Jack & Dorothy Fields

South Pacific

and Other Travels

Edited by: Jonathan Stephanoff
LETTHER FROM THE EDITOR

I began this project well over a year ago as part of my master's degree from the University of Missouri's School of Journalism. I knew very little about Jack and Dorothy Fields, but as I dug into their archive I developed a great respect for their work and an appreciation of how they approached travel journalism – they emphasized the people and cultures.

I have always been drawn to stories that bridge cultural facets, and I see visuals as one of the most powerful tools to break through cross-cultural communication barriers; these are the types of stories that I want to tell. It has been a privilege to showcase the Fields lives and work. Oceania, the area the Fields are best known for, is an incredibly diverse area and through the Fields Collection I feel as if I have experienced the islands and people in a way that, for the most part, doesn’t exist anymore. It is my hope that as you view this book you feel the same.

Jonathan Stephanoff received his bachelor of science in anthropology from Missouri State University and his master of arts in photojournalism from the University of Missouri. He now resides in Washington D.C. and may be contacted at jonathan.stephanoff@gmail.com.
To Jack and Dorothy, though I never met you, I know I would have enjoyed conversations with you.

And to Kim Komenich, a living connection to the Fields legacy.

Finally to my wife, family, friends and professors, for your patience, guidance and support.
The birth of this book began after 20 or so boxes of mostly uncatalogued slides arrived at the McDougall Center for Photojournalism Studies at the University of Missouri’s School of Journalism. In these boxes were the life’s work of Jack and Dorothy Fields – a husband and wife team who spent much of the 1950s through the 1970s freelancing travel and location stories from around the world. Later another 77 boxes – with more slides, mounted photographs and their collection of cultural artifacts would arrive. Jack was the photographer and Dorothy the writer. Both were energetic, out to see the world. They cared deeply about other cultures and the places they experienced along the way. They sent their stories to many of the big magazines of their day: National Geographic, Collier’s, Saturday Evening Post, Argosy, Smithsonian, Look, Life, and Esquire. Though the Fields’ careers took them around the world, their work in the South Pacific rises above other places in size and scope. It is where they spent most of their freelancing careers, producing thousands of photographs, numerous published articles and a book entitled, “South Pacific.”

Through Kim Komenich, an MU Master’s alum, Jack and Dorothy learned about the photojournalism program at the Missouri School of Journalism in 2000 and gradually became convinced it was where they wanted to establish fellowships to support students. They also selected it as the destination for an estate gift, which would include thousands of Jack’s slides and much of Dorothy’s writings. Jack died in 2007, Dorothy in 2011. The McDougall Center staff has spent the better part of a year scanning much of Jack and Dorothy’s work and preparing this book.

One of Jack’s biggest wishes was for their work to live on and not simply remain in boxes collecting dust. The couple documented a world that largely no longer exists and it was the McDougall Center’s wish to share their work.

Our hope at the McDougall Center is that this book honors the memory of Jack and Dorothy Fields and captures some of the allure of the world and its people – the way Jack and Dorothy did. The visual and multimedia materials have been numbered for the purpose of quick reference should any viewers have knowledge or interest in using some of the images. For more information about the content of this book or Fields Collection, contact David Rees – the director of the McDougall Center for Photojournalism Studies through email at reesd@missouri.edu.
CHAPTER 1
WORLD TRAVELERS
Jack and Dorothy Fields invested nearly 40 years documenting the enchantment of the world, especially Oceania. As experienced freelancers – she a writer, he a photographer – they became experts on the South Pacific. The Fields shared a passion for cultural documentation during a pivotal time of change throughout the region following World War II.

After formal schooling in the early 1950s, Jack and Dorothy hit the road for lives of travel funded by selling Jack's images and Dorothy’s writings to publications, book publishers, and stock image companies. First they traveled throughout Europe. Other areas of the world followed before opportunities arose in the South Pacific and the Fields spent much of their professional careers working on these tropical islands. Following World War II, the region was divided into protectorates and trusts – opening tiny island nations up to the rest of the world. In many areas, Jack and Dorothy were but a generation removed from the introduction of modern technologies, and the cultural changes that come with that shift.

In the late 1970s, while teaching at San Jose State University, Jack met a budding young photojournalist, Kim Komenich, and he and Dorothy became his life-long mentors. Komenich
eventually joined the photography staff at the San Francisco Examiner where he began also photographing in the Pacific and won a Pulitzer Prize in 1987 for his coverage of the fall of the Marcos regime in the Philippines. Komenich was a regular visitor to the Fields’ Placerville, CA home, and he and Jack enjoyed fly fishing together.

Komenich came to the University of Missouri’s School of Journalism as a visiting professional in residence in 1998-2000 and Jack and Dorothy visited him during his time at Mizzou. The Fields were impressed with the Photojournalism program and formed a lasting relationship with the School of Journalism. They quickly established scholarships in each of their names – Dorothy’s provides scholarships and fellowships for magazine students and Jack’s for photojournalism students. They also left an estate gift that established, upon their deaths, the Jack and Dorothy Fields Fund for Photojournalism Education. The Missouri School of Journalism and the McDougall Center for Photojournalism Studies are now the arbiters of the Fields Collection of written and visual work.

Dorothy shares how she met Jack in a tuberculosis ward and their travel journalism career that followed.
McD-Fields-005
Kim discusses some motivations behind Jack and Dorothy's career and the unique period of time they worked in.
McD–Fields–008
This book showcases just a segment of the Fields’ wide-ranging travel photography and writings, and strives to capture the flavor of their love for travel and appreciation for cultures throughout the world. In working with the Fields Collection, editorial decisions were made to showcase images and writings that illustrate Jack and Dorothy’s style as well as something about the place, people and time. It is important to note that images of cultural nudity are included because this was the culture of the day in various locations. Modesty standards differ from culture to culture; the Fields documented people and how they lived. The McDougall Center has endeavored to provide context to the Fields’ work shown here. While their articles and books shed light on some portions, regrettably other work has very little information attached to it. Because this is a retrospect of Jack and Dorothy’s work, names and titles throughout this book are from the era that the Fields were in these locations.

For more information about the content of this book or Fields Collection, contact David Rees – the director of the McDougall Center for Photojournalism Studies through email at reesd@missouri.edu. For specific images or articles, please include the title or image number (McD–Fields–###), and if you happen to know specifics about an image/location/subject please do contact the McDougall Center.

TAP image for Kim to discuss Jack as a photographer. McD–Fields–010
SOUTHEAST ASIA

The McDougall Center has fairly little information on Jack and Dorothy’s work in Southeast Asia. There seems to be a fair number of similarities among Jack’s photographs in these different nations. Whether he purposefully focused on similar topics is unknown, but there are recurring themes in the work he did. These include farming and food production; religious traditions, celebrations and locations; and common people or street photography. In comparing his work in Southeast Asia, Indonesia has the most breadth in images and themes and it is also the only location from which the McDougall Center has a published article of Dorothy’s.

Taiwan - Officially the Republic of China, the island is better known as Taiwan but has been given many names throughout its complex history. The island was once part of China's dynastic rule until it was ceded to Japan in 1895. Following World War II and during the Chinese Civil War, the Communist Party of China expelled the Republic of China’s government in 1947, which relocated to Taiwan. Though tensions have eased today, Jack and possibly Dorothy were in Taiwan only a decade or two after the civil war.

Nepal - Since the 1700s until 2008, Nepal existed as a Hindu Monarchy. The McDougall Center knows very little about the time Jack spent in Nepal and is unsure if Dorothy was there with him. This work was most likely produced during King Mahendra’s rule (1955-1972). To this day, Nepal remains among the least developed nations in the world according to the United Nations Human
Development Index. Religion and folklore are rooted in everyday life and over 80 percent of Nepalese identify as Hindu. The country is a land of extremes from the tropical lowlands in the south to the mountainous north - home to eight of the world's ten tallest mountains including Mount Everest.

