

## DXING NEW GUINEA

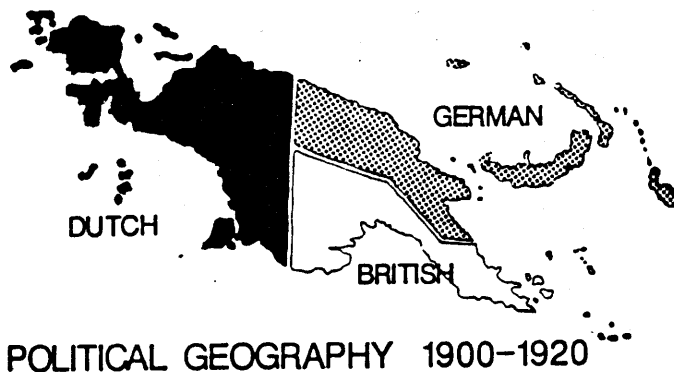
DR. HAROLD CONES,

R. CHARLES RIPPEL, WA4HHG

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New Guinea, the second largest island in the world, is located in the western Pacific only 100 miles due north of Australia. The eastern half of New Guinea combines with a multi-island complex to form the country of Papua New Guinea (PNG); the western half forms Irian Jaya.

Antonio de Abrea, the Portuguese navigator, was probably the first European to see the island when he reported it in 1511. The first European to land on New Guinea was Ortiz de Retes, a Spanish explorer who landed on the northern coast of the island in 1545. In 1660, the Sultan of Ternate gave control of western New Guinea to the Dutch East India Company and in 1828, The Netherlands annexed western New Guinea. In 1884, Great Britain and The Netherlands agreed on an approximate boundary line dividing the island into roughly equal halves. German merchants began colonizing the northeastern section of the island in the late 1800s and named that portion *Kaiser Wilhelm Island*. The southeastern part of the island, *Papua*, became a British territory in 1906 under the control of the Governor-General of Australia. During World War I, Australian troops occupied *Kaiser Wilhelm Island*, and after the war, the area was mandated to Australia by the League of Nations. Japanese military occupied most of the northeastern

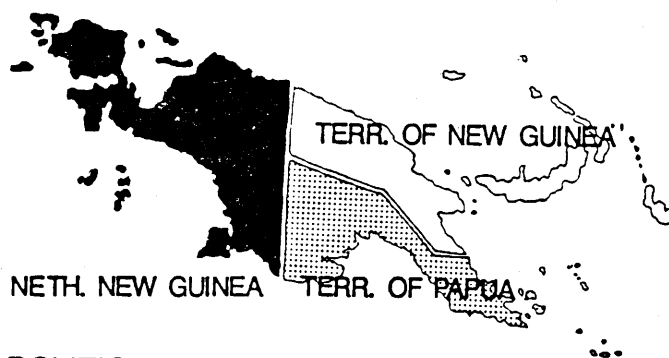


POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY 1900-1920

coast early in World War II but a combined Allied military operation forced their surrender.

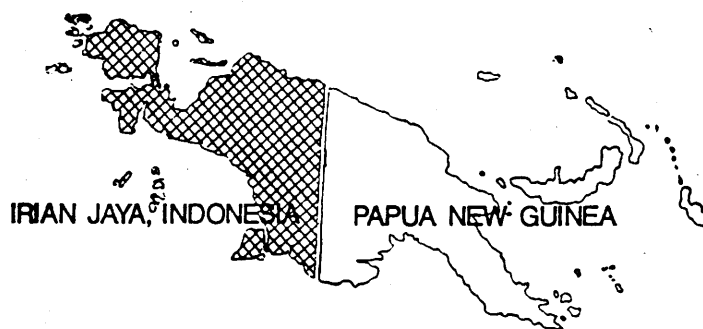
In 1950, the Republic of Indonesia was formed. Indonesia claimed the Dutch controlled portions of the island, but the Dutch refused to give up control, claiming that the people of New Guinea were not racially related to the people of Indonesia. Indonesia threatened to seize the area by force, and in 1962, Indonesia and

The Netherlands signed an agreement transferring territorial administration to the United Nations. Control was awarded to Indonesia in May, 1963, and the area was named Irian Jaya.



POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY 1920-1963

In September 1975, Australia withdrew from its United Nations sponsored guardianship of eastern New Guinea and its surrounding islands, and the new nation of Papua New Guinea joined the Commonwealth of Nations.



POLITICAL GEOGRAPHY 1975-PRESENT

The geological structure of New Guinea and its surrounding islands is complex and for the most part little known. Geologically the island of New Guinea appears to be the northern extension of the continent of Australia and the circum-Australian mountain system; however, portions of the island seem to share a geological history with the Indian subcontinent. The eastern islands, New Britain, New Ireland, Admiralty, and Bougainville, are of more recent volcanic activity and are associated with the Pacific "ring of fire", an area of intense volcanic activity caused by spreading of the earth's plates.

New Guinea is characterized by high mountain chains in the central part of the island and flattened coastal plains along its margins. Puncak Jaya (elevation 16,535'), located in Irian Jaya, is the highest mountain in the southwest Pacific and is a part of the island-long Nassau/Orange/Star/Miller mountain range system

(sometimes called the "Central System"). Many of the peaks of the Central System are above the snow line.

The geologic history of New Guinea accounts for two of its principal export products, petroleum and gold, which are found in prehistoric alluvial deposits. The eastern islands are composed of less lofty volcanic mountains, some still active.

Three major rivers drain the Papua New Guinea portion of New Guinea: the Sepik River, which exits East Sepik Province near Wewak; the Strickland River, which forms a major tributary of the Fly River; and the Fly River (the longest river in the South Pacific), which exits the Western Province near Daru where it is building an extensive delta system.

There are many small and swampy coastal plains along the coast of the Central Province. The western half of New Guinea, Irian Jaya, is topographically similar to the eastern half. The northern slope of the island is drained by the Mamberamo River, the twin of the Sepik, while the southern slopes and coastal plain are drained by the Vriendschaaps, the Digul and numerous smaller rivers. Humbolt Bay, at Jayapura, is one of the finest natural harbors in the world and was the command center for General Douglas MacArthur during World War II.


New Guinea experiences the typical hot and humid climate characteristic of the tropical regions; but elevation produces a marked lowering of temperature, and the highland provinces have a much modified climate. Rainfall is heavy, typically more than 100 inches annually with some places receiving many times that amount. November through April is the time of the northwest monsoons, which bring heavy rains and winds. Temperatures in the coastal areas fluctuate slightly around 27° C (80° F), with the annual range being no more than 8 C degrees. Temperature in the higher altitudes varies with the elevation.

The continuously high temperatures and the heavy rainfall have produced badly leached soils over much of New Guinea. These soils do not respond well to agriculture. The coastal soils are often too sandy or coralline for farming. An exception is the soil of the volcanic areas, such as New Britain, which is rich and easily worked. Traditional food crops of New Guinea are sweet potatoes, taros, yams, and bananas. The major export crop is coconuts, with a growing market developing for cacao, rubber, and tea. Since pasture land for livestock is limited, pigs and poultry are the principal "livestock".

Natural vegetation of New Guinea is a mix of the eucalyptus vegetation of Australia and the Indo-Malayan vegetation. More than two-thirds of New Guinea is forested in what would be called "rain forest", which is characterized by a multistoried vegetation rich in diverse species. In areas along the coast are found swamp forests that are composed chiefly of mangroves and palms, most notably the sago palm. "Slash and burn" agriculture is widely

practiced in much of New Guinea and as a result, the natural forest ecosystems have been greatly modified in some areas.

Natural animal life shows strong Australian affinities, many of the mammals being marsupials. The environment has encouraged the development of tree dwellers and the tree kangaroo is the largest indigenous mammal. Bird life is also typically Australian with some mix of Malayan species. The most noted endemic species is the bird of paradise, one of the most colorful and beautiful birds in the world.



