

Box 1572, Ph 21099/21195 Füx:21195 Friday 13 December 1991\$ 1.00 Pago 500

Twelve dead. 19 injured and thousands homeless

# Samoa reels from worst disaster in living memory

#### **By Jannette Thompson**

Western Samoa has been left reeling from the effects of Cyclone Val which ravaged the country for four days and nights, and left 12 people 19 injured and thousands dead, homeless.

Described as the country's breadfruit and taro, the damage has not yet been the ground. made.

However, spokesman and chairman of lethal missiles as they were the National Council (NDC), Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, said telephone wires lashed yesterday it would be well wildly from lopsided power in excess of the US\$170 million sustained during Cyclone Ofa, just 22 months ago.

said.

#### **Under siege**

From last Friday, December 6, until the morning of Tuesday, December 10, the country lived like a nation under siege.

Cyclonic winds, gusting up to 130 miles an hour, ripped and tore at everything in their path.

As well as destroying staple the names and other details food crops such as banana,

worst disaster in living cyclone brought giant fig memory, a full estimate of and banyan trees crashing to

Mangled pieces of corru-Government gated roofing iron became Disaster swept away by the wind.

Broken power lines and poles.

According to police reports, the 12 people killed during the cy-"The damage from Cyclone clone included an Elec-Val is far, far worse," he tric Power Corporation employee who was electrocuted and a sixyear-old boy who died when a coconut fell on his head while he was running to a pastor's house for shelter.

> Four of the deaths were the result of injuries sustained from flying roofing iron. Police have not yet released

> > (See Page 2)



The historic Courthouse on Beach "Road, built during the German administration of Western Samoa, was one of many landmarks to succumb 'to the wrath of Cyclone Val. The building houses the Prime Minister\ office, Cabinet meeting room and various government departments, as well qs the Supreme Court.

# Cabinet meets today to set assistance priorities

Cyclone Val.

assistance.

of»

Cabinet will meet this and chairman of the emergency medical cases to morning to prepare a list of National Disaster Council, the National Hospital," priority needs for Western Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, Tuilaepa said.

Observer presses roll again

In keeping with the spirit being shown by so many people

Today's issue appears after staff worked long into the night, sometimes having to resort to flashlights when the generator gave out.

Advertisers are advised that the Sunday Observer will be out as usual and the Matafele office will be open during normal business hours today. The Vaitele office will also open today and tomorrow.

in the community during these difficult days, the Observer visional assessment reports relief aid received so far had needing urgent treatment Samoa, based on pro- said yesterday emergency "A number of people of damage sustained during come mainly from New have been uplifted from Zealand and Australia. both Savaii and Upolu using The list will form the basis It hjad been made up of boththe helicopter services. the emergency supplies, armed "Distribution of medical appeals to international community for forces personnel and two supplies to district hospitals •• started yesterday. In this helicopters. "The priorities to daté have **Emergency** aid Government spokesperson concentrated on transporting (See Page 2)

DECTO APIA CHURCH SERVICE © MAXKAR LIMITED INSIDE ASSEMBLY SUNAGE X00 pm English Speak ^ Church Service Pastor A. Macdonald • 23-633 OF GOD SAVALALO PHONE: 21-411/22-376 TODA Y **Copiers** • Computers Four page lift out of FAITH'S PROMISE SHARP Typewriters • Facsimile Adventurers cross paths cyclone damage Calculators • Cash Ftoaister Look unto me, and be D,ctures mside \* Typewriters ye saved, all thr ends with Vat. Page 3 **OLYMP1AO**  Calculators of the earth: for I am Map of Val's path of Observer joins aerial **•OFFICE FURNITURE** God, and there is none **APIA BOTTLING CO.LTD** flight over damaged destruction. STATIONERY else. APIA, WESTERN SAMOA • OFFICE MACHINE REPAIR SERVICE islands. Page 4 **Back Page** lejejejejejejejejejejejejejejejeje **PHOTOCOPY & FAX SERVICE** 

Isaiah 45:22 ACDONALDS BLDG. SAVALALO

# Samoa reels from worst disaster in living memory

of those killed.

evacuated, many losing their Power and telephone helicopter. personal belongings as well services have virtually been sought shelter in village churches, others moved in disrupted. neighbours with or relatives.

Hardly a building escaped unscathed.

Many landmarks such as the historic Courthouse on Beach Road and St Mary's Convent School in Apia are badly damaged.

Wind and water has also taken its toll on the city library, numerous government departments and the Central Business District.

At the National Hospital, by flashlight when standby generators failed to start. Several wards Nurses Home.

supply yesterday relying on and air force personnel. maintain supply.

Most shops remained the relief effort. supermarkets,

Banking facilities were On board will be diesel available from the main generators, building matebranches in Beach Road and rials, water pumps, water gency relief work.

Thousands of families were ported to be back to normal. equipment including

According to reports tabled On Saturday, a French with the NDC, it could be six months before full power and telecommunication

services can be restored. Many roads remained cut yesterday by washouts,

fallen trees and other debris, particularly on Savaii.

**Head of State** The Head of State, Malietoa

Tanumafili 11, declared a Monday, December 9, and overseas emergency assisoperations were performed tance has already started arriving.

were were the first countries to people of Western Samoa.

grocery HMNZ Canterbury is due Zealand.

stores and chemist shops. to dock at 10 am today.

postai services were re- purification tablets and other

A company of 286 peras their homes. While some wiped out, and water sonnel including engineers supplies have been severely and a medical team will also be aboard.

> vessel is due to arrive carrying a radio transmitter and two operators, medical and surgical equipment and" food.

