motorised water activities and butler service for Ocean Resort rooms and Pres. suite. Phone: 750777. Telex: FJ5303. Fax: 750171. P.O. Box 9761, Nadi Airport.



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Fisheries Division
P O Box 224
Savusavu
Vanua Levu
FIJI

REF. NO.
DATE 19/9/94

Mr. George H. Balazs,
National Marine Fisheries Service,
South West Fisheries Science Centre,
Honolulu Laboratory,
2570 Dole Street,
Honolulu, Hawaii.
96822-2396.

Dear Sir,

This is to inform your institution that a turtle (Hawksbill) was caught at Lisiaceva point (Point passage) (Fiji Islands Chart 2691) on the morning of 1/9/94 at 2 am.

The fishermen in turn had referred it to this office, whereby the following particulars were obtained:


Date caught	-	1/9/94
Time caught	-	0200 hrs
Tag specifications	-	white himb University Hawaii 96744 Tag - X - 480
Date Released	-	1/9/94
Time Released	-	1200 hrs
Caught By	-	Mr. Tom Dunn C/- Fisheries Department P.O. Box 224 Nasavusavu Fiji Islands.

I am sorry I could not inform your office earlier because I could not find an address. Fortunately Mr. Bula called from Labasa today, and he gave me your address.

Anyway that is all that I have for you, which I am sure will be useful for your work.

please do not hesitate to inform me of other information that you might have and may be needed from this end.

Bye for now.


Tevita Taumaipeau
Fisheries Technical Officer Nasavusavu.

BOX 1451

LABASA

F151.

DEAR GEORGE, Bula vinaka once again. A
hawksbill turtle (small) was caught at
Lisacava point in Savusavu (near light-house)
on 1.9.94 about 2am and was
released by the Fisheries Dept on the
same day about 12.00 noon.

NO X-480 was on it

Tag no = 96744.

This information was obtained
from Fisheries Dept Savusavu. My Tevita
[FISHERIES OFFICER] will contact it on who
caught the turtle and so on. I had
asked him and a couple of divers to
look out for the turtle with transmitter
around Savusavu waters.

With pleasure + Ni sa Moce.

Poni. Wagsbulabala

201451
L. 1974
2171*

George Balage
NOAA, NMFS
2570 Dele Street
Honolulu, Hawaii
96822-2396

Box 1451
Lakasa
Fiji Islands
12th Sept, 94

Dear Georges

Bula vinaka once again George.

It's a joy to hear from you again.

Thank you for all the information of the turtles that you tagged.

Concerning the leatherback that was caught at Buca Bay, that is only the information I knew, the one in the Fiji Times.

The turtle that you fitted with transmitter, I still haven't heard anything yet but I will be making enquiries around Vanua Levu also I will try to get in touch with people from Lakeba concerning the one that went to Lutakatanon reef. This reef is near to my home island, that is, Lakeba. These two in Vanua Levu I can just hear from these people if they are seen. Also I will get in touch with the Fisheries Department in Suva and other places around this area.

My best regards to you and your family all the very best concerning your work!

Mis sa moce!

Sincerely,
Poni Waqabulabala

George H. Blays

NOAA, NMFS.

