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OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: MADANG

STATION: SIMBAI

VOLUME No: 5

ACCESSION No: 496.

1969 - 1970

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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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MADANG DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1969-1970

SIMBAI-USINO-BUNDI

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Officer conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
<u>SIMBAI</u>		
1-69-70	P.J.Kraehenbuhl, (PO)	Lower Gainj Area
2-69-70	D.C.Lindsay, (ADC)	Western Schraderr Census Division
3-69-70	G.D.Pike, (ADC)	Lower Gainj Area
5-69-70	G.D.Pike, (ADC)	Kaironk Census Division
<u>USINO</u>		
1-69-70	P.L.Ingram, (ADO)	Sumau-Garia Census Division
2-69-70	P.L.Ingram, (ADO)	Upper Ramu
3-69-70	O.H.Rheeny, (PO)	Dumpa-Kaigulan Census Division
4-69-70	J.A.Gough, (APO)	Naho-Rawa Census Division
5-69-70	N.G.Ahe, (PO)	Urigina-Kesawai C.D.
6-69-70	J.A.Gough, (APO)	Part Urigina-Keesawai C.D.
<u>BUNDI</u>		
1-69-70	T.J.Hubbard, (PO)	Part Bundi L.G.C. C.D.
2-69-70	T.J.Hubbard, (PO)	BUNDI Census Division





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

Report Number..... **SIMBAI No. 1/69-70**

Subdistrict..... **RAMU**

District..... **MADANG**

Type of Patrol..... **SPECIAL**

Patrol Conducted by..... **P.J. KRAEHEIBUHL P/O**

Area Patrolled  
(Council and/or  
Census Division/s.) } **LOWER GAINJ AREA (12 miles East of Aiome P.P.)**  
**NON-COUNCIL AREA**

Personnel Accompanying Patrol  
**3 MEMBERS R.P.N.G.C.**

**VARIOUS CARRIERS AS REQUIRED**

Duration of Patrol—From **21 / 7 / 69** To **25 / 7 / 69**

No. of Days..... **5**

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area : **MAY 1968** **SIMBAI NO. 8 / 67-68**

Date **8/5/68 to 13/5/68** Duration **5 DAYS**

Objects of Patrol (Briefly) **TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGED CARGO CULT IN THE AREA**

Total Population of Area Patrolled..... **200 APPROX.**

Director of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

District Commissioner.

*Handwritten signature and initials*



67-7-3

18th September, 1969.

The District Commissioner,  
Madang District,  
MADANG.

PATROL NO. SIMBAI 1/69-70.

Your reference 67-2-9 of 1st September, 1969.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Special Report by Mr. P.J. Kraehenbuhl, P.O., to part GAINJ Census Division.

Mr. Kraehenbuhl's short patrol was quite successful, and his report is a sound effort.

I am pleased to note that you have arranged for more frequent patrols to this seemingly neglected area.

(T.W. SELLIS)

Secretary

Department of the Administrator.

Mr. P. Kraehenbuhl,  
Patrol Officer,  
Patrol East,  
SIMBAI Madang District.

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



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67.7.30

Telephone  
Telegrams  
Our Reference 67-2-9  
If calling ask for WJK:JS  
Mr.

Dept. of the Administrator,  
Department of District Administration,  
MADANG.

1st September, 1969.

The Secretary,  
Dept. of the Administrator,  
KONEDOBU.

SIMBAI PATROL NO. 1 1969/70

Copies of the above Report are forwarded for your information.

This Special Purpose patrol found no evidence that the reported Cult was active in the area visited. An unexpected side benefit of the visit was the compilation of an initial census.

As there appears to be a tendency for migration to take place from these isolated villages to larger more accessible groups, the census may not be of much lasting validity. However, in view of the past dearth of Administration activity in this area, the A.D.C. Ramu will be instructed to programme at least two visits to this area during the current patrol year.

Meaningful economic development in this area seems most unlikely, but patrol visits should ensure that future Cargo Cults are observed and discouraged, and that health and law and order is adequately maintained.

Encl.

*D. Clifton Bassett*

(D. Clifton-Bassett)  
District Commissioner.



(5)

SIMBAI PATROL No. 1/69-70

INTRODUCTION

The area visited during this special patrol lies about twelve miles east of Aiome patrol post in the Ramu River valley. The terrain is rather typical of the inland flat country comprising dense forest growth and sago palm swamp, interspersed with quite large tracts of kunai grass. The area has a rainfall of approximately 230" per annum, this giving rise to numerous rivers and streams that dominate the region before emptying out into the Ramu River.

SPECIAL PATROL - REPORT

Some nine months ago, Constable Daun of the Simbai detachment was sent to Forega to supervise the construction of an airstrip there. He remained there for about ten days, during which time only a handful of men from Kaipanjin and Kupi hamlets came to assist on the airstrip work. Whilst making inquiries as to why the Hauwanga hamlet had not presented themselves for work, Daun learnt that they were presently involved in cargo cult practise.

Although the information he received was second hand, the question that cargo cult being practised in the area was not to be denied, as the people of Hauwanga and Ungamarvin have been involved in cult practise on previous occasions, the last being in 1966-67. It was therefore decided to investigate this rumour.

On 1/7/69, I sought Mr. Lindsay's (A.D.C. Ramu) opinion on how to deal with the matter, as I myself, had had no previous dealings with cult activity. Although no written patrol instructions were issued, Mr. Lindsay clearly dictated methods on how to approach and investigate the alleged cult.

On the 21st July, the patrol set out from Aiome patrol post, moving through Matogan village, and finally attaining Ungamarvin village in the mid-afternoon. The latter village was formerly administered to by Simbai patrol post, but because of its close proximity to Aiome, Ungamarvin is now included in that station's administrative ambit. Discreet, but thorough investigations were made here for some three hours, but proved fruitless.

The following day the patrol left Ungamarvin, passing through a Manigi, a now abandoned hamlet of Ungamarvin, to Hauwanga. The latter hamlet contained some four houses, all of which had been abandoned some considerable time ago. These houses were searched and an inspection made of the immediate outskirts of the village, but nothing suspicious or unusual was found. It was then learnt from the Kupi tultul, who had just joined the patrol at Manigi, that the entire hamlet of Hauwanga had migrated to Forega.



The patrol then moved on, passing through a long belt of sago palm swamp to Forega. Further investigations were commenced immediately, with interviews from Huawanga and Kaipanjin people being recorded. The result of these discreet interviews failed to unearth any evidence of cult activity in the area. Policemen were despatched to inspect the outlying areas, but again ~~nothing~~ nothing unusual was reported.

The following two days saw two attempts to cross the Simbai river to reach the small Bulumdei village, but owing to extremely heavy rains during this period, that river was in raging flood and any attempt to cross this swollen torrent would have been met with disastrous results to the patrol. However, a policeman was left behind at Forega to attempt a crossing when the river level had receded and to make further investigations at Bulumdei village. Nine days later, he returned to Simbai and reported that he was eventually able to effect a crossing and that his investigations at Bulumdei revealed no cult activity.

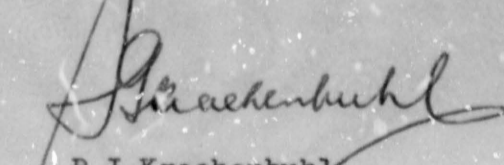
When the patrol departed from Forega on the return leg to Aiome, it stayed a night at Kupi village. The following day, the patrol moved through Kondul village and its hamlets, but in each instance, no evidence whatsoever pertaining to cult activity was found.

Although it is now obvious that the alleged cult rumour was completely discounted, the area patrolled, as previously mentioned, has been involved in other cults in recent years. It was learnt that the more recent cult in 1966-67, was initiated by a Sepik man residing near Atembre village of the upper Ramu area. He made visits to these small isolated hamlets and by sheer force of personality, he persuaded these people to cult activities involving some rather disgusting rituals. However, the people became rather bored and dis-interested after having been engaged in the cult for some six months, and consequently the cult fizzled out. The people at Forega were unable to give the Sepik's name, but stated that he had not visited them since that time and they believed him still to be living in the upper Ramu.

CONCLUSIONS

The people of this area have been sadly neglected by patrols over the years and that an initial census was carried out on this patrol bears testimony to this. The people, most of whom are pidgin speakers, live in a comparatively isolated area and do not appear to have a great deal of contact with the rest of the Ramu population. Because of the above facts, these people could be classed as being "ripe" for cargo cult instigators such as the pre-mentioned Sepik. They are generally pro-Administration, but to sustain and further this feeling would be for more regular patrols to visit this area, and possibly with a view to initiating some form of economic development there. This I believe, would also have the desired effect of curbing any future outbreaks of cargo cult.

For your information, please.

  
P.J. Kraehenbuhl  
(O.I.C. SIMBAI)

(3)

SITUATION REPORT

As already mentioned, the area visited has had previous little contact from Government patrols, nor had the people been previously censused.

When it was evident that there was no cult activity in the area, I decided to direct the limited time on hand into conducting an initial census. The people from Kaipanjin and Hauwanga have abandoned those hamlets, and are now resident at Forega, near the airstrip site. Thirty-two names all told from the above two hamlets were recorded, and it was decided upon to call this group, Forega.

Two efforts were made to visit Bulumdei village, but both were in vain owing to the flooded state of the Simbai River.

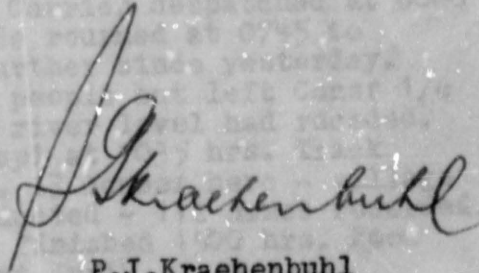
The people from Kupi village, some two hours walk away from Forega were also censused. This group, numbering 110, had been previously recorded under Aingdai village in the Gainj census division.

Political education lectures were given to each group visited.

Unfortunately, time was very limited in order to do an area study and a full situation report, as I had to return Simbai immediately to await the arrival of Mr. A.K. Jackson (Principal Officer - Lands).

It is planned to revisit the area patrolled within the next six months to carry out the objects stated in the preceding paragraph.

For your information, please.

  
P.J. Kraehenbuhl  
(O.I.C. SIMBAI).



PATROL DIARY

- 1/7/69 : Police parade and labour line. S. Pegg (Regloc) arrived 845 to discuss Simbai L.G.C. 0900 Departed Simbai together with police and domestic servant per TAL 336, arriving 0910. Patrol mobilised and departed Aiome at 1030 arriving Matogun village at 1200 hrs. Spelled carriers until 1230 then crossed Asai river to Ungamarvin village at 1350 hrs. Commenced investigations re alleged cargo cult (1400-1330). Policeman sent to inspect outskirts of village. Food purchased for carriers. Spent night at Ungamarvin.
- 22/7/69 : Departed Ungamarvin at 0800 hrs arriving 0920 hrs at abandoned hamlet (Manigi) of Ungamarvin. Inspection made of deserted houses. Policemen and carriers departed for Forega via Kupi at 0930 hrs. Self, two police and three others also departed 0930 arriving at Hauwanga at 1130 hrs. Hauwanga also abandoned. Only 4 old houses remain and these together with the outskirts of the village were inspected. The residents of Hauwanga have apparently migrated to Forega. Departed 1145 hrs, proceeding through sago palm swamp reaching Forega at 1340 hrs. Commenced inquiries immediately. Interviews with Forega residents to 1600 hrs. Kupi people brought in food. Decided to visit Bulumdei village tomorrow on the other side of the Simbai river. Spent night at Forega.
- 23/7/69 : Colossal rain last night - estimated at 5-6". Departed Forega at 0800 hrs arriving at Simbai River at 0905 hrs. River in flood as a result of last night's deluge. Decided against crossing river and returned to Forega at 1025 hrs. Decided to do an initial census of Forega people - 32 all told. Political education talks given. Inspected Forega airstrip site during afternoon. Really an excellent "B" strip site, presently covered to a depth of 3ft of kunai. Spent night at Forega.
- 24/7/69 : Torrential rain again last night. Carrier despatched at 0600 to report on Simbai flood level. He returned at 0745 to report that the level had risen further since yesterday. Abandoned idea of seeing Bulumdei people but left Const 1/c Bageg behind to see them when the river level had receded. Departed Forega at 815 arriving Kupi at 1035 hrs. Track to Kupi runs through marshy swamp. 13 houses here - village well laid out. Initial census conducted - 112 names recorded. Political education talks given - finished 1300 hrs. Food purchased by patrol. Spent night at Kupi.
- 25/7/69 : Torrential rain again last night. Departed Kupi at 0740 hrs arriving 0940 hrs at Kondul village. 0950 - 1040 hrs to Apinam village thence two hours to Aiome patrol post.

END OF PATROL



(2)

PATROL DIARY

- 21/7/69 : Police parade and labour line. S. Pegg (Regloc) arrived 845 to discuss Simbai L.G.C. 0900 Departed Simbai together with police and domestic servant per TAL 336, arriving 0910. Patrol mobilised and departed Aiome at 1030 arriving Matogun village at 1200 hrs. Spelled carriers until 1230 then crossed Asai river to Ungamarvin village at 1350 hrs. Commenced investigations re alleged cargo cult (1430-1530). Policeman sent to inspect outskirts of village. Food purchased for carriers. Spent night at Ungamarvin.
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- 25/7/69 : Torrential rain again last night. Departed Kupi at 0740 hrs arriving 0940 hrs at Kondul village. 0950 - 1040 hrs to Apinam village thence two hours to Aiome patrol post.

