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PATROL REPORTS

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STATION: KIKORI

VOLUME No: 10

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1922 - 1923

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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VOL, NO: 10 : 1922-23 NUMBER OF REPORTS: 5

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PATROL REPORT.

STATION NUMBER.

2. 22-23

KIKORI

STATION.

REPORT of a PATROL made by R.A. Woodward Ag R.M.

to

URAMA, GOPI and ERA RIVER DISTRICTS

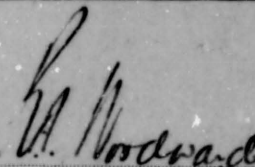
for the purpose of

General Inspection of VillagesLeft Station on July 25thReturned to Station on August 3rdNumber of Carriers employed 12Number of Police taken 7Name of Vessel used and of Officer in Charge Launch Kikori - R.A. WoodwardVillages visited KIVAUAI, MAI-AKI, AIPIGAI, KINOMERE, TOVE-I, GOIRAVI,IARI, GOPI, UBUA, PURI, BAWI, MEAGOMA, KIFI, EBEGAU, GIGORI, RAVI-WANA,NOWAMUBA, IMEIA, OROKENAI, ME-MERE, GEBEBE, VAIAMU, ARU-U, BARAVI,TAWADAI, IKORU, NAROMERE.

- (1) A sketch map of the district patrolled should accompany the report, showing, as nearly as possible, the positions of the places visited and a copy is to be made for filing on the Station. The map is to be furnished whether the patrol is in a well-known district or not. If the patrol is over a route for which a map has already been sent in, a second map is not necessary. A reference to the previous report will be sufficient. If the patrol is over a route of which part has already been included in a map, a suitable sketch should be sent to enable the other places to be added to the previous map. For uniformity the map must occupy one of two sizes of paper—either the size of a half-sheet of ruled foolscap or the size of a whole or double sheet.
- (2) In the body of the report the name of the village should be followed by the name of the V.C. The number of houses and the population, as nearly as possible, should also be stated. The customs of the natives should as much as possible be noted and reported.
- (3) The Patrol Report is to be enclosed in this Jacket, which, properly filled in, is to be sent to the Government Secretary immediately after each patrol.
- (4) The space below is not to be written in.
- (5) The cost of the patrol must be shown within, in the space provided.

1190/4.19.

Forwarded to the Government Secretary.

Date 10.8.22


Officer in Charge of Station.

REPORT ON PATROL TO URAMA, GOPI & ERA RIVER

DISTRICTS

July 25th 1922.

Accompanied by Sergt BROTO and 6 A.C. I left the Station in the District launch at 10 a.m. with one canoe in tow containing a number of discharged prisoners. Arriving at AIRD HILL at 11-30 I was entertained to lunch by Mr Butcher and availed myself of the opportunity of inspecting the two mandated children at this Mission. Both appeared to be well cared for and quite contented to remain there. Eventually I anchored off Gauri Rest house on the Ai-Ai River and proceeded up the creek to the village in the canoe. GAURI is situated at the source of a small creek, and, unfortunately for me it was low water and the creek dry so it took the best part of an hour to drag the canoe through the mud up to the village. With the exception of the burial of a small child in the village there was nothing to find fault with. The V.C. was instructed to bring the natives concerned in the burial to Mikori on completion of this patrol. The V.C. was also instructed to commence the building of an entirely new village on the bank of the main river - this the villagers seemed keen on doing. Now that inter-tribal warfare is at an end there is no need for villages to be hidden away in the middle of swamps and I have no doubt that the people themselves will appreciate the change when the new village is completed. V.C. APA being a useful Interpreter for the GOPI District I instructed him to meet me there in two days time.

July 26th

Leaving at 7-30 a.m. I proceeded down the West side of Urama and so to Mivannai Village where I arrived at 11-30 a.m. The village was practically deserted - the V.C. and majority of people being at a sage camp on the Era River. I was far from pleased with the condition of the village and less so when I found three graves close to the houses. The Officer conducting the last patrol here about two months ago obviously overlooked the latter detail.

The V.C. obviously has neglected his duty both as regards the condition of the village and the burial therein and will be punished. I then proceeded to MAI-AKI and AIBIGAI. Unfortunately it was now low water making the inspection of these villages a somewhat disagreeable performance - I think they may be adequately described as filthy oases in a sea of mud, for to reach them it was necessary to traverse some 50 or 60 yards of deep mire only to be greeted on arrival at the village by the usual stench of decaying refuse which permeates all these Urama Villages. The question of abandoning these unwholesome spots and making new villages on firmer land lower down the creek was broached to the inhabitants. Some thought it a good scheme and others wanted to remain in the homes of their forefathers. As a compromise I told those who wanted to do so to build new villages in the hopes that the rest sooner or later will follow suit. I have always discouraged the splitting up of villages in this Division but in these cases it seems to be the best means of getting the whole lot to eventually settle on better land. There is no V.C. at AIBIGAI as hitherto the Mai-aki man has been expected to supervise both, but seeing that he does not pay as much attention to Aibigai as he should, I think it would be an advantage to appoint a man to the former place. Whilst at Mai-aki I was requested by the V.C. to look at his sister who had been ill for some time. It was alleged that someone had made pourri-pourri thus causing the sickness and the local village doctor had removed several slabs of timber from the unfortunate woman's stomach but to no avail - hence my being requested to prescribe. Seeing that the woman appeared to be in the last throes of consumption I felt powerless to do anything, nevertheless, to satisfy her relatives I thought the least harmful drug would be a Livingstone Rousser so accordingly gave her one. I have not yet heard as to whether my mura-mura was more efficacious than that of the village medicine man or not. After waiting a couple of hours for the tide I shifted the launch round to Kinomere and anchored for the night at 9 p.m.

July 27th

In the morning I inspected the villages of KINOMERE, TOVE-I and OMAU-MERE. The latter village was practically deserted but nevertheless in very fair order - somewhat better than the rest of the Urama Villages. In the other two villages I suggested a few improvements in the way of fences etc but I am at a loss to see how ~~such~~ the living conditions in such beastly places can be improved to any extent. After attending to a few minor disputes I left for KOIRAVI on the MINA R. arriving there soon after 1 p.m. The newly appointed V.C. has not yet done much to improve the village as he has been appointed since last patrol, however, I must say the people received me in a different spirit to that displayed some months ago. After giving the V.C. the necessary instructions for improving the village I left for IARI. Here I found that little had been done towards carrying out the instructions of the last visiting Officer and the V.C. stated that what little had been done he had carried out himself. The most important matter to be attended to here is the clearing of trees and undergrowth from the vicinity of the houses - all available men were quickly set to work under police supervision to carry out this work and by evening time quite a number of houses could be seen from the river - previously they were completely hidden by trees etc.

