

REPUBLIC OF VANUATU
OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

PUBLIC REPORT

ABOUT

**THE CONVERSION OF ROAU FRENCH PRIMARY
SCHOOL AT MANGALILIU VILLAGE ON NORTH WEST
EFATE INTO AN ENGLISH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

7265/9/14

09.09.99

**PUBLIC REPORT ABOUT THE CONVERSION OF
ROAU FRENCH PRIMARY SCHOOL INTO
AN ENGLISH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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1. SUMMARY

- 1.1 In 1983, Chief Murumuru Kanaure established Mangaliliu village on North West Efate and at the time asked the Government to start a primary school in the village.

The closest school to Mangaliliu is situated on Lelepa which creates a situation where children have to go to school by canoe and remain on Lelepa until weekend or public holidays.

In 1995, after the death of Chief Murumuru Kanaure and after he had promised the Government 3 hectares of his land to build the school on it, the village community wrote a letter to the UMP led Government which had agreed to it and established a school in 1996 and appointed a Francophone teacher to teach there temporarily.

- 1.2 But at the beginning of 1997, the Ministry of Education did not appoint any Francophone teacher to teach in this school and when Mr. Kalpokas, then Minister of Education, visited Mangaliliu village, he proposed to make Mangaliliu school part of Lelepa school. This meant that the school had to be changed to an English school. He warned the people in that village that the Government could not support two schools at the same time. (See **Appendix D**).

- 1.3 Following the Minister's indirect support and after talking with the parents of children going to school there, Chief Kalkot Kalotiti decided to teach in that school. He wrote two letters concerning what had taken place and sent the first of the letters to the Director General of Education, Mr. Jacques Sese and then (See **Appendix J**) sent the other one to the Principal Education Officer, Mr. Billy Kalsrap Bakokoto (See **Appendix k**).

Neither of the two people answered Chief Kalkot Kalotiti's letter. But the Minister for Education had approved the list which showed the teachers' postings in 1997 and the list was published in the Official Gazette. The list showed the name of Chief Kalkot Kalotiti as teacher responsible for Roau School at Mangaliliu (See **Appendix L**).

- 1.4 A French Primary school in 1996 became an English Primary School in 1997 and after 1998, it became a French School again after the Minister of Education posted the same French teacher, Mr. Tanimu Callixto to teach again at the school.

- 1.5 After the Ombudsman's enquiry, it was found that there had been no proper study carried out before the school was established and that people in that village decided that the school would be a French school not because of anything political but because they knew well that if they asked the Government to open a French school at North West Efate, an area with many English schools already established, the Government would only be glad to do it.

The enquiry also showed that the school became an English school in 1997 because of the Chief's interest although it was to the detriment of the pupils.

- 1.6 None of those involved would be penalised but the Ombudsman recommends the following:
- That the Government provide clear policies on the establishment of new schools and the criteria to apply in choosing the language of instruction for individual schools.

- The pupils of Mangaliliu who are at a disadvantage because of the changes be obliged to have in their possession a letter, signed by the Minister of Education, stating the reason for which they are late in their year of education in their individual files and that they should be provided special assistance either in English or French by the Government.
- the situation of Mangaliliu School should be reviewed (land lease, teacher) and the Government should be obliged not to change the language of instruction used in the school anymore;
- there should be a rule included in the teachers' internal regulation of the school stating that a teacher should not teach in a school which is situated in his own village;
- dispute within Mangaliliu community concerning what medium of instruction would be used in the school would be settled only when the Government decides to setup a bilingual school as a pilot project. Moreover, there would no longer be any problem in getting a second teacher if arrangements could be made to find an English teacher at the Lelepa school who could come to Mangaliliu School to teach English to some pupils for a certain number of hours at a time. This arrangement could remain effective until such time when proper teachers are trained to teach in both languages.

2. REFERENCES

- 2.1 Case No. C265/96-97.

3. SCOPE OF INVESTIGATION

- 3.1 In accordance with Article 62(1) and 62(2) of the Constitution and Section 14(1) of Act No. 14 of 1995 about the Ombudsman's duties, the Ombudsman has the power to make enquiries into all unlawful conduct and improper administrative procedures.
- 3.2 The Ombudsman thus decided to look first into the complaint made by X before making a full enquiry into it.
- 3.3 The purpose of the enquiry is to:
- (a) Find out the reasons why the French school was established in an area where many English schools already existed;
 - (b) Find out the reasons why a French School was turned into an English school only a year after it had been established and why the Chief of the village where the school is situated, teaches at the school.

4. RESPONSES FROM THOSE CONCERNED IN THIS REPORT

- 4.1 Under Section 16(1) of Act No. 14 of 1995, the people involved in this case have the right to give their side of the story in answer to accusations made against them.
- 4.2 Ombudsman issued a preliminary report on this case on 27 April 1998 to the people involved in this case. The Ombudsman's Office only received one reply from those people and the response was from Mr. Kalmele Matai (Director of Primary Education) which enabled us to make some changes to the final report.