END OF PATROL

RAMU

AIDOME  
PATROL  
POST

RIVER

MATOGAN

TIGINANTS

ASAI  
RIVER

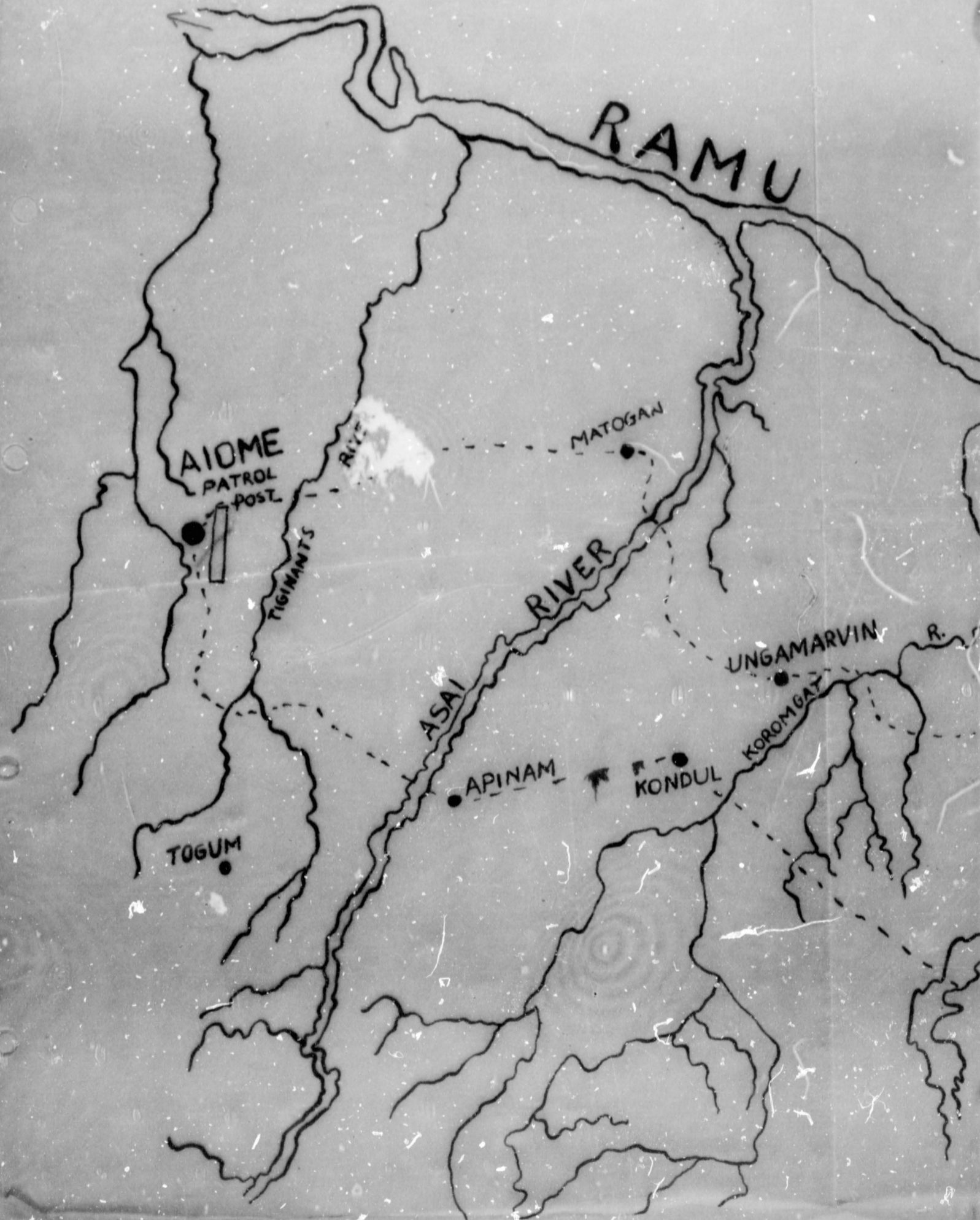
UNGAMARVIN  
R.

KOROMGAY

APINAM

KONDUL

TOGUM

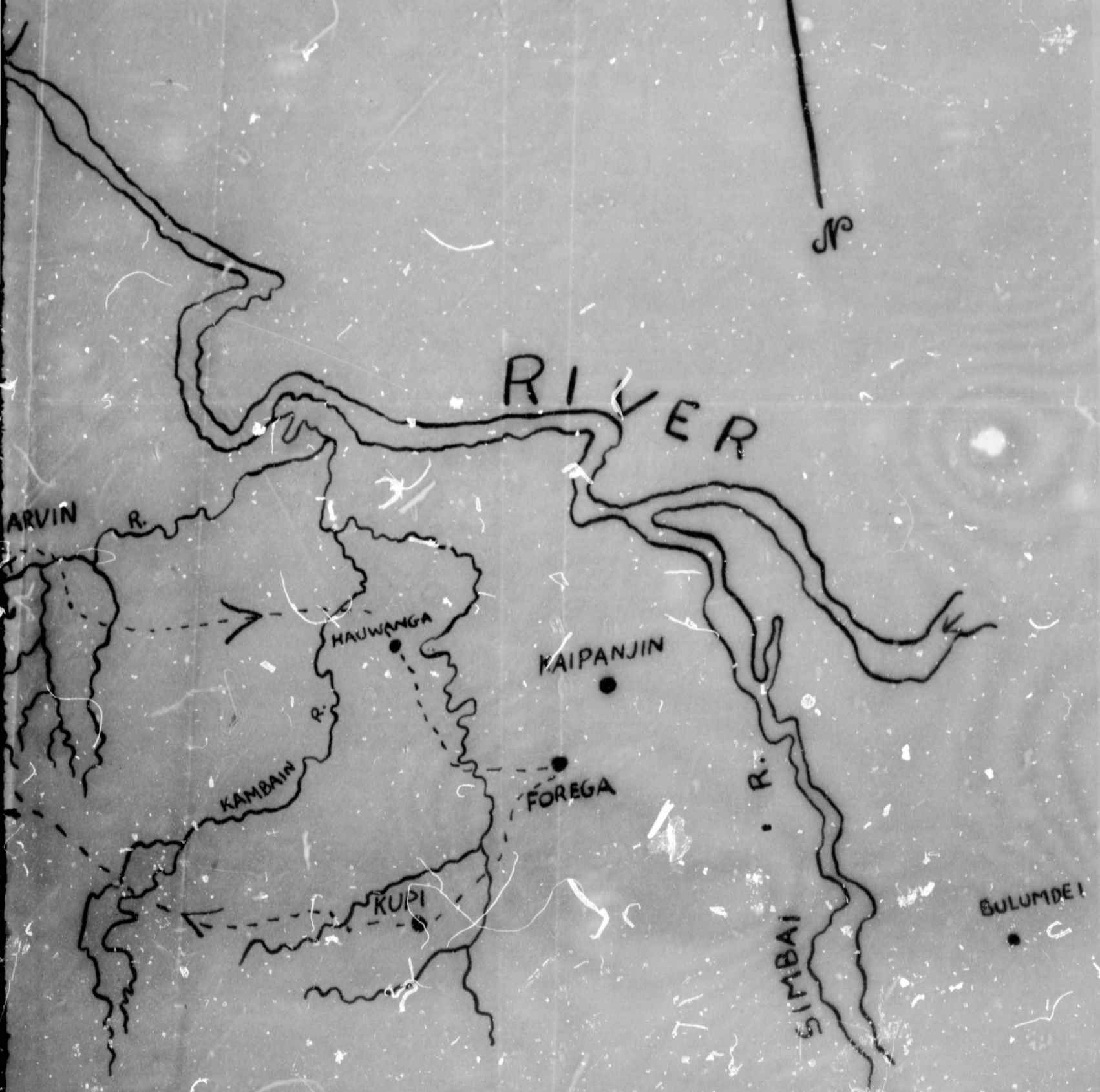




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Scale: 1" = 1 mile

Patrol Route: - - - - -







TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

Patrol Number..... SIMBAI No 2 89/70

Sub-district..... RAMU

District..... MADANG

Type of Patrol..... INITIAL CENSUS

Patrol Conducted by..... DC LINDSAY O/ADC & PJ KRAEMER P.O.

Area Patrolled..... WESTERN SCHRADER CENSUS DIVISION

(Council and/or.....

Census Division/s.).....

Personnel Accompanying Patrol.....

5 MEMBERS R.P. N.C.C.

1 Aid Post DABEALY

Duration of Patrol—from 3, 9, 69 To 16, 10, 69

No. of Days..... 44

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area :..... SPECIAL PURPOSE

Date..... 22/7/68 - 26/9/68 Duration..... 51 DAYS

Objects of Patrol (Briefly)..... INITIAL CENSUS & CONTACT ; ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION

Total Population of Area Patrolled..... 2086

Director of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

*[Signature]*

Forwarded, please

/ /19

.....  
District Commissioner.

67-7-29  
 Division of District Administration,

Konedobu.

6th January, 1970.

District Commissioner,  
 Madang District,  
 MADANG.

PATROL NO. SIMBAI 2/69-70:

Your reference 67-2-9 of 11th December, 1969.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Initial Census and Area Study by Mr. D.C. Lindsay, A/Assistant District Commissioner, to WESTERN SCHRAEDER Census Division.

Your comments adequately cover the matters arising from this extended patrol of the Western Schraeder area.

The sound information in this well presented report should materially assist future patrols in their consolidation work.

Messrs. Lindsay and Karchenbuhl have conducted an arduous patrol in a commendable manner.

(T.E. ELLIS)

Secretary

Department of the Administrator.

c.c.  
 Mr. D.C. Lindsay,  
 RAMU Sub-District Office,  
 MADANG.  
 Madang District.

Mr. P.J. Karchenbuhl,  
 Patrol Post,  
 SIMBAI.  
 Madang District.

Whilst political education is a continuing process, it is becoming a more specialised task, and you are still expected to participate fully in its extension at every opportunity.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67. 7. 29 (21)

Telephone  
T. as  
Our Reference 67-2-9  
If calling ask for  
Mr. WJK:RS



XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

Dept. of the Administrator,  
Division of District  
Administration,  
MADANG.

23rd December, 1969.

The present has been a valuable subject in  
Secretary, in the blanks in the Western Schraeder map and  
Dept. of the Administrator, population. Further Patrols  
KONEDOBU, Papua. in later months to give finer details  
on the people living in the areas already covered and  
to contact isolated groups in the southwest section of  
the SIMBAI PATROL NO. 2 OF 1969/70

I refer to my 67-2-9 of 11th December. Under cover  
of this memorandum I forwarded you the above Patrol Report  
but stated that no population census register was available.  
I now find that Mr Lindsay did, in fact, compile a Population  
Register for the area and copies of this Register are enclosed  
for your information.

DISTRICT COMMISSENER

*D. Clifton Bassett*

(D. Clifton-Bassett)  
District Commissioner.

Enc.

*Gr*

of value only in being a basis for future investigations.  
The details covered are suspect as that the people were  
reluctant to give information and the short time the  
officers were in a contact situation precluded accurate  
data being obtained. The activities of members of the  
S.L.M. on the fringes of the Western Schraeder should  
reveal a considerable amount of information regarding the  
social structure and customs of these people.

Within the area of responsibility for a viable  
economy is virtually nil. Although Administration can  
expect to achieve in this area is a spread of the  
improvements in health and diet. If the

20

11th December, 1969. 67-2-9

Administration eventually achieves this then I consider we have done the utmost for the people of this remote and rugged area.

The present Patrol has been a valuable adjunct in filling in the blanks in the Western Schraeder map and obtaining some details of population. Further Patrols will be mounted in later months to give finer details on the people living in the areas already covered and to contact isolated groups in the northwest section of the Census Division.

*D. Clifton Bassett*

(D. Clifton-Bassett)  
District Commissioner.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67.7.29 (19)

Telephone  
Telegrams  
Our Reference 67-2-9  
If calling ask for  
Mr. WJK:RS



Dept. of the Administrator,  
Division of District  
Administration,  
MADANG.

11th December, 1969.

Secretary,  
Dept. of the Administrator,  
KONEBOBU, Papua.

SIMBAI PATROL NO. 2 OF 1969/70

I am forwarding with the memorandum copies of the above Patrol Report which covered part of the Western Schraeder Census Division. The Patrol was conducted by Mr D.C. Lindsay, acting Assistant District Commissioner, accompanied by Mr Kraehenbuhl, Patrol Officer.

The patrol was a follow-up to Simbai Patrol No. 1 of 1968/69. This patrol, conducted by Mr G.D. Pike, A.D.C., was the initial patrol to parts of the Western Schraeder Census Division and was in the nature of an exploratory and initial contact undertaking. The present Patrol followed on Mr Pike's route but included a coverage of new areas between the Kaironk and Arame rivers. An initial census of the people contacted was carried out and a total of 2086 names were recorded.

Information gained during this census will naturally be subject to future amendment. Details, therefore, have not been included as a Population Register Return but information has been given in the Body of the Report of population densities at the various patrol camp sites.

An aerial survey was conducted after the patrol and unvisited scattered hamlet sites were discovered to the northwest of the Census Division in the area between the section of the Western Highlands and the Sepik District boundaries. Succeeding Patrols are now to fill in the blanks in the Western Schraeder map but these Patrols will not be conducted until the next dry season.

By the time of the next elections for the House of Assembly a full population record should be available for the Western Schraeder Census Division and this area will be included in Common Roll details. While these people will have an opportunity to vote, it is not expected that by 1972 they will have any awareness of the Territory's political institutions or the candidates for election.

Anthropological details covered by Mr Lindsay are of value only in being a basis for future investigations. The details covered are suspect in that the people were reluctant to give information and the short time the officers were in a contact situation precludes accurate data being obtained. The activities of members of the S.I.L. on the fringes of the Western Schraeders should reveal a considerable amount of information regarding the social structure and customs of these people.

Within the area covered possibility for a viable economy is virtually nil. All the Administration can expect to achieve in this area is a spread of the Pax Britannica and improvements in health and diet. If the

.....





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

4

Telephone.....  
Telegrams.....  
Our Reference..... 67-2-9  
If calling ask for DCL:JS  
Mr.....

Dept. of the Administrator,  
Department of District Administration,  
MADANG.

27th August, 1969.

Assistant District Commissioner,  
Ramu Sub-District,  
MADANG.

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS - WESTERN SCHRADER  
CENSUS DIVISION

Please prepare to depart on a patrol of the above Census Division leaving Simbai on or about 1st September, 1969. Mr. P. Kraehenbuhl, P.O., of Simbai is to accompany you.

The main object of the patrol is to conduct an initial census of the area, however, a certain amount of exploratory work may have to be undertaken and it is very possible that this may also entail initial contact.

Emphasis is, of course, to be placed on the introduction of law and order, and explanations of the reasons for your presence. Although it is unlikely to be understood at the present juncture, attempt to get across the idea of the Territory political structure, from Central Government to Councils - as it may not be long before this area is proclaimed part of the proposed Simbai Council it is important that we begin as soon as possible an education programme on the role of Councils.

The map of the area, started by Mr. Pike, A.D.C., last year should be updated and corrected wherever possible.

All information required by Headquarters' circular on Patrol Reporting will be obtained.

Although it seems unlikely that any trouble will be encountered, all due precautions should be taken to ensure the safety of the patrol, and it should be borne in mind that you are also responsible for the safety of the local population as per Departmental Standing Instructions.

