PNG JOURNALISM MUST DEFINE ROLE

By COLEMAN MONI
Port Moresby

Journalism can do a lot in any society, particularly during transitional periods. In Papua New Guinea journalism has been contributing tremendously toward national development, unity, and a sense of self-reliance.

The profession, though, has yet to identify its status and place in a country where cultural differences and language barriers are immense. Whether up and coming journalists will merely follow the footsteps of their predecessors--mainly foreign reporters--or develop a true "Melanesian" concept is hard to say.

It was only in the last decade that the profession has had a few nationals enter it. Because of the needy state of development and transition, most now hold executive positions in the public and private media industry.

The popular opinion that the press is nowhere near maturity is a clear indication of the present status of journalism in Papua New Guinea.

Perhaps reporters devote too much time and space on shallow reporting of facts and information. However, one fact is obvious: signs of critical and investigative reporting have yet to appear in the media.

Bill Kuamin, interim president of PNG Press Club, adds: "We seem to report only on the surface of the issues, making the public believe that the tip of an iceberg is all that exists."

I couldn't agree more.

But why is the press so timid now? Perhaps the press has "no guts" to fight for its rights and purposes thus hampering the profession from developing its character and style.

Within press organizations there exist healthy relationships between media executives and their reporters. The National Broadcasting Commission (NBC) on two instances threatened to ban press coverage of student activities at the University of Papua New Guinea, and also coverage of meetings of the Central Provinicial Government.

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'Spike' Canham on the Pacific Press

By FLOYD TAKEUCHI
Assistant Editor

Erwin "Spike" Canham, editor emeritus of the Christian Science Monitor, thinks more people should see beauty in smaller packages. His philosophy of life suits him well in his new role as U.S. Resident Commissioner to the Government of the Northern Mariana Islands.

During a recent wide-ranging interview held on Saipan, Canham, 73, spoke about his almost 50 years as a journalist for one of America's most respected newspapers, and he shared these thoughts about the role and status of the press in Micronesia.

"I respect the fact that nothing is anonymous in a small community," he says. "One of the dangers in metropolitan journalism is that reporters write something about people whom they cease to regard as people, and they sit at the typewriter and they write about entities which are not human. I think it is all right to be reminded that you are talking about people."

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Indian Journal
Examines 'Third World' Press Issues

The physical isolation of Pacific Island journalists can sometimes lead to what might be termed "professional isolation." PICN tries to meet this issue by offering a variety of articles and reviews on the activities of journalists in other parts of the region.

Occasionally publications come to the attention of PICN which might be of interest to readers. One such publication is Communicator, a professional journal put out by the Indian Institute of Mass Communication.

Edited by M.V. Desai, Communicator concentrates on the problems of Third World journalists. The majority of articles in each issue cover some of the problems faced by journalists in South Asia. But these problems are brought on by a similar colonial heritage, and Pacific Island journalists operating in a post-British press system will be able to identify with most of the issues raised in the journal.

Some of the articles which appeared in a recent issue, for example, include, "Who is an Editor?", "The Transnational Power Structure and International Information", "From the Indian Perspective", and, "Studies of Information Media and Cultural Institutions in USSR."

Subscriptions are $2 or US $5, by airmail. Checks or drafts should be made out to the Indian Institute of Mass Communication. The address is: IIMC Press, D 13 NDSE Part II, New Delhi 110049, India.

Reorganized Fiji Press Club
New Forum For Local Media

By USHA SUNDAR
Suva

The Fiji Press Club, the newly founded forum for Fiji journalists, is exploring ways of improving training facilities for local cadet journalists.

The club was formed last year at a meeting in Suva of journalists who wanted to revive the press club which became defunct in 1972. Mr. Len Usher, organizing director for the Pacific Islands News Association and former editor of Fiji Times, was made the club's first patron.

The first annual general meeting held in Suva recently confirmed the honeymoon was over for this new organization. Club president Mr. Raymond Moti said the club would take up issues which were significant in bringing about a better deal for journalists' working conditions and training. The club would survey conditions and salaries of journalists and organize training seminars for reporters.

One of the major problems in the past had been the fragmentation of media in Fiji, the president noted in his annual report.

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'courage essential,' says Canham

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Looking at the various news media now operating in Micronesia, Canham cites the Guam-based Pacific Daily News as being an "excellent paper within its limitations."

The paper, part of the American Gannett newspaper chain, has "a lively editor who writes a readable column and writes excellent editorials which are related to the area."

He adds, though, that "I wouldn't say that the reader gets a very adequate picture of the world, but I think it is pretty good as newspapers go in terms of regional coverage and general information."

Media areas needing considerable improvement in Canham's opinion are radio and television news coverage. But with two television systems presently operating on Saipan (a cable as well as a direct broadcasting system), and soon three radio stations for an island of 14,000 people, Canham believes that the pressure of competition will raise the professional level of news broadcasting.

