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1964 - 1965

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[Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports](#)

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OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA
PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: BOUGAINVILLE

STATION: BOKU, 1964 - 1965

Original documents bound with reports
for: Tinputz, volume 1.

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORT OF: TINPUTZ

ACCESSION No. 496

VOL. NO: 1: 1964-1965 NUMBER OF items: 11

REPORT NO:	FOLIO	OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL	AREA PATROLLED	MAPS/ PHOTOS	PERIOD OF PATROL
[] TINPUTZ					
[1] 1-64/65	1-13	Pamplin, J. P.O.	Teop-Timputz LGC area		1/9/64 - 9/11/64
[] BUKA PASS					
[2] 9-64/65	1-10	Hunter P.R. PO	West Coast, Buka Is.	-	23/3/65 - 2/4/65
[3] 10-64/65	1-9	Hunter P.R. PO	Nissan x Pinepil Islands	-	26/4/65 - 5/5/65
[] BOKU					
[4] 3-64/65	1-8	Grier J.A. CPO	Special Patrol of Pts Banoni&Nagovisi	—	22/5/65 - 3/6/65
[5] 4-64/65	1-13	Reading J.M. P.O.	Banoni Census Division	1map	24/1/65 - 2/3/65
[6] 5-64/65	1-9	Reading J.M. P.O.	Makis Census Division	1map	9/12/64 - 17/12/64
[] BUIN					
[7] 11-64/65	1-16	Reading J.M. P.O.	Lugakei Census Division	1map	28/4/65 - 14/5/65
[8] 12-64/65	1-10	Pamplin, J. P.O.	Sinai Census Dic.	1map	1/6/65 - 3/7/65
[] KUNNA					
[9] 4-64/65	1-12	Staples R.J. PO	Keriaka Census Div.		24/9/64 - 25/v/65
[10] 6-64/65	1-6	Tabua C.J. TPO	Keriaka Census Div.	1map	14/1/65 - 25/1/65
[11] 9-64/65	1-10	Tabua C.J. TPO	Hahon & Islands Census Div.	1map	24/2/65 - 3/3/65

-end

BOUGAINVILLE DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1964/1965

TINPUTZ, BUKA PASSAGE, BOKU, BUIN, KANUA

Report No.	Officer Conducting	Area Patrolled
Patrol		
TINPUTZ		
1 - 1964/1965	J. Pamplin	Teop Tinputz Native Local
Gov. Council Area		
BUKA PASSAGE		
9 - 1964/1965	P.R. Hunter	West Coast Nuka Island
10- 1964/1965	P.R. Hunter	Nissan & Pinepil Islands
BOKU		
3 - 1964/1965	J.A. Grier	Parts Banoni & Nagovisi
		Special Report
4 - 1964/1965	J.M. Reading	Banoni Census Div.
BUIN		
5- 1964/1965	J.M. Reading	Makis Census Div.
11- 1964/1965	J.M. Reading	Lugskei Census Div.
12- 1964/1965	J. Pamplin	Siwai Census Div.
KUNUA		
4 - 1964/1965	R.J. Staples	Keriaka Census Div.
6- 1964/1965	C.J. Tabua	Keriaka Census Div.
9 - 1964/1965	C.J. Tabua	Hahon & Islands Census
Div.		

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA
PATROL REPORT

District of Bougainville Report No. Boku No. Bok3 of 1964/65
Patrol Conducted by J.A. Grier - Cadet Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled A special patrol of parts of Banoni and Nagovisi C/D
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil

Natives 1 R.p.n.g.c.

Duration - From 22/5/1965 to 26/5/1965

1/6/65 3 6 1965

Number of Days Eight

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by-District Services 24/1/1965

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

Map Reference

Objects of Patrol 1) Investigate report of wartime rifle in Torakina Area

2) Investigation for any claims on Final Orders for Restoration

of Titles for HAISI, SOVELE, JABA, BOLEOKO< and BIRIKONASI land blocks.

Director of Native Affairs,PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please,

3/9/1965

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 £

67-1 1-39

27th September, 1965

District Commissioner,

Bougainville District,

SOHANO.

BOKU PATROL REPORT NO. 3-64/65:

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of a very short Patrol Report by Mr. Grier, covered by your memorandum 67-1-7 of 3rd September 1965.

2. Your comments and these of Mssrs. Hardy and Cavanagh have been noted.

3. Mr. Grier accomplished the tasks set him and submitted a very brief report. This officer spent 7 days in the field and could have quite easily written a longer report, as an exercise, giving headquarters as complete a picture as possible of conditions prevailing in the area patrolled. It is an essential part of a young officer's training that he be encouraged and taught to observe accurately and report concisely and clearly.

(T.G. Aitehisen)

A/DIRECTOR.

67. 11-39

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Department of District Administration,

Bougainville District,

SOHANO.

3rd. September, 1965.

The Director,

Department of District Administration,

KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

BOKU PATROL REPORT NO. 3 OF 1964.65

Attached hereto please find a Report on the
above Patrol as submitted by Mr. J. A. GRIER, Cadet
Patrol Officer.

The Patrol was purely routine and the objects
of the Patrol were successfully carried out.

Att.

(P. J. MOLLISON).

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

Telegram

Telephone

Our Reference

If calling ask for

Mr.

67/1/7.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-2-2

GPH/gp

Sub District Office,

Buin, Bougainville.

28th June, 1965.

The District Commissioner,

SOHANO...BOUGAINVILLE.

BOKU PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 1964/65.

Attached please find the abovementioned covering a special patrol to parts of the Banoni and Nagovisi areas by Mr. J.A. Grier, Cadet Patol [Patrol] Officer, and covering comments thereon by the District Officer, Boku.

