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Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

8 July 1983

Don John

Courtesy Call by Prime Minister of Vanuatu

The Prime Minister has kindly agreed to receive Father Walter Lini, Prime Minister of Vanuatu, for a courtesy call at 3.00pm on 11 July. He will be accompanied by Mr Kattan, Attorney-General, and Mr Vuruburavo, Permanent Secretary in the Department of Foreign Affairs.

Earlier on the same day Father Lini will have called on Mr Raison, Sir Geoffrey Howe and Lady Young (the latter will have hosted a luncheon in Father Lini's honour), and on 9 July he will have called on the Archbishop of Canterbury.

The main purpose of Father Lini's visit to the UK will have been to attend (in his capacity as Minister of Justice) a meeting in the Isle of Man, 3-8 July, of Law Officers from small Commonwealth countries. While in the country he wishes to pay his respects to the Prime Minister and make contact with the new Government. After London Father Lini will visit Peking, before returning to Vanuatu.

The Prime Minister last met Father Lini in November 1981, when he came to London primarily to seek (unsuccessfully) further aid. In the period since then - and particularly following the establishment in Fiji of a regional Development Division - the Vanuatu Government have come to terms with the size of the aid programme agreed on Independence, and are generally content with the nature of its disbursement. Father Lini is therefore not expected to raise this subject in substantive terms with the Prime Minister.

/Neither

Private Secretary
10 Downing St

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Neither has he told us of other issues which he particularly wished to discuss. For our part, his visit is an opportunity to talk to him about the trend of Vanuatu's domestic and (in particular) foreign policy and its leanings towards radicalism. The Prime Minister may wish to impress on Father Lini the extreme caution with which his Government should pursue its new relations with Cuba. She may also like to thank Father Lini for his past support over the Falklands and to encourage him to maintain this support in future. Our High Commissioner in Vila has counselled that Father Lini responds to flattery. He may prove well disposed to suitably sugar-coated advice from the Prime Minister.

/ I enclose appropriate briefing for the Prime Minister,
/ in the Points to Make and Essential Facts format, together
/ with personality notes and vital statistics of Vanuatu.
/ I also enclose a more detailed background brief on
/ Vanuatu, which expands on the Essential Facts in the
principal brief, and a copy of Father Lini's programme
in the UK.

Mr Alan Donald will attend the meeting as requested and as previously agreed a COI photographer will be present at the start.

Trans over,
[Signature]
B J P Fall
(Private Secretary)

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VISIT OF VANUATU PRIME MINISTER
MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER : 11 JULY 1983
POINTS TO MAKE

Vanuatu Internal

1. Congratulations on re-election as President of Vanuaaku Pati. How do you view forthcoming general elections [2 November]?
2. Do you envisage significant policy changes by Government after election?
3. Vanuatu Government achievements over past 3 years are impressive, especially in view of difficult transition to Independence [30 July 1980].

UK Attitude

4. We will continue to help in Vanuatu's overall development as much as we are able to. Want Vanuatu to continue regarding us as friend, with no particular axe to grind in the Pacific.
5. We value the contribution Vanuatu can make to regional stability, and agree with wish to keep Pacific free of super-power politics and disruptive elements.

Vanuatu External

6. Continuing growth of Vanuatu's diplomatic relations is measure of your widening role in international issues. Note you recently entered diplomatic relations with Cuba. Sure you appreciate Cuba's external policy based on desire to export revolution. Opportunistic and dangerous activities in Africa and Central America. Suits Russia that Cuba plays surrogate role, and makes this possible by economic assistance.

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Falklands

7. Grateful to Vanuatu for abstaining in vote on Argentine Resolution at UNGA last November. Hope Vanuatu will support us in upholding vital principle of the right of Falkland Islands to self-determination.

UK Aid Programme [Defensive]

8. We cannot provide more than our overall aid resources allow, and must work within annual allocations.

9. Glad we have been able to respond to appreciable number of requests. Despite slow start most are now going ahead quickly.

Santo Compensation Claim [If Raised]

10. Glad also to have been able to help with the claims against your Government for compensation to damage following the Santo rebellion.

