

MS 330/1/110/32

CONFERENCE AT GOROKA, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Over 25 people attended (some for the duration, others for part of the time) the conference of ethnomusicologists, a novel, though very successful event organised by John Kelsey, Music Lecturer, at the Goroka Teacher's College, University of Papua New Guinea, 18-25 August 1982. (Some of the participants stayed on for the Goroka Show (28-29), where the events featured more than 40 different Highland groups in dance regalia, local string bands, marching school children etc). ring

In addition to conference meetings and discussions in the multi-purpose College theatre, there were informal gatherings in the Music Room, film showings, a dance spectacular in a newly-opened local Theatre, excursions to the Museum and to two of the nearby villages (Kavevi and Kamiufa). Conference papers were contributed by T Atkin (Australia), P Bongoares (Philippines), C Ellis (Australia), W J Fearon (PNG), S Feld (USA), E Gigimat (PNG), R Gottlieb (USA), G James (PNG), J Kelsey (PNG), H Larias (PNG), L Lawson (PNG), D S Lee (USA), T Lulungan (PNG), G F Messner (Austria), A M Moyle (Australia), D Niles (PNG), G Spearritt (Australia), C Wilson (PNG), Y Yamada (Japan), and P L Yayii (PNG).

Papua New Guinea provided the geographical orientation for 14 of the papers, and three of these dealt with educational aspects of music and dance. Other areas included Australia, Fiji, Gilbert Islands, Philippines, Torres Strait and the Sudan. Slides, tapes, videocassettes and films were used in illustration; also some recently acquired tape copies of selected cylinder recordings (by Myers and Ray) made during the Cambridge Anthropological Expedition to Torres Strait led by A C Haddon in 1898.

During a meeting chaired by Alice Moyle, as Australian liaison officer of the ICTM, views were expressed in favour of holding subsequent meetings of this kind at different places in the South Pacific region.