

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES  
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

# **PATROL REPORTS**

DISTRICT: MADANG

STATION: SAIDOR

VOLUME No: 14

ACCESSION No: 496.

1968 - 1969

Filed by/for the National Archives of Papua New Guinea,  
PORT MORESBY - 1989.1990

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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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MADANG DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1968-1969

SAIDOR

<u>Report no.</u>	<u>Officer conducting patrol</u>	<u>Area patrolled</u>
1-68-69	W.R. Read	Long Island C.D.
2-68-69	A.R. Smare	Yagonon & part Mot C.D. council area
5-68-69	P.J. Somers	Upper Nankina C.D. part Warup C.D.
6-68-69	P.J. Somers	Part of Ward 12, Rai coastal council, (Part Mot C.D.)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of MADANG Report No. I ( SAIDOR ) of 68/69.

Patrol Conducted by Warren R. Read a/Assistant District Commissioner.

Area Patrolled LONG ISLAND Census Division.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans One E.M.A.

Natives One member of the R.P.&N.G.C.

Duration—From 1/7/1968 to 3/7/1968

Number of Days Three

Did Medical Assistant Accompany Yes

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services / / 19

Medical / / 19

Map Reference See Admiralty map of the VITIAZ and ISUMURUD Straits.

Objects of Patrol Rendezvous with P.I.R. patrol. Attend to Demarcation work. General Administration.

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation .... £.....

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund .... £.....

Amount Paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund ....

popula

in Child Birth	MIGRA	
	In	
	M	F

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Ref: 67-7-1

Department of District  
Administration,

KONEDOBU. Papua.

October 21st, 1968.

The District Commissioner,  
Madang District,  
MADANG.

PATROL NO. SAIDOR 1-68/69

Your reference 67-2-4 of 30th August, 1968.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of

\* Special ~~Report~~ ~~by~~ ~~W.R. Read, a/ADC.~~ Report by  
..... W.R. READ, a/ADC. ..... to LONG ISLAND .....  
..... Census Division.

This report was too brief and did not follow  
the format laid down by my circular 67-1-0 of the 21st  
June, 1968.

*W.R. Dishon*  
(W.R. DISHON)  
~~Director~~  
Director

cc. Mr. W.R. Read,  
Sub-District Office,  
SAIDOR, Madang District.

\* Delete as necessary.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67.7.1 (6)

Telephone  
Telegrams  
Our Reference 67-2-4  
If calling ask for EVS/BT  
Mr.

Department of District Administration.



MADANG.

30th August, 1968.

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBUN.

SAIDOR PATROL REPORT NO. 1 of 1968/69

The above report is attached with copies of all relevant correspondence.

*D. Clifton-Bassett*

(D. CLIFTON-BASSETT)  
District Commissioner.

67-2-4

HADANG.

EVS/BT

30th August, 1968.

Assistant District Commissioner,  
Saidor Sub-District,  
SAIDOR.

SAIDOR PATROL REPORT NO. 1 of 1968/69

Thank you for this report. It is considered that all relevant information has been included.

Please inform A.D.O. Mr. Read that he is entitled to claim for travelling allowance whilst on duty on board the M.V. Koro.

You may be further advised from the Senior Local Government Officer regarding the participation by the Long Island people in the RAI COAST Local Government Council.

The numbering of Saidor Patrol Reports 1967/68 as reported in your other memo has been attended to.

*J*  
(D. CLIFTON-BASSETT)  
District Commissioner.

c.c. Director, Department of District Administration, KONEDOBU.



(4)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Sub-District Office,  
SAIDOR.  
MADANG District..

67 - 2 - 4

12th August, 1968..

The District Commissioner,  
Department of District Administration,  
MADANG..

SAIDOR PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1968/69

Enclosed please find in triplicate SAIDOR Patrol Report No. 1 of 1968/69 covering my recent patrol to LONG ISLAND. The report is only brief as the duration of the patrol was merely three days, but it is felt all relevant information has been included.

No camping allowance claim is enclosed as I was able to live aboard the KORO throughout.

It would be appreciated if some advice could be given as to Local Government for LONG ISLAND. I personally don't think there is any urgency, but the people over there would like to know when they can expect to get council administration.

For your information, please...

  
( Warren R Head )

a/Assistant District Commissioner..

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

3

Sub-District Office,  
SAIDOR.  
MADANG District.

1st August, 1968..

The District Commissioner,  
Department of District Administration,  
MADANG..

SAIDOR PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1968/69

Officer Conducting the Patrol: Warren R Read a/Assistant District Commissioner.

Objects of Patrol: Rendezvous with P.I.R. patrol. Attend to Demarcation work. General Administration.

Area Patrolled: LONG ISLAND Census Division. Part only. MATAFUNA village.

Duration of the Patrol: From 1/7/68 to 3/7/68 Three days.

Personnel Accompanying: I European Medical Assistant Grade II.. I R.P.&.N.G.C.

Map Reference: See Admiralty map of the VITIAZ and ISUMRUD Straits.

INTRODUCTION:

1. The basic purpose of this patrol was to enable the Assistant District Commissioner from SAIDOR to rendezvous with a P.I.R. patrol as they came ashore at LONG ISLAND. Unfortunately because of mechanical trouble the army L.S.D. barge was unable to make it to LONG ISLAND, so the army was not even sighted and it is believed they ended up in MADANG.

2. Several Demarcation meetings were held on the island as all the people from the other villages had gathered at MATAFUNA, mainly with the hope of seeing the display the army intended to put on. Certain general administrative functions were also carried out such as the hearing and

settling of complaints and discussions on Local Government.

DIARY:

3. Monday 1st July, 1968. Departed SAIDOR per M.V. KORO 1000 hrs and after rather a rough crossing arrived MATAFUNA village LONG ISLAND 1700 hrs Demarcation meeting held during the afternoon.

The night spent aboard the KORO.

4. Tuesday 2nd July, 1968. Meeting on Local Government held. The people seem very keen to have Local Government. They were informed that this was a matter for MADANG and possibly headquarters to be decided upon. Several disputes and court cases attended to.

The night spent aboard the KORO.

5. Wednesday 3rd July, 1968. The army was due at MATAFUNA 0600 hrs. We all waited in vain and indeed I think many were disappointed as we had been looking forward to the display the army was going to put on. The KORO waited until 1200 hrs and then after no sign of the P.I.R. returned to SAIDOR arriving here 1730 hrs.

The patrol stood down...

LOCAL SITUATION:

6. There are four villages on the island they being MATAFUNA, BOK KOET and MALALA which also includes Pt. KIAU. The total population as per the last census revision carried out was 636. This is not really many and this the people have ample room at their disposal when it is considered that the island is about the same size as KAR KAR except for the inland lake which takes up some room being at least ten mile across. On the whole the situation as found over on LONG ISLAND was satisfactory and everybody appears content. Several disputes were heard and settled, plus a few court cases.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT:

7. As yet the people of LONG ISLAND do not have any Local Government.

7. ( cont ) They now claim that they wish to have Local Government as soon as possible and further more they desire to have their own council and not be incorporated into the RAI Coast Council. Now as there are only 636 people on the whole island, it would seem that this is hardly sufficient to proclaim a council over. This need for Local Government stems from the fear that they are going to be left behind in the economic and political development of the Sub-District. Well in many ways the people of Long Island are much better off economically than many parts of the SAIDOR Sub-District. However it would be appreciated if advise could be given as to what policies and intentions are concerning Local Government for LONG ISLAND.