SOUTH PACIFIC DEPARTMENT

July 1983

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VISIT OF VANUATU PRIME MINISTER
MEETING WITH PRIME MINISTER: 11 JULY 1983
ESSENTIAL FACTS

Isle of Man Conference

1. Father Lini, who also has a Justice portfolio, is attending a Conference on the Isle of Man 3-8 July of Law Officers from small Commonwealth countries. Vanuatu has continuing need for advice and assistance in this area. It inherited complicated legal system, with British Law, French Law, Condominium Law and unwritten customary law all applying, according to circumstances. The rule of law and independence of judiciary has been properly upheld. UK aid programme has provided high quality legal staff: Chief Justice and Attorney General in particular.

Vanuaaki Pati (VP)

2. Led by Father Lini since 1979. June VP Congress re-elected him as President, and re-affirmed his leadership for 2 November general elections.
3. Signs of factionism developing within VP, comprising radicals, centrists, and conservatives. Lini's personal philosophy seems left-Centre, but appears obligated to more radical cadre for continuing support of his leadership. President Sokomanu has indicated interest in returning to politics, where he would seek support from more conservative elements of VP as well as opposition MPs.

Vanuatu-UK Relations

4. Relations good, main content of which is aid programme. Vanuatu Government's (VG) previous expectations of high level of UK aid now more realistic. [Father Lini will have discussed aid with Mr Raison, morning of 11 July.]

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UK Aid Programme : Policy

5. Programme based on Independence Financial Settlement (IFS) signed December 1980. Comprises:

- (a) up to £13 million development grant (subject to annual expenditure ceiling of £2.25 million);
- (b) budgetary aid - £6.4 million in 1980 and 1981, £1.62 million in 1983 - which we and VG aim to phase out, though expect it to continue until at least 1986;
- (c) technical co-operation (100 fully ODA-funded experts, plus supplemented staff; UK training programme and provision of consultants);
- (d) additional support in event of natural disasters.

6. Total aid framework provision for 1983/84 is £7.01 million. This reflects the generous, once-and-for-all IFS. Future levels will need to be reduced gradually, as is generally understood by our Pacific recipients.

Cuba

7. Vanuatu and Cuba agreed 11 March in New Delhi to enter into diplomatic relations. No Ambassadors exchanged so far.

8. Agreement seen partly as factor of VG's attraction to radical policies (in contrast to other Pacific islands) and partly in recognition of Cuban support at UN during transition to Independence. Danger is that VG does not appreciate Cuba's role as Soviet client state.

Vanuatu Foreign Policy

9. Consistent pursuit of non-alignment and even-handedness to East and West. Supporter of all "independence struggles". Espouses trendy causes eg Polisario, not directly relevant to own interests. Vociferous opponent of all things nuclear: arms, testing, dumping. Proponent of Nuclear Free Zone for South Pacific. But much role-playing, in expression of political independence.

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10. Vanuatu's eccentric style causing regional disquiet, particularly with Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands, and Fiji. Concern that Vanuatu may move further away from its neighbours' policies and upset pro-Western consensus in the region.

Santo Compensation Claim

11. The 1980 rebellion on Santo resulted in damage to property estimated by the VG at around £1.8 million. Following on from our agreement in principle of 1980 to contribute towards VG's compensation bill to claimants, we formally offered in March 1983 ex gratia payment to VG of one third of total claim, subject to verification and assessment by a professional firm. VG warmly welcomed our offer, and process of assessment will commence shortly. Payment will be on ODA Vote.

General

12. Impressive Government achievements over past three years, particularly given the very difficult circumstances in which Vanuatu became independent. Law and order and normal principles of democratic government all been maintained. Has been measure of reconciliation between opposing factions since Santo rebellion (March-August 1980) and the country has been developing sensibly.

SOUTH PACIFIC DEPARTMENT

July 1983

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LINI, FATHER WALTER HADYE

Prime Minister of Vanuatu.

Born 1942 in North Pentecost. Educated at the St John's Kohimarana Theological College in the Solomon Islands and at St John's Theological College in Auckland.

