

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: East New Britain

STATION: Rabaul

VOLUME No: 6

ACCESSION No: 496.

1960 - 1961

Filmed by/for the National Archives of Papua New Guinea,
PORT MORESBY - 1989.

Sole Custodian: National Archives of Papua New Guinea.

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

Digitized version made available by



Copyright: Government of Papua New Guinea. This digital version made under a license granted by the National Archives and Public Records Services of Papua New Guinea.

Use: This digital copy of the work is intended to support research, teaching, and private study.

Constraints: This work is protected by the U.S. Copyright Law (Title 17, U.S.C.) and the laws of Papua New Guinea. Use of this work beyond that allowed by "fair use" requires written permission of the National Archives of Papua New Guinea. Responsibility for obtaining permissions and any use and distribution of this work rests exclusively with the user and not the UC San Diego Library.

Note on digitized version: A microfiche copy of these reports is held at the University of California, San Diego (Mandeville Special Collections Library, MSS 0215). The digitized version presented here reflects the quality and contents of the microfiche. Problems which have been identified include misfiled reports, out-of-order pages, illegible text; these problems have been rectified whenever possible. The original reports are in the National Archives of Papua New Guinea (Accession no. 496).

PATROL REPORT OF: Rabaul, Vunadidir - Kokopo
 ACCESSION No. 496
 VOL. No. 6 - 1960-1961 NUMBER OF REPORTS: 4

REPORT NO:	FOLIO	OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL	AREA PATROLLED	MAPS/ PHOTOS	PERIOD OF PATROL
[1] 6-60/61	1-10	Jones F.S. A-50	Inland Baining's c/s		15-24/5/61
[]		- VUNADIDIR -			
[2] 1-60/61	11-32	Swinton A.R. PO	Vunadidir Council & more council areas	18 photos	30/5/60 - 17/7/60
[]		- KOKOPO -			
[3] 2-60/61	33-50	Wakhu P PO	Wide Bay Census Division	-	5/10 - 22/10/60
[4] 8-60/61	51-75	Hope S. A.C. CPO	Wide Bay Census Division	-	19/5 - 2/6/61
[]					
[]					
[]					
[]					
[]					
[]					
[]					
[]					
[]					
[]					
[]					
[]					
[]					

75 pages

PATROL REPORTS NEW BRITAIN DISTRICT 1960/61

EAST NEW BRITAIN DIVISION

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Patrol Conducted by</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
RABAU 5-60/61	F.D.Jones	INLAND BAININGS Census Sub Division
VUNADADIR 1-60/61	A.R.Swinton	VUNADIDIR Council & Non-Council Areas
KOKOPO 2-60/61	P.Walsh	WIDE BAY Census Division
" 8-60/61	D.A.C.Hope	WIDE BAY Census Division

D.N.A.

67.10.10



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of... NEW BRITAIN Report No. 6 of 1960/61 RABAU

Patrol Conducted by... F. D. JONES, A.D.O.

Area Patrolled... INLAND BAININGS CENSUS SUB DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans... M. B. ALLWOOD, P.O.

Natives... 9 R.P. & N.G.C.

Duration—From... 15/5/1961 to... 24/5/1961

Number of Days... Ten Days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?... NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services... 11/1961

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

Map Reference.....

Objects of Patrol... Investigate alleged killing of ten (10) natives.

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 £.....

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

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

Ref: 67-10-10

Department of Native Affairs,
Headquarters.
KONEDOBU.

20th July 1961 .

The District Officer,
New Britain District,
RABAU.

PATROL NO. 6-60/61

I acknowledge with thanks, receipt of:-

- * ~~Memorandum of Understanding~~
- * Patrol Report No. 6-60/61 INLAND BAININGS
F.D. JONES, A.D.C.

covering patrol by.....

(J.K. McCarthy)
Director.

* Delete as necessary.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Sub District Office,
RABAU.

26th May, 1961.

In Reply
Please Quote
No. 67-2-3-



The District Officer,
East New Britain,
RABAU.

Report on a Patrol to the Inland Bainings,
Genus Division of Rabaul Sub District.
RABAU PATROL REPORT No. 6 of 1960-61

Officer Conducting:	F. D. JONES, A.D.O.
Duration of Patrol:	15th May, 1961 to 24th May, 1961.
Number of Days:	10 Days.
Personnel Accompanying:	European: M.B. ALLWOOD, P.O. Native: 9 R.P. & N.G.C.
Objects of Patrol:	(1) Routine Administration (2) Investigate alleged killing of ten natives.

