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Puka Puka

JAPAN BENEFIT T

JIM LOOMIS'S UKES FOR NUKES DEMANDS A NUCLEAR FREE PACIFIC!

In 1992, the Marine Mammal-Lover and Perry Manxster Global Eco- Peaceior Prankster flew down to Rarotonga in the Cook Islands to protest the shipment of one and half tons of plutonium through the South Pacific from France to Japan. For those of you who haven't seen Maui film maker Todd Swan's "No Plutonium" video, here is what Jimbo said while being interviewed by the Rarotonga news:

"plutonium, that's the end of life on earth. Yes, nuclear reactors... So as beautiful as they are, when you understand the physics and the mathematics of nuclear reaction, you have to love that man's mind has been adequate to discover that and if there is a place for it, there's a place for it on the moon, there's a place for it in outer space but on a fragile little planet like this, the circulating air currents that we all breathe and all life breathes and circulating water currents, we can't afford to threaten those currents with this ultra evil, with this monster, with this atomic monster"

In efforts to support Japan and overcome this natural and man-made disaster, Jim Loomis and Puka Puka collaborated on a Japan Benefit T shirt. All proceeds will go to the Japan Earthquake and Pacific Tsunami Fund. The design features Jim's announcement to the Cosmos within the iconic red sun disc - Hinomaru. The shirt is 100% cotton and hand silk screened with water based inks on Maui.

To purchase the T shirt please email us or call by phone Monday - Saturday, 11 AM - 6 PM, Hawaii- Aleutian standard time.

\$ 25

Not In My Back Yard

Mention the term 'NIMBYism' and it sounds like something in an aerobics class.

Well, it certainly refers to a specific state of mind, in this case not in relation to the sweatshop get healthy mentality but the fact that many people in authority would rather do the undesirable in someone else's back yard rather than their own.

Hence the ism of NIMBY - Not In My Back Yard.

Carrying the banner of NIMBYism to Rarotonga recently have been two Americans, James Cook Loomis and Katrina Johnson.

James (also known as Jim) has a world reputation for being "the dolphin man" as he has been hanging out with those curious marine mammals for more than 35 years.

Katrina, who has been an anti-nuclear activist for many years, was involved in the success campaign to have a United States defence facility at Rocky Flats, Boulder in Colorado, closed. The plant was producing trigger heads for bombs.

She is in to holistic health practices.

Based on the island of Maui in Hawaii, James has been spreading the message that the nuclear testing is bad for people and the environment, and in particular the Japanese have no right to be carrying their plutonium around the Pacific.

Serious as his concerns are, James however does have a great sense of humour - he says he is 'Captain James Cook' who has returned to the Cook Islands to



James Cook Loomis and Katrina Johnson - spreading the anti-nuclear message.

warn the people about the high possibilities of 'paradise' being polluted.

UKES AGAINST NUKES

He has even pledged NZ\$200 and a week in his tree house, as the first prize for the winner of ukelele song contest dubbed 'Ukes Against Nukes'.

James has announced the Cook Islands will be the judge of the competition - the first annual Eco-Uke Anti-Nuclear String Band Concert - which is on offer for next year.

A ukelele player and canoe-

ing enthusiast, James referring to George Preddy's book "Nuclear Disaster - a new way of thinking down under", points out that the author says "The seeds of destruction might be in our own lives."

James said "He says it takes a million times longer to evolve us, than to eliminate us."

He says that Preddy makes the point that "We have all denied that we know that we could be eliminated any day by nuclear war."

"We also know that if the boats stop coming (to the islands) with food, we would probably starve."

"So what we have is a huge denial of the actual facts of our existence."

"I feel like the strongest thing we (human beings) have going is re-tribalisation."

James says that in terms of imports, many Pacific islands are afraid to bite the hand that is feeding them, and that is a very serious matter when the hand that is feeding them is poisonous, such as the case of Japan's plutonium shipments.

He said the islands have got to start biting the hand with respects to Japan's plutonium, and "That's where I think NIMBY comes in."

James said "Just don't accept (from) the hand that is offering poison."

He said what people have now, such as land, is simply on loan from the future.

Alex Sword

Plutonium ship may force review

Japan may review its nuclear policy, following recent international criticism surrounding the transportation of a plutonium shipment from France.

The director of the nuclear fuel division of the Science and Technology Agency, Toichi Sakata said in Tokyo that the government had been surprised by the level of international criticism met by the plutonium shipment.

Mr Sakata said the news conference that Tokyo would carefully consider its future plans for nuclear technology in Japan, taking international concerns into consideration.

AFP newsagency said however, that Mr Sakata avoided responding directly to a question on the continued use of international waters to ship plutonium from France to Japan.

The International Atomic Energy Agency in September began an examination of Japan's long-term nuclear policy, which should be completed by the end of 1993.

Japan's shipment of one-and-a-half tonnes of plutonium on the vessel, the Akatsuki Maru has created an international outcry over the route the potentially-dangerous shipment would take.

- Pacnews



One of Tahiti based artist, Bobby Holcomb's stunning art pieces - highlighting the dangers of nuclear testing in French Polynesia



*Capt. James Cook Loomis installs his latest marriage:
Lifeboat, a sculpture joining the English Whitehall and the
American dory at the opening of the exhibition Far Art at
Puka Puka, Paia Maui, July 31st, 2010.*