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Papua/Irian news reports in Papua New Guinea, April 1996 – August 2001.

compiled by Dr Peter Elder.

Extracts from *PNG Post-Courier* (Port Moresby),

The National (Port Moresby) [N],

The Independent (Port Moresby) [I].

April 1996

- 04 'OPM DEATH THREAT. MEET OUR DEMANDS OR WE START KILLING THEM-SPOKESMAN' 12 hostages held in Irian Jaya, negotiations between Moses Werror (self-proclaimed OPM spokesman), Red Cross and the British High Commissioner in Port Moresby.
- 10 'ROS KELLY TO MAKE AUDIT OF FREEPORT MINE' Kelly employed by international consulting firm Dames and Moore.
- 15 'OPM CHIEF TO SPEAK TO EURO PARLIAMENT' Moses Werror accepts invitation. Seen as interference in Indonesia's internal affairs.
- 17 'JAKARTA PROBES KILLING OF 15 IN IRIAN JAYA' Killing of 10 soldiers and 5 civilians by a junior officer who ran amok at Timika airport. Follows riots in the mining towns of Timika and Tembagapura. Latter place is location of PT Freeport Indonesia copper and gold mine.
- 22 'WEST PAPUA CALL FOR MOVE TOWARDS SELF-DETERMINATION' National Congress of West Papua held in Port Moresby last week attended by almost 200 delegates and participants from all districts of the province according to the spokesman for the West Papua Action Committee Michael Tataki.
- 23 'YAKI SLAMS PM OVER WEST PAPUA FORUM' Opposition leader Roy Yaki said the Government risked compromising national security and the nation's sovereignty by allowing Irian Jaya separatists to use Papua New Guinea soil to promote their illegal activities against another independent state.
- 24 'ICRAF DID NOT ASSIST WEST PAPUA REFUGEES' Letter from Powes Parkop, Director ICRAF.

May 1996

- 03 'IRIAN JAYA TRIBESMEN TAKE MINING GIANT TO COURT IN UNITED STATES. LEADER CASTS DOUBT OVER FREEPORT SUIT' \$US6 billion suit brought by Tom Benai in the US District Court in New Orleans against Freeport- McMoRan Inc for 'eco-terrorism' and 'cultural genocide' by its subsidiary PT Freeport Indonesia. 82% of Freeport Indonesia owned by Freeport-McMoRan Copper and Gold Inc. with the Indonesian government and PT Indocopper Investama owning 9% each. Benai, leader of the Amungme Tribal Council, met with US lawyer Martin Regan in Jayapura two months ago. Freeport has pledged \$US15 million annually (one per cent of its revenue) for the people of Irian Jaya.
- 16 'RELEASE HOSTAGES' Letter from Florin Gubon, Corpus Christi College Cambridge. Annette van der Kolk is one of four hostages taken by OPM; and a member of Corpus Christi. Appeal as a Melanesian blood brother to release hostages.
- 16 'NO LONGER STONE-AGE' British confusion over Irian Jaya and PNG. Concerns hostages taken at Beliem in West Papua.

- 16 'INDONS RESCUE 9 HOSTAGES-ARMY' Indonesian soldiers rescue nine hostages from Irian Jaya including Annette van der Kolk.
- 30 'IRIANESE WANT MORE JOBS' 100 Members of the Irian Jaya Youth Communication Forum went to the Parliament in Jakarta to demand the redress of inequalities in government employment of Irianese and for reconsideration of Indonesia's internal immigration policy.

June 1996

- 14 'SOLOMONS' BIG GOLD HOPE' Comparison made with Freeport-McMorRan Copper and Gold Inc.runs the world's largest copper mine which had a total ore (copper and gold) production of 40.8 million tonnes in 1995. At the end of 1995 it had 1.9 billion tonnes of proved and provable reserves.
- 28 'INQUIRY REJECTS INDONS' TALE OF JOURNO KILLINGS' Australian government inquiry led by Tom Sherman has found that six Australian-based journalists were killed by Indonesian army troops in East Timor in 1975.

July 1996

- 01 'UNIDENTIFIED TRIBE REPORTED IN IRIAN JAYA JUNGLE' Reported on upper reaches of Wiriagar River two days by motor boat from Bintuni in the south of the Vogelkop (Cendrawasih).
- 03 'IRIAN JAYA TRIBESMEN REJECT FREEPORT OFFER' Tribal elders of the Amunge people, living around Timika which is 3500 km from Jakarta, rejected a trust fund from Freeport Indonesia unilaterally prepared by the company according to environmental lawyer Garuda Nusantara.
- 18 'INDONESIA CHANGES STAND ON IRIAN JAYA' Indonesian Administrative Reform Minister T.B.Sililai said the Government would pay more attention to the development of Irian Jaya There were violent demonstrations earlier this month by youths seeking civil service jobs in Nabire, the capital of the Paniai regency.

•August 1996

- 19 INDONESIA MARKS 51ST ANNIVERSARY . AMBASSADOR SAYS GOVT WILL NOT CONSIDER INDEPENDENCE OR AUTONOMY FOR IRIAN JAYA.' The Indonesian ambassador to PNG, Abinowo,said there was no way that Indonesia would grant independence or autonomy to Irian Jaya and that the bilateral relationship between PNG and Indonesia which was commenced two years before PNG's independence will become stronger in the future. Abinowo pointed out that an agreement on border relations was signed in 1973 and reviewed in 1990 and a Treaty of Mutual Respect, Friendship and Cooperation was signed in October 1986. He said border incidents had occurred the worst being that in 1984 when 10,000 entered PNG under the influence of armed rebels.
- 19 'OPM GRAB HOSTAGES, 2 ESCAPE' Two of fourteen Indonesian workers for the logging company PT Kamundan captured by the OPM have escaped. This took place at Komora in the Timika district where the Freeport mine operates. Major-General Dunidja, military commander of Irian Jaya, said there would be no negotiation with the rebels.

September 2000

- 22 'EAST TIMORESE LEADER ENCOURAGES U.S. ROLE IN VOLATILE INDONESIA' Article by Nora Boustany. Horta discusses various forecasts of problems in Indonesia as it deals with separatist movements in Aceh and West Papua. [*Washington Post*]

December 2000

22 'DECISION ON FATE OF BORDER CROSSERS TO-DAY' 300 people have been moved from the PNG/Indonesian border at Wutung and now await the decision of the PNG National Security Advisory Committee (NSAC). [I]

January 2001

- 04 'PNG INTELLIGENCE OFFICERS ACCUSED OF ESPIONAGE' Article by Winis Map. Report of a leakage of confidential information to the Indonesian authorities and the public concerning the effects of conflict in West Papua on PNG border areas with particular regard to Wutung. A community leader from Bewani says that he has seen intelligence officers and other PNG officials accepting hospitality from the Indonesian government and from military and police officers in Jayapura.[N]
- 08 'INDON WANTS PNG HELP TO DISARM W PAPUANS' PNG Government may be asked to arrest and disarm West Papuan rebels found across the border.[N]
- 09 'MORE BORDER CROSSERS AT VANIMO' Increase of refugees at Holy Cross school at Vanimo now exceeds 400.
- 10 'YOU'RE DOING FINE ON THE BORDER' Letter from Jerry W. Mai, ex-2RIRP, Kiunga, Western Province. Refutes claim that PNGDF in Vanimo is a waste of time.
- 11 'PNGian WOUNDED IN WEST PAPUA' Man from Beset village in Western Province shot in the leg by Indonesian police while dispersing a riot in Merauke last month.[I]
- 11 'VILLAGERS FRIGHTENED OF OPM PRESENCE' Article by Ian Kakarere. Villagers at Komova in the Lake Murray district of the Western province frightened by their perception of Operasi Papua Merdeka (OPM) in their sago stands.[I]
- 11 'BORDER CROSSERS TO BE RELOCATED' Border crossers living in the Holy Cross community school at Vanimo will be moved to the Black Wara refugee camp.[I]
- 11 'WEST PAPUA NOT AN INTERNAL PROBLEM: YARU' Sam Yaru who is a human rights coordinator in Jayapura of HAM (Hak Asasi West Papua) contends that Australia's and PNG's view of West Papua as an internal problem for Indonesia is wholly misleading. [I]
- 15 'POLICE TO BE TOUGH ON OPM ACTIVITIES' No OPM activities would take place on PNG's side of the border because the police would deal with these matters according to Deputy Police Commissioner Sam Inguba. 326 border crossers would be handed over to the Indonesian authorities after legal procedures were carried out.
- 15 'BORDER CROSSERS TO MOVE OUT' Cesare Bonivento, Catholic Bishop of Vanimo, said the Sandaun Provincial Administration agreed to the removal of refugees from Holy Cross primary school to Section 47 between the transmitter and the sawmill.
- 17 'DON'T IGNORE WEST PAPUA STRUGGLE' Open letter to Sir Mekere Morauta from Melanesian Die Hard, Madang. 'Please Indonesia, stop killing our Melanesian people and give them their rights for self-determination /independence.
- 22 'WEST PAPUANS TOLD TO WAIT ON STATUS' UNHCR representative for Oceania has said it will take some time for border crossers in Vanimo to be given refugee status.
- 24 'HOSTAGES "NOT" IN PNG' Deputy Police Commissioner Sam Inguba denies a report from Agence France Presse that West Papuan rebels had moved hostages across the PNG/Indonesian border.
- 24 'WEST PAPUA REBELS MOVE HOSTAGES INTO PNG' A civilian official at police headquarters in Jayapura reports the kidnappers have done this for money. [N]
- 25 'OPM LEADER, REBELS HELD' Mathias Wenda, supreme commander of the OPM, arrested with 13 other West Papuans at Vanimo for illegal entry into PNG and raising a clandestine army.

- 29 'CONDITIONS SET ON HOSTAGES' Separatist rebel commander, leading a band of 50 rebels, Willem Onde set the conditions for the release of the hostages when he met with a 24 man negotiating team at Asiki in the border district of Merauke. The hostages were employees of a joint venture Korean plywood firm. The demands made by Onde are the withdrawal of police reinforcements, logging compensation, and a speedy response to independence aspirations from the Indonesian president.
- 29 'AUSTRALIA NEEDS TO SPEAK OUT ON BARBARIC BASHINGS IN JAYAPURA' Letter from Lawrence Stephens, Port Moresby. Comment upon reports of police brutality in cells at Jayapura. Makes the point that the northernmost border of Queensland is about 50km. from southern end of the PNG/Indonesian border. [I]
- 30 'WEST PAPUA FIGHTERS FREE 13 HOSTAGES' Members of the Papuan National Liberation Army have freed 13 of the 16 hostages held since 16 January. The liberation army is a faction of the OPM which is a pro-independence group led by Mathias Wenda who was arrested in PNG a week ago for training an illegal army. The liberation army faction wanted to exchange their hostages for the release of Wenda and the 12 other rebels arrested with him.