The difficulties of small island press operations --- the lack of advertising revenue and subscribers to name but two --- are quite apparent to the former editor. In addition, the problem of extended families in small communities increases the pressure on a crusading editor in the Pacific.

Citing examples of successful small-town newspapers in the United States, Canham says, "it is not impossible to go quite a long way with crusading journalism, and still retain the respect of the community. But it calls for enormous courage."

The American tradition of horsewhipping the local editor, Canham notes with a smile, "apparently had considerable prevalence."

Often times the editor of a small newspaper has to make hard decisions about what to publish, and what not to publish. Canham says that in such situations, it would serve an editor well to remember the old proverb, "The best is the enemy of the good."

Perhaps, Canham says, "the translation of that is that the extreme position is the enemy of the effective position. And if you want to get results, you've got to be able to publish next week."

A wise editor, according to Canham, might feel that "while so-and-so may be a rascal in the administration of a certain fund, he is nice to his children and his grandmother and his auntie."

He is hopeful about the development of a Pacific Islands press, and notes that "some of the most prosperous newspapers in the United States are small newspapers, including weekly newspapers."

Erwin Canham, editor emeritus of the Christian Science Monitor (photo by the Honolulu Advertiser)

The qualities of these papers, Canham adds, are characterized by "hard work, they have to know how to do their job, they have to have the skills and the right balance between ruthless investigative crusading, and a kind of constructive community support. I don't think this compromise needs to be morally unacceptable."

Smaller newspapers are not the only ones that feel these pressures, says Canham.

"Once a reporter of ours was going to cover a coal strike in a Pennsylvania community," he recounts. "It was a big strike, it was national news. And he went to the town, a fairly substantial city of 50,000 people, and he called on the editor and he said, 'What have you been doing about the strike?'"

"And the editor said, 'Oh no, I can't touch that, it's too hot to handle.'"

Even famous journalists are not immune from wanting to avoid direct confrontation on some issues. The late Kansas editor William Allen White, a long-time friend of Canham's, provides a particularly vivid example.

"William Allen White was not above criticizing things in the community," he says. "His classic initial editorial was, 'What's Wrong With Kansas?' which was laying it on the line.

"He came to be respected, and he could write pretty bluntly, but he was a lovable person. He loved the community, and he loved the people, even when they were rascals. But he was pretty blunt."

"He was more blunt about people not in Kansas than people in Kansas," Canham says, however.

Canham looks with optimism to the future, primarily because he believes that people have within themselves the capacity to adapt and carry on the best from their individual cultures.

In the case of television, for example, Canham says, "I don't think TV is going to greatly change many attitudes... attitudes toward work and all. I think that there are things more profound than entertainment media, and elements of that sort. I see around me quite a lot of things surviving, things being adapted."

There is in his approach to journalism, as well as in his new administrative duties, a surprising degree of humility and humbleness. One would normally expect a man of Canham's stature to be content to sit back and reap the rewards of his professional success.

He has known most of the world leaders in politics and the arts for the past 50 years. Canham's professional career has covered most of the major events of the last half-century.

After receiving a Rhodes Scholarship to study at Oxford, Canham joined the Boston-based Christian Science Monitor in 1925 and quickly moved through the ranks. From 1926 until 1928, he covered the League of Nations, and from 1930 to 1932 served as the Monitor's Geneva correspondent. In 1932, he was reassigned to be bureau chief of the Monitor's Washington office. From 1939 to 1941 he was the paper's general news editor, after which he was made managing editor. Canham

(please turn to page 5)
Illusions were broken for two Pacific journalists, in Honolulu, Hawaii, as Jefferson Fellows at the East West Center's Communication Institute.

On the one hand, Adishwar "Spike" Padarath, the first Fijian to be awarded a Jefferson Fellowship, was surprised at the lack of evidence of Island culture and tradition. On the other hand, Peter Kingston, the second New Zealander to be given a Jefferson award, was amazed at the State's material progress as manifested by the profusion of luxury cars.

Padarath, 34, chief reporter of the Fiji Sun, said he had expected more distinction between ethnic groups and particularly a stronger representation of Hawaiian culture.

"In Fiji, the main ethnic groups - Fijians, Indians and Chinese, for instance - have distinct cultural traditions," he said.

"Language is a cause of this as Fijian, Hindi and English are the main languages. In Hawaii that's no problem as practically everyone speaks English. But there is a much heavier emphasis on Oriental culture than I had expected and not enough evidence of Hawaiian culture except for the obvious tourist attractions."

Another aspect which surprised Padarath, who is studying the problems confronting journalists in a multi-racial society, was the lack of blacks at the East West Center.

"The center represents cultural exchange between East and West and I would like to meet a cross-section of the West. But I'm not meeting any black Americans, only whites."