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



(17)

PATROL DIARY

- 3/9/69: Departed Simbai Patrol Post 0910 hrs with Mr. Kraehenbuhl, P.O., for Salemp Rest House. Spent 1½ hrs visiting S.I.L. Station at Salemp, and arrived Rest House at 1700 hrs.
- 4/9/69: Re-arranged cargo, and despatched 51 carriers with Const. Sano'o to make a depot at Sanggapi. Set up and tested A510 transceiver. 1615 hrs radio sched. with Simbai, p.m. visited S.I.L. Station with Mr. Kraehenbuhl, for dinner. Slept. Salemp.
- 5/9/69: Departed Salemp 0810 hrs for Wulim Rest House; 3 hrs walk over a defined, but slippery walking track mainly through kunai. Balance of cargo arrived at 1230 hrs. Ample food brought to the patrol, and purchased with salt. Altitude 5650'.
- 6/9/69: Set up transceiver and antenna. Gave general talks to assembled people and conducted initial census - 141 people counted. Attempted unsuccessfully to call Madang on transceiver for conversation with the D.D.C.
- 7/9/69: Sunday. Casual talks with locals and headmen re local custom etc. and gen. administration. Luluai Janggi elected.
- 8/9/69: Departed Wulim 0750 for Yump. Rough track ascended the Mangok ridge (so-named at Wulim) to about 7300' then followed down a steep slippery and rough ridge to Yump campsite on a small kunai patch overlooking the Sal and Yal valleys at 4350'. Arrived campsite at 1250. Set up camp - under canvas. Ample food brought to the patrol purchased with salt and trade goods.
- 9/9/69: Part of the morning spent in improvements and repairing damage to camp caused by torrential overnight rain. General administration talks given, and initial census conducted - 145 people counted. This figure did not include a large number of people who had left Yump to attend a singsing at Wulim. More food, and a large pig brought to the patrol and purchased - The pig was later used as a target in a rifle demonstration. Transceiver and antenna erected - radio sched. with Simbai at 1600 hrs. Elected Undain as Tultul of Yump and Yal.
- 10/9/69: Heavy rain overnight and cloudy, drizzly morning. Sgt. Wauwau incapacitated with a strained (?) back. Carriers despatched to cut a track to Anggabere. Discussions with locals re local custom.
- 11/9/69: Departed Yump 0745 hrs for Anggabere, arriving at campsite at 0845. Steep descent along the slippery, newly-cut track to the Umul Creek, then a rough ascent to 3620'. Set up camp and transceiver on very pleasant campsite in light bush. Received a good reception from locals despite the rumour heard at Yump that Anggabere "belonged to Tabibuga" and strangers would not be welcome. Anggabere has been visited 3 times previously by Tabibuga officers, who appointed Tultul Wanduimp. General talks given and initial census conducted - 121 people counted. Radio sched with Simbai at 1615. Ample food brought to patrol and purchased.
- 12/9/69: Cargo line sent to cut track to Birinjip. General discussions on administration and local custom. More food purchased.
- 13/9/69: Departed Anggabere 0720 hrs. First hour spent on a fairly good, moderately ascending track, then descended to the Guror River. Followed the Guror River for about 1½ hrs, then crossed several small gulleys before the final ascent to Birinjip at 2660'. Several eel traps and ponds of fermenting



"Iminj" tree seeds noted on the Guror River. Arrived Birinjip at 1250 hrs, and set up camp. Campsite overlooked the Jimi Valley near the junction of the Jimi and Yuat Rivers - Rutu Patrol Post and airstrip clearly visible. Virtually the only food available was breadfruit and a few bananas, so carriers rationed with rice and fish. Heavy rain during afternoon and night.

14/9/69:

Sunday. Only one occupied house seen in the area, and only 22 people, who elected to be combined in the Anggabere census. Runner sent to obtain Anggabere census book to make the necessary alterations. Tabibuga officers have visited Birinjip once, and appointed the Tultul, Fiam-Mabke. Gave general administration talks and discussed local custom.

15/9/69:

At Birinjip. Recorded names of Birinjip people and held more casual discussions. Tultul Fiam appears to be a typical Hagen type in stature and features, but assured us that Birinjip had no contact with the Jimi people. Inspected house and surrounds at Birinjip. Took compass bearings etc. and attempted to get accurate fix on the map. Following patrols would have no cause to visit here again although it may be necessary if there is no alternate route from Anggabere to Wantank. Heavy rain during the afternoon.

16/9/69:

Departed Birinjip 0730, thence a fairly easy climb for about 1½ hrs to the top of the Yambai Ridge through bush, then an unpleasant, slippery descent through kunai, down the ridge to the Bal and Wantank River Junction, arriving at Miramin hamlet at 1030. A few houses and people noticed, but only one man approached the patrol. When conversation with him was attempted he ran off "to get the Tultul" and was not seen again. After waiting and resting 1 hr, continued up the Arame River valley, crossing the Arame, and made camp near Fitako at 2350'. Arrived at campsite in moderate rain at 1415 hrs. Set up camp and transceiver. Heavy rain began about 1515 hrs. Radio sched with Simbai 1615 hrs.

17/9/69:

Conducted initial census of Wantank and Hanggauye - 48 people counted. General discussions with Fitako people on administration and local custom. Attempted Radio contact with Madang, but reception was so poor due to enclosed valley site the attempt was given away. Light rain during the morning. Some food brought to the patrol and purchased. Offer to take a man to the coast on a sightseeing tour was rejected. Tultul Yuakim appointed by Tabibuga officer during previous visit.

18/9/69:

More rain overnight. Initial census of Fitako conducted - 38 people counted. Tabibuga appointed Tultul, Mengyeper, retained. Radio sched with Simbai 1615. Heavy rain began 1230 hrs. Further discussions with Fitako people. Repeated offer to take a man out to the coast, but again refused. Late p.m. some Aradimp people arrived ex Sanggapi - discussed with them the possibility of proceeding direct to Sanggapi, but told it would take two days, so decided to go on to Aradimp. Was then told that Aradimp would take one long day.

19/9/69:

Departed Fitako camp at 0740 hrs. and arrived at Fitako, after a steep climb, at about 0845. Continued on over a fairly rough track (virtually non-existent in places) and arrived at Aradimp (5860') at 1225 - heavy rain, and very chilly during the last hour. Rest houses under construction - set up camp under canvas. Mist and intermittent drizzle during afternoon. Initial census conducted - 65 people counted, including those from Andorei and Geronbia hamlets. Tultul Megeramei elected General Administration talks given, Aradimp has been visited



3 times by Tabibuga officers. Discussions during early evening with headmen re local custom. Two men volunteered to meet the patrol later, at Gobrau, to visit the coast.

20/9/69:

Departed Aradimp 0720 for Sanggapi Rest House, arriving at 1130 hrs after a generally pleasant walk. 5880'. Newly constructed camp in good condition due to efforts of Const. Sano'o who had been here since 4/9/69.

21/9/69:

Sunday. Conducted initial census - 217 counted. General talks given.

22/9/69:

Set up transceiver and antenna. Investigations into local custom. Radio conversation with Madang 1645. Carriers sent to cut tract to Keibam - returned late afternoon and claimed that we would be unable to reach Keibam in one day.

23/9/69:

Carriers despatched with part cargo to make a depot at Gebrau. Some carriers departed for Simbai with empty patrol boxes. Self and Mr. Kraehenbuhl departed Sanggapi 0815, in light rain, for Keibam. Crossed main Schrader Range, and arrived Keibam Rest House at 1625 hrs. Altitude 4560'. Poor reception considering previous contact - few people to greet the patrol, and virtually no food brought in despite several requests. Rest House dilapidated, and gardens made by Police after previous patrol were overgrown or stripped. Tultul Sinep was very evasive and elusive. 1615 hrs radio sched with Simbai.

24/9/69:

Carriers resting, and cleaning and salvaging food from Rest House garden. Still no food brought in, and people did not arrive for census, although at frequent intervals men could be seen scampering furtively through the gardens in the vicinity of the Tultul's house. Tultul still evasive about the whereabouts of his people.

25/9/69:

A few people arrived for census - initial census begun. Sgt. Wauwai sent to Wundare to investigate alleged death of two women and see if he could find some more people. Sgt. Wauwai returned late p.m. with 37 more people. Deaths appeared to be from natural causes. Large pig brought to the patrol during the afternoon and used as a target in a shooting display - all were suitably impressed, and produced a fighting shield which was also shot at. Gave general Administration talks. 1615 radio sched with Simbai.

26/9/69:

Continued initial census of Wundare hamlet - 167 people counted at Keibam. Further Administration talks given, and held discussions on local custom. Discussed population centres and patrol routes with locals. Heavy rain began 1500 hrs.

27/9/69:

Carriers despatched to cut walking tract to Wurupu. Still practically no food brought in, although another pig was offered by the Wundare people, accepted, and shot. Radio sched with D.D.C. Madang 1320. Further discussions on local custom.

28/9/69:

Sunday. Departed Keibam 0815 hrs for Wurupu, arriving at previous campsite next to a native garden at 3380' at 1100 hrs. Set up camp. The only sign of life in the vicinity was a large pig in a nearby garden. During the previous patrol these people did not appear, but hid in the bush and shouted (abuse?) at the patrol. No food available for carriers.



29/9/69:

Heavy rain overnight. Keibam guides sent to try and establish contact with the Wurupus. More guides and two Police sent to Dangu area to check if the Wurupus had all gone to Dangu as some Keibams had alleged. Late afternoon the searchers returned with 7 Dangu people who brought in a little breadfruit but were vague as to the whereabouts of the Wurupu people. Attempted unsuccessfully to radio Simbai to obtain more rations for the carriers.

30/9/69:

Still waiting for some response from the Wurupu people. Guides sent to the headwaters of the Filil Creek to attempt contact, and returned late afternoon with 3 Wurupu men who were asked to try and coax some more people down. Torrential rain, wind and cold at 1545 hrs. Radio sched with Simbai 1615.

1/10/69:

11 Wurupu people presented themselves for census this morning, and gave a further 22 names - 33 names recorded. A small amount of food brought in and purchased. Held talks on general administration and native custom, and obtained two volunteers for a visit to Simbai and/or Madang. Raining again at 1330.

2/10/69:

Departed Wurupu 0740 hrs for Dangu (Haiwai) and arrived at campsite, next to native house and gardens, at 1100 hrs. Altitude 2300'. A good reception from the Dangu people, with much handshaking. Some food brought to the patrol and purchased - mainly bananas, and not an over-abundance, but the best response for some days. Torrential rain began at 1345. Radio sched with Simbai at 1615 hrs.

3/10/69:

Conducted initial census - 118 people counted including the 33 from Wurupu who have been included in the Dangu book. Fangande of Wurupu elected as Tultul. Attempted to give general administration talks and discuss local custom, but return speeches virtually after each sentence threw the discussion into confusion and it was abandoned after about 1½ hrs. Discussed population centres and patrol routes and attempted to discover if there was any population in the Mungi River area further north-west. We were given answers ranging from "no people" to "small population", "two" to "five days walk away". As carriers supplies were running low it was decided not to risk investigating this area, and carriers were despatched to begin clearing a track, and build a bridge over the Hamil River, towards Gomp.

(An aerial survey after the patrol indicated a possible 200 people in the Mungi River area, about 2-3 days walk from Dangu).

4/10/69:

Violent electrical storm overnight. Departed Dangu 0745 for Gomp Rest House. Descended to the Hamil River, and was guided north through Ainaump hamlet instead of heading directly towards Gomp along the locally used track, adding a possible two hours to the walk. Heavy rain began about 1100 hrs. 1530 hrs reached a small garden house (about 15 mins. from Gomp Rest House) where two carriers collapsed from exhaustion. Made a fire and sheltered from the rain for two hours while the carriers recovered, then continued on to Gomp Rest House at 4800', arriving at 1745 hrs.

5/10/69:

Sunday. Initial census conducted - 54 people counted, not including Ewan and Angor hamlets who did not appear. Tomp elected Tultul. Gave general administration talks and discussed local custom. Some fresh food brought to the patrol and purchased.



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- 6/10/69: Departed Gomp 0730 hrs and descended to the Wulamel River on a very rough track. Followed the Wulamel River upstream, then, after a short, steep climb to 4880', arrived Gebrau Rest House at 1115. Patrol rested for remainder of the day, word sent out to the large population in this area to appear for census tomorrow morning.
- 7/10/69: Initial census of Wamp, Mungam, Yen and Filapo hamlets - 339 people counted. General administration talks given. Radio scheds with D.D.C. Madang 1115 hrs, and Simbai 1615 hrs. Tultuls Munduwei, Aiyap, Nyinimar and Taundai of Mungam, Filapo, Yen and Wamp elected.
- 8/10/69: To Gubaine Rest House - 25 mins. walk. Initial census conducted of Gebrau, Anyingal, Yungor and Maramanj hamlets - 42 people counted - and general administration talks given. Tultuls Nandamp, Heningen and Djangor of Maramanj, Anyingal and Gubaine elected.
- 16/10/69: Returned to Gebrau Rest House via the motor-cycle track - 15 mins. walk. Because of a wrenched knee, obtained near Aradimp, making walking difficult, A.D.C. Lindsay decided to return to Simbai via the motor-cycle track through Salemp, investigating a reported riot near Womuk en route, while P.O. Kraehenbuhl continued the census through the remaining villages in the Ainai area.
- 9/10/69: P.O. Kraehenbuhl departed Gebrau 0805 for Tingi Rest House. Crossed Wulamel River then followed the ridges around the headwaters of the Mungam River in heavy rain, and arrived Tingi Rest House at 1600 hrs, carriers arriving one hour later. Altitude 2800'. Rest House built, but too small so set up camp under canvas. A.D.C. Lindsay remained Gebrau Rest House and held further discussions on local custom, and attempted to sort out several ambiguities in information previously received - people were friendly and enjoyed the talking, but would not explain or clarify many points of custom.
- 10/10/69: P.O. Kraehenbuhl at Tingi. Discussed local custom, and conducted initial census - 66 people counted. Tultul Halo elected. A.D.C. Lindsay departed Gebrau 0725 for Sanguavak. Arrived S.I.L. Station, Salemp, at 1220 (after crossing main Schrader Range at 1000 hrs). Had lunch with Mr. & Mrs. Dawson of S.I.L. and discussed Schrader area with them. Departed Salemp 1515 and arrived Sanguavak Rest House at 1530. Late p.m. gave talk to local headmen re maintenance of the Simbai/Salemp motor-cycle track.
- 11/10/69: P.O. Kraehenbuhl departed Tingi 0735 hrs for Dundulum Rest House, arriving at 0955 hrs. Altitude 3250'. Inspected hamlet. A.D.C. Lindsay departed Sanguavak 0800 for Womuk, arriving 0935. Discussions with local people re alleged threats of riot. Reports received at Gebrau were exaggerated as trouble apparently involves only several assault charges to be laid against a Tultul from Simbai.
- 12/10/69: P.O. Kraehenbuhl conducted initial census of Dundulum - 154 people counted. Luluai Ningaramp retained, and Tultuls Fumbrup and Yimp elected. Gave general administration talks and discussed local custom. A.D.C. Lindsay. Sunday observed at Womuk.

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13/10/69: P.O. Kraehenbuhl departed Dundulum 0725 hrs for Fainjur Rest House, arriving at 0940 hrs, at 3100'. Discussed local custom.

A.D.C. Lindsay departed Womuk 0750 for Simbai Patrol Post, arriving at 1100 hrs.

14/10/69: P.O. Kraehenbuhl conducted initial census of Fainjur - 209 people counted. Luluai Kongom of Fainjur and Luluai Tombaur of Kurumbon retained, and Tultul Wunyingau of Yurubung elected. Gave general administration talks. Radio sched with Simbai 1600 hrs.

15/10/69: P.O. Kraehenbuhl. Heavy rain overnight. Departed Fainjur 0735 for Kareiven Rest House. Arrived Rest House at 1230 hrs at 5220', after a slippery walk over a leech-infested track. Food brought to the patrol and purchased.

16/10/69: P.O. Kraehenbuhl departed Kareiven 0705 for Simbai Patrol Post. Crossed the main Schrader Runge at about 8500' then descended to Simbai, arriving at 1035 hrs.

The patrol was well received at Simbai. No trouble was encountered, but there was a great deal of reluctance to discuss local custom, and it became obvious that in many cases deliberately false information was being given. For instance, that there was now no trouble (the only local trouble) in the area, therefore questions relating to local custom did not apply.

Population Distribution and Census

As this was an initial census, no details of population were given. Census was conducted at 15 points, with an average distance at each point of 100' to give a total of 209 people counted.