February 2001

- 06 'OPM REBELS HOLDING 16 HOSTAGES' These included two Koreans held near the PNG/Indonesian border. 13 released this week but the two Koreans and an Indonesian were held back. The OPM is demanding a meeting with Abdurrah Wahid before releasing the remaining hostages. [N]
- 11 'BISHOPS DISTURBED AT WEST PAPUA REPORTS' Reports that border crossers fleeing violence in West Papua will be sent back. [N]
- 12 'CHURCH, GOVTS TALK ON BORDER STRIFE' PNG and Indonesian government officials meeting in Jayapura on the border issue and a meeting of the Catholic Bishops Conference of Jayapura is also meeting this week and has invited the bishops of Vanimo and Kiunga to attend.
- 12 'PDM SUPPORTS RAIL ROAD PROPOSAL' Jamie Maxtone-Graham supports the Mamose Governors Council proposals for rail link from Morobe through Madang and Sepik provinces to Jayapura.
- 15 'POLICE TO BE TOUGH ON OPM ACTIVITIES' No OPM activities would take place on PNG's side of the border because the police would deal with these matters according to Deputy Police Commissioner Sam Inguba. 326 border crossers would be handed over to the Indonesian authorities after legal procedures were carried out.
- 14 'SUPPORT BORDER CROSSERS' Anglican Archbishop James Ayong called on the PNG Government to make sure that refugees should not be forced back to Indonesian jurisdiction unless it was satisfied that they would not be subjected to inhumane treatment on their return. He joined with the Catholic Bishops Conference in their support of the safety of West Papuan people returning from PNG.
- 14 'DON'T FORCE BORDER CROSSERS TO LEAVE' Letter from James Ayong, Anglican Archbishop. [I]
- 14 'FEASIBILITY STUDIES ON RAILWAY PROJECT SOON' Article by John Apami. Link by rail between Morobe, Madang, East and West Sepik provinces with Jayapura. [N]
- 26 'TRIP TO JAYAPURA A WASTE' Letter from James Coucher, Vanimo. Complains about the expense involved in the National Education Board flying to meetings in Jayapura which include the weekend there.

- 27 'CONTINUE AID TO BORDER-CROSSERS:BISHOPS' Article by Harlyne Joku. The Catholic Bishops Conference of PNG and West Papua on 13 February at Jayapura recommend the continuation of humanitarian aid for more than 500 recent border- crossers in the Vanimo and Kiunga areas. The presence of Indonesian military personnel (TNI and Brimob) was questioned as they are claimed to threaten the border-crossers.[N]
- 27 'LET CROSSERS RETURN FREELY, SAY BISHOPS' The Catholic Bishops Conference of Irian Jaya has appealed to the Governor of Irian Jaya, Jaap Solosa, to pardon all political prisoners. More than 500 border crossers in Vanimo and 300 in the Western Province part of the PNG/Indonesian border. The troops along the border are not friendly towards the people seen in their brutal actions towards some tribes.
- 28 'CALL FOR WEST PAPUA RIGHTS INQUIRY' Ireland urged to influence the UN to commence an international inquiry into alleged human rights abuses by the Indonesian military in West Papua. An estimated 100 000 West Papuans have died since 1963 at the hands of the Indonesian military. [East-West Center]
- 28 'IRIAN JAYA GOVERNOR URGES 70-30 REVENUE SPLIT UNDER SPECIAL AUTONOMY' Papuans will be able to voice their views on the Special Autonomy Bill for presentation in the national parliament in Jakarta in May. The main issue is the apportionment of revenue between Jakarta and Irian Jaya. At present 80% goes to Jakarta with the remainder directed to the province. [East-West Center]

March 2001

- 02 'BORDER CROSSERS TO BE FORCED BACK' Report by Winis Map in Vanimo. An Indonesian delegation will arrive in Vanimo this morning to persuade the 400 West Papuan illegal border crossers to return home. If they refuse force may be used. The West Papuans in Vanimo have not been given refugee status by the PNG Government although they been located in the Holy Cross school near Vanimo since their refusal to return last December because of their fears of harassment by the Indonesian authorities. OPM sources suggest there could be reprisals if the border crossers are forced to return. [I]
- 07 'TWO IRIAN JAYANS "STABBED DURING POLICE ACTION"' PNG police riot squad involved in an altercation with two inmates of a Catholic Church refugee centre at Vanimo. No comment from senior police officers at the Vanimo police station. [N]
- 08 'REFUGEES FLEE CAMP AFTER POLICE ATTACK' West Papuan refugees in a camp near Vanimo were attacked by police on 6 March resulting in two persons set to hospital and 13 others with various injuries. The Bishop of Vanimo Cesare Bonivento said about 20 refugees had fled the camp and were in hiding.
- 08 'FREEDOM STALWART JOKU DIES' Henrik Joku has died in Port Moresby after a long illness. He was one of the four spokesmen for the OPM (Operasi Papua Merdeka) based in PNG.
- 08 'REFUGEES NEED HELP, NOT BLOWS' Editorial. What the riot police did to these vulnerable people is against the law and degrades the image of PNG.
- 09 'BISHOPS URGE ACTION ON ASSAULT CLAIM' The Catholic Bishops Conference is distressed and concerned about the allegations made against the special police unit at Vanimo in attacking refugees at Vanimo.
- 13 'LUTHERAN BISHOP QUERIES FATE OF CROSSERS' The head bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, Dr Wesley Kigasung, has called on the PNG and Indonesian governments to allow the 400 West Papuans camped near Vanimo to decide without coercion their future. The bishop condemned the police for their attacking the border crossers on 6 March.

- 15 'DON'T REPATRIATE WEST PAPUA NEW GUINEANS: LUTHERAN CHURCH' Head of the Church , Bishop Dr Wesley Kigasung expressed concern for the safety of the refugees if they return home; they had followed their traditional routes when coming into PNG to find peace. He commended the Catholic Church for their commitment in caring for the refugees. [N]
- 16 'PROSECUTORS ORDER RELEASE OF FIVE PAPUAN DISSIDENTS' Prosecutors in Jayapura have ordered the temporary release of five prominent dissidents including independence leader Theys Eluay, his secretary general Thaha al-Hamid and the Reverend Herman Awom. [Radio Australia 7:16am]
- 21 'RAPE USED TO TORTURE IN WEST PAPUA, SAYS AMNESTY REPORT' Abuses are worst in Aceh and West Papua. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 21 'FORMER IRIAN JAYA POLICE CHIEF QUIZZED OVER STUDENT DEATHS' Brigadier General Sylvanus Wenas questioned by National Commission of Human Rights investigators about the deaths of three students in Jayapura last December. They are also seeking the co-operation of the National Police Chief General Suroyo Bimanantoro to halt the intimidation of witnesses in West Papua. [*Pacific Report*]
- 22 'BEWANI PEOPLE WANT ROAD LINK TO IRIAN JAYA. Report by Winis Map. A community leader from Elis village in the Bewani area of Sandaun wants a road linking Bewani with Arso in West Papua. He said he was concerned because the PNG Government had not built a road to Schotchau Base Camp, which is an entry point for the OPM, and that the Indonesians had made a road from Arso to within 10 km of Schotchau.
- 22 'HIGH LEVEL TEAM TO VISIT BORDER CROSSERS' A delegation from Indonesia is expected to visit the 430 West Papuans at Vanimo, many of whom are from Wamena, who fled across the border last December. Although the United Nations and the PNG Government have not yet accorded these people refugee status they have been given a guarantee of safety and are free to return home if they wish. Two PNG policemen based at Lae have been charged with unlawfully wounding West Papuan refugees now living in Vanimo. [N]
- 23 'WAHID TO PARDON PAPUAN SEPARATIST' Report by Don Greenlees. Theys Eluay, leader of the Papuan Presidium, has been offered a pardon if he is convicted on a charge of treason, an offer that may be extended to four other independence leaders, jailed in Jayapura since December, provisionally released on 16 March. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 23 'IT'S DESTINATION IRIAN JAYA FOR ECO-TOURISTS' The Kamoro of Pigapu village located on the margins of the world's most diverse mangrove system will be the draw card as a new eco-tourism destination. Tourists will fly from Jakarta to Timika the starting point for excursions to Keakwa and Atuka. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 23 'PAPUAN INDEPENDENCE LEADER ELUAY UNAWARE OF REPORTED PARDON, WANTS ANNULMENT' Chief Theys Eluay, 63, who has had emergency prostate surgery, faces trial with four other members of the pro-Independence Papua Presidium on charges of subversion. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 26 'FATE OF BORDER CROSSERS DIM' The Indonesian government has changed its policy about a referendum for West Papua. An Indonesian ministerial delegation will visit the camp at Vanimo this week and inform the PNG authorities of the changed policy. A mobile police squad sent from Lae last December is now stranded in Vanimo, unable to pursue OPM leaders operating from the PNG side of the border because of a lack of funds.
- 26 'INDON SETS UP NAVAL STATION AT PNG-WEST PAPUA BORDER' The commander of the Indonesian Navy's base at Jayapura, Brigadier General Solichin, said

that when a pier has been installed on the border, patrol vessels will maintain surveillance of the border waters.

- 26 'WEST PAPUANS THREATEN TO DESTROY OIL FIELDS' Musa Labot, head of the Moi tribe of 6,600 families in 14 villages in remote locations in Beraur sub-district, declares the collective anger of his tribe will be demonstrated by destroying all oil fields and forbidding logging-concession holders to operate. Labot asserts that during the 38 years of oil extraction and mining in the Moi tribal area there has been no benefit for the people there. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 28 'PNG VANILLA GROWERS RISK ARREST BY INDONESIANS' Vanilla growers from as far away as Maprik and Wosera in East Sepik province are crossing to Jayapura where they could sell their product for \$100 per kilo. This contrasts with the prices paid by PNG buyers who offer between K50 and K60. Some risk arrest for illegal entry into West Papua. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 29 'BORDER POST OPENING CAUSE FOR MAD RUSH' People from between the Sandaun and West Papuan border have crossed in a mad rush following the opening of the border post three weeks ago. West Papuans and PNG'ers have crossing in their hundreds as a result of fighting between the OPM and Indonesians. [*PngVillage*]
- 29 'MEETING ON REFERENDUM' The promised referendum on West Papua will be used by the Indonesian authorities to persuade the 400 refugees at Vanimo to return home.