DEMARCATIION WORK:

8. The people claim that they have divided the whole island up into clan areas of land. This could possibly be so, but at present there is no way that this could be verified and we just have to take their word for it. From time to time minor disputes have occurred over clan boundaries, but it has always been possible to settle these matters at the local level. Initially all boundaries were marked with wooden posts and these are gradually being replaced by cement pegs. The Chairman for the LONG ISLAND Demarcation Committees Mr. JOSEPH/TAMOL has been doing an excellent job and although the people are not all that interested the work seems to be progressing smoothly.

CONCLUSION:

9. As stated the situation as found over on LONG ISLAND is satisfactory. There were several disputes, some of which were settled without resorting to legal procedures others required some court cases. The people wish to have Local Government, but this of course has to be decided on at a higher level than SAIDOR Sub-District office. Demarcation work is progressing smoothly..

*Warren R. Read*  
(Warren R. Read)

s/Assistant District Commissioner..



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

Report Number SAIDOR No. 2 of 68/69.

Subdistrict SAIDOR

District MADANG

Type of Patrol TAX COLLECTION.

Patrol Conducted by ARNOLD R SMARE, Patrol, Officer.

Area Patrolled YAGANON AND PART MOT CENSUS DIVISION.  
(Council and/or COUNCIL AREA

Census Division/s.)

Personnel Accompanying Patrol

2 R.P.&.NG.C

2 Councillors

Duration of Patrol—from 26/7/68 To 7/8/68

No. of Days Thirteen Days (13)

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area May, 1968.

Date 1/5/68 to 19/5/68 Duration Nineteen Days (19)

Objects of Patrol (Briefly) The purpose of the patrol was to collect Council Tax for the Rai Coast Local Government Council for the year 1968/69.

Total Population of Area Patrolled 4,286.

Director of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

Forwarded, please.

5/9/1968

D. Leighton Bassett  
District Commissioner.

9  
67-7-2

67-7-2

September 24th, 1968.

The District Commissioner,  
Madang District,  
MADANG.

SAIDOR PATROL 2-68/69

Your reference 67-2-4 of the 5th September, 1968.

Receipt of a report on the Special Patrol by A.R. SMARE P.O. to the YAGANON and part MOT Census Divisions is acknowledged.

The report gives inadequate information on the area, the people and on results of the tax collection. There was no situation report as required by my 67-1-0 of the 21st June, 1968. The patrol instructions issued by the Assistant District Commissioner were probably not sufficiently detailed to make it quite clear to the patrolling officer the need for the report to give full information on the situation, the accomplishments of the patrol and other relevant matters. His comment that the report was "quite satisfactory" indicates that he may not fully realize the standard of reporting required.

Presumably the Councillors accompanying the patrol were a quorum of the duly appointed Tax Review Committee. Normally at least three Councillors serve on this Committee as it is difficult to resolve any difference of opinion with an even number of Councillors, Members of the Tax Review Committee cannot be tax collectors. It is also presumed that the patrol officer had been appointed an acting clerk or tax collector by the Council.

A report on tax collection should contain details of the number of exemptions granted, an analysis of the reasons for granting exemptions, the number of tax evaders or absentees, the attitude of tax payers to the tax, the relationship of the tax collected to that estimated, the exact amount of tax collected, the number of tax receipts issued, the number of prosecutions launched or effected, the number of fines imposed and whether they were made payable to the Council, what action is being taken or is recommended for the collection of outstanding taxes and so on. Besides being required in the patrol report, the officer should submit these details to the Local Government Council concerned.

(T.W. ELLIS)  
Director

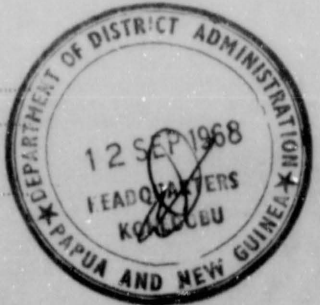
67. 7. 2



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

8

Telephone  
Telegrams  
Our Reference... 67-2-4  
If calling ask for  
Mr. EVS/LKG



Department of District Administration,

District Office,  
MADANG.

5th September, 1968

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

SAIDOR PATROL REPORT NO. 2 OF 1968/69.

The above Report is attached with copies of all relevant correspondence.

Mr. Smae carried out his work in a competent manner, although perhaps, there is room for improvement in reporting in further detail under the heading "Local Situation".

In the light of your recent Circular on patrolling and patrol Reports, I would appreciate your comments on the style of reporting and any inadequacies, if this be the case.

*D. Clifton Bassett*

(D. Clifton-Bassett)  
District Commissioner.

Encls.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

7

67 - 2 - 4

Sub-District Office,

SAIDOR.

MALANG District...

26th August, 1968...

The District Commissioner,  
Department of District Administration,  
MADANG.

SAIDOR PATROL REPORT No. 2 of 68/69.

Enclosed please find three copies original and duplicates of SAIDOR Patrol Report NO.2 of 1968/69 as completed by Mr. Smare Patrol Officer. Camping allowance claim and patrol instructions from myself are also included.

The basic purpose of the patrol was to collect council tax. I did not like the idea of using Mr. Smare to gather tax, but I had no option with the staff positions being what they are. For example the Local Government Council clerk went on leave during early July and it was not possible for any Local Government Assistants to be released from MADANG to assist by carrying out some of these patrols, so we had to manage as best we could. The only outstanding area not covered is the lower MDT and no doubt the tax will be collected from here sometime in the future. However all other areas in the Sub-District were covered. Mr. PAIRO/TIMO was good enough to carry out tax patrols to the other areas such as the WAMP division.

Mr. Smare's report is quite satisfactory and gives a reasonable, although somewhat brief, coverage of events in the area patrolled. In regard to the councillors who are spending more time away from their village, then they should, for the position they held, this no doubt will be corrected within time and with a few discussions. It is unfortunate that the people did not show more interest in political events in relation to the House of Assembly and their local member. Interest will develop with time and education.

It is regretted that Mr. TANGI/DAKIS has not been working as well as he should. However the Medical Assistant in charge has been advised and no doubt will take appropriate action.

*Mary Reid*  
( Warren R Road )

a/Assistant District Commissioner.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

6

67 - 4

Sub-District Office,

SAIDOR..

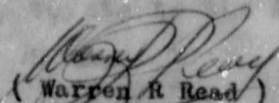
MADANG District..

25th July, 1968..

Mr. A. R. SMARE,  
Patrol Officer,  
Sub-District Office,  
SAIDOR..  
MADANG District..

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS SAIDOR PATROL No. 2 of 1968/69

1. Please be prepared to depart on patrol by the 26th July, 1968.
2. The purpose of the patrol will be basically to collect tax for the RAI Coast Council. You will be accompanied by two members of the Royal Constabulary, who of course are to have nothing to do with the tax collecting but are there to assist with general patrol functions and to attend to any matters of law and order.
3. The patrol will cover the KAGANON division plus the upper MOT area. You will be going deep into the SINISTERRE ranges, so the walking is going to be extremely difficult and tiring, however within three weeks you should be able to complete the patrol, but do not hesitate to extend the period if it is necessary. The RAI Coast Council meeting is, as you are aware, due on the 6th August. Now do not concern yourself if you cannot get back to SAIDOR for this meeting as I will be able to act in your stead and under the circumstances it will not be worth your while to break the patrol merely to attend this meeting as we have to concentrate on one thing at a time and you are serving a better purpose getting the patrol completed with undue delay, while I attend to the meeting.
4. As you do not have any court powers, please dispatch any disputes requiring legal attention to SAIDOR. These people are on the whole reasonably law abiding so you may not have many such matters brought to your attention. If at any time you are in doubt about any matter do not hesitate to notify me.
5. Remember under current instructions from headquarters you, like all field officers carrying out patrols, will have to submit a full patrol report on your journey and activities. Thus you had better take notes as you go along.