2570 DOLE ST

HONOLULU, HAWAII 96822-2396

OTHER BOOKS BY THE SAME AUTHOR

Aboriginal Fables and Legendary Tales

Myths and Legends of Australia

Concise Maori Dictionary

Dictionary of Maori Place Names

Favourite Maori Legends

An Illustrated Encyclopedia of Maori Life

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FIJI

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by

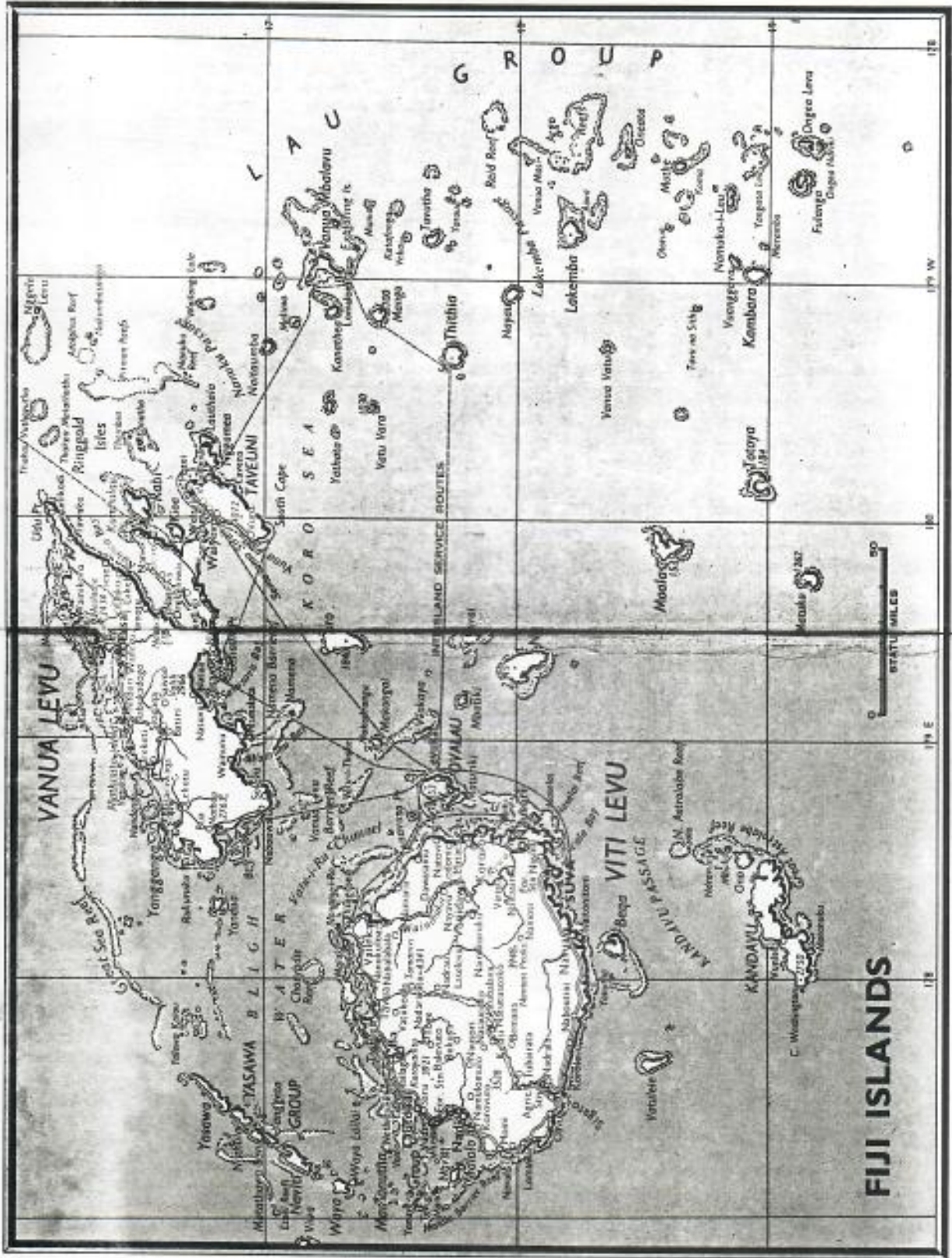
A. W. REED and INEZ HAMES

illustrated by ROGER HART



A. H. & A. W. REED

WELLINGTON - AUCKLAND - SYDNEY



FIJI ISLANDS

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sons at play. After a while they quarrelled, and began to hurl rocks at each other. Now they are both dead, each killed by the other."

The goddess was overcome with grief. Day after day she stayed in her house, the tears running down her cheeks, and refused to be comforted. Rasikilau remained outside. His spirit was heavy, for the memory of his deed lay between him and his wife.

News of his distress came to Koroibo, the god of Munia Island. He was an old friend, and he thought that if he brought gifts with him he would be able to cheer up the god of Cikobia. Rasikilau greeted him and accepted the gifts, after which the gods sat together under the trees. Koroibo looked at the shady mama-kara tree enviously, and wished that they grew on his own island. He listened as Rasikilau told him that his sons had met their death by throwing rocks at each other, and a crafty scheme came into his mind.

After the evening meal he said to his host, "My soul grieves at the death of your sons. If only you had had dawa trees growing here they could have played with the soft fruit, as my children do, and no harm could have come to them."

"That is true," Rasikilau replied, "but now it is too late. My sons are dead."

