

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: EAST SEPIK
STATION: MAY RIVER
VOLUME No: 5

ACCESSION No: 496.

1969 - 1970

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORT OF: MAY RIVER EAST SIDE
 ACCESSION NO. 496
 VOL. NO: 5 : 1969/70 NUMBER OF REPORTS: 16

REPORT NO	FOLIO	OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL	AREA PATROLLED	MAPS/PHOTOS	PERIOD OF PATROL
[1] 1 OF 1969/70	1-13	B. D. PAYLER CPO	WANAP MAY AND SEPIK CENSUS DIVISION	6	18.7.69 - 1.8.69
[2] 2 OF 1969/70	14-32	M. E. TOMLINSON ADO	SUGONGA X WHITE SCARP	6	22.8.69 - 29.9.69
[3] 2 OF 1969/70	33-56	M. E. TOMLINSON ADO	RIGHT MAY RIVER	6 MAP	18.8.69 - 3.10.69
[4] 3 OF 1969/70	57-69	J. C. CORRIGAN ADO	RIGHT MAY RIVER AND LEFT MAY RIVER	6-7	3.9.69 - 23.9.69
[5] 4 OF 1969/70	70-86	D. PENNEFATHER PO	WHITE SCRAP	7 MAP	3.10.69 - 24.10.69
[6] 5 OF 1969/70	87-105	D. PENNEFATHER PO	WANAP MAY CENSUS DIVISION	7	3.12.69 - 10.12.69
[7] 6 OF 1969/70	106-112	D. PENNEFATHER PO	PART CENTRAL MAY CENSUS DIVISION	7 MAP	12.1.70 - 14.1.70
[8] 7 OF 1969/70	113-125	D. PENNEFATHER PO	SEPIK MAY PART UPPER MAY CENSUS	7-8 MAP	21.1.70 - 26.1.70
[9] 8 OF 1969/70	126-139	D. PENNEFATHER PO	SEPIK MAY CENSUS DIVISION	8 MAP	27.2.70 - 5.3.70
[10] 9 OF 1969/70	140-148	D. PENNEFATHER PO	UPPER ARAI X AMA VILLAGE	8 MAP	10.3.70 - 13.3.70
[11] 10A OF 1969/70	149-158	D. PENNEFATHER PO	PROPOSED ARAI MAY CENSUS DIVISION	8	7.4.70 - 16.4.70
[12] 10 OF 1969/70	159-167	D. PENNEFATHER PO	ARAI MAY CENSUS DIVISION	8 MAP	7.4.70 - 16.4.70
[] PAGWI					
[13] 1 OF 1969/70	167-179	F. D. OUDSTEN APO	GAU LOCAL GOVT COUNCIL	8-9 MAP	24.7.69 - 6.8.69
[14] 2 OF 1969/70	180-198	F. D. OUDSTEN APO	BURUI - KANAI X SEPIK CENSUS DIV	9 MAP	9.9.69 - 20.9.69
[15] 3 OF 1969/70	199-131	F. D. OUDSTEN APO	GAU COUNCIL AREA	9	23.10.69 - 26.5.69
[16] 4 OF 1969/70	132-142	F. D. OUDSTEN APO	GAU LOCAL GOVT AREA	10 MAP	12.1.70 - 18.1.70
[]					
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EAST SEPIK DISTRICT

PATROL REPORTS

1969-1970

MAY RIVER & PAGWI

MAY RIVER

Report no.

Officer conducting

Area Patrolled

PATROL

1-69-70

B.D.PAYLER

WANIAP MAY AND SEPIK C.D.

^A
2-69-70

M.E.TOMLINSON

SUGONGA & WHITE SCARP

2-69-70

M.E.TOMLINSON

RIGHT MAY RIVER

3-69-70

J.C.CORRIGAN

LEFT & RIGHT MAY RIVERS

4-69-70

D.PENNEFATHER

WHITE SCRAP

5-69-70

D.PENNEFATHER

WANIAP MAY CENSUS DIVISION

6-69-70

D.PENNEFATHER

PART CENTRAL MAY C.D.

7-69-70

D.PENNEFATHER

PART UPPER MAY CENSUS DI..

8-69-70

D.PENNEFATHER

SEPIK MAY CENSUS DIVISION

9-69-70

D.PENNEFATHER

UPPER ARAI & AMA VILLAGE

^A
10-69-70

D.PENNEFATHER

PROPOSED ARAI MAY CENSUS D.

10-69-70

D.PENNEFATHER

ARAI MAY CENSUS DIVISION

PAGWI

1-69-70

F.D.OUDSTEN

GAUI LOCAL GOVT. COUNCIL

2-69-70-

F.D.OUDSTEN

BURUI-KUNAI & SEPIK C.D.

3-69-70

F.D.OUDSTEN

GAUI COUNCIL AREA

4-69-70

F.D.OUDSTEN

GAUI LOCAL GOVT. AREA

May River + Pagwi,



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of EAST SEPIK Report No. MAY RIVER NO. 1 1969/70

Patrol Conducted by MR. B.D. PAYLER, CADET PATROL OFFICER

Area Patrolled WANIAP MAY AND SEPIK MAY CENSUS DIVISIONS

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....

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

Duration—From 18/ 7./1969 to 23/ 7./1969 and 28/7/69 to 1/8/69

Number of Days 11 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 16./ 2./1968 No. 5 of 1967/68

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

Map Reference.....

Objects of Patrol PUBLICITY OF APPLICATION FOR PROSPECTING AUTHORITY,
AND MINERAL EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES.

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

.....

.....

.....

Popul

MIGR

Birth
M F

GFB:SO

67-8-5

Division of District Administration,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

3rd. November, 1969.

District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL NO. MAY RIVER 1/69-70

Your reference 67-1-13 of 27th. October, 1969.

2. I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Special Report by Mr. B.D. Payler, Assistant Patrol Officer, to WANIAP MAY and SEPIK MAY Census Divisions.

3. The patrol appears to have achieved its objects quite satisfactorily.

4. I am pleased to note the detailed patrol instructions by Mr. Conigan.

5. Mr. Payler displays a keen interest in his work. His report is a sound effort, but he should refrain from the use of pidgin words. Terms such as "caliboosed" and "bisnis pukpuk" are not required - there are suitable English equivalents.

6. Mr. Payler should also note the correct spelling of the words "brief", p.2; "operation", p.4, and "economic", p.5.

7. Please ensure that Mr. Payler submits a map with his future reports.

c.c. (T. W. ELLIS)
Mr. B.D. Payler, Secretary
Assistant Patrol Officer, Department of the Administrator.
Sub.District Office,
AMBUNTI. East Sepik District.

Please note that political education must be a continuing process in all situations with the emphasis on the advantages of National unity.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA 67.8.5

Reference: 67-1-13
Division
Department of District Administration,
District Office,
WEWAK.
East Sepik District.

10

Telephone
Telegrams
Our Reference
If calling ask for
Mr.



27th October, 1969.

The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
Division of District Administration,
KONEDOBU, PAPUA.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 1 OF 1969/70, PUBLICITY
OF PROSPECTING AUTHORITY APPLICATIONS - MR.
E. D. PAYLER, CADET PATROL OFFICER

Attached please find :-

- (a) Original and copy of report.
- (b) Copy of patrol instructions issued to Mr. Payler by the Assistant District Commissioner, Ambunti, on file 35/1143-67-1-13 of 15th July, 1969.
- (c) Copy of memorandum 67-1-13 of 29th September, 1969, from Assistant District Commissioner, Ambunti.

2. No lengthy comment is required on this report as the instructions have been carried out and all persons who were involved in the Application for a Prospecting Licence by Carpentaria Exploration Ltd., were contacted. No objections were raised to the application being granted.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

c.c. Assistant District Commissioner,
AMBUNTI.

Officer-in-Charge,
MAY RIVER.

Mr. B.D. Payler,
Cadet Patrol Officer,
MAY RIVER.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

9

File Reference: 67-1-13

Division of District Administration,
AMBUNTI,
East Sepik District,

29th September, 1969.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

REPORT MAY RIVER PATROL NO.1 OF 1969/70

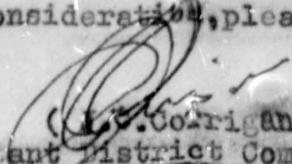
Attached please find the above report submitted by Mr Payler, Cadet Patrol Officer.

The primary objective of the patrol was successfully achieved by Mr Payler, viz., publication of Prospecting Authority applications submitted by Carpentaria Exploration Ltd. Mr. Payler covered all the area of the May River Administrative Area contained in P.A.136.

As well as touching on prospecting activities, in his situation report Mr Payler has given a lucid picture of the attitudes of the different groups living in the area patrolled. A minor point, the expressions 'caliboosed and 'schoolkids, have no place in official report writing. (see page 2 28/7 and 30/7)

It is unfortunate the report could not have been submitted earlier but it was held up, on my table, for most of September while I was absent on patrol in the May River area.

Submitted for your consideration, please.


(J.V. Corrigan)
Assistant District Commissioner

35/11/3 - 67-1-13

AMBUNTI,
East Sepik District.

15th July 1969.

Mr B. Payler,
Cadet Patrol Officer,
MAY RIVER.

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS

Please make arrangements to depart immediately on patrol to the following areas :-

WANIAP MAY

SEPIK MAY

The object of the patrol is to give notice of the activities of Carpentaria Exploration and International Nickel who hold Prospecting Authorities over the May River area.

Carpentaria has made application for two new PAs 135 and 136. PA 135 does not concern May River but PA 136 covers the following villages :

WOBARU PANEWAI IEMOMBUI MOWI INIOK

~~SAMO INAGRI AMU AUNI YEI PAUPE~~

In the case of these villages ^{you} should inform the people of the application in terms of memo 67-1-1 / 35-11-3 from the District Commissioner WEWAK. The hearing is set by the Mining Warden for the 30th September and objections should be lodged with the Mining Warden WAU on or before the 19th September. Obviously any person who has objections will advise you and you in turn will advise me. Please have a pidgin translation made of the attached copy of PA 136 and have it placed on the station notice board. If you haven't got a notice board then put it on the office door. I appreciate that none of the lowly May river people are literate.

However, PA 136 is not the only PA affecting May River. Carpentaria hold PA 66 which has already been granted. This covers SAMO INAGRI AMU AUNI YEI PAUPE. INSEL (International Nickel) hold PA 89 which covers all of the UPPER MAY Division, the WANIAP MAY with the exception of WOBARU and the CENTRAL MAY with the exception of those villages of that division covered by PA 136. This means that the entire MAY RIVER administrative area is covered or soon will be, by PAs.

Now the procedure in the case of 136 is clear and you will follow the District Commissioner's directive. In the case of those areas already covered by PAs, whilst there are to be no further Hearings, nevertheless we should keep the mining companies' activities to the fore of the peoples' consciousness and you will give in those villages concerned the same type of address as those covered by PA 136 with

exception that you will not inform them of any date for a hearing, there being none, the Companies already holding Authorities.

The Waniap Division should be patrolled first. Whilst on the WANIAP patrol, to save usage of petrol and wear on the outboard, you should visit PANEMAN on the Sepik May, walking from Wobaru to Panewai and return to Wobaru and thus continuing on with the Waniap patrol. The patrol should not take as long as a normal census patrol and in no case will you take the census even though in the case of the Waniap Division the census is overdue. Send word ahead so that the people will have an opportunity to assemble before your arrival. Upon your arrival, you should call an assembly and after it is apparent you have got most within reason, give an address along the lines indicated in the memoranda from the D.C and Director. If after conclusion of a satisfactory discussion you have time to move onto another village, you should do so.

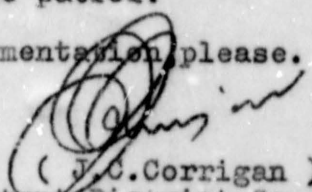
The object of the patrol is to give as wide a publicity as possible within the shortest possible time. This does not mean however that for the sake of speed, coverage should be superficial and you should convene a meeting at the usual census spot for each village.

Please keep in mind the desirability of about four individuals from the areas patrolled giving evidence on PA136 to the effect that the people have no objections (we hope) to the granting of the Authority at the time of the hearing in September. Nothing should be said at this stage on this score but be on the watch for people who would be suitable for this purpose.

Take three police with you from the May River detachment and ensure that at least one of the has been to the areas to be patrolled. Presumably you will do the patrol in two stages, the Waniap first and the Sepik May last. Please keep me informed by radio conversation when the opportunity presents of the progress of the patrol. A radio to myself is required at the start and completion of the patrol as well as to the District Commissioner. IARU the station interpreter will be invaluable on this patrol.

I would like you to get as much done as possible before the arrival of Mr Tomlinson early in August. Trusting you have an enjoyable patrol.

For your immediate implementation please.


(J.C. Corrigan)
Assistant District Commissioner

6

PATROL REPORT

REPORT NUMBER: 1 - S 1969/70

MAY RIVER

EAST SEPIK

TYPE OF PATROL: PUBLICITY OF APPLICATION FOR PROSPECTING
AUTHORITY, AND MINERAL EXPLORATION ACTIVITIES.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY B.D.PAYLER, CADET PATROL OFFICER

AREA PATROLLED: WANIAF MAY AND SEPIK MAY CENSUS DIVISIONS.

PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL: THREE MEMBERS R.P.N.G.C..

DURATION OF PATROL 18/7/69 to 23/7/69 and 28/7/69
to 1/8/69

NUMBER OF DAYS 11 DAYS

LAST D.D.A. PATROL TO AREA: 16/2/68 No. 5 of 67/68

Summary of the patrol... The patrol started to walk to... on the... accompanied by two... police, the... and... A... with... up and over a very... Panewa... all... by... to... Other... track... through well... forest... arrived Panewa... and... a few... and... there. The... left a... that... to... May River, and so... with... the... the... out a... before... and... away, but I... for the... and some... to... the patrol... a week later. Returned to... and...

Waniaf 2nd... The... and... to... about five hours on a well... track. Reached the... of the... houses... of... the... at... the village is... with... and... prepared... the... and... the... for... of... The... and... and... another... given to... and... The talk... to be... for... and... under-... was... the fact that the... they had... to... The... of... for... objections... was... and... back... law... over. Slept...

PATROL DIARY

FRIDAY 18th JULY.

Departed May River at 9.30 in double canoes. Stopped at Waniap to obtain carriers. Very few men present and these very reluctantly accompanied the patrol. Went on up the Waniap barrat as far as possible, then walked to KAUVIA, a five hour walk, the first hour or so of the track often knee deep in water. Reached Kauvia at 6pm and slept there.

SATURDAY 19th.

Addressed an assembly of people of KAUVIA, AMA and BOROPA villages on mineral exploration activities. Discussion followed and all expressed enthusiasm for the presence of the companies. No objections at all and a fair understanding of exploration patrolling activities was imparted.

A man had died the day before and I viewed the body and made sure it was properly buried. No foul play was apparent.

Several people with yaws and tropical ulcers were told to meet the patrol canoe later and go to May River for treatment.

At 10.30 departed for AMA, an hour walk. Few men were in the village so I waited the afternoon, using the time and those present to put a bridge across the creek that separated the rest house from the village, and improved the track in.

6.30pm addressed a group of about 30 Ama people on the purpose of the patrol. The LL of Kauvia, the TT of Ienwei and the May River interpreter were present and discussion brought up no objections. Slept at AMA.

SUNDAY 20th.

7am start to walk to PANEWEL on the Sepik, accompanied by two police, the TT of Waniap and LL of Kauvia. A four hour walk each way, up and over a very steep hill near Panewei that would be all but impassible to carriers. Otherwise the track is easy going through well drained forest country. Arrived Panewei midday and found only a few women and lapuns there. The TT had left a story that he thought he was called to May River, and so had gone, with all the men. The message put out a week before had evidently gone astray, but I left another for the TT and some representatives to meet the patrol at Imombui a week later. Returned to Ama and slept.

MONDAY 21st.

8am, left Ama and walked to IENWEI, about five hours on a well used track. Passed the empty houses of the now disused hamlet of WOBARU. Rested the afternoon at Ienewei. The village is sited with a magnificent view and was excellently prepared. Iaru the interpreter had gone ahead before the patrol. Waited for representatives of AGRAME village to come. The LL and seven men did come and another address given to assembled Ienewei and Agrame people. The talk had to be interpreted twice for the Agrame crowd, and their understanding was limited to just grasping the fact that the helicopters they had seen were there to make some good business or other. Their eyes lit at the prospect of work for money and no objections were raised. Salt was distributed to them and they trailed back into the bush as a thunderstorm came over. Slept Ienewei

PATROL DIARY

TUESDAY 22nd.

The TT of Ienwei departed early via WUA to gather representatives of that place to meet the patrol at Tigai while the patrol took a shortcut straight to Tigai. Seven hours through sac-sac swamps that would be totally impassible after any little rain; the longer track that goes via Agrame and Wau could only be better. Met the party of patients en route from Kauvia. Left the carriers to continue on to the meeting with the canoe, and climbed up a steep hill to Tigai. The village is only one large house. There are other houses a good way off on an island in the swamp and the residents of these refused to come when the LL called them in. Addressed about ten men of Tigai and the two representatives of Wau, and had discussion with them for several hours.

A further hour and a half walk to the canoe and departed to come into Waniap at 6.30. Slept Waniap.

WEDNESDAY 23rd.

Gathered all the carriers for payment and as these were virtually all the men in the place, and heard the talk three times gave a brief talk and discussed any worries they had.

Returned to May River at 11.30, the first half of the patrol completed.

MONDAY 28th

Patrol departed for Sepik-May Villages at 11.30. Arrived at Imombui 12.45 and found only three men there, and a message about the patrol had been recieved a week before. The place was filthy and unkempt so arrangements were made to stay the night and wait for people to appear. As men came back they were put to cutting grass and removing rubbish around their own houses. Gave an address on mineral exploration activities in the evening and discussion followed. The talk also covered village hygiene standards and respect for village officials. The village was 'calibcosed' in situ until it showed improvement. Slept Imombui.

TUESDAY 29th

Spent the morning supervising work in the village. This had a salutary effect and the Iuluai made good use of the occasion to re-establish his authority. Departed at 2.30 for MOWI, an hour down river. Going ashore at Mowi was a remarkable contrast to Imombui. Very well presented village, eager for inspection. Gave an address followed by discussion. Slept Mowi.

WEDNESDAY 30th

Sam til 9, demonstrated rice planting on a small plot near the Mowi school for the benefit of the schoolkids and several interested gardeners, and distributed seed rice. Then went on to INIOK. Inspected the villages and gathered everybody for the talk. 1pm left for AUM. The barrat very shallow and and not easy to follow but the double canoe did get right in to the place. Had to go around the village myself to get people to assist in repairing the rotting resthouses. A small, isolated and lethargic village. Four months ago they were told to renew the resthouse, which were under water then. Addressed the whole village in the evening. Slept Aum.

3

PATROL DIARY

THURSDAY 31st.

Sam Demonstrated rice planting techniques for an hour before departing for Paupe. Very slow trip up the Frieda River which was flowing fast and shallow. Arrived PAUPE at 3.45. Only half a dozen people there. Gave the address and heard two complaints. The Carpentaria Campsite up river were advised of my presence but sought no contact. Noted that there was a large petrol dump right in the centre of the village which the people agreed should not stay there, however arrangements were in hand to shift it. Slept Paupe.

FRIDAY 1st AUGUST.

Departed early after issuing seed rice to several interested men and showing them the correct way to plant it. Returned to Inioik to check that instructions left were being attended to. Some rubbish had been cleared. Went on upstream to Mowi, put off the Luluai who had come with the patrol, and continued to Imombui. Improvements to the village were satisfactory. Gave out some seed rice as requested. Returned to May River at 6.30pm.

END OF PATROL

Furthering the purpose of this patrol, visits were made in the week following to the villages of WANMOI, PEKWE, ABAGASU, and AUMI, and talks and discussions were held in each. These places are within an hour of the Patrol Post by canoe. Thus the publicity given covered The Wanaip-May, the Sepik-May, and half of the Central-May Census Divisions.

MAY RIVER PATROL No. 1 of 1969/70

SITUATION REPORT.

1. POLITICAL.

This was a Special Patrol for the specific purpose of publicising Carpentaria Exploration Company's Application for a Prospecting Authority, No.136, and publicising in general the activities of mineral exploration companies in the Waniap-May and Sepik-May census divisions.

2. The publicity given and the response to this was the subject of my two memos dated 24th July and 6th August sent to the A.D.C. Ambunti, as per the Director's Circular on publicity of applications for prospecting authorities.(35-11-3)

3. In brief; the response to the presence of mineral exploration teams, namely Carpentaria and INSEL, was favourable. There were no objections brought to me over the application. The reaction of the villagers is one of enthusiastic expectation of material benefits to come and they are willing to co-operate fully. Aspects of compensation for anything damaged, and the long term benefits that may result from successful exploration were appreciated.

4. My discussions and questions to the villages after the addresses given were aimed at bringing out any concerns or doubts still felt, and resulted in some individual summing it up with 'We are strong on these companies starting here as we have no other business opportunities'. Should people be called for to attend the hearing in September at Ambunti, any of the Luluais or Tultuls are quite adequate representatives of village feeling on this subject.

5. The operations of Carpentaria in the field of their labour relations with nearby villages, nearby to their Freida River campsite that is, are potential source of dissatisfaction and have been reported on in the memos above.

6. This patrol covered two quite different areas. The Waniap-May is quite recently contacted, all villages are small with populations of around 80, and isolated in hilly, forested country. The Sepik-May are river villages with larger horizons.

7. Conspicuous in the Waniap-May is the community of AMA, BOROPA,KAUVIA,and IENWEI villages. They speak a language called IMA, as do all the others in the division except WANIAP. The tracks between the four places are well used and attention is focused on AMA where much effort has been put into building a light aircraft strip for the S.D.A. mission. This strip is within a couple of weeks of being used for the first time. The old hamlets of WOBARU, many miles apart have been deserted and the people moved into AMA village, by which name they wish to be called in future.. AGRAME, UWAU and TIGEI villages are on the fringe of this activity, and Waniap is aligned more towards the river villages. This spirit of co-operation and progress around AMA is very satisfactory.

①

8. The most respected leader of the AMA group would be the Luluai of Kauvia, to whom the others take second place when they are all together.

9. The Sepik-May villagers have a desultory and lethargic attitude to all kinds of work. It is my impression that the Luluais and rituals are taken as little more than scapegoats for the wrath of Officers who instruct them to improve their villages, the Luluai often has to do the work himself as the people take no notice of him. People at MOWI and INIOK wonder why the villages just down river have the Council while they have not. There is a higher status with being in the council. The Sepik-May is covered by one language called SOUM, but is fragmented into as many groups as there are villages. Village politics and identity with ones' village is the foremost concern.

10. Comprehension of our ideas of politics is nil. They are still looking for the 'key' to the 'business' that will bring sudden material improvements to them. The mission with the air-strip appears as that key at the moment, and I suspect that moves towards forming a local government council will be eagerly accepted in the same way. Nonetheless these developments should be encouraged.

11. The local MHA has visited some villages in the Sepik-May and this has brought home the reality of the House of Assembly to some people. Mr. Nauwi is reported to be a good man who listens to the peoples problems and sympathises with the shortage of didinen and 'business' around May River. He is expected to do great things.

12. ECCONOMIC.

The economic development of the area covered by this patrol exists largely only in the wishful thoughts of the inhabitants, and hence is more of a political topic than a practical one. Sale of crocodile skins and labour are the only sources of cash income. The amount of time given to chasing crocodiles must be out of all proportion to the returns and shows in the disrepair of villages, and the lapse of all other ventures gets blamed on the need to spend this time at 'bisnis pukuk'.

13. Cash cropping potential of the Waniap-May is good as far as land goes; there is plenty of well drained hillside ground. But there is a very small population to work it. A very large proportion of young men are absent on indentured labour. The potential for the Sepik-May is probably limited to rice, and though there is sufficient labour to plant large areas, this is not going to be done without much more promotion from us and DASF. Rice has been tried before by many, with poor yields, and at the moment only a few might give it one more try.

14. The promotion given to rice planting on this patrol is the subject of my memo to the A.D.C. dated 6th August, on May River file 6-1-3.

15. SOCIAL

There are many cases of yaws in the Waniap-May. About 12 patients were brought back to the Aidpost for treatment. The attitude towards going to the Aid Post is good considering the three or four day walk it is for many. Great benefits in the social condition of people will result from the mission in AMA, and right now there is a Medical Assistant carrying out an anti-yaws campaign at May River.

Brian Payler
(B.D. Payler)
Assistant Patrol Officer.

Amount
Returned
to Store



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



PATROL REPORT

2A

District of EAST SEPIK Report No. SPECIAL No. 3 of 1969/1970

Conducted by M.E. Tomlinson A.D.O.

Area Patrolled SUGONGA and WHITE SCARP areas of WEST RANGE

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans D.H. Pennefather P.O. (REPORTING OFFICER)

Natives 6 Members R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 22/8/1969 to 29/9/1969

Number of Days 37

Did Medical Assistant accompany? YES

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services NIL

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

May Reference

Objects of Patrol Exploration, Investigate Killing.

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 \$.....

GFB:HC

18

67-8-22

Division of District Administration

KONEDOBU. Papua.

8th January, 1970.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
NEWAK.

PATROL MAY RIVER NO. 2A/69-70

Your reference is 67-1-13 of 11th December, 1969.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Special Report by Mr. D.H. Pennefather, Patrol Officer, to Right May River Area.

This was a valuable patrol. The well written report contains information that will materially assist future patrols to the area.

Please refer to my comments on May River Patrol Report No. 2/69-70.

(T.W. ELLIS)

Secretary

Department of the Administrator

c.c.
Mr. D.H. Pennefather,
Patrol Post,
MAY RIVER. East Sepik District.

Whilst political education is a continuing process it is becoming a more specialised task, and you are still expected to participate fully in its extension at every opportunity.

67.8.22

(17)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

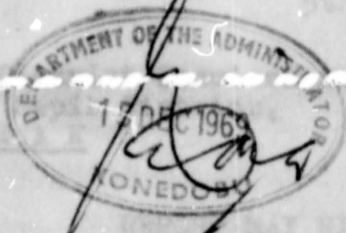
Reference: 67-1-13

Division of District Administration,
District Office,

WEWAK.

East Sepik District

11th December, 1969.



The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU, PAPUA.

(1) Original and 3 copies of the above report
and drawings of patrol map

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 2A OF 1969/70 -
SUGONGA AND WHITE SCARP AREAS OF WEST
RANGE - MR. D.H. PENNEFATHER, PATROL
OFFICER

(2) (a) Attached please find original and copy
of report submitted by Mr. D.H. Penne-
father, Patrol Officer.

2. The map referred to in this report is the one
attached to May River Patrol No. 2 of 1969/70 submitted
by Mr. Tomlinson, Assistant District Officer.

3. This is a most interesting report and Mr. Penne-
father has submitted valuable information with regard to
the river systems and the clans located in the area.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS) J
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

c.c. Assistant District Commissioner,
AMBUNTI.

Officer-in-Charge,
MAY RIVER.

Mr. D.A. Pennefather,
Patrol Officer,
AMBUNTI.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

16

67-1-13

Department of the Administrator,
Division of District Administration,
A M B U N T I , East Sepik District .

5th November, 1969.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
W E W A K

REPORT MAY RIVER PATROL NO.2 1969/70

Attached please find the following :

- (1) Original and 3 copies of the above report
2 tracings of patrol map
camping allowance claim
all submitted by Mr TOMLINSON ADO
- (2) Original and 3 copies report
camping allowance claim
1 sunprint of map
all submitted by Mr Pennefather P.O.

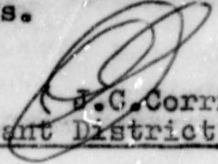
Mr Pennefather accompanied Mr Tomlinson on this patrol. In these circumstances submission of two reports seems to be unjustified and on future occasions I request permission to submit only one report to be compiled by the senior officer on the patrol. In this case both officers submitted reports at my direction.

I am attaching 4 copies of my patrol instruction to Mr Tomlinson. As can be seen from the report Mr Tomlinson ably assisted by Mr Pennefather has most competently carried through all objects of the patrol except for the task of investigating the attitude of the PEKWE people. However, this is close to MAY RIVER station and remote from the Right May Rv area and rightly should not be regarded as part of the patrol task. Unfortunately Mr Tomlinson did not have time enough at MAY River before his return to AMBUNTI to go into this but I will have Mr Pennefather report on this aspect at the first opportunity.

This patrol has given us a clear picture now of the entire MAY RIVER area and the RIGHT MAY area was the last quadrant unknown. Mr Green of International Nickel has told me he is most appreciative of Messers' Tomlinson and Pennefather work in the area and of the state of co-operation accorded by the Administration.

I endorse Mr Tomlinson's remarks in paragraph 14.

I consider both officers have presented adequate and most useful reports.


(J.C. Corrigan)
Assistant District Commissioner

MAY RIVER SPECIAL REPORT NO. 3 of 1969/1970

Report No: 3 of 1969/1970.

Type of Report: SPECIAL.

District: EAST SEPIK.

Sub-District: AMBUNTI.

Area Patrolled: SUGONGA and WHITE SCARP areas = WEST RANGE.

Patrol Conducted by: M.E.Tomlinson A.D.O.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans: D.H.Pennefather P.O.
(Reporting Officer)

Natives: 6 Members R.P.N.G.C.
1 Medical Assistant.

Duration of Patrol: 22-8-69 to 29-9-69

Number of Days: 37 Days.

Last D.D.A. Patrol to area: (a) No previous patrol FIYARIMIN
(b) Two GREEN RIVER WHITE SCARP
(c) A possible Green River to SUGONGA.
All non council area.

Objects of Patrol: (a) Meet Green River patrol at SUGONGA
(b) Meet I.N.S.E.L. at WHITE SCARP
(c) Carry out exploration of all areas
(d) Contact any native groups en route
(e) Investigate reported killing in the MIANMIN area.

Population of area patrolled: 194.

MAY RIVER SPECIAL REPORT NO. 3 of 1969/1970.PATROL DIARY.Friday 22nd August.

Departed MAY RIVER in double canoe at 1530 and arrived at ARAI at 1930.

SLEEP ARAI

Saturday 23rd August.

Depart ARAI in early morning at 0630 and proceed to TAMAUI where we meet remainder of patrol who departed on 21-8-69. Half the patrol walk while the remaining half proceed by double canoe to MIANMIN arriving at 1700.

Sleep Camp 1 (MIANMIN)

Sunday 24th August.

0845 depart Camp 1 and proceed with half of cargo to USALIMIN, arriving at 1400. The walking track is good following the South bank of the ABEI river.

Sleep Camp 2 (USALIMIN)

Monday 25th August.

0900 carriers return to MIANMIN to bring forward remainder of cargo. Store built as this shall be used as Base Camp. Carriers returned late in the afternoon with some cargo still to be brought up.

Sleep Camp 2 (USALIMIN)

Tuesday 26th August.

Remainder of cargo brought up from MIANMIN. I proceeded up the ABEI river for two hours and located the mouths of the MUNI and FONNA rivers. A smaller stream called AMINEI was also located.

Sleep Camp 2 (USALIMIN)

Wednesday 27th August.

Spent day preparing cargo and equipment for tomorrows departure.

Sleep Camp 2 (USALIMIN)

Thursday 28th August.

Depart Camp 2 at 0730 and proceed overland in a S.S.W. direction until we strike the MUNI river at 0915. The MUNI was followed in a southerly direction until 1315 when we reached the confluence of the MUNI and KENAKA rivers. We followed the KENAKA in a basically Westerly direction until 1545 when camp was made on the South bank. At 1045 we located the skeleton of the deceased native on the East bank of the MUNI river.

Sleep Camp 3.

Friday 29th August.

Break camp at 0715 and follow the bed of the KENAKA river in a Westerly direction all day. The KENAKA was very narrow and difficult for the carriers. 1500 arrived at old I.N.S.E.L. Air drop site and make camp.

Sleep Camp 4.

Saturday 30th August.

Departed at 0730 and proceeded West along the KENAKA until 0915 when this stream became too narrow and had to be left. 0930 proceeded up a sharp ridge for about 20 minutes and then came to a good ridge which was followed ~~far~~ until we dropped into another stream at 1130. This stream was followed with a sharp ridge being traversed half way. 1330 proceed up a large mountain which we hope will be the main divide. 1430 make camp having not crossed over the ridge, with our camp being on the N.E. side.
Sleep Camp 5.

Sunday 31st August.

Departed at 0745 and proceeded on Westward to cross over the main range that is the divide between the KENAKA and YAPSI (AUGUST RIVER) catchment areas. The first ridge crossed brought us into the headwaters of the YAPSI river. From here we crossed over another large ridge which brought us into the headwaters of the LUEIGA river. We proceeded down the LUEIGA until 1615 where it joins with the KININGER, flowing in from the North to form the SUGONGA. Camp set up at this junction.
Sleep Camp 6.

Monday 1st September.

Departed at 0730 and arrived at SUGONGA hamlet at 0845. The hamlet is called LAIBIP. Camp set up and we proceed to await the arrival of the GREEN RIVER Patrol.
Sleep Camp 7. (LAIBIP)

Tuesday 2nd September

Day spent resting and talking with local SEREWANIA natives.
Sleep Camp 7. (LAIBIP)

Wednesday 3rd September.

Day spent at Camp 7. awaiting the arrival of the GREEN RIVER Patrol.
Sleep Camp 7. (LAIBIP)

Thursday 4th September.

The GREEN RIVER Patrol arrived at 0900. Ourselves and Mr. CHISHOLM P.D. discuss administrative problems of our areas and common boundaries.
Sleep Camp 7. (LAIBIP)

Friday 5th September.

Day spent at Camp 7. and further liasion carried out. Prepare for tomorrows departure.
Sleep Camp 7. (LAIBIP)

Saturday 6th September.

Depart LAIBIP at 0715 and retrace our steps of 1-9-69 and proceed on up the LUEIGA river. At about one hours walk up the LUEIGA the patrol followed a new route known to our FIYARIMIN guide. We climbed a steep ridge and then followed a main ridge all day walking in an East to S.E. direction. This a much superiour track to that traversed on 31-8-69. Camp set up at 1600 on a very bad site.
Sleep Camp 8.

(4)

(12)

Sunday 7th September.

Departed at 0730 and proceeded on round the N/East side of ridge. This being followed until 1100 when we dropped down into the headwaters of the KENAKA tributaries. 1300 we arrived at the head of the KENAKA river and proceeded on down the KENAKA to our previous Camp 4.
Sleep Camp 4.

Monday 8th September.

Depart at 0730 and proceed in a S/E direction into the FIYARIMIN area. 0900 reach a large new Taro garden. 0945 we reached a small FIYARIMIN hamlet called SITABIP. While purchasing food we managed to apprehend murder suspect.

Sleep Camp 9. (SITABIP)

Tuesday 9th September.

Day spent at Camp 9 consolidating our influence with local FIYARIMIN natives. Patrol able to purchase local food: Taro and a Pig.

Sleep Camp 9. (SITABIP)

Wednesday 10th September.

Depart at 0730 and proceed East over a ridge which after 3 hours walking brought us onto the MUNI river. Proceed North down the MUNI river, en route we passed the mouths of the TRUNGARU and KENAKA rivers. Camp was made 2 hours below the mouth of the KENAKA river. at 1445.

Sleep Camp 10.

Thursday 11th September.

Departed at 0730 and proceeded back to our previous camp 2. The route followed was the same as that followed on 28-8-69.

Sleep Camp 2. (USALIMIN)

Friday 12th September.

Sort out equipment for tomorrow's departure. Frank Greene I.N.S.E.L. Geologist flew in in Helicopter.

Sleep Camp 2. (USALIMIN)

Saturday 13th September.

Depart at 0800 and walk West for 4 hours to the junction of the ABEI and FONA rivers crossing over the MUNI en-route. We then proceeded along a good track along the West bank of the ABEI until 1630 when camp was made.

Sleep Camp 11.

Sunday 14th September.

Depart at 0800 and proceed on North along the ABEI. En route the AMEWE and BOGOPE rivers were crossed. Camp was made at 1545 on the North bank of the ABEI which was flowing from the East.

Sleep Camp 12.

Monday 15th September.

Departed at 0745 and proceeded to I.N.S.E.L. Base Camp which is situated on the West bank of the ABEI river.

Sleep Camp 13.

Tuesday 16th September.

R.P. & G. ~~from the USARV~~ to correct remainder of our cargo.

20 carriers and one member

Sleep Camp 13.

Wednesday 17th September.

Camp. In the afternoon A.D.C. John Corrigan arrives.

Sleep Camp 13.

Thursday 18th September.

Camp.

Day spent at I.N.S.E.L. Base

Sleep Camp 13.

Friday 19th September.

heavy rains and flooded rivers.

Unable to depart today owing to

Sleep Camp 13.

Saturday 20th September.

route as followed on 15-9-69. From Camp 12, site we departed from our original track and proceeded N. West and came out in the BOGOPE river drainage which was found occupied by the SORI group.

