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OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

# **PATROL REPORTS**

DISTRICT: WEST SEPIK

STATION: TELEFOMIN

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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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266 6/2/68.

PATROL REPORTS WEST SEPIK DISTRICT 1966-67

TELEFOMIN

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
2-66-67	E.J. Mitchell	East Miamin
3-66-67 ✓	L.W. Bragge <i>AB</i>	West Miamin Restricted Area

OKSAPMIN

1-66-67 ✓	L.W. Bragge <i>AB</i>	Om Valley and Tributaries Upper Leonard Schultze & Frieda Rivers
2-66-67 ✓	L.W. Bragge <i>AB</i>	Om River, Karu River Strickland Rv, Lagaip Rv Junction area and North Lagaip (Heiwa) Restricted area
3-66-67	W.N. Roginson	Oksapmin Local



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



# PATROL REPORT

District of West Sepik Report No. Telefomin 2 66/67

Patrol Conducted by E. J. Mitchell A.D.O.

Area Patrolled East Miannin

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans W. N. Robinson C.F.O.

Natives 6 REANGC, 1 IHO, 1 Interpreter D.D.A.

Duration—From 19/10/1966 to 14/11/1966

Number of Days 27

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 4/11/1965

Medical 4/11/1965

Map Reference Sketchmap attached

Objects of Patrol Census and General Administration

Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

13/1/1967

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation .... £.....

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund .... £.....

Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund ....

14

67-16-10

31st March, 1967.

District Commissioner,  
West Sepik District,  
Y A N I M O.

TELEPHONE PATROL NO.2 OF 1966/67:

Your 67-1-7 of the 13th January, 1967, refers.

2. I have little to add to your remarks. The patrol appears to have been useful. We must patrol regularly and always explain the Administration's aims and intentions clearly and patiently.

3. Mr. Robinson has submitted a good report and I hope he will continue doing so. It is important for junior officers to realise that patrol reports are often the only way they are able to register their ideas and opinions.

(J. K. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67. 16 <sup>(13)</sup> 10  
P/R

Telegrams.....  
Our References. 67-1-7/  
If calling ask for  
Mr.....



Department of District Administration.

District Office,  
VANIMO,  
West Sepik District.

13th January, 1967.

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEBOBU.

PATROL REPORT TELEFOMIN No. 2/66-67

Please find enclosed a report of a patrol led by Mr. E. J. Mitchell Assistant District Officer to the East Mianmin area. The report was submitted by Mr. W.N. Robinson Cadet Patrol Officer who accompanied the patrol.

The report is a good one, well set out and presented.

The patrol achieved its objectives which were mainly census revision, and routine administration but unfortunately Mr. Mitchell was felled by a sprained ankle and as he had to be evacuated, the patrol came to a sudden halt.

It is comforting to see that the redoubtable East Mianmin is so co-operative and helpful and it is to be hoped that after the malefactors of the Aki River people of the West Mianmin are brought to justice for their riots of last October they too will settle down and enjoy a peaceful life.

10-1013

D. J. Clancy,  
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

PATROL REPORT

District of SEFIK

Report No. Telefomin 2-66/67

Patrol Conducted by Mr. E. J. Mitchell A.D.O.

Area Patrolled: East Miarmin

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr. W. N. Robinson C.F.O.

Natives: Interpreter Dutikmosep.

1 Native Hospital Orderly.

Police:

I/Cpl. Ganim

Const. Simwah

Const. Sikrei

Const. Barun

Const. Maregora

Const. Rapola

And an average of 64 carriers.

Duration from October 19, 1966 to November 14, 1966.

Number of days 27

Last Patrolled by D.D.A. November 1965

Medical November 1965

Map Reference attached.

Objects of Patrol: Routine Administration

Census Revision



(11)

PATROL DIARY

Wednesday, October 19, 1966.

Cargo and carriers arranged for the commencement of the Patrol. Patrol departed from the station at 0900 hrs. en route for Komdavi in the Elip Valley. The last of the cargo and myself arrived Komdavi 1500 hrs where the Patrol was already beginning to settle in. Slept the night at the Komdavi Rest house.

Thursday, October 20, 1966.

Quite heavy rain falling at daybreak but the weather cleared very shortly and the Patrol departed Komdavi at 0800 hrs. After crossing the Elip River below Komdavi the ascent was commenced on the Donner Range. Both Mr. Mitchell A.D.O., and myself found the climb particularly tiring and frequent short rests were taken during the ascent. The top of the range was reached mid-afternoon and the Patrol descended to the campsite on the northern side of the range. The site was reached at 1700 hrs. The site is one which has been used by previous Patrol but I feel that a better site could be found as the area was very wet following rain the night before.

Friday, October 21, 1966.

Camp was struck and the Patrol departed at 0800 hrs for the River Fak. Good progress was made down the northern face of the range and Mr. Mitchell and myself arrived at the Baptist Mission airstrip at Timelmin at 1200 hrs. The cargo arrived one hour later. A camp was established on the Fak River.

Saturday, October 22, 1966.

The Patrol departed the campsite on the Fak River at 0830 hrs en route to the Uk River. The road from the Fak to the Uk was in very good condition and there were apparent signs of recent work being carried out to keep the road in good repair. The Patrol arrived at the Timelmin hamlet on the River Uk at 1100 hrs and camp was set up. Census revision was carried out and a good attendance of the population was present. The census totalled 160 persons. As each family was censused it reported to the Hospital Orderly for examination. Camped the night at the River Uk.

Sunday, October 23, 1966.

Observed at the River Uk. A large pig in good condition was purchased from the people and was publicly shot by Const. 7605 Simiwah, under my supervision. Late in the morning a number of people from Bovaripmin in the East Mianmin area visited the campsite. They stayed the night with the people of the Timelmin hamlet.

Monday, October 24, 1966.

Departed campsite at the Uk River at 0810 hrs. The Patrol walked until 1015 hrs, then rested ten minutes. Arrived and crossed the River Iwar (May River) at 1115 hrs and arrived Sogamin at 1145 hrs. The group is known as Sogamin, the hamlets being Wafimeivip,

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Bagavuvip, and Tarareivip. Due to the onset of rain it was decided to set up camp and take census tomorrow morning. The road from the Uk River to Sogamin was in quite reasonable condition and in a number of places showed sign of recent work. A good quantity of food was purchased from the local people. It would appear that the staple diet in the area is Taro as no sweet potatoe was seen. The food produced for sale was in the main Taro but there were also small amounts of cucumbers and chokos. Camped the night at Sogamin.

Tuesday, October 25, 1966.

Censused population of Sogamin. The people reacted very well and co-operated in every way. The population, including absentees totalled 147 persons. The general health of the people was very good. 23 children were given injections of triple Antigin. Camped the night at Sogamin.

Wednesday, October 26, 1966.

Departed Sogamin 0755 hrs. en route to Wameimin (hamlets Waisirouvip and Morofetavip) on the Wanagu River. Arrived Wameimin at 1145 hrs. A campsite had already been prepared by the people, including the erection of cookhouses and latrines. The road from Sogamin to Wameimin was in excellent condition and was more or less level for a good portion of the walk. At 0915 the Patrol passed through a large new garden area owned by the Sogamin people. Judging from the size of the garden and the amount of Taro growing in it, and taking into consideration other garden areas owned by the people, it would appear that they are in no way short of food.

The village of Wameimin was very clean as were the surroundings and the people accorded the Patrol a warm welcome. Slept the night at Wameimin.

Thursday, October 27, 1966.

Censused the people of the Wameimin area. Considering that this was only the second proper census which these people have attended, they co-operated exceptionally well. The population, including absentees, is 100. Two new names, an elderly female and a middle-aged male (a deaf-mute) were recorded. Quite a large percentage of the people were suffering from tinea imbricata. This disease is most prevalent in the Mianmin area, afflicting large numbers of people. 12 children were given triple Antigin injections, one child was treated for scabies, and two children were treated for trachoma. A pig was purchased from the people, having been previously killed by them before bringing it forward for purchase.

Friday, October 28, 1966.

Departed Wameimin 0745 hrs. en route to Amaroman on the Iwar (May) River. Arrived River ~~WAME~~ Urume 1040. The road travels beside the river for quite a way and the river was eventually crossed at 1105 hrs. The Patrol rested for 15 minutes at 1145. At 1245 the Patrol reached the banks of the River Iwar. Amaroman was reached at 1430 hrs. The

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road was in good condition all the way and after reaching the banks of the Iwar walking was very easy owing to the flat nature of the terrain. Good time was made on this portion of the walk. At various places on the road there were quite heavy deposits of what appeared to be mica and in places the mud was of a definite silver sheen due to flakes from the rocks. The deposits were concentrated on that portion of the road between the River Urame and the River Iwar. Ample food was purchased on arrival at Amaroman, mainly Taro, but also bananas, cucumbers, and melons. Camped the night at Amaroman.

Saturday, October 29, 1966.

Censused the people of the Amaroman area. The village population, including absentees, totalled 49 people. The people appeared to take the census as a necessary nuisance and the co-operation received was only half-hearted. Two females were treated for tropical ulcers, 1 child and an adult male were treated for scabies, and 6 children received triple Antigin injections. The supply of triple Antigin carried by the Hospital Orderly was finished at Amaroman. Approximately 80 per cent of the people censused were suffering from tinea imbricata. Camped the night at Amaromin.

Sunday, October 30, 1966.

Observed at Amaroman. People from the Kusarimin group visited Amaroman late in the morning for census. As the River Iwar was in a flood condition no women appeared. Information received from those people who attended showed the population of the Kusarimin group as 60 persons. Again, a large number were suffering from tinea imbricata. The people were most co-operative and volunteered information quite readily.

Monday, October 31, 1966.

Departed Amaroman 0730 hrs. 1005 hrs reached the bridge site on the Iwar River, but the bridge was no longer there. A new bridge has been constructed up river a short distance but reaching it involves getting the cargo around a bluff on the river. Half an hour was spent getting the cargo safely around this obstacle. The site of the new bridge was reached at 1055 hrs and the river was crossed. The Patrol rested for 15 minutes before proceeding on to the village of Mifimipbip. This village is a new one and the population appear to be a group which has broken away from the Usareimin group in the San River Valley. The group now appears to be a separate entity. As no census sheets were available an initial census was held. The people co-operated extremely well. Camped the night at Mifimipbip.

Tuesday, November 1, 1966.

Departed Mifimipbip 0730 hrs and arrived at the Mawaimin campsite on the Fiek River at 1100 hrs. An attempt was made to contact Telefomin by radio but was unsuccessful. It was decided to census Wamaimin the following day as by the time the Patrol had settled in it was rather late to begin taking census. Slept at the Mawaimin campsite.

Wednesday, November 2, 1966.

Censused population of Mawaimin. Population

(2)

totalled 69 persons. There was a large number of people absent, gathering food, looking after pigs etc. Seventeen new names were recorded. The people appeared to be in quite good health. No complaints or information were brought to the attention of the Patrol. Slept at Mawaimin.

Thursday, November 3, 1966.

Departed Mawaimin 0745 en route to Wamu in the Wamu River Valley. This entailed a walk across quite a steep range, the top of which was crossed at 1015 hrs and a rest taken for 15 minutes. The road was in a particularly poor condition. Arrival at Wamu was made at 1320 hrs. During the walk from the summit of the Range down to Wamu A.D.O. Mr. E. J. Mitchell sustained a severesprain to his left ankle when he caught it in a crevice in a stream bed and fell, twisting on the ankle as he did so. An attempt was made to contact Telefomin but was unsuccessful. An initial census was made of the 12 persons who comprise the total ~~Wamu~~ population of Wamu. This village, like Mifimipip, appears to be a breakaway group which is now a seperate entity. Slept the night at Wamu.

Friday, November 4, 1966.

Mr. Mitchell's ankle was considerably worse. Radio contact was made with Telefomin and it was decided that Mr. Mitchell should be carried to the Mission airstrip at Timelmin and be evacuated. Late in the evening a group approached Mr. Mitchell and myself, with news of a raid which had been carried out in the West Mianmin early in October against a hamlet known as Boliap on the Aki River. They claimed that four men and two women had been killed and a young woman abducted. Boliap, they informed us, was approximately the same size as Wamu. A Boveripman man accompanying the Patrol had been present at a meeting recently at which the Luluai from Mawaimin had told the Lulais from Timelmin and Tempsapmin of the raid. It was due to this man that the Patrol became aware of what had happened.

Saturday, November 5, 1966.

At Wamu. News of the raid in the West Mianmin conveyed to Telefomin by radio.

Sunday, November 6, 1966.

Departed Wamu 0730 hrs. Mr. Mitchell was conveyed in a chair attached to poles and carried by carriers. The Patrol had to cross a high range, the top of which was reached at 1200 hrs. I, accompanied by several police and carriers continued on down the other side of the range to a campsite at a small hamlet above the River San, arriving at 1535 hrs. Camp was established and the radio assembled. Mr. Mitchell arrived at 1600 hrs and made radio contact with Telefomin informing of the Patrol's progress.

Monday, November 7, 1966.

Departed en route to Tempsapmin Aid Post at 0730 hrs. Arrived at the Aid Post 1245 hrs. The Boveripman, Tempsapmin, and Usareinmin groups were censused. There was a good attendance by both

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Tempsepin and Usareinmin, but there were 44 persons absent from  
Bovaripman at various Rivers throughout the area. The Lulai from  
Mappiman arrived at the Aid Post late in the afternoon in accordance  
with a request from Mr. Mitchell that he meet the Patrol at Tempsepin  
and be interviewed in connection with the raid on Boliap. The names  
of the murdered persons and the participants in the killings were  
obtained, plus further details. He informed that only two persons  
had been killed, both males, and a female of approximately 15 or 16  
years abducted. He agreed to accompany the Patrol to Telefomin for  
further interviews.

Slept at Tempsepin.

Tuesday, November 8, 1966.

Departed Tempsepin for the Uk River at  
0810 hrs. Arrived at the Timelmin hamlet on the River Uk at 1316 hrs.  
It was decided that the Patrol would camp at the hamlet that night and  
proceed to the Mission airstrip tomorrow.

Wednesday, November 9, 1966.

Departed from the campsite at 0800 hrs  
and crossed the ridge to the airstrip, arriving at 1030. Camp was set  
up beside the strip and the Patrol settled down to await the arrival of  
the Mission aircraft, due the next day, to evacuate Mr. Mitchell, myself,  
and Const. Bugler 10988 Rapola who had taken ill during the latter  
half of the Patrol. It was decided that the cargo should proceed on to  
Telefomin on Friday morning under the control of Const. <sup>1st Cl.</sup> 6995  
Ganis.

Thursday, November 10, 1966.

Mr. Mitchell, myself, and Const. Bugler  
Rapola evacuated from Timelmin airstrip by Mission aircraft and  
conveyed to Telefomin where we reported to the Assistant District  
Commissioner, Mr. J. M. Wearne.

Friday, November 11, 1966.

At Telefomin.

Saturday, November 12, 1966.

At Telefomin.

Sunday, November 13, 1966.

At Telefomin.

Monday, November 14, 1966.

The Police and carriers arrived Telefomin  
1030 hrs. The carriers were paid off and the Patrol stood down.

END OF DAIRY

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PATROL REPORT

TELEFOMIN PATROL REPORT No.

INTRODUCTION

The Miamin area lies generally to the North of Telefomin. Its natural North and South boundaries are the Fak River in the South and the South bank of the Sepik River as it flows in a general easterly direction in the North. The whole Miamin area covers a total of 840 square miles in extent but for the purposes of Administrative expediency is divided into the East and West Miamin.

The East Miamin covers an area of approximately 400 square miles and is drained by three main rivers, the Fak, Fiak, and Iwar (May River). The terrain is composed of a series of broken ranges. Small areas of moss forest are encountered on the higher slopes and the summits of ranges and in places the actual ground is hidden by tangled roots and moss of up to several feet in depth. The area is heavily forested and stands of both hard and soft wood timbers are to be found throughout the East Miamin. In the Northern section of the area, particularly toward AMAROMIN the vegetation and climate approach a coastal nature, which is a considerable change to the type of vegetation and climate to be encountered in the South and the mountain areas.

As far as patrolling is concerned the most trying portion of the East Miamin area is the crossing of the Donner Range, the Southern dividing Range between the River Fak and the River Elip. At least one night has to be spent camped in the bush on the side of the range and sufficient food has to be purchased for at least one night before commencing the crossing of the range. It is to be noted that on at least one previous occasion a member of a Patrol was affected by the altitude of the Donner Range, which resulted in his fainting. However, no such incident occurred on this Patrol.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

The people in the East Miamin area appear to have completely ceased inter-tribal fighting and quite often come to Telefomin to work on a casual labouring basis on the station. Apart from the obvious beneficial aspects this has as far as communication with people from other areas is concerned, it also provides a source of income, although admittedly very small, to the Miamin area. A TIMELMIN man, known as QUIFAM recently made attempts to join the P.I.R. but was rejected on the basis of age, being older than the maximum age for recruits. He has been working on the station as a casual carpenter's labourer. Quite a number of males from KUSAREINMIN on the Iwar (May) River are absent at Ambunti and a number from AMAROMIN are also working outside their own district. Several people in the area have been working away from home but have since returned, bringing with them knowledge of other areas which is tending to bring about a greater awareness among their people of Administration aims.

The only adverse information discovered by the Patrol regarding Native Affairs was that of murders which had taken place early in October 1966, in the West Miamin. The Patrol was unable to carry out any extensive investigation due to the fact that A.D.O. Mr. E. J. Mitchell had sustained a severe sprain to his ankle and was due to be carried to the Timelmin airstrip for evacuation to Telefomin. However, a separate Patrol, comprising two A.D.O.'s and 12 members of the Royal Papua and New Guinea Constabulary is to visit the area shortly to investigate the complaint fully. The Luluai from Mawamin, through whom the information regarding the murders was relayed to the Patrol, readily agreed to accompany the Patrol to Telefomin for further questioning.

#### POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

The people in the area patrolled did not participate in the last elections for the House of Assembly, due to much of the East Miamin area being restricted. There are no radios in the area which also tends to limit avenues open to the people regarding knowledge of political affairs. They have at present little or no political awareness but have an elementary knowledge of the aims of the Administration, which in the main they appreciate and agree with. No doubt the problem of political education will decrease with time and the apparent increasing number of young males who travel to other areas to work will undoubtedly assist considerably in this.

#### AGRICULTURE

Agriculture in the East Miamin is of a subsistence nature and the staple crop throughout the area is Taro. Very little sweet potatoe was seen and only on two occasions was any brought before the Patrol for purchase. Introduced crops such as cucumbers and chokos appear to be making their presence evident in the local diet and on most occasions that food was purchased some of these vegetables were brought forward. On several occasions bananas were also produced plus sugar cane and an occasional melon and pumpkin. The people appear to be in no way short of food and if anything a surplus is available. Large garden areas are generally maintained in close proximity to the villages or hamlets and all those seen were well maintained and the crops in good condition. At several places throughout the area (AMAROMIN, TEMPSAEMIN, TIMBELMIN) pineapples are being grown by the people for local consumption, although not in any great numbers.

#### HEALTH

Physically the Miamins appear to be bigger and considerably more health than the people in the Telefomin area, due no doubt to a better food supply and intake of protein. The general health of the people is good. The major disease afflicting them, is, as mentioned before, Tinea Imbricata, and large numbers are affected. It would be estimated that at least 50 per cent of the people seen were either advanced cases or showing definite signs of the disease. A number of people, generally middle-aged to elderly were sufferers from goitre. A number of people also received treatment from the Hospital Orderly for Trachoma. Although the Patrol was requested to look for a

possible high death-rate among the people due to a reported common cold epidemic thought to be spreading from the USAGE area in the May River Sub-district to the Miammin area, no evidence of any such epidemic was found. In all cases a natural increase in the population was noted.

There is one Aid Post in the East Miammin, situated at Tempsapmin. The Aid Post Orderly in charge, JETEMANAP, was instructed to Patrol more frequently when it was learned that he had only patrolled once in the past year. Only one case of illness occurred among the Patrol. Const. Bugler 10988 Rapola suffered an attack of Malaria which had lingering effects and he was evacuated from the Timelmin airstrip with Mr. Mitchell and the author.

#### CENSUS AND STATISTICS

In general attendance at census was excellent and the people reacted very favourably. Populations were as follows:

	M	F	TOTAL
Amaromin	27	22	49
Bovariamin	59	36	95
Kusareimin	39	21	60
Mifimipbip	14	20	34
Sogamin	77	70	147
Tempsapmin	28	26	54
Timelmin	92	68	160
Usareimin	25	20	45
Wameimin	49	51	100
Wamu	7	5	12
Mawaimin	39	30	69

Quite a few new names were recorded and no doubt more will be recorded by following Patrols. A Village Population Register giving more detailed information is attached.

#### VILLAGE OFFICIALS

It is to be recommended that OURISAK of Mifimipbip and ARDUM of Wamu be appointed as Tul Tuls. They are both recognised by their people as the natural leaders and hold considerable standing in their communities. They have been provisionally appointed pending approval. There was only one isolated case of difficulty being encountered from a Village Official and this has been dealt with under GENERAL COMMENTS.

#### COMPLAINTS

No complaints were brought before the Patrol.

#### REST HOUSES

Rest Houses in the East Miammin are non-existent. Throughout the Patrol, apart from the first night which was spent in the Komdavi Rest House in the Elip Valley, each night was spent under canvas. However, at each campsite the people co-operated and assisted in the erection of latrines and cook-houses. The Timelmin and Mawaimin people agreed to construct Rest Houses and the Mawaimins stated that they would shortly be moving their village from its present site high on a ridge



above the Fiak River, to the campsite and future Rest House site on the bank of the river.

#### GEOGRAPHY/TOPOGRAPHY

As mentioned earlier in the report the terrain of the East Miamin is composed of a series of broken ranges and is heavily forested. The terrain tends to become less rugged as one progresses North, where it becomes more of a coastal nature. In the area between the Uramese River and the village of AMAROMIN deposits of what appeared to be mica were noticed in several places and were particularly apparent where streams had washed away the topsoil revealing boulders and rocks in the stream beds. In several places on the track the mud had a high silver sheen due to flakes from the rocks falling and mixing with the mud.

#### LABOUR

Labour potential is average and some active and successful recruiting has already been carried out in the Northern portion of this area around AMAROMIN and KUSAREIMIN. The labour potential in the Southern portion has only been partially exploited due no doubt to much of the area being restricted.

#### VILLAGES AND HOUSING

Villages tend to be small and the average number of houses would be approximately six or seven, but some are considerably smaller. The houses are not of a particularly high standard and the people appear to let them fall into disrepair rather than maintain them, building a new home when the old one is no longer habitable. Several houses were noticed propped up with poles to prevent their collapsing. Most of the villages and hamlets were in a reasonably clean condition and some maintenance on the village area evidently does take place.

#### ROADS AND BRIDGES

In general roads in the East Miamin tend to vary from fair to poor. However, in some instances the roads were quite good and it was evident that the people in the area had spent time in clearing the road and placing logs across muddy portions. The worst roads appear to be those crossing high ranges, and are only kept open by people walking on them. Bridges were only encountered across the River Klip, the River Pak, and the River Iwar (May River), and all were in very good condition. Elsewhere, the rivers were forded.

#### LIVESTOCK

Pigs were, as always, much in evidence at every village and hamlet and in several places fowls were seen. Dogs are common and in several places tame Cassowaries were being kept by the people.

#### MISSIONS

There is a Baptist Mission representative at Tiselmin, a native, who holds some influence over his own and neighbouring groups.

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CARRIERS

Most of the carriers were from the Elip Valley. These men seemed to be affected not at all by the rugged terrain and progressed at all times at a good pace. However, at most places visited by the Patrol local people wanted to accompany the Patrol and in most cases act as carriers. Where this was possible everything was done to encourage them to do so. Several men from Timelmin accompanied the Patrol the complete distance and came back with it to Telefomin.

TRADE ITEMS

Salt, matches, and mirrors were most popular among the people for trading purposes, and in some cases, cash was asked for. Some interest was also displayed in Red face paint. All the carriers were paid in cash.

GENERAL COMMENTS

At all the places visited the Patrol was given a very warm welcome and the local people took an active part in the setting up of the camp. In by far the major instance the people had already erected latrines and cookhouses and cleared a site for the camp before the Patrol's arrival. Invariably the people were most co-operative in all matters. The only place where co-operation left a little to be desired was at Tempsapmin where the Luluai MASEIAP tended to be unco-operative toward the Patrol in several ways. Two incidents were the purchase of local food and the use of latrines by members of the Police and the carriers. He stated that unless the Patrol was particularly generous with salt during the purchase of food it would get none. The usual procedure was followed however in the buying of food and no difficulty was forthcoming. He then stated that if the Police and carriers wished to use a latrine, they would have to pay to do so, however, when this was put to a practical test he did nothing to proceed with his demand.

Although Mr. Mitchell's accident prevented the Patrol from proceeding to Bovaripman from Tempsapmin and back to Telefomin by way of the Sepik River and SEPKIALIKMIN, the objects of the Patrol were accomplished. The Bovaripman people came to Tempsapmin for census quite freely, and, although a large number of them were absent, were censused quite successfully.

CONCLUSION OF REPORT

*W. N. Robinson*

W. N. Robinson

Cadet Patrol Officer

REPORTS ON MEMBERS OF THE PRANGC WHO  
ACCOMPANIED THE PATROL

7605 Constable SIMITAH

Conduct good. Quite and reserved but a very capable member.

10003 Constable SIKREI

Conduct good. An efficient and steady Policeman. Very keen.

10988 Const. Bugler RAPOLA

Conduct good. Not a good walker. Suffered an attack of Malaria and had to be evacuated.

8468 Constable BARUN

Conduct good. Hard working and enthusiastic.

8379 Constable MAREGONI

Solid and reliable. A good keen man with a good sense of humour. A fine Policeman.

6995 Lance-Corporal GANIM

An excellent N.C.O. Hardworking and efficient. In time should make a very good Sergeant.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of... WEST SEPIK ..... Report No. .... TELEFOMIN No. 3/66-67 .....

Patrol Conducted by... L.W. BRAGGE a/ADC .....

Area Patrolled... WEST MIANMIN RESTRICTED AREA .....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans. Mr A.K. TRY a/DO .....

14 members R.F.&N.G.C.

Natives..... 129 carriers (gradually reduced to 77)

1 NMO and 3 others.

Duration—From 23./11./1966 to 28./1./1967 .....

Number of Days..... 67 .....

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?..... NMO ONLY .....

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services..... 9./1965 .....

Medical .... NEVER...../19.....

Map Reference... BORDER SPECIAL SHEETS 3 & 4 (2nd EDN.) ARMY FORMIL MAY RV.

Investigate alleged murders, Census, Routine Administration

Objects of Patrol... Investigate possible Airstrip and Air Drop Sites,

Extension of Administration Influence.

Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

*D. J. Ranney D/c*  
*per [Signature]*

14/1/1967

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation .... £ .....

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund .... £ .....

Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund .... £ .....

.....  
.....  
.....

67. 16. 13

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



Telegram  
Telephone  
Our Reference 67-1-7  
If calling ask for  
Mr.



Department of District Administration

District Office,  
VANIMO,  
West Sepik District.

14th April, 1967.

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBUI

TELEFOMIN PATROL NO. 3/66-67

Please find enclosed 2 copies of a Report Describing Telefomin Patrol No. 3, to the West Mimin (Restricted) area.

The purpose of the patrol was to investigate reports of a killing raid in the Tabu River area, and this was successfully achieved.

The patrol was efficiently carried out by Messers, Bragge and Try, and I suggest they deserve congratulations in effecting arrests without any contretemps.

The fact that many of the raiding party of the second raid, and possibly all of the first, are free does not detract from the performance. This country is as rugged as any in the Territory, population is sparse and scattered, and avoidance of a patrol by the natural mountain dwellers was not difficult.

I support the recommendation that action in the first raid, alleged to have been perpetrated by the Someimin group should be limited to a strict warning against any future lawlessness, in the interest of settling the people down again. The current arrests will have the effect of showing the people the power of the Administration, and it is felt that it should not be long before our control should be effective over the area.

Further enquiries have shown that the missionary mentioned on page 5 did pay for his food, and the reason for the Ivlamin complaint is obscure. It was not in restricted area.

The search for an airstrip site in the upper Sepik for a base camp or Patrol Post continues, and two or three possibilities are under examination.

An excellent job done by patient and skilful officers.

The patrol map goes forward separately, for printing, please, (10 copies).

*D. J. Clancy*  
D. J. Clancy, District Commissioner

PREAMBLE

: TELEFOMIN  
: TELEFOMIN SUB DISTRICT  
: WEST SEPIK DISTRICT  
PATROL NUMBER : TELEFOMIN NO 3/66-67  
PATROL CONDUCTED BY : L.W. BRAGGE a/A.D.C.  
AREA PATROLLED : WEST MIANMIN RESTRICTED AREA  
: PART UPPER AUGUST RIVER  
PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY : MR A.K. TRY a/D.O.  
: 14 MEMBERS R.P.&N.G.C.  
: 1 N.M.O.  
: 129 (down to 77) CARRIERS  
: 1 INTERPRETER  
  
DURATION OF PATROL : 67 DAYS 23/11/66 to 28/1/67  
  
LAST PATROL TO AREA :  
D.B.A. : SEPT. 1965 in part.  
P.H.D. : NEVER  
P.I.R. : LATE 1966 IN PART  
  
OBJECTS OF PATROL : INVESTIGATE ALLEGED MURDERS  
: INITIAL CENSUS AND CENSUS REVISION  
: INVESTIGATE POSSIBLE AIRSTRIP  
AND AIRDROP SITES.  
: ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION AND EXTENSION  
OF ADMINISTRATION INFLUENCE.  
  
MAP REFERENCES : BORDER SPECIAL SHEETS 3 & 4  
: ARMY FORMIL OF MAY RIVER  
: DISTRICT FORMIL.

Patrol Diary - Telefolmin Patrol No.3-66/67

23rd. November, 1966

All patrol personnel assembled at the Sub-District Office at 0700hrs. Police given firing orders and ten rounds of ammunition each, followed by a general discussion re the security of the patrol. Checked carrier loads and departed TELEFOLMIN 0850hrs with 129 carriers and 17 others. Arrived MISIRMIN 0940hrs and continued on over flat country with steep ascents and descents to occasional creeks. 1050hrs called a halt for carriers to regroup and moved on at 1125hrs. At 1305hrs a second halt was called and moved on at 1400hrs after carriers had regrouped. Steep descent of a limestone bluff to SEPKIALIKMIN arriving at the Rest House at 1455hrs. Set up camp and A510 radio for radio contact with TELEFOLMIN at 1600hrs. Discussions with local villagers and purchased a small quantity of fresh foods. Rations issued and one case of meat found to be rotten. Samples sent back to TELEFOLMIN with a 9mm magazine and ten rounds of ammunition found in the Rest House area. Nine carriers were sent back after being paid off. Slept SEPKIALIKMIN Rest House, Camp 1.3, 300ASL.

24th. November, 1966

Departed SEPKIALIKMIN 0645hrs. Reached crest of a low divide (Sepik/Bagan) at the BAGAN River at 0815hrs. Halt called at 0845hrs and moved on at 0915hrs. Passed through Mr. Wearne's camp site at 0922hrs. After a steep climb arrive at the summit of the Sepik/Elip divide at 1025hrs. Rested while carriers regrouped. Moved on at 1055hrs and followed the divide westward until 1225hrs when another halt was called. Moved on at 1245hrs and descended to the Elip/Sepik junction, arriving 1335hrs. Inspected and tested the existing cane suspension bridge but an adequate fording place found near the actual junction - all across at 1420hrs. Set up camp and paid off 12 more carriers to return to TELEFOLMIN with two WEWAK Police Constables who could not physically take the type of patrolling met thus far. Radio contact with Amanab, Green River and TELEFOLMIN. Replacement arranged to arrive at BOVARIPMIN on 26/11/66. Rations issued and slept Sepik/Elip, camp No.2 1750' A.S.L.

25th. November, 1966

Broke camp in light rain at 0700hrs and passed DITUTEM Creek 0755hrs, and arriving at the cane bridge over the PAK River 0940hrs. The crossing completed by 1040hrs. The Patrol now in Restricted Area. Mr. TRY commenced walking at the rear of the line to keep the carriers grouped up. Arrived at the Sepik River 1130hrs and the Dunk River at 1210hrs. Halt called at 1315hrs. and moved on at 1335hrs, passing through a garden on a ridge above the Sepik River 1345hrs and arrived at BOVARIPMIN at 1355hrs. Grass in camp site cut and tracks cleared by the BOVARIPMIN people. Set up camp. Talked with the local people who gave the patrol a friendly reception. Luluai BARAKSEP of BOVARIPMIN has heard of a raid against a TABU River group

called SANMAN, and allegedly by the URAPMIN group only. Purchased large quantity of fresh foods and had radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1600hrs. Hospital Orderly Amtarapnok of TELEFOIMIN was absent fishing when he should have been treating carriers. Two police were sent to find him. He was reminded that this was a Restricted Area and that nobody was to leave the camp area unless permission was given by Mr. Try or myself. Night guards posted and slept BOVARIPMIN, camp No.3. 1600' A.S.L.

26th. November, 1966

The day spent awaiting arrival of replacement Police, who did not arrive. A group of KARENMIN people arrived from the Sepik River (downstream) at midday with a pig to sell to the patrol. The Luluai of KARENMIN shot the pig with a bamboo arrow which he withdrew almost immediately, thereby retaining the arrow unbroken. He also indicated that he had heard of the URAPMIN raid indirectly, and claims to know no details. When questioned re uncontacted groups he mentioned a group named 'SUMITAN', who are supposed to have been contacted, but who have not been, if their geographical location is correct - head of the BIYAM River. Purchased fresh foods and radio contact with TELEFOIMIN. Guards posted and slept BOVARIPMIN, camp No.3.

27th. November, 1966

Two Police arrived from TELEFOIMIN in A.M.. Revised Census of the group of KARENMIN who have gathered here. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 0900hrs.. Messenger arrived from TELEFOIMIN in P.M.. Fresh foods purchased and issued, and runners sent ahead to other KARENMIN groups. Firing orders and security procedures outlined again to Police and instructions re keeping the carrier line moving and closed up. Remainder of day observed. Guards posted and slept BOVARIPMIN, camp No.3.

28th. November, 1966

Broke camp and arranged carrier line, departing 0705hrs, moving North West and climbing steadily to the summit of the Nam/Sepik divide arriving 0755hrs. Descended to the lower Nam River, arriving and crossing at 0825hrs. Ascended steeply until 0900hrs when a halt was called to allow carriers to regroup. Moved on 0920hrs and arrived at the top of the ridge 0940hrs. Descended to the Nam River headwaters and crossed at 1050hrs. Ascended a nearly sheer ridge until 1112hrs when relatively flat ground was reached and a halt was called. This section was dangerously steep and took the carriers until 1152hrs to cross it. Moved on up the ridge at 1200hrs to arrive at the Miak River KARENMIN settlement at 1232hrs and at the camp site the people had prepared at 1235hrs. Purchased a good quantity of fresh foods and talked with local Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN and GREEN RIVER at 1615hrs and set up camp. Census revised and medical examination completed. Patrol's relations with this group are very good. Guards posted and slept KARENMIN camp No.4. 3800' A.S.L.

29th. November, 1966

Took statement of a Sepik River KARENMIN man re a threat he had heard at TABU River from a FIARIMIN man one month ago. (The patrol to be attacked in rough country, or with axes and bone daggers if in camp, when the Aki River people



came in to sell foods.) Took statement re form and location of the raid(s) and groups concerned. Talked with local people and purchased a large quantity of fresh foods. Radio contact with Telefolmin and Imonda at 1315 and 1615hrs.. Passed details of threat and raid and requirements for Airdrop, including a request for 200yds. of  $\frac{1}{2}$ " rope to cordon off camp area. District Commissioner advised of above from TELEFOLMIN. Checked on day guards during the day. Night Guards posted and slept KARENMIN camp No.4.

