BOUGAINVILLE

STATE
Official name: Bougainville. Short name: Bougainville. Adjective of nationality: Bougainville
Flag: That of Papua New Guinea.
Area: 10,050 sq. km. (3,880 sq. mi.).
Legislature: Provincial government of Papua New Guinea.
Official language: English.
Chief cities: Buka 20,000.
Political divisions: 1 province.

DEMOGRAPHY
Population: 108,000.
Area: 10,050 sq. km. (3,880 sq. mi.).

Area and population of Bougainville.

Country's population
100.0
286,000
3,351
198,000
188,176
3,288
185,331
273,800
174,880
188,176
273,800

HUMAN LIFE AND LIBERTY
Human rights and freedoms. Given the presence of the Bougainville Revolutionary Army (BRA), both sides are responsible for violations of human rights of both civilians and combatants. The BRA, which controls parts of the island, has alleged that government troops engage in brutal executions of its leaders to strike terror into the people. Government has only limited access to BRA-controlled areas.

NON-CHRISTIAN RELIGIONS
Traditional religions continue to exert an influence in the Northern Solomons (Bougainville) as in

COLUMNS, ROWS.
For meanings and definitions, see Codebook (Part 3). Note that, by definition, total 'Christians' = professing + crypto-Christians, which also = affiliated + unaffiliated Christians, and also = Great Commission Christians + latent Christians. Percentages may not always total exactly, due to rounding.

NOTES ON RELIGIONS
ETHNORELIGIONISTS. By 1995, 20% or less of most tribal groups followed traditional religions.

Great Commission Instrument Panel: status of Bougainville (for explanation see start of Part 4)

Country status. Bougainville is the largest of the volcanic islands in the Solomon Islands in the South Pacific Ocean. In 1989 Melanesian nationalists declared independence and guerrilla warfare since then has closed down the country's copper and gold mines.
the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea. As with the other areas, non-Christian cargo cults have also developed and played an important role in the islands; there have been 4 on Bougainville island and 5 on Buka.

CHRISTIANITY

CATHOLIC CHURCH. Catholicism has been represented in the Northern Solomons since the year 1900 and is now by far the principal religion of the territory. The diocese of Bougainville which continues to form part of the archdiocese of Rabaul in Papua New Guinea is at present served by 5 national and 34 expatriate priests, as well as brothers and sisters who are also predominantly expatriate.

The Holy See has no diplomatic relations with Bougainville in AD 2000.

PROTESTANT CHURCHES

Two Protestant churches are active. The United Church has its centre in Papua New Guinea and traces its origin to both New Zealand Methodists and native Christians from other Pacific islands. Tongan and Fijian missionaries are still at work there, although the church is controlled by local personnel. The other Protestants are Seventh-day Adventists, a more recent arrival (1929) but still with substantial membership.

OTHER CHURCHES. The Hahalis Welfare Society is a syncretic sect formed among Catholic and Methodist Buka villagers in 1957, with a mixture of Christian elements combined with traditional and cargo cult emphases. Friday Religion is an ex-Catholic movement. There is also a small community of Jehovah’s Witnesses.

CHURCH AND STATE

The Northern Solomons is a secular territory strongly influenced by Christianity, especially Catholicism. The Catholic Church and its bishops are known to have played a significant role in the move towards secession and the declaration in 1975 of independence for the Northern Solomons from Papua New Guinea.

INTERDENOMINATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

The Bougainville Inter-Church Council (BICC), which had formerly been the Kieta Inter-Church Council, has 2 members, the Catholic and United Churches. The BICC is affiliated with the Melanesian Council of Churches with its headquarters in Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>World</th>
<th>Num</th>
<th>Pop 2000</th>
<th>% Christians</th>
<th>E%</th>
<th>U%</th>
<th>Un evangelical</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>A</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0.00%</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>B</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>794</td>
<td>29.97</td>
<td>238</td>
<td>93</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>C</td>
<td>34</td>
<td>197,702</td>
<td>93.62</td>
<td>93,096</td>
<td>103</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>198,496</td>
<td>93.37</td>
<td>185,334</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Country summary. alphabetic peoples, cities, and major civil divisions in Bougainville.

| Country Table 2. Organized churches and denominations in Bougainville. |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Official name (bold type = church with over 10% of all affiliated) | Begun | Type | Count | Congs | Adults | Affiliated 1970 | Affiliated 1995 | % Names, notes, and other statistics (see Codebook, Part 3) |
| Catholic Church: D Bougainville | 1900 | 3 | 90 | 89,133 | 87,000 | 139,000 | 1.89 |
| Friday Religion | 1950 | 3 | 39 | 1,741 | 500 | 2,000 | 5.70 |
| Jehovah’s Witnesses | 1953 | 3 | 113 | 1,600 | 4,500 | 10,500 | 3.46 |
| Seventh-day Adventist Church | 1929 | 2 | 30 | 4,000 | 3,226 | 5,000 | 1.77 |
| United Church in PNG & the Solomon Is | 1929 | 2 | 120 | 10,500 | 7,500 | 15,000 | 2.81 |
| Other Protestant denominations | 1953 | 2 | 20 | 500 | 500 | 700 | 0.05 |
| Doubly-affiliated | 2-aff | 0 | 5,000 | 0 |
| **Totals** | 413 | 112,004 | 98,326 | 172,380 |

Future Trends and Prospects

Christianity will likely hover around 95% of the population for the next thirty years as losses by tribal religion to Christianity are made up by losses of Christianity to the nonreligious.

After 2025, the nonreligious are expected to continue to grow with many defections from Christianity. By AD 2050 it is possible that Christians will represent less than 90% of the population.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

‘Le ‘cargo cult’ à Bougainville,’ M. Lenormand, Études melanesiennes, n.s. no. 4 (July 1949), 82–83.

FUTURE TRENDS AND PROSPECTS

Christianity will likely hover around 95% of the population for the next thirty years as losses by tribal religion to Christianity are made up by losses of Christianity to the nonreligious.

After 2025, the nonreligious are expected to continue to grow with many defections from Christianity. By AD 2050 it is possible that Christians will represent less than 90% of the population.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

‘Le ‘cargo cult’ à Bougainville,’ M. Lenormand, Études melanesiennes, n.s. no. 4 (July 1949), 82–83.

FUTURE TRENDS AND PROSPECTS

Christianity will likely hover around 95% of the population for the next thirty years as losses by tribal religion to Christianity are made up by losses of Christianity to the nonreligious.

After 2025, the nonreligious are expected to continue to grow with many defections from Christianity. By AD 2050 it is possible that Christians will represent less than 90% of the population.

BIBLIOGRAPHY

‘Le ‘cargo cult’ à Bougainville,’ M. Lenormand, Études melanesiennes, n.s. no. 4 (July 1949), 82–83.