Ordained an Anglican priest in 1970, he was appointed district priest for Longana, East Aoba. He was active in the foundation in 1971 of the New Hebrides Cultural Association, which later became the National Party and is now the Vanuaaku (Government) Party. In 1974 was elected President of the National Party and obtained leave of absence from his church to devote his time to politics. He was elected to the Representative Assembly in 1975. In 1974 and 1976 he appeared before the UN Committee of 24 as a petitioner on behalf of the National Party. As leader of the Vanuaaku Party he was invited in 1978 to join the Government of National Unity, headed by Father Gerard Leymang, as Deputy Chief Minister. Following the victory of the Vanuaaku Party in the November 1979 election, was appointed Chief Minister, becoming Prime Minister at independence on 30 July 1980.

Governing by consensus, he has nevertheless been much criticised for indecisive leadership. He is all for the quiet life and is essentially pacific in his attitude toward his colleagues who, with only rare exceptions, he regards with a lofty intellectual and moral disdain. Though vacillating, he is not entirely irresolute. He has a streak of obstinacy which, however, tends to manifest itself over lost causes: he is obdurate on matters of no real moment while permitting himself to be overridden on more substantial issues. Lacking in any degree of ruthlessness, he is habitually overruled in Cabinet even though he frequently shows a more enlightened outlook than do his Ministers. He remains in office less by virtue of his own abilities than by the fear that any move to replace him might have consequences disastrous to fragile Cabinet solidarity. His generally pusillanimous performance in office is reflected in his normal deference to the Party, in whose Executive the real power resides. His initiative sometimes show qualities of statesmanship but these are swiftly extinguished by almost automatic opposition from his colleagues. Under pressure he has frequently threatened to resign, talking of having done his duty and wanting to return to his flock and the simple life. He has flirted with left-brand socialism in the past, tries hard to conceal his franco-phobia and, despite bitter criticism of us before independence, has come to see Britain as a true friend.

Urbane, often articulate, he has a presence and civilised demeanour denied most of his Ministers. Can exert considerable charm and is socially relaxed. Carries the burdens of office apparently effortlessly. He genuinely cherishes the democratic concept. A dedicated family man, his private life is unimpeachable, and he is thought to be incorruptible, a rare commodity in Melanesia.

Married (to a Solomon Islander) with five children.



VURUBURAVO, NIKÉ NIKÉ

Secretary, Vanuatu Department of Foreign Affairs, since September 1982.

Mr Vuruburavo holds a degree in Public Administration from the University of the South Pacific, Suva. He was Deputy Secretary for Foreign Affairs (1980-82) and has held his present position, which is that of official head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, since Mr Barak Sopé's election to Parliament in September 1982. He is 28 years of age and has not previously visited Britain, but has travelled extensively in the South Pacific and has completed a three month training course in Australia. Not married.

South Pacific Department
July 1983



KATTAN, WILLIAM VICTOR GIRLES

Attorney-General, Vanuatu, since 1982.

Mr Kattan holds the Degrees of LLB from Manchester University (1971) and Master of Laws, London University (1973). He was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1973. He was a member of the Sudan Law Revision Committee, Khartoum (1975-77) and Legal Counsel, Office of the Attorney General in Khartoum (1977-80). in 1980 he moved to Vanuatu as Legal Counsel, Attorney General's Chambers, Port Vila. He has been Attorney General since 1982. He is 36 years of age, holds Sudanese (formerly Palestinian) nationality and is a Technical Co-operation officer under contract to the ODA.

South Pacific Department
July 1983



VANUATU
VITAL STATISTICS

General

Vanuatu is an independent Republic within the Commonwealth. Among the middle range of the South Pacific island countries in terms of size and economic wealth. Dependent on foreign aid (mainly from UK, France and Australia) for economic development, and on British and French budgetary support funds.

President : Ati George Sokomanu MBE
Prime Minister and Foreign Minister : Father Walter Lini CBE
British High Commissioner, Vila : Richard B Dorman

Population : 117,000 (1980)
Land Area : 14,763 sq kms
GNP per capita : US \$530 (1980)
Position in per capita league table : 126 (out of 174)
Total GNP : US \$60 million (1980)
GNP growth rate : 4.5% (1970-79)

Main Exports (1979) : Copra - 53% of total exports
Fish (frozen) - 29%
Beef and veal - 4%
Cocoa - 3%

Main Export Markets (1979) : France - 40% of total
USA and Canada - 27%
Other Europe - 23%
(of which UK insignificant)
Japan - 5%
Other Pacific - 3%

