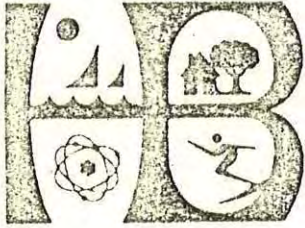


FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
FROM Bill Reed 536-5511
June 7, 1977
77-224

SISTER CITY
City



City of Huntington Beach

P.O. BOX 190

CALIFORNIA 92848

The city of Waitemata, New Zealand, has been adopted by the city of Huntington Beach as its first sister city in official "adoption", proceedings June 6.

Representatives of Air New Zealand will present a \$1,200 collection of books on New Zealand to the Huntington Beach Library amid a display of colorful posters at City Hall. Plaques, and keys to the city will be exchanged between officials of the two cities.

Mayor Ron Pattinson made a telephone call to the mayor of Waitemata, Jack Colvin during the 7:30 P.M. meeting of the Huntington Beach City Council. An audience of 150 persons heard Colvin tell all about his city Waitemata, the name means sparkling water in the native Maori language, is located on the North Island of New Zealand and is a major seaport.

It has, according to Colvin, more yachts and pleasure craft than any other city of similar size in the world. It is in the center of New Zealand's principal industry, meat production. It also has important metallurgical, chemical, clothing and textile works.

New Zealand's economy is characterized by the absolute predominance of sheep and cattle raising over all other

DEC 1977

- more

HUNTINGTON BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY
7111 TALBERT AVENUE
HUNTINGTON BEACH, CA. 92848

activities. About 40 million sheep, the third largest national flock in the world and more than 6 million cattle are raised in the islands; 85 per cent of exports consist of food products obtained from sheep and cattle raising.

Land once used for growing cereals and other foods has been progressively sacrificed to become pastureland for sheep and cattle raising.

Today New Zealand society is in a state of transformation. Although the country is the largest exporter of meat and dairy produce in the world, the largest-scale use of farm machinery has done away with the need for a large farm-labor force and more and more people are working and living in towns than in the country.

New Zealand is a nation wholly populated by the descendants of colonists. Whether a New Zealander is a Maori, or Polynesian descent of a more recent arrival of European stock, his ancestors came to the New Zealand archipelago from over the Pacific Ocean.

Maori tribes populated the islands when the first European explorer, the Dutch mariner Abel Janszoon Tasman (1602-59), came to the shores of New Zealand in 1632. These were descendants of the Polynesians who, it is believed, first colonized New Zealand in the middle years of the 12 century A.D.

The Maoris were a tribal people; they did not aspire to political unity but they achieved a high standard of culture. They lived in clans, each ruled by a chieftain.

The Maori clan system was a family system but not a family as it is known in the Western world. The whanau (clan) was the extension of a primal family; every member of the whanau believed himself a blood relative to all the other members.

When the whanau grew bigger it became a tribe, a hapu or iwi, but all members were still bound by their common blood as members of one big family.

As the tribes increased in size they built in each settlement a pa, a heavily fortified building. When the tribe was attacked, all its members took refuge in the pa, which was surrounded by a stockade or series of stockades; these were walls built of tree trunks securely bound together by creepers from the forests.

Present were the New Zealand Consul General Frank Muller, New Zealand Government Travel Commissioner John Hanning, New Zealand Government Trade Commissioner Jeremy Spanjaard, Manager-North American for Air New Zealand Alex T. Gillmore, members of the Huntington Beach City Council and other civic dignitaries.