

KRAI BILONG

BOUGAINVILLE



**Rosemarie Gillespie
August 1993**

***Dedicated to those who have given their lives
in the cause of freedom***

CRY OF THE PEOPLE OF BOUGAINVILLE

"WE THE LEADERS AND PEOPLE OF HAIKI AREA, SIWAI, SOUTH BOUGAINVILLE NOW PRESENT OUR GRIEVANCES HARDSHIPS AND OPPRESSED FEELINGS TO YOU . . .

"BY THE BLOCKADE OF THE PNG GOVERNMENT WE HAVE SUFFERED TOO LONG. WE HAVE BEEN DEPRIVED OF OUR BASIC RIGHTS AS HUMAN BEINGS . . .

"WE THE RIGHTFUL OWNERS OF THIS RICH AND BEAUTIFUL ISLAND (OF BOUGAINVILLE) CALL THIS BLOCKADE A GENOCIDE ..

"HOW COME THAT OUR PACIFIC NEIGHBOUR COUNTRIES DID NOT HAVE ANY BLOCKADE LAID ON THEM WHEN THEY WANTED TO GAIN INDEPENDENCE?"...

This is the cry of the people of Haisi. It is echoed by the people in the north, central and south of Bougainville. Bougainville is a war zone. For more than three years now, Papua New Guinea has maintained a blockade on the island, using Australian supplied patrol boats, Iroquois helicopters, pilots, machine guns, bullets and grenades. The blockade stops medicines and other essential supplies from reaching the people.

Five thousand people have died as a result of lack of medicines caused by the blockade, of whom at least 2,000 are children.

Source?

(1) THE ORIGINS OF THE STRUGGLE

Bougainville's problems started when Great Britain and Germany did a deal, dividing up the Solomon Islands and other parts of the Pacific between themselves, in 1899. The largest and most fertile island of the Solomons, Bougainville, was incorporated into "German New Guinea", 800 kilometres away.

Carving up the globe as if it was a piece of cake was a standard procedure of colonial governments at the time. For example, Queen Victoria gave away Mt Kilimanjaro, the tallest mountain in Africa, to then Kaiser of Germany, as a gesture of goodwill.

Nobody thought to consult the Africans who just happened to live there. And the gesture was fruitless, given the two world wars that followed.

The international border, separating Bougainville from the rest of the Solomon Islands, cut across clans and clan lands which straddled the border. The people continued to travel across the 8 kilometres between Bougainville and the Solomon Islands, much as they had for the last 40,000 years. The blockade, imposed by PNG in 1990, put an end to that.

The Australian colonial administration was granted effective control over PNG following World War I. In 1928 the Australian government administration passed a Mining Ordinance which declared that all the minerals under the ground (including those in PNG and Bougainville) belonged to the Australian government.

The local land law, which had been in place for thousands of years, says that the land is owned on a clan basis and includes everything above the ground and beneath it.

Many Bougainvilleans remember with bitterness the way the Australian colonial administration ignored Bougainville until vast copper deposits were discovered in the mountains at the centre of the island. They also recall the assistance the Australian government gave Conzinc Rio Tinto Australia (CRA), which had a controlling interest in the Bougainville copper mine, to force the people to submit. Any chief who objected to his village being removed to make way for the mine, or the massive tailings dumps, was taken in a company helicopter to one of the local colonial prisons and beaten until he gave his "consent".

The traditional landowners, who are women, objected from the outset, but their cries were ignored.

The mine left deep scars on the land and its people. A huge crater, 6 kilometres long and 4 kilometres wide, was gouged out of the mountains and millions of tons of rubble tipped out into the Jaba River Valley. The chemical effluent from the copper concentrator was poured directly into the Kawerong River which ran green. Whole forests died, the river changed its course, as millions of tons of tailings were tipped into the once-fertile river valley. It now looks like a moonscape.

The initial fears of the landowners turned into dismay and then desperation as they saw their land, their culture and their future slowly being destroyed by the mine.

Attempts by the traditional landowners and their communities to obtain redress for their grievances through normal democratic procedures such as petitions, lobbying and negotiating were to no avail. The Bougainville copper mine was a bonanza for CRA, the shareholders and the PNG Government, who together reaped billions of dollars of profit over the 15 years the mine was in operation.

The traditional landowners, represented by the Panguna Landowners Association, grew more militant. In November 1988 they set out to close the mine. By blowing up the power pylons and other acts of sabotage, the militants, later branded as the BRA (Bougainville Revolutionary Army) forced the mine to close in 1989.

First the PNG Government sent in the riot squad and then the Army. The soldiers were given a licence to "shoot to kill", in an attempt to crush the militants. Over-reaction by members of the Army and the police force, some of whom mutilated and killed innocent men and women, ignited the smouldering desire for independence. What commenced as a fight to close the mine, escalated to a full-scale struggle for independence.

In January 1990, the Australian Minister for Foreign Affairs, Senator Gareth Evans stated:

"From a purely self-interested Australian regional security perspective ... the fragmentation of PNG is something we see as being a very unhappy development in regional security and stability and one which we would like to see avoided at all costs".

The PNG authorities took their Australian sponsors seriously. The Army intensified its efforts, leading to the notorious St Valentine's Day Massacre on February 14, 1990, when PNG soldiers took civilians into Australian supplied Iroquois helicopters and dumped their bodies into the sea. Expatriates left the area in droves, their goods piled high on the wharves as they fled the island. In March 1990 the PNG Army and police left Bougainville and a ceasefire was declared. Bougainville declared Independence on May 17 and established its Interim Government.

The ceasefire was short lived. Within weeks the PNG Army had imposed a blockade on island, using Australian-supplied patrol boats and helicopters. The license to "shoot to kill" is still in force. Anyone seen attempting to run the blockade is routinely shot at.

The purpose of the blockade was to increase the hardships of the people by cutting off supplies of medicines and other essential goods. This strategy was to be accompanied by a psychological warfare campaign directed at dividing Bougainvilleans and turning them against each other.

Communications were cut, people could no longer export their cash crops. Worst of all, the blockade stopped medicines and fuel from reaching the island. Behind the blockade, Papua New Guinea's iron curtain, the PNG Army is fighting a war of attrition in an attempt to force open the mine and reduce Bougainvilleans to a state of submission.

Mortar bombs are routinely fired from PNG Army bases at towns and villages. They are made in Australia, standard NATO model mortar bombs, most notably the WP80 (White Phosphorus incendiary mortar bomb) and the High Explosive (HE) anti-personnel mortar bomb. These bombs have been used to kill and injure Bougainvillean civilians and terrorise the population.

These mortar bombs are just as deadly when fired at Arawa as they are when they are fired at Sarajevo. The difference is that the victims are black, and there are no reporters running the blockade to bring the news to Australian TV screens.

Amnesty International, the International Commission of Jurists and other international bodies have been prevented by the PNG Government from entering Bougainville. On March 10 this year the United Nations Commission of Human Rights unanimously passed a resolution urging the government of Papua New Guinea to permit international fact finding missions access to Bougainville. Eight days later, the Prime Minister of PNG, Mr Paias Wingti, announced that no invitations would be issued within the next twelve months. At the same time he is claiming there is "no blockade".

In May this year, the International Red Cross was prevented from bringing life saving medicines into Bougainville, stopped by the PNG Armed Forces. The news reached Australia via Radio New Zealand. The Australian Broadcasting Commission (ABC) and other Australian news media did not report it.

The documents included in this volume were smuggled out through the blockade earlier this year. Great care was taken to protect these documents and keep them intact as we slipped through the blockade. Eventually they arrived safely in Australia.

They are the voices of the people, traditional landowners, chiefs, BRA's. During my five months in Bougainville, I travelled extensively in the central and southern regions of the island. Men and women walked for many miles to come to meetings, some of them attended by up to 1,000 people, to tell their story. People walked for days over mountains and valleys to bring me letters from remote areas.

This is their voice, "KRAI BILONG BOUGAINVILLE", the cry of a people whose desire for independence is stronger than their fear

of the PNG Army's guns.

(2) LAND RIGHTS VERSUS THE PURSUIT OF PROFITS

THE BOUGAINVILLE COPPER LTD MINE

"We now understand and have seen with our own eyes the destructive effects of the Bougainville Copper Mine operations on our land, our environment, our society and our culture. The mine will remain closed for the rest of our lives."

Resolution passed by the Panguna Landowners, 18th December, 1992 .

"Subject to economic viability, the Directors intend that, when conditions permit, the company will resume and continue (mining) operations ..."

Bougainville Copper Limited Annual Report, 1992

Notes to Accounts, p. 10.

The land is permanently scarred. The Bougainville Copper Limited mine, which yielded billions of dollars in profits and dividends for CRA, its shareholders and the PNG government over the 15 years the mine was in operation, left a huge crater 6 kilometres long, 4 kilometres wide and half a kilometre deep. For the traditional landowners of Panguna, it is a stark reminder of a foreign culture, a system of exploitation and alien laws, imposed on a people against their will.

The people of Bougainville had lived in harmony with their environment for 40,000 years or more. The land is fertile, crossed by many rivers and streams, which run through dense rainforests that spread their thick canopy of green over the mountains and valleys. To the people of Bougainville, the land is sacred.

"Land is our life. Land is our physical life - food and sustenance; land is our social life; it is marriage; it is status; it is security; in fact it is our only world. When you take our land, you cut away at the very heart of our existence."

Under customary land law, the land is owned on a clan basis. In Panguna the women are the landowners, and the right to use any piece of land must be sought from the women members of the clan.

"There are landmarks shown with environmental features like mountains, streams and valleys, etc. to show each family their land. Everything in each particular piece of land or in the sky above or in the earth beneath is respectively owned by each particular clan and not by any other governing body."

(Chief Thomas Koronato, National Coordinator, Bougainville, November 1992.)

The Australian Government, was granted control over Papua New Guinea and Bougainville following World War I. Without informing the landowners, it passed a Mining Ordinance which stated that the minerals under the ground belonged to the Government. This act of legislated theft gave the Australian Government the cosmetic legal dressing to grant CRA the "rights" to explore and later to mine the rich copper orebody at Panguna.

The women landowners resisted the encroachment on their land from the beginning. They pulled out the concrete exploration pegs. They lay down in front of the bulldozers with their children, stood bodily in the way of the giant machines, clinging to the trees on their land. For this they were clubbed and beaten by police.

The document which purported to be the "agreement" of landowners to the mining operation, was signed by a group of hand picked men, many of whom could not read or write. The pens had to be held in their hands as they marked their crosses on the paper. None of them were landowners; none of them were women.

The Bougainville Copper Limited Mine was a bonanza for CRA, its shareholders and the PNG Government. Less than one per cent went to the landowners in royalties, and the compensation payments were minimal.

**TABLE 1. Distribution of Benefits from Mining Operations
1974 to 1989**

Dividends and other benefits from mining operations.....	2,341.7 million Kina (K)
Payments to the PNG Government (taxes and dividends).....	1,085.6 million Kina
Royalty payments to Landowners.....	3.2 million Kina
Compensation Payments to Landowners.....	24.5 million Kina

BOUGAINVILLE COPPER LIMITED ANNUAL REPORT, 1992).

For the landowners, no amount of money could compensate for the loss of their land. The Jaba River Valley was turned into a vast tailings dump. What was once a fertile river valley had become a moonscape, miles and miles of rubble where nothing would grow. Whole forests died, the river changed its course, clogged by mountains of black rubble and sludge.

The waste from the copper concentrator was tipped into the Kawerong river (a tributary of the Jaba river), and the river ran green. The poisonous chemicals from the concentrator killed the fish. The birds and other wildlife fled the valley. Clouds of dust from the mining operations and the toxic fumes rising from the copper concentrator polluted the air. Crops were damaged and the trees stopped bearing fruit.

The fears of the landowners turned to dismay and then to desperation. Panguna became known as "THE VALLEY OF TEARS".

When the Panguna landowners, led by Francis Ona, vowed in 1988 to close the mine, they ushered in a new era. The silent anger had given way to action, which sent ripples across the Pacific. The indigenous peoples of the region began to flex their muscle, express a new confidence.

Following the closure of the Bougainville Copper mine in 1989, landowners on the mainland of Papua New Guinea started asserting their rights. The CRA owned gold mine at Mount Kare was closed by the actions of local landowners in 1992. The PNG Government responded by establishing a Rapid Deployment Police Force with the help of Australian aid, the purpose of which was to protect Australian investments

The PNG Army is intensifying its efforts to push its way into Panguna by the barrel of the gun, to force the reopening of the mine. This war, being fought by Papua New Guinea soldiers against Bougainvilleans, using Australian supplied equipment, weapons, ammunition, advice, training and money, is Australia's proxy war, from which CRA stands to reap the greatest benefit.

In November 1992, Paias Wingti, PNG's Prime Minister, said that the mine would be ready for work to begin on it by April 1993. The following month, government officials and mining company representatives flew over Panguna and surveyed the area from a helicopter. The landowners who recognised the purpose of the flight, said:

"By now the world should be well aware of the fact that the war on Bougainville is purposely sponsored and underwritten by the Australian Government to suppress the Landowners, while protecting the Australian multinational companies, like CRA, BCL, MINENCO and so forth. A good example is the Australian Government continuously pressurising PNG Government to reopen the Panguna copper mine. Another desperate move on the 06/12/'92 was the photographing of the Panguna mine and Arawa township by Australia and PNG Government Authorities with CRA personnel, which indicates their utmost interest to reopen the Panguna mine. What a shame!"

April 1993 has come and gone and the fighting continues. Now Mr. Wingti is hoping to have the mine re-opened late this year or early next year. More PNG soldiers have been sent into Bougainville. The Australian Government has donated two speedboats to tighten the blockade. The siege is now complete. As the attacks by the PNG Armed Forces intensified, PNG stepped up its propaganda campaign.

In the face of this onslaught, the landowners remain resolute. They are calling on other Melanesian peoples to recognise and support their struggle for land rights.

"The Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, his Government and his people must recognise the unquestionable fact that we are both of melanesian race and culture. Mr Wingti, as a Melanesian you must be aware that the roots of every Melanesian person, man and woman, our very identity, our being, our culture is based on land and the environment. Therefore the fight to save our land, our environment and our livelihood is not only to save the people of Bougainville. It is a fight to uphold the land rights of all Melanesians, including the people of your land, Papua New Guinea.

As a brother Melanesian, consider these facts, think of the people who elected you, and peacefully withdraw all your Defence Force personnel from Bougainville and give full recognition to Bougainville as a sovereign Independent Republic."

3. THE BATTLE FOR CENTRAL BOUGAINVILLE

Arawa, October 1992: The sound of mortar bombs exploding in the town just before the first light of dawn is more effective than any alarm clock. The daily shelling of Arawa by the PNG Army stationed at Tunuru, 4 kilometres away is a grim reminder of the fact that the Army has abandoned all pretences of having been invited here. The Army is trying to push its way into Arawa and Panguna by naked military force. As the sun rises higher, the sky is filled with the sound of the propellers of an Iroquios helicopter hovering above, the sound of machine gunfire as it sprays the town with bullets.