  
(Warren R. Read)

Assistant District Commissioner

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

5

Departed Bilaka by Lushor Mission tractor to Kaitang and arrived Kaitang at 5.35pm. Road is clear and grass on most sections is out. Tax collected at Kaitang for Army Hiller Native Village.

Sub District Office,  
SAIDOR,  
Madang District.

Overnight at Kaitang Village.

20th August, 1968.

The Assistant District Commissioner,  
Department of District Administration,  
Sub District Office,  
SAIDOR

MADANG District.

THURSDAY 22ND JULY

Departed Kaitang at 8.30 pm for Rambu and arrived Rambu at 11.30pm. Road is clear because it hasn't been cut for some time. The people are leveling their section of the road. On arrival at Rambu I commenced collecting tax for Karama, Klamowai and Rambu.

SAIDOR PATROL REPORT No. 2 of 1968 / 69

Officer Conducting the Patrol:

Arnold R Smare, Patrol Officer.

Overnight at Rambu.

Object of the Patrol:

To collect tax for the Rai Coast Council for the year 1968/69.

Continued collecting tax at Rambu and arrived Rambu at 11.30pm. Road is clear because it hasn't been cut for some time. The people are leveling their section of the road. On arrival at Rambu I commenced collecting tax for Karama, Klamowai and Rambu.

Area Patrolled:

The Yaganon Census Division and Part Mot.

Duration of Patrol:

From 26/7/68 to 7/8/68  
~~Three~~ Thirteen days. (13)

Personal Accompanying:

2 R.P.&N.G.C. and two Councillors.

Map Reference:

See the attached map.

INTRODUCTION:

The basic purpose of this patrol was to collect Council Tax for the Rai Coast Local Government Council for the year 1968/69. The tax was collected in the Yaganon and the part Mot Census Divisions. Certain general administrative functions were also carried out such as the hearing and settling of minor complaints.

Patrol Diary:

Friday 26th July:

Departed Saidor 1145hrs by Toyota to the Mot River. Recruited carriers at Mot and departed for Bilaka.

Departed Biliau by Lutheran Mission tractor to Bisi then walked to Maibang via Damoin and arrived Maibang at 5.35pm. Road is clean and grass on most section is cut. Tax collected at Maibang for ~~Maibang~~ Reite Village.

Overnight at Maibang Village.

27th July (Saturday):

Continued collecting tax at Maibang for the following villages; Maibang, Serieng, Asang and a few from Reite. The attendance was very impressive, the interest shown was very satisfactory.

Overnight at Maibang.

Sunday 28th July:

Departed Maibang at 8.30 am for Ramba and arrived Ramba at 11.30am. This track is busy because it hasn't been cut for sometime. The Lusuang's section of the road is very clean and the people are levelling their section of the road. On arrival at Ramba I commenced collecting tax for Lusuang, Kiambawi and Ramba Villages, attendance satisfactory.

Overnight at Ramba.

Monday 29th July:

Continued collecting tax at Ramba for the following villages; Mauere, Yorika and few other people from the other villages who didn't turn up the previous day. The attendance very satisfactory. Departed at 1 pm for Matoko and arrived at 4 pm and commenced collecting tax at Matoko for Sari Matoko and Guhungo. Attendance was satisfactory. ~~Overnight at Ramba.~~

Tuesday 30th July:

Continued collecting tax at Matoko for Yoriki and Kumburungku, attendance very satisfactory. Departed for Funyende at 10 am and arrived about 1045 am. The track to Funyende was in a very good condition. Tax collected at Funyende for Funyende and Bakonda villages. Departed for Kwongo at 2 pm and arrived at 2.30 pm. This particular village was dirty and the Rest House in worst state and the village people were asked to build a new one and pull the old one down. Tax collected at Kwongo and the attendance very satisfactory.

Overnight at Kwongo.

Wednesday 31st July:

Departed for Sarokiri at 0800 and arrived at 1100. The condition of the track was good except on some section where it was covered with grass. Commenced collecting tax at Sarokiri for Sarokiri and Kurei, the attendance was satisfactory. Departed for Simididi at 1400 and arrived 1800 and went on with tax collection for Simididi, Wangeto and Gutu village people.

Overnight at Simididi.

Thursday 1st July:

*August*  
Thursday 1st July:

Continued collecting tax at Simididi for Yungendam village. Departed Simididi at 0830 and arrived at Bototo at 0930. The ~~Rest~~ house was about to fall down but we had to put up with it and ~~leave~~ live in it for the night. Tax collected at Bototo for the following villages; Bototo, Ongo, Kepingam, Wangeto, and Sakorila.

Overnight at Bototo.

*August*  
Friday 2nd July:

Departed for Meibu at 0800 hrs via Guhu and eventually arrived Meibu at 1100. Tax collected at Meibu for the following villages; Meibu, Sitaba, Guhu and Karakara. The attendance was ~~not~~ satisfactory.

Overnight at Meibu.

*August*  
Saturday 3rd July:

Departed for Orinma at 0730 and arrived at 0930. Collected tax at Orinma for the following villages; Orinma, Dinam and Budamu. Attendance was satisfactory. Departed for Mindire at 1200 via Segi and Gubuk. This could be the longest track on this entire Yaganon Census Division. The road was cut and kept in good condition. After a short stop ~~at~~ at Kubuk for a drink of coconut then resumed our journey and eventually arrived Mindire at 1900. Tax collected at Mindire for Mindire ~~and~~ Segi and Kubuk.

Overnight at Mindire.

*August*  
Sunday 4th July:

Continued collecting tax at Mindire for the ~~villages~~ Kulilau village and few people from the hills who are living on the coast. Departed for Lamtub at 1100 and arrived Lamtub at 1530 after a short stop at Kwil.

Overnight at Lamtub.

*August*  
Monday 5th July:

Collected tax at Lamtub for the following villages: Forguang, Diging, Sinage, Dogingo, ~~ain~~, Lamtub, Basor, Bidua, Baubo? Gogou, Longam and Guti. The attendance was very satisfactory and people were cooperative.<sup>n</sup>

Overnight at Lamtub.

4/2

Tuesday 6th August:

Departed LAMTUB 0800 hrs and arrived SINGOR 0900 hrs. Tax was collected for the following villages, KOKENG, KOIAKO, BASI, SORANG and SINGOR. Left for WARAI at 1130 hrs arrived 1300 hrs. Tax was then collected from WARAI, DAMOIN and BILIAU people.

Overnighted at WARAI.

Wednesday 7th August:

Patrol departed WARAI 0730 hrs, stopped at BILIAU to inspect council pump project which was being installed. Then on to the MOT river and from there by tractor to SAIDOR.

Reported to A.D.C. and patrol stood down.

LOCAL SITUATION:

The area patrolled has been under council administration since 1966. The impression obtained from every village visited was that their attitude towards the council is most favourable. On the whole the councillors hold a strong influence over their people. Unfortunately there are several villages where the councillors are residing down on the coast tending their coconut groves at the expense of their duties in their inland villages. However this matter no doubt can be corrected within time. The total tax collected was \$3,000.00 and it is felt that most people paid their tax and there was little in the way of evaders..

There was little or no questions asked regarding the activities of the House of Assembly or our local member.

A lot of coffee is being planted in the YAGANON and Upper MOT areas. Most of this coffee is sold either to the Lutheran mission at BILIAU or the Agricultural department here at SAIDOR. A few people arrange to have their coffee shipped to MADANG. Those villages that are coastal tend to be concentrating on copra development and they sell their produce to NAMASU or to C.P.L. MADANG. There is one cattle project a KWIL but this is only in its infancy. On the whole there is much room for more economic development.