July 28th

The IARI people were again set to work clearing. After some delay on account of heavy rain, I went per canoe to Gopi Village and found much the same state of affairs here as at Iari. All men present were set to work and the V.C. instructed to commence building along the river bank - the intention being to vacate the houses now standing away from the river in a sago swamp and to occupy the good land along the river. Returned to the launch again and proceeded up WAI-I creek to the ANI people. The villagers gave me a good reception and loaded me down with native food. Mr Saunders, who conducted the last patrol to this District mentioned that these people knew of villages to the North who made use of the dried human hand as an ornament in a similar manner to the

manner to the Mt Murray natives. From inquiries I made I could get no information about the latter custom although these ANI people, or some of them, stated that they had met with some bushmen named SESA and OPI some considerable time ago. These I think are identical with the SESA and NAMAINA reported by me a few years back. Returned down stream again and visited PURI Village. This is the only GOPI Village of any size that has no V.C. so I accordingly selected a suitable man whose recommendation will be forwarded in the usual manner. After giving some instructions for the improvement of the village I returned to IARI and found quite a lot of work had been done in my absence. From there I went to KIPI to camp for the night as there is a fairly respectable Rest House there - Rest houses in the other villages are more in the nature of hen roosts and quite unfit for the purpose for which they are intended. On visiting KIPI I found the V.C. and many of the people absent and the few who were in the village when I arrived in the launch quickly disappeared in the bush as soon as I went ashore. As nothing appears to have been done here as a result of the last patrol I decided to leave Local A.C. KAUMI at this place to get the people in and to commence work. It is rather unfortunate that the Gaol at Kikori is filled to overflowing otherwise I would have punished these people for neglecting to carry out the Visiting Officer's instructions.

By 29th

Returned up stream again and visited the villages of UBUA, BAWI and MEAGOMA. In the former village some attempt had been made to build platforms but being so insecure they were a menace to life and limb. At BAWI nothing had been done and most of the people had, in anticipation of my visit, gone to their komobati the previous evening. The V.C. was instructed to immediately bring them back and if my instructions had not been carried out by my return from the Bra I promised them a period of imprisonment. The V.C. stated that his people had asked what pay they were going to get for doing work in their village also further remarks to the effect that the village was theirs not the Government's. Taking the V.C. of

Meagoma with me I left that village at 1-45 p.m. and proceeded up the MAUBI River where there are several Komobatis of the Gopi people. Passing these Komobatis I went right up the river to a range of hills, which can be seen from Gopi, as I was anxious to try and obtain a bearing on Aird Hill and so fix my position.

ly 30th

Taking the Sergeant and three police I proceeded along the top of this range in an Easterly direction until I reached the source of WAIORO creek which flows into the Era. This range which consists of a series of very steep ridges averaging about 700 feet appears to run a considerable distance to the Westward. On reaching what seemed to be one of the highest peaks in the vicinity the police commenced felling timber on the top in order to obtain an uninterrupted view of the surrounding country. Unfortunately whilst doing this heavy rain commenced to fall which spoiled any chance of getting a bearing. After waiting a couple of hours in the hopes that the rain would clear off I had reluctantly to abandon the project and returned to the launch and soon after proceeded down stream again. Called in at the KIPI Komobati and there dropped the V.C. Eventually arrived at GIGORI on the Era River at 5-30 pm. Heavy rain encountered all the way.

ly 31st

Inspected GIGORI and RAVI-WANA. Like all villages in this District the houses are spread out over a considerable area thus making a considerably more work for the people in the way of cleaning the villages. Seeing that both villages are swampy and good land is to be found along the river bank only a short distance away I instructed the V.C. to get the river bank cleared of timber and undergrowth and to commence building an entirely new villages. The new villages when completed will be a vast improvement on the old places. Crossing the Era in canoe I next visited the small villages of NOWAMUBA, IMEIA, OROKENAI, GEBEBE and ME-MERE. In the latter some effort had been made to improve the village but in the others nothing had been done and most of the people were away. As all these villages are very small in population and, with the

exception of ME-MERE, are situated in the middle of a swamp. I gave instructions for NOWAMUBA, IMEIA, OROKENAI to leave their present villages and to amalgamate with ME-MERE in building one village on reasonably firm land close to the latter place. All these people seem very disinclined to carry out any of the orders of the visiting officers. This can hardly be wondered at seeing the fearful locality in which they have chosen to live. All these small villages are off-shoots of GIGORI so I see no reason why they should not live in the one large village instead of 5 small hamlets. Leaving the Sergeant and A.C. here to arrest some of the principal offenders I returned to GIGORI again and went round to VAIAMU in the launch. This village is much better situated although the houses are scattered at intervals along the river bank. I selected a good piece of land and gave the V.C. instructions to get the people to build their houses on this site and to inclose the whole village with a substantial fence. Shortly after my return to GIGORI the Sergt arrived back reporting the arrest of 4 men - the remainder had cleared off to the bush.

st 1st Left GIGORI at 8-30 a.m. and proceeded up the KUPIRI to NAROMERE. As is usually the case here, on landing the village was deserted with the exception of one boy who had been to work and who always remains in the village. Some men could be seen on the verandah of the Daimo as we approached but failed to put in an appearance although V.Cs and others were sent out to call them back. I cannot understand why these people should run away - they have absolutely no cause for so doing. None have ever been to Gaol and the Regulations have never been enforced here and, of course, there is no V.C. I am told by local V.Cs that these people also run away when recruiting vessels call there. I should much like to see a goodly number of men from this village go to work in the Central Division - it would do them a deal of good. NAROMERE, I understand, is an off-shoot of KINOMERE (URAMA) and the whole of the URAMA people originally came from the Era River on the right bank of which they still own considerable sago areas.

Whilst at HAROMERE, V.C. EVURU of KIVAUMAI arrived and reported the murder of a Baravi man by people of ARU-U. As KIVAUMAI was found to be in a bad conditions and three graves in the village, reported above, the V.C. was sentenced to a term of imprisonment for neglect of duty. I then proceeded to BARAVI Village - a small community on WAIOMO Creek, for the purpose of investigating the alleged murder. I found that one man had been murdered but could obtain little information as to the people responsible for this as there were no actual eye witnesses. It appears as if some men of SESA, a bush tribe living at the source of the ERA, came down to the source of WAIOMO Creek in company with a few men of ARU-U. Four BARAVI men happened to be fishing there, and one of these, who was some distance away from his friends, was killed. The other three BARAVI men fled as soon as they heard a disturbance but later returned and recovered the body of the murdered man. Returned again to the ERA and anchored off the KIVAUMAI Komobati.

Just 2nd

At 2 a.m. is despatched the Sergeant and police per canoe to ARU-U to catch as many men of that village as possible. The Baravi men had given me the names of some of the ARU-U men who they allege were seen at the time of the murder. At daylight I followed in the launch arriving at ARU-U an hour later. There I found that the police had arrested four men and had then gone up the ERA to a Komobati where the bulk of the ARU-U people were in residence. After questioning the ARU-U men about the murder with but very unsatisfactory results, I followed up the Sergt and police but after going for about 10 miles and not finding them, I returned again to ARU-U as it seemed possible I had missed them. I was mistaken in this, however, and the police who had found the Komobati many miles up the river, returned again at 3 p.m. with 8 ARU-U men. They also brought with them a small boy belonging to a nomadic community called OBI which inhabits the upper ERA country. This boy on being questioned, seemed quite willing to come to Kikori, so I am taking him along as he may be of use as an interpreter on some later patrol to the hill country to North of the ERA R.

