

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: WEST NEW BRITAIN

STATION: Talasea

VOLUME No: 20

ACCESSION No: 496.

1968 - 1969

Filmed by/for the National Archives of Papua New Guinea,
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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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[[Contents sheet for Volume 20, Talasea]

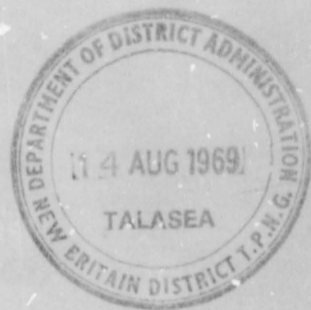
PATROL REPORT OF: Talasea
ACCESSION No. 496
VOL. No: 1968-1969 NUMBER OF REPORTS: 1

[Talasea Rpt No 13- 68/69 in Folder-File No 67-17.71]

REPORT NO:	FOLIO	OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL	AREA PATROLLED	MAPS/ PHOTOS	PERIOD OF PATROL
[] B-68/69	1-35	Tophum R.H. APO	Bali- Witu Census Division		15.6.69-17.7.69
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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



PATROL REPORT

District of West New Britain Report No. 13 Talasea 1968/69

Patrol Conducted by R.H. Topham Assistant Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Bali - Witu Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil

Natives Const. Nara R.P.N.G.C.

Duration—From 15/6/1969 to 17/7/1969

Number of Days 33

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services constant patrolling

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

Map Reference West New Britain District Map

Objects of Patrol Census revision

Routine ~~revisis~~ Administration

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Mae Shing O'Leary

Forwarded, please.

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

15th December, 1969.

The District Commissioner,
West New Britain District,
KIMBE.

PATROL NO. TALABEA 13/68-69

Your reference Tal. P/R. 13/68-69 of 26th November, 1969.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Annual Census and Area Study by Mr. R.H. Topham, Assistant Patrol Officer, to part BALI-WITU Census Division.

While this report reflects Mr. Topham's interest in field duties, it is a rather incomplete piece of work. There are too many generalities, and there is lack of factual information to support the writer's observations. Nevertheless, the report does give a fairly reasonable picture of the Witu area.

Mr. Topham must take more care with his written work. The presentation and preparation of this report leave much to be desired.

Covering comments are comprehensive and informative. The patrol map is rather rough, but it does contain some interesting detail.

The patrol was obviously quite useful.

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

c.c. Mr. R.H. Topham,
Sub-District Office,
KANDRIAN. West New Britain District.

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

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MICRA
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DISCOM,
Talasea P/R 13-1968/69
HFF

the Administration,
~~PROVINCIAL OFFICE~~
District Headquarters,
KINNE, West New Britain.

26th November, 1969.

The Assistant District Commissioner,
TALASEA.

Talasea Patrol No. 13-1968/69
Witu Islands

Thank you for Mr. Topham's report on his patrol to the Witu Islands area of the Bali/Witu Census Division.

Mr. Topham has obviously conducted a good deal of investigation into material for his report. However the absence of accurate coconut and cocoa census figures make some of his conclusions suspect. Is the figure \$160-\$183 a per capita income figure or an income per male adult figure? In any case the figure is not really valid as it does not include the village productions of copra or cocoa.

Poor presentation, spelling and bad grammar, together with contradictions and duplications do not do justice to what appears to have been a good field effort for an officer of Mr. Topham's status.

The attitude to freehold land owned by Burns Philp is understandable. At the same time it is potentially troublesome and I require an up to date report on the situation.

As you are aware, work has commenced on an airstrip for Witu at Langu.

In general you have adequately covered the matters raised in the report in your covering memoranda to Mr. Topham and this office.

ATC.
A.T. Carey
a/District Commissioner

Mr. H. Topham,
KANDRIAN.

In future please pay more attention to your english expression. Camping claim is forwarded herewith for payment.

→ c.c. the Secretary,
Dept. of the Administration,
KONEDOBU.

A.T. Carey *A.T. Carey*
a/District Commissioner



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67.17.71
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Telegrams DISADM
Telephone
Our Reference 67-1-1
If calling ask for
Mr.

Division
Department of District Administration.
Sub District Office,
TALASEA.

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↑
DEPARTMENT OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION
4 1969
KONEDOBU

28th August, 1969.

The District Commissioner,
West New Britain District,
KIMBE.

TALASEA PATROL REPORT No. 13 - 1968/69

Attached please find the abovementioned patrol report minus census figures and a copy of my letter to Mr Topham. The figures will be sent on to you once they meet my requirements. Since Mr Topham is stationed at KIMBE it would be appreciated if you would check on this matter.

Frankly I am disappointed in the report and the amount of work achieved in the area. The patrol lasted 33 days and all that I have received is a set of population figures that do not balance. No coconut or cacao census figures, no time spent on the road where a certain amount of supervision could have been given to the efforts of the Witu Islanders. What he has produced is an excellent and up-to-date report on production in the five Witu plantations.

The land problem is still with us. Approximately 75% of the group is alienated freehold land. To date nothing has been done by the plantations but once they start developing their land trouble will start. Efforts to settle these people on the large island of New Britain have not been too successful.

What is the situation re the airstrip? My last communication from you was your 4-4-3 dated 17th October, 1968. I'm given to understand that the village people are willing to sell their land and would like a similar portion purchased from Burns Philp and given to them.

Claims for camping allowance are attached for your signature.

W. G. Feldewinde
W. G. FELDEWINDE
a/Assistant District Commissioner

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67-1-1

Division
~~Xxxxxxx~~
Dept. of the Administrator,
TALASEA.

28th August, 1969

Mr K. H. Topham,
District Office,
KIMBE.

TALASEA PATROL No 13 - 1968/69 - WITU ISLAND

Thank you for your patrol report which took far too long to reach my desk. I have the following comments to make.

Number the pages of your report. It makes it easier for reference as well as writing of comments because then I refer to page and paragraph numbers.

Areas Study

B) Population Distribution and Trends:

Your census figures are returned herewith, they do not balance. Additions are incorrect. Absent Workers plus Absent Students plus Population in the Village at the time of Census MUST EQUAL Totals inc. Absentees and Grand Total. For example, WITU Village; 15 ma plus 7 fa (Absent workers) plus 40 mc plus 21 fc (Absent students) plus 38 mc plus 46 fc plus 47 ma plus 49 fa (Present in village at time of census) gives a total of 78 mc, 67 fc, 62 ma and 49 fa (Total inc. Absentees) = 256 Grand Total. Somewhat different from your 192. Please have these figures corrected and returned to me by Wednesday 3rd September, 1969. Birth rate for the area equaling 1 per 100 is a bit ridiculous too.

The lack of land in the area could be another reason for the young people to be reluctant to return to the area.

D) Leadership:

What did you do about this 'ignorance of what the Council is all about'? Did you have discussions with the village elders trying to explain the work of the Council and the role of the Councillors. This is one of the many avenues open.

Why is TANBI (J Peter) LINGE anti DDA? Did you try to change his ideas by showing him what a wonderful department we are with a long history of help to the native people?

I) Non Indigenes:

The information you have collected here is excellent and will be very helpful to the District Commissioner for planning purposes.

J) Communications:

Air: I would have liked a few more details of the proposed airstrip on Witu. What do the people think? Do they want a similar sized piece of land given to them as compensation?

L) Stage of Political Development:

For every two Council Meetings held at the Council House on Bali Island one meeting is held at the Witu Rural Health Centre. The older people have had every opportunity to witness the activities of the Council both at meetings and with their

participation in the various projects.

M) The Economy of the Area:

- a) These figures could have been obtained from the DASF clerical assistant in Talasea.
 f) When were these co-operatives formed? I know of none. Please supply more details.

N) Possibilities of Expanding the Economy:

- a) Have the people used all the land at their disposal? From personal experience I know that there is a lot of land behind LAMBE Village not under coconuts.~~xxxx~~
 d) Did you see any foreign fishing vessels in the area? This should have been reported. Are the people themselves interested in catching fish or do they purchase their fish in the trade store for 20¢ per tin? If the people aren't interested there is no use pushing the matter. In 1965 during a very severe dry season the people claimed that their children were starving because their gardens had dried out - but they were not interested in fishing even though the area abounded in fish.

Observations and Comments:

Why are the resthouses in a bad state of repair? Was it because the people weren't interested or because the patrolling officers did not use the resthouses?

Commerce and Industry:

Trade Stores: All trading licences in the Bali Witu Council area are issued by the Council so I am pleased that you did not have the relevant forms available.

Roads and Bridges:

The Local Government Engineer intends visiting the area in the near future and he will be reporting on the island road on Garove Island. A gradient of 1:2 seems to me to be far too steep.

This is the first occasion that I have seen a patrol report of yours and I'm certain you are capable of much better work. Plan your report out, handwrite the majority of the report when you are out in the field. Make notes from day to day under five or six definite headings. This will make your task a lot easier. I look forward to seeing a much better effort next time.