There are 5,000 civilians living in the town. Many are leaving. Hundreds of people have sought refuge in the Rumba Seventh Day Adventist mission on the outskirts of Arawa. During a lull in the fighting, children can be seen playing on the rocks and swimming in the river. Soon they will be leaving with their parents, trudging up the mountains carrying bundles on their backs, to take refuge in bush camps and villages.

Friday, 30 October: The PNG Army has already made two attempts to invade Arawa, and been rebuffed both times. Today it is trying again, only to be turned back a third time. Five BRA's have been wounded defending the town, one seriously. He is lying in casualty at the Arawa General Hospital with a huge gash in his chest.

Last night, the PNG government, through its national radio network, announced that the PNG Armed Forces had captured Arawa. The truth is they only managed to get as far as the northern edge of the town, where they were turned back by the BRA. Now is the time to try and contact Australian Associated Press and tell them what is really going on here. There are no reporters here, the blockade is stopping them. PNG is having a field day with its propaganda.

Having strafed Arawa over the last week and a half, the PNG Army is now inviting the people to come to their base at Tunuru to get medicines. The shortage of medicines here is critical. Three weeks ago the PNG Armed Forces stopped the International Red Cross and the Pacific Conference of Churches from bringing medicines to Arawa. Now the Army claims it is here to "rescue" the people from the BRA. No one is coming forward to be rescued. They are taking to the mountains.

On Saturday 31st of October the chiefs of Central Bougainville met in council in a mountain village. This meeting was followed by a second one a few days later. All areas of Central and part of South Bougainville were represented at the second meeting. The chiefs made the following declaration:

"We the chiefs of Central Bougainville condemn in the strongest terms the landing of the PNG Armed Forces at the Tunuru mission near Arawa. The PNG Army was not invited here and must leave Central Bougainville and all parts of Bougainville immediately."

In response to the claim by PNG's Minister for Defence, Mr. Paul Tohian, that the PNG Army is waiting for the chiefs to invite them into Central Bougainville, they said:

"We will not have anything to do with the PNG Armed Forces. We refuse to see them or speak to them."

"We do not believe that the PNG Army has come to bring peace. The PNG Army is trying to force its way into Central Bougainville by the barrel of the gun. This is clearly indicated by the fact that the PNG Army is using heavy arms in repeated attacks on Central Bougainville. They have been using Iroquois helicopters as gunships. They have bombarded Arawa township and nearby villages with heavy artillery, mortars, grenades machine gunfire, firing from helicopters and patrol boats."

"We believe that the 'shoot to kill' order made by PNG in 1989 is still in force. The BRA will not lay down their arms or surrender as a result of this order 'shoot to kill'."

"We the chiefs do not believe that the PNG Army is the answer to our independence struggle."

"Concerning medicines, people have been told to go to the PNG Army at Tunuru to get medicines. The chiefs will not go there to get the medicines, because it is not the job of the PNG Army to distribute medicines. In fact the PNG Army is distributing mortars, grenades and bullets which are injuring our people."

One of the chiefs brought along the remains of mortar bombs which had been fired at his village by the PNG Armed Forces. He said that the people do not want this kind of "services" and that they want the Army out so they can live in peace.

A LETTER FROM SIWAI

James Taraitis, the Minister for Employment in the Bougainville Interim Government held up two letters. One was from Torokina in the west and one from Siwai in South Bougainville. The letter from Siwai was marked. "The Chief, Siwai, South Bougainville". It read:

THE CHIEFS
SIWAI
SOUTH BOUGAINVILLE
REPUBLIC OF BOUGAINVILLE
9th November 1992

REF: DESTRUCTION & BRUTALITY BY THE PNG SECURITY FORCES IN SOUTH BOUGAINVILLE

Initially, it must be stated the statements which are being made by Papua New Guinea now and then, that the Security Forces who now occupy South Bougainville precisely, Siwai came at the request of The Chiefs, are all rubbish! We the Chiefs of Siwai do not remember any occasion or a time where such and such was done by us to call upon the Security to Siwai. It must be known by now - (we also want the outside world to know) that the PNG Security Forces entered by force of their own wish. Therefore the statements that the Security Forces came at our request are merely one of the many propaganda spread by the government of Papua New Guinea.

Chief deny they request forces

We the Chiefs of Siwai strongly disapprove of the PNG Security Forces occupation and thereby request their withdrawal from Siwai immediately. They have done us enough trouble.

The following is a brief report of few of the many destructions, abuses and harrassments done to our people by the PNG Security Forces since their arrival in Siwai.

A. Houses in many villages have been burnt down leaving more than 10 thousand people homeless. Permanent buildings and bush material houses in Wakoya, Osokori, Inong, Usokori, Tohu, Hokokohau, Tonnui, Hongorai, Dongpotoru, Posou, Rapauru Matukouri, Kawoo, New Camp, Sasu, Korokai, Tongoi, Torowiru, Iaping, Pono, Peresii, Kakotokori, Hiyai, Hataina, Mihero, Kumuki villages have being burnt down. A particular village, namely Tonuline which once was so peaceful have been graded using graders and bulldozers with its houses dumped in the nearby valley. Today the once Tonuline village is now one of the PNG Security Forces biggest base.

B. While many of the houses are being burnt many have been broken into and looted of properties such as videos, radios clothings, tools etc. Cars and trucks have also been stolen from many homes. To name a few;

- 1 A Suzuki 4WD belonging to Samuel Moki of Kakotokori village was stolen in June 1992.
- 2 A Toyota Hilux stolen from V Taima's premises at Usokori village on the 20th of July, 1992
- 3 An Isuzu tipper truck belonging to Simon Devkari stolen in early June, 1992.

Other properties which were hidden by people when fleeing their homes were searched for and stolen. Many domestic farm animals such as pigs, chickens, ducks were also so stolen.

C. Many of our food gardens are being destroyed. Food crops such as bananas have all been cut down with kaukau and the lot pulled out of the ground.

D. Many innocent civilians are being killed. On one occasion a man from Hukohah village namely Peter Komoru was captured and killed while feeding his pigs, early in June 1992. The inflictions [sic] seen on his body, when found two days later showed that he was tortured brutally before being killed. i.e. parts of his body (fingers, arms and toes) were displaced and thrown away. Moreover, he was robbed of a total of K7,000 in cash which he had in a handbag at that time.

Another elderly man namely Sipi Mangura was shot to death in the presence of his whole family at Mihero village.

In late September John Tupanna and Timothy Unatah of Usokori village were collecting food from their garden when killed. Parts of their body including their fingers, toes, feet and their eyes were slashed off. Their (signs of torture) body which was cut up into pieces was later found, collected and buried after a day. Two others, Hampo Here and Francis Here escaped with bullet wounds. They later recovered at Arawa General Hospital. They had been carried by hand through bush tracks, across rivers and mountains, to Arawa. Most of the ministers of the Interim Government left town when the PNG Army landed at Tunuru. Only James and Ken Savia, the Minister for Health had remained. Later, Ken Savia met his death at the hands of the PNG Armed Forces. James is suffering from malaria.

In late September 1992, PNG Security Forces who sprayed shots at random on villages at Sirokoro village wounded an elderly woman named Mary Rauvasi. Had the villagers (including women and children) not escaped into the nearby bushes there would have been more casualties among the civilians:

E. Mortar bombs are being fired at random. Properties including some houses have been demolished by these mortar bombs.

F. There have been many cases where our women are being raped by the Security Forces. Joice Pitehe is one of the women who fell victim to four (4) PNGDF soldiers who took turns raping her.

Fearing the PNG Security Forces and their inhuman treatments our people have fled from their homes and are currently living in Care Centres in the Nagovisi area, some 50 kilometres away from our homes. Many of our people have died already due to the shortage of medical supplies. Several mothers have died during labour when giving birth.

We the Chiefs of Siwai want the PNG Security Forces to be withdrawn immediately so that our people will return to their homes and live the peaceful life we once lived and enjoyed before the arrival of the so called PNG's Security Forces -- rather 'A BUNCH OF EVIL SERVANTS OF DESTRUCTION'.

According to reports coming from PNG, the Army came in at the invitation of the chiefs. PNG also claims to control all of Siwai in conjunction with SBIA¹ soldiers, who are armed by PNG. I decided to go and find out what was happening down there. The leaders of the Bougainville Interim Government were concerned for my safety, and when I eventually left for Siwai, it was under the protection of the Southern State Coordinator, Chief Jonathon Ngati and an armed escort provided by the Bougainville Revolutionary Army.

From Panguna, we travelled by truck to Nagovis. We stopped at the edge of the river that separates Nagovis from Siwai. The river was wide with a strong current. We could not use the bridge lest the PNG Army saw us crossing. So we had to wade through the river, pressing against the current until we reached the other side. From then on we disappeared into the bush and made our way to the Haisi camp.

The Haisi bush camp was hidden deep in the jungle, concealed under a canopy of thick foliage. The people of Haisi took refuge here when the PNG raided their village and burnt their houses. They fled in the night with what little they could carry and set up camp there. There was very little running water, and much of the water was stagnant and polluted. The people had to make do as best they could.

"Don't be frightened" one of my companions told me. I looked up and saw an old man pointing a bow and arrow at me. He looked straight at me and then, as if he had recognised the visitor, lowered his bow and arrow and extended his hand. "This is our traditional welcome. Welcome to Haisi." he said.

Joseph, the local Red Cross representative led the way to a makeshift hospital. It was made of bush materials, and thatched with sago palm leaves. A teenage girl suffering from malaria was lying in one corner. There was a young woman whose eyes had been infected. Without antibiotics, she was in danger of losing her sight. Close by were two emaciated babies, twins. Their mother had fled the advancing PNG Army shortly before giving birth to the twins. Exhausted from her ordeal, she developed a breast abscess. Her milk supply dwindled, and the babies were suffering severe malnutrition. The blockade prevented people bringing in milk supplement. If nothing was done, the babies would die.

Haisi
Bush
Camp
Sivai

¹South Bougainville Interim Authority

We returned to where the Haisi people were meeting. The meeting started with a prayer and a hymn, in which chiefs and BRA's alike joined in. The people spoke of their suffering, and of the hardships they faced living in a temporary bush camp.

"Medical services in the area are very very poor," Joseph said. "The main constraint is the non-availability of essential drugs such as antimalarials and pain killing drugs. The shortage of these drugs is due mainly to the 'barbaric blockase' enforced by the PNG government a few years ago".

Malaria, pneumonia, bronchitis, leprosy and TB is common. There was particular concern that leprosy & TB would spread, because there were no medicines to treat them. After the meeting, a petition was handed to me (copy attached).

PETITIONS OF THE PEOPLE OF HAISI

We the leaders and people of Haisi area, Siwai, South Bougainville, now present our grievances, hardships and oppressed feelings to you Miss Rose Mary, representative of the International Human Rights Organisation.

By the blockade of the PNG government we have suffered too long. We have been deprived our basic rights as human beings. As images of our creator, God the almighty, we do not deserve to be punished by any human oppressions.

We the rightful owners of this rich and beautiful island of Bougainville, call this blockade a genocide.

Our rights to basic health services, economy, education, communication and social life have been taken away when the blockade was laid. We are in urgent need of health services such as, immunisation, maternity services and the other basic medical aids.

Our children have been deprived their rights to education Through the fear of PNGDF harassment of innocent people, we have gone into the bushes to avoid any such inhuman actions by Papua New Guinea. Our social life is now is a shambles. Our communication links are now cut of since we cannot come together for any public gatherings, frightened that a group of PNG soldiers may come and spray us with their brutal guns.

Also, our rights to economy has been taken away. We have no other means we can obtain a piece of washing soap, salt, cooking utensils and the most needed clothings.

Friendly organisations such as the Red Cross. Humanitarian Aids and the other NGO are also blocked off by the PNG government.

Our political cry today is for an independent Bougainville .

PNG government does not want to talk peacefully with us about this matter. Instead it declared an all out war on us. This is another genocide.

Seeing and going through all these hardships, we are now asking all international organisations, to make Papua New Guinea lift the blockade. We also need an international peace keeping force to be based on the island till normal life returns.

Before we end, we would like to ask you some simple questions to which you may give some answers.

1. Is it true that the Bougainville crisis is an international issue, and not just an internal matter for PNG only.
2. The United Nations have agreed on certain resolutions for Papua New Guinea to follow in order that this crisis may come to an end. We would like a clear definition on this.
3. The EEC donates funds for the restorations on Bougainville. However, these funds are used by PNG to pay its' soldiers to kill us right on our own soil. We are asking the EEC not to donate any more funds because they are being used wrongly.
4. How many ways are possible for any nation to gain independence?
5. How come that our Pacific neighbour countries did not have any blockade laid on them when they wanted to gain independence?

We hope you have heard enough of how we are living within this crisis. We also welcome you to visit our hideouts and assess for yourself the environment we are in now. Thank you very much for your most brave and historical visit.

Signatures (Leaders)

Joseph Utohu

Joseph Toriou

Date: 10/12/92

effect
of
blockade

THE CHIEFS OF BUIN

Buin is the South Eastern part of Bougainville. This is another area that PNG claims to control, where it claims it was invited in by the chiefs. I went there to meet with the chiefs and hear their side of the story.

When the word was sent out, some 50 chiefs came, from Buin and Wisai, to say their piece. They walked bare foot through mountain paths and across flooded rivers. Some were old men, but most of them were still strong and fit. One old man, Andrew Purai, had a very sad look on his face. He was about 80 years old, a veteran of world war II. Slowly he sat down and began to tell his story.

"I am a chief from Konigulu in Buin. I was taken at gun point from my village by PNG and SBIA soldiers to their 'care' centre at Tokaino.

"I was at home in my village when they arrived. The soldiers had come to take the people who had run away from the Pariro, Masikuru, and Kuguai villages to escape from the PNG Army and taken refuge in my village. SBIA soldiers from these 3 villages used threats and intimidation to make the refugees come with them to Tokaino.

"The PNG and SBIA soldiers fired their guns in the air and ordered the refugees to come with them to Tokaino. We had never heard gunfire so close to us before and we were terrified. The refugees followed the soldiers orders and went to Tokaino against their will.

"SBIA soldiers informed the PNG soldiers who were with them that I was the chief of the village where the people had taken refuge. The SBIA soldiers asked the PNG soldiers to shoot me. I argued that I had done nothing wrong, that I had not been told what I had been accused of, that I should be brought before a court and given a fair trial before being shot.

"I was then accused of carrying arms, providing names of SBIA soldiers to members of the BRA, being a member of the BRA, mistreating people while acting as a BRA and training BRA soldiers. I am an old man over 70 years of age, a World War Two veteran. These accusations were not only false, they are ludicrous", he said.

"The soldiers threatened to take me to Buka by helicopter in an attempt to frighten me into saying I had done the things I had been accused of. I insisted on my innocence. When they could not make me confess, they made me go to the Tokaino care centre at gun point, leaving my family behind at Konigulu.

"I was kept in the care centre for three months. I was never allowed out of the centre during that time. There was not enough to eat in the care centre. We were kept under constant surveillance. We were not allowed visitors.

"Women in the Tokaino centre were raped by PNG soldiers. For example, Leo Naisi's daughter was raped while she was being held at Tokaino. PNG soldiers also subjected women to sexual harassment and escorted them to the toilet. This is against our custom. In Buin custom, women are highly respected and men are not allowed to abuse them.