- 4.3 In his reply which he made on 15 May 1998, Mr. Kalmele Matai said that he had informed Shefa Province's Principal Education Officer, (Mr. Bakokoto) about the Chief Kalkot Kalotiti's decision and he said that he had asked Mr. Bakokoto to take the necessary measures about this issue. (See **Appendix I**).
- 4.4 Eventhough the following people helped us during our enquiry, they did not provide their comments or their side of the story after they received the Ombudsman's preliminary report:
- Mr. Louis Carlot (Former Minister of Education);
 - Mr. Donald Kalpokas (Former Minister of Education);
 - Mr. Romain Batick (Former Minister of Education);
 - Mr. Jacques Sese (Former Director General of Education);
 - Mr. Kalmele Matai (Director of Primary Education);
 - Mr. Billy Bakokoto (Principal Education Officer, Shefa Province); and
 - Chief Kalkot Kalotiti.

5. RELEVANT LAWS AND REGULATIONS

CONSTITUTION

- 5.1 Article 3(1) of the Constitution provides that :

"The national language of the Republic of Vanuatu is Bislama. The official languages are Bislama, English and French. The principal languages of education are English and French."

- 5.2 Section 19(a) of the Teaching Service Act (CAP 171) states that the (Teaching Service) Commission may, after receiving a report from the Minister, create and abolish positions in the service.
- 5.3 Section 20(2) of the Teaching Service Act (CAP 171) provides that all vaccant positions which the Minister wishes to fill and all allocations, appointments, transfers, promotions and confirmations of promotions be published in the Official Gazette.
- 5.4 Section 4.3 of the explanatory notes of the 1997 Budget (See **Appendix A**) clearly showed that the Government is able to provide funds for a teacher to teach a class of less than 30 pupils. Section 4.11 of the same explanatory notes states that a newly established school whether fully or partially funded by the Government, could not be allocated funds unless a letter of approval is sent by the Minister to say that the school may receive funds from the Government.

6. METHOD OF INVESTIGATION

The Office of the Ombudsman carried out the investigation in the following manner:

- 6.1 According to Section 17 of Act No. 14 of 1995 concerning the jurisdiction of the Ombudsman, the Office of the Ombudsman obtained the following documents:
- Copy of the list of teachers' postings in 1996;
 - Copy of the list of teachers' postings in 1997 -first version (Oct/Nov 1996);
 - Copy of the list of teachers' postings in 1997 - second version (Mar 1997);
 - Copy of school statistics for 1996;

- Mr. Kalotiti's personal file;
- Mr. Tanimo Callixto's personal file;
- Roau French Primary School (Mangaliliu) Council Minute Register;
- Teaching Service Staff Manual;
- School viability document.

6.2 The staff of the Office of the Ombudsman also interviewed the following people as witnesses in this case:

Kalsopa James, Chairman for the Parents Committee in 1996;
 Kalfau Winnie, Treasurer, Parents Committee in 1996;
 Kalsong Edna, Member, Parents Committee in 1996;
 Mael Vinea, Member, Parents Committee in 1996;
 Sam Kalsau, parent;
 Kalotiti Kaltales, parent;
 Jacob Tauran, parent;
 Kaloroa Elizabeth, parent;
 Kalsai Walesu, parent;
 Talang Manakoa, parent and member for Village Council;
 Kalsong William, parent and the existing Chief's brother;
 Nakpar Kalsau, Sam Kalsau's father (his name is mentioned above);
 Obed Matavara, grandparent;
 Willy Regina, family ties in the village.

Teachers:

Tanimo Callixto, Francophone teacher in 1996;
 Murumuru Kalkot Kalotiti, Anglophone teacher in 1997 and Chief of the village
 Iamting Iatika, Headmaster of Vila Cente - Ville (French).

People in the Education Office:

Billy Bakokoto, Principal Education Officer for Shefa Province;
 Kalmele Matai, Director for Primary Education;
 Hon. Donald Kalpokas, former Minister of Education;
 Christopher Karu, Secretary, Teaching Service Commission;
 Jacques Sese, former Director General of Education;
 Louis Carlot, Minister of Education.

6.3 The purpose of the enquiry was to find out whether:

- (a) the change in the language of instruction in Roau Primary School had been carried out according to official rules set out by the Teaching Service Commission and the Department of Education;
- (b) when the customary power was used, it ignored the fundamental rights of the pupils stated in the Constitution particularly the parents' right to choose which school their children should go to;
- (c) there was political involvement in administrative rules;
- (d) when the language of instruction was changed quickly just before the school opened at the beginning of the year 1997 was a discriminatory act against the French medium of education.