"Ah, but you may well have more. Your wife is still young and vigorous, and you need sons to comfort you. You should be prepared for that day. Listen, Rasikilau, I will give you all my dawa trees and there will be plenty of fruit on your island. All I ask in return is that you give me your mamakara trees."

"It is well," said Rasikilau.

They sat down and drank yaqona to signify that the exchange was acceptable. Then Rasikilau pulled up all his mamakara trees and loaded them into Koroibo's canoe, which was sent back again full of dawa trees.

So the mamakara trees grew in Munia in place of the dawa trees, and on Cikobia the dawa trees flourished where once the mamakara trees had grown. Koroibo was well satisfied, but Rasikilau had the worst of the bargain, because his wife still refused to be comforted. Presently her sorrowful spirit departed from her body, and could be heard sighing where her husband sat in lonely solitude under his dawa trees.

THE TURTLE NUTS OF THE VONU TREE

THE ancient ceremony of the calling of the turtles had been held for many years in the village of Nacamaki on the island of Koro. The people put flowers in their hair and leis of fragrant blooms around their necks, and on a certain day the whole village went down to the beach. For a long time they chanted songs and clapped their hands until, one after the other, the turtles swam up from the depths of the sea and crawled ashore. It was an amazing sight. The white sand suddenly became black with crawling turtles of all sizes, from tiny babies to the enormous veterans of many adventures.

As soon as the turtle invasion began it was the custom for the villagers to go back to their homes without a single backward glance, and to stay there for a night and a day, leaving the beach to the turtles. There was much speculation as to what happened there, but the ceremony was one that had been imposed upon their ancestors by the gods, and no one dared to break the tabu, until one inquisitive and sceptical man defied the ancient edict in order to satisfy his curiosity.

"This year I will find out what happens," he thought, "for if this law was made by the gods, it was so long ago that even they must have forgotten by now why they imposed it on us."

Then he was struck by a disquieting thought. "Why do the turtles all come ashore on the same day, and only after we have clapped our hands and sung our songs?"

He thought about this for a while, then shrugged his shoulders and consoled himself with the reflection that nothing was likely to happen to him, and that his curiosity could never be satisfied until he had learned the secret of the visit of the turtles.

When the day for the next ceremony arrived he made himself as inconspicuous as possible, and while the others were chanting with their eyes fixed on the sea, he stole away and hid in the mangrove trees close by the water's edge. It was a good position, for he was well concealed yet had a good view of the beach. Presently the first turtles appeared, followed by thousands of others who seemed to be coming in from every direction. He watched his friends turn around and obediently make their way back to the village. The turtles all came ashore and stood in

long rows on the sand with their heads towards the sea, as though they were watching for someone to come.

The inquisitive man turned his head and saw something that looked like a cloud coming rapidly in from the sea. It came closer, and through it he could dimly see a huge figure; but whether it was a man, a turtle, some mysterious denizen of the deep sea, or a god, he could not tell. To his surprise the apparition did not set foot on the beach. Gliding along the surface of the water, it turned aside and threaded its way between the mangrove trees until it was standing in front of him.

"Foolish mortal," a voice spoke out of the cloud. "Why are you hiding there? You know that the gods have forbidden men and women to look at the turtle tribe on the one day of the year when they assemble on the island of Koro. The others have returned to their homes. What are you doing here?"

