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Patrol Reports. Bougainville District, Buka Passage  
1964 - 1965

Transcribed by: Neah Johnson, Sarah Fuchs

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PATROL REPORTS  
DISTRICT: BOUGAINVILLE  
STATION: BUKA PASSAGE, 1964 - 1965  
Original documents bound with reports  
for: Tinputz, volume 1.

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports  
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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

PATROL REPORT OF: TINPUTZ

ACCESSION No: 496

VOL. No: 1: 1964-1965

NUMBER OF REPORTS/ITEMS: 11

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

BOUGAINVILLE DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1964/1965

TINPUTZ, BUKA PASSAGE, BOKU, BUIN, KUNUA

Report No.	Officer Conducting	Area Patrolled
TINPUTZ		
1 - 1964/1965	J. Pamplin	Teop Tinputz Native Local
Gov. Council Area		

**BUKA PASSAGE**

9 - 1964/1965	P.R. Hunter	West Coast Buka Island
10- 1964/1965		P.R. Hunter Nissan & Pinepil Islands
BOKU		
3 - 1964/1965	J.A. Grier	Parts Banoni & Nagovisi
Special Report		
4 - 1964/1965	J.M. Reading	Banoni Census Div.

BUIN

5 - 1964/1965	J.M. Reading	Makis Census Div.
11- 1964/1965	J.M. Reading	Lugakei Census Div.
12- 1964/1965	J. Pamplin	Siwai Census Div.
KUNUA		
4 - 1964/1965	R.J. Staples	Keriaka Census Div.
6 - 1964/1965	C.J. Tabua	Keriaka Census Div.
9 - 1964/1965	C.J. Tabua	Hahon & Islands
Census		
Div.		

District of BOUGAINVILLE Report No. BUKA PASSAGE NO. 9 - 64/65/.

Patrol Conducted by Mr. P.R. Hunter, Patrol Officer.  
Area Patrolled WEST COAST BUKA ISLAND.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans -

Natives 2 constables RP & NGO.

Duration— From 23/3/1965 to 2/4/1965

Number of Days Eleven (11) days.  
Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No.  
Last Patrol to Area by-District Services //19  
Medical //19  
Map Reference

Objects of Patrol Census, Council administration, land investigation.

Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

4/5/1965

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £

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

67/1/3

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

23 APR 1965

PATROL REPORT

67-11-32

May 26th, 1965.

The District Commissioner,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

BUKA PASSAGE PATROL REPORT No. 9/64-65

Receipt of the above report forwarded by  
your memorandum 67-1-3 of 5th May, 1965, is acknowledged.

2. Mr. Hunter has apparently gained a good  
impression of attitudes and problems in the area patrolled.  
He has presented a quite constructive report. Your covering  
comments and those of the Assistant District Commissioner  
deal adequately with matters raised.

(T.G. AITCHISON)

A/Director

67.11.32

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply

Please Quote

No. 67/1/3 (III)

10 MAY 1965

Department of District Administration,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

5th. May, 1965.

The Director,

Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

PATROL REPORT - BUKA PASSAGE NO. 9 1964/65.

Please find attached a Report of a Patrol  
carried out on the West Coast of BUKA ISLAND by Mr. P. R.  
HUNTER, Patrol Officer.

One of the objects of the Patrol was to bring up to  
date the Census of population which was last checked in 1963.  
The increase of 3.5% per annum compares with the overall  
increase of BUKA ISLAND for the same period, of 3.3%. The total  
population of BUKA ISLAND has now reached 12,462.

It is worth noting that for 241 births recorded there  
were no reports of deaths of children under the age of one (1)  
year and only four (4) in the  $\frac{1}{2}$  years group. This reflects  
the success of the Malarial Eradication and Infant Welfare prog-  
rammes and the improvement in diet.

The number of adult Males working outside the District,  
60, or 2% stands rather as it was a couple of years ago. Although  
about 40% of the effective Plantation Labour in Bougainville comes  
from the District, the local people, especially from KIETA North,  
are not travellers, and usually the BUKA outside the District is a  
member of the Police Force, Teacher or similar prestigious  
positions.

(P. J. MOLLISON).

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

(?)

[illegible] + problems

Att. [illegible]

[illegible]



Sub-District Office,  
HUTJENA.

Buka Passage.

27th April, 1965.

67/2/1

The District Commissioner,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

PATROL REPORT BUKA PASSAGE NO. 9 - 1964/65

I attach two (2) copies of a report on a patrol to the BUKA West Coast Census Division carried out by Mr. P.R. HUNTER, Patrol Officer. M.V. "BNSA".

As its last statutory meeting the Council decided not to go through with the purchase of this vessel. The Councillors thought the vessel was too small and would not provide a satisfactory service for passengers or for cargo. Instead, the meeting decided to place an amount of £1,300 in a special "Purchase of Boat" account to await further developments.

I am not in favour of the Council purchasing a fleet of out-beard motors. Experience has proved that these quickly break down and it is a full time job maintaining them.

WHARVES.

A new wharf has almost been completed at PETATS, whilst wharves are planned for TUNG and PORORAN. I have sent you a copy of the wharf design for your information. When these wharves are completed, there should be no further difficulty shipping copra to RABAUL.

AID POSTS.

The Council has allocated funds for the construction of Aid Posts at SAPOSA, TAI OF, PORORAN, and MATSUNGAN. These will be made of bricks. The brick machine is now working satisfactorily under Mr. Hunter's guidance. Production at the moment is 150 large bricks per day. This can be raised to 200. The team will construct the Council toilets and the Clerk's house initially. Then work will commence on the TAI OF Aid Post.

/over.

- 2 -

From Mr. Hunter's remarks, it may be necessary to make the bricks here at HUTJENA and then ship them to the Aid Posts. However, if suitable coronous deposits can be found, i would prefer that they be made on the Aid Post sites.

AGRICULTURE

I have taken up with Mr. MEAD, the matter of the decreased copra production on PETATS Island.

