

Afghanistan

FILE: Tribes in Asia

Afghan tribesmen stop Russian troops trying to take key valley

NEW DELHI — Afghan tribesmen battling Soviet tanks and armored troop carriers with sniper fire and boulders halted the 13th Russian airborne brigade's attempt to take a strategic mountain valley the rebels have held for 2 1/2 years, a source in the Afghan capital of Kabul reported.

The source quoted witnesses as saying the rebels, resisting special Soviet counter-guerrilla units and 500 allied Afghan fighters, blasted boulders off the mountainside of the Panjshir Valley, halting the Soviet drive 20 miles into the 200-mile-long valley.

The Russians responded by fighting anti-guerrilla units high onto the mountainsides, where the Afghan rebels met them with sniper fire, the source said.

The heavy fighting continued one week after Soviet forces started an air and ground campaign to capture the narrow, winding valley held by the

rebels since the first Marxist government took power in Kabul in April, 1978, according to the Kabul source, who has been accurate in the past.

The Russians lost more than 20 of the 400 tanks and armored vehicles in the assault, as well as 10 helicopters and two MIG jets, the witnesses reaching Kabul were quoted as saying.

There was no independent confirmation of the report. The source asked not to be identified.

The witnesses were quoted as saying the assault produced some of the heaviest fighting since an estimated 85,000 Soviet troops were sent to Afghanistan in December to try to put down the tribal rebellion against the Marxist government.

The Soviet drive was halted at Roshan, 20 miles northeast of Kabul.

Witnesses reported huge fires in the valley, saying the Russians may have used napalm.

Seattle Times 9-15-80

International

Micronesia

ELSEWHERE

Daily Olympian

Micronesia Status

1-22-80

WASHINGTON — The fruitful round of Micronesia status talks in Hawaii last week has set U.S. and Micronesia negotiators on a firm course toward meeting President Carter's goal of ending the U.S. trusteeship in Micronesia by 1981. But many months of delicate negotiations remain — both at the bargaining table and in the political arena — before the Micronesia states can formally be cut free from 35 years of United States rule.

Daily Journal of Commerce
9/27/79

Influence of Pacific nations must be faced

TOKYO (UPI)—Washington Gov. Dixie Lee Ray told US businessmen in Japan Tuesday that Americans must adapt to changing economic tides and the growing influence of Pacific Nations, especially Japan.

The governor, who arrived in Tokyo Sunday after a week in China, said she came to Japan for six days to gather information and try to generate more trade for her state.

She has met or will meet with government officials and businessmen, as well as executives of Japan Air Lines in an effort to increase Japanese tourism in Washington.

Ray said the increasing influence of nations bordering on the Pacific Ocean requires that "change in political attitudes must accompany economic change."

She told a luncheon meeting of the American Chamber of Commerce in Japan that politicians have the job of making sure their constituents understand "the need to adjust to changing economic tides."

"There's a danger of striking out irrationally at our traditional allies and trading partners in an effort to blame someone if things go wrong or to find an easy target for the frustration that always results from stress and uncertainty," she said.

"We have sometimes been guilty of this in our own relationship with Japan and I think we must remedy the situation before it gets out of hand.

"In spite of trade imbalances, currency realignments and competition for world markets, the destinies of our two countries are interwoven and mutually dependent, both economically and politically."

She said she thought the trade deficits both the United States and the State of Washington have run with Japan in recent years were lessening.

The governor noted that Japanese "efficiency, dedication and innovation" were largely responsible for the nation's good trade figures. She said it was "ironic" that some Americans blaming Japan for the trade imbalances supported those same attributes and hailed the gaining of a "competitive edge."

The governor, a former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, told questioners that for the foreseeable future all industrialized nations were committed to nuclear power.

Asked about the views of actress Jane Fonda, a major opponent of nuclear energy, the governor said her views were the opposite and joked, "There's nothing I can say that would be polite."

'Clean' N-test site returned to islanders

By EDWIN Q. WHITE
Associated Press

ENEWETAK ATOLL (AP) — After three decades in exile on a faraway island, the people of Enewetak — some of them singing to the tune of "Lead Kindly Light" — began returning this week to their ancestral homeland once contaminated by nuclear bombs.

This group of islands was subjected to 43 nuclear tests between 1948 and 1958. But on Tuesday the United States formally declared it had completed a radiological cleanup, and in a simple ceremony returned Enewetak to its people.

Troj Binton Abraham, a chief among the Enewetakese, said Wednesday his people were aware that there had been warnings of dangers of radiation, but that they considered that inconsequential in comparison to being able to return home after 33 years.

"We don't think about worrying," he said. "We are happy that we have been brought from an island over the ocean back to our home."

WHEN THE UNITED STATES DECIDED TO USE Enewetak for nuclear testing, the people of the atoll — 136 of them at that time — were moved 124 miles to the smaller island of Ujelang. Since then they have longed to return.

The United States now has finished a three-year, \$100 million cleanup and rehabilitation project it says has made the island safe for human habitation.

