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**Whales and whaling: a third index volume?**

Our last issue (April-June 1989) announced the probable reprint of Where the whalers went (1984). This has now appeared and, together with American whalers and traders in the Pacific, provides access to New England Microfilm Project microfilms by: country and island group visited; vessel and date of voyage; captain and/or log keeper; owner of original logs and other material microfilmed. It’s now been suggested that users need a third index volume: a reel by reel listing of the contents of each NEMP film.

The earlier NEMP films i.e. PMB 200 - PMB 400 contents listings are published in Pambu in 20 (July-Sept. 1970); Pambu (Oct.-Dec. 1970) and Pambu 23 (April-June 1971), but there is no consolidated published listing. Reel contents are of course listed on the container and in the reel itself, but if these are missing from a collection, or if a potential user doesn’t have access to a collection, the information must be sought from the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau.

If enough people feel that this is a nuisance - and if they tell us that they do - we will prepare a third index volume, a checklist of New England Microfilming Project reel contents. Over to you!

**Whales, whaling, copyright and discretion**

Certainly prospective buyers of NEMP microfilms need to know the contents of a reel before they order it, because, under the agreement between the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau and the owners of the originals, prospective buyers must obtain the owner’s permission to have the microfilm copied by the Bureau. This process can take a long time, and can involve considerable correspondence between the prospective buyer, the owners and the Bureau, so if you would like to know how to start, please let us know.

In the meantime, you may find it useful to know that there are no restrictions on access to the NEMP microfilms already copied and held.
in libraries or elsewhere. However, again under the agreement between the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau and the owners of the originals, you do need to obtain the owner's permission if you wish to publish extracts from the material contained in these microfilms. The owners are listed in American whalers and traders in the Pacific. Most are institutions whose addresses should still be correct, and we are checking the correctness of the addresses of individuals. If therefore, you wish to contact an individual owner, you can check the address first with us.

Restrictions on supply, access and publication aren't confined to the NEMP microfilms. While there are no restrictions on most PMB microfilms, several microfilms cannot be supplied without the prior permission of the owner, and, in a few other cases, access is denied for a certain number of years in order to protect persons still living. Publication of extracts from the microfilms is subject to the usual copyright requirements.

New editions of our short-title catalogues of PMB microfilms will contain notes on any restrictions on particular films.

Cast your bread upon the waters - and after many days you'll get back a soggy mess, say the cynics. Not being cynics, we prefer the original version, and for good reasons. Earlier this year, we saw in the Canberra Times that a collector of PNG books and documents was seeking more PNG materials. Having a very large collection of PNG microfilms, and hoping that Mr Hogg would have manuscripts, we contacted Mr Hogg and established that he has a very good published and "semi-published" PNG collection but that he doesn't specialise in manuscripts, photographs or microfilms. We therefore exchanged genealogical information and there the matter rested. Last month, however, we received a telephone call from Mrs R. Bigwither who said that, having some PNG manuscript material to dispose of, she had contacted Mr Hogg, who referred her to the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau.

So, by the kindness first of Mr Richard Hogg, secondly of Mrs Bigwither, and thirdly of Greg Peters who helped us collect them, we now have a trunkful of the personal and professional papers of G.A.V. Stanley, a surveyor and geologist who worked in Papua New Guinea from the late 1920s until his death in 1965. As, after over 20 years in a wooden trunk, they are a little damp and insect-infested, we haven't yet sorted them and they are recuperating on a colleague's study floor. More later about this very interesting find.

**Fisheries of the Federated States of Micronesia**

In our April-June 1989 Pambu we reproduced a letter from Samuel McPhetres about the U.S. Trust Territories of the Pacific Islands archival microfilming project. We have now received from Jones George, of the Federated States of Micronesia Division of Archives, a printout of the index to about 900 pre-1981 marine resources documents relating to the F.S.M. and microfilmed under that project. Jones and his colleagues in the Marine Resources Division are looking for support to compile a bibliography and to microfilm post-1981 marine resources related documents contained in office files throughout the F.S.M. Suggestions and enquiries to Mr Jones George, Administrator, Director of Archives and Historic Preservation, Office of Administrative Services, Kolonia, Pohnpei, Eastern Caroline Islands 96941.
The last Hiri is one of the themes of The Cochrane Papua New Guinea collection: a preliminary guide, now available from:

The Archivist
Wollongong University Archives
PO Box 1144
WOLLONGONG NSW 2500

In a telephone conversation with PMB, Ms Susan Cochrane Symons, daughter of Renata and Percival Cochrane, described the archives as "a multi-media collection" of tapes; radio scripts; articles; colour transparencies; black and white photographs; music recordings; oral history; radio talks; subject files and manuscripts and documents relating both to the Catholic Missions which were one of Renata Cochrane's chief interests, and to many other aspects of PNG life; films and scripts; and local and overseas publications. She explained that you can start with one topic e.g. the 1954 Motu Hiri expedition, known as "The last Hiri" and find in the collection not only files of notes and documents but a wide range of audiovisual material, including tapes of songs and music and of the elders' orations, in language and in English translation, on setting out in the Hiri.