New Zealand used to be dubbed the "motor museum of the world" because of the number of vintage cars on its roads and for Kingston, 32, an assistant editor with Radio New Zealand, the biggest eye-opener in Hawaii was the great number of "dreamy" cars.

"When I learned I was coming to Hawaii, I started watching TV movies like "Hawaii Five-O" for the scenery and landmarks and I thought the cars were lent by companies like Ford. In New Zealand, people putter around in Datsuns and 1100's but here university students and even high school students go around in fabulous cars like Mustangs," he said.

Kingston was also impressed by the warmth of people, particularly on campus.

"People open conversations with you and offer friendship without being introduced. Now I try and act as host the U.S. Mainland," he said.

For Padarath, the Jefferson Fellowship is his fourth major scholarship. In 1963-65, he studied electrical engineering at the University of New South Wales on an Australian Commonwealth Scholarship. In 1967, while working as a social welfare officer for the Fiji government, he was sent to Britain where he studied sociology at the London School of Economics for six months.

In 1970, Padarath joined the Fiji Times as a reporter and two years later became the first Pacific Islander to win a Commonwealth Press Union Fellowship and spent 4½ months in Britain studying advanced journalism. On the way to the UK, he was given a U.S. State Department exchange students grant and spent two weeks with the San Francisco Chronicle, the Napa Register, the Michigan Free Press, and the New York Times. In 1975, Padarath joined the Fiji Sun and was appointed its chief reporter two years later.

Kingston joined the then New Zealand Broadcasting Corporation 11 years ago while he was in his final year at Victoria University, where he graduated with a BA in political science. He is the youngest of five rotating assistant editors on Radio New Zealand's top news and current affairs program, "Report", which is produced four times daily.

Kingston's main project at the East West Center is to prepare a format for finding out what kinds of radio news and information programs the public wants.

"The problem isn't helped by the fact that sometimes the public doesn't really know what it wants," he said.

"An audience research project conducted among television viewers in Michigan showed this. A lot of viewers said they wanted more documentaries and in-depth current affairs programs. So lots of TV stations around the Midwest went to great expense to produce these but when they were screened the audience ratings dropped! Perhaps it was fashionable for people to say they wanted documentaries but when it came to the crunch, they didn't."

Kingston was not impressed by the radio stations in Hawaii. "There are about 30 stations here and some of them I believe are just used as tax losses for stations based on the U.S. Mainland," he said.

"The public is being short-changed because the serious stations that want to establish local identity are hampered because there is only a certain number of advertising dollars to go around and when there are 30 stations, it's peanuts for everyone. It's free enterprise gone mad."

Nor is Kingston particularly impressed with the standard of broadcasting on some stations.

"On some stations, the news programs are repetitive, boring and technically not up to broadcast standards. Many of the actuality drops I've heard would not have been allowed on the air back home."

The Jefferson Fellowships are conducted annually by the Communication Institute, for mid-career journalists from Asia, the Pacific and the United States. For more information on the program, write to the Jefferson Fellows Coordinator, Communication Institute, East-West Center, Honolulu, Hawaii 96822. U.S.A. Deadline for 1978 applications is August 1, 1977.

Fiji Press Club
Has 'Watchdog' Role
(continued from page 2)

"This often made us the targets of ambitious politicians and public figures who used us as scapegoats to further their own ends," Mr. Moti said. "The club watchdog committee can be an effective means for defending journalists from such scurrilous attacks."

Guest speakers who have addressed club luncheons include Carey Grant, life member of Guam Press club; Sir Vijay R. Singh, Speaker of Fiji's House of Representatives; James Wilworth, Time magazine correspondent; and Brian Talboys, New Zealand's Deputy Prime Minister.
Guam Cable-TV Recovering From Super Typhoon, Outlook Bright

By FLOYD TAKEUCHI
Assistant Editor

Seven months after Super Typhoon Pamela roared over Guam, Guam Cable-TV's operations are back to about 85% of what they were in pre-Pamela days.

"We expect to be back to our former level of operation in three to six months," says Tom Brislin, manager of cablecasting.

In an interview in Honolulu, Brislin predicted that coverage of the entire island will be complete by December 1978. At that time, 17,000 homes are expected to be served by Guam Cable-TV. The television operation is now serving 11,000 residences.

"The typhoon was probably good for Guam Cable," Brislin says. "We had many illegal connections, and Pamela allowed auditors to put taps on our new lines." The taps prevent people from hooking up to the cable. All television cables were torn down by the typhoon's 200-plus-mile-per-hour winds.

With a large military population on the island, a "nesting ground" for electronics experts, Brislin says it is difficult to prevent people from hooking up to a cable. This problem is especially acute in apartment buildings, reports Brislin. Other mass media facilities on Guam include two direct broadcast television stations, KUAM radio, and the Pacific Daily News. The American military services also maintain their own radio and publishing efforts.