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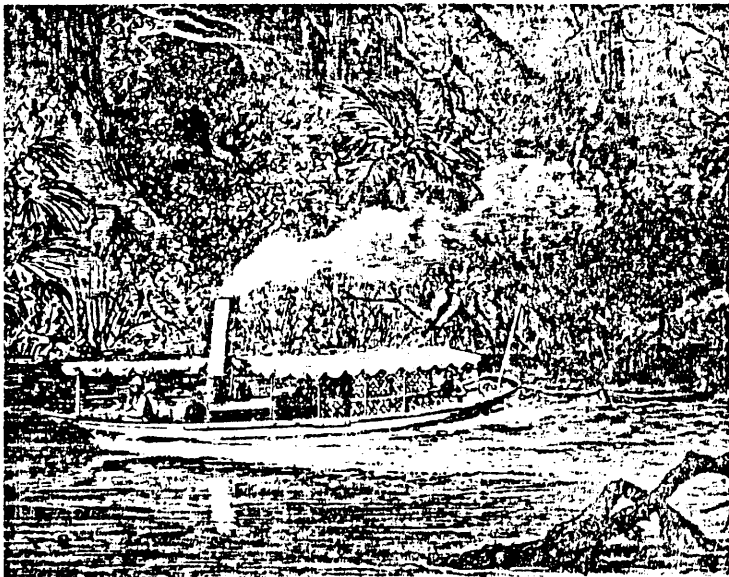
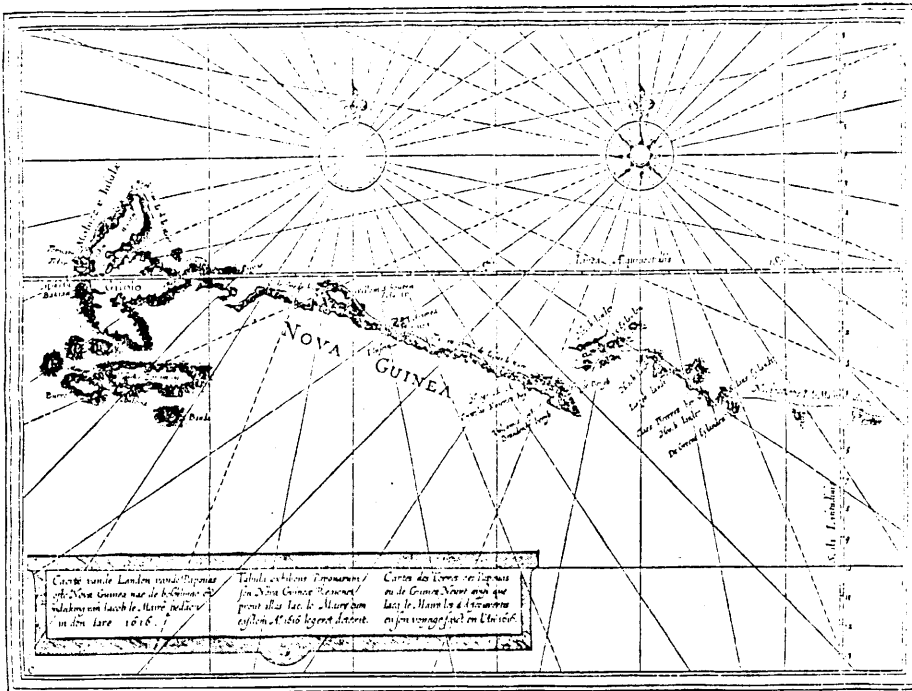
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C. B. H. von Rosenberg with the Chinese coolie's hat and Sumatran sword  
which he wore while exploring West New Guinea





# PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Papua New Guinea is a region of considerable racial and cultural diversity. The population is generally considered to be the result of migrations and mixture, but root stocks and sources remain to be determined. The harshness of the tropical environment has kept population levels relatively low, 3,500,000 currently, with a growth rate of 2.1%.

The distribution of the population is uneven, with major concentrations near the coasts and in the highlands. Sizable areas of the island are uninhabited. In fact, portions of New Guinea still have not been fully explored and populations in some areas a mere several decades ago were classified by anthropologists as Stone Age in their way of life. It is estimated that 85 to 90 percent of the population is engaged in subsistence agriculture.

The rich cultural heritage of the country is expressed in wood carving, bark painting, weaving, dancing, and costuming. Legends and the oral tradition still play a key role in the social structure in many areas of the country and are reenacted through song and dance. The government of Papua New Guinea has adopted a policy of preserving cultural expressions and is encouraging the revival of the older customs.

Dominant languages include English, Melanesian, and Pidgin, a simplified "trade language" blending elements of Dutch, English, and a "bit of whatever". 717 distinct native languages have been identified.

The literacy rate for the country is 32% and English is spoken by 1-2% of the population. Education is the largest single expenditure in the country's budget. Over half the population is Christian (490,000 Catholic, 320,000 Lutheran, and a smattering of other Protestant sects) with the remainder practicing native beliefs.

Although improving, transportation in Papua New Guinea is a problem. There are no railroads and paved roads are found only in the vicinity of towns. "Dirt" roads traverse most of the main island of New Guinea and are usually passable with a four-wheel drive vehicle. The Highlands Highway connects Lae with the major highlands centers of Goroka, Kundiawa, Mount Hagen, and Mendi. The lack of roads is compensated for by an impressive air service system with nearly 550 airfields tying together all the major population centers. In addition, Papua New Guinea has 5 major port facilities and a number of minor ones.

Papua New Guinea is an independent parliamentary state in the British Commonwealth with its legal system based on English

common law. The government is tripartite, consisting of the executive branch (the National Executive Council), the legislature branch (the House of Assembly, with 109 members, elected to five year terms), and the judiciary branch (the Supreme Court of Papua New Guinea, plus district, local, children's, and warden's courts).

Diversity is the key to Papua New Guinea--diversity of habitats, vegetation, animal life, and people. The demands of this diversity are met by the 20 Papua New Guinea SWBC outlets, on the 120, 90, 75 and 60 meter bands. Stations originate from the main and various outer islands. The National Broadcasting Commission, from Port Moresby, has two outlets. The remaining 18 serve the unique populations of the individual provinces. A wide variety of shortwave sets is available and cost about 25% more than comparable sets sold in the U.S. Television essentially does not exist in Papua New Guinea (presently 5,000 sets); shortwave radio therefore is the major means of mass communication.

The highlands region of Papua New Guinea is reminiscent of Switzerland, with lofty mountain peaks, steep-sided valleys and broad upland valleys at altitudes of 5,000 to 10,000 feet. A major segment of the country's population lives in the highlands, yet this area, because of its ruggedness, was the last to be contacted by the colonists. The people of the remote highlands saw their first European, their first wheel, and their first steel implement in 1937! This area is served by several provincial stations. Radio Morobe, 3220 khz, broadcasts from Lae, Papua New Guinea's second largest city. Lae, a coastal city which serves as a northern gateway to the highlands and the central mountain chain, is clean and modern and boasts of having the best golf course in Papua New Guinea. Lae is known to many because of its prominent role in World War II. After the battle of Midway, and Japan's loss of most of her carrier fleet, Lae became the center for Japanese air power in the area and remained so for nearly two years. The destruction of the strike force at Lae airstrip ended Japan's air control in the New Guinea region. For many years, a reef-wrecked Japanese vessel served as a beacon at the end of the Lae airstrip. Rounding out the broadcasters of Papua New Guinea's "Switzerland" is Radio Southern Highlands, 3275 khz, broadcasting from Mendi in the Southern Highlands Province; Radio Simbu, 3355 khz, located in Kundiawa; Radio Western Highlands, 3375 khz, from the coffee and tea plantation surrounded city of Mount Hagen; and Radio Eastern Highlands, 3395 khz, broadcasting from Goroka, the home of the highlands weavers.

The lush drainage basin of the Sepik River is served by three regional stations: Radio Enga, one of the most challenging to hear and verify of all the Papuan regionals, on 2410 khz, broadcasting from Wabag, far in the top of the highlands at the headwaters of the Sepik River; Radio West Sepik, 3205 khz, from Vanimo; and Radio East Sepik, 3335 khz, located in the famous Second World War northern coastal town of Wewak. Wewak, set on white sandy beaches where the river is building an extensive delta system, and where



bomb craters may still be found, is a logical starting place to explore the rich life of the Sepik River. Throughout its length, small villages support such river-related industries as fishing and the sale of crocodile skins. Each village may also serve as home to a towering *Haus Tambarans*, or spirit house, with decorated gables and richly carved pillars. Additionally, village artists produce beautiful traditional wood carvings and masks. The Sepik River is a place where crocodiles glide quietly off the river banks as dugout canoes pass through the tall overhanging jungle grass and bamboo. A neighboring province to the southeast, Madang, although not in the Sepik drainage basin, shares in part a very similar foreboding habitat. Radio Madang broadcasts from Madang on 3260 khz.

Broadcasting on the island of New Britain from the city of Rabaul, the third largest city in Papua New Guinea, is Radio East New Britain (3385 khz). The circular harbor at Rabaul was created when an ancient volcano subsided and the Solomon Sea filled the void. The harbor is one of the finest harbors in the world and served as the main center of Japanese fleet operations, south of the main islands, in World War II. Rabaul harbor was used by the Japanese as a supply base for the invasion of the Solomons Islands and was to be the main supply base for the invasion of Australia. The harbor is surrounded by still active volcanos and is considered by many to be the most beautiful in the world. Rabaul was seriously damaged by volcanic eruptions in 1878 and 1937, and was hardly restored when the Japanese occupied the area in 1942. East New Britain Province shares the island of New Britain with West New Britain Province. The 2 kw outlet, Radio West New Britain, broadcasting from Kimbe on 3235 khz, is a frequently heard Papuan.

