



The Parliament of the Commonwealth of Australia  
Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade

DEPARTMENT OF THE SENATE
PAPER No. 3147
DATE PRESENTED
6 JUN 1991
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Report on a Visit to  
Papua New Guinea  
by the  
Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs,  
Defence and Trade

February–March 1991

The matters referred to in this visit report will be expanded in  
the forthcoming Report of the Inquiry into Australia's Relations  
with Papua New Guinea:



# Report on a Visit to Papua New Guinea February 1991



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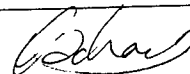
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## MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEE

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### 36th Parliament Main Committee



**Chairman:** Senator C Schacht  
**Deputy Chairman:** Hon M J R Mackellar, MP

Senator M E Beahan	Mr L D T Ferguson, MP
Senator D G C Brownhill	Mr E J Fitzgibbon, MP
Senator H G P Chapman	Mr R G Halverson, OBE, MP
Senator B K Childs	Mr N J Hicks, MP
Senator N A Crichton-Browne	Mr C Hollis, MP
Senator G N Jones	Mr J V Langmore, MP
Senator D J MacGibbon	Mr M J Lee, MP
Senator P A McLean	Mr E J Lindsay, RFD, MP
Senator G R Maguire	Hon J C Moore, MP
Senator J Valentine	Hon G F Punch, MP
Mr A R Bevis, MP	Mr J L Scott, MP
Mr D M Connolly, MP	Rt Hon I McC Sinclair, MP
Mr S C Dubois, MP	Mr W L Taylor, MP
Dr H R Edwards, MP	Dr A C Theophanous, MP

#### Secretary to the Committee

Mr P N Gibson, MC

#### Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee

**Chairman:** Dr A C Theophanous, MP  
**Deputy Chairman:** Mr D M Connolly, MP

Senator B K Childs	Mr R G Halverson, OBE, MP
Senator N A Crichton-Browne	Mr C Hollis, MP
Senator G R Maguire	Mr J V Langmore, MP
Senator C Schacht (ex officio)	Mr M J Lee, MP
Senator J Valentine	Hon M J R Mackellar, MP (ex officio)
Mr S C Dubois, MP	Hon J C Moore, MP
Mr L D T Ferguson, MP	Mr J L Scott, MP
Mr E J Fitzgibbon, MP	Rt Hon I McC Sinclair, MP

## MEMBERSHIP OF THE WORKING PARTY

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Leader: Senator C Schacht  
Deputy Leader: Hon M J R MacKellar, MP

Senator N A Crichton-Browne  
Senator J Valentine  
Mr L D T Ferguson, MP  
Mr C Hollis, MP  
Mr J V Langmore, MP  
Mr M J Lee, MP  
Hon J C Moore, MP  
Rt Hon I McC Sinclair, MP

Secretary: Ms J Middlebrook

## CHAPTER 1 - INTRODUCTION

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1.1 Papua New Guinea is Australia's nearest neighbour. It is a country with which Australia has had very close ties. It is also a fully independent country, carving out a role for itself in the region - a role which includes continuing ties with Australia, along with links with many other regional and extra-regional powers.

1.2 When Papua New Guinea became an independent state on 16 September 1975, the nature of that independence was debatable. While the country is still a heavy user of aid, particularly Australian aid, no-one can doubt that it is now a truly independent country which is increasing in importance.

1.3 With a population of over 3.5 million it has overtaken New Zealand as the second largest South Pacific nation (after Australia). With great mineral wealth and a rapid population growth, Papua New Guinea deserves close attention. Several countries including the ASEANs, the Peoples' Republic of China, Taiwan, the USSR and the USA have recently shown a heightened awareness of this. It would be a pity if Australia, with a complacency born of long acquaintance should fail to compete adequately with Papua New Guinea's new friends.

1.4 The visit by a Working Group from the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade to Papua New Guinea was undertaken as part of an inquiry into Australia's relations with Papua New Guinea. (See Appendix 1). The report of that inquiry will be tabled in the latter part of 1991.

