

SAMOA OBSERVER

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JB-DM/290

Australian fishermen disappear in cyclone

There was still no sign yesterday of the three Australians believed to have been on board a 45 foot fishing vessel wrecked during Cyclone Val.

The damaged hull of the West Australian registered, *Arga J*, washed up on a reef off Vaovai, Falealili, last Friday.

Air search

On Saturday, a land, sea and air search failed to find any trace of the missing men, although wreckage from the boat was recovered from the surrounding area.

Villagers reported seeing distress flares on Saturday, December 7 - the second day of the cyclone.

A message was sent to Apia from the Poutasi police base

but a Police spokesman in Apia said yesterday it had been impossible to consider a rescue at that time.

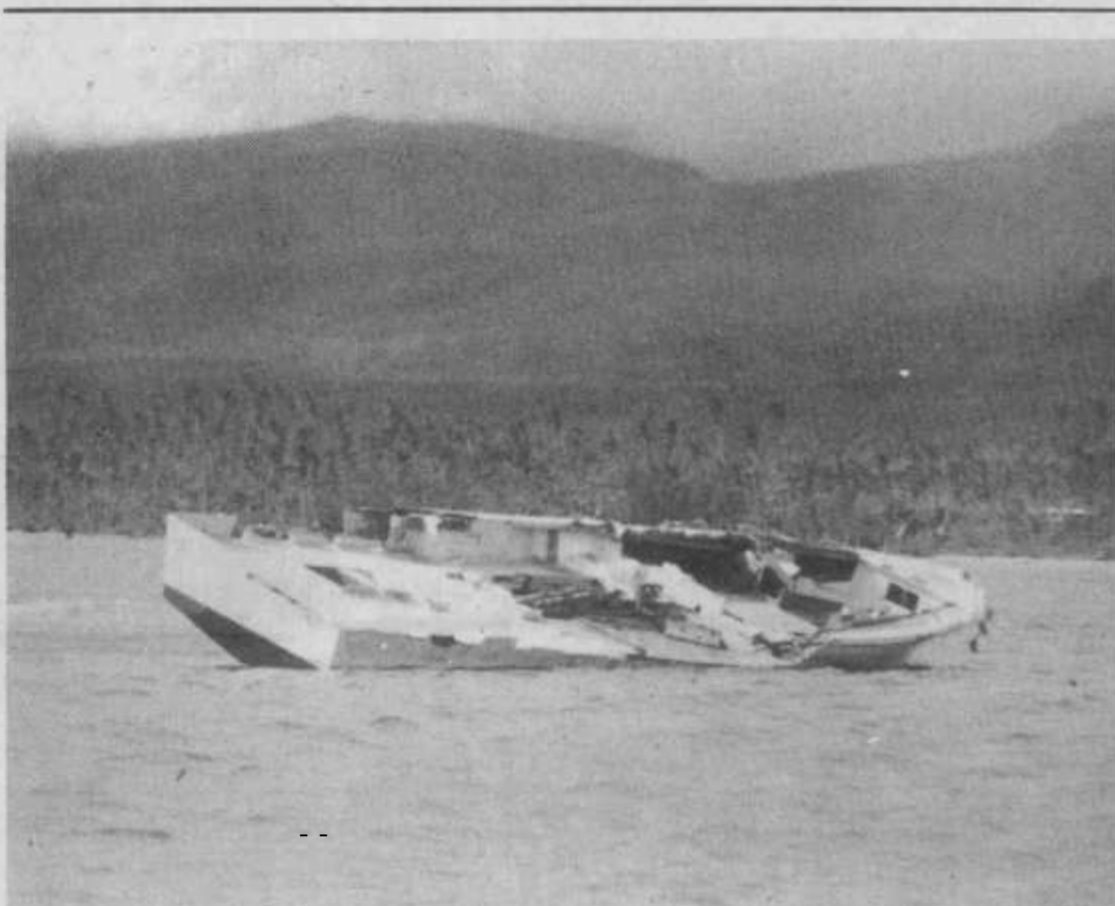
The spokesman said that the Faleolo Tower had also reported receiving a May Day call, relayed from an aircraft.

The call was picked up on Saturday night, reportedly from a boat which was sinking 68 miles south of Upolu, and 92. miles from Pago.

"All we could do after the cyclone was to ask planes to keep a look out once flights resumed," he said.

"At that stage we did not know what sort of boat was missing."

(See Page 2)



The wreck of the *Arga J* on the reef off Vaovai, on the south coast of Upolu. No trace has yet been found of the three Australian fishermen believed to have been on board.

Phone links overseas up

Overseas communications links should be back to normal by the end of this week.

According to the Director of Post and Telecommunications, Sapau R. Petaia, a microwave reflector at Lanutoo was completely damaged by cyclone Val and they have had to do some rerouting to get the link to the Lalovaea exchange.

A digital link was established operational by Sunday morning but only with limited channels

particularly to New Zealand.

Sapau told the *Samoa Observer* that only two lines were operational to New Zealand.

"We are expecting equipment this week and should after installation get us back to normal" he said.

This would allow 22 lines working to New Zealand and more lines to other overseas destinations.

Rerouting of calls through other countries was also able to be done to let more

(See Page 2)

Opposition leader questions Govt on civil claims awards

The leader of the Opposition, Vaai Kolone, yesterday in Parliament questioned the awarding by the government of two substantial sums of money to two individuals.

He criticised certain heads of government departments, one of whom was the Attorney General, for failing to contest in court

the claims which led to these awards

Both the claims were settled out of court.

Vaai made his comments when the government's supplementary budget of about S12 million was being debas'd Funds for both award' arc being sought in the budget.

Vaai did not name the

individuals concerned, but an award of \$300,000 was to be made to the former Director General of Health, Dr Walter Vermullen, and another of more than \$600,000 was for a company owned by businessman, Lauofo Meti.

Dr. Vermuellen's award

(See Page 2)

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Australian fisherman disappear in cyclone

(From Page 1)

It's understood the *Arga J* set out from Apia on Tuesday, December 3, on a three day fishing trip to the Falealupo area.

Although wreckage was found around the Vaovai area, there was no sign of the vessel's raft or lifejackets which were known to be onboard.

