## FRANCE - NEW CALEDONIA

## EXCERPTS OF SPEECH OF M. JACQUES CHIRAC P.M. IN NOUMEA - 29 AUGUST, 1986 \*

IT IS TOGETHER WITH ALL OF YOU WHO, AT DIFFERENT TIMES BUT WITH THE SAME LOVE, HAVE CHOSEN NEW CALEDONIA AS THE LAND ON WHICH TO SETTLE, THAT WE SHALL BUILD, IF THAT IS YOUR WISH, A PEACEFUL AND FRATERNAL TERRITORY WITH RICH AND VARIED CULTURES, OFFERING AN EXEMPLARY ILLUSTRATION OF WHAT LIES BEHIND FRANCE'S PRESENCE IN THE PACIFIC,

IN THAT RESPECT, I CONSIDER THAT FRANCE'S ROLE IN THIS PART OF THE WORLD, AND ESPECIALLY IN NEW CALEDONIA, IS STILL

INSUFFICIENTLY UNDERSTOOD BY OUR NEIGHBOURS AND FRIENDS IN THE PACIFIC. SOME STATES, EVEN THOUGH THEY ARE FRIENDS OF FRANCE'S, HAVE RECENTLY LAUNCHED THE INITIATIVE YOU KNOW ABOUT IN THE UNITED NATIONS. I SINCERELY THINK THAT IT REFLECTS A VERY INADEQUATE KNOWLEDGE OF CALEDONIAN REALITIES.

HOW CAN ONE DISPUTE THE FACT THAT THE CALEDONIAN COMMUNITY'S CONSPICUOUS ASSET IS ITS VARIETY AND THAT THE REPUBLIC IS THE BEST CEMENT FOR ITS UNITY ?

HOW CAN ONE FAIL TO SEE THAT, IN THIS TERRITORY WHOSE LEVEL OF DEVELOPMENT, AS ALL THE PARAMETERS SHOW, IS ONE OF THE HIGHEST IN THE REGION, FRANCE HAS PROMOTED CIVILITATION AND PROGRESS IN THE SPIRIT OF THE UNITED NATIONS CHARTER ?

HOW, FINALLY CAN ONE FAIL TO GRASP THAT THAT INITIATIVE 16NORES OUR COUNTRY'S DEMOCRATIC AND CONSTITUTIONAL TRADITION. WHICH RESTS ON THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION BUT DOES NOT ALLOW A MINORITY TO IMPOSE ITS RULE, IF NOT ITS DOGMA, ON THE MAJORITY?

FRANCE WANTS TO NURTURE AND DEVELOP THE POLITICAL DIALOGUE WITH ALL THE SOUTH PACIFIC STATES. SHE WANTS TO CONTRIBUTE WITH EACH OF THEM INDIVIDUALLY TO PEACE AND OUR COMMON DEVELOPMENT IN A CLIMATE OF FRIENDSHIP AND EQUALITY.

IN HER VIEW, IT IS IN THE COMMON INTEREST NOT TO LET MISUNDERSTANDINGS AND IRRITATIONS DEVELOP INTO TENSIONS AND DISTURBANCES WHICH COUNTRIES THAT DO NOT ESPOUSE OUR SHARED VALUES WOULD UNDOUGTEDLY EXPLOIT.

SHE IS WILLING TO ENGAGE IN A DIALOGUE WITH ALL THE STATES OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM ON ALL QUESTIONS RELATING TO DISARMAMENT.

BY RECALLING THE UNDERTAKINGS SHE PREVIOUSLY GAVE TO THE STATES WITHOUT NUCLEAR WEAPONS, SHE CONFIRMS THAT, AS FAR AS SHE IS CONCERNED, SHE WILL NEVER USF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AGAINST A STATE THAT DOES NOT HAVE THEM, EXCEPT IN THE EVENT OF AGGRESSION CONDUCTED IN ASSOCIATION OR ALLIANCE WITH A STATE THAT POSSESSES SUCH WEAPONS AGAINST FRANCE OR A STATE WITH WHOM SHE HAS CONTRACTED A SECURITY COMMITMENT.

<sup>\*[</sup> These excerpts were provided by the Embassy of France in Canberra].

THANKS TO JTS CULTURAL SPECIFICITY, ITS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND THE PROFICIENCY OF ITS RESEARCH INSTITUTES, NEW CALEDONIA MARES AN OUTSTANDING CONTRIBUTION TO THE RICH VARIETY OF THIS VAST AREA OF THE WORLD.

. THE TERRITORY, WHICH IS HOST TO THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION IN NOUMEA, MUST BE MORE VIGOROUS, DYNAMIC AND IMAGINATIVE IN DEMONSTRATING ITS PRESENCE ON THE REGIONAL SCENE.