1.5 It is not intended that this Report of the Visit to Papua New Guinea should pre-empt the findings and recommendations of the inquiry report. It will instead be a short record of the visit, touching briefly on the major topics discussed.

1.6 The Committee is indebted to the many people who enabled the visit to proceed and who helped to make it such an enriching experience for the ten members who were able to participate.

1.7 In particular the Committee wishes to record its thanks to the Prime Minister for supporting the visit both morally and financially, to the Minister for Defence and his Department for arranging the crew and aircraft which transported the Working Group during the visit, and to the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade and his Department (especially the Australian High Commission in Port Moresby) for organising the visit. Thanks are also due to the Speaker of the Papua New Guinea Parliament (the Hon Dennis Young) and the Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr Damian Gamiandu, who accompanied the Working Group.

1.8 Above all the Committee wishes to record its gratitude to the many citizens of Papua New Guinea who gave generously of their time, their hospitality and their ideas to help the Working Group to explore the many dimensions of the Australian/Papua New Guinean relationship. The list of people who contributed to this is too long to include in a short report. It includes the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, Mr Namaliu and six of his senior Ministers, the Premiers and entire Cabinets of six Provinces, Local Government Councillors, businessmen,

company officials, factory and plantation managers, missionaries, farmers, manufacturers and villagers.

1.9 The generosity and friendship extended by these people reinforced the notion that the relationship between Australia and Papua New Guinea is a real kinship, and not merely a political and diplomatic connection.

1.10 Members of the Working Group returned to Australia with vivid impressions of the variety and vitality of Papua New Guinea. Despite its many problems it seems richly endowed with leaders who genuinely have the welfare of the whole country at heart. Members left Papua New Guinea feeling optimistic about its future.

## CHAPTER 2 - PROGRAMME OF THE VISIT

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2.1 The Working Group's visit to Papua New Guinea was expertly arranged by the Australian High Commission to allow members a glimpse of the variety that is Papua New Guinea. The programme provided the opportunity to see something of the country beyond the official level of the Government to Government relationship. The full programme is at Appendix 2.

2.2 The itinerary was as follows:

Saturday, 23 February 1991	Port Moresby
Sunday, 24 February	Mendi - Madang
Monday, 25 February	Tabubil, Kiunga - Madang
Tuesday, 26 February	Lae, Goroka - Madang
Wednesday, 27 February	Rabaul
Thursday, 28 February	Popondetta - Port Moresby
Friday, 1 March	Port Moresby
Saturday, 2 March	Cairns

2.3 Travel through this geographic maze afforded the opportunity to hold discussions covering the three levels of Government: National, Provincial and Local. It also encompassed cultural displays, visits to a hospital, a school, the University of Papua New Guinea, Ok Tedi mine, plantations and factories and meetings with business and community groups.

2.4 While the programme was ambitious in the extreme, there remained many places where the Working Group was not able to visit because of time constraints or because of security concerns. The Papua New Guinea Government felt unable to guarantee the security of the group at East Awin settlement for refugees, so a proposed visit was dropped from the programme. These gaps were regrettable. So was the limited time available in the places we were able to visit.

2.5 The warmth and hospitality offered all over Papua New Guinea was overwhelming. It is difficult to nominate particular experiences, for fear of offending the many hundreds of people who went to a great deal of trouble to demonstrate their traditional cultures and their points of view. Members greatly appreciated not only the dances, singing and other displays, but also the warmth of the welcome which lay behind them.

2.6 The narration of a few experiences is meant only to indicate the flavour of the visit, rather than to praise one community at the expense of others. The Working Group was impressed by the welcome arranged by Tapo Village outside

Mendi, the Southern Highlands capital. Here the people enacted an attack by one village on another, and the enthusiastic repulse of the attackers. There was also an enactment of a "bride price" ceremony, complete with pigs and other evidence of the value of women to the community. It is possible that as a result of the ceremony one member of the Working Group is now in a polygamous state!

2.7 The people of ANEGO Plantation outside Goroka in the Eastern Highlands will be long remembered with affection by members. A very professional welcome was extended by hundreds of people, many in traditional dress. The young master of ceremonies was a fine example of a Papua New Guinean upbringing topped up with an Australian secondary education. The climax of the welcome was the rendition of a song (composed especially for the occasion) sung in beautiful harmony by a fully gowned choir from a nearby Church school.

