



THE NATION BUILDING NEWSPAPER **anniversary edition**

Post-Courier

SINCE 1969

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 05 2025

K2 00 POM & LAE / K5 00 OTHER CENTRES

SEPTEMBER 16, 2025



**INDEPENDENCE
SOUVENIR ISSUE**



Papua New Guinea became independent today with this proclamation of Independence by the Governor General, Sir John Guise:

"Distinguished guests, visitors from overseas, people of Papua New Guinea:

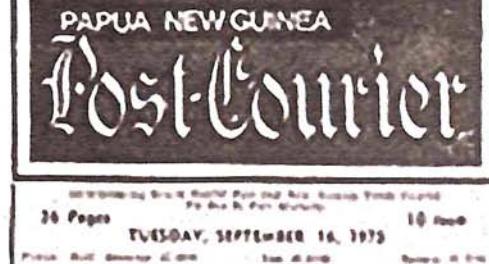
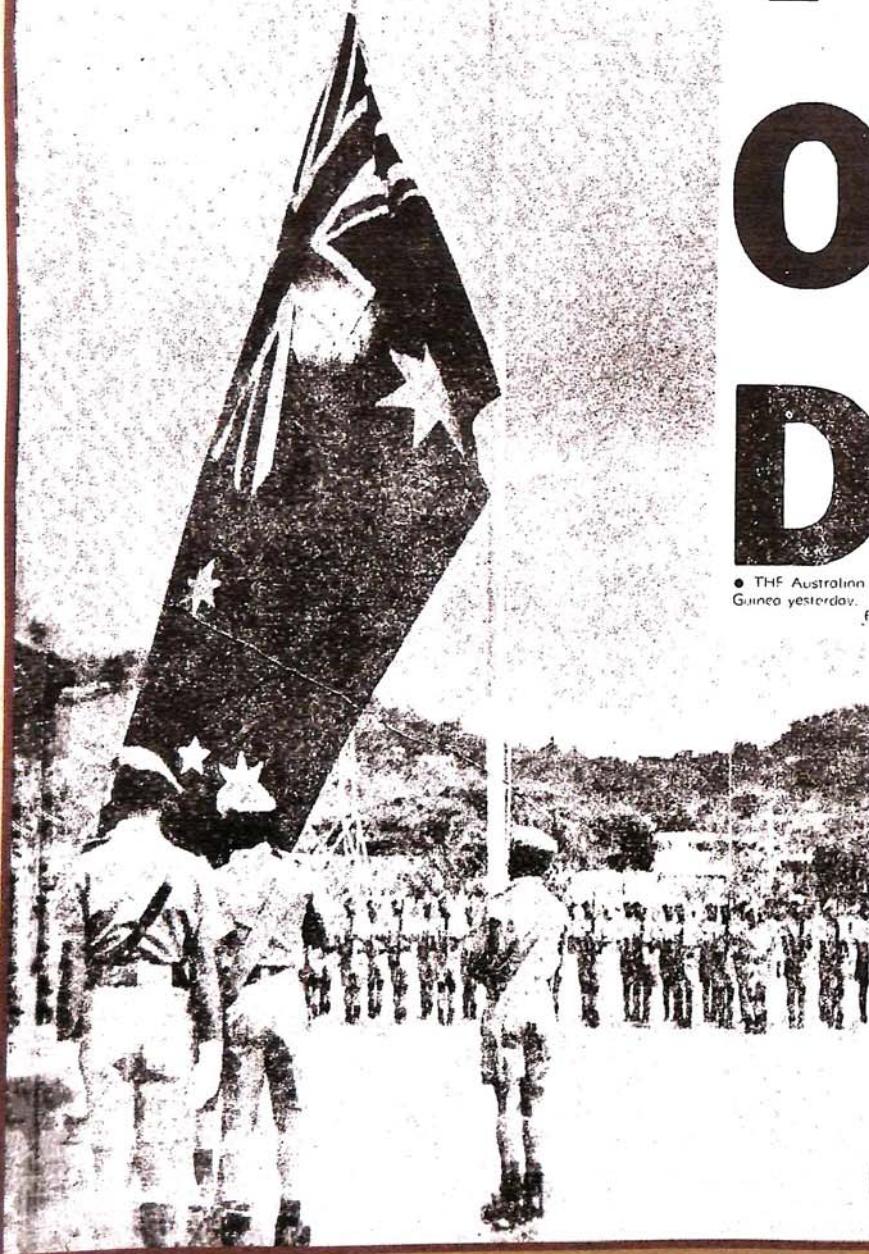
"Papua New Guinea is now independent.

"The Constitution of the Independent State of Pa-

pua New Guinea under which all power rests with the people is now in effect.

"We have at this point of time broken with our colonial past and we now stand as an independent nation in our own right.

"Let us unite with the Almighty God's guidance and help in working together for the future as a strong and free country."



IT'S
OUR
DAY

• The Australian flag went down for the last time in Papua New Guinea yesterday. Today, the Papua New Guinea flag will be raised for the world's newest country.



74 - Post-Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975

Post-Courier

Independence! It seems to be free

an two centuries ago the lexicographer, Dr Samuel e his first Dictionary of language.

ed pages of our price- this monumental work included the word and gave it this mea- om. Exemption from. State over which

otation he used one Pope: Let fortune do er she makes us lose, ver makes us lose our independence.

ot mean to say we will on others for many bly true that no nation completely independent the biggest among the extent on the smal- r industries alive. The in Middle East sheik- ple of this.

at today is Independence Day, awning much sooner than even the most optimistic would have predicted at the start of the 1970s. In 1968 the Administration forecast it would take at least 25 to 50 years before Papua New Guineans would be ready to run their own country.

A young man of those days was unarded as a dangerous radical for daring to predict that it would happen much sooner. Today that man, Michael Thomas Somare, becomes Prime Minister of the world's newest nation.

We salute him. And we salute his colleagues who have worked faithfully beside him to achieve that which is dearest to the hearts of all true Papua New Guineans — Dr Johnson's freedom and exemption from reliance or control.

That means political freedom. The freedom to make our own laws. The freedom to speak as a nation in world councils. The freedom, we hope, to insist upon the maintenance of all the basic freedoms which contribute to the dignity of human beings. And the freedom to solve in our own way, the difficult problems that assuredly lie ahead.

Papua New Guinea! New Nation! May it prosper and be peaceful!

OUTBOARD MOTORS AND SPARE PARTS NOW AT PNG MOTORS

50hp
40hp
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5hp



We made mistakes — but not like the Congo

In Canon Ian Stuart's review (Post-Courier, August 22) of "Australia's New Guinea Question," he wanted "our leaders to study this book". I have not read the book; I will.

I note that some of the book's authors whom Canon Stuart advises Papua New Guinea's leaders to heed have written much on Papua New Guinea before and since.

I'd be surprised if they said anything new.

It is difficult to believe that if Australia had emulated the Belgian colonial practices in Papua New Guinea we would be witnessing the change to Independence now, with all its good. I would comment Colin Legum's "Congo Disaster" to Canon Stuart.

The point of this letter is Canon Stuart's reference to a very senior administration official who could confidently proclaim that New Guinea had nothing to learn from Africa.

I assume he refers to me and what I wrote in the December, 1962, issue of the Public Journal of the Public Service.

Canon Stuart writes that the class was made with a little fear of contradiction. If there was little fear of contradiction no matter who said it then as a statement it had merit.

If Canon Stuart implies that I, personally, had little fear of contradiction then he is wrong — a number of my peers contradicted me though not necessarily knowing what I wrote or what I meant. Some interpretations of what I wrote are, in my opinion, quite wrong.

The article I wrote was headed "The Select Committee." It had a subheading "... a few things that have not been done before." Primarily the article tried to tell of the feelings of the people who spoke to the 1962 Select Committee.

mitter of the Legislative Council on Political Development.

What led to the bit about Africa was one interpretation by one of what I thought should be done to meet the aspirations of the people: "It is surely exhilarating to know that we will do something done before; and it is a challenge to work out the way we will do it."

I also said "we should be striving towards making history — not allowing it to be our master." I proposed a new approach to district administration.

One reason for the article was the statement of the Constitution which had been appointed to a senior official position after working in private enterprise for years in East Africa. He continually saw things in Papua New Guinea that reminded him of what happened before the anti-colonial violence of East Africa.

What I wrote was, in part: "Now, I wonder what good history is as a guide? I wonder why so many think Papua New Guinea is unique and will follow the pattern of African territories?"

"I wonder if people

experienced in Africa, or people well read in African affairs, don't spend too much time looking for parallels or similar situations on which to base well-meant advice.

"Personally I think we might well spend more time in looking for those things that are different. Today there is no even a colonial movement or political party though these will surely come."

The thrust of Canon Stuart's review is that the Administration hid what failures we had behind the "uniqueness" of Papua New Guinea.

The Administration's critics might well note that the Constitution calls for the recognition of Papua New Guinea ways which the majority of the people see as a positive strength. Indeed an unique they will find authority. When the same rule was applied to less organised people in Africa it was clearly not as successful as it had been in Nigeria or the Fiji of Gordon's day.

It can be noted that MacGregor, a disciple of Gordon's, tried to appoint chiefs in British New Guinea but failed, and Murray continued to use MacGregor's village constables.

to use Indirect Rule; and the Indian Civil Service.

I don't know whether "Australia's New Guinea Question" deals with past policies as well as those of more recent times. In his day Sir Hubert Murray had a world reputation as a colonial governor, likened unto Gordon, Lugard and Cameron, the inventors of what became known as Indian Civil Service.

But they dealt with societies that were organised under emirs or chiefs with well defined traditional authority. When the same rule was applied to less organised

people in Africa it was clearly not as successful as it had been in Nigeria or the Fiji of Gordon's day.

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MacGregor, a disciple

of Gordon's, tried to

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British New Guinea

but failed, and Murray

continued to use Mac-

Gregor's village con-

stables.

At the time of Parti-
tion and independence
in 1947 there were 100
in the service, and of
these only 320

British officers.

Thus you can't com-

pare the 7000 Aus-

tralians in the Papuan New Guinea service with this very special Indian service.

The British always had a large

contingent of white

army officers and

other ranks in India

probably numbering

50,000 at the outbreak

of World War 2. Per-

haps not less than 50

million people in India

lived in self-governance

principally.

Canon Stuart ob-

ligates the post-war Admini-

stration as disre-

spectable when he accuses it

of closing its eyes to the

options available.

He surely knew what

they were, but let him

have learned to

'Just the beginning'

The Day has arrived

A message from the Prime Minister, Mr Michael Somare, on the occasion of Papua New Guinea's Independence.

My people of Papua New Guinea, the big day we have looked forward to for so long — our Independence Day — has arrived.

Today is the 16th of September, 1975 — the day of Independence for Papua New Guinea.