Central Province, with its jungled interior and lush coast, is served by the main National Broadcasting Commission station at Port Moresby. The Coral Sea forms a dramatic backdrop to the city. Port Moresby is the largest and most modern of Papua New Guinea cities and is the center of governmental operations for the country. Sidewalk vendors sell nuts, beads, shells and wood carvings. The city is a mix of architecture, the old blending with the new as the city spreads along the coast. Port Moresby has two distinct seasons, a wet season from December to March, and a dry season from May to November. NBC-Port Moresby, operating on 4890 khz in English, is the most reliable performer of the Papuans and often provides arm chair copy to most of North America year-round. The listed 3925 khz frequency for NBC-Port Moresby has been inactive for some time. Adjacent Northern Province is served by rarely heard Radio Northern from Popondetta on 3345 khz. Further up the lush coast from Central Province and to the west, is Gulf Province, with Radio Gulf, 3245 khz, broadcasting from Kerema, and Western Province, with Radio Western, on 3305 khz, from Daru. Daru, with its low tide mud flats and rock pools, is a major tourist mecca. Sailing canoes, some up to 15 meters long with three sails and two outriggers, come to Daru daily from outlying villages to trade. Their sails are characterized by

bright colors and patchwork composition, often constructed of anything that will catch wind, including discarded rice bags. Daru also has a fleet of canoe "houseboats" with sago palm roofs and is an active trade center for turtles and dudongs.

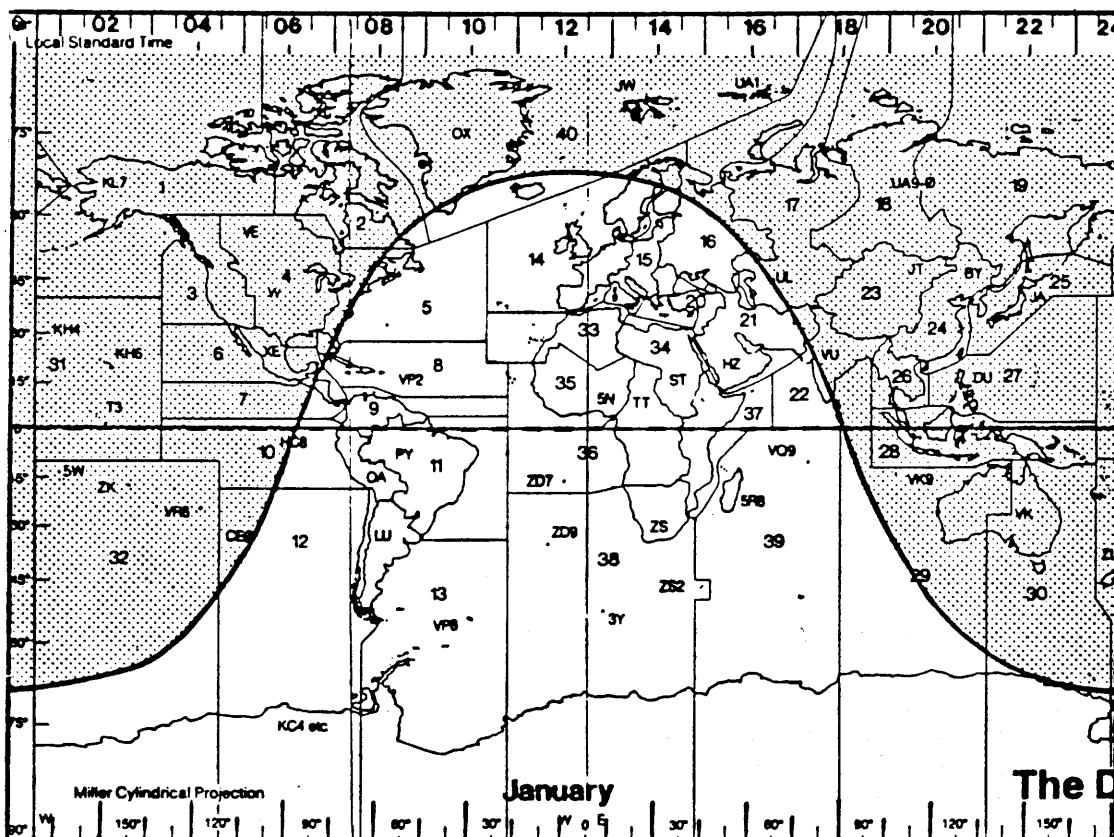
Alotau, the provincial center for Milne Bay Province, is the home of Radio Milne Bay (3360 khz). The coastal area in the region of Alotau is covered by thick brush and palm trees while elsewhere the coast is a mass of sago palms and mangroves. Milne Bay Province, extending well into the Solomons Sea and composed of 650 sandy beach islands and atolls, is one of the most beautiful in Papua New Guinea. The Milne Bay islands which make up the Trobriand Islands, are referred to as the "Islands of Love." The Trobriand people are well known for their art style, Massim Art, which employs highly decorated intricate designs in carvings of ebony and other native timber.

The remaining regional stations are located on smaller volcanic islands adjacent to the main island of New Guinea. To the northeast of Milne Bay is the eastern-most island of Papua New Guinea, Bougainville Island, which forms North Solomons Province. Radio North Solomons on 3325 khz broadcasts from the town of Kieta on the northern coast. The very rugged terrain of Bougainville is a result of its volcanic origin. New Ireland Province, just to the northwest of North Solomons, is represented on shortwave by Radio New Ireland on, 3905 khz, which broadcasts from Kavieng. Kavieng is often described in tourist literature as a "typically pretty South Seas town." Radio New Ireland often packs an easily heard signal into North America, however, its placement in the 75 meter Ham band often makes its reception difficult. The northern-most island group of Papua New Guinea, the Admiralty Islands, form Manus Province. Radio Manus, broadcasts on 3315 khz from the beautiful town of Lorengau.

For listeners on the East Coast of the United States, the Papuans can be challenging catches. All outlets are either 2 KW or 10 KW, and experience has shown that the 10 KW outlets are only marginally better copy than those running 2 KW. Within the next year, however, reception of many Papuans will improve as most of the 2 KW stations are upgraded, in stages, with 10 KW NEC transmitters received as part of an aid agreement with Japan (the addition of new transmitters may allow resumption of service on the 49, 31, and 25 meter bands, which was suspended several years ago). During the last year, the most reliable reception windows seem to occur 3-4 days on either side of the 28-day solar flux peaks, with best reception taking place from late September till late March. During spring and summer months, the noise generated by thunderstorms in our hemisphere, combined with the negative complexities associated with trans-equatorial propagation during that time of the year, renders a reliable logging of the Papuans difficult, if not impossible.

A look at world wide Sunrise/Sunset patterns with the DX Edge for January, for instance, reveals that most of Central and

South America have been in daylight for some time as at East Coast Sunrise. At 1200 UTC, the sun is just coming up over the southern portion of Mexico and Brazil has been in daylight for nearly 4 hours. This situation would provide reduction, if not total elimination, of QRM from what few Latin stations might still be broadcasting during prime Papuan times.



Although the majority of the National and Provincial stations sign on at 0700, and broadcast on the 90 meter band, East Coast DXers are unable to hear them until just before local sunrise due to propagational enhancements. In the winter months, the Papuans typically appear just a few minutes before local sunrise and offer reasonable reception possibilities for approximately an hour. On the East Coast of the United States reception is possible until about 1300 UTC. On occasion, several of the more reliable outlets are heard right up until 1400, which is when the majority of the Papuan stations sign off. Often, the 90 meter outlets seem to "rise out of the noise" over a matter of a few minutes, or sometimes a few seconds. The time to hear the rare outlets is more a function of local sunrise rather than UTC; listeners more westerly must adjust their times accordingly.

The proven technique of using a consistent station as a propagation "beacon" works well for the Papuans. As the majority of the outlets are on the 90 meter band, Radio East Sepik (3335

khz), the 10 KW station broadcasting from Wewak, on the Northern Coast of East Sepik Province, is an excellent beacon for East Coast listeners. Since the 60, 75 and 120 meter bands are currently occupied by only one Papuan outlet, they serve as beacons themselves. The exception is Radio Enga. Good reception from the 120 meter Australians justifies extra vigilance on 2410 khz. There is, of course, always the danger of a DX'er hearing an Indonesian and mistaking it for a Papuan, and vice versa. Outlets in the two countries do share some common frequencies; prime examples are 3325 khz and 3345 khz, where Radio North Solomons and Radio Northern share frequencies with RRI stations. China and nearly all of the Far East are in darkness at that hour also, injecting additional confusion. Because of propagation peculiarities, however, it seems that the shared stations do not often interfere; when the Papuans are "in", the Indonesians are "out." Reception of Papuans tends to be better when the geomagnetic field ranges between quiet and unsettled. Indonesian reception, however, appears to be enhanced when the geomagnetic field ranges from unsettled to moderately active. Still, one cannot simply assume one is hearing a Papuan. All the available data must be considered.

Perhaps with the exception of the NBC station on 4890 khz, the Papuans are not "arm chair copy," even under the best of conditions. Add to that the QRM generated by various utility stations that share some of the 90 meter Papuan frequencies and the result is that one must tune very carefully and make generous use of the "cerebral filter." Co-channel interference from utility stations may be minimized, at least in some cases, by using ECSS tuning.