30th. November, 1966

Broke camp and departed site 0655hrs and ascended to the South side of the THURNWALD Range. Halt called at 0845hrs (6,800' ASL) to close gaps in carrier line. Moved on 0915hrs to reach the summit 1012hrs (7,400' ASL) Commenced descent 1045hrs over a rock fall, which was dangerously steep and continued descending until 1250hrs when a halt called to rest and regroup carriers. Moved on 1315hrs to reach Mr. Wearne's Tabu River camp site 1410hrs. Set up camp and A510 radio and radio contact with TELEFOLMIN 1615hrs. Several KARENMIN people came into the camp late P.M. to sell fresh foods, and have Census revised, and claiming no knowledge of the raids against the SANMAN group. Arranged for a guide to lead us down the Tabu River valley to the KIMIASOMIN group. Rations issued, guards posted and slept Tabu River, camp No.5. 3,400' ASL.

1st. December, 1966

Broke camp after a wet night and departed 0720hrs and ascended to an established walking track, down a nearly sheer face to the Sogura River, arriving 0820hrs. A KARENMIN youth was the guide. Climbed the other side of the valley after crossing the river until 0845hrs when a taro garden and house occupied by KARENMIN people was reached. Talked with locals and moved on again at 0925hrs. Descended steeply along the Anaro Creek reaching the Tabu/Anaro junction at 1010hrs. Followed the Tabu River downstream, walking in the river bed, and climbing steeply on the South bank from time to time until 1135hrs when a halt was called. At 1200hrs moved on down the Tabu River, crossing and recrossing until 1225hrs when the patrol broke away from the river's South bank. Crossed Wantem creek at 1310hrs and arrived at Mr. Wearne's Camp No.6 at 1335hrs, with the last carrier in at 1355hrs. Rain since 1200hrs has made the day miserable. Set up camp and A510 radio. Rations issued. Poor radio contact with WUTONG and TELEFOLMIN at 1600hrs. Guards posted and slept middle Tabu, camp No.6. 2000' ASL..

2nd. December, 1966

Broke camp and departed 0705hrs and crossed Momuari Ck. 0740hrs; Itaem Ck. 0800hrs; Tabu-Mitumten junction 0810hrs and arrived at the Biaka River 0900hrs. Constructed a log bridge over the Biaka River and all over by 1015hrs and moved on. Crossed and recrossed the Tabu River between knee and neck depths until

until 1310hrs when Mr. Wearne's camp site was reached. Moved on again at 1330hrs down the Tabu until 1505hrs when a halt called. Last carrier in at 1516hrs. Cleared camp site and set up camp and A510 radio. Radio contact with TELEFOLMIN at 1600hrs. Rations issued and patrol gear, wet in the repeated crossings, dried in the sun. Guards posted and slept Tabu camp No. 7. 1000' ASL.

3rd. December, 1966

Tabu River swollen from overnight rain. Tested for fording place during morning without success. Remained in camp as intended route was to follow river bed downstream, and the valley sides too sheer to avoid the river. Three MIANMIN carriers volunteered to locate KIMIASOMIN people on this bank of the river. They returned with two male adults; two female adults; one child about 14 years and a baby in arms. They were not armed and were from the Tabu River URAPMIN group. Purchased food and talked with them and presented them with gifts. They will be utilised to guide us to the SANMAN/KIMIASOMIN camp, inland and upstream from here on the South side of the Tabu River. Radio contact with TELEFOLMIN at 1315hrs. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept Tabu camp No. 7.

4th. December, 1966

More rain overnight and river running high again. Commenced attempting to bridge the river at 0700hrs. Bridge completed and all over 0820hrs. Stood by to talk to TELEFOLMIN at 0900hrs but West Irian was too loud at 0850hrs so commenced walking at 0900hrs with URAPMIN guides. Steep ascent until 1055hrs when main Tabu/Kimiasomin track reached. Halt called 1100hrs and moved on 1120hrs. At 1300hrs met one KIMIASOMIN man, who agreed to guide us to his place. 1312hrs halt called and moved on 1340hrs after carriers regrouped. Our destination was clearly visible one quarter mile away over a steep gorge - it took three full hours to reach it. 1410hrs arrived at the KIMIASOMIN hamlet and talked with locals. Crossed 1430hrs, Sogolomok River, and climbed steeply to a second hamlet whose occupants guided us through very rugged country to a camp site near a third hamlet arriving 1610hrs. Last carrier arriving 1640hrs. The nature of the country is such that the Sogolomok River is fed by waterfalls and not creeks. Set up camp and issued rations after purchasing a small quantity of taro. All KIMIASOMIN people were apparently pleased to see the patrol. Discussed the raid on the SANMAN group with them and were advised that there were three deaths and two abductions. Locals were most co-operative but few young men of fighting age seen. Guards posted with extra warning re alertness. Slept KIMIASOMIN camp No. 8. 3,200' ASL.

5th. December, 1966

Talked with local people re obtaining a guide to the SANMAN group. They indicated their disappointment that the patrol was not staying longer in the area and would not provide a guide. KIMIASOMIN gathered so conducted census of KIMIASOMIN and SOMEIMIN Tabu groups. Purchased further supplies of fresh foods. Twenty new names recorded. Two KIMIASOMIN girls

went to the SANMAN settlement to find it deserted with evidence of the population having fled. Took details of the raid and the names of witnesses and talked KIMIASOMIN men into sending two of their number to SANMAN to collect the six witnesses the girls failed to locate. Girls given a laplap each for their effort and men promised a tomahawk if they succeeded. Inspected and commenced clearing a drop site. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN and IMONDA at 1315 and 1615hrs. Information passed to VANIMO re raid and drop. Rations issued to supplement fresh foods. Guards posted and slept KIMIASOMIN camp No.8.

6th. December, 1966

Supervised work on clearing airdrop site. Interviewed and censused a group of KIMIASOMIN people visiting the patrol from the Sepik Valley. Purchased a plentiful supply of fresh foods and a pig. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1315 and 1615hrs. KIMIASOMIN runners have not yet returned with the SANMAN witnesses. Guards posted and slept KIMIASOMIN camp No.8

7th. December, 1966

Weather report broadcasted to TELEFOIMIN 0745hrs. Police allocated tasks of keeping carriers at a point well clear of drop site; keeping local people well clear of drop site, and manning three fire around the site. Inspected fires, drop site and target position of white tent. 1023hrs heard Cessna well to the North East. 1030hrs Cessna circled high and commenced dropping from the West Flying East, rather than as intended from either North or South. First drop 14 bundles landed on the drop site. Second drop, three on the site and ten into the timber to the North East of the drop site. All bags recovered, but three totally written off after hitting the trees. Total loss including breakages calculated at 15%. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1315 and 1615hrs and Mr. Edgar advised that pilot adversely impressed with the site, however the plane came in low enough to make the drop a success. Local people saw drop from a high garden and were most impressed and helped locate and recover the bundles from the site. Unpacked and arranged dropped rations into carrier loads. Purchased fresh foods which were issued with supplementary rations. BALANKA and MOTUBU - two of the surviving six SANMAN witnesses - arrived with their wives and the KIMIASOMIN runners 1830hrs. Distributed presents and talked with them. Slept KIMIASOMIN camp No.8 with guards posted.

8th. December, 1966

Took statements from BALANKA and MOTUBU of SANMAN group. MOTUBU was later sent ahead to collect further witnesses to the raid on the taro carriers, and two witnesses involved with the woman DOSIN's murder, and the indirect murder of her son (died of loss of food source - his Mother) to meet the patrol at the SANMAN hamlet where the murder weapons are held. The patrol will now be guided by BALANKA. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN, AMANAB, and VANIMO at

1615hrs. Confirmation received re; Issue of Exhumation Papers for five bodies (issued today by Mr. B. McCabe J.P.); Movement of a carrier with chicken-pox. Purchased fresh foods and issued supplementary rations. Guards posted and slept KIMIASOMIN camp No.8

9th. December, 1966

Broke camp and departed site 0725hrs. Crossed Kima Ck. 0750hrs and passed through three more KIMIASOMIN hamlets from 0825 to 0840hrs. Arrived at the junction of the Sogolomok/Kwina Rivers 1015hrs. when a halt called and moved on 1050hrs. crossing and recrossing the Sogolomok River at waist depth, and arrived at Mr. Wearne's camp site at the Sogolomok/Tabu junction at 1150hrs. Proceeded on down the Tabu River and crossed to a SANMAN house arriving 1215hrs - last carrier in at 1225hrs. Set up camp and A510 radio and had contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1315 and 1615hrs. Our guide went to contact some people residing in houses we had passed at 1113hrs. Seventeen SANMAN people arrived at the camp 1800hrs. Purchased fresh foods and after questioning them obtained two more witnesses to the DOSIN murder case. Remainder of witnesses in the Taro Carriers Murder Case are apparently absent on the Sepik River. Four witnesses to accompany the patrol tomorrow to view the bodies buried near the Halagal River. Chicken pox case segregated from the other carriers and kept at the rear of the line. The fresh foods bought were obviously poorer quality than that bought in other places this patrol. Guards posted and slept SANMAN camp No.9 950' ASL.

10th. December, 1966

Broke camp and departed site 0735hrs after discovering that the SANMAN people and the witnesses had fled during the night. The logical move now was to go to the AKI valley via Sepik River IVIKMIN, the only route we have guides for, and collect the SANMAN witnesses on our return trip. Crossed and recrossed the Tabu River moving downstream until 0830hrs when commenced climbing the Tabu/Sepik divide reaching the summit 1000hrs. Descended to a stream, arriving 1125hrs. Halt called 1130hrs at a junction in the stream. Moved on down the stream 1145hrs arriving at its junction with the Fiak River at 1305hrs. Followed the Fiak to its junction with the Sepik River, and walked through a large garden along the Sepik from 1340 to 1410hrs when Mr. Wearne's camp site was reached - last carrier in 1430hrs. Received friendly reception from some IVIKMIN men met in the garden. It appears BALANKA has been lying re happenings at the raid. Retrieved five arrows from the IVIKMIN house 'man' - three of which had been taken from two bodies and two that had missed. Interviewed a nearby group of SANMAN people. One girl has two reasonably fresh arrow wounds and she and two other witnesses claim that the death toll from the raid is nine. Each bodies whereabouts were accounted for. As reports vary so much an actual count of bodies will be necessary before the final number is certain.

- Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1615hrs.  
Rations issued and guards posted. Slept  
IVIKMIN camp No. 10. 800' ASL
- 11th. December, 1966  
Took statements from four SANMAN witnesses.  
Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN on the alternative  
frequency of 5760 proved a success. Revised  
census of Sepik River IVIKMIN people. Witnesses  
to remain in our camp with some MIANMIN carriers.  
Purchased fresh foods. Guards posted and slept  
IVIKMIN camp No. 10
- 12th. December, 1966  
Broke camp and departed site at 0715hrs  
following the Amania River upstream until  
0830hrs. Climbed along a ridge until 0920hrs  
when the summit of the Sepik/Tabu divide was  
reached. Descended along along ridge (until  
0920hrs) arriving at the Tabu River 1050hrs.  
Moved upstream until 1135hrs when the Tabu River  
crossed and a halt called at 1140hrs. Moved  
upstream along the Guguma River at 1215hrs  
until 1240hrs when Mr. Wearne's camp site  
reached - last carrier arriving at 1250hrs.  
Set up camp and A510 and had radio contact  
with TELEFOIMIN at 1315 and 1615hrs. Witnesses  
proved most reluctant to accompany the patrol  
back to the scene of the raid. Corporal  
KUSIMNOK instructed to leave ATBALMIN Rural  
Police Post tomorrow morning to meet these  
witnesses and their escorts of IVIKMIN people  
and a TELEFOIMIN interpreter at the Sepik  
IVIKMIN camp site on Thursday 15/12/66, and to  
accompany them back to TELEFOIMIN. Iuluai  
YAMGAP also agreed to help escorting these people  
back to TELEFOIMIN. VANIMO advised through  
TELEFOIMIN of these arrangements. Rations  
issued to Police. Slept Guguma Camp site No. 11  
with guards posted at 850' ASL.
- 13th. December, 1966  
Broke camp and departed site 0700hrs and moved  
upstream along the Guguma River arriving 0905hrs  
at the junction of the Guguma and Haiagal Rivers.  
Moved off up the Haiagal River at 0912hrs and  
called a halt at 0930hrs at a house on the  
bank of the Haiagal River. Accompanied by  
Mr. TRY, Interpreter and witnesses with two  
police Constables to examine a body. Took  
photographs; made sketches and diagrams and took  
statements on the spot from witnesses.  
Extracted seventeen arrow pieces from the  
skeleton. At 1215hrs moved on up the Haiagal  
River and left same at 1217hrs and crossed the  
Haiagal/Guguma divide arriving Guguma River at  
1229hrs and proceeded upstream along the  
Guguma until 1253hrs when the North bank of  
the River was climbed. At 1302hrs a halt was  
called and camp and A510 set up. Accompanied  
by Mr. TRY, two Police Constables, interpreter  
and witnesses, moved through a large garden  
to examine a second body which had been  
placed on a bed. Full examination carried  
out as mentioned earlier. Returned to camp  
and made radio contact with TELEFOIMIN. Camp  
area cordoned off with rope. Rations issued  
guard posted and slept Guguma camp No. 12  
1,450' ASL

14th. December, 1966

A wet day. Departed 0745hrs from camp and proceeded East until 0855hrs with Mr. TRY, four Police Constables, Interpreter and witnesses (approx. One Half mile). Examined a house and two skeletons, the bones of which had been well scattered, possibly by pigs. Full investigation completed and returned to camp. Interpreter, ten TELEFOIMIN carriers, six IVIKMINS and five witnesses, escorted by eight Police departed camp site at 1100hrs for Guguma/Tabu junction. Police escort returned to the camp at 1700hrs and reported no untoward incident, and the party had been left in a safe area of IVIKMIN land to proceed to IVIKMIN en route to TELEFOIMIN. Four police and ninety carriers worked in clearing a large area of bush around the camp site, to give us an adequate view of anybody approaching. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN and ATBALMIN. Rations issued and slept Guguma camp No.12

15th. December, 1966

Broke camp and departed site at 0710hrs and climbed along a ridge to the top of the Guguma/Aki divide arriving 0800hrs. Proceeded cautiously through an old garden (deserted) and hamlet, until people were heard in the bush. The patrol was halted and accompanied by Mr. TRY, eight Police and the Interpreter we returned by another track to investigate, only to hear a man calling out that he had seen the tracks of a large party. The URAPMIN hamlets were obviously close, so we returned to the carriers and followed a maze of tracks through old abandoned gardens in heavy rain. Approached two houses and held the inhabitants who were trying to flee. Two men named by the SANMAN as raiders were captured here. Two more men and a youth walked in on the patrol and were also held. Both men were named by the SANMAN people. Upon being told that Luluai PANAP was at a singsing house nearby, the patrol moved there to find it deserted. The house was a large structure with eighteen fireplaces. Returned past the two houses mentioned above and through a large taro garden to an easily defended camp site. Set up camp and A510 radio. Sent a youth to contact Luluai PANAP and return with him. A further ten URAPMIN men arrived and were held after a scuffle developed when the SANMAN raid was mentioned. One SANMAN/URAPMIN half-caste claiming SANMAN affiliations also held to assist in locating the remaining SANMAN witnesses. All fourteen URAPMINS arrested and the charge explained to them. A formal caution was given and explained. Purchased small quantity of fresh foods from URAPMIN women. Set labourers to clearing a large area around the camp site. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1315 and 1615hrs. People heard calling out in late afternoon, but did not come when Interpreter called to them to do so. Camp cordoned off with rope. Guards posted and rations issued. Slept URAPMIN camp site No.13  
1900' ASL

- 16th. December, 1966 Prisoners again cautioned and the caution explained to them. They were then asked if anyone wished to make a statement. Four men immediately indicated that they did. Took confessions of WIKATEME, DEI TENIP, MEMINAP, IANOWARA and a statement from a woman witness to the raiders leaving URAPMIN. Purchased taro from the URAPMIN women and carriers enlarged clearing around the camp site. No sign of any other local people seen. Rations issued to supplement taro. Radio contact with TELEPOIMIN at 1615hrs. Slept URAPMIN camp No.13, with guards posted.
- 17th. December, 1966 Confessions taken from KAMABINAP, NEFTIAM, BITANOMAP, YEWONAP, SENDIMAP and a statement from WAGALISAP. Interviewed Lulual FANAP in relation to the layout, position and population of FIARIMIN. Took down names of further FIARIMIN offenders, giving a total of 94 names. Radio contact with TELEPOIMIN at 1600hrs. Food purchased and guards posted. Slept URAPMIN camp No.13
- 18th. December, 1966 Broke camp and departed URAPMIN 0735hrs in light rain. Reached the AKI River and hour late - r. Spent several hours felling trees to make a bridge. Set line to setting up camp and then felled a tree which was not washed away. Crossed with Mr. Try and a strong party of Police to investigate a FIARIMIN singsing house reported to be within earshot. Moved on for fifteen minutes and then despatched one constable to tell the rest of the patrol to catch us up, as the house was evidently further than expected. Constable PAULUS then crossed the bridge which was soon after washed away in a five foot flash flood. Proceeded on to the singsing house which was found deserted. Lulual FANAP of URAPMIN had lead us on a wild goose chase, and then topped everything by escaping from two police guards, while showing the way to a garden. Later voices were heard calling out further up the valley. Heavy rain had been falling during this time. Supervised the collection of firewood while another party collected sufficient food for all concerned - taro from a nearby garden. The only thing in the singsing house of interest was a human skull. Slept in the FIARIMIN singsing house. Two guards posted. All fed on taro and cooking bananas, and were in turn eaten by numerous cockroaches. It continued to rain throughout the night. This being marked on the map as camp No.14
- 19th. December, 1966 Breakfasted on taro and moved off cautiously at 0620hrs for the Aki River, arriving 0715hrs. En route, a cane bridge across the Aki River was noticed to have been cut and demolished on the FIARIMIN side of the river. Prisoners caught today say it was because they were scared of Sanguma being practiced on them by the URAPMINS. Constructed a bridge over the Aki River and all members of the patrol over by 0910hrs. Moved back to the singsing house with caution to find the tracks of three

people who evidently investigated the house after we left. Four Police remained with the carriers to move the patrol behind a forward party, while following the tracks of these people. The forward party consisting of Mr. Fry, eight Police, Interpreter and self. Held two FIARIMIN men in a large garden area. They were formally arrested and cautioned. Set up camp on a steep bluff, approachable from only two sides. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN AT 1615hrs. A human skull found in a shelter next to the camp site. Guards posted and slept Bluff camp No.15 1400' ASL

