

Fishy Business

The social impact of South Seas Tuna Company in Wewak, ESP

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Contents

a.	Acknowledgements	3
b.	Abbreviations	4
c.	Executive Summary	4
d.	Terms of Reference	16
e.	Methodology	17
f.	Introduction	19
g.	Tuna factories in the South Pacific	26
1.	RD Tuna, Madang	27
h.	Wewak background	29
i.	The Wewak business climate	33
1.	Logging	44
a.	Parom Village, Hawain	44
b.	Angoram District	46
2.	Interview with Managing Director of SRDC, Michael Saulep	47
3.	Marienberg clan interview	50
j.	Company ownership	51
k.	Project planning	53
1.	ESPG Feasibility study	60
2.	Excerpts from the Project Agreement	62
3.	SST land	63
4.	Awareness programme	66
l.	Spinoff businesses	68
m.	Environmental Impact reports and public concerns	69
1.	Press	69
2.	Wewak Urban LLG letter 27 June 2005	70
3.	WWF materials	72
a.	Bismark Solomon Seas Ecoregion Report	72
b.	Marine Ripples article	77
c.	OEC submission	78
n.	Factory site visits	84
o.	Health and sanitation	95
p.	Labour issues	97
q.	Fishing vessels	102
r.	Sex trade	108
s.	Landowner meetings	110
t.	Interviews	124
1.	Public figures	124
2.	Factory workers	134
3.	Local fishermen	156

4.	Townspeople and market women	158
u.	Conclusions	164
v.	Recommendations	170
w.	Appendices	174
1.	Press clippings	174
2.	Research questions	186
3.	Letters and press releases	189
4.	Human Resources registreeres, Kewhau Development Ltd.	193
5.	SST promotional materials	196
6.	Workplace hazards	199
7.	International fish production reports	203
8.	Bismark and Nusa Group court documents	206
9.	Fisheries Management Act	208
10.	Sir Hugo's court materials	212
11.	NAC study	216
12.	Sample fishing vessel observer forms	218
13.	Transcript excerpt from SBS Dateline interview 14 September, 2004, <i>The Two Worlds of Sir Michael Somare</i>, between Reporter Mark Davis and Sir Michael Somare	222
x.	References	224

a. Acknowledgements

Our team arrived late June (2005) and spent ten days in workshop sessions with roughly 40 volunteer-participants. We then sent them out on two large studies, one of vanilla, the other of SST. Ultimately about 8 dedicated volunteers joined a team of 6 Nancy Sullivan Ltd. employees (including the company Director) in a town-based study of the loining plant and its workers, its business profile, its history and general social impact on Wewak town. We wish to make special mention of these dedicated volunteers: thank to you, Daniel Amarie, Jill Bosro, Jerry Hensen, Bibiana Kasuka, Lepas Metoa, Rebecca Nalawagi, Barth Nanguru, Steven Sangi, Mek Saulmack and Rex Wani---for giving your free time and energy to this project, with no financial reward. Along with them, I must thank my heard-working team of Principal Investigators, Maria Huaniangre, Paul Hukuku, Kia Nema, Thomas Warr and Malawa Wong. Special thanks also goes to Brother Herman Boyek, Brother Bertrand Webster, Bruce Samban, Nick Artekain and John Niabau, who were critical informants to the work, and also saw no remuneration for it. Some of our contributors shall remain anonymous, for what will become obvious reasons, but almost everyone we interviewed willingly offered their names for print, which we acknowledge her with gratitude. In some cases, however, we as authors have decided to mask their identity. Our heartiest thanks go to Elisabeth Cox and the staff HELP Resources, especially Jill and Jan Bosro and Mek Saulmack, for all the assistance and generosity they have shown us in this project. Special thanks also to Michael French Smith.

All errors of fact or presentation, however, are entirely our own. Some Tok Pisin spellings may vary.

b. Abbreviations

BFC Bismark Fisheries Company
BHL Bismark Holdings Ltd (?)
BWTL, BWT Blue Water Tuna Limited
CSR Corporate social responsibility
ESDECO East Sepik Development Corporation
ESFA East Sepik Fisher Association
ESIA East Sepik Islanders Association
ESIANROC East Sepik Islands Association National Resource Owners Committee
ESIT East Sepik Investment Trust
ESPG East Sepik Provincial Government
FCF F.C.F. Fishery Co. Ltd. (Taiwan)
FMA Fisheries Management Act
KRDC Kreer Development Corporation
KDC Kakra Development Corporation
KADC/KDCL Karaga Development Corporation
KDCL Koikau Development Corporation Ltd
KDL Kwehau Development Limited
NBG Nusa Business Group
NFA National Fisheries Authority
NPF National Provident Fund
NTC Nontraditional commodity
OEC Office of Environment and Conservation
PAFCO Pacific American Fish Company, Inc (USA)
PEC Provincial Executive Council
RH Rimbunan Hijau
SBA Sana Betha Arthur Corporation
SDL Saure Development Limited
SIL Summer Institute of Linguistics
SLC Saure Landowners Corporation
SMPL Sepik Marine Products Limited
SOB Soin off business
SPCA Sepik Producers Co-operative Association
SRDC Sepik River Development Corporation
SSPC Sepik Sea Products Limited
SSTC South Seas Tuna Company
WILLG Wwak Island Local Level Government
WDNROC Wewak District Natural Resource Owners Committee
WWF World Wildlife Foundation/Worldwide Fund for Nature

c. Executive Summary

We were tasked with conducting a social impact assessment of the South Seas Tuna loining factory in Wewak. Over a month of research we found the impact of this cannery to be manifold, effecting Wewak residents of all kinds in physical, social, economic and, not the least, political ways. Indeed, the factory is more than an economic development, it is a political development, representing an unprecedented and possibly unethical alliance of private and public investment within the province. Thus, in all the ways in which the factory has effected Wewak, significant members of the Provincial and National government are complexly

implicated. We believe its novelty has allowed ownership and labour practices to occur that would not happen in more transparent and sophisticated economies.

The ownership of SST is as murky as the waste water from its treatment plant. In 2000, the factory was to be a joint venture between the Taiwanese tuna brokering company company FCF¹ (46.9%), the American company Starkist Seafood (owned by H.J. Heinz) (3.1%), and PNG's ANGCO Coffee (50%). At this point the East Sepik Provincial Government had only expressed interest in participating. But by the time of groundbreaking 2002 (?), the National (not the Provincial) Government had put in K1.5 million *in behalf of* the ESPG. It is unclear whether this national investment has been transferred to the province, but as of our interview with Ian Boatwood, July 2005, there is supposedly no ESPG participation whatsoever. But then, we were also told there was no Starkist participation either. Needless to say, this opacity sends up red flags, and permits us to wonder whether the Prime Minister's office has made a 'personal' investment instead. Based on projected earnings for years two to five of the factory, the supposed 2% ESPG investment would garner K2,958,000 in gross earnings, while a 5% deal would bring K7,396,000 and a 10% deal would bring K14,791,000. A tidy sum for a provincial or personal budget.

When ANGCO went under, its investors may have reinvested directly in SST. We heard from a former member of the Department of Foreign Affairs, for example, that Gulf Province had intended to buy out ANGCO, but when this did not eventuate the money was invested in SST instead. Why the Gulf Province? The only salient connection seems to be that Sir Hugo Berghuser has fishing vessels in the Gulf, and is a major investor in the East Sepik Province now (as will be explained).

The company South Seas Tuna Corporation Limited was registered with the IPA by Michael David McCulley, its US-based the Managing Director (whom Ian Boatwood refers to as 'my boss'), with the assistance of O'Brien's Lawyers in Port Moresby. Its shares are divided between: FCF Fishery Company, of Taiwan, ROC, which owns 5,708,791 shares at US\$1/share; the East Sepik Provincial Government, which owns 283,868 shares at US\$1/share; and Erskine Nominees, Ltd., Port Moresby, which owns 2,707,341 shares at US\$1/share. Erskine Nominees Ltd. is comprised of Dudley Moore Yari-Yari (PNG) and Steven Richard O'Brien (Australia) (the latter being one of the lawyers for SST, of O'Briens Lawyers, Port Moresby).

But everything surrounding the opening of this factory is shrouded in opacity. Initially, it was to be constructed out of town, at Yawasoro, where the landowners had gratefully agreed to give the company a tract of land in return for the spin-off potential and promise of new roads and other services that would be directed to their area. When SST began to think again about these costs, the Provincial Government's Harbours Board offered the current location for lease, which would mean a great savings on transport to wharf and other infrastructural requirements. Understandably this was done to secure the company's commitment to Wewak. But the price was an inestimable loss of advantages and benefits, not to mention good will, to the Yawasoro landowners. As one government official told us, "Arthur Somare should have been with the people, but in this case it's the company that is benefiting more than the people."

¹ FCF consists of Jacson Visserij, Maatschappij Marine, B.V., of the Netherlands, who owns 750,733 shares at K1/share; Orion Commercial Ltd., of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, who owns 2,500,005 shares at K1/share; Eiffel Trading International Co., Ltd., of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, who owns 2,258,052 shares at K1/share.

More to the point, the contract for factory construction was originally given Heydridge Construction, we were told. And Heydridge then subcontracted SBA, which is the Somare family business (Sana Bertha Arthur). When this relationship was advertised on signs at the building site, a photo was taken and sent to the Ombudsman Commission, which promptly conducted their own investigation. What became of that investigation we don't know, but we do know that the signs quickly came a new one went up announcing that the engineering had been subcontracted to a Richard Cowley Engineering company. Apparently this is the same Richard Cowley who has the sole spin-off business with the company's catering division, as the only local individual responsible for providing chicken to the kitchen. Richard Cowley is the chicken man, he has long run a small chicken business close by the factory grounds. Mysteriously, however, he became an engineering outfit for the duration of the plant's construction.

SBA is a case in point. So much infrastructural work in the province has been bungled by this company, residents reported, that AusAid has placed a taboo on their involvement in their projects. Even then, however, at least two instances of SBA involvement have been uncovered in projects that never came to fruition, in which other companies were listed as contractors but the work was subcontracted instead to SBA. We note that this free and easy use of 'fronts' is a practice first attributed to the Malaysian timber company, Ribunan Hijau, when conservation NGOs tried to untangle RH's role in the scores of small timber concessions across the country. It was soon acknowledged that these smaller companies were simply parented by the timber giant, who preferred to be seen by their relatively anonymous 'fronts.' The strategy has been remarkably successful for RH, who is also deeply involved in various timber projects in at least two regions of the East Sepik Province. It also seems to be effective for SBA and the ESDECO, the East Sepik Development Corporation, the ESPG's business arm, and for SRDC, Sepik River Development Corporation, which is owned by Sir Michael Somare. As its MD, Michael Saulep told us:

Prime Minister em Chairman bilong company nau yet em ino kam lukluk long company, em stap long Moresby na mi yet ranim company wantaim ol developer na nogat wanpela input bilong em long toktok long rot or wanem. Mipela save olsem em existing government rot na long bilip bilong mi ting all government agency olsem village councillors or LLG or provincial government, olgeta imas amamas biko mipela helpim ol long wokim rot. Mipela wokim dispela rot long moni bilong company na mipela spendim well over K15, 000.00 pinis long wokim dispela rot na sapos yu wanem man yu ting em politics, em ino interest bilong mipela, em tingting bilong yu yet.

Sir Hugo Berghuser's many companies change names so often that company reports bear handwritten corrections on their title pages only. A company search on his Sepik Sea Products, which used to be called Sepik Marine Products, reveals that 150,000 shares are owned by the ESDECO, for some reason. And that the company has been exporting fish without a license.

The Windjammer Hotel, which sits nextdoor to the factory and is managed by Sir Hugo Berghuser, was once owned by ESDECO, but is now 49% owned by ESDECO and 51% owned by an unnamed law firm (could this be O'Briens? Erskine Niminees?). Sir Hugo, as Manager, might be said to be employed by ESDECO, but for the fact that ESDECO, the business arm of the ESPG, is now defunct. Having sold his old Port Moresby business, Hugo Canning (a joint venture with Angliss Australia), to H.J. Heinz (where he remains Chairman and shareholder) Sir Hugo now lives conveniently nextdoor to the new Heinz investment, SST. But does Sir Hugo hold the Windjammer lease? There is some question (see below) of whether he has or has not acquired the property, and whether or not money has changed hands for it.

But there are more serious conflicts of interest in Sir Hugo's business dealings. Company reports for his Sepik Marine Products reveal joint venture plans between his company Blue Water Tuna and the ESPG for large-scale export of tuna and other fish, and an expanded fishing fleet for the Gulf Province as well as the East Sepik.

Recently Sir Hugo acquired the deed to a piece of land by the Yacht Club in Wewak, Allotment 3, Section E, which had been the possession of the ESDECO. Without clearance from the Provincial Executive Council, this deed was apparently given to Sir Hugo so that he might evict two locally-operated fishing cooperatives on the site, the Bismark Fishing Company and the Nusa Business Group (both serving the fishermen of the East Sepik Islands Association) and establish what is now a general store selling cold drinks and ice cream.

In the understated words of Nick Artekain of the East Sepik Islands Association, "[t]here are instances of foul play and fishy deals in the way Sir Hugo has been given approval to attain certain properties owned by the ESDECO, the defunct business arm of the East Sepik Provincial Government and also the approval to do business in the fisheries industry."

But all of this gets truly murky when we look at the logging concessions and their operators in the East Sepik Province. There are no FMAs in ESP but there are 2 LFAs, and they are the Lower Sepik LFA, based in Angoram, and the Hawain LFA, both of which are being developed under the aegis of the Somare-owned company, Sepik River Development Corporation, or SRDC. SBA, the Somare family construction company, is visibly involved in road and transport projects to timber concessions in Marienberg and Kaup, Angoram District, as well as Hawain on the West coast of Wewak.

In Hawain, the coastal village of Powam has found itself sucked into a series of negotiations with an inland landowner-owned logging company once named Wongwong, now called Wayenduo, and foreign subcontractors Unirise, Datoyo, and Somas, all working for Sovereign Hills, a subsidiary of Ribunan Hijau. Initially, Ponam had agreed to allow the loggers to use their seaport and construct roads to the concession inland, but a series of shape-shifting and name changes involving unannounced strangers has bred nothing but resentment. Now the loggers claim that they have no money to pay for environmental damages until they've felled and exported the logs. How is it possible for an underfinanced Malaysian-manned logging company to come into PNG, much less operate so freely in the Prime Minister's home province?

In Marienberg, where oil has been found at Matapau, and in nearby Kuam, home of Lady Vernocia Somare, a lot more road construction has been going on. Landowners say, however, that they were not contacted or made aware of any private or public plans before the road was cut through. Apparently there had been Marienberg road plan on the books years ago, although it was probably intended to run from Mareinberg to Angoram rather than Marienber to Kuam, where it is not being cut. Nevertheless, this apparently justified the SRDC, and SBA, to start cutting without notifying the Provincial Works Department of the Provincial Forestry Office. Royalties from the LFA logging have gone to Kaup people, but the premiums of 6-7 million have gone to SRDC, it is said. There are no reforestation plans or landowner spin off businesses in the project, however.

We leave it to more suitable investigators to unravel the exact relationships here. It is clear, however, by the cast of characters, the bounty at stake, and the risks inherent, that these

'development' projects will be less than wholly beneficial to the people of East Sepik Province. Their obfuscation should sound a warning bell, or at least remind us of history.

The 1990 Barnett Report was unabashed about Sir Hugo's designs on PNG's natural resources. And while those who ignore history may be doomed to repeat it, the lesson from that report was not simply that PNG's leaders were flogging the country's resources for their own self-interest, but that they were rewarding each other for their skills in engaging unscrupulous investors. Former Forestry Minister and Deputy PM, Ted Diro, was indicted on 86 counts of misconduct and corruption. This has certainly not proved a political obstacle. And even after Sir Hugo was convicted of Leadership Code violations he went on to be appointed Minister for Lands. Meanwhile, the logging companies condemned by the report have only expanded their interests within PNG. In the words of Barnett's Interim Report No. 4,

It would be fair to say, of some of the companies, that they are now roam the countryside with the self-assurance of robber barons; bribing politicians and leaders, creating social disharmony and ignoring laws in order to gain access to, rip out, and export the last remnants of the province's valuable timber.... It is doubly outrageous that these foreign companies have then transferred secret and illegal funds offshore at the expense of the landowners and the PNG Government. (Barnett 1990:85)

In the meanwhile, no one seems to have bothered telling the Saure landowners at Yawasoro that their land was off the planning boards for SST. All the preparations of the Saure people had come to naught: landowner groups who registered with the Department of Commerce, set aside savings and property to establish spin-off businesses; families who resettled to take advantage of the factory's opportunities; some who raised pigs, others vegetables, in anticipation of catering sales, were all left holding the bag. No one from SST ever bothered to explain that the plans had changed—thanks but no thanks for your ground. That great field where Sir Pita Lus, Parliament Speaker Bernard Narokobi, East Sepik Governor Arthur Somare and Harbours Board chair Timothy Bonga joined Sir Michael Somare in a groundbreaking ceremony in June 2000 was never going to have a loinery after all. Nor were the residents going to get a new road, better electrical and water supplies, schools, jobs, and spin-off businesses as promised.

But to a lesser extent this disappointment has also been suffered by the Kreer and Viao landowners who are customary owners of the ground where SST now sits. They maintain a dispute with the Harbour's Board over its ownership, however, as nothing was ever put in writing when the State lay claim to it. But they, too, like the Saure landowners, were instructed by SST employees to register with the Department of Commerce as landowner companies in preparation for spin-off businesses. And no such businesses ever resulted. At present there are no spinoffs and not plans for spinoffs from the factory.

Apparently it is precisely these sorts of landowner issues that SST hoped to avoid by refraining from any spinoff participation. SST's one concession to landowners has been to reserve hiring and firing of two production divisions to a Kreer Landowner group, because these divisions require nighttime shifts and should be filled by near residents. But workers told us that these divisions are actually filled by people from various origins and residences in Wewak.

Prior to the factory's groundbreaking, there were already concerns being raised by the public over its environmental risks. SST hired consultant John Douglas of Douglas Environmental Services to inspect the plant's treatment system, and Douglas dutifully reported at the time that waste water treatment, discharge, sludge disposal, smell and noise were all expected to be manageable and safe. SST Project co-ordinator (and Department of East Sepik Fisheries

adviser) Joachim Nianguma said in a media statement that the public calls for a halt to work on the project had been misleading; that while the environmental plan was still in draft stages, the National Physical Planning Board had given approval for site work to commence. But no construction work will be done until the environmental plan has been approved. Indeed, he noted (somewhat revealingly) that legal action could not be taken against the developer because *no actual construction work on the project had started*.

Not surprisingly, when construction was complete, the environmental concerns became very real. The public began lodging complaints about the pervasive and extremely foul smell the factory emits. You can smell it at the nearby primary school, throughout nearby residential area, the hospital, the Windjammer Hotel, and the Marist Brothers' residence right next door. In addition, residents have made regular sightings of sludge and sewage floating close to the shore.

By June of 2005 things had gotten bad enough for the Acting Town Manager, Dabiel Yakeri, to conduct an independent inspection. In a letter to the company, he also threatened to test water samples for coliform levels at the Unitech lab in Lae. He noted evidence of undigested floatable wastes that must have come from SST's sewage tanks floating up to the beachfront from the Mobil Oil to Meni Village. But most importantly, he stressed that the "totally unbearable offensive smell produced [is] unacceptable to the general public" and constitutes serious air pollution.

Local NGO's have also been alerted to the smell, and to the environmental risks posed more generally by the factory.

The Bismark Solomon Seas Ecoregion has been identified by WWF as a 'cradle of marine biodiversity' for the South Pacific. In effect, this means that the need for its conservation precludes national or local development plan, or even regional environmental precautions. This region is a vital organ to the corpus of South Pacific seas and waterways. The Wewak—Sepik Coast and Estuary in particular, if you look below at the report maps, is an area of high coastal productivity (with chlorophyll A levels of 4-60 mg. cm³). It also hold crocodile populations, habitat for deepwater snappers, dugong feeding grounds, spawning grounds for mackerel, habitats for coral, seagrass and mangroves, and 10 endemic freshwater fishes. The North Papuan Sea area, more generally, houses the migration routes for skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna, and their feeding grounds and aggregation areas. It is only when we rack our focus back to see how biologically dense this region is, compared to neighboring Polynesia and Micronesia, that we can appreciate the importance of PNG's waters to the entire South Pacific, and the real value of the country's marine resources.

According to WWF, however, critical threats to the BSSE include growing coastal populations and poorly designed coastal developments—including industry and mining; unregulated fishing, e.g. overharvesting, destructive techniques; increasing market demand for particular marine species (sea cucumber, shark fins); lack of scientific data and monitoring capacity; irresponsible and insensitive tourism practices; climate change and coral bleaching events.

An environmental consultant to WWF has pointed out that there has been inadequate attention paid in the SST Environmental Report to the cumulative overfishing of tuna in the West Pacific Ocean. He reports that:

While in theory the maximum sustainable yield of tuna is only 50-60%, there is no discussion [in SST's environmental impact assessment] about how affective monitoring will be when the MSY take reaches 90%. Nor is there any recognition about debate over the

whole concept of MSY; the problem of by catch and ecological disruption through intensive fishing; the problem of local depletion of tuna and other fish species to the extent that local fishing declines or disappears; and the whole issue of whether it is justifiable to catch deep water species for canning and/or supply to privileged markets such as Japan. ...

He also notes that SST claims to be complying with the laws of PNG, and this is true. The question is whether these laws, or their enforcement, are sufficient. Needless to say, a hastily planned tuna loinery, even with state of the art wastewater treatment, and the recent plans for more fish processing in Wewak Harbor, not to mention the rising potential for unregulated and destructive overfishing more generally, represent serious threats to the fishing and environmental health of Wewak, the East Sepik Islands, and the BSSE in general. The only silver lining in all this may be that SST nauseating stench and the sludge must be discouraging the kind of large-scale tourism that poses a threat to the marine ecosystem.

SST's community relations have not been helped by the fact that the plant requires enormous amounts of water to run its processing, and the treatment plant. This comes from the town supply, which means that the Water Board, already taxed by the demands of a rising population, must not cut water from whole sections of town from evening to morning twice or three times a week. (We ourselves were made all too aware of this in our residence at the back slope of Wewak Hill). After recording these shortages across town, and interviewing other Water Board employees who verified the problem, we were especially amused to hear the manager ask coyly, in one phone call, "What water shortages?"

Perhaps the greatest irritant SST presents to the public is its extremely rationalist posture toward employees and their wages. Every single employee interviewed, formally or casually, complained to us about their pay. During a twelve week probationary period production workers make only 90¢ hour, which is roughly 30 US cents. (One reason the plant wasn't built in San Diego). Should the employee be tardy three times or miss a day during that three months, the probationary period starts over, thus locking first time wage earners into ever longer indenture to SST.

Back in January of 2000, the Senior Policy Planner for the East Sepik Provincial Administration produced a cost analysis of the factory based on SST's 1999 business proposal submitted to the National Fisheries Board, and a Feasibility Study and Site Selection Report submitted by Integrated Manufacturing Planning Ltd. (USA). Under Employment, the report says, "When the Tuna Processing Plant is in full operation in year one, it will employ about 970 local employees. As per Business Plan an average wage per hour of US\$0.90 + 7% fringe benefit will be paid for two shifts." This figure converts to roughly K3/hour before benefits.

Based on the 970 local labour requirements for the factory, working two shifts for 8 hours per day for a total of ten (10) working days per fortnight, the calculation is worked out to be US\$ 76.80 per local employee per fortnight.

In other words, someone working 8 hours a day for ten days would take home \$72 (*rather than K72*). In the course of a year, given a two-week unpaid vacation, this person would make \$1800, or roughly K6000. That is, if you survived eight-hour shifts standing in rubber boots loining tuna barehanded all day. In addition, the wage projection tables show no increase structured for employees in the first five years of employment.

If we look at the actual workforce and wage, we can see that the average permanent wage (which only kicks in after 3 months) is K1.10/hour (up from K1), which means K40 hour week

garners K88 (before deductions for NPF). This is roughly US\$26/fortnight, rather than the projected \$76.80, or one-third the estimated wages in the original business plan. The actual annual wage of a worker is K2200 (or \$US660), in his or her second year of employment. In the first year, he or she would only make only K2104, after three month's probation. This is roughly US\$630.

WWF has already made note of the inadequate wage structure proposed by SST in its submission to the OEC. Their concern has been "a low wage structure failing to adequately compensate those moving from a non-cash subsistence economy to a cash economy; in other words, factory workers may find their purchasing power provides a quality of life lower than available in the subsistence economy." This would be the case were the company to pay the originally proposed wage of \$72/fortnight, and it is painfully more true for the wages now paid of roughly K72/fortnight.

In a country where everyone pays for school and medical care, where one week's rice costs K20.10, and where transportation may cost K10/fortnight, K72 is never going to be enough. It may supplement a household income, but it cannot provide for even one individual's needs while living in town. Indeed, it guarantees that an individual either lives in privation or runs a debt of some kind. Ironically, it may be the fastest way to transform a customary economy into a savings and loan economy, by locking people into loan payments just to survive. Even in the most marginal of subsistence economies in PNG, social debts are payable in kind and custom, rather than working long hours in a factory.

Ironically, however, many of the SST workers we spoke to were eager to work for a wage because they consider it the entry position to full participation in a modern economy—to a bank account, driver's license, a curriculum vitae. All the evidence points to the fact, however, that more money can be made in the informal economy than on any assembly line in PNG. There is more liquidity and stability, more *solvency*, to market sales or running a trade store or a chicken project than there is to toiling long days for someone else's profit and another consumer's product.

The counter argument is that the 1600 total SST employees would otherwise flood the informal economy and depress everyone's earnings. But this assumes Wewak's economy to be a closed system, and these workers to have no other ways to make money. The money SST injects into the economy runs through elite commercial channels, to shops and suppliers, not to small business operators or landowners, and thus only aggravates a yawning gap between Wewak's haves and have-nots (*sensu* Gewertz and Errington 1999). There is no trickle down for the developing world: the rich just get richer and the poor get poorer.

One of the common complaints we've heard is that most supervisors on the production floor are foreigners (Koreans, Philipinos, Chinese), and treat the workers harshly. Apparently this was brought up at the meeting following a small strike action by production workers in June. Workers complained at that time about the supervisors barking at them to hurry up constantly, and as a result we understand that management has directed the supervisors to cease this behavior. There were also demands made at this strike for better wages, and these were met with a general concession, but as yet no pay rise has eventuated. When we spoke with SST management, Ian Boatwood explained that they were not offering pay raises, but were clarifying the way the pay forms were printed, so that workers would no longer be confused about how much they make an hour. He also noted that there is no management training program in place or planned for Papua New Guineans. Like transportation, offensive smells and a living wage, training programs are simply not their problem. But a number of our informants

noted most reasonably that the skills required by the work of supervisor are easily found in the PNG workforce, and that these expatriates may be taking jobs away from Papua new Guineans.

There are no company policies with regard to unions, but our understanding, from a conversation with Ian Boatwood, is that they are discouraged. Those individuals 'calling themselves' union organizer but lacking any IPA registration have been aggressively discouraged, indeed prohibited entry to the plant on some occasions. This is in keeping with an American anti-union ethos, but may be an unnecessarily aggravating factor to community and employee relations here.

A general point here is that management has made some complacent and condescending assumptions about the local workforce, particularly the women. Nowhere has it been averred that the women would not be earning a living were they not employed by SST. Our research leads us to assume most of them would be working in the informal economy in some way or another, whether at roadside markets or with cash crops or small businesses, and most probably, in so doing, earning far more than their income at SST. Our conclusion can only be that these women are sacrificing viable livelihoods for the opportunity to work in a wage-earning capacity, believing a pay packet to be the superior form of income. Some women in outlying settlements were, indeed, spending more on their transportation to and from the factory than they actually brought home in a fortnight. It wasn't long before these workers simply didn't return, which led company management to believe that Sepik women have a general problem with attendance, a lack of commitment or follow-through on the job. Inevitably, this reaffirmed the original assumptions about the workforce and bolstered the management's sense of pride that they were indeed training the Wewak people to learn better workplace habits, molding a responsible workforce out of what had once been an idle, perhaps even social lax, urban population. One of our researchers was also told by a hospital employee (a PNG woman in fact) that the 600 women working in the factory at any shift is socially beneficial because it lowers rates of prostitution in town. After all, what else would these women be doing if they weren't loining fish?

That brings us to the sex trade. Despite the suggestion above, most prostitution in the the fishing industry occurs in and around the fishing vessels, where women are lured aboard by workers wanting to trade sex for cigarettes, liquor and, ironically, for bycatch fish. Whereas in Madang we found a regular market has been established by local women selling fruits and vegetables to these ships, in Wewak this is not quite as institutionalized, and women are more likely to board these ships for sex than garden sales. Meni villagers also go out occasionally to seel foodstuffs to the crews, who give them biscuits, cigarettes and alcohol in return. Village women complain that they are asked for sex and even offered money and bribes for it.

A young man told us:

I earn my living by fishing from the sea. I catch enough for consumption every day, but sometimes I trade with the Chinese from the ship. I trade ripe bananas, pawpaw, kina shell and also bunches of brus tobaccos for things like fish, hardstuff (alcohol), white smoke (imported cigarettes) and also pornography CD and magazines. Do the Chinese ask for drugs? Yes of course they ask for drugs (marijuana) to trade for hard stuff. What happens when you don't have drugs to trade with them? I used to be forced by the Chinese to sell sex in order to get what I want from the Chinese on the ship.

Others told us again and again that women trade fruits for fish, and sex for fish, or for money or the liquor called 'hot stuff.' And they do this on ships of all flags, which sailors from Korea, Taiwan, and the Philippines.

There is no causal relationship between SST and this growing sex trade on the fishing vessels, but the expanding fishing industry in Wewak—including plans for more than one new cannery—certainly bode poorly for the sexual and social well-being of the community. But it should also be noted that workplace situations on the scale of SST are known to be rife with casual sexual interactions. A 19 year old factory worker told us:

After I finish my work I feel like looking for extra money...I look for extra money by selling sex with the workers from the factory and even some other interested men around Wewak town. ...I sell sex so that I will be able to help my family members by giving them a lot of money. ...I don't forced by someone to sell sex but sell sex to feed all my family. ...Definitely, there is a group of women and also my age group are doing it.

For all of this, the SST plant itself is remarkably clean and orderly. Workers comment on how well maintained the toilets are, and that there are even shower rooms for them to use. There may be a problem with night shift workers who finish in the pre-dawn dark and need to sleep in the building before walking home. We were told that they are permitted to sleep in the waiting room area, but this hardly seems suitable. The shifts have been structured to conform to daylight hours and access to public transport. But we also learned that many workers must set out to work in pre-dawn darkness, or return home before sunrise, and that these are especially dangerous times of the day for women. Despite the shift timings, no real concession has been made for the safety of the vast majority of these workers, as women, on their way to and from the factory. The only way that SST could redress this concern would be to do what virtually all other companies do in PNG, and that is, provide worker transport buses. Employees have been safe thus far, but it should not take a disaster for the company to address this problem.

SST's GM, Ian Boatwood, told us he had no knowledge of the new cannery rumored to be coming nextdoor to SST, under the name of Offshore Masters. It is unrelated to SST, he insists. But the cannery planned by Sir Hugo, presumably to be constructed where he has established his shop near the Yacht Club, is marginally more public. A 200 Joint Venture Proposal between Sir Hugo's Sepik Marine Products Ltd./Blue Water Tuna and the ESPG reveals plans for a multifaceted fishing enterprise in Wewak. Listed are the equipment for a cannery, and a fleet of fishing vessels proposed to be supplied by the ESPG, amounting to a total investment by the Province of K1,150,000. Interestingly, as the total projected cost runs to K2,850,000, the ESPG's investment would be just under 50%, leaving the controlling interest in Sir Hugo's hands. And yet elsewhere the document reads, "Shareholders in SMPL are to be Sir Hugo Berhusor and, in future, the East Sepik Provincial Government will be offered 15%, with a further 30% available to people from the province."

In describing the property at Sec E Lot 3, the proposal makes no mention of the local fishing businesses currently renting the space, and calls the property "closed up, and run down," and therefore in need of rejuvenation. This property is costed at K150,000 and proposed as a gift from the ESPG to Sir Hugo's company, which indeed it seems to have been, as all informants agree that no money has actually changed hands in Sir Hugo's acquisition of the lot.

We harken back to a report issued by WWF in 2001, where SST claimed:

[T]hey will be using the latest technology to ensure there are, for example, no detectable odours from the factory. But analysis by the WWF East Sepik office in Wewak shows that to date SSTC has not provided the sort of environmental effects assessment information normally expected internationally. This particularly applies to social impacts...The company

may indeed provide a clean factory with high wages and a good relationship with the rest of Wewak...[Nevertheless] the company notes it has to provide low-cost tuna and part of the reason for coming to PNG is the low wages that can be paid. In addition, the company has told WWF that negative social impacts are the responsibility of the local government. Essentially, it's your problem, not ours.

So, we have a major investment in the East Sepik Province that professes minimal commitment to its social context. It provided no social impact assessment before breaking ground and alienated two sets of landowners by doing little more than ignoring them. The employees have held one strike thus far. Some production line employees have already left after their own cost-benefit analyses, but 1600 workers remain on the payroll. Meanwhile the odors have placed the entire town in two camps—those for and those against the factory, even if people generally seem to believe any industry is good development for the East Sepik. And these antipathies have attracted further concerns over the ownership of the factory and what it means for future development in town. Appropriately, the plant has opened a can of worms, so to speak, regarding just who benefits from all the provincial government involvement in the private sector these days. In the privatization of public interests, the major concern has to be regulation. When the government is party to international investment it must establish a means of independent audit and monitoring, especially in the case of a developing economy in partnership with monopoly capital and its stripped down rationalist business ethics.

At what cost 'downstream processing'? In each instance it must be asked, who *needs* this development, and who benefits? How can a provincial or national government ever achieve transparency in its joint ventures? How can we prevent development of any kind from exacerbating social inequalities? How can the country ensure that both environmental and social impact assessments are conducted and enforced? Why is PNG a beggar who can't be choosy?

Where there are no regulations in place, some sort of the principles of best practice should apply, so that companies actively seek out community consultation, create the means of debating issues with the community, and act in a timely manner to redress identified grievances. WWF has already suggested independent monitoring for environmental and social impacts, and we especially endorse their suggestion that "a clear framework be set up for responding to negative social trends with costs to be met jointly by the company and government agencies."

The WWF consultant also notes that SST's Environmental Plan and Management Plan promises that "South Seas Tuna Corporation will carry out a baseline economic survey of its employees at the time of their recruitment. This survey will help with long term monitoring (Section 9.3.4 p.9.9)"

and that

"The South Seas Tuna Corporation will work with the Wewak Town Council, the East Sepik Provincial Government and the relevant Utility Managers in a co-operative manner to help them improve the infrastructure of Wewak.(Section 9.3.4 p.9.9)."

- WWF's Wewak office then volunteered to assist local level and provincial government to establish mechanisms for both of these things to happen, reaching out to form a kind of CSR partnership unique to PNG (see the WWF report excerpts above). Among their concerns at the time, which remain concerns for the public today, were whether or not the size of the municipal dump and the town water supply could support the new factory; whether or not privatizing these

services would be beneficial; and how an independent monitoring authority for environmental and social impact reporting might operate. “It is important,” says the WWF report, “that independent outside individuals and agencies conduct a full social impact assessment and peer review the proposed monitoring programme, in addition to the OEC peer review the proposed monitoring programme. It is also important that the OEC and DES provide to the reviewers the context within which the proposal and monitoring will take place.”

• We reiterate the specific WWF concerns regarding:

• wages (as being sufficient to justify the workforce’s absence from a subsistence economy—i.e. as being *living wages*);

• the possible effects of in-migration (which is something already being felt in Madang with RD Tuna) and the creation of a pool of unemployed workers; the impact of this factory environment on the sexual health of employees;

• the equitable distribution of town water supply (given that the SST EP included a proposed ‘plugging of water lost to ground at Moem Barracks’---has this been effected, and is the saving enough to offset the factory demand?);

• the need for more refuse disposal services;

• the need for permanent and reliable technical expertise to monitor environmental standards for the waste treatment (including culture control in the oxidation pool), odour control (organic sludge exposure to air) and offshore waste dumping of the factory;

• the risk of sharks at the dumping zone;

• the risk of overfishing, not just in light of SST, but in light of its expansion and the proliferation of fish processing plants in the province; this refers mainly to the effect of deepwater fishing on inshore fish stock required by local fishing operators, but also the MSY and its overall ecological impact, including bycatch yields;

• the need for institutionalized responses to any event or breach of guidelines for odour and pollution control, noise levels, and over-fishing;

The WWF report advises that a contingency plan could be drafted and publicized to allay public concerns and invite participation from local NGO’s in establishing monitoring protocols. We endorse this wholeheartedly, and further suggest that there be public meetings with SST management to explain such a plan. This could be part of more comprehensive meetings between stakeholders and management regarding loose promises and unrealistic expectations on everyone’s part. In the meanwhile, our specific recommendations to SST are as follow:

- That meetings be organized with landowner groups to clarify the community responsibilities of the company, and the company stakeholders, in a public context;
- That odour and pollution controls be reviewed and established immediately, in partnership with suitably qualified NGOs or independent auditors, as well as the provincial government;

- That landowners groups be encouraged to create and register worker's unions with the company;
- That workers be given the minimum wages projected in the initial company plan (U.S. \$.90/hour or K2.70/hour/K216 a fortnight);
- That production employees be given the option of wearing plastic gloves;
- That production employees be allowed regular 15 minute breaks to reduce the physical strain of standing all day;
- That company lunches include larger quantities of food (especially rice);
- That the company provide transportation for all workers on each of its 3 shifts; and
- That a management training programme be established for Papua New Guinean candidates.

In general, we recommend that SST take the initiative in CSR and establish protocols of flexibility and transparency that can ensure its sustainability in Wewak. It is presently headed in a dangerous direction, leading either to more employee work strikes or acts of sabotage on the part of frustrated landowners, employees and nearby residents. There is no reason why some of the conflicts of interest cannot be made congruent in some form of quid-pro-quo between community and company. Soliciting local expertise for assistance in odour control measures, in offshore sludge dumping suggestions, and in employee benefits is not as self-destructive as it seems, and may in fact cost less than bumping up the security and hiring risk management consultants.

If SST is not as 'fishy' as it seems, there should be no problem in publicizing its company reports and shareholders. If, for example, the provincial government shares have not yet been purchased, and instead rest in the hands of prominent individuals, this should be made known to the Ombudman and corrected. The East Sepik, Wewak town and SST have the opportunity here to become examples of transparency and in so doing discourage 'fishy business' of all kinds from proliferating like an undetected cancer in the local economy. It is certainly no advantage to SST to have more fishing production plants at the wharf or elsewhere in town. Therefore taking the CSR initiative would impose important obstacles to their irresponsible establishment and operations. Creating a context wherein shareholders do not benefit at the expense of the employees and community is the real work of nonwestern industrialization. In a global age of global trade and global production values, there must be global standards. There cannot be global backwaters and hidden inequities or malpractice. This is the only way to ensure local values, local cultural integrity and socioeconomic development throughout the developing world.

My own belief [is] that black masters should not merely replace white masters. –Michael Somare (1975:108)

d. Terms of Reference

The overall workshop and research project's terms of reference were as follow:

- To train more Papua New Guineans in the research skills necessary to produce social impact assessments of development in their place
- To assess the social and economic impact of the loinery on the town of Wewak
- To see how the company deals with its workers of all kinds
- To see how the company 'sold' itself to the community before it opened—what kinds of promises were made
- To see how the company has dealt with local and national politicians and bureaucrats—what kinds of deals were struck
- To see who owns the factory, and who profits from it
- To understand what life for the workers and the landowners was like before it arrived
- To see how the local fisherman have been affected by the company fishing
- To establish what fishing practices the company observes: what and how they catch
- To assess whether people have greater or lesser access to fish since the company arrived
- To assess the health benefits or risks that have arrived with the factory
- To establish whether or not the company will benefit the local communities down the line
- To establish the cause of the odor from the loinery and learn what can be done about it
- To establish the policies in place regarding company refuse and offal dumping
- To see how the company has dealt with landowners and possible spin-off opportunities
- To see how the introduction of the factory has changed the town economy: what businesses have suffered, what businesses have benefited, and why
- To ensure that the operations of the company are as transparent as possible

e. Methodology

We used a combination of ethnographic methods for this report. Participant observation, semi-structured interviews, case studies, anecdotal materials and a collection of key documents. In order to address the political, economic and social dimensions, we spread out in several directions, gathering information from public health workers, current and former public figures, media people, landowners, factory workers, community representatives, and company management. Our imperative is to get a wide and as rounded a picture of the factory as possible, and to entertain opinions from all points of the spectrum. We do acknowledge, however, that our data base is not representative of the entire town, the entire workforce or the entire repertoire of facilitators in the introduction of South Seas Tuna to Wewak. We do assert, however, that the analyses and conclusions drawn here are based on a comprehensive and fair review of the situation as of July 2005.

Qualitative research in general does not collect numbers, or the 'what' of a situation, but rather the 'soft' data that can answer 'why.' The workshop consisted of tools to the ethnographic method, which is the basis of cultural anthropological fieldwork. This is the ethos we employ for our participatory/rapid rural assessments in general. The most important principle is to understand the 'emic' perspective of a situation, as opposed to its bare-bones 'etic' perspective. With Papua New Guineans studying PNG, a lengthy fieldwork period can be substituted with a month or three weeks' intensive study, because researchers are in some ways 'participants' already, and need only push that status further to get the required detail. The information they go through a group debriefing and analysis, and ultimately comes back to the professional anthropologist who writes the report.

This project adopted an open protocol for data collection, meaning that we tried to remain as unstructured and participatory as possible. Our team began with had three women, less than a perfect gender balance, but the nature of our interviews did not preclude men from getting important data. Because we had a range of ages, and the views of younger women were more accessible to our younger men participants, this was largely overcome. In addition, our team was socially broad, ranging from settlement kids to a soldier, a media figure, and HELP Resources employees. While the team had experience studying another fish factory, and thus we understood what we thought we needed to know, the presence of our Wewak-based volunteers significantly shaped the direction and substance of our interviews. We began with a list of questions for landowners, and a list for factory workers, which formed the basis of semi-structured interviews. We also began with a list of people/departments to query, which we divided amongst us; and from these we followed up on suggested names and groups to question. Every Wednesday and Sunday afternoon were our group debriefings, while the group of team leaders, from Nancy Sullivan, Ltd., debriefed daily because we were housed together.

Scheduled meetings and interviews

- 25 June 25-3 July Workshop
- 4 Meni Village/Muschu island/ Stanley Kaus/Alex Anis
- 5 Market interviews
- 6 Nuigo Settlement/Team meeting
- 7 Kaunum family, Meni Village/ Augustin Wombi/Kreer Market Camp
- 8 Alex Numbudu/Serah Mambu/Nuigo Settlement
- 9 Augustin Numbia/Marienberg
- 10 Market interviews/Team meeting
- 11 Sister Celine, Catholic Health Resources/Joe Andi
- 12 Hawain meeting/ Kapmandu Service Station /Melisa Kara/ Patrick Ginimbo/Elijah Rusa/ Robin Karo/Robert keme, Michael Saulep
- 13 Maryline/ Gertrude Baiso/ Francis Waviki/Market interviews/ Team meeting
- 14 Bruce Samban/ Partin Patikec/Teresa Nawape/Mangau,Suk, Bonam and Mosan interviews/ESIA, Bismark and Nusa Group interviews
- 15 Yawasoro/Saure/ESIA Landowners meeting /Visit to SST /Jacline/Mareinberg Station/Koiken Village
- 16 Brother Bertrand Webster/ Joe Salle
- 17 Yawasoro/Saure/ESIA and Saure Landowners meeting
- 18 Market interviews
- 19 Andrew Wanyia /Paul Loff
- 20 Elijah Nawapi/ Raymond Kondang/Paul Samore/ Herman Samore/Jeves Hoibi/Jacob Elaxo
- 21 Kreer Village, Meni Village
- 22 Nuigo Settlement
- 23 Kreer Village
- 24 Team meeting
- 25 Fishermen interviews
- 26 Fishermen interviews
- 27 Team meeting

Partial list of interviewees:

Petrus Sagom	Lawrence Hervingu	Francis Krufer
Daul Wesup	Alex Soweng	Luke Pimi
Kearly Surum	Brain Soweng	Gertrude B
Willie Sangi	Pius Huipia	Alex Numbudu

Stanley Kaus, Mushu Island Paul Loff Elijah Nawapi Richard on Nuigo Street Raymond Kondang Carl Kaiwoo Peter Kumun Clement Mommo Nick Artekain Nick Soneng Januarius Damen Benedict Binus Simith Tamau Tom Sauma Enoch Wapo James Babi Solomon Pimi Kenneth David Philip Sama Bruno Boamer Gonzaga Hervingu Francis Warasin Martin Patikec Kreer Development Corp East Sepik Islanders Assoc.	John Niabau Philip Teresang Herman Kabai Francis Warasin Bro. Herman Boyek Bruce Samban Paul Samore Herman Samore Jeves Hoibi Jacob Elaxo Stanley Kaus Philip—Kreer Village Kenneth Yarong Joshua Pame Isaac Kurit Danny Baik Alex Amis Patrick Ginimbo, Waterboard Frances Warren Seth Boala Vincent Warisan Bonny Hairoku Nusa Business Group Bismark Fisheries Company East Sepik Fishers Assoc.	Moses Maru Anna Alberth Maryline Lelita N Sandra K Jeffrey Yan Rebecca Nalawagi Paul Simbago Felix Maiwa Betty Napi Jackline X Milisa Kara Francisca Waviki Treseaw Nawape Kapmandu Service Station Serah M Frances Sumanup Ian Boatwood Philomena Naura Michael Saulep, SRDC Andrew Wanyia Herman Kabai Koikau Devel. Ltd. Saure Landowner Corp Kwehau Devel.Ltd.
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f. Introduction

Something smells fishy in Wewak. Ever since February 2004, people in most parts of Wewak town have been holding their nose whenever the wind blows from the new tuna loining factory on the main wharf. South Seas Tuna (SST) is a Taiwanese-owned business that skins and bones local skipjack and yellow fin tuna for export to overseas canneries and buyers. Employing roughly 1600 mostly Sepik people, and sitting on what once was Kreer tribe swamp land, the factory has been known to the town mainly for emitting a putrid smell that seems to wafts across different neighbourhoods according to shifts of the wind. Not just occasional, it is a lingering odour that increases and diminishes every day. But why the loining plant is there on the town site, and not at its original out-of-town location, and who actually benefits from its presence, has begun to stir conversation. In fact, SST has begun to ‘smell fishy’ for some in Wewak in more than one way. With recent rumours about new canneries to be introduced, it’s a good time to look closely at this fishy business of tuna loining in Wewak.

Back in 2000 when the plan was introduced to the general public of a tuna loinery for Wewak, most people were well disposed to the idea. After all, the East Sepik Province has been relatively underdeveloped, as the home province of the country’s founding father, Sir Michael Somare. Not much wage employment was available, and the outer residential sections badly needed infrastructure. The idea that a plant would be established somewhere near town, and would bring with it jobs, possibly new roads, spin off businesses for landowners in transport and catering, and even the growth of new roadside markets, all sounded good. Villagers and

public figures who had seen RD Tuna in Madang, and become aware of its labour, sanitation and pollution issues, not to mention its court cases with the landowners, were confident that light industry could be done differently, and that the Sepik people could have it their way, for their benefit. Indeed, SST did learn from RD's mistakes, most notably in its engineering and design, both of which are proudly touted to be state of the art. Even its odour filtration system (because, after all, every fish factory has an odour) is amongst the best in the world. Some of RD's own management team, and some floor workers as well, also came over from Madang to join the new team. In these ways, SST has been ahead of the curve in PNG, at least for the fishing industry: having seen the processing precedents, they were bound to make a better go of it.

Some of the management team originally hired out of Port Moresby were alumni of other large resource development projects in PNG, like Ok Tedi, and others had certainly experienced smaller projects (from running water to piggeries) being introduced to peri-urban and rural settings. Undoubtedly a lot of PNG-specific management information is under contract to SST, even if it's not been utilized. Perhaps the plans were drawn against fishing industry standards only, perhaps they were concretized before Papua New Guineans could have a say. In either case, the management style and ethos of SST is entirely esoteric to the PNG context and has yet to engage some of the critical issues that most developers grapple with in this country, namely landowner rights, the 'living' wage, community relations, and financial transparency.

Nancy Sullivan Ltd., was engaged by HELP Resources, Wewak, to undertake a social impact study of the factory, as part of a training program in ethnographic research tools for the NGO's community volunteers. We arrived late June (2005) and spent ten days in workshop sessions with roughly 40 volunteer-participants. We then sent them out on two large studies, one of vanilla, the other of SST. Ultimately about 8 dedicated volunteers joined a team of 6 Nancy Sullivan Ltd. employees (including the company Director) in a town-based study of the loining plant and its workers, its business profile, its history and general social impact on Wewak town. Our company previously authored a social impact report on RD Tuna in Madang, called *Tinpis Maror* (for which Thomas Warr was a Principal Investigator). In total, we spent a month gathering information and interviews from representatives groups and individuals. Some of these interviews are excerpted here, some provide redundant verification of facts and opinions, and many more not represented here have formed the basis of our understanding of SST. Any typos or inaccuracies are our own.

The task before us began as a social impact report on the South Seas Tuna loining factory in Wewak. In the end, however, it grew to become an economic analysis of Wewak's business climate at present. We found that it was impossible to isolate the factory from the business community at large in order to conduct a true social impact study. On the one hand, we might be able to talk about the factory as a discrete business entity, whose owners and operators were ostensibly disassociated from other commercial proposals and projects surrounding it. But on the other hand, this would inadequately represent how very opaque and layered the climate of commerce is at present in Wewak, and so for this reason we have opened Pandora's box slightly to reveal how typical, how of a piece and compatible are the conditions and structures of South Seas Tuna in the present business environment in Wewak and the East Sepik Province more generally.

South Seas Tuna is one of very few fish production plants in PNG today, and these are amongst the first light industry factories to be introduced to the commercial sector as part of a downstream processing emphasis on the part of The National government. In Wewak's case, the tuna now being loined at SST would otherwise have been shipped to similar plants in the

Federated States of Micronesia, Samoa and/or Taiwan, where much of the South Pacific canning and processing occurs. The plant's introduction therefore represents a means by which Papua New Guinea can control one more step in the export process, and hopefully see more revenue from its own marine resources.

In a globalizing economy, of which PNG has become more and more a part, growth depends on two phenomenon, the search for more consumer markets and the concurrent expansion of cheap labor pools. That is, for international corporations to be able to widen their consumer base and sell more product, they must not only market to developing countries like PNG (where the growing need for processed food is driven by various social and demographic changes, among other things), but they must also continue to find cheap labor for their processing plants. As the first world grows more technologically specialized its workers are less and less likely to perform the piecemeal routines of factory work, much less to perform these for the wages that are requires of factories to make a reasonable profit. Thus, we see light industry emerging throughout the developing world, and today, throughout the South Pacific.

World Bank Group's evaluation of country business climates:

Hiring and Firing Workers Details - Papua New Guinea

The table below examines labor laws and regulations in Papua New Guinea.

Hiring and Firing Indicators (2004)	Indicator
Difficulty of Hiring Index	11
Rigidity of Hours Index	20
Difficulty of Firing Index	20
Rigidity of Employment Index	17
Firing costs (weeks)	38

But these are not mutually reinforcing phenomena, they undermine each other. Emerging markets are opened up through concurrent displacement of preexisting productive systems, by undermining the productive base of a developing economy. The expansion of exports is predicated upon the reduction of purchasing power by new consumers. Factories that pay minimum wages and prohibit workers from participating in a larger non-market economy that once sustained them, create consumers who are ultimately unable to pay for the products they manufacture. By converting a productive labor pool into a low-wage workforce their earning potential is diminished and the new markets being sought by international companies never fully arise. It's an ironic double-bind. And in the case of Papua new Guinea, the earning potential lost by minimum wage earners is not simply subsistence of even 'cultural' capital (like time in the garden, time parenting, time investing in traditional forms of income generation and distribution), it is also cold cash—because the minimum hourly wage is far below what most Papua New Guineans can make in the informal economy, selling market produce, betelnut, smokes, or scones. If the macro economic picture is a joke that backfires on the multinationals, it is a tragedy inflicted upon the local community and the host national economy because it ultimately leaves a sector of the population more impoverished than they were before. The 'multipliers' that these companies promise to the local economies—in spin off businesses and profits plowed back to the community—are in effect 'divisors'—in that they drain the public infrastructure and whatever welfare system currently existing, such that a new class of 'poor'

suddenly costs the government more in every possible way than did a population of subsistence farmers, marketers, fisher-people or small entrepreneurs. Poverty, that is, becomes an input on the supply side.

Alan Greenspan might be pleased to know there are no 'inflationary' gains in the wage statistics for PNG. The economic laws that link low unemployment to wage increases no longer applies in the US. The law of supply and demand. But the paradox is based on an illusion. There is no labour shortage, only a shortage of people willing to work for the wages being offered today. There are increases, but they cannot keep pace with the cost of living. In the case of the US wages have not risen enough to bring low-wage earners up to the amount they were earning (relatively) 27 years ago. But while productivity is rising (and this is supposedly tied to wages) wages are not, relatively (Ehrenreich 2001:201-3).

Sociologist Barbara Ehrenreich was working as a housecleaner in the U.S. when she recorded the following conversation with her boss (*Ibid*:203-4):

In the course of complaining about his hard lot in life, he avowed that he could double his business overnight if only he could find enough reliable workers. As politely as possible, I asked him why he didn't just raise the pay. The question seemed to slide right off him. We offer 'mothers' hours,' he told me, meaning that the workday was supposedly over at three—as if to say, 'With a benefit like that, how could anybody complain about wages?' In fact, I suppose that the free breakfast he provided us represented the only concession to the labor shortage that he was prepared to make. Similarly, the Wal-Mart where I worked was offering free doughnuts once a week to any employees who could arrange their breaks while the supply lasted. As Louis Uchitelle has reported in *The New York Times*, many employers will offer almost anything—free meals, subsidized transportation, store discounts—rather than raise wages. The reason for this, in the words of one employer, is that such extras 'can be shed more easily' than wage increases when changes in the market seem to make them unnecessary. In the same spirit, automobile manufacturers would rather offer their customers cash rebates than reduced prices; the advantage of the rebate is that it seems like a gift and can be withdrawn without explanation.

But if employers are behaving too rationally, why don't employees behave in an equally rational fashion, demanding higher wages or seeking out better-paying jobs? The assumption behind the law of supply and demand, as it applies to labor, is that workers will sort themselves out "as effectively as marbles on an inclined plane—gravitating to the better-paying jobs and either leaving the recalcitrant employers behind or forcing them to up the pay." 'Economic man,' that great abstraction of economic science, is supposed to maximize his economic advantage in all situations. Needless to say, however, humans experience a little more friction than marbles, and the poorer they are, the more constrained their mobility. (*Ibid*).

In the same sense, the SST factory workers, and particularly the women workers, are limited in their wage earning possibilities. Many of the women we interviewed said they stay at the job because it is the only way for them to earn a wage; it is usually their first wage-earning job and the assumption seems to be that wage labour is the only recognized experience when and if they aspire to other kinds of work.

There is another way that low-income workers differ from 'economic man.' For the laws of economics to work, the 'players' need to be well informed about their options. The ideal case—and I've read that the technology for this is just around the corner—would be the consumer whose Palm Pilot displays the menu and prices for every restaurant or store he or

she passes. Even without such technological assistance, affluent job hunters expect to study the salary-benefit packages offered by their potential employers, watch the financial news to find out if these packages are in line with those being offered in other regions or field, and probably do a little bargaining before taking the job. (*Ibid*:206)

It is possible to see light industry as one of the engines driving the emergence of a class system in Wewak today, a process that certainly predates SSTC, and was so eloquently described in the 1999 book by anthropologists Deborah Gewertz and Frederick Errington, titled, *Emerging Class in Papua New Guinea*. Indeed, the workshop that preceded our research on the factory, sponsored by HELP Resources, used portions of their book (including the chapter 'How the grass roots became the poor') to teach ethnographic methods to our volunteers. As the authors explain (Gewertz and Errington 1999:2):

This is a book which many Papua New Guineans had hoped could never be written. After the obvious inequities of the colonial caste system had abated, they had hoped the strenuous egalitarianism which had characterized much (though not all) indigenous Papua New Guinean life (at least among men) might be preserved as the valued basis of a new political order. It was an egalitarianism where differences were largely commensurate, based on fluctuating degree rather than, as with class (to say nothing of caste), upon fixed kind: where powerful men and powerful groups had, for the most part, simply more of what all others had (such as pigs, shells, wives, ritual knowledge, trading partners and allies) rather than sharply differential access to economic and cultural capital (such as employment networks, educational opportunities, and sartorial, gustatory and conversational skills). Correspondingly, it was an egalitarianism where, because personal and collective fortunes and alliances often shifted, the powerful rarely remained perpetually so; where perceptions of life's prospects were shaped by the relatively realistic recognition that 'big men' and 'rubbish men' (and certainly their immediate descendants) could, in the course of events, interchange places on a single continuum.

Rationalism is assumed to direct people towards maximizing gain, and the corollary assumption is that culture is less than rational, therefore an inhibition to development. Local culture is considered a barrier to rather a facilitator of development. The very attitudes toward culture exemplified by expatriate Australians and indigenous Papua New Guineans are so incompatible as to be comical: the Australians—masters of the cultural shrug, famous for a love-hate of the class-bound British motherland—facing what they once considered barbaric cultures in PNG, and trying very hard to suppress a natural condescension. Papua New Guineans, on the other hand, descendants of belligerent, xenophobic tribesmen, now cultivate a national cultural pride, as they face a hall of mirrors in the global culture as it is refracted from the West: Good versus Evil, Male versus Female, Educated versus Illiterate, Elite versus Grassroots, Town versus Bush, White versus Black, and so forth. Is it any wonder so many elite Papua New Guineans are convinced their wantoks are a 'problem' and a Land Cruiser is one solution?

Gewertz and Errington write about this as well. They remind us that, (1999:3) :

It had been in order to define, defend and preserve for a new nation what was best about indigenous forms of egalitarianism that the Papua New Guinean lawyer and now senior politician, Bernard Narakobi, wrote *The Melanesian Way*. In that book, published five years after Independence, he lamented the emergence of a 'PNG elite—be they civil servants, politicians, religious officials or private businessmen and women...[who] have no authentic touch or feeling for rural and urban poor but they seem to know all the answers to the

problems of the poor.’ He pledges that ‘firm steps’ would be taken to preclude a ‘class society...emerging in this country.’

Sadly, no such steps were taken. Gewertz and Errington found that (*Ibid*:144) :

[H]owever optimistic and energetic many of the Papua New Guinean middle class might be and however important an effect they might have in driving contemporary changes in Papua New Guinean society, the future they confronted was an uncertain one of twists and turns: theirs was a world strongly affected by the shifting strategies and interests of an increasingly influential corporate and multinational capitalism.

It is an obsolete paradigm to think of development as a tradeoff between culture and progress. Postwar development theory shifted in the eighties away from a top-down North-South distribution of ‘aid’ toward a more equitable understandings of change in the developing world. Ideas about modernity began to change: the new China, for example, does not aspire to look like the new London, new Tokyo or new Detroit. Development is always a Faustian contract. Some call it planned poverty (Illich 1997:99). But the more important it becomes, the more dangerous it also threatens to become. In Arturo Escobar’s critical description of the postwar picture (Escobar 1997:91-2),

[D]evelopment grew to be so important for Third World countries that it became acceptable for their rulers to subject their populations to an infinite variety of interventions, to more encompassing forms of power and systems of control; so important that First and Third World elites accepted the price of massive impoverishment, of selling Third World resources to the most convenient bidder, of degrading their physical and human ecologies, of killing and torturing, of condemning their indigenous populations to near extinction; so important that many in the Third World began to think of themselves as inferior, underdeveloped and ignorant and to doubt the value of their own culture, deciding instead to pledge allegiance to the banners of reason and progress; so important, finally, that the achievement of development clouded awareness of the impossibility of fulfilling the promises that development seemed to be making.

The alternative is finding another economic model for the developing world, which is where post-development research and theory stands today.² But in the East Sepik Province, the only defense against unplanned and inappropriate development appears to be the aptly named ‘4th Dimension’ in the Province’s Corporate Plan. As explained in the plan itself:

The PNG Government system, including that of the East Sepik Province is chiefly based on a three dimensional dynamics. This system has for many years overlooked and overshadowed the empowerment need of the people. While the Nation recognizes the unique diversity and successfully forges unity, it fails to realize the dynamics of the business sector in the industrial and commercial world which is foreign to most PNG people.

It’s hard to see how this kind of thinking will in any way preclude the imbalances of foreign ventures, much less guarantee the full empowerment of the grassroots. But this is to be discussed further below.

² Illich tells us (Op cit:99): “The only feasible answer to ever-increasing underdevelopment is a response to basic needs that is planned as a long-range goal for areas which will always have a different capital structure. “

Ironically, Papua New Guinea is the graveyard of social science's 'Economic man.' It was Bronislaw Malinowski's 1922 study of Trobriand Islanders, *Argonauts of the Western* that shattered the western world's notions of simple supply and demand, of 'primitive economics' and the essentialism of 'rational' man. Malinowski had been stranded in the Trobriands during the First World War, which proved long enough to provide for the first comprehensive description of one of the most complex nonwestern economies, the Kula Ring, which runs through the D'Entrecasteaux Islands off New Guinea's eastern tip. Malinowski would produce seven books and systematically break down the preconceptions of primitive man as a childlike predecessor to western man, one who remains 'backwards' on a teleology of progress that always leads to modern monopoly capital. Don't believe what you see, Malinowski taught us. And this is still the message Papua New Guinea conveys to researchers of all kinds—there's more to the culture than meets the eye.

A 'subsistence' economy that looks to some much like South America peasantry, or African horticulturalism, looks to others like a system of reciprocity surprisingly 'pre-adapted' to capitalism. But PNG has always defied direct comparisons. Even in the village, the networks of social political and economic life are more complex than they appear. To this day, donor agencies and foreign NGOs that believe development projects can be discretely inserted into a 'small scale economy' have time and again been proven wrong. Projects fail, people lose hope, equipment rusts and money is wasted yet again, sometimes leaving a community without infrastructure and full of dashed expectations.

A factory on the scale of SST, which pulls as many as 600 workeres at any given shift, is bound to have an enormous effect on the local economy. But it would be simplistic to say that all manufacturing is a boon, and that any form of wage labour is better than the informal economy as it currently exists. During our interview at SST, the management told us with reasonable pride that they are injecting cash into the economy, providing income for people who would not otherwise have it, and reclaiming for PNG a manufacturing process in the tuna industry that would otherwise benefit another country. But such textbook economics have long been out of place in development discussions. We know for example that the loining plants in the Marshall Islands are not considered socially or environmentally advantageous. We know that market women in Wewak were making more in a day ---even before the opening of the factory--- than any of SST's workers make. The amount of cash being injected into the markets by workers, and the contraction of market sellers due to the emergence of a new labour force, are simply not strong enough factors to offset the insolvency these workers now face compared to what they might face were they working in the informal economy. To bring home K7 per day, or K72 a fortnight, is in effect reducing rather than enhancing the family food allowance. When a woman makes K200 a fortnight in market sales (and it is the woman who is most commonly responsible for providing food for the family), and is simultaneously available for child minding and other household and customary chores, the transition to a low paying labour- and time-intensive job is not maximizing her advantages. It is a privation. And this continues to occur (although less frequently, as women are wising up to the situation, we found) because everything in their education and popular cultural environment in town tells them that wage labour is *better* than informal income production. And this is a misconception. It reveals the very lack of options, or the lack of option awareness, available to Wewak women.

When our researchers visited the management of SSTC, we were told that the company was not interested in competing with local PMVs and therefore did not wish to provide workers with transport to and from their shifts, even at night. They are not interested in organizing local fishing groups to supply tuna to the loinery, nor are they interested in availing themselves of

scores of landowner groups who registered expressly for the purpose of supplying stevedoring, catering, transport and maintenance services to the plant. It doesn't save the company money, and they're not legally bound to do so. The wages offered are also legal, and in some compensation the factory offers workers a free meal in the middle of their shift. There are no sports sponsorships, school scholarships or other community incentives on offer. But to provide the legal minimum is, of course, the rational strategy. The global economy succeeds by sheltering rather than exposing its profit streams, and if anything diverting capital towards new markets before nourishing preexisting ones. Why waste money on good will, after all, if your workers are not your consumers?

g. Tuna factories in the South Pacific

There are four kinds of offshore tuna fished in the South Pacific: skipjack *Katsuwonus pelamis*, yellowfin *Thunnus albacares*, bigeye tuna *Thunnus obesus*, and albacore *Thunnus alalunga*. Although all four are found around PNG, only the skipjack and yellowfin are caught and loined by SST. In our meeting with plant General Manager, Ian Boatwood, we were told that the loining done by SST would otherwise be done in Majuro, Marsjall Islands. That is, it used to be done in Majuro before a loining factory there closed down. This makes the factory an excellent example of harbouring resources throughout the 'downstream processing', something Sirt Michael Somare's government has emphasized. Where raw materials are but the first stage of a series of processes (involving one or more countries), resource owners never garner most of the profit in processing. The more PNG can participate in these stages, the more they will profit from their own resources. But corralling these stages of the process does not always mean people on the ground, whether they be resource owners or laborers, will be free from exploitation, especially when these factories are introduced as joint ventures between local and overseas owners. Indeed, when you look at the state of the Marshall Islands, and its cramped industrialized ports, it's hard to imagine why PNG would want to attract loining plants. One Marshall Islands handbook describes Majuro, for example, as follows:

The ugly, overcrowded slums and the heaps of debris are a fascinating case study in direct American impact on a central Pacific environment. The striking juxtaposition of wretched refuse against the backdrop of a still beautiful atoll—such as the fiery tropical sun plunging into the Majuro lagoon behind piles of trash—is nearly surreal (Stanley 1992:64).

Economist Kate Barclay has written an interesting article on a Japanese-owned Solomon Islands Tuna factory called 'Social Contact and Modernization in a Japanese Joint Venture in the Solomon Islands.' Solomon Taiyo originally employed men in their production line, before 1990, which was unusual for the fish production industry. When a new factory opened in Noro in 1990 they began employing women, which meant that Solomon Islands women were for the first time being included in the wage labour force. But they were hired for work that men were no longer willing to do, and at very low wages. To some women, this represented freedom and a gender mixing that was new to them. But there were also negative impacts of their inclusion, too.

These negative impacts were related to the low socioeconomic status of the women who worked for the company and to the position of Solomon Islands as an "underdeveloped" economy, but they were also due to patriarchy. Notwithstanding the fact that a few women occupied supervisory positions and notwithstanding company policies of equal pay for equal work along gender lines, the conditions for women were on the whole worse than for

men: many interviews pointed out the working conditions for women were the worst in the company (Barclay 2004:516).

Culturally, the Solomon Island context is very close to that of PNG, and the problems Barclay saw with regard to the pressures placed on these Solomon Taiyo women would be similar to those found in Wewak. It is women who are most constrained by traditional village roles, who are less likely to break the pattern of mother and caregiver, not to mention gardener and community laborer. Thus when they take on wage earning jobs they often have to double-up on their responsibilities at home. For the Solomons workers, Barclay found that:

Commuting time for the several hundred women who lived outside Noro was an hour or more each way. A common concern voiced on behalf of women workers was the effects of long working and commuting hours on family life. A male Solomon Islands National Union of Workers (SINUW) representative noted that the early departure and late return of cannery women workers cause “social problems.”...Many interviewees talk of children who hardly knew their mothers because for six days a week the women were only at home while their children were asleep....This “double shift” left women exhausted and, as a result, they neglected some of their duties...[Yet] (m)ale employees were never expected to take on village responsibilities as well as paid work in the same way. (Barclay 2004:517).

Most alarmingly, the money earned was never enough. A local Church leader, for example, “expressed concern about the levels of pay and prospects of promotion for women workers and worried that some of them were ‘being driven to going on the ships’ (prostitution) in order to make ends meet financially” (*Ibid*:516).