Depart at 0900 and follow same

Sleep Camp 14.

Sunday 21st September.

Named MAUMIAWI with Geologist Mr. Warren Delaney of I.N.S.E.L. Nothing of native affairs interest observed.

Sleep Camp 14

Monday 22nd September.

Camp 13. Do a quick journey

Have 6 hour walk from Camp 14 to in helicopter.

Sleep Camp 13.

Tuesday 23rd September.

Camp and patrol gear sorted out.

Day spent at I.N.S.E.L. Base

Sleep Camp 13.

Wednesday 24th September.

hours up the ABEI river to our next camp site. Accompanied by Prospector Janis Puce. The people called UMIRITA and the hamlet where we are camped ABUNU.

Depart at 0945 and proceed 3½

Sleep Camp 15 (ABUNU)

Thursday 25th September.

site at the confluence of the ABEI and SORBAI rivers. Here we spent the remainder of the day constructing a Heli-pad.

Sleep Camp 16.

Friday 26th September.

to the site of a hamlet called UMAGIGU where a few local MREIITO natives were found. Here I put in another Heli-pad for future use.

Sleep Camp 16.

MAY RIVER SPECIAL FORCE NO. 3 at I.N.S. Base

Saturday 27th September.

proceed back to Camp 12

Depart in the morning and
Sleep Camp 13.

Sunday 28th September.

Camp.

Day spent at I.N.S.E.L. Base
Sleep Camp 13.

Monday 29th September.

fly in to MAY RIVER and do station Handover/Takeover.

Myself and A.D.O. Tomlinson

END OF PATROL

i. The South Western end of the 'Lead Slip Range' occupied by the native group SERBANIA.

ii. The headwaters of the 'True' Right May River on the Southern edge of the 'Sawtooth Ridge' and occupied by the native group UIRITA, WE-HIG, WORI and SYOTAMA.

iii. The country traversed was mountainous and heavily timbered and was the source of many fast flowing rocky mountain streams.

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The people contacted by the patrol varied from having had very little to no previous administration contact. They were all very primitive and it is inevitable that incidents arise between the patrol and any of the native people.

THE NATIVE GROUPS

The three native groups UIRITA, WYANIKIN and WORI are all part of what I shall call the UIRITA 'tribe'. They all speak the same language, have the same customs and their names are similar, and they share common land boundaries.

THE UIRITA

The UIRITA came originally from the May River area in the TEMPOKIN Sub-District and have been called the UIRITA by TEMPOKIN patrolling officers. At some stage, and not too long ago, the UIRITA began moving South North in the direction of the IREI river. This was probably the result of fighting between the UIRITA and the group who occupied the middle and west coast of the IREI by the UIRITA, the name I shall call WORI for reasons which will later become apparent.

MAY RIVER SPECIAL REPORT NO. 3 of 1969/1970INTRODUCTION

1. The patrol was carried out between the 22nd. August, 1969 and 29th. September, 1969 and was conducted by Mr. M.E.Tomlinson A.D.C. and accompanied by myself: D.H.Pennefather P.O.
2. The area traversed by the patrol consisted of three main areas:
 - i. The middle reaches of the Right May River occupied by the native groups FIYARIMIN and USALIMIN.
 - ii. The South/Western area of the 'Land Slip Range' occupied by the native group SEREWANIA.
 - iii. The headwaters of the 'True' Right May River on the Southern edge of the 'Sawtooth Ridge' and occupied by the native groups UMIRITA, MESEITO, SORI and NIGYAMA.
3. The country traversed was mountainous and heavily timbered and was the source of many fast flowing rocky mountain streams.
4. The people contacted by the patrol varied from having had very little to no previous Administration contact. They were all very primitive and fortunately no regetable incidents arose between the patrol and any of the native people.

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THE NATIVE GROUPS

5. The three native groups USALIMIN, FIYARIMIN and SEREWANIA are all part of what I elect to call the MIANMIN "Tribe". They all speak the same language: WEIMAGOP, their dress, customs and diet are similar, and they share common land boundaries.

THE "USALIMIN"

6. The USALIMIN come originally from the FIAK river area in the TELEFOMIN Sub-District and have been called the KUSAREMIN by TELEFOMIN patrolling officers. At some stage, and not too long ago, the USALIMIN began moving North in the direction of the ABEI river. This evidently resulted in fighting between the USALIMINS and the group who occupied the middle ABEI area called the SORIMIN by the USALIMINS, but which I shall call SORI for reasons which will latter become apparent.

7. The SORI were evidently defeated and moved North to where they are now to be found on the BOGONE river. Their original lands were then occupied by the USALIMIN.

8. For ~~this~~ the USALIMIN this has resulted in the present gay situation where we find a group of USALIMIN (KUSAREMIN) being situated on the FIAK river at the foot of Mt. KASA and another being situated at the hamlet of SAUIABIP on the ABEI river in the MAY RIVER Administrative Area.

9. The USALIMIN are now settling permanently at the hamlet of SAUIABIP. At present the hamlet consists of six small houses and one large Dance or 'Sing-Sing' House. I observed at least three large Taro gardens and the population to be in the vicinity of 60 persons.

10. The USALIMIN have both a Luluai and Tultul. The Luluai: MILKIN aged about 55 may be the recognized village elder but from an Administrative point of view is not very impressive. The Tultul TABIAP aged about 35 is much more impressive and his services should be utilized by future patrols in preference to those of Luluai MILKIN

THE "FIYARIMIN"

11. From what we could gather this was the first time a patrol had proceeded into the FIYARIMIN area. We were certainly the first Europeans that many of the FIYARIMINS had ever seen. They had been subject to previous Government influence when two FIYARIMIN natives: FUGEP and MONGEP became involved in a fight involving the URAPMIN group and both natives are now reported to be serving jail sentences at the BORAM Corrective Institution, WEWAK.

12. The FIYARIMIN are also in the process of a gradual move North. At present they are in the process of abandoning a Southern Hamlet called TOMARBIABIP and settling in a more Northerly Hamlet called SITABIP.

13. There is said to be another group of FIYARIMINS who live at the head of the MUNI river at a hamlet called SUNANBIN. From what little I could gather the people at SUNANBIN have ownership over a separate area of land than the people of SITABIP. The people of SITABIP say they have used up most of their land to the South and are now using that land to their North.

14. LOTUMAK a man about 55 years is recognized as being the headman of the FIYARIMIN, but a younger man NEMEBININAP aged about 36 seems to command considerable influence and appears co-operative and intelligent and would be a good man for Luluai. He is at present in charge of the village book.

THE "SEREWANIA"

15. Up until now the SEREWANIA have been known as the SUGONGA. This is the result of a native custom that is quite common with the people contacted throughout this patrol: That is one group will call another group not by its 'group' or 'tribal' name but by the name of the major river that flows in the groups area. In this case the SEREWANIA live adjacent to the SUGONGA river and so have been called the SUGONGA by both the USALIMINS and FIYARIMINS.

16. The SEREWANIA group appear to be separated into two parts. There is said to be one group who live at a hamlet called BALABIP on the SEPIK river in the TELEFOMIN Sub-District. The other group are situated at the hamlet of LAIBIP on the SUGONGA river.

17. The SEREWANIA Luluai: ARBEP, who himself comes from the hamlet of BALABIP and who was nominated by a TELEFOMIN patrolling officer, informed the patrol that the group now situated on the SEPIK river are now talking about moving over to the SUGONGA river and then the group will gradually re-commence making gardens in the ranges to the East which is land said to be traditionally owned by their ancestors. (Camp 5 was made in an old SEREWANIA garden site).

18. There appears to have been very little inter-village communication between the SEREWANIA and the other two MIANMIN groups: FIYARIMIN and USALIMIN, if any at all. It appears as though it is only recently that a few of the FIYARIMIN have been across the range and visited the SEREWANIA. At the same time though, no traditional enmity seems to exist between any of these three groups. The traditional enemies of the SEREWANIA are said to be a group called the NEMAIYA situated on the Western bank of the SEPIK river in the TELEFOMIN Sub-District.

19. Unlike the USALIMIN and the FIYARIMIN the SEREWANIA are not in the MAY RIVER Patrol Post Administrative Area but are in the GREEN RIVER Patrol Post Administrative Area and shall in future be patrolled by GREEN RIVER patrolling officers.

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20. My observations throughout this patrol has led me to the conclusion that at the time of Administration Contact (which has been over the past 10-15 years) the MIANMIN Tribe was in the process of a gradual migration or movement North.

21. To start with the MIANMIN are the Northern most of a large number of 'Tribes' that are nearly all contained within the TELEFOMIN Sub-District. To their South they have the bulk of these other tribes where as to their North they have a large mountainous area being sparsely populated.

22. Presuming that their population was expanding or their Southern boundaries were being encroached upon it would only seem natural that they would make some attempt to move into these fertile Northern areas where what resistance they met would be negligible compared with that which they would have received had they attempted to move South.

23. The MIANMIN 'Group' now living in the MAY RIVER area at the village of WARABUNG (not covered by this report) was, prior to Administration contact actively raiding the DIDIPAS people to their North and in one raid they wiped out the people of the village of SOWAINA which was situated between the villages of SAMO and INAGRI in the "Central May" Census Division. I feel certain that further investigation would show that the MIANMIN group are at present occupying areas of land, as the result of conquest, which once belonged to the people of the adjacent villages to their North.

24. The USALIMIN are a perfect example of where a MIANMIN group has raided to the North, defeated their enemy and then occupied his land. The enemy in this case being the SORI. (See: Page 7 Para 6, and Page 8 Para 7.)

25. The SEREWANIA appear to have been raiding to their North/West against the NEMAIYA. As they are one of the most Westerly of the MIANMIN groups it appears that it is only logical that they should be raiding to their West and so be guarding or extending the MIANMIN 'left flank'. Added to that is the fact that they have no population to their immediate North to fight against.

26. This patrol found the FIYARIMIN in a much more peaceful Northward move. The move being from the headwaters of the MUNI river North down onto the KENAKA river drainage. This move is quite a gradual process and appears to have been initiated by a need to find new garden sites in which to plant their Taro. (See Page 8, Para's 12 and 13.) This move North that is now underway should continue to be quite peaceful as the area into which they are moving is unpopulated and is claimed as being traditional FIYARIMIN land.

27. The above conclusion was made after two weeks patrolling in the area and may prove interesting should it in any way agree with other views put forward by officers patrolling in other regions of the MIANMIN area.

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28. The native groups situated at the headwaters of the ABEI river (Right May River) are in no way connected with the MIANMIN groups. Rather, they have connections with the IDAM river people to their North in the GREEN RIVER Patrol Post, area and with the ITELINU people in the MAY RIVER Patrol Post, area.

THE "SORI" AND "NIGYAMA"

29. For quite some time officers patrolling in the MIANMIN area have been hearing of a group called the SORIMIN, these we discovered to be the group that call themselves SORI. As is quite common a group, not of its own accord has two names: (a) The name by which it knows it's self and (b) the name by which it's neighbours or enemies know it. (See Page9, Para 15.)

30. As the SORI are not of the MIANMIN tribe it would be wrong for them to be continued to be called the SORIMIN and so it is recommended that they be known in future as the SORI.

31. The NIGYAMA are another very small faction within the SORI and consist of some very young men. The total population of the whole SORI and NIGYAMA group is only about 26 persons who make up a scattered nomadic population who have a central hamlet on the BOGOPE river named TABIABI.

THE "UMIRITA" AND "MESEITO"

32. Like the SORI and NIGYAMA the UMIRITA and MESEITO are two very small nomadic groups. The UMIRITA have a population of 17 persons and the MESEITO 11 persons.

33. These people claim that their traditional enemies were a group called the BAITO who occupied the area between the hamlet of ABUNU and WHITE SCARP. They claim to have annihilated the BAITO group who now longer exist. They also claim to have never fought with either the SORI or the ITELINU groups.

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34. The above mentioned groups have only been visited by two previous patrols both of which were mounted from the GREEN RIVER Patrol Post.

35. It has now been decided that the area occupied by these groups is both Officially and Geographically in the MAY RIVER Patrol Post, area and shall in future be patrolled from MAY RIVER Patrol Post.

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(4)

THE ATTACHED MAP

36. The map attached to this report was drawn from the standard military 1:250,000 map of MAY RIVER.

37. As will be seen quite a few alterations and additions have been made to the above map. These changes are by no means perfect but have been made as a result of either observations ~~made~~ made from the ground while patrolling over the relevant areas or were made after helicopter surveys of the some of the various areas. These changes have been made as accurately as possible so as to serve as a practical indication of where these streams do exist.

THE "ABEI" RIVER (RIGHT MAY RIVER)

38. The native name for the above river is ABEI. The military map shows the RIGHT MAY river to have its source in the vicinity of the LAND SLIP RANGE, this is not so. The ABEI has it's source in the area of ROCKY PEAK and WATER CAP. Our observations showed that the river called ABEI was without doubt the main stream. The other streams flowing in from the south or West are only tributaries of the ABEI.

THE "MUNI" RIVER.

39. The MUNI was traversed by the patrol from the point of it's junction with the ABEI as far South as it's confluence with the TRUNGARU river. We were informed by the local natives that both the MUNI and the TRUNGARU have their source in the area of Mt.KASA. Our observations showed the MUNI to be reasonably wide, rocky and fast flowing stream flowing from the South.

THE "KENAKA" RIVER.

40. The KENAKA flows from the West and was traversed by the patrol from the point of it's confluence with the MUNI as far West as to be very near it's very source. The KENAKA is not as large as the MUNI and provided the patrol with some very difficult walking as the patrol route followed the river bed which in many places was narrow and the water deep and fast flowing.

THE "YAPSI" RIVER (AUGUST RIVER).

41. When crossing the main range the patrol came across a fast flowing mountain stream flowing in a South/East direction which we were informed was called YAPSI and was the head of the AUGUST river.

5

42. Wether or not this is the actual head of the AUGUST river or ~~was~~ just a major tributary I do not know but I have indicated a stream on the map which I have called the YAPSI assuming that it is the actual AUGUST river.

THE "KININGA", "LUEIGA", AND "SUGONGA" RIVERS.

43. The patrol traversed the greater part of the LUEIGA which is just a short steep mountain stream. The KININGA we only saw at the point of it's confluence with the LUEIGA but we did see it's valley from various vantage points and so were able to gain a good indication of where lay it's source. Below the point of the KININGA/LUEIGA junction the river is called the SUGONGA and this the patrol traversed as far as the hamlet of LAIBIP.

THE "FONA" RIVER.

44. The FONA was only seen by the patrol at the point where it entered the ABEI. It gave the impression of being a very large stream having it's source in the mountain rangers to the West. The local natives informed the patrol that no natives lived either along or at the head of the FONA.

THE "URIAGA" AND "AMINEI" RIVERS.

45. These rivers were crossed during the course of the patrol, neither appeared to be a major stream but both were significant enough to justify being included on the map.

-oOo-

46. The remainder of the map is reasonably correct and did not require alteration but various names of streams have been added.

-oOo-

(D.H.Pennefather)
Patrol Officer

MAY RIVER SPECIAL REPORT NO. 3 of 1969/1970.SITUATION REPORTA. POLITICAL.

47. Throughout the whole area patrolled none of the people had been subject to any form of formal political education. The extent of the most educated peoples knowledge was that they knew that they were administered from either one of three places: TELEFOMIN, MAY RIVER or GREEN RIVER. Such institutions as the House of Assembly and Local Government Councils were completely unknown to any.

48. Political education in this area is going to be hampered by the isolation of all native groups concerned and also by their backwardness. Such a campaign is going to be slow, very gradual and in some instances rather painful for the officers concerned. Should any of these people be able to vote in the 1972 elections I can see the greater number of votes being given to likes of such candidates as "Yes Sir".

49. At this very early stage I consider the most applicable form of political education for these people to be for them to gain a basic knowledge in how they are being administered locally and from this gradually broaden their knowledge, over a period of years, on such other subjects as the House of Assembly and Local Government. Any attempt ~~to undertake a sophisticated~~ on a sophisticated political education campaign will I feel sure be lost on these people. As they are at the moment too primitive for such information to have any effect on them.

50. On the 12th June, 1969 Mr G.J. McIntyre a prospector with "International Nickel Southern Exploration Limited" wrote a letter to this office explaining the discovery of a body in the MIANMIN area and as a result of this inter-village communication was reported to be at a standstill.

51. The body was discovered to be that of a FIYARIMIN native and a murder investigation was carried out by A.D.O. Tomlinson.

52. On our arrival in the area inter-village communication did not appear to be disrupted in any way and all appeared to be quite normal. As the killing was an internal matter there does not appear to be fear of an latter inter-tribal pay back killing. Nor do I feel that there will be an intra-tribal pay back killing because if this was to be done I feel that it would have been carried out prior to our arrival.

53. There ~~was~~ was no evidence brought forward to suggest that traditional land boundaries were not being observed, nor were any inter-village disputes brought to the attention of the patrol.

1

B. ECONOMIC

54. The only cropping carried out in the area is the traditional village subsistence type. There is no cash cropping at all in the area patrolled.

55. The mineral exploration company "International Nickel Southern Exploration Limited" (I.N.S.E.L.) is at present operating in the WHITE SCARP area where the company has found traces of copper. The company has a european labour force of 6 and a native labour force of about 30. Most of these labourers come from the MIANMIN area (Both MAY RIVER and TELEFOMIN) while a few are local YUAM natives from MAY RIVER.

56. I am not in a position to forecast the future moves of the above company but I would not be surprised if they are no longer prospecting in the WHITE SCARP area after Christmas of 1969.

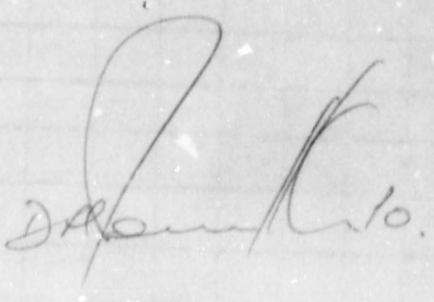
57. When considering the introduction of a Cash economy into the above area there immediately appear two major draw backs they being: (a) The isolation of all areas and (b) The great numerical weakness of all native groups especially those in the WHITE SCARP area.

C. SOCIAL

58. There have been no mission or education activities carried out in the areas covered by this report.

59. The standard of housing is reasonable but owing to the nomadic nature of the groups throughout the area patrolled there are no such things as permanent villages or permanent houses. Houses are built adjacent to the various gardens and are maintained for as long as the garden remains productive after which they are abandoned. All houses throughout the area were built on stilts from between 3 feet to 5 feet off the ground.

60. The patrol was accompanied by a Native Medical Assistant who did a complete medical check of groups contacted.



(D.H. Pennefather)
Patrol Officer



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of EAST SEPIK Report No. MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 2 1969/70

Patrol Conducted by MR. M.E. TOMLINSON, ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER

Area Patrolled RIGHT MAY RIVER NON-COUNCIL

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans MR. D. PENNEFATHER, PATROL OFFICER

Natives MR. X. WERIGI MED. LST. 7 RPNGC. 1 Hosp. Orderly
40 Carriers

Duration—From 18./8./1969 to 3./10./1969

Number of Days 47

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services...../...../19..... Not previously patrolled

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

Map Reference.....

Objects of Patrol 1. Contact uncontacted population. 2 Investigate reported killing. 3. Meet Green River Patrol to define areas of Administration for May River and Green River. 4. Meet Mining Party and assist them with initial contact with Locals - publicise mining activities. 5. Routine Administration.

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

Amount Returned to Store

Division of District Administration,
Department of the Administrator,
KORORUA. PAPUA.

67-3-21

9th January, 1970.

District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL NO. MAY RIVER 2/69-70.

Your reference 67-1-13 of 11th December,
1969.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Special
Report by Mr. M.E. Tomlinson, Assistant District Officer,
to Right May River area.

This patrol has extended the Administration's know-
ledge and influence into the remote areas of the Right May
River. Considerable consolidation work will be required
before the people grasp the basic concepts of our system
of law and order.

The establishment of a fixed boundary between the Green
River and May River administrative areas should help the work
of future patrols.

This interesting report provides a clear, informative
picture of the scattered inhabitants of the Right May.

Messrs. Tomlinson and Pennefather have successfully com-
pleted a valuable patrol under difficult conditions.

(T.W. ELLIS)

Secretary.Department of the Administrator.

c.c.
Mr. M.E. Tomlinson,
Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI.
East Sepik District.

Mr. D.H. Pennefather,
Patrol Post,
MAY RIVER.
East Sepik District.

Whilst political education is a continuing process it
is becoming a more specialised task, and you are still expected
to participate fully in its extension at every opportunity.

23

3. The Assistant District Commissioner has commented that in future the senior officer only will submit a report when two officers are on the one patrol. Separate reports are expected only when junior officers accompanying senior officers for experience in the field. The submission of reports by junior officers allows them to record their impressions of the patrol without the patrol losing its value as the senior officer's report contains all the relevant information required.

4. The area patrolled certainly presents a problem with regard to present and future economic development; the main obstacle being its isolation and lack of communications. I agree with Mr. Tomlinson that the only hope for the area is for minerals to be found; thus justifying the need for an airfield to be constructed.

5. Mr. Tomlinson has submitted an interesting report and it supplies us with valuable information not known to us before. An additional Assistant Patrol Officer is being posted to the Ambunti sub-district on the 11th December, 1969, and I am anticipating continued patrolling to this area.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

c.c. Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-district Office,
AMBUNTI.

Officer-in-Charge,
MAY RIVER.

Mr. Tomlinson
Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

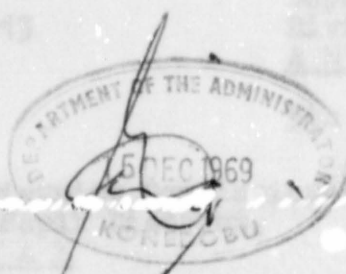
67.8.21.

22

Reference: 67-1-13

Division of District Administration,
District Office,
WEWAK.
East Sepik District.

11th December, 1969.



The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU, PAPUA.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 2 OF 1969/70 -
RIGHT MAY RIVER AREA - MR. M.L. TOM-
LINSON, ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER.

Attached please find :-

- (a) Original and copy of report.
- (b) Copy of patrol instructions issued to Mr. Tomlinson by the Assistant District Commissioner, Ambunti, on memorandum 67-1-13 dated 13th August, 1969.
- (c) Copy of memorandum 67-1-13 dated the 5th November, 1969, from the Assistant District Commissioner, Ambunti, and
- (d) Map of area patrolled.

2. I have the following comments to make with regard to this report (page and paragraph numbers are the same as those used in the report) :-

Administrative (Page 12 para. 6)

The Assistant District Commissioner, Ambunti, should make a separate submission to me under the appropriate subject heading for the transfer of the USARIMIN to the May River area for census purposes. I will then ask the District Commissioner, Vanimo for his comments and make a submission accordingly.

One can expect a certain amount of confusion in isolated areas adjacent to district boundaries and it is pleasing to note that some semblance of order is now apparent in the SERAWANIA area.

Certain recommendations have been made at paragraph 14 and the Assistant District Commissioner should make a separate submission to me on the subject.

Mining (page 14, para. 16)

I await with interest the report on delineation of land ownership in the area. It is important that the Administration has this at an early date and I will ask the Assistant District Commissioner to forward this information to me as soon as possible.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-1-13

Department of the Administrator,
Division of District Administration,
AMBUNTI, East Sepik District.

5th November, 1969.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK

REPORT MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 2 1969/70

Attached please find the following :

- (1) Original and 3 copies of the above report
2 tracings of patrol map
camping allowance claim
all submitted by Mr TOMLINSON ADO
- (2) Original and 3 copies report
camping allowance claim
1 sunprint of map
all submitted by Mr Pennefather P.O.

Mr Pennefather accompanied Mr Tomlinson on this patrol. In these circumstances submission of two reports seems to be unjustified and on future occasions I request permission to submit only one report to be compiled by the senior officer on the patrol. In this case both officers submitted reports at my direction.

I am attaching 4 copies of my patrol instruction to Mr Tomlinson. As can be seen from the report Mr Tomlinson ably assisted by Mr Pennefather has most competently carried through all objects of the patrol except for the task of investigating the attitude of the PEKWE people. However, this is close to MAY RIVER station and remote from the Right May RV area and rightly should not be regarded as part of the patrol task. Unfortunately Mr Tomlinson did not have time enough at MAY River before his return to AMBUNTI to go into this but I will have Mr Pennefather report on this aspect at the first opportunity.

This patrol has given us a clear picture now of the entire MAY RIVER area and the RIGHT MAY area was the last quadrant unknown. Mr Green of International Nickel has told me he is most appreciative of Messers' Tomlinson and Pennefather work in the area and of the state of co-operation accorded by the Administration.

I endorse Mr Tomlinson's remarks in paragraph 14.

I consider both officers have presented adequate and most useful reports.

(J.C. Corrigan)
Assistant District Commissioner

PATROL REPORT

Report Number MAY RIVER NO.2 of 1969-70
 Subdistrict ALBUNTI
 District EAST SEPIK
 Type of Patrol SPECIAL
 Patrol Conducted by M.E.TOMLINSON, ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER
 Area Patrolled RIGHT MAY RIVER
 NON COUNCIL

Personnel Accompanying Patrol MR.D.PENNEFATHER P.O.
 MR.X.WERIGI MEDAST.
 7RP&NGC
 1 HOSPITAL ORDERLY
 40 CARRIERS

Duration of Patrol - from 18/8/69 to 3/10/69

No. of Days FORTY SEVEN (47)

Last D.D.A. Patrol to area NOT PREVIOUSLY PATROLLED

- Objects of Patrol
- (1) CONTACT UNCONTACTED POPULATION
 - (2) INVESTIGATE REPORTED KILLING
 - (3) MEET GREEN RIVER PATROL TO DFFINE AREAS OF ADMINISTRATION FOR MAY RIVER AND GREEN RIVER
 - (4) MEET MINING PARTY AND ASSIST THEM WITH INITIAL CONTACT WITH LOCALS - PUBLICISE MINING ACTIVITIES
 - (5) ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION

Total Population of area Patrolled Estimated 200

18

Division

67-1-13

AMBUNTI,
East Sepik District.
17th August 1969.

AMBUNTI,
Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS

As discussed verbally you will be departing to-morrow for May River for exploratory patrolling in the headwaters of the Right May River. You will be taking over the May River Administrative Area from Mr Payer. Mr Pennefather will accompany you throughout the course of the patrol and will take over from you as OIC May River upon completion of the patrol and your return to AMBUNTI.

As directed by the District Commissioner we are to co-operate with INSEL in its activities associated with its various prospecting authorities in the May River area. INSEL will not be requiring our immediate assistance until early September so it is anticipated you will have time to investigate the finding of a body a body in the vicinity of USALE by an INSEL field party some months ago and to settle any situation which may have arisen between ^{native} the August River headwaters and the Right May (reference various names from Mr McIntyre, Mr Pennefather and myself on file 67-1-13). With this in mind, at the District Commissioner's direction you have arranged a rendezvous with a Green River patrol and to further facilitate this you should keep in close touch with radio by portable with both AMBUNTI and Green River.

After this first phase has been accomplished you should then proceed along the course of the White Bear watercourse, contacting the population en route, to a point known as 'the old army camp', familiar to Mr Pennefather where it is proposed you rendezvous with the INSEL Field Party.

Wherever possible you should inform all people in the May River Administrative Area of the activities of the various mining companies in line with the Director's memo 59-1-1 of 29th April and the District Commissioner's memo 67-1-1/35-11-3 of 20th June. In your report please give your assessment of the state of affairs as reported recently by Mr Payer in his recent Intelligence Summary. Personally I am not convinced the situation is quite as unfavourable as this indicates. Please ascertain from the PEKME people the basis of their claim to the Freida Prospect area. In addition whilst travelling to May River you should investigate the report of threatening behaviour from KUPKAIN. Any prisoners can be committed to May River.

I hope you have a pleasant patrol.

For your further action, please.

C. J. Corrigan
Assistant District Commissioner

c.c. District Commissioner,
WEWAK.

(17)

MAY RIVER PATROL NO.2 of 1969-70

RIGHT MAY RIVER AREA

SPECIAL PATROL

PATROL DIARY

Monday, 18th August

0700 M.V. OPAL departed Ambunti for May River. Self departed in M.V. Sapphire 0730. Party included Mr.D.Pennefather, Patrol Officer, Mr.X.Werigi, Medical Assistant, 3 R.P.&N.C.C., 1 Hospital Orderly and 15 carriers. Travelled up Sepik to 1745 when camp set up on river bank some distance below Waskuk before encountering worst sandbanks as river very low. 1915 Opal arrived.

Slept aboard M.V.Sapphire

Tuesday, 19th August

0700 Departed heading up river. 0730 transferred to speedboat and travelled with Mr.Pennefather to BIAGA arriving 0800. 0800-0915 Held Local Court. 0915-0945 By speedboat with prisoner to KUBKAIN where rejoined the 'Sapphire'. Fuel deposited at KUBKAIN depot. 1030-1730 Continued on to INIOK. 'Opal' arrived 1800.

Slept aboard M.V.Sapphire.

Wednesday, 20th August

0630-1500 Travelled up Sepik to mouth of May River. Edged over sand bar there, thence travelling slowly up the May to May River Station as river only just high enough ~~to~~ for travel. 1500-1630 Ships unloaded. Both ships then departed in order not to be stranded by any overnight drop in the river level. Mr.J.McIntyre of International Nickel present at May River.

Slept May River Station

Thursday, 21st August

0745-1030 Preparation for departure of patrol. 1030 double canoe and single canoe departed with advance load of personnel and rations to travel as far up the May as possible towards the MIANMIN area. 1030-1645 Paid station, personnel, routine duties and further patrol preparations. Afternoon contacted Green River and Amanab to arrange rendezvous for Green River and May River Patrols.

Slept May River Station

Friday, 22nd August

Further patrol preparations and awaiting return of canoes. 1500 I.N.S.E.L. canoe arrived and as Administration canoes had not returned loaded cargo ~~staxit~~ onto it and departed 1515. Just after leaving station met Admin. canoes and cargo transferred to the double. I.N.S.E.L. and Ambunti canoe returned to May River. Continued up May River to ARAI, arriving 1930.

Slept ARAI Rest House

(16)

Saturday, 23rd August

0730-1200 By outboard to first MIANMIN hamlet of TUMAUIWI. There met up with rest of patrol, including 4 further R.P.&N.G.C. from May River. Canoe loaded heavily with cargo, while further cargo carried by carriers, ~~on~~ who had been recruited at May River, to WATABUNG, main MIANMIN settlement in the area. ~~3.5~~ headed upstream by canoe. Met number of carriers from USARIMIN who relieved canoe of some of its heavy load. After a number of portrages necessitating pulling canoes through shallow fast running waters reached WATABUNG at 1700. Travelled further 1/2 mile up Right May River (Abei) where landed cargo. 1700-1900 Set up camp. Carriers arrived with remaining cargo. Rationed carriers and arranged for recruitment of 22-26 MIANMIN carriers.

Slept under canvas Camp No.1

Sunday, 24th August

0700-0845 Organising carriers, breaking camp etc. Medast treated any sick people. 0845 departed with approximately 50 heavily loaded carriers. Remainder of supplies left at camp in charge of Const. EIMBOR. 1400 Reached USARIMIN village site situated on both banks of the Right May. Cleared bush and set up camp. Afternoon spoke with people concerning body found by I.N.S.E.L. Party. Believed to have been shot by an uncontacted group the FIYARIMIN living to the South west on the MUNI River. Also gained information re SUGONGA area and SORIMIN area. 2100 Heavy rain with high winds and lightning. Caused river to rise considerably.

Slept Camp No.2 (USARIMIN)

Monday, 25th August

0900 Carriers and 2 Police returned to WATABUNG for further cargo. Bush materials store constructed to contain patrol supplies as this site to be a base camp. 1630 Attempted to contact Ambunti by radio without success. 1800 Carriers returned with supplies. Heavy rain at night.

Slept Camp NO.2

Tuesday, 26th August

0800 Carriers returned to WATABUNG for last of supplies. May River carriers paid off. 0830 Mr. Pennefather departed heading upstream along north bank of the Right May to locate stream coming in from the White Scarpe area. During day rations etc. prepared for trip of two weeks. Medast. provided medical treatment for local people. Pig purchased and shot. 1500 Mr. Pennefather returned having reached the junction of the stream coming in from the White Scarpe area some 2 1/2 hours walk from camp, this being the major stream and known as Abei. Also passed the junction of a smaller stream coming in from the south and known as Muni, which is shown on the map as the Right May. 1615 Remaining supplies arrived in camp.

Slept Camp NO.2

Wednesday, 27th August

Rest day for carriers. Further preparations made for trip to Green River area. Informed USARIMIN people of likely prospecting activities in the area. No objections. Other general discussions.

Slept Camp No.2

15

Thursday, 28th August

0730-0915 Travelled in a generally westerly direction, leaving the main stream, until reached the Muni upstream from its junction with the Abei. Followed the Muni upstream in a generally southerly direction until 1045, where viewed the bones of the allegedly murdered FIYARIMIN man ~~which he had placed in a tree.~~ Continued to follow the Muni crossing it at 1200 and continuing on until at 1315 reached the junction of a stream coming in to the Muni from the west. Followed this stream, the Kenega, until 1545.

1600-1730 Set up camp in dense bush and in heavy rain.

Slept Camp No.3

Friday, 29th August

0715 Departed heading upstream along the Kenega. At first crossed and recrossed the ~~the~~ swiftly flowing stream a number of times, but as it became shallower followed the stream bed wading in water or clambering over rocks and ridges around deep pools. During course of the day passed one INSEL camp and at 1430 reached one of their camp and air drop sites in heavy rain. 1500-1630 Set up camp.. 1800 Three armed FIYARIMIN men arrived at the camp, having come across the patrol's tracks while on a hunting expedition. 1 man agreed to accompany patrol to SUGONGA. (Three others had been included in the carrier line at USARIMIN).

Slept Camp No.4

Saturday, 30th August

0730-0915 Continued following the bed of the Kenega. Thence climbed a steep ridge heading west and descended into the Siria Creek 1130. Followed the bed of the Siria, climbing steadily until 1330. Thence followed steep climb up a high ridge in a w. direction until 1430. Found camp site ~~just~~ on the east side just below the crest of the divide separating the Right May and August River headwaters. 1500-1700 Set up camp after solid days going. Heavy rain again in the evening.

Slept Camp No.5

Sunday, 31st August

0740 Broke camp and after 20 mins. gradual climb reached top of the divide. Descended a short distance to the headwaters of the Tondema, a tributary of the August, and followed this upstream in a n.w. direction until 1100. Thence left the stream and climbed a high steep ridge reaching the crest of the ridge 1200. Thence descended the ridge into a watercourse, which was followed over rocks and boulders until it joined the Sugonga, arriving at the junction at 1615 at a garden site of the Sugonga River people. During days walk had passed newly constructed bush shelters, and at the garden site found recent tracks of people, though at the time of the patrol's arrival the area was deserted. 1615-1745 Set up camp adjacent to gardens.

Slept Camp No.6

Slept Camp No.7

14

Monday, 1st September

0730-0845 Walked downstream to the main settlement of the SERAWANIA people on the banks of the Sugonga.
0900-1100 Set up camp etc. Met by Luluai from the Telefomin area (along the Sepik) who claims to really belong to the Sugonga area. Sugonga people claim to be ~~Telefomin~~ ~~Telefomin~~.
contact. Very people away in the bush. Purchased fresh food and Medast treated sores etc.
1615 Informed by A.D.C. Amanab on radio that Green River Patrol expected to arrive within next two days.

Slept Camp No.7

Tuesday, 2nd September

Day spent resting carriers, drying clothes equipment etc. More people arrived from bush and fresh food purchased. Others still apprehensive, particularly women. People afraid that the patrol was going to make arrests. Discussions with people and camp site cleared for Green River Patrol.

Slept Camp No.7

Wednesday, 3rd September

Awaiting Green River Patrol. Purchased food and Medast treated number of people. 1615 advised on radio by A.D.C. Amanab that Green River Patrol due arrive in the afternoon.
1630 Despatched 2 Police and 20 carriers to meet and assist Green River Patrol. However very heavy rain caused rivers to rise rapidly and forced them to return. Non swimmers cut off by rising waters did not reach camp until early hours of the morning.

Slept Camp No.7

Thursday, 4th September

1000 Green River Patrol arrived, lead by Mr.R.Chisolm, O.I.C., Green River. Camp set up. Discussions with Mr.Chisolm.
1545 Spoke to Amanab on radio. No fresh food forthcoming, rice issued. People very apprehensive at site of the arrival of Green River Patrol. However was able to allay their fears somewhat.