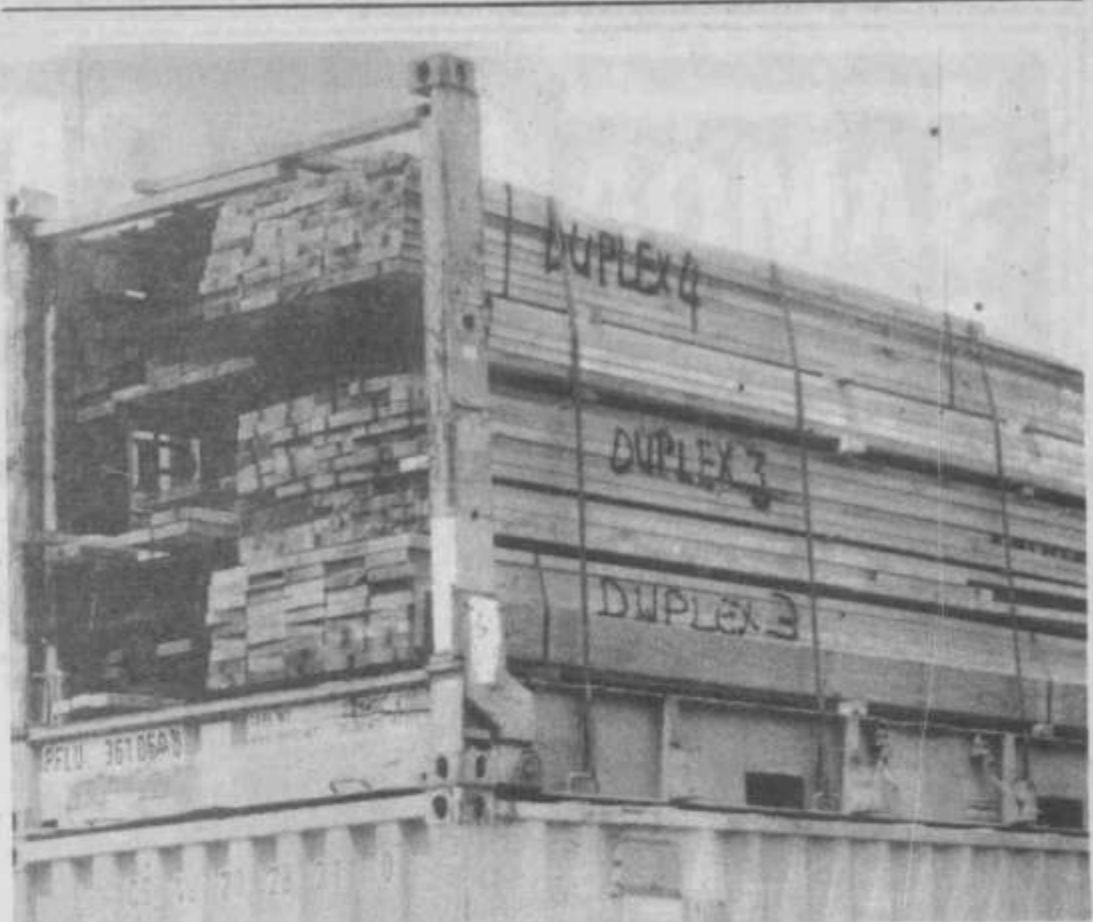
It was not known yesterday whether a further search

would be undertaken.

Such a search, which would utilise an air and sea rescue service based in Fiji, could only be initiated at the request of the Police in Western Samoa.

An Australian High Commission officer said he was still making inquiries as to whether or not such a request had been made.

The names of the three men have not been released.



Perishable goods and other items such as this container full of timber, lay exposed to the elements such as the searing heat of this past week, open to spoil and destruction.

Phone links overseas up

(From Page 1)

people call New Zealand with only two direct lines operational.

Meanwhile the department's outside plant staff are working round the clock to get the local lines working.

Nearly 95 percent of all local telephone lines were out after cyclone Val went through.

Some areas will have to wait a while because of major damage to underground cables caused

by water seeping through the cable sheathing.

Most overseas underground cables are pressurised to guard against this kind of damage but our local cables are not.

Once the water gets into the cables the paper insulation around each individual wire gets wet and the lines are 'short circuited' rendering the telephone lines unusable.

Drying these cables take time and sometimes new cable lengths have to be laid if the damage is extensive.

Opposition leader question Govt on civil claims awards

(From Page 1)

followed his claim for compensation after he had been dismissed by the Public Service Com-

mission (PSC).

His dismissal was based on a recommendation by a Commission of Inquiry which looked into the running of the Health Department.

Lauofo's award was against a claim over the loss of a factory with equipment inside when a petrol tanker overturned on Taufusi Street.

Petrol from the tanker spilled on the road and into a nearby drainage, so that when the petrol caught fire, the Lauofo's factory which stood nearby was set ablaze.

According to Vaai, negligence on the part of the government was shown when the claims were not contested in court.

He urged heads of government departments to be more careful with the protection of government properties and resources.

He was supported by MP Tuimasese who said that the claims should have been dealt with by the court, and not settled outside of it.

He said the government should then be prepared to pay whatever the court would decide, whether big or small.

Leota Lu though, among

others, did not agree. He said that the award agreed upon for the "businessman" was quite proper.

In fact, he felt that it should have been higher considering that the man's factory could have been in production making a lot of profit if it had not been gutted.

He was supported by another MP who felt that settling the claims out of court was the best way they could have been handled.

He pointed out that the businessman had been trying to get compensation "year after year" until he couldn't stand it any more, so he took court action.

That was when the Attorney General advised to settle the matter out of court. He felt that the AG's decision was proper.

On the award for the "doctor", the MP said it could have been much higher. He pointed out that the doctor had asked for "close to a million" Tala, but later settled for "not even half a million".

"He was happy with just over a quarter of a million," the MP told Parliament. "It shows that no court ruling is better than when a person is satisfied."

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Samoa Observer

Apia, Wednesday 17 December 1991

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Let us help ourselves first

The suggestion in Parliament this week to the government by the leader of the Opposition, Vaai Kolone, to withdraw \$100 million from its reserves to help rebuild the damage caused by the recent cyclone, have got some of us thinking: Does the government has this kind of money stashed away somewhere?

But it's an encouraging suggestion nevertheless. It props the spirit up, so to speak, and does wonderful things to the morale. Still, how feasible is such a proposal, we cannot help wondering.

It would certainly solve all our problems if \$100 million could be made available just as easily as that. An opportunity, as we see it, to assist as quickly as possible those families who have been made homeless, and others who have been deprived of their most basic belongings such as clothes, cooking gear, and tools of their trades.

It's common knowledge that acres of plantations have been demolished, equipment destroyed, fishing boats badly damaged, and the spirit, having been tested, is sorely defeated. So a windfall such as Vaai has suggested would do wonders to us all. Perhaps the Minister of Finance, Tuilaepa Sailele, would offer some explanation on the matter when he replies this week to queries being made in Parliament.

But as of yesterday, reports from Savaii painted a gloomy picture still. The \$ said that in the most critically-damaged districts such as Asau, Falealupo and Safotu, families were barely managing to install makeshift shelters, food and water shortages were becoming serious problems as unhygienic conditions were prevailing.

It is not clear how the 60 or so residents of isolated Apolima Island are faring but reports last week said they were near starving.

The National Disaster Council is commended for having already dished out supplies, to badly-hit villages, but the thought of thousands of cans of fish sitting at the wharf uneaten while people are starving, is rather hard to understand.

Given under Italian aid to feed victims of Cyclone Ofa which struck 22 months ago, the consignment has been stored at the wharf apparently because no one needed it any more when it arrived. Sometime ago, part of the shipment was sold and the proceeds from which were reportedly spent on certain government projects.

But these stocks of food should not be sitting at the wharf any longer. They should be taken out and distributed to the hundreds of people who need them now.

If the government has funds that can be made available for immediate relief work, a totally new method of distribution should be devised to ensure that these monies would benefit everyone.

Perhaps a set amount for every family for rebuilding purposes could be worked out, and then make available loans to families who would need more for other purposes such as fishing and farming ventures, repairs to damage to businesses, and so forth.

This will undoubtedly encourage people to rebuild and start again, or create new ventures thus increasing employment opportunities along the way.

But whatever we do, we should not just wait idly around for aid to pour in, even though our close and bigger friends Australia and New Zealand have shown their usual eagerness to help.

Let us show them how appreciative we are by making the first move to help ourselves.



This photograph seems to be screaming out of the page: Totally ruined, extensive repairs urgent, what've I done to deserve all this!

Govt gets \$NZ500,000 from NZ Telecoms

Telecom New Zealand International has pledged cash assistance of \$NZ500,000 for cyclone ravaged Western Samoa.

Prime Minister Tofilau Eti Alesana made the announcement in a ministerial statement made in the House on Monday morning.