GENERAL:

This patrol was not hurried and was welcomed by the West Coast people. It is a fact to say that they are the steadiest people we have in the BUKA Council.

Claim for Camping Allowance is attached.

(K.S. Hanrahan)

ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

Att.

Base Camp,  
HANAHAN.

Buka Passage Sub-District,  
12th April 1965

The Assistant District Commissioner,  
Buka Passage Sub-District,  
HUTJENA.

BUKA PASSAGE PATROL 9 - 64/65  
DIARY: MARCH.

Tuesday. 23rd: Departed Buka Passage for Pororan Islands at 1020 hours arriving 1300. Visited Pororan and Yaparu villages and revised Census of both villages. Informed the people of forthcoming P.I.R. Patrol, had discussion on the Local Government Councils, etc.  
Slept Pororan.

Wednesday. 24th: Departed Pororan 0715 for HITAU. arriving 0730. Gave talk on P.I.R. Patrol, Local Government Councils, and other topics. Revised Census and inspected islands. 0945 Proceed to Manuwan Island to investigate coronous deposits - none that were suitable. Proceeded Karoola to see Mr. George regarding trading licences, etc. then proceeded back to Pororan to discuss building of Aid Post and Wharf with headmen. Thence proceeded to Bei, met Council Tax Patrol as it was about to leave. Inspected Bei and had talks with leading personalities.  
Slept Bei.

Thursday. 25th: 0730 revised Census at Bei and proceeded to Yegita, where Census revised and tanks inspected. Then proceeded to Skotolan to obtain information regarding schools and thence proceeded to Petats. Also visited Lou Wei regarding licences and Jame Plantation.  
Slept Petats.

Friday. 26th: 0730 revised Census of Petats and did land investigations of Masolat. Also visited Konamu hamlet and inspected other land they wish to sell to the Mission. Returned 1800 hours to Petats village.  
Slept Petats.

Saturday. 27th: Revised all day. Caught up on correspondence. In afternoon paid courtesy visit to Skotolan Mission, Paru, Tulamu, and Jame plantation. Went night fishing returned Sunday.  
Slept Petats.

Sunday. 28th: Spent at Petats, rained most of the day and spent it recovering from night's effort.  
Slept Petats.

Monday. 29th: 0730 proceeded to Poka where Census revised and gave talk - visited school. Proceeded to Tung where Census revised, etc. and proceeded on foot to Kaule where census revised, etc. 1700 returned to Tung.  
Slept Tung.

- 2 -

Tuesday. 30th: Inspected site of proposed wharf at Tung, obtained information regarding same. 0800 proceeded Matsungan where census revised and talk given. Tanks inspected, plan for construction of Aid Post discussed and generally visited people on the island.

Slept Matsungan.

Wednesday. 31st: 0645 departed Matsungan for Nova arriving 0800.

Visited all hamlets and while revised census, boat went to Sohano for fuel.

Investigated a case of land ownership. Rest of the day spent talking to the people and visited Madehas.

Slept Nova.

APRIL:

Thursday. 1st: Departed Nova for Taioff, and on arrival revised Census.

Visited Sipono and Tanuwan. Had discussions with people and went on fishing trip, returning 1900.

Slept Taioff.

Friday. 2nd: Returned to Sohano.

Slept Hutjena.

- 3 -

ATTITUDES AND AFFAIRS:

1. The people were happy to see the patrol and co-operation was given on all occasions. It is noticed here, as else where in Buka, that the Headmen still carry a lot of authority, and it is always wise to make a point of talking to them and acknowledging the fact that they are men of importance.
2. The Patrol, in fact, followed the Council Tax Patrol and on all occasions a short talk was given concerning the expenditure of the Council Tax. Arising out of this talk the people in all villages were concerned about the purchasing of the boat "BNSA" for the council. The conclusions drawn were that the "BNSA" was too small for the amount of work required - it can only carry  $1\frac{1}{3}$  tons of cargo per trip. At present an excess of 128 tons are being produced each year, let alone passengers and other general cargo. On these figures the "BNSA" is inadequate.
3. Quite a number of people favoured a workboat similar to the "HAZEL" while others stated that the Council should inquire Territory-wide for a suitable boat, not just around Bougainville. As to cost, one group informed me that they considered the Council should buy a boat for the same amount as spent on the truck.
4. The people were informed that the Council could not afford a boat any bigger than the "BNSA" this year because of costs of running and purchase were great. The reply to this in many cases was that they were prepared to wait several years in order for the money to accumulate and then buy a suitable boat. However, I suggest that this should be further discussed at a Council Meeting.
5. In further discussions with administration officials it was pointed out the function of a boat, whatever size, would basically be passenger-carrying, mainly on weekends. The amount of copra-excess of 128 tons p.a. is usually picked up by boats going to Rabaul. With wharves being built at Tung, Pororan, and Petats, and with co-operation from the shipping firms, the shipping could adequately cater for this area.
6. As it now stands, whatever sized boat, with a permanent boat crew the Council owns, though providing a service will lose money. Therefore, may I suggest that the Council provides outboard motors to each village, all villages have large sea-going canoes. Mr. Lou Wai, a chinese on on Petats Islands, at present holds the agency for one make of outboards, and I am sure it could be arranged that he carry sufficient spare parts for the particular make the Council bought. He could also carry out monthly inspections on all motors for a small fee and could maintain them at a moment's notice. He has considerable knowledge of outboard motors.
7. The advantages of the outboard in each village are that each individual village is independent and therefore can use their boat for work other than passenger-carrying. It would also be a quicker form of

transport and finally, the boat could be stationed at the village instead of at Chinatown.

8. May I add that I suggest the remedy to the present situation only if the shipping can cater for the copra. An example of this can be seen at HITAU Island. The people there rely solely on coconuts and their fishing for a means of income and food. They still exchange their fish for native foods of Lontis and the Solus area, while copra provides them with a monetary income. However, they complain, that ships rarely call for the copra and when they do, it has been standing for some time and thus rejected by the C.M.B. Consequently, they now sell most of it to the Chinese.