/Major



UNCLASSIFIED

<u>Major sources of imports (1979)</u>	:	Australia	- 32% of total
		Other Pacific	- 18%
		France	- 17%
		Japan	- 12%
		UK	- 2%

<u>Total Value of Imports from UK</u> <u>(1980)</u>	:	£622,000
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<u>Major Imports (1979)</u>	:	Food beverages and tobacco	- 29% of total
		Industrial materials	- 15%
		Fuels and lubricants	- 12%
		Machinery	- 11%
		Transport equipment	- 10%
		Consumer goods n.e.s	- 20%



VISIT OF VANUATU PRIME MINISTER 9-13 JULY 1983

BACKGROUND NOTE

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

Historical

1. Anglo-French Condominium of New Hebrides established in 1906. Anglo-French Protocol of 1914 constituted New Hebrides as "region of joint influence", and dual British and French Resident Commissioners. Parallel administrations were established. Voting for first Representative Assembly by universal suffrage took place in 1975. Independent Republic of Vanuatu established 30 July 1980, with President as Head of State and unicameral legislature elected every 4 years. Westminster-style democracy is generally followed.

Internal Political : General

2. By Pacific standards the internal political scene remains volatile. Stems partly from tensions between traditional 'custom' beliefs and newer 'modern' influences; and partly from nature of country's administration before Independence. Consequent rivalry between anglophones and francophones manifested itself in francophone-inspired rebellion on Santo in period leading up to Independence. Vanuatu Government still concerned about divisions in society left by the colonial administrations, and is continuing to work towards reconciliation.

3. Father Walter Lini has led anglophone dominated Vanuaaku Pati (VP) since 1979 pre-Independence elections. Main opposition is francophone Union of Moderate Parties (UMP) and smaller Vanuatu Independent Alliance Party (VIAP). The VP has faced dissension within its ranks. Father Lini's position never strong. Economic prospects are bleak and central Government may face increasing challenge from more disaffected island



non-alignment and NAM issues since Independence, Vanuatu emerging as most radical of South Pacific states. But there is much role-playing, aimed at extracting respect and economic concessions from, eg. Australia. There is also willingness to be provocative in face of perceived Western hegemony in the region.

9. Vanuatu continues as most vigorous supporter of New Caledonian independence and outspoken opponent of French nuclear testing in French Polynesia (Mururoa Atoll). Also a supporter of all other "independence struggles" eg. West Papua, East Timor, Polisario. In pursuing policy of even-handedness to East and West, Lini declined diplomatic relations both with USA and USSR, while arguing that American influence in South Pacific already "excessive". Also denied passage to US warships in absence of assurance that they are neither nuclear-powered nor nuclear-armed.

10. Diplomatic relations that have been established include those with PRC, Vietnam, North and South Korea and - in March - with Cuba, the latter partly in recognition of Cuban support at UN during transition to Independence. Vanuatu also joined NAM in March, emphasising support for NAM's role in global affairs particularly over issues of self-determination, nuclear disarmament, and north-south economic issues.

11. Although Vanuatu foreign policy has been aberrant, in regional context, it has not been consistently anti-Western. Has shown no empathy with Soviet Union, supported UN Resolution for withdrawal of foreign troops from Afghanistan, and rejected Soviet offer of oceanographic research. But in its new relationship with Cuba and NAM Vanuatu does not appreciate Cuba's role as Soviet client state, nor the pressures it will come under within the NAM to support other issues; and is causing some regional disquiet, in particular among Papua New Guinea, Solomon Islands and Fiji. General concern is that Vanuatu may move



inexorably further away from its neighbours' policies and, by its eccentric style, upset the broad pro-Western consensus in the region.

UK-Vanuatu Relations

12. Bilateral relations are good. Vanuatu Government (VG) appreciative of our role in bringing the country to independence. Has been some strain over VG's expectations that high level of UK aid (main context of our relationship) would continue after the Independence financial settlement. But fruitful exchanges during recent visits to Vanuatu by Head of ODA's new Development Division reassured ni-Vanuatu on future aid policy.

13. Vanuatu helpfully abstained 4 November at UNGA vote on Falklands resolution. Might have followed NAM line, but decision to abstain seen as conscious act in support of UK.