W. G. SPELDEWINJE
a/Assistant District Commissioner

cc. District Commissioner,
KIMBE.

July

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MEMORANDUM
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DIAONI.
Talsese F/R 13-1968/69
RFF

the Administration,
~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~
District Headquarters,
KOROR, West New Britain.

26th November, 1969.

The Assistant District Commissioner,
SALAMUA.

Talsese Report No. 13-1968/69
Witu Islands

Thank you for Mr. Topham's report on his patrol to the Witu Islands area of the Bali/Witu Census Division.

Mr. Topham has obviously conducted a good deal of investigation into material for his report. However the absence of accurate coconut and cocoa census figures make some of his conclusions suspect. Is the figure \$160-\$163 a per capita income figure or an income per male adult figure? In any case the figure is not really valid as it does not include the village productions of copra or cocoa.

Poor presentation, spelling and bad grammar, together with contradictions and duplications do not do justice to what appears to have been a good field effort for an officer of Mr. Topham's status.

The attitude to freehold land owned by Burns Philp is understandable. At the same time it is potentially troublesome and I require an up to date report on the situation.

As you are aware, work has commenced on an airstrip for Witu at Lengia.

In general you have adequately covered the matters raised in the report in your covering memoranda to Mr. Topham and this office.

A.T.C.
A.T. Carey
District Commissioner

Mr. H. Topham,
KANDRIAS

In future please pay more attention to your English expression. Camping claim is forwarded herewith for payment.

→ c.c. the Secretary,
Dept. of the Administration,
KONEDOBU.

A.T. Carey
District Commissioner

29

TALASEA PATROL REPORT No.13 1968/69

PATROL DIARY

- 15-6-69 0900 -1200 Preparation for departure on patrol Bali-Vitu
1600 Departed Talasea per 'Aria' for Vitu island
Overnight 'Aria' Cape Campbell.
- 16-6-69 0100 Departed Cape Campbell for Vitu arriving Widu
1200. Rest of the day spent in setting up camp Widu
village and holding talks with the people. Overnight Widu.
- 17-6-69 0800 - 1100 Talks with the manager Langu plantation re
possibilities of transport arrangements. Rest of day
spent in holding talks with the councillors, repairing
the water pump Widu village and inspection of residences
Widu village. Overnight Widu.
- 18-6-69 0800-1100 Heavy rain restricted start on census.
1100-2000 Census taken of Widu and Balangori No.1 villagers.
Overnight Widu.
- 19-6-69 0900-1800 Paper work census details and talks with the people
Overnight Widu.
- 20-6-69 0900 Departed Widu for Balangori No.2 on foot, inspection
of Balangori No.1 village on the way.
1200 Arrived Balangori No.2, rest of afternoon spent
setting up camp and hearing arbitrations.
Overnight Balangori No.2.
- 21-6-69 0800 Inspection of village and courts held for failure
to maintain residences and toilets.
0900 - 1500 Census taken.
Overnight Balangori No.2
- 22-6-69 Observed. Rested Overnight Balangori No.2
- 23-6-69 0800 -1200 Inspection of work on new houses and talks
held with businessmen re development.
1300-1800 Talks held with Father Bruger Catholic Mission
re problems and future mission plans for development.
Overnight Balangori No.2
- 24-6-69 0800-1200 Preparation for departure to Lama village.
1300 Departed Balangori No.2 per Catholic Mission ship
'Klaus' arriving Lama 1330.
Set up camp and held talks with the people.
Overnight Lama.
- 25-6-69 0800-1200 Census taken Lama village.
~~Rest~~ Rest of day spent inspecting village and having talks
with tradestore owners.
Overnight Lama.
- 26-6-69 0700 -0930 Police investigation into alleged rape case,
resolved into a case of prostitution.
0930 Departed Lama for N'Dolli per plantation tractor
arriving N8Dolli 1000.
Set up camp.
1300 Travelled to Pot Pot village for inspection tour returning
N8 N'Dolli 1600.
Overnight N'Dolli.
- 27-6-69 0830-1200 Census taken N'Dolli and Pot Pot villages.
1330 Departed N'Dolli per plantation tractor for Lambe
arriving 1430. Birthday celebrations; rested
Overnight Lambe.
- 28-6-69 0800-1200 Inspection of village; residences and trade stores
held courts for failure to maintain residences and toilets.
Overnight Lambe.

PATROL DIARY cont.

- 29-6-69 Observed, Overnight Lambe.
- 30-6-69 0800 Travelled to Langu plantation to have radio talk with Talasea returning Lambe 1300.
1400 Travelled to Meteo plantation to have talks with manager and obtain census figures returning Lambe 1800.
Overnight Lambe.
- 1-7-69 0800-1600 Census taken Lambe village.
1600-2000 Talks with the people re developmental projects.
Overnight Lambe
- 2-7-69 0800 Further talks with the people, inspection of mission school and talks with new welfare assistant re commencement women's club. No rest house Lambe.
Overnight Lambe.
- 3-7-69 0800 Broke camp and departed on foot for Widu arriving 1130, inspection of road on the way.
1300 Set up camp Widu village and made arrangements for travel to Ningau the next day. Inspection of Widu village to ascertain if instructions had been carried out.
Overnight Widu.
- 4-7-69 0800 instructed ~~Next~~ Const. Nara to accompany cargo by canoe to Kuravu. 0900 Myself departed Widu per plantation speedboat 0930. Set up camp and held talks with the people re aid for Rangu Aid Post. ~~Next~~ Rest house falling apart; condemned.
Overnight Kuravu.
- 5-7-69 0900-1100 Inspection of village at Kuravu and at Seven Day village. Cannot conduct census today as the seventh day Adventists hold church services.
Overnight Kuravu.
- 6-7-69 Observed, overnight Kuravu.
- 7-7-69 0900-1100 Census taken Kuravu village. 1130 Departed Kuravu per canoe for Rangu arriving 1220. Paid carriers and set up camp (new large rest house).
1300-1600 talks with the people and inspection of village clean and tidy.
Overnight Rangu.
- 8-7-69 0800-1200 Census taken Rangu and Silenge c villages.
1300-1900 talks with the people re developmental projects and inspection of Aid Post. Heavy seas restricting movement.
Overnight Rangu.
- 9-7-69 Heavy seas restricting movement to Silenge, departed Rangu 0830 for Goru arriving 0900.
1000-1100 conducted census. ~~Next~~ Rest of the day spent in talks with the people, inspection of village and collation of census figures.
Overnight Goru.
- 10-7-69 0900 Departed Goru per canoe arriving Korei 1100. Disembarked and walked through to Kuravu. No rest house Korei. Heavy seas made travel along east coast impossible and dangerous. Inspected village at Kuravu and held talks with the people.
Overnight Kuravu.
- 11-7-69 0900 Departed Kuravu on foot for Korei to conduct census, census completed and talks given returning Kuravu 1700.
Overnight Kuravu.
- 12-7-69 0900 Departed Kuravu per Canoe for Widu arriving 1145.
Overnight Widu.

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- 13-7-69 Observed, overnight Vitu
- 14-7-69 0900-1600 Informal talks held with all councillors and committeemen re topics to be placed on agenda for the next council meeting.
Overnight Widu.
- 15-7-69 0900-1500 Talks held with plantation manager Langu and minor arbitrations settled. Police investigation into riots Overnight Widu. Langu plantation.
- 16-7-69 0800 Departed Widu per Aria for Bali to search for missing census books returning Widu 1600. Collected cargo and prisoners and departed for Balangori No.2 for the night. 1730 arrived Balangori No.2 and anchored.
Overnight Balangori No.2.
- 17-7-69 0600 Departed Balangori No.2 for Talasea arriving 1500. 1500-1700 Return of cargo to store
Overnight Talasea

END OF PATROL

There is a sharp mountainous ridge surrounding this harbour. There is also some volcanic activity still evident on the island, with mud pots and spas still active at Balangori No.1 village.

Soil on the island is the same as on the other islands; volcanic loam, very fertile and productive. The latest area of Garove island came from Lama village through to Widu village. From Widu to Balangori No.2 village the topography is on the whole - rugged, with steep mountains rising sharply from the coast. It is impossible to travel by foot following the coast as the whole coast of this section of the coast is bordered by steep cliffs.

Vegetation of the area is mainly coconut trees. Most of the original vegetation has been cleared for cultivation. Private companies own 70% of all ground on Garove island which in accounts in actuality for approx. 90% of arable land.

The only remaining original vegetation is to be found in these areas underdeveloped - large rain trees and emergences cover vegetation. The rest of the island group is alike.

Silange island and Gora island are the only two islands owned solely by the native peoples. Silange is 3/4 of a square mile in area while Gora is smaller.

