History

Jayapura is very much the result of the Second World War. Before the war the place was called Hollandia. What is now called Jayapura was then Hollandia Haven, while the real Hollandia was Hollandia-Binnen, present-day Abepura. There were no good road connections between “Haven“ and “Binnen”. By 1940 Hollandia had about 300 inhabitants. This was “the outer-end of the Dutch East-indian Empire”.

After the successful invasion in April 1944 the Americans immediately saw the good use they could make of the two natural harbours, Tanah Merah Bay and the port of Jayapura (Hollandia Haven). The area became the basic Base for the attack on the Philippines and then the attack on Japan. The rest of Indonesia was left under the control of, respectively, the Japanese Army (West Indonesia) and the Japanese Navy (East Indonesia). Jayapura, stretching from the Humboldt Bay till Denpapre on Tanah Merah Bay, came to have some 170,000 inhabitants. Maybe never in history in such a short time such a large city has been created out of nothing. There were seven cinemas. The people were housed in Quonsets, build of such a good quality that after almost 60 years many still provide comfortable housing, as for instance on Pos Tujuh, Sentani, in Ifar Gunung and in Abepura.

When the Dutch returned to New Guinea in the wake of the Americans they established their headquarters at Kampung Harapan, about halfway between Sentani and Abepura. This was then named Kota NICA, the Netherlands Indies Civil Administration City, a very grand name for a place with some improvised buildings. Later the civil administration shifted to Abepura, where the Governor build his “palace” out of the parts of the headquarters of General MacArthur, which he had build on Ifar Gunung.

The Americans were very generous to sell to the Dutch for a very moderate price all items that remained from the war effort. That was the main reason why the Dutch after the War decided to move the capital of New Guinea from old Manokwari to Jayapura, though it was situated very excentric.

Many names still remain from the American period (1944-1945):

**Polimak:** the Americans build a 75 km road from Jayapura Harbour to Denpapre, 10 meters wide. This road was made from macadam (material for road-making with successive layers of compacted broken stone). So when you went from Jayapura Harbour to Abepura or Sentani or Depapre you took the Polymac, which is the road that goes up alongside the Kalam Kudus Church. In the end the name Polimak was given to that particular stretch of road and the area adjacent to it at the beginning of the Polymac Road.

**Skyline,** formerly called Pim. Pim is an old Papua word. At present it denotes the area high up, after Kotaraja, the Hindu Temple, where the weekend house if of the Governor and some sender masts of the radio. There is a beautiful view over the whole of the Yotefa Bay.

**APO** is the Army Post Office.

During the War the American Army had 11 docks, 2 for the Navy and 9 for the Army. All the docks still retain their names.

**Base “G”** or Ji is now the name of a beach. However, the whole area from Jayapura to Tanah Merah bay was Base “G”. Base “F”, the previous Base was in Finschhafen, now PNG.

**Pos Tujuh** is off course also an American Post. The real Pos Tujuh, the Seventh Post, is what is now the house, a Quonset, from the owner of the motor cycle garage at the righthandside of the beginning of Jalan Pos Tujuh, on the corner of the Sentani Road.

Very few names remain from the Dutch period. There is a Jalan Bestir (“Bestuur” = Government) in Sentani, well-known as the place where the residence of the late Theys Eluay is, where the only Morningstar flag remaining was flying for years. In Kemiri, on your left after the bridge, when going to Doyo Baru, you will find Jalan Hollandia Drome. If you follow this road you come to a field which was once the airfield of Hollandia/Jayapura. What is now Sentani Airport was build, with forced labour, by the Japanese, and then extended by the Americans.

1. **Beaches**
   
   (a) **Amai,** with adat house (for coral go to the most western side of the beach)
(b) Tanah Merah – inside (motor prow, perahu Johnson, from Depapre harbour or walking from Tabla Supa – check road) (good coral, white sand)

c) Tanah Merah outside

d) Holtekamp (crowded on Sundays. The best beach (white sand) is to the East beyond the wood factory and the GKI church) (some coral)

e) Base G (very crowded and noisy on Sundays)

(f) Hamadi Invasion Beach (very dirty and crowded these days – the water as well as the beach), Entrop

g) Bukisi Island (Kasuari Island – beautiful island between Depapre and Demta, good dances, home stay is possible in the unused clinic)

