

34, Doughty St.

London, W.C.1.

8. 5. 31.

Dear Mr. Kennedy,

I trust that you will pardon me writing to you. My name is perhaps not completely unknown to you (a couple of my articles have appeared in the Journal of the Polynesian Society).

The Bishop Museum of Honolulu have suggested that I might undertake an expedition for them to the Gilbert and Ellice Islands in 1932. The purpose of the expedition would be to make a complete anthropological survey. I know nothing of the local conditions, and am wondering if you would be kind enough to help me.

I would like to know you how one gets to the islands from Sydney. Is there a main port? Is communication between the islands difficult? Which are the best islands for the work? Should all gear be taken from Sydney? And perhaps most important, is it possible to get hold of an interpreter with whom to work until one has learned to speak the language?

I am familiar with conditions in the Solomons, and I suppose that conditions for work would be similar in the Gilbert and Ellice Group.

If my questions do not overwhelm you, would you please write to me at the Department of Anthropology, ^{University} ~~The University~~ of Sydney, whether I am shortly returning.

I might add perhaps that it is against my wishes to go to the Gilberts, as I would rather return to the Solomons. I also feel that in some respects work there is unnecessary now that your notes on Vaitupu have been published.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) H. Ian Hogbin.