OBJECTS OF THE PATROL

The primary objects of the patrol was to conduct census revision of the area. Apart from this work material was to be gathered for the writing of an area study. It was also necessary to ascertain the needs of the people for future council developmental projects. Further instructions are to be found in Bali-dina Patrol Instructions (see file 67-1-11 and attached copy Appendix 1 Area Study.

67-1-1
RHT

Sub District Office,
Talasea
28th July 1969

(26)

The Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub District Office
TALASEA

TALASEA PATROL REPORT No.13 1968/69

INTRODUCTION

The area patrolled is part of the whole Bali-Witu census division. The Witu group consists of four islands Garove, Ningau, Silenge and Goru.

The Witu island group are separated by from Bali by 28 sea miles, the smaller island of Ningau is separated from Garove island by 6 sea miles. Silenge lies 2 miles to the west of Ningau island and Goru island is separated from Ningau by a small channel. This channel is at present under transformation. Natural processes of nature are eroding soil from the western side of Goru and transforming it into the channel. It would appear that if this process persists the two islands will be joined.

The majority of the total population of Witu lives on the largest island - Garove. Garove island is of definite volcanic origin made up of small coastal plains with steep mountains rising from the coast. It is horse-shoes shaped and it would appear that the deep major harbour at Balangori No.2 was originally the crater of a volcano and its southern wall was breached and flooded by the sea.

There is a sharp mountaineous ridge surrounding this harbour. There is also some volcanic activity still evident on the island, with mud pools and spas still active at Balangori No.1 village.

Soil on the island is the same as on the other islands; volcanic loam, very fertile and productive. The flatest area of Garove island runs from Lama village through to Widu village. From Widu to Balangori No.2 village the topography is on the whole - rugged, with steep mountains rising sharply from the coast.

It is impossible to travel by foot following the coast as the whole ~~east~~ of this section of the coast is bordered by steep cliffs.

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OBJECTS OF THE PATROL

The primary objects of the patrol was to conduct census revision of the area. Apart from this work material was to be gathered for the writing of an area study. It was also necessary to ascertain the needs of the people for future council developmental projects. Further instructions are to found in Bali-Witu Patrol Instructions (see file 67-1-1) and attached copy (appendix 1 Area Study).

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(24)

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS

Reception of Patrol; On the whole the reception to the patrol was excellent. The people were a little amazed to see a Kiap actually camped out and stay so long. Gifts of fresh food although not abundant were made available at a reasonable price. As the people were not previously told of a forthcoming patrol little had been prepared. The rest houses were on the majority poor in some villages non-existent. This state of affairs is due to the attitude of previous individuals who have patrolled the area. Most of all patrols conducted before have been lightning affairs.

However by the time the patrol had reached the last rest house the people had commenced on the building of new rest houses. A new completed one was constructed at Rangu village by the time the patrol had arrived.

The most friendly people of all was those found at Goru, with actual free gifts of food made available. A list of all rest houses is below.

Widu Village.. Reasonable, needs repairing. The councillor informed me that they were looking for a new site to erect a new rest house.

Balangori No.1 Village... No rest house within 1 hours walking time from Widu.

Balangori No.2 Village... Much the same as Witu although repairs had been carried out by the time the patrol arrived.

Lama Village... Excellent, quite a new residence.

N'Dolli Village.. Reasonable, a start had been made for the erection of a new rest house, the delay being caused by the people of Pot Pot refusing to help.

Pot Pot... Non existing.

Lambe Village... No rest house was to be found at Lambe, the people had recently pulled down the original house and had started on the erection of a new house.

Kuravu Village... Disgraceful. The rest house was condemned after falling through the floor. Instructed to start on a new house.

Rangu... Excellent, newly built.

Silenge... None existing, the people commute to Rangu for assembly.

Goru... Reasonable, slightly small. Are commencing on the erection of a new rest house.

Korei..... None existing at present, the people are very lazy even their church is in a state of collapse.

Villages ..The condition of houses in the villages was well below standard, the majority close to falling down. The people have been continually told to erect new residences but had made no move to start. With the exception of the residences on Ningau island the rest were disgraceful. The people were instructed to repair them and by the time the patrol was ready to depart for Talasea all repairs had been completed. The houses are constructed of bush material with the occasional addition of permanent material especially roofing materials. The standard type of house has bamboo walls or Sago leaf, with a narata roofing. The flooring is mainly heavy tree bark.

The villages were very clean and tidy, Balangori having laid out gardens throughout the village.

The general hygiene of the area is good with the odd exception being seen but this is mainly with the older people.

Water supply in most of the villages is good. Most of the villages having council installed water pumps or tanks. Most of the village sites are either too swampy or too mountainous. (A more detailed list is to be found in the attached Appendix.)

Outline of Political Situation

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The political outlook of the people in the area patrolled is good. While patrolling throughout the area the writer was amazed by the amount of questions asked about domestic and foreign affairs. One old man from Rangu village when engaged in conversation asked questions about 'Vietnam and the moon probe'. Although there doesn't appear to be that much exemplified in the local radio news, what that what is heard is discussed at length by the menfolk. With the wider scope of broadcasting such topics as 'what is communism' are often heard on Radio Rabaul, tok nius.

Although the people do and are taking a wider interest in these broadcasts of political education there still is an ignorance pervading of the local scene. When questioned not many people could understand the ties that link their own government with that of Australia.

Not many realise the link between the House of Assembly and government departments, many of the people still thinking that all D.D.A. officials still work for the government of Australia, and are not tied to the government of the territory of P. & N.G. in any way.

The people on the whole are very pro-administration and pro-council with a few exceptions from the younger better educated persons. The only friction appears to come from an anti-Burns Philp group from Widu and Balangori No. 1 villages. This conflict stems from the shortage of good arable land available to Burns Philp 'underdeveloped' and their own holdings, fully developed and rapidly being used up. The two ~~vial~~ villages mentioned above have been squatting on privately owned company land and have planted and developed this land. The company has now decided to develop and is reclaiming all sections developed by the people. The people feel that some form of compensation should be paid to them. This feeling comes mainly from the younger menfolk who find that talking is a better proposition than working. These 'sit nating bois' are the real agitators of the villages. However the society as it stands at present still refuses to hear the talk of the younger people.

There are ^{two} religious orders in the island group - the Roman Catholic Mission and the Seventh Day Adventists Mission. The latter having a very small following mainly concentrated around the village of Kuravu. There is no apparent conflict between the two orders.

Economic DevelopmentAgriculture

The people of the area patrolled are basically sedentary ~~in~~ subsistence agriculturists with a small income gained from the sale of cash crops and casual labouring on the nearby plantations. The staple diet is taro, yams and fish in that order. Although some other introduced vegetables are grown the amount is small, the patrol occasionally being able to purchase fresh vegetables. Not much fresh fish is caught and eaten most fish eaten is of the tinned variety as the people prefer this to fresh fish as it has more oil content. Tinned fish is one of the biggest sellers in all the trade stores. The people's diet is quite substantially subsidised by food-stuffs bought from the local trade stores.

The main cash crop in the area is coconuts, most of what produced is sold to the mission, plantations or through a group Copra Marketing Board Number. On an approximation the average income gained would be 160 dollars p.a.

Some of the villagers are now planting up cocoa and selling the wet beans to the plantations for processing. The individual cash cropping is rare most of what is produced is done by combined effort.

Livestock

The only cattle at present are those on the Mission station at Balangori No. 2, the Father runs 6 cows but these are kept for grazing purposes only. Pigs ~~with~~ although raised in the village are still kept for tradition only.

Economic Development cont.

Forests

At present there are no developed forestry industries existent in the Witu islands. Poor accessibility and shortage of suitable land makes development for any such projects infeasible. Most of the available land has been cleared for cocoa and coconut production.

Commerce and Industry

Trade Stores

There are a total of 25 trade stores on Garove, Ningau Silenge and Goru islands. Of these 25, five are managed by European plantation managers. All stores were inspected however as the writer did not have the relevant forms available new licences could not be issued. All trade store owners whose licences had lapsed were told to renew them at the earliest opportunity.

It is the writer's opinion that this amount of trade stores is excessive for such a small population with a relatively low income. There are 5 trade stores in the village of Balangori No. 2 serving a population of 200 persons and one is run by the mission. In most instances individuals had spent a considerable amount of money in the erection of magnificent buildings but after completion finding that there was not enough business to make it profitable.

Most of the 25 stores were unstocked when the patrol visited and these enterprises appear to be more of a hobby than a business. With the exception of all trade stores run by Europeans the most commendable of all the native owned ones was that at Goru village. This trade store is managed by the ex-luluai and in stocks and management would be on a par with its European run counterparts.

With the present state of affairs and more people yet wishing to branch out into business enterprises it would be of great benefit if an officer of the Business Advisory Board could make a short visit to advise the people in business management.

