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DISTRICT: MADANG

STATION: BUNDI

VOLUME No: 6

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1967 - 1968

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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67-7-7 45.

PATROL REPORT NO 5/67-68

BY

T. J. HUBBARD

BUNDI

MADANG DISTRICT.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

Report Number... 5 of 1967-68.

Subdistrict... RAMU

District... MADANG

Type of Patrol... SPECIAL

Patrol Conducted by... Terence John Hubbard, Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled... BUNDI CENSUS DIVISION

(Council and/or... BUNDI LOCAL GOVT. COUNCIL

Census Division/s.)

Personnel Accompanying Patrol

1 member - R.P.N.G.C.

Duration of Patrol—from 18 / 6 / 68 To 23 / 6 / 68

No. of Days... FIVE (5) days.

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area : Patrol No 3 of 1967-8.

Date... 18th February 1968 Duration... Twelve days.

Objects of Patrol (Briefly)... Familiarisation patrol

Total Population of Area Patrolled... 6359.

Director of District Administration,
KONEDOBU.

Forwarded, please.

17 / 10 / 1968

D. L. Basset
District Commissioner.



67-7-7

17th December, 1968.

The District Commissioner,
Madang District,
MADANG.

PATROL REPORT NO. 5 OF 67/68

Your reference is 67-2-4 M.

2. I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Special Report by Mr. T.J. Hubbard, P.O., Bundi Census Division.

3. Care should be taken that word of an impending patrol be sent ahead so as not to take villagers "by surprise".

4. A brief report of a well conducted patrol.

5. Mr. Hubbard appears to be taking a keen interest in his work.

(T.W. ELLIS)
Director

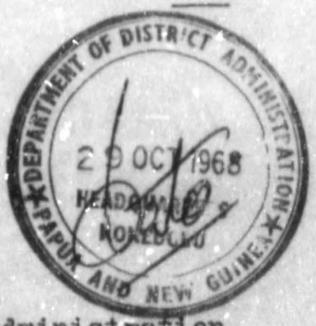
c.c. Mr. T.J. Hubbard, P.O.,
BUNDI.
Madang District.

67.7.7. (8)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM
Telephone 67-2-4 MW
Our Reference.....
If calling ask for
Mr.....



Department of District Administration,
MADANG.

18th October, 1968

The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBUI.

PATROL REPORTS - BUNDI Nos. 5 of 67/68 and
Nos. 1 & 2 of 68/69

The abovementioned reports are enclosed herewith. Copy of covering memorandum R.67-2-4 of the 15th October, 1968 from the Ramu Assistant District Commissioner is also attached.

The future planning of a Council Development Programme is to be followed up.

Bundi was actually the first multi-racial Local Government Council established in the Territory and it is pleasing to note that the election for the extended council area was carried out successfully.

The District Co-ordinating Committee is to meet soon and discuss the development of the Bundi and associated Ramu area in conjunction with area resettlement schemes for the Usino and Bundi regions. A Lands Settlement Officer is being posted to the Madang District to fully examine proposals and institute resettlement schemes in the Upper Ramu Valley area between Usino and Dumpu.

The three patrols were well conducted and the Assistant District Commissioner has kept a very close working relationship with his officer-in-charge at Bundi.

D. Clifton-Bassett
(D. CLIFTON-BASSETT)
District Commissioner

Enc.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

7

Department of District Administration,
MADANG.

Telephone R.67-2-4
Telegrams
Our Reference GDP/MW
If calling ask for
Mr.

COPY

The District Commissioner,
District Headquarters,
MADANG.

PATROL REPORTS - BUNDI
Nos 5 of 67/68 and Nos. 1 and 2
of 1968/69.

Forwarded herewith are the abovementioned Patrol Reports. The delay in forwarding of these is regretted, but was due in part to my protracted absence and the backlog of reports I have been required to submit myself.

Bundi Patrol No.5 - 67/68 covers the first visit made by Mr. Hubbard to part of the Bundi Census Division to familiarize himself with the area, upon his posting to this station. Particular emphasis in the course of these visits was placed upon the forthcoming Council Elections, which were held in early August.

