

Anuha Island can't be developed yet

By Daily Oso

The development of Anuha Island in the Central Province has been hampered by various obstacles including the ownership of that tiny Island.

Anuha Island can never be developed into a major tourist mecca by Island Hotel with Australian John Alexander-

Smith's refusal to return the original copy of the power of Attorney over the Island to the Solomon Islands government.

Director of the Criminal Investigation Division (CID), John Mark Parafea confirmed that investigations concerning the ownership of Anuha had been completed and returned to his Department by the Director of Public Prosecu-

tions (DPP).

Mr Parafea said, "When we contacted him last week to return the documents, Mr Smith refused, saying he is prepared to go to court with the Solomon Islands Government over his claims of ownership over the Island".

The CID Director said the documents containing the power of Attorney were handed to Mr Smith by the

late Father Robert Pule.

He said Mr Smith's refusal to return the documents has left them powerless to deal with the matter any more further.

Meanwhile, the General Manager of the King Solomon Hotel, Mr Park said they are still seeking preliminary and architectural plans for the Anuha Island development.

King Solomon Hotel is

responsible for the development of Anuha Island resort.

Mr Park said their Head Office in Brisbane is currently seeking further investors and finance for the development but can't do much if the situation is not cleared. He revealed that it is hard to attract investors with the present ownership claims by Mr Smith.

The General Manager said their development of Anuha Island would cost \$5.18 Million. The cost of redeveloping the so called Paradise Island is huge, however, since it has huge attractions, it is still developable. The future of Anuha Island is still at stake since Australian John Smith Alexander who holds the Power of Attorney is un-moveable.