2.8 Another welcome which will live long in the memories of Committee members was the welcome at Bitavavar near Rabaul. Here members were able to talk to village people about their concepts of Australia. The opportunity to partake of food wrapped in leaves and cooked in a ground oven of hot rocks was much appreciated.

2.9 Nor will members readily forget the welcome prepared by the people of Hohorita village near Popondetta. A large barrier made of palms and tapa cloth hid the village from the visitors. A village leader enquired in a loud voice if the Committee came in peace. On being assured that the group indeed came in peace, the barrier parted and a great shout of Oro! Oro! (Welcome in Orokaiva) erupted and the barrier parted. The welcome was heavy with symbolism.

2.10 Such glimpses do little justice to the variety and extent of contact with ordinary Papua New Guineans. They do little more than suggest the warmth of the welcome extended from people who have long considered themselves in a special relationship with Australians. Such overtures of friendship were greatly appreciated by all members of the Working Group.

2.11 Despite these glimpses of the more exotic parts of the visit, it was not one long tourists' paradise. Most of the programme consisted of discussions and inspections. Here again the innate courtesy of Papua New Guineans at all levels was evident. People had gone to a great deal of trouble to prepare themselves for the visiting party, in an attempt to maximise the value of the short time available for discussions and inspections. The East New Britain Provincial Government, for example, had prepared a situation report in booklet form, for each of the visitors. The many summaries and leaflets given to the Working Group have now been formally received as an exhibit to the inquiry.

## CHAPTER 3 - DISCUSSIONS

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3.1 Many of the discussions held during the visit were confidential in nature. The Working Group appreciated the frank nature of these discussions. The views expressed will be an invaluable source in drafting the report of the main inquiry even though they cannot be attributed to their authors. The list of politicians with whom discussions were held is at Appendix 3.

3.2 What follows is a brief account of the topics covered during the visit, offered without comment, in order to avoid pre-empting the findings of the inquiry. The views expressed are not necessarily held by any members of the Committee.

3.3 The range of issues covered in discussions was vast. Most topics were initiated by the Papua New Guineans. Although members of the Working Group asked questions during the discussions, the questions tended to be on topics already raised.

3.4 Topics aired at some length (and in rough order of time devoted to them) included:

aid; development in general; law and order and general security topics (including the Australian police training project); Defence Co-operation (including the Army Engineers at Mendi); Bougainville; trade; the economy; education; politics (including the three levels of government, constitutional change and the electoral fund); land tenure and compensation; mining; environmental matters; women's issues; tourism and timber logging. The relationship with Australia was a theme through most of these discussions.

3.5 Comments on several of these discussions will be provided in order to evoke the flavour of the meetings.

### AID

3.6 The issue most commonly raised was that of Australian aid to Papua New Guinea. At the National Government level the views expressed at the Ministerial Forum held in Canberra in February 1991 were logically carried through. All ministers looked forward to the day when there would be no further need for reliance on Australian aid. In the meantime policy questions relating to the rate of movement from budget support (aid going directly to general revenue without being associated with particular projects or programmes) had to be solved. Most politicians at the national level had a sound appreciation of policies which would lessen Papua New Guinea's reliance on aid. These include downstream processing of raw materials, and an improvement in the balance of trade with Australia. One prominent political figure described Australian aid as "boomerang aid". While we appear to "give" aid, there was always another way of getting it back.

3.7 The Working Group was privileged to hear the views of many politicians and others outside the normal Government to Government avenues of communication on the topic of aid. The views expressed were obviously dearly held. There was a certain uniformity of view across the Provincial level of Government, which owed much to the belief that the provinces would see more benefit from Australian aid if it were all given in the form of project aid. The Provincial Government members tended to believe that budget support "disappeared" within Waigani - the Port Moresby suburb which houses most public service departments.