**India** - The name India comes from the Old Persian word *Hindus* that stemmed from the Sanskrit word *Sindhu*, the local word for the Indus River. Waterways remained a vital part of India's history with important cities and ceremonial sites arising along their flows. The modern nation of India declared its independence from British rule in 1947 and Jack's time in the country was but a decade or two following that. The McDougall Center does not know if Dorothy spent time in India as well, but the two often traveled together. Much of Jack's work was focused on the waterways and spiritual centers that India is so well known for.

**Burma (Myanmar)** - In 1989, Burma officially changed its English name to Myanmar. Both names refer to the largest ethnic group of the country. Discrepancies still exist as to which name is used because the government that changed it was established by a military coup in 1962. Jack was most likely in Burma before the coup because the military practiced a national isolationism that is partially responsible for Myanmar remaining among the least developed nations in the world. In recent years the government has made many reforms and much of the military rule is transitioning to peaceful governing.

**Indonesia** - Indonesia, a name meaning island, is a nation made up of over 17,500 islands stretching thousands of miles from Southeast Asia to Australia. A Dutch colony until the end of World War II, today it is the world’s fourth most populous country and is incredibly diverse with over 700 languages and dialects spoken. Jack and Dorothy visited various parts of the island nation during their professional careers, resulting in several articles of Dorothy’s and numerous images of Jack's printed in a variety of publications.
SECTION 2
TAIWAN
McD-Fields-013
TAIWAN
NEPAL
INDIA
SECTION 5

BURMA (MYANMAR)

McD-Fields-057
BURMA (MYANMAR)
Remember Bali
The serene, volcanic island offers a whole new world

By: Dorothy Fields
Published in Insight: For Decision-Makers in Asia, May 1971

The absence of the moon that night magnified stars clustering above the split gateway of the Balinese temple. Only a yellow flicker from the torch-bearing pillar, centered in the courtyard, lit a hundred men sitting torso-naked and crosslegged in concentric circles around the pillar – waiting.

A woman appeared at the temple gateway, glided down the steps holding high a silver salver filled with flower petals and wreathed in incense – an offering to the gods.

The men fell forward over crossed legs. A low, strangely crooning moan vibrated from a hundred throats. The sound rose in pitch and volume – never ceasing – it climbed eerily through the tropic night – stretching on and on – as slowly the men lifted torsos upright, arms slanting towards the pillar, fingers splayed and shaking, only then did their voices explode into a fast chant –"Te jak, te jak, te jak."
The famous ketjak, or "monkey dance," of Bali had begun.

The ketjak is an excerpt from the world's all-time long-run musical drama – the Ramayana, originally written about 1000 BC. Men form a choral which imitates simian sounds and motions to represent a monkey army that helps "good guy," Prince Rama, rescue his kidnapped wife, Sita, from "bad guy," Rawana, King of the Demons.

Riding on the bus back to the hotel, I watched as the headlights sliced golden vignettes out of the velvet blackness of the night. Barefooted villagers hurried home from the performance before "night demons" might catch them: Babies zonked out on parent's shoulders, older children clinging to mama's kain (long wraparound skirt): Mellow glows of tiny lamps at peanut vender stands by the roadside: Fireflies, like earth-treaded stars flashing above sawahs – flooded rice paddies: A crossroad platform with its stone guardians, and men sitting cross-legged at its base, gossiping, smoking, while somewhere a chiming gamelan orchestra practiced.

I can think of no place I'd rather be than in Bali on a typical June night.

Bali, like the jeweled navel of a reclining temptress, lies midway in the archipelago of the Indonesian Republic. The world's largest island chain spreads south from the equator near Malaysia and ends 3,000 miles and over 3,000 emerald isles later, near Australia's northern finger. But Bali, scarcely larger than Connecticut, sparkles brightest.

For Bali is different.

Two and a half million Hindu Balinese are surrounded by Indonesian's 80 million Muslims. Fortunately, Balinese are sincere believers. Their ancient religion is a blend of nature worship, plus the honoring of hundreds of Hindu gods, goddesses, and demons. As a result, every little thing develops a meeting, from a grain of rice to the ever erupting volcanoes, from the color of fighting cocks feathers to the quavering middle fingers of the doll-like legong dancers.

Cocooned in their security blanket of unshakable faith, Balinese radiate serenity, which, unfortunately, is not exportable. Foreigners intrigued by what they do not fully understand, come to Bali for its magic and its mystery. They've been coming for years.

The first western traveler to Indonesia's islands was the intrepid Marco Polo, who breezed through in 1292. He returned to Venice babbling about fabulous riches in the "East Indies" – spices (a status symbol in this days), gold (a status symbol any day), and sands sparkling with jewels (which no on really believed but it did make a
good story). This so impressed the latter-day Italian, name of Columbus, that he used the lure of finding a new route to these rich islands in persuading Queen Isabella to part with her family jewels to finance an exploratory trip. And even though Columbus failed in his original purpose, he called his discoveries the "West Indies."

Geographically, Sumatra, Java, and Bali were once part of the Malay peninsula. Half a million years ago *Pithecanthropus erectus*, more casually known as "Java man," or "missing link," slept here. And apparently he didn't sleep alone, for the islands were well populated when Indian traders arrive about the fifth century B.C. They brought Hinduism, then Buddhism, both of which blended nicely with local nature worship, and things went swimmingly until the 13th century, when Arab traders started pushing their Islamic religion. In 1478 the last Hindu king on Java committed suicide rather than switch. His son, along with artists, dancers, priests, poets, and general hangers-on fled to Bali. Bali has since survived over 65 years of Dutch military rule, endured the World War II invasion of the Japanese, revolted against the Dutch afterword, kicked out the Communists in 1965, and has kept its cool. Surly Bali will survive a few more tourists. Bali-Hinduism is still so strong that every Balinese knows his cremation will release his spirit so it may be born again in "Heaven," which is of course Bali.

After all the Home of the Gods is Besakih, the most holy temple in Bali, on the 10,038 foot high active volcano, Gunung Agung. Today Bali has joined the jet age with a new air terminal. Pure, white, and ten stories high, the Bali Beach Hotel is the island’s only high-rise, excluding several volcanoes which are still a-building. It offers tourists 300 air-conditioned rooms, each with a balcony and a view of the sea, and each with a bug-eyed barong mask hanging on the wall to keep away evil spirits. Statuary gods guard the L-shaped swimming pool, and the miniature golf course has petite temples and Indonesian structures as obstacles. A full-sized temple gate frames the outdoor stage where weekly dance performances are held. Tennis courts are tucked back in a banana grove. Piped music competes with sighing of aborted coconut palms which shade the patio’s chaise lounges while waiters in brocade kains (sarongs) await a signal.

For three days my husband and I lolled in this indolent luxury. We were routinely and efficiently bused to outlying villages to see the exquisite temple dances. We were fed gourmet meals by the hotel’s chefs, who were imported from Europe. We were enfolded in an isolated world with no jangling telephones, screeching traffic, blubbering television, whining sirens, or imminent news from newspaper or radio to disturb our reveries.
CHAPTER 3

JAPAN

McD-Fields-088
In Search of Sakura

By: Dorothy Fields
Published in Orientations: A Discovery of Asia and the Pacific, March 1971

Each year, in late Spring, the cherry blossoms sweep northward through Japan in a brief but showy season of beauty. The flower, which falls after only two or three days of blooming, has for centuries been a national symbol. The samurai who once fell as romantically as the sakura for land and Emperor have long gone. But Japanese still follow the blossoming of the cherries from Kyushu to Hokkaido, the fickle flowering of ancient trees broadcast on radio, reported in the newspapers, and celebrated with age-old festivals. Hundreds of haiku are still written to celebrate the annual flowering, though few are as graceful as one by the seventeenth-century poet Ransetsu:

Out of one wintery twig,
One bud, one blossom’s worth
At last, of summer.
Jack and Dorothy spent considerable time in Japan. They worked on several projects together, printed multiple books through publishers in Japan and covered the 1972 Winter Olympics in Sapporo, Hokkaido.

