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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN HIGHLANDS Report No. 3 of 1963/64 JIMI PAGE

Patrol Conducted by MORRIS D BROWN

Area Patrolled PAGES OF KUNOGA and MIDDLE JIMI CENSUS DIVISIONS

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Native I N.M.O. and 3 members of R.P.A.N.G.C.

Duration—From 5 / 5 / 1964 to 22 / 5 / 1964

Number of Days 17 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 8 / 1963

Medical 10 / 1963

Map Reference July 1962 KUNOGA MIDDLE JIMI map by Mr Edwards with alterations and additions

Object of Patrol To investigate for road location to LOWER JIMI, collect cane samples for D.A.S.P. general administration, and familiarisation with the area.

Director of 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

26

67-14-33

10th September, 1964.

District Officer,
Western Highlands District,
SEKUNT HAGEN.

PATROL REPORT NO. 5-63/64 - JIMI RIVER

Receipt of the above-mentioned report and covering comment is acknowledged with thanks.

Let me know the outcome of your enquiries relating to the man taken to JEL Council for trial and remaining there for one month without his case being heard.

What action is being taken to acquire land being offered for sale to the Administration?

Have Agricultural Officers been consulted concerning the coffee leaf infection recorded in the diary on 24th May.

If people are to receive additional attention it will mean that your officers will have to spend more time amongst them. Additional staff is at a premium.

The additions made to the map are of value.


Let the people arbitrate in their disputes so far as practicable.

The matter of road building is under consideration at higher levels.

It is very heartening to see the effectiveness of the Aid Post Orderly's efforts.

Continue with the production of good quality axes.

An interesting report which reveals an unhappy situation wherein we are unable to give the people the Administration they so desire. Make sure your officers do not make any rash promises in relation to development to the area at this stage.


J. K. McCarthy,
DIRECTOR.

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UHD491



Department of Native Affairs,
Western Highlands District,
MOUNT HAGEN.

20th August, 1964.

Assistant District Officer,
Sub-District Office,
MOUNT HAGEN.

PATROL REPORT - JINI RIVER
NO. 5 1963 - 1964

Receipt of Mr. Brown's report is acknowledged. Extracts will be passed to Departmental representatives. Sections of the Report dealing with "Education", "Health" and "Agriculture" are best presented as Appendix to the main report. Copies can then be detached and forwarded to the respective Departments for comment.

Mr. Brown has given a good description of the large area that he traversed during the patrol. You are aware of the present collective action by representatives of Farmer Settler organisation divisions and large native groups in the routing of a road to Haining through the lower Jini. This is, of course, the solution to the economic problems mentioned by Mr. Brown; with a trunk road passing through Sati to the Kairak Fault then the vacant areas around Sati become valuable areas for development and resettlement. One can anticipate the exploitation of the pine stands and the road surveyed by Mr. Brown being part of that development. This in turn leads to earlier development of the unoccupied land between Tabuga and Tabuki. This is an area that the Officer-in-Charge, Jini should keep in mind when considering his real problem of population density and lack of economic opportunity in the Upper Jini.

Assistant District Officer, Mij, has been instructed to provide a suitable replacement for 4040 Constable 1/c Karai.

S.H. Foley
(S.H. FOLEY)
District Officer

C.C.
Department of Native Affairs,
Konedobu.

67-2-3

Sub-District Office,
MOUNT HAGEN.

22nd July, 1964

The District Officer,
MOUNT HAGEN.

TABIBUGA PATROL REPORT No. 5 63/64 - M. BROWN, P.O.

Enclosed please find the abovenumbered report. I will hold the submission of this until I receive copies of the patrol map from Port Moresby.

I appreciate Mr. Brown's concern at the slowness of economic progress amongst the Jimi River peoples. It is apparent that the people themselves desire to hasten such progress and the main way in which they feel that they can accomplish this is by the building of an east-west road traversing the valley and joining at the western end with the extension of the Baiyer/Ugini Road, which road will tap the large lower Jimi area, at present under consideration for economic development, and may well form the basis of the proposed Hagen-Madang Road. Apart from possible pastoral and agricultural pastures on the Lower Jimi flats and the considerable pine stands located between Tabibuga and the Ganz, I do not know at this time what crops would be suitable in the more rugged eastern end of the valley. However, it has been mentioned that tobacco could be one.

The Jimi people watch with growing envy the economic progress attained by the Manj and Dei Councils. Should they be discouraged from work on the construction of the Jimi Valley Road, then I feel that they will relapse once more into apathy and, moreover, will blame the Administration for its lack of interest in their welfare.