April 2001

- 01 'JAKARTA RAISES STAKES IN WEST PAPUA' Report by Ian Bostock. Secessionists and Indonesian authorities continue to engage in violent clashes in West Papua. The main rebel militia force is known as Satgas Papua (Task Force Papua) is estimated to number between 7,000 and 20,000 men. These forces are believed to be concentrated around Fak Fak and Sorong in the west, Merauke in the south, Jayapura and the central highlands. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 01 'POACHERS STRIKE ALONG PAPUA NEW GUINEA BORDER' Poachers are killing wild animals and marine life. Provincial police chief Norman Kambu says he is waiting for funds to increase border patrols and will work with the Fisheries Department to deal with shark poachers. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 02 'INDONESIA HOUSE URGED TO DROP BILL ON IRIAN JAYA' Alex Litay of the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI Perjuangan) and Simon of the Golkar Party said all representatives from the province would resist if the bill went ahead. The bill on special autonomy for West Papua does not meet the aspirations of the people. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 02 'WEST PAPUAN WHO DIED BEATEN BY INDONESIAN POLICE' Amnesty International reports that a West Papuan, Philipus Murib, was beaten to death by Indonesian police during last week's demonstrations in Jayapura. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 03 'IRIANESE REBELS ATTACK LOGGING BASE CAMP' The police Mobile Brigade (Brimob) and rebels exchanged fire at the base camp of PT Dharma Mukti Persada logging company in Wonggema village, Wasior district, Manokwari regency on Saturday (31 March). There were no casualties. 12 Brimob troopers have brought in and additional troops would be flown in. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 04 'PNG POLICE ARREST ANOTHER WEST PAPUAN INDEPENDENCE FIGHTER' OPM member Peter Simon Alom of Wamena, West Papua, arrested and appeared before the court in Vanimo. [*Pacific Islands Report*]

- 04 'WEST PAPUA COPS ARREST THREE FOR DRUG TRAFFICKING' Report by Isaac Nicholas. Three PNG'ers arrested and detained at Abepura, West Papua, alleged to have been dealing in drug taken into Indonesian territory. Arrest of OPM man Peter Simon Alom confirmed by West Sepik police commander Joe Poma. [N]
- 04 'WEST PAPUA CALLS FOR STERN INTERNATIONAL ACTION' Media statement by Franz Albert Joku in Vila. The Papua Council Presidium calls for action to end human rights abuses by Indonesia in West Papua and for a peaceful transition to independence. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 05 'SELF-STYLED OPM LEADER ARRESTED' Simon Alom arrested and charged with forming an illegal army. The operations of the OPM are regarded as those of an illegal army in PNG law.
- 05 'CHURCH BODY TESTIFIES ON W PAPUA ATROCITIES' John Rumbiak from the Institute for Human Rights, Study and Advocacy, an NGO based in Jayapura, reported in Geneva that between 1998 and 2000 there had been summary executions of 80 West Papuans and another 500 subjected to arbitrary detention or torture. This was during a period of reputed reformation in Indonesia. The churches are concerned about 22 prisoners of conscience detained in the prison of Jayawijaya at Wamena. West Papuans are Melanesian and are Christian followers for the most part. [N]
- 05 'PAPUAN REBEL LEADER SEEKS PRESIDENTIAL PARDON' Theys Eluay has asked Wahid for a pardon for his activities as chairman of the Papua Presidium organising the Papua People's Congress held in Jayapura 29 May-4 June 2000. [*Pacific Islands Reports*]
- 05 'PRESIDENT YET TO ANSWER WEST PAPUAN THEYS ELUAY'S REQUEST FOR PARDON' Wahid has not responded to independence leader Theys Eluay's request for a pardon because his trial has yet to take place. [*Pacific Islands Reports*]
- 06 'INDONESIA TO BUILD HYDROPOWER PLANT IN IRIAN JAYA' a 5,600 megawatt hydropower project to be located on the Mamberamo River according to L M Sianipur the official of the Technology Study and Application Centre (BPPT) which is in charge of developing the undertaking. Planned by B J Habibie the feasibility study for the project has cost about US\$5 million. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 06 'WEST PAPUA MANGROVES AMONG INDONESIAN DEVASTATION' 3.5 million hectares of mangrove forest threatened by over-exploitation in the form of shrimp ponds and fish farming plots resulting in degradation seen elsewhere in Indonesia. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 06 'PAPUAN SEPARATIST MEETS WITH WAHID' Theys Eluay, head of the pro-independence Papua Presidium met Wahid privately at his home in Jakarta on Friday (30 March). Reported that there was no discussion of independence nor of the trial Eluay has to face. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 06 'MOB RAMPAGES IRIAN JAYA MARKET AFTER MIGRANT TRADER ATTACKS LOCAL YOUTH' The injured youth's family and friends went on a rampage through the market at Abepura after he was stabbed by a migrant trader possibly from Sulawesi. Abepura is halfway between Jayapura and the airport at Sentani and has been the scene of frequent violence involving the local people and the migrant traders. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 06 'BOY DEAD AFTER JAYAPURA MARKET CLASH' Richado Itaar eleven-year old victim of fighting between Indonesian migrants and West Papuans at Abepura market died from his head injuries. [*Pacific Islands Report*]

- 07 'WEST PAPUA: MIGRANTS MURDERED BY WEST PAPUANS, SAY INDONESIANS' Indonesian police claim to have found three bodies of migrants in an area of West Papua where the fight for independence has intensified. Rebels are alleged by police to have abducted three timber workers from a camp in dense jungle at Wasior. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 08 'WEST PAPUA: WEST PAPUANS WAIT AND WAIT FOR REFUGEE STATUS' Refugees from West Papua have not been accorded the status of refugees because of PNG intelligence reports that they are families of OPM rebels [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 09 INDONESIA'S MILITARY WAR MACHINE DISTURBS PNG' War training close to the PNG border by TNI troops has alarmed Indonesia's neighbour. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 11 'THE ON-GOING HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS IN WEST PAPUA: IMPUNITY OR ACCOUNTABILITY? UNDERLYING CAUSES AND A WAY FORWARD' Paper by John Rumbiak, Supervisor for the Institute for Human Rights and Advocacy in Jayapura. Notes that the end of the Suharto regime has not been marked by positive changes in relation to human rights. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 11 'INQUIRY TEAM REVEALS FINDINGS OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS BY IRIAN JAYA ANTI-RIOT POLICE' This follows the Abepura incident last December when two people died and 34 others were seriously wounded while in the hands of the police. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 12 'WORLD'S SILENCE ON WEST PAPUAN RIGHTS QUESTIONED' Report by David Shanks of an interview with John Rumbiak, West Papuan human rights activist. [*The Irish Times*]
- 11 'The deaths of 37 people and scores of wounded in the Wamena incident of 6 October 2000 has had a deep effect on the communities in the Baliem Valley and West Papua revealed in an investigation team's report. The team was made up of human rights NGOs in Jayapura, Kontras-Papua (Commission for the Disappeared and Victims of Violence), ELSHAM-Papua (Institute for Human Rights Study and Advocacy), the Jayapura Legal Aid Institute, and the Justice and Peace Commission of the Jayapura Diocese. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 17 'IRIAN JAYA WANTS LION'S SHARE OF REVENUES FROM LOCAL RESOURCES' The provincial governor Jacobus P.Solossa has said that West Papua should retain 80 per cent of the revenue from local sources under the autonomy plan offered by the government in Jakarta. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 18 'WEST PAPUA PROPOSES RETAINING 80 PER CENT OF REVENUE UNDER AUTONOMY' Draft autonomy regulations presented to President Wahid by the provincial governor provide for 20 per cent of the revenue from mineral extraction to go to the central government. Wahid's government has rejected independence for West Papua but has offered autonomy as an alternative plan. [*Radio Australia*]
- 19 'FREEPORT'S MINING POLLUTION SPREADING IN IRIAN JAYA' Report by Paul Barber of Tapol. Residues from the PT Freeport mine have been deposited on the banks of the Ajkwa and southern coasts of West Papua. The executive director of the Indonesian Environmental Forum (Walhi), Emmy Hafild, stated that the pollution had affected 35,820 hectares of land and 84,158 hectares off shore. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 14 'WEST PAPUA' Letter from Ron Wandamen, West Papua. Notes that West Papua is not included in the Pacific community although West Papuan is Melanesian.
- 14 'PAPUA NEW GUINEA MILITARY LEADERS WORRY ABOUT INDONESIANS' 'Sensitivity of the issue at the border at present' appears to have motivated PNGDF's commander, Carl Marlpo, to abort a welcome to the patrol boat that captured two Indonesian fishing boats. [*Pacific Islands Report*]

- 14 'DEFENCE FORCE COMMANDER CARL MARLPO STOPPED A WELCOME RECEPTION' HMPNGS Seadler and the two Indonesian fishing vessels it had captured were denied a public welcome.[I]
- 20-22 'CONCERN OVER NIGHT CROSSING IN VANIMO' 26 West Papuans entered PNG from West Papua in motorised boats and have joined the 420 other border crossers in the camp near Vanimo town. PNG authorities are concerned to know if this latest batch carried arms when they crossed the border on Saturday night 14 April.
- 21 'APPEAL TO THE UN SECRETARY-GENERAL TO REVIEW THE RESULT OF THE ACT OF FREE CHOICE OF 1969 IN WEST PAPUA' Letter from the Papuans of the Fellowship of Baptist Churches of West Papua. [
- 21 'TRIKORA MILITARY COMMAND DEPLOY THREE BATTALIONS TO GUARD INDONESIA-PNG BORDER' Maj.Gen. Mahidin Simbolon, Trikora military commander has deployed troops that would monitor restive areas and villages to curb potential violence on the border. Simbolon said his task force will maintain pursuit of the GPK/OPM whose activities of will not be tolerated by the Indonesian military. [*Coconet Wireless News*]
- 23 'VANIMO LAND CASE UP AGAIN THIS WEEK' Report by Moresi Ruahma'a. Peter Apoi and his legal representative, Greg Sheppard, are alleged to have defrauded West Sepik landowners of K2.7 million awarded them by the National Lands Commission in 1999. Findings of the committal hearing not yet announced.[*National*]
- 23 'NEW DISEASE A THREAT TO BANANAS' Both PNG and West Papua are threatened by a serious banana plant disease which could give rise to fears that sorcery has been the cause.
- 26 'INSPIRING STORIES OF ENVIRONMENT PRIZE WINERS' Yoseph Alomong is among the recipients of the Goldman Environmental Prize. She was imprisoned and tortured safeguarding West Papuan culture against the pollution of a gold and copper mine. [*Yahoo! News*]
- 26 'WEST PAPUAN WILL BE LAID TO REST' Report by Therese Natera. Elam Tabani who died recently was one of about 200 West Pauans who fled across the border into Sandaun province last November. She was aged seventy and the PNG government has allowed her to be buried alongside her husband in the Vanimo cemetery. [*PNGVILLAGE.COM*]
- 26 'SURVEILLANCE WILL BE STEPPED UP' Report by Therese Natera. Border crossings by West Papuans needs to monitored closely. Funding cuts have curtailed police patrols on land and at sea. [*PNGVILLAGE.COM*]
- 26 'BORDER CROSSINGS AT VANIMO ON RISE' 448 in the camp at Vanimo. It is expected that more will come and will become an economic burden on the PNG government.
- 26 'REBELS RETURNING TO IRIAN JAYA FROM PNG TO SURRENDER FIREARMS' OPM members returning to West Papua will have to give up their weapons if they are to have the right to live with other citizens of Indonesia. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 25 'WEST PAPUA, NEW CALEDONIA ENVIRONMENTAL HEROES RECOGNIZED' Among those awarded the Goldman Environmental Prize this year was Yosepha Alomang who is a spokeswoman for the Amungme who oppose the McMoRan Copper and Gold company at Freeport.. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 25 'FOUR OPM GROUPS STILL TROUBLE FREEPORT INDONESIA AND LOCALS' Antar reports from Timika in Wesr Papua that four Papuan Freedom Movement (GPK) groups are harassing the Freeport mine and local people. The groups are known by the names of their leaders who are Goliath Tabuni, Tadius Yogi, Titus Mirib and Kelly Kwalik. [*Kabar-Irian:EN Irian News*]