We have talked about this day, we have planned for it, worked for it and looked forward to it.

Today, our young nation takes possession of the prize which marks our people's determination and hard work.

This country and its people now enter Independence and sovereignty, and as from now, we will be counted among the family of nations.

I think we are more fortunate than many other countries.

We have been lucky because we have reached full nationhood without the fighting and bloodshed that has been experienced by many other former colonies.

But even so, our achievement of Independence still represents years of planning, overcoming opposition, debates, and hard work on the part of everyone who has contributed to the birth of our nation.

I know that every man, woman and child of our nation shares this moment of pride and happiness with one heart, to celebrate our Independence.

At this point, I wish to remind all of us too that this is just the beginning. Now we must stand on our own two feet and work harder than ever before.

Our land and our history has plenty to offer our people in this effort.

Our rich cultures have always provided us with our sense of values, and



will continue to do so.

This has meant that our people have developed a distinctive life-style and attitudes that are wholly our own.

Our task now is to find a way of life that suits our own people, and at the same time will equip us to take our place in the world family of nations.

From our own rich resources and traditions, from shared experiences and varied skills, we will strive to create in our

new nation a distinctive Papua New Guinea society — borrowing ideas from others and adapting them to suit our own national needs.

As a united people we will achieve our goals, with the stability of our background to support us, and the richness of the earth to provide for us.

Many who have helped build this nation are no longer with us. Their efforts and services must be remembered at this time.

I speak of men like Matthias Toliman, Pita Simogun, Kondom Agaunde, Vin ToBaining, Somu Sigob, Paulus Ark, Sir Donald Cleland and many more. This country owes them a great deal.

There are also others who have helped in one way or another to build this country. I would like to pay tribute to the Australians, British, New Zealanders, and many other races who have worked towards this day.

Churchmen, businessmen and civil servants all played their part.

We are now, indeed, masters of our own destiny. Our leaders hold the responsibility for the future of our country and its governments.

The people's welfare, freedom and peace will be the primary concern of our politicians. The people have given our politicians their mandate, but that mandate rests with the people.

I am sure that our leaders will always ensure that our Independence from others and our national unity are the basis of their service to the people.

In conclusion, I would like to say again that the achievement of our Independence is our national pride.

We do not owe this Independence to the Government of Papua New Guinea, nor to the Government of Australia, nor even to the United Nations that has overseen our progress during the past years.

We owe our Independence to the men and women in the villages who helped build roads to link our diverse peoples together.

We owe it to others who have counselled wisely on village, district and government committees, and to our fathers and mothers who have had the vision to work in some small way towards our freedom.

We are indebted to wise elders of our own clans, and those from other lands who saw unity and peace as the long term aim of their work.

We should work together after Independence in the same spirit as those men and women toiled to achieve our Independence.



THE flag for the ceremony yesterday was perhaps the most colorful ever seen in the country.

And how many more! Was it a moment for those Australians present to see the Southern Cross lowered after 10 years?

More likely it was a moment of pride — deservedly so.

SOME months before I-Day was named, we had a parody on the song "I'm going to see my boy, what are you waiting for now? You promised to marry me coming in June, it's never too late and it's never too soon. All the family keep on making day, we don't know what to say, I-Day, I-Day, I-Day, my boy, what are you waiting for now?"

THE Queen's banner on the National Emblem badge has independence spelt with an "x" — made in Sydney. They're thinking of giving the writer 1000 dollars and 1000 lines. And they're also looking for someone to jet-wash the banner to reach out the window and do a repaint job.

QUOTATION corner: Otto M. Neekiteki, UPNG, was first name Israel Zamal, as last week. He was a very general and efficient KEP for the author of "Give me, I cry'd, enough for me, my bread and indepen-

IT couldn't have happened to a man when plain-clothed was known. Didi explained that Michael Somare would be Prime Minister. Prince Charles was here and he would be King.

Son: When who will be the Aces? Or, may we ask, the Trumps?

P. Engo

Two new Knights for Independence

The Queen has awarded two new knighthoods and conferred a higher honor on the Governor-General in the Independence Honors.

Two new Knights of the Order of the British Empire are the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of Papua New Guinea, Sir Sydney Thomas Frost, and the National Librarian of Papua New Guinea, Sir Soong Ching Lung (John Yocklum).

Sir Sydney's award was for long and distinguished service to the public service in Papua New Guinea.

Sir John's honor was for distinguished service to politics and government.

The Governor-General, Sir John Guise, now becomes a Knight Grand Cross of the Order of St Michael and St George.

Prince Charles will invest him with the insignia to the people honored during his visit. Other awards are:

COMMANDER OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE: Mr Wilfred Lawrence, former Director of Agriculture Stock and Fisheries, for long and distinguished public service.

The Rt Rev Cedric David Hand, Anglican Bishop of Papua New

Education, for outstanding public service to the community.

Mr William Paul Ryan, formerly Acting Secretary, Department of the Chief Minister, and Development Administration, for public service.

Mr Thomas Edwin Barnett, Department of the Chief Minister for services to political development.

MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE: Mr David Chenoweth, former Administrative College, for service in the fields of training and staff development.

Mr Greville Michael Feeney, Director of the Police Headquarters, for distinguished service.

Mr Simeone Giregire, MHA Koiopo and patron of the Mataungan Association, for community and political services.

Mr Wesley Macrian, vice-president of the Namatanai Local Government Council, for services to the community.

Mr Sister Madge Kenny, former hospital secretary for services to nursing in PNG.

Mr Aisan Tololo, Director, Department of

women's group organizer for devoted service to the community.

Mr Vincent Alexander Henry Nielsen, Farmers' Association president, Papuan Turf Club chairman, businessman, for services to the community.

Mr John Joseph Phil, manager of the PNG South Pacific Games team, for services to sport.

Mr Daniel Samuel, farmer and vice-president of the Weewak Council, for services to the community.

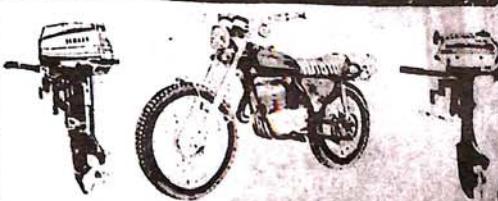
Mr Oscar Tammar, MHA Koiopo and patron of the Mataungan Association, for community and political services.

Mrs Rosa Tokel, president of the Papua New Guinea Council of Women, for services to women.

MILITARY DIVISION: OFFICER OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE: Ted Kamu Diro, Commander, PNG Defence Force.

MEMBER OF THE ORDER OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE: Chief Warrant Officer, Alisa Kamanab, B.E.M. Warrant Officer Esenia Taguru.

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YAMAHA

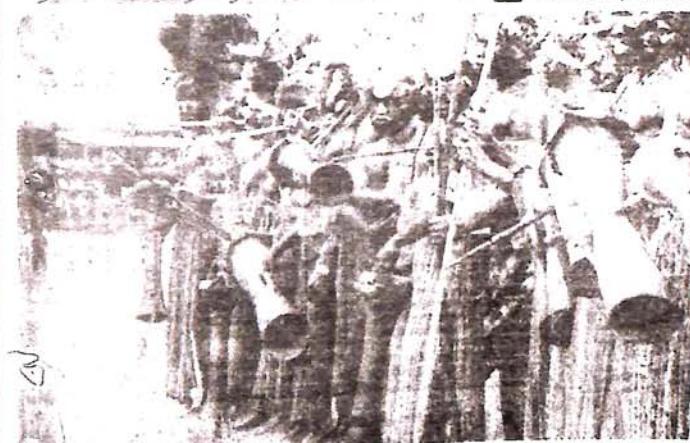
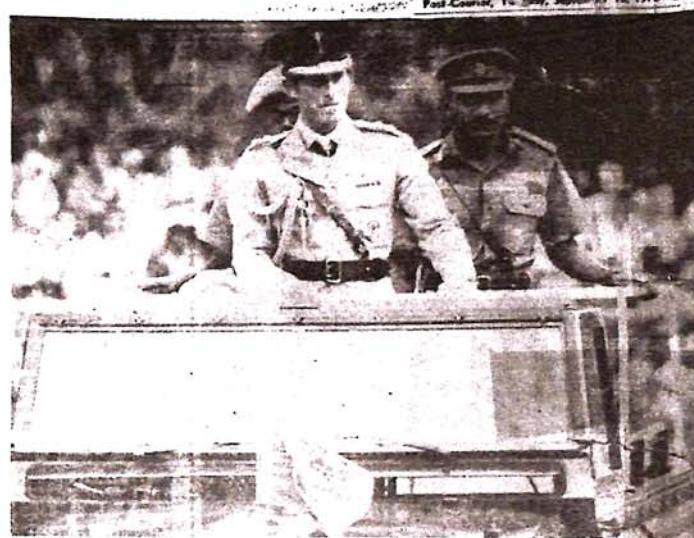
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The last day



• LEFT: Warrant Officer 2nd Class George Ibor presents the Governor-General, Sir John Guise, with the Australian flag after it had been lowered yesterday.
 • TOP: Prince Charles arrives with Brigadier General Ted Diro for the ceremony.
 • RIGHT: Australian Prime Minister Mr Whitlam chats with Speaker, Barry Holloway.
 • BELOW: Highland dancers at the ceremony at the Sir Hubert Murray Stadium.



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6-Post Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975



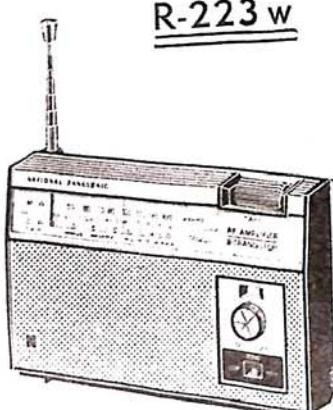
SEARCH FOR BODIES

SURVIVORS of the earthquake that struck the township of Lice in Turkey on September 6, search for bodies of relatives. More than 1700 are dead. In Lice itself, more than 700 are known to have died and more than 1000 houses, mosques, schools and a hospital were destroyed. — AAP photo.

GUNMAN KILLED

SAN JOSE, California, September 15 (AAP): Police shot and killed a gunman early today who took hostages aboard a parked Continental Airlines 727 and ordered a mechanic to start the plane's engines.

R-223 W



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S-Post-Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975

RAINMAKER IS CLAIMING VICTORY

Even the National Weather Service had to admit yesterday that Port Moresby's weather was "unusual".

But they're not admitting that the unusual rain is a result of the efforts of Mr. Ongu Maungniva, Papua New Guinea's rainmaker.

The official explanation is that an air trough formed off the northern coast and moved south, lifting moist air over the ranges.

About 23mm fell at Jackson's Airport between 1.30 and 2.30pm.

