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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: MOROBE

STATION: BOANA, 1967 - 1968

Original documents bound with reports
for: Wantoat, volume 3.

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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MOROBE DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1967-1968

WANTOAT

BOANA

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
<u>WANTOAT</u>		
1-67-68	D. Sigamata	Awara C.D.
2-67-68	T.H. Larkins	Wantoat, Irumu & part Awara C.D.
3-67-68	T.H. Larkins	Wantoat Admin, area
4-67-68	T.H. Larkins	Part Wantoat & Awara C.D.
<u>BOANA</u>		
3-67-68	R.E. Hatherly	Wain C.D.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



PATROL REPORT

District of.....MOROBE.....Report No.....BOANA NO. 3-67/8.....

Patrol Conducted by.....R.E. HATHERLY.....

Area Patrolled.....WAIN CENSUS DIVISION.....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....NIL.....

Natives.....NANONG AHI PATROL OFFICER - SALANIA BOLO CLERK

Duration—From...17./...2./1968...to...2.../...3.../1968...

Number of Days.....8 days in field.....

5 days at station

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

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

Medical/...../19.....

Map Reference.....

Objects of Patrol.....TO CONDUCT BOANA MOBILE POLLING BOOTH.....

Director of District Administration,
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

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Ref: 67-6-54

Dept. of District Administration,
KONEDOBU, Papua.

May 27th, 1968.

District Commissioner,
Morobe District,
LAE.

PATROL NO. BOANA 3-67/68

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of ~~Memorandum~~
* ~~of Patrol~~/Patrol Report covering patrol by R. B. HATHERLY
to LAE Census Division//

T.W. Ellis
(T.W. ELLIS)
Director *β*

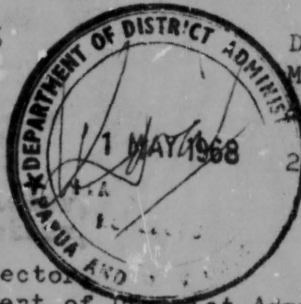
* Delete as necessary.

67.6.5478



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams
Telephone 67-2-16
Our Reference
If calling ask for
Mr.



Department of District Administration,
Morobe District,
AE.

29th April, 1968.

The Director
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBU.

BOANA PATROL NO. 3 OF 1967/68
- WAIN CENSUS DIVISION

I attach copy of report submitted
by Mr. Patrol Officer Hatherly, covering his
patrol to the Wain Census Division.

This was another in the series of
patrols carried out to conduct the poll for
the 1968 House of Assembly Elections in this
District. The work was obviously carried out
in a satisfactory manner. There is little on
which to comment in the report. The Chief
Electoral Officer might be advised of the
comments on page two "The photographs of the
candidates were definitely of great assistance."

H.P. Seale

(H.P. SEALE)
District Commissioner

Copy to:-
Officer-in-Charge,
BOANA

(7)

67-1-4

Sub-District Office,
L.A.E.

18th April, 1968.

District Commissioner,
District Headquarters,
Morobe District,
L.A.E.

Boana Patrol Report No. 3 - 67/68

Attached please find the report of Boana Patrol No. 3 of 67/68 conducted by Mr. R.E. Matherly, Patrol Officer.

This report covers the Elections for part of the Nawae Open Electorate.

The report reveals a satisfactory state of affairs, and calls for no additional comments.

Electoral matters mentioned will be dealt by the Returning Officer in his Report.

G.C. HARDY,
Assistant District Commissioner.

Copy to:-

Officer-in-Charge,
BOANA.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

6

Telephone

Telegrams.....

Department of District Administration,

Our Reference..... 67.1.1

Base Camp,

If calling ask for

BCANA. Morobe District

Mr.....

The Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-District Office,
LAE.

BOANA PATROL REPORT NC 3 - 1967/68

Station: Boana

Sub-District: Lae

District: Morobe

Patrol Conducted by: R.E.Hatherly Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled: Wain Census Division

Personnel Accompanying: Nanong Ahi Patrol Officer

Salania Bolo Clerk D.A.S.F.