3.8 The attitudes of many people in Provincial Government are summed up in the following comments which could have been heard at any of the Working Group's meetings with provincial politicians:

- . Australian aid money is spent in Waigani.
- . There is a need for a review of foreign aid.
- . Aid should be linked to the funding of projects in each Province. The current system hasn't worked.
- . The money is being wasted in Waigani. It does not reach us.
- . Australia has every right to ask about foreign aid policy. The question is well overdue.
- . When the National Government says it will give money to the provinces it doesn't happen.
- . Our needs are in the areas of education and health services. We are still living with the infrastructure left by the Australians. Some things have been allowed to fall into ruin.

3.9 There seemed to be a lack of understanding of how budget support aid was used for the benefit of the population. One provincial politician complained that when he asked where the aid went to, all he got were "papers and figures". These were clearly less than adequate as explanations. The favour with which Provincial Government members viewed project aid owed much to the enormous need for investment in infrastructure. One provincial premier told the the Working Group that most provinces could capably look after the normal budgetary requirements for administration. What was needed was a massive injection of funds for infrastructure particularly in the sectors of communication, transport and health services in remote areas.

3.10 Local Government representatives tended to focus on a different perspective. They thought aid was being swallowed up at the provincial level to the detriment of local government and grass roots projects.

3.11 While the attributes of budget support might have been imperfectly understood outside of National Government circles, views on project aid were quite firm. Such aid should not be "tied" to contracts from the donor country. Local firms should be used for any necessary construction. When one ex-politician (national) was asked why he favoured project aid, he threw the question back and asked for evidence that budget aid was getting through to the people who needed

it. This person felt that project aid was more likely to be initiated by local people. While budget support had been necessary for Papua New Guinea's survival in the early years of independence, the need was now for project aid to assist with specific problems.

3.12 One astute provincial politician noted that while there seemed to be drawbacks in moving from budget aid, they could be overcome by correct policies. Nothing in the nature of project aid precluded Papua New Guinea deciding priorities for the projects. It would then be a matter of asking Australia to fund certain projects. While requests could come from responsible provincial authorities, there could be guidelines to suit National Government objectives.

## LAW AND ORDER

3.13 Papua New Guinea's problems with crime were discussed with the Working Group at some length. Discussions included the Australian funded police training project, and the possibility of extending this project or of providing other assistance in the law and order sector.

3.14 Members were impressed by the will to face and combat the problem by the National Government. There has been a good deal of analysis of the causes of the problem as well as of possible solutions. The social dislocation and alienation caused by rapid social change is a big contributor to criminal activity. It may be that some traditional cultures had a high natural level of violence as a means of dispute settlement, but if so, this is not nearly as relevant as 50,000 school leavers per year competing for 9,000 jobs.

3.15 The inevitability of crime in a society where people have the need of money without the possibility of fulfilling that need is demonstrated by the following true story. A boy who failed the examination to pass from grade eight to grade nine was discussing his problem of how to get the money to repay his parents for the school fees they had outlayed on him (to the order of K400 per year). He outlined his plans for breaking and entering if he failed to get a job, as though this were an acceptable alternative for wealth creation.

3.16 Whatever the cause of the problems, the ever-present likelihood of crime and violence has become a fact of life for all in Papua New Guinea. It is much worse for the local people who typically do not have access to the dogs, guards and security fences with which many expatriates protect themselves.

3.17 The Australian police training project seemed to be well conceived, but a classic case of scratching the surface. The project had its origins in 1985 when Mr Bill Hayden, the then Minister for Foreign Affairs, came to PNG and saw the law and order problem. In 1986 AIDAB put together a project team to carry out a feasibility study for a \$20 million five year project. The Australian Government reduced the amount to \$11.9 million but it was still to cover five years. The project was approved in December 1987.

3.18 AIDAB established a committee to set up the Royal PNG Constabulary project. It was to cover training in administration, computing and forensic science



amongst other things. In effect the trainers have had to go back to basics. It is difficult to give much prominence to computers when the police do not have access to police note-books. Nevertheless, some progress has been made. A lot more seems called for.