"Civilians in the care centre were tortured by PNG soldiers and SBIA's For example, Umin Kibau was hit by PNG soldiers who rammed the butts of their guns against his back, shoulders and body. PNG soldiers hit other young men with the butts of their guns and the SBIA soldiers hit them with the back of their axes. The unfortunate young men were then thrown into the gully close by the care centre.

"PNG soldiers fired mortars at my village from their base at Tokaino. The mortars landed in our food gardens. Twelve houses in our village were set on fire by PNG and SBIA soldiers. The soldiers stole my pigs and chickens.

"After I had been kept in the care centre for 3 months, I asked for permission to go back to my village to pick up the rest of my family and bring them back to the centre. I was let out, went back to my village, and never returned. I did not want to go back to the Tokaino 'care' centre. When I did not return to the Tokaino centre, SBIA and PNG soldiers came to my village and shot dead my four sons, Rapheal Morikei, Iamu Kubui, John and Bana Kuriai"

We left Oria for Paghui, where the meeting of chiefs was to be held. On our way we passed through acres of cocoa plantations. The leaves crackled underfoot. Dried up cocoa pods were still hanging from the trees. They had never been harvested. A new crop was coming on. The blockade not only stops medicines coming into the island, it also stops the people from exporting their cash crops such as cocoa and copra.

Buin visit

E.g. of being asked to leave village
- D Register
- Pro BRA
- Village

Care centre conditions

abuses in care

The meeting lasted all day, as each chief had his say. They did not reach a consensus until late in the afternoon. By the time the statement was ready for them to sign it was getting dark. Several had already left to go back to the villages. A total of 44 chiefs signed the statement of the Buin Council of Chiefs:

5. THE WOMEN OF BOUGAINVILLE

"We know what we are fighting for, we know Bougainville has all it takes for self determination..."

"You know exactly that the Bougainville People Have every right to fight for independence

"The people of Bougainville want independence

"Give us our recognition now. So that we will be free and you will be free forever!"

National Womens Council of Bougainville

(February 1993)

The women of Bougainville are strong. Womanly strength rather than "feminine weakness" is considered a highly desirable trait. The men are strong too. They share the burdens of carrying home the crops from the food gardens and carrying the children. It is quite common to see a man walking along the road carrying a small child or even a tiny baby, as if it was the most natural thing in the world.

Recently a missionary criticised a Bougainvillean woman when her husband carried their sick daughter to the mission. The woman retorted, "I carried her when she was a baby. Now its his turn!"

Some missionaries have attempted to impose their notions of sex roles on Bougainvilleans. To the extent that this has occurred, it has led to a downgrading of women. Traditionally, the women are important in their own right. They are not seen as subordinate or inferior to men, as they are in European society. The women are the landowners, except in Buin in south-east Bougainville where the landowners are men.

Land ownership passes through the female line, and is owned on a clan basis, not on an individual basis. Most commonly when a man marries, he moves to the woman's village and together they work the land. Thus whenever a daughter is born into a clan, it is an occasion for great celebration because with her, the clan will grow stronger.

The traditional patterns, where men and women of the clan worked together, growing the crops, preparing the food, looking after the children, fishing etc has been disrupted, first by missionaries, then by the mine, and now by the war.

Most of the young men have joined the Bougainville Revolutionary Army, the BRA. They spend much of their time down at the BRA camps, scattered along the coast or inland, keeping watch or mounting operations against the PNG Army and PNG sponsored local militias such as the SBIA (the Bougainville equivalent of the "Contras" of Nicaragua). The women now bear the greater part of the burden of cultivating the food gardens and carrying the crops back home, while the men are at war. If the PNG Army raids a village, they are forced to flee with their children, leaving their homes and food gardens behind. Often the PNG soldiers torch the houses, destroy the crops, kill the pigs and other domestic animals, causing food shortages.

In a war like this, the women and children suffer the most. When the PNG Army sprays towns and villages with machine gunfire or fires mortar bombs, it is the children, the pregnant women and old people who get the worst of it. They are the ones most likely to be killed or injured, or overcome by the toxic fumes from the white phosphorous incendiary mortar bombs. These bombs, chemical weapons which emit toxic fumes on exploding, are routinely fired at civilian targets. White phosphorous, which burns at room temperature, burns eyes and skin on contact. The fumes cause diarrhoea and vomiting in young children. "It is very difficult for mothers to run with their young children when they are being bombarded with mortars and machine gunfire" one mother said.

THREE WOMEN OF BOUGAINVILLE

MATILDA

Matilda, eight months pregnant, has just learnt that her husband, Zachary, was shot dead by the PNG Army. Her eyes are wet with tears. Her four children are crying for they know that they will never see their father again.

Zachary was killed trying to run the blockade. For three years now, PNG has imposed a blockade on Bougainville, stopping essential supplies such as medicines, from reaching the people on the island. People seen trying to run the blockade are routinely shot at by the PNG Armed Forces. They shoot to kill. If they miss, you live. If they don't, you die.

Zachary and five of his companions were shot dead while ferrying supplies from the Solomon Islands to Bougainville. They had crossed the border and were approaching Bougainville when they saw a PNG Army boat lurking in the Luluai River. They decided to make a dash for it. With the engines on their tiny banana boat at full throttle, they raced up the east coast at a distance of about 4 kilometres from the shore, hotly pursued by the PNG Army. Their boat, heavily weighed down with supplies, could not outrun the PNG boat.

"The PNG soldiers caught up with us" said Morrissey Tua, the sole survivor. "The distance between them and us was only 50 metres. Every time they got within 50 metres, they opened fire on us with their automatic rifles. The chase went on for about eight minutes until they shot up our 40 HP engine, which stopped. That left us with only a 30 HP motor running.

"We tried throwing cargo overboard. Our boat was slowing down. The PNG boat came in front of us and blocked our path. At that moment I knew we were in for something terrible. We were trapped.

"The 30 HP motor stalled. The two operators were desperately trying to restart it. The PNG soldiers were firing at us. Our boat was drifting helplessly.

"They shot Zachary who fell dead in the boat. I dived into the water. The rest of the boys jumped in after me. Now we were in the water swimming desperately to nowhere. Our boat was drifting further out to sea. The PNG soldiers circled us with their boat [while] shooting at us.

"After that they ordered us to come together in the water. As they gave us that order we knew something horrible was about to happen.

"They started shooting at us again aiming at our heads. They missed me about six times. One bullet hit me in the right shoulder. One grazed my right temple. Another glanced off my left shoulder. I thought "I'm going to die". I was vomiting. Blood was coming through my mouth and nose. I sank under the water, unconscious.

"I regained consciousness and swam back to the surface. When I came up I popped my eyes, nose and mouth above the water. I saw the PNG soldiers chasing our boat, which was still drifting, and started swimming slowly towards the shore."

The whole village is still in mourning. Matilda shows us the family albums with photographs tracing her life with Zachary over the years. It is raining. Soon it will be nightfall. There is a telephone in the house, and electric lights. The telephone is silent. The lights will not go on. Ever since the PNG Armed Forces imposed a blockade on Bougainville three years ago, all communications, telephone and fax connections have been cut off.

There is no electric power. The blockade has stopped essential supplies like fuel from reaching the island. The hospital operating theatre at the Arawa General Hospital lies idle. There is no fuel to run the hospital generator. The fuel and batteries to restart the generator, donated by Oxfam from New Zealand, are still in Rabaul, PNG, stopped by the blockade.

For a woman experiencing complications during in the process of giving birth, the blockade has become a potential death sentence. Operating theatres cannot be used because of lack of power and lighting. The stress caused by the war undertaken by PNG to retake Bougainville has increased the risk of such medical complications in labour.

We are all concerned for Matilda, who is bravely holding back her tears and who will be giving birth soon.

CATHERINE

Sister Catherine was working in her food garden when we arrived at her village. By December 1992, the village was overcrowded. Hundreds of people -- men, women and children -- had fled before the advancing PNG Armed Forces. They had brought little with them other than the clothes on their backs and taken refuge in the village. The village, which is in the Nagovis district, was very overcrowded. The refugees were from Siwai.

They told how their houses had been burned by the PNG Army, how they had lost everything, how the people of the village had helped them by sharing what little they had (the name of the village is withheld to avoid risk of reprisal by the PNG Armed Forces).

There are not enough beds or bedding to go around. People, even old women and old men, had to sleep on the dirt floors of hastily built houses made of bush materials. The people survived because they shared their few worldly possessions. But the pain and suffering was etched on their faces.

Just as our meeting with the people of the village was coming to a close, Sister Catherine [real name withheld to avoid possible reprisal by the PNG Armed Forces] appeared. She embraced me and burst out crying. At first she could not speak for the tears.

"The blockade has caused many deaths", she said. "People die because there are no medicines to treat them with. Many women have died in childbirth.

"Last week I got a call to help a woman, Maria Honsi, who was having difficulty in giving birth. Maria had been in labour for two days. Because there are no telephones, no fuel, people had to travel on foot to find me and give me the message. By the time I arrived both the mother and the baby were dead

"Only a week before, Teresa Nabama was in labour for three days. She died shortly after giving birth.

"Before, if a woman was having a difficult labour, she would be taken to the Arawa General Hospital. Now, with the recent occupation of the Morgan Junction by the PNG Army, it is impossible to take anyone from Siwai or Nagovis to the hospital".

ELLEN

We were transmitting reports by radio from a location just outside Arawa on January 28, 1993, when someone heard a loud explosion.

After finishing the reports I walked back alone in the gathering darkness. Night was coming on and I could barely see the sharp stones on the dirt road. My thongs were falling apart and due to the blockade, no shoes could be obtained anywhere. If you cut your feet on the stones, or the vines growing across the pathways, there are no band-aids to cover the sores. The flies descend on your feet, crawl over the cuts and infect them. Without antibiotics the sores become pustulent and can develop into serious abscesses.

Out of the darkness in front of me came the sounds of a man crying uncontrollably. He was being held up by his companions, so great was his distress.

"His wife has just been killed by a mortar bomb blast," his companions explained.

"The Army has killed my wife", he sobbed. "My small boy and my little girl are at home waiting. How can I tell them that their mother isn't coming home?"

A mortar bomb, fired by the PNG Armed Forces from their base at Tunuru had exploded in central Arawa. It was fired at a truck which was bringing some families home from a fishing trip.

The bomb, a high explosive (HE) standard NATO anti-personnel mortar bomb, had exploded sending its shrapnel deep into the flesh. Ellen Diwai, a mother of four children, four months pregnant, was killed instantly.

"Miriam, Albert, Julie, Ellen and her husband Paul, had spent the afternoon fishing at Arawa Beach" said John Wesley, one of the survivors. "Martin, Jack, Francis, Simon, Natuai and I went in a Toyota Land Cruiser utility truck to pick them up. The twelve of us then went back to Arawa town. Natuai and I sat on the front bumper bar. Martin, Simon and Albert were in the cabin and the others rode in the tray of the truck.

"All of the people on the truck were civilians. None of us had any guns. We were unarmed".

We drove past the Arawa General Hospital and stopped at one of the feeder roads, where we dropped off Roger who went home.

We turned up the road leading to the Rumba Seventh Day Adventist Mission. We took the second street to the right and stopped in the street.

We were in Section 14 of the Arawa Township. Just as the truck stopped, we heard the sound of an explosion close by.

I thought that one of the tyres had been punctured. When I looked to the left I saw that the ground had been swept clean. My face felt as if hot water was pouring down my left cheek. I touched my cheek with my fingers and saw that it was blood.

Everybody was screaming and running around in a panic. Blood was running from their wounds. I realised that it was a mortar bomb which had exploded at close range.

I was in a stage of shock. The pain was so great I could not stand it. I was losing a lot of blood. I felt my left leg go numb. I could not move it and had to drag it behind me as I scrambled back onto the truck.

"The tyres were punctured by the explosion and we had to drive the vehicle with the flat tyres to the hospital. When we came to the hospital, we were rushed to the emergency room of the casualty section by the hospital staff. They treated our injuries by the light of a hurricane lamp since there is no power to run the hospital lighting system".

The nurses worked feverishly by the dim light of the kerosene lamps to stop the blood spurting from the wounds.

There were no doctors or anaesthetists. Health workers gingerly extracted the pieces of shrapnel from the deep wounds in the flesh of the injured people. This had to be without the benefit of a general anaesthetic.

The pain was palpable; you could feel the tension in the air. The air was still and humid. No cry of pain was heard as the health workers took the pieces out and stitched up the wounds.

Ellen's teenage son, hearing that his mother had been killed ran down to the hospital. He saw her lying dead on a mat on the grass beside the truck. In a rage he smashed the windows of the truck with the butt of his home made gun. Like most teenage boys in the area, he had joined the Bougainville Revolutionary Army.

Tears streaming from his face, he bent over her dead body, saw her horrible wounds. The night was still. There was no moon. The stars shone brilliantly piercing the darkness that hung like a shroud over the town. Rising again he turned towards the mountains, dark shapes silhouetted against the night sky. Choking back his tears, he vowed he would repay. He will not stop until the last PNG soldiers leave Bougainville soil.

STATEMENT OF THE NATIONAL WOMENS COUNCIL, BOUGAINVILLE, February 1993.

'The National Womens Council of the Republic of Bougainville condemns the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Government.

The Papua New Guinea imposed blockade must be uplifted by the Papua New Guinea government now!

The K10 Billion which was asked as compensation by the people of Bougainville was not answered at all.

The Papua New Guinea Government doesn't have the good faith, honesty and trust of the people of Bougainville. You, the Government of Papua New Guinea have not answered the cry of our people in the proper way. Instead you answered it with the barrel of the gun with the idea of reconquering Bougainville again.

Many Armed Forces of Papua New Guinea have died and many more wounded, all because of your unthoughtful and inhuman decision to send the Armed Forces to Bougainville to fight.

It's already clear that the Papua New Guinea Government doesn't have the good mind and spirit and the willingness to end the Bougainville crisis peacefully. The Papua New Guinea (PNG) Government doesn't care about the people of Bougainville and as such, in 1989 the Government signed the 'shoot to kill' decision, which is just one of yet another of its inhuman decisions against the people of Bougainville. So you, the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Government, want so much to end this crisis with the barrel of the gun.

The people of Bougainville have suffered and seen enough hardships and deaths because of the blockade. The National Womens' Council strongly asks the Papua New Guinea (PNG) Government to uplift the illegal and inhuman blockade now! Secondly, all the armed forces must withdraw and go back to Papua New Guinea soil. It has been claimed by Papua New Guinea that the forces on Bougainville are on Bougainville to bring back restoration to services and law and order, and the general well being of the people. This however has not been so. And you've failed altogether.

The Papua New Guinea Armed Forces, in setting up their various camps on Bougainville, have not come with the good mind and spirit to restore Bougainville. But instead it has killed hundreds of innocent men, women and children. They have burnt hundreds of houses and destroyed and stolen property.

The so called "Security Forces" are a bunch of lucifers. They do not clearly know their responsibilities, as suggested by the name. Behind the name "Security Forces", you are armed and by your actions you are destroying the harmony of Bougainville.