(h) Pasir Dua, Jayapura, West of Pantai Base G. At the Police training camp, after the Ministry of Justice, do not go to the right to Base “G”, but continue the road in the direction of the GKI Church Pasifik Indah. After the church you turn right where there is a notice board for a technical training centre. You continue this road till the tar road becomes a small foot path. You follow the footpath. You go down to the beach along side a staircase. Acces to the beach is on payment of Rp 1,000 to the watchman who used to have here a place to cultivate tortoises. This project has been sacrificed because to the economic crisis of 1998. There is camp site and people who have a tent are welcome at this supervised site. At the west end of the beach is a small stream with sweet water, where you can bath, Small walking tracks on the top of the hill lead you to Pasir Tiga up to Pasir Enam (Beach Three till Beach Six, where you have even more privacy than in Pasir Dua

2. Waterfalls

(a) Cyclops, Pos Tujuh: Pickle Falls, Middle Falls, and High Falls. Go from Jalan Pos Tujuh up, cross the new road and go straight into the forest where there is a small footpath. After 15 minutes you will have the Pickle Falls, when at the open space in the forest you go right. There is a blue signpost Air Terjun. This use to be an open space used as a camping site, run by the WWF Cyclop Office. If you miss the turn to the right you will arrive at the Middle Falls. Here the drinking water for Sentani is taken from the stream. For the High Falls you pass the entrance to the water catchment’s site to the left and follow another narrow footpath. When it has rain this path can be quite slippery and at some places dangerous

(b) Kampung Harapan – behind the Agricultural School, one hour hiking following more or less the West (left) side of the stream: to God’s Awesome Falls. The hike to the waterfall, the real one, at Kampung Harapan, is phantastic. It is about one hour to the falls and one hour back. Take the road past the agricultural school. Then go left. Park where the road ends before a stream without water. Then follow the track. Move away from the stream to your left, and find a track past a place with a lot of stones in the tall grass. When you are in the forest, follow at first the stream, mostly stay at the left bank. Then go at a particular point left into the forest. When in the forest there is a track straight and a track straightaway to your right. The last one is the track to follow. If you have found the place where this track starts it is fairly easy. Only at the end, where you see the steep hills rising up to your right you change the path and cross to the other side of the stream, to the right bank. Now you are going up, till you see around a corner the waterfalls... The track past the old Theological College, STT Walter Post, beyond the former house of Barry Jordan is more easy, and can also be done with children. I would not recommend taking them to God’s Awesome Falls. At times that path is quite tricky. If you move across the stream and follow the path to the west (left) of the stream you will come to another stream also with some falls.

(c) Ifar Gunung (at the military training camp, go West (left), after the old church – ask for “swembak” or “swembad”) – It is a nice picnic spot
(d) Kali Biru – Genyem, on the road to Demta. A little bit further on is also a place where you can swim.

(e) Several small waterfalls, if you follow the streams up on the road to Depapre, e.g. at the junction where you go left to Depapre, where the boy and girl statue is. You go straight. There are old waterworks and a nice stream. At this junction you also find a small cafe where you can stop and order a cup of coffee or tea.

(f) 10 kms or so further, where there is a large GKI church you go right. Follow the road. You come to a quite popular picnic spot. There is also an opportunity for camping, which is, on occasion, used by school groups and students.

3. Museums

(a) Museum Negeri, Waena
(b) Museum Uncen, Abepera, Campus Uncen Lama
(c) Pusat Kesenian (Art Centre, Waena, Expo). Here there is a collection of contemporary art. Ask for Pak Aloysius, who is himself a very deserving artist, who has made numerous Christian paintings with rich symbolic meaning in Roman Catholic Churches all over the regency.
(d) Collection Charlie Saba, Demta, SD YPK. Art of the Demta-Depapre cultural area, next to the Christian Primary Scvhool in Demta. However, the museum is regrettably, no longer in use.