Manguzure Constable No. 2280

Duration of Patrol: 17/2/68 to 28/2/68

29/2/68 to 2/3/68 conducted by Mr.

Nanong Ahi.

Objects of Patrol: To conduct Boana Mobile Polling Booth.

DIARY

5

- 17/2/68 At 8 a.m. the polling booth was open at Boana in the Nawae Council Chambers. Voters began to arrive at 10 a.m. and continued to arrive in villages until 6 p.m. Over 300 people voted from eight villages.
- 19/2/68 The polling booth was opened at 8 a.m. and was kept busy until 5 p.m.. The booth was closed at 6 p.m.. All the villages that had not voted on Saturday came to vote.
- 20/2/68 The polling booth remained open until 6 p.m. but only a few people voted.
- 21/2/68 Only a few voted.
- 22/2/68 Several voted.
- 23/2/68 The polling team moved to Monakaset arriving there about 2 p.m. after stopping for short periods at Karau and Gumbun villages. Overnight at Monakaset Village.
- 24/2/68 Polling commenced at 8 p.m. and continued through until 5 p.m. All but two villages voted on this day. Overnight at Monakaset.
- 25/2/68 Sunday Observed.
- 26/2/68 The remaining two villages voted and those of the other vil-
lages who did not vote Saturday. Overnight at Monakaset.
- 27/2/68 The booth remained opened all day but no votes were received.
- 28/2/68 The olling team moved back to Boana and then onto Gain Village. I was forced to remain at Boana because of a Knee injury received returning to Boana .

INTRODUCTION:

The area had been broken up so that the villages would vote at three polling places. The Wain Census Division which this team covered can be broken into three watersheds. A polling place was placed in each of these watersheds being at Boana Station, Monakaset village, and at Gain Village. It is the fourth time the area has taken part in an election with similar mechanics of voting. The area forms part of the Nawae Local Government area which will be holding its third election in September of this year.

The Wain Census Division lies in the upper reaches of the Busu River watershed. The area is rugged with the mountains rising to 13,000'. Most of the area is covered with rain forests with Kunai grass on the slopes of the spurs around Boana Station. The walking tracks are quite well graded and make walking reasonable.

Observations and Comments:

As mentioned above the patrol had to move to two booths off the station both of which are approximately five hours walk from the station. Due to a knee injury I was unable to proceed to Gain Village. The patrol was handed over to the Assistant Presiding Officer. My comments are therefore based on my observations at the Boana polling booth and the polling booth at Monakaset Village.

ATTENDANCE:

Attendance by the physically fit resident in the area was quite good. As the spelling of names in the common roll was not accurate and the names entered were quite often not known to the people in common usage, the roll was read out. This gave me an idea of the percentage who wished to vote. The people who did not vote at the above polling booths were those too sick or too old and also those absent from the area. As the people came to vote they were informed that it was not compulsory to vote.

KNOWLEDGE OF CANDIDATES.

The candidates were well known in the area. Three of the four candidates were from the Wain Census Division. Posters were displayed inside and outside the polling booths. Both the Regional candidates had made visits to the station so the people were familiar with them. How to vote posters and badges were seen around the area. Singim Pasom also issued how to vote pamphlets.

I found that the voters preferred to rattle off the names of the candidates instead of making any reference to the posters containing the photos of the candidates. Pointing out the individual candidates only lead to confusion. The overall tendency was not to vote en block. Even when families voted there was no block vote.

The pattern of voting showed that they had taken into account the qualities of the individual candidates. It had been made known to me that the people wanted someone who was likely to achieve something for the area, namely a road. From what the people have said they can see the benefits of good leadership and are now attempting to put the right people in the right places.

Some of the elderly showed that they did not know the difference between regional and open candidates. They attempted to list the candidates from one to six

Mr. Singin Pasom and a scrutineer appointed by Mr. Tamae Dambin accompanied the patrol. All relevant material in the ordinance was made known to them. They did not attempt to ignore them. There was no canvassing done within the vicinity of the polling booth. I saw no canvassing done during the whole period.