Enterprises

There are numerous people engaged in the selling of copra at the village level. The most common practice is the acquisition of a group C.M.B. number and a direct sale to Rabaul. However as still yet most of all copra produced is sold to plantations and the mission for a cash sale this enterprise is somewhat restricted.

At the time of the patrol there was considerable interest shown in the loans available from the P. & N.G. development Bank especially for loans to buy tractors. The greatest drawback to all enterprises is the lack of transport and all the people are dependent upon the benevolence of the local plantations for the carting of produce to shipping.

Complaints

Numerous complaints were heard during the patrol and were settled amicably with a satisfied judgement on both sides. Most common of all was those of unpaid loans, land disputes and marital squabbles. There appears to be a slight friction between the contracted labourers and the local villagers over alleged assaults on their womenfolk. However in all cases the trouble is instigated ~~by~~ by the women.

Courts

As the writer has no confirmed court powers, the more serious offences were referred to Talasea for hearing. Seven persons were arrested and returned and seven convictions were gained. Six of the offenders were under sect. 30(d) P.O.O. and the other sect. 84 N.A.R.

The people on the whole are a peaceful, law-abiding crowd.

Canoes and Carriers

Both easily available and the usual pay rate of 10 cents per hour is acceptable.

SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Health

The general standard of health in the area patrolled is good. Skin diseases and chest infections are the most common complaints suffered by the people. Grille seems to be more common on Ningau island this perhaps due to the swampy nature of the terrain. The Rural Health Centre at Widu is running smoothly through the efforts of the Hospital Orderly in charge, Mr. Gordon Kuru. The only complaint brought up was the lack of co-operation given to him by the people.

This matter was passed on to the people and they were told to be more co-operative in the future. The health centre has three other medical staff one A.P.O. one staff maternal child nurse and one maternal child health orderly nurse. The latter is not fully qualified and does most of the infant welfare patrols in the area. At the time the patrol was ending the Hospital Orderly was about to depart with his nurse for a patrol to Ningau island. There have been only one patrol done through the area in the last 6 months, the problem being transport of staff and equipment to the more inaccessible areas. The Hospital Orderly also doesn't feel too confident in leaving his A.P.O. in charge of the hospital.

The people originally were going to buy the Rural Health Centre an aluminium boat and outboard motor however this was opposed by the local Catholic Mission on personal reasons of the priest. At present the H.O. is dependent upon the benevolence of Mr. D. Doyle the manager of Langu plantation. However he is not always available. I believe that the council has just purchased 2 outboard motors and perhaps one of these could be made available. The speedboat ~~ix~~ available is privately owned and no charge is made. Mr. Doyle also makes available the plantation tractor when required.

Administration Aid Posts

There are two admin. aid posts on the islands one at Lambe and the other at Rangu. The former is unstaffed at present and is visited once a month by the infant welfare nurse.

The Aid post at Rangu is virtually non-existent, lack of co-operation by the people and the apparent apathy by the A.P.O. in charge have let the store fall down and at present the A.P.O. is conducting business from his own residence. The ward appears not to have been used for quite a considerable time. After discussions the H.O. has decided to move the Aid post to Kuravu and have the A.P.O. make regular weekly trips to Rangu. Kuravu is closer to Widu and makes supervision easier.

The Catholic Mission father has plans to establish a mission hospital at Balangori No. 2.

Adult Welfare - Womens Clubs

The council recently trained several girls in welfare courses at Rabaul. There is one of these girls Lote Korai at Lambe village. She is not sure whether the council will be using her services but however she has started work travelling around giving talks to the people in the neighbouring villages.

Education

There are no government run schools in the area patrolled all schools are run by the Catholic Mission. The Catholic Mission has 3 schools on Garove - Balangori No. 1, Balangori No. 2 and Lambe. It also runs a school at Goru on Mundua island. Figures for all schools as follows.

20

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SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT cont

Mission Schools Garove and Mundua Islands

Balangori No.1 village; employs 4 teachers, 2 qualified and 2 unqualified, teaches the following grades-standard 1,2,3.

Standard One.. total of 26 pupils. 11 boys and 15 girls

Standard Two.. total of 30 pupils. 18 boys and 12 girls

Standard Three..total of 33 Pupils. 7 boys and 26 girls.

St. Michael, Balangori No.2; employs 3 teachers, all qualified. Has weekly boarders, newly constructed schoolhouse and shower and toilet block. Teaches standard 2 and 4. Also has weekly boarders.

Standard Two.. total of 37 pupils , 18 girls and 19 boys.

Standard Four..total of 68 pupils, 17 girls and 51 boys.

Lambe Village ; employs 4 teachers, 2 qualified, 2 unqualified. Teaches standards 1,2 & 3.

Standard One... total 19 pupils , 10 boys and 9 girls

Standard Two... total 37 pupils, 20 boys and 17 girls

Standard Three.. total 52 pupils, 24 boys and 28 girls.

Goru Village ; employs 4 teachers, 2 qualified 2 unqualified, teaches standards 1,2,3, & 4.

Standard One...total 25 pupils, 12 boys and 13 girls.

Standard Two.. total 25 pupils, 10 boys and 15 girls.

Standard Three. total 20 pupils, 8 boys and 12 girls.

Standard Four.. total 28 pupils, 11 boys and 17 girls.

These schools also have
have
These schools also have preparation classes. There is also a prep. class run by the Seventh Day Adventists at Kuravu but the school is not recognised by the Government.

Literacy Most of all the people on the islands have a reasonable literacy rate, just about all can sign their names or write letters in pidgin. Those who have learnt at school teach those who haven't. All these schools are marked on the attached patrol map.

Cemeteries All the cemeteries were inspected and found to be in very good condition and order.

Anthropological The people from the area patrolled follow a patrilineal system of inheritance rights and the social unit is the extended family. Most marry within their own village but taboos are extended to include first cousins. With most of the present generation better educated old customs and beliefs are fast dying, traditional costume is almost non existent at festive occasions. Most of all sing-sings that take place are more of dance than ceremony. It is very hard to hear stories about their tabunas as most of these have been forgotten or the younger people are not interested enough.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT cont Special Report : Roads and Bridges

As one of the purposes of the patrol e was to make a special study of the roads through Garove island this section is put as separate.

Roads and BridgesLama to Langu Section of Road

The section of the road running from Lama village to Lambe village is an all weather road open to 4 wheel drive vehicles. This section of the road with the exception where it passes through native reserve is owned solely by Burns Philp.

All this section of the road is maintained by the plantations for their own convenience. This section of the road is approx. 7 1/2 miles long. From the boundary of Lambe village the road runs through freehold underdeveloped land owned by Burns Philp. This section of the road is maintained by the villagers of Lambe and is open to motor bike traffic. This section of the road is 6 miles long. Some work has been undertaken by the council with the installation of 6 culverts from Lambe village to the Boundary of Langu plantation. The pipes in the section known as Norris Overpass has been completed and all that is required is d for the laying of an concrete apron to complete the work.

The biggest drawback to the completion of the work on the road is the steep gradients. However with the use of explosives to raise the road level this really presents no real problem. The steepest gradient would be 1 in 2 about 60 degrees.

It would require either a lot of work or a complete new survey to find an easier route. Burns Philp at present will be starting development o in the area and the task may fall to them. At present the road is too steep for either tractor or truck transport. There is also a vehicular track running from Balangori No.1 village through the mountains and intercepting close to the Norris Overpass, the possibility of expanding this through would give two accesses across the island.

In all cases there is an ample supply of good coroneous stone available for surfacing. of the road.

Widu Village-Balangori Motor Bike Track

The section of track linking the two above villages could never be ~~amix~~ anything else but an access by foot or motor bike. The gradients and hills are far too steen and numerous. Work has been carried out to make it an all weather motor bike track. But heavy rain on the steep slopes soon was out any work. With the installation of at least 20 culverts the condition could be lessened. The road is at present used by the Catholic Mission Father to travel about to give services.

Airfields.

There are no existing airfields on any of the islands in the area patrolled.

Social Development contMissions

There are two religious orders on Garove, Silenge, Mundua and Goru islands -The Roman Catholic faith and the Seventh Day Adventists faith. The Catholic mission has been established at Balangori No.2 since 1951 and it is at present staffed by Father J.Bruger. The Seventh Day people are very small in number total adherents being only 50 and they are confined to their own village at Kuravu. The Catholic mission has a considerable influence with the people in matters of spiritual, economic and political consequence more than it actually should have. The priest is very interested to help the people as much as possible and has many schemes he would like to start. He would like to build a domestic science school at Goru village, erect permanent material houses for the people, build a hospital at Balangori and get the villages to form business co-operatives. He has commenced work on a large copra storage shed and is working on a self help basis and when completed has promised half of the storage to the people of Balangori. He plays an active role in business activities and is often seen in his ship C.M.KLAUS plying between villages buying copra. He also makes regular trips to the villages showing movies and holding church services. The mission is self supporting and all monies are put back into the mission. The mission employs a carpenter, boats crew and storekeeper for the mission trade store on a regular basis and pays them each \$20.00 per month. The mission also employs casual labour at times especially during a cocoa flush.