9. As a result, the people are losing the rebate which means a lot to the people and I recommend that shipping firms be contacted regarding this state of affairs. The people informed me that they had requested Mr. Grose, M.H.A. to do something but nothing has come of it. I may add a ship did come in when I was there.

/over.

- 4 -

10. It appears that the women in this area are quite interested in forming Women's Clubs. Some work is carried out by the Mission body at Skotolan, but they are hampered by lack of funds, etc. I did not see any club houses, except as is the case in many places on the Buka, the "House Tank" is also the Women's Club. at Pororan the women and men have, according to informants, saved £200 for the building of a Club House. I suggest that the Welfare Officer, Hutjena may be interested in visiting the area and if the people are interested, to get them organised and supported by the Administration. This would then guarantee a certain amount of success and become an important part of village life.

11. All Council Tanks were inspected and for further information, see attached memorandum 45-1-1/

12. During the patrol all plantations and Mission stations were visited. No troubles were encountered and the Officer was made welcome at all places.

#### WHARVES:

All wharves were inspected there being ones at Bei, Petats, and Novea, while the wharves at Pororan and Tung are in the process of being built. Petats is awaiting planking to complete their wharf. The wharf at Nova is only capable of taking ships up to the size of the "BNSA" and nothing more, as the bay remains shallow right to its end. For further information regarding wharves at Tung and Pororan please see attached memorandum 10-7-1.

#### MISSIONS

1. The Missions have influence in the area, namely the Pororan Roman Catholics and the Methodists, based at Skotolan. There appears to be no conflict between Missions and there is no discrimination between groups. The possible exception being Nova, where one hamlet is made up of Methodists and the other of Pororan [Roman] Catholics - no animosity appeared.

2. Education at the primary level is carried out by both Missions and supervision of Women's Clubs and Infant Welfare work is also carried out. To my mind the Mission in both cases has become an integral part of village life and has been very beneficial to them, not only spiritually, but also materialistically.

#### EDUCATION:

1. As per instructions, I made a xxx [list] of children absent from school and why they were. Out of a population of 2,861 only 42 children between the ages of 6-16 years were absent. This in itself illustrates the opinions of the people that education is important. The majority of the absentees were children of 6 who were considered too young to go to school if the school was in another village. For further statistics see attached (26-1-1).

2. The people (?)hule asked for another teacher to be sent to their

school in replacement for the one that has been transferred. The people are Roman Catholics and are not too happy about sending their children to Gagan especially the smaller ones. Perhaps you would care to inform the teacher in charge of Gagan of their situation.

3. At Taiof, the school has two classes, standard I and II and two teachers. The young 6 year olds (at prep. level [level]) at present are unable to start school and I suggest that perhaps the two teachers could run a prep. class between them. This would ensure that those in prep. would be ready for standard I next year. This school is administered from Hahela.

4. The overall picture sees the Missions adequately catering for the majority of the population. However, in the next year or two the picture could possible change, as the students coming in from the village schools will create a greater demand for teachers at the Mission station. The end result being too many pupils and not sufficient teachers.

/over.



- 3 -

AGRICULTURE:

1. The planting of coconuts continue and the people realise the importance of it as a form of income. Cocoa has been planed in most areas, but in the islands' soil (e.g. Petats, Pororan) cocoa does not grow as well as on the main island of Buka. the groves were reasonably clean and the people seemed reasonably contented about their agriculture.
2. The exception being Petats Islands. For the past 3 years the coconut production of the island has fallen from 1,100 bags in 1961 to 800 bags in 1964 - they continue to plant new coconuts. The trees are about the same age of Jame Plantation trees, which is increasing production. The people complain that while the D.A.S.F. have taken soil samples, etc. they, the people, have not been informed of the outcome. I suggest that D.A.S.F. at Kubu please be asked to inform the people of Petats what was the outcome of their investigation and if there are any possible solutions.

HEALTH:

1. The people appear to be in good health, both the Mission Sisters at Gagan and Skotolan, and the Sister at Sohano take care of the children. As seen by the attached Census figures, there was not one death recorded of a child under 1 year, which is good for this part of the world. More and more of the pregnant women are having their babies in hospital, which shows that the people are realising the benefit of hospitals.
2. Aid Posts are at Pororan, Matsungan, and Taiof. During this Council [(?)]. It is intended that these be rebuilt from bricks (see attached memorandum 39-1-2). These give adequate services to the population as they are also in the vicinity of the Mission and Sohano hospitals.

TAI AND CENSUS:

Tax is now collected by the Council, and the one defaulter brought to me, did so when he realised he could not get away with it. There were good attendances at all villages. The following statistics are noted:-

An overall increase of 207,  
a natural increase of 92,  
Births per thousand 56,  
Deaths per thousand 14.

For further details please find attached.

CONCLUSION:

This was my first patrol in this area and it is certainly a great contrast from the people on the East Coast of Buka. it appears that they have great faith in the Council, though East Buka has received more, and they realise that the fruits are only gained by hard work. It was pleasing to patrol amongst them and I hope they enjoyed my company as I did theirs.

Attached memorandum

5-1-1 Assistant District Commissioner

9-1-1 “ “ “

5-1-2 “ “ “

9-1-2 “ “ “

0-7-1 “ “ “

6-1-1 “ “ “

4-1-58 “ “ “

(P.R. Hunter)

PATROL OFFICER

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA  
PATROL REPORT

District of BOUGAINVILLE Report No. 10-64/65  
Patrol Conducted by P.R. HUNTER PATROL OFFICER  
Area Patrolled NISSAN AND PINEPIL ISLANDS  
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 1 CONSTABLE  
Duration-From 25/4/1965 to 5/5/1965  
Number of Days 9 nights actually camped out

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO.  
Last Patrol to Area by-District Services 12/2/1965  
Medical //19

Map Reference

Objects of Patrol COMPLETION OF AIRSTRIP TO CATEGORY 'A' STANDARD  
AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.

Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.  
11/6/1965

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £  
Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £  
Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund

67.11.35 9

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM

Telephone

Our Reference 67/1/3.

If calling ask for

Mr.

28 JUN 1965

Department of District Administration,

Bougainville District,

SOHANO.

22nd. June, 1965

The Director,

Department of District Administration,

KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

PATROL REPORT - NISSAN ISLAND - BUKA PASSAGE

NO. 10/1964-65

The above Report is submitted for your information please.

The main purpose of the Patrol was to complete work on the former wartime Airfield at NISSAN to bring it to standards required by the Airport Inspector. This has been accomplished and the Airfield is now open to operations by Category "A" Aircraft. There is still the coral outcrop at the South Eastern end of the Aerodrome which has to be removed. I am of the opinion that dynamite will be required to blast this hillside. It contains probably 600 yards of material which can be dumped in the South West corner just off the Airstrip where there is a large gentle depression.

That section of the Report dealing with Health will be forwarded to the District Medical Officer in the hope that he may be able to assist.

I do not quite follow what Mr. HUNTER is trying to say under the heading "Education", and I will ask him to be so kind as to elucidate.

The Report is rather a good one although I think it gives the impression that it was done with undue haste and Mr. HUNTER did not do justice to himself or his subject matter.

NISSAN will, eventually, have to be staffed as a Base Camp - probably for periods of six (6) Months a

year. It has an air of decay and unless I can find an Officer to staff it, and the money (about £900) to build him a home the desperate fear of taxation which Mr. HANRAHAN talks of will turn into resentment at lack of development along the lines already being experienced in other less remote sections of BOUGAINVILLE.

Att.

(P.J. MOLLISON).

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

8

Sub-District Office,  
HUTJENA.  
Buka Passage.  
2nd June, 1965.  
67/2/1

The District Commissioner,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

PATROL REPORT BUKA PASSAGE NO. 10 - 64/65.

I attach two (2) copies of the above report on a patrol to  
NISSAN Island carried out by Mr. HUNTER, Patrol Officer. I have some  
(?)te.

AIRSTRIP.

The main purpose of the patrol was to complete the preparation  
of the strip to Category "A" Standard. A.D.C.A. inspection party landed  
at NISSAN during the patrol and opened the strip subject to removal of a  
(?) outcrop in the 'fly over' area. Refer my 4/1/1 of 2nd June,  
1965.

[illegible] ADVANCEMENT.

The people are law abiding and friendly, but desperately afraid  
of transition. They oppose the introduction of local government for this  
reason. A softening of this attitude will not occur until a base camp  
is established on the island. This cannot be done until a suitable  
officer becomes available.

The time might be opportune to become a little more discerning  
in the issue of tax exemptions.

[illegible]

The water supply at PINIPEL and NISSAN leaves room for much  
improvement. I am still of the opinion that this can best be handled  
by a NISSAN Council, utilising the P.N.D subsidy scheme.

[illegible]

The present situation is quite satisfactory. The objects of  
the patrol were accomplished.

Claim for camping allowance is attached.  
(K.J. Hanrahan)  
ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER  
Att.

2

ub-District Office,  
Bukti Passage,  
10th May, 196%

The Assistant District Commissioner,  
Buka Passage Sub-District,  
HUTJENA.

BUKA PASSAGE PATROL REPORT 10/64-65 OF NISSAN  
ISLAND.

APRIL:

Monday, 26th: Departed for Nissan 1345 by AZTEC, arrived 1415 and met by  
Father O'Sullivan who departed for Rabaul. Inspected airstrip to see what  
work was to be done. Then supervised some labourers.

Slept Mapiri.

Tuesday, 27th: 0600 work commenced on Airstrip and supervised until  
1700. The main clearing completed.

Slept Mapiri.

Wednesday, 28th: 0600 work commenced, 212 labourers working. 1500 D.C.A.  
inspection team arrived, inspected and passed Airstrip for D.C. 3 operation.  
They required some work done.

Slept Mapiri.

Friday, 30th: Proceeded to Pinipal Island - collected Tax and revised  
Census of Mantoia, Teah, and Rokus.

Slept Mantoia. MAY:

Saturday, 1st: Returned to Nissan, visited Mission station at Tungal -  
had discussions with the Father and on returning to Mapiri had discussions  
with locals.

Slept Mapiri

Sunday, 2nd: Visited all parts of the island and investigated several  
land problems. Had discussions with the locals and returned to Mapiri in  
Evening.

Slept Mapiri.

Monday, 3rd: The remaining work which could be done with shovels, etc.  
was completed. Caught up on some correspondences.

Slept Mapiri.

Tuesday, 4th: Had a meeting with Luluais, Tultuls, and other leaders of  
Nissan to discuss Councils and Patrol Posts. Caught up on correspondence  
Slept Mapiri.

Wednesday, 5th: Departed Nissan 0945 by D.C. 3 for Buka arriving 10.15.

Slept Hutjena.

3

-2-

NATIVE ATTITUDES AND AFFAIRS:

1. The Patrol was well received and most of the people were quite happy to work on the Airstrip. On the first two days 212 people worked and due to the heat and lack of water, people were unwilling to work the third day. Of the 100 asked for only forty-six (46) came forward. This attitude can be understood considering that little else had been done in the village during the two days and they were running short of food. Also the airstrip is very hot and there is no relief from the sun while working or water nearby to quench ones thirst.
2. I am of the opinion that the people were naturally glad all the hand

work is completed and await the day when a regular service eventuates between Buka, Nissan and Rabaul. It will doubtlessly bring the people into greater contact with people outside their own island and perhaps broaden their outlook. I concur with Mr. Elder's Report, Buka Passage Patrol No. 8-64/65, that with the present high fares T.A.A. charges, there would be little actual benefit to the individual islander.