Matthew and Hunter Islands

14. Two small, uninhabited volcanic islands, located halfway between Vanuatu and New Caledonia (a French overseas territory). Most British and other records indicated islands formed part of French territory of New Caledonia. But following Fiji-France agreement (December 1982) on demarcation of Fiji-New Caledonia maritime boundaries, Vanuatu protested at implication that Matthew and Hunter belonged to New Caledonia. UK is on record as being content with French view (expressed formally in 1965 and 1980) that islands are part of New Caledonia.

15. Vanuatu interest in these islands derives partly from national pride and partly because of the potential to extend the archipelagic baseline from which Vanuatu's 200-mile Exclusive Economic Zone would be measured.

Vanuatu's Economy

16. Based predominantly on subsistence agriculture, with copra as main cash crop and principal export. Growing interest in Vanuatu as an off-shore financial centre with flag of convenience shipping register. Tourism is important development.

Industrial development is in early stages. Most of Government's recurrent expenditure is for social services, and unless revenue base is enlarged Government's financial constraints likely to intensify.

17. UK trade with Vanuatu is negligible.

South Pacific Department
Foreign and Commonwealth Office
July 1983

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Programme of arrangements made by the
Central Office of Information for the
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

A.J.C. 4/7

p.a.

PRIME MINISTER AND DELEGATION

Hon Father Walter Hadye LINI
Prime Minister of Vanuatu

Mr Nike Nike VURUBURAVO
Secretary for Foreign Affairs and
Official Head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr William Victor Girles KATTAN
Attorney General

VANUATU

2 - 3 and 9 - 13 July 1983

Accompanied by representatives of the Central Office of Information and
the Prime Minister's Security Officer, Mr A Bambara

Saturday 2 July

ARRIVAL IN BRITAIN

10.55

Arrive at London, Heathrow Airport on British Airways Flight BA 12 from Sydney (Hillingdon Suite).

Met by Sir John Stowe GCMG KCV0, Special Representative of the Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs and Mr Denis Daly, Central Office of Information, and continue by car to St Ermin's Hotel, Caxton Street, SW1 (Tel: 222-7888) where the visitors will be staying privately.

Sunday 3 July

THE GUARDS CHAPEL: MORNING SERVICE
LONDON-ISLE OF MAN

10.30

Leave hotel by car to attend the 11.00 am Morning Service at the Guards Chapel, Birdcage Walk, SW1, accompanied by Mr Denis Daly, Central Office of Information.

Lunch as convenient. The car will be available for sightseeing with Mr Daly during the afternoon.

17.30

Leave the hotel by car with luggage for London, Heathrow Airport, Terminal 1, accompanied by Mr Denis Daly.

19.00

Leave Airport on Manx Airlines Flight JE 308.

20.20

Arrive at Ronaldsway Airport, Isle of Man to attend the Commonwealth Law Offices Conference until Saturday 9 July.

The programme in the Isle of Man has been arranged privately with the Manx authorities.

Saturday 9 July

ISLE OF MAN-LONDON
LONDON-CANTERBURY
ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY
CANTERBURY-LONDON

07.40

Leave Ronaldsway Airport, Isle of Man on Manx Airlines Flight JE 303.

09.00

Arrive at London, Heathrow Airport, Terminal 1.

Met by a representative of the Central Office of Information and continue by car to St Ermin's Hotel Caxton Street, SW1.

Lunch as convenient.

15.00

Leave central London by car for Canterbury accompanied by a representative of the Central Office of Information.

17.15

Arrive at the Old Palace, Canterbury, Kent.

Saturday 9 July Cont'd

Received by Rev David Maple, Archbishop's Chaplain, and taken for a meeting with the Most Reverend and Right Honourable the Lord Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Robert Runcie MC.

18.00

Leave the Old Palace, Canterbury by car for return to the hotel.

Sunday 10 July

ARRIVAL IN BRITAIN OF MR VURUBURAVO
MATINS: ST MARTINS-IN-THE-FIELDS

09.35

Mr Vuruburavo arrives at London, Heathrow Airport (Terminal 3) on British Airways Flight BA 002 from Sydney.

Met by a representative of the Central Office of Information and continue by car to St Ermin's Hotel, where he will be staying privately, with the other visitors, until 13 July.

11.00

Leave the hotel by car, accompanied by Mr Howard Spurr, Central Office of Information.