The people live in highly mobile households, each household being self-sufficient and grouped in four pockets of population which could loosely be termed hamlets. The largest population by far is in the Gebra/Sabine area with a population of about 380, and which is one of the closest of the hamlets to Simbai - about 10 hours walk.

The balance between the adult/teen/child census figures is clearly as it seems to indicate that of those contacted, whose families appeared, suggesting a desire to cooperate with the census. It is possible that groups of people live in the Karot River area to the north-west, but the patrol was running short of food, and so many conflicting stories were given about walking times (up to five days), that it was decided not to investigate the area.

Social Groupings

Extreme difficulty was encountered in deciphering social groupings as no definite rules of behaviour could be obtained and in many cases a real cure, I was deliberately misled.

As far as could be ascertained, the area may be divided into three language groups, the main one being Karot. The other two are Karot, P. Karot, and Karot. The Karot language is the dominant one in the Karot area, and the other two are Karot. The Karot language is the dominant one in the Karot area, and the other two are Karot.

The cultural patterns of the Karot area are very similar to those of the Karot area.



### Introduction

The Western Schrader Census Division covers an area of about 350 square miles in the Schrader Ranges, between the Jimi and Ramu Valleys, north-west of Simbai Patrol Post. Ranging in altitude from 2500' to 7600', the area is mainly covered by mountain forest, with small patches of moss forest on the highest peaks, and small stretches of kunai around the inhabited areas. Rainfall is estimated at about 100" to 170" per year and it seemed that at this time at least, the southern side of the range was considerably drier than the northern.

At this initial census, 2086 people were counted. For some this was their first contact with Europeans, although the vast majority have had previous, though very limited European contact, and it may be assumed that subsequent censuses will disclose several hundred more people who did not appear during this patrol.

The people resemble a mixture of highlanders and lowlanders in stature, and "typical examples" of each type could be seen at each end of the range of type.

The patrol was well received, as a general rule, (no trouble was encountered) but there was a great deal of reluctance to discuss local custom, and it became obvious that in many cases, deliberately false information was given. I was told, for instance, that there was now no trouble (of any description) in the area, therefore my question relating to traditional enemies did not apply.

### Population Distribution and Trends

As this was an initial census no population trends can be given. Census was conducted at 15 points, with an average attendance at each point of 139, to give a total of 2086 people counted.

The people live in highlands-type homesteads, each more or less self-sufficient and grouped to form pockets of population which could loosely be termed hamlets. The heaviest population by far is in the Gebrao/Gubaine area with a population of about 580, and which is one of the closest of the Schrader areas to Simbai - about 10 hours walk.

The balance between the male/female/children census figures is pleasing as it seems to indicate that of those contacted, whole families appeared, suggesting a desire to co-operate with the census. It is possible that groups of people live in the Mungi River area to the north-west, but the patrol was running short of food, and so many conflicting stories were given about walking times (up to five days) that it was decided not to risk investigating the area.

### Social Groupings

Extreme difficulty was encountered in deciphering social groupings as no definite rules of behaviour could be obtained, and in many cases, I feel sure, I was deliberately misled.

As far as could be ascertained, the area may be divided into three language groups, the main one being Korbon. The western hamlets of Wantank, Fitako, Aradimp and Keibam, speak Wiabuk, the hamlets of Dangu and Birinjip being multilingual in Wiabuk and Korbon, and the eastern hamlets of Dundulom and Fainjur speak Karam, but also use Korbon as a second language.

The cultural pattern throughout the Division appears similar.



The social unit appears to be the household, basically consisting of a man, his wife and children, although this is frequently modified when a brother, cousin or friend, and his family, share the same house. How these family groupings come about, particularly in the case of a friend sharing the house, I was unable to discover. Each household is solely responsible for maintenance and repair of dwellings and for the making of gardens. Intermarriage within each household is common, as is marriage between (blood) related households, and I was told that these marriages are preferred to marriages with neighbouring groups. From the features of the people, there is obviously considerable in-breeding, although I have doubts as to whether marriage connections are as limited as the people would have me believe.

In warfare, two or more houses may combine forces against a similarly grouped opposition.

The most complicated pattern appears in the Gebra/Gubaine area, where 31 houses combine into 12 groups, often wrangling amongst each other, and at times, fighting. Two of these opposing groups have as members two brothers of the same father, who, it is reported, have no compunction about raiding each other.

In attempting to define lineages and/or clans, names were given for only two, sometimes three previous generations, then, so many varying accounts of pre-decessors were given that no conclusions could be reached. Similarly, it was alleged that there was no knowledge of a mythical ancestor, although at Anggabere and Birinjip it was forbidden to kill hornbills because an old law which stated that the populace would die if a hornbill was killed. This suggests a mythical clan ancestor (although this was not admitted by the people).

#### Leadership

No particular leaders became apparent during the course of the patrol except for the individual head of each household. However, as not a few of these were extremely young, virtually youths, who kept in the background during discussions I cannot see that a household head necessarily becomes a leader. If, of course, the whole society is as loose as it appears at first glance, the household head could be expected to become the ultimate leader, and if weak, as in the case of very young men, could draw strength from the head of a neighbouring, friendly household.

#### Land Tenure and Use

The society is patrilineal, the wife moving to the husband's land after marriage.

I was told that ownership of land is vested wholly and solely in the head of the household, and upon his death, passes to the elder son for distribution among himself and the remaining sons. The implication contained in this system is that upon the father's death, the eldest son, must voluntarily relinquish ownership to his brothers over, possibly, a large portion of the land. The eldest brother then would have no control over the relinquished land as his brothers would eventually depart and set up their own household/social units. I find it difficult to visualize this system working smoothly in practice, and although a paternal uncle is able to mediate in a dispute, I cannot see how, in such a fragmented society, he would be in a position to enforce his decision.

The widow of the deceased owner retains usufructory rights until her death.

No cash crops are planted, and the usual staples of sweet



potato, taro, bananas, sugar cane, pitpit and breadfruit are grown, sweet potato and taro, in that order, being the main crops.

Sweet potato and taro take between four and six months to mature, and the complete cycle of garden rotation takes about five years, i.e. land is left fallow for about five years. About three gardens are cultivated at the same time, each in a different stage of growth. As far as is known there is no garden magic, or associated rituals.

Literacy

There are no schools of any description in the area, the nearest being at Sanguwa k, about five hours walk from the nearest hamlet. There are no radios, or any other form of direct contact with the outside, and, as visits by Europeans and/or natives of any educational standard have only recently begun, literacy is nil. There are, however, some Pidgin English speakers in the Dundulom/Fainjur area. The main Schrader Division has only a very few men in the Gebrau area who have any knowledge of Pidgin English and these are not sufficiently competent in the language to maintain anything but the most basic conversation.

Standard of Living

Virtually no European artifacts are used, with the exception of steel axes and bush knives, and a lesser number of small knives. No European vegetables are grown.

Housing is similar to that found in the rest of the Simbai administrative area, that is turtle-shaped houses, built on the ground and thatched with pandanus. The interior is divided into several rooms, and in the case of two families sharing the one house, each family has its own separate rooms but shares a common cooking space. A few mushroom-shaped houses can be found at lower altitudes.

Cooking is done either on an open fire, i.e. roasting, or steamed in a pit oven and as there are few matches the fires are lit with the traditional bamboo thong. These are the only cooking methods used, although at Dundulom and Fainjur food is also cooked in lengths of bamboo. Water is stored in gourds or bamboos. When butchering pigs, bamboo knives are used, being sharpened by peeling a sliver of bamboo from the cutting edge, and digging sticks are used to dig gardens.

The only domesticated animals kept are pigs and dogs. Pigs are kept in separate pig-houses and each animal has its own "room".

General health appears to be good, although there are numerous cases of skin complaints such as "grilli". There are, of course, no figures on infant mortality. Sickness is mainly attributed to sorcery or "devils" and treatment usually consists of stroking the skin with nettles to "draw out the sickness" or by means of a smoking ritual in which the ceremonial smoking of a cigarette by the patient's relatives will banish the illness.

Although a few men in the Gebrau area have obtained some articles of European clothing, traditional dress, consisting of a cane belt wrapped several times around the waist with net or bark cloth hung down the front and tangket leaves behind is the most common. Many men wear mushroom-shaped bark hats over their rounded hairdo.

Food supplies were not plentiful, however as this was the "singsing" season when large ceremonial gatherings are held, I imagine that most food stocks were either consumed or being conserved for this purpose.



Missions

Generally, there has been no mission activity in the area although the Nazarene Mission in the Western Highlands is attempting to build an airstrip at Sanggapi and establish a station there. Work was begun on the airstrip some time ago, then it was stopped, and it was understood that the idea had been abandoned as there is a considerable amount of cut and fill required to be done entirely by hand, and the resulting strip would only be 1300' in length (at a 5800' altitude). Although I was unable to obtain any definite information, I believe that the mission is now showing renewed interest in the scheme.

The only other mission activity in the area is the S.I.L. station at Salemp in the Kaironk Census Division who are working on the Korbon language which extends throughout most of the Western Schrader Division - their activities at the moment however, are restricted mainly to the Kaironk Census Division.

A New Zealand anthropologist, Mr S. Jackson, has been working at Yal, on the west bank of the Kaironk River, for about 18 months, but was absent during the visit of the patrol, and nothing is known of his activities.

Non Indigenous Development

There is no non-indigenous development in the area.

Communications

Communications within the division are very poor. Communication between hamlets is via footpads in the truest sense of the word, and only occasionally during the patrol could the route be recognised as a rough walking track.

A motor cycle track, however, is being constructed between Keibam, Gebram and Salemp and about five miles of a total of about 15 miles remains to be constructed. This track will provide easy access to the heaviest population centre.

A reasonable motor cycle track extends from Simbai to Salemp, on the edge of the division and a vehicular road, which has reached Womuk, is being constructed from Rur. Development Funds and eventually will follow the Kaironk Valley down to the Jimi River, thence to Mount Hagen. Whilst not directly providing access to the major part of the division, this road will open the way for the eventual construction of feeder roads into the area.

At present, the farthest hamlet is about two and a half days walk from the nearest roadhead.

Stage of Political Development

At present the people have virtually no conception of government. They owe allegiance, such as it is, only to the visiting officer on patrol, and only dimly understand that there is a hierarchy behind him.

Economy of the Area

There are no cash crops or money in the area, and the economy is purely a traditional one. Nearly all trading is conducted northwards, towards the Ramu, and most imported articles, such as shells, steel axes and knives, originate indirectly from the Aiome area, although salt is imported from the Kaironk Census Division. The local currency is bows and arrows, native tobacco and animal fur and teeth.



The exchange rate for a steel tomahawk is about one strip of "kapul" fur, while the average bride price runs to about six "articles" e.g. 2 tomahawks, 2 animal furs, 1 string of "tambu" shells and 1 pearl shell.

Payments for food during the patrol were made with salt, beads, knives and matches, although at Dangu, a shirt and pair of shorts was requested by one man.

#### Possibility of Expanding the Economy

There appears to be little hope of introducing cash cropping at this stage, even if a suitable crop could be found. Communications will need to be drastically improved before this can be done.

With the proposed road link to Hagen, the Western Highlands would be the logical outlet for crops such as coffee.

The standard of living could perhaps be raised by introducing cattle, as in parts of the neighbouring Kaironk Census Division, but because of terrain, this would have to be restricted to the southern half of the division, and even then, I doubt whether it could be introduced on a very large scale.

Timber could be considered - there are quite a few klinki pines growing in the Yump area - but again, access is the problem, and it is probable that there are areas more favourable to timber production nearer to Mt. Hagen.

As the soil appears relatively fertile, fresh vegetables could perhaps be grown for export to the coast although some means of transporting them to Simbai would have to be found - the proposed Nazarene Mission airstrip at Sanggapi will have little potential in this regard as a 1300' strip at 5-6000' will allow virtually no take-off loading.

#### Attitude Towards Local Government

Attempts were made to explain both Central and Local Government. However, the subject is so vast that there is little likelihood of much being absorbed even though the explanations were kept drastically simple. At present I cannot imagine any clear concept of Local Government being held, consequently the people are neither for nor against Local Government.

The possibility has been raised that the Western Schrader Division could be included in the Simbai Council, when this is established in the near future, however as the area could contribute absolutely nothing to what will, in any case, be a low level council, and as the people probably will be unable to appreciate the political implications of councils, I feel that, if anything, their inclusion in the council could do more harm than good in that they would lower the financial level of the Simbai area, and may possibly come to view the council as a non-functioning timewaster. This view may be hard to dispel in future years, but also, against this one must weight the advantages gained in the outside contact and interchange of ideas gained by the Schrader people.

#### Attitude Towards Central Government

As the concept of central government is still being formed the people show no definite attitude towards it. Individual Europeans are accepted more or less at face value although there is a measure of uncertainty in the people's attitude, and while generally willing to co-operate, they are not yet prepared to be completely trusting.



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Accommodation, Services and Facilities

The only facilities existing are the patrol rest-houses. Rest-houses had been built at Wulim, Aradimp, Gaggapi, Keibam, Gomp, Gebrau, Tingi, Dundulom and Fainjor prior to this patrol and should be completed at the other population centres within a few months.

There is no electricity in the area and the only communication is by radio. There are no schools and no health centres.

The area is patrolled by the J. I. Patrol. Several times by officers from the patrol and some village officials had been appointed. Some of the officials had visited either Tabitoga or Mt. Sago and reported that we were viewed as trespassers, although we were friendly and well-meaning.

Talks were given on the nature of the patrol and the fact that the people appeared to be afraid of the patrol. The charges of officers rather than clerics in the concept of government, and the fact that the people were not afraid of the patrol was telling the truth.

Attempts were also made to explain local government and these were later recalled when it was said that the experiences of the many "authorities" were beginning to confuse the people.

COMMERCE

The only economy in the area is the trade in slaves, slaves of basket and bamboo, bows and arrows, native iron tools, and also are exchanged for steel tools, knives, salt, ornaments and salt originating from the New Valley near Aiam. A typical exchange rate is one pig head for one pig, one pig head for one pig head, one pig head for one pig head.

There is neither agriculture nor handicraft development before either could be attempted. Communication is poor within the division and has to be considerably improved. Although the Nazareth Mission proposes to build an airstrip at Sanggapi, (altitude 5,500'), its limited length of 1,500' would preclude any hope of its being used as an air base. At present, a small airstrip is being built in the area to which there is the nearest airstrip.

Development work has been done in the area. A road from Aiam to Sanggapi, about 100 miles long, is being built. It will be a dirt road and will be built in stages. The first stage will be from Aiam to Sanggapi, about 50 miles. The second stage will be from Sanggapi to the Jim River, about 50 miles. The third stage will be from the Jim River to the border of the division. A network of feeder roads would be built. A motor cycle track is currently under construction from Sanggapi to the border of the division, and is about 60 miles long. It is hoped that this track may be extended to Sanggapi.

As far as is known, there have been no attacks in the area by the development of the area.

The total population of the area is about 10,000. The area is divided into several districts. The districts are: Aiam, Sanggapi, Keibam, Gomp, Gebrau, Tingi, Dundulom, and Fainjor. The population of each district is as follows: Aiam, 1,500; Sanggapi, 1,500; Keibam, 1,500; Gomp, 1,500; Gebrau, 1,500; Tingi, 1,500; Dundulom, 1,500; and Fainjor, 1,500.