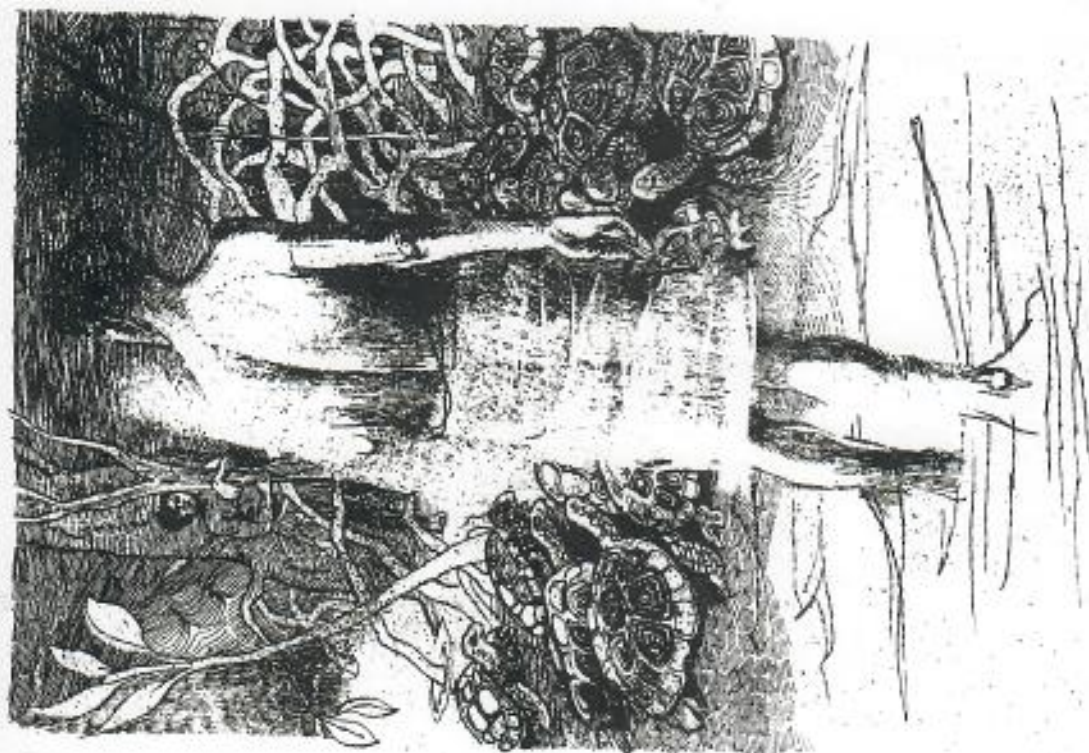
The man tried to speak, but he was so frightened that his teeth chattered, and no words came out of his mouth.

"Never mind," the voice from the cloud said. "I can read your rebellious thoughts. Now you are afraid; but I know that when fear leaves you, sorrow will not take its place. The gods tell me that I must make an example of you, so that you will not live to see another turtle day, nor even to repent of the evil that you have done. The thing that will happen to you will be a reminder of your folly and a warning to your people that the will of the gods must be obeyed."

Two rigid arms flashed out of the mist and the frightened man was surrounded by a ribbon of light, which gleamed for a moment and was gone. Gone too was the man, and on the spot where he had stood, a tree grew.

When their friend failed to return, the villagers wondered. They remained in their homes the next day, but on the third day they searched for him. He was never found; but the vonu tree, with the hard nuts that are like the shell of a turtle, was discovered, and again men wondered.

While vonu nuts grow on Koro Island no man will ever dare to try to find out what the turtles do when they come ashore near Nacamaki village.



"Foolish mortal. Why are you hiding there?"

THE TURTLE OF THE SKY KING

DESPERATELY Lekabai stretched out his arms in the wild welter of water and his hands unexpectedly struck the comfort of solid rock. Painfully he pulled himself out of reach of the waves and collapsed on a narrow ledge. He had been fishing in his small canoe not far from his village in Samoa when a sudden storm had risen and swept him out to sea. His canoe had been waterlogged and smashed, and he was at his last gasp when he'd found safety on this rock.

When he recovered he began to climb. The rock towered far above him until it was lost in the clouds. He found nothing to eat, but slaked his thirst from small pools of rainwater. Day after day he climbed, until he came to the clouds and passed through them.

Now he looked up to the sky. There were no clouds there, but there was still no end to this barren towering mountain. There came a night when, faint from lack of food, he collapsed into unconsciousness.

When he woke he was lying on soft yielding vegetation. The sun was shining, birds were singing in the treetops, and a warm gentle wind stirred among the branches. It was a sight to delight any man, but Lekabai felt lonely.

He missed the slow crash of surf on his native shores, the familiar coconut trees, the voices of his friends. The fair land of the sky was no home for this ship-wrecked Samoan.