The 20 stations of the NBC network serve a widely-scattered and very diverse population. Most of the provincial stations broadcast in one or more of the local, or provincial, dialects as well as Pidgin (pronounced "pisin"), and sometimes, English. Most of the programming is local music, usually reported as "island music," with announcements every one or two songs. The majority of the "island music" sounds very much like African "highlife music", however, it is not unusual to encounter Country and Western-style music. At times, news and commentaries run as long as 30 minutes, usually from the top of the hour. The PNG regionals do not always time their station ID's and breaks on the hour and half hour. If an ID is not heard at exactly the top of the hour, one usually will be forthcoming. Some stations run a few minutes slow, some a few minutes fast. Although noted at times, English language broadcasts do not seem to be the norm for any of the regional stations, however, time checks and station identifications in Pidgin may be encountered. The NBC station on 4890 khz (perhaps the easiest of the Papuans to hear), however, regularly uses English.

Unlike many other "rare" stations, the majority of the Papuans seem to verify promptly. QSL's have been received in as little as 20 days using the station addresses in the WRTU. Better

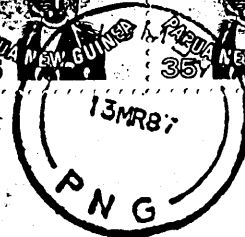
QSL results are often realized from the Papuans by sending mint stamps and a self-addressed business size airmail envelope. Mail is not delivered by carriers in Papua New Guinea. It must be deposited and picked up at area post offices.

NASWA has recognized the challenge of DXing the Papuans and offers two awards. The Papua New Guinea DX'er award is available for those who have verified 10 stations from the region; a Master Papua New Guinea DX'er award requires verification from 15 stations.

Stations in Papua New Guinea count toward six NASWA countries. These countries, and the more easily heard station from each, are:

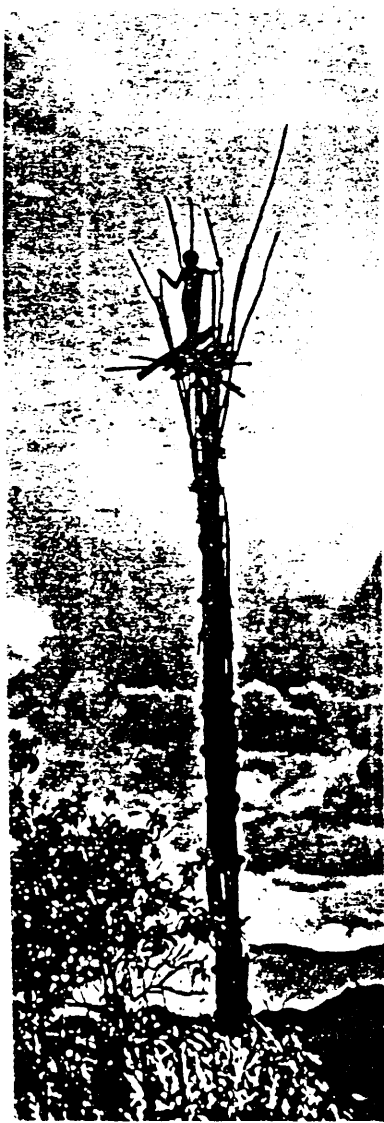
Admiralty Islands-  
 Bougainville Islands-  
 New Britain-  
 New Guinea Territory-  
 New Ireland-  
 Papua Territory-

Radio Manus  
 Radio North Solomans  
 Radio East New Britain  
 Radio East Sepik  
 Radio New Ireland  
 NBC, Port Moresby



# IRIAN JAYA

*the warriors*



# IRIAN JAYA

Like the eastern half of New Guinea, Irian Jaya is a land of radical contrasts. The central range contains many mountains rising above 15,000 feet and glaciers exist practically on the equator. However, directly south of the great central range lies some of the least inviting, most impenetrable swampy coastal plain on the planet. Triple canopy jungle, 20' crocodiles and swarms of mosquitoes appear to be the norm in this inhospitable area.

The population of Irian Jaya is even more sparse than that of Papua New Guinea, with only slightly more than 1,000,000 people occupying the western half of the island. These people, predominantly Melanesian and Papuan with some Negrito Micronesian and Polynesian ethnic groups, are scattered rather evenly across the northern and southern plains. Population centers are in the coastal towns, such as Jayapura, the capitol, as well as Manokwari and Sorong. Smaller towns, with populations of 10,000 or less, exist at Biak, Fak Fak, Serui and Merauke. Only one town exists in the interior of Irian Jaya: Wamena, located in a large beautiful high mountain valley in the great Central range. Irian Jaya is the most easterly of the Indonesian Provinces.

No shortwave broadcasting was known to exist in Western New Guinea prior to the end of WW II. As the Allies withdrew, the Dutch colonial forces resumed control of the Island, eventually establishing three SWBC stations: Biak, Sorong and Hollandia (now Jayapura). These stations formed the network *Radio Omerore Nieuw Guinea*. When political pressure eventually forced the Dutch to withdraw from Netherlands New Guinea, these three stations were turned over to the United Nations, and, finally, to the Indonesians and RRI. Since 1963, the Indonesians have added stations at Merauke, Wamena, Nabire, Serui, Fak Fak and Manokwari. There are nine *Kabupaten* (equivalent to counties) in Irian Jaya; the nine RRI stations are located in the nine "county seats."

Receiving the Irian Jaya RRI stations from anywhere in North America is a good bit more difficult than DXing their sister stations across the 141° meridian in Papua New Guinea. There are three main reasons for this: first, great circle distances to Irian Jaya are just a bit greater. From Central North America, it is about 8,100 miles to central Papua New Guinea and about 8,500 miles to central Irian Jaya. Secondly, signals from Indonesian stations must pass somewhat closer to the auroral zone than those from Papua New Guinea in reaching the U.S. Thirdly, sunset times in western Irian Jaya are almost 1 hour 40 minutes later than those in eastern Papua New Guinea. This is particularly important to East Coast DX'ers, for the later Irian Jaya sunset significantly reduces the "DXing window" prior to dawn fade out of the Tropical Bands in North America. Additionally, listed transmitter powers for the RRI stations are almost all 1 kw or less--therefore, less than half the wattage of their Papua New

Guinea sister stations.

For those just starting out on the hunt for Irian Jayans, the two easiest targets will likely be those on the major islands off the north coast: Serui and Biak. The town of Biak is located on a crowded island of the same name 125 miles (200 km) off Irian Jaya's north coast. It was a scene of intense fighting during WW II. Today, Biak is prospering as a supply center for the off-shore oil industry and as a base for the international tuna fishing industry. RRI Biak is a relatively easy catch, if it can be found. In recent years, it has jumped regularly between 5500.5 khz and 5451 khz. In spring 1988, it was reported on 5882.9 khz and 7212 khz. Serui is also an island oil town, though smaller and sleepier than Biak. Little RRI Serui, at 500 watts, often puts in the most reliable signal from Irian Jaya. Rock-steady on 4607.3 khz, it serves as a "beacon station" for DXing other stations in the area.

Oil was first discovered in New Guinea near the far western tip of the island, at Sorong, almost 50 years ago by the Dutch. Today, the port of Sorong has boomed from a settlement of just a few thousand two decades ago, to become Irian Jaya's second largest city of over 40,000. RRI Sorong, listed at 10 kw and probably the most powerful operational transmitter in Irian Jaya, used to be the easiest to hear, operating on 4874.8 khz. Unfortunately, the advent of the Voice of Jinling, from Nanjing, Peoples Republic of China, on 4875 khz, has made Sorong much harder to hear, although it has been heard prior to Jinling's 1145 sign on. RRI Sorong was also reported in North America in Spring, 1988, with an 0800 UTC sign on on 9740 khz.

The area around Manokwari, a town nestled on top of the "Bird's Head" Peninsula, has for several centuries been settled by a mixture of Irianese, Chinese, Filipinos, Buginese and Moluccans. Today, it is predominantly Christian. Manokwari, which is also an oil boom town, is the site of a growing sawmill industry. RRI Manokwari on 3986.2 khz has been a very reliable performer during the 1988 season, at least prior to the sign on of the 50 kw Korean on 3985 khz at 1400 UTC.

A very reliable, although weak, performer is RRI Fak Fak, some DX'ers favorite station ID. RRI Fak Fak, located in the sleepy coastal town of the same name, is most commonly heard on 4790(V) khz, although in Spring, 1988, the 3644.8 khz (0.25 kw) transmitter was heard at its 1400 UTC sign off. Care in IDing Fak Fak is necessary since 4790 khz is shared with the often reported Azad Kashmir Radio.

Another quite reliable Irian outlet is the 500 watt RRI Wamena, found in recent months on 4871 khz, although it also lurks around 5044 khz, its alternate frequency. Careful listening at RRI Wamena's 1215 UTC sign off will provide East Coast listeners with one of the few opportunities to hear *Love Ambon*. Wamena, an administrative and missionary center under both the Dutch and the



Indonesians, is located in the storied "Shangri-la", a mile-high valley of the Baliem River, high in the central range. It is said that the immediate area around the town of Wamena is the only reasonably flat area in the entire central range. The 45 km long Baliem Valley is considered one of the true beauty spots on earth. It is, however, inhabited and controlled by 100,000 fierce Stone Age Dani people and is known in New Guinea as "Cannibal Valley." The Dani are being brought into the modern world rather carefully and there has been no violence in recent years. The most recent incident was on Christmas Day, 1974 when four families of Dutch missionaries were killed and eaten.