- 25 'GOOD FENCES MAKE GOOD NEIGHBOURS' Contrasts the good relationship between PNG and Australia over their maritime border compared with the tensions with Indonesia regarding illegal fishing. Notes the interception of Indonesian fishing craft in the Torres Strait protected zone at Easter. [N]
- 25 'WEST PAPUA: WEST PAPUA CHURCHES APPEAL TO ANNAN TO REVIEW 1969 "FREE CHOICE"' Baptists in West Papua have written to the UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan requesting a review of the 1969 'Act of Free Choice' which transferred West Papua to Indonesian control. [*Pacific Magazine*]

May 2001

- 02 'LAW ON MORE IRIAN JAYA AUTONOMY POSTPONED' Legislation for special autonomy in Aceh and West Papua held by the censure debate. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 02 'FOUR SHOT, SEVEN DETAINED IN RIOT IN MANOKWARI, IRIAN JAYA' Riots followed rumours that the Bintang Kejora (Morning Star) separatist flag would be removed by the police. The flag was hoist over the Manokwari chief's house at Fanindi Dalam. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 02 'SUBVERSION TRIAL SET FOR PAPUAN INDEPENDENCE LEADERS' Trial to take place on 14 May at Jayapura. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 03 'INDONS SHOOT FOUR IN IRIAN JAYA RIOTS' Security forces shot and wounded four men and arrested seven others in riots over the flying of a separatist flag at the house of the local leader of the Tribal Deliberation Institute in the Fanindi Dalam area in Manokwari.
- 03 'PNG CHURCHES APPEAL AGAIN FOR HELP FOR WEST PAPUANS' The PNG Council of Churches wants the Government to form a parliamentary committee to deal with West Papua and related issues. At present there are 512 border crossers in Vanimo of whom the majority are women and children. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 03 'WEST PAPUA INTELLECTUALS HAVE AUTONOMY PLAN' This has been put together by the Governor and the Rector of Cenderawasih University to reflect the wishes of the West Papuan people. Many of the Papuan Presidium and other activists want 'merdeka'-complete freedom and consider the plan for special autonomy a waste of time. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 04 'WEST PAPUANS WELCOME PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM DECISION ON INDONESIA' Statement by Franzalbert Joku, Clemens Runawary and Wilhelm Zonggonau of the Papua Council Presidium welcoming the announcement of the Pacific Islands Forum to admit Indonesia as a Post Forum Dialogue Partner. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 07 'WEST PAPUA SEPARATISTS IN NAURU' Thom Beanal, Deputy Chairman of the Papua Council Presidium, is leading a delegation from the West Papua independence movement for talks in Nauru with the new president Rene Harris. [*Radio Australia*]
- 07 'INDONESIAN MPS BACK LOCAL RULE PROPOSAL FOR IRIAN JAYA' Report by Achmad Sukarsono. Sixty legislators have endorsed a proposal framed by West Papuan academics that would provide the province with additional powers for autonomy including an all-indigenous upper house and a locally recruited police force. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 07 'MPs BACK WEST PAPUA PROPOSAL' Sixty of the five hundred legislators in the Indonesian parliament have endorsed a plan for a bi-cameral local legislature with an upper house restricted to appointed local community leaders.[*Radio Australia*]
- 07 'WEST PAPUAN INDEPENDENCE LEADER URGES CALM' Theys Eluay and four other members of the pro-independence Papua Presidium will be on trial in Jayapura on Monday 14 May.[*Radio Australia*]

- 10 'PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM TO TAKE UP WEST PAPUA ISSUE WITH INDONESIA: KIRIBATI PRESIDENT TEBURORO TITO' Indonesia accepted as a post-Forum partner to open up discussion on West Papua. The independence movement has looked to the Pacific for support because of the predominately Melanesian population of West Papua. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 10 'SPECIAL AUTONOMY FOR WEST PAPUA:NO WAY OUT' Report by Wens Manggut, Levianer Silalahi and Krisitian Ansaka in Jayapura. OPM insists on independence but compromise proposals have come from Papuans for special autonomy although Jakarta may not care for these. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 10 'PAPUA COUNCIL PRESIDUM OF WEST PAPUA MEETS WITH THE REPUBLIC OF NAURU' The Council was pleased with the outcome of the talks with Nauru's president and anticipated to a more informed debate on West Papua at the Pacific Islands Forum to be held in August in Nauru. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 10 'CATHOLIC BISHOPS THANK OTHER CHURCHES FOR SUPPORT ON BORDER CROSSERS' PLIGHT' The Catholic Bishops Conference of Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands has welcomed a generous contribution from the PNG Council of Churches for border crossers at Vanimo of whom there are 500 mainly from the Wamena area of the West Papua Highlands. The Bishops acknowledged the concern expressed by the Anglican and Lutheran communities. Apart from diocese of Vanimo great assistance has come from organisations in Italy, Germany and Oceania. [*National*]
- 08 'CHURCHES CALL FOR A REFUGEE STATUS ON BORDER CROSSERS' Article by Veronica Hatutasi. The PNG Council of Churches is calling on the national government to examine the situation of the West Papua border crossers with a view to giving them refugee status and attracting help from the UNHCR and other aid donors. [I]
- 15 'POLICE KILLED ACTIVISTS IN IRIAN JAYA' Report by Don Greenlees Jakarta. The National Human Rights Commission seeking prosecution of senior police commanders in West Papua arising from the detention of 104 students and local residents in Abepura on the outskirts of Jayapura on 7 December 2000. [*Pacific Islands Report*] Jakarta. Jakarta. Tight security in Jayapura for start of the trial of separatists. The head of the movement Theys Eluay when asked to state his nationality replied 'Papuan'. [*BBC News*]
- 15 'PNG BORDER PROBLEMS, MILITARY BASES REQUIRED' The PNG Government has been told of the border problems faced by the Western Province which include border incursions by Indonesian soldiers pursuing OPM rebels; funding problems in feeding and caring for West Papuan refugees; poaching and illegal fishing in PNG waters. The Papuan Governors Council has recommended the establishment of two forward military bases and that border area development be expedited. These matters are the subject of a paper presented by the Provincial and Local Level Government Affairs Minister Iairo Lasaro as the acting governor of the Fly River Provincial Government. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 'ON TRIAL IN PAPUA' Editorial. The trial of the four separatist leaders in Jakarta is seen as a political matter. Theys Euay, the principle defendant was involved in the 1969 plebiscite run by the UN that resulted in the integration of West Papua into the Indonesian state: an outcome that has been in question for 32 years. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 'TRIAL OF PAPUANS BEGIN' Tight security for trial of four independence leaders in Jayapura which commenced on Monday 14 May. Accused of subversion are the head of the Papua Praesidium Theys Eluay, Don Flassy, Rev. Herman Awom and Thaha Al Hamid. A fifth accused John Mambor was not in court because he was in hospital.
- 15 'TREASON TRIAL TO START IN JAYAPURA, IRIAN JAYA' The trial of Theys Hiyo Eluay and four other members of the Papuan Council Presidium for treason will open in the

- Jayapura District Court on Monday 14 May. One of the panel of judges hearing the matter, J.V. Rahantoknam, was quoted by Antara as saying ‘We are prepared to open the trial of the Papuan political elite without fear.’ [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 ‘PAPUA NEW GUINEA WORRIES ABOUT ILLEGAL FISHING, DRUGS ON BORDERS’ Provincial Affairs Minister Iairo Lasaro told the Papua Governors Council meeting in Alotau that this is a concern of the National Government. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 ‘CABINET ENDORSES REPORT ON BORDER TALKS’ The National Executive Council has endorsed the report of the Joint Border Committee meeting in Bandung during October. The committee was established in accordance with the Basic Agreement between PNG and Indonesia on Border Arrangements. The report of the 2000 Border Liaison Meeting was endorsed at Bandung. Matters covered in the report were the management and administration of the common border, development projects, security, repatriation of border crossers and exchange of information on health, quarantine, customs and law and order. [*National*]
- 15 ‘INDONESIA URGES PACIFIC NATIONS TO BE WISE DEALING WITH WEST PAPUA’ Indonesia wants the Pacific Islands Forum countries to be prudent when they consider the question of West Papua, at the August Forum meeting in Nauru. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 16 ‘TRIAL OF FIVE PAPUAN SEPARATIST LEADERS ADJOURNED’ The hearing of the case against Theys Eluay has been adjourned for a week while the other four defendants have had their cases set aside for two weeks. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 16 ‘25 POLICE OFFICERS PROBED IN IRIAN JAYA’ The National Commission on Human Rights in Jakarta has questioned 25 police officers over the deaths of four students in West Papua late last year. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 16 ‘THEYS ELUAY: IRIAN JAYA SUBVERSION TRIAL PROVIDES NEW TWIST FOR MAN OF MANY CONTRADICTIONS’ Article by Vaudine England. Eluay was born 12 November 1937. He is the leader of the Sentani tribe and was one of 1,000 tribal elders who were selected to sign the so-called Act of Free Choice that is the basis of the movement for independence from Jakarta. There are several other contradictions in Eluay’s career including his close and amicable relationship with President Wahid and membership of the Golkar Party which he represented in the provincial parliament. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 ‘AIR FORCE TO BUILD AIR DEFENSE COMMAND POST IN BIAK, IRIAN JAYA’ Djoko Suyanto, the chief of the Indonesian air force Eastern Fleet Command, said in Makassar that a defence command post would be established at Biak. He suggested that a main air base could be developed there and new aircraft operated from it. But this was conditional upon the country’s financial capacity. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 ‘WUTUNG TO BECOME LINK WITH INDONESIA’ Wutung post on the border of West Sepik province and West Papua will be declared an international port of entry. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 18-20 ‘TEAMS TALK ON BORDER’ An Australian multi-agency delegation is in PNG to discuss with their counterparts problems of illegal immigration. The members of the Australian team are Bill Farmer, secretary for immigration and multi-cultural affairs; Brian McDonald, Australian Federal Police; John Hawksworth, border Australian customs service national director; Peter Versegi PNG governance-AustAID Canberra director. The delegation was formed following the Australia/PNG ministerial forum held in Canberra in February. [*Pacific Islands Report*]

