

On a seaside plot of land, Mereta Turau shares a wooden shack without windows or electricity with his 10 grown-up children—nine of whom are unemployed. A 62-year-old who moved here from Raiatea Island to work in construction during the boom years, he is now a fisherman resigned to his fate. "With or without independence, it will be the same hard life for people like me," he says.

But the young are more radical. "The French run everything here: the state, the airport, the port, economic life, everything," says 31-year old Tefana Tavarii. "And we have nothing." Standing beside him, 24-year-old Camille Roararii agrees. "To get a job here, you need a French diploma. But I'm not French. I'm Maohi. The French are colonialists. We're at home here, and we're treated like dogs."

Faaa's mayor is Oscar Temaru, a proindependence leader. At city hall, a series of Polynesian-style huts, the French flag and official portrait of Mr. Chirac are conspicuously absent. The 51-year-old Mr. Temaru, a former customs officer, makes a point of speaking English, not French.

"The French say Tahiti is France, but we can't accept that," says the soft-spoken Mr. Temaru. "Geographically and historically, this is my country, not Chirac's. Paris is almost 20,000 kilometers away, people are freezing there while we're sweating in the heat." Mr. Temaru hopes for a peaceful evolution toward independence, saying Tahiti has to rethink its whole development model. "If France says bye-bye, we'll tell our people we have to return to the land. We don't want to go back to the Stone Age, but to reality."

But many view Mr. Temaru as an idealist. "Independence would plunge French Polynesia into misery," asserts Mr. Flosse, the president. "France doesn't impose its presence on us. We're the ones who want France to stay."

A majority of French Polynesians agree. A poll last October showed some 57% of Polynesians don't want independence, while 15% are in favor of independence within three years. Mr. Temaru's party has only four of 41 legislative seats. But even those who want to remain part of France say the country has to break its economic dependence on the mother country, and it should wisely use the 10-year grace period to start building a local economic base.

"The departure of the nuclear-test center is both an opportunity, because we'll be obliged to change systems whether we want to or not, and a risk, because we're not really prepared to change systems," says Jean-Claude Barral, the principal of Faaa's only public high school. "But it's clear we can't continue living in the same system we've had for 25 years without money falling from the sky."

[From the Star Bulletin, Jan. 19, 1996]

NUCLEAR TEST WARNING

While protests have focused on the French nuclear weapons tests in the South Pacific, India has been secretly preparing to conduct its own nuclear explosion. The Clinton administration has quietly warned New Delhi that if it goes ahead Washington will cut off virtually all aid.

The unpublished message was delivered last month after U.S. intelligence officials detect early signs that a nuclear test was in preparation, the Los Angeles Times reported. India was warned that such an exercise would prompt the administration to invoke a 1994 law requiring the U.S. to cut off all economic and military aid, credits, bank loans and export licenses. The total would run into billions of dollars. The law applies to all undeclared nuclear-weapons nations.

India conducted its only nuclear explosion in 1974 and has denied plans to conduct a new

test. A Clinton administration official now says the U.S. accepts India's assurances, but the warning would not have been issued without evidence.

The Clinton's administration has had its problems in relations with Japan and China. The nuclear test issue could sour relations with another Asian giant.

[From the New York Times, Jan. 24, 1996]

POSSIBILITY OF DEFAULT STARTS TO WORRY EUROPE, ESPECIALLY FRANCE

(By Craig R. Whitney)

PARIS, January 23.—The possibility that the deficit-cutting impasse between Congress and Clinton Administration could start causing the United States Government to default on its debt next month has begun to sink in on European leaders, and the French are anxious to avoid the turmoil that could result.

President Jacques, Chirac, who will visit Washington next week, is prepared to warn in a speech to a joint session of Congress that default would upset economies around the world and deeply undermine the American global position, French officials said today.

Congressional Republicans have threatened to refuse to raise the national debt limit unless the Clinton Administration agrees to their agenda for cutting the Federal deficit. If the Administration refuses to give in and fails to find other ways of coming up with money, the Government could start running out of money to pay obligations due on March 1.

At this point some European leaders are said to be beginning to feel like onlookers at a political game whose players appear little concerned about the chaos a default would cause in international currency and bond markets.

Some see a situation comparable to that in 1975, when Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany felt compelled to warn President Gerald R. Ford that letting New York City go bankrupt could send economic shock waves around the world, which was still fragile from the effects of a sudden rise in oil prices.