#### Sympathy and support

New Zealand's deputy State of Emergency on Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and External Relations, Don McKinnon, briefly visited Upolu on Wednesday extend to New Zealand and Australia sympathy and support to the

evacuated, as well as the respond, both sending in A spokesman for his office supplies of tarpaulins, water said his visit was to get a The hospital was still bottles, medical supplies clear picture of the priorities such as taro had been totally without a reliable water and tents, as well as army and needs of the Government of Western Samoa, water carted in trucks to They also deployed air as well as to encourage force helicopters to assist in support from the rest of the international community closed yesterday apart from The New Zealand frigate, when he returned to New

> He said New Zealand had made an initial aid pledge of NZ\$200,000 towards emer-

## Cabinet meets today to set assistance priorities

those who have been injured those trees left standing," but who perhaps are being cared for at home."

Distribution of tarpaulins was expected to get into full time needed for crops to swing tomorrow.

Tuilaepa, who made an aerial inspection of the country yesterday morning, said Cyclone Val had undone everything that had been accomplished since Cyclone Ofa in February last year.

"Things were just starting to come right again," he said.

"The price of copra was on the rise, banana and taro exports had resumed, and the inflation rate was down to about two per cent.

"Now we have been hit again.'

Preliminary estimates put tree crops losses at near 90 percent, while food crops "destroyed.

Breadfruit had also been wiped out and a large percentage of trees had also been destroyed.

Sixty per cent of the j country's forests had also been devastated.

"We saw from the air plantations littered with uprooted coconut trees and |

way, we hope to also assist only a few nuts remained on Tuilaepa said.

> He said considering the extent of the damage and the recover, the need for relief food supplies could become urgent within the next two weeks.

The Government had already prepared three warehouses to receive supplies.

#### **Church supplies**

The Church of the Latter Day Saints was reported to have received relief supplies yesterday afternoon, a large part of which would be handed over to the NDC for distribution.

Tuilaepa said that the NDC office in the Public Works Department's training centre was the focal point for all relief operations and would be open throughout the day. He added that NDC efforts were being closely coordinated with nongovernment organisations such as the red Cross to avoid duplication of effort.

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Margi (Left) and Gerard Moss pictured in front of the 'Romeo' which has taken them to places as far away as Brazil and the African continent and to the islands dotting the Pacific Ocean.

# **Brazilian** adventurers and Cyclone Val cross paths in Apia

Brazilian adventurer Margi Moss shrugged shoulders and pursed her she said. lips to the suggestion that Cyclone Val might have been following her all the way to Samoa.

said. "We flew in from Tonga" which is south of here whereas Cyclone Val hailed from Tokelau to the north.

Gerard are flying around the too ruined". world in their Brazilian-built Flying in their "Embraer"

They flew into Faleolo Airport on Thursday before Cyclone Val, the next day into Africa where they began it's four-day reign of stayed for one and half destruction in Samoa.

ran into something like ...... "dark continent" before this," Margi told the Samoa heading off to the Middle Observer yesterday in an East at the time when the interview.

But she was quick to 1989. comment on the simple yet practical manner in which could fly to at that time was Samoans were reacting to Oman (at the bottom of the has been caused.

"It would be a world her record if we can make it," been converted to have only

Speaking of their hosts, Margi said the Greys were very "impressive people". Although born in Kenya, "It couldn't have," she she has been living with her Swiss husband, Gerard in

Brazil for the last 12 years. Two and a half years ago, they took off on their roundthe-world journey "to see Margi and her husband the world before it became

one-engine aircraft, Romeo. aircraft, which was once a six-seater passenger plane, they crossed the Atlantic years.

"It was the first time we There they flew all over the

Gulf War broke out in late

The only country they

The Moss' aircraft has

#### (See Page 6)

during the cyclone had centred on the numerous evacuations and officers had Public Works tip trucks for often risked their lives to carryout these operations during the height of the storm.

churches, homes or the homes of relatives.

Galuvao said there had also awaiting been a lot of calls from peo- overseas." ple concerned about trees

# busy during Cyclone Val

Evacuations keep police

More than 2(X) police men and women worked around the clock during the four days that Cyclone Val raged, answering a variety of calls for emergency assistance.

Police Commissioner, Galuvao Tanielu, on Wednesday paid tribute to the work put in by the officers, most of whom were presently taking "a well-deserved" break from duties.

#### Endurance

He said many had worked without even a raincoat or wet weather footwear and their endurance had been severely tested considering the length of time the cyclone persisted.

Most of the police work

threatening their homes.

"In those cases, we usually sent out two or more officers," Tanielu said.

"While one officer used the chainsaw, the other kept a lookout for flying debris."

Although reports of looting were broadcast on the radio, Galuvao said there had been no serious cases and no arrests had been made.

"Some trouble had flared at Vaiala when the Government houses there were evacuated but we had men on a foot patrol around the town and the wharf area to keep these incidences to a minimum," he said.

"It wasn't as bad as during Cyclone Ofa."

Galuvao said police work had been severely hampered by a lack of transportation.

"We ended up using three evacuations and work associated with clearing the roads," he said.

"Unfortunately, the three Evacuees had been taken to vehicles recently given to neighbours the Western Samoa police force by the United States were all out of action, parts from

(See Page 6)



the extensive damage that Persian Gulf) because of the war.

"If this had happened in From there they flew to the United States or Karachi, India, Thailand, anywhere else in the Malaysia, Indonesia, Au-world," she remarked," they stralia, Solomon Islands, would still be (moping) Vanuatu, New Caledonia, about waiting for (someone Fiji, Tonga and now Apia. From here they fly on to

else to fix the damage). "I am very impressed" that American Samoa, Raropeople have already started tonga, Tahiti, Easter Islands rebuilding their collapsed and on to Chile, in South homes, she added.

America.

Sponsored by Aggie The trip between Easter Grey's Hotel during their islands and Chile would be stay in Apia, Margi and the longest (2,000 nautical Gerard are aiming to be the miles) compared to 1,800 first aviators to fly between nautical miles across the Australia and South America Atlantic with 12 hours in a single-engine aircraft, flying time.