4. Libraries

(a) Uncen, Abe (Campus Uncen Lama) (anthropology, history, psychology, law etc.)
(b) SIL, Sentani (linguistics, anthropology)
(c) STFT (Theological and Philosophical College) Fajar Timur, Abepera (20,000 vols, half in Indonesian, half in English, Dutch etc) – theology, history, anthropology, philosophy
(d) Perpustakaan Negeri (Umum), Kota Raja, with a special section on West Papua. It is supposed to stock all the publications published in West Papua.
(e) Perpustakaan STT I. S. Kijne, Abepera (10,000 vols, half in English) – theology
(f) Graduate Library at the STT (Theological College) I. S. Kijne (2,500 volumes in English, specializing in misisology. It also has the complete Dutch mission archives for East Indonesia, on microfiche.
(g) Perpustakaan STT Walter Post, Sentani, Pos Tujuh, Sentani (theology)
(h) HIS Library, Sentani (various)
(i) Franciscan Friars, APO, Jayapura (private collection; excellent collection on Papua)
(j) The Museum Negeri, Waena has a library in the back with a few novels and detectives in English, French and Dutch, a left over from the Dutch Period, from the large library of the “Kantoor voor Bevolkingszaken.” (Office of the Affairs Regarding the (Papua) Population)

5. Transportation

(a) Taxis (Minibuses). To go to Jayapura from Sentani you change at Entrop. The colours:
   Yellow
   Red
   Green
   indicate the destination
(b) Car rental: Ask around at the airport or at the terminal. You can also stand at the side of the road till you see an empty taxi. Waive it down and begin bartering for a “charter”.
(c) Boat services
   (i) Pelni:
      - Dobonsolo
      - Perintis
- Cirimai

(d) Air transportation
Garuda, Merpati, Carstenz Papua Airlines, Lion Airlines, Kartika Airlines (tel. 523031/3), MAF, AMA (Agats, Enarotali, Nabire,), SIL, RBMU, Adventist Aviation, Air fast, Trigana Air Service, SMAC, …
(e) Boat rental: Sentani Lake: Yahim (follow the road passed the old pasar Sentani), also at Yougwa Restaurant; or at Menteri Kehubungan, Jayapura or Yoka Pantai.

6. Caves

(a) Demta (ask somebody at the Christian primary school, SD YPK, for a perahu and a guide)
(b) Cyclops – at the Middle Falls – watch the bats and it is slippery)

7. Hotels

(a) Swiss-Belhotel Papua – Jayapura, near the large Protestant Church, opposite the old building of the “Nieuw-Guinea Raad” (the proto Papua Parliament of the Dutch period). Fairly expensive, compared to the other hotels. Always ask for a rebate.
(b) Hotel Relat Indah, Argapura – good restaurant (close to the office of the synod of the GKI (Gereaja Kristen Injili di Tanah Papua, the Evangelical Christian Church in Papua Land)
(c) Hotel Yasmin, Jalan Percetakan, Jayapura (the main shopping street)
(d) Hotel Maloa, next to Polres, the police office of the kabupaten (regency), Jalan Ahmed Yani (the other shopping street of Jayapura)
(e) Hotel Sentani Indah, Sentani – with swimming pool,
(f) Guesthouse SIL, Uncen Campus (old), Abepeura (good service and privay)
(g) Guesthouse P3W, Jalan Sosial, Padang Bulan. Food from the asrama of the girls who follow courses at the Women’s Centre (clean, nice and there is always somebody to give you assistance with your travel plans).
(h) Guesthouse Werimon, Kamp Wolker, Waena. Very quiet place, but still within reach of taxis, off Jalan to Uncen Baru. It is, in fact, quite close to the new University Campus. Contact Marijke Werimon at P3W Women’s Centre in Abepeura.
(i) Hotel Dian Graha, Ankasa (Dutch: “Hemelpoort”). High up on the hills, quite close to the beaches of North Jayapura, like Base G. Friendly service. Good for small seminars, swimming pool.
(j) Biara San Antonius, Sentani. Excellent for small groups, up to 30 participants. Very good (European) food, served to order. Run by the Franciscan Friars who also run a farm (eggs from free range chickens and Jeruk Bali, a kind of a grape fruit)

8. Restaurants

(a) Hotel Relat Indah, Argapura. Good European food, friendly service. However, this information may be dated. It depends very much on the cook. In 2003 the service and the food were lousy.
(b) Yougwa Restaurant and guesthouse: nice view over the lake. Best time to visit at sunset.
(c) Restaurant Mickey, Sentani
(d) Mahkota Beach Hotel, Hamadi: nice view over the ocean and on the two islands both called Pulau Kayu (“Stone Island”). One island is now renamed Pulau Salib, the island of the cross, as on it is placed a huge cross, to show that the Papuans are Christians.
(e) Restaurant Fantasi, part of Hotel Dafonsoro, next to Restaurant Koalala). Jalan Percetakan. Good soup, friendly service
(f) Restaurant Virgo, Sentani
(g) Restaurant Shangri-La, near Sentani airport, erratic opening hours
9. **Cinemas**

There are none in the area, neither in Sentani, nor in Abepura or Jayapura. People rent VCDs nowadays. There are plenty of places to rent VCDs. CV Podanatur (Wearness Computers) at APO, has, I guess, the largest collection. VCDs, DVDs and CD Roms are also for sale by street sellers, at the shops of Jayapura, Abepura and Waena.