**Cherry Blossoms** - Every year the Japanese Meteorological Agency tracks the *sakura zensen*, or cherry blossom front, as it moves north through the islands and acts as a mark of warmer weather to come. The *sakura* (cherry blossom) has long been ingrained in Japanese culture. For at least a thousand years the people of Japan have celebrated this time by picnicking under the blooming *sakura* trees and local festivals commemorate the changing of the season.

Jack and Dorothy spent at least one season in Japan following the cherry blossom front and produced a book titled "Cherry Blossoms: Japan in the Springtime," published in 1973 by Kodansha International, as well as a few articles published in West Magazine and elsewhere.

**Living Treasures** - Living Treasures was a series of projects that Jack worked on involving masters of traditional Japanese crafts. Printed in the Smithsonian Magazine and other publications, Jack worked on a collection of stories ranging from traditional Japanese pottery, hand-made papers and hemp-weaved cloth, to *Bunraku* – traditional Japanese puppetry. According to Kim Komenich this was one of the projects Jack talked about often as a personal favorite.
SECTION 2

CHERRY BLOSSOMS

McD-Fields-090
Amateur painters, like amateur poets, are often to be seen at work in parks and gardens.
(from Cherry Blossoms)
McD–Fields–091

As the full moon canted over the ridge, it lit the cherry blossoms beneath our balcony with an unearthly light, and I felt that this must be Kami. This is surely the symbol of the spirit of Japan.

- Dorothy Fields, *In Search of Sakura*, Published in West, 1971
School children play during an excursion to Shinjuku Imperial Garden in central Tokyo. (from Cherry Blossoms) McD-Fields-092
A view across Heian Shrine’s Suiho Pond. (from Cherry Blossoms) McD–Fields–093

Petals on the rocks: Kasuga Shrine has some three thousand standing and hanging lanterns. (from Cherry Blossoms) McD–Fields–094
Far Left: Cherry blossoms greet the visitor everywhere as he makes his way from Itsukushima’s principle shrine to the subsidiary shrines and buildings, all of which are connected by galleries and corridors. (from Cherry Blossoms) McD–Fields–095

Left: Banners with the sakura design often appeared on the battlefield in the days of the samurai. (from Cherry Blossoms) McD–Fields–096
A Flower arrangement reflects the season; the teacher belongs to Ikenobo school, which has many overseas branches. (from Cherry Blossoms) McD-Fields-097
Women and children in traditional dress and modern enjoy an afternoon beneath the blossoms.
(from Cherry Blossoms)
McD–Fields–098

A woman contemplates while she composes a poem.
(from Cherry Blossoms)
McD–Fields–099
Banners are donated to the temple by suppliants.  
(from Cherry Blossoms)  
McD–Fields–101

Paper lanterns and blossoms disappear in a short time.  
(from Cherry Blossoms)  
McD–Fields–100
Kasuga Shrine, standing in a quiet mountain forest, was founded in 768 by Fujiwara Nagate, great-grandson of Fujiwara Kamatari, who received the family name from the emperor.

(from Cherry Blossoms)
He [Jack] talked a great deal about spending time with the Living National Treasures of Japan...People who had attained a sense of respect in the society of Japan by being the best calligrapher, or the best tea maker, or all of the specialties you have in the Japanese culture.

- Kim Komenich, reflecting on Jack Fields
Master hemp weaver

Ayano Chiba separates hemp fibers.
Ayano Chiba in a marijuana field she harvests for indigo dyeing and weaving.
McD–Fields–106

Ayano Chiba shows a traditional loom.
McD–Fields–107

Ayano Chiba with a cloth woven and dyed by hemp.
McD–Fields–108
Bunraku puppet used by Tamao Yoshida, puppet master.
Bunraku Troupe performance with Tamao Yoshida.
McD–Fields–111

Tamao Yoshida with Bunraku puppet.
McD–Fields–110
A stoneware bowl made by Kei Fujiwara, master ceramicist.
Far Left: Kei Fujiwara throwing pottery on his wheel.
McD-Fields-113

Left: A finished jar by Kei Fujiwara.
McD-Fields-114
Washi (handmade paper) created by Eishiro Abe.
Another type of paper created by Eishiro Abe.
McD–Fields–117

Eishiro Abe, a master of many types of Japanese handmade papers.
McD–Fields–116
Masahiko Katori, master bell maker, with a kane bell he created.
Masahiko Katori with designs for one of his bells.
McD–Fields–119

Masahiko Katori prepares to strike his kane bell at noon.
McD–Fields–120
Lacquerware pieces created by Gonroku Matsuda.
McD–Fields–122

Gonroku Matsuda, lacquerware artisan at work.
McD–Fields–121
Gonroku Matsuda works on one of his lacquerware pieces.
CHAPTER 4

EUROPE

McD-Fields-124
EUROPE

Jack and Dorothy began their freelancing careers traveling throughout Europe and returned to the continent multiple times. Perhaps because it was early in their careers, information on the Fields work in Europe is modest at best. Unfortunately, the McDougall Center has no copies of Dorothy’s writings from Europe, and excluding Jack’s work in Finland, there is little information accompanying most his images.

Finland - Finland is a Nordic country named for a tribe dating back two thousand years. It was unified with Sweden in the Middle Ages until it was taken over by the Russian Empire in 1809 and emerged as an independent nation in 1917 during the Russian Revolution. Jack spent a fair amount of time in Finland, photographing the cities and countryside, everyday life, and the country’s distinct arts. Jack collaborated with fellow photographer David Moore on a book titled “Finland Creates,” published in 1977 by Gummerus Publishers. Moore focused his photographic work on the natural landscape of Finland while Jack’s images of Finnish arts and artists show the relationship between the land and art forms.

Yugoslavia - The nation of Yugoslavia was established in 1918 during the aftermath of World War I. The following 70 years saw the
nation exist as a kingdom, an occupied nation during World War II and a communistic state quite separate from the Soviet Union. Yugoslavia ultimately dissolved in the early 1990s, along ethnic lines, into seven separate countries through a series of wars and ethnic violence. It is not clear when the Fields were in Yugoslavia or if Dorothy was with Jack during his time there, but it was during the 35-year-rule of president-for-life Josip Broz Tito.

**European Cities** - Jack and Dorothy spent time in Europe on at least a few different occasions. At the beginning of their freelancing careers, Europe was the first region of the world they traveled professionally. They spent time in Spain, France, Germany, Yugoslavia, Greece, Switzerland, Sweden, Finland, and Norway.

**European Countryside** - Both Jack and Dorothy spent the later 1940s recovering from tuberculosis in Colorado where they decided if they recovered they would become journalists and travel the world. Following several years of schooling, they began their journalistic careers traveling across Europe. They purposefully spent time in the big cities as well as smaller, lesser-known places.
FINLAND

Finland

McD–Fields– 127
Far Left: The large, bronze sculptures of Laila Pullinen are directly related to tree forms and growth structure. (from Finland Creates) McD–Fields–131

Left: From a region of winter darkness near Kittila, Reidar Sarestoniemi produces paintings of rich strength and colour. (from Finland Creates) McD–Fields–132
Displaying great virtuosity Tapio Wirkkala has produced designs with remarkable freedom of expression. His laminated wood forms respect the nature of material in a totally different way to the ‘ice hole’ glass pieces. (from Finland Creates) McD-Fields-133
Birger Kaipiainen, master ceramicist with the Helsinki firm of Arabia, works from a plant-filled studio. The forms and colours of his bowls relate to the rock strewn Torniojoki river. (from Finland Creates) McD–Fields–134

The folk craft tradition is continued with sensitivity and wit in the wooden articles designed by Kaija Aarikka. (from Finland Creates) McD–Fields–135

Displaying great virtuosity Tapio Wirkkala has produced designs with remarkable freedom of expression. His laminated wood forms respect the nature of material in a totally different way to the ‘ice hole’ glass pieces. (from Finland Creates) McD–Fields–136
Tapestries of Elsa Montell-Saanio are vibrant with the colours of her arctic land. The wide horizon line of Finland exerts a powerful influence on her designs. (from Finland Creates)
Far Left: The enamel jewelry culture of Lapland is continued in the work of Lasse Talmonen. Traditional designs and symbols decorate his pendants. (from Finland Creates) McD–Fields–138

Left: Drawing his tense, delicate line from the calligraphy of the natural scene graphic artist Pentti Kaskipuro expresses an intricate small world. (from Finland Creates) McD–Fields–139
From the earliest times wood, stone and furs have been sensitively crafted to create articles of essential and satisfying purity.