But at the Hubert Murray Stadium, the

main venue for outdoor Independence celebrations yesterday afternoon, there was only a slight drizzle.

But the rainmaker's spokesman, Mr. James Eke Mopio, a Papuan separatist leader, is already claiming some success.

He says the movement will know how successful their efforts were on Thursday.

The service forecaster says the chance of late afternoon showers drifting off the hills until about Thursday.

Mr Mopio said yesterday that the separatists were pleased with the efforts of the rainmaker, but would have preferred to keep the rainmaking a secret.

He said the rainmaker was not a traditional maker of rain to prevent inundations and feasting out an agricultural rainmaker who assisted in crop planting.

He said it would rain in stops and starts until the rainmaker ceased—probably about Thursday.

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K61/5073

'Aust not serious on border issue'

The Justice Minister, Mr Olewale, has criticised the Australian Government for not taking the border issue seriously.

He said the Queenland Premier's trip to the Torres Strait was both historically and ethnically of "Papua New Guinea," he said in a weekend statement.

The Government is believed to be concerned that the border be resolved because of the possibility of oil and other mineral discoveries in the shallow areas of the Strata.

It is feared that if settlement is not reached, Queensland mining companies might move in and reap the benefits of such discoveries on Papua New Guinea's doorstep.

Mr Olewale's election of South Fly is adjacent to the Australian-PNG border.

"It is not good enough, it is not sufficient, to give out hand-outs as they have been doing in the Torres Strait and thereby maintaining their control of the people," he said.

Mr Olewale said it was not there to do real development to Papua New Guinea.



Mr OLEWALE

He said the people of Torres Strait "It is sad to see the economy of the area being dominated by the Australians."

"It is sad that the people have not been helped in the past to involve themselves in real development which they should be proud in saying they have achieved," he said.

Mr Olewale said he understood restrictions had been proposed to cover the area in dispute and said these would retard economic development of the area.

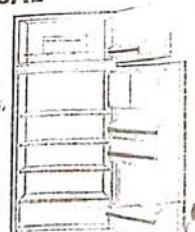
He said these restrictions should be discussed and agreed upon mutually before being applied, otherwise the Government would reflect economic development in the area as we ourselves see fit to do."

Mr Olewale said he was not trying to force the people of Torres Strait into accepting PNG status but to protect the economic interest of the people.

Mr Olewale said it was sad there had been no real development to Papua New Guinea.

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PROUD TO BE PART OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA'S DEVELOPMENT AND TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO CONGRATULATE THE PEOPLE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA ON THE HISTORIC ATTAINMENT OF THEIR INDEPENDENCE.



Post Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975 — 9



It was the children's turn to do their Independence thing yesterday in Port Moresby.

Children, anywhere, anytime can enjoy themselves singing and dancing, but add an audience... a royal one at that... and they are at their best.

Yesterday thousands of gaily dressed, high-spirited school children marched past Prince Charles and other visiting and resident dignitaries.

The first event was a school band performance by the Hanuata Nationals, and one little chap really stole the show.

While the band, dressed in yellow tapa and red

and yellow tops, belted out "My Bonnie Lies Over the Ocean" and rock numbers, six girls and one boy dancer provided the movement.

At which the little boy excelled, with traditional dancing one minute, then swinging into a rock-style that would brighten any disco-que.

Then the official party, including Prince Charles, the Australian Governor-General, Sir John Kerr and Lady Kerr, the Australian Prime Minister, Mr Whitlam, and the Education Minister, Dr Tauruka, took their places, and the show really got going.

The Governor-General of PNG, Sir John Guise, had been sitting up in the stands, due to what he later called "committee inefficiency", but then he joined the official party.

About 50 different groups of school children, mainly in traditional dress, marched past the official party.

Then the floats arrived, with the crocodile float, and the Windhaus float, and the Boy's Brigade float in the shape of a head winning the biggest cheers.

Dr Tauruka made the welcome speech, and said it was his hope that through education the children would not only gain skills but make useful contributions to the country.

From now on everyone must work harder as they entered a new era, he said.

Nine dancing groups, in two sections, performed, magnificently colorful, and making up in enthusiasm for years of experience.

But the Chinese

dragons, diving and writhing, got the biggest reaction from the audience, coming back to an enthusiastic response twice.

Prince Charles presented 11 Duke of Edinburgh gold standard awards for fitness and said he was delighted to present them, although he had never reached gold standard.

He told the children he was impressed by the dancing and thanked them.

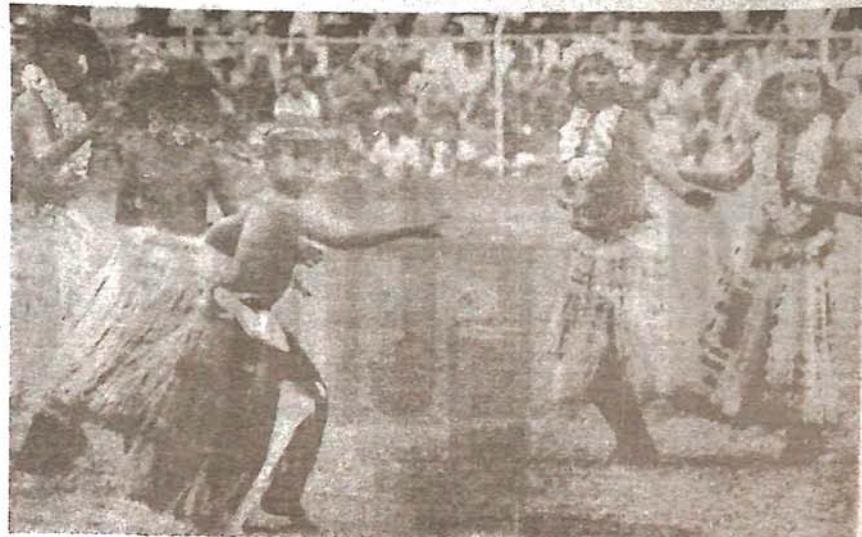
He then met 10 gold medal winners from the South Pacific Games in Guam.

The children were led in a mass oath of allegiance by Miss Oo, from Gordon High School, and as they repeated the words "I respect my flag", hundreds of PNG flags were raised to the wind.

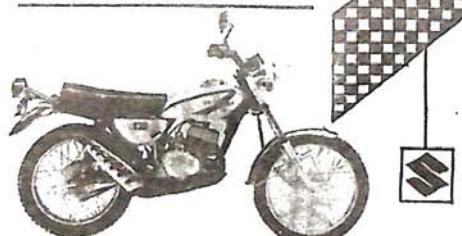
• LEFT: Prince Charles and Dr Tauruka watch the children's pageant at Boroko yesterday.

• ABOVE: This young lad, the only male dancer at the pageant, almost stole the whole show.

THE CHILDREN TAKE OVER....



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TUAGUBA HEIGHTS

Which stands over the very heart of Port Moresby and its beautiful harbour. On the North Western side, one can have a magnificent view of both Port Moresby and Fairfax Harbour, extending from Basilisk Passage to Hanuabada Village. The Southern side offers you breathtaking views of Ele Beach and the Coral Sea, extending all the way down to Hood Point some fifty miles away.

Very pleasant temperatures throughout the year due to elevation. All roads are bitumen surfaced, fully kerbed and guttered.

Water and power services on all lots. Tuaguba Heights is designed to provide the most gracious living in Port Moresby and indeed Papua New Guinea.

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12 - Post-Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 2003.



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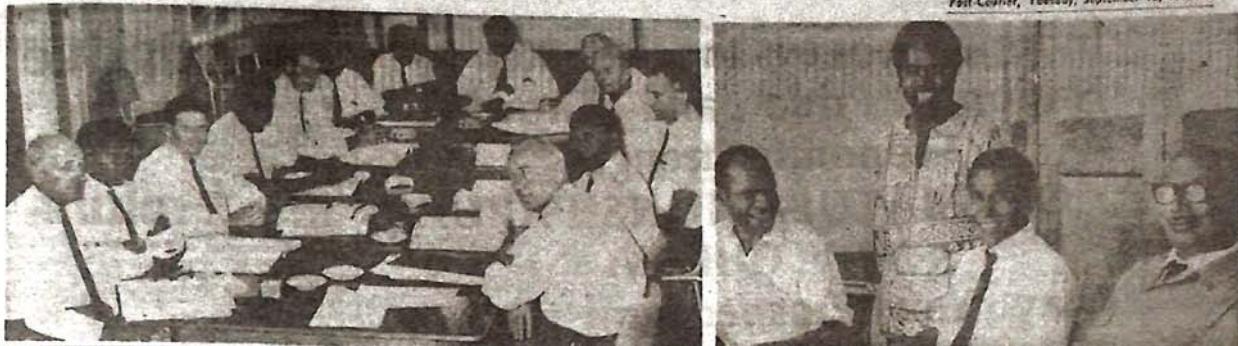
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Post-Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975—11

They made our laws—and our history

Papua New Guinea has had a national legislature for only 24 years—since the inauguration of the first Legislative Council for Papua and New Guinea in 1951, after the Australian Parliament had passed the Papua and New Guinea Act of 1949 to bring the two territories of Papua and New Guinea together in an administrative union.

The country has had a national legislature in which elected Papua New Guineans have comprised a majority of the membership, for less than half of that time—since the establishment of the House of Assembly in 1964. Nevertheless, during the past 15 years Papua New Guineans have developed a parliamentary system to the point where the national legislature is now an active, hard working body of representatives, a number of whom have shown out standing ability at parliamentarians.

During the years since the establishment of the last of the Legislative Councils (the Fifth) early in 1961, the pace of political and constitutional change, and the degree to which Papua New Guineans have participated in and finally taken control of the work of the legislative and executive branches of Government, steadily increased.

Three clear turning points in parliamentary and constitutional development can be seen during the period. The first was the establishment of the House of Assembly in 1964 and the second the transfer by Australia of substantial executive authority to the Ministerial and Assistant Members in the Second House of Assembly in 1970.

The third turning point was the formation of the National Coalition Government in April, 1972, which largely ended direct colonial rule by Australia.

Although political and constitutional change in Papua New Guinea has been fairly rapid in recent years, it can nevertheless be said that the development of the national legislature has generally been gradual, and although perhaps in keeping with, or even at times ahead of, the political consciousness and aspirations of the

mass of the people, it has often seemed unduly slow to better educated and progressive minded Papua New Guineans, and to some regional groups.

However, the political and electoral systems have to date been sufficiently effective to enable strong extra-parliamentary critics of the establishment at a particular point of time to be elected to parliament in due course, and then to be able to more effectively pursue their political goals.

During the life of

the last Legislative Council, from 1961 to 1963, an important convention was established under which constitutional changes, including developments in the composition, powers and functions of the legislature are determined only after consultation with the people by committee of parliamentarians.