Mr. Grier carried out this short patrol with the usual enthusiasm and interest in his work. The information submitted is self-explanatory and action where necessary has been, or will be taken.

The claim for Camping Allowance will be forwarded when necessary adjustments are completed.

Forwarded for your information, please.

G.P. Hardy

Assistant District Commussioner.

att.

c.c. District Officer, Boku.

67-1

BOKU Patrol Post,
Buin Suh-District,
Bougainville District.

20th June, 1965.

Assistant District Commissioner,
BUIN.

PATROL REPORT No, 3 of 1964/65

Attached please find three copies of
the above report of a short patrol carried out by
Mr. Grier, Cadet Patrol Officer.

2. As regards the rifle suspected to be held
in the Torakina area, I believe that the American rifle
which was forwarded to this office was most probably
the rifle in question. The gentleman who had possession of
this rifle will be questioned on my next visit to the area.

3. I will advise you of the position as regards
telephone wire when I receive an indication from the
local Torakina people. However, it will be necessary
to reimburse the people for collection of any wire
available.

Attached also please find contingencies for
camping allowance.

(N.J.Cavanagh).

Assistant District Officer.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM

Telephone

Our Reference 67-1

If calling ask for

Mr

Department of District Administration,

Boku Patrol Post,

Buin Sub-District,

Bougainville.

9th June, 1965.

The Assistant District Commissioner,

B U I N.

BOKU PATROL REPORT No. BOK 3 of 64/65.

Officer Conduction Patrol : Mr. J. A. Grier, C.P.O.

Area Patrolled : A special patrol of parts of the

Banoni and Nagovisi Census Divisions.

Duration : 22nd May to 26th May, 1965

1st June to 3rd June, 1965.

Number of Days : Eight Days

Objects of Patrol : 1) Investigate report of presence

of wartime rifle in Torakina Area.

2) Investigation for any claims on

Final Orders for Restoration of Titles

for : - HAISI

SOVELE

JABA

BOLEOKO

BIRIKONASI

INTRODUCTION.

The main purpose of the Patrol was to carry out an investigation into the report that a .303 rifle was being held by a native in the Torakina are, and to carry out investigations for any claims on final orders for Restoration of Titles for HAISI, SOVELE, JABA, BOLEOKO, and BIRIKONASI land blocks.

DIARY.

Saturday 22/5/65. Departed Boku 0539 hrs for Jaba. Arrived Jaba 0900 hrs and awaited dingy to arrive from Mawareka. Due to mechanical difficulties dingy arrived 1300 hrs. Departed for Torakina and arrived 1500 hrs. Slept Torakina.

Sunday 23/5/65. Observed Torakina.

Monday 24/5/65. Saw Father Grenier, advised him of geology party and its intentions, and asked him if he had any

page 2.

Monday	24/5/65 (cont.)	<p>knowledge of a .303 rifle being held in his area. No Knowledge. Asked head teacher of school re rifle - No Knowledge. Departed Torakina 0900 hrs arrived Piva 1000 hrs. Saw sister-in-charge of Hansenide Colony re enquiry by A.D.C. Kieta concerning 3 patients. Asked sister re rifles - No Knowledge. Talked to Piva people re geology survey - All Agreeable. Saw ex-policeman at Piva re rifles - No Knowledge. Asked Piva people about telephone wire for proposed Buin - Kangu telephone line. Prospects quite hopeful. Departed Piva for Laruma where the people were asked about rifles - No Knowledge. Asked people re telephone wire - prospects hopeful. Looked over old Bomber strips on top of Piva and found that the upper one could be reopened quite easily. Returned and slept Torakina.</p>
Tuesday	25/5/65	<p>Saw Kereri people about geology survey and asked about telephone wire. Marked out design for rest house and squared posts. Ready to leave for Jaba 1200 hrs however owing to rough seas slept Torakina</p>
Tuesday	1/6/65	<p>In afternoon went to Haisi to investigate any claims on Final Orders - No Claims.</p>
	2/6/65	<p>Departed Boku 0800 hrs and carried out investigation at Beretemba and Jaba - No Claims.</p>
Wednesday		<p>Departed Jaba for Borioko 1200 hrs. Owing to Tabera river being flooded slept Taruba.</p>
Thursday	3/5/65	<p>Departed Taruba 0600 hrs for Borioko and with help of 25 men (road very bad) arrived Mokokolio 090 hrs. Borioko and Takimari landowners arrived 0930 hrs. No claims on Boleoko and Birikonasi land blocks. Arrived Boku 1530 hrs.</p>

page 3.

COMMENTS.

Reported Rifle in Torakina Area.

It had been reported by

Mr. D. O'Donnell that early in the year unnamed native had approached him at Torakina requesting to purchase some .303 ammunition. An investigation was carried out in the Torakina area to endeavour to discover if anyone was holding a .303 rifle. Village official, missionaries [missionaries] and others were questioned regarding knowledge of any person in possession of a .303 rifle, however these enquiries failed to reveal any rifles at present in the area.

However a week before the patrol arrived in the area, an unserviceable American Springfield rifle had been handed to the Father at Torakina Mission. The person who was holding this rifle allegedly received it from a European salvage operator who was working in the area some years back. The person who had possession of the rifle was absent from the area at the time of the patrol but will be questioned on his return. It is thought that this rifle was the weapon in question for which the ammunition was required, as the native with perhaps little knowledge of firearms attempted to purchase .303 ammunition for this weapon.

The investigation failed to reveal the presence of any other rifles in the area.

Restoration of Titles Final Orders.

