

# Fatal Fecal Flings

NUBUTAUTAU, Fiji (Reuters) – The inhabitants of Nubutautau, a small village in Fiji, tearfully apologized last week to the descendants of Thomas Baker, a British missionary who was killed and eaten by their ancestors in 1867. In a complicated but surprisingly well-attended reconciliation ritual, 100 sperm whale teeth were given to Baker’s great-great-great-grandchildren as a crowd of nearly 2,000 looked on. The villagers also returned several of Baker’s personal effects, including his Bible, comb, and the soles of his boots (regrettably, the rest of Baker’s boots could not be returned because, as is often the result of the rash nature of cannibals, they were consumed with Baker’s body and “a dash of bele,” a local vegetable). It is believed that Nubutautau’s recent bad luck is due not to the fact that the village is both inaccessible to the outside world and practically devoid of vegetation, but rather because Baker’s death and consumption resulted in particularly bad karma. The villagers are hopeful for the future, however; in the optimistic words of Tomasi Baravilala, the village spokesman, “Today we will be set free from the curse.” If the ritual succeeds, the Nubutautau plan to launch a counter-curse franchise targeting ill-fated people everywhere from Third World countries to Fenway Park.

BUDAPEST (Reuters) – “Breathtaking!” “Revolutionary!” “A bold statement of postmodernism!” These are just a few of the comments garnered by a new sculpture at Budapest’s University of Arts last week—that is, until students realized that it was actually *not* an “unprecedented stroke of surrealist genius,” but the corpse of a man who had hanged himself over a year ago. The building in which the sculpture/body hung/hanged had been closed for five years and recently reopened for renovation. Although some students were shaken by the incident, others appeared to draw great inspiration from the artfully dangling cadaver. The body was admired as art for a full day before its true nature was realized and the police notified.

OSLO (Reuters) – During a routine NATO military exercise, an error aboard a Dutch F-16 caused a bomb to drop less than 200 yards from three military observers. Although the accident itself surprised no one, the fact that there is such a thing as a Dutch F-16 did come as quite a shock to many. Luckily, Dutch jet-fighting being what it is, a second error prevented the 500-lb. bomb from detonating upon impact. The three would-be victims of the almost-bombing have each been offered counseling and a temporary supply of superior-grade cannabis to help them cope with the shock.



SINGAPORE (AP) – November 16<sup>th</sup> was annual World Toilet Day, and in celebration the WTO has kicked off an elaborate campaign to improve the status of the world’s toilets and compile a comprehensive set of bathroom etiquette tips. But wait a minute, you say. The World Trade Organization is great at flushing money down the toilet, but since when do they flush the toilet market with money? In fact, World Toilet Day was organized not by the World Trade Organization, but by its little-known twin acronym sister, the World *Toilet* Organization. One of the major goals of the campaign is to help the organization prepare for next year’s World Toilet Summit, to be held in Beijing. “If everyone joins in, there will be

better public toilets and happier people,” Jack Sim passionately declared. Sim is one of the World Toilet Organization’s founding members, in addition to heading up the Restroom Association of Singapore. Current “toilet tips” on the World Toilet Association website include teaching children to aim, wiping the seat, leaving the seat down (a perennial favorite), and praising owners of well-kept toilets: “Be it brickbats or bouquets, give feedback to the owner of the toilet,” a statement from the group instructs. Further suggestions are welcomed and may be directed to [info@worldtoilet.org](mailto:info@worldtoilet.org).

DAR ES SALAAM (Reuters) – Ever feel so guilty about something that you just want to hurl yourself into a cesspool with reckless abandon? Yeah, me neither. But last week some poor Tanzanian guy sure did! Allegedly, Samuel Boniface had been placed in charge of his boss’s bicycle when it went missing on Thursday morning, sending Boniface on a suicidal rampage that culminated in the fatal fecal fling. The bicycle was sheepishly returned by a friend who had borrowed it shortly thereafter. Initial reaction from the international community indicates a consensus that the suicide is a symptom of the deeply rooted problems that have plagued Tanzanian society for years, such as AIDS, money laundering, and publicly accessible cesspools.☹