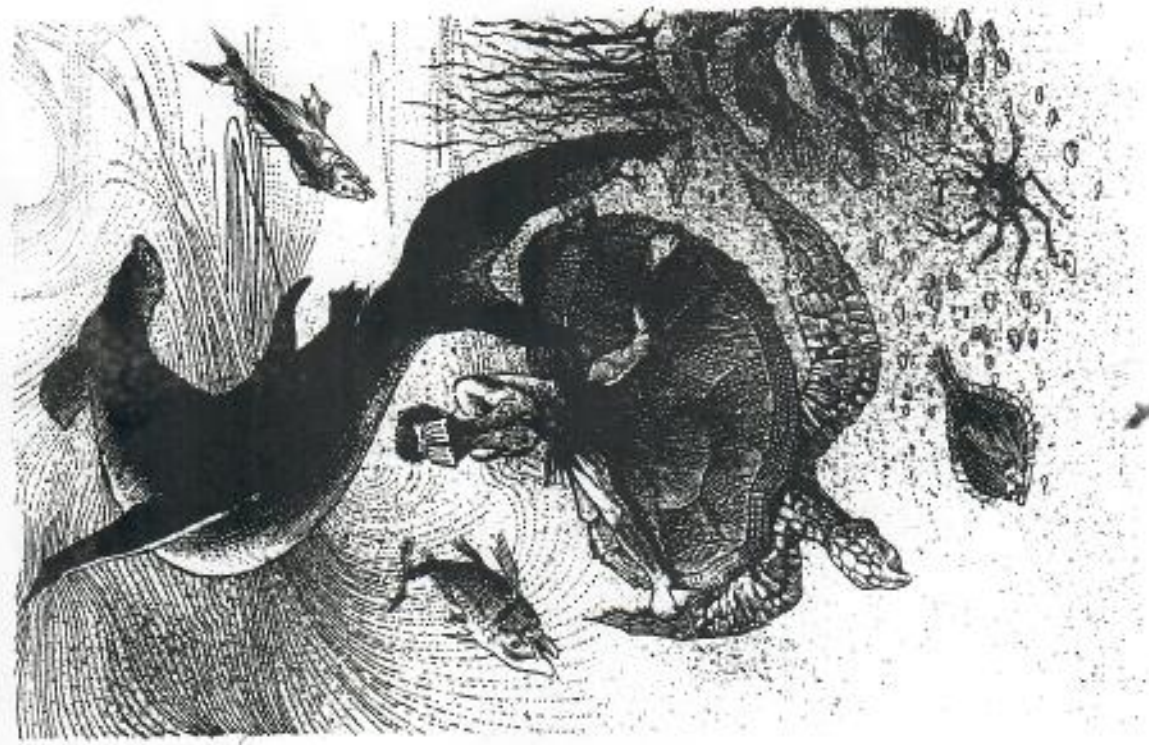
The Sky King heard the sound of weeping. It was so unusual that he came down to investigate. He bent over Lekabai.

"Why are you weeping?"

Lekabai looked up through his tears and recognised the nobility of the man who had spoken to him.

"I am weeping because this is a strange land, and I miss my own land of Samoa."

"Dry your tears," said the Sky King. "I will lend you my own turtle to take you back to your country. All you have to do is to climb on its back. There are only two things to remember: on peril of your life, do not open your eyes until the turtle climbs out on to the beach. Put your hands over your eyes and keep them there until you are able once more to look upon your wife and friends."



He pressed his hands over his eyes and took no notice of fish, wind, or birds.

"And what is the second thing?"

The Sky King smiled. "As you have seen, we have no coconut trees in this world. When the turtle returns, give it a coconut, and a mat woven from coconut leaves. We shall plant the coconut and learn to weave our own mats by copying the one you send us.

Lekabai climbed on to the turtle's back and hid his face in his hands as he had been bidden. For one horrifying moment he thought he was falling to his death. Then he felt the turtle's back under his legs. Together they plummeted down through the air like a stone, and sank far under the waves. The rough skins of sharks rasped against him, and their voices shouted to him to open his eyes, that he might see and avoid the perils of the deep sea.

The turtle rose to the surface, and there were dolphins plunging in and out of the waves and saying, "Look! Here is your island of Samoa. See, your friends are waiting for you!" But Lekabai would not look.

The wind howled round him and shouted, "Look out! I will blow you into the sea if you don't open your eyes!" Still he would not look.

Night came, and in the morning the birds flew round his head, screaming, "Is this the land you are looking for? There are palms and sandy beaches, and tall mountains; look and see if this is the island you seek."