They have no great interest in the gathering of coffee in the Wangi Valley, as a satisfactory means of employment, and this attitude has been strengthened by the, to them, parsimonious attitude of one or two of the planters in that area. Recently they have refused such employment when approached by employers' representatives and even when told by the Patrol Officer that such employment would be beneficial to their interests.

The desire to build this road is apparently shared by all sections of the community and a great deal of persuasion would be necessary to deter them from the enterprise.

Regarding law and justice, the situation as described by Mr. Brown, wherein the village officials are in the habit of setting themselves up as judge and jury, is common to the peoples of this area and they will continue no doubt to function in this respect, even in areas where the courts are readily accessible to them. The people are aware that they can present themselves to the constituted courts should they so desire.

Regarding the quoted case of a man being taken to Dei Council for trial and remaining there for one month without the


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case being heard - I know nothing of this case, nor do any of the officers at Mount Hagen. The matter will be queried. However, I doubt if it is exactly as stated.

The people offered more than 5,500 acres to Mr. Ross Allen when he visited this area, and no doubt further large areas would become available for alienation. I believe that the acquisition of land in the Lower Jimi is in hand.

Mr. Brown has conducted a careful and comprehensive patrol and I feel he will do well in this area.


(W.P.V. Robb)
Assistant District Officer

Enc.

PATROL REPORT NO 5 of 1963/64.

PARTS OF THE MIDDLE JIMI AND KUNOGA CENSUS DIVISIONS

PATROL DIARY

Tuesday 5th May, 1964:

Departed station 0845 and proceeded to end of vehicular road which is now 200 yards past the TSINGCROPA MISSION. Proposed road location from TSINGCROPA to KWIBUN checked. Made camp in rest house at KWIBUN and recruited a carrier line to accompany patrol to Lower Jimi. People willing and keen to get this employment. Ample supplies of food purchased. Discussions with people re possible road location from KWIBUN to the TSAU RIVER. Patrol gear sorted into suitable loads.

Wednesday 6th May, 1964:

Departed KWIBUN at 0700 hours and proceeded down graded track which leads over the TSAU RIVER to WUM. After 15 minutes the patrol left this track and proceeded along ridge which slopes down to the confluence of the JIMI and TSAU RIVERS. Investigation made for a suitable bridge location. River TSAU at this stage is approximately 40 yards wide and not suitable for bridging. Suitable material available here for road surfacing. Patrol crossed the TSAU and cut a track close to the south bank of the JIMI RIVER, until a hunting track was located which was followed for the rest of the day. Patrol crossed the TSUI, DANG and YIN Creeks. The TSUI and DANG are small creeks and present no difficulties. The YIN, is approximately 39 feet across at flood time but would present little difficulty in bridging. Terrain between the TSAU and YIN Creeks is flat to undulating. Vegetation mainly low and rainforest with few economic timbers. Suitable timber available for bridging. Patrol made camp in bush at the junction of the YIN Creek and JIMI River. Food for carriers brought by people who census at WUM. These people told to gather cane samples and advised that patrol wished to purchase artifacts for the MOUNT HAGEN museum on its return via WUM.

Thursday 7th May, 1964:

Departed camp at the confluence of the IIS Creek and JIMI RIVER at 0645 and cut track along the south bank of the JIMI RIVER through dense bush and country broken by numerous small streams. During the course of the day's walk, the KOPINUNGA, KOPIIGA, KOKIEMPH, LABENK, ONGOBUNT and GANZIA Creeks were crossed before reaching the GANZ RIVER. The width of the GANZ RIVER at this point would make it expensive and difficult to bridge. Each of the other creeks mentioned are entrenched between deep steep sided ridges. This section quite useless as a possible location for a road from TABIEUGA. Investigation to be made at higher altitude on return journey. Patrol arrived TIMBUNKI at 1750 hours. Made camp in tent as Rest House in poor state of repair as were the police quarters.

Friday 8th May, 1964:

Patrol remained at TIMBUNKI. All patrol collected cane samples while self and village officials made an inspection of the ridge running from SIMPUM to TIMBUNKI. It appears that if road took a higher route after crossing the TSAU, it could then be brought down this ridge to the lower flatter ground at TIMBUNKI. Returned via graded track to TIMBUNKI and arranged for cane samples to be carried to TABIEUGA. Instructions given to people to repair their rest house. Medical inspection was carried out by A.P.O.