3. During the time spent on Nissan the question of the establishment of a Patrol Post and a Council cropped up in discussions and to sort out the situation, a meeting was held with all village headmen and Government Officials. During the ensuing discussions, the people informed me that they did not see the need for a Patrol Post. that when a regular air service eventuates with Buka, a Patrol Officer can come to Nissan when required and the people can easily be notified of his impending arrival via the mission radio.

4. They were also of the opinion that should a Patrol be established, the (?) Luluais and Tultuls would lose much of their influence amongst the people. At present they say that they settle most disputes and see that the people keep in line regarding village work etc., and should always have to report their troubles to the Patrol Officer, they will lose respect amongst the people. This line of argument does not hold much water to me, as I am of the opinion that they do not want to alter their lazy existence for a harder working one. Admittedly they all cooperated with the patrol, but this was only for a short duration. Village work left a lot to be desired.

5. However, the most important point brought up was that they considered once a Post is established, a local Government Council will follow in its footsteps.

The people at present are against councils, partly through their ignorance. Some of the islanders have to Rabaul where the Council Tax is about £5 and other to Buka

where the Tax is £2-10-0, while on Nissan the people, in their supposedly poor

state pay little or no tax. They think that should a Council come to Nissan, then



they would have to pay large taxes which they would be unable to pay and would be

[too] greater [a] burden on them, as was the case several years ago. They also appear happy with the present situation and do not particularly want to change to new ways.

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-3-

6. It was explained to them that their ideas on Councils were misconceived and that a Council is not forced upon people, it is only given if the people desire

it. Secondly, that the Councillors, who are elected by the people, decide how much tax each person is to pay, not the Government. Thirdly, what tax is collected is spent within the Council area and therefore is a direct benefit to the people, and lastly, that it is the Councillors who make the decision regarding the programme of the Council, not the Government, which only advises it.

7. To sum up the present situation, it appears that these people link a Patrol Post with the establishment of a Council and in order to overcome their dislike of Councils, more than words will be required. Perhaps a visit by a selected few to a well established Council in much the same circumstances as Nissan would help overcome their apprehensions.

8. During the course of the patrol, PIMEPEL ISLAND was visited for tax and census purposes and Mr. Eldr, A.D.O., was unable to vi[sit] the island due to rough weather. The people were happy to see the patrol and made us welcome. In discussions the people asked for a C.H.S. number for their copra, (are attached memorandum 0-1-1). Otherwise

nothing of note to report.

9. A Women's Club is run by the Mission Sisters at Tungal and apparently its members are quite enthusiastic. They have been unable to ope[n] any more as time does not allow it. Consequently, I suggest, if the present Welfare Officer at Hutjena has the time she could perhaps make a visit to discuss the opening of more Womens Club with the people and to see what aid could be given to the xxx present one run by the Mission- they have a great desire to sew.

10. Several grievances concerning land were investigated and are subject

to attached memorandum (34-1-2).

11. Rumours concerning Cargo Cult activities as reported by Father O'Sullivan were investigated and there seems to be no truth in them. The people who were reported to have started it were questioned as well as many others, and they seemed surprised by the accusation of the father. During my stay I did not notice anything anything

unusual unusual and the people were most helpful. I conclude that the rumours are

just that and no more.

#### ROADS AND AIRSTRIPS:

1. Roads on this island were made during the war and are still in very good condition considering that twenty years have elapsed and no maintenance has been carried out. All that is required is a grass cutter to cut the edges. If a Patrol

is established perhaps one be purchased for use on the airstrip and roads. The roads past (?) Mission Stations are only widened bush tracks.

2. For a report concerning the Nissan airstrip please see attached memorandum (4-1-1).

VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

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- 4 -

VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

1. During the course of discussions as mentioned under Naive Affairs the Luluais inquired about the possibilities of their ever receiving payment for their services. To support their argument, they stated that while other people go to Rabaul and Bougainville and obtain money, the Luluais must remain in their villages to keep everything in order. Secondly, they say other Government employees, that is, the Aid Post Orderlies and teachers, received payment for their services, the Luluais do not. They stated the Luluais' job was important as they must see that the Patrol Officer's orders are carried out and hear minor disputes, little time was left for coconut planting etc. Therefore they consider they should be given payment for their services, otherwise people in the future or even now might be unwilling to take the job.

2. While I sympathise and consider their case justified, their arguments are somewhat exaggerated, the advent of Councils would mean that their request may be too late for anything to be done. If something can be done to enhance their position, I suggest that similar payment be made to them as is given to the Village Constables in Papua. However, I informed the Luluais not to be too hopeful as no doubt similar requests have been made before.

3. Otherwise, all were most helpful and co-operated at all times.

AGRICULTURE

1. I concur with Mr. Elder's report, Buka Passage Patrol Report No. 8-64/65, that the pig situation is not as desperate as some make it out to be. Only half the island's people have large numbers of pigs, and though they do a fair amount of damage to the coconuts, only a policy of extermination will remedy this. Pigs at

the moment are kept for important occasions and therefore are really no benefit to the people. Fish is an alternate means of protein and do not contain the diseases

pigs have. If they were exterminated, coconut production would increase, health would improve and they would not have to build walls round their gardens.

2. I investigated the possibility of exiling all the pigs on an island,

namely BARUWAN, which has been mentioned in previous reports. Though the island is at present uninhabited it is only for reasons as stated in attached memorandum.

The people of BARUWAN, who have been residing at Yotchbol since 1918 or thereabouts

wish to return as soon as possible and the thought of having pigs on the island is completely unacceptable to them.

3. One of the reasons goes back to the time of Bishop Wade had put pigs on the island and they went wild. Some years later Father Le Brotton of Tungal, now of Tsiroge, visited the island and ordered all the pigs shot, which they were.

Bishop Wade then informed the people that no pigs were to be allowed on the island and apparently this is the present situation.