7. OUTLINE OF EVENTS

- 7.1 In 1983, the Supreme Court decided that the former Mangaliliu plantation which is situated on the mainland of Efate facing the Lelepa island should be given back to Chief Murumuru Kanaure. Eventhough the chief is from Lelepa, he decided to move with his people and live at Mangaliliu.
- 7.2 Since 1983, Chief Murumuru Kanaure has been asking Mr. Donald Kalpokas, who had held the position as Minister of Education, to establish a school in the new village which he just setup. His request was turned down because the number of pupils for the school was too small and that those pupils could go to Amaro School on Lelepa to study. This means that they have go across the sea for about 1 kilometer to get to Lelepa which means that the pupils have to be accommodated at Lelepa and only return to Mangaliliu during holidays or at weekends.
- 7.3 Chief Murumuru Kanaure died in 1993 but a new government led by UMP promised his people that a new school would be established in their village. At the time the Ministry of Education saw it as an opportunity to establish a French school in that area where two English schools already existed, one at Ulei and the other at Lelepa, and this would provide opportunities for parents to decide if they wanted to send their children to an English or French school.
- 7.4 Its worth noting that Mangaliliu Village, with approximately a hundred people, only two or three people had gone to the French school but all other ones had gone to English School. They do not use their language of instruction learnt in the French School in the village but only a few of them talk in English or French in town while they are working; most of them speak Bislama as an everyday language.
- 7.5 When UMP came to power again in 1995, the authorities of the party kept their word and sent a Francophone teacher to open a new French school when the school year began in 1996. The Minister of Education at that time gave a verbal approval that the school had to open after which confirmed in an official letter that a Francophone teacher had been appointed for the school. Roau school was included in the list of teachers' postings in 1996 with the number of pupils as envisaged and names of their teachers were also included, which is Tanimu Callixto, who had been given a temporary contract to work there at the time.
- 7.6 Mangaliliu community and Chief Murumuru Kalkot Kalotiti welcomed the teacher warmly. The teacher accepted fifteen children for class 1 which started classes in a Presbyterian church on 9 February 1996 when the school year started.

The community helped to build a house for the teacher and they also fundraised for in order to pay for half of the building materials (which cost around VT 200,000) to build a classroom. The French Ambassador funded the other half of the building materials (about VT400,000). In the second term, the teacher taught the pupils in a house in the village and in the third term they had classes in a classroom which had not been completed because of shortage of building materials. Both buildings became properties of the village.

- 7.7 In November 1996, the teacher received a letter of termination of service(See **Appendix B**) like around 180 other teachers whom the Ministry of Education decided to terminate because of shortage of funds in its budget (See **Appendix C**). At that time, Ulei English Primary School situated about 10 kilometers to the north of Mangaliliu, was almost closed down and at the same time Mr. Kalkot Kalotiti was also transferred to teach at Eton. Consequently, the list of postings for Roau French Primary School at Mangaliliu was vacant. The Department of Education did not take any measures to find another French teacher to fill the vacant post.
- 7.8 On 8 January 1997, the Minister of Education at the time, Hon. Donald Kalpokas, visited his constituency and during that time he donated some materials to the young people in that village. It was at this time that the people asked him to explain about the situation of their school and he told them that they should open an English school in order to increase the number of pupils in Amaro School on Lelepa. This meant that Roau School would become part of Amaro School and it would help Amaro School to follow the rules of the ministry at all times which include the number of pupils in a school which would qualify the school to get help from the Government. If the community insists on keeping the French School, it would have to find its own funding to run the school but the Ministry could not provide any assistance to them.(See **Appendix D**).
- 7.9 Chief Kalkot Kalotiti had called a meeting one day immediately after the visit of the Minister. Due to short notice for the meeting, many of the parents and other people from the village did not turn up for the meeting because they had not been informed of the meeting and were in their gardens at that time. A decision should be taken as to whether to accept the proposal of the Minister. At the time, it was obvious that the village did not have the means to run two schools at the same time, French and English school, so the people who had been at the meeting felt that it was better to convert the French Medium School into an English school.
- 7.10 Many parents were annoyed because of the decision taken during the meeting which they did not attend and which they said they had been notified at very short notice and nobody had told them that such a meeting would take place. As a result, the chairman of the School Committee called another meeting on 12 January after church service. The discussions were so stormy that Chief had to use his power as custom Chief of the village to stop the discussions and decided that they close the French school and convert it to English as part of Amaro School on Lelepa and at the same time declared that he was going to teach at the school since he was a qualified English teacher.
- 7.11 On 3 February 1997, Chief Kalotiti Murumuru wrote a letter to the Principal Education Officer to let him know of the events that had taken place. After that he wrote another letter to the Director of Primary Education to confirm his decision. The school reopened but it did so as an English school and the children were taught in an unfinished building and the two people to whom the chief had written, never responded to any of his letters.
- 7.12 During the first term of 1997, the Francophone teacher was allowed to live in the house provided by the school so that he could make a garden for himself and at the same time look after and clean the school and the area around it. But at the end of May 1997, the chief asked him to vacate the house. This house had been rented out to a group of archeologists who had been carrying out research around the area of Mangass.

- 7.13 When school started in February 1997, it was the Chief who ran the school on his own. There was no school committee or treasurer. The school was considered part of Amaro School on Lelepa and that it was in the hands of Amaro School committee. At the time, there were 17 pupils in the school altogether. There were 5 in year 1, 9 in year 2 and 3 in year 3 (See **Appendix H**). The five pupils in year 1 were repeating year 1 because they did year 1 the year before (1996) in French and are obliged to do it all over again in English. The 9 pupils in year 2 had studied in French but went ahead in English without repeating. The 3 pupils in year 3 had studied in year 2 in Amaro School at Lelepa.
- 7.14 When the Ombudsman was informed about the case at the end of March 1997, she decided to start an enquiry into it on her own initiative.
- 7.15 During the enquiry, certain changes occurred in some Government ministries at the end of May 1997. Minister Donald Kalpokas went to the opposition side and Minister Louis Carlot, who was a UMP member of Parliament, became the new Minister of Education. When the new Minister came to know about the enquiry, he issued an order to the Principal Education Officer to make sure that Roau School was converted back to French School when the new school year began in February 1998. In January 1998, the Minister told the Ombudsman's Office that according to advice he had been given by the Principal Education Officer, Roau School would not open in February 1998, because the number of pupils in Roau School in 1998 was too low. This was despite the fact that the number of pupils in 1997 had been up to 27.