Of the ARU-U men captured I found that only four of them had been named by the Baravi men as being present at the murder. I therefore took these along with me and released the others. Eventually arrived back at the Komobati of the Urama people at 7 p.m.

ast 3rd

The three BARAVI witnesses arrived and identified the ARU-U men as being present when the murder was committed. The ARU-U men emphatically denied all knowledge of it although I think they know something about ~~ix~~ the matter. I am taking them to Kikori in the hopes that they will come to light with some information later on. I then went down stream to the villages of IKORU and TAUWADAI on AIME Creek. Very few people were to be seen in the villages which are opposite one another - one on either bank of the creek. These villages should have a V.C. but the man I had in view was away so I left instructions for him to come to Kikori. I then returned to GIGORI and picking up the few prisoners, left for GOPI again. I found that during my absence much work had been done in all the villages but in view of the probability of such work being abandoned as soon as the launch was out of sight, I instructed the Sergt and 4 A.C. to remain in the district for three days and to show the people how to build Rest Houses and to generally supervise other work in the villages. The prisoners were despatched per canoe under escort of 2 A.C. and soon after this I left in the launch and made a non-stop run of 6½ hours arriving back at Kikori at 8-30 p.m.

Rao

Ag R.M.

REPORT ON PATROL TO THE UPPER PURARI. R.

In patrol report No. 18/19-20 of the 30th January 1920, which was performed by Mr. L. N. Brown, mention is made of the following villages - TA-ARU, IARE, I-O, O-MOH, UI-IRI & JANO-BA, all of which are said to be on or near to the Purari River. With the object of endeavouring to trace these villages and to get into touch with the inhabitants thereof, I left the station on the 7th September in the launch Kikori accompanied by 9 A.C. A large station canoe was taken in tow to accommodate some of the A.C. guides interpreters etc. Arriving at AIRD HILL at 3-30 p.m. and having some matters to discuss with Mr. Butcher I called at the Mission. Whilst there heavy rain commenced to fall so I remained for the night.

Leaving at 9-15 next morning I proceeded via the AI-AI and ERA rivers to EVARA arriving there at 6-45 p.m. having made a non-stop run of 9½ hours.

Next day I visited the saw mill site recently applied for by Mr. Lett and after attending to a few details there left for the BAROI river at 10 a.m. and after a halt for lunch at Maddock's camp continued on and later anchored for the night at a camp of UKIARAVI people not far below the IVO Junction. During the journey up stream I was struck by the large number of UKIARAVI camps passed - all these people seem to be cutting canoe logs - mostly ilimo - and seeing that this is the country over which Mr. Lett proposes to cut timber in the near future some steps will have to be taken to conserve the supply of ilimo for native use.

Considerable delay was caused in the morning by the fouling of the anchor but eventually we got away at 9-45 a.m. and after an hours run passed the IVO Junction and half an hour later reached the main Purari river at what is known as the Kairu Effluence. At this point there is a small camp of PAWAIA people who have settled here - the main section of this community being higher up the river. Amongst these I was fortunate in finding one WAGA who belongs to a village in the hills at the source of the Purari. He

appears to have left his village some two years ago - for reasons best known to himself - and settled down with his wife at this PAWAIA Camp. I secured this man and another PAWAIA man to act as Interpreters, but seeing that their knowledge of NAMAU was very scant I went down to IVARA village, on the G.D. side of the PAIRAMA and obtained the services of a man of that village who could speak to the two bushmen in the KAURA language. I found that PAIRAMA is the name of the lower Purari from the junction to the coast and the river above the latter point is known as PI-O. At IVARA I had to despatch one A.C. back to the station for further fuel supplies as it seemed probable that by the time I returned to the Delta I should have insufficient to get back to the Station. The Kikori launch has insufficient space in which to carry a large supply of fuel and the necessity for towing a canoe against a strong current makes the fuel consumption all the heavier. Left IVARA at 1 p.m. and returned again to the PAWAIA camp the journey back occupying just double the time taken to cover the same distance down stream. Without stopping here longer than necessary I commenced the ascent of the main Purari river at 3 p.m. progress was very slow on account of the recent rains and after 2½ hours running camp was made on a convenient spot along the West bank. During the journey several Komobatis of the KAIRU people were passed. I understand that formerly the KAIRU people used to fight with the PAWAIA but now they are on quite friendly terms and trade with one another.

After about two hours run the next morning we arrived at a house on the West bank and several patches of garden and at this point a small creek called WABU entered the Purari. Our guides informed me that the PAWAIA people were camped at the headwaters of this creek at the time they left the village some two years ago. I proceeded up WABU creek but found no sign of natives and it seemed quite obvious that none had been in the vicinity for some considerable time. After lunch we continued on up stream the river here being about 350 yards wide with a swift current. From marks along the banks it seemed as if the river when in flood rises

some 10 feet above its present level. Under such conditions I do not think it would be possible to make headway against the stream; as it is now, I do not estimate our speed at more than $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles per hour. The country on either bank is hilly and getting higher all the time whilst high mountains can be seen to the North. On the flats along the river bank the soil is undoubtedly of excellent quality there being several feet of fine loam carrying dense vegetation. During the afternoon we arrived at the first rapid - the BEVAN rapid -. Up to the present we have passed no islands although the old maps of this river indicate that there were some lower down; apparently they have disappeared. Whilst crossing the rapids - which could easily be negotiated with reasonable care - the A.C. steering, through absolute carelessness, caused the canoe to overturn. The canoe being much lighter than the launch was thrust forward on an eddy and came broadside on to the launch and before the tow rope could be unfastened the canoe swamped and overturned. Fortunately all police and others in the canoe were rescued although A.C.TAHIMA who was unable to swim had rather a bad time. One case of benzine which was in the canoe was fortunately saved before it sank but many articles of police equipment including one rifle were lost. Eventually the canoe was towed to the bank and bailed out and the journey continued. After another two hours run camp was made for the night. Since leaving the rapids only one small and uninhabited house on the G.D. side was seen.