## Samoa Observer

Apia, Friday 13 December 1991

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# Needing a shoulder to lean on

So Cylone Val came by and raged arrogantly on, leaving behind destruction and death, indeed the worst devastation Samoa has ever seen.

Twelve people have reportedly perished during Val's reign of terror, and a number were injured. Without a doubt, Cyclone Val has touched every family one way or another, many of them have suddenly found themselves homeless with costly reconstruction to attend to.

All this is happeneing just 18 months from when Cyclone Ofa had delivered its own quota of devastation, when the damage done then had not completely been repaired.

The most nagging question then is: When will the next cyclone strike? Will there be one again in Februrary next year, just two months away, when the wet season is at its peak? We wish someone could let us know.

But the sad sight of deserved houses badly leaking and smashed up, with people rambling aimlessly outside in the rain as violent winds were slamming things about, not knowing what to do or where to go, will remain with us for as long as we live.

The picture of people sitting helplessly inside their semi-lit homes as the wind bombarded them from all sides, waiting nervously as if for the house to crash down on them, wondering when it would all end, and if God was still alive, is still so fresh in people's minds.

Everyone who went through Cyclone Val's fourday blow in the weekend will agree that the most unforgetable thing about it was its tenacious fury. Not only did it maintain its intensity from Friday to Sunday, it stepped it up on Monday.

So that by Tuesday morning, it had done more damage just as crippling, just as eye-opening. That was when its epic-centre, according to radio reports, was just 25 miles south of Upolu.

What amazed many people though was that the cylcone appeared to enjoy hugging Samoa's coastline as it circled it slowly, while unleasing its torrents of scorn, as if it was taunting some people in the place.

It seemed as if it was trying to send a message but what it was, in the din of our own fears, we will probably never know.

But it is clear what we have to do - rebuild. Let us follow what the others have already started and not just sit idly by. We trust that the government will



The Catholic church at Manono-uta is completely devastated by Cyclone Val while almost all other buildings in the picture shows siens os damage from a picture taken from an Australian helicopter yesterday morning.

#### A helicopter view «

# **Cyclone Val destroys** more than Ofa

#### **By Uclcse Petaia**

Samoa Observer joins first aerial inspection of Cyclone Val's destruction by helicopter with Chairman of the National Disaster Committee, Tuilaepa Sailele Malielegaoi, New Zealand High Commissioner, Adrian Simcock, Minister of Public Works Lea fa Vitale, Police Commissioner Galuvao Tanielu and Chief Information officer, Tunumafono Apelu Aiavao.

To say that Cyclone Val was worse than Cyclone Ofa would be uttering the understatement of the year.

Val, in her wake, has left us with housands of people without a roof over their heads and our economy in shreds.

As we took off from Malifa compound and saw the exposed roof trestles of hundreds and hundreds of houses in the Apia and surrounding areas, it became evident straight away that the destruction left to the economy stared by Val is immense, to say at me like a nightmare. the least.

Being one of the first standing anyway, looked people to be able to take in, like they had been first hand, the destruction commanded to raise their same, right around the country leaves towards the heavens from the air, one was not and bow to the east as absolutely sure what to though welcoming the rising with no tops. expect. sun. Today's Quotes 55 The " island

Unprepared The damage I saw on the ground after the four day ordeal did not prepare me for what we were about to

see. Along the northern coast towards the airport one sees the same scene of scattered roofing irons, timber, and clothing over and over again it almost becomes monotonous.

When I turned away from the coast to look inland the destruction

Coconuts trees, those left

It will be a long time indeed before we can drink from a freshly picked coconut.

You can also count on nine to ten months before you can pluck a banana off the tree.

If there is a banana tree left standing on the whole of Samoa, it must be underground.

Our forests also have been desicated, and lifeless trees left lying there like carcasses' awaiting the last trip to the butchers, only they have already been butchered.

The scene is repeated all over the country.

Manono island is the most homes, churches, schools are nothing more than shells

assist in any way it can every family needing help.

The lesson we have learned from Cyclone Ofa is that it is shameful to just sit back and wait for aid to make things easier for us.

The government should start things moving by removing all import duties on building materials for up to six months, so that reconstruction could be hastened up.

Companies whose premises have been damaged should be given immediate assistance so that employment could resume as soon as possible.

At the same time, subsidies on agricultural chemicals and machinery should be markedly increased, or duties on them removed altogether for up to a year to allow farmers to increase their production as soon as possible.

At times like now, the country needs a strong shoulder to lean on. Let us hope our government is that shoulder.

In the day of prosperity there is forgetfulness of affliction: 'and in the day of affliction there is no more rememberance of prosperity. 9Jo[y "Bible

Baha'i House of Worship. Tlapap.ita

Services:

'The past is But the beginning of a Beginning, and att that is and has been is but the turilight of the daxon. Herbert Qeorge Wells i Samoa, particularly along

**Apolima tinier** 

tiny Apolima is community even tinier after Val took off with all but a couple of the houses. Savaii is again the hardest hit of the whole of Western

(See Page 7)

Sunday at 10.00 a.a.

Bleated and happy he. that asU&eth to promote the be&t -LnteAeAtb o& the people\* and kindled\* oh the exauth.

Talia ma le f iafia tagata uma! - Everybody welcome!

## Brazilian adventures and Cyclone Val cross paths in Apia

spare parts and needed had smashed the place up. equipment.

Polynesian Airlines' hanger the place was rather at Faleolo Airport.

Margi and Gerard are and installed.

summer," Margi said,

four seats, two at the front adding that they had wished and two at the back, with they had time enough to see the tropical countries enough room for extra fuel, Samoa before the cyclone because they are so much

"As we drove down from It is being housed at the airport, we thought that through the Pacific instead. beautiful.

planning to take off again in Solomons, we didn't want to tour the world. She took three days when a spare part to go through New Zealand her flying license a week being ordered has arrived then," she said. "We before they left Brazil. imagined that New Zealand "We want to make the would be still the same for a for ten years while working crossing to Chile during long time. Not these Pacific as a shipbroker trading in islands though.