SITUATION REPORT

(5)

Political

As a new area, the Western Schraders show virtually no political development except an awareness that there is an outside world and a Government represented by the visiting officer. The difference between the Government and the visiting officer is probably not clearly understood and the officer is viewed more as some type of dictator.

The area extending from the Jimi River to Sanggapi has been visited several times by officers from Tabibuga Patrol Post and some village officials had been appointed. Some of these officials had visited either Tabibuga or Mt Hagen and I sensed that we were viewed as trespassers, although we were treated courteously.

Talks were given on the nature of government etc. and in the latter area the people appeared more confused over the change of officers rather than clearer in their concept of government, and, I sensed, were not quite sure whether or not I was telling the truth.

Attempts were also made to explain Local Government but these were later restricted when it was felt that the existence of too many "authorities" were beginning to confuse the people.

Economic

The only economy in the area is the traditional system of barter and exchange. Bows and arrows, native tobacco, furs and lime are exchanged for steel tomahawks, knives, shell ornaments and salt originating from the Ramu Valley near Aiome. A typical exchange rate is one fur head-band for a steel tomahawk.

There is neither indigenous nor non-indigenous development, and before either could be attempted, communication to, and within the division would have to be considerably improved. Although the Nazarene Mission proposes building an airstrip at Sanggapi, (altitude 5,880') its limited length of 1300' would preclude any hope of its being used as an export centre. At present, a walk of from 8 to 24 hours is necessary to reach Simbai, the nearest airstrip.

Rural Development funds have been used to build a vehicular road from Simbai to Womuk, about four miles from the border of the Western Schrader Division and this road is now about 85% complete. An additional \$6000 has been requested for the next financial year to extend the road, through the southern portion of the division, to the Jimi River, thence, hopefully, to Mt. Hagen. While this road will not directly service the bulk of the division, a network of feeder roads would become feasible. A motor cycle track is currently under construction from Salemp to Gebrau and Keibam, and is about 60% complete. It is hoped that this track may be extended to Sanggapi.

As far as is known, there have been no activities in the area by the developmental departments.

The soil, in the main, appears relatively fertile, however the area is quite mountainous (although not unduly rugged) and not well suited to commercial agriculture. Cattle and timber offer limited possibilities, but it is unlikely that the Western Highlands District, the most probable developer of timber resources, would extend so far when there are equally good, or better, resources nearer home.



The conomic prospects for the area appear grim, unless the Department of Agriculture is able to produce an acceptable, fairly high yield, high return crop suitable for a 2000' to 6000' altitude range.

### SOCIAL

The traditional pattern of life in the division has changed little. Families living in highland-type homesteads still wear traditional dress and engage in traditional ceremonies such as youth initiation, and are unable to speak Pidgin English. About the only visible signs of European contact are the steel axes and bush knives, beads, and occasional articles of European clothing. Facilities such as schools and aid posts are non-existent. Despite the lack of medical facilities general health appeared good except for numerous cases of minor skin complaints - it could be, of course, that ill people did not bother to appear at the census although I doubt whether this would materially affect the general impression of reasonably good health.

Although food was not plentiful, the people appeared fairly well fed, and as the patrol was conducted in the middle of a singsing season (which, doubtless, decreased the number appearing at census) people had most probably hoarded food for the accompanying feasts.

The singsing season runs from about August to December, and future patrols would achieve better results if this season could be avoided, at the same time the rains preceding the true wet season would also be avoided.

Women bear children in a specially constructed house in the bush, where they are attended during the confinement by female relatives and friends. The husband cooks for both his wife and himself, but is not permitted to otherwise associate himself with the birth. The confinement lasts about four to five days.

There appear to be three stages in the life of a male child. At the age of about three/four years a special singsing house of modest proportions is built and relatives hold a small singsing and present the child with woven amulets, belt and net or bark cloth to hang from the front of the belt. Somewhere about the age of puberty the youth is given a bark covering for his hair. For several days prior to this, the youths must not fraternize with women (although they may receive food cooked by them) and are forbidden to eat eels, pitpit, possums, nuts from the "IMINJ" tree (botanical name unknown) or food cooked on an open fire. They then must sleep for one night alone in the bush, and after this are taken to a large, specially constructed singsing house where a singsing is held and they eat with the adult men, and women are not permitted to enter the house. After spending the night in the singsing house, they presumably return to normal routine.

Subsequent to this, at a short interval later, another large singsing house is constructed, and the noses of the young men are pierced with a plain pig-killing arrowhead. This apparently completes the initiation of young men. Fires during these ceremonies are always lit in the traditional manner with a bamboo thong, even though matches may be available.

The singsing houses are allowed to decay, and new houses are built on each occasion - separate houses are made for the presentation of bark hats and piercing of noses.

Marriage is generally arranged between the parents of the couple involved when they have reached adult status. In the



(3)

easternmost hamlets more recognition is given to the wishes of the couple in respect of the marriage, but further west the wishes of the parents are likely to prevail.

Bride price payments are paid when the girl is brought to the man's house (the society is patrilineal) and the average payment is six items such as axes, animal furs, shell ornaments, etc. In the hamlets east of Gebrau, additional payments are made by the husband if his wife bears many children, and it is possible that this is done elsewhere, although I was informed that the only payment made is the actual bride price at the time of marriage.

I was given to understand that multiple births are unknown, but it is possible that this is so because a custom of despatching one of the twins at birth may exist.

The divorce rate is low, and divorce entails the returning of the bride price to the ex-husband. Children of the marriage normally would accompany the parent of the same sex.

The division of labour appears to be similar to most other parts of the Territory, women doing household chores and the lighter work in garden and house construction. Children have no specific role in assisting their parents although they may be assigned to assist and look after the aged and infirm, or mentally deficient - usually a relative is chosen for this, but if the person has no close relatives, someone outside of the family would accept the task.

Upon the death of a person, the body lies in state in the house for a short period of mourning, then a high bed is constructed outside, and the remains placed upon it. When only bones are left, these are gathered together and buried in a grave. A close relative may keep a portion of the skeleton hung around his neck on a string in memory of the deceased person.

The inheritance pattern is difficult to determine as I was given extremely vague and unsatisfactory answers. Ownership of land appears to be vested in the head of the household, and before his death he "makes a will", and it becomes the duty of the eldest son to execute the "will". Personal effects are distributed among the sons (the effects of females are distributed among daughters) and land is also distributed among them, the widow receiving usufructory rights until her death or departure.


Strong beliefs in magic, ghosts and devils exist, and in one case encountered, a man with a badly swollen and infected hand claimed that the "devil" of his recently deceased parents had entered it and caused the pain - presumably he had done something nasty or omitted to do something for them.

Throughout the whole patrol, only one minor complaint of threatening behaviour was brought forward. At Yump, and elsewhere, I was assured that lawbreakers simply did not exist. This is most likely a reaction to investigations into several murders in the Gebrau area over the past 18 months. I feel confident that fighting and murders are still being carried out, but their extent is impossible to gauge. No fear of opposing groups or possible retaliation was noticed when gathering groups for census, etc. At Keibam, however, the patrol received a most peculiar reception, and people seemed ill at ease. At various times, small groups of men could be seen scuttling furtively through gardens as if they had been attending a clandestine meeting, but no reasons for their behaviour could be ascertained. I feel sure, however, that a fight or murder had occurred in the recent past, and no doubt the details will eventually leak out - there was no

(2)

point in pressing the people and frightening them unduly as they would only become even more reticent.

There are no mission activities whatsoever in the area.

 -/ADE.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT.

Report Number.....~~RAMU REPORT NO. 3-69/70~~ SIMBAI REPORT NO. 3-69/70.....  
Subdistrict.....RAMU.....  
District.....MADANG.....  
Type of Patrol.....SPECIAL.....  
Patrol Conducted by .....G. D. PIKE, A.D.C.....  
Area Patrolled ) .....LOWER GAINJ AREA.....  
Council and/or ) .....  
Census Division/s) .....  
Personnel Accompanying Patrol  
.....1 MEMBER R.F.N.G.C.....  
.....  
.....  
Duration of Patrol - from...~~13~~ 13-4-70...To...~~17~~ 17-4-70...  
No. of Days .....4.....  
Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area:.....21-7-69 to 25-7-69.....  
Date.....Duration.....  
Objects of Patrol (Briefly) .....  
(1) To advise villagers of forthcoming Simbai Council elections  
(2) Routine Administration  
(3) To examine Asai Bridge site.  
Total Population of Area Patrolled .....

Director of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

Forwarded, please

/ /1970

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

7

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

67-7-50

19th May, 1970

District Commissioner,  
Madang District,  
MADANG.

SIMBAI PATROL NO. 3/69-70.

Your reference 67-2-9 of 5th May, 1970.

2. I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Special Report by Mr. G. D. Pike, Assistant District Commissioner, of part Gainj Census Division.
3. This short patrol appears to have been quite useful.
4. Mr. Pike's informative report provides a sound picture of the area patrolled.

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





67-7-50  
6

Telephone  
Telegrams  
Our Reference 67-2-9  
If calling ask for  
Mr. WJK:RS

Dept. of the Administrator,  
Division of District  
Administration,  
MADANG.

5th May, 1970.

Secretary,  
Dept. of the Administrator,  
KONEDOBU, Papua.

SIMBAI PATROL REPORT NO. 3

Enclosed are copies of the above Patrol Report.  
The Patrol was conducted by Mr G.D. Pike, A.D.C. Ramu.

The patrol was of limited duration and had as its main object the dissemination of information, to villagers, on the forthcoming Simbai Council Elections. The people of the area enthusiastically support the establishment of a Local Government organisation for the Simbai area. This support is despite a limited knowledge of Local Government principles and acknowledged low level of assistance which the Council could give this remote and economically depressed area.

The airstrip site examined would be suitable for light aircraft operations. However, this strip will not be constructed unless some dramatic and large scale resettlement schemes are initiated in the area. Resettlement naturally depends not only upon the wishes of the people, but also on the results of the soil survey teams which have been working in the Ramu Valley. The results of the survey should be available within twelve months. However, even if a favourable report on soil fertility is forthcoming, the problems of marketing and uplift of crops are to be solved before any resettlement scheme in this area could be feasible. These problems are not insurmountable but would require high expenditure and devoted staff.

Cultist activities are still being reported from a new village site near the Ramu River, however these reports are unconfirmed and will be subject to an investigation by the O.I.C. AIOME.

*D. Clifton-Bassett*

(D. Clifton-Bassett)  
District Commissioner.

Enc.

INTRODUCTION

The area visited by the patrol comprises that part of the Gainj Census Division between the Simbai river to the east, the Bismarck foothills to the south, and the Ramu River to the North. It is predominantly low lying with swamplands bordering the Ramu River. There are several large tracts of Kunai grass, and the foothill country appears to be well drained, although there are many creeks and rivers flowing through it from the hills.

There has been little development in the area and the people remain fairly backward. They comprise a mixture of Ramu people from the Angamu-Kumaran Census Division area, who settled on the kunai areas several generations ago, and mountain people from the Tungaga and Aingdai village groups who have moved down and settled at Kupa village at the base of the hills. The two groups appear to live amicably together.

SITUATION REPORT

1. Political:

The main reason for the visit to the area was to contact the village groups and advise them of the forthcoming elections for the Simbai Local Government Council. This area was included in Ward 24 of the council, together with the Gainj villagers of Tungaga, Manyinbai and Aingdai.

A meeting of people from the area was held at Foroga Rest house on the 22nd April, at which the voting system was again explained to the people. Mr. P.J. Krachenbuhl, Patrol Officer had previously spent some time in Political Education in this area (see Simbai Patrol Report No. 1-69/70).

One problem raised by the people was the difficulty in carrying out the polling in Ward 24. They felt that it was unreasonable to appoint one polling place for the whole ward, due to the difficulty which this would cause to the more distant groups. If the polling was carried out at Tungaga or Aingdai, it would constitute a hardship for the Foroga/Kupa people to travel into the hills for the polling. Similarly it would be unreasonable to expect the Aingdai and Tungaga villagers to come to Foroga for the polling. It was generally agreed that this ward would require a two day poll, one at Aingdai and one at Foroga. However it was pointed out that nominations would only be accepted at the first polling place, which would be Aingdai/Tungaga, and those people wishing to stand for the position of Councillor would have to arrange to have their nominations submitted prior to the commencement of polling at that place.

The people seemed keen to have their own council, and although some of the other groups nearer to Aiome Patrol Post elected to be incorporated in the Arabaka Council rather than the Simbai Council, these people were unwavering in their



(4)

support for the Simbai Council. It was suggested by certain persons from Kondul village that some of the people from the Asai area who had moved down to the Ramu Valley, were having second thoughts about the wisdom of their move. This appears to stem from a genuine fear of sorcery, as the mountain people, although having no fear of the Ramu Valley dwellers on the physical plane, have a genuine respect for their powers of sorcery. The recent influenza epidemic which killed a number of older people in the area was apparently attributed to the actions of sorcerers rather than infection. On the other hand, the effects of malaria appear to be less virulent than one would expect (see also section (4)).

2. Economic:

There is practically no economic development in this area, although the villagers of Kupa are preparing a site for a trial coffee plot, and the Agricultural Officer from Aiome has tentatively visited the area to assess the potential.

The airstrip site which was cleared some two years ago to assess its suitability has now grown over with Kunai. However the surface remains firm and even, and the drains dug down one side of the strip are still open and have been effective in preventing the encroachment of water from northern side. Wild pig damage is apparently negligible after an intensive system of hunts carried out last year in conjunction with the burning off of the kunai areas. It seems that the strip could be open for operations with a minimum of effort. For further background information on this airstrip, see Simbai Patrol Report No. 8 of 1967/68.

The people of this area are naturally very keen to have the airstrip open, but the difficulties associated with maintenance, reporting and the present lack of any crops to backload, were pointed out to them. However it seems likely that the kunai areas around this airstrip will be the subject of some discussion at meetings of the Simbai Council in the near future. There has previously been some tendency for the hill people to move down and take up occupancy of tribal lands in this section. However it has been the policy of the various Officers-in-Charge of Simbai to discourage this on the grounds that malaria would exact a high toll of these highland people if they were to move down into the valley.

The preliminary results of the soil survey teams which have been working in the Ramu Valley should be available in the next twelve months or so, and it seems that their findings will be to the effect that the amount of ground generally suitable for cropping as opposed to grazing, is somewhat limited. In view of this situation it becomes doubly important that the best possible use be made of such ground as is suitable for cropping, as, per acre, this would provide a better return for a greater number of people.

The opportunity was taken on this occasion to inspect the site of the Asai Bridge, which is to be constructed this financial year. It will consist of a wire suspension bridge suitable for foot traffic only. It will be of great benefit, not only to the Aiome area villages on the far side of the River, but also to the villages on the eastern side of the Asai valley, who find it more convenient to travel to Aiome than to Simbai to make trade store purchases.

For much of the wet season this river floods severely, and its crossing becomes a hazardous undertaking - if indeed it is at all possible. The construction of this bridge will be of considerable benefit to the area, from the point of view of convenience although it will have very little effect on the economic development of the area.