To the eyes of the people of Bougainville, the so-called Security Forces is not what it claims to be, but it is the Papua New Guinea Armed Forces.

The people of Bougainville want just one thing, that is, that the Papua New Guinea must cut its reins of Bougainville totally now and let the people of Bougainville determine their destiny.

We know what we are fighting for, we know Bougainville has all it takes for self-determination.

We strongly urge again the Papua New Guinea Government to answer the cry of people of Bougainville properly and not with the barrel of the gun. You started it. You finish it.

All the many developments in Papua New Guinea was brought about by Bougainville copper mining.

Through the huge tax payment from Bougainville the development was brought out throughout Papua New Guinea.

Under what constitutional law does it allow you to impose this inhuman and illegal blockade on the people of Bougainville to suffer for a long time.

You know exactly that the Bougainville people have every right to fight for independence.

The people of Bougainville want independence.

Give us our recognition now. So that we will be free and you too will be free forever!"

6. MESSAGES FROM THE REMOTE AREAS

From the mountains of Panguna you can see Torokina on the western shore. The PNG Army has moved into the area, but have been prevented from proceeding further inland by the BRA. Torokina can only be reached by several days' journey on foot. Reports from such remote areas come only sporadically. This letter was hand carried to Arawa in November.

"Westcoast Report as at 16/11/92: Hahon Area.

This report will try to spell out the happenings and killings caused by the Security Forces of Papua New Guinea. All information recorded here are factual information. The hardships, sorrow and pain received by our people will remain in the hearts of our people for a very long time to come. BRA is only playing a defensive role for its land rights and independence for its people and the interference of the Papua New Guinea Armed Forces is not welcomed on the island. Here below are details of this report:

1) **Rejection of the Armed Forces of PNG on the west coast of Bougainville:**

The majority of our people do not welcome the landing of the PNG Armed Forces on the west coast of Bougainville. They mentioned that the chiefs of the west coast had invited them, but this was not true at all. This was the sort of tactic used elsewhere on other parts of the island. The majority of the people of the west coast wants them to withdraw as soon as possible. On the west coast they are based at Soroken, Kunokomok village and Kunua airstrip as well as Torokina.

2) **Shooting and killing of innocent civilians:**

On this date, 22/05/92, on Friday at approximately 8.00 p.m., the Armed Forces of PNG gunned and mortared to death three (3) civilians and are wounding another two more. Those killed were: Mr Jude Muinana aged 25 years and [who] comes from Kunokomok village; Mr Michael Nototsi aged 28 years and comes from Goton village; and a young school student named Mr Amos Ariran aged 12 years and comes from Rukusia village. The two men who died left their wives and children behind. Another horror disaster occurred on the 10/06/92 at approx. 10.00 p.m. on a moonlit night on Wednesday where two sisters and a husband of one were burnt to death with their houses by the Armed Forces of PNG.

They were Mrs Regina Rando aged 20 years and comes from Kakapara village, her son Blaze Rando aged 3 years, a new born baby daughter named Frida Rando aged eight (8) months old and Regina's husband Mr Rando Dion aged 25 years from Sun village.

The other family were Mrs Kikoi Mario aged 19 from Kakapara village and her new born baby daughter named Miss Jackline Mario aged six (6) months old. Her husband escaped the horror.

3) **Shooting of BRA soldiers and killing them:**

Not many of the BRA soldiers were killed and their names were as follows;

a) Mr Stanton Lohia aged 18 and comes from Rukusia village. His body was sprayed all over by the Armed Forces of PNG. He was killed on the 25/05/92.

b) Mr Sivetai Muinana and Mr David Sirup were picked up by the Armed Forces of PNG and were then shot dead at Kome village on the 11/06/92 on Thursday where they were [had also been] badly tortured. Mr Sivetai comes from Kunokomok village and Mr David Sirup comes from Kurur village both from the Hahon area. They were aged 21 and 22 years respectively.

c) Mr Mark Perots of Larum village, aged about 22 years, was shot dead on 24/06/92 while returning from his parents' hide-out. He left his wife and a child.

4) **Civilians fled into the bush:**

Since the return of the Armed Forces of PNG into Bougainville after the ceasefire; Bougainville once again became a bloodbath island. The BRA once again fought against the Armed Forces of PNG. The BRA fought bravely with whatever weapons they have, despite the stronger fire power of the Armed Forces of PNG. The Armed Forces were the ones who had suffered more deaths than the BRAs; due to guerilla warfare. When that is being experienced by the Armed Forces of PNG they began to shoot and kill innocent people. Should an ambush

occurred; and the Armed Forces received defeat; they become ruthless and took revenge against the innocent civilians. That then led the innocent civilians to flee from their homes into the mountains to seek safety. Too, they used the helicopters as gunships, spraying bullets wherever they wished. They also used mortars and machine guns when patrolling; that too had really scared the civilians further into the mountains. Should they meet any civilians while patrolling; he is a dead man. Compared to BRA with their homemade guns, the Armed Forces of PNG frightened a lot of civilians with their mortars and high powered guns. Usage of their high powered guns was ruthless whereby the Four (4) Geneva Conventions are not being adhered to. Furthermore, the combat rules were not also being respected. The Armed Forces of PNG have broken all conventions and combat rules.

5) Burning down of peoples' houses

When fighting broke out at Hahon on the west coast of Bougainville between the Armed Forces of PNG and the BRA civilians left their homes for safety and fled into the mountains. The Armed Forces of PNG entered each village and burned down all permanent houses and bush material houses owned by the people. Today a lot of people are now homeless. That to civilians became a very sad moment for everyone. Many have lost their permanent buildings that took them a lot of years to save [for] and build. For others, it is a family problem; whereby a large family is homeless and will have to start all over again rebuilding a new home for the family. Destruction of buildings by the so-called 'security force' means no mercy at all for the people because they do not provide security as the word sounds; it rather makes people more frightened and angry.

6) Shooting and killing peoples' domestic animals.

As the armed forces entered each village to burn down houses, they were also shooting chickens, pigs and ducks owned by the people and taken them for their meat. As soon as their eyes falls on these domestic animals it becomes theirs. No control at all was to be seen by their commanders; everybody was doing things as they wished.

Furthermore; food gardens were also destroyed. Any fruit trees standing were also chopped down. Our people found it very hard to understand this so-called Security Forces of PNG. Have they come to provide service or kill innocent people and [destroy] their properties?

We have also seen clearly that service was not their priority: but illumination [sic = elimination] of the BRA was their task than service to the people.

Our people have suffered more killing and destruction by the Armed Forces of PNG and we therefore cannot bow down to this evil treatment. Our people need peace and we want PNG to go away from us. That, we believe will be our only option, if peace is to be established.

To conclude, we would like to include one more name of an innocent young man shot by the Armed Forces of PNG at point blank is Mr Patrick Tsuki aged 19 years of age; from Saposa Island on the 27/05/92 at about 1.00 pm. He was the son of an ex-PNG DF soldier.

We hope this information will in any way help whoever is concerned to further raise the important parts of this report to the right authorities.

Thanking you.

Mr Thomas Tonnos

Black Thunder Warrior
Operations Commander

It is seven days walk through the mountainous interior to reach Hahon on the northern tip of Bougainville. Hahon is nominally under PNG control, but it has been penetrated by the BRA. From the coast you can see the island of Buka across the swift running waters of the Buka passage. The administrator of Buka, Sam Tulo, has imposed an indefinite dusk to dawn curfew in an attempt to stop people from crossing over. The crossing is dangerous at the best of times. Only the strongest make it.

The mountains of the north contain rich copper deposits. CRA nominally holds exploration 'rights' over the area. The PNG Government tells the Australian Government that it controls the northern half of Bougainville. No Australian Government representative has taken the trouble to visit the area to find out if the PNG government is telling the truth. If they did, they might be in for a big surprise.

The mountainous areas of the north and central Bougainville are classic guerilla country. Despite recent attempts, the PNG Armed Forces have been unable to penetrate it. The PNG Army occupation is confined to the coastal areas, where the roads are. Even then their control of some coastal areas is tenuous, despite PNG's clear advantage in terms of military equipment such as weapons and helicopters. The following report, originally written in Pidgin and carried by the BRA to Arawa, where it was translated into English, came through in late January 1993.

REPORT FROM NORTH-WEST BOUGAINVILLE

"On 16 January 1993, the BRA carried out an operation on a PNG Army camp at Kuraio Catholic Mission. The operation was a successful one where eight (8) PNG soldiers were killed. No BRA casualty. One PNG Interim Authority member was killed by PNG soldiers as a reprisal to BRA operation.

On 18th January an Iroquois helicopter sprayed and bombarded a village of Kopiatai with machine guns and grenades. Three runs were made. On one of these runs a machine gunner in the helicopter was shot in clear view. No casualties on BRA side.

On or around 21 December 1992 a PNG Army medical orderly was hacked to death after he committed adultery with a wife of a BRA commander. Following this incident, PNG soldiers went on a rampage killing domestic animals and stealing from houses etc.

General Report

Following occupation in August 1992 of Kuraio Catholic Mission station by the PNG Army many sad things happened. Initially the Keriaka people were told that the Army was coming to look after law and order and to bring in other services as well. As soon after their occupation of the mission station, things turned otherwise.

1. Turned the mission's church building and the priest's house into a brothel.
2. Raped both single girls and married women.
3. Molested teenaged girls.
4. Sodomised young boys.

The people of Keriaka area (NW coast) saw all these and decided to turn against the PNG soldiers. People fled into the jungles. Those who originally supported PNG ran away. People formed into BRA groups and are now operating against PNG troops. According to reports the PNG soldiers left Kuriao Mission and are now back in the Soroken area. No Army in the Keriaka area.

People in the North-West are asking what Sam Tulo means by 'bringing in services' as they haven't yet seen anything other than the above.

7. VOICES FROM THE OCCUPIED AREAS

(1) ELIJAH IVOMARI

Elijah Ivomari has walked through the north and the south, listening to what the people had to tell him. He gave the book its title "KRAI BILONG BOUGAINVILLE" and provided this report:

"All over Bougainville the deep aspiration burning within us is none other than a clear political and economic independence -- not greater autonomy under PNG. Our fathers enquired and fought about only this for many years but were taken lightly by some selfish politicians. And now our own boys are fighting for it in order for us to attain it, while the PNG Government terms it as a law and order problem but their Armed Forces cannot match the attacks waged by our boys on their camps.

Anyway, I called meetings all over this island, from Buin to Buka and everywhere I have been told by the chiefs and their people that they wanted nothing other than independence for Bougainvilleans. It was only by the so-called 'SERVICE' that Buka and Tinputz were lured into backing down. But in Tinputz the chiefs prepared a special force called Justice and Peace Patrol Officers (JPPO) in order to monitor whatever service PNG would bring to them because Sam Tulo told them lies that services would fall into the Chiefs' hands. But what happened? Instead the PNG Armed Forces were sent in, and to this day they have been in there, giving no service but spreading lies and propaganda. Listening to the news, we hear no mention of shipping services to the PNG-held areas. None whatsoever. We only hear begging from the Chiefs and that's all. This proves that PNG is incapable to run any affair on Bougainville so she better loose grip on us and let us go it alone.

Many thanks.

Elijah Ivomari

27.12.92"

split further
chiefs

(2) ANONYMOUS

[To protect the safety of the people involved, the source of this report cannot be identified].

"Late in January 1993, the PNG Army started firing shots in the air in the Teop area (a COASTAL area in the North-East near Tinputz). This was to frighten the people and force them to work on the road. They had to cut the grass and fill the holes in the road with rocks and sand. All the people in the villages were made to work on the roads, men and women, young and old, sick and well. All the civilians were drafted into these work gangs".

The PNG Government claims it is bringing in services. Buka Island is said by some [officials] to be 'over-serviced.', but people have to pay 40 Toea for a treatment. This is supposed to be a free government service.

"There is a shortage of medicines. Nurses have to buy things like Panadol and cough mixture from the trade stores in Buka to give to people who cannot afford to pay for them.

"Recently [early 1993] there was an epidemic of diarrhoea [with blood in the very watery stools] among the children. There was not enough of the right kind of medicine. People went into the bush to get traditional medicine plants. The traditional medicines worked.

"The people are afraid to say what they really think. There is a feeling of powerlessness, almost despair. The people are divided.

"In May and June 1992, PNG soldiers went into certain villages in the Teop-Tinputz area with the assistance of local resistance groups. The local resistance groups are young men who work with the PNG Army to flush out the BRA. There are only a handful of them but they are very dangerous. People are so afraid of the PNG Army and the resistance force, and they are cautious of the BRA. The BRAs are still holding on to their aspirations of

independence, but people are frightened of being identified with them because of what the PNG Army might do to them".

(3) JACQUELINE

Jacqueline Oti is a classic Buka beauty. She escaped from one of the Buka 'Care Centres' in 1992 and now resides in the relative safety of Central Bougainville. Recently she had to move again when the PNG forces invaded Arawa. She told her story while staying in the village of Poponang in the foothills of the mountains behind Arawa, as the PNG Army continued its bombardment of the town.

"I was kept in the Hanahan Care Centre controlled by the PNG Armed Forces and the BLF (Buka Liberation Front) from December 1991 until I escaped from the centre in January 1992. The centre is on Buka Island.

On November 29, 1991, at about 6 a.m. in the morning, PNG and BLF soldiers came to the village called Kotopan where I and my family were living. All the people in the village were told they had to leave by 9 o'clock. The soldiers said they were going to mortar the village.

We did not want to leave the village but we had no choice. The soldiers told us that the council of chiefs had told them to move us to the Huholo area.

After we were moved out of the village, the BLF soldiers started breaking into the houses, stealing our property and burning the houses in the village.

We stayed at Huholo for three days. On December 2 we were told by the BLF that we had to go to the Hanahan Care Centre.

When we arrived at the Centre, BLF soldiers told us the rules we had to obey while we were being kept there. They included the following:-

We were not allowed out of the Centre without permission.

If we went out without permission we would be punished by the soldiers. One punishment was forcing us to carry heavy bags of sand from the beach to the area around the Centre to make bunkers. The path from the beach to the Centre goes up over high cliffs and it is very hard to carry the bags of sand up the path. This punishment was imposed on men and women alike.

We were not allowed visitors.

We were not allowed to go out to our food gardens to dig for food unless we were accompanied by PNG soldiers. The Buka administration, headed by Sam Tulo, did not supply food to the Centre, so we had to go to our gardens to get food. When we went to the garden we had to wear white bands around our heads. If we did not wear them, the PNG soldiers would shoot at us if they saw us. We had to wear these bands whenever we went outside the Centre.

We were always being watched. We had no freedom of movement while we were being kept at the Centre. The Care Centre would be better described as a Detention Centre.

The Centre was overcrowded. Some of the mothers and children had to put canvas on the grass and sleep on it under small tents. When it rained, they had to stay up until the rain stopped and the grass dried out before they could go to sleep.