Other changes, unrelated to Pamela, have also been taking place at the cable station. Stephen Kelly, former Pacific Daily News reporter, joined the station as news manager in February.

The one-hour local news program now includes 5 minutes of secondary school news, produced and read by high school students themselves.

"This is one way of getting students interested in news," Brislin says, and he reports that the show is popular. Students are given a video tape recorder and are allowed to film news stories "on the street."

In addition to local news, a weekly consumer information program is aired as a daily stock market report and analysis. The Agana studio, Brislin reports, is kept quite busy filming local television commercials, too.

Discussing some of Guam Cable's particular problems, Brislin notes isolation from video tape suppliers on the U.S. mainland can make life quite difficult. "Sometimes," he says, "I have to get up at 2 or 3 in the morning to make a call to California to find out where our tapes are." Having to order entertainment tapes so far in advance also causes problems when shows are unexpectedly changed or dropped off together. "We have some communication problems," he admits.

Another difficulty is the lack of street names and house numbers outside of the greater Agana area.

"People on Guam seem to have a particularly difficult time with maps," Brislin says, "and we have to rely on maps to send our installers."

Guam Cable's Saipan affiliate, Micronesian Cable-TV, seems to have beat the problem by placing numbers on all telephone poles. When people want cable service, Brislin says, they simply tell the station the number of the telephone pole they live near.

The highly intense political situation on Guam has not posed any unusual problems for Guam Cable. "We have not experienced any political interference," he says, and we have a good rapport with just about everybody."

There is some criticism from the political sector, and Brislin says that charges of a "negative attitude" on the part of the press are sometimes true. But Brislin feels that many of these complaints are due to a lack of understanding of the new role of journalism.

"The old image of a reporter with a fifth in his back pocket is (please turn to page 5)
KUSI, New Micronesian Station, Broadcasting For Latest District

By ELIAS THOMAS
Micronesian Broadcasting Service

SAIPAN--Radio KUSI joined the six other Trust Territory broadcasting stations in January when the island of Kosrae became the seventh administrative district of the American-administered territory. The island of some 4,000 people was formerly known as Kusaie.

Programming material includes locally recorded Kosraean music, as well as music from other parts of Micronesia. U.S. Armed Forces Radio Service recorded programs, United Nations-supplied shows, and radio programs prepared by the T.T. Broadcast Division are also aired.

The isolation of the new district is one of the largest problems facing the new broadcast station. Located 550 kilometers from the island of Ponape, Kosrae has no airfield and is serviced only by field-trip ship from either Ponape or Majuro in the Marshall Islands. An effort to schedule bi-weekly ship visits is being considered by the Trust Territory government. Presently, the island receives a ship either once or twice a month, at best.

Radio has become a common part of homes in Micronesia. People do not seem to be at ease unless receivers are playing the latest music or broadcasting a public service announcement. This is especially true of the outer islands where radio is the most common form of mass media entertainment. It was therefore a must that Kosrae should have its own broadcast station.

Writer's Workshop To Be Held Soon In Papua New Guinea

From Action, January 1977

A two-week writer's workshop is planned for May 1977 by the Toksave na Buk Dipatmen (Information and Publishing Department) of the United Church of Papua New Guinea.

The workshop will focus on writing materials for girls 10-17 years old. Dr. Marion Van Horne of Intermedia, New York City, will conduct the workshop, which is being planned by Josie Runes, director of the department.

A consultation will be held the week before the workshop to discuss the literature needed by young girls.

For details and further information write to Miss Josie Runes, PO Box 90, Rabaul, Papua New Guinea.
"Exactly, my friend, you'd be happier today if you had not heard any outside information or read any foreign news. As they say, ignorance is bliss."

"It's all right for you educated elites. You travel here and there and then advise us to control our wants," was his sharp retort.

"I won't disagree with your sentiment, but honestly, many of us curse education. The more you learn the more you realize your ignorance; the more the size of problem is seen, the more helpless one becomes. Some of us wish we were still in the peaceful state of innocence. Know something and the seed of discontent is sown. That is why the politically stable societies are either those with a low level, or, conversely, the highest level of education.

My friend was quiet for a moment, appearing confused, "You say then that education is disruptive of society?" I admitted my inability to answer his question with any confidence, and added that initially, like all early stages of growth, there were traumas and adolescent pains. "It can become a destabilizer if social aspirations are lifted beyond the reality of a nation's economic capacity to satisfy wants." And to illustrate my point, I drew reference to our Pacific Islands, "We have been educated to expect employment and occupations that will bring us status, where job stratification indicates the measures of individual success. Furthermore, and as a colonial hangover, a person is evaluated by his ability to speak a foreign language." "I see," my cartoon friend obliged in a bored manner, "that is why we went to school?"

"Yes, to acquire knowledge, and also as means of whitewashing."

"Meaning?"

"But I don't want to be anything other than myself, and to be a cartoonist."