• To Page 12

The history of Papua New Guinea's legislature.

By JOHN LEY

House of Assembly
Counsel and former
Legal Officer to the
Constitutional Planning
Committee.

DAY
1

• BELOW, Lord Casey, then Governor General of Australia, opens the Second PNG House of Assembly on June 4, 1968. Of the 84 elected members, 65 were Papua New Guinean and 19 were expatriates. On Lord Casey's right are the then Administrator, Mr David Hay, and the Speaker of the House, Sir John Guise (then Mr Guise).



• ABOVE, left: Meeting of the Administrator's Council. Clockwise from left, T. Ellis T. Abal, D. Buchanan, M. Toliman, Tom Leahy, Tova Kapena, S. Giregire A. Bilas, J. Henderson, D. Hay, H. P. Ritchie, T. Lokoloko and L. Johnson. ABOVE, right: leaders of the present National Coalition Government: left to right, T. Kavoli (National Party), M. Somare (Pangu), J. Cham (People's Progress Party) and J. Guise (Independent). Mr Somare today becomes Prime Minister and Dr Guise (now Sir John Guise) becomes Governor-General.

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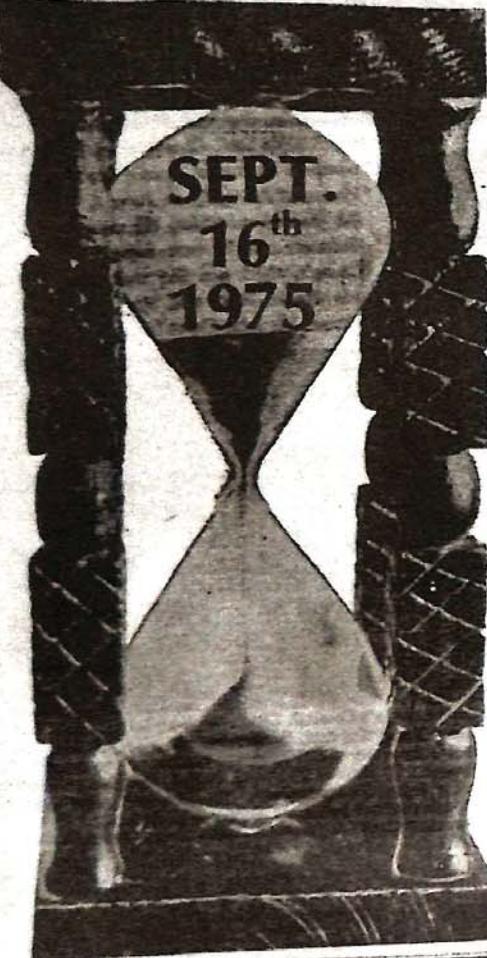
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Legislative 'talk clubs'

From Page 11

Though it is true that the earlier constitutional committees were to a significant degree limited by the Australian Government in the options from which they were able to choose in making their recommendations, important aspects of constitutional change seem to have been considerably influenced by the various committees.

This convention may well have made an important contribution to stimulating public awareness and participation in the process of political and constitutional development, including the evolution of the national legislature.

Before World War 2 the two territories of Papua and New Guinea were administered separately by Australia, and each territory had a Legislative Council dominated by officials. They were described by some critics as merely debating societies.

In 1951 the first combined Legislative Council for Papua and New Guinea was inaugurated. It comprised 29 members, namely the Administrator, 16 official members, nine appointed non-official members and three members elected on the basis of a narrow franchise.

First combined Council

(a) The Administrator (President)

(b) 16 official members appointed by the Governor-General from public servants in the Territory Public Service on the nomination of the Administrator.

(c) Three non-official appointed members representing the interests of the Christian missions.

(d) Three non-official indigenous members.

(e) Three other non-official appointed

members to represent other interests, such as mining, commerce and planting.

(f) Three non-official members representing the three electorates of Papua, New Guinea Mainland and New Guinea Islands who were expatriates but satisfied certain residential qualifications. These members were elected by European residents of Papua and New Guinea.

To advise and assist

There was provision in the 1949 Act for an Executive Council for the country consisting of not fewer than nine public servants appointed by the Government. The role of the Council was to advise and assist the Administrator in matters of administration policy.

In 1960 the Legislative Council was reconstituted by an amendment to the Papua and New Guinea Act, which increased its membership to 37. Its membership then consisted of:

(a) The Administrator (President).

(b) 14 official members appointed by the Governor-General from public servants in the Territory Public Service, nominated by the Administrator.

(c) 10 appointed members.

(d) Six elected members who were expatriates and satisfied the statutory residential qualifications. These members were elected by expatriate residents of the country.

(e) Six elected indigenous members.

(f) Three other non-official appointed

• To Page 13

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wish to congratulate
the Government and People of Papua New Guinea
on the proud occasion of their
INDEPENDENCE

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DAY
1

From Page 12

The 1960 amending Act also abolished the Executive Council and replaced it with the "Administrator's Council", consisting of the Administrator, three official members and, for the first time, three non-official members who were members of the Legislative Council. At least two of these members were required to be elected members.

The Papua New Guinean members were elected on an electoral college system. Local Government Councils and groups of people in a number of urban and other areas, with long contact with the Administration, chose representatives to attend electoral colleges. These representatives elected the members of the Legislative Council by simple majority. Expatiate members were elected by secret ballot among expatriates.

At the time, the Australian Minister for Territories saw the establishment of the new Legislative Council as the first major constitutional change in the history of the Territory, but envisaged that a further review of the constitutional structure would not be necessary for five or six years.

Of the members of that Legislative Council, three were elected to the House of Assembly in 1972, namely Dr John Guise (who is now Sir John Guise and today becomes Papua New Guinea's first Governor-General), Dr Reuben Taupeka and Mr Ronald Slaughter. However, only Sir John Guise, been a member of the First and Second Houses of Assembly as well.

In March 1962 on the motion of a non-official member, Mr Lloyd Hurrell, a Select Committee on Political Development was established. It consisted of two official members, two elected indigenous members and two elected expatriate members. On Mr Hurrell's nomination, the then Assistant Administrator (Services) Dr John Gunther (now Sir John Gunther) became Chairman.

Very shortly after the Committee commenced its deliberations a visiting Mission from the United Nations, led by Sir Hugh Foot (who has since become Lord Caradon), arrived in the country and after a tour of five weeks' duration, made recommendations for sweeping changes in the composition of the national legislature.

The most radical of these was that the legislature be reconstituted as a "House of Representatives" with its membership enlarged to one hundred.

of whom all but a few would be elected on the basis of a common roll. The Mission said it believed that such a reformed House of Representatives would produce a national sentiment and a sense of unity.

It said that the existing constituencies were too big to give the people a clear idea of representation but that if each sub-district or part of a large sub-district elected its own representative, the national legislature would then "become a political reality in the minds of the people and a true centre of political opinion and political activity".

However, there seems little doubt that the Australian Government and the Select Committee on Constitutional Development were influenced by the Foot Mission's recommendations. The Select Committee proposed the establishment of a new legislative body, to be called the "House of Assembly", the majority of whose members were to be elected on the basis of a common roll.

The Committee said that from its interviews with witnesses around the country it had formed the view that 100 members were too many: that special provision should be made to ensure that Europeans were elected and that there should be 10 official members.

ministerial system, but said this should be considered by the new parliament.

At the time this, and a number of proposals of the Mission, such as its call for the early establishment of a national university, were greeted with concern and considerable scepticism by many Australian residents and Australian newspapers, and it was not until two years later, in 1972, that the 100 member House became a reality.

However, there seems little doubt that the Australian Government and the Select Committee on Constitutional Development were influenced by the Foot Mission's recommendations. The Select Committee proposed the establishment of a new legislative body, to be called the "House of Assembly", the majority of whose members were to be elected on the basis of a common roll.

He said that members should be selected from the district and local government levels and include some Australian residents. The body should be assisted by an International constitutional lawyer, and be free from the direction and control of the government, answering only to the legislature.

It should take evidence throughout the Territory, and draw up a Constitution which would determine the structure of government, contain a bill of rights, provide for the judiciary and the pub-

lic service, and for finance, land and land titles, together with transitional matters. Mr Guise said that such a document would dispel the prevailing feelings of instability.

At the time, this scepticism, generally accepted, but nine years later, an all-Papua-New-Guinean committee was established to carry out just such a task. It was known as the Constitutional Planning Committee.

Amendments to the Papua and New Guinea Act in 1963 repealed the provisions setting up the Legislative Council, and established the House of Assembly. It consisted of 64 members, namely:

(a) 10 official members appointed by the Governor-General from public servants of the Territory nominated by the Administrator;

(b) 44 members elected by electors of the Territory on a common roll, representing Open Electorates. These electorates were open to candidates of all nationalities and races provided they fulfilled the residential qualifications;

(c) 10 members, not being indigenous inhabitants of the Territory, elected by electors on the common roll, representing "Special" electorates. The "Special" electorates were superimposed over a number of Open electorates;



• Sir JOHN
GUNTHER

The Administrator was not a member or present ex-officio in the House of Assembly.

The first national elections based on universal suffrage and using an optional preferential voting system were held in early 1964. In the Open electorates 30 indigenous and six expatriate candidates were successful, so that for the first time Papua New Guineans held the majority of the seats in parliament.

However, the numerical strength of the indigenous members was more than outweighed by the authority, experience, expertise and cohesiveness of the official members and most of the expatriate elected members. The official members had all had many years of departmental experience and most of them had been members of the Legislative Council, while the majority of the elected expatriate members were former officers of the Department of Native Affairs.

• To Page 14

AN INDEPENDENCE DAY GIFT



TO
THE PEOPLE OF THE SETTLEMENT AREAS
OF PORT MORESBY
FROM
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26-Pest Control, Tuesday, September 11, 1972

Pangu Pati—for home rule

From Page 13

Of the Papua New Guineans only Mr John Guise had had previous parliamentary experience. Most of the indigenous members were not English speakers, which put them at a disadvantage when having to cope with legislation, reports and parliamentary procedures, all of which were in English only.

When the House met for the first time in June 1964, it elected a Speaker from among its own members and also a Chairman of Committees. The first Speaker was Mr Horace Niall, an elected member who had previously been a District Commissioner.

Provision was made for a system of Under-Secretaries, who were to work with departmental heads, but were given no responsibility for decision making. This system was not successful. The Under-Secretaries met with considerable frustration, since they were unable to play any meaningful role in the administration of departments to which they were attached.

In May 1965 the First House of Assembly appointed a Select Committee on Constitutional Development which was chaired by Mr John Guise. This committee was to consider ways and means of preparing and presenting a draft for the

consideration of the House setting out constitutional proposals to serve as a guide for future constitutional development for Papua and New Guinea. It was amended again.

