

# USA's First Lady

Visits Aitutaki during World War II in the Pacific



**FIRST LADY -**

**ELEANOR ROOSEVELT**

During her tour of the South Pacific in 1943, Eleanor Roosevelt visited Australia, New Zealand and 17 Pacific Islands, including Penrhyn and Aitutaki.

Mrs Roosevelt spent five rugged weeks, transported in a Liberator bomber, observing the war's impact, health conditions and lifting morale amongst servicemen. Praised for her sincere concern, she often ate with soldiers, visited make-shift hospitals and followed up with soldiers' families upon her return home.



Eleanor Roosevelt greeted at Aitutaki, August