"And how did you become that? Through education, my friend. You have been exposed to outside stimuli to which your great-grandfather was not subjected. These have elicited an otherwise latency in you. But, unfortunately, my friend, the society in which you live is not yet ready for what global communication has surfaced out of you." "You mean, this place too small for me?"

"It means that you may have to learn to live in your social time. Anyway, not to worry, some people are destined for a life of frustrations by living ahead of their time. And yet the history of human progress is marked by just such individuals."

My aspiring cartoonist said he was not sure whether to laugh or cry. "Are you a Christian?" I asked. "Jesus lived ahead of his time." Some Romans saw him as a rebel, a radical, and others laughed at his idealism. His philosophy was so revolutionary at the time they had to kill him. "But didn't he rise again?"

"Right on, brother. True talent is divine. It never dies. It only undergoes transformation into new forms, the buds to be watered by those who follow, to blossom into full bloom at a later time when it is appreciated."

"Friend," my aspiring cartoonist lifted his glass with shiny eyes, "whatever that means, here's to Christ."

"Cheers!"
The Honolulu Star Bulletin editorial reprinted in PEAC (Dec. 1976) gives PEACESAT the undeserved praise for its work in recent years.

Before I continue I wish to say that these comments are offered in the spirit of constructive criticism necessary for research and development work. This is not a personal attack on John Bystrom or other individuals.

PEACESAT was a remarkable achievement five years ago. It is now newsworthy simply because it has failed to grow and actively foster improved communication and telecommunication in Oceania.

The editorial, the ATS-1 satellite used by PEACESAT was not about to become space junk in 1969. It was actively used by researchers all over the world in its footprint. It is true, however, that PEACESAT had a much larger fraction of the available time in the early days.

In many cases users of ATS-1 have gone from experimental projects to operational ones on other satellites. For example, in roughly the same timeframe as the PEACESAT organization remote villages in Alaska have gone from experimental use of the same ATS-1 spacecraft to ongoing use of a commercial satellite for medical and other communications. (Nor has Alaska neglected humanistic or scientific exchanges of the sort that PEACESAT is famous for.)

Alaska is using ground stations in the $50,000 class for the present system. The scattered islands and nations of the Pacific could soon be using high-capacity ground stations in the $10,000 class if those in Hawaii interested in communication could get together instead of operating as little islands in Honolulu. The groups I have in mind are PEACESAT, the Electrical Engineering Department at University of Hawaii, and the East-West Communication Institute. Each has much to contribute. For example, much of the important research on data packet communication has and is being done at UH in the Electrical Engineering Department.

Any new and more useful telecommunications system in the Pacific must have a large digital capacity, some (or a lot) of which would be for data packets. PEACESAT as it presently organized lacks the ability to do the engineering, economic and legal-political analyses required to bring low-cost communications systems to Oceania.

The Communication Institute might, for example, be able to organize the interdisciplinary group necessary to plan and promote a new system. The lack of a strong interdisciplinary research group is exactly the reason PEACESAT has been unable to land Federal money. The Department of State has declared that U.S. policy limits satellite use to satellites for national security and defense. There is no money, finally, because the system is not considered to be commercially viable.

By JOHN BYSTROM
Director, PEACESAT

I thank the editors for the opportunity to respond to Daniel C. Smith's letter. It allows a look at internal communications in the U.S. Pacific and improved development of telecommunications throughout the world. I am very grateful to the writer of the Star-Bulletin editorial but will leave to him the very difficult task of defense.

Mr. Smith emphasized computer interconnection and he comes with high credentials. At Stanford University, he proposed a plan to connect Pacific Islands to computer stored research materials at Stanford. His letter asks the basic question: Why hasn't the PEACESAT experiment resulted in a regular service for the Trust Territory?

First, the background.

PEACESAT is an international project in two-way communication. Terminals in a dozen nations are controlled and supported locally. It is an experiment not a service. No U.S. Federal funds have been used for equipment or operations. It is backed by an international consortium that includes the Trust Territory of New Guinea.

Second, the affairs of the U.S. Pacific are heavily influenced by Federal government policy-makers and there can be no communication development without their concurrence.

Third, the PEACESAT system is designed to serve small populations, widely scattered as in the TTPI. It is agreed that this is the only way that small islands of the Pacific will obtain first-class communications.

Finally, it is unlikely that the internal traffic of the U.S. Pacific is sufficient to support a satellite system without outside help despite the low cost of small terminals. We have proposed an extended experiment in which the satellite coverage area would extend from Hawaii to Tehran (145°W to 55°E). This would lower per unit costs by increasing participation in the system. The U.S. Pacific would need only to share in the cost of such a system. As experimental traffic developed, investment capital could become interested and a future profitable service developed.