But after February 1998, the Principal Education Officer sent a letter to Mr. Tanimu Callixto to let him know of his appointment as Headmaster of Roau School at Mangaliliu (See **Appendix I**).

The school at Mangaliliu is currently operating as a French school.

7.16 Follow up work of a school building project

- 7.16.1 Chief Kalkot Kalotiti decided to decrease the area of land which Chief Murumuru Kanaure had agreed previously that the school would be built on it. Previously, the land covered up to 3 hectares of which Chief reduced to only 1 hectare.
- 7.16.2 On 7 July 1998, Mr. Tanimu Callixto met with Mr. David Tari, Deputy Principal Education Officer to inform him of the events taking place at Mangaliliu. Mr. David Tari told him that a 1 hectare piece of land is not adequate to carry out the project of a primary boarding school.

8. FINDINGS OF FACTS

- 8.1.1 In 1996, Minister Romain Batick opened a school following the request of the people of Mangaliliu. He decided that the language of instruction should be French without giving any justification behind it, any study and without respecting educational rules. The community was glad that at least a school was opened in their village.

At that time, 15 children had been registered for years 1 and 2 at the school. The French teacher has stopped teaching after a year's teaching because there was no provision in the budget for his salary.

- 8.1.2 In 1997, Minister Kalpokas gave two proposals to the community: the first was for a French school to be established and run without the financial help from the Government and the second was to have an English school which was to become part of Amaro School on Lelepa.

This decision which seemed to have come about because of the insufficient number of pupils to teach in the school also created difficulties for those pupils who had done their studies in French in 1996.

- 8.1.3 Following a decision made by Minister Louis Carlot in 1998 (See **Appendix E**), the school was reconverted into a French school eventhough the number of pupils in the school was insufficient according to the rules set by the Government. and that this decision was appropriate as the school had been a French School previously.

- 8.1.4 The Mangaliliu School therefore became a French school once more which is advantageous as it was the French Embassy that provided sufficient funds to build the classroom for the school in 1996. But at the same time too, it contradicts the restrictions of the budget stated in its explanatory notes which also covers government policy on education.

- 8.1.5 The three decisions taken by the Ministry of Education do not comply with the rules normally enforced by the Department of Education (total number of pupils does not reach 30). There had been no feaseability study at all and the justifications were inappropriate.

- 8.1.6 It seems that the administrative practice followed to establish the school was not proper.

There does not seem to be any coherent system of work also followed to find out where exactly there was a need to have a school and which medium of instruction would be used in individual schools.

There is a system being enforced but it seems that it has not been used.

- 8.1.7 This kind of practice can be disadvantageous to the pupils as they are transferred from one system of education to another eventhough it would have been much better if they keep to only one system of study so that pupils do not miss out on some years of education which may affect their opportunities in passing on to secondary schools if the rule on age limit is still effective.

At the end of 1996, 14 pupils had changed their language of instruction (See **Appendix G**) and this slowed down some of the pupils by one year and affected their chances to get a place in secondary schools when they reach year 6.

It is clear that some of those pupils can leave school for no reason at all.

9. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 9.1 **Recommendation 1:** That the Government provide clear policies on the establishment of new schools and the criteria to apply in choosing the language of instruction for individual schools.

10. INDEX OF APPENDICES

- A** Education policy of the Ministry
- B** Termination letter to the Francophone teacher, Mr. Callixto Tanimio
- C** Copy of the letter dated 4 April 1997 from the former Minister, Mr. Donald Kalpokas
- D** Letter dated 8 August 1997 from the former Minister, Mr. Donald Kalpokas
- E** Letter dated 26 January 1998 from Minister Louis Carlot
- F** Letter from Mr. Bakokoto (Principal Education Officer for Shefa Province) to Mr. Callixto Tanimio to inform him that he would be headmaster of Roau School.
- G** List of pupils registered by teacher Callixto Tanimio in 1996
- H** List of pupils registered in the school at Mangaliliu in 1997
- I** Letter appointing Mr. Callixto Tanimio to teach again at Mangaliliu in 1998
- J** Letter from Chief Kalkot Kalotiti to Mr. Jacques Sese
- K** Letter from Chief Kalkot Kalotiti to Mr. Billy Kalsrap Bakokoto
- L** List of teachers' postings in 1997 published in the Official Gazette.

- 9.2 **Recommendation 2:** That the pupils of Mangaliliu who are at a disadvantage because of the changes be obliged to have in their possession a letter, signed by the Minister of Education, stating the reason for which they are late in their year of education in their individual files and that they should be provided special assistance either in English or French.
- 9.3 **Recommendation 3:** That the situation of the school at Mangaliliu be reviewed (land lease, teacher) and that the Government should make it an obligation not make anymore changes to the language of instruction used in that school.
- 9.4 **Recommendation 4:** That a section be included in the teachers' internal regulations stating that a chief is not allowed to teach in a school which is situated in his village.
- 9.5 **Recommendation 5:** That the Government settle the conflict amongst the people of Mangaliliu about which language of instruction to use in their school by establishing a bilingual school as a pilot project. Moreover, there would be no problem in finding funds for the second teacher's salary if arrangement can be made for an Anglophone teacher from the primary school at Lelepa to go over to Mangaliliu and teach for some hours at a time. Such arrangement can remain until such time when a bilingual teacher is trained.

