

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES
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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: MOROBE

STATION: Wantoat

VOLUME No: 4

ACCESSION No: 496.

1968 - 1969

ISBN: 9980 - 910 - 50 - X

Filmed by/for the National Archives of Papua New Guinea,
PORT MORESBY - 1991

Sole Custodian: National Archives of Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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[Volume 4. Only original report #3 filed in Watoat, other reports originally filed with Boana]

VOL. NO: 10 [4] : 1968/69

ACC. NO: 496

NUMBERS OF REPORTS: 3

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67-6-122

PATROL REPORT №3-68/69

~ BY ~

MR. T. H. LARKINS

WANTOAT

Recd. 14/1

J. I. B. 14/1

B 12/1

MOROBE DISTRICT.

67-6-122

Division of District Administration,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOHU. PAPUA.

13th January, 1970.

District Commissioner,
Morobe District,
LAE.

PATROL NO. WANTOAT 3/68-69.

Your reference is 67-2-8 of 13th December,
1969.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Annual
Census and Area Study by Mr. T.H. Larkins, Assistant
District Officer, to Irumu Census Division.

Covering comments are noted with interest. The
reason for the delay in submission is appreciated.

Whilst this report is quite informative, the
muddled presentation of the Area Study mars the over-
all impression. Please ensure that Mr. Larkins submits
his reports in accordance with Departmental Instructions
in future.

The patrol appears to have been far too hurried.
Sound, effective communication cannot be established with
the people under such conditions; and I am pleased to
note the Assistant District Commissioner's comments on this
subject.

*Area
Study
filed*

(T.W. ELLIS)
Secretary,
Department of the Administrator.

r.c.
Mr. T.H. Larkins,
Patrol Post,
WANTOAT.
Morobe District.

Whilst political education is a continuing
process it is becoming a more specialised task, and
you are still expected to participate fully in its ex-
tension at every opportunity.

67-6-122.

(1A)



67-2-8

Department of the Administrator,
Division of District Administration,
Morobe District,
LAE.

12th December, 1969.

Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-District Office,
KATAPIT.

WANTOAT PATROL NO. 3 OF 1968/69

I acknowledge receipt of the above patrol report.

I accept your apology for the delay in submission of this report and note that it was due to the failure of your clerical assistant to carry out his duties in the proper manner.

Mr. Larkins has carried out a useful patrol and submitted a good concise report. It is a pity that this information is now rather stale because of the matter referred to above.

Your comments regarding the poor state of agriculture in the Irumu area have been referred to the District Rural Development Officer at Lae.

(B. BUNTING)
a/District Commissioner

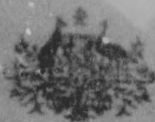
MINUTE:

→ The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONFEDOBU.

Original and one copy of the above report is forwarded herewith together with a copy of the Assistant District Commissioner's covering comments and his explanatory memorandum (unreferenced) of the 27th November, 1969.

B. Bunting
(B. BUNTING)
a/District Commissioner

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telephone

Telegram

Our Reference

If calling ask for

Mr.

the Administrator

Department of District Administration

Sub-District Office,

LALELIP.

20th November, 1966

The District Commissioner,
Morobe District,
LALELIP.

LALELIP PATROL No. 3 of 1966 - IRUAM DIVISION.

Attached are three copies of the above patrol report submitted by Mr. T. Larkins, A.D.O.

With the exception of the various Council and House of Assembly patrols, this appears to have been the first patrol in the Iruam area since November 1966. The present patrol appears to have achieved its objectives, however, the frustration and feelings of neglect cannot be expected to have been lessened in any way by this hastily conducted flying visit.

Mr. Larkins will be instructed to spend a minimum of one night in each rest house during the next Iruam patrol and on occasions to visit in his area. The actual census will be conducted in each village.

Specific comments are as follows:-

Political :

The division of administrative responsibility for the old Iruam Division between Lae and Wantoat is the result of the inclusion of the mountain part of the division in the Wantoat Council area. Unfortunately the Iruam people have been left in an agricultural vacuum. D.A.S.P. staff in Lae disclaim responsibility for it, and the Agricultural Assistants at Wantoat are fully committed in the Wantoat and Arawa Divisions. The area patrolled is one of those isolated pockets whose terrain and small population will always make significant development difficult, if not impossible. We can expect continual manifestations of frustration and discontent in the form of minor civil activity under the circumstances.

