

number of members of Parliament from 20 to 18. A referendum on the proposed changes is scheduled for January 1990, after they have been reviewed by the Constitutional Review Committee.

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TOKELAU

A non-self-governing territory administered by New Zealand, Tokelau consists of three small atolls with a total land area of approximately 12.2 square kilometers. A census conducted in 1986 reported a total population of 1690, an increase of 118 over a five-year period. More than 3000 Tokelauans now live abroad, principally in New Zealand and Western Samoa, a result of population pressure and the constraints of atoll life.

Tokelau is administered by New Zealand, and Tokelauans are New Zealand citizens. Following the provisions of New Zealand's Tokelau Act, a new administrator for Tokelau was appointed by the minister for foreign affairs and began a three-year term on 27 January 1988. The Wellington-based administrator made his annual visit to Tokelau in April 1988. Responsibilities for day-to-day administration are delegated to the official secretary, who heads the Office of Tokelau Affairs, located in Apia, Western Samoa.

New Zealand's administration of Tokelau is scrutinized by the United Nations General Assembly's Special Committee on the Situation with Regard to the Implementation of the Declaration on the Granting of Independence to Colonial Countries and Peoples. A report to the committee was

distributed on 14 March 1989, following the transmittal of information by the New Zealand government to the United Nations Secretary-General on 10 February.

In April and October 1988, New Zealand representatives made statements to, and were questioned by, the Sub-Committee on Small Territories, and the Fourth Committee. At these meetings New Zealand emphasized the Tokelauans' expressed desire to retain a special relationship with New Zealand and to defer moves toward an independent political status. Nevertheless, on 22 November, the General Assembly reaffirmed "the inalienable right of the people of Tokelau to self-determination and independence," supported measures to promote political and economic development while preserving social and cultural traditions, and urged New Zealand to increase its development assistance to Tokelau.

In October 1988 Tokelau's General *Fono*—a principal policymaking institution consisting of representatives of each atoll—agreed on a proposal for Tokelau to adopt its own flag and anthem. The *fono* also supported a visit by the *faipule* (the *fono*'s three joint chairs) and *pulenuku* (village mayors) to New Zealand for consultations with the administrator and the minister of foreign affairs, which took place the following month.

Discussions at that meeting focused on political and economic development and on transport. The Tokelau delegation requested a delay in the construction of airstrips on each atoll, and a redirection of resources toward improving shipping services and widening the reef passages. The airstrip

program, intended to reduce Tokelau's isolation, and authorized by the General *Fono* in April 1987, was postponed indefinitely. However, New Zealand undertook to begin construction if and when Tokelau considers it is ready to introduce air service in the atolls, with costs met by allocations over and above New Zealand's annual budgetary grant.

New Zealand's budget aid covers more than 80 percent of Tokelau's requirements, with the balance raised through shipping and freight charges; the sale of handicrafts, coins, and postage stamps; customs duties; and radio and telegram excises. The main expenditures include education, transport and communications, and public service salaries and expenditures. With 346 Tokelauans employed as of 31 March 1988, the Tokelau Public Service remains the main source of regular income in Tokelau.

Additional New Zealand aid is devoted to particular projects, including the work on the reef channels. Tokelau receives further assistance from various regional and international organizations, particularly the United Nations Development Program (UNDP). A UNDP indicative planning figure of about one million dollars was set for the period 1987 to 1991, with the upgrading of Tokelau's communications equipment (destroyed during 1987 storms) representing the single largest project. Plans were also underway for UNDP to assist in providing new power generators for the atolls.

STEPHEN LEVINE

WALLIS AND FUTUNA

The French territory of Wallis and Futuna has long been considered a trouble-free spot, forgotten in the middle of the Pacific, its people living under the paternalistic authority of customary law, the Catholic church, and the French administration. Gaullist Senator Benjamin Brial was regularly reelected with over 90 percent of the votes. In spite of a somewhat low standard of living, the people were free to migrate to New Caledonia where well-paying jobs could usually be found relatively easily. Remittances could then sustain a higher standard of living for relatives back home. Thus these islands drifted along, seemingly far removed from the great winds sweeping the world. However, the events of 1988-1989 have shown that some upheavals may be brewing below the calm surface.

But first some facts. Wallis, whose population today is approximately 9000, was settled three thousand years ago by a Polynesian people who were subsequently conquered by Tongan warriors over the course of long wars. Common historical ties were established between the island of Wallis (or Uvea in Polynesian) and the Tongan archipelago, especially in the cultural and linguistic spheres. On the other hand, the 4000 people of Futuna, located some two hundred kilometers from Wallis, speak a Samoan language and share many cultural characteristics with the people of the islands of Samoa. As a result, in spite of joint French administration and a mutual belief in the Catholic faith, the peoples of Wallis and Futuna do not share a