Next morning, the 12th, an early start was made. After an hours run McDowell islands were passed and some gardens of the I-U people. Later two natives were observed on the G.D. bank. WAGA immediately called out to them and they appeared to understand him for they remained, and when the launch had been anchored they came alongside in a canoe. I found that I could speak to these men through three Interpreters as they spoke the same language as WAGA. Their names were WAI and DIOPU and the place where they were living was known as SEVEA which consisted of one

small house and a patch of garden. They informed me that there were two other men living with them and that others had just left there and returned to their village - I-U - which is a little higher up. The rest of the SEVEA people I understood were on the Vailala side. Apparently this community is semi-nomadic and wander over the country between the Vailala and Purari Rivers. Both men were of fine physique and were of a similar type to the KUKU-KUKU natives I have seen at KEREMA. Their hair is worn in long tags much plastered with vegetable oil, and adorned with a variety of ornaments in the shape of kus-kus fur, small sections of bamboo and chains of plaited cane and Jobs tears. Like the KUKUKUKUS the nostrils of the nose are pierced on either side and thin strips of cane or grass stems inserted - these protrude for six inches or so on either side. The grass rams common to the bushmen hereabouts are also worn. Their canoes I noticed, are of the crudest workmanship and for paddles they use a cleft stick in one end of which is inserted a circular piece of bark. The vocabulary I compiled seems to be similar to that compiled by Mr. Brown on his 1920 patrol which he obtained from four men of WAGA's village. Whilst talking to these men two others appeared - they all seemed to be very pleased to receive present of tobacco although they grow the leaf in small quantities. The native pipes used are of a kind I have not previously seen. These consist of a section of bamboo about 8 inches in length in which dried grass is packed for the purpose of absorbing the moisture. About two inches from the closed end of the bamboo another small section of bamboo about 1 inch in length and $\frac{1}{2}$ inch diameter is inserted and sealed in with native gum. The tobacco leaf when rolled is placed in this holder and the pipe used in the usual method. I was unable to obtain information as to the existence of any other villages in the vicinity other than I-U which is close by. Two of the SEVEA men volunteered to accompany me to this village so we accordingly got under way. Half an hours run brought us to I-U which appears to be quite new. The village consisted of

three houses each of which was situated in a small clearing. These houses were built on piles some 20 feet high the main support being one or two large tree stumps which, when clearing the land, the natives had cut off at the required height. Apparently the houses are intended for males only as I noticed the women all seemed to live in a rough enclosure amongst the piles of the houses. The two SEVEA men assured the villagers as to our friendly intentions and I was glad to find that none, not even the women, displayed any sign of alarm. These people I gathered, have recently migrated to this point from the source of SUBU creek which flows into the Purari about a mile higher up (SUBU creek is named AURE on the charts). They seemed to know a village called NAMAINA also WAGAS village called KAIRO both of which were many "sleeps" up the river. Apparently there are no other people in the vicinity of I-U village. I estimate the population of I-U to be about 40. I spent several hours here and purchased a few net bags and other items of native manufacture. Steel implements were in great demand although I noticed that the people had one or two axes which they informed me had been traded from the PAWAIA people. I found one youth here had previously seen a white man at UPOIA and I think one or two men from this village had some years ago visited Thoresby's camp on the upper Vailala. At 3 p.m. I continued on up stream; the above mentioned I-U youth accompanying us. Passed the SUBU junction half an hour later and entered the westerly reaches of the Purari. Fortunately there has been no rain since the up-stream journey was commenced so that progress although very slow is still possible. At about this point WAGA pointed out a spot where a policeman had been killed by the I-U people when the coal expedition of 1908 came up this river. Shortly after this heavy rain commenced to fall so I decided to camp at the first convenient spot which happened to be the mouth of BUI creek on the North bank. The river bottom from here onwards is all stone and therefore it is necessary to tie up the launch every night to trees on the bank as the anchor will not hold. Heavy rain continued for several hours and the force of the current and level of the river increased rapidly, so much so that I began to

think we would be unable to go further.

In the morning I was glad to find that the rain had cleared off so after effecting repairs to the steering gear we continued on but ran aground on a stony reef which occasioned some delay but, fortunately did not damage the launch. Current is much stronger than yesterday and our progress is not more than 2 miles an hour. Many rocks and eddies in the river so that the utmost caution has to be used in seeking out the deepest channels. The scenery along this reach of the river is certainly well worth seeing, on either side are high ranges of hills at no great distance from the river whilst to the North can be seen mountains of no small height. During the morning we passed the Bevan Islands - the passage here, although only about half a mile in length took us well over an hour to traverse such was the force of the current. At 12-35 p.m. a halt was made for lunch at a point about half a mile below the entrance of HO creek on the source of which WAGA tells me his village is situated. NAMAINA is supposed to be on an island about two or three days run higher up. On arriving at the entrance to HO creek I found several large rocks in the river round which the current swirled at a terrific speed. In order to avoid the possibility of damaging the launch the police were put ashore above the entrance to the creek, with a rope one end of which was attached to the launch. By this means the launch was gradually allowed to drift with the current into the mouth of the creek through a narrow passage between the rocks and the shore. Once inside, the creek opened out considerably and I was able to take the launch some four miles up stream before further progress was stopped by fallen timber. At this point anchor was dropped and camp made ashore. WAGA states that his village is a long way yet - right at the source of the creek. The country adjacent to HO creek so far has been comparatively low although the banks are some 14 feet above the present water level. During heavy rains the water level appears to rise some ten to twelve feet above the present level.

On the following day - the 14th - leaving 3 A.C. in camp

I left with the remainder in the canoe to explore the upper waters of HO creek. After going up stream for about 5 miles - this took us about 5 hours hard pulling - we arrived at a patch of sago where WAGA told me, his village people were living when he left them to go to PAWAIA. No traces of natives could now be seen so we continued on in the hopes of finding them higher up. Later we came upon another patch of sago and here WAGA intimated that he would go ashore and see if there were any people about. He did so but after waiting for him to return for some time I sent police to look for him. Our shouts too elicited no reply so I came to the conclusion that our guide and interpreter had wilfully mislead us, and now, fearful of the consequences had cleared out. I was most disappointed at losing WAGA as, should we come across any natives, we are now unable to speak to them. However, we continued on up the creek until it was impossible to go further on account of snags and fallen timber. Not a sign of a cut stick or refuse in the river indicated that any human being had been in the vicinity. We accordingly returned down stream again and made camp at the point where we had lost WAGA. Rifle shots were fired and improvised kipsis made of bamboo were sounded from time to time without result.

During the night heavy rain fell continuously and by morning the creek had risen over 6 feet. After another fruitless search for WAGA we returned again to the launch which was reached in $1\frac{3}{4}$ hours. The same journey up stream had taken us 7 hours yesterday. In case WAGA had missed us and had commenced to return to the launch along the bank I decided to remain in camp until noon. WAGA however did not turn up, so we broke camp and at 2 p.m. returned again to the Purari River. Last night's rain had caused a flood in the river and after a trial I found that it was quite impossible to make headway against the current. Somewhat reluctantly, therefore, I had to abandon all hope of getting higher up stream; in any case we could only have carried on for another day as the fuel supply was running low. It seems probable that in the N.W. season the launch could be taken several miles higher up the river although this would be a dangerous undertaking

as the river then would be much more shallow than it is now. Arriving at our former camp on HAI creek at 4 p.m. I decided to again camp here. Whilst some of the police were occupied in erecting the fly etc. I went with the remainder in the canoe up HAI creek but could not go far on account of the succession of stony rapids. Much quartz and faint traces of gold found in the beaches.

