

Alofi South



THE DAMAGE

On 4th January 2004 the island of Niue found itself in the path of a violent tropical cyclone. The island was prepared for the 300kph winds which were expected to peak at 6pm. However, what was not expected was that at approximately 1pm, a high storm surge was to sweep in from the Northwest taking with it 50 houses and businesses and the lives of two people. In the most vulnerable places, despite being 35 feet above sea level, the waves washed 200 metres inland destroying everything in their path.