Reasons

Since the modern manufacturing process is unknown to them, members, leaders,

culture have been created by spiritual means. These goods are intended for the local

and prophets of the cults maintain that the manufactured goods of the non-native

through malice or mistake. Thus, a characteristic feature of cargo cults is the belief

manufactured products to the cult members.

that spiritual agents will, at some future time, give much valuable cargo and desirable

indigenous people, but the foreigners have unfairly gained control of these objects





straw. Believers may stage "drills" and "marches" with sticks for rifles and use military-

attempted construction of Western goods, such as radios made of coconuts and

Symbols associated with Christianity and modern Western society tend to be

Notable examples of cargo cult activity include the setting up of mock airstrips,

performed for the purpose of attracting the cargo.

incorporated into their rituals: for example, the use of cross-shaped grave markers.

airports, airplanes, offices, and dining rooms, as well as the fetishization and

style insignia and national insignia painted on their bodies to make them look like

soldiers, thereby treating the activities of Western military personnel as rituals to be