20th. December, 1966

Questioned the FIARIMIN prisoners re position of houses and gardens on other side of the Range to the East. Sent Police off at dawn to gardens surrounding the camp to try and catch food gatherers. They returned in the afternoon without seeing anybody but with news of tracks of a large group of people heading East. Dried rations in the sun after the drenching of 18/12/66. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN and ATEALMIN 1315 and 1615hrs. Sent details re requirements and position for next airdrop (23/12/66). Guards posted and slept Bluff camp No. 15

21st. December, 1966

Broke camp and departed site at 0720hrs and crossed the Ongwide/Samal divide at its Western extremity above the Aki River. Called a halt at 0910hrs to consult with FIARIMIN prisoners. Moved on 0948hrs through rough country, moving East along the North side of the Samal River, passing through old garden areas and investigating many deserted isolated houses, but never seeing people or fresh tracks. ~~houses~~ Towards the head of the Samal River, we crossed the river where it passes through a dangerously steep and deep gorge. Climbed 2000' from the water, hand over hand, using occasional ladders, cane ropes and tree roots to facilitate the negotiation of the practically sheer wall, to reach a large garden and three houses, long deserted, arriving 1500hrs - last carrier in at 1600hrs. Investigated top of ridge for possible airdrop site while camp and A510 set up. Poor radio contact with TELEFOIMIN due static. One MIANMIN carrier treated for injuries sustained in a fall while negotiating a rock ledge. This is the only area I have seen where safety rails have been built along purely native garden pads. Guards posted and slept Samal River camp No.16 . 3,000' ASL

22nd. December, 1966

Broke camp and departed site at 0725hrs moving South West until 0945hrs when halt called at an old singsing house site, with the last carrier arriving at 1010hrs. Set up camp and A510 radio. Commenced clearing an airdrop site to the East of the camp site. Examined a 'haus Tambaran' at the camp site which contained 23 human skulls and numerous other bones. Some of the ossuary bones having been painted. Radio contact with ATEALMIN and TELEFOIMIN and drop site details and patrols future plans discussed. All indications are that the FIARIMIN people are to our East. Guards posted and slept Aki airdrop site, camp No. 17. 1850' ASL



23rd. December, 1966

Checked airdrop site and arranged white tent in target area. Three fire teams placed and fires lit 0940hrs. Patrol camp cleared of all people and positioned well clear of the drop site. At 1000hrs a Cessna 185 heard from the South which then circled and commenced dropping. Fourteen bags dropped in the first drop and all overshot the target but none were lost. Moved target back to get pilot to drop earlier. Cessna returned at 1120 and commenced dropping. Recovered all 24 bags - the only casualties were six tins of meat which were split but still useable, giving 100% recovery. Opened dropped bags and had carrier loads arranged. Cooled a bottle of champagne in a bag of ice-cubes dropped with the mail, Xmas cake, plum pudding and other sweets. Read mail and opened dropped Xmas gifts. The Xmas celebrations were held early while the ice lasted. 100lb rice thrown out as it was not edible due to mould, from repeated wettings. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept Aki airdrop site camp No. 17

24th. December, 1966

Poured rain all last night and continued throughout the day. Prisoners interrogated re some houses seen by Mr. E.J. Mitchell from the airdrop plane yesterday. Rations issued and radio contact with TELEFOIMIN. Slept camp No.17

25th. December, 1966

Xmas Day. Departed camp site with a strong party at 0620hrs to investigate some smoke seen yesterday afternoon at the head of the Samal River. Passed camp site of 21/12/66 at 0800hrs and took bearings. At 1000hrs descended to the area where the smoke was seen. Three men and three children held and then followed fresh tracks to the East towards the Fiak River until 1120hrs when the party decided to return to the camp via another route, arriving 1430hrs. Interrogated new arrivals re location of the rest of the group. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept Camp No. 17

26th. December, 1966

Sent a group of friendly East MIANMINS to contact the MOWAIMIN group and advise of the patrol's approach one day behind them. They reported that the MOWAIMINS were willing to apprehend any FIARIMIN people hiding in their area. Confession taken from NEIFURAP of URAP IN. Interviewed and collated information from other prisoners. Purchased two small pigs from a FIAREMIN man after he expressed a desire to sell them. Both pigs shot in a fire power demonstration for all locals present. Radio contact with AMANAB and TELEFOIMIN at 1600hrs. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept camp No.17

27th. December, 1966

Driving wind and rain from 0400 to 1000hrs. Broke camp and departed site at 1110hrs. Moved East to a hamlet and garden (both deserted) arriving 1215hrs. Moved on until a small area of level ground located at 1400hrs. Halt called and last carrier in at 1425hrs. Set up camp beside the Eregantem Ck. near its junction with the Dogoma River. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept Eregantem Camp No.18. 1,800' ASL

28th. December, 1966

Broke camp and departed at 0710hrs moving generally East. Crossed the Dogoma at 0720hrs at 1,500' ASL. Ascended to ridge top arriving 0745hrs and 2,600' ASL. Descended to Gemo Ck 0840hrs and 1,600' ASL. Ascended another ridge and thence over broken country, still moving East until 1025hrs when a halt called. Moved on 1045hrs and crossed Amiso Ck 1125hrs; Amiso/Sumo ridge and then Sumo Ck 1155hrs and at the top of the Fiak/Aki divide 1335hrs. and 3,500' ASL. to obtain a good view of Mt. KASA partly obscured by cloud. Descended to MOWAIMIN hamlet and was met by Luluai EMSERAPNOK of MOWAIMIN and the group of East MIANNINS who had arrived the day before, arriving 1425hrs. - Last carrier arriving 1500hrs. Talked with these people and was advised that the FIARIMIN had left here about one month ago. Set up A510 radio. EMSERAPNOK advised that a camp site and food had been prepared for us at his hamlet 'nearby'. Sent ten police with carriers to set up camp at 1510hrs. Rain started in earnest at 1530hrs. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN and was advised (~~of the escape of some of the prisoners~~) that three prisoners held here have been named by the SANMAN witnesses at TELEFOIMIN. Packed radio and commenced moving East at 1625hrs in heavy rain. Picked up bunches of straggling carriers until 1820hrs when camp site reached. Rations issued in excess of scale to raise morale after a trying day for all concerned. Guards posted and slept MOWAIMIN camp No.19 . 2,100' ASL

29th. December, 1966

Heavy rain all last night. Talked with local MOWAIMIN people and purchased a large quantity of taro and a pig. Relations with these people are excellent. Improved the camp which was put up hurriedly last night. Spent the day here as Medical Orderly and some carriers are very ill. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN and indirectly with VANIMO. District Commissioner approved the sending of two Police, Medical Orderly and fourteen carriers back to TELEFOIMIN. Police strength now reduced to Ten only. Arranged loads for these people to take back to TELEFOIMIN. Inspected the local MOWAIMIN 'haus Tambaran' which contained nineteen human skulls plus some pig and cassowary bones. Guards posted and slept MOWAIMIN camp No.19

30th. December, 1966

Broke camp and departed site at 0740hrs after making a final check of the section of the patrol to go to TELEFOIMIN, also checking Police ammunition. Retraced steps of 28/12/66 arriving at top of Aki/Fiak divide at 1025hrs. Rested and moved on at 1050hrs. A second halt called at 1300hrs for carriers to regroup. Moved on at 1325hrs and called a final halt by a small stream at 1345hrs - last carrier arriving 1410hrs. Cleared a camp site and set up camp and A510 radio in light rain. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN, rations issued and guards posted. Slept Fumame Ck camp No.20 2,000' ASL.

31st, December, 1967

Broke camp and departed site at 0725hrs and further retraced steps of 28/12/66 to our previous camp site No.17 of the 27/12/66 arriving 0950hrs. Waited for rain to stop. Moved on through the continuing rain at 1130hrs retracing steps of the 27/12/66 to the garden hamlet of NABISUABIP. Approached and entered garden hamlet with caution to find it deserted. No fresh tracks found. Arrived 1255hrs with last carrier in at 1320hrs. Set up camp and A510 for radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1600hrs. Sent scouting party to our Samal River camp No.16 which is located over the ridge which shelters NABISUABIP from the view of the rest of the FIARMIN area, in an endeavour to find indications of the presence of the FIARMIN people. The party returned at 1800hrs after seeing no signs of people in the Samal valley. It continued to rain heavily all afternoon and night. Guards posted and rations issued. Slept NABISUABIP camp No.21. The repeated soakings of the altimeter have made it U/S

1st. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed site at 0740hrs and crossed ridge to the NorthWest arriving camp No.16 at 0820hrs, then retraced steps of 21/12/66 and reached to bottom of the Samal Gorge 0920hrs. Ascended to a house on the side of the gorge and found it deserted at 0955hrs. Halt called to allow party to regroup and last carrier in at 1022hrs. Medical treatment given to a carrier who fell under a patrol box while negotiating the gorge face, in roughly the same spot as the accident of the 21/12/66. Two bows and a dozen arrows plus freshly cut taro heads found in the gardens in the Samal Valley but no tracks. 1040hrs moved on retracing the steps of 21/12/66 and a halt called at 1315hrs at a junction in the track above the gardens and houses in the Ongwida River valley. At 1335hrs moved on making a sweep through the area approaching each house and garden known to the patrol with caution. No people or fresh tracks seen. Two arrows were found to have been placed in the house singsing (camp No.14 of 18/12/66) since our last visit, but no fresh tracks found. Arrived at the Bluff camp No. 15 which will now also be No.22 at 1545hrs with the last carrier arriving 1605hrs. Set up camp. The most recent tracks seem to indicate the headwaters of the Eight May as the present hide-out. Guards posted and slept camp No.22

2nd. January, 1967

Remained at camp. Sent a Police party to the head of the Ongwida River to search for sign of the locals, within hearing of the camp. No signs or smoke seen in the FIARMIN or URAFMIN areas. Placed tent fly flat on the ground and spread the damp rice out to dry. Compiled a map of all the details and observations of the patrol to date. Investigation showed the existence of a track over the ridge to the North East of the camp, which will be followed tomorrow. Police are evidently alert. A dark movement in the trees and a splash in the river below the camp resulted in this section of the river being almost immediately surrounded. The 'man' turned out to be the fallen branch of a tree. Guards posted and Slept camp No.22

3rd. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0740hrs. Crossed the Ongwida River and climbed steadily until 0915hrs. when the summit of the Ongwida/Einam divide was reached. Passed several bush houses en route and found 15 arrows in one of them. Indications are that a large number of people moved along it approximately one week ago. Descended to the North West into the Einam valley and reached a house containing a human skull at 0955hrs. By 1110hrs the track had turned to the West. Called a halt and moved on again at 1150hrs and at 1250hrs reached an un-named stream and followed it in a WNW direction until 1325hrs when its junction with the Einam River was reached. The tracks were lost in the wider Einam River and no indication of direction could be found. Last carrier in at 1345hrs. Set up camp and sent parties to search up and down river and inland from its North West bank for tracks. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1615hrs. Indications were that the people had fled downstream. Guards posted and slept Binam camp No.23.

4th. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0740hrs. Overnight rain caused a slight rise in the river level which made parts of it dangerous and slowed progress. Abandoned attempt to follow river and then followed a track which left the East bank of the Einam No. recent tracks so followed the pad in the direction of URAPMIN. Moved in a semi-circle from the SW to the SE through the day over very broken country with high ridges and steep and deep valleys. No people or fresh tracks seen. Halts called at 1215 and 1430hrs for the patrol to regroup. Arrived at an old hamlet site overlooking the Aki valley, and facing the URAPMIN area on the South side of the valley at 1510hrs. Cleared camp site and set up camp and A510 for radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1600hrs. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept Old URAPMIN camp site No.24

5th. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0730hrs. Located pad and recent tracks at 0740hrs. Followed this pad until 0830hrs when the Aki River was reached. Forded the Aki River at chest depth with the aid of a rope. All safely over at 0930hrs. Moved on and climbed steadily to the South West until 1015hrs when the URAPMIN singing house was reached. Sent party out to locate fresh tracks. They returned at 1600hrs with word that they had seen two men who had escaped them. They found fresh tracks (yesterday) of a large group moving North West downstream along the Aki River. Took bearings and checked maps. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN. Guards posted and slept URAPMIN singing house camp No.25

6th. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0725hrs. Moved NW and crossed a large stream 0810hrs. Passed the two bush houses where the two men were seen yesterday and descended steeply to the Aki River arriving

0845hrs. All across by 0920hrs. The bridge used is immediately upstream from the Aki/Totema junction. The track turned up the Totema River and was lost. After an unsuccessful search moved on a bearing of 270 degrees, cutting a track as we went with the intention of striking the Aki River further downstream. Located and followed a faint pad along the Totema/Aki divide to suddenly come across fresh tracks and taro leaves, joining the track from the Totema side, of the divide. Followed this track uphill to the NW and heard a dog howling ahead and at 1053hrs arrived at a group of eight newly constructed and hidden houses and startled three pigs whose rustling beside the track was first taken to be an ambush. After examining houses fresh tracks were found going in three directions and made this morning. Hid cargo in forest near the bush houses and followed the Northernmost set of tracks. These went NNW then curved West under the Totema/Aki divide, thence over the divide in a SW direction, thence proceeded West along a spur. The patrol proceeded with due caution examining side tracks en route. A single man was found standing by the track and overlooking it as a guard. He saw Constable MARAGORI who was tracking and fired an arrow at him, narrowly missing him. The man then dived over the side of the ridge, and the patrol followed him without finding him. Constable PAULUS then heard voices while searching for further tracks. The patrol regrouped and quickly surrounded a group of four men who were sitting around a fire - about five minutes from where the guard was found. Three men were held and one escaped. These men were arrested, handcuffed and cautioned. Returned along the spur to the camp arriving 1530hrs. Interrogated these prisoners. Set up camp and A510 for radio contact with TELPOLMIN and indirectly with VANIMO. Learned that drop postponed until Thursday next. The new captures have raised morale amongst the patrol members considerably. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept TUMIPBIP camp No.26

7th. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0745hrs and followed ridge line to the NW and thence West until 0930hrs when arrived above the hamlet GOLOLOBIP. Carriers regrouped. Mr. Try arrived from the tail end of the line very ill after having taken ten Sulphur Dimidine tablets which were given to him as Sulphur Guanadine. Approached GOLOLOBIP cautiously to find it deserted. Mr. Try physically unable to continue so set up camp with last carrier arriving 1030hrs. A quantity of arrows found in a small singing house. Followed tracks in the area but saw no people. Radio contact with TELEPOLMIN. Guards posted and slept GOLOLOBIP camp No.27

8th. Jnauary, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0720hrs following a pad to the NW along the Aki ridge. No recent tracks so circled to the North and thence back to the East along a ridge line hoping to cross tracks but without success. Arrived back at GOLOLOBIP camp site 1430hrs and set up camp and A510 for radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1600hrs. Again interrogated prisoners. Guards posted and slept camp No.27

9th. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0715hrs moving West to the Bigina River arriving 0800hrs, thence NW along a ridge line which dips gently to the plains country of the lower Aki and August Rivers until 1130hrs when the Habuga Ck was reached, and followed it to its junction with the Saura River arriving 1145hrs and thence down the Saura to the Aki River arriving 1155hrs. Followed the Aki to a newly constructed cane suspension bridge arriving 1210hrs. Crossed to the South bank and examined a nearby garden and house while police supervised the carriers crossing. Halt called at another house on the far side of the garden at 1230hrs to allow carriers to regroup. Moved on 1320hrs through a second garden and ascended steeply to a house singing arriving 1345hrs. After examining the house moved on ten minutes to a suitable camp site and set up camp and A510. Last carrier arriving 1410hrs. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN and advised that airdrop was to be Wednesday. Guards posted and slept TIBINTIBIP camp No.28

10th. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0735hrs and ascended to the summit of the Aki/Tabu divide, thence East along the divide until 0835hrs when halt called. Prisoners changed their minds re location of raiding groups - our objective had apparently been demolished and abandoned years ago. Set up camp and cleared an airdrop site. Radio contact failed at 1315hrs due tree cover. Radio set up on airdrop site and contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1630hrs. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept Aki/Tabu divide camp No.29

11th. January, 1967

Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN 0800 and 1600hrs. Placed two fires and white tent as target on drop site. Bad weather all morning so commenced construction of helicopter pad on drop site. Cessna 185 returned at 1300hrs for first drop and returned to TELEFOIMIN at 1320hrs. The second drop commenced at 1425hrs and from the same unnecessary height. Recovered 31 of the 32 bundles dropped. Loss and breakages calculated at 15%. Divided recovered bags up into carrier loads and completed helicopter landing pad. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept camp No.29

12th. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0745hrs. Followed crest of the Aki/Tabu divide Westward and gently descending until 1010hrs when descended to Aki River arriving 1055hrs and halt called. A sick carrier slowed the line down and last carrier arrived 1155hrs. Constructed a log raft to transport the invalid down to a garden seen

from the divide. Mr. Try, two police, interpreter and invalid cast off at 1310hrs. Mr. Bragge accompanied on a 'lilo'. Carriers in care of Police kept pace along the bank. After hair-raising trip arrived at a house and garden area at 1500hrs. - carriers arrived 1510hrs. Investigated hamlet on opposite side of the river on a ridge. Set up camp and A510 for radio contact with TELEFOIMIN. Transmissions heard from TELEFOIMIN, MAY RIVER and VANIMO but our transmission evidently not heard. Repaired A510 later in day. Issued rations and guards posted. Slept SERAWANIA garden camp No.30