Slept Camp No.7

Friday, 5th September

At LAIPIP, (hamlet of SERAWANIA people). Morning discussions with Mr.Chisolm re administration of groups along the Green River-May River border. Discovered that two groups in the White Scarpe area, believed to be uncontacted, had been contacted from Green River by patrols late last year and early this year, though now found to be in the May River area. Sugonga River people found to be definitely living in the Green River area. Afternoon all people assembled and spoken to by Mr.Chisolm and ~~afternoon~~ self. 33 people present. Informed of Administration policies and that in future they would be visited by Green River Patrols. Also informed of likelihood of prospecting activities in the area, to which people had no objections.

Slept Camp No.7

13

Saturday, 6th September

0700 Departed at same time as Green River Patrol. Followed upstream along the Sugonga, going back over incoming track. River swollen somewhat due to previous nights rain, making crossings more difficult. 1100 took different track heading up ridge. Climbed steadily till 1300 and then followed high ridge in N. direction. 1300 after experiencing difficulty in locating flat camping site near water stopped to set up camp in near vicinity of Blue Mountain (shown on fourmil map). During setting up of camp two accidents occurred among tired carriers. Wounds satisfactorily sutured by Medast.

Slept Camp No.8

Sunday, 7th September

0730-1130 Walked along ridge in a generally S. direction, then descending to meet incoming track on the Siria Creek. Followed old track back to the Kenega and then down to camp site No.4 arriving 1300. Failed to make radio contact with Ambunti. River rose during night almost to camp level.

Slept Camp No.4

Monday, 8th September

0730-0945 Walked to new FIYARIMIN camp at SITABIP, travelling in a generally S.E. direction. Met by a number of FIYARIMIN men who all returned to their main hamlet site on the south side of a high ridge. 0945-1100 Set up camp. 1430 Men returned with food and women. While food being purchased suspect in murder investigation arrested without trouble, as he was completely unsuspecting. Refused to make statement and denied knowledge of the killing. Spoke to people (32 present) concerning aims and services of the Administration. Informed that killings and fighting must cease. Also advised of prospecting activities. 1630 Failed to make radio contact with Ambunti.

Slept Camp No.9

Tuesday, 9th September

SITABIP. Rained practically all day. People departed and returned with food. All people inoculated against yaws by Medast. and given other medical treatment where required. 1600-1800 Interviewed witnesses involved in murder investigation.

Slept Camp No.9

Wednesday, 10th September

0730-1000 Crossed a high ridge travelling generally in a N.E. direction and then descended onto the Muni. Thence followed Muni downstream in N. direction until reached and crossed the Kenega at 1320. Continued to follow Muni downstream until 1445, where crossed to the east bank and set up camp on old INSEI camp site.

Slept Camp No.10

12

Thursday, 11th September

Informed that a witness required for questioning had disappeared during the morning meal.
0730-1045 Walked back to the base camp at USARIMIN. En route had bones of alleged murder victim identified.
At USARIMIN carriers given issues etc. and camp equipment dried out etc.

Slept Camp No.2

Friday, 12th September

Intended to return to FIYARIMIN to find run away witness, but further investigation revealed that he had no relevant information concerning the police investigation.
0930 Mr.F.Green, Chief Geologist for INSEL arrived by helicopter searching for patrol. Brought news of INSEL movements and also of Mr.J.Corrigan, A.D.C. Ambunti, on patrol in the Left May River area. Arranged radio sked with INSEL.
Discussions with USARIMIN people. Requested that they be administered from May River as now most of the group now residing well inside the May River Administrative Area.
Medast. carried out anti-yaws campaign.

Slept Camp No.2

Saturday, 13th September

0800-0945 Walked back over previous track to the Muni.
0945-1045 Waited for carriers and crossed Muni which was running swiftly and chest deep. 1045-1200 Walked north gradually veering away from the Muni until reached the Fona, a large stream coming in from the west.. Followed it downstream for 10 mins to its junction with the large Abei coming in from the north. By 1230 had crossed the Fona. 1245-1630 Followed good level track along the west bank of the Abei, heading north.
1630-1730 Set up camp. 1315 Spoke to INSEL on radio.

Slept Camp No.11

Sunday, 14th September

Reported that 9 MIANMIN carriers had deserted during the night, thus all patrol personnel, including officers had to carry extra cargo. 0745-1100 Walked northward crossing and recrossing the Abei until reached the junction of the Amowe, a stream coming in from the S.W. Continued to follow the Abei and reached and crossed the Bogobz, a large stream coming in from the west. Continued following the Abei in country not known by the guides, but following a fresh set of native tracks. 1500 patrol was overtaken by a SORIMIN man. 1530 stopped to make camp, which was set up by 1700. SORIMIN man later returned with another man who had a bush shelter in the vicinity. Also found old Green River Patrol camp in the near vicinity.

Slept Camp No.12

Monday, 15th September

0745-1230 Walked further upstream following track previously cut by Green River Patrol. 3 carriers dropped their loads and ran away but returned after about an hour. Reached INSEL base camp. Afternoon set up camp etc.

Slept Camp No.13

(11)

Tuesday, 16th September

At INSEL base camp. 20 Carriers and 1 R.P.&N.G.C. sent back to USARIMIN to collect remainder of patrol supplies. Others employed in constructing bush materials store.

Slept Camp No. 13

Wednesday, 17th September

Morning further interview with witnesses involved in murder investigation. Preparation of rations and stores for trip to SORIMIN area.

Late afternoon Mr. J. Corrigan and patrol arrived from the Left May River area.

Slept Camp No. 13

Thursday, 18th September

Discussions with A.D.C. Corrigan. Rain during most of the morning. Afternoon had helicopter survey of SORIMIN area on the Bogobe River, with Mr. W. Delaney, Geologist. FIYARIMIN prisoner flown by helicopter to May River.

Slept Camp No. 13

Friday, 19th September

Intended to depart for SORIMIN area, but heavy rain during the night caused river to rise rapidly, prohibiting all movement. Rain continued all day. Carriers sent to USARIMIN did not return, presumably due to the swollen state of all rivers in the area.

Slept Camp No. 13

Saturday, 20th September

0900 Patrol departed heading downstream accompanied by Mr. Delaney reaching site of camp 12 about 1300. No sign of carriers coming from USARIMIN and 2 Police despatched to find them. 1330-1530 Left the Abei following old Green River patrol track heading in a generally W. direction. Crossed a low ridge and descended to a stream, the Maumiawi. Crossed this stream and just upstream from its junction with the Bogobi, on the Bogobe reached the SORIMIN settlement. 1530-1700 Set up camp.

Slept Camp No. 14

Sunday, 21st September

Mr. Pennefather and Mr. Delaney to Maumiawi Ck. area to collect geological data. Self attempted to speak to the people but this was difficult through lack of satisfactory interpreters. During morning 21 people arrived, with news of others trapped on the east side of the flooded Abei. 1215 Carriers returned from USARIMIN with all patrol supplies. Amongst them labourer IMO from May River able to converse with the SORIMIN as their language is that of the ITELINU people of the Left May River. Had discussions with people. Two small groups, SORI and NIGYAMA living at this hamlet of TABIABI. People inoculated against yaws by Hospital Orderly.

Slept Camp No. 14 (TABIABI)

(10)

Monday, 22nd September

0740 Departed TABIABI and walked back over previous track to INSEL base camp arriving 1240. Afternoon Mr. Pennefather returned to TABIABI with Mr. Green by helicopter. Camp set up etc. Spoke with two men from UMIRITA area further up the main river who had arrived at camp. 1315 Spoke with Mr. Corrigan on radio at May River.

Slept Camp No.13

Tuesday, 23rd September

At INSEL base camp. Paid off carriers no longer required for patrol. Prepared rations cargo etc. for next stage of patrol. Afternoon spoke with number of UMIRITA men who had come in to guide the patrol.

Slept Camp No.13

Wednesday, 24th September

0900-0915 By helicopter with Mr. J. Puce, Geologist, for survey of tributaries on the head of the Abei. Located a number of houses in the area. 0945 Departed with Mr. Pennefather and Mr. Puce heading upstream. Went ahead to main settlement of the UMIRITA people off the main stream on a ridge arriving 1245. Only one fortified house at the site. 1300-1600 Set up camp and prepared helicopter drop site. Mr. Puce arrived later in the afternoon, having followed more slowly carrying out compass traverse of the main stream. Late afternoon members of the MASEITO group from the Sobai branch of the Abei arrived.

Slept Camp No.15 (ABUNU)

Thursday, 25th September

Light rain in early morning. 0800-0900 Discussions with people concerning Administration and prospecting activities in the area. No objections. 14 UMIRITA people present and 16 MASEITO being the inhabitants of the area at the head of the Sobai (MASEITO) and Yigi (UMIRITA) branches which join to form the Abei (Yabu). Population inoculated against yaws. 0915-0945 Walked back to the Abei to the junction of the Sobai and Yigi, Sobai coming in from the N.W. and Yigi from the north. Mr. Puce continued traverse up the Sobai branch. 1000-1600 Self and Mr. Pennefather supervised clearing of bush and construction of helipad and setting up of camp. 1600 Helicopter landed bringing supplies and evacuating sick carrier. 1815 Contacted INSEL base on radio.

Slept Camp No.16

Friday, 26th September

0800-1045 Supervised completion of clearing helipad approaches while Mr. Puce and Mr. Pennefather proceeded up Sobai collecting geological data. 1045 Walked up Sobai to assist Mr. Puce. Met Mr. Pennefather at a house site of the MASEITO on a ridge near the base of Mt. Watercap, where he was constructing a helipad. 1600 Returned to camp.

Slept Camp No.16

9

Saturday, 27th September

Mr. Pennefather and carriers departed for INSEL base camp. 0745 Departed with Mr. Puce heading up the Yigi branch of the stream, to assist him. Following note dropped by helicopter self returned to camp, where broke camp and sent remainder of INSEL carriers to follow Mr. Puce. 1130 Helicopter arrived and moved Mr. Puce's equipment to helicopter pad further up the Yigi. Self then flown by helicopter back to base camp.

Slept Camp No. 13

Sunday, 28th September

Observed at INSEL Base Camp (White Scarpe Camp)

Slept Camp No. 13

Monday, 29th September

Morning by helicopter with Mr. Pennefather to May River Station. At May River did cash reimbursement and handover/takeover of station to Mr. Pennefather. After waiting out rain, self returned to INSEL camp (approx. 25 mins flying time). Mr. Pennefather remained May River to complete station duties before commencing new patrol to White Scarpe area. 1600 At base camp paid off number of carriers no longer required.

Slept Camp No. 13

Tuesday, 30th September

0930 Patrol departed heading up tributary of the Abai north and east of the camp. 1100 Started climbing and after very steep long climb reached top of the range at 1230. Descended to a deserted house of the ITELINU people arriving 1500 and there waited until 1400 for carriers to arrive. Number of ITELINU people met here who acted as guides. Continued to descend. Passed camp site of Mr. Corrigan and after descending further and crossing headwaters of a number of small streams reached another of Mr. Corrigan's camp sites at 1545. 1600-1730 Camp set up in heavy rain. 1730 Witness LBIPNING slipped away unnoticed from patrol. His absence noted after about 5 mins. Search followed in heavy rain until dark, but failed to find any trace of him.

Slept Camp No. 17

Wednesday, 1st October

0730-0815 Descended to a house in the ITELINU area with a considerable number of people present. 0830 Reached the Left May River (Arai) and crossed. Here met more ITELINU people. Followed down river through the AMASU-NAJKWI area and reached SARI at 1300, changing guides from area to area. 1500 reached vicinity of NIMO, where received information that ARAI was not far away. 1500-1830 Walked to ARAI with track becoming muddier and last 1/2 hours spent floundering through swamp, before emerging on banks of the May River above ARAI just on dark. Last part of walk completed in heavy rain. Station outboard waiting at ARAI despatched to collect carriers when they emerged from swamp and arrived back at 1930. Again despatched with lights for further carriers and arrived back at 2045, all operations being hampered by heavy rain.

Slept ARAI Rest House

(8)

Thursday, 2nd October

0830 Departed by power canoe in drizzling rain which soon cleared. Passed INSEL canoe on its way to ARAI which agreed to collect remainder of patrol personnel. Arrived May River Station 1100. 1300 Remainder of carriers arrived. Afternoon paid off MIANMIN carriers. Cargo loaded on M.V. Sapphire which was awaiting to return patrol personnel to Ambunti.

Friday, 3rd October

0715 Sapphire departed with patrol carriers and Police etc. for Ambunti.
Approx. 1400 self departed May River in M.A.F. float plane and flew to Ambunti.

END OF DIARY

(7)

MAY RIVER PATROL NO.2 of 1969-70

RIGHT MAY RIVER AREA

INTRODUCTION

1. The Right May River area is situated in the south west corner of the May River Administrative area, being bordered on the south by the Telefomin Sub-District and on the west by the Amanab Sub-District of the West Sepik District. The Right May, as shown on the map, rises in the south in the vicinity of Mt.Kasa (approx. 7200 feet), but the main tributary of the system, known locally in the Mianmin area as the Abei, rises in the north near Mt. Water Cap and Mt. Rocky Peak. The river generally runs through a fairly wide valley with steep hills on each side. The area in the west is bordered by the Landslip and West Ranges, which form the border between the May River and Green River Administrative areas and have mountains rising to approximately 6000 feet. One of the basic features in the system of mountains running between the Left May and Abei Rivers is the large limestone outcrop, known as White Scarpe, which has lent its name generally to the area. The climate in the area is considerably cooler than on the May River itself, and the rainfall is very high, possibly being over 250 inches per annum.
2. Until this patrol the Right May River area had not been patrolled by the Administration beyond USARIMIN. Prior to the patrol it was also believed that the areas at the head of the Abei had not been patrolled, but this was found to be incorrect as the area had been visited by Green River patrols last year and early this year. In May this year a field party from International Nickel Southern Explorations Ltd, lead by Mr.F.Greene and Mr.J.McIntyre crossed from the headwaters of the August River to the Right May and back to May River.
3. The objects of this special patrol were to contact any uncontacted population along the Right May; to rendezvous with a Green River Patrol to investigate reports in breakdowns of inter village communications between people of the Sugonga River area and the people of the Right May and to define more fully May River and Green River spheres of administration; to investigate reports by the abovementioned field party of finding the body of an allegedly murdered man; and to rendezvous with another field party of INSEL carrying out prospecting activities in the Abei River (White Scarpe) area to inform all local population in the area of prospecting activities and to ensure that relations between the primitive local people and the mining firm were satisfactory.
4. The patrol was accompanied by Mr.D.Pennefather, Patrol Officer, Mr.X.Werigi, Medical Assistant, one Hospital, Orderly and 7 members of the R.P.&N.G.C. A nucleus of 15 carriers was recruited from the Waskuk Hills area near Ambunti, while the majority of carriers as required were recruited from the Mianmin groups along the Right May and May Rivers.

(6)

SPECIAL REPORT

ADMINISTRATIVE

5. The groups of people seen by the patrol can be dealt with under five headings i.e. Usarimin, Fiyarimin, Serawania, Sori-Nigyama, Umibita-Meseito. The first three of these are sub-groups of the large Mianmin group which lives in the area between May River and Telefomin, whilst the last two speak a similar language to the Itelinu people at the head of the Left May River.

Usarimin

6. This group appears to have been first censused by May River patrols, but in more recent times have been censused by Telefomin patrols on the Fiak River under the name of Kusaranmin. The group in the past appears to have lead a nomadic existence travelling between the Fiak and Right May Rivers. However now most of the group are living in a more permanent settlement astride the Right May River only about 4 hours ~~upstream~~ walk upstream from its junction with the May River, where the May River administered Mianmin group Usage reside. The people now have a 2 to 3 day walk to attend for census on the Fiak River and have requested that they now be administered from May River. It is recommended that their wishes in this regard be followed, as their present settlement is situated on the patrol route which will be followed to visit other groups met by this ~~present~~ patrol and it is well inside the boundaries of the May River area.

Fiyarimin

7. This group resides in mountainous country near the headwaters of the Right May (Muni) River, to the south and west of the Usarimin group and their land extends west along the Kenegaa River almost to the Green River Border. They have not been visited previously by patrols, though two of their number were arrested some two years ago by a Telefomin patrol when they joined the Urapmin group in a raid on another group, and are still in gaol.

8. 32 Fiyarimin people were seen by the patrol and it was reported that a number of others were living in isolated bush houses, as they were suffering from various illnesses. It is estimated that the total population of the group would be in the vicinity of 50. This was the group that was responsible for the death of the body found by the INSEL field party referred to in para.3.

Serawania

9. This group resides in the headwaters of the Sugonga River, a tributary of the August, in the Green River Administrative Area, though their lands extend into the May River Area. It is believed that this group exists in two parts: (1) Living to the southwest in the Telefomin Sub-District along the Sepik, being contacted from Telefomin; (2) This group on the Sugonga, which claim to have not previously been contacted, though it is known that two Green River Patrols passed in the near vicinity in the early and middle 1960's. 33 People were seen of this group by the patrol and by a Green River Patrol lead by Mr. R.Chisolm, including the Luluai from the Telefomin section of the group. He claimed that the whole group intends to move back from the Sepik to the Sugonga River area.

5

10. When the INSEL field party crossed from the August to the Right May in May, a number of members of this group accompanied the party as carriers. When the body was discovered in the Fiyarimin area these men deserted and returned home, fearing that fighting was going on in the area. This led to reports of breakdowns in intervillage communications in the area. The Serawania and Fiyarimin groups are traditionally friendly and carry out social exchanges and 'sing sings' with each other. A number of Fiyarimin men accompanied the patrol to the Serawania area, and relations between the two groups appear to be friendly again, as was further shown by the fact that a Fiyarimin man had been residing with the Serawania for some time.

Sori-Nigyama

11. These two small groups live on the Bogobe (Bor), a tributary of the Abai. Prior to the patrol it was believed that they were previously uncontacted, but this was found to be incorrect as they had been contacted recently by Green River Patrols. The group actually resides in the May River area and in future will be administered from there.

12. The group speaks much the same language as the Itelinu people at the head of the Left May River and are friendly with this group. There appears to be a population of only about 30 in the group, many of them having died through illness and by raiding carried on in the past by the Mianmin and by the Idam River people to the west. This is the group referred to by the Mianmins as Sorimin (see May River Patrol Report No. 4 of 1968-69). A book was issued to the group under the name of Tabiabi, which is the name of the hamlet where the people are now living, and which appears to be a fairly permanent settlement.

Umirita-Maseito

13. These two small groups live in scattered houses along the two northern tributaries which form the Abai (Yabu in their own language) near the foot of Mt. Water Gap. They belong to the same language group as the IMELINU people and are friendly with them and the people mentioned in paras. 11 and 12. The group live in strongly fortified houses built some 12 feet off the ground on ridges, and equipped with loopholes and generally well stocked with bundles of arrows fastened all round the walls of the houses. In the past these people were also subject to raids by the Idam River people and the Didipas people of the Left May River. This group was also contacted recently by Green River patrols, though it too is actually in the May River area. Only 30 people were seen by the patrol in this area.

Recommendations

14. It is recommended that the Usarimin, Fiyarimin, Tabiabi and Umirita-Maseito groups be included in the Upper May Census Division. This would add about two weeks onto the Upper May Patrol. A suggested patrol route would be from Arai, up the Left May as far as Itelinu, then across the range to Umirita-Maseito, Tabiabi, Fiyarimin, Usarimin and back to Usage on the May. In the 'wet' when the rivers are high canoes can travel up the Right May to Usarimin and a considerable way up the Left May, but at this time many of the tracks in the Left May area are swamp and inundated with water. In the dry canoes can only travel as far as Tumaui on the May.

(4)

MINING

15. One of the main aims of the patrol was to rendez-vous with an INSEL prospecting party operating in PAS9. The patrol met this party at their base camp on the Abei, known as their White Scarpe Base Camp. At the present time the party is operating in the areas occupied by the ~~expedition~~ in areas 11-13, which at that stage they believed to have been uncontested. The patrol accompanied prospecting parties on their first trips to both these areas and stayed with them for a number of days in each place. Prospecting activities were explained to the people ~~by~~ through an interpreter accompanying the patrol. The people were friendly and had no objections to prospecting being carried out in their area.

A number from each place were willingly recruited to work with the prospecting parties. In all other places visited by the patrol, prospecting activities were publicised, and in no place were objections raised.

16. The Company asked that something be done to determine land ownership in the area, and on the completion of the patrol Mr. Pennefather returned to the area with this view in mind. Land ownership should be fairly straightforward as there is only a small population involved and their appear to be no land disputes at present. The Company has found ample signs of mineralisation in the area and even traces of copper, but at the time the patrol was in the area early assay results showed nothing of any consequence.

17. Relationships between the Company and the local people should remain satisfactory provided that care is taken to avoid misunderstandings and offending the people. A member of the prospecting team, Mr. G. J. McIntyre, is an ex patrol officer and O.I.C. May River and has had considerable experience in dealing with primitive people.

POLICE INVESTIGATION

18. An investigation was made by the patrol into reports by the previous INSEL of the finding of a body in the area. As a result of investigations a FIYARIMIN man was charged ~~and~~ with wilful murder and has been committed for trial. It appears that the accused man believed that the deceased had killed his wife by sorcery, and for this reason he shot him. There appear to have been no repercussions in the area following the killing, and at the time of the patrol's visit the situation was satisfactory.

19. Two witnesses accompanied the patrol from the area, but unfortunately one of these absconded on the second night of the patrol, slipping away from camp just before dark in a heavy rainstorm. In spite of a search, no trace of him was found. It is believed that he would head back to his home area (some 4 days walk away by patrol standards) and then disappear into the Telefomin Sub-District to hide until he believed it safe to return home. For this reason and for the fact that the patrol was out of rations it appeared futile to follow the man. He has no new evidence to offer, but his story corroborates the other witness, and an effort should be made to have him available for the Supreme Court.

SITUATION REPORT

POLITICAL

20. With the exception of the Usarimin, who have been under Administration influence for the past few years, all groups visited by the patrol had previously had little or no contact with the Administration, and have no conception or knowledge of politics when thought about in terms of the House of Assembly and Local Government. Every day intra-village politics and relations between groups are the only conception of politics that these people have.

21. In all cases people were friendly to the patrol, but in some cases such as the newly contacted Fiyarimin and Serawania, some people were timid and apprehensive. In all cases whether previously visited or not, people were aware of the existence of the Administration, generally having heard stories of patrols that were sent in to arrest their Mianmin relatives in the Telefomin area for tribal fighting in the past.

22. People generally are still afraid to travel outside their own tribal areas and are generally still distrustful of their old enemies and this is particularly shown by the fact that the people situated on the Bogobe River and the headwaters of the Abei are still constructing heavily fortified houses, as mentioned elsewhere in this report. With the exception of a number of men of Fiyarimin taking part with the Urapmin in a raid about 1967, as previously mentioned, there seems to be little evidence of actual large scale fighting having taken place in the area covered by the patrol since the late 1950s.

ECONOMIC

23. In the area patrolled the people exist wholly on a subsistence level. Taro is the staple diet supplemented by bananas, sugar cane etc., sago in the lower areas, sweet potato (where wild pigs are not a problem), pandanus fruit etc. The people also hunt game such as birds, pig and cassowaries which abound in the area. They construct large gardens, particularly the Mianmin in the south, and are generally semi nomadic in that all groups are continually moving round from garden to garden and house to house within their own tribal areas. The Mianmin groups visited have traditional trade ties with other Mianmin groups in the Telefomin Sub-District, while those at the headwaters of the Abei have trade ties with the Itelinu people on the Left May and possibly with some of the people on the Idam.

24. The number of crocodile skulls seen in houses at Usarimin, tend to show that there are large numbers of crocodiles in the Right May River. This could be a source of income for the Usarimin people, but the biggest drawback to this is the distance these people would have to go to May River to sell skins. After reaching the end of the walking track on the May River, people have to rely on the goodwill of the people along the May River to transport them by paddle canoe a number of days each way to reach May River Station. The people also claimed that they had no salt for preserving skins. A number of carriers before returning to Usarimin obtained salt from a trader at May River, with a view to selling crocodile skins. There are also ample tracts of pine in this sparsely populated area which produce copal gum, which can be sold to D.A.S.F. However distances to market again do not encourage enthusiasm among the people.

25. The Abei River along most of its course runs through a fairly wide flat valley, bordered on each side by mountains. This valley is predominately covered by virgin forest and agriculturally should be capable of supporting a much larger

population than the few people who now live scattered along the valley. However inaccessability and distance from markets would at present prohibit any thoughts of resettlement. There is a site along the valley which could possibly be developed into a fairly large airstrip, but again costs for a place entirely serviced by air and so far from markets would be very high and most likely prohibitive. The mining company have indicated that they would be interested in developing this airstrip if prospecting results proved promising. In fact the finding of minerals in paying quantities would be the best and probably the only hope for developing the economy of this area.

SOCIAL

26. The Mianmin people in the south of the area patrolled are a much more healthy and vigorous people than those living in the lower country along the Sepik and May Rivers. The people from the head of the Abai are generally reasonably healthy, though not as robust looking as the Mianmins. Malaria is not particularly prevalent, and mosquitoes are few, no doubt due to the altitude.

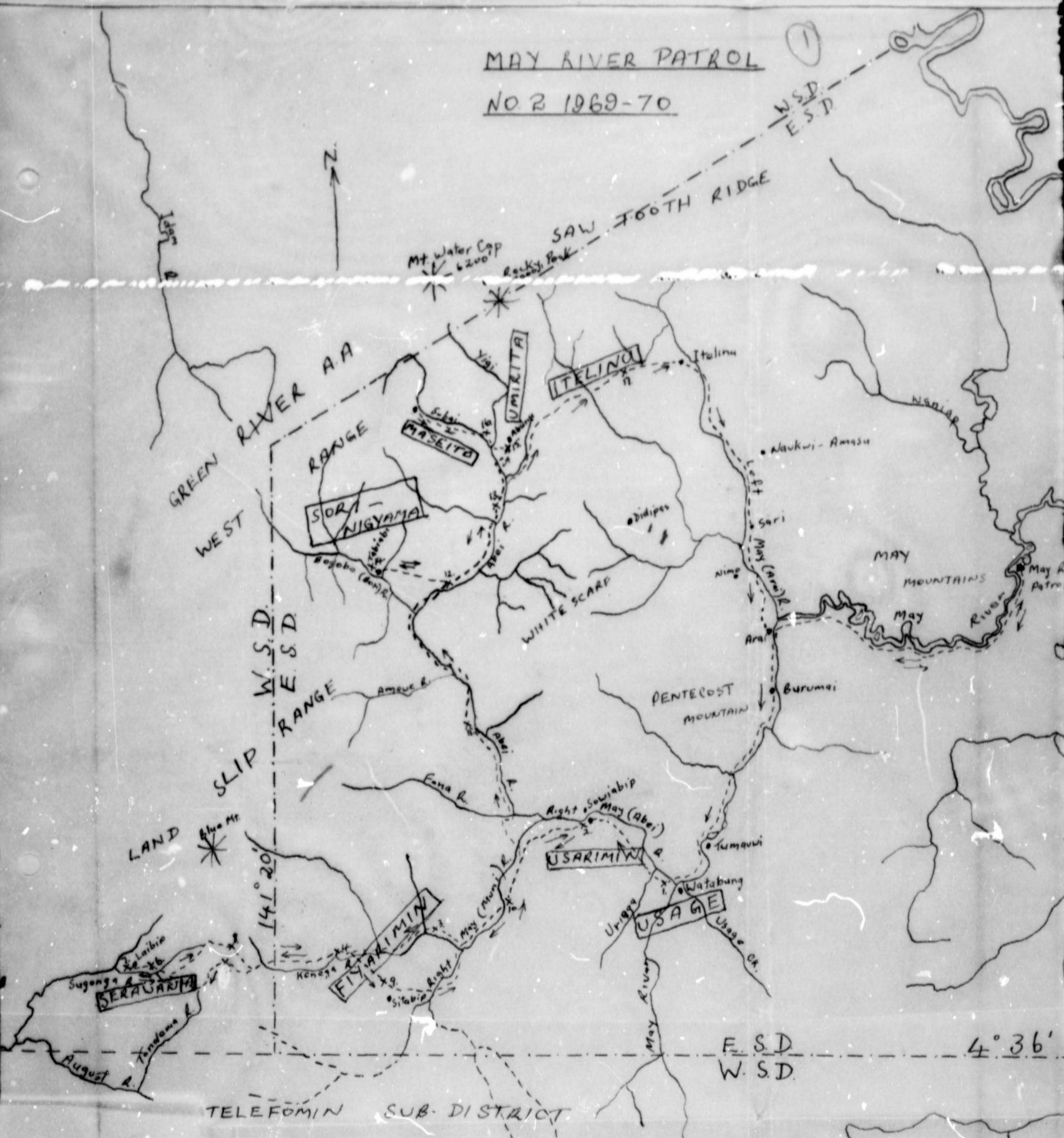
27. A medical assistant and hospital orderly accompanied the patrol. They treated people for yaws, scabies, many tropical ulcers, respiratory tract infections and a few cases of malaria. All places visited in the May River area people were vaccinated against yaws.

28. In the law and order field, no matters were brought to the attention of the patrol other than the killing previously referred to. It is probably too early at this stage to expect less serious matters to be brought to the Administration for solution.

29. There is no mission influence in the area patrolled, but it was noted that a number of young men from the Bogobe River area had recently sought and obtained work as labourers on the C.M.M.L. mission station at Idam.

M.E. Tomlinson
M.E. Tomlinson
Assistant District Officer

MAY RIVER PATROL
NO 2 1969-70



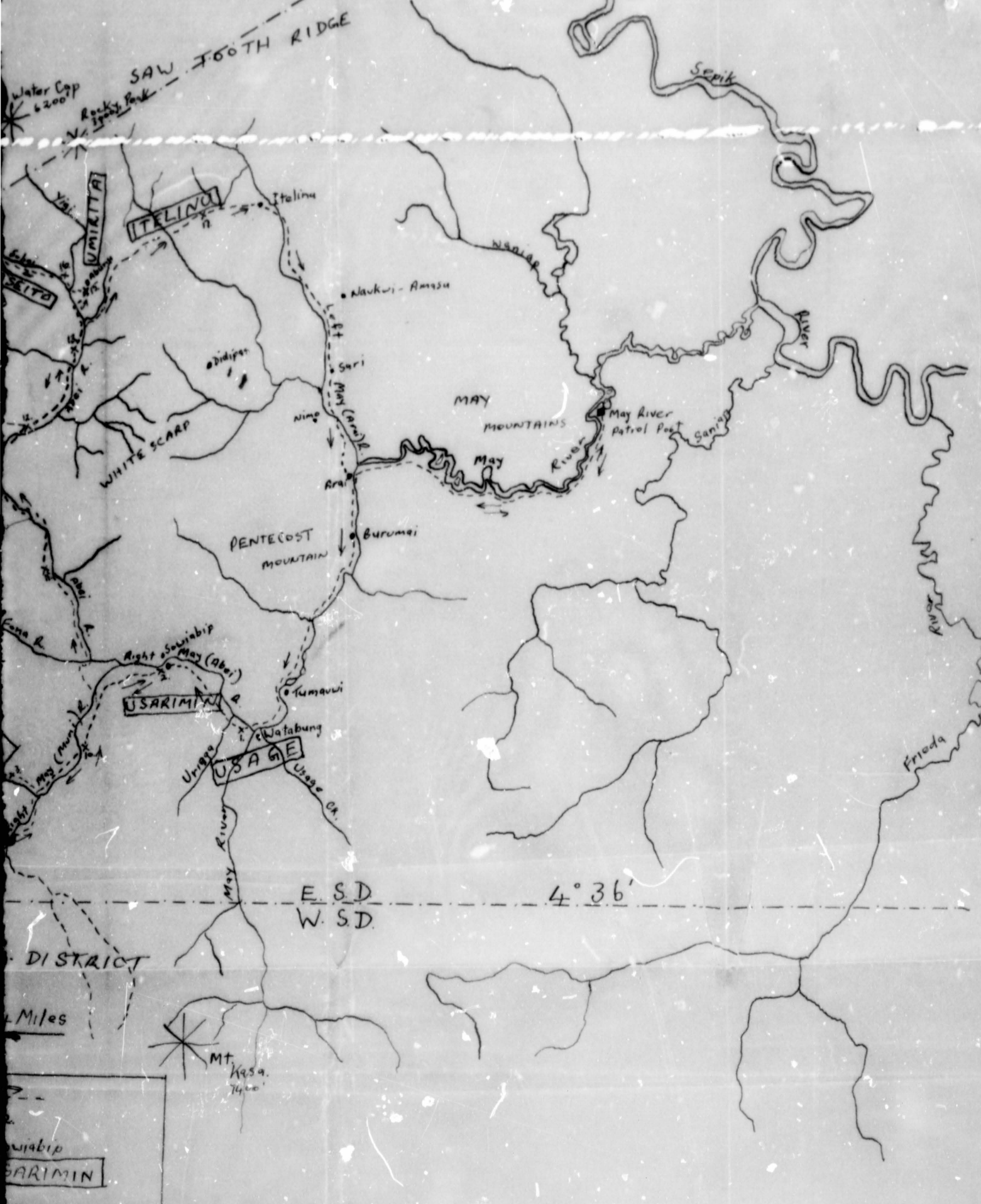
SCALE: 1 Inch to 4 Miles

LEGEND

Patrol Route	→
Camp Site	x2
Hamlet	• Souiabip
Tribal Group	USARIMIN
Mountain Range etc.	WHITE SCARPE
Peak	* Mt. Kasa 7400'

MAY RIVER PATROL

NO. 2 1969-70



DI STRAICT

Miles

SARIMIN
 WHITE SCARPE
 Mt. Kasa
 7400'



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of EAST SEPIK Report No. AMBINTI (MAY RIVER PATROL) 3 1969/70

Patrol Conducted by J.C. CORRIGAN, ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Area Patrolled LEFT AND RIGHT MAY RIVERS

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans 1

Natives 4 Constables RENGE 1 Hospital Orderly
2 outboard motor operators

Duration--From 3 / 9 / 1969 to 23 / 9 / 1969

Number of Days 21 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? ?

Last Patrol to Area by--District Services / / 19..... May River Patrol No. 5 68/69

Medical / / 19.....

Map Reference

Objects of Patrol 1. Investigate disturbance at Nankwi/Amas. 2. Publication Prospecting Activities. 3. Gain first hand knowledge of Prospect of International Nickel Southern Exploration Ltd. WHITE SCARP River.

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

.....

.....

.....

67-8-23

5th January, 1970.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEHAK.

PATROL MAY RIVER NO. 3/2-70.

Your reference is 67-1-13 of 11th December, 1969.

- 2. I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Report by Mr. J.C. Corrigan, A.D.C., to parts Waniap May and Upper May Census Divisions.
- 3. Mr. Corrigan has submitted a clear, informative report of a successful patrol.
- 4. No additional comment is necessary.

(T.W. ELLIS)
Secretary
Department of the Administrator.

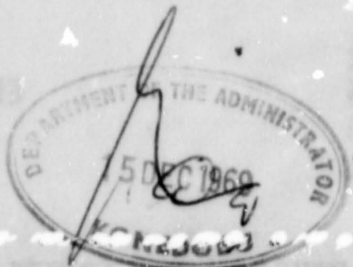
c.c.
Mr. J.C. Corrigan,
Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI. East Sepik District.

Whilst political education is a continuing process it is becoming a more specialised task, and you are still expected to participate fully in its extension at every opportunity.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67.8.23.

(11)



Reference: 67-1-13

Division of District Administration,
District Office,
WEWAK,
East Sepik District.

11th December, 1969.

The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU, PAPUA.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 3 OF 1969/70 -
LEFT AND RIGHT MAY RIVERS - MR. J.C.
CORRIGAN, ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Attached please find :-

- (a) Original and copy of report.
- (b) Copy of memorandum 67-1-13 dated 10th November, 1969, from Assistant District Commissioner, Ambunti.
- (c) Map of area patrolled.

2. Mr. Corrigan has again submitted a good report and his arrest of NIGIAU was undertaken under difficult circumstances.

J. G. Hicks
(L. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

c.c. Assistant District Commissioner,
AMBUNTI.

Officer-in-Charge,
MAY RIVER.

Mr. J.C. Corrigan,
Assistant District Commissioner,
AMBUNTI.

(16)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-1-13

Department of the Administrator,
Division of District Administration,
A M B U N T I , East Sepik District.

10th November, 1969.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 3 OF 1969/70

Attached please find four copies of the above report, camping allowance claim and patrol map. The patrol was from the 3rd September to 23rd September and was conducted by myself.

Your memo 67-1-12 of 27th October refers. I regret I have had to type out a frontispiece as no Patrol Jacket have yet been received.

A requisition for printed matter together with my memorandum 89-1-2 of 28th May 1969 was forwarded your office in May but nothing further has been heard. It has always been my practice to send these requisitions through District Headquarters.

For your information, please.