1. RD Tuna Madang



In 2003 the Kananam Landowners of Madang hired Nancy Sullivan Ltd. to conduct a social impact study of RD Tuna. In our Executive Summary for that report, we noted (Sullivan et al 2003: 7-9) that,

One of the things Papua New Guinea has taught the world recently, is the great diversity and resilience of traditional culture in the face of Western influences. PNG is one of the places where social change is not always a threat to cultural integrity, and where it is not possible to simply shrug off cultural loss as an inevitable by-product of development. Indeed, despite the heavy-handedness and even violence of some of the first emissaries of western culture, Papua New Guineans remain enthusiastic about assimilating western developments to their own culture, and doing it on their own terms. It is understandable that the people of Siar, Nobnob and Seg initially welcomed the presence of RD Tuna Canneries and Fishing in their

areas...There were promises of new spin-offs in security, catering, maintenance, trucking, and credible assurances that enough fish would be available in the sea to support not only the Company fishing vessels, but also a hearty business of local fish sales to RD [we refer to the agreements between RD, and The National and Provincial Governments, cited below]. Women would have money for their children's school fees, brideprices and funeral feasts could be funded, and a surge of cash into the local economy would generally raise everyone's living standards. Provincial and National Government commitment would also ensure better infrastructure, better services, and even more commercial projects in the future. How good it all looked. RD's agreement even suggested that their wharf operations might act as a tourist attraction ... What they failed to explain was that none of these benefits were built into the contracts with landowners or the government; nor were they even realistic for these communities. Because the communities had already lost their land and could not sustain themselves traditionally, they were in no position to negotiate terms. They were vulnerable: without the single most important natural resource, and the basis upon which all PNG cultures thrive, they had only their sea to provide for them. ...[O]nce their fishing resources were forfeited to RD, the people from Kananam, in particular, were without any options. They had exchanged their customary sustenance for wage labor with RD. But even this was an un-reciprocal exchange. Because RD's operations have always been dedicated to a harboring of profits, and a reduction of profit sharing at all levels, none of its workers actually make a 'living wage.' The working conditions are deplorable, representing not the least investment on the part of the Company in their labor force. More importantly, none of the environmental responsibilities laid out in RD's environmental reports has come to pass, and therefore the longer the Company stays, the greater the price is paid by all the landowners with their marine resources. In exchange, they receive subminimum wage for strenuous physical labor that puts them at health and, we have learned, frequent security risks (particularly for the women) traveling on Company transport. The Kananam, Nobnob and Siar people are now locked in a cycle of dependency that is grinding away at the very fabric of their sociocultural life. Without land, they must fish. With RD's presence, they cannot fish as they once did. Without fish, they must labor for RD, which prevents them from working their gardens. Without sufficient pay, they cannot feed their families, or pay school fees or health expenses. They are left in a double bind: no way to sustain themselves, and at constant risk of losing everything. Meanwhile, the Company has begun to turn the screws by opening up employment opportunities well beyond local landowners, attracting settlers from all over Madang. This puts greater pressure on the land, and on the cash-strapped landowner communities. Opportunely, a small number of women have created a niche market with RD Fishing employees that presses traditional trade relations into a new form of prostitution.... They have been promised spin-off business ventures, and have been given secondhand vehicles carrying onerous bank loans, which can never be paid off by the rate of pay fixed by the Company. Landowners are asking for business ventures that do not serve the Company's profit margin, but instead serve the community's needs. Nevertheless, they are not asking for charity: they can service loans, as they have proven, but not at the rates fixed by RD. They will work for a living, but not at starvation wages. They will tolerate Filipino managers if they see skills transference down the line. They will also share their marine resources, if they can compete fairly with the fishing vessels' sales to the Cannery. But where there is no quid-pro-quo, where there is no prospect of a fair exchange, the landowners are bound to feel cheated in a moral as well as economic sense. There is a culture of equivalencies, of both short and long term reciprocities. ...[But] now that it appears that RD will continue to enjoy tax exemptions, that their spin-off enterprises are structured to profit RD only, and that RD workers will never see Papua New Guineans as equals---the landowners can only feel morally, and culturally affronted.

h. Wewak background

People have been living in the Wewak area for at least 3500 years, and perhaps even for 5000. The rising sea levels of the early Holocene era were accompanied by alluvium infilling of the coastal basin that falls from the coast down to the sea, which meant that very little land was lost. No one knows for sure, however, who these first settlers might have been. It is assumed that the Lapita migrations from roughly Taiwan through what is now Micronesia occurred all along the north coast and outer islands from 5000 to 2000 years ago. By around the time of Christ all pottery and other signs of the Lapita tradition ceased (Swadling 1990:76).

It is probable that traders from Southeast Asia would have also been moving along the coast, if not in person at least in trade, by around 700 A.D., when the kingdom of Srivijaya in Sumatra was trading regularly through Melanesia. Eventually this trade was supplanted by the intensive traffic in bird of paradise plumes that centered on the Upper Fly River right up to Vanimo at either side of today's border between West Papua and PNG. This was a trade that brought Chinese and Malay traders all over the north coast area and in turn sent bird of paradise feathers across to China and from there Europe where, by the 1800's, all fashionable women were wearing hats with New Guinea plumes well before their countrymen even knew the place existed (*Ibid*:76).

For the last several hundred years the Wewak people lived in a village called Vial on what is now Wewak Hill. Nearby, the Koiken people periodically raided and were raided by these Vial people. Coastal people, their livelihoods depended upon fishing and hunting in the inland bush. By the beginning of the twentieth century, people from Moem, Marik and Beriwana, all outlying villages, were being absorbed within 'Vial' village. The Sepik 'first contact' with outsiders in recent history would have been made by bird of paradise hunters from Indonesia or China, sometime in the nineteenth century. German New Guinea's 'Eitape' district station was established in 1906, and by 1910 the District Officer recorded, "Pacification has been more or less achieved in the coastal areas of the central section and of the eastern section as far as Wom" (Fleetwood 1984:10).

On the heels of pacification came copra plantations, the backbone of the original Neu Guinea Kompagnie. And by 1912 tracts of land in Moem, Brandi and Boram were purchased from the state to establish private plantations. This came on the heels of the first Catholic Mission station at Wirui in 1891, which itself was self-supporting through copra. Between German plantation managers, District Officers, and missionaries, 'Vial' was no doubt mispronounced enough times to be transformed before long into 'Wewak.' (*Ibid*:12).

The original inhabitants of Wewak Hill were forced by new European settlers to raise stakes and resettle near the shoreline, first at the foot of the hill, then by the beach, and finally at the present Meni Village. It is probable they have long been sago producers, using the interior bush and the sea to supplement their diet with protein. But the emphasis on sago has certainly increased since moving to the swampy lowland.

Nearby Kairiru Island enjoyed a taro production economy, one in which garden magic was all-important. Anthropologist Michael French Smith has described a "magicoreligious relationship between social relations and material wealth"(Smith 1990:215) in traditional Kairiru island, where the harmonious community enjoys a better harvest and more comfortable existence. The unsettled or disrupted community, conversely, has a bad harvest, bad health, bad 'karma' we

might say today. This is certainly an ethos throughout the Sepik region, especially the interior Torricelli Mountains area where physical and social health are closely related.

Since the turn of the 20th Century Kairiru, like most of the Wewak offshore islands, has been heavily missionized by the Catholic church. This has had certain implications for the way local people now address the cash economy and new forms of wealth. “Many villagers have come to see superior European wealth as rooted in a superior form of harmony and cooperation, and they tend to see such cooperation as having magicoreligious as well as directly instrumental effects,” says Smith. *Ibid*). Cooperation, harmony, and the New Testament have all become vehicles to a modern lifestyle.

To be sure, all Sepik cultures share the ideal of cooperation (see Mitchell 1990, for example). These are not like highlands ‘bigmen’ societies where the accumulation of clan wealth is spearheaded by a single ambitious and charismatic individual. There are Sepik big men, but their authority comes from “heritable rights to esoteric magicoreligious knowledge for control of food production, weather, curing, and other areas of general concern.” (Smith *Ibid*:217). Leaders may be as arbitrary or ruthless as highlands bigmen, but the difference is that their quest is less material, and the community still exerts some control in an effort to maintain group harmony over any kind of intra-group competition.

In 1934 Australian anthropologist Ian Hogbin was living on Wogeo (sometimes referred to as Vokeo) Island in the Schouten Islands farther offshore from Wewak than Kairiru (see Hogbin 1970). If one were to step back from the map of PNG and look at the crescent shape of New Ireland and New Britain, you need only follow the western tail to the mainland through the Siassi Islands, to Karkar, Manam and the Schouten Islands off Wewak, all of which seem to uncoil like the flick of a tail. Kairiru and Muschu are much closer to the mainland although definitely within the same cultural complex as the Schoutens. These are all male initiation societies with taro as their staple food. Garden magic, love magic and sorcery are the mainstays of authority and preeminence in these societies, although each village and/or clan also has its headman. Still, there are not paramount chiefs; they are more like governors than prime ministers. It should be noted, however, that even as these are strongly patrilineal societies, there are matrilineal descent reckoning and women are key players in the social and economy life of the community. Girls celebrate first mearch, and boys ritually imitate female menstruation as a form of purification by ceremonially incising their tongues and their penises so as to bleed out any ‘bad’ blood. (Hence Hogbin’s book is titled *The Island of Menstruating Men*).

In the twenties, what looked like an oil source at Matapau, near Angoram on the Sepik River, attracted the first oil exploration in the area, by Ormildah Mining of Australia. Although this was discovered to be seepage from farther inland, Ormildah was followed by Oil Search Limited.

The first gold prospector in the Sepik District was W.A. MacGregor in 1928. But wasn’t until 1934, when J.C. Mullalay, A.H. McHutchinson, B. Costello, and W.L. Heron began dredging on the Mingim River, two days walk from Wewak, that people started to move up from the Morobe fields in search of new claims. Eventually the Screw, Siling and Nagum Rivers were also being dredged. In her forward to District Officer Townsend’s memoir, one miner’s wife, Judy Tudor, writes that. But prospecting was never lucrative in the District.

The birth of gold prospecting also gave impetus to aviation in the District, and work started on an airfield in 1937. At this time Bob Parer arrived in Wewak and set up a freezer works roughly opposite the present Westpac Bank, where fresh vegetables and imported foods arrived every six weeks from the Burns Philp ship. At this time the original owner of Moem, Boram and Brandi

plantations, Dick Glasson, sold them off to Burns Philp, and the trade store at Boram, long an important site for miners who would kit out before going to the fields, became the first Burns Philp retail outlet in the region.

The impact of World War II has been the most transformative moment in the East Sepik's recent history. Much has been written about Sepik villagers' great heroism and suffering during the war years. Perhaps more important than the war were the social changes that it set in motion.

One outcome of the wartime experience in Melanesia was that a few forceful and farsighted individuals returned to their places after the war with visions of social, economic, and political change through communal organization and effort....Pita Simogun's efforts at promoting cash-cropping in the Wewak-But Boiken area have received some attention. Less well known is that in the early postwar years Simogun, Yauwiga, Beibi Yembanda, Kokomo Ulia, and a number of others (many of them ex-policemen) mobilized a large part of the province north of the river in a loosely coordinated, development-oriented, generally pro-administration movement which promoted cash-cropping (especially rice and cacao) and other forms of business (notably, around Wewak, transport), road building, and education. At least some of the leaders of the movement also challenged the institution of the tambaran cult, and this brought them into conflict with traditional leaders and in some cases earned them the suspicious attention of administrative officers. The achievements of what might be called "the Simogun Movement" in organizing the planting of cash crops were considerable, as was its influence on the administration in promoting "development," but for a variety of reasons it failed to satisfy its supporters' (or leaders'?) expectations of substantial monetary returns and within a few years gradually declined. (May 1990:177).

Despite the initial disappointments of these early leaders, it is clear that the Sepik was ready for large scale economic change. War hero and dramatic public speaker, Pita Simogun was one of only 3 Papua New Guineans nominated by the Administrator, Jack Murray, to sit on the Legislative Council beginning in 1951. In the postwar years, local people were more determined than ever to take control of development for themselves. For a people dedicated to cooperation and knowledge, the road to total change was obvious:-- education. Like the many Manusians who followed visionary leader Paliau Moloat into some of the first provincial schools in the country, Sepik people were predisposed to the educational opportunities of the postwar administration. In the 1950's Michael Somare attended Boram School, and by the end of the 1950's he was teaching in Wewak. Settlers were moving in to the area to send their kids to school, but the school itself couldn't expand and was shifted, instead, to Brandi in 1954, where it became a High School. Somare taught grades 7,8 and 9 in 1959 at Brandi along with one other National and seven expatriates.

[Wewak native] Yauwiga really had a vision for the future of the Sepik District, and the Boram School was his method of making the vision a reality. He explained what he wanted to the Kreer people, and [they] gave him some land on which to build a school. There was no way of getting back to his home village at Boram other than trekking through the bush so Yauwiga sent a message to the village asking for some people to come help him build the school. The villagers who came, who were to form the nucleus of the new Kreer Co-operative, helped Yauwiga to build classrooms of bush materials firstly on the present site of the Kreer Community School and a year later on the present site of the Boram Power House....Yauwiga started a piggery close to the original site at Kreer. The money he got from looking after other peoples' pigs was ploughed back into the school and the pigs themselves made an occasional change in the diet of the children. (Fleetwood 1991:48-9)

During the 1950's over 860,000 coconut palms were planted in the Sepik District, ultimately yielding, for example, 430 tonnes of copra for the first six months of 1960. 77.5 tons of peanuts were exported from the Sepik District in 1961 and 125 tons of rice were produced in the Maprik, Dreikir and Angoram areas and bought by the Administration. More settlements emerged in the 1960's as people from Vokeo and Koil settled at Kreer market, and others moved into the end of Boram airport.

Gold production in the Maprik and Lumi areas was steady but not significant. Coffee, though, was the big new crop. At the beginning of the 1960s 101,000 plants were maturing and another 84,000 coffee plants were being prepared in nurseries. The Sepik Producers Co-operative Association (SPCA) was created in 1965 for coffee growers. Cocoa was also on the rise—first at Moem, and then (by Pita Simogun) at Dagua. By the beginning of the 1970s there were nineteen co-operative societies within the Sepik District. One such cooperative was the Kreer Carvers workshop and showroom, but the Kreer Service Station (aka Caltex) and the Wirui Service Station were also locally owned businesses.

To assist with the starting of locally run concerns the Business Advisory Office was set up in Wewak. By June 1971 it had 364 clients, twenty of whom had an annual turnover of one hundred and sixty thousand pounds. The Development Bank also gave financial assistance, having handled many indigenous commercial or rural loans ranging from \$200 to \$3000. The 1960s was a period of substantial expansion for Wewak, both physically and in terms of economic possibilities. It was a decade when the enterprising indigenous man could begin to be as successful in business as his expatriate counterpart. (*Ibid*:62-63).

Somare returned to Wewak in 1964 to work for Radio Wewak as a reporter; he also became president of the Public Service Association, supporting the Public Service Single Salary Structure. Afterwards, he helped form the Pangu Pati, then ran for and won the East Sepik Regional seat in 1968 (after Pita Lus campaigned for him by motorbike). The rest is history.



i. The Wewak business climate

The business climate in Wewak is not that different from that of the entire ESP, wherein handful of elite Papua New Guineans control most of the private sector. Sir Peter Lus is in coffee, Bernard Narokobi is in vanilla and retailing, and the Somares are in everything. SBA, the Somare family business, has long been the provincial monopoly in construction, with some of the first heavy lifting and moving equipment to be found in the province. Whether as contractors or subcontractors, SBA has had a hand in the vast majority of infrastructural construction projects in the ESP, indeed to such an extent that they have been informally banned from AudAid tenders. This was precipitated by a couple of projects that were fiscally mismanaged, an/or 'fronted' by other operators. This includes the failed 2001 Storm Water Project, funded by the Korean government. Public opinion in Wewak town holds SBA responsible for much of the economic 'opacity' being attributed to the Provincial Government and administration. Indeed, SBA vehicles can be found operating on roads, timber, and transport projects from Marienberg and Kaup in Angoram District to Hawain on the West coast of Wewak.

The East Sepik Provincial Government, namely Henry Ariro, Governor, and Fantson Yaninen, Provincial Administrator, produced a Corporate Plan in 2004, which admirably spells out the objectives of development for the project, and how they complement The National Government's fiscal objectives.



Wewak Urban LLG

East Sepik Provincial Corporate Plan May 2004

Excerpts as follow:

P18: This corporate structure makes the Provincial government more true to itself and better able to fulfill its own plans. Leaders have accepted that they will be more accountable than previously. The once protected corporate environment of Government is now being unveiled to civil society. This demonstrates that, in East Sepik, the Government is not just going to preach conducive/good governance and empowerment and call for partnerships, but will actually facilitate.

P19: This corporate plan acknowledges that the Governor Hon. Arthur Somare MP began a new direction for East Sepik in 2000. Arthur Somare's vision was contradictory to the contemporary norms of the East Sepik Provincial Government public service. It meant a lot

of reorientation of focus and direction was necessary. The public service could not see the vision and therefore could not translate political directives into action. Arthur Somare had so much belief in the way forward for East Sepik that he refused to accept the difficulties associated with implementation of his vision. ...Arthur Somare's relentless efforts and his willingness to work beyond rigid boundaries paid off.

P 21 : The Sepik Objectives from the PA's Desk:

- To see that the Provincial internal revenue is increased from a static K2.8m per annum to over K20m per annum in three years;
- To see that we achieve improvements in employment statistics...
- To see that there is [sic] income and lifestyle improvements –mortality, poverty and gender...

P.21: The key to the ESPG is its '4th Dimension'—the People Empowerment Network::

The PNG Government system, including that of the East Sepik Province is chiefly based on a three dimensional dynamics. This system has for many years overlooked and overshadowed the empowerment need of the people. While the Nation recognizes the unique diversity and successfully forges unity, it fails to realize the dynamics of the business sector in the industrial and commercial world which is foreign to most PNG people. Education and academic qualification makes one knowledgeable but does not teach skills for life and improved lifestyles. A few of our people have ventured into the mostly unknown area of the private sector but the majority have not and will not realize their capabilities for some time yet. This is why many have dreams, proposals and plans that will not be realized since the entrepreneurial private sector is incomprehensible to many even after 28 years of Independence. The East Sepik Provincial Government recognizes the need to formalize the social and economic participation of the people thus, the birth and incorporation of the 4th Dimension.

1. The Organic Law on Provincial and Local Level Government (OLPLLG) is all about partnership and participatory governance in our world of diversity.
2. The Governor is pivotal, being the Chairman for Joint Provincial Planning, Provincial Executive Council and the Assembly.
3. The Governor's Committee is the mind of the Provincial Executive Council.
4. Citizenry and ownership approach to governance is the dimension that has been previously nonexistent.
5. The usual argument (now a traditional norm) is that the private sector should operate independently. This is not satisfactory to ordinary Papua New Guineans
6. A formal relational empowerment and partnership structure linking and relating people to the formal government and private sectors is therefore necessary.
7. Proposals and plans will never work until a workable business case is put together.
8. This 4th Dimension as structured will empower people, enhance partnership and add advantages to the current working environment.
9. One particular advantage is that this 4th Dimension, once formalized will challenge the public service to be more resourceful and competitive, and will open up a new horizon for the reduction of the Public Services size.
10. This 4th Dimension as structured will provide a positive and favourable exit point for civil servants.
11. This 4th Dimension is the East Sepik Provincial Government's answer to the unfavourable referral to citizens and individuals as redundant and an obsolete liability to the Nation.

12. With Government recognition and acceptance of the 4th Dimension, East Sepik can now turn liability referrals into constructive and productive engagement of all excess personnel in the civil service.
13. East Sepik is first in the country to propose 4th Dimension solutions and therefore will need to market the 4th Dimension proposal to the Public Sector Review Committee and push for legislative amendments and new enactments as necessary for implementation.

At the very end of the Corporate Plan we find a list of concepts:

Key Watershed Thoughts

Watershed of your resolutions

Five words or actions of your watershed

First—watershed is the divide of the flow to basins/seas

DREAM

Some people see things as they are and ask why...

I dream of things that have never been and ask why now?

George Bernard Shaw [sic!]

BELIEVE

Life is a buffet and not a sit down meal. No one is going to serve you.

Sensualize your dream

Motivation comes from sensualization

Motivation leads to action

DARE

Life is either a daring adventure or nothing at all

Liking what others do not like

Doing what others do not do

Say right to what others say wrong

Legitimize what others say is illegal

ANTICIPATE (Thinking)

If I were on trial for thinking and anticipating creatively, what evidence would the prosecution use against me

Is thinking wrong?

Is anticipation wrong?

CARE

Reaping what you sow

What you send out comes back

We care if we want to be cared for

Do not forget the 95% rule of common [sic] and simplicity

The National July 20, 2005:

New plan allows public servants to engage in business activities

THE East Sepik Provincial Government's corporate plan — launched in May 2004 — calls for legislation to allow public servants to engage in business and corporate activities outside of their normal jobs.

The new concept called "The 4th Dimension" is designed to empower people (especially public servants) to have a more enhanced personal security apart from their day-to-day

salaries jobs. The 4th Dimension is in addition to the current three-dimensional government system of the national government which includes national departments and line agencies; local level governments and the ward committees; and the public service.

The concept is the brainchild of East Sepik Administrator Fantson Yaninen who says in his introductory remarks in the corporate plan book-

let: "In this approach, we seek to formalize and convert the informal sector to formal. We have to move away from the protectionist policies of the civil service of past eras."

But the new move is in conflict with the Public Service General Orders that prohibits public servants from engaging in private business as it creates opportunities for abuse of office for personal gain and corruption.

But it is the provincial government's business that has been most controversial of late. Two island fishing groups, Bismark Fisheries and Nusa, have court cases pending against a recent sale of Provincial Government land by the waterside of the old wharf where both companies were operating fishing cooperatives (Section E, Lot 3). The property was sold to Sir Hugo Berghuser by the East Sepik Provincial Government for K150,000 in the form of shares in Sir Hugo's Sepik Sea Products [formerly Sepik Marine Products] company. A company search reveals that, as of 21 February 2001, Sir Hugo owns 850,000 ordinary K1 shares, and the East Sepik Development Corporation Ltd. owns 150,000 ordinary shares of the same. This was accomplished without formal valuation of the property, without a National Land Board decision, without Provincial Executive Council agreement, and very quickly after the property had been transferred to the East Sepik Provincial Government by the Fisheries Division of the Department of Agriculture. The question remains regarding what role the ESPG had in evicting long-term local fishing cooperatives (including market warehouses, boat storage, repair and residential facilities) in order to make way for Sepik Sea Products, in the form of a new fast food and ice cream shop.

A look at the Joint Venture Project Proposal submitted by Sir Hugo to the East Sepik Provincial Government in 2000 goes some way towards explaining the logic, or justification, of the Corporate Plan. While the proposal predates the Corporate Plan, all its terms have yet to be actualized. We may therefore look forward to the project daring to "legitimize what others say is illegal."

Excerpts are as follow:

This proposal sets out the details of the proposed entry by SMPL/BWT into the export fish market to Japan, USA and EU. BWT has an approved fish factory at their premises at 17 Mile, Central Province. It has the only approved license in PNG for the US market under the HACCP plan. BHL [Bismark Holdings?] will supply bottom fish and other marine species caught by the local fishermen and will have four (4) longliner tuna vessels supplemented by the three (3) existing BWT longliners.

Project Cost first stage (6 months)

- (a) Upgrading the existing premises to an acceptable health and export market standard K400,000.

- (b) Additional fishing vessels: Supplied by Sir Hugo Berghusor K1,000,000; 6 supplied by Provincial Government (K90,000) K540,000. *
- (c) Land supplied by the Provincial Government at cost K150,000. *
- (d) Working capital K3000,000.
- (e) Glazing Blast Freezer (2 off) (\$AUST 40,000) K200,000. *
- (f) Ice making machine (AUST\$80,000) K120,000. *
- (g) Freezer Truck (AUST\$100,000) K140,000. *

*Supplied by Provincial Government and managed by SMPL.
Total \$2,850,000. [K1,150,000 to be supplied by the ESPG].

...The project is 90% export orientated [sic] and will benefit our ailing Kina situation with hard core US dollar earnings, This is one resource which should belong only to the people of PNG and is currently being exploited mostly by foreign interests.

Benefits to EAST SEPIK

The whole project is partly owned and managed by people from East Sepik. Rejuvenation of the closed up, and run down facilities, at the Wewak Fishery Department property will be of great benefit as the fishing resource is utilized to re-activate fishing in Wewak. On starting up the projects first stage, it will give the local fisherman [sic], many of whom have no access to other income opportunities, cash money by being able to sell all their catch to a central market. It will create cash flow to and within the Province....A further benefit is that by the PG having an interest in the venture will result [sic] in a return of funds to the PG coffers, and create a close relationship between private business and the Provincial Government which will become beneficial in many other ways. It is certainly vitally important for the PG to have a share in the vast natural fish resource which up to now has been dominated in East Sepik Province by foreigners. ...

CORPORATE STRUCTURE

Shareholders in SMPL are to be Sir Hugo Berhusor and, in future, the East Sepik Provincial Government will be offered 15%, with a further 30% available to people from the province.

...SMPL proposes a three (3) man board comprising Sir Hugo Berghusor, Mr. Peter Hardy and a nominee from the Provincial Government. Sir Hugh [sic] Berghusor will be appointed Chairman of the Board (Executive Chairman). ...The Financial Director will be Peter Hardy. Mr. Hardy has had extensive corporate experience in Australia and PNG and he will maintain close financial control of SMPL.

Mr. Tom Fandim explained that Sir Hugo will have another factory coming up soon, to process the by-catch. In addition, he plans a sausage factory. For the time being Sir Hugo will produce sausage from Mumeng in Morobe Province, until he has his established his own cattle farm here in Wewak. (The obvious question would be whether or not the ESPG and Sir Hugo are keeping the original Yawasoro site for SST available for these additional projects).

At one point during our research we were told by a Provincial Government figure that Sir Hugo flies south on a regular basis, and stops off in Port Moresby to dispense large amounts of cash to compliant politicians. Whether or not this is the case, it does seem consistent with the general gangsterism of his image, which takes a page from some Marty Scorsese screenplay. There's a scene, for example, in Scorsese's *Casino*, where Robert DeNiro, as the casino manager (whose

title, sensu the Windjammer, is 'food and beverage manager'), complains about a flamboyant friend being the worst possible choice of a front man. He was getting sloppy with his money drops, forgetting precautions. You want a straight man for a front, DeNire explains, not some crazy guy.

Articles from *The National*, 20th and 22nd July, 2005, respectively:



Well before the South Seas plant broke ground at the town harbour, Sir Hugo Berghuser had established himself in the province by purchasing the renowned Windjammer Hotel. That is, he and an unnamed business collective purchased a majority interest in it from the provincial government. Before long he had converted the town's premier tourist accommodation from an artifact-filled refuge into a tacky bar with fiber-board walls, drop ceilings and soft-porn posters on the wall. Few townspeople are convinced by the argument that Berghuser is in Wewak to serve tourism, unless Asian timber and fishing workers constitute a tourism sector. But quite apart from that, and apart from questions of Windjammer ownership, the issue remains whether or not Sir Hugo's past business ventures can recommend him to the province at all.

The Barnett Inquiry's 6000-page report exposed a forest industry riddled with corruption, fraud and incompetence at all levels. Indeed, the forestry sector was revealed to have a history of financial, environmental and social misconduct throughout the 1980's from which it's escaped with relative impunity. In Barnett's words, "There is a fog which is casting its cloud over forestry in this country. It is a mixture of meandering intellectual neglect, bureaucratic inefficiency and lack of honest political commitment." (Barnett. T.E. 1989a. Report of the

Commission of Inquiry into Aspects of the Forest Industry - Interim Report 5: Comparison of Various Timber Areas. Unpublished report to the Government of Papua New Guinea.) The Barnett Inquiry revealed widespread bribery of politicians at both the national and provincial levels and led to the dismissal of one MP and the resignation of Ted Diro, formerly Forestry Minister and at the time of indictment Deputy Prime Minister. Diro was indicted on 86 counts of misconduct and corruption. Also found guilty of charges under the Leadership Code was Sir Hugo Berghuser, recently appointed to the Board of the Forest Industries Council. An extract from Interim Report No. 4, which covered findings from the Province of New Ireland (which along with New Britain was the most extensively logged of all the Papua New Guinea provinces) summarises the processes which underlay the PNG forestry sector: "It would be fair to say, of some of the companies, that they are now roam the countryside with the self-assurance of robber barons; bribing politicians and leaders, creating social disharmony and ignoring laws in order to gain access to, rip out, and export the last remnants of the province's valuable timber. These companies are fooling the landowners and making use of corrupt, gullible and unthinking politicians It downgrades Papua New Guinea's sovereign status that such rapacious foreign exploitation has been allowed to continue with such devastating effects to the social and physical environment, and with so few positive benefits. It is doubly outrageous that these foreign companies have then transferred secret and illegal funds offshore at the expense of the landowners and the PNG Government." (Barnett 1990: 85)

Slammed by the 1990 Barnett Report, Berghuser went on to be appointed Lands Minister (!), and to partner a Malaysian company in a shady water supply deal for Port Moresby. On October 8, 1996, the Ombudsman Commission's report on this water supply scandal was tabled in Parliament. It recommended that all contracts be terminated with the Malaysian consortium JC-KRTA, and that the project be let for tender following legal procedures. The report also strongly criticised the roles of then-Deputy Prime Minister Chris Haiveta, who held the Finance portfolio, and the businessmen (Malaysian) Foong Chin Cheah, Tony Chan and Sir Hugo Berghuser. (Foong had also been implicated in the Barnett Report.)

Indeed, few businessmen in PNG can rival Sir Hugo for controversy, much less boast of a knightship for such deeds. A brief bio in one of his company proposals reads as follows:

Sir Hugo Berghuser is a Papua New Guinea citizen who has been a resident in PNG for more than 40 years. He has been self employed for over 35 years during which time he has established several successful business enterprises including PNG's largest piggery and the smallgoods producer, Saphire Smallgoods. Sir Hugo has also had interests in the timber and building industries, and has been on [sic] the country's leading real estate developers. In the canned food industry, Sir Hugo formed a joint venture with the Angliss Australia group in 1986 to established [sic] Hugo Canning. This company built PNG's first meat cannery and now holds a 70% share of PNG's canned meat market. Sir Hugo sold his shareholding in Hugo Canning to the multinational Food Company, H J Heinz Coy, in 1996, remains [sic] as chairman of Hugo Canning and a shareholder in H J Heinz.

To date, he owns one of only 6 licenses in PNG for the import of firearms, and is licensed to store fresh fish, long line fish on the vessel Kimbe Maru, and purchase to market dry marine products (confirmed by correspondence from Willie Sangi of the East Sepik Division of Fisheries Marine Resources to the Licensing Unit of The National Fisheries Authority, 14 June 2005). The Company Profile for Sepik Marine Products Ltd., produced in 2000 as part of a joint venture proposal with the East Sepik Provincial Government [in which 'Marine' is everywhere crossed out and replaced by 'Sea'] explains that:

Blue Water Tuna is a private PNG company founded and owned by the well-known PNG businessman, Sir Hugo Berghusor. The company, which is popularly known as BWT, was established in early 1998 and hold a license from the PNG Government for longline fishing in PNG territory waters. The objective of BWT is to develop PNG's rich fish resources in an environmentally responsible way which adds value and creates employment for PNG nationals.

The operation of BWT is divided into two parts, the current fishing fleet operations (Blue Water Tuna) and fish processing and in future, canning. At present BWT has three fishing vessels which are based in Port Moresby and operate in the Gulf region of PNG's coastal waters. These boats operate on a five to six day turnaround, and are using longlines to catch premium albacore and skipjack tuna for export to the sashimi market in Japan.

The other part of the BWT operations is fish processing. Canning operation [sic] are due to commence in 2002. A fish cleaning and storage facility has recently been completed at 17 Mile, Central Province, which is being used to clean and gut fish ready for export. BWT has also recently acquired the Sapphire Smallgoods business, which is located adjacent to the fish processing facility, and will use part of the Sapphire factory to install a fish canning line. This line, which is due to be commissioned in October 2001 [will] have a capacity of 400,000 cases of canned fish a year, and the product will be for both the domestic PNG market and export.

To date, neither BWT, SMPL or Sepik Sea Products has a license to export fish. And yet records show that SSPL recently he sold 2000 kgs recently sold to Nippon Suisan Kaisha Ltd., Japan, for K20,000 (see receipt below). In addition, Sir Hugo's 'environmentally responsible' fishing techniques feature his stated desire to have the "whales in the Bismarck Sea killed to save the fishing industry." According to the **Post-Courier** article, "We must kill the whales...there's too many of them"... "the whales eat up to 80% of the tuna caught by the long-liners" (which seems unlikely for a whale species that eats squid).

Clearly the Director of Sepik Sea Products feels a sense of immunity from PNG and international law. Unfortunately this is in keeping with the general business climate of the East Sepik Province at present.



Views of the restaurant bar in the Windjammer: bodybuilding soft porn, and the Bismarck flag. A portrait of Sir Michael Somare hangs on the corridor to the kitchen.

A well-placed Provincial Government figure:

On the land by the Fisheries Wharf, and the Windjammer:

Sepik Seafood—Sir Hugo has not paid anything. He offered 150,000 in K1 shares for the deed to the land and this was never given. The Windjammer sale was the same arrangement, in fact he was presented with a ‘show cause’ notice because he’s paid nothing at all to the Provincial Government for the Windjammer.

You say the Windjammer was supposed to offer shares from his company for the hotel?

Yes, and he never has.

But how do you get away with that?

Hugo is working behind the Prime Minister you see...He is definitely paying some people some money. Windjammer is definitely making money and Sir Hugo gets out to Australia every two weeks with about 20,000 kina in his pocket, and that’s from people in Moresby who have given me hard evidence. 20,000 kina every two weeks! And when he gets to Port Moresby I’ve got sources that say this money when he gets to Port Moresby is shared between people that he knows, he hands out. That’s the same kind of arrangement with these Sea Products, Sea Products was done in the same manner. Hugo was supposed to offer 1 kina shares for about 350,000 shares to the government, and up to now he hasn’t paid anything. He’s supposed to be looking after the people of the East Sepik. ...Sir Hugo is a real crook, a real crook and enough people that I know who have had dealings with him...He’s really a broker, he’s not a millionaire, he has no money. He’s the front used by certain people and he serves them, they use Hugo to raise money, they turn around and pay him some commission and they get out the biggest share of the money. There are manufacturing and things planned, there are other financiers coming in, and what Hugo does is he represents the financiers, sets up the plan, and as soon as he gets things running, they give him a hefty commission, and as soon as he gets that he moves on and does another thing. So this is how he was involved with this SST thing, and now the Windjammer, and then he’ll move onto the cannery thing, and after that the meat canning plan. ...

Hugo is involved with a lot of things like bringing people in without work permits. In fact, they’re dealing with this right now, as of today, they’re drawing up a letter for him to pay up a fine because two of his expatriate workers are working without work permits for 5 months now, overstaying by about 5 months... Really he should be deported, but because he is working with these people, these people should know better...they should feel ashamed...You say you’re clean and you mix around with crooks like that—you are not clean. Like these two, with Sepik Sea Projects and the Windjammer, they are the people’s pride, there for the people of the East Sepik, and now they’re being used for the fun of some people, to take money out of.³

³ Ironically, The East Sepik has a history of Teutonic rascals, foremost amongst them the pre-War gold prospector Ludwig Schmidt. Lorna Fleetwood tells the following story about Schmidt:

He and three companions from Morobe District, one of whom was his son Ludi, decided to make their way into the Sepik District through areas which were seldom visited by government patrols. The primary reason for traveling through the Sepik District was the search for gold and this was still uppermost when Ludi hurt his leg and was left behind. However, his father was of a sadistic temperament and terrible stories of rape, torture and murder began to reach Government ears. Schmidt’s two remaining companions, Schultze and King, were largely innocent of the atrocities committed other than that they did nothing to stop them but they eventually realized that they were seriously implicated in the awful affair. They deserted Schmidt, made their way to Angoram and gave themselves up. Schmidt was at a camp on the banks of the Yuat River when Assistant District Officer,

9.5.05: The Bismark Fishing Company sent a letter to the Governor of ESP regarding: “Sir Hugo Berghuser continuous interference with Bismark Fishing Company activities and land ownership questionable (Land Section E (504) Lot 3 Wewak)”

Their first concern was the summons from Sir Hugo for Pilau Aurousame Same to appear before the District Magistrate (referring to her in her maiden name only), following several verbal abuses against her at her small shop at the provincial fisheries building (aka the warehouse). The Bismark Fishing Company Board is insulted at this “and regards this as an act of aggression and violence against gender equity in the name of business.” Ms. Boamer did not appear as she had no lawyer, while Sir Hugo availed the provincial government’s legal officer. “This seems another unjust deal from people in power with plenty of money against a female grass-roots person according to our judgement since we perceive government legal advisors as people’s representative.”

My dear Governor, Sir Hugo did aggressively evict Nusa Business Group with the help of legal authorities without resistance even though Nusa Business Group did have the title of the land until a raw and an unjust illegal deal was carried out it seems between former East Sepik Provincial government and Sir Hugo. The Wewak Islands LLG and their people with big moral legal and political support of their coastal land owners of Wewak Local LLG and their supporters will be restless until your office responds favorably to our list of questions so that proper consultative process takes place between all parties concerned.

1. Could Sir Hugo show us (Bismark Fishing Company) the proof of the Provincial Government Executive (PRC) decision number and the dates of land being tendered or correctly valued before being bought by Sir Hugo?
2. How much did Sir Hugo pay for that developed land, and since it is government land we assume that the public of East Sepik have the right to know the amount paid and how it is planned to be used since your government represents the people.
3. Could Sir Hugo produce the land registration number with an acknowledgement from the national land board to confirm that he is now the rightful owner?
4. What criteria were used against the island indigenous people in favor of a naturalized arrogant person like Sir Hugo Berghuser?
5. Your legal advisor would argue that the land allotment 3 section E Wewak was wrongly tendered by using wrong and false information by land officers some years ago. Why wouldn’t the same be said of Sir Hugo Berghuser? How did he acquire the land?
6. What guarantee would you have that Sir Hugo would do this ludicrous fishing project efficiently and successfully that the islanders given the right knowledge, technical know how would not do?

Colin MacDonald, found him. Schmidt had already instructed his boys to shoot any government officer when he gave the signal. They, however, were only too pleased to point their guns at Schmidt and make his arrest an easy one. MacDonald took Schmidt downriver to Angoram and from there he was taken to Wewak and housed in a prison of bush materials close to the present Yacht Club, together with King and Schultze. Schmidt was determined to escape and, according to J.K. McCarthy’s account, easily forced a hole in the side of the prison, Using a piece of metal tubing as a make believe automatic pistol, Schmidt broke out of the hut. (Fleetwood 1991:27-8)

He was finally caught, tried and hanged in Rabaul in 1936.

7. If Sir Hugo Berghuser is an investor with a lot of money why does he not comply with the Investment Promotion Authority (IPA) criteria of 51/49 basis of business partnership and development?
8. Sir, where else would our Wewak Islands LLG collect and finance its projects if our plea falls on deaf ears and is rejected by our Provincial Government which is responsible for the equality, participation, improvement and development of all her people as enshrined in our national constitution?

Our second concern Sir, is our hope that your government treats the indigenous people of the island (where the stock of fish is plentiful) with common courtesy and respect so that real partnerships are formed to harvest our marine resources so that at the end of the day every one benefits. The way your previous government or governments treated our island people who have over the years helped to build Wewak District so far have not been amicable nor with respect and understanding. Sir, we also have children whose parents are struggling to find school fees and medical needs. We also want to show that we can help contribute to our provincial burse by doing an old fishing trade we are so familiar with except in a new way using modern technology with which we are not used to but are willing to learn to do well for the fishing industry, and to financially support the bulk of the people whose livelihoods depend heavily on marine products. Sir, we cannot work in a fishing partnership with an arrogant foreigner who does not respect our beliefs and traditions. There is no room for doing business with arrogance, disrespect and corrupt deals as demonstrated by Sir Hugo Berghuser so far. Please see attached and this shows how serious and sad people feel about your business partner for Sepik Sea Products Limited. Sir, we are aware that you have only taken over the leadership role as a governor for the province and may not be aware of such a problem. We apologize for that.

Signed by Bro Herman Boyek, MD Bismark Fishing Company, John Niabau, Wewak Islands Fisheries Association, Greg Kibai, Wewak Islands LLG President, and Patrick Beka, Wewak Islands LLG Vice President.



Section E lot 3: location (left) of former Bismark and Nusa Fishing businesses, and the shop (right) erected nextdoor by Sir Hugo

The following is a letter to the MD of the National Fisheries Authority of 4 June 2004 which introduces Nusa Business Inc (founded 1993) which succeeds WAMA Fisheries run by the ESDECO.

After carefully studying business proposals and objectives submitted by Nusa Business Group, approval was granted by the Provincial Government through its Division of Fisheries to operate out of a space from one of its warehouses previously used by Wama fisheries. Since then Nusa Business Group Inc, has been actively involved in encouraging

local fishermen to engage in the fishing industry. Nusa has ceased operations as a result of interference by Sir Hugo Berghuser in a lengthy court challenge. As evident from attachments herewith, Sepik Sea Products Ltd is a privately owned company controlled by Sir Hugo Berghuser. This company was never given approval by the Provincial Government to do business in the East Sepik Province. There are instances of foul play and fishy deals in the way Sir Hugo has been given approval to attain certain properties owned by the ESDECO, the defunct business arm of the East Sepik Provincial Government and also the approval to do business in the fisheries industry. As a citizen I feel compelled to request your office seriously investigate and establish as to whether or not:

1. Fisheries Management Regulations of 1999 have been complied with;
2. The people of East Sepik Islands and the coastal communities will ever benefit from this company;
3. The business proposals contained in the MOU with the East Sepik Provincial Government had the approval from the Provincial Executive Council (PEC) prior to granting a fishing license.

As far as I am concerned, there are a lot of anomalies and irregularities in the formation of this company. Therefore the said company, Sepik Sea Products Ltd does not qualify to be given a fishing license to do business in East Sepik and Papua New Guinea as a whole.

This is so when we refer to Section 26 of the Fisheries Management Regulations of 1999....

(Signed) Nick Artekain

The NFA certificate dated 25/4/05 for export to Nippon Suidan Kaisha Ltd (Tokyo Japan) from Sepik Sea Product Ltd on 30.4.05 yellow fin tuna in the qty of 2000 kg for a value of US\$ 20,000 . Serial number 21505.

14 June 2005 Willie Sangi, Acting Senior Advisor for the East Sepik Provincial Administration wrote to the NFA licensing unit to ascertain the type of licenses Sepik Sea Product Ltd has acquired.

1. Logging

There are no FMAs in ESP but there are 2 LFAs, and they are the Lower Sepik LFA, based in Angoram, and the Hawain LFA, both of which are being developed under the aegis of the Somare-owned company, Sepik River Development Corporation, or SRDC. SBA, the Somare family construction company, is visibly involved in road and transport projects to timber concessions in Marienberg and Kaup, Angoram District, as well as Hawain on the West coast of Wewak.

a. Parom Village, Hawain

Parom Village is on the transport route to and from a logging concession inland from the coast just west of Wewak town. In the initial arrangement Parom was not part of the logging concession at all, and their trees were not to be logged. However, they were party to the operation by allowing their land to be given over for the access road to the logging area and providing their seaport for the shipping of logs. The villagers signed an agreement allowing their land and seaport to be used by the logging company.

The two landowning clans of Parom gave their land and seaport (and its fishing grounds) with the understanding that they would be compensated fairly. They've now lost their 'bulk store' and haven't been compensated.

So far three different companies have been in the area and the manner in which these companies entered and left has not been appreciated by the landowners. Initially a local inland landowner company, registered as Wongwong Ltd., signed the agreement with the Parom landowners and not with the foreign logging company Sovereign Hills, a subsidiary of Rimbunam Hijau. The agreement faltered, and the company left. After its winding down, Unirise Ltd. was invited in by the landowner company. Unirise then came in but never carried out logging operations.

The landowner company formerly registered as Wongwong Ltd registered under a new name, Wayenduo, and went in search of a so-called 'developer'. They brought in Somas Ltd. But this company was not made known to the landowners of Poram until a barge full of equipment and machinery arrived. The old company operating in the area packed and left on the same barge after the new company came in early in July. Without consulting the landowners the company started clearing and widening the road some 10 metres on both sides of the road. They caused a great deal of damage to the land and angered the landowners.

The company then did not pay landowners for damages, breaching their MOA. Frustrations built up because the company ignored the complaints and concerns of the landowners. The landowners feel they were treated with disrespect in the way the company arrived looking for all intents and purposes like illegal trespassers. Pent up frustrations then led young men in the village to take the law into their own hands. While others confronted the company to stop and retreat, others physically assaulted the camp manager of the logging company and broke the windscreen and the lights of the his Toyota Land Cruiser. The company retaliated by reporting the matter to the police who came and arrested those involved. In the process of making arrest the police swore at innocent women and children in the village, fueling everyone's anger. The accused appeared in court and paid K100. fine as directed, and were placed on 6 months good behaviour bonds.

A meeting was convened on the 12th of July with the new landowner company. The people in the new landowner company are the same people in the old landowner company. The people of Parom demanded ompensation for the destruction of their environment. The landowner company admitted that they had no money are in no position to pay any compensation. **They claim that payments can only be made after they have harvested and exported the logs.**

The people of Parom, especially the two clans, want their demands to be met first. They wish now that the company wind down its operations and leave because the damages caused to their environment cannot be tolerated.

A well-placed Provincial Government figure:

Regarding Hawain logging:

The timber thing is ...what the government is trying to do is to stand in for the people, represent the people to financiers, and what we want to do is let the resource owners deal directly with the financiers, and let the government stand back for monitoring and that sort of thing, not to control this too much. I was directly involved with getting rid of the WongWong people, because when I was in government we got rid of them because what they were doing was they were paying for the whole log, the whole log, about 60 to 100

kina, and when they go back they make about 3-6000 kina per log. So I told them to piss off. And its up to the resource owners to find out and know what is really happening. The Wong Wong people have a lot of debts here, for the logs and everything here.

They're now telling the people to wait for them to sell the logs before they can be paid.

That's what they tried to do last year with the limestone mining up in the Boikin area. There is a very rich deposit of limestone in Hawain all the way to Boikin, and these people tried to come in and they said no, no, we'll go in with all our equipment and all our equipment, we'll bring graders, dozers, everything, well go in and well pay you later, and they never did....I was directly involved with this. I have connections with the landowners there, and we told them to get out, this is not the way to do business. Well I heard rumors that [the one who did get paid in Hawain] is not a landowner, not a resource owner from that area. ...

b. Angoram District



Interview by Lepas Metoa with Joe Andi - Ward 3 Member

Wanem tingting bilong yu long dispela rot na project as a whole?

Joe: Hello and thank you long interviewim mi long kisim view bilong people bilong ward 3 and People bilong ward 3 long Marianberg. Tingting bilong mi yet, mi stap wantaim ol pipel long na tingting bilong mi, yes, mi nidim rot tu. Klostu em 30 years mi stap ino gat wanpela luksave bilong gavman, ilukuk mipela long kain situation olsem. Olsem mipela ol ward members mipela stap long kain rural areas olsem. Planti taim ol pipel istruggle tru long bringim sampela access bilong ol yet olsem marketing ol yet long ol sampela market wok bilong ol long autsait we rot bilong ol go. So dispela em namba fo (4) taim nau rot ikamap. Long 1974 Provincial Government istatim dispela rot ino completim. Planti damage ikamap eco-system istap. Long 1982 SRDC istat wokim dispela rot ino complete. 1992 Provincial Government ikisim bek na ino go completim na 2005 SRDC company, ol landowners ol bin kisim dispela developer Sumas Kampani nau em wok long dispela rot na planti damage ikamap na igo totally antap mo. Damage nau people istap na ol lukluk na ol nidim compensation long olgeta environment bilong ol, property bilong ol, especially mi tok long ol garden kaikai, kokonas em ol properties. Environment em includim ol planti samting istp insait long bus. Long baret system, planti million kiau bilong pis ikai, planti yangpela pis idai, baret igat planti use, planti isave usim wara long dring, kuk kaikai, wasim saksak na em tu igo bagarap pinis. Olsem na view bilong ol pipel olsem ol ward members long wanwan area , mi stap wantaim ol pipel bilong mi, tingting bilong ol em stap olsem long last namba 9th date of July bung ibin kamap long Saturday na ol laik ibin mention long dispela bung olsem Alois Jerowai, Baltasar Kaprangi olsem private Accountant bilong yumi ol bin stap. Oslem memba na mi lukim pipel bilong ward 13 na 3 ol istap. View bilong ol, ol inidim rot tasol ecosystem, tupela hap bai inap long peim dispela or nogat. Askim

bilang mi na long tingting bilong ol pipel istap olsem nau. Tupela previous years Provincial Government ibagarapim pinis, tupela years landowner company bilong yumi long lower sepik SRDC ol kisim ol developer kam na bagarapim ecosystem bilong mipela, ol imas peim. Pipe nau inidim compensation pei bilong ol dispela samting tu. Okay nid bilong ol rot istap an em ifirst priority. Ol pipel inidim rot long taim yet na ol pipel ilaik lukim rot imas kamap all weather rot. Ol bridges imas permanent, rot imas gutpela condition bilong em olsem gutpela gravel na completim wantaim tar imas stap. Bihain long contractor ipinis wok na igo pinis, askim istap oslem nau; Huset tru bai lukluk long maintenance, national government, Provincial Government or company? Em wanpela kwesten istap wantaim ol pipel na nau yet ol laikim all weather rot because ol suffer long planti years pinis. So insait long ol extension areas long ol kain company olsem KDC na SRDC policy na proposal plan bilong ol mipela ino luksave nau bikos bung ya mipela abrusim pinis. Mipela nidim tasol rot na payment bilong ecosystems.

First meeting ikamap long wanem taim ?

Joe: Meeting bin kamap long dispela bung tasol postpone, long dispela rot yet na mipela ibing postponim igo long namba 9th. Baltzar wantaim Alois Jerowai, Lawyer bilong yumi ol toktok long 9th bai ol kamap long Marianberg tasol long sampela way yumi lukim olsem long liklik discussion bilong yumi, long sindaun bilong yumi kamap long mipela long Krakra area olsem na ol centralisim tasol hia long long ward 3 long Mansep. Ol mas kamap long Mansep na bai mipela holim bung tasol ol ino bin kamap long las weekend na mipela holim bing.

Okay olsem Moses ibin toktok olsem long rot ya em laik find out gut huset tru bai fundim dispela. Tingting bilong em olsem bai kampani igat sampela benefits igo long ol local landowners or? Yupela ol ples long hia na ol narapela igat sampela tingting long dispela tu?

Joe: Dispela nau em stap long tingting bilong ol pipel tasol ino bin kamap long dispela deit long Sarere. Long tingting bilong mi em stap olsem; company imas inapim dispela tingting ol dispela needs bilong ecosystem. Olsem mipela igat ol skul istap, mipela igat ol need long aid post istap, olsem kampani imas inapim dispela cost na ol sampela mo. Tru long rot nau mipela tu ol ward members aninit long LLG long Marianberg ino work gut since long 2000 ikam inap long long 2005. Marianberg LLG idaun olgeta, nogat meeting, Chairman bilong LLG ipaul, na mipela ino save wanem samting bai igo. Olsem na mi ward member bilong ward 3 Joe Handi mi ken tok people nidim dispela rot na huset kampani iwokim rot ikam imas compensatim ol pipel long olgeta bagarap kampani ikamapim. Mi olsem ward member mi lukim olsem dispela rot ikam long political way. Ol pipel ipaul liklik tasol since ol nidim rot ol larim tasol na rot ikam tasol mi itok ward member mi ken tok olsem em kam long political way. Sapos mi tingim politics na mi stopim bai huset iwok rot bihain olsem na mi tok larim rot igo. Long policy na proposal plan bilong tupela company KDC na SRDC mi aware na people aware. Mipela long Marinbigis, em narapela extension area na dispela mipela ino pasim, mipela nidim rot tasol.

2. Interview with Managing Director of SRDC, Michael Saulep

Planti toktok we ol man save toktok we ol save paulim toktok namel ol yet na confusim ol pipel. Yu yet olsem managing director bilong SRDC inap yu kliarim olgeta? Long wanem as company wokim dispela rot na long wanem as dispela log pond ikamap long Marianberg.

Michael: Thank you long tingting bilong mipela yet em mipela laikim alternate wharf site. Long Kaup em open sea na sampela taim sea save rough tumas na mipela ino inap long putim ol logs igo antap long sip. Olsem mipela lukluk oslem Marianberg iorait long bikpela sip igo around na inap long ol tug boat iken pulim pontoon ikam na mipela iken putim ol diwai long

mekim alternate bridge or wharf long Marianberg. Long dispela mipela pusim Marianberg rot igo. Ino long narapela tingting moa. Mipela igat wanpela wharf long Kaup na mipela iken load long gutpela taim, taim si irough klostu long September igo December dispela taim em sea save rough long nambis bilong Kaup na mipela ino inap long loadim ol diwai long sip. Long dispela tingting na mipela pusim Marianberg road igo. Na tru igat planti toktok kamap na igat confusion istap. Sapos ol pipel iken harim mi mi laik toksave oslem ino gat narapela politics or wanem. Mipela ikampani

Planti iaskim olsem dispela rot ikam olsem wanem? Ikam long Government or ikam long kampani? Huset tru ifundim dispela rot?

Michael: Rot em mipela yet long Kampani yet ifundim. Mipela igat ol forest working plan, five year working plan bilong mipela we forestry iapprovim pinis. Tasol wanpela liklik mistake mi ibin wokim em mipela ino bin putim Marianberg rot na wharf insait long plan. olsem na mipela apply long supplementary na wetim approval na taim mipela kisim approval bai mipela continue long rot na wokim bridge/wharf.

Sapos supplementary proposal plan ino approve bai yupela tingting long wokim wanem.

Michael: Supplementary plan na proposal mi bilip em bai approve, mi ino bai ol ino inap approvim because em wanpela bikpela project bilong Sepik olgeta. Nau mi hope ol iapprovim na mipela bai continue.

Wanpela toktok ol man isave toktok igo ikam em: em tru olsem dispela kampani isave involve wantaim politics or dispela company isave operate olsem company bilong em?

Michael: Long politics em mi no ting, mipela ino kisim political moni or igat man olsem Prime Minister of member Angoram ikam pusim mipela long wokim rot, mipela operate olsem company na ino gat politics na sapos sampela ol iting olsem igat politics then sampela ol igat self-interest bilong ol yet long toktok long politics long bagarapim development ilaik kamap long dispela area.

Nogut ol ting olsem Somare olsem Chairman bilong dispela SRDC na ol imas toktok long dispela. Inap you kliarifaim dispela?

Michael: Prime Minister em Chairman bilong company nau yet em ino kam lukluk long company, em stap long Moresby na mi yet ranim company wantaim ol developer na nogat wanpela input bilong em long toktok long rot or wanem. Mipela save olsem em existing government rot na long bilip bilong mi ting all government agency olsem village councillors or LLG or provincial government, olgeta imas amamas biko mipela helpim ol long wokim rot. Mipela wokim dispela rot long moni bilong company na mipela spendim well over K15, 000.00 pinis long wokim dispela rot na sapos yu wanem man yu ting em politics, em ino interest bilong mipela, em tingting bilong yu yet.

Narapela samting olsem long operation bilong yupela long logging, how yupela save wokim olsem clear felling long Madang or yupela save wokim olsem wanem?

Michael: Mipela long LFA , mipela operate long selective logging na we mipela save wokim ol annual logging plan we mipela save wokim na salim igo long Forestry, na ol save kam inspection na ol approvim na mipela save wok. Ol area mipela save katim ol long coop, na long operation bilong mipela mipela igat faivpela coop na ol coop mipela save katim daun gen long

ol set ups, say olsem 20 or 30 set ups long wanpela coop. Olgeta dispela isave stap long plans bilong mipela na mipela salim igo long forestry long approvim. Taim ol approvim pinis orait mipela salim ol machine igo insait wokim ol rot lain pinis em nau mipela save putim ol chainsaw lain long igo insait na katim ol diwai. Generally mipela save wokim selective logging. Katim wanem diwai inap long katim na mipela wokim sneak track na pulim ol diwai ikam autsait. Selective logging ino damagim tumas logging.

Sapos yupela igo insait long bus bilong wanwan clans igat sampela ol benefits, in terms of royalties?

Michael: Yes, of course mipela mas peim ol royalties bikos government bilong PNG imakim K10.00 long wanwan cubic meter na em flat rate, across the board na mipela olgeta long logging firm mipela mas bihainim. Ol papa graun save kisim K10.00 long wanwan cubic meter na long ol narapela benefits olsem for the purpose of logging mipela wokim sampela damage mipela save peim damage long ol samting olsem tulip, limbum or kapiak na papa graun ikam complaint mipela save baim damage. Na tu ol ples istap klostu mipela save wokim ol han rot bilong ol, wokim ol bridge bilong ol, na mipela helpim ol skuls tu insait long area. Insait long Forest Logging Plan bilong mipela mipela igat tupela kain plan, annual logging plan na 5 year logging plan. long 5 year working plan igat ol toktok bilong wokim ol rot we logging ipinis rot bai stap na government mas helpim long maitainim ol na wokim olsem ol permanent rot na ol stap. Em ol sampela benefit mipela save wokim insait long papagraun.

Na long exportim ol logs em yupela exportim igo olsem wanem?

Michael: Mipela company igat logging and marketing agreement na underneat long dispela agreement long ol raun log mipela exportim mipela save kisim K10.00 long wanwan cubic meter isave salim. Bihain long twelve months taim mipela establishim sawmill mipela salim sawn timber mipela save kisim K14.00 per cubic meter. Dispela em sampela benefit we SRDC save kisim aninit long agreement wantaim developer Sumas.

Long export yupela save export igo olsem wanem?

Michael: Ol developer igat markets bilong ol long China na mipela save exportim tru long raun logs. Taim developer ipeim K10/m³ mi save peim K8 igo long 8pela ples, K1.00 long wanwan ples. K2.00 isave go long SRDC, K1.00 igo long administration na K1.00 igo long savings.

Yu olsem papa graun long Marianberg ina yu toktok long dispela tu?

Michael: Yes, long ples we mipela laik putim log pond em mi yet tu mi member bilong dispela klenclan where papa bilong mi istap yet na papa bilong mi em Ruben. Mi ino hesitate long putim bridge because through long mi bai ol pipel bai kisim sampela development bilong wharf sait na rot bai igo na taim rot igo bai yu access long planti kain helpim bai kamap. Em tru olsem ol pipel itoktok long ol bagarap long taim mipela wokim rot igo, em istret tasol sapos yumi lukim gut wanpela development ino save kamap nating, em mas igat sampela damage mas kamap, yu laikim development yu mas acceptim damage na sapos em iaccessive damage yumi lukluk na compensatim stret value bilong damage. Long wharf sait mi no gat planti toktok bikos ol klen bilong me iamamas olsem sampela kain benefit bai yumi kisim sapos yumi putim bridge igo.

Long sait bilong yupela ol Mangana clan yupela bin kisim tingting bilong olgeta clan members tu o?

Michael: Man igo pas em bikpela bilong mipela yet em Xavier Pasia em mi toktok wantaim em na wantaim narapela em Tom Bosi em tu iagree na mi bilip olgeta narapela klen members ol tu iagree na tu ol klen istap klostu long yumi tu iagree, ol Alena Klen , em Kristen igo pas ol tu iagree olsem mipela iken putim wharf long ol

Olsem nau olsem yupela wokim rot igo long Marianberg where bai log pond, yupela wok rot igo tasol yupela ino bin stretim gut, long wanem as tru na yupela bin pulim bek ol masin ikam bek?

Michael: Kirap long Arapan igo long Marianberg em 24 kilometer na mipela ino pinis gut wok yet, tru mipela kamap pinis long Marianberg igat wanpela leta KDC ipushim tru long forestry na forestry igivim mipela wanpela leta na leta itokim mipela long pulim bek olgeta masin kam stap long base-camp na wet long supplementary application bilong mipela. Mi yet ino bin saitim dispela leta tasol operation manager bilong mi tokim mi olsem leta ikam long forestry office long Wewak na Regional office long Lae. Ol pipel nau bai wander why mipela ino wok tasol nau mi laik tok klia olsem ino mipela ilaik stop wok tasol office bilong forestry istopim mipela inap mipela kisim approval long supplementary. Mi harim toktok bilong Council bilong Mansep igat damage istap na damage itru mipela bai baim ol damage tasol taim wok istop how bai mi go kam na mi toktok long bai damage. Ol imas toktok na liftim dispela leta na larim rot imas igo so mipela iken go kam na lukluk long damage mipela ikosim pinis. Olsem pastaim mi tok damage ikamap bikos development bilong rot igo. Dispela leta ikam long forestry imekim mipela stopim ol masin pinis. Ol councillors long dispela area imas toktok long stretim mipela na wok imas igo.

Yu ting imas tok sori igo long developer?

Michael: Mi lukim content bilong pas tasol sapos igat tok kranki istap ol mas salim wanpela kain apology leta igo or samting tasol mi no inap long toktok tumas bikos mi no bin lukim copy bilong pas. Mi abi wet inap ol toktok istret nau bai mipela statim ol wok gen na mipela bai lukluk tu long ol damages.



3. Marienberg clan interview

Interview with Mangan clan member, Michael Saulep, from Marienberg, and Moses Gawi from Mambel in Marienberg:

There's probably 40-50 clans in Mareinbeck. Moses is Kakra Development Corp., his sister is Monica Powa (Tony Powa is planner Hunstein project, father of the Land Registration Act) Michael Saulep is MD of SRDC, and Sir Michael is Chair. Sana Somare runs SBA.

No contact or awareness with Marienberg people occurred before running the road through, and they did so on the basis of having a prior national plan for a highway to run through there. They were just following through with the plan, it seemed---and yet Moses says he asked Andrew Waram the Prov Forestry Officer and Works office people and they didn't know about any plans existent for this road to be made, it was strictly something Sana ordered the crew to do. It was Andrew Waram, and Moses himself, sitting on the Forestry Board, with the Regional Manager who came back from Lae, who ordered the equipment to be stopped and their work to cease until landowners were consulted. Sana apparently had told Michael Saulep to make the road. The Merienberg people do need a road from Merienberg to Angoram, but they certainly do not need one to Kuam, where it is being cut.

All these Somare cronies, including Glen Black...SRDC owners are Sir M, Frank Tay, Joe Gawi (police from Angoram), and they all have 2500 or so shares totaling 10,000 shares. They hired Dato yo, this Malaysian company to start work in Awain on east coast, which they did after a Taiwanese company had pulled out, having incurred debts to subcontractors. They are Heydrich (sp?). Heydrich wants to court SRDC over these debts, but Dato Yo's company must have had to pay off these debts when they started there. They also pulled out and went to this area in the Lower Sepik LFA (there are no FMAs in ESP but there are 2 LFAs and they are this Lower Sepik LFA and the Awain LFA, both of which have been developed by Somare's company SRDC).

Royalties from the LFA logging have gone to Kaup people, but the premiums of 6-7 million have gone to the company itself without any reforestation, spin offs, local participation or benefits, contrary to The National Forestry Act itself.

j. Company ownership



South Seas Tuna Corporation Limited was registered with the IPA by Michael David McCulley, the Managing Director, with the assistance of O'Brien's Lawyers in Port Moresby. Its shares are divided between:

FCF Fishery Company, of Taiwan, ROC, which owns 5,708,791 shares at US\$1/share; the East Sepik Provincial Government, which owns 283,868 shares at US\$1/share; and Erskine Nominees, Ltd., Port Moresby, which owns 2,707,341 shares at US\$1/share. [Located at Sec 40, Lot 27, Granville, Port Moresby NCD]. Erskine Nominees Ltd. is comprised of Dudley Moore Yari-Yari (PNG) and Steven Richard O'Brien (Australia) (the latter being one of the lawyers for SST, O'Brien's Lawyers Port Moresby).

In other words, SST is largely owned by FCF, which consists of:

Jacson Visserij, Maatschappij Marine, B.V., of the Netherlands, who owns 750,733 shares at K1/share; Orion Commercial Ltd., of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, who owns 2,500,005 shares at K1/share; Eiffel Trading International Co., Ltd., of Tortola, British Virgin Islands, who owns 2,258,052 shares at K1/share.

July 20, 2005, *The National*:



The 'Project Agreement for Tuna Processing and Export Facility in Wewak, East Sepik Province, Between The Independent State of Papua New Guinea and East Sepik Provincial Government and South Seas Tuna Corporation Ltd' was signed on 5th July 2000 by Rt. Hon. Bernard Narokobi, as Acting Governor General, Arthur Somare as Governor of East Sepik Province, and Thomas K. Negints, Chairman, and Peter Pena, of South Seas Tuna Corp.

F.C.F. Fishery Co. Ltd.
28F, 8 Min Chuan 2nd Rd.
Chien Chen District
Kaohsiung
Taiwan
Tel: 886-7-3391636
Fax: 886-7-3305611, 7-3305613
Board Chairman: C.H. Chou
General Manager: W.H. Lee

According to "Islands Business" (IB) FCF has some association with Pacific American Fish Co., Inc., (PAFCO), at least in Fiji:

Of PAFCO: " It was struggling for many years and with the introduction of Bumble Bee as well as FCF, which is the fishing arm, they have come as strategic partners with PAFCO. There's no joint venture agreement as such, but there's an agreement to participate in marketing as well as fishing; the fishing arm is FCF, the marketing arm is Bumble Bee, which allows Bumble Bee brand to be used, and the processing arm is PAFCO."

PAFCO is an American firm with main offices in Los Angeles:
Pacific American Fish Company, Inc.
620 S. Gladys Avenue

Los Angeles, CA 90021
USA
Tel: 1-800-625-2525; 213-623-3433
Fax: 213-614-0427
E-mail: info@pafco.net

An internet search for more information on FCF elicits only the following news article from 2002:

FCF Vessel Restrained In Hawaii, Cook Prosecuted For Murder

USA, April 11, 02. A Chinese cook accused of stabbing to death the captain and first mate aboard a Taiwanese fishing vessel is being brought to trial in Honolulu in a rare case in which the United States has asserted jurisdiction over a mutiny on the high seas. Shi Lei, 21, has been in U.S. custody since his arrest March 21 on suspicion of killing the two men during an argument aboard the Full Means 2 while the vessel was in international waters. The first mate's body was found in the ship's freezer; the captain's body had been thrown overboard. There appears to be no direct U.S. interest in the case, but apparently no other country wanted to prosecute Shi. The United States was able to assert jurisdiction because the ship eventually entered American waters near Hawaii, according to U.S. Attorney Edward Kubo Jr. Crew members have said the argument on March 14 arose when the captain denied Shi's demand to return home. On the day of the killings, the captain punched Shi in the face, according to Shi's public defender, Pamela Byrne. Shi and other crew members also have said they were abused and treated poorly aboard the ship, according to Byrne. According to a report by the Australia-based International Commission on Shipping, tens of thousands of seafarers on 10 percent to 15 percent of the world's ships work in slave-like conditions, logging long hours for little or no pay and meager rations. The crew of the Full Means 2 was Chinese. The ship was operated by FCF Fishery Co., which is based in Taiwan and owned by the captain's father. The vessel is registered in the Republic of the Seychelles. The ship was intercepted by the Coast Guard about 60 miles south of Hawaii after crew members regained control of the vessel from Shi and set sail for Hawaii. The ship was escorted to Honolulu Harbor on March 20. The 30 other crewmen are being held as material witnesses. The ship remains in Honolulu Harbor under a restraining order obtained by its crew members, who are demanding back pay of about \$300,000.



k. SST planning

The original plan was for the factory to be constructed in Yawasoro, just out of town. Landowners had been consulted and promised spin off benefits from the earliest stages of the plan.

Kreer people report that Frances Sumanup and Joachim Nianguma were part of the initial awareness of the project. Baltazar Kaprangi was involved in documentation and licensing. Kevin Conrad [an American raised in Maprik with SIL parents] and Joachim Nianguma promised to use the undeveloped land at Yawasoro. Somare also promised Nick Artekain of the ESIA to assist them to develop their projects. Kinson Kare was there too. Somare offered 1 million kina to ESIA but then reneged. They believe this money was then given to Sir Hugo. Arthur Somare and Narokobi signed the project agreement.

“Why did Somare and Narokobi the pillars of Sepik society and the State of PNG with their respective government Ministers and Department Heads sign the agreement knowing that the rights of the resource owners were not protected?”

“What’s Hugo’s role I all this?”

Paul Bisambi, the Senior Policy Planner for the East Sepik Provincial Administration, produced an analysis of the benefits of the tuna loining factory in January 2000 (see below). Under the heading ‘Earnings to ESPG from Equity Participation in the Tuna Loining Project’ Bisambi notes that ESPG has only expressed interest in participating at that point, and the joint venture share arrangement at the time was: ANGCO Pty LTd at 50%, FCF of Taiwan at 46.9% and Starkist of USA at 3.1%. He suggests three scenarios, based on ESPG equity participation of 2%, 5% or 10%. Based on an estimated total value of export earnings for years two to five, of US\$47,553,000, the 2% deal would garner the ESPG K2,958,000 in gross earnings; the 5% deal would bring K7,396,000 for the same period; and the 10% deal would bring K14,791,000 for those years.

Interestingly, though, because this analysis is based on the first plans to base the factory at Yawasoro, each of the three investment scenarios takes into account an injection of cash,

or alternatively spend[ing] this amount on some infrastructure related to this project like upgrading the road from Yawasoro to the wharf. This spending on infrastructure can then be converted into equivalent share allotment.

