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Air Edition K1.50

Port Moresby Edition K1.00

## Your FREE Colour Magazine Inside

## deadline

TOMORROW is the deadline for answers from the Government on calls to send the Australian Assisting Police packing from the country.

A group of 300 angry police who met in Port Moresby on Wednesday gave a 48-hour ultimatum over the demand. They said a petition would be handed to Police Commissioner Sam Inguba when he arrived from Australia yesterday before starting the 48-hour deadline.



**BARRY TURNER** 

By ALEX RHEENEY, WANITA WAKUS and **ROSALYN ALBANIEL** 

Failing a satisfactory answer, the police said they would begin a sit-in strike.

Prime Minister Sir Michael Somare told Parliament vesterday that negotiations were going on quietly behind the scenes to reach a compromise.

Sir Michael said the Government was restrained from doing much by the Supreme Court reference mounted by Morobe Gov-



**TONY WAGAMBIE** 

ernor and former acting judge Luther Wenge.

The constitutional reference is pending before the court. Sir Michael, in reply to pressure from Deputy Opposition Leader Andrew Baing in Parliament, said: "We are quietly negotiating and talking to people in the back doors and the corridors, so it's not public."

He said he would advise Parliament today about progress on the behind-scenes talks.

Chief of the AAP team in PNG, Commander Barry Turner, also said his group was prevented from doing much on its program by the Wenge court challenge.

Among the items held back are the recruitment of 400 new police, the buying of police uniforms and vehicles, two-way radios for police patrolling the streets and improvements to forensic policing.

"All these things are sitting there ready to go. They're sitting on the starting block now," he said.

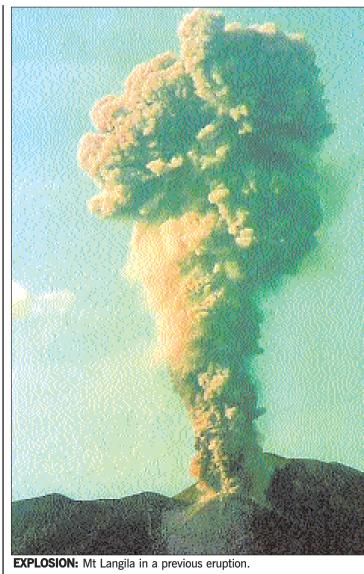
The AAP were also frus trated because there were many things that they would like to do but were not able to because of the court case. "We should not look at the success of things to see whether it is making a difference. Give it another year, that's how long it is going to take. It's not a magic wand," Mr Turner

Assistant Police Commissioner Tony Wagambie said yesterday police should be reasonable and understand the consequences of their actions. They should not be rebellious because the Police Force Act did not allow for strikes, the commander of police in the National Capital District and Central Province said.

Mr Wagambie said he was aware of the frustrations of police. The rank and file police had to be careful when addressing such issues, he said. "They have to feel responsible when doing it," he said.

On Wednesday, 300 policemen and women called for AAP staff to be removed because of hostility between them and PNG n

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MOUNT Langila in the West New Britain Province has been exploding since Wednesday.

The provincial disaster office last night said the volcano, based on reports from Gloucester government station and the Catholic Church run health centre at Kilenge, has been exploding with increased tremors, ash fall and thick grey clouds since 1pm on Wednesday.

Volcanic activity remained at the same level yesterday.

The volcano is in the been received.

## **Eruption!**

Gloucester area of Kandrian where there is a population of about 10,000 people.

The provincial administra-tion will send a field assessment team, with a day travelling time by boat, into the affected area today to assess the situation on the ground.

No reports of damage have