3

Until the construction of the road which will ultimately link Simbai with Aiome, and provide access to the Ramu mouth by means of the Arabaka council Barge, this footbridge will serve its purpose in maintaining a communications link between the two centres.

The Director of Public Works has been requested, on behalf of the Simbai Council, to provide a surveyor to find the most satisfactory alignment for the Aiome-Simbai road link, and Rural Development Funds have been requested for 1970/71 for the construction of the first stage from Simbai to Kandum. Such a road will take many years to construct, but without such access, the people of the upper Simbai and Kaironk areas who are dependent upon the category "C" airstrip at Simbai for all communications, are accordingly limited in their capacity for economic development.

3. Social:

Mr. P.J. Kraehenbuhl, in his Patrol Report No. 1 of 1969/70 outlines the difficulties which he had in checking on the reports of cargo cult activity in this area. The final conclusion he reached was that the reports were without foundation, although there was some evidence that there had been some cult activity in the past.

In the course of this patrol, these reports persisted, and there was evidence that the Hauwanga people, who had left their old village site, had not in fact migrated in their entirety to Foroga, as Mr. Kraehenbuhl was told. Many, together with some people from Bulumdei and Kaipanjin have in fact moved to a new village site down on the Ramu river near Ungamarvin, which is known as Baita. These people were not seen during the course of the visit, but there were numerous stories of cultist activities being carried out by the members of this group.

Although there is some possibility that the reports are unfounded, the Officer-in-Charge of Aiome Patrol Post has been requested to further investigate the alleged cargo cult outbreak, as the hamlet of Baita lies within his administrative area.

4. CONCLUSION

The area visited by the patrol is comparatively remote, although the presence of several thousand acres of grasslands and comparatively well drained land in the foothills offers some developmental potential. A possible airstrip site has previously been inspected by a District Airport Inspector, and was pronounced as being suitable for category "B" aircraft. The main problems confronting any plans to move people from the mountains down on to these areas are the malaria incidence, and the difficulty of finding a suitable crop which will allow intensive resettlement, thereby providing the greatest social benefit for the maximum number of settlers, as opposed to the sparse settlement and prodigal use of land involved with land utilization for grazing purposes.



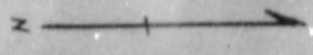
(2)

The matter will no doubt be discussed at some length in the Simbai Local Government Council. The people already settling at Kupi have shown no signs of succumbing to malaria after a period of three years, in spite of living in conjunction with the people of Feroga, who would have a high incidence of malaria. Furthermore, they are encouraging other members of the Tungaga and Aingdai groups to move down and make use of the large areas of land which these people have available to them.

Although the total area of suitable land is limited, there is a potential for development in this area which should not be neglected, in view of the shortage of economic opportunity which exists in the mountains of the Simbai area.



(G. D. PIKE)  
ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER



Scale  
1 inch = 4 miles

W. H. D.  
District

SIMBAI  
PATROL POST

DISTRICT

BOUNDARY

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R A N G E

S I M B A I

R I V E R

R I V E R

R I V E R

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AIOME  
PATROL POST

SHUK

NSY

ANIAM

KOMBL

KUPN

FOROCA

SIMBAI

SIMBAI Patrol Report  
No. 3 of 69/70



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ATION

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SIMBAI Patrol Report  
 No. 3 of 69/70

4 miles = 1 inch

W. H. D.  
 DISTRICT

1



DDA 67-7-83 H/Q Copy

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT.



Report Number... SIMBAI REPORT 1 - 69/70

Subdistrict... RAMU

District... MADANG

Type of Patrol... CENSUS AND L.G. ELECTIONS

Patrol Conducted by... G. D. PIKE

Area Patrolled ) KAIRONK CENSUS

Council and/or ) DIVISION

Census Division/s) SIMBAI LOCAL GOVT. COUNCIL

Personnel Accompanying Patrol

1 Member R.F.N.G.C.

1 Patrol Interpreter

Duration of Patrol - from... 19.5.70 ..... To... 5.6.70

No. of Days ..... 17 days

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area... APRIL 1970

Date... See Simbai Patrol Report 4 69/70

Objects of Patrol (Briefly) 1. Conduct Initial elections for  
SIMBAI L.G.C. Census. (2) Carry out Annual Census. (3) Political  
Education. (4) General Administration.

Total Population of Area Patrolled ..... 4327

Director of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

*Area Singh D. ...*

Forwarded, please

/ /19

.....  
District Commissioner



27  
GFB:KP

67-7-83

Division of District Administration,

KONEDOBU. PAFUA.

21st September, 1970.

The District Commissioner,  
Madang District,  
MADANG.

SINBAI PATROL NO. 5/69-70

Your reference 67-2-9 of 3rd September, 1970.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Annual Census, Area Study and Situation Report by Mr. G.S. Pike, Assistant District Commissioner, of KAIRONK Census Division.

Mr. Pike has conducted a very useful patrol. His well written, informative report contains a particularly forthright assessment of the current situation in the KAIRONK, and your full comments adequately cover the points of major interest.

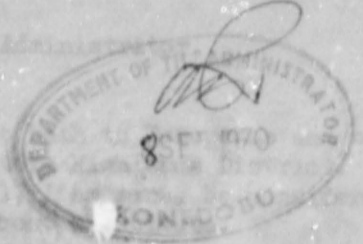
(T.R. ELLIS)  
Departmental Head.

DDA 67. 7. 83



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams  
Telephone  
Our Reference 67-2-9  
If calling ask for  
Mr. WJK:RS



Dept. of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
MADANG.

3rd September, 1970.

Secretary,  
Dept. of the Administrator,  
KONEDOBUI, Papua.

SIMBAI PATROL REPORT NO. 5 OF 1969/70

You have already received a copy of the above Patrol Report, which apparently avoided the clerical net and was forwarded to you without my comments.

Comments on the relevant sections are:

1. Political

Even though these elections were first conducted for the Simbai Council it is obvious that the village people have followed the well trodden path of indulging in pre-selection of the candidate before the formal voting took place. However, as a sop to our principles and to the electoral officers, numbers of candidates stood at all centres, though many did not receive a single vote; thus the outward show of democracy was preserved, while the elected candidate was pre-chosen by village consensus.

Political Education by specialist officers will, in the first instance, be undertaken with the elected Councillors. I cannot agree with Mr Pike that this approach will prove an effective means of disseminating information, as experience to date has shown that Councillors very seldom inform their people of Council discussions or of Administration proposals put forward at Council meetings. I consider, however, that in the first instance we must have a fairly aware body of Councillors, and when this is achieved Political Education Officers can then work at the village level, aided and assisted by an instructed, and, we hope, aware body of Councillors.

2. Economic

The prohibition on the planting of coffee has been observed almost 100% in the Simbai area. Consequently, the people are at a loss to understand the non-uniformity of Administration policy and approach, when they observe their neighbours in the Western Highlands District still planting coffee, and obtaining an income from crops planted during the period the Simbais have been under a prohibition.

I anticipate that through the Simbai Council there will be an increasing demand for Agriculture Department assistance in the establishment of nurseries and the distribution of seedlings. If this assistance is not forthcoming it will make a mockery of the Policy as laid down by the Director of Agriculture, that is, his Department will not encourage, but will give assistance if there is a spontaneous demand for the planting of Highlands coffee. The suggested crop, Cardamoms, for the area will not satisfy the people. The approach they want to follow is to adopt some crop which has proved successful

....



Secretary,  
Dept. of the Administrator.

3rd September, 1970. 67-2-9

and profitable both to Europeans and to the native people in the adjoining Western Highlands District. To be fobbed off with Cardamoms will, I am sure, be considered by them as a palliative and a second best substitute.

Cattle projects are this year's emphasis with the Agriculture Department and interest was engendered in the Simbai area by an Agriculture Officer some time ago. To date little else has been done and only a minimum number of beasts have been supplied to those Simbai people interested in projects. It appears to me that to encourage cattle projects with no possibility of access to markets within three to four years is merely to re-distribute money already in Simbai hands, as the cattle simply cannot be sold outside the area, but will be purchased locally. This is a little like the economic situation in small country towns where everybody takes in each others washing and while the level of wealth is not increased, money is re-distributed with every transaction.

### 3. Population

For some time it has been maintained by various people, especially the Anglican Mission, that an excessive number of Simbai people are absent from the area, working either on the coast or in other highland areas. However, figures now extracted by Mr Pike indicate that 9.8 to 10% of the population are absent at work. I do not consider this is an excessive number, nor justification to make application to have the area closed to recruiting.

### 4. Communications

The proposed airstrip to be constructed at Salem by the Nazarene Mission is of no interest to the Administration, as the area could be in contact with Simbai by extending the existing road. Administration will not encourage the construction of this airstrip nor, if asked, give any aid to the Mission.

The Area Study section of this report is of great interest and is one of the best that has been submitted from the Simbai area. I particularly draw your attention to page 11, paragraph M. This section deals with the desire of the Simbai people for coffee plantations, and confirms my contention that the Agriculture Department must accede to the requests of the people for assistance in planting this crop before frustrations lead to anti-Administration sentiments.

*D. Clifton Bassett*

(D. Clifton-Bassett) L  
District Commissioner.

PGM 5 MSBY

24

ADSEC PNG136

24 AUG 1970 10.50 NR 538

DISCOM  
MADANG

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PATROL REPORT 5/69-7J

ADSEC

(2596 5/69-7J)

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PATROL DIARY

Tuesday 19.5.70

Departed Madang 8.00 a.m. for SIMBAI. Elections of Ward 9 - GABAN and KULP villages on station. T. Tobogani L.G.A. held elections for Ward 10 at Council house. Elections completed 3.30 p.m. (1 day)

Wednesday 20.5.70

To FUNDUM for elections Ward 8. Also conducted census of FUNDUM and ARAPAN villages. Completed work 5.30 p.m. Returned to SIMBAI. Patrol equip. to SALEMP (1 day)

Thursday 21.5.70

Attended to Radio at SIMBAI in morning. Departed 10 a.m. by motorbike for SALEMP arriving 1.30 p.m. after discussions with various groups re election programme. Various matters discussed with village officials in afternoon. Spent time completing statistics from census and elections of previous groups (1 day)

Friday 22.5.70

Census and Council election for ward 2 - SALEMP village. NYINGINAMP elected again by a large majority.

Saturday 23.5.70

Departed SALEMP 7.50 a.m. for SANGUUVAK arriving 8.45 a.m. Census and L.G. elections for Ward 1, SIMBAI L.G.C. Polling completed by 3.30 p.m. Count once again decided on first preferences - few voted again (winning candidate KINGAN) Heavy rain in afternoon.

Sunday 24.5.70

Reports of fight at ARENAMP. Various other matters settled. Commenced work on backlog of census and voting statistics from previous groups. Worked all day but still unfinished.

Monday 25.5.70

Departed SANGUUVAK 7.50 a.m. for AINONK. Discussed elections with those present on arrival. One court for offence reported on 24/5. Spent remainder of day on SANGUUVAK census figures.

Tuesday 26.5.70

Elections for Ward 4 held during day and census revised in conjunction. LL ANDUMAI elected without much opposition although there were 6 candidates. Afternoon spent on census figures.

Wednesday 27.5.70

To WOMUK in morning. Accepted nominations from both WOMUK and BILLUM for Ward 5 elections. Election for WOMUK component completed in afternoon.

Thursday 28.5.60

To BILLUM in morning completion of election Ward 5.

ABU elected councillor in the closest contest as yet. This ward is far too large and will have to be split into two, or have two councillors. Purchases pig to feed carrier line in afternoon. Also inspected possible swing bridge site over KAIRONK River .

- Friday 29.5.70 Departed BILUM 7.45 a.m. for ARENAMP - arriving 9.20 a.m. Meeting with village officials. A number of courts occupied most of day. Walked to SAAL RIVER in afternoon along track which has somewhat deteriorated from its original status as a motorcycle road. A very pleasant spot although the inhabitants appear somewhat "rustic".
- Saturday 30.5.70 Census and election of Ward 3 - ARENAMP and WOWO. Worst turn up so far - approx. 40% of WOWO absent. Possibly due to ARENAMP being selected as polling centre, but previous officers have commented unfavourably on the poor attendance at census. Discussed matter with V/officials and it was agreed that a third census group should be formed in the lower SAAL, to include the large number of people whose names have not been previously recorded in that area. Would probably be included in the Western Schrader Census Division.
- Sun. 31.5.70 Worked on census statistics all day.
- Mon. 1.6.70 Departed ARENAMP 7.45 for KAIRONK Arriving 10.30 a.m. Visiting native cattle project at WCMUK en route. Discussions with village officials, completed work on census statistics in afternoon.
- Tue. 2.6.70 Census and L.G. election of KAIRONK Ward 6 in morning spent afternoon compiling census statistics.
- Wednesday 3.6.70 Census and elections for Ward 7 FUNGOI. Completed census patrol at this point.
- Thursday 4.6.70 Departed FUNGOI 8.30 a.m. for SIMBAI arriving 2.00 a.m. Completed voting statistics in afternoon and paid off carriers etc.
- Friday 5.6.70 To KAKOPI in morning for elections Ward III - KOKI and KOKOPI villages. LL MCNDIA elected after going to third preferences. Returned to SIMBAI 3.00 p.m.



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SITUATION REPORT.

INTRODUCTION.

The main purpose of this patrol was to undertake the initial elections for the SIMBAI Local Government Council, and my comments as Returning Officer on those elections were forwarded under cover of the statutory returns as my R42-2-5 of 13.7.70.

However, in view of the complaints from several sources regarding the allegedly high percentage of absentee labour which had been recruited from the area in recent months it was decided to carry out a census at the same time as the elections. Due to the necessarily hurried nature of the patrol, required to fit in with the election period it was difficult to adequately fulfill the requirements of the Area Study Instruction, and for this reason certain aspects are only commented upon briefly. Many of the matters in this Situation Report have been discussed more fully in the Area Study, and also in the election report which has been forwarded separately.

(a) Local Govt. Council.

Those elected from the KAIRAKI area almost invariably was by a landslide, which would indicate that the villagers had pre-selected the winner by traditional means. However this did not prevent a large number of candidates presenting themselves for nomination, although many of them did not receive a single vote. Possibly in doing so they considered that they were honoring the Presiding Officer.

The standard of individuals elected varied, but the number of individuals or tuftals elected were in the minority. In only two cases were younger men elected, but even this is surprising considering the tradition-bound state of the KAIRAKI people at this time.

NUMBER OF VOTERS.

This aspect has been covered in the returns.

POLITICAL OPINION.

The progress to date of the services of various political parties has been covered in the returns for the sub-district, but the SIMBAI area has been awarded a representative by law provision. At the present time of the report no political party is considered to have any chance of winning the election.

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SITUATION REPORT.

A. POLITICAL.

(a) Local government.

The initial elections for the SIMBAI Local govt. Council were undertaken in the course of this patrol. The people appeared pleased that their long period of waiting for the establishment of this council was over, and there was a very good turn up for the polls. The mechanics of voting appeared to be understood by most of the people although the intricacies of the preferential system escapes most of the villagers. Fortunately it was only necessary to use second preferences one one occasion, and in this instance the majority of the first count was confirmed by the distribution of preferences.

