

NATION

THEY SAID IT

'Unfortunately our government system is very slow, our foreign affairs minister is aware of it and we have to respect the system as it has its own processes. We have to handle the Sevua Report with some degree of respect of some of those implicated'

– Sir Nagora Bogan
Unitech chancellor appeals to students
– Page 3

INDEX

Nation	P2-21
Weekend Racing	P15-16
Region	P22-27
Classifieds	P42-46
World	P53-58
Opinion	P60
Weekend Racing	P61-62
Letters	P63
Business	P64-67
Sports, Racing	P68-76

CONTACTS

News, Business, Sports:
324 6722
editorial@thenational.com.pg

Letters:
letters@thenational.com.pg

Classifieds: 324 6707
classy@thenational.com.pg

Advertising: 324 6808
advertising@thenational.com.pg

Circulation: 324 7850

Subscriptions: 324 6760

General Line: 324 6888

Bureaus:
Lae: 472 1660
lae@thenational.com.pg
Mt Hagen: 542 3366
hagen@thenational.com.pg
Goroka: 532 1949
goroka@thenational.com.pg
Kokopo: 982 8899
kokopo@thenational.com.pg
Wewak: 456 1064
wewak@thenational.com.pg
Madang: 422 2790
madang@thenational.com.pg

US courage award for Dame Josephine

By DIANNE WAKETSI
PIONEER female politician and women's rights activist Dame Josephine Abajjah has been presented the US Secretary of State's Women of Courage Award for her achievements in politics and government.

The award, which was presented by the US Embassy to Dame Josephine in Port Moresby yesterday, recognises the courageous efforts of women in various fields and professions.

Dame Josephine began her political career as the leader of the separatist Papua Besena movement prior to independence.

She entered Parliament as the first woman MP in 1972 and later became the first woman governor in 1997.

"I am deeply humbled and greatly



honoured for this rare privilege to be given the recognition and an award which I am not really worthy of," she said.

"My heart is greatly troubled and disturbed for I feel the awards and recognitions are for those who tow the line and achieve big. Unfortunately, I never towed the line.

"The situation warranted only sensitisation programmes at that time and my entry into politics was by the wishes of the people."

Dame Josephine said back then, men believed that a woman's place was in the house and bearing children and in her first year in Parliament,

many of her male colleagues laughed and made ridiculous comments about her.

"Almost all the people of the Central went out and voted, breaking the vicious cycle of male domination in Parliament."

She added that the most important thing that she learnt from talking to people and being with people during her campaign times was that her appearance and her personal touch was all the magic she needed.

Dame Josephine thanked all those who contributed to making her who she is today.

"These people gave me strength and their shoulders were there when I wanted to cry and I truly thank them for their continuous support during those trying times," she said.

Forum focus on justice, equality for women

THE United States of America Embassy has joined forces with the Community Development Department to host the PNG Women's Forum to advance gender justice and equality.

The two-day forum was launched yesterday by Prime Minister Peter O'Neill, Community Development Minister Loujaya Kouza and US Ambassador Walter North.

O'Neill, pictured, urged all women to continue to be strong advocates of change for this country and advance for the good of the nation.

The forum's objective is to ensure that women from different fields form networks with other women participants and work together and inspire each other for the better and for change.

Stronger engagement between the groups, government, international partners, and the private sector can:

- Empower the next generation of women leaders;
- demonstrate how women's groups can be agents of change for peace and security;
- enhance educational opportunities for women;
- help women lead healthier lives;
- encourage men and youth to combat gender based violence;
- get more women into business; and,
- Harness the power of technology to empower women.



Can I help you sir ... An Australian Federal Police officer attending to a member of the public at Waigani police station. – Nationalpic by EKAR KEAPU

Depts unite to stop city measles outbreak

By FAYE MIKA
THE health and education departments have agreed to conduct a joint campaign to vaccinate students in Port Moresby against measles.

National Capital District health director Dr Niko Wuatai said all school children and infants between the ages of six months and 20 years would be vaccinated irrespective of

whether they have been previously vaccinated or not.

"It is important for all children, even if they had already received the vaccination to come and get vaccinated the second time to increase their immunity against the disease."

Children will be given Tetanus Toxoid and Vitamin A as well.

Wuatai appealed to all schools in

the nation's capital to support the campaign for a successful vaccination rollout.

"We would like to appeal to all schools in Port Moresby to support us on this important immunisation activity which will prevent further spread of the disease," he said.

He added that requests have been made to the principals and head

teachers of schools in NCD to inform the students and their parents about the immunisation activity and to ensure that all children were immunised.

Disease surveillance officer Berry Ropa said a mobile team would be stationed at the Jackson Airport terminal to check children travelling in and out of Port Moresby.

Hunters, the new rallying call – See Opinion, Page 60

40%
FARE

Our popular 40th Anniversary fare is back!

Available now until the 31st of March 2014.
So book early!!

Call toll free on 180 3444 or visit www.airniugini.com.pg and contact your nearest Air Niugini Travel Centre or Travel Agent for further details.