Dated this 9th day of September 1999.

Hannington Godfrey Alatoa
OMBUDSMAN OF THE REPUBLIC OF VANUATU

ANNEKE "A" EDUCATION POLICY

1997 Budget Parameters

Primary

- 4.0 Funds shall be provided for all students eligible for Years 1-6. The amount to be provided shall be calculated per capita.
- 4.1 Students shall enter Year 1 in the Year in which they shall have reached the age of 6 by June of that Year.
- 4.2 Promotion from Year to Year shall be automatic. Funds shall not be provided for any student repeating a Year.
- *4.3 ~~One teacher shall be funded for each complete group of 30 students.~~ A teacher shall not be funded for any group of less than 30. Students of a partial group shall have a per capita allocation for general expenses provided under the bulk grant system, but shall be assigned as additional students to the appropriate class.
- 4.4 Students repeating a year shall not be included in the calculation of the number of eligible students.
- 4.5 Untrained and ~~temporary teachers shall not be funded.~~
- 4.6 Multi Year classes and alternate year enrolment shall be encourage in order to meet the 30 students per teacher standard.
- 4.7 No funds shall be provided for boarding expenses.
- 4.8 If local communities wish to have boarding schools and employ untrained and temporary teachers the parents shall fund these costs themselves, and are authorised to make the necessary arrangements.
- 4.9 The school principal shall always teach a class, and shall be included in the calculation of the number of teachers funded for any school. An exception shall be made for any school where the number of students enrolled is 360 or more. In such schools the principal shall be separately funded.
- 4.10 No ancillary staff shall be funded.
- 4.11 ~~A newly established school, whether Government or Government assisted, shall not be funded unless this has been specifically approved in writing by the Minister.~~
- 4.12 School Committees may ask parents for financial contributions for school support. The amount of such contributions shall established by community consent. Students may not be excluded from a school for the failure of their parents to pay such contributions.

PRIVATE MAIL BAG 029
PORT VILA
REPUBLIC OF VANUATU
TELEPHONE: 22583



SAC POSTAL PRIVE 029
PORT VILA
REPUBLIQUE DE VANUATU
TELEPHONE: 22583

Our Ref.: TSC.034/60/96/WT-pdm.

ANNEXE "B"

Mr Calisto Tanimu
c/- Education Office
Shefa Province
PORT VILA.

Dear Mr Calisto,

NOTICE FOR TERMINATION OF SERVICE

In accordance with Chapter 12.5(a) - Termination of Service of the Teaching Service Staff Rules as amended and signed the 16th July 1985, and pursuant to Part 4 Section 28(2) ~~Excess Officers~~ of the Teaching Service Act No.15 of 1983, you are hereby given one month notice of termination from the Teaching Service effective from 1st November 1996 and ending on 1st December 1996, after which period your employment with the Government will cease.


Subject to the terms and conditions of your engagement as a temporary employee or, officer of the service, you will be paid the following entitlements :

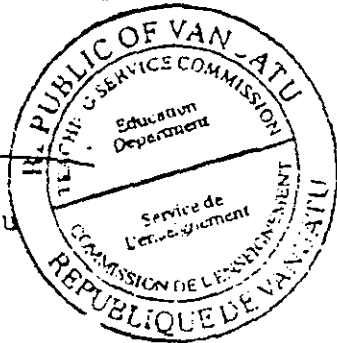
- (i) The period of any leave not taken, and
- (ii) Severance allowance calculated at the rate of 11 days per year complete retrospective 30th July, 1980 if you commenced duty before transferring into Vanuatu Government Service or, have completed 10 years of service with the Government pro-rata any year not completed.

On behalf of the Government of Vanuatu, we take this opportunity to express gratitude to you for the valuable services you have rendered to Vanuatu Education Service and in particular to various schools and students of this nation.

We wish you success in your future engagement.

Yours faithfully,
TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION


W. Tasaruru
Chairman.



- cc.:
- Hon. Minister of Education
 - Second Secretary, Ministry of Education
 - Acting Director General
 - Director of Administration & Finance
 - Director of Basic Education
 - PEO Shefa Province
 - PF
 - Chrono.

ANNEXE " C "

implementation skills that can achieve the goal of comfortable and sustainable living standard.

4. Actions for reducing costs elsewhere

As I have said in my letter of the 4th of March that one of the objectives of the Comprehensive Reform Programme that the Government is currently involve in is to cut down on unnecessary items of expenditures. While this is going on, I am not in a position to competently substantiate areas needing reduction, or elimination. However I already took some restrictive measures within my Ministry are to do the followings:-

- 4.1. Since 1996 I freezed up all new recruitments and reinstatements into vacant posts within the Ministry and Department of Education.
- 4.2. Towards the end of 1996 and beginning of 1997 we laid off 185 temporary or untrained teachers and about 61 permanent teachers.
- 4.3. Provided measures to maximise the use of resources to benefit more children at the minimum costs. These are such measures like strictly applying teacher/student ratio of 1 to 30; and reviving multi class teaching practice, and we are working on shift system to be introduced into some schools - especially in urban areas.