The provincial capital city of Jayapura has a population of approximately 50,000 and was known under the Dutch as *Hollandia*. The hills around Jayapura form a dramatic amphitheater, with excellent views over the town to the sea. General MacArthur's Pacific Headquarters were located here during 1944 and 1945. Today the old Base G is known as *Bestiji*, and MacArthur's former command post forms part of a fish farm.

Although RRI Jayapura is the base station for RRI Network 5 (Irian Jaya and the Moluccas), it is quite difficult to hear. When present, the signal is often extraordinarily weak and undermodulated. It may be that the original Dutch transmitters installed soon after WW II are still in use and nearly worn out. Until recently, most DX'ers searching for Jayapura reported hearing the 9611.7 khz outlet, however, starting in 1986, 5044(V) khz seemed much more reliable and a very nice catch. Indications are that the 6070 khz outlet is once again active.

Probably the second most difficult catch among the Irian Jaya RRI's is RRI Nabire, located in a sleepy northern coastal village of the same name. Nabire is reputed to operate a 1 Kw transmitter, however, either their antenna/transmitter is badly flawed or the topography blocks almost all radiation to the north (unlikely at this coastal site). RRI Nabire is considered an extremely rare DX catch even on the West Coast. An Ontario DX'er heard Nabire on 5055.4 khz during the Spring Equinoctial period in 1988, so East Coast reception appears possible, though extremely difficult.

Finally, there is RRI Merauke. Merauke is a coastal village and serves as the administrative center for the south central coast of Irian Jaya. This coast, facing the highly dangerous Arafura Sea, is considered one of the most dangerous on earth. It is truly little more than a large triple-canopied swamp, frequented by giant crocodiles and all sorts of other nasty fauna. Michael Rockefeller (of "Michael Rowed the Boat Ashore" fame) died exploring this coast in 1963. Anthropologists and police officials say that if any truly head-hunting tribes remain on earth, they will be found in the area immediately inland from the Merauke Coast. Merauke is also reputed to have a 1 kw transmitter. Unfortunately, it operates on 3905 KHz, co-channel with Papua New Guinea's Radio New Ireland, a very solid performer

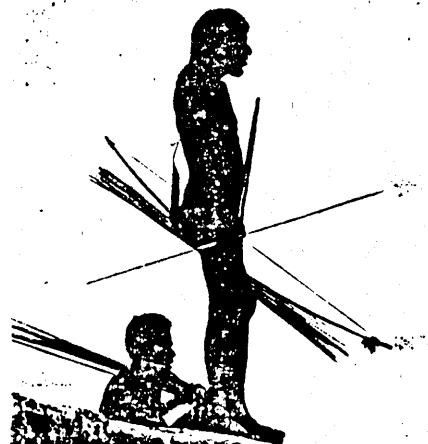
for running only 2 kw. It is only poetic justice that the Chief Engineer (*Kepala Seksi Teknik*) of RRI Merauke is one of the DX community's best friends and a meticulous verifier of correct reception reports. His name is Eho Budi Sutoyo; he opened RRI Merauke in 1964, moving over from RRI Madiun in Eastern Java. In a recent letter, Mr. Sutoyo stated that he had received several letters from Europe over the years, but only two correct reports from the USA. Probably the only chance to hear RRI Merauke is to catch Radio New Ireland with transmitter trouble during an Equinoctial period. For many, RRI Merauke ranks with Mauritius and Bhutan as being almost, but not quite, impossible.

Programming on the Irian Jaya RRI stations consists mostly of locally generated programs--in the late evening (1200 to 1400 UTC) this usually means music with a local DJ. The music can vary from distinctly Islamic sounds to indigenous music, which is very similar to the string band music of Papua New Guinea.

Most DX'ers familiar with the Indonesian SWBC scene use the national network news relays from Jakarta and the distinct Interval Signal preceding the news as an important DX tool. The interval signal is known as Song of the Coconut Islands (in Bahasa Indonesian: *Rayuan Kelapa Palau*) and is played on the network for the two minutes before the hour. At 1200 UTC, Program Nasional has national news and commentary (*Warta berita sentral + laporan + komentar*). At 1300 UTC, Jakarta runs economic and development news (*Warta Berita Ekonomi + Industri*). At 1400 UTC, Jakarta offers feature stories from the ASEAN countries, though most stations do not carry it, and at 1500 UTC, Program Nasional offers *Anaka Berita*--human interest news. **ONE MAJOR CAUTION:** several of the Irian Jaya stations DO NOT always relay even the 1200 UTC main news from Jakarta all of the time. This is the only area of Indonesia where this is known to be true. For instance, in 1988, Wamena is running a brief local newscast at 1200 UTC and then closing down by 1210. Even the key station, RRI Jayapura, is known to be a somewhat irregular relay of news from Jakarta.

The island of New Guinea and its surrounding islands are certainly one of the most exotic areas of the world. The island has a superb group of shortwave stations and most are good verifiers. These stations range in reception difficulty from the PNG national outlet on 4890 khz, which is audible from any location in North America on most mornings, to RRI Merauke on 3905 khz, which is nearly impossible to hear, even from the West Coast. All, however, present a reasonable degree of challenge. Good luck and good DXing!

**Authors' Note:** We have chosen to illustrate this article with pictures of the citizens of the island of New Guinea in their traditional attire. Some of the photographs are modern and some are from the 19<sup>th</sup> Century. Of course, the peoples and notions of this part of the planet are rapidly emerging and developing, gaining many of the attributes of modern society. As this process continues, the authors hope that the people of this region can preserve the positive aspects of their unique historical heritage.



## Further Reading

### IRIAN JAYA:

**"Insight Guide to Indonesia"** editor: Eric Oey carried in North America by Prentice-Hall.  
This is the best cultural guide to Indonesia currently available. It has a good section on Irian Jaya.

**"Shortwave Listening with the Experts"** edited by Gerry L. Dexter.

This justly famous blockbuster has a superb section on Indonesian SWBC by senior DX'er Bill Sparks of California.

**"Gardens of War"** by Gardner and Heider; Random House, 1968.

Absolutely wonderful anthropological study of the Dani People near Wamena. A great read with super pictures.

**"Headhunters of Papua"** by Tony Saulnier; pub: Crown of New York, 1961.

An earlier and equally good study of both coastal and mountain people in Irian Jaya.

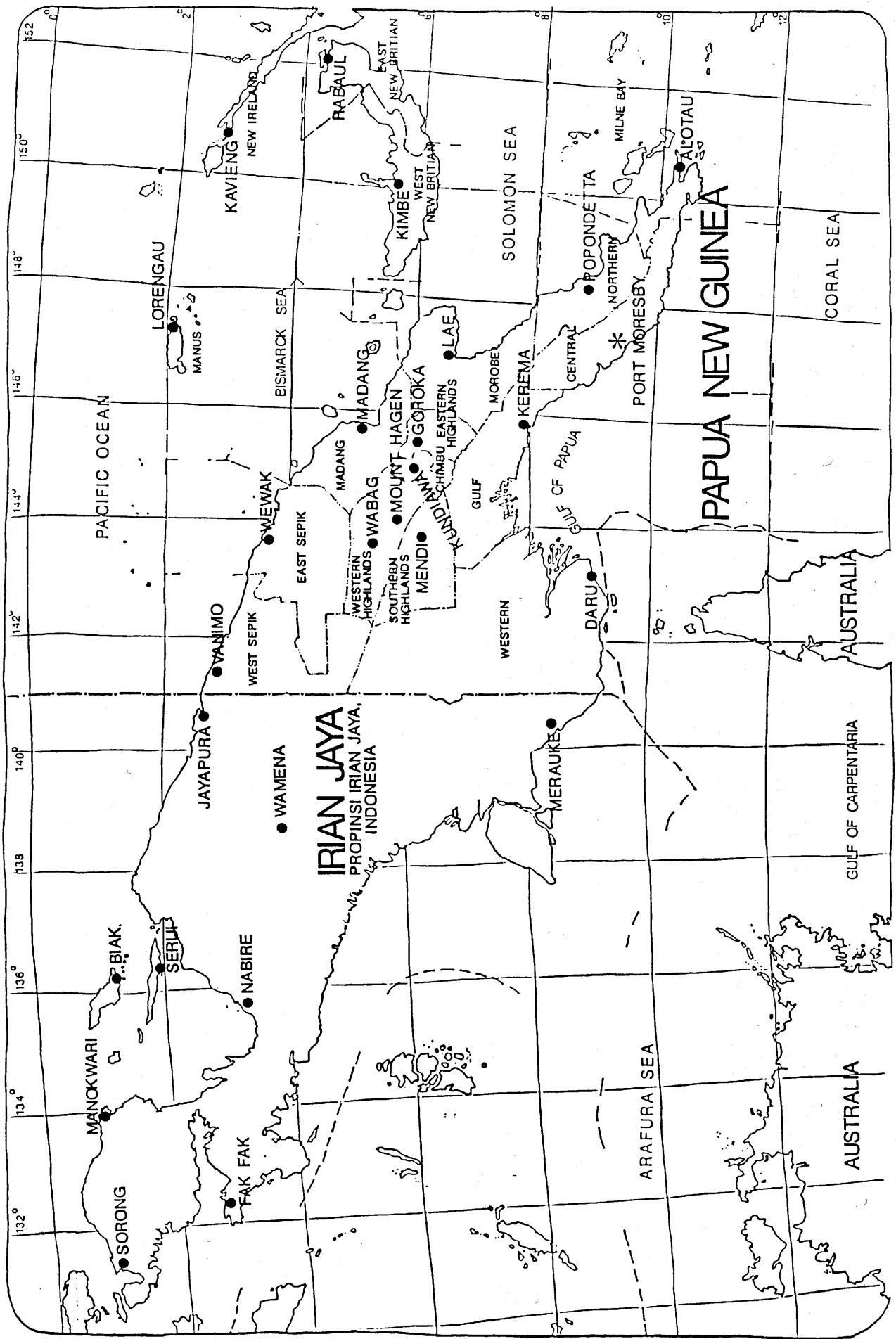
**"I come From the Stone Age"** by Heinrich Harrer; pub: E.P. Dutton, 1965.