- 15 'PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SAYS "NO FORMAL MECHANISM" FOR WEST PAPUANS TO ATTEND SUMMIT' Makurita Baaro, Director of Political and International Affairs at the secretariat of the Pacific Islands Forum said the presence of West Papuans had nothing to do with the admission of Indonesia as a new Forum dialogue member. The Indonesian government has already cautioned Forum countries to take care in their dealings with people from West Papua. Also officials at the Indonesian embassy in Canberra have said that West Papuans should not be allowed to attend the meeting in Nauru because the government in Jakarta is the only representative of Indonesia. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 'ACTION URGED OVER IRIAN JAYA ABUSES' Indonesia's human rights commission has given state prosecutors details of the killing of three students in West Papua last December, allegedly by the police. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 'RIGHTS BODY HANDS OVER FINDINGS OF IRIAN ABUSES' The National Human Rights Commission (Komnas HAM) yesterday gave the results of its enquiry into human rights abuses in West Papua to the office of the Attorney-General. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 21 'HOUSE SIDELINES GOVERNMENT, TO CONSIDER WEST PAPUA AUTONOMY' The West Papua autonomy bill has been put ahead of the special autonomy draft legislation for Aceh. It is expected that the West Papua bill may be heard before the end of the current session which ends on 23 July. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 21 'WEST PAPUANS SEEK BEIJING'S SUPPORT' West Papua independence leaders will go to Beijing to enlist China's support for their campaign for independence. Dialogue has been established and the West Papuans have been invited to send a delegation to China. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 21 'ACTION URGED OVER IRIAN JAYA ABUSES' The Human Rights Commission of Indonesia has recommended that senior police commanders should be investigated over the killing of three students suspected of supporting the independence movement in West Papua. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 21 'FREE WEST PAPUA!' Article by Brendan Greenhill. Indonesian imperialists call West Papua, Irian Jaya. This is the acronym for Ikut Republik Indonesia Anti-Netherlands dating from 1962. A brief history of West Papua leading to the OPM and its unique thirty years of survival under the rule of Indonesia. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 21 'INDONESIAN POLICE CHIEF SAYS CRACKDOWN ON IRIAN JAYA STUDENTS PREVENTED BLOODBATH' The chief of district police, Daud Shihombing, said he was worried that Jayapura, Abepura and environs could have emulated Sampit where 400 people were slaughtered by Dyaks in Central Kalimantan in February. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 21 'JAKARTA'S REPORT BLAMES POLICE VIOLENCE FOR RESURGENCE OF PAPUAN INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT' Report by Tim Dodd and John Garnaut. The report by the Indonesian Government's Human Rights Commission indicates that police torture and killings in Jayapura 'changed the demands for justice into demands for independence' [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 22 'WEST PAPUA A STEP CLOSER TO BEING FEATURED AT NAURU FORUM SUMMIT' Island leaders believe the inclusion of Indonesia as a dialogue partner may enhance support for the West Papua issue. The Papua Council Presidium of West Papua has intensified its lobbying for observer status. Palau, Nauru, Kiribati and Vanuatu will support this move. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 23 'PNG TRAVELERS HARASSED BY INDONESIAN ARMY; WEST PAPUA'S JOKU PRAISES FORUM CHAIRMAN TITO' Complaints have been made by persons

travelling by road or sea to West Papua from PNG that they have been harried by Indonesian security forces. Travellers in motor boats have been intercepted on the high seas between Wutung and Jayapura. The Indonesians are searching for the illegal importation of vanilla beans by traders, mainly from the Sepik, who do not have export licences.

- 25-27 'WEST PAPUANS FREED BY COURT' PNG's National Court freed two West Papuan independence fighters this week. They were James Kogoya and Mathias Wenda both from the Wamena district of West Papua. Wenda is said to be a general in the OPM and Kogoya his information officer. They were charged with raising and participating in an illegal military force between 1 December 2000 and 23 January 2001. The court ruled that as foreign citizens they were not in breach of the law.
- 25 'INDEPENDENCE LEADER ELUAY TELLS INDONESIAN COURT PAPUA IS "ALREADY INDEPENDENT"' Eluay told the court the state of Papua has existed since 1 December 1961. The hearing was adjourned until 18 June. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 25 'PLEDGE ON VANIMO' On Friday 25 May the Trade and Industry Minister, Tukape Masani, said he would go ahead with the Vanimo Free Trade Zone pilot project because he had legislative authority. Parliament endorsed the Government's submission for declaring four provinces free trade zones. These are Sandaun, Bougainville, Western and Gulf provinces.
- 25 'CLAIMS AND CONFLICTS' The case of the Amungme of southern West New Papua against PT Freeport Indonesia, which has major investment in it from Rio Tinto of Australia. [*Irian News*]
- 25 'INDONESIAN BUSINESSMAN HELD OVER ILLEGAL VANILLA TRADE' Held by police at Vanimo after trying to smuggle 200 kg of vanilla from Jayapura. [I]

June 2001

- 01 'PAPUANS NOD TO CHINA LEAVES CANBERRA IN A QUANDARY' Article by Ben Bohane. China and Taiwan are providing grant money and military assistance to Pacific nations thus pointing to Australia's diminishing influence in the Pacific. [*SMH*]
- 01 'INDONESIAN PROVINCE SEEKS SELF-RULE' Papuan intellectuals think they have a solution to the frustrations of West Papuan nationalists in the concept of special autonomy for the province. [*The Washington Times*]
- 03 'OUR SILENCE ON MASSACRE "ENCOURAGED TIMOR KILLING"' Article by Andrew West. A serving member of the Australian Defence Force, intelligence officer Andrew Plunkett has stated that suppression of the report of the massacre of 6 July 1998, in which 20 died and over 200 were beaten, tortured or raped, encouraged the subsequent actions of the TNI in East Timor. [*SMH*]
- 05 'WEST PAPUA MASSACRE COVER-UP CONTROVERSY IN AUSTRALIA' Australian officials are alleged to have concealed a report of a massacre at Biak in West Papua in 1998 for fear of offending the Indonesian government soon after the removal of Suharto. It is said by an Australian intelligence officer that the Biak incident was a rehearsal for the TNI in East Timor. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 05 'FACTS ON INDONESIA'S SOVEREIGNTY OVER IRIAN JAYA' Suggests that the two cases of West Papua and East Timor are entirely different. West Papua was a remnant of the Netherlands East Indies the whole of which was transferred to Indonesia under several agreements. East Timor was administered by Portugal and was recognised as a non-self governing territory by the United Nations.

- 06 'LETTER TO PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM HEADS OF STATE AND OFFICIALS FROM AUSTRALIA WEST PAPUA ASSOCIATION, SYDNEY' Historical background and summary of recent events. [*Pacific Islands Forum*]
- 06 'IRIAN JAYA: HISTORICAL DEVELOPMENTS' Summary of Indonesian historical claims to West Papua based on Gajah Mada's book of national history written in 1356. The province was called Djanggi during the period 1292-1521 under the rule of the Majapahit kingdom. In 1648 the Dutch acquired, as spoils of war from Spain, a monopoly over all the Indonesian islands. The Netherlands East Indies colonial empire became the state of Indonesia in 1949, with the exception of West Papua which was held by the Dutch until 1962. In July 1949 Dutch sovereignty over West Papua was declared under an agreement of 1905 that allowed a self-governing territory to be put back under direct rule. The sultanate of Ternate, within which West Papua lay, became the territory where the Dutch applied the 1905 agreement. The eastern boundary of West Papua, at longitude 141°E, had been fixed by the British in July 1886 for its new colony of British New Guinea, or Papua. Paper issued by the Indonesian embassy in Canberra. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 06 'BIAK SUPPRESSION CLAIM IS BASELESS' Protestors were killed in an incident at Biak on 6 July 1998. This matter was discussed between Downer and Alatas, the foreign ministers of Australia and Indonesia respectively, at the time The report of the incident was given a security classification restricting it to circulation among senior officers only.. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 08 'ENFORCING LAW A BIG CHALLENGE IN JAYAPURA, IRIAN JAYA' Report by Ian Timberlake. Interview with the Indonesian police superintendent in charge of public safety in Jayapura and the surrounding region with 250,000 residents and 989 police officers. There are 254 ethnic groups in West Papua and many disputes have to be settled according to local custom since the national law may not be appropriate so the police act as mediators. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 08 'WEST PAPUANS SUPPORT INDONESIAN PRESIDENT WAHID' Fears that if Megawati Sukarnoputri should assume power there would be a return to the Suharto days of a heavy handed military policy.[*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 12 'ILLEGAL TRADING OF VALUABLE WOOD RIFE IN VANIMO, PNG: LOCALS.'The highly prized Eaglewood is being traded illegally in Vanimo, Sandaun Province. In Vanimo one kilogram fetches K1,900, in Jayapura between K3,000 and K4,000, while in Singapore this amount would command US\$15,000-20,000.[*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 12 'GOVT STAFF WARNED ON JAYAPURA JAUNTS' Public servants in Vanimo have been warned not to go to Jayapura on pleasure trips after conferences in Vanimo for national public servants as 'protocol officers'
- 11 'UNCHECKED ILLEGAL IRIAN JAYA TRADE GOES ON IN BIRDS OF PARADISE' Report by Simon Sinaga. Many cendrawasih (Bird of Paradise) are shipped out of Timika as part of the illegal wildlife trade. Birds are brought in from Agats and other parts of the Merauke district by cash-poor locals. Prices range from US\$63 to US\$90 for any one of the 42 species of the endangered birds. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 11 'SIX PEOPLE KILLED IN IRIAN JAYA' Among those dead are five riot police who were guarding a logging company in the Birds Head peninsula (Vogelkop) in the west of West Papua. Thought to be rivalry between the Indonesian army and private companies over providing security contracts that are lucrative because of the activities of the OPM. [*BBC News*]
- 11 'REBELS KILL POLICEMEN' Suspected OPM rebels killed five policemen in a raid on a remote security post. The killers stole weapons from the police station near Mankwari in the