There now are more than 500 Enewetakese and most of them came back this week for the return ceremony.

There were no wild outbursts of enthusiasm during the return, but there were polite applause, smiles and friendly words.

In a ceremony on the island of Medren, one leader explained that it is the custom of the Enewetak people to pray and sing at such a time. They sang in Marshallese to the melody of "Lead Kindly Light."

Following the ceremonial return, the Enewetakese are going again to Ujelang to prepare for a move that is expected to settle about 450 people here over the next two months. They will live on three islands in the southern part of the atoll — Enewetak, Medren and Japlan — where authorities say radiation is lower than in many parts of the United States.

THE ATOLL SURROUNDING A LARGE LAGOON is made up of 40 islands, and one of the two groups among the Enewetakese wants to go back to a homeland on the island of Enjebi in the north. This had been held too dangerous because of radiological contamination. But the Enjebi say later testing shows it would be safe to return and they want to do so. Their request is under consideration.

The United States has built 116 houses and other structures on the three islands designated for resettlement, and while the people of Enewetak prepare to return, the Americans are pulling out. By next month it is expected that all U.S. military personnel and the contract workers will be gone, and the only Americans left here will be a six-man team of scientists carrying out research at a marine laboratory.

In all, more than 4,000 Americans took part in the cleanup. During the nuclear testing, there were at times as many as 5,000 Americans here, plus other thousands in ships offshore.

THE AMERICANS HERE FOR THE RETURN were enthusiastic about the future of Enewetak.

Vice Admiral Robert R. Monroe, the director of the Defense Nuclear Agency who is described by Enewetak leaders as their "kind and dear friend," said the United States had worked for three years to repay "its great debt" to the people of Enewetak.

Warren Johnson, a retired lieutenant general and former director of the Defense Nuclear Agency, was back for the return and saw it in terms of national honor.

"We made a commitment," he said, "and we have carried out that commitment. It may be in a small, faraway place, but it has given us credibility."

The Defense Nuclear Agency was designated Defense Department project manager for the Enewetak cleanup operation.

On Bikini Atoll, where other nuclear tests were conducted, the people who returned were forced to leave again because of dangerous, lingering radiation. But U.S. officials say a better job of cleaning up was done here.

Australia

S.R. 7/25/80

Rebels say it with flowers

SYDNEY, Australia — Rebel tribesmen put down their bows and arrows, took up garlands of flowers and warmly welcomed an "invasion force" of French and British troops Thursday to the South Pacific coconut isle of Espiritu Santo, officials reported.

It was a peaceful end to a 2-month-long uprising by rebels and cleared the way for independence ceremonies next Wednesday for the New Hebrides archipelago. Espiritu Santo is the largest of the New Hebrides' 72 islands.

The New Hebrides have been ruled jointly by Britain and France for 74 years.

Spokesman - Review

7/25/80

...for understanding the various... investment in... from the beginning... of the Shasta River... to the long-established... system. The concept of modest... investment was emphasized... Pacific Islands have a need... efficient aquaculture production... they also have a shortage of... water. American Indians are addressing... of these needs. The Lummi's... hatchery was described as... illustration of mollusc... culture, which, at least in the... case of marine mussels, is an... efficient means of protein pro-... duction. The Pyramid Lake Indian... trout hatchery, which uses... circulated water, and which is... operated by the Paiute Tribe of... Nevada, served as an illustration... of conservation of water use.

Part III described the Papago... village at Schuchuli in Arizona... which is the world's first solar... electric (photovoltaic) village, and... the Navajo chapter of Sweetwater... which has a photovoltaic-powered... community water system. Other... uses of solar energy were also... described including the Pyramid... Lake hatchery's system for heating... aquaculture water. Electric power... is in short supply on many Pacific... Islands and American Indian photo-... voltaic projects are helping to... develop the expertise needed to... solve these problems.

I described STCWW extensively... indicating that the creation of an... inter-tribal council has been help-... ful to a number of Western Wash-... ington tribes and that a similar... organization might also benefit... the Pacific Island communities.

Other papers presented at the... conference included a new vertical... aquaculture (catfish) system de-... veloped at Battelle Institute in... Richland, Washington, a descrip-... tion of help farming in California... and Japan, world aquaculture... mussel culture, a new method of... processing codonut oil, a new fish... bonding machine, and several... papers on the political and social... aspects of nutrition education and... nutrition and health needs and...