## THE ARMY ENGINEERS

3.19 The Working Group spent a most interesting and enjoyable day looking at the work of 12 C E, Royal Australian Engineers. The nineteen servicemen, under Major Darnley-Stuart, administer the Public Works Department of Southern Highlands Province.

3.20 The Department operates with an efficiency which is the envy of other administrations. It actually makes a profit and subsidises other provinces. The project symbolises the benefits which accrue to both donor and recipient in a well-designed technical cooperation project.

3.21 Papua New Guinea gets both skills and training and a well run department. Australia gains valuable experience. The group has a good working relationship with the Provincial Government and the local community. It projects a good image of Australia.

3.22 Least this should seem an ideal situation, the future of the project is unclear. The funding is currently provided from the Defence Cooperation Budget. There is some debate about whether defence funding should continue for this purpose.

3.23 In a speech read on behalf of the Premier of Southern Highlands Province the Premier asked the Committee to pass on thanks to the Australian people for all the help they had given to the nation and to the people of the Province. He asked that Australia continue to help for a long time. The speech read 'A definite commitment has been made which we are thankful for'. He said the needs of the Province were many and varied. The Province needed continued tied grants. He asked that members take back a glimpse of old memories and a forecast of continued help.

## BOUGAINVILLE

3.24 Bougainville is perhaps the biggest single challenge facing the Papua New Government today. The loss of revenue from the mine is compounded by the political nightmare of secession and the international embarrassment occasioned by the human rights issues raised by the conflict.

3.25 Attitudes to the problem within the political leadership in Port Moresby are wide ranging, but there are some common threads. Secession for Bougainville is regarded as non-negotiable. Most leaders considered that the Honiara Declaration had not delivered an acceptable solution. There was also a widespread feeling that if the conflict could have been treated as a simple military problem at its outset, its spread could have been avoided.

3.26 The Working Group felt that despite the differing views on how best to proceed in relation to Bougainville, all the politicians concerned were engaged in a genuine attempt to find a long term solution. There was an honest attempt to face the fact that the Papua New Guinea Government had made mistakes in the past in dealing with the situation.

3.27 The Working Group arrived in Port Moresby on the day the SBS video on Bougainville was scheduled to be televised. The film crew had entered Bougainville illegally through the Solomon Islands, causing much angst amongst Port Moresby political figures. The perception in Port Moresby that Australian journalists do not display a proper respect for Papua New Guinean lawful authority, is a blot on the relationship.

3.28 The sensitivity to outside "interference" extends beyond journalism. Amnesty International offended Port Moresby by its report on human rights issues on Bougainville. Some politicians wondered why the organisation could not go somewhere else to "do good" and allow Papua New Guinea to handle its problems in its own way.

## EDUCATION

3.29 Education, like aid, was discussed at every meeting attended by the Working Group in Papua New Guinea. It was widely perceived as both a cause and a potential solution of social unrest and unemployment, which in turn fed into the law and order problems faced by the country.

3.30 Figures quoted in illustration of the problem differed, but there are 40,000 to 50,000 school leavers each year chasing something like 9000 jobs per year. Only 4500 go on to secondary school each year, so the vast majority of the school leavers have little or no chance of securing skilled employment. This situation, in many cases, does not accord with the expectations held by the child, the family or the village.

3.31 Conditions are perhaps hardest for the those who fail to complete secondary school. There are only four national (going through to grade 12) high schools in the whole country. The 4500 students who embark on secondary education each year leave their villages for the purpose. The majority who do not make it to a national high school often have no wish to return to village life, which is seen as boring and lacking in challenge. Those who remain in the towns need money but have no way of satisfying that need apart from criminal activities.

3.32 Even the staunchest proponents of the "we can handle our problems in our own way" school of political thought, were grateful for the aid offered by the Australian Government in educating secondary and tertiary students in Australia. The only criticism of this form of assistance came from some students at the University of Papua New Guinea. They were concerned that the practice encouraged two classes of educated Papua New Guinean. Those educated in Australia were thought to have the edge in the job market over the home grown graduate.