"We're so happy being in like Kenya," she continued.

So they island-hopped

Margi had worked for British Airways as a sales "When we arrived in the representative before quiting

> But Gerard has been flying soya beans.

## **Evacuatons keep police busy during Cyclone Val**

police driving course.

#### **Outlying posts**

Galuvao said a number of outlying police posts had been damaged or destroyed in the cyclone including Tuasivi, Lalomanu, Falealii and Asau.

At the Apia headquarters, both the CIB and the traffic division buildings were damaged but quick action saved all files and records. The surveillance centre,

built by the Australian

The secondhand vehicles Government and opened other choice but to temphad not actually been used earlier this year, proved an orarily release them. for police duties since being invaluable communications utilised during a recent nerve-centre, despite the fact working at the prison now water.

Commenting on the Sunday." situation at Tafaigata Prison, Galuvao said roof on the main accommodation block had been destroyed and 96 prisoners had been released on Tuesday, on humanitarian grounds.

"They were through," he said.

situation and felt I had no Cyclone Val.

"We have carpenters that it leaked badly covering and hope to have the the top storey floor with building re-roofed by the time the prisoners return on

> Galuvao said he believed the public had learned a lot from the experience of Cyclone Ofa.

He said they were much better prepared but even the soaked best preparations could not withstand the continual "I took one look at thier hammering delivered by



Mulitalo Penaia (Left) and Rev. Lafaele Mageo (American Samoa), were photographed at the RSA Club on Thursday afternoon enjoying a the lunchtime break before the usual rush to return to work. Rev. Mageo was in Apia for the meeting of the Disaster Coordinating Committee held on Thursday afternoon.



# Lapataia le faapuna o vai taumafa uma

Ua lapataia e le ofisa o le pa u. Soifua Maloloina le atunuu lautele ina ia faapuna ma e matutua e faigofie tele muamua vai taumafa ona ona maua i nei faamai pe'a taumafa ai lea.

O suavai ae maise lava Ua lapataia foi le atunuu alavai uma i le atunuu ua lautele ina ia aua le soona faaleagaina uma e le afa o lafoai otaota i vaitafe ona o Val ma e ono oo atu lava i le ina o loo maua mai ai le vai ono masina o tau faaleleia taumafa a le toatele o le pea.

O le toatele ua leai ni vai paipa ua asu vai solo mai ai.

ua lapataia nei e le ofisa uma.

Taua e le ofisa o fanau iti le lava le puipuiga.

atunuu.

Taua e se sui o lea ofisa ua vaipuna i soo se mea e maua tatau i le toatele ona taumafai e faamama ia nofoaga i taimi

le atunuu lautele ina ia faia ni faiga e foia ai le aafia o atunuu i le faatauina o mea tagata i ni faamai.

Ua fautuaina ina ia faataugofieina". faapuna uma vai taumafa ma "Ua tatau foi ona taumafai ia taumafai e aua le ina ia faavela lelei taumafa faaaogaina vai mai vai e le ma aua le toe taumafaina ni tatafe poo vaivai foi aua o figota ota" sa lapatai mai ai ina e iai siama e ono lamatia lea sui. ai le soifua.

aisi i le manava tata ma le lenei vaitaimi". mai faasuati i le falemai i Motootua.

soifua maloloina mo le ipu uma e faaaoga i le toatele e ono maua i le fulu, gaseseina ma le taumafaina niumonia ma isi faamai o le o mea taumafa uma.

"E tatau foi ona mataala le. taumafa tuu aisa ua

"O taumafa tuu apa o se Ua amataina nei ona maua taumafa saogalemu lea mo

Ua faapea foi ona toe faamanatuina i le atunuu te Ua sauni foi le ofisa o le taua o le fufulu mamaina ô

# One of Samoa's oldest fashion trends revived

#### by Merita Tua

thinks of baggy pants, tight wrist tattoos. skirts, tighter t-shirts and freedom bras.

the seventies has returned in were descendants of the supposedly half human force through the flary pants High Chiefs and for the swam the Pacific Ocean often seen paraded along taupou (ceremnial virgin). Beach Road in Apia as well as dresses of the twenties anyone brave enough to (although it's hard to know if this style ever went away).

#### **Centuries old**

that has slowly increased since a couple of years ago, although it dates back for centuries.

This is malu - the living art which represents beauty in the Samoan woman and their answer to the much publisiced tatau.

Although it was better known as the dying art during the last decade young for their tatau. Samoan women have decided to update the



3

r5\*>

mentioned one automatically addition of the ankle and not, until a mix-up over the

Before this, the thigh tattoo the was considered to be tattooing in Samoa. Even the flower power of suitable only for those who

stand the painful ordeal.

living in the Vaimauga **Centuries old** district who wishes, to stay famous rounds the ladies There is one trend however anonymous said that these returned from Fiji where days the value of the malu they picked up the au and was no longer important nearing Savaii they saw a since the taupou system was giant oyster. slowly fading.

> girls young days," she said.

ordeal because the father or unpopularity of the malu. brother wants a soa or pair Another mystery

Suluape said.

believed it cured illnesses mystery. and also added that it was part of the custom.

However most girls fetu (stars). indicated they were merely following their friends behind young ladies taking example and this they said great interest in this form of also, in my opinion, 100 had nothing to do with the art one thing for sure is that custom.

said.

It is not well -known how the malu originally came one hour you will be treated devastated and along Palauli about or how old it is.

But one legend tells of to the women of Samoa how women have always that is the MALU.

