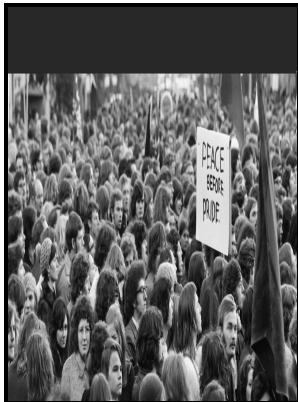


Nuclear free and independent Pacific movement - after Moruroa

Tauris Academic Studies - Nuclear



Description: -

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Pacific Area -- Politics and government
United States -- Foreign relations -- Palau
Palau -- Foreign relations -- United States
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The Nuclear Free and Independent Pacific Movement: After Mururoa: Roy Smith: I.B. Tauris

The rusting post-apocalyptic relic seemed totally out of place and was a frightening reminder of the past. This alliance of indigenous activists and Western liberals was a major factor in shaping awareness and compelling Pacific governments to take stronger anti-nuclear and anti-colonial stands.

Nuclear

The NGO's pressed for an end to the transshipment, storage and dumping of nuclear wastes in the pacific, the clean up and ongoing monitoring of contaminated sites and support for test site workers affected by nuclear testing especially in Te Ao Maohi, Christmas Island and the Marshall Islands. Gary Shearer, the skipper of Chimera, was a West Coast gold-miner with a penchant for guns and palletloads of beer. I concluded that a documentary on the peace flotilla would fulfil my course obligations, and that, with a bit of bluff, I would be able to convince boat owners I had a useful skill.

Nuclear

At a regional level, the Rarotonga Treaty provides a degree of reassurance to neighbouring Indonesia and other Southeast Asian countries that Australia is not intending to develop nuclear weapons ten years after the Rarotonga Treaty Indonesia took the lead in negotiating the 1995 Southeast Asian Nuclear Free Zone Bangkok Treaty.

Nuclear Testing

Water poured in through the external door.

Moruroa protest

In all these respects, Moruroa is less than ideal. The rest of us tied up at Eastbourne, where we stowed supplies and readied ourselves for an

early-morning sailing. France has been able to become an economic and nuclear power due to the wealth accumulated from the exploitation of colonies throughout the world in the past, and the continued exploitation of its Pacific colonies, especially Kanaky.

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When Greenpeace and other organizations prepared to send protest boats into the test zone, French intelligence agents responded by bombing and sinking the Rainbow Warrior in July 1985, as it was about to lead a flotilla of anti-nuclear testing vessels to Moruroa atoll. The ad tells the story of New Zealand activists who in 1995 sailed to Moruroa Atoll to protest French nuclear testing in the Pacific. Some turned their attention to what became regarded as immediate hazards, such as global warming.

Nuclear Testing

But Dan was bent on going, having been inspired by the Hiti Tau activists.

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