

**Coffee Co-operative**

**doing well**

**Is there  
life**

**in space?**

By AAP-Reuter correspondent, BARRY  
CASEBOLT.

Orokaiva Coffee Growers' Co-operative Ltd will pay \$85.93 cash rebate to coffee grower Mr Benson Joheri of Papaki village in the Northern District, this year.

It is the biggest cash

It is the biggest cash rebate to be paid out by the co-operative this year to one of its members.

Mr Robertson Baruna, the chairman of the co-operative, said Mr Joherl produced 4409 lbs, or 1.97 tons, of coffee in the last year.

"Benson is getting the biggest rebate because he grew more coffee than any other shareholder. He worked very hard", Mr Robertson added.

The co-operative made a handsome profit of \$16,513 for the financial year ending in March this year.

Out of this, cash rebates to members totalling \$8,500 are being paid according to how much coffee each grower sold to the co-operative during the year.

Also out of this, shareholders' equity in OCGC will be increas-

OCGC will be increased by \$7,803 worth of bonus shares, similarly distributed according to "patronage".

Mr Joheri's bonus shares will amount to \$88.62.

Mr Baruna said the shareholders decided to distribute an amount of the total profit as bonus shares, rather than as cash rebates, so that the mo-

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ney remained in the co-operative.

"This is enabling us to buy a new truck to build office and storage space and a new manager's house in Popondetta, as well as establishing a coffee buying centre at Awala", he explained.

The remainder of the profit money, \$210, will be given as honorarium to office bearers.

**At the annual general meeting in April OCGC directors dressed up in their tradi-**

ed up in their traditional garb at Ilimo on the Kokoda Road to celebrate the successful business year.

Each coffee grower joining the society pays \$10 membership, which represents his share capital.

During the coffee season the co-operative pays him so many cents for each pound of coffee it buys from him, markets it through agents in Papua New Guinea, and returns the profits to the members.

All members have at least 200 coffee trees.

OCGC was set up in 1963 by local coffee growers, assisted by the Department of Business Development, to market their coffee.

It was thought that a co-operative could

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market coffee more economically and efficiently as one big concern than the individual growers would be

ual growers would be able to on their own.

The growers saw that they would have a sure outlet and a guaranteed price for their coffee.

**Since 1963 the co-operative has doubled its membership and now has 2379 shareholders.**

It does not process the coffee at all but buys "parchment" coffee.

In simple terms, this means the coffee cherries have been harvested, fermented and the pulp removed from each by a coffee pulper, which produces wet parchment coffee.

This is then dried and dry parchment coffee is left. The process of "hulling" in coffee, i.e. removing the dry parchment from the coffee bean, is carried out later in processing factories

processing factories  
around the world.

From April 10 1973  
to March 18 1974 the  
society bought 776,000  
lb (346 tons) of coffee  
beans.

And last year it be-  
gan buying parchment  
coffee in the Managa-  
lase, a mountain area  
in the Northern Dist-  
rict around Afore.

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This required a new  
type of operation as  
the society had to  
charter planes to bring  
the coffee down to  
Popondetta.

Coffee business is  
booming in the dist-  
rict. Shareholders have  
been receiving a good  
price for their coffee,  
as well as cash rebates  
and bonus shares from  
OCGC.

This year the co-  
operative paid a grow-  
er 19c a pound if he  
delivered his coffee to  
an OCGC buying  
centre, and 18c a  
pound if he sold it in  
the village to one of  
OCGC's travelling buy-

## OCGC's travelling buyers.

There are seven directors of OCGC, including Robertson Baruna, the chairman. The others are Wilson Suja, Horace Indoe, Frank Sanata, Hilford Vovoru, Champion Evia and William Keke.

The senior clerk of the co-operative, John Andosa, is on six months' course at the Co-operative College near Port Moresby.

A Popondetta contractor, Seliso Paul, is building OCGC's new office block and storage shed in Popondetta.

Up to now, the co-operative has used an old shed near the disused Popondetta airstrip.

The project will cost \$4500.

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**H U N T S V I L L E,**  
**Alabama, — Experts**  
**at an army missile**

**base here are puzzled about strange "ghost ships" picked up by powerful radar scanners in the Pacific during a tracking exercise last northern summer.**

There has been little official comment on what the scientists found during the exercise. But Major Dallas van Hoose, the army's base spokesman, confirmed recently that "some unexplained aerial phenomena" were observed during the exercise last August.

Scientists, many of whom are reluctant to be named in interviews because of general public scepticism over unidentified flying objects, say privately they have been unable to find any explanation for the "ghost ships".

"We have never

"We have never seen anything precisely like this before", said one ballistic missile defence expert who works for an army agency here and who is familiar with the advanced radar used to test missiles and warheads.

Huntsville houses the army's Ballistic Missile Defence Sys-

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tems Command, which analyses results of missile tests in the Kwajalein Atoll region of the Marshall Island Trust Territory held by the U.S.

Last August, the Air Force launched a Minuteman intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) from Vandenburg Air Force base aimed for the Kwajalein Missile Range, which is used by the Army, Air Force and Navy.

When the ICBM was screaming toward the Pacific test site it be-

Pacific test site, it began its descent on a normal, ballistic trajectory, scientists say.

The nose cone had separated from the third stage of the missile and was entering the atmosphere at 22,000 feet (6,000 metres) a second.

Radar scanners at Kwajalein and Meck islands were tracking the nose cone routinely.

At about 400,000 ft, (120,000 metres) the radar experts in the Pacific found they were also tracking an unidentified flying object next to the ICBM's nose cone.

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Radar picked up an inverted saucer-shaped object to the right and above the descending nose cone and watched it cross the warhead's trajectory to a point which was below and to the left of it before the phantom ship disappeared.

tom ship disappeared.

The ghost ship was described as being 10 ft (3 metres) high and 40ft (12 metres) long.

Two separate radar systems saw it at the same time which may eliminate the probability that there was a malfunction in one of the radar systems.

It was also reported that three other identical objects were seen in the vicinity — the same size, shape and dimensions.

Defence experts here took their findings to the Army Missile Intelligence Agency Army Missile Command at Redstone, California.

One scientist said the data indicated that the phantom ship "flew under its own power" but could not explain what sort of power was involved.

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