When the word trend is tradition with sometimes the had tattoos and the men did words of a song changed whole history of

> Two ladies who were once upon a time to gather Nowadays the malu is for au-ink to use for the tatau. While swimming they

would sing a song declaring everything A 75-year-old taupou now womens rights of the tattoo. During one of these

Excited over the discovery "It's just a game to they decided to dive for it these and by doing so they changed the words making It appears in more recent the men the soul owners of

The designs for this "It's part of the custom," masterpiece has much todo St Mary's student, Lina with the Ocean and whether this has anything to do with Another girl said she the legend that is another

But some of the designs are the gogo (seagulls) and

Whatever the reason the malu is here to stay "It was the tre <" they •' hether it's for the custom or simply just a trend.

For just one day or even to the oldest trends known

## Cyclone Val destroys more than Ofa

the northern coast heading stage to sitting in silence and west.

You can put the Tuasivi only twelve. government compound on the totally destroyed list.

That's your Police station, know. hospital, courts etc - all gone with the wind.

destruction, I was still not prepared for what we encountered as we hit Asau.

#### **Giant** fit

It was as though some giant had had a fit and had stomped the to ground.

The debris was scattered all over the place and even in the plantations I could see destroyed. the glint of roofing iron thrown up there miles from the villages.

Asau, Auala, Vaisala, area. Sataua, Papa, Fagasa, Neiafu, Falealupo are all nothing but a dumping place area. for building material even times, girls go through this the tatau and resulting in the though the people had obviously done some early reconstruction work.

The newly rebuilt Vaisala Hotel is again shattered.

I estimate a hundred percent of all buildings in this area sustained some damage and at least 95% are totally destroyed.

#### Destruction 100%

The destruction of crops is cocoa and copra too. percent.

The sawm' at Asau looks like a relic n om of the worl wari.

Sahilua and Taga are also we could see the same type of destruction.

One is reduced at this

wonder why the death toll is ?

How these people survived 1 will never

The Faasaleleaga district fared slightly better than the But even with all this rest of Savaii but the damage is still worse than Ofa.

> Upolu is a lot better than Savaii but again the destruction ranks more than Ofa.

> The Lefaga area is one of the worst hit on this island. Add the Aleipata area to

that list too. Most of these villages are

#### **Fagaloa Bay**

But none on Upolu fared as badly as the Fagaloa bay

It was reminiscent of the earlier scenes of the Asau

Wave damage seem to have been the main cause of damage along the north east coast, particularly to the roads which are cut off at Luatuanuu, Laulii and Solosolo.

Most school buildings we saw all over the country are destroyed, and all have major structural damage.

From the air it looks certain we have lost all our flourishing banana crops,

The coconut trees left standing in most areas except the south western side of both islands can be written off.

Cyclone Val has certainly wiped any memory of Ofa's destruction from my mind totally.



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Pictured with Education Department colleagues at the end of their stay in Western Samoa were Peace Corp volunteers (Far left) Andrew Lewis and Keri Faamoe (Third from left) with them were (From left) Galumalemana Peters, Petaia Tuaniu and Tololima Auvaa.



## Babies defy Cyclone Val

While attention throughout the country was focused on Cyclone Val this week, there were at least eight women who had happier events on their minds.

The National Hospital reports that eight babies were born during the four days the cyclone lashed Western Samoa - three on Friday, two on Sunday morning and three at the height of the cyclone on Monday.

## Penpal appeal

My name is Paul Davis and I am a 29-year-old Canadian.

I plan to visit Samoa next yçar and would like to correspond with someone in the country.

My address is P. O. Box 207-S21, Q Plaza, 1900 Cainta, Rizal, Philippines.

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**FESILI FUNERALS** 



A part of the Asau district that was lightly damaged by cyclone Val. The school buildings on the right is typical of most schools seen from the aerial inspection yesterday morning.



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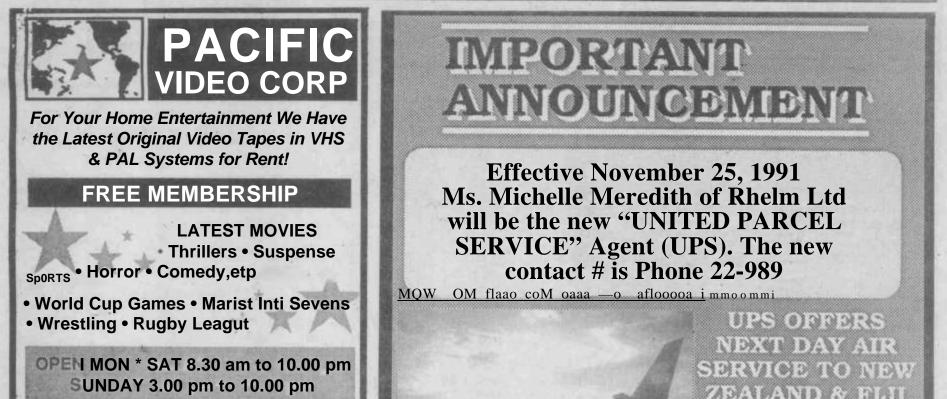
# DIRECT COHNECTIONS TO LOS ANGELES THE PRIDE OF THE PACIFIC

ISUBJECT TO RFSPECTTVI: GOVERNMENT APPROVALS

Samoa Observer, 1 < <lay 13 December 1991-11



Freshwater springs and rivers mean washing ana bathing Jor many people in Samoa whose water has not yet been connected. Villagers at Pesega took advantage of the sun on Wednesilay to get their washing dtme and fill iheir water supplies.