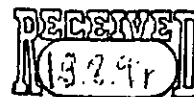
5. Elevation of Children in Vanuatu

I am in agreement that children in Vanuatu need to be elevated more. I and the Ministry of Education are doing our part through formal educational systems to elevate them. However, a good proportion of our efforts will be ineffective and probably detrimental to the goal of comfortable and sustainable standard of living, if others are not doing their parts.

What I am saying is that schooling alone cannot hope to meet the burgeoning need for the elevation of our children in Vanuatu. The fact that learning begins at birth and that this sets the stage for further successful learning, it is vital that family and community involvements and participations in the elevation processes be fully utilised.

While primary schooling is considered to be the main delivery system for basic education, supplementary alternative programs of the equivalent standard and support should be encouraged so that the children of Vanuatu can be fully elevated towards the acceptable standard.

Madame, may I remind your office that I am into my 14 months as Minister for education and the going is not easy, but I tried to do my best within the situation the country is in, and sluggishly moving through. It is my determinating desire to uphold the Constitution



OFFICE OF THE LEADER OF OPPOSITION
C/-VANUATU NATIONAL PARLIAMENT
PORT-VILA

18th August, 1997

Office of the Ombudsman
P.O.Box 126
Port-Vila.

Dear Madam,

Thankyou for your letter dated 12th August concerning the closure of Mangaliliu School which I received on 13th August.

Firstly I would like to clarify issues surrounding the opening and operating of any School in Vanuatu. There are certain factors that decide wether a school should be opened: Population centre, whether a school is within the travelling or boarding arrangement. But the most important thing is the people's need for the school to open.

I will now answer your questions :

1. Yes I met with the people of Mangaliliu on 8th January 1997 to discuss about the french medium School.
2. a) The date is 8th January, 1997.
b) The subject of this meeting was to bring to the people's notice that we cannot afford to run two seperate schools in one area. This will involve duplication of costs in a time when Government financial resources are limited. So the people of Mangaliliu have to make up their mind whether they want to be the part of the school on Lelepa Island or be a separate school whithout Government financial assistance. Another most important point to consider is that it would not be possible for such a separate school to have the school population support that would be viable for classes One-Six. (In 1996 there were only nine children in classes one & two at Mangaliliu).

It should be noted that although Mangaliliu is a separate Village from Natapau Village on Lelepa. it really comes under Lelepa Regional Council of Chiefs which Chief Natmatsaruru is the Paramount Chief of. The school on Lelepa therefore belongs to Mangaliliu.

With the ~~closure of Ulei Primary School~~, Lelepa school population has to be built up to be viable for fully pledged classes one to six to qualify for Government assisted teachers. Number at Mangaliliu supplement the number on Lelep so any school operating on Mangaliliu has to be part of the school on Lelepa.

c) This meeting took place at Mangaliliu.

d) It was an official constituency visit to hand over some material to the Youth but the people also asked me to clarify the situation regarding the school at Mangaliliu since they understand that it is the government Policy to operate a school with the ratio of one teacher to 20 to 30 children.


3. I did not in anyway mentioned that I will close the French school at Mangaliliu but if need be the school would have to ~~operate without the government assistant~~ since the school population is so small.

4. I was well aware of Mr. Kalkot Kalotiti's appointment as a teacher to Amaro School (lelepa) which the English Medium school at Mangaliliu is a part of. This point has been dealt with above.

I hope I have been able to satisfy your request for the answer needed.

I would be pleased to provide you with more information if you so wish.

Yours faithfully,


HON. DONALD KALPOKAS
LEADER OF OPPOSITION

GOUVERNEMENT
DE LA REPUBLIQUE
DE VANUATU

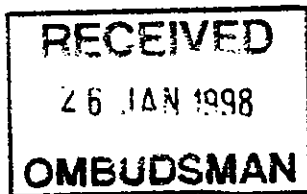


GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC
OF VANUATU

MINISTERE DE L'EDUCATION

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

[N/Ref: MOE/CAB/403/98/LGC:jm]



Port Vila le 26 Janvier 1998

A: Mr R. AUPY
Bureau de la Médiatrice
Port Vila

Monsieur,

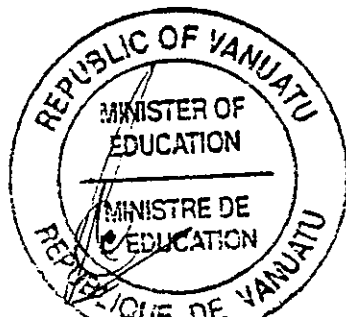
REOUVERTURE DE L'ECOLE DE ROAU (MANGALILIU)

Vous avez été déjà avisé de la décision du Ministère, que ladite école doit reprendre son status initial comme école francophone.

Cette école ne peut normalement pas ouvrir ses portes pour 1998, car il n'y aurait pas assez d'effectifs, selon le rapport de conseil pédagogique de Shefa.

Pour plus d'information complémentaires, veuillez contacter le bureau régional de Shefa.

Agréez, Monsieur, mes sentiments dévoués.