- north of West Papua where armed separatists have been fighting since 1963 when Indonesia occupied the country. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 'REBEL GROUP BLAMED FOR MANOKWARI, IRIAN JAYA ATTACK KILLING SIX' On 13 June an attack on Mobile Brigade police at Wondiwoi village, Wasiur district in the Manokwari regency left five police and one civilian dead. This incident has been blamed on a separatist group led by Daniel Awom. A military source claims that this group had joined the armed rebel movement operating in the mineral rich province in mid-1998. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 11 'BELGIAN FILM MAKERS HOSTAGE IN IRIAN JAYA' Phillippe Simon Johan van Den Eynde are said to be held in the forest at Ilagga. No ransom demand. The police chief, General Made Mangku Pastika, has asked the local chief to negotiate with the local rebel leader, Penny Murib, for the release of the hostages.
- 18 'PANEL OF JUDGES OVERRULES DEFENSE PLEA IN IRIAN JAYA SEPARATIST TRIAL' Theys' defence statement overruled by judges. Court told by lawyers that the May 2000 Papua Congress demanded that Jakarta accept West Papua's sovereignty but that this was not subversive. Moreover, the resolution of the Congress was not the sole sentiment of the five defendants but represented the aspirations of the entire community of West Papua. Don Flassy is one of the five defendants. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 18 'INVESTIGATION PREPARED INTO BLOODY RAIDS ON IRIAN JAYA STUDENTS' 35 man team sworn in to investigate the gross human rights violations committed during the police raid at Abepura on 7 December 2000. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 19 'WEST PAPUAN PRO-INDEPENDENCE LEADER ON TRIAL ESCAPES TO PNG' Don Flassy fled after a panel of judges rejected a defence plea in another revolt case involving Theys Hiyo Eluay. [*Irian News*]
- 19 'SEPARATIST THEYS ASKS PRESIDENT WAHID TO TESTIFY IN IRIAN JAYA TREASON CASE' Theys Hiyo Eluay, the chairman of the Papuan Presidium Council, wants 'Gus Dur' to testify on his behalf in his trial for treason. Anton Raharosan, Theys' defence lawyer, asserts that 'Gus Dur's' donation of Rp 1 million marks his approval of the Presidium's staging of the Congress of Papuan people last February knowing that it was a new line on West Papua's autonomy and did not connote separation from Indonesia. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 19 'WEST PAPUAN INDEPENDENCE LEADER REPORTED IN PNG' Don Flassy who is on trial for treason in connection with last year's Papua Congress is believed to have escaped across the border into PNG. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 20 'PNG WILL DEPORT IRIANESE SEPARATIST GROUP LEADER MATHIAS WENDER TO JAYAPURA' Another separatist leader, Simon Allom, will also be deported. [*Irian News*]
- 20 'TV MEN REPORTED HELD HOSTAGE BY FREE PAPUA MOVEMENT' Two TV documentary film-makers reported missing 10 June. Negotiations for their release are being conducted by Ilaga district head Onbadja Wakerwa with OPM leader Penny Murib. [*Irian News*]
- 20 'INDONESIAN POLICE TRY TO NEGOTIATE TO FREE TWO BELGIAN HOSTAGES' Officials seek the release of the hostages held in the Ilaga region which is in the central highlands 300km SE of coastal town of Nabire. [*Irian News*]
- 20 'CAPTORS OF TWO BELGIANS IN IRIAN JAYA SEEK CHURCH MEDIATION' Church mediation demanded by OPM. Hostages reported missing after they set out for jungle east of Nabire on 7 June. [*Irian News*]

- 20 'IRIAN JAYA FIGURES DECRY DISTRUST OF PAPUA BILL' Legislators and officials unenthusiastic about a bill for West Papua to become autonomous within the framework of the unitary state of Indonesia. [*Irian News*]
- 20 'MILITARY AND POLICE CANNOT BE BLAMED FOR RIGHTS ABUSE' Wahid indicated that rogue elements had used the TNI and the national police (Polri) to carry out human rights abuses. [*Irian News*]
- 21 'ILLEGAL VANILLA TRADERS RIFE IN SEPIK' Report by Melanie Vari-Turia. Javanese traders are coming illegally to the Sepik to buy vanilla. This is a booming trade and the illegal traders pass off the Sepik vanilla as an Indonesian product when they export the crop. [*The National*]
- 21 DEMAND FOR UNIQUE IRIAN JAYA TORTOISE PUTS IT IN PERIL' Report by Bayu Dwi Mardana Kusuma . Pignose tortoises are native to the south of West Papua and are smuggled from Argumi Bay, Danau Jamur, Timika, Agats, Kimaan, Asiki and Kali Digul to Merauke before being sent on to Jakarta and Makassar. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 22 'IRIAN JAYA LEADERS DISTRUST PAPPUA AUTONOMY BILL' Anton Ririhena, representing the West Papua governor J P Solossa, said no officials in Jakarta had approached his delegation to discuss the draft bill. Agus Sumule, a member of the delegation, said the purpose of the bill was to appease the separatist elements in the province. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 'WEST PAPUANS DENY 'RUNAWAY' CLAIM' Editorial comment. The political arm of the OPM, the West Papua Presidium, has refuted the claim that Don Flassy has fled from Indonesia to PNG. He has come to Port Moresby to launch a book he has co-authored with Professor Otto Nekitel at UPNG. This arrangement is an example of the co-operation between UPNG and Cenderawasih University in Jayapura. [*The National*]
- 25 'SHORT OF FUNDS, PNG POSTPONES REPATRIATION OF IRIAN JAYA BORDER CROSSERS' The repatriation of 371 border crossers from West Papua has been postponed because of a shortage of funds. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 25 'PNG SENDING BACK 30-40 WEST PAPUANS, INCLUDING WENDA AND ALUM, SAYS INDONESIAN CONSUL' The deported Papuans to be handed over today in Wontung village about 2km from Jayapura. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 26 'THE NEGLECTED REFUGEES FROM WEST PAPUA' Report by Winis Map. Lack of PNG government presence in the refugee camp outside Vanimo. Michael Kalele, Diocesan Development Secretary of the Catholic Church in Vanimo, says the government appointed camp manager has not been present for three months. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 27 'BELGIAN CAPTORS WANT INTERNATIONAL EXPOSURE' Commander of the Papuan Liberation Army has demanded that the cause of West Papua separatists be put to an international forum. [*Radio Australia*]
- 28 'BELGIAN KIDNAPPERS SEEK INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION ON "FREE PAPUA"' Demand made by Papuan Liberation Army (TPNP) that President Wahid present the West Papua issues before an international forum. + [*Pacific Islands Report*]

July 2001

- 02 'AUSTRALIANS BACK INDON ALTERNATIVE ON PROVINCES' John Howard has supported an alternative to independence for West Papua and Aceh in the form of a special autonomy.
- 02 'US, AUST WARN ON SUPPRESSION' Officials of both countries have warned Indonesia against using force to suppress secessionists in West Papua and Aceh.

- 02 'INDONS TO DISCUSS IRIAN AUTONOMY' The Indonesian House of Representatives consultative body will put forward an autonomy bill proposed by West Irian legislators. It will be decided whether the bill would be considered by a House commission on home and legal affairs or by a special committee.
- 01 'BELGIAN HOSTAGE CASE' The signature of Kelly Kwalik, the commander of the Papuan Liberation Army, on a letter to President Wahid has been called into doubt by a Roman Catholic priest Theo Van den Broek. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 03 'VIOLENCE AND POLITICAL IMPASSE IN PAPUA' The Human Rights Watch has reported that Indonesia's crackdown on the Papuan independence movement has diminished prospects for peace. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 05 'VIOLENCE, HARDER INDONESIAN LINE STRENGTHEN SECESSIONISTS IN WEST PAPUA' Article by Jim Lobe. Independence sentiment is becoming stronger in the face of increased repression by Indonesian government forces. Papuan militants have stepped up attacks on Indonesian migrants from other provinces. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 01 'NO PROOF THAT KILLER FISH CAME FROM WEST PAPUA' Not enough evidence that the 'killer fish' pacu came from West Papua into the Sepik and Ramu rivers. [*The National*]
- 07 'INDONESIA DENIES PNG DEPORTATION REPORT REGARDING WEST PAPUA BORDER CROSSERS' The Head of Mission of the Indonesian embassy in Port Moresby, Wisnu Mahendra, has denied reports attributed to him that PNG would return 30 West Papuans. Among these were OPM leader Mathias Wenda and his assistant Simon Alum, now living in Vanimo. Mr Mahendra said to reporters 'The between Indonesia and PNG are not affected by the rising insurgency in Irian Jaya' [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 07 'IRIAN JAYA AND THE BELGIAN HOSTAGES' Johan van den Eynde,⁴⁷ and M. Phillippe Simon,⁴⁹ missing since 6 June when they reported to police at Ilaga police station before hiking to Puncakjaya. They are thought to have been kidnapped by the OPM. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 05 'IRIANESE REBELS THREATEN WASIOR RESIDENTS' A faction of the OPM has forced residents of Wasior subdistrict into the forests from the villages of Wombu, Woggema and Sararti. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 11 'Australia West Papua Association Newsletter No. 17 Details of rising tensions in West Papua particularly around Wasior. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 11 'TWO BELGIAN HOSTAGES NOT YET FREED IN IRIAN JAYA' No sign of release for hostages despite the meeting of mediators from the Jayapura diocese with the hostages and kidnapers at Ilaga. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 12 'MEDIATORS MEET OVER BELGIANS ABDUCTIONS IN IRIAN JAYA' Church mediators and Belgian diplomats are meeting in Jakarta to plan negotiations for the release of the Belgians taken by the OPM. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 13 'FREE PAPUA MOVEMENT WARNS OF TROUBLE IF PNG DEPORTS WENDA' PNG has been warned that if OPM commander Mathias Wenda is deported back to West Papua this cause problems. Wenda was arrested in January for allegedly raising an illegal army at Krisa near Vanimo but was cleared. PNG have planned to deport Wenda which is seen as an act of betrayal by a Melanesian brother since the Indonesian authorities want him for participation in the attacks on police in Abepura by the OPM late in 2000. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 13 'UPNG MEDICAL PROGRAMS INTEREST WEST PAPUAN STUDENTS' Two representatives of UPNG visited Cendrawashi University in Jayapura as part of a recruiting