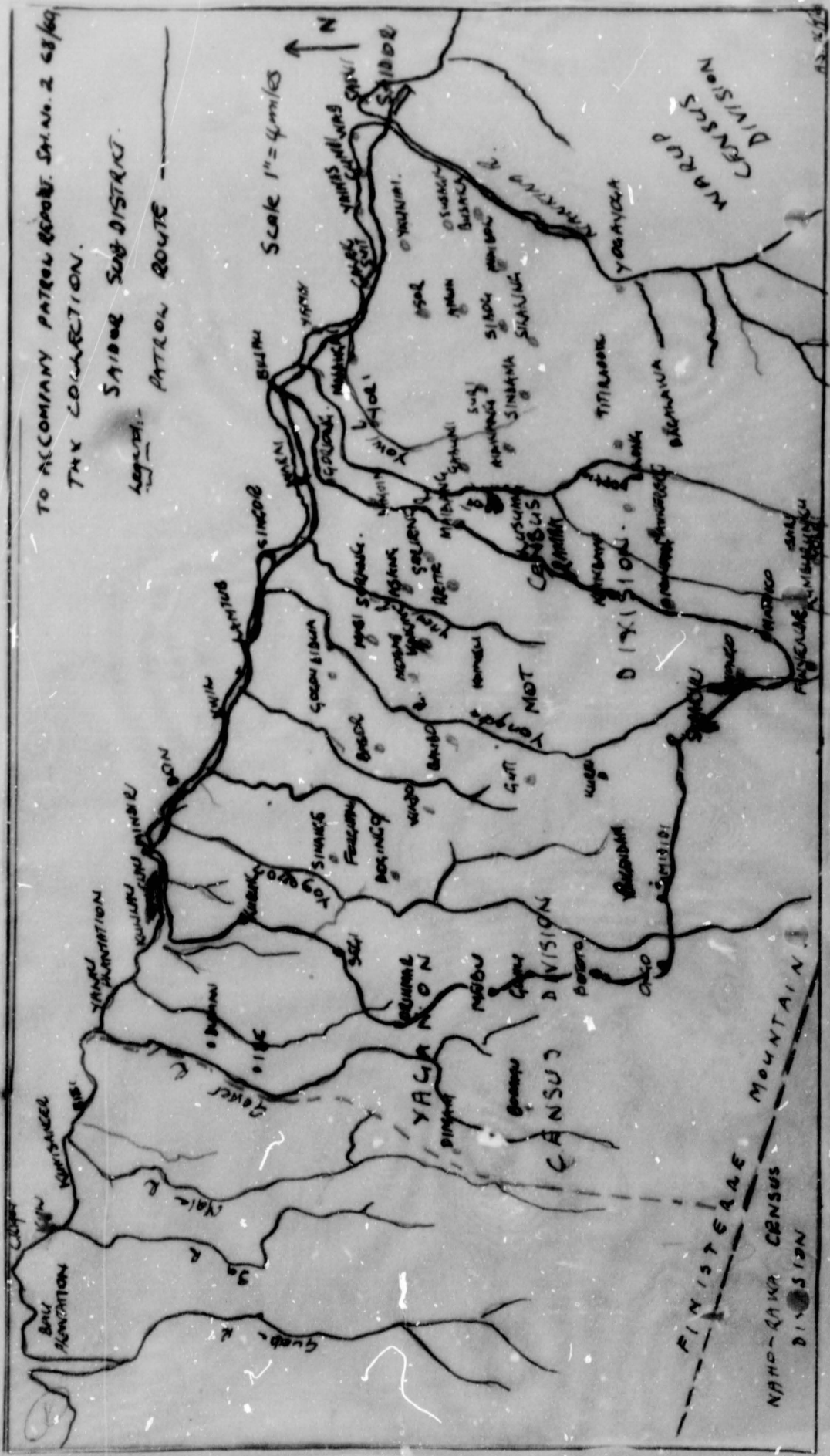
There is an Administration school at LAMTUB and mission schools at BILIAU and MEIBU. Throughout most of the villages visited one finds small mission schools who tend to concentrate more on religious instructions than formal education. Of course the Lutheran mission is the predominant one in this area. The language taught in most of these small schools is KOTE....

Aid posts are to be found at MAURETE, FUNYENDE, SIMIDIDI, MEIBU and LAMTUB. All P.H.D. staff at these various posts seem to be fulfilling their duties satisfactorily, except TANGI DAKIS whose work leaves a lot to be desired.

CONCLUSION:

The patrol went over smoothly with no incidents of friction. Initially it was anticipated the patrol would take three weeks but we were able to get it all completed by thirteen days.

*Arnold R Smare*  
( Arnold R Smare )  
Patrol Officer..



TO ACCOMPANY PATROL REPORT. SH. No. 2 28/60  
 TAX COLLECTION.

SAIBOR SUB-DISTRICT  
 PATROL ROUTE

Scale 1" = 4 miles

N

FINISTEAE MOUNTAIN  
 NAHO-LAKA CENSUS DIVISION

WARD CENSUS DIVISION

YAKA DIVISION

CENSUS

YAKA DIVISION

SAIBOR

SAIBOR

SAIBOR

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SAIBOR



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

Report Number..... 5-68/69

Subdistrict..... SAIDOR

District..... MADANG

Type of Patrol..... CENSUS REVISION

Patrol Conducted by..... P.J.SOMERS Cadet Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled } Upper Nankina Census Division.  
 (Council and/or } Part of Warup Census Division.  
 Census Division/s.) }

Personnel Accompanying Patrol

2 members RPNGC

1 Interpreter

Duration of Patrol—from 18./2./69..... To 5./3./69.....

No. of Days..... FIFTEEN AND A HALF DAYS

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area : 18-2-67, POLITICAL EDUCATION PATROL

Date..... 18-2-67..... Duration THIRTEEN DAYS

Objects of Patrol (Briefly)..... 1. ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION  
 2. CENSUS REVISION  
 3. COMPILATION OF AREA STUDY

Total Population of Area Patrolled..... 3917

Director of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

*M. J. J. J.*

Forwarded, please.

25/6/1969

TO BE FILED

AS AREA STUDY  
AFTER COMMENTS MADE

*D. Clifton Bassett*  
District Commissioner. *RB*



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67.9.23. (3)

Telephone  
Telegrams  
Our Reference 67-2-A  
If calling ask for  
Mr. RCB:JS

Department of District Administration

MADANG.



24th June, 1969.

The Director,  
Dept. of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

SAIDOR PATROL NO. 5 - 1968/69

1. Please find attached two copies of Saidor Patrol Report No. 5 - 1968/69 together with comments from the Assistant District Commissioner at Saidor.
2. The Upper Nankina census division is, because of its isolation, a backward area both politically and economically. The villages included in the division are spread over a fairly large area of the Finisterre ranges.
3. With regard to establishing a Local Government Council in the Upper Nankina census division a number of points are raised.
  - (1) A few of the villages in the northern section of the census division would be better off joining the Rai Coast council and the villages would probably be nearer to Saidor station than Teptep.
  - (2) The villages in the middle of the census division which includes the apparent progressive villages Gwarawan and Bambu would also be far better off joining the Rai Coast council.
4. In fact the people of (1) and (2) above would probably prefer to join the Rai Coast council so as they would have regular communication with the coast and could at a future date have that council support and partially finance a road at least part of the way into the mountains.
5. With regard to the villages near the Lae/Madang border which takes in the Teptep airstrip mentioned in the report, it would be preferable for these also to join the Rai Coast council. It would be far more practical for councillors to fly to the coast for a council meeting rather than have officers fly in to meetings at Teptep.
6. Further to the above the establishment of a council of approximately 4,000 people in such a poor economic state with little prospect of any vast improvements in the near future is not desirable.
7. A Local Government survey could be carried out as suggested by the Assistant District Commissioner at Saidor, however, it should not be done with a view to setting up a separate council but on the basis of the people of the Upper Nankina Census Division joining the Rai Coast Council eventually.