10. **Mountain climbing/hiking** (See also waterfalls)

(a) Siklop (Cyclops Mountains). Height: 6,420 feet (2,000 meter). Time needed: ca. 12 hours up and down. It is most difficult between 2,500 and 4,000 feet (750 and 1,200 meters) depending on the weather. You need dry weather. Do not underestimate the hike. Do not trust people straightaway who claim that they know the Cyclop very well. For a guide, please ask WWF at their office at the foot of the mountain on Jalan Post Tujuh.

(b) Along the stream behind the old campus of STT Walter Post. Follow the conduit pipes. Take either side of the stream. You can cross to the West side at the new (still unused water reservoir). These are tracks made by woodcutters.

(c) Buper. In the bend, where people are washing their cars and the road goes up. Go left from Sentani. Good footpath till a nice place for a picnic. This only makes for a short walk, say 15 minutes.

(d) Ifar Gunung. After the guard post, where you report, (please take first your sun glasses of, stop the car, be patient and polite) then go at the roundabout to the left instead of to the right, where you go to the MacArthur monument. You follow the road and end up at a place where there is a Pentecostal Church in an old Quonset of the American Army. You take a walking track up the hills behind the church. To your right is the large fuel container from the American period, now used as a water reservoir. The road down takes you to a place where you can swim and have a picnic. The road up is the walking track to Ormu. It is a 5 to 7 hours hike.

9. **Sports**

(a) Water skiing on Lake Sentani

(b) Diving in the Pacific Ocean. Several very nice diving spots. Diving equipment at Hotel Tirta Mandala, next to SMU Gabungan, a combined Catholic-Protestant highschool., Dok Lima Bawah.

(c) Golf – several golf fields. Padang Golf Cenderewasih, Polimak. Take the road to the left between the Toyota car dealer and the Yamaha motorcycle dealer. It is signposted. Very good view over Yotefa Bay. The place is also good for a cup of tea or a cold drink. Rp 200,000 for a whole day golfing. A good golf player can make a profit as people are used to bet considerable sums for the outcome of a game.

(d) Swimming; (i) Pos Tujuh Pool, Sentani – you have to be a member or the guest of a member, (ii) Hotel Sentani Indah, Sentani, (iii) Hotel Tirta Mandala, Dok Lima Bawah, Jayapura. This is a salt water swimming pool

(e) Football (soccer). Mandala Football Stadium, Dok Dua, holds 30,000-40,000.

(f) Tennis: several places

(g) Fitness training: Hotel Sentani Indah, Sentani. You can become member of the fitness club for a small monthly payment.

10. **Islands**

(a) Pulau Enggros and Tobati in the Teluk Yos Sudarso (Yotefa Bay). Take the boat from Tanah Hitam. Take the new road or the old road opposite Toko Mega Grosir. Go left. At the new road left again. After a large house to the right you see a path going up. You can park the car up there and wait for the boat to bring you to Enggros and Tobati. The people have a quite famous dance group. If you arrange it beforehand the villagers are prepared to serve you a meal, if you come with a
There is also a possibility for homestay. The bluely painted GKI church is worth a visit. The church was build shortly after World War II with building material left over from war stores.

(b) Pulau Asei in Lake Sentani. Take the perahu from Yahim, Sentani or from Merci, before Yougwa (from Sentani) (the old site of Restaurant Meerzicht). Bark cloth paintings, Famous woodcarver Herman Ohee lives here. To visit him go right where the motor perahu lands, and follow the path along the coast. On the top of the only hill of Asei there used to be a church with a very nice tower. It has gone into pieces and the village is now rebuilding the church. The new church has some interesting black and white paintings.