Increase from 64 to 94

In the second of three reports the Select Committee recommended an increase in the representation in the House of Assembly from 64 to 94 members. These were to be made up as follows:

(a) 10 official members appointed by the Governor-General on the nomination of the Administrator.

(b) 69 members representing Open electorates. These electorates were to be open to candidates of all races, and no educational bars were to be imposed.

(c) 15 members representing Regional electorates which were to replace the Special electorates. A minimum standard of education of "Territory Intermediate Certificate" was to be required for candidates contesting these electorates. There was to be no racial or nationality bar for candidates standing for the Regional electorates.

The Select Committee in its Final Report also recommended an increase in the size and functions of the Administrator's Executive Council, and its rational integration with a system of semi-responsible Ministers and Assistant Ministers, to be chosen from elected members after consultation with the House.

These recommendations were accepted by the House without debate, and implemented by the Australian Parliament except for the title, "Ministers". There was to be no racial or nationality bar for candidates standing for the Regional electorates.

These recommendations were accepted by the House without debate, and implemented by the Australian Parliament except for the title, "Ministers".

In 1967 a major development took place when the Pangu Pati was formed. It was the first political party to establish support in most major regions of the country, and it rapidly gained the support of a significant proportion of the bet-

ter educated Papua New Guinean public servants.

In 1968 general election resulted in a substantial increase in the proportion of Papua New Guinean members, not only through Open electorates.

During the last year of the second House fifteen MHAs joined the party and it began to exert influence in proceedings of the House. The parliamentary leader of the party at that time was Mr (now Sir) Paul Lapun, the Member for Bougainville.

The 1968 general election resulted in a substantial increase in the proportion of Papua New Guinean members, not only through Open electorates.

In four of the Regional seats also Papua New Guineans were elected. One of these Papua New Guinean Regional members was Mr Michael Somare, who today represents Papua New Guinea's first Prime Minister.

Though Pangu was the only party to field candidates in most regions of the country in that general election, many electors were suspicious of political parties, the nature of which was not widely understood, and only eleven Pangu candidates won seats. Nevertheless the party formed a reasonably effective Opposition, and probably stimulated the formation of at least two other parties towards the end of the life of the House, namely the Peoples Progress Party, comprising 10 MHAs, headed by Mr Julius Chan (Namatanai), and the Highlands-based Compass party, which was later renamed the United Party, led by Mr Tel Abel (Wabag). The latter party comprised 45 members, did not try to control the House by always voting in a concerted way.

To Page 17



• FOUNDATION members of the Pangu Pati in 1967: Left to right, Sir Moari Kiki, Tony Voutou, Pita Lus, Barry Holloway, Sir Paul Lapun, Cec Abel, Michael Somare, Oala Oala-Rauo.



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"Employers' Federation em i wanpela National grup em i laik halvim ino memba bilong em tasol, olgeta man bilong dispela Kantri. Mipela laik kisim na bai mipela i hamamas moa long ol nupela Kampani na bisnes man i kamap memba long Federation. Mipela i tok aut long ol na askim ol i kam bung wantaim mipela long wok kamapim gut National bung wantaim."

The Federation is proud of its association with the government and the people of Papua New Guinea. We represent the private businesses of the country and we feel we have helped in Papua New Guinea's growth to nationhood. We pledge our support to the Papua New Guinean government, now and in the future. We will help it to realise its national goals in whatever way we can.

**GOLDEN JUBILEE****1975 - 2025**

100—Post Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975

Congratulations to Papua New Guinea on its first independence day.

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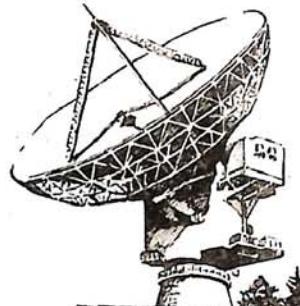
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on Independence

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DAY
1

From Page 14

The Peoples Progress Party stated that it stood for "strong stable and progressive government". While the United Party was in favor of gradual constitutional change and strongly opposed the idea of immediate self-government.

The Speaker of the Second House was Dr John Guise, who was largely responsible for the establishment of a Research and Information Service for members of the House, and subsequently of the office of House of Assembly Council. These institutions have provided services to members which have enabled them to carry out their role as legislators and representatives of their people in a more effective way than had been possible previously.

All but one

were nationals

In the Second House the ministerial members recommended by the Guise Committee was established, under which seven elected members of the House were chosen by the Ministerial Nomination House. A national group and an additional Assistant Minister, to be chosen by this Committee, was instructed that he was to act on the advice of the Ministerial Members in all matters in respect of which they had been given responsibility, and the official members of the Council were ordered not to use their votes in the Council on these matters.

The seven Ministerial Members, of whom all but one were Papua New Guinean, sat with the Administrator, three official members and an additional elected member nominated by the Administrator (Mr Tom Leahy, who was later chosen as the Spokesman, as the Administrator's Executive Council).

The Council was initially simply a consultative body, as had been the Administrator's Council before it, but from March 1970 the Australian Government transferred to the A.E.C. responsibility for an increasingly wide range of departmental functions.

The Administrator was instructed that he was to act on the advice of the Ministerial Members in all matters in respect of which they had been given responsibility, and the official members of the Council were ordered not to use their votes in the Council on these matters.

Thus by the end of the Second House the Administrator's Executive Council was beginning to function as

a Cabinet and Papua New Guinea had progressed quite considerably along the way towards achieving self-government.

In June 1969 a new Select Committee on Constitutional Development was established. Its Chairman was the late Mr Paulus Arek, Member for Ibilirai Open. The Committee made two tours of Papua New Guinea to gauge the views of the people on further steps towards self-government and ultimate independence. It also visited India, Ceylon, Pacific and African countries to obtain firsthand information on the functioning of

their constitutions and in particular, their systems of government.

Early in 1971 the Select Committee on Constitutional Development presented its Final Report which, except for a recommendation that the name of the country be changed to Niugini, was adopted by the House.

Four.

The Committee recommended that although in its view the majority of the people of Papua New Guinea did not want to see self-government achieved, "it will after 1976, nevertheless, prepare for a further step in an orderly process of development".

The Committee also recommended an increase in the membership of the House of Assembly to a maximum of 107 members,

be taken to internal self-government towards the end of the term of the Third House of Assembly if the people were then ready for it.

The Committee said it believed in "the planned gradual development of Papua

and New Guinea for internal self-government".

It also believed that the attainment of internal self-government should merely be a further step in an orderly process of development."

The Committee also recommended an increase in the membership of the House of Assembly to a maximum of 107 members,

comprising 13 Regional electorates, an increase of three, making one for each district of the country, to be based on a common and 82 Open electorates, an increase of 13.

It recommended that these be a maximum number of three nominated members, nominated for special purposes.

If the new House considered them necessary, and a reduction in the number of official members from 10 to four, Papua

New Guinea's national flag and emblem were

also recommended by the Committee.

A record 611 candidates nominated for the elections for the

1972 House of Assembly.

The elections, which were held from

February 19 to March

11, 1972, were the third national elections to roll.

Seventy-four of the

81 sitting members offered themselves for re-election. Four can-

didates were women,

but only one, Miss Jo-

sephine Abalai (Cen-

tral Regional), who

soon after her election

became the leader of

the Papua Be Sena

Movement, which seeks

independent statehood

for Papua, was suc-

cessful.

For the first time

party politics played a

significant part in the

general elections. For

main political parties

contested the election

the United Party,

the Pangu Pati, the

People's Progress Party

and the New Guinea

National Party — but

it was not compulsory

for a candidate.

It was therefore difficult to

assess accurately party

affiliations. Many can-

candidates apparently still

had a better chance of suc-

cess on their own rather

than as a member

of a party.

The United Party

claimed to have had

315 candidates in 94

electorates, but it did

not publish a list of

these candidates. The

number of candidates with known party affilations were: United

Party 74, Pangu Pati

42, the People's Prog-

ress Party 29, and the

New National Party

Four.

To Page 18



SELECT Committee on Constitutional Development, Canberra, February 2, 1970. Left to right, Mr Matide Yuvi, Matthias Toliman (back of head to camera), Tei Abel (leaning forward), Geoff Little, Donatus Mola, Ebia Olewale, Les Johnson, Paulus Arek (chairman), Oala Oala-Rarua, Tom Leahy (obscured). Michael Somare.

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DAY
1

Politics plays a major part

From Page 17

The United Party was represented in all areas, the Pangu Pati principally in Papua and the New Guinea coastal region, the People's Progress Party in all areas except the Highlands and the New Guinea National Party, in the Highlands districts only. The Matungun Association had one candidate in each of four of the five East New Britain electorates.

Separate followings

The Second House of Assembly had lowered the voting age to 18 so that in the elections for the Third House young people between the ages of 18 and 21 were able to vote for the first time. The electoral roll had increased to 1,500,000.

His Excellency, the Governor-General of Australia, Sir Paul Hasluck, officially opened the Third House of Assembly on April 20, 1972. Mr Perry Kwan, member for Kaveng Open electorate, was elected Speaker of the House and Father John Morris member for Bougainville Regional, elected Chairman of Committees. Mr Kwan later resigned, during the second meeting.

and Mr Barry Holloway, member for Eastern Highlands Regional, was elected as the new Speaker.

A Coalition Group emerged on the first day of the first meeting of the new House, made up of the Pangu Pati, the People's Progress Party, the National Party, the Matungun Association and a number of independent members, including the former Speaker of the Second House of Assembly, Dr John Guise. The Coalition chose as its leader Mr Michael Somare, the parliamentary leader of the Pangu Pati and member for East Sepik Regional.

Mr Somare was officially known at that time as the Deputy Chairman of the Administrator's Executive Council but his position was immediately known unofficially as that of Chief Minister. This change in designation was formalised some months later.

With the parties that make up the National Coalition, Mr Somare formed a 17-man Ministry, 10 of whom were members of the Administrator's Executive Council. Dr Guise became Deputy Chief Minister, and Mr Julius Chan, the parliamentary leader of the People's Progress Par-

ty, became the Leader of Government Business in the House of Assembly.

The fourth member of the group known as the "Coalition leaders" was Mr Thomas Kavall, leader of the National Party.

The late Mr Matthias Tolman, who was the member for Gazeille Open, and parliamentary leader of the United Party, became Leader of the Opposition and Mr Tel Abal, the present Leader, his Deputy.

The Coalition Government formed the first elected government of the country and quickly began to implement the major policies in its platform.

The role of the Administrator and the other official members became advisory only, from the outset, and the Australian Government readily accepted the substantial advance towards complete internal self-government which this change of role in the Administrator's Executive Council represented.

The official representation in the Administrator's Executive Council was reduced during 1973 when three of the four official members other than the Administrator retired or resigned before Self-Government

Day.