Hon. Lolita CARLOT
Ministre de l'Education

21/23

VANUATU GOVERNMENT GOUVERNEMENT DE VANUATU

Provincial Education Officer
Private Mail Bag 027
Port Vila
Vanuatu
Tél : (678) 24949/24954
Fax : (678) 23644

Conseiller Provincial Pour l'Education
Sac de Courrier Privé 027
Port Vila
Vanuatu
Tel : (678) 24949/24954
Fax : (678) 23644

Votre/Your Ref :

Date: 5 Février 1998

Notre/Our Ref :

**A : Monsieur Tamino Calixto
Shefa Province**

CHANGEMENT DE POSTE

J'ai l'honneur de vous informer suite à la décision émanant du Ministre de L' Education ce Mardi 20 Janvier 1998, que vous êtes nommée à **l' Ecole Publique de Roau** où vous assumerez les fonctions de Directeur d'école.

Veillez donc, bien vouloir prendre les dispositions nécessaires afin de rejoindre votre nouveau poste immédiatement.

~~B. K. BAKKOTO~~
Le Conseiller pour l' Education
Province de SHEFA



ANNEXE "G"

MENTHEE 1994 / BACK TO SCHOOL 1996

SCHOOL OF / ÉCOLE DE

E. P. de ROAU
village de Magilliu

To return at the Head Office before End of ^{Feb} March 1996
Written your remarks and Others Expectation on the back of this Sheet.

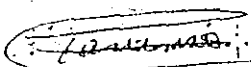
A retourner au Département du Primaire avant la Fin du Mois de ^{Fev} Mars.
Écrivez les Remarques et autres Prévisions au Dos de cette Feuille.

Merci/Thanks.

Cours/Years	Maîtres(ses) Teachers	Nbre de Classe Nbr of Classes	Nbre d'Élèves Nbr of Pupils	Reserve au D.P. Reserved to PEO
Maternelles Kinder Garden	Nettie Touas	1	6	
C.I.F. Year 1	TANIMO CALLIXTO	1	14	
C.P. Year 2				
C.E.1 Year 3				
C.E.2 Year 4				
C.M.1 Year 5				
C.M.2 Year 6				
Certificat 1 Class Pratto 1				
Certificat 2 Class Pratto 2				
TOTAL				

Date: ... 29/03/96

Directeur / Head teacher: TANIMO CALLIXTO

Signature: 

To return at the Head Office before End of March 1997.
Written your remarks and Others Expectation on the back of this Sheet.

A retourner au Departement du Primaire avant la Fin du Mois de Mars.
Ecris les Remarques et autres Previson au Dos de cette Feuille.

Merci/Thanks.

Cours/Years	Maitres(ses) Teachers	Nbre de Classe Nbr of Classes	Nbre d'Elevés Nbr of Pupils	Reserve au D.P. Reserved to PEO
Maternelles Kinder Garden				
C.I.F. Year 1	1	1	5	
C.P. Year 2		1	9	
C.E.1 Year 3		1	3	
C.E.2 Year 4				
C.M.1 Year 5				
C.M.2 Year 6				
Certificat 1 Class Pratic 1				
Certificat 2 Class Pratic 2				
TOTAL			17	

Date: 29.04.97

Directeur / Head teacher: Kalliat. Kalolite

Signature: H. etc.

VANUATU GOVERNMENT
GOUVERNEMENT DE VANUATU

Primary Education
Private Mail Bag 028
Port-Vila



Education Primaire
Sac Postal Réservé 028
Port-Vila

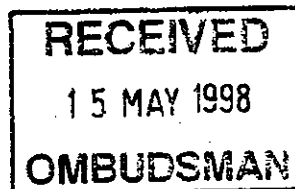
Téléphone : 22309

Téléphone : 22309

Your ref.
Votre ref.

Our ref. PSPE/98/101/DPSPE/KM:me
Notre ref.

Marie-Noelle Ferrieux Patterson
Ombudsman of the Republic of Vanuatu
PMB 081
Port Vila



15 May, 1998

Dear Madame,

Preliminary Report on Conversion to English Medium of Roau French Medium Primary School at Mangaliliu (North-West Efate)


Thank you for your letter dated 27 April 1998 on the above subject.

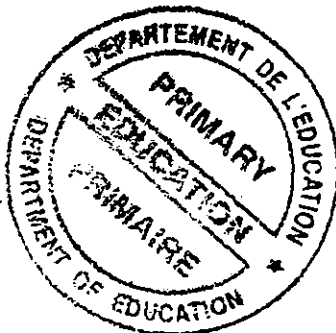
My comment would be as follows:-

- (1) I had never written to the Provincial Education Officer to say that I agreed to Chief K Kalotiti Murumuru's letters of 3 and 17 February, as stated in Section 9.11 of your report.
- (2) It is not that PEO cannot find any teacher as stated in Section 10.1.1 of your report. The fact is there was no Francophone trained teacher to be posted there. Note that the policy stated that no untrained teachers will be funded by the government.
- (3) Referring to Section 10.1.2 of your report, my only communication with the PEO about the letters referred to, was. Chief K Kalotiti Murumuru, has no right to close the school. I did this with the understanding that he would communicate the information to him, since he (PEO) is his immediate superior.
- (4) In section 10.3.3 of your report, there was mentioned of school fees, perhaps you are referring to school contributions.