But Lekabai remembered what the Sky King had told him. He pressed his hands over his eyes and took no notice of fish, wind, or birds. At last he heard waves breaking and felt the sand under his feet. As the turtle climbed out of the water he opened his eyes and saw the trees and the canoes of his people on the beach. Jumping off the turtle's back, he ran to his own village, where he was greeted as one who had returned from the Spirit Land. His wife and children were waiting for him, and all that day there were tears and laughter and the eating of good food, and rejoicing because Lekabai had come back to his people.

It was only when the sun was setting that Lekabai remembered the turtle, and the coconut, and the mat he had promised to send to the Sky King. With a feeling of dread clutching his heart, he rushed to the beach. There was no sign of the turtle.

During Lekabai's absence it had grown tired of waiting. It had swum out to the reef in search of seaweed to eat, and there it had been speared by fishermen coming back to land in their canoes.

The troubled men went to the far end of the beach where he

could see a knot of men. They were heating an oven, and close by lay the dead body of the turtle they were preparing to cook.

"Iau-e! Iau-e!" he wept. "This is my good friend the turtle, that brought me from the Sky Land. What have you done? The Sky King will be raging, and much evil will come from the killing of his turtle."

His friends wept with him, until Lekabai said, "We have shed tears, but they will not help us. Put out the oven fires and let us bury the turtle. The Sky King must not know what we have done. If we bury it in a deep grave he will not know what has happened to it."

The terrified villagers dug such a grave as no man had ever seen before. Five days they spent digging it. As the hole went deeper and deeper, they lowered a tall coconut palm into it, so that they could climb up with the soil as it was excavated.

On the sixth day they lowered the turtle to the bottom and filled in the hole; and to make certain that the Sky King would temper his anger if ever he discovered what had happened, they placed a coconut and a woven mat beside the body of the turtle.

But the Sky King knew what had happened. He sent a sand-piper, which arrived as the grave was being filled in. It swooped down from the sky, touched a boy named Lavai-pani with its wing, and returned to its master.

Perhaps the Sky King was satisfied with the gifts that had been buried, for he did not punish Lekabai; but Lavai-pani, the boy who had been touched by the Sky King's bird, never grew to manhood. Year after year he remained a child. His friends became men and married and had children, who grew up and were married and had children. Through these long years Lavai-pani remained as a boy who would not grow up.

Lekabai was dead. Men sometimes talked of his adventures in the Sky Land and how he had returned to his home on the back of a turtle; how it had been killed and buried, but the place of its burial was now forgotten. Only Lavai-pani knew, and he did not talk to anyone.

The legend of the Sky King's turtle was told to the king of the Islands of Tonga. His eyes sparkled when he heard of the size of the turtle. He called his people to him and said, "You must go by sea to Samoa and find that turtle for me. Its shell will be well preserved. Dig it up and bring it to me, and from it I shall make fish hooks as large as the ones our grandfathers used."

So a large canoe sailed off to Samoa. When the crew landed and told the Samoans what their king had sent them for, they were laughed at.

"It is an idle tale," said the children of Lekabai's children's children. "It may well be that our ancestor went to the Sky Land and returned on the back of a giant turtle, but no man now living can tell you where it was buried."

The Tongans returned and reported to their king that the turtle's grave could not be found. He was angry with them. "Return at once," he said. "If you do not bring me the turtle shell I crave, I will have you killed."

They went back on what they feared was a fruitless quest. Seeking out the oldest men in the village, they besought them to search their memories and tell them where the grave might be found; but the greybeards talked amongst themselves and laughed, and could tell them nothing.

Then Lavai-pani, the boy who had been with them as long as they could remember, said, "Let not your souls be small, men of Tonga. I can tell you where the turtle is buried. I was there before these old men were born."

He took them to a place near the beach and said, "Dig here. This is where the turtle is."

All day the Tongans dug, while the Samoans stood and jeered. "Where is your turtle?" they asked mockingly. "The exercise is good for you, but you have simple souls if you trust this boy."

Then the Tongans turned on Lavai-pani with bitter words. "You have misled us. Tell us where the turtle is buried. If we do not find it we are dead men, and we will take you with us to the Spirit Land."

Lavai-pani, who had never before been heard to laugh, doubled up with mirth.

"See how foolish these Tongans are," he said to his people. "Twice they have sailed across the sea and now, after so little digging, they are ready to give up their quest."