The "preliminary guide" to the collection reveals therefore what could be a unique resource base for Papua New Guinea and Melanesian studies generally. But, as Ms Symons stressed in our conversation, there is at least one problem associated with its use — there is only one copy of each sound tape and some are deteriorating. The tapes therefore need both restoring and copying, and Ms Symons would like to hear from anyone interested in undertaking this work. But as yet there are no funds available.

Thirty years in the South Seas

"Rare manuscript finds home at National Library" says the Niugini Nius of Thursday June 29, 1989. They are describing the presentation in Port Moresby by the Australian High Commissioner, Mr Allen Taylor, to PNG National Librarian Mr Otto Kakaw of a specially bound copy of Thirty years in the South Seas, translated by N.C. Barry from the first edition of Richard Parkinson's Dreissig Jahre in der Sudsee (Stuttgart: Streicher & Schroder, 1907). During the presentation, the High Commissioner explained "The Library of the Australian International Development Assistance Bureau's Centre for Pacific Development and Training in Sydney arranged for the manuscript donation ... The translation ... will provide PNG scholars researchers and students with a ready source of important historical data on how Melanesia was perceived (by a German writer) in the early twentieth century". The presentation of the manuscript of N.C. Barry's translation follows the production on microfilm (PMB 1002) of translations by N.C. Barry and by H.A. Thomson of the Parkinson text, noted in Pambu Jan.-March and April-June 1989. Dr Niel Gunson, of the Australian National University Research School of Pacific Studies and Southeast Asian History Department, has recently discovered a third, anonymous, translation of the eighth chapter of the original text, made in 1913 at the request of the Director of the Australian Museum. We would be interested to hear of other translations or of other copies of the Barry and Thomson versions.

Full steam ahead: products and plans

The Parkinson translations were among the first of the new PMB microform titles produced during January-July 1989. Others were Professor Parker's
Papua New Guinea research materials (PMB 1004-1008), described in Pambu April-June 1989, the Gilson papers (PMB 1003 and PMB 1009, described in Pambu April-June 1989) and the South Pacific Conference papers (PMB Doc.400, described in Pambu June 1988).

This makes a total of 100 reels to be distributed to PMB Member Libraries and advance purchasers, and to the institutions nominated by the owners of the originals to receive the "owner's copy", i.e. the free copy which the owner receives in exchange for giving PMB permission to microfilm the original. Institutions usually wish to keep their "owner's copy" but most individuals nominate a library or archive to which we donate the copy, with the owner's compliments. Libraries and archives receiving "owner's copies" over the past year include

- Cook Islands National Archives: PMB 1001 and PMB Doc.394, with the compliments of Jonassen Jonassen
- Michael Somare Library, University of PNG: PMB 1004-1008, with the compliments of R.S. Parker
- Library of the Victoria University of Wellington: PMB 1003 and PMB 1009, with the compliments of Mrs Miriam Gilson Vosburgh

Looking forward to August-December 1989, we plan to complete microfilming of the Lorimer Fison letterbooks held in the Tippett Collection of St Mark's Library and the National Library of Australia; Eugenie Peter's letters from Lifou; Dr J. Graham Miller's Vanuatu papers; the W.M. Strong and A. de Groen letters; Laura Thompson's Fiji letters; and a fascinating collection of early C20 photographs from the Admiralty Group. Most of these have already been mentioned in earlier Pambu issues for this year, and you'll hear more about them in later issues.

We haven't included in 1989 plans the G.A.V. Stanley papers mentioned in this issue, or the Parham papers noted in previous issues. This is because, as they both involve quite large amounts of material, we may need to defer them until 1990, so that we can do more work on editing and entry both of the PMB document and PMB manuscript information sheets for the new short-title catalogues, and of the South Pacific Conference index sheets.

We'll have more about our 1990 plans in our October-December 1989 issue, the last for the year.

All hands to the pump

Because of the ever-widening gap between Pacific Island material urgently needing preservation, and the amount of money required to preserve and make accessible the material, the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau is always looking for new or potential sources of cooperation and funding.