An investigation was carried out among the owners of land blocks : HAISI, SOVELE, JABA, BOLEOKO and BIRIKONASI to determine if there were any claims to present before the hearing for Final Orders before the Land Restoration Titles Commission to be held at SOHANO. No claims were presented.

WARTIME Telephone Wire.

While at Torakina enquiries were made among the people of the possibility of obtaining wartime telephone wire which would be suitable for the construction of a telephone link between BUIN Town and Kangu. The people stated that there was wire scattered through the bush and that they would have a search through the bush and advise later what quantities were available.

Geology Survey

The Torakina people were advised of [that] the geological survey party from the Bureau of Minerology, Canberra would be visiting the area. The objects of this survey were explained to

the people, i.e. that it was a routine survey and not aimed at xxx specific mineral development in the area. No objections were raised by the people contacted.

J. A. Grier
(Cadet Patrol Officer)

67-11-40

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

15 SEP 1965

PATROL REPORT

District of Bougainville Report No. Boku No. 4 of 1964/65 BOKU

Patrol Conducted by J.M. READING (Patrol Officer)

Area Patrolled BANONI CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NONE

Natives c 2 R.P. & N.G.C.

Duration - From 24/1/1965 to 2/3/1965

Number of Days THIRTEEN

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by-District Services /6/1965

Medical /19.....

Map Reference EXTRACT FROM BOUGAINVILLE SOUTH FOURMILE SERIES

Objects of Patrol 1. CENSUS REVISION 2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT DISCUSSIONS

3. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Director of District Administration,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please,

3/9/1965

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

67/1/7

Department of District Administration,
Bougainville District,
SOHANO.

4th. September, 1965.

The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

BOKU PATROL NO. 4 OF 1964/65

I attach hereto a copy of a Report on
the above Patrol as submitted by Mr. J. M. READING,
Patrol Officer and covering Memorandum 67/2/2 of 28th. May,
1965 from the Assistant District Commissioner, BUIN.

The BANONI Census Division is one of the
most sparsely populated areas in this District and owing
to a number of factors such as lack of Port facilities and
no European settlement there has been very little indigenous
economic development.

The BANONI/NAGOVISI Local Government Council
has already been proclaimed and Elections are expected to be
held during September/October, 1965. Except for a few small
Villages this Council will cover all the area patrolled by
Mr. READING.

It is hoped that a Council will be able to be
formed in the KUNUA/KERIAKA Area which is to the North of that
covered by the Patrol.

The three (3) Villages of KERIANA, LESIOPAIA
and BETEROPAIA although they have settled on the TOROKINA
Plane are still part of the WAKUNAI Council. They may elect
to join the newly formed BANONI/NAGOVISI Council. These
people have planted large number of coconuts which will
undoubtedly boost the economics of the area when they reach
maturity.

The recommendations made by Mr. READING will
be discussed at length with the Assistant District Commissioner
at BUIN.

Att.

(P. J. MOLLISON)

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

67-11-40

TERRITORY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

12

Telegrams

Telephone

Our Reference 67/1/7

If calling ask for

Mr.

Department of District Administration,

Bougainville District,

SOHANO.

4th. September, 1965.

The Director,

Department of District Administration,

KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

30 SEP 1965

BOKU PATROL REPORT NO. 4 OF 1964/65.

I attach hereto a copy of a Report on the above Patrol as submitted by Mr. J. M. READING, Patrol Officer and covering Memorandum 67/2/2 of 28th. May, 1965 from the Assistant District Commissioner, BUIN.

The BANONI Census Division is one of the most sparsely populated areas in this District and owing to a number of factors such as lack of Port facilities and no European settlement there has been very little indigenous economic development.

The BANONI Census Division is one of the most sparsely populated areas in this District and owing to a number of factors such as lack of Port facilities and no European settlement there has been very little indigenous economic development.

It is hoped that a Council will be able to be formed in the KUNUA/KERIAKA Area which is to the North of that covered by the Patrol.

The three (3) Villages of KERIANA, LESIOPAIA and BETEROPAIA although they have settled on the TOROKINA Plane are still part of the WAKUNAI Council. They may elect to join the newly formed BANONI/NAGOVISI Council. These people have planted large number of coconuts which will undoubtedly boost the economics of the area when they reach maturity.

The recommendations made by Mr. READING will be discussed at length with the Assistant District Commissioner At BUIN.

Att.
(P.J. MOLLISON).
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

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67-11-40

23rd September, 1965

District Commissioner,

Bougainville District,

S O H A N O.

BOKU PATROL REPORT NO. 4/1964-65:

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of a belated patrol report by Mr. Reading and not covered by memoranda from either the Assistant District Commissioner, Buin or yourself.

2. Mr. Reading has dealt very fully on only two aspects of life among these Banoni Census Division people. The objects of the patrol were three-fold and no mention is made of Census Revision, villages and village officials, rest houses, health, education, Missions, roads and bridges, Courts, etc.

3. No explanation is given as to the tardiness of submission of this report to this Headquarters. It is Laid down in the Standing Instructions handbook that a report "is to be compiled without undue delay after the completion of the patrol". Please see that officers follow this instruction closely.

(T.G. Aitchison)

A/DIRECTOR.

THE TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

3

15 SEP 1965

Sub-District Office,

BUIN,

Bougainville.

20/5/65.

The Assistant District Commissioner,

BUIN,

Bougainville.

BOKU PATROL REPORT No. 4 of 64/65.

BANONI CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Conducted by: - J. M. Reading, (Patrol Officer).

Duration of Patrol: - 24/1/65 to 3/2/65. 15/2/65 and
2/3/65. xxxxxx Thirteen days.