(c) Pulau Kayu Pulau (Pulau Salib) – get perahu from Argapura, just before marine dock. The village is the home village of Nicolaas Jouwe, the famous Papua leader who now lives in Holland. His house is still there, though in ruins. The people of this village used to own the whole of Jayapura and Argapura. The Dutch government bought it from in the mid 1950s for NLG 100,000, a very considerable sum at that time. The headman of the village was sent to Holland to learn how to use this money as starting capital for a cooperative society. On his return much of the money had already disappeared to the great disappointment of the headman. Now the island has some land at Argapura and at the harbour next to the navy complex. Several villagers had to move to Skouw, near the PNG border to find land for farming.

(d) Ifar-Le: large church with reliefs, build with money from Bas Suebu, former governor, ambassador in Mexico, and at present (2009) again Governor. He originates from this island. If you walk alongside this church on the left hand side and continue following the shore you come at a place where an even larger church is going to be constructed. At the moment there has not been much progress apart from beyond the three founding stones.

(e) Pulau Anus, off the coast between Demta and Sarmi. It has Japanese remains from World War II.

11. Other

(a) Post office. - Abeepura, Waena, Sentani, General Post Office Jayapura at the harbour.


(c) Travel agencies: Kuwera Jaya, Jalan Ahmed Yani (ask for a rebate of 5 % on a single ticket and 10 % on a return ticket). Please watch your credit card. Do not give them permission to make a photo copy of it.

(d) Banks and ATM machines: 2 in Abe (BNI and BII); 3 in Jayapura (BNI on Jalan Ahmed Yani and BII on Jalan Percetakan) , 1 in Sentani – opposite Ebenhaezer Church of the GKI and Army 751 mosque. Bank Mandiri has its own system , which it now shares with BNI. ATM machine in Jayapura, Jalan Ahmed Yani and in Abeepura at the branch office..

(e) Important addresses:
   (i) TMF, at APO, Jayapura (shares office with Kingmi Papua, which is the Tabernacle Church, and CAMA)
   (ii) WWF Office, Ankasa
   (iii) YPMD, Kotaraja (It has a small library with books and periodicals)
   (iv) Conservation International, Kota Raja
   (v) WorldVision, Argapura
   (vi) UNESCO, Papua, Office of the Dinas Otonom, Kota Raja
Synod office of the GKI di Tanah Papua, Argapura. This is after the large and imposing office of Pelni. To the right of the office of the GKI is the office of the Indonesian Bible Society where they sell bibles and material for evangelisation.

YPK (Yayasan Pendidikan Kristen), Argapura (courses English and accountancy). It is just across the street of the synod office of the GKI.

GIDI Office, Sentani – opposite Marten Luther Church (GIDI is the Gereja Injili di Indoensia, the Evangelical Church in Indonesia)

Kingmi Papua Office, Jayapura, APO (Kingmi is the Gereja Kemah Injil di Papua, the Gospel Tabernacle Church). It shares its offices with CAMA, the Christian and Missionary Alliance, a large American missionary society)

P3W Pronouncel Pay Tiga Way), Women’s Centre, Jalan Sosial, Padang Bulan. Small handicraft shop, which sells bark cloth paintings and products made by the girls who follow courses there. Very reasonable priced. There is a guest house, a venue for rent for meetings, with catering.

Markets (pasar).

These sell everything from clothes, watches, furniture, books and electronics equipment to spices, furniture, vegetables and fruits):

Ampera market in Jayapura, the largest.

Market at Entrop next to the minimbussion,

Abeapura,

Sentani old market at Jalan ke Yahim (harbour),

New Market on the road to Kemin-Denpasar-Demta to the west.

World War II

Jayapura was known as now as Hollandia prior to the enforced integration of West Papua into Indonesia on 1 May 1963. Hollandia was occupied by the Japanese in April 1942. It was the site of several airstrips, the Hollandia, Sentani and Cyclops Aerodromes. Hollandia was liberated after a daring hop westward along the New Guinea coast by American amphibious task force on April 22, 1944 that caught the Japanese largely by surprise. The American invaded in two places, in Tanah Merah Bay, east of Depapre and at Hamadi, Jayapura (Hollandia), The invasion was codenamed Reckless. Following a Navy bombardment, elements of the 19th and 21st Infantry Regiments made landings at beaches “Red Beach 1” and “Red Beach 2”. LVT and LCVP followed these initial landings.