(from Finland Creates)

McD-Fields-140
SECTION 3

YUGOSLAVIA

McD-Fields-141
YUGOSLAVIA

Yugoslavia
SECTION 4

EUROPEAN CITIES
We’d work freelance so we could go anywhere when we wanted to. We hugged each other and dreamed out loud. Paris at Christmastime, Vienna woods in spring, Japan at cherry blossom time and Tahiti anytime.

- Dorothy Fields, personal memoir
SECTION 5

EUROPEAN COUNTRYSIDE

McD–Fields–170
We’d work freelance so we could go anywhere when we wanted to. We hugged each other and dreamed out loud. Paris at Christmastime, Vienna woods in spring, Japan at cherry blossom time and Tahiti anytime.

- Dorothy Fields, personal memoir
AFRICA

Zanzibar

Africa’s Isle of Spice – the scent of centuries hangs over a modern astronaut-tracking station

By: Dorothy Fields
Published in The American Weekly, August 18, 1963

The island of Zanzibar is tucked like a bouquet of cloves close to the waistline of East Africa. A brief 10-minute flight from Dar es Salaam, Tanganyika, to Zanzibar Town transports the visitor into Arabian Nights Atmosphere of old Araby. Narrow serpentine streets, bazaar stalls, a medley of races and, overall, the haunting perfume of cloves and the ring-a-ting-ting of perpetual coffee vendors’ metal cups make it a fascinating port of call for the American visitor.

Zanzibar is an internally self-governing protectorate of Britain and most of the 500 Europeans living there are government employees. The natives are friendly–strangers murmur “Jambo” (Swahili for “good morning”) as you wander down the alley-like streets, and you soon learn to say “Jambo” in return and win a beaming smile.

The dhows, ancient sailing ships from Persia and India, still ride the northeast monsoon winds to Zanzibar once each year. And in May, 1963, while the U.S. tracking station on the island was reporting that...
Gordon Cooper's auto-pilot had failed on the Faith 7, Arabic sailors raised sail and set out across the Indian Ocean just as they have every spring for thousands of years when the southwest monsoon calls them home.

The “Isle of Spice”, as Zanzibar is sometimes called, exports 80% of the world’s cloves but since 1946, when drought and a disease called “Sudden Death” destroyed many of the Zanzibar groves, most of the cloves are grown on the nearby isle of Pemba.

Jack and Dorothy visited multiple locations in both Northern and Sub-Saharan Africa. Although the McDougall Center has many individual images of Jack’s from Africa, there is little to identify them besides the short article on Zanzibar by Dorothy and the following two sections of Jack’s images. It is unknown whether the Fields were in Africa at a few different times or if they spent an extended period around the time the Zanzibar article was produced.

**Egypt** - Egypt has long been a prime travel destination with an extensive and iconic history, having been continuously inhabited for the last 12,000 years. Jack and Dorothy's time in Egypt was most likely during President Gamal Abdel Nasser's time in power (1956-1970). Like much of Jack's work, he photographed the well-known places one expects to see but he also devoted time on the less traveled streets for the local feel.

**Canary Islands** - The Canary Islands are a group of seven main islands off the west coast of Africa deceptively named after large packs of dogs that once roamed there. The islands have been part of Spain since its empire although they exist fairly autonomously today. The McDougall Center has very little information on Jack's images in the Canaries and does not know if Dorothy was there as well.
EGYPT
CANARY ISLANDS
When not traveling, Jack and Dorothy called California home for much of their lives. In addition to their international work, both did plenty of work within the Continental U.S. They also traveled through Central and South America. The McDougall Center does not have any published articles from Dorothy during these trips. In a video interview, Dorothy mentioned a few places in the Americas, but the McDougall Center cannot verify if she traveled with Jack during all of these voyages, though it is assumed she did.

**Alaska & the Arctic** - Jack spent time in Alaska on several different occasions. Some of this time involved photographic work and some involved another love of his: fly fishing. Jack and Kim Komenich traveled to Alaska as well as throughout the American West enjoying time together on riverbanks. While photographing in Alaska, Jack worked in the cities and countryside, on crab boats and with oil companies, and traveled out along the Aleutian Islands – the chain of volcanic islands extending west of the mainland.

**Mexico** - The history of Mexico dates back many thousands of years to the days of hunter-gathers. Around 9,000 years ago, Mexico was the site of the domestication of maize (corn) and beans, leading to the complex societies of Mesoamerica like the Olmec, Teotihuacano,
Toltec, Maya, and Aztec. The term Mexico is from Mexihco, the Aztec name for the central part of their empire. The McDougall Center has very little information on Jack and Dorothy’s time in Mexico, but as with many other places, the Fields appreciated the cultural history and travel resorts alike.

**Peru/Chile** - Like much of Central and South America, both Chile and Peru were former Spanish colonies. Peru is likely a European replacement for the name Biru, an area ruler in the 16th century. The origins of Chile are unclear but most theories agree on it relating to another ruler, area of land, or a local word or phrase. Both countries share similarities, from mountainous highlands and deserts, to coastal areas rich in sea life, and portions of both were part of the Incan Empire. Jack and Dorothy’s time along the west coast of South America was marked with time in bustling cities and ancient places like Machu Picchu.

**Brazil** - Brazil holds many distinctions: it is the only country in the New World with Portuguese as the official language; it is by far the largest and most populous country in South America; it is home to the seventh largest economy in the world. Named for the brazilwood tree, Brazil means “red like embers” because the tree was highly prized for producing a vibrant red dye. Today, Brazil is also home to six of the top 15 most populous cities in the Americas. A large indigenous population and one third of all plants and animals in the world live in the Amazon rainforest. Jack and Dorothy spent time in both the modern capital of Rio de Janeiro and also the natural wonders of the rainforest, the Amazon River (largest river system in the world), and Iguazu Falls (among the largest waterfalls in the world).
ALASKA & THE ARCTIC

McD-Fields-213
The Pure Pleasures of Watching Polar Bears in Canada

By: Dorothy Fields
Published in the San Francisco Examiner, April 1, 1990

When the ice on Hudson Bay, the world’s largest sea bay, breaks up in spring, the ice floes drift south, carrying along some 1,500 Polar Bears fattened from their migratory winter feedings. By mid-July, these icy vessels have dissolved from beneath them, and they are forced ashore as far south as the Nelson River.

Answering some primal urge, they begin a long shoreline migration north, existing on an almost exclusively vegetarian summer diet of seaweed, grasses and berries, augmented by an occasional clumsily caught mouse-like lemming – about as satisfying for an 800-pounds bear is a cocktail weenie is for a fullback.

Instinctively, the Bears know that from the bold thrust of land that is Cape Churchill, Manitoba, the first pack ice of winter will form, opening a way to the fertile, seal-rich feeding grounds of winter.