Mr. Chirac told the Senate majority leader, Bob Dole, and Speaker Newt Gingrich during his last visit to Washington in the summer that the United States gave too little foreign aid to developing countries, and French officials say that he plans to deliver the same message to Congress in an address planned for Feb. 1.

"We hope that Congress will be disposed to let the United States live up to its global responsibilities," one official here said.

Mr. Chirac will tell Congress, French officials say, that Europe with about the same size economy as the United States, gives three times as much to developing countries—\$31 billion, compared with less than \$9 billion last year from the United States.

"Where is America and its traditional generosity, where is its desire to help reshape the world?" asked one French policy maker.

Mr. Chirac is also likely to use his visit to tell both Congress and the Administration that France will insist on reshaping the NATO alliance to reflect changes since the end of cold war, according to officials in Brussels and Paris.

Mr. Chirac has reintegrated France into some NATO military structures that it left in 1966, but officials say he did so to push for the creation of a stronger European defense arm within the alliance. "We need to be able to deal with crises like Bosnia even if the United States doesn't want to become involved," an official said.

Mr. Chirac may also tell Washington that American plans to contribute \$600 million to

the reconstruction of Bosnia over the next three years are inadequate. European estimates of the total cost run to \$3.7 billion. "Don't think that the Europeans will be the only ones paying for Bosnian reconstruction," Mr. Chirac said in a recent interview, adding that the Europeans expected the United States to pay about the same as they will—about one third.

American officials have responded that the United States committed 20,000 soldiers to the NATO peacekeeping force that began moving into Bosnia last month, a larger contingent than any of its allies.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mrs. CHENOWETH (at the request of Mr. ARMEY), for today until 1 p.m., on account of medical reasons.

Mr. SERRANO (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, on account of a death in the family.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT), for today, after 6:30 p.m. on account of family illness.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DOGGETT) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Ms. NORTON, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. VOLKMER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. SCHROEDER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DEUTSCH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TORRICELLI, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. CHRYSLER) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. GOODLING, for 5 minutes, on January 31.

Mr. DIAZ-BALART, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SMITH of Michigan, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. MICA, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WOLF, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. ROTH, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. TORRICELLI, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at their own request) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. COBURN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mrs. MORELLA, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GREENWOOD) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. STEARNS, for 5 minutes, on January 30.

Mr. McKEON, for 5 minutes, on January 31.

Mr. GOSS, for 5 minutes, on January 26.

Mr. GREENWOOD, for 5 minutes, today. (The following Members (at the request of Mr. FALEOMAVEGA) to revise and extend his remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. MONTGOMERY, for 5 minutes, today.

EXTENSION OF REMARKS

By unanimous consent, permission to revise and extend remarks was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. FALEOMAVEGA) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. LANTOS in two instances.

Mrs. MEEK of Florida in two instances.

Mr. MARKEY.

Mr. BARCIA in two instances.

Mrs. MALONEY.

Mr. ACKERMAN.

Mr. ANDREWS.

Mr. MONTGOMERY.

Mr. PALLONE.

Mr. MENENDEZ in three instances.

Mr. FROST.

Mr. GORDON.

Mr. REED.

Mr. JACOBS.

Mr. DELLUMS.

Mrs. SCHROEDER.

Ms. WOOLSEY.

Mr. SERRANO.

Mr. TOWNS.

Mr. FRAZER.

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas.

Mr. GIBBONS.

Mr. BROWN of California in two instances.

Mr. CLEMENT.

Ms. WATERS.

Mr. RANGEL.

Mr. WARD.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. GREENWOOD) and to include extraneous matter:)

Mr. BAKER of California.

Mr. TATE.

Mr. CRANE.

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia in two instances.

Mr. KING.

Mr. SAXTON.

Mr. LOBIONDO.

Mr. BURTON of Indiana.

Mr. BILIRAKIS.

Mr. CALLAHAN.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey.

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN.

Mr. BARTON of Texas.

Mr. PACKARD.

Mrs. ROUKEMA in three instances.

Mr. SOLOMON.

Mr. WHITE.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. FALEOMAVEGA. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 9 o'clock and 2 minutes p.m.),

under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, January 26, 1996, at 12 noon.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of XXIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

1970. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Department's report entitled "Report to the Congress on the Runaway and Homeless Youth Program of the Family and Youth Services Bureau for Fiscal Years 1993 and 1994," pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 11822; to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

1971. A letter from the Assistant Secretary for Legislative Affairs, Department of State, transmitting the fiscal year 1994 report on the extent and disposition of United States contributions to international organizations, pursuant to 22 U.S.C. 2226(b)(1); to the Committee on International Relations.

