



Patrol Reports. Bougainville District, Buka  
1961 - 1962

Transcribed by: Jonathan Serrano, Sarah Fuchs

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES  
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA  
PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: Bougainville

STATION: Buka

VOLUME No: 3

ACCESSION No: 496.

1961 - 1962

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PATROL REPORT OF: Buka  
 ACCESSION No. 496  
 VOL. No: 3\_: 1961-1962  
 NUMBER OF REPORTS: 5

| REPORT NO:  | FOLIO | OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL | AREA PATROLLED                                  | MAPS, PHOTOS | PERIOD OF PATROL  |
|-------------|-------|---------------------------|---|--------------|-------------------|
| [1]2-61/62  | 1-6   | Webster R.W. C.P.O        | North Buka Island                               | -            | 26/6/61-8/8/61    |
| [2]4-61/62  | 1-7   | Hollomby K.E. CPO         | Buka Passage Subdistrict                        |              | 8/8/61-5/9/61     |
| [3]7-61/62  | 1-13  | Webster R.W CPO           | North Buka Island                               |              | 19/10/61-27/10/61 |
| [4]8-61/62  | 1-6   | James G.M. CPO            | Buka  |              | 4/9/61-2/11/61    |
| [5]17-61/62 | 1-23  | James G.M. CPO            | West Coast, part East Coast<br>Census Divisions |              | 28/3/62-6/4/62    |

PATROL REPORTS BOUGAINVILLE DISTRICT 1961-62

BUKA

| Report No.   | Conducted by: | Area Patrolled               |
|--------------|---------------|------------------------------|
| Buka 2-61/62 | R.W.Webster   | North Buka Island            |
| " 4-61/62    | K.E.Hollamby  | Buka Passage Sub-District    |
| " 7-61/62    | R.W.Webster   | North Buka Island            |
| " 8-61/62    | G.M.James     | Hanahan/Karoola Road         |
| " 17-61/62   | G.M.James     | West Coast & part East Coast |

and Solus Divisions

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA  
PATROL REPORT

District of BOUGAINVILLE Report No BUKA 2/61-62

Patrol Conducted by R.W.WEBSTER C.P.O.

Area Patrolled North BUKA ISLAND

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives No.10262 Const. SAIMON

1. N.M.O.

Duration-From 26 / 6 /1961 to 8 / 8 1961

Number of Days FOURTY-FOUR (44)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by-District Services / /19

Medical / /19

Map Reference

Objects of Patrol SUPERVISION OF THE RECONSTRUCTION OF THE  
HANAHAN = KAROOLA ROAD

Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

8/9/1961

District Commissioner

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

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

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

67.11.5

67-11-5

30th October, 1961.

The District Officer,  
Bougainville District,

S O H A N O.

PATROL REPORT - BUKA NO.2 - 1961/62:

I thank you for the progress report on the  
Hanahan-Karoola Road.

2. It is apparent that the work is proceeding  
according to schedule.

(J^McCarthy)

67.11.5

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply

Please Quote

No. 67/1/3-695.

Department of Native Affairs,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANA

8th, September, 1961.

11 SEP 1961

The Director,

Department of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

PATROL REPORT - BUKA, 2/1961-62.

Please find enclosed a Report of a Patrol  
carried out by Mr. R. W. WEBSTER, Cadet Patrol Officer.

Matters raised by the Report were really  
only of a local nature and they have been so dealt with.

The purpose of the Patrol was to continue  
construction of the East Coast (HANAHAN/KAROOOLA) Buka  
Road.

(D. J. CLANCY.)

District Officer.

(?) you for the  
progress rep(?) can the  
HANAHAN/KAROOOLA Road.

(?) is (?) and (?) the work

is (?) area (?) to

(?)



Diary - HANAHAN-KAROOOLA ROAD SUPERVISION

Monday 26th June. Departed for Karoola Plantation per M.V. Hazel arriving at 4pm.

Tuesday 27th Commenced supervision of road work. The road surface at the moment is in poor condition due to the heavy falls of rain.

walked to Hanahan to deliver Census papers.

Wednesday 28th Routine work. Director of Public Works, Mr. Glen made an inspection of the road and proposed causeway.

Departed for Kessa Plantation 4pm.

Thursday 29th Travelled per canoe to Lemanmanu to deliver Census papers and make payments to natives re purchase of land for mission. Spent night at Kessa.

Friday 30th Visited Pororan Island to deliver Census papers [papers]. Returned to Karoola midday, inspected previous days' work. Labour paid off at 3pm.

Saturday 1st July. Spent day at Sohano.

Sunday 2nd Returned to Karoola 3pm.

Monday 3rd To Lemanamanu to collect completed Census papers. Returned to Karoola late afternoon.

Tuesday 4th To Gagan to collect complete Census papers.

Wednesday 5th Routine road work. Police constable to Sohano with Census papers.

Thursday 6th Routine road forming.

Friday 7th Spent day at xxxxxxx normal road work. Labour paid off at 3pm.

Saturday 8th Spent day at Sohano.

Sunday 9th Returned to Karoola 3pm.

Monday 10th New line of workers arrived, 38 men from Hagus and Hanahan villages.

Tuesday 11th Routine work - delayed by rain in afternoon.

Wednesday 12th Work progressing well. Have reached the first of two small gullies which will entail considerable work to construct a road with a suitable gradient.

Thursday 13th Work continued[continued] on cutting[cutting] down gully.

Friday 14th Completed work on first gully. Labour paid off 3pm.

Saturday 15th Spent day at Kessa Plantation.

Sunday 16th At Kessa. Returned to Karoola 5pm.

Monday 17th No men reported for work this morning.

Tuesday 18th Workers still have not arrived. Policeman to Hanahan to investigate.

Wednesday 19th Men had stated that they would appear this morning but due to heavy rain all day no-one arrived.

Thursday 20th To Hanahan to investigate non-appearance. It was decided that they would come and work for the

Friday and Saturday.

Friday 21st 6 men arrived for work. Labour paid off 3pm.

Saturday 22nd Spent day at Sohano.

Sunday 23rd At Sohano.

2.

Monday 24th Departed for Karoola per M.V.HAZEL arriving at 10.30am. Men from Tohatsi village reported for work.

Tuesday 25th Normal road forming.

Wednesday 26th Work progressing well, approaching second gully

Thursday 27th Routine work.

Friday 28th All labour on clearing and felling of timber prior to forming.

Saturday 29th Spent day at Kessa.

Sunday 30th At Kessa. Returned to Karoola late afternoon.

Monday 31st Men from Kotopan village reported for work.

Informed by radio that I will be relieved next xxxxxx Tuesday.

Tuesday 1st

August All labour working on gully. Memo received from A.D.O. to investigate death at Hahalis.

Wednesday 2nd To Hahalis to investigate death of native TOHINA.

Returned to Karoola 3.3 0pm.

Thursday 3rd Rain all day. Littel[Little] work.

Friday 4th Finished work on second gully. Labour paid off at 3pm.

Saturday 5th At Karoola

Sunday 6th At Karoola.

Monday 7th Rain all morning. Labour arrived about midday.

Tuesday 8th Departed for Sohano per M.V.HAZEL ARRIVIng at 4pm

MINUTE TO:

District Officer,  
SOHANO.

forwarded for your information, please. I do not agree with Mr. Webster's statement that the road will be through to the beach by December. I have walked along the portion where the causeway is to be constructed, and without the assistance of a tractor and trailer many months of hard work are entailed. I am proceeding to the area tomorrow and will be traveling along the road myself to inspect progress already made.

10-7-1

Sub-district Office,  
BUKA PASSAGE.

Bougainville.

22nd August, 1961.

A.D.O.

The District Officer,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

#### PROGRESS REPORT- HANAHAN - KAROOLA ROAD

This work has been in progress now since 19.1.61 and has consisted [consisted] of the reconstruction of a former road to a standard suitable for heavy vehicles. The work is being carried out by the men from Hanahan, Kagus, Ketskets, Kotopan and Tohatsi villages and the supervision shared by Mr. Hollamby and myself.

At the moment the road forming is almost completed with only a few sections requiring further attention. These sections are those approaching two creeks and some short rises which are at the moment too steep to be negotiated by a fully laden tractor and trailer. Although the road is formed there remains a great deal of work xxxxxxxx to be done before the road can be opened for general use. With the present surface, a thick dark brown soil with a high percentage of clay, even the lightest fall of rain is enough to turn the road into a quagmire and to send a vehicle over it in such condition would cause untold damage. Efforts have been made to find a suitable locality from which cornous may be taken and used as a surfacing material. Several locations were inspected but the majority were unsuitable from the point of view of loading the cornous into vehicles. However, one location towards the centre of the island could possibly be put into service. It is within easy reach of the road and the erection of a "Chinaman" should not be difficult.

The first section of the road, ie. the first 3 miles

has had time for the surface to compact and the surface grass to have the required binding effect, and it is at present suitable for use in dry weather. The surface grass is cut weekly by the people of the nearby villages. The remainder is very wet and there still remains much timber to be felled to allow the sun to dry the road out. In this respect I would venture to suggest that a powersaw would greatly speed up the work and facilitate the early completion of the road.

The remaining section, from Karoola beach to the plantation boundary, runs through a large swamp. It is proposed to construct a causeway with stones available on the site but as yet the work has not commenced on this project.

The only task to be undertaken before the road will be open for limited use is the construction of two culverts. This may take some time as materials suitable for fill is not readily available and some difficulty may be experienced in obtaining same.

There has been little difficulty in obtaining labour and with the present rate of progress it is estimated that the road will be completed to the beach at Karoola early in December.

(R.W.WEBSTER)

Cadet Patrol Officer

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA  
PATROL REPORT

District of BOUGAINVILLE Report No BUKA 4/61-62

Patrol Conducted by K.E.Hollamby Cadet Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Buka Passage Sub-District

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NO

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

Duration-From 8 / 8 /1961 to 5 / 9 / 1961

Number of Days 28 days (26 Nights camped out.)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by-District Services / /19

Medical / /19

Map Reference

Objects of Patrol Supervision of Hanahan Karoola Road.

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

8/9/1964

District Commissioner

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

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

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

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Ref: 67-11-4

Department of Native Affairs Headquarters,  
KONEDOBU.

30th Oct. 1961.

The District Officer,  
Bougainville District,  
S O H A N O.

PARTOL NO. BUKA 4-61/62

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of:-

+ Memorendum of Patrol No.

+ Patrol Report No. Buka 4-61/62

covering Patrol by K.E. HOLLAMBY

(J.K. McCarthy)

Director.

+Delete as necessary.