INTRODUCTION. The routine Patrol for the Inland Baining Census Sub Division was scheduled for the close of the wet season which normally would have been April-May. However, the over long wet caused a delay in the commencement of this patrol. It has now been carried out in conjunction with other officers during the investigation of an alleged killing of ten deserting labourers in the Galavit area of the Inland Bainings Census Sub Division.

The area covered by this patrol involved eight villages while the remaining three will be covered by a report from the Acting District Officer Mr. E. J. Emanuel who entered the Bainings via a different route from that covered by the writer and Mr. Patrol Officer Allwood.

The general Administration picture in the area appears to have deteriorated to the extent the roads are not being maintained and the people are no longer living consistently in the villages.

In one instance only can it be said that an excellent job is being done by the people and the officials and this is in the village of MALASAIT. This village is excellent, clean and tidy and with tremendous gardens both in production and being constructed. The people are cheerful, helpful and co-operative, and are outstanding when compared with the other residents of the Inland Bainings.

It is realised that the policy of the Administration is not to force the concentration of the population into centred villages, but in the interests of the people of the Bainings I consider that the officials, the Missions and the Medical personnel have little chance of improving the bodily and spiritual health of the people



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply
Please Quote

No. 67-2-3

The District Officer E.N.B.

-2-

26th May, 1961.

if they are not able to be contacted regularly because they are living in the bush.

I consider that a vehicular road could be easily constructed from the Vudal River to Malasait which is at present approximately seven hours walk from the coast. A further stretch from MALASAIT to RAUNSIMNA with a low level causaway over the Toriu River is also quite feasible as the Toriu River is subject to flash floods at this crossing and as it is near the head and floods do not last any length of time.

The massacre of ten deserting labourers from ODNUP Plantation, by the men of GALAVIT Village forced the patrol to be undertaken a week before it was ready to depart and necessitated the Patrol being accompanied by a Coroner. Mr. Patrol Officer Allwood would normally have carried out this routine patrol but under the circumstances the writer, Assistant District Officer F. D. Jones, accompanied the patrol in his position of Coroner. The Inquest was conducted at RAUNSIMNA and the results of the Inquest into the deaths of ten natives have been forwarded to the Crown Law Department. Mr. Allwood is the owner of a portable typewriter and his dexterity as a touch typist saved many hours of handwriting. The Inquest was closed with the committal of 11 GALAVIT men for trial on a charge of wilful murder, and the eleven arrested men accompanied the patrol back to Rabaul.

No difficulty was encountered in contacting witnesses and suspects and the matter was successfully completed with the Patrol's return to Rabaul on Wednesday, 24th May after ten days.

DIARY.

- Monday, 15th May, 1961: Patrol consisting of A.D.O., F.D. Jones, P.O., M.B. Allwood and nine members of R.P. & N.G.C. under Sgt. Maj. Francis left Rabaul by truck for the Vudal River. Carriers waiting, and Patrol moved off through the Vudal Swamp at 11 a.m. Reached RANOLIT Village approximately 2 p.m. Rain. Slept.
- Tuesday, 16th May, 1961: Departed RANOLIT, very greasy road and arrived MAINEM Village. Rain.
- Wednesday, 17th May, 1961: Departed MAINEM via a little used road for IVITKI and RAUNSIMNA. This was to bypass GALAVIT Village until the patrol was more prepared to handle trouble if such should arise. A very hard day! Reached RAUNSIMNA unannounced. Sent word to GALAVIT for officials and witnesses to the killings. Rain. No sign of A/D.O. Emanuel.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply
Please Quote

No. 67-2-3

The District Officer, E.N.B. -3-

26th May, 1961.