Humboldt Bay (Hamadi Beach.) is a natural harbor located to the East of Hollandia town. The 162nd Infantry Division landed without opposition here on April 22, 1944 at "White Beach 1". 162nd secured the heights overlooking Hollandia town, meeting only minor resistance and moving quickly. "White Beach 2" was also an unopposed landing by the 3rd Battalion, 186th Infantry. "White Beach 3" was occupied by the 186th Infantry with the Regimental Cannon company blasting the slight resistance offered by three Japanese positions along the shore with six US casualties, 16 wounded; 48 Japanese were killed, and some prisoners taken. A single bomber slipped through the mountains and appeared over White Beach 1. It dropped four bombs, one of which ignited an ammunition dump which in turn set a gasoline dump on fire.

Tami Drome, East of Humboldt Bay, was a secondary objective of the Hollandia task force Reckless. Located on a flat coastal plain, the drome is cut off from the Hollandia area by the Djar Mountains and by large swamps around Holltekamp. The airfield was non-operational. On April 27, reinforcements of the G Company of the 162nd Infantry arrived to clear the area. Security was established for engineering units which completed the construction of the airfield. On May 1st, enemy snipers became very active and additional US forces cleared the area with vigorous paroling. By May 3rd, a 3,800 foot runway was completed and ready for use with transport planes.

Two Almo scout teams entered the area on D +2 (April 24, 1944) a sizable party of missionaries and Japanese prisoners was liberated at Koya nearby, and were questioned
and then evacuated. After the American occupation, the base was a huge staging area for later operations, including the invasion of Luzon in the Philippines. The following Black units operated at Hollandia after American occupation: 207th Antiaircraft Artillery AW, 572nd Quartermaster Railhead, 593rd Port Co, 458th Aviation Squadron, 415th Army Band, and 741st Antiaircraft Artillery Gun Lake Sentani. This large lake was a resupply landing spot for PBYs during the liberation. There are several wrecks of crashed Allied planes in the lake and in the surrounding area of the Cyclops Mountains. Veteran Carl Thien (http://www.pacificwrecks.com/people/veterans/thien.html) gives an account of the war in the Jayapura, Sentani area.

Relics from the War

(see also: http://www.pacificwrecks.com/airfields/indonesia/hollandia/index.html)

(a) A few Japanese tank at the kompleks of the former Theological College of the Kingmi Church, STT Walter Post, Kampung Harapan

(b) Tugu MacArthur, at the military base at Ifar Gunung. It is situated on the highest point of elevation, this was MacArthur’s HQ and bunker. He used it from the middle of 1944 until the invasion of the Philippines. It offers a commanding view over the area. Good picnic spot with a nice view. At this military training base, RINDAM XVII/Trikora, there is also a nice place for swimming and picnic, also good for families with small children.

After the military post where you report, go left instead of right to Tugu MacArthur. Ask for “swembad”. It is after a Pentecostal church, housed in one of the half round buildings, left from the American camps. When you approach the gate of the military camp, you will be asked to put off your sunglasses. At night time put off your lamps and fit the inside lamp of your car. Do it before the guards ask you to do it.

(c) Monument (tugu) Invasion Place Hamadi. On the road which goes alongside the Pasar Hamadi and the large mosque with the blue towers. The exact place of the American invasion on 22 April 1944 is marked with an obelisk and a plaque, telling the story in English and Indonesian. The place is on the other side of the road where the wharf and dock PT Yosiba is.

(d) Japanese boat in the Teluk Yos Sudarso.

(e) Japanese tank on the road to Depapre, on the left hand side. After the restaurant, which is on the left, after the stream. I have not yet been able to spot it.

(f) There are five or six plane wreck from WW II in the Sentani Lake. One has been recently salvaged by a Dutch navy divers’ team for a Dutch air force museum.

(g) Japanese monument for the victims, which were many, in the war. Small monument with Japanese inscriptions in Tanah Hitam/Abe Pantai. On the left in a bend of the road to Vanimo/Arso/Skouw/Holtekamp, when the road makes a sharp turn to the right.

(h) Large containers used for storing petrol and kerosene can still be seen on the hills east of Depapre, if you take the first road to the right, before the police office. On your right hand side. These lie at the base of the track built be the Americans that connects Tanahmerah to Jayapura (Hollandia) to the East. If after the police office you go immediately to the left and follow the road you come at a place, which local people use as a beach and for picnics. From there you can swim to the wooden mooring poles still remaining there from the American period (June 1944-August 1945).