Landowners saw no written materials about the loinery before it arrived. During the negotiations for the loinery the Habours Board and the Provincial Government met with the Kreer people and discussed the land. They came to a compromise and the Kreer people gave their blessing for the land to be developed. However it was Francis Sumanup’s idea that they shift to Saure at Yawasoro because it is State land. He also indicated that the Kreer gave their blessing. It was too swampy and Yawasoro is dry and better suited. On the other hand, if the loinery were built in Yawasoro electricity would be expensive to extend down there; building a waste disposal drain would be difficult; trucks carrying fish from the wharf to the factory would be a health hazard and the ice could melt; and there would be roadworthiness precautions.

Tom Fandim told us the site where SST is located now is commercial land. According to him, SST plans to expand the factory and take on board a cannery to divert that part of the process from Western Samoa back to PNG.

Other plans for expanding Wewak include bringing in more light industry. Sites have been identified to build an Offshore Master Processing Plant. A dredge has been hired from Cairns in Australia and is currently dredging at the main wharf to allow big ships to come in. K1.2 million has been committed from this upgrading project. The wharf will be extended 20-30

meters out from its original size, and as soon as it's complete more factories will be constructed in Wewak. The wharf will be able to cater for 3-4 fishing vessels at one time.

The northern waters of Wewak are a breeding ground for tuna (where the tuna mate and breed from January to April). Wewak will become an international port of transshipment in the near future. Tuna caught in other parts of Papua New Guinea and within Pacific waters will be loined and canned here in Wewak.

According to the Provincial Planner the Provincial Government was not ready to receive SST. The then-Governor of East Sepik, Mr. Authur Somare, pushed for SST to be established in Wewak rather than Madang or Lae. There were no facilities to cater for SST, though. Land was an issue, housing for the workers of the plant was not built. Expatriate (Filipino) workers had to stay on the ship for 6 months and later return to their country to have new ones replace them. Wewak Town according to the Provincial Planner will become a fishing port for the country.

The signing was made possible for SST because Sir Somare is the Prime Minister and his son Authur was the Governor. The Harbours Board person was a man from Sepik and The National Fisheries Authority Chairman or person in charge is an in-law of the Provincial Planner. It was nepotism.

The Provincial Planner said the smell is not a problem, it will be fixed up later when the factory progresses. Smell is a minor thing. The province is concerned about bringing in revenue. "When the opportunity comes we have to grab it. We fix up small things later."

The other big projects coming up in Wewak include:

- Asian Restaurant in town
- Wewak town to be shifted to Angoram District
- Relocation of Murik Lakes people to a new land area
- International Airport and an International Wharf to be built at Murik lakes area at the mouth of Sepik River.
- Completion of the Highway from Madang to Wewak crossing over Sepik River.
- Road sealing is a target from Turubu to Angoram and a 3.2 million kina will be committed for that. That is to cater for cocoa to be produced in Angoram and transported to Wewak.

A well-placed Provincial Government figure reports:

1.5 million for SST was put in by The National not the Provincial Government at the ground-breaking, *in behalf* of the East Sepik Provincial Government. But because the ESPG has not put in anything, they've got no shares, and so they've seen no dividends at all, whereas SBA and ANGO and its other investors have.

Was SIL a part of planning the factory?

Kevin Conrad [whose parents are SIL linguists in Maprik] was dealing with a lot of our political leaders here, lots of former politicians, he has a lot of dealings with them. He's a missionary, and like they say, you can't leave missionaries alone. He makes money, and the politicians can come under a missionary then. He's a very nice person, yes....he has a lot of relations with the local people.

The loinery was supposed to be at Kolan [Yawasoro], near the mouth of the Hawain river, out there. They moved it, and it shouldn't be there. The wisdom of the project was to bring infrastructure to those people out there, roads, and spin-off businesses and preferential hiring, this was the deal. But then because these people threatened to withdraw, the province just offered them this other site. Yes, the company was saying it's going to be expensive to get it done, and they wanted savings, and this is why they moved it. They did not offer anything in spinoff business at all for this, nothing. It's politics you know. Arthur Somare should have been with the people, but in this case it's the company that is benefiting more than the people. They really missed out, the company really benefited a lot on this exercise. I mean, they had given the contract for the building of the factory to..uh, Heydrige..and they were subcontracting to SBA. I mean someone went over and took a photograph and sent it to the Ombudsman Commission, it was sent a photograph of the sign at the factory that said it all—contractor, subcontractor, everything, so the Ombudsman went over and did their own investigation. So what they did was they took the sign down, and they put a up a sign that said Richard Cowley (?) engineering—he's the chicken feed man, the one who has the contract with catering. The chicken man. So they came in and used his name as a front and gave him this chicken business in return. They used his name. He's not experienced, just because they used his name to cover up their contract.

They did the same thing with the Mobil station, the old Mobil station—closed now. What happened was the old owners, they uh...SBA was forbidden to take any more Ausaid projects, they were forbidden from accepting any more contracts, because they had taken too many and not completed them. So the Office of Rural Development banned them from new contracts. But then the road contract to Timbunke, to upgrade the road, and this was supposed to be done in the name of the two men who owned the Mobil station, and it was supposed to be completed in three months, but they finished it in a few weeks, just grading it, that's all. Not all the way through. So they got K 150 million for that. And as soon as they'd finished the ORD started investigating and they found that they asked these gentlemen whose equipment this was grading the road, and one of these men is a church goer, so he told them SBA. He told them, and they cut him off. So now he's bankrupt and hasn't got the money to run his station, and SBA has all the money.



Same with the new courthouse, supposed to be at Kreer Heights, it's all overgrown now. The man who got the contract had no equipment, so who did he subcontract but SBA? And so when the ORD found that out again, they stopped it and nothing's happening.

The Offshore Masters is going to be a real cannery, tuna, and they're Thai and Malaysian, and what they do is they're being given the deed to the land, given. What these companies will do is the old government buildings will be redone and they'll change the whole thing into a new government complex. That's the deal. The provincial government is an investor then. But then others, too, Sir Hugo in behalf of someone else of course, he's definitely representing someone, and they can give the deed away, they can do that, and he should know they cannot treat people like that. The cannery will be even worse--the smell.

The original contract [for SST and its waste] was about building a pipe out to the sea, not to use boats.

Petrus Sagom, the Prime Minister's Project Officer:

Mr Petrus Sagom is a Fisheries Officer with the Department of Livestock and Agriculture. Since June 2004, he's been employed as the Prime Ministers' Project Officer in Wewak, attached to the Prime Ministers' Department. The ES Province will experience major developments in the near future, some in the pipeline already include the Cocoa Project in Angoram and mineral exploration for Freida Mining. We will have a busy wharf, he says, but we also need to accommodate many flights at the airport. We therefore need to resettle villages that are near and around the airport to make way for expansion. Land compensation issues are a hindrance to these projects, though.

Some of the other projects being planned are:

- The Turubu Road project – The National Government funded K100 000 for its feasibility study
- Yawasaro Road Project – also counter-funded by the government and should begin soon.
- Yawasoro--The SSTC plant was originally planned to be built there but logistical brought it closer, to the wharf. If they had to build the factory at Yawasoro they'd have consider many things like wharf, transportation, etc. Also they have some landowner issues still outstanding so they moved to the present location. The company wanted to deal with the government, but then they were involved in landownership issues, so now they just lease the land from the PNG Harbors Board. At Yawasoro there are many owners to the land and they made the issues complicated. At the present site – there is a still dispute. The principle landowners are from Kairuru Island, and half their family are at Meni village. But the people of Kreer also claim ownership to the land, so again there are still complicated issues. The government did not need to ask them because this was Crown land.
- The Extension of the Wewak Airport –The National and the Provincial Government are planning to expand the size of the airport to international standard size. This will mean the CIS will be moved to some where we still looking for a suitable place to relocate the CIS.
- Murik Lake Resettlement program – the Provincial Government is looking at ways to resettle the people living around the Murik Lake area to make way for development. It is dangerous for the people settling there because of tsunami threats. We are planning to

resettle the people further in land to avoid possible affects from tsunami. The lake will only become a fishing ground. We also have a lot of opposition from the people themselves but we will still go ahead and do it because it is important for the province.

- Expansion of the Wharf – with the establishment of the SSTC loinary plant ESP is attracting a lot of foreign fishing vessels. The overseas crews on these ships are bringing with them money but we are unable bring them into our town because we don't have an adequate wharf facilities to accommodate them so they are drifting on the sea and only come by little boats to fetch some things from the market or shops and they are gone. What we need is a wharf they can anchor and be able to come ashore and spend money on local goods and services. The dredging process going on in front of the PNG Harbors Board is part of this plan to expand the wharf.
- Two more Tuna Factories in Wewak - We are expecting two more tuna processing plant to be built in Wewak. The land behind the SSTC plant is been allocated to a company called Offshore Masters from Thailand to build a Tuna Cannery. The factory will actually make canned fish and other products here like the RD Tuna in Madang. That has been approved by the government and MOA already singed between the Provincial and National government and the Investor and its only waiting for the project to start. It was speculated to start this year but I don't know where the holdup in but it's soon to start. Another one is in the pipeline and will be finalized soon. It maybe too early at this stage to speculate details of the project. We have a huge potential and we have major markets in Japan.
- Urimo Cattle Project – this is one of the projects the government is looking to get it off the ground and make use of the vast plains available in the Sepik region. It is a 100 hectre land deal, and Sir Hugo is linked to this project. He will be responsible to implement the project for the government.

Yawasoro is the original is the original site the SSTC loining plant was to be built. All the necessary ground work was done, including signing a MOA with the parties concerned, such as the Provincial Government, the developer and the land owners. The groundbreaking ceremony was done and the project was expected to kick off. However, the company and the government through the East Sepik Provincial Government came to a conclusion that the logistical cost of the plant in Yawasoro would be very expensive.

When you are dealing with fish you have to have better port facilities because it will determine the supplies you get from your fishing crews. Everyday fish will come in from the sea export ready to be shipped to the markets overseas. It was rather expensive to think of the all expenses involved, and it was agreed that it was more convenient to build the factory at the site where it is. The land is State owned that we had no hassles from the landowners to develop this piece of land. It fact it was muddy and swampy but it was filled up, and now you see a different place. It was not like this before.

There is no legal case as yet with the Saure people claiming compensation from the developer or the government for damages but I think they might take up a case. I am not aware of any latest development on this side of things but my opinion would be that the SSTC and the government gave false hope and expectation to the Saure landowners and they have every right to complain and be angry.

I am not aware of any Environmental Plan done for the SSTC. If there is any I haven't seen it. I am sure what the factory is doing to dump its waste is approved by the Environment and Conservation Department. No industrial or mining operation is to start unless they have an Environmental and Safety Plan in place.

Smell pollution from the SSTC is one of the most obvious in Wewak. The smell is awful and only specialists can tell us that it can be dangerous to our health. The factory is within the industrial zone of Wewak but for a fish factory it's too close to town and residential area. When the SSTC factory said would use state of art technology that will have no smell. I never believed it because everywhere such will always produce such smell.

The establishment of yet the other Tuna processing factory will have more pollution implications, especially the smell. It will be a full canning factory and I would image that it would be something like the RD Tuna in Madang. With the location of the factory next to the SSTC, both plants will combine to give a more terrible smell than one at the present.

It is good to have such investments in the province but it needs to be carefully planned to weigh out the pros and cons for it before signing agreements and the actual implementations of it. It doesn't look good when you have a project that is disputed say by the landowners, or other parties involved. Like in the case for SSTC I see that local participation is very minimal and I think that could be the reason for all the anger surrounding the project. I am sure the provincial authorities will try and avoid such situations for future developments.

I don't think it is feasible to build another factory especially a fish cannery next to the loining factory. Given the experience of the smell residents in Wewak are become aggressive and complain and if another one is to be built I would expect some resentment from the community. Better to build it outside of the town or residential vicinity.

In regard to the fishing vessels and their activity it should be closely monitored by The National Fishing Authority. They have an Observer Program in place to actually be on fishing vessel and be present on transferring of fish from catcher vessels to mother boats that takes them overseas markets.

Regarding working condition of the SSTC factory employee, it is off course a big labor issue. The workers went on a strike few weeks ago. Everyone would agree that the labor rates are very low paying them K0.60 toea per hour. Some of those employees come from outside the town and had to pay their own bus fares to come to work because the company doesn't provide them transport. They end up with nothing at the end of the week because nearly most of the money is gone on bus fares and very little left for their family. Most of the employees are women and most of them are mothers and how would they feed their family if they spend 8 hours per day 5 days a week. The K60 or K80 they get is nothing: it cannot sustain them through to the next fortnight.

In my opinion the SSTC wage rate is breaching the labor laws and everyone would agree that their pay is very low and illegal. Some of the employees live as far as Hawain about the 15 km and pay K2 to come in the morning and K2 to go back home in the afternoon. If they pay K4 per day for transport times by 10 working days equals K40 per week for transport that's basically their pay that is all spent on transport. Some people come as far Passam and East Coast about 8 km away. They are happy to work but very poor condition.

The East Sepik Provincial government does have a share in the factory. I don't know the actual percentage of it. The plan now is to open a trust account for the province so any dividends from projects the Provincial Government has shares will be deposited into the account. With the current uncertainty in the provincial administration starting from the governor and the administration I don't know where that issue is at.

Prostitution – yes there is possibilities but we don't know yet. Inside the cannery among the employees I couldn't tell from the outside. But for the Asian fishermen and crews it is possible. There are lots of stories about fish exchange out on the boats. It is possible for women to sell themselves in exchange for cash or other favors and food items. Though I don't have hard facts to confirm my allegation but I don't rule this out. Only time and proper investigation like this sure will bring to light the truth in the story.

Fishing- the fishing vessels are only after the tuna. The main fish they catch is skipjack tuna, and they also catch yellow fin tuna. They use the net that stretch out 100 to 115 kilometers in the open sea and whatever is in that range are netted and dumped into their freezers. Other fish apart from tuna are called by-catch which are useless to them so they dump them back into the sea. By-catch can be anything from sharks, dolphins and whatever fish within the range of their net. They may also send them overseas but if local companies are contracted to collect them and sell to local consumption here would be better than to dump them into the sea.

Ownership of SSTC – What I know is that it is an American company owned by Heinz. They also own the Star Kiss Tuna and another big fishing company. What they do here is contracting the South Korean to loin fish here and supplies their factories Hawaii, San Francisco and Port de Rigo. That is what I heard from some sources in the provincial government. They also have connection with ANGCO through Thomas Nigkins. Why it is called South Seas – Star Kiss and Angco combine to give this name.

Benefits of SSTC-

- employments for the 1200 employees
- Guard Dog Security came to reduce crime problems in Weak by doing foot patrol especially at night
- Other indirect benefit to the markets and other service providers.

1. ESPG feasibility study

Paul Bisambi, the Senior Policy Planner for the East Sepik Provincial Administration, produced an analysis of the benefits of the tuna loining factory in January 2000. The analysis is based on a business proposal submitted by South Seas Tuna to The National Fisheries Board in 1999, and a Feasibility Study and Site Selection Report submitted by Integrated Manufacturing Planning Ltd. (of Washington, USA) for SST, in 1999. The analysis covers six points: employment, personal income tax, personal consumption and savings pattern, Derivation Grant, earnings to ESPG from equity participation, and VAT rebate to ESPG. The projections are for the period from year one of full production to year 5, which represents phase 1 of the project (phase 2 being years 6 to 10).

Under the first heading, Employment, the first statement sets the plausibility tone for the entire report: “When the Tuna Processing Plant is in full operation in year one, it will employ about 970 local employees. As per Business Plan an average wage per hour of US\$0.90 + 7% fringe benefit will be paid for two shifts.” This converts to roughly K3/hour before benefits.

“Based on the 970 local labour requirements for the factory, working two shifts for 8 hours per day for a total of ten (10) working days per fortnight, the calculation is worked out to be US\$ 76.80 per local employee per fortnight.” In other words, for someone working 8 hour days, the pay packet would be roughly K256. Presumably, if you took only two weeks off a year, you could take home K6400 for a year’s labour, which is less than US\$2000. And that is if you survived double shifts.

Wage projection tables show no increase structured for employees in the first five years of employment.

But an additional K6,028,00 will be injected into the local Wewak economy in year one, and by the end of the fifth year roughly K32,004,000 is to be injected.

But if we look at the actual workforce and wage, we can see that the average permanent wage (which only kicks in after 3 months) is K1/hour, which means K40/week or K80/fortnight (before deductions for NPF). (This is roughly US\$24/fortnight). This represents an annual income of K2000 (or \$US600). Over 1200 employees the amount of money being paid out is K2,400,000 (or US\$720,000). Given that this is a generous estimate of wages (although it discludes expatriate salaries, which only partially go back to the Wewak economy), and that a significant percentage of employees are on probationary wages for three months (and more, if they drop out and return again), which is half the rate, it is painfully obvious that SST is not exactly pumping riches into Wewak. The entire workforce earns less than one American CEO might (one hazards to guess what David Mculley earns).

Needless to say, the estimate of IRC income from the employee salaries is nothing like the projected K2,395,000 cumulative taxes estimated to be collected over five years.

Even more fantastic are the projections for the Value Added Tax rebates to come to the East Sepik Provincial Government. First, it is assumed that a model wage earner will have a disposable income of 70% of his/her wage, the other 30% going to personal savings. What country are we talking about? Surely this model has not been constructed in PNG. With it, Mr. Bisambi projects that K4,220,000 of the workers’ total incomes in the first year will be disposed of in local shops and service providers. More realistically, the amount would be K1,680,000 per annum IF (and this is a very big if) workers could actually save 30% of their earnings. Bisambi goes on to project that 10% of this disposable income will actually be spent outside the province, leaving an estimated K3,798,000 to be spent in the East Sepik Province. Of this, the ESPG would collect roughly K342,000 in VAT rebates, an amount that would be expected to rise in the succeeding years.

Using our own figures, however, we find that K1,512,000 would be disposable income spent in ESP, and 10% of this would be K151,200; 90% of this latter amount would be garnered by the provincial government, for a total of K136,080. Enough windfall to buy one Land Cruiser.

Under the heading ‘Earnings to ESPG from Equity Participation in the Tuna Loining Project’ Bisambi notes that ESPG has only expressed interest in participating at that point, and the jointy venture share arrangement at the time was: ANGCO Pty LTd at 50%, FCF of Taiwan at 46.9% and Starkist of USA at 3.1%. He suggests three scenarios, based on ESPG equity participation of 2%, 5% or 10%. Based on an estimated total value of export earnings for years two to five, of US\$47,553,000, the 2% deal would garner the ESPG K2,958,000 in gross earnings; the 5% deal

would bring K7,396,000 for the same period; and the 10% deal would bring K14,791,000 for those years.

Interestingly, though, because this analysis is based on the first plans to base the factory at Yawasoro, each of the three investment scenarios takes into account an injection of cash “or alternatively spend[ing] this amount on some infrastructure related to this project like upgrading the road from Yawasoro to the wharf. This spending on infrastructure can then be converted into equivalent share allotment.”

Bisambi recommends a 10% equity in the project, however, and furthermore suggests that the ESPG “consider transferring two percent (2%) of its share to the Wewak islands Local Government Council to allow tangible economic benefits to flow back to the resource owners. In actual fact tuna fishery is a highly migratory fish stock and therefore no particular group of islanders can claim legal ownership unless the catch is within the 3 mile limit of the island(s).”

The 5% Derivation Grant expected to come to the ESPG from export duties on the loins is estimated at K20 million. It’s impossible, however, to gauge the reliability of this amount without more knowledge of market prices and export quantities.

2. Excerpts from the Project Agreement for Tuna Processing and Export Facility in Wewak, East Sepik Province

between The Independent State of Papua New Guinea and East Sepik Provincial Government and South Seas Tuna Corporation Ltd (Department of the Attorney General) signed 5 July 2000:

At that time “South Seas is a joint venture company consisting of ANGCO Limited (“ANGCO”) as The National venturer, FCF Fisheries Co., Ltd (“FCF”) and Starkist Seafood Company, a division of Starkist Foods, Inc. (“Starkist”). “FCF is a company incorporated in Taiwan and is the world’s leading Tuna brokering company, which currently supplies Round Tuna loins to processors around the world.”...“Starkist is a division of Starkist Foods, Inc., a company incorporated in the State of California, and is the world’s pre-eminent processor and marketer of Tuna, and its parent, H.J. Heinz and Company, is the world’s leading food processing company.”

“The State also acknowledges the commitment of South Seas to the policy of domestication of distant water fishing vessels by way of priority purchase of Tuna from Papua New Guinean citizen owned vessels owned by Papua New Guinean citizen companies.”

“The State acknowledges that in view of high initial capital expenditure involved, South Seas will be granted the necessary incentives similar and comparable to but no less than those granted to other similar projects within the domestic industry of Papua New Guinea.”

P31: The Company shall in accordance with the Business Development Plan, encourage local and other PNG citizens wishing to establish businesses providing goods and Services to the Project during Operations, provided that the Company shall not be obliged or called upon to grant or lend money to any PNG citizens or any local enterprises.”

“The State shall not promulgate or apply environmental standards to the Company that are, when viewed objectively, more onerous than those that govern and regulate environmental conduct and standards for the Industry in general under the waste water quality effluent standards; under the

Water Resources Act (Chapter No. 205) or under the air quality emission standards provided by the Australian Environmental Protection Authority.”

“The State and the Company will agree to a base line environmental assessment of the historical damage to the Project Site immediately after the Company has concluded preliminary soil and water site tests and prior to the Company’s commencement of construction activities on the Project Site (the “Site Assessment”). The Company shall not be responsible for any historical contamination and environmental risk, and assumes no liabilities arising from or caused by existing environmental conditions and defects on the Project Site, which are set forth in the Site Assessment. The Company shall assume the cost of incremental damage to the Project Site, if any, arising from the implementation and Operations of the Project above the conditions set forth in the Site Assessment.”

3. SST Land

As has become customary (following the Environmental Planning Act 1978) in resource development projects, the Provincial Government paid K115,000 in 1982 to the Kreer villagers (as Kreer development Corporation and its Chair Peter Komie) as landowners for damages caused by PNG Harbours Board to build the wharf at the site.

Petrus Sagom, Project Officer for the Office of the PM, says that all stakeholders including the landowners were consulted initially and all were very supportive. Despite the land issues/disputes landowners from both Meni and Kreer were involved/consulted in the initial planning.

In an article in the *Post-Courier* at the time, reporter Angwi Hruhwazi notes: “Transport Minister Mr. Neville Bourne yesterday hand-delivered a K115,000 cheque to Kreer Villagers and told them not to waste it on beer.”

A 27 August 1996 letter from Elias Jessen at the ESPG’s Division of Land Mobilization Division to Philip Jerry Teresang, of Kreer Village, reads as follows:

Dear Sir:

RE: POSSIBLE TRANSFER OF PART OF PORTION 124 (11.8ha) TO TRADITIONAL LANDOWNERS

Above refers to claims raised by Kreer landowners led by:

1. Philip Jerry Teresang
2. Benedict Maira
3. Michael Wais Karaha

That the portion of land currently undeveloped and directly adjacent to the existing facilities of the PNG Harbours Board at the southern end towards the coastline (see attached site plan) be transferred to them.

Theirs refer that [sic] they’d desire to take possession of the said land in part to possibly develop the site to cater for another Local Stevedoring Firm and a Warehouse shed.

However, records held at office shows [sic] that PNG Harbours Board is the owner of lease portion and that, I have advised [sic] the landowners concerned on same to further liaise with

the owner of the lease (PNG Harbours Board) to enable a possible relinquish [sic] on their desired part of the stated portion prior to any possible transfer arrangements to be effected buy the Lands Department.

The onus is on the landowners concerned to pursue with PNG Harbours Board and to notify our office regarding the subject.

For your information only..

Yours faithfully,
Elias Jessen
A/S Land Mobilization

Karaga Development Corporation Ltd documents:

The history of Karage clan is as follows: Karage clan originated from Kreer village and from the snake masalai called Busua. This is where they fish today and collect shells, and hunt for flying fox. There is a special type of sago grown there which they make and eat with different kinds of fish, trees and plants. The original name for Kreer Heights is Mambuin land, section 109. During colonial days the land was bought for 21,000 pounds under the Territory Trust—143,000 hectares of land.

13.8.03

An ESPG Provincial Executive Council document Decision No. 14/A-4/4/2003

SUBJECT: LANDOWNERS PARTICIPATION (THROUGH KDCL IN SPIN-OFF BUSINESS VENTURES FROM WEWAK TUNA LOINING AND CANNERY PROJECT

The Provincial Executive Council at its Meeting No. 4/2003 of 12/8/03 RESOLVED:

1. To approve the equity participation in the Karaga development Corporation Limited (KDCL) for the planned Stevedoring activity under the South Seas Tuna Corporation (SSTC).
2. To direct the Provincial Administer to oversee and administer the Government's interests through Sepik Holdings Limited; and
3. To endorse the desire of KDCL to participate in the Tuna Loining and Cannery project spin-off as the equity partners.

Appendix I outlines the terms of this equity:

GOVERNMENT AND LANDOWNERS EQUITY PARTICIPATION IN SPIN-OFF BUSINESS VENTURES FROM WEWAK TUNA LOINING AND CANNERY PROJECT

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

1. Equity Participation

The following equity participation is anticipated from the East Sepik Provincial and Local Level Government in the venture (refer appendices for Governors letter of endorsement). Out of the company's nominal share of 500,000 share at K1.00 per share the shares will be taken up as follows:

Provincial Government 8% = K40,000
26 Local Level Govt x 2% @ 52% = K260,000
Karaga Development Corporation 40% = K200,000
Total Equity Contribution 100% = K500,000

The 26 Local Level Governments in the Province will each contribute a cash component of K10,000 each as their 2% equity (each are not limited to 2% where one fails) summing to a total make up of 52% while the Provincial Government takes up 8% and 40% remains with Wama Yui Clan.

2. Source and Application of Funding

Sources:

Term Loan from Commercial Bank	K2,400,000.
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Application:

Purchase of Stevedoring Equipment and Machineries	K2,246,863.
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Management/Administration Cost	87,045.
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Contingencies	66,137.
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... It is expected that to kick-start this project a loan financing of K2.4 m will be required, The required finance is sought from Commercial banks. This will be repaid over a four (4) year period with an estimated interest rate of 15% per annum. A proposed grace period of 6 months is required to build up adequate cash flow before schedule loan repayment commences.

This project depends very much on external financing and with it, both profitability and success is assured.

Balthazaar Kaprangi Accountants and Managers submitted a request to open a company account for Koikau Development Limited (Saure Village No. 2 landowners) to the Bank of South Pacific (PNGBC). Attached is the proposal to the ESP Administration to take part in spin-off activities in the area of:

1. Fresh Food Marketing
2. Poultry Farming (for Meat and Eggs)
3. Piggery, and
4. Make its 47 parcels of land at Yawasoro available for residential or housing purposes.

Kreer Village with Paul Samore, Karaga clan; Herman Samore, Karaga clan; Jeves Hoibi; Jacob Elaxo. The original name of the land where the loinery sits is **Hufuk**. They saw no written materials about the loinery before it arrived. No compensation was given for the ground, or for environmental changes. They consider the site an important fish breeding ground. There were different species of plants, mangroves and sago palms growing there. Most importantly, it is the home of Busua the masalai snake and Soran the blak bokis. During the negotiations for the loinery the Habours Board and the Provincial Government met with the Kreer people and discussed the land. They came to a compromise and the Kreer people gave their blessing for the land to be developed. However it was Francis Sumanup's idea that they shift to Saure at yawasoro because it is State land. He also indicated that the Kreer gave their blessing. It was too swampy and Yawasoro is dry and better suited. On the other hand, if the loinery were built in Yawasoro electricity would be expensive to extend down there; building a waste disposal drain would be difficult; trucks carrying fish from the wharf to the factory would be a health hazard and the ice could melt; and there would be roadworthiness precautions.



4. The awareness program

Frances Sumanup was the driving force behind the awareness programme throughout residential communities in Wewak, where he introduced the company and its workforce needs, the advantages it would afford town residents, and the possible spin-offs and 'multiplier' effects to come from it. From our understanding none of this awareness involved written materials, which meant that promises expressed or implied by Mr. Sumanup can never be confirmed. Needless to say, villagers across Wewak heard only favorable descriptions of the factory to come, and many of them also came away believing private citizens might eventually purchase shares in SST.

Viak people report: There is a spin off promise awareness said but were its now they've been bullshitting us from the beginning we the Viak landowners did not involve in the discussion making plus the ground breaking ceremony.

Peter Kumun I recall there was a public awareness campaign aired on the radio east Sepik telling people that every thing will be fine.

Did the Provincial Government or the management of the south sea tuna come down and talk to the people how the factory is going to dump the waste?

Alex We the people of this village here know nothing ,no one came to our village and discussed any thing about the cannery plus they knew we are the traditionally landowners by rights we owns the land were the cannery is builds. Like we share the boundaries with the other landowners. The awareness ,were discuss with the settlements ,convincing them about the goods that the cannery is going to bring to them plus they must fully support the government to bring more projects to benefit every one also our islanders they are subject to the problems that we are facing today. For example the government is getting 10 percent from the cannery for the tax and that's a facts from some reliable sources.. So we've been sideline like we are nobody. These people are crazy by not consulting us the land owners.

17 .6.03 letter from John Niabau of the East Sepik Islands Association National Resource Owners Committee to Francis Sumanup asking that they halt awareness programs until they respond to a letter of 9.4.03 which asked to see the original project proposal, then another letter sent 28.8.03 to Bruce Samban regarding lack of response.

The PM's Office's Project Officer, **Petrus Sagom** , could recalled that, a team as assigned by the company SST went around making awareness on the environmental impact of the loinery if established. One of the things promised was that the loinery will not produce the foul smell. The

people were made to believe that new technology used will not produced the foul smell that the people of Madang are experiencing.

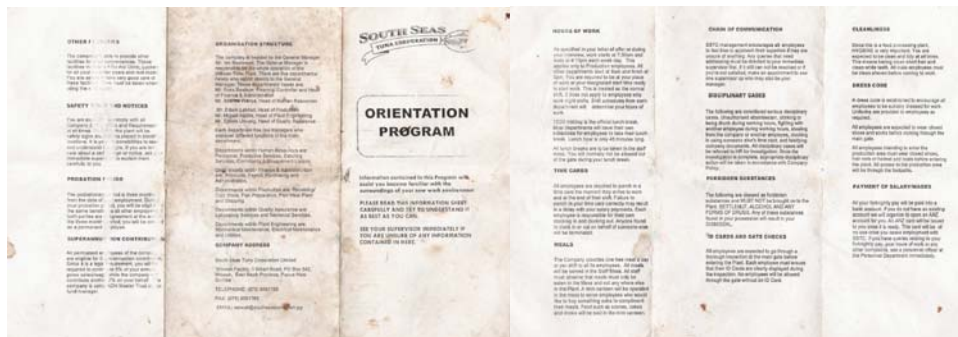
The people were misinformed and now there were much complaints of the foul smell produced from almost all residents of Wewak and visitors as well. The officer interviewed said that smell is pollution and it is not good for outside investors who are interested in businesses other than fishing.

Yawasoro the SSTC plant was originally planned to be built there but logistical problems are more and have to bring it closer to the wharf. If they have to build the factory at Yawasoro they have consider many things like wharf, transportation etc. Also they have some landowner issues still outstanding so they moved to the present location. The company wanted to dealt with the government then to be involved in landownership issues do they just leased the land for the PNG Harbors Board. At Yawasoro there are many owners to the land and made the issues complicated.

Yawasoro is the original is the original site the SSTC loining plant was to be built. All the necessary ground work was done including signing legal documentation such as MOA with the parties concerned such as the Provincial Government, the Developer and the land owners. The ground breaking ceremony was done and the project was expected to kick off. However, the company and the government through the East Sepik Provincial Government came to a conclusion that the logistical cost of the plant in Yawasoro would be very much expensive than to have a site close to the sea/ wharf.

When you are dealing with fish you have to have better port facilities because it will determine the supplies you get from your fishing crews. Everyday fish will come in from the sea and export ready to be shipped to the markets overseas. It was rather expensive to think of the all expenses involved and it was agreed that it was more convenient to build the factory at the site where it is. The land is state owned that we had no hassles from the landowners to develop this piece of land. It fact it was muddy and swampy but it was filled up and now you see a different place. It was not like this before.

There is no legal case as yet with the Saure people claiming compensation from the developer or the government for damages but I think they might take up a case. I am not aware of any latest development on this side of things but my opinion would be that the SSTC and the government gave false hope and expectation to the Saure landowners and they have every right to complain and be angry.



During the Orientation Program workers are given a pamphlet with some of the only written information they will have on the factory. The pamphlet explains that,

work starts at 7:30 and ends at 4:15 PM each week day. This applies only to Production employees. All other departments start at 8 AM and finish at 5 PM...Each employee is responsible for their own clocking in and clocking out. Anyone found to clock in or out on behalf of someone else will be terminated...A mini canteen will be operated in the mess to serve employees who would like to buy something to compliments their meals...The following are considered serious disciplinary cases. Unauthorised absenteeism, drinking or being drunk during working hours, fighting with another employee during working hours, srtealing from the company or another employee, clocking in using someone else's time card, and falsifying company documents...The probationary period is three months from the date of your employment. During your probation period, you will be eligible for the same benefits as all other employees...All permanent employees of the company are eligible for Superannuation contribution. Since it is a legal requirement, you will be required to contribute 5% of your annual gross salary/wage while the company will contribute another 7% on your behalf. The company is using AON Master Trust as our fund manager. (Emphasis added).

Obvious discrepancies between what may have been planned and what is now the case in the factory include the shift times and the mess canteen. But more importantly, note the prohibition on handling someone else's time card, and compare that with the repeated reports recorded below of supervisors and team leaders clocking out for workers, to the latter's disadvantage. As regards the Superannuation contribution, it is unknown whether any ex-employees have been able to avail this after leaving the company. It is also unclear what benefits permanent employees enjoy that are also available to probationary workers.

I. Spin off businesses

There are no spin-off businesses for landowners in SST. There is a hiring preference for Kreer landowners within two divisions, Butchering and Receiving, which require 24-hour personnel and three shifts. Kreer people, living closeby, are preferred for security reasons during night shift changes. These are mixed crews, so it is necessary that women workers have men to accompany them home. This does not appear to be guaranteed, although we heard of no dangerous incidents during our research. Kreer Development Corporation, or KDC, has been given the contract for hiring within both these divisions, and they pay the wages to the employees. Women in receiving told us that these workers are actually from various communities in Wewak, not simply Kreer.

In discussion with Paul Samore, Karaga clan; Herman Samore, Karaga clan; Jeves Hoibi; Jacob Elaxo:

From day one the loining factory never contacted us to run a spin-off business. They promised us a spin-off like housing scheme contract, chicken project and many more, but all these promises were watered down.

At a meeting of Saure #2 clan members/councilors, Wewak islands Fisheries Association, Murik Resource Owners, Hawain Resource Owners, Schouten Islands Resource Owners, we were told that there had been an agreement by Francis Sumanap and Joachim Nianguma with Saure #2 landowners when work on the SST project was initiated at Yawasoro. Both Sumanap and Nianguma assured them that everything would be okay as long as the landowners did their part. They were promised big development with many spinoffs by Kevin Conrad and Joachim

Nianguma, so the leaders of the 8 clans were urged to fast-track registration of a landowner company and other necessary documentation with Baltazar Kaprangi.

Kreer Village with Paul Samore, Karaga clan; Herman Samore, Karaga clan; Jeyes Hoibi; Jacob Elaxo. Kreer Village has 9 subclans but 2 major ones are White and Black Koki, in the Karaga clan. Karaga clan owned the land where the loinery exists, and they live at Kreer Village. They registered to establish spinoff businesses, for K250, with the Commerce Department (IPA). “From day one the loinery factory never contacted us to run a spin-off business. They promised us a spin-off like housing scheme contract, chicken project and many more, but all these promises were watered down.”

The Provincial Planner agrees that the spinoffs were not well organised by the people. There was a lack of liaison between the Provincial Government and the local people to arrange for spinoffs, because the Provincial Government itself was not ready to take on board SST.

m. Environmental Impact reports and public concerns

We did not get our hands on the SST Environmental Plan Application, to which a WWF consultant replies below (item m.3.c.). But we’ve collected here responses to the factory itself, and to its plans, as a reflection of the community concerns regarding its environmental impact. As can be seen, the factory apparently did not consult with the community at all before construction began, and this prompted the OEC to call a meeting at which they were assured by an environmental consultant to SST that all the best precautions would be taken and no shoreline pollution would eventuate. Sludge, smell and noise would also be controlled, they were assured. “He said while the environmental plan was still in draft stages, the National Physical Planning Board had given approval for site work to commence. No construction work will be done until the environmental plan has been approved.” They defended themselves against possible court action by explaining that construction had not actually been started. Unfortunately, this evasive defense is all that might be required, because there are no independent review board in place for assessing the veracity or standards of an environmental impact plan the company might lodge. There are no safeguards in place to require that plans be effected, and no qualified body to evaluate whether the proposed procedures are sufficient, or even realistic. Thus, just like RD Tuna in Madang, an industry processing plant that could potentially damage the fishing grounds and bathing water of the community, that could require overfishing or destructive fishing practices, that could emit unsanitary effluent and fumes, and decide to pay their laborers minimum wage, is free to begin operations at any time, and virtually anywhere.

Moreover, a processing plant that does pose an environmental and possible health risk, and which receives notice from the community at large of its destructive effects, is perfectly free to ignore complaints and carry on as always.

1. Press

Source: Post Courier Wednesday, 2 May 2001

Cannery plans cleared

THE major environmental concerns on the proposed Wewak Tuna Canning project have been adequately accommodated in the project environmental plan, according to proponents of the project. This assurance was made yesterday during a consultation meeting between officers

from the Office of Environment and Conservation, Department of East Sepik, affected communities and non-governmental organisations in Wewak. The two-day meeting had been organised following concerns that the project was being developed without full consultation with communities that would be affected and that the people had not been informed on how they would benefit. There have also been concerns raised, as well on the possible effects the project would have on the environment. The project is a joint venture between Angco Ltd and American firm Starkist. The East Sepik Provincial Government and PNG Harbours Board are financing the site preparation work which got underway early last month. Their contributions would be translated to equity stakes once the project proper got under way. The project site is located on the seafront close to the Provincial Government offices, the Harbours Board and internationally renowned hotel, the Windjammer. At yesterday's meeting officers from the Department of East Sepik and the Office of Environment and Conservation were taken to task over the environmental issues, especially the discharge from the project into the shoreline. Concerns were raised that the shoreline could be polluted. However, presenting the draft environmental report to the meeting, consultant John Douglas of Douglas Environmental Services said the major issues had been accommodated in the plan and that the developers would be putting in place new and extensive systems that would ensure they were effectively controlled and managed. These include issues on waste water treatment and discharge, sludge disposal, smell and noise. Project co-ordinator and Department of East Sepik Fisheries adviser Joachim Nianguma said in a statement that calls in the media for a halt to work on the project had been misleading. He said while the environmental plan was still in draft stages, the National Physical Planning Board had given approval for site work to commence. No construction work will be done until the environmental plan has been approved. Mr Nianguma said legal action could not be taken against the developer because no actual construction work on the project had started.

2. Wewak Urban LLG letter of 27 June 2005

Acting Town Manager Daniel Yakeri sent a letter to the factory on 27 June itemizing the concerns of local residents to some of the environmental conditions they had observed. In it, he writes:

Following a complaint raised by the general public and the local people of Meni Village on the 02nd of May, 2005, we (the Wewak Urban LLG) executed the environmental health inspection of the problem site on the same date 11:00 am.

The results of our inspection are as follows:

1. That the scum (undigested floatable wastes) from the digestion tanks had been discharged into the sea which were then washed up onto the beachfronts from the Mobil Oil to Meni Village.

These wastes are believed to be from Wewak Tuna Loining Factory which, according to our close observation originated from the undigested organiz fish wastes due to the physical appearance and the smell of the same.

2. The samples of wastes collected produced the same smell as the smell regularly produced by the factory wastes.

3. That there was a totally unbearable offensive smell produced which was unacceptable to the general public and unhygienic in terms of public health, inevitably due to the disposed factory sullage [sic] water and scum.

The air was highly polluted and undeniably detectable and evident within the above specified locations which [sic] was also detectable within the nearby places/settlements on the above date of complaint.

NOTE: This problem occurred during the time there was a moderate South-Easterly Trade Winds [sic] blowing, causing rough seas within the locality and causing the wastes to be washed up onto the beachfronts.

The above problems are very dangerous in terms of Public Health which may lead to contraction of diarrhoeal diseases and stomach upsets, etc., by which people using the beachfront waters and waters of other affected areas to swim, etc....

We as the Local Urban Council and the Local Medical Authority are in doubtful state as to whether the local waters from the Mobil Oil, Meni and Windjammer to Kreer Beach and around its under-water discharge point of its sullage [sic] waters (which is only 800 metres from the factory) is free from the factory's operations pollution and contamination and is safe for the general public to wash and swim etc....

The above problems are very serious hence we hereby recommend as follows:

1. That you check your drainage line to ensure there is no leakage along the same.
2. Ensure your wastes digestion and filtration system is functioning in a normal operational manner as designed.
3. Apply effective air pollution control using your biochemical air treatment filters that you should have, to stop this almost regular emission of offensive smell which the general public, I,e, the town residence [sic] and our visitors are regularly complaining about.
4. Ensure your sullage [sic] water carrier boat, the MV IONA, disposes the factory waste waters at the authorized destination and not at any other closer areas of Moam point, etc.

To guarantee the health and safety of the beachfront sea waters of the above stated locations, we will carry out the sea waters sampling for analysis to be done by the PNG Unitech Laboratory in Lae and the Public Central Medical Laboratory in Port Moresby to test for coliform level [sic] and other bacterial contamination, and the presence of and contamination by chemicals, as well as to advise/recommend to us whether the sea along the above states areas is [sic] safe for swimming etc.

We shall advise you the time for our sampling and you shall be given the other portions of the same samples to do your own analysis for confirmation and comparison and justification purposes.

Trusting that you would [sic] action as per our recommendation.

Yours faithfully,

Daniel Yakeri
Acting Town Manager

3. WWF Materials

a. Bismark Solomon Seas Ecoregion report

The Bismark Solomon Seas Ecoregion has been identified by WWF as a ‘cradle of marine biodiversity’ for the South Pacific. In effect, this means that the need for its conservation precludes national or local development plan, or even regional environmental precautions. This region is a vital organ to the corpus of South Pacific seas and waterways. The Wewak—Sepik Coast and Estuary in particular, if you look below at the report maps, is an area of high coastal productivity (with chlorophyll A levels of 4-60 mg. cm³). It also hold crocodile populations, habitat for deepwater snappers, dugong feeding grounds, spawning grounds for mackerel, habitats for coral, seagrass and mangroves, and 10 endemic freshwater fishes. The North Papuan Sea area, more generally, houses the migration routes for skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye tuna, and their feeding grounds and aggregation areas. It is only when we rack our focus back to see how biologically dense this region is, compared to neighboring Polynesia and Micronesia, that we can appreciate the importance of PNG’s waters to the entire South Pacific, and the real value of the country’s marine resources.

According to WWF, however, critical threats to the BSSE include growing coastal populations and poorly designed coastal developments—including industry and mining; unregulated fishing, e.g. overharvesting, destructive techniques; increasing market demand for particular marine species (sea cucumber, shark fins); lack of scientific data and monitoring capacity; irresponsible and insensitive tourism practices; climate change and coral bleaching events.

Needless to say, a hastily planned tuna loinery, even with state of the art wastewater treatment, and the encumbant plans for more fish processing plants along the Wewak Harbor, not to mention the rising potential for unregulated and distructive overfishing, represent serious environmental threats to the Wewak, the East Sepik Islands, and the BSSE in general. The silver lining may be that SST nauseating stench and the sludge that now regularly floats close to the shoreline are all deterrants to what was once the ESPG’s major industry, tourism; but it’s hard to imagine how swimmers and divers could wreak as much damage to the environment as has SST.

The Bismark Solomon Seas Ecoregion: A Cradle of Marine Biodiversity, WWF South Pacific Programme, 2003

p2:

Nested within the expansive boundaries of the BSSE lies a unique center of tropical marine biodiversity exemplified by:

- An extraordinary diversity of reefs, seagrasses, deep sea and pelagic habitats
- Globally diverse centers of reef-building corals and reef fish
- The largest and most critical remaining Pacific leatherback turtle nesting sites
- A historic center of sperm whale abundance in the tropics
- The major biogeographic transition zone between the Indonesian, Philippine, Micronesian, Coral Sea and central Pacific regions.

p10:

Globally Significant Areas of the BSSE



Wewak-Sepik Coast & Estuary, Papua New Guinea (B20)

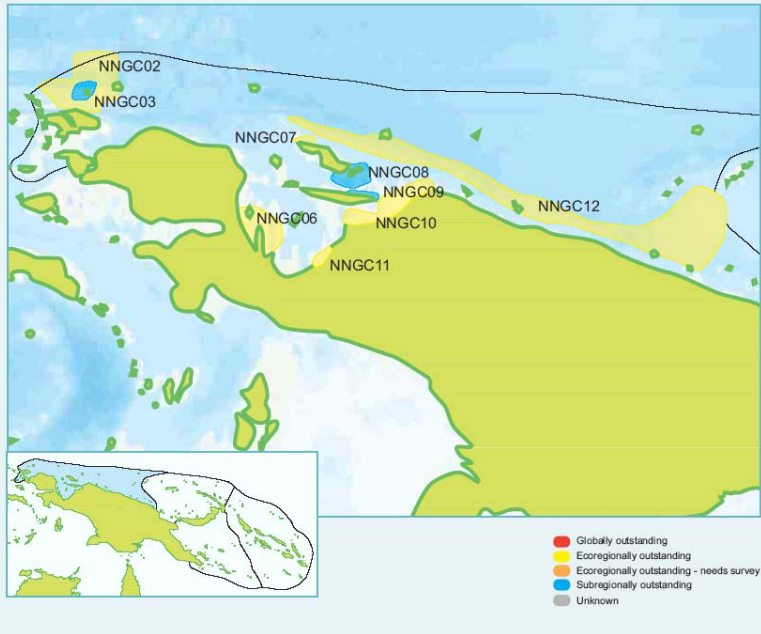
Special features

- Area of high coastal productivity (chlorophyll A levels of 40-60 mg cm³)
- Crocodile population
- Habitat for deepwater snappers
- Dugong feeding areas
- Spawning grounds for mackerel (*Scomberomurus commerson*)
- Habitats for coral, seagrass and mangroves
- 10 endemic freshwater fishes

p12:

Subregional Priority Areas

North New Guinea Coast Priority Areas

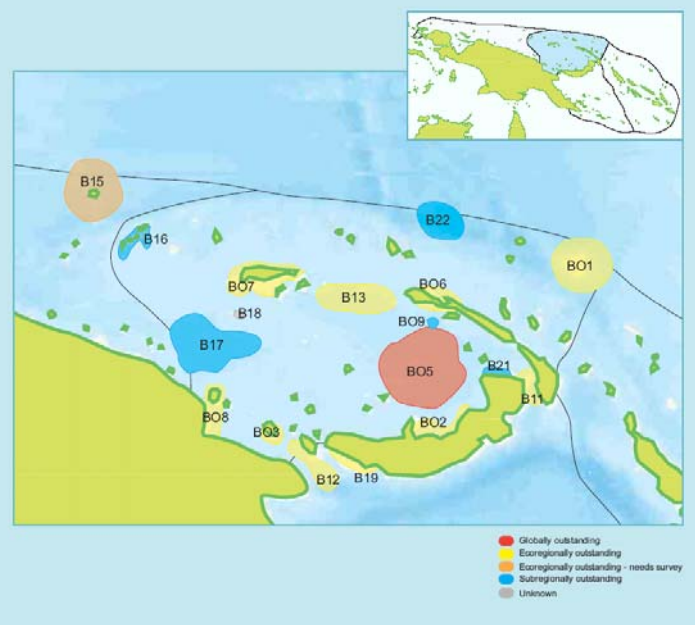


p.13:

I. North New Guinea Coast Priority Areas

- (NNGC02) Relage. Unspoiled coral reef; nesting areas for hawksbill and leatherback; feeding ground for skipjack, yellowfin tuna and pelagic fishes.
- (NNGC03) Ayau Islands. Nesting area for leatherback and other marine turtles. This area is an integral part of the overall Papuan population.
- (NNGC06) Cendrawasih Bay. Complex coastlines and rocky cliff; fringing reef, atoll, seagrass bed, mangroves; feeding ground for dugong; foraging and nesting areas for hawksbill and green turtles; a vast area for seagrasses and habitat for Tridacna and fungiid corals.
- (NNGC07) NW of Biak Island. An island with fringing coral reef, seagrass beds; high diversity of corals and fishes; small population of dugong; reef flat dominated by 9 species of seagrass; nesting and feeding site for leatherback turtle, hawksbill and green turtles.
- (NNGC08) Padaido Islands. Shallow reef flat with seagrass meadows; high richness of coastal fishes and seagrass; intensive fringing reef; large area of coral reefs; breeding area of coastal fishes.
- (NNGC09) NE Coast of Yapen Island. Leatherback nesting site, an integral part of the leatherback population in Papua.
- (NNGC10) Mamberamo River. Mangrove forest and swamp forests, swamp grasses; nesting and breeding sites for the crocodiles.
- (NNGC11) West Cendrawasih Bay. Coastal mangrove associated with sea grass; coastal inshore fish; full complement of main species of mangrove; major fisheries production, example frigate mackerel, Indian mackerel.
- (NNGC12) North Papuan Sea. Deep sea environments; migration path for yellowfin tuna, bigeye and skipjack tuna; feeding ground and aggregation area for tuna.

















Bismarck Sea Priority Areas



p.14:

p.15:

II. Bismarck Sea Priority Areas

-  (BO1) Lyra Reef. Very large atoll; deep lagoon and a feeding ground for green and hawksbill turtles. Geologically unusual and isolated reef; supports abundant deep sea biota; an intact level of predator populations including sharks, pelagic and coastal fishes; hawksbill and green turtle site.
-  (BO2) Stettin Bay. Well developed inshore reefs and offshore pinnacles rising from deep water; rich coral and fish community; frequent whale sighting.
-  (BO3) Long Island. Unique volcanic island features and new reef communities with unique assemblages of coral species; green turtle nesting.
-  (BO6) Tigak Islands. Abundance of seaside invertebrates; complex range of habitats (mangroves, sea grass, lagoons, steep fringing reefs, sand flats); spawning aggregations of fin fish.
-  (BO7) Manus Island. Seagrass habitats; patch and platform reefs; shallow and extensive lagoons with reef barriers; feeding areas for dugongs and green turtles - populations possibly among largest in region; high richness of corals and fishes.
-  (BO8) Madang Coast. One of largest raffle lagoons; very diverse array of reef, mangroves, seagrass types, habitats and communities; lagoon has large multi-species spawning sites; whale sharks and rays are common; feeding sites for dugongs, green turtles, crocodiles.
-  (BO9) Manus Basin. All major pelagic species are found here; 1/3 of PNG skipjack catch; feeding sites for whales; hydrothermal chimneys where inhabitant gastropods and crustaceans are chemosynthetic - extracting sulphur from the vents to sustain them.
-  (B11) St George Channel. Spawning, feeding and migratory route for billfish, marlin, tuna species; turtles and many more species of small pelagic fish; sightings of cetaceans migrating. Main channel connecting Solomon Sea with Bismarck Sea.
-  (B12) Vitiaz Strait. Migration corridor for cetaceans and other marine mammals, leatherbacks and pelagic fishes; has major deep and surface circulation system.
-  (B13) Bismarck Sea Northeast Entrance. Main entrance for Pacific Oceanic waters entering into Bismarck Sea; migratory route for tuna and cetaceans, skipjack, yellowfin and bigeye.
-  (B15) West Bismarck Upwelling. Highly suspected oceanic upwelling area. Significant aggregation site for sperm whales.
-  (B16) Heina - Ninigo Islands. Significant hawksbill and green turtles foraging habitat. Isolated coral and fish communities.
-  (B17) West Bismarck Basin Exit. Migratory exit zone for skipjack and yellowfin tuna.
-  (B18) Mwilitau (Purdy) Islands. One of the most intact fish communities in the region. Large maori wrasse, groupers etc; species richness amongst highest in PNG; top predatory fish populations still intact.
-  (B19) West New Britain. High densities of dugong and green turtles; important seagrass areas; unique association of deepwater and shallow water species (shoaling).
-  (B21) Atalidikun Bay. Important foraging area for green and hawksbill turtles.
-  (B22) West Bismarck. Upwelling System. Ground depth 5,000-6,000 metres; possible feeding area for tuna species; there is a need to know more about this ecological system.

p.20:

The immense natural value of the BSSE has only begun to be explored. Within this rich mosaic, can be found more than half of the world's coral species, the world's longest island-protected lagoon and extensive leatherback rookeries. Most importantly, it is home to many peoples for whom at least 80 percent are reliant upon marine resources for their daily existence.

These, and countless other, natural characteristics including the vibrant cultural heritage of the BSSE, are coming under an increasing suit of pressures. Within the priority areas described by the experts, some of the most critical threats to the BSSE include:

- Growing coastal populations and poorly designed coastal developments – including industry and mining
- Unregulated fishing (eg. over harvesting, destructive techniques, etc.)
- Increasing market demand for particular marine species (sea cucumber, shark fin, etc)
- Lack of scientific data and monitoring capacity in the region
- Pollution from both land and sea sources
- Irresponsible and insensitive tourism practices
- Climate change and coral bleaching events

It is our challenge to address these pressures that drive current behavior and exploitation trends. To sustain the integrity and health of this region, a plan of action which aspires to the containment and mitigation of pressures, must be developed and implemented in a collaborative and realistic manner.

b. Marine Ripples article

The following is a draft of an article for the journal *Marine Ripples*, by a Wewak-based WWF employee at the time, April 2001.

For *Marine Ripples*

From Stephen Knight, Sepik Community Land Care Project.

South Seas Tuna Corporation's plans to build a new tuna processing factory in Wewak, Papua New Guinea, now has opposition from a newly formed NGO umbrella group. The East Sepik NGO Focal Group was set up early March 2001 to co-ordinate concerns about the proposed factory. Primarily the group worries that social impacts associated with some tuna factories – low wages, prostitution (including paedophilia), AIDS, substandard housing and the creation of a pool of unemployed – are not being addressed by SSTC.

SSTC is a joint venture between local PNG business people (ANGCO Ltd) and the StarKist Seafood Company. StarKist is a division of the Heinz corporation. Unfortunately for the joint venture, experience of locals in a nearby tuna processing factory just down PNG's north coast in Madang is less than satisfactory. Unbearable odours, low wages, poor pollution control and prostitution are reported. Despite building the factory in 1996, the Madang factory owners, RD Tuna of the Philippines, appear to have a factory with environmental controls and staff relations more in line with twenty years ago.

SSTC quite rightly claims that RD has nothing to do with them. They will be using the latest technology to ensure there are, for example, no detectable odours from the factory. But analysis by the WWF East Sepik office in Wewak shows that to date SSTC has not provided the sort of environmental effects assessment information normally expected internationally. This particularly applies to social impacts. Given SSTC makes great play of its international corporate partners – and by implication, StarKist’s high environmental standards – this seems a major omission. The company may indeed provide a clean factory with high wages and a good relationship with the rest of Wewak. There are cases elsewhere where tuna factories do provide some of these elements. But experience of many communities around the Pacific suggests this is unlikely. For example, the company notes it has to provide low-cost tuna and part of the reason for coming to PNG is the low wages that can be paid. In addition, the company has told WWF that negative social impacts are the responsibility of the local government. Essentially, it’s your problem, not ours.

In addition, the NGOs say there is inadequate attention being paid to issues such as the cumulative overfishing of tuna in the West Pacific Ocean. While in theory the maximum sustainable yield of tuna is only 50-60%, there is no discussion about how affective monitoring will be when the MSY take reaches 90%. Nor is there any recognition about debate over the whole concept of MSY; the problem of by catch and ecological disruption through intensive fishing; the problem of local depletion of tuna and other fish species to the extent that local fishing declines or disappears; and the whole issue of whether it is justifiable to catch deep water species for canning and/or supply to privileged markets such as Japan.

The company of course claims – again rightly – that they have complied by the laws of PNG. The question then arises whether these laws, or more particularly the application of these laws, is adequate.

WWF is providing technical and other support for the NGO group, which is an entirely local initiative.

c. Comments on OEC Submission

(WWF) Submission on Environmental Plan Application: South Seas Tuna Corporation

Wewak Tuna Processing Facility February 2001

Received: 2 April 2001

Tabled 21 March 2001

To: Office of Environment and Conservation

Attention: Luke Tanikrey and Billai Laba

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the above.

The following comments are being made myself on behalf of the WWF Sepik Community Land Care Project. However, please note the comments do not necessarily represent the views of WWF; they are being made in the context of my role as a strategic planner and environmental consultant contracted to WWF. In addition, while my work experience includes preparing and auditing environmental effects assessments, the following is an informal review of the proposed Environmental Plan. I have not had the time nor the resources to undertake a full review.

In general, I feel SSTC has presented a document that provides the basis for minimising the negative effects and enhancing the positive effects of a tuna factory in Wewak. It does not address the question of whether a tuna factory is necessarily a good development option for Wewak or the Sepik. With that in mind, my comments are confined to those areas I consider require further investigation.

My main conclusion is that there are several technical areas requiring initial and on-going assessment by outside experts. The following suggestions are made:

- That an independent process for checking the legitimacy of the physical environmental management systems, standards and/or guidelines be followed in the yet-to-be tabled environmental monitoring plans;
- That initial assessments of these plans to be done by regulatory authorities in the United States where StarKist Seafoods operates tuna processing plants;
- that the on-going auditing of these plans be done by outside agencies contracted by the SSTC;
- that a proper social impact assessment be undertaken by an outside authority jointly contracted by the SSTC and the provincial/central government;
- that depending on the outcome of the social impact assessment, a process be set up to monitor impacts, and a clear framework be set up for responding to negative social trends with costs to be met jointly by the company and government agencies.

Elements of the above have already been put in place by the SSTC. For example, the contaminant marine outfall discharge criteria are based on licensing conditions imposed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) (p8.11). I suggest augmenting these elements with outside expert input. For example, is it reasonable to transfer guidelines based on USEPA criteria from one outfall to another? Have the dilution factors been correctly estimated? (My own assessment is that the dilution effects on such an outfall would rule out any negative ecological impacts).

I have provided expert comment where I can, particularly in the area of procedures for environmental assessments and monitoring. But my own area of technical expertise (freshwater ecology and catchment management planning) and professional experience (effects assessment auditing, establishing monitoring programmes and sustainable development) does not cover deep water fisheries, marine ecology, fish processing and social impact assessments. While I have some experience in each of these areas through my work, and I have gathered as much background data as time has allowed, my comments are indicative only.

Please note that extra technical assessments need not necessarily be expensive nor time consuming. In some cases they will simply involve reviewing the detailed environmental monitoring plans in order to assess legitimacy and feasibility. Such a process will assist both the OEC and DES in making a decision as to whether the SSTC proposal will provide a net social benefit with acceptable physical environmental impacts.

I note that SSTC may not necessarily be able to address directly all the issues raised in this commentary because many are outside its area of primary responsibility. However, the company notes in this Environmental Plan that it intends to work with governmental authorities and others to address ancillary infrastructural and social issues. This is a positive gesture and we would like to assist the SSTC in this.

The Involvement of WWF

The Sepik office of WWF has a mandate from the Office of Environment and Conservation (OEC) and the Department of East Sepik (DES) to help the process of integrated development and conservation. This means identifying and where possible protecting conservation values while working within a society shifting from a subsistence economy to a cash economy.

Achieving this integration requires a healthy and active state and community. The OEC/DES/WWF agreement focuses on landowners in the Hunstein Range; but as the WWF Sepik Community Land Care Project has evolved, it has become increasingly necessary for this office to become involved with development issues throughout the Sepik. This is in part because development options for the Hunstein will be shaped by development occurring elsewhere in the Sepik. In addition, we have found that both the local government and community sectors have increasingly asked for assistance from WWF on a range of development issues throughout the Sepik.

The SSTC proposal, if successful, will have a major impact on the direction of development in the Sepik. This in turn will influence civil society and therefore conservation values. Hence WWF's interest in the proposed tuna factory.

Social and Infrastructural Impacts

Of the issues raised previously by myself (see the attached February 2001 commentary) and local NGOs, the potential negative social impacts remain the most problematic. For example, the SSTC says (S3.7 of the Environmental Plan Application) that the low wage structure in PNG is one reason for choosing this country. There is indeed a pool of potentially employable people in Wewak, which offers advantages for both the company and the township. However, potential problems arising from this include:

- the creation of a pool of unemployed attracted to Wewak from the Sepik; and
- a low wage structure failing to adequately compensate those moving from a non-cash subsistence economy to a cash economy; in other words, factory workers may find their purchasing power provides a quality of life lower than available in the subsistence economy.

The SSTC says it intends to work with local government to address many of these issues, that is:

South Seas Tuna Corporation will carry out a baseline economic survey of its employees at the time of their recruitment. This survey will help with long term monitoring (Section 9.3.4 p.9.9)

and

The South Seas Tuna Corporation will work with the Wewak Town Council, the East Sepik Provincial Government and the relevant Utility Managers in a co-operative manner to help them improve the infrastructure of Wewak...(Section 9.3.4 p.9.9)

With this in mind, WWF's Wewak office would like to work with the SSTC, local level and provincial government, to establish:

- the provincial and local level strategic planning mechanisms available and/or required to allow this to happen; for example, how does the tuna factory development fit in with the five year development plans being prepared at district and provincial level?

- how the tuna factory development will influence development in Wewak and the Sepik; for example, will it require a major refocus of Provincial Government resources that will reduce the ability for rural communities and other urban centres from developing?
- resourcing issues, particular for local level and Provincial Government and the utility providers; examples include the municipal dump, which is currently totally inadequate, and will receive extra waste from the SSTC factory and associated fishing vessels; a predicted increase in prostitution with related social and health issues (particularly the spread of AIDS);
- the implication of any privatisation processes for the provision of any of these services;
- how an independent monitoring body and/or auditor of monitoring results might operate (including assessing whether the skills are available to do this work).

The SSTC says that details of the design and implementation of the social and economic monitoring guidelines will be proved to the OEC prior to commencement of the operation (S9.3.4 p9.9). It is important that independent outside individuals and agencies conduct a full social impact assessment and peer review the proposed monitoring programme, in addition to the OEC peer review the proposed monitoring programme. It is also important that the OEC and DES provide to the reviewers the context within which the proposal and monitoring will take place. Given the comments above, I do not consider the social impact studies done to date (as summarised on p7.1) to be adequate. The question arising from this is who should pay for such a study, given that it is an area of local government concern.

In this regard, the following issues need clarification [emphasis added throughout]:

- how much will the workers earn, and will this compensate for their removal from the subsistence workforce? (In other words, will workers be able to purchase those things they no longer grow/make; will their role in the family/village be adequately filled? These are large scale social issues that need to be anticipated even if they are not directly the responsibility of SSTC or those wanting to work at the proposed factory);**
- how will the housing conditions of the workers be monitored?**
- how will the increase in the numbers of people coming into Wewak as a result of the proposed factory be monitored (ie, is there a danger of creating a pool of unemployed)?
- while worker health will be monitored, **will there be monitoring of community health, particularly in relation to the possible spread of sexually transmitted diseases due to prostitution?**
- will there be any preferential treatment for the proposed factory for the delivery of water?** If so, what contingencies are in place if the claimed water savings required to ensure sufficient supplies to the factory are not realised? (In other words, is the proposed plugging of water lost to ground at Moem Barracks (p4.12 and pp8.27-8.30) technically feasible?)
- in addition, the proposed leak control programme by the water board requires a high financial and technical commitment. Has this been budgeted for?**

On the last two points, the SSTC says that local authorities have committed to providing all assistance necessary to support the success of the tuna-processing venture. However, local government is presently under-resourced (in both money and staff) and is unclear how these commitments are to be met.

Physical Environmental Impacts

The proposed EP notes that all physical environmental monitoring programmes will have specific plans associated with them, to be submitted to the OEC. However, until these plans are submitted, it is not possible to say whether the monitoring programme will be adequate. It is

anticipated that members of local Wewak NGOs, and others in the community, will want to be involved in assessing these plans prior to giving approval. In addition, as for the social and economic monitoring, independent agencies should peer review the proposed monitoring programme.

One area of uncertainty is the level of technical expertise available to ensure the project is complying with the required environmental standards. For example, monitoring data needs to be assessed by an outside agency with expertise in the area. An example is marine water quality. Has such an independent agency or group of agencies been identified?

The SSTC says it will hire consultants from time to time as required, establish a laboratory for quality control and a process for environmental monitoring. This could be the basis for establishing the independent process noted above.

Another area of uncertainty is the proposed handling of organic sludge: how will this be initially treated and stored prior to barging, and will any of this process create unacceptable odours and/or visual impacts? In addition, what are the risks of sharks being attracted in shore due to the dumping? Details of the monitoring results of such impacts from other similar operations in the Pacific, information I understand the SSTC has access to, would be helpful here.

Odour control (Section 8.4.1.6, p8.18) appears to be properly addressed, but again an independent assessment by an agency or consultant involved in a similar process elsewhere would be helpful. While the theory is sound - and both myself and the Sepik CLC Project Coordinator Simon Towle have some direct experience with such control systems in New Zealand - it does depend on the microbiological culture being well maintained. Questions to be asked here include:

- how often do these cultures fail?
- what contingencies are in place if they do fail?

Sustainability of the Tuna Fisheries

Discussions with fisheries scientist confirm SSTC's position that the stocks of available tuna in the Western Pacific Ocean can cope with increased fishing pressure. Indeed, tuna are considered the best monitored and best understood of any deep water commercially fished species. However, the following issues still remain to be clarified:

- while deep water yellow fin tuna fishing will be unlikely to have an effect on inshore fishing stocks, intercepting skipjack tuna may deplete inshore fishing stocks of this species. Monitoring of this impact is apparently feasible and therefore should be done;
- will the cumulative effect of several deep water fisheries targetting tuna around the Western Pacific cause an unacceptable impact?
- do Maximum Sustainable Yield estimates take adequate account of the overall ecological impacts of industrial fishing (such as the impact on by-catch)? And is the fishing method proposed (purse seining) adequate for protecting non-target species? There are concerns that while the by-catch is returned to the sea, a proportion does not survive, and the impact on non-target species is insufficiently understood. Thus while tuna stocks may withstand increased cumulative fishing pressure, other species may not.
- while skipjack and yellowfin tuna fishing capacity is about half the theoretical MSY, what is the recommended cumulative percentage take of the MSY for the Western Pacific Ocean (that is, is it less than 100% of the MSY?).

Responses to Consent Condition Exceedences

It is unclear what responses will be made to any exceedence of consent conditions. As noted above, the consent conditions (in other words, what the monitoring procedures and protocols will be, who will do the monitoring, how standards will be met and who will analyse the results) remain unclear. In addition, it is unclear what will happen if, for example:

- odour levels exceed the expected guidelines;
- local fisheries are shown to be depleted due to increased deep-ocean fishing;
- marine water quality trigger-levels are exceeded;
- noise levels are exceeded; or
- there is an unacceptable pollution event (such as an oil spill from either the plant or an associated fishing vessel).

For all the above issues, a contingency plan could be prepared that clearly identifies what will happen if any condition or set of conditions are exceeded. The contingency plan would include:

- what the guideline has been set at
- who does the monitoring and who checks the results
- who should be contacted if the guideline/standard is exceeded
- what the response should be if the guideline is exceeded
- what the statutory and/or local remedies available should any guideline or standard be exceeded (for example, should operations cease until the situation is remedied; is there a fine involved); and

In many cases the preparation of a contingency plan will in itself help minimise the imposition of restrictive consent conditions, as the regulatory authorities and the community are clear about what steps the company will take in the event of something going wrong. The SSTC is establishing an Environmental Monitoring and Management Plan (EM&MP) (Section 9.0). This may fulfill this function. Obviously in the case of the social impact issues, it is always problematic identifying to what extent the company may be responsible for undesirable impacts, and the extent to which it can address them. (In addition, the wisdom of imposing 'guidelines' or 'standards' is debatable). However, a social monitoring and response system can be done in consultation with experts in this field.



Responsibilities of SSTC

While recognising the limits on what SSTC can do regarding social/infrastructural issues, the company has identified Wewak as a good site for its factory partly because there is an available

pool of low-cost labour. This is in turn because Wewak and the Sepik are relatively undeveloped in a modern economy sense; it provides the company with a good investment opportunity. As part of the quid pro quo for this, the SSTC should undertake to take an active part in sustainable development of not just Wewak but the province. The company has said it will do this in its Environmental Plan. What is needed now is the detail of how this will happen. As noted above, WWF is working with Provincial and Local Level Government on this issue already; as a major developer, SSTC should be prepared to invest both time and money into this process. On the assumption the tuna factory is given approval to go ahead, discussions on the extent to which the company should do this should be part of the next phase of the development.

n. Factory site visits

Visit of 8/7/05. A group of St. Benedict's College lecturers and associates visited the factory at 9 am, and were warmly welcomed by the Community Relations Officer, Frances Sumanup. He was happy to have representatives from educational institutions come see and appreciate what will be generating income for the Sepik people. South Seas Tuna Corporation's first year of operation was 2004. It was opened Feb 14, 2004. The company is in partnership, Sumanup said, with:

- FCF of Taiwan
- Jacksons of the Neatherlands
- BSP
- The East Sepik Provincial Government

Interestingly, this information does not conform to what we were told on a second visit, when Ian Boatwood himself said FCF and the ESPG were the sole owners.