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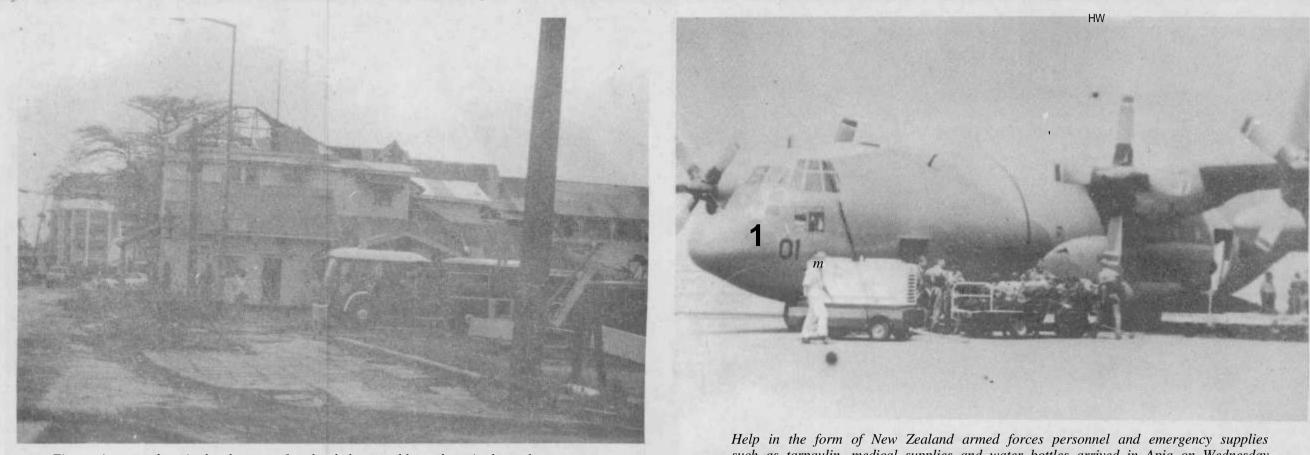
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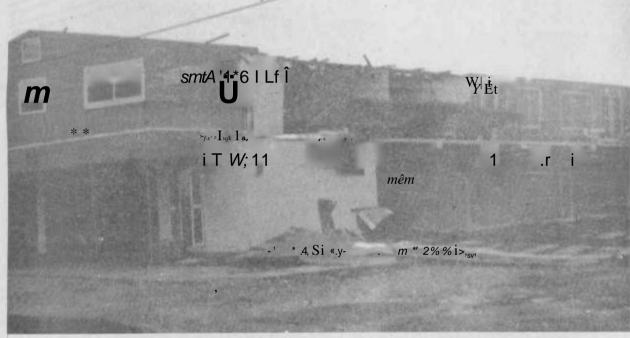
# CYCLONE VAL'S DESERVICTIVE WAYS



One plantation home to feel the strength of Cyclone Val's destructive winds was this one at Afega. The family was reported to have escaped unharmed.



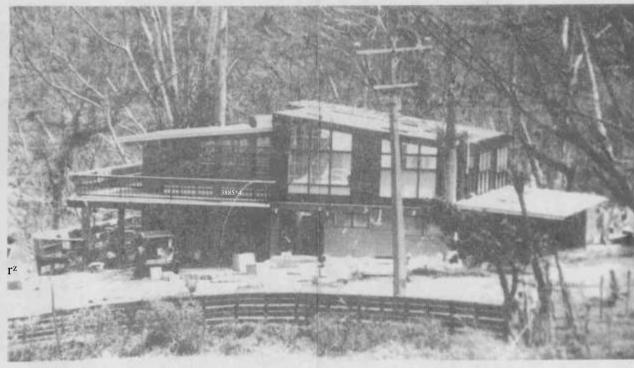
Fire engines stand out in the elements after the shelter was blown down in the early hours of Cyclone Val.



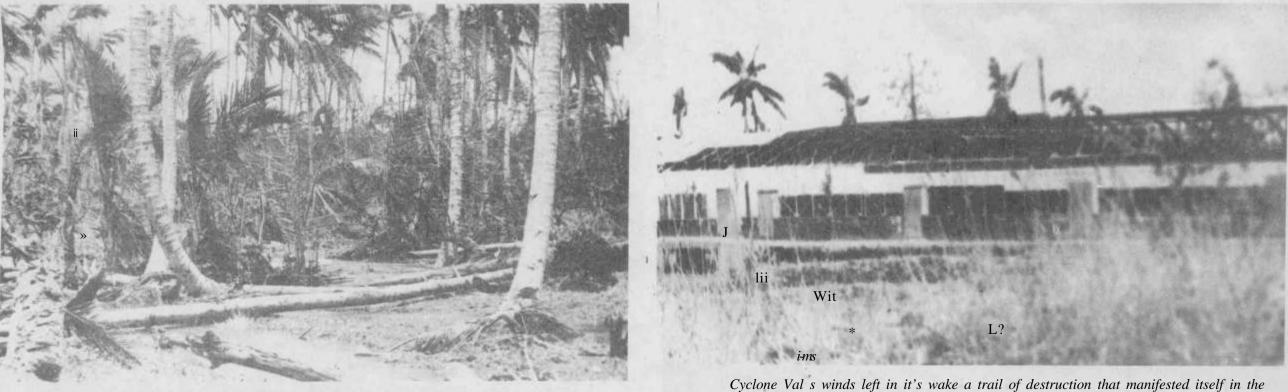
One of the worst hit buildings in Apia was the Hsin Meng building at Savalalo which also housed Motor Rewinders and FM 98's new town headquarters.



A typical scene in Apia over the weekend and for the most part of this week has been fallen power lines. According to EPC assessments, electrification could take at least six months.



One scene of Cycylone Val's damage like many all over the Samoa group was a home at Tiapapata whose roof had been completely blown off.



Plantations throughout Western Samoa are littered with fallen coconut trees while only a few nuts are left on the remaining trees.