In the morning returned to I-U again to obtain further information about SUBU creek. The people assured me that they formerly lived there and that there are no villages there now. However I determined to go and see whether it was navigable, and if so to make a traverse. On reaching the entrance of the creek I found that it was too shallow to go far in the launch so I continued on in the canoe. Very soon, however, we met with stony rapids much the same as those in HAI creek. Here again I found much quartz and slight traces of gold in the beaches. Returning again to I-U we had lunch and shortly after commenced the return journey as no useful purpose could be served in staying here longer seeing that there are no more natives in the vicinity. On the way down stream, when a short distance below BEVAN Island, we found that a house on top of a hill on the East bank which was unoccupied when we came up stream, was now in occupation. I accordingly anchored the launch a short distance above the house and made camp. Whilst this was being done I visited the house and found that there were only two or three natives present. The natives proved to be a man named EIA-HAU and his family, who, together with another man and his wife, make periodical visits to this camp from the Vailala side. EIA-HAU seemed to be a pleasant old chap and received us in a most hospitable manner. He stated that he had visited the Oilfields many times and was also acquainted with the PAKU people on the upper Vailala. He also seemed to know the PAWAIA people some of whom were now at the source of PURU creek which is on the East side of the Purari lower down stream.

In the morning we came to the mouth of PURU creek after an hour's run. Found it too small to take the launch up it any distance so explored it per canoe. No trace of natives to be seen although it is possible that the PAWAIA people may be hereabouts in the hills -

they were certainly nowhere near the creek. Returned to the launch and continued the journey down stream. A few miles lower down we came across a new house on the West bank - incomplete - and many fresh footprints along the bank. This house was not there when we came up the river. Just below this we were fortunate in finding one old man in a canoe paddling about. The PAWAIA men with us called out to him and eventually he was induced to come alongside the launch. From him I learnt that there was a village named URI at the source of IKENE creek which was about half a mile lower down. The old man after some persuasion agreed to accompany us to the village. The launch was accordingly anchored in the mouth of IKENE creek and after partaking of a hasty lunch I set off in the canoe with 5 A.C. and the PAWAIA interpreters. After going 100 yards or so the creek proved to be unnavigable so we abandoned the canoe and continued the journey along the creek bed which was in many places dry. I was much struck by the very fine samples of coal to be found in the creek at frequent intervals. I have previously seen what I take to be coal in both the Sirebi and Era rivers but in neither case has it been of such good quality as this appears to be. After travelling along the creek for about three miles our guide left the creek and followed an ill defined track through the bush. After covering another three miles we came to the village of URI. Our advent was viewed with much alarm on the part of the inhabitants; the men quickly seized their bows and arrows but fortunately did not discharge any of the latter at us. After the first excitement had subsided the natives, seeing that we were not hostile, laid down their weapons and became quite friendly. This is the first visit they have had from the Government and the first time they have seen a white man. The village consisted of but one house some 20 yards in length having a partition in the middle; one side of the partition being reserved for men and the other for women. The men were similar to those seen higher up the river although perhaps of somewhat slighter physique. Several of them I noticed were afflicted with terrible ulcers on their legs but otherwise seemed quite healthy. They stated that there were no more villages in the vicinity although there was a big village

called IARI which is situated in the hills at the source of U-O creek much higher up the Purari. It is most unfortunate that I missed this village - our guides seemed to know nothing about it or if they did they carefully withheld the information. As it is I have not sufficient fuel to reach there so will have to visit that village at a later date. I estimate the population of I-U to be about 50. Having established friendly relations with these people and after purchasing some pumpkins and other native food we set out on the return journey to the launch. On the way back I collected a good sample of the coal which will be forwarded to Port Moresby at a later date. On reaching the camp at the mouth of the creek I was surprised to learn that our lost guide WAGA had turned up during my absence. It appears that he had gone some considerable distance away from HO creek in his endeavour to find the KAIRO people and consequently had missed us. Finding that we had gone he made his way back to I-U village and there obtained a canoe and came on down the river. I was glad to find that this man had not deserted as he will be of great use on future patrols.

In the morning (18th) several URI men visited the camp and displayed much interest in the launch. Two hours run with a strong current brought us to the PAWAIA camp where we had obtained the interpreters. After suitably rewarding these men we continued on down the IVO river and so to KAIRU where I was expecting to find additional fuel supplies. Lunched at KAIRU then proceeded to UKIARAVI and found that A.C. KEMO-O had arrived there that morning with three cases of fuel. During the remainder of the afternoon I was occupied in distributing W.N.L. money.

After dealing with a few native matters in the morning I left for Letts saw mill site on the WAME river. Arrived there at 11-30 a.m. and proceeded to chain off the 40 acres of land applied for.

This work was completed by noon on the following day (20th) and shortly after this I left for Kikori but only succeeded in reaching GAURI before nightfall where camp was made. Arrived back

at Kikori at 10 a.m. on the 21st.

OBSERVATIONS.

As a result of this patrol it seems evident that the native population in the vicinity of the Purari river is very small. It is more than probable that a scattered population will be found in the hills adjacent to the upper waters of the river beyond the highest point reached. Such villages, I think, would be more easily reached by a patrol from the Era headwaters which must be close to the Purari river. The village NAMAINA was mentioned to me several times but its exact position is unknown. I have also heard of this village from natives on the Era river.

Some of the villages mentioned in Mr. Brown's report above referred to were unknown to WAGA or the PAWAIA natives. I think it probable that any one community in these parts has several villages each of which is occupied for a few months at a time or so long as the food supplies hold out. Under date of January 17th 1920 Mr. Brown says "IARE they say is the largest and is as big as KAIRU." The population of KAIRU is about 600. I think it probable that the natives with whom Mr. Brown got into touch with were referring to KAIRO, WAGA's village, as it is most unlikely that a large population like that could have been unknown for so long.

(Sgd.) R. A. Woodward.

Ag. R.M.
29/9/22.

PATROL REPORT.

STATION NUMBER.

7/22-23

KIKORI

STATION.

REPORT of a PATROL made by R.A. Woodward Ag R.M. toPurari Delta

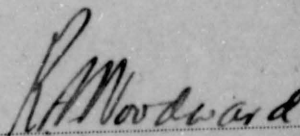
for the purpose of

General Inspection, Distribution of W.N.L. Money.Left Station on October 23rd Returned to Station on October 31st 1922Number of Carriers employed - Number of Police taken 16Name of Vessel used and of Officer in Charge Launch Kikori. R.A. WoodwardVillages visited EVARA, UKIARAVI, IKINU, KIMIRI, AKOMA, KEREW, KAPAIIARI, KAIRU, ORU, KAIMARI, MARIA KAKARI

- (1) A sketch map of the district patrolled should accompany the report, showing, as nearly as possible, the positions of the places visited and a copy is to be made for filing on the Station. The map is to be furnished whether the patrol is in a well-known district or not. If the patrol is over a route for which a map has already been sent in, a second map is not necessary. A reference to the previous report will be sufficient. If the patrol is over a route of which part has already been included in a map, a suitable sketch should be sent to enable the other places to be added to the previous map. For uniformity the map must occupy one of two sizes of paper—either the size of a half-sheet of ruled foolscap or the size of a whole or double sheet.
- (2) In the body of the report the name of the village should be followed by the name of the V.U. The number of houses and the population, as nearly as possible, should also be stated. The customs of the natives should as much as possible be noted and reported.
- (3) The Patrol Report is to be enclosed in this Jacket, which, properly filled in, is to be sent to the Government Secretary immediately after each patrol.
- (4) The space below is not to be written in.
- (5) The cost of the patrol must be shown within, in the space provided.