He said the funds will be kept in New Zealand and would be used to purchase items the government may want from there to help with the rehabilitation work.

"This is a great help from this company and will help keep our foreign reserves healthy" he said.

Telecom New Zealand won the contract to do all the outside plant work in the new major telecommunications project now under way in the country.

Apart from the cash grant, Telecom New Zealand have also offered the services of all their staff working in Samoa on the project to work on the rehabilitation

work until finished.

This is not the first time Telecom New Zealand have helped in the personnel department after a cyclone.

After the February 1990 cyclone Ofa, the company also sent teams of workers and equipment to help in the rehabilitation work.

Some of them were here for more than three months at a time.

After the work all the equipment brought over from New Zealand were left for the government of Samoa.

Cyclone renders Mulifanua Wharf useless once again

The toll of rough seas induced by cyclonic winds has once again rendered Mulifanua Wharf useless.

Dredging operations in the channel, part of the Japanese Government's rehabilitation programme for Cyclone Ofa, were completed last month and the wharf was reported to be ready for use.

Secretary of Transport, Nofu Vaaelua, said the Ministry had hoped to re-open the wharf for ferry services to Savaii on December 9, but Cyclone Val beat the opening date and hit Western Samoa on December 6.

He said a thorough evaluation of the wharfs condition had not been made but early checks have established that the channel

markers had been washed away.

"Even if we find that siltation (movement of sand or coral) has not occurred, we would still be unable to use the wharf because the channel markers are gone."

Vaaelua, who is also on the National Disaster Council (NDC), said that the evaluation of damage to the channel would not be conducted until immediate transport concerns were resolved.

He said a chartered *Tausala HRPP* left Apia Harbour yesterday carrying relief supplies co-ordinated by the Distribution Committee of the NDC.

Meanwhile, the Western Samoa Shipping Service (WSSC) has resumed its regular ferryboat service

between Apia Harbour and Salelologa.

However, WSSC officials said only the *Lady Samoa* was being used on the route which was re-opened last Thursday.

Reports on the construction of a loading ramp for vehicle transport at Mulifanua say the work is moving ahead of schedule.

This was according to the sub-contractors, Rinkai Construction, who said the loading ramp which was expected to be completed in February next year, would now be finished by mid-January.

Shipping services to Pago Pago could start sometime this week, depending on the outcome of checks on the seaworthiness of the *Queen Salamasina*.



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Services: Sunday at 10.00 a.m.

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Talia ma le fiafia tagata uma! - Everybody welcome!



ENVIRONMENTAL COLUMN

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DISPOSAL OF SOIL AND DEBRIS AFTER CYCLONE VAL

The wrath of cyclone Val has left catastrophic effects on our environment. The vegetation is just one example of the near total destruction. Our rivers, streams and drainages are infested with rubbish; banana tree trunks, eroded grass, plastics, corrugated iron from roofs and whatnots. Our trees stand leafless, as if Samoa is in the middle of a winter season. Now our birds can scarcely find a nest let alone a place to rest.

This article is primarily the Division of Environment and Conservation's advice and some guidelines concerning the rubbish disposal, conservation of our wildlife and warnings against Bushfires.

Since the high magnitude winds of Cyclone Val has stripped off the leaves of most of our trees, the birds now have difficulty in finding in finding shelter and food especially our bats. After the last cyclone (Cyclone Ofa), the homeless and hungry bats had flown into the densely human populated areas to find some refuge and to hopefully find some food. Sadly, people stoned them (for the fun of it) or shot at them unnecessarily. This was not only done to other bats but to other bird species as well. A repetition of this sad act was seen after the wake of Cyclone Val. The bird population of Samoa is a unique feature of its environment. The effect of killing them unnecessarily

would build up to the extent of where various bird species are on the verge of extinction as some of our animal species already are. Please do not kill the birds or animals by throwing stones or shooting at them but feed them. Imagine a Birdless Samoa!!

The second matter that demands our special attention is the disposal of the rubbish brought about by the cyclone. It is noticed with sadness that people are burning their rubbish. It shouldn't be. At the moment with the dryness of the vegetation, the trees with dry leaves especially in forest lands are highly susceptible to the spread of bushfires. Burning matter is also a major factor that contributes to pollution through the emission of fumes. Some plastics when burnt are carcinogenic or cancer causing.

Rather than burning rubbish, the public is advised to compost it. That is, to pile up the biodegradable garbage separate from the non-biodegradable rubbish and to either let it rot in the pile or distribute it amongst the crops. In this way, the plants are advantaged nutritionally as well as the soil through the restoration of nutrients from the decaying organic matter and they will hopefully recover quickly. As for plastics, cans, bottles and other non-biodegradable matter, it is best to bury them in a big hole.

The other very important point to note is the quality of drinking water. Water is now very scarce and people are

relying on stream water, taken for the treatment of should also take note of spring water and rainwater water for drinking as the the damage done to for cleaning and drinking quality of water is critical waterpipes and such and purposes. Extra to our protection from carry out appropriate precautions should be diseases. The public reparations.



Robert Louis Stevenson would have been sad if he was alive today to see his beloved Vailima being smashed up by Cyclone Val. He probably would've been inspired enough to write a book about it.

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Messages of Sympathy

Australian leader extends sympathy

My Dear Prime Minister,

I am writing to let you know we are thinking of you and all your fellow Samoans at this time of great stress and tragedy in the affairs of your nation.

The Government and people of Australia send our deepest sympathy for the death and destruction caused by Cyclone Val.

My officers are monitoring

I am pleased to learn of the Government's prompt action in providing relief and I feel sure that all New Zealanders, and the Samoan community, will respond as much as they can to assist you and your people.

Kind personal regards,

Sincerely,

Dame Catherine Tizard

Governor-General.

GG of New Zealand conveys sympathy

Your Highness,

On behalf of the people of New Zealand, I wish to convey to you our heartfelt feelings on the terrible natural calamity which has again stricken your island.

Coming as it has so soon after Cyclone Ofa, the news of the cyclone which you have just endured is hard to bear.

the situation closely and I have asked them to keep me personally informed.

Please be assured that Australia stands ready to assist your Government's emergency efforts and also with longer term rehabilitation work.

*RJ. Hawke
Prime Minister
Australia.*

Australian Minister sympathises

In a message to the Australian High Commissioner in Western Samoa, David Ritchie, the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Gareth Evans, said he wished to convey to the Prime Minister and Cabinet Ministers his personal interest and concern.

He asked the High Commissioner to reiterate on his behalf that Australia stood ready to assist Western Samoa both in emergency work and in longer term rehabilitation.

Message Queen Elizabeth II

Prince Phillip and I were shocked to hear that Western Samoa has once again been struck by a tropical cyclone.

We send our deepest sympathy to the relatives of those who have died and our thoughts are with sail who have suffered from the extensive damage.

Elizabeth R.

Message of sympathy and support from New Zealand Prime Minister

My Dear Prime Minister,

Don McKinnon has returned from Western Samoa to tell me at first hand of the appalling disaster that has befallen your people.

All New Zealanders have been distressed to learn of the extent of the damage caused by Cyclone Val, and of the suffering it has imposed.

Our thoughts are with those of your people who have lost loved ones in the disaster, and of the many more who have been made homeless.

Offers of assistance from the people of New Zealand have already begun, and the Red Cross and other New Zealand non-governmental organisations are co-ordinating in a special appeal.

For its part, the New Zealand Government is

determined to do what it can to help relieve the immediate suffering.