Wonderful diary with photos of German anthropological and mountain climbing expedition of 1963.

### NEW GUINEA:

**"New Guinea: The Last Unknown"** by Gavin Souter.

A very good general history of New Guinea Island with some bias toward the eastern half of the island.



# SWBC TRANSMITTER SITES IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND IRIAN JAYA

PLEASE NOTE: FOR CARTOGRAPHIC CONVENIENCE, THE NORTH SOLOMONS PROVINCE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA WAS NOT SHOWN. NORTH SOLOMONS PROVINCE PRIMARILY CONSISTS OF BOUGAINVILLE ISLAND. THE PROVINCIAL CAPITOL AND SWBC SITE IS AT KIETA ON BOUGAINVILLE.

BRYANT NCDXS/NASWA 1988

Location	Date	Time	Date	Time
KIETA	JAN 1	07.56	JAN 1	09.23
	JAN 15	08.01	JAN 15	09.29
	FEB 1	08.03	FEB 1	09.33
	FEB 15	08.02	FEB 15	09.33
	MAR 1	07.58	MAR 1	09.32
	MAR 15	07.52	MAR 15	09.28
	APR 1	07.45	APR 1	09.22
	APR 15	07.38	APR 15	09.18
	MAY 1	07.33	MAY 1	09.15
	MAY 15	07.30	MAY 15	09.13
	JUN 1	07.30	JUN 1	09.14
	JUN 15	07.32	JUN 15	09.17
ALOTAU	JUL 1	07.35	JUL 1	09.20
	JUL 15	07.38	JUL 15	09.23
	AUG 1	07.40	AUG 1	09.23
	AUG 15	07.40	AUG 15	09.22
	SEP 1	07.39	SEP 1	09.18
	SEP 15	07.36	SEP 15	09.13
	OCT 1	07.33	OCT 1	09.09
	OCT 15	07.31	OCT 15	09.05
	NOV 1	07.32	NOV 1	09.03
	NOV 15	07.35	NOV 15	09.04
	DEC 1	07.40	DEC 1	09.08
	DEC 15	07.47	DEC 15	09.15
PORT MORESBY	JAN 1	08.23	JAN 1	08.48
	JAN 15	08.27	JAN 15	08.54
	FEB 1	08.28	FEB 1	08.57
	FEB 15	08.25	FEB 15	08.57
	MAR 1	08.20	MAR 1	08.54
	MAR 15	08.12	MAR 15	08.50
	APR 1	08.03	APR 1	08.44
	APR 15	07.55	APR 15	08.39
	MAY 1	07.48	MAY 1	08.35
	MAY 15	07.44	MAY 15	08.33
	JUN 1	07.43	JUN 1	08.34
	JUN 15	07.44	JUN 15	08.36
WEWAK	JUL 1	07.47	JUL 1	08.40
	JUL 15	07.51	JUL 15	08.42
	AUG 1	07.54	AUG 1	08.43
	AUG 15	07.56	AUG 15	08.42
	SEP 1	07.56	SEP 1	08.39
	SEP 15	07.55	SEP 15	08.35
	OCT 1	07.54	OCT 1	08.31
	OCT 15	07.53	OCT 15	08.28
	NOV 1	07.55	NOV 1	08.26
	NOV 15	08.00	NOV 15	08.28
	DEC 1	08.06	DEC 1	08.33
	DEC 15	08.14	DEC 15	08.40
SERUI	JAN 1	08.35	JAN 1	09.05
	JAN 15	08.39	JAN 15	09.11
	FEB 1	08.40	FEB 1	09.14
	FEB 15	08.38	FEB 15	09.14
	MAR 1	08.33	MAR 1	09.12
	MAR 15	08.25	MAR 15	09.08
	APR 1	08.17	APR 1	09.02
	APR 15	08.09	APR 15	08.57
	MAY 1	08.02	MAY 1	08.54
	MAY 15	07.58	MAY 15	08.52
	JUN 1	07.57	JUN 1	08.53
	JUN 15	07.59	JUN 15	08.55
JAYAPURA	JUL 1	08.02	JUL 1	08.58
	JUL 15	08.05	JUL 15	09.01
	AUG 1	08.08	AUG 1	09.02
	AUG 15	08.10	AUG 15	09.01
	SEP 1	08.09	SEP 1	08.58
	SEP 15	08.08	SEP 15	08.53
	OCT 1	08.07	OCT 1	08.49
	OCT 15	08.06	OCT 15	08.45
	NOV 1	08.08	NOV 1	08.44
	NOV 15	08.12	NOV 15	08.46
	DEC 1	08.18	DEC 1	08.50
	DEC 15	08.26	DEC 15	08.57
SORONG	JAN 1	08.38	JAN 1	09.23
	JAN 15	08.44	JAN 15	09.29
	FEB 1	08.47	FEB 1	09.33
	FEB 15	08.46	FEB 15	09.33
	MAR 1	08.44	MAR 1	09.32
	MAR 15	08.38	MAR 15	09.28
	APR 1	08.32	APR 1	09.22
	APR 15	08.26	APR 15	09.18
	MAY 1	08.22	MAY 1	09.15
	MAY 15	08.20	MAY 15	09.13
	JUN 1	08.20	JUN 1	09.14
	JUN 15	08.23	JUN 15	09.17

SORONG

SERUI

JAYAPURA

WEWAK

PORT MORESBY

ALOTAU

KIETA

JAN 1	19.27	19.40	19.54	20.18	20.32	20.51	21.13	JAN 1
JAN 15	19.34	19.47	20.02	20.25	20.38	20.57	21.19	JAN 15
FEB 1	19.40	19.55	20.09	20.30	20.43	21.02	21.23	FEB 1
FEB 15	19.43	19.59	20.13	20.33	20.45	21.04	21.25	FEB 15
MAR 1	19.44	20.01	20.15	20.32	20.45	21.03	21.24	MAR 1
MAR 15	19.43	20.02	20.15	20.30	20.42	21.00	21.20	MAR 15
APR 1	19.41	20.02	20.15	20.27	20.39	20.56	21.16	APR 1
APR 15	19.39	20.02	20.14	20.25	20.35	20.53	21.12	APR 15
MAY 1	19.39	20.02	20.15	20.23	20.33	20.51	21.10	MAY 1
MAY 15	19.39	20.05	20.17	20.23	20.33	20.50	21.09	MAY 15
JUN 1	19.42	20.08	20.20	20.25	20.35	20.52	21.10	JUN 1
JUN 15	19.45	20.12	20.24	20.28	20.38	20.55	21.13	JUN 15
JUL 1	19.49	20.15	20.27	20.31	20.41	20.58	21.16	JUL 1
JUL 15	19.50	20.16	20.29	20.33	20.43	21.00	21.19	JUL 15
AUG 1	19.49	20.14	20.27	20.33	20.43	21.00	21.19	AUG 1
AUG 15	19.46	20.10	20.22	20.30	20.40	20.58	21.17	AUG 15
SEP 1	19.39	20.02	20.14	20.25	20.35	20.53	21.13	SEP 1
SEP 15	19.32	19.52	20.05	20.18	20.29	20.47	21.07	SEP 15
OCT 1	19.24	19.43	19.56	20.11	20.23	20.41	21.01	OCT 1
OCT 15	19.17	19.35	19.48	20.06	20.18	20.36	20.57	OCT 15
NOV 1	19.13	19.28	19.42	20.02	20.15	20.33	20.54	NOV 1
NOV 15	19.11	19.25	19.39	20.01	20.14	20.33	20.54	NOV 15
DEC 1	19.13	19.26	19.41	20.04	20.18	20.36	20.58	DEC 1
DEC 15	19.19	19.31	19.46	20.10	20.24	20.42	21.04	DEC 15