Canada has the world’s largest concentration of polar bears, estimated at about 20,000, and this location provides both scientists
He reared and placed his massive, clawed front paws on the top of a tire, then stretched his long neck to peer into our window, his breath fogging it.

and sightseers with a rare opportunity to see this largest of land carnivores close-up. (The largest recorded polar bear weighed 2,210 pounds and was 11 feet one and a half inches in length. Around Churchill, the average for a big mail is about 1000 pounds, while females, or sows, weigh about half that.)

By late October, the bears are gathering together for their only social event of the year. Somehow they seem to know that to fight could be foolishly fatal, so they work out by wrestling playfully and silently – but mostly they pace the shore, waiting to begin their dark winter's journey.

Meanwhile the pregnant females have migrated to a denning area about 40 miles south of Churchill, and have dug deeply into snowbanks awaiting the birth of twins or triplets in late November or December. Each cub, checking in at a mere 1 1/2 or 2 pounds, is blind, deaf, black, almost hairless and totally helpless. Somehow the mother bears keep these seemingly premature cubs alive and well until they migrate in March as healthy and adorable as can be.

It is the narrow days of mid October and November when the shore gathering of bears brings bear-watchers to Churchill. On one visit, I spent four days in mid-November aboard a Tundra Buggy searching for bears. The Tundra Buggy is a locally built vehicle with broad tires designed for gentle, straight-line travel across the fragile, frozen tundra.

We crept up on bears embedded sleepily snow banks, reluctant even to acknowledge our presence. Another came from far across a frozen lake purposefully pacing steadily towards the vehicle. When he reached it, he reared and placed his massive, clawed front paws on the top of a tire, then stretched his long neck to peer into our window, his breath fogging it – or was that my own excitements clouding the view for a suspended minute? He then dropped to the ground, turned and walked slowly back across the lake, where he blended into the distant snow.

Another highlight of that visit was the "small bear gig." He entered from stage left, a basic polar bear, moving like a wind-up toy with tired batteries. Pausing at center stage on the frozen pond, he acknowledged us with a casual glance, then sat as if waiting for applause. Suddenly he collapsed his front legs and dropped his nose to the ice raising his rump in the air. He propelled himself with churning hind legs, skidding in circles, then rolled onto his back, saluting the sky with all four paws.

Grabbing one hind foot and covering his crotch with the other paw, he next sat up any sprawled posture, then spinelessly wilting, he bellied forward, spread-eagle on the ice. Covering his ears and eyes with both front paws, he proceeded to play peek-a-bear. By this time he had us in stitches. Finally he stood up and slowly exited stage right, swaggering his rear like Charlie Chaplin in white fur chaps.
Kim shares about times he spent fly fishing with Jack and the similarities it has with photography.

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MEXICO
GUATEMALA
PERU & CHILE
CHAPTER 7

SOUTH PACIFIC
The Pleasures of the South Pacific

By: Dorothy Fields
Published in Orientations: A Discovery of Asia and the Pacific, November 1972

Like a vision of the primeval age when the waters yielded the first cluster of land, the South Pacific islands rise like emeralds and ivory surrounded by flecks of gold and silver dust on the surface of a vast ocean of sapphire. The South Sea covers more than a fourth of the globe. Not all the islands are as majestic as Moorea, which, 12 miles from Tahiti and called "the Bali Hai Island," is probably the prettiest that the airborne traveler can see in the entire South Pacific.

Within the South Sea there are three distinct far-flung areas: Melanesia, the "black islands" which stretch from New Guinea south to New Caledonia and New Hebrides; Micronesia, the "small islands," 711 square miles of land spread out in 3 million square miles of ocean; and Polynesia, "the many islands," from Hawaii in the west to Galapagos in the east, the last part of the earth to be occupied by man. Gentle as their lagoons, sometimes fierce as the typhoons that occasionally visit them, racially diverse, linguistically distinct and culturally variegated, the peoples of the South Pacific share a bond with wind, water and sun.
Jack and Dorothy Fields are best known for their work in the South Pacific. They became experts on the region and a culmination of their work is their professional opus. Now referred to more often as Oceania (including Australia), the South Pacific (excluding Australia) is a huge and diverse region made up of tiny specks of land in vast expanses of open Pacific Ocean. Most of these island nations were populated for a few thousand years by intrepid indigenous navigators in dugout canoes and ocean vessels. It wasn't until the 1500s that Western explorers “discovered” many of these islands and it was from this region that many well-known species originate.

Jack and Dorothy published many articles throughout the region in Life, Look, Argosy, National Geographic, Esquire, The Saturday Evening Post, travel magazines, and many other publications. Following World War II much of the region was divided into territories and trusts of the United States and Great Britain and a great deal of development and rebuilding from the war followed. Jack and Dorothy were in the region at a major time of change and they documented a way of life that largely no longer exists. They co-published a book of their work in the region entitled “South Pacific” in 1972 through Kodansha International.

**Melanesia: “Black Islands”**

**New Guinea** - New Guinea is an island of extremes: geographically, biologically, culturally, and linguistically. Behind Greenland, it is the second largest island in the world and home to some of the most remote places on Earth with indigenous populations unknown to the rest of the world till World War II. Now divided by two nations – the east side is Papua New Guinea, an independent nation, and the west half is part of Indonesia. Jack was stationed in New Guinea.
during World War II. He contracted tuberculosis while there, which ultimately lead to meeting Dorothy in a recovery sanitarium. Jack later returned to New Guinea, producing a great amount of images of both of ceremonial celebrations and everyday life.

**New Hebrides (Vanuatu)** - Previous to its independence in 1980, the island nation of Vanuatu was known by its colonial name of New Hebrides, a collection of more than 80 islands. New Hebrides was a rare territory that was governed by both France and Britain where local inhabitants and visitors chose to be under French or British rule. Like some of the indigenous tribes in Papua New Guinea, populations of New Hebrides in Jack and Dorothy’s day were but a generation or two removed from headhunting and ritualistic killings.

**New Caledonia** - Named after the Latin name for Scotland, New Caledonia remains a French overseas collectivity, though it is in the process of independence. The name New Caledonia applies to the main island of Grande Terre and several small island chains nearby. New Caledonia gained importance first for sandalwood, used in fragrances and oils, then for “blackbirding,” enslavement of indigenous Melanesians to work sugar plantations on other islands. When Jack and Dorothy spent time there, New Caledonia was in the process of rapid modernization, though many still lived a traditional life.

**Fiji** - The Republic of Fiji is made up of over 330 islands inhabited for at least 3,000 years. European explorer Captain James Cook named the islands based on what their Tongan neighbors referred to as *Fisi*. The Fijians called their home *Viti*, which remains the name of the main island today. A culture of tribal warfare once existed which waned as it was made a British colony and has become one of the more developed economies in the South Pacific. In their day, Jack and Dorothy saw the islands become an independent nation again in 1970.

**Micronesia: “Small Islands”**

**Palau** - Consisting of around 200 islands, the Republic is Palau became a fully independent nation in 1994. The previous 100 years saw Palau exist as a Spanish colony, then sold to Germany, conquered by Japan during World War I, taken over by the U.S. during World War II and

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_Melanesia, Micronesia, Polynesia - these names may evoke images of palms waving in tradewinds over coral beaches, but these great ocean expanses are the domains of the peoples that inhabit the specks of land, the people who had their own ways of living in harmony with wind, sea, and sun._

- Dorothy Fields, *South Pacific* front sleeve
remained a U.S. Trust until full sovereignty was achieved. Palau comes from the Palauan name for their island, Belau, likely coming from their word for village (beluu) or a word relating to a creation myth (aibebelau). Prior to foreign influence, their culture was highly aristocratic and myths were an important part of life with many stories carved or painted onto everyday objects. Jack and Dorothy spent time on Palau during its U.S. Trust days - many of which were marked by tension between the U.S. Department of Defense and locals over proposed military bases, which were not established.