(J. C. Carrigan)
Assistant District Commissioner

PATROL REPORT

9

MAY RIVER PATROL NO.3 OF 1969/70

AMBUNTI SUB-DISTRICT

EAST SEPIK DISTRICT

Type of Patrol : SPECIAL

Patrol Conducted by : J.C. Corrigan Assistant District Commissioner

Area Patrolled : LEFT and RIGHT MAY RIVERS

Personnel Accompanying : 4 Constables RPNGC
1 Hospital Orderly
2 Outboard Motor Operators

Duration of Patrol : 5/9/69 to 3/9/69
21 Days.

Last DDA Patrol to Area : M.R. Patrol No.5 of 1968/69

Objects of Patrol : (1) Investigate disturbance
at NAUKWI/AMASU

(2) Publication Prospecting
Activities

(3) Gain first hand knowledge
of Prospect of International
Nickel Southern Exploration
Ltd WHITE SCARP River.

Total Population of Area
Patrolled : 837

Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 1969

District Commissioner

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 3 OF 1969/1970LEFT AND RIGHT MAY RIVER AREASSPECIAL PATROLPATROL DIARY3rd September

Departed AMBUNTI 1040 with 4 Police, domestik in rivertruck having despatched 12 carriers and medical orderly earlier during morning by single canoe. Arrived MAY RIVER 1840 travelling time by RT 7hrs 43 mins. Spoke with Mr Green INSEL. Interviewed two natives of NAUKWI. It appears no-one badly hurt and first report greatly exaggerated. Slept MAY.

4th September

By INSEL H/copter to ARAI. Met Mr McKintyre of INSEL. Attempted in 'copter to reach WHITE SCARP area 1000 but heavy cloud was against us. On way back to May River overflow NAUKWI/AMASU but no suitable landing site available so returned May River. Advised District Commissioner of situation by radio. Departed May River with all personnel by single canoe 1450 arrived ARAI 1755. Slept ARAI.

5th September

0650 departed by O/B canoe up Left May Rv which was followed to highest navigable point at SORI (because of high water) 0920. After loads arranged departed 1045 - some gear being left with tultul of AUGOT (SORI) who arrived on the scene. Arrived NAUKWI 1207 on top of small hill - 2 men and women present also 1 pig. Tultul summoned from nearby hamlet. Saw two of alleged seriously wounded persons, one of whom was a very sprightly tultul. The only person I didn't see off on a visit to WANIAP area and reported not to be seriously hurt. Assailant NIGIAU decamped. Moved onto AMASU 20 minutes distant arriving there 1475. Most population NAUKWI/AMASU in by 1500. Will camp here to-night and send out search parties to-morrow and succeeding days. 1800 Const HENY fell down an incline and gashed himself under left armpit on base of cut sapling - sutured by Hospital Orderly but in considerable shock will have to evacuate him to-morrow.

6th September

0800 Const PAINO and 4 carriers walked Const HENY out to SORI where he was evacuated by O/B canoe waiting there to MAY RIVER and AMBUNTI by R/T. 4 Locals sent out to search for NIGIAU. A group of people mainly from MUMUFURA hamlet but also one from UWAU arrived - mostly repatriated labourers. Say they haven't seen NIGIAU. Locals from AMASU back 1800 report no luck. HAUSA Hospital assistant May River gave treatment throughout day as patients materialised for first aid.

7th September

0830 Const Bausambe and Const Gigio departed each with a party of 3 carriers and 2 locals. Gigio to search vicinity of NIGIAU's camp in swamp and BAUSAMBE to travel to WAMUI to check there. 1330 carrier returned with message from GIGIO - he has located new bush house of NIGIAU and is awaiting instructions. 1415 Const PAINO returned with replacement BAMBIEN from MAY RIVER. These two police plus four carriers to proceed at once to join GIGIO. Const BAUSAMBE returned ex WAMUI 1600 - ill with heavy cold - reports WAMUI have no knowledge of NIGIAU. Slept AMASU. Consts PAINO and GIGIO with BAMBIEN watching NIGIAU's camp.

8th September

0835 police returned. PAINO says GIGIO and party after traipsing around NIGIAU's house and leaving ample signs of their presence left the house to follow NIGIAU's trail. In the interval between this and PAINO joining up with GIGIO and returning to the house NIGIAU had returned collected a bundle of arrows and some food and once again absconded. A heavy downpour obscured his track. (Subsequently learned from NIGIAU he had been warned of POLICE by two men of WAMUI and that he had kept PAINO and GIGIO under surveillance all night from edge of clearing about his house.) 1000 PAINO and GIGIO despatched again with five carriers and 2 locals to try to pick up his trail. Whilst Police absent self spoke informally with AMASU men who had accompanied BAUSAMBE. It appears two men of WAMUI hamlet TIGI census unit are wandering at large with NIGIAU. BAUSAMBE to ill to pick up this information whilst at WAMUI. If search unsuccessful to-morrow BAUSAMBE down with probable pneumonia. PAINO and GIGIO returned 1730 - no trace.

9th September

Heavy drizzle all morning - stopped raining 1200. Decided to move WAMUI although still overcast. BAUSAMBE now has blood in sputum - will evacuate to SORI, by canoe thence to MAY RIVER and finally AMBUNTI by R/T - accompanied by one WASKUK carrier and an AMASU man. Main party departed AMASU 1330 - rain forest swamp all the way to WAMUI - drizzle continued all afternoon. All carriers in by 1750 - fortunately no-one home so still have element of surprise - no RH or PB so occupied WAMUI communal house. Slept WAMUI.

10th September

0655 left communal house with two police BAMBIEN and PAINO 4 carriers and 3 local guides ex NAUKWI/AMASU IMAWA, IMAMO and DIYARI - IMAWA NIGIAU's brother. 0745 came across swamp settlement (1 sago house). As we approached disturbance from inside house which contained NIGIAU's two WAMUI companions plus NIGIAU's three wives and children (later learned NIGIAU was relieving himself on the opposite edge of clearing to us as we approached and took off into the bush without waiting for his weapons or family). Residents of house constrained to stay

(6)

behind. These were then bisarred as were all elders who drifted in during the next two hours. NIGIB's wives calling to him continually to return but to no avail. Eventually sent the most trustworthy of WAMUI people to coax him back. Returned with all occupants, except to main communal house 11500 taking all weapons with us. Approximately 11730 P.M. reported by the WAMUI man I had dispatched earlier, stalked into the main house area and gave himself up. Rest of WAMUI people arrived during day, and as house now occupied by them tentage set up about it. Informal discussion with them. Label of TRES arrived 99 PM.

11th September

0900 addressed WAMUI people. Spoke on prospecting. Authority has in general - no objections. Explained law on subject of harbouring fugitives and let off with warning. 0900 departed WAMUI arrived AMASU 11200 - NIGIAU and his family accompanying. Driver SUI from MAY RIVER in attendance with tribal of ARAI. 1000 commenced preliminary hearing attempted murder against NIGIAU (Alias IMANO). 11315 hearing adjourned to MAY RIVER. DIYARI of MAUWI has been most helpful during last week.

12th September

0815 departed AMASU arrived SARI 0945. Delayed by heavy downpour until 1015 when all personnel about 30 bodies plus gear in single canoe. Engine started after two hours paddling because of snags. Reached MAY RIVER Station 11730.

13th September

Radio conversation with INSEL in White Soap area - says Koniannon's patrol due their camp in three days. Will go there myself to gain first hand knowledge of area and discuss degree of co-operation required from INSEL in future. Spoke with WISDOM and advised of my movements. 1400 continued with preliminary hearing - adjourned 1530. Spoke with Mr Bayler of AMBUNUI - he advises all well and CAUI elections proceeding satisfactorily.

14th September

Studying May River Patrol Reports
0900 continued with Preliminary Hearing - committed NIGIAU for trial. 1500 departed by RT for ARAI, carriers by canoe arrived there 1600. Slept ARAI.

15th September

0715 departed ARAI by foot. Arrived SARI canoe landing 1225. Final word to witnesses re attendance at Supreme Court sittings. Collected cargo left SARI and then continued on foot following the left May River upstream until 1600 when camp made on bank. Heavy rain overnight almost flooded out camp.

...../4.

16th September

Heavy rain all night - river in flood. departed camp 0910 followed Left May upstream until 1130 when observed two men of IELI on the other bank. These ran off into the bush but NAHEWT and I managed to coax them back out. One old man advanced to talk with us but went off when I arose to approach him. Shortly after at 1230 came across a sago camp where there was a repatriated labourer who could speak simple pidgin. He agreeable to accompany us to INSEL Camp. Called briefly at a garden site close to the old communal house since abandoned. Medical treatment to one man with large TU. 1300 Left May Rv in flood and crossed with difficulty by 1400 when set off up a hill and along a ridge until 1530. As all wet and miserable called and early stop and established camp on garden site.

17th September

Departed camp 0700 and crossed following creeks YAFASI and ~~three-small~~ I Cks and ascended a ridge and hill known as WUSI. Ride WUSI followed until headwaters of LO Ck reached. Followed LO Ck downstream very precipitous in part passing through two old garden sites en route finally arrived at junction of LO Ck and HAN River or as it is called by INSEL White Scarp River. This in fact one of the major tributaries of the May River system. Followed this down stream until 1720 when arrived at INSEL camp. Discussion with Messers Tomlinson and Pennefather - also INSEL OIC Frank Green and other INSEL personnel.

18th September

At INSEL camp. Discussed with Mr Green way in which mutual benefit can be gained by co-operation in this area. Important to determine ownership of land of the general area.

19th September

At INSEL Camp. Swollen river prevented my departure from camp. Highest level seen by INSEL personnel.

20th September

Messers Tomlinson and Pennefather away 0900. Self with Mr Green on helicopter survey of the general area for 30 minutes. Called at what I suspect to be a hamlet of SUBEI people. Very primitive - no pidgin and mime everything said to them. Departed INSEL camp 1145 - followed LO Ck until its junction with YOMA Ck where ascended a spur to top of mountain known as WOKAKO. From here panoramic view over White Scarp Valley. Followed downward of ridge known as AROSIRI. Camped at a point known as UMOMI at 1640. White Scarp Ridge known to ITEL as TOME.

21st September

0930 departed camp followed ridge down to a large ITELI garden house where eventually after our arrival about 30 persons showed up. Explained Prospecting activities - with such people it is extremely difficult to get the idea across, however, no-one had any objections - already an INSEL party has followed southern tributary of Left May Rv to an uncontacted group which I think is known as ALOVI. These people asked to pass my message. Brought some food with salt then departed 1335 after arriving there 1125. Followed Left May downstream until 1830 where reached camp site of 18/9. Extensive medical treatment at ITELI given by Medast WERIGI. Two patients and two guardians to accompany us to AMBUNTI.

22nd September

0715 departed camp arrived SARI 0915 where O/B canoe awaiting. Final word to witnesses then all personnel embarked in canoe, 1015. Drifted down Left May until deep enough to start motor. Arrived May River 1530.

23rd September

Paid Police at MAY RIVER then departed by rivertruck arrived AMBUNTI 1630, carriers following by workboat - police and two prisoners accompanying me. Patrol Stood down.

SITUATION REPORTINTRODUCTION

(1) Resulting from a report by International Nickel personnel at MAY RIVER, instead of departing on a patrol to conduct elections in the GAUL LAG area I undertook this patrol to the Left May River to investigate a disturbance at NAUWI in the Upper May Census Division. Whilst in the area opportunity was taken to advise local people of prospecting operations which could concern them and to gain first hand experience of the main area of interest to INSEL.

(2) The people living along the Left May Rv have experienced varying degrees of contact. Those closer to its mouth including NAUKWI/AMASU were first visited by Mr Mater P.O. in 1959 whilst the ITELI people in the headwaters were first formally visited by a patrol led by Mr Plummer in 1965. All villages contain people who have had one, sometimes two, terms as plantation labourers and now there are pidgin speakers in all. In spite of the long period of contact even those people

closer to the mouth still have a very primitive appearance and repatriated labourers on return to the village quite often doff shorts and shirts acquired on plantations to don the traditional phalocrypt and cane girdle. Some of the older men in the IETLI group are still very wary of patrols, although they gain confidence after they witness relations between the patrol and pidgin speakers.

(3) Establishment of an SDA Mission airstrip and base camp at AMA on the WANLAP Ck. will help to widen the horizon of these people. As can be expected, knowledge held by the inhabitants of the House of Assembly and Local Government is infinitesimal. The people from NAUKWI/AMASU to the mouth of the Left May voted in 1968 but it is obvious they didn't know what they were about. To avoid criticism of efforts devoted to political education I would point out these people were visited twice in the twelve months preceding the elections and the primary objective of such visits was political education.

(4) Traditional means of social and political control show little evidence of deterioration apart from that of homicide as it is now known to most that if caught committing such an act they will be gaoled.

ECONOMIC

(5) Difficulties associated with lack of access and terrain have precluded all but subsistence economic activity. The people are predominately sago processors and cultivate some taro and bananas on the islands of hills rising from the swamp. The only cash which has come into the area has been brought in by repatriated labour, returning from island plantations, also from wages gained through carrying for patrols. Coffee could probably be cultivated on the more elevated parts of the Left May River but this is unlikely to receive any encouragement from DASE, apart from any other reasons, because it does not have any staff to spare for such an area. It cannot adequately cater for the extension needs of the GAUI and AMBUNTI LGCs let alone MAY RIVER.

(6) INSEL hold a PA over all the area with the main interest centred on the southern headwaters of the Right May Rv, otherwise known as the White Scarp Rv. It is emphasised INSEL's operations are still only at the prospecting level and whilst allowing for the normal reticence of geologists in assessing prospects, it appears the initial promise seen in the White Scarp Area has waned.

(7) From a very limited stay in the area, the Right May area has a far higher agricultural potential than the Left May and it is in some respects similar to the Maprik S/D. It is suggested an aerial inspection by the DRDO is warranted, not only for the Right May but also for the Freida and Leonard Schultze Valleys. It is emphasised isolation of these areas may be a limiting factor on their potential for re-settlement but I believe it worthwhile to have at this stage a preliminary professional assessment. The Islander would be a suitable aircraft as it could carry observers from both

WEWAK and AMBUNTI.

SOCIAL

(8) The traditional pattern of settlement still exists. Each village group has its Territory and there are scattered sago and garden houses throughout. Usually there is one large communal house built on a commanding position in a more than usually permanent site. This is known as a 'Haus Muruk' and it is occupied by the whole group. Pigs and dogs also inhabit this house which is used mainly for communal gatherings for singsings and the arrival of government patrols. These houses are infested with cockroaches and the clusters of skulls of relatives add a very gruesome aspect to them. Singsings are held inside the 'Haus Muruks' with the people sitting around fireplaces along the four walls of the houses while the dancers perform on a specially strengthened central square of the floor.

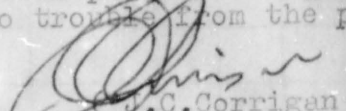
(9) The main reason for this patrol was the result of a dispute over sister exchange between the headman of AMASU, NIGIAU (alias IMAMO) and YAMO of NAUKWI. NIGIAU became dissatisfied with YAMO's sister as a wife (he had two others) so he divorced her and called for YAMO to return his sister. YAMO refused to do so on a number of occasions and NIGIAU, incensed at this violation of his authority as headman of the NAUKWI/AMASU group, decided to lay in wait and ambush YAMO, despatching him with an arrow. The ambush duly occurred but fortunately for all no-one was seriously hurt, although from initial reports received AMBUNTI it appeared there were three persons very seriously wounded remaining in the village. After this skirmish, NIGIAU decamped into the swamp with his family, warning his fellow villagers he would kill anyone informing the Administration of him.

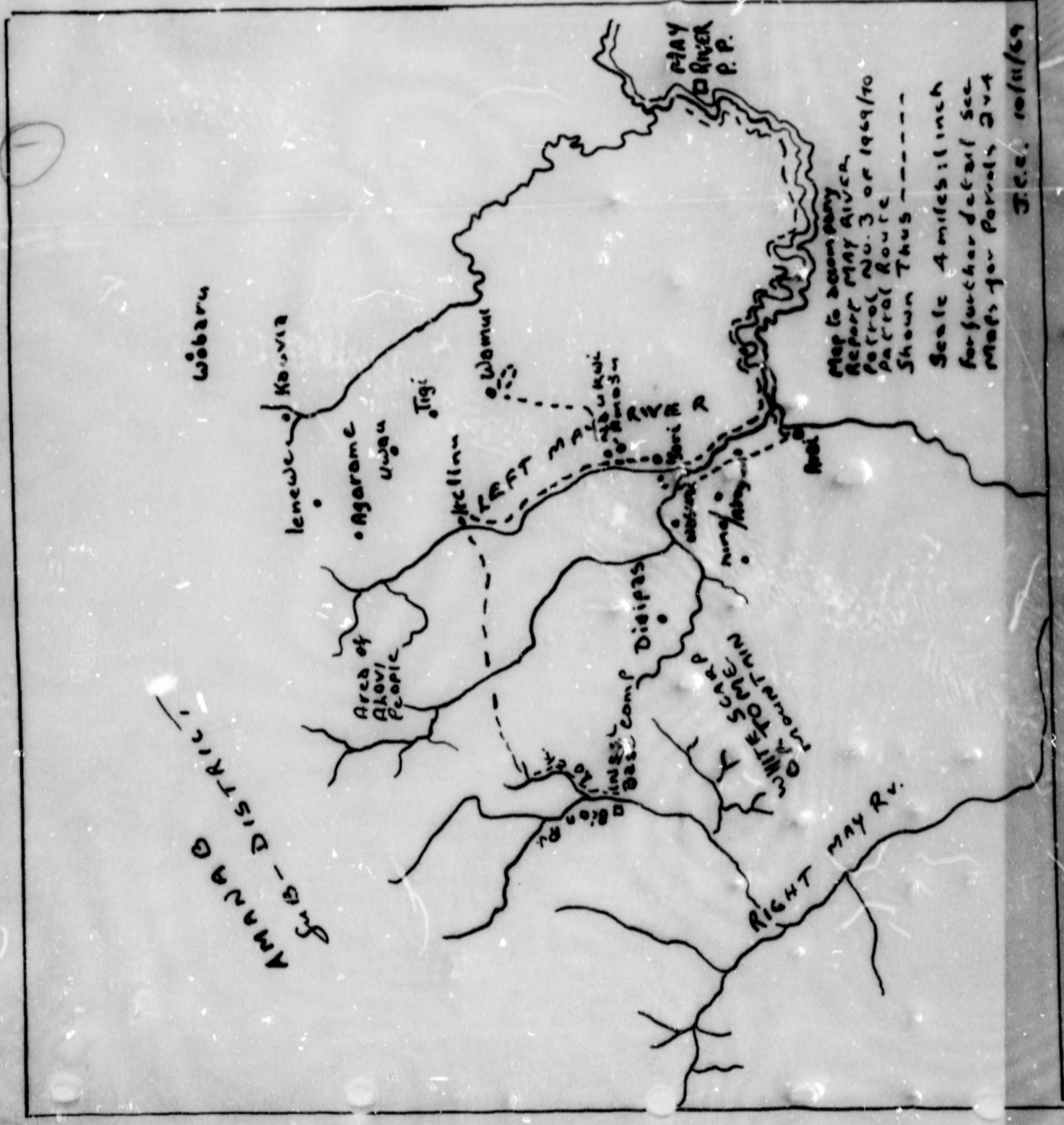
(10) After a week in the area during which time NIGIAU successfully evaded the patrol on one occasion, he gave himself up at WAMUI hamlet. At present he is in custody AMBUNTI on committal for trial on a charge of Unlawfully Attempted to Kill. A number of WAMUI men who aided the fugitive were warned of the illegality of their action and possible consequences.

(11) While in the area relations were continued with the ITELI people carried over from earlier patrols. Although skiterish at first, they soon gained confidence. Four ITELI men, two of whom had large TUs accompanied the patrol to AMBUNTI where the TUs were healed and they were given the opportunity to gain some cash as station labour.

MISCELLANEOUS

Although it wasn't the main reason for the patrol the people were informed of the operations of Calpentaria and INSEL and I feel sure that as long as the normal tact and diplomacy usually exercised when dealing with unsophisticated people is adhered to the Companies can expect no trouble from the people.


J. C. Corrigan
Assistant District Commissioner



Map to accompany
 Report MAY RIVER
 Patrol No. 3 of 1969/70
 Patrol Route
 Shown Thus ----
 Scale 4 miles: 1 inch
 for further details see
 Maps for Patrols 2 & 4

J.C.E. 10/1/69

Amount
Returned
to Store



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of EAST SEPIK Report No. SITUATION No. 4 of 1969/1970

Patrol Conducted by D.H. PENNEFATHER PATROL OFFICER

Area Patrolled WHITE SCARP

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 1 Member R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 3 / 10 / 1969 to 24 / 10 / 1969

Number of Days 21

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 29 / 9 / 1969

Medical / / 19.....

Map Reference ATTACHED

Objects of Patrol ACCOMPANY INSEL FIELD PARTIES

POPULATION 70

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.

Division of District Administration,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

15-1-70

The Assistant Secretary,
International Relations & Internal Affairs,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

The Head of Special Branch,
R.P. & N.G.C.,
KONEDOBU.

EXTRACT FROM PATROL REPORT/AREA STUDY.

The following information has been extracted
from Patrol Report/~~Area Study~~ No. 4-62/70.....
covering White Scarp Mountai Area (May River)
..... AMBUNTI Sub-District, East Sepik District
Patrolling Officer D.H. Pennefather, Patrol Officer

The period of patrol : 3/10 to 24/10/69

Extract/Precis.

Re Attitude to Mining Venture - INSEL

"The relations between INSEL and the natives remain good especially with the local people. INSEL's liaison with the native people has been greatly assisted by the activities and knowledge of Prospector Mr. John McIntyre who himself is a former Native Affairs Officer and has a very good understanding of primitive native people and Government Officers and their problems".

(T.W. ELLIS)

Secretary,
Department of the Administrator.

67-8-24

6th January, 1970.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
EMMAK.

PATROL MAY RIVER NO. 67-70.

Your reference is 67-1-13 of 11th December, 1969.

2. I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Report by Mr. D.H. Pennefather, Patrol Officer, to White Scarp Area.

3. I am pleased to note that relations between International Nickel Southern Exploration Ltd. and the local people are so sound.

4. Mr. Pennefather has submitted an interesting report. There appears to be much work to be done before all the small groups in the White Scarp area are located and brought under effective control.

(T.W. ELLIS)

Secretary
Department of the Administrator.

C.C.
Mr. D.H. Pennefather,
Patrol Post,
MAY RIVER.
East Sepik District.

Whilst political education is a continuing process it is becoming a more specialised task, and you are still expected to participate fully in its extension at every opportunity.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

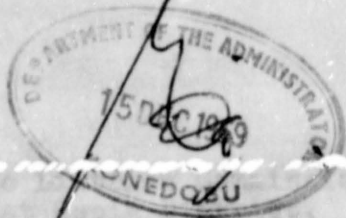
67. 8. 24

(14)

Reference: 67-1-13

Division of District Administration,
District Office,
WENAK,
East Sepik District.

11th December, 1969.



The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU, PAPUA.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 4 OF 1969/70 -
WHITE SCARP MOUNTAINS AREA - MR. D.
H. PENNEFATHER, PATROL OFFICER

Attached please find :-

- (a) Original and copy of report.
- (b) Copy of memorandum 67-1-13 dated 9th November, 1969, from the Assistant District Commissioner, Ambunti, and
- (c) Map of area patrolled.

2. The report indicates that relations between Internation Nickel Southern Exploration Ltd., and the people are excellent and Mr. Pennefather has taken a particular interest in ensuring that both the Company and people get on well together and this could well have advantages if copper or other minerals are later found in the area.

3. Mr. Pennefather has applied himself well to patrolling duties in the Ambunti Sub-district and he is gaining experience in this field which will stand him in good stead in the future.

4. A sunprint copy of the map is attached and six copies will be sent to May River shortly.

(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

c.c. Officer-in-Charge,
MAX RIVER.

Mr. D.H. Pennefather,
Patrol Officer,
AMBUNTI.

Assistant District Commissioner,
AMBUNTI.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

175

67-1-13

Department of the Administrator,
Division of District Administration,
AMBUNTI East Sepik District .

9th November, 1969.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
K E W A K

REPORT MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 5

Attached please find the above report
submitted to me by Mr Pennefather, Patrol Officer.

The report is well presented and sheds
further light on the area of the Right May River
which was first reported on by Messers Tomlinson
and Pennefather in their reports on May River
Patrol No. 2

Mr Pennefather was successful in the main
objective of the patrol which was to co-operate
with INSEL in the matter of establishing friendly
relations with the people of the area and to
determine the groups involved in ownership of the
land contained in the area of principal interest to
INSEL. The map should be of interest to JIB.

As suggested by Mr Tomlinson in his report
on Patrol NO. 2 the people of the Right May will
be incorporated into the Upper May Census Division.

Claim for camping allowance is attached.

For your information, please.

(J. C. Corrigan)
Assistant District Commissioner

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 4 of 1969/1970

SITUATION REPORT

Report No: 4 of 1969/1970. Office and place Const 1/2

Type of Report: SITUATION. At 1330 myself and Det 2/3

District: EAST SEPIK. by helicopter and proceed to

Sub-District: AMBUNTI. Sleep INSEK Base Camp.

Area Patrolled: WHITE SCARP. Helicopter and went out to bring

Patrol Conducted by: D.H.Pennefather, Patrol Officer. lives for census.

Patrol Accompanied By: Europeans - NIL INSEK Base Camp.

Natives - 1 Member R.P.N.G.C. was brought in and

Duration of Patrol: 3-10-69 to 24-10-69

Number of Days: 21 Days

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area: No. 3 of 1969/1970

22-8-69 to 29-9-69

Total 37 Days.

Objects of Patrol: Accompany I.N.S.E.L. Field Parties.

Population of area patrolled: 70.

8th October 1969.

Have conversation with Geological Survey Officer for his intended travels that I am to accompany. Sleep INSEK Base Camp.

10th October 1969.

Fly into MAY RIVER and check up on situation there and find all to be in order. Sleep INSEK Base Camp.

11th October 1969.

In aerial survey of the north side of SAMTOOM RIDGE. The whole area was found to be populated in one way or the other. Sleep INSEK Base Camp.

12th October 1969.

Fly into the SAMTOOM river and accompany traverse with Reserve Officer and .../2

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 4 of 1969/1970.PATROL DIARY.3rd October 1969.

Close up Office and place Const 1/c
SIPUT in charge of the Station. At 1330 myself and Sgt 3/c
KWARINUMBUK depart MAY RIVER by helicopter and proceed 30
minutes to INSEL Base Camp.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

4th October 1969.

Interpreter: IMO sent out to bring
in local UMARITA and MESEBITO natives for census.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

5th October 1969.

Local UMARITA and MESEBITO natives
arrive and a census is conducted. A pig was brought in and
sold to patrol.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

6th October 1969.

medical emergency. Fly to GREEN RIVER Patrol Post with
See Patrol Officer CHISHOLM at GREEN
RIVER.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

7th October 1969.

The day spent talking among the
local natives on the subjects of Political Education and
INSEL activities.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

8th October 1969.

Complete the writing of the rough
draft for my previous patrol report. Put knife through
my foot.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

9th October 1969.

Awaiting arrival of WELLI natives.
Have conversation with Geologist Warren Delaney re: his
intended travers that I am to accompany.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

10th October 1969.

Fly into MAY RIVER and check up on
situation there and find all to be in order.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

11th October 1969.

Do aerial survey of the North side of
SAWTOOTH RIDGE. The whole area was observed to be populated
in one way or the other.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp

12th October 1969.

Fly into the MAUMIAWI river and
accompany traverse with Messres Delaney and McIntyre.
Nothing observed of interest to Native Affairs.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

13th October 1969.

Do census of WEILI natives who came into camp in the early morning. Fly into area where helicopter survey was carried out on 11-10-69. Camp set up beside a small deserted native house.
Sleep Camp 1.

14th October 1969.

Depart Camp 1 at 0800 and proceed up drainage heading in a southerly direction until 1300. At 1300 we proceeded up a native track to the West and at 1430 we made camp in a deserted native garden beside an old native house which also looked deserted. I was accompanied by Mr. Warren Delaney, INSEL Geologist.
Sleep Camp 2.

15th October 1969.

The day spent constructing a Heli-pad while two natives went in search of the local natives but had no success.

Sleep Camp 2.

16th October 1969.

Picked up at 1200 by helicopter and flown back to Base Camp.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

17th October 1969.

Fly into GREEN RIVER Patrol Post to show new pilot the way back into the WHITE SCARP drainage and Base Camp. At GREEN RIVER see O.I.C. and explain my patrol of 13-10-69 to 16-10-69 which was carried out in his area. In the afternoon fly into ARAI village and do petrol shuttle.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

18th October 1969.

Prospector John McIntyre and myself proceed up the LU river drainage but nothing of native affairs interest observed.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp

19th October 1969.

Day spent at Base Camp and discuss future plans with INSEL officials.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

20th October 1969,

The interpreter sent out to bring in the local SORI natives for census.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

21st October 1969.

Do short helicopter survey but nothing seen that had not been seen before.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

22nd October 1969.

Fly into MAY RIVER with MIANMIN medical case. All in order at MAY RIVER.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

(9)

(4)

23rd October 1969.

Local SORI natives come in and are shown around the camp and have INSEL's activities explained to them. A census is also conducted. Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

24th October 1969.

The helicopter fly's the patrol back to MAY RIVER.

PATROL STOOD DOWN

-000-

1. The patrol was the Northern and Southern sides of the SORONG RIVER which is a mountainous region in the south of the LEFT MAY and RIGHT MAY Rivers and many other larger rivers.

2. Most of my time was spent at the International Natural Southern Expedition's "INSEL" Base Camp. This made it possible for me to accompany a number of aerial surveys which proved most interesting and also enabled me to accompany one of their flights. Both these events will be reported later.

3. All the people whom the patrol met were very primitive in the extreme with none of them claiming to have ever seen a European before.

4. I managed to collect a number of all the things met by the patrol and I have attached a list for the Registrar. As the patrol did not have a Survey Division all the results of the ground survey in my personal log were not submitted as Area Survey.

5. It was interesting to find that the natives of the SORONG RIVER area are very primitive and that they have never been visited by Government in the past. They have only been visited by missionaries and the missionaries have not been able to convert them to Christianity. They are still very primitive and have never seen a European before.

6. The natives of the SORONG RIVER area are very primitive and have never been visited by Government in the past. They have only been visited by missionaries and the missionaries have not been able to convert them to Christianity. They are still very primitive and have never seen a European before.

7. The natives of the SORONG RIVER area are very primitive and have never been visited by Government in the past. They have only been visited by missionaries and the missionaries have not been able to convert them to Christianity. They are still very primitive and have never seen a European before.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 4 of 1969/1970SITUATION REPORTINTRODUCTION

1. The Patrol was conducted between 3-10-69 and 24-10-69 and was conducted by myself: D.H.Pennefather, Patrol Officer.
2. The area covered by the patrol was the Northern and Southern slopes of the SAWTOOTH RIDGE which is a mountainous region and the source of the LEFT MAY and RIGHT MAY Rivers and many other lesser streams.
3. Most of my time was spent at the "International Nickel Southern Exploration Limited" (INSEL) Base Camp. This made it possible for me to accompany a number of aerial surveys which proved most interesting and also enabled me to accompany one of their traverses. Both these events shall be reported upon.
4. All the people whom the patrol met were very primitive in the extreme with some of them claiming to have never seen a european before.
5. I managed to conduct a census of all groups met by the patrol and I have attached a Village Population Register. As the patrol did not cover a Census Division and the location of one of the groups censused is not certain I have not submitted an Area Study.

POLITICAL

6. No such thing as Political Awareness at present exists among any of the Native groups met by the patrol. This is mainly the result of the fact that they have now been subject to Government influence for just over 12 months, and for some of the natives this they claimed was the first contact they had ever had with the Administration or any europeans for that matter.
7. The native groups SORI, MESEITO and UMARITA are the groups that have been under Administration for just over 12 months. The groups had already been patrolled twice by patrol's operating out of the GREEN RIVER Patrol Post. The native group whom I censused and called themselves WEILI claim to have never seen a european before.
8. It was very obvious that any political education programme was going to have to commence from the very beginning and so the following action was taken to set the process in motion.
 - i. The first step of peacefull contact had already taken place except in the case of the WEILI. So my first move was to have as many of the local natives as possible to come in and visit the INSEL Base Camp.

During these visits to the Base camp I explained to them as best as possible the activities of INSEL and what they were doing in their area. This was then followed with a brief rundown on my Duties in the area and how what I did directly effected them in so many ways.

ii. It was during one of these discussions with the UMARITA natives that they informed me of the existance of the WEILI group, they then volunteered to go and see the WEILI and bring as many in as possible to see me. This I found very encouraging because it indicated to me a certain amount of trust had been placed in me by the natives and also that they had lost some of their fear of Patrols and were prepared to indicate adjacent groups, which they had not done on previous occasions.

iii. When the native groups had been into the Base Camp I invited them to bring in local produce to sell to the patrol on a barter system. This the UMARITA and MESEITO did and this served to cement good relations and keep the natives in around the camp and so they gained further confidence in our presence which in turn made them much more approachable.

iv. The next move was to invite any of the men to work for INSEL. When I left the INSEL Base Camp there were 3 UMARITA/MESEITO natives so employed. The SORI said they were too weak in man power to be able to spare any men to work for INSEL. This means that least 3 men in the area will receive a very basic understanding of Pidgin English, they can not help but learn from such employment and they are also being paid, in their case either in money or trade goods whichever THEY prefer.

v. A combined force of SORI/UMARITA/MESEITO natives accompanied some local MAY RIVER YUAM natives from the Base Camp back to MAY RIVER when the latter terminated their period of employment. There are 6 of these natives in all and they are now staying on the station observing how the Patrol Post is run and receiving a basic education in Pidgin English. They are also in contact with a number of natives from other native groups in the MAY RIVER area all of which is being most beneficial to them.

9. The political education of these people has still a very vast distance to go: the people still have no understanding of Local Government or the House of Assembly nor do they have the slightest idea of a cash economy but at the present rate of progress these things should gradually become aware to them over the next few years but this will depend greatly on the amount of sustained contact they have with the Administration or such institutions as INSEL. What can be said is that I consider the campaign to have got away with a very good start.

10. There are 3 well located native groups in the area which is fast becoming known as "White SCARP". The 3 native groups are the SORI, MESEITO and UMARITA. These groups are small and nomadic confining themselves to the various river drainages or valleys.

11. The SORI group confine themselves to the valleys of the BOGOPE and MAUMIAVI Rivers and make no claims to land that is claimed by the other two groups. In fact this is the case for all of the 3 groups: if any of them had any disputes over land they were certainly concealed from the patrol. The very small numerical strength of all of the groups would I feel make the instance of land disputes very small if any.

12. The UMARITA and the MESEITO are much closer together both Geographically and I feel socially. There is evidence of both groups using each others land for the acquiring of Sago, which is in short supply in the area, and there appears to be a considerable amount of inter-marriage between the two. The MESEITO seem to confine themselves to the valley of the SORBAI River while the UMARITA claim the lands from the headwaters of the ABEI River down as far as WHITE SCARP Mountain. The main divide between MESEITO/UMARITA and SORI land is a ridge dividing the SORBAI/ABEI drainage from the MAUMIAVI drainage, this ridge is called locally ITELI Ridge.

13. As I mentioned in the Introduction I was able to make use of the INSEL Helicopter and in so doing so I managed to locate 3 areas of native population that to my knowledge have not as yet been contacted by Administration patrols. As the attached map will indicate only one of these areas is situated in the MAY RIVER area while the other two are situated in the GREEN RIVER area.

14. The areas marked 1 and 2 are only divided by a very small ridge and could very well be the same native group. From what I could gather from them I very strongly suspect that area 1 is that which belongs to the WEILI natives as the WEILI informed me that they lived in a valley ~~West of~~ East of the UMARITA and to the North of ITELINU.

15. Area 3 was covered by sparse native populations which indicated that the whole of the Northern slopes of the SAWTOOTH RIDGE is populated by some form of native population.

16. When we conducted the aerial survey on 11-10-69 we landed to the North/West of the area marked 2 and spoke to a native named FAREI who said he came from a village called SIAUI. We indicated the area to him and he said the natives who occupied the valley of area 2 are called WOSUMEI and the river on which they are situated is called WIERI. He further informed me that the WOSUMEI were an un-contacted group who were meant to have been involved in the recent WOBARU murders.