Saturday 9th May, 1964:

Inspected coconuts and coffee at TIMBUNKI. Both appear to be sadly neglected and the coffee leaves would indicate some infection. Village pigs have been allowed to roam at will in the coffee with resultant damage to trees. Departed TIMBUNKI at 0900 and proceeded along hunting track located close to the JIMI RIVER to the point where a cane bridge is maintained by the TSENDIAP people. Patrol arrived 1350 hours. Carriers and police made camp while self and village officials retraced our tracks and made deviations to find a better location on higher ground for road. Discussions with people as to the topography of higher ground to the south. 10 men recruited to cut track through to RUYI. Slept in tent as rest house is at TSENDIAP.

Sunday 10th May, 1964:

Departed camp at TSEBBIAP bridge and cut track through dense bush to place where recent helicopter survey had located a triangulation station No. 542. This hill was climbed and a perfect view of the flat bush and kumai covered country between this point and RUTI obtained. Bearing of 275 degrees obtained on RUTI and this bearing followed as near as possible through to the MOGULPHIN RIVER. Search for suitable bridging place made but nothing very good found. River is approximately 50 yards wide and only possible bridging place was found three quarters of a mile upstream from bearing of 275 degrees from triangulation station No. 542. This river runs in a steep sided deep gorge and difficulty will be encountered in cutting a road down to bridge level. However, it could be done.

From the MOGULPHIN, the patrol cut a track for 2½ hours to the ARUNT RIVER. This stream is not wide, but is also entrenched in a deep steep sided gully. While carriers made camp 120 feet up on the west side of the ARUNT RIVER police and interpreters made a search downstream for a suitable bridge location while self and village officials from TSEBBIAP were similarly engaged upstream from camp. A possible bridge site located some 500 yards downstream from camp site.

Camped in tent on west bank of ARUNT RIVER. Patrol visited in evening by some people who normally census at RUTI. All children with yaws cases. Treatment given by A.P.C. and people instructed to accompany patrol to RUTI for further treatment.

Monday 11th May, 1964:

Departed camp on west bank of ARUNT RIVER at 0630 and proceeded over flat kumai and bush covered ground to RUTI. Arrived 1240 hours. The following creeks were crossed as follows

0710 hours	MANGHE	Creek	
0800	"	PANDAK	Creek
0900	"	MANGHE	Creek
0930	"	CEARI	Creek

1000 hours YEWI Creek

1117 * MANGARAMPH Creek

With the exception of these numerous small creeks, this section is an exceptionally flat well drained area. Local information indicated that these creeks handle the rainfall and run off this flat ground to such an extent that it doesn't flood during the wet. The creeks provide no bridging problems as each is only 10 to 15 feet across. Made camp in HUTI Rest House and cleared surrounding grass. Four death adders killed within 20 feet of Rest House.

Numerous snakes attended to. Asian Flu had killed three people before the patrol arrived. Carriers also showing signs of getting the illness.

People opened conversation re government buying their grasslands.

Tuesday 2nd May, 1964:

Departed HUTI at 0645 leaving patrol A.P.O. behind to take care of the patients at HUTI. Patrol followed a poor track at the extremity of the Kunai flats and headed south until mountains reached. The patrol then ascended to 3,600 ft. A.S.L. and arrived at HUTI No. 2 at 1650 hours. Some carriers in poor shape due to influenza arrived 1800 hours. Small amount of food supplied to patrol by HUTI people. Health here much better than at HUTI on the low hot grasslands. Bearing on HUTI 30 degrees.

Wednesday 13th May, 1964:

Departed HUTI No. 2 at 0715 and followed bush track to 5,600 ft. A.S.L. and then descended to IKI. Arrived 1200 hours to be followed by carriers two hours later. Discussions with village officials. Numerous tales told by these people of misdeeds on part of BOGLINA people and officials. Several IKI people to accompany patrol to BOGLINA for C.N.A. matters.

Thursday 14th May, 1964:

Patrol remained at IKI. Self and carriers who were fit visited BAIYER RIVER LIVESTOCK STATION $\frac{3}{4}$ hours walk from

IKI. Arrangements made to send cane samples from IKI/RUPI area out to MOUNT HAGEN through D.A.S.F. BAIYER RIVER. Sick carriers received excellent treatment and care from A.P.O. at IKI. JIMI carriers impressed with development in BAIYER RIVER area.

Friday 15th May, 1964:

Departed camp at IKI at 0645 and arrived at OGINI rest house at 0910. Extra carriers recruited here and patrol departed at 0930 and proceeded along a hunting track in an easterly direction to near the headwaters of the BAIYER RIVER and then turned north east and descended down the JIMI RIVER side of the SEPIK WANGI DIVINE. Patrol cut track all the way as hunting track so overgrown that carriers could only proceed with difficulty. However this track is fairly good walking atop a ridge at 5,500 ft. A.S.L. At 1830 hours the patrol descended to and made camp at the headwaters of MOGA CREEK. This creek must be reached if a camp with water is desired as there is no water on the track for 9 hours walk. Although the patrol was on the move at a fast pace with extra carriers for 11½ hours, this walk would be well within the capabilities of a patrol leaving from OGINI.