1972. A letter from the Acting Director, U.S. Arms Control and Disarmament Agency, transmitting notification that the following reports will be delayed due to the lack of personnel to complete them: "Report on Revitalization of ACDA"—due December 31, 1995, "Annual Report to Congress"—due January 31, 1996, and "Public Annual Report on World Military Expenditures and Arms Transfers"—due December 31, 1995; to the Committee on International Relations.

1973. A letter from the Assistant Comptroller General of the United States, transmitting a report entitled "Financial Management: Implementation of the Cash Management Improvement Act," pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 6503 note; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1974. A letter from the Chairman, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the annual report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1995, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1975. A letter from the Administrator, National Aeronautics and Space Administration, transmitting a report on progress in correcting identified material weaknesses at NASA; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1976. A letter from the Director, Office of Management and Budget, transmitting the annual report on its 1995 Federal financial management status report and government-wide 5-year financial management plan, pursuant to Public Law 101-576, section 301(a) (104 Stat. 2849); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1977. A letter from the Secretary of Education, transmitting the 13th semiannual report to Congress on audit follow-up, for the period of April 1, 1995, through September 30, 1995, pursuant to Public Law 100-504, section 106(b) (102 Stat. 2526); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1978. A letter from the Executive Director, State Justice Institute, transmitting the annual report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1995, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1979. A letter from the Director, U.S. Information Agency, transmitting the annual report under the Federal Managers' Financial Integrity Act for fiscal year 1995, pursuant to 31 U.S.C. 3512(c)(3); to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

1980. A letter from the Chief Executive Officer, Little League Baseball, Inc., transmit-

ting the organization's annual report for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1995, pursuant to 36 U.S.C. 1084(b); to the Committee on the Judiciary.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 5 of rule X and clause 4 of rule XXII, public bills and resolutions were introduced and severally referred as follows:

By Mr. GIBBONS (for himself, Mr. RANGEL, Mr. STARK, Mr. JACOBS, Mr. FORD, Mr. MATSUI, Mrs. KENNELLY, Mr. COYNE, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. CARDIN, Mr. McDERMOTT, Mr. KLECZKA, Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, Mr. PAYNE of Virginia, Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts, and Mr. McNULTY):

H.R. 2879. A bill to provide that individuals performing services for the peacekeeping effort in the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina shall be entitled to tax benefits in the same manner as if such services were performed in a combat zone; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. LIVINGSTON:

H.R. 2880. A bill making appropriations for fiscal year 1996 to make a downpayment toward a balanced budget, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Appropriations.

By Mr. BARRETT of Nebraska:

H.R. 2881. A bill to amend title 49, United States Code, to permit States to impose fees to finance programs for providing air service to small communities; to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

By Mr. BLUTE:

H.R. 2882. A bill to require that the pay and benefits of the President, the Vice President, Members of Congress, and certain high level Government employees be treated in the same manner as the pay and benefits of Government employees who are affected by a Government shutdown; to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, and in addition to the Committee on House Oversight, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.

By Mr. BRYANT of Texas:

H.R. 2883. A bill to amend title XIX of the Social Security Act to eliminate the requirement for States to seek recovery of medical assistance properly paid and to restrict the use of liens and such recovery in any MediGrant Program and any other future medical assistance programs, and for other purposes; to the Committee on Commerce.

By Mr. DORNAN:

H.R. 2884. A bill to provide that the income tax instructions shall include an explanation of any law under which the Federal budget is projected to be in balance in 7 years; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. GALLEGLY:

H.R. 2885. A bill to amend section 214 of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1980 to limit the use of federally assisted housing by aliens; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

By Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota:

H.R. 2886. A bill to amend the Impact Aid Program to provide for a holdharmless with respect to amounts for payments relating to the Federal acquisition of real property, to permit certain local educational agencies to apply for increased payments for fiscal year 1994 under the Impact Aid Program, and to amend the Impact Aid Program to make a technical correction with respect to maximum payments for certain heavily impacted local educational agencies; to the Committee on Economic and Educational Opportunities.

H.R. 2887. A bill to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to exempt from the high-way vehicle excise tax certain equipment