17. On the 14-10-69 I accompanied INSEL Geologist Mr. Warren Delaney on a traverse up this ~~area~~ in the hope of making contact with the local population. We were also accompanied by an interpreter. At about 1000 on that same day I was ahead of the main body of the patrol when I observed two natives proceeding down the river toward myself. On seeing me both natives fled into the bush not to be seen again. They departed in such haste that they left behind 2 bundles of food and a bow and 5 arrows. The arrows I observed to be the type for shooting pigs and birds, not human-beings. These goods were gathered together and left behind with a quantity of trade goods to show our peaceful intentions.
18. During this traverse at least 6 native houses were seen and two large new gardens all of which were planted with Taro.
19. It was unfortunate that no natives were properly contacted during the course of this short traverse but I feel that should we have walked into the area instead of fly in, and in the process announced our arrival then I feel that we may have established good contact. On leaving the area a handsome supply of salt and trade goods were left in one of the houses adjacent to our Camp 2 site.
20. On the 17-10-69 I flew into GREEN RIVER Patrol Post and informed the Officer in Charge there what I had seen in his area during the course of aerial surveys and also during the course of our traverse which was conducted in his area. I was informed that it is intended that a GREEN RIVER patrol be mounted after Christmas 1969 to try and locate all the native groups on their side of the SAWTOOTH RIDGE.
21. The relations between INSEL ^{and the natives} remain good especially with the local natives. INSEL's liaison with the native people has been greatly assisted by the activities and knowledge of Prospector Mr John McIntyre who himself is a former Native Affairs Officer and a very understanding man with primitive native people, and Government Officers and their problems.
22. INSEL recently had all their MIANMIN labourers terminate their periods of employment and leave. I was present when this happened and it was not the result of any shortcomings or misconduct on the part of INSEL but was the result of the labourers wanting to go home, see their families and tend their gardens. They ~~were~~ certainly displayed no animosity toward INSEL. Since they left INSEL has employed labour from the IDAM river area.

ECONOMIC

23. As previously mentioned the people of the area are nomadic and all employ a form of shifting agriculture. The natives make a garden and build a house in the centre of the garden or if not adjacent to it. The people will then occupy the house until such time as the garden is no longer productive, then a new garden site is chosen a new house constructed and so the population move around.

24. The main produce grown in the gardens is Taro which forms the basis of their diet and in some gardens Sweet Potato or KauKau was observed growing. The Bamana is also grown in quantity as is a native plant known as 'Aran'. There are no Coconuts growing in the area indicating that the plant had not yet been traded that far. The coconut would not have been effected by the altitude of the area where native populations existed.

25. The bush of the area abounded in all types of wild game especially bird life and this provides as a readily available substitute to their diet. There are however no large fish in any of the rivers even though I feel fish of the Trout type would abound in the fast, rocky, clearwater streams that exist in the area.

26. There is no introduced Cash cropping in the area but just to look at it I would say that for either the planting of coffee or rice the country would be ideal. The country is mountainous but there are some large river flats that are well drained and not swampy and the mountains themselves are ^{not} too steep as to make the planting of extensive coffee gardens impossible. The area is also very scenic and well watered.

27. To make things more realistic there are some very serious set backs to the considered introduction of cash cropping.

i. There is not the population in the area to clear the bush, plant and maintain extensive gardens as well as look after, maintain and harvest their own ~~crop~~ gardens. In the whole area out of a population of 70 there are only 27 males over the age of 15 years and so be capable of working in gardens. These people are all scattered over a very large area.

ii. The area is very isolated. There are no navigable streams in the area along which river craft could operate. The area is good for road construction but aerial survey has shown that for any road built in the area to connect up with a navigatable waterway the road will have to cross over extensive areas of swamplands through which it would be nearly impossible to construct a road.

28. INSEL is providing much to the economy of the area. As mentioned they have already employed at least 3 of the local natives,

29. Three people may not sound like a large number but it is as many of the local people who have offered their services and INSEL are prepared to employ as many more of the local natives who care to offer them selves.

30. INSEL are also providing the local people with many metal artifacts and tools that only existed in very small quantity before.

31. Should INSEL discover a large ore body in the area ~~ix~~ these natives could well end up the most wealthy in the district but it would be very wrong to be too optimistic on this point at the moment. Not even the INSEL employees themselves know either how large or how small an amount of copper exists in the area.

32. Up until the 18-10-69 INSEL were employing mainly MIANMIN labour, about 30 men in all. These men were paid off on the 18-10-69 for reasons already explained, and have taken a considerable amount of money back to their areas in MAY RIVER and TELEFOMIN. INSEL have now employed a similar number of men from the IDAM river area of GREEN RIVER and these men shall probably be paid off near the end of November 1969. as INSEL shall then probably be moving camp to PAGWI Base Camp for a few weeks prior to their Christmas break.

SOCIAL

33. The whole of this area has been subject to very little social change. The main changes however have been the cessation of tribal wars as the result of all their adjacent groups being subject to Administration influence. The other has been the introduction of metal tools and artifacts to the area. The latter have been traded in from the SEPIK River area and are now being supplied in quantity by INSEL.

34. Social change will now ~~through~~ ~~becoming~~ ~~evident~~ ~~with~~ ~~the~~ evident with the people having now come into contact with INSEL and the Administration. Village officials have not yet been appointed but shall be by the next patrol into the area. We now have members of the group at MAY RIVER and so becoming more aware of the world in which they live. What result all this will ~~all~~ have will have to be seen over the next few years but the seeds of change are now being sown.

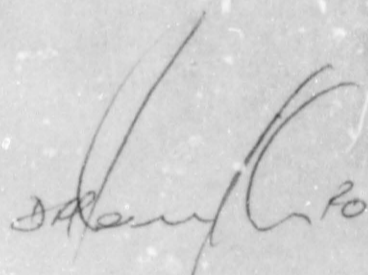
35. Housing throughout the area is rather poor as every building that is built is only temporary as it only remains useful for as long as the garden remains productive and is then abandoned and a new house built.

(2)

36. The houses in the area are built on many small stilts about 4' to 5' off the ground, have walls of bark and roofs made from Sago palm thatch. On some of the houses the walls had loop-holes cut through the walls so that arrows could be fired at an enemy in the event that either the house, garden or both were attacked. Each house had a plentiful supply of arrows many of them made for war purposes ~~of war~~ and were very heavily barbed with others being tipped with bone.

37. The women wear short grass skirts while the men go naked except for the wearing of a penis guard some of which are curly and others short and stubby after the MIANMIN style. Both men and women decorate themselves with a variety of bones and teeth etc.

38. I do not know when the next patrol into this area will be mounted but it will not be until the new year and will depend greatly on INSEL's activities in the area. Should the next patrol be conducted by myself it shall be conducted on foot and tie in these native groups with the ITELINU and DIDIPAS groups and so establish a patrol route through the area. I intend the patrol route to enter the area via ITELINU and exit via DIDIPAS.



(D.H. Pennefather)
Patrol Officer

PATROL POST
GREEN RIVER



MAKER RIVER

SINAI RIVER

IDAM

IDAM RIVER

WATERCAP MOUNTAIN

WEST IRIAN

AUGUST (MIRSI) RIVER

(MEREITO)

(UMIRITO)

WEST SEPIK DISTRICT

BOGDE R.

(IORI)

ABE R.

P.N.S.R.L. BASE CAMP

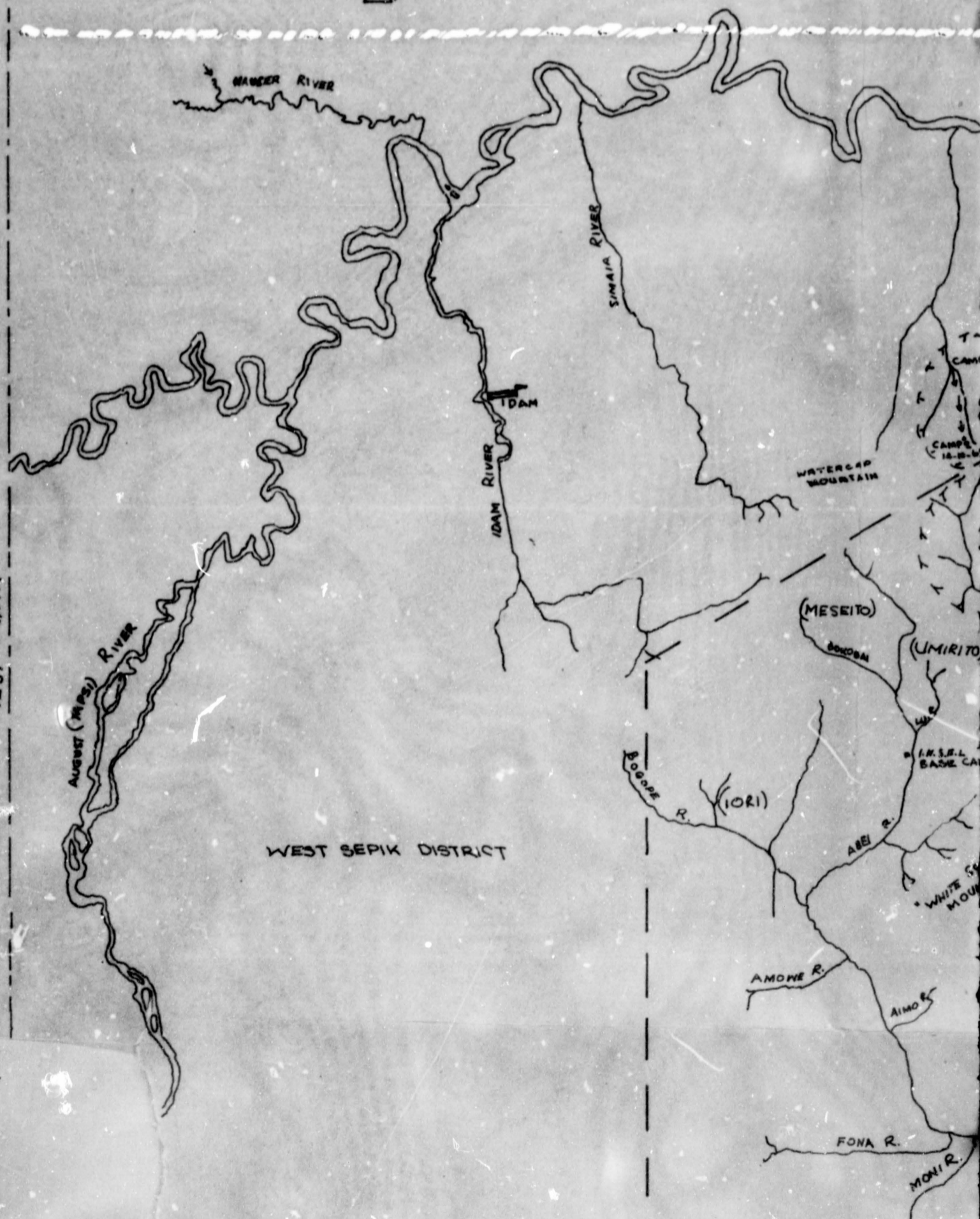
WHITE MOUNTAIN

AMONE R.

AIMO R.

FONA R.

MONI R.



"MAY RIVER"

CONDUCTED

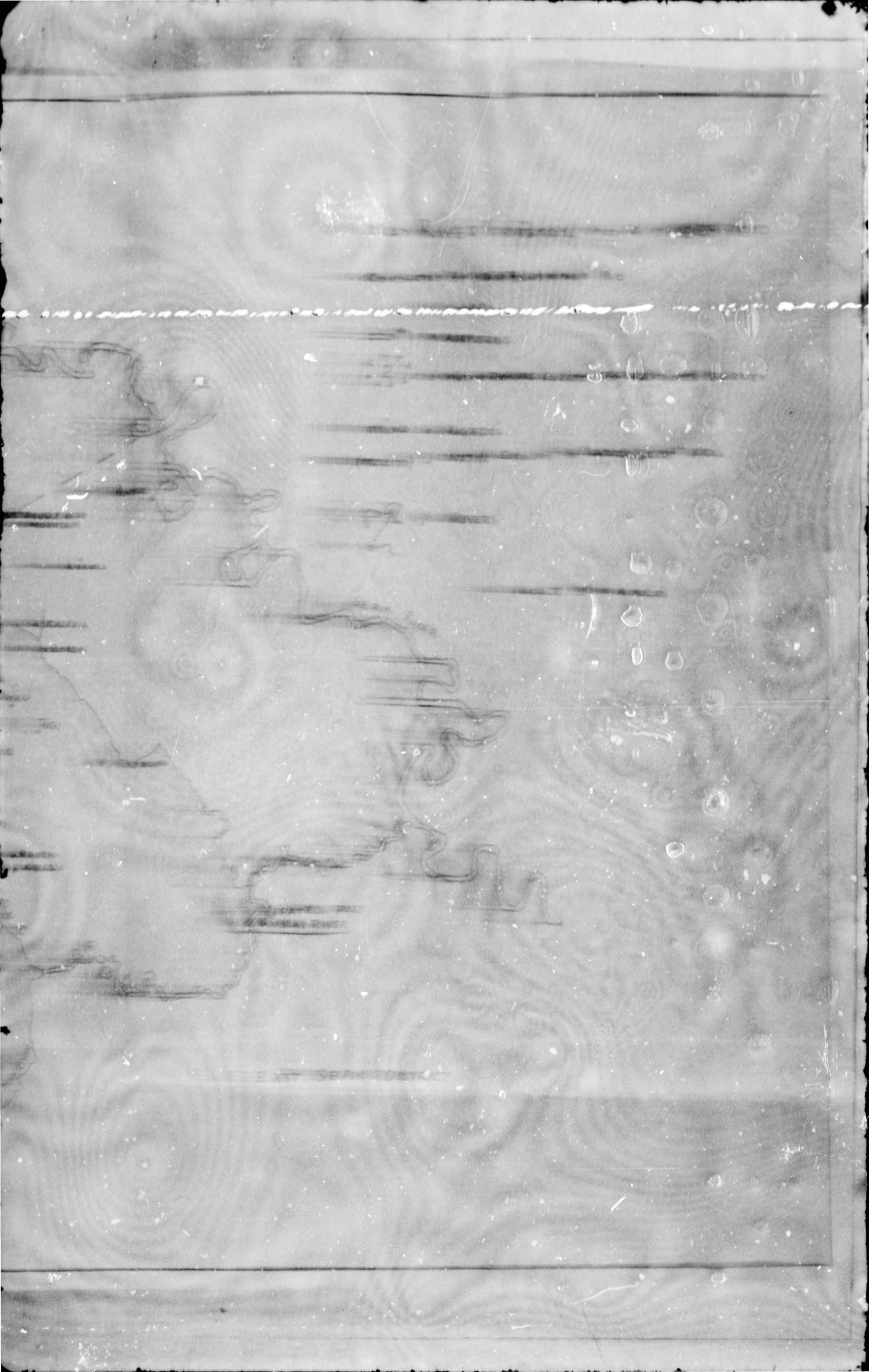
☐ = AI
⊙ = NA
⊙ = NA

ITELIND = VI
(MESEITO) = NA

☐ = R





EAST SEPIK DISTRICT



"MAY RIVER" PATROL NO 4 - 1369/1970


CONDUCTED BY D.H. PENNEFATHER P.O.

 = AIRFIELDS

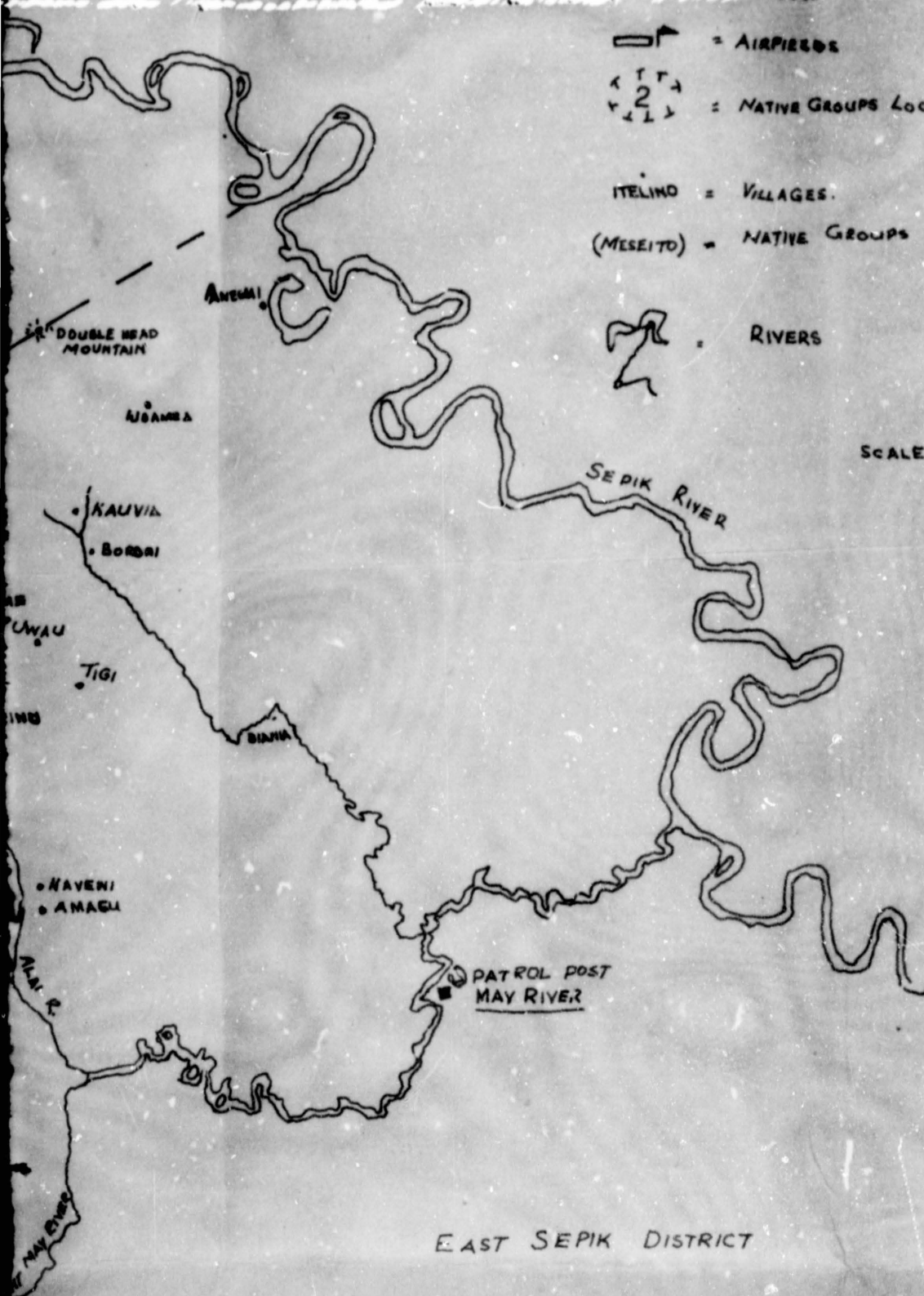
 = NATIVE GROUPS LOCATED BY HELICOPTER SURVEY

ITELIND = VILLAGES.

(MESEITO) = NATIVE GROUPS IN "WHITE SCARP" AREA.

 = RIVERS

SCALE 1" = 4 MILES



EAST SEPIK DISTRICT

H.Q.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of EAST SEPIK Report No. AREA STUDY No. 5 of 1969-1970

Patrol Conducted by D.H. PENNEFATHER, Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled WANIAP MAY Census Division.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 3 Members R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 3/12/1969 to 10/12/1969

Number of Days SEVEN

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? YES

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 18/7/1969.

Medical/19.....

Map Reference Population of Area Patrolled: 674

Objects of Patrol Conduct Area Study and Census Revision.

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Mrs. Susan Dred

Forwarded, please.

21 21 1970

E. G. Hillyer
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

67-5-77

67-1-13
19



Department of the Administrator
Division of District Administration
Sub District Office
AMBUNTI
East Sepik District

20th June 1970

The District Commissioner
East Sepik District
~~WEWAK~~

MAY RIVER PATROL NO 5 1968/69

1. Your 67-1-13 of 3rd February 1970 refers.
2. Assistant District Officer Mr B. Fischer of Telefomin made the following notes on your queries in paras 3 and 5 of the above mentioned memo:
 - "1. Carpentaria has prior claim on any available area.
 2. Probably restricted to resettlement for labourers.
 3. Possible resettlement area may be opened by new company roads.
 4. No large areas suitable for large scale resettlement available on navigable section of Freida
 5. PAUPE area generally low-lying - few areas suitable for resettlement.
 6. Area in vicinity of airstrip is approx 50 to 60 acres - Company and Admin may require all of this.
 7. Wharf site - possibly in vicinity of Freida Mt downstream from Paupe (on west bank) will be suitable for small barges only drawing 3-4 feet - Company will construct. Three consulting Engineers have inspected this site.
 8. Company has plans for road to extend from wharf area past airstrip to mining lease (tenders allegedly being called for a 2½ million dollar project)
 9. Resettlement area may be suitable to take small numbers of Telefomins."

Mr. D.H. Pennfather,
Patrol For your information please. Unfortunately this is the only information available at present.
East Sepik District.

Whilst political education is a ... it is becoming a more specialised ... expected to participate fully ... opportunity.

L.W. Bragge
a/Assistant District Commissioner

Reference: 67-1-13

District Office,
WEWAK. East Sepik District.
23rd June, 1970.

The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

My minute endorsed on memorandum 67-1-13 of 3rd February 1970 accompanying Patrol Report No. 5 of 1969/70 refers. When more information is to hand you will be immediately advised.

For your information please.

G. G. Hicks
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

67-8-77
67-8-77

Division of District Administration,
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

16th February, 1970.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL NO. MAY RIVER 5/69-70.

Your reference 67-1-13 of 3rd February,
1970.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Annual
Census and Area Study by Mr. D.H. Pennefather, Patrol
Officer, to Waniap May Census Division.

It is pleasing to note that attention is being
given to the lack of development in the May River area.
At present the avenues for development appear to be
limited; however, an increase in mining activity could
change this position.

Mr. Pennefather's report is a sound effort, but
he must make more effort to improve his spelling.

(S.J. PEARSALL)
a/Secretary,
Department of the Administrator.

c.c.
Mr. D.H. Pennefather,
Patrol Post,
MAY RIVER, VIA AMBUNTI.
East Sepik District.

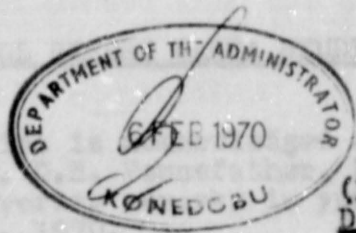
Whilst political education is a continuing process
it is becoming a more specialised task, and you are still
expected to participate fully in its extension at every
opportunity.

67.8.77. (17)

7. Political Education must be constant and patiently undertaken at every opportunity - it would be a prudent move to conduct some explanatory lectures in the Council House for Local Officers of all departments, once they are clear in their mind they can in turn discuss with the less informed.

8. Mr. Pennefather has submitted a good report and there is a marked improvement in his work.

For your action, as regards submissions to the District Co-ordinating Committee, please.



E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

c.c. The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU, PAPUA.

For your information and records, please.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

(16)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Reference: 67-1-13

Division of District Administration,
District Office,
NEWAY,
East Sepik District.

3rd February, 1970.

Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-district Office,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT (AREA STUDY) NO. 5 1969/70

Receipt is acknowledged of the above report conducted by Mr. D.H. Pennefather, Patrol Officer, together with your covering remarks in your memorandum 67-1-13 of 25th January, 1970.

2. The members of the District Co-ordinating Committee are acutely aware of the lack of development in the May River area, however, no concrete suggestions for consideration have been placed before it.
3. I refer you to memorandum 67-8-60 of 22nd August, 1969, from the Secretary, Department of the Administrator, wherein vide paragraph 4, inter alia..... "I will await further advice from you regarding the open valleys at the head of the Frieda River, and their suitability for resettlement". To date this information is not to hand.
4. You have been advised that the District Education Committee has placed an establishment for a school at May River as Priority 3 for 1970, my memorandum 67-1-13/26-1-1 of the 7th August, to the District Education Inspector, c.c. to you refers.
5. Memorandum 6-1-5/67-1-13 of the 7th August, from this District Headquarters requested -
 - (a) Assessing the area of arable land in the headwaters of the Frieda River as well as in the vicinity of the Paupe area where Carpentaria Exploration Company is considering constructing an airstrip.
 - (b) Feasibility and justification survey for the establishment of a wharf site on the Frieda River as far up the headwaters as possible to take deep draft vessels and then assess whether a road can extend from the wharf area into the suggested Frieda resettlement area.
6. Your attention is drawn to my minute to you endorsed on memorandum 67-1-13 of the 12th August, 1969, to the Secretary, Department of the Administrator - re "Possibility of Expanding Economy" - You are in receipt of the District Rural Development Officer's memorandum 30-1-1 of the 18th September, 1969.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

115

67-1-13

Division of District Administration,
A N B N T I , East Sepik District.

25th January 1970.

District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK

REPORT MAY RIVER PATROL NO.5 OF 1969/70

Attached please find the above report submitted by Mr Pennefather OIC MAY RIVER. This is the best report I have seen from Mr. Pennefather marred only by a few spelling mistakes.

The grouping of the Upper Waniap groups into a conglomerate village is a good development and the views of the DRDO on paragraph 59 are sought, please. It is noticeable the District Co-ordinating Committee has never discussed the problems of areas such as May River and although at this early stage no concrete plans are possible, nevertheless I feel some discussion on the area should be made, if only to make members of the Committee aware of the area and its problems. X

It is good to see the value of the work being undertaken by the SBA Mission in this difficult and remote area. I consider the Mission is indebted to it for the interest and effort taken and made by the staff of the AMBUNTI mission. Apart from the OIC May River it is the only group to take any interest in the area.

Mr Pennefather's competent report is submitted for your information, please.

(J. C. Pennefather)
Assistant District Commissioner

C.c. OIC MAY RIVER



74

Telegrams
Telephone
Our Reference 67-3-16
If calling ask for
Mr. D.H.P.

Patrol Post
MAY RIVER,
East Sepik District.

15th. December, 1969.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 5 of 1969-1970
AREA STUDY REPORT

Report No: 5 of 1969-1970.
Type of Report: SITUATION and AREA STUDY.
District: EAST SEPIK.
Sub-District: AMBUNTI.
Area Patrolled: WANIAP MAY Census Division.
Patrol Conducted By: D.H.PENNEFATHER, Patrol Officer.
Patrol Accompanied By: Europeans - NIL
Natives - 3 Members R.P.N.G.C.
Duration of Patrol: 3-12-69 to 10-12-69
Number of Days: Seven (7) Days.
Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area: No. 1 of 1969-1970
18-7-69 to 23-7-69
Five (5) Days.
Objects of Patrol: i. Conduct Census
ii. Conduct Area Study
iii. Gather Witnesses.
Population of Area Patrolled: 674.

Distribution:

- 2 Copies Secretary, Department of the Administrator,
K O N E D O B U.
- 2 Copies District Commissioner, District Office,
W E W A E.
- 1 Copy Assistant District Commissioner, Sub-District Office,
A M B U N T I
- 1 Copy Officer-in-Charge, Patrol Post,
M A Y R I V E R.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 5 of 1969-1970.PATROL DIARY:3rd. December 1969.

Depart MAY RIVER at 1000 and proceed 1½ hrs to WANIAP village. Village inspected. 1400 comence conducting census. In the evening conduct Political Awareness Survey.

Sleep WANIAP.

4th. December, 1969.

Ex WANIAP 1½ hrs in canoe and 1½ hrs walking to BOROPA. This a village of three houses was inspected and at 1330 Census was conducted.

Sleep BOROPA.

5th. December, 1969.

Arrive at AMA 2 hrs walking ex BOROPA. The village and air-strip both inspected. Census conducted at 1300 of both KAUVIA and WOBARU.

Sleep AMA.

6th. December, 1969.

Walk to IENEWE 2 hrs 40 min ex AMA where census was conducted at 1200. At 1330 proceed 1½ hrs to AGREME. Inspected new Dance or 'Sing-Sing' house at AGREME where they held a dance that night for the sake of the patrol.

Sleep AGREME.

7th. December, 1969.

Hold census at AGREME and from there proceed 45 mins to UWAU village. At UWAU village census was conducted at 1330.

Sleep UWAU.

8th. December, 1969.

Proceed by foot 1 hr 40 min ex UWAU to TIGI. Census conducted at TIGI at 1200. When census finalise all census ~~statistics~~ statistics.

Sleep TIGI.

9th December, 1969.

From TIGI have 1½ hr walk to the WOILI creek where patrol awaited arrival of Government canoe. Proceed 3½ hrs by canoe back to MAY RIVER.

PATROL STOOD DOWN.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 5 Of 1969-1970.SITUATION REPORT.POLITICAL.

1. The WANIAP census division is made up primitive natives living in a relatively isolated area and with the exception of the village of WANIAP could be said to be totally politically unaware.

2. There is no Local Government Council in the MAY RIVER area and nor have the people ever had the opportunity to observe the activities of any of the Councils in the adjacent areas such as GREEN RIVER or AMBUNTI. A political awareness survey conducted at WANIAP village (the most sophisticated village in the division) revealed the following answers in reply to the question 'What is a Local Government Council and What does it do?'

- i. It is to help us all: bring us employment and improve our economy.
- ii. It collects taxes every year.
- iii. A council member is the same as a Patrol Officer.
- iv. The people tell the Patrol Officer who they wish to be the council member.

3. As can be seen the above answers reveal very little knowledge and are not altogether in answer to the question. Never the less the above does indicate that what knowledge these people do have is the result of being told about something which they have never seen so we end up with them saying that a council/or is the same as a patrol Officer when they were probably originally told that a Council was Advised by D.D.A. staff. This state of affairs is all too common and until such time as a Council is started at MAY RIVER I can not see the situation changing.

4. The survey mentioned above revealed the following in answer to the question 'What is the House of Assembly'

- i. It is a big council House
- ii. It is where the members of the council who work for us go and sit and talk.

'What do you expect from your member of the House of Assembly?'

- i. To see that the villages are kept clean.
- ii. To bring buisness into our villages.
- iii. If he sees that any of our villages are very backward he must report this to the house and tell the other members about it.

'What is the difference between the House of Assembly and the Administration?'

- i. M.H.A. Naui takes our greivances to the House of Assembly and so does the Administration. They both do the same work.

5. They seem to know, but are not too confident in their knowledge, that the House of Assembly is a place where certain 'Big' or influential men go and meet. They know that the house is situated in Port Moresby and that M.H.A. Naui Saunabwi of AMBUNTI is their local member. Their regional member Michael Somare is not known of at all.

6. These people have the impression that M.H.A. Naui is a means of conveying their greivances to ~~the~~ higher authority. Naui is also looked upon as doing the same work as the Administration. This I feel is because since he was elected in 1968 Naui has been to the village once, and when he came he appears to have spoken mairly on the work of the Administration and Local Government Councils which I feel has helped them to the conclusion that both Naui (or the House of Assembly) do the same work as the Administration.

7. It is more than obvious that political education programmes in this area, as in all of MAY RIVER, will have to be most extensive prior to the next elections and for many years afterwards. For any such programme to any degree of success I consider the most essential ingrediãnt to be the establishment of a Local Government Council and so give the people practical experiance and participation in a form of limited Government and let them see for them-selves what it is all about rather than just be told about somthing that they have no real appreciation of any way.

ECONOMIC.

8. There is no established Cash Economy in the WANIAP Census Division and nor are there any plans for the imẽdiate introduction of same.

9. It is hoped that with the assistance of the Seventh Day Adventist (S.D.A.) mission that coffee will be able to be introduced in the area of AMA village where there is now an ever increasing concentration of nativex population.

10. As shall be later reported it is hoped that it will be possible to concentrate the population of the area in three main centres and so have enough labour in one area to make ~~to~~ possibility of a cash economy a reality. At the present the people are still rather nomadic and the population is too scattered to make it possible for the individual villages to grow their own seperate gardens. The village of AMA is now becoming the first of these concentration of population with the villages of WOBARU and KAUVIA now making AMA their main centre and it is then hoped that the people of BOROPA will latter move there.

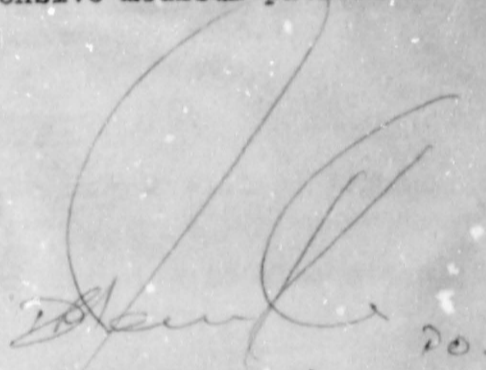
11. The WANIAP is made uninviting to the introduction of Cash Crops owing to the vast areas of Sago swamp that exist in the area but on all sides except the East the area is borded by good mountainous areas that could be well utilised for cash cropping.

SOCIAL.

12. At present the most noticeable social developments in the area have been initiated by the SDA mission. At the village of AMA the recent completion of their new mission strip will be the beginning of health and limited education facilities for the area.

13. The other major social effect on the people has been the presence of the Administration which has to a very large extent settled the people down into permanent villages the people being nomads prior to Administration contact.

14. The patrol was accompanied by the MAY RIVER medical orderly who did a medical check of the people in the area as they were being censused. The medical condition of the area is good this mainly being due to the efforts of the SDA mission who have conducted extensive medical patrols in the area.



(D.H. Pennefather)
Patrol Officer

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 5 of 1969-1970
AREA STUDY.

A. INTRODUCTION

15. The WANIP MAY Census Division is made up of vast sago swamp lands being bordered on the South, West and North by extensive mountain ranges. The mountain ranges are sparsely populated and are covered with heavy timber.

16. Access to the area is along various waterways that exist among the swamps. When these waterways become impassable all communication is by foot.

17. The people of the area have been under Administration contact for 15 to 7 years. Their dealings with the Administration have not been extensive and except for the occasional murder have always been good.

B. POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS.

18. A copy of the latest village population register has been attached.

19. A map of the division is also attached indicating ^{ing} how all villages are linked.

C. SOCIAL GROUPINGS.

20. There are in the Census Division ^H ~~X~~ three different language groups.

- i. IWAM language which is spoken by the people of WANIP.
- ii. IMAR language which is spoken by the people of BOROPA, KAUVIA, WOBARU and IENEWE, and TIGI.
- iii. IYO Language which is spoken by the people of AGRAME and UWAU.

21. Owing to the ~~large~~ large amount of inter-marriage that has gone on between all the separate groups in this census division there are people of all three language groups to be found in each village. This merging of the languages could possibly find the IMAR language becoming the dominant language in the area as the present majority of the population speak the IMAR language.

22. There is emerging quite a considerable degree of cohesion among the various groups. The most evident of these is at AMA where the SDA mission has just completed their new air-strip, and here we find the people of WOBARU and KAUVIA moving to AMA and merging as one village. It is more than likely that the village of BOROPA will later join in this merger.

23. The relations with these people and the other adjacent native groups remain good with a considerable amount of inter-marriage taking place between the people of AKAHAI, WAK and TIGI and the people of TULU and WOBARU AMASU.

24. The natives of WOBARU have not forgotten about the ANINARI massacre of five of their number. The ANINARI are a group of natives that live in the area of Double Head Mountain. The WOBARU Luluai informed me when I was at AMA that he had been in contact with the ANINARI and that the latter wish to make friendly relations with the WOBARU. The same Luluai: NAKIAM, informs me that he intends to visit the ANINARI in the New Year.

D. LEADERSHIP.

25. The MAY RIVER area still operates under the Luluai/Tultul system and the respective Luluais and Tultuls are in most cases influential enough to be regarded and respected as the village leader. One leadership problem that is emerging in the area was reported to me at WANIAP village. The WANIAP Luluai informed me that with most of young men away from the village on plantations there are now only the old 'Big' men left in the village and they are very reluctant to take orders from either the Luluai or Tultul. This problem was not reported in any of the other villages but I strongly suspect that it does exist.

26. It appears inevitable that the traditional pattern of leadership is at present under change. My investigations revealed that the recognised traditional leader was either one or two of the village elders who at the same time had a good record as a fighter. It appears also that where appropriate it was these people who were chosen to hold the positions of Luluai and Tultul. The major challenge to the authority of these people is the emerging mission leaders who as the result of their different vocation are in many ways detached from the Luluais and Tultuls but never the less are having increasing influence over the village people. There is also evidence of various younger men who are capable of speaking Pidgin English and so being capable of communicating with Europeans trying to exert authority.

27. The village Officials and their designation are listed as follows:

WANIAP Village:	Luluai	NOMNIA-KWAINIS
	Tultul	UMOI-NASAK
BOROPA Village:	Tultul	OKAPU-WAI'EKO
WOBARU Village:	Luluai	NAKIAM-IMAMO
KAUVIA Village:	Luluai	BIEI-MAMO
LENEWE Village:	Tultul	DUMAI-SIPRA
AGRAMÉ Village:	Luluai	IMOA-Tosako
UWAU Village:	Luluai	PAREI-LEIWO
TIGI Village:	Tultul	MUNO-TAPIO

E. LAND TENURE AND USE.

28. The WANIAP MAY is typical of many such similar areas within the AMBUNTI Sub-District: Large low-land areas being mainly swamplands bordered by mountainous areas and supporting a very scattered, sparse population living a nomadic existence.