Soon after the formation of the Coalition Government it was clear to the Government and members of the House that the task of the next Committee of parliamentarians concerned with constitutional development would be the major one of proposing a constitution for Papua New Guinea when it attained self-government.

On this occasion, instead of establishing a select committee of parliament, as had been the practice in earlier years, the Government proposed, and the House accepted, that the new committee be a Government-appointed one known as the Constitutional Planning Committee, which would nevertheless comprise parliamentarians only and have its composition and functions endorsed by the House.

The major reason for this change was stated to be to allow the committee maximum flexibility, so that it could submit draft sections of its reports to the Administrator's Executive Council and to the Australian Government for comment, also seek public reaction to sections of its draft proposals before completion of the final

report.

There was initially some disagreement between the Government and the Opposition as to the composition of the Committee, but when the Government conceded an additional position in the Committee for an Opposition member, the House approved the establishment and terms of reference of the committee in September 1972.

The Chief Minister, Mr Michael Somare, was Chairman ex-officio of the Committee, and Father John Morris, the Chairman of Committees and member for Bougainville Regional, was Deputy Chairman. The former Chairman of the House of Assembly Select Committee on Constitutional Development.

Dr John Guise, and the late Mr Paulus Arck, then Minister for Information, were both members of the committee, together with 12 backbenchers, six of whom were members of the Coalition and six members of the United Party Opposition.

All major parties and groups which were represented in the House at that time had at least one member in the committee.

The task set for the committee (which was to become known as the CPC) in its terms of reference, was to recommend a Constitution for internal self-government in a united Papua New Guinea, with a view to eventual independence. In addition the committee was to recom-

mend on the way in which the Constitution was to be implemented.

During the following 18 months, the committee consulted the people on the basis of a number of discussion papers it prepared. These raised major issues such as:

• Who would be a citizen of Papua New Guinea?

• What should be the relations between the central government, possible regional or district level governments, and local governments?

• What should be the composition and role of the legislature, the executive, and the judiciary?

• Whether Papua New Guinea should have a "Bill of Rights" entrenched in the Constitution;



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CONGRATULATIONS

To the Government and People of Papua New Guinea
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the Attainment of INDEPENDENCE on this Day,

16 SEPTEMBER, 1975.





MEMBERS of the first National Coalition Government: Left to right, Kavali, Mureka, Poe, Jephcott, Somare, Arek, Lus, Rea, Sali, Olewale, Kiki, Mola, Guise, Dirla, Sasakila, Okuk.

DAY 1

- What kind of public service Papua New Guinea should have;
- Whether it should have an Ombudsman; and
- What should be the limits of emergency powers which the Government of the day should have available to it in times of crisis?

With the assistance

of the Government Liaison Branch, discussion groups were established in most parts of the country for the purpose of discussing the issues raised by the committee.

More than 200 groups were established, comprising local opinion leaders, some of whom were Councillors, but many belonging to social or other interest groups. A number of the groups comprised schoolchildren — some in primary schools and others in secondary schools. Many of the tertiary institutions, including both of the universities, also participated.

These groups discussed the matters raised in the papers circulated by the Committee and sent direct to the committee their views on them. When the committee later toured the country, many of the discussion group leaders were present at the public meetings, which were held in all districts in well over 100 different centres.

Meetings in all districts

These leaders expressed orally the views which their groups had formed, whilst other members of the public took the opportunity to express their

CPC's work

opinions.

In all well over 2000 group and individual submissions were received by the Committee and these, together with the expressions of opinion given at the public meetings (which were recorded by stenographers), provided the basis for many of the Committee's major decisions.

The Committee submitted two interim reports to the House of Assembly, but these were not debated; it was the Final Report around which much controversy and protracted debate centred.

Towards the end of the CPC's work, full internal self-government was attained after the House had endorsed the December 1, 1973 as the date for this historic event.

Despite the forebodings of many expatriates and some people in less developed areas, the transition to self-government was achieved quietly and smoothly.

The major constitutional change which occurred at that time was the complete withdrawal of the Administrator (who now became High Commissioner) and the remaining official members from the Administrator's Executive Council, which was renamed the "Executive Council".

Before the committee completed its report, discussions were held between Cabinet Ministers and the Committee Members in or-

der to try to reach agreement on as many issues as possible. In the event, although agreement was reached on a number of matters, there were a significant number of important issues on which no consensus was achieved.

Thus in June 1974, when a draft of the committee's report was tabled in the House of Assembly, the Chief Minister and the Deputy Chief Minister tabled a Minority Report in which they expressed disagreement with a number of the recommendations of the Committee.

Of these, probably the most important were those concerning citizenship; the composition and role of Parliament; the powers and degree of constitutional entrenchment of the proposed new district level governments to be known as provincial governments; the need for a separate state of state; the extent to which the Constitution should be entrenched and the degree to which it should contain detailed provisions as well as statements of general principle.

During the week following the tabling of the Draft Report its contents were discussed informally at meetings of the various parties, and as a result of these discussions the CPC made some changes to its draft recommendations.

• To Page 20 •

Post-Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975-19



• THE SPEAKER of the House of Assembly, Mr Barry Holloway. He has declined to wear the Speaker's wig, until today, when he is expected to put it on to mark the first meeting of the National Parliament.



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A MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL MATHEWS WRIGHTSON GROUP.

20 - Post-Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975

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DAY
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Controversy and debate...

• From Page 19

When the Committee's Final Report was tabled in August 1974, the Government tabled its own set of constitutional proposals in the form of a Government Paper. In this document, the Government indicated the recommendations of the CPC which it supported and also set out the alternative proposals which it was putting forward on points where it disagreed with particular recommendations of the CPC.

These two documents, together with a third, presented by the United Party, were thoroughly debated by the House of Assembly between September 1974 and March 1975, and final instructions were set by resolution of the House for the First Legislative Council to prepare the Draft Constitution.

In general, the Government Paper followed the lines of the Minority Report, though it included significant changes such as the proposal that foreign citizens be eligible for provisional citizenship rather than full citizenship during the eight years immediately following Independence Day.

The CPC proposed that foreign citizens required to wait up to eight years after

before

being eligible for citizenship. It emphasised, however, that once naturalised, foreign citizens would have the same rights and responsibilities as those who obtained their citizenship automatically.

paper generally took a position somewhere between those of the other two groups. On some issues, such as citizenship and the head of state, it supported the Government, while on others, such as the CPC's proposal to strongly entrench most of the provisions of the Constitution, particularly to safeguard against the use of arbitrary power, it supported the CPC.

With the tabling of the CPC's Final Report the CPC formally ceased to exist, but most of its backbench members remained together to form and vote as a block to press for the adoption of its recommendations during debate in the House on the Report.

In September 1974 nine backbenchers, five from the Coalition and four from the Opposition, together with further eight backbenchers, from both sides of the House, announced that they had formed a group called the Nationalist Pressure Group, the aim of which was to promote nationalist policies and, in particular, the recommendations of the CPC for inclusion in the Constitution.

There was no formal leader of the group, and different members acted as spokesman for it from time to time. Over the period of 12

months since its foundation, four former CPC members emerged as the leaders, namely Father John Morris (Bougainville), Mr John Kaupa (Chitave), Mr John Kaputin (Rabaul) and Mr McKeon Daug (Northern).

Shortly after its foundation, the Nationalist Pressure Group and the then recently established Country Party comprising 10 members under the leadership of Mr Snake Gires (Daua) formed an informal alliance for the constitutional debates, and this group formed the "third force" in the gruelling controversy over the Constitution, both inside and outside the House, which lasted until the eve of Independence.

Over that period compromises were reached between the three groups in informal discussions in relation to many matters of contention, but on some occasions no compromise proved possible and these were determined by divisions in the House.

Although the Government won most of these votes it lost (nearly lost) sufficient of them against the combined forces of the United Party and the Country Party Nationalist Pressure Group to ensure that there was usually an air of uncertainty about the outcome of a particular trial of strength.

• To Page 22



• DEPUTY Chairman of the CPC, Father John Morris.

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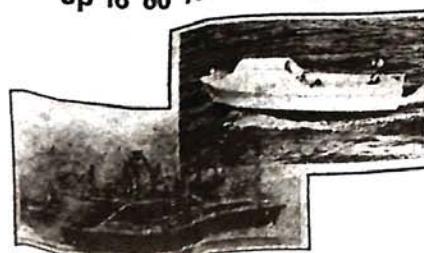
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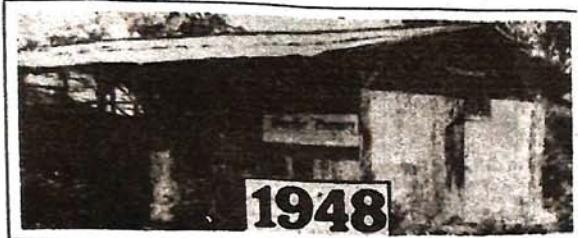
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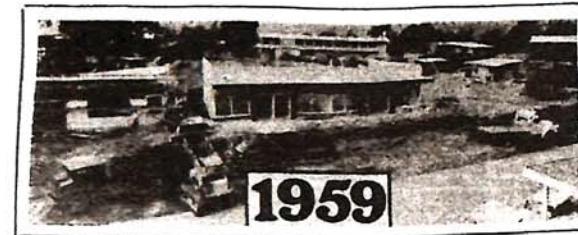
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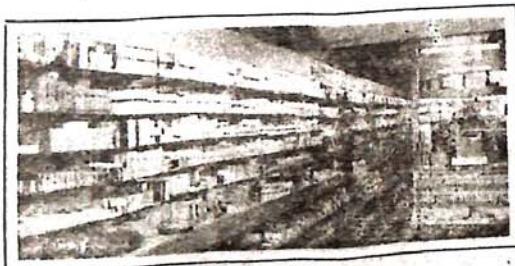
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1948 The original initiator of Morobe Pharmacies was one John McKeon in Lae at a time of complete annihilation. The Pharmacy was situated opposite the junction of Huon and Markham Roads at the bottom of the hill and was in operation for about six years. The Army hospital which was then situated where the present Morobe Pharmacy, Fourth Street, Lae is today, was very helpful in the supply of stock which enabled it to get underway.



1975



1975

1975 — Morobe Pharmacies is still actively trading in Fourth Street and among its thirteen Papua New Guinean Staff members is Mr Iru Lua, who commenced work in 1955 and Mr Daniel Kavangis who commenced work in 1964, and now both shareholders in the Company.

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PAPUA NEW GUINEA ON
THE EVENT OF YOUR
INDEPENDENCE

1953 — Mr John McKeon moved into another shop situated on the top of the hill within a series of shops within the present picture theatre building erected by Mr Harry Starr.