As stated in the attached area study, it is proposed to hold council meetings in several villages in strategic positions throughout the council area to allow the people to see their elected representatives in action and to obtain a better understanding of the work of the council.

(b) Local Govt. Councillors.

Those elected from the KAIRONK area almost invariably won by a landslide, which would indicate that the villages had pre selected the winner by traditional means. However this did not prevent a large number of candidates presenting themselves for nomination, although many of them did not receive a single vote. Possibly in doing this they considered that they were humouring the Presiding Officer.

The standard of individuals elected varied, but the number of ex luluais or tultuls elected were in the minority. In only two cases were younger men elected, but even this is surprising considering the tradition-bound state of the KAIRONK people at this time.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

This aspect has been covered in the area study.

POLITICAL EDUCATION.

A programme to utilize the service of trained Political Education Officers has been drawn up for the sub district, but the SIMBAI area has been accorded a comparatively low priority. At the present state of the peoples development it is considered that they would respond more effectively to officers known to them



rather than a stranger who would appear briefly and demand a tremendous effort of comprehension from them. Also, concentrated efforts will be made through the SIMBAI Councillors, and this should prove an effective means of disseminating information, although ultimately it will depend upon the quality of the individual elected representative, which varies greatly.

The process of Political Education is a continuing one, and a concentrated effort will be required to sustain any effective progress. Such efforts however, in view of staff shortages must be considered in relation to the all over demands placed upon officers in charge of stations, and these inevitably reduce the amount of attention which this important aspect can command.

**B. ECONOMIC.**

**(a) General Rural Development.**

Cash cropping in this area is minimal, being limited to a few coffee gardens which have recently been planted by village people in the FUNDUM and KAIRONK area. Some non-indigenous vegetables are grown for sale to expatriates in the area, but the growth potential of this type of enterprise is extremely limited.

The promotion of village cattle projects through the KAIRONK however, would appear to offer considerable promise as the one such scheme which has been established, at WOMUK village, is showing worthwhile results, although only three beasts are currently being run on the land. The people of the area have evinced considerable interest in cattle for some time, and have brought money to the O.I.C. USINO requesting him to arrange for the purchase of stock for them. However the Department of Agriculture has apparently been unable to obtain sufficient beasts to meet the upsurge in demand generally, and to date nothing has come of the request.

**(b) Activities of Developmental Departments.**

The Department of Agriculture has had a local officer at SIMBAI for the past five years, although the degree of economic development achieved during that period has been minimal.

Some village fish ponds were established in the past, but these have not proven popular with the villagers and they have been allowed to deteriorate.

There appears to be no departmental support for the extension of the small coffee plantings in the KAIRONK Valley



although the people themselves are pressing on with the task of extending their present gardens in the absence of any alternative crop fostered by the Department of Agriculture.

Cardaman has been mentioned as a possible crop for the SIMBAI area generally, and it is believed that trial plots are to be planted in the near future. Possibly this will provide a much needed cash income for a limited number of people from the KAIRONK Valley but in view of the limited market available for this crop, I cannot see it as providing the solution to the problem of economic development for the whole area.

The Forestry Department has been very active in the KAIRONK Valley in recent years implementing a re-forestation scheme based on the traditional practice of planting casurina trees in old garden areas, to provide the villagers living in kunai areas with their future firewood and building requirements. Pine, Kamarere and other eucalypt varieties have been distributed to the people, who have responded well to the opportunity offered. Aerial surveys of the valley already show the increase in timbered areas, and if the present rate of planting is continued there should be adequate supplies of timber for use in the years ahead.

(c) SOCIAL.

(a) Education and Health.

Both education and health services are controlled by the Anglican Mission, with the newly established Nazarene Mission expressing the intention of following this pattern at SALEMP at the Lower end of the Valley.

The education facilities being offered are gratefully accepted by the people but there appears to be a widespread reluctance among the parents to ensure that their children attend. Truancy and absenteeism are apparently common. The introduction of a Truancy Rule by the Council may be considered in the future.

It is planned that the present Mission hospital and supervision of Aid Posts will be taken over by the Public Health Department at some stage in the near future. The Rotary Service Clubs have apparently undertaken to provide a hospital for SIMBAI as one of their international projects and when this is completed, it will be staffed by the Public Health Department, although it seems likely that the present Infant and Maternal Welfare clinics will continue under the auspices of the Anglican Mission.

(b) Law and Order. A number of disputes were arbitrated in the course



of the patrol. One court case was heard dealing with allegations against a woman for practicing sorcery. In spite of the influence of the Mission, sorcery is held in great fear and is widely practised. Generally the crime rate in the KAIRONK is reflected by the number of formal complaints made, is not high. However there are many disputes which I believe, are handled in the traditional manner by the accepted leaders.

(C) Missions.

Although the area has been under the influence of the Anglican Mission for some ten years, the impact of christianity upon the way of life of the people has been minimal. Most of the villages have catechists, but church attendance is very limited. The old ways and beliefs are still highly regarded and the mission's activities have done little to break these down.

With the recent arrival of the Nazarene Mission into what had previously been considered the exclusive province of the Anglicans, there was some initial friction, but the Missionary in Charge at SIMBAI now freely admits that the Anglican Mission is not financially able to extend its activities into any new areas. Relations between the two denominations now appear to be amicable.

(d) Cult and Unrest. NIL

The topography of the area is generally rugged, with a narrow valley floor in places. There is no great valley floor in places, although there are a few small alluvial flats along the river banks. A central bluff separates the KAIRONK river, which carries the water to the SALAMBA. The hills are steeply sloping, rising with the top of the range back into the hills. The accepted names of the area are KAIRONK and SALAMBA. The low mountains, although they are not high, are a barrier to the KAIRONK river. The difficulty of negotiating this river due to the sharp banks in the upper part and the rapids in the lower part. The seasonal patterns are similar to the KAIRONK area, with a high level of rainfall in the wet season and a low level in the dry season. The rainfall in the KAIRONK area is about 100 inches per year.

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AREA STUDY

INTRODUCTION.

(a) The area being surveyed comprises the KAIRONK Valley, from the upper reaches over the watershed from the SIMBAI patrol Post, to the end of the KAIRONK Census Division some 15 miles downstream and also includes the headwaters of its tributary the SAAL River. Although the KAIRONK river falls quite rapidly so that at the lower boundary of the census division it lies some 2000-3000 ft below the main ridges, the village sites are situated well above the river, ranging from slightly over 5000 ft to well above the 6000 ft mark. The rest houses are located along the main track which follows the western side of the valley. The majority of the population lives on these western slopes of the KAIRONK, although there are a number of garden hamlets on the eastern slope, which is mainly KUNAI ridges.

The lower reaches of the KAIRONK and SAAL rivers are included in the Western Schraeder Census Division and the river meanders for a further ten miles before its confluence with the JIMI River.

The topography of the area is generally rugged, with a number of steep ridges falling sharply to the river, which is almost gorge-like in places. There is no open valley floor as such, although there are a few small alluvial flats through which the river passes. A central bluff separates the KAIRONK and MINDINBUR Rivers, which combine below SALEMP. The SAAL Valley has a similar terrain of steeply sloping ridges with the only level ground being the top of the razor back ridges.

Neither the SAAL or KAIRONK rivers are navigable in the accepted sense of the term. Jet boats may be able to penetrate the lower sections, although I doubt this. Even a hovercraft would have considerable difficulty negotiating this river due to the large boulders in the stream bed and the rapid fall to the JIMI Valley.

Vegetation is predominantly KUNAI grass areas up to the timber line at about 6500 feet a.s.l. with numerous Casurina trees planted by the people grouped in old garden sites. There is practically no other secondary growth.

Seasonal patterns are similar to adjoining highland areas with a wet season between October and March, with the very heavy rain falling in the latter months.



Rainfall records are not available for this area although the NAZARENE Mission at SALEMP has commenced recording over the past few months.

(b) The KAIRONK Census division lies predominantly on the JIMI Valley fall of the SCHRADER-BISMARCK Range, although several villages are at the top of the range on the SIMBAI River fall, almost immediately adjoining the SIMBAI Patrol Post. It is approximately 100 air miles west of Madang and access is by air to the SIMBAI airstrip.

SIMBAI Patrol Post was opened up in 1959, but there had been a number of exploratory patrols, through the upper KAIRONK area prior to this date. With the establishment of the Patrol Post, large scale tribal fighting ceased but the maintenance of law and order continues to be one of the major tasks of the Officer in charge at SIMBAI. The murder rate in the KAIRONK area is much higher than in more sophisticated communities, but is now mainly attributable to the influence of sorcery. Other crime is probably below the national average.

Younger men are becoming more aware of the need for economic development as many of them have now sampled the delights of a cash economy during their periods of agreement work in coastal areas. Minor sporadic outbreaks of cargo cult activity have been reported in the past from the KAIRONK Census Division, but these are not considered to be of any significance.

The people are actively pro-administration at this stage, and are still prepared to work cohesively on developmental projects, which they understand, will ultimately be of benefit to them.

#### POPULATION DISTRIBUTION.

(a) A population Register is appended. This census was carried out between 21.5.70 and 4.6.70. The last census was carried out in 1969.

(b) All hamlets are linked by walking tracks, and the vehicular road being constructed from SIMBAI Patrol Post connects the main villages of FUNDUM, KAIRONK, FUNGOI and WOMUK. This will ultimately be extended to SALEMP.

(c) The prime reason for undertaking the census at this time in conjunction with the SIMBAI Council Elections was to obtain statistics relating to the percentage of men absent at work from the area. Some concern was being expressed about the social situation being adversely affected by the high proportion of men away at work. In fact, the census figures show that there is



a surprisingly uniform percentage of men absent at work, varying only between 8 to 10% of the population. In view of this uniformity which is in no way regulated by the O.I.C. SIMBAI, it could be considered that the village leaders themselves exercise a regulating influence and prevent a large scale exodus of the younger men.

How long they can continue to exercise this control is uncertain, as the pressures from the younger men for participation in the more desirable plantation environment which they have experienced during their previous periods of contract labour, tend to grow each year. The economic development of their home area has been minimal, and what potential there is, has been largely unexploited due to their lack of communication with marketing centres. Each year the number of men who leave their village to live semi permanently in squatter settlements around Madang increases, and I can see no likelihood of this trend being reversed.

Inevitably the absence of the main body of younger men does affect the quality of life in the villages, and creates social problems and conflicts which cannot be satisfactorily handled by traditional means. For instance there is a continuing crisis with food supplies, as in the KAIRONK, unlike other highland areas, the advent of the steel axe has not promoted a dramatic increase in garden capacity, and small gardens continue to be the accepted norm. With the depletion of the labour force of young men from the village, the old and infirm tend to have their food supplies placed in jeopardy, as all of the garden making now devolves upon the decreasing number of able bodied young men.

The area undoubtedly falls physically within that area specified for inclusion under the Highlands Labour Scheme, but previous submissions have failed to have it accepted administratively. Possibly the SIMBAI Council may desire to press their need for some protection of the kind afforded by the scheme, but in view of the proposed revision of the system of rural employment it seems that such moves would be unsuccessful. SIMBAI labourers have a very good reputation among plantation managers, and in view of the decreasing pool of people willing to sign for periods as contract labourers, it seems likely that the exodus from valleys such as the KAIRONK will in fact increase. Possible amendments to the Rural Wages System may do something to alleviate the social ills associated with absentee contract work, but it seems inevitable that the lack of economic development will continue to drive people from their villages.

(C) SOCIAL GROUPINGS. (a) There are two language groupings



within the present KAIRONK Census Division. The KARAM language is spoken by the people of the villages as far south west as AINONK, with the remainder speaking the KORBON language. There is considerable inter action between these groups, and this is increasing with the break down in traditional conservative attitudes and enmities.

(b) The only recognizable social unit as such is the hamlet consisting of clan or kinship groupings numbering between 50 to 100 persons. Such groups tend to live in units of extended families. Over this pattern has been imposed the census unit grouping of a number of hamlets and as this is a fairly artificial conglomeration, there is considerable inability between these delineated groupings. At the time of census, the population, which live scattered over comparatively wide areas, move down to the area's Rest House. There are some indications that the people themselves may be tending to cohere into larger groupings and this is being encouraged by some village leaders. They are aware that living in isolated groups tends to propagate distrust and sorcery and inhibit co-operative work on developmental projects.

(c) The main social unit around which all important activities are organized, is the extended family, and many such groups live within the one long house, which is divided into connected rooms.

(d) The two languages of this area are KARAM and KORBON. The distribution is as outlined in Section (a). These languages extend beyond this census Division, and with improved road communications there is much in favour of redelineating the census groups to have them conform to the existing language pattern. The present groupings were done before the area was fully explored and was, I imagine, adopted as an administrative expedient which fitted in with the area as it was then known.

(e) Relationships between the groups as outlined, as between the smaller clan groupings, centred upon the hamlet, are generally harmonious. There is still an underlying fear of persons from adjoining areas, which finds expression occasionally in acrimonious argument which can degenerate into fighting between individuals when there is a gathering of people from dissimilar areas. However, the main factor contributing to mistrust between groups, and in some instances within the group itself, is a fear of sorcery, the fear of which is as strong today as it ever was, in spite of the activities of various missions, and the administration. In fact there is some reason for belief that the practice may be even more widely spread today as it provides a

means of redressing ills real or imagined, which formerly would have been remedied by judicious application of axe or spear. With this latter avenue now closed to all but the desperate few, sorcery may be on the increase.

There have been very few prosecutions against sorcerers in recent years, although informal conversation with various people would indicate that sorcerers are many in number and very active. The most ~~powerful~~<sup>powerful</sup> and effective practitioners are apparently women, and the court records at SIMBAI show a steady erosion of the female population due to the depredations of men revenging a dead relative by slaughtering some luckless woman suspected of being a sorceress.

(f) The only major groups with which the KAIRONK people have contact are the people of the SIMBAI and JIMI Valleys. The SIMBAI people are probably the most important, to them and will become more so with the amalgamation of these two areas into the SIMBAI Council.

Although the KAIRONK people often visit the adjoining villages in the JIMI Valley for trade and social purposes, it is considered that a closer relationship will inevitably develop with other groups within the administrative area.

However the KAIRONK people at this stage are not outward looking, and they are still working towards the establishment of closer relationships within their own area. Development work on road projects is assisting this process.

#### LEADERSHIP.

Traditional patterns of leadership still remain in this area, with old fight leaders retaining considerable prestige. When their physical prowess declines - as it naturally has, due to administration intervention - many turn to the occult arts to retain their dominance in the society. The standard of person elected for the council in this, the first election, was generally, not high. Several individuals however do stand out:-

KINGAN=UREP of AINONK, about 30 years old. Previously he has been to work at RABAUL and the New Guinea Islands and due to his ability with pidgin was selected several years ago as a part time interpreter for Supreme Court Sittings. An intelligent individual, who, although young has risen in the society to a position of stature which ensured his election as councillor by an overwhelming majority. KINGAN has no formal education.



Is married with 3 wives and one child.

