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# **PATROL REPORTS**

DISTRICT: MILNE BAY

STATION: GEHUA

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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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MILNE BAY DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1953/54 and 1954/55

GEHUA

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
<u>GEHUA</u>		
1 - 53/54	W.R.A. MacSkimming	Daga/Bou, Wamira and Taupota Linguistic Areas
1 - 54/55	W.M.J. Hunter	North arm of Milne Bay from <del>the</del> Gehua to East Cape of the Tavara Linguistic Area
2 - 54/55	H.C. Gaywood	Ealaba Village Council
3 - 54/55	W.M.J. Hunter	Daga Bou, Wamira and Wedau
4 - 54/55	W.M.J. Hunter	Tavara Linguistic Area
5 - 54/55	W.M.J. Hunter	From Boboua to Gabagabuna villages in the Tavara Linguistic Area

Cleaned

Jan 16/1/69

Yehua  
Milne Bay

P/R 1 of 53/54

H.R.A. Macskimming

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT.

District of : MILNE BAY.

Report no. : 1 of 53/54.

Patrol conducted by : W.R.A. MacSkimming, P/O.

Area Patrolled : Daga/Bou, Wamira and Taupota linguistic areas.

Patrol accompanied by - Europeans : Nil

Natives : ( 2 members R.P. & N.G.C.

Duration : 22nd/23rd July, and 27th July to 19th August.

Number of days on patrol : 26.

Last patrol to area by - District Services : January and February 1953.

Medical : Part of Wamira and Daga/Bou areas in Milne Bay late 1950. North-east Coast villages 1951. Inland villages no record.

Map Reference : 4-mile series SAMARAI Sheet no. 1699. See also Cape Frere sheet no. 2024, and Awaiama Bay sheet no. 3529 in the 1-inch series.

Objects of Patrol : Routine, including census and medical checks, payment of Village Constables, check on Special Arms Permits and Licences to Trade, N.M.T.A. payment; also land application for trade site near TOPURA village.

\*\*\*\*\*

Introduction.

In accordance with instructions received from the Officer in Charge at Gehua Patrol Post, I proceeded on patrol on July 22nd, with objects as stated above, and returned to the station on Wednesday, August 19th.

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Diary.

Wednesday, July 22nd. Census and medical checks, and village inspection, carried out at BADILA village. Hamlets of DIWARA, GAMA and GOIGOI'IGOLE visited. New village book compiled.

Thursday, July 23rd. Census and medical check, and village inspection, carried out at WADEIA.

Friday, July 24th - Sunday, July 26th. Station duties at Gehua.

Monday, July 27th. To LABE by truck, thence to GABAGABUNA wharf by Milne Bay Wholesale Association vessel "KWATO", thence to MAIWARA rest-house, where a census and medical check of the people of GABAGABUNA, MAIWARA NORTH & SOUTH was conducted, commencing at 1200 and being completed at 1700.

Tuesday, July 28th. Village inspection of GABAGABUNA, LAVIAM and LADAVA. Also a few minor complaints and queries heard in the morning. Further inspection of part of MAIWARA in the afternoon. Evening spent until 0030 compiling new village books

Diary ( cont. )

fpr GABAGABUNA and MAIWARA NTH. & STH.

Wednesday, July 29th. Completed inspection of MAIWARA and IAREWA hamlet in the the morning. Returned to the rest-house at 1230 and spent the afternoon and most of the evening writing up patrol statistics and notes.

Thursday, July 30th. Visited DAGA school, close to the rest-house, thence proceeded to IANIANINI village, where census and medical checks were conducted, concluding at 1330, and later a village inspection. Census book re-written in evening.

Friday, July 31st. At IANIANINI. Banking work, mainly on closed accounts, in the morning. A visit to Gurney airstrip to inspect progress in cleaning work being performed, and inspection of village cemetery.

Saturday, August 1st. Departed IANIANINI at 0750 en route BARAGA group, arriving at the rest-house at NAURA hamlet at 1010. Census and medical checks, and inspection of hamlets of NAURA, BARAGA and DURUBE.

Sunday, August 2nd. Observed. At NAURA RH.

Monday, August 3rd. Visited DAGAMA hamlet, thence to BOBOUA village, arriving at 1200. Census and medical check, and village inspection. Village book re-written.

Tuesday, August 4th. Departed BOBOUA 0730 en route PIRIPIRIRINA. Up and down a couple of steep ridges until the BARAGA → PIRIPIRIRINA track reached about 1030. Thence along this track, arriving at PIRIPIRIRINA, after a halt for lunch, at 1500.

Wednesday, August 5th. Census etc. conducted at PIRIPIRIRINA in morning. Departed 1200 for IAPOA, arriving 1340, and census etc. conducted there. Departed IAPOA ~~1500~~, 1510 arriving back at PIRIPIRIRINA at 1650.

Thursday, August 6th. Departed PIRIPIRIRINA 0710 with N.M.O., 1 constable, 7 carriers and a minimum of gear en route GAVI. Steep climb for about two hours out of PIRI → PIRIRINA, then the track runs through moss forest for another hour and a half, and for the remainder of the journey through dank rain-forest, generally running along the tops of razor-back ridges. Arrived at GAVI at 1620. Actual walking time 7 hours 20 minutes. No further work.

Friday, August 7th. Census etc. conducted at GAVI, then departed at roughly 1100 (watch stopped because of partial immersion previously in creek). Over two sharp ridges to arrive at MAINAUA at approximately 1330. Census, etc. Spent the night at MAINAUA RH.

Saturday, August 8th. Departed MAINAUA approx. 0650, travelling along a track which diverged for about an hour's walk from the one to GAVI, then rejoining the route traversed on Thursday, and travelling in the opposite direction back to PIRIPIRI-

Diary (cont.)

RINA, arriving there at 1630.

Sunday, August 9th. Observed. At PIRIPIRIRINA.

Monday, August 10th. Departed PIRIPIRIRINA at about 0830, travelling via IAPOA and TOPURA to LAVORA, with various pauses en route. Arrived at LAVORA at 1500.

Walking time 4½ hours.

~~Monday, August 11th.~~ Census, inspections, etc. at LAVORA.

Wednesday, August 12th. Departed LAVORA at 0745 for KWABUNAKI via Cape Frere and DIVARI, but the writer became affected by slight sunstroke about half-way round Cape Frere and had to send for a canoe to carry him for the remainder of the journey to DIVARI. Remainder of day accordingly spent recovering in DIVARI RH.

Thursday, August 13th. As the writer was still not completely recovered, KWABUNAKI was not visited, as it entailed a further walk of two hours mainly uphill. However, the KWABUNAKI people came to DIVARI, and census and medical checks were conducted. Was obliged to remain at DIVARI for a time due to a complaint which will be dealt with elsewhere in this report, finally departing at 1330 and arriving back at LAVORA at 1630.

Friday, August 14th. Departed LAVORA at 0900 en route TOPURA, inspecting various small hamlets along the track, and finally arriving at TOPURA in the afternoon, when arrangements were made to survey a piece of land which had been applied for as a trade site.

Saturday, August 15th. Census, village inspection etc. in morning. The afternoon was spent in dealing with the abovementioned application for land, the matter taking till about 1730.

Sunday, August 16th. Observed. At TOPURA.

Monday, August 17th. Departed TOPURA 0900 en route WAMAWAMANA, pausing en route to converse with applicant for abovementioned land. After having seen a couple of small hamlets close to TOPURA, the party proceeded along the coast through bare uninhabited country towards WAMAWAMANA, but was picked up after about an hour's walk by Mr. P/O A.R.M. Skewes, returning from Bogura to Samarai in the launch "Erlo", and was conveyed to WAMAWAMANA, arriving about 1130. Census etc. conducted in the afternoon.

Tuesday, August 18th. On to TAUPOTA, arriving at noon. Census and medical check, village inspection and hearing of complaints conducted throughout afternoon and evening.

Wednesday, August 19th. The patrol being now complete, the party returned over the hill from TAUPOTA to GEHUA. This is normally a five-hour walk, but the writer, with no other task but to return to the patrol post, became lazy and



Diary ( cont. )

took his time on the journey, arriving back at GEHUA at 1615 as a result.

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NATIVE SITUATION.

There has been no significant alteration in native affairs since the patrol in January and February of this year conducted by Mr. P/O R. McBride, and the situation is quiet.

No Native Village Councils are in existence as yet in the area patrolled, but it is anticipated that one will be formed in the not too distant future controlling at least the more sophisticated villages around the head of Milne Bay. This of course is the sphere of activity of the District's Native Authorities Officer, who has recently been appointed as Assistant District Officer at Gehua. The natives of these villages have been contacted by him with a view to the eventual formation of a Council, but to date no definite decision has been reached. I have the impression too that the north-east coast villages might be a profitable field for the establishment of a Council. As for the inland villages, however, such as BOBOUA, GAVI and MAINAUA, I would say that it will be some time yet before it will be possible to establish a Council there with any sanguine hope of success - this being mainly due to the paucity of patrols in the area since the war - Mr. Robinson's patrol in 1951 being, I believe, the first time the villages just mentioned had been visited since the war - and naturally the people in those villages are still hazy in their minds as to the exact nature of Administration work, let alone trying to emulate it themselves.

As I said before, the area is quiet, and I did not become aware of any signs of unrest of any nature - the trouble which arose some three to four years ago on the north-east coast due to the questionable activities of the "WEDAUI WELFARE CLUB" has, naturally, died down with the refunding to the natives of most if not all of the money they contributed to this spurious pseudo-co-operative organisation. Nothing of the kind is in existence at present, and I presume that the natives who were duped previously have learnt a lesson.

The co-operative activities in the area cover those villages as far as the BARAGA GROUP at the head of Milne Bay (see map), and the store is situated at MAIWARA, on the main vehicular road. Unfortunately I am not in a position to submit details of progress, as the Co-operative Officer is on patrol, and I naturally have no right of access to his files in his absence; however, I can state fairly confidently that the MAIWARA Society is at least moderately successful, having, I think, the second largest turnover of the Milne Bay societies.

NATIVE AFFAIRS ( cont. )

As to the feasibility of establishing co-operatives societies in other parts of the area of this patrol, I am inclined to think that it does not at present merit serious consideration in comparison with other societies as yet in the embryonic stage.

(a) The main difficulty here is one of access. I speak of the inland villages - the means of access being only by rough bush tracks. Once this difficulty is overcome I would imagine it would be possible to organise a small-scale export trade in native foods to less fortunate areas, and perhaps, if the proposition does not seem ludicrous, co-operative gold-mining activities, as small quantities of gold have from time to time been found in the hills; but beyond this I cannot think at present of any other avenue of trade. Copra is definitely out as far as these villages are concerned, as they are too high up for coconuts to grow properly.

(b) The north-east coast villages. No chance here of exporting native foods, as the villagers have barely sufficient for their own needs; a small trade in copra is a distinct possibility, but not to the extent of that conducted by say the Milne Bay societies, as there are no plantations of nuts belonging to the villages, their nuts being restricted to the immediate vicinity of the villages and in some cases lining the coastal tracks. There is only one European trader in this part of the patrol area, and he makes only a small part of his living from the villages visited by me. Copra production from these villages is a practicable proposition, at the expense, I would say, of running the opposition completely out of business if successful, but I think others will agree with me that the more economically sound areas - for example in this District Misima and Suau - should be attended to first.

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NATIVE AGRICULTURE.

This comprises only native gardens, as there are no wider schemes of cultivation in operation in the area. I concur in general with the remarks of Mr. McBride on his patrol of the area.

The garden land in the villages adjacent to Gehua and round the head of the Bay is generally good and sufficient, the poorest, if it may be so described, being at BADILA, 10 minutes' walk from the station, where the gardens are made in the gullies rather than on the plateau; as the soil on the plateau is poor and porous any fertile properties are leached away by the rain, this not being the case in the gullies. The gardens seen by me in this area were generally good, although not large in extent, it being the case that the local natives have come to rely in part upon "trade store" foods such as tinned meat, flour and rice. There is

NATIVE AGRICULTURE ( cont. )

While the people have money to buy such foods, no very serious objection to this except the one just as much current in our own society embodying the complaint about the "drift to the city" - i.e., that whether people produce their own food, or whether they buy it, it still must be produced in the first place; and if too many of the people are going to be artisans, who is going to produce the food which they must eat, no matter how much money they may gain from their chosen occupation? On the other hand, though, should something happen such as the bottom once again falling out of the copra price, which would leave the people with little or no money income, they will be obliged to return to gardening as an exclusive means of support, always excepting those in employment as opposed to private copra production; and it is to be hoped that in the meantime the art of gardening does not decline too far; I sometimes doubt whether the people are in the habit of looking ahead to such potential situations, and try to impress on them the need to maintain their gardens, whenever the question arises. This does not of course apply to those remote villages where the people are by force of necessity and tradition obliged not to neglect gardening.

In the hills villages, as far as I can see at least, the soil is good, and there is certainly an ample rainfall, so that there should be no difficulty with native food, and a potential, if not at present an actual surplus. A particular GAVI village has a southerly exposure, and most of the village gardens are on the southern slope of a ridge where they receive all the rain carried by the south-east wind, and the gardens appear to be in good order.

The position is somewhat different in the villages on the north-east coast, where in addition to an apparently naturally poor soil, the gardens and villages are sheltered from the south-east wind, and deprived of most of its rain, by a mountain barrier some 2500 to 3000 feet high; and the rainfall during the north-west season is sometimes capricious. Shortages of food have been known to occur, e.g. in 1950 in the same general type of country at WEDAU in the Baniara district, to quote the example which comes most readily to my mind. There are some elementary irrigation channels - these I believe are much better-developed round Goodenough Bay in the Baniara district - but even an irrigation channel is futile if the stream which feeds it is dry/ During my visit the country was completely parched, and the soil of the light grey or brown colour which usually denotes lack of water. The people were making new gardens, and generally potter-round, but there is not much they can do until the seasonal rain comes, which they inform me is in September - November. Their next harvest is expected

WAIWAI AGRICULTURE ( cont. )

in December and January, subject of course to adequate rainfall, and the position at present is that there is sufficient food to last until then, but no surplus.

\*\*\*\*\*

COURTS AND COMPLAINTS.

No Courts for Native Matters were held on this patrol. No complaints requiring a Court were brought to my notice, and I did not find it necessary to initiate any proceedings myself.

While at DIVARI on Thursday, August 13th, I received a message from the Anglican sister at WAMIRA, about five miles west, to say that someone had been using dynamite, and that she was afraid of the consequences for her schoolchildren should they become involved. Although the village is in the Baniara area, I knew that the officer at Baniara, Mr. O'Sullivan, was on patrol in the opposite direction and would not be able to deal with the matter for a while, so accordingly investigated. A WAMIRA man was produced, who after being told the nature of the complaint and having been duly cautioned, chose to answer questions put to him and admitted having exploded one stick of dynamite, which he alleged he obtained in Milne Bay during the war. However, as the incident occurred in Baniara territory, and I myself being on transfer out of the district and consequently unable to take the matter any further, a memo. is being sent to the O.I.C. Baniara to inform him.

Otherwise, complaints were of a nature that could either be settled by extra-judicial arbitration, according to native custom where possible, or else matters which might eventually become the subject of civil litigation, but which must first be referred to other stations for further investigation.

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VILLAGES.

In general, in reasonably satisfactory condition. BADILA Village was rather untidy, and the V.C. was instructed to have this remedied, and warned against further laxness; and it was necessary to speak to some WAIWAI people concerning gardens planted in close proximity to their houses. I would say the north-east coast villages generally, plus MAINAUA, are the neatest and cleanest. GABAGABUNA is, frankly speaking, a dump, due to the scrap materials left around after the war and not yet removed. It is to be hoped that the present salvage contractor, when he comes to GABAGABUNA, effects as complete a clearance as he is said to have done at GAMADODO on the southern side of the Bay.

VILLAGES ( cont. )

HOUSING. Until recent months, housing in the villages close to the station, which were the most affected by the war, was in a poor way due to most of the houses being built from salvaged materials which had sadly deteriorated; however, this is gradually being remedied as a result of instructions given to the villagers. Housing ~~xxx~~ in the other villages is generally satisfactory, necessary repairs and alterations being ~~pointed~~ pointed out. Housing generally on the north-east coast is poor; the blame lying however not with the villagers but with a chronic shortage of building materials which cannot be very easily remedied. In any case, although poor in construction, one consoling feature is that the houses are at least clean and tidy, and the climate is not so inclement as to cause embarrassment.

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CEMETERIES. Some well-kept; others not so well-kept; the latter being brought to the notice of the V.C.'s concerned, with warnings as to the advisability of keeping them tidy.

\*\*\*\*\*

VILLAGE OFFICIALS. None were outstanding, none were bad. Where any uncertainty as to their duties and powers was evident, these were explained. Both V.C.'s and councillors generally courteous and helpful with the census and other matters. For lists, the reader is referred to P/R 3 of 52/53, by Mr. McBride P/O.

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ROADS. Generally in satisfactory condition, and tidy except where, as in the case of the road from PIRIPIRIRINA to MAINAUA, and that from TAUPOTA to GEHUA, it would be obviously absurd to expect the villagers to keep the entire road in first-class order, due to the length,

A motor-road extends as far as WAIGANI plantation, and is in reasonable condition with the exception of the portion running through GILIGILI Plantation, and as regards the condition of this section I concur with previous remarks by Mr. McBride - it is in a disgusting condition due to ruts and potholes, and since I have come to Gehua, there has been no maintenance work on it to my knowledge with the exception of a few teaspoonsful of gravel in the worst of the potholes.

Distance Gehua - Waigani along this road - 14 miles.

Villages Roads and Tracks - approximate distances and walking times.

Baraga - Boboua	4 miles.	2 hours.
Boboua - Piripiririna	10 miles.	6 hours.
Piripiririna - Gavi	12 miles.	7½ hours.
Gavi - Mainaua	4 miles.	2½ hours.
Mainaua - Piripiririna	12 miles.	7½ hours.
Piriririna - Iapoa	5 miles.	1 hour 40 minutes.
Iapoa - Topura	3 miles.	50 minutes.
Topura - Lavora	6 miles.	1½ hours.

ROADS ( cont. )

Lavora - Divari.	9 miles.	3 hours.
Topura - Wamawamana	7 miles.	2 hours.
Wamawamana - Taupota	5 miles.	1½ hours.
Taupota - Gehua.	8 miles.	5 hours.

\*\*\*\*\*

REST HOUSES. All rest houses occupied by the patrol, and barracks and sanitary arrangements attached thereto, were in satisfactory condition. The best rest houses occupied were MAINAUA, TOPURA and DIVARI in that order.

\*\*\*\*\*

CARRIERS. Carriers were readily obtained throughout the patrol, except from the villages of PIRIPIRIRINA and IAPOA, which are rather small, and from BOBOUA, where a couple of the carriers from BARAGA had to be retained to make up the number required. Mr. McBride stated in his patrol report that he had to employ carriers from as far away as TOPURA when going from PIRIPIRIRINA to MAINAUA; accordingly, as an experiment, it was decided to travel PIRIPIRIRINA - GAVI - MAINAUA - PIRIPIRIRINA, taking seven carriers from PIRIPIRIRINA and retaining them throughout the three days required for the journey; and also to go from LAVORA to KWABUNAKI and return in two days with a minimum of gear. The conclusion, however, is that nothing is gained by doing it this way, and that the previous route PIRIPIRIRINA - GAVI - MAINAUA - BIDIA - WAMIRA - KWABUNAKI - DIVARI - LAVORA is just as satisfactory.

No. of man-hours of portage throughout patrol : 804.

\*\*\*\*\*

EDUCATION. Reference is made to patrol report no. 3 of 52/53, as recapitulation of the figures would serve no purpose.

MISSIONS. As for EDUCATION.

\*\*\*\*\*

SPECIAL ARMS PERMITS. Once again reference is made to P/R 3 of 52/53.

Renewed S.A.P.'s were issued in most cases to the holders, and the number of permits held tallied with the register kept at Gehua, with the exception of two permits in one village which had been issued direct from Samarai and which were not therefore recorded in the Gehua register.

LICENCES TO TRADE. Checked and found in order. The mode of trading is to buy raw coconuts for trade goods, the prices being as stated in Mr. McBride's report.

\*\*\*\*\*

ASSISTANTS IN EMPLOYMENT. An interesting point was raised by Mr. McBride in his report, i.e. the assertion that of the natives in this area, comparatively many were employed in skilled or semi-skilled occupations as opposed to the number employed in general labour. I therefore attempted to find out exactly what were the

ABSENTEES IN EMPLOYMENT ( cont. )

OCCUPATIONS OF THE ABSENTEES; AND THE FOLLOWING TABLE IS THE RESULT.

Those whose occupation could not be ascertained have been listed as general labourers.

## WORKING WITHIN DISTRICT.

General Labour.	96 males.
Boatscrew	11 males.
Store Employees	9 "
Teachers	3 "
Drivers	4 "
Nurses	3 females.
Carpenters	3 males.
Clerks	3 "
Medical Orderlies	3 "
Rabaul Messenger	1 "
Rabaul Power-house	2 "

## WORKING OUTSIDE DISTRICT.

General Labour	23 males.
P.O.I.R.	7 "
Pump Attendant	1 "
Surveyor's Asst.	1 "
Port Moresby freezer	1 "
Carpenter	3 "
Store Employees	8 "
Drivers	4 "
Messenger	1 "
Clerks	5 "
Boatscrew	3 "
Teacher	1 "
Medical Orderlies	2 "
Rabaul Power-house	2 "
Sewyer	1 "
Domestic	1 "

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GEN. S. A census check was carried out in all villages visited which were within the Gehua patrol post boundaries and the figures obtained will be found on the P/R jacket.

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CONCLUSION.