POLLING PLACES.

In my opinion the position and the number of polling places was ^{not} convenient for the people and thus prevented a lot of elderly people registering their votes. The area is compact and the patrol had plenty of time.

On four days the team worked solidly receiving votes while on five polling days several or no people voted. Two days were spent walking.

There were no complaints made by the people on the positioning of the booths.

MECHANICS OF VOTING.

This appears to be understood. The majority were illiterate and used the wispeing ballot. Those who marked their papers showed signs of understanding the principles.

The only people who seemed confused were the elderly people but given time they were able to indicate their preferences. The photographs of the candidates were definitely of great assistance.

SECTION 130(1) VOTES.

There were thirty three votes lodged under this section. The voters were definitely left off the roll. All names were accounted for on the roll and where women were concerned their original village was checked. The only people refused votes were those whose age was under 21. This was established by checking the village books and also the number of years they had been paying tax.

RECEPTION OF THE PATROL.

The people were quite friendly and helpful. The roads were cut for the occasion and carriers were readily available.

The patrol was supplied with plenty of food and payment was not demanded.

The men were always ready to sit down and have a chat. On two nights most of the village gathered and we sat down and discussed each others problems. The discussions centred almost entirely around the Lae - Boana Road.

They also informed me that they had changed their attitude towards helping the Administration. Since I have been at Boana i.e., the co-operation has been quite good

Housing.

Most of the houses I saw were in the vicinity of ten years of age. They were in a poor state of repair and they were told they would have to be in good condition or rebuilt by the time the patrol came around again. The villages were quite clean with adequate pit latrines.

CONCLUSION:

The future electoral patrols in this area should have more polling booths giving the people better opportunity to make their votes. Although distances are short to or between villages the mountains are steep. The patrol moved through villages where booths could have been established and not effected the length of the patrol and not effected the duration of the patrol.

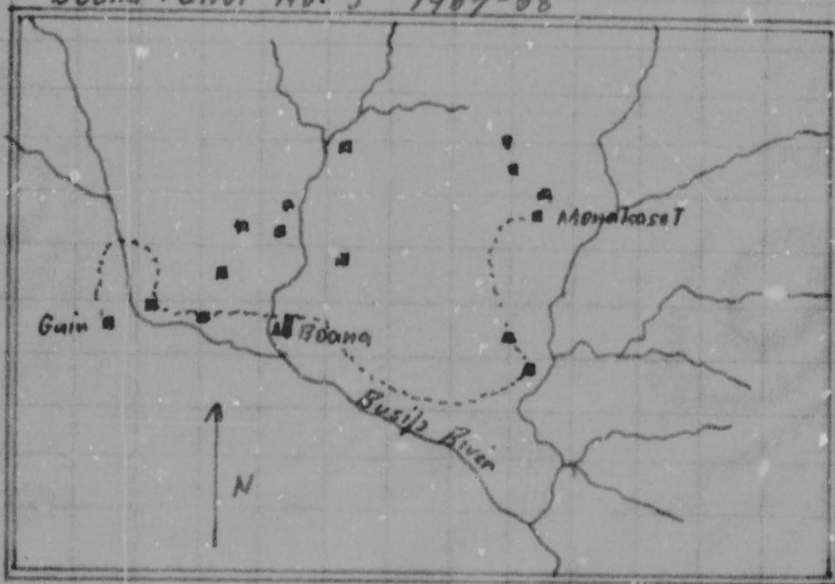
The people in my opinion showed that they are beginning to understand the meaning of elections. Within two months the political education lectures will be commenced. With the House of Assembly Elections fresh in their minds they should be able to retain more of the subject matter in lectures and thus begin to understand the finer points of elections and politics.

A. E. H. H. H.
P.O.

atio

ATION	
Out	
M	F

Boana Patrol No. 3 1967-68



■ Villages
 ▲ Station
 ■ Airstrip
 Scale :- 4 miles = 1 inch

Forward :- Markham
 Milinch :- Boana
 Conducted by R.E. Hatherly P.O.
 R.Hall
 8/3/68.