UTC SUNRISE TIMES IN PAPUA NEW GUINEA AND IRIAN JAYA

FREQ	POWER	FUT'R POWER	STATION NAME	STATION IDENT	CITY	SCHEDULE	COMMENTS
2.410	2.5	10.0 Step2	R. ENGA	Karai bilong Miek	Wabag	1945-2200 0645-1400	Sat/Sun 2300=
3.205	4.0	10.0 Step2	R. WEST SEPIK	Maus bilong Sandaun	Vanimo	1930-2000 0700-1400	
3.220	2.0	10.0 Step1	R. MOROBE	Maus bilong Kundu	Lae	1930-2130 0700-1400	
3.235	2.0	???? Step3	R. WEST NEW BRITIAN	Maus bilong Tavor	Kimbe	1900-2200 0730-1400	
3.245	10.0	10.0 Step2	R. GULF	Voice of the Seagull	Kerema	1900-2200 0700-1400	
3.260	2.0		R. MADANG	Karai bilong Garamut	Madang	2000-2200 0700-1400	
3.275	2.0	???? Step3	R. SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS	Karai bilong Muruk	Mendi	2000-2200 0700-1400	
3.290	2.0	10.0 Step2	R. CENTRAL	Radio Central	Boroko	2000-2200 0700-1400	BEIJING CO-CHAN!
3.305	10.0	10.0 Step1	R. WESTERN	Voice of the Sunrise	Daru	1930-2200 0700-1400	
3.315	2.0	???? Step3	R. MANUS	Maus bilong Chauka	Lorengau	1845-2130 0700-1400	
3.325	10.0		R. NORTH SOLOMONS	Maus bilong Sunkamap	Kieta	1900-2100 0700-1400	
3.335	10.0	10.0 Step2	R. EAST SEPIK	Nek bilong Sepik	Wewak	1945-2200 0700-1300	
3.345	2.0	???? Step3	K. NORTHERN	Voice of Oro	Popondetta	1930-2205 0630-1405	RRI TERNATE CO-CHAN!
3.355	2.0	10.0 Step2	R. SIMBU	Karai bilong Mambu	Kundiawa	1945-2200 0700-1400	
3.360	10.0	10.0 Step1	R. MILNE BAY	Voice of Kula	Alotau	1930-2200 0700-1400	
3.375	2.0	10.0 Step2	R. WESTERN HIGHLANDS	Nek bilong Tarangau	Mounthagen	1945-2200 0700-1400	
3.385	10.0	10.0 Step2	R. EAST NEW BRITIAN	Maus bilong Tavuvur	Rabaul	1900-2130 0700-1400	RRI KUPANG CO-CHAN!!
3.395	2.0	???? Step3	R. EASTERN HIGHLANDS	Karai bilong Kumul	Goroka	2000-2200 0700-1400	RRI STATION CO-CHAN!
3.905	2.0	???? Step3	R. NEW IRELAND	Maus bilong Mai Mai	Kavieng	2000-2200 0700-1400	
4.890	10.0		P2T4 PORT MORESBY		Pt. Moresby	1930-2230 0630-1400	

ANTICIPATED TRANSMITTER CHANGES  
NATIONAL BROADCASTING COMMISSION  
PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
SUMMER 1988

In Spring 1988, NBC received 11 new replacement transmitters from the Japanese manufacturer NEC. At this writing, these transmitters are all at Boroko under test. NBC anticipates that the first three of these 10 KW transmitters will go in service at Morobe, Western and Milne Bay during Fall 1988. This first distribution is noted in the data base to the left as "STEP 1." Distribution of the other eight transmitters is planned throughout 1989. This second wave is denoted "STEP 2" to the left. NBC also anticipates receiving another six NEC transmitters "in the future." This distribution is denoted "STEP 3."

Transmitters taken out of service will be a source of additional spare parts for the remaining old transmitters and "may" enable NBC to reactivate presently inactive outlets such as Port Moresby 3925 and 9520 and Rabaul 5985.

This information originally from Gordon Darling on R. Australia's "Communicator," via David Clark.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA • STATION INFORMATION



FREQ	STATION NAME	WEST COAST RECEPTION	CENTRAL NAM RECEPTION	EAST COAST RECEPTION
2.410	R. ENGA	Seasonal	Seasonal and Diff.	VERY Difficult!!!
3.205	R. WEST SEPIK	Seasonal Regular	Weak Season Regular	Difficult
3.220	R. MOROBE	Difficult	Very Difficult	VERY Difficult (QRM)
3.235	R. WEST NEW BRITIAN	Seasonal Regular	Seasonal Weak	Seasonal Weak
3.245	R. GULF	Seasonal Regular	Seasonal Weak	Difficult
3.260	R. MADANG	Seasonal Weak	Difficult	Irregular and Weak
3.275	R. SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS	Regular	Seasonal Regular	Difficult (UTE QRM)
3.290	R. CENTRAL	Difficult	Extremely Difficult	Extremely Difficult
3.305	R. WESTERN	Regular	Seasonal Regular	Difficult
3.315	R. MANUS	Regular	Regular	Seasonal Regular
3.325	R. NORTH SOLOMONS	Regular	Seasonal Regular	Seasonal Regular
3.335	R. EAST SEPIK	Regular	Regular	Regular
3.345	R. NORTHERN	Very Difficult	Extremely Difficult	Extremely Difficult
3.355	R. SIMBU	Difficult	Very Difficult	Extremely Difficult
3.360	R. MILNE BAY	Difficult	Very Difficult	Extremely Difficult
3.375	R. WESTERN HIGHLANDS	Regular	Seasonal Regular	Seasonal Regular
3.385	R. EAST NEW BRITIAN	Seasonal Regular	Seasonal Difficult	Regular
3.395	R. EASTERN HIGHLANDS	Seasonal Regular	Seasonal Weak	Very Difficult
3.905	R. NEW IRELAND	Regular	Seasonal Regular	Seasonal Regular
4.890	P2T4 PORT MORESBY	Strong Regular	Strong Regular	Strong Regular

# PAPUA NEW GUINEA • RECEPTION INFORMATION

HRD QSL FREQ	STATION NAME	NASWACOUNTRY	QSL RECORD LAST 5 YEARS	VERIFICATION SIGNER	TITLE	COMMENTS ON QSLING
0 0 2.410 R.	ENGA	New Guinea Territory	Erratic QSL'er	Gabriel Paiao (88)	Sta. Tech.	&v/s R.J.Namora (87)
0 0 3.205 R.	WEST SEPIK	New Guinea Territory	Good QSL'er	GabrielDeckwalen(88)	Sta. Manager	
0 0 3.220 R.	MOROBE	New Guinea Territory	Good QSL'er	A. R. Nase (88)	Sta. Manager	
0 0 3.235 R.	WEST NEW BRITIAN	New Britian Islands	Good QSL'er	Simon Muraga (88)	Sta. Manager	
0 0 3.245 R.	GULF	Papua Territory	EXCELLENT !!!	Daniel Mailau (88)	Sta. Manager	&v/s Mark Auhora (88)
0 0 3.260 R.	MADANG	New Guinea Territory	Irregular and Rare Verifier	S.P. Tiori (87)	Asst. Manager	
0 0 3.275 R.	SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS	Papua Territory	Good QSL'er	Jack Bata (88)	Sta. Manager	&v/s Ralph Moiuun (87)
0 0 3.290 R.	CENTRAL	Papua Territory	Irregular and Rare Verifier	Ms Santo Willie (88)	Staff	&v/s Karl K Kila (87)
0 0 3.305 R.	WESTERN	Papua Territory	Irregular and Rare Verifier			
0 0 3.315 R.	HANUS	Admiralty Islands	Good QSL'er	Eliun Serehan (88)	Sta. Manager	&v/s R.Karahure (87)
0 0 3.325 R.	NORTH SOLOMONS	Bougainville Islands	Good QSL'er	S. Sawa (88)	Sta. Manager	&v/s R. Saini (87)
0 0 3.335 R.	EAST SEPIK	New Guinea Territory	Good QSL'er	Luke Lumbo (88)	Sta. Manager	
0 0 3.345 R.	NORTHERN	Papua Territory	Irregular and Rare Verifier	Misael Pendaia (88)	Sta. Manager	&v/s John Egqins (87)
0 0 3.355 R.	SIMBU	New Guinea Territory	Good QSL'er	Mau Ilave (87)	Sta. Manager	
0 0 3.360 R.	MILNE BAY	Papua Territory	Few Reported	Trevor Webumo (87)	Sta. Manager	
0 0 3.375 R.	WESTERN HIGHLANDS	New Guinea Territory	Few Reported	Esau Okole (87)	Sta. Tech.	&v/s EdwardKenas (86)
0 0 3.385 R.	EAST NEW BRITIAN	New Britian Island	EXCELLENT !!!	A.L. Rumina (88)	Sta. Manager	
0 0 3.395 R.	EASTERN HIGHLANDS	New Guinea Territory	EXCELLENT !!!	Kiri Nige (88)	Sen. Tech.	&v/s RobertTaula (87)
0 0 3.905 R.	NEW IRELAND	New Ireland Island	Good QSL'er	Kathleen Sakias (88)	Asst. Manager	&v/s RobertTaula (87)
0 0 4.890 P2T4	PORT MORESBY	Papua Territory	Good QSL'er	Pomsie Pomat (87)		