The PEACESAT system has not become a service for many reasons. A far longer period of experimentation is needed. The State of Alaska's move to a regular service is evidence of the social utility and feasibility of the small-terminal system. Unfortunately for the U.S. Pacific, the area is not served by a new commercial domestic satellite company and is not a single government jurisdiction as is Alaska. Alaska has a boom economy, with its land claim victories and new pipelines and with it the resources for communication development.

It is fair to say that U.S. policies have not encouraged development in the U.S. Pacific. The Department of Interior is involved in planning for future communications in the U.S. Pacific, although it has special responsibilities for the TTPI, American Samoa and Guam. The Department of State has declared that U.S. policy limits sat...
not applicable anymore,' he says. "The contemporary journalist attempts to write scholarly criticism of social issues, and sometimes politicians don't understand this."

"I don't think Guam can support a 24-hour news station," he says. "but it can support a radio station which has better news more often. He believes a "tightly edited weekly" in a magazine format might do well, although prohibitive printing costs would be the primary obstacle.

One of the reasons Brislin feels confident about the future is that Guam Cable-TV, in his words, is offering a great deal of variety in its programming.

Perhaps the most interesting example of Guam Cable-TV's "variety" is a show originally aired on Chinese National TV on Taiwan. "The Ten Commandments of Shaolin," brought in for Guam's Chinese population, is quite popular. With Guam Cable supplying the video cassette and paying for the air freight, the kung-fu series is bringing a little of Asia to the Pacific. And knowing the past popularity of similar martial arts movies, the series is probably bringing more than just a little smile to the management of Guam Cable-TV.

The incident prompted a police investigation into the officer's alleged statement reported in the press the following day. The incident was also discussed at a recent meeting of the Rabaul Town Council.

Tom Brislin (l), Jim Richstad (r) in Honolulu

"As a journal colleague pointed out, "We've got a long way to go." Perhaps this is the common feeling among pressmen in this country.

Pressmen owe it to the general public and to themselves to at least make an attempt to reform and be aware of the realities. No one else will do it.

Journalism in PNG in Transitional Phase

(continued from page 1)

These followed the stoning of an NBC female journalist during student riots last year. The other occurred when the Interim Premier of the Central Provincial Government barred reporters and photographers from his Government's first meeting.

Pressures on reporters to not do their jobs are great. Last January a photographer with the Island Trader in Rabaul was told by a police officer not to take pictures of two vehicles involved in a head-on collision. Apparently one of the vehicles was owned by the police force. When the photographer questioned the officer concerned, he was told something would happen if he took pictures of the accident.

The incident prompted a police investigation into the officer's alleged statement reported in the press the following day. The incident was also discussed at a recent meeting of the Rabaul Town Council.

Kuamoi says the day-to-day operation of pressmen is often subjected to unwarranted difficulties stemming from ignorance, suspicion and undue secrecy on the part of some influential members in Government as well as the private sector.

Peacesat Forum Details Issues Of Satellite System

(continued from page 8)

For myself, I think it is unfair to assign responsibility for the inadequacies of communication in the U.S. Pacific to the PEACESAT project. The $4200 PEACESAT terminal at Saipan, which was established through the initiative of George Callison and Elias Thomas, proved its worth by continuing operations after Typhoon Pamela knocked out commercial communications in the Western Pacific.

Mr. Smith suggests that planning be placed in the hands of an interdisciplinary group managed by the East-West Center's Communication Institute.

Such a policy-making organization made up of development agencies in TIPI, American Samoa, Guam and Hawaii and including representatives from key Federal agencies (and possible foreign entities) would contract for expert services that might well involve the East-West Center. It is essential that the ingredients of technology, economics and social needs, national and international requirements, and telecommunications policy are considered as parts of a whole and in relation to the total geographic region.

One last comment on computers, the system has been used for computer science seminars and technical experiments involving principally Hawaii and New Zealand. The first step is to establish telecommunication capability with which to link computer terminals. Local institutions may then determine if they wish to participate.
involved in a telerisio, effectiveness study in research team from the University of the subjectsof experiments. Over more difficultwhen human beings are one to approach. Itismade even demic research isalways a difficult

A Question of Research Ethics

By DANIEL C. SMITH Majuro

One of the important issues concerning television research in areas without TV is the ethical one. Here is how it was handled in the Marshalls by a group (including the author) whose principal investigator is Paul Ekman of the University of California at San Francisco. The experimental phase of this research has not been carried out in the Marshalls because other sites and inflation wiped out most of the budget before a satisfactory site was available in the Marshalls. The survey and pretesting phases are being continued on a small scale.

To restate the issue: How can television programs be shown to an experimental group in a society without television when it is possible that there will be negative effects? We adopted the following conditions to minimize negative consequences.

Firstly, the experiments were considered for a society which through its established institutions had approved the introduction of standard American television fare. A license had already been issued to a cable company in the case of the Marshalls.