29. The system of land ownership is not individual land ownership but is rather a system where the whole native group has ownership over an area of land and within that area certain members of the group have rights over areas of land for the gathering of sago. Where gardens are constructed the work is done on a communal basis which when you consider the numerical weakness of most groups is the only way in which large areas of bush could be cleared and maintained.

30. There is no land held on lease from the Administration and nor has any cash cropping commenced in the area.

F. LITERACY.

31. There are no existing schools in the area under survey and nor have the people of the area got access to any recognised education facilities.

32. It is hoped that the SDA mission will soon have a school established at the village of AMA where the new concentration of population will make a school more than justified.

33. None of the old men in the area are fluent in Pidgin English with only a few of the younger men being able to converse in pidgin.

G. STANDARD OF LIVING.

34. The standard of housing throughout the area was reasonable with the villages in all cases being very clean. In all too many cases though the people had cultivated the ugly habit of abandoning a house or houses and leaving them standing to rot rather than have them destroyed.

35. There are european cloths and metal artefacts all throughout the area and the instance of such articles shall only continue to increase.

36. The basis of their diet is sago which is at times substituted with fresh meats and taro. There are no introduced european foods in the area and nor have the people access to and tin foods in any quantity.

H. MISSIONS.

37. There is only one mission that operates in the area under survey. It is the Seventh Day Adventist (SDA). The main centre of their activities is at the village of AMA where they have recently completed the construction of a very adequate air-strip and are now in the process of setting up permanent staff of indigenous mission personnel.

38. The SDA mission has to date done some very good work in this area especially in supplying medical treatment this latter work has gained the mission a very name with the native people who are 100% pro mission. As there are no other missions in the area ~~there~~ we are very fortunate in having in the area no opportunity for inter-mission fudes to occur.

I. NON-INDIGENES.

39. There are non-indigenes operating in the area.

40. There are in the area no plantations, factories or commercial establishments.

J. COMMUNICATIONS.

41. There are in the area no established roads other than native walking tracks. There is at present no need for further road systems in the area.

42. There are small waterways that proceed deep into the area under survey and depending on the height of the water can be used by both speed boats and motor powered canoes.

43. The following details of walking and canoe times between villages should best indicate the use made of waterways and walking tracks through the area.

MAY RIVER	to	WANIAP	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs	Motor Canoe
WANIAP	to	BOROPA	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs	Motor Canoe
			1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs	Walking
BOROPA	to	AMA	2 hrs	Walking
AMA	to	IENEWE	2 $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs	Walking
IENEWE	to	AGREME	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs	Walking
AGREME	to	UWAU	45 min	Walking
UWAU	to	TIGI	1 $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs	Walking
TIGI	to	MAY RIVER	1 $\frac{1}{4}$ hrs	Walking
			3 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs	Motor Canoe.

5

44. The one air-strip in the area is at AMA village and is an all mission strip having been only recently constructed by the SDA mission. The strip has no category as yet but if the situation ever warranted it there is enough space for it to be made a very good category BRAVO strip.

45. At present the strip measures 282 links x 2,227 links ~~and~~ and be operational to category DELTA craft.

46. K. TECHNICAL AND CEMERICAL SKILLS.

46. There are no people so skilled in the area under survey.

L. THE STAGE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

47. The different groups or villages in the area under survey are at the ~~present~~ present in a state of change: a change from being scattered groups of nomadic people being in a state of constant war with their neighbours to a people who are now beginning to settle in permanent villages, who have only recently stopped tribal wars and who are becoming more in contact with the mission and Government influence.

48. It has been unfortunate that in the past the greater number of patrols that were mounted into this area had the main task of investigating a homicide in the area and this has given the people a very good knowledgw of the Government as a law enforcer but very little other knowledge of the many other duties performed. They have all voted in the 1968 House of Assembly elections but this appears to have meant very little to them.

49. The Governments actions in stopping fighting and it's enforcement of law throughout the area along with the work of the SDA mission in supplying medical treatment and spiritual leadership in the area has let to a considerable unifying effect throughout the area. This is evident in there willingness to construct permanent villages where previously these did not exist. The unhindered inter-village communication ~~that~~ exists in the area along with the very evident inter-marriage that exists between all the villages wherev previously this also did not occur.

50. The new society which these people are now making for themselves has not yet become settled and nor is it yet sophisticated enough for the emergence of prominent individuals either posing as pro-Administration leaders or mouth-peices of discontent. Nor has the MAY RIVER area any institution such as a council or a Co-operative which would probably bring these type of people to the fore.

51. At the present the people have no cash economy and as they have never had any money in their lives this is at present not a current source of discontent. They a very pro- Administration and pro-mission and I expect them to remain so for quite some time.

M. THE ECONOMY OF THE AREA.

52. There are no economic trees being grown in the area at present. What saleable indigenous trees that do exist are not frequent enough to be considered for the basis of an economy.

53. The only cash earnings made by wage labour is by those men who have been employed or who are being employed as labourers on plantations in NEW BRITAIN.

54. There in the area no co-operatives, no overseas or local entrepreneurs or groups of primary producers. These people have never been taxed.

N. POSSIBILITY OF EXPANDING THE ECONOMY.

55. I consider the first essential when contemplating this problem to be the concentration of enough man power in one place to make the possibility crop growing and ~~xxx~~ maintenance there of a reality.

56. At present the people exist in small villages which are by themselves too numerically weak for each village to grow and maintain large gardens. All the same each village in the area has access to some very good heavily timbered mountainous land.

57. It is my plan that they should be at least two areas of concentrated labour in the area this involving the amalgamation of at least two or more villages. With this combined strength it should then prove possible to proceed with the establishment of gardens. When saying this I am thinking in terms of coffee.

58. The first stage of this planned concentration of labour is already taking place. With the building of the new air-strip at AMA the villages of KAUVIA and WOBARU are now in the process of abandoning their old villages and moving to the new village of AMA. Their main reason for this was so that they would be able to maintain the air strip and have full access to what ever services the mission may supply. When I discussed with them about the joint growing of crops they showed themselves to be very willing and in full agreement and even said if this was the case they should also ask the people of BOROPA to join with them.

59. I know I have the assistance of the SDA Mission in trying to introduce cash cropping into the area and it would now be most appreciated if the Agricultural Department could supply an expert opinion on the land and the sites to be used. I intend to make a verbal request to this effect upon my next visit to WEWAK.

60. Should this prove successful the village of AGREME would prove an ideal site for a similar project.

61. As the people of this area have exactly no cash income even the smallest amount of money that they can earn from their own produce is ~~th~~ more than welcome. I would myself consider the introduction of Coffee but an expert opinion may also have other suggestions to make regarding what would be the most suitable crops for the area.

62. There have been no mineral prospecting activities in the area under survey and nor ~~MINERAL~~ has there been any labour drawn from this area, ^{By These Companies}.

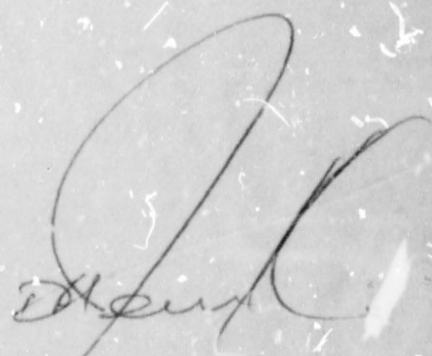
ATTITUDE TOWARDS LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

63. The people throughout the area under survey have no knowledge of Local Government.

64. It is my opinion that the introduction of Local Government into the area would be the greatest asset to Political Development and Economic development that the area ^{could} has experienced.

65. I have been informed that the proposed MAY RIVER council is very low on the list of priorities and that it is most unlikely that a council shall be introduced into this area for a number of years.

66. The peoples complete ignorance on the subject means that the lack of Local Government is not a source of discontent and so is very rarely commented on but never the less I do not think it would take the people long to realise the advantages to be had once it was introduced.



(D.H. Fennefather)
Patrol Officer

CENSUS AND VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER.

Patrol Post: MAY RIVER.
District: EAST SEPIK.
Sub-District: AMBUNUT.
Census Division: WANIAP MAY.
Financial Year: 1969-1970.
Date last Census revision: 1967

TOTAL 1967	698	
BIRTHS	50	
MIGRATIONS IN	<u>21</u>	
	769	
DEATHS		61
MIGRATIONS OUT		<u>34</u>
		95
	<u>25</u>	
TOTAL 1969	<u>674</u>	
	<u><u> </u></u>	

H. G.

Amount Returned to Store



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of FAST SEPIK Report No. SPECIAL No. 6 of 1969-1970

Patrol Conducted by D.H. PENNEFATHER Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Part CENTRAL MAY Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil

Natives + Member R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 12/1/1970 to 14/1/1970

Number of Days 3

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1/6/1969

Medical/19.....

Map Reference Population of Area Patrolled: 375

Objects of Patrol Publicity P.A. 66

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

28/1/1970

E. G. Hills
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 \$.....

Popul

MICR		
in Child Birth		
	M	F

GFB: MJ

6

67-8-72

67-8-72

Division of District Administration

Konedobu.

9th February, 1970.

District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL NO. MAY RIVER 6/69-70

Your reference 67-1-13 of 27th January, 1970.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Special Report by Mr. D.H. Pennefather, Patrol Officer, to part CENTRAL MAY Census Division.

Your covering comments are endorsed.

This brief report is quite satisfactory, and its prompt submission is very pleasing.

c.c.

Mr. D.H. Pennefather,
Patrol Post,
MAY RIVER via AMBUNTI
East Sepik District.

(S.J. Pearsall)
a/Secretary
Department of the Administrator.

Whilst political education is a continuing process, it is becoming a more specialised task, and you are still expected to participate fully in its extension at every opportunity.

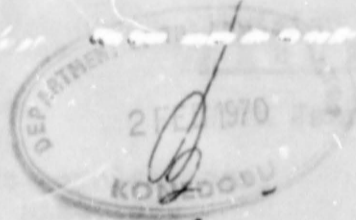
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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

67.8.72. (5)

(67-1-13)



District Office,
WEWAK, East Sepik District.

27th January - 1970.

Assistant District Commissioner,
AMBUNTI. E.S.D.

MAY RIVER.
SPECIAL PATROL REPORT : AMBUNTI: NO.6 -1969/70.

Receipt is acknowledged of the above report conducted in the Central May River Census division for the purpose of explaining the proposed renewal of P.A.66.

I concur with the proposal set out in paragraph 5 of the report and consider it most essential that an officer initially accompany Field parties into the area.

On patrols such as this the opportunity should also be taken by the Officer to give talks on political matters so that they have an understanding of the Local Government Council system, the House of Assembly and the aims of the administration for their social, economic and political advancement. For example if any of the Companies operating in their area decide to commence operations, it will be to their subsequent advantage and future development.

E. G. Hicks
.....
(E.G.Hicks).
District Commissioner.

Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

For your information and records, please.

E. G. Hicks
.....
(E.G.Hicks).
District Commissioner.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

(4)

67-1-13

Division of District Administration,
A M B U R T I , East Sepik District.

25th January 1970.

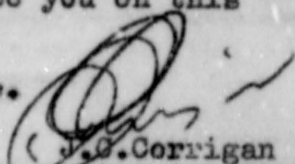
The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK

REPORT MAY RIVER PATROL NO.6 of 1969/70

Attached please find the above report.

The objective of the patrol was successfully accomplished. Camping Allowance claim is attached.
The report was purely to advise of a hearing for renewal of P.A.66. My minute to you on this subject of to-day's date refers.

For your information, please.


(J.S. Corrigan)
Assistant District Commissioner

c.c. OIC MAY RIVER.



Telegrams

Telephone

Our Reference 67-3-16

If calling ask for

Mr. D.H.P.

Patrol Post

MAY RIVER,
East Sepik District.

15th January 1970.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 6 of 1969-1970.
SPECIAL PATROL.

Report No. 6 of 1969-1970.

Type of Report. SPECIAL

District. EAST SEPIK

Sub-district. AMBUNTI.

Area Patrolled. Part CENTRAL MAY Census Division.

Patrol Conducted by. D.H.PENNEFATHER Patrol Officer.

Patrol Accompanied by: Europeans. NIL
Natives. 1 Member R.P.N.G.C.

Duration of Patrol. 12-1-70 to 14-1-70

Number of Days. Three (3)

Last D.D.A. Patrol to area. No. 6 of 1968-1969.
1-6-69 to 10-6-69
Ten (10) Days.

Object of Patrol. Publicity of P.A. 66

Population of area Patrolled. 375

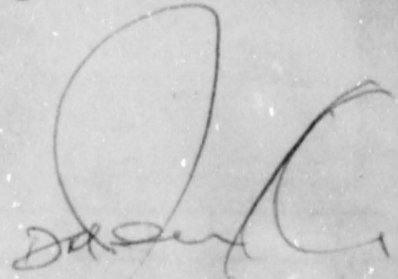
PATROL DIARY12th January 1970.Proceed to AUNI village from MAY RIVER where meeting held and the implications of P.A.66 explained to all present. All in favour of Prospecting activities in their area. 1300 Patrol proceeds 3 hours overland to SAMO
Sleep SAMO13th January 1970.Explain to the people of SAMO, INAGRI, AMU and YEI about P.A.66. There were no objections, on the contrary they were most enthusiastic for prospecting activities to commence. Return to MAY RIVER via AUNI.
Sleep MAY RIVER.14th January 1970.

Proceed to WANIAM village by motor canoe and explain to the people there the meaning of P.A.66. No objections here and as some of the men from here have worked for Carpentaria in their Freida prospect they had a good knowledge of what was being said. Return to MAY RIVER in the afternoon. Patrol Stood Down.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 6 of 1969-1970.

SPECIAL REPORT.

1. The purpose of the patrol was to publicise to the native people concerned the application made by Mount Isa Mines Limited for Prospecting Authority No. 66 (EXT) which covers approximately 120 square miles of the MAY RIVER area.
2. The people spoken to were from the villages of AUNI, SAMO, INAGRI, AMU, ~~AMU~~ WANUM and YEI. All of which constitute part of the Central May Census Division.
3. The area covered by P.A. 66 is basically all swamplands being punctuated at intervals by small mountains of no real significance. The population that exists in this area is quite primitive and numbers no more than 375 all told.
4. The peoples reaction to the above information was very good and all expressed their approval and co-operation for Mount Isa mines to prospect in their area. No objections were raised but there was a request that local labour should be used as much as possible. This I explained was a reasonable request but at the same time made it clear to them that they did not have available all the labour that would be required and that they would have to expect a certain amount of recruited labour from other areas to be working in the area as well. This they said they understood.
5. The majority of the people covered by the prospecting Authority are quite primitive and for this reason I recomend that in the initial stages Field parties should be accompanied by D.D.A. field staff. This is not because I fear any hostility: quite the contrary, but rather to ensure that the native people are fully informed on what is taking place around them and so avoid any possible miss-interpretations of what is taking place. At the same time try and involve the people as much as is possible in the companies affairs and so establish good company/native relations.
6. I have not been in contact with any representatives of the above company and so have no idear when it is likely for them to commence prospecting in the area.
7. You may be assured that the native people will be kept fully informed of future developments regarding either this or any other Prospecting Authorities in the area.



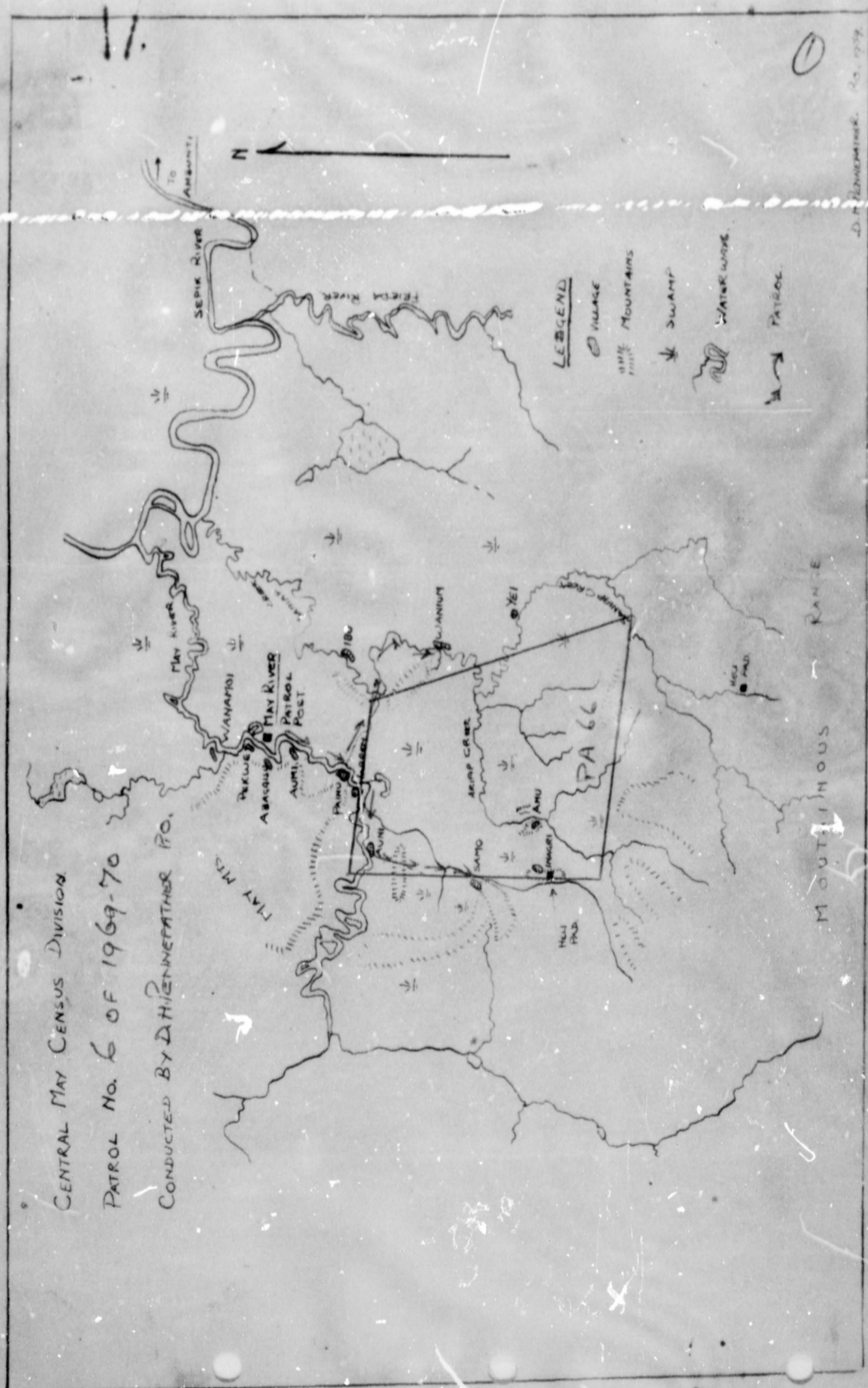
(D.H. Pennefather)
Patrol Officer

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CENTRAL MAY CENSUS DIVISION
 PATROL NO. 6 OF 1969-70
 CONDUCTED BY D. HIENNEFATHER P.O.



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Amount
Returned
to Store



HQ

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of EAST SEPIK Report No. 7 of 1969/1970 SITUATION

Patrol Conducted by D.H. PENNEFATHER Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Part UPPER MAY Census Division.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil

Natives 4 Members R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 21 / 1 / 1970 to 26 / 1 / 1970

Number of Days 6

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? 1 Medical Orderly

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 28 / 8 / 1969

Medical / / 19.....

Map Reference Population of Area: 240

Objects of Patrol Observe Native Situation.

Director of District Administration
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

41 31 1970

E. G. Hinks
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 \$.....

Popu

M
in Child
Birth
M

GFB:SK

Division of District Administration,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.....Papua.

67-8-49

16th March, 1970

District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WENAK.

PATROL MAY RIVER NO. 7/69-70.

Your reference 67-1-5 of 4/3/70.

- 2. I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Report by Mr. D. H. Pennefather, Patrol Officer, to part Upper May Census Division.
- 3. This is an informative report of some good field work by Mr. Pennefather.
- 4. Your concise comments adequately cover the matters arising from the patrol.
- 5. Copies of the map will be forwarded under separate cover.

Sumner
19/3/70.

(S. J. Pearsall)
a/Secretary.
Department of the Administrator.

c.c. Mr. D. H. Pennefather,
Patrol Post,
MAY RIVER.....E.S.D.

Whilst political education is a continuing process it is becoming a more specialised task, and you are still expected to participate fully in its extension at every opportunity.

67-8-49 (10)

Reference: 67-4-3



Division of District Administration
District Office
East Babel District

4th March, 1970.

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

PATROL REPORT NO. 7 OF 1969/70
MY RIVER

Thank you for the above report and your covering comments.

It will be necessary for Mr. Pennyfather to obtain a clear statement of the land tenure system before further action can be undertaken.

The people are unsophisticated and this explanation of the mechanics of government has to be constantly applied. Have you any arrangements in hand to bring some of the people into Ambunti to attend Council Meetings and to have further instruction in the mechanics of government?

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

c.c. to The Secretary
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

Would it be possible to have ten sun prints done of the attached map and forwarded to this District Headquarters please.

For your information and records.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-1-13

Division of District Administration,
A.M.N.U.T.I., East Sepik District.

23rd February, 1970.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
N.E.W.A.

REPORT MAY RIVER PATROL NO.7 OF 1969/70

Attached in quadruplicate please find the above report submitted to me by Mr Pennefather. One copy of the map is also attached.

SUWANA LAND DISPUTE

I think the chances of a Land Titles Commissioner visiting the Suwana land in the near future are not very good. For this reason I think the best approach will be to hear the matter under Section 15A of the LTO Ordinance so that a magistrate of a Local Court make take depositions in the matter, transmit them to a Commissioner who can then make a finding under S.15 of the Ordinance. Any such decision, however, would need to be based on a clear statement of the land tenure system of the MIANKIN, SUWANA and BURUMAI Groups - it will be quite involved. If you agree I will instruct Mr Pennefather to attend to this matter in this way.

POLITICAL EDUCATION

As can be seen Mr Pennefather is continuing the task of political education and it is disappointing to see that our past efforts in the area do not appear to have been very fruitful. No doubt the new approach evolved by the PEC, however, will provide the answer.

PUBLICITY MINING ACTIVITIES

It is pleasing to note the people are happy about the prospecting activities within their area. No doubt this is influenced by the large amounts of cash being earned by the people. From the report Mr Pennefather has explained within the limits of the people's ability to digest, just what is involved in prospecting.

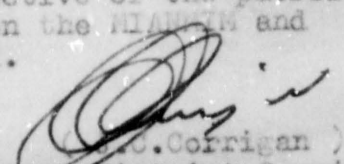
SOCIAL

For the MIANKIN people to benefit from the proposed school to open in 1971, they will have to build houses near MAY RIVER station so that their children may be cared for whilst attending school.

GENERAL

This is quite a good report by Mr Pennefather and it shows that the principal objective of the patrol, viz., lessening of tension between the MIANKIN and BURUMAI people has been attained.

For your information, please.


C. Corrigan
Assistant District Commissioner

Telegrams

Telephone

Our Reference 57-3-16

If calling ask for

Mr.

Patrol Post
MAY RIVER,
East Sepik District.

3rd. February, 1970.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 7 OF 1969/1970.
SITUATION REPORT.

Report No: 7 of 1969/1970

Type of Report: SITUATION

District: EAST SEPIK

Sub-District: AMBUNTI

Area Patrolled: Part UPPER MAY Census Division.

Patrol Conducted By: D.H.PENNEPATHER Patrol Officer

Patrol Accompanied by: Europeans - Nil

Natives - 4 Members R.P.N.G.C.

1 Medical Orderly

Duration of Patrol: 21-1-70 to 26-1-70

Number of Days: Five (5)

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area: No.2 of 1969/1970

28-8-69 to 29-9-69

37 Days

Object of Patrol: Investigate SUWANA Land

Observe MIANMIN/BURJMAI situation

Publicity of Mining activities.

Population of area patrolled: 240.

(2)

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 7 OF 1969/1970.
PATROL DIARY.

21st January 1970

Depart MAY RIVER and proceed 5½ hrs by motor canoe to MIANMIN arriving at 1400. Have informal discussion with the MIANMINS in the evening.
Sleep MIANMIN.

22nd January 1970

Everyone gathered in the morning and spoken to at 0830. Proceed up the IWA river and have a look at their crocodile hunting areas. Have a political discussion with the people in the evening.
Sleep MIANMIN.

23rd January 1970

Departed MIANMIN at 0900 by motor canoe and travelled 3 hrs up the ABEI river to USALIMIN. The river very low and so many rapids. The carriers took 4 hrs to cover the same journey. Gathered at USALIMIN were natives from FIYARIMIN and BOPRIMIN.
Sleep USALIMIN

24th January 1970

All natives present assembled and spoken to for about an hour and then a general discussion held for yet another hour.
Sleep Usalimin .

25th. January 1970.

Depart USALIMIN at 0900 by motor canoe and arrive at MIANMIN at 0945 (River Flooded). Wait at MIANMIN until 1300 and then proceed 2½ hrs down to BURUMAI.
Sleep BURUMAI

26th January 1970

Assemble and talk to the people of BURUMAI and YUAITRI. The people of these two villages had very little to say. Depart BURUMAI at 1400 and arrived MAY RIVER at 1700.

Patrol Stood Down.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 7 OF 1969/1970.SITUATION REPORT.INTRODUCTION

1. The main purposes of this short patrol were to clarify just what MIANMIN groups do exist in the MAY RIVER area as well as the possibility of more MIANMIN groups migrating into this area in the future. The other main reason for the patrol was to observe the native situation that exists between the people of the MIANMIN and the village people of BURUMAI. This latter subject necessitated a study of the problem of SUWANA land.

2. The patrol was on all occasions well received and no court or police action proved necessary throughout its duration.

POLITICALThe Problem of SUWANA land.

3. In December of 1969 the Luluai of BURUMAI village presented himself at the office with a report that the MIANMIN people had indicated that they intended to cut down BURUMAI Beetle-nut trees that they claimed to be planted on MIANMIN land. Further investigation showed that the land in question was that which ~~was~~ once belonged to the people of SUWANA.

4. This problem of SUWANA land is by no means a new one and I feel a short history of what has happened in the past may well be of assistance to those officers who are faced with the problem, again, in the future.

5. In his MAY RIVER Patrol No.4 of 1962/63 Mr. G.J.McIntyre, Patrol Officer, reported the following:-

It is claimed that the Iwam and Mianmin groups have always enjoyed friendly relations. Indeed, the repatriated Mianmin prisoners (Usage village), in their newly learnt pidgin vocabulary, referred to the Iwam as "Kantri nating."

However, in 1958, while the Burumai villagers were fighting with Suwana, a Birua settlement, the only son of one Nauni, an elder of Burumai, was killed. Nauni then through flattery, persuaded the Mianmin to avenge the death of his son. This they did by massacring every male in Suwana. Not content with this Nauni then reported the massacre to the Administration and latter gave evidence, claimed by the Mianmin to be false, which helped convict them. The people of Burumai then proceeded to marry the surviving Suwana females and are now showing signs of attempting to annex the Suwana lands.

The Mianmin are now aware that they have been fooled. The situation is further aggravated by the fact that for years the Burumai villagers have been clearing, tilling and working gardens on Mianmin land with the permission of Usage village.

The Usage villagers now claim rights by conquest to all Suwana land.

6. On the 18th December 1962 Mr. R.A. Calcutt, A/Assistant District Officer Ambunti, wrote in reply to a letter from G.J. McIntyre, Patrol Officer:-

As to the Suwana ground, the people who appear to have title to it are the surviving Suwana females; and as these are now married to Burumai men, the latter also have a claim. Right of conquest, following Administration entry into an area, cannot be recognized legally.....We can't expect the land to remain unoccupied, and it is our job to see that the people with a legitimate claim are backed by the Administration. You can say that we are deciding usufructory rights to the land, and not actual ownership, which we are not allowed to decide - that has become the exclusive province of the Lands Commissioner - but if we hang around waiting for Lands Commissioners to make a decision on land rights at May River, half the population will finish up being murdered.

7. It was with the above comments in mind that I informed both the MIANMIN and the BURUMAI that for the time being neither had, in my opinion, any legitimate claim to SUWANA land. The following points were explained in some detail to all men and women of both MIANMIN and BURUMAI:-

- i. The Administration would not recognise right of conquest under these circumstances.
- ii. The BURUMAI could not claim absolute ownership just because they had married the surviving women.
- iii. The people who had rights to the land were the remaining five SUWANA women and one ARAGWAINA the only surviving male of the massacre.
- iv. With these points in mind I explained that the area was as far as I was concerned belonged to neither the MIANMIN or the BURUMAI and any claims for the time being would have to be made with the approval of ARAGWAINA.

8. ARAGWAINA is a young man who is now living among the people of INAGRI. It appears that the people of INAGRI, SAMO and AMU may have some ethnic, linguistic ties with the once SUWANA and that these have already occupied some of the SUWANA's former lands.

9. This problem has not been solved, not that under the present system Officers in my position are expected to solve such problems. I do feel though that Officers in my position have a ~~very great responsibility~~ the best of their ability to try and prevent existing land problems from deteriorating to the extent where fighting and possibly killing is the end result.

10. No actual ownership of land has been decided and nor was it ever the patrol's intention to pursue such a course of action. Rather the patrol has explained to all parties concerned those people who have usufructory rights to the lands in dispute. This last course of action has I feel been quite successful for much of this problem I feel is based on the MIANMIN being jealous of the BURUMAI possibly benefiting more from the massacre than themselves, and vice-versa. Having now explained to both parties that neither has any rights but rather the land belongs to a third party (The surviving SUWANA) both seem to have become less adamant in their claims of ownership and I like to feel are appreciative of the situation as explained to them.

11. It was of course explained that any ~~infringement~~ infringements of the law that resulted from disputes over any of this land would meet with swift police action.

The MIANMIN Groups in the MAY RIVER Area.

12. The first people of the MIANMIN "Tribe" discovered from MAY RIVER were a group of natives on the USAGE river and have now for many years been known by that name. The name USAGE however is now not applicable as the people who were found there have now moved to what is marked on the map as MIANMIN village.

13. The first people into the area adjacent to the present village of MIANMIN were a group called the HOTMIN. Where in fact the HOTMIN originally came from I do not know but it appears that they have always been one of the most northerly situated of all the MIANMIN "Groups". The HOTMIN defeated the people who then owned the land (Said to be the BURUMAI) and first made their village on the ABEI river (an old village site still to be seen is evidence of this) How long this village remained is not known, but within living memory for some, the village was moved to the USAGE river because sickness killed many people in the ABEI river village. In about 1956 the HOTMIN now at the USALI river village were joined by some natives from the TEMSAPMIN group and it was in this position that they were gradually contacted in the late 1950's.

14. The TEMSAPMIN people originated on the FIAK river area and their traditional lands are situated in that area. The group split about the time of the ATBALMIN attack in 1956 with one section going to the USAGE river area where they joined the HOTMIN. The remainder of the group going and settling on the SAN river (Within TELEFOMIN area).

15. Both HOTMIN and TEMSAPMIN natives now occupy the village called MIANMIN at the confluence of the IWA and ABEI rivers

16. It appears that the original acquisition of these new lands by the HOTMIN then entitled any group within the MIANMIN tribe to come and occupy that land. I was informed that it was under these conditions that a group of USALIMIN natives (called KUSALIMIN by TELEPOMIN Officers) left their traditional area on the Fiak river and moved north to settle at first just South of the ABEI river and then later to settle on the ABEI river itself where they were first contacted by Mr G.J. McIntyre in 1963 and where they are still to be found today.

17. I am informed by the USALIMIN natives that the greater part of their group is now situated at their village SAUIABIP on the ABEI River and only a very few now remain in the FIAK river area.

18. The FIYARIMIN who have only come under Administration influence since MAY RIVER Patrol No.2 of 1969/70. They have now indicated that they now intend moving from their present area, South of the KENAKA river, to a new position on the lower reaches of the MUNI river so as to be only about half a days walk from USALIMIN.

19. One NIMABININAP-RUASO was made a Luluai for the FIYARIMIN as he appears to be quite influential and helpful and was previously recommended for the position.

20. Time out was taken to explain to the FIYARIMIN why one of their number was jailed recently for two years for his having committed murder.

21. There are then in the MAY RIVER area the following native groups of the Mianmin tribe. The HOTMIN and FIYARIMIN, part of the TEMSAPMIN and the greater part of the USALIMIN.

The Publicity of Mining Activities.

22. All natives when assembled and ~~were~~ spoken to were informed of the presence of Mining companies in the area.

23. They were informed:

- i. That there are many mining companies prospecting for minerals and oil and all of them have the approval of the Administration.
- ii. They were informed that they should assist the companies in every way as they stood to benefit materially should minerals be found.
- iii. The native land owners were informed that they were entitled to claim compensation if any damage was done to the surface of the land by the companies whilst prospecting.
- iv. It was made clear that the Administration would protect ~~the~~ the peoples interests.

24. There were no objections raised against the presence of mining companies in the area. On the contrary their presence is most welcome.

25. The MIANMIN are at present the main source of labour for "International Nickel Southern Exploration Limited" (INSEL) and these natives are very pro-mineral company.

Political Awareness and Education.

26. Evening discussions with groups of natives was my main approach to this problem for a problem it is. It fast became apparant that what political knowledge these people have extends very little further than there own internal and inter-village politics.

27. An attempt was made on my part to first explain to those present the immediate system by which they were administered as these were mechanics which from time to time most of the natives spoken to had observed. This the people seemed to understand but were never the less not very interested. I feel that their main interest in this respect is: who is the Patrol Officer at MAY RIVER and what are his particular habits.

28. An explanation on my part on the mechanics and influence of both the Local Government System and the House of Assembly was met with a NIL reaction indicating that what had been said just was not understood. As I have said repeatedly before and I shall say again, that should those in Authority wish this area to develope politically then first give the arear a Local Government Council. At the moment any political education programe in my opinion is doomed to failure because what is being spoken about is something which the people have no conception.

ECONOMIC

29. The natives of MIANMIN are fast becoming the most wealthy natives in MAY RIVER. During the latter half of 1969 labourers from this area formed the bulk of the labour used by INSEL in its prospecting activities. INSEL who have now just returned to MAY RIVER after their Christmas break are now once again recruiting the bulk of their labour from the MIANMIN.

30. The IWAM natives such as the BURUMAI are not good labourers when compared with the MIANMIN ~~are~~ ^{and} are not earning money in this fashion.

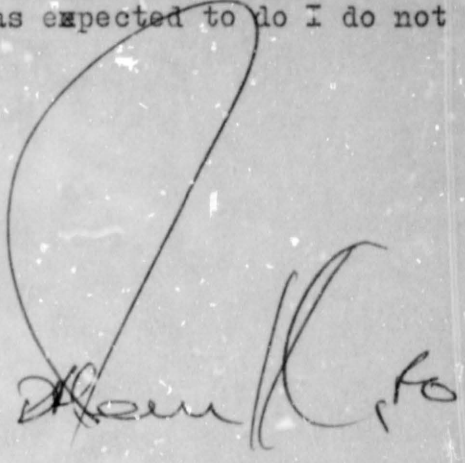
31. Both a coffee and a Copal gum industry has been suggested for the MIANMIN but while so many of their number are out of the area earning good wages by supplying labour such plans will have to be dropped for the time being as there is no one at present to carry them out.

32. Crocodile skins are still earning some of the natives in the area a limited income namely in the BURUMAI area. The MIANMIN have not purchased a crocodile and have said that they intend to hunt the crocodiles in their area as they claim many crocodiles live in the deep pools that exist along the rocky rivers in the area.





