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Manu Samoa ready for Fiji

A CONFIDENT Manu Samoa team arrived into the country yesterday all ready to battle with the national Vodafone Fiji side.

Coach John Boe said that he was looking forward to the tough encounter.

"The boys have trained well and are expecting a very tough match against the Fijians," Mr Boe said.

"We are ready for the battle and the best team will eventually come out winners."

He confirmed that all players are match fit and the side is injury free.

Former All Blacks blocking winger Vaiiga Tuigamala, who is the team technical adviser, yesterday said they are ready for the test.

He admitted that Fiji is all ways hard to beat at its home ground and is also expecting a very tough battle both upfront and at the back.

A man to watch would be live-wire frontrower Trevor Leota.

The national Vodafone Fiji coach Greg Smith yesterday was confident Fiji would win this very important test encounter.

"We have to win this Test match especially when we're playing on our home turf, in front of our fans," Mr Smith said.

DEEPAK NARAIN

THE legal fraternity is confused over the legal representative for rebel leader George Speight and brother James Speight in the treason committal proceedings at the Suva Magistrates Court.

Speight told Chief Magistrate Salesi Temo at the preliminary inquiry yesterday that Navin Naidu of the United States of America will represent him.

The announcement comes in the wake of the withdrawal of Rabo Matebalavu as his lawyer.

However, when contacted yesterday, members of the Fiji Law Society along with law

CRW soldier escapee now back in Nabua cell

COUNTER Revolutionary Warfare (CRW) soldier Junior Soko escaped from the Nabua Police Station on Saturday.

His dance with freedom was shortlived though when he was arrested by Samabula police.

This was confirmed by the Police Command Centre yesterday.

It is believed that Soko escaped from Nabua by a car registration number DB987.

Soko's wish to be free was cut short when Police at Samabula Police Station got hold of him.

He's one of the CRW soldiers now awaiting Court Martial sitting.

The Military had confirmed that all CRW soldiers involved in the attempted November 2, 2000 military had been charged and would be appearing before the Court Martial.

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MANU Samoa hooker Trevor Leota (left) arrives with the team and is raring to take on the national Vodafone Fiji team.

CONFUSION

Who is Mr Navin Naidu?

"This is all I know because the US is a very big country and I can't confirm whether he exists or not nor can I release information about him," Mr Singh said.

Veteran Suva lawyer Gyaneshwar Prasad Lala claimed yesterday that "we've never heard of him."

"If he does come in the country to represent Speight then he will be first required to register himself under the Fiji bar which is the case for all practising lawyers in the country," said Mr G P Lala.

"But if he is registered in

said.

The reasons for withdrawal of Mr Matebalavu as Speight's lawyer were a conflict of interest and "a need for Speight to seek second consultation in the proceedings."

Mr Matebalavu's replacement, Naidu will be arriving in the country today but a confirmation on his time of arrival was not given yesterday by Speight.

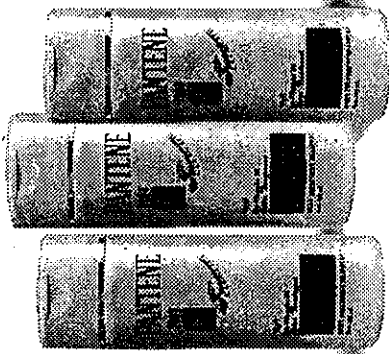
Appearing in court yesterday under a single treason charge containing 13 "overt acts" were George Speight, Ratu Timoci Shatolu, Josefa Nata, Ilisoni Ligairi, Josefa Savua, James Speight, Ilesia Duvuloco, Peceli Yuniwa and Apenisa Rovutitica along with four others.

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