Saturday 16th May, 1964:

Departed camp at MOGA CREEK at 0700 hours and descended from 4,700 ft. A.S.L. to 2,500 ft., re-crossed MOGA CREEK and then proceeded over narrow north south valley to RODGLMA. Arrived 0930 hours. It was noticed that the people that census at RODGLMA actually live some three and a half hours walk to the west of the rest house and approximately 2,500 ft. higher up. A well defined valley of easy slope runs from RODGLMA to the JIMI RIVER. Discussions with village people. C.N.A. matters involving RODGLMA and IKI people. Request made to re-locate rest house nearer the centre of population. Court involving village officials. Numerous minor complaints. Request for Aid Post. Refused in view of treatment of previous A.P.O. resident here. Camped in rest house.

Sunday 17th May, 1964:

Further court cases heard at RODGLMA in the morning. Departed RODGLMA 1200 hours and proceeded over well

graded track to PALG. Arrived 1340 hours. Exceptionally warm reception from these people who have been given an Aid Post and appreciate it greatly. Village officials told not to conduct court cases other than the most minor disputes. Construction of Aid Post very poor due to lack of building skill rather than lack of attention. Make camp in excellent rest house. Pitsaws to be forwarded from TABIBUGA to facilitate construction of a better Aid Post.

Monday 18th May, 1964:

Departed PALG at 0730 and proceeded over well graded track to KURUNGA. Arrived 0940 hours. Two minor courts heard and numerous minor complaints. Here again it was revealed that Luluaic are in the habit of hearing courts far beyond their jurisdiction as village mediators in minor matters. Explicit instructions given to all officials re bringing courts to TABIBUGA.

Tuesday 19th May, 1964:

Departed KURUNGA 0710 hours and proceeded over well graded track to MENJIM. Several detours made to observe topography of the lower ground to the north of the present graded track. Arrived MENJIM at 1200 hours. Inspected Aid Post then proceeded down graded track to SIMPIMP to investigate the possibility of bringing road down this way. Location very good and previous investigation from TIMPUNKI revealed that the track could be taken all the way to TIMPUNKI down this ridge. Returned to MENJIM and arrived at 1720 hours. C.N.A. cases heard in evening. One defendant had been sent to await court at DEI L.G.C. house. After waiting a month, he returned. Village Officials will do this sort of thing rather than bring cases into TABIBUGA. Once again all village officials instructed as to their duties with regards to court cases. Camped in rest house.

Wednesday 20th May, 1964:

Departed MENJIM at 0740 hours and proceeded to TSENGA over well graded track. Detours made to observe topography of lower ground to the north of the graded track. Arrived TSENGA 1230 hours. Place in first class condition. People had arranged

an axe making demonstration en route to illustrate the fact that they can't make 300 axes in a few weeks as demanded of them before the MOUNT HAGEN show. Artifacts collected for Mount Hagen museum. Complaints about people who have allegedly migrated out and are paying tax to the DEI COUNCIL still live in the area but will not assist in road building and other responsibilities that are shared by the people as a whole. Two C.N.I. cases and minor complaints heard.

Thursday 21st May, 1964:

Departed TSENGA at 0745 and descended to TSENGA/WUM Aid Post. Here A.P.O. has shown a lot of initiative by firstly building a fine house for himself and by purchasing three pitsears out of his own pocket so as to be able to build a more permanent establishment for the Aid Post. People are more than willing to cut planks for this project. A.P.O. is to be congratulated on his approach and the co-operation he is getting from the people. Nails will be supplied by P.O. TABIBUGA once the people have completed the sawing of the timber. Having inspected the Aid Post, the patrol descended to WUM. Arrived 1045. Two minor C.N.I. cases heard. Police with a number of people went to collect cane samples while self and village officials walked through bushland to the west of WUM to see if road location could be taken from here across to the GANZ RIVER thence down the ridge that runs from MPEJIM to TIMBUNKI.

At 1830 hours, news was received from TABIBUGA that OLNA people had attacked a party of natives from the BANG area and inflicted casualties. Preparations made for an early start for the final leg back to TABIBUGA the next morning.