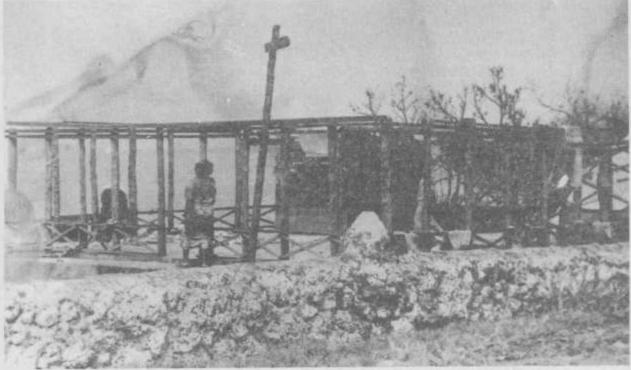
such as tarpaulin, medical supplies and water bottles arrived in Apia on Wednesday on a Hercules transport carrier flight.



Washday on the first sunny day at Levi, Saleimoa and without a doubt throughout Samoa, meant hand washing at freshwater springs..

remains of Vailima Primary School, one of many throughout the Samoa groun that were destroyed.

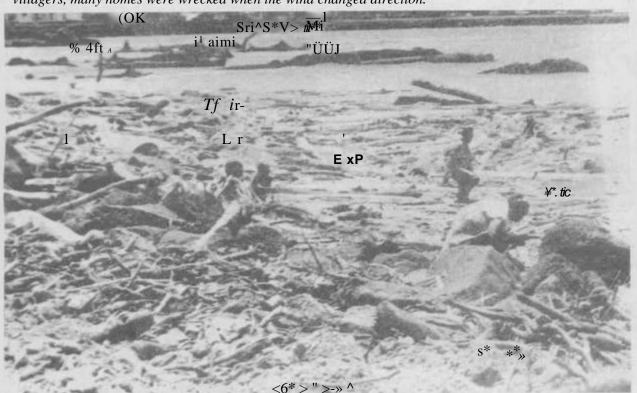
# CYCLONE VAL'S DESTRUCTIVE WAYS



Families in Saina attempted to clean up the remains of their homes on Wednesday, me jirst sunny day after the cyclone, this home was devastated on Monday when Val s winds turned it's 130 mph winds in the opposite direction. According to many villagers, many homes were wrecked when the wind changed direction.



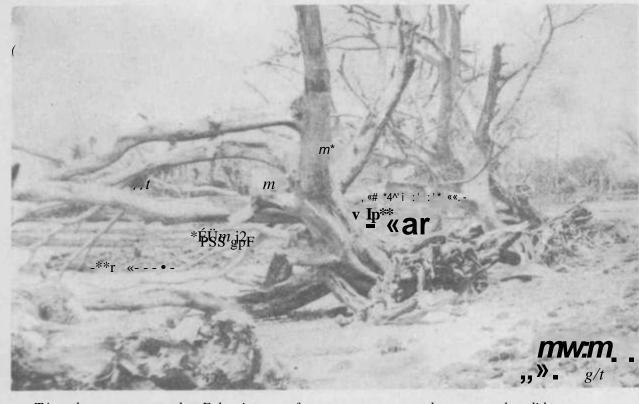
In the wake of Cyclone Val, families at Levi, Saleimoa took to the fresh water pools for washing and bathing.



<6\*>">-»^ Apia villagers were pictured gathering firewood from the debris thrown omo the waterfront by the huge waves that hit Apia Harbour over the weekend.



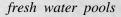
Admid the remains of a huge plantation sits the home of hotelier, Alan Grey at Tiapapata. The roof of the house was partially blown away.



T/ze huge trees on the Faleasiu waterfront were amoung the many who did not survive Cyclone Val's destructive grasp.



construction workers who are building the new government administration complex.



Leaoga Fata of Afega, stands admidst what was once a thriving plantation. Leaoga's plantation was completely destroyed by Cyclone Val.



Large areas in both Upolu and Savaii were hit with heavy flooding, one such area was Saleimoa were families found themselves in water-logged houses on the second day of Cyclone Val.

of Cyclone Val's four-day rule over the Samoa Islands.

# **INOTICES**

### NOTICE UNDER THE **ENTERPRISES INCENTIVES ACT 1984** AND AMENDMENT

The public is advised that FESILI **INVESTMENTS CORPORATION LTD** has made application to the Enterprises Incentives Board for benefit provided under the Enterprises Incentives Act 1984 and Amendment, the applicant enterprise propose to establish a motel.

**Existing enterprises of similar business** in Western Samoa who feel that their operation may be unduly affected are asked to lodge in quadruplicate any objection there to and grounds there from with the Department of Trade, Commerce and Industry on or before 20 December 1991.

Secretary for Trade, Commerce and Industry

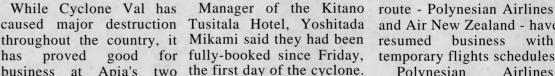


Mark Paul (Left) and Mike Visan measure their doorway for storm windows before the start of the four-day cyclone over the weekend.

# **Occupancy** rates for hotels soar in face of Cyclone Val

business at Apia's two the first day of the cyclone. major hotels.

80 occupancy rates.



He said the hotel had Both Aggie Grey's and the suffered little damage apart Kitano Tusitala Hotel report from minor flooding in the to 100 per cent Stevenson Restaurant and loose paraphernalia from renovation work being carried out on the poolside wing.

#### Repairs

Outside, staff members who had worked throughout cyclone, the cleaned uprooted gardens and assisted in minor repair work.

Mikami said the hotel was being powered by an emergency generator.

Commenting on the hotel's supplies during the cyclone, he said they had no problems with food and water, and were at present holding out well.

However, his only worry was about the hotel's water supply which he said would be severely depleted if the water shortage continued.

In a spiritted attempt to resume a normal programme the hotel held it's weekly fiafia night last night.