Visitors took notes on the processes that were explained by company representatives as they moved through the factory. For examples:

The company aims to produce 200 tonnes of tuna per day, but cannot at present because there is no direct shipment of the loins to Western Samoa for canning. The product has to pass through Lae and then to Western Samoa at present. SST exports 12 containers of fish a week.

The receiving section measures the fish and weighs it, then sends it to the freezer section. The freezer section stores the fish and removes it to the butchery section. As much as 750 fish are stored and removed at a time. They cut and supply it to the steaming section where they steam the fish and send it to the cooler section, where they store the fish and send it to the loining section, where they skin and then remove the red meat from the fish with the bones and produce and pack the white meat.

Landowners

The State has agreed to provide the land for 10 years. There are no spin offs offered by the company. The company would point to the Provincial Government to assist landowners to organize and so provide bus and canteen services.

The impression given was that there hasn't been good liaison between SST and the Provincial Government. Then-Governor Authur Somare brought in the project but did not have any idea whatsoever of how to help the people.

“Sometimes while working we are trying to move fast and get bump on the fish so my body is feeling pain so I have to work late and come to work late. I am not satisfied with the lunch provided and feel like vomiting and also feel skin pain. Before I used to play sport, but not now. ..The fish we are producing is being sent overseas and we are not eating our own product or fish now.”

SST is not connected to PNG Power Supply in town, it has its own 3 large generators to supply power to its factory. SST is connected, however, to PNG Water board. And it shares the same water supply as Wewak town. The water board controls the valve to the huge tank that stands next to the main gate. The factory requires a lot of water to operate, every day, hour, minute and second, to flush the fish wastes into a drain and carry them to the treatment plant.

Labour

There are 1600 workers in the factory, both male and female. The actual number was going to be 1200 but they recruited more people to respond to a demand from the public for paid work, they say. There are two shifts, day and night. The day shift works from 7:30am to 4:30pm in the afternoon and the night works from 6:00 pm to 6:00 am in the morning (although 8 hours ends at 3 AM).

The workers are allowed to rest only for 30 minutes, during their lunch break. After that, they go back to work standing whole day or night without rest. Their hands keep moving without stopping, because the moment they stop their supervisor or team leader screams at them (we observed). The hourly rate for the workers is 90 toea, which is K72:00 for their fortnight.

The workers are fortunate enough to have lunch inside the factory, Francus Sumanup says. No money is deducted from the workers pay to go towards the lunch. It is a good meal of sausage, rice, kaukau and variety of greens like cabbage, aibika, carrots, beans. The quality of the food is good but the quantity is very small. When asked could they be given more food? Frances Sumanup replied that if they eat too much they cannot do the job as they become sleepy.

- Workers do not wear gloves when handling fish
- Workers sometimes have sores on their hands when handling fish
- When receiving fish coming in from the ships the fish is unloaded on the dirty concrete floor outside the building and sorted out to be stored away.
- Workers when removing the skin of the fish using the knives many a times cut their fingers and work on.

Some of the attendance problems may be the result of back aches from standing the previous day.



Waste treatment

Every bit of fish waste from the factory is washed down into a huge drain in the centre of the factory and piped out to the treatment plant. The water is treated and discharged into a huge tank and later piped out into the sea 800 metres away from shore. According to laboratory tests, the water discharged is safe and does no harm to marine life or local fishermen/women. The human waste from the treatment plant is piped into a huge tank and later piped out into a slush boat which carries it away 5-8 miles away from the shore and discharge it into the sea.

“The smell is really killing you the moment you enter the factory gate,” One informant said.

It comes from the treatment plant, where waste is treated and separated from water to be discharged into the sea. There is no covering to the waste and when the wind blows the smell is circulated out to Wewak town. Nothing will be done about the smell because the SST rep says it is ‘industry standrad’ safe. According to the lab technician, Sumanup says, SST has passed US standards for microbes and chemicals in the wastes discharged. They have two separate laboratories, one for microbiology lab and one for chemistry. The laboratory technicians check for microbes and chemicals in the fish as well as the waste waters. “The technician was really convincing in the way he was explaining his wonderful idea.”

The fish waste is the tail and the head of the fish including the intestines and gills, and it is processed into stock feed and exported to Sydney. SST also sells the fish stock feed to the DPI at a discount price where they mix it with other feed to break down the high concentration of protein (16%). SST asks the DPI to sell it to local farmers at the reasonable price, but DPI does not comply and they sell it a very high price to local farmers.

Fishing

There are two species of tuna they catch for lonning, skipjack and yellowfin. The fishing is done in the northern waters which is a breeding ground for tuna. Surplus catch is stored away in the cooler room which is -25 Degree Celsius. SST does not need the bycatch species so sells it to Wewak Fisheries at a reasonable price, and the Fisheries then sells it to people in town.

An electric net is used to catch the fish. It was not explained how safe it is for the people to eat fish caught using the electric net. People have said that the fish are already bad when the fisheries officers sell to people in town, though. Maria says, “I have bought some fish at the

fisheries myself at one stage and found out that the fish were already smelly thinking that the fisheries have caught the fish themselves.”



Visit 15/7/05 with Francis Sumunup, Philomena Naura, Ian Boatwood, and our team: Kia, Paul, Barth, Daniel, Thomas, Nancy.

Some of the Ward Councilors from Wewak town had just come to SST the day before our visit.

Ian Boatwood (transcribed):

“Well we started building in 2000. There was a delay in construction which is why we opened only last year. This was part of Harbours Board lease, there were two big pits here and swamp land and we filled it in. Right now about ah...active...1600 employees, and we get attendance of about 1200...”

Nancy: “400 sometimes don’t come?”

IB: “That’s right...we have 25% absenteeism then. ...That’s why we have 1600. We overhire, yes. Well the people didn’t have jobs before we came here, and they don’t depend on them now....Like we overemploy to make sure that we have enough people here...some people don’t come...and its gradually changing, day one it was much worse, but people are getting more used to coming to work now, ...but things are getting better now. Theyre more used to coming into work now.”

N: “What happens if they don’t show?”

IB: “Well if people don’t show up for work, well if they don’t show up for work, I mean ultimately they get terminated after a qualifying period.... We have a certain number of employees every day, show up every day, and we can accommodate a certain number over, ten or twenty people, if they show up, so its not a hard fast number...We hire from all over:

Francis Sumanup: “We did have ward councilors coordinating with us for our workers...What happened was the people don’t like to come and work, and so they left and we hired new people....People come every day to look for work...Then they don’t like the work here and they left. So its not possible to target one area...[Elsewhere he says they like to come on payday Friday only].

N: “So do you think the numbers will fall off?”

IB: “Naaah, just last week we had a hundred people at the gate waiting to come in, to get jobs. They heard that we were looking for new people, for whatever reason, they found out...word goes out and we get inundated with people ... We run several shifts. Parts of the operation runs 24 hours... We start bringing fish out on a Sunday evening, four o'clock shift, start preparing fish for the Monday pack, and then there's butchering and cooking through the night. Then in the morning the first production shift starts, and in the evening the second production shift starts.. We cook the fish and remove the viscera ...and we cook it, and the process of loining is we clean it, we totally remove the skin and the bones, we break the loins apart, remove the red meat, the blood meat, that all goes into fish meal; and then the loins are packed in kryo-vac bags and frozen and sent on to processors who supplement the loins in their production...we're not a canners like RD...its just a frozen product...we export to Europe, America, Thailand, American Samoa.”

N: “Are you Starkist?”

IB: “No, we're not Starkist...we just sell to mostly the major processors...and then they can it and sell it whomever...we just take orders from the major packers as its required...we don't label it, its not a finished product..Were doing about 100 to 110 tonnes a day, night and day shifts included... We have a large freezer here so we can have a large buffer of fish in inventory, depends on whether fishing is good or fishing is slow...then we take out 100 tonnes a day...the vessels are owned by the company, based in Taiwan.”

N: “Who is Offshore Masters?”

IB: “I have no idea. No idea. ...No idea... We've heard that they're going to build a factory over here somewhere..but we don't know who they are, where they're from. But we've never dealt with them at all.

N: “Is Angco an investor?”

IB: “No, not at all...Originally, that was the case, but they have no investment, no investment at all in South Seas...All I know is that they were involved in the project early on, but now...they have nothing to do with us, and Kevin Conrad has nothing to do with us either, it was originally his idea to build a tuna loining factory but he has nothing to do with it now.

N: “So the ownership is?”

IB: “FCF. And the provincial government.”

Kia: “What percentage is the Provincial Government?”

IB: “I don't know the composition.”

N: “Do you have spin off businesses or how do you give back to town?”

IB: “Well, we employ a lot of people. A tuna factory like this, there are multipliers out there. We do half a million plus business in town, we generate all our own power here, we don't use the town supply...we are using water for the town supply, though. We throw revenues back to the Water Board and wages going out into the business communities, we inject money into the community, we get involved in some sponsorships.”

N: "Have you sponsored sporting groups?"

IB: "No, but I mean we get involved in the community as much as we can. Our cafeteria buys supplies locally...so it's...some of the local businesses in PNG we buy a lot of parts from."

N: "Are there management programs for training?"

IB: "We don't have any formalized training programs, but this company is operating, its got myself and sixteen other expats only, we don't have a large, and we obviously, all our positions, we are training when people are available, these people are training to take their positions. If you look around the factory you'll observe that all the fish cleaning is predominantly by women employees and that entire area works under the guidance of one expat on each shift and all the supervisors, team leaders, are local people from Wewak...one or two people had a little experience at RD, but all the team leaders supervising out there are all local."

N: "What about landowner issues? This was State land?"

IB: "Yeah, I mean, you never get away from the landowner issues, but we have a lease from the Department of Lands and we have not had any direct demands made of us...This was actually leased by the Harvbours Board, which bought from the State, and of course the traditional landowners always exist, as I understand it, but this piece was bought by the Harbours Board.

"This fish was being processed in Thailand before, it was being caught here...our fishermen operate with local licenses and with foreign licenses, and the idea that they're taking all the fish out of here, well they're not fishing out here, this fish is not additional production, in fact a lot of the fish we're supplying was being processed in Marjoro, in the Marshall islands, and that factory has been closed down, so really the business has shifted here.

N: "What if new factories open?"

IB: "We'll, maybe they have to think about whether they'll be able to survive, but we're already here. This is not additional production. I don't get involved in that end of the business. Now if they want to put a factory here, obviously they've got to look at the economics of it...Oh the boats here were here before, we were fishing for years before we opened."

N: "Do you buy from local fishermen?"

IB: "Locals suppliers we haven't had as yet, we would take fish from local suppliers if they can bring in good quality fish, skip jack or yellowfin...There are no fishing groups I think there's a lot of organizing that needs to be done as yet, but we would definitely support them."

N: "Does anything on the fish say PNG?"

IB: "Well, they call it exporting, but really the fish is of PNG origin, but the product is stamped from another country, we don't label the product at all, we're registered, this is registered in the USA and we follow their guidelines. But if you picked up Starkest you wouldn't know where the fish came from.

"We purse seine the fish...there is a very small quantity of what they call miscellaneous or bycatch it might be about ahhh...and now the Provincial Fisheries are buying some of that, and

some of that we use in our cafeteria, and if theres anything left over, any fish not suitable for eating that would go into the fish meal. We do about 50 tonnes of fish meal a week, that goes to Australia, exported, and yes, we do sell some to a manufacturer in Lae, and another is the EBC buy it to use themselves, and some to the local users, at discounted prices, for local use here, but its high protein and needs to be blended down with other stuff to be used.”

Paul: “What about the wastes?”

IB: “We implemented exactly the same procedures that are used anywhere else, and we set those guidelines ourselves, because there were no established standards that were familiar with as would be UPA American style, for the factory, so we put in two water treatment plants, we put in a sanitary water treatment plant, and that handles all the domestic waste, so we operate the only sewage treatment plant in wewak, and so all the waste is filtered through that plant, that’s a typical plant that a small town would utilize. Its aerobic and its batch-type plant—then the sludge from that--its an air- bacteria with aeration..and its ummm, its.. We have an 800 metre effluent pipeline that discharges the treated effluent from the sanitation and the process plant wastes, all the wash down water from the factory, so that’s dissolved there with cationic pollutant (?) and aeration. And so we float the sludge to the top, and the sludge gets raked off, and the sludge from the sanitary plant is taken off to a storage tank and that is pumped to a vessel and that is dumped past Moim point and about 6 km past Moim point... Well the odours that I believe that people object about are the odors coming from the waste water, mainly the processing plant, because the sanitary plant is contained. Weve had out teething problems, training problems, learning ourselves problems, and weve made some substantial improvements on that. And in fact we had some people here yesterday from local level government and I think they were pretty much in agreement too that we have things a lot better than they have been in the pasty from time to time...we draw the odors from the sludge collection tank along with the fish meal plant, and along with the fish cookers here when theyre evacuated, and we draw that through the bio filter and that filters it from bacteria, and its pretty effective in neutralizing the odor, and if you walk around you can smell how effective it is, if you compare it with the smells inside. We’ve had our issues there of course...but we’re the first tuna factory in existence to operate with a bio filter. Well the bio filter always has been good, we’ve had some problems with the sludge tank venting system. That’s been a source of odors from time to time and weve tried to resolve these issues and weve learned a few things in the process. Like I said this is the first time I’ve ever worked with one [a bio filter]. And, um, it’s not new technology, it’s been used in Europe quite a lot, and particularly in abattoirs, and we saw it was really effective so we decided to bring the technology here. And it has, you’ll walk around and if the fish meal plant was emitting out to the community without the bio filter you’d smell it. [laughter]. It has made a big difference, it does a good job. But any odor we do have now I believe comes from our processed water treatment and I think we’ve made a lot of improvements on that.”

P: “What’s your biggest achievement so far?”

IB: “Achievement? Getting to 100 tonnes a day. We started with 2 tonnes, and we built up gradually...we got up to 70 fairly quickly, but its taken quite a bit to get the last 30-odd tonnes, and that’s people getting up to speed, we use industry standard cleaning standards used all over the world we know that because the people involved in this factory have had experience all over, Ive had experience all over the world, so the standards we implemented are common, and its just people learning,...it’s a repetitious job, its not a real difficult job, but I don’t want to make light of it, to do it well properly doesn’t require a lot of speed, it requires technique. So being able to maintain the quality level and get the troop up to clean fish for people who’ve

never cleaned fish before, that was a challenge. But Im very impressed with the ability of the local ladies to learn this.

“Complaints? We’ve had from time to time, employing 1200 to 13000 people every day, we’ve terminated many people, people who have been found to have betelnut on their possession, there’s a rule no betelenut in the factory and no chewing betelnut in the factory. People continue to bring it in, and they get terminated when they get caught. People get disciplined. We’ve had people complain about their pay. How much they earn. First thing: how many days did you work? First thing, and they talk to other outsiders and they say, ‘What-- you only earn that much money?’ But what the person is not telling them is that they didn’t show up for work two days in a fortnight. And like I said with the absenteeism, people don’t understand, or it’s taken a long time to understand that they’re paid by the hour. We have a base rate, we have a starting rate, we have a rate after the probationary period, and then we have rates for other levels of--for team leaders, the supervisors, the forklift drivers, the maintainence people, so we have a pay scale, and everybody that shows up ten doys out of the ten day period they get an additional attendance bonus in their pay packet.”

N: “How long is probationary period?”

IB: “The standard 3 months. Then it goes to regular rate, and then we pay a shift differential, for different hours, so the night shift is paid more...anybody that’s on the night shift gets a premium per hour in addition to that. What we also do is give our employees the opportunity to transfers, at the end of every month they have the opportunity to change shifts if they so desire...so the second shift people can come to the first, and so forth.

“Safety? That’s a good question. The majority of our workers are female and weve designed our shifts and the length of our shifts around the daylight hours. We start the day shift---see local transport here---we do not want to be in the transport business, we do not want to take the business away from the local operators. The local operators don’t want to operate outside of 6 oclock at night and 6 oclock in the morning. For security reasons. We wouldn’t want to be any different from them, we have the same security problems. We designed our shifts around those hours and what we do is we have a standard 8 hour shift, on the day shift, and the night shift starts at 6 oclock at night., which means they can get in while transport is operating and the day shift can get home, and we do an extra two hours. Of overtime, they get paid overtime, for that time, which brings them closer to that day shift, 6 AM, so they can get home. That extends the night shift on and puts them at a time when they can pick up the transportation.”

N: “You provide a meal?”

IB: “We provide with no charge to the employees if they so desire to eat it, its not compulsory, a meal, we offer a meal, I get a lot of criticism because I think a lot of people think it’s the sustaining meal for the day, but it’s a meal that’s offered by the factory for employees if they choose to.”

N: “Some bring their own lunch?”

IB: “They’re quite welcome to do that. We’ve gone backwards and forwards on the meal, we listen to a lot of complaints on the meal, and weve had complaints from time to time and we’ve tried tin fish and we tried sago.

“We’re starting to have some employee meetings on a monthly basis, where we don’t select them, but employees meet with management and HR and hopefully well start to get some of

that kind of feedback...But he [the employee] can go outside and complain, and you read all sorts of things in the paper, but it needs to be brought to management's attention. Everybody goes to their immediate team leader or supervisor, and if they don't get satisfaction they can, and some do, walk into my office...Of course some people don't always like what they hear. Some people are disgruntled and you can't please everybody all the time."

N: "What happened at the recent mini-strike?"

IB: "No we didn't raise pays, we changed the way we were calculating pay, which, um, because of the high absenteeism, it was, you know, it wasn't working out, but we have only changed, we had the Labour Department involved with everything we were doing, I think there are a lot of misunderstandings, a lot of people don't understand if you're absent you don't get paid. So I think things have settled down now...I mean, the mini strike, we were blindsided by the whole thing. We're up here they're down there, nobody came to talk to us, the only people who came to talk to us were all outsiders. Two weeks ago, whenever it was, they were all outsiders...they came down and first thing I told them was if you're in any way involved in this strike, firstly, it's illegal and you should tell them to come back to work, if they've got issues, to talk to us about them..We asked them to come down and we thought hopefully somebody's going to show up here, and we're going to sit here for how long? And finally a group of about 12 outsiders, and one, one employee who worked for the company for three weeks was amongst them, and she barely knew why she was there, she only worked for the company for three weeks..."

N: "Were they afraid of being fired?"

IB: "I don't know what the workers were afraid of, but I mean they should've been afraid of losing a day's pay because that's what they did."

K: "What about unions?—they're legal."

IB: "Absolutely, they can have any union they want. As long as it's affiliated, as long as it's recognized, and as long as we're informed. ...Have a union, I mean a union means nothing to us—you see, either way, with a union, without a union, it doesn't worry us, they're welcome, there's nothing we can do to stop it anyway. But people were collecting money off our employees, we understand it, that had no business, that were not of any affiliated or recognized union, and I informed the group, I believe some of our employees paid people who were saying they'd represent them in a union. And as I told our employees, there are no recognized unions that I've been informed of, so if they paid money to any of these people they should get it back because what they've done is illegal, those people, collecting the money. Now we know who at least one of the people are, but he's come to the gate claiming to represent the people. In fact this group that came down, that was my comment to them, I said I have no idea why you're here, you don't represent our people. We don't have to discuss anything with you---because they were ill informed. 'Why does this person earn only this much money?' Well, the only way they can earn that much money is if they don't come to work every day. We had to listen to them and they were ill-informed. [If there were a union] it would be better because people would be better informed. About issues. They can have people represent them and come to management meetings."

K: "It would be easy to register a union."

IB: "Oh sure, but somebody's got to raise the money, and then you gotta collect the fees, and ..."

N: "Theres a huge psychological divide between the ladies who are loining and even you [to Philomena], I mean it must be alittlke scary for them to talk to their superiors."

IB: "It has been, but I think they're starting to realize were human beings...and we're planning to have a little appreciation function here now that weve started to get to our numbers. We said if we hit the 100 tonnes for July, and we have every reason to do that, so they've done very well, we're happy now weve made it.."

N: "Are you familiar with RD Tuna?"

IB: "I don't know much about RD. We do have Filipino expats who come to us from RD ...we've had a lot of experience in business, around the world... Trinidad, South America, and my boss has been everywhere I haven't been."

N: "He is?"

IB: "Mike McCully is the MD of South Seas Tuna and he's based in San Diego. And so a lot of our tuna expertise weve hired our expats from General Santos wjhere there are many many tuna factories. Some have worked for RD in various positions, but we didn't hire them from RD, we went direct to General Santos and hired them.

"We have, I think, from what you're saying, we have, we did put in an effort with this plant, I mean 23 million US dollars, which is a lot of money, and I think youll see it as you walk around, that weve tried, tried to put up a good facility. And that our employees, they've never seen a tuna factory before, they don't know what to expect ...I mean look at the good things as well as the bad things...I mean, look at the kids who are going to school here, I mean we can provide a lot of employment for future generations. This is no 2 or 3 year thing, I mean, for the plant to be successful. I've heard a lot of the criticism but we still put a lot of people to work."

N: "There's a hospital in the plant?"

IB: "We have a first aid clinic for work related first aid. But we couldn't take it upon ourselves to be a first stop clinic for the family. And we have a full-time worker in it."

N: "Is shift work suited to PNGuineans? You are pioneers in a way..."

IB: "I think well we've seen a change to datem, up to now, so yeah, I think definitely, it's definitely heading in the right direction and continuing to do so, and I believe that, at day one, were employing a whole group of people that just haven't had a job before, so I think in time, they'll definutely continue to improve. And we've had our teething problems, I mean, when we're not getting the tonnage, they've stayed on, worked longer hours, to get it through , and I don't know if in the long run that's a good thing to do because people get tired and then they don't come in the next day and it hurts you even more...but they get paid for overtime, yes."

N: "The women in the market would say 'We make more at the market every day'"

IB: "I mean, how many women can work at the market though? I mean I've heard that same argument and I mean if all four hundred of these women went down to the market, none of them

would be making any money. I think you have to look at the multipliers all around: you got 1200 people walking out of here with pay cheques. And that money goes to many things, and you know, it turns over—these people aren't flying to Moresby or flying to Honolulu or anywhere else, these people are putting this money into Wewak. So I've heard all the stories and Frances [Sumanup] has been involved in it from the start—I mean, him a lot longer than I--- and you've heard the comments about one of the major concerns was prostitution—you know, but not attributed to whether there's a factory or not--the fishermen stay on the boat, I mean no one goes out to the boats—I mean, there's more going on with the trans-shipping out there, and it never comes ashore, than would ever occur here. So the tuna factory has, I would have to say, improved that, because a lot of the boats that are coming in now are coming in to off-load at the dock and, you know, I mean...These boats were fishing here before, the fish was going to Thailand, and the ladies were going out in the canoes. So I don't think we've had any negative, I can't see that we've had any negative impacts, and in fact we inject money into the community, and a lot of the ladies at the market are probably selling a lot more because there's more money going around, I gotta believe.”

P: “Can people get medical leave?”

IB: “Medical excuse? As per the Department of Labor, they produce the required documentation, and as I understand it it's a receipt that you've been seen by a doctor or the hospital and your medical book stamped, or medical certificate, you know; those documents are produced, they can prove they've been sick, they're entitled to their number of sick days...as per the work agreement. We have the Department of Labour, but then you have the small Wewak agreement with the Dept of Labour. And it changes a couple of the entitlements, one of them I believe was sick days..[They get] nine I think, a year. Three weeks paid vacation a year, once you become a permanent employee on your anniversary. After the ninety days probation you're a permanent employee.”

N: “Do they sign a contract?”

IB: “No, the sick days are not paid, but after their first year anniversary they're paid their holiday pay and they can choose to take their 3 weeks at that time. Which is standard Dept of Labour guidelines. Whatever the Dept of Labour guidelines are.

“The factory is built to increase output to 200 tones a day (with a couple of additional pieces of equipment) and we'd get 200 tonnes a day, and we'd take on half again more employees.

“It would matter [if there are other factories] for the work force, yea, it would matter to us...theres only so many people in the work force.Believe me, I mean, we have not had any trouble hiring people, our problem's been turning people away, and we employ, obviously those people who are no show after a certain period of time, we hire more people, and some of those rehired people are employees who are coming back again...and we've never had to sit down and say where do we go next for employees?”

N: “Your receive a tax break?”

IB: “Tax incentives? We have a state agreement with the Govt of PNG which begins with the government providing us with a suitable piece of land, at a reasonable rent, which is the land we operate on, and the government gives us the usual deal that is offered any company to come in to PNG,,a tax abatement...I believe our agreement isa five year agreement with an option to renew, to a ten year agreement.”

Philomena Naura: “The smell around town that people talk about, its not the fish smell, it’s the waste water, the waste water.”

Francis Sumanup mentioned that one of the spin offs was growing selling coconut shells to the factory (which cover the surface of the waste in the tank and function as a deoderizer) but it fell through.

In the estimation of Sumanup, Naura and Boatwood, the Company milestones include:

- Increased production from 20 tonnes to 110 tonnes/day, meeting optimum level, though the plant as potential to produce 200 tonnes/day.
- Active staff of 1200 recruited from all parts of the province and overseas
- Expertise and collective experience in the industry especially at management level
- All staff appropriately trained and taken through necessary health and safety procedures,
- One of the best plants in the region beased on international standards
- Export quality loined tuna to Europe, Thailand and USA.
- Promote localization through staff training and high employment percentage (90%).
- Spinoffs include purchase of fuel from local depots; usage of local water supply; purchase of vegetables from local markets; and providing employment to 1200.

Company setbacks:

- High staff turnover, especially in production division (mainly due to complains about pay).
- Unable to initially meet the expected production level (Tonnage):.
- Change how wages have been calculated
- Open door policy—more staff-supervisor and management interaction/communication, mainly through monthly meetings and occasional parties.
- Optional shifts depending on division.
- Free decent meals during breaks.



o. Health and sanitation

The factory is large a spacious enough to double its production capacity with only minor adjustments. Inside, the administration building is serene and air conditioned, one flight above the high-ceilinged windowless production floors, where the air recirculates a smell of fish wastes. The production floor itself is an Orwellian vision, with long steel tables surrounded by

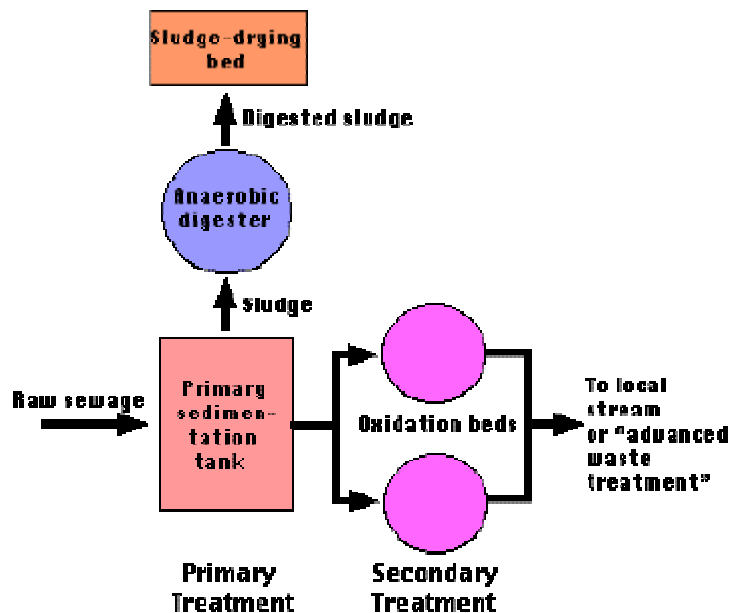
six hundred women wearing green plastic aprons, hair nets and white gum boots as they skin, loin and shrink-wrap great mounds of tuna. Striding up and down the aisles between them are PNG team leaders wearing special caps and barking orders under the general din, while a female Filipino supervisor makes wider rounds. It is a rude sight, all the Sepik ladies standing in for their Marshall Island or Samoan counterparts in similar South Pacific factories. It's hard to call the step from thatch house on the river to this cavern of sunless barehanded piece-work a form of 'progress,' but this is 'development' as it stands for women in Wewak today.

In an adjoining hall the whole fish arrive to be butchered and made ready to freeze, by a male and female team of eight or ten workers who chop and stack the fish onto rolling shelves. Right beside them lies well in the floor called the 'sump,' where guts, blood and offal float in a putrid soup of water, the ground zero of all the factory's stench. Standing near the sump, which is only feet away from the butchery line and open to the entire production level, one can easily understand the claims of workers vomiting on a daily basis when they start working at the factory.

There is an in-house clinic for minor cuts and bruises, the most severe of which are sent home to heal. And in another section, fish bones and wastes become chicken feed cereal for sale overseas and some sites in PNG. The freezers are vast stadiums of cold smoke, and workers roll the high stacks of lions in and out. They begin and end their shifts by punching a time clock, and the skinning and loining women are

The factory is very clean and orderly, especially as compared to RD Tuna's facilities in Madang. Toilet and locker rooms for men and women, well-swept cement floors and efficient ventilation all make this a more humane workplace by far than the RD plant. But the smell is the same: an unsupportably nauseating stench that surrounds employees at all production stations, but it filtered out by air conditioning in the administration block.

This smell comes from the 'state of the art' treatment plant, which provides for separate sedimentation and oxidation of the fish and human wastes, after which they are mixed and disposed of at sea. This is the cause of the terrible smell.



There is no covering to the oxidizing wastes, although the human wastewater is covered with a bed of coconut husks to promote odor-reducing microbiological culture. But at this scale, the reduction is all relative, because when the winds pick up they lift the smells from an Olympic pool-sized stew of cultures and carry them across the town's lowlands. Is this a sign the microbiological cultures are dying? As all of this is nevertheless 'industry safe' SST workers tend to shrug their shoulders and say they get used to it.

There are other questions, too. SST tells us the sludge is dropped 800 metres off shore, towards Vokeo and Koil Islands. This is considered a safe enough distance from the shore to prevent contamination of bathing and fishing grounds. But if so, why are regular islands of filth found floating toward shore? And is this dumping attracting sharks? The WWF consultant, in discussing the Environmental Plan, implies that SST has access to monitoring reports of similar Pacific Island treatment and disposal situations, but have not reviewed them in their plan. Are they more concerned about their legal than their environmental responsibilities?

p. Labour issues

Factory Life
(Anonymous)

In the bare white walls of the fish factory
I worked all day just to make ends meet
Cut and gut and pack it up
That will never get you far

They got me workin' all day

I spent two years in a factory
With fumes so thick it hurt to breathe
Destroyed my throat broke my back
I ain't never going back

They got me workin' all day

They get you in when you're down and out
Your blood and sweat is running out
One things for sure its plain to see
I don't wanna work in a factory

They got me workin' all day

Every single employee interviewed, formally or casually, complained to us about their wages. During a twelve week probationary period production workers make only 90t hour, which is roughly 30 US cents. (One reason the plant wasn't built in San Diego). Should the employee be tardy three times or miss a day during that three months, the probationary period starts over, thus locking first time wage earners into ever longer indenture to SST.

Back in January of 2000, the Senior Policy Planner for the East Sepik Provincial Administration produced a cost analysis of the factory based on SST's 1999 business proposal submitted to the National Fisheries Board, and a Feasibility Study and Site Selection Report submitted by Integrated Manufacturing Planning Ltd. (USA). Under Employment, the report says, "When the Tuna Processing Plant is in full operation in year one, it will employ about 970 local employees. As per Business Plan an average wage per hour of US\$0.90 + 7% fringe benefit will be paid for two shifts." This figure converts to roughly K3/hour before benefits.

Based on the 970 local labour requirements for the factory, working two shifts for 8 hours per day for a total of ten (10) working days per fortnight, the calculation is worked out to be US\$ 76.80 per local employee per fortnight.

In other words, someone working 8 hours a day for ten days would take home \$72 (*rather than K72*). In the course of a year, given a two-week unpaid vacation, this person would make \$1800, or roughly K6000. That is, if you survived eight-hour shifts standing in rubber boots loining tuna barehanded all day. In addition, the wage projection tables show no increase structured for employees in the first five years of employment.

If we look at the actual workforce and wage, we can see that the average permanent wage (which only kicks in after 3 months) is K1.10/hour (up from K1), which means K40 hour week garners K88 (before deductions for NPF). This is roughly US\$26/fortnight, rather than the projected \$76.80, or one-third the estimated wages in the original business plan. The actual annual wage of a worker is K2200 (or \$US660), in his or her second year of employment. In the first year, he or she would only make only K2104, after three month's probation. This is roughly US\$630.

Wages in Papua New Guinea are set by the government's Minimum Wages Board. In 1992, the Board abolished the method of setting wages according to the movement of the Consumer Price Index, and established a legal minimum rate of K22.96 per week for unskilled adult workers. This abolished the rural and urban wage differential. Since 1992, however, as the kina has dropped and cost of living escalated, the minimum wage has remained unchanged, unpegged as it is to any cost of living index. Responsible employers have adjusted wages accordingly, but no one is legally bound to do so. SSTC's probationary wage (lasting three months) for loiners is thus above the legal minimum, even if it remains well below any wage adjusted to a Consumer Price Index. Beginning employees are on a rate of 90 toya/hour, and after three months they graduate to the permanent wage of K1.10/hour.

Pay Advice
South Seas Tuna

Department: HR - Catering
Pay Point:
Pay Date: 14-Aug-2004
Paid To: 1-Aug-2004
Pay: Cheque

Pay Item	Quantity	Rate	Yr To Date	Gross	Deductions	Benefits	Net
Ordinary Pay - Week One	40.00	0.9000	72.00	38.00			
Ordinary Pay - Week Two	40.00	0.9000	72.00	38.00			
Overtime @ 1.5 - Week One	8.25	1.3503	16.54	11.14			
Overtime @ 1.5 - Week Two	18.75	1.3499	40.16	25.31			
This pay				108.45	0.00	0.00	108.45
Year to date				200.70	0.00	0.00	200.70

Typical probationary wage fortnight pay for production worker: 90t/hour with overtime totals K108.45 for two weeks' work.

Company	South Seas Tuna Corporation	Pay Date	20/05/05
Employment	Production Worker	Employee Code	82288
Location	LSB	Employment Code	82288
Pay Period	18/05/05 - 24/05/05	Pay Rate	47.26
Pay Details		Rate	47.26
Normal Hours - Week 1	38.0000	47.2600	1800.00
Normal Hours - Week 2	38.0000	47.2600	1800.00
Overtime Hours - Week 1	0.0000	0.0000	0.00
Overtime Hours - Week 2	0.0000	0.0000	0.00
Employee Contribution	400.0000	0.0000	400.00
Superannuation Contribution	400.0000	0.0000	400.00
Net Pay	1359.0000	47.2600	1359.00

Company	South Seas Tuna Corporation	Pay Date	26/05/05
Employment	Production Worker	Employee Code	82288
Location	LSB	Employment Code	82288
Pay Period	24/05/05 - 31/05/05	Pay Rate	53.55
Pay Details		Rate	53.55
Normal Hours - Week 1	38.0000	53.5500	2035.50
Normal Hours - Week 2	38.0000	53.5500	2035.50
Overtime Hours - Week 1	0.0000	0.0000	0.00
Overtime Hours - Week 2	0.0000	0.0000	0.00
Employee Contribution	400.0000	0.0000	400.00
Superannuation Contribution	400.0000	0.0000	400.00
Net Pay	1235.5000	53.5500	1235.50

Company	South Seas Tuna Corporation	Pay Date	01/06/05
Employment	Production Worker	Employee Code	82288
Location	LSB	Employment Code	82288
Pay Period	30/05/05 - 06/06/05	Pay Rate	69.88
Pay Details		Rate	69.88
Normal Hours - Week 1	38.0000	69.8800	2655.44
Normal Hours - Week 2	38.0000	69.8800	2655.44
Overtime Hours - Week 1	0.0000	0.0000	0.00
Overtime Hours - Week 2	0.0000	0.0000	0.00
Employee Contribution	400.0000	0.0000	400.00
Superannuation Contribution	400.0000	0.0000	400.00
Net Pay	1855.4400	69.8800	1855.44

Company	South Seas Tuna Corporation	Pay Date	08/06/05
Employment	Production Worker	Employee Code	82288
Location	LSB	Employment Code	82288
Pay Period	07/06/05 - 13/06/05	Pay Rate	90.00
Pay Details		Rate	90.00
Normal Hours - Week 1	38.0000	90.0000	3420.00
Normal Hours - Week 2	38.0000	90.0000	3420.00
Overtime Hours - Week 1	0.0000	0.0000	0.00
Overtime Hours - Week 2	0.0000	0.0000	0.00
Employee Contribution	400.0000	0.0000	400.00
Superannuation Contribution	400.0000	0.0000	400.00
Net Pay	6020.0000	90.0000	6020.00

Above: four consecutive pay slips for production worker on 90t/hour rate: K47.26, K53.55, K52.88 and finally K6.98 (representing one day's pay in last fortnight) before this worker quit for more lucrative work selling at the local market.

Company	South Seas Tuna Corporation	Pay Date	15/06/05
Employment	Production Worker	Employee Code	82288
Location	LSB	Employment Code	82288
Pay Period	14/06/05 - 20/06/05	Pay Rate	110.35
Pay Details		Rate	110.35
Normal Hours - Week 1	38.0000	110.3500	4193.30
Normal Hours - Week 2	38.0000	110.3500	4193.30
Overtime Hours - Week 1	0.0000	0.0000	0.00
Overtime Hours - Week 2	0.0000	0.0000	0.00
Employee Contribution	400.0000	0.0000	400.00
Superannuation Contribution	400.0000	0.0000	400.00
Net Pay	7393.3000	110.3500	7393.30

permanent worker's fortnight wage @K1.10/hour with overtime pay and deduction for NPF, totals K106.35.

Below: two tardiness notices:



DISCIPLINARY ACTION FORM

REPORT FILED BY: SALES - UZUNY DATE: 25/05/05 TIME: 10:00 SHEET: 1

INCIDENT BRIEF: LATE FOR WORK

EMPLOYEE NAME: SALES - UZUNY EMPLOYEE NUMBER: 82288

ALLEGED OFFENCE (PLACE A TICK IN THE BOX)

NO ID UNHEAVY BEARD DIRTY HAIR NET

LATE PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE NO PROPER SHOES

NO GATE PASS NO HAIR NET UNBELY BEHAVIOUR

REMARKS:

SIGNED: SALES - UZUNY TIME: 10:00 DATED: 25/05/05

NOTE: ALL INCIDENT REPORTS MUST BE FILED WITH AN OFFICE WITHOUT DELAY. IF AN ID IS COLLECTED, ATTACHED THE ID CARD TO THIS FORM AND RETURN TO THE OFFICE.



DISCIPLINARY ACTION FORM

REPORT FILED BY: SALES - UZUNY DATE: 25/05/05 TIME: 10:00 SHEET: 1

INCIDENT BRIEF: LATE FOR WORK

EMPLOYEE NAME: SALES - UZUNY EMPLOYEE NUMBER: 82288

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LATE PROHIBITED SUBSTANCE NO PROPER SHOES

NO GATE PASS NO HAIR NET UNBELY BEHAVIOUR

REMARKS:

SIGNED: SALES - UZUNY TIME: 10:00 DATED: 25/05/05

NOTE: ALL INCIDENT REPORTS MUST BE FILED WITH AN OFFICE WITHOUT DELAY. IF AN ID IS COLLECTED, ATTACHED THE ID CARD TO THIS FORM AND RETURN TO THE OFFICE.

OUTH SEAS TUNA CORPORATION LIMITED

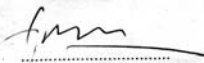
FINAL WARNING

DATE: 24/03/05

NAME OF EMPLOYEE: HELEN KAPLAI
DIVISION / SECTION: CATERING DEPARTMENT

This serves as a 'FINAL WARNING' in that you have been warned on numerous occasions for breaching your terms and conditions of your employment with this company. You are now reminded that any future breaches will result in your termination without any further notice in that:-

- 1: Your actions towards your boss is not right
- 2: You are a very stubborn woman, who don't accept corrections or rebukes from the Supervisors & Managers.
- 3: You argue with your Supervisor in many occasions, because you have differences with her.

SIGNED: 

I acknowledge the above contents and will be fully responsible for my actions or omissions, and will accept the management decision.

NAME: Helen Kaplai SIGNED: H. Kaplai
DATE: 30/03/05

Above: A final disciplinary note to one worker, for whom disagreeing with her superiors was clearly not welcome.

2) Sepik het bilong Yupela sting ikam
 inap long maus Yupela.

(3) Sepik Yupela i olsem ol dogs na
 pigs na Yupela kaikai Planti
 Saksak na Yupela long lang.

4) ~~Yupela~~ Jonh' Viali emingar
 bilong mes ~~house~~ orhouse kaikai
 bilong kampani South Sea. (TURK)

15) Ol wokmeri long mes mipela
 save wokim bikpela wok insaid
 long mes long lukoutim kaikai
 bilong ~~Six~~ ^{to 5} ~~Andret~~ ~~in~~ wokmanmeri
 Bos Jonh Viali em ino save Pilim
 Sori long olwokmanmeri
~~wantaim dispa~~
 Bos ino save tokim ~~ol~~ astingting
 bilong meeting kirap nogut long statim
~~tok Pipa Toklongton~~
 tok wantaim toknogutu Tokim
 mipela Fak Fak Sepik.

9-7 0204
 Staf meeting
 3:0klok Apinun Bos Jonh tokim
 mipela olgela wokmanmeri long
 meeting, nogat gupela tok save em
 stat kras na toknogutu.

Ol Sepik olsem ol Pigs na dogs Wankan
 ol Sprints nogut ipatlap Yupela Sepik.
 mameri Yupela long long man

Above is a list of curses said to be used by Supervisor John Veali in the Mess in berating workers, given to us anonymously.

Kate Barclay (2004:533-4) writing about a Solomon Islands–Japanese joint venture cannery, tells us that:

The nature of mixing up between Solomon Islanders and foreigners in Solomon Taiyo was structurally hierarchical and it was represented as such by almost all Solomon Islander interviewees. They expressed a strong sense of injustice at this subordination... Indeed, the preoccupation with domination by foreigners was such that it permeated perceptions of all the negative aspects of mixing up in Solomon Taiyo. Problems suffered by women were framed by some interviewees as perpetuated on 'our' women by 'foreigners,' rather than being seen as a result of patriarchy.

The overall point here is that management has made some complacent and condescending assumptions about the local workforce, particularly about the women. Nowhere has it been assayed or proven that the production line women would not be earning a living were they not employed by SST. Indeed, our research leads us to assume most of them would be working in the informal economy in some way or another, whether at roadside markets or with cash crops or small businesses, and most probably, in so doing, earning far more than their income at SST.

Our conclusion can only be that these women are sacrificing viable livelihoods for the opportunity to work in a wage-earning capacity, believing a pay packet to be the superior form of income. Some women in outlying settlements were, indeed, spending more on their transportation to and from the factory than they actually brought home in a fortnight. It wasn't long before these workers simply didn't return, which led company management to believe that Sepik women have a general problem with attendance, a lack of commitment or follow-through on the job. Inevitably, this reaffirmed the original assumptions about the workforce and bolstered the management's sense of pride that they were indeed training the Wewak people to learn better workplace habits, molding a responsible workforce out of what had once been an idle, perhaps even social lax, urban population.

One of our researchers was also told by a hospital employee (a PNG woman in fact) that the 600-800 women working in the factory at any shift is socially beneficial because it lowers rates of prostitution in town. After all, what else would these women be doing if they weren't loining fish?

q. Fishing vessels

Despite the suggestion above, most prostitution in the the fishing industry occurs in and around the fishing vessels, where women are lured aboard by workers wanting to trade sex for cigarettes, liquor and, most ironically, bycatch fish. Whereas in Madang we found a regular market has been established by local women selling fruits and vegetables to these ships, in Wewak this is not quite as institutionalized, and women are more likely to board these ships for sex than garden sales.

Fishing vessels are the locus of most complaint about the industry, as vehicles by which people, cargo and disease can be trafficked across national boundaries with relative impunity. For this reason it is commonly preferred that the crew of fishing vessels remain offshore from the country where they are working. Recall, for example, the news report cited above about an FCF fishing boat mutiny:

Shi Lei, 21, has been in U.S. custody since his arrest March 21 on suspicion of killing the two men during an argument aboard the Full Means 2 while the vessel was in international waters. The first mate's body was found in the ship's freezer; the captain's body had been thrown overboard... Shi and other crew members also have said they were abused and treated poorly aboard the ship, according to Byrne. According to a report by the Australia-based International Commission on Shipping, tens of thousands of seafarers on 10 percent to 15 percent of the world's ships work in slave-like conditions, logging long hours for little or no pay and meager rations. The crew of the Full Means 2 was Chinese. The ship was operated by **FCF Fishery Co.**, which is based in Taiwan and owned by the captain's father.

It is certainly true that the presence of the loining factory has neither diminished or increased the number of fishing vessels in the bay, but the plans for more factories certainly raises the threat of overfishing, and a small flood of foreign fishermen in Wewak's waters.

On 21 July 2005 researchers Daniel and Rex visited the fishing vessels Saltlake and Tai Shuh: Their notes are as follow:

We wanted to make an appointment to interview the Fisheries Inspector. Unfortunately, he was not available so we went over to see some Asian crewmen being disembarked at the jetty behind the Wewak Customs Office. I was introduced to Rex who is a relative of Daniel. Rex works as an Observer on fishing vessels. He just arrived from one of his shift

duties on one of the ships offloading fish on to a mother boat. He had with his a 25 kg bag that contained some fish (tuna) from the fishing vessels. He asked two of his male relatives waiting for him on the jetty to take the fish home. Then he swore harshly to them when one of them tried to lift the bag and put it on his shoulders. He warned them to hide the fish and make sure no one sees them all the way home. Rex had another small bag that had a fish about 5 kg inside and dropped it outside the Fishery Office when we met Dennis. He told Dennis that he'd brought it for him. Dennis thanked him and asked one of his relatives to take the fish home.

We were then introduced to **Dennis Yehilomo**, the Senior Observer, Wewak Desk. Dennis works in the position of a Senior Fishery Observer overlooking the operations in Wewak. He is a pioneer student for Observer program introduced in 1994. Their main responsibility is to monitor all fishing vessels operating under the licenses issued by the NFA and if they fail to produce any licenses they would report them to the NFA headquarters in Port Moresby who then panelize them. They make sure that all fishing operators work within the rules and regulations set by NFA as condition. If they are not followed they report and make recommendations for their fishing licenses to be revoked.

We had an informal chat and asked him if we could record our conversations and he willing agreed. After the interview with him and another one of his Observer officers we asked for any opportunity to visit fish transshipment from a fishing vessel to a mother boat. Dennis agreed to our request and tried several times to contact the PNG Harbors Board to get a clearance for us to visit with an Observer. After several attempts he referred us to Chauka Pormat who works with the Sepik Coastal Agencies. I explained to him of our interest to see who fishing vessels transfer their catch to the mother boat. I explained to him my need to see the fish transshipment as I am doing a case study on the SSTC plant and would need to see the process from the start. He was satisfied and drove us to the Sepik Coastal Agencies Head office where we met the Manager Mr Mathew _____. He inquired of our visit and I explained our need to see fish transshipment. He agreed and quickly wrote an endorsement letter introducing us to the PNG Harbors Board Port Manger Wewak. He approved our request and asked us to go back to the Sepik Coastal Agencies Office and show his note of approval to the Manager.

When we did it was about 2 PM and no boat was going to the vessels were the fish transshipment was going on. Chauka Pormat told us to come back 8.00 AM the next day. We thanked him and came back home.



Thursday 21 July 2005

Daniel and I met at the Sepik Coastal Agencies Head Office before 8.00 AM. After waiting for 30 minutes Chauka brought us down to the wharf and instructed a motor boat heading for the same destination (fishing vessel) to take us. We joined Justin a Guard Dog Security Guard going in for his shift on the ship.

From a kilometer away from the ship I saw many canoes surrounding the vessel transferring fish to the mother boat and I inquired what they were doing. The skipper replied that the locals were fishing. He said they are also staying around to collect any fish if they fell off in the sea and also waiting around for the crew to give them by-catches. We were helped onto the vessel about 9.30 AM and the Observer on board explained our presences on the ship to the crew and the Captain as students observing what they were doing as part of their school research. The Captain and a Chinese who managed some broken English and communicated mainly through sign language. The Captain accepted our visit and asked for some soup to be served to us. It was a little spicy but very delicious. Trying very hard to scoop the solids in the soup Daniel and I gulped it.

The Observer showed us around the ship. He took us to the main machine room which is equipped with all kinds of electronics. The vessel is equipt with all kinds of radio and communication systems, compasses, GPS, 4 powerful binoculars and others I understand very little of. One of the equipments that interested me the most was the scanner. The scanner has the capacity to detect fish especially tuna migrating or moving around some 1000-2000 nautical miles. The vessel specializing in tuna would read very carefully of the direction of tuna and would move accordingly to lower their net which covers 150 square kilometer.

They use purse netting method of fishing which means that anything that is within the 150 square km range will be caught and pulled onto the vessel. They then select what they want to take and dump the others they called by-catch. They also bring some of these by-catches off shore so they could transfer on the mother boat if they will. Nearly all the by-catch would have been dead before they are chucked back into the sea.

The Observer who said has traveled on many fishing vessels said many fishing vessel do something illegal such as catching protected species such as dolphins, whales, sharks and many others. The onus and the responsibility is on the Observer to report it or hide it. There are big temptations for this job because they would offer very big sum of money to shut you up. He said if they take you to some Asian countries they will take you to some exclusive clubs and brothels and offer you all kinds of lucrative and luxury you can't afford in PNG. He said there are cases where some PNG Observers went too far where they were offered prostitutes and money. There was another case where a Samoan was offered US\$ 1.2 million. In any of these cases Observer Officer would be prosecuted under the FFA and international Fishing Laws that they operate under.

We went into their living area which looks generally clean. They have a clean small kitchen which would fit about 20 people which I think was the size of the crews present on the vessel. Their sleeping areas looked exceptionally clean with two double bunkers per room. They have six rooms. There showers and toilets didn't looked filthy. Smelt fishy and dirty on the floor.

We went to the back of the vessel where it rolled up the 150 square km net. It also has a boat they use to stretch out the net if they are to lower the net and two other boats hanged

on the side of the fishing vessel. They also have a 40 horse powered boat that they use for other sundry purposes like come to the market etc.

When we were on board the Captain and four other crew boarded their 40 horse powered boat to come to town to collect some food. They came back with the several plastic full of food items from the market as well as store food items and toiletries.

The interesting thing to watch was the transferring of fish from the boat we were on board to the mother boat named Saltlake which was occupied by Chinese and had a PNG flag weaving. In fact all the ships there had PNG flags flying high on them and I wonder when PNG own these ships. Only by granting them license to fish or 'rather steal' in PNG waters they have government approval to do so. The though made me angry.

They are transferring mainly skipjack tuna with several tones of Yellow fin tuna. The whole of the bottom deck was the freezer where they kept their catch. The net of fish was moved around by pulley and they warned us that if the rope failed it would kill us we were took extra precautions. The first load is from the freezer underneath to the surface and the basket it then hanged on to the pulley from the mother boat will pulled it over to its side and dumped it into its freezer. We got bored after several hours of watching.

It was lunch and people we haven't seen appeared on the surface. They were all these times underneath in the freezers sending fish to the surface. They had think and fury overalls they wear to go underneath.

We befriended a Filipino who was able to speak good English. He said he was 25 and have 3 other young Filipinos 24, 23, 22 work as crews with the Chinese. He was quite friendly and told me that he didn't like to work on the ship because its hard work. He graduated with Bachelors in Science but couldn't find a job so he works on the vessel for the last 8 months. He said his pay is not good enough compared to his other Chinese counterparts. He seemed quite compassionate, from time to time came to me and smiled and asked a few questions and was harshly called on by his Chinese friends to get back to work. He threw from time to time several by-catches to the locals who were still sailing around in their canoes hoping for such chances.

From the time we were there to the moment we left still more canoes were coming in while some sailed home after they are successful in their bid to get some by-catches. Locals of all ages and size were there. There were old men and women, young as old as 6 and many women (I wouldn't know if they would be married or not). Some of them brought some fruits such as ripe bananas, kulau, pineapples and exchanged for fish. They crews would ask for the fruits and they threw them on the boat and the crew would threw several by-catches and some damaged tunas and others smaller in size.

The Guard Dog security guard was there to mainly stop such exchanges and make sure the crews don't get involved in sexual activities with the local women. The guard from time to time scares away the locals from coming near the boat and chased away the women conversing with the Chinese crews. I asked the guard if the crews and local women ever been involved in any sexual activities. He replied that it happened and the stories are many but he didn't actually see any himself when on duty. He said securities are very easy to bribe because they don't get good pay or some bonus from such duties (on board the ship). All they get is some fish because they are paid by the Agent though their security company so it's possible to be bribed. He further said that anything could happen at night if they are

asleep because locals come in numbers at night and very early in the morning about 3 -4 am. Among them many women come to sell themselves for fish or money.

He said not all security guards monitor the ship 24 hours and not all fishery observers are present all the time. Anything can happen at night and when the presence of security and the observer are absent. The guard said his duty on the ship depends from 24 hours to 48 hours. Sometimes the next shift would be delayed and for a day or two and he stays on board the ship. The guards need rest and if they do go off to sleep the crews can take on board local women. The crews would take turns sleeping with the women and give them good, money or fish in return.

I could tell from watching both the locals and the crews that they were afraid of us (the guard, the observer and us). Before any of the crews threw fish to the locals they look about to make sure we are not watching. I pretend to look away and if our eyes meet I smile at them indirectly telling them it's none of my business. But the crews are weary of the presence of the fishery observer and the guard. The observer yelled at them several times, "Don't give them fish!" and other times he communicated in sign language. He would then look down to the locals and tell them to go away. The locals ignored his command and still paddled around throwing their fishing line into the sea pretending to be minding their own business.

When we arrived on the ship there were two guards. One of them boarded the boat that took us there back. The other a senior officer of the guards changed into his civic gear and jumped on to a canoe brought there by his brother in law. On the canoes were several kulaus and some fruits. He gave them all to the crews. He a regular guard there knew the crews well and was sharing jokes with them about women. One of the Asian crews was standing moving his hip back and forth saying "Puspus! Puspus!" while they all laughed.

That particular guard disembarked the ship and was paddling around the ship with his brother in law. They were there from 9 .00 AM– 12.30 PM when the crews stopped work to break for lunch. We were sitting behind the shade by the huge roll of net above us where the fishery observer told us stories about his experiences in boarding fishing vessel and going overseas. He told us about going to Hawaii, Manila, Thailand, Los Angeles, Hong Kong and other ports I can't remember them. The guard was also there whispering to me to ask him about what they do with the by-catches. The observer replied that the by-catches are not needed so they simply dumped them into the sea. I figured out that the guard wanted that the by-catches should be given to the locals to be supplied for domestic consumption then to dump them. The guard was against the idea of dumping by-catches....

The other guard who was there sailing around with his in law came through the gap between the two ships and joined us. He only asked to share the food with his in-law and he was straight to the cabin and came back with a 25 kg bag packed with fish. He hurriedly threw it on board the canoe to make sure none of the local were watching. He was able to hide because there were no canoes directly in front to see what he was doing. As soon as a local man paddled past some 20 meters away he ordered his in law to quickly push the bag of fish under the canoe. Also the observer was telling his to hide the fish and was yelling something else pretending to order the man back. When the other canoe sailed passed us the guard hurriedly ate whatever that was left and jumped on to the canoe and paddled off with his brother in law. I thought to myself that he was all these times waiting for an opportunity to smuggle the fish secretly without the locals seeing him so he came the other way.

The fishery observer told us that it is allowed for the fishery observers to take home if they want any fish. And I asked him if he had taken any fish. He replied that he takes fish home every time after his duty on board any fish transferring ships as he wills because its one of their privileges to work there. He said before all the fish transferring is done he will do a 'clearance inspection' to fill out several forms and certify them before the ship leaves for the open sea to fish again.

I inquired of any cases where the fishing vessels fail to report or declare fish or marine catches especially on endangered species. They would make a report to the NFA headquarters in Port Moresby and server penalties would be imposed on them. Many cases were reported, for example the captain failing to declare the exact tonnage of fish and they got reported and got spot fined. He complained, however, that bribery by fishing companies of NFA officers is widespread, they got paid to shut them up. He complained that several bigger cases which warranted revoking fishing permits never got past the NFA. So he recommended that if a reference is to be made in this research, something has to be said about the corruption in the NFA. This is regarding granting of fishing permits to foreign vessel as well as prosecuting unlawful fishing practices. He said it looked useless to have laws and guidelines if we fail to uphold them and instead sell them to foreigners.



From my observation I saw a very big difference between the mother boat and the fishing boat. The mother boat is capable of more than 1000 metric tones of fish. 4 Filipino are employed. One of them befriended us and complained that it is a very hard work. "We work 5 rounds a day."The crews on the big ship looked exceptionally clean, well groomed, and have suitable working gears which were also clean. Whilst on the small ship everything looked greasy on the surface, the crews were filthy and didn't have proper gear, such as gloves, overalls and ice wares. I felt that the crews on the big boats were well fed and had good pay. This was confirmed to me by the Filipino crew I conversed with on the boat. He said that he would prefer to work on the big boat because they had better pay and working conditions. The fishing vessel he worked is much more hard work than the bigger boat carrying fish overseas from PNG waters.

I was given 2 packets of cigarettes, one by the Filipino chap and the other by the Chinese crew who seemed like a funny character. He came to us speaking some broken English and would laugh out loud, and other times danced and playing with his coworkers. He asked if I

smoke and I said yes so he gave me a packet. I brought the bottle of [foreign] Pepsi and the



cigarettes as evidence.

I asked the Fisheries Observer if he knew anything about the dumping of waste from the SSTC loining factory and if his department is responsible for monitoring any environmental implications. He replied that the waste dumping as far as the Fishery Department is concerned is biologically tested and approved by the Department of Environment and Conservation and it is safe to the marine life and the people whose lives depend very much on the marine resources. He said what SSTC dumped into the sea is treated waste and other waste treated in their bio filter. And their department office in Wewak doesn't get any report of any kind of pollution complaints from the island communities or any communities living close to the factory and waste dumping area. He further stated that SSTC plant is a state-of-the-art plant and there are no dangerous chemicals involved in the processing of the fish or diluting the waste, its all natural processes and he thinks the odor is waste mixed with water that goes through a kind of fermentation processes, giving off the smell. Apart from that, people should not worry about its danger.



r. Sex Trade

Researchers Malawa Wong and Kia Nema spent one day on the fishing boats in Wewak Harbor. In his report Kia notes:

Women go the ships to exchange their garden produce and other exchangeable items and in the process sex is negotiated. The project officer admitted that such a practice is happening and it is happening because it is in the will of the women involved. Due to family pressure and other external pressures women have very little choice and in order for them to get fish or other things (maybe cash) they sell sex.

Speaking of prostitution on fishing vessels, the guard who spoke to Kia said it is one of the reasons why they require security guards to be available of vessels. He said it depends on the guard and the observer, though, because some are honest and refuse to take bribes or other favors.. The police don't have the capacity and the logistics to monitor fishing boats so Security Companies such as the Guard Dog Security are contracted to do the job. But the truth is women that come during the dusk and dawn (after 6.00 PM and 4.00 AM) are for the business of sex.

He told us that we would be going back at after 10.00 PM so we could witness for ourselves what happens at night at the fishing boats. He said it's not his job to chase away women but he is only there make sure the fishing crew follow proper and approved fishing procedures. But at the same time if any incident happens he will be required to give a full report and in the court case he will give evidence as a witness before the court. In his words:

I am also here to do preventive duties. To avoid all the hassles for giving reports and evidences I must stop events from happening so I don't write report. This job is an extra allowance job. We are paid extra on top of your normal pay – it's the agent in this the Sepik Coastal Agencies that pays the security company and the observer team.

There are wider social consequences to prostitution that are sometimes hard to see. Occasionally, however, there are glimpses. One Saturday in July, around 1:00 in the afternoon, an angry woman in a worn meri blouse, followed by twenty, and eventually thirty or more women who had been sitting at the roadside markets, fast-walked and chased a young woman through Wewak town. As this young woman in cut-off jeans and halter top defiantly inhaled her cigarette and swaggered with head held high, crowds gathered to see what looked like a fight brewing. The women were bent over screaming at her, calling her a pamuk [whore] and telling her to go find her own man---“Where is you husband?? Where?”

At one point a man tried to come between the angry mob and the woman, defending the latter and telling the former to stop now, but the wave of women swept him by and pushed the scene up Wewak Hill. The young woman took a sharp left and headed into the gated compound of a company, quickly slipping through the gate and locking it behind her. But not before she had proven herself arrogantly unrepentant. No older than 35, she had plaited hair and plucked eyebrows, and smiled while she pinched a cigarette to her lips. From the road her persecutors continued to scream and tell her to go find her own man, as townspeople gathered to watch, some snickering, others laughing at the drama. “Asua blong yupela men—husat pullim dispela meri—man tasol?!” I muttered, and men laughed at me saying they like two women, and they like it when this happens--women fighting it out for their benefit.



s. Landowner meetings



In a 31.3.04 meeting between resource owners, SSTC, the MP of Wewak Open and the East Sepik Provincial Administration at the SSTC conference room, the landowners presented a list of issues as an agenda, and SST basically said it wasn't their business. These included a Finance Working Committee, a Trust Account, a Consultative Working Committee, an Interim Agreement, a Review Agreement, the Yawasoro land owners compensation, Kreer Development Corporation's claims, the Brandi water problem, land on Section E lot 3 (the old wharf).

According to meeting minutes, Mr. Niabau explained the reason for presenting the agendas the injustice done to resource owners, while the ESPG and SST profit. In any clause of the Project Agreement are benefits outlined for the people who have willingly given away their resources in the provincial and national interest.

All the resource groups were encouraged by the Wewak Open MP Hon Kimson Kare to register themselves as groups. He also noted dissatisfaction over ethnic differences between the Wewak rural and Islands landowner groups. Most of the meeting was taken up with factionalism and the growing consensus that all organizations need to register to avail possible spin-off businesses. (Bismark was established in 1996, and Nusa in 1993).

Minutes of the meeting note:

- (i) Chairman invited Mr. Andrew Wanyia (SSTC Human Resource Manager) to comment on the position of the company.
- (ii) Mr. Wanyia thanked the Chairman and went on to express discontent about the way the agenda was presented as it is basically a shopping list and may not be practically sound as SSTC will never engage in any further land or resource negotiations. Any such disputes will be taken up by the respective LLGs, ESPG and national government.
- (iii) SSTC is indirectly subject to this discussion and therefore today has made facility available for this meeting otherwise SSTC is and will never be party to the Agendas as presented.
- (iv) The position of SSTC is clear it is to make profit, pay National and Provincial Government estimated revenue through taxes, honour its contractual obligations

and if any major disruptions occur during its operations the company is prepared to close down and leave.

5 July 05 Meni Village Meeting

Interview with Joe Sirias, Chairman of Landowner group of Meni, and community elder, born in 1950. The village is actually called Meni Tais (swamp). Joe's people are the original land owners of Wewak Hill and Wewak Township. The Meni people were originally settled on Wewak Hill. European settlers evicted them from the hill for the lowlands. They settled on the beach but the road was built through their village, so they settled in the swamp.

Sago is our staple food here with fish from our sea. When we moved to settle here there were a lot of resentments among ourselves because we were going to destroy our garden – the place where we collect food, especially sago. But we had no other place to move because part of the land were occupied by the development of town and the government and the other part was reserved for other developments by the Catholic Church who had already moved to establish the St. Mary's Primary School.

The Viao peoples' land goes as far as the PNG Harbors Board and the present site of SST. They were never given compensation from the government for the land. That applies to Wewak Hill, town land and the SST site.

We dreamt for a better future for our children, to get better education and other good benefits development will bring. We agreed with the colonial administrators to give away our land for such development and there was no formal land lease agreement with the government or any other person concerning our land. What is funny, though, is that the land that the government was allowed to establish its operations on was registered as state land and no longer in customary freehold. We never had any formal agreement or documentation that the land owners had agreed to give the land to the colonial government...The same sentiment is shared by Kreer and Saure and other land owners on which Wewak is sitting on.

The PNG Harbors Board site is still under dispute between the government, Kreer and Meni people. The land may be regarded as state land owned by the Provincial government or PNG Harbors Board, and leased to SST. **But they believe the land is still under customary land title because both Kreer and Meni have no formal agreement with the state.** That land where SST is standing on is the boarder between Kreer and Meni (Viao) customary land. They have not taken any court injunction against the state or the developer (SST) because they wanted development, but now this doesn't seem like such a good idea.

I have to be clear here that unlike Meni, Kreer is not settled by original landowners. It is composed by many people who settled there from other areas. They will have to tell you their own story but the truth of the matter is that only a handful of the Kreer people can be considered true landowners and have the right to their customary freehold land. Here in Meni, majority of us here are indigenous landowners were we inherit land from our fathers and all the rights to pass it to our children and the government has no right to take that right away from us. Our children have a right to this land, and it will determine their future to become settlers elsewhere if taken for further infrastructure development, or if their rights are respected they will participate in future developments to improve their living standards.

In this respect, as far as we the landowners of Meni are concerned we are the rightful landowners of where the current SST factory stands though we don't have legal documentations to substantiate our claim. As I said earlier there was no formal agreement reached between our people and the State for the handover of it. To us the land is under freehold while the converse it true for the state. If you have a look at the current subdivision of the land that part of the land where the SST factory and the PNG Harbors Board are stated as State land owned through the PNG Harbors Board. The PNG Harbors Board then sublease the land to the SST to build its factory. In effect the SST is renting the land from PNG Harbors Board.

Meni and Kreer were never in the picture because the factory was going to be built at Saure. For some reasons only known to the developers and the Provincial Government they made a secret decision to build the loining plant opposite the PNG Harbors Board. No particular landowner group was properly consulted because the government thought that piece of land was exclusively owned by the state.

The terrible smell of the factory is the most obvious problem, they say

We all complain of the smell because **we were told by officers representing the SST before the establishment of the fish loining plant that there will be no smell because they will be using state-of-the-art technology.** But not so! We live about 600 meters away from the plant and we smell the horrible smell all the time. Somebody had told us if that smell is harmful or have any health implications.

We are already seeing debris and other foreign rubbish on our beach from the foreign fishing vessels. We see cigarette rappers, alcohol bottles, plastic bags and many others. Also, the sea is polluted with oil that is drained from the ship. If you went over to the beach now you will notice that rainbow colored sea and that's oil. We have women and children complaining some time ago that they had some skin itch and small pox looking things developing on their skin. We were told it was from oil pollution but we didn't claim any compensation damages from the company or the government.

They have been told that the waste water and sewage from the SST factory is pumped 800 meters into the sea., and when you stand on Meni Beach you see a sign post 800 meters into the sea from the factory. **But the waste water is pushed back by the waves and currents.**

I guess if the tourists visiting the Windjammer hotel knows about it they will not use the beach. They are probably losing tourists because of the horrible smell from the factory. I am not sure of where they dump the waste from the factory. Where ever they dump into our sea it must not be far off. I have heard people from the Islands [Kairiru and Musau] complain about seeing sharks near their shores. We too have seen sharks near our shores because they are attracted by the smell and blood of the fish. That is dangerous for our children who like to play on the beach there.

The sea is our garden because from it we get out food and money. We have no better land here to cultivate and plant crops. This place is all swampy and sago and fish from the sea has been our main lifeline. We have no where to go because this land and sea is all we have handed down through generations. And the question I ask is: what do I leave behind for my children and grandchildren? In light of the sea pollution and fish either dying or others scared into the deep sea I don't know what to leave them with.

Most of us here are very unfortunate people. Though we are Wewak town landowners you hardly see anything of the physical development like water supply, power, permanent houses, etc. Not most of our children go to school because we cannot afford to pay for their school fees. That coupled with the damages brought about by the SST and the government with their corrupt and empty promises paints a gloomy picture for our future. It may be too early to say much about the pollution level of the sea by the dumping of the SST but the little signs we see is enough to predict damages that would last long like completely killing our entire corals and fish habitat which is already happening.

They also wish to expand their settlement, now that they have settlers from other places and provinces. Most of them don't have jobs and are harvesting the Meni village fish and sago, putting pressure on their limited resources .

I am not against any development by the government or private investors such as the SST. **To have a win-win situation in development for the investors and all parties concerned is to involve all the stake holders in the process.** That is like having better understanding between all parties and following terms of agreement in any contract entered into. The investors can allow local landowners and business to participate in spin-offs or provide labor and have better community programs. At the moment, landowners and business groups are isolated and SST is on its own. I am so sad that such a company that got so much attention from Wewak residents and also raised our expectation is completely isolated. SST is becoming very selfish. They get everything from us at all cost and giving a practically nothing to us. Even the pay of the poor ladies working in the loining factory is less than what they can make at the market in two weeks time. We are losing everything at the gain of the Asians – we become graceful slaves for our own resources and land. What a shame!