67.11.4

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply

Please Quote

No. 67/1/3-695.

Department of Native Affairs,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANA

8th, September, 1961.

11 SEP 1961

The Director,

Department of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

PATROL REPORT - BUKA, 4/1961-62.

Please find enclosed a Report of a Patrol  
carried out by Mr. K. E. HOLLAMBY, Cadet Patrol Officer.

The main purpose of the Patrol was the  
building of the HANAHAN/KAROOOLA Road.

The projected road which is seven (7) miles  
long runs East West across the Island of Buka. When com-  
plete it will supply s means of moving produce to KAROOOLA  
for shipment. There are no anchorages on the EAST coast of  
BUKA.

The work is slow of course, but the remedy  
lies with the people.

(D. J. CLANCY.)

District Officer.

Typist,

Pls. ask (?) on

allowed f(?).



10/7/1

Sub-district Office,  
Buka Passage Sub-district,  
Buka

7th August, 1961.

District Officer,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

Hanahan/Karoola Road.

Attached report by Mr. K. Hollamby, C.P.O. is forwarded  
for you information.

It is to be hoped that these people again show some  
enthusiasm for the project as they did when it was commenced. At  
the time of my visit they agreed that each of the five villages  
interested would make available four labourers weekly. This would  
not cause a drain on village manpower. However, Mr. Hollamby  
states that they did not do this and there were only eight men  
working the following week, and all came from the same village.  
Again if they are only prepared to work four days weekly, then  
it seems that the services of the Cadet are wasted, and could be  
used to better advantage on either the Solus or East Coast roads  
where labour is still available. I have been informed that there  
are now 19 men working on the Solus Road, and there has been no  
slackening of numbers on the East Coast.

I do not agree with Mr. Hollamby's suggestion that they  
should be paid 7/- per day, unless there are sufficient funds  
available to pay the labour on the other roads the same amount.  
They have been working for much longer period and there have  
been no complaints regarding the rate of pay.

(A.J.Zweck)

Asst District Officer

10/7/1

Sub-District Office,

Buka Passage,

Bougainville.

6th September 1961.

The Assistant District Officer,

Buka Passage,

Bougainville.

Hanahan - Karoola road.

This last month has seen little progress on the above mentioned road. The people working on it have not made an all out effort at all. However the road to the beach, excluding the causeway, is nearing completion. This part should be finished in under three weeks.

I have explained to Mr. James, who relieved me last Monday, why this and the causeway should be finished before the culverts are installed.

The people have seemed to dropped back in their enthusiasm as they are arriving on Monday afternoons and starting work on the Tuesday mornings. I have tried to explain to them that this is too great a loss in time but to no avail.

I would suggest that if funds were made available the people were paid day labour wages (7/- per day) for the building of the causeway. This work will be different and I feel that the 7/- a day would be well worth it.

I would not like to give an estimate as to how long it would take to build the causeway as it depends entirely on the people and at what rate they are willing to work.

K.E.Hollamby

Cadet Patrol Officer.

D I A R Y .

HANAHAN - KAROOLA ROAD SUPERVISION.

AUGUST.

TUESDAY 8th.

Left Sohano per MV 'Hazel' 0745 hrs . Arrived Karoola 1045 hrs. Inspected road - completed to about [about] 100 yards from the third creek.

Wednesday 9th.

Only 13 workers but working quite well.

Thursday 10th.

Walked to Hanahan to meet Mr. Pember and Mr. Rissen Co-operative Officers. Showed Mr. Rissen the road as far as the third creek on the Co-op tractor.

Friday 11th.

Attended meeting with Mr. Clancy D.O. , Mr. Pember and Mr Rissen. The people promised to send more workers each week.

Saturday 12th.

No work.

Sunday 13th.

Showed Mr. Pember and Mr Rissen the causeway at Karoola.

Monday 14th.

19 Workers arrived for work.

Tuesday 15th.

Work continued on clearing bush.

Wednesday 16th.

Work continued on clearing bush.

Thursday 17th.

light rain all morning. Some work done.

Friday 18th.

The bush was cleared to the head of the causeway. walked to Hanahan arriving at 1620 hrs.

Saturday 19th.

Walked to Ketskets and held a meeting with the village Officials. Returned to Karoola in the afternoon.

Sunday 20th.

Observed.

Monday 21st.

No-one arrived until 1100hrs. Saharia promised to send some more men across the next day.

Tuesday 22nd.

7 more men arrived making a total of 19 men all told.

Wednesday 23rd.

Work on the formation started.

Thursday 24th.

Walked to Hanahan to attend meeting with Mr. (?) A.D.O.  
Friday 25th.

Returned to Karoola thence to Sohano per MV 'A(?)' for the  
weekend

Saturday 26th.

At Sohano.

Sunday 27th.

Returned to Karoola.

Monday 28th.

Walked to Hanahan to obtain statements pertaining to a alleged assault. No-one at all arrived for work.

Tuesday 29th.

Only 8 workers.

Wednesday 30th.

Work continued slowly.

Thursday 31st.

Brief visit to road then returned to house to finish ASOPA assignment.

Friday 1st September.

Paid 8 workers.

Saturday 2nd.

No work.

Sunday 3rd.

Observed.

Monday 4th.

Mr. James C.P.O. arrived to relieve. Showed him as to what the job entails.

Tuesday 5th.

Returned to Sohano early.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA  
PATROL REPORT

District of BOUGAINVILLE Report No BUKA No. 7/61-62

Patrol Conducted by R.W.WEBSTER Cadet Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled North Buka Island

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil

Natives Simon Kiha, Auxiliary Division Clerk.

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

Duration-From 19 / 10 /1961 to 27 / 10 / 1961

Number of Days Nine (9)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by-District Services / /19

Medical / /19

Map Reference

Objects of Patrol Census Revision, 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 .....

67-11-12

13th December, 1961.

The District Officer,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

PATROL REPORT - BUKA NO. 7/61-62

I thoroughly agree with your second paragraph.

If this is an indication of the present approach one can only despair.

Your summation of the Co-operative turnover has been brought to the attention of the Registrar.

I like to read of the excellent relations between the two Missions. Such co-operation is all too rare; really it is only a matter of the personalities of the two men in charge of each denomination.

By and large the attitude to the Administration seems fairly reasonable.

No doubt the "wait and see" attitude would be conditioned by what happens in the other parts of Buka Island.

(J.K. McCarthy)

Director.

67.11.12

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply

Please Quote

No. 67/1/3-957.

Department of Native Affairs,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

28th, November, 1961.

5-DEC 1961

The Director,

Department of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

PATROL REPORT - BUKA NO.7/61-62 - BOUGAINVILLE.

The Report of a Patrol to the North West Coastal Villages carried out by Mr. R. W. WEBSTER, Cadet Patrol Officer is attached. It is accompanied by a Memorandum 67/2/1 of 6th, November, 1961 which contains the comments of the Assistant District Officer. These are comprehensive and there is little remaining for me to say.

Mr. ZWECK, I think is quite correct when he says that BUKA is not 'anti Administration'. Although they seem to be suspicious to a degree almost of actual distrust of the Administration; too often in the past have they been led up ladders by sweet talk only to find their support taken away from them or at least shakily dangerous. they will not be pushed and are very hard to lead because of this.

Their attitude is all the easier come by because of their belief that we will not give them the secret of cargo or easy wealth.

Despite the constant carping of the people about their Co-operative Societies I consider they have little to gripe about. Payment of rebates are not as good as they could be but this is strictly the fault of the people themselves and it is entirely by their own foolishness that their overhead is so large and their turnover so low.

As a matter of interest the Annual Turnover for the Bougainville Societies for the last eight (8) years has been :-

1953/1954. £26,000/-/. 1957/1958. £31,000/-/.

1954/1955. £40,000/-/. 1958/1959. £29,000/-/.

1955/1956. £46,000/-/. 1959/1960. £69,000/-/.

1956/1957. £45,000/-/. 1960/1961. £60,000/-/.

This represents quite a lot of money placed in circulat-



ion in the District by the Societies.

Generally the attitude of the people is improving, mainly I believe because of greater contact which has been made possible by more constant Patrolling. To date there have been eight (8) Patrols to the BUKA.

(D. J. Clancy).

District Officer.

This is an  
(?) of  
(?)  
watch. One  
only  
rain.  
[illegible]

67/2/1

Sub-district Officer,  
Buka Passage Sub-district,  
BUKA.

6th November, 1961.

District Officer,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

Patrol Report - Buka No. 7/61-62.

Forwarded herewith is a report of a patrol conducted by Mr. R.W. Webster, Cadet Patrol Officer, to the North Buka Villages which have elected not to join the Buka N.L.G.C. This was Mr. Webster's first solo patrol, and he appears to have conducted it in a satisfactory manner. The following comments are offered:-

1. native Affairs.

I agree with Mr. Webster's remarks re the "wait and see" attitude of these people towards Councils. The fact they did ask him about them indicates that they are interested. I am quite confident that these people will wish to join the Council in the not too distant future.

The interest in the leta Land Scheme is fairly general right throughout Buka, and it is unfortunate that the scheme cannot be implemented.

The impression gained by Mr. Webster that the native people feel that the whites are withholding knowledge from them confirms my own ideas on the subject, which I have previously reported. They feel that there is an easy 'road' known to the white people, but that we will not let them into the secret.

As usual in the area, apparently only minor matters were brought to the notice of the patrol. Bad debts, usually from would be 'business man' who borrowed money from friends and relatives and then could not make a success of their ventures are very common right throughout Buka. Little can be done as in most cases the men concerned have not the cash to repay the debts.

2. Banking.

Necessary action has been taken with regard to the C.S.B. Passbooks collected by Mr. Webster.

3. Roads.

Little can be done to the road until such time as the team working from this end reach the area. I have frequently suggested to the people concerned that they back load coral on the Society tractor and HENINA's vehicle when they take copra to the wharf at Kessa. Unfortunately nothing has been done to

implement this suggestion. On a number of occasions I have been asked to post a roadmaster to the area, but this is not possible. Much could be done by the people themselves if they cared to do so. It would not be practicable to bar the vehicles mentioned from using the road - if it was done, there would be no point in having the road, as these two, together with the tractor from Kessa are the only vehicles which use it. However, less damage would result to the road, if these people confined their activities to periods when the road is dry. In the meantime, the only people affected by the poor state of the road are the natives themselves, as they use it to take copra to the Kessa wharf.

- 2 -

#### 4. Education.

Needs of the area are fairly adequately met by the Christian Missions. The standards of the schools are also being improved as more qualified teachers are becoming available.