There were no proper toilets at the Centre. There was just an open pit which was open to the flies and very unhygienic. This caused almost everyone in the Centre to get dysentery. The supply of medicines at the Centre was inadequate for our needs.

account
of
being
forced
to leave
village

Rules
of
care
centres

When the PNG soldiers could not find the BRA boys who were hiding in the bush, they would round up the relatives of the BRAs who were being kept at the Detention Centre/Care Centre. They would take the relatives out to the bush and make them look for the BRAs. The PNG soldiers told me and the other relatives of the BRAs that if we got them to come out of the bush, they would be free and would not be harmed. That was a lie. As soon as the BRAs came out of the bush, the PNG soldiers captured them. Some were killed and some were taken to the Centre. Twelve BRA boys from our area were killed by PNG soldiers after they surrendered. If the BRA boys refused to come out of the bush and surrender, the PNG soldiers would threaten to take the relatives to the PNG Army camp in Buka town.

used relatives as bait

Whenever the BRA boys had a shoot-out with the PNG Armed Forces and killed or wounded them, PNG soldiers would come back to the Centre and take an equivalent number of surrendered BRAs out of the Centre and kill them as a pay-back.

We had to do things according to set times every day at the Centre. For example:

At 7.00 a.m. they rang the bell for us to fetch water for cooking.

At 8.00 a.m. we had to march and sing the PNG national anthem as they raised the flag.

At 4.00 p.m. we had to sing this national anthem as they pulled down the flag.

It was like being in a boarding school.

Twice while we were staying at the Centre we were moved out of the houses we were sleeping in at 4.30 in the morning. We were taken to the field and lined up in two separate lines, men in one line and women in the other line. They counted us. When they found that some people had moved here from another 'Care' Centre, they were forced to go back to the centre from where they had come.

One day, in January 1992, I managed to escape from the Centre. I told the Coordinator of the Centre that I wanted to go to the hospital to get some medicine. I went to the hospital, got the medicine and then went to the play in Buka town where we used to get banana boats. I caught a banana boat from there and went to Saposia island. The next day I went in a small canoe with a man and his sons to Hahon on the north of Bougainville island. I took refuge in Central Bougainville near Arawa.

I did not tell my relatives at the detention centre that I was going to run away. I sent a message to my parents through the Red Cross, asking how my firstborn son was. My mother sent back a message saying he was alright, but not to send any more messages. The reason was that if I sent any more messages the PNG soldiers might find out that I was still alive and punish my relatives as a payback for my escape.

I was very unhappy with the way we were treated at the Centre. While we were being kept there we had no freedom to move around or live the way we were used to. We never asked to be taken there. We were taken there against our will. Our village had been destroyed by BLF and PNG soldiers.

(4) JOSHUA

Joshua Kangku is a BRA from Siwai. He escaped with eleven other young men from the Turungung prison camp in August 1992 and made his way to Arawa.

On or about 10th and 11th May 1992, 109 men were taken prisoner by PNG and South Bougainville Interim Authority (SBIA) soldiers. I was one of the 109.

The 109 men were taken to the Turungung prison camp. All 109 were locked up in a cocoa dryer which had brick walls. There was no bedding, no toilet facilities or washing facilities. We were locked up twenty-four hours a day with no opportunity to exercise. The cocoa dryer was far too small for all 109 of us. There was not even enough room to sleep on the floor.

After two weeks in the cocoa dryer we were allowed to walk around the prison camp compound. The ground was wet and very muddy.

After four weeks, fifty of the prisoners were transferred to Buin. To the best of my belief, these 50 men are being kept at the Piano Care Centre in the Buin district.

Fifty nine men, including myself, were kept at the Turunru prison camp. We were only given two meals a day, which was always kau-kau with coconut, no lunch, no greens, no meat, no fish.

We were forced to do hard labour at gunpoint. We were forced to carry trunks of coconut palm trees, only 2 men to a metre length of trunk which is very heavy indeed. The trunks were used to build barricades for the PNG and SBIA soldiers around the Tonu airfield. We were forced to start work at 8.00 a.m. and work through the heat of the day under the burning sun. We were not given any water to drink during the day when we were doing this forced labour.

One prisoner, John Kourai, died. He was forced to continue to do the heavy work described in paragraph 6 above even though he was ill. He was not released until he was too ill to walk. SBIA soldiers took him to his village and left him there. Too ill to walk to hospital, his condition deteriorated and he died about two weeks later. He was 32 years old, married, with four children.

I was held for more than three months without charge, without being brought before a court. At no time was I able to see a lawyer. I was given no opportunity to apply for bail.

On 25 August 1992, I escaped with eleven other prisoners. A number of other prisoners had escaped in early August.

Thirty eight prisoners are still being held at Turungung prison camp. Their names are written out below:-

<u>NAME</u>	<u>VILLAGE</u>
1. Philip Kuhena	Kunnu
2. Steven Iroro	Kunnu
3. Steven Seru	Mosiraka
4. Paul Tupuru	Duiisei
5. Steven Toumo	Duiisei
6. Cleland Sania	Mosiraka
7. Titus Sania	Mosiraka
8. Jubilee Putu	Musiminnoi
9. Uming Maurua	Duiisei
10. Francis Kinana	Musiminnoi
11. David Soiri	Musiminnoi
12. Natson Kunna	Musiminnoi
13. Micah Piyo	Musiminnoi
14. Moroura Tokura	Kunnu
15. Maito Manaseh	Kunnu
16. Oko Pasuwa	Kunnu
17. Paul Minnou	Siroi
18. Thomas Pokonoming	Kotu
19. Thomas Komung	Kotu

20.	Jepter Solomon	Siroi	
21.	Boniface Irisia	Siroi	
22.	Simeon Lautiko		Siroi
23.	Albert Samah	Siroi	
24.	Misak Pinoko	Hari	
25.	Bath Humani	Siroi	
26.	Job Misiroi	Siroi	
27.	Robert Hera	Hire	
28.	Joe Kepino	Ameu	
29.	Peter Paibi	Ameu	
30.	Andrew Pekuwaka		Kotu
31.	Brian Koreruwa	Kotu	
32.	William Kaima	Piano	
33.	Bernett Loumu	Piano	
34.	Luke Lucas (not a BRA)	Piano	
35.	David Sarimana	Hari	
36.	Edward Komonai		Tonnui
37.	Peter Kona	Tonnui	
38.	Dominic Kiaku	Tonnui	

Joshua Kangku

20th November 1992

8. ISLAND OF TEARS

Zachary, Maria, Jeffrey, Ellen, Teresa ... these are just five of the five thousand civilians who have died in this war, killed by PNG soldiers or as a direct result of the blockade. The island is wet with tears that fall like the rain.

"He is gone. Nothing will bring him back..."

"How can I tell my small boy and small girl that their mother is not coming home?"

The legacy of death from this secret war hangs like a shadow over the island. In the five months on Bougainville, I saw more coffins than most people see in a lifetime. Coffins piled high with wreaths of beautiful tropical flowers -- wild orchids, hibiscus -- a reminder of the earthly beauty of this island now under siege. Coffins carried down the mountains to their final resting place.

The struggle goes on. The PNG troops are preparing for another attempt to take Panguna to reopen the mine for the benefit of CRA. The Prime Minister of PNG, Mr Paias Wingti, is committed to the use of the military force in his attempt to crush the revolution.

"On Bougainville we gave the secret forces a free hand to deal with the problem without too much interference," he said (SMH 16.7.93).

The PNG Armed Forces have been given a carte blanche to murder, massacre, torture Bougainvilleans at will. Mr Wingti knows that the Australian government, which is underwriting the war, will cover for the atrocities committed by the PNG Armed Forces in order to avoid embarrassment to the state and to protect its world image as a champion of human rights.

The ordinary people of PNG, just like the people of Australia, are not being told the truth about Bougainville. Dispute this, despite the systematic government censorship of news of war by the PNG Government, many people there are distinctly uneasy about it. Paias Wingti rode to victory in the national elections last year on a platform of conciliation, negotiations to resolve the Bougainville conflict. Once in office, he showed himself to be more aggressive than his predecessor on numerous occasions. While he has publicly stated that he wants "negotiations" when Bougainville offer to negotiate, he refused (SMH 16-7-93).

APPENDIX I
RESOLUTIONS OF THE PANGUNA
LANDOWNERS

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY THE PANGUNA LANDOWNERS

GUAVA VILLAGE, PANGUNA, 18/12/92

- (1) We totally condemn the landings of PNG armed forces in Central Bougainville. Their presence in Central Bougainville is doing more harm than good to the wellbeing of the people's lives.

For example:

- (A) PNG armed forces have fired mortar bombs at Itakara, Arawa township and neighbouring villages. They have sprayed villages and towns with machine gunfire, firing from helicopters, navy boats and from their bases at Tunuru and Itakara.
 - (B) They have destroyed food gardens, stolen food, killed and eaten people's livestock.
 - (C) They have burnt down houses and villages.
 - (D) They have a dirty track record of sexually assaulting and raping civilian women in PNG controlled "Care Centres". This has resulted in acute distress, depression and a number of suicides.
 - (E) On 16 April 1992, a young boy Rodney Datuu was shot dead from a PNG army plane while travelling on a civilian truck after collecting coconuts.
- (2) We totally condemn the involvement of Australian Government in the Bougainville crisis with the supplying of deadly combat helicopters, arms, ammunition & training of PNG armed forces personnel.
- (3) By now the world should be well aware of the fact that the war on Bougainville is purposely sponsored and underwritten by the Australian Government to suppress the Landowners, while protecting the Australian multi-national companies, like CRA, BCL, MINENCO and so forth. A good example is the Australian Government continuously pressurizing PNG Government to reopen the Panguna mine. Another desparate move on the 6/12/92 was the photographing of Panguna mine and Arawa township by Australia and PNG Government Authorities with CRA personnel, which was purposely done to evaluate the existing equipment and properties, which indicates their utmost interest to reopen the Panguna mine. What a shame!
- (4) We now understand and have seen with our own eyes the destructive effects of the Bougainville copper mine operations on our land, our environment, our society and our culture. The mine will remain closed for the rest of our lives.
- (5) We totally condemn the PNG Government for deliberately imposing a blockade on Bougainville preventing independent, humanitarian and human rights organisations from reaching independent Bougainville.

Namely:

- (A) International Red Cross
 - (B) Church Organisations
 - (C) Amnesty International
 - (D) Other Non-Government Organisations
 - (E) Stopping of United Nations investigation team from coming into Bougainville from Honiara in November 1992.
- (6) We totally condemn the economic blockade imposed by the PNG Government and its military forces. When the Endeavour and Honiara accords were signed, each clearly referred to the lifting of the blockade immediately after signing the accords.

- (7) To the normal thinking Bougainvilleans, "Services" is a totally misleading word which purposely inserted into the accords to distract attention from the desperate situation and greivous human suffering caused by the economic blockade. This blockade is continuously enforced by the PNG armed forces, using Australian supplied patrol boats and combat helicopters, which operate on the basis of "Shoot to kill".

Therefore we make this plea to all Christian people around the world to condemn the barbaric treatment our people have suffered at the hands of PNG armed forces.

The Australian Government provided money, guns and ammunition to these armed forces and denied responsibility for atrocities that followed.

- (8) We totally condemn the slaughtering of defenceless innocent Bougainvillian captives by PNGDF as pay back of PNGDF soldiers killed in the combat by BRA.
- (9) We challenge the PNG Government's propaganda which says that the PNG Armed Forces are not on Bougainville to kill people.
- (A) In 1988 Mr Namaliu signed a "Shoot to kill" order which is still operative. This is clear from the fact that the PNG Armed Forces are continuing their invasion campaign, attempting to force their way into Bougainville by the barrell of the gun.
- (B) In October 1992 the Wingti/Chan government have pursued the military option to "solve" the Bougainville crisis, instead of the political option.
- (C) Continuous bombing and raiding of villages all around Bougainville Island by your forces has resulted in the killing of innocent civilians and destruction of property up to this moment.
- (D) On numerous occasions your PNG armed soldiers have taken unarmed BRA captives and shot them at their pleasure.
- (10) Your continuous propaganda to down play our Independence struggle will never deter our determination to fight for the rights of every Bougainvillian. The fact that you have lost hundreds of PNG soldiers proves that you are fighting a losing battle. It is advisable for you to accept defeat now than to fail miserably both economically and politically. And please stop labelling Bougainvilleans with all kinds of names.
- (11) We have inherited from time immemorial a distinctive indigenous race and culture. Our land rights are inherited from our mothers and we are pledged to protect this land from foreign exploitation and destruction. Our culture gives us the strength and wisdom to protect our way of life, free from corruption and economic exploitation by the PNG and Australian Governments. We will resist attempts to manipulate us, politically, socially or culturally. Therefore we have solemnly agreed in principle to fight to save the political and economic Independence of the Republic of Bougainville.

CONCLUSION:

The Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, his Government and his people must recognize the unquestionable fact that we are both of Melanesian race and culture. Mr Wingti, as a Melanesian you must be aware that the roots of every Melanesian person, man and woman, our very identity, our being, our culture is based on the land and th e environment. Therefore our fight to save our land, our environment and our livelihood is not only to save the people of Bougainville. It is a fight to uphold tha land rights of all Melanesians, including the people of your land, Papua New Guinea.

As a brother Melanesian, consider these facts, think of your people who elected you, and peacefully withdraw all your Defence Force personnel from Bougainville and give full recognition to Bougainville as a sovereign Independent Republic.

APPENDIX 2

STATEMENTS OF THE CHIEFS

AND

PEOPLE OF BOUGAINVILLE

JOINT DECLARATION OF THE CHIEFS OF SIWAI, SOUTH BOUGAINVILLE

WE, THE CHIEFS OF SIWAI, DO SOLEMNLY AND SINCERELY DECLARE THAT:

- (1) The claims being made by Papua New Guinea that the PNG Army came into Siwai at the request of the Chiefs are all rubbish.
- (2) We the Chiefs of Siwai have never made any such request at any time. Anyone who claims to be a Chief asking for the PNG Army is a liar and an impostor.
- (3) It must be known by now - and we want the outside world to know - that the PNG army entered Siwai by force against our wishes.
- (4) Therefore the claims that the PNG Army came at our request are just some of the many pieces of propaganda spread by the Government of PNG.
- (5) We the Chiefs of Siwai strongly disapprove of the PNG Army's occupation of our lands and therefore request that they withdraw from Siwai immediately. They have caused enough trouble already.
- (6) Ever since the PNG Army invaded Siwai using Iroquois helicopters everything here has become much worse.
- (7) The PNG Army has sprayed our villages with grenades and machine gunfire. They have fired at our villages from their planes and helicopters. Many of us had to run away from our homes with only the clothes we had on and hide in the bush.
- (8) The PNG Army and SBIA soldiers have burnt down houses in many villages, leaving more than ten thousand people homeless. Permanent buildings and bush material houses in the Wakoya, Haisi, Osokori, Inong, Usokori, Tohu, Hukohau, Tonnui, Hongorai, Dongpotoru, Posou, Rapauru, Matukuri, Kawoo, New Camp, Sasu, Koiokai, Tongoi, Torowiru, Iaping, Pono, Peresia, Kakotokori, Hiyai, Hataina, Mihero and Kumuki villages have been burnt to the ground.
- (9) Tonu village, which was once so peaceful, has been totally destroyed by the PNG Army. Village houses were bulldozed and dumped in the river valley nearby. The PNG Army is now using the place where the village used to be as an Army Base.
- (10) PNG and SBIA soldiers have broken into many houses and looted them. Videos, radios, clothing, tools and other items have been stolen. Many cars and trucks have been stolen, for example:
 - (1) A Suzuki 4 wheel drive vehicle belonging to Samuel Moki of Kakotokori village was stolen in June 1992.
 - (2) A Toyota Hilux was stolen from Mr V Taimas's premises at Usokori village on 20th July 1992.
 - (3) An Isuzu Tip truck belonging to Simon Deukari was stolen in early June 1992.

