Judgment No. (A) 16/63 of the 22nd October 1963

JOINT COURT OF THE NEW HEBRIDES

v.

CONDOMINIUM

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ALON of Emau

The accused ALON was charged that :-

"On the night of the 24/25th May 1963 at Vila, Central District No. 1, together with Perel of Eman, stole from the Public Market coconut crabs valued at S4. 9. Od. the property of Turi of Leleppa and bananas valued at S5.10. Od. the property of Tonsey, Mareth, Tounapou, Toumet and Marago of Leleppa" to which charge he pleaded not guilty.

Evidence was given by Turi Aries that on the night in question the accused and one Perel, who was charged on a separate indictment with an offence identical with the present, arrived at the Vila Market in a state of intoxication. ALON, according to Turi, wanted to buy laplap. The witness said that Perel went and spoiled things and threw them in the sea. He said that Perel ran away but Alon told them Perel's name.

Another witness, Pomi, spoke of the arrival of the two men in a state of intexication. He said Alon went to get laplap and that Perel went off and took bananas which he put in the sea. The witness added that "Alon just stood there and ate laplap". Another witness, Kalmong, was called who added nothing to incriminate the accused nor was there anything in the accused's statement that in any way inculpated him. No other evidence was produced.

The Court finds the accused not guilty ./.

French Judge

British Judge

Registrar

DATED at Vila this 22nd day of October, 1963.