SOCIAL

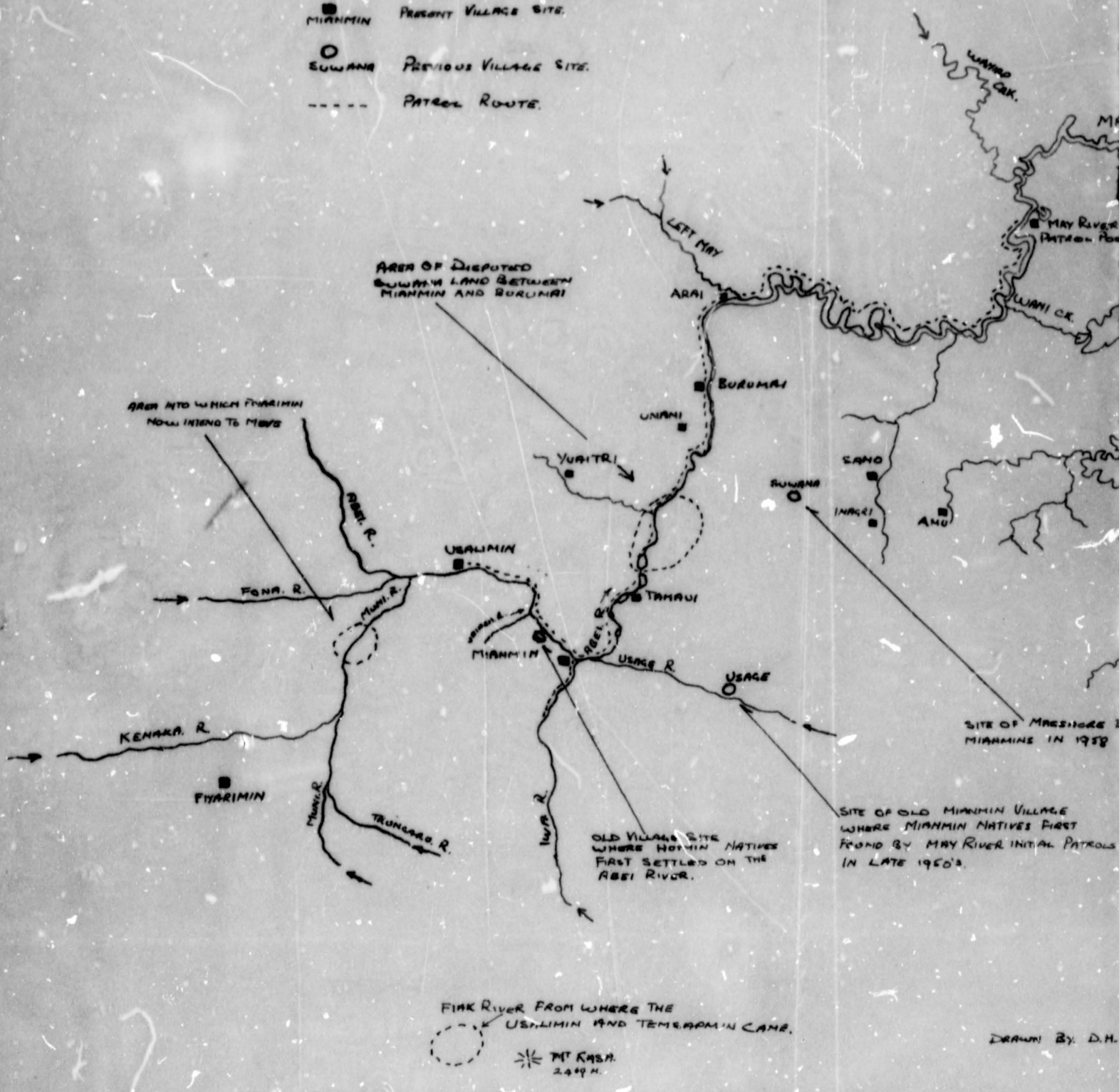
33. The patrol was met at both Mianmin and Burumai with requests for a school to be established at MAY RIVER. This I had to inform them had been asked and applied for but had not been granted for reasons far beyond my control. I did suggest to the MIANMIN that they should look toward the TELEFOMIN Sub-district for education facilities but their reply was that the walk to TELEFOMIN was too rugged and that their children would be too subject to sickness being so far away from home. They said they would gladly send their children to a school at MAY RIVER should one be established.

34. The MIANMIN also complained to myself about the complete lack of young women in their area for their young men to marry. They say they had approached other MIANMIN groups and also the BURUMAI but were unable to satisfy their needs. What I was expected to do I do not know.


(D.H. Pennefather)
Patrol Officer

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 7 - 1960/1970

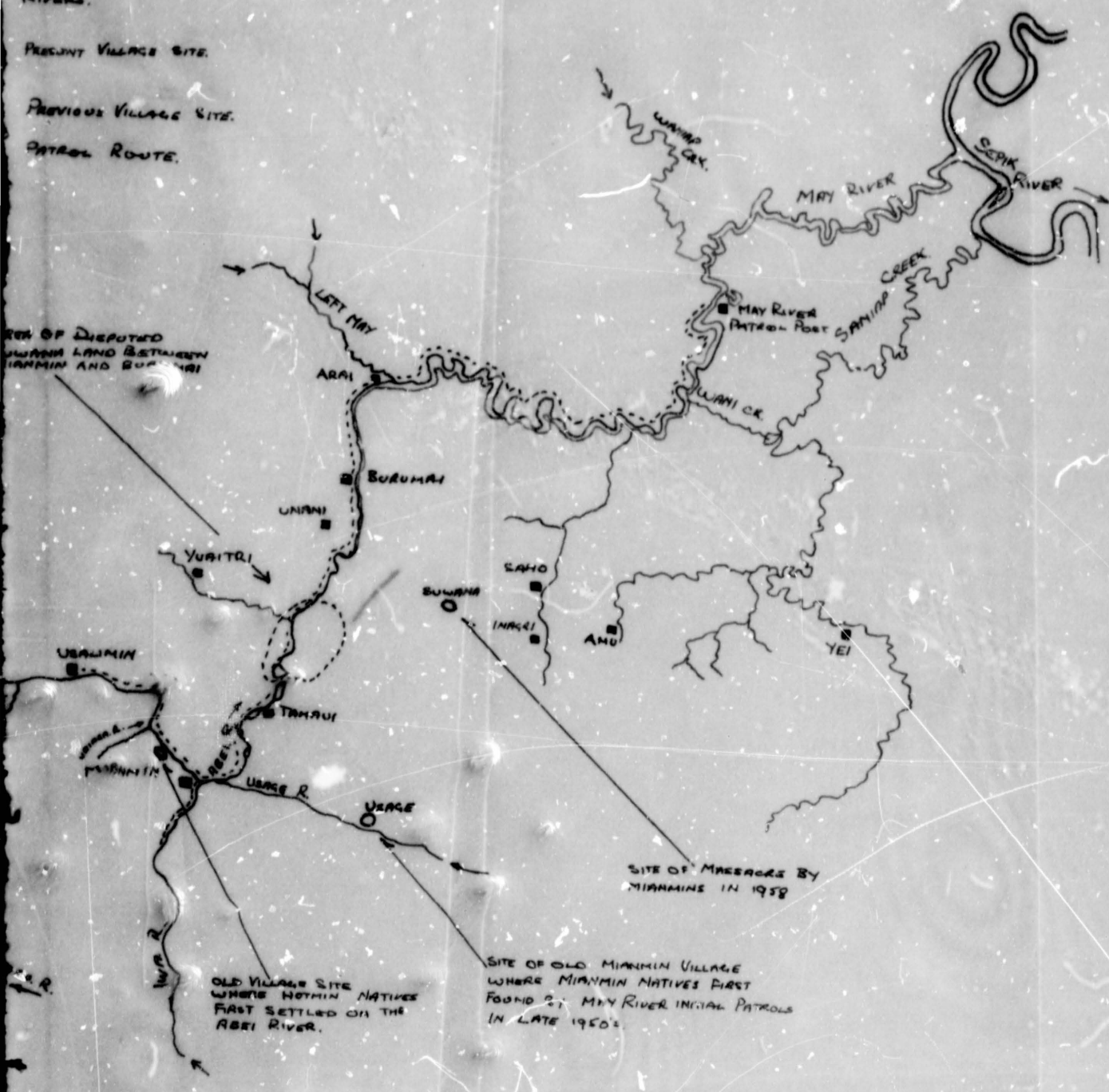
-  RIVERS.
-  MIANMIN PRESENT VILLAGE SITE.
-  SUWANA PREVIOUS VILLAGE SITE.
-  PATROL ROUTE.



DRAWN BY: D.H.P.

RIVER PATROL. NO. 7 1967/1971

- RIVERS.
- PRESENT VILLAGE SITE.
- PREVIOUS VILLAGE SITE.
- PATROL ROUTE.



SITE OF MASSACRE BY MIANMIN IN 1958

OLD VILLAGE SITE WHERE NOTHIN NATIVES FIRST SETTLED ON THE ABEI RIVER.

SITE OF OLD MIANMIN VILLAGE WHERE MIANMIN NATIVES FIRST FOUND BY MAY RIVER INITIAL PATROLS IN LATE 1960s

PIAK RIVER FROM WHERE THE UJAWAN AND TEMSAMIN CAME.

★ MT KASA
2440 M.

DRAWN BY D.H. PENNEFATHER. P.O. 1970.



H. Q.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of EAST SEPIK Report No. 8 of 1969/1970 SITUATION.

Patrol Conducted by D.H.P. JINNEFATHER PATROL OFFICER

Area Patrolled SEPIK MAY Census Division.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 3 Members R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 27/2/1970 to 31/3/1970

Number of Days 5

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 22/4/1969

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

~~Map Reference~~ Population of Area Patrolled: 837

Objects of Patrol Publicity of mining activities

Observe native situation.

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

181 61 1970

B. G. Hicks
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

Division of District Administration,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

1st July, 1970.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL NO. 8-1969/70.

Your reference 67-1-13 of 18th June, 1970.

I acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of Situation Report by Mr. D.H. Pennefather, Patrol Officer, of SEPIK MAY Census Division.

I find it difficult to believe that the pressure of other duties precluded the Assistant District Commissioner, AMBUNTI, from commenting on a seven page report for over three months. You will appreciate that it is essential for reports to reach Headquarters as soon as possible after the patrol is completed.

Mr. Pennefather's assessment of the degree of political awareness of the PAUPE villagers is quite interesting and informative - there are many areas with far more contact which would not be as aware as these people.

At this point in time the establishment of a low level Local Government Council for the May River is a high priority matter for the 1970/71 financial year.

I agree with the point concerning visits by elected Members of the House of Assembly; however, apart from encouraging Members to do so, there is little to be done.

In general, a useful report, marred by appalling spelling errors.

(T.W. ELLIS)

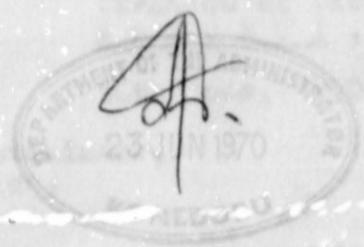
Secretary,

Department of the Administrator.

c.c.
Mr. D.H. Pennefather,
Patrol Officer,
Patrol Post,
MAY RIVER.
East Sepik District.

67-8-80.

(11)



67-1-13

Division of District Administration
District Office,
WEWAK. East Sepik District
18th June, 1970.

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

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 8 OF 1969/70

Receipt is acknowledged of the abovementioned report, together with your covering comments in your memorandum 67-1-13 of 16th June.

Would you please advise Mr. Pennefather that his spelling mistakes spoil what is otherwise a most informative report; could you not forward him a small dictionary from your office.

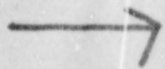
Mr. Bruce Digby has visited the Carpentaria project at Freida River twice in the last month and Mr. D. Collins has also visited the same area. Both have enquired of the company and employees regarding working conditions, wages etc etc. A further inspection will be carried out in the near future by the Labour Inspector Mr. V. Idstein.

The establishment of an Administration school at May River was discussed at the District Education Committee meeting only last week and that Committee's recommendations, favouring the establishment of such a school at May River, have gone forward to the Director of Education.

I think Mr. Pennefather's attention should be drawn to the fact that the Carpentaria Prospecting Authority includes not only the Paupe area, but also extends well up into the Telefomin Oksapmin areas, and this should be carefully explained to the Paupe people when they attend the hearing of the Prospecting Authority before the Mining Warden's Court convened for 1st July at Ambunti.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

c.c. to The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.



For your information and records please.

The matter of the alleged excess of shotguns in the area is in hand and you will be advised in due course.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

67-1-13

Telegram

Telephone

Our Reference 67-3-16

If called The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,

Division of District Administration,
AMBUNTA, East Sepik District.

16th June, 1970.

Patrol Post
MAY RIVER,
East Sepik District.

16th March, 1970.

REPORT MAY RIVER PATROL NO.8

Attached please find the above report in form of a Situation Report. Camping allowance claim was submitted jointly with that for report No.9/. A single copy of the patrol map is attached from which sunprints may be made. Mr Pennefather undertook this patrol to check on the native situation and investigate allegations of trespass by Carpentaria and Askom and employees hunting with shotguns on PAUPE land. This matter has been taken up directly with the companies concerned and a copy of my memorandum 38-1-4/35/11/3 of 6th June was sent your office. If anything further develops I will keep you informed.

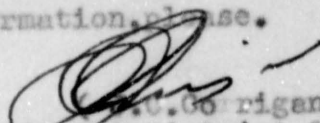
Type of Report: SITUATION
As no specific prospecting authority application was being publicised, only general explanatory talks being given, no memo as required by HQ memo 35-1-1 of 29th April 1969 was necessary.

Report reveals the situation to be satisfactory and the matter of the PAUPE residents' claim dealt with locally.

Report is informative, especially the section on PAUPE with relation to the degree of lack of political awareness (in spite of political education patrols in the past) shown by the people and their considerable involvement, not so much from a mining lease point of view but with land for an airstrip and roads, with prospecting activities carried on by Carpentaria. It should be useful data for the district political education team.

Unfortunately Mr Pennefather's spelling is as lamentable as ever. I regret the delay in submission of this report and offer as an explanation, not excuse, necessity to deal with matters of higher priority.

Submitted for your information, please.


(J.C. Corrigan)
Assistant District Commissioner

C.c. Mr. D.E Pennefather,
Patrol Officer,
MAY RIVER.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams

Telephone

Our Reference **67-3-16**

If calling ask for

Mr. **N.F. PP**

Patrol Post
MAY RIVER,
East Sepik District.

16th March, 1970.

Depart MAY RIVER at 0900 in the U.P. 1000
headed for AMBUNTA. An overcast day with rain
brought us to a few houses belonging to the
tribe on the south bank of the river (SEPIK).
Sleep on SEPIK River bank.

23rd February, 1970.

Traverse to house on river in U.P. and have
a 20 minute walk and a 2 hour canoe ride to the village of AMBUNTA.
The school was closed
a 5 hour run to the south of
the river (SEPIK).
Sleep on SEPIK River bank.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 8 OF 1969/1970.
SITUATION REPORT.

- Report No.:** 8 of 1969/1970.
- Type of Report:** SITUATION.
- District:** EAST SEPIK.
- Sub-District:** AMBUNTA.
- Area Patrolled:** SEPIK MAY Census Division.
- Patrol Conducted by:** D.H. PENNEFATHER, Patrol Officer.
- Patrol Accompanied by:** Europeans - Nil
Natives - 3 Members R.P.N.G.C.
- Duration of Patrol:** 27-2-70 to 28-2-70 3-3-70 to 5-3-70
- Number of Days:** Five (5) days.
- Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area:** No. 5 of 1968/1969
14-4-69 to 22-4-69
Nine (9) Days.
- Objects of Patrol:** Publicity of mining activities.
Observe native situation.
- Population of Area patrolled:** 837.

Sleep MAY RIVER.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 8 OF 1969/1970.PATROL DIARY.27th. February, 1970.

Depart MAY RIVER at 0700 in the M.V. OPAL headed for PANEWAI. An uneventful 10½ hour trip, up-stream, brought us to a few houses belonging to the PANEWAI people, the houses being on the South bank of the river (SEPIK).

Sleep on SEPIK River bank.

28th. February, 1970.

Proceed 1½ hours up river in OPAL and have a 10 minute walk and a ½ hour canoe ride to the village of PANEWAI. The village inspected and the people spoken to. The patrol was able to depart at 1130 for what proved to be a 5 hour run to the mouth of the MAY RIVER. The OPAL proceeded on downstream while the patrol caught a canoe back to MAY RIVER.

Sleep MAY RIVER.

3rd. March, 1970.

Depart MAY RIVER at 0915 in single canoe and proceed down the SEPIK and then up the FMEIDA river as far as PAUPE village arriving at 1500. Village inspection and talks held with various village people who had problems. Political awareness survey also conducted.

Sleep PAUPE.

4th. March, 1970.

Address the assembled people of PAUPE prior to my departure which was at 0930. From PAUPE the patrol had a 4 hour journey to AUOM. AUOM village was inspected and at 1800 the people assembled and addressed.

Sleep AUOM.

5th March, 1970.

Departed AUOM at 0830 and proceeded back to MAY RIVER arriving at 1830. En route the villages of INIOK, HOWI and IEMOMBUI were inspected and the people addressed.

Patrol Stood Down.

Sleep MAY RIVER.

NAUI RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 8 OF 1969/1970.SITUATION REPORT.A. POLITICAL.

1. I intend to base this section of the report on a Political Awareness Survey that I carried out in the village of PAUPE on the night of 3rd. March, 1970.

PAUPE Political Awareness Survey.

2. PAUPE has been under continuous Administration contact since it's initial contact in September 1962. The population of the village has increased from 52, recorded in it's initial census in 1964, to 73 recorded in the last census in 1969. In the last census there were 42 males and 31 females and no absentees were recorded.

3. The people have the build of mountain people and do claim land rights to lands situated in the mountain ranges to their South. At present they could be described as a foothill people who have access to extensive mountainous regions as well as large areas of swamp lands.

4. The people's association with Europeans has accelerated since 1968 since which time Carpentaria Explorations have been increasing their mineral prospecting activities at the head of the FREIDA river to their South.

5. The PAUPE people voted in the 1968 House of Assembly elections and were also subject to the pre-election political education campaign. The village has two working radio receivers and the majority of the younger men speak pidgin English as do the two village officials.

6. WHAT IS THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ?

- (a) We have heard of this thing but we have never seen it.
- (b) There is a councillor who comes and hears our talk and then takes this talk to the Assembly.

Concl: The people really have no idea at all. The above answers being in my opinion an inadequate attempt to regurgitate what little they can remember of the last pre-election education campaign. The people also have, as partly illustrated in answer (b), a confused knowledge between Local Government Councils and the House of Assembly.

7. WHAT DO YOU EXPECT FROM YOUR MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ?

- (a) When NAUI has been to the House of Assembly the House of Assembly should come to our area so we can see it working and we can help it.

Concl: This was the only answer brought forward and the reason that it does not answer the question properly is because the people have no or all too little knowledge of the subject. It is interesting, though, because I see it as a very deliberate, even though unintentional, call for Members of the House to visit the villages in their electorates. NAUI SAUINAMBI and to my knowledge MICHAEL SOMARE have never been to this area.

8. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY AND THE ADMINISTRATION ?

- (a) You, Kian, have one kind of work, the A.S.C. at AMBUNTI has another kind of work and Maui has another kind of work.

Concl: They seem to appreciate that there is a difference but have no idea what that difference is. The fact that they can at this stage appreciate a difference is, I feel, a very good start.

9. HOW ARE LAWS MADE AND WHO MAKES THEM ?

- (a) The Councils and the Government make these laws.

Concl: For these people the above is a very good answer. As law enforcement is one aspect of Government that they have been continually subject to it seems natural that they should associate the origins of the laws with the Government itself.

10. WHAT IS A COURT AND WHAT DOES IT DO ?

- (a) The men who kill other men or who commit adultery are taken to court.
 (b) When a person has committed an offence he is taken before a court and what he has done is written down on a piece of paper.
 (c) The court considers the offence committed and looks up its number in a book.

Concl: They have quite a good layman's knowledge of indictable offences and court procedure (Probably a very good reflection on their own past). However the process of arbitration and the determining between guilty and not guilty were not expressed and I feel were not properly understood.

11. WHAT IS A KIAPS JOB ?

- (a) To watch over us and enforce the law. Bring together the scattered peoples of the area. Prevent fighting between the different groups.
 (b) The kiap finds all these people who don't clean the village, commit adultery and kill other people.
 (c) The kiap stops the fighting and tries to make us sit down like the white man.

Concl: The above ^{are} as good an answer as these people could be expected to give. These people have generally seen the Kiap, or Patrol Officer, in his role as a Law enforcer.

12. WHAT IS A LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL'S MAIN JOB ?

- (a) We have not got a council at MAY RIVER and we really do not know. There is a council at AMBUNTI.
 (b) I have heard that the members of the AMBUNTI council go and meet in their council house but I do not know what they do there.

Concl: The above answers explain themselves pretty well and seem to indicate that what very little they do know they have learnt as a result of what they have heard rather than what they may have observed.

13. WHY DO PEOPLE PAY TAXES ?

- (a) The people pay taxes to Councils.
- (b) We have never paid tax but they do pay tax at AMBUNTI.

Concl: As expressed these people have never paid tax - have only started to earn money over the past 2 to 3 years - so the above answers are as good as could be expected, in fact better.

14. WHY DO CHILDREN GO TO SCHOOL ?

- (a) To understand the way of the Government.
- (b) To gain knowledge of the book and the pen.
- (c) None of our people have yet been to school.
- (d) No matter what subject there is a book.

Concl: As expressed none of these people have been to school and as such the above answers are quite good.

15. WHY SHOULD THERE BE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND WHAT DOES IT MEAN. ?

- (a) We do not know about the business in other areas. In our area we have the mineral Company (Carpentaria Explorations)
- (b) This company is very good and thinks that we should all earn money.
- (c) The Government tells us what to do: clean villages, enforce the law. Whereas the company trains us to do things and pays us money.

Concl: The above answers pertain only to the PAUPE people and their own economy and do not consider the economy of the district or the Territory as a whole. As these people have only been subject to economic development for the past two years, and this at the hands of Carpentaria Explorations, the above answers are very good.

16. It is my conclusion that the people involved in this survey have shown themselves to be quite intelligent and perceptive and more politically aware than what I expected of a village of eight years Administration contact.

17. They have no real knowledge of the House of Assembly, its functions and its personalities. But they have never seen the House, or any of its members or any similar institution. What they do know are the elementary and basic facts that they have remembered from the 1967 Political Education campaign. I fail to see how such a primitive people could be expected to know more.

18. The subjects of Schools, Taxes and Local Government Councils are all subjects of which they have a "fringe" knowledge: not being subject to them themselves but being adjacent to areas and people who are. Their answers on these subjects appeared to be the result of limited observations and discussions with other people, and were, under these conditions, quite good.

19. Their answers on the work of the Kiap (Patrol Officer) and Law Courts and the Law illustrated quite well that they have perceived quite well the mechanics of what they observed, even though they did not express any knowledge as to the theory behind it all. These were all subjects of which they had a first hand knowledge. This "First Hand Knowledge" now leads me into my next argument.

20. It has been my experience with primitive people that if you want ^{them} to understand something or perceive something: be it a ~~particular tree~~ you wish to purchase, a particular tree you want for building a canoe or Government procedure, one of the better approaches is to show the primitive native what it is you want from him: be it a carved bone dagger, a cedar tree or in the case of Government procedure a Local Government Council.

21. I consider that the answers given in this survey fully endorse this theory. There is covered in this survey three main subjects to which these people have been subject: Law enforcement or the work of the Kiap, The Law and thirdly economic development. Compare the answers given on these topics to the answers given on such unknown subjects as the House of Assembly and Local Government and you will see that there is much greater understanding of the subjects in which they themselves have been involved ~~rather~~ than in the subjects about which they have been told.

22. What then does this conclusion lead to? In my opinion what I myself have said and what the people of PAUPE have expressed in this survey, forms a reasonable basis on which to plan an effective political Education campaign for all of the MAY RIVER area and I feel for many other like areas within the district.

- 23.
- i. I feel the most pressing need for the area is the establishment of a limited form of Government in the form of a Local Government Council. In this ALL of the area can participate or at least observe.
 - ii. The establishment of a Primary T Sch~~ool~~ at MAY RIVER. The many advantages of education are well known but on face value the establishment of a school would give the 'morale' of this area a badly needed boost.
 - iii. The continuation of the present political education program which is to be further assisted by Officers in Wewak being given special duties in regard to this subject. However I feel that such a campaign in this area is doomed to failure without the prior establishment of a Local Government Council. A major responsibility here is ~~the~~ to accompany mineral companies who are working in the area as this gives a perfect opportunity to educate people on Economic development, as well as other Administration matters.
 - iv. The above three points have covered the work of the Administration and to a lesser extent the Mineral Companies. My ~~four~~ fourth point passes the buck from the Administration to the Members of the House themselves. I do not believe any people can have an adequate knowledge of the House unless he has seen and spoken to his member and in general seen his member at work in the natives area. In this regard MAY RIVER has been poorly neglected. "Party Politics" may be an embarrassment to the Administration here but I do feel that in the case of isolated areas such as MAY RIVER some tangible assistance should be given to members to visit such places.

23. No similar survey was carried out in any of the other villages visited by the patrol. However conversations with village people and my addresses of assembled village people showed the rest of the ~~PAUPE~~ area to be in advance of PAUPE. As no proper survey was ~~not~~ carried out here I am reluctant to commit myself too far but one thing I can say for sure is that Political Education both throughout this area and the rest of MAY RIVER has a long way to go and I feel that the four points just made are, for a start, the best means by which Political Education in this area can be made a success.

Complaints made by natives during Patrol.

24. No real major complaints were brought before the patrol but a few of those that were brought forward do deserve mention here.

25. Luluai: SULUWUM, of PAUPE claims that the local IWAM natives (BURUMAI, ARAI, AUNI, IABREM, PAINU, AUMI, ABAGAISU, PEKWE, WANIAP, WANIUM, WANAMOI, IBU, IEMOMBUI, MWI, INIOK and AUOM) are now claiming ownership over PAUPE lands, namely over the area of the new Carpentaria Air Strip. The Luluai says that the PAUPE people object to IWAM labourers coming to their area and saying such things as: "My far-fathers were conceived here." or "My token (Pisin) originally came from here." The Luluai says that he does not object to these people working in the PAUPE area so long as they discontinue their claims on PAUPE land.

26. My own action here was to inform all parties concerned that there was an Officer from TELEFOMIN doing an investigation on ~~the~~ land ownership in the FREIDA prospect area and that any claims over land should be addressed to him. All parties were also addressed on the maintenance of law and order and a further warning was given to all IWAM people that when they went to work for Carpentaria Explorations they went there to work and earn money and not to cause trouble between themselves and the local natives. I think all natives spoken to understood what they were told as they were also warned that any breaches of the law would meet with swift police or court action from either MAY RIVER or AMBUNTI.

27. A further complaint raised at PAUPE was that natives coming into the area to work with Carpentaria (also I feel LAS KOMPANI employees) are bringing with them a large number of shot guns. The PAUPE do not object to the number of guns in the area and nor do they object to these guns being used to shoot game along the river bank, but they do most certainly object to these large number of guns being taken into the bush areas and hunting grounds belonging to the PAUPE people. They claim that large areas are being 'shot out' and they wish that it be forbidden for these employees to go hunting in their area. I intend to take this matter up with the Assistant District Commissioner at AMBUNTI under separate memorandum.

28. At INIOK the main complaint was that the natives there were not satisfied with their conditions of employment with Carpentaria Explorations. ~~There~~ Their main complaint was that they were too often fired without reason. They blamed this on two native Overseeres (Boss Boys) whom they claim tell lies to the European in charge and have them fired.

29. The INIOK people also claimed that they were not being paid enough. I have no dealings with Carpentaria Explorations and I would appreciate if the A.D.C. at AMBUNTI could mention these matters to representatives. The IWAM native is an odd individual and I would not make too much of the points just raised. I would not be at all suprised if he is not trying to play the Administration off against the Carpentaria and seeing what benefites can be reaped.

Ek
B. ECONOMIC.

30. Appart from the money being earnt through supplying labour to Carpentaria Explorations, the selling of the odd crocodile skin and a very few artefacts, the economy of the SEPIK MAY area remains stagnant.

31. I do not know how much has been earnt by the people of this area as the result of the labour they have supplied but if the number of new european artefacts to been seen in the houses is any indication I would say that the sum is quite considerable and has been well divided amongst the village people. New clothing is evident throughout the area, new mosquito nets, radios and metal instruments of all kinds. When questioned I was informed, in nearly every case, that the money enabling the purchase had been earn't from Carpentaria.

32. Should you take away the money being earnt through the supply of labour the ~~max~~ income of the people would be near NIL. There is no move afoot for the introduction of an alternate economy for the area - for a people who exist in ~~an~~ a never ending swamp such alternatives are very difficult things to find. However for the moment an income is being made and that income appears to be quite adequate.

33. PANEWAI is one village that has been left out of all this but they do not seem pterbed at all. This village has very good potential for the introduction of cash cropping as it is situated adjacent to extensive mountainous regions.

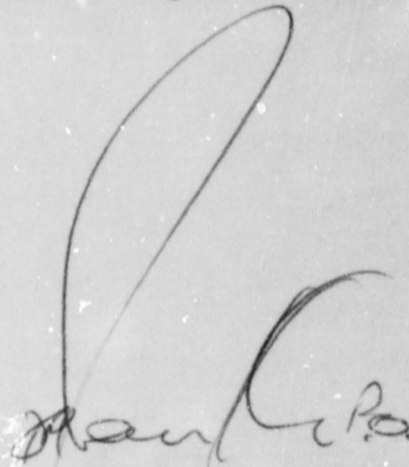
C. SOCIAL.

34. Social change is occuring daily with people in the area earning money and purchasing european artefacts. The presence of Carpentaria has meant that the people of the area have come in contact with many natives of other areas and differing cultures all of which has made them just a little bit more aware of the world outside.

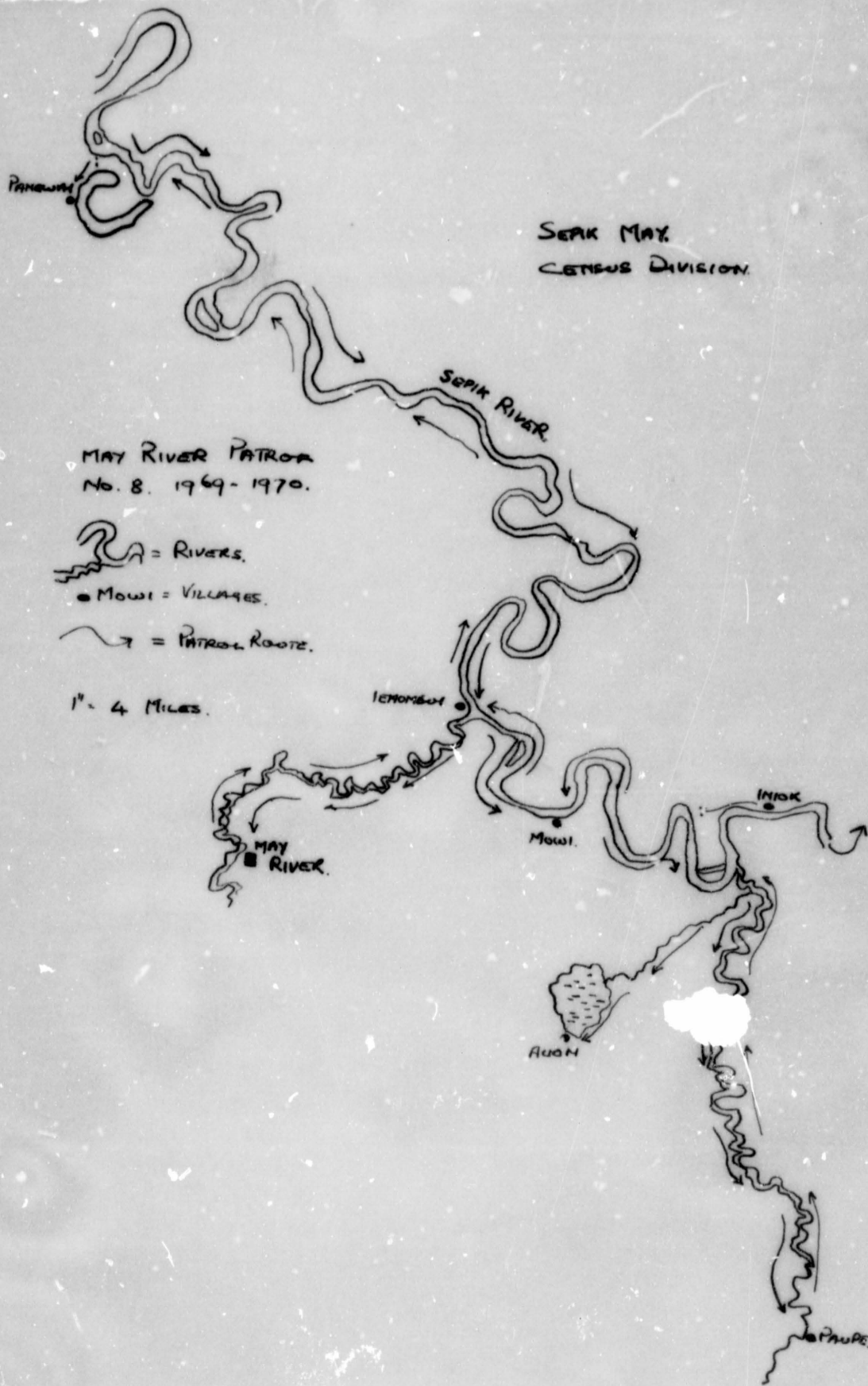
35. Since the last patrol to the area there have been no new social developments within the area such as increased mission activity or education facilities. Education within the area being to all intents and purposes non-existent.

36. The condition of some of the villages & deserves a mention here. The villages of INIOK, AUOM, and PAUPE were in a good condition but the same could not be said for the villages of ~~MOWI and IAKONSOI~~ which were not clean and lacking in sanitation facilities. Court action was taken at MOWI under the N.A.R's and a further inspection of these two villages in a months time may result in more court action being taken. The main complaint being allowing vacated houses left standing to rot and a lack of sanitation.

37. The village of PANEWAI was clean the housing adequate but by no means good but lacked sanitation facilities. These people have access to extensive areas of timbered lands and good timber is easily come by. They were encouraged to change from their traditional style of building, which is only meant to last about two years, and to build houses of a more permanent nature. This they ~~agreed~~ agreed to do by making it a gradual process of replacing an old house with a more permanent style building when the older house needed replacing. The style of house I suspect to remain pretty much the same.



(D.H. Pennefather)
Patrol Officer



H.Q.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of East Sepik Report No. 9 of 1969/1970 **SPECIAL**

Patrol Conducted by D.H. Pennefather, **Patrol Officer.**

Area Patrolled Upper ARAI river and AMA village.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr. Warren Delaney I.N.S., E.L. Geologist.

Natives 1 Member R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 10/3/1970 to 13/3/1970

Number of Days 4

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? MAY RIVER Medical Orderly.

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 23/9/1969

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

~~Map Reference~~ Population of Area: 350

Objects of Patrol Publicity Prospecting Activities

Land Investigation and Helicopter Survey.

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

1116/1970

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation \$.....

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund \$.....

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

67-8-76

Division of District Administration,

Wewak, Papua.

22nd June, 1970.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
W E W A K.

PATROL NO. MAY RIVER 9/69-70

Your reference 67-1-13 of 11th June, 1970.

I acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of Special Report
by Mr. D.H. Pennefather, Patrol Officer of part ARAI MAY
Census Division.

This short patrol appears to have been of value.

(T.W. ELLIS)
Secretary,
Department of the Administrator.

cc: Mr. D.H. Pennefather,
Patrol Post,
MAY RIVER via AMBUNTI,
East Sepik District.

67-876 (7)

67-1-13



District Office,
MEWAK,
East Sepik District.
11th June, 1970.

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

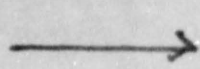
PATROL REPORT NO. 9 OF 1969-70 (SPECIAL)

Receipt is acknowledged of the above report together with your covering memorandum dated 5th June 1970.

The patrol was of short duration and the objects carried out.

I have no other comments to make.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER



c.c. to The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

For your information and records please.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Division of

Sub District Office Administration,
AMBUNTI
East Sepik District
East Sepik District.

Telegrams

Telephone 67-1-13

Our Reference 67-3-16

If calling ask for

D.H.P.

5th June 1970

The District Commissioner
East Sepik District
WEWAK

May River Patrol Report No 9/1969-70

1. Attached please find four copies of the above mentioned patrol report plus a camping allowance claim for the patrols No 8/69-70 and 9/69-70.

2. The patrol lasted only four days. The report is short and to the point and required no further comment.

3. A copy of the patrol map is attached. Would you arrange for sunprints of it to be made and attached to each copy of the report please.

Report No.: 9 of 1969/1970

Area Patrolled: Upper ARAI river and AMA village.

Patrol conducted by: D.H. PENNEYATHER Patrol Officer.

Patrol Accompanied by: Europeans - Mr [Signature] Balaney I.N.S.N.L.

Natives - [Signature] (N.S.)

1. [Signature] M.C.C.

Duration of patrol: 10-3- Assistant District Commissioner

Number of Days: Four (4) Days.

Last D.D.A. Patrol to area: No. 3 of 1969/1970

3-9-69 to 23-9-69

21 Days.

Objects of Patrol: Publicity of prospecting activities.

Land Investigation

Helicopter Survey.

Population of area patrolled: 350



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

5

Telegrams
Telephone
Our Reference 67-3-16
If calling ask for
Mr. D.H.P.

Division of District Administration,
Patrol Post
MAY RIVER,
East Sepik District.

17th. March, 1970.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 9 OF 1969/1970.
SPECIAL REPORT.

Report No.: 9 of 1969/1970
Type of Report: SPECIAL
District: EAST SEPIK
Sub-District: AMBUNTI.
Area Patrolled: Upper ARAI river and AMA village.
Patrol conducted by: D.H.PENNEFATHER Patrol Officer.
Patrol Accompanied by: Europeans - Mr Warren Delaney I.N.S.E.L.
Senior Geologist (N.G.)
Natives - 1 Member R.P.N.G.C.
1 Medical Orderly.