#### 5. Missions.

I also have found that relations between the adherents of both sects are excellent. In fact at Lemanmanu all people combined to build a school for the Methodists and later one for the Catholics.

#### 6. Political Movements, Attitudes and Trends.

I am at a loss to account for the change in attitude towards Councils of the Lontis people. At the time of the survey they were 100% in favour, and appeared to be very keen on the idea. It could be caused by contact with other people in the area - Lontis was the only North Buka village in favour of joining the Council. Four men did come into see me, but unfortunately they were the ones who still wish to join the Council. They informed me that the movement against Councils, was started by a group of young men. Although Mr. Webster states that the headmen were still in favour, I have since been informed that they have also joined in with the young men.

I shall be visiting the area next week, in the course of Council elections, and will endeavour to get the people to stick by their original decision. They have been included in the proclamation, as the movement only got under way after the recommendation had been sent in - in actual fact all were in favour still until 16th October, 1961.

#### 7. Conclusion.

I do not agree with Mr. Webster when he states that a 'somewhat anti-Administration attitude' prevails in the area. These people are not, in my opinion, anti-Administration - rather they are inclined to be suspicious of Administration schemes. Their attitude seems to be 'wait and see' particularly with regard to Native Local Government.

#### 8. Agriculture.

Plantings of coconuts in the area have been considerable during the last two years. Most of these plantings have been along the coastal fringe, and this has forced the people to move inland for their subsistence gardens. However, distances involved are not great.

A copy of this Appendix has been forwarded to the District Agricultural Officer.

#### 9. Health.

I also have been approached regarding the posting of an Aid Post Orderly to LEMANKOA. Originally there was a post there, but it was moved to LEMANMANU. I discussed the matter with the District Medical Officer and the Medical Assistant, and they were of the opinion that the needs of these three villages - LONTIS, LEMANKOA and LEMANMANU - were adequately catered for by the Aid Posts at LONTIS and LEMANMANU.

A copy of this Appendix has been forwarded to the District Medical Officer.

#### 10. Economic Development.

Copra remains the main source of income for these people and will continue to do so. Although not producing to full capacity, production is xxx reasonable. The building of the Kessa wharf has considerably lessened freight costs to the producer, particularly in the case of the HAKU Native Society Limited, which formerly shipped to Buka Passage by the Association vessel BNSA.

Generally speaking, the patrol and the report covering it is quite good for a first solo patrol.

C1 aim for Camping Allowances is attached.

(A.J.Z.WECK)ADO

Introduction :-

The object of the patrol was the Census revision and general Administration of those North Buka villages which have signified their unwillingness to join the proposed Buka Native Local Government Council. The same tasks were carried out at Sing when the villages was visited on Tuesday 17th October.

Throughout the patrol a close degree of co-operation was encountered inasmuch as carriers were readily obtainable an except where the person concerned was absent either at work or school, a 100% attendance was obtained at the Census.

Simon Kiha, Auxiliary Division Clerk, accompanied the patrol and proved of invaluable assistance in the routine matter of the patrol.

Diray :-

Tuesday 17th October. Proceeded to SING per Landrover with Mr. A. Pitt, Patrol Officer, for Census revision and routine Administration. Returned to station 3pm.

Thursday 19th October. Departed Sohano per M.V. ISIS 8.15am arriving at Kessa 1pm. Due to the weather were unable to proceed to Lemankoa. Sent word for carriers. Slept Kessa.

Friday 20th. Carriers arrived in afternoon. Left for Lemankoa in light rain. Arrived 5.30pm. Slept Lemankoa.

Saturday 21st. As the weather was still wet and gusty decided to postpone the Census revision until Monday. Listened to complaints during the day. Visited Lontis during the afternoon, and listened to deputation regarding councils( See Political Movements). Slept Lemakoa.

Sunday 22nd Observed. Listened to complaints in the afternoon.

Monday 23rd. Revised Census at Lemankoa and

departed for Lemanmanu in the afternoon.

Listened to complaints and adjudicated where possible. Slept Lemanmanu.

Tuesday 24th . Revised Census Lemanmanu and departed for Tandeki in heavy rain arriving at

rest-house 3.30pm. Slept Hanpan.

Wednesday 25th. Revised Census Tandeki. No complaints.

Moved to Hanpan and revised Census.

Listened to complaints and inspected

Thursday 26th. village. Walked to Lemanmanu and thence  
by canoe to Kessa arriving at 4pm.

2.

Thursday 26th. (cont'd) Radioed Sohano for workboat to collect me at Kessa. Slept Kessa.

Friday 27th. Departed Kessa 8am per M.V.HAZEL, calling at karoola to collect policeman thence to petats to collect Mr. Tillman Co-ops Officer, arriving at Sohano approx. 12.30pm.

Native Affairs.

One of the more noticeable traits of the people visited is an attitude, not of mistrust but of a "wait and see" nature, in Administration sponsored schemes. This does not seem to affect the established matters such as Census revision and general Administration, but it is reflected in the fact that the majority of the people have rejected the proposed Buka Local Government Council. It is also shown, but not in such a direct manner, by the questions asked concerning the leta Land Scheme. Questions such as "What is the object of the scheme?", "How will it be implemented?" and "Will we (the native people) benefit or is it just another scheme to take our land?"; were asked and replied to. This appeared to clear up many doubts and several people said that they considered it to be an excellent idea. One of the more frequent questions addressed to the patrol was when could the proposed Council be expected to commence. As no proclamation had been made at that date reply was made that the council was expected to hold its initial meeting in the very near future.

An impression gained from informal talks with the people is that there is an increasing awareness of the value of land and the rewards that the working of the land ; in the form of copra and cocoa production ; can bring. It is probably this awareness that has prompted the interest in the leta Land Scheme. However, despite this awareness that money comes from hard work and it is money that buys material goods, there is an underlying feeling that we ( the whites) are holding out on them (the native people) and will not show them the easy to obtain these material things. This was brought home rather forcibly when, one man, of considerable wealth and position, and who obviously had a fair knowledge of the European way of life , asked the patrol in all seriousness, to explain to him how he could obtain the material things of life the way the European does. A long discussion followed by it is doubtful whether the man was at all impressed. There also seems to be a constant bickering between the people over minor problems. It would appear to an outsider



that they are unable to reach an amicable agreement over even the smallest problem, hence the large number of complaints brought to the attention of the patrol. Perhaps the most common complaint was one concerning pigs. Previous instructions had been given to the effect that all pigs were to be kept in a secure pen but it was apparent that these instructions had not been heeded. In consequence, a multitude of pigs were observed in the villages, along the road and doubtlessly, further afield in the gardens. It was explained to a number of complainants that, until such time as the pigs were securely penned there would be endless tales of pigs destroying gardens or mistakenly killed as wild pigs.

3.

Other minor problems relating to bride price, bad debts and loans were frequent and where possible a settlement was reached.

No complaints requiring Court action were brought to the attention of the patrol.

Villages and Housing.

Villages were generally clean and well kept although some houses were in immediate need of replacement. The patrol was informed that materials were to hand for the construction of new dwellings. Several partially completed dwellings of a very ambitious design were observed.

Water supply is somewhat of a problem as there are no permanent streams in the area. Water is obtained either from seepage at the water's edge at low tide or from 44 gallon drums scattered throughout the village. Several buildings with iron roofs are situated in the villages and suggestions were made that provision be made for collection and storage of the run-off.

Sanitary facilities were generally satisfactory.

Census.

See attached Village Population Register.

Attendance during Census revision; except where the person concerned was aged and unable to walk, absent at work or at school; was 100%. An overall increase of 5% was observed.

Village Officials.

While one or two of the village officials appear to be ineffective, the majority are doing a satisfactory job towards keeping village affairs in order. No changes are recommended at the present time.

Banking.

23 C.S.B. passbooks were collected for necessary action. many of these passbooks were listed in the Depositors Unclaimed Fund (Ref. District Officer's 28/4/3-714 of 16th September, 1961) having not been operated for some 8-10 years. Several others, although not listed but due shortly for inclusion, were collected.

4.

#### Roads.

The main Buka road passes through this area and terminates at Kessa Plantation. It forms the major outlet for the area and plays a very important part in the economy of the region : the majority of the copra production being shipped out per this road. Hence it is important that it is kept in good condition all the time and not only after a long dry spell. Over the last months or so heavy rains have kept the road surface perpetually wet with the result that the vehicles traversing the road have damaged the road to such an extent that it is virtually impassable between Kessa Plantation boundary and Lemenkoa. Between Lemankoa and Iltopan the road is in a fairly good state of repair except for one or two small sections near Lemanmanu.

Complaints were made that the Co-operative's Lanz tractor and a Dodge weapons-carrier owned by Hinina of Lemanmanu were causing the damage and requests made that they be barred from using the road. This is not the case however, it is more lack of maintenance by the people than excess usage. This was explained to the people and instruction given to the effect that on the "Government day" all men and women able, should attempt to keep the road in fair condition.

#### Education.

Approximately 560 children attend both Methodist and Roman Catholic Mission schools in the village staffed by mission trained teachers or at mission centres such as Skotolan, Chabai, and Kihili in the Buin area. 31 students attend Government schools at Sohano and Buin. There are at present 4 boys studying at schools in Australia, 3 of these coming from Hanpan village.

Attendance is not quite 100% as there are a number of children of school age not attending school. It was explained to the parents of the children that education has many advantages and it was their duty to see that children attended school daily. It is hoped that in the near future an increase in attendance will be noted.

#### Missions.

There are two denominations firmly established in this area : Methodists and Roman Catholics the latter being predominant. Cohesion between the two faiths is excellent with little or no evidence that the two groups do not co-operate in all things.

The Roman Catholics have a resident Priest at

Lemanmanu and the arrival of 3 Sisters is expected in the very near future. The nearest Methodist Mission is at Skotolan on the West coast of Buka.

(?)

Mission

(?) C. (?)

is all to

name.

(?)

(?) the (?)

(?)

(?)

[illegible]

5.

Political Movements. Attitudes and trends.

The only noticeable change of attitude toward Administration sponsored schemes occurred when a deputation from Lontis stated that they no longer wished to join the proposed Buka Native Local Government Council. On questioning this the patrol was met with a wall of silence and could obtain no reason for the sudden about turn. This information was reported by radio to Mr. A. Zweck A.D.O. on 27/10/61.

Apart from this change the people of the area remained firm in their unwillingness to join the Council, while the headmen at the time of the patrol appeared to me to be firm in their desire to be included. Once the council is established and functioning smoothly a change of attitude may result.

Conclusion.