13th. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0750hrs. with the invalid being carried. Walked without guides taking the West branch in the track at each fork arriving Tabu River, South of the SERAWANIA camp 0955hrs. Moved West along the Tabu River until 1025hrs when halt called. Moved on 1100hrs and lost all sign of the track. Walked on compass bearing of 315 degrees until reaching a track going NW at the top of the ridge. Lost the track so moved on a bearing of 0 degrees for ten minutes then 270 degrees for ten minutes, cutting track as we went to regain the lost track and followed this to the Tabu River to its junction with the Aki River arriving 1330hrs - carriers became spread out. Last carrier arriving 1445hrs. Set up camp and A510 for radio contact with TELEFOIMIN and AMANAB 1615hrs. Camp position just downstream of Mr. Mulcahy's 1965 drop site, from GREEN RIVER. Possible airstrip sites to be investigated tomorrow. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept Aki/Tabu junction, camp No.31

14th. January, 1967

Examined shape of Aki/Tabu junction and took bearings. Selected likely starting point with good approach to the SW. Cut a line on a bearing of 50 degrees for 1100 feet before striking the Aki River. Selected a point on the Aki and cut a line for 2000 feet back to the Tabu on a bearing of 235 degrees. Further investigated this area and returned to camp at 1545hrs. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1600hrs. Today's information tabulated and drawn to scale. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept camp No.31

15th. January, 1967

Further surveying of proposed strip site by marking boundaries and natural features. A group of local SERAWANIA people seen on opposite bank of Aki River. A cane bridge was commenced and completed at 1650hrs. Discussion with these people disclosed the presence of an alleged 'kiap' from GREEN RIVER, West of our camp site. A coin was tossed, resulting in Mr. Try remaining in the camp while I took 5 Police and two carriers with the interpreter and two local guides and departed 1300hrs. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN at 1600hrs when this information and subsequent ~~informa~~ action taken was passed. Rations issued and guards posted. Mr. Bragge and party returned approx. 1900hrs. Slept camp No.31

16th. January, 1966

Continued surveying boundaries of the area surrounding the proposed strip site. Returned to camp 1445hrs and plotted bearings of the perimeter. Purchased fresh foods and two pigs from the local SERAWANIA people who appeared very friendly. Radio contact with TELEPOIMIN AT 1600hrs. Guards posted and slept camp No.31

17th. January, 1967

Completed survey of strip site with Abney level readings along centre line and any outstanding features. Possible airstrip 2,100' x 200' now mapped and marked. Purchased fresh foods and talked with SERAWANIA, BUBRIARI and Sepik River IVIKMIN people who visited the camp during the day. Ammunition checked and rounds issued to replace legitimately expended rounds. Radio contact with TELEPOIMIN at 1615hrs. Guards posted and slept camp No.31

18th. January, 1967

Overnight rain caused the Tabu River to rise above a fordable level. Commenced construction of a cane suspension bridge over the Tabu River, completed at 1630hrs. Purchased further fresh foods. Headman ITRUBET provisionally appointed Lulual of the SERAWANIA group and explained meaning of the appointment. Radio contact with TELEPOIMIN at 1315 and 1615hrs. Checked stores held and requirements for resupply. Guards posted and slept Camp No.31.

19th. January, 1967

Awakened 2400hrs by Police Guard to be advised that the Tabu and Aki Rivers were in flood and the camp was in danger; That the majority of carriers had fled. Made secure with rope all readily available and accessible objects and departed with all remaining personnel and the few essential items that could be gathered in a hasty exit, as the water was then shin to knee deep in the camp area and rising fast in the still heavy rain. Attempted a compass bearing traverse, but compass haywire and indicated a course into the Tabu River. Blundered in the direction of the highest ground seen during the airstrip survey through water waist to chest deep and full of secondary growth. Forty-five minutes later arrived at dry ground and lit large fires for warmth and to boost morale. Constable Baron, Maragori and self returned to camp and made secure further objects and brought out a radio aerial two cameras and a tent. At 0400hrs water receded and self, Mr. Try and several others returned to camp to make inspection of damage. 0500hrs retired amongst the wreckage to rise again at 0700hrs when all patrol personnel returned to camp and were accounted for. Packed patrol gear and moved off 0900hrs. All over the Tabu bridge (180') by 1020hrs. The flood waters had risen some 15' above normal level, with 3' plus of water through the camp area. Arrived at the Oroka/Yabsi (August) Rivers junction and set up camp at 1250hrs. Talked with a group of Sepik IVIKMIN people who gave us an excellent reception, and purchased fresh foods. Radio contact with TELEPOIMIN at 1315 and 1615hrs.



While patrol gear dried in the sun examined a second strip site, and found it covered in grey mud from last night's flood, as was the Ak/Tabu junction strip site. The third strip site, where the August and Sepik nearly meet will not be visited. Guards posted and slept Oroka/Yabsi junction camp No. 32

20th. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed along the Oroka River 0740hrs until 0815hrs when a tributary of the Oroka was followed South. Arrived at the top of the August/Sepik divide 0950hrs and at a large house singsing at 1005hrs. Talked with some assembled locals and inspected the house singsing which overlooks the Sepik/Din Rivers junction. After being encouraged to stay, camp was set up half an hour further on in a large taro garden. Purchased fresh foods. Completed initial Census of this group which shall be called IVIKMIN No.2. AMBEP appointed provisional Lu'uai and his duties explained. Radio contact with TELEFOIMIN 1315 and 1615hrs. Guards posted and slept IVIKMIN No.2 camp No.33

21st. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed upstream along the Sepik River 0750hrs. Sepik River flooded and movement difficult in places. Halt called at 1140hrs to allow patrol to regroup. Moved on 1250hrs and arrived at the IVIKMIN singsing house 1340hrs and at the camp site No.10 of the 10.12.66. Set up camp and A510. Purchased fresh foods. Decided to return direct to the Station along the Sepik River as no SANDMAN witnesses are available to show us the remaining bodies or name the SOMEIMIN offenders. Received a standing ovation from all the carriers as the decision to return to the Station was announced. Guards posted and slept IVIKMIN camp No.34 (previously camp No 10)

22nd. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0750hrs. Followed the Sepik River upstream until 1025hrs when a large IVIKMIN garden was reached, with the last carrier arriving 1055hrs. Contacted locals and requested food. This took considerable time so decided to set up camp. Guards posted and slept IVIKMIN garden camp No.35

23rd. January, 1967

Broke camp and departed 0630hrs and followed the Sepik river upstream until 0953hrs when halt called to allow carriers to regroup. Moved on 1035hrs up the Sepik and arrived opposite WIMBERAMIN hamlet (Atbalmin group) 1305hrs. Conducted shouted conversation with them across the river as the bridge was broken. Moved on 15 minutes to a steep camp site and set up camp and A510 radio for contact with TELEFOIMIN and IMONDA at 1615hrs. Last carrier arriving 1420hrs. Advised TELEFOIMIN we would have no further radio contact with them until we reached the station in approximately one week's time. Rations issued and guards posted. Purchased small quantity of fresh foods from locals who had managed to swim the river. Slept opposite WIMBERAMIN garden. Camp No.36

- 24th. January, 1967  
Broke camp and departed site 0730hrs. Followed the Sepik River upstream until 0910hrs when a cane suspension bridge across the Sepik was reached. The patrol was met by three WIMMERAMIN people who wished to accompany the patrol to seek employment, as they had not been to TELFOLMIN before. Halt called and allowed carriers to regroup and moved on at 1135hrs still following the Sepik River. Arrived opposite the Iugum/Sepik junction 1320hrs and halt called with last carrier arriving 1350hrs. Set up camp. Rations issued and guards posted. Slept opposite Iugum/Sepik junction. Camp No.37
- 25th. January, 1967  
Broke camp and departed site 0730hrs moving upstream along the Sepik River. Passed through KARENMIN garden areas and was eventually met by Iuluai FURURAP of KARENMIN at 0940hrs. Set up camp in order to make use of the plentiful food supply. Last carrier arriving 1005hrs. Purchased sufficient taro for two days rationing of the patrol and had general discussions with the local people. Guards posted and slept KARENMIN camp No.38
- 26th. January, 1967  
Broke camp and departed 0730hrs and followed the Sepik River upstream until 1005hrs when reached the Nam/Sepik junction and the Dagaram Ck hamlet of BOVARIPMIN at 1050hrs. Moved on at 1130hrs and reached the Fak River at 1310hrs. Continued upstream until 1330hrs when new bridge was reached and crossed with the last carrier over the bridge at 1415hrs and into the camp site 1425hrs. Set up camp and rations issued to Police only. As we are now out of the Restricted Area the only guards used will be over the prisoners. Slept Fak/Sepik junction, camp No.39
- 27th. January, 1967  
Broke camp and departed site 0615hrs and ascended and crossed broken country to the Elip/Sepik junction arriving 0837hrs. Continued on to the long ascent of the spur of the Elip Sepik divide reaching the summit and calling a halt at 1050hrs. Allowed carriers to regroup and eat taro carried with them. The steep descent commenced at 1130hrs and crossed the Bagan River at 1250hrs and arrived at SEPKIALIKMIN Rest House at 1425hrs and last carrier arriving 1455hrs. Sepkialikmin and Athalmin people were met at the site of a new cane suspension bridge over the Sepik River immediately below the Rest House. Negligible fresh foods offered for sale as usual. Moved into Rest House and set up tents and housing for other patrol members. Rations issued and police ammunition checked and accounted for. Slept SEPKIALIKMIN Rest House, camp No.40
- 28th. January, 1966  
Broke camp and departed SEPKIALIKMIN 0610hrs and arrived MISSIMIN 0945hrs and TELFOLMIN 1100hrs. Paid off carriers and issued rations

sufficient to see them home. Sorted patrol gear and checked ammunition and returned it to the office safe, and stocks register amended. Prisoners admitted to the Corrective Institution and Police stood down.

END OF PATROL.



.....  
L. W. Bragge  
a/Assistant District Commissioner

## INTRODUCTION

1. In accordance with standing instructions in relation to patrols into Restricted areas, this report is of the formal type with an extra copy for headquarters.
2. The patrol was mounted to "investigate reports of an attack by a West Mianmin group of people on a hamlet, Boliap of the Kimiasomin group..." Full details are set out in the patrol instructions which were issued by the District Commissioner Mr Glancy. The original reports of the raid were made to Mr Mitchell's East Mianmin patrol (Telefomin Patrol No 2/66-67) when at Mawaimin. Word also reached the Telefomin area by word of mouth along the Sepik river from Ivikmin No 1. The original reports were vague and conflicting in some respects. The established points seemed to be that between two and seven people had been murdered by raiders from Urapmin and Fiarimin groups of the Aki valley, and possibly from Someimin. The reason was said to be sorcery committed by the raided group. Other details were too vague to be given any importance. The investigation was commenced on the basis of this information. Full details are set out in the body of the report.
3. It was found that seven people had been murdered and two children abducted from the previously unknown Samman group. The killing was done in two distinct raids, the first by the Someimin group and the second by the combined Urapmin and Fiarimin groups. The patrol made twenty arrests and the prisoners were returned to Telefomin station.
4. The only untoward incident during the patrol was when an Urapmin guard was surprised and fired an arrow at Const. Maregori, narrowly missing his head. Previously the patrol had been warned by the Karenmin group that the Fiarimin people had threatened to attack the patrol if it entered the Aki valley. Nothing of this nature occurred when the patrol was in the Aki valley. The people seem to have too healthy a respect for the firearms carried by the patrol police and the two D.D.A. officers.
5. The patrol was a large one, consisting of a/A.D.C. L.W. Bragge, Mr A.K. Try a/D.O. fourteen members of the R.P.&N.G.C. and up to one hundred and twenty nine carriers. The patrol was in the field for sixty seven days and received three airdrops of rations etc.
6. The area patrolled was the West Mianmin Restricted Area, located north west of Telefomin station. At one stage the patrol was in the Amanab Sul District in the Upper August River area, which is adjacent to the West Mianmin, and has Mianmin speaking population. The population of the area is relatively uncontacted. There had been three patrols in different parts of the area in the past. The first was conducted by Mr M. Brightwell in the mid 1950s and evidently visited Ivikmin No 1 from the August River. Mr B. Mulcahy followed the same route in 1965. The only other patrol to have entered the Aki and Tabu valleys seems to have been Mr J. Wearne's patrol in 1965. Mr Wearne's patrol did not cross to the north bank of the Aki valley.
7. Two new groups, Samman and Ivikmin No 2 were ~~initially~~ initially censused by the patrol and 154 people who have never before been censused, had their names recorded.
8. Apart from the investigation itself, census of some groups was revised and two airstrip sites were investigated.
9. The size of the task was not realized when the patrol left Telefomin. A list of ninety named raiders was eventually compiled, (no doubt with many duplications in it) and with a patrol which was too small to split the task of arresting such a number was impossible. If the patrol could have closed in on hamlets, gardens etc from two or three directions at once we would probably have done much better as far as numbers of prisoners was concerned. Nevertheless the patrol will no doubt prove an administrative success in the future in so far as it's nuisance value in the area for nearly two months (Aki valley) will indicate to the local population that fighting is not worth the inconvenience of being pursued by Administration patrols.

10. To avoid cluttering the body of the report with too much detail, the following appendices to the report are attached to the report:

Appendix A. Patrol Instructions.

Appendix B. Walking times recorded during the patrol.

Appendix C. Village Population Register

Appendix D. Comments on Patrol Police.

A patrol map will also accompany the report.

Appendix E Comments on airdrop sites.



L.W. Bragge  
a/Assistant District Commissioner.

Comments and ObservationsI. Investigation and Findings

1. The initial difficulty in this investigation was finding the group which had been raided. Boliap was the name of the hamlet given in the initial reports of the raid, but no group name was known at that time. The position of Boliap was explained as being closer to the Sepik river than Urapmin in the Aki valley. With Mr Wearne's personal knowledge of the area we decided that Boliap must have been a Kimiasomin hamlet in the Tabu valley.

2. Kimiasomin was the first group we wished to visit. This in itself was not easy as Mr Wearne's initial patrol was not taken to Kimiasomin, but met Kimiasomin people at a camp site they prepared for the patrol at the Sogolomok/Tabu junction. The present patrol reached a camp site on the middle Tabu river where several Tabu river Someimin people were met. These people originally claimed to be Urapmins, but later proved to be Someimins. These people were on friendly terms with the Kimiasomin people and lead the patrol to the headwaters of the Sogolomok river to the Kimiasomin hamlets, where friendly contact was made with the Kimiasomin group.

3. We quickly learned that the Kimiasomin group had not been raided, but were sheltering some of the Sanman group who had been raided. Several of these people visited the patrol, and it was explained to them what the patrol intended to do about the raid. Contact with these people was easy and friendly. The position of their hamlets was explained as being around the Sogolomok/Tabu junction and in the Guguma valley. It was thus assumed that this group was the group Mr Wearne called the Tabu river Ivikmins. But a check of the village book showed that the Tabu river Ivikmin people were in fact Urapmin people, and that the Sanman group was a new group which had not been censused by Mr Wearne's patrol. Some of people of the group claim to have seen Mr Wearne's patrol at the Sogolomok/Tabu junction.

4. With the intention of contacting the remainder of the group the Sanman people contacted at Kimiasomin were taken by the patrol to the junction of the Sogolomok and Tabu rivers, where several other Sanman people were met. Again contact was easy and friendly, or so it seemed. The following morning it was found that the group had vanished in the night, so the investigation was brought to a grinding halt.

5. It was decided to go into the Aki valley and try to make some arrests and possibly recontact the Sanman people later in the patrol. The only route known was that taken by Mr Wearne's patrol, via Ivikmin No 1 on the Sepik river. At Ivikmin several more Sanman people were contacted, and some excellent witnesses obtained. The intention of going direct to the Aki valley was dropped in favour of viewing bodies and making a full investigation on the ground.

6. Much difficulty was experienced in getting the Sanman witnesses to return to the scene of the murder as it was close to the Urapmin area. In the Haiagal and Guguma valleys (The Haiagal flows into the Guguma river) four skeletons were seen and a full investigation was carried out on the ground with the aid of the relevant witnesses. The first of these bodies was that of a man called called Hagauwenap. Seventeen arrows and arrow points were removed from this skeleton and numbered from a sketch which was made at the time. The second skeleton was found on a platform up in a tree where it had been placed in the traditional form of burial. No arrows were found in the skeleton, but a broken arrow was found in a near by house. This skeleton was identified as that of a lad called Bogonga. The final two skeletons were located in a bush house. Animals of some type, probably pigs had scattered the bones and the arrows. Two human skulls were found near the house, and the 'limbum' bark upon which the bodies of Houtap and Imenfanging, Houtap's daughter had been placed by Houtap's wife, were still in position in the hut. One young female child was abducted from this house by the Fiarimin raiders according to

Houtap's widow.

7. It was decided not to take the Samman people with the patrol to the Aki valley for security reasons. Our previous experience of the Samman group lead us to believe that we would never see them again if we let them return to the Sepik to wait for the patrol. Cpl Kusimnok was contacted by radio ~~at~~ Athlain Rural Police Post and instructed to proceed to Ivikmin No 1 on the Sepik River to meet Interpreter Sinsinal and a group of Telefomin carriers and several Ivikmin No 1 people who agreed to accompany the party of witnesses to Telefomin station. A strong police escort was given to the Interpreter's party until they were clear of the danger area of the Guguma valley. This party reached Telefomin after joining Cpl Kusimnok at Ivikmin, without incident.