A quiet patrol, with no incidents, but not ineffectual. The objects of the patrol as stated were carried out, and the writer made the acquaintance of some new country and new people. I feel that the more isolated villages, which have not to date received many visits, should be visited much more frequently than is at present the case - say at least once every three months, in order that the people may gain confidence in the government, and learn to have confidence in the justice, and at times, assistance dispensed; and furthermore to learn how the government operates and why it so operates, in order that they may, when the time comes, be able to emulate it on a smaller scale in village councils.

*Patrol Officer*  
Patrol Officer.

APPENDIX I. HEALTH.

No serious sickness was observed on this patrol. A complete medical check was carried out by the N.M.O., and a number of M.A.R. injections given. A few cases were sent to Gehua Aid Post for treatment where necessary. Three VD suspects were sent to Gehua for movement, one from SAMARAI from WAITEMA, and one from MANTIANINI.

The N.M.O., LESLIE IBOKARI, who arrived here about two months ago from Samarai in order to accompany patrols, and assist the N.M.O. at the Aid Post, appears to be keen and interested in his work, and to know what he is doing.

The following is a list of blind people noted on the patrol -

MAYANI-BOULI female aged.	Maiwara North.
GAICOTOLO-EROBONA female 34.	Maiwara North.
ROMARA-PCNISI female 28.	Maiwara North.
KEBUKESBU-MEKILI female 23.	Maiwara North.
NICOLE-KAINOBOTU female 38.	Durube (Baraga).
BAIOWEDI-? female aged.	Kwabunaki.
PAICIEA-TAUDANIKOLA female 78.	Hioge (Topura).
INAWADIRILA-? female aged.	Taupota.

The following is a list of absences at Basila Hansende Settlement -

Village.	Adults.		Children.		Total.
	Male.	Female.	Male.	Female.	
WAITEMA	1		1		2
GABUGABUNA	2	2			4
MAIWARA NORTH	2	3			5
MAIWARA SOUTH	1				1
BARAGA	2	2			4
TOTALS	8	7	1		16.

*R. MacShimming o/c.*

APPENDIX II. R.P. & N.G.C.

1971 Constable OIVO

A keen and conscientious member, constantly cheerful and not prone to sickness. Invaluable on patrol, especially in the matter of organising carrier lines. Behaviour and bearing satisfactory.

8007 Constable BERAMU-BEVUGE

Likewise keen and conscientious. Has not had much patrol experience as yet, but is willing, and obeys all instructions promptly and correctly. Always cheerful. Behaviour and bearing good.

*R. MacShimming*

Officer of R.P. & N.G.C.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/6/20

MEMORANDUM--



In Reply  
Please Quote

D.S.30-1-4/344

HEADQUARTERS  
District  
MILNE BAY DIVISION,  
SAMARA.

31st August, 1953.

The Director,  
Department of District Services  
and Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

PATROL REPORT - GEHUA NO.1 - 53/54.

Mr. MacSkimming's report is forwarded. I am very pleased to see the improvement in the presentation and even more pleased to see this Officer maintain his interest in native affairs despite his knowledge of his appointment to the Co-operative Section.

The report needs no clarification, and the Officer's statistical information is so interesting that many other Officers, who may be called upon to supply similar information, may not approve. One never sees distances and times shown together as on pages 8 & 9 and anyone with any knowledge of patrolling would appreciate them - the IAPOA-TOPURA - 3 miles 50 minutes-reminds me of Kerema (coastal).

Diary. Wednesday August 12th. I do not know if the Officer really had sunstroke but I do know I would have had "nerves". That track has been dangerous for years.

Diary. Thursday August 13th. The KWAEUNAKI people have been "odd man out" since the alteration of the sub-District boundaries. I was once informed at DOGURA that the Anglican Mission considered it as the "hill station" and used it as such.

Native Situation page 4 para.2. A perfect example of the dangers of specialisation.

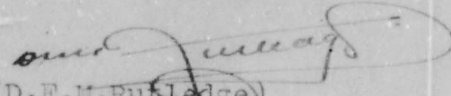
Villages page 7. I think the Officer should be asked to elaborate. I cannot see any harm in having a garden near a house.

Roads page 7 para. 2. Unfortunately there is nothing which can be done. The road goes through private property and was (I think) purely an Army Road.

S.A.P's page 9. All such issues should be promptly notified to Sub-Districts and instructions that advices be sent have been issued.

In all, a very interesting patrol report, and I regret that it may be his last.

c.c.Mr.MacSkimming.  
c.c.A.D.O.Gehua.

  
(D.F.M. Rubledge)  
a/District Commissioner.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

30/1/53

File Ref: 29-3.

Patrol Post,  
GENUA.  
Milne Bay District.  
18th June, 1953.

Mr. W.R.A. MacSkimming,  
Patrol Officer,  
GENUA.

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS.

Please commence a routine patrol of the WANIRA - DAGA/BOU  
- TAUPOTA Census Sub-Division on or after 22nd July, 1953.

The patrol is designed as a follow-up to that conducted  
by Mr. McBride through this area earlier this year. Please  
consult Patrol Report No. 3-52/53 and deal with any matters  
arising out of that patrol.

Select whatever police you consider necessary and arrange  
for the various villages to be warned of the impending patrol.  
Please arrange for a Native Medical Orderly with medical supplies  
and equipment to accompany the patrol.

Please consult the relevant files prior to your departure  
and, wherever possible, deal with all matters that have been awaiting  
attention by the next patrol to this area, including the  
various financial matters and the leasing of land at Aigara,  
approval for which is contained in memorandum D.S. 34-1-4/46  
of 10th July from the District Commissioner.

Please pay all outstanding wages due to Village Constables.

Rations and equipment may be drawn from the store and  
£75 cash will be advanced for the patrol.

*J. R. Stuntz*  
.....  
J.R. Stuntz.  
Patrol Officer.  
O.I.C. Genua.

→ Copy to :-  
The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
SAHARAI.

S/c

B/P when I have prepared all orders for the  
patrol report shall be the officer. done

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File Ref : 30-2.

Patrol Post,  
GEHUA.

Milne Bay District.

25th August, 1953.

~~The District Commissioner,~~  
Milne Bay District,  
SAMARAI.

PATROL REPORT No.1 of 53/54.

The above report of a patrol conducted by Mr. W.R.A. MacSkimming is forwarded herewith in quadruplicate. Relevant correspondence is attached.

Would you please note Mr. MacSkimming's remarks regarding the submission of maps in the concluding paragraph of his memorandum of 23rd inst.

*J. R. Stants*

.....  
J. R. Stants.  
Patrol Officer.  
O. I. C. Gehua.

The District Commissioner,  
Kilima Moyo District, UNDAVI.

Subject: GHSA Patrol Report No. 1/33-34.

Mr. Macdonald is maintaining his standard of reporting a transfer to the Co-operative Section may give him valuable experience.

2. His views on the subject of establishing more Sections in the area covered by the patrol have been submitted for the information of the Director of Co-operation.

3. Concerning the possibility that such operations will interfere with the activities of private business, such a contingency is a necessary of competitive private enterprise - and all the Government will be able.

4. The indigenous authorities are in most cases able to regulate the movements of their own groups, without any major restrictive measures being imposed.

*W. A. R. [Signature]*

Acting Director, H.S. & S.A.

92

Cleared  
Aug 16/11/69

Yehua

P/R 1 of 54/55

N.M.S. Hunter.

PATROL REPORT.

Patrol Report Milne Bay No. 1- 1954-55.

2nd August 1954.

Report of a Patrol to the TAVARA

Census Sub-Division Milne Bay District.

Officer Conducting Patrol:- W.M.J. Hunter, Cadet Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled:- North Arm Of Milne Bay From Gemua To East Cape  
of the TAVARA Linguistic Area.

- Objects of the Patrol:-
1. Census Check.
  2. Routine Administration.
  3. Inspection of All Villages, Gardens  
And Water Supplies etc.
  4. General Business- Payment of all V. C.'s  
Wages- Carry Out C.S.B. Transactions etc.

Duration:- 22 Days. ( 7th July to 28th July 1954. )

Personnel.  
Cadet Patrol Officer.  
2 Constables.

.....

1.

INTRODUCTION.

In accordance with written instructions received from the Officer in Charge Gehua, the patrol left Gehua on the 7th July 1954. The objects of the patrol were as shown on the front page.

It was decided to split the TAVARA sub-division of the Milne Bay District into two areas. Each area to be covered by a patrol of approximately three weeks duration.

Accordingly the patrol travelled slowly along the North Shore of Milne Bay, crossed the East Cape Peninsula and terminated at East Cape; returning to Gehua on the 28th. July.

---

DIARY.

7th July : 0745. Departed station per truck.

0805. Arrived LABE. Routine inspections of villages, gardens and water supply etc.

8th. July : 0800. Census taken and Banking transactions carried out.

1400. Finished inspection of district.

9th July. : 0700. Departed for BIMARI.

0730. Arrived at BIMARI. People assembled therefore census figures taken. Banking transactions carried out.

1300. Visited K. B. Mission Station.

10th July. Routine inspection of villages and gardens etc.

11th July. Observed at BIMARI.

12th July. 0700. Left Bimari for AHIOMA. Inspection villages and gardens en route.

1100. Arrived at AHIOMA.

1300. Inspection Villages ,gardens, mission school and local farm.

13th July. 0800. Census taken and banking transactions carried out.

1330. Remainder district inspected.

DIARY (Continued.)

- 14th July. 0700. Departed for NIGILA. Inspection of villages and gardens en route.  
1115. Arrived at NIGILA.  
1930. Inspection remainder of the district.
- 15th July. 0800. Census figures taken. Banking transactions carried out.
- 16th. July. 0700. Departed for WATUNO.  
0830. Arrived at WATUNO. Inspection villages and gardens remainder of day.
- 17th July. 0800. Census figures taken. Banking transactions carried out. Several small disputes settled.
- 18th. July. 0830. Departed BUBULETA.  
0845. Arrived BUBULETA. Inspection district remainder of day.
- 19th. July. 0900. Census figures taken. Banking transactions carried out. Discussions into the night.
- 20th. July. 0700. Departed BOU.  
0830. Arrive Bou. Inspection District remainder of day
- 21st. July. 0830. Census figures taken. Banking transactions carried out. Two court cases heard and sent to Gehua.
- 22nd. July. 0730. Departed BOU.  
0830. Arrived LELEHUDI. Census figures taken.  
Inspection villages gardens etc. remainder of day.
- 23rd. July. Departed LELEHUDI 0700.  
0815. Arrived WALALAI. Inspection district remainder of day.
- 24th. July. Census figures taken and remainder district inspected,
- 25th. July. 0700. Departed for RONANA.  
0830. Arrived at RONANA. Inspection villages etc. for remainder day.
- 26th. July. 0730. Census figures taken.  
1000. Departed RONANA.  
1100. Arrived East Cape. Inspection villages en route



DIARY. ( Continued.)

26th. July. 1330. Census figures taken. Visited the East Cape Mission in the evening.

27th. July. 0715. Departed East Cape.

1339. Arrived TIBULUKA.

28th. July. 0700. Departed BUEULETA.

1345. Arrived Gehma. From AHIOMA by Bicycle.

NATIVE SITUATION.

'He is best of all who of himself conceives all things;  
Good again is he too who can adopt a good suggestion;  
But whose neither of himself conceives nor hearing from another  
Lays it to heart;-he is a useless man.'

The first line does not apply to anyone in the area patrolled. There are, however, quite a few natives to whom the second line may be. Those referred to in the third and fourth lines are numerous.

The Milne Bay Natives have absorbed into their communities the Co-operative movement. The immediate results are obvious. The enabling and encouraging of the individual to work, sell his product and receive money with which to buy a miscellany of European goods. Selling and Buying; it is a beginning.

The question arises now, is the movement bringing true happiness to the people. I do not think so. The goal of all

human doing is the pursuit of happiness. Good character is the chief determinant and is an indispensable condition of it. The end of all action individual or collective is the greatest happiness of the greatest number. The best and happiest life for the individual is that which the administration renders possible; and this it does by revealing to him the value of new objects of desire and educating him to appreciate them.

I think the economic situation has progressed far enough in this area for the administration to begin the task of educating the individual, of giving increased opportunities of self-

NATIVE SITUATION (Continued.)

-development and greater capacities for the enjoyment of life.

It is assumed that all human practical activity is directed to a single end, and that that end is knowable or definable in advance of its realisation. The native knows that he can now make money and help his community at the same time by patronising the co-operative store. Does he know why he is doing so, does he have the faintest idea of the ultimate goal to which he is being guided: at the moment I do not think so.

This area is ripe for the establishment of Village Councils. With the advent of this type of local government, a step in the right direction will have been taken.

A seasonal shortage of food still occurs in several villages on the East Cape Peninsula. To relieve this shortage cooking pots are now being made for trading trips to the surrounding islands.

The people are as a whole a law-abiding community. Isolationism still has a strong grip on several villages. A result of the elder dogmatic natives refusal to bow down before the advance of civilisation. The modern generations however, are imbued with the right spirit, more than enough to counteract any such tendency in the future.

~~The situation in the area is satisfactory.~~

THE COURT FOR NATIVE MATTERS.

Two cases were placed before the patrol. In both cases the complaint was adultery. They were referred to Gehua.

NATIVE AGRICULTURE.

Gardens in the area vary in size, according to the requirements and the capacity to work of the native.

Community gardens were the only ones of any size. It

NATIVE AGRICULTURE. (Continued.)

was noticed, however, that the quality of the produce and the condition of the area was in almost all cases inferior to the privately owned enterprise. The pooling of labour and resources still does not appeal to the majority of farmers.

From LAEE to DIVINAI, the gardens are of small acreage, but, in conjunction with the fare to be found at their local stores, is sufficient.

Taro and yams predominate. Owing to the presence of swine both village and wild, and the absence of fences, sweet potatoes are not in evidence. A little being planted close to their homes. Scattered in every garden are a variety of other vegetables and fruit. Noticed were Tapioca, pineapple, pawpaw, bananas both cooking and eating, asparagus, sweetcorn, pumpkins and cucumber. These are not universal of course, individual taste guiding the pattern of occurrence. A few orange and sipora trees, an abundance of large sagotrees and a superfluity of the betel-nut tree were noticed. One native remarking that he had planted 500 betel-nut trees on his land and intended planting more. Where the spirit is willing...

From BOU to EAST CAPE, the gardens are of very small acreage. They are not fenced and damage is caused chiefly by the village pigs. The primary crop in this area is the yam. New yam-houses were in the making to store the yield from the forthcoming harvest. In some cases these houses were in better condition than the living quarters of the natives. Taro is a poor second, but pawpaw and bananas are more plentiful. The variety referred to in the first paragraph does not exist here.

A seasonal food shortage occurs. December to May being the times of scarcity. To offset this, a diet of sago, nuts and fish was utilised, and cooking pots made in the previous months were bartered in neighbouring districts for yams and taro. October and November being the time for these trading expeditions. Now there need be no hunger as there is copra to be made and food to be bought in the local stores.

A farm at Wanakikiwana (AHICOMA) was inspected. The interest shown was noticeable by its absence. Nature has regained control.

NATIVE AGRICULTURE. (Continued.)

Half a bin of rice seeds was noticed. These are for future plantings on the farm, but enthusiasm for the project seems to be missing. I think the native finds the rice available at his local store more desirable and easier to obtain.

There was also some doubt as to the number and the condition of the livestock on the place. After a good deal of argument it was decided that three horses and eight cows still roamed the bush in good condition. No use is being made of the animals at this time.

In the LABE to AHIOMA areas, coconut groves are still dangerously depleted. Replanting is not taking place as quickly as could be desired. A few natives have planted and protected a small amount. The V.C.'s and councillors informed me that the majority of their people show a remarkable antipathy towards planting for the ~~future~~ future. How to instil in these people the right spirit?

Progressing along the coast, groves become numerous. Planting is going on everywhere, even in the gardens situated well back from the coast. There is a vigour in the area from WATUMO to BUBULETA and as far as WALALAI that is in remarkable contrast to the dilatoriness of the other areas.

Pigs and poultry are numerous in the district. A few fenced enclosures for swine were seen. Very little wild game was noticed. The number of shotguns in operation have seriously depleted the bird life. Will this have an effect upon the insect population? Will the intensity of undesirable insects be increased? Nature balances well; when unbalanced is dangerous. Time alone shall tell.

---

EDUCATION.

At this time two mission denominations represent the seats of learning in the area.

As is to be expected, religion plays an important part in the curriculums taught the pupils. The Kwato mission teaching the various subjects in English is doing a fine job. It is to be hoped that any prejudices or dogmatisms associated with the teachers are curbed.

EDUCATION. (Continued.)

The Methodist Mission teaches in the DOBUAN language. I cannot but feel that this is a retrogressive step. Education with this denomination or schism takes a second place to the installation of their doctrines, whether right or wrong, into the rocky soil of their adherent's minds.

I found that the schools run by the Kwato-trained teachers were superior to those operated by the Methodist-trained. The teachers of the latter mission do not themselves seem enthusiastic. Being away four months at East Cape headquarters has resulted in their pupils drifting away. The teachers have recently been occupied on the construction of several buildings at East Cape. Enthusiasm can be noticed at the Kwato stations. Their station at WATUNO is a very good example of a village school. The local inhabitants are proud of it..

The government at present is not active in this area. A village school at BUEULETA, formerly Government assisted is still active. The teacher is a native of the district and is happy to do what she can to help the children. Her materials are restricted due to the lack of finance but the spirit is willing. As with other schools in the area, attendance is spasmodic. A frustrating and exasperating trait which the parents do nothing to eradicate.

The installation of a Government school is urgently required here. Unhampered by spiritual doctrines and teaching according to an approved curriculum, the minds of the students would be cultivated in the correct way. This is more important than any religion.

The following figures were collected.

<u>Village.</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>Denomination.</u>
Ahioma	16	22	38	Kwato.
Watuno.	33	28	61	"
Bubuleta.	21	19	40	Village school only.
Divinai.	31	18	49	Kwato.
Bou.	27	20	47	Methodist.
Lelehudi.	10	3	13	"
Wajalai.	25	11	36.	"
East Cape			50	"
			<u>334</u>	

VILLAGES.

Village sites are clean. The housing situation is not good and leaves much to be desired.

From LABE to NIGILA and at DIVINAI, the dwellings are constructed of rusting iron, and a variety of other materials left over at the end of the last war. In a number of cases the houses were built on concrete foundations by the occupying forces. When they left the native inhabitants walked in. From that day to this no repair work of any kind has been carried out on these dwellings. Native materials are now plentiful and a different situation can be expected in the near future. Orders for the removal of all old and rotting material and their replacement by native materials were given.

From Bou to East Cape all houses are of native design. The interior of these houses left much to be desired. Hygiene plays little part in these peoples way of life. At Bonana and along the coast to East Cape a scarcity of materials exists. There is, however, no excuse for interior filth. This occurs in many of the houses. Offenders were sent to Gehua.

Cemeteries are neglected, the respect of the descendants does not stretch to keeping the grave sites clean.

Water supplies are adequate.

Latrines were noticeable by their absence. A few villages had hastily erected affairs but the people obviously prefer their own type of latrine. Efforts to guide them in the right direction were made. Hopes of success cannot be regarded as high.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

The efficacy of the present system of Village constables is to be doubted. With two exceptions the constables were merely figureheads and have neither the confidence nor the respect of the natives. In most cases the responsibilities of the V.C.'s duties have been transferred to the shoulders of village councillors. In all cases this has the approval of the people. The introduction of local village councils in the area is of course the answer. With

VILLAGE OFFICIALS. (Continued.)

a little power to back them up, I think the councillors at present in action could do something with the recalcitrant members of their societies. Action, instead of the deadly prevarication now rife, would then be the order of the day.

6

BEST HOUSES AND BARRACKS.

The rest houses were for the most part in good order. At NIGILA a new floor is required. At AHIOMA a new rest house is required.

Excellent structures have been erected at BUBULETA and ROMANA. Praiseworthy efforts indeed.

The barracks were shoddy. They range from the all iron one at AHIOMA to the trembling edifice at WALALAI. The latter receiving a buffeting from a strong South-Easter collapsed about the ears of the occupants. After the initial shock had worn off everyone had a good laugh. Needless to say the Walalai people took great shame at this and when the patrol returned through the district three days later the skeleton of a bigger and stronger building had been erected.

The smallhouses were poor, the less said about these the better.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

From Gehua to Divinal an excellent walking road exists. In war years this was a good vehicular road but the ravages of the climate have rendered useless all bridges. Traces of which still remain. The road had received a careful trimming prior to the patrol's arrival and walking was very pleasant. From Divinal to East Cape the coast is followed. The track was in good order / had going but coming back heavy rain/ rendered it a quagmire. Walking was without difficulty and taking everything into consideration could not be found with them.

CENSUS.

Census figures were taken at all villages: attendances were excellent.

COMMERCE.

Copra production is the main local industry. As a corollary of this trading and co-operative stores dot the coast-line. Most make money.

Boatbuilding and ~~servicing~~ are the only other ~~industries~~ with any commercial value.

From Watuno to Divinai a few natives were noticed building whaleboats. The appearance of the boats, to a layman, seemed good. The boats were being made for the individual's own use. One man at Divinai had placed a value of £1000 on his vessel. The accuracy of this estimate of his handicraft cannot but be questioned. To date no sale has been effected. A business with possibilities.

Two sawmills are to be found in the district. One at Divinai and one at Labe.

At Divinai there is a remarkable reluctance to use the machinery. The village constable informing me that the mill has been inactive for over a year. It seems that there is no one with the requisite skill or knowledge, to work the mill in the vicinity. It seems a pity to let an investment such as this go to ruin simply because of a lack of ability. A little guidance and encouragement from the administration is called for.

A new mill is almost ready at Labe. I think, unless some guidance is also forthcoming here, a similar fate awaits this commendable enterprise. With the shortage of good timber now existing in Milne Bay District, the bringing of these mills into production seems to me to be a worthwhile project.