We were therefore very pleased to hear from the Secretary General of the International Council on Archives that the International Council on Archives, in cooperation with UNESCO, has established an International Microfilming Programme for Developing Countries. Its aim is to "enable developing countries to acquire microfilms of records relating to their history and culture held either in metropolitan countries of which they were formerly dependent territories or in other developing countries with which they have a shared archival heritage".
The ICA has not yet, apparently, received any requests from the Pacific Region for assistance under this very new programme, but Mr Roper suggests that in any future Pacific Island projects, the ICA and the Pacific Manuscripts Bureau "should cooperate wherever practicable". He emphasizes that the role of the ICA is "as an intermediary between applicants and potential donor agencies or other partners"

This is a most encouraging development. Another related development is a request from PARBICA, whose new Bureau meets in Kiribati in August, for briefing and position papers for the ICA conference in Rome and Madrid in September. PARBICA's new President, Knei Etekiera of the Kiribati National Library and Archives will attend these conferences and, as previous chairman of the PARBICA microfilming committee, will have a special interest in the International Microfilming Programme for Developing Countries.

However, as microfilming needs are growing rather than diminishing, the present combined resources of ICA, PARBICA and PMB can't meet them. We're therefore seeking to prime our own financial pumps by inviting new institutional members, either as full financial members or as part of the new "collective membership" category proposed as follows:

(a) Two or more institutions group together to pay the annual 'Standard' PMB membership fee of $10000, determining amongst themselves how much each will contribute and who will be coordinator, and making their own arrangements regarding internal administration, communication, sharing, access and interlibrary loans within and outside the group.

(b) The full annual 'Standard' fee of $10000 is paid by one institution on behalf of all.

(c) This institution is the central coordinator for the group, e.g. it:

i. acts as a communications channel on policy and administrative matters between individual institutions in the group and the ANU, the Review Committee, Advisory Committee and the Executive Officer

ii. represents the group at Review Committee Meetings

iii. receives from PMB 1 copy of all PMB products for the membership year

iv. holds these products on behalf of the group or distributes them to individual institutions within the group, depending on what agreements the group has reached

(d) The other institutions within the group receive direct from PMB and free of charge Pembu issues for the membership year, plus 10% discount on any PMB product ordered and paid for during the membership year. Such orders would be made, and paid, direct to PMB and not via the coordinator, and would not be limited to the acquisition of extra copies of products of the membership year.

Notes

PMB Member Libraries may already have cooperative agreements or even financial arrangements regarding the acquisition and availability of PMB products. Even without cooperative
arrangements, institutions close to PMB Member Libraries may consider it unnecessary to become members or to buy PMB products. And, unlike the products of the Latin America microfilming project which prohibited any loan on the grounds that loans made membership unnecessary and reduced sales, PMB products may or may not be lent depending on the policies of each Member and purchaser. Cooperative acquisition agreements and policies and lending policies are matters internal to the institution concerned and are not - unless Members so wish - the concern of the PMB. They will however be very important in determining the success or failure of any collective membership in PMB.

A formalized collective membership category could attract institutions wishing to share responsibility for providing local or national access to PMB products, and having close geographical links, good inter-institutional relations and common or complementary interests in the Pacific Islands. It could apply both to present Member Libraries and their local colleagues and to new groups of institutions in many countries.

Your enquiries are welcome.

Radio cocotier

Thanks as always to our supporters mentioned in previous issues - and now thanks to the Australian Studies Discussion Group Newsletter (c/- Cheryl Malone, Australian Studies Bibliographer, Reference Service Dept. PCL 2.430 University of Texas at Austin, 78713-7330) for publicizing the Bureau and its activities. Thanks also to Ms Gillian Redmond (Australian Archives, Mitchell, ACT) for the copy of the Australian Archives' lists of PNG patrol reports and German Pacific Island archival materials. And thanks to the Microform Review (Meckler Corp. Westport CT 06880) for the copies of preprints of Bess Flores' article "The Pacific Manuscripts Bureau: an agent for the preservation and distribution of Pacific Island research materials" in Microform Review 18(2) Spring 1989: 103-108.

Congratulations to the newly elected PARBICA Bureau:- President Kunei Etekiera, National Librarian/Archivist, Kiribati; Secretary General John Wright, Archivist Pago Pago American Samoa and Treasurer Peter Orlovich (School of Librarianship, UNSW).

Congratulations to newly appointed PNG National Archivist Nancy Lutton and South Pacific Commission Librarian Rosemary Cassidy.

And finally, congratulations to The (relatively) newly established PIMRIS, the Pacific Islands Marine Resources Information System, whose steering committee has now held two meetings. If you are interested in being part of our network sharing information about the resources of the tropical Pacific Ocean, you will be interested in obtaining the first PIMRIS newsletter which includes a supplement on the establishment of special interest groups on Pacific Island Marine Resources. Contact PIMRIS Coordinator, Ross Thrasher, c/- Library, University of the South Pacific, PO Box 1168, Suva, FIJI.

A sailor's farewell?

We can't resist concluding the maritime theme of our headlines by thus announcing that another ancient mariner, Executive Officer Bess Flores, will leave the Bureau at the end of 1989 to combine retirement with consultancies and other short-term work on Pacific Island bibliography, development literature and microfilming projects. But don't be alarmed - plans are well established to keep the Bureau on course.