The report is fairly brief, although it covers all of the major aspects of the native situation in Bundi. However, as Mr. Hubbard notes in the final section, one of the tasks of this Patrol was to sound out the feelings of the people in connection with the future planning of a Council Development Programme, as required by Local Government Circular No. 13 (addendum) of 1966 - issued 5th September, 1967. However the individual problems and suggestions submitted by the constituents in each Ward are not listed, but no doubt will be the subject of a full submission at a later date.

Bundi Patrols Nos. 1 and 2 of 68/69 cover the Local Government Election Patrol of early August. Previously the elections for the Bundi Council had been carried out by one polling team, but in this instance, with the inclusion of two additional wards embracing part of the VUA Census Division, a second team was used for the south easterly portion of the council area.

Both teams reported an incident-free election, although a number of complaints were reported to G.P.O. Orme in the course of his patrol. These were of a minor nature and were satisfactorily dealt with.

The lack of potential in the Bundi mountains for economic expansion has been commented upon at great length in previous reports. For many years there has been discussion over the possibility of re-settling these people in the Ramu Valley and Mr. Orme in his report mentions that the Kalamuki and Ongoma villagers wish to leave their traditional village sites and move to a more promising area lower down near the Marum village. At this stage there has been no suggestion of what form of tenure any such resettlement would take, but a form of permissive occupancy is most unsatisfactory, as it would inhibit any form of economic endeavour and could lead to future dissention. The land situation in the Bundi area is already very confused due to a long history of these kind of conditional usufructary rights being extended to distant groups, and has reached the stage where Demarcation Committees

are an urgent necessity. These have recently been set up under the Bundi Council, but have not yet commended their activities.

A clear cut decision on resettlement of these people in the Ramu Valley is an urgent requirement to prevent further impermanent arrangements of this nature, and the scheme formulated by the Catholic Mission will by no means provide an adequate answer. What is required is a major scheme utilizing much of the present un-utilized land in the south western area of the valley. The object should be to settle over a twenty year period, as many of the Bundi people as the arable land will take, upon small holder blocks of such a size as will give the owner an adequate income, based upon whichever cash crop is advocated by the Department of Agriculture. It will require some prescience to decide upon an area small enough to enable the maximum number of farms to be established without setting up a potential peasant farmer type community which would be a potential source of future discontent.

Preliminary steps at a District level are being taken to formulate such a scheme.

Each of these reports covers satisfactorily the main aspects encountered in the course of the respective patrols, and Mr. Orme in particular is to be commended on the standard of his report, which is the first he has submitted.

19-6-68
Wednesday

After further informal discussions with people from Kur-
logobu, patrol departed at 0900 hrs for Kurlogobu - this
village was deserted - all residents having gone to the
Goroka area to partake in a customary 'pig-feast' with
affinal ties. 35 minutes at Kurlogobu.

Walked 30 minutes to Yandera.
Visited Kenneth Mining Site (G.D. PIKE) and later
held a lengthy informal Assistant District Commissioner
talk given, minor disputes heard and settled.
General problems of villagers listed, Council rules discussed
and a land dispute between Yandera and Kariakoba noted
but deferred pending introduction of demarcation.
Slept at Yandera.

20-6-68
Thursday

Departed Yandera at 0815 hrs and walked 1 hr to Kiriakoba,
delivered a pre-election talk, discussed Council rules
and roadwork. Listed village problems and deferred a land
dispute between Kiriakoba and Imuri pending demarcation.

Departed 1100 hrs and walked 65 minutes to Karamuke, at
1230 hrs addressed villagers regarding forthcoming elect-
ions, Council rules, roadwork and listed general village
problems.
Severe erosion noted in this area - a threat to village
food staples. Village officials advised to watch the
situation carefully and advise me of food shortages and
migratory problems.

Departed Karamuke at 1600 hrs and walked 1 1/2 hrs to
Togona over poor road and drizzling rain.
Slept at Togona.

DIARY:

17-6-68
Friday

Short discussions with Ongoma people during which emphasis was placed on the necessity to elect a recognised leader in

18-6-68
Tuesday

Departed Bundi Station 0830 hrs and walked three hours to Bundikarar over well graded level track. Addressed villagers, gave a pre-election talk for the approaching Council elections. Listed minor complaints and arbitrated in several minor disputes. Explained and discussed Council rules in relation to village health, hygiene and sanitation, pigs and roadwork. Departed for Mendi at 1300hrs - one hour over easy walking track. Addressed villagers, gave pre-election talk, listed problems, discussed Council rules, roadwork etc. Arbitrated and settled several minor disputes.