As you know, we have already despatched two Hercules to Western Samoa and the frigate *Canterbury* which is carrying a medical team and relief supplies.

We are of course keeping in the closest touch with your authorities.

We expect to hear from you in the next few days as to Western Samoa's priorities for assistance in both the short and longer term.

Rest assured that we, in co-operation with other interested countries, will do our best to ensure co-ordinated support for your reconstruction efforts.

With my warmest support at this time of trial.

*Yours sincerely,
J.B. Bolger,
Prime Minister of New Zealand.*

French Ambassade extends sympathy

Your Highness,

It is with great sorrow that I learn of the terrible ordeal that your country has suffered after being hit by Cyclone Val.

Let me assure you that the thoughts of French Polynesians, who themselves have been hit by the severe climatic conditions generated by the Cyclone Wasa, are with their Samoan friends and brothers at this time.

I am pleased that the

corvette *Lieutenant de Vaisseau Lavallee*, which was en route for Papeete, has been able to provide you with emergency assistance.

As soon as the situation allows, I shall do my utmost to convey to you any further aid that may be required.

Please accept, your Highness, the expression of my highest consideration.

*Jean Montpezat,
Ambassade De France
New Zealand.*

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Cyclone Val churns up Little Switzerland at Tafatafa



Urs Jenzer's sons at Tafatafa Beach



Little Switzerland was born on the reef at Tafatafa, Falealili, in the wake of Cyclone Val. David, Urs Jenzer (founder of the new country) and Eddie, at the spot where Hillary might have liked to be.

Little Switzerland has sprung up on the reef at Tafatafa, Falealili, thanks to Cyclone Val.

The cyclone had gathered up huge coral slaps and sand, and deposited them on what had been a submerged reef, so that a high mound has been formed.

To local resident Urs Jenzer - originally from Switzerland - standing on

the shore, the long, white mound, glistening in the post cyclone sun, looked very much like the salt dunes back home.

He felt homesick watching it as the sun faded out in the evening, he said.

So the next morning he took a Swiss flag - white cross on red - and hoisted it on the mound cristening it Little Switzerland.

On the oceanward side,

huge waves crash ashore. Looking landward, one could see the salt-stained, browning mountains rolling upwards to their crest.

Today, everyone who visits Tafatafa Beach could see the red flag in the distance. It is just ten minutes away by motor boat for those who wish to set foot on this "new country", Little Switzerland.

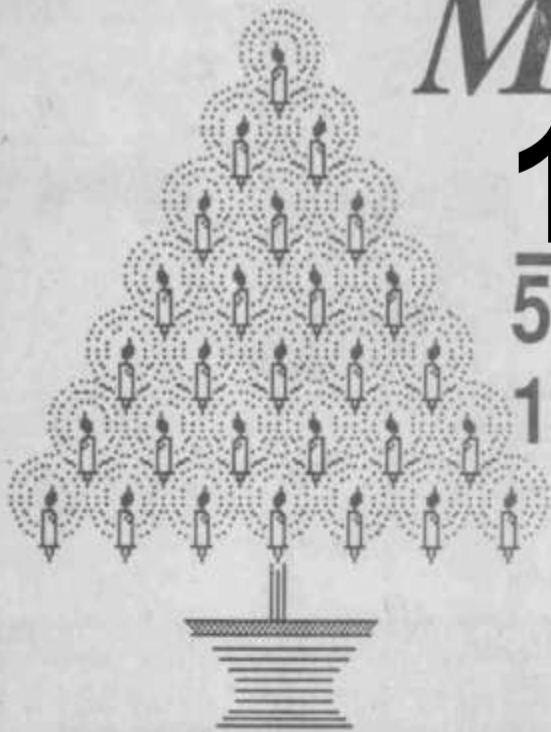
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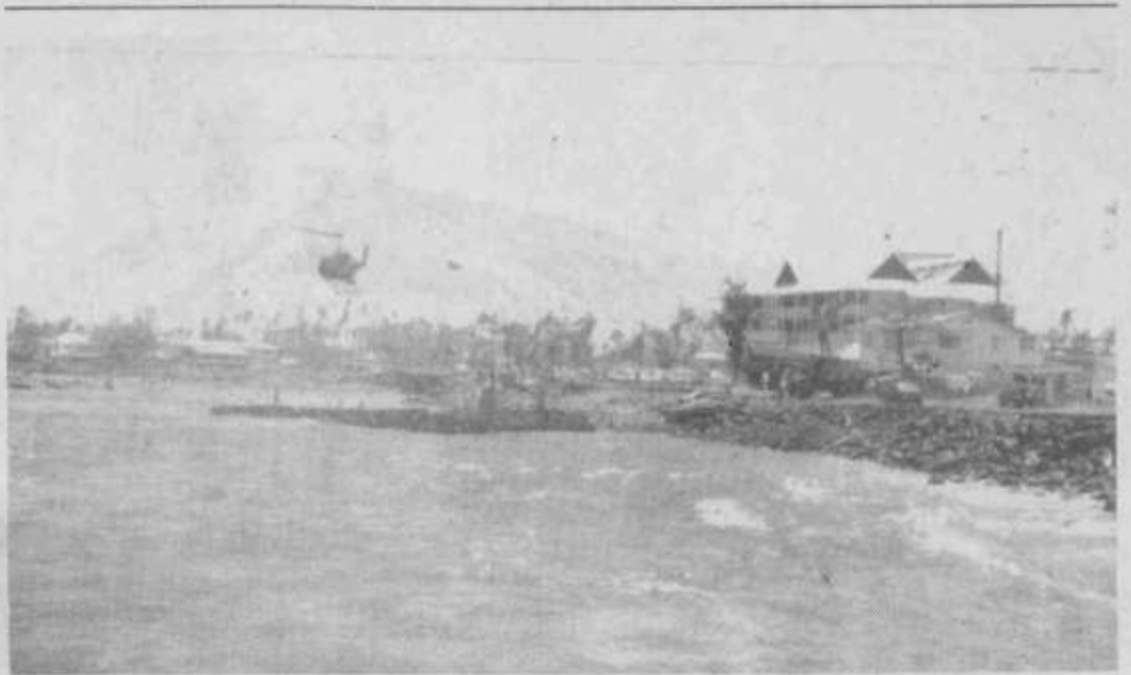
Samoan schools suffered major destruction from Cyclone Val

The Education Department school received some has completed an damage, assessment of the schools Logologo said the cost of damaged by Cyclone Val. the damage would be

The report indicates that decided by the National almost every school in the Disaster Council and the country needs repair. reports had been filed

Twenty seven school together and would be given inspectors visited schools to the council this week, around the country last Meanwhile, across the Aggies tiotei tin tne uistance) was one of the tew buildings on Beach Road to have week to evaluate ithe amount field at Leififi Intermediate wj(hsthood Cyclone Val's wrath. For days, its bar was the only joint to have served cold of damage caused by the school, staff and students drinks 10 frustrated andbattered Apians and visitors alike.

Director of the liducation Most of the school roof Department, Manumaleuma had collapsed causing water Logologo, said that .more to leak into the classrooms, than 70 per cent o.f the All the books had been school buildings were bi.idly taken to the school library affected and almost ev'try for safety (since the room was not affected by the winds). Head Mistress, Lematua si-ii'd they could do very little wi thout the help of the peo,oi'e. Av for rebuilding their classrooms, Lematua said they we>uld have to wait for the Education Department to give them some assistance Roofing iron to Val was like paper to a child. One building (above) is partly stripped ot before school starts next its roof, partly shaken as a child's toy house.... year.