1190/4.19.

Forwarded to the Government Secretary.

Date 10/11/22


Officer in Charge of Station.

Articles.	Quantity taken on patrol.	QUANTITIES ISSUED AND VALUE.					Returned.	Remarks.
		Police.	Carriers.	Others.	Total used.	Government cost.		
Rice					40.	6 8		
Biscuits								
Meat					12.	10		
Sugar								
Tea								
Soap								
Tobacco					8 1/2.	1 10		
Matches								
Kerosene								
Tents								
Flies								
Lamps								
Buckets								
Kerosene Cans								
Knives & Sheaths								
Knives, 18in.					2	10 6		
Knives, other					2	3 8		
Belts								
Pouches								
Print					12 yd.	10		
Twill								
Handkerchiefs								
Beads								
Mirrors					1	2		
Axes								
Half Axes					1	9 6		
Tomahawks					3	15		
4 lines.					4	7		
TOTAL £						5 4 6		

NOTE.—When an article such as a tent is issued, but is returned for future use, the value should not be entered.

REPORT ON PATROL TO THE PURARI DELTA

- October 23rd. Left KIKORI in the Station launch at 1 p.m. in order to visit the Purari Delta Villages and in particular to investigate the matter of cutting timber on the BAROI River for Letts sawmill on the WAME. Arrived at AIRD HILL at 3p.m. and interviewed Mr Butcher on several matters. Resumed the journey again at 7 p.m. and arrived at GAURI Rest House at 10 p.m. where camp was made for the night.
- October 24th Leaving GAURI at 7 a.m. a non-stop run was made to EVARA at which place I arrived at 2 p.m. Here I found that Mr and Mrs Chester had temporarily taken up their quarters in the Rest House pending the completion of their house at the sawmill a mile higher up the river. The Rest House was in a bad state of repair and Mr Chester informed me that he could not get either the V.C. or village people to do anything to the house. Visited the sawmill during the afternoon and camped for the night at EVARA Village.
- October 25th Held Court for Native Matters and punished a number of those who had refused to repair the Rest House. Proceeded to the sawmill where I heard an assault case in the C.P.S. and after lunch proceeded on to UKIARAVI. Remainder of the day occupied in hearing Native Matters cases.
- October 26th Dealt with further cases and distributed a large amount of W.N.L. money, after which the timber question was entered into. The majority of the owners of the timber lands on the BAROI River where Mr Lett expects to cut timber in the near future, were present and they were unanimous in giving their consent for Lett to cut their timber provided that all the ilimo trees were kept for their use for canoe making purposes. Despatched 31 prisoners from here under escort to Kikori and at 11 a.m. left for MARIA-KAKARI. This village has been much improved since the appointment of V.C.OVE and I was pleased to find quite a comfortable Rest House had been built. There being

no cases for attention here I did not delay longer than necessary. Arrived at IKINU at 3 p.m. and was occupied for some time settling a few minor domestic troubles after which I inspected the Village and also walked to KIMIRI. Both villages were in very fair order although greater attention might be paid to the fences in order to keep pigs outside. The land between the two villages has been planted up with coconuts but in many cases they were too closely planted and apparently had received very little attention. The V.C. and people were warned that it was their duty now to look after the young trees and if such had not been done by next visit they would be punished. Crossed over to AKOMA and camped there.

October 27th Held Court for Native Matters and inspected the village which was in very fair order. These people, I think, are the laziest in the Delta and whatever work they are required to do they seem to carry it out in a very slipshod manner. Apparently they do not realise that a strong well built fence will last longer than the kind they usually erect and that in the long run less work would be entailed. However I suppose one must seek consolation from the fact that orders are usually carried out however inefficiently the work may be done. Leaving AKOMA at 11 a.m. I next visited URIKA Mission as the Mission Teacher there had previously informed one of the A.C. that several offences had occurred at KAIRU which the V.Cs had neglected to report. On inquiry I found that a number of somewhat serious assaults had been committed by a youth and the woman assaulted, his wife, had sought protection at the Mission. The youth happened to be the son of V.C.AKO which probably accounts for the V.Cs not reporting the offences. Arrived at KAPAI during the afternoon and distributed W.N.L. money. This village as usual is in excellent condition. Crossed over to KERENA (V.C.LORO) and spent the rest of the day hearing Court cases.

October 28th V.C.LORO reported that a man had killed his wife a few days prior to my arrival at the village. I accordingly examined the witnesses and committed the accused for trial. I then proceeded to IARI

after despatching an A.C. to escort prisoners to KAIRU and also to pick up witnesses at the Mission and take them with him to that Village. Arrived at IARI at 1-30 p.m. and was occupied all the October 29th afternoon hearing Court cases and distributing W.N.L. money.

V.Cs of RAVI-KEVAU and OKAIKENAIRU reported themselves at IARI the latter bringing several cases for attention.

October 29th Heard further cases during the morning and inspected the village which was in as good a condition as could be expected. Purchased one fair sized canoe for Station use and despatched the prisoners in it under escort to KAIRU. Arrived at KAIRU at 2 p.m. and was occupied for the rest of the afternoon hearing cases. Both Village Constables AKO and OVE were convicted on charges of Neglect of Duty and sentenced to 2 months imprisonment. The dismissal of both men will be recommended and the appointment of two others who I selected, to fill the vacant positions. This village has been considerably improved since my last visit and I could find little fault on my inspection. At 5-30 p.m. I left here and proceeded to ORU where camp was made for the night.

October 30th Inspected ORU Village which was in excellent condition. One or two minor cases were disposed of after which I proceeded to UKIARAVI for the purpose of picking up owners of timber land and taking them to EVARA in order to enter an agreement with Lett. Whilst here another case was disposed of after which I proceeded to the saw mill again accompanied by some of the UKIARAVI natives. Arriving there the agreement was made out and the matter settled to the satisfaction of all parties. Visited EVARA again where an assault case was disposed of and, leaving an A.C. here to escort prisoners to Kikori, I proceeded to KAIMARI arriving there at 8 p.m.

October 31st A few cases were awaiting attention here and after disposing of them I made an inspection of the village which was found to be in good order. A substantial Rest House has been recently constructed but several improvements could be made to the precincts of this house. Instructions were given to the V.Cs to have these done before next visit. Having completed all business here I left for Kikori

for KIKORI and after an uneventful trip arrived back at the Station
at 9 p.m.