Personnel Accompanying: - Constables POAPUM and PARAMANI.

Last D.D.A. Patrol: - May-June 1964.

Objects of Patrol: - 1. Census Revision. 2. Local
Government Discussions. 3. General
Administration.

Map Reference: - Extract from Bougainville South
Fourmile Series.

INTRODUCTION.

The Banoni Census Division consists of
eighteen small villages scattered over the northern and
coastal section of the area administered from Boku Patrol
Post in the north west corner of the District. Of just over
four hundred square miles, it is the largest census division
in the Buin Sub-District and the second largest on Bougainville.

The six coastal villages of MATSUNKEI, MAWAREKA,
JABA, KOIARI, KEGIRI and LARUMA stretch from MATUPINA Point in
the south to the old wartime base and harbour of TOROKINA near
the borders of the Buka Passage Sub-District to the north. Most
of the remaining villages lie in a rough crescent from KOIARI
to TORAKIN, around the base of the active volcano Mt. BAGANA
(5,700 ft.) and through rugged mountain ridges of the CROWN
PRINCE RANGE. MABIS, MARIGA, JARARA and KONGARE villages form
a southern group between BOKU PATROL POST and MATUPINA Point.

Weather is variable and coastal villages are
very susceptible to sudden and local rain squalls from the sea
and inland villages to afternoon rain storms from the mountains.
These factors result in there being no overall weather pattern
but rainfall would average from 160 to 180 inches per year taken

from Boku Patrol Post figures.

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DIARY.

JANUARY 24th. Departed BOKU by Landrover for MAWAREKA late afternoon to await calm seas following morning.

1965 Slept MAWAREKA rest house.

25th. Departed MAWAREKA 7 a.m. by motorised aluminium dingy across EMPRESS AUGUSTA BAY for TOROKINA.

Inspection of harbour and discussions with local priests during afternoon. Slept TOROKINA rest house.

26th. At TOROKINA for census and discussions with people from KEGIRI and LARUMA. Proceeded up the coast by dinghy to inspect LARUMA village and return TOROKINA. Slept rest house.

27th. Arrived PIVA by bicycle from TOROKINA this morning. Discussions with sister of Piva Hansenide Colony before moving on to PIVA village for census, inspection and discussions. Then continued along wartime road by bicycle to cross the Torokina (Hot) River for TENGEREPAIA village. Village and surroundings inspected. Slept TENGEREPAIA rest house.

28th. Village lined for census and discussions this morning before departing for SITO where villagers were inspected and census held. The patrol then moved on to KOROBI village. Discussion held with people on road maintenance. Slept KOROBI rest house amongst picturesque surroundings.

29th. Day spent at KOROBI village on census, inspection discussions and road improvements. Slept KOROBI rest house.

30th. Departed KOROBI for walk over mountains to ATANGATO and thence to KARATU. Villagers lined for census and general discussions held during late evening. Slept KAREKOPA rest house.

31st. Arrived KAREKOPA from KARATU this morning and with MOM villagers the census and discussions were held. Slept KAREKOPA rest house.

FEBRUARY 1st. Inspected KAREKOPA village before proceeding down to MOM which was also inspected. Then proceeded down the road to the ASAMANA River where canoes took the patrol to KOIARI village.

Discussions held during the night. Slept KOIARI rest house.

2nd. Rough seas prevented launching of dinghy so patrol walked along the beach to JABA village.

Discussions held during the evening. Slept JABA rest house.

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DIARY Continued.

FEBRUARY 3rd. JABA inspected and people lined for census

this morning. On arrival of Landrover returned

1965

BOKU after discussions at MORATONA and SOVELE

Missions. Slept Boke Patrol Post.

15th. Departed Boku by Landrover for the southern

group of villages MARIGA, KONGARE, MABIS and

JABARA. These villages inspected and census

and discussion held during day. Returned Boku

late afternoon. Slept Boku Patrol Post.

MARCH 2nd. Proceeded to MAWAREKA by Landrover for census

and discussions. During afternoon proceeded to

MATSUNKEI by dinghy for census and discussions.

Returned BOKU late afternoon on completion of

Banoni Patrol.

ECONOMIC POTENTIAL AND DEVELOPMENT.

The west coast of Bougainville, of which the

Banoni forms a major part, is among the most backward and

underdeveloped areas in the District. In contrast to much of the

east coast, Buin Plain and Buka, there is very little economic

activity, no major industries and reputedly very little potential.

The most obvious disadvantage of the area is the

lack of manpower. The Banoni, Keriake and Kunua have a population

of less than 4,000 against nearly 10,000 for the corresponding

middle east coast divisions. This low population, however, is a

result of the following geographic factors.

Much of the land is low lying with a very gradual

rise and often sharp distinction where mountain ridges and hills

emerge from swamps. Mom Hill is a very obvious example. This

results in the slow meandering rivers common to the Empress

Augusta Bay. Many periodically flood their banks and drainage is

very slow. Most of the middle Banoni centering on Koiari is thus

completely unsuitable for cash cropping and even native gardens.

With the exception of some small outcrops at

Torokina and odd coral niggerheads, there are no reef formations

off the Banoni coast. This has had an adverse effect on coastal

cash cropping cropping and communications; an important factor

which has attributed to the poverty of the Banoni. The lack of

reefs has been caused by a combination of the following.

(a) Possible toxic solutions of recent volcanic

origin.

(b) Silt, mud and fresh water from the numerous

river mouths

(c) Rapid erosion of coast causing soft unstable
sea bed with variable undercurrents.

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ECONOMIC POTENTIAL [POTENTIAL] AND DEVELOPMENT Cont.

