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Dear Sir Ian,

Thank you very much for your letter of 22 January. I thought you might like to see the enclosed paper about Gerald Gallagher, which is printed off from TIGHAR's worldwide web site. It's been updated a time or two since originally written six or seven years ago, and I see it has suffered a bit in the process – plus the computer has the irritating habit of doing things like cutting off the top of Gallagher's head, and I haven't the faintest idea how to prevail on it to do otherwise – but it's legible at least. I'd like to do more someday to commemorate his achievements.

Aram Tamia went on to become the Magistrate on Nikumaroro; he was there when Paul Laxton became DO in 1949. Laxton subsequently wrote an article about the island in the *Journal of the Polynesian Society*. Aram then apparently went to work on Canton, and there we have lost track of him. We recently were able to interview Edwin Petro, the son of Jack Kimo Petro (or Pedro), the public works officer of the Settlement Scheme, and he said that Aram has passed on.

I much appreciate learning about the DO diaries. It's something of a mystery what happened to them. We've been through the WPHC archives twice – once when they were housed at Hanslope Park, again after they were relocated to Aukland – and saw no sign of diaries. Perhaps we didn't recognize the catalogue code; they must comprise a considerable body of documents. Luckily, we have a member in Aukland, who can take another look. Looking for them also gives me a reason to write again to Foua Tofinga in Fiji. You may remember Tofinga, who worked in the High Commissioner's office and was aboard *Viti* on the November '41 trip. He was also largely responsible for packing up the Commission's files and furniture when it moved to Honiara, so if anyone would know where the diaries went, he should.

I suppose the Colonial Secretary you refer to was H.H. Vaskess? We've heard quite a lot of stories about him. I recall running into administrators with similar officious attitudes when I was working for the U.S. Trust Territory government on Saipan in the '70s. Vaskess was certainly a meticulous record-keeper, though, and historians have to bless him for that.

Thanks as always for your help and advice.

Best wishes,