67-7-33

1st September, 1969.

The District Commissioner,  
Madang District,  
MADANG.

PATROL SAIDOR NO. 5/68-69.

Your reference is 67-2-4 of 24th June, 1969.

2. I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Annual Census and Area Study by Mr. P.J. Somers, A.P.O., to Upper Nankina and part Warup Census Divisions.

3. The lack of communications restrict efforts to encourage development within the Nankina area. This problem will be difficult to overcome.

4. I note your interesting comments on the possible inclusion of the Nankina people into the Rai Coast Council. After a survey has been conducted I will look forward to seeing your recommendations.

5. Mr. Somers has submitted a well detailed and informative report. He has obviously put a lot of work into its preparation. It is a very good effort.

(T.W. ELLIS)

Secretary  
Department of the Administrator.

Mr. P.J. Somers,  
c/- Sub-District Office,  
SAIDOR, Madang District.

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

32

8. Mr. Somers C.P.O. has submitted a very informative report and it is indicative of the keen interest shown by this officer in his work.

9. A good patrol.

D. Clifton Bassett  
(D. Clifton-Bassett) AS  
District Commissioner.

Att.

*[The following text is extremely faint and largely illegible due to the quality of the scan. It appears to be a detailed report or memorandum, possibly containing numbered points or paragraphs.]*

COPY ONLY

(3)

67 - 2 - 4

Sub-District Office,  
SAIDOR.  
Madang District.

2nd. June, 1969.

The District Commissioner,  
Dept. of District Administration,  
MADANG.

SAIDOR PATROL REPORT No. 5 - 1968/69.

1. Attached please find the above numbered Patrol Report incorporating an Area Study by C.P.O. Somers.
2. The report is an excellent effort especially considering that Mr. Somers had been in the service for only four months at the time the patrol was mounted. It is noted that no written patrol instructions were given to Mr. Somers by my predecessor. At the time the patrol to the Upper WARUP-NANKINA areas Mr. Somers had a total of three days patrol experience. In view of this the tardy submission of the report is mitigated.
3. In the patrol diary entry for Tuesday 4th. March Mr. Somers speaks of the advisability of living in settlements rather than garden houses. This point is open to conjecture as in many cases it is preferable to have people living in houses such as these than "village style" for reasons of ease of gardening and fostering individual gardens of economic trees.
4. As the report mentions the area is of a rugged nature. With the easing down of Coffee plantings by D.A.S.F. the economic future of these people does indeed seem bleak. To build a road into the area would be unwarranted on economic grounds and is beyond local resources.
5. The young man, DAVIONTEI WEKIO, mentioned by Mr. Somers in his report has tried to impress on his fellows of the NANKINA that they should endeavour to develop their area so that they will be more economically well off when self government comes. These are noble sentiments but I hope that he has not told the people to expect great things if they build airstrips.
6. I have discussed the matter of the TEPTEP strip site with various natives from the area. None are worried about over alienation of land. At the time of writing work continues on this project.
7. The only concrete thing that could be done at present to assist the people of this area would be the introduction of Local Government into the area. I can see no reason why a Council should not be formed using TEPTEP as the H.Q. and having an adviser appointed along the lines used with the Astrolabe Bay Council. This is putting the matter very broadly. If you are in agreement with this in principle I shall take steps to have a Local Government Survey carried out with the present situation in the NANKINA now would be an excellent opportunity.
8. Mr. Somers claim for camping allowance forwarded for your certification.

G.E. BAILEY  
Assistant District Commissioner

c.c. Mr. Somers  
Saidor.

PATROL DIARY.

30

- Tuesday 18th February Departed Saidor for Bonga per M.V. "Koro", with A.D.C. Mr Bloomfield, at 1000 hours arriving at 1200 hours. Walked to Malalamai, arriving 1230 hours, when heavy rain set in. 1330 hours examined Aid Post at Malalamai, accompanying A.D.C. Slept night Malalamai.
- Wednesday 19th February 0800 hours departed Malalamai for Gali, arriving 1030 hours. Gali lined and censused 1100 hours by A.D.C. Council tax defaulters advised to pay tax. Returned to Malalamai 1330 hours, arriving 1600 hours. Road good but heavy rain had swollen several creeks. Slept night Malalamai.
- Thursday 20th February 0800 hours departed Malalamai for Bonga, arriving 0820 hours. Bonga and nearby hamlet Yara lined and censused, completed 1030 hours. Village inspected. Trade store and shotgun inspected, and licenses thereof. Arrived Malalamai 1115 hours. Malalamai lined and censused at 1200 hours, completed 1500 hours. One dispute heard and settled by A.D.C. Slept night Malalamai.
- Friday 21st February Departed 0745 hours for Tapen. A.D.C. remained at Malalamai to continue his Warup C/D patrol. Halfway mark reached at 1000 hours and met carriers from Tapen. Arrived Tapen at 1215 hours, cargo arriving at 1430 hours. A fairly good road, but wet, and a continuous, rather wearing climb all the way. Corporal Tangakawa reported sick; treated by mission A.P.O., and taken off duties for two days. 1400 to 1700 hours had talks with Lutheran missionary, Mr W. Schönweiss, on the area to be covered. Obtained statistics on coffee bought by mission trade store, school attendance figures etc. 2000 to 2300 hours met with missionary, teachers, Councillors, and other local influential figures. Discussions on various subjects. Slept night Tapen.

(29)

**Saturday 22nd February** 0800 Tapen lined and censused, completed by 1200 hours. Moam and Bwana lined and censused 1300 hours and completed by 1800 hours. Discussions with village leaders about land tenure, social groupings, and various other subjects until 1900 hours. Slept night Tapen.

**Sunday 23rd February** 0800 Walked to Bwana, accompanied by Gr. Wengam and Const. Kombi Bel, arriving 0900 hours. Inspected village and closed unlicensed trade store. Owner to come to Saidor to apply for license. Departed 1130 hours, arriving Tapen 1300 hours. Gabutamon lined and censused at 1400 hours and completed 1600 hours. Two complaints settled arbitrarily. Slept night Tapen.

**Monday 24th February** 0830 Departed Tapen for Windiluk, arriving 1100 hours. A steep descent to Yupna valley, on a bad road. Windiluk lined and censused 1230 hours. Census over by 1430 hours. Village very clean, and coffee trees well shaded with lucaena, but diseased. No complaints received but people asked for assistance with their coffee. Slept night Windiluk.

**Tuesday 25th February** 0700 Left Windiluk, arriving at Narawun-Kwembum at 1000 hours after a hard walk. Village censused immediately, and completed at 1200 hours. After a short talk on benefits of village hygiene, patrol left for Nokopa, arriving at 1430 hours. Heavy rain set in at 1400 hours and continued until 1800 hours. Inspected Nian, a half hour walk from Nokopo, at 1530 hours. Village and gardens in excellent condition. Heard one complaint of theft, and Tultul instructed to bring defendant and complainants to Saidor for Court action. Returned Nokopo at 1700 hours. Slept night Nokopo.

**Wednesday 26th February** 0800 Lined and censused Nokopo and Nian, completing census at 1130 hours. Departed for Teptep at 1200 hours. Arrived Teptep at 1330 hours, after a pleasant walk along a good road. Teptep lined and censused at 1400 hours. At 1600 hours, after completion of census, inspected Aid Post accompanied by A.P.O. Dopenue. A first class dispensary built by A.P.O., who seems very efficient. Afterwards inspected village and advised people to make more use of their Aid Post, and to cooperate more with A.P.O. Slept night Teptep.