Action from the administration is required now.

COMMONWEALTH SAVINGS BANK.

Deposits are a thing of the past. The natives here wish to spend their money. Withdrawals totalling £238 - 15 - 2. were made. Sixty Two transactions taking place.



SPECIAL ARMS PERMITS

Several inquiries regarding the issue of new permits were placed before the patrol. In all instances inquirers were informed that at this time no new permits were being issued.

A brief summary of operative permits in the area visited appears below.

<u>Village.</u>	<u>No. S.A.P.</u>
Ahioma.	3
Bimari.	3
Bou.	2
Bu'uleta.	4
Divinsi.	4
Ibulau	1
Labe.	7
Lelehudi.	4
Nigila.	3
Watuno.	3.
Wagawaga Nth.	2
	<hr/>
	36
	<hr/>

REPORT ON NATIVE CONSTABULARY.

See "Appendix. "A".

MEDICAL AND HEALTH.

See Appendix "B".

*W. M. J. Hunter*

W. M. J. Hunter, C.P.O.  
2nd. August 1954.

Appendix "A".

Patrol Report Milne Bay No. 1 - 1954-55.

Report of No. 1071 - Constable OIVO.

Date Of Commencement;- 7th. July 1954.

Duration ; - 22 Days.

From ; - Gehua, Milne Bay.

To ; - East Cape in the TAVARA Linguistic  
Group of Milne Bay District.

PERSONNEL.

No. 1071. Constable OIVO.

Conduct :- Excellent.

Comments :- Reliable in every Way.

No. 7419 Constable KOIVI.

Conduct :- Pertaining to Patrol Duties ; good  
Otherwise not to be depended upon.

Comments :- Needs continual watching. Inclined to  
Slack if given the opportunity.

*W. M. J. Hunter*  
.....  
W. M. J. Hunter C.P.O.  
Officer of R.P.&N.G.C.

APPENDIX "B".Patrol Report Milne Bay No. 1 -1954-55MEDICAL AND HEALTH.


The patrol was unable to obtain the services of the N.M.O. stationed at Gehua. Accordingly a medical inspection of each village was not carried out.

Health is good in the area covered by the patrol. A few cases of SEPOMA were seen in the BOU-Lelehudi areas. There is an unfortunate tendency for the people in these areas to sleep on the ground. A case of cancer of the jaw was noticed at East Cape. The man in question refuses to go to Port Moresby for treatment.

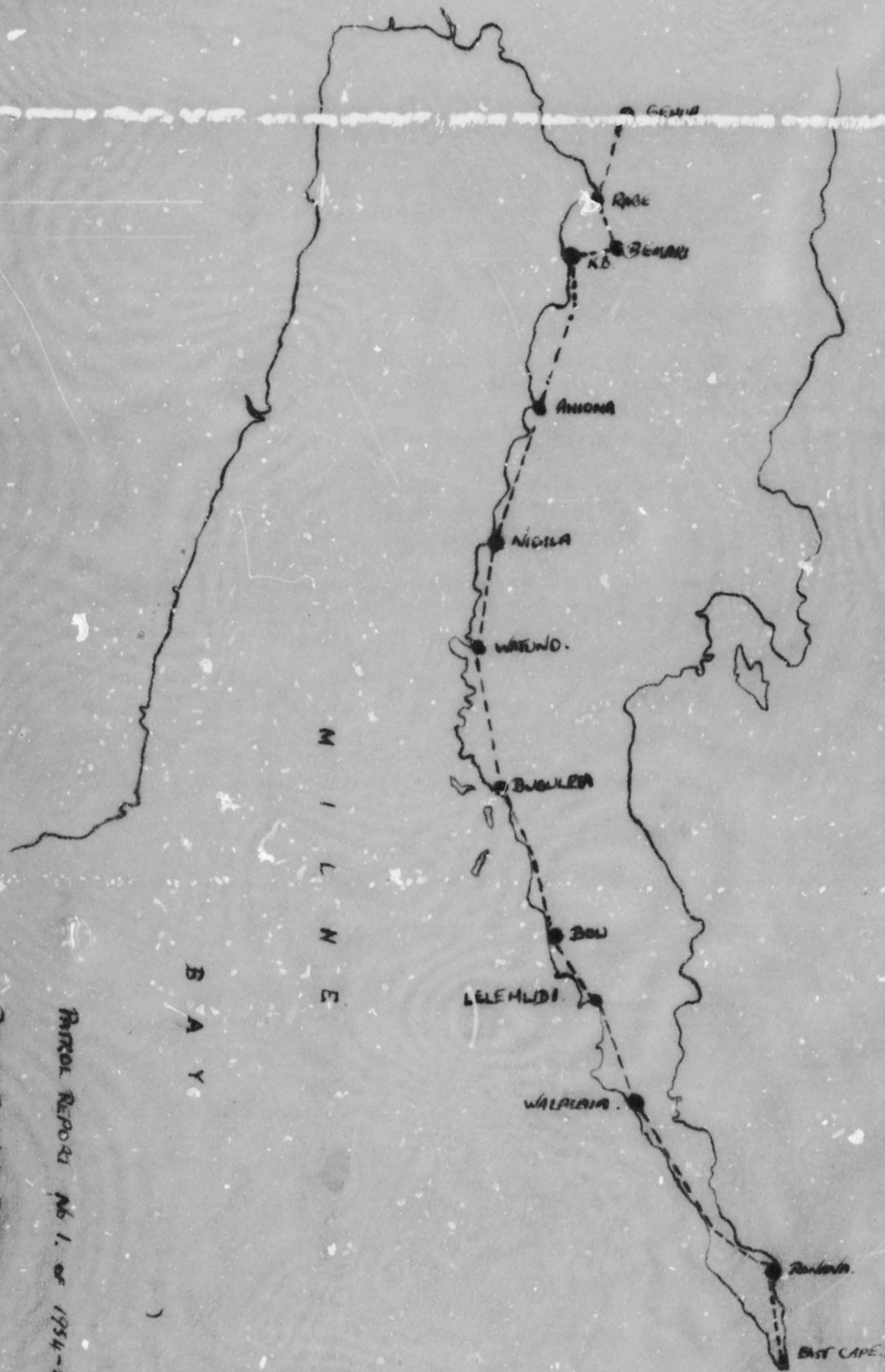
An aid post, manned by an N.M.O. is situated between Ronana and East Cape. This man is doing a good job here despite the smallness of the wards and the limitation of medical supplies. He moves about the district and has gained to a certain degree the confidence of the local people.

Kwato mission at K.B. looks after a fair number of patients. The new European nurse there was just settling in and was unable to give any statistics.

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W.M.J. Hunter C.P.O.  
2nd. August 1954.



PARROT REPORT No. 1. of 1934-35  
Chart taken by Parrot.-----

File 30/1.

COPY

Sub-District Office  
G E H U A  
Milne Bay District.

Mr. W.M. Hunter,  
Cadet Patrol Officer  
G E H U A.

5th July 1954.

GEHUA PATROL REPORT No. 1 - 54/55.

Please be prepared to depart on patrol on the morning of Wednesday 7th July. The area to be patrolled is the South coast of the North arm of Milne Bay from GEHUA to EAST CAPE. I estimate that three weeks should be sufficient for you to thoroughly patrol the area, but would like you back on the station by the 31st July at the latest, in order that I may commence a patrol of the South coast and the Sagarai Valley early next month.

The objects of the patrol are as set out below:-

- A. Census Check
- B. Routine Administration, having regard to the activities of the Native Authorities Section and the Co-operatives.
- C. Inspection of all villages, gardens and water supplies etc.
- D. General business - payment all VCs, attend CSB matters etc..

The personnel who will accompany the patrol will be two members of the R.P.&N.G.C. Detachment - to be selected by yourself, with due consideration to lapse of time since A.C.s were last on patrol.

Please prepare a list of rations for the patrol staff for one month, and submit it to me for perusal before the items are to be issued.

I anticipate that there may be a considerable amount of banking in this area, and a patrol advance of Two Hundred Pounds £200 will be made to you. Please prepare a voucher for this amount. Please keep a careful check on payments and receipts; As a good general rule, I would suggest that the book entry is always made before payments.

The station truck will be made available to you to transport your personnel and gear to the rest house at LABE. The patrol will terminate at EAST CAPE, and I will try and arrange for the ERLO or some other vessel to pick you up and return you to the station. In this connection please send a runner to Gehua with your estimated time of termination, giving me, if possible, at least one week's notice. If I cannot arrange for the ERLO, I shall, endeavour to get permission for you to charter the Methodist vessel at East Cape.

Please peruse the Matters for Attention on Patrol file, and take with you all matters which will be encountered enroute.

Thoroughly investigate all complaints brought before you, both from the prosecution and defense angle. If the matter is one for the Court for Native Matters, send witnesses for the defense and the prosecution with the village policeman as well as a brief summary of the facts, after your work in the area has been completed. If you consider that any group or individual has neglected to carry out the works allotted under the NRO, also send these people in company with the Village Constable.

For your own information and also as a check on previous patrol's observations, take with you Patrol Reports regarding the area to be patrolled. If there is anything about which you are doubtful, please discuss the matter with me.

(Sgd) R.K. Greaney.  
R.K. Greaney P.O.i.c. GEHUA.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Sub District Office,  
GEHUA. Milne Bay.  
5 August 1954.

The District Commissioner,  
SAMARAI.

GEHUA P/R. No.1 of 54/55 - TAVARA Area. - Mr. W.M.J. Hunter, C.  
C.P.O.

The above Patrol Report is forwarded herewith in four copies.

Comments.

map. The map is in blue ink because no Indian ink is held here.

Economic. - I am not myself completely clear yet as to the economic picture in the area, though it is evident that mere dependence on subsistence agriculture is passing. A number and variety of ventures, few of which show good results, indicate native recognition of the need for development of their economic potential. The most successful ventures so far have been the Native Societies informally sponsored by the Co-operative Section. It should be noted that none of these Societies are statutorily registered yet. I have the impression that further expansion of activities by the Section here will be drastically limited by shortage of staff, both European and native, and that their existing resources are already fully employed.

Agriculture. - Community gardens mentioned by Mr. Hunter appear to be the result of certain mission influences, but have little real place in village life. The gardens are made on land "loaned" by a particular individual, and are divided into strips for individual cultivation. No one may harvest produce except from his own strip.

The community farm at Wanikikiwana is a substantial unsupervised "community" effort in which Kwate Mission was apparently interested, and which was considerably assisted with rations and livestock by the Administration. The Ahiema people are very dissatisfied with the management of the project. It appears that one native may have embezzled some £370 of the funds. I am awaiting information from the District Commissioner concerning the early establishment of the project before fully investigating the matter. It is possible that criminal prosecutions will follow. Irregular and unguided ventures of this kind expose the native leaders to serious temptations, but failure to act against them invites more and greater delinquencies of the same kind.

I understand that the Regional Agricultural Officer will look into the agricultural economic potential of the area in due course.

Education. - School facilities are sickeningly scarce and of poor quality in the area. I understand that the Director of Education is anxious to extend the activities of his department here. Such an extension is long overdue, and this is highlighted by the difficulty in finding local natives to do clerical work for the Native Societies (Co-op) and for the TAVARA statutory Council, shortly to be proclaimed. It is also emphasized by the alarming mess into which some of the "community" projects have got themselves.

The Kwate schools are to be commended for the trade teaching they do, and for the smattering of English which they broadcast about the area. But such of their village schools as I have so far seen do not appear to measure up to the needs of the natives in a general broad sense. Good opportunities are offered to a select few for higher education, but the village native is rather neglected. Those who receive the benefit of the higher education tend not to return to their villages, or, if they do, to segregate themselves as a snob elite.

There is a real need here for a Government Village Higher School at least

Village Housing. - In general native materials are more appropriate to village housing. However, in this area almost all resources of thatching material were destroyed during the war, while iron became plentiful. Iron of good quality is certainly a better material for roofs, and will certainly be used in the future, irrespective of our aesthetic tastes.


Village Officials. - The area will be included in the Tavara Statutory Council, shortly to be proclaimed, and as a result existing Village Officials will cease to hold office. It remains to be seen what effect the new administrative method will have on community lethargy, but there are grounds for sober optimism.

Health. - In 1947 a European Medical Assistant began a medical patrol of the area, but was removed in a straitjacket before completing it. A complete medical patrol was eventually carried out in 1949. Since then only N.M.O's., have done duty here. The Kwato Mission supports a native hospital at Keaburi, 5 miles east of the Gahua wharf at Pabi, and staffed by a trained nurse. Another sister does occasional patrols from Kwato Island. Otherwise medical facilities are very poor. There are no Aid Posts.

Mr. Hunter's statement that "health is good" must therefore be read with caution. How can he know? My own impression is that there may be a good deal of T.B. and malaria, with a bad effect on the people's energies, and on the population level. I feel that a properly conducted parasitological survey is an urgent necessity.

Census. - The figures show 115 births among a population of approximately 1650 in a period of 16 months. This represents an annual birth rate of approximately 3.1% - a very low figure indeed. The matter calls for close attention.

Conclusion. - This is Mr. Hunter's first patrol. Though some of his comments are not clearly relevant, it is obvious that he is giving serious thought to his field work, and has made a real attempt to come to grips with it.

  
(H. C. Gaywood.)  
a./A.D.O.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

35/6/21

In Reply

Please Quote

D. S. -298

HEADQUARTERS,  
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,  
SAMARAI.

MEMORANDUM FOR:-



11th September, 1954.

The Director,  
District Services and Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Gehua Patrol Report - No.1 of 1954/55.

Attached please find report submitted by Mr. W.M. Hunter, C.P.O., on his patrol along the North shore of Milne Bay. This is the first patrol undertaken by this C.P.O. during his 18 months service in this District. Shortages of staff have made it necessary that this young officer be detailed to "hold down" several stations pending the appointment of A.D.Os or Patrol Officers.

The area covered by this patrol is that which is shortly to be gazetted as the TAVARA Village Council area, and many of the queries of the C.P.O. will possibly be answered by the activities of a virile Native Council. The activities of this council together with the extension of the Cooperative Movement in the area will no doubt qualify the people as a whole for a life of contentment which the C.P.O. appears to consider lacking at the moment. If my predictions are not correct, I fail to see what more we can do for this relatively small group.

The need for education is well known; however it is not available at the moment and all we can hope is that the Missions will carry on.

Generally the C.P.O. presents a depressing picture. However, the solution I am sure is within the limits of the proposed Council, and I look forward with interest to the effect of this Council on what could be described as a temporarily apathetic people.

M. J. Healy,  
District Commissioner.

c.c. A.D.O. Genua.

Director.



23rd September, 1954.

The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
SAMARAI.

GENUA Patrol Report No. I/54-55.

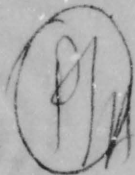
Acknowledgement is made of the above-mentioned Report submitted by Cadet Patrol Officer W.M. Hunter, following his Patrol of the TAVARA linguistic area, together with covering memoranda from yourself and Mr. Gaywood, also the well prepared Patrol instructions by Mr. Greaney.

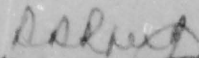
As you will have seen by now the establishment of the Tavara Native Village Council has been proclaimed by the Administrator in the Government Gazette of September 16th, and we must hope that its formation will lend impetus to a more sound and enterprising attitude on the part of the people in respect to their civic and economic affairs.

I am sure that Mr. Gaywood as he gets to know the area better will do his best to bring about the improvements in the general situation necessary.

The last Patrol to this area apparently took place early last year, so that it has not had the regular and systematic field work, without which lasting progress and improvement can rarely be expected in native areas.

It is noted that Mr. Hunter has had to wait a long time for the opportunity to make a full scale Patrol on his own. There should be considerable scope for him now in such work for which it is considered he has made a promising start.

 *GW*

  
(A.A. Roberts),  
Director.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

*Cleared  
July 16/11/69*

# PATROL REPORT

*Personal - See Notes 2/11*

District of..... GENUA Milne Bay Div Region No..... 2/54-55.....

Patrol Conducted by..... H. C. Gaywood. a./A.D.O......

Area Patrolled..... Malaba Village Council Area......

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans..... Mr. W.M.J. Hunter, C.P.O......

Natives..... 3 Police 1 clerk 2 psnl svts......

Duration—From 24 / 8 / 1954 to 8 / 9 / 1954

Number of Days..... 16.....

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?..... No......

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services..... July / 19 53

Medical ..... ? / 19 48

Map Reference..... 1 inch series......

Objects of Patrol..... General Administration......

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

30 / 10 / 19 54

*M.B.S.*

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 ..... £.....

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Sub District Office,  
Gehua, M.B.D.,  
Milne Bay, Papua.

10 September 1954.

The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay Division,  
DIMARAKI.

Patrol Report No.2 of 1954/55. - GEHUA.

By: H.C.Gaywood, a./A.D.O., and W.M.J. Hunter, C.P.O.

PATROL DIARY.

- Monday, 23 August 1954. After trying for a week to get transport finally succeeded in contacting M.V. Jessie, and arranging passage for Tuesday, 24th.
- 24.8.54. Picked up by Jessie at Chance's wharf at c. 12.30 p.m. Thence to Labelabe, where we called on Mr. F. Coleman. Informed no rest house or village now at Eabeuri where it was intended to disembark. Proceeded to Lamhaga and unloaded to beach in very heavy seas. Camped.
- 25.8.54. Walked to Eabeuri and back, calling at all hamlets, and looking at labour barracks passed. Spoke to all labour.
- 26.8.54. By canoe and foot up Lamhaga creek to Gabukiki, and return. Discussion with all Lamhaga people assembled.
- 27.8.54. Stores to Gwawili Council House by M.V. Wowoli. Party by foot, calling all hamlets.
- 28.8.54. On foot to Dawadawa, talked with assembled people. By canoe up Dawadawa Creek as far as Papi, calling at hamlets and Badilauna Mission Station.
- 29.8.54. Sunday. Party resting at Gwawili.
- 30.8.54. Walked to Daio and Botiboti and returned. Spoke to assembled Daio people. Lunch with Father McGrove, Father Kiernan, and Monseigneur Dwyer. Inspected Mission School.
- 31.8.54. Stores by Wowoli to Kilakilana. Party walked to Wagawaga. Discussions with Mrs. Francis of Kwato Mission, and Mr. C. Abel.
1. 9.54. From Kilakilana to Gamadoudou on foot, and return, calling at hamlets. Spoke to assembled Gamadoudou people.
2. 9.54. Met assembled Gibara people at Kilakilana. Council Meeting at Gibara.
3. 9.54. On foot to Watubou via old (western) track. Called hamlets and Duabo Mission house. Inspected new Medical Aid Post being built at Piuti, near Dimarokaiufa.
4. 9.54. On foot to search for possible route for road across to north side of divide, through Haiho Haiho Pass. Cut track from Aieafu (abandoned) past Wetoeto (abandoned) and along the ridge to cut Watubou-Haihi Haiho track, and returned. Accepted invitation to spend Sunday with Mr. and Mrs. Rennison at Sagarai Plantation.
5. 9.54. At Sagarai. Visited labour barracks, etc. By dinghy to Mullins Harbour, and inspected some Sinariri hamlets, but people all away.
6. 9.54. On foot to Binabinahola, where all the Eihutu people had assembled. Thence to Watubou, calling Ipore, Ho-olai, and Poupouaruarua.
7. 9.54. On foot to Kilakilana. Carriers by normal route. Self, Mr. Hunter, Council works supervisor, Lato, and others, followed possible route for new road. This follows old sluicing races to just east of Duabo. New track prospected from there through Gelekiwiwi and to Ilimopa'ana.
- 8.9.54. By Wowoli to Labe Wharf, and thence by truck to Gehua arriving noon.

End of Diary.

## Introduction.

This was intended to be a quick patrol with the main object of becoming acquainted with the area of the Balaba Village Council and with the people and their condition and problems. Mr. Hunter the Coast Patrol Officer was taken on the patrol for the benefit of the experience, in accord with previous verbal instructions from the District Commissioner.

Transport from Gehua to the coast was by station truck, thence by launch from Laviam to Lamhaga. A good deal of difficulty was experienced in making contact with a launch to ferry the party across the bay. Lamhaga is the most easterly of the village groups of the south coast of Milne Bay, and the patrol proceeded thence westward along the coast on foot, using the launch "Wowoli" hired from the Wagawaga General village association, to convey stores and personnel effects. From Kilakilana, site of the last rest house westwards along the coast, the patrol walked across the divide at Duabo into the Sagarai Valley. Camp was made at Watubou, which is fairly central to the Buhutu hamlets, and visits were made to the hamlets and to Sagarai Plantation outward from there, without shifting camp. Carriers were reasonably willing but scarce. On the return, the carriers retraced their steps across the divide along the old track, but the two officers accompanied by a party of Balaba Councilors and the Council Works Superintendent, Iato, attempted to find another route back to the coast, feasible for the construction of a road. The "Wowoli" was again hired for the return from Kilakilana to Kabe, and thence to Gehua by truck.

For travel to any of the villages along the coast of the Bay, a launch is by far the most satisfactory method, both in respect of time and expense and care of cargo and gear. However arranging this from private transport is very much a catch as catch can proceeding. Fortunately it was possible to arrange reasonably suitable times for use of the "Wowoli" on this patrol.

The native population in this area lives in small hamlets, fairly well scattered along the coast, and upstream - inland - of the various creeks. There is very little concentration into villages. The rest houses are situated at a series of points more or less central each to a group of hamlets. All of these hamlets were visited by this patrol, which meant a series of radial trips by foot or canoe from the various rest houses.

An attempt was also made to find a suitable route for a track from Sagarai Valley to the Gibara (Milne Bay) coast from Watubou northwards across the divide to Haiho Haiho.