1955 — Mr K. N. Worrall negotiated with Mr John McKeon to purchase his business — stock £350, Goodwill £50, Rent £6 and takings were approximately £50 per week. At this point, much help was forthcoming in terms of stock and support from Mr E. D. Clarke in Rabaul. Shortly after the new hospital was erected and with the closing down of the old Army hospital, new land for the commercial centre of Lae was provided. On part of this land the present Morobe Pharmacy was erected. It was designed by Mr John Myles with the help of Mr Gordon Richards and built by Mr Seeto Kin Sun, and business commenced operation in 1959.

1961 — Mr K. N. Worrall formed a company K. N. Worrall & Co. Pty. Ltd. The shareholders being primarily clients and friends of Mr Worrall.

1965 — The Company opened a pharmacy in Madang. This proved successful and resulted in the formation of a wholly-owned subsidiary, the Madang Pharmacy Pty. Ltd, in July 1968. In 1965 a further pharmacy was opened in Lae called the Lae Pharmacy.

1967 — The Company moved to Mt. Hagen and the Mt. Hagen Pharmacy was opened for business on the 24th April of that year.

1968 — The Wewak Pharmacy was opened for business January of that year.

1969 — New Guinea Wholesale Drug Company Pty. Ltd. was incorporated on the 27th September and commenced trading on the 1st July, 1970.

1970 — The Company acquired a major shareholding in Morobe Newsagency in Lae.

1971 — The Company, together with E. D. Clarke (Rabaul) Pty. Ltd. and T. W. Johnston & Co. Pty. Ltd. of Port Moresby, both pharmaceutical companies, initiated Bougainville Pharmacies Pty. Ltd. Trading commenced in October of that year.

1972 — The Company changed its name from the well known K. N. Worrall & Co. Pty. Ltd. to the now Morobe Pharmacies Pty. Ltd.

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Constitution makes major changes

• From Page 20

The method which was unanimously chosen by the House for the adoption of the Constitution was for the MHAAs to sit as a Constituent Assembly in which representatives as elected representatives of the people and to deliberate and adopt the Constitution together with associated laws without any formal Legal authority to do so.

This was done in order to make the Constitution "autochthonous" ("home-grown"), owing nothing to Australian law for its all-round validity.

Discussions on early drafts of the Constitution were protracted by disagreements between the three main political groups to which the draft was compiled with the instruction to do so by the House of Assembly. However, eventually debate on a fourth draft of the Constitution commenced in May of this year.

The Constitution was finally adopted by the Assembly on August 15, one month before Independence Day. In the meantime, the House of Assembly, on a division, agreed to the date for Independence proposed by the Chief Minister, Mr Somare.

The making of Papua New Guinea's Constitution has been a good demonstration of the effectiveness of the recently developed democratic process. The people were, at an early stage, fully consulted and finally provided a parliament, played a central role, providing the focus for the debate of the issues which were raised.

Debate on the draft Constitution and associated organic laws (constitutional laws which are separate from the Constitution itself, but form part of the constitutional framework) took place over the next three months.

Unlike the pre-Independence situation in most other formerly dependent territories, in Papua New Guinea the great issues about the kind of society and the

type of development which Papua New Guinea want after Independence have been widely discussed and explored before Independence instead of being left for consideration after independent nationhood has been achieved.

As a result it would seem that the political consciousness of at least the better educated people and many of the local leaders of the country, has been significantly raised, and the degree of participation in the political process increased.

The one major issue which has not been satisfactorily resolved during the constitution making process is the call by the people of Bougainville for substantial provincial autonomy. This is despite the foresight of the Government in establishing the CPC and choosing Father John Mumu of Bougainville as its deputy chairman, and despite the efforts of the CPC in 1972, after consulting the people, a system of political and administrative decentralisation for the whole of PNG (including Bougainville).

The resolution of the future relationship between the people of Papua New Guinea, other than Bougainville, and of the people of Bougainville therefore remains to be worked out after Independence.

The new National Parliament which comes into being on Independence Day, initially has the same composition as the House of Assembly immediately before Independence.

However, a new Boundaries Commission established under the Constitution is already considering changes to the present electoral boundaries to meet the requirements of the Constitution concerning the General Election for the second National Parliament due to be held in May and June 1977.

Instead of the present 82 open electorates con-

taining widely varying populations, the Commission is to make recommendations for a redistribution of seats so that these variations in population (for example, one electorate comprised 7,000 people while another was made up of 44,000 people at the time of the 1972 General Election) is reduced to a 20% difference from the average.

Because of the difficulties in achieving this, the Boundaries Commission has been given some flexibility in the number of electorates it proposes. It is empowered to recommend the establishment of between 81 and 87 seats.

The number of Regional electorates which will be created is to follow the new name given to districts namely "provinces".

Despite the foresight of the Government in establishing the CPC and choosing Father John Mumu of Bougainville as its deputy chairman, and despite the efforts of the CPC in 1972, after consulting the people, a system of political and administrative decentralisation for the whole of PNG (including Bougainville).

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Instead of the present 82 open electorates con-



• SIR JOHN GUISE and MR SOMARE drink a toast to the House just ended—and the National Parliament soon to take its place.

this be extended to five years.

The new National Executive is to be known as the National Executive Council. It will be headed by the Prime Minister, and will be a parliamentary executive, all members of it having to be Members of Parliament.

These provisions on dissolution expressed by members of the CPC and by many other members of Parliament in relation to the functioning of committees of the House of Assembly.

Whilst it is true that some of these committees have at times been effective, the Public Accounts Committee and Subordinate Legislation Committee, generally they has not been an effective committee. In the 1972 House, and in the 1972 Assembly there have been no committees to which particular major bills or reports could be referred for detailed consideration to be made to the House as a whole.

The Constitution therefore provides an opportunity for the great majority of members of Parliament to become much more actively involved in parliamentary and government business than they have been to date.

The term of each Parliament under the new Constitution, is to be five years instead of four under the Papua and New Guinea Act. The Constitutional Planning Committee had recommended the retention of the four year term, but the Government successfully proposed that

more and the other ministers in his Government automatically become members of the first National Executive Council on Independence Day.

These provisions concerning the Constitution concerning the Executive were the subject of much controversy during the year preceding Independence, particularly in relation to the question of the Head of State. The CPC had recommended that there be no Head of State, but when the Committee's report was debated in the House of Assembly, most members of the House supported the Government counter-proposal that there be a separate Head of State, who would, however, exercise no discretion in carrying out his functions.

Subsequently, when the Draft Constitution was submitted to the Constituent Assembly for consideration, the Government modified its original proposal by seeking the Constituent Assembly's endorsement of the position that the Queen of England be Head of State and a Papua New Guinean Governor-General.

• To Page 24

Under the Constitution, Mr Michael So-

• To Page 24

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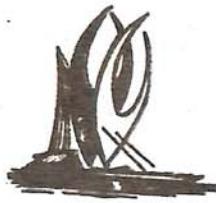


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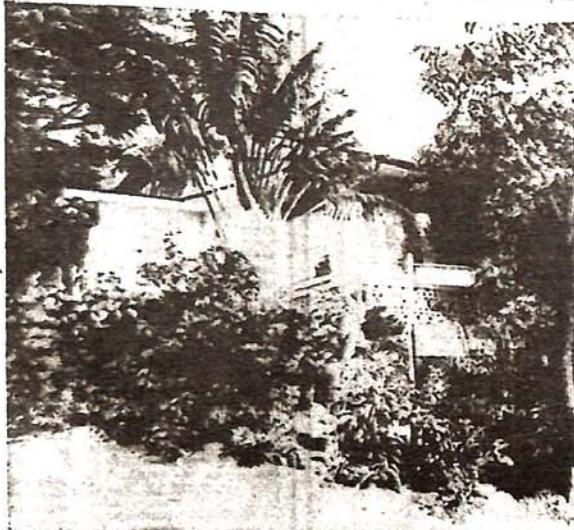
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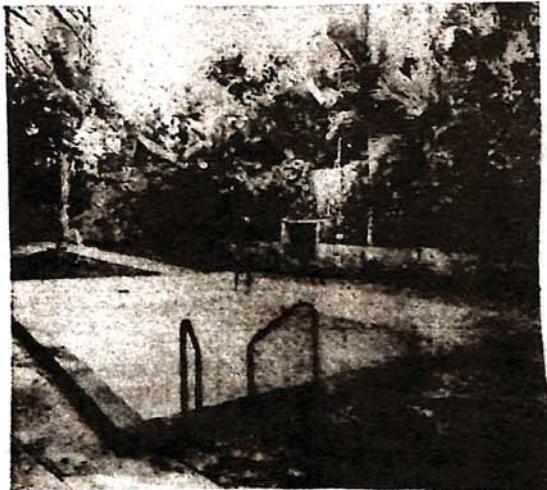
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28 - Post-Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975

It was long, arduous but creative

• From Page 22

After some public debate of the issue and spirited speeches in the Constituent Assembly the Constituent Assembly endorsed the proposal and Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth today becomes Papua New Guinea's Head of State.

The first Governor-General of Papua New Guinea was chosen by the Constituent Assembly on July 29 of this year by secret ballot. Our first Governor-General, Dr John Guise, who has been described as the father figure in Papua New Guinea politics, becomes Governor-General today.

A number of private members' bills have been passed over the years, some of the more notable of which have been Dr Percy Chaterton's Human Rights Act of 1971, Sir Paul Lapun's Sorcery Act of 1971, Mr Naipuri Malina's Crocodile Protection Act of 1974 and Mr William Eichhorn's Legal Representation Acts of 1975.

Some major motions have also been passed by the House which have greatly influenced Government policy. One example of these is the motion introduced by Father Momis on mining ventures in providing the basis for a new government policy in regard to future mining ventures. The policy which the Government later announced followed closely the provisos of the House's resolution.

However, as has already been indicated, the most important role played by Parliament in recent years has been in the field of constitutional development and constitution making. The Select Committees established during the first and second Houses of Assembly prepared the way for the tasks which the third House faced and carried out - the framing of a "home-grown" Constitution for Independence, and the timing of self-government and independence.

The work of the CPC and of Members of the House of Assembly, sitting first as members of the House, and later as members of the



• Dr PERCY CHATERTON . . . Human Rights Act, 1971



• Mr NAIPURI MALINA . . . Crocodile Protection Act, 1974. National Constituent Assembly, was long and arduous, but at the same time creative, and of the greatest importance to the future of Papua New Guinea.

The Constitution Planning Committee in its Final report summed up the role of Papua New Guinea's new National Parliament in these words:

"If government is to be truly responsible to the people it is vital that those whom the people elect to represent them should be able to contribute actively and effectively to the government of the nation."

The legislature should not be seen as a rival of the executive arm of government, but rather as a full and constructive partner. It can then help to ensure the overall effectiveness of government by keeping the executive accountable to the people."