Although a somewhat "Anti Administration" attitude prevails throughout the area patrolled, the patrol was carried out without any complication arising. The people co-operated well and seemed keen to bring their troubles to the "Kiap". Generally the patrol was well received and it perhaps, and indication of a changing feeling toward the Administration, in the area.

Attached:

Appendix "A" Agriculture

"B" Health

"C" Economic Development

Census Figures

R.W.WEBSTER

Cadet Patrol Officer

Patrol Report Buka No.7-61/62.

Appendix "A"

Agriculture.

The agricultural pursuits of the area can be divided up into two groups :-

1. Subsistence plantings of Kaukau,
2. The cash cropping of coconuts and more recently of cacao.

The gardens visited appeared satisfactory and sufficient for the immediate needs of the people but it was noticed that plantings are extending more and more toward the interior of the island indicated mainly by the fact the available land near the coast is being used exclusively for coconut plantings.

The majority of coconut groves are situated in a narrow coastal strip 300-400 yards wide extending from Kessa Plantation boundary to Hanpan with very few patches not planted or being planted. There is evidence of North Buka will be a continuous strip of coconut palms. The groves themselves are generally clean as are the driers and their surrounds.

The cacao plantings inspected did not seem to be as well tended and several trees were showing signs of damage from recent high winds.

Patrol Buka No. 7-61/62.

Appendix "B"

Health.

The health of the area appears generally good and as a recent P.H.D.patrol has visited this area little comment is necessary.

A deputation of headmen and interested parties from Lemankoa approached the patrol with a view to having an Aid-post established in the villages of Lemankoa. It was explained to them that as there was an Aid-post at both Lontis and Lemanmanu as well as the Roman Catholic Mission at Lemanmanu it was not necessary for there to be another in Lemankoa. Should this still not be satisfactory they were referred to the District Medical Officer at Sohano.

The Aid-posts at Lontis and Lemankoa were inspected and found to be in a satisfactory state of repair and from appearances are well patronized.

Patrol report Buka No. 7-61/62.

Appendix "C"

Economic Development.

At present the economy of this region is based almost entirely on copra production with a small percentage of cacao forming a secondary crop. It is evident, however, that cacao is going to become a much larger money earner as plantings are being extended further inland where the land is more suited to cocoa production. It is also evident, in the light of new plantings, that copra production is on the increase and will remain the major source of income. Greater interest is being taken in better methods of production and improved drying. This interest is prompted by the fact that many of the native producers are shipping their copra direct to Rabaul under their own C.M.B. number, and should the copra be of sub-standard quality it is likely to be rejected. Much of the copra is shipped by the Co-operatives by way of tractor to Kessa where a native owned wharf is situated, thence by ship to Rabaul.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA  
PATROL REPORT

District of Bougainville      Report No BUKA 8-61-62

Patrol Conducted by    G.M. James, Cadet Patrol Officer  
Area Patrolled        Buka

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans   Nil  
Natives 1 member R.P.&N.G.C.  
Duration-From 4 / 9 /1961 to 2 / 11 / 1961

Number of Days   60

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?   NO  
Last Patrol to Area by-District Services   / /19  
Medical   / /19

Map Reference

Objects of Patrol    Road Supervision

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

18 /12 /1961

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation .... £

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

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

67.11.13  
TERRITORY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

In Reply  
Please Quote  
No. 67/1/3-7.  
Department of Native Affairs,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.  
18th, December, 1961.  
27 DEC 1961  
The Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.  
PATROL REPORT - BUKA NO. 8 OF 1961/1962.

Please find enclosed a Report of a Patrol  
carried out by Mr. Cadet Patrol Officer, JAMES.  
Mr. JAMUS main object was to oversee the  
continued construction of the HANAHAN/KAROOOLA  
Road.

I agree with Mr. NEAL that we cannot afford  
to pay 5/- per day to Raod [Road] Workers but I do whole-  
heartedly sympathise with the people in their efforts  
to get a higher wage. The Road is being constructed  
for the peoples' ultimate benefit but this does not  
mean that the individual should make unfair sacrifices.

(D. J. CLANCY).  
DISTRICT OFFICER.  
16/1  
(?)  
pls. ask (?) on  
(?)

67/2/1-127

Sub-District Office,  
BUKA.

Bougainville District.

4th December, 1961.

District Officer,  
SOHANO.

BUKA PATROL REPORT No. 8 of 1961/62.

Your memo 67/1/3-965 of 29th November, 1961, refers.

Please find attached 3copies of Buka Patrol Report No. 8 of 1961/62, by Mr. Cadet Patrol Officer G.M.James, now resubmitted as a patrol report.

Comments made earlier by Mr. A.J.ZWECK in his covering memo 67/1/2 of 11th November, 1961, still apply to this report.

Only one further comment comes to mind under the section of labour with the men from the area asking for higher wages, at 5/- per day. As far as I am aware, an increase in wages for this work is not possible. But surely, the fact that only 1/- per day is paid, whether it is only tobacco money or not is immaterial, the salient point is that it is THEIR road and they want it. Further, THEY are going to receive the benefits from it as an outlet for THEIR copra. In reality, why should they be paid anything at all for we are providing the assistance with equipment, and the only only people to get benefits from it will be themselves and probably Mr. BABBAGE if he utilises it to purchase trade copra from HANAHAN area. Even then income from produce will be going to the people.

A claim for camping allowance is attached.

M.V.NEAL.

Assistant District Officer.

Introduction:

The Hanahan-Karoola road was concerned in November, 1960, to creat[create] an economical outlet for the cppra [copra] produced by the people of the Hanahan area. The road extends accross Buka Island from Hanahan village on the east coast to Karoola (plantation) on the west coast. No commercial snipping will call at places on the east coast due to the lack of suitable ports, the presence of a shallow reef close in-shore, and the absence of an outer reef.

The road is being built by the men from the five villages of Hanahan, Hagus, Ketskets, Kotopan, and Tohatsi.

The length of the road is ten miles, the first 7 miles from Hanahan to Karoola east boundary being through heavy bush, although the terrain is generally flat. From the east boundary of Karoola plantation is a formed road for 1 mile, to where the road branches-off to the North-West. From this point to the terminus of the road on the coast, the first 112miles afford no obstacles, but the last half-mile is through tidal mangrove swamp.

On the 4th of September, I took over the supervision of the road construction from Mr. Cadet Patrol Officer Hollamby.

Diary:

September: 4th: Arrived Karoola per 'Isis' to relieve Mr. Hollamby.

11 men on road Labour-line.

5th: Inspected labour-line, and saw over the old Mission road through the swamp.

6th: Inspected line. Radiogram from A.D.O. Buka inquiring had I found Treasury advance, thought to be still at Buka. Replied to affirmative.

7th: Inspected line in morning, but strong wind and rain in afternoon. Radiogram from A.D.O. Buka to send £20 (advance from Mr Hollamby) safe-hand per Mr.Beddows, but did not, because he did not go to Sohano due to wind and sea conditions.

8th: Inspected line in morning, and paid-off in afternoon.

9th: £20 sent safe-hand per Master, MV 'Michael' to A.D.O. Buka. Proceeded to Hanahan in afternoon.

10th: Observed Sabbath at Hanahan Mission.

11th: Proceeded Karoola ex Hanahan in morning. 12 men came for work.

12th: Inspected line in morning.

13th: Inspected line in morning.

14th: Inspected line in morning.

15th: Rain in morning, but fine in afternoon. Paid-off line during afternoon.

16th: Remained at Kapiali (portion of Karoola.)

17th: Remained at Kapiali.

18th: 19 men from HAGUS arrived for road-work in afternoon.

19th: Inspected line in morning, but rain in afternoon  
help up work.

20th: Inspected line in morning.

21st: Inspected line in morning, heavy rain in afternoon.

22nd: Inspected line in morning, and paid-off 19men in  
afternoon.

23rd: Remained Kapiali.

24th: Remained Kapiali.

25th: Radio conversation with Mr. Clancy in morning re  
my A.S.O.P.A. assignments. Instructed to return on 'Michael',  
due Thursday. Inspected line in morning.

26th: Inspected line in morning, and got names of labourers  
as I would not be there on Friday to pay them.

27th: Inspected line in morning, and told workers that I  
would be going to Sohano, and that I would pay them on my return.

28th: 'Michael' arrived, and as she had 'Isis' under  
escort [escort] from Rabaul, I took 'Isis' to Sohano.

29th: At Sohano.

30th: At Sohano.

October: 1st: At Sohano.

2nd: At Sohano.

3rd: Left Sohano 7.50am, and arrived Karoola 12 noon.

Inspected line in afternoon.

4th: Labour-line clearing bush preparatory to cutting road around an embankment. Requested rock-drill from Sohano, but advised none available.

5th: Heavy rain all day, so did not inspect line.

6th: Inspected line in morning, and paid-off 15 men in afternoon.

7th: Proceeded Hanahan, and paid-off those who worked last week.

8th: Observed Sabbath at Hanahan Mission.

9th: Returned Kapiali ex Hanahan. Heavy rain from 9 am to well into afternoon.

10th: Inspected line in morning. Advised A.D.O. Buka of labour-roll for last two weeks.

11th: Very heavy rain all day. In evening, Mr. Bevan asked me accrose to his place for dinner. At about 8 pm, one of his house-staff told him there was a riot in the labour quarters.

12th: Mr. Bevan came to me at 7am, and told me that one of the Sepik labourers had hit tractor-driver RAPHAEL, splitting his scalp and leaving a 3' wound, which I saw. At 9 am, Mr. Bevan, myself, four of the Sepik labourers who had been the leaders in the previous night's riot, and four Buka men, three of whom were in jured in the fighting, mainly in quelling the riot, proceeded to Sohano.

13th: I returned to Karoola per 'Isis', as I was not needed by the court. Paid-off line xxxxxxxx afternoon.

14th: Proceeded Hanahan in moring, and had meeting with Villages Officials of the five villages concerning the road labour.

15th: Observed Sabbath at Hanahan Mission.

16th: Proceeded Kapiali in morning, and inspected line in afternoon. 18 men arrived in morning.

17th: Inspected line in morning, and was told that two more men were coming.

18th: Inspected line in morning.

19th: Inspected line in morning.

20th: Inspected line in morning, and was told that the two extra men (see 17th.) arrived at 7 am.

21st: Proceeded Hanhan.

22nd: Observed Sabbath at Hanahan Mission.

23rd: Proceeded Kapiali. Inspected line afternoon.

17 men arrived.

24th: Inspected line in morning.

25th: Inspected line in morning.

26th: Inspected line in morning. Three extra men arrived yesterday afternoon, after work.

27th: Inspected line in morning, and paid-off 20 men in afternoon.

28th: Remained Kapiali.