3.33 Many Papua New Guineans believe that the root of the education problem lay in the days of colonial dependence. *Australia failed to leave the newly independent country with enough educated people to ensure its economic independence.* In addition, the education that did exist was based on Australian models which may not have been in the best interests of Papua New Guinean children.

## CHAPTER 4 - CONCLUSION

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4.1 It is not intended to pre-empt the conclusions of the forth-coming report of the inquiry into Australia's relations with Papua New Guinea. The conclusions reached in this report will not canvass particular issues, but will focus on the visit itself.

4.2 At the beginning of the visit the Working Group consisted of ten members of Parliament, some of whom had made many visits to Papua New Guinea and some who had never travelled to that country before. All had spent the best part of a year studying Australia's relations with Papua New Guinea through the processes of the *current inquiry*. At the conclusion of the visit all members had learnt more about our closest neighbour than they had done by studying the eighty-one submissions and more than 1500 pages of evidence taken in public hearings for the inquiry.

4.3 The conclusion reached by the Working Group therefore relates to the value of such visits. While all Parliamentary Delegations offer members the opportunity to master large amounts of information about other countries, Papua New Guinea is a special case. While our international relations may change from time to time, Papua New Guinea will always be our nearest neighbour. *Our futures are permanently intertwined.*

4.4 In 1988 a delegation to Singapore and Malaysia also visited Papua New Guinea. The Report of that delegation recommended more frequent delegations to Papua New Guinea to maintain the special relationship between the two countries.

4.5 The last delegation from the Joint Committee to visit Papua New Guinea was in 1986. In the report of that visit it was recommended that the Australian and Papua New Guinea Governments should consider instituting regular and reciprocal Parliamentary exchanges - possibly on a biennial basis. In support of this it was noted that "Both countries need to bear in mind that changes of generations and circumstances in Papua New Guinea and in Australia may tend to reduce the levels of contact and familiarity if steps are not taken to maintain them."

4.6 This observation is even more relevant five years later. When Papua New Guinea became independent in 1975 every leading national figure in government, the public service and in private enterprise had been educated in Australia or by Australians. While no-one would wish to see such dependency prolonged, it remains a fact that at one time leading Papua New Guineans and Australians knew each other well, as a natural result of the relationship between the two countries. Now such friendships need to be nurtured and encouraged. While there is plenty of contact between officials of both countries, this is not necessarily the same thing as *nurturing friendship*.

4.7 The Working Group therefore re-iterates the recommendation of the 1988 delegation: that regular and reciprocal Parliamentary exchanges be instituted. They should be formalised by agreement between the *Presiding Officers of the two Parliaments*. An Australian delegation could visit Papua New Guinea every second year, with a Papua New Guinean delegation making a visit during the alternating years. As a result of the visit moves are now underway to establish an Aust/Papua New Guinea Friendship Group in the Australian Parliament.

4.8 The Working Group applauds recent moves by the *Presiding Officers of the Australian Parliament* to encourage outgoing delegations going through South-east Asia, to visit Papua New Guinea en route. An extension of this proposal could satisfy the requirement of a visit by an Australian delegation once every two years. The results of such closer ties would be of great benefit to both countries.

In June 1990 the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade requested the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade to inquire into and report on Australia's relations with Papua New Guinea, the inquiry being re-referred from the previous Parliament. The Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee of the Joint Committee took on the inquiry as its first task.

Terms of Reference for the inquiry are:

To investigate and report on Australia's relations with Papua New Guinea, with particular reference to:

- a. economic relations between Australia and PNG, including trade, investment and development co-operation;
- b. the implications for Australia of political, economic, social and security developments in PNG; and
- c. the implications for Australia of PNG's role in regional affairs.

The former Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade had reported on Australia's relations with the South Pacific in March 1989. At the time of that inquiry it was recognised that our links with Papua New Guinea were too important and too complex to be competently treated in the context of the South Pacific. The relationship demanded a separate inquiry.

As the inquiry progressed it became clear to members of the Sub-Committee, that it was essential to visit Papua New Guinea in order to try to gauge the health of the relationship from a PNG perspective. Because there is no provision for Parliamentary Committees to travel outside Australia, the visit was supported by a special grant from the Prime Minister. He had visited PNG in September 1990 and saw the importance of the visit to both encourage the relationship as well as scrutinise it.

The Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee consists of eighteen members, most of whom wished to make the visit. As such a large delegation would have been impractical, a Working Group was established from the membership of the Foreign Affairs Sub-Committee. Unfortunately the Chairman of the Sub-Committee, Dr Theophanous had the misfortune to fall ill shortly before the delegation left for PNG and was unable to go. The Working Group was led by Senator Chris Schacht, the Chairman of the Joint Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade. The Deputy Leader was the Hon Michael MacKellar, MP, Deputy Chairman of the Main Committee.

APPENDIX 2

**Saturday, 23 February - Port Moresby**

1430 Arrive in Port Moresby. Transfer to Islander Hotel

1525 Depart Islander Hotel

1545 Meeting with Acting Governor-General, Sir Buri Kidu, at Government House, Konedobu

1630 Meeting at Parliament House with Deputy Prime Minister, the Hon Ted Diro, OBE, OSTJ, MP; Minister for Trade and Industry, the Hon John Giheno MP; Secretary of the Prime Minister's Department, Mr Brown Bai; Secretary of Finance, Mr Morea Vele

1700 Return to Islander Hotel. Members of High Commission staff available for briefing

1900 Depart Islander Hotel for Residence of Australian High Commissioner

1930 Buffet dinner hosted by Acting High Commissioner Mr Neal Davis

**Sunday, 24 February - Mendi, Madang**

0745 Depart Islander Hotel

0800 Depart Port Moresby

1000 Arrive Mendi, Southern Highlands Province

Met by Major Glen Darnley-Stuart RAE and Provincial Government representatives

1005 Arrive Clive Steel Club for morning tea and briefing on 12 CE Works

1020 Depart Mendi for Tapo village and Hum gap

1300 Return to Mendi. Smorgasboard lunch at Mendi Hotel with members of Provincial Government

1430 Depart Mendi

1530 Arrive Mandang. Transfer to Smugglers Inn

**Sunday, 24 February - Mendi, Madang (continued)**

1900 Dinner to meet the Hon Andrew Ariako, Premier of Madang Province, and Provincial Government representatives

**Monday, 25 February - Western Province**

0800 Depart Madang

0930 Arrive Tabubil, Western Province

Visit mine site and mill

1230 Lunch at Tabubil including Ok Tedi Mining Ltd representatives, union representatives, local business community

1330 Briefing on environmental issues

1430 Briefing on community relations and business development issues

1530 Visit Kiunga

1630 Return to Madang

**Tuesday, 26 February - Lae, Goroka**

0800 Depart Madang

0840 Arrive Nadzab Airport, Morobe Province

Met by Provincial Secretary Manusupe Zurenuoc

0920 Arrive at Lae City Authority Chambers

Welcomed by singsing group and led to the Chambers

0930 Meeting with Provincial Administrator Tony Bais and Lae City Authority Chairman, M Angi

1000 Meeting with police and Australian police advisers at Police Training Centre

Briefing on Australian Police Training Project by:

Mr Tony Mott  
Mr Dave Grimsey  
Mr Tony Moore  
PNG Police Officers

**Tuesday, 26 February - Lae, Goroka (continued)**

1145 Depart for Lae town  
1200 Lunch with business community at the Lae International Hotel  
1320 Depart Lae  
1400 Depart Nadzab  
1440 Arrive Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province  
Welcome dance by cultural groups - Raun Raun Theatre and Asaro Mud Men  
1500 Meeting with Premier of Eastern Highlands, the Hon Robert Atiyafa, MPA and his Cabinet  
1530 Visit coffee growing areas outside Goroka: smallholders, followed by Anengo Coffee Estate  
1800 Depart Goroka  
1830 Arrive Madang