Communications in the Banoni are on a very low level. There are no vehicular roads in the northern and central Banoni outside the wartime network at Torokina and little possibility of their construction. Outside of Torokina Harbour, where there is a small mission wharf, there are no all weather anchorages and loading and unloading from vessels necessitates beach landings by dinghy or canoe.

Torokina, Koiari, Jaba and Mawareka are periodically visited by small coastal shipping, chiefly mission supplying the Catholic Missions at Morotana, Sovele and Haisi. The people from the six coastal villages are not traditionally coastal dwellers but have migrated down from the EIVO and GUAVA around the turn of the century. These people have canoes but generally prefer the calmer rivers to the unpredictable sea. The small amount of income of the Banoni people is derived from the following sources.

(a) Outside Employment. About a fifth of the adult male population are engaged in work outside their villages. A few are employed casually at the mission stations at Demori, Torokina, Horotana and the Hansenide Colony at Piva. Some are working at native cacao plantations in the NASIOI and particularly at Mossigetta Village in the BAITSI near Boku. The remainder work in Rabaul, Buka and on the east coast plantations.

(b) Economic Crops. These are limited to mostly immature cocoa in the four southern villages and a few bags of copra from the coastal villages. There is also a very small amount of coffee and cocoa from ATANGATO and KARATU being carried over the mountain to Kieta.

A common complaint heard by the west coast people is that they have been neglected by the Administration. With covetous longing, the Banoni people view the higher standard of living brought to the East coast villagers by European development. The leaders did, however, express a strong disapproval of any European timber or mining companies entering the Banoni area. The idea that it is difficult to have both development and no European interest is hard to put across to the village people.

I do agree, however, that not sufficient interest has been shown in promoting social and economic development in the west coast, and in particular the northern Banoni. While it is true that these people are isolated and relatively few in

number, this should not be the governing factor in Administration interest. P.H.D. and D.A.S.F. patrols are sporadic at best and there is no record of there being any welfare or other social activity outside that of the missions. With the exception of a few shillings paid to carriers during patrols, no Administration money is spent in the area. The northern Banoni, and probably too much of the KERIAKA, are caught in a vicious circle - the Administration has little interest because the population is few and backward; so few and backward they will remain.

While it is probably true that the usual cash crops of cocoa, copra and coffee offer little foreseeable gain, until cultivation is forcefully advocated and supervised and marketing and transport organised, other possibilities of development have not been adequately considered. The following could be feasible.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POTENTIAL Cont.

(a) Logging and Sawmilling. This is potentially the best money earner for the west coast villagers. Sawn timber is a commodity which is unlikely to suffer from overproduction, allowing for a steady decrease in world forestry reserves, and in any event can be used with advantage in village housing. In parts of the Banoni, in particular the southern and central, there are large areas of forest. Possibly not economical to European exploitation, with salaries and a large overhead to recoup, but certainly to people who have few other means of income and are quite prepared to work for themselves on much lower wages. Possible sites for a sawmill are as follows.

1. Morotana Mission. Father Moore of this mission has repeatedly expressed his desire to operate a sawmill in the Banoni/Nagovisi area. He claims, however, that the Administration has refused him permission to import the necessary equipment and capital to set up a sawmill.

If this extraordinary claim is correct then a very partisan and narrow view, or gross bureaucracy, has prevented the introduction of this scheme which would be at no cost to the Administration and a definite long term benefit to an area which has long been in effect "abandoned to the missions".

2. Koiari Village. An area of rivers, waterways and swamps, and because of this ideally suitable for floating logs to the well sited village without the need for heavy equipment outside of winches. This region, and particularly its upper reaches, has an abundance of suitable timber, but the biggest advantage lies with the expressed keenness of its people.

3. Parts of Torokina. Sections here would be a good possibility with its established road system but, as much of the area is secondary growth, its true potential would require further investigation.

It is not envisaged that local sawmills would be an immediate cure all for economic stagnation in the region. It would probably take years of struggle, disappointments with very little income for them to become established. It would also, outside of Morotana, require initial supervision and considerable Administration financing in the form of a long term loan or even a grant. But action in this direction would do more to boost Administration prestige and loyalty than £20,000 spent on casual labourers in the area.

(b) Cattle at Torokina. The huge wartime

airbase at Torokina contains some thousands of acres of level secondary growth, apparently most suitable for cattle grazing. Although cattle thrive in most mission stations in the District, a thorough survey should be conducted by an officer of D.A.S.F. specialised in this field.

Cattle have proved themselves eminently suitable for Native care in the Territory and there would be no shortage of villagers interested in a scheme of this nature. A cattle industry established at Torokina, with its excellent harbour, would revitalize the area while supplying an income and much needed protein for the local villagers, and could eventually supply the meat needs of the District.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POTENTIAL Cont.

(c) Tourism. From the nearby villages of Tengerepaia and Korobi the active volcano Mt. Bagana is a most impressive sight. With its accompanying large volcanic crater Lake Billy Mitchel on the western side, it offers an easily accessible combination certainly unique in the Territory. The main advantage lies in that, although in-
-accessible from the east coast, there are no real handicaps on the west to running a vehicular road from Torokina to the very base of the volcano or even possibly to Lake Billy Mitchel itself. An old military road already runs almost as far as Tengerepaia, within a few miles of Bagana's base. Those who have seen this region, either from the air or ground, will appreciate the long range tourist potential.

(d) Other Possible Innovations. A few small industries should be considered for possible introduction to the area. It would seem preferable to offer the west coast villagers a greaer [greater] variety of industries as possible as some will undoubtedly prove impracticable.