Thank you

Yours faithfully


K. MATAI
Director
Pre-School and Primary Education



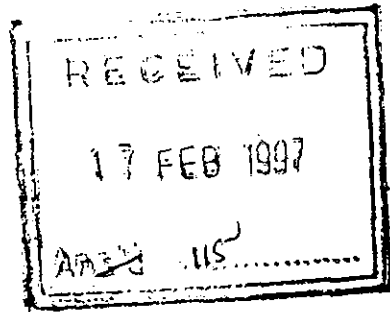


ANNEXE "J"

Mangaliliu Village
North West Efate

17th February 1997

Principal
Jacque Sesse
~~_____~~
P.E.O Primary
Department of Education
Port Vila



Dear Sir,

Re: AMARO SCHOOL

Mi stap ia blong talem long yu se mi mi stap teach finis folem toktok blong Minister long Mangaliliu School emi Part or Feeder blong Amaro School and emia smol detail.

Long 08.01.97. Minister wetem First Secretary mo Third Secretary oli kam talem long Community ia se spos mifala i save startem wan English School, mi mas talem se wetem plante toktok be finally mifala i akri blong startem wan English School, be from parents oli wok long town long taem ia mekem se i kat wan General Miting arrange bakeken long 12.01.97. and bakeken wetem plante toktok be finally akri se tingting ia bae i mas ko ahead.

After long wan Public Miting Chief emi mekem wan last toktok se Mangaliliu School bae emi wan English School, and from we ino gat ol extra pikinini, everi pikinini blong Mangaliliu oli startem English School ia and olsem mi talem mi K Kalotiti mi Pilotem School ia. Be from tumas confusion long ol politician Chief i kam bakeken long Ministry mo confemem stan blong em se blong mekem se i gat stability long Village, be i luk se yu no bin klia, yu stap traem mekem wan mo posting blong mi.

So folem toktok blong yu long Radio mi wantem talem i klia long yu long leta ia se i kat wan School nomo long Mangaliliu we emi English School, mo folem toktok blong Community and Ministry so mi ting se emi wise tingting blong startem wan English School from long fiuja blong em blong i continue bae emi cost less.

Sir, mi ting se mi bin toktok longfala tumas and mbae mi stop ia.

Thank yu tumas

Yours Faithfully,

K. Kalotiti

Chief K. Kalotiti. Murumuru

cc : ^{revised} P.E.O Shefa ✓
cc : 1st Secretary Education

ANNEXE "K"

RECEIVED
6.2.97

Mangaliliu Village
North West Efate

077.

3rd February 1997

P.E.O.
Shefa Province
Port Vila

Re : Mangaliliu School.

Dear Sir,

Concernem above Subject.

Mi wantem informem yu long leta ia se 12.01.97, forma Chairman wetem assistant tufala i bin singaotem wan General miting, agenda blong miting ia emi Mangaliliu School we hemi French fastaem i change i kam English.

Sir mi mas confermem long ples ia se mifala i bin kat plenty discussion lukluk long ol gudgudfala points wetem smolsmol points concernem tufala language, ale mifala i faenemaot se bae emi mo easy blong English School so Majority blong parents oli agree se bae Mangaliliu emi nao kam English School, stat long 03.02.97.

Be wan man we emi no man Mangaliliu and emi stap antap long bush emi stap traem pusum nos insaed mo confusem public, so blong mekem se Village emi stap normal mo stable, mi olsem Chief mi usum paoa blong mi, mo nao tekem fianl decision and declarem se School blong Mangaliliu emi nao wan English School, and everi pikinini we oli ko long hem oli blong Mangaliliu.

Ating emia nomo.

Thank yu long andastanding

Yours Faithfully,



Chief K Murumuru

cc : Minister of Education
Hon Donald Kalpokas

cc : P.E.O. Primary
Mr Kalmele Matai

ANNEXE "L"

PROVINCE: SHEFA

School: MANUA

ID: 177

Medium: A

Enrolment	Teachers Posted	Sex	Status	Classes
28	Santhy Tasaruru	M	P H/T	4
30	Godel Ligo	M	P	1
42	Ruth Kalmaire	F	P	2
31	Morrison Kalmaire	M	P	3
26	Isobel Tasaruru	F	P	5
27	Ruth Kaltonga	F	P	6
184	6			

School: MATARARA

ID: 444

Medium: A

Enrolment	Teachers Posted	Sex	Status	Classes
30	Fred Tapukai	P	H/T	4
18	Betty Tasaruru	F		6
48	2			

School: MALATIA

ID: 175

Medium: A

Enrolment	Teachers Posted	Sex	Status	Classes
13	David Wayane	M	P H/T	5
7	"	"	"	6
15	Tabina Arthur	F	P	1
18	"	"	P	2
6				3
9				4
68	2			

School: ULEI

ID: 295

Medium: A

Enrolment	Teachers Posted	Sex	Status	Classes
19	Kathleen Titongoa	F	P H/T	2
16	Betty Arthur	F	Prob	4
7	"	"	"	5
12				6
54	2			

School: ROAU (Mangaliliu)

ID: 745

Medium: A

Enrolment	Teachers Posted	Sex	Status	Classes
5	(Vacant)			
9				
3				
17	1			