Friday 22nd May, 1964:

Departed WUM at 0430 hours and descended to the TSAU RIVER by aid of torchlight. Arrived TSAU RIVER 0535 and crossed over rotten cane bridge that almost disintegrated under my weight. Carriers and police left to supervise the construction of a new bridge while self and interpreters pressed on to TABIBUGA. Arrived 1000 hours to find that the majority of the people involved in the attack at

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OHNA had been arrested by the quick action of Constable WIK.
Balance of patrol returned to TARIHUGA the following morning
having completed a new bridge over the TSAU RIVER.

END OF PATROL.

Walking times are carrier times and include numerous halts and
detours while investigations were made for road location.

DETAILS:

75

INTRODUCTION:

The main object of this patrol was to assess the possibility and work involved in constructing a road from the Patrol Post at TABIBUGA to the grasslands of the LOWER JIMI RIVER area. At present, there is a road under construction from the BAIYER RIVER area that has now reached IKI and the proposed road from TABIBUGA would link up with this road in the vicinity of RUTI rest house at the western extremity of the KUNOGA grasslands.

The secondary object of the patrol was familiarisation with this area - both as regards the topography and the people. However, on this occasion most time was given to the prime object of the patrol but where possible the patrol visited every rest house, stayed at least one night and cleared up all outstanding courts and complaints.

Other work carried out was the collecting of cane samples from the lowland areas for D.A.S.F. inspection and assessment of their qualities for furniture building. Artifacts were also sought for the MOUNT HAGEN museum.

NATIVE AFFAIRS:

All villages visited during the patrol were of the MEDIPA language group with the exception of TIMSUKKI where the people speak the KERAW language and have strong associations with the people on the northern side of the JIMI RIVER. At the time of the patrol, the majority of the TIMSUKKI people were away working on the Anglican Mission airstrip at KOINAMBI as they have been doing for some time. This fact was clearly illustrated by the condition of the roads and rest house. However this group has always been exceptionally co-operative and are doing a fine job on the strip. In view of the importance of the work in which they are engaged, it was not considered necessary to call the people back from their work for the short stay of the patrol. They have been regularly contacted in the last few months during field day visits to the strip site, and infrequent visits to the station. These people will all assemble for census when the next patrol visits their area in August.

It is impossible to make generalisation about the MEDLPA speaking people visited as a whole as this group is widely dispersed and the situation varies greatly from village to village.

In the course of the investigation for a road location the people at RUTI were visited. This group of 54 people live in the vast, flat, lowlying, grassland and bush area in the eastern extremity of the KUNOGA Census Division to the east of the GAI RIVER. This area has not been regularly patrolled as the population is sparse and the area they inhabit is remote from the villages that usually receive Administration attention.

During the past two years patrols have visited this group and attempted to purchase land. However, in spite of the vast area owned by these people, they have only been willing to sell some 5,500 acres. An area this size, though quite large, is only a minute fraction of the area that these people own. On the occasion of this patrol a point was made not to mention the acquisition of land as this matter has in the past been dealt with by MOUNT HAGEN Sub-District Office. However, the people were quick to broach the subject and indicated that they were now prepared to sell a much greater quantity of ground than previously. It would appear that due to recent deaths, and their general poor state of health, they have grown to consider the advent of a European settlement as their salvation from the sickness and disease that threatens their existence in this very unhealthy area. These people also have land rights at IKI and at RUTI No. 2 which are situated at least another 2,000 ft. A.S.L. and have a much healthier climate. The people at RUTI No. 2 and IKI have on several occasions asked the people at RUTI to leave the grasslands and move back to higher ground. In each case the people of RUTI have taken no action. This I feel sure can be largely attributed to the fact that they hope to be paid a large sum of money for their grasslands and are afraid of missing out on the payment if they shift away to another area. Also, their traditional attachment to their land continues to hold them even though it may mean their eventual extinction. If the land can be bought from these people as soon as possible, it will be doing them a favour. The general health of the

people was so bad at the time of the patrol that an A.F.O. was left behind to take care of them until such time as the serious cases had recovered. This I feel was much appreciated.

The groups which census at RODGNA, PAIG, and KURUNGA are such that they can be discussed as a group. Each village presents practically the same situation. Here the people do not recognise TABIRUSA as their administrative centre and prefer to deal with any matters that arise in their own way. In many respects this may be quite an admirable state of affairs but it has lead to many complicated situations that have reached the stage where they are almost impossible to unravel.