1. Crocodile Skins. There are still a great many crocodiles in the numerous Empress Augusta Bay rivers. However European professional shooters have been rapidly thinning them out, much to the chagrin of local villagers to the extent that one shooter was recently barred from a section of river. I feel that as £100 remaining in the xxx area is far more benefit than £1,000 being taken out, more encouragement should be given to local shooters and, in particular, guidance with marketing procedures.

2. Buin Basketware and Aita Artifacts. There are no reasons why these items could not be produced successfully on the west coast. There are even a few signs that some are, but there is no much needed Administration posility to introduce these money earning skills and a marketing outlet.

3. Brass and Scrap Metal. Large quantities of brass shell casing and scrap metal still remain in the vicinity of Torakina. In particular around houses in Piva villages several tons of brass had been stacked awaiting sale. Villagers report that large quantities still remain in the bush but that they are not prepared to bring this in until what they have already salvaged is disposed of. Brass is generally purchased at 3d. a pound by agents of the salvage rights holder.

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

In the near future a local government council is to be formed in the Boku area and will incorporate the villages of the Banoni. To facilitate its introduction council discussions were a major aim of the patrol and appropriate talks were held in each village.

With the exception of Koiari, the northern Banoni villagers were not particularly enthusiastic about the proposed council. They feel, and with some justifications, that they will be able to contribute little financially to the council and would probably receive little material benefits in return. The very poor economic position of most of these people will undoubtedly result in many being given tax exemptions.

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POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT Cont.

However it was impressed upon the people that they would gain considerable political knowledge and council activities would stimulate an influx of new ideas and an awareness of new responsibilities. It was pleasing to note that some leaders acknowledged these abstract gains and offered the suggestion that their ideas and criticisms would find a more ready ear through the medium of the council meetings.

The Banoni people, while mainly following the lead of the close knit Nagovisi society, are rather more scattered and susceptible to the influences of other areas. There is frequent intermarriage between the peoples of Keriaka, Rotokas, Eivo and sometimes the Guava and trade generally occurs with the Kieta Sub-district rather than with distant Buin.

A recent occurrence of great significance for the northern Banoni is the migration in from Wakunai of the Rotokas villages of Keriake, Lesiopaia and Beteriopaia. This was the result of a conflict over council tax last September. The people have since built new villages above Laruma near Torokina.

This patrol was approached by a deputation of these villagers expressing deep indignation over the measures taken to collect this tax and asked that they be administered from Boku and be included in the proposed Boku council. Since Administration policy holds for voluntary political self-determination and these people are now well outside the Kieta Sub-district, assurances were given that their wish would probably be granted.

I am rather surprised that this disturbance should have been permitted to develop. I have visited this area and the people appeared quite loyal; only to be resistant if they feel they have been wronged. In all events the increase of several hundred people to the northern Banoni will be a big stimulant to the area.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

Much thought has been given to development of the west coast and the District as a whole. I have now visited most areas of central Bougainville and have had many discussions at village level. Possibly this has produced an overall picture of the problems of the area. The following suggestions, modified or otherwise, may be of some practical interest.

1. A committee be established at district level to investigate, make recommendations and give firm assistance to the establishment of new industries which may be suitable for introduction to areas of the District.
2. Set up a base camp at Torokina to better administer and develop the mid west coast. Sub-district boundaries should be disregarded within reason to gain full benefit of this move. There is ample staff for this to be feasible now.
3. Investigate the possibility of a low level west coast council being established with headquarters at Torokina. This would include parts of the Banoni and Keriaka which would otherwise weaken councils in more developed areas. There could eventually be a complete west coast council based on sea communications.

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RECOMMENDATIONS Cont.

4. Teams of men skilled in the manufacture of canework, basketware, native artifacts, pit sawing etc, be employed by the Administration and sent to train new areas in the production of these money earning items.

(J.M. Reading)

PATROL OFFICER

Banoni Census Division

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA
PATROL REPORT

District of Bougainville Report No. 5 of 64/65

Patrol Conducted by J.M. READING (Patrol Officer)

Area Patrolled MAKIS CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NO

Natives 2 R.P. & N.G.C.

Duration - From 9/12/1964 to 17/12/1964

Number of Days 9

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

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

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

Map Reference EXTRACT FROM BOUGAINVILLE SOUTH FOURMIL SERIES

Objects of Patrol 1. CENSUS REVISION 2. POLITICAL AND GENERAL DISCUSSIONS

3. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Director of District Administration,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

5/5/1965

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

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67-11-33

June 4th, 1965.

The District Commissioner,

Bougainville District,

SOHANO.

BUIN Patrol Report No. 5/64-65

Receipt of the above report forwarded by
your memorandum 67-1-2 of 6th May, 1965 is acknowledged.

2. Mr. Reading appears to have taken a close
interest in the problems of the area patrolled. You have
however dealt adequately with the main points raised by
him and I have nothing further to add at this stage.

(T.G. AITCHISON)

A/Director

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67.11.33

TERRITORY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM

Telephone

Our Reference 67/1/8.

If calling ask for

Mr.

12 MAY 1965

Department of District Administration,

Bougainville District,

SOHANO.

6th. May, 1965.

The Director,

Department of District Administration,

KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

PATROL REPORT - BUIN NO. 5/64-65 - MR. J.M.

READING.

Please find a Report of a Patrol to the MAKIS Census Division submitted by Mr. J. M. READING, Patrol Officer. The Report is so long overdue that its chief value is as a historical document.

Some of Mr. READING's remarks are hard to follow especially those on economic development, and more particularly relating to the manufacture of BUKA Basketware, which is actually encouraged by Field Officers of the Department of District Administration and Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries.