THE SOUTH PACIFIC COMMISSION'S SUCCESSES IN FOSTERING REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT ALREADY GIVE AN IDEA OF WHAT CAN BE ACHIEVED THROUGH TRUSTFUL COOPERATION BETWEEN STATES AND TERRITORIES WORKING TOGETHER ON AN EQUAL FOOTING FOR THEIR COMMON PROSPERITY.

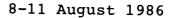
IT 1S IN THAT SPIRIT OF RECEPTIVENESS AND BIALOGUE THAT FRANCE IS PREPARED TO OFFER HER COOPERATION TO THE STATES OF THE REGION THAT WANT IT IN AREAS OF POTENTIAL INTEREST TO THEM: TECHNOLOGY TRANSFERS, OCEANOGRAPHIC RESEARCH, FISH FARMING, TROPICAL AGRONOMY, HEALTH, ETC... I HAVE IN FACT DECIDED, IN AGREEMENT WITH GASTON FLOSSE, THAT FRANCE WILL JOIN IN THE SOUTH PACIFIC ISLANDS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMMED SHE WILL RAISE HER CONTRIBUTION TO IT TO A SIGNIFICANT LEVEL IN 1987.

ALSO, THE FRENCH UNIVERSITY OF THE SOUTH PACIFIC, TO BE ESTABLISHED RIGHT HERE AND IN POLYNESIA, WILL NATURALLY BE EXPECTED TO RECEIVE STUDENTS AND RESEARCH WORKERS FROM THE WHOLE SOUTH PACIFIC REGION.

IN THAT SAME SPIRIT OF TRUSTPULNESS AND OPENNESS, MY GOVERNMENT IS WILLING TO GIVE THE STATES OF THE REGION FULL INFORMATION ON THE POLL BY WHICH NEW CALEDONIA'S INHABITANTS WILL DECIDE THEIR FUTURE AND TO ENABLE THEM, WHEN THE TIMES COMES, TO SEE FOR THEMSELVES THAT IT IS DEMOCRATICALLY CONDUCTED, PROVIDING THEY ACCEPT THAT NEW CALEDONIA'S FUTURE MUST BE DETERMINED BY ALL THE NEW CALEDONIANS.

TOWARDS THE END OF NEXT YEAR THE PACIFIC GAMES WILL BE HELD IN NOUMEA, AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE FOR YOUTH AND SPORT, CHRISTIAN BERGELIN, HAS COME WITH ME TO HELP YOU ORGANIZE THEM. HERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY AMONGST OTHERS TO FORGE CLOSER TIES WITH YOUR NEIGHBOURS AND SHOW THEM WHAT YOU ARE AND WHAT DRAWS YOU TOGETHER. FOR YOU MUST NOT MISS ANY CHANCE. YOU FORM AN ORIGINAL COMMUNITY, IN MANY WAYS A UNIQUE ONE. ENRICHED BY THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN YOU, UNITED BY YOUR COMMITMENT TO DEMOCRATIC VALUES, FULL MEMBERS OF THE FRENCH PEOPLE FOR AS LONG AS YOU LIKE, YOU MUST BE MORE FORTHCOMING IN SHOWING NEW CALEDONIA'S TRUE FACE, AND EVERYONE WILL THEN UNDERSTAND THAT, HERE IN THE MIDDLE OF THE PACIFIC, IT IS FRANCE'S FACE ./.

## - SOUTH PACIFIC FORUM\*-





## South Pacific Bureau for Economic Co-operation

The Heads of Governments of the South Pacific Forum, meeting in Suva on 8-11 August, request the Committee on Decolonisation to recommend to the United Nations General Assembly the reinscription of New Caledonia on the United Nation's List of Non-Self-Governing Territories.

Signed:

Hon Lionel Bowen, MP
Deputy Prime Minister

Attorney-General of A

& Attornay-General of Australia

Rt Hon Ratu Sir Kamisese Mara, GCMG, KBE, KStJ Prime Minister of Fiji

HE Hammer Delegoun, GCMG, OBE, MP President of Neural

Hon Sir Robert Rex, KBE, CMG Premier of Niue

Rt Hon Sir Peter Kenilorea, MP Prime Minister of Solomon Islands

Rt Hon Dr Tomasi Puapua, MP Prima Ministar of Tuvalu

Hon Vaal Kolone Prime Minister of Western Samoa

SUVA, FIJI 8 August 1986

HE leremla T Tabai, GCMG Epretitenti of Kribati

Hon Sir Thomas Dayis, KBE

Prime Minister of Cook Islands

Rt Hon David Lange, MP \
Prime Minister of New Zealand

Hon Lagu Vac Minister to Foreign Affairs of Papua New Guinea

HRH Crown Prince Tupouto'a Minister for Foreign Affairs & Defence of Tonga

Hon Fr Walter Hadye Lini, CBE,MP Prime Minister of Venuatu

\*[The text of this request was provided by the Department of Foreign Affairs, Canberra].