(i) Cinema from the war. During the war there was at least seven cinemas in Jayapura and surroundings. One is still remaining and it was still in function just one year ago. It is behind the shops where you turn left (when coming from Jayapura or Abeepura) to the old pasar Sentani. I think it should become a monument or a museum.

Japanese and American airports

a) Hollandia Aerodrome. Today, it is still in use and the principal entry point into this half of the island. It is the only one of the WWII airfields which is still in use.

(b) Sentani Airfield. Built by the Japanese. It was liberated by the 186th Infantry on April 26, 1944. It was badly cratered by previous American bomber raids, and completely useless. The
barracks in the area had also been largely destroyed by bombing. It appeared to have not been operational for some time. The strip was improved by the Americans. It was a huge airbase complex with fighters, and heavy bombers operating out of the area. It once operated a wing of B-29 Superfortresses.

(c) Cyclops Drome. Built by the Japanese, this airfield is at the base of the Cyclops mountains along the Depapre - Aerodrome track. Occupied by the 186th Infantry on April 26th, 1944 it was found serviceable for light planes with the possibility for expansion. Gene Strine visited the site of the old airfield in the late 1980s. "No one knew exactly where it was because it had become completely overgrown. After walking to the approximate area, I was able to find overgrown Anti-Aircraft gun revetments. One of the guns was still in its revetment. I discovered an Antiaircraft fuse for a shell, and this Japanese liquor bottle." Cyclops Mountains had an airplane wreck of a P-61B "Midnight Queen", nicknamed "The Black Widow". It has now been repatriated to the US. (see: http://www.pacificwrecks.com/people/restore/strine.html)

(d) Tami Drome lies East of Humboldt Bay (for background see above)

Other things to see or do

(a) Buddhist Temple, on the mountain before Skyline. Nice view, nice building, interesting Buddhist reliefs with symbols from Papua art like from the Asmat, like the tree of life – the bodhi tree. There are services Sunday mornings at 10 o’clock.

(b) Hindu Temple, Skyline, immediately after the sharp bend in the road, where you have a view over Teluk Yos Sudarso (Teluk Yotefa) go left. Meet the Balinese. Best time: new moon or full moon, the two major monthly feast days of the Hindus..

(c) Bapedalda. Office of environmental protection, Skyline. Nice view over Yotefa Bay with the islands Engros and Tobati. Good place for pictures. From Abepura/Kota Raja turn left after the Hindu Temple. Opposite is the entrance of Yotefa National Park.

(d) Tabla Supa, the village tucked in between Pantai Amai and Pantai Tanah Merah. You can walk through the village, pass the graveyard and reach Pantai Tanah Merah in this way by foot. The church of Tabla Supa has some interesting paintings. The village can provide home stay. Ask for Peter. His wife speaks Dutch. See the huge tame tortoises under his house.

(e) Dormena, on the North coast. Beautiful, clean village. You must have been here. Nice people. Very interesting church, the Bethlehem church (GKI) with a wall around decorated with about 25 reliefs, depicting the main stories of the Old and the New Testament. You go by car to Amai and Tanah Merah. You have to stop at a primary school and park there as the road is broken down. You walk then in about half an hour to Dormena. On the way, to the right you see an interesting “church of the rock.” This church is built on a huge rock. The rock is the symbol for Jesus. The building has one storey at the front and two stories at the back. The people there are willing to take guests for the night. There is a nice beach nearby, they say. The church services are on Saturdays.

(f) Ormu, village North of the Cyclops Mountains. It is said that it is the only place, apart from the interior, where the people are still making stone tools, now only used as bride price or bride wealth (emas kawin) in the Sentani area. You can take the perahu Johnson from Market Hamadi or from the harbour. You can also charter a prow Johnson from Depapre. There seems to be a walking path across the Cyclops to Ormu. The road starts at the “swembad” at the military complex of Ifar Gunung. It is a day’s walk. I have not yet tried it.

(g) Demta. Village on the North coast. Go to the left after reaching the village. At the primary school there is a museum with two stories, with a collection paintings, woodcarvings and ancient stone statues, which come from the caves, in the past used to bury the dead. Ask somebody to guide you around and to organize a trip by prahu (dug out cano) to beaches, Tarfia with the caves, Bukisi Island, and neighbouring villages.
(h) On the way to Demta, halfway Kali Biru and Demta to you left you see a river coning out of a rock. Very clear water.