Meni Villagers also go out to the fishing vessels by canoe to sell food stuffs, and garden produce. The fishermen give them biscuits, cigarettes and alcohol in return. **The women complain that they are asked for sex and want to pay them money and other bribes for it.** There are many stories her, just as there are in Kreer and island villages. In the last few months it has slowed down, but we advised young women here that if they have to go out for sales to take along a man or an older woman with them.

I know for sure that our corrupt ESP politicians are involved in all the politics of it (SST). We had big gatherings here and they bragged about the multiple economic effects of the factory. None of it has happened. They said about the employments, spin-offs and other services such as good houses, etc. It was all sweet talk. Michael Somare is a sweet talker and one of the corrupt men who blinded the people of ESP and PNG into thinking of him as a good man. To me he is just a thief. Now joining the ranks of thieves is his son Arthur and Hugo Berghuser. They have their hands in all kinds of projects in East Sepik Province. They are involved in logging, the SST plant, awarding all contracts to their company SBA which stands for Sana, Betha and Arthur. He and Kimson Kare made all kinds of lies to give us false hope and expectations about benefits from the SST factory.

A Storm Water Project for better drainage throughout town, funded by the Korean government, failed in 2001. It had included the Meni Village area. SBA was contracted to do the job but didn't do any thing except to clear the place. No storm water drains were constructed at all.

My plea to the government and the developers including SST is this: You have taken away my land and I allowed it for far too long thinking I will benefit from it. My people have been isolated from any business in Wewak and we have not benefited from any basic

development projects. I am a silent loser and you grow and prosper in profit more from my ignorance. It is your moral duty to provide me basic services but that too is absent and if you the government and your developers cannot do that for my people please, pack up and leave and give me my land back.

We had an informal meeting with Francis Manup who represented the company where he told us about **possible participations in spin-off benefits and what he called 'Economic Benefit Study'**. He never told us any of the environmental impact the loining factory may have on our reef, sea and the fish but emphasized more on its economic benefits such as providing more jobs and bringing more economic development into East Sepik Province.

We were never part of any negotiation to tender for any spin-off benefits. That part of the process was administered by the Department of Commerce here. Individuals and corporate groups were asked to tender their application with K50 through the Dept. of Commerce. To the best of my knowledge none of them got any spin-off with SSTC. There are many things local landowners and small businesses could participate in such as transportation for employees, security services, maintenance, catering services, stevedoring, etc. none of them are given to any local businesses except the Wewak Costal Agencies are dumping their factory waste and Wewak Freezers supplying vegetables and food for the cafeteria.



The company (SSTC) is operating as they have nothing to do with any landowner issues. This is becoming clear now that the government assured and guaranteed full security of the land so SSTC has nothing to do with any landowner grievances. They will always refer any land associated disputes to the Provincial Government. The Provincial Government (ESP) are partners in crime with SSTC, because they are shareholders thus it served their interest more than us. The company too is reaping all our resources and land and giving nothing back to the community in terms of their community participation such as sponsorships and school fee assistance. Some of our soccer and sports teams have asked for financial and in kind assistance but we never get any positive response from them. We heard from the secretaries who worked in the SSTC administration that such letters get dumped in the rubbish bin. So our relationship between the company is very poor.

Three people from Meni have jobs at the loining factory. Two women are employed in production and one man works with the security on the gate. We don't know how many people are employed from Kreer or other nearby villages. But what we do know is that a lot of nepotism is going on in the employing of laborers. They are employing mainly the woman who don't need to have any special training for the job except for administrative and specialist work. As long as they are willing to do the work they can learn on the job and work on the assembly line.

The husband of the woman employed at SSTC:

My wife no longer works there because she is sick and she was sick on several occasions. Women who work in the Production are not exposed to the fresh air and sunlight outside. They work in the freezer-like warehouse where it is very cold and very easy to catch sickness from others like TB and cough. My wife complained of standing up for 8 hours every 5 working days and she has backaches and become very tired in the evening after work. They get a 30 minutes break for lunch and head back to work. They have supervisors watching them and swore at them when they stop to take a break. She complained of the Filipino supervisors very abusive in their language, especially the man. They rubbish them and treat them some kind of slaves.

Peter Sirias:

We are beginning to see the environmental and social impact of the SSTC loining in Wewak, especially Meni village. The horrible smell is hard for anyone new in town to miss. We are located few hundred meters away from the factory and its becoming unbearable in the mornings and evenings when they are dumping their waste through the Wewak Coastal Agencies owned boat "Iona" which takes them and dumps them few kilometers out into the open sea. I am not familiar with their environmental plans or agreements between the company and the state but we as users of the sea have not been anywhere party to it. We have the direct implications on our livelihood from the pollution than it has on the company or the government.

Now our sea is becoming too oily for fish and for humans alike. We warn are children to look carefully at the sea before swim there. That is already a threat to us as people who have always lived here and our lives totally depended upon the sea for fish. The sea is our garden where we get our fish and money from selling those catches. Now with the coming of the big fishing vessels ashore have scared the fish to the deeper sea. Their oil drainage have polluted our sea and killed the fish we normally catch for food. It is also killing our reefs and corals and they are where we catch most of our fish from. Where will we go if our sea has nothing to offer us? We have no land to cultivate crops except for sago which are grown around here as were are in living in a swampy area and fish from the sea. If they (development) kill our sea then we are subsequently going to die from hunger. Whole Wewak Township and Hill have been taken from our ancestors and now they want to poison our sea. We are sea people and are lives depend upon the sea for food and money.

Before the establishment of the SSTC we used to catch fish such as Skipjack tuna 100 meters from the shore but now we don't these days. **In fact the fish have run short.** We don't catch the type and amount of fish we normally do and we go further into the sea but often come back with less catches. This is a concern to us at Meni as sea people. The company will do business here and go away after their term expires and they will leave behind all the rubbish and pollution for us to clean up. We very much owe it to our future generation that they will suffer the consequences of our inconsiderate and selfish exploitation of resources. What will we do after all the fish we have is poisoned fish from the polluted sea? Will the Prime Minister and his Ministers with the company feed us and our future generation all through? I don't think so? We have no where else to go, the only sustainable method of fishing and harvesting resources from our sea is the methods of fishing past from generations immemorial to and now we have the responsibility to pass it on to our new generations down the line. I cry in anguish to the company: How much time do you have left on your clock to exploit my resources and kill my future generation?

The SSTC and the government are only interested in the monetary benefits they will reap from this fishing project at our expense. Their cruelty and arrogant approach to us the community and its employees speaks for itself. I am sure the recent strike orchestrated by women factory workers will hopefully send the message. When you are in any management capacity and such incidents arise, you know that there is something wrong in the system. The SSTC project is such a project that has all kinds of faults in its system and the strike over pay by the women is only the tip of the iceberg. It is setting fire to fuel and I won't be surprised in all these grievances by different interest group will take the opportunity to storm the factory down. I think the Provincial Government might have a similar knee jerk reaction from the general public of East Sepik Province.

The land where the SSTC plant sits on maybe acquired and registered as PNG Harbors Board land but that does not take away my right as a traditional landowner. By establishing the very factory my traditional land owner rights are violated and not respected in the manner the whole process was conducted. Our traditional fishing grounds are polluted and on that basis all the nearby villages and Meni have case to peruse against the State and the SSTC. Even the land maybe belonging to SSTC as sublease from PNG Harbors Board but the resources of the is collective property and belongs to all the East Sepik Islands and coastal people. If there are benefits drawn from fish from the open sea it has to benefit the entire province than only few selfish authorities to squander the money.

We strongly feel that we are been used. The Saure landowners would probably share our sentiments too. It's a pity they have to move the project from Saure to the present site without proper consultation with Saure people to reach an win-win situation. Even thing happened so fast that the Saure people and Meni (and Kreer people) were wondering about not knowing where they fit in. There could be some misunderstanding between different landowner groups and this is possibly the situation created here by the government and the company to divide us and force us into some infightings. But the situation is very clear and it needs all the interest groups to unite as a solid team to show some resistance in a non-violent manner or the situation will get out of hand.

One SSTC employee from Meni:

I worked with the security guard section of the SSTC. We get paid K0.90 per hour for probation period for 3 months before we are categorized as fulltime staff and paid K1.00 per hour. We make on average K8 per week and K80 per fortnight. Its not always true that most workers get K80 but some get as low as K30 and the people at the supervisory and administrative hierarchy get paid at different rate – better than us. The administration doesn't feel the pain and hardship the ordinary people will feel on very low wage scale. Some people have to walks from miles or catch PMV for up to K4 – K8 per day and all their money is used up on bus fares. Some don't have proper working equipment and facilities but people are paid.

The surveillances and monitoring aspect of the fishing--who can be really sure what goes on when transshipping undeclared fish or making illegal drainage of waste oil?. If they do it in the middle of the night, we don't have the equipment and capacity to conduct independent investigations to prove them guilty. Many times breaches of environmental contracts are comprised through solving it internally such as offering certain favors to the PNG observers.

Thomas Nigints was one of the few people said to have some share in the SSTC through ANGCO who also is running his security spin-off for the SSTC. Arthur Somare was Governor of ESP when the project was negotiated and brought to Wewak. It seems more of a political winner for the East Sepik MPs than any other thing in parliament. That was normal procedures were never followed. All the necessary things such as land, water, and power were never a problem for SSTC.

Our landowner association is not an established one. We are trying to bring bites and pieces together to form this group to give us a voice if we want to fight against SSTC and the Provincial Government which involved people like the Somares who are predominantly having their hands dirty in many projects and developments in ESP. We are fighting a giant and through this little voice we would make noise loud enough to get attention from relevant authorities to further action this fight.

Alex Anis:

The dredging that is currently going on in front of the PNG Harbors Board land and the wharf is an Australian company called Hall Construction paid at a rate of K100 000 per day. They will dredge to allow for the big catcher boats to come ashore and there is also plan to dredge the front part of the Yacht Club. They are going to dig out the reef and all the corals that we fish to supplement our diets. If this story leaks to the other members of the community you will have disaster in your hand. We are planning a big protest if the dredging is going to be moved up to the Yacht Club.

We have several illegal foreign elements especially Asians wondering about in Wewak. Are surveillance authorities are weak and they are taking advantage of it. There are stories of prostitution and human smuggling in East Sepik. Firstly through the Winhjamma Hotel were about 4 Papuans ladies were brought to work there. They are gone now but



Interviews 7 July 2005, with the Kaunum family, Meni village.

We are living as the original Wewak locals, the original village is at Wewak Hill, then they moved to Wewak NBC, then to Wewak Yacht Club, and now there are the 7 generation living at Meni village.

Did you register for spin off businesses?

We are registering the spinoff business under the commerce office. We paid K50 for the spin off business. Did SST contact you? No they just asked if anyone willing to register for the spinoff business.

Did SST ever promise you a spin off business?

They have said that build your poultry and harvest it for factory.

Did they give you and your family any written material about the factory before it arrived?

No. We were excluded because we did not register in the IPA. Were the landowners given compensation for the ground? No, they have paid those Kreer people which have been asked to look after that piece of land.

Did you share the land between other clan or family?

The land was shared between Suacalf clan and Kreer people. Kreer people (kabai) were living up at the mountain and they have asked to look after that land in cases of trade. Were the landowners given any compensation for the environmental change? No they are forming a land resource association and they will go against and protect their resources or environment. What is the history of the factory land as you know it? The history of that factory land is called the tumbuna ground and we the Meni village never used (...?) land. Nothing was on that area [before] but this area was a swampy area.

What was the land used for historically?

They used that land to leave their canoes for going fishing, for trade, selling fish, and sometimes keep to eat.

How do you fish?

We used to be diving and fishing but today we only use side side of our resource for diving and fishing.

What makes you not use the other?

We're not using it because many people are using it beside that factory made us not to use it because of sharks and big fish.

Do you sell fish at the market?

We do sell fish when we catch as many as we can. We sell big fish and keep small fish to eat, but today we are really selling and eating those small fish.

How much money did you make fishing, per week, in season, before SST arrived?

We'd make roughly about K250 per week but today we don't really collect that much per week or in season.

How much money do you make fishing per week in season now?

We roughly make K50 per week or in season.

Did SST place FADs in the sea?

The company is using other companies' fishing devices to import and export their product. (?)

Do you see the fishing boats netting other things besides tuna?

We sometimes work out at the fishing boat and see that beside tuna there are some other fish caught as well. such fish besides tuna (malin) these fish are transshipped to the overseas, some of the other fish are stored in the ship freezer and so it was been dump and was call bycatch fish.

Do you know who owns SST?

Michael Somare, Arthur Somare and the provincial govt. Mainly politicians are investing in SST. The fish is exported to Taiwan, America and Japan. Provincial Government is one of the shareholders and he might have some income out of SST.

Has the provincial government given landowners any infrasure or benefits from the money from SST?

No, they are not included because they did not register under the IPA.

Do you know of any plans for more tuna factories in Wewak?

They are going to build canning beside a tuna factory.

Do you know any of the fishing boat crewmen?

No they are foreigners or other country's fishing company.

Do you know of friendships between fishing crew and local women?

Yes, many women are involving with the fishing crew or any other work man on the ship...they have to do this in order for the fishing crews to give them fish.

Do you sell garden produce to the ships?

Yes we do but we trade garden produce for fish. Sometimes they pay in cash, but many times they trade with fish, drinks, alcohol drinks, and modern food.

What are the sales of fish in the local market like now?

Today there are not many women selling fish so the price is expensive, more expensive than in the past.

Viak Landowners Association Meeting,,27.7.05 Meni Village

You people go fishing-- what have you been noticing? Do you catch enough for the family?

Chairman Joe Sirias Yes we do go out, the population are increasing we still fish but catch little. All the fish are gone.

Peter Kumun: There are extra ordinary lights coming from the sea, plus the noise too which we never heard before these things are scaring the fish away. no more fish came fighting into the beach like they us to do before. Now a days we had to travel out in to the deep sea to look for the fish most of the time we caught nothing and we are really facing up with them something must done before its too late.

Sirias: We have prepared some question for the big shots form the government body to answered but you people came so we talk to you like students doing their research and share ideas. The ground breaking ceremony was held outside Wewak town but why did they build it in the middle of Wewak? Now that the smell is polluting the entire town what are the government going to do about it?

Anis: For what we know there is a dispute over the land on which the factory is built .The government wants to establish more factories that's good but before that must meet the requirement of the land owners and pay the compensation before it begins its operation who ever said that's their land must think again the state has acquirer the land.

Sirias :This is so that the investors are free to come in anytime they like and do business in our soil plus the government has given them authority to them to fish anytime so that they can make bigger bugs to feed them selves and how about us the landowners ?we the people of Wewak are very clever to build the loining cannery in the middle of Wewak full of pollutions [smells]

You people are very close to the factory, was there any awareness about it before it arrived?

Sirias : I think I made it cleared that at the beginning we were not involve in any agreement or discussion but truly we face the consequence so who's fault is it?

Kumun : I recall there was a public awareness campaign aired on the radio east Sepik telling people that every thing will be fine.

Did the Provincial Government or the management of SST come down and talk to the people how the factory was going to dump the waste?

Anis : We the people of this village here know nothing ,no one came to our village and discussed any thing about the cannery plus they knew we are the traditionally landowners by rights we owns the land were the cannery is builds. Like we share the boundaries with the other landowners. The awareness ,were discuss with the settlements ,convincing them about the goods that the cannery is going to bring to them plus they must fully support the government to bring more projects to benefit every one also our islanders they are subject to the problems that we are facing today. For example the government is getting 10 percent from the cannery for the tax and that's a facts from some reliable sources.. So we've been sideline like we are nobody. These people are crazy by not consulting us the land owners.

Kumun :To make it clear, we realise that we should form an association but we are only small groups here which we need to register to fight the case. But we have done it to shut down the Mobil, not to pump in fuel. Now we are looking at the dredging going on, if they are thinking of

doing it, it's going to be over our dead body. We will fight and it's going to be worst than expected.

Kumun: The treatment is unjust as you can see two types of treatment .First class and second class-- the ones sitting in the office eats different food and those doing tuna eat less and work hard. The treatment is unfair. And the Asians use discriminatory language against Papua New Guineans.

Anis: Our main concern now, is sea pollution, dumping of waste try to ask the company to produce environmental plant disposal of the waste last month ago, he said he went out to the media, in the newspaper complaining about the waste wash up on to the beach then report to the Provincial Government ,environment and conservation's investigate the waste, the management at the loining denied the report The out let pipe of the waste runs through the coastal wharfs. And very bad health hazard. They pump out the smell as early as 4.0ohrs and 5oohrs that's why you can smell the smells. The management said you cannot avoid the smell the villagers blame the politician to deeply involve, to the impacts.

13.7.05 Meeting Viak Landowners' Association, Meni Village

List of participants:

1. Francis Warisan, deputy Chair, Koihau Devlopment Corp (Saure)
2. Clement Mommo, Chair, Koihau dev Corp
3. Nick Artekain, Chairman, Nusa Business group, Liaison officer, East Sepik island Assoc (ESIA), Activist
4. Nick Soneng, Village elder, Saure
5. Januarius Damem, Deputy Chair, Nusa Business group, Village Court Chairman, Tarawai Isl, Coastal Ranger
6. Benedict Binus, Village Elder, Tarawai Is, Saure Village
7. Vincent Warisan
8. Bonny Hairoku
9. Gionzaga Hervingu
10. Alex Soweng
11. Brian Soweng
12. Pius Huipia
13. John Niabau, Chairman Wewak branch ESIA
14. Luke Pini, Darapap (Murik Lakes)
15. Kenneth Yarong, Darapap
16. Joshua Pame, Darapap



Multi-group landowners meeting:

21 July 05, Saure #2 clan members/councilors, Wewak islands Fisheries Association, Murik Resource Owners, Hawain Resource Owners, Schouten Islands Resource Owners.

There was an agreement with Saure #2 landowners when work on the SST project was initiated at Yawasoro by Francis Sumanap and Joachim Nianguma. Both Sumanap and Nianguma assured them that everything would be okay as long as the landowners did their part. They were promised big development with many spinoffs by Kevin Conrad, too. So the leaders of the 8 clans were urged to fast-track registration of company and other necessary documentation with Baltazar Kaprangi.

Islands Chairman, Nick Artekain: I was involved from the start: "I did not see any clause in the agreement stating benefits to locals in PNG. The agreement was only for the benefit of politicians and foreigners."

Concerns of the agreement include:

- Use of grease to lure resource owners to sign.
- Use of company name/documentation to start project and then a shift to another location.
- Non compliance with laws protecting resource owners' rights in major development projects.
- Suare Villagers spent substantial amounts of money and effort in getting the license agreement in place but have not received any benefits in return.
- Ownership of the loinery project.

Though the landowners of Saure, Wewak Islands and others were involved in the initial stages of the project, they never actively participated in its planning and/or formulation. To make matters worse, the project site was move to its current location and even after heavy involvement from Saure landowners. Landowners were never included in the contract. As one landowner from Wewak islands stated, "There is no clause in the agreement that include resource owners." According to the resource owners the project is owned by Somare and sons and the building is owned by Sir Peter Lus.

Somare also promised Nick Artekain of the ESIA to assist in developing their projects, Artekain reports Kinson Kare was there too, and Somare offered 1 million kina to ESIA-- but then reneged. They believe this money was then given to Sir Hugo. Arthur Somare and Narokobi signed the project agreement., but the resource owners do not have a stake in the project. "Why did Somare and Narokobi the pillars of Sepik society and the State of PNG with their respective government Ministers and Department Heads sign the agreement knowing that the rights of the resource owners were not protected?" "What's Hugo's role I all this?"

According to locals the fishing ships usually discharge dirty oil between Kairiru and Vokeo islands. There have been sightings of 'waste matter' in the sea believed to be from the loinery. The use of sophisticated modern fishing methods in local waters between the Wewak East Coast and the Shouten Islands include drag nets, fishing attraction devices (lights) and radar. As a result the fish stock in traditional fishing waters has been dramatically depleted and local fishermen now have to travel further out to catch the same fish. Evidence of floaters and long line nets are at Bien island. Photos were apparently taken by the Environmental Law Centre.

Landowners are also deeply disturbed that they are either not allowed to buy shares in the factory, or the base price of a block of shares is too expensive for them.

21/6/05 Kreer Village interview with Philip Teriseng. Philip was once employed by SP Brewery as a technical engineer. He left and returned home, and in 1993 was elected as Chairman of Kreer Development Corporation (KDC). On June 25, 1982, the PNG Harbours Board paid the KDC K115,000 in a cheque for environmental damages to the waterfront, presented by Minister for Transport Mr. Neville Bourne. From the compensation money the KDC went into business, and bought shares with Wewak Coast flats ip Wewak Hill. However, the KDC has outstanding debts amounting to K75,000. Philip found it very difficult to manage KDC so he left due to mismanagement, he says. On September 2, 1998, Philip with his clansmen the Black Koki line of Karaga clan organized themselves and formed the KDC, and registered it with the IPA. KDC was formed because they were the rightful owners of the land under the loinery. Karaga Stevedoring is a KDC subsidiary company. The land at Kreer village down to the loinery and the Harbours Board and wharf was under a Native Land Lease, meaning it was not State land. In 2003 the KDC with the PNG Harbours Board and the ESPG signed an MOU for the tuna project. Portion 124 of Section 36 Allotment 27 was divided into two Native land Deeds. Allotment 27 (a) 439 is where the loining factory stands, and (b) 1445 is where the dredge pumps sand onto the land. The Harbours is said to be the owners of the land, and it is to them that SST pays rent.

Lately this year 3 months earlier SST contracted KDC with two spin-off businesses—the Receiving and the Butchering sections of the loinery. The first shift runs from 8 AM to 4 PM, with 30 workers; [second shift runs from 4 to 12?]; the third shift runs from 12 to 8 AM with 30 workers. KDC was contracted for a 3 month probation, after which SST will decide on signing a contract with them or not.

Problems with loinery:

- Wages are very low
- Lunchtime food is not enough
- Workers stand for 6 hours
- Supervisors clock out for workers
- Expatriate unskilled workers in factory
- No training for national staff
- SST pays expatriate travel fees
- Workers complained to the HR Manager about their pay and their working conditions, but the HR Manager never notified the GM.

Environmental problems:

- Fish species destroyed
- Sea shell species destroyed
- Crabs and prawns destroyed
- Special sago on site destroyed
- Various plants and trees destroyed
- Flying fox hunting ground destroyed
- Reef destroyed
- Air pollution reaches Kreer Heights, Boys Town and Sauria Village
- Two big stones where fish used to breed were dynamited for loinery construction

Kreer village also use the town water supply and now face shortages because of SST.

We fish the sea using fishing lines tied to sticks. Sometimes during dry season we used to drain water in the river and women go with umben to catch fish or we got out fishing in the canoe. During the month of July it's good fishing. Mostly the whole month of July we camped on the beach and fished. During bad weather or bad fishing months we do not go fishing but stay home and go hunting. We would catch many different species of fish in high season.

Herman Kabai

The Kreers have 2 landowner associations. **Karaga Development Corp** covers only the Houning/Karaga family group, and was started when the loinery came in. **Kreer Development Corp** (Kabai/Miehen family group) more or less represents the entire Kreer people. But they didn't want to participate in spinoffs instead wanted shares, which they didn't get. With K32,000 they revived the defunct Kreer Development Corp. KADC director is Philip Tereseng blong Houning Karaga family (the original Hounin man is from Magun Village so he's actually a migrant to Kreer). Honum is ancestor of Kreer and he was born at Point Bush (Pine Bush) and he bore Kwaibor and Kwaibor had Kabai, and Kabai is the ancestor.

The Kreer acquired land customarily from Honum, then they had papers from the Germans and transferred palms as payment for native title. Land from the factory to Kreer Heights to the creek and the field is all theirs. It was transferred to native land title and the State then took it over before independence. How did the state acquire the land? There was some money paid for destruction to the land when the wharf was built. (K115,000). They were paid compensation, but in fact it was only for environmental damage, [paid by the Harbours Board.

Benedict Maira (now deceased) and Philip Tereseng were the main people contact by SST at first. The ESG got involved, and he PA Fantson Yeninen (Yongguru) probably paid Philip something.

Registered with Mrs Sumanug was registering landowners for company business chicken projects, some paid k50, to commerce dept, and yet one landowner only has been used as chicken supplier.

Francis Warasin is from Saure, out of town, at Yawasoro, where the first ground for loinery was to be, but why did they move to habourside.

Francis Krufer is the nephew of Herman Kabai, and is Kreer.

t. Interviews

1. Public figures

Daul Wesup and **Kearly Surum**, Programme Manager and District Planner, Wewak District Admistration. 13.7.05. In Wewak town most of the land is still owned customarily. Local people owning the land are Meni Villagers, Saure Villagers, Kreer Villagers and Koiken Villagers. Nuigo is owned by the Catholic Mission. It is known that 97% of land is customary and 3% owned by the State, and State has records for it. The land where the South Sea Tuna is owned by State, by the Harbours Board. People are arguing that's its customary land. There are lots of potentials in Wewak. Most of the District workers stay home and come to work, they are no houses for the workers. Wewak is still increasing in population. It is estimated that the population of Wewak alone is 20,000. There will be a project of storm water drainage, and

places or settlement where they are surveying will be relocated. In SST most employees are women. The disadvantage is that officers are directly benefiting, and also a bad smell us being smelled by people in Kreer Market, Caltech and the Widnjammer. No one has been harmed by sharks from the waste dump of SST. ESPG has a share in the company believed to be 10-20%. Frances Sumanop was the planner when the factory was built. The government has signed an agreement with the Taiwanese government that another fish canning factory will be built in Wewak. Another project is the Gavien (???) Cravien (???) Rubber Project, all rubber trees planted through the country will be shipped to wewak and up to Angoram. Another project is Hawain logging, which will last for ten years. There is no political difference between leaders so the government is running very well. Extension of Wewak Harbour is another project. Relocation of CIS is another project, it will be relocated to Passam.

Martin Patikec of the Waterbaord .Martin is from Kupala and is 39 years old, male, a waterboard supervisor. Production Supervisor. 14,080 litres are consumed daily [by SST} and their bill is paid by cheque. Each tank contains 1.5 megalitres, or 1,500,000 litres. Why are town people always complaining about water? They want to clean pipe, then the power goes off. South seas tuna have their own separate pipe from Brandi water board to SST. SST is in the top 20 of their customers, and they pay their bills promptly.

In a telephone conversation with Waterboard Manager Patrick Ginimbo, we asked about the town's regular water cut offs. We suggested we were interested in moving my company to Wewak and wanted to know where night time water cuts were occurring regularly. He said this only happens in high locations. I said here and in Kaindi, at St benedicts, both low levels, we had water cuts 3 times a week (since we'd been here, three weeks thus far) and sometimes well into the morning. We were told this was to fill the SST tanks. I asked if this were so. He said, "They only do that on week days, not on weekends." At one point he also said he didn't know about the cuts, and said "I stay around the Windjammer and I still have water." Then I asked about the SST consumption and how big their tanks were. He said that, although they never run them to empty, only halfway, the tanks take 1.5 megalitres of water, which is 1,500,000 litres of water. I asked if this is a problem with the given water supply for Wewak, and he said yes, but they're figuring this out at present.



Tom Fandim, the East Sepik Provincial Planner

SST project is one of the biggest development that East Sepik Provincial Government initiated to have it established in the province. The site where SST is located now is on the commercial land area. According to the Provincial Planner for East Sepik SST will expand its factory. SST will take on board another factory for canning the tuna being loinned at the moment and not exporting it to Western Samoa for canning.

Other plans for expanding Wewak by taking in more industries is in the pipeline. Sites have been identified to build a actual Offshore Master Processing Plant. A dredge has been hired from cains in Australia and currently working at the main wharf dredging up the sand at the sea port to allow big ships to come in. A 1.2 million has been committed from this project. Upgrading of the wharf. The whraf will be extended 20-30 meters out from its original size. As soon as the construction at the wharf is complete then more factories will constructed in Wewak. At the same time the wharf will cater for 3-4 fishing vessels to come in at one time.

According to the provincial planner the agreement for the tuna loining factory to be built in Wewak was signed by

- The provincial government
- National government
- South Seas Tuna and
- The landowners from Kreer Village

The export volume is low at the moment and SST is making a loss in its revenue. Tuna loins is being exported to South Africa, New Zealand (Stones) a company in which SST is part of it. The canning is done in these countries where SST has its other factories there. At the moment the export volume is 10 containers and SST is loosing its revenue. By the time the wharf is complete with its new facelift. SST will export over 200 containers.

The northern waters of Wewak are a breeding ground for tuna. Wewak will become and international port of transshipment. Tuna caught in other parts of Papua New Guinea and within Pacific waters will be loined and canned here in Wewak.(Tuna mate and breed around January-April)

According to the provincial planner the Provincial Government (which is people on the ground) were not ready to receive the SST. The Governor of East Sepik Mr. Authur Somare under his governorship pushed for the SST to be established in Wewak. The proposed provinces to take on board the tuna loinning plant was Madang or Lae. However Wewak took it up politically because it was the right timing that Sir Somare is the Prime Minister and the son is the governor. So that made it possible for Wewak to take SST.

There were no facilities available to cater for SST. Land was an issue, housing for the workers of the canary were not built to cater for the workers. Expatriate (especially the Pilipino) workers were had to stay on the ship for 6 months and later return to their country and new ones replaces them. By doing so the economic of the province is low because no money is being spend. Expatriates being their own supplies of food. When finished they return to their country. Wewak Town according to the Provincial Planner will become a fishing port in the country.

The signing was made possible for SST is possible because Sir Somare is the Prime Minister and his son Authur was the Governor. The Habours Board person was a man from Sepik and the National Fisheries Authority Chairman or person in charge is an in-law of the Provincial Planner. It was a system or clear nepotism to have the agreement signed and SST came to establish in Wewak. During the signing of the agreement with those executive concern The land title at the same time was transferred. The aim of the quick signing of the agreement was to being bigger projects to Wewak.

The Provincial Planner said the smell is not a problem, it will be fixed up later when the factory progresses well. Smell is only a minor thing, he said. The province is concerned about bringing

in the revenue, so when the opportunity comes we have to grab it . We'll fix up small things later. He also said that there will be other big projects coming up in Wewak. Projects like;

- Asian Restaurant in Town
- Wewak town be shifted to Angoram District
- Relocation of Murik Lakes people to a new land area
- International Airport and an International Wharf to be built at Murik lakes area at the mouth of Sepik River.
- Completion of the Highway from Madang to Wewak crossing over Sepik River.

The spinoffs were not well organised by the people from Sepik. Lack of liaison between the Provincial Government and the local people to arrange for the local people to provide spinoffs. Since Provincial Government itself was not ready to take on board SST. It was a forced move to bring SST into the province.

Sir Hugo will have another factory coming up soon to process the by-catch from small fish and also coming up is his sausage factory. For time being Sir Hugo will produce sausage from the imported meat first from Mumeng in Morobe province until he has his own cattle farm here in Wewak.

Road sealing is a target from Turubu to Angoram and a 3.2 million kina will be committed for that. That is to cater for K1 million from cocoa to be produced in Angoram and transported to Wewak.

A senior Provincial Government figure:

1.5 million for SST was put in by the National not the Provincial Government at the ground breaking, in behalf of the ESPG. But because the ESPG has not put in anything, they got no shares, and so they've seen no dividends at all, whereas SBA and ANGO and its other investors have. Sepik Seafood—Sir Hugo has not paid anything. He offered 150,000 in K1 shares for the deed to the land and this as never given. The Windjammer sale was the same arrangement; in fact he was presented with a show cause notice because he's paid nothing at all to the provincial government for the Windjammer. If you say again that .the Windjammer was supposed to offer shares form his company for the hotel and he never has...yes, he never has...how do you get away with that? ...Hugo is working behind the prime minister you see...Hugo is definitely paying some people some money. Windjammer is definitely making money and Sir Hugo gets out to Australia every two weeks with about 20,000 kina in his pocket and that's from people in Moresby who have given me hard evidence. 20,000 kina every two weeks! And when he gets to port Moresby Ive got sources that say this money when he gets to port Moresby is shared between people that he knows, he hands out. That's the same kind of arrangement with these sea products, sea products was done in the same manner, Hugo was supposed to offer 1 kina shares for about 350,000 shares to the government and up to now he hasn't paid anything. He's supposed to be looking after the people of the East Sepik. ...Sir Hugo is a real crook, a real crook and enough people that I know who have had dealings with him, he's really a broker, he's not a millionaire, he has no money, he's the front used by certain people and he serves them, they use Hugo to raise money, they turn around and pay him some commission and they get out the biggest share of the money. ..there are manufacturing and things planned, there are other financiers coming in, and what Hugo does is he represents the financiers, sets up the plan, and as soon as he gets things running, they give him a hefty commission, and as soon as he gets that he moves on and does another thing. So this is how he was involved with this SST thing, and now the Windjammer, and then he'll move onto the cannery thing, and after that the meat canning plan. ...Not directly, he was involved indirectly with SST....SIL? ...Kevin Conrad was dealing with a lot of our political leaders here, lots of former politicians, he has a lot of dealings

with them. He's a missionary, and like they say, you can't leave missionaries alone, he makes money, and the politicians can come under a missionary then. He's a very nice person, yes...he has a lot of relations with the local people. ...the timber thing is ...what the government is trying to do is to stand in for the people represent the people to financiers, and what we want to do is let the resource owners deal directly with the financiers, and let the government stand back for monitoring and that sort of thing, not to control this too much. I was directly involved with getting rid of the WongWong people, because when I was in govt we got rid of them because what they were doing was they were paying for the whole log, the whole log, about 60 to 100 kina, and when they go back they make about 3-6000 kina per log. So I told them to piss off. And its up to the resource owners to find out and know what is really happening....the Wong Wong people have a lot of debts here, credit here, for the logs and everything here. (they're now telling the people to wait for them to sell the logs before they can be paid)...that's what they tried to do last year with the limestone mining up in the Boikin area. There is a very rich deposit of limestone in Hawain all the way to Boikin, and these people tried to come in and they said no, no, we'll go in with all our equipment and all our equipment, well bring graders, dozers, everything, well go in and well pay you later, and they never did....I was directly involved with this I have connections with the landowners there, and we told them to get out, this is not the way to do business...well I heard rumors that [the one who did get paid] is not a landowner not a resource owner from that area. ...Hugo is involved with a lot of things like bringing people in without work permits. In fact, they're dealing with this right now, as of today, they're drawing up a letter for him to pay up a fine because two of his expatriate workers are working without work permits for 5 months now, overstaying by about 5 months... really he should be deported, but you because he is working with these people, these people should know better...they should feel ashamed...you say you're clean and you mix around with crooks like that—you are not clean. Like these two, with Sepik sea projects and the Windjammer, they are the people's pride there for the people of the East Sepik, and now they're being used for the fun of some people, to take money out of...the loinery was supposed to be a Kolan, near the mouth of the Hawain river, out there. ...they moved it, and it shouldn't be there. The wisdom of the project was to bring infrastructure to those people out there, roads, and spin off businesses and preferential hiring, this was the deal. but then because these people threatened to withdraw, the province just offered them this other site. Yes, the company was saying its going to be expensive to get it done, and they wanted savings, and this is why they moved it. They did not offer anything in spinoff business at all for this, nothing. Its politics you know. Arthur should have been with the people and the kickoffs, but in this case it's the company that is benefiting more than the people. They really missed out, the company really benefited a lot on this exercise. I mean, they had given the contract for the building of the factory to..uh, Heydridge..and they were subcontracting to SBA, I mean someone went over and took a photograph and sent it to the ombudsman commission was sent a photograph of the sign at the factory that said it all—contractor, subcontractor, everything , so the ombudsman went over and did their own investigation. So what they did was they took the sign down, and they put a up a sign that said Richard Cowley (?) engineering—he's the chicken feed man, the one who has the contract with catering. The chicken man, So they came in and used his name as a front and gave him this chicken business in return. ..they used his name...he's not experienced, just because they used his name to cover up their contract...they did the same thing with the Mobil station, the old Mobil station—closed now. What happened was the old owners, they uh...SBA was forbidden to take any more Ausaid projects, they were forbidden from accepting any more contracts, because they had taken too many and not completed them. So the office of rural development banned them from new contracts. But then the road contract to going to Timbunke, to upgrade the road, and this was supposed to be done in the name of the two men who owned the moil station, and it was supposed to be completed in three months, but they finished it in a few weeks, just grading it, that's all. Not all the way through. So they got 150 million (?) for that.

And as soon as they'd finished the ORD started investigating and they found that they asked these gentlemen whose equipment this was grading the road, and one of these men is a church goer, so he told them SBA, he told them, and they cut him off. So now he's bankrupt and hasn't got the money to run his station, and SBA has the money. Same with the new courthouse, supposed to be at Kreer heights, its all overgrown now. The man who got the contract had no equipment, so who did he subcontract but SBA, and so when the ORD found that out again, so now, they've stopped it and nothings happening. ...The Offshore Masters is going to be a real cannery, tuna, and they're Thai and Malaysian , and what they do is they're being given the deed to the land, given what these companies will do is the old gov stoa is to be redone and they'll change the whole thing into a new government complex. That's the deal. ...the provincial government is an investor then, but then others too, Sir Hugo in behalf of someone else of course, he's definitely representing someone and they can give the deed away, they can do that, and he should know they cannot treat people like that...the cannery will be even worse...the smell... FDC that is Taiwanese...the uh the waste....the contract was about building a pipe out to the sea, not to use boats...they would use pipes.

Petrus Sagom, Prime Minister's Project Officer

Mr Petrus Sagom is an experienced Fisheries Officer with the department of Livestock and Agriculture. Since June 2004, he is now employed as Prime Ministers' Project Officer in Wewak. He is attached to the Prime Ministers' Department.

Speaking of some major physical and infrastructure developments in the province:

- Turubu Road project – the National Government funded K100 000 for its feasibility study
- Yawasoro Road Project – its also counter-funded by the government and should begin soon.
- Yawasoro the SSTC plant was originally planned to be built there but logistical problems are more and have to bring it closer to the wharf. If they have to build the factory at Yawasoro they have consider many things like wharf, transportation etc. Also they have some landowner issues still outstanding so they moved to the present location. The company wanted to dealt with the government then to be involved in landownership issues do they just leased the land for the PNG Harbors Board. At Yawasoro there are many owners to the land and made the issues complicated.
- At the present site – there is still dispute. The principle landowners are from Kairuru Island whose half family are at people are the Meni village. But the people of Kreer also claim ownership to the land so again there are still complicated issues. The government did not need ask them because this crown land.
- The Extension of the Wewak Airport – the National and the Provincial Government are planning to expand the size of the airport to international standard size. This will mean the CIS will be moved to some where we still looking for a suitable place to relocate the CIS.

ES Province will experience some major developments project such as the SSTC and others still in the pipeline and other agricultural such as the Cocoa Project in Angoram and mineral explorations such as Freda Mining. We will have a busy wharf but we also need to accommodate many flights in and out and especially some direct flights from overseas. We

therefore need to resettle villages that are near and around the air port to make way for the development. Land compensation is of the hindrances delaying the progress of it.

- Murik Lake Resettlement program – the Provincial Government is looking at ways to resettle the people living around the Murik Lake area to make way for development. It is dangerous for the people settling there because of tsunami threats. We are planning to resettle the people further in land to avoid possible affects from tsunami. The lake will only become a fishing ground. We also have a lot of opposition from the people themselves but we will still go ahead and do it because it is important for the province.
- Expansion of the Wharf – with the establishment of the SSTC loinary plant ESP is attracting a lot of foreign fishing vessels. The overseas crews on these ships are bringing with them money but we are unable bring them into our town because we don't have an adequate wharf facilities to accommodate them so they are drifting on the sea and only come by little boats to fetch some things from the market or shops and they are gone. What we need is a wharf they can anchor and be able to come ashore and spend money on local goods and services. The dredging process going on in front of the PNG Harbors Board is part of this plan to expand the wharf.
- Two more Tuna Factories in Wewak - We are expecting two more tuna processing plant to be built in Wewak. The land behind the SSTC plant is been allocated to a company called Offshore Masters from Thailand to build a Tuna Cannery. The factory will actually make canned fish and other products here like the RD Tuna in Madang. That has been approved by the government and MOA already singed between the Provincial and National government and the Investor and its only waiting for the project to start. It was speculated to start this year but I don't know where the holdup in but it's soon to start. Another one is in the pipeline and will be finalized soon. It maybe too early at this stage to speculate details of the project. We have a huge potential and we have major markets in Japan.
- Urimo Cattle Project – this is one of the projects the government is looking to get it off the ground and make use of the vast plains available in the Sepik region. It is a 100 hector land ideal for such project and Sir Hugo is linked to this project. He will be responsible to implement the project for the government.

Yawasoro is the original is the original site the SSTC loining plant was to be built. All the necessary ground work was done including signing legal documentation such as MOA with the parties concerned such as the Provincial Government, the Developer and the land owners. The ground breaking ceremony was done and the project was expected to kick off. However, the company and the government through the East Sepik Provincial Government came to a conclusion that the logistical cost of the plant in Yawasoro would be very much expensive than to have a site close to the sea/ wharf.

When you are dealing with fish you have to have better port facilities because it will determine the supplies you get from your fishing crews. Everyday fish will come in from the sea and export ready to be shipped to the markets overseas. It was rather expensive to think of the all expenses involved and it was agreed that it was more convenient to build the factory at the site where it is. The land is state owned that we had no hassles from the landowners to develop this piece of land. It fact it was muddy and swampy but it was filled up and now you see a different place. It was not like this before.

There is no legal case as yet with the Saure people claiming compensation from the developer or the government for damages but I think they might take up a case. I am not aware of any latest development on this side of things but my opinion would be that the SSTC and the government gave false hope and expectation to the Saure landowners and they have every right to complain and be angry.

I am not aware of any Environmental Plan done for the SSTC. If there is any I haven't seen it. I am sure what the factory is doing to dump its waste is approved by the Environment and Conservation Department. No industrial or mining operation is to start unless they have an Environmental and Safety Plan in place.

Smell pollution from the SSTC is one of the most obvious in Wewak. The smell is awful and only specialists can tell us that it can be dangerous to our health. The factory is within the industrial zone of Wewak but for a fish factory it's too close to town and residential area. When the SSTC factory said would use state of art technology that will have no smell. I never believed it because everywhere such will always produce such smell.

The establishment of yet the other Tuna processing factory will have more pollution implications, especially the smell. It will be a full canning factory and I would image that it would be something like the RD Tuna in Madang. With the location of the factory next to the SSTC, both plants will combine to give a more terrible smell than one at the present.

It is good to have such investments in the province but it needs to be carefully planed to weigh out the pros and cons for it before signing agreements and the actual implementations of it. It doesn't look good when you have a project that is disputed say by the landowners, or other parties involved. Like in the case for SSTC I see that local participation is very minimal and I think that could be the reason for all the anger surrounding the project. I am sure the provincial authorities will try and avoid such situations for future developments.

I don't think it is feasible to build another factory especially a fish cannery next to the loining factory. Given the experience of the smell residents in Wewak are become aggressive and complain and if another one is to be built I would expect some resentment from the community. Better to build it outside of the town or residential vicinity.

In regard to the fishing vessels and their activity it should be closely monitored by the National Fishing Authority. They have an Observer Program in place to actually be on fishing vessel and be present on transferring of fish from catcher vessels to mother boats that takes them overseas markets.

Regarding working condition of the SSTC factory employee, it is off course a big labor issue. The workers went on a strike few weeks ago. Everyone would agree that the labor rates are very low paying them K0.60 toea per hour. Some of those employees come from outside the town and had to pay their own bus fares to come to work because the company doesn't provide them transport. They end up with nothing at the end of the week because nearly most of the money is gone on bus fares and very little left for their family. Most of the employees are women and most of them are mothers and how would they feed their family if they spend 8 hours per day 5 days a week. The K60 or K80 they get is nothing: it cannot sustain them through to the next fortnight.

In my opinion the SSTC wage rate is breaching the labor laws and everyone would agree that their pay is very low and illegal. Some of the employees live as far as Hawain about the 15 km

and pay K2 to come in the morning and K2 to go back home in the afternoon. If they pay K4 per day for transport times by 10 working days equals K40 per week for transport that's basically their pay that is all spent on transport. Some people come as far Passam and East Coast about 8 km away. They are happy to work but very poor condition.

The East Sepik Provincial government does have a share in the factory. I don't know the actual percentage of it. The plan now is to open a trust account for the province so any dividends from projects the Provincial Government has shares will be deposited into the account. With the current uncertainty in the provincial administration starting from the governor and the administration I don't know where that issue is at.

Prostitution – yes there is possibilities but we don't know yet. Inside the cannery among the employees I couldn't tell from the outside. But for the Asian fishermen and crews it is possible. There are lots of stories about fish exchange out on the boats. It is possible for women to sell themselves in exchange for cash or other favors and food items. Though I don't have hard facts to confirm my allegation but I don't rule this out. Only time and proper investigation like this sure will bring to light the truth in the story.

Fishing- the fishing vessels are only after the tuna. The main fish they catch is skipjack tuna, and they also catch yellow fin tuna. They use the net that stretch out 100 to 115 kilometers in the open sea and whatever is in that range are netted and dumped into their freezers. Other fish apart from tuna are called by-catch which are useless to them so they dump them back into the sea. By-catch can be anything from sharks, dolphins and whatever fish within the range of their net. They may also send them overseas but if local companies are contracted to collect them and sell to local consumption here would be better than to dump them into the sea.

Ownership of SSTC – What I know is that it is an American company owned by Heinz. They also own the Star Kiss Tuna and another big fishing company. What they do here is contracting the South Korean to loin fish here and supplies their factories Hawaii, San Francisco and Port de Rigo. That is what I heard from some sources in the provincial government. They also have connection with ANGCO through Thomas Nigkins. Why it is called South Seas – Star Kiss and Angco combine to give this name.

Benefits of SSTC-

- employments for the 1200 employees
- Guard Dog Security came to reduce crime problems in Weak by doing foot patrol especially at night
- Other indirect benefit to the markets and other service providers.

According to the project officer the land where the loining factory is built is recognized as a state land. However, the people of Kreer and Meni both claim that they are the traditional owners of the land and were consulted prior to the erection of the factory. These two groups still have conflict over who should be recognised as the traditional owner of the land where the loinery is now. He pointed out that to avoid land related problems the government will have to use the state owned land. Unfortunately, state owned land is very limited and for any project development by inviting foreign companies in is bit of a problem. Even land that are recognized by the government as state owned has land related problems when trying to establish development projects such as the loinery. With that particular land the two groups (Meni and Kreer) are in conflict as to who is rightfully the traditional owner of the land. While there is conflict amongst the locals the second party they have conflict with is the Government/State. These issues are yet to be solved. According to the East Sepik Provincial Government the State

owns the land legally and therefore it will not be proper to pay those who once own the land traditionally. All stakeholders including the landowners were consulted initially of the project (Loining Factory) and all were very much supportive. Despite the land issues/disputes landowners from both Meni and Kreer were involved/consulted in the initial planning of the Loining Factory. As stated by the project officer landowners were consulted and were involved initially of the relocation of the Loining Factory (to the land where it is now). The project officer does not seem too sure if there was an environmental studies carried out since such studies are prerequisite to any project development. However, he did mention that he is only aware of an environmental plan which was approved by the Government through the Department of Environment and Conservation (DEC). The officer also could recalled that, a team as assigned by the company SST went around making awareness on the environmental impact of the loinery if established. One of the things promised was that the loinery will not produce the foul smell. The people were made to believe that new technology used will not produced the foul smell that the people of Madang are experiencing. The people were misinformed and now there were much complaints of the foul smell produced from almost all residents of Wewak and visitors as well. The officer interviewed said that smell is pollution and it is not good for outside investors who are interested in businesses other than fishing.

Unwanted fish are caught and thrown back into the waters. For example; when the fishermen catch sharks they only cut fins and get them and throw them away. According to our country law endangered species are to be protected. However, that is not the case as admitted by the officer interviewed. Socio-economic impact studies of the factory were never carried out and if one was carried out the officer is not aware of it. In terms of shares in the business only the Provincial Government has shares. The officer expressed concerns that the LLGs should have some shares in the business.

The terms and conditions of the employees especially their salary/wages has been poor and is below the minimum wages as allowed by the Minimum Wages Board. The employees of the factory are supposed to be paid a minimum of K1.00 per hour but as the case is some are paid as low as 50 toea per hour. Each employee is required to work at least 13 hours per day and will be making an average of about K13.00 per hour and in two weeks one should be making around K130.00

The sad thing is that there are cases where some SST employees from areas like Hawain have travel everyday by PMV at the cost K4.00 to and fro. If they have to travel 10 days to work approximately 31 % (K40.00) of their pay goes to travel cost. The other 69 % of their pay goes to other needs and expenses.

The officer interviewed said that it would be good if the company provided transportation for employees pick up and drop off. Since the establishment of the factory the Guard Dog Security Services were brought into Wewak. It created employment while at the same time law and order problems declined.

In terms of employment locals are occupying the positions of second level management and on the over all has created an employment of 1000+ residence of Wewak specially, those living in the settlements. In addition he stated these people are here to stay. It the responsibility of the government try and find means and ways to cater for their needs. One way is to get investors into the province which will then create employment for those living in the settlements as well as others who are seeking employment.

Interview with Gunu Gao, Assistant Manager Customs (IRC) Wewak:

The main aim of customs is to create revenue for the country, protect against illegal trading, protect local communities, and know how many employee companies have. There are two cases of illegal trading in Wewak. Asians trading store goods in Tarawai Island have been caught and charged by Customs. Another case, West Irians caught with illegal drinks mostly hard stuff and have been charged. The clearance must be made with the fishing vessels by Customs. The Fisheries usually look after marine products, but the Customs have last say about all that need to be exported. The people that come into the country [illegally?] are mostly all Asians. All fish in a fishing vessel must be known by the Customs. Lots of cases of illegal trading have been caught on the seas using bribery. So Fisheries and Customs must work together to punish such people. All fishing vessels must come into ports for the transshipment from catcher boats to mother boats. On the boats the captains definitely know how many crew members are on the boat. All crew members are advised that they must have passports or visas to go ashore when a boat enters a port.

Wallie Sangi, Acting Senior Advisor for the NFA. The fisheries observers are assigned to go out in boats to monitor the fishing vessels. They will write a report on the vessel or catcher boat of the catches being made. Any illegal act must be reported and will be charged. There will be more factories coming to Wewak. More fish will be needed. The benefits will go straight to the Provincial Government. The NFA plays a major role in bringing the fish factories to the country and province. The crew members on the boats must have passports so that they can go on shore when a fishing boat reaches a port. Without passports or visa they are illegal.

2. Factory workers:



Lawrence Wanyia, former Human Resource Manager, SSTC 5/7/05: The South Sea Tuna Loining factory opened its operation in April 2004, started off with 10 fulltime workers in the beginning and had 1200 employees in April of 2004. It further increased to 1300 active workers in Sep 2004. The number will still increase with a lot of demand for people to speed up the production and meet its targets. Fish unlike other industrial operations is does not have computerized technology to remove the grills, chopping the fish, loining, cooking the fish, sizing, weighing, removing skin and the bones. It is however a labour intensive work that require people to physically remove all these things with their hand. So a lot of the employees especially women are employed in that aspect of the assembly line. Almost a thousand (1000) workers, mainly women are engaged in that area of work. The proportion would be 10 percent men and 90 percent women.

There is still need to recruit more people and I am sure the number is likely to go over 1300. One of the reasons is that the company employee absenteeism rate is high because not all the employees live here in town or the nearby settlements. We have people coming outside of town and have to pay between K2-K6 bus fares to come to work. With the poor transportation system in town, there is not guarantee that we will have good attendance rate. Also, with the poor remuneration and the pay, people just walk of their job if they want to leave thus we also have a high turnover rate.

I would say that many people working are there because that is probably the only paid job that is available for them. I don't mean they can't have an employment else where but in term of the jobs available right now in town. People need money to survive so whatever the condition and the pay is for them they just go to work for their lousy K60 or K80.

In terms of the expatriates working in the company - we have the General Manager Mr Ian Boatwood who is from New Zealand (but thinks he is from America), the Financial Manager (Australian), Production Manager, Engineering Manger, Quality Control Manager (2 Filipinos). So 7 expatriates for all the senior management jobs and I was the only national in there as the Human Resource Manager in the senior management decision making level. Now that my position was made redundant that I will discuss when we have time, the management is manly dominated by the foreigners.

There are qualified Papua New Guineans out there but the company did not do enough search to attract them. And mind you, the nationals working in the SST are seen as incompetent and unskilled and that is one of the things that frustrated me. Many so-called experts still consider PNG as secondary human being and have very low regard of their expertise. South Sea Tuna for one undermine their abilities and even pay them a very very low salary. We need a complete overhaul of the colonial mindset of these foreigners – some Papua New Guineas are well qualified then some of those foreigners who can't even have a similar job they have in their own country.

I was the only Papua New Guinean that was looked after well by the company. I have a very good salary, with all my telephone, power, gas, school fees, entertainment, etc. paid by the company plus a good house and a vehicle. Now that I am out, no Papua New Guinea is anywhere near.

Some of those Asian working in the factory are learning on the job. It seems they know nothing about their jobs and I can see it very clearly. I am a Human Resources Manager and I have 20 years experience in the business of man management thus I know and can tell the difference people who know their jobs from such Asians. It should be the job of the Foreign Affairs and the Immigration department to carefully scan them before allowing them into the country (giving them work permit), which is off course a very corrupt government agencies now with over 10 000 illegal immigrants are on the lose running around in PNG now. I can assure you that the 10 000 illegal immigrants are unskilled and lowly educated people finding their escape into PNG because this is the only place they can find money cheating its people and the government. Therefore, the Foreign Affairs and Immigration Officers are a shame to this country. I would say of the 10 000 illegal immigrants about 95 percent would be from Asia. And mind you, the Asians are invading every part of the world and PNG is not an exception. Globalization in turn is about Asian spreading the population everywhere and trying to control the business and economic activities of towns and cities and also spreading Western values and their own. You go and take a head count for all the stores and small businesses which by law is reserved for nationals only the

Asians are taking over. That's 'invasion' in broad day light not what our stupid politicians called 'investment'. That's not investment – how much money is investment and how much are they stealing from PNG whom they think are bunch of pigs with no brains. PNG needs to wake-up to this reality and review its foreign policy like Look North – which in reality is a loophole for Asian Invasion.

As far as I know, the landowners have no real benefits in terms of spin-offs or special privileges to work in the company. It's a sad reality and it's a shame that they have nothing but that's the way it is. The company has no special reservations for them but for those who work come from all over the place. Some people are from the settlements in towns, some from the nearby villages, some from the islands, some from the highways and the byway so there is no special consideration as such.

The SST have promised landowners for spin-off benefits like to provide transportation for workers, security of the plant, chicken projects to get their stock feed from the company (which the company dose not make to its final stock consummation stage but send them to Australia) any many other such promises. It's yet to be fulfilled. But the local landowners take it gracefully with a lot of patience but if that was to be in the Highlands, the company will be closed down. And to be very honest with you, the SST has very poor public relations with the community as well as its employees. They are not interested in the affairs of the community or its employees but focus manly on what they can get from the community and its employees. Many times sporting teams have asked for sponsorships and other support but such letters are dumped before been read. That's speaking from experience – they would not accept landowner complains nor pollutions from the residents or about the terrible smell in town. What they care is to meet their production target and other things are mediocre not the responsibility of the company. It is sometimes hard of me as a national to ignore because it is sensitive but it the General Manager and the majority in the senior management that make the decisions at the end of the day. I can only empathies with the people.

The only spin-off I got involved in to buy chicken products for a local supplier. Since the company mess was under my wings I asked a local supplier to supply chicken pieces for the mess on a regular stock which is now on going. SST is not about farming and preparing chicken but its about fish and we can't waste time and resource on preparing food etc to divert our resource and attention – we only want something readily available for cooking and eating and many locals have misconceptions in that respect. They can grow chicken but expect the company to but they live and prepare it themselves which like I said have no time for it. I really feel for the landowners because they have nothing to benefit from the factory but suffer many other consequences. It's not only the company but the real blame is to be shifted to the government who in the first place have to involved the local land groups in the negotiation process. To my knowledge they have not signed any legal agreements with the state and the company. Mainly because the land is a state land but how the state acquired the land is another matter between the state and the locals land owners. I don't know very much in this area and better let the landowners to speak for themselves and state to verify its legal ownership of the land. From the company's perspective, the land and local landownership is not its business to be engaged in. It's between the locals and the state. Most of the spin-offs promised to the local are now done by the company itself such as security, repairs; catering etc so there is simply no room for the local participation. The type of spin-off given to the Kreer people is at the receiving and butchering where locals are in charge of.

In regard to the production, by the end of 2004 the company was processing 100 tones per day. We have 2 shift (the day shift and one in the night to 12.am morning) which are expected to process 50 tones as per shift. This was the target but not always happened. Because of some of the other problems associated with employees, transportations, etc and also because we have a lot of people who are unskilled obviously and it takes time for them to learn and get used to doing the job they do. Thus, we end up to 70 tones per day.

The problems as I have highlighted earlier: many absenteeism, complains for low pay, accommodation that's we wanted to employ people with accommodation in town, and especially transportation. We have a real problem for our night shifts because there is not transportation available for them. Since most working in the production are women, its very risk for them and not always would their husbands and parents allow them to come to work at night.

The pay issue is something that needs a complete overhaul in the country. The industrial labour rate is 60 per hour and that to me is honestly not sufficient to get anyone through the week or for two weeks for that matter. The labour laws for PNG are 50 years old and in this day and age you cannot survive with such rates. The SST pays 66 toea per hour which ends us at K90 per fortnight and that is still not enough to see anyone through to the next pay week. It's not the fault of the company that employees are poorly paid but it the labour and industrial rate and needs to improve. I have been fighting for the labour rates to be at K1.20 per hour and that's one of the reasons I am so critical and get into arguments with the company that cost my job. There is no justice in the labour rate – PNG has to change and increase the both the urban and the rural minimum wages to reasonable rates which can sustain families to the next pay day in light of the present high cost of living and inflation.

I have lots of complain from the employees about the pay but there is so much I can do. The rate is not enough to see them through to another pay week. But unless the labour rates are improved we will still complain. If their case is taken up by union some of their condition be improved. But the sad reality is that SST discourages formation of union but the employees have a right to form one. My honest opinion is that they have a legal right to form a union and affiliate with the PNG Trade Union Congress to give them a voice and an avenue to address their grievances. If the employee was at first members of union they would not have been employed. That is not a company regulation but what the company does. You know they are not concerned about what social and economic benefit they can give to the people but focuses primarily on its own production targets – to meet the supply needs of its clients in US and Thailand. People's needs are totally ignored and still have the old colonial attitudes towards PNG. That's a very poor attitude for a multinational corporation who seemingly said to have a high reputation but the opposite is truer.

Do not believe the rumors that people pay some certain application fees get jobs at SST. If it happened it was not to my knowledge. I as Personnel Manager would not tolerate it because its illegal. So it has never happen.

In terms of social and economic benefits, SST has brought false expectation to the people and the business community of Wewak. There is no real benefit to the people and has no community obligation work. They are isolated if you will from the other business community. The business community here have big expectations so I was appointed Secretary to the ESP Chamber of Commerce but we have very poor participation. The company never give me time to attend the chamber meetings or make any contribution. Our big name here is only by words and not deeds. I am ashamed to say that I represent an

egocentric and greedy company in the chamber. The company PR with the locals is very poor thus the locals have their own agenda and have differences so if they get the moment and the support they need the company will have some dangerous issues on its hand.

One obvious bad reality of the SST plant is the location. When it was first proposed, there was all this talk about SST being a state-of-art plant, with practically no smell. The engineers who were contracted to build the plant said there is no such thing as state-of-art fish factory. Smell will always be there so it's not a surprise for the smell pollution to be in Wewak. The factory located in town is a problem. The smell of the fish is contained especially in the production area but what stinks is the combination of solids and sewage pumped out to extract the liquid which is said to be, and even proven to be, environmentally friendly. Which are disposed by boat some kilometers out in the open sea. It is not poisonous and will not kill any marine life.

We have complaints from the local fisherman but our information from the specialists says it is safe to dump in the sea so we rely on our scientific intelligence rather than to hear other unsubstantiated complaints. That is the position of the company we maintain unless scientifically proven otherwise.

The fish are caught all over the ocean. Tuna is a highly migratory fish so does not necessarily mean they are caught only from PNG waters. Where to fish and what to catch has nothing to do with the company but with the fishing authority such as National Fishery Authority as well as giving them permits or licenses to fish in the PNG EEZ (300 miles economic exclusive zone). It's the NFA's responsibility to protect the 20 km customary fishing grounds where no commercial fishing is allowed. But it is allowed for nationals only to fish in that zone and sadly the Asians have registered as nationals and are taking over PNG customary fishing rights.

The company (SST) hires 14 vessels, mostly Thailand and Pilippino owned. They are contracted to the SST to provide their supply of tuna to be prepared and exported. SST exports mainly to USA (Sun Kiss Tuna) as one of their main clients and to Thailand.

SST is owned by Taiwan. The president of the company is an American based in USA and General Manager from New Zealand.

In terms of share PNG government has 1 percent share. That could be the provincial government. There is lots of infighting between the Somare's faction and others. Therefore, the Provincial Government is not organized. Michael Somare wanted a trust account to be opened for its share in the SST but apparently he wanted the account to be opened under his name and other people not agreeing to it.

There is no local share such as reserved for the landowners like they do in mining areas. Like I said there is nothing for the locals and PNG in it but most of it for the benefit of the SST.

SST is a political winner. It was something the ESP politicians forced without proper consideration on its possible impacts but to score political points. They wanted to say to the people and other provinces that they have done something for ESP and also message to their predecessors that under them some development is surfacing. This is a very poor attitude for not taking into consideration any of these points.

The company invited interested people and groups to apply for spin-offs. It was done mainly by the Commerce office of the provincial government. They charged a K50 deposit. Most people now realized that it will not eventuate so they reimbursed their money from the Commerce office.

SST does not have a Training and Localization Program. The whole thing of the Training Localisation Program by the PNG Training Council is just a myth. Why do I say that? Apart from many areas they fail to address is that so-called expatriates come into PNG for 2-3 years contract and after their contract expired they continue to work for another 10-20 years. That's cheating the system and the people, and not creating opportunities and allowing our local people to grow and mature in senior management positions in PNG.

Another competitor hoping to build a cannery here is Thailand company called the Off Shore Masters. It was said to start its operation, especially building its factory starting February this year but there must be something wrong in the long delay of it. One of the reasons given for the delay was for the tsunami that hit Asia last Christmas.

One of the Production Managers who I called an *off-cut* is a Filipino whom RD Tuna in Madang threw him out and SST picked him up. He is very abusive and used unacceptable swear words to abuse the women. I have lots of complaints from people working under him, especially the women on the production line. We PNG have cultural taboos against swearing women or in front of women but his behavior is very offensive and insulting. Swearing by the Asians is common and its kind of an organizational culture or say and organizational language used by the senior managers against the line or lower subordinates. They are very abusive and irritating to the local ears. This SST factory is known for swearing women and even touching them on wrong part of their body such as breasts, buttocks and their private parts. I have complaints even from one of the senior staff that she was touched by the Pilippino on her front part. I raised that up in the senior staff meeting several times but never had any appropriate action from the senior management. Any unsolicited touch should be regarded as sexual harassment and I don't see any serious commitment to such laws. Maybe owing to the level of education and the level of awareness the employees have about their rights on the job.

I personally do not agree with the management style of SST – treating people (employee) like in the days of the colonial masters. Some of these foreigners seem to think along the same line that Papua New Guineans are still the primates they were back in the 50s and 60s but in this day and age you cannot treat people like that. People have rights and any company operation in the country should acknowledge and appreciate such and uphold it.

I don't even like the way the foreigner especially the Asian coming into the country to exploit our resource and even claim simple jobs locals can do here. In the jobs that has no PNG national who knows the technical know-how, why would you want to hire an Asian who does not know his job. That is something wrong within the system so if we are to clean our country we have to clean such areas and be transparent as possible. The company such as SST is not looking hard enough to put the right people from the pool of qualified nationals to do some job some foreigners are doing. That is nothing hard in the factory- PNG locals can simply run the job but it is the investor or the owner of the operation that wants people of its own choice. Like I said though nationals are high qualified but still get lower pay compared to some of these foreigners.

Whilst it is good to attract investors into our country and in this case to Wewak, it should also bring some real benefits that benefit the people. Such big multinationals bring with it lots of expectations and should at least fulfill some of its community obligations and participate well in building our community socially and economically. As it is the case for SST, nothing and in no way is the community and local land owners benefiting. It's the factory that reaps all the benefits if you will of the investment at the expense of the community.

The company has made mention of giving spin-off benefits to the local but I don't think that any such agreement was formally entered into between the company and other stakeholders. If the company made verbal promises, you can't rely on but has to be in writing and formal and that you have evidence against the company to peruse the case is in court.

There were some talks about some spin-offs which was administered by the Provincial Commerce Department here. People did have their applications in with a K50 as application fees but nothing happened. As a result most of the applicants reimbursed their money. Now all the spin-off promised to the local people are basically run by the company itself such as the catering, messing, maintenance, security, transport (not provided).

I'm afraid the company does not have any Training and Localizations Program. I was a personal manager so I should have known very well if such as program was available.

Distrust is one of the things I find to be quite common in the company. It's a sign of poor management skills. The SST General Manager is one of those you will not trust. He says one thing and does another.

Also racism is very obvious in the company. The local in the middle management are under mind and looked down at. The foreigners want things to be done they way of thinking. Believe me in that way you will lose your good workers and make them discouraged. They have a lot of racial abuse and the poor attitude is that under the colonial rule we were made to believe that being black is inferior. The SST employees accept that they are black which means like a second class people. In fact the previous Financial Manager was ordered out of the country because of his racial abuse and attitude towards the locals. The foreigners think the PNG are nothing even if we have better qualifications. I can tell you that most of the Asians in PNG are all dropouts from grade schools. Most of them have forged qualifications and find their way into PNG.

In effect the SST factory here is a political winner more than anything. East Sepik leaders wanted to show others that are winners and don't care how in affect the lives of the ordinary people at the grassroots level. There are other more factories on the way as I mentioned of the Offshore Masters owned by Malaysia and that is going to be a cannery and we are expecting some more problems of smell and other pollution.

I feel so sorry for our country so blessed and rich with natural resources yet poor. We don't have to invite thieves from outside to reap us off. We cannot compete with the advance industrialized countries of the world because they are already there are we are very far from them. We don't have to compare ourselves from others and try to rush into development such as exploitation of our natural resources. We don't need it- we have our land to fall back on. Other people in other countries don't have land like we owned and that's a good thing about PNG. Our so called leaders make very shallow thinking decisions to invite "investors" friends to steal and for them to squander such money. The divide-and-rule

strategy is very well used by foreigners to side with thieves to steal our resources. Say 20 years from now if that same attitude continues we will give our country and the future generation to the dogs and the devil. It gives me encouragement to see such young man like you who has the potential to change the course of our direction. Our hope of the future of PNG lies in your hands, especially your generation and if you can't you may as well die that to live and see the sufferings of your country. My generation has fail this country and given it to the dogs – we have to clean it up and your generation will have to complete the cleaning and rebuilding for a better and brighter future of PNG.

I really want this report to bring out a comprehensive report and bring to the public the information people need to know. This we act as a check-and-balance and applaud the effort and commitment from such young man like you.

I worked as Manger Personnel for SST for 12 months ending 25 December 04. My position was made redundant my the General Manger. I was given no prior warning nor a reason why they wanted me out of the job but that was the decision. I wanted to have a meeting with the General Manager to explain my situation but he avoided all this time. So I got naturally angry by the manner in which I was treated. I was asked to move out after 2 months for the date of notice from the company house and handover the vehicle. Anyhow, I sought advise from a private reputable law firm to take the matter to court but they advised that legally I have not case. That is really surprising to me. Because if I was in a similar position with the government that I have a good case but such law don't cover senior managers in private sector, which is off course something I didn't know before.

I lot of people in Wewak now have all kinds of misconceptions about my ouster from SST. They think I stole money from the company and got sacked as a result. But I got sacked because I stood my grounds on principles. Moral principles are hard to have but when you compromise it you are nothing but a vehicle of evil to prosper.

I fought for three things, and the company didn't want to keep me:

1. Change in the labor rate from present 65 toea to at least K1.00
2. Company transportation for night shift workers (because at the moment there is none),
3. Accommodation - the company to provide flats/units for some of our skilled labourers, because I wanted to make sure that we have long term labour that we can relay on. At the moment we have people who come and work for few months and run away giving their reason as no accommodation.

Anyway, I have done what I did trying to improve the working conditions of my people and I was also a threat to the company to pushing for such decisions to be made so shutting me was in their self interest and not for the wider picture. I worked 20 years in the business of HRM with Ok Tedi so I have other plans to peruse.

Believe me if the women went on strike this SST factory will be closed. I will help them establish a union to give them a voice because they are working very hard under terrible conditions.