- Thursday, 18th May, 1961: At RAUNSIMNA. GALAVIT Officials arrived with several witnesses. Police Party sent to contact others. Returned with two more witnesses. Some witnesses interviewed. Apparently 10 bodies buried in the bush beyond GALAVIT. Coronial inquiry opened. Warrant to take up Body Interred issued. Radio sent off to D.O. Rabaul via New Massawa to advise re 10 bodies.
- Friday, 19th May, 1961: At RAUNSIMNA. Word received that Mr. Emanuel is in the GALAVIT area. Self visited GALAVIT with police and disinfectant, to view bodies. Contacted Mr. Emanuel who accompanied. Ten bodies located; two in one spot, two more in separate places and six in a mass shallow grave. All 10 bodies disinterred viewed and reburied under Warrant to Rebury. Identification impossible due decomposition but wounds of axes and or knives evident on all deceased. Mainly head and neck wounds. Returned to RAUNSIMNA after leaving Mr. Emanuel at GALAVIT. Rain.
- Saturday, 20th May, 1961: At RAUNSIMNA. Inquest reopened. Depositions of witnesses taken and accepted. Findings given and 11 persons arrested and charged with wilful murder. Duly warned but all proudly admit the killing. Rain.
- Sunday, 21st May, 1961. At RAUNSIMNA preparing to move to Rabaul. Visit from Mr. E.J. Emanuel, who is remaining at GALAVIT.
- Monday, 22nd May, 1961: Departed RAUNSIMNA via LAMERAIN, GALAVIT and New ALAUSEM. Crossed TORIU River and arrived MALASAIT. Villages inspected en route. Rain. Sent message by runner to Keravat requesting transport.
- Tuesday, 23rd May, 1961: Departed MALASAIT via MAINEM and reached RANCLIT. Word received that transport has been arranged to arrive Vudal River at 10 a.m. tomorrow.
- Wednesday, 24th May, 1961: Departed RANCLIT and arrived VUDAL River approximately 10 a.m. Transport slightly delayed. Arrived Rabaul with prisoners at approximately 1.30 p.m. Patrol completed.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply
Please Quote

No.

67-2-3

The District Officer, E.N.B. -4-

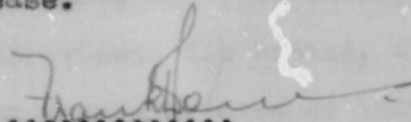
26th May, 1961.

FOOTNOTE: Acting District Officer Emanuel who entered the area from PONDO visited the village of WILIMBEMKI and as he informed me he would be returning to Rabaul via New Massawa Plantation; he will visit YALUM and KOMGI thus completing the Patrol/the Inland Bainings Area with the exception of the RHUNEAGI Hamlet which will be visited next patrol. of

Attached is a copy of the Summary and Reasons for findings from the Coronial Inquiry for your information.

PATROL SIDELIGHT: A very elderly SALAMAUA native was contacted at LAMERAIN Village. He has been in New Britain for many years and on the Japanese invasion he accompanied some LAMERAIN people home to the BAININGS. He married and has existed ever since. His wife is dead and the old chap considers that his life as a foreigner may be forfeit now that the people next door have killed 10 foreign natives. He requested that he accompany the patrol to Rabaul and return to his own area of Salamaua. He has been handed over to the Welfare Officer who is forwarding him and his young son to Salamaua.

For your information, please.


.....
(F. D. Jones)

Assistant District Officer.

A SUMMARY AND REASONS FOR FINDINGS.

The massacre of ten people, the bodies of whom were viewed, took place according to evidence on Monday morning the 8th May 1961 but the bodies were not viewed until Friday the 19th May, 1961 by which time it was not possible, because of decomposition, to identify the various bodies. However from the evidence of AMBRIAN who was himself almost a victim, the ten bodies viewed were those of his work mates AGAT, KWARU, UBAGETI MASILIM, BUN, DAGUN, MEG, YASIM, ARUMBAL, YALIM and SANIO.

The fact that eleven labourers were posted as deserters on Monday the 8th May, 1961 by the Manager of ODNUP Plantation as having deserted on Saturday the sixth May, 1961 and AMBRIAN was one of those deserters is, together with the evidence of AMBRIAN, accepted as sufficient proof that the ten bodies were indeed those of AGAT, KWARU, UBAGETI MASILIM, BUN, DAGUN, MEG, YASIM, ARUMBAL, YALIM, and SANIO.

When I as Coroner viewed the bodies, wounds of a type which could have been caused by axes or knives, were evident on the skulls of the deceased. This together with the other evidence taken at the enquiry allowed me to reach the conclusion that these people had indeed died from axe wounds.

In deciding that the depositions, taken at the inquest into the deaths of AGAT, KWARU, UBAGETI MASILIM, BUN, DAGUN, MEG, YASIM, ARUMBAL, YALIM and SANIO, disclose sufficient evidence to uphold a prima facie charge of wilful murder laid against ILAVIT, SLOMGA, MISTIGAIT, SIMBAKA, KARUM, KWASAKA, WARIKA, WARARANG, MISTIGAIT No. 2, KARATUM and DUMBARIK, I have taken the following points into consideration:

- (1) Did these people intend to kill the deceased?
- (2) Did the people of GALAVIT make any attempt to warn the deceased of what might happen to them?
- (3) Did the deceased attempt to steal from the villagers or interfere with their women in any way?