28

Thursday 27th February 0800 To Wasikokop, a half hour's walk up S.W. side of valley, from Teptep. Accompanied by interpreter and one policeman. Lined and censused 0830 to 1030 hours. One dispute settled arbitrarily. 1100 hours to Gua, a twenty minutes walk S.E. from Wasikokop along valley side. Gua lined and censused 1130 hours and completed at 1300 hours. One dispute, over a pig, settled amicably. 1330 hours departed Gua for Kangalut east of Gua in the bottom of the valley. Arrived at Kangalut 1400 hours. Villagers already assembled, so lined immediately; census completed 1530 hours. No complaints received. Returned to Teptep, a 35 minute walk back up the valley in a N.W. direction. 1630 hours inspected airstrip site, and paced out it's dimensions. 1800 to 1900 hours talked with village officials on various subjects pertaining to this report. Slept night Teptep.

Friday 28th February

0730 Departed Teptep for Bambu, arriving at 1200 hours. The Yupna/Nankina watershed was crossed en route, at an altitude of 10,000 feet above sea level. A well maintained road through difficult country. Bambu lined and censused at 1330 hours and completed 1530 hours. Inspected village, gardens, and Aid Post with village officials and Aid Post orderly. 1900 hours to 2200 hours met with v/o's and other village men to discuss matters relevant to this report. Slept night Bambu.

Saturday 1st March

0800 To Yauangoba, a 45 minute walk from Bambu. Yauangoba set on ridge above Bambu, and to the north. 0900 to 1000 hours lined and censused Yauangoba. Afterwards inspected airstrip close to village. Site paced out. Returned Bambu 1100 hours, and set off immediately for Tepmawon, arriving 1330 hours. Gumbaion lined and censused first, finishing at 1500 hours. No complaints or disputes. 1500 to 1730 hours Tepmawon lined and censused. Two complaints, both concerning pigs and against people of Gwarawon will be heard there tomorrow. Slept night Tepmawon.

Sunday 2nd March

0900 hours left Tepmawon immediately after church service. Arrived Gwarawon 1100 hours. Miok lined and censused 1200 to 1330 hours, followed by Gwarawon. Rain set in 1500 hours so postponed census. To Miok, a 45 minute walk. Inspected village and gardens; no complaints heard. Returned Gwarawon 1715 hours. Two disputes settled arbitrarily. 1930 to 2100 hours discussions with various people. Slept night Gwarawon.

(27)

Monday 3rd March

0800 to 1000 hours completed Gwarawon census, and censused Mambit, the bulk of whose population is residing at Gwarawon, prior to moving to new village site. 1000 hours departed Gwarawon for ~~Gwarawon~~ Tariknan, and arrived 1400 hours. Road in very poor condition. New village site for Mambit inspected en route. As the people of Mebu were already assembled at Tariknan, censused first at 1500 hours. Mebu census completed at 1630 hours. Tariknan lined and censused 1630 hours to 1800 hours. Afterwards A.P.O Dopenue, of Teptep, en route to Saidor for P.H.D Patrol, gave talk on personal hygiene. Two people to accompany patrol to Saidor for medical treatment. Slept night Tariknan.

Tuesday 4th March

0800 Departed Tariknan for Yogayoga, arriving 1300 hours 1400 to 1600 hours village lined and censused. One complaint heard and referred to Saidor. Talk given on advisability of living in settlements, rather than in garden houses in bush. Slept night Yogayoga.

Wednesday 5th March

0745 Departed Yogayoga for Saidor. Roadhead near Saidor not reached until 1230 hours, due to bad state of road, caused by recent floods. Spent some time on road reconstruction work en route. Arrived Saidor 1330 hours and reported to A.D.C.

**END OF PATROL**

SITUATION REPORT.

To accompany Saidor Patrol Report No 5 of 1968/69

(4)

(1) POLITICAL:

The stage of political development has already been covered by section L. of the Area Study (pages 18,19). That part of the Warup census division covered by this patrol, is all within the Rai Coast Council area. The Upper Nankina census division, with the exception of the village of Yogayoga, is not represented in a Local Government Council. There are two Councillors resident in the area; Cr Karikar, of Gabutamon, who represents that village only. Cr Wengam, of Tapen, who represents Tapen, Moam, Bwana and Windillk.

In addition, the village of Yogayoga is represented by Cr Ilakiwi of Sibog in the neighbouring Mot census division.

In 1968 these people went to the polls to vote for a Member of the House of Assembly to represent them. Two candidates stood, John Poe, an Administration clerk at Saidor, and Yali Singina, an ex policeman and soldier and local identity of Sor village, in this Sub-District. John Poe won, and is now M.H.A for the Rai Coast Open Electorate.

Prior to this election, the area was visited by a Political Education patrol, which gave talks in all villages, and reported that political knowledge was minimal in the area.

The average person now has a rudimentary grasp of the subject.

(ii) ECONOMIC:

The economy of the area is covered by section M. of the Area Study accompanying this report.

The only cash crop in the area at the present time is Arabica coffee, which is grown, with varying degrees of keenness by virtually every group in the area. There are no Cooperatives or Rural Development Societies operative in the area. The main drawback to economic development for the area is its geographical position and the extremely rugged nature of the terrain, which renders access to the marketing outlets rather arduous and difficult.

All the present coffee trees in the area were planted during the course of D.A.S.F patrols in 1957, 1963 and 1967. The D.A.S.F Officer at Saidor plans to patrol this area during the latter half of 1969.

There was talk of increased planting at the time of this patrol, but nothing has been done as yet.

The two main Marketing outlets for these people are Tapen, the Lutheran Mission station in the area, and at Wantoat in Morobe District, where there is a branch of "Lamasu", the native marketing society run by the Lutheran Mission.



SITUATION REPORT.

To accompany Saidor Patrol Report No 5 of 1968/69

(4)

(i) POLITICAL:

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The two main Marketing outlets for these people are Tapen, the Lutheran Mission station in the area, and at Wantoat in Morobe District, where there is a branch of "Namasu", the native marketing society run by the Lutheran Mission.

(iii) SOCIAL.

There is only one school in the area which is recognized by the Administration, the Lutheran Mission Primary T School at Tapen, which at present teaches up to Standard III and intends to add one standard and one teacher per year up to Standard VI.

The District Education Inspector recently sent a circular to the Rai Coast Council, and The M.H.A for this Electorate, asking their priorities for new Primary Schools. The Council suggested one at Gwarawon and the M.H.A one at Bambu. The people of this area, and more especially of these two villages, are very desirous of their children receiving formal education.

There are three Aid Posts in the area, at Bambu, Teptep and Tapen. Health is generally good throughout the area, due to plentiful food, an invigorating climate and the absence of malaria.

The people are orderly and law abiding.

The only service provided by the Government at present is the Aid Post at Bambu and that at Teptep, the one at Tapen being run by the Lutheran Mission. Appendix 3 of the Area Study accompanying this report covers this subject fully.

In addition, a D.A.S.P Officer at Saidor periodically patrols the area, rendering assistance on agricultural matters.

The only mission in the area is the Lutheran Mission at Tapen. There is no community education and no youth activity as such, except that included in the curriculum for the students at Tapen school, and Bible classes in most of the villages.

The people of this area are generally sober and industrious, and there is no cultism or unrest. The cargo cult, which has at different times held sway over much of the Rai Coast, has never had any influence here.

(iv) MISCELLANEOUS.

At present, the over-riding problem in this area is access, and communications generally. Once a reasonable outlet for the people's coffee is established, and a vehicular road built into the area, the economy will leap ahead, and such things as schools will come in its wake.

If a buying point for coffee is established at Teptep on completion of the strip, I feel this area will see a real resurgence of coffee growing in all villages. As previously mentioned, some villages now carry their coffee for up to five days.