Since the recent L.G.C. survey that visited RODGNA the people there have aligned themselves more with the DEI Council area even to the extent of sending their various courts there. However, one case was reported where the defendant waited one month in a virtual state of imprisonment awaiting trial before he was returned to his village. The court was later heard by the patrol and it was proven that the defendant had broken his wife's arm in a fit of violence. Throughout these villages the patrol heard a multitude of disputes in which the village officials had attempted to arbitrate, payments had been made but in each case nobody was satisfied as by virtue of his lineage the village official could not be considered an impartial arbitrator. Therefore any decision he made was considered biased.

Another factor which must make these people more inclined to align themselves with the people to the south is the greater development and interest that has been shown in the areas to the south. The people of these villages can see greater Mission and Administration activity just over the range while they themselves have only received attention in the form of patrols and one Aid Post at PAIG.

In order to come into contact with the more developed areas some of the RODGNA people have moved to TIPISA and are now paying tax to the DEI Local Government Council. However, they spend quite a large portion of their time at RODGNA but disclaim any

responsibilities as RODEGNA citizens when it comes to road maintenance, Aid Post maintenance and any other form of manual work that the RODEGNA people may be called upon to do.

One of the Court cases at RODEGNA served to illustrate the frustrated feelings of the people and their resultant confused thinking. The Laluai collected a considerable amount of money from each of the people to (a) pay council tax when the council came and (b) to buy a school. Some time after the people refused to obey one of his orders with regards maintaining the graded tracks that link the villages. The Laluai became angry and threw the money back at them during a village meeting and a portion of it was lost. The people told the patrol that in view of the fact that the Administration and the Missions had done nothing for them they intended to pool their money and do something themselves. The pooling of money I'm told is a common practise in the Highlands, but I don't think it is always done with the same motives that the people had in this case. I consider their frustration at Mission and Administration inactivity to have been the motivation behind their action. The anomaly of development on the MOUNT HAGEN side of the range and that in the JIMI RIVER area being the cause of their discontent.

The groups that centre at MENJIM, TSENGA and WUM have far greater contact with the officers at TABIBUGA, a few of their children are educated at the Administration school there, and they have a small income from axe making. All of these factors contribute to make these villages a contrast to those situated further west. The people at MENJIM, TSENGA and WUM all showed a keen interest in the possibility of building a road to TABIBUGA and offered every assistance to the patrol. Efforts were made to encourage the people to continue with their axe making and above all to keep up the quality of their product. A number of these axes are being bought by the DRI Local Government Council and the Lutheran Mission at KOTNA. It has been the practise of other officers at TABIBUGA to reject any inferior quality axes that the people bring in for sale. It is to be hoped that other purchasers will do the same for experience has shown that they will produce an inferior quality axe and get 10/- for it

10

rather than a fine bit of craftsmanship and get £3 to £4 for it. These are the only villages in the JIMI RIVER area that can earn a small cash income regularly without leaving the area.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH:

At the time the patrol departed from TABIBUGA an epidemic of Asian Flu (diagnosis by D.M.C.) was sweeping through the JIMI RIVER area. Both A.P.O.'s. at TABIBUGA were absent in various villages where it had broken out. The epidemic had already passed through TIMBUNKI so A.P.O. TOMI from TIMBUNKI accompanied the patrol and acquitted himself exceptionally well. At the time the patrol arrived at RUTI three people had died from this illness or something with symptoms very similar. TOMI was left with supplies at RUTI to attend to those still suffering and remained until such time as those that were ill were out of danger.

A small group of twentythree people living between the GERNT and ARJNT rivers were contacted by the patrol. All the children were suffering from Yaws in various stages and were treated on the spot and later received further treatment at RUTI. The health of the people at TIMBUNKI and RUTI was not good, while those people from the villages of higher elevation appeared to be in fine condition.

Aid Posts have now been established at TIMBUNKI, PALG, KEMJIM and between TSENGA and WUN. All these are well attended and the people very grateful for their presence. Aid Posts in this area are not taken for granted but are regarded as a luxury. In respect to population distribution, the area is now well catered for with health facilities.

The main complaint with regards to Aid Posts was that the people had to carry medicine and supplies from KOL. For the A.P.C. at PALG for example this would mean a trip of approximately ten days. During this time the Aid Post is neglected and those that assist the A.P.C. have a difficult long carry. The villages nearer to TABIBUGA complained that they had worked hard for a long time to build the

airstrip at TABIBUGA so as they would have a close means of getting supplies in but even now they were still faced with the long walk to KOL for medicine. This matter was taken up with the D.M.O. Western Highlands during a recent visit to TABIBUGA and the supplies are now to be distributed by the N.M.A. from KOL when he visits TABIBUGA at regular intervals. This is a far more satisfactory system for all concerned.