## Topography.

There is a fork in the diminishing Owen Stanley ranges a few miles to the north-west of Sagarai Plantation, one branch running off, continuously along the north of Milne Bay and the other running eastwards, south of the Waigani plain, and north of the peneplain of the Sagarai Valley and thence along the south coast of Milne Bay. This branch is also continuous but there are two low points - one at a gap south of Haiho Haiho where a steep but narrow ridge must be crossed at (estimated) 400 to 500 feet and one at a point half a mile east of Duabo, where a steady rise on each side leads up to about 400 feet, but there is a steep pinch going to about 700 feet between the two approaches. From this point eastwards there are spurs of about 2000 feet elevation connecting southwards to another range of some 3000 feet running east-west along the Suau Coast, which is the south coast of Papua. The divide between Waigani and Sagarai is rough and steep and varies in elevation generally between 1200 and 3300 feet. Between this and the south coast of Milne Bay there is a narrow coastal plain, about two miles wide from Gibara to Wagawaga, pinching down to a few hundred yards at Gwawili, and from there further east coming in places right down to the coast, but never more than two hundred yards wide. This coastal plain is cut by numerous small shallow streams, one of which at Lamhaga provides a fair anchorage.

for small craft, and another at Dawadawa provides access through a series of ravines, and in reasonably wet seasons, for small boats to go some ten or twelve miles up stream. From Papiia, about 8 miles upstream the river gives access to a small flood plain of what appears to be good soil, some eight square miles in extent. Further west and south of this divide lies the Sagarai Valley, with a gently undulating floor some four miles wide and ten miles long. This plain is cut by numerous small streams with deep banks, and the plain itself has large stretches of swampy ground at this season. These are forest swamps and there is little sago. There are small patches of fertile soil, but for the most part the soil appears lateritic and generally of poor quality. Good patches of good soil were seen on the lower hill slopes, and on little plateaus along the tops of the ridges.

#### Vegetation and Cultivation.

Vegetation is mainly rain forest and secondary jungle. Good timber is to be found, but is not considerable, the bulk of the forest seeming to be of poor size and scraggy. In the Sagarai Valley however, between Watubou and Weteeto (abandoned) there appeared to be a good deal. This would probably repay investigation by a forestry man. Its exploitation by a European enterprise would inevitably result in the construction of motorable roads in a small area of a few square miles and an access road of some eight miles to the coast which would be of inestimable benefit, in my opinion, to the Buhutu people, who are eager for such development, but are not economically capable of undertaking it themselves. Shipment of sawn timber from Mullins Harbour should not present difficulties. I would be grateful if this matter could be referred to the Director of Forests for an opinion, as I think it offers an important possibility of indirectly contributing to the benefit of a raised living standards of the Buhutu people, which otherwise seems very difficult. Further reference to this point will be made below.

Native cultivation consists pre-eminently of subsistence gardens, plus a good deal of coconuts surplus to food requirements, which are being fairly well exploited for copra except in the Sagarai Valley, where there is a potential estimated at 50 to 80 bags a month not being used because of transport difficulties, and the lack of a marketing organisation. All of the people seen, with no exceptions, were interested in the possibility of broadening the base of their subsistence agriculture, and of cultivating new crops for a cash market. There is a genuine strong and definitely universal desire to raise living standards by means of increased cash income. This interest is active to the extent that quite an amount of for instance rice is being grown, and an active response is being shown, everywhere, but especially in the Buhutu and Gibara groups to the activities of the Regional Agricultural Officer, Mr. Cotterall Dormer. Mr. Dormer has organised the planting of shade for some 30 pilot plots for robusta coffee, these plots averaging to average some 30 trees each, and widely distributed throughout the area to give as wide information as possible. There were also requests for peanuts corn and vegetable seeds.

This matter of agricultural development on an expanding scale was discussed frankly and intimately with every village and hamlet group. The people themselves are quite clear in their demand for better living standards. This is the motive for their interest, it is unmistakable, and they are clearly in their own minds about it. The ways and means are not clear to them, but there is a vague general recognition that agricultural production for a cash market offers the best chance. (Even in Wagawaga there is some turning away from artisan production of boats, furniture etc., as a suitable mode, though I consider that this ought also to be encouraged.) Broadly I endeavoured to clarify this point for them - that in their specific circumstances, agricultural development did seem to offer the best line of progress. I explained as clearly as possible what Mr. Dormer's approach envisaged, and made it clear that his activities were an integral part of the general effort of the Administration on their behalf. - Possibly, at the moment the most significant part. At the same time I emphasised that his activities at the present time are still largely experimental, and that we must await the results of his experimental work before we can advise them to undertake any big work on it.

I also made it clear everywhere that it would be about three years before conclusions could be drawn from the coffee pilot plots, and that it would then be another three years, if successful, before any large increase in income from coffee could be hoped for. I was particularly careful about this aspect as I am wary of such schemes that may begin with a burst of enthusiasm, that dies down after a year or two with no visible results, and is followed possibly by a hostile reaction. However I related this slowness to the fact that it takes eight years from planting before coconuts are fully productive; I urged the necessity to avoid a monoculture and the desirability of coffee. I also referred briefly, also, to the fact that investigations were under way into the practicability of castor oil, dahl, and chilis as quick growing cash crops in this area, and advised that they would be informed of the results in due course.

I consider that the people of the area patrolled have sufficient land of adequate quality to permit the success of these ventures. But throughout the area there is a very difficult limiting factor in the wide geographical spread of a thin population. This means in plain terms that there is a real labour shortage everywhere in the area in relation to any ambitious agricultural expansion. Subsistence gardens have to be maintained, it takes time to tend the coconuts and make the copra that is being made already, houses and roads require an irreducible amount of maintenance, and there is a not inconsiderable contribution in man-hours to various community activities, such as boat-building, church meetings, schooling, co-operative society work and other. For a native community I would say these people are fairly busy, though not as yet to the point of strain. I believe they can afford some more time to be put into cash-cropping, but I am not confident that they can afford a lot, and this aspect will have to be watched closely in coming years.

Another limiting factor is transport of produce from the garden to the shipping points. Even along the Wagawaga coast this is a substantial item to consider as a factor in the economics of such development as we have in mind. The solution may lie in motor transport, and the Council is busy on a road repair programme with this in mind, but I am not sure yet that the people can as yet provide the required capital. I intend to look more closely into this matter before making any recommendation.

In the Buhutu area this problem is even more difficult, because access to Gibara requires a walk of some 10 miles and involves crossing a steep and difficult range. The practicability of a vehicular road is very doubtful, and at present they could anyway certainly not capitalise a vehicle. The Gibara outlet is desirable because it is on a frequent and fairly cheap shipping route. But the difficulties of getting to Gibara at present make it impossible.

The other possible outlet from the Sagrai (Buhutu) Valley is by way of Mullins Harbour. There are tracks to possible shipping points there, but these would require a lot of work to make them motorable. More work than these people could manage at present. The Watubou people grew nine acres of pineapples last year but could not get them to market. Mullins Harbour is not a regular shipping route and the only shipping that calls is a charter vessel for Sagarai Plantation, about every six weeks. This usually just handles the Plantation production nicely. The boat, the Osiri, takes about 100 bags of copra, and the charter costs £60. to Samarai. The Plantation manager, Mr. H. Moreton, absent at the time of my visit, has apparently not been active in buying native copra to some extent because of shipping difficulties, but it has also been suggested, with or without justification, that he has not been sympathetic to cash-cropping at least of copra, by the natives. I believe that he feels the difficulties are insuperable, but it may also be the case that he inclines to regard the Buhutu as in some sense a "special" preserve and casual labour reservoir for the Plantation, and that an increase in native activity and cash income would deprive the Plantation of this blessing.

Whatever the motive it is unlikely that the Plantation will be of much help to the Buhutu in respect of marketing and shipment.

The Buhutu themselves think they may on present trees, be able to make 50 bags of copra a month. This may be true. If so, and an additional contribution be made by the Borowai, across Mullins Harbour, they should be able to concentrate enough copra of their own to warrant their own charter of a ship every two months. At present they could not organise this charter or the marketing, and would need the help of the Co-operative. I consider the Co-operative section could organise a Society jointly of the Buhutu and the Borowai. They could build a copra shed at Nisa Nisa near Sinarire where there is a good anchorage, and to which there is good access by canoe and by track from the hamlets. There is no reason why this Society should not also organise a system of pack-horses to assist in the transport to the shipping point. A small scheme like this to start would not involve any serious loss to anyone even in the unlikely event of failure. Even moderate success would relieve the most urgent cash needs in the area at the moment, and would encourage the further expansion of production about which these people are at present eager. This expansion of production is the next essential step, so that with a greater increase in income the Buhutu would be in a reasonably sound position to tackle the more difficult problems of transport later. At present the small amount of existing produce could be handled by these simpler means. I do not think it wise to enlarge capital works - viz. build expensive roads and buy a vehicle, until there is this sharp rise in production.

At Milne Bay, along the coastal strip and in the Sagarai Valley, there is a good deal of European rubber and copra. This is being exploited with fair success. The acreage alienated does not seem to infringe on present native needs.

#### Condition of Roads.

Generally this is good, considered as walking tracks. The Council has good deal of work done in the repair of bridges between Wagawaga and Dumokairife, and has done more in preparation of a track into the Sagarai from Gibara for packhorses, and in the hope of improving it to vehicular standard in the future. This latter should not be abandoned, but I think the pace, and the rate of expenditure could be slowed down a little, while still keeping ahead of expanding production in the Sagarai Valley. Roads in the Sagarai Valley could be made motorable with a good deal of work. There are large boggy stretches, and there are many creeks with deep banks. The boggy stretches could be drained, and the creeks could have approaches made more gradual, and fords or bridges built. But the increase in production should come first. The early returns will be handleable through Mullins Harbour, and the income will assist in the roadwork to be done.

Some effort was spent trying to find easier alternative routes across the divide, to lead into Gibara. The road across the Haiho Haiho Gapis feasible. It would run roughly parallel to the existing track, but along the valleys instead of along the ridges. A difficult, but feasible bit of grading would be needed at the central ridge, itself. It would follow a general line from Haihi Haihi to Watubou, but the entire distance of some eight miles would have to be cleared and made from scratch. I estimate it could be done by modern methods for £4000. The shorter route via the pass just east of Luabo would cost a little less. This is for motorable roads. The native communities cannot provide capital at this stage. But if a timber lease were granted to a European enterprise as suggested above, it would probably pay them to build such a road, from which the natives would benefit.

Everywhere a great deal of grass cutting preceded the patrol's visit.

### Housing, Villages.

There were occasional houses seen that were below standard, and a reminder was given that improvements must be made. In general the houses were better than usual. Army materials were in wide use along the coast, and generally the job done was good, if not always aesthetically superb. Native type houses were usually satisfactory. There has been some neglect of resthouses, but since patrols have used these very little in the past few years, it is understandable. Improvements have been promised in every case.

The general standard of cleanliness in the villages was good. Latrines are not very commonly seen, and the necessity for good sanitation was pointed out.

### Health.

There has been one medical patrol of the area since the war. I am not a medical man but I suspect there is a good deal of tuberculosis, malaria, leprosy, and possibly venereal disease. There are a lot of small children with nasty sores. I am very dubious indeed about the efficacy of the service provided by the Kwato Mission in this area. This does not imply any culpable neglect by the Kwato Mission, but an inadequacy of training, supervision and appeal to the natives. I recommend that the P.H.D., which has two European Doctors, two European nurses, a radiologist and a European medical assistant at Samarai be asked to carry out a full medical patrol of the area immediately. It is within four hours of Samarai by launch. I feel that the whole question of the medical services in the area demands review.

### Education.

There is a Catholic Mission school at Daiau and another at Cibara is being built by the village people. The standard here does not go very high. The Father at Daiau is young and seems enthusiastic, but complains of a lack of guidance from the Education Department in respect of the curriculum to be followed.

There is a Kwato school at each of Lamhaga, Gwawili, Wagawaga and Geremalaia (Buhutu). These appear to be of village school standard, with the elder students graduating to Wagawaga. In every case complaints were made by the teachers of poor attendance, and the lack of adequate buildings. It has been my impression that the Kwato people tend to hold out for school buildings to be erected by the natives on mission land wherever possible, and I imagine this is a contributing factor to the neglect of school buildings, teachers' residences, etc. The teachers are married women educated at Kwato. They are apparently sincere enough in their efforts, but all appear to feel somewhat neglected, and most of them considered their work was more demanding than they could properly cope with, and told me that they thought there should be more male teachers.

I consider that the educational position is unsatisfactory. Some assistance could be given by the Council, but I feel some definite lead should be given by the Department, in this respect, especially in regard to the supply of teachers. Co-operation by the Council should be with the Department rather than with the Missions. There are, it will be noted, doctrinally opposed missions in the area.

### The Malaba Village Council.

There is no doubt that the Council is for the present an extremely popular institution, and that a good deal is hoped from it. I did not on this occasion have the opportunity to investigate its activities thoroughly, but I had the impression that its effective operation is still in the stage of promise, rather than fruition. It is still largely a sounding board, and is acting to some extent as a satisfactory organ of clarification of native thinking on a number of subjects. It has sponsored an atmosphere



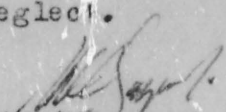
enterprise, and has prompted a good deal of solid thinking among the people. On the practical side it has done very little as yet. It has managed to get a good deal of work done on the roads in the area, but the real benefit of this will not be felt until a vehicle can be purchased and used, and I do not think this can be expected immediately. It has put aside funds for seed distribution and purchase of breeding livestock. It plans to sponsor an Agricultural experimental station on a small scale. It has carried out some repairs to the Council building. It has prompted a community of feeling among its constituent groups. It has also carried out some important public hygiene work, and in general regard for law and order. It has otherwise merely supported itself in existence, on its tax revenue.

It will be seen that most of these items are intangibles, though real enough, and the remainder are still promises, not achievement. I consider, in fact, that this Council is in some danger of dying of inanition. This is the result of neglect by the Native Authorities Officer, enforced by a complete lack of transport. The Council is still at a stage of having done no harm, and its potential for doing a lot of good is as yet unimpaired. But it has not produced results. Before it can, it will require much closer supervision than has been possible in the past, and for this it is a vital requirement that water transport be made available on a fulltime basis in the sub district. This matter has been raised in separate correspondence, in much greater detail, with the District Commissioner, and a reply is now awaited.

Unless the Council does manage to produce results in the reasonably near future, its popularity will die and interest as well. The let down to the people of the area will be all the bitterer because of the high hopes that it has encouraged. There is no reason why it should not produce results. - Visible and tangible evidence to the people that it is promoting the better living standards that they clear and ardently aspire to.

such evidence  
Among these would be the building of small community buildings of good quality for some of the outlying villages, capable of being used as school, village library, medical aid post, and community recreation centre and meeting house combined. More detailed plans and estimates along these lines are being prepared for submission to the District Commissioner. A further possibility is the establishment of the Agricultural experimental station, in co-operation with the Regional Agricultural Officer, already contemplated. It is thought that some joint undertaking may be arrived at for this purpose with the Tavara Council. The purchase of a vehicle to be used for transport of local produce on a hire basis is a possibility, though I am not yet convinced that the existing volume of produce warrants it.

My present assessment is that the situation at present is hopeful, but that very unfortunate results could follow any continuation of the present neglect.


  
(H. C. Geywood.)  
a./A.D.O.

Report on native police accompanying Patrol No. 2/54-55 Gehua,  
Ealaba Village Council Area.

Coporal Ne'ema Mareva - 2174. Keen, loyal, intelligent,  
thoroughly satisfactory.

Lance Corporal Dumaimba - 3028. Keen and loyal, but a bit  
nervous, causing a tendency  
to balk. easily controlled.

Constable Towaiedi (Dagweisi) - 2381. A plodder with no serious faults  
evidenced on this patrol

  
(H.C. Gaywood.)  
a./A.D.O.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/6/55



In Reply  
Please Quote

D. S. 30/1/V -453

HEADQUARTERS,  
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,  
SAMARAI.

MEMORANDUM FOR:-

19th October, 1955.

The Director,  
District Services and Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Patrol Report No. 2 54/55 - Gehua.

Attached please find Patrol Report compiled by Mr. H. Gaywood a/A.D.O. following on his recent patrol to South Coast of Milne Bay and Sagarai Valley.

It seems unlikely that we can expect any real development in the Sagarai Valley through European enterprise due to limited amount of good land available, and the remoteness of the valley to a shipping port. I understand the Forestry Department has surveyed the area, perhaps enquiries could be made along these lines.

It has always been anticipated that the Council would become responsible for Medical services within the Council area, and to this end supplies of drugs are generally held at the Council House and a paid N.M.O. is required to patrol the area. However as it appears this service has not been entirely satisfactory I would now suggest the A.D.O. looks into the matter and advises on the service generally. In the meantime I have been assured by the Health Department at Samarai that an E.M.A. will patrol the area in the near future.

I fail to see that the possible death of the Ealeba Council can be expected, and that such unhappy ending could be attributed to the lack of water transport made available to the A.D.O. There are a host of small vessels plying for trade and Mission purposes in the Bay, and the A.D.O. could take advantage of these vessels to spend a week or two in the Ealeba Council area. This matter is now the subject of separate correspondence.

Suggestions contained in the penultimate paragraph have my full approval; when implemented the atmosphere of the area should be considerably improved.

An interesting report.

M. J. Healy,  
District Commissioner.

30-6-225

25th October, 1954.

The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
SARARAI.

Patrol Report GENTA No. 2 of 1954/55

Acknowledgement is hereby made of the above-mentioned Report submitted by Mr. H. C. Gaywood, acting Assistant District Officer, concerning his Patrol of the south coast of Milne Bay and the SARARAI Valley, accompanied by Cadet Patrol Officer Hunter.

Mr. Gaywood has provided a thoughtful and detailed Report of this Patrol which was mainly undertaken to acquaint himself with the people of this area and the problems confronting them. The experience gained on the journey should be of value to Mr. Hunter.

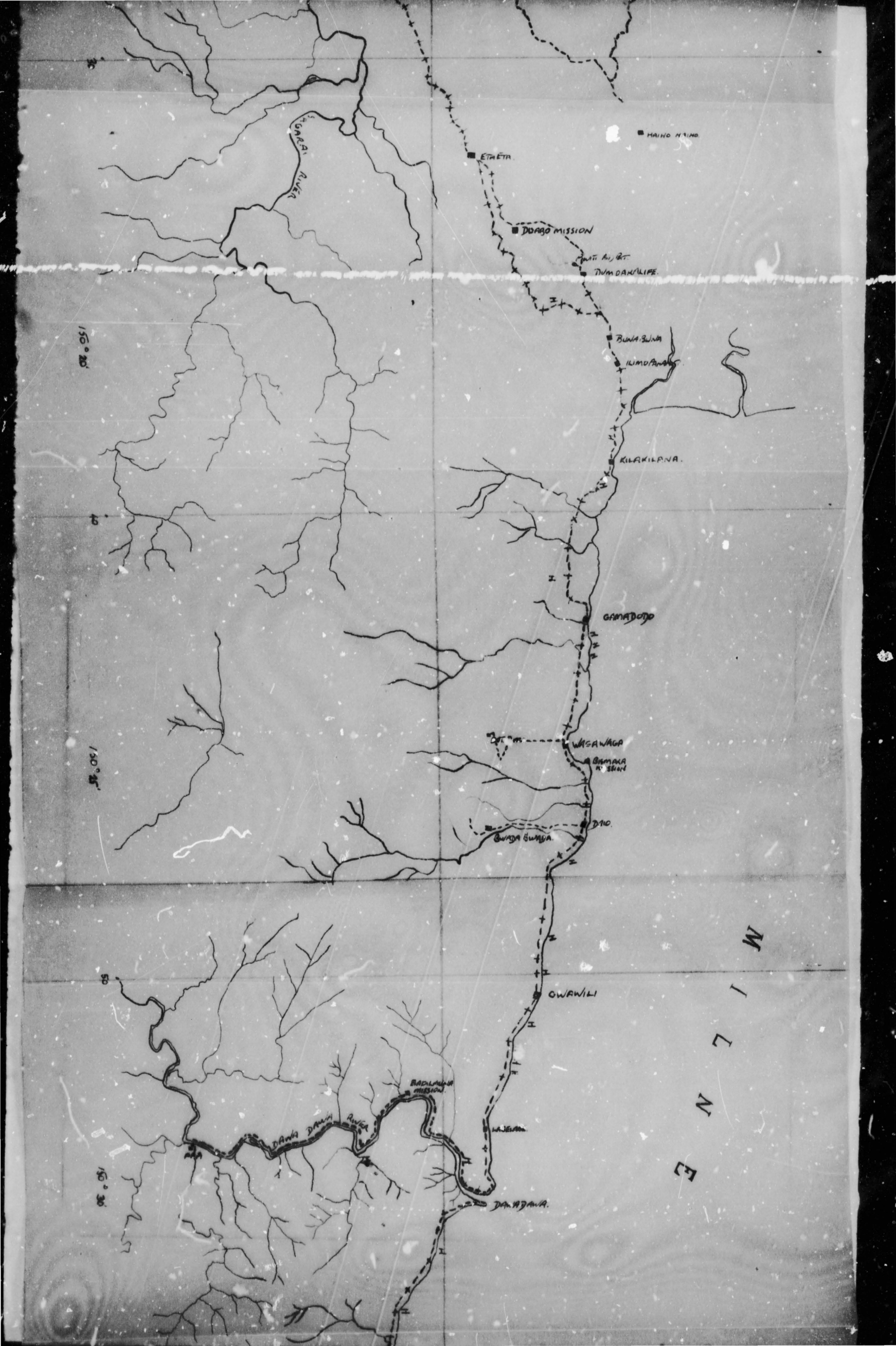
I will forward the paragraph headed "Vegetation and Cultivation" to the Director of Forests who is at present away, and ask him for his opinion as to the possibilities of the timber resources of the SARARAI valley.