(i) Tarfia. Village with old graves in caves. Some of the contents of these caves were on display in the museum at the primary school in Demta. There is here also an ancient basin made from clay, used to keep sago, bananas etc. The basin is 4 to 5 meters high.

(j) Ambora. Village west of Demta. Nice church, the Baithel church, with painting of Jacob’s dream on the outside wall. In the church is a well with never ending water, a miracle well. People use the water to cure sick people. Bukisi Island, also called Desa Marowai, the name of the river behind the village. Half an hour by motor perahu from Demta or from Depapre. Beautiful island. Good for swimming. There is also a river. Caves. Old graveyard. If you ask for home stay it can be organized, though there is only one bed, the bed in the unused clinic, which stands on the beach. Here is an excellent dance group on the island, which got the first price at dance competitions. The group/village composed a dance which is based on the history and life philosophy of the Papua people. Lereh. This is as far as you can go with a normal car. You can go in one day and back to Lereh from Jayapura. Interesting trip through the forests, though a lot of trees are cut. You follow the road to Demta and turn left at a metal bridge, the Juliana Bridge. Be careful for the huge trucks heavily loaded with trees. They drive fast and are of the opinion that they own the road, which in fact is also the case. This is the Enterprise Road, Jalan Perusahaan, made by the wood companies. You can drive around Sentani Lake. Take the road to Demta. Go straight at a place where the road makes a sharp turn to the right. Continue that dirt road which leads past the Office (Kantor) cemat Gemtuek (district office). You can also start at the other end, where you take the road to Arso 3 and 4 through

(k) Yoka Pantai. Go right after you have left the lake on your right hand side Yoka Pantai: a nice village. Take the road from Waena to Arso 3 and 4. Have a look at the harbour to your right. Continue to the church building, which is on your left. Go to the right before the church. Then on your right you have an old mission hospital made of gaba-gaba. Continue to have a look at the traditional houses which stand on poles in the water. You may ask to have a look in one of these houses and have a cup of tea. You continue going the path alongside the lake you will see the large wooden house of the ondoafi Mesakh Mebri. You can ask to see the house from the inside. Two houses away from the house of the ondoafi is the small house of a Dutch teacher of the Jongensvervolgschool of Yoka, Lutzen de Graaf. Have a look at the nice woodcarvings in the door. If you follow the tar road to Arso you will see on your left a very large tree. This is the tree on the place where once the house of Reverend Izaak Samuel Kijne stood. He is the one who translated the Psalms and Hymns of the hymnbook still in daily use in the GKI and other churches. He wrote a song book called Suling Mas, with the song that became the national anthem of the Papuans on 1 December 1961. He also wrote the famous children book Kota Emas, The Golden City, where two children, a Papuan boy and his friend, a Dutch girl, after much difficulties meet Jesus in the Golden City. Rev. Kijne founded a theological school in Miei in the 1920s and in the early 1950s one in Serui. The Theological College (STT) of the Gereja Kristen Injili di Tanah Papua (GKI) in Abepura is named after him.

(l) Doyo Lama: prehistoric rock paintings and microliths. Good place for picnics s there are several shelters on the way to the top of the hill. Best time to visit is in the afternoon. Beautiful sunset over the Lake. The people of Doyo Lama say that these megaliths were not decorated by them or by their ancestors. When their ancestors came from what is now PNG they found already these rocks and the paintings and engravings. The people who made them had then already gone. The village on the lakeside is also of interest. Visit the two houses of the ondoafis. One is a large modern house on a hill, to youp left, when you enter the village from the main road. The other is down at the waterfront. Go left on coming at the shore. Then you find it on your right-hand side. Everybody knows the place. This one has interesting woodcarvings as poles.

(m) Vanimo. It is possible to take a day trip to Vanimo or spend the weekend there. An experienced Vanimo traveller is Jaap van de Werf at Entrop, who can be of assistance at a fee. In Vanimo you can do shopping e.g. for whole-wheat flour. You can spend the night at a seaside hotel with good Australian food. Price about US$ 40 a night. You get your visa at the PNG consulate in Jayapura. You then drive to the border and leave the car there. You can arrange that somebody
picks you up at the border. It is a person of Dutch descent, who owns a petrol station and rents cars in Vanimo. Jaap van de Werf of Entrop has the details.

Comments and additions to: theoikos@yahoo.com