

PACIFIC ISLANDS REPORT

Pacific Islands Development Program/Center for Pacific Islands Studies

SOLOMON ISLANDS PM ULUFA'ALU WARNED ABOUT ANUHA ISLAND

HONIARA, Solomon Islands (April 29, 1998 - PACNEWS)---The Solomon Islands government has been warned against subleasing Anuha Island Resort in Central Province, once the pride of the Solomon Islands tourist industry, for redevelopment.

The warning is contained in a letter addressed to Prime Minister Bartholomew Ulufa'alu from a former employee of the island resort, John Smith, who had provided documentary evidence to prove his insistent claim of power of attorney over the resort.

In his letter, Smith appealed to Ulufa'alu to uphold and safeguard the legitimate rights of the late Father Pule and his family, who had freely and within the law, given Smith irrevocable power of attorney over the Anuha Island property.

Both the Attorney-General's Office and the Tourism Office in Honiara have stated that the claim by Smith has no legal grounds and that arrangements were being concluded with Islands Hotels, Ltd. in Australia to redevelop the property, burned down by local landowners.