19-6-68
Saturday

Walked 45 minutes to Kurinogobu and addressed villagers at 1730 hrs. Pre-election talk delivered, Council rules discussed, minor problems noted and current roadworks discussed. One minor dispute settled. A further dispute involving land ownership was heard but matter was deferred pending the introduction of land demarcation. Slept night at Kurinogobu.

19-6-68
Wednesday

After further informal discussions with people from Kurinogobu, patrol departed at 0900 hrs for Karisokera - this village was deserted - all residents having gone to the Goroka area to partake in a customary 'pig-feast' with affinal ties. 85 minutes ex Kurinogobu.

23-6-68
Sunday

Walked 30 minutes to Yandera. Visited Kennecott Mining Exploration Co. site and later held a lengthy informal meeting with villagers, pre-election talk given, minor disputes heard and settled. General problems of villagers listed, Council rules discussed and a land dispute between Yandera and Karisokera noted but deferred pending introduction of demarcation. Slept at Yandera.

20-6-68
Thursday

Departed Yandera at 0815 hrs and walked 1 hr to Kindakevi, delivered a pre - election talk, discussed Council rules and roadwork. Listed village problems and deferred a land dispute between Kindakevi and Imuri pending demarcation. Departed 1100 hrs and walked 65 minutes to Karamuke, at 1230 hrs addressed villagers regarding forthcoming elections, Council rules, roadworks and listed general village problems. Severe erosion noted in this area - a threat to village food supplies. Village Officials advised to watch the situation carefully and advise me of food shortages and migratory problems. Departed Karamuke at 1600 hrs and walked 1 3/4 hrs to Ongoma over poor road and drizzling rain. Slept at Ongoma.

DIARY: cont.

21-6-68
Friday.

Short discussions with Ongoma people during which emphasis was placed on the necessity to elect a recognised leader in the forthcoming elections.

Departed at 0830 hrs for Kinderupa - two hours walking over the poorest roads in the division
People of Kinderupa and Marum assembled, pre-election talks given followed by discussions on Council rules, roadworks etc., problems of villagers noted.

Departed Kinderupa at 1400 hrs and walked to Baui - 1½ hrs. Meeting held with people at 1700hrs, pre-election talk given, Council rules discussed village problems noted. One case of malnutrition noted and ordered to accompany patrol to Bundi

Slept night at Baui.

22-6-68
Saturday

Departed Baui at 0700hrs and walked to Guiebe - 2½ hrs. Meeting held with villagers, Council rules discussed, village problems noted and informal discussions followed on roadworks and other general topics.

Walked 2 hrs to Bogai and held a long informal meeting with villagers covering elections, Council rules, roadworks etc.. Village problems noted.

Aid-Post built by Council inspected and people advised to treat their Aid-Post orderly fairly or face the risk of being deprived permanently of an Orderly.

Trade Store owned and operated by Dingua Gero of Bogai also inspected.

Slent at Bogai.

23-6-68
Sunday.

Departed Bogai at 0630 hrs and walked 1½ hrs to Emegari. Pre-election talk given followed by informal discussions with villagers covering Council rules, roadworks and general village problems.

Departed Emegari at 0915 hrs and walked to Pisingam arriving there at 1230 hrs.

Thence by Administration Land Rover to Bundi Patrol Post.

END OF PATROL.

INTRODUCTION:

The object of the patrol was simply to familiarise myself with the Bundi Census Division.

Discussions on an informal basis with village people and pre-election talks with emphasis based on the necessity of electing strong and capable leaders in the approaching August Local Government Council elections were held at each village.

Village people were invited to bring their problems to the patrol, this they did quite readily and such problems as could not be settled on the spot were written down for later reference at Bundi.

Correspondence relating to the patrol will be found on Madang and Bundi Lands file ref. 35-8-1 dated 27-6-68 and in F.O.J's 11 to 14 inclusive.

The patrol was unannounced and took most villagers by surprise, nevertheless attendance at the informal meetings was pleasing as was the cooperation with ~~the~~ regard to willingness to carry patrol gear. Conditions of villages were reasonable generally and for the most part the roads were well maintained with the exception of sections between Ongoma and Kinderupa thence Bogai to Pisingam.