8. The patrol moved cautiously into the Urapmin area of the Aki valley as news of a threat of attack had been received at Karemin. Our tracks were seen by a wandering Urapmin man and word was shouted ahead of the patrol to warn the inhabitants of our approach. Nevertheless two Men including Deitinep the original leader of the raiders were contacted. No immediate attempt was made to arrest them, but they were not allowed out of reach of several guards. An uneasy ruse was maintained for most of the day. The people were encouraged to enter the patrol camp and leave their weapons outside the rope cordon, and the men were not allowed to leave. This was done in a firm but friendly manner. The situation from the local stand point is not easy to assess. The threat of attack was reported as follows. The attack would come if the patrol entered the Aki valley, and would either be an ambush in difficult country, or would be done with axes when food was being sold to the patrol. Deitinep kept up a friendly attitude and made out that he did not know why the patrol was there, and gave the impression that we intended doing census. It could have been that he hoped that if enough Urapmin people came they might have been allowed to sell food, and could possibly have carried out their axe attack.

9. When ten wanted men were inside the cordon an arrangement was made with Mr Try and Cpl Ganin that handcuffs would be distributed to the police for use on the Urapmin people. If a scuffle developed. The ten men were considered to be about as many as the twelve police and Mr Try and myself could handle. However while these arrangements were being made four more men arrived. It was announced that the reason the patrol was in the area was that the Samman people had been raided. At this the Urapmin people scrambled to their feet and moved towards the cordon. All fourteen were captured and arrested. The charge and caution were explained to them.

10. These men were put into a house and kept out of site. Iuluai Fanap of the Urapmin group later arrived and was also arrested. Word must have reached the rest of the group, as no more people were seen. Iuluai Fanap lead the patrol into the Fiarimin area, but word had gone about ten days ahead of the patrol to Fiarimin, as the bridge over the Aki river had been cut long before, and was found by the patrol to be hanging in the river from the Urapmin bank. Fiarimin was found to be deserted. Two men were captured in a garden near the Fiarimin singing house two days later, and Iuluai Fanap managed to escape from two police at the same time.

11. The patrol moved east to the Samal valley and after a couple of days searching in the area, smoke was seen and two more men were arrested near the source of the smoke the following morning. All indications including tracks and the word of the prisoners indicated that the remainder of the Fiarimin group had moved east to Nswaimin in the Fiak valley. The patrol moved to Nswaimin to find that there had been no Fiarimin people there for about one month. With the District Commissioner's approval two Police escorted the prisoners back to Telefomin from Nswaimin, a walk of six days through friendly country. The patrol returned to the Aki valley.

12. No more people were seen in the Fiarimin area, but signs were found that people had visited one of our camps in their area after we left for Mawamin. The searching of the Fiarimin area east of the Ongwida river and Mt Guri had been systematic, so it was decided to cross the ridge separating the Ongwida and Eiyam, and possibly move into the headwaters area of the Right May river where it was thought the Fiarimin and Urapmin people might have been hiding in the Kusarcinmin area. No tracks were known, so a spur was chosen at random, and as luck would have it the tracks of a large number of people were found. These were followed into the Eiyam valley and eventually to the Urapmin singing house where they were lost. Fresh tracks of two men were found and followed. Two men were surprised, but escaped. The patrol followed in the direction they had gone and lost all sign of tracks in the Totema river.

13. The trend seemed to be that the group was ahead of us and moving north west. The patrol then moved through the forest on a bearing of 270° (which would have eventually brought us out on the Aki river) in the hope of crossing tracks. A bush pad was located and followed until it joined a major track with very fresh tracks and taro leaves on it. This was followed up a right to the north west until a group of freshly constructed bush houses were found, deserted. The tracks indicated that this hamlet had been deserted only that morning. Three domestic pigs scurried from the hamlet as the patrol entered. The patrol circled through the area north west of the hamlet following tracks. As mentioned in the diary a group of people were surprised, and their guard fired an arrow at constable Maregori. No shot was fired in return. The guard and one other man escaped. Three were captured. No more offenders were captured during the patrol. Tracks were followed into the Amanab Sub District, but the people were not caught up with.

14. The patrol returned to Telefomin along the Sepik river.

#### Details of the raids

15. In explaining the raid the Sanman people started by saying that the woman Dosinap stood and looked into the 'haus tamboran' of the Sanman people. This was a very serious breach of the traditional laws. Soon after this the Sanman Taro crop failed and naturally Dosinap's action was blamed for this. Little was learned about the first raid as the Sanman witnesses that fled from the patrol were the ones involved (on the receiving end) in this raid, and other Sanman people claimed to know nothing of value.

16. The little that was learned was that an Aki river Someimin man died and the Sanman people were accused of killing him by sorcery. The Someimin group possibly with a very few Fiarimin helpers raided a Sanman settlement in the Uriatem river area and killed Dosinap and two others (Duantege & Aninap) and abducted Dosinap's baby daughter Wiatem.

17. Some time later (which by one report was only a matter of days), after obtaining the permission of the Urapmin group (the Sanman neighbours to the north), the Sanman group visited Urapmin to obtain taro to eat and to plant. On the track between Sanman and Urapmin the Sanman people shot a pig which the Urapmin people claim to be a domesticated Urapmin pig. The taro exchange went off smoothly and the Sanman people returned to the Guguma and Haiagal valleys. Early the following morning a very large fighting force of Urapmin and Marimin men, which had assembled at the Urapmin 'haus singing' the previous evening entered the Guguma valley. Houtap and his daughter were murdered and so was Bogonga (soon after the first two) in the Guguma valley. The fighting force then moved into the Haiagal and waited in ambush on the track from Hagawenap's house to his garden. Hagawenap and Alanterap, a young woman were ambushed. Hagawenap was killed and Alanterap escaped with two arrow wounds in the back. (She is one of the witnesses at Telefomin at present). The party moved off in search of more



Sanman people. Alanterap had returned to Haxgauwenap's house and told another man there, Beita to flee. Beita hid close to the camp and was able to identify several of the raiders as they passed along the Haiagal river close by under his position. Beita is one of the witnesses at Telefomin at present. The Sanman people inspected their dead, and placed Bogonga on a 'bed' up in a tree, and left the other three practically where they fell. They then fled to the Kimiasomin and Ivikmin areas.

18. The time element in the raids is vague. None of the people involved have been able to state definitely how many months ago the raids occurred. The state of decomposition of the bodies indicates that they were killed atleast six months before the patrol visited the area. Bogonga's body was the one best covered from the weather, and there was still enough on his bones to interest a colony of ants, even though there was very little weight and almost no smell left.

19. The investigation and witnesses are related only to the second of these two raids. The witnesses in the first raid fled from the patrol and would be just as difficult to capture as the offenders.

20. After eight weeks in the area the raid investigated was as completely dealt with as was possible, and a reasonable case against the accused was built up. The decision then was whether the patrol should seek out the Sanman people and then attempt to arrest Someimin offenders. This job could not be expected to take less than another six to eight weeks, so the patrol returned to Telefomin to relieve the pressure of work on the reduced D.D.A. staff there.

## II. Future Administration

21. In considering the lack of action taken against the Someimin people (para 20) it should be realized that this was only the second patrol into this restricted area, and was the first that many individual people saw. These people are extremely primitive. In the interest of future administration of this area it would be wise to overlook this raid. Unless a massive force of police are used, only a small portion of the raiding group will be captured, and the net result of the patrol will be to alienate the Someimin people from the Administration. The present patrol will be a good warning to them, and should dissuade any further attempt at fighting in the area.

22. In relation to the Urapmin and Fiarimin groups there are still a lot of names of people involved who have not been arrested. It is suggested that future patrols settle for three men if they appear. These are DEITINEP and FANAP of Urapmin and TONGWENIP of Fiarimin. The first two escaped from custody (Fanap during the patrol and Deitinep from the Telefomin corrective institution.) and Tongwenip is the fightleader of the Fiarimin group. If the next patrol pursues the people as this one did, the West Mianmin, or atleast the Aki valley of it will be a problem area for years to come.

23. It is suggested that the next patrol be slow and methodical in the Aki valley, and exercises the utmost caution, as it is quite within the realms of possibility that an attack in reprisal for the inconvenience the present patrol caused the people, could result.

## III. De-restriction

24. The west Mianmin area is one of the last three restricted areas in the Territory. The East Mianmin patrol lead by Mr E.J.R. Mitchell worked in the eastern extremity of the restricted area and recommended the de-restriction of the area which drains into the May river. Mawaimin village which is in this area was visited by this patrol and was well received there.

25. Although Mr Mitchell's recommendations re this eastern section of the restricted area are fully agreed with, no further

areas are recommended for de-restriction at present.

26. The patrol was well received in the Tabu and Sepik river valleys by the Bovaripmin, Karenmin, Kimiasomin, Tabu river Someimin, and the Ivikmin No 1 groups, but three of these groups are somehow or other involved in the raids (with the raiding group - Someimin, or the raided group Kimiasomin and Ivikmin). The situation has to be looked at as a whole, these people are half of it, and the Aki valley raiders are the other half. Reprisal raids are still possible, even if not likely. The area as a whole is not yet considered safe for derestiction.

#### IV. Patrol Security

27. The patrol instructions were explicit on the point that there were to be no splits in the patrol. The section of the patrol which took the prisoners back to Telefomin left after the matter had been discussed with the District Commissioner per radio. The other major split was when Cpl Kusimnok and the interpreter and some Telefomin and Ivikmin people took the Sanman people back to Telefomin. This was done as it was considered a greater security risk to take these people into the Aki valley than to send them back to Telefomin through the areas of the friendly groups along the Sepik river. The Corporal had a two way radio with him for that section of the patrol. Both groups reached Telefomin without incident.

28. Other minor splits were unavoidable, and extreme caution was exercised on these occasions (See diary 18th & 19th December 1966). No untoward incidents occurred on these occasions.

29. Camp sites in the Aki valley and surrounds were cordoned off with a rope and on the one occasion when people visited such a camp site they left their weapons outside and well away from the cordon. All the forest and other cover with in reasonable arrow shot of camp sites was cleared, and guards were maintained throughout the whole ~~xxx~~ period spent in the Restricted area, and in the area west of the restricted area.

30. Patrol police were each issued with ten rounds of ammunition, and explicit instructions on firing were given prior to leaving Telefomin and at various stages throughout the patrol. Both Mr Try and myself carried a .38 revolver and a Mk 5 .303 rifle each. Ample range practice was had before the patrol left the station for the benefit of all and to allow Mr Try and myself to assess the ability of the individual members.

31. Checks on ammunition were made throughout the patrol, and a special check was made when ammunition was withdrawn from the members at the completion of the patrol. No shot was fired by the patrol or any of it's members at or near any people. The only shot fired in hot blood was fired by a Miammin bow man.

#### V. Native Affairs other than mentioned above.

32. All groups visited other than the Sanman and the Aki river groups gave the patrol a warm and friendly reception. Food in these friendly areas was always plentiful and readily offered for sale upon request. Quite a large number of women and children were seen in these areas, which is usually a sign of acceptance of a patrol in this type of area.

##### (a) C.M.M.L. Missionary's visit to Ivikmin No 2

33. While the patrol was camped at the junction of the Aki and Tabu rivers the Serawania people informed us of a "Kiap" camped at Ivikmin No 2 on the August river. Mr Try and myself contested a coin toss to decide who would investigate. The writer took five police three hours downstream from the patrol camp. The "Kiap" was not found as he had departed by raft that morning for Green River. The local people were somewhat annoyed and puzzled over the visitor. He had stayed five days at their house and accepted food, including a pig, without giving payment for anything so the people claim. He did not as much as explain what he was doing there. Radio contact with Green River later proved that the "Kiap" was a Green River C.M.M.L. Missionary. It was explained to the people

that not all Europeans are "Kiaps", and that "Kiaps" pay for the food the people give them. It was suggested per radio to the O.I.C. Green River that the Missionary in question be told to learn a few manners before he returns to this area.

34. The reason the matter was so closely investigated was that the area is close to the International border with West Irian, and it was thought that some official from West Irian may have mistaken the position of the border.

35. The Missionary reported to the O.I.C. Green River certain facts about the local native situation which from my own observations were in-accurate. The first of these was that there had been a raid in the area, apparently other than the ones we were investigating. We made friendly contact with the local Serawania, Bubriari and Ivikmin No 2 people over a period of several days. It is not at all likely that they would have hidden the fact from us if they told the other "kiap" with whom their relations were evidently strained. It is almost certain that what they were talking about was the matters we investigated. The second comment which seems inaccurate is that the people were afraid of the patrol and feared that they would be imprisoned. A few of the Ivikmin No 2 people stayed away from the initial census of the group, and the reason given was that they were afraid of the patrol, but all the people we saw from the groups in the area showed no sign of fear what ever, and certainly nothing to indicate the "Big Bad Wolf" impression the Missionary's words suggest.

36. In short it would appear that the Missionary in question is an inexperienced person with primitive peoples of this type, and should not be in such areas for his own and the local good.

(b) Uncontacted groups.

37. It is doubtful if there are any uncontacted groups in the West Mianmin. Mr Wearne's report indicates the presence of an uncontacted group in the Einam valley. The present patrol worked in this valley and saw no people. The local Fiarimin and Urapmin people were questioned about the houses Mr Wearne saw from a helicopter, they replied that this was an old Fiarimin settlement now abandoned. The present patrol was the first to cross the Aki river and work on the north bank. Due to the nature of the patrol few people were seen, but many houses and vast areas of gardens were seen, especially in the Ongwida and Samal valleys and surrounds. These all appear to belong to the Fiarimin group. No doubt sections of this group have not been white men, but the group is known.

(c) Comments on individual West Mianmin groups.

Amaromin No 2

38. Mr Wearne did a census of a group he called Amaromin No 2. No sign of this group was found by the present patrol. The Interpreter Kwifam explained at Telefomin that a woman married into the area from Amaromin near the May river in times gone by, and her descendants have maintained some degree of individuality. It would seem though that the Amaromin No 2 group are made up of people claiming to be both Fiarimin and Urapmin people. This is something that the next routine patrol of the area will have to work out.

39. The identification of groups in this area is difficult as Mr Wearne explained in his report. He censused groups in the Aki and Tabu valleys who at that time claimed to be Ivikmin people. This was because the patrol had already made friendly contact with the Sepik River Ivikmin (Ivikmin No 1). These people proved to be Urapmin people during the present patrol.

40. Amaromin No 2 is marked on Mr Wearne's patrol map near the junction of the Samal and Aki rivers.

Fiarimin.

41. The area occupied by this group is roughly that area on the north side of the Aki river east of the Einam river. The present patrol was the first to enter the Fiarimin area. Mr Wearne's patrol contacted some of this group on the south side of

the Aki river in 1965, but most of the group have not as yet been seen by Europeans. The large number of houses and vast areas of gardens in the area indicate a population of approximately one hundred. Very few Fiarimin people were seen by the present patrol due to the fact that nearly every Fiarimin man was involved in the raids against the Samman group.

42. It would appear that the group is timid, but could be aggressive towards patrols. Facts that indicate this are that the bridge over the Aki river which gave access to the Fiarimin area was out days before the patrol entered the Aki valley, and it was reported that the Fiarimin group made the alleged threat of attack on the patrol.

43. Future patrols could anticipate meeting this group in the Ongwida valley under Mt Guri, as this is where both the communal (singing) houses of the group are located. The Samal valley is more of a garden area with small bush and garden houses.

Ivikmin No 1.

44. The group of Ivikmin people located on the north bank of the Sepik at the rightangle bend (fourteen miles east of the International boundary) have been called Ivikmin No 1 after a second group of Ivikmin people were located by this patrol. The Ivikmin No 1 group also has large garden areas in the Fiak river headwaters and on the Sepik river at patrol camp No 35 (see the accompanying map.)

45. This group were very friendly towards the patrol, and were of great assistance in locating the second group of Samman witnesses, and accompanying them back to Telefomin with the Cpl. from Atbalmin and Interpreter Sinsinal. The main force dictating the attitudes of this group appears to be the headman, Lulual Yamsap. Yamsap visited Telefomin as mentioned with some of his group and worked for a short time before returning to Ivikmin. It was Yamsap who sent some of the first reports of the raid up stream along the Sepik to Telefomin, and took custody of some of the arrows removed from the bodies.

46. The Ivikmin No 1 group made available to the Samman refugees, a garden on the Amania river, and this is where the witnesses to the second raid were located.

Ivikmin No 2.

47. Mr Wearne's report makes note of a group of Mianmin people living on the August river where the August swings from a south westerly direction to a due north direction, and nearly joins the Sepik. Four men from the group visited his patrol on the lower Sepik and offered to sell food. The present patrol passed through that area of the August river and met up with the group. It was found that the communal singing house of the group was south of the 4°40' line of latitude (Telefomin / Amanab Sub District boundary,) and that neither Green River nor Telefomin patrols had censused the group, so an initial census was compiled, and a total of 69 names were recorded. The headman Ambeq was provisionally appointed Lulual of the group. The position of the communal house is on a bluff above the Sepik River, on the north bank about one mile west of the Din/Sepik junction.

48. The group gardens in the area of the communal house and on the banks of the August at it's most southern extremity.

49. The patrol received the patrol well on the banks of the August river. They explained, from information they had received from Ivikmin No 1, they worked out that the patrol must have been in the area of the Tabu/Aki junction. The group had split into two parts to locate the patrol. One had gone down the Tabu river, and were going to take Taro down to sell to the patrol if they could see our tents from a vantage point in an elevated garden. The second group moved to the August river gardens and met the patrol there. They said they had come to take us back to Ivikmin, and emphasised the point by taking the hands of members of the patrol and making as if to drag them towards Ivikmin. There was no further work to be done in the area, so the patrol allowed it self to be 'taken' back to Ivikmin No 2, and fed by our Ivikmin hosts

50. This was recorded as a separate group from Ivikmin No 1 because, although both groups are called Ivikmin, a split occurred in the group in the past resulting in two completely separate groups. Both groups are friendly with the other, and a good deal of intergroup contact and co-operation seems to take place.

Kerenmin

51. The Kerenmin group lives in three distinct, but adjacent localities. These are the Sepik river, the south side of the Thurnwald range and in the Tabu river valley. The group population after this census is recorded as 93, and it is doubted if there are a great number more than this in the whole group.