# PAPUA NEW GUINEA • QSL'ING INFORMATION

RADIO REPUBLIK INDONESIA  
STATION INFORMATION  
IRIAN JAYA

STATION	FREQUENCY (POWER)	SCHEDULE	COMMENT	WEST COAST RECEPTION	CENTRAL USA RECEPTION	EAST COAST RECEPTION
RRI JAYAPURA	5043v (unkn)	f/in to aprox 1445* Irregular	Also 6070 (20) (GOOD) & 9611.5 (7.5) (???)	Weak Irregular	Weak Irregular	Extremely Difficult
RRI NABIRE	5055.5 (1.0)	f/in to 1400*	Also 6127.5 at f/in to 0900*	Very Difficult (QRM)	Very Difficult	Extremely Difficult
RRI SERUI	4607.3 (0.5)	f/in to 1700*		Regular	Seasonal Regular	Difficult
RRI BIAK	5500.5 (1.0)	At times is 24h	Alt. freq: 5982.5 (1) & 5451 (1)	Strong Regular	Regular	Difficult
RRI MANOKWARI	3986a (1.0)	f/in to 1400*		Regular	Weak Regular	Weak Seasonal
RRI SORONG	4874.8v (10)	f/in to 1500*	Co-chan with V. of Jinling	Regular	Regular	Difficult
RRI FAK FAK	4790v (1.0)	f/in to 1400* on 4790v	Also 3644.8 at *1400	Regular	Weak Regular	Difficult
RRI MERAUKE	3905.2 (1.0)	f/in to 1400* sometimes later		Extremely Difficult	One Verified Logging	???.Possible???
RRI WAMENA	4871v (0.5)	f/in to 1210*	Alt Freq: 5043.6(0.5)	Weak Regular	Weak Regular	Seasonal Regular

IRIAN JAYA • STATION INFORMATION



RADIO REPUBLIK INDONESIA - IRIAN JAYA  
 QSL'ING INFORMATION

HRD QSL STATION	QSL RECORD LAST 5 YEARS	VERIFICATION SIGNER	TITLE	COMMENTS
O O RRI JAYAPURA	ONE KNOWN QSL IN PAST 5 YEARS!	Harry Liborang (86)	-----	
O O RRI NABIRE	Irregular verifier	Sintike Nelwan (87)	Kepala Sub-Seksi	
O O RRI SERUI	Irregular verifier	Agus Raunsai (88)	Kepala Seksi Siaran	
O O RRI BIAK	Non-Verifier (few in 88)	Muchtar Yusapatera, BA (88)	Kepala Studio	V/S likes airplane magazines!
O O RRI MANOKWARI	Irregular QSL'er since early '80's	Abdul Rachim (87)		
O O RRI SORONG	Irregular Verifier	Ny.Tien Widarsanto (87)	-----	
O O RRI FAK FAK	Irregular and Rare Verifier	Embul Gani (88)	Kepala S. P. 'Tech.	Good Luck!!!
O O RRI MERAUKE	Meticulous Verifier	Eho Budi Sutoyo (88)	Kepala Teknik	V/S opened station in 1964
O O RRI WAMENA	FEW KNOWN QSL'S IN PAST 5 YEARS!	Yos Kumurawak (87)	-----	

IRIAN JAYA • QSL'ING INFORMATION

The first print run of Proceedings 1988 was made on Thursday, July 28, 1988. On Saturday of that week, John Bryant received notification from Gordon Darling in Papua New Guinea of a totally new and radically different utilization plan for the 11 new NEC transmitters received by the National Broadcasting Commission in PNG. That weekend, Mr. Darling was interviewed on Radio Australia's "Communicator" and announced the new plan to the radio community. Since John was in direct contact with the printers, we decided to literally STOP THE PRESSES and ask the printer to rerun this page to include the latest information from PNG.

Two preliminary data bases of the new frequency plan are shown below. There are several small areas of confusion at this early stage, due to slight discrepancies between what was broadcast over RA and was Mr. Darling wrote to John several days prior to the broadcast. These are: 1) It is unclear whether R. Milne Bay is staying on 3385 or moving to 3380. 2) It is unclear also whether R. Southern Highlands at Mendi is staying at 2.0 Kw or getting one of the new 10 Kw units.

Mr. Darling stated that the reason for this radical new plan was to provide a minimum of 15 kilohertz separation between the new much more powerful units. Given the fact that most of local audience probably use relatively uncomplicated receivers, this frequency management strategy makes very good sense, indeed. The three Kundu Service stations moving to the 120 meter band to join Enga are all dropped rather neatly into unoccupied slots except for 2490. That channel has two other East/Central Asian occupants... However, they do not have schedule overlaps with Kundiawa. After the change is complete, it will be obvious that the NBC strategy is also a move to be a "better neighbor" to stations in the region. Opening 3235 clears the channel for AIR Gauhati. Opening 3315 clears that channel for AIR Bhopal and solves adjacent channel QRN problems for several neighboring small stations. The move from 3325 to 3320 clears nearby RRI Palangaraya but clobbers the much more distant Pyongyang outlet. Leaving the very crowded 3355 will help Noumea, Kuresong, Sumenep and others co-exist better. Leaving 3375 allows Medan and Gauhati to share that frequency more easily and the move from 3385 to 3380 assists nearby Kupang and RTH Hiri, though it does land Rabaul atop RRI Maleng. All in all, this rather radical new frequency plan should not only improve listening conditions for NBC's primary audience, but it should improve the general ease of listening to 90 Meter Band stations through the entire Southeast Asian Region. One hesitates to use the word "brilliant" concerning a frequency allocation plan... particularly one still slightly in flux. However, it's a superb plan, no doubt.

Mr. Darling cautions that the TARGET DATE for implementation is 5 September 1988. Events may cause individual stations to miss that date slightly.

The authors would like to thank Mr. Gordon Darling of Port Moresby for providing us with this late breaking information for inclusion in Proceedings 1988.

**STOP THE PRESSES!!!!**

*Notes as per letter from J. Darling of PNG on 15 August 88*

# NBC•PNG'S NEW FREQUENCY PLAN

## ANALYSIS: THEN AND NOW

OLD FREQ	NEW FREQ	OLD POWER	NEW POWER	STATION NAME	CITY NAME
2.410	2.410	2.5	10.0	R. ENGA	Wabag
3.205	3.205	4.0	10.0	R. WEST SEPIK	Vanimo
3.220	3.220	2.0	10.0	R. MOROBE	Lae
3.235	2.435	2.0	10.0	R. WEST NEW BRITIAN	Kimbe
3.245	3.245	10.0	10.0	R. GULF	Kerema
3.260	3.260	2.0	10.0	R. MADANG	Madang
3.275	3.275	2.0	10.0	R. SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS	Mendi
3.290	3.290	2.0	10.0	R. CENTRAL	Port Mores
3.305	3.305	10.0	10.0	R. WESTERN	Daru
3.315	2.485	2.0	10.0	R. MANUS	Lorengau
3.325	3.320	10.0	10.0	R. NORTH SOLOMONS	Kieta
3.335	3.335	10.0	10.0	R. EAST SEPIK	Wewak
3.345	3.345	2.0	10.0	R. NORTHERN	Popondetta
3.355	2.490	2.0	10.0	R. SIMBU	Kundiawa
3.360	3.365	10.0	10.0	R. MILNE BAY	Alotau
3.375	2.450	2.0	10.0	R. WESTERN HIGHLANDS	MountHagen
3.385	3.380	10.0	10.0	R. EAST NEW BRITIAN	Rabaul
3.395	3.395	2.0	2.0	R. EASTERN HIGHLANDS	Goroka
3.805	3.805	2.0	2.0	R. NEW IRELAND	Kavieng
4.890	4.890	10.0	10.0	P2T4 PORT MORESBY	Pt. Moresby

## AFTER 5 SEPT 1988

FREQ	POWER	STATION NAME	CITY NAME
2.410	10.0	R. ENGA	Wabag
2.435	10.0	R. WEST NEW BRITIAN	Kimbe
2.450	10.0	R. WESTERN HIGHLANDS	MountHagen
2.485	10.0	R. MANUS	Lorengau
2.490	10.0	R. SIMBU	Kundiawa
3.205	10.0	R. WEST SEPIK	Vanimo
3.220	10.0	R. MOROBE	Lae
3.245	10.0	R. GULF	Kerema
3.260	10.0	R. MADANG	Madang
3.275	10.0	R. SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS	Mendi
3.290	10.0	R. CENTRAL	Port Mores
3.305	10.0	R. WESTERN	Daru
3.320	10.0	R. NORTH SOLOMONS	Kieta
3.335	10.0	R. EAST SEPIK	Wewak
3.345	10.0	R. NORTHERN	Popondetta
3.365	10.0	R. MILNE BAY	Alotau
3.380	10.0	R. EAST NEW BRITIAN	Rabaul
3.385	2.0	R. EASTERN HIGHLANDS	Goroka
3.805	2.0	R. NEW IRELAND	Kavieng
4.890	10.0	P2T4 PORT MORESBY	Pt. Moresby