- drive in the Momase region. They reported great enthusiasm by the West Papuan students to study medicine in PNG. [*The Independent*]
- 13 'OPM OPPOSES WENDA'S RETURN TO JAYAPURA' An OPM spokesman said Wenda would not receive a fair trial in an Indonesian court if he were deported. [*The Independent*]
- 13 'TAURAMA ATTRACTS IRIANESE' The courses offered at the School of Medicine and Health Sciences at Taurama have attracted a lot of attention from West Papuan students. [*The National*]
- 11 'MILITARY TO PROBE IRIAN JAYA KILLINGS' Report by Greg Poulgrain. General Simbolon, military commander in West Papua, sent on 12 July 2001 a Papuan church delegation to Betaf, 150km west of Jayapura, to investigate the killing of young Papuans. A military operation designated 'comb and destroy' is taking place there and in two other regions. These operations are intended to the Papuan independence movement while Wahid is fighting to keep the presidency. [*The Courier-Mail*]
- 16 'WEST PAPUA LINK TO HUMAN SMUGGLING' Details of human smuggling scheme operated from Colombo. Five Sri Lankans are believed to have entered Australia illegally through Mount Hagen when Air Nuigini operated weekly direct flights from Mount Hagen via Nadzab. [*The National*]
- 18 'CHURCH MEDIATORS PLAN SECOND MEETING WITH IRIAN JAYA ABDUCTORS OF BELGIANS.' Theo van den Broek, a mediator representing the Catholic Church, is on his way to Jayapura following consultations with Belgian diplomats and Indonesian officials in Jakarta. Van den Broek says the abductors are armed rebels from the OPM led by Titus Murip who said he was Kelly Kwalik during the mediators first meeting at Ilaga in the central highlands of West Papua. Benny Giay from the Protestant church is the other mediator who was with van den Broek at Ilaga. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 18 'WEST PAPUA LINKED TO HUMAN SMUGGLING' A PNGer has told how he travelled by boat from Amadi, in West Papua, in 1998 with a Sri Lankan, said to be the leader of a human smuggling ring. Accompanied by four Sri Lankans and an African the party travelled to Daru in the hope of entering Australia but were arrested and deported. False PNG passports were bought in Bangkok for US\$2,500 and Foreign Affairs officers in Port Moresby could secure entry into Australia for K1,500 (US\$454.50). It is possible Tamil Tigers may be using this route to Australia, too. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 18 'BELGIAN HOSTAGES IN IRIAN JAYA WON'T BECOME INTERNATIONAL ISSUE: GOVERNOR' Jaap Solossa, the Irian Jaya governor, said the Belgian and Indonesian governments had agreed that the kidnapping of the Belgian hostages should not become an international matter. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 18 'FREEPORT-McMoRan COPPER AND GOLD INC. REPORTS STRONG SECOND QUARTER 2001 RESULTS' 240,000 metric tonnes of ore per day which is a record quarterly average. World's lowest cost copper producer. Cash flow of US\$ 185.3 million for the second quarter. [*Yahoo*]
- 19 'VILLAGERS FLEE WAVE OF BEATINGS AND ARRESTS' Report by Craig Skehan, *SMH* Foreign Affairs correspondent. A forum held in Manokwari has heard first hand reports of human rights abuses during a security operation designated 'Comb and Destroy' that followed attacks on police by reputed secessionist militants. These events are recorded by John Rumbiak who heads the Institute for Human Rights Study and Advocacy. [*Irian News*]
- 20 '20 PNG WOMEN HEAD FOR WEST PAPUA SEMINAR' This is a week-long West Papua Women's Conference to be opened in Jayapura on 23 July by Indonesia's first lady, Shinta Nuriah Wahid. [*The National*]

- 24 'FREE PAPUA GANGS FIGHT ONE ANOTHER, TWO PEOPLE KILLED' In clashes between two OPM groups led respectively by Mathias Wenda and Terry Yaram near the PNG border two persons were killed and another was seriously wounded. These incidents were reported by the Pattimura Military Command headquarters in Jayapura. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 24 'AUSTRALIAN SENATOR SAYS REPORTS OF VIOLENCE IN WEST PAPUA' Greens Party Senator Bob Brown says West Papuan activists have told him that 5,000 people have fled their homes in Wasio and Manokwari. According to Senator Brown the power vacuum in Jakarta has allowed the Indonesian military to run amok in West Papua. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 24 'STEP UP EFFORTS TO RELEASE BELGIAN HOSTAGES IN IRIAN JAYA' Press release from Reporters Sans Frontières (RSF) in Paris. Call by RSF for the Belgian and Indonesian authorities increase their efforts to secure the release of Philippe Simon and Johan van den Eynde from the OPM. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 23 'PAPUAN COUNCIL DEMANDS FREEDOM FOR IRIAN JAYA' Following the removal of Wahid as president of Indonesia the Papuan Presidium announced on 24 July that the province of Irian Jaya wished to secede from Indonesia. [*Irian News*]
- 24 'WORRIES FOR WEST PAPUA AS MEGAWATTI TAKES OVER INDONESIA LEADERSHIP' Megawatti is sympathetic to the views of the anti-reformists of the Indonesian military leadership who are against independence movements. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 25 'WEST PAPUA KIDNAPPERS TO FREE BELGIANS AUGUST 1' Reporters in Jayapura were told by the Rev. Benny Giay that the TPNP (National Liberation Army for Free Papua, a splinter group of the OPM) abductors want to meet the Belgian ambassador to Indonesia. A further condition is that the hostages are to be regarded as special envoys of Papuan students facilitating the independence struggle. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 26 'NEW PAPUA CHALLENGE FACES MEGAWATTI' Report by Mark Forbes and Lindsay Murdoch. Fears that the new president will allow the army a free hand to put down the independence movement. [*The Age*]
- 27 'WEST PAPUA SEPARATISTS UNDETERRED' Franzalbert Joku declares that Megawatti's leadership will not diminish West Papua's Melanesian nationalism manifest in a growing demand for self-determination and independence. [*The National*]
- 26 'HOUSE BEGINS DELIBERATING BILL ON PAPUAN SPECIAL AUTONOMY' The bill provides for Irian Jaya to remain an integral part of Indonesia but will have its own flag, anthem and constitution. The provincial government will retain about 80 per cent of the income from natural resources. Agus Kofar who led the drafting of the bill has indicated that this is the special autonomy that the Papuan people want. [*Irian News*]
- 29 'IS AUTONOMY STILL ON THE AGENDA?' Report by Bruce Hill. Megawatti's presidency may affect the political aspirations of the mainly Melanesian West Papua. Commentary by Richard Chauvel on Megawatti's emotional attachment to her father's sense of the completeness of Indonesia reified only if West Papua is part of it. [*ABC*]
- 30 'FOOD DISTRIBUTION AT VANIMO "REFUGEES" CAMP RESTRICTED' Report by Winis Map. The PNG government has instructed the Catholic Church in Vanimo to reduce the rice ration for the inmates of the camp to 1 kilogram per person per week. The camp is located on the edge of Vanimo close to the NBC transmitter station. The reduced ration scale was advised by the Chris Kati of the Provincial Affairs Department, according to Father Tommy Thomas who says his church has the full responsibility for feeding the border

crossers who arrived from Wutung last December. Additional assistance has come from the Salvation Army which donated rice and tinned meat and fish. [*The Independent*]

- 31 'HOW LOW CAN MALARIA GO IN IRIAN JAYA?' Article by Simon Sinaga. Malaria still major cause of death in West Papua and thought to contribute to a low level of academic achievement. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 31 'EXPERTS CALL FOR GRADUAL AUTONOMY IN IRIAN JAYA' Selo Sumardjan, a noted sociologist at the University of Indonesia, said autonomy for West Papua would have to be introduced step by step. About 250 tribes in West Papua still live in a primitive culture and their main aim is an end to the injustices they have endured since the province was integrated into Indonesia in 1963. Otherwise, the proposed special autonomy will fail. [*Pacific Islands Report*]

August 2001

- 01 'MEGAWATI EXPECTED TO GIVE ATTENTION TO PAPUAN WOMEN IN NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT' Mrs Betriks Koibur said in Jayapura on 26 July that the new president is expected to pay attention to Papuan women and enable them to play their part in national development. According to Mrs Koibur Papuan women have been spectators for 38 years and have taken no part in the nation's affairs since they were suppressed by tradition. Mrs Koibur calls on Megawatti to give women the opportunity to be more active in national development. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 01 'THE LOST ONES IN PAPUA'S RIFT' Report by Mark Forbes. Last October the Indonesian Brimob (mobile police) tore down the Morning Star flag – the symbol of West Papuan independence – and beat the villagers of Wamena who fled for refuge in PNG at Vanimo. 350 people from West Papua are now in a 'concentration camp' on the outskirts of Vanimo. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 01 'BELGIAN ENVOY BARRED FROM ILAGA' Ambassador Luk Darras has been prohibited by the Indonesian authorities from visiting the Belgian hostages, held in Ilaga, and seeing to their release. The Indonesian police chief for Irian Jaya has said that the hostages must be released in Jayapura and that he guaranteed the safe return of the kidnappers to Ilaga. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 01 'NO FOREIGN INTERVENTION TO FREE IRIAN HOSTAGES' On Wednesday 1 August the Indonesian government said it would use peaceful means to release two Belgian hostages held by rebels in Irian Jaya. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 06 'EDITORIAL: PACIFIC COLD-SHOULDER' Mr Howard has cancelled his attendance at the South Pacific Forum in Nauru 17-20 August 2001. West Papuan independence is expected to be an issue at the meeting. Melanesian nations support West Papuan independence and find it hard to understand why Australia supports independence for East Timor and not that of West Papua. [*SMH*]
- 06 'WEST PAPUA: WEST PAPUA RESOURCES 'LOOTED', SAYS INDONESIAN EXPERT' Selo Sumardjin from the University of Indonesia has said that the central government has for decades 'looted' resources in West Papua and has given nothing in return. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 06 'AUSTRALIA'S PM HOWARD REFUSES TO REVERSE DECISION NOT TO ATTEND PACIFIC ISLANDS FORUM SUMMIT' In Suva, the publisher of *Islands Business International* has said that Mr Howard is uncomfortable with island affairs, people and places. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 07 'PACIFIC BEAT. IRIAN JAYA A LITMUS TEST. Article by Alan Boyd. The Pacific Forum meeting in Nauru will be a test of Indonesia's tolerance of secessionist movements.