Labour

Of the five plantations in the area Langu plantation is the only plantation working with a regular labour force of casuals. All the rest of the private plantations make use mainly of indentured labour. The manager of Langu plantation has one of the best relationships seen. He works on an approach of helping the people and this maintains good relations between himself and the people. There is at times some friction between the contract labour and the local villagers but this is mainly minor and concerns mainly about women.

The managers of the plantations complain that there is some misrepresentation in the recruitment of contract labour. This is caused by misquotation of ages shown on the agreement forms and in a lot of instances many of the contracted labour have to be given light labour duties as they are too infirmed to work hard. They would like to see a visit of a labour officer to straighten this matter.

The following figures of labour numbers and cash income gained from casual workers is approximate and was taken from figure given by the managers.

Lama plantation..employs on an average p.a.25 casuals and pays out app. \$6,000 to casuals p.a. Has at present 95 contracted indentured labourers.

Meteo plantation..employs 20 casuals p.a.and pays out app.\$4,000 p.a. Has 66 indentured contracted labourers.

Illia Plantation... employs 21 casuals p.a. and pays out app.\$4,000 p.a. in salaries.Has 55 indentured contract labourers.

Ningau Plantation...employs 8 casuals p.a. and pays out app.\$1,200 p.a. Has 78 indentured contract labourers.

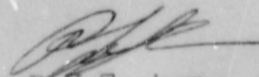
Langu Plantation... employs 40 casuals p.a.and pays out app.10,000 dollars p.a. Has 56 indentured contract labourers.

17

Census

The census was revised but the work was made extremely difficult due to the fact that all the figures gained were taken from the old village books which have remained unused for 14 years. The current census tax sheets are presumed lost. Several searches were made for them but to no avail. The new sheets were written but as the books are somewhat ~~out~~ outdated births, deaths and ages are not truly correct.

All the old village books were forwarded to District Headquarters for keeping and the new books issued to the villages.



R.H. Topham
Assistant Patrol Officer.

MISCELLANEOUS

There was only one person accompanying the patrol Constable Nara R.P.N.G.C. This policeman was excellent in the performance of his duties. On numerous occasions he was dispatched to investigate alleged breaches of the peace and returned with a full detailed report.

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The two islands with the highest peaks are Balangori and Wila. Balangori is the largest of the islands and is situated in the north-west. It is a steeply sloping island with a high mountain range surrounding the central part. The island is covered with a dense forest of tall trees and is a very beautiful spot. It is a very fertile island and is a very good place for growing crops. The island is a very good place for growing crops and is a very good place for growing crops.

Wila is a small island situated in the south-east. It is a steeply sloping island with a high mountain range surrounding the central part. The island is covered with a dense forest of tall trees and is a very beautiful spot. It is a very fertile island and is a very good place for growing crops. The island is a very good place for growing crops and is a very good place for growing crops.

The soil on all four islands is the same, rich volcanic soil. In some places reaching a depth of 20 feet. The soil is very fertile and is a very good place for growing crops. The soil is very fertile and is a very good place for growing crops. The soil is very fertile and is a very good place for growing crops.

The vegetation of the area is now nearly all cleared. Most of the original vegetation has been cleared for cultivation. The original vegetation is mainly rain forest with an abundance of secondary evergreen cover vegetation. There is no coal commercial quantities of timber available.

Copra and siltage are the only two islands in the group owned solely by the native population.

All islands have excellent facilities for working facilities and the principal trading areas are located at Balangori, Wila, and at Wila.

(b) POPULATION - DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS

The village population register is attached in the appendix to this report. The non-mortality rate can not be attached as the census was taken from the old village books which have remained unused for 15 years. The latest census tax sheets have been presumed lost.

On all the islands all villages are linked by a walking track or road. Details are shown on attached maps.

There are a large proportion of the population absent from the villages. Most of these absentees are the younger generation who are at school or have the prospect of working in Sabul. There is a strong tendency for the younger people to return to their villages during the relative independence to be in the larger towns. There is also a strong attraction of people to the larger towns.

(15)

AREA STUDY

(A) INTRODUCTION

The area in which the writer patrolled is part of the Bali-Witu census division. It consists of four islands, Garove, Mundua, Goru and Silenge. The whole island group is separated from the rest of the census division by 28 sea miles. Garove island is the largest of the group being approx. 35 sq. miles in area. Mundua island lies to the west of Garove and is separated by 6 sea miles. Goru island is separated from Mundua island by a small channel 300 yards wide. There is a very interesting occurrence taking place at Goru, the sea is eroding the face of a cliff and carrying the rubble along the side of the beach and depositing it in the channel. It appears that if this process persists that the two islands will be linked. Silenge island lies 2 miles s.w. of Mundua. The majority of the population lives on Garove 7 villages while the other 5 are spread on the other three islands. All the islands are of volcanic origin, the most noticeable being Garove with small mud pools and spas evident at Balangori No. 2 village.

Garove island itself is horseshoe in shape with a very deep harbour within its centre at Balangori No. 2 village. There is a sharp mountainous ridge surrounding this harbour and it would appear that this harbour was once the crater of a volcano, whose southern wall was breached and a ria formed.

Soil on all four islands is the same, rich volcanic loam in some places reaching a depth of 20 feet. The whole of all the islands consists of small fertile coastal plains with steep mountains rising in the background. The terrain makes transport facilities very difficult especially in the construction of any road linkages. There is no air services to the island the nearest airfield being at Unea island. All transport between islands is by sea. The nearest Sub District Headquarters being at Talasea 70 miles by sea.

The vegetation of the area is now mainly coconut trees most of the original vegetation has been cleared for cultivation. The original vegetation is mainly rain forest with an abundance of secondary emergence cover vegetation. There is no real commercial quantities of timber available.

Goru and Silenge are the only two islands in the group owned solely by the native population.

All islands have excellent facilities for wharfing facilities and the principle loading areas are located at Balangori No. 2, Meteo plantation (much the same as Balangori a flooded volcano crater) and at Widu.

(B) POPULATION - DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS

The village population register is attached in the appendix to this report. The neo-mortality rate can not be attached as the census was taken from the old village books which have remained unused for 14 years. The latest census tax sheets have been presumed lost.

On all the islands all villages are linked by a walking track or road. Details are shown on attached maps.

There are a large proportion of the population absent from the villages. Most of these absentees are the younger generation either at schools outside the district or working in Rabaul. There seems to be a reluctance by these younger people to return to their villages preferring the relative independence to be had in the larger towns. There is also a large absenteeism of people working on nearby plantations.

14

(c) SOCIAL GROUPINGS

All the villages in the Witu group operate within the extended family. These extended families have one ancestral head. Numerous family kinship groups exist in each village and although play an important role in individual co-operation do not have a large impact in the workings of village affairs as in the case of clan kinship relationships.

The functional social unit is the extended family.

There is one language spoken throughout the area - Talakomunduavanga and this language is not understood outside the area by Bola, Bakcvi or Nakanai people. Although most marriages take place inter village marriages outside the village are not uncommon and serve to strengthen ties between the villages. With the emergence of a new better educated and more sophisticated young generation ~~xxx~~ marriages to people from other races is not an uncommon sight. Young men returning from working in other areas often return with wives. Quite a number of persons are married to persons from Bali. However not many of the people from Bali make regular visits to Vitu.

(d) LEADERSHIP

A detailed list of all influential persons on Widu islands is attached. Although there is no real change evident in the traditional patterns of leadership quite a number of the councillors have reached a certain level of education. It appears to be a pattern emerging of selecting leaders on ability alone and not on precedence set by previous forefathers. One of the councillors is a mission teacher, another from Widu village Bosboi and driver Langu plantation.

At the time the writer was patrolling the area numerous complaints were made concerning the large absenteeism of the younger generation from the area. The writer was asked WHY. The only real explanation evident appears to be that the more liberal minded young do not want to return to the strict regimentation of village life.

Many of the older generation are realising this fact and are starting to listen to the complaints of these younger people, although it will be a long time before any of these people become influential in the village affairs.

Another problem being faced by all is that of ignorance of what the council is all about and what is the role of the councillors. The councillors themselves are not too confident in their own powers and uncertain as to how much authority they actually have.

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[Faint, mostly illegible text, possibly a list of names and descriptions of influential persons.]

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IGRAO
F M
List of Influential Persons - Garove, Mundua and Silenge Islands (13)

Widu Village

1. Line Kari... male. Bosboi Langu plantation. Ex luluai. Very arrogant, pro-admin, pro-council. Very progressive.
2. Valuka Batapute.. Traditional leader, no convictions, father was bigman before. Not impressive, diplomatic. No business interests pro-admin. pro-council Progressive
3. Koimu Kelu .. Son of luluai Kelu Tonbe, not impressive, pro-admin, pro-council
4. Tanbi (J Peter) Linge... son of Linge Kamaro, Councillor, educated stand. 2 Bosboi and w ex driver Langu plantation. Large influence with the people, inclined to changeable moods of opinion. Pro-council, anti european, pro-government, anti D.D.A.