52. The attitude of this group is much the same as the attitude of Ivikmin No 1 towards the Administration. The headman of this group, Luluai Fururap is a very influential man with his group, and like Yamsap at Ivikmin No 1 probably is a determining factor in relation to the group attitude.

52.a. Fururap's main area of residence is with the Sepik river section of the group. When the patrol arrived at Bovariipmin in November Fururap and a group of his men arrived at the patrol camp with a pig for the patrol. The writer was standing near Fururap when he selected an arrow and fitted it to his bow to shoot the pig. The pig was standing facing the writer, and an inaccurate shot would have caused the pig to leap. Discretion was considered the better part of valour, so as the arrow was fired the writer stepped back. Fururap's aim was excellent, and he had the arrow out of the pig before it hit the ground. This activity had greatly excited Fururap who is a very volatile personality, and he immediately turned with his hand extended to shake hands with the writer, who by this time was absent (to the distance of about six feet) Mr Try stepped forward quickly and shook the hand, as did the writer. It was a mistake to underestimate the Luluai's aim, but everyone saw the funny side of the incident so all was well.

53. Fururap's Sepik hamlet was visited on the patrol's return journey to Telefomin in January. The hamlet was reached early in the day, and might have been passed to allow the patrol to reach Bovariipmin before making camp for the night except that Fururap hurried down to meet the patrol and requested that we spend the night with his group. The invitation was obviously very sincere, and could not be denied. Fururap gave the impression that it would be a genuine pleasure and honour to have the patrol camp in his area, so that his group could provide food for us for the night.

54. Bovariipmin

Bovariipmin is an east Mianmin group with only one hamlet in the west Mianmin, on the Dagara's river. This is an important hamlet for all West Mianmin and Atbalmin patrols as it is the first reliable source of food after leaving Telefomin. The Bovariipmin people realize this fact and do an excellent job in providing the food required.

55. The patrol received a very friendly reception on the both occasions it visited Bovariipmin. On the return to Telefomin, the patrol members were presented with a large number of ripe pawpaws by the Bovariipmin people. While we stopped to eat the fruit the people told us that they had worried because we had been gone so long, and they had assumed that we had been killed. This rumour spread far and wide evidently. (See Telefomin P.R. No 4/66-67) even the Oksapmin people in the Tekin valley said in February 1967 that they had mourned the reported deaths of Constable Yanopa and the writer.

Kimasomin

56. The attitude of this group towards the Administration has improved, and become less timid since Mr Wearne's patrol made initial contact with many of the members of the group in 1965. In 1965 the patrol was given a friendly but apparently timid reception, and the group indicated that they did not wish the

patrol to visit their hamlets, and to this end prepared an excellent camp site at the junction of the Tabu and Sogolomok rivers for the patrol. The present patrol visited the hamlets of this group in the headwaters of the Sogolomok, close to the western most of the three Pinnacles.

57. Thirty four new names were recorded when the census of this group was revised. Mr Wearne mentioned that he saw only a portion of the total group, and it is likely that there are still a lot of people in this group yet to be contacted. The garden areas of this group are located on both the north and south sides of the Three Pinnacles range, but no patrol to date has visited the south side gardens. The gardens in this area were seen from the air during the aerial survey of the area in November. It was noted that the gardens were new and not very extensive, so the main area of residence is probably the north side of the range.

58. The people proved to be friendly and unafraid of the patrol. They showed particular interest in an airdrop which the patrol received in their area, and advised that they would make use of the area cleared by the patrol as a new garden. The next patrol to go to Kimiasomin can expect a very friendly reception.

59. Some of the names recorded in the Kimiasomin book are similar to some Sanman names, so there may prove to be some duplication. This can only be established during future census.

Sanman  
60. Paragraphs 3 to 6 give some information on this group which occupies the Guguma and Hatagal and Tabu river areas (Tabu in the area of the Tabu/Sogolomok junction). The initial census of the group included forty two names, but due to the group's present scattered nature there are no doubt a fair number of people yet to be seen and censused.

61. Naturally the group were very timid of the patrol, and as previously explained there was difficulty in contacting them, and remaining in contact with them. The story of their taro crop failure was evidently true. The small amount of taro these people sold the patrol was made up of pieces of taro on the average much smaller than a clenched fist (Some of the Karenmin taro weighed six pounds per piece - in comparison).

62. The appearance of the people when compared with other West Mianmin people is best described as scruffy. They appear to have ceased to wash after the raids (Mianmin people wash regularly) and skin disease (tinea imbricata) is more common than was seen elsewhere. The amount of decoration in the way of extended 'top knots' (a 'bun' of hair covered with a piece of 'bilum' or fish net material) and pig teeth necklaces etc was noticed as being considerably less than the decoration worn by members of other groups. The raid and the need to hide in distant places seems to have had a degenerating effect on the group.

Serawanis

63. This is a Green River area group who are more closely related to Mianmin people than to the Jarok speakers of the Sepik and lower August rivers near Green River. The group was evidently initially contacted by Mr Mulcahy's 1965 patrol, or possibly by Mr Cavanagh in 1961/2. The only other patrol they mentioned was Mr Mulcahy's. The group was located at the junction of the Aki and Tabu rivers. They were on the western bank of the Aki and agreed to bring taro to sell to the patrol if the patrol would assist them to build a cane suspension bridge over the Aki for them to cross by. This was done. The first day only one string bag of taro was brought for sale. The people said that it was late and they had not had time to collect any more, and that they would bring more tomorrow. The truth of the latter was no doubt that they wanted to see what sort of pay, if any they received from the patrol, after their unfortunate experience with the Green River Missionary (Mentioned earlier). Good quantities of trade were given, and thereafter the supply of taro was abundant.

64. The good faith between the people and the patrol was

shown when a guide was required to show the patrol the way to Ivikmin No 2 to meet the "Kiap". The Serawania people without any hesitation selected two young boys to do the job. These lads were returned safely and with presents to the Serawania camp the following day.

65. The Serawania people speak a language which in it's pure form could not be understood by our Mianmin interpreter, but they can converse fairly freely with the Mianmin people if they wish to.

66. One man from the Serawania group said that the belief among the Serawania people is that they originally came from the east (Telefomin) and that they had a common female ancestor. The man had no name for the woman. It would be interesting for the next patrol to visit this group to go into this more deeply (if a good interpreter is available) as these details fit in roughly with the myth that all Telefomin peoples have about their origin. The Telefomin people call the common female ancestor Afeke, the Oksapmins call her Iuanuku and the people of the upper Leonard Schultze call her Babesebai. Someimin - Aki

67. This group was not visited by the patrol. See paras 20 and 21. The headman of this group is called Toma. He is evidently a leader of the calibre of Yamsap of Ivikmin No 1 Fururap of Kareamin, Fanap of Urapmin and Tongwenip of Fiarimin. Rumour has it that Toma was not involved in the raids on the Sarman group (but rumours are not to be relied upon in this area we found)

68. This group occupies the land on the south side of the Aki river west of the May/Aki divide and east of Fuma river. Someimin - Tabu

69. A small number of this group have been censused, there are probably a lot more of them. Their area of residence is not clearly known, but is roughly adjoining that of the Aki Someimin group, and extending right across the Tabu valley to join the eastern side of the Kimiasomin area. This group also have common garden areas with the Sarman people to their west. Mr Wearne saw these people at the Sogolomok/Tabu junction. The present patrol saw them at Kimiasomin. Their attitude was the same towards the patrol as was the Kimiasomin attitude. Urapmin

70. This is the largest group at present known in the West Mianmin, and it seems doubtful that when all groups have all their people censused that any group will exceed Urapmin in size. The present patrol found that Urapmin land extends from the Someimin - Aki boundary north west to at least patrol camp No 28 in the Amanab Sub District. At that point a communal house owned by Urapmin people was located (Our prisoner's claim that it was an Urapmin house). Urapmin land may also exist on the north bank of the Aki river west of the Totema/Aki junction as houses were found there, but it was not clearly established whether they were Fiarimin or Urapmin houses. Mr Wearne's patrol censused Urapmin people in the Tabu valley, so it could very well be that they have land rights there also.

71. As explained above Urapmin was the main group involved in the second raid against the Sarman people. Little on attitudes can be added than what has been written above, due to the nature of the contact the patrol made with the group.

## VI. Anthropological

### (a) Descent

72. See comments in para 66. All other Mianmin groups acknowledge common descent from the woman ancestor. This matter has been established in the past and was not investigated closely by this patrol.

### (b) Language

73. All Mianmin groups (east and west) have a common

language, which according to interpreter Kwifam varies very little throughout the whole area (i.e. minor dialect changes). The western boundary of this linguistic group appears to fall between Urapmin and Ivikmin No 2 (Mianmin speakers), and Serawania and Bubriari. The latter two groups speak the same language as the people of the Wagarabai river.

(c) Housing

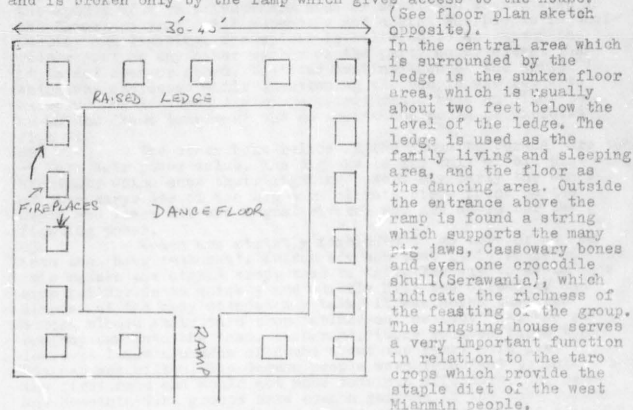
74. There are two distinct types of houses used by the people of the West Mianmin area. These are the large singing houses which are a communal houses and the smaller 'dog box' type house of the garden hamlets.

(i) Hamlet houses.

75. Kwifam advises that the small houses with shallow roofs which were seen by the patrol, are the main houses used by the people other than their communal houses. The smaller houses were first thought to be mere bush and garden houses. These houses are single family dwellings. The east Mianmin people for example at Timenmin have men's houses and women's houses which are distinct from these west Mianmin houses (according to Kwifam)

(ii) Communal (Singing) houses

76. Each west Mianmin group was found to have one or more of these large communal singing houses. The houses are usually very large, the largest one seen was that of the Urapmin group which had eighteen family fire places in it. The fire places in these houses are placed at regular intervals on a five to six feet wide ledge which extends right around the walls of the house, and is broken only by the ramp which gives access to the house.



77. When the taro crop is ripe and ready to be eaten, a singing house is constructed by the group who owns the garden. Upon completion the group has a private singing to which no other group is invited. This celebrates the completion of the house and the success of the taro crop. Two to three weeks later a second singing is held to which all the neighbouring groups are invited to attend and take part. No further singings take place in the house according to the informant (Kwifam) but the house is used as an alternate residence for the people, to their hamlet houses.

78. It was noted that the Serawania group uses identical communal singing houses, and has the same type of 'Haus Tamborana' as the west Mianmin people. It appears that the Bubriari and probably all other groups of their language group have the same housing arrangements. The writer spoke with members of Mr Mulcahy's patrol



from Green River to this area in 1965, and their descriptions of housing types indicate that this is so.

(iii) 'Haus Tamboran'

79. Each west Mianmin group seems to have one 'haus tamboran'. Several were seen throughout the patrol. The house itself is usually much the same in appearance to the hamlet houses of the west Mianmin people, except that they are usually a little taller and the walls are such that they cannot be seen through. Also these houses have a platform in front of the small doorway which is usually about four feet above the ground. This raised doorway prevents people seeing inside unless they are standing on or near to the platform. The doorway is kept boarded up except when some one is inside the house. It is necessary to climb down into the house (usually a drop of about three feet) from the doorway.

80. The contents of these houses usually include up to two dozen humanskulls, large pig skulls and cassowary bones, and assorted arrows and drums etc. It was emphasized by interpreter Kwifam and local people questioned on the subject that the human skulls are those of members of the group who had died. These are not the result of "head hunting". The brother or father of a man who dies retrieved the skull after the body has decomposed, and puts it into the 'haus tamboran'. It was noticed that there was no skull with the skeleton of Haguawenap. A Sanman man called Beita explained that he himself had come and taken the skull, and placed it in the Sanman 'haus tamboran'.

81. The reason for this is that it is believed that the spirit of a relative whose head or skull has been placed in the 'haus tamboran' will accompany and assist the people in their hunting and fighting. The spirit is believed to accompany the people just as any other member of the party does, except that it is not seen or heard. The 'head hunting' idea of the writer which was expressed while questioning the people was found to be repugnant to them. A strange spirit would have no right to be in the 'haus tamboran' and no assistance could be expected from it.

82. The other bone relics in the 'haus tamborans' are there for their power value. The pig skulls are only of old pigs with big tusks which show their fighting power. Similarly the bones of cassowaries are of the big wana climate birds found on the Sepik and lower Aki and August rivers, who are noted for their fighting power.

83. Women are strictly forbidden to go into or to see into the 'haus tamboran'. Kwifam advises that it is believed that this causes the staple crop, taro to fail. The way to avoid this crop failure is to quickly and quietly kill the offender, and dispose of the body without any talk. It was noted that the Sanman blamed their taro crop failure on the fact that the woman Dosi nap saw into the 'haus tamboran'. (Some related facts that leave at least a shadow of doubt about the first raid are: Dosi nap was killed, the Sanman people were reluctant to talk about the first raid and would not name Someimin offenders, the Sanman and Someimin-Tabu groups have common gardens in the Tabu/Guguma area. It seems that the Sanman people could have got the Someimin group to do their dirty work, but this is only conjecture.)

(iv) cannibalism.

84. The last reported cannibalism by Mianmin people was during the raid on the Athalmin people in 1956/7. This was in relation to east Mianmin people. Nothing is reported about west Mianmin cannibalism. Discussions show that no cannibalism was carried out on the bodies of the Sanman dead by the raiding groups. The reason given was that although the Sanman were the enemies of the raiders, they were also of the same language group, and were neighbours. Cannibalism was considered acceptable only against distant groups of different language groups. The Athalmin people are numbered amongst the acceptable candidates, but the Serawania were not.

### VII Village Officials and Headmen.

85. See comments in paras 45, 52, 53 & 67. There are seven known influential leaders in this area these are:

- Luluai Yamsap of Ivikmir No 1
- Luluai Ambep of Ivikmir No 2 (Provisional)
- Luluai Toma of Someimin - Aki
- Luluai Panap of Urapmin
- Luluai Fururap of Karenmin
- Luluai Itrubei of Serawania (Provisional)
- Tongwenip of Piarimin.

#### (1) Provisional Appointments of Luluai

86. Two group leaders were provisionally appointed as Luluais during the patrol. The Director's approval is awaited. These men are:

- Itrubei/Nallabel of Serawania
- Ambep/Wabiabel of Ivikmir No 2.

87. Both men seem to be the natural leaders of their own group. Both assisted the patrol in their respective areas, and can be expected to do so again in the future. Their duties and functions were explained to them

### VIII. Agriculture

88. The area patrolled is unusual from the point of the reliance on a single crop - taro. During the nine and a half weeks of the patrol many tons of locally purchased vegetables were consumed by the patrol, and apart from a few bananas and an occasional pawpaw and a couple of bags of sweet potato sold to the patrol by an Atbalmin group, the only type of vegetable purchased was taro. The importance placed on 'haus Tamboran' taboos and the other taro ceremonies (e.g. the Communal singsing House openings etc) is probably very great.

### IX. Health

89. The health of the people in the area patrolled seemed to be good, generally speaking. Skin disease (*Tinea Imbricata*) was found to be common as was goitre. Goitre was seen to have affected a large number of both men and women in the Kimiasomin area in particular.

90. The Medical Orderly accompanying the patrol had to be sent back to Telefomin from Mawamin, with pneumonia. The problem then arose as to who would take over his duties. Const. Paulus (Yaregawa) agreed readily to become the medical orderly. When asked what his qualifications were he replied that he had done several years medical training in Rabaul and failed, at this he burst into laughter. His work was watched closely, and proved to be quite good. His main mistake was to give Mr Try ten Sulphur strep tablets, assuming they were the same in all respects to sulpharguanidine. The maximum dosage was six not sixteen, and Mr Try spent a morning being violently ill, but soon recovered.

### X. Airdrops and Airdrop sites

91. The patrol received three airdrops, on sites not previously used by patrols, and other sites were noted. Details of airdrop and potential airdrop sites are set out in appendix B of this report.

### XI. Airstrip sites

92. Several days were spent by the patrol at the junction of the Aki and Tabu rivers examining what appeared to be an excellent airstrip site. 2,100 feet of level ground with very good approaches to the south west was under examination, and a detailed map of the area and surrounding features was made. This map is held at Telefomin, and will not be sent in case it is taken out of its proper context.

93. The river banks in the area of the ends of the airstrip site were nine feet (measured) above the normal wet

season water level of the Aki and Tabu rivers. Luckily or unluckily (which everway you look at it) the river's showed their capabilities by rising ~~xx~~ fifteen feet in a very short period of time, to course through the patrol camp at midnight at a depth of three feet. The airstrip site in this area (141°09' East x 4° 38' South) is clearly of no use.

94. A second airstrip site (Potential) was seen on the south bank of the August river at the following point (141°32'06' East x 4° 39' South) during the aerial survey of the area in November. The patrol visited this area the day after the flood to find it covered with a coating of fine grey silt. This site had also gone under water the previous night.

95. A third site located at 141°04' East 4° 39' South was also to be investigated, but this was the same type of site, only a few feet above the Sepik and August river levels. It seemed a probable site before the flood, but was not investigated as it was assumed that it too was flooded, and to have investigated it would have meant that the patrol would have required another airdrop.

#### Conclusions on Airstrip sites in this area

96. The writer has developed a very healthy respect for the large rivers in this area. I personally feel that no airstrip site under twenty feet above the normal wet season water level of the August and Sepik rivers should be worked on (Where the rivers are still confined between the mountains. In open areas the situation would be different).