The soldiers also stole many domestic farm animals such as pigs, ducks and chickens.

- (11) Many of our food gardens have been destroyed by PNG and SBIA soldiers. They have cut down fruit trees and banana plants. They have pulled the vegetable crops, kaukau, out of the ground.
- (12) Many innocent civilians have been injured or killed by PNG and SBIA soldiers, for example:
- (i) Early in June 1992, Mr Peter Komoru from the Hukohau village was captured and killed while feeding his pigs. His body was found two days later. The marks and mutilations on his body showed that he had been tortured before he was killed. Parts of his body (fingers, arms and toes) were cut off and thrown away. He had been robbed of K7000 which he had with him at the time.
 - (ii) An elderly man, Sipi Mangura, was shot dead in front of his whole family at Mihero village.
 - (iii) John Tupana and Timothy Unatah of Usokori village were collecting food from their gardens in late September 1992, when they were captured and killed. Parts of their bodies, including their fingers, toes, feet and their eyes, were slashed off, showing they had been tortured before they were killed. Their bodies were cut up into pieces. Hamo Here and Frances Here escaped with bullet wounds. They later recovered at the Arawa General Hospital.
 - (iv) Peter Lising was shot dead by PNG soldiers when they raided the Sirokoro village, near the Siwai-Nagovis border, on 22nd October 1992. The village was sprayed with machine gunfire. Men, women and children fled and hid in the bushes to escape the hail of bullets. Mrs Mandarene Tai was seriously wounded along with two of her sons, Willy Hera and Fred Puriro, and her grandson, Edrion Peiha Kasu. Another elderly woman, Mary Rauvasi, was also wounded.
- (13) Mortar bombs are fired indiscriminately from the PNG base at Tonu. Some houses have been demolished by these mortar bombs.
- (14) Many women have been raped by PNG soldiers. Joyce Pitehe is one of the women who fell victim to four PNGDF soldiers who took turns raping her.
- (15) Many of our people, afraid of the PNG Armed Forces and their inhuman treatment, have run away from their villages. Some have taken refuge in temporary bush camps, where there is no fresh water or proper sanitation. Thousands of others have taken refuge in other villages which have become care and share centres. These villages have become very overcrowded as a result. Many people have to sleep on dirt floors, without mats, mattresses or bedding. Many of our people have died due to the shortage of medical supplies. Several mothers have died during childbirth.
- (16) Our people have taken refuge in those parts of Siwai not under PNG control, or in villages near the Siwai border. The PNG Army only controls a small part of Siwai.
- (17) The Papua New Guinea Government has been telling lies when they blame the BRA. The PNG and SBIA soldiers are the ones who have made us suffer, who have burned our houses, killed our people, stolen our properties and made us refugees in our own land. Our young ones, the BRA's, have helped us and protected us. Without their help, many more civilians would have been injured or killed by the PNG Army.
- (18) The PNG Army is claiming that it is bringing in services. They give the people who come to them two packets of rice the first weeks and then nothing after that. From then on they have to buy their food from businessmen who have the food flown into Tonu or find their own food.

- (19) In here the people can move around freely. We can go from village to village as we wish. The people who are in PNG controlled areas are not allowed to move about as they want to. We know this from the people who have run away from the PNG controlled area.
- (20) The PNG Army has split families. Some of our sons have been kidnapped by PNG and some are over on our side of the frontier. For example, many of the young ones from Haisi have been kidnapped by PNG and mostly the parents were left.
- (21) BRA's have been killed and cut to pieces and left lying there for their relatives to find them and bury them.
- (22) We, the Chiefs of Siwai want the PNG armed forces withdrawn immediately so that our people can return to their homes and live the peaceful life we once lived and enjoyed before the arrival of PNG's so-called "Security Forces". Rather, they are a BUNCH OF EVIL SERVANTS OF DESTRUCTION."

Chiefs and Paramount Chiefs of Siwai
11th December 1992



PETITION

The undersigned Chiefs, representing dislocated civilians from Siwai, resolve the following points during its meeting on the 12/12/92 (Nairona Villis).

1. **Independence:**

Our independence struggle is right and just, as guaranteed by the United Nations Charter of Self-determination.

Therefore PNG should recognise our right to independence.

2. **Security Force**

(a) Total and complete withdrawal of the PNG Security Forces from the island, because the landing of the Defence Force is not at the request of the Chiefs.

(b) The Security Forces be replaced by an **International Peace Keeping Force**.

(c) **Negotiation** between PNG and Bougainville Interim Government resume immediately.

3. **Service**

- Implement all resolutions passed by international bodies, eg UN, EEC, with regard to the Brokage [sic = blockade]

- All international humanitarian organisations be allowed to enter the island."

BANA (NAGOVIS) AREA

CHIEFS COUNCIL

12 DECEMBER, 1992

PETITION

- “1. We, the undersigned Chiefs of the Bana (Nagovis) Area totally deplore the present staying of Papua New Guinea Defence Force on our Island and that we request Papua New Guinea Government to withdraw its troops immediately.
 2. That we also wish to inform Papua New Guinea Government that we do not need them any more to fight our law and order problems on our Island and that we can manage to look after our own affairs.
 3. If the Papua New Government is a responsible and democratic Government, we ask them to respect our Human Rights and Freedoms as outlined in the United Nations Charter.
 4. We the Bana (Nagovis) people also deplore any entry into our area by Papua New Guinea Defence Forces.
- We are lucky that Mrs Rosemarie Gillespie visited our area to give our views on the Bougainville crisis.

Thank you.”

Signature of Chiefs

(Attached Sheets)

THE OFFICE OF BIRONG-ETTA COUNCIL OF CHIEFS

Co-ordinating Centre
Okoranang.
Central State.
Republic of Bougainville.

27/11/92.

BIRONG-ETTA CHIEFS AND PEOPLE'S PETITION

THE PROCLAMATION OF TESTIMONY OF BRING-ETTA CHIEFS AS THE RIGHTFUL AUTHORITY AND REPRESENTATIVES OF THEIR PEOPLES

"We, the Chiefs of Birong-Etta have inherent rights, mandate and authority passed on to us from generation to generation from time immemorial. We have been divinely ordained to be leaders and rulers of our subjects (clan), divinely instituted and entrusted under our care. We are the divinely established rulers from time immemorial. We are the foundation pillars of the Government of the Republic of Bougainville from time immemorial, and as such, we get our mandate to rule and our recognition as rulers by the Act of God and not under any human-made Act. We have more than 4,000 (four thousand) peoples entrusted under our care who petition that we are submitting represent.

1. Bougainville Independence

The Chiefs of Birong-Etta with their people stand firm, and fully support the Bougainville's unilateral Declaration of Independence made by the people of Bougainville on May 17th, 1990.

The stand of the Birong-Etta Chiefs and their peoples is founded on following basic moral, legal and international obligations:

- (i) Oppressed people's right to self-determination is their undeniable right enshrined in the Human Rights Charter of United Nation Organisation.
- (ii) By our declaration of independence, we, the people of Bougainville, freely proclaim to the world our right to self-determination which was denied us by the former colonial masters by declaring us part of PNG without giving us this undeniable right to choose our own destiny.
- (iii) We fully maintain that our unilateral declaration of independence is fully and totally in line with the Human Rights Charter. The act of political will enacted by our people was merely an implementation of this moral and international obligation. We appeal to all the peoples of goodwill throughout the world and more so the Government and the people of PNG to recognise this enactment.
- (iv) The Bougainville crisis was caused by the Government of PNG by protecting the interests of foreigners and turning against us when we wanted better deal on our economic resources. This fault of PNG and her foreign masters had cost us very dearly both inhuman, social and economic

Handwritten notes:
v Ona
esq
longer

resources. (What father could give a snake or a poison when the son requires food?) there is no turning back for Bougainvilleans after paying such a high price for no fault of our own. Long live freedom! Long live the Republic of Bougainville!!!

- (v) PNG is not a truly independent country but a puppet run by corrupt leadership merely maintaining the status quo of foreign economic and political interest. Bougainvilleans would not like to be part of a country as such.
- (vi) PNG has no respect for environment as shown in the past by her willingness to destroy her natural environment at the expense of her own people in order to promote foreign capitalist gains. For Bougainvilleans natural environment means life and as such, they could not be part of a country embarked on destroying this life.
- (vii) When Bougainville was part of PNG our economic resources were used by PNG to promote herself and her foreign masters at the expense of nil returns for Bougainville. (Bougainville contributed two thirds to the national purse of PNG formerly.)
- (viii) The will of Bougainvilleans to be free and independent is the divinely ordained right that will always remain an incurable disease for ages to come if the solution of Bougainvillean independence is not administered now because it has eaten the minds, the blood, the heart and the bones of all Bougainvilleans since time immemorial.
- (viv) Recognition of Bougainville independence is the only lasting solution that will guarantee the lives of Bougainville's future generation who will still sacrifice their lives for the motherland if it is still suppressed.

2. PNG Security Force

- (i) We the Chiefs and people of Birong-Etta call on PNG to immediately withdraw her forces out of Bougainville. The law and order problems experienced are caused by the threat of their guns which is forcing our BRA forces to still hold onto their guns to protect its people. To call on our BRA forces to lay down their arms is unethical when the Security Forces are still threatening us with their guns. withhold
troop
- (ii) The PNG Security Forces have got no rights to interfere in the internal matters of a sovereign nation.
- (iii) We the Chiefs of Birong-Etta are caring for our people properly and there is no law and order problems in Birong-Etta. The people of Birong-Etta are living in peace and harmony. We have no need for PNG Security Forces entry into our area for they would only bring hardships and problems by their entry.
- (iv) PNG is such a very poor country lacking in resources. It should spend what scarce resources it has in time, money, knowhow, labour and manpower wisely towards bettering her own citizens, rather than wasting our country's valuable time.
- (v) PNG us under foreign military rule whom the foreign powers are using to promote their interests. This is obvious from the fact that Australia is providing military aid to kill Bougainvilleans to protect Australia's economic interests. We do not want to be part of a dishonest country as such.
- (vi) If PNG is truly genuine about solving the Bougainville crisis it should now immediately put an end to all foreign military aid being used to kill our people.

3. PNG Service

- (i) We the Chiefs of Birong-Etta recognise that PNG has got nothing to offer in terms of services to Bougainville. It was Bougainville that used to provide services to PNG when Bougainville was part of PNG. Bougainville has got more than enough resources to provide her own services and does not need PNG to provide her any services.
- (ii) We Chiefs of Birong-Etta call very strongly upon PNG to recognise our independence as a first measure before our country can discuss with PNG whether PNG has got any worthwhile services to offer Bougainville. We strongly deplore PNG services as the means to suppress our independence, but would only accept PNG services as the means towards strengthening our independence and not otherwise. We believe PNG should now start establishing a good, amicable friendly relationship with the Republic of Bougainville rather than creating a bitter enemy with Bougainville the rest of her life.
- (iii) Finally we the Chiefs of Birong-Etta call upon PNG to immediately remove her economic blockade over Bougainville so that the Republic of Bougainville can have the freedom to deal with whatever country she wishes to provide the types of services she wishes for her citizens.

**Tavatava Village
Central Bougainville**

26 June 1992

Open letter from Ivomari Siririka, Supreme Paramount Chief of the Nasioi speaking people (who live in the Panguna area where the Bougainville Copper Limited mine is).

“LET MY PEOPLE GO, DON'T KILL MY PEOPLE”

We are part of the Solomon Islands, not Papua New Guinea. We want our freedom, our independence from PNG. PNG is only holding onto us because of the copper resources on the island. If there was no copper in Bougainville they would let us go.

I want an end to the fighting. I do not want this problem settled by the barrel of the gun. I want it settled peacefully. The chiefs here are not happy with PNG here because PNG is fighting us.

If PNG leaves Bougainville, we can deal directly with other countries in our own right as a sovereign nation.

What we are fighting for at the moment is control over our own land. PNG holds the key. He can hold the key to his own land. PNG has got enough resources for itself.

If PNG does not have enough resources, we can help him, but we must have control over our own land as a sovereign nation.

All we want is recognition of Bougainville as a sovereign nation. This is the long lasting solution to the problem of Bougainville.

Just before the crisis erupted, some Papua New Guineans killed a nurse while she was working in her garden. They cut her head open with a knife. After that, everybody was angry. The PNG army treated us like pigs during this time.

The war started as a landowners struggle, a struggle of the land owners to save their land from the environmental destruction caused by the mine. Then when PNG started treating us like pigs, we did not want PNG here any more.

They killed my brother, they killed many people. That is why we want PNG out. This is why we must break away.

We don't want handouts from PNG, we want our independence, so we can trade with other countries in our own right. We are very independent people. Our families are very independent. This is our way. We can pay or own way. We have the resources and skills. We believe in give and take. We give freely to our friends and neighbours and our families. We have our own land, our own gardens. We are all self-sufficient.

At the moment PNG is harassing the people of Bougainville. We can't work on planting rice, or building our industries while we always have to be watching out for what PNG is going to do next.

This fight started with the BCL copper mine. I don't want any more fighting. I want it to finish and for PNG to leave us alone.

The young people saw too much money was being drained out of Bougainville by PNG. One and a half million kina a day was coming out of the mining and going out of the country. We can help PNG but we want control over our own country, our economy.

PNG is fighting a losing battle. It is throwing money away, like putting it in the rubbish bin. The sensible thing to do is to spend money to make money, not to throw it away.

PNG is telling many lies. Joe Kabui and Bishop Zale are telling the truth. Independence is the way for the people of Bougainville.

Ivomari Siririka
20 June 1992

I, Simon Bara of Marina Village, Central Bougainville declare that I have faithfully and accurately translated the words of Chief Ivomari Siririka which are written down on the above letter.

**STATEMENT OF THE
BUIN COUNCIL OF CHIEFS**

“JOINT DECLARATION OF THE BUIN COUNCIL OF CHIEFS

We, the Chiefs of Buin, are by traditional Custom and ancient God given rights, the recognised leaders of the people of Buin. We continue to govern the land and the people, as our forefathers did before us since time immemorial. In accordance with the responsibilities with which we are entrusted, we meet in Council to decide on issues of importance to our people.

We the Buin Council of Chiefs, jointly with the Bougainville Interim Government and other Chiefs of Bougainville, declared Independence from Papua New Guinea on the seventeenth of May 1990. Buin is part of the Southern State in the Independent Republic of Bougainville.

On the fourth of January 1993, we the Buin Chiefs met in Council. We continue to maintain our strong stand, defending and upholding our independence.