This view would seem to reflect that of most members of parliament and probably also of the people of Papua New Guinea.



• Mr WILLIAM EICHHORN . . . Legal Representative Act, 1975



• Sir PAUL LAPUN . . . Sorcery Act, 1971.

Japan Air Lines congratulates the people of Papua New Guinea on achieving independence

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GOLDEN JUBILEE



1975 - 2025



**GOLDEN JUBILEE****1975 - 2025**

26—Post-Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975

In commemoration of independence,
 the Bank of Papua New Guinea
 announces
 the first gold coin in our history



COIN SHOWN 1½ TIMES ITS ACTUAL SIZE.

THE 100 KINA GOLD COIN

Content: 900/1000 fine gold. Weight: 9.57 grams

Orders for PROOFS must be postmarked by September 30, 1975

ON SEPTEMBER 16, 1975, Papua New Guinea will become an independent sovereign nation. In commemoration of this historic event, the Bank of Papua New Guinea is proud to announce the issuance of the 100 Kina gold coin. This will be the first gold coin in our history. It will be an official monetary coin, and will circulate as legal tender in Papua New Guinea.

On one side, the coin will bear the portrait of our first Prime Minister, the Honourable Michael Somare. The other side will bear the Bird of Paradise—our national symbol— together with the five stars of the Southern Cross, just as they appear on our national flag.

Orders are now being accepted for individual Proof coins as well as for Brilliant Uncirculated Specimens. The coins will be minted for Papua New Guinea by The Franklin Mint, the world's largest private mint. Orders may be entered in accordance with the following instructions.

BRILLIANT UNCIRCULATED SPECIMENS: Selected coins of very high quality, minted with a fully polished surface and free of minting defects. Brilliant Uncirculated Specimens of the 100 Kina gold coin are available at face value, plus a handling charge of 3 Kina. There is no limit on the number of coins that may be ordered. However, orders can be accepted only until the authorized limit has been reached. The Bank of Papua New Guinea must therefore reserve the right to limit quantities, or even to refuse orders as necessary.

PROOF COINS: The first strikings of the 100 Kina gold coin will be flawless Proofs, on which the finely sculptured design stands out in bold, frosted relief against a brilliant mirror-like background. Proofs are traditionally the form most highly valued by coin collectors. There is an absolute limit of one Proof coin per order, and all orders for Proofs must be postmarked by September 25, 1975. The official issue price is 140 Kina per Proof plus a 3 Kina per coin handling charge.

OFFICIAL ORDER FORM

THE 100 KINA GOLD COIN OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Proof orders must be postmarked by September 30, 1975

Bank of Papua New Guinea
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Please enter my order for the 1975 100 Kina Gold Coin of Papua New Guinea, as follows:

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Remittance enclosed: K_____

Mr. _____
Mrs. _____
Miss _____

Address _____

All orders are subject to acceptance. Please allow 4 to 6 weeks for delivery.

special
offer

Post-Courier, Tuesday, September 16, 1975-27

Medals for Independence



Collect your set of free souvenir medals. You'll find one on every 20's pack of Paradise Gold King Size filter cigarettes.

They are available in three attractive colours - red, black and yellow.

Collect all three. Swap them with your friends!

This offer is for a limited period only. And remember -

Paradise Gold belongs to Papua New Guinea.

20 Post-Courier Tuesday, September 16, 1975

Thousands celebrate all over country

The New Guinea islands were well and truly prepared for Independence Day yesterday, with an exciting festive atmosphere in all main centres.

Rabaul, its population mushroomed with hundreds of visitors, was heavily decorated with streamers, flags and traditional carvings.

All businesses in town made an effort to decorate for the celebrations.

The Tolai people in particular put considerable effort into lining all main roads with gaily-painted signs and carvings.

In Kavieng and Lae Kast, preparations were well in hand and the people of both centres looked forward to almost a week of festivities.

On Bougainville there is every indication that bigger crowds will take part in celebrations today than for the second move on September 1.

Crowds packed the mining township of Arawa yesterday bringing the town to business near Butibum Village.

One shopkeeper described the atmosphere

TEI ABAL'S MESSAGE ON INDEPENDENCE

A day to be treasured by all of us

Today is a great day for the people of Papua New Guinea. It is a day we will all remember and our future sons and daughters will treasure.

It has been through the warm generous efforts of the people of Australia that we have come out of the dark to see this bright new day — September 16, 1975.

I wish to thank you for all you have done and, on behalf of the people of this nation, express their most sincere thanks.

I hope that our friendship with Australia will not only endure, but grow ever stronger.

To our friends in other countries too, I would like to express the very real appreciation of the help that you are giving and hope that you will continue to help us build this nation so that its potential will be realised, not only for our own happiness and welfare, but also so that we can help others in our turn.



As the Leader of the Opposition United Party, I hereby wish to warmly welcome our distinguished visitors who are here to share with the people of this country, this most historic moment.

I would particularly like to express my pleasure and appreciation at your presence.

We people of Papua and New Guinea can be very happy on this great day for our country and especially for the fact that we are achieving our sovereign status without blood, sweat or tears — unlike those many others who have struggled long and bitterly for their sovereign independence.

Our progress to this happy day has been made very easy for us because of our relationship with Australia and its enlightened help.

From the very beginning, when the Oppo then was officially recognised by Parliament, it has always had decided that a stable Government was the only real way to achieve the happiness we all wanted for our people.

The United Party leaders decided that there would be no Opposition in order for the sake of Opposition or would we exploit political crises to bring down the Government.

We felt that if our first self — governing and independent Government was to be brought down before the next election, then it would be very difficult to have a strong and stable Government, which any developing country needs.

We decided that to have a strong Government and power for ourselves, by no matter what means, might be what other Governments in other countries would do, but that we would not do this in the best interests of Papua New Guinea.

The reason I am writing this, I because

and which we would not have had, had Independence been in December, 1974.

Our happiness on this day, therefore, is not only today and its implications but the fact that a properly adopted and sound Constitution is established to guarantee the future rights and happiness of our citizens.

Today, September 16, 1975, is Independence Day for Papua New Guinea. It is a day that my party and I have looked forward to — our doubts being whether we had taken sufficient time in preparing a strong and solid foundation on which to build the nation.

Let there be no misunderstanding on our reasons for opposing the Government's original intention to have Independence on December 1, 1974.

It was to prepare this foundation — this Constitution which now we have.

South Pacific Machinery extends

Congratulations

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People and Government of Papua New Guinea on this great occasion, Independence Day

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ACROSS

- Part of a car
- Woman's quarters (Mahon)
- Snapper, Japan
- Of recent origin
- Once more
- Anatomy
- Hill
- City, Italy
- Mark of infamy
- Mass of unscrupulous scoundrels
- Picture puzzle
- Try a little of
- Run away privately
- Ridge of ground (goal)
- Uncloaked
- Dimensions of a meal
- Attack
- Impression
- Wrapping at bottom of the sea
- Stop
- Surviving animal (USA)

DOWN

- Poison
- Gracious
- Parrot
- Salad
- Land chameleon
- Countermoves

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VIP golfers chasing the independence trophy



ABOVE: Australian deputy Opposition leader, Doug Anthony and the Prime Minister of Fiji, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, follow the ball intently from the sixth tee. Right: Tom ToBunbun putting on the fifth.

The success of the rain dancer dampened the spirits of the golfers in the Port Moresby Golf Club's Independence Tournament yesterday.

About 100 golfers are playing in the tournament which finished tomorrow.

Among the VIPs showing their style yesterday were the Prime Minister of Fiji, Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, the deputy leader of the Opposition and Australian Country Party leader, Mr Doug Anthony, and the Nederland Ambassador, Mr Rudolph Pekelharing.

The Chief Minister, Mr Somare, who is trying to make golf Papua New Guinea's national game, was kept away by a busy schedule but a member of his staff, Mr Thomas ToBunbun was playing.

An Independence trophy will be given at the end of the 18 hole tournament.



'Cops' on top in air race

Protests over technicalities held up final results of one section of the Independence air race which finished in Port Moresby yesterday.

Officials last night were not able to give the results of the visual flight rules race at the presentation dinner.

The Piper Seneca won the Air Niugini Trophy in the instrument flight rules race.

The pilots were Tony Schwerdt and Vern Aberle, both of Adelaide, both of Adelaide and Schwerdt works for an aviation firm.

In his speech at the presentation dinner, Sir Maori said it was appropriate that an air race from Australia to Papua New Guinea should be one of the major functions to usher in independence.

"Not only does it symbolise the long aviation links that have existed between the two countries, but it further emphasises the importance of aviation to Papua New Guinea," he said.

Aviation had played a vital role in the development of the country and would be more vital for an independent Papua New Guinea.

"For a newly emerging nation, aviation is a highly sophisticated, highly complex tool to organise and control," he said.

"It is particularly so, and made the more essential, in a country of such geographical difficulty as ours."

TOP: The COP flyers. Vern Aberle (right) the chief pilot for the South Australian Police Force with Tony Schwerdt, the chief pilot of a commercial air service in Adelaide.

Again no-one was hurt. The aircraft was able to continue to Port Moresby after being checked.



B'ball hard to follow but fun

By GEOFF COOKE

Something went wrong with last night's Independence international rules basketball program at the Hohola courts in Port Moresby.

Officially, two games were to be played. These were a men's and women's Guam South Pacific Games versus Port Moresby Amateur Basketball Association.

Actually, three games were played. PMABA (men) played PMABA (women) because white players forgot which end they were shooting.

Top players were Martha Tahiza (white) who scored eight points and Kewana Kila (red) four points.

And then came PMABA, Guam reps and ex-national men. The difference this one was 60 points, 78 to 18.

Poor Taranaki struck some of Papua New Guinea's top ball players. The locals dribbled along the court to score almost at will, leaving Taranaki drooling.

No one seemed to know what happened to the official program. And no one seemed to complain.

A crowd of about 600 was a friendly bunch including players, officials and spectators. The highlight being a night laughing.

PNG netball side too experienced

PNG's team at the recent world netball tournament in New Zealand last night outclassed a combined Port Moresby side 20-13 to win the Independence netball game at the Hubert Murray Stadium.

Although some of their players were put in to strengthen the combined Port Moresby team, the PNG girls proved too strong.

They did not play as well as expected but binned attacking moves, still showed that they had gained some valuable experience from the world's top teams while they were in New Zealand.

PNG's goal defence was good and Annie Age showed he is one of the best in the position with some good

on the Combined mistakes.

Karl Simol, one of the PNG players in the Combined side, gave a lot of scoring opportunities to her goal.

Another PNG player who played with the Combined side, Kathy Hardy, showed shooting form with some good

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Happy Prince



• HERE to help us celebrate Independence is Prince Charles. And he has been really enjoying himself as this picture shows. The Prince was at the children's pageant at Boroko.

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