*Almend 26.6.69*

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

Report Number..... 6-68/69  
 Subdistrict..... SAIDOR  
 District..... MADANE  
 Type of Patrol..... SPECIAL  
 Patrol Conducted by..... P.J.SOMERS Cadet Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled }  
 (Council and/or } Part of WARD 12, RAI COAST COUNCIL.  
 Census Division/s.) } (Part MOT Census Division)

Personnel Accompanying Patrol .....  
 2 members RPNGC

Duration of Patrol—from 28 / 4 / 69 To 2 / 5 / 69

No. of Days..... ~~FOUR~~ FIVE

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area :..... CENSUS REVISION

Date..... 1-5-67 Duration..... FOURTEEN DAYS

Objects of Patrol (Briefly)..... To initiate construction of access roads  
 to Mot river causeway project site.

Total Population of Area Patrolled.....

Director of District Administration,  
 KONE DOBU.

Forwarded, please.

*17/6/19 69*

*D. Cliff Bennett*  
 District Commissioner. *DB*

67-7-31

26th June, 1969.

District Commissioner,  
Madang District,  
MADANG.

PATROL NO. SAIPOR 6/68-69

Your reference 67-2-4 of 17th. June, 1969.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Special Report  
by Mr. P.J. Somers, Cadet Patrol Officer to Part of MDT  
Census Division.

Report indicates that Mr. Somers has carried out an  
effective patrol.

Please keep me apprized of progress with construction  
of the causeway.

(T. W. ELLIS)  
Director.

c.c.  
Mr. P.J. Somers,  
Cadet Patrol Officer,  
Sub-district Office,  
SAIPOR, Madang District.

Please note that political education must be a continuous process in all situations with the emphasis on the advancement of national unity.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67.7.31

8

Telephone  
Telegrams.....  
Our Reference... 67-2-4  
If calling ask for RCB:JS  
Mr.....



Department of District Administration,  
MADANG.

17th June, 1969.

The Director,  
Dept. of District Administration,  
KONEDOBUBU.

SAIDOR PATROL NO. 6 - 68/69

Please find attached two copies of Saidor Patrol Report No. 6 - 68/69 together with covering comments from the acting Assistant District Commissioner at Saidor.

This was a special patrol carried out by Mr. Somers C.P.O. to organize labour and supervise work on the Mot River Bridge.

The Mot River Bridge is being constructed with funds from the Rai Coast Council on a dollar for dollar basis from Rural Development Funds.

The bridge has been investigated and designed by the P.W.D. Local Government Engineer who stated that he had difficulty in believing these descriptions (i.e. 20' diameter boulders travelling at 30 MPH on the Mot) as some of the statements clash with the physical laws of nature.

The matter of the activities of Messrs. Yali and Dui have been dealt with in previous confidential correspondence.

A short but good patrol carried out by Mr. Somers C.P.O. who has shown a great deal of aptitude for his work.

Att.

*D. Clifton Bassett*  
(D. Clifton-Bassett) *DB*  
District Commissioner.

5  
28/3

67 - 1 - 1

Sub-District Office,  
SAIDOR.  
Madang District.

2nd. June, 1969.

The District Commissioner,  
Dept. of District Administration,  
District Office,  
MADANG.

SAIDOR PATROL No. 6 - 1968/69.

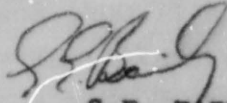
This patrol was mounted to organise labour and the construction of a new access road to the MOT. Both these objects were attained by Mr. Somers in a satisfactory manner. Much of the labour employed on the project comes from the Inland Mot area. It is estimated by P.W.D. that the Mot project will be completed by the end of this dry season.

I hope that the fears of the local people as to the permanency of the bridge are not realized.

The Political heading of the report makes mention of the activities of Messrs, YAU and DUI. Further comment on this subject would be superfluous here as they have been fully described in recent correspondence to you.

Mr. Somers claim for camping allowance is forwarded together with the report for your signature.

Mr. Somers has been advised of the necessity to submit his reports more promptly.

  
G.E. BAILEY  
Assistant District Commissioner



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

6

Telegrams

Telephone

Our Reference 67 - 4 - 0

If calling ask for

Mr. ....

Sub-District Office,  
SAIDOR.  
Madang District.

24th, April, 1969.

Mr. P.J. SOMERS,  
Cadet Patrol Officer,  
SAIDOR.

SAIDOR PATROL No. 6 - 1968/69.

Please be ready to depart SAIDOR on 28th April for a patrol of one week duration to the Mot River area. Objects of your patrol will be to organise labour so that P.W.D. staff will be able to commence work immediately on arrival.

Also commence construction of a new access road to the site as the present road is of limited use.

Two members of the R.P.&N.G.C. will accompany for use to assist in any complaints that may arise. They are not to be used on roadwork.

G.E. BAILEY  
Assistant District Commissioner.

1st Day

Thursday. Work commenced 0700. 1130 Mr Kaynor arrived on site with two assistants and domestic staff to assess paya. Supervised work on approach road. Work finished 12.30. Slept night.

2nd Day

Friday. JTC worked on approach road, supervising. Inspected new site for causeway with engineer. Work started on causeway shed at new site. 1530 Council clerk arrived with paya. Labour paid at 1530. Reported Nov 15. and arrived 16.00. Reported A.D.O.

End of patrol.

(5)

PATROL DIARY.

28th April Monday. 1300 departed station accompanied by two policemen. By 4-wheel drive vehicle as far as Yawi river, thence by motorcycle to Mot causeway site, arriving 1500. Met by Cr Tamol, and inspected possible approach road routes. Slept night.

29th April Tuesday. Assembled labourers and took names at 0630. Work commenced 0700. Marked first section of road, and supervised. 1100 returned to Yawi river with 15 men and supervised work on temporary crossing. River in flood. Returned Mot 1600. Work finished 1630. Heavy rain during night. Slept night.

30th April Wednesday. 0645 camp and site inspected from air by a/REGLOC Mr Richardson and F.W.D engineer Mr Raynor. Work commenced 0700 and supervised until 0800. To Yawi river to meet A.D.C and Messrs Richardson and Raynor. Yawi unfordable. Returned to Yamai village and hired canoe. 1030 visitors across river at mouth and ferried to Mot by rotorcycle. Original causeway site found to be unfeasible. Returned to Yawi with visitors 1430 and back to Mot 1530. Work finished 1630. Slept night.

1st May Thursday. Work commenced 0700. 1100 Mr Raynor arrived on site with two assistants, and Council clerk to assess pays. Supervised work on approach road. Work finished 1630. Slept night.

2nd May

~~Friday~~

Friday. 0700 worked on approach road, supervising. Inspected new site for causeway with engineer. Work started on cement shed at new site. 1500 Council clerk arrived with pays. Labour paid at 1530. Departed Mot 1630 and arrived Saidor 1800. Reported A.P.C.

End of patrol.



(4)

INTRODUCTION.

The purpose of this patrol was to recruit labour and to construct an access road to the Mot river, so as to be able to start work on construction of a causeway there without any undue delay.

This causeway is a project of the Rai Coast Local Government Council, and their biggest to date. It will be approximately 250 feet long and with a 12 foot roadway.

Owing to the wet season continuing longer than normal in this area, the programme was running a little behind schedule. In the many times that I have visited the site, it has been possible only once to get all the way there by vehicle, three small rivers en route being in flood at various times.

There is already an existing approach road to the causeway site. For part of its length this road runs beside an old bed of the Mot river which has for many years been dry. With the unusually heavy rains in the area this year, however, the river overflowed into this old course, and washed away this section of road. There seemed little point in repairing the road at this point since it will inevitably be washed away again at some time in the future.

Consequently a new approach road on higher ground has had to be constructed, and has now been completed.