Secondly, there existed the mechanism for a program advisory board that could consider the results of the research. In fact the results will be readily available for leaders and the public to consider. The researchers have made and will make themselves available to explain the research to legislative committees, etc. It is important to note that in our research positive as well as negative consequences are being investigated. Thus there may be some guidance as to what to do and not just what not to do in the way of TV content.

Thirdly, any effects are likely to be small. However, there will be continual monitoring of the research with a commitment to terminate it if large negative effects are observed.

Fourthly, the researchers are pledged to conduct or have conducted any appropriate follow-up necessary to eliminate harmful consequences of the experiments.

Fifthly, informed consent of the subjects and/or the parents of guardians of the subjects has been obtained. In the Marshalls, the school officials' judgments in these matters are followed by the parents. (The school is considered the guardian in these matters.) Approval has been obtained from the appropriate legislative and executive bodies.

In my own mind I would have little difficulty doing research on social learning from television in societies considering but not committed to the introduction of TV provided that the other conditions were met. It would be very appropriate for a country considering the introduction of TV to conduct experiments before a decision is made to go ahead.

Hawaii's Communication Future Examined Closely

By JACKIE BOWEN Honolulu

More than 100 Hawaii residents took a serious look into their communication future over the next decade or two at a day-long confer ence held January 17 in Honolulu, with the discussion ranging from the alternative kinds of telecommunication available to extra-terrestrial communication and biorhythms. Many consider the meeting the first step in developing a comprehensive State policy on communication.

Panelists in the communication technology discussion predicted that newspapers as we know them today will disappear in 15 years, to be replaced with television-delivered facsimile or video-cassettes. The cost of telecommunication will decrease and the abilities of technology will increase, opening up a wide range of communication services and, for the policy and planners, important choices on communication systems. Citizens ability to know and intelligently choose from among the variety of communication services at varying costs will increase in importance.

A current program, the Library Demonstration Project, uses PEACESAT and teletypewriter to link American Samoa, Hawaii, Micronesia, Guam, New Caledonia and Fiji in an information resource network. By the year 2000, it was felt that Hawaii would be linked to global information systems. Hawaii's future as an information clearinghouse for the Pacific was questioned several times.

Despite great advances in increasing the flow and accessibility of information, it was felt that Hawaii did not really have a good idea of what comes in and out of the state, or flows across it, and what the costs and needs for such information are. It was also stressed that delivery is the key to an information policy--by whatever means. The system fails when the user cannot get what is needed.

Panelists discussing development of communication skills forecast that the production and utilization of materials or energy sources would be more intimately connected to human communication. A panelist predicted that the Kissinger-era 'Grand Statesman' policy would soon change to a more...
SATELLITE ROUND UP

PEACESAT (Pan Pacific Education and Communication Experiments by Satellite) has activated two additional terminals in the Pacific Basin network. Joining the system in December 1976 was the Center for South Pacific Studies at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

One of the first activities of the Santa Cruz terminal is an experiment in which Pacific Basin high school students participate in science-writing dialogues. One location prepares a 3-5 minute dialogue which is followed by an international round-table discussion soliciting comments from all locations.

In January 1977 a terminal was reactivated in Pago Pago, American Samoa. The new location for the terminal is the American Samoa Community College.

A series of discussions on English as a Second Language curriculum methods and testing procedures is among the early applications made of PEACESAT by the American Samoa Education Department.

Additional planned uses of the terminal include continuing education for teachers, nursing education, physician consulting, and an experiment in multi-media applications.

With the addition of Santa Cruz and American Samoa to the PEACESAT system, the total number of terminals is now 16. As of February 1, 1977, they are:

-Honolulu, Hawaii - University of Hawaii
- Wellington, New Zealand - Wellington Polytechnic
- Suva, Fiji - University of the South Pacific
- Kingdom of Tonga - USP Center
- Lae, Papua New Guinea - USP Center
- Nadi, Melanesia
- Pacific Basin Educational Communication System
- Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands - Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands
- Noumea, New Caledonia - South Pacific Commission
- Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea
- Rarotonga, Cook Islands - Cook Islands Government
- Nuku'alofa, Tonga
- USP Center - Tarawa, Gilbert Islands
- USP Center - Vila, New Hebrides
- Apia, Western Samoa - Education Department
- American Samoa - American Samoa Community College
- and Santa Cruz, California

TRUST TERRITORY CONSIDERING SECOND PEACESAT TERMINAL


George Callison, PEACESAT's Saipan terminal manager, wrote the review. He also said that the choice of Ponape as the future capital of Micronesia is another reason for building another terminal, especially if the future government wants to remain in the PEACESAT network.

By mid-April, the Trust Territory will have participated in the PEACESAT experiment for four years. Callison stressed that "had it not been for the vision and enthusiasm of Broadcast Division and the Department of Public Affairs in 1972 it is quite likely this satellite communication system might never have been made available to the Trust Territory. Other departments rejected the idea at the time because, among other reasons, of its experimental nature."