**Yap** - Today, Yap exists as a state of the Federated States of Micronesia and is made up of four main islands and 14 outer islands and atolls (coral-based islands). The Federated States attained independence out of a United Nations Trust in 1986. Long before this, Yap was home to some of the best navigators in the Pacific, a highly developed caste system, and was the religious and economic center of a Pacific Empire. Stone money in the shape of flat carved disks known as *rai* were used, with some as large as 12 feet in diameter and some stones transported from other islands across 280 miles of open ocean. The *rai* and other strong cultural traditions were still active parts of daily life when Jack and Dorothy spent time on Yap. The lava-lava, a plant-woven wrap, was the traditional dress. Modesty standards prevented women from showing their thighs even as bare breasts were the cultural norm. Based on the number of images and several articles, the Fields spent considerable time on Yap compared to some other islands.

**Truk (Chuuk) Lagoon** - Chuuk Lagoon consists of 11 major islands and 87 smaller landmasses sheltered by a large barrier reef. Chuuk means “mountain” in the local language, though the island complex was officially known as Truk until 1990 and is another state within the
The spirit and seamanship that once carried a determined people across a trackless ocean wilderness are still very much in evidence.

- Dorothy Fields, *South Pacific*, Page 109

Federated States of Micronesia. Like many islands in Micronesia, Truk was a Spanish colony until it was sold to Germany and taken over by Japan in World War I. During the height of World War II, Japan used Truk as a major base for their navy and air force. A surprise attack by the U.S. in 1944 sank 44 ships, making the lagoon the biggest graveyard of ships in the world. In Jack and Dorothy’s time, much like it is today, tourism and diving the “Ghost Fleet of Truk Lagoon” is a main source of income with many atoll dwellers living a subsistence lifestyle on coconuts and ocean fish.

Polynesia: “Many Islands”

**Tonga** - The Kingdom of Tonga is unique in the Pacific; it is the only nation in Oceania never to have been under foreign rule. Though part of what is today the British Commonwealth, the Tongan monarchy follows an unbroken line of self rule back 1000 years into myth and remains the only Pacific nation that never submitted to outside rule. It wasn’t until 2010 and sweeping political reform that the Tongan people voted for a majority of representatives in the Tonga Parliament, previously the commoners and nobility had equal representation. Tonga means “south” in many Polynesian languages, and Jack and Dorothy’s period saw the rise of Tonga as a tourist destination with the opening of several modern hotels in preparation for the coronation of King Tāufa’āhau Tupou IV in 1967. Sunday celebrations involving pig roasts and fabrication of traditional tapa cloths (painted mulberry bark cloth) remain important parts of Tongan culture, even more so when Jack and Dorothy were there.

**Samoa** - The Samoan islands consist of around ten populated islands with many smaller uninhabited land masses. Since a civil war in 1899 Samoa has existed as two separate entities: independent Samoa (once referred to as Western Samoa), and the U.S. Territory of American Samoa (the eastern half). Samoa was once a German colony, but after World War I came under New Zealand control until it gained independence in 1962 after repeated efforts. Culturally, *fa’a Samoa*, meaning “the Samoan way” refers to their traditional way of life involving communal living in an extended family group, *aiga*, and its leader, *matai*. Jack and Dorothy were in the region to see Samoa become a nation and American Samoa play a role as the retrieval base of many Apollo missions to the moon.

**Tahiti** - Tahiti is the largest island and the seat of power in what is known today as French Polynesia - around 130 islands in six different groups spread out over one million square miles of ocean. Tahiti was once the realm of many chiefdoms ruled by specific clans with a developed culture, mythology and system of rituals. Later, it was center of the indigenous Kingdom of Tahiti, but by the 1890s the region was under French control and has remained so – though in recent years there have been new calls for independence. Eleven
miles off the coast of Tahiti is the island of Mo’orea, meaning “yellow lizard.” Once a quiet place, the Mo’orea Airport opened in 1967 and has become a well-known tourist destination described by many (including Jack and Dorothy) as among the most beautiful islands in the world. Tahiti was the first tropical island Dorothy visited, an experience she reflected upon fondly and described as mysterious and exotic.

**Hawaii** - Known for being the 50th state in the United States and the Japanese attack on Hawaii’s Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Hawaiian Islands lie in the middle of the Pacific and are the northernmost islands of Polynesia. Indigenous Hawaiians share a semi-common language, culture and mythology with that of other Polynesian people. Hawai’i means “homeland” or “ancestral home” and was first settled by proto-Polynesian people at least 1500 years ago. Hawaiian life was set up in a clan and caste system, and the island chain was unified in 1810 by King Kamehameha the Great. King Kamehameha created a monarchy that lasted until 1893 with the overthrow of Queen Liliʻuokalani by Euro-American business leaders. Five large sugarcane companies kept Hawaii as a self-governing U.S. Territory in their best interests until they fell out of power in the 1950s and Hawaii became a state in 1959. Since that time the islands have seen rapid modernization and the exponential growth of tourism, a period that Jack and Dorothy observed to a great degree. Today the state of Hawaii today is very diverse, with nearly 40 percent of Asian ancestry, 10 percent Pacific Islanders, and around 25 percent caucasian. Indigenous Hawaiians make up about six percent of the state’s population; though they are largely in control of one island, their homeland has definitely changed.

**Ghosts of World War II** - From the surprise attack at Pearl Harbor on Dec. 7, 1941 to the island hopping campaign and jungle warfare, World War II forever altered the Pacific Islands. Countless battles and skirmishes claimed over seven million lives across hundreds of islands and thousands of miles of ocean. Many objects and burials remain as a testament to the cost of the war. Jack Fields served in New Guinea during WW II where he began photographing in the Pacific, work he continued throughout the rest of his life. From the Ghost Fleet of Chuuk Lagoon to aircraft abandoned on unused runways, Jack found these remnants worthy of remembrance.

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Even on the atolls, modern technology is replacing old. Where once an outrigger canoe was necessary to communicate between villages, some chiefs now have walkie-talkies, allowing intervillage councils to be held by radio – until the batteries run down.

- Dorothy Fields, *South Pacific*, Page 105
Places in the South Pacific where Jack and Dorothy spent time.
NEW GUINEA

Melanesia

Papua, Indonesia

Papua New Guinea
Jack talks about a photograph he made in New Guinea during World War II.
McD-Fields-302

McD-Fields-301
Highlands men cooking yams. (from South Pacific) McD-Fields-303
Western Highlands warriors prepare for battle.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–307
On the road to Mount Hagen.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–310
King of Saxony bird of paradise.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–313
Victoria crested pigeon.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–315

Preparing for a sing-sing
Mount Hagen area.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–314
Far Left: Kukukuku men from the Easter Highlands. (from South Pacific) McD-Fields-317

Left: Decoration for a sing-sing, Mount Hagen. (from South Pacific) McD-Fields-318
Enga people, Western Highlands.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–319
Woman, Western Highlands.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–320

Man from the Western Highlands.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–321

McD–Fields–322

McD–Fields–323
Far Left: Enga people, Western Highlands.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–325

Left:
McD–Fields–326
SECTION 3

NEW HEBRIDES (VANUATU)
NEW HEBRIDES (VANUATU)

Melanesia

Small Nambas dancers, Malekula.  
(from South Pacific)  
McD–Fields–329
Human skulls covered with vegetable paste.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–335

Slit log drum, Fanla Village,
Ambrym.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–334
Nampas, late leader of the Jon Frum Society, Tanna. (from South Pacific)
Children of Sulphur Bay Village herd goats on Mt. Yasur lava flow.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–341

McD–Fields–340
NEW CALEDONIA

SECTION 4

NEW CALEDONIA

McD-Fields-347
NEW CALEDONIA

Melanesia

McD–Fields–348
Dancers, Isle of Pines.
(from South Pacific)
McD-Fields-349
Dancers, Isle of Pines.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–354
Children of the Isle of Pines.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–355
(from South Pacific) McD–Fields–356