We the Chiefs of Buin therefore STRONGLY OPPOSE the landing of the Papua New Guinea Armed Forces in Buin. We never invited them to come to Buin at any time. Any person claiming to be a Buin Chief inviting the Papua New Guinea Armed Forces in is an imposter.

The Papua New Guinea Army forced its way into Buin by the barrel of the gun, using Iroquois helicopters as gunships. The Papua New Guinea Army has: -

- 1 Massacred innocent civilians
- 2 Burned and looted houses
- 3 Terrified the people and made them refugees in their own land
- 4 Forced people into Care Centres
- 5 Raped married women and young girls being held in the Care Centres
- 6 Divided our people, set SBIAA's up against the BRA's.

The Papua New Guinea Government has imposed an economic blockade on Bougainville which is contrary to Law. As a result of the Blockade:-

- 1 There is no freedom of movement.
- 2 People are dying because of lack of medicines, women are dying in childbirth.
- 3 People cannot trade and engage in business activities.
- 4 The International Red Cross and other non-government organisations have been prevented from reaching independent Bougainville.
- 5 Schools cannot operate because of lack of school supplies. Children are being deprived of their education.
- 6 Church programmes have been disrupted
- 7 Fuel is in extremely short supply, communication have been severely disrupted. We have no fuel to operate graders to repair the roads, which are deteriorating.

The Papua New Guinea Government has sponsored and funded the so-called South Bougainville Interim Authority. We the Buin Council of Chiefs solemnly declare that we totally reject this so-called "Authority" which claims to be the legal representative of the people of South Bougainville. The SBIA soldiers are an illegal Army which should be disbanded immediately.

We further demand that the Papua New Guinea Armed Forces immediately and totally withdraw from Buin.

We insist that the economic blockade be lifted immediately and that Papua New Guinea respect the Internationally recognised rights and freedoms of Bougainvilleans.”

APPENDIX 3
STATUTORY DECLARATIONS

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, JOE DENNIS KEVI, OF LEMANKOA VILLAGE IN BUKA, do solemnly and sincerely declare that

1. On or about 26th August 1992 at approximately 2 pm, I, Jacob Marjen and another friend called Nicky were at Lololoho Point near Arawa. We had come to catch fish for my daughter's birthday the next day.

Jacob and Nicky were on the beach drying the fish which had been caught earlier that morning. I was in the water looking for more fish when I saw the PNG patrol boat 04 coming directly towards me.

2. I started swimming towards the beach. By the time I got to the beach the patrol boat was only about 200 metres away. I started to walk towards where my friends were. I was holding my speargun in my hand and my goggles were still on my head.

3. The patrol boat continued coming towards the beach but very slowly. When I looked towards the patrol boat I could see that it was swinging one of its big guns on the front towards me.

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, MAXWELL MIRINTORO, OF ARAWA, CENTRAL BOUGAINVILLE, Hospital Administrator, do solemnly and sincerely declare that

1. On the 4th of December 1992, at about 4.30 pm, an Iroquois helicopter fired at the truck I was travelling in.
2. We were returning from Happy Valley near Kieta, where we had been fishing. As we were passing Kerei Point, near Arawa, we saw an Iroquois helicopter turn and fly towards us. It circled over us twice and then came down low over us to about the height of 25 metres above the road.
3. There were about 12 of us travelling in two trucks, hospital staff, including myself, and other civilians. There were no BRA's on either truck and we were unarmed. The trucks, a white Toyota Hi Lux and a Toyota Land Cruiser, were both owned by civilians and were for civilian use.
4. The helicopter came down so low that we could see the people inside, including two people on one side of the helicopter holding machine guns. They started shooting at us. The bullets fell like rain. The helicopter swooped down over us four times, firing a hail of bullets at us. The helicopter also fired two grenades at us.

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, JACOB TAURIA, FROM LAITARO VILLAGE IN BUIN, do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am the spokesperson for the refugees from Buin who have come to the Wisai area.
2. There are already 418 refugees who have come to the area and more are arriving.
3. We have taken refuge here for two main reasons:
 - (1) When the PNG army invaded Buin we took off because we were afraid. We had heard what the PNG and SBIA soldiers had done to our people and did not want it to happen to us.
 - (2) We support independence for Bougainville and want to be with the people who are fighting for independence.
4. We feel safe and secure here. It is just like being back in my village.
5. We are horrified by the reports of what is happening in the PNG controlled care centres. We are very glad that we are not in any of the PNG care centres.
6. We are able to move around freely and the womenfolk are safe here too.

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, CHIEF JOSEPH SIKONIM OF NASIVAUVAU VILLAGE IN MANETAİ, CENTRAL BOUGAINVILLE, so solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am a chief from the Nasivauvau village in the Manetai area which is now occupied by the PNG army. In July 1992 the PNG army invaded Manetai and established a base at the Manetai Mission.
2. The PNG army attacked Manetai. The BRA's fought back. Following a shootout between the PNG army and the BRA's, a man named SINDI tried to walk to the health post at the Manetai Mission to get medicine. He did not know the PNG soldiers were there. The PNG soldiers shot him dead and took his body to the side of the road. They riddled his body with bullets until he was unrecognisable and left him there. Later the BRA's came and took him to his village to be buried.
3. Civilians fled to get away from the PNG army and hid in the bush. Using bush materials they built temporary houses and made their bush camps, in secluded areas of the bush.
4. On one Monday in August 1992, the date of which I cannot remember, the PNG army caught a man named John Mate and forced him to show them where the people were hiding in their bush camps. The army raided a camp and shot dead two young men, KENNETH KENAMAITA and MR PEKANOIA. . They were not BRA. The PNG army also shot and wounded a man who was a BRA. They shot him through the mouth and through his right shoulder. The PNG army returned to its base at Manetai Mission after the raid.
5. Approximately one week later, the PNG army raided another bush camp. As the army was raiding the camp, the civilians fled into the bush, leaving most of their belongings behind in their rush to get away. The PNG soldiers captured a young boy of about thirteen years of age, named POTA, who was with his mother. They asked him:

"WANEM OL MAN I WOK LONG RONOWEI?"
{Who are the people who are running away?}

"EM OL MAN BILONG PLES HIA", he replied.
{They are civilians.}

"WATPO OL I WOK LONG RONOWEI?", they asked.
{Why are they running away?}

"BIKOS OL PORET LONG OL AMI", he replied.
{Because they are afraid of you.}

The PNG soldiers then ordered him to go:

"GOAN YU GO BIHAINIM OL!"
{You go after them.}

Young POTA turned around and started to walk off in the direction where the others had fled. As he did so the PNG soldiers shot him in the back in front of his mother.

6. After the PNG soldiers shot POTA, they left his body there to rot in the bushes. They captured his mother and took her to the Manetai concentration camp called a "care" centre. The PNG soldiers went back to their camp at the Manetai Mission.

7. A few weeks later, the PNG army raided NASIVAUVU, the village where I come from. They burnt every house and village they saw on the way. They spotted a man called PATRICK BATUAN walking along the road with his family to their food garden to dig kau kau (food crop). The PNG soldiers ambushed him and shot him dead in front of his family, his wife, his small child, his parents and sisters and brothers.
8. On the same day the PNG soldiers saw a BRA walking along the road. They shot him dead. They sprayed him with bullets making an "X" sign across his chest with bullet holes. Then they cut out his tongue and his eyes. They cut off his legs and forearms and then threw them away. That night the PNG soldiers slept in the bush.
9. The next morning we were at the NASIVAUVU village preparing to bury Patrick when the PNG army arrived and raided the village. The people fled into the bush leaving Patrick's body in the house. The PNG soldiers burnt the village to the ground and set up a camp where the village once was. They killed all the domestic animals, pigs, fowl, dogs and cats, and ate the pigs and the fowls.
10. The following morning an Iroquois helicopter airlifted the soldiers and brought them back to Manetai. The same day a few of the villagers came back to NASIVAUVU and buried Patrick's body.
11. In September, 1992, the PNG army captured LAWRENCE SIRAPUI, also from NASIVAUVU. They forced him to take them to the place where the people of the NASIVAUVU village had set up their bush camp. They walked in the moonlight and arrived at the bush camp in the middle of the night. They surrounded the camp and set up their machine guns while the people were sleeping.
12. At about 4 am the PNG soldiers started shooting at all the houses they could see. People were shot as they were sleeping in their house. Seventeen people, all.

Three people were shot dead. PHILIP DEAITA, a chief of the village, was shot dead in front of his house. FABIAN TOKOROT and ROBERT KOITOI were shot dead in their beds. The PNG soldiers burnt the houses to the ground. ROBERT and FABIAN were burnt to ashes. Their bodies were totally incinerated. When their relatives returned to bury the bodies, there were nothing but bones left.

13. Everyone who could, fled into the bushes to get away from the army, including those who were wounded. One was shot in the thigh. Another villager had his hand shot off. One had been wounded in the buttocks, another had been wounded in the shoulder. Many more, in addition to the seventeen who had bullet wounds, were injured in the panic to escape from the army.
14. I forced my way through the bamboo wall of the house I was in, using my head to make a hole in the wall. When I got out of the house I saw two PNG soldiers right in front of me. They struck me with the barrels of their guns on my arms, chest and body. I still have the scars to this day. I grabbed hold of the barrel of one of the guns and pushed it backwards. The soldier yelled 'HOLDIM TIGHT' to his companion who grabbed me to stop me from escaping. I grabbed the barrel of the gun of the second soldier, gave him a shove and ran away into the dark.
15. All the seventeen people who received bullet wounds recovered. They first relied on bush medicine. Four of the wounded who were able to walk went to the Arawa General Hospital. Others went over the mountains to (missing word). Villagers carried the seriously wounded people on home made stretchers over the mountains along bush tracks to the PARU hospital.

16. On the same day that the PNG army attacked our bush camp, they also attacked two villages, KOPIKIRI and KOPANI villages. AT the KOPIKIRI village, the PNG army burnt all the houses in the village and shot one civilian, GABRIEL DAPE, dead.

As the PNG soldiers approached the KOPANI village, most of the people saw the army coming and ran away into the bush. An elderly couple, MR PETER TAPATOMAM and his wife were shot and wounded as they were sleeping in their house. The soldiers stole K7000 which belonged to MR TAPATOMAM, who was a Health Extension Officer. The PNG soldiers then burnt the village to the ground. Mr and Mrs TAPATOMAM were burnt alive in their house.

The PNG soldiers then went back to their base at the Manetai Mission.

17. The next morning an Iroquois helicopter flew over the area where we had set up our bush camp and sprayed it with gunfire. No-one fired at the helicopter. The attack by the helicopter was unprovoked. Our people were busy looking after those who had been wounded.
18. Last week the PNG army attempted to re-occupy the NASIVAUVAU village but were repelled by the BRA.

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, PETER DIBA OF LAITARO, IN BUIN, SOUTH BOUGAINVILLE, do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. I am a chief from LAITARO in BUIN.
2. In June 1992 PNG and SBIA soldiers raided many villages in Buin, taking civilians away at gunpoint to the PNG controlled "care" centres. Men, women and children were taken away from their villages and forced to go to the PNG controlled centres.
3. The soldiers took people away from the LAITARO, ULA and KUHUMARU villages. The PNG and SBIA soldiers then moved to MAMARO, DUAHUA, KARARU, LAGUAI, MALOBITA, MITUAI, OKOIRAHUA, KUKUMAI and Suiru villages and forced the people at gunpoint to go to the PNG care centres. All these villages are in Buin.
4. The only people who remained were the people who escaped into the bushes and took refuge in other villages.
5. The PNG and SBIA soldiers burned and looted houses in the abovenamed villages. Some of the houses which were burned were permanent houses.
6. Four houses were burned in Laitaro village where I come from. The other houses were looted. Eight houses were burned in SIURU village, along with 3 cars, a bus and a goods store, by the PNG and SBIA soldiers.

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, KARA MEGE of LAITARO VILLAGE IN BUIN, SOUTH BOUGAINVILLE, do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. In September 1992 I was captured by SBIA and PNG soldiers and taken to the Turiboiru care centre. I was looking after an old man who was blind and lame and could not run away. We were both captured at the same time. The old man, PETER VAUVAU, is still being kept at the Turiboiru centre.
2. There was no freedom of movement at the care centre. If a person wanted to go to his food garden he had to get special permission. The person was given a specific time when he could go and a specific time when he must come back. These are exact times which must be observed. If a person is late coming back he will be beaten or jailed, because he will be accused of collaborating with the BRA. *Rules to care centre*
3. People who are being kept in the care centre are not allowed to take anything out of the care centre, not even a change of clothes.
4. In September 1992, a man called PETER from the LAGUAI village was seen carrying a packet of rice to his village. He had left Turiboiru at the allotted time to go to his food garden. He was spotted by PNG soldiers as he passed the PNG army base at Buin town. They captured him and put him in the back of a truck. ON their way back to the base they dropped him off the back of the truck and on to the bitumen road. He broke one of his legs. He was dropped at the junction of the road leading to the Buin Health Centre and the road to Kangu Beach. *permission on care centre*
5. The PNG soldiers then picked PETER up off the road and put him in the back of the truck again. They drove the truck in the direction of WALLY SITO'S store and while the vehicle was moving, dropped him off the truck again. The store is just in front of the PNG army barracks in Buin. When he fell on the road his skull split open and he died instantly.
6. The PNG soldiers picked him up again and took him down the Kangu road until they reached the crossroads near Laguai village. They put him face down on a log and put a packet of rice on his back. They then sprayed his body with bullets.
7. PETER was used as an example, as a warning of what would happen if anyone took anything out of the Turiboiru centre. The PNG soldiers sent out an instruction that this could happen to anyone else seen carrying anything out of the centre, so everyone in the centre was told about it.
8. In October 1992, a 13 year old girl named MARGARET, from the LAGUAI village was raped by two PNG soldiers. I saw it with my own eyes.
9. In November 1992, a man named KARIMO PINKEI from KUGUMARU village went to the food garden at his village. He had been given permission to go out of Turiboiru to his food garden. While he was there he was seen by PNG and SBIA soldiers as they were going past his village. They arrested him and took him with them as far as the IULA village. Then they told him to go back to KUGUMARU. They shot him twice with their M16's. One bullet went in his back and out through the chest. The other bullet went through his hip.

10. The PNG soldiers then lanced KARIMO'S legs and arms with their knives and left him to find his way back to his village. KARIMO was still alive, but he was so badly wounded that he could not walk. It was raining heavily. He kept on struggling to his feet but kept on falling down. He dragged himself through the heavy rain towards his village. Eventually some people walking in their food gardens saw him and went to help him. They took him to the Turiboiru airstrip where he was put on a plane which had come to deliver goods for the soldiers. I helped him on the plane. He had deep knife cuts on his thighs and both arms as well as bullet wounds. He had been shot in the back at short range.
11. KARIMOS was taken to BUKA hospital. He was later returned to the Turiboiru "care" centre. He is now permanently disabled as a result of the second bullet wound to his hip. He cannot walk or run, but limps.
12. The Committee of the care centre reported the incident to the PNG commander. He promised that if the PNG soldier responsible was caught, he would be shot through the thighs in front of the people at the care centre. Nothing was done.
13. In late September 1992, CHRISTOPHER KANUGERE got permission to go from the Turiboiru centre to visit his wife who was in the Tokaino care centre. When his wife refused to recognize him as her husband, PNG soldiers shot him dead.