The Trust Territory Departments of Education and Health Services have been the most active users of the satellite system. Other users have included the High Commissioner's Office, the Office of the Attorney General, and the divisions of Agriculture, Marine Resources, Lands and Surveys, Labor, Community Development, Broadcast, Public Information, and the Congress of Micronesia.

Callison said the future of PEACESAT looks bright "on all counts." He cited the life span of ATS-1, which recently celebrated its 10th anniversary of service. An upcoming series with American Samoa utilizing teletype facsimile, wired blackboard, slow-scan television, and possibly computer assessment shows that the system is alive and well.

"The possibility of a new terminal on Ponape, Callison said, could only benefit Micronesia. "There would be nothing to lose and everything to gain by doing so."
Saipan Broadcasting Station to 'Preach Gospel'

A Christian broadcasting service began construction of transmitter and studio facilities on Saipan in January. Far East Broadcasting Co., Inc. (Fintel), a California based missionary group, will aim its initial radio services to the Marianas during the early stages of its operation.

According to a report in the Marianas Variety, Burd Brunemeier, Fintel’s Saipan director, said a balance between religious and nonreligious programming is the aim of the new station. FIntel hopes to be on the air by June 1977.

Brunemeier also said that the Northern Marianas Legislature Considering TV Censorship Bill

Concern over the possible effects of television have led eight members of the Northern Marianas Legislature to introduce a bill in the current session which calls for prior censorship of television programs.

The bill would empower seven censors to preview all programs before they are shown, make recommendations to the two Saipan television stations concerning programming, and prohibit stations from airing certain shows if the stations fail to comply with the recommendations of the censors.

The powers of the censors would be such that, "Any television station that refuses to comply with the decision of the censors shall not be allowed to continue to operate in the Northern Marianas."

Fiji government to acquire Cable & Wireless

The Fiji government will acquire a 51% interest in the British Government-owned Cable & Wireless. According to a report in PIM, Fiji International Telecommunications, Ltd. (Fintel) will take over the C&W operations soon but it will continue to operate out of the present C&W building in Suva.

PIM reports that the takeover will cost Fiji FS3.5 million, about $1 million less than originally estimated. An initial 10% of stock will be purchased soon, and the balance is to be purchased by 1982. Fintel will retain C&W staff and management. C&W will retain ownership of its repair shops and ship service station.

Fintel will be a commercial operation, Fiji Minister for Communications Jonati Mavoa said. Profits will be used to finance development projects. The PIM article said that the Fiji government increased international telecommunications rates by 25% as of August, 1976. Another increase is expected this year. C&W rates have remained stable for the past 15 years.

The Fiji government move may signify an important development in the attitude of the government toward communication and regional contacts.

The Variety story quoted a Fintel publication which said the purpose of the broadcasting operation is to "provide Gospel broadcasting stations...in order that the Gospel of Christ may be more fully preached and established in the world."

There was some speculation in 1975, when Fintel first approached the Trust Territory about establishing a station, that Fintel's Protestant message on predominantly Catholic Saipan might cause difficulties. Brunemeier told the Variety, "We're not coming to rock the boat...causing a big battle between Protestants and Catholics." He added that Fintel has operated in the Philippines for 29 years.

When Fintel begins broadcasting, it will join Saipan's two other radio stations. KJQR, the government station, was the first, beginning operations in 1964. WSZE, a private AM/FM station broadcasting music tapes sent from the U.S. mainland, started in 1976.

COMMUNICATION OPTIONS FOR HAWAII

CONSIDERED AT HONOLULU MEETING

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10)

The concern of the legislators is clearly the amount of televised violence they believe is now being shown. The bill says, "It is believed that such a commission could contribute substantially to the reduction of juvenile delinquency and crime that exist on Saipan."

Opposition to the bill is being led primarily by the television stations, WSZE-TV and Saipan's Cable-TV. They contend that since the Northern Marianas has opted to join the United States as a Commonwealth, American laws such as the First Amendment should also be applicable.

There are no official censors presently in either the Trust Territory or the Territory of Guam. A similar attempt to introduce a cinema censorship panel on Guam two years ago was voted down by the Guam Legislature.

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interpersonal, intercultural communication style. In the public interest discussion, communication/transportation trade-offs for parts of Hawaii were advocated to decrease traffic congestion and telecommunication competition rather than a regulated monopoly was urged once basic equipment has been installed.

One panelist took the position of an average citizen viewing the increasing complexity of communication systems and asked whether computer information centers could become the controlling agent between more people and machines in the future.

Another problem with the increase in availability of complex telecommunication's equipment concerned the telephone company's programs to train equipment installers. By the time equipment installers are taught how to interconnect one kind of new equipment into the larger communication system, changes are made in the components which make one kind obsolete soon after installation. Buyers of new communication systems are caught in the same bind--technological advance can make just-purchased equipment out-of-date.