A point worthy of mention is the activities of A.P.O. KAURA at TSENGA/WUN Aid Post. Since his recent arrival there, he has purchased from his own money £19s worth of pitsaws to improve the Aid Post and his own house. The people have shown their appreciation for his efforts by willingly working on the Aid Post. When sufficient timber is cut, they have been promised nails to complete the work. These have already been supplied to the G.I.C. TABIBUGA by P.B.D. MOUNT BATHEN and are being held awaiting developments.

An application for an Aid Post was made at RODGLEA. However as the PAIG Aid Post is only a matter of two hours walk away over a good track, it is considered that the erection of another at RODGLEA is not necessary.

ROADS AND BRIDGES:

The prime object of this patrol was to find a suitable road location from TABIBUGA Patrol Post to HUTI in the grasslands at the western end of the KUNOGA Census Division. Comments are made throughout the diary of this report on the findings of the patrol. It has been the opinion of some officers in this area that a road down the JIMI RIVER valley was out of the question if it was to be built by manual labour. After an investigation of the country concerned, I can concur with their views. A road can be built but it must be considered as a long term project and much will depend upon the co-operation of the people involved in its construction. Once the road is built, it should not be as difficult to maintain as many of the roads that have been built in the Highlands.

At present lack of communications in the JIMI RIVER area, is a major factor retarding any progress or development and

unless the people are willing to expend the energy to build the necessary communications they must of necessity look forward to a dim, drear and unproductive future.

The road in question once completed would serve the following purposes:-

- (a) Provide access to the stands of hoop and klinki pine in the vicinity of TSEUGA, WUM and NENJIN.
- (b) Provide access to the vast areas of flat, uninhabited lowland rainforest situated along the banks of the JIMI RIVER between TABIBUGA and TIMBUNKI and the second extremely large area between TIMBUNKI and NUTI. Both promising locations for resettlement schemes.
- (c) Provide an outlet for produce from these areas once the road through the BAIYER RIVER is completed.
- (d) Facilitate administration and access to the people at TSEUGA, WUM, NENJIN, KURUGA, PAIS, BODGLA and TIMBUNKI, and also enable quicker access to the numerous villages on the north wall of the valley.

The people would be able to devote considerable portions of their time to this work for as to date, there has been no economic development in the area.

The road would be located as follows:-

The road would commence as a continuation of the TABIBUGA-TSINGOROPA road and be cut to a point 200 ft. below KWIBUN. Thence it would proceed to a point where the ridge falls to the level of the road where the road can be brought onto the south side of the ridge and graded down to the TSAU RIVER. At the TSAU RIVER there is a good supply of material for road surfacing. The TSAU RIVER would require a bridge 38 ft. in length which would be one of the largest on the road. The TSAU RIVER would have to be bridged in the vicinity of the present native cane bridge. (control point (a)).

From the TSAU RIVER the ridge on which WUM is situated provides a reasonably gradual ascent to higher ground and access to the pine stands. From below WUM, the road would then turn west to the

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GABZ RIVER and then turn North down the ridge where at present the graded track from MERJIM to TIMBUNKI is located (control point b). This ridge provides excellent access to TIMBUNKI. At TIMBUNKI the road would then proceed along the side of the JIMI RIVER to triangulation station No. 542 (see map). This section presents no difficulties as the ground undulates and is well drained. From triangulation station No. 542 the road can then be taken almost directly on a bearing of 275 degrees across the KUNOGA FLATS. Between 542 and RUTI it will be necessary to bridge the HOGULPHIN and ARUNT RIVERS. The HOGULPHIN will require a considerable suspension bridge of some 75 to 80 feet and the ARUNT another of 65 feet. All other watercourses after crossing these rivers are quite minor and can be bridged without difficulty with timber available close handy.

The problem of having sufficient population available to build the road will be encountered once the road has reached TIMBUNKI and starts out into the uninhabited area between TIMBUNKI and RUTI. However, the people of PALG, RODGLA, KURUNGA, TSENDIAP and TIMBUNKI spend considerable portion of their time roaming in this region in search of game. If these people were supplied by their women folk with food from their villages, the work I feel sure could be done. Also, this portion is by far the easiest and will require less labour than the section from TABUNGA to TIMBUNKI. The people of these villages have offered to assist in the work.

It is felt, that if this road is treated as a long term project, and efficient administration supervision is applied, the road can be built, and that later maintenance costs will not be exorbitant.