4. Otherwise, plantings have increased and small amounts of copra are

xxx

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- 5 -

being produced, no other cash crop being suitable for the island. Should a Patrol Post be established, I suggest an Agricultural Field Assistant be attached to it, to actively participate in and encourage the planting of coconuts.

#### HEALTH:

1. The health of the people of Nissan and Pinepil Islands is taken care of by four Aid Posts at Yotchbol, Tanamalit, Balil, Kantoia (Pinepil), and by the Mission Sisters at Tungal. Health is fair and the T.B. suspects are to be sent to Sohano on the next available ship.
2. It was noticed that while at Pinepil, there are only a few water containers in each village. On questioning the people about this, they informed me that when there is no water left in these, people drank from holes in the ground-water has a salty taste. However, in xxx a dry spell similar to the one at Christmas, these also dried up and the people then lived off coconut milk for liquid.
3. Perhaps in the interest of health in the three villages of Pinepil, each could be supplied with two tanks. with lock and key to be held up by Luluai, to overcome this situation. It was noted that the Aid Post at Mantoia had iron roofing and guttering, but the rain was going to waste because there was no tank. This situation does not exist on Nissan because of the abundance of water containers left by the American Airforce. However, as at Mantoia, the Aid Posts have good catchments but no tanks.

#### EDUCATION

The present school population is being catered for, by the mission schools at Tungal, pinepil and in various villages. Quite a number of children, because of their lack of attendance, no longer go. For statistics regarding Pinepil Island please see attached memorandum 26-1-1.

#### MISSIONS

The Patrol was made very welcome by the Mission and they appear to be an essential part of the command xxx. I should imagine these people are as good a[s] Christians as elsewhere in the world. Besides the spiritual side, the Mission is also active in the fields of health, education and women's clubs.

#### TAX AND CENSUS:

1. Tax collected at Pinepil amounted to £4-10. These people are still relatively poor and with a large number of children, it is difficult not to give them an exception. However, in my opinion if exemptions are continued to be given these people may accept the fact that they do not have to pay tax, and should

a Council be formed or they become financial enough to pay tax, it may be difficult to get them to pay. At present I suggest ten shillings to the maximum tax per sale head.

7

- 6 -

2. Also if these people realise they must pay tax, it may provide them with more incentive to better their financial position. However too great a tax would on the other hand discourage them from making the effort.

For Census statistics please see attached.

CONCLUSIONS:

It was a very enjoyable patrol and though these people are isolated, they are enjoyable to work with and should there be a Patrol Post established on Nissan, this Officer would be happy to man [man] it.

(P. R. HUNTER)

PATROL OFFICER

Attached memorandum:

34-1-2 Assistant District Commissioner.

6-1-1 " " "

38-2-1 " " "

4-1-1 " " "

26-1-1 " " "

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA  
PATROL REPORT

District of Bougainville Report No. Boku No. Bok3 of 1964/65

Patrol Conducted by J.A.Grier - Cadet Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled A special patrol of parts of Banoni and Nagovisi C/D

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil

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

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

1/6/65 3 6 1965

Number of Days Eight

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

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

Medical //19

Map Reference

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

2) Investigation for any claims on Final ORders for Restoration  
of Titles for HAISI, SOVELE, JABA, BOLEOKO, and BIRIKONASI land blocks.

Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

3/9/1965

District Commissioner

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

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

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



67-11-39

27th September, 1965.

District Commissioner,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

BOKU PATROL REPORT NO. 3-64/65:

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

2. Your comments and those of Messrs. Hardy and Cavanagh  
have been noted.

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

(T.G. Aitchison)

A/DIRECTOR.

67.11.39 7

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams

Telephone

Our Reference 67/1/7.

If calling ask for

Mr.

Department of District Administration,

Bougainville District,

SOHANO.

3rd. September, 1965

9 SEP 1965

The Director,

Department of District Administration,

KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

BOKU PATROL REPORT NO. 3 OF 1964.65

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

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

Att.

(P. J. MOLLISON).

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

6

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA 67-2-2  
GPH/gp

Sub-District Office,  
Buin. Bougainville.  
28th June, 1965.

The District Commissioner,  
SOHANO...BOUGAINVILLE.  
BOKU PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 1964/65

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

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

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

Forwarded for your information, please.

G.P. Hardy

Assistant District Commissioner.

att.

c.c. District Officer, Boku.

5

67-1

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

20th June, 1965.

Assistant District Commissioner,  
BUIN.

PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 1964/65.

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

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

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

Attached also please find contingencies  
for camping allowance.

(N.J.Cavanagh).

Assistant District Officer.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM

Telephone

Our Reference 67-1

If calling ask for

Mr

Department of District Administration,

Boku Patrol Post,

Buin Sub-District,

Bougainville.

9th June, 1965.

The Assistant District Commissioner,

B U I N.

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

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

Area Patrolled : A special patrol of parts of the

Banoni and Nagovisi Census Divisions.

Duration : 22nd May to 26th May, 1965

1st June to 3rd June, 1965.

Number of Days : Eight Days

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

2) Investigation for any claim on

Final Orders for Restoration of Titles

For :- HAISI

SOVELE

JABA

BOLEOKO

BIRIKONASI

INTRODUCTION.

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

DIARY.

Saturday 22/5/65. Departed Boku 0530 hrs for Jaba. Arrived Jaba 0900 hrs and awaited dingy to arrive from Mawareka. Due to mechanical difficulties dingy arrived 1300 hrs. Departed for Torakina and arrived 1500 hrs. Slept Torakina.

Sunday 23/5/65. Observed Torakina.

Monday 24/5/65. Saw Father Grenier, advised him of geology party

and its intentions, and asked him if he had any

Page 2.

Monday 24/5/65 knowledge of a .303 rifle being held in his area.

(cont.) No Knowledge.

Asked head teacher of school re rifle - No Knowledge. Departed Torakina 0900 hrs arrived Piva 1000 hrs. Saw sister-in-charge of Hansenide Colony re enquiry by A.D.C. Kieta concerning 3 patients.

Asked sister re rifles - No Knowledge.

Talked to Piva people re geology survey - All Agreeable. Saw ex-policeman at Piva re rifles - No Knowledge.

Asked Piva people about telephone wire for proposed Buin - Kangu telephone line. Prospects quite hopeful.

Departed Piva for Laruma where the people were asked about rifles - No Knowledge. Asked people re telephone wire - prospects hopeful.

Looked over old Bomber strips on top of Piva and found that the upper one could be reopened quite easily. Returned and slept Torakina.

Tuesday 25/5/65 Saw Kereri people about geology survey and asked about telephone wire. Marked out design for rest house and squared posts.

Ready to leave for Jaba 1200 hrs however owing to rough seas slept Torakina.

Tuesday 1/6/65 In afternoon went to Haisi to investigate any claims on Final Orders - No Claims.

Wednesday 2/6/65 Departed Boku 0800 hrs and carried out investigation at Beretemba and Jaba - No Claims.

Departed Jaba for Borioko 1200 hrs. Owing to Tabera river being flooded slept Taruba.

Thursday 3/5/65 Departed Taruba 0600 hrs for Borioko and with help of 25 men (road very bad) arrived [arrived]

Mokokolio 0900 hrs. Borioko and Takimari landowners arrived 0930 hrs. No claims on Boleoko and

Birikonasi land blocks.

Arrived Boku 1530 hrs.

Page 3.

COMMENTS.

Reported Rifle in Torakina Area.

It had been reported by

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

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

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

Restoration of Titles Final Orders.

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

WARTIME Telephone Wire.

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

Geology Survey.

The Torakina people were advised of [that] the geolo[g]ical



survey party from the Bureau of Minerology, Canberra would be visiting the area. The objects of this survey were explained to the people, i.e. that it was a routine survey and not aimed at xxx specific mineral development in the area. No objection[s] were raised by the people contacted.

J.A.Grier  
(Cadet Patrol Officer)

67-11-40

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

15 SEP 1965

PATROL REPORT

District of Bougainville Report No. 4 of 64/65 BOKU

Patrol Conducted by J.M.READING (PATROL OFFICER)

Area Patrolled BANONI CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by NONE

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

Duration— From 24/1/1965 to 2/3/1965

Number of Days THIRTEEN

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by-District Services /6/1964

Medical / /19

Map Reference EXTRACT FROM BOUGAINVILLE SOUTH FOURMILE SERIES

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

3. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Director of District Administration,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

3/9/1965

District Commissioner

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

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

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

67/1/7.

Department of District Administration,  
Bougainville District,  
SOHANO.

4th September, 1965.

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

BOKU PATROL NO. 4 OF 1964/65.

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

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

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

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

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

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

Att.

(P.J. MOLLISON).

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

67-11-40

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

12

Telegrams

Telephone

Our Reference 67/1/7.

If calling ask for

Mr.

Department of District Administration,

Bougainville District,

SOHANO.

4th. September, 1965.

30 SEP 1965

The Director,

Department of District Administration,

KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

BOKU PATROL NO. 4 OF 1964/65.

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

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

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

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

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

The recommendations made by Mr. READING will

be discussed at length with the Assistant District Commissioner  
at BUIN.

Att.

(P.J. MOLLISON).

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

11

67-11-40

23rd September, 1965.

District Commissioner,

Bougainville District,

S O H A N O.

BOKU PATROL REPORT NO. 4/1964-65:

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

2. Mr. Reading has dealt very fully on only two aspects of life among these Banoni Census Division people.

The objects of the patrol were three-fold and no mention is made of Census Division, villages and village officials, rest houses, health, education, Missions, roads and bridges, Courts, etc.

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

(T.G. Aitchison)

A/DIRECTOR.

3

THE TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

15 SEP 1965

Sub-District Office,

BUIN,

Bougainville.

20/5/65.

The Assistant District Commissioner,

BUIN,

Bougainville.

BOKU PATROL REPORT No. 4 of 64/65

BANONI CENSUS DIVISION

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

Duration of Patrol:- 24/1/65 to 3/2/65, 15/2/65 and

2/3/65. xxx Thirteen days.

Personnel Accompanying:- Constables POAPUM and PARAMANI.

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

Objects of Patrol:- 1. Census Revision. 2. Local

Government Discussions. 3. General

Administration.

Map Reference:- Extract from Bougainville South

Fourmile Series.

INTRODUCTION.

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

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

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

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2.

DIARY.

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

1965 Slept MAWAREKA rest house.

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

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

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

27th. Arrived PIVA by bicycle from TOROKINA this morning. Discussions with sister of Piva

Hansenide Colony before moving on to PIVA village for census, inspection and discussions.

Then continued along wartime road by bicycle to cross the Torokina (Hot) River for TENGEREPAIA village. Village and surroundings inspected.

Slept TENGEREPAIA rest house.

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

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

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

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

FEBRUARY 1st. Inspected KAREKOPA village before proceeding down to MOM which was also inspected. Then proceeded down the road to the ASAMANA River where canoes took the patrol to KOIARI village. Discussions held during the night. Slept KOIARI rest house.

2nd. Rough seas prevented launching of dinghy so patrol walked along the beach to JABA village. Discussions held during the evening. Slept JABA rest house.

3/....

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3.

DIARY Continued.

FEBRUARY 3rd. JABA inspected and people lined for census this morning. On arrival of Landrover returned 1965 BOKU after discussions at MORATONA and SOVELE Missions. Slept Boke Patrol Post.

15th. Departed Boku by Landrover for the southern group of villages MARIGA. KONGARE, MABIS and JARARA. These villages inspected and census and discussions held during the day. Returned Boku late afternoon. Slept Boku Patrol Post.

MARCH 2nd. Proceeded to MAWAREKA by Landrover for census and discussions. During afternoon proceeded to MATSUNKEI by dinghy for census and discussions. Returned Boku late afternoon on completion of Banoni Patrol.