He turned back to the visitors. "Please yourselves," he said. "Go home to your king and tell him you have failed, if you wish. But I tell you that if you keep on digging for four days you will find the shell."

Remembering that their king would keep his word if they failed, they endured the taunts of the Samoans, and on the evening of the fifth day they found the shell and the bones of a gigantic turtle; but of the mat and the coconut there was no sign.

They sped back to Tonga; but on the way they talked together and decided that if they kept one piece of the shell for themselves it would never be missed. But the king was not deceived.

"There are only twelve pieces here," he said fiercely. "Where is the thirteenth piece?"

The men looked at each other and were tongue-tied. Then one, bolder than the others, replied, "O King, it is the fault of the people of Samoa. They said to us, 'Be satisfied with the twelve pieces. We will keep one for ourselves in order that we, too, may make fish hooks from it.'"

The king frowned.

"Are you afraid of the Samoans?" he asked. "My anger is more to be feared than theirs. Go back once more and bring that piece to me."

The king himself went down to the shore to see them leave. Their hearts were shrivelled in them, for they dared not go to Samoa again, nor return to their own village.

So they sailed on before the wind until they saw land. They were weary of the endless march of the waves, and put gladly to shore.

The place they came to was Kadavu, which was under the lordship of the King of Rewa. He took the Tongans to his own country and gave them land, and there they took wives and built houses, and lived with the people of Rewa. And that is how the people of Tonga first came to the islands of Fiji.



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22 August, 1994

George H Balazs
Zoologist and Leader
Marine Turtle Research
National Marine Fisheries Service
Southwest Fisheries Science Center
Honolulu Laboratory
2570 Dole Street
Honolulu
Hawaii 96822-2396

Dear Dr Balazs:

Thankyou for your letter of 10 August and information regarding your very interesting work with turtles.

We are just about to commence a major survey of the Lau Group: you might contact Dr Bob Lloyd, Director of our Institute of Applied Science, also is organizing the survey. I have passed your letter over to him.

For information on the Argo Reefs, you might contact Ganeshan Rao, Coordinator of PIMRIS, USP Library, as he could search the PIMRIS data base for any pertinent references.

I hope this is of some help.

Yours Sincerely

G Robin South

CC:-
Dr Bob Lloyd
Ganeshan Rao

Marine Studies Programme, The University of the South Pacific, P.O. Box 1168, Suva, Republic of Fiji

Tel.: (679) 313900 Ext. 2051; (679) 305272 (direct line); Fax: (679) 301490; Telex: FJ2276; eMail: SOUTH_R@USP.AC.FJ

Rotuma Police Station
Rotuma.

29th August 1994.

Sir/Madam,

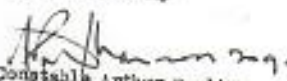
On 26.8.94 I came to know that a turtle, presumably a Green turtle was caught off the Eastern coast of Rotuma on 20.8.94 by local fishermen; TAFOU SOSEFO and SIKA MATHESEI. On the turtle were four (4) tags with the numbers S-463 and S-464 - HAWAII 96744. The other two tags have the numbers R 1088 and R1089 SPO/REP EPD5 NOUMEA CENREX NEW CALEDONIA.

Rotuma is about 400kilometres North North West of Fiji and is a dependency of Fiji.

In one of the issues of National Geographic magazine, in 1993, an article on the growing fears of the turtle going extinct was highlighted. I believe that studies are being carried out by institutions such as yours and although we may not have access to data and information collected in regards to the turtle, we would like to know as to the place and date of tagging. As in Fiji the turtles were hunted for its meat from the month of March till October. During these months the turtle do breed. We would be grateful if you could furnish us with more information as to the breeding season of the turtle. If there is a period that the turtles will not breed then I believe that reputed institutions such as yours may lobby for legislation to be enacted to safeguard the turtle breeding season. Not many people here are aware of the danger faced by the turtles.

Your reply on the date and place the turtle was tagged with the above numbers and any other information concerning the turtle will be received with appreciation.

Yours faithfully


Constable Arthur Paulino

S463, S464
R1088, R1089
8/20/94

ORIGINALLY TAGGED
10/21/92 NOTU OIA
R1088, R1089 SCILY
S463, S464 CP6-97