**Wednesday, 27 February - Rabaul**

0800 Depart Madang  
1030 Arrive Rabaul Airport, East New Britain Province  
Met by Deputy Premier, Dr Pius Kosa and Acting Secretary, Mr Hosea Turbarat  
1045 Check in - Hamamas Hotel  
1100 Courtesy call on Premier, the Hon Sinai Brown and Provincial Authorities at PSC Conference Room No.2  
1130 Visit to Coconut Products Limited (mill and factory)  
Party to be accompanied by Hon Tomete (Minister, Primary Industry) and Hon Saminga (Minister, Community Government and Justice)  
1245 Visit Tokiala Plantation, Tavilo  
1330 Visit Cocoa and Coconut Research Institute, Tavilo

**Wednesday, 27 February - Rabaul (continued)**

1430 Visit Blasius Tidi's Cocoa Fermentary - Toma  
1500 Stopover at a Total village - Bitavavar  
1530 Visit NGIP Talina Cocoa Fermentary  
1600 Visit to Vunapope Catholic Mission Hospital (afternoon tea organised by Hospital Secretary, Sister Florence) \*  
1645 Depart Vunapope for Rabaul  
1803 Reception at Hamamas Hotel

**Thursday, 28 February - Popondetta, Port Moresby**

0800 Depart Rabaul  
1030 Arrive Popondetta, Oro Province  
Met by Deputy Premier, Mr John Hevari, MPA  
1045 Meeting with Provincial Government members  
1130 Visit Higaturu Oil Palm Plantation. Visit arranged by Company Secretary, Richard Coates  
1245 Visit Hohorita village - traditional welcome, meet with village Councillors, light lunch. Visit arranged by Deputy Premier, John Hevari  
1345 Visit Martyrs Memorial (Junior Secondary) School (Anglican - Headmaster, Mr Svenson)  
1445 Depart for airport  
1530 Depart Popondetta  
1630 Arrive Port Moresby  
1815 Depart Islander Hotel  
1830 Reception at High Commissioner's Residence

\* The Working Group was very pleased to be of practical assistance to the Hospital as a result of this visit. It was found that expensive and much needed X-Ray equipment was lying unused in boxes, because the manufacturer had refused to allow a technician to travel to Rabaul to instal

the equipment. Such travel was judged to be risky against the background of the Gulf War. By dint of a few strategic phone calls the Chairman was able to facilitate a lifting of the ban. Rapid installation of the equipment followed.

**Friday, 1 March - Port Moresby**

0745 Depart Islander Hotel

0800 Tour of Parliament House

0830 Meeting with Prime Minister, Hon Rabbie Namaliu, MP, at Parliament House

0930 Meeting with Foreign Minister, the Rt Hon Sir Michael Somare, CH, MP, at Parliament House

1030 Meeting with Police Minister Mathais Ijape, Police Commissioner, Ila Geno, and Leader of Australian Police Project, Laurie Draper

1200 Buffet lunch at Islander Travelodge Hotel with representatives of Community Environmental Groups

1400 Meeting with Father Momis

1500 Meeting with University of Papua New Guinea Vice-Chancellor Professor John Lynch, senior staff and Students Representative Council members, at Waigani Campus (Vice Chancellor's Conference Room)

1645 Round-table meeting with women's leaders at Australian High Commission

Evening Free

In order of meeting -  
Sir Buri Kidu  
(Acting Governor-General and Chief Justice)

**Ministers**

Mr Ted Diro  
(Deputy Prime Minister)

Mr John Giheno  
(Minister for Trade and Industry)

Mr Rabbie Namaliu  
(Prime Minister)

Sir Michael Somare  
(Foreign Minister)

Mr Paul Pora  
(Minister for Finance)

Mr Mathais Ijape  
(Minister for Police)

Father Momis  
(Minister for Provincial Government)

**Provincial Premiers**

Mr Ibne Kor  
(Deputy Premier of Southern Highlands Province)

Mr Andrew Ariako  
(Premier of Madang Province)

Mr Tony Bais  
(Provincial Administrator of Morobe Province)

Mr Robert Atiyafa  
(Premier of Eastern Highlands Province)

Mr Sinai Brown  
(Premier of East New Britain Province)

Father Kingsley Geyeyo  
(Premier of Oro Province)

**Accompanying Politician**

Mr Paul Kamod  
(Member for Madang Province)