POLITICAL:Local Government:

The entire Bundi Census Division has been part of the Bundi Local Government Council since the inception of that body in 1964. The division comprises 17 wards and 22 Councillors, the five large wards of Bundi, Bundikara, Karisokera, Yandera and Karamuke each having two representatives.

Much emphasis during this patrol was placed on the necessity of electing strong, recognised leaders to ensure the continued growth and development of the Council as an effective local government body. Many of the present Councillors lack the authority, traditional respect and power to cope even mildly with their duties. The people seemed to be aware of this fact and in some cases openly agreed that there would be changes for the better. I consider that only seven of the present Councillors possess the necessary qualities to encourage and advance the Bundi people. This is easily observed at Council meetings and in the villages where the people of the more influential member tend to form more consolidated, enthusiastic and progressive groups.

The House of Assembly elections in February reminded the people again of the preferential system, the Bundi villagers voted almost without exception for the two successful candidates for Madang Regional and Mabuso Open electorates.

ECONOMIC:

Bundi lies in very rugged, mountainous terrain with very poor soil. Although there are some plantings of Arabica coffee which do provide some income for the planters it is felt that the nature of this country will discourage much further development in the division - due mainly to the lack of accessibility and limited arable land available.

The Dept. of Agriculture has a Field Assistant based at Bundi, he regularly patrols the division giving what assistance he can to those willing to persist with coffee plantings. The Department purchases approximately \$900:00 worth of coffee each year and NAMASU (Native marketing and Supply) purchase a similar amount.

ECONOMIC: cont.

The Catholic Mission at Bundi controls the Bundi Cattle Breeders Association and has given selected members small herds of cattle to enable the people to learn to understand cattle. This scheme has met with difficulties too, due to the lack of adequate grazing land and the difficult communications - cattle have to be walked as far as eight hours to be serviced by the Mission bull. The arrangement is that the Mission takes back every second heifer calf born - to circulate to other members who wish to start up a herd. The bull calves are all castrated and allowed to remain the property of the breeder.

The Ramu valley seems to be the answer with regard to suitable grazing land to support this industry. The Catholic Mission has applied for a lease of 6,000 acres to develop the industry further, present plans are for an Agricultural College with small holdings for selected young couples prepared to try their hand at cattle.

SOCIAL:

The large, well equipped Catholic Mission Boarding school more adequately caters for the educational needs of the Bundi people, the school which teaches to Standard 6 has a wide reputation and the standard of teaching is quite high.

The Census division is patrolled regularly by members of the R.P.N.G.C. and an average of two visits per year to each village is made by D.D.A. Officers.

About 10 minor disputes were brought to the patrol and all were settled without difficulty. Most of the more serious breaches or offences are brought quickly to Bundi and dealt with there.

Posata, radio and banking facilities are provided by the Catholic Mission which took these agencies over from the Administration in 1966.

The Catholic Mission has been established at Bundi since 1937 and its influence extends right throughout the Division - each village has a catechist who runs school for children ineligible by age to attend the boarding school. These village schools are conducted in pidgin English.

The Bundi Women's Club comprises most of its membership from the wives of station staff but many women from nearby villages do attend the meetings where they are taught to sew, sometimes to bake and mainly to play basketball or softball. Meetings are held twice weekly and are supervised by two Mission teachers on most occasions and occasionally by Welfare Officers from Madang.

MISCELLANEOUS:

Over the past two months the people have come to Bundi and worked in a large group on construction of the Council sponsored Kobum road. In nine days approximately six miles of road was re-opened and this gave the villagers renewed confidence and a willingness to work together in a large group, to combine their efforts on one project and complete this before tackling another.

The people are eager to construct an inter village road network which would contribute greatly to the economic advancement of the area.

Work is on a voluntary basis and food for the workers is provided by the Council.

As stated earlier, notes were taken of village problems and the major problems dominant in each village were a road link between villages and a road outlet to a major center which would overcome the present problem of isolation.

I consider that the patrol, although very short, was quite successful in that it gave me an insight into village life in Bundi and also through informal talks with villagers I was able to ascertain their most dominant needs.

T. J. Hubbard
T. J. HUBBARD,
PATROL OFFICER



Patrol No 5467/8.

T.J. HUBBARD
P.O.