Edward and Helen 9 July 05

Edward is a Diploma graduate of Tourism and Hospitality Management of Divine Word University. He worked in Mount Hagen with Trans New Guinea Tours before joining the South Seas Tuna Loining plant in Wewak. He worked in the Catering Department for 3 months before

moving on to Data Encoder and then to the Production Section for three months. Edward worked as Supervisor in Production for 3 months and worked as Production Analyst before resigning to join the Sepik Saving and Loans Society.

Helen is Edward's girlfriend who works at South Seas Tuna Loining Factory's section of Quality Assurance. She works in the Quality Assurance since she was employed and as at the time of interview she was for almost 1 year 3 months. Edward met Helen while working at the factory.

Edward: I worked with South Seas Tuna as at 25 February 2004 after I left Mount Hagen. I joined the Catering Section of the company as Catering Supervisor. In this job we plan menus, prepare the meals especially, lunch for the employee of the SST.

We prepare basic food like rice, chicken, sausages, and vegetables from the market such as banana, kaukau, greens and taro. Although, most of the food staff and bought from the local markets, many vegetable are bought from the Highlands regions through our suppliers. Local farmers don't sell their products directly to the company but to Wewak Freezers. We also bought our protein supplement such as chicken mainly from them. They are subcontracted to the Catering section to supply us food.

The company does not prepare separate food for the management and the subordinates working on the production chain. No, they have the same food, but the administration staff have certain privileges such as they choose what they want to eat and what quantity. Unlike the production and other subordinates. They have no say on what they want to eat but take what is served to them. Also, the same food is prepared differently for the administrative workers and the other ordinary factory workers. Normally, for the Administrative workers have their food better prepared.

After 3 months with the Catering department I made an internal transfer because of working conditions, especially by the pay I was getting. In Catering I got paid 90 toea per hour rate. So I moved to Data Encoding where the pay rate is K1.50 per hour. I worked for three months because 3 months is their probation period. I waited for 3 months hoping for my pay to improve despite my repetitive discussions with my mediate supervisor but nothing to be forthcoming. I made another move to the Production Analysts where I worked directly with people loining the fish, skinning, cooking, etc. I was made a supervisor with K3 per hour rate which was reasonable. But the amount of work I do in the factory is not compensated well, and especially the assembly line workers get really poor pay. For the catering they get K72.00 per fortnight.

That is why most of the employees leave and equally the problem of transportation. Unlike the RD Tuna in Madang SST failed considerably to provide transportation to the factory. At least importantly transportation to the factory especially for the night shift workers would be very helpful. Many women are stopped from coming to work because their husband or their parents fear they would get into trouble. There are many occasions where they get harassed or threatened by drunkards or rascals on the road at night times. I even stopped Helen from going to work few times and she got two warnings from being terminated. The company have a very high absenteeism and turnover rate. Some people just walk away from their jobs and others are fired by the company. The company by the strategy of hire-fire bases. They can hire someone today and fire him/her tomorrow. This is because they deal with a lot of unskilled labour market more that they can recruit new people from the settlements or the village for anyone who is willing to work. If you go late or are absent three times you are likely to be receiving warning letters and after the third time you will be terminated. The rules are relaxed for the administrative

employees and those whose work required special training but otherwise they apply the hire-fire rule.

That is why the company does not achieve its production target. That SST company has the production capacity to produce 200 metric tones of fish each day but at the moment the production level is under 60 – 80 metric tones per day. People on the assembly line especially the Production Unit spend extra effort to meet daily targets. For example, the fishing fleets brings in 600 metric tones and if we are to produce 100 metric tones per day, each shift will have to do 50 metric tones. Production worker come in and work for as long as their target is complete even if they exceed their working time and go into overtime. The sad truth is that they don't get overtime payment of the extra amount of hours they worked.

It is really funny where the time-cards are controlled by the company supervisors. Sometime when it is too crowded for the employee to be clocking in the company just used a master card to clock all the employees in. The clock-outs are done especially by the supervisors so they will not clock you at the time you finish work but on the normal shift time so your cards do not show extra hours. Many people complain but there is nothing they can do. I worked in the supervisory capacity so I know and I have done what I have just explained. I know even it is absolutely unjust to do it but I have no authority but to do what people up the hierarchy told me.

Most employees will work 8 hours per day and have 5 days of work. Saturdays are optional and if you go then you will get overtime pay. However, if you work in there you will realize that you need more rest because you will not work the 8 hours per day but will find that you exceeds the hours of work each shift.

Helen: In Quality Control I work for 12 hours. That is if I come at 8 o'clock AM I will finish at 8 o'clock PM. We have an hour break for lunch at 12 00 noon and the rest of the day is fulltime work. You cannot just complete your 12 hours per day and leave at your own will but have to wait until the next shift fits in and is doing sometime before you level. Also, when you are clocking you don't clock in the time you arrive at the plant but as soon as you start touching fish and actually doing something to be clocked in. When you arrive at the plant you don't clock in the time you are there but the time you start doing something.

Edward: There are many Filipinos engaged with SST especially in Supervisory positions. They get paid in US dollars and have American-standard working conditions. They do nothing but stand and shout at the employees. Mind you, they are very abuse in their language.

Helen: Yes, they have no share in swearing especially at the women. Some of them don't even understand and speak English. They swear instructions in their own language and who will understand them? There is definitely a problem of communication between the Filipinos and the local laborers.

Edward: I work alone with a Filipino who is the Production Manger. I don't see anything hard that he is doing. His name is Edwin Abitat. I have been doing the work any there is no need to be hiring a Asian and paying him some extravagant salary when you can employ a Papua New Guinea who can do the same work and still get the same results. The Filipinos seem to be acting as if they have all the know-hows of the business of fish. They tend of behave as if they know more then any other people about fish. The higher Management of the factory listens to what they say maybe because the General Manager and Financial Manger are Americans they have the skills and capacity for general administration but not so much of the knowledge of fish.

The Filipinos occupy all the middle management positions in the company like the Production Manger, the Engineering Manger, Quality Assurance,

FCF is one of the shareholders of SST. SST is only a processing plant and fish are caught from all over the Pacific and foreign waters and sold to the factory. The factory buys them and processes them here and exports them to their markets overseas. Their major markets are in California and Los Angles. **Friable** (*spelling?*) is the name of the Filippino owned fishing vessels contracted by SST to catch fish for them.

Helen: SST was exporting yellow fin tuna to Italy because this is the type of fish they prefer to buy.. However, it was lifted a while ago because their quality control detected something ours didn't. They stopped buying fish from SST. So our market is only to export to US now.

Work-place safety is a major concern and priority for all factory and plant of any kind. The way we operate at SST does not to me imply that the factory is concerned after their employees. Employees are issued gumboots, helmets, gowns and gloves. Not all employees have the luxury of safety gears. We already had three cases of major injuries, where one man lost his toes when the door landed on them.. Another had a leg injury, and another man had a serious eye injury from ammonia gas leakage. Ammonia is used for freezing the fish and we have leakage all the time. We are not told how harmful this gas is but it leaks every time. Even you go inside the freezer which is below -15 degree Celsius you'll be frozen if you are in there for 5 minutes, and yet some of the employees working in the freezer don't have the right equipment,.

I didn't hear if there was any compensation paid to those who got injured. On of the boys who injured himself is the son of the Labour Officer here in Wewak. To our knowledge no compensation was made to the victims. ⁴

Pregnant mothers who are more than 4 months along are asked to leave the company. If they want to come back after having their baby they will have to reapply, and if accepted they will come and resume. There is no such thing as maternity leave or what ever. They just terminate you from work which means you don't get any bonus or other incentives. That's for the employees of the lower level, but does not apply to the administrative and supervisory staff. They enjoy other privileges and benefits such as maternity leave.

One thing they refuse to accept is the fact they all the hard work is done by people on the ground directly working alone the factory line whilst they sit down and shout instructions and get paid more than the poor one of the ground.

Edward: Most of the women working in the factory are over 15 years old. They also try to avoid older women. Most employees are in their 20s and 30s – physical fitness is an obvious condition of employment --that you have to be fit to perform any function on the job.

When we had Mr Andrew Wanyia as Manger Personnel he was very critical on such employee matters such as harassment, pay differences, transportation and other workplace safety matters for the employees. Now that he is gone we feel a big loss for our voice at the senior administrative level. I don't know the reason behind his departure but we were told that the company made his position redundant. His loss is equally felt in the company by all the national employees.

⁴ The Labour Officer is said to eat regularly at the Windjammer, suggesting that he is not troubled by the incident enough to boycott SBA/ESPG properties.

The present Human Resource Manager is not that interested in employee affairs. That is my personal conclusion, compared to Mr Wanyia, because whoever s/he is is never involved with the employees on the ground. I would say that whoever the HRM person is, he/she is only interested in administrative matters and not with its matters to promote the interest of the people.

Personally I was not asked if I was part of any union. But I know that the SST administration does not allow workers to have a union. Unlike at RD Tuna, Madang, where the company helps its employees form a union, here at SST it is a dangerous movement and who would want to risk his or her employment?. As far as the company is concerned workers are not allowed to have a union.

About fees being paid to recruitment people to get employment- I don't have any experience, and neither does Helen. We applied to get into SST, unlike the unskilled labor pool where people get recruited from the settlements and the neighboring villages. But recruiting *wantoks* is for sure, it happens.

As far as I know there is no special privileges allotted to the customary landowners, neither for employment nor spin-off benefits. SST's spin-off programs were organized through the Department of Commerce. Interested people were asked to register their interest with K50 and I was among the first few people who registered an application of interest. Nothing happened.

What the company wanted was for people interested in spin-off activities to form corporations and groups to be able to participate and not work as individuals. To the best of my knowledge there is no landowner groups involved in any form of spin-off businesses.

On occasions we have fights and arguments among the employees themselves. We have fights over men and a lot of sexual relations on the workplace between men and women. Some married people have extra martial affairs on the job and at times their wives fight with other woman near the front gate of the factory. It happens every now and then.

Do the Asian supervisors to have sexual relationships with women in the factory?

I can't confirm but there are stories among the women that the Asians have done something to them. Also other stories about local women involved with the Asian sailors. They do have some exchanges for food and other staff with the local people when the mother boats come, and other stories about local women selling sex to them. I can tell you that yes, there are lots of stories but I can't give evidence to prove. The local village here would be in good position to give you good stories.

Employees who work there for more than 3 months don't usually smell what the people outside smell. Sometimes it really reeks in the factory. The factory is enclosed which does not allow ventilation. That air inside is stuffy and hot and no doubt employees will stink like fish if they go home after their shift. If you are in the Administration section of the factory there is absolutely no smell – you won't smell anything.

They use a Dissolve Air Flotation Tank (DAFT) in the waste treatment process.

The smell comes especially when the waste material is pumped into the boat (Iona) that belongs to Sepik Costal Agencies, which then takes it out into the sea and dumps it. I don't know how

far it goes to dump the waste but the waste is not environmentally dangerous according to the company.

We heard complaints from the people of the nearby villages and especially from the islands. They complained that they have seen some dead dolphins and sharks which have their fins chopped off. They also complain of seeing many sharks around their area, more than before the establishment of the factory. The sharks come after the smell of the blood from the fish. It's an issue for them and would love to give you some information on that if you can ask around.

Helen: The fish meal which is made from the waste products of the fish off cuts is sent to Australia. Before they are sent the Quality Assurance department inspects them before they are exported. That is same for the fish exported to Star Kiss.

The company has a financial incentive for the employees as part of the NASFUND. They have AON Savings of which 5.5 percent of it is deducted from our salaries and 7.7 percent are paid by the company. When you are retired or want to get your money from this savings, the company will get 25 percent of it and 75 percent of it will go to the employee.

I don't have a future with SST. I don't want to work in the factory for many years because there are better conditions and compensation (elsewhere). However, for me as a young girl, I want to gain some work experience that I will need with SST. If I have a chance to be accepted for another job I will definitely take it up.

Edward: One thing. The men who work there drink a lot on their pay week. A lot of my co-workers drink up their little money they get and live through the week on borrowed money or survive through their relatives.

Regarding a future with SST, I have lots of potential and I moved up the ladder faster than I thought, but I left. If they want to have a long term business operation here, then they should have a Training and Localization Program, which they don't have now. The trainers they imported from the Philippines have yet to train anyone. Their duties and responsibilities are not very clear cut and I don't know what they are doing. But no job in the factory would be hard for any local to take over from those Filipinos.



20.7.05. Elijah, 16 years old, from Village Neakambi in Sosaya District. I am working at the South Seas Tuna factory. I work in the CPF section, I normally work in the freezer section where I store fish in the freezer and send it out for steaming and to the loining. Do you have

working gear? In my section I wear hand gloves, gum boots, and the overcoat. Some of the gear is shared between night shift and day shift, then some gear like hand gloves are rotting away because too many people are using them. I was first working in the skinning section and received K68 for working 8 hour days in a fortnight. Then I was promoted to CPF section. The skinning section is very easy and the CPF is very hard for me. Because the icy fish is very heavy so I must force myself to carry it. To store different sized fish in the freezer. Does the company provide transport for the workers? No, but a transport company is now used for the office workers, supervisors and security for drop off and pick up. How does your supervisor treat you? The supervisor used to tell everyone to stand and work fast then shout till the end of the day. The supervisors are Papua New Guinean, named Koni and Iva. We normally have a break at lunch. I have to get permission to go to the toilet. The toilets are clean because they have someone looking after them. But the floors of the factory are slippery with dropped fish meat and water.

Jeffrey, 29 years old, works at fish meal section. Works 13 hours/day for fortnight and earns K200, but less than that and he makes 150-180. "I feel that life is quite alright than before because I can feed my wife and my three children but still it does not satisfy us because we cannot afford to have what we need." I am doing very hard work with less payment. I used to make the waste of the fish into chicken feed. By using chemicals. We export our product to overseas countries like America and Japan. Who approves your product to export? A chicken feed factory in Lae. 400 tons of fish are exported overseas (daily?). For one week, hundreds of tons of fish are "scan" in the factory (?) We export our product every month. In my section the place is very stinking and smelly and no proper equipment like hand gloves and mask to wear.

Betty, Kreer Masadani compound. Female, unmarried, 15 years, originally from Lumi in WSP/, living at Kreer masadani camp. My auntie put my name in SST and when my name appeared on the board she told me and I started work at SST> Before working, we had an orientation and then started working. Did your application form ask you about unions? No. I work in the skinning section. We wear a net, gown, but no gloves. New clothes. Do you have the use of the safety equipment deducted from your pay? Yes. They deduct K39 for boot, but gown and net are free. My promised wage is K80 but I get K50 per fortnight. I don't know if tax is deducted. The smell affects me, yes, the first time I smelled it I vomited three times. We get 30 minutes for lunch, but there are plenty of women and sometimes it takes us 15 or 10 minutes break. We eat rice, banana, chicken, and a little greens. We use the same plate and spoon. How does the team leader treat you? Before they forced us to work quickly but now they never do that. Did you participate in the strike? No. They agreed to raise the pay, but asked the workers to be on time. The factory wastes are put on a ship and dumped in the sea. Do you know of any wastes being dumped close to the shore or in the streams behind the factory? No.

Lelita, married female, age 35, 4 children. I am from Kumnikum village in Wosera. Now living at nuigo settlement. Before SST we earned money from gardening and marketing on the street. I would earn 20 to 25-30 day marketing. That would sort of satisfy my needs. My ward councilor took my name and gave it to Philomena Naura and then she interviewed me. Did you pay anyone to register for work? No. Before working at SST we had an orientation meeting. I work in the loinery. We never wear gloves when working. The gowns and nets are new. We have the clothing deducted from our pay. Boots are K39, but nets and gowns are free. I earn K80 per fortnight, and if working extra hours its K94 or K97. I don't know if tax is deducted. Before, they told us they provide transport, but they did nothing. The floor of the factory is clean. Our lunch break is 30 minutes. Typical lunch is 1/3 rice, kaukau, chicken and little greens. Yes I smell the smell but not too much. How do the tea, leaders treat you? They force them to work quickly but because of the strike they don't force them any longer. The supervisors treat us good

sometimes, sometimes not. I did not participate in the strike. We are not penalized for being late but we sign a warning letter. The fish are exported to Japan, Taiwan and the Philippines. The ship and stevedores take the wastes out to sea to dump.

Sandra, married female, 37 years old, 6 children, originally from Wingun West Yangoru, now at Nuigo settlement. I gave my name to the ward councilor and he gave it to Philomena Naura and I started working. Did your application form ask about union membership? No, but I did fill another application form from the union called Malam Ken method and register K5 to Dorothy Labu. I work in the loining section. I'm paid K101 per fortnight. I don't know if tax is deducted, but they deduct for the gumboots. They once promised us transport but did nothing. ..Yes, the smell is very bad and sometimes many workers vomit. ..the supervisors give commands to the team leaders to force us to work quickly but they've stopped forcing us now. I did participate in the strike, they agreed to raise the pays. The wastes go to John Buman's boat and are dumped at sea. All my money goes to food. Does the SST mess fit all the workers during lunch? No.

Lina, female, married and 35 years old, with 7 children, originally from Angriman village on the Sepik, now at Nuigo settlement. I gave my name to Philomena Naura and she interviewed me for the job. Did you pay to register for work? No. I filled out a form by Robert Wani and Alex Anis from Sepik Coastal about another union. I work in the packing section. They deduct K30 for the boots only. I earn 110 per fortnight and 150 if I work overtime. They said transport would be provided when I got employed but they did nothing. Lunch break is 30 minutes. 1/3 rice, kaukau, lam flaps and greens. We smell the odor when working. The supervisors force us to work quickly but because of the strike they stopped doing this. I participated in the strike, and they promised to increase the pay and asked the workers to be on time. Does the wage you get satisfy your needs? No. Since working there I have had back pains, headaches and vomiting.

Karen at Kreer market camp. Female, married with one child, age 24, originally from Kuminikum village in Wosera, living now at Kreer market. I was interested in working at South Seas Tuna because they employ anybody, educated and uneducated to work so it's easy for me to get a job and earn some money. One of my aunts gave my name to Philomena Nauru the SST supervisor and later they put my name on the board and she interviewed me. We had an orientation meeting before and they explained everything to us. I work in the loinery. I earn K50 per fortnight. All the money goes to food. I started work in February. Some women smell the odor and vomit.

Helen started with SST 2004 June 18, in 3 weeks at the start I was paid 95 kina, this they said was probation pay. I was a helping hand in the Catering Department for 10 months, it was different from any other place I'd worked, we had so many laws, it was filled with many laws—no talking back to Supervisors or Managers of the section, and if we did we were terminated or suspended, so they told us this law when we started. Also they had big differences, ways where, the bosses looking after our section treated us as schoolchildren, not like real adults working for pay, treated us like slaves, worked us so hard for this company, we worked 7-8 hours, 8 hours at night duty and 7 hours at day, we worked 2 shifts, both night and day sometimes. Besides, the boss of us would make bad stuff with us. They'd treat us really bad in the Catering Department. The man inside there treated us really badly, and the boss would even force us to go sit with him after work before we had a break, when he'd say nasty things to us, even insult Sepik people in general. This was always while I was working as a helping hand in the Catering Dept. I applied for a position there. This boss man is John Veali, from Aroma, Central Province. Inside the factory all these Supervisors and Team Leaders they all got big pay and raises, while all us workers, the majority, much less, way below that, some got K37 kina—and for me it was sometimes K120, sometimes K84, or whatever, it varied.. And they had me

working for a whole first week without paying me for it, so they paid me for two weeks when I got my first pay after 3 weeks. So they'd pay me for 3 weeks inside one month only. Work was too hard, and pay was awful but if we complained they'd fire us. The worst part was I told the Manager that he shouldn't be calling out to us when we're working or going home, and shouldn't be insulting all the Sepiks, and I told him, and yet I knew that if I told the boss it would make it hard for all of us in the section, not just me. So I told the boss and he called me a smart ass for it, and sent me home, and when I came back the next day I found that I'd been suspended for one day not him. The management had heard his side of the story only, so that was it. It wasn't a cross of mine only, it was for all the Sepiks that I got mad about this, but they listened to him only. It was for all of us I did this, they'd all be mad at him if they heard. Then I came back and they gave me, the administration, the HR, a letter that made me sign all kinds of wrongs I made, which I hadn't.⁵ And they didn't want me to resign, they wanted me to shift to another section, but I re-signed. I still have the letter somewhere. The conduct of the catering dept was just terrible. There was a lot of prostitution or sleeping around in there, with the female supervisor and the men. Flirting, sex, they were making it, but the admin never saw that, they just examined me and the supervisor's quarrel and suspended me. I would have suspended him myself, they should have done that, but he's still working there. Making money from us Sepiks too. The food for the staff of the company we made all the food. We separated the food for the administration though and they had the better meat and food. Workers got one cup rice, tiny little kaukau, spoon of greens and such, for all those who made money for the company. We shouldn't have been feeding this amount to them. They must buy their drinks and admin got mad at us for even serving tea to them. Just hot water. Yet their pay was lousy. Plenty of women were there trying to help their families and they always had problems. While I was there, 4 women fainted inside because they never had a good break inside, they were standing for 12 hours before coming out. My opinion is, and this means for all the workers, there was no fresh air, it was recirculated inside, unhealthy, everything computerized inside there—you couldn't see sun or get fresh air, you'd have to come outside altogether for that. Also, when one would make a mistake in catering, everyone would be punished, like if one spoke up or complained, Veali would rouse us without pay, all of us. The catering manager. He's got a brother in Australia and he's very westernized, all of us in catering were angry at him, more than 50 of us in there, plenty men and women were all afraid to talk to him, he stopped us from speaking altogether. We accepted this and stopped. After I complained to him about insulting Sepiks in tok pisin, after this problem, they promised to fire him, and bring me back, but they didn't, and I left. It's like gold mining, you have to go all the way out to mine, they empty everything from your bilum, skin buai, they dump it out and are fired, women crying and leaving. Hide your smokes, or security would remove it—or security would be fired themselves for not working hard. There are 10 sections inside the company, so I don't know about each section, they all are different, I'm only talking about my section, there was this problem—some bosses were PNG, some were Sepik even and they acted like Americans, like Sumanup, they don't talk to the people, don't relate to the people at all. Other managers would help us, come around and help us, but there are a couple who don't talk to us at all, they're like foreigners. Like Philomena Naura, she has no relationship with the workers inside the company, she's like that, HR manager, but she doesn't look at the human rights of the staff of the company, it's a big problem in the company. If there's a problem, she'd hurry up and ring the GM, the American, and give a full statement, her side of the story, so when they went to talk to the manager he'd not even hear them because he'd have heard her story, she'd have called him before hand. So forget it. Inside the catering dept, we never bought the food from the Sepik, it was a big problem, all the money went back to the highlands, as if we had no banana taro kaukau here. Occasionally they'd buy locally, but usually not. Once in a while. I always think-

⁵ See Appendix

-Why cant the company buy from our local farmers, rather than buying from the highlands? Its not a big job. All the money was going back to the highlands. All the waste fish to go to the meal, they bring to the kitchen and even the bad fish turning yellow and blue, still wed have to cook and cover in sauce, we couldn't complain, manager wouldn't let us send it back hed force us to cook and feed it. The chickens. And the man who brought chooks in, he never cut them right, they were always rotten when they arrived, he didn't know how to kill or refrigerate them before they arrived, and he'd force us to take this rotten chicken, falling apart, and wed have to cook it and cover it with a sauce, we couldn't complain. Stinking chicken. I don't eat chicken there. Only one person was supplying chicken for food. Kaprangi was the only one. There was never any other woman or farmer only Kaprangi was there selling chicken while I was there. I have no idea what this K50 they collected to start businesses, I don't know, went to the highlands? Couldn't wear slippers, you had to wear gum boots, all of us. If you didn't wear good shoes you'd be sent back home. So the women in production always had big sores. Big problems with sores, and pregnant women too were standing forever, because once they went for a break or for toilet they'd deduct these minutes from their pay. Why? From our little lousy pay they'd take it out. Teenage girls, 14-15 years old are there.

Getrude from Korogo Village Pagwi District, now at Nuigo 2nd street, DOB 18-9-78. How did you apply for the job? I have given my name to a women and that woman put my name on the notice board for an interview, orientation and start work at August 4th, 2004. I hd to sign a form called AON...They have given the rules saying not to chew betelnut, short finger nails, and not to drink alcohol in the factory area, and clean teeth. Are you a union member? Yes. Did you answer yes or no to being a union member? No. But they themselves find out in our movement when trying to attend meetings. ...They know but they did not do anything because we union members are complaining to our payment. What is your job? I work at the loining section. Do you wear safety clothes? We wear headgear, gown, and gumboots only. ..Some are used ones and others are new which have been in the stock for last issue. When we lose our clothes or any equipment we are deducted K10 for that property. Casual are paid 90t hour and K1 for permanent. I do get roughly K100 a fortnight. They are deducting money every fortnight, I don't know but they are saying that's for employee contribution...The security of the company has their own transport but for us as field workers we don't have any transport, even for those who live far from town. We have break time in lunch only and the time is almost 50 minutes for lunch. They serve a cup of rice, piece of kaukau or taro and if green is there a green too. ...I do smell that odor while working...it effects us when the power goes off in some seconds, we really feel stomach ache in that moment. Did anyone ever tell you why the loinery moved to the harbour? No but for my own thought it might make it easy for them to transshift the fish to the factory with no expense. How do the supervisors treat the workers? They used to shout at the women to work fast. ...in a day we look to finish 117 trolleys or 110 trolleys of fish. Where are the supervisors and managers from? Some are Filippinno and some are PNG women. Have you participated in the strike? Yes for two days. What agreement was made? They will increase our wages. From 100 to 140 inn our wages. And we also make 45% of loined fish which is the highest loined fish so they promised to celebrate at the end of the month. ...Are you penalized for being late? If we are coming late we are asked to sign a warning letter. ..Today I have been used to it so it is not a problem but when I was newly worked I do feel vomiting sometimes. ...Some of the factory wastes which they give by their section is put in a container and sent to the machine and the machine spins it and the water left is pumped out to the sea....They pay me K1 per hour as a permanent worker. When I was not working I was relying on marketing business. We would roughly make K100 per week or fortnightly. Our fortnightly expenses are water, store bought food, market food and sometimes clothes. ...Too much labour and there is no extra hour added when working overtime.

Serah from Manam island, married with 4 children living at Nuigo 3 street. Working at SST. I give my name and they asked me after a week to go and start work. Were you given any written information from the company regarding rules and regulations? Tambu long kaikai buai, drink alcohol and fingernail should be clean with clean teeth. ...I am a team leader in production section...I used to look after the other women in my section to do their work and sometimes help them. ...We have a gown, headgear and gumboots. Some of them are new and some of them are for the last stock which has been leftover and are given to the workers when they have return they broken clothes or when you want to start work....They deduct 5% from my wages. Do you know why? No, they normally deduct for each fortnight. ...Yes we have toilets, there is someone looking after the toilets, when we use the toilet every day or break time. We have 10 minutes break during the working hour and 50 minutes break for the lunch. ...The lunch is very small, for a two year old child, because when we eat we are still feeling hungry...They provide a cup of rice and piece of meat and a piece of kaukau or banana and kaukau. What kind of job does the supervisor? They normally look around for team leader like us and we control those women working so that we give the report and the supervisor is writing report at the end of the day. What do they do when workers are late? They normally ask them to sign a written warning letter. ...I know that the Stakis buyer is one of our trade buyers. They bring in tuna only and the other fish are being dumped out. When I first worked there I got really worn out but today it's not new for me. Do you know where the factory wastes are sent? Some of the wastes are trapped to make stockfeed and others are dumped out of the sea like water left from that waste trapped.Earning K120 fortnightly, and when we work overtime we look to have K131 in a fortnight. For us at the night shift casuals are paid 90t an hour and K1.10 for permanent workers. What expenses do you have? For the school fee I have to manage to pay K50 in every month and K10 for the medical in a week when my children is being sick. And roughly I spent K100 every fortnight to buy clothes, store bought food like 25 kg rice, protein, soap, laundry soap, salt, sugar, oil, flour and sometime garden food but I never buy garden food I only buy greens at the market and the amount is been total up to K100.

Ronald, resident of Nuigo 4th St. Yes, I am working at the South Seas Tuna factory. I earn 150 to 170 per fortnight. That's when I complete my full 13 hours of work. How much do you earn if you don't? I get roughly about 90 to K120 a fortnight. In used to work in the freezing section. I pack the fish in the freezer. There is a a 9safety0 footwear but its not safe enough. Not even safety hand gloves or an overcoat. The place is very smelly and stinky. How many tones of fish do you pack in the freezer for one week? Hundreds of tones used to be sored in the freezer for one week. How often do you export the fish? Once a month. Four hundred tones of fish are exported every month. We export to Taiwan, Japan and America. For lunch at the factory we eat one spoon rice, chicken and some cabbies. I don't really satisfy myself compared to the hard work that has been done. The difference between the time when the factory has not been established is that we shared things among ourselves in the community but when the factory was established there's no such things like sharing and everybody expects money from each other in the community.

Lynda, 29 years old, married with two school age children. Originally from Kubalia, living in Ularina. Was involved in the strike which was resolved in a promised but non-specified pay rise. Is a member of the union. Reports that they were promised a K10 bonus for every two weeks' work attendance, although they have not received this. As it is she gets 90t/hour for eight hours a day, without overtime. That's K7.20/day, or K72 per fortnight. Says her wage is very low, but that her family makes a living from roughly 1500 hybrid cocoa trees and coconuts and buai. Per fortnight, the cocoa earns them roughly K200-250 (wet beans); coconuts roughly K50-60; and buai roughly K50-60. **That is, the family makes K300-K370 per fortnight on cash crops, while Lynda makes K72 per fortnight.** The children's school fees amount to

K250 annually, and their medical expenses are K2 per day for an adult at the hospital, or .50t/day for kids. They spend K100-200 fortnightly on clothing and food, and K100-200 fortnightly on store goods. [Emphasis added].

Lyn, age 19, originally from Kubalia, now at Ularina. Single. Works at the loinery since May. Says the supervisors yell Hurry up! All the time at the workers. Rumors are that their salary is K400/fortnight, and they are mostly Chinese, Filipinos and Koreans. Her parents run a small canteen and poultry business, and they make roughly K400-500 fortnightly from it. She is working for her own school fees for the next two years, and spends roughly K100 fortnight on clothes and food. **That is, her wage does not allow her to save for school, not to cover her own personal expenses.** [Emphasis added].

Name withheld 19 years old, female, resident of Nuigo 9th St. I worked in the factory since the beginning of last year til now which is almost about one and a half year. I work in the loining section. The place is so smelly. I used to be forced to work by my supervisor and team leaders. I am paid K50 per fortnight. If I had to work overtime I am paid k60- K70 per fortnight. Regarding the smell...All my clothes used to be smelly. How do people approach you after hours? I am discriminated by other people, especially young boys and girls. Well I don't really satisfy myself [with the pay]. I get K50 per fortnight and I only buy my clothes and a bag of rice for consuming. Do you face any problem with your family members? I really do face a problem with my family members, when I don't give a bit of money to any of my brothers and sisters and even my parents. I used to be beaten by my family members. While I used to be beaten meanwhile abusive words are spoken from my family members and even my parents. After I finish my work I feel like looking for extra money...I look for extra money by selling sex with the workers from the factory and even some other interested men around Wewak town. ...I sell sex so that I will be able to help my family members by giving them a lot of money. ...I don't forced by someone to sell sex but sell sex to feed all my family. ...Definitely, there is a group of women and also my age group are doing it.

Name withheld First fortnight pay was K53, second K62, third K41. Planti ol manmeri ikisim wanem kain bagarap insait long wokples na sapos mipla igo toksave long ol team leada o suawaisa long go long haus o go long hausik ol save tok olsem inap yupela pinisim olgeta wok na bai yupela go tambu long lusim ples blong wok na go autsait sapos mipla bikpela bagarap insait long kampani eria kampani inoinap long baim ol bai katim haua blong mipla biahian ol bai rausim fortnait pe blong miplea sapos wanpla de mipla igat wanem kain liklik havi long sait blong bodi na stap long haus na narapla de mipla go long wok mipla go long wok mipla mas go wantaim gutpla risin blong duipla wanpla de mipla stap long haus sapos nogat risin em ol I bai rausim tasol aua o ol bai rausim long pe.

Name withheld :

- Klokim card long morning tasol nogat long clock au long apinun
- Nogat overtaim pe
- Nogat (gutpela) o bikpela kaikai
- Start work long 7:30 em early tumas long mipela I mama mipela I laikim olsem maipela mas start wok long 8 morning I gat liklik pikinini na tu sampela pikinini tu igo skol mipela save go wok early na yumi no save redim breakfast blong pikinini go skol
- Wok mipela save meimemi bikpela tumas na start long 7:30 save pinis long 4:30 tasol mipla save pinis long 5:30 to 6:00. mipla ol mama save wol olsem kalabus ol team leader save harim mipela long wokim 18 pla bun blong fish long wanela hour sapos mipela ino wokim 18pla bun fish bai ol krosim mipela na mekim kainkain tok wei ino

stret long mipela ol mama husait I wok long south sea tuna. Mipela ol mama laikim yupela helpim mipela long toktok wantaim bos long south sea tuna. Bikpla samtink em long pay bilong miplea.

Maryline, from Mushu Island, 24 years old, female, works at SST. She wears her own clothing into the gate, and then puts a hairnet on. Was paid K24.64 for first fortnight. She resigned, because the money was not enough for her and her parents, “so I have to find another job to feed my parents.” In the market, “I get more money, every day I end up with K12 or K25 and etc.” She can make more (in one day) than in one week, selling smokes (K12), iceblocks (K25.60), betelnut (K15.50) and lime (K16.50), sweet biscuits (K17.90). She adds it all up and its K77.50 for one week. She says that in a fortnight she’d make more in market sales than at SST.

Anonymous female employees:

Yes Mipela ol meri save wok hot tru insait long south seas tuna. We mipela I painim olsem sampela samting ino gutpela long tingting bilong mipela ol meri we mipela ol maeri save harim toktok na wokim wok. Samepla time ol save tok strong long mipela long wokim wok hariap. Maski miepla iwok isi ol bai kam na hariap hariap mipela. Ol bai mekim kainkain toktok we mipela ol meri bai pilim sem long bodi bilong mipela. Sampela taim ol bai tokim mipela yupela wanem lapun meri yupela inso save long wok hariap hariap. Auting wok bilong haus em yupela is save moa. Sampela taim ol save kolim bodi bilong mipela na mekim kainkain tok we ino gutpela long yau bilong mipela. Yes mipela ol meri pilim bikpela sem long bodi bilong mipela—olsem nau olgeta meri I lusim wok na go aut. Em bikos ol bos man ino save lusim maus bilong ol. Na tu olino save baim ol gut long four nite. Ol save baim ol tasol liklik moni—we dispela moni ino inap long famili long baim kaikai na em samting bilong stori igo antu.

Yes mi wanpela meri we mi bin wok wantaim South Seas Tuna long two year. Na mi lukim olsem—plenti samting ino go stret. We ol save hariap mipela long wokim wok maski mipela I wok isi ol bai tok back. Na mekim kainkain tok long mipela. Ol bai tok nogut long mipela. Ol ken kolim kan na hour bilong mipela ol meri. Ol save tok kan yumi yumi ino inap wok hariap. Na tu nareapela same time. Em long sait bilong kaikai we abus bai bikpela tasol rais bai liklik tru. Em sapos ol meri igo pas ol boi kisim hariap na yu wok isi na yu kam bihain. Na narapela samting ol bai tokim yu olsem. Em kaikai yumi kisim long mak bilong kampani. Ol save tok pisin maus na ksisim na kaikai tasol. Na tu dispela kaikai ino inap long putim bel ilong mipela. Tasol mipela save passim tingting tasol na kisim ha kaikai em bos man save mekim kain kain toktok olsem. So miepla ol meri save passim maus tasol. So mieplea save pilim sem tasol na passim maus.

Yes miepla ol meri I amamas tru long yupela long kisim wara bilong mipela ol meri. We mieplsa I amamans tru. We ol lusim mipela olsem wanpela toots bilong ol. We mipela I wokim bikpela wok. Tasol yet ol save baim mipela long liklik moni. Tasol yet mipela save wok long 6 oclok moning na pinios long 6 oclok apinun. We mipela I save givim taim bilong mipela. Tasol yet ol ino save luksave long mipela. Sapos mipela ino kam long wok ol bai rausim moni bilong mipela na givim mipela liklik tru. Na tu sapos mipela I sik. Na stap long haus ol ken mekim wankain passim long mipela. Yes sampela ol meri ibin kros wantaim ol pinis long sait bilong moni tasol we no gat gutpela moni olsem na ol meri I les na lusim wok long sait bilong moni tasol. Sapos ol I up pe bilong mipela em bai gutpela tru. Tasol na yet ol meri I les na lusim wok. Tu ol save mekim kain kain tok ino stret. Olsem na yuepla imas helpim mipela na toktok strong long ol imas up pe bilong miepla. So emi tasol na tenkyu.

Milisa, 23 years old, Nuigo settlement, Gengimangua Village. I am not working. I am not married. I am affected by that smell. I did work there for about a month and because of financial and too much labour and no good [geass?] of working. While working I have seen that many women or man are really involving in prostitution. While working some give excuse and went out for no good reason to be involved in prostitution. I resigned because of illness like kus and feeling like vomiting while working. I was working as a security guard, and I received K155 fortnightly and towards K189 while working casually, as rating at K1.30 rate. I spend roughly K100 to buy store bought equipment and market food and save K50 for later use for daily needs. I do save K50 every fortnight because of my needs or bilas like clothes and power bill and water bill.

Elijah, 20 years old, I've been working in the SST for four years. I also built the factory. I'm working in the freezing. While I was building the factory I used to get 170 to 220, but when I'm working in the factory I get 45 to 60. I got injured in the beginning of last year. I was injured in the eye. I was working in the freezer and the ammonia gas exploded from the pipe and it cooked my eye. It was an electrical fault from the pipe line to the factory and the ammonia gas exploded and cooked my eye. I have not been compensated by the factory but when I was in the hospital they paid the hospital fee and bought me a dark spex. I cannot see a far distance now. When I want to see from bright sun water used to come down from my eye and everything seems to become dark. [After the injury] I think I lost half of my life with hard work and less pay. I tried to take the company to court but my case was not considered carefully.

Robin, Kreer Village, age 22, working in the SST factory. I get paid 35 to 60m kina per fortnight. I work in the loinery section. The health for the section is very smelly. ..I feel like hard work is done and less money is paid. While I was not working in the factory I was not affording to have K60 in my pocket but while working now I'm able to have K60 in my pocket.

Name withheld, security guard for SST, male age 30, originally from Kubalia. The company does not encourage unions, it tells employees only to respect company policies. As a security guard he gets new gear and uniforms, Current wage is K1.50/hour and his total pay depends on the shift roster. There are 3 shift rosters: One for 72 hours over 6 days; one for 108 hours over 9 days; and one for 156 hours over 13 days. The company promised them a pay rise when they'd finished paying off their first loan. Since he is single and living in the village he rates his wage as sufficient. Later when he's married and has a family he may decide to ask for a pay increase or a better job. As it is, his pay is spent on school fees for correspondence school, medical treatment, clothing and customary payments. 'Yes, I smell a fishy odor inside the loinery but it's not stinky. The same smell sticks on to workers in the production line and you can smell it when walking past them on the streets after shifts.' There have been cases on the production line where workers complained about unfair treatment and fought with their supervisors, but were fired.

His understanding of the supervisory staff make up is as follows:

Ian Boatwood---USA/New Zealand
Human Resources---Vacant
Personnel Manager---Philomena Nawara
Production---Edward, Philippines
Quality Assurance---Elwin---Philippines
Engineering---Mr. Miguel, Philippines
Security Manager---Stewart Nigints, Western Highlands
Financial Controller---Jeff Hardly, Australia
SCF Rep---Mr Tsang, China

The supervisors in the plant/engineering and production are mainly Asians. In security, they're a mix of nationals and expats. In the early stages there were more national supervisors who'd secured their jobs from merit, but when the company increased its Asian employees a lot of nationals resigned. **'I personally know 3 people who resigned because they felt that Asians were competing with nationals for jobs though they have the same or lower qualifications.'** He does not know the supervisors' salaries but he believes some are making K2-2.50/hour and senior ones K3-3.50/hour. Tradesmen, he says, could be making K7/hour. [Emphasis added].

Esther, interview 14.7.05. Esther works in SST in the night shift. She dropped out of school at grade 8 and feels she has no choice but to work there. 'Olsem mi tok pinis mi nidim moni long canary baim samting we mi nidim olsem pikinini meri. Mipela planti tru long famili na wok papa I mekim ino inap long kisim inap moni long fidim mipela olgeta long haus. Mi bin amamas tru long go wok long canary fest aim oli bin kisim nem bilong mi. Bikos mi no bin save wanem kain wok stret bai mi mekim. Tasol taim mi go wok mi lukim ino gutpela stret. Mipela inogat gloves long usim na rausim skin mit na bun bilong fis. Mi filim nogut stret tasol mi wok yet bikos mi laikim moni long baim samting wei mi nidim. ...Mi min olsem rausim skin bilong fish na mit wantain bun em hatwok tru. Supervisor bai sanap klostu long mi na putim ai na was. Sapos mi no wok hariap na pinisim namba bilong pis olsem ol imakim long bai mi mekim e mol bai katim pei bilong mi. Mipela inogat malolo, sanap tasol na han bai wok inap long belo taim. ...Long sait bilong pei em fes fortnight mi bin kisim K20.18 toea. Mi bin pilim nogut stret na belhaty wantaim bikos mi mekim bikpela wok na nau pei down olgeta. Mi tingting long lusim wok na stap tasol mi ting olsem husait bai givim mi moni. Olsem na mi go yet long wok. ... Sampela taim mi save pilim olsem han bilong mi emi pen nogut tru long holim fish tasol na wok. Na mi pilim olsem mu kamap olsem wanpela kain masin isave wok na nogat move bilong em. Ol supervisor ino save mekim gut long miepla kros nating sampela tain na katim pei bilong miepla ol woklain long canary.

Mi no amamas olgeta long ol lain boss. O limas baim gloves nau na bai mipela ol wok lain I werim na rausim skin, mit na bun bilong fish. Plenti taim mi save sem long kalap long bus na go long haus bikos skin bilong mi ismel fish. Na planti pasindia long bus na boskru wantaim draiva tu save kros. Olsem mobeta kampani I baim ol bikpela truk bilong karim miepla igo long wok.

Seml bilong dispela canary isave bagarapim mi tru. Mi no lain long smelim dispela kain smell. Taim mi pinis wok na go long haus long morning mi save kisim bikpela het pen. Maski mi slip longpela haus tasol smell imekim mi sik taim pinis. Ol bosman bilong canary itok bai stretim dispela kain smel. Tasol ino mekim yet na smel iwok long bagarapim taun na ol local ples klostu long taun olsem Kreer na Saure ples. Mi yet mi bin harim sampela pasindia husait laik go long sip long Madang ibin komplem long smel bilong canary. Ol ino laik bai canary istap klostu long shipping wharf bikos smel I bagarapim ol traveling pasindias bilong sip.

Em hia ol liklik tingting bilong mi:

- ST imas hapim pei bilong ol wok manmeri
- Baim ol gloves na extra hair-net, gum boots, ad apron blong wok long fish
- Givim planti kaikai long woklain insait long canary
- Tritim gut ol woklain na maski long singaut nating long ol woklain
- Baim bikpela truk na karim ol woklain igo kam long wok



3. Local fishermen:

Augustin, male, 20 years old. Not working in any way. I earn my living by fishing from the sea. I catch enough for consumption every day, but sometimes I trade with the Chinese from the ship. I trade ripe bananas, pawpaw, kina shell and also bunches of brus tobaccos for things like fish, hardstuff (alcohol), white smoke (imported cigarettes) and also pornography CD and magazines. Do the Chinese ask for drugs? Yes of course they ask for drugs (marijuana) to trade for hard stuff. What happens when you don't have drugs to trade with them? I used to be forced by the Chinese to sell sex in order to get what I want from the Chinese on the ship.

I used to get a lot of fish when the factory was not built but I get less fish than before. I catch fish by using fishing lines and sometimes I trade with the fishing boat from the sea. I trade fruits and sometimes I sell sex to get fish, hot stuff and Asian smokes. I was influenced by the women and girls to sell sex. There are five teenage girls going with me, three are 16 and the other two are between 17 and 18. My parents are passed away and I have been living with my big brother in Nuigo settlement. My brother's treatment to me is okay but his wife does not treat me very well. When I don't contribute much to the family my brother gets cross with me. Therefore I am selling sex for extra things for our living. There's no other young men [doing this], only myself. The five teenage girls are also selling sex for hot stuff, fish and Asian smoke.

Isaac Paul .Age 20. Location: Kairuru Boat Catching Beach (in front of the Fishery Office). Isaac is young male skipper of a 40 horse powered motor boat owned by his village councilor. He is from Kairuru Island.

I have been away from home for some times living in Enga Province in the Highlands since 2000. This year I am back in the village and many things have changed. One of the big changes I noticed at home is the pollution by foreign objects that are lying around our beach. You talk about plastic bag, empty cans of foreign drinks, and other others. I don't know where they come from but people at home say that they come from the foreign fishing vessels anchored to transfer fish to mother boats. Another major complain is the shortage of fish. Some very good fishermen on the Island are complaining of the strange scenario. The usual places where fish were plentiful are no longer, especially, along the reef and coral where fish feed. For some mysterious reasons we are not seeing fish. Also people now tend to go far and deeper into the ocean to find fish. Our best guess for this problem is that the Asian fishing boats have either caught all the fish or have chased away the fish by their continuous going back and forth. Both the fish and the people are never used to fishing boats and other big ocean liners frequenting Wewak, so they are afraid. People also complain that the sea is colder and hard for them to find the usual fishes. It could be influenced by some natural climatic changes or the trespassing of the big ships but whatever it is. It has definitely affected the life on the island.

The color of the sea has changed. From time to time you will see rainbow reflection on the sea. We see oil all around the island and many times people who swim get some itchy skin and develop little boil looking thing. I have no experience myself but it occurred to many young children maybe because they have young tender skin. There are lot of complains reported to the village councilor but I don't think he will do something about it chiefly because he have no idea to raise the issue to the relevant authorities. The tuna factory is too big a company for us little people in the village to fight them. The people in the village told us about some environmental people coming from Moresby a year or two ago and did some survey on the island the water but we have not heard from them to day.

One of the effects of oil I see dead fishes along the shore. Sometimes we saw many dead fish floating around and drew our on conclusion that it must have been from the by-catch dumped by the fishing vessels but it could be from oil discharged by the ships. People especially the fishery officers tell us that vessels are not allowed to discharge oil but who is there all the time to monitor such activities all the time. It is possible anything could happen. They could easily offer bribes to the observers or the guards and do whatever they want to do. Asians are very good in all the dirty tricks available on earth.

The dead fish and other waste SSTC dumped into the sea have attracted a lot of sharks near our shores. Many people have complained they have seen all kind of sharks close to the reef. That is unusual place where sharks are never before seen often but now many reported seen sharks and it's a danger for us. We are sea people- our daily livings depend on the marine resources and such stories scare people from going out to fish. I have seen two strange sharks some months ago as I went to dive along the reef. I have never before seen such sharks in my life. One of them looked like a chopper.

Sharks come 100 meters from the shore. This is very shallow for big sharks but for some strange reason they come. People are heavily warned to take precaution when going out to the sea and this is disturbing the normal conscious of the people and life. The fear of encountering sharks certainly has some bearing on their confidence of going out to the deep sea for. This is disturbing our normal lives.

Now the fear people have is that continuous dumping of waste from the tuna plant would kill or destroy our reefs and corals. They are like our garden and if they die especially women will have difficulty fishing because they fish mainly along the reefs and corals. The fishery official told the people before that the dumpings were environmentally friendly. We don't trust them because it possible that fish and marine life can develop some poison from feeding on it and eventually the people eat the fish and die.

Paul Mangoro, age 36, from Nuigo settlement. I have been working on the ship for four years from 2000 to 2004. I have been working as a policeman on the ship. They catch yuna, yellow fin, shark, rainbow runner, and many more kinds of fish. They take yellowfin and skipjack into the factory, 70 to 90 tonnes of fish. The fish is exported to Japan, Bangkok, Taiwan and China. 500 to 700 tonnes of fish are exported. The rejected fish are dumped in the sea between Wewak and Manus. Yes, women exchange fruits for fish and also sell sex or fish, money and hot stuff. They are between ages 30 and 37 years. They are doing this on Korean, Taiwan, Philippines and PNG ships.

Daniel Amarie notes on 27.7.05 visit to fishing vessel :During my observation on the fishing boats, apart from tuna, there are also other fishes caught like rainbow runners, trigger fish,

shark, turtles, and many others. These fishes are dumped in the sea. There is also other rubbish dumped into the sea by the fishing boats, rubbish like empty containers, bottles, plastics, smoke packets, and other food stuffs. The fishing nets used are so large with heavy bolts, they can catch anything underneath the sea floor or above. Any sea creature caught and by ny means struggles to get out and will still die, because the net itself is poison. On the boat, most of the crew are from Philippines, Korea and China.

4. Town residents and market women:

Jackline, 24 years old. I do sales betelnut, smoke, and kol water. I do have money money since the factory operates. I have K200 plus in a fortnight period. I spend it on kaikai and some other market requirements. Before I did have K200 plus when marketing, too, and I spent some on clothes, and other needs and wants. I have extra money like ever Sunday we give money to each other and I have seen prostitution but because I do not want to get involved I have married. The factory workers used to get my marketing and pay for it when their fortnightly wages are received. I feel happy when they come to pay but sometimes I really face a problem when they didn't give me my money. When I used to market I also feel head pain and from my observation I do see that they get sick because of that smell. No I don't want to work in the factory because I have worked there but because of illness like boil or [buk?] and scabies in my hand plus my wages I have resigned from the factory. I was working in the production section, as a loiner to loin the fish.

Tresea Nawape, from Nerkombi. (In market). I do have K10 a day and I have made roughly about K200. I do buy food from store, market and other sales requirements. Before the factory is opening I buy my needs and wants in every day needs and spenf roughly K10 a day. Before we live a better life but today we face problems like that development brings change like many lows and many drunken peoples in every weekend. [The factory people] come and get my marketing things and give it when they are paid in fortnightly. Before I earned less but today I have made extra money from my marketing because many people are going to work and they are buying . I have had some effects from the smell, and I heard them complaining about their pay and how they work.

Francisca Waviki, from Sapuain, 38 years old. [In market]: It depends on my marketing (my pay). I do earn K250 in fortnightly. I spend it on kaikai, clothes, and family requirements and water ill and power bill. I do face a problem about buying water and power bill, and I do put aside some money for buying these when marketing, so I can put K5 a day so I can buy when the bill is given or buy it mionthly. Before, I took time to collect money from marketing, but today I collect much because many people are going to work so they come and buy my marketing morning and afternoon. While marketing we do smell that smell. Sometimes I collect all my marketing and go home but sometimes I have to market because I need to get money from it. I have heard rumours about the development of workers and their wages and hard work. I don't want to work there because I earn money every day and not for waiting for fortnightly. I am concerned about that factory which they much stop that smell or build that factory out of the town area.

Anna Alberth, female, from Big Muschu, married to a man from Kubala.: "I market my goods every day in the market to get money." She makes a profit in the market. More than she'd get at SST. You smell the factory in the market? "Yes, very bad smell coming out from the South Seas Tuna." She tries to vary the goods she sells because it gives her more profit; and she's freer than if she worked in the factory.



Donald Jacob, Catrans fuel distributors, Wewak, 17 July 2005. Catrans shares the same fencing with SST. Everyday we deliver fuel to SST. SST has three big generators that power the whole building and other machines in there. SST gets a lot of fuel from us. We see that most times especially in 2004 around April we ran short of fuel because SST was supplied with fuel and three of Wewak town service stations ran out of fuel to supply trucks and cars. As a result services in town were ineffective. Workers could not get to their workplaces on time.

The smell of the factory is very bad. I could not stand it the first time I entered the place to refuel their tank. The fuel tank and the generator house are next to the treatment plant. The treatment plant treats wastes and then discharges it into the two big yellow tanks and later it is piped out into the sea. The waste itself, according to factory workers, they say it's safe. But to me it doesn't look safe at all. The chemical components in the waste might be a threat to the marine life. I have actually seen the waste being pumped out into a slush boat called IONA. And this little boat carries the wastes out into the sea....

The workers are poorly paid. I have seen a cheque butt that belonged to one of the workers in there. The cheque raised was K35.57. To me the amount is very small and I cannot afford to buy anything good. I see that the workers work long hours and yet they receive very little to satisfy their needs. It is not fair for someone to work very hard for two weeks and receive very little in the end. A worker is becoming a slave in his or her own province....

To me these workers do not have freedom to talk and move around, They are under some kind of strict rules and regulations the moment they enter the gates of the canary. I think they work with fear in the canary from the way the securities and the supervisors treat them. That is all I have to say. I hope no one takes me to court for saying all this. Please use a pen name instead of a real name.

Alice, mother of a St. Mary's Primary school student. St. Mary's is located one kilometer from the factory. Alice and her family live at Kuia settlement behind Wirui Catholic Mission. 20 July 2005.

Em long 2004 last year pikinini bilong mu istap long grade 4. Nem bilong em Ben. Fes taim emi smelim dispela smel emi bin sik yet long skul na kam bek long haus. Taim emi kam kamap long haus emi bin trouat. Mi bin askim em long wanem emi trouat na emit ok olsem: 'Mama smel bilong canary imekim bel bilong mi I tainim olsem na mi trouat.' Ben it tokim mi olsem: 'Mama mi pilim olsem olgeta smel emi winim mi tru na mekim mi het bilong mi ipen wantaim.'

Mi lukim olsem emi save sik planti taim tumas long dispela yia 2005. Taim win ikisim smel blong canary ikam olsem long skul bilong em emi save lusim klas na kam bek long haus. Planti taim emi no save kaikai bikos smel imekim na emi troaut tumas olsem na emi wok long lusim skin vilong em. Mi yet mi wari long pikinini tu bikos emi lusim skul na kaikai tu wantaim planti taim tumas.

Mi no save provincial government bai lukluk long dispela samting kain hevi ol pikinini ikisim long skul na stretim tu o nogat? Ino Ben tasol or narapela pikinini tu I pilim wantaim samtoing olsem Ben ikisim. Ol teacher mi lukim olsem oli nogat pawa long stopim wanpela samting long canary. Ol tu I painim hat long toktok. Maski smel emi bikpela tru ol bai pasin maus tasol na stap. Mi laik transferim pikinini bilong mi tasol emi liklik tumas long wokabaut longwei igo long skul istap olsem Mongniol stap longwei liklik long canary.

Mi tingting olsem olgeta papamama na ol teacher tu wantaim bilong St. Mary's imas mekim wanpela protest march igo daun long Provincial Government na tokim ol long women samting ikamap long ol skul pikinini wantaim ol teachers. **I luk olsem ai bilong Provincial Government I pas tru long kisim moni na ol I lus tingting pinis long ol kain bagarap ikamap insait long provins.** Health Department long Wewak imas toktok strong long dispela kain faul smel nba stopim canary pastaim long wok. Olimas stretim dispela smel pastaim orait o liken go het na wok. Nogat maski karim canary igo longwei tru long hap inogat man pipol istap long em.

Moses Maru DOB 27 7 1991. Village Tigawi Pagwi District. Moses is a grade 6 student at Saint Marys primary school. I have ask moses if he knew anything about SSTC when he is at school.. Moses said when they are at school they normally are affected in a form of gas smell. Did the student really affected by the SSTC gas smell and he said some students get sick just because of this everyday gas smell. What was the participant (participation) of student at school when the SST effect occur. Moses said when they are at school and the smell occurs some students really went home with no good reason or permission. I have asked when do these effects happen in a daily day and moses said when the wind blow strongly the smell really got on us because the school is very close. I also ask him about his opinion for the SST effect ans he suggested thatr can they find some way to stop the smell to go worse.

Alex Numubu DOB 5-16-1978 Village Kanganaman, Pagwi District, resident Nuigo 9th street. I've lived 27 years inside Wewak town, beside Nuigo and other settlements. The fresh air has been turned into polluted air. The factory is producing the smell. *The land the factory was built on, how was it before?* The land was very swampy and there were many living things there. Today those living things are gone. *Are you interested in working at SST?* No because I have heard about their problem. Financial problem and too much labor. *Does the factory effect you?* I am effected through the smell. It causes sickness and I do have diarrhea when I'm breathing that smell. Many of [the factory workers] are my classmates and friends around Wewak town. [nowadays, since the factory], many young children are involving in social nightclubs activities and involving children in sex activities. There are sex activities. *How does it happen?* It normally happens during 5 am to 6 am in the night ship hours. *What are they really doing between these hours?* They have clocked off at about 5 am and some are involved in sex activities. *Did you see any of the sex activities?* I have witnesses a man and a woman at about 5 am to 6 am when I was doing my road run.



Kapmandu Service station. Did South Seas Tuna make any contact with you? They have made contact with the interoil at Lae. How do they collect their fuel? They use a card call IPL to collect their fuel. They pay us in a cheque. They use the IPL card because interoil provides the card for the interoil supplier. ...we only provide fuel for the transport. The factory machines get their fuel from the IPL depot loading it into the factory. The factory operates and our sales of fuel has been increasing and the company is also making money. They pay us every month, they pay roughly as much as K2000 to K3000 every month, that depends on the transport used when they collect K100 a day they look for that much to pay in monthly.

Raymond Kondang, Saint Mary's Primary School, grade 8 age 15 years. Do you feel effects from SST? Yes. I don't feel hungry and don't concentrate on my school work. It occurs before and after lunch when the wind blows strongly. I used to block my nose and the class is still continuing. I used to buy the lunch and wait when the smell is over then I have to eat it. I have heard that a grade 5 student is vomiting from the smell. I'd really like them to stop the smell or move the factory to built in some way away. Student behavior is very bad when the odour effects occur. I am breathing polluted air.

Richard of 9th Street Nuigo. From Sumbian Village. Operations Supervisor of Bangwi Service Station. Do you supply the fuel to SST? No we only supply the fuel to the factory transport. They use a card called BP Plus card, which is full of official documentation of the company and the transport number and the flat number of the transport. So we collect the amount and give them the copy. They pay the bill at the end of the month. They pay it through BP oil in Lae and through our account. The amount to BP fuel in Lae is 10,000 to 13,000 a month. Does SST contribute significantly to your sales of fuel? It increased our fuel rate and our sales. We have some problems, though. When the South Seas Tuna workers are on suspension and the worker is using the company transport. The company will send me a letter telling me that this person will be suspended at that time plus the number of the transport and the flat number of the transport. The Operations Supervisor will be blamed if they get fuel, because my boys don't cooperate with me. So I deduct that amount from they wages when they give fuel to suspended workers.

Paul Loff, Headmaster Saint Mary's Primary School. From Hainiak Village Kubalia District. We do feel the effect of the factory. A strong smell continuously comes from the factory when the wind blows. It disturbs the students in their peaceful learning, and sometimes the children are sick. Almost every day. Sometimes the children are sick and not attending class and sometimes the smell is chasing them away from classes. A good number of parents including teachers complain about the smell. ...Yes, the students continue to have their lunch despite the

smell. The school sent a letter to the SSTC, it's a school official document and I cannot refer it to you. Why? Because I cannot spoil our relationship between the school and the South Seas Tuna factory. ...When the school is in need I used to ask the SSTC for some money, I have asked for about K200 just this year. The school and the community at large are a bit concerned about the smell otherwise the fish factory is providing employment for the people at large and adding income to the provincial budget.

Stanley Kaus age 35 from Sup village Mushu island he is a board of management Member at Mushu community school. From his experience with school issues he said 'bipo wanpela skul pikinini tasol long wanpela de I save kisim malaria tasol nau I senis namba bilong ol skul pikinini I sick na ino kam skul I go antap olsem fopela na fivepela dispela malaria I save kam wantaim flu.'

No major health issues with adults only children under four years and seven years. This while washing or after a bath in the sea realised that their whole body was covered With oil and sticky also they cough a lot with flu. When reported to the aid-post for Treatment the orderly told them not to wash in the sea because the fishing vessels and the loining plant discharged waste into the sea.

Before 'we caught tuna just along the shore we don't go out to the open sea to catch tuna and we enjoyed fishing but now we went further and we don't catch plenty fish As we used to catch before.' Last year [2004] the villagers found two dead dolphins With knife wounds on it's body also one dead whale came ashore on the island. 'Frequently we saw oil spill from ships floating on the sea near the shore line also we saw a boat crying waste from the factory and disposed the waste between Mushu island and Wokyoo island and this waste attracts sharks so when we dived at night we were afraid of being attacked by sharks'.

The South Sea Tuna [SST] company promised them spin off businesses [SOB] eg. Chicken projects, catering and many more. 'The company told us that they will pay us royalties as of now we received nothing, they told us to built guest houses on the island for the company workers to rent out on weekends'. 'The company also promised us that priority will given to us islanders to worked in the factory however only five ladies Worked and two were sake so now only three were working.'

Their main source of cash income was from copra, fish and garden crops they do planted cocoa and vanilla as it was lately introduced. They used fishing lines and nets to catch fish. 'Before we caught many fish in a day and when we sold them in the market we would get around K200. - K300. a day but today it's very hard it would take us three days to fish and sell to get what we used to get before'.

From his view he thinks that the Wewak politicians are benefiting from this loining factory.

Almost everyone we met told us that they have lost trust of their own political leaders. The same leaders have interests in all the businesses activities that are happening in the province. According to the people we talked that these very leaders have both political and economic interests and therefore they are in control of all that development that is taking place in the province.

These leaders with their business associates are occupying all business sectors like; Tourism Industry, Fishing, Shops, Logging, Cattle Ranching, Rubber, Road Construction Company, the list goes on. It is very sad to see little people being pushed out of business because their local political entertain foreigners rather than supporting their own people.

Three women involved with roadside marketing leading to the SSTC. These three women along with their other colleagues make quite good amount of money to help sustain their leaving costs. There are rumours that they will be given specifications of new locations as decided and directed by the Town Authority where they will do their marketing.

Woman 1: This woman sells basically buai, daka and cigarettes (spear roll, Kool, and B&H). She sells her buai and daka for 10toea, 50 toea for each loose cigarette. Her roadside market is on for 7 days a week. She makes around K10.00 - K15.00 daily that is from Monday - Friday and on Saturday and Sundays she makes around K20.00 - K30.00 especially during Association Games. Association Games, to be specific volleyball and soccer are play for period of 6 months or so. (Refer to the table below for average calculations)

Woman 2.:The second woman sells buai, daka, smoke (cigarettes like spear-roll, B& H & Kool), cordial and ice-blocks. She sells her buai and daka for 10toea, 50 toea for a loose cigarette, 50toea for a cup of cordial and ice-block for 20toea. Out of the three women spoken to this woman makes around K20.00 - K25.00 per day from Monday - Friday. Since there is sporting activities in the area (Soccer and Volleyball) she makes around K70 - K80 on Saturday and Sunday. Sports season is takes about 6 months. (Refer to the table below for average calculations)

Woman 3.:Her main goods on the market are buai and daka, cigarette (as mentioned above) cordial, fried flour (dough nut) and fresh peanuts. The prices for her goods are the same as the above women except for doughnuts her price is at 30toea each and about 10 peanuts for 10toea. The second spoken to makes around K30.00 - K40.00 per day from Monday - Friday. Like the above women since there are sporting activities in the area she makes K90.00 - K100.00 on Saturdays and Sundays. (Refer to the table below for average calculations)

The table below shows the average money each of three women spoken to in Kaltex make out of their roadside market sales daily from Monday to Sunday

TABLE A. Daily Average Sales

Below is the table illustrating how much on average each of these women is likely to make out of their roadside market sales per day, per week, per month and per year.

DAY	Woman 1	Woman 2	Woman 3	
Monday	K12.50	K22.50	K35.00	
Tuesday	K12.50	K22.50	K35.00	
Wednesday	K12.50	K22.50	K35.00	
Thursday	K12.50	K22.50	K35.00	
Friday	K12.50	K22.50	K35.00	
Saturday	K25.00	K37.50	K47.50	
Sunday	K25.00	K37.50	K47.50	
	Woman 1	Woman 2	Woman 3	
Average/day	K 16.10	K 26.80	K 38.60	
Average/week	K 112.70	K 187.60	K 270.20	
Average/month	K 450.80	K 750.40	K 1, 080.80	
Average/year	K5, 409.60	K9, 004.80	K12, 969.60	

(N.B. the average is calculated in Table A as: total sum of money made each day divided by 7 days)

Stanley Kaus, age 35, Sup Village Mushu Island, Mushu Community School Board of Management Member. From his experience as a school board member he said “bipo wanpela skul pikinini tasol I save sik malaria em long wanpela de, tasol nau namba bilong ol pikinini is save sik long wanpela de I go antap long 4 na 5 olgeta. Oli kisim sik malaria na fly wantaim.”

There are no major health issues in the village, but for children ages 4-7 years old always getting flu and cough after swimming in the sea. When they go for treatment at the aid post the orderly tells them not to wash in the sea because the fishing vessels and the loining factory is discharging waste into the sea. When children wash in the sea their whole body is oily and sticky.

Environmental issues: Before they catch tuna along the shoreline and they enjoyed fishing but today they have to go further out in the ocean to catch tuna and also they don't catch as many as before. Last year, 2004, they found two dead dolphins and one whale dead on the beach. They saw an oil spill from the ship floating along the shoreline and waste from the loining factory was dumped between Mushu and Wokyo (Vokeo?) Island and that waste attracts sharks so when diving at night they're afraid of sharks.

Economic issues: The South Seas Tuna company promised them spin off businesses like chicken projects and the company would pay royalties directly to landowners. As they were island people the company told them to build guest houses so that the company workers can rent them out on weekends. But as years passed, nothing happened. The company also promised that priority will be given to the island people to work in the loining factory but since the operation started only five ladies have work there and two were sacked , so now only three are working at SST from Mushu.

The islanders' main source of cash is copra, fish and garden crops—cocoa and vanilla, which was introduced lately. They use nets and fishing lines to catch fish. Before they caught many fish in a day and sell in the market, where they would get K200-3000 a day. But today they say it's very hard so it takes three days to get the fish that will sell for K200-3000 at market.

u. Conclusions

In one sense, SST represents an important site of PNG's labour transformation, from a use value to exchange value system. But exchange values have long been a part of PNG society, and while they have implicated social relations and traditional use values, nowhere is the context as thorough as that of a factory, where workers must forsake their whole day (and all traditional social activities) to ear wage labor. In this case, the factory also makes no pretense of a social quid pro quo in the provision of real benefits like transportation, a viable wage, or management training. The factory operates as a self-sufficient entity, the quintessential Western individual, rather like the early colonial administrator, whose investment in this 'savage' land could never be construed as personal.

One of the most important characteristics of contemporary industrialization is the increasing stress on export production. Given the pressure by global lending institutions like the IMF and World Bank on replacing imports with export production, we will no doubt see processing factories being established more and more frequently in the developing world. In a recent study of industrialization in Korea, Seung-kyung Kim (Rothstein and Blim 1992:207-238) Women Workers and the Labor Movement in South Korea) describes how in order to promote export production, the South Korean government increased state involvement, first in the creation of

export processing zones and then in labor control. These are realistic options for PNG. Elsewhere, as for example in India, governments have adopted the strategy of encouraging non resident citizens to re-invest in their home country (*Ibid*: 238-246).

Contrary to the old modernization thesis, which predicted an erosion of kin ties with the spread of industrialization, such ties continue to be important in the developing world, and have been reshaping the nature of industrialization, especially in Asia (see Mahbubani 1998).

But the picture is complicated by gender. Industrialization almost never favors women, and in fact tends to reify patriarchal hierarchies that already exist or that arrive, like a Trojan Horse, in the factory itself. There are no precedents in customary society for the way the women on the loining line at SST are treated by supervisors, or treated in general—as a corps of assembly workers. Whether they are entering the market as wage laborers or as unpaid labor in household enterprises, women rarely have the options men do, and their access to cash is almost always less than men's. Usually they're excluded from all but the very lowest-paying jobs, and therefore have little choice but to become dependent on husbands or fathers.

In Papua New Guinea, however, the proliferation of urban and peri-urban markets has been a good thing for women, giving them more control over household production and income. Some argue that this places more stress on traditional relations, but there is more indication that the depressed combined household income is the greater contributor to domestic violence. It is not the *way* women are working in the factory setting that places stress on kinship relations, but the price of working there, in terms of household income and time, that threatens to erode the social fabric. For as long as these young women work at the factory, they remain dependant on family resources, on their husbands, fathers and brothers. As we've seen from some of the reports, they may even turn to selling sex for extra income. But the unmarried women seem to consider their wage as largely their own spending money, no doubt because it is so negligible. This alienates them from the expected role of young adults in traditional society, who actively contribute to customary and household expenses. Young women workers may be helping their families, to be sure, but they're also buying clothes and sundries that their new roles require. All this enriches the novelty and secondhand clothing businesses, and not the system of customary and household obligations that requires lump sum payments. No doubt it is the women in the marketplace who are now feeling the greater stress of making school, medical and compensation payments for these households.