29th: Remained Kapiali.

30th Inspected line in morning: 13 men.

31st: Inspected line in morning, and in afternoon received message from A.D.O. Buka, to return Buka Thursday.

November: 1st: Inspected line [line] in morning, and in afternoon, paid-off 19 men.

2nd: returned Sohano per (Isis'.

Roads and Bridges:

When I took over supervision of the road from Mr. Hollamby, the first 7 miles of the road had been drained and benched, as far as the east terminus of the Karoola main road. This latter road is formed, and required no further xxx attention. Also, the first 150 yards of the road from Karoola's road to the beach had been had been drained and benched. the road-head is no 100yards from the edge of the swamp and the start of the causeway.

The road is no crowned or cambered to assist run-off of water, but is table-topped.

The surface of the road is compacted soil with a grassed coverage. Ditched 18" wide and 2' deep were dug on both

sides of the road, with herring-bone ditches into the bush at the appropriate points.

In the main, the road is across flat or gently sloping ground. There is one embankment around a gully, which is a water-course only in rains.

Tools:

When I left Karoola on 2nd November, the following tools were at the site:

Axes 13 Rake/Hoes 2

Spades 14 Handcarts 2

Picks 5 Oilcans 1 (with oil supply)

Bush-knives 2 Spanners 1 (112" adjustable)

Labour:

The people seem to have lost most of their interest in the road, as indicated by the attendance figures, eg. 11, 12, 18, 13, 15, 13, 18, 20, and 1(?) respectively for nine weeks, giving the Monday attendances only. In the last three weeks, I sent messages across to the various villages, and 2, 1, and 4 extra men came, making the totals for the last three weeks 20, 21, and 19.

Due to the falling-off in attendance, I went to Hanahan villages on 14th October, acting on the instructions of A.D.O. Buka, and had a meeting with the Village Officials and others of the five villages. At this meeting I stressed the fact that the road was the responsibility of the Hanahan-area people, and that they must keep to Mr. Zweck's arrangement, whereby each of the five villages sent four men per week, making a labour-force of 20 each week. This system was not adhered to by all villages.

During this meeting the question of pay arose, and one man asked for £1.5.0 per week, 5/- per day. I explained to the meeting as best I could with my limited knowledge of the finance of the project, that the sum of 5/- per day was most impractical. Most of the men who approached me then and at other times concerning increased pay told me that the present wage (1/- per day) was not enough to sustain interest in the road's construction, and that it was only tobacco money.

Conclusion:

As the road is a bench only, and is not yet surfaced, it is not ready for wheeled transport. There is thick bush close-in on both sides of the road for all but the first mile of the Hanahan-Karoola east [east] boundary section, which keeps it moist and unsettled. There is quite a lot of foot-traffic over the road, but it is all over a well-defined foot-pad.

The first section of the road, near Hanahan village, is compacting well, and a tractor from Hanahan Catholic Mission has made



several trips of about three-quarters of a mile down the road, each in dry weather, and no difficulty was experienced.

There is still a lot of work to be done on the road: it is yet to be surfaced, three culverts have to be built, and half-mile causeway to be laid.

Due to the above factors, it is difficult to form any estimation of a completion-date for the project.

(G. M. James)

Cadet Patrol Officer.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA  
PATROL REPORT

District of BOUGAINVILLE Report No. BUKA 17-61/62

Patrol Conducted by C. M. James Cadet Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled West Coast part & East Coast [illegible]

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 1 Council CLERK , 1 Council Const. 3 TAX TRIBUNAL

Duration-From 28/3/1962 to 6/4 1962

Number of Days SIXTEEN (16)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany NO

Last Patrol to Area by-District Services -/2/1962

Medical //19

Map Reference BOUGAINVILLE NORTH Fourmil

Objects of Patrol 1) (?) Tax Collection Supervision

2) CHECK-UP ON COUNCIL PROJECTS.

3) GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Duplicate

held.

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

67-11-32

The District Officer,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

1st June, 1962.

Patrol Report No.17 of 1961/62 - Mr.G.M.James,  
Cadet Patrol Officer

1. Your memorandum 67-1-3/604 of the 23rd May, 1962, covered the above Report.
2. The Report reveals much good observation by Mr.James and I congratulate him on it. It was the first patrol conducted by the officer and in the circumstances I would have preferred to see it carried out on foot - without the aid of a motor vehicle.

3.Roads:

Progress by the Works Department appears slow and, bearing in mind the great importance of this work, I hope that the District Commissioner is expediting the work as much as possible. The completion of the road will have a great deal to do with the rehabilitation of the unsettled areas of Buka.

Your request that an amount of £40 be allotted for each bridge is being taken up and you will be further informed, However, this is, of course, a matter for the District Commissioner is taking.

4.Council Tax:

Mr.James states that the Council Tax could be increased to £4 for males and either 10/- or 15/- for women.

Presumably you support such an increase and agree that the increased tax could be paid without inconvenience or hardship by the people.

From a study of the numbers of bearing coconut palms and cocoa trees which are listed by Mr.James, I estimate the following production:

Copra - 230 tons (?) month

Cocoa - 44 "

With an estimated return to the growers of £50 per ton for copra and £180 per ton for cocoa, the income of the Council people from these two principal crops would be £19,600.

Tax paid is £2,214 (plus outstanding collections).

This represents about 18th of the value of the copra/cocoa production.

-2-

If you agree that the Council tax be increased to £4 for males and 15/- for females, then revenue will be doubled or, in other words, the people will be paying a 14 of this production income as tax.

Can they afford this?

You say they can. I wonder if you have given it proper thought?

5. Let us look at the tax/production figures from the Rabaul Councils:

Income from Copra (9000 tons) =£450,000

“ “ Cocoa £1200 tons) =£216,000

Total = £666,000

Tax paid (At £4/5 per head for males) = £35,985

Which represents about 1/18th of the production income in tax.

The Tolai, therefore, pay only 1/18th of this income as tax, while the Buka people pay 18th - you then state that this can be increased to 14.

The above hardly represents the true Tolai position for, in addition to copra/cocoa income, the people have two other sources of revenue which are scarcely comparable among the poorer Buka.

6. The market at Rabaul produces an estimated income of £620,000 per annum, and the stevedoring industry is large indeed at Rabaul.

If we add £620,000 to the Tolai income, it will be seen that the proportion of tax paid is about 1/38th.

7. While a sound Council Treasury is most desirable, care must be taken to avoid over-taxation; the people must have money for their individual needs, which adds up to general better living.

It is the District Officer's duty to advise the Councils in this. The facts should be plainly given to the people when they are considering an increase in tax. I have given an example of how this can be done in the foregoing. With this understanding existing, the dangers of over taxation "for prestige" will not occur.

8. From this you will see why I do not like mere optimistic statements such as "copra plantings and production are increasing" or "the people can well afford a higher rate of tax". Such views should be supported by a proper survey of the facts.

-3-

9. I think, therefore, that both Mr.Neal, A.D.O., and yourself might have made some comment on this aspect of Mr.James' report instead of merely agreeing with it by non-comment.

You might care to reappraise your belief that an increased rate of tax at Buka can be afforded by the people.

J.Km

(J.K.McCarthy),

18/6

67.11.32

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In reply

Please Quote

No67-1-3/ 604

Department of Native Affairs,

Bougainville District,

S O H A N O.

23rd May, 1962.

28May 1962

The Director,

Department of Native Affairs,

KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

PATROL REPORT \_ BUKA PASSAGE NO.17 of 1961/62

TO BUKA NATIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT AREA

MR. G. M. JAMES C.P.O.

Please find attached a report of a patrol to the Council Area of Buka Island. The report is submitted by Mr. G.M. James C.P.O.

The objects of the patrol were: -

- (a) Collection of Council Tax.
- (b) Check up on the progress of Council Projects.
- (c) General Routine Administration.

The points raised by Mr. James have been adequately covered by the Assistant District Officer in his 67/2/1-273 of 14th May, 1962.

This was Mr. James' first patrol and his report is a good one.

(D.J. CLANCY).

DISTRICT OFFICER.

c.c.

Assistant District Officer,

BUKA PASSAGE.

67/2/1- 273.

Sub-District officer,  
HUTSENA.

Bougainville District.

14th May, 1962.

District Officer,  
SOHANO.

BUKA PATROL REPORT No.17 of 1961/62.

Please find enclosed three copies of a report compiled by Mr Cadet Patrol Officer G.M.JAMES, following his recent patrol to the West Coast and SOLUS Census Divisions of Buka Island. A copy of the patrol instructions issued to him are enclosed and also a claim for camping allowance.

Comments are as follows:

Tax Collection.

This appears to have [been] collected satisfactorily and with no incidents occurring whatsoever. A total amount collected to date which includes also Mr Pitt's small collection at the four villages North of Hanahan amounts to £2521.x.0. the overall figure for the two collections for 1961 and 1962 now stands at £5013. There are still many payments outstanding as mentioned in this report, to which must added people away at work at Sohano, Madehas and probably the Plantations of Dewau, Karoola and maybe Jamex.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Mr James has I think accurately summed up the situation as far as the West Coast and Solus areas are concerned but I think that the East coast villages are now very pro-Council and not particularly apprehensive at all. the people there are going ahead steadily with their Council Water project work and if their Councillors are any judge they are extremely voluble on Council topics and questions.

The tax tribunal apparently exercised its functions satisfactorily. What Mr James writes is true, a dominant personality on such a tribunal must be watched carefully to ensure that the other members are not overruled.

HEALTH.

The provision of toilets and their usage would be one of the prime objects of the Rural Health Centre team if it comes to Buka. Many toilets are existent in all villages but few are used.

It is gratifying to note that both of these infant welfare services are receiving support from the people. Incidentally I understand that Women's Welfare activities are also run by Mrs Cornwell from SKOTOLAN Methodist Mission on Child clinic days at

PETATS Island.



- 2 -

#### ROADS AND BRIDGES.

The Council will be unable to provide funds for these bridges during this year and because of the state of them at present they require replacing as quickly as possible. Could the Department of Public Works possibly allocate money for these bridges, may £40 each, this year?

Reconstruction work is going ahead steadily in this SOLUS road with 12 men working full time on ditching and benching.

The Works Supervisor, Sohano has approved the additional; employment of 12 men to work on the road from BEIKUT to BARIKUA villages, but I am awaiting the arrival of spades etc., before starting them off.

#### COUNCILLORS.

The Council in Buka is new and personalities will probably not emerge rapidly, however, I think that ultimately they will as the electors come to understand the system better. The Vice-President KESKES of PETATS Island is a personality within the Council and has repeatedly shown a keen appreciation of the problems and questions in Council meetings. He may not appear so outstanding when seen in the village as there are many other 'BIG' men there, some of them associated with the long established and successful Co-operative Society there.

