VISIT TO KINGDOM OF TONGA
28 March - 7 April 1990

by

Egil Olsen
Techsec

Prepared for: South Pacific Applied Geoscience Commission (SOPAC) Coastal and Nearshore Programme Tonga
Project: TG.7

Contributed by: Oceanographic Company of Norway A/S (OCEANOR)
The main objective of the visit was to install a Personal Computer (PC), and train a country representative in receiving and converting data from the wave rider buoy south of Tongatapu. The PC is on loan from OCEANOR.

**Wednesday 28 March:** Nobody with interest and responsibility for the wave measurement programme was present when arrived in the evening.

**Thursday 29 March:** Solomone Fifita, the energy planner, was expected back at Nuku'alofa on Saturday March 31, he was on the island Nuia Fo'ou, waiting for a boat to take him to the island Vavau for an aeroplane to Nuku'alofa. Robe Gatliff, the chief geologist, was a great help in investigating the possibility of connecting a modem to the telephone line and calling Norway from Tonga.

**Friday 30 March:** managed to make an appointment with Sione Tongilava for Monday April 2 at 0900 hours.

**Saturday 31 March:** used Robert Gatliff's ISD-telephone to collect data from the wave buoys in South Pacific. Due to bad weather, caused by cyclone Rae earlier this week, the boat to the island Niua Fo'ou was delayed. Solomone Fifita was now expected back on Tuesday 3 April.
Monday 2 April: During the meeting with Sione Tongilava we agreed to establish a project organisation to take care of the wave measurement programme in Tonga. Saimone Helu and Solomone Fifita were assigned as responsible for the programme, with Solomone Fifita as project manager in a project organisation. This had not been discussed with Fifita. It was agreed that the PC would be placed in Sione Tongilava's office, connected to his telefax line. Did the mounting and tried the line. Sometimes there is considerable noise on the line.

Tuesday 3 April: was told Solomone Fifita would arrive on Thursday 5. I decided to extend my stay from the original departure date of 3 April to 7 April. I spoke to Faatoia Malele, Western Samoa, about the forthcoming waverider service-trip. Calls were also made to Tony Utanga, Cook Islands, and Jim Eade, SOPAC, Suva, Fiji.

Wednesday 4 April: Collected data from the Tonga and Western Samoa buoys. The Cook Island buoy is still onshore. Received a message from Sione Tongilava that he expected me at a meeting in his office tomorrow 5 April at 1500 hours.
I continued setting up the PC for Tonga data-collection. There are problems with the connection to Service Argos through TRANSPAC, the data-line in France. Calls were made to Service Argos, France, and Tony Utanga, Rarotonga. Tony is going out at sea tomorrow to see if he can discover the waverider mooring.

**Thursday 5 April:** received a message from Sione Tongilava saying that today’s meeting was moved to Friday at 1500 hours, and Solomone Fifita would arrive today at 1700 hours. Made a telephone call to Western Samoa, the scheduled waverider service trip is still on for next week. Called SOPAC to arrange for my ticket to Apia. Packed equipment which I would take to Apia.

**Friday 6 April:** Met Solomone Fifita at 0830 hours. Saimone Helu could not join us because he was ill. We went through the data collection, editing, converting, and presentation procedures. The question came up about having data from the whole energy spectra, and not only significant wave height, and wave period. He also asked me to submit to Tonga data faxed from Norway. We also set up the project organisation to take care of the Tonga wave measurement programme. In the afternoon at 1500 hours had a meeting with Sione Tongilava, Don Seiler and Solomone Fifita. Most of the discussion was on Kvaerner Brug. Don Seiler asked me about my stay. When would move to the region for a longer period,
and where would be located? replied that the decision had not been made yet. Sione Tongilava did not take part in this discussion. Don Seiler also asked me about the second buoy to Tonga. replied, there were six other countries who would like their wave measurement programmes started, and that we had only six buoys. The meeting ended at 1605 hours.

**Saturday 7 April:** returned to Fiji. Arrived Suva 0630 hours.
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>ADMINISTRATION</th>
<th>INSTRUMENT/ FIELD WORK</th>
<th>DATA HANDLING</th>
<th>REPORTING</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
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