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Immigration saves passports and files

Re-roofing of the Immigration Department in Beach Road was completed yesterday, although the service has been working from the premises since the end of the cyclone last Tuesday.

Chief immigration officer, Tuipoloa Suisala, said yesterday all documents, files and passports in the building at the time of the cyclone were saved.

"We were holding approximately 200 overseas and 100 locals passports," he said.

"Only two were slightly water damaged."

The entire roof of the building was torn away during the cyclone.

Tuipoloa said despite the

appearance of the building, it was in fact a very sound structure which had handled the cyclone well.

Although phone and power services had not been re-connected yet, he said it was business as usual.

Demand for visas was traditionally high at this time of the year as people prepared to holiday with friends and relatives overseas.

"I understand some people are cancelling to stay behind and help with restoration work but we are still getting a lot of inquiries," he said.

And far from there being a mass exodus from the country, Tuipoloa said most people were also requesting a re-entry visa.



Towering in the skyline, Apia's Town Clock did not even utter a chime as Cyclone Val was ripping through town. The old tower nevertheless survived while others fell.

Electricity supply stalls FM 98's return to the airwaves

The sounds of *Radio Polynesia's FM 98* are expected to remain off the airwaves of Samoa until the power supply to the Mt Fiamoe station is re-connected.

Earlier reports from the station said they expected to be back on the air within two weeks, but the amount of electrical work which remains to be done by the Electrical Power Corporation has wiped out any chances of a quick return.

"The station (at Mt Fiamoe) is ready to begin broadcasting, repair work on the station's buildings has already begun, but there is no use rushing into it if there is no electricity," said manager/owner of the station, Maposua Rudolf Keil said.

Maposua's homes along with the building housing the station sustained an estimated WST\$80,000 worth of roof damage.

However, he said none of their equipment had been damaged.

"As soon as the cyclone struck, the roof was lifted off so we moved the equipment into another room which remained watertight throughout the cyclone," he said.

"We lost the roofs to our buildings, but the tower is intact, the antenna bays weren't blown away and the rest of the equipment is just fine.

"Our transmitter caught some water, but we are waiting to receive heaters from New Zealand which we will use to dry it out."

Meanwhile, Maposua said any move to the station's premises at Savalalo would be in six months to one year's time.

He said repair work on the Apia station would probably run into an excess of WST\$100,000.

In late November, the station was preparing to move into their new offices on the top floor of the building which also houses I i: >in Meng's store.

Before Cyclone Val left Samoa, it removed the roof

and tore out the entire side wall of the top floor.

Fortunately, the move was never made because they were trying to locate the whereabouts of new equipment from the United States.

Maposua said last week in the midst of repair work following the cyclone they were notified that the equipment had arrived at the airport.

St Andrews out of veterans golf event

Furness, winner of the St Andrews (Hamilton) player Tom Furness was one of the first-round casualties in the championship division at the national veteran men's golf tournament at the Stratford course yesterday.

senior title for the past three years, lost one down to Mt Maunganui's Ron Day.

The three top qualifiers, Roy Scarlett from Otaki, and the Stratford pair of Don Webb and Don Kruse, also suffered first-round defeats.

NZHerald

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WESTERN SAMOA TECHNICAL INSTITUTE

The Principal, staff and students wish to acknowledge with gratitude the support rendered during our graduation ceremony.

New Zealand High Commission	4 Scholarships
Rothmans Tobacco Ltd	1 Scholarship
Bank of Western Samoa	1 Scholarship
Pacific Commercial Bank	1 Scholarship
Samoa Industrial Gases Ltd	1 Scholarship
W.S.Manufacturers' Association	1 Scholarship
Iron and Steel	1 Scholarship
Kitano Tusitala Hotel	1 Scholarship
Samoa Coconut Products Ltd	1 Scholarship
W.S Breweries Ltd	1 Scholarship
Samoa Spare Parts	1 Scholarship
Samoa Builders	1 Scholarship
O.S.Y. & Sons Motors Ltd	\$200
Fosi Electrical Contractor	\$200
Pat Ah Him Ltd	\$100
Burns Philip Motors Ltd	\$100
AST Industries	\$100
Aggie Grey's Hotel	\$100
Tokelau Affairs	\$50
W.S. Veteran Social Soccer Club	\$50
Telecomprtronics Co Ltd	\$50
Morris Hedstrom Samoa Ltd	\$50
H.J. Keil Ltd	\$50
ACE Hardware	\$50
I.H. Curruthers Ltd	1 set uniform
Air New Zealand	4 travel bags

We wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy New Year.



'Western Samoa Jamity Health Association (Inc.)

NOTICE

The public is hereby advised that the office will be closed as from the 23rd December 1991 for the X-mas and New Year holidays and will open again on the 6th January 1992.

E fa'asilasila atu i le paia o le atunuu, o le a tapunia lo tatou ofisa mai le aso 23 o Tesema 1991 mo aso maloto o le Kirisimasi ma le Tausaga Fou ma o le a tatalaina i le aso 6 o Ianuari 1992

Fa'afetai.

A18-20

A18-20

"Atali'i tau ina ia e manuia..."

Tusia e Taia G citai

Fesoasoano Moga ia maofa ai lota mafaufau. Ae gagase lima o nai leoleo gata i lea o le lautele o lata faasino auala i Apia. A vaai, e toe toe ina a moli mumu mai le lanu mumu, loaloa le lalolagi lea o loo maona uiga e ta tau ona tu lau taavale, aua o Iona uiga ua malaga atu ai nei. Ae na aupito sili ona ou te'i ola ia moli lanumeamata o Iona uiga Pati?" O le fesili mai lea a laugutu mumu ma lona tino lanu molemole. "Oi, faapea a'u na o oe ua.."

"O Iona uiga o lea lava e te lei o'o i se fale?" O le toe fesili tuliloa mai lea a si alii leoleo, ma ona mata tuufesili. pe o Iona uiga o le taimi atoa lava lea na ou nofonofo ai i le malae vaalele. Ua luelue atu lo'u ulu ona ua tau le mafai ona ou tautala, ua tau maligi nai o'u loimata. Moga oute oso i totonu leaga ua malosi mai le savili, ao ta si'i e si alii le atigi pusa umu ma la'u atosipi i tua o lana taavale. Ua oso mai Moga i totonu i le itu o le foepuni ma tago mai nei faata'ita'i mai le faamauga o le fusipa'u, e pei lava o fusipa'u ia e faamau ai ia nofoa i luga o le vaalele. "Pei lava o se vaalele lau kaavale alii Moga," o lau faatalatalanoa atu lea i le alii leoleo, ua taumafanafana lota loto ma lota tino ina ua ola taavale ma ki mai nei e si alitala; "E ese a foi mea i nei le ea mafanafana o le taavaleatunuu a alii Pati?" ao ma agai ese mai nei ma le "O loga uiga e leai seisi e malae vaalele. faakogukogua moli la alii Moga?" c taavale ma moli o fale, ae maise foi o moli 'emo'emo o faatonu uma ina ia faasino ai le malae vaalele, ua matua taavale, e le pei o tatou e

Ua ma taunu'u i le fale o Moga Ua le gata o le felanulanua'i o moli felanulanua'i i faleoloa ao fale foi o aiga ma le alatele, ae fai foi o le fealamua'i c taavale a le falema'i ma a latou sailigi malomaloa, ua atili pau ai le po. O leisi mea ua ou maitauina, o le masau o le alu a le ma taavale, ae

aunoa ma se taumalua, ai ondeo tamaitai o loo faapea mai; o le laulelei o auala. "Alo kali.."