#### MISSIONS.

The standard of education is rising quicker than we think. In a recent conversation with Reverend Cornwall of the Methodist Mission, SKOTOLAN he told me how surprised he was one day when he realised that the average age of his standard V class is now about 12 years old. It was only some four to five years ago he said when the few that were at this standard were all adults of nineteen and twenty years old.

The Catholic Mission school at BEI has long been a problem for the Mission Father at GAGAN. The teachers he keeps on sending there just will not stay, they do not apparently like the place or the people. This mission, I believe, is also having problems with the main school at GAGAN, in that their Standard III teacher has recently resigned and they have had to close down that class temporarily. Just what the current position is I do not know but I anticipate visiting the area shortly and will make enquiries.

#### ANTHROPOLOGY

I think it is possible that this type of sing sing or dance has been introduced by the Catholic Mission or some of its teachers as I have seen similar performances at KOTOPAN on Buka

Island some three years ago.

AGRICULTURE.

This problem of permitting "green" nuts to be smoked with other good nuts must be stopped, and it is something that the Department of Agriculture must tackle. I have seen occurrences of this in the xxxxx SOLUS and at LONAHAN village several times and on numerous occasions have told people to discard these nuts and use them only for seed. An overall agricultural patrol of Buka Island is long overdue.

The tree count figure supplies by Mr James are those supplied by the Agricultural Department last year and I believe are not accurate. I have recently been talking to the District Agricultural Officer, at KUBU who estimates that there are

- 3 -

somewhere in the region of 600,000 coconuts on Buka Island and adjacent islands. He has promised to supply me with details of his annual statistical report which he submits during the first week in July, this he claims will be extremely accurate. The coca figures supplied by Mr James are considered to be accurate.

#### COUNCIL PROJECTS.

These are now going ahead steadily. Mr James is currently moving around all the SOLUS and East Coast villages advising on tank stand construction etc., as is also the President of the Council Anton Kearei. Construction of tanks has commenced and some 24 tanks have already been moved to village sites ready for installation.

#### CONCLUSION.

This was Mr James' first solo patrol and I think that he is to be commended on the way he carried it out and on the amount of information he has presented in his report. the only criticism I should like to make is that he tends to condense matters a little too much and is often too cryptical in his comments. the result becomes a mass of detail with little to support it in the way of narrative and explanation.

A good first report.

M.V.NEAL.

A/Assistant District Officer.

c.c. Mr. G. M. James. C.P.O.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply

67/2/1-192 Please Quote

Sub-District Office

BUKA,

Bougainville District.

22nd March, 1962.

Mr. G. M. James,

Cadet Patrol Officer,

HUTSENA.

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS.

You are instructed to depart on a patrol of the West Coast of Buka Island for the purpose of collecting Council Tax for 1962. You are Not a Tax Collector, nor are you a representative of the District Officer, so that you cannot participate actively in the actual collection. The Council Clerk, Andrew KOMORO, and three tax Tribunal members will carry out the collection. You will stand by as an observer and you should be able to assist in bringing the money collected to balance.

The work boat will remain with you for the entirety of the patrol, and you should complete the work by the 4th April, 1962, at the latest.

Councillor MAGUM is the most experienced member of the tribunal so let him address the people on the subject and purposes of council Tax. Impress on the three tribunal members that it is their job to act impartially and not to give indiscriminate exemptions nor of course to impose hardship by insisting on payment in particular cases.

Ensure that you carry out the following points:

- (a) Contact the three tribunal members, to see that Cr. MAGUM of MALASANG accompanies you on the work boat from Sohano. The other two, Councillors BUSON and HANAIT, of HITAU and TUNG respectively should meet you at HITAU.
- (b) During the patrol, check up on Council projects commenced during your recent patrol with the me through the area.
- (c) Inspect all villages especially for sanitation and hygiene.
- (d) You should have discussions with local Councillors and headmen in their villages on local affairs.
- (e) On your way to HITAU call at PETATS Island to publicate the fact that you will be collecting tax during the following week.
- (f) I shall expect a normal patrol report from you on your return.
- (g) You should contact the Government Store and draw some rations for your tax tribunal for one week. See the District Officer at Sohano.
- (h) No members of the R.P. & N.G.C. will accompany the patrol, but you

will take the Council Constable TORPEI.

(i) You should not require a patrol advance but you may draw 31lbs of stick tobacco from the Sub-District Office store.

(j) Should any disputes arise requiring court action you will send all the interested parties to me at Hutsena.

I wish you a pleasant patrol.

(M. V.Neal)

A/ADO.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply

Please Quote

No. 67/1/1-

Sub-District Office,

BUKA.

4th May, 1962.

Assistant District Officer,

Buka Passage Sub-District,

BUKA.

PATROL NUMBER BUKA 17-61/62:

BUKA ISLAND : WEST COAST, PART OF EAST COAST, AND SOLUS.

Officer Conducting Patrol : G. M. James, Cadet Patrol Officer:

Area Patrolled : West Coast, part of East Coast, and Solus areas:

Objects of Patrol: 1. Council Tax collection supervision;

2. Check-up on Council Projects;

3. General Administration;

Duration of Patrol: 28th March to 16th April, 1962;

Patrol Accompanied by: Andrew Komoro, Council Clerk, Buka N.L.G.C.;

TOPEI, Constable, Buka N.L.G.C. ,

Cr. MAGUN, TAX TRIBUNAL Member;

Cr. BUSAN, " " " ; and

Cr. HANAIT, " " " .

No members R.P.& N.G.C. accompanied the patrol.

INTRODUCTION: The objects of the patrol were the supervision of the collection of tax for the Buka Native

Local Government Council, collected by Andrew KOMORO, Council Clerk, secondly a check-up on Council projects initiated by Mr. A/ADO Neal patrol Buka 14-61/62, and thirdly general administration.

2. The writer, not being a representative of a District Officer within the meaning of the Native Local Government Councils Ord., 1949-1960, did not collect the tax, but merely supervised the collection thereof by the Council Clerk.

3. The Council projects to be checked were the construction of coronas-and-sand tank-stands, for the Council's project of supplying two, one-thousand-gallon water tanks to each member-village.

4. General Administration was concerned with minor

disputes and litigation, general enquiries, Savings Bank operations, and other contingencies as they arose.

Patrol Buka 17-61/62, contd. (--2--)

TAX COLLECTION: The patrol visited 26 villages during its duration, and collected £2,214. 10. 0.

from them. with [a] few exceptions, where tax-payers were absent from the village, or where there was a periodic shortage of money, there were no tax defaulters of either sex. 314 tax exemption tickets were issued by the Tribunal, after individual deliberations.

6. An analysis of the tax receipts are as follows:

| Book Number                   | Number of Males | Amount        | Number of females | Amount         | Total       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|---------------|-------------------|----------------|-------------|
| 1.                            | 54              | £108.         | 44                | £11. 0.        | 119. 0. 0.  |
| 2.                            | 52              | 104..         | 49                | 12. 0.         | 116. 0. 0.  |
| 3.                            | 51              | 99.           | 49                | 12. 5.         | 111. 5. 0.  |
| 4.                            | 49              | 97.           | 51                | 12. 15.        | 109 15. 0.  |
| 5.                            | 52              | 103.          | 48                | 12. 0.         | 115. 0. 0.  |
| 6.                            | 48              | 96.           | 52                | 13. 0.         | 109. 0. 0.  |
| 7.                            | 51              | 102.          | 49                | 12. 5.         | 114. 5. 0.  |
| 8.                            | 41              | 82.           | 59                | 14. 15.        | 96. 15. 0.  |
| 9.                            | 46              | 91.           | 54                | 13. 10.        | 104. 10. 0. |
| 10.                           | 51              | 99.           | 49                | 12. 5.         | 111. 5. 0.  |
| 11.                           | 55              | 99. 10.       | 45                | 11. 5.         | 110. 5. 0.  |
| 12.                           | 53              | 91. 10.       | 47                | 11. 15.        | 103. 5. 0.  |
| 13.                           | 53              | 88. 10.       | 44                | 11. 0.         | 99. 10. 0.  |
| 14.                           | 50              | 94. 10.       | 50                | 12. 10.        | 107. 0. 0.. |
| 15.                           | 50              | 95. 10.       | 49                | 12. 15.        | 107. 15. 0. |
| 16.                           | 47              | 94.           | 53                | 13. 5.         | 107. 5. 0.  |
| 17.                           | 40              | 77.           | 60                | 15. 0.         | 992. 0. 0.  |
| 18.                           | 49              | 97.           | 51                | 12. 15.        | 109. 15. 0. |
| 19.                           | 51              | 101.          | 49                | 12. 5.         | 113. 5. 0.  |
| 20.                           | 55              | 110.          | 45                | 11. 5.         | 121. 5. 0.  |
| 21.(to ticket number 175625.) | 17              | 34.           | 8                 | 2. 0.          | 35. 0. 0.   |
| TOTAL:                        |                 | £1,963.10. 0. | £251.0.0.         | £2,214. 10. 0. |             |

NATIVE SITUATION: No native affairs complaints were brought to the patrol at any of the villages. One complaint that the N.M.A. of MATSUNGAN Id Aid Post was not patrolling his area, namely KOHULE-NOVA, was lodged. A verbal message was sent, telling the N.M.A. to patrol regularly.

8. At BEIKUT, a request was brought to the patrol by Cr. HAMOUN. The request was that the patrol approach Messrs Wong You and Company of Buka Passage, asking that trade copra purchased from the village of BEIKUT and BARIKUA be

bought at the pickup point, and not the Buka Passage store, as is the present practice. The reason for this request was that the owners of the copra had to accompany it to Wong You and Co's store to collect payment, and walk back to the village. I inspected some of the copra, and found that it be well smoked. Mr. Wong himself assured me that their copra was of the consistent high standard, and agreed to buy the copra at the village. Cr. HAMOUN was notified to this effect.

9. The probable reason why no complaints were brought to the patrol was that a Native Affairs patrol has been through the area less than a month beforehand, and had dealt with any complaints.

10. The villagers were not addressed by the patrol, on instructions from A.D.O. Buka Passage, but advice was given where necessary.

11. Village Officials and Councillors were reluctant to approach the patrol concerning local affairs, probably because of apprehension, of a 'new face' in the area. This reluctance, I understand, is normal for an officer's first patrol of the area.

12. The attitude of the natives of the area patrolled toward the Council seems to be one of 'this is it' No difficulty was experienced collecting tax, except for several odd men, who

had large shares in the communal copra schemes, who wanted - ie. V.G.