I am glad to note that a member of the Public Health Department's European staff will patrol the area shortly, as this would seem most necessary.

*A. G. Roberts*  
(A. G. Roberts),  
Director.

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PATROL REPORT - No. 2 of 1952-53  
 CONDUCTED BY MR. H. L. CAYWOOD (A.P.O. (ACTIVE))  
 TO SALAGA AND BUNHTU AREAS OF GERUA SUB-DISTRICT  
 ROUTE TAKEN BY PATROL INDICATED: - - - X - - -  
 BY HANNAH

DRAWN BY W. M. THAYER, C.P.O. A.P.S.F.

SCALE: 1 MILE TO 1 INCH.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of MILNE BAY Report No. 3 of 1954-55

Patrol Conducted by W.M.J. HUNTER C.P.O.

Area Patrolled DAGA BOU, WAMIRA & WEDAU AREAS.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....

Natives 2 MEMBERS R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 29/9/1954 to 16/10/1954

Number of Days 18.

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services...../ 8/1953

Medical ...../ 8/1953

Map Reference CAPE FREER No 2024, AWAIAMA No 3529, MILNE BAY No 2007. ALL IN 1 INCH SERIES.

Objects of Patrol.....

GENERAL.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

15/11/1954

[Signature]  
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 ..... £.....

<u>C.S.B</u>	<u>DEPOSITS</u>	<u>38 10 0</u>
<u>C.S.B</u>	<u>WITHDRAWALS</u>	<u>6 0 0</u>

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PATROL REPORT.

Patrol Report No. 3 of 1954-55.

18th. October 1954.

Report of a Patrol to the DAGA/BOU, WAMIRA and WEDAU  
Linguistic Areas of Milne Bay District.

Officer Conducting Patrol:- W.M.J. Hunter, Cadet Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled:- Daga/Bou, Wamira and Tappota Linguistic Areas.

Patrol Accompanied by:- Europeans : Nil.

Natives : 2 Members R.P.&N.G.C.

Duration. 29th. September to 16th October.

Days On Patrol. 18.

Last Patrol to The Area by : District Services - August 1953.

Medical - August 1953.

Map Reference: Cape Frere Sheet No. 2024, Awaiama Bay Sheet  
No. 3529 and Milne Bay Sheet No. 2007 in the One  
Inch Series.

Objects of Patrol. Census and Routine.

Introduction.

In accordance with verbal instructions received from the a/A.D.O. at Gehua, Mr. H. C. Gaywood, the patrol left the station on the 29th. September and returned on the 16th. of October. A routine patrol, I crossed the range to Goodenough Bay thence along the coast to Wedau, turned south there and travelled inland to Gavi, thence in an Easterly direction to Baraga, thence by truck from Waigani to Gehua. The patrol as such terminating at Piripiririna. Boboua and Baraga being included in the new council area (TAVARRA) were sidestepped on this occasion.

Diary.

- Wednesday 29th. September. Left Gehua at 1000. Up the hills until the Kamodia plateau reached. Climbed to 2500' over range and descended abruptly to 1000'. Gradual descent to shore via fair track, reaching rest-house approx. 1630.
- Thursday 30th. September. Departed Wamawamana for Taupota 0800. Heavy Rain. Arrived 1000. Called on Mrs Hatters at Mission. Afternoon inspection close proximity Rest-House. Mission at Night.
- Friday 1st October. Inspected Remainder of District and carried out census. Departed Wamawamana 1500 arriving 1630. Villages to Rest-House inspected.
- Saturday 2nd October. Inspected remainder villages on the shore then climbed range to 1500'. From here gardens and garden houses were seen in the beginning of the rain forest. Steep slopes. Houses new and in good condition. Descended and returned to R.H.
- Sunday 3rd October. Departed from Wamawamana 0730. Arrived Topura Rest-House at 1030. Tiring walk along beach. Sun relentless. Rested remainder of day.
- Monday 4th. October. Inspected villages to Parimeta. Thence inland and climbed to a small peak approx. 1600'. Proceeded in a small circle and arrived at Ruma-Ruma. Returned to Rest-House and census done.
- Tuesday 5th. October. Left Topura 0800 and arrived Iapoa at 0930. Inspected district.
- Wednesday 6th. October. Iapoa census done then proceeded to Lavora overland. Climbed to 1000' thence cut off to the left and up a ridge to 2000'. Straight down to Lavora. Arrived before carriers. Approx. time taken three hours. Census done in the afternoon.
- Thursday 7th. October. Departed Lavora at 0645. Round Cape Frere and arrived Divari at 1000. Road dry and walking very easy. Very little shelter from sun which continued to be relentless. As people assembled census done. Although in Baniara district. People disappointed in failure of O.I.C. Baniara's patrol to appear. Did not wish to further their grievances.
- Friday. 8th. October.

Diary Cont.

Friday 8th. October. Left Divari 0800. Up ridge to ~~xxxxxx~~ 2600'. Kwabunaki seen slightly lower down about  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile away. Rough track through rain forest to Rest-House. Arrived 0900 P.M. climbed Mount KOUA to 3200'. Saw House in bush and descended to have a look. Very poor. First time Government Patrol here.

Saturday 9th. October. Census Kwabunaki A.M. Departed down good track to shore thence to Wedau rest-House via Wamira. Very Warm. Arrived 1100. Visited Logura mission P.M.

Sunday 10th October. 0800-1100.

Monday 11th. October Left Wedau 0645. Crossed Wamira 6 times and changed carriers at Pova. Continued wading up the Wamira river to Mainaua. Arrived Midday. Inspected gardens in afternoon.

Tuesday 12th October. Mainaua census A.M. Departed Gavi. Arrived 1100. Up and down two very trying hills. Walking time 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  hrs. Census P.M.

Wednesday 13th October. Leave Gavi at dawn. Long climb uphill along ridge and begin to descend. Crossed five tributaries of the Gomini river. Then another uphill climb to approx. 3500' and entered a moss forest. Very dreary walking for 2 hrs. Last hour spent sliding down to Piri Piririna. Walking time 7 hrs.

Thursday 14th October. Inspection district in the morning and conducted census in the afternoon.

Friday 15th October. Leave Piri Piririna at 0700. Climbed to 2500' thence along a ridge until road to Boboua reached at 0930. Climbed still further then began to descend. Reached Arada river. Waded  $\frac{1}{2}$  a mile downstream until Poda village. Good road ~~is~~ from Poda to Naura Rest House. To Waigani where spent the night.

Saturday 16th October.  
Per courtesy of Mr. J. Stuntz. by truck to Giligili plantation. Station truck met there. Arrived Genua 1200.

Native Situation.

On the surface everything seems smooth and peaceful. What goes on during the Government's absence, the thrust and parry of the Christians versus heathens, of the pro-government versus pro-mission, what the native thinks as he struggles in the quicksands of economic frustration and religious misunderstanding, is hard to fathom.

As elsewhere in this sub-district the natives wish to progress. They are, however, becoming tired of vague promises and generalisations which never amount to anything. Concrete evidence of Government interest is needed now. An example of ~~this~~ this. At Wedau I was asked during a friendly chat with the village officials to come and stay with them and build a dam for their people. I declined. The problem facing these people is that they do not know in which way to travel.

To progress without running foul of the administration and or mission.

The villages on the North-East coast have money. For the last six years since the Wedau Welfare Club activities were finalised it has rotted in a Village account. On three separate occasions it was presented with village account books and asked if they could start a 'Pantry', meaning Village Store.

The Anglican Mission at Topota and Amawamana have taken steps to release some of the pent-up energies boiling in the people. At each of these villages Christian Societies have been formed. With mission approval and native finance these stores, no more no less than small co-operatives, have received popular approval and are flourishing. A small donation of ten percent of the copra sent to the P.C.B. in Samarai is siphoned off for mission funds. The mission also provides transport for the stores. Taking in copra and bringing back goods at the usual freight prices.

Enough copra is being made, from 40- 60 bags every six weeks, to ensure for the time being the prosperity of these ventures.

Another store of similar nature is wanted at Topura. The V.C. there informed me that he was going to Logura to consult Father Chisholm on the matter. The village account is worth £200 and there is no scarcity of copra in this area.

A different picture is revealed inland. Coconuts are non-existent at Gavi. Mainua has a few very poor specimens and Piripiririna has a small amount of good ones. Owing to difficulty of access to Mainua and Gavi it is difficult to submit a feasible plan which has hopes of success. As suggested in a previous report a market for garden produce seems the only one with any possibilities.

At Divari, in the Baniara sub-District at the moment, the V.C. and councillors asked if they could be included in the Gehua sub-district. Their reasons for asking this are obvious. Three patrols have passed through there in the last two years. None have been received from Baniara. Divari is 4 to 5 days walk from Baniara; 2 days walk from Gehua. It seems ridiculous that to reach Kwabunaki village in the Gehua area one has to pass through Baniara territory whether the patrol is coming or going. It would be logical

to place Kwabunaki under Baniara jurisdiction or place Divari, Wamira and Wedau under Gehua's jurisdiction.

An anti-European feeling was reported by Mrs Hatters at Taupota. This as a result of several incidents which recently took place there. One incident reported to Gehua concerned a native who ~~was taken to hospital~~ ~~she asked him to leave a~~ ward in her hospital. At a later date she did not wish to press charges against this man. Another incident concerned a native who swore at Father Hatters. Tempers here are beginning to get a little irayed. I think that the mission ~~work~~ have begun to realise that their work is not appreciated by all the people in the area and the milk which they have been giving the natives might be sour <sup>in many palates.</sup> The incidents referred to being the revelation momentarily of thoughts usually kept hidden in the deeper recesses of the sub-conscious.

I feel certain that wherever there are missions the same type of incidents shall appear.

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#### Court For Native Matters.

One case of adultery was placed before the patrol. The area is law-abiding and very quiet in this respect.

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#### Native Agriculture

A startling contrast is presented in this area.

The parched grass-slopes of the North East Coast, where producing food is a back-breaking, heart-breaking task, changing abruptly to the dense rain-forest two to three miles inland, where producing food is still back-breaking but presents fewer worries.

The term native agriculture must in this district refer to native gardens only. This is combined with a simple irrigation scheme at Wedau where the people have a constant fight against the elements.

Beginning at Taupota and working along the coast to Lavora the story is the same. Small patches of taro, pawpaw and bananas in close proximity to the villages, large gardens painfully hewed out on the steep slopes of the rain-forest at an approximate altitude

Native Agriculture Cont.

of a 1000' and upwards. In the valley of the Tameo where the two villages Iapoa and Piripiririna are situated, no use is made of the low-lying ground. Possibly because flooding may occur when the Tameo is angry. Anyway the gardens are situated back in the ranges some distance from the coast. Behind Piripiririna the bush is used by a number of Kwabunaki people. These people live four to seven miles apart and really belong to the bush. Two big gardens were noticed when at Kwabunaki. These were situated on top of mountains 3500' high. A little water difficulty is being experienced there at present. Moving to Mainaua and Gavi the country is a maze of steep forest enclosed hills. Making gardens in this place does not present as difficult a task as on the coast. No water worries and plenty of fertile soil in close proximity to their dwellings.

Produce varies very little. Taro and yams form the staple on the coast. Taro and sweet-potatoes on the inland. At Gavi English potatoes, shallots and pineapples were purchased. Shallots were found at Kwabunaki, Mainaua, Gavi and Piripiririna. Pineapples not so many along the seashore but numerous in the three inland villages. Pumpkin, cucumber and sweet-corn were noticed.

Copra is being made on the coast. Every village has its grove and there are plenty of young plants being planted. A healthy sign.

The usual number of pigs and hens are kept by the coastal villages. Pigs-very few-are kept by the inland villages. No fowls.

Villages.

All villages in close contact with the rest-houses were in good order. Materials for good houses are hard to come by on the North East coast. Grass and pandanus leaves interwoven with plaited palm leaves form the materials with which the majority of houses are built. Floors are covered with small stones and all houses seen had clean interiors. Better structures were seen in the gullies where timber etc. is more plentiful and close at hand.

Piripiririna, Kwabunaki, Mainaua and Gavi houses were dirty. This being due to the fact that living room, kitchen and bedroom were one room. All these houses had floors of black-palm and roofs of grass. Sago

Villages Cont.

being practically non-existent except for a few scattered patches. At Gavi, walls and roofs made use of the sago-palm. The only village in the area visited that did.

Kwabunaki people live in isolated hamlets which proved to be impossible to visit in the time available. As is to be expected the homes situated beside the rest-house were good. The homes of those people who are living in the bush, will, I venture to say, leave much to be desired. Having never been visited by a government representative, I could not chastise the bush-men, but I did try to point out to them that living in filthy humpies has a deleterious effect to the body both physically and mentally. An improvement may be hoped for here, as I was able to visit one of these small hamlets; and although the view was good the house was disgraceful. Accordingly the next day at census they were ordered by the V.C. to repair the numerous defects in the dwelling. A contributing factor to the unsatisfactory condition of the Kwabunaki area may have been the inability of the V.C. to 'do the rounds'. This man lives seven hours walk from the rest-house, in splendid isolation, in close proximity to the Masanaki waterfalls. I do not criticise isolationism. I criticise the seemingly inherent unwillingness, whether through ignorance or laziness, of these people to live in and maintain clean homes. Having walked through Glasgow tenements on more than a few occasions, I find that this trait is universal.

Cemeteries.

All overgrown. At Taupota I noticed a few utensils on top of several graves. Cups, saucers and knives etc. These are placed on the grave to please the ghost of the deceased. The items belonging to the deceased and having a sentimental value attached to them. The custom is common in this area.

Village Officials.

With the exception of the case quoted above, all were reasonable. The Kwabunaki and Mainaua V.C.'s wished to resign. Candidates were selected for approval but at time of writing the former has not yet appeared at Genua.

Councillors are numerous and were helpful at all times.



Roads.

The following table shows all that is required.

Gehua to Mamawamana. Rough track. At times invisible. I should imagine that at all times of the year the track would be muddy and ~~xxx~~ slippery. Distance walked 8 miles. Time taken 6 hours.

Mamawamana to Taupota. Good track where it does not follow ~~the old track, distance 12 miles. Time taken 3 hrs.~~

Mamawamana to Topura. Beach the entire trip. Very exhausting walk in sun shining. Large portion of way over loose shale and sand. Distance walked 7 miles. Time taken 3 hours.

Topura to Iapoa. Good track well kept. Bit muddy. Distance walked 4 miles. Time taken 1 hour.

Iapoa to Lavora Overland. Fair track. Although not previously used by government is the easiest way to reach Lavora from Iapoa. Climbs to 10000 in easy stages. Gradual descent to beach. Distance walked 7 miles. Time taken 3 hours.

Lavora to Divari. Track in safe condition at moment. In rain, would hesitate to use. Loose gravel and slightly angled surface made walking tricky. Waterfalls all dry. These would be very difficult to cross in wet weather. No shelter from sun. Distance walked 7 miles. Time taken 3 1/2 hours.

Divari to Kwabunaki. Good track. Along beach 1 mile then gradual climb to village. On this occasion I went up and over a hill at back of Divari. This entailed a short hard walk of 1 1/2 hours. Arrived before carriers who took the government track. Distance walked on proper track approx. 5 miles. Time approx. 2 hrs.

Kwabunaki to Wedau. Good track all the way. Very hard and dry on this trip. Passed through Mamira en route. Distance walked 6 miles. Time taken 2 hours.

Wedau to Mainaua. No track. Mamira river used as such. In wet ~~wet~~ weather would classify this route as impassible. At this time even, the water was chest high on several stretches. Two miles from Mainaua leave river and gain track which is easy walking. Distance waded and walked. 12 miles. Time taken 5 hours

Mainaua to Gavi. Good track. Two very steep climbs then two very sharp descents. Very slippery. On ascent before Gavi reached, steps out. These were very helpful. Very hard walk. Distance walked. 4 miles. Time taken 2 hours.

Gavi to Piripiririna. Track in places. Use waterways for some distance. Gumini headwaters. Track wobbly in the moss forest and if unlucky could step through the moss surface of matted dirt and roots. Steep descent to Piripiririna. Should be steps there shortly. Long walk but not so tiring as one to Gavi. Time taken 6 1/2 hrs. Distance walked 12 miles.

Piripiririna to Moura. Fair track most of way. Last mile to Poda via Trada river. Use top of ridge for majority of walk. Going down very tricky on this trip. Heavy rain and lack of footholds. Lost count of times upended. Last two miles to rest house along wide muddy road. Distance walked 12 miles. Time taken 7 1/2 hours.

Waigani to Gehua by truck a distance of 14 miles.

Carriers were given the option of one stick of tobacco or 1/- for every hour of portage. On the longer hauls money was the choice. It varied on the shorter ones. I used an average of 22 carriers throughout the patrol. Man hours of portage worked - approximately 1000.

All distances shown above are as the crow flies. In all cases actual distance walked would be a little more.

Roads and Carriers. Cont.

Previous patrols to this area have had a certain amount of difficulty in obtaining carriers for the three long inland walks. Advice contained in village books suggested relays etc for these walks. I found that by moving to Taupota first and working in an anti-clockwise direction, smooth movement resulted. By the time Wedau was reached the loads were becoming lighter, carriers were not harassed in any way by their loads, times done were good and no irksome rests were needed. Without doubt this is the best way to patrol the district. A look at the attached map shows very clearly the differences in length of walks at the beginning and at the end of the patrol.

Rest-Houses.

All were in good order. Barracks and appurtenances thereto were all that could be expected. Naura, Mainaua and Topura fill the places in a good field of entries.

Missions and Education.

Both represented by the Anglican denomination. From Wamawamana to Mainaua every village has a small church of its own. At Taupota and Dogura Europeans control mission activities. As can be expected mission influence in these areas is strong. At one village the councillor kept referring to me as 'Father', an appellation which is entirely unwarranted in my case.

Education is sought after by the native children. A good standard of learning may be obtained at Dogura. Schools under control of native teachers devote too much time to religion and not enough time to the essential subjects. The government is not represented in this district.

Special Arms Permits.

27 permits are in operation at present. Made up as follows. Baraga - 2; Lavora - 5; Naura - 1; Topura - 5; Taupota - 6; Wamawamana - 7;.

Census.

check  
A census ~~check~~ was carried out and attendances were good. At Divari in the Baniara sub-district the people had assembled. I felt that rather than disappoint the people and though fearful of incurring the wrath of the O.I.C. Baniara, a check was done.

A memo to this effect has been sent to Baniara. The question of boundaries which caused this slight deviation from protocol is discussed under native situation.

Figures are to be found on the inside cover of the patrol jacket.

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Appendix 'A'. Report on Native Constabulary.

Appendix 'B' Report on Visible Health.

---

*D. J. Hunter*

Appendix 'A'.

Milne Bay Patrol Report No. 3 of 1954-55.

Report On Native Constabulary.

Date of Commencement. 29th. September 1954.  
Duration. 18 days.  
From. Gemma, Milne Bay.  
To. Daga/Bou, Namira and Wedau Linguistic Areas  
of the sub-District.

PERSONNEL.

No. 2877. Lance Corporal Isabere.

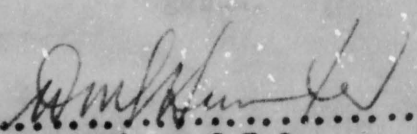
Conduct:- Good.

Comments. Excellent patrol policeman.

No. 1071. Constable Oivo.

Conduct:- Good.

Comments. Excellent patrol policeman. Is not bright but can be relied upon to do his duties to the best of his ability.

  
.....  
W.M. J. Hunter, C.P.O.  
Officer, R. P. & N. G. C. Gehua.

Appendix 'B'.


Medical and Health ... Patrol Report No. 3 of 1954-55.  
Gehua, Milne Bay.

The patrol did not make a medical check as the N.M.O. at Gehua is kept busy on the station and is becoming too old for arduous marches.

From a layman's point of view everything seemed satisfactory. One thing did strike me, however, the number of cases of a Sepoma type skin disease which has reached epidemic proportions in the hill villages. At Mainua, six hours walk from Wedau I noted 40 cases of this complaint. Total population here is 170.

The medical aid post at Iavora is unsatisfactory. Supplies are inadequate and the N.M.A. there does not patrol. He comes from this village and although it may be a good policy to post natives to their home village I do not think it has succeeded in this case.

Nothing else to say.

  
.....  
W.M.J. Hunter, C.P.O.  
Gehua.

30-1.

Sub District Office,  
GENUA. M.B.D.  
26 October 1954.

The District Commissioner,  
SAMARAI, M.B.D.

PATROL REPORT 3 of 54/55 - Mr. W.M.J. Hunter, C.I.O.

Enclosed are four copies of the above report forwarded to the Director, please.

NATIVE SITUATION. The Wedau Welfare Club was one of the manifestation of a cargo cult in which a group of natives collected large sums from all the villages of the area, and converted it to their own use. Administrative action was taken, and the more obvious extravagances of the cult seem to have disappeared.

Such outbreaks are inevitable where native traditional modes and standards have collapsed, and there is a desire to raise living standards towards European levels, but no "know-how" of the methods by which this can be done. The sequence is: 1. Frustration. 2. Apathy and lethargy. 3. A superstitious emotional explosion of some kind.

The answer lies in guidance: especially from the Agricultural Department, and the Co-operative Section, in cash-crop production, marketing; and in the availability of consumer goods, whether at Co-operative or private trade stores. Effective marketing encourages the confidence required to attempt new forms of production; technical guidance from D.A.S.F. assists production; consumer stores act as a stimulus and provide an incentive to production, as well as providing a visible measure to the natives of their own progress.

Due to shortage of staff the Co-operative Section has not yet made any move, though it has plans to do so. Meantime the Village Christian Societies carry out some of their functions. They seem to be doing so with moderate success, but there is the ever-present danger that they will founder on the rocks of incompetence and chicanery. This danger is the greater in that the Mission there is following a deliberate policy of leaving the natives to run the Societies entirely on their own. Early regularisation and registration under the Co-operatives Ordinance, is the only prudent course.