Left: Lagoon and reefs near Isle of Pines. 
(from South Pacific) McD–Fields–357
Pacific green turtle, Isle of Pines. (from South Pacific) McD-Fields-358
Open cut nickel mine, New Caledonia. (from South Pacific) McD–Fields–359

McD–Fields–360

Restaurant workers, Ouvea Atoll, Loyalty Islands. (from South Pacific) McD–Fields–361
Indian Hindu wedding ceremony, Viti Levu. (from South Pacific) McD–Fields–365
Waya Island, Yasawa Group. (from South Pacific)
Suva market.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–369
Fire walkers from Beqa Islands. (from South Pacific) McD-Fields-370
Transporting sugarcane near Nandi, Viti Levu. (from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–372
Indian Hindu ceremony, Viti Levu. (from South Pacific) McD-Fields-373
Far Left: Ratu George Cakobau (Thakombau), great-grandson of the “King” of Fiji. (from South Pacific) McD–Fields–374

Left: McD–Fields–375
Fijian dancers, Viti Levu. (from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–378

McD–Fields–377
SECTION 6

PALAU ISLANDS

McD-Fields-380
PALAU ISLANDS

Micronesia

Palau
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–389

Jeep painted with Palau legends, Koror.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–388
Lobster, Rock Islands, Palau.
(from South Pacific)
McD-Fields - 395
YAP & DISTRICT ATOLLS

Micronesia

Yap Islands

Ulithi Atoll
Dedicated teacher Jim Boykin brings modern schooling to the isolated islands of Micronesia

By: Dorothy Fields
Published in Clipper Magazine, Dec 1967 – Jan. 1968

Six years ago a lone American stepped off the trading ship "Yap Islander" into an outrigger canoe, then waded ashore on the Pacific atoll of Ulithi. The island had just been devastated by a typhoon and its people were despondent. Jim Boykin organized a sanitation system, recruited labor to clear the coral beaches, trapped the predatory island rats – and built the school. Then he again boarded the "Yap Islander" for its monthly circuit of the scattered aisles of Western Micronesia. He returned with a boatload of eager teenagers, the girls wearing smiles and brief hibiscus-fiber skirts, the boys in red loincloths call thus. Outer Island High School was open for business.

The 2141 islands of Micronesia, officially known as the Trust Territories, sprawl across 3,000,000 square miles of the Pacific just north of the Equator, thinly covering an area larger then continental U.S. Since WW II they have been the rather off-hand concern of the US under a United Nations Trusteeship. The total land area would hardly take up half of Road Island and only 96 of the islands are inhabited, but their 93,000 people are eager to join the 20th century, and realize education is of prime importance. Most of the larger islands now have elementary schools, but many of the teachers haven't completed high school themselves.

Before coming to Ulithi, James Decatur Boykin was a dedicated but disillusioned Science teacher in Riverside, California. His students seemed more interested in sports cars, surfing and sex than in studies. Jim considered a job offer from a college, but decided what he'd really like would be students as eager as those in Guam, where he had once taught briefly. On investigation, he found the Trustee Territories needed teachers desperately, and headed there.

Outer Islands High now has 300 students from 21 islands, and it's first graduating class of 11 has gone on two jobs and college. Jim has found his ideal students – they've never seen a car, and dating is considered a strange foreign custom, like wearing shoes. Seven other high schools have been started in the islands and Jim would like to return to the U.S. for his PhD, but refuses to leave until he is assured his school "won't slip off into the ocean."
Ulithi men.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–400
The trading ship Yap Islander at anchor off Elato Atoll. (from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–406
Stone money on a beach; men’s house in background, Yap. (from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–407
Far Left: Outer Islands High School, Ulithi Atoll. (from South Pacific) McD–Fields– 411

Left: High school students, Colonia, Yap. (from South Pacific) McD–Fields– 412
Yapese high school students blend modern with ancient.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields– 413
Making sennit by rolling coconut husk fibers, Woleai Atoll. (from South Pacific) McD–Fields–414

An Ulithi girl weaves her own clothing. (from South Pacific) McD–Fields–415
Supermarket, Colonia, Yap.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–416
TAP image for Jack to discuss photo.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–417
In the outer atolls, men of high rank once had elaborate tattooing; most Ulithi Atoll people are now Christians.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–421
Dancer from the Mortlock Islands, Truk.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–424
Far Left:
McD-Fields-426

Left: The islands in Truk Lagoon.
(from South Pacific)
McD-Fields-427
Women fishing in lagoon, Truk. (from South Pacific)
Children playing in the rain, Moen Island.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–430

Children playing,
Moen Island.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–429
Dancer from the Mortlock Islands, Truk. (from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–431

McD–Fields–432
Truk Lagoon at sunset.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–433
SECTION 9
KINGDOM OF TONGA
KINGDOM OF TONGA

Polynesia

McD–Fields–435
Tongans in Sunday dress.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–440
Painting designs on tapa.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–445
Drying a large tapa.
(from South Pacific)
McD-Fields-446
Roasting pigs for a Sunday fest, Tongatapu.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–448
Steering longboat over reefs, Tau.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–451
Modern Society Challenges "The Samoan Way"

By: Dorothy Fields  
Published in Clipper Magazine, Dec 1973

The *taupou*, seated crossed-legged behind the many-legged wooden kava bowl, leaned forward to knead and mix the powdered kava root with the water.

As guests in a Samoan village, my husband and I were being welcomed with an informal kava ceremony (Women do not participate in formal kava). We were also seated cross-legged on several mats laid on the loose coral rocks of a guest house floor. Above us arched the dome of the building's thatch roof, braced with wooden beams lashed together with highly decorative bindings of coconut fiber sennit – not a single nail had been used in construction. Supporting the oval roof were many coconut palm pillars, each pillar now being used as a backrest for our hosts, the titled men of the village. Bare chested and wearing lava-lavas, they sat Buddha-like at their prescribed posts according to their kava-titles.
Meanwhile, the Chiefs daughter, the *taupou* (village hostess and ceremonial virgin), continued to swirl the kava, using a wadded bunch of hibiscus fibers. Suddenly she flung the strainer over her shoulder into the yard. A young man waiting there deftly caught it and made a dance of shaking it free of Kava bark impurities before tossing it inside, where the *taupou* neatly caught it without looking back, and again worked over the bowl. She motioned for more water to be poured from nearby coconut shell containers, then tossed the strainer out again, and again. Our orator, with a careful eye on the girl, timed his finale with her signal that the kava was ready.

Kava is a grayish colored, bland-tasting beverage with a dash of chili pepper. Known variously as *ava, awa, kawa,* or *yagona* (depending on the islands), kava was once used throughout Polynesia and still plays an important role in ceremonial as well as everyday life in Samoa, Tonga and Fiji. Mixed a bit differently, it is also drunk in parts of Melanesia and Micronesia.

Missionaries usually banned it and most foreign administrations outlawed it, while visitors to the islands, after their first drink, frequently compare the taste and sight of it to well-used dishwater. Only recently have outsiders taken a more favorable view of it.

Scientific investigation has determined that the main ingredient of the root of a kava shrub (*Piper methysticum*) is a soothing tranquilizer. In large amounts it tends temporarily to paralyze sensory transmissions, which is why kava drinkers, after a lengthy celebration, feel that their legs have turned to rubber. However, lulled by the euphoria of over-indulgence, the imbiber drifts into a deep sleep – and wakes with no hangover or other disagreeable aftereffects. Nor is kava habituating. Oceanic peoples have long used it as a pain-killer, during tattooing, for instance, and as medicine for ailing kidneys. It was also used as a cup of peace to seal a treaty of friendship, for belligerence disappears under the influence of kava.