"Ao fea la e iai le tama a le Ua tei le tamaitai i le tau mai uso o lou tin a lea na tuu e ia Moga ma a'u lea oute tu ai faatalia oe ne'i mao atu i le i tafatafa ona tau me'i lea o le malae vaalele ua e leai alii tamaitai fofoga lalelei, o Pati?" O le fesili mai lea a laugutu mumu ma lona tino lanu molemole. "Oi, faapea a'u na o oe ua.."

"Se ka ke le iloa. Ga oga fai "O si alii lea o Pati, na sau mai lava o lo'u kiga e gofo i analeila i le vaalele mai Aukilagi ma loga koalua Samoa, ae oute manava ane papalagi, ae ouke le iloa poo nei o la lava e lei alu atu seisi fea e iai." o lo latou aiga e ave. O le Ua taunuu le taavale i mea lona ua ma o mai ai ma tafatafa o le fale papalagi e le Susuga a Pati tau te faataamilomilo ai le pa uaea. momoe sei sauni taeao lana O tafatafa o loo tu ai le tarna alaga," o le faamatala atu fale lea o loo tu ai i totonu lea a Moga ao matou savaii leisi taavale laitid. atu i totonu o le fale. "E lelei la o lea ua manava "Talofa alii Pati," o le mai la'u teine, faapea ai nei ta faafeiloai mai lea a le toalua o te o mai e lei sau Litia e fai se Moga ia te a'u, ma ona foliga mea 'ai e tali ai le malaga," o le tala lea a Moga ua fai mai aulelei mata ataata ua tau nei ao ia tatala lana faitotoa nofo ai le tata o Iota fatu ona ma savaii atu agai i tua e sii ua tuu mai nei lona 'a'ao mai le pusaumu. molemole ma te faatalofa. "Pati, savaii atu i totonu o le Ua na o le luelue atu o lo'u fale ma le malulu sei ou sau ulu ma tau mapusela nei si avatu lau umu e tuu i le pusa a'u faamatalaga leo lemu; aisa nei oo atu taeao ua "Malo lava soifua ia te oe le mafu," o le fai mai lea a faletua." Moga ao ou tau la'ala'a atu "O Litia lo'u igoa. Ma e leai agai i le faitotoa o le fale. se mea e te matamuli ai na o Ua oo atu Moga i le faitotoa ma'ua lava le fale o la e i le ona ia oomi lea o le faamau fale o o'u matua ia tamaiti." paepae lea e pipi'i i le "Aue le Akua e," o nai o'u faitotoa. Ua ou lagonaina atu mafaufauga le leoa ia. "Pe le tatagi o le mea pei se logo faafefea ga fai se fagau a totonu o le fale ona ma lelei keige aulelei kalavou, faalogo atu lea ua patapatatu maka foliga i pepe pei se mai le savaii agai mai o le puligisese..." tagata ma ia tatalaina mai le faitotoa mulimuli mai ai ma le E faaauau

**PROTECT
YOUR
FAMILY**

PINE-O-CLEEN



**USE PINE-O-CLEEN
TO CLEAN
BATHROOMS,
KITCHENS, FLOORS,
AROUND GARBAGE
BINS AND PLACES
WHERE DOGS
FREQUENT**

PINE-O-CLEEN KILLS GERMS

UA LIU A LE VAI O SINA

Sa ou see ma ou saafi i fiafiaga o lenei olaga Ola ma le pologa talutalu oe le teine tausala Inosia e tagata aemaise upu faifai a le tupulaga Inu i le tiga ma le oona e aunoa ma se leo e lagona

Le uo sa faavae mai i le alofa e le uma Feofofoai ai o ta lagona ma ua tasi i ai ota mafaufauga O ta loto ua tasi o lea ta onosai i faitioga Talu lo ta naunau ina ia tua i manu ae le oni mala

Ae paga lea ua ose fili sa lamalama i le mafutaga Ulufia i lagona sola le mea moni ae manumalo le taufaaleaga Le tusi na ou ave atu suga pe moni ea nei mau tala Ae e tali mai o lo o silasila Le Atua i le faamaoni o lou tagata

Lo'u manao sa lafo atu ina ia momotu la ta faasolo Leaga ua sola lona sasala sa fai ma fugalaau faafiafia loto Na e tali mai afai o lo'u loto lea ia ua e malie foi i ai Tau ina ia faamanuia le Atua i le tulaga ua ou fai

O a'u toe upu na, na mafua ai ona maligi ou loimata O'o ifo i lou loto le moni ma le atoatoa o lou alofa e le'i suia lava A e paga lea ua masua a'u upu ua iloa uma foi e tagata Ua tofatu i maonaina ma ua liua le vai o Sina

Birds will sing again says Tofilau

"The birds will sing again, assessed by the council as but we will have to work together for that to happen" said Prime Minister Tofilau Eti Alesana in the House on Monday.

He exhorted the whole country to work together in the major rehabilitation work the country now faces after cyclone VAL.

Tofilau was talking during his Ministerial speech when the House resumed work after the hurricane ravaged the country.

In his speech he told of the many messages of sympathy received from "our friends around the world".

He told the House that soon after the cyclone Cabinet appointed Finance Minister Tuilaepa Sailele chairman of the National Disaster Council.

Cabinet also included three other Ministers to help with the direction of the rehabilitation work.

He told the House that the first report from the council had been received by Cabinet last Sunday.

"The damage has been

698, (M) 0,157 Samoan tala" he said.

He told the House also that New Zealand and Australia were the first to respond with assistance.

Australia sent in two Air Force Hercules planes with medical supplies and personnel and a helicopter on the Tuesday following the cyclone.

New Zealand sent in two Air Force Orions with medical supplies and personnel and a helicopter.

One plane brought in the New Zealand deputy Prime Minister Don McKinnon who came to see the damage for himself.

He told the New Zealand press on his return that it was like a battle zone.

Tofilau was also quick to stop people blaming the "sins of the country" for the cyclone.

"It is not a sin of Samoa" he said, "if it was, then why were the other Pacific Islands also damaged?"

He urged people to pray for forgiveness too.

"If we know we have erred, then we should kneel down and pray for forgiveness" he said.

Opposition leader Vaai Kolone replied and offered his party's support in all the efforts for the country's recovery.

"It is not just the duty of Parliament, it is not even just the duty of government but the duty of all of Samoa, to make this recovery a reality," Vaai said.

He alluded to the estimate of damage during his speech when the *Samoa Observer* asked him later he said it was too low.

"It is too low when you look at all the damage to homes, and crops, people and livestock," he said.

Vaai told the House that they must all work together in this work.

He also suggested the return of \$100 million of foreign reserves to help with the rehabilitation work (see other story).

"God helps those who help themselves" said former Prime Mimiti

Govt asked to withdraw \$100 million to help rebuild

The government was asked in Parliament this week to withdraw \$100 million of the \$1.1 billion being kept in reserve to help rebuild the damage caused by Cyclone Val.

Opposition leader Vaai Kolone made the request when he addressed the House on Monday. He repeated it when he spoke on Tuesday.

Vaai said the extensive damage caused by the cyclone and the need to rebuild it using some of the reserves

is a great loss to the country. He said that most of the damage has been made since the cyclone and that the government should have the resources to rebuild.

Many families also, especially in Savaii, were left without food and clothing and they need all the help they could get.

Vaai said any assistance the government could give now would be greatly appreciated, but he would leave it to the government to decide.