Law

AG R.M.

PATROL REPORT.

STATION NUMBER.

9/22-23.

K I K O R I STATION.

REPORT OF A PATROL made by R. A. Woodward A/R.M. toUpper Era River for the purpose ofExamining timber in company with Mr. Lane Poole & getting into
touch with any natives found in that District.Left Station on November 24th Returned to Station on December 13th 1922Number of Carriers employed 24 Number of Police taken 9Name of Vessel used and of Officer in Charge Launch "Kismet"- Mr. Lane Poole.Villages visited GIGORI, OBI.

- (1) A sketch map of the district patrolled should accompany the report, showing, as nearly as possible, the positions of the places visited and a copy is to be made for filing on the station. The map is to be furnished whether the patrol is in a well-known district or not. If the patrol is over a route for which a map has already been sent in, a second map is not necessary. A reference to the previous report will be sufficient. If the patrol is over a route of which part has already been included in a map, a suitable sketch should be sent to enable the other places to be added to the previous map. For uniformity the map must occupy one of two sizes of paper—either the size of a half-sheet of ruled foolscap or the size of a whole or double sheet.
- (2) In the body of the report the name of the village should be followed by the name of the V.C. The number of houses and the population, as nearly as possible, should also be stated. The customs of the natives should as much as possible be noted and reported.
- (3) The Patrol Report is to be enclosed in this jacket, which, properly filled in, is to be sent to the Government Secretary immediately after each patrol.
- (4) The space below is not to be written in.
- (5) The cost of the patrol must be shown within, in the space provided.

2249/12.21—2,000.

Forwarded to the Government Secretary.

Date December 16th 1922.(Sgd). R. A. Woodward
Officer in charge of station.

REPORT ON PATROL TO THE UPPER ERA RIVER.

November 28th.

Left Kikori at 9-30 a.m., in the launch "Kismet" accompanied by Mr. Lane Poole for the purpose of proceeding to the Era River headwater and thence across to the Purari River with a view to examining the timber in this locality and also to endeavour to get into touch with the people of NAMAINA on the Upper Purari who appeared to have been anything but friendly towards Mr. Lane Poole on his recent trip up the Purari River. Sergeant BEOTO, 7 A.C. and 22 prisoners left the Station at the same time to proceed direct to the Era River and there await the arrival of the "Kismet". Proceeding via AIRD HILL and the ERA mouth we made a non-stop run to the WAME River and anchored at the Sawmill at 8-45 p.m.

November 29th.

Leaving the Sawmill at 4 a.m., and proceeding up the BAROI River we arrived at a small camp of the PAWAIA people at the junction where we picked up a KUKU-KUKU man named WAGA to act as guide and Interpreter on the patrol. This man accompanied me up the Purari River a few months ago and speaks the language of the Upper Purari Tribes. Without any delay we returned down the IVO to KAIRU Village where I expected to pick up an A.C., who had previously been sent from Kikori to pick up WAGA. Not finding him here we proceeded on and arrived back at the Sawmill at 6-30 p.m., where we found the "AROA" which had arrived from Port Moresby with Official mail and private stores.

November 30th.

Leaving at 5 a.m., we proceeded up the KAPAINA and so into the ERA and anchored off GIGORI Village at 1 p.m. As previously arranged an A.C., met me here and advised that the Sergeant and carriers had left that morning for the headwaters. After interviewing several V.C., from surrounding villages we left at 3-30 p.m., with the flood tide and after 2 hours running came to ARU-U Village where the Sergeant and carriers were found. Continued on until 6 p.m., and anchored off some huts on the left bank of the river at which place the carriers arrived half an hour later.

December 1st.

Carriers got away at 5 a.m., to take advantage of the flood tide the launch leaving an hour or so later. Picked up canoes at a camp of the OBI people. Here I went ashore to endeavour to obtain guides over to the Purari but all present denied all knowledge of any tracks or of the country at the source of the Era. Amongst the OBI people I was pleased to find two or three men of SESA which is a semi-nomadic community occupying the country between the two main arms of the ERA. Gave these men small presents of tobacco and promised them I would visit their camp as soon as possible. Our guide WAGA seemed to know many of the OBI people, who, I gather, are closely allied to the PAWAIA people of the Purari. The SESA men seemed to be similar in type to natives seen by me on the Upper Purari with the exception that instead of the usual puncture in each nostril they all had but one punctured hole on the tip of the nose. As far as I could gather from my interpreter there are no villages on the ERA above this camp and no native pads over to the Purari so it seems as if we will have to cut tracks by compass bearings. Continued up stream until 12-30 p.m., when, on account of the low condition of the water level and many snags, it seemed imprudent to go further in the launch. Our distance from GIGORI Village is estimated to be 46 miles which I think may be taken as fairly accurate seeing that the speed of the launch has been taken over a measured distance and two or three stops were made coming up for the purpose of taking the rate of the current. The launch was anchored at this point and swags prepared and camp made ashore. Before nightfall the carriers arrived.

December 2nd.

Broke camp at 7 a.m., and taking 24 carriers, 9 A.C., 2 cooks and the guide WAGA, the whole party numbering 38 embarked and proceeded up stream in the canoes. Two additional men were also taken to return down stream with the canoes when the remainder proceeded overland. Much to my surprise the river bore to the East and after paddling for 2½ hours we arrived at rapids and as there appeared to be more higher

up we decided to take to the bush rather than risk losing gear in the rapids. The canoes were therefore unloaded and sent down stream again to the "Kismet" anchorage. A short distance below this point a fine seam of coal, some 5 feet thick, was seen outcropping on the right bank of the river. This coal seems to be of very fair quality and similar to the samples picked up by me on my patrol up the Purari. If this coal should prove to be of commercial value it is exceedingly well situated for transport purposes seeing that light draught vessels could reach the seam without any difficulty. Again at the first rapid large blocks of coal were to be seen in the river bed - probably the same seam as that observed lower down the river. After re-arranging swags we started off in a due North direction over very broken country. As we had to cut tracks progress was very slow and after travelling for 2 hours we arrived at the top of a spur (800 feet) from which a good view could be obtained to the Eastward. A high range running North and South could be seen in the distance and I think this would be the range on the Vailala side of the Purari River just South of the SUBU Junction. From here we made a rapid descent into lower but still very much broken country and made camp at 3 p.m., as no halt had been made for lunch. It was a difficult matter to find suitable land on which to erect the flies so rough is the country hereabouts. Since leaving the Era two more coal seams were observed on the hill sides.

December 3rd.