I understand that the Regional Agricultural Officer means to take an initial look at the area in the next few weeks to assess the cash crop potential.

The "anti-European" feeling noted by Mr. Hunter is more a question of the clash of personalities, than of any communal unrest. The voluntary contribution to the Mission of 10% of copra sales supports this view, to some extent.

BOUNDARIES. I think the question of minor anomalies in sub-District boundaries can be overcome by co-operation between the officers concerned.

NATIVE FOOD PRODUCTION. One sympathises with the gardening difficulties of the people in the area. However it is apparent that they are showing some energy and initiative, and by New Guinea standards food is adequate at present. The Regional Agricultural Officer hopes to sponsor a wider range of food crops. Mr. Hunter also distributed a fair quantity of seed.

VILLAGE HOUSING. Improvements in housing will come in the wake of increased prosperity, and economic progress is the most urgent immediate aim. Scattered hamlets certainly make harder work for patrolling officers, but it is seldom wise to interfere. In the first place the natives own the land and are entitled to live where they wish. Secondly, there is usually some sound, though not always obvious reason for such scattered living. In 1953, in the Goilala I found large empty villages, built on the orders of D.D.S. officers who believed the natives there ought to be concentrated together. Whether they were justified or not is not material - but the fact is the natives turned up for Census purposes, and immediately afterwards returned to their small hamlets, built near the small patches of scattered cultivable land. To have worked these from the central villages would have involved an intolerable amount of daily travel to and from the gardens. Similarly the semi-nomadic Bamu villages shift continually in search of game and un-cut sago stands. Instances could be multiplied among the Tolai, Madang, Torrecelli and other areas.

CEMETERIES. Many natives feel that to clean a cemetery is to invite deaths - on the principle that to prepare a house is to invite a tenant.

It is interesting to see the survival of the pagan custom of funerary furniture and equipment in an area that has been so long under strong mission influence.

ROADS AND TRACKS. Mr. Hunter's detailed information should be useful to future patrols.

MAP. *See copy* of a good map <sup>is</sup> enclosed. Could six sun-prints be provided please?

GENERAL. Mr. Hunter's report indicates close and careful observation and succeeds in being graphic with no sacrifice of terseness.

*H.C. Gaywood*  
(H.C. Gaywood.)  
a./A.D.O.

30/6/226



MEMORANDUM FOR :-

In Reply

Please Quote

D. S. 29/1/3 -568

HEADQUARTERS,  
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,  
SAMARAI.

16th November, 1954.

The Director,  
District Services and Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Gehua Patrol Report No.3 of 1954/55.  
Compiled by Mr. W.M.J. Hunter, C.P.O.

Attached please find three copies of patrol report compiled by Cadet Patrol Officer W.M.J. Hunter.

Cadet's summing up under heading Native Situation presents rather a gloom picture and an impression that neither the Administration nor the Missions are prepared to do anything to help this relatively small group of people. To some extent I am prepared to agree, and the matter of the establishment of Co-operative Section in the area is ever before this office. Similarly the Regional Agricultural Officer has surveyed the area with a view to establishing new crops to stimulate interest in the people. However the area is poor and any Co-operative venture would not be spectacular and would primarily cater for consumer interests only as the copra potential is negligible.

The people as a whole are seeking for something and require help and guidance. However this will only come about when staff is available to give attention to all isolated groups such as those in Wedau.

The matter of Sub-District boundaries will be discussed with the Officer-in-Charge, Baniara.

Isolated incidents where Natives have come into conflict with Missionaries are not uncommon, but fortunately they are rare. I have the highest regard for the untiring efforts of the Anglican Mission on the North East Coast.

The Wedau district is gazetted under the N.R.O. as a famine area and efforts are being made by the Regional Agricultural Officer to improve on the primitive irrigation system that now exists. I might add that the problems are difficult and hopes of success are yet a matter of conjecture.

The Village Constable of Kwabunaki should be replaced if his work is unsatisfactory.

An interesting patrol.

M. J. Healy,  
District Commissioner.

c.c. A.D.O. Gehua.



23rd November, 1954.

District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
SANARAI.

GEHUA PATROL REPORT NO.3 OF 1954/55.

Acknowledgment is hereby made of the above-mentioned Report submitted by Cadet Patrol Officer W. H. Hunter, regarding his Patrol of the DAGA/BOU, WAMIRA and WEDAU areas, together with covering memoranda from yourself and Mr. Gaywood. The sketch map is being sent to the Department of Lands, Surveys and Mines for printing as requested by the Assistant District Officer, Gehua. Six copies will be forwarded when completed.

2. Mr. Hunter has compiled a very readable Report of his observations and activities while on this Patrol, some parts of which must have been hot and exhausting.

3. The area appears to have been orderly since the last Patrol some fifteen months ago, although there are some signs of petty lawlessness ~~at~~ <sup>not far</sup> under the surface. The people are trying to find an avenue to make economic progress and their efforts need proper guidance and supervision. The area needs more regular unhurried patrolling from centre to centre; however, the difficulty of insufficient field staff is appreciated. I hope the Regional Agricultural Officer will be able to make the survey contemplated.

*SA/12*

*A.R.*  
A. R. Roberts  
Director.

150' 00"  
E

N

10

MADE BY [unclear]  
2.10.1954

10' 20"

10' 15"



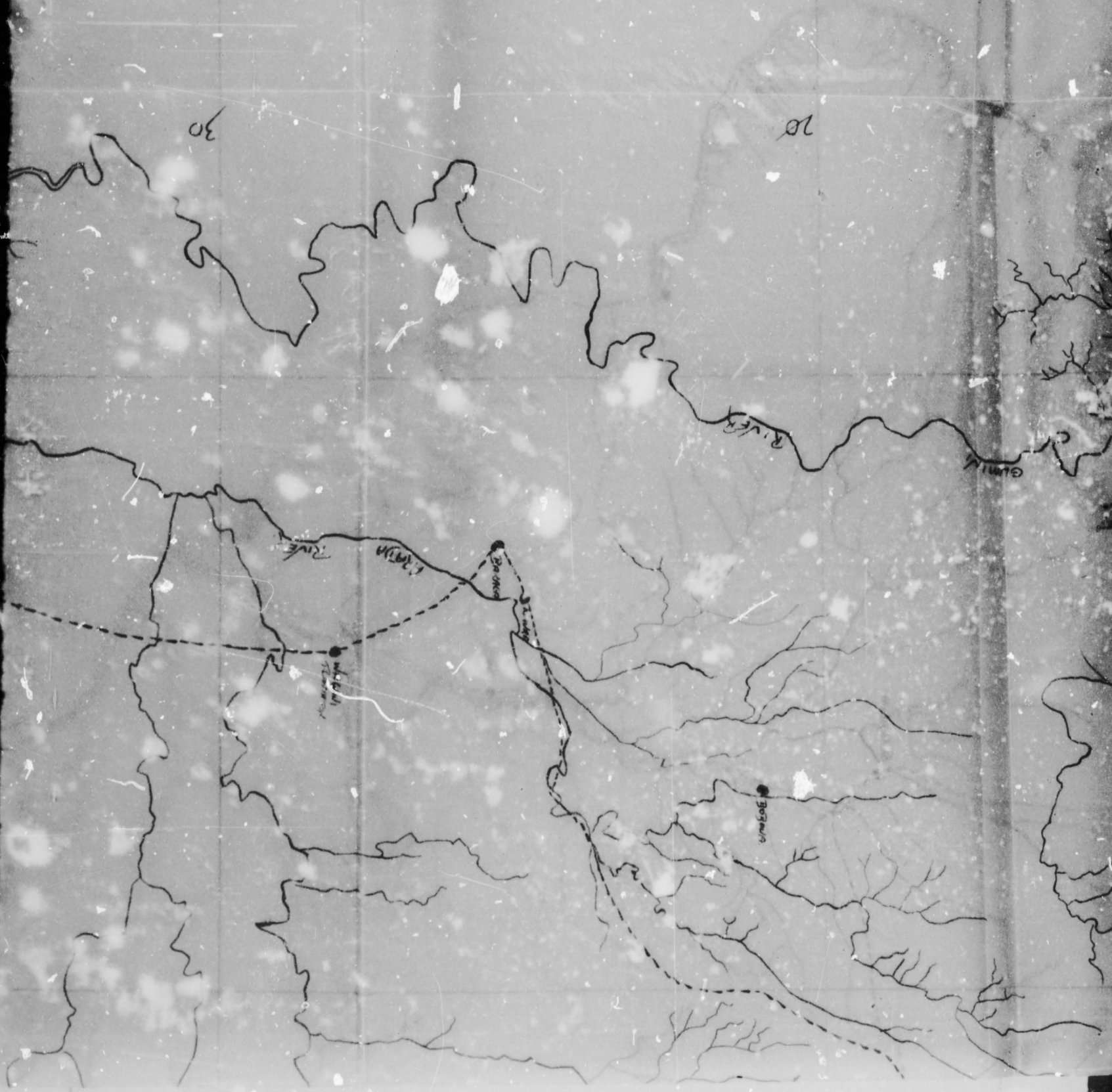
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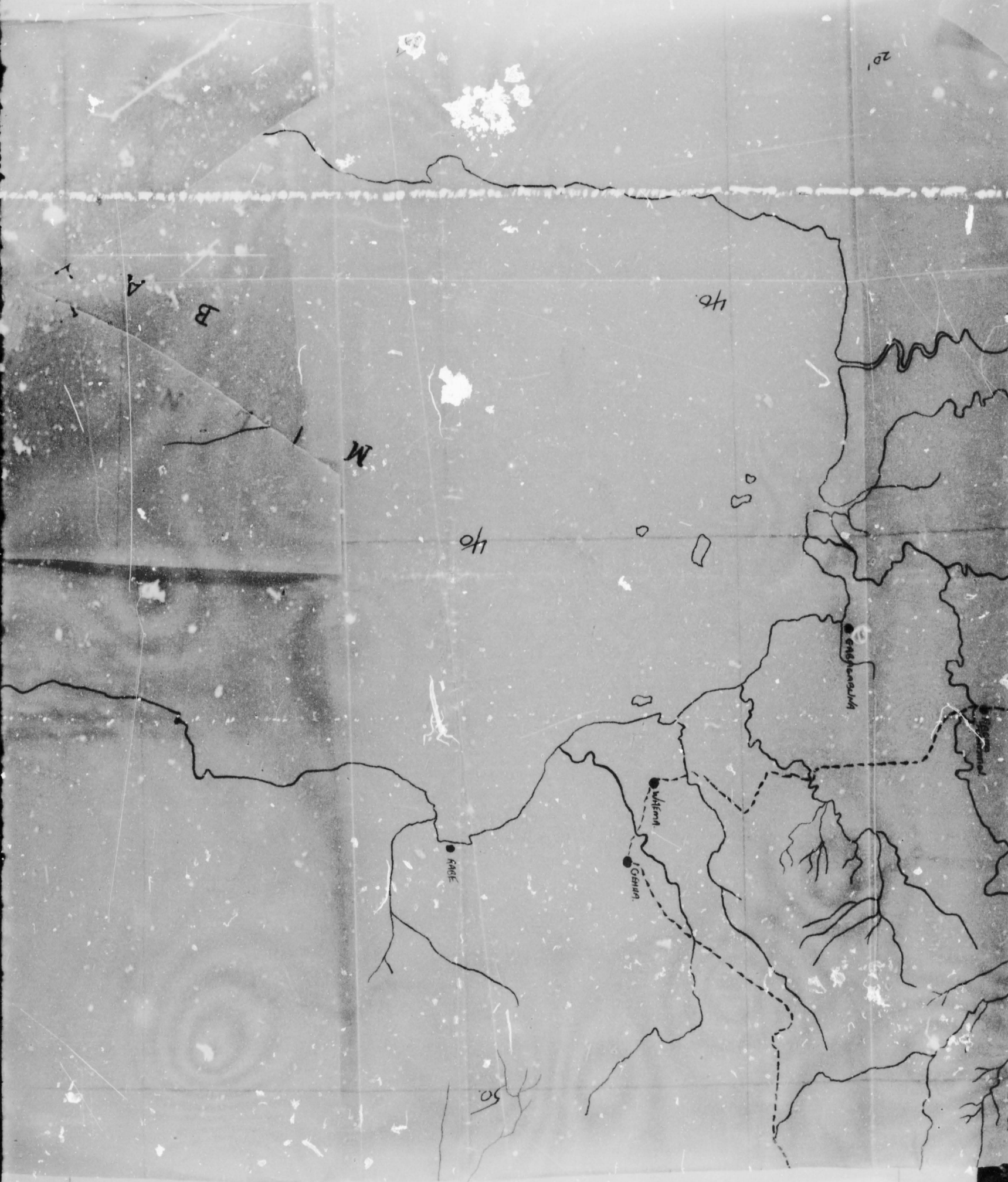
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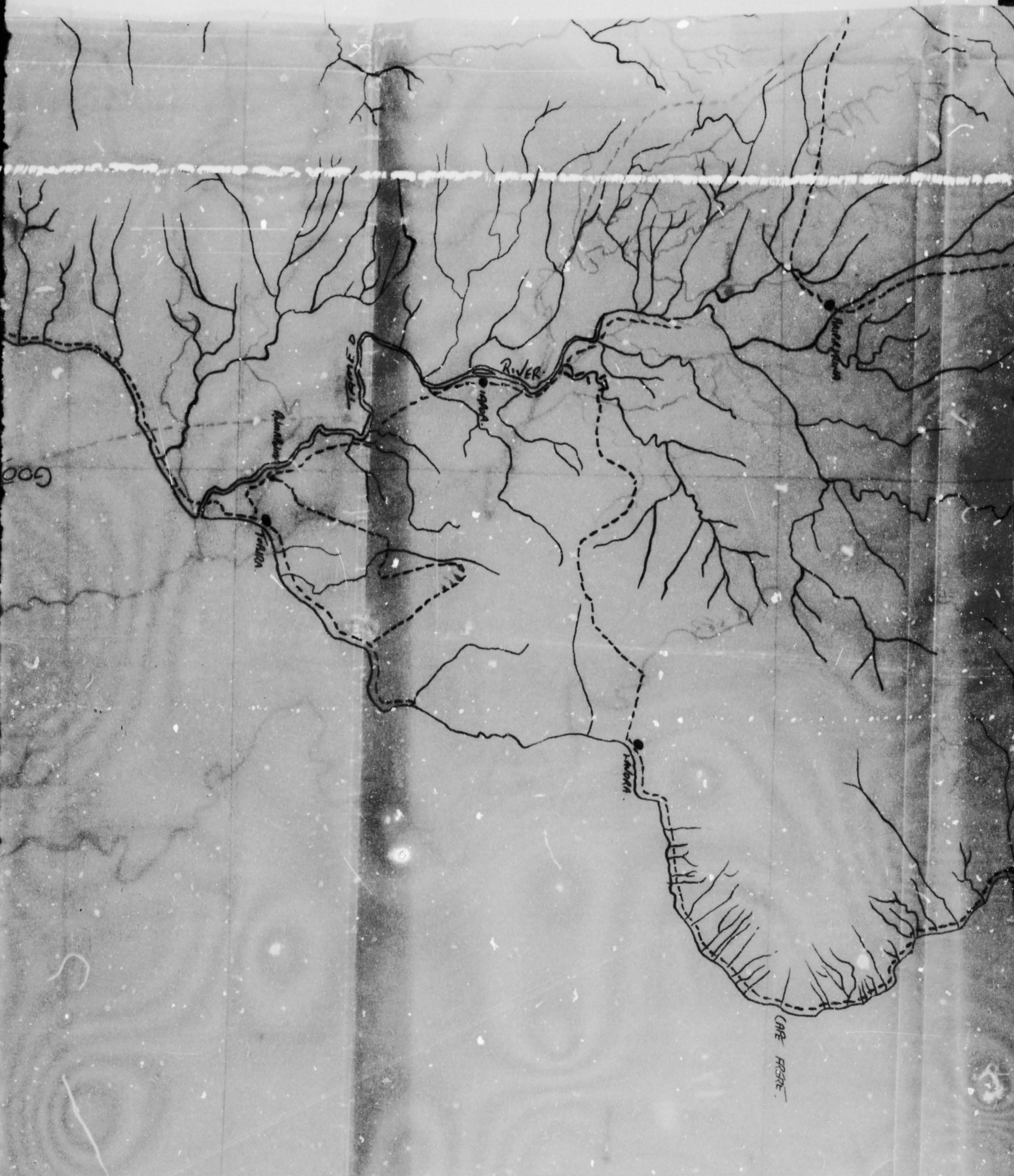
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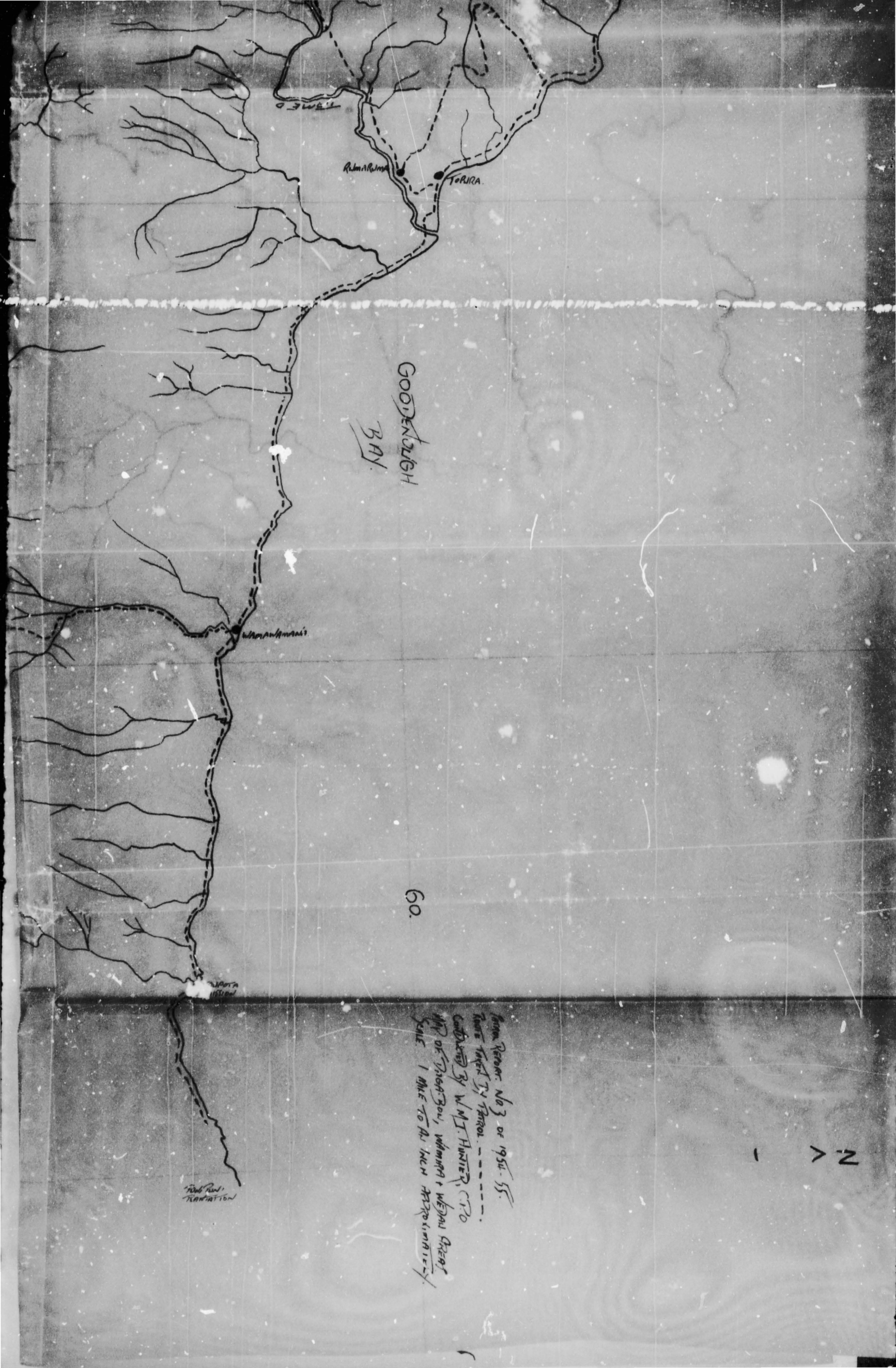
KAGE

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Ruhiruhira TORIRA

GOODENOUGH  
BAY

Whorah/Amrahi

60.

From Report No 3 of 1954-55.  
Route taken by Barron. ---  
Compiled by W. J. Hunter, C.T.D.  
Map of District, Whorah & Wepai Areas  
Scale 1 Mile to An Inch approximately.

N

Whorah  
Kororah

# Migration Register

Area Patrolled... DAGA. Bou. NAMIRA.

MIGRATIONS			ABSENT FROM VILLAGE								LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES			TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL
Out			AT WORK		STUDENTS				Males		Females		Pregnant	Number of Child Bearing Age	Average Size of Family	Child		Adults				
E	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F				M	F	M	F	M	F	
	1	2	26		13		1		3		12	27	16	39	3	45	3	46	39	65	84	277
	8	12	9		17						15	66	14	33	2	30	24	26	24	66	67	209
2	6	5	8		18	2			1		16	41	11	34	5	40	24	46	33	73	73	255
			2		1	1			3		15	60	16	62	4	63	23	38	38	90	92	265
	5	8	2								6	18	1	15	2	10	18	7	4	27	20	60
6	6	6	8		3				5		18	51	10	46	6	40	26	30	25	58	73	202
2	4	4	19		2				3	2	16	59	8	39	2	39	2	16	14	59	58	173
2	4	5	8	2	1				8	2	7	32	8	38	5	38	21	13	20	48	68	170
		1	3		3				2	1	3	27	3	38	2	38	26	14	16	27	38	104
	4	2			4				1	3	2	12	8	19	2	19	2	10	6	17	31	72
2	38	45	85	2	62	3	1		26	9	110	393	95	363	33	345		246	219	530	604	1787





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Not Cleared

Aug 16/1/69

# PATROL REPORT

Personal file number 15.2.55

District of MILNE BAY Report No. H OF 1954-55

Patrol Conducted by W. M. J. HUNTER, C.P.O.