Other MP's supported Vaai saying that using some of the reserves now

would be quite justified. Some members of the public also agreed. They told the *Samoa Observer* that if the government went ahead and withdrew \$100 million from the reserves, this would be seen as a health development by the overseas donors.

"It would make them even more willing to help, seeing that we have taken the initiative to try and help ourselves," they said.

Meantime, reports from Savaii say that food shortage in some villages there is quite critical.

Many families who have lost their homes are still living with neighbours or relatives while they are trying to rebuild their homes.

The reports say that the shortage of clothing is also a problem.



Lydia Saeseese-O-Aana Groves

In Memorium

In loving memory of LYDIA SAESEESE-O-AANA GROVES who passed away 5 years ago 15 December 1986.

Since you left us your absence has been felt by us all and never is there a day we don't think of you. You are always in our hearts and thoughts.

Dearly missed by:

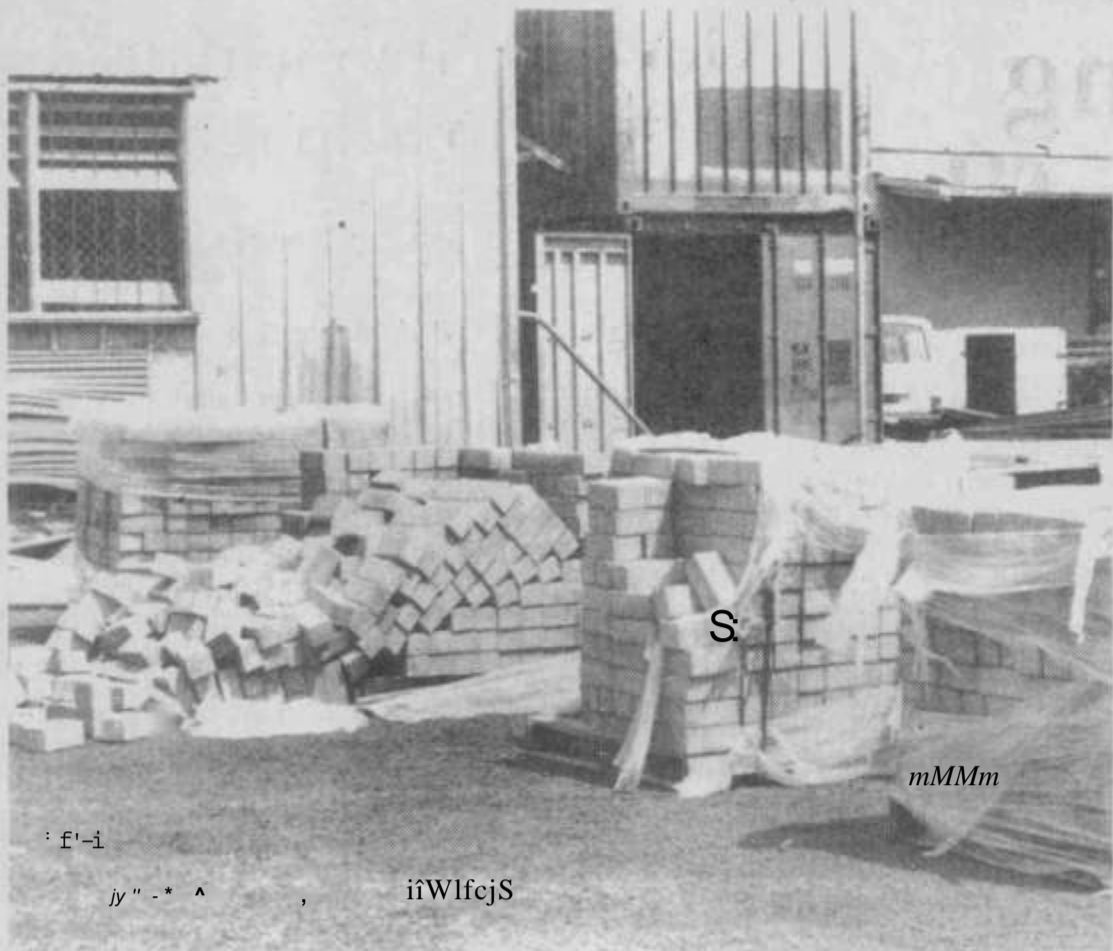
Your husband Eric Groves and Children: Ota, Pelita & Robin, Jay, Melina, Victor, Larina & Arthur, Deuel, Elon & Matilda, Cedric, Murray, Nathaniel, Cherith & Klaus, Christine, Karl, and the Betham Family.

In Memorium Mum

Why did you leave us?
Alone in this world
No Mum to turn to
For love and devotion
Since you've been gone
So much has happened
If only you knew
The pain we're to go through.
We miss you Mum
Every day and night
Your kind loving visits
Are no longer there.
Our children are left
With no one to care for them
Our birthdays, their birthdays
Are always forgotten.
Oh Mum! I love you!
We wish you would be here
To settle our problems
And make things alright.

There's never a day
That we don't think about you
You'll always be remembered
As we go on with life.
Maybe someday Mum
We'll be there beside you
Where there'll be no more sorrows
And troubles will be behind us.
Dear Lord we pray
For forgiveness and guidance
That someday in heaven
We'll be there with **OUR MUM...**
...LYDIA SAESEESE-O-AANA GROVES
Passed away 5 years ago 15
December 1986.
Always in our hearts
and never forgotten.

L. Meredith



The cyclone moved a lot of things around, including pallets of bricks which have not yet been cleared away from where Val left them standing.



No creation more life-sustaining, no force more violent than this enigmatic sea.

Graduations for the universities delayed

Western Samoa's two universities have both postponed their graduation ceremonies until next year.

A total of 42 students were to have graduated from the University of the South Pacific on Friday, December 6.

Secretary for the Alafua campus, Aca Ratilevu said the graduation could be held next February but the date had not been decided.

The Alafua campus received some damage during the cyclone.

At the Agriculture and Engineering section the roof and main door were blown off.

The machines used in these studies which are still in the building were covered to prevent wetness and a temporary door was built.

Some iron roofing for the students hostel was also blown away by the wind

All the graduates had been given their diplomas and degrees and the overseas students had already left the country.

Ratilevu said a ceremony would still be held to cover formalities.

At the National University of Samoa, the graduation was to have been held last Friday, December 12, at the Apia Park Gymnasium.

Vice Chancellor, Tauilili Uili, said the graduates were not ready for the ceremony but he added that it will be held before the first graduate leaves the country.

The seven year old school which started with 47 students is currently catering for well over 500.

NUS buildings received no damage from Cyclone Val and Tauilili said procedures for their new enrolments next year would proceed as usual.

SPDC actions may have caused more damage

The actions of SPDC in repairing a broken down bridge at Lailii during the cyclone may have caused more damage than good.

This was revealed in the House yesterday by the member for Vaimauga East, Leniu Avamagalo.

He told the House that the bridge had been deliberately taken apart by the village to save it from severe flooding.

"We at Lailii know from experience that after 34 hours of continuous rain, this river, Muliafuafasa, starts to flood and the bridge has in the past restricted the flow of the river when flooded" he said.

He told the House that after 34 hours of continuous rain during cyclone Val, the village broke the bridge down to allow the river to

flow freely.

"But at night, the SPDC came and fixed the bridge, and that has caused extensive damage to the village" said Leniu.

He said that the main damage to the village was caused through flooding.

"We had logs in our houses, there was mud everywhere and the Mormon church has been completely wrecked by flooding" he said.

SPDC had fixed the bridge to ensure the traffic to other villages got through.