Social :

Hygiene and sanitation inspections of villages should be followed up by specific instructions to rectify anything not up to standard - these orders should have been given by the Health Committee and a record of them left in the Village Book for the follow up action of the next patrol.

Economic :

The obvious immediate remedy for the poor state of the coffee gardens in the area is to increase the Agricultural staff at Wantoat to allow for an Assistant to patrol the Iruam area. Until this happens there is little chance of the people taking any notice of the Council Agricultural Hygiene Rule, which should be used to supplement advice and assistance given by trained staff. The extension of the Wantoat-Laron road should be of assistance to the Iruam people by halving their walking time to the road head. Until this road is completed there is little chance of improving communications to, and within the Iruam.

Area Study :

The Area Study and population register give a good picture of the Iruam area, which is a typical isolated small pocket, dependent upon coffee and the sale of labour for its income. The cash rate is not

(2)

116

Area Study : (cont.)

alarmingly high, but with such a small population any absenteeism significantly affects any developmental projects. I would suggest an immediate campaign to improve the walking tracks; some system in the Council for replacing dead radio batteries; serious consideration being given to the establishment of one or two entrepreneur coffee buyers in the Iruzu.

Camping allowance claims for Mr. Larkins and Mr. Tausi are attached. Claims for Sgt. Mombiguru and MS Fern 1 have been sent to the Superintendent of Police, Lao, and the Police Commissioner respectively.

[Signature]
(S. S. Haviland)
Assistant District Commissioner.

cc. O.I.C.,
WANTOAT.

15

Sub-District Office
KAIAPIT

27th November, 1969

The District Commissioner,
Morohe District
LAE

WANTOAT PATROL No. 3 of 1968/69

IRUMU C/DIV.

Attached are three copies of the above together with covering comments which were drafted on receipt of the report from Wantoat in May. The reports were found yesterday, while I was checking through the patrol files.

Please accept my apologies for this inexcusable inefficiency - the matter has been taken up with the clerical staff here.

F. E. Haviland
.....
(F. E. Haviland)
Assistant District Commissioner

67-3-3

the Administrator,
XXXXXXXXXXXXXX
Sub-District Office,
KAIAPIT.

26th November, 1969.

The District Commissioner,
Morobe District,
LAKE.

WANTOAT PATROL No.3 of 1969/70 - IRUMU CENSUS DIVISION.

Attached are three copies of the above patrol report submitted by Mr. T. Larkins, A.E.O.

With the exception of the various Council and House of Assembly patrols, this appears to have been the first patrol in the Irumu area since November 1966. The present patrol appears to have achieved its objectives, however, the frustration and feelings of neglect cannot be expected to have been lessened in any way by this hastily conducted flying visit.

Mr. Larkins will be instructed to spend a minimum of one night in each rest house during the next Irumu patrol and on census patrols in his area. The actual census will be conducted in each village.

Specific comments are as follows :-

Political :

The division of administrative responsibility for the old Irumu Division between Lae and Wantoat is the result of the inclusion of the mountain part of the division in the Wantoat Council area. Unfortunately the Irumu people have been left in an Agricultural vacuum. - D.A.S.F. staff in Lae disclaims responsibility for it, and the Agricultural Assistants at Wantoat are fully committed in the Wantoat and Awara Divisions. The area patrolled is one of those isolated pockets whose terrain and small population will always make significant development difficult, if not impossible. We can expect continual manifestations of frustration and discontent in the form of minor cult activity under the circumstances.

Social :

Hygiene and sanitation inspections of villages should be followed up by specific instructions to rectify anything not up to standard - these orders should have been given by the Health Committee and a record of them left in the Village Book for the follow up action of the next patrol.

Economic :

The obvious immediate remedy for the poor state of the coffee gardens in the area is to increase the Agricultural staff at Wantoat to allow for an Assistant to patrol the Irumu area. Until this happens there is little chance of the people taking any notice of the Council Agricultural Hygiene Rule, which should be used to supplement advice and assistance given by trained staff. The extension of the Wantoat-Leron road should be of assistance to the Irumu people by halving their walking time to the road head. Until this road is completed there is little chance of improving communications to, and within the Irumu.