Balangori No. 2 Village

1. Kauntare Gaulweta... m. 30. Councillor, Catholic Mission teacher, not very influential, spokesman for the mission. No convictions. Not progressive.
2. Sialu Mangi... m. 29. Committeeman, Businessman, ex P.H.D. hospital orderly no convictions, pro-admin, pro-council, Very influential anti-mission. Progressive.
3. Virio Rukua.... m. 40. Big man organizer of sing-sings, no business interests Interests, Garraalous. Pro-council, Pro-admin.

Lama Village

1. Katiba Duare... m 45. Councillor, most impressive of all, ex serviceman Ex bosboi Meteo plantation, no business interests Very influential, hard worker, very pro-council pro-admin. Progressive.
2. Pia Siune... m. Committee, driver for Lama plantation. No business interests Influential, pro-admin. pro council. Progressive.
3. Scatua Siapa... m. 48. Ex luluai 11 years. No convictions, no business interests. Bosboi Lama plantation. Unbiased. Pro-admin Pro-council.
4. Golipa Bulu... m. 29 Caterchist Catholic mission, Progressive, loyalties lie primarily to mission, pro-admin, pro-council.

N'Dolli Village

1. Dambakua Baira... m. 38. Carpenter and driver, committee. convicted drinking spirit. Captain 'Wanpiece, Ricki' 2 years. Very pro-council, pro-admin. Progressive.
2. Baira Ruku ... m. Casual roustabout, jack of all trades. Convicted drinking spirit. Educated standard 2. Influential has good knowledge of all family backgrounds. Progressive and pro-council.

Lambe Village

1. Ilavahanga Wakolo. m. 35 Councillor, educated standard 4, Businessman trade store, conviction drinking spirit. Not influential, pro-council, pro-admin. Not progressive.
2. Dombi Kavitang. m. 48. Employed domestic 10 years Illia plantation Very impressive, Progressive thinker. Pro-admin pro-council.
3. Kivia Paraga m. 48 .ex luluai and tultul 26 years. Pro-admin pro-council. Businessman - trade store and copra buyer. owns a tractor .Pro-admin and pro council.
4. Kaki Turuki m. 33. Caterchist Catholic mission. Not very impressive. Pro-council and gov.

Influential Persons cont

12

Kifavu Village

1. Kuagi Ravi .m.50. Ex tultul 4 years, no convictions, ex serviceman influential and pro-council.
2. Malungua Moilu. m.50 ex serviceman, committee, no convictions, no business interests, weak and ineffectual. Pro-admin and council.
3. Gabokugi Galito. m.50 ex seviceman, no convictions, driver plantation pro-admin and council, Progressive.
4. Koroi Kalava m.52 ex luluai 5 years, ex bosboi plantations, no convictions, no real influence, affiliations hard to ascertain.

Silenga Village

29years

1. Bara Montare. m.55 ex luluai, convicted 6 mths adultery, Businessman pro-admin. and council. Progressive.
- Bera Pandie..m.55 ex tultul 29 years, too old to be a great influence pro-council and admin.
3. Bia Warungu..m.37 committee, imprison.1mth. adultery. greatly influential, pro-admin. and council.

Korei Village

1. Manila Uleis. m.45 ex luluai 20 years, ex serviceman, influential not progressive, pro-admin and council.
2. Koroi Wuwu m.31 ex tultul 3 years, no convictions, slightly arrogant. Pro-admin and council. Progressive.
- Wakanine Baru .m. Councillor, small business interests, arrogant no real influence, pro-admin and council.
3. Tarawere Lamboin. m. Committee, no convictions, worked outside district 5 years, captain Peri 5 years. Influence good pro-admin and council. Progressive.

(11)

(E) LAND TENURE AND USE

The is a slight confusion in trying to determine land inheritance rights as in many instances many people claim ownership to one piece of land. It would appear that inheritance rights are both patrilineal and matrilineal.

No individuals hold land on lease from the Administration or Crown although many of the people would like full titleship to the ground. As 70% of all ground is owned by private companies the people now feel that all ground on the islands should be resurveyed and that ground undeveloped by the companies should be returned to the people.

All cash cropping is carried out on a communal basis but this in some instances is developing into a form of business co-operatives. In most villages Lambe, Korei some individuals have banded together and sell their produce through a group C.M.B. number and all profits are placed into a group village cheque account. Although at the same time the majority of individuals sell privately to gain an instant cash payment. The two above villages have tractors but at present are not working. They would like to buy new tractors and trailers and are now trying to approach the Development Bank for a loan.

The majority of all arable land has been planted with coconuts and is at present being planted with cocoa trees.

(F) LITERACY

There are four Primary Schools in the area and all are run by the Catholic Mission. All four schools are recognised by the Government. The schools teach up to standard four and above all pupils go to schools outside the district. The list of all schools standard taught and number of pupils is as follows.

Balangori No. 1 employs 4 teachers, 2 qualified, 2 unqualified, teaches the following.

Standard 1.	total of 26 pupils.	11 boys and 15 girls
Standard 2.	" " 30 "	18 " " 12 "
Standard 3.	" " 33 "	7 " " 26 "

Balangori No. 2. EMPLOYS 3 teachers, all qualified. Has weekly boarders new constructed permanent material schoolhouse and toilet and shower block. Teaches the following.

Standard 2.	total of 37 pupils .	18 girls and 19 boys
Standard 4.	" " 68 "	. 17 " " 51 "

Lambe Village. employs 4 teachers, 2 qualified, 2 unqualified. teaches the following grades.

Standard 1.	total of 19 pupils,	10 boys and 9 girls.
Standard 2.	" " 37 "	20 " " 17 "
Standard 3.	" " 52 "	24 " " 28 "

Goru Village employs 4 teachers, 2 qualified, 2 unqualified. Teaches the the following grades.

Standard 1.	total of 25 pupils,	12 boys and 13 girls
Standard 2.	" " 25 "	10 " " 15 "
Standard 3.	" " 20 "	8 " " 12 "
Standard 4.	" " 28 "	11 " " 17 "

These schools also prep. classes, and there is also a prep school run by the Seventh Day Adventists at Kuravu. At all schools mentioned above lessons are conducted in the English language.

LITERACY cont

(b) On an average the majority of male population is semi literate in pidgin english. Most people on the islands can write their own name and write poorly constructed and spelt letters in pidgin.

(c) There are at present 25 persons receiving secondary ~~schooling~~^H education outside the district. There are 7 receiving form 1 education 12 receiving form 2, 2 receiving form 3, 3 receiving form 4 and 1 receiving form 6 education.

(d) There are no students receiving higher education in Australia.

(e) There is quite a considerable interest shown in the newsbroadcasts from the local Radio stations. It is very rare that a broadcast from the A.B.C.Pt.Moresby is heard in the village. This type of broadcast would be probably be too sophisticated for the majority. While staying in the villages the writer was approached on numerous occasions for conversation. During the course of conversation I was asked the following questions by many people "What is this communism all about, What is this war in Vietnam all about, Why are these people coming over from West Irian". These questions were asked by the older people in the village and originated from talks they had heard on the radio. There are 71 radios on the islands, an average of 6 per village.

(G) STANDARD OF LIVING

Most of the people in the villages have acquired cooking utensils and saucepans of european origin. A few of the people have acquired kerosine cooking stoves and quite a number have proper bedsteads with mattresses. On no occasion were people sighted wearing traditional clothing.

Only a few of the people have anything much in the way of european goods outside the house. There are two M.F.135 model tractors on the island both of which are at present not running. There is one 90 c.c. Honda motor bike owned by the mission employed storekeeper at Balangori No.2 village. There are 38 push bikes on all the islands and 8 people own hand operated sewing machines. There is also a work boat owned by the village of Widu but is now unservicable. There are no outboard motors owned by any of the people. Hurricane and pressure lamps are very plentiful around all of the villages.

(b) The staple diet of the people is still home grown foodstuffs; taro, yams, mani and fish, with the occasional supply of european introduced and grown vegetables. The biggest seller in all of the trade stores is rice kerosine and tinned fish the people preferring the tinned variety as it contains more oil.

The council has ~~taxi~~ trained one young girl from Lambe village in welfare work and she is at present around giving talks to all those interested. She requested further assistance from the council to buy equipment.