11.15

Arrive at St Martins-in-the-Fields Church, Trafalgar Square, WC2.

Received in the Clergy Vestry by the Senior Curate, Rev Charles Hedley for Robing and preparation for Matins (11.30 am), at which the Hon Father Lini has been invited to preach.

12.30

approx

Leave St Martins-in-the-Fields Church by car for return to the hotel.

Lunch independently as convenient.

Afternoon

Free for private engagements.

Monday 11 July

PROGRAMME DISCUSSION
OVERSEAS DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION
SECRETARY OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS
MINISTER OF STATE FOR FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH AFFAIRS
OFFICIAL LUNCH: FOREIGN AND COMMONWEALTH OFFICE
PRIME MINISTER

09.00

Joined at the hotel by Mr John Crompton, Deputy Director, Overseas Visitors and Information Studies Division, Central Office of Information.

Mr Howard Spurr will discuss the programme.

Mr Peter Scanlon, Head of Visits Section and Mr Jim Atkinson, Vanuatu Desk, South Pacific Department, will represent the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

Monday 11 July Cont'd

Mr Denis Daly will accompany the visitors to their appointments in London.

09.45

Leave hotel by car.

10.00

Arrive at the Overseas Development Administration (ODA), Eland House, Stag Place, SW1.

Received by Mr Terence Wright and taken to meet the Rt Hon Timothy Raison MP, Minister for Overseas Development and other senior officials at the ODA to discuss the development and needs of Vanuatu.

11.00

Leave Stag Place by car.

11.30

Arrive at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office (FCO), Ambassadors Entrance, Downing Street, SW1, for a courtesy visit on the Rt Hon Sir Geoffrey Howe QC MP, Secretary of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

12.00

Remain at the FCO for discussions with the Rt Hon the Baroness Young, Minister of State for Foreign and Commonwealth Affairs.

12.45

Official lunch as the guest of the FCO at Lancaster House, Stable Yard, St James's, SW1.

for
13.00

Host: The Rt Hon the Baroness Young

15.00

Arrive at 10 Downing Street, SW1 for a courtesy visit on the Rt Hon Margaret Thatcher MP, Prime Minister.

Later

Leave Downing Street by car for return to the hotel.

Evening

Free for Dinner and a Theatre visit if desired.

Tuesday 12 July

COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
COMMONWEALTH SECRETARIAT
PARLIAMENT
LUNCHEON WITH MPs
QUESTION TIME: HOUSE OF COMMONS
DINNER ENGAGEMENT

09.30

Leave hotel by car.

10.00

Arrive at the Commonwealth Development Corporation, 33 Hill Street, SW1.

Met by Mrs Ellis and taken for discussion on topics of common interest with Sir Peter Meinertzhagen CMG, General Manager and other senior officials of the Corporation.

11.00

Leave Hill Street by car.

11.30

Arrive at the Commonwealth Secretariat, Marlborough House, Pall Mall, SW1.

Tuesday 12 July Cont'd

Met by Mrs Patsy Robertson and taken for discussions on topics of mutual interest with Chief Eleazar Chukwuemeka Anyaoku, Deputy Secretary General of the Commonwealth.

12.00 Leave Pall Mall by car.

12.15 Arrive at the Palace of Westminster, SW1, St Stephen's Entrance.

Met by a Member of Parliament in the Central Lobby for a short tour of the Palace of Westminster, to include the House of Lords.

12.30 Visit the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in Westminster Hall to meet Mr Peter Cobb, Secretary, and sign the Association's Visitors' Book.

12.45 Refreshments in the Pugin Room.
for
13.00

13.00 Lunch will be served in the Stranger's Dining Room.

Joined by Members of Parliament representing the Government and Opposition Parties, and a representative of the FCO.

14.25 Watch the Speaker's Procession in the Central Lobby.

14.45 Observe proceedings in the House of Commons including Prime Minister's Question Time at 15.15.

15.30 Leave Westminster by car for sightseeing and subsequent
approx return to hotel.

19.30 Leave hotel by car.

19.45 Arrive at the United Oxford and Cambridge Universities
for Club, 71 Pall Mall, SW1 for dinner as guests of Posford,
20.00 Pavry and Partners (Consulting Engineers).

Hosts: Mr John Posford, Senior Partner and
Mr Alastair Stirling and Mr John Barker, Partners.