- Notably, Megawatti has posted Major-General Mahidin Simbolon as military commander in West Papua who had called for a tougher line in Aceh. [*Asia Times*]
- 07 'RICE PRODUCTION PROPOSED FOR IRIAN JAYA' Chairman of the State Logistics Agency said it was planned to develop 200,000 hectares of rice paddy in the province. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 05 'EDUCATION "SHOULD BE PRIORITY IN IRIAN"' On Monday 6 August 2001 the Rector of the Cenderawasih University in Jayapura said the education budget would be raised to 20 per cent of revenue raised from mineral exploitation. [*The Jakarta Post*]
- 08 'NAURU BLOCKS WEST PAPUAN ENTRY TO FORUM' President Harris of Nauru has revoked the visas of the four West Papuan delegates who were to attend the South Pacific Forum. He explained that it was because of the power-play in West Papua politics. [*CNN*]
- 08 'IRIAN JAYA AUTONOMY PLAN PUT FORWARD IN PARLIAMENT' Report by Marianne Kearney. The Indonesian parliament will consider a proposal to grant autonomy to West Papua. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 08 'NAURU BARS WARRING WEST PAPUAN SECESSIONISTS FROM PACIFIC FORUM' Report by Craig Skehan. President Harris has pointed to bitter divisions between West Papuans that could spill over into the Forum. The Howard Government opposes island states backing West Papuan secessionists. [*SMH*]
- 08 'NAURU WITHDRAWS FORUM VISAS FOR WEST PAPUANS' President Rene Harris has said he has been lobbied by various factions in West Papua to support one over the other. He declared he could not allow the Forum to be distracted by this dissension. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 08 'IRIAN JAYA SUB-DISTRICT DECLARED "FREE" OF PRO-INDEPENDENCE ACTIVITY. Report by Max Maton in Manokwari. Wasior community leader Kalib Marange has said since the police ordered all Morning Star flags to be lowered there had been wholehearted compliance and the Satgas Papua Task Force had been disbanded. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 09 'WEST PAPUA STILL HOPES' Franzalbert Joku said the exclusion of West Papua independence leaders from Nauru and the South Pacific Forum is unfortunate but added that self-determination for West Papua is still a question to be settled in the light of international law and human rights. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 09 'WEST PAPUA ISSUE WILL BE DISCUSSED AT NAURU SUMMIT' Franzalbert Joku says the West Papua independence issue will be raised at the Pacific Islands Forum despite the revocation of the West Papua delegates' visas. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 09 'WEST PAPUA SEPARATISTS PREPARE TO FIGHT IN COURT' Report by Hamish McDonald. A specialist in international law at UTS has been retained by the Papuan Council Presidium to advise on a challenge in the international courts to overturn the legal basis of Indonesian sovereignty over West Papua. [*SMH*]
- 09 'DIPLOMATIC COUP?' The Drum. A plea to Megawatti from West Papuans for recognition of their independent nation was sent through the fax of the NZ High Commission in Port Moresby. [*Post-Courier*]
- 09 'AUSTRALIA DEFENDS SENDING DEFENCE MINISTER TO NAURU FORUM MEETING' The Australian Defence Minister, Alexander Downer has argued that the big issues in the region have been settled-Bougainville, Solomons, and Fiji. He said the Bougainville peace process had been concluded and that the Solomons PM, Manasseh Sogavare, will not be in attendance at the Forum. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 10 'WEST PAPUANS EXPRESS REGRET' Media Statement. The Papua Council Presidium finds it regrettable that the Government of Nauru banned the attendance of the West Papua

delegation at the Pacific Islands Forum this year. Franzalbert Joku, the council's chief international spokesman said that Australia and its allies have worked hard to support the Indonesian position and to block the presence of West Papua at the Forum. [*Pacific Islands Report*]

- 10 'BAN ON JOURNALIST MICHAEL FIELD COVERING NAURU FORUM SUMMIT FACES GROWING CRITICISM' NZ PM Helen Clark said her government will write to Nauru President Rene Harris expressing its disapproval of the ban on the Agence-France Presse correspondent. Field told the NZ Press Association this was part of general Pacific trend to suppress free expression of opinion. Field's revelations of Russian mafia money laundering and tax haven arrangements in Nauru explained the ban. He has been banned from Tonga and Kiribati and was excluded from last year's Forum in Tarawa. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 10 'PRO-INDEPENDENCE IRIAN JAYA STUDENTS SENTENCED' Four student activists were sentenced each to three months and 25 days in gaol for demonstrating outside the Netherlands and United States embassies on 1 December 2000. They will not serve these sentences since they already have been in detention for the same length of time. The term of imprisonment was shorter than that called for by the prosecution because charges of subversion were not proved. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 10 'WEST PAPUAN GROUP APPROVES OF NEW INDONESIAN FOREIGN MINISTER' Franzalbert Joku says the new Indonesian Foreign Minister, Hasan Wirayudha, is a kind of a specialist in conflict resolution who helped to ease tensions in Aceh and played a part in the Habibi government's decision for self-determination in East Timor. [*Radio Australia*]
- 08 'FORUM: WEST PAPUANS SAY AUSTRALIANS WANTED THEM OUT OF FORUM' Report by Walter Nalangu of Solomon Islands Broadcasting Corporation. Australia is accused of being behind Nauru's decision to exclude the West Papua delegation from attending the Pacific Islands Forum this year. [*Pacific Magazine/PINA Nius*]
- 13 'HOWARD CHOOSES INDONESIA OVER FORUM' Nauru's President Rene Harris considers he cannot allow the Pacific Forum to be taken over by various factions from West Papua and has cancelled the visas of the delegates from West Papua. This is contrary to a memorandum of understanding between the West Papua Council and Nauru signed on 4 May 2001 for the admission, inter alia, of West Papua with observer status. [*The National*]
- 14 'TALKS BREAK DOWN ON LIBERATION OF BELGIAN HOSTAGES IN IRIAN JAYA' A third round of talks for the release of two Belgian hostages has broken down. The Dutch priest returned on Tuesday 7 August 2001 from a meeting with the abductors without any result. In return for freeing the hostages the OPM are demanding wider media coverage of their fight for independence, an international conference on their cause and the closure of the mines. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 14 'AFP JOURNALIST MICHAEL FIELD SPEAKS OUTABOUT BEING BANNED IN NAURU.' Letter from New York which remarks 'Isn't fascinating how a story like this one can overshadow one like, say, the West Papuans heroic struggle to place their worthy cause before the Forum leaders.' [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 14 'WEST PAPUANS APPEAL' Clemens Runawery, a member of the Papua Council Presidium, said in Port Moresby on 13 August 2001 that PNG should overcome its 'cold war' fear of Indonesia and do something about the human rights of their Melanesian brothers. [*Post-Courier*]
- 14 'PET PIG GIVES PROMINENCE TO PAPUAN PLIGHT' Yabon the pig and companion of West Papuan freedom fighter Jacob Rumbiak, was the focus of attention at the conclusion of a meeting of church and trades union leaders. The pig is a central element in the economy of

Papuan village life and ceremonies and Mr Rumbiak 's companion underlined this fact.
[*Post-Courier*]

- 14 'CANBERRA TRIES TO BLOCK ISLANDS JAB AT US' Report by Craig Skehan in Nauru. Australia is lobbying against the Pacific Islands Forum passing a resolution critical of the United States failure to endorse the Kyoto protocol. Australia wants a compromise resolution passed at the Forum on political violence in West Papua. The Howard Government resists any questioning of Indonesia's sovereignty in West Papua. [*SMH*]
- 14 'FORUM: AMERICANS JOIN CRITICISM OF NAURU FORUM BAN ON JOURNALIST' In New York the Committee to Protect Journalists urged Nauru's President Rene Harris to lift the ban on Mike Field of AFP. [*PINA Nius*]
- 15 'TAX AND PAPUA BIG FORUM ISSUES' OECD pressure on small Pacific island states and self determination for West Papua are among the issues for discussion at the Pacific Forum. In Port Moresby, Clemens Runawery has asked PNG to overcome its 'cold war' fears of Indonesia. [*NZOOM*]
- 15 'NAURU DEPORTS WEST PAPUAN ACTIVIST' Sean Dorney reports that a West Papua activist and first secretary of the OPM, Dirk Kereway, has been deported after his illegal arrival from Holland in Nauru. [*ABC*]
- 15 'FOUR LEADERS TO MISS FORUM' These are Fiji's caretaker PM Laisenia Qarese, John Howard who had to meet Megawati Sukarnoputri, PNG's PM Mekere Morauta detained by parliamentary matters and Solomon Islands leader Mannaseh Sogovare has pressing domestic problems. PNG will be represented by Michael Ogio, Deputy PM and the Solomon Islands Foreign Affairs Minister will attend. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 15 'WEST PAPUAN SEPARATISTS WARN OF ANOTHER TIMOR' Report by Greg Skehan in Nauru. Dirk Kereway, first secretary of the OPM, in Nauru illegally, has called on Howard to soften Australia's blanket opposition to West Papua's independence and support negotiations to avoid the spiral of violence in the province. [*SMH*]
- 16 'FUNDS APPEAL FOR WEST PAPUA' The Papuan Council appeals for financial assistance required to mount a legal challenge that will determine the political status of West Papua. [*The National*]
- 16 'CANBERRA UNEASY AS BEIJING WOOS SOUTH PACIFIC' Report by Kalinga Seneviratne. Beijing has started a dialogue with separatists in West Papua but has not yet expressed support for independence. In Port Moresby Franzalbert Joku has said the independence movement would like to give China the first option in diplomatic recognition and would otherwise approach Taiwan for financial support. [*Asia Times*]
- 16 'FREE WEST PAPUA ACTIVIST ORDERED TO LEAVE NAURU.' Dirk Kereway, who claims to be the First Secretary of the OPM, flew into Nauru from The Netherlands via Fiji. Since he has no visa Kereway has been ordered to leave on the next flight to Fiji. Kereway is a critic of the Presidium Council and accuses it of creating confusion in the minds of Pacific islanders. Nauru's President Harris said he has been lobbied by various factions and that the West Papuans need to get themselves organised. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 16 'NAURU URGED TO ADMIT WEST PAPUANS TO PACIFIC FORUM MEETING' Letter from Lorenz Gonschor, Tübingen, Germany. Suggests that Nauru's sovereignty has been compromised by submitting to pressure from Indonesia and Australia to ban representatives of West Papua from attending the Forum. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 16 'MANY IRIANESE SCANTILY CLAD' Wirda Fakauban, chairman of the Indonesian regional development planning board, regards the remote regency of Puncak Jaya in the central mountains of West Papua as extremely backward. He said 85-90 per cent of the people wore only traditional clothing such as koteka (penis sheaths) and sali (grass skirts).

The regional administration plans to build roads and new landing ground to break the regency's isolation. [*Pacific Islands Report*]

- 16 'SPECIAL AUTONOMY FOR IRIAN JAYA?' Article by Rod McGibbon. An analysis of the background to the draft bill for special autonomy in West Papua. A parliamentary committee has been convened to consider the merits of this bill, drafted by a local university team, in the light of another piece of draft legislation for West Papua submitted by the central government. [*Pacific Islands Report*]
- 17 'EDITORIAL:HOWARD SHORES UP RELATIONS WITH MEGAWATI' On Monday 13 August 2001 Megawati signed a decree for special autonomy in Aceh and there are signs that West Papua may follow suit. Australia has undertaken to keep West Papua off the agenda of of the South Pacific Forum in Nauru this week. [*The Australian*]