The Yawi river is now fordable, and the Council tractor is working full time on the site, stock-piling gravel and sand at the approach to the causeway.

There are three houses for the labourers, a tool shed, a cement shed and a rest house on the site, and work is now going ahead well.

(11) ECONOMICS.

The labourers on the project are receiving wages of \$7.00 per fortnight and the two foremen are each receiving \$10.00 per fortnight.

Arrangements were made with local villagers to hold a market at the site each Friday, thus enabling the labourers to purchase their food without having to return to their villages for food. This system is working satisfactorily.

(12) GENERAL.

An All-Port Creek has been newly dug at the site and is now the site's main water supply.

(3)

SITUATION REPORT.

(i) POLITICAL:

Prior to this patrol, there had been talk that there would be little support in the form of paid labour from the surrounding villages, and I had visualized myself having to visit these villages and exhort the people to work on the project.

There is a reactionary minority group of two within the Rai Coast Local Government Council, comprising Councillors Yali of Sor and Dui of Warai, both of whose villages are within five miles of the causeway site. Apparently these two persons still retain a belief in Cargo Cultism, and told the people of their wards not to work on the project, since on August 1st, the date on which Yali believes he will become "President" of the country, bridges and roads will suddenly materialize from nowhere.

There is much feeling against these two reactionaries by the rest of the Council, and I feel this attempt to abort a Council has been brought about by bitterness as much as anything\* else.

\*project

However, more than enough people presented themselves for work, and some had to be turned away. Initially, no-one came from within the wards of these two, but there are now several from Yali's ward, including two from Sor, and two from Biliau in Dui's ward.

A major cause of Yali's bitterness is his failure to win the last House of Assembly elections, which were won by John Poe, then a D?D.A clerk at Saidor, and a Papuan.

The Council vice-President, Joseph Tamol has been very active on the project, and has at all times been most useful. He is at present engaged as a foreman on the site. Tamol was John Poe's chief supporter during the elections, and it was largely due to his efforts and influence that John<sup>PdE</sup> won this seat, no doubt another factor in Yali's discontent.

(ii) ECONOMIC:

The labourers on the project are receiving wages of \$7.00 per fortnight and the two foremen are each receiving \$10.00 per fortnight.

Arrangements were made with local villagers to hold a market at the site each Friday, thus enabling the labourers to purchase their food without having recourse to return to their villages for food. This system is working satisfactorily.

(iii) SOCIAL:

An Aid Post Orerly from the nearby village of Biliau is on the site twice a week to attend to minor injuries.

(iii) The work force is law abiding and orderly and there is no unrest on the site. There seems to be no dissatisfaction about working conditions. All seem content and work quite industriously. (2)

(iv) MISCELLANEOUS:

Several local people, including Cr Tamol and Cr Tarur, voiced their anxiety to me over the type of causeway which is proposed here.

The Council initially wanted to build a suspension bridge over the Mot river, of the type to be found at Saidor. This is constructed of marsden matting laid on cables which are anchored to a concrete block, buried in the ground at either end.

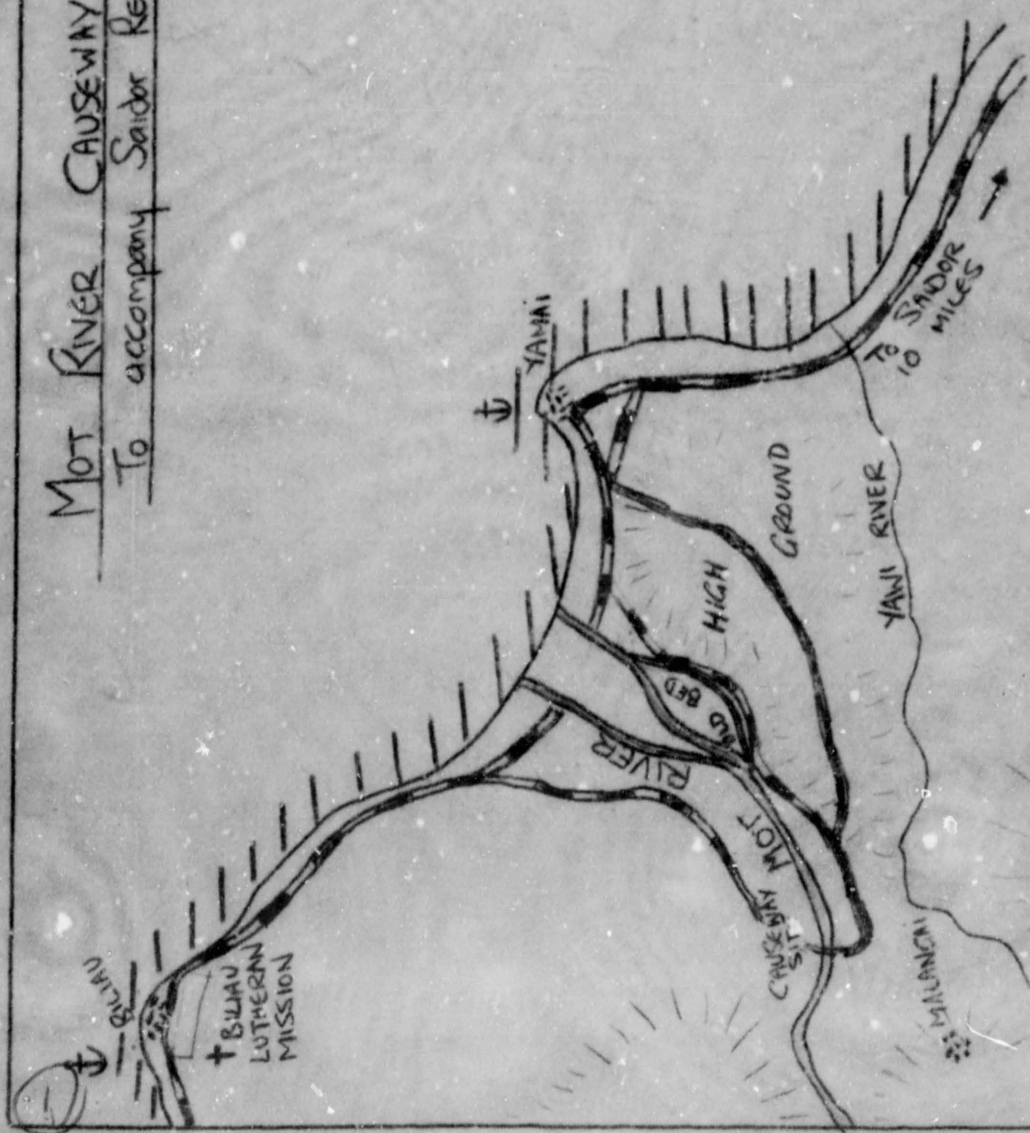
Public Works Department pointed out in a letter to the Council the inherent problems in building such a bridge to a length of three hundred feet, and suggested the present design, a causeway, to which the Council eventually but rather reluctantly agreed.

The reason for the Council's reluctance is the speed and force with which this river flows during the wet season. The locals also claim that during floods, large boulders, some up to 20 feet in diameter and almost spherical, roll down the river at about thirty miles per hour. If this is indeed so, the causeway's continued existence seems short.

P.W.D Engineers have informed the people and the Council that this is physically impossible, and I sincerely trust they are proved correct, since approximately forty boulders of the type described are at present lying in the river about a hundred yards upstream of the causeway site.

P. P. P.  
C.P.O.

MOT RIVER CAUSEWAY SITE  
To accompany Saidor Report No 6 - 68/69



SCALE: 2" = 1 MILE

EXISTING VEHICULAR ROADS  
 NEW VEHICULAR ROAD

P.J. SOMERS