Duration of patrol: 10-3-70 to 13-3-70
Number of Days: Four (4) Days.
Last D.D.A. Patrol to area: No. 3 of 1969/1970
3-9-69 to 23-9-69
21 Days.

Objects of Patrol: Publicity of prospecting activities.
Land Investigation
Helicopter Survey.

Population of area patrolled: 350

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 9 OF 1969/1970.PATROL DIARY.10th. March, 1970.

Fly into the I.N.S.E.L. Base Camp at the head of the ARAI river at 1030 accompanied by Sgt. 3/c KWARINUMBUK and MAY RIVER medical orderly HAUSA. In the afternoon do a helicopter survey of the headwaters of the ARAI river and locate quite a number of native houses.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

11th. March, 1970.

Fly into AMA village in helicopter and review land investigation on SDA air strip there. Also extend the strip somewhat. Return to Base Camp at 1500 and find many ITELI natives present. Take opportunity to explain activities of INSEL and also give out trade goods.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

12th. March, 1970.

Fly down stream to ITELI area but find houses deserted. Observe dead woman on burial platform adjacent to one of the houses. Walk back to Base Camp and find about 60 natives present with an abundant supply of native foods which the patrol purchased with trade goods. Prespecting activities were also further explained as best as possible.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

13th. March, 1970.

The morning spent in Base Camp and then get flown back to MAY RIVER latter on.

Patrol Stood Down.

Sleep MAY RIVER.

la
RATIO

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 9 OF 1969/1970.
SPECIAL REPORT.

A. INTRODUCTION

1. This short patrol was the result of both necessity and circumstance: the necessity being that the AMA land investigation had to be reviewed immediately, and the circumstance being that INTERNATIONAL NICKEL (INSEL) offered me the limited use of their helicopter should I go and visit their camp and speak with the local natives there. This then made it possible for me to "kill two birds with the one stone" so to speak.

B. NATIVE GROUPS IN ITELI AREA.

2. To date D.D.A. patrols have proceeded as far up the ARAI river as to reach the village of ITELI. In fact there is no village, as such, at ITELI but rather an area occupied by a group of natives known as the ITELI who dwell in small non-permanent style houses scattered over the many square miles of land which they own.

3. The village book at ITELI also reveals that previous officers patrolling in the area had heard mention of various native groups to the North who have been reported to be uncontacted. Much of this has now been solved. I have mentioned in previous reports of the native custom of naming a native group by giving it the name of the prominent river that runs through that native groups area. This custom is very much the case in the ITELI area.

4. Above ITELI the ARAI river branches into three much lesser streams (This is how the very headwaters of the ARAI river). Those three streams are the TUWAVI, UNAINO and ARAWI (That is going from East to West). All three of these names correspond with names of suspected uncontacted native groups in the ITELI Village Book.

5. A helicopter survey of all these headwater streams showed that there was native population existing along each one both near the stream bed and on the most inaccessible ridges up to 2000' or even 3000' above the stream beds. Mr. Warren Delaney, INSEL Geologist, has penetrated up all of these streams in the course of his prospecting and it is from him that much of this information has come.

6. I was informed by the ITELI Luluai that at census a few of the people from these Northern groups have presented themselves but there are still a few who have yet to do so. The people of TUWAVI, UNAINO and ARAWI are all part of the larger ITELI group and I feel should in future all form part of the same census unit.

7. It was possible to bring some of the TUWAVI natives into the INSEL Base Camp for medical treatment and presentation of trade goods. In all, Mr. Delaney informs me, he would have seen a total of no more than thirty (30) people, men women and children since he has been working in the ARAI headwaters. The continued activities of INSEL in this area should, I feel, bring the ITELI people much in contact with themselves and also with Europeans which in the future should make the work of D.D.A. officers much easier.

C. PUBLICITY PROSPECTING ACTIVITIES.

8. Whilst in the INSEL Base Camp I was able to assemble the greater part of the ITELI population and inform them just what INSEL were doing in their area. The people of the area are very primitive and what they were told had to be kept to the bare minimum to try and prevent confusion. However the following points were made as clear as possible:-

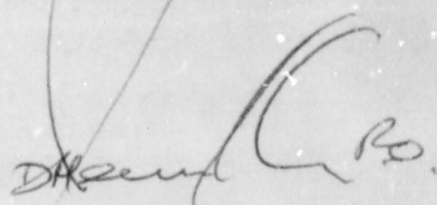
- i. The INSEL were working in their area with the approval of the Administration.
- ii. That they should assist the companies in every way as the company would pay them for their assistance.
- iii. The landowners informed that they were entitled to claim compensation if any damage was done to the surface of the land by the company while it was prospecting.
- iv. It was made clear to all that the Administration would protect the peoples interests.

9. No objections were raised against any of INSEL's activities in the area or the fact that they had imported foreign labour into the area. The fact that as the result of a request made by myself they brought an abundant supply of fresh native food and sold it to the INSEL employees, was I feel, quite a tangible expression of their acceptance of INSEL's presence.

D. AMA LAND SURVEY.

10. This survey was a review of a previous survey carried out by Mr. B.D. Payler A.P.O. in 1969. The land surveyed is for the Seventh Day Adventist (SDA) mission who have built an air strip there and are now in the process of establishing a mission station there. An additional 1000 Lks was added onto the length of the strip which now makes it a total length of 3227 Lks and a width of 282 Lks. On the North/East side of the strip there is an area of 727 Lks x 500 Lks (3.64 acres) for the establishment of a mission station. The total area of all land surveyed is 12.74 acres.

11. There was not complaint about the sale of the land and nor was there any dispute about its ownership. This was fortunate as it meant that the Ownership Investigation done by Mr. Payler did not have to be re-submitted as it proved to be quite adequate. The results of my investigations shall be sent to the Assistant District Commissioner at AMBUNTI under separate cover.



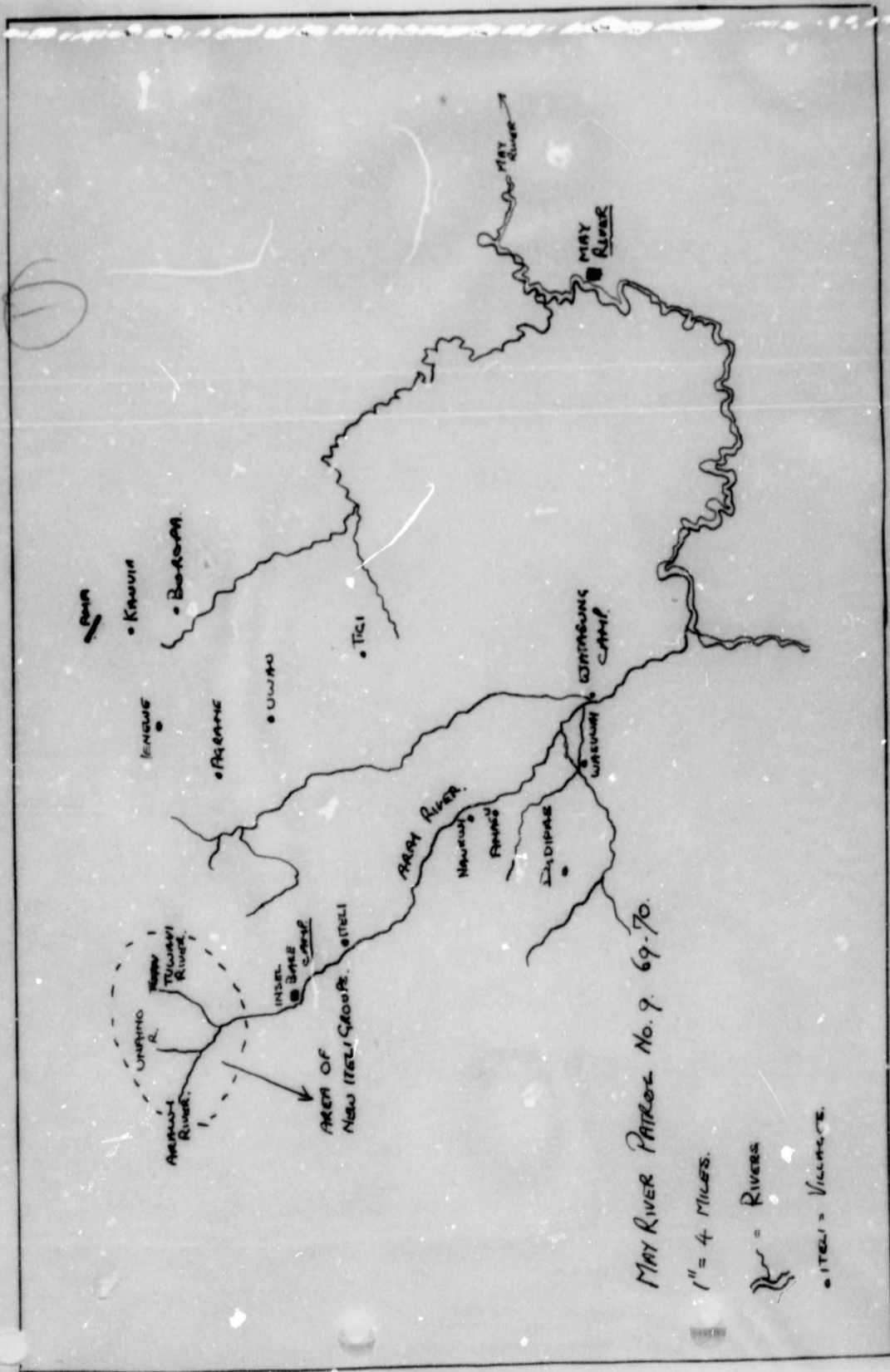
(D.H. Pennefather)
Patrol Officer

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MAY RIVER PATROL No. 9. 69-70.

1" = 4 MILES.

— RIVERS

• ITELI - VILLAGE

67-8-27

H.Q.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of ^K EAST SEPIO Report No 10

Patrol Conducted by ^F MR. D. PENNYFATHER PATROL OFFICER

Area Patrolled PROPOSED ARAI MAY CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans ^F MR. K. PACKER ASSISTANT PATROL OFFICER

Natives ^{30 CARRIERS} 4 MEMBERS R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 7/4/1970 to 16/4/1970

Number of Days nine

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services ^{N.A.} /19

Medical 10/3/1970

Map Reference MAY RIVER 1:250,000

Objects of Patrol POLICE INVESTIGATION (CONFIDENTIAL), INVESTIGATE
NEW PATROL ROUTE, OBSERVE NATIVE SITUATION.

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

23/6/1970.

E. J. Pitts
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

GFB/msa

67-8-77

Division of District Administration,

KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

11th August, 1970.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL NO. MAY RIVER 10/69-70

Your reference 67-1-3 of 24th June, 1970.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Special Report by Mr. K.J. Packer, A.P.O., of Pert Arai May Census Division.

I am in agreement with the covering comments. Mr. Packer's reporting technique should improve as he gains experience.

(T.W. Ellis)

Secretary,

Department of the Administrator.

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389 67-8-77 (A)
67-8-77



67-1-13

Division of District
Administration,
District Office,
WEWAK, East Sepik District.

24th June, 1970.

~~The Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI.~~

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 10 OF 1969/70
MR. K. PACKER, ASSISTANT PATROL OFFICER

Receipt is acknowledged of the above report
and your covering memorandum 67-1-13 of 20th June 1970.

The request for Mr. Packer to submit a report
should not have been necessary from this District Headquarters.
Accompanying Mr. Pennefather on patrol was a part of his field
training and in this respect Mr. Packer should have received
patrol instructions setting out, amongst other things, that
it was necessary for him to submit a report on the conclusion
of the patrol.

Please have Mr. Packer study your patrol files
which will give him an indication of what is required in reports.
Every opportunity should be taken to increase and subsequently
improve Mr. Packer's field experience.

(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

→ c.c. to The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

Please note that the patrol report number is the
same as that submitted by Mr. D.H. Pennefather. My memorandum
67-1-13 of 11th June to the Assistant District Commissioner,
Ambunti, (minute endorsed thereon-to-you) refers.

(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

(1)

PREAMBLE

67-1-13

AMBUNTI.
Department of the Administrator
Division of District Administration
AMBUNTI Sub District Office
East Sepik District

PATROL NUMBER

20th June 1970. 10.

The District Commissioner : MR. D. PENNYFATHER,
East Sepik District
WEWAK PATROLLED

(PROPOSED ARAI MAY GENGUS DIVISION.

PATROL May River Patrol Report No 10/1969-70
Mr K. Packer A.P.O.

4 MEMBERS R.P.N.G.C.

1. Your 67-1-13 of 11th June 1970 refers. Mr Packer's report is attached in quadruplicate. My comments are set out below:

DURATION OF PATROL.

9 DAYS (7/4/70--16/4/70)

Diary.

The diary could state the facts stated in half the number of words used.

Mr Packer has been advised in future reports to use capital letters when writing officer's ranks.

Last patrol to area.

MARCH 1970.

Situation Report

2. The second half of the first paragraph under this heading warrants comment. Being .."inherently tractable or just unable to see that what they are being told could in any way affect their lives.."would seem to rule out the possibility in the local people seeing the benefit of cessation of fighting, and thus accepting the idea.

3. The acceptance of the authority of the patrol leader seems logical to me as these people would be aware of police actions in their neighbourhood (i.e. investigations into the murder of twenty nine people at May River and possibly the various Mianmin wars). In these actions the authority of the Administration was exercised with arrests and jail terms being imposed. Rather than risk such actions against themselves the people are no doubt prepared to accept the statement that they should not fight.

MAY RIVER 1:250,000.

4. Para 6 Sepik is spelt with a K not a C.

5. Para 14 The rules of reciprocity which apply in all primitive societies make the 'straight gift' idea unlikely. The sister exchange used in the neighbouring Green River area (in 1964 atleast) was not necessarily based on a simple family. If a man did not have a sister to exchange a close relative would have and thus the exchange would take place. Other co-operation eg in house building etc was also involved. Possibly there is a similar system in the May River area.

6. The patrol was a special purpose patrol, but the subject matter is confidential and has been dealt with separately. No report on this purpose is now required here.

Conclusion

7. The report is not a good one. It is unfortunate that Mr Packer's first patrol could not have been one in which an area study was compiled. This would have offered a wide scope in which to exercise reporting capabilities. This unfortunately was not possible.

8. The patrol map was forwarded with Mr Pennefather's report as were the camping allowance claims.

L.W. Bragge

a/Assistant District Commissioner

6

PREAMBLE

: AMBUNTI.
 : AMBUNTI SUB DISTRICT.
 EAST SEPIC DISTRICT.
 : MAY RIVER NO. 10.
 PATROL CONDUCTED BY. : MR. D. PENNYFATHER.
 AREA PATROLLED : PROPOSED ARAI MAY CENSUS DIVISION.
 PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY MR. K PACKER A.P.O.
 : 4 MEMBERS R.P.N.G.C.
 30 CARRIERS.
 DURATION OF PATROL. 9 DAYS (7/4/70--16/4/70)

 Last patrol to area. : MARCH 1970.
 P . H . D . : WITH ABOVE.

 OBJECTS OF PATROL : POLICE INVESTIGATION(CONFIDENTIAL)
 : INVESTIGATE NEW PATROL ROUTE.
 : OBSERVE NATIVE SITUATION.
 MAP REFERENCE. : MAY RIVER 1:250,000.

pub

MIGR

In

F

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 10 OF 1969/70PATROL DIARY

7th April 1970

0900 Left May River and made our way up the May River to the village of NIMO. Travel was by a double canoe with two small 20 HP motors providing the propulsive power. These motors were adequate for the job but the load of 30 carriers plus cargo so heavily laded the canoes that water was seen to be finding its way into the vessel. Consequently, precautionary measures against sinking were taken. A small motor canoe was hired for the purpose of carrying some of the burden of passengers, and some ten native carriers were disembarked at a village on the May River. Upon our arrival at NIMO at 1430, the double was sent back to the point of disembarkation to pick up the carriers.

1730 The patrol leader addressed the people of NIMO and WASUAI telling them of mining operations in the area and gave first aid treatment to a small boy of NIMO who had a damaged eye.

Slept at NIMO

8th. April 1970

0815 The canoe which had been dis~~patched~~ patched the previous night arrived at NIMO with the 10 carriers that we had left during our travel of the previous day.

0900 All members of the patrol left ARAI on the track that led to DIDIPAS under the guidance of a young man from ARAI. This track followed the approximate course of the ARIAWI River and was exceedingly difficult to negotiate on account of the large amounts of water that lay upon the ground, concealing tree roots and other impediments. At times the track passed through thick sago swamps whose needle sharp spines provided an additional hazard to the patrol

1200 Arrived at DIDIPAS, SET up camp, and the patrol leader spoke to the inhabitants as he had done at ARAI.

Slept at DIDIPAS.

9th April 1970

0800 Left DIDIPAS and commenced walking over fairly firm ground, although conditions were not improved by the rain which fell constantly till 1130. This rain had caused the ARIAWI River to flood so it was necessary to fell a large tree across it to form a makeshift bridge. All members of the patrol negotiated this hazard without incident. From this point on the ground became very steep, a fact which took heavy toll of the strength and energy of the IWAM carriers. Despite this, the willingness of their spirit was commendable.

1400 Made camp

Slept camp 1

10th April 1970

0800 Left camp 1 and continued over very steep terrain in the White Scarp area. Having crossed this range the country flattened out

(2)

and travel was much easier

1500 made camp near the junction of
the ABEI and WOBEL Rivers.

Slept camp 2

11th April 1970

Advance party of patrol officer,
assistant patrol officer, two policemen, two
guides and one carrier proceeded at 0700 to
SORI, an easy walk over firm, flat ground.

1100 Arrived at SORI. The
patrol leader carried out a police inves-
tigation. This investigation was witnessed
by the assistant patrol officer

1200 The remainder of the
carriers arrived and set up camp at SORI
Slept SORI

12th April 1970

0800 Left SORI and followed the
ABEI River. Much of this day's walking was done
along gravel banks and shallow creek beds. An
easy day's walk and a good distance was covered.
Apont was reached just across the range from
ITELINU

1600 Made camp
Slept camp 3

13th April 1970

0800 Left camp and continued
over a fairly steep range to ITELINU. This
range was not as steep or high as the one
we crossed on the outward journey so the carriers
were able to proceed with relative speed.
During this part of the journey, the patrol
passed two former camps of J.C. Corrigan A.D.C.

1430 Reached ARAI ITELINU and
proceeded upstream at times crossing the deep
and swiftly flowing ARAI River. Future patrols
to this area should note that this river is
subject to flash flooding

1715 Reached INSEL Base Camp
Slept Insel Base Camp

14th April 1970

The patrol leader flew into
May River patrol post with witnesses. Most of
the morning spent with Insel camp manager
tending to the cuts and sores of the carriers.
Most of the afternoon spent in informal talks
with Insel camp personnel.

Slept Insel Base Camp

15th April 1970

Heavy rain fell during the
night causing the ARAI River to rise to a
great height and necessitating a further
delay at the Insel camp

Slept Insel Base Camp

16th April 1970

0700 Carriers set off for May
River on foot. 1000 Patrol leader, A.P.O. and
J.L.C. Flew to May River by Insel helicopter

PATROL STOOD DOWN

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 10 OF 1969/70

SITUATION REPORT

A INTRODUCTION

1. It was first intended to conduct a census in the proposed APAL MAY census division and to inform the villagers in this area of the purposes of government and of the activities of mining companies in the area. However, the urgency of the police investigation made it practicable to visit only three villages in the proposed census division and time did not allow for the conducting of a census.

2. The main purpose of the patrol was to conduct a police investigation in the village of SORI. A report on this investigation has been forwarded to the assistant district commissioner Ambunti by the patrol leader, Mr. D. Pennyfather, so it has been decided to refer to the person concerned in this investigation as J.L.C. The other purposes of the patrol were to investigate a new patrol route into the SORI area via the WHITE SCALP range and to observe the native situation.

3. Very few of the inhabitants of this area were able to understand the pidgin language so it was necessary to use an interpreter all the time.

B. POLITICAL

The area is a very primitive one. As yet, no local government councils have been established and the inhabitants have had only brief contacts with Europeans when two or three years earlier, several government patrols visited the area. The people have also been briefly visited by traders and prospectors. Consequently their knowledge of such things as local government, the House of Assembly etc. is very poor. It is even doubtful whether they really understand the function of the patrol officer. The patrol officer told them they were not to fight and that if they did they would be punished. The people of all the villages visited, received this news with ready acquiescence and none were ready to challenge this authority. This was so apparent that one wonders whether the people are inherently tractable or just unable to see that what they were being told could in any way affect their lives. It is doubtful whether their concept of government extends beyond the person of the patrol officer, and they do not see the functions of government as being other than keeping law and order.

5. During talks with the DIDIPAS NIMO group, it was discovered that traditional enmity between them and the ITELINU group. Tribal fighting seems to have died down now and natives of each group are no longer frightened to move into the

other's area. The patrol did not have time to visit the village of ITELIN but whilst at the INSEL camp some of the people from this village came to sell food to the camp and the patrol leader took the opportunity to warn them of the repercussions of any feuding between the two groups. Even so it is the opinion of the patrol leader that hostilities between the two groups could easily arise again.

6. In judging the attitudes of the inhabitants to the patrol, to the government, and to each other and to other Europeans operating in the area, the ability of the author was severely handicapped by certain considerations. He had had only five days previous patrolling experience and this was on the middle Sepik where the inhabitants have been contacted for a considerably longer period of time. The result is that he had no effective yardstick with which to measure people's reactions. He was further handicapped by an inadequate mastery of the pidgin language - a fact which made it difficult to converse fluently with those people that could speak pidgin. Further more the hurried nature of the patrol and the route it took made it possible to camp for three nights only in native villages, the rest of the time being spent traversing unoccupied country. Consequently the author has relied heavily on the opinions of others, more particularly the patrol officer in charge of the patrol. Mr. D. Pennyfather and prefers to reserve his own judgement until such time as he considers himself sufficiently qualified. A case in point is the attitude of the SORI people to J.L.C. This person was heard in conversation to remark that he was now accepted as a member of the village, yet the patrol leader who is more familiar with these people than the author is of the opinion that their attitude was one of indifference. Unfortunately, our short stay in SORI most of which was occupied with the police investigation, made this difficult for an outsider to judge.

7. INSEL mining company has established a camp on the ARAI River (see maps accompanying report Mr. D. Pennyfather) and this company seems to have good relations with the native people. In their dealings with the natives, the company goes to considerable lengths to promote harmony. It provides medical services at its own expense, and it is the opinion of the patrol leader that the strength of the camp managers has avoided trouble in the area. Towards members of administration patrols, the company is likewise indulgent.

8. It was considered that the route across WHITE SCARP was unsatisfactory for future patrols due to the large amount of unoccupied land that is crossed on the way.

C. ECONOMIC

9.

The economy is still almost wholly subsistence. Taro, yams and bananas are cultivated and an occasional pig is eaten. Garden sites are changed frequently and it is not uncommon to see a garden site in an otherwise unoccupied area. There is no commercial production of any crop as department of agriculture representatives do not visit the area.

10. INSEL company provides employment for 19 MIANMIN men and pays them at a rate of 50 cents per day plus keep. The total earnings of this group is in excess of \$1000 dollars. However the company is not satisfied with the local people as labour and intends to recruit some from Port Moresby.

11. Prospects for agricultural development would seem to be low because of the remoteness of the area. However, if the Mining company decides to open up a mine, it could provide a source of employment to quite a few natives.

D. SOCIAL

12.

There are no schools, missions, clubs and posts or activities in the area, although several of the men had been away from their village and had learnt pidgin. The members of Insel's prospecting teams carry first aid kits with them and any serious cases they fly to their base camp for treatment. Health in the area is generally good. No cases of sicknesses or disease were observed or reported, and the only medical treatment given was to the eye of a small boy at NIMO.

13. No cases of fighting were observed or reported. The people of the DIDIPAS NIMO group said that the ITELINUS used to work sorcery against them but they hadn't done so for some time now.

14. Marriage in the area is by sister exchange or if a man has no sister, by straight out gift, with no obligation to pay. The members of the DIDIPAS NIMO group marry among themselves and not outside the group. The other groups were not visited.

15. There are only two or three houses in each of the villages NIMO, DIDIPAS, and SORI, with up to eight families being accommodated in the one house. Each family is separated from the others by flimsy partitions. The houses are built off the ground on stilts.

16. The people generally appeared happy and cheerful.

Spencer A.P.O.

67-6-77

Division of District Administration,

KOMEDOBU, Papua.

23rd June, 1970

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL NO. MAY RIVER 10/69 - 70

Your reference 67-1-13 of 11th June, 1970.

I acknowledge, with thanks, receipt of Special Report by Mr. D.H. Pennefather, Patrol Officer of part ARAI MAY Census Division.

This is a well presented, informative report of sound field work. I am pleased with Mr. Pennefather's efforts.

I agree that Mr. Packer should have submitted a report as a training exercise.

San-prints of the patrol map will be forwarded under separate cover.

(T.W. ELLIS)

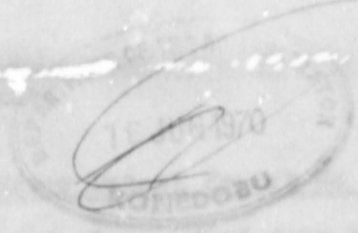
Secretary,Department of the Administrator.

cc: Mr. D.H. Pennefather,
Patrol Post,
MAY RIVER via AMBUNTI,
East Sepik.

(7)

67-6-77

(8)



67-1-13

Division of District
Administration,
District Office,
WEMAX. East Sepik District.

11th June, 1970.

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

MAX RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 10 OF 1969-70

Thank you for the above report and your covering memorandum of 14th June 1970.

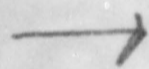
As Mr. K. J. Packer accompanied the patrol, please request him to submit a patrol report as part of a field exercise. It is most surprising that this has to be requested.

The Secretary will be requested to provide six sun-prints of the original maps.

Mr. Pennefather appears to be becoming very familiar with the May River area and is doing quite good work.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

c.c. to The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.



My various confidential memoranda S.9 refers to Mr. Pennefather's remarks to Mr. J.L.C.

It would be appreciated if six sun-prints of the attached maps could be obtained and forwarded in due course to this District Headquarters.

For your information and records please.

E. G. Hicks
(E. G. HICKS)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

Division of

67- 1-13

Sub District Office
AMBUNTI
East Sepik District

4th June 1970

(7)

The [unclear]
East Sepik District
NEWARK

May River Patrol Report No 10. 1969/70

Patrol No. 10 of 1969/70
1. Attached please find four copies of the above mentioned report plus relevant camping allowance claims.

2. My Comments are:
a/ The matter of the activities of Mr "J.L.C." has been adequately covered in confidential correspondence.

b/ Paras 4 to 9 provide useful information for future patrols to this area

c/ The notes on INSEL activities are interesting and self explanatory.

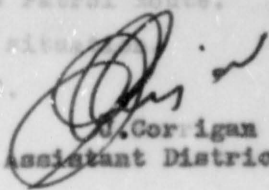
d/ One copy of the patrol map is forwarded herewith. Would you arrange for sun prints to be made to accompany each copy of the report please.

e/ It will be noted that May River reports 8, 9 and 10 have been delayed at this office for an inordinate period. While it is true that this delay was caused by the pressure of work at this office, that fact remains that the fault lies with this office, this is regretted.

Investigate new Patrol Route.

Observe native sites.

Population of area patrolled. 700.


J. Corigan
Assistant District Commissioner

*Secretary
Dist. of the [unclear]
Kororua*

*Forwarded
11/6/70*

*E. J. [unclear]
District Commissioner*

6

H.Q.

MAY PATROL REPORT NO. 10 OF 1969/1970.
SITUATION REPORT.

Patrol No. 10 of 1969/1970
Type of Patrol. SITUATION
District. EAST SEPIK
Sub-District. AMBUNTI
Area Patrolled. The new ARAI MAY Census Division.
Patrol Conducted by. D.H.PENNEFATHER Patrol Officer.
Patrol Accompanied by. K.J.PACKER A.P.O.
4 Members R.P.N.C.G.
Duration of Patrol. 7-4-70 to 16-4-70.
Number of Days. Nine (9).
Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area. No. 4 of 1969/1970.
3-10-69 to 24-10-69
21 Days.
Object of Patrol. Police Investigation (CONFIDENTIAL)
Investigate new Patrol Route.
Observe native situation.
Population of area patrolled. 700.

Secretary
DEPT. of the ADMINISTRATOR
KONEBOBU

Forwarded
11/6/70

E. J. Hicks
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 10 OF 1969/1970.PATROL DIARY.

7th. April, 1970

Departed MAY RIVER at 0900 in double canoe and arrived NIMO at 1430. The canoe then returned to pick up remainder of carriers. Address the people of NIMO and WASUAI and also do medical check.

Sleep NIMO.

8th. April, 1970.

Canoe arrived ex ARAI at 0815 and patrol departed at 0900 and walked westward following the ARIAWI River until we reached DIDIPAS at 1200. Local natives assembled and spoken to.

Sleep DIDIPAS.

9th. April, 1970.

Commenced walking at 0800 in heavy rain which kept up until about 1100. The ARIEWI was flooded and a tree had to be cut near it's headwaters to enable us to cross. The walking was mountainous and saw a complete breakdown of the IWAM carriers. Camp made at 1400.

Sleep CAMP 1.

10th. April, 1970.

Departed at 0800 and by 0845 had broken the back of the range we were crossing. The walking became easier as we proceeded down hill and Westward. Camp made at 1500 adjacent to the confluence of the WOBEL and ABEI Rivers.

Sleep CAMP 2.

11th. April, 1970,

Proceeded to SORI where I carried out my police activities and investigation.

Sleep SORI.

12th. April, 1970.

Depart SORI at 0745 and follow on round following the West bank of the ABEI river. A good days walk with camp being made at 1530 in the foot hills of the range leading across to ITELINU.

Sleep CAMP 3.

13th. April, 1970.

Depart at 0820 and continue on across the range reaching the ARAI river and ITELINU at 1430. Proceeded North along the ARAI reaching INSEL Base Camp at 1715.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

14th April, 1970.

Fly into MAY RIVER in INSEL Jet Ranger with all the witnesses. The remainder of the day spent at the INSEL Base Camp.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

15th. April, 1970.

Heavy rain all night and during the day putting the ARAI river in flood so patrol unable to move all day.

Sleep INSEL Base Camp.

16th. April, 1970.

Carriers departed at 0700 and Myself Mr. Packer A.P.O. and J.L.C. flew into MAY RIVER.

PATROL STOOD DOWN.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 10 OF 1969/1970.SITUATION REPORT.A. INTRODUCTION.

1. It was originally intended that this patrol should make contact with all the native groups situated within the proposed new ARAI MAY Census Division, and also do a census revision for these native groups. Owing to a Police investigation at the village of SORI it proved not possible to contact all the native groups in the new census Division and nor did it prove possible to conduct a census.
2. The police investigation referred to involved the activities of a certain European who for the purpose of this report shall be referred to as J.L.C. For further information I refer you to my Confidential Memorandum dated 16th. April, 1970. addressed to Assistant District Commissioner, AMBUNTI.
3. The native people who were contacted by the patrol were of a very primitive type and an interpreter was required throughout the duration of the patrol.

B. POLITICAL.

4. One of the main objects of the patrol was to establish a patrol route through this area. The patrol route followed by this patrol (See map) looked, on paper, the most logical route to be followed. The main set back to this route is the long and rugged walk between the villages of DIDIPAS and SORI which took us two and half days of solid walking. For the purpose of a regular patrol route these would be 2½ days wasted as there is no native contact to be made enroute.
5. I now propose that the next patrol to proceed in this area commence at ARAI then proceed by canoe to NIMO from there a permanent carrier line will be required to proceed on foot to DIDIPAS, NAUKWI, AMASU, ITELINU, UMIRITA/MESEITO and SORI in that order. The patrol would then retrace it's steps as far as NAUKWI from where it would proceed direct to NIMO and an awaiting canoe. If this route were to be followed it would mean that native contact would be made on each day of the patrol. It may be argued that to have to retrace one's steps upon your arrival at SORI would be a set back. I do not agree. These are a very primitive people having been subject to continued Administration influence from seven to two years and I maintain that to have patrols visit each of the villages ~~within~~ twice within two weeks would be much to the Administrations advantage especially at this very early stage. ✓
6. The patrol made contact with the people of NIMO, WASUAI, DIDIPAS and SORI. To all of these people the activities of International Nickel (INSEL) were explained as were the ~~the~~ activities of prospecting companies in general. We did not make contact with the people of ITELINU or NAUKWI/AMASU on this particular patrol nor did we make contact with the UMIRITA/MESEITO group. This was due entirely to our having to remove J.L.C. from the area as quickly as possible. However when I was at the INSEL Base Camp over the Easter break a large number of ITELINU's and NAUKWI/AMASU's came in to sell native food, and what I did not achieve on this occasion I feel was compensated for by my activities over Easter. These two native groups are traditional enemies and were given a lengthy lecture on the maintenance of Law and Order.

7. Political education on this occasion went no further than to explain the activities of prospecting companies, maintenance of Law and Order and the way they were being administered this involving the work of the Patrol Officer in charge at MAY RIVER. For a people as primitive as these these subjects will probably continue to be the basis of political education for many years to come. The main problem to be solved in my opinion, the enmity that exists between the DIDIPAS/NIMO clique against the ITELINU'S. When addressing natives from these areas I stressed strongly the need for peace and unity between these two groups. Even though tribal fighting has ceased it would be foolish to assume that centuries old enmity's have suddenly been removed owing to the presence of the Administration.

8. The presence of INSEL in the Upper ABEI river area and now in the upper ARAI river area has been a great advantage to the Administration. INSEL are fortunate in having in the persons of their senior Geologist: Mr. Warren Delaney, and their senior prospector: Mr. John McIntyre, two very good managers of native labour as well as primitive natives. INSEL'S continued presence in this very primitive and isolated area must have, even though I have no actual evidence to support it, prevented very possible homicides, unlawfully strikings ~~xxxx~~ and assaults amongst the natives with which they are working. Perhaps the complete lack of any of these offences in this area is evidence of this. INSEL'S presence is also adding greatly to furthering of better relations between the ITELINU'S and the DIDIPAS/NIMO clique, as natives of each of these groups are now freely selling food to INSEL with the people of the DIDIPAS/NIMO clique not being scared to walk into the ITELINU area. However I can see obvious dangers here and have warned INSEL of the enmity between these people.

9. It is recommended that the next patrol to cover this Census Division is of the Area Study type and incorporates a revision of the census figures for this area. This would then be the first complete patrol of this census division.

C. ECONOMIC.

10. There is no established cash economy in any of this area. The people of the area still adhere strongly to their traditional form of a shifting agriculture which gives the impression of a semi-nomadic people. As there is such a very small population covering such a vast area we may expect this state of affairs to continue for many more years to come.

11. INSEL are providing the only economy in the area but very little of this is going back to the people of the area. This is because the local native people are not interested in working on the INSEL permanent labour lines. The work on such labour lines is at times very difficult and the local people seem quite content, even though they have been offered employment, to allow the MIANMINS to reap all the financial benefits. The natives of the area are receiving via INSEL many European metal artefacts and trade goods which is as much as they have asked for.

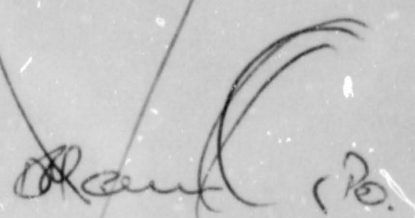
12. INSEL now have a labour line of 19 MIANMIN men. These are being paid a casual rate of 50¢ per day as well as being fully found. When these 19 men eventually return to their village they will have well in excess of \$1000 between them which should make them the most financial natives in the MAY RIVER area. None of these men had any complaints.

13. I would not be too optimistic about the chances of INSEL discovering and developing a large copper deposit in this area. I personally would not be surprised to see INSEL out of the area before the end of the year. Much will depend on the outcome of some type electrical survey that will be conducted some time in the next few months.

D. SOCIAL.

14. There are no school or health facilities permanently established in this area. However at the INSEL Base Camp the camp manager Mr. Jerry Ferron runs an aid post and has done much good work among the ITELINU and NAUKWI/AMASU people. The INSEL mobile teams also carry medical equipment and any serious cases they find they are more than willing to fly into their base camp for more sophisticated treatment.

15. The whole area is in a state of Political/Economic change. This change is inevitable with the continued presence of the Administration and now the even more continued presence of INSEL. European ~~xxx~~ artefacts are common throughout the area with stone adzes not to be seen any where except those used for the making of sago. Various young men in the area have gained considerable influence owing to their ability to speak Pidgin english and so communicate with the white man.


(D.H. Pennefather)
Patrol Officer

MAY RIVER 10/69-70

SCALE 1" to 4 miles