Area Patrolled TAVARA LINGUISTIC AREA.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 2 MEMBERS R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 21/11/1954 to 30/11/1954

Number of Days 10

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No.

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 3/19/54

Medical 3/19/54

Map Reference MILNE BAY SHEET NO. 3529, EAST CAPE SHEET NO 2008  
MILNE BAY SHEET NO. 2007 IN THE ONE INCH SERIES.

Objects of Patrol GENERAL

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

District Commissioner

15/2/1955

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

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

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

C.S.B. DEPOSITS / 122-0-0

C.S.B. WITHDRAWALS / 25-17-0

# Village Popul

Year..... 1954. 55 .....

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	Births		DEATHS														MIGRATION			
				0-1 Month		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth					
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F			
BIWA.	22.11.54	1														2	1			1	
WAGAHUHU	23.11.54	1	2																	1	
GUGA.	24.11.54	4	4			1	1									6					1
HUNUNA.	26.11.54	3	3													6	4			1	
LAPOA	27.11.54	11	12					2								4	1			4	7
KEIA	28.11.54	4	4													1	1				1
AWAIAMA	29.11.54	7	2													4	1				4
GAROWAI	29.11.54	2	1														4			1	4
		33	28			1	1	2								23	12			7	18

Patrol Report.

Patrol Report No.4 of 1954-55.

5th. December 1954.

Report of a Patrol To the Tavara Linguistic area of the Genua

Sub-District of the Milne Bay District.

Officer Conducting Patrol:- W.M.J.Hunter, Cadet Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled. From Biwa to Aiwaiana villages in the Tavara  
Linguistic Area.

Patrol Accompanied By. Europeans : Nil.

Natives : 2 Members R.P.&N.G.C.

Duration. 21st November to 30th. November.

Days On Patrol. 10.

Last Patrol To The Area. District Services - March 1953.

Medical. March 1953.

Map Reference. Awaiama Bay Sheet No. 3529, East Cape Sheet No. 2008

Milne Bay Sheet No. 2007 in the One Inch Series.

Objects Of Patrol. Census and Routine.

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Introduction.

In accordance with verbal instructions received from the a/A.D.O. at Gehua, Mr. H.C. Gaywood, the patrol left the station on the 21st November and returned on the 30th. of November. The area patrolled being the remainder of the Labea District Group. This report should be read in conjunction with Patrol No. 1 of 1954-55. from Gehua station.

Diary.

Sunday 21st. November. Left station per truck 0815 for Labe. Arrived Labe 0845 and transferred gear and staff to 'Managuna' a Government Trawler. Left Labe at 1000 and proceeded to Walalai, a village close to East Cape. Arrived Walalai 1400. Carriers assembled at Rest-House then along the shore and over a small hill to Biwa. Arrived 1615.

Monday 22nd November. Inspected district in the morning and did a census in the after-noon.

Tuesday 23rd. November. Departed Biwa per canoe for Wagahuhu. Gear per track. Arrived 0930. People already assembled therefore census check done. Inspected the district in the afternoon.

Wednesday 24th. November Departed Wagahuhu per small sailing launch. Gear also aboard. Accompanied by invocations and whistles to and for the North-West wind proceeded in the direction of Normanby Island. 5 tacks later having travelled approximately half the distance to Guga it was necessary to unfasten oars and row to the rest-house. Arrived at noon and found the people waiting. Census done in the afternoon.

Thursday 25th. November. Inspected district

Friday 26th. November. Departed Guga rest-house for Huhuna. Inspected Huhuna villages en route. Arrived Huhuna Rest-House 1100. Census check in the afternoon.

Saturday 27th November. Left Huhuna for Iapoa. Inspected gardens and villages scattered along the way. Arrived 1000 and census check done.

Sunday 28th. November. Left Iapoa and journeyed across a small grass plateau to Keia Rest-House. Census Check carried out. Villages and gardens in close proximity to Rest-House.

Monday 29th November. Left Keia for Awaiama. Arrived 0830. People from Garawai also assembled here. Census check done.

Tuesday 30th. November. Left Awaiama at dawn for Taupota. Arrived 0900. Had morning tea with Mr. and Mrs. Hatters at the mission station then proceeded to cross the range to Gehua. Arrived at the Station at 1545.

Native Situation.

The situation is quiet. The natives still clinging to age-old customs adapting themselves at the same time to the economic changes which have taken place in the last few years.

Being a calm and tranquil group of people, they do not as a whole possess a great amount of money, but do show signs of wanting more. Coconut trees line the beach and copra is made when the need the urge arises. Several natives have enough trees to require them to employ labour. This is an encouraging and healthy sign. The present employers, however, do not seem inclined to issue their labourers with the regulation items, nor do they seem inclined to pay them each month. Regrettable and I think at present unavoidable. Time and the enforcement of the Native Labour Regulations on the native as well as on the European employers shall right this wrong.

Whilst at Awaiama three natives complained that monies due them for work done had not been paid. It transpired that the employer had been employing fairly large numbers of labourers for his copra production, and seemed to possess an antipathy towards paying them. Some had run back to their villages whilst others drifting through took over. This native employer owes at present approximately £ 100.

This state of affairs had been going on for some time and would have been rectified sooner if the local village constable had not been afraid of the defaulter. Two other prospective employers approached me and were duly signed on at Gehua. It may be mentioned here that there are quite a few cases of this kind in the Milne Bay area and that the area visited is by no means the only place where these things occur.

Shipping presents a real problem to the producers. There are several local traders in operation but I do not think the natives altogether trust them. They would much rather deal with P.C.B. in Samarai. Uncertainty of pick-up and time-table and distance from suitable loading points make the natives produce just so much copra and no more.

At Wagahuhuh a small native-owned whaleboat plies between Samarai and the local natives. At Guga several natives were absent at Ware island in order to purchase a whaleboat. A local attempt to rectify the poor shipping service. I do think that several small

Native Situation Cont.

co-operative ventures begun along this stretch of country would solve the difficulties of the inhabitants. I am sure that enough copra would be forthcoming to ensure their success.

Whilst at Taupota Mrs Hatters remarked that everything was now good. Sails were set, seas were smooth and the wind was strong.

Nothing of further interest to report.

Native Agriculture.

The term native agriculture must in this district refer only to gardens.

These vary in size and quality according to the inclination of the farmer and the type of available ground.

At Biwa, a village close to East Cape, the ground is very poor. What looks like dead coral litters the hillsides here. Taro and yams with a little sweet-potatoes are the main crops. The people here make annual trading expeditions to neighbouring islands for yams and other food requisites. Some had taken place prior to the patrols arrival; some were being planned. Yam-houses have been built to store the extra food. Also at this time of the year calm seas make net-fishing possible. Large quantities of fish, edible for the most part, are caught. If too much is caught for immediate consumption, the fish is smoked or cured. Several old women were noticed occupied at this task. Nuts of various sizes and hues are at present ripe. Mangoes and breadfruit also bring forth their abundance in the months of November, December and January. Pineapples coming into fruit in November round off the diet. The all-the-year-round crops, pawpaws, bananas, etc. were not numerous here: the people concentrating more on the yams and taro.

Moving along the coast. As the land area increases and the hills grow larger, the gardens some large some small appear further back from the beach. The soil here is quite good and the people bring forth an abundance of food. Taro and yams again being the main crops.

At Nuhuna, grass covered ridges make their first appearance. The rain-forest is pushed further back and at Taupota the grass has gained the ascendancy. Here, the main gardens are forced to be hewn back in the valleys and slopes where the water supply is assured. All along this

Native agriculture CONT.

stretch of country wild pigs abound. Coconut trees are plentiful. Pigs are numerous as are dogs and hens.

Court For Native Matters.

As has been stated in Native Affairs the situation is that all the people are law-abiding. No cases were presented to the patrol.

Villages

Houses are made from the usual native materials. Sago for walls and roof, black-palm for the floors. Usually of two or three rooms with a small lean-to kitchen outside. Some were really excellent structures.

At Biwa, Wagakuru and Guga everyone except the aged and infirm lives in satisfactory dwellings. As my arrival at Biwa was unexpected the village area was dirty. This was remedied the next morning by a squad of women. Other village sites were clean. At Huhuna the housing standard decreases. Loose and buckled floors, roofs in tatters, the usual hallmarks of a lazy community. The Village Constable instructed the assembled people to have these numerous defects repaired.

Iapoa, Keia and Awaiama are all clean and tidy villages. Materials begin to grow scarce here and grass is utilised for the roofs of many of the buildings. Some people have raised floors others have not. Those that have not always have a carpet of small stones on the ground. No dirty houses were seen. Largely due I feel to the influence of the mission people. In all, the villages and houses were in a fair state.

Cemeteries.

Some clean some not. Pots and rugs etc, are still placed on graves here. These utensils are usually on graves of old-people. The younger folk do not appear to have much interest in this matter.

Village Officials.

The V.c. Keia wished to resign and the V.c. Biwa had died in March of this year. Appointees for the positions were selected for approval. Other V.c.'s in the area are doing a good task. The Huhuna V.C. is himself a reliable man usually and I think it is solely due to the

Village Officials Cont.

scarcity of patrols to his district; The last some 20 months ago, that the housing in his community has sagged.

Village councillors are numerous and at all times helpful.

Roads.

The following Table shows all that is required.

Walalala to Biwa. A good track along a palm-lined shore. Passing through various Walalala villages for 30 minutes. At 45 minutes turned off the government track to take a native pad direct to Biwa rest-house. Arrive 1 1/2 hours after leaving Walalala.

Distance walked 5 miles. Time taken 75 minutes approx.

Biwa to Wagahuhu. A good track along the beach, up and down a couple of short steep hills and along the beach again to Wagahuhu R.H.

Distance walked 5 miles. Time taken 90 minutes. approx.

Wagahuhu to Guga. first two miles along beach. Then dangerous pad along and around limestone cliffs. Did not on this occasion try the track as rain the previous night. Once round the capes the road again accompanied the beach.

Distance to be walked 7 miles. Approx, time required 3 hours.

Guga to Nuhuna. Good track all the way along side beach.

Distance walked 4 miles. Time taken 60 minutes.

Nuhuna to Iapoa. Good track. Keeps inland a trifle and sea is not sighted. A bit muddy at times especially where the people have cut a new portion of track to circumvent a tricky patch on old road.

Distance walked 4 miles. Time taken 90 minutes.

Iapoa to Keia. Good road over grass plateau. Slippery, few small hills.

Distance walked three miles. Time Taken 60 minutes.

Keia to Aviana. Good track along beach.

Distance walked four miles. Time taken one hour.

Aviana to Gehua. To Taupota a good track follows the coastline then cuts across the back of Punipuni plantation. To emerge on the other side with a fine view of Cape Frere. Along the shore to Taupota mission whence track disappears between two sheer slopes. Follow a quick-flowing stream up this valley for three hours. Rising all the way. A gradual then a short steep climb to approx. 3000ft. A short coast along a gradual decline then an abrupt descent to 1/2 a mile from gehua. A good track from here to the station. This route would be very difficult to navigate if rain has fallen. Having used track from both sides, I would say that coming from Taupota is much easier than coming from Gehua.

Distance walked 16 miles. Time taken 9 hours.



Carriers

No difficulty was experienced in obtaining carriers. The only delay ( of approximately 45 minutes ) was at Walalala. Having received no notice of my coming this was to be expected. The carriers were given the choice of one stick of tobacco or one shilling for every hour of portage. The choice varied. An average of 20 carriers was used during the patrol. Over the range I used 22 men.

Man-hours of portage worked approximately 540.

Rest-Houses.

All were good. Cracks and latrines were satisfactory. The Guga Rest-house is the best one on the North-East coast. Others in this area were not far behind.

Missions and Education.

From Biwa to Muhuna the learning of the native is in the hands of the Methodist denomination. They are not doing a satisfactory job, even if only for the fact that English is not taught. To secure the future progress and participation of this country in world affairs English should be taught.

From Iapoa to Awaiama the Anglican Denomination has control. A vastly different picture emerges here. The people are happy. They participate freely in sport. Men as well as women. Inter village sport is encouraged and rivalry is keen. And English is spoken and understood by the natives. These people send their children to school willingly, where an education of some value may be obtained.

There are no government schools in the district.

Census.

A census check was carried out in each village visited. New books were compiled, various clan members being grouped together. This proved popular with the people. The clans are represented by birds only. Ranging from Magisubo the Eagle to Cuncua the rooster.

At Iapoa I recorded 23 births. The largest number of births for one village which I have recorded in this Sub-district to date.

Census figures are to be found on the inside cover of the patrol jacket.

Special Arms Permits.

22 permits are operative in the area. Made up as follows:-  
 Biwa 3; Guga 6; Huhuna 7; Iapoa 1; Keia 1; Awaiana 3; Garowai 3;.

There are plenty wild pigs to be shot but very little birds. At every village inquiries were made for the issue of new permits.

There are a few native traders in the area. European traders have stores at Biwa, Waghuhu Iapoa and Awaiana. Three operate in this small district. Messers Craig, Evenett and Wilkinson. A half-caste Mr Watters at Porotona conducts a small trading business.

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Appendix 'A'. Report on R.P.&N.G.C.  
 APPENDIX 'B'. Report on Visible Health.

*W. M. J. Hunter*  
 .....  
 W. M. J. Hunter C.P.O.  
 Gehua, Milne Bay.

Appendix 'A'.

Milne Bay Patrol Report No.4 of 1954-55.

Report On Native Constabulary

Date of Report. 1st November 1954.

Duration. 10 days.

From. Gehua, Milne Bay to Biwa and Awaiama villages of the Tavara Linguistic area.

Personnel.

No. 2167. Constable Evari.

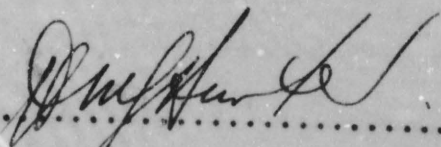
Conduct. Good.

Comments. Is a good patrol policeman. Can be relied upon.

No. 3088. Constable Mataula.

Conduct. Good.

Comments. Always cheerful. Knows his work.

  
.....  
W.M.J. Hunter, C.P.O.  
Officer R.P.&.N.G.C. Gehua.

Appendix 'B'.

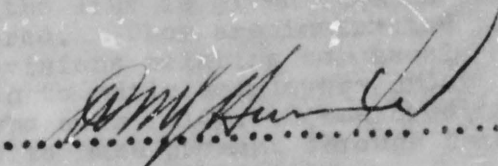
Patrol Report Milne Bay No. 4 of 1954-55.

Medical and Health.

The N.M.O. stationed at Gehua was unable to accompany the patrol therefore a medical inspection of each village was not carried out.

Health appeared outwardly good. Only a few cases of Sepoma were seen; one case of body yaws was sent to Gehua.

There are no aid posts in the area. The Anglican mission operate at Taupota, the Government have an aid-post at Bonana. The mission hospital is very popular and is well patronised. Mrs Hatters the Sister in charge here is doing a good job.

  
.....  
W.M.J. Hunter, C.P.O.  
Gehua, Milne Bay

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

*In Reply*

*Please Quote*

D. J. P. A. 02 54/55

SUBDISTRICT OFFICE,  
GEHUA,  
MILNE BAY DISTRICT.

MEMORANDUM FOR:-

8 December 1954.

The District Commissioner,  
SAMARAI. M.B.D.

PATROL REPORT 4 of 54/55 - Mr. W.M.J. Hunter, C.P.O.

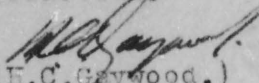
Four copies of the above report are attached hereto.

Mr. Hunter's report is well set out and informative. There is a useful large scale map. May six sunprints of this be obtained for this station please.

The question of native employers has already been discussed with you. Unregistered employers are called into the station, the provisions of the Native Labour Ordinance are explained to them carefully, assistance in filling in of forms and the like is given them at this office, and all are correctly registered. They are instructed to comply with, and how to do so, the provisions relating to casual employees. No employees are signed on to native employers under the Agreements system. The native who owes £100.0.0 has credits to cover the sum, and has been instructed to make payment through this office, as soon as he returns from Samarai with the money. Similar action has now been taken with all native employers in the sub District.

The census figures show a very low birth rate in ~~all~~ villages except Iapoa, Keia and Awaiama, especially since the period covered is nearly two years. It may be partly due to failure to report infants born and since died, but even so there is a need for close attention.

I understand that co-operatives are to be established in the area in the coming year, and that the Regional Agricultural Officer is at present patrolling the area with a view to broadening both cash and subsistence production.

  
(E.C. Gaywood.)  
a./A.D.O.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

36/6/733 ✓



MEMORANDUM FOR:-

In Reply

Please Quote

D. S. 30/1/4 11014.

HEADQUARTERS,  
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,  
SAMARAI.

14th. February, 1955.

The Director,  
Department of District Services and  
Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

GENUA PATROL REPORT NO. 4 of 54/55.

Please find attached report on a Patrol undertaken by Mr. W.M.J. Hunter C.P.O. to villages on the North shore of Milne Bay.

Natives employing Natives will always be a problem, and whilst it should be our aim to bring this activity within the scope of the Native Labour Ordinance, there appears to me to be a danger that we might destroy native initiative if we attempt to exercise full control by ordinance, as it appears that there are few natives employers who could fully satisfy the demands of the law. However, the A.D.O. may be able to bring about some semblance of order by constant supervision of registered employers.

Quite a good patrol and an informative report.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M.J. Healy'.

M.J. Healy.  
District Commissioner,

Encl.

30-6-233

23rd February, 1955.

The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
SAMARAI.

GENUA Patrol Report No. 4 of 1954/55

This patrol report which was written early in December, 1954, reached this office on 21st February, 1955.

The map submitted with the report shows no scale. We will ask the Lands Department to run some copies off.

I am glad that native employees are being supervised and given the necessary advice.

Mr. Hunter's comparison of the two Missions is interesting.

Items of interest to other Departments have been forwarded to those concerned.

PA  
2/4/55

AAR  
(A.A.R. Burtis)  
Director

# ation Register

Area Patrolled TAVARA LINGUISTIC AREA

ATIONS		ABSENT FROM VILLAGE						LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES			TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL
Out		AT WORK		STUDENTS				Males		Females		Pregnant	Number of Child bearing Age	Average Size of Family	Child		Adults		
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	10-16	16-45				10-16	16-45	M	F	
8	6					2	3	5	16	4	16	2	16	2	9	12	37	35	78
		5			1	3	1	7	50	12	50	2	41	26	10	18	68	66	178
7	8					9	4	16	61	14	50	3	53	27	34	23	93	84	247
7	4	3		3	1	8	4	22	76	14	52	4	61	23	26	19	124	91	279
3	2			3		14	3	8	67	10	57	4	49	29	36	33	99	83	271
1	2	3						3	30	8	31	3	24	26	17	21	39	49	129
2	6	3				2		6	35	4	27	2	27	26	17	7	48	45	122
1	5			1		1	1	2	36	6	21	3	23	28	7	6	41	37	94
29	33	14		7	2	39	16	69	371	72	304	23	294		162	139	549	490	1418





Cleared  
by 16/1/69

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of CEHUA Milne Bay Report No. 5 of 54/55

Patrol Conducted by W.M.T. Hunter, C.P.O.

Area Patrolled MAIVARA Valley

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans No

Natives 1 Native Constable

Duration—From 5/1/1955 to 10/1/1955

Number of Days 6

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services Aug. /19 53

Medical Aug. /19 53

Map Reference Milne Bay 3007, 1 inch Series

Objects of Patrol Census and Routine

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

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 .... £.....

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# Village Popula

Year.....

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	Births		DEATHS														MIGRA	
				0-1 Month		0-1 Year		1-4				9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Births			
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	
BOBOUA	6-1-55	1						1		1								3	
BARKHA	7-1-55	1	3					1										4	5
IANIANINA	8-1-55	4	3											2	2			2	5
GABAGABUNA	10-1-55	4	6												1	1		2	7
MAIWARA NTH	10-1-55		4											3	2			1	5
MAIWARA STH	10-1-55	4												2	3			3	6

Patrol Report.

Patrol Report No. 5 of 1954-55. 14th January 1955.

Report of a patrol to a portion of the Tavara Linguistic Area of  
The Gebua Sub-District of Milne Bay District.

Officer Conducting the Patrol:- W. J. Hunter, C.P.O.

Area Patrolled :- from Boboua to Gabageou villages in the  
Tavara Linguistic Area.

Patrol Accompanied By:- Europeans : Nil.  
Natives : One Member R.P.S.M.G.C.

Duration. 5th January to the 10th January.

Days On Patrol:- 6.

Last Patrol to the Area. District Services... August 1953.  
Medical August 1953.

Objects of Patrol. Census and Routine.

Map Reference. Milne Bay Sheet 2007 in the One Inch Series

Introduction.

In accordance with verbal instructions received from the a/A.D.O. at Gehua, Mr. H.C. Gaywood, the patrol left the station on the 5th January and proceeded to Boboua. Returning along the same route the patrol finished at Gabagabuna on Monday the 10th January. This area is included in the Tavara Native Village Council group.

Diary.

Wednesday 5th January. With prisoners as carriers walked to Gabagabuna at 0900. Arrived 1100 and left for Naura Rest-House per jeep at 1230. Arrived Naura 0400 and remained there over-night.

Thursday 6th January. Left Naura at 0800. Arrived at Boboua at 1030 had dinner then conducted the census.