YOBAN GUWANIM of FUNDUM. Previously the Luluai of Fundum village for 11 years. YOBAN is approximately 40 years of age, and has had no formal schooling. Recognized throughout the area as a traditional leader, he has, since his election as councillor, been chosen by the other council members as Council President. Is married with 2 wives and six children.

FIJU-KOBRAMP - ex Luluai of KAIRONK. A strong traditional leader, who recognizes the need for economic development in the area. A non-pidgin speaker, which probably caused him to decline nomination for the position of councillor in his village.

SIMON PETER GI of KAIRONK. Married with one wife and a child. Is about 25 years of age. One of the few young men elected as councillor. Has had six years formal schooling and speaks English. He has been the protege of various anthropologists making KAIRONK their headquarters for field work. In spite of his rather retiring nature, GI should be an effective leader in the years ahead, and it is interesting that indications of a trend away from traditional leadership should have manifested itself at this stage.

Traditional patterns of leadership remain dominant, although there are stirrings indicative of a change in the future. Overlaid on these patterns is the scope for a person of genuine ability to rise within his society to a position of importance through economic avenues. The opportunity for earning cash which is offered by the SIMBAI Patrol Post has contributed greatly towards the social dominance of those individuals making use of it. With increase economic and social power goes the need to accept greater social responsibility, and multiple marriages are the hallmark of a man on the way up.

It should be emphasised however that the circle within which any leader - self made or traditional is accepted, remains limited. The advent of the council will undoubtedly break down many social barriers, although the rate of this change cannot be anticipated at this stage.

#### LAND TENURE AND USAGE.

(a) Land is generally controlled by the kinship group or extended family, as outlined in Section C(b). Gardens are built on a communal basis, with all able-bodied males combining to clear an area of bush which is then divided into areas for individual family use.

Inheritance of Land is generally through the patriline, although there were noted some instances of a family moving to the wife's land and through long accepted usage, the male children of the family would then derive their land use rights from their mothers line. Once they had accepted a garden area from this source in their own right as opposed to usage through their mother and father, they were deemed to have renounced all claim to land through the father. However there are indications that a residual subsidiary right over use of the fathers land may remain.

(b) The only leaseholders in the area <sup>are</sup> ~~over~~ Missions - Anglican and Nazarene. There have been no tenure conversion applications from this area.

(c) Cash cropping is limited to a few coffee gardens, although these are increasing in number. These plots are established and maintained by the extended family on areas close to the hamlet site.

#### F. LITERACY.

The only schools being operated in the area are controlled by the Anglican Mission. These are situated at SANGUVAK, ARENAMP and KAIRONK. English is taught at these schools, which are controlled by a lay teaching brotherhood from the SOLOMON Islands, under the supervision of the Anglican Mission at SIMBAI.

(b) There are only four adult persons in this area who could be termed literate in english. Pidgin is spoken by those men who have been away working under contract, which would constitute a major percentage of those in the 20-30 age group. Very few of these are literate however.

(c) No persons in the area have or are receiving tertiary education.

(d) Some eight students are at present studying for higher education at schools, technical colleges and teachers training establishments.

(e) No radios were noted specifically in the area, and with literacy being so minimal there is little interest in newspapers or political education pamphlets.

#### G. STANDARD OF LIVING.

(a) Houses are still of the traditional oval shape, built low



to the ground without any flooring other than possibly a woven bamboo blind. It may be thatched with KUNAI, bamboo leaves or pandanus fronds. The walls are of split timber, roughly shaped. These structures are divided into a varying number of rooms depending upon the number of families it is designed to house.

Latrines are an administration imposition, and where visits by officers are not anticipated traditional methods are used. It is thought that in most instances even in those villages which have latrines they are little patronized,

Those western type artificats which may be for an easier existence on the traditional pattern, such as axes, knives, spades etc. are universally utilized. Cooking methods are largely unaltered however with the use of hot stones being widespread. In a few instances saucepans and pots were seen, but these were exceptional cases.

Items of clothing purchased from trade stores are becoming increasingly evident - mainly among the menfolk. However traditional native garb is preponderant.

(b) The staple diet of the people is sweet potato, with taro, bananas and various other native vegetable contributing to the diet. Protein is limited to such animals, insects and reptiles as may be encountered in the course of the day's activities. Hunting probably does not contribute greatly to the individual's intake of food, and domestic pigs are slaughtered only on ceremonial occasions.

(c) Nil

#### H. MISSIONS.

Both Anglican and Nazarene Missions operate in this area, although the latter has only recently arrived and is still in the process of being established at SALEMP.

The Anglican Mission was established at SIMBAI in 1959, and then gradually extended its influence throughout the KAIRONK area in succeeding years. The main stations are at KAIRONK, SANGUVAK and ARENAMP, in the SAAL Valley.

Although the people have had many years of contact with the mission, they largely, have failed to adopt this religion. The influence of the Mission is widespread, although tenuous, and it is generally agreed that it has reached its limit of expansion at present unless an unexpected increase in staff and funds are forthcoming.

(b) Education is the main service supplied by the Anglican Mission. The Medical Services, including Infant Welfare which is at present being operated by the Mission are destined to be taken over by the administration in the near future.

(c) Although Mission influence is limited all of the people accept the presence of the missions without friction. The Nazarene being more active and having more resources will probably make the greater impact on the area in the future.

#### I. NON-INDIGENES.

There are no non-indigenous commercial enterprises within the area under survey.

Other than the Nazarene Mission at SALEMP, staffed by the Missionary in charge and his wife, the only Europeans resident in the area are the Summer Institute of Linguistics team Mr. and Mrs. M. Dawson and their two children. They have been established at SALEMP for some four years, carrying out a linguistics study of the KORBON language group.

At various times a number of anthropologists take up residence in the area, but none were operating at the time of the patrol.

#### J. COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) As outlined in section B(b), the Valley and the SAAL Valley are linked to the SIMBAI Patrol Post by motor cycle track. Between SIMBAI and WOMUK, a major vehicular road is being constructed, with a final section of some two and a half miles being all that is required to open it to traffic. This section should be completed this dry season, utilizing allocations from the Rural Development Fund.

This road is seen as part of an ultimate road link to the JIMI Valley, which in turn will soon be connected to Mount Hagen via the BAIYER River area. It is also hoped to provide access ultimately from SIMBAI to AIGME, which will provide access to a shipping point on the RAMU River. Funds have been allocated for a commencement on this section during the 1970/71 financial year.

Motor cycle access tracks are also being extended from SALEMP in the KAIRONK Valley over into the GEBRAU area



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in the WULAMER Valley and SANGAPE in the ARAME Valley. Both of these areas are in the Western Schrader Census Division.

(b) Not applicable.

(c) There are no airstrips within the Kaironk Valley, the nearest being at SIMBAI Patrol Post. However the Nazarene Mission is apparently investigating the possibility of constructing an airstrip near SALEMP for better communications with their headquarters. I do not consider that such a project is warranted, and have stated that all efforts at this stage would be more effectively concentrated on extending the existing road link with SIMBAI.

#### K. TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL SKILLS.

Although there are probably a number of semi-skilled labourers from the area who have acquired various driving, carpentering or painting skills in the course of their employment as contract workers, none are fully qualified. Similarly with clerical skills, there are a number of standard five drop outs in the area who could be trained for minor clerical positions.

#### L. STAGE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

The KAIRONK area has been under administration influence for some ten to twelve years, since the establishment of SIMBAI Patrol Post. Accordingly the people have a minimal understanding of the democratic processes which are evolving about them. Direct administration is still accepted unquestioningly by all of the people through nominated Village officials and the Officer in Charge at USINO.

Participation in two House of Assembly elections have apparently done little more than acquaint the people with the bare mechanics of voting without importing any deeper knowledge of the system of government and the work of the House of Assembly. Attempts to remedy this situation through political education talks and discussions have made little impact, although some of the younger and more progressive men seem to have a better grasp of what is happening, politically, in the Territory at the present time.

The advent of the council should assist in broadening the awareness of the people but I believe it will be a lengthy process. and the speed of present day change is such that events are going to rapidly overtake these people without them

being equipped with the necessary background knowledge to effectively meet them. Unfortunately the type of political education programme which would be required to fill the needs of these people would be such as to necessitate the full time attention of a suitably trained officer for an extended period - probably until the next House of Assembly elections. It should be noted that in making this assertion I am including all the people of the SIMBAI administrative area, as they may all be considered to be in a similar state of ignorance regarding political development.

As the allocation of an officer full time to this task is not likely to be forthcoming, in view of other priorities, it will be necessary to place this further burden upon the officer in charge of SIMBAI Patrol Post, in addition to the other myriad tasks which occupy his time.

Meanwhile the people almost without exception remain staunchly pro-administration and their energies are devoted towards improving the economic situation in their area. The almost total lack of such development, and assistance toward it by technical departments of the administration has not escaped the attention of the more prominent leaders, who are quite capable of drawing comparisons between the stultified situation in the KAIRONK Valley and the economic expansion through cash cropping which is taking place in the similarly endowed Upper JIMI Valley near the TABIBUGA Patrol Post. This disparity is as yet not a cause for active resentment as the Patrol Officers in charge of SIMBAI in recent years have done all within their power to alleviate the situation and this is appreciated by the people. However as the gap widens this attitude could change dramatically and find open expression in the Council meetings.

#### M. ECONOMY OF THE AREA.

(a) There are approximately 350 coffee trees at various stages of development, planted in the KAIRONK -mainly around FUNDUM, ARAPAN and KAIRONK. These are all the result of personal endeavour on the part of the people themselves, who on their own initiative, have travelled to the TABIBUGA Patrol Post area and obtained the planting material. Repeated requests for assistance from the Department of Agriculture in Madang have been unavailing and the people have taken matters into their own hands. This trend will increase in the months ahead as more villagers become aware of the possibilities open to them.

However, of the coffee gardens inspected, most had been planted up without adequate spacing and much effort thereby



wasted. Very few are as yet mature, and the people have expressed their intention of turning over their first few crops to create nurseries of further planting material.

It should be clearly understood that the foregoing situation is a result of efforts by the people themselves, and not through any encouragement by departmental officers. However in view of the lack of any firm developmental programme for this area, the people were not actively discouraged from proceeding with their intended schemes at this stage.

(b) and (c) Production from these plantings is nil as all are immature at present. Ultimate production cannot readily be assessed, due to the factors previously outlined.

(d) A small amount of market garden produce from this area is purchased by mission staff and the administration. In addition to sweet potato, a limited range of European type vegetables such as potatoes, pumpkin, beans, tomatoes and cabbages are grown for sale. Total income from this source for the whole area would not exceed \$200 per annum.

(e) The commencement of work on the SIMBAI-KAIRONK road has meant a sudden increase in the amount of cash available in the community. A total of \$6000 was allocated to this project from Rural Development funds in 1969/70, and a further \$6000 will be expended in the current year. Almost all of this amount is paid out in wages to men from the area. In addition to this there are a number of KAIRONK people working on various projects on SIMBAI station, both for the administration and the mission. Possibly \$1000 would be earned by the villagers through this source. A further avenue for income is provided by the sale of fresh foods, as mentioned above in section (d). This would not exceed \$300 annually. Returning agreement workers would bring a considerable sum in wages to the area, but it is impossible to calculate the figure.

(f) not applicable.

(g) There is one village cattle project established in the KAIRONK valley at WOMUK. This is run by MANGUN-WOKMAK and although there are only three cows on pasture at present the whole of the area appears to lend itself admirably to this type of venture.

There are no other entrepreneurs active in the area at present.

(h) No details of pasbooks were obtained. I have previously

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stated in Area Studies that I consider the requirement under this section to necessitate a gross invasion of personal privacy on the part of the investigating officer if he is required to obtain the details directly. The alternative suggestion that they be obtained through the various banks is also ineffective as accounts are not listed according to areas from which the depositor originates, and extracting the required information means culling the complete record of all depositors by someone with an intimate knowledge of the names of various villages and hamlets in the area being surveyed. You will appreciate that this is totally impractical.

I consider that this section, with its overtones of dated paternalism should be deleted from future area studies.

(i) No tax has as yet been collected from these people.

(j) From the figures previously given it is possible to arrive at a total income of approximately \$7.00 per annum for each male adult, but in view of the many imponderables as pointed out in section (e) this cannot be considered a realistic figure. However the people of the upper KALRONK would have an appreciably higher income than those from the lower villages due to their proximity to the SIMBAI Patrol Post.

(k) Not applicable.

(e) There are no accommodation or service facilities in the area, other than native material rest houses, found in each census group.

#### N. POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING THE ECONOMY.

(a) Adequate land is certainly available - the difficulty lies in finding the type of permanent tree crops acceptable to the Department of Agriculture to plant upon it. There is a current suggestion that cardamon planting material will be tested at SIMBAI, although it appears that this will initially be on a minor scale. What hope there is of expanding this crop into a large scale development is uncertain at this stage.

(b) It is unlikely that a marketing outlet could be found for any vegetables produced in excess of local requirements. Attempts have been made in the past to airfreight perishable vegetables to Madang for sale, but these have not been entirely successful.

(c) An increase in roadwork can confidently be predicted over the next five years, but as this work will be done through R.D.F. funds and the SIMBAI Council the remuneration will be less



than the stipulated rural wage due to the self help component. However any activity offering a cash wage appears to be popular with the villagers.

With the drying up of other sources of contract labour, it can also be predicted that there will be greater demands upon the SIMBAI area to fill the gap. Although this may provide a means of escape for the younger men, and ultimately bring an increase of income to the area, the social ills inherent in the system render it unattractive in its present form.

(d) An assessment of the possibility of introducing new cash crops to the area requires a depth of technical knowledge and experience far in excess of my own. However I do consider that there is a proven potential for large scale village cattle projects on the grasslands in the KAIRONK, and the village people are extremely keen to participate in this type of venture. On a number of occasions villagers have brought sums of money to the O.I.C. SIMBAI asking him to obtain cattle for them. Due to the lack of stock and the difficulty of flying full size beasts into SIMBAI these have generally not been forthcoming, although several heifers were obtained through the personal efforts of an OIC SIMBAI some time ago from the Lutheran Mission at NAGADA, and these were flown in to SIMBAI under D.A.S.F. supervision.

(e) I am sure the people of the KAIRONK would seize any opportunity to advance themselves economically with pathetic gratitude. They are an essentially hard working people requiring only assistance and guidance in the technical field to implement whatever programme is decided upon. Although rather limited, what potential the area does offer should be exploited more fully.

#### 0. ATTITUDE TOWARDS LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

There have been a number of visits to the area in past years to explain the system of Local Govt. to the people. In the first instance there was considerable reluctance exhibited towards the idea, particularly in FUNGOI, ARAPAN and KAIRONK, due to the opposition of older men. However this was eventually overcome and the example of the JIMI Valley, where a Council has been operating for several years, was pointed out to the people.

There is now a general acceptance of the principle of Local Government, without, I am sure, very much idea of what the Council will mean in concrete terms. However actual experience should overcome this ignorance and it is hoped to hold the council meetings in a number of widely separated villages in the early years of the Council's formation to promote greater degree of understanding of its functions among the village people.

P. ATTITUDE TOWARDS CENTRAL GOVT.

My remarks pertaining to section L are relevant in this context and require no further elaboration.



(G.D. PIKE)

A.D.C. (RAMU)