Patrol Buka 17-61/62, contd. (--3--)

demanded of the Tribunal - exemptions. These were treated as individual cases by the Tribunal.

13. In the villages of BEI, YEDITS, NOPAN, and BEIKUT mainly, and secondarily at TELATU, LONAHAN, and SUHIN, there seemed to be a temporary shortage of money. This shortage was caused by tardy payments for copra by traders. By this I do not insinuate dishonesty by those latter.

14. The villages of BEI and YEGITS are now completely paid-up, and BEIKUT is partly paid. Outstanding amounts are:

LONAHAN: £12. 0. 0.

SUHIN : 11. 0. 0.

TELATU : 4. 0. 0.

NOPAN: 35. 15. 0.

BEIKUT : 18. 10. 0.

TOTAL: £81. 5. 0.

These amounts are to be remitted as soon as payments are received in the villages. Individual villagers who requested time to pay were generally apologetic about the whole thing. Some of the younger men were brash about it, but this was to be expected from their type.

15. The attitude toward Council projects could be called apathy, in some respects. In the month after the last patrol of the area (Patrol Buka 14-61/62), little if any work has been done on the aforementioned tank stands. I would class this as apprehension of new principles, or, wait-and-see-what-happens-to-the-other-fellow-first. When the first unit is completed at IETA village the attitude should change to one of enthusiasm.

16. The attitude toward the Administration is not a constant factor for the whole of the area patrolled. Feeling is divided into two general areas and a transition area: on the West Coast, 90-100% approval, East Coast, apprehension, and the Solus area ranging between the two as proximity of the villages varies to either coast.

17. Along the West Coast, the feeling varies between 90% approval and 10% reservation, in the north, to 100% approval in the south, around TAIOF. I would say that there is little or no individual resentment, that the reservation is neutral.

18. On the East Coast there lingers apprehension toward the Administration, a feeling which, I gather, was there before the HAHALIS affair, but not to the extent it is today.

There was no open defiance or other non-friendly feeling experienced along this division.

19. The Tax Tribunal accompanying the patrol was made up of three Councillors, elected by the Council in session.

The members were:

MAGUM, an influential man in his own right. He was invaluable to the Tribunal, with his experience on last year's tax collection.

BUSON, too, is a local 'big man', although overshadowed by MAGUM, even in his own area. He was very helpful in many ways, and in many deliberations of the Tribunal acted as a brake on impulsive actions.

HANAIT is almost a non-entity in the native aristocracy, his only claim to fame being his status as a Councillor. He is a young man (born approx. 1935), and as far as I could gather has very little to say in his own village. I consider the man to be a figure-head for the village, their first Councillor. He may not be returned next year, in favour of a more powerful man.

20. One of the purposes of the Tribunal is for the villagers to see justice in action, to see that, if they honestly feel that they cannot pay the tax they will have a hearing not by one man whose word is final, but by three independent persons. The Tribunal accompanying the patrol was, to a certain extent, dominated by MAGUM, owing to his experience on last years

Patrol Buka 17-61/62, contd. (--4--)

Tribunal. Due to this domination, it will be necessary for future officers to keep a strict eye on the proceedings of their tribunals, to see that no domination occurs, where one man has complete control. This happened a few times on this patrol, and the members were told the meaning of a Tribunal, and its functions. After the first few villages, the Tribunal found its feet, and functioned smoothly.

21. BEI village on the West Coast is to be moved from its present, crowded position to a new, more spacious site on a ridge facing the sea. The site for the new village was inspected by the patrol, and found to be well selected, with good drainage, and protection from the winds blowing from the west afforded by a screen of bush on the seaward side of the site. Provision has been made here for the tank stand etc. to be built by the Council.

22. The site is some 112 miles from the present site, 150' above sea-level.

23. YEGITS village has completed a move from the beach to a parallel position to that of BEI, some 100' above sea-level, on a coastal ridge some 34-mile inland. The move from the swamp-surrounded beach site was suggested by a previous officer, and was well heeded. There is only one house extant on the lower level now, belonging to an old man. On the upper level, the standard of housing is adequate, all the houses facing inward from the perimeter of a 200 X 100 yd rectangle, onto a vacant, level area. The road from the beach and the old site is through swamp, and had been formed with large lumps of coral.

24. The people of the area patrolled seem to me to be working as per normal: at an easy, steady pace. When instructed to clear bush from coconut groves, the general reply was that there was too much other work. Nearly all the villages were cutting and/or cooking copra. Villages were relatively clean, and a few were seen 'as per normal', when the patrol arrived sooner than expected.

HEALTH AND HYGENE: The health and hygiene of the villages visited were made on toilet facilities, and in some villages were found to be lacking. Specific instructions were given in this regard where necessary and applicable.

27. The major point of toilets for the island villages of HITAU, PORORAN, YAPARU, MATSUNGAN, and TAIOF was brought forward. There are no toilets as such on these islands, except for those at the rest-houses, the sea being used at

certain points along the foreshore.

28. Toilets in these villages have, in the past, been built out over the sea, but were destroyed by the frequent high winds of the area. Toilets inland on the islands themselves are semi-impracticable, owing to the coral base of these islands, some 6" - 1' below ground-level. In fact the toilet for the rest-house at MATSUNGAN is a raised seat, over a four-gallon drum. Toilets for the general use of the people [people] made in this way are out of the question because of the cost of drums, and also the emptying of them, emptying them into the sea would defeat their purpose unless dumped far out.

25. The economic potential of over-all Buka is such that the normal Buka native enjoys a fair income, and most times does not lack funds. Every village has a coconut plantation, many have also cacao. New plantings are extensive, as shown in the Agriculture section. The economic potential is such that the topic of increasing the Council's tax within the next few years to 3 or 4 pounds for man, (?) or 15/- for women was brought up by the people in informal conversation, This was not spoken of in a tone of hopeless resignation, but as a hopeful possibility. The Council is 'it' for the Buka people, and they are all behind, pushing for it. This increase in tax would, in my opinion, be no hardship to the people.

Patrol Buka 17-61/62, contd. (--5--)

29. Sea toilets at PETAS are built, and destroyed regularly by the high winds and seas. the present pair is fairly new, and already in a state of semi collapse. The Council has made provision for the construction of permanent materials toilets for PETATS only this year; it is to be hoped that [such] provision can be made for the other island villages next year.

30. Generally, the housing in the area patrolled was fair, many of the houses not by any means new, but still servicable. Instructions were given wherenecessary for the repair or otherwise of houses and other buildings. The need for raised kitchens was stressed, also. Most of the native kitchens are on ground-level, without any form of walls, or fireplaces. Pigs, dogs, and poultry have free access.

31. At TAI OF village, one native kitchen had as an attachment a small - 8' X 6' X 4' - semi air- and light-proof compartment, with free access to animals and poultry. This was to be the scene for the birth of one woman's child. The woman was, in my estimation, 7-8 months pregnant, and had already borne two childre. Her husband was told to take her to the TAI OF Aid Post for the birth.

32. Whilst the patrol was at GAGAN Catholic Mission the Sister there informed me of the birth of twin boys. Details are as follows:

Mother: KASINI;

Father: RAGU;

Village: SUHIN;

Names of twins: MARTIN (first-born), and ROBERT;

Date of Birth: 15th April, 1962;

Confined by Sister Robert Rene;

Hospital: GAGAN C.N.

Mother and children all well.

INFANT WELFARE: Infant Welfare clinics met by the patrol were based at SKOTOLAN Methodist and GAGAN Catholic Missions. I have personally the clinic in action at PETATS (operating from SKOTOLAN), but have not see the GAGAN one in operation. This latter operates in the Solus area and, I think, part of the East Coast. The Sister in Charge told me that the clinic was very popular, and that all mothers bring their children to 'baby day', held at the respective villages.

34. One point drawn to the attention of the GAGAN clinic was that a set of twin boys., two years old, had migrated from MALASANG to KOHINO village, and that one of the twins, the second-born, appeared to be a spastic. While the first child is

at the running stage, his brother is a lifeless, skin-and-bones frome. The child cannot sit up or stand, and it cannot control the lolling of its head. The Sister had not seen the child, although 'baby day' had been held recently at KOHINO: probably the foster-mother of the child - its mother having died soon after the birth - having withheld it from the Sister. Sister Robert said that she would ask for the child next clinic held at that village.

ROADS AND BRIDGES: only the latter part of the patrol was made by road, from IETA village through to HAPAN village

The first portion of this road, from Buka Passage to Hutsena Sub-District Office, is in good condition, but the part between the Sub-District Office and a point about 112 miles north ( of MALASANG is in poor condition.

36. This part of the East Coast Road is being graded in preparation for a coronas surface. The grass surface has been ripped off, and as a result the surface is greasy after any light fall of rain. The patrol returned from BEIKUT village along this road, at night, and after a moderate fall of rain.

Four-wheel drive was necessary in many parts, and four-wheel slides were frequent. The surface is not soft, but there is about 1122" of slush to make the road treacherous after rain.

Patrol Buka 17-61/62. contd. (--6--)

37. From the start of the coronas surface, about 1½miles past Malasang, the road is in excellent condition. This surface extends to TELATU village, where is the coronas pit. From TELATU to BEIKUT. the road is fair, passable to light vehicles in most weathers. The only danger is the hill at BEIKUT, a sharp sudden drop around the side of a hill. the road surface there is red clay, slippery when wet.

38. Past BEIKUT toward GAGAN, the road is impassable to all but four-wheel-drive vehicles at the best of times. When the patrol moved over it, just after rain, the condition of the surface was appalling. This was no fault of the local natives, but caused by the topography: very irregular and steep hills, and sink-holes: and the soil: red clay. In fact the natives are doing a good job on the road, digging drains and general improvement. Between GAGAN and KOHISO, the road is over flat terrain, such that water lies in the slightest hollow. That road is impassable all vehicles.

39. This Solus road is to be surface with coronas from the pit at TELATU, after the completion of the East Coast road as far as Kessa Plantation. It is to be hoped that the East Coast road will be finished as soon as possible, that the Solus road can be made usable by all vehicles.

40. The two bridges on this road, the only bridges on Buka roads, and dangerous and need replacing immediately. the two bridges are near BEIKUT village, between the hill and the village proper, and I do not think it just to foist the responsibility of the replacement of the two bridges onto the one village. This could be a project for the Council for 1963; it is not a major undertaking, but an important one, as several vehicles use this road frequently.