(H) MISSIONS

There are two religious orders in the area - The Catholic Mission and the Seventh Day Adventists. The latter is very small in number and is mainly confined to the village of Kuravu on Mundua island. The majority of people 97% claim adherence to the Catholic Mission. The mission station is located at Balangori No.2 and the priest in ~~charge~~ charge is Father J. Bruger. The mission employs 15 indigenees teachers at all it's schools. On the mission station itself it employs 1 carpenter, 1 captain for the C.M. Klaus, 1 storekeep and pays each of these persons \$20.00 per month. The mission school at Balangori has recently erected 1 permanent material schoolhouse and a toilet and shower block at a cost of \$10,000. The mission also runs a work boat C.M. KLAUS. All these enterprises are paid for from the copra produced and ~~might~~ bought from the people.

Apart from these acquisitions the Father also owns a private speedboat. There is no apparent conflict between the two religious orders and prefer instead to live in peaceful non-co-existence.

(9)

(H) MISSIONS cont

The Catholic Mission is the strongest political and social forces on the islands of Witu. The mission virtually runs the social and private lives of the people. The local priest is constantly seen around the villages conducting marriage ceremonies or holding religious instruction.

He is very keen to see the people attain development quickly and gives them all great encouragement. The mission has financed the construction of a large bulk store at St. Michael and has promised the people of Balangori half of it's storage facilities if they help build it. The priest would also like to start a domestic science school at Goru village. The mission is also very interested in all matters concerning local government.

(I) NON-INDIGENES

There are five privately owned plantations on the islands and all are staffed by Europeans. These plantations are discussed in detail below.

LANGU PLANTATION

Owned by Mr. P. Coote of Rabaul, 854 acres.

Plantation manager - Mr. D. Doyle, Plantation Assistant - Mr. R. Hook.

Production Figures .. Copra 854 acres planted... 480 tons p.a.
Cocoa 655 " " ... 70 "

Coconut Trees Has at present 32,000 bearing coconut trees
" " " 10,000 newly planted trees

Cocoa Trees Has at present 32,000 bearing trees
" " " 46,000 newly planted trees

EQUIPMENT

- The plantation has
- 2 Massey Ferguson 135 tractors
 - 2 Honda 90 c.c. Motor bikes
 - 1 Lighting plant 3 KVR
 - 4 Stationery work engines 6-10 h.p.
 - 1 Sears mechanical dryer 3 tons cap.
 - 1 Tula mechanical dryer 1 1/2 tons cap.
 - 1 Kiln dryer 1 1/2 tons cap.
 - 1 Sears direct fired cocoa dryer 3 tons cap.

All produce is loaded to ships from surf boats. Apart from the plantation, a trade store is also run and this enterprise has a \$20,000 gross turnover. The plantation employ an av. of 40 casuals p.a. and pays out \$10,000 in salaries.

LAMA PLANTATION

Owned by Burns Philp 800 acres.

Plantation Manager Mr. J. Baldwin. Employs 95 indentured labourers.
25 casual labourers

Salaries for casuals app. \$6,000 p.a.

Production Figures Copra 470 tons p.a.

Cocoa 105 tons p.a.

Coconut Trees... Has at present 40,000 bearing palms
26,000 newly planted trees

Cocoa Trees ... Has at present 103,000 bearing trees.

Plantation Equipment

- The plantation has..
- 3 M.F. tractors
 - 1 Honda motor bike
 - 1 Landrover
 - 2 lighting plants Lister
 - 2 twin Lister engines.

(8)

(I) NON-INDIGENES cont

METEO PLANTATION

Owned by Burns Philp. 850 acres
 Plantation manager...Mr.P.Rees. Employs 66 indentured labourers
 20 casuals labourers
 Salaries paid for casual labour \$3,500 app.p.a.

Production Figures Copra..850 acres planted..340 tons p.a.
 Cocoa .. 20 tons p.a.

Has 30,000 coconut trees bearing, 5,000 newly planted trees
 Has 100,000 cocoa trees partly bearing.

Equipment

The plantation has ..2 M.F.tractors
 1 Honda motor bike
 1 Lighting plant Lister 1.5 KVR

The plantation has one deep water wharf and loads all produce from Lama plantation and Illia plantation and also native sold produce.

Dryers... 2 Ceylon copra dryers
 1 Fuel dryer cocoa
 2 Smoking sheds.

ILLIA PLANTATION

Owned by Burns Philp 800 acres
 Plantation manager...Mr.G.Henry Employs..55 indentured labourers
 21 casual labourers

Salaries paid to casuals p.a. \$3,500 app.

Production Figures ...Copra.. 800 acres planted..330 tons
 Cocoa...2 tons.

Has 30,000 coconut trees bearing
 Has 60,000 cocoa trees partially bearing.

Equipment

The plantation has...2 M.F.tractors
 1.Honda motor bike
 1.Lighting plant (Lister) 1.5 KVR
 1 Ceylon Copra dryer.

All produce shipped from Meteo plantation. Cocoa sent to Meteo for drying and storage.

NINGAU PLANTATION (MUNDUA ISL.)

Owned by Burns Philp. 900 acres
 Plantation manager...Mr.D.Carrol..Employs 78 indentured labourers
 8 casual labourers
 Salaries paid for casual labour p.a. \$1,200 app.

Production Figures Copra.800 acres planted...480 tons p.a.
 Cocoa 80 tons p.a.

Equipment

The plantation has 1.Honda motor bike
 2.M.F. tractors
 1 Lister lighting plant 1.5 KVR
 2 Ceylon dryers copra
 1 Cocoa dryer.

All produce loaded by surf boat from small wharf.

7

NON-INDIGENEScont

CATHOLIC MISSION STATION-BALANGORI

Owned by the Catholic mission.

Overseer...Father J.Bruger.

Production...20tons copra p.a. 1,500 bearing coconut trees.

Equipment....

- The mission has...1 Honda 90 c.c. motor bike
- 1.Work boat..C.M.KLAUS
- 2.Lighting plants.
- 1.Speedboat and outboard engine
- 1.Trade store.

The mission station although small makes an annual new profit from sale of produce and trade store profits of \$2,000 p.a.

(J)COMMUNICATIONS

Roads

See accompanying map,all roads are shown.All roads through plantations and from Lama village to Lambe village are open to 4 wheel drive vehicular traffic.The road from Lambe village to the border of Langu plantation is open to motor bike traffic only. The road joining Balangori No.1 village to that of No.2 village is open to motor bike traffic also.

Sea

There are two deep water(20') wharves one at Balangori No.2 and the other at Meteo plantation.The village of Widu has half completed a wharf at the Rural Health centre.It has been constructed from stone and is awaiting the arrival of materials before completion.

Air.

There are no airfields on any of the islands in the area patrolled The nearest airfield is at Unea island Bali app 30 sea miles distant. There have been moves to select a site on Garove island and I believe three sites have been chosen.

(K)TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL SKILLS

From figures gained there are the following trained personnel listed in the census books.

- 9 carpenters,9 drivers,1 mechanic,4 plumbers -Trades
- 24 teaches . Fifteen of whom work in the mission schools the remaining nine residing outside the district.

Of the plumbers all work on the plantations and only 1 is certified. All the drivers are employed by the plantations. The mechanic is residing outside the area and the plumbers work on the plantations with the exception of one who is at present in Rabaul.

There are also two policemen..one is at present stationed in Rabaul the other is stationed in Wewak. There are no ~~taxiners~~ trained clerks on the island.

6

(F) THE STAGE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

As noted in sections D of of this report the swing for leadership still lies in the older generation with little emphasis being placed on education. The majority of leaders still are those who have proved themselves. There is a strong mission influence evident in the selection of leaders e.g. the councillor from Balangori No.2 is a mission teacher.

The people are on the whole very pro-administration and council. Most of those people spoken to agree that they prefer this system to the one in force before as they can see direct results and have a further say in village matters. The trouble that is evident at Bali has not spread across to this area as yet. There are still the old rearguard who don't like the change but however they are quite happy to sit in the background and watch events.

The only cause of resentment comes from the villages on Garove island. This resentment is over land belonging to Burns Philp. These sections of land are underdeveloped at present and it is the peoples reasoning that as Burns Philp has not shown any interest up to the present time of developing these areas the land should be returned to the people.

There are a few political agitators from Balangori No.1 village but these are mainly the younger generation striving for recognition.

The people have a reasonable grasp of the workings of the council, however is some of the older more influential persons could be invited to council meetings in the capacity of observers a greater impact might be felt. The reasoning at present being that the people are too parochial in their outlook and forget that the council includes Bali people too.

As far as it is the writers knowledge there has been no visits made by representatives to other meetings e.g. House of Assembly. Their local member makes regular trips but unfortunately doesn't stay long enough. Their local member made attempts to settle the land alienation, but had no success. There is a healthy general colition between all the villages on matters of council importance.

It is the writers opinion that a bigger impact will be felt within the next five years with the return of those people receiving higher ~~secondary~~ secondary education outside the district. As these people represent a large proportion of the total population their impact will have to be recognised by the minority.

(M) The ECONOMY OF THE AREA.