- (4) Was the killings of the deceased discussed among the people of GALAVIT before the actual killing took place?
- (5) Can any excuse be found for the wholesale massacre by axe and knife of ten people?
- (6) Can the Bainings people be regarded as people from an uncontrolled area?

To consider the points in order as above:

(1) From the evidence produced at the inquest it is apparent that ILAVIT, SLOMGA, MISTIGAIT, SIMBAKA, KARUM, KWASAKA, WARIKA, WARARANG, MISTIGAIT No. 2, KARATUM and DUMBARIK did indeed intend to kill the visitors and plans were laid accordingly.

(2) No attempt was made by any person from GALAVIT to warn the visitors of their impending doom.

(3) From the evidence tendered no attempt was made by the visitors to interfere with the GALAVIT womenfolk in any way and only on the evidence of KARATUM and ILAVIT is an mention made of the theft of food. Even if the thefts as stated by MARATUM and ILAVIT occurred three taro and a small amount of pit pit can hardly be accepted as sufficient reason for the taking of ten lives.

(4) From the depositions taken at the inquest the plan for killing the deceased was the cause of a meeting called by a faction of the men of GALAVIT Village on the Sunday night prior to the massacre.

(5) From evidence taken at the inquest no reasonable excuse, indeed no excuse, can be found for the wholesale massacre by axe and knife of ten people.

(5) I cannot help but give consideration to the fact that the people of the Bainings area have been under contact and partial control from both Missionary bodies and Administration personnel for a period of at least fifty years. As such they cannot be considered to be uncontrolled people.

I, as Her Majesty's Coroner, can find no mitigating circumstances whatsoever for the killings of these ten people who were killed cheerfully by eleven people of the same race. The reason for this massacre of ten people is still partly obscure, however I consider that the reason, whatever it be, does not excuse the crime of killing which has taken place in this instance.

Here we have eleven people employed on a plantation who feel that they have a legitimate complaint against their employer and who wish to put their complaint before the Administration, travelling overland by the shortest route to the nearest Administration headquarters. On reaching the village of GALAVIT they are fed and housed for which they paid in cash and kind and on continuing their journey they are brutally murdered by their hosts for no other apparent reason than small material gain. Perhaps there was thought of prestige as well as material gain but this again is no excuse. Whatever the reason for the killing it is evident from the depositions of the witnesses who have been examined at this inquest that a number of people were killed and ^a number of people involved in the killings of those people who died. I would say that, to the best of my knowledge this is one of the most dastardly killings to occur in the Territory of Papua and New Guinea in the last forty to fifty years. There is nothing to be said other than that it was treacherous attack carried through to its finale most capably. I cannot feel that any mercy should be shown to the perpetrators of this most atrocious massacre other than perhaps in the case of KARATUM. He plainly did not have enough courage at the last moment to kill, but he assisted in the hiding and burying of the bodies and he helped carry the spoils home. I can find from the evidence before me no reason why a charge of wilful murder should not be laid against the men involved because according to depositions accepted at this inquest there has never been such a cold blooded carefree

taking of human life for the sake of a few earthly gains which could have been obtained from any small trade store at a reasonable price. The Bainings people pretend to be not well versed in the ways of the world but there have been various incidents involving violence throughout the area since the turn of the century. If cold blooded treachery and murder such as has been employed in this instance is allowed to flower there can be little future for any person in the Bainings area or elsewhere in the Territory of New Guinea. To light-heartedly plan to kill eleven men for what they carried is bad but to carry the plan through to such a finish is definitely a premeditated heinous crime. I, as Coroner, conducting an inquiry into the deaths of the people whose bodies I have exhumed and re buried can do no more than commit the people named hereunder on a charge of wilful and unlawful murder to appear before the Supreme Court of the Territory of Papua and New Guinea on a date to be set. Under the circumstances I consider that the maximum penalty should be imposed on these people in the hope that such penalty may act as a deterrent in the future should the baining people again contemplate such an act. They may be call to a certain amount of leniency in the case of KARATUM but his youth and cowardlyness was the only apparent reason why he did not actually strike and kill one of the victims. ILAVIT, SLOMGA, MISTIGAIT, SIMBAKA, KARUM, KWASAKA, WARIKA, WARARANG, MISTIGAIT No. 2, KARATUM, and DUMBARIK all committed for trial on a charge of wilful and unlawful murder under Section 305 (1) of the CRIMINAL CODE.

(F. D. Jones)

Coroner.