Leniu urged government to look at ensuring this did not happen in the future and that it should look at fixing the bridge so the river is able to flow freely when it floods.

NOTICES

xsmmmmmmsmmm

MATAGALUEGA O LEIPA

ASO MALOLO MO TAGATA UMA MO LE KERISIMASI & TAUSAGA FOL

Ina ia tusa ai ma aiaiga o le Tulafono o FaJeolua 1961 ma le 'I ui.ii.u.; » Leipa ma Galuega 1972, e faasilasila atu e faapea. o Aso Malolo mu tag.ii., urn.i mo le Kerisimasi ma le Tausaga Fou e faamamaluina i aso e pci ona taua i l i

Aso Kerisimasi	- Aso Lulu. 25 o Tesema 1991
Aso e sosoo ai ma Kerisimasi	AsoTofi. 26 o Tesema 1991
Aso o le Tausaga Fou	Aso lulu. 1 o Ianuari 1992
Aso e sosoo ma le Tausaga Fou	Aso Totl. 2 o Ianuari 1992

E faamanatu atu i tagata e ona galuega e faapea. o tagata faigaluega uma o lo o latou faafaigaluegaina e ta tau ona maua (s. > n.aioU) e totoi mo aso e pei ona taua i luga. Mo tagata fai faleoloa, e faaü.ana.; .v v faapea. c leai se faleoloa e tatau ona tatalaina mo le faatauina atu o » H' u • 1 • tasoe pci ona taua i luga. vagana mo le faatauina atu o falaoa vela =-; >, - • .i tapaa, mea Miamalic ma oloa tau vailaau.

I manuia tele le Kerisimasi ma le l,n. .i

Komesina o Leipa.

LABOUR DEPARTMENT

CHRISTMAS AND NEW YEAR PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

Pursuant to the provisions of the Shops Ordinance 1961 and the Labour and Employment Act 1972, the public is advised that the Christmas and New Year public holidays will be observed on the following days:

Christmas Day	- Wednesday, 25th December 1991
Boxing Day	- Thursday, 26th December 1991
New Years	- Wednesday 1st January 1992
Day after New Year	- Thursday, 2nd January 1992

Employers are reminded that all workers in their employ are entitled to paid holidays for the above days. Shopowners are also reminded that except for the sale of bread, fresh meat, frozen goods, tobacco, confectionery and pharmaceutical products, no shop is to be opened for ihr sale of any other goods on the above days.

We wish you a very Merry Christmas and a Happx New Year

COMMISSIONER OF LABOUR

Cyclone devastates Tokelau

Tokelau has been places were destroyed, and declared a disaster area with the amount of erosion damages sustained during exceeded that caused by Cyclone Val estimated at Cyclone Ofa." \$724, 800 tala.

An officer from the Tokelau Affairs office said yesterday that due to communication breakdown for three days after the cyclone the office in Apia had just received reports of the damages.

The reports were received from the Executive Officers on the atolls.

They said the main damage to the atolls was caused by the action of the waves which eroded the land not protected by seawall.

"The seawalls on two atolls were damaged, also the salt water which was left on the land destroyed crops which had not fully recovered from Cyclone Ofa in January 1990," they said.

"Atafu received the most physical damage." A total of 30 per cent of their houses were damaged, all shore front cooking

"They have Deen without kerosene, petrol and diesel since the cyclone."

The report said the main problem was getting fresh, wholesome food to Tokelau over the next 15 months.

The damage to Tokelau could not be assessed from the air.

Tokelau's offices and official residence in Apia were also damaged.

The water damage was particularly severe in the buildings as well as roof damage in addition to damage to ceilings and

the water ruined many documents and publications.

The estimate of the damage to Tokelau and to the offices in Apia is WST\$724,800

The three atoll

communities are now doing the initial clean-up and repair work.

Savaii post office services fly away

Post Offices in Savaii have not been functioning since cyclone Val left the country in bits and pieces last week.

The offices at Auala, Tuasivi and Salailua will take some time before they are operational again. Savings Bank services are much needed in Savaii said this week that all the offices on Savaii were either completely destroyed or severely damaged by the strong winds.

At Christmas time too, people are expecting relatives overseas to remit funds and the Post Office Salelologa to allow the Post Office there to operate in.

College gets customs duty concessions

Six container loads of building material for Pope Paul VI college will be allowed in at a reduced customs duty of 5%.

Amiatu Sio, MP for Aana Alofi 1 announced to his constituency from the House that the Finance Minister had only yesterday morning given his approval for the containers to come into the country at reduced duty.

The material was bought from funds raised by the schools PTA and will be used for the damaged school buildings.



Traffic in Apia yesterday was backed up right through town because of work being done on Mulivai Bridge. According to reports from the site, this will be a common occurrence for another week.

Mulivai Bridge work disrupts traffic flow

Traffic on Apia's Beach Road will be disrupted for the next week while major repair work is carried out on the Mulivai Bridge.

The bridge was closed to all heavy traffic such as buses and trucks on Monday afternoon.

Only a one lane access is open for small vehicles travelling towards the Town Clock.

A representative of the Public Works Department on site said yesterday the approaches to the bridge had been badly damaged during the cyclone.

He said the 37-year-old bridge was still solid but the debris carried down by the river during the cyclone had

weakened the foundations of the approaches.

All three bridges along Beach Road as well as four on the way to the airport would need some repair work, however, the Mulivai Bridge is the one needing most urgent attention.

"Workmen will be on site 14 to 16 hour days to complete the job as soon as possible," he said.

"Many of the bridges were spared major damage because Public Works Department crews worked throughout the cyclone clearing debris."

The Kiwi Bridge at Sinamoga which was washed out during the

cyclone was re-opened on Monday.

Some damage was sustained" to the upper part of the Mulivai Bridge when the Japanese-owned barge in the harbour rammed into it during the height of the cyclone.

"It was lucky it moved of its own accord to further around the harbour otherwise the damage could have been more serious."

The spokesman said motorists could assist in the work by avoiding the area as much as possible during the next week.

"The less traffic*, the faster we'll be able to work," he said.

Cyclone Val victims named

According to police records, a total of 12 people died during Cyclone Val, three in the village of Tufulele.

The names and details of the victims is as follows: **Niuala Papalii**, male, aged 36, of Siusega. Died on December 7 as a result of an electric shock.

Faafetai Tu, male, aged 25, of Sinamoga. Died on December 8 when a coconut tree fell on him.

Ae Tavita Vaoifi, male, aged 65, of Lautuanu'u. Died on December 8 after being struck by roofing iron.

Luisa Gaoa, female, aged 6, of Tufulele. Died on December 9 when a coconut tree fell on her.

Tuula Palasi, male, aged 65, of Matautu-uta. Died on December 9 of cardiac arrest.

Alisa Taupau, female, aged 53, of Papa. Died on December 9 while attempting to find shelter.

Fa'asamoa Solofa, female, aged 25, of Tufutafoe. Died on December 9 when a house collapsed on her.

Ofisi Valesea, male, aged 32, of Salamumu. Died on December 9 when he fell

from a house while making repairs.

Maiava Lulu Rupeti, male, aged 70, of Sataua. Died on December 9 when a house fell on him.

Latu Mafi, male, aged 64, of Tufulele. Died on December 10 when he fell from a roof while making repairs.

Puata'a Sevia, male, aged 64, of Tufulele. Died on December 10 of cardiac arrest.

Lisi Leota, female, aged 72, of Mulifanua. Died on December 11 of cardiac arrest.