ECONOMIC POTENTIAL AND DEVELOPMENT.

The west coast of Bougainville, of which the Banoni forms a major part, is among the most backward and undeveloped areas in the District. In contrast to much of the east coast, Buin Plain and Buka, there is very little economic activity, no major industries and reputedly very little potential.

The most obvious disadvantage of the area is the lack of manpower. The Banoni, Kerala, and Kunua have a population of less than 4,000 against nearly 10,000 for the corresponding middle east coast divisions. This low population, however, is a result of the following geographic factors.

Much of the land is low lying with a very gradual rise and often sharp distinction where mountain ridges and hills emerge from swamps. Mom Hill is a very obvious example. This results in the slow meandering rivers common to the Empress Augusta Bay. Many periodically flood their banks and drainage is very slow. Most of the middle Banoni centering on Koiari is thus completely unsuitable for cash cropping and even native gardens.

With the exception of some small outcrops at Torokina and odd coral niggerheads, there are no reef formations off the Banoni coast. This has had an adverse effect on coastal cash cropping and communications; an important factor which has attributed to the poverty of the Banoni. The lack of reefs has been caused by a combination of the following.

- (a) Possible toxic solutions of recent volcanic origin.
  - (b) Silt, mud and fresh water from numerous river mouths.
  - (c) Rapid erosion of coast causing soft unstable sea bed with variable undercurrents.
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## ECONOMIC POTENTIAL AND DEVELOPMENT Cont.

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

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

The small amount of income of the Banoni people is derived from the following sources.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POTENTIAL Cont.

Lodging and Sawmilling. This is potentially the best money earner for the west coast villagers. Sawn timber is a commodity which is unlikely to suffer from overproduction, allowing for a steady decrease in world forestry reserves, and in any event can be used with advantage in village housing.

In parts of the Banoni, in particular the southern and central, there are large areas of forest. Possibly not economical to European exploitation, with salaries and a large overhead to recoup, but certainly to people who have few other means of income and are quite prepared to work for themselves on much lower wages. Possible sites for a sawmill are as follows.

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

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

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

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

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

(b) Cattle at Torokina. The huge wartime

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

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

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## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND POTENTIAL Cont.

(c) Tourism. From the nearby villages of Tengerepaia and Korobi the active volcano Mt. Bagana is a most impressive sight. With its accompanying large volcanic crater [crater] Lake Billy Mitchel on the western side, it offers an easily accessible combination certainly unique in the Territory.

The main advantage lies in that, although inaccessible from the east coast, there are no real handicaps on the west to running a vehicular road from Torokina to the very base of the volcano or even possibly to Lake Billy Mitchel itself. An old military road already runs almost as far as Tengerepaia, within a few miles of Bagan's base. Those who have seen this region, either from the air or ground, will appreciate the long range tourist potential.

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

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

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

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

POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

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

With the exception of Koiari, the northern Banoni villagers were not particularly enthusiastic about the proposed council. They feel, and with some justification, that they will be able to contribute little financially to the

council and would probably receive little material benefits in return. The very poor economic position of most of these people will undoubtedly result in many being given tax exemptions.

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## POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT Cont.

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

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

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

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

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

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

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

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

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RECOMMENDATIONS Cont.

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

(J. M. Reading)

PATROL OFFICER

Banoni Census Division

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA  
PATROL REPORT

District of BOUGAINVILLE Report No 5 of 64/65  
Patrol Conducted by J.M.READING (PATROL OFFICER)  
Area Patrolled MAKIS CENSUS DIVISION  
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NO  
Natives 2 R.P. & N.G.C.  
Duration-From 9/12/1964 to 17/12/1964  
Number of Days 9  
Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO  
Last Patrol to Area by-District Services //19  
Medical //19  
Map Reference EXTRACT FROM BOUGAINVILLE SOUTH FOURMIL SERIES

Objects of Patrol 1. CENSUS REVISION 2. POLITICAL AND GENERAL DISCUSSIONS  
3. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION  
Director of District Administration,  
PORT MORESBY.  
Forwarded, please.  
5/5/1965

District Commissioner  
Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £  
Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £  
Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund .....

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67-11-33

June 4th, 1965.

The District Commissioner,

Bougainville District,

SOHANO.

BUIIN PATROL REPORT No. 5/64-65

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

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

(T.G.AITCHISON)

A/Director



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67.11.33

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM

Telephone

Our Reference 67/1/8.

If calling ask for

Mr.

12 MAY 1965

Department of District Administration,

Bougainville District,

SOHANO.

6th. May, 1965.

The Director,

Department of District Administration,

KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

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

READING.

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

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

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

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

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

Att.

(P. J. MOLLISON).

DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

(?)

Agree with your comments which [illegible]

[illegible] by WR.

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Sub-District Office,  
BUIN,  
Bougainville.

4/4/65

The Assistant District Commissioner,  
BUIN.

BUIN PATROL No. 5 of 64/65  
MAKIS CENSUS DIVISION

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

Area Patrolled :- Makis Census Division.

Accompanied by :- Constables TUGUN and ARAPI.

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

Objects of Patrol :- (1) Census Revision (2) Political and  
general discussions (3) General  
Administration

Map Reference :- Bougainville South Formil Series.

INTRODUCTION.

The Makis Census Division lies in the mid Buin Plain between the boundaries of the Siwai in the west and the Haubakei and Lugakei Census Division in the east. The Makis area extends down to the coastal village of TOKUAKA and up into uninhabitable mountains around Ioke Iolaru.

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

This patrol carried out the census for the year 1964 and adjusted the Census and Tax Register Book. Meetings were held at each village to discuss topics of interest, both political and economic.

Fair weather prevailed throughout this patrol and little time was lost by rain. At least a day was spent at each rest house and time was spent in all villages.

DIARY.

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

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

and discussions held with local leaders at  
TSIMBO rest house. Slept TSIMBO  
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