STATUTORY DECLARATION

I, DAVID PAUL, OF POPONANG VILLAGE, CENTRAL BOUGAINVILLE, FOURTEEN YEARS OF AGE, do solemnly and sincerely declare that:

1. On Sunday 14th February at about 10 am I was at the back of the Arawa hospital when I saw the PNG armed forces coming towards the hospital. There were 9 PNG soldiers, carrying M16 rifles, with grenade launchers, SLR rifles and submachine guns.
2. As they approached the hospital they sprayed the nearby bushes with their guns. They jumped the fence near the outpatients section of the hospital. They went into the hospital, still firing their guns. I was hiding near the back gate so they could not see me.
3. The PNG soldiers went into the nursing staff quarters at the back of the hospital, still shooting. They captured all the hospital staff who were living there.
4. The soldiers were beating the nurses and their small children with the butts of their guns. They were screaming and crying. I saw the PNG soldiers hit one of the nurses, Emily, on the shoulder and the head with the butts of their guns.
5. The PNG soldiers told the nursing staff to collect some of their clothes. At the same time, the soldiers were still shooting at the bushes. They captured the patients, Miriam Ron, John Wesley and Jake, all of whom had been injured by the mortar bomb that was fired at Arawa by the PNG army on January 28, and all the other patients in the hospital.
6. The soldiers rounded up their captives and held them at the back of the hospital and waited. Two Hino trucks belonging to the PNG army came to the back gate of the hospital.
7. The soldiers ordered the nursing staff and patients onto the trucks, pointing their guns at them and shouting abuse. "F...ing Yupela, wei ol dispela, BRA wei Yupela isave helpim on", which means: "You F...ers, where are those BRA's, where are you helping them?"
8. The hospital staff and patients were rushed onto the truck at gunpoint against their will. The trucks took the staff and patients away to the white house, leaving the soldiers behind occupying the hospital. Two Iroquois helicopters came to the white house and took the staff and the patients away.

I make this declaration conscientiously, believing the statements contained in this declaration to be true and correct in every particular.

TRANSLATOR'S DECLARATION

I, ASOTAU OTI, OF POPONANG VILLAGE, CENTRAL BOUGAINVILLE, do solemnly and sincerely declare that I have faithfully and accurately translated the statement of DAVID PAUL made on the sixteenth of February 1993.

APPENDIX 4

**EFFECT OF THE BLOCKADE ON
THE PEOPLE**

SOME REPORTS

CONTENTS OF REPORT

- (A) MEDICAL SERVICES**
- (B) IMMUNISATION/VACCINATIONS**
- (C) MATERNAL CHILD HEALTH**
- (D) DENTAL HEALTH**
- (E) ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH**
- (F & G) BIRTHS - DEATHS**
- (H) CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

Compiled and presented by:

CHARLES M TAWORA

Health Extension Officer

- 1. Diploma in Health Extension**
- 2. Diploma in Community Health**

8th December, 1992

BRIEF SITUATIONAL REPORT

'HEALTH'

TOKUNUTU (HAISI-SIWAI) AREA

**UNDER THE "AUSPICES" OF MR J
KOTIRINEK**

AND

**MR JOSEPH MAINEKE (RED
CROSS) REPRESENTATIVE**

1993

This is only a brief report on the situational conditions of the people of Tokunutu" Area". "Tokunutu area" in this report refers to the Haisi villages and the surrounding hamlets; of the "Siwai Electorate". The Tokunutu area is still under the sovereign state of the Republic of Bougainville.

Population

The Tokunutu area carries a total population of 749. The figure of 749 excludes those Tokunutu people who migrated north to Nagovisi or to Arawa; and of course those who went south to the Tonnu and Konga areas now under the control of PNG security forces. The people migrated to these areas to their own likings in fear of reprisal from the PNG government. 0-5 years of age accounts for 130. The bulk of the population is the "age-range" between 16-40 years of age.

749
people

(A) MEDICAL SERVICES

Medical services in the area are very, very poor. The main constraint is the non-availability of essential drugs such as antimalarials and pain killing drugs such as aspirin. The shortage of these drugs is due mainly because of the barbaric blockage enforced by the PNG government a few years ago.

Listed herewith on this table are the common medical conditions found in the Tokunutu area. They are listed in order of their occurrence:

TABLE 1

1.	Malaria		
2.	Pneumonia		
3.	Bronchitis		
4.	Bronchiectasis		
5.	Upper respiratory tract infections		
6.	Tuberculosis		
7.	Leprosy		
8.	Dental problems - Caries		
9.	Skin infections -	A category	1. sores
			2. tropical ulcers
		B category	1. tinea imbericata
			2. tinea vesicolor
10.	Others :		
			- Conjunctivitis
			- Abscess
			- Disease of unknown aetiology.

medical
7pk
common
prob-

On Table 1, leprosy and tuberculosis share 6 and 7 places respectively, however the classification is based solely on known cases. But because the known cases are no longer on treatment, the spread of these two killer diseases amongst the Tokunutu area should be classified as "rapid", thus the positioning or ratings of tuberculosis and leprosy should be higher up the table:

(B) IMMUNISATION/VACCINATION

Immunisation programme is 0% in the Tokunutu area. The programme came to a complete halt in mid-July of 1989. Since then babies born after August 1989 are yet to be "vaccinated". The area alone caters for 316 children who are yet to be immunised or yet to complete their 2nd, 3rd or "booster doses". It is recommended strongly here that the programme should be introduced in the area as soon as possible. It is a "MUST" that something practicable should be done about immunisation if we want to save our future generation.

3

(C) MATERNAL AND CHILD HEALTH SERVICES

MCH services are non-existent in the area. It is of vital importance that the programme be introduced as soon as convenient. Like other services, the MCH services came to a halt in mid-1989.

(D) DENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

On table 1 of this report dental problems are spotted on 8th place. There are more children between the age of 6-12 years who are suffering from dental decay. And the older population also complain regularly of dental cavities. This particular programme was very inconsistent, even before the crisis. During this particular point in time, the programme is also non-existent. Again, it is strongly recommended that dental health services should also be re-introduced in the area.

(E) ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

In today's living, environmental health services are of vital importance. Since we moved to the bushes about 8 months ago, our environmental health factors changed greatly. This has affected us

(E1) HOUSING

It is self-explanatory that the houses are built of bush materials. Most houses are ground-floored. Only a few are on high posts. Some houses are virtually not fit for human inhabitation because of

- (a) poor ventilation
- (b) overcrowding
- (c) rodents can be seen even during the day in some houses. Likewise, rodent droppings can be seen everywhere in some houses. However the majority of the houses are excellent and can only be classified as the "carpenter's pride".

(E2) WATER SUPPLY

A water supply in any community is a blessing. The people of Tokunutu obtain their water for drinking, cooking and bathing from the nearby creeks and streams. Some of the "water outlets" are the best in the world. It is sad to note that even though I classify some outlets as being the best in the world, most creeks and streams are heavily polluted or infected with harmful bacteria because:

1. Some people use the creeks as their means of faecal disposal.
2. Houses are "lined up" and down the streams.
3. Domestic animals who walk around the streams and creek (their droppings) can be seen everywhere near the streams, such domestic animals as pigs. Because at this point in time pigs are left to roam around the bushes at their own liking.
4. Some people use the streams and creeks as their means of refuse disposal.

Despite the above listed 4 problems, we the health workers and some interested citizens have been warning the people of dangers that may arise if they continue to deny these 4 listed problems.

However, because of the introduction of some form of authority in the area, we hope to rectify this particular problem in the not too distant future.

(E3) EXCRETA DISPOSAL

Most people have pit-latrines, however some people still use the nearby bushes as their means of excreta disposal. As I have mentioned in the water supply section, some people use the streams and creeks as their means of excreta disposal, especially at or during the night. Again, we hope to rectify this problem, when things are organised within our community.

(E4) WASTE DISPOSAL

Like excreta disposal, people often use the nearby bushes as their means of refuse disposal. Some usually burn their refuse, while others bury it.

(F) BIRTHS

Again we believe that nature determines births and deaths, and that human beings must continue to bear and rear children. A total of 130 children were born during the period.

There were no difficult deliveries encountered, even though we had one twin delivery. Even though we are having hardship in some fields, pregnancy seems to be a regular sight.

(G) DEATHS

There are no reported cases of neo-natal deaths. However, we had one case of perinatal mortality reported only last week, on 26/11/92. There are also no reports of maternal mortality. Most deaths are the old age group, ranging between 45-55 years of age. There have been 4 cases of chronic obstructive lung disease victims during the crisis period. The deaths in this brief report excluded those young Bougainvilleans who died whilst on duty defending their country.

Again, most people in this age group (44/55 years) died from unknown causes. Probably due merely to old age.

This report is only very brief. There are reports which should have been reported, but aren't reported, or otherwise there are reports on this paper which shouldn't be reported at all. This is merely because of the state of confusion and the duration of time given to write this brief report.

(H) CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATION

We recommend strongly and wholeheartedly that something practicable must be done now to rectify some of the problems mentioned. Services such as maternal and child health, dental, immunisation, tuberculosis and leprosy and medical patrols must be introduced in the area as soon as practicable.

We also recommend strongly that a referral hospital should be found, so that cases that can't be treated here be referred directly to that particular hospital. When we say "referral hospital", here we are assuming that the Arawa Hospital is no longer a hospital.

There are some cases (patients - refer to table 2 at back page) under our care who are prepared to travel, in order to get better medical treatment and care. But at this point in time we only assume here that there is no referral hospital.

Authorities should make it clear as to where patients should be referred if the need for referral arises. Despite all the fears and confusion, I can rest assured the authorities and whoever is concerned that the small medical team we have here at Tokunutu is very effective and progressive.

Our small team comprises of

- One Health Extension Officer
- One Nursing Officer
- Two Orderlies.

Thank you.

8 December 1992

CHARLES M TAWORA.

APPENDIX 5

RESOLUTIONS PASSED BY UN

BODIES CONCERNING

VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS

UNITED NATIONS

9 March 1993

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Forty-ninth session

Agenda item 12

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS IN ANY PART OF THE WORLD, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES

Angola, Guinea-Bissau, Nigeria and Solomon Islands
draft resolution

1993.... Human rights violations on Bougainville

The Commission on Human Rights,

Guided by the principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations, the International Bill of Human Rights and other international instruments in the field of human rights,

Recalling that, in accordance with article 13, paragraph 2, of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, everyone has the right to leave any country, including his own, and to return to his country,

Bearing in mind Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities resolution 1992/19 of 27 August 1992,

Recalling the need for scrupulous respect for the principles of the non-use of force or threat or the use of force in international relations as contained in the Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning

- In accordance with rule 69, paragraph 3, of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council.

Friendly Relations and Cooperation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations (General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) of 24 October 1970),

Gravely concerned at the loss of life, damage to property and the negative effects on the economy and culture of Bougainville, owing to the present situation,

1. Urges the Government of Papua New Guinea to permit international fact-finding missions access to Papua New Guinea, particularly including Bougainville, to assist with the resolution of the conflict with due consideration for the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Charter of the United Nations and other relevant international treaties to which the Government of Papua New Guinea is a party;

2. Urges the Government of Papua New Guinea to recommence negotiations with all factions of the Bougainville peoples with a view to achieving peace and a mutually satisfactory solution to the armed conflict on Bougainville;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to transmit to the Commission on Human Rights information made available to him on the situation on Bougainville by the Government of Papua New Guinea and other reliable sources for consideration at its fiftieth session.

ITEM 12

DRAFT DECISION RECOMMENDED BY THE SUB-COMMISSION ON PREVENTION OF DISCRIMINATION AND PROTECTION OF MINORITIES FOR ADOPTION BY THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

DRAFT DECISION

2. Detention on Bougainville

The Commission on Human Rights, noting resolution 1992/19 of 27 August 1992 of the Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities, endorses the request of the Sub-Commission to the Special Rapporteur on the study of treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous people of Bougainville and the Government of Papua New Guinea in his report.

9 March 1993

ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL

COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
Sub-Commission on Prevention of
Discrimination and Protection of Minorities
Forty-fourth session
Agenda item 6

QUESTION OF THE VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS, INCLUDING POLICIES OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION AND SEGREGATION AND OF APARTHEID, IN ALL COUNTRIES, WITH PARTICULAR REFERENCE TO COLONIAL AND OTHER DEPENDENT COUNTRIES AND TERRITORIES: REPORT OF THE SUB-COMMISSION UNDER COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS RESOLUTION 8 (XXIII)

Draft resolution submitted by Mr Guisse, Mr Khalil, Mr Kaxim and Ms Palley
1992/... Detention on Bougainville

The Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.

Bearing in mind article 13(2) of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,
Recalling that, in accordance with Articles 55 and 56 of the Charter of the United Nations, Member States pledge to take joint and separate action in cooperation with the Organisation for the achievement of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Considering the great importance of the various fact-finding and monitoring mechanisms established under the international human rights instruments and the Charter of the United Nations for the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms in all countries,

Aware of the continuing allegations of human rights violations from a variety of reliable sources in relation to the situation on Bougainville,

Noting that the encouraging initial statements by the newly elected Government of Papua New Guinea that human rights violations would be brought to an end have yet to be translated into action,

1. Calls upon the Government of Papua New Guinea to restore without delay the freedom of movement to the inhabitants of Bougainville in the interest of protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms;
2. Requests the Special Rapporteur on the study of treaties, agreements and other constructive arrangements between States and indigenous populations to consider the implementation of the agreements entered into between the indigenous peoples of Bougainville and Papua New Guinea, in particular with a view to examining the link between the implementation of the agreements and the achievement and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

RED CROSS REPORT - ORORO VILLAGE

The figures on the Red Cross Report Sheet are for Ororo Village. Reason why we left home and went away into hiding places was in fear of the Defence Force attacking us during the night or spraying our houses from the air by helicopter. Because of this some of our houses are beyond repair because we are too scared to come home even during day time to repair our houses.

N.B. The structure drawn up for the present government was drawn from our hideout care centres.

PREGNANT MOTHERS

Lack of proper clinic for pregnant mothers is causing many deaths. Some mothers are dying after giving birth but lack of enough blood is causing their death and others are dying without even giving birth, probably because the babies are too big for normal births. The most recent one of such cases happened on the 3rd of this month where a mother died without giving birth because the baby was too big for normal birth.

INFANTS

Many infants are also dying because of lack of immunisation. The last time children born from 1984-1988 were immunised was in 1991. One case where we had one child born normal but later had deformity. The baby later died on 27.11.92 at two months, three weeks.

SCABIES

Many young children are having scabies, grille and many curable sores which can be cured if hospitals were not closed. They are probably having all these diseases because of lack of soap.

CLOTHING

Clothing is becoming a major problem in many areas. Many young children aged between 0-6 years are running around without proper clothing.

The estimated number of people of the area is:

Ororo -	460
Makes -	350
Mariga -	300
Kongara -	250
Mawaraka -	150