41. The walk-road between BEIKUT and BARIKUA, about one mile long, could be turned into a light four-wheel-drive vehicle road with but little work. There is but one hill on the entire route which could present any barrier to such a road, and this could be circumvented with a track around the side of the hill's south face. The possibility of this road was outlined in a letter to the District Officer, Sohano, from the Assistant District Officer, Buka Passage, memo 10/7/1-195 of 3rd April, 1962.

COUNCILLORS: No particular Councillor can be singled out as the best, nor can any be accused of inefficiency or neglect of work. Most of the Councillors are young men, few are younger than 35 years; and many have local, traditional authority. They seem to have a good idea of the workings

of the Council, and were helpful when the patrol was in their areas. Any comments directed at or to their particular villages were given in front of the Village Officials. I think it is a good policy to keep the V.O.'s in their positions, even if they are only courtesy positions.

ANTHROPOLOGY: See appendix "A".

AGRICULTURE: See appendix "B".

COUNCIL PROJECTS: See appendix "C".

MISSIONS AND EDUCATION: The Missions in the area patrolled are the Catholic and the Methodist, based at HAHELA and GAGAN, and SKOTOLAN respectively. The Catholic religion has by far the greater number of adherents. The main areas of influence of the Methodist Mission are PETATS, YEGITS, POKA, TUNG, MATSUNGAN, and KOHULE. There are also a Seventh Day Adventist representation, led by a Catechist. Each Mission has its own schools and teachers, and apart from the Primary "A" and "B" schools at Sohano, there are no other Administration schools on Buka. There was one at Karoola Plantation some time ago, but this is now closed.



Patrol Buka 17-61/62, contd. (--7)

44. Each Mission maintains a school for the Preparatory-Standard II classes in each village in their areas, students wishing further schooling going to the Mission Stations in their areas. There us good attendance in these schools, few school-age children not attending. There is a large proportion of these school-age children from the village of BEI who are bot attending school: The reason for this is that there is no teacher available for that village.

45. The natives of Buka are generally considered to be well educated, and at present, children in Standard IV can understand normal English, although they cannot carry on a conversation in the language. Children of Std. VI are able to converse reasonably fluently in the English language. A great majority of natives are literate in Pidgin, quite a few in English.

CONCLUSION: The patrol was well received in all villages, and experienced no trouble in any of its functions. The patrol was not expected at two villages, HITAU and MATSUNGAN, the first because the Councillor, Tribunal-member BUSON, had not, so he said, been advised of the patrol's route and schedule (which he had), and the second the patrol was ahead of schedule. Otherwise all the villages were ready and waiting for the patrol, and all bar the villages of BEI, YEGITS,NOPAN, and BEIKUT had their tax money ready.

(G.M. James)

Cadet Patrol Officer

Map of Patrol Route: Patrol Buka 17-61/62.

Scale: 4 miles to the inch.

Overlay of 'FOURMIL OF BOUGAINVILLE NORTH' (1956), Dept. of  
Lands, Surveys, and Mines.

PATROL BUKA 17-61/62.

D I A R Y

March: Wednesday 28th:

By workboat 'ISIS', departing KAMARU wharf 9am, to PORORAN.

Collected tax HITAU and part of PORORAN.

Slept PORORAN.

Thursday 29th:

Finished tax collection PORORAN, thence YAPARU,BEI,YEGITS for collection. 28 defaulters from BEI village, and 29 from YEGITS.

All were waiting for payments for copra.

Slept PETATS.

Friday, 30th:

Tax collection PETATS.

Broken water-intake pipe from workboat sent per ML 'MATUPI' to Sohano for repairs. eriod of charter: 8hours; charge: £8.0.0.

Slept PETATS.

Saturday 31st:

Collected tax from TUNG and POKA, and part of MATSUNGAN.

Slept MATSUNGAN.

April:Sunday 1st:

Observed.

Monday 2nd:

Finished collection MATSUNGAN, thence collected KAHULESOPANI and Nova. Moved to TAI OF.

Slept TAI OF.

Tuesday 3rd:

Collected tax from TAI OF.

Slept TAI OF.

Wednesday 4th:

To Sohano, thence MANOB for tax collection.

Returned to Hutsera Office late afternoon.

FIRST SECTION ENDS

Thursday 5th:

Collected tax from IETA and HANGAN villages.

Slept Hutsena.

Friday 6th:

Collected tax for MALASAND village.

Slept Hutsena.

Saturday 7th:

General officer work at Hutsena.

Sunday 8th:

Observed.

Monday 9th:

General office work at Hutsena.

Tuesday 10th:  
With United Nations Visiting Mission.  
Wednesday 11th:  
To LONAHAN for tax collection.  
Slept LONAHAN.

PATROL BUKA 17-61/62, contd. (--2--)

Thursday 12th:

Walked to SUHIN for tax collection, thence to TELATU.

Slept KOHINO.

Friday 13th:

Collected tax from KOHINO; thence NOPAN: 21 defaulters, who were all awaiting payment for copra - 18 men, 3 women could not pay.

Slept BEIKUT.

Saturday, 14th:

Tax collected from BEIKUT and BARIKUA: 23 defaulters from BEIKUT, none from BARIKUA.

Slept BEIKUT.

SUNDAY 15th:

Patrol moved to KOHISO via GAGAN.

Slept KOHISO.

Monday 16th:

Tax collection KOHISO, thence HAPAN. 1 defaulter from KOHISO, none from HAPAN.

part of BEIKUT outstanding monies brought to patrol at KOHISO by Cr. HAMOUN.

Returned to Hutsena late evening.

PATROL ENDS

Patrol Report Buka 17-61/62.

APPENDIX "A"

ANTHROPOLOGY:

A new style of singsing was performed for the patrol at BEIKUT village, in the interior of Buka Island. This is not the 'normal' style of Buka singsing, but is similar to the Hawaiian 'hula', and is called the 'Solomon' or 'Solomon Guitar'. No guitar was used as accompaniment in the version shown to me, the music coming from two pieces of bamboo, 1'3" long, 4" diameter, with a 1'-long, 12"-wide slit cut along the top. This was tapped with a length of stick, to produce a hollow, garamat-like sound. This, and the singing of the villagers was the music for the Solomon Guitar.

2. The form of the dance is, as stated above, similar to that of the Hawaiian hula, being 'graceful' movements of the hands, feet, and body. The movements of the dance seen were far from graceful; probably the dance had been performed but a few times before.

3. Each section of the dance started with all the performers - either all men or all women in this instance -- lined up in pairs-formation, some 30' from me, and then slowly progressed toward me. After about 3 or 4 minutes, the dancers were almost up to me, and then that section of the dance would end, all walking back to the start-line, and repeating the performance.

4. The whole singsing lasted from about 7.30 pm to 9.15 pm.

5. The origin of the dance was explained to me, but during a particularly loud part of the singing. I could not get another, coherent, explanation from any of the other onlookers.

6. Because of the lack of workmanship in these musical instruments, no specimens were bought for the Museum.

(G. M. James)

Cadet Patrol Officer

Patrol Report Buka 17-61/62.

APPENDIX "B"

AGRICULTURE: Of the crops inspected by the patrol, nearly

all were found to be satisfactory, the crops of the area patrolled are:-

Staples: taro, sweet potato, and fish:

Cash : coconuts and cacao.

2. There seemed to be no shortage of staples in any of the villages, and none were mentioned to the patrol by any of the villagers. There seemed to be plenty of fruit in the areas.
3. Of the cash crops, the most popular of the area is coconuts ( copra). There is little or no cacao grown on the West Coast, most being inland in the Solus section.
4. Copra, where inspected, was generally well smoked, although not free from 'green' coconuts (seed coconuts). Batches of copra were inspected at MATSUNGAN, and a high percentage of these coconuts were found. Cr. KUVU was with me at the times, and he told me that he had tried to keep the people from smoking them, but his advice had not been heeded. The people were spoken to in small groups, and this factor of green copra was brought up, and the damage caused by green copra to the rest of the produce in the shipment was detailed.
5. Coconut groves were found to be in the mai(?), over-grown, some with fair-sized bushes among the palms. This was the case at JUPONOL, a hamlet of TAI OF. The excuse tendered was that of too much other work. The hamlet of JUPONOL itself was a mess, and the Luluai VAREIN would not detail what the 'too much work' meant.
6. The principles of the 'pidgeon pea' cover crop were explained in many villages, and the consequent reduction of grass-cutting seemed to interest a few people, but the suggestion was not received with enthusiasm. This coolness could be attributed to apprehension to new principles, the only definitely interested person was Cr. John HAKENA, of IETA village, who was very interested in trying the crop on his own plantation, and requested a supply. He was told that he could obtain runners from the District Agricultural Officer, KUBU. It seems strange that this plant should not be extensively used on Buka by now, as there had been a 'showcase' grove of coconuts at Kubu station planted with it, and the grass has received plenty of publicity.
7. A summary of plantings of coconuts and cacao on Buka is as follows:-  
Coconuts  
1-3 yrs 4-6 yrs 7-9 yrs 10-12 yrs 13-13+ yrs Total

76,743 85,996 35,767 68,546 107,758 374,910  
of these, 175,645 are on the North Coast, leaving 199,265 for the  
area patrolled.

CACAO

plantings: 1954 1955 1956 1957 1958 1959 1960 1961  
3,649 3,363 6,568 10,182 4,468 4,113 3,923 15,793



Patrol Report Buka 17-61/62.

Appendix "B", contd. (--2--)

Total plantings since 1954: 52,005.

These figures for coconuts and cacao are for overall Buka.

Figures supplied by Dept. of Agriculture, Stock, and Fisheries,  
KUBU, BUKA Passage.

(G. M. James)

Cadet Patrol Officer

Patrol Report Buka 17-61/62.

APPENDIX "C"

COUNCIL PROJECTS:

The Council projects which the patrol was to check were the construction of available materials tank-stands, from cora; rubble and sand, for the placement of two, one-thousand-gallon water tanks, and the erection of native materials notice-boards, in each Council village visited by the patrol.

2. Tank stands in the villages of HITAU, PORORAN, and YAPARU only were completed, but the PORORAN stand was too small, and instructions were given to enlarge it to Mr. A/A.D.O.Neal's specifications of 16' X 8' X 1'6".

3. The stands at the other villages were either

not yet started, or incomplete. Instructions were given for these stands to be finished as soon as possible, so that the ingredients could solidify by weathering, before the tanks were erected.

4. Notice boards in the villages of PETATS, KOHULE/ SOPANI, MASUNGAN, and LONAHAN onlt were not completed, but were all in various stages nearing completion.

5. Details of the construction of these notice boards were left at TAIOF village, as that village had not been visited and so instructed by Mr. Neal.

(G. M. James)

Cadet Patrol Officer.