LAW AND JUSTICE:

Law and justice is still mainly in the hands of the people. The village leaders in this area openly state that they consider that their position as a Lulusi or Tultul empowers them to conduct courts in any dispute, and if they are unable to satisfy the litigants, then, and only then, will they bring the matter to the

attention of the Administration. However, it doesn't even work out this well as the people will not walk into TABIBUGA to settle disputes. Offenders in assault and other serious cases point blank refuse to accompany village officials to the station for trial and the village officials leave it at that and do not press the matter further.

A close investigation of this situation was made in the course of the patrol. Many courts of a serious nature were not reported by the people or the village officials but the matter was later brought forward by Aid Post Orderlies who were well aware of the various matters that were being kept quiet:

Explanations offered by the people were:-

- (a) That in the early days of contact, the village officials were instructed to only bring cases of murder and serious assaults to the attention of the Patrol Officer.
- (b) That on numerous occasions, they had walked two or three days to TABIBUGA to have a court heard only to find that the Patrol Officer was away for a month or so on patrol.

Of the two explanations, the second would appear to be more relevant to the existing situation as there being only one officer to patrol the whole of the JIMI RIVER area it is necessary for him to spend long periods away from the station. By the time the patrol visits the village the essence of the dispute or act has been lost in the numerous inter-relationships and litigations that form part of the daily life in the village. The net result of this is that those who do recalcitrate often go unpunished. Throughout the patrol village officials and the people were told of the advantages of bringing disputes of a serious nature and law breakers before a proper court for settlement. With education and the improvement of communications the present situation may change for the better.

MISSIONS & EDUCATION:

The spiritual welfare of the people in this area is

in the hands of the Lutheran Mission who have staffed their stations with native teachers. Also, the Lutheran Mission at KOTKA send native medical assistants in to patrol the area.

The native teachers attempt to instill the basic rudiments of the three "rs" into the children that periodically attend their schools. The impression was gained that the Missions are not well received. The teachers asked the patrol on occasions to tell the people that the children had to attend school, that they had to help build churches, and maintain Mission teachers houses. The standard of the native teachers is appallingy low and what they can teach in the way of reading and writing is negligible. Several people requested that their children be taken back to TABIBUGA for instruction in the Administration school. However, this small school, completely inadequate for the needs of the area, is already full to capacity and none of the requests could be complied with.

FORESTRY:

The people at TSENGA and NUM have been supplied with pitaws and are cutting small amounts of ELINKI and HOGP PINE for sale to the Administration at TABIBUGA. This is only done in a small way and in the last six months it has resulted in an income of approximately \$50 for those concerned with this work. Until a road is built into this area, the pine stands cannot be exploited to any great extent.

The lowland areas along the banks of the JIMI RIVER have stands of typical lowland rainforest. Though there may be few economic timbers in these large stands, suitable trees would be available for bridging timber which could be cut close to the place where they are to be utilized. Rumour has it that surveys of this area have been conducted by members of the Department of Forestry and the Department of Agriculture Livestock and Fisheries who took soil samples from the KUNOGA LOWLANDS some twelve months ago. No record of their findings has ever been forwarded to this office.

MAPS & MAPPING:

As the area covered by this patrol has not been marked in any detail on previous patrols from this office, the opportunity was

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taken this time to make numerous additions to the excellent map compiled by Mr. Edwards. These have now been included on the master map which is forwarded with this patrol report for sun-printing. It would be appreciated if the tracing copy could be returned to this office in order that it may be used for any further additions made in future patrols, thus obviating the necessity of repeating the tedious task of retracing.

CONCLUSIONS:

If we consider the people of this area only have periodic contact with the administration, the present situation is quite satisfactory. However, the development and attention that is being shown to areas close to the area patrolled and the lack of it in the area under consideration must eventually make the people feel that they aren't getting the attention they deserve. In the past, the people in this area have been co-operative and have shown their willingness to work to help themselves. It would be a grave pity if this attitude should be allowed to deteriorate to one of apathy through lack of attention by the Administration.

It is appreciated that the area concerned is a difficult one to work in by virtue of the rugged topography it encompasses and the lack of suitable communications. It is therefore recommended, that every effort be made to build a road through the area to open it for development both social and economic.

Morris Brown
MORRIS BROWN
PATROL OFFICER:

APPENDIX "B"

REPORT ON POLICE

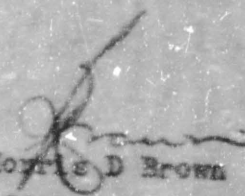
②

812)

4040 Const 1/c/ KERRAC: Lacks energy and command

8247 Const 5th yr YANGORI: Hardworking and a willing worker.
Lacks initiative.

8202 ATIPA Const 5th Yr: Lacks command and initiative.


Morris D Brown
Officer in Charge: