



THE INDEPENDENT STATE OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA
PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE
FINAL REPORT

REPORT TO NATIONAL PARLIAMENT

**INQUIRY INTO THE NATIONAL MUSEUM AND ART GALLERY
AND THE SALE AND EXPORT OF THE SWAMP GHOST AIRCRAFT**

**Excerpts From PAC Final Report Mentioning
"75 Squadron" or "Bruno Carnovale"**

22. THE SWAMP GHOST - BACKGROUND FACTS.

75th Flying Squadron Museum, based in Victoria, Australia. Despite its name, this entity has no links with any Defence Force interests that the Committee could identify.

Indeed the museum does not seem to exist at all. It is not a registered company or a legal entity in Australia or PNG, so far as the searches of the Committee could identify.

The Committee could not identify any premises, history of collection, actual collection of aircraft or restoration or capacity to restore or curate aircraft.

The two Australian individuals representing this entity are Mr Bruno Carnovale and Mr Ian Whitney. The Museum seems to be nothing more than a facilitator for wealthy American collectors and, the Committee finds, has illegally on-sold War Surplus Materials removed from PNG with no regard to the ownership of the State and in breach of its own Agreement with the Museum.

The Committee wrote requesting information and co-operation 75th Flying Squadron Museum, but that entity presented no evidence, was not represented at the Inquiry and did not provide any information sought by the Committee.

25. THE SECOND DAY OF THE INQUIRY

25.42 Further, neither 75 Squadron Flying Museum, Ian Whitney, Bruno Carnovale or any entity known to be operating on their

behalf in removing and exporting aircraft wrecks from Papua New Guinea were certified to carry on business in this country.

RESOLUTIONS OF THE COMMITTEE

6. That, in particular, the State call for an immediate account of the whereabouts of all War Surplus Materials removed from Papua New Guinea by Ian Whitney, Bruno Carnovale, 75 Flying Squadron Museum and from all collectors and Museums known to have been or to be in possession of War Surplus Materials removed from or originating in Papua New Guinea.
9. Under no circumstances should the State through any of its agencies, arms or Departments again deal with 75 Flying Squadron Museum, Bruno Carnovale or Ian Whitney in the sale, removal, export or on-sale of War Surplus Materials.

REFERRALS

8. That Bruno Carnovale, Ian Whitney, 75 Squadron be referred to the Managing Director of the Investment Promotion Authority for full investigation to establish whether, as foreign enterprises, any or all of those persons or company were conducting business in Papua New Guinea without a proper and lawful certification.
9. That 75th Flying Squadron Museum, Mr. Bruno Carnovale and Mr Ian Whitney be referred to the Royal Papua New Guinea Constabulary and the Australian Federal Police and/or relevant State Police Forces for investigation of any and all sales by them of War Surplus Materials exported from Papua New Guinea with a view to establishing whether there has been any breach of the Criminal Law in that sale or conversion of State property.

RECOMENDATIONS

- 36.1 The National Museum & Art Gallery should never again deal with persons or entities outside the established State Museums or State recognized Museums. In particular, the National Museum & Art Gallery should never again deal with Mr Bruno Carnovale, Mr Ian Whitney, 75 Squadron Flying Museum.