Later Leave Pall Mall by car for return to the hotel.

Wednesday 13 July

DEPARTURE FROM BRITAIN

08.30

Leave hotel by car with luggage, accompanied by Mr Howard Spurr and travel to London, Heathrow Airport (Hillingdon Suite).

Sir John Stowe GCMG KCVO, will be in attendance.

10.00

Leave airport on British Airways Flight BA 3 for Peking.

END OF COI PROGRAMME OF ARRANGEMENTS

Programme Organiser:

Howard Spurr
Overseas Visitors and Information Studies Division
Central Office of Information
Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU

Tel: 01-928 2345 Ext 311

1 July 1983



Background Note

TR3/6305

PRIME MINISTER AND AIDES

Hon Father Walter Hadye LINI
Prime Minister of Vanuatu

Mr Nike Nike VURUBURAVO
Secretary for Foreign Affairs and
Official Head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Mr William Victor Girles KATTAN
Attorney General

VANUATU

2 - 3 and 9 - 13 July 1983

Accompanied by representatives of the Central Office of Information and the Prime Minister's Security Officer, Mr A Bambara

The group are attending the Commonwealth Law Officers Meeting on the Isle of Man from 3 - 8 July and are coming to the mainland for a short private visit thereafter.

Father Lini was educated at Theological Colleges in the Solomon Islands and Auckland and was ordained an Anglican Priest in 1970. He was Chief Minister of the New Hebrides Government (1979-80) and has been Prime Minister of Vanuatu since 1980. He is also Minister of Justice. He is 41 years of age, has visited Britain on several previous occasions and has also visited the USA, France, Australia and New Zealand.

Mr Vuruburavo holds a degree in Public Administration from the University of the South Pacific, Suva. He was Deputy Secretary for Foreign Affairs (1980-82) and has held his present position, which is that of official head of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, since 1982. He is 28 years of age and has not previously visited Britain, but has travelled extensively in the South Pacific and has completed a three month training course in Australia.

Mr Kattan holds the Degrees of LLB from Manchester University (1971) and Master of Laws, London University (1973). He was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1973. He was a member of the Sudan Law Revision Committee, Khartoum (1975-77) and Legal Counsel, Office of the Attorney General in Khartoum (1977-80). In 1980 he moved to Vanuatu as Legal Counsel, Attorney General's Chambers, Port Vila. He has been Attorney General since 1982. He is 36 years of age, holds Sudanese (formerly Palestinian) nationality and is a Technical Co-operation officer under contract to the ODA.

All the visitors speak good English. Apart from meeting Law Officers from other small Commonwealth Countries in the Isle of Man the purpose of the visit is to pay official calls on British political leaders, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the ODA, the Commonwealth Development Corporation and the

Commonwealth Institute. The Prime Minister, as a practising Anglican Priest, would also like to meet the Archbishop of Canterbury and participate in a religious service at one of the main London Churches.

Programme Organiser: Howard Spurr
Overseas Visitors and Information Studies Division
Central Office of Information
Hercules Road, London SE1

Tel: 01-928 2345, Ext 211

27 June 1983



Background Note

TR3/6305

PRIME MINISTER AND AIDES

Hon Father Walter Hadye LINI
Prime Minister of Vanuatu

Mr Nike Nike VURUBURAVO
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Mr Kattan holds the Degrees of LLB from Manchester University (1971) and Master of Laws, London University (1973). He was called to the Bar of England and Wales in 1973. He was a member of the Sudan Law Revision Committee, Khartoum (1975-77) and Legal Counsel, Office of the Attorney General in Khartoum (1977-80). In 1980 he moved to Vanuatu as Legal Counsel, Attorney General's Chambers, Port Vila. He has been Attorney General since 1982. He is 36 years of age, holds Sudanese (formerly Palestinian) nationality and is a Technical Co-operation officer under contract to the ODA.

All the visitors speak good English. Apart from meeting Law Officers from other small Commonwealth Countries in the Isle of Man the purpose of the visit is to pay official calls on British political leaders, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the ODA, the Commonwealth Development Corporation and the

Commonwealth Institute. The Prime Minister, as a practising Anglican Priest, would also like to meet the Archbishop of Canterbury and participate in a religious service at one of the main London Churches.

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