97. While the patrol was at Ivikmin No 2 it was noticed that on the Atbalmin side of the Sepik river there was what may prove to be a suitable airstrip site in the area immediately west of the Din/Sepik junction. The next Atbalmin patrol will look into the potential of this site. There could well be obstacles on the site which were not seen from Ivikmin No 2.

#### XII. Census & Statistics.

98. See Appendix No C for the Village Population Register. There were two groups initially censused by this patrol, the Ivikmin No 2 and the Sanman group. New names in addition to those from these two groups, were recorded in the revision of census of other groups. The total number of new names recorded was 154. (These are people never before recorded in a census)

99. The birth and death rate figures included in appendix C were calculated as follows. The total number of people for whom census was revised (i.e. totals before census revision) was 225. The births and deaths recorded apply only to these people's groups only thus:

4 births in 225 people = 1.77 per hundred.p.a.  
26 deaths in 225 people = 11.50 per hundred.p.a.

Natural decrease of 22 per 225 people = Natural decrease of 9.73 per hundred per annum.

#### XIII. Police and carriers.

100. Full comments have been made on each individual member of the patrol police in Appendix D of this report.

101. The patrol carriers were selected from the local Telefomin areas and a group of East Mianmin and a few Karenmin men were also used. The carrier line was very large and some difficulty was found in keeping the patrol line closed up during the march. The Mianmin carriers proved useful in dealings with west Mianmin groups. On both occasions when sections of the patrol returned to Telefomin ahead of the main body, Telefomin carriers accompanied the sections and acted as guards to assist the police (naturally no weapons were issued). This allowed the main body of the patrol to keep a strong body of police with it at all times.

XIV. Amenities on patrol

102. It was foreseen that the patrol would be in the field over the Christmas period, by Mr Try, who had the presence of mind to pack a bottle of champagne and some ham.

103. M.A.L. advised that the last day they would fly airdrops before Christmas was the 23rd of December. The patrol arranged to be able to make rations last until this day, so the patrol's second airdrop was taken on the 23rd of December. Messrs. Edgar and Mitchell arranged to make a large quantity of ice at Telefomin, and this was dropped to the patrol. The successful airdrop of ice with the rations mail etc resulted in the 23rd being celebrated as Christmas day.

104. The Christmas dinner was consumed on and off between noon and evening, and consisted of Iced champagne, ham, Christmas pudding and cream, Christmas cake and assorted chocolate biscuits wafers etc. This particular drop resulted in a 100% recovery of the items dropped, an excellent conclusion to a piece of successful organizing.

XV. Conclusions.

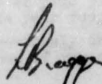
105. The patrol can be looked upon as a success or as a failure, depending upon point of view.

106. A complete success (i.e. arresting every offender) is considered an impossibility with people of such a primitive nature, and a patrol of the size of the patrol in question. If the proportion of the offenders captured compared to the total number of offenders is taken as the sole criteria of success, the patrol was a clear failure.

107. Success can be claimed for the patrol in it's contact with the groups not involved in the raids. Friendly contact was made with all such groups, to the extent that the matter of de-restriction could possibly be considered if it were not for the raids and the associated political situation.

108. It is felt that the patrol will prove a success in the future administration of the area in that all west Miamin groups now realize, that the Administration is aware of their existence, and what action is taken to settle intergroup raids and fighting. The patrol no doubt proved that the nuisance value alone, of being chased is a matter to consider before groups commence hostilities. Added to this will be the effect of the return of the nineteen prisoners to their area after serving a period of imprisonment at Boram (if the Supreme Court convicts them and sentences them to a year or more in jail).

109. It is strongly recommended that the suggestions for the future administration of the area made in paras 21 to 23 be followed. This will allow for smoother development of the area in the future than if all the offenders still outstanding are again pursued by the next patrol.



L.W. Bragge  
a/Assistant District Commissioner.

Appendix A

Sub District Office,  
TELEFOMIN

17th November 1966.

Mr L. Bragge  
Assistant District Officer  
TELEFOMIN

Be prepared to lead a patrol into the West Mianmin area of the Telefomin Sub District. This is restricted country and the people are relatively uncontacted. You will be the leader of the patrol and will be responsible for its safe and successful management.

You will be issued with a two way radio which will enable you to keep in contact with Telefomin. Try and come up on the air each day at 1315 or at any other prearranged time.

The patrol will consist of

Mr Bragge, Patrol Leader  
Mr Try,  
Constable 1st Class Ganja and eleven constables.

Purpose of the Patrol: To investigate reports of an attack by a group of West Mianmin people on a hamlet, Boliap of the Kintsoina group and to determine the truth of stories alluding that two Boliap were killed in the attack.

Ensure that at all times members of the Police detachment are kept close to the patrol leader and that individuals or small groups do not wander from the camp and from the main party.

Police will be armed with ten rounds of ammunition per man. Balance will be carried under the control of the patrol leader and will be issued at his discretion. Ammunition will be strictly accounted for from time to time and particularly at the end of the patrol.

The patrol will not split at any time.

Take sufficient rations for two weeks (2). Trade goods will be issued to you to assist and aidrops will be arranged at your request.

Your main job is to carry out the investigation and assess the situation and the attendant problems when you arrive at the scene of the alleged murders. After you have done this a decision will be made as to further actions. If possible you will discuss your plans with us by radio. If this is not possible any decisions will be left to your discretion.

Use only such force at any time as is absolutely necessary and remember that the safety of your party and of the people in whose area you are working is your responsibility.

There has been one patrol previously in the area so the people can be expected to be nervous of you and particularly in view of the circumstances of your visit.

Keep guards posted at all times and keep your carriers closed up in their ranks on the march.

If the story of the attack is untrue or exaggerated carry on with a normal patrol making friends and contacts where ever you can and report on any potential airfields and dropping sites you come across.

The best of luck to you.

SGD. (D.J.Clancy)  
District Commissioner

## APPENDIX B

WALKING TIMES.

The below listed walking times were recorded during the patrol and are included as an appendix for easy future reference.

<u>Date</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>My actual time</u>	<u>Time on track</u>
23/11/66	TELEPOMIN	-SEPKIALIKMIN	4HR 30MIN	6HR 05MIN
24/11/66	SEPKIALIKMIN	-ELIP/SEPIK JN.	5HR 58MIN	7HR 35MIN
25/11/66	ELIP/SEPIK JN.	-BOVARILMIN	5HR 05MIN	6HR 55MIN
28/11/66	BOVARILMIN	-KARBEWIN (MIAK)	4HR 22MIN	5HR 30MIN
30/11/66	KARBEWIN (MIAK)	-" (TABU)	5HR 38MIN	7HR 15MIN
1/12/66	" (TABU)	-CAMP NO 6	5HR 10MIN	6HR 35MIN
2/12/66	CAMP NO 6	- CAMP NO 7	6HR 25MIN	8HR 01MIN
4/12/66	CAMP NO 7	- KIMLASOMIN	6HR 22MIN	7HR 40MIN
9/12/66	KIMLASOMIN	-SABAN (TAMU)	4HR 15MIN	5HR 00MIN
10/12/66	SABAN	- IVIKMIN NO1 (SEPIK)	5HR 20MIN	6HR 55MIN
12/12/66	IVIKMIN NO1	-CAMP NO 11	4HR 50MIN	5HR 35MIN
13/12/66	CAMP NO 11	-CAMP NO 12	3HR 10MIN	3HR 30MIN
15/12/66	CAMP NO 12	-URAPMIN	3HR 30MIN	4HR 00MIN
16/12/66	URAPMIN	- PIARMIN	2HR 10MIN	5HR 50MIN
19/12/66	PIARMIN	- CAMP NO 13	2HR 35MIN	4HR 30MIN
21/12/66	SAMAL RV	from CAMP 15	7HR 00MIN	8HR 40MIN
22/12/66	SAMAL RV	-SAMAL/AKI JN.	2HR 20MIN	2HR 45MIN
25/12/66	JN. to Serral Headquarters	and return to JN CAMP.	7HR 45MIN	8HR 10MIN
27/12/66	JN. CAMP	-BERGANTEN/DOGOMA JN	2HR 50MIN	3HR 15MIN
28/12/66	BERGANTEN/DOGOMA	-MAMATIN	8HR 50MIN	11HR 10MIN
30/12/66	MAMATIN	-TURAK CK	5HR 15MIN	6HR 30MIN
31/12/66	MURALD CK.	-MABTSUABII	3HR 50MIN	4HR 35MIN
1/1/67	MABTSUABII	-CAMP 22(+19)	6HR 40MIN	8HR 25MIN
3/1/67	CAMP 22	-BIYAM RV.	5HR 05MIN	6HR 05MIN
4/1/67	BIYAM RV	= CAMP 24	6HR 30MIN	7HR 30MIN
5/1/67	CAMP 24	= URAPMIN	2HR 45MIN	2HR 55MIN
6/1/67	URAPMIN	-TUMIPBIP(CAMP 26)	8HR 05MIN	8HR 05MIN
7/1/67	TUMIPBIP	-GOLOLIBIP(" 27)	2HR 00MIN	2HR 45MIN
8/1/67	GOLOLIBIP	-TIBIMTIBIP(" 28)	5HR 20MIN	6HR 45MIN
10/1/67	TIBIMTIBIP	-AKI/TABU DIVISION	7HR 00MIN	1HR 20MIN
12/1/67	AKI/TABU	-SBRANASTA 300.	6HR 10MIN	8HR 25MIN
13/1/67	SBRANASTA 300	-AKI/TABU JN.	5HR 05MIN	6HR 55MIN
19/1/67	AKI/TABU JN.	-GROK. RV	3HR 50MIN	3HR 50MIN
20/1/67	GROK. RV	-IVIKMIN NO 2.	4HR 40MIN	6HR 20MIN
21/1/67	IVIKMIN NO 2	-IVIKMIN NO 1	3HR 00MIN	3HR 20MIN
22/1/67	IVIKMIN NO 1	-CAMP NO35.	2HR 35MIN	3HR 05MIN
23/1/67	CAMP NO 35	-CAMP NO 36	6HR 08MIN	7HR 50MIN
24/1/67	CAMP NO 36	-CAMP NO 37	5HR 15MIN	6HR 20MIN
25/1/67	CAMP NO 37	-KARBEWIN(Sepik)	2HR 25MIN	2HR 40MIN
26/1/67	KARBEWIN	-PAK/SEPIK JN.	5HR 30MIN	6HR 55MIN
27/1/67	PAK/SEPIK	-SEPKIALIKMIN	7HR 30MIN	8HR 40MIN
28/1/67	SEPKIALIKMIN	-TELEPOMIN	4HR 50MIN	4HR 50MIN

This information does not include day trips from any particular camp. The walking times listed as time on the track indicates roughly the time of the slowest carrier. Many of these times do not indicate the shortest route between the two points mentioned.

  
L.W. Bragge

Summary of patrol notes (11/11/66 to 12/1/66)

This was a difficult patrol for members of the Department. Due to the fact that guards on the camp at night get on the perimeter and to be maintained constantly for a period of time which, however, even during this time considered n

# VILLAGE POPULATION

## REGISTER

(Sel. P/R 3/66-67)

**FILED WITH STATISTICS FILE**

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Appendix D

Comments on patrol Police (23/11/66 to 28/1/67)

This was a difficult patrol for members of the R.F.&N.G.C. due to the fact that guards on the camps at night and on the prisoners had to be maintained constantly for a period of nine weeks. However even taking this into consideration it must be stated that as a group the patrol police were unimpressive.

Separate RS 1s have been sent to the Commissioner of the R.F.&N.G.C. to indicate the comments made in the Police records of service at Telefomin. Comments on individual members are set out below.

6995. Const. 1st Class Ganim	An average NCO. He did not have the sway to keep the detachment working as a firm unquestioning unit.
8397 Constable MAREGORI	A useful member. A constant source of entertainment for the detachment.
8468 Constable BARUN	An average member who is capable of exerting himself when necessary.
10003 Constable SIKREI	Useful as a guard, but has little other personal authority. People tend not to listen to him.
9103 Constable GWATORVIN	This man is simple and did not impress on this patrol. Fined \$10.00 in the Local Court at Telefomin for stealing from a deserted Fiarimin house during the patrol.
9102 Constable FORBAIUK	A security risk in restricted area. Warned once for stealing food from West Mianmin food trees (MOROTA) Orderly room hearing for allowing prisoners on two occasions to escape from his charge during the patrol.
10854 Constable YAREGAWA	Potential NCO material. Steady worker with ability to understand unusual situations quickly. Speaks English and acted successfully as a Medical Orderly after the NMO was evacuated from Mawaimin, very ill.
11402 Constable IRAI	An average member with average ability, not impressive and not unimpressive.
7675 Constable SIMIWAH	Solid and reliable. Quiet of manner and an excellent rifle shot.
10910 Constable BINAÉ	New to the Telefomin sub district, but keen and on the spot. Tends to become irritated.
11015 Constable WUSI	Very conscious of the fact that he was the only Papuan on the patrol, but when given the chance, proved to be useful and steady.
8697 Constable YANOPA	Quiet steady and effective. NCO material.

10176 Constable ANGURABE  
8929 " " SOUWI

These two men were sent with three others from the Wewak to accompany the patrol. Two days out from Telefomin both arrived into camp hours after the remainder of the patrol and claimed that the country was too rough for them. Previously at Telefomin both had shown signs of fear of their rifles during range practice. Their aim was so bad that Mr Try and Mr sefl decided to keep one of them with each of us, and in the case of firing orders being given, be on the spot to prevent these men from firing as they would have killed some one in aiming to miss. Needless to say this was not explained to them. In short it was a relief to be forced to send these men back to Telefomin on the third day of the patrol. Lack of moral fibre seems to be the main problem



L.W. Bragge.

Comments on Airdrop Sites West Mianmin.Kimiasomin

1. This was the first drop site used during the patrol. The country in this area is extremely rugged, and M.A.L. pilots were adversely impressed with it. The losses from the drop were calculated at 15%. This site is suitable only for Cessna aircraft. It is recommended that this site not be used again unless absolutely necessary.

2. The site is located at  $141^{\circ} 16'30''$  East  $4^{\circ} 48'$  South or under the western side of the Three Pinnacles on the Tabu fall, and at the headwaters of the Sogolomok river.

Marimin site (Junction of Samal and Aki rivers)

3. The location of this site is  $4^{\circ} 43'$  South  $141^{\circ} 19'$  East. On the ground this is a quarter of a mile east south east of the Samal/Aki junction, on the north bank of the Aki river, and about 1,000 feet above the water level of the Aki. The altitude of the site above sea level is recorded at 1850'.

4. There is a good camp site where an old singsing house was once located on a grassy knoll seventy yards west of the drop site. The site is a small one and the pilot has to fly low as there are steep drops on three sides.

5. The pilot on our drop approached from the east, flying west. It was found necessary to place the target (a white tent fly) well east of the centre of the site as there was a tendency to overshoot. The site is suitable for Cessna aircraft only. A Piaggio would leave the packages too scattered for this small site.

6. The approaches are excellent. It is desirable that the pilot approach from the east as the site slopes uphill to the west. Our drop on this site resulted in a 100% recovery.

Aki/Tabu Divide site.

7. The location of this site is  $141^{\circ} 12'$  East  $4^{\circ} 38'$  South. The ground location is five miles due east of the Aki/Tabu junction. It is not likely that this site will be used again, as it is in the Amanab Sub District, and Amanab patrols will no doubt make use of sites on the August river in areas of population. A 'limbu' helicopter pad has been constructed on this drop site as the helicopter was expected.

8. The approaches are perfect. There is nothing above the level of the site on a level plane for ten miles to the north or south. The timber has been cleared to a width of 200' for an estimated length of 600'. The Cessna aircraft which dropped to this patrol would not come below 150' above the site as the pilot considered the timber to be too close. A little extra clearing on the western side of this site and Piaggio aircraft could drop on it without the slightest difficulty. The altitude of the site above sea level is approx 2,500'.

9. The losses in our drop were unnecessarily high due to the ultra caution of the pilot.

Sepik river - Island

10. This site which is located at  $141^{\circ} 06'$  East  $4^{\circ} 41'$  South was used by Mr Wearne's patrol, but is difficult to approach from the Mianmin (north) side of the Sepik as the Sepik main stream has to be crossed, and the bridging site is well downstream of the drop site. This site would be more suitable for Atbalmin patrols. The site is probably suitable for Piaggio aircraft, but was not seen by this patrol.

Potential Airdrop sites.11. Urapmin

A site located at  $141^{\circ} 17'$  East  $4^{\circ} 42'$  South was considered by the patrol. This is at patrol camp No 25, immediately behind

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Potential Airdrop sites.11. Uraomin

A site located at  $141^{\circ} 17'$  East  $4^{\circ} 42'$  South was considered by the patrol. This is at patrol camp No 25, immediately behind

the present Urapmin singsing house. The area is fairly clear of trees, and a few hours work by a reasonable sized carrier line could make an excellent Cessna drop site. The Aki Valley would probably be too enclosed for a Piaggio aircraft to operate successfully.

Ivikmin No 1

12. Mr Wearne's patrol took an airdrop on an island in the Sepik at Ivikmin No 1, but had large losses due to the stony nature of the site, and the fact that the pilot dropped from a great height. None of the Islands were accessible to the present patrol, the river was too deep and swift.

13. A potential Piaggio drop site was seen at Ivikmin No 1 on the eastern bank of the Amania river where that river joins the Sepik. Some small trees would have to be cleared. The plane could approach from the area of the Tabu Sepik divide and fly out downstream along the Sepik. There are vast areas of new and old gardens at Ivikmin No 1 along the Sepik, and no difficulty would be found in locating adequate Cessna and probably Piaggio drop sites.

Final Note.

14. During the aerial survey of the west Mianmin, drop sites were searched for without luck, but on the ground there were few places where a Cessna drop site could not be located after a reasonable search. Among these few places are the Sepik valley in the area of the Three Pinnacles, the extreme headwaters of the Tabu river. The places to look are on the ridge tops, if no obvious valley floor sites can be located. Most sites require the clearing of a large area of timber (e.g. a day's work for eighty carriers)



E.W. Bragge  
a/Assistant District Commissioner.