Area Study :

The Area Study and population register give a good picture of the Irumu area, which is a typical isolated small pocket, dependent upon coffee and the sale of labour for its income. The absentee rate is not

(2)

13

Area Study : (cont.)

alarmingly high, but with such a small population any absenteeism significantly affects any developmental projects. I would suggest an immediate campaign to improve the walking tracks; some system in the Council for replacing dead radio batteries; serious consideration being given to the establishment of one or two entrepreneur coffee buyers in the Irumu.

Camping allowance claims for Mr. Larkins and Mr. Tausi are attached. Claims for Sgt. Mombiguru and RS Form 1 have been sent to the Superintendent of Police, Lae, and the Police Commissioner respectively.

cc. O.I.C.,
WANTOAT.

.....
(F.E. Haviland)
Assistant District Commissioner.

WANTOAT L.O.C.

T. H. LARKINS

PATROL OFFICER

IRUMU CAMPOUS DIVISION

6/5/69 to 7/5/69 (10 days)

SEPTEMBER 1968 WANTOAT L.O.C.
CLERKS

TEN DAYS (10) PARTIAL TO IRUMU

- (1) CAMPOUS DIVISION
- (19) INVESTIGATIVE CAMPOUS
- MOVERIE IN CAMP
- (110) GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

1440

MARSHAL KILLUM & WANTOAT PATROL
POST

VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER IS ENCLOSED.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

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Telephone

Telegram

Our Reference 57.1.1

If calling ask for

Mr.

Department of District Administration

Patrol Post Wantoat,

Morobe District,

15th. May, 1969.

REPORT NUMBER: WANTOAT NO. 3. - 1968/69.
SUB-DISTRICT: KAIAPIT
DISTRICT: MOROPE
COUNCIL: WANTOAT L.G.C.
PATROL CONDUCTED BY: T. H. LARKINS
DESIGNATION: PATROL OFFICER
AREA PATROLLED: IRJMU CENSUS DIVISION
DURATION: 6/5/69 to 9/5/69 (4 DAYS)
DATE OF LAST PATROL: SEPTEMBER 1968 WANTOAT L.G.C. ELECTIONS
DURATION: TEN DAYS (ONLY PARTTIME IN IRJMU)
OBJECTS OF PATROL: (1) CENSUS REVISION
(11) INVESTIGATE CARGO CULT MOVEMENT IN AREA
(111) GENERAL ADMINISTRATION
TOTAL POPULATION: 1412
MAP REFERENCE: MARKHAM MILINCH + WANTOAT PATROL POST
VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER IS ENCLOSED.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

11

Telephone

Telegram

Our Reference 67.1.1

If calling ask for

Mr.

Department of District Administration.

Wantoat Patrol Post,

Morobe District,

15th. May, 1969.

The District Commissioner,
Department of District Administration,
District Headquarters,
L A E.

WANTOAT PATROL NO. 3, 1968/69 - IRUMU CENSUS DIVISION.

1. INTRODUCTION: The objects of the patrol were (1) Revision of Census (2) Investigation of cargo cult activity in the IRUMU Census Division (3) General Administration.

The IRUMU Census Division is located South from Wantoat Patrol Post approximately eight hours walking distance. Only part of the IRUMU Census Division is in this Administrative area, the remaining half is situated in the Lae Sub-district.

2. PA DIARY:

6/5/69: Compilation and collation of Census sheets. Departed to BUM 1. Slept.

7/5/69: Departed BUMBUM 6.00 hrs. via new survey of Wantoat to Leron Bridge Road, arrived WALAKUYA 10.00 hrs. Departed WALAKUYA 10.15 to UYANGEN arriving 12.30 hrs. Census revised for ARET, DAGAMAN, DAKU and DOPAM/SIMBONGA. Discussions with locals on Local Government and economic development.. Slept UYANGEN.

8/5/69: Villages of DURAK, GARAMBOIN, GUMIA, KAWAN, UYANGEN and ZUBIBEK censused. Departed 11.00 hrs. for DAGAMAN the scene of cargo cult activity. Discussions with locals. Returned to UYANGEN late in the afternoon and had discussions with locals on Local Government and economic development. Slept UYANGEN. Departed UYANGEN 7.00 hrs. for BUMBUM, arriving 13.00 hrs. Er BUMBUM to Station.