Across the harbour at Aggie Grey's Hotel it was business as usual but with a higher occupancy than expected in December. Sose Annandale said the occupancy rate was approximately 70 to 80 per cent.

and Air New Zealand - have resumed business with temporary flights schedules.

Polynesian Airlines resumed business with a shuttle service to Savaii on Tuesday after earlier flyovers had confirmed Maota Airstrip was in good condition.

The airline's first jet flight to Auckland left Faleolo on Wednesday.

Operations manager for Polynesian Airlines, Muliagatele Gina Moore, said had been cancelled because of electricity problems at Faleolo.

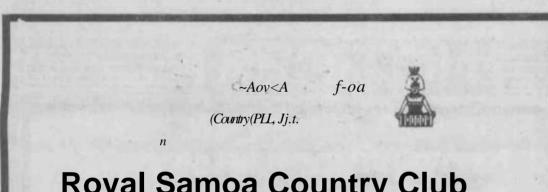
However she said they expected the night flying restriction to be lifted yesterday and hoped to have a night-time jet flight to American Samoa as soon as possible.

Air New Zealand's general manager in Apia, Bruce Belcher said a special Air New Zealand jumbo jet flight was arranged for yesterday to counter a backlog in passengers.

However, he said because communications with New Zealand were still down, it was difficult to ascertain the number of people arriving and leaving on the special flight.

He said the airline hoped to

A27-04-11



# **Royal Samoa Country Club** NOTICE

## To all members of the Royal Samoa Country Club:

In view of the recent Cyclone, our programme for the rest of the season is as follows:

- 1. Saturday 14th December will be the Men's Club Champs Semi Finals and a club day for the rest. Only the back nine will be played.
- 2. Saturday 21st December will be the Club Champ

Finals for both Men and Ladies. Long driving will follow.

3. Prize Giving Ball scheduled for Saturday 14th December is now cancelled. There will still however be a presentation of prizes to all 1991 winners straight after the finals on Saturday 21st December.

> **JAMES WATERHOUSE** Secretary

# Samoa Observer CLA\$\$IFIED AD\$ work. Try it!

She said many of the hotel's guests were expatriates whose homes had been destroyed in the cyclone.

A lot of relief workers had also been booked in.

Annandale said food and water supplies were ample, however she said it had been reported that some people had brought food with them.

Meanwhile, the two airlines plying the Apia to Auckland

resume normal operations as soon as possible.



# **Boil all drinking** water, warns **Health officials**

Health officials are warning more likelihood of bacterial A health spokesperson said the public to thoroughly boil infection.

all water before drinking.

severely disrupted following outpatients, at the National food which is being sold Cyclone Val and it could be Hospital, and health autho- cheaply," she said. up to six months before all rities are also expecting

supply are being forced to respiratory infections such rare steak carry water from rivers and as influenza, bronchitis and avoided. springs.

In the meantime, the Health infections. Department is urging resi-

or puddles where there is drinking.

pneumonia, and skin

Young children and the circumstances." dents to take a few elderly are especially at risk. People were being reprecautions to avoid illness. An appeal has been made to minded to wash all cooking They advise that all water the public not to dump and eating utensils, plates should be boiled and people rubbish in the rivers which and cups, and for sanitation should refrain from using are now: the main source of reasons, the health authwater from stagnant pools supply for washing and orities were urging people to

keeping these environment's

Cases of diarrhoea and clean should be a priority. Water supplies throughout vomiting have already "People should also be very th'e country have been started appearing at the careful about buying frozen

"All food should be services are back to normal. increases in the number of thoroughly cooked and Those without a piped people suffering with upper dishes such as raw fish and should be

"Tinned food is probably the safest under the present

use toilets.

# **Reef may have new** chance for growth

Western Samoa's coral week. reefs may have a new Because of this lack of chance at an early recovery information, he said a thai if early estimates prove answer could not be madt; accurate.

year, large amounts of dead ingredient for coral growîh, coral were heaped onto the as a result of Cyclone VAl, reefs surrounding islands.

it would take more than 10 the reefs growth. years for the reef to recover. In the wake of Cyclone Val Su'a said the breakdown on this weekend, some of the coral the mounds would be mounds of coral were beneficial for the lagoon shifted, question as to whether or circulation. not this would reverse the He explained that the effect and speed up the constant change in water reefs recovery.

Senior marine biologist, also helping in the process Dan Su'a, said there had of coral growth and keeping been no assessment had been the lagoon free of seaweed done on the reefs so far but through the accumulation of he hoped to make a start on nutrients from a preliminary report next vegetation.

However, he said increased During Cyclone Ofa last sunlight an essential the could benefit the reefs.

But he said that coral Marine biologists estimated movement could also delay

prompting the because it would improve

kept the water clear of silt, coastal

# **Fire levels Carruthers home Library closed**

burned to the ground early on Wednesday morning. building, owned by the Carruthers family for more

as early as 3am. . The family were not in the was already well alight. house at the time.

children to a Government pool to douse the blaze. House up the road on The family are still staying Cyclone Val. It's believed the two storey Saturday to shelter from at the Government House Cyclone Val.

A neighbour of the family than 30 years, caught alight alerted the owner and he arrived at five but the house estimated cost of the damage Tarpaulins were hurriedly Wednesday and in the

The Fire Department Police are investigating.

Carruthers of Vailima was taken his wife and three water from the swimming having

made.

Carruthers said the rain and wind. is around \$10,000 tala.

The Nelson Public Library librarian, Matalina Te'o, A house belonging to Gary Carrruthers had already arrived at 3.30 am and used is closed until further notice said all the books have been sustained major wet. damage water

> until further plans have been caved in on Saturday, the electricity supply was exposing the books to the restored.

> > spread over the roof and meantime, the library would broken windows, but head be open for returns only.

during She said fans were needed to dry the collection but this The roof of the building would not be possible until

Repair work started on