The last Trial Balance struck for the BUIN Rural Progress Society (4-3-65) showed that over the previous six (6) Months purchases amounted to £3,635. At that time £3,258 of these had been sold and £1,462 worth had been sent on Consignment to RABAU Trading Company. This Company have a Contract with the Progress Society to handle their complete output on a Commission basis.

Basketware has been a handy money spinner over the years but sight must not be lost of the fact that the BUIN people's future lies with the production of primary produce, in particularly, cocoa, rubber, coffee and to a lesser extent, copra.

On the whole affairs in the MAKIS Census Division seem to have been satisfactory at the time the Patrol was carried out.

Att.

(P.J. MOLLISON).

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

(?)

Agree with your comments which [illegible]

[illegible] by W.R.

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Sub-District Office,

BUIN,

Bougainville.

4/4/65.

The Assistant District Commissioner,

BUIN,

BUIN PATROL REPORT No. 5 of 64/65.

MAKIS CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Conducted by :- J. M. Reading, (Patrol Officer)

Area Patrolled :- Makis Census Division.

Accompanied by :- Constables TUGUM and ARAPI.

Duration of Patrol : - 9/12/64 to 17/12/64 9 days.

Objects of Patrol : - (1) Census Revision (2) Political and

General discussions (3) General

Administration.

Map Reference : - Bougainville South Formil Series.

INTRODUCTION.

The Makis Census Division lies in the mid Buin Plain

between the boundaries of the Siwai in the west and the Paubakei and
Lugakei Census Division in the east. The Makis area extends down to
the coastal village of TOKUAKA and up into the uninhabitable mountains
around Lake Lolaru.

This hilly area of some 102 square miles is drained
by the three large rivers MIVO, OMAI and PORO and their many tributaries.
With the exceptions of LAGUAI, TOKUAKA and TAROPA the villages are in
reasonable proximity to one another and there are few walks of over an
hour.

This patrol carried out the census for the year 1964
and adjusted the Census and Tax Register Book. Meetings were held at
each village to discuss topics of interest, both political and economic.
Fair weather prevailed throughout this patrol and little
time was lost by rain. At least a day was spent at each rest house and
time was spent in all villages.

DIARY.

9th. December Departed by Landrover from Buin for AKU
village to commence patrol. TOKUAKA and
AKU villages lined and inspected with
discussions in the evening. Slept AKU.

10th. " Departed AKU resthouse for LEROT and
KOKOPO for census and discussions before
proceeding on foot to TSINBO, TSIMBO, MORULA

and TURIGAU lined and visited this afternoon
and discussions held with local leaders at
TSIMBO rest house. Slept TSIMBO.
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DIARY Continued.

11th December Arrived LUKARU this morning from TSIMBO.

Census and discussions carried out before proceeding to TUBARU. During the afternoon village lined and general talks were held during the evening. Slept TUBURU rest house.

12th " Departed TUBURU for TUBOBISOU and KAUKAU this morning and both villages lined. After lunch proceeded on to SIURU FOR census and inspection. Left then for the end village of PIRURUINO and on completion of work returned to TUBOBISOU rest house. Slept TUBOBISOU.

13th " This morning departed TUBOBISOU for TUGIU-four hours. Sunday observed at TUGIU.

14th " TUGIU villagers lined for census with hamlets of AKAMORO and KAMAIA. Then proceeded to KOGISAGANO and LOBIGOU for census and talks. Burnt out houses inspected at LOBIGOU. Then returned and slept TUGIU.

15th " Met Landrover at TUGIU and patrol proceeded to TOARAGAI village. On completion of census proceeded to TUGIOGU rest house where patrol gear was left. Then departed for TAROPA on the border of the SINAI for census and inspection. Returned to TUGIOGU late afternoon and held discussions in the evening. Slept TUGIOGU.

16th " Inspected and lined the villages on IBIRO and MOUAKE. Landrover returned from Buin early afternoon and the patrol moved on to NABAKU and then to the small village of NAKOREI on the Buin-Boku Road. On completion of discussion returned Buin for night.

17th " Departed Buin by Landrover for LAGUAI village and spent the morning on the census and talks. Returned Buin early afternoon on completion of Makis Patrol.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Economic Development.

Cocoa, rice, basketware and labour are the main reason of earning money for the people of the MAKIS. Copra production has ceased to be of importance but there is a reasonable turnover

amongst the small village stores and pigs generally fetch from five to thirty pounds. There is also a small local market for handmade clay cooking pots, bows and arrows and string bags and fishing nets.

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Economic Development Cont.

Basketware is probably the most important general money earner. Cocoa production would bring in a much higher overall income but this would remain chiefly [chiefly] in the hands of a few serious growers.

Basketware's advantage lies in that women, Children and old people of the village have an opportunity to earn some money that would be otherwise denied to them.

It is unfortunate that the Administration tends to neglect these local industries, unless of a spectacular nature, in favour of the more orthodox commodities such as cocoa, copra and coffee.

In the manufacture of trays and baskets the stem of a small vine or creeper is shed of its leaves and dried. The desired pattern is produced by the difference in shades between the middle of the split stem and the outside surface. Unfortunately this creeper is becoming uncommon and harder still to find with a good shade variation. Although the basket may be well made, if the pattern is obscure the selling value is greatly reduced.

It is suggested that the unsplit stems be soaked in some natural dye, split when dry and then woven. It is estimated that the superior pattern resulting would double the demand and probably also the price. However it would require firm direction and implementation to bring this home to conservative villagers.

Nevertheless there are now many villagers who are prepared to try almost anything to improve their lot, provided the [illegible] has been adequately explained and appears reasonable.