Contemporary industrialization with its heavy reliance on small-scale production and kinship differs sharply from the original industrial transformation of the West. In the Industrial Revolution, factories grew larger and larger and social relations became more impersonal. Some of that impersonality and factory growth has been exaggerated by social science models which focused on those aspects of industrialization and ignored the persistence of kin relations and other "traditional" behaviors. However, although recent historical research has documented the continued presence of family and ethnic ties, petty commodity production, and homework not unlike that described in the case studies here, there was a clear and significant decline in such patterns.

It was in the first industrial revolution that "the dispersed organization of labor gave way to the development of a new form of productive enterprise, the factory" (Wolf 1982:274). Under one roof all types and phases of work were brought together and concentrated. Contemporary industrialization exhibits an opposite pattern, where processes and labour pools are widely dispersed around the globe. It is this new mobility of capital that, in some opinions, has led to the

weakened state of labour. This is certainly true in the First World, where capitalism has more freedom and labour less control. But labour is not just Western anymore, and great blocks of workers in the developing world now constitute potentially significant political and social power bases. Workers on the SST production line are part of a family of SST employees operating in several countries (Taiwan, the US and PNG, at least) even if they remain 'mystified' and scattered and psychologically far from an 'imagined community' (in the sense of Benedict Anderson [1991]) of educated union members. But it is precisely because they remain unaware of this, and exist in a local political context where they enjoy no labour protections, that PNG can be described as an attractive environment for international investment. It's always good to get in before a country's established firm labour laws. Even better when the economic and political elite are one and the same. So much the easier.

But the Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) movement in the western world has begun to close some of these social loopholes. It begins with European companies affirming that corporate responsibility goes beyond financial obligations to shareholders. A number of British companies, for example, have struck up partnerships with NGO's that lend their 'brands' to these companies in return for social or environmental monitoring. British American Tobacco (BAT), for example, has brought in consultants of all kinds to manage 'stakeholder dialogues' with health officials, farmers, office workers and others in the many developing countries where they operate. These are voluntary dialogues, and clever marketing strategies as well. In part, too, they are attempts to fend off more invasive government regulations (of the sort known to France and Germany, for example--because only recently have publicly traded companies in the UK been forced to divulge financially material environmental and social risks). The questions such voluntary measures raise are really that of control, and language. Corporate social responsibility is being defined by these companies, just as is the term 'stakeholder' ---meaning who exactly constitutes a stakeholder in an enterprise? (Would Wewak residents suffering from SST's odour be considered stakeholders, for example?) These processes are now being systematized by major corporations in this emergency CSR movement. We have only to recall what philosopher Michael Foucault said about organization being a form of social control to wonder whether this work should be left to the companies themselves.

Again, this is a positive step. But it may also be a dangerous one. In a recent article on the CSR movement by law professor John M. Conley (Conley 2005), ExxonMobil's 2003 company report is cited as an example of controlling corporate responsibility *away* in a form of Adam Smith-speak. The report says, "'Our activities and those of others in private industry deliver economic benefits and help advance worthwhile societal goals.'" As Conley notes, the report goes on to explain in the rhetoric of engineering that ExxonMobil's "'wider involvement in society' will be governed by 'hard analysis, the rigorously applied management systems' that mark its core endeavours. 'Soft' critics need not apply."

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When we asked if this meant sporting sponsorships, he said, “No, but I mean we get involved in the community as much as we can. Our cafeteria buys supplies locally...so it’s...some of the local businesses in PNG we buy a lot of parts from.”

What is “read into the commodity” varies across positions in global trade (Appadurai 1986:41). Commodities have life cycles, and these reflect the historical and political relations that go beyond supply and demand. NTCs are powerful symbols of monopoly capital in the global age, and their global relations are complex: cut flowers from South America flown to markets in New York; children toiling away at sub-minimum wages to make \$250 Nike running shoes; Brazil nuts from the Amazon garnishing cakes in a Parisian bakery; and so forth. Closer to home we see villagers on Baluan Island, Manus Province, selling mounds of fresh pineapples at market, to raise the fare for a boat ride to Lorengau, where they splurge on tins of Dole pineapples. The global marketplace does not mean people are ‘free’ to make the same choices everywhere. Workers may have limited employment options, just as consumers can only make ‘choices’ in accord with their wages. The affluent continue to define the conditions and values of the poor, as critics of globalization would say. The production of NTCs may in fact degrade the standard of living in a host community. A minority of farmers may be favored or ignored, local subsistence resources depleted, and the overall income (and social well-being) of a community depressed.

Landowners are aggrieved by the aloofness of SST as much as by anything else. Meni and Kreer people understand the issue of State land and rent being taken by the Harbour’s Board without any payment to them. They are clear that the problem predates SSTC, and that compensation might and should have been paid when the land was transferred from customary to Statehold. But they are perfectly aware that they are in no way favoured for employment or spin-offs of any kind. The Suare 2 Villagers are much more justifiably angry at the way they’ve been treated: first cultivated and ‘greased’, then encouraged to invest their own monies registering business associations and preparing for the factory, they were summarily dropped when the better site became available.

There are environmental questions to be answered still. Why are patches of oil and debris seen floating near the shores of Wewak almost every day? What effect does the nauseating smell have on peoples’ health?

The shady ownership off SST only reflects the entire climate of Wewak business, where arms of government and free enterprise are not only encouraged to be intertwined, but appear to be the same. This is not about privatization of government assets, but about wholesale flogging of public resources for the benefit of a very few.

Labour issues are thorny. The pay is astonishingly low, and the conditions strenuous and unsafe. Of course market logic will win out, and eventually workers will realize the price of standing eight to ten hours a day for a fortnight’s pay that’s less than a good day in the market is too high. As it is, they are giving the factory good labour for almost nothing, confused by the idea that development and wage labour is always better than an informal economy. Some are growing cynical, resenting the fact that they seem to be toiling to make a few rich men that much richer. How long will it take them to figure out that capitalism has no natural quid pro quo? That no one will thank or donate or organize or even think twice about their contribution to ‘provincial development.’

The longer these women work at the factory to gain 'work experience' (as every missionary, volunteer and/or administrator has suggested throughout their lives), the poorer they will become, and thus the more likely they are to resort to selling sex.

The Provincial Planner is talking about shifting Wewak town to Angorm, relocating the Murik Lakes people,. Establishing an International airport, and an international wharf at the Murik Lakes, and extending the highway from Madang on to the Sepik River. What are these plans? Are they fabulous or real?

In a 1973 speech on the Eight Aims, Somare said (1975:110):

Equality has always been important in Papua New Guinea societies. We have had our big men and even chiefs in some societies. But we have never had the great contrast between rich and poor that you see in so-called modern societies. If we were poor, at least we were all poor together. And the big man did not forget his obligations to those less well off. Every man or woman could count on their family to provide for them. It is this spirit of sharing and equality that we must work to preserve, even as we try to gain some of the benefits of modern technology.

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v. Recommendations

Where there are no regulations in place, some sort of the principles of best practice should apply, so that companies actively seek out community consultation, create the means of debating issues with the community, and act in a timely manner to redress identified grievances. WWF has already suggested independent monitoring for environmental and social impacts, and we especially endorse their suggestion that "a clear framework be set up for responding to negative social trends with costs to be met jointly by the company and government agencies."

The WWF consultant also notes that SST's Environmental Plan and Management Plan promises that "South Seas Tuna Corporation will carry out a baseline economic survey of its employees at the time of their recruitment. This survey will help with long term monitoring (Section 9.3.4 p.9.9)"

and that

"The South Seas Tuna Corporation will work with the Wewak Town Council, the East Sepik Provincial Government and the relevant Utility Managers in a co-operative manner to help them improve the infrastructure of Wewak.(Section 9.3.4 p.9.9)."

•WWF's Wewak office then volunteered to assist local level and provincial government to establish mechanisms for both of these things to happen, reaching out to form a kind of CSR partnership unique to PNG (see the WWF report excerpts above). Among their concerns at the time, which remain concerns for the public today, were whether or not the size of the municipal dump and the town water supply could support the new factory; whether or not privatizing these services would be beneficial; and how an independent monitoring authority for environmental and social impact reporting might operate. "It is important," says the WWF report, "that independent outside individuals and agencies conduct a full social impact assessment and peer review the proposed monitoring programme, in addition to the OEC peer review the proposed monitoring programme. It is also important that the OEC and DES provide to the reviewers the context within which the proposal and monitoring will take place."

•We reiterate the specific WWF concerns regarding:

• wages (as being sufficient to justify the workforce's absence from a subsistence economy—i.e. as being *living wages*);

•the possible effects of in-migration (which is something already being felt in Madang with RD Tuna) and the creation of a pool of unemployed workers; the impact of this factory environment on the sexual health of employees;

•the equitable distribution of town water supply (given that the SST EP included a proposed 'plugging of water lost to ground at Moem Barracks'---has this been effected, and is the saving enough to offset the factory demand?);

•the need for more refuse disposal services;

•the need for permanent and reliable technical expertise to monitor environmental standards for the waste treatment (including culture control in the oxidation pool), odour control (organic sludge exposure to air) and offshore waste dumping of the factory;

•the risk of sharks at the dumping zone;

•the risk of overfishing, not just in light of SST, but in light of its expansion and the proliferation of fish processing plants in the province; this refers mainly to the effect of deepwater fishing on inshore fish stock required by local fishing operators, but also the MSY and its overall ecological impact, including bycatch yields;

- the need for institutionalized responses to any event or breach of guidelines for odour and pollution control, noise levels, and over-fishing;

The WWF report advises that a contingency plan could be drafted and publicized to allay public concerns and invite participation from local NGO's in establishing monitoring protocols. We endorse this wholeheartedly, and further suggest that there be public meetings with SST management to explain such a plan. This could be part of more comprehensive meetings between stakeholders and management regarding loose promises and unrealistic expectations on everyone's part. In the meanwhile, our specific recommendations to SST are as follow:

- That meetings be organized with landowner groups to clarify the community responsibilities of the company, and the company stakeholders, in a public context;
- That odour and pollution controls be reviewed and established immediately, in partnership with suitably qualified NGOs or independent auditors, as well as the provincial government;
- That landowners groups be encouraged to create and registr worker's unions with the company;
- That workers be given the minimum wages projected in the initial company plan (U.S. \$.90/hour or K2.70/hour/K216 a fortnight);
- That production employees be given the option of wearing plastic gloves;
- That production employees be allowed regular 15 minute breaks to reduce the physical strain of standing all day;
- That company lunches include larger quantities of food (especially rice);
- That the company provide transportation for all workers on each of its 3 shifts; and
- That a management training programme be established for Papua New Guinean candidates.

In general, we recommend that SST take the initiative in CSR and establish protocols of flexibility and transparency that can ensure its sustainability in Wewak. It is presently headed in a dangerous direction, leading either to more employee work strikes or acts of sabotage on the part of frustrated landowners, employees and nearby residents. There is no reason why some of the conflicts of interest cannot be made congruent in some form of quid-pro-quo between community and company. Soliciting local expertise for assistance in odour control measures, in offshore sludge dumping suggestions, and in employee benefits is not as self-destructive as it seems, and may in fact cost less than bumping up the security and hiring risk management consultants.

Virtually any interaction between the well-resourced and the under-resourced in PNG is going to inspire antagonism. Equity in a village contexts means that both parties demonstrate demonstrate unqualified reciprocity, just as do members of extended family in PNG. They must also exhibit the kind of absolute evenhandedness that big-men must do when making public distributions. Certainly in a corporate context these are impossible goals to achieve. To start with, the resources

of a company like SST *cannot* be placed at the unqualified disposal of stakeholder, whether that be landowner or employee. There is never a high enough wage or sufficient compensation to satisfy a complainant—as a complainant. This is true in development projects everywhere, and especially the case in PNG when host communities are made to feel ignored or antagonized. The easiest and most effective way to alleviate this tension is simply to meet face to face and establish a working rapport.

If SST is not as ‘fishy’ as it seems, there should be no problem in publicizing its company reports and shareholders. If, for example, the provincial government shares have not yet been purchased, and instead rest in the hands of prominent individuals, this should be made known to the Ombudman and corrected. The East Sepik, Wewak town and SST have the opportunity here to become examples of transparency and in so doing discourage ‘fishy business’ of all kinds from proliferating like an undetected cancer in the local economy. It is certainly no advantage to SST to have more fishing production plants at the wharf or elsewhere in town. Therefore taking the CSR initiative would impose important obstacles to their irresponsible establishment and operations. Creating a context wherein shareholders do not benefit at the expense of the employees and community is the real work of nonwestern industrialization. In a global age of global trade and global production values, there must be global standards. There cannot be global backwaters and hidden inequities or malpractice. This is the only way to ensure local values, local cultural integrity and socioeconomic development throughout the developing world.

My own belief [is] that black masters should not merely replace white masters. –Michael Somare (Op cit:108)

w. Appendices

1. Press clippings

Post-Courier 7.6.00

Govts, developer sign Wewak tuna fish deal

WORK on the K84 million Wewak tuna fisheries project is soon to begin, with the signing yesterday of the project agreement between the national and provincial governments and project developer, Angco Ltd.

The project is expected to haul in more than K38 million in direct annual benefits to PNG and would offer more than 3600 jobs.

It will be implemented in two phases, each involving over K40 million and more than 200 metric tonnes of fish a day.

Angco Ltd chairman Thomas Negints said at the signing yesterday: "Phase one will cost about K36-44 million to produce 200 metric tonnes of fish a day in the first two to three years.

"Phase two will cost another K36-40 million to double production of 450 metric tonnes of fish a day."

Construction is expected to start next month and should take nine months before fishing can start.

Mr Negints said the engineering, technical and other planning issues have been done already.

He said the land would be cleared immediately.

"Project design and construction of the factory will be done by world experts who (have) built tuna cannery factories. World's most modern state of the art design technology will be adopted to construct the factory.

"Latest design and technology improvements to factories all over the world will be applied to the factory in Wewak."

He the project began in 1997 and they have spent more than K5 million already.

"We are very proud that we achieved our goal (resulting in) today's signing ceremony.

"We are proud particularly in that we succeeded in forming the joint venture with the world's leading tuna companies.

"They are Starkist Sea Foods which is world number one tuna manufacturer and marketer of tuna in USA and FCF Fisheries Company of Taiwan, which is number one fresh tuna fish broker in the world."

East Sepik Governor Arthur Somare said the project will create jobs and pave the way for other major infrastructural developments in the province.

"The Wewak wharf will see a major facelift to cater for the project. Wewak town will experience (major) developments associated with the tuna project.

"It will cater for a very big industry, a new power generation plant will be in place and many other developments to take place."

Meanwhile, Acting Governor General Bernard Narokobi said yesterday he would not let anything stand in his way from bringing development to Wewak.

He said this in response to questions raised on environmental issues at a press conference at Parliament in relation to the project.

Mr Narokobi, who is also the Wewak MP said this was his view about development. "It's kind of brutal," he said.

He said this was because there were many unemployed youths in the province.

He said other provinces and districts were progressing with development in their areas but not East Sepik.

Mr Narokobi also said he would like to go to Madang Province and see how RD Tuna canned the fish there.

He said he expected the project to start when cabinet approved its environmental plan.

Post-Courier 6.6.00

Tuna factory 'will be ready for work in one year'

By: ERIC KONE

PAPUA New Guinea's leading coffee exporter, ANGCO Limited, has diversified its business interests to include the fishing industry, bringing in K50 million in investment into the country.

This investment would be in the form of a tuna processing factory in Wewak, East Sepik province.

And PNG-owned ANGCO had a hand making the factory possible.

Its chief executive Thomas Negints said ANGCO undertook to negotiate with investors from the US and Taiwan to fund its construction.

After nearly three years of negotiations, ANGCO's efforts saw fruition last Friday when Fisheries Minister Ron Ganarafo officiated at the groundbreaking ceremony to mark the commencement of the construction phase of the factory.

The ceremony was witnessed by over 300 people from Yawasoro area, including foreign investors and national and Provincial Government officials.

Notable guests at the ceremony were Mining and Bougainville Affairs Minister Sir Michael Somare, Sir Pita Lus, Parliament Speaker Bernard Narokobi, East Sepik Governor Arthur Somare and PNG Harbours Board chairman Timothy Bonga.

The construction of the factory should be complete within 10 months after the project agreement is signed by Governor General Sir Silas Atopare this week. The production phase is anticipated to begin two months after the first phase is complete.

Mr Negints said the factory would have the capacity to process about 200 tonnes of fish daily during the first year of operations, with the capacity doubling in the second and third years of operations.

He said the country's economy would be beefed up with about US\$40 million (K114 million) annually while the annual foreign earnings will stand at US\$60 million (K171 million) during the first production year.

"The following years will have the annual foreign earnings rising to the US\$100 million (K285 million) mark," a confident Mr Negints said.

He said the project would be administered and operated under a joint venture company comprising the respective foreign investors and ANGCO.

Mr Negints said the joint venture company, Southseas Tuna Corporation, has been registered and certified with an initial capital of US\$12 million (K34 million) in its accounts, to begin work immediately after the National Government gives its approval of the project.

The project agreement is expected to be signed this week by the National Executive Council, which approved the project in principle in March this year.

The joint venture companies are Star-Kist and Bumble Bee from the US, FCF Fisheries Company of Taiwan and ANGCO Limited, which is the major shareholder.

Star-Kist and Bumble Bee are both the leading tuna buying and selling companies in the world while FCF Fisheries is the biggest fresh tuna broker in the world.

***Post-Courier* 6.7.00** **Leaders hail tuna plan**

06/07/00

Title: Leaders hail tuna plan
Source: Copyright, 1999, Post-Courier Online.
Date: June 7, 2000

EAST Sepik will have the biggest economic investment in the province since Independence when the proposed tuna project and facility at Yawasoro comes into operation.

It is PNG's second and biggest tuna cannery and is expected to start production in 2002 after last week's ground-breaking ceremony.

The cost of the project is between K40 to K50 million (\$US16-18 million) and it will generate about K16 million cash injected every second year and in foreign reserves more than K100 million with 200 metric tonnes of fresh tuna fish supply every day.

The project is an initiative of the main shareholder and leading coffee exporter Angco Ltd and the tuna factory is expected to be the largest in the joint venture company, South Seas Tuna Corporation.

Fisheries Minister Ron Ganarafo carried out the honors of the groundbreaking, witnessed by national leaders from the province, including Sir Michael Somare, Sir Pita Lus and National Speaker Bernard Narokobi.

Officials from FCF Fisheries company of Taiwan, Starkist Seafood and Bumble Bee of America also attended to witness the occasion.

East Sepik Governor Arthur Somare expressed pride in his province being selected for the cannery. He assured that his government would help to get the facility going.

He appealed to both the State and the East Sepik Provincial Government to maintain close dialogue and consultation in negotiating the agreement with South Seas Tuna Corporation and to ensure the final project agreement would benefit all parties.

Landowner spokesman Andrew Warisan said it was a dream come true for the people of East Sepik to have the biggest project in the area as there had never been one for the last 25 years.

***Fishing Line* Newsletter Jan-Feb 2003**

Fishing Line: Newsletter of the National Fisheries Authority Issue No 1:

Work Starts on Wewak Tuna Loining Plant

A concrete pouring ceremony on January 15th 2003 marked the long-awaited commencement of first stage of construction work on the tuna loining factory in Wewak.

The factory is an onshore project by the South Seas Tuna Corporation to be built at a cost of K80 million.

Prefabricated construction materials have arrived on site in Wewak from Australia and New Zealand. Construction Company, Robert Stone of New Zealand is the main contractor for the project, which is expected to be completed by the end of this year.

During this construction stage, it will employ about 300 local people to work as drivers, bricklayers, carpenters and welders, and once the factory is ready to process tuna loins, the number of workers will increase to about 1,250. It will be ready to start processing tuna loins in January 2004.

The factory will initially process 100 tonnes per day and will gradually move to a full operational capacity of 200 tonnes. It will be producing 24,000 tonnes of processed tuna loins for export annually.

Lae to Have Tuna Loining Plant

A second tuna loining plant will be built in Lae, Morobe Province. It is a Frabelle (PNG) Limited project to be built at a cost of K5 million.

A groundbreaking ceremony to mark the commencement of construction work on the site was held on 4th February 2003. The Minister for Fisheries, Hon. Andrew Baing, Acting Managing Director of NFA, Dr. Antony Lewis, senior managers of NFA and senior officials of Morobe Province witnessed the ceremony on 4th February 2003.

The plant will initially process 50 tonnes of tuna per day into loins, but may increase this in the future and even progress to full scale canning operations. This onshore processing of tuna will encourage the establishment of other related industries, including can making, transport, food supply and retailing, sale of household goods, banking and others. It will also attract other forms of processing, like smoked tuna, which is frozen and exported to US, Europe and Asia.

The Lae tuna loining plant is the second, the first in



• Groundbreaking Ceremony at Frabelle Premises Lae. Minister for Fisheries Hon. A. Baing taking the pick during the ceremony.

Wewak by South Seas Tuna is in its first stage of construction, and a third one is being planned for Madang.

With the three loining plants at full production, Papua New Guinea is expected to generate over K500 million worth of additional processed tuna exports in the near future.

2003 Access Negotiation Fruitful

An intensive round of fishery access negotiations with foreign fishing entities was completed at the end of February, following coordinated preparations and review of performance under previous arrangements.

The agreements, which will bring close to K32 million in access fees to PNG during 2003, allow access under agreed conditions to PNG's rich EEZ, recognising that the domestic fleet is unable at present to take the sustainable tuna catch available.

The agreements involve the Taiwan Deep Sea Tuna Boatowners and Exporters Association, the Korean Deep Sea Fisheries Association, the China Fisheries Association, and two Philippines

companies (TransPacific Journey and Frabelle Fishing Corporation) and 78 purse seine vessels in total. They are for one year, and are based on a formula which includes a 6% rate of return on an agreed catch level and a fish price for the preceding 12 months which takes account of the species composition of the catch.

The agreements increasingly incorporate broader cooperation components (crewing levels, landing of tuna and by-catch and transshipment in PNG ports). In most cases, future access will be tied to requirements for onshore investment, preferably processing (loining or canning).

Access fees are also payable by locally-based foreign vessels at concessionary rates, by a third Philippine company whose agreement commenced late in 2002, and under the US Multilateral Treaty on Fisheries. The total access fees may approach a record K50 million this year.

The National Shipping Page, 1.6.04

Wewak wharf is not big enough

By CLEMENT KAUPA

A HIGHLY-placed official at the tuna-loining factory in Wewak says that the provincial wharf is not big enough to cater for the factory's fishing boats.

The official, who asked not to be named, said the wharf's bridge loading capacity is too small and would be unable to hold the plant's expected vessel calls and carry its' unloading capacity. "At the moment the wharf's bridge is too small and we will definitely be having traffic congestion once our ships come in;" the source said.

It is understood the bridge can accept only one ship at a time and that can be disastrous for the plant as one of its ship would take about 3 days to offload fish to the plant.

"If another cargo ship comes in before us, we cannot afford to queue and wait.

"We have spent a K100 million to build the plant and we expect the government to make it their priority to expand the bridge," the source said.

Meanwhile, a meeting will be held today at Wewak between the Private Enterprises Minister Arthur Somare and officials of the plant and the PNG Harbours Board.

Attempts to get comments about the nature of the meeting from the Minister's office were unsuccessful.

The plant is expecting its' first shipment to be in February to coincide with the opening.

According to the official, the plant will initially receive and process 1000 to 1500 tonnes of tuna per day but at full production capacity, the plant will be receiving 2,000 tonnes of tuna per day and will maintain a workforce of 1200.

The Multi-million kina factory is set to begin production on Feb 14.

Le Service du Commerce Exterieur

Dimanche, 17 Juillet 2005

Wewak tuna plant project to start February - PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Construction of a "world class" tuna processing plant at Wewak is expected to commence in February and would take about 11 months to complete, according to a Government statement.

It said the plant, owned by South Seas Tuna Corporation, should be ready for commission by January 2004.

The statement disclosed that Deputy Prime Minister Dr Allan Marat and East Sepik Governor Arthur Somare had flown to Auckland earlier in December to visit factories and companies involved in construction of the multi-million kina tuna loining factory to be built in Wewak.

The Ministers viewed similar operations in Auckland, New Plymouth and Dunedin and witnessed steel fabrication work related to the Wewak plant, writes The National.

Dr Marat and Mr Somare described as "impressive" the Sea Lord Bio-Filters operation in Dunedin, where especially constructed tanks deal with products from fish processing and turn them into cosmetic oils and fertilisers, while cutting down on the odour problem.

Sealord, a company owned by the Maori Association of New Zealand, produces thousands of kilos of fish fillets everyday for shipment to markets in Europe, Asia and America and with a very strict control on odour levels and dumping of waste.

The factory ranks in the top 10 among world food processing facilities and is said to be number one in the Southern Hemisphere.

"The same multi-million dollar facility with strict control of odour and environmental plan will be built in Wewak on 8 February 2003 for the Wewak Tuna Loining Factory," says Richard Baker of the South Seas Tuna Corporation.

"The factory in Wewak will be of world standard and will be a major investment for East Sepik and Papua New Guinea, bringing in more than K100 million to the national economy every year."

Mr Somare said the plant would "bring immense returns to the national economy" and is "consistent with the Government's policy of an export driven economy," said Mr Somare.

He said the first intake of employees is expected to number 1,250 and that a string of spin-off activities was likely to ensue.

"The fisheries statistics suggest that for every one person employed in the factory an additional 2.7 job opportunity will be created outside," said Mr Somare.

"We need to harness this opportunity and exploit its full potential by looking at countries that have similar fish factory set-ups."

that have similar fish factory set-ups."

Steel fabrication for the PNG operations is being undertaken in New Plymouth, where South Sea Tuna Corporation has recently executed a contract with Robert Stones of New Zealand.

"The steel fabrication from Robert Stone will be ready for shipment to the project site and building of the facility will start on 8 February 2003," said Mr Somare.

The Wewak tuna loining plant is an officially approved and endorsed investment project by the national and East Sepik provincial governments.



Post-Courier 7.10.02

Second stage of tuna loining project

CONSTRUCTION work on the K80 million Wewak tuna loining project is set to start following completion of site preparation.

Project developer South Seas Tuna Corporation of the US on September 8 gave approval to proceed with the second phase of the project, which is actual construction.

Robert Stones Company, of New Zealand, has been awarded the construction contract and has been given three months from September 8 to bring on site workmen and equipment to start the project.

The first phase of the project, site preparation was completed in June, and had cost about K3 million. Work involved drainage of the water-logged site and re-gravelling.

Company sources said construction will start after three months, when all necessary equipment and workers are on site.

Cost of construction is expected to be between K75 million and K80 million and may take up to 12 months to complete.

The project cost, company officials said, had inflated from an original estimate of K50 million due to rising costs and the depreciated kina value.

The Wewak tuna loining project is owned 100 per cent by South Seas Tuna Corporation, but the East Sepik Provincial Government is expected to be given a stake once it has fully paid its site preparation cost contribution of K2.5 million. It has so far paid K1.5 million.

The K2.5 million would be converted to shares in the project.

Plans are also in line to divest some of the shares to other PNG shareholders later.

Meanwhile, the company officials have expressed concern over attempts by unauthorised persons and organisations to recruit workers for the project.

The officials said over the recent months, individuals and organisations had told people that the company had authorised them to recruit workers for the project. In many cases, people were charged certain amounts of money by the "con" recruitment officers to secure jobs.

The company officials said they have yet to advertise for jobs and would announce recruitment when they are ready.

These concerns have been relayed to the East Sepik Provincial Government whose Fisheries division is looking into the complaints.

The Wewak tuna loin project is separate from the tuna long lining project proposed for the province, in which businessman Sir Hugo Berghuser, is a principal.

Post-Courier 9.8.00

News

Wednesday 09th August, 2000

Wrangle over rural exporter.

THE parent company of one of Papua New Guinea's major coffee exporters, Angco Group Ltd, has gone into receivership.

A shareholder, Gulf Oil Trust Fund, on Friday won an order to restrain the Angco Group from conducting any further business and also to stop any dealings in the shares of the group.

According to documents lodged at the National Court Registry, the court appointed Sinton Spence of Sinton Spence chartered accountants as the receiver, restrained the group from conducting any further business and also restrained the PNG Banking Corporation from "enforcing its securities" against the Angco Group and its subsidiaries "until it has taken the position of the plaintiff (Gulf Oil Trust trustees) as the principal shareholder of these companies".

However, the National Court yesterday set aside the part of the order which prevented PNGBC from enforcing its securities with the Angco Group and its subsidiaries, effective immediately. Gulf Oil Trust Fund trustees - Chris Haiveta, Bamake Rumbam, Joseph Minji, Albert Milala, Charles Maiu, Koiari Tarata and Joseph Gabut - won the order over the Angco Group's Peter Pena, Thomas Negints, Kevin Conrad and Arthur Jones.

The Gulf Oil Trust Fund was set up to receive royalties and other funds paid to the people of Gulf province from the Kutubu and Gobe petroleum projects.

The plaintiffs alleged that on June 4, 1998, Peter Pena, then a trustee for the plaintiffs and legal adviser with Joseph Minji and Bomake Rumbam, convened a meeting which the other trustees were not aware of.

They also allege that at the meeting, the trust resolved to invest K1 million in Beecroft 35 Pty Ltd, as payment for 10 per cent of shares in that company, which was the vehicle used to take over 51 per cent of shares in Angco Ltd. They alleged the trust resolved to borrow K1 million from Bank South Pacific to invest in Beecroft 35 Pty Ltd.

In the same documents, the plaintiffs allege Mr Pena "deliberately" withheld from other trustees information that the defendants "conspired to use these monies as security to borrow K9 million from the Papua New Guinea Banking Corporation and then purchased a 22.5 per cent share in Beecroft 35 Pty Ltd for each of the defendants".

The plaintiffs in the court statement said Beecroft 35 Pty Ltd changed its name to PacifiCentury Investments Ltd last year, and borrowed K11.592 million from Angco Ltd (its subsidiary), to buy the remaining 49 per cent of the issued capital of PacifiCentury Investments Ltd, which subsequently changed its name to Angco Group Ltd.

They claimed the borrowing depleted Angco Ltd's working capital such that it could not continue trading. This had significantly reduced the value of their Angco Group investment, they alleged.

Infofish 3.4.05

Infofish website : PNG: Tuna exports to increase by 119%

The National Fisheries Authority (NFA) of Papua New Guinea is projecting a 119% rise in fish exports to the European market this year.

Fish exports made up of tuna loins and canned products from four fishing companies fetched US\$582,800 (K1.8 million) in export revenue in 2004 and this figure is estimated to increase to US\$7.5 million (K23.4 million) this year. The four companies, which obtained EU Accreditation after attending the European Seafood Exposition in May 2004, are Maps Tuna Ltd, Ailand Seafood Ltd, RD Tuna Cannery and Equatorial Marine Resources.

Statistics from NFA show that volume of exports from Maps Tuna, Equatorial Marine and Ailand Seafood in 2004 totaled 102 tons. Figures from RD Tuna Cannery were not made available. Maps Tuna's export volume for this year is estimated at 86 tons, Ailand Seafood, 36 tons and Equatorial Marine, 54 tons. RD Tuna's export forecast was not made available due to its confidentiality.

In preparation for the coming annual European Seafood Exposition next month, NFA acting managing director, Sylvester Pokajam said they are anticipating that total value of exports may exceed US\$7 million after the 2005 exposition.

The ESE is held annually in Brussels, Belgium and is acclaimed to be the biggest seafood exhibition, providing exhibitors and seafood industry the opportunity to attract the focused buying powers of the world seafood market.

The 2004 seafood exposition was PNG's first to attend to and eight companies that went there were involved in processing, long-line (tuna/loins), prawns, lobster and general fishing activities. These companies were there to understand the EU market requirements and as a result improve market access of PNG fishery products to the EU and other lucrative markets, said Mr. Pokajam.

NFA and the EU project in Madang are preparing for this year's exposition and companies that intend to participate are Maps Tuna, Ailand Seafood, RD Tuna, Equatorial Marine Ltd, Delta Seafoods Ltd, South Seas Tuna Corp and Frabelle PNG Ltd.

To finance PNG's participation in the expo, the EU project will shoulder 30% of the cost while NFA will fill in the balance.

2005-03-04

WEEKLY NEWS HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MAMOSE REGION Thursday, December 4, 2003

Sepik island leaders cry foul

LOCAL leaders in coastal villages and islands off Wewak have condemned lack of response from the East Sepik provincial administration and South Seas Tuna Corporation on development and environmental issues.

Three leaders — Alphonse Krau, president of East Sepik Islands Association Inc., John Niahau president of ESIA (Wewak branch) and Greg Kibai president of East Sepik Island LLG — condemned the lack of response by the two parties over a number of issues that they had raised.

The issue they raised were lack of plans for resource owners' participation in spin-off activities and lack of continuing dialogue that is breeding an environment of suspicion between all stakeholders.

"This is occurring at a time when the provincial government has entered into a number of questionable deals involving the sale of provincial assets including land without the approval of the provincial government," they said.

They said a prime example was the waterfront property at the old wharf in town.

"If the provincial government will not do something about it, then we will take the matter to court," they said.

They challenged the provincial administration and the tuna loining plant to tackle the issues in a transparent manner.

2 The National Friday, April 27, 2001

NATION

Wewak group to sue tuna firm

A LAW FIRM in Port Moresby has received instructions to start legal proceedings against the joint venture partners involved in the tuna loining factory in Wewak, East Sepik province.

The instructions were issued by Nick Artekan, principal and chairman of Nusa Fishing Group in Wewak, for environmental damage, Ralph Saulep of Saulep Lawyers said last night.

The joint venture, South Seas Tuna Corporation (SSTC), is between Angco and its overseas partner StarKist of the United States territory of Guam.

Mr Saulep said that under section 46 of the Environment Act, an interested person may apply for an order restraining a government authority (including the Office of Environment and Conservation) from issuing necessary permits or licences for level 2 and level 3 activities which may cause environmental damage.

He said the restraining order would prohibit carrying out of level 2 and 3 activities until an environmental permit has been granted in accordance with the Act. An Environmental Permit, as far as Nusa Business Group and Bismarck Fishing Company Ltd are aware, has not been issued.

Nusa chairman Mr Artekan said from Wewak yesterday that he had been forced to take legal action after the East Sepik provincial government failed to respond after repeated attempts to bring the plight of the Wewak islanders to their attention.

"They do not care about us one little bit. The provincial administration is hell bent on serving the needs of people who have lost touch with the needs of the grassroots and the resource owners," Mr Artekan said.

Nusa and Bismarck are both companies which are 100 per cent owned by Papua New Guineans. Mr Artekan will be the first plaintiff and Bismarck is expected to be the second plaintiff.

SSTC, with the support of the powerful US Tuna Foundation, is currently lobbying for access to provisions of a multilateral fishing agreement that PNG has with the US fishing industry, so that funds would be made available to start the Wewak project.

The PNG Government has however, refused to discuss the issue with the US Tuna Foundation.

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Singirok still on payroll



PROTEST: Workers gathered at the Kreer basketball courts on Wednesday before marching to the provincial administration offices to present their petition calling for improved working conditions and pay rise.

Tuna factory workers strike

WORKERS of the South Seas Tuna Corporation in Wewak walked off their jobs early this week in protest over poor pay and alleged ill-treatment by their foreign superiors.

The 400 workers, mostly women who worked the night shift (6pm-6am) doing loining, walked off their jobs on Tuesday, then protested to the East Sepik Provincial Government headquarter on Wednesday and presented a petition to Deputy Governor Moses Burr.

They only returned to work yesterday after being assured by the management that their concerns would be looked at.

Their petition called for improvements to the working conditions including better pay and transportation to and from work. They said most of them were on

By **ABBY YADI**

wages of between K40-K60 a fortnight. During their shift, the workers were only allowed a 30 minute break and had a "plastic cup" share of rice or half a taro.

The workers said they were paid on rates of 90 toea an hour for those on probation and K1 an hour for full-time workers. No overtime pay was allowed.

The women said most of them lived in settlements and villages on the fringes of the town and found their own way to and from work, leaving them prone to criminal attacks.

Other concerns and issues raised in the petition were the alleged use of abusive language, including swear words on women workers by the mostly Asians supervisors and workers who

were sick and missed work but later presented medical certificates still had their pays cut.

Spokesman for the workers and union representative Alex Anis met with the company management on Wednesday and resolved that the workers return to work while the management look into their concerns.

South Seas Tuna Corporation public affairs manager Francis Sumanop told NBC Wewak the wage rates they paid were Labour Department-approved.

He said many of the workers missed hours and even days of work resulting in lower pay.

He said the matter was an internal company matter and assured that the company would look into the concerns and address those that were genuine.



2. Research questions

Workers

Do you work at the loinery?

Are you male/female?

Married/single?

Age?

Where are you from originally?

Where do you live now?

How did you apply for the job?

Did you pay someone to register for work?

Were you given any written information from the company regarding rules and regulations?

Did your application form ask you about union membership?
Did you answer yes/no to being a union member?

What is your job?
In the factory, do you work with friends and/or relatives?
Do you wear safety clothing?
Is the clothing new/secondhand?
Do you have the use of safety equipment or clothing deducted from your pay?
How much?
What is your 'promised' wage, and what is your actual pay packet?
Is there tax deducted?

Are you aware of any worker transport agreement that once existed or now exists?
(Describe)
Was this transport deducted from your pay? (How much?)
Does the factory have working toilets?
How would you describe the cleanliness of the loinery floor? (Filthy, unclean, clean, very clean)
What breaks do you get and how do you ask for them?
What is the typical lunch served in the factory?
Do you smell the odor while you work on the loining floor?
Did anyone ever tell you why the loinery was moved to the town harbourside?

How do the supervisors treat their workers?
Where are the managers and supervisors from?
Do you know what they make?
Have you participated in a strike?
What agreement was resolved for the strike?
What wage increases have been promised to you?
Are you penalized for being late? How?
Do you know where the fish are exported to?
What are the kinds of fish being loined?
Now that you have seen the loining process would you eat this fish after processing?
Do you know where the factory wastes are sent?
Do you know of any wastes being dumped close to the shore or the streams behind the factory?

How do you rate your wage? (More than enough, sufficient, insufficient, miserable)
What kinds of work for money does your family do?
How much does your family make in a fortnight (roughly)?
What major fortnightly or monthly expenses do you have?
 School fees—how much?
 Rent
 Transport
 Medical
 Food

Clothing
Store bought food
Market food
Customary debts or payments

Landowners

What is your subclan and clan line?
What is your relationship to the ground beneath the loinery?
Where do you live now?
Did you register for a spin-off business?
How much did you pay? To whom?
Did SST contact you to run a spin-off business?
Did SST ever promise you spin-off businesses? If so, was it in writing?
Did they give you or your family any written materials about the loinery before it arrived?
Were the landowners given any compensation for the ground?
Were the landowners given any compensation for the environmental change?
What is the history of the factory land as you know it?
What was on the land before the factory arrived?
What was the land used for historically?

Do you fish in the sea?
How do you fish?
What times of year are good fishing months?
How many days per week do you fish in good months?
How many days/week do you fish in bad fishing months?
Before the factory came, how much fish would you catch on a good day in the fishing high season?
Do you sell fish at market?
How much fish do you sell, and how much do you keep to eat?
How much money did you make fishing, per week, in season, before SST arrived?
How much money do you make fishing, per week, in season, now that SST is here?
Did SST place any Fishing Attraction Devices in the sea? Where?
Do you see the fishing boats netting other fish beside tuna?
What do they do with the other fish?

How would you rate your household economic situation before SST arrived? Excellent, good, subsistence, below subsistence, extremely poor

How do you rate your household economic situation now? Excellent, good, subsistence, below subsistence, extremely poor

Do you know who owns SST?
Do you know who has invested in SST?
Do you know where the fish is exported?

Do you know whether the Provincial Government makes money from SST?
Has the Provincial Government give landowners any infrastructure or benefits from the money made from SST?

Has SST provided any benefits to the landowner community?

Do you know of any plans for more tuna factories in Wewak?

Do you know any of the fishing boat crewmen?

Do you know of friendships between fishing crew and local women?

Do you sell garden produce to the fishing crews?

Do they pay in kina or in trade?

What are the sales of fish in local markets like now? (Fewer fish/the same as before/more fish)?

Is market fish more expensive now since SST arrived?

3. Letters, press releases

Report on South Seas Public Relations and Bertrand Webster (by Br Brewster Webster)

In April 04 I rang the PRO to complain about the smell coming from the fish factory. I did this several times as we had been assured that two weeks after the factory was functioning the smell would no longer be a problem. I was assured that things would be right after a short time. Some time afterwards the manager and PRO came onto our property, seemingly to investigate. I made myself available. The manager told me that it was unreasonable that such a large factory would not cause a smell in the environment, and that when we were told that there would be no smell, it was not a lie ut that what was meant was that the smell would be less than similar factories already established. (Bishop Tony however would claim that he was told very specifically that there would be NO unpleasant odour.) The manager put the blame on the low tide in the recently constructed storm-water project. He also felt that there was an odour coming from the waste water from the Windjammer Hotel. While this could have been partly true there was no denying that there was a definite smell coming from the Tuna processing. I was told to keep them informed of the situation. I was also invited to visit the factory and see what was happening. (At the time I was not very mobile because of a leg fracture.) I continued to ring them. And on one occasion, where there was a period of no smell, I rang and told them that the smell had gone. But very soon afterwards the smell returned, and I continued to ring them and keep them 'informed.' The PRO told me at that time his daughter who goes to St. Mary's School had also complained about the smell. As time went on I rang less frequently as I found the PRO was "on the other line" or "was out." At the end of May, I rang then PRO, but he was not available to speak to me. As I was going to write a letter to the newspaper on the issue I had decided it was time to visit the factory to become informed about what was happening as regards the smell. I did contact the Manager and he told me that the wind was to blame. (Maybe he expected me to blame the Creator!!) A couple of days later I rang the PRO who again as not available. I decided to go to the factory but could only speak to the PRO (who was not away!) through the security guards at the gate. I tried to explain what I was there for. But, I was told that I had to make an appointment. I tried to explain that an appointment could not be made as the PRO would not answer phone calls from me. I left, very angry at the way I was treated. I

rang when I came home and the PRO eventually answered and treated the matter as a joke. And said he would not speak to me as I was angry. I rang the Manager the next day and complained at the way I was treated. He claimed he was out at the treatment plant trying to reduce the smell, when I was there. He saw me coming along the beach. He says I saw him. However, I was unaware that I may have, though I did see a group of Security officers in the distance. They waved at me as I was walking along the beach trying to find a suitable place to enter. It was at this time I was directed to the gate where I communicated through the security guards who were very polite and understanding.

(This could be understood as a struggle between two excolonial interlopers, but for the obvious smell that everyone suffers here).

Marist brothers
PO Box 107
Wewak
10-6-05

The Editor,
Post Courier,
Port Moresby

‘Fish smell in Wewak is nauseating’

Dear Sir,

It is past the time when the community should be heard on the issue of the location of fish processing factories near residential areas in our towns. I live but a stone’s throw from the South Seas factory in Wewak. Too often the foul smell coming from the factory is near to nauseating. But, the winds carry the stinking air well beyond where I live! Most of our visitors are amazed that such a situation is allowed to happen in an enlightened country such as ours---in times when the public is generally conscious of the evil of pollution. The reasons for the location, I suggest, are economic. Companies want to take advantage of the already existing infrastructure, that has been provided for the residential community—wharves, roads and water supply, but most significantly within walking distance of a cheap labour force (no need to provide housing). Amongst the misinformation provided before the building of the factory, we were assured that there would not be any bad smell. That of course was a complete lie. The management now tells me that I was totally naïve to believe that such a factory could exist without a foul smell. What the lie really meant was that the smell would be less offensive than in similar factories. I have been recently told, by the management, that there is technology available for reducing the smell coming from the waste treatment plant., the main culprit. But such technology is very expensive and the overseas ownership (probably in air-conditioned odourless comfort) will not provide the capital needed. They need to get back the capital already committed, before such a luxury as a nonproductive venture could be considered. There is talk of further fish processing being established---even in Wewak. May our representatives be able to stipulate that such development occur away from down-wind residential communities.

Yours sincerely,
(Br) Bertrand Webster

The Provincial Administrator
Dept. of East Sepik
P.O. Box
Wewak,
East Sepik Province

Viak Land Owners Association
Meni Village
P.O. Box
Wewak

Attention:

Subject: Environmental Effect Situation Report – Meni village / local land owners

Sir,

You are officially informed off our current environment effect of the problems caused after establishment of Wewak Tuna Loining Factory near the Wewak main wharf and its operation.

I, enclosed for your necessary information copies of:

1. Disposal of factory wastes and air pollution report.
2. Situation report of Meni Village land/resources owners.

Submitted for your necessary information and arrangement in our land/resources owners demand be men accordingly.

Yours faithfully

Alex Anis
Advisor – Meni Local Land/Resources owners.

CC: Nancy Sullivan LTD & Associate
Consulting in Anthropology
P.O. Box 404, Madang, PNG

CC: The General Manager
Wewak Tuna Loining Factory
C/ South Seas Tuna Factory

P.O. Box 543, Wewk, E.S.P

Draft Press Release 7 November 2003

Local leaders in the coastal and outlying islands of Wewak have recently met and issued a press release expressing their dissatisfaction at the lack of response from the East Sepik Provincial Administration and South Seas Tuna Corporation....This is related to a number of outstanding issues that had been raised by the resource groups involving:

- (a) lack of plans for resource owners equity participation
- (b) participation in spin-off benefits
- (c) and in particular, the lack of continuing dialogue, which breeds an environment of suspicion between all stakeholders.

This is occurring at a time when the Provincial Government has entered into a number of questionable deals involving the sale of Provincial assets, including land, without the approval of the Provincial Assembly. The prime example of this, said the leaders, was the alleged sale of

the waterfront property at the old wharf in town (Fisheries Warehouse—Section E—504) to Sir Hugo Berghuser, in which the Provincial Government accepted 14% in Sir Hugo's Company Sepik Sea Products Limited. No money changed hands and the said company has only one director and that is Sir Hugo Berhuser. Othe one hand, the Administration is saying that it is acting with the best interests of the people. Yet its own actions say the exact opposite.

These fishy deals must stop and if the Provincial Government will not do something about it, then we will take the matter to court.

The leaders challenged the Provincial Administration, the Government and the Tuna Factory to come out openly and take these issues head-on and in a transparent manner.

The National Goals and Directive Principles of the National Constitution call for equal participation by all stakeholders in the development of natural resources. It is well past the time whjen administrators must stop paying lip service and do what they are obliged to do and that is to allow resources to be developed in a manner that will benefit not just a few, but the society at large. We must stress here that we are not against the Tuna Factory or any other form of development. However, development that benefits only a fewis not development---that is exploitation. We are against exploitation.

Signed by Alphonse Krau (National President, ESIA), John Niabau (President ESIA), Greg Kibai (President, East Sepik Islands LLG)

4. Human Resources registerees, Kewhau Development Limited

KWEHAU DEVELOPMENT LIMITED HUMAN RESOURCES TRADES MAN	
<u>MECHANIC</u>	<u>WELDER</u>
JAMES KUFAI	IGNAS KALINAU
STANLY MARANG	MOSES SUMBUK
MANUEL NUMBUK	NELSON KUFAI
SIMON SUAMIRI	NICKY KUFAI
IGNAS KUFAI	
<u>PLUMBER</u>	<u>CARPENTER</u>
RUBEN PENNY	JOE SARUANDE
JOE SARUANDE	PAIS RUIHA
LINUS HEPAU	ANDREW HOWI
JOEL PAWIE	PENNY MAKI
	ROBEERT NIAHAWA
<u>SECURITY</u>	<u>PANEL BEATING/SPRAY PAINTING</u>
POULINUS MAWIROMO	CLEMENCE KUFAI
FRANCIS KUNGAMERE	THOMAS KUFAI
CLEMENCE KRIMARI	
BALTHAZAR PARIAGA	
<u>DRIVERS</u>	<u>TYPIST/COMPUTER/SECRETARY</u>
SIMON WAROMO	PHILIPÁ SOMERI
AGUSTIN NERIKU	CARITHAS KUFAI
SYLVESTHA KINIM	THERESIA NIMIWAU
CARMILUS WAMUNG	MARIA KUNGAMERE
	JENNY CLEMENCE
<u>HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR</u>	<u>PRESS RINTERS/ PHOTOGRAPHERS</u>
FRANCIS MUNGU	WOLFI WAMUK - MANAGER SILLS
LUCAS PARANDOWEI	PASCAL KOSIAL
	MIETA WAMUNG
<u>ACCOUNTING</u>	<u>ELECTRICIAN</u>
ALOIS ARIBEN	PHILIP NIMIURU
DAMIEN HORIEMBE	GEORGE ANIS
<u>FISHING CADET/CREW</u>	<u>WATER TREATMENT PLAN SPECIALIST</u>
HENDRY HORIEMBE	SIMON MARANG
PILUS RUIPIA	

KWEHAU DEVELOPMENT LIMITED SAURE NO 1 AND 2 HUMAN RESOURCES			
WEIFEI FAMILY			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
JEFFERY WEIFEI	M	GRD 6	
ROBERT WEIFEI	M	GRD 6	
THOMAS WEIFEI	M	GRD 6	
THRESIA WEIFEI	F	GRD 6	
MARY WEIFEI	F	GRD 6	
SOMERI FAMILY			
JACOB SOMERI	M	GRD 10	
DAVID SOMERI	M	VOCATIONAL	MECHANIC
GRACE SOMERI	F	GRD 10	
APOLONIA KOSIAL	F	GRD 10	
PHILIPA SOMERI	F	GRD 10	TYPIST/COMPUTER
PRICILLA SOMERI	F	GRD 10	
PASCAL KOSIAL	M	GRD 10	PRESS PRINTER
CONSTANTINE KOSIAL	M	GRD 10	
MONICA YENBARI	M	GRD 10	
JULIAN SOMERI	M	GRD 12	
KENETH SOMERI	M	GRD 11	
HILLARY SOMERI	M	GRD10	
NICKY SOMERI	M	GRD 10	
JEROME MOMODAI	M	GRD 10	
PAULINUS MAWIROMO	M	GRD 10	
PAWIE FAMILY			
JOEL PAWIE	M	VOCATIONAL	PLUMBING
ALBERT PAWIE	M	GRD	0
ANTON PAWIE	M	GRD 6	
JUNGAMIRI FAMILY			
RICHARD JUNGAMIRI	M		
RUBEN JUNGAMIRI	M		
BERNADETTE JUNGAMIRI	F		

WAMUNG FAMILY			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
CAMILUS WAMUNG	M	GRD 8	DRIVER
EMMA MIETA WAMUNG	F	GRD 10	ELEMENTARY TEACHER
MIETA WAMUNG	M	GRD 10	PRESS PRINTER
AUGUSTING NERIKU	M	GRD	DRIVER
PETER NERIKU	M	GRD 10	
SOLESTINE HONAK	M	GRD 12	FINANCE

WIENG FAMILY			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
MACILINUS WIENG	M	GRD 6	HEAVY EQUIPMENT
VICTOR MARTIN	M	ICS	MECHANIC
MARTINE WIENG	F	VOCATIONAL	COOKING/SEWING
FRANCISCA WIENG	F	GRD 6	
GORETTEE WIENG	F	GRD 6	WOMENS LEADER
GEORGE ANIS	M	VOCATIONAL	ELECTRICIAN
MARGRET MARTIN	F	GRD 10	
SALVADORA WIENG	F	GRD 10	PRIMARY SCH TEACHER
JULIE YALOM WIENG	F	GRD 10	
ALEXIA WIENG	F	GRD 10	ICS BASIC ACCOUNTING

MARANG FAMILY			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
STANLY MARANG	M	VOCATIONAL	MECHANIC
SIMON MARANG	M	GRD 10	WATER TREATMENT
JETRO MARANG	M	GRD 6	
CLIAF MAWI	M	GRD 6	
PAIRA MAIRANG	M	GRD 6	
ELTZA MAWI	M	GRD 6	
PRENTHA MARANG	F	GRD 6	

NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
LEO FINGIAN	M	GRD 6	
MATHEW FINGIAN	M	GRD 6	SECURITY

VINANSIUS FINGIAN			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
VINANSIUS FINGIAN	M	GRD 10	
PETER FINGIAN	M	GRD 6	
GRACE FINGIAN	F	GRD 6	
JECINTA SEKENA	F	GRD 6	
MARIA FINGIAN	F	GRD 6	

HEPAU FAMILY			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
MARIANA FINGIAN	F	GRD 6	
MARIATA FINGIAN	F	GRD 6	
LUIS WANUNGU	M	GRD 8	
SAMSON WANUNGU	M	M	GRD 10
JACOB NEIWARA	M		BUSH MECHANIC
DANIEL WAMA	M		

KRIMARI FAMILY			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
FRANCISCUS KRIMARI	M	GRD 6	
RASCAL KRIMARI	M	GRD 6	
PHILIPPUS KRIMARI	M	GRD 6	SECURITY
CLEMENCE KRIMARI	M		EX ARMY PNGDF
MICHAEL KRIMARI	M	GRD 8	

SOWENG FAMILY			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
JOHNNY SOWENG	M	GRD 10	COURT CLERK
ALBERT SOWENG	M	GRD 10	SECURITY
BRIAN SOWENG	M	GRD 10	
VICTORIA SOWENG	F	GRD 6	
PATRICIA SOWENG	F	GRD 6	
FINNY SOWENG	F	GRD 10	
RUBEN PENNY	F	VOCATIONAL	PLUMBER

PERRY FAMILY			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
BLASIOUS PERRY	M	VOCATIONAL	ELECTRICIAN
EUGINE PERRY	M	GRD 6	
STEVEN PERRY	M	GRD 6	
ABRAHAM PERRY	M	GRD 6	
ASINIA PERRY	F	GRD 6	
JUDITH PERRY	F	GRD 6	
EVELYN PERRY	F	GRD 6	

KUNGAMERE FAMILY			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
FRANCIS KUNGAMERE	M		EX PNGDF
ALOS KUNGAMERE	M	GRD 6	
ALLAN KUNGAMERE	M	GRD 6	
BLACKY KUNGAMERE	M	GRD 10	POLICEMAN
CLEMENCE MOMO	M		SMALL BUSINESSMAN
APOLONIA MOMO	F	GRD 6	
MARIA KUNGAMERE	F	VOCATIONAL	TYPIST
ALPHONSA KUNGAMERE	F	GRD 10	ELEMENTARY TEACHER
GILBERT KUNGAMERE	M	GRD 6	

KUFAT FAMILY			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
VICTOR KUFAT	M	GRD 10	ELEMENTARY TEACHER
CHRISTOPHILDA KUFAT	F	GRD 10	ELEMENTARY TEACHER

MOSES SUMBUK			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
ROBECCA WAK KUFAT	F	GRD 10	STORE KEEPER
NELSON KUFAT	M	GRD 10	WELDER
CARITHAS KUFAT	F	VOCATIONAL	COMPUTER
GRACE KUFAT	F	GRD 10	
VICTORIA KUFAT	F	GRD 10	
SCORLA KUFAT	F	VOCATIONAL	COOKING/SEWING
TERENCE WAFI	M	GRD 10	CLERK
ALPHONSE NINGI	M	GRD 10	EXPLOSIVE
THOMAS KUFAT	M	VOCATIONAL	PENEL BEATING
RAPHAEL KUFAT	M	GRD 6	

CLEMENCE KUFAT			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
CLEMENCE KUFAT	M	GRD 10	PENEL/SPRAY PAINTING
RUTHY KUFAT	F	GRD 6	
CHARLY KUFAT	M	GRD 10	
NICKY KUFAT	M	GRD 10	WELDING
JAMES KUFAT	M	VOCATIONAL	MECHANIC
ROSELYN JAMES	F	VOCATIONAL	COOKING/SEWING
NELY NELSON	F	GRD 6	
JENNY CLEMENCE	F	GRD 10	SECRETARY/COMPUTER
JOHN KUFAT	M	GRD 10	POLICEMAN

KWEHAU DEVELOPMENT LIMITED SAURE 1 AND 2 HUMAN RESOURCES			
NAME	SEX	GRADE	WORK EXPERIENCE
PIUS HUIPIA	M	GRD 6	VILLAGE/COUNCILLO R
EDWARD HUIPIA	M	GRD 9	
ROSSLYN HUIPIA	F	GRD 10	
SERAH HUIPIA	F	GRD 8	
PAUL HAIROGU	M	GRD 10	CARPENTERING
BONNY SABMAMRU	M	TECHNICAL	FARMER
DOMINIC HEMBU	M	GRD 6 SUB	
TOBIAS WEIGA	M	GRD 6	VILLAGE COMMITTEE
SCOLA MESUMBU	F	GRD 6	FARMER
ESTHA KAWAI	F	GRD 6	
EVERLYN LELENGAU	F	GRD 6	

BALTHAZAR PARIAGA	M	GRD (10) COES	CIS WARD/SECURITY
ERICA PARIAGA	F	GRD 10	
DEBBY PARIAGA	F	GRD 8	
MORIGUBAO FAMILY			
SKERRY MORIGUBAO	M	CERT (2) MUS-(UPNG)(ICS)	SALES & KEEPING/ACC TYPIST
ANNASTHASIA REGAU	F	CERTIFICATE IN SECRETARY GRD 6	
MARCULETHA MORIGUBAO	F		
BALTHAZAR KORIGUBAO	M	DIPLOMA MUS (UPNG)	HIGH SCH/TEACHER
MARIA MORIGUBAO	F	GRD 6	
DONNA BUKA	F	GRD 6	
NAME	SEX	VOCATIONAL	WORK EXPERIENCE
ROSELYN JAMES	F	GRD	COOKING/SEWING
NAME	SEX	GRD	WORK EXPERIENCE
FRIDA MORIGUBAO	F	CERT IN TEACHING (UPNG)	HIGH SCH TEACHER
SANDRA REGAU	F	STUDYING UPNG	
FABIAN RAGU	M	TECHNICAL COLLEGE	ELECTRICIAN
JIMMY KONGS	M	GRD 6	FARMER/GARDNER
KINIM FAMILY			
KANDY KINIM	M	GRD 10	CID/POLICEMAN
SIETHA ROGER	F	GRD 10	NURSE/BLOOD BANK
JOHN KINIM	M	GRD 10 COES	
LEO KINIM	M	GRD 10 COES	DRIVER/OFFICE CLERK
SYLVESTHA KINIM	M	GRD 10	DRIVER/CATERING
VERONICA STEVEN	F	GRD 10	TYPIST
DIANE KINIM	F	GRD 10	
NEOMI KINIM	F	GRD 6	
JONATHAN KINIM	M	GRD 10 (DON BOSCO)	MECHANIC/WELDING

IMANUEL KINIM	M	GRD 5	
RACHEL KINIM	F	GRD 10	
GODFRIDE HONJEFERI FAMILY			
JOE SARUANDE	M		CARPENTERING/PLU MA
EUGINE SARUANDE	M	GRD 8 COES	DRIVER/OFFICE CLERK
EUNISE ELMUT	F	TOP UP/SKUL TEACHER	TEACHER
JULIUS SARUANDE	M	GRD 10	
FABTEN SARUNDE	M	GRD 10	
VERONICA SARUANDE	F	GRD 10	ELEMENTARY TEACHER
LYNETTE SARUANDE	F	GRD 10	
HELMUT YAPSUII	M	GRD 8	
SCOLLA	F	GRD 6	HOUSE WIFE
NANCY	F	VOCATIONAL/ HOTEL	COOKING/WAITRESS
WARTISAN FAMILY			
ANDREW WARTISAN	M	GRD 10 (AIR NIUGINI)	PUBLIC RELATION OFFICER
NAME	SEX	GRD	WORK EXPERIENCE
ROBIN WARTISAN	M	GRD 10	BUSINESS IN ACCOUNTING
JOE WARTISAN	M	UPNG	COMPUTER SCIENCE
MAGDILLE WARTISAN	F	CERT IN BANKING	BANKER
LEONA WARTISAN	F	CERT IN BANKING	HOUSE WIFE
RUBEN WARTISAN	M	GRD 8 VOCATIONAL	MECHANIC
JOYCELYN WARTISAN	F	GRD 12	
JAKCLYN WARTISAN	F	GRD 10	
RODNEY WARTISAN	M	GRD 6	ELECTRICIAN
LEO SAKIAN	M	GRD 8	CARPENTERING
ROSE SAKIAN	F	GRD 6	COOKING & OTHERS

MOMBIAN FAMILY			
PHILIP MOMBIAAN	M	GRD 6	DPI OFFICER
AGNESS MOMBIAAN	F	GRD 10	TYPIST
ALEXIA MOMBIAAN	F	GRD 6	TYPIST
WILFRED MOMBIAAN	M	GRD 10	
KUPERI FAMILY			
PATRICK KUPERI	M	GRD 6	
VINCENT KUPERI	M	GRD 6	
SOLOSTINE KUPERI	M	GRD 6	
ANGELA KUPERI	F	GRD 6	
MAX KUPERI	M	GRD 6	SECURITY
JULIE KUPERI	F	GRD 6	ELEMENTARY TEACHER
JOEL KUPERI	M	GRD 6/VOCATIONAL	MECHANIC
JOHN PORIFAU	M	GRD 9	SECURITY
RUBEN KORIJENG	M		HOMEBOY
MICHAEL KUFANUMI	M		HOME BOY
WENDY POFIFRU	F	GRD 6	HOUSE WIFE
JANGRIPIA FAMILY			
SIMON JAN	M	GRD 10	MECHANIC
MONICA WAROMO	F	GRD 6	HOUSE WIFE
SOLOSTINE JAN	F	GRD 6	SECURITY
DOMINIC JAN	M	GRD 6	BAKER/S.KEEPER
TERENCE JAN	M	GRD 12	MANAGER
ALEXIA JAN	F	GRD 8	SHOP ASSISTANT S/KEEPER
MERILU JAN	F	GRD 6	
DORIN JAN	F	GRD 10	S.ASSISTANT/S.KEEPER
REX JAN	M	GRADE 6	HOME BOY
PETER JAN	M	GRD 6	SECURITY
SIMON WAROMO	M	GRD 6	DRIVER
MERILYN WAROMO	F	GRD 10	
NUMBUK FAMILY			
SIMON NUMBUK	M	GRD 8	
MARGARET	F	GRD	

MOMBIAN FAMILY			
PHILIP MOMBIAAN	M	GRD 6	DPI OFFICER
AGNESS MOMBIAAN	F	GRD 10	TYPIST
ALEXIA MOMBIAAN	F	GRD 6	TYPIST
WILFRED MOMBIAAN	M	GRD 10	
KUPERI FAMILY			
PATRICK KUPERI	M	GRD 6	
VINCENT KUPERI	M	GRD 6	
SOLOSTINE KUPERI	M	GRD 6	
ANGELA KUPERI	F	GRD 6	
MAX KUPERI	M	GRD 6	SECURITY
JULIE KUPERI	F	GRD 6	ELEMENTARY TEACHER
JOEL KUPERI	M	GRD 6/VOCATIONAL	MECHANIC
JOHN PORIFAU	M	GRD 9	SECURITY
RUBEN KORIJENG	M		HOMEBOY
MICHAEL KUFANUMI	M		HOME BOY
WENDY POFIFRU	F	GRD 6	HOUSE WIFE
JANGRIPIA FAMILY			
SIMON JAN	M	GRD 10	MECHANIC
MONICA WAROMO	F	GRD 6	HOUSE WIFE
SOLOSTINE JAN	F	GRD 6	SECURITY
DOMINIC JAN	M	GRD 6	BAKER/S.KEEPER
TERENCE JAN	M	GRD 12	MANAGER
ALEXIA JAN	F	GRD 8	SHOP ASSISTANT S/KEEPER
MERILU JAN	F	GRD 6	
DORIN JAN	F	GRD 10	S.ASSISTANT/S.KEEPER
REX JAN	M	GRADE 6	HOME BOY
PETER JAN	M	GRD 6	SECURITY
SIMON WAROMO	M	GRD 6	DRIVER
MERILYN WAROMO	F	GRD 10	
NUMBUK FAMILY			
SIMON NUMBUK	M	GRD 8	
MARGARET	F	GRD	

NUMBUK		GRD	
FELIX NUMBUK	M	GRD	
TRUSTA NUMBUK	F	GRD 8	
VINCENT NUMBUK	M	GRD 5	
BETTY NUMBUK	M	GRD 5	DRIVER
IMANUEL NUMBUK	M	GRD 10	TEACHER/MECHANIC
JENNIFER NUMBUK	F	GRD 10	SHOP ASSISTANT/TYPIST
HELEN NUMBUK	F		
JEFFERY NUMBUK	F	GRD 6	
MERGIE NUMBUK	F	GRD 8	
PHIPEANA NIMURU	F	GRD 6	HOUSEWIFE
PHILIP NUMBUK	M	CERTIFICATE IN ELECTRICIAN	
CYNTHIA NUMBUK	F	GRD 10	

ARIBEN FAMILY			
ALOIS ARIBEN	M	ACCOUNTING (CERT) MANAGING IN ACC.	
CRECENSIA ARIBEN	F	GRD 6	HOUSE WIFE
IRENE ARIBEN	F	GRD 10	TEACHER
LUIS ARIBEN	M	GRD 10	
LEO PAUL ARIBEN	M	GRD 10	
ANDRIA ARIBEN	F	GRD 10	ELEMENTARY TEACHER
TONNY ARIBEN	M	GRD 6	SECURITY

PARANDOWEI FAMILY			
WILLIAM P.	M	EXPERIENCE IN SUPERVISOR	COMPANY LIKE (MONIA) LINE-ING/AC
AGUSTA P	F		
FLORY P	F		
ALOTS P	M	GRD 10 COES	BR MISSIONARIES
JAMES P	M		
LUCAS P	M	GRD 6	LOADA DRIVER
ANNA P	F	GRD 6	HOUSE WIFE
JUSTINE P	M	GRD 10	
MEGDELYN P	F	GRD 6	
JULIUS P	M	GRD 10	
JOHN P	M	EXPERIENCE	DRIVER
ALOIS P	M	GRD 6	SECRET HEART BR MISSIONARIES
FRANCIS P	M	GRD 6	
JOACHIM P	M	GRD	
MARGARET P	F	GRD 6	
MASSIAH P	F		
MERIANH P	F		
SUSAN P	F		
SABERTH P	F		
JACOB P	M	GRD 10	
STEVEN P	M	GRD 10	CERTIFICATE IN BUSINESS STUDIES
FRANK P	M	GRD 10	
LILYAN P	F	GRD 10	
ANNAS	F	GRD 10	
ALOESIA P	F	GRD 10	
DORIS P	F	GRD 10	
CLARA P	F	GRD 10	
FRANCIS MUNGUT	M		EXPERIENCE MACHINE OPERATOR/(CRANE).
SABERTH MUNGUT	F		
PETER MUNGUT	M		
JOYCYN MUNGUT	F		
JILEY MUNGUT	M		
CLARA MUNGUT	F		
JAMESON MUNGUT	M		MONIA COMPANY-(BRICK LAYER-LAE)

HORIEMBE FAMILY			
JENNY MAMALI DAMIEN	F	GRD 10 ADCOL	WELFARE
	M	DWU DIP-ACCOUNTING/BANKING UPING DEGREE / PERSONAL MANAGEMENT TRESURY & COMMERCE FINANCE	
VINCENT HORIEMBE	M	GRD 10	MECHANIC
FLORIAN HORIEMBE	M	VOCATIONAL GRD 10 TECH COLL	PLUMBING/TEACHER
TERENCE HORIEMBE	M	GRD 9 VOCATIONAL	MECHANIC
HENRY HORIEMBE	M	GRD 12 MARINE COLL FISHERIES COLL	1. FISHING CADET 2. QUARTER MASTER 3. TECHNICAL ADVISOR 4. PORT TALLY CLERK

NIMIMARI FAMILY			
WESLY	M	GRD 10	HOSPITAL CLERK
LESLY	M	GRD 6	
MARYLYNE	F	GRD 6	STORE ASSISTANT
MARITA	F	GRD 6	
LEO	M	GRD 6	
DICKSON WAFFIWA	M	GRD 10	
CHEROBIM WAFFIWA	M	GRD 8	
GODFRED MOVIA	M	GRD 6	DRIVER
PAUL MOVIA	M	GRD 6	
LEO PAUL ALOIS	M	GRD 10	
LAWRENCE HERVINGU	M	GRD 10	
BERNARDETTE MOSSH	F		
BETTY VINCENT	F		
LILLY SOGIROMO	F		
MAGGIE WAFFIWA	F	GRD 6	
MARIA MELCHIOR	F	GRD 6	
LOMA ALOIS	F	GRD 6	
APLONIA MATHEW	F	GRD 6	
MARIA RAYMOND	F	GRD 6	

HERIVINGU FAMILY			
OTTONIA HERIVINGU	F		
CONZANA HERIVINGU	M	GRD 6	SUB FARMER/GARDNER
LAWRENCE HERIVINGU	M	GRD 10	ELEMENTARY TEACHER
ALMERA HERIVINGU	F	GRD 10	
CHRISTOPHILDA HERIVINGU	F	GRD 6	
ALBERTA HERIVINGU	F	GRD 10	

KWEHAU DEVELOPMENT LIMITED

The principle landowner Company would like to lodge an Understanding between the Investor and Major Contractor ANGCO of the Tuna Project.

The paramount rights of the landowners is they be given first priority in any benefit the cannery project would provide.

