

77 Arthur Circle, Forrest,
A.C.T. 2603, Australia,
26th January, 1976.

Mr N.D. Ing,
The Treasury Solicitor,
Matthew Parker Street,
LONDON SW1H 9NN, England.

Dear Mr Ing,

I attach the promised notes on the formation of Ocean Island, with special reference to the growth of trees on the areas which now form the phosphate fields. As I have mentioned in my letter of the 21st the Banabans seem to have some notion of planting coconut trees on the Karrenfeld, where they have never done well, as the phosphetized and dolomitized pan is inimical.

I have tramped over every inch of Ocean Island for months in connexion with boundary disputes (probably the only European to have done so) and I have colonized, ~~as~~ reported on ~~with~~ a view to colonization, 17 other islands all over the Central Pacific, so such matters as soil, water, rainfall, productivity and the like have naturally been of particular interest to me all my life; but not necessarily, I recognize, to anyone else.

Anyway, have a look at the notes and if, as is possible, they are not of any help just tear them up. I have my own copy for use in connexion with my historical work. History, as I understand it, is far from being concerned mainly with political events but begins at the beginning with a study of the ecosystem and its development both before and after the arrival of man.

Yours sincerely,



H.E. Maude.