Having little experience in matters outside traditional practices it is not surprising that a great majority of small businessmen, such as trade store and bakery owners, fail through ignorance of business principals and basic economics. At present there are eleven village stores in the Makis area, a figure which fluctuates from month to month as old ones close down or run out of stock and new stores are set up.

Having a trade store is not regarded so much as a lucrative course of income but as a thing of prestige for its owner and a convenience to the village. As goods have already been purchased at high prices there is little room for a profit margin.

For these reasons the proliferation of village stores has not been encouraged, particularly where there seems poor prospects. However it is felt that small business management with local government of co-operative activity. This would slow down

the rate of failures and disappointments and also break down criticism that the Administration spends most of its time helping Chinese trade stores and European plantations. The argument that the Administration teaches Natives only what it wants them to know, although unreasonable and unfounded, is quite commonly encountered.

Of possible benefit in uncovering economic potential would be a survey of this area by Department of Trade and Industry specialists. Every effort should be made to explore all avenues of possible production. It has historically proved dangerous to rely too much on a few products and as copra and cocoa on the basis of expected continuation of favourable prices.

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Political Development.

The people of the Makis Census Division were found to be generally satisfied with the Buin Local Government Council. Some villagers, particularly from the more isolated villages of LOBIGOU, PIRURUINO, SIURU and TAROPA felt that they were somewhat left out of the full benefits of the Council but all understood that this was because of their unfavourable geographic position. Before departing from Buin the council clerk handed this patrol a list of tax defaulters from the area. These men were subsequently interviewed in their villages. As was expected several had genuine claim to exemption and most of the others had been absent at the time of the collections. These latter and the remainder were advised to pay their tax within two weeks to avoid court action and all did.

With regard to the men who should have been exempted initially, one was practically blind and another had been a T.B. patient for most of the year. It is hoped that future tax tribunals take more care in preventing errors of this nature as such ill feeling could occur.

There were no signs of unfavourable developments in political thinking and every effort was made by this patrol to explain points of interest and possible misunderstandings.

Public Works.

Being incorporated in the Buin Council most local works in the Makis Division are carried out under its auspices. This patrol inspected work on the aid posts at TUBOBISOU and TUGIO which was progressing quite well. However it will require several months more for their completion.

Intervillage roads and tracks were generally found to be in good order indicating sound interest by councillors. One section of ridge between TUGIU and KOGISAGANO was found to be eminently suitable for continuation of the vehicular road which at present terminates at TUGIU. Several small depressions have detoured village work on this section but with adequate instruction and about £50 the work should take no more than a couple of weeks. The argument is valid that this extension would benefit only the small villages of LOBIGOU and KOGISAGANO but these people are enthusiastic and this work would be worthwhile on a low priority.

Housing, Hygiene and Health.

Housing and village environments are standard and average for most of the District. There are still prone to be squalid looking cook houses, which often serve as sleeping quarters,

but this custom is too ingrained in the mentality of the older people and instructions were given only to be the worst offenders. The nights are far too cold to encourage villagers to sleep in hygienic off the ground dwellings. No actual sleeping on the ground was noticed, there generally being a wooden or cane bed.

Health appears average in most villages with the exceptions of PIRURUINO and SIURU where far too many sores were apparent. The new aid post being built near TUBOBISOU will do much to help here. Grille is common in this division but no more prevalent than elsewhere.

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Health and Hygiene Cont.

As in most areas of the Territory the MAKIS people have a protein deficiency. Consumption of pigs, birds, fish and nuts is far too sporadic to be of any real value. This deficiency is all too evident in pot bellied children and the poor resistance to sickness of the adults. While the average villager's diet continues to depend mainly on a few fruit and starchy vegetables improvements to health will be slow. There will certainly be a big potential for this new protein producing machine currently being tested.

There were also three record players and a rice scale. As bicycles, radios and sewing machines are on an average worth more than twenty pounds we have over £3,400 having been spent by the Makis people on these three items in the last four years. With the resident adult population under 400 the average man has spent almost ten pounds on this transport and [illegible]. The two villages of LAGUAI and NAKOREI on the Boku/Buin road account for 36 bicycles between them.

At the village of LOBIGOU this patrol inspected the remains of seven houses recently burned out. This fire apparently occurred at a time when all villagers were absent except one old man who prevented the fire engulfing the entire village. Of interest were the various amounts claimed lost by their owners.

A lost £55 in cash and £1/20- of tambu shell money.

B " £35 " £3/10- " "

C " £35 " £11/10- " "

D " £14/10- "

E " £ 4/10 "

One other house belonged to a fellow at work on a plantation and the owner of the other house claimed he lost no money. Whether these are the actual losses is impossible to say, since no evidence remains, but I am inclined to believe that they are. All were aware that there was no compensation and there did not appear to be a spirit of "bidding" to make a good story.

It does indicate, however, that no one was really surprised that amounts of this size had been lost. Since LOBIGOU is one of the most isolated and certainly backward looking villages it would seem to re-enforce the idea that considerable amounts of money are being hoarded and the people are not as poor as they may appear, particularly the older men.

The Makis remains a good compact census division with fair potential due to its good access roads and its close proximity to Buin Town. This division will continue to remain a principal mainstay of the Buin Council.

(J.M. Reading)

PATROL OFFICER

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This patrol took a lavaatary, a village, of wrlor durable geode a a iadication of the relative wealth of the eoMM dirlelon. 'J'he reoulte wore ae followt-

Bicycles

149

Radios

16

Cameras

3

Sewing Machines

8

Rice Machines

8

MAKIS CENSUS Division
BUIN Patrol No5 of 64/65
1 INCH TO 4 MILES
20/4/65