- (a) The number of trees in i each village could not be ascertained or could the amount of copra and cocoa produced. There are three outlets for all produce.
1. Through sale to Langu plantation.
 2. Through sale to Catholic Mission
 3. Through sale through a group C.M.B. number.

The Rural Development Officer for Talasea is at present on patrol in the area and will be doing a tree count x and figures will be available from him upon his return.

- (b) All produce sold in shown in the production figures of section I of this report.

(c) The Rural Development Officer could not be consulted at the time this report was being written as he was away on patrol Bali_Witu.

(d) There are no market gardening ~~enterprises~~ enterprises being undertaken in the area, some of the people grow occassional crops of vegetables for sale to the plantations.

(e) The total cash earnings by wage labour would be approximate and from figures supplied by the plantations would \$21,200 p.a. The actual amount of money earned by the people would probably be double but as records are not kept figures are hard to calculate. However the trade store at Langu plantation has a 20,000 dollar gross turnover p.a. so it can be seen that actual monies are not scarce.

⑤

(f) At present there are co-operatives formed in the area. There is however attempts being made in certain villages f to form business corporations made up of 15 or so businessmen. They operate through a group C.M.B. number and sell all produce direct to Rabaul.

They work communally marketing each others crops and combining their produce. The two villages operating this system at present are Lambe and Korei, and they have savings of \$300 and \$200 respectively. They are saving so that they may eventually buy a new tractor.

There is certain resentment in the village but this is mainly jealousy by those too lazy to work as hard.

(g) There are no outstanding businessmen in the area, with the exception perhaps of one Tomautu Lingei from Goru village who operates a trade store. His trade ~~is~~ store would be on a par with any of it's european managed counterparts. He allows no credit and has a large net turnover profit.

(h) The only saving bank agency in the area is that at the Catholic Mission at Balangori No.2. It is controlled solely by the priest. The writer found difficulty in trying to ascertain amounts of money deposited in the accounts. However one of the mission teachers has \$1000 saved.

(i) There appears to be no apparent difficulty encountered by the people to meet their tax requirements.

(j) From the information available for collation the average cash income would appear to be app. \$183.00 p.a.

(N) POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING THE ECONOMY

(a) One of the biggest problems facing the people in any further development of the area is that of land shortage. Private companies own 70% of all land on Garove and Mundua islands. Silenge and Goru islands are the only two islands owned solely by the people, however both these islands are small in area and have little suitable arable land available. The people from Balangori No.1 and Lama are at present squatting on land owned by Burns Philp.

(b) The solution to the above problem lies in further diversification of present cash crops and the introduction of new cash crops. There is still ample amount of ground remaining that is unplanted e with cocoa.

(c) As most of all labour employed on the neighbouring plantations still remains to be indentured, a labour shortage in the villages is not evident.

(d) The introduction of new cash crops could also give a slight boost to the economy of the area. Such crops as vanilla, peppers could perhaps be attempted. The facilities for outlets are good with excellent wharfing facilities located throughout the area.

There is abundant supplies of fish in the area exemplified by the fact that foreign fishing vessels are often seen throughout the area. The introduction of forestry industry would be infeasible due the small amount of land available. However the position would make it ideal for teak.

(e) The biggest drawback to any developmental project lies in the attitude of the people. They become very enthusiastic about development so long as it is done for them. But when hard work is ~~is~~ required their keenness dies. They believe more in their co-ordination of ideas. There is however a small percentage of the people who are very interested to try anything new and work hard. The people at Goru are prime examples, they are the most industrious of all the villages.

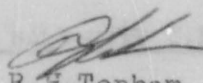
The Rural Development Officer will be shortly returning from a visit to this area and the writer will breach him with these ideas.

APPENDIX

4

- Appendix 1. Map of Area patrolled, complete with surplus map of Lama plantation.
- Appendix 2. List of Council development projects undertaken and completed in the area.
- Appendix 3. List of population village register.
- Appendix 4. A copy of patrol instructions issued.

Mr. R.H. Topham,
 Chief Patrol Officer,
 [illegible]


R.H. Topham
 Assistant Patrol Officer.

It goes with me to report on a patrol of [illegible] and [illegible] islands of the [illegible] District.

The principal objects of your patrol will be the revision of maps and the preparation of the map type [illegible] [illegible] of charter assets for area [illegible] [illegible].

Report back that work. I require you to give attention to the following:-

- (a) Report on the [illegible] [illegible] that you will be able to give as a detailed report of any bridges, culverts, drains, etc., that require repair or construction. Also [illegible] the condition of any section of road [illegible] who is the owner of the land through which it passes. This is necessary so [illegible] of the [illegible] road network [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].
- (b) Report all [illegible] [illegible] by any [illegible] [illegible] that may have been given.
- (c) Check all Council projects - water pumps, wells, etc., that may have been constructed, or are under way or proposed and provide with a detailed list on your return.
- (d) From discussions with the people ascertain what they consider are their essential needs and requirements with the view to determining what matters should be placed before the [illegible] Council for [illegible], and what matters for [illegible] [illegible].
- (e) Visit the Rural Health Centre and ascertain the degree of assistance and co-operation being given the [illegible] in charge. Obtain numbers of patients.
- (f) At every centre make time available for general discussions of a political, educational nature. Encourage the people to ask questions about matters that may be causing them concern.
- (g) Endeavour to settle any minor disputes or questions that may be brought before you for solution. Any cases requiring court action to be [illegible] by the next Magistrate to visit the area.

(3)

XXXXXX

67-1-1

Sub-District Office,
TALASEA,
West New Britain District.

14th June, 1969.

Mr. R.H. Topham,
Cadet Patrol Officer,
TALASEA.

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS - BALI-WITU C.D.

In accordance with our discussions, please prepare to depart on a patrol of Witu(Garove) and Ningau Islands of the Bali-Witu Census Division.

2. The principal objects of your patrol will be the revision of census and the preparation of the new type Census-Tax Roll-Roll of Elector sheets for each census unit. Refer file 14-1-0.

3. Apart from that work, I require you to give attention to the following:-

- (a) Inspect the Witu vehicular road so that you will be able to give me a detailed report of any bridges, culverts, grades, etc., that require repair and/or construction. When determining the condition of any section of road ascertain who is the owner of the land through which it passes. This is necessary as so much of the island's road network crosses privately owned properties. Refer file 10-5-8, folio 19.
- (b) Inspect all villages and follow up any instructions that may have been given.
- (c) Check all Council projects - water pumps, wells, etc., that may have been constructed, or are under way or proposed and provide me with a detailed list on your return.
- (d) From discussions with the people ascertain what they consider are their essential needs and requirements with the view to determining what matters should be placed before the Bali-Witu Council for attention, and what matters for Administration action.
- (e) Visit the Rural Health Centre and ascertain the degree of assistance and co-operation being given the Orderly in Charge. Obtain numbers of patients.
- (f) At every centre make time available for general discussions of a political education nature. Encourage the people to ask questions about matters that may be causing them concern.
- (g) Endeavour to settle any minor disputes or problems that may be brought before you for action. List any cases requiring Court action for attention by the next Magistrate to visit the area.

- (h) Endeavour to locate a man named 'Alois' - other names unknown - who reportedly lives at Lambe Village and who travelled to Witu ex Rabaul on the last trip of the M.V. "Paulus". Rabaul Police allege that this man stole a 4 band transistor radio from a member of the crew of another vessel in Rabaul. Please notify me by radio if you find him.
- (i) Locate Linga Kamaro of Pidu Village and pay him his pension for the period 26/4/69 to 20/6/69 - 8 weeks @ \$2.00 per week = \$16.00
- (j) Visit all schools and note the numbers of teachers, grades and pupils.
- (k) Visit the Catholic Mission at Balangori. The Parish Priest may be able to arrange your movement to and from Ningau Island on his workboat.
- (l) Visit all private plantations and provide assistance to the Managers, if sought on any official matter.
- (m) Endeavour to obtain figures of native produced copra - prices obtained per lb. and normal marketing procedure.

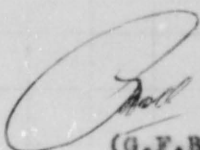
4. I have not set a time limit on this patrol. The principal task is to do a proper job in the field and then write a report that sets down accurately what is happening in the area and what should happen in the future. I seek firm proposals for the development and overall improvement of the area.

5. You will be accompanied by Constable Mara. Take a patrol advance of \$100.00 to cover payments for canoes and carriers. Give me advance notice by radio when you anticipate completing the patrol so that arrangements for your movement back to Talasea may be organised.

6. Upon your return you will be required to submit an Area Study and Situation Report in accordance with D.D.A. Circular 67-1-0 of 21st June, 1968.

7. Do not hesitate to contact me by radio at any time if you feel that the situation is such that it warrants my attention.

8. I wish you an enjoyable and successful patrol.


(G.F. Booth)
Assistant District Commissioner