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42/11 Namatjira Drive. Weston, A.C.T. 2611, Australia, 31 December, 1991.

TUVALU 820

The Archivist, Government of Tuvalu, FUNAFUTI, Tuvalu.

Dear Sir,

This letter is being sent at the suggestion of Feue Tipu of Funafuti, who is working at the Australian National University where I worked myself for over twenty years before my retirement.

I am writing to request a copy of the historical, traditional, genealogical, cultural and other information on Nui collected by A.G. Lake when working on the lands settlement of that island.

According to Anne Chambers this material forms the Nui section of the following document:

'File 29/2. Lands Commission to Chief Lands Commissioner, F.9, no.9, Feb. 20, 1949 (History and traditions of various Ellice Islands)'.

See Anne Chambers, Nanumea, p.79, footnote 1, and p.323.

I should naturally prefer a photocopy of this material, but failing that a typescript or a handwritten copy would suffice; and I should be grateful if you would send it by airmail at my expense.

In return I would propose, on receipt of this documentation, to forward by airmail an international cheque on the National Bank of Tuvalu for a sum depending on the amount of material sent, but in any case not less than \$100 in Australian currency, to over copying, postage and other expenses, with a solatium for your trouble.

You can ascertain my bona fides by enquiry, as I was formerly a Resident Commissioner of the Gilbert and Ellice

Islands Colony; Head of the Social Development Section of the South Pacific Commission; and a Professorial Fellow in the Australian National University.

My Library contains a considerable number of items on Tuvalu and I have recently begun to itemize the Kiribati and Tuvalu sections prior to adding them to my main collection on the Pacific Islands at the University of Adelaide. I enclose a few specimen pages so that you can see how it is being arranged.

You are always welcome to copies of manuscripts, typescripts and photocopies of documents, as well as to copies of books and other printed material written or published by myself, should you not already have the items (two of them are enclosed as specimens). Most of my collection is not yet catalogued but you can always ask me about anything you particularly want and the chances are that I can find it in one of my filing cabinets.

I should add that the information obtained by Lake is required for comparing with, and if necessary adding to, the earlier material recorded by Anetipa and Mautake in the 1920s and 1930s so that the account of Nui and its people can be as complete and accurate as possible.

Of course due acknowledgement of any information used will be made in the text both to Lake himself and to the Takkshu kulfath National Archives. The proposed work is, I notice, already listed on p.5 of the latest U.S.P. catalogue of 'Books from the Pacific Islands'.

Wishing you and your Archives a very successful 1992,

Yours sincerely,

(Prof.) H.E. Maude.

42/11 Namatjira Drive, Weston, A.C.T. 2611, 30 December, 1991.

Dear Kambati.

I am writing to ask for your help in a matter which has arisen since you were here on Saturday.

Anne Chambers in her book on Nanumea mentions, on p.79, footnote 1, that:

'In the 1940s Lands Commissioner A.G. Lake collected geneological information on Nui which suggested it had been settled about 1614 (using 25 years per generation)'.

In her bibliography of Primary Sources on p.323 she lists under 'GEIC - Ellice Islands District, Funafuti' the following item:

'File 29/2. Lands Commission to Chief Lands Commissioner, F.9, no.9, Feb. 20, 1949 (History and traditions of various Ellice Islands)'.

This is almost certainly the report in which the genealogies and historical material concerning Nui collectd by Lake is to be found, and it is equally probable that it is filed in the Tuvalu Archives on Funafuti.

I should be most grateful, therefore, if you would ask your Tuvalu friend to whom I should write to obtain a copy of Lake's material about Nui:

The Governor-General; The Secretary to Government; or The Archivist; or perhaps someone else?

And what is the name of the person and his proper title (if any)?

I would propose to offer him or her (especially if it is a private person) a handsome sum of money for the work.

Hoping that you can find out what should be done to obtain a copy of this material, which is probably only a few pages of typescript (and of course may be useless when it arrives; but that is life).

Yours,