Friday 7th January. Left Boboua for Naura at 0830. Arrived at 1100 and conducted the census. Night work to compile new books.

Saturday 8th January. Left Naura for Ianianina at 0830. Called in at Waigani; arrived rest-house 1130. Census done in the afternoon.

Sunday 9th January. Left Ianianina at 0815. Called in to Mr Janson then to Gabagabuna rest-house. Arriving 1100. Rested remainder of day.

Monday 10th January. Census of the Maivara and Gabagabuna peoples done. Returned to Gehua per jeep at 1430. Compiled new books at station on Tuesday. These returned to respective councillors on Thursday the 13th January.

Native Situation.

With the introduction of the Village Council technique of administration, the peoples in this area may look forward to a new era in their monotonous lives.

A time must pass, however, before success shall appear low on the horizon. The length of time depending to a large extent on how long educational facilities and economical devices are denied the natives. The council's efficacy shall not be apparent until these are firmly established. Although idealists may argue that money is not absolutely essential for possible success with this system, I think in Milne Bay that the people are for the most part realists and must have visible signs of council projects before confidence is established. Therefore money is required.

The people living at Bobous have no coco-nut palms. The only crop which might return a profit is sweet-potatoes. The manager at Waigani informs me that he is always willing to purchase this vegetable for his workers. The people at and around Naure are in a similar position. On the supposition that tax rates will be similar to those in force at Malaba, these villagers will have to find £ 500 in the coming year. I think it fair to assume that if these people are exempted from paying tax, the people around Gabagabuna and Maiwara will not get the point and also refuse to pay taxes. These coastal people produce a fair amount of copra and will have no physical difficulties in meeting the tax.

There is no time urgency here, no deadline to meet, the inhabitants are not fully aware of what has happened and what is going to happen. For a time the people themselves shall be the council's stumbling-block. Future young generations, brought up in council atmosphere shall be more able to help, guide and secure the council.

The people are peaceful, a few dissenters, not particularly religious, show no signs of Marxist inclinations and are moving towards a brighter and better mode of life.

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Native Agriculture.

This refers in this area to the making of gardens only.

At Boboua two fairly large co-operative ventures were seen. One was in production the other in the process of being made. They were strongly fenced. Moving down to Ianianina and the coastal villages of Gabagabuna and Maiwara, gardens become smaller, unfenced and of poor mien.

Taro is the main crop produced. Sweet-potatoes and yams are produced by the Boboua, Naura and Ianianina peoples. A few bananas, pawpaws and pineapples were in evidence.

The coastal people, to a large extent patronise their local store for additions to the diet.

Copra is being made on the coast but inland very few coco-nut palms are to be seen.

Figs and hens in every village. The peoples here are sufficiently fed if not well-fed.

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Court For Native Matters.

The people are law-abiding and any court cases are usually brought immediately to Gbua. No cases were brought before the patrol on this occasion.

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Villages.

All village sites were clean. Houses are made from material left over from the last war. In many cases I think they are the original structures. They are not a beautiful sight, but the occupants show no signs of wanting to return to houses made from native materials.

These houses exist in every village except Boboua. Here native materials are used. Sage for roofs and walls. Floor off the ground and covered with black-palm planks.

Water supplies are good. At Gabagabuna and Ianianina rain caught in 44 gallon drums is used. Other villages have swift-flowing rivers in close proximity.

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Village Officials.

The old system of Village Constables and Councillors has not as yet been abolished. The Tavara Council still in its initial stages has not discussed the matter of law-enforcement officers. This shall be remedied in the near future.

Councillors both old and new and Village Constables were helpful at all times.

Councillor Dapa of the Tavara Native Village Council is resisting the administration silently but effectively. He counsels his people to refuse to cut grass on the Gabagabuna - Hagita Plantation road ~~until~~ unless a payment of 5/- per man is received for the work.

At this time the grass remains uncut.

Roads and Bridges.

The following table shows all that is required.

Boboua to Naura. First three miles are waded down the Arada river. Thence through the forest, up and over a fairly steep hill, through the community garden to Keporika, which is inhabited once more, thence along a track, still suitable for a jeep, to Naura.

Distance walked 6 miles. Time taken 2 hours.

Naura to Ianianina. Through Waigani to Hagita Plantations. Just before Hagita Residency is reached a road branches to the left. The village is a quarter of a mile further on.

Distance walked 9 miles time taken 2 hours.

Ianianina to Gabagabuna. Continuing along a road used by the plantation and other vehicles. The surface is a trifle pot-holed in places and long grass made the road unsightly and would make cornering slightly dangerous. Just before the Maiwara Co-operative store is reached a road branches to the right. Half a mile along is the Rest-House.

Distance walked Three miles. Time Taken 1 hour.

Carriers were slow in appearing at Naura. It was necessary to send a policeman to find them on the three successive mornings I needed them. This was due to the fact that the majority of able-bodied men at Boboua had travelled to Dogura for the Xmas worship. Thus imposing an extra burden on the Naura men. No trouble was had at Ianianina.

Carriers received one stick of tobacco for one hour of porterage.

Man-hours of porterage worked approximately 120 hours.

Rest-Houses.

Boboua Rest-House. A small, but excellently constructed building. The Boboua councillor informed me the Rest-House at Boboua was to be moved to Kaporika shortly.

Maura Rest-House. A rotten building. I stepped through the floor on two occasions.

Ianianina Rest-House. A good building. Native materials have been used for the walls and concrete floor.

Gabagabuna Rest-House. A good structure. All native material. Three village constables from Gabagabuna, Maiwara North and Maiwara South assemble their flocks here.

Police barracks and latrines are poor.

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Missions and education. A Methodist mission at Daga (Gabagabuna) and a small church visited occasionally by Father Macgrove of Daio represent mission activity in this small district. Children are sent to K.E. mission near Labe or Wagawaga to receive their education. One youth from Boboua is at present at Mainaua Mission, two days two days hard walk away. There are no government schools in the area.

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Census. A census check was carried out in each village. New books were compiled, members of the same clan being grouped together. A list of prospective tax-payers was also compiled at each village.

At Derama, 3 villages included in the "aura group 21 payers are available. The councillor for Boboua, Dagama and Gumini has 87 available. The councillor for Poda, Maura and Durubi has 49 for tax. The Ianianina representative has 76 available. The Gabagabuna payers total 126, the Maiwara North payers total 78 and the Maiwara South payers 72. A total of 519 people who may be called upon to pay tax.

Census figures obtained are to be found on the inside cover of the patrol jacket.

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Special Arms Permits.

18 permits are operative in the area. Made up as follows:- Beraga, 5; Ianianina, 4; Gabagabuna, 4; Maiwara South, 4; Maiwara North, 3;

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*[Handwritten signature]*



Appendix 'A'.

Patrol Report Milne Bay No. 5. of 1954-55.

The M.M.O. stationed at Gehua was unable to accompany the patrol therefore a medical inspection of each village was not carried out.

Health appeared outwardly good except for the now familiar Sepoma. No ulcers or yaws were seen.

The aid-post at Gehua is the nearest to these villages. The people have confidence in the M.M.O. here and do not as a rule hesitate to come in and be treated.



.....  
W.M. J. Hunter, C.P.O.  
Gehua Milne Bay.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

*In Reply*

*Please Quote*

D. S. 30-1

SUBDISTRICT OFFICE,  
GEHUA,  
MILNE BAY DISTRICT.

17 January 1955.

MEMORANDUM FOR :-

The District Commissioner,  
SAMARAI, M.B.D.

Gehua Patrol No. 5/54-55. Mr. W.M.J. Funter, C.P.O.


Enclosed are four copies of the above report.

The patrol was a short one to complete the census in a small group of villages left over from a previous patrol. The people concerned have been visited several times in the past six months.

The census reveals a stationary population at best, and the small number of births recorded in the period is a matter of some concern. As stated in a previous patrol report there has only been one patrol in the area by a European Officer since the war. It is felt possible that a properly conducted medical survey would reveal that the incidence of such diseases as malaria, tuberculosis, influenza, filariasis, are a major drain on the vitality of the people.

The initial efforts of the new Council will be directed to agricultural improvements.

The question of grass-cutting along the roadsides is being referred to to you separately.

  
H.C. Graywood.)  
S. A.D.C.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

36/4/55 ✓



*In Reply*

*Please Quote*

D. S. 2011/4 /1017

HEADQUARTERS,  
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,  
SAMARAI.

MEMORANDUM FOR :-

The Director,  
Department of District Services and  
Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

GEHUA PATROL REPORT NO. 5 of 54/55.

Attached please find Patrol Report compiled by  
Mr. W.M.J. Hunter C.P.C. covering his patrol to the western  
end of Milne Bay.

The question of the tax and economical potential  
of the Boboua villagers will be born in mind when the Tavara  
Council sets to determine a council tax. The A.D.O., Gehua,  
has the matter well in hand.

The A.D.O. Gehua will investigate the problem of  
grass on the Gabagabuna road.

When the Landrover for the A.D.O. Gehua, delivery of  
which is expected soon, is made available these villages can  
be regularly visited by the A.D.O.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'M.J. Healy'.

M.J. Healy.  
District Commissioner.

30-6-234

24th February, 1955.

The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
SARAWAK.

Patrol Report No. 5 of 1954/55

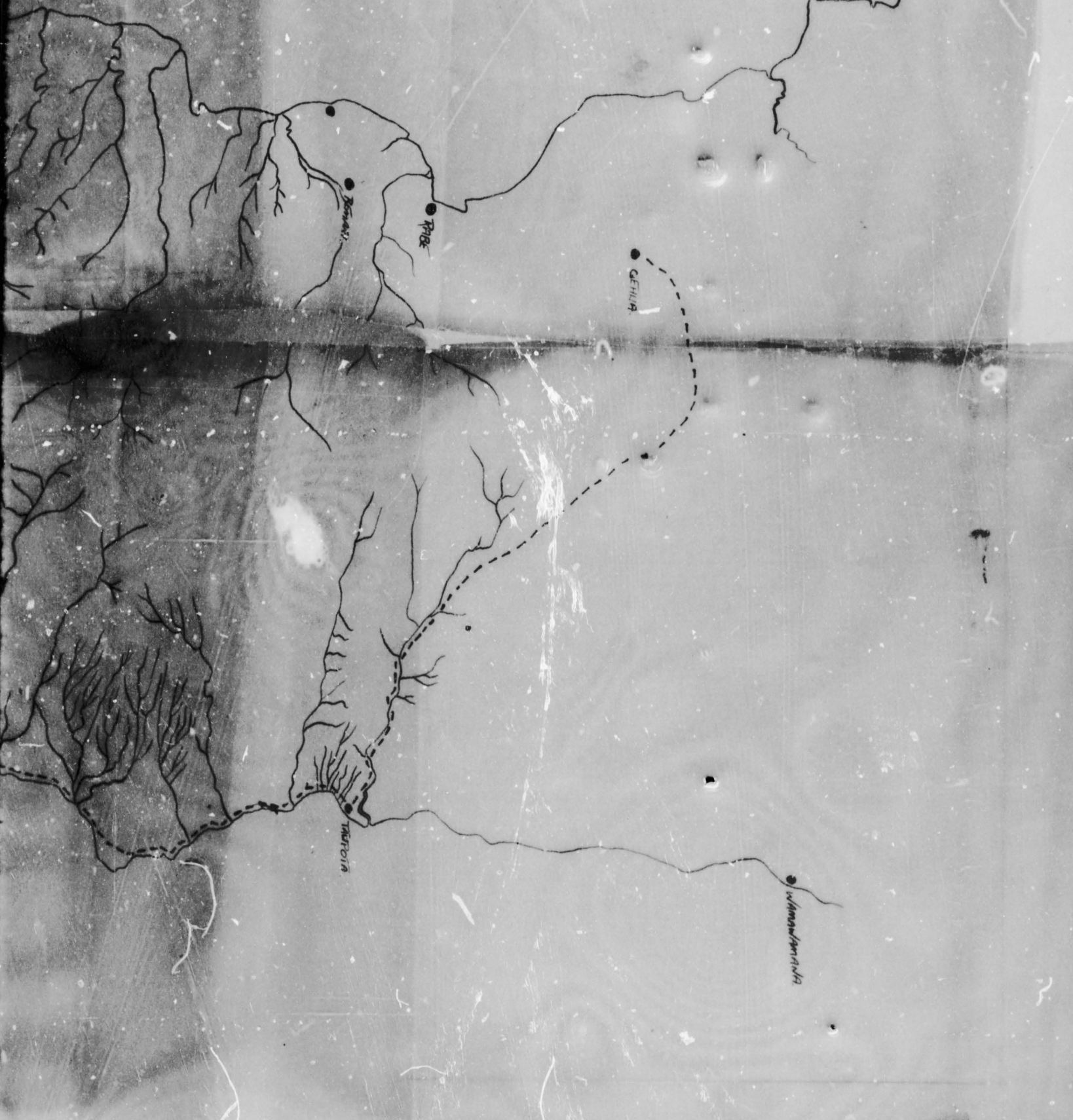
The receipt of the report is acknowledged.  
As the patrol was of a routine nature no comments are offered.

24  
More frequent patrols, including medical, of  
the area should help these people.

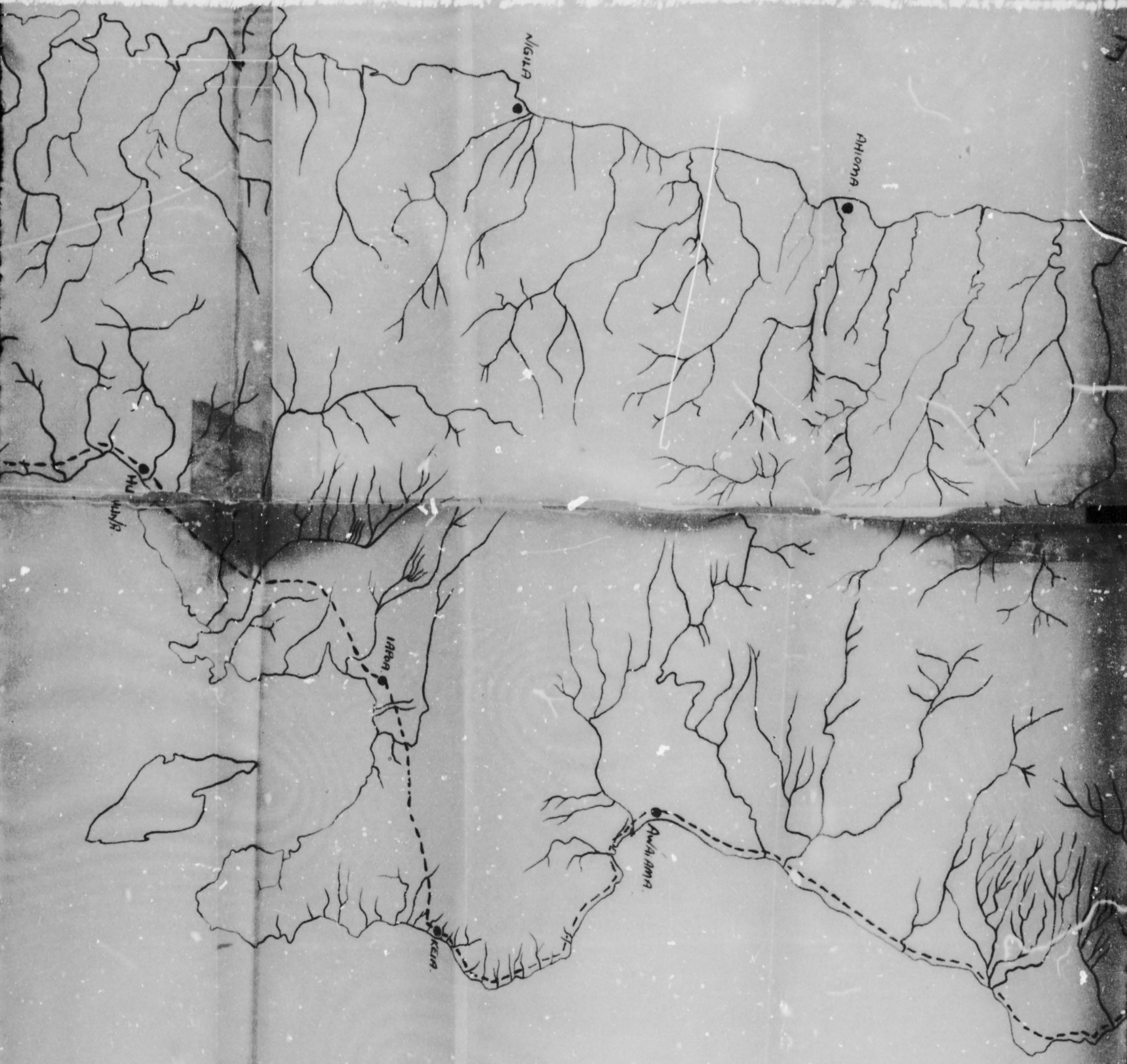
(P/A) *24/2/55*

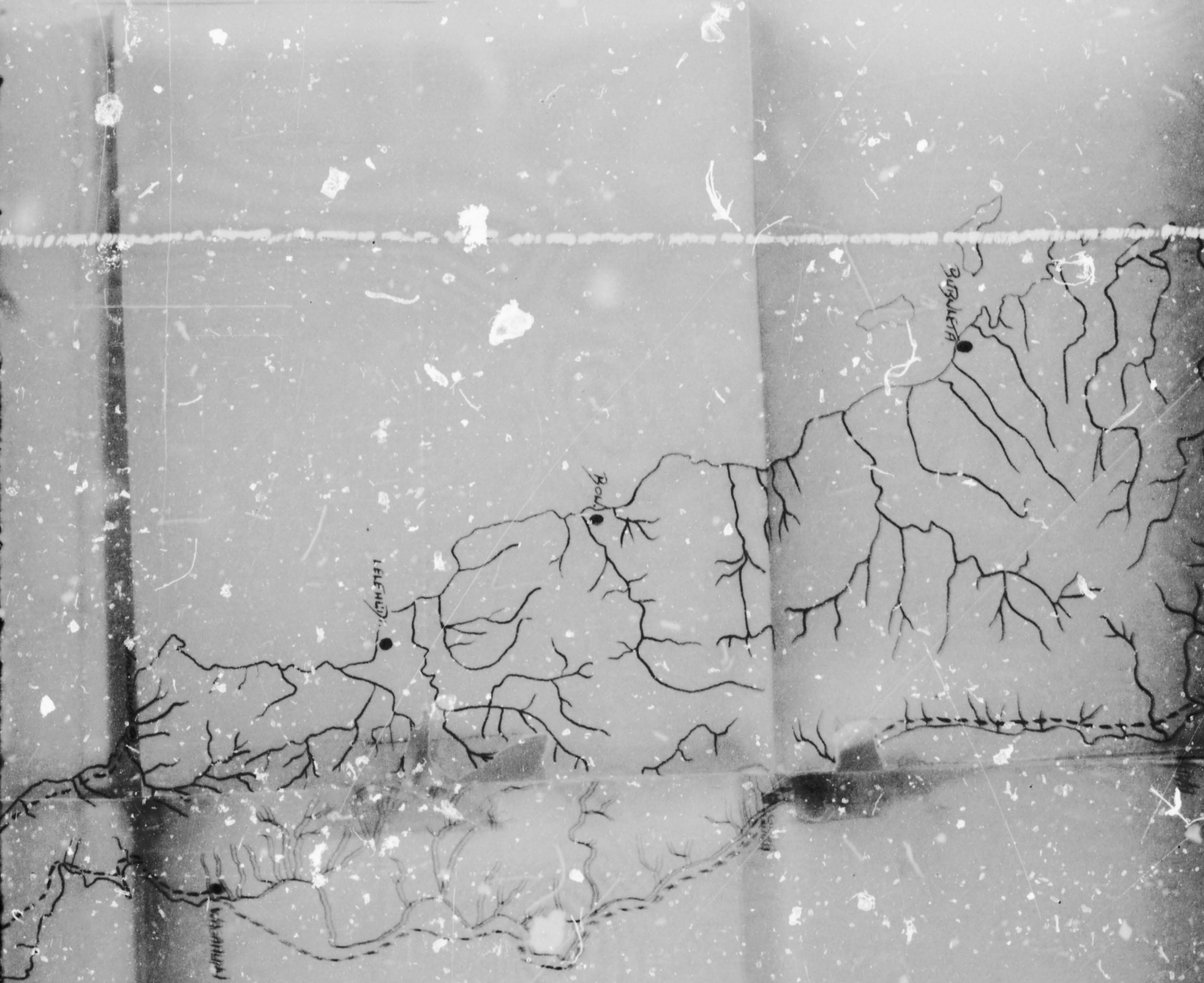
*AAR*  
(A. A. Roberts),  
Director. *1955*

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PATROL NO. 4 OF 1954-55  
MAP OF TAKARA LINGUISTIC AREA  
ROUTE FOLLOWED INDICATED  
MAP DRAWN BY W.M.J. HUNTER, C.P.O.





# Migration Register

Area Patrolled.....

MIGRATIONS		ABSENT FROM VILLAGE				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES		Average Size of Family	TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL			
AT WORK		STUDENTS		Males		Females		Pregnant	Number of Child Bearing Age	Child			Adults							
Out	Inside District	Outside District	Govt.	Mission	10-16	16-45	10-16			16-45	M		F	M	F	M + F				
6	1	4	1	1						2	17	1	18	14	1.4	10	4	26	28	74
2	1	7		7	2		2	3	7	42	4	46	3	40	2.4	31	19	63	67	201
4	4	7					3	5	35	5	30	2	28	2.1	23	14	43	42	132	
13	10	13	2	4	3		5	5	14	57	13	48	4	48	2.7	34	34	71	74	245
11	11	2	1				2	5	7	31	2	33	1	30	2.2	13	18	10	38	129
1	5	4		2			1	9	30	3	27	1	27	2.9	21	17	59	50	154	