END OF PATROL.

3. POLITICAL OBSERVATIONS:

3. (1) General - The IRUMU Census Division had for Administrative Purposes been divided into two sections, one half in the Wantoat Administrative Area and the other in the Lae Administrative Area. The main institutions of influence are (a) Lutheran Mission (b) Huon and Wantoat Local Government Councils (c) Irumu Rural Progress Society only in the Lae Sub-district area, and (d) the Administration Departments that service the area. Both sections of the Irumu have long histories of cargo cult movements - the present one is now dormant, and from information gathered was only of a minor nature and localized to the village area of DAGAMAN.

3. (2) Local Government - The Wantoat Local Government Council has been in existence since 1965 but has made little impression on the IRUMU. The IRUMU population represents approximately 12% of the total Council population and is represented by three councillors. The only real project carried out by the Council in the area has been an Aid-Post constructed at DAKU. This is now completed. The IRUMUS are actively involved in working on the Council Road Project but the absentee rate of young males leaves only the very young and old. The Rural Progress Society at PIUNG is also apparently building a road to PIUNG, in the Lae Sub-district, and the services of the locals are also used there.

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3. (3) Local Government Councillors - With the patrol were the Council Clerk, a Health Committee Representative, an Agricultural Committee Representative and the Council Rules Inspector. Each assisted in the functions of the patrol by carrying out inspections under Council Rules. The Councillors of the area are as follows:-
 (a) MURUAT/WAMANDA - He was a member and Vice-President in first Council. He did not contest the second election. He became actively involved in a cargo movement in December 1966. He nominated for the House of Assembly but was unsuccessful. Last year he was re-elected to the Council and has settled down somewhat. He has a trade store, the only one in the IRUMU, it is, however, poorly stocked. He was not involved in the present problem. During the patrol he was found to have an unregistered shotgun and was fined six dollars by the Local Court.

(b) SIRA of DAKU - He has been a member of the Council since it was formed and a member of the Tax Review Committee each year. He is a strong personality but is finding it hard to retain interest due to the general attitude of the locals. He is also a member of the Agricultural Committee.

(c) DARUM of DAGAMAN - He is the youngest Councillor at 23 years, and was put up by the DAGAMANS to satisfy the requirements of having a Councillor. Apparently the cargo movement was in its infancy at the time the elections were held, in September 1968. A good deal of time has been spent with him and he is slowly developing. Given time and effort he could become a reasonable representative. He is single and has had little formal education.

4. SOCIAL OBSERVATIONS:

(1) Education - There are no recognized schools in the IRUMU area. The Lutheran Mission has some small village schools which teach in Kotte. There is a need for a school in this area, however, on current indications this is extremely unlikely.

(2) Health - The area has a large number of measles cases at present. These are being treated at two Aid-Posts, GUMIA and DAKU. The Health Committee Members inspected each village and generally they were reasonable. The latrines were too shallow and not properly sealed and the locals were advised that improvement was expected. Supplies at the Aid-Posts were fair but needed replacement. The Aid-Post Orderlies were thus advised. A considerable number of deaths have lately occurred in the younger age groups. The general causes are a combination of pneumonia, poor diet and malaria. Once the children lose condition they find it extremely difficult to regain it.

(3) Details of Mission are in area study.

5. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

(1) Agriculture - This area is controlled from Lae and was found to be in a very poor state. No maintenance of coffee gardens, houses or equipment has been attempted. The locals complain that they want Economic Development but the distance to PIUNG, the site of the Rural Progress Society was too far to carry coffee. This is approximately 10 - 12 hours walking time, so the people have just not bothered. It was pointed out that when the road from Wantoat reaches the BAM River it would only be 4 - 5 hours to a delivery point and that this was not over-difficult walking. Until some co-ordination by Agriculture is made with regard to this area little can be achieved. The people are under the Council's Rules but Agriculture's assistance is required from Lae, and this is very seldom or alternatively ineffective. Details of coffee plantings are in the Area Survey, see Appendix D. There is no other economic activity in the area at present, nor is there any likelihood of it in the foreseeable future.