The kava ceremony is only one aspect of *fa'a Samoa*, that oft-repeated phrase in the islands, which means "the Samoan way" – the way of our fathers. It has kept the Samoans strongly nationalistic, wary of changes that might threaten the traditional structure of their way of life and made them capable of withstanding or absorbing the ways of foreign traders and missionaries. Today *fa'a Samoa* is facing its greatest challenge, as new generations brought up on foreign-taught theories of individualism and personal freedom threaten the old traditions.
Preparing for a feast, Tutuila. 
(from South Pacific) 
McD–Fields–458
Longboat races, Pago Pago Harbor. (from South Pacific) McD-Fields-459
Far Left: Kava ceremony, Tutuila. (from South Pacific)

Left:

McD–Fields–460

Left: McD–Fields–461
One of 5000 German Amphicars ‘driving’ next to a boat.
McD-Fields-464
Woman and child, Pago Pago.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–466

Talking Chief Pele and family, Tutuila.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–465
SECTION 11

TAHITI & MOOREA

McD-Fields-468
TAHITI & MOOREA

Polynesia
Three short years ago, Tahiti was considered the paradise of the South Pacific. There were no neon lights to taint the tropical isle, no drive-ins, newspapers or TV. Visitors saw no stop signs or billboards; no beggars, suicides, prostitutes or psychiatrists were there. No rape and no murder; no bombs prefixed with the letter "A." In fact, even tipping was taboo.

Today, however, Tahiti is a paradise lost. All the above now exist there, as well as housing developments, Army barracks and fuel dumps. Three years ago, there were 5,000 automobiles; now there are more than 30,000 – and there are no more than 100 miles of roadway on the entire island.
Moorea is an ancient volcano, the north half of which sank into the sea, leaving a semicircle of foliage-draped lava rock as its tombstone.

Under the circumstances, who could possibly resist the siren call of Moorea, lovely and serene, beckoning from just 12 miles beyond the Tahitian reef?

Moorea today is a breath-taking piece of real estate. Only 35 miles square, the island is buckled up into fantastically shaped mountains, some soaring 4000 feet, rearing dramatically upward as though this chunk of lush earth had once exploded and was frozen in mid-blast – which is basically what happened eons ago. Moorea is an ancient volcano, the north half of which sank into the sea, leaving a semicircle of foliage-draped lava rock as its tombstone.

Transportation to the island is absolutely free for the prudent traveler who books his flight destination as Bora Bora instead of Tahiti. The round-trip fare permits limitless stopovers on Tahiti, Moorea and Raiatea. Without these arrangements, the fifteen-minute seaplane hop from Tahiti to Moorea costs eight dollars. In addition, Moorea is served by two daily boats: the Rotui (fare, $3.50 one way), and Keke II ($2.30). The trip by sea takes about two hours.

Moorea's tourist accommodations couldn't be better, thanks to Jay Carlisle, Done McCallum and Hugh Kelly, three young Californians who have accomplished something nearly impossible. They acquired a strip of beach, along with a 400-acre plantation, and then they built a hotel – the first foreign-owned hotel in French Polynesia. What's more, they did it with very little money and even less help.

They had to learn Tahitian, and then how to build, pour concrete, weave palm fronds and pandanus and thatch roofs. In the cool of dawn each day, they labored on the plantation, growing vegetables for the hotel restaurant. They bought several sows and began raising pigs. They started a taro patch. They learned to butcher pigs and fowl and to cook in a pit, Tahitian-style. They named their paradise “Bali Hai,” after the mythical island in Michener’s “Tales of the South Pacific.” The Bali Hai is more than just a hotel; the visitor has a sense of belonging, as though he were an invited guest.

If the bartender isn’t about, you mix your own. Six bicycles parked by the kitchen await riders, and foot trails snake up the mountainsides. (And, speaking of snakes, there are none.) For skin divers, equipment is available free, and there’s that sunny curve of white sand beach for the lazier types. Two outrigger canoes are at your command, as is, of course, the Leaky Tiki, a unique catamaran which, at the slightest excuse, will set sail for a sunset (or a sunrise) cruise.

It would be a shame to crowd Moorea into but one day’s sightseeing, but if time permits no longer, the Sunday Tamaaraa Feast Tour (booked through Tahiti Nui, $24 a person) is the best way to get in on the action at the Bali Hai.
Tahitian women.
(from South Pacific)
McD-Fields-477
Moorea
(from South Pacific)
McD-Fields-483
TAP image for Jack to discuss photo.
McD-Fields-484
HAWAII

Polynesia

[Diagram showing the islands of Hawaii, including Moloka'i, Maui, Ni'ihau, Kaua'i, O'ahu, Kaho'olawe, Lana'i, and Hawai'i.]
Na Pali coastline, Kauai.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–495
Honolulu at night.  
(from South Pacific)  
McD–Fields–498

Surfer’s car, Honolulu.  
(from South Pacific)  
McD–Fields–499
Senior citizens club songfest, Oahu.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–501

USS Arizona Memorial
Honolulu, Hawaii.
McD–Fields–500
GHOSTS OF WW II

SECTION 13

McD–Fields–503
But this is only the latest era in the history of the Micronesians, who, since the earliest foreign discoveries, have played the role of political pawns, while their islands became prizes in chess games between warring alien nations, each attempting to checkmate enemies unknown to the Micronesians.

- Dorothy Fields, *South Pacific*, Page 97
Wrecked Japanese aircraft, Elato Atoll.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–506

Vanuatu.
McD–Fields–507

Japanese aircraft sunk in lagoon, Palau.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–508
Sunken Japanese ship, Truk Lagoon. (from South pacific) McD-Fields-509
US Sherman tank, sunk off Saipan’s Blue Beach Two on D-Day.
(from South Pacific)
McD–Fields–510

Solomon Islands.
McD–Fields–511
CHAPTER 8
THE FIELDS LEGACY
Jack and Dorothy Fields lived and worked during a unique time in history and journalism. Their professional work revealed parts of the world to an interested audience at a time when travel to these more remote places was becoming easier. They worked with many of the big magazines of their day, including Collier’s, Saturday Evening Post, National Geographic, Argosy, Smithsonian, Look, Life, and Esquire. Though the Fields’ careers took them around the world, their work in the South Pacific rises above other places in size and scope. While each story that Jack and Dorothy created offers a small vignette of a person or place, the accumulation of all their work reveals a vibrant, full and meaningful portrait of a time now gone.

The books Jack and Dorothy published also speak to the quality and expertise of their work. After 20-plus years of travel throughout the island nations, Jack had amassed one of the largest collections of color photographs of the South Pacific, and the Fields pitched a book idea to a Japanese publisher which became their book South Pacific (1972). Likewise their Cherry Blossoms: Japan in the Springtime (1973) came out of previous stories they had worked on.
Jack Fields at home in California.

McD–Fields–517

Kim shares about a stamp book Jack left Kim in his will and the meaning behind it.

McD–Fields–518

Jack Fields at home in California.

McD–Fields–517
Jack spent time in the later 1970s teaching photojournalism at San Jose State University. During his time there, he imparted much to his students in the way of the technical education photography required and also the business training of how to make a living. It was during this time that Jack and Dorothy met Kim Komenich and the significance of their relationship lives on today as Kim trains the next generation of multimedia journalists at San Jose State University.

As Jack and Dorothy developed a relationship with the University of Missouri’s School of Journalism, it was agreed that the Missouri School of Journalism and the McDougall Center for Photojournalism Studies would care for Fields’ photographic and written legacy. As part of their estate, Jack had all the rights to his images transferred to the McDougall Center. After Dorothy’s passing in 2011, the Photojournalism Department received boxes of many-thousands of slide images of Jack’s work as well as Dorothy’s writings. The Fields also left an estate gift that established the Jack and Dorothy Fields Fund for Photojournalism Education. Operating since September 2011, the endowment has aided 21 students to date in pursuing their education at the University of Missouri. All proceeds from this book are directed back into Jack and Dorothy’s endowment, so thank you for your part in continuing the Fields Legacy.

Kim shares about a last wish of Jack and Dorothy’s and one final trip.
McD–Fields–519