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE:

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Squaxin Island Tribe

Cliff Keeine, Chairman
Muckleshoot Tribe

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Joe DeLaCruz, President
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Joan Ortez, Chairman
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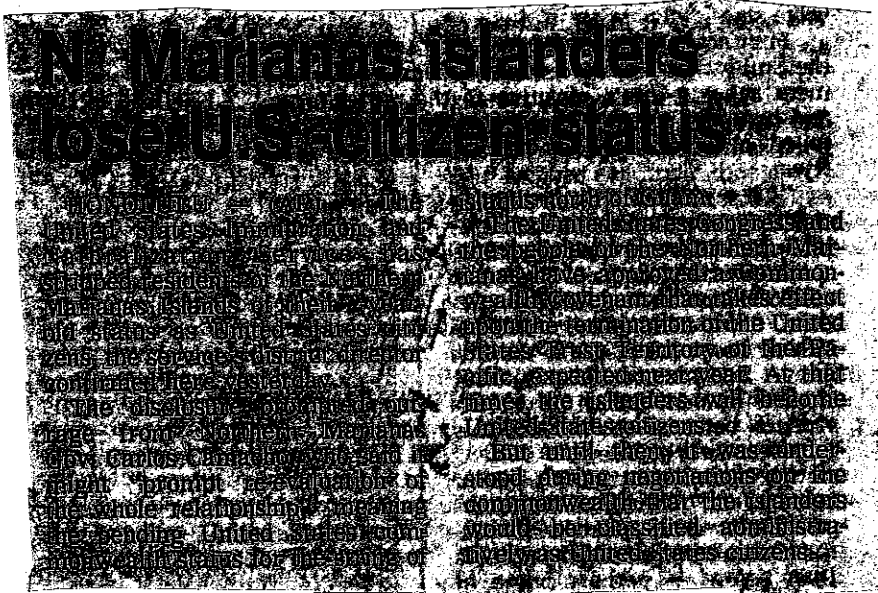
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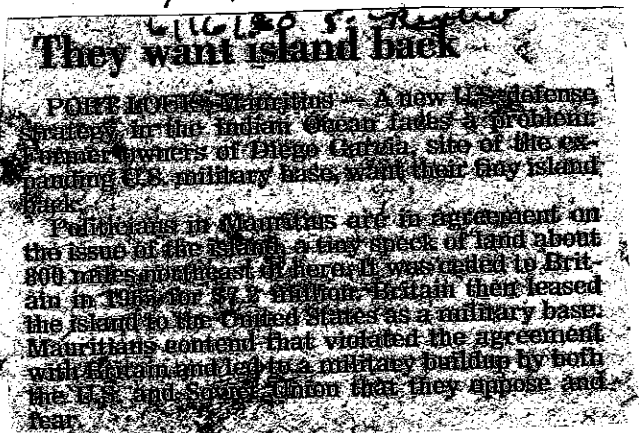
Jim Wynn, Secretary
Spokane Tribe

South Pacific

Seattle Times
4/8/80 AZ



Spokesman Review
6/16/80



RE: Political Status/Pacific Island

SOURCE: S.R.
date 6/1/80

Way sought to end rebel island grab

VILA, New Hebrides (AP) — Government officials held an emergency meeting Saturday to consider ways to wrest the second largest island in this South Pacific group from separatists who took control three days ago.

New Hebrides Chief Minister Walter Lini, 37, British Resident Commissioner, Andrew Stuart and French Resident Commissioner Jean Jacques Robert considered possible police action by France and Britain to retake Espiritu Santo, 160 miles to the north.

Lini, an Anglican priest, said earlier in a broadcast that law and order there had broken down completely. French and British officials were to meet Monday in Paris to consider Stuart's request for help.

Espiritu Santo was seized in a pre-dawn raid Wednesday by 800 spear-carrying native rebels led by 50 French-speaking Europeans armed with shotguns, British officials in London said earlier.

The rebels apparently want to secede from the New Hebrides union, which is scheduled to be given independence July 30 after 74 years of joint British-French rule.

The separatists took over government installations in Santo, the main town on Espiritu Santo and the second largest in the islands with a population of 5,000. The capital of Vila is the largest with 26,000 residents.

Sources in Vila said the insurgents abducted 11 Melanesian policemen, one of whom was reported to have been injured by an arrow.

Communications with Espiritu Santo were severed by Lini's orders in an attempt to limit the revolt, and the policemen's fate was not known.

No British or Europeans were reported hurt or captured, and it was not known if there were any Americans on the island. The New Hebrides government sent two small boats to Espiritu Santo to take out a group of Australian tourists.

The separatists also tried to seize government offices on the island of Tanna, 130 miles south of the capital, and briefly kidnapped about a dozen policemen. But other policemen disbursed the raiders and there were no reports of casualties.

In Vila the atmosphere was tense but quiet Saturday. Extra police from the British and French administrations — who run separate police forces as well as separate jails and separate schools — were called out for duty.

The seven dance halls in Vila were crowded as usual and the daily planeload of Australian tourists arrived uninterrupted.

"There's no trouble here, only on Santo," said a hotel manager. "But we will have a big demonstration on Tuesday over high prices, not about Santo."

The revolt on Espiritu Santo is led by Jimmy Stevens, who is of British, Melanesian and Polynesian heritage.

Sources here said he is supported by a few American businessmen who want to establish a tax free state and by French planters who fear the Lini government is too closely aligned with Britain.

Robert has called on all Frenchmen in the 74 island chain to support the Lini government.