In that sense the Landowner Company should be given all Contract in the Cannery project to decide for themselves what they can keep and give away Contract that does not meet their capacity.

The Landowner Company of its best interest would like to see that all Contract be inform and not dealt in isolation by the Investor to other parties overlooking landowners.

CLENENCE MOMO
CHAIRSMAN LANDOWNERS

5. SST Promotional materials

Part of the materials circulated by SST prior to the factory's arrival included a list of 16 'issues' on two-page handout, with contact numbers for Francis Sumanop, Corporate Affairs Manager; Richard Baker, Construction Engineer; Joachim Nianguma, ESG Fisheries advisor; and Badi Sawai of the National Dept of Trade and Industry.

Under the Headings Environmental Issues and Water& Power Requirements, the document asserts that SST will use state of the art filters, comply with international hygiene and food processing laws, produce their own electricity, and depend on the town's supply for their water tanks.

Under Spin-Off Business Activities the document reads:

“The establishment of [sic] Tuna Processing Plant in Wewak will provide a lot of spin-off business activities in Wewak town. Both the East Sepik Provincial Administration and the SSTC had jointly identified thirty-nine spin-off activities. A separate list of these activities is provided for you attention and convenience. A fish meal plant will also produce fertilizer for vegetable formers as well as livestock feed for crocodiles, poultry and piggery farmers. “

Under Social Related problems, it reads:

“All employees will provide their own accommodation. Limited houses will be provided by SSTC. South Seas Tuna Corporation will deal with any social problems directly related with its project. We will work closely with all government agencies and community based groups to address various social problems as they emerge. All SSTC fishing vessels crewmen will be instructed not to entertain local women on board our fishing vessels at all times thus minimizing the spread of sexually transmitted diseases.”

Under Internal Revenue, the document says:

“This project will provide over K100 million in internal revenue to the national economy. Estimated Provincial Government revenue will be at K20 million per year as per 5% derivation grants formula as all tuna meat will be exported out of Wewak Port to overseas markets.

Sir Michael Somare speech: Address on the Occasion of the Opening of the Southseas Tuna Corporation Loining Factory in Wewak, East Sepik Province

Saturday 14 February 2004

Deputy Prime Minister, Hon. Moses Maladina
Honourable Ministers and Members of Parliament
Provincial Assembly members
Heads of Diplomatic missions
President of the South Seas Tuna Corporation,
Shareholders and Directors of SSTC
Our friends from the Pacific who are members of the PNA,
Director of FFA,
Departmental Heads
Distinguished Guests and people of East Sepik

It gives me much pleasure to be here today to witness this historic occasion as one of the finest examples in this government's efforts to achieve its strategy of an export-driven economic recovery and to begin the march forward to a new phase of vibrant growth.

It is indeed a fine moment because it was during the time that I was in Opposition that our push began towards the establishment of this plant in Wewak. This long awaited hour of the commissioning has finally arrived.

In January of last year during the cement pouring ceremony, Thomas Negints of Southseas Tuna Corporation spoke at length about the obstacles that the private sector and we as Members of Parliament in the last term of government (1997 - 2002) had to face in setting up this tuna loining plant.

As also expressed in the statement by the Governor Henry Ariro, this project would have been shelved long ago if it weren't for the commitment and dedication of the members of the Provincial Assembly under the leadership at the time of its Chairman and Member for Angoram, Hon. Arthur Somare.

I thank once again SouthSeas Tuna Corporation and FCF of Taiwan for their endurance that has resulted in our gathering here today to celebrate the completion of this plant.

I thank also on behalf of the people of East Sepik, the presidents and councillors for their belief and commitment evident in their work and sacrifice towards the establishment of the project.

I thank you also Sir Pita Lus and Kevin Conrad Haripem for your farsightedness.

In my political career that spans 36 years I can say that despite the best of intentions there are often many obstacles that politicians and well intended business people face in starting up enterprises in this country. ...

This tuna factory will have a huge impact on the economy of East Sepik and the public service must be open to serve in an efficient and effective manner the people and industry in the province.

Teamwork: Private and public partnership

We have adopted a policy of private public partnership in the administration and management of state owned enterprises and must extend that policy to other areas of governance.

Since taking office in 2002, this government has been vocal about the need for increased partnership with the private sector.

The role of governments in service delivery around the world is decreasing as a result of partnerships with the private sector that is at times better able to provide services in a cost effective and efficient manner. ...

I have just returned from a very successful visit to China where the Metallurgical Corporation of China has signed a Framework Agreement with the Highlands Pacific and (MRDC) Mineral Resources Development Corporation to make a significant investment into PNG to develop the Ramu/Nickel Mine....

PNG will engage aggressively in trade with all members of APEC (Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation) economies. As globalisation becomes entrenched, PNG must make use of all opportunities to gain maximum benefit for its people.

Conclusion

In Conclusion, I want to appeal to the people of East Sepik to embrace the developments that are taking place. As I have said, it is not easy to come this far. Put the interests of your community first before your own or explore the opportunities that arise out of these developments.

You have proven in many ways your ability to be creative, the loining factory offers countless opportunities for spin off industries, and I encourage you to use your imagination as you have done in leading the way in the country with vanilla.

Finally, Honourable Ministers, Members of Parliament and the Provincial Assembly, member friends of PNA, the Director of FFA, Shareholders, Directors, management and staff of the Southseas Tuna Corporation, distinguished guests and people of East Sepik, it gives me great pleasure to now declare the Wewak Tuna Loining Plant Open! (The Official Website of the Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea)

6. Workplace Hazards

Occupational Hazards Online Magazine January 2002, pp111-113:

Work speed and potential health impact

Women reported more often than men that their jobs were uninteresting, that they could not move around, and that their work speed was fast. They also reported doing more night and weekend shifts (possibly for economic reasons). All job categories entailed lifting. Women reported feelings of fatigue and stress, and tired hands, feet, back and legs more often than men, as well as greater insomnia, more aches and pains, digestive problems, and headaches. Taken in conjunction with their reports of more uncomfortable environments and more unpleasant working conditions than men, the question therefore arises as to whether these health problems are related to the sex difference itself, to differences in reporting between the two sexes, or to differences in working conditions. Work speed in relation to the health variables was therefore examined, for two reasons. Firstly, in a large study of poultry slaughterhouse workers, women reported a significantly higher work speed than men. Secondly, other workers' reports seemed to indicate fast work speed as a relatively constant characteristic of women's factory and hospital jobs. In the fish factory, fast work speed was found to be associated with fatigue, stress, insomnia, and digestive problems in both sexes, and with aches and pains in women. Clearly, the methodology used restricted analysis to workers' own perceptions of their health problems. But it did reveal some additional data not perceptible through routine measurements. A measurement of temperature alone, for example, cannot determine the influence of worker immobility, degree of humidity, or whether adequate protective clothing is worn. Similarly, physical medical examinations may not detect the role of symptoms such as stress, insomnia, and random aches and pains, and the beginnings of acute conditions with a long latency period. This analysis therefore related perceived environmental variables to perceived health effects. Workers reporting a specific problem in their micro-environment tended to report the same health effect, which suggested that such a correlation actually existed. The best control, however, for a cause and effect association between an environmental hazard and a health effect is the removal or attenuation of the hazard, with consequent verification of the health effect.

It remains to be explained why women in the fish-processing and poultry slaughtering industries manifested higher health risk factors in relation to fast work speed. The traditional explanations of less tolerance in women are unsatisfactory. The authors suggest that women's factory work often requires them to work at a faster and more constant rate than men, even if men describe their work speed as fast. Women also do housework and undertake childcare, which may have a synergistic effect on the health symptoms reported through factory work. All women's tasks need to be taken into account in estimating occupational health risk.

Task characteristics and health problems reported by sex

	% women (n=94)	% men (n=115)	Ratio women /men	Signifi- cance ^a
<u>Task characteristics</u>				
Shift work	35.8	22.0	1.63	*
Interest relatively low	41.8	27.4	1.53	*
Immobility	75.6	50.4	1.50	***
Work speed fast	63.2	45.8	1.38	*
Weight lifted regularly	41.9	42.4	0.99	n.s.
<u>Health problems reported</u>				
Insomnia	33.7	8.3	4.06	***
Aches and pains	45.2	19.1	2.37	***
Digestive problems	27.7	13.4	2.07	**
Hair loss	40.2	26.0	1.55	n.s.
Headaches	59.3	39.1	1.52	*
Colds, flu	69.9	58.0	1.21	n.s.
Back problems	10.6	9.9	1.07	n.s.
Skin irritations	26.1	25.5	1.02	n.s.

^a*p<0.05; ***p<0.001; n.s. = not significant

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Hazards in the workplace

World at work: Fish processing workers

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Spotlight on a growth industry

Workplace hazards and high risk work

The health problems among fish processing workers have been attributed mainly to safety risks (mechanical and electrical accidents); excessive noise levels and low temperatures; bacterial and parasitic infections; bioaerosols containing seafood allergens, microorganisms, and toxins; and poor ergonomic practices and workplace organisation. These commonly result in fatal or non-fatal injuries and occupational diseases such as frostbite and aggravation of Raynaud's phenomenon; noise induced hearing loss; skin infection and sepsis; allergic respiratory diseases (rhinoconjunctivitis, asthma, extrinsic allergic alveolitis) and skin conditions (urticaria, contact dermatitis); musculoskeletal cumulative trauma disorders; and stress related health problems. The reported prevalence of occupational asthma associated with fish processing is 2–8%, and occupational protein contact dermatitis (PCD) and urticaria is 3–11%. Musculoskeletal disorders of the neck and shoulders occur in 31–35% of the workforce, with younger untrained or unskilled women being more adversely affected. The prevalence of epicondylitis and carpal tunnel syndrome is much lower (15%).

The adverse non-immune (toxic) and immune (allergic) reactions to seafood are the result of exposure to the seafood itself (muscle and connective tissue, exoskeleton, blood, endolymph fish juice, skin, skin slime/mucin, entrails) or to various non-seafood components present in the product.

Aerosolisation of the seafood during processing has been identified as a potential high risk activity for immunological sensitisation by high molecular weight proteins, respiratory symptoms, non-specific bronchial hyperresponsiveness, and work related asthma. Processes include degutting, heading, and cooking/boiling of fish, mincing of seafood, fishmeal milling/bagging, and cleaning of the processing line and storage tanks with high pressured water. Despite high levels of automation in larger workplaces, workers may still be at high risk of developing health problems due to inadequate and poorly designed local exhaust ventilation systems. There is great variability of exposure to bioaerosols with allergen concentrations ranging from 2 ng/m³ in a fish market to 1000 ng/m³ in a salmon processing plant. Wet processing activities (grading, gutting, packing fish, automated gutting machine) in salmon filleting plants appear to produce higher particulate (respirable fraction) concentrations than dry activities (fish butchery, packing in cold store and box store). Consistently high mean fish antigen concentrations (thoracic fraction) have been detected in fishmeal loading and bagging activities (>100 ng/m³) compared to fish canning activities in South African workplaces processing anchovy and pilchard fish respectively. Fishmeal operations also produced consistently increased levels of endotoxin (>50 endotoxin units (EU)/m³ or ~5 ng/m³). While no threshold limit values currently exist for exposure to fish or other seafood allergens, a level of 50 EU/m³ has been proposed for endotoxin related health effects.

Occupational dermal exposure occurs mainly as a result of unprotected handling of various fish and their products at various stages in the production process. Fish juice contains high molecular weight proteins, biogenic amines, histamine and cadaverine, degradation compounds in old fish, and digestive enzymes (pepsin and trypsin). The major skin manifestations associated with exposure are contact urticaria and eczematous contact dermatitis of various types. Contact with the proteinacious fish material causes a chronic recurrent dermatitis commonly known as protein contact dermatitis (PCD). At least 75% of eczematous dermatitis cases are however of an irritant nature due to contact with water and products in fish juice. Other chemical agents (hand cleaners, soaps, detergents) used by workers also cause an irritant contact dermatitis. Biochemical sensitisers (for example, garlic, onion, spices, mustard) added to seafood produce a delayed allergic contact dermatitis.

Measures to protect workers

Primary preventive measures are key to minimising exposure to workplace hazards that result in occupational injuries or diseases. These include surveillance of exposures, injuries, and diseases; analysis of surveillance data to assess risk and identify trends; control of workplace hazards through engineering controls, personal protective equipment, and administrative procedures; and education and training programmes for workers to ensure adequate precautions.

The control of exposure to physical hazards such as excessive noise and cold temperature is standard to any type of industry. Primary preventive measures for excessive noise exposure among cannery and fishmeal operators require the institution of hearing conservation programmes. These encompass engineering controls such as enclosure of the source to reduce levels below 85dBA; demarcation of noise zones and sign posting; wearing of hearing protective

devices; monitoring noise levels; and regular audiometry to detect early warning signs of noise induced hearing loss. Reducing health risks associated with cold temperatures exacerbated by wet conditions include: limiting duration of exposure in refrigeration sections; wearing of adequate insulating clothing and personal protective equipment (gloves, boots); adequate rest periods in dry and warm air-conditioned restrooms; and sufficient nutrition and warm beverages.

South African regulatory standards for bioaerosols are based on the well known European directive no. 2000/54/EC dealing with the protection of workers from risks related to exposure to biological agents at work. The health risks associated with exposure to biological agents (microbial agents, allergens, and toxins) depend on the degree of pathogenicity or toxicity of the agent, the route of transmission, and the level of exposure to the agent. Control measures to reduce the emission of bioaerosols in fish processing plants include process separation or enclosure and the use of local extraction ventilation systems to processes and equipment (gutting machine, fishmeal bagging). Fitting a local exhaust ventilation system in a salmon processing plant reduced the overall mean respirable aerosol concentration from 2.37 mg/m³ to less than 0.01 mg/m³. This resulted in no new cases of occupational asthma over a 24 month period versus an initial 8% prevalence prior to the intervention. Where there is skin contact with the hazardous agent (fish sorting, spice mixing), appropriate gloves (cotton lined) and plastic sleeves can be worn. Puncture wounds and lacerations should be treated expeditiously to prevent infection and skin exposure to allergens in fish juice. An appropriate combination of emollients and moisturisers can be used prophylactically to protect skin barrier function and prevent the development of irritant contact dermatitis. Special care should be taken when instituting preventive measures that one hazard is not replaced by another, such as using latex gloves and inadvertently causing latex allergy.

Exposure monitoring for bioaerosols (for example, bacterial/spore counts, endotoxin or allergen levels) can evaluate the effectiveness of control measures in decreasing the risk of infection and/or allergic sensitisation of other, as yet unaffected, workers. Medical surveillance programmes can be used as a useful adjunct to industrial hygiene evaluation and control measures. Various early subclinical biomarkers (for example, serum eosinophilic cationic protein, skin prick testing with fish extracts, fish specific serum IgE or IgG antibodies) and target organ tests (for example, non-specific bronchial hyperresponsiveness, skin patch tests with fresh fish) can be used to detect early inflammation, allergic sensitisation, or adverse health outcomes such as asthma, extrinsic allergic alveolitis, or contact dermatitis among affected workers.

Improvements in workplace design, such as introduction of conveyor belts for transporting fish at reasonable speeds; adjustable tables and platforms to stand on; adjustable sit/stand stools; provision of foot rests; and anti-fatigue mats have an important role in dealing with ergonomic hazards. In situations where personal protective equipment is indicated, proper fitting gloves should be provided so as to reduce the hand and finger force required to perform a repetitive task. Aside from ensuring appropriate design of hand tools, workers should be educated in maintaining a neutral wrist when performing repetitive motions in the fish filleting and sorting departments. In the bagging and packing departments, the use of mechanical lifts for loading cans and fishmeal bags and training on correct lifting techniques will alleviate back stress and prevent injury. Improved workplace organisation, including the formation of joint health and safety committees, participatory management styles, well defined organisational philosophies on occupational health and safety, modified work provision post-injury at work, job rotation, and recognition of other local psychosocial stress factors (for example, gender roles, seasonal work,

low income) will have an impact in reducing work related stress and cumulative trauma disorders among fish processing workers.

Women's job ghettos: the fish processing industry

Women workers are often concentrated in female employment "ghettos": that is, job categories where the majority of workers are women. Biological explanations concerning size, strength, hormones, the reproductive system, or the need for women to be "protected", are often used to justify differential job assignment, although there is little information on the health effects of the types of work usually allocated to women. This study analyses work conditions and related health effects in male and female job ghettos in fish-processing plants in Quebec, Canada. A 1980 study included a self-administered questionnaire on workers' environmental and socioeconomic conditions, and their health-related symptoms. The questionnaire was not specifically designed to examine the health effects of women's work. But in view of the paucity of data on this issue, the authors examined the responses as a function of the gender of the 209 respondents (94 women and 115 men). Work in fish-processing plants is seasonal (April to November). At the time of the study, work was available for an average of 25.2 weeks. The majority of workers (95%) lived on unemployment insurance or welfare for the rest of the year. Women earned a lower hourly rate than men, and worked slightly fewer hours. Of the women, 82.4% worked in jobs categorized as female ghettos (over 75% of workers performing the function were women), and 87.5% of men were employed in exclusively "male" jobs. It was found that even if men and women held the same job title, their tasks often differed. For the purpose of analysis, each job title was therefore assumed to be completely gender segregated. Most of the women worked as either a checker, sorter or packer. This involved standing in a fixed position and making small movements with the hands. Checkers removed with scissors any remaining skin and bone from filleted fish arriving on a moving conveyor; sorters examined shrimp arriving on conveyor belts for imperfections and remaining bits of shell. Both jobs involved working very quickly to supply other lines and keep up with arriving loads. Packers put the fish into packages and then loaded them into larger boxes. In terms of noise and temperature, factory conditions were poor. Wherever measured, noise levels were at or above the permitted regulations for an 8-hour day (90 dbA). Women reported significantly more noise at their work sites than did men, and more often claimed that noise levels were too high for communication. All factories were cold and humid, with temperatures of 16 EC and 13 EC recorded at checkers' and sorters' positions respectively. Of the women, 81.8% worked with their hands in water, and 70.1% worked with their feet in water. In the fall, the water was colder. Women reported this as a source of discomfort more often than men. However, this perception may be influenced by the relative immobility of their jobs compared to the men's.

7. International fish production reports

Fairfax Digital News:

Fish sauce fumes kill workers

October 24 2002

A worker in southern Vietnam suffocated and four others were rushed to hospital after they were overcome by fish sauce fumes at the factory they worked in, an official said

today.

Nguyen Van Bay, 34, climbed into a 2-metre-high vat that holds fish sauce to clean it out on Monday, but found that it had not been properly emptied of fermented fish used to make the pungent sauce.

Within minutes, Bay was overcome by the fumes of rotting fish and salt and fainted.

At least four fellow workers at the Ngoc Thach fish sauce factory climbed in to try to rescue him, but they too fainted, said Nguyen Trung Toan, a local official in Binh Thuan province, 100 kilometres east of Ho Chi Minh City.

Co-workers using face masks finally pulled the five people out of the vat and rushed them to hospital, but Bay could not be revived, Toan said.

International Wildlife Magazine
National Wildlife Federation web page:
Bright Hopes For Chile?
By Allen A. Boraiko

Talcahuano: Busy Water

Francisca Rodriguez, 42, mother of three, and a self-professed "water rat," lives in Talcahuano. The busiest Chilean port by volume, it sprawls between the bays of San Vicente and Concepción. They're the dirtiest in Chile, flanked by docks, rail lines, oil-storage farms, petrochemical refineries and fish-meal plants. The nation's largest steel mill lies on one bay and a major naval base on the other.

Rodriguez's waterfront shanty perches on the edge of a narrow, coal-black lagoon. In her childhood, this was a clear, free-flowing channel and her favorite swimming place. Today a fish-meal factory emits an all-pervading reek from the far bank.

Still, the obnoxious plant provides Rodriguez a living. Not inside, in a white smock and up to her elbows in sardines, but outside, in a pollution-stained yellow dory: She ferries her neighbors to and from work across the lagoon. One-way fare is the equivalent of 8 cents.

"I was born here," Rodriguez tells me, chunking an anchor into the pebbly bank and leaping ashore at her front door. "So was my mother and her mother. Grandma died at age 90, and even her grandmother was born here."

Pushing open her door, Rodriguez apologizes for the cramped quarters. Yet the shanty feels cozy, with a tiny wood-burning stove blazing in one corner. Nature scenes from calendars and

red and pink plastic roses are everywhere. "It pains me," she says, "to look out the window and see everything half-dead."

Indeed, some things outside are totally dead. A sea lion for one, lassoed by neighborhood boys who dragged it from the water to eat it. But they abandoned the carcass when a policeman showed up, too late to rescue the officially protected species.

The neighborhood council asked people not to throw garbage into the water, but there are renegades. What they toss out on the ebb largely floats back six hours later, on the high tide. There's a worn shoe, a toothless comb, tin cans, disposable razors, shreds of fish net, Styrofoam cups. No glass soft-drink bottles, though--they're redeemable at stores for cash.

Other residues also go into the drink: human waste illegally dumped by families too poor to afford a sewer connection, and viscera legally dispersed through long outfall pipes from the fish-meal plant. Not surprisingly, Talcahuano and its twin bays have been declared emergency zones. A model cleanup plan, the first of its kind in Chile, is being crafted by central, regional and city government authorities.

"I just hope things keep improving," Rodriguez says, "more than anything because you always want the best possible future for your kids, don't you?"

Social Standard [UK] June 2005 Film Review of Darwin's Nightmare: 'Indictment of Global Capitalism' by Tristan Miller

With the decline of indigenous fish stocks and the population explosion of the Nile perch, many of the millions of Africans who live and work around Lake Victoria have been displaced from their traditional farming and fishing occupations. Out of economic necessity, they have been forced to accept positions as wage-labourers for large-scale Nile perch fisheries and packing plants. Meanwhile, processing of the invasive perch, whose flesh is much oilier than those of native species, has led to an increase in demand for firewood to dry the meat. This has resulted in widespread deforestation and the pollution of Lake Victoria from runoff. This sorry state of affairs is chillingly documented in Darwin's Nightmare, which premiered at the 2004 Toronto Film Festival and is now gradually seeing wide release across Europe. Director Hubert Sauper presents us with contrasting images to reinforce the human devastation of the fishing communities in and around the Tanzanian city of Mwanza. We are taken inside the booming fish processing factories, where 500 tons of Nile perch are filleted and packed for export to Europe every day; meanwhile, two million Tanzanians find themselves gripped by a deadly famine. We see fishermen and prostitutes wasting away from AIDS; the local Christian clergy, steadfast in their religious superstitions on sex, refuse to advocate the use of condoms. An animatronic fish in a fat factory owner's office croons out "Don't Worry Be Happy" while the starving street-children outside come to blows over the apportionment of a meagre can of rice. Those who failed to snatch a handful assuage their hunger by melting down and inhaling the plastic material the factory uses to package its fish. Perhaps the most memorable and horrific scene in the movie comes after [filmmaker] Sauper interviews a factory official on a balcony overlooking the premises. The camera pans across the grounds and focusses on a rickety truck being loaded up with fish offal. "Don't film that truck," barks the official. Some days later, though, Sauper secretly follows the truck to a dirty, stinking landfill where its foul cargo is dumped. The air is thick with the ammonia of decaying fish, and hordes of maggots feast upon the rotting carcasses. A group of mud-caked women, crippled and sick from years of breathing the noxious fumes, crowd around the pile of offal the truck has left behind and get to work.

Every scrap of fish - no matter how badly decomposed, muddy, or maggot-infested - is carefully collected and hung up to dry on densely-packed wooden frames. The factory-processed perch fillets are beyond the means of most Tanzanians to buy, so millions must instead subsist on this decaying factory refuse. Impressively, Sauper does not single out any one person or group of people as evil-doers - not even the factory owners. Rather, the interviews and scenes depicted in the film lead the viewer to the inevitable yet unspoken conclusion that the capitalist system of exploitation itself is the culprit. "[W]herever prime raw material is discovered, the locals die in misery, their sons become soldiers, and their daughters are turned into servants and whores," writes Sauper on the film's website. "It seems that the individual participants within a deadly system don't have ugly faces, and for the most part, no bad intentions."

8. Bismark and Nusa Group court documents



The Independent State of Papua, New Guinea National Fisheries Authority Fisheries Management Act 1998			
Certificate of Fitness for the Export of Fish and Fishery Products			
Date: 27.11.2003	Export Approval Number:		
Country of Origin: P.N.G.			
Company Name and Address:	NUSUBAN BUSINESS GROUP LTD P.O. BOX 396 WEWAK		
Consignment Number:	Port of Origin: WEWAK	Vessel Number: A 110	
Company Name and Address:	SEPIK SEA PRODUCTS LTD P.O. BOX 396 WEWAK		
Product Description (Common name and Scientific name), Quantity, Value, Presentation:	Quantity (kg)	Value (USD)	Presentation/Preparation Type
PERCH (LUNA)	5,000.00		FRESH
Export Declaration: The products described above were taken, caught, landed and processed in all cases in accordance with the Fisheries Management Act 1998 and other applicable legislation.			
(Signatures) (Stamp)			
(Stamp) (Text)			
(Text) (Text)			

ROYAL PAPUA NEW GUINEA CONSTABULARY	
TELEPHONE: 3234189 / 3234112	FAX: 3219189
URGENT	
CSP Leo Kabalo Provincial Police Commander Provincial Police Headquarters P.O. Box 396 WEWAK East Sepik Province	Date: 06 November 2003 Clear Reference: 1-1-4 Action Officer: Designation: Fair Reference: Date:
WARRANT OF EXECUTION AGAINST NUSA BUSINESS GROUP INCORPORATORS - OS.NO. 738 OF 2002	
I refer to the attached copy of Warrant of Execution issued in the District Court of Wewak.	
This warrant directs you to give vacant possession of the property being Section E Allotment 3 Wewak to Sepik Sea Products and George Peter Skell.	
You have failed to do so.	
I suggest that you execute the court order without any further delay or you may face contempt of court proceedings should you fail to do so.	
I require to be informed by fax as soon as you have executed the court order.	
(Signature) (Text) Commissioner of Police	



DIVISION OF FISHERIES & MARINE RESOURCES
INTER-OFFICE MEMO

TO: PROVINCIAL ADMINISTRATOR - ESFA DATE: 08/04/2002
FROM: SENIORE ADVISOR FILE: 1-1-2/3(6)

SUBJECT: RE - CONTRACT FOR THE SALE OF LAND BETWEEN EAST SEPIK PROVINCIAL GOVT AND SEPIK SEA PRODUCTS LIMITED - SECTION E, ALLOTMENT 3 - WEWAK TOWN.

I have cited with surprise the contract for the Sale of Land document between the ESPU and Sepik Sea Products Ltd signed on the 16th September, 2001 for the land of Section E, Allotment 3, WEWAK TOWN where Fisheries is located.

In my view, I totally object to the Sale of Land including the properties for the following reasons:

- i. No proper valuation has been done on the property to indicate the true commercial value of the land including the assets.
 - ii. The sale of a state lease (Section E, Lot 3) immediately puts to question the ESPU's interest in acquiring title to the allotment that has recently been resolved and title transferred to the ESPU.
 - iii. The sale of property at the value of K150,000.00 is seen to be under-valued, considering the improvements and specifically the upgrading of the small wharf that would put the allotment in demand within the development process.
 - iv. It should not be a policy to sell valuable government assets.
 - v. A formal National Land Board Decision needs to be received by your office prior to further facilitation.
- I therefore recommend the following options and actions to be taken immediately:
- i. An urgent evaluation of properties on Section E, Allotment 3.
 - ii. The Land Sale Contract Agreement to be terminated.
 - iii. The Joint Venture Arrangement to finalise a Sub-Lease Agreement while the title remains with the ESPU.

As a formality, a PEC Submission needs to be finalised and endorsed prior to signing of the Joint-Venture Agreement on the fishing proposal.

A formal advice needs to be obtained from the Lands Department whether it is legal to sell a state lease land portion or allotment.

Finally, I strongly recommend that a Sub-Lease arrangement should be finalised based on a proper valuation of assets and developments on the allotment as the East Sepik Provincial Governments equity in the Joint Venture Proposal.

Provided for your urgent advice

JOACHIM NYANGUMA
Senior Advisor - Fisheries

- Copies:
- Lands Manager
 - Legal Officer
 - Director - Corporate Services
 - Director - Provincial Functions
 - District Administrator - Wewak
 - Director - Planning

PAST
STAMP
MARKED

THE ORIGINAL INSTRUMENT MUST BE LOOKED AT THE TITLES OFFICE
(Stamp Dates Office Only)

TRANSFER (s)
Title Registration Act (Chapter 193)

ORIGINAL

K.S. PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT, a Company duly incorporated in
Sierra Leone and registered office at
P.O. Box 1785, Wewak, East Sepik Province.
DABEBAE 8NS Free Mail Bag, WEWAK, East Sepik Province.

Being the parties to the instrument used hereto of the land heretofore described
IN CONSIDERATION OF K.S. CMT. HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND KINA
(K150,000.00)

TRANSFER (s)
paid or to be paid by the transferee(s)

Name in Full	Full Postal Address	Occupation
SEPIK SEA PRODUCTS LIMITED	P O BOX 1785 WUWOKO, N.C.D.	COMPANY

the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged DO HEREBY TRANSFER to the transferee(s)
in
all our estate and interest in all that piece of land containing (s)
being part of the land described in the following Schedule
the whole SCHEDULE 1

Name of Title	Vol.	Int.	Description of land
STATE LEASE			ALL THAT LAND BEING ALLOTMENT 3, SECTION E (WEWAK TOWN) IN EAST SEPIK PROVINCE AND BEING THE WHOLE OF THE LAND CONTAINED IN STATE LEASE VOLUME FOLIO AND ALL IMPROVEMENTS ERECTED THEREON.

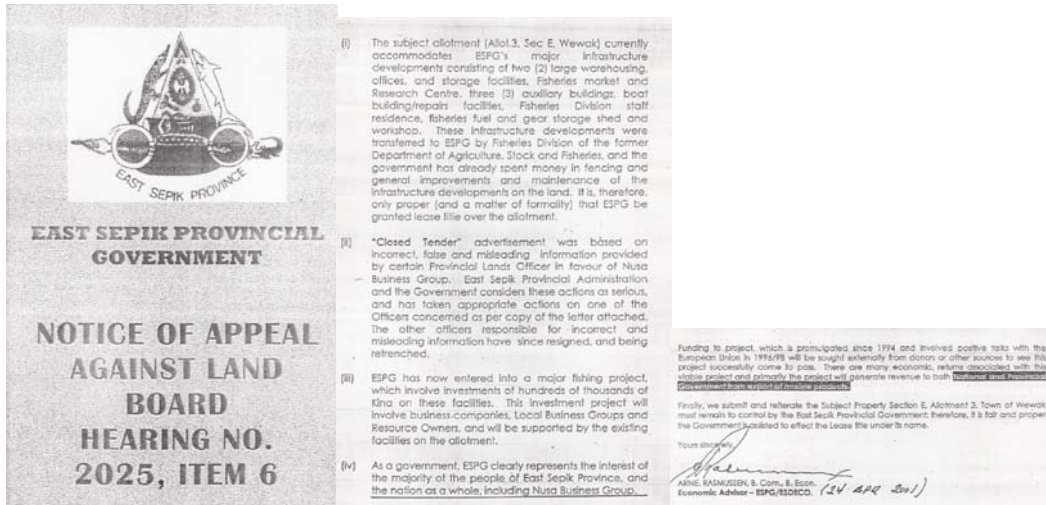
This transfer is made subject to the approval of the Minister under the provisions of the Land A (Chapter 193) and unless and until that approval is given in writing and of no effect.

Dated this 16th day of September 1992 AM

Signed as
by the said (s) } Signature of transferee

in the presence of (s) (s) } Signature of witness

AND I CERTIFY that the person executing this instrument is personally known to me.



9. Fisheries Management Act

The broad objectives of fisheries management in PNG as given in the Fisheries Management Act 1998 are:

- promote the objective of optimum utilisation and long-term sustainable development of living resources and the need to utilise living resources to achieve economic growth, human resource development and employment creation and a sound ecological balance;
- conserve the living resources for both present and future generations;
- ensure management measures are based on the best scientific evidence available, and are designed to maintain or restore stocks at levels capable of producing maximum sustainable yield, as qualified by relevant environmental and economic factors including fishing patterns, the interdependence of stocks and generally recommended international minimum standards;
- apply a precautionary approach to the management and development of aquatic living resources;
- protect the ecosystem as a whole, including species which are not targeted for exploitation, and the general marine and aquatic environment;
- preserve bio-diversity;
- minimize pollution;
- implement any relevant obligations of Papua New Guinea under applicable rules of international law and international agreements.

DESCRIPTIONS OF THE MAIN MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS FOR MAJOR FISHERIES

Tuna fisheries

The management system for the tuna fisheries is articulated in the National Tuna Fishery Management Plan. This plan was gazetted and brought into force in March 1999.

The plan states that it covers "all tuna species, and all other non-target, associated or dependent species taken in the course of fishing for tuna". The plan also indicates that the tuna species of principal interest in the PNG fisheries zone are the offshore tunas, which include skipjack *Katsuwonus pelamis*, yellowfin *Thunnus albacares*, bigeye tuna *Thunnus obesus*, and albacore *Thunnus alalunga*.

Tuna are also covered under several regional management arrangements and soon to be covered under one international management arrangement. The regional management arrangements are:

- the Harmonized Minimum Terms and Conditions for Foreign Fishing Vessel Access;
- the Wellington Convention for the Prohibition of Fishing with Long Driftnets in the South Pacific;
- the Niue Treaty on Cooperation in Fisheries Surveillance and Law Enforcement in the South Pacific Region;
- the Nauru Agreement Concerning Cooperation in the Management of Fisheries of Common Concern;
- the Palau Arrangement for the Management of the Western Pacific Purse Seine Fishery; and
- the FSM Arrangement for Regional Fisheries Access.

PNG is a signatory to the Convention on the Conservation and Management of Highly Migratory Fish Stocks in the Western and Central Pacific Ocean, but the convention is not yet in force, nor have the details of management mechanisms been articulated.

The objective of the National Tuna Fishery Management Plan is to give effect to the fisheries management objectives and principles contained in the Fisheries Management Act 1998, and specifically to:

- Maximise benefits to Papua New Guinea from sustainable use of its tuna resource;
- Satisfy Papua New Guinea's regional and international obligations in regard to the management and conservation of tuna resources, while holding the country's national interests paramount;

- Minimise any adverse impacts of tuna fishing and related activities on the marine environment;
- Minimise any adverse impacts on the non-industrial sectors, including the artisanal and traditional sectors;
- Improve decision-making in relation to the tuna fishery through effective communications; and
- Ensure that the provisions of the Plan are developed, implemented, administered and monitored in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

With respect to the main management strategies applied, the NFA will:

- Establish a national Total Allowable Catch for either each relevant fishery, or by licence category;
- Implement limits on fishing effort for tuna species, consistent with national TAC levels;
- Encourage and facilitate the sustainable development of Papua New Guinea's domestic industry for tuna;
- Develop and apply criteria for licence consideration, which give preference to PNG operators;
- Regulate the deployment and utilisation of artificial fish attractants, including anchored fish aggregation devices (FAD or payao), that may cause gear conflict and fishery interaction, or have adverse biological impact on the tuna stocks;
- Support incentives to invest in the domestic tuna industry;
- Where necessary, implement zoning to prevent localized tuna stock depletion, or gear conflict, and assist in enhancing the longer term viability of locally-based industries;
- Collect and validate scientific data on the status of tuna stocks to contribute to national and regional assessment of stocks through the use of regional log books, port sampling, scientific observers, and other methods;
- Promote active industry involvement in research, including the use of industry vessels and knowledge to improve stock assessment processes as well as providing economic data on their operations for the purpose of reviewing the Plan;
- Develop and implement a policy to recover the costs of management;
- Monitor the impact of tuna fishing on associated or dependent species and, where necessary, adopt measures to ensure sustainable management;

- Monitor interactions between the licensed tuna fishery and other users of the resource, and where necessary, implement measures to address any adverse impacts;
- Monitor the economic performance of the tuna fishery, including information on catches, sales, processing and other relevant information from both the catching and processing sectors;
- Implement a strategy for responsible fishing, as required under international or regional conventions to which PNG is a party;
- Facilitate ongoing consultations on management arrangements.

The actual measures applied depend on the gear type:

The main management measures for longlining are: (1) Licences only to Papua New Guinea registered and flagged vessels and locally-based foreign fishing vessels operated by Papua New Guinea companies, (2) The total number of longline tuna fishing vessels to be licensed shall be 100, (3) Locally-based foreign longline vessels will not be granted licences to operate as freezer vessels, (4) The total allowable catch for the tuna longline fishery in the fisheries waters of Papua New Guinea is to be 10,000 metric tonnes per annum, and (5) Fishing using longline gear is prohibited in areas within 12 miles from any land or island or declared reef.

The main management measures for purse seining are: (1) The total number of purse seine fishing vessels to be licensed shall be 100, (2) The total allowable catch for the tuna purse seine fishery in the fisheries waters of Papua New Guinea shall be 300,000 mt per annum, (3) Only vessels with carrying capacity of 600 mt or less may operate with motherships within the PNG fisheries zone, (4) All fish taken by locally based foreign vessels within the EEZ and on the High Seas must be landed in PNG for processing or transshipped as PNG export from a designated port, (5) In addition to the licence fee prescribed in the Regulations, there shall be a charge for locally-based foreign vessels for access to the tuna resource, (6) Locally-based foreign purse seine fishing vessels on charter and foreign-based foreign vessels are not to fish in the Territorial Seas or Archipelagic Waters, and (7) Access is strictly prohibited, unless stated otherwise in the terms of the licence, twelve miles from any land, island or declared reef.

The main management measures for pole-and-line fishing are: (1) The total number of pole-and-line tuna vessels that will be licensed to operate in the fishery will be 30, (2) The TAC shall be 20,000 mt, (3) Areas where access is strictly prohibited, unless stated otherwise in the terms of the licence, are any less than twelve miles from any land, island or declared reef.

The measures have been reasonably effective in attaining the objectives which have been set. In terms of specific progress, one of the greatest successes is that the number of locally-based longliners (and associated employment and other benefits) has increased remarkably since the National Tuna Fishery Management Plan was formulated. With respect to purse seining, the number of licenses issued has remained under the stipulated cap. Because there is presently no pole-and-line tuna fishing in PNG, it is not possible to evaluate the management measures applied. In

general, the clarity and stability that the National Tuna Fishery Management Plan has provided has produced an improved commercial environment, leading to greater benefits. The clarity has also (as given as objectives in the plan) improved decision-making through effective communications, and promoted the concept that the provisions of this Plan are developed, implemented, administered and monitored in an efficient and cost-effective manner.

As with all offshore fisheries, the enforcement of management measures is both expensive yet critical for the success of management system. The surveillance and enforcement programme of the National Fisheries Authority has three main components: (1) the use of NFA fishery observers on selected vessels, (2) cooperation with the PNG Defense Force in the physical surveillance/enforcement in the Fishery Zone, (3) implementation of the electronic vessel monitoring system, and (4) cooperation with other countries of the region in tuna fishery enforcement matters (coordinated through the Forum Fisheries Agency). In the late 1990s PNG received substantial assistance from New Zealand for the enhancement of NFA's inspection, licensing, and enforcement role.

The NFA Managing Director may appoint any employee of the Authority or anybody he considers appropriate to be Fishery Officers for the purpose of enforcing the Fisheries Management Act. Members of the Police Force and Defence Force are also Fishery Officers for the purposes of fisheries enforcement.

The major domestic stakeholders in PNG's tuna fishery are able to have substantial input into the decision making process through the make-up the NFA's governing board. Of the ten persons making up the board, three are important non-government tuna stakeholders:

- the President of the Fishing Industry Association
- one person nominated by the Fishing Industry Association
- one person nominated by fisheries resource owners

Information for management decisions dealing with tuna is acquired through various means. Tuna fishing vessels are required to record and submit logbook forms containing position, effort, and catch information. This routinely-collected data is processed and analyzed by NFA's Research and Management Branch, where it is entered into a database and compared to targets in the management plan. The data is also forwarded to the Oceanic Fisheries Programme of the Secretariat of the Pacific Community where it is combined with similar information from neighboring countries to provide a regional perspective to PNG on its tuna resources.

10. Sir Hugo's court materials

Sir Hugo's court defense against Nusa Business Group:

The agreement between the ESPG and Sepik Sea products Ltd, as produced in defense of their deed in the court case against Nusa Business Group:

The East Sepik Provincial Government through the East Sepik Development Corporation (ESDECO) has entered into a Joint Venture Agreement with South Sea Products Limited (Incorporated 6 October 2000). The government under its Coastal Fisheries Development

Programme is expanding this programme via ESDECO to participate in fish export from Inland River Resources and Blue Water Fish Produce.

Sepik Sea products Limited will establish the Major Export-Marketing infrastructure and carry out limited processing of fish from the subject property at Section E, Allotment 3, Town of Wewak. The joint operations will necessitate a major reconstruction programme to buildings on the land and the introduction of Large Ice Making Facilities, Blast Freezers and Cold Storage (Estimated capital cost K250,000).

The Wewak Operation will initially involve 3 fishing vessels, based in Wewak and operating in Bismark Waters. The boats will operate on a 10-14 day turn around, and are using long liners to catch premium albacore, yellow fin and skipjack tuna for export to the Sashimi market in Japan.

The other part of SSP/ESDECO operations is fish processing. A small canning operation of Bech-de-mer, squid and filleting, vacuum packing of export grades of river eels will be introduced—late 2001.

The Motor Vessel Avisat (idle at Angoram since 1995) arrived in Wewak (under own power) in November 2001. Sepik Sea Products Limited is funding the capital cost of repairs/refurbishment of hull and motors and refrigeration plant (onboard). Coast at 1 Aprik 2001—total K155,000.

The vessel is alongside the small ships wharf—opposite Fisheries.

The “Avisat” is programmed to commence a Sepik River Operational Schedule in early May 2001—two trips per month is planned between Wewak—Mouth of the Sepik—Angoram—Ambunti—and return to Wewak.

Sepik Sea Products Limited is founded and owned by well-known PNG businessman Sir Hugo Berghuser, MBE. East Sepik Development Corporation (ESDECO) is committed to participation in SSP.

All operations necessitate the use, after a complete rebuilding programme of property infrastructure, of Section E Allotment 3, Town of Wewak.

Furthermore:

The Documented Investments by National Provincial and RAP finding at Sec E Lot 3, Town of Wewak—is substantial.

In 1995 RH Sir Michael T. Somare (then) Governor ESP issues—Our Brief (June 1995). To research to establish a fish and marine produce processing holding/storage, marketing and sales plant at “Fisheries Wewak.” This “company/plant”, which will trade and function as a commercial enterprise company, will serve village fishing communities; and fishing groups can elect to sell their marine produce to the company under certain quota/grade fixed price agreements. The “company/Plant” in turn will process and market fish products to local wholesalers, retailers, shops, hotels and to East Sepik inland markets.

Sepik Marine Resources Pty Limited was incorporated on 11 March 1996.

RAP Funding to project via Department of East Sepik Province became available in two (2) stances (sic),

- K15,000. on 13th November 1995
- K33, 120. on 6 August 1996.

Total funding was injected into a reconstruction, refurbishment of factory programme and provided for acquisition of plants and equipment and other.

Items: ten tonnes blast freezer room constructed to export control fish orders of 1994
 The refrigeration plant (total rebuild) comprising a bitzer kuhl machine delivering 12.7-22.5 m³/hr; the ASEA 3 HO induction motor delivering 5.5 kw.
 The processing room—approx. 36m², constructed to export control (fish) orders regulations, with wet/dry nominated areas and fixtures of stainless steel.

Furthermore:

Wewak Small Ships and Coastal Wharf Development—Wewak Town

With the South Seas Tuna Corporation (SSTC) requiring capacity share of 73,000 MT per annum at the Wewak Main Wharf, it is now essential to proceed to demol./reconstruct the Coastal Ships Wharf in the Wewak Town Area—opposite Fisheries at Sec E Lot 3, Town of Wewak.

Wewak Main Wharf current capacity use is approx. 80,000 Metric Tonnes per annum Max. handling cap. Is approx. 150,000 MT per annum. Coastal Pax Vessels—Rita and Momase of Luships require approx. 20,000 MT per annum. It is planned to relocate this capacity requirement to our NEW COASTAL SHIPS WHARF.

There is also a letter from the Director, Land Management Division, to the Secretary, Land Management Division, dated April 4, 2001, which lodges a complaint about a Land Board meeting (no 2025) where the Board decided against granting the land in question being reallocated to Sir Hugo's company. The Director firmly disputes the right of Nusa Business Group to retain its lease on the property because it was granted to the ESPG in 1985 in error, and the title has been since 1957 granted to the District Administration of ESP; because all the equipment on the site remains the property of the Fisheries Department; because the Provincial and National Fisheries Office still operates from the site; the business community depends on the Fisheries Department and will no longer have easy access to it is the lease if granted; and "The East Sepik Province and the Rural Community are at a great loss due to the signed joint venture business agreement with an investor which is now being discarded out the window." (Signed) Daniel P. Katakumb.

On 25.6.98, a letter was sent from D. Waskiay a/PM Wewak to the Deputy Director (Northern) Department of Lands in NCD regarding the Improvement Inspection of Allotment 3, Section E (504), Town of Wewak, stating:

"A fresh inspection carried out on the 11th June revealed that the previous lease the E/Sepik Provincial Government has vacated the property since the date of extinguishments some years ago. The buildings including two (2) warehouses and other facilities are at the rundown stage.

However, since then the Nusa Business Inc. led by Mr. Nick Artekain became very interested and with the financial assistance from the Department of Commerce has done a lot of work mainly on Maintenance on one (1) of the warehouses and have stated all machinery, deep freezers which are now working and ready to start its operation as planned.

Mr Nick Artekain's plan is directly in line with the Fisheries Corporate fish marketing plan.

This office recommends that, since Mr. Nick Artekain and his Nusa Business Group, Inc., has shown interest to go-ahead with the fish making plan, necessary action should be taken immediately for the granting of the lease at this stage. “

An Interoffice Memo in the Division of Fisheries and Marine Resources written by Joachim Nianguma, Provincial Advisor, Fisheries, and dated 9.3.01, notes the inspection’s list of equipment installed at the site Section E Allotment 3, and adds, “I strongly estimate the total value of all infrastructures and equipments on and inside the allotment to be over K100,000.”

Following this is a letter from Joachim Nianguma to Nick Artekian, dated (15.11.2000?) on East Sepik Provincial Administration letterhead stating:

ADVISE ON ESPGS ENDORSEMENT TO SEPIK SEA PRODUCTS LTS TO UTILISE FISH MARKETING FACILITY AT SECTION E ALLOTMENT 3 WEAK TOWN

This letter serves as notice to Nusa Business Group that the East Sepik Provincial Government (PEC) has endorsed a fishing proposal by Sepik Sea products Ltd to engage in fishing operations in East Sepik in partnership with the Provincial Government. As a matter of courtesy, that in the event towards eventual facilitation and implementation to the project (sic), the ESPG through its administration will request your group’s relocation to (sic) the facility. This will then allow complete overhaul and renovations to the fish marketing facility by the investment proposal.

Provided for your noting and further cooperations (sic).

(Signed) Joachim Nianguma, Provincial Advisor, Fisheries

Finally, 4 June 2001, a letter from Nick Artekain to the Managing Director of the National Fisheries Authority read as follows:

Dear Director,

Consideration of License Application to Sepik Sea Products Ltd

This letter serves to bring to your attention that Nusa Business Inc. a wholly national owned company, was established in 1993 for the purpose of giving an opportunity to the local people to harvest their fish resources.

This came about when WAMA fisheries managed by East Sepik Development Corporation (ESDECO) wound up operations as a result of mismanagement.

After carefully studying business proposals and objectives submitted by Nusa Business Group, approval was granted by the Provincial Government through its Division of Fisheries to operate out of a space from one of its warehouses previously used by Wama fisheries.

Since then Nusa Business Group Inc. has been actively involved in encouraging local fishermen to engage in the fishing industry.

Nusa has ceased operations as a result to (sic) interference by Sir Hugo Berghuser in a lengthy court challenge.

As evident from attachments herewith, Sepik Sea Products Ltd is a privately owned company controlled by Sir Hugo Berghuser. This company was never given approval by the Provincial Government to do business in the East Sepik Province. There are instances of foul play and fishy deals in the way Sir Hugo has been given approval to attain certain properties owned by the ESDECO, the defunct business arm of the East Sepik Provincial Government, and also the approval to do business in the fisheries industry.

As a citizen I feel compelled to request your office to seriously investigate and establish as to whether or not:

1. Fisheries Management Regulations 1999 has been complied with;
2. The people of East Sepik Islands and the coastal communities will ever benefit from this company;
3. The business proposals contained in the MOU with the East Sepik Provincial Government has (sic) the approval from the Provincial Executive Council (PEC) prior to granting of a fishing license.

As far as I am concern (sic), there are a lot of anomalies and irregularities in the formation of this company. Therefore the said company, Sepik Sea Products Ltd., does not qualify to be given a fishing license to do business in East Sepik and Papua New Guinea as a whole.

This is so when we refer to Section 26 of the Fisheries Management Regulation 1999.

I trust that you will take note of my concern that is the concern also of other resource owners and make a favorable consideration in the process of issuing license.

Yours Faithfully,

Nick Artekain
Chairman, Nusa Business Group

11. NAC study

In a 2001 report conducted by the National Aids Council into HIV/AIDs in the PNG fishing industry, rapid focus group assessments of industry workers in various locations in Madang, Kavieng and Port Moresby, confirmed that the Fishing Industries are a high-risk group that lack knowledge on Sexually Transmitted Infections (STI) and HIV/AIDs; they are a group of people vulnerable and prone to opportunistic infections out at sea... Myth about condom use among the top management level is noted and [it is]strongly believed that it promotes promiscuity with the notion that condoms are safe so people resort to multiple sex partners (sic)... The mobility of men traveling in countries for trade and business relating matters attract more sex workers to sell sex. In Papua New Guinea women are brought on to the ships clandestinely and this leads to sharing, locally women as line-ups or single fail or a 4-line or an idiom commonly used by village youths. In Madang women who come in from settlements and villages near by solicit canoe owners for sex to board the ships at night. Crew on fishing carrier ships often negotiate for sex with undersize fish stored in the warehouse, as they say “wan pak, wan pis” (One fuck, one fish). The middle management or observers act as pimps bringing women to carrier ships when anchored at the harbours... Apart from all this happenings, the management of

commercial industry still deny any involvement and thinks the practice occurs outside of work. Women transported home at late hours become victims of waiting youths who threaten them into being raped, so in fear of being victimized women lose their job. ...Thus unemployed girls now resort to selling sex to the crews because of frustrations [over] their earnings meeting (sic) which is now a growing concern because of unwanted pregnancy and HIV (NAC 2001:3-4.)

12. Sample fishing vessel observer forms

LENGTH FREQUENCY

NOTES ON PS-4

OBSERVER NAME:	Put your first name first, and your last name last.
OBSERVER TRIP ID	Use the number assigned to you by your observer programme e.g. AA 03-01
PAGE OF	Number all the PS-4 forms together. Number them in sequence until the end of the trip.
VESSEL NAME	Full name of vessel (no abbreviations)
START SET DATE & TIME	Record date and time that ship is using exactly as it is recorded on Forms PS-2 and PS-3.

DETAILS OF SAMPLING

RANDOM SAMPLE	Tick and randomly select 5 fish from every brail. Record their length measurements.
DISCARD SAMPLE	Tick and randomly select as many of the bycatch species you can after brailing has finished.
COMMENTS ON PROTOCOL	Explain exactly how you did your sampling. How many fish you took. Were there any problems?
BEGIN / END BRAIL TIME	Record the time the first brail and last brail of fish are released into the hopper or chute.
NO OF BRAILS SAMPLED	Record the number of brails you took fish from to sample.
NO OF SAMPLES PER BRAIL	Record the number fish you took from each brail to sample.
MEASURING INSTRUMENT	Mention if you used a callipers, a flat ruler / tape deck. Tape measures should not be used.
BRAILS BROUGHT ONBOARD	As the brails are coming onboard, keep a tally of every full, 3/4, 1/2, and 1/4 brails you see.
TOTAL NO. OF BRAILS	Simply add up every single brail that came onboard. Each brail counts as one.
SUM OF ALL BRAILS	You will have to do some calculations here. Use this formula. (where ? = Your tally figure). (?) Full brails + (?) x 3/4 brails + (?) x 1/2 brails + (?) x 1/4 brails = SUM OF ALL BRAILS
SPECIES CODE 1- 150	Place the species code (refer to the codes on form PS-3) of the fish you measured in the same order they were sampled.

A NUMBER SAMPLED	Write the total number of each species you have sampled in this data field.
B SUM OF LENGTHS	Add up the lengths for each species you have sampled and write the answer here.
C AVERAGE LENGTH	For each species divide the Sum of lengths (B) by the Number sampled (A) to get the average length of each species in your sample.

IMPORTANT POINTS ON THE SAMPLING PROTOCOL

- Start with a **Random Sample**. Sample five fish from every brail that is brought onboard.
- Spread your sampling throughout the entire brailing process. Take 5 fish from every brail. If you are having problems doing this (the brailing is too fast for instance) you can measure less than 5 fish per brail, but you must try to sample the same amount of fish from every brail. If you have any problems mention it in the comments section. Remember, if any bycatch species comes to hand when you choose your 5 fish, record them.
- Always get a random sample from the brail, don't choose fish because they are the easiest size to handle.
- Do not let crew select fish for you even though they are trying to assist.
- Be sure to identify the juvenile Yellowfin and Big-eye when sampling.
- If you are using a deck tape ensure that one end of the tape is placed against a flat surface or has a nose block. Make sure the end of the tape starts at 0 cm.
- If using a deck tape, make sure the fish is on the tape straight when measuring
- Do not measure damaged fish.
- Record lengths to the nearest centimetre below e.g. a 69.9 cm fish will be recorded as 69 cm.
- Don't forget to record the species code in the columns provided, especially when there is a change in species type.
- When brailing is finished, start a new PS-4 page and tick **Length Frequency**. Then, try to get a selection of length measurements from every species that is still on the deck. If there are a lot of fish of one species type (wahoo for instance) randomly select the wahoo you measure so you don't end up measuring just large wahoo. Sample as many fish from each species type as you can comfortably manage. This will include any target catch discards SKJ-YFT-BET (when discarded for being too small for instance).
- Use the tables below to calculate the average weight of target species when you know their average length. (From C above)

INDIVIDUAL WEIGHT IN KGS. CONVERTED TO ESTIMATED MEASUREMENT IN CENTIMETRES (GUIDE ONLY)

Kgs	.5	1	1.5	2	2.5	3	3.5	4	5	6	7	8	9
Skipjack	<33	33-37	38-43	44-47	48-50	51-53	54-55	56-59	60-63	64-66	67-69	70-72	73-74
Yellowfin	<33	33-38	39-43	44-46	47-49	50-52	53-55	56-58	59-63	64-66	67-69	70-75	76-78
Bigeye	<33	32-37	38-41	42-45	46-48	49-51	52-54	55-58	59-62	63-64	65-67	68-73	74-76

Kgs	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22
Skipjack	75-76	77-78	79-80	81-82	83	84	85	86					
Yellowfin	79-80	81-82	83-84	85-87	88	89-90	91-92	93-94	95	96-97	98-102	103-105	106-108
Bigeye	77-78	79-80	81-82	83-85	86-87	88-89	90-91	92-93	94	95-96	97-98	99	100-101

Kgs	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	33	34	35
Yellowfin	109	110-111	112-113	114	115-116	117	118-119	120	121	121-123	124	125	126
Bigeye	102-103	104	105	106-107	108	109-110	111	112	113	114-115	116	117	118

Kgs	36	37	38	39	40	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48
Yellowfin	127-128	129	130	131	132	133	134-135	136	137	138	139	140	141
Bigeye	119	120	121	122	123	124	125	126	127	128	129	130	131
Kgs	49	50	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60	61
Yellowfin	142	143	144	145	146	147	148	149	150	151	152	153	154
Bigeye	132	133	134	135	136	137	138	139	140	141			142

POLLUTION REPORT

Remember - Fill in one form for each pollution incident. There might be more than one per day. If you run out of pages report this on your last form and continue recording pollution infringements in your diary.

Observer Name	Put your first name first, and your family name last.
Vessel Name	Record the full name of the vessel. Do not use any abbreviations.
Observer ID Number	Use the number assigned to you by your observer programme e.g. AA 03-01
Page of	Number all GEN-6 pages together. Number them in sequence until the trip is finished
Date of Incident (dd/mm/yy)	Report the UTC date you saw the pollution. Use the format outlined
Time (00.00 hrs)	Report the UTC time. Use the 24hr clock.
Latitude / Longitude	Record the GPS position of your vessel when you first saw the pollution.
EEZ / Harbour	Write in the EEZ or for shorebase staff mark port or Harbour name here.
Wind Direction	The prevailing wind direction. Use degree - eg. 90 degrees for a SE wind
Wind Speed	Record the prevailing wind speed.
Sea Conditions	C- Calm, S- Slight, M- Moderate, R - Rough.
Current (knts and direction)	If the vessel has a current meter find out what the current strength is. State your vessel activity at the time of the pollution incident.
Observer's vessel activity	Some activities you might like to consider are fishing, transhipping, bunkering, transitting, aground.
Name of offending vessel	Make an effort to write down the complete and proper name of the offending vessel. Be careful not to make any spelling mistakes which may make it difficult to prosecute the vessel, should the report go through legal
IRCS	The international callsign is marked in large letters on the side of the boat.
Type of vessel	Consider the full vessel and aircraft codes on the front of your GEN-1 page.
Your position from offending vessel.	Use the vessel's compass to gauge the direction of the offending vessel from your vessel. You can use the radar to get the exact distance, in nautical miles, is away from your vessel - otherwise give your best estimate.

WASTE DUMPED OVERBOARD

Material	Circle the Y / N to indicate which type of material was dumped. Only tick more than two materials if the vessel has dumped more than one material type over at the same time e.g. it dumped plastics and metals at 10.00 hrs. If plastics were dumped 10.00 hrs and some metals at 16.00 hrs - record these separately.
Describe type	Do your best to describe the type of material that was dumped e.g normal plastic bags, plastic strapping from bait boxes, plastic bags from bait boxes etc.
Describe Quantities	Give us your best estimate of the amount dumped. Sometimes this will be easy to do e.g. 12 metal oil drums were dumped. Other time you might be too far away to see the amount. If you can only give an estimate, mark this down.

OIL SPILLAGES AND LEAKAGES

Source	Circle either Y or N to indicate where the spillage or leak came from
Visual Appearance / Colour	Do your best to describe the colour/ thickness/depth of the spill
Describe Area and Quantity	Give your best estimate of the size of the spill, use the boat as a size reference if you want e.g it was 4 times bigger than the boat.

Supplementary notes on Marpol Regulations
 Note : Vessels may dump garbage as close as 3 nautical miles to the shore if they have a 'comminuter' (a machine that shreds garbage to tiny pieces) onboard, otherwise they cannot dump garbage within 12 nm of the coast. Report on all vessels dumping within 12nm of the coast. We can check if they have a comminuter onboard later.

Country Codes	
AS: American Samoa	MS: Marshall Islands
AU: Australia	NR: Nauru
CK: Cook Islands	NC: New Caledonia
FM: Fed. States of Micronesia	NZ: New Zealand
FJ: Fiji Islands	NJ: Niue
FR: France	NR: Northern Mariana
PF: French Polynesia	PW: Palau
GU: Guam	PG: Papua New Guinea
ID: Indonesia	PH: Philippine
RU: International Waters	RU: Russia
JP: Japan	SB: Solomon Islands
TO: Kingdom of Tonga	TW: Taiwan
KT: Korea	TK: Tokelau
US: United States	TU: Tuvalu
CN: Mainland China	US: United States
	VU: Vanuatu

SPECIES OF SPECIAL INTEREST

Observer Name	Print your name in full. First name first, then your family name (e.g "John Masa").
Vessel Name	Print the vessel's name in full. Do not use abbreviations.
Observer Trip ID Number	This is the number issued by your observer programme. It will be the same for the entire trip.
Page of	Number all the GEN-2 forms together in sequence. Continue until the trip is complete.
THE SPECIES WAS:	
<i>Tick to indicate the final encounter the species of special interest had with the vessel. For instance, if you sighted a species that was subsequently landed, tick landed only.</i>	
Time landed (see PS-2, LL-4, PL-2)	For species which were landed on deck, note the start of set time that you recorded on your PS- 2 or PL-2 forms. For LL note the actual time of landing as noted on your LL-4.
Time of Interaction/Sighting	For species which were not landed on deck, note the time of the interaction or sighting.
Position (Latitude /Longitude)	Note the start of set position for species landed on deck. If the species was sighted or interacted with the gear only, note the position the vessel was in when you first saw the species.
Species Code	Use the three-letter FAO species code.
Species Description	Use this field to describe some of the identifying features of the species. This may help u to correctly identify the species. Consider the colour, any distinctive markings, the shape of the head, fins, tail, the position of the blow hole and the place of the fins in relation to other body parts.
SPECIES LANDED ON DECK:	
USE THE FOLLOWING CONDITION CODES	
A0 - Alive. But you are unable to further categorise its condition.	
A1 - Alive and healthy.	
A2 - Alive, but injured or distressed.	
A3 - Alive, but unlikely to live.	
A4 - Entangled, okay.	
A5 - Entangled, injured.	
A6 - Hooked, externally, injured.	
A7 - Hooked, internally, injured.	
A8 - Hooked, unknown, injured.	
D - Dead	
D1 - Entangled, dead	
D2 - Hooked, externally, dead.	
D3 - Hooked, internally, dead.	
D4 - Hooked, unknown, dead.	
U - Condition unknown.	
U1 - Entangled, unknown condition.	
U2 - Hooked, externally, condition unknown	
U3 - Hooked, internally, condition unknown.	
U4 - Hooked, unknown, condition unknown.	
Condition description	Write a description of the condition of the species when landed / discarded. This may help us to further assess the condition of the landed / discard species.
Length / Length code	Measure the species using the regular length codes as outlined in your workbook.
Sex (M-F-I-U)	M-male, F-Female, I-indeterminate (checked but unsure), U -unknown (not checked).
INTERACTIONS WITH VESSEL OR VESSEL GEAR:	
<i>For all interactions with the vessel or with the vessel's gear (for instance, you may note whales or dolphins trapped inside purse seine net or riding the bow waves of a vessel). Another type of interaction to be considered are species hooked on longlines but not landed onboard.</i>	
Vessel's Activity	Tick to indicate the vessel's activity when the interaction was first noted.
Condition Code	Use the condition codes noted above to state the species description at the start and end of the interaction with the vessel or vessel gear.
Condition Description	Make some notes on the condition. This may help us further define its condition.
Describe the Interaction	Make detailed notes on the interaction. If you need more space use your diary. Mark the page number here.
SPECIES SIGHTED:	
Vessel's Activity	Tick to indicate the vessel's activity when the interaction was first noted.
Number Sighted	Record the total number of species sighted for this date and time.
Number of Adults	If more than one animal is involved, record the number of adults you can see.
Number of Juveniles	If you can see juveniles with the pod of whales or dolphins record the number here. Otherwise record all animals under "number of adults".
Species Behaviour	Describe the behaviour of the animal in the water. Use your own words. Some technical terms you might like to use are: <i>Wake riding</i> - swimming close behind the boat. <i>Bow riding</i> - swimming off the bow of the boat. <i>Logging</i> - floating motionless in a group. <i>Breaching</i> - launching themselves into the air head first and then falling back into the water with a splash. <i>Lobtailing</i> - Tail slapping. <i>Playing</i> - Having fun !
Distance from vessel (nm)	Estimate the distance the species was from the vessel.
TAGS	
<i>Record all details about any tags placed or found on the species here.</i>	
Type of Tags	Record if it was a common dart, an archival (stitched inside body), or a pop-up (stitched to the outside of the body) tag.

SOUTH PACIFIC REGIONAL PURSE-SEINE LOGSHEET

NAME OF VESSEL: *Alpine Kade* YEAR: *2005*
 NAME OF FISHING COMPANY: *Isabelle* PORT OF DEPARTURE: *Port Moresby*
 COUNTRY OF REGISTRATION: *Loro* DATE AND TIME OF DEPARTURE: *17:30 Hrs 01 June 05*
 REGISTRATION NUMBER IN COUNTRY OF REGISTRATION: *000937* NAME OF AGENT IN PORT OF UNLOADING: *PNG-850*
 IFA REGIONAL REGISTER NUMBER: *P204187* DATE AND TIME OF ARRIVAL IN PORT: *17:30 Hrs 01 June 05*
 IFA TYPE APPROVED ALC (Y/N): *Y* AMOUNT OF FISH ONBOARD AT START OF TRIP: *0*
 INTERNATIONAL BUISSELS CODE: *P204187* AMOUNT OF FISH ONBOARD AFTER UNLOADING: *0*

MONTH	DAY	ACTIVITY CODE	0150 UTC OR SET POSITION		SCHOOL ASSOC CODE	SET TIME	SHIPJACK WEIGHT		YELLOWFIN WEIGHT		BIGEYE WEIGHT		OTHER SPECIES		TUNA SPECIES		DISCARDS	
			LATITUDE	LONGITUDE			SHIPJACK	YELLOWFIN	BIGEYE	OTHER SPECIES	TUNA SPECIES	WELL NUMBERS	NAME	WEIGHT	CODE	NAME	NUMBER	WEIGHT
6	08	2	024483	1420576	E	0109	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		1	024811	1414754	E	1718	6.57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	09	7	024514	1414913	E	0717	71.37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		1	024788	1414365	E	1605	5.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		1	024802	1414913	E	1605	5.25	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2	025037	1414625	E													
		2	024948	1413541	E													
		1	025224	1402436	E	0506	7.05	7.77	12.13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		2	025354	1411500	E													
		2	019211	1415534	E													
		2	020001	1413283	E													
		1	015060	1401173	E													
		2	014042	1415217	E													
		1	011237	1415475	E	0820	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		1	007300	1403457	E	1825	8.07	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	17	1	010505	1410006	E	0505	3.45	7.20	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
		1	022619	1415516	E	0504	6.57	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
6	18	1	004034	1413601	E	0500	12.92	14.40	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
PAGE TOTAL							31.74	24.37	12.93									
TRIP TOTAL																		

UNLOADINGS TO CANNERY, COLD STORAGE, CARRIER OR OTHER VESSEL

START DATE	END DATE	CANNERY--OR--VESSEL AND DESTINATION	INTERNATIONAL RADIO CALL SIG	SHIPJACK	YELLOWFIN	BIGEYE	MIXED

NAME OF CAPTAIN: *T. de AUSTRIA* SIGNATURE OF CAPTAIN: _____ DATE: _____

13. Transcript excerpt from SBS Dateline interview September 14, 2004, *The Two Worlds of Sir Michael Somare*, between Reporter Mark Davis and Sir Michael Somare

Back in the village, Somare is in his home preparing for a ritual in the men's house. His sons mishandled sacred objects during an initiation ceremony they didn't complete. He's now concerned for their safety.

SIR MICHAEL SOMARE: No, I didn't want anything to happen to my son and my sons so I have to sort this problem out and put the images and everything back to a safe place.

His sons should be by his side today to complete their initiation, but neither have turned up - one a businessman, the other a politician who should be the next chief.

REPORTER: What will you say to your son? He didn't come.

SIR MICHAEL SOMARE: He didn't come. Oh, he'll pay the price. He'll pay the price. He has to get a number of pigs to give to the villagers down there. This one in the other village. That's his problem.

REPORTER: You'll look after his safety though.

SIR MICHAEL SOMARE: I'm looking after his safety but that's his problem to come and sort things out. Yeah, there'll be a price to be a chief here.

REPORTER: There's your son, he's followed you into politics but he's not really following you into the chiefly life.

SIR MICHAEL SOMARE: No, no, they never grew up here. We only come for - when they come for holidays.

REPORTER: Does that make you sad though? You know, this has been a long line. This is hundreds of years old, probably thousands of years old and it's coming to an end.

SIR MICHAEL SOMARE: Yeah, well, you know, it's sad it's coming to the end because most of these people who are standing around here, most of these, they have forgotten it all. They now speaking pidgin and it has killed the enthusiasm of the tradition.

The chief enters the inner sanctum of the men's house to appease and properly put away the sacred images.

SIR MICHAEL SOMARE: I'm the custodian of these images. They have spirit, the power with them. For a Westener you think, "Oh, they're just image, what in them?" But if you decide to stay for a couple of days here, you will feel the effect of the movement in your own body.

REPORTER: Should I film these or not film these?

SIR MICHAEL SOMARE: This one you can take it but the one on the top, no.

REPORTER: If you come and you put these away properly then your son will be safe whereas if you don't do it properly...

SIR MICHAEL SOMARE: Yes, that's right, if don't do it properly anything - the evil, evil can curse on him.

REPORTER: Does your son know you've come to do this?

SIR MICHAEL SOMARE: Yes. He knows? Both of them know I'm here to do this because I told them, you know, and I didn't want anything to happen.

REPORTER: They're taking a bit of a risk.

SIR MICHAEL SOMARE: Yes, yes, yes.

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