Broke camp at 7 a.m., and continued our journey in a Northerly direction as much as possible. The country traversed is some of the roughest I have yet seen and judging by the eccentric angles of the rock strata I conclude that this country must have been subjected to a terrific volcanic upheaval in past ages. The rocks seem to be mostly sandstone and shales and the country in general very poorly timbered. Saw-back ridges abound, the Eastern aspect of such being, for the most part, precipitous and quite unscaleable. Eventually we dropped down into a small creek the bed of which was plentifully

strewn with huge water-worn, slippery boulders which made progress for the carriers somewhat difficult. This creek fortunately led us in the desired direction but we were much delayed by having to construct rough bridges at several places to negotiate waterfalls and other difficult places. This creek eventually led us into a larger stream running East and about 20 yard wide - probably the Era River again. After fording the stream at some convenient rapids we were faced with a sheer wall along the Northern side of the river. There appeared to be no break in the cliff so we had to make use of ladders and ropes of vine to climb to the top. After a halt for lunch we resumed and encountered much better country and made good progress along ridges which gradually increased in height as we penetrated further North. Arriving at what appeared to be the highest point of the ridge (1000 feet) we made camp for the night. A good view could be obtained from here of the mountains on the North side of the Purari.

December 4th.

Breaking camp at 7 a.m., we made a rapid descent and after a short walk again came to the Era River. Here we came across two bushmen who, on seeing us, took to their heels along the river bed. WAGA, our guide, followed them and apparently reassured them as to our intentions for they soon returned. From these men I gathered that the stream we were now on was the Era and that we had only one hill to cross before striking the headwaters of PO creek which flows into the Purari. These men stated that their village was ERERU which is on PO Creek but they were at present canoe making on the Era and their present abode was a short distance from where we were. One of these men agreed to act as guide and conduct us over to the Purari River. Proceeding along the creek bed we soon came to the houses of these men but did not delay there longer than necessary. Our guide then crossed a small spur and so into a creek bed running generally Westward. Walking was extremely difficult here on account of the many boulders and small waterfalls. At one of these

waterfalls, where it was necessary to make a bridge for the carriers, WAGA and the guide got ahead of the party and on continuing along the creek, we came upon the swag WAGA had been carrying but neither of the two natives could be found. A halt was made at this point in the hopes that WAGA would return, but he did not re-appear. This man played the same trick when I was exploring HO Creek on my Purari Patrol but on that occasion he turned up again, I was much disappointed at this as we now have to make our way over absolutely unknown country without a guide and if we do meet with natives, we will be unable to converse with them. After lunch we continued on down the creek but had to abandon it as the water became too deep. We then struck overland in a N.W., direction and later came to a much larger creek and after crossing this with no little difficulty, pitched camp on the opposite bank. Whilst erecting the flys two bushmen were seen by some of the carriers who were cutting timber in the bush. They gave the alarm but apparently the bushmen cleared out. Later on in the evening shouting was heard across the creek and I had some red calico placed in a conspicuous position but nothing further was seen of the natives.

December 5th.

Broke camp at 7 a.m., and continued our N.W., course which led us over very broken country. Having covered about 7 miles we made a sudden descent into a creek bed and as this seemed easier walking, we followed along this in the hopes that it would lead us to PO Creek. Instead of this, however, the creek bore to the S and S.W., and eventually we found that we had made a complete circle. We continued on down the creek for another mile or so and then camped. Police were then sent out down the creek to see in what direction it turned and observations were made from the top of a high tree but without much information of our surroundings being gleaned. Towards dusk the police returned and reported that the creek flowed into a big stream at no great distance from

our camp. We therefore decided to follow this big stream in the morning in the hopes that it would lead us to the Purari River.

December 6th.

An hours walk brought us to the stream found by the police yesterday. Although it seems to be going more or less in a Southerly direction it may yet turn North to the Purari. We therefore kept along the left bank of the stream and shortly came to a recently used native pad which led us up to a collection of huts which appeared to have been but recently occupied - no natives however were seen. After leaving this camp the pad ended so we again cut our own tracks but progress was very slow on account of the many deep gullies and creeks which had to be crossed. At 3-30 p.m., camp was made after which the police and carriers were set to work to cut timber for rafts and to make rough paddles as it seems likely that better progress will be made by water seeing that there is a swift current in our favour.

December 7th.

In camp. Police and carriers had three rafts completed and a goodly number of paddles before nightfall. The rafts were tested and found to be quite large enough to accomodate the whole party as well as supplies.

December 8th.

No rain fell during the night and I was disappointed to find that there was little current in the creek this morning. We embarked on the rafts, however, and commenced our journey down stream. Several natives seen in a canoe but could not induce them to come near us. Later came to rapids which were successfully negotiated and thence onwards met with more rapids at frequent intervals. Much time was wasted dragging the cumbersome rafts over these rapids and I do not estimate our progress to be more than a mile an hour. Eventually, on rounding a bend of the river, we were disgusted to find that we had returned to the place where we had formerly crossed the ERA River. It is quite obvious now that our guides wilfully mislead us as to the proximity of PO Creek - why they should have done so I cannot understand. Halted

for lunch at the crossing place whilst police and carriers dragged the rafts through the rapids which at this point were very shallow. Seeing that our rice supply is down to 6 mats and that Mr. Lane Poole was desirous of being at Kikori on the 15th to obtain fuel supplies from the "Varoe" before leaving for Vailala I decided to continue on down the ~~RA~~ rather than attempt to reach the Purari. Without guides or interpreters and with a ration supply of only 6 mats it seemed the only prudent course to adopt. After lunch we continued our journey on the rafts and met with a succession of rapids many of which were extremely difficult to negotiate. Camped at 4 p.m., and sent two A.C., and 4 carriers on in the smallest raft to ARU-U village to obtain canoes.

December 9th. Proceeded down stream on the rafts. Rough traverse of the river made. Many rapids crossed and it was fortunate that the rafts held together and the last of the rapids crossed during the afternoon without mishap. Camped at 4 p.m., a few miles above the point where we had previously left the "Kiamet".

December 10th. Heavy rain fell during the night causing a flood in the river. Found that our largest raft had been carried away so all hands set to making another. Met A.C., with 3 small canoes late in the afternoon. Camped. Sent an A.C., in the smallest canoe to GIGORI to obtain large canoes for the journey to Kikori.

December 11th. Travelling down stream all day in canoes. Sergt and balance of carriers who could not be accommodated in the canoes continued on in one raft. Arrived GIGORI Village at 7 p.m.

December 12th. Left GIGORI at 7 a.m., and travelling all day arrived at AIRD HILL at 6-20 p.m., and remained there for the night.

December 13th. Arrived back at KIKORI at 7 a.m.

(Sgt). R. A. Woodward
— Lt. R. K.

PATROL REPORT.

STATION NUMBER.

18/22-23

STATION

REPORT OF A PATROL made by

Vikori R.A. Woodward. 19 Km

to

Parasi District
 Inspection of Baroi Sawmill & establishing native plantation
 Ukirari Village.

for the purpose of

Left Station on

2nd April

Returned to Station on

12th April 1923

Number of Carriers employed

Number of Police taken

5

Name of Vessel used and of Officer in Charge

Launch Vikori - R.A. Woodward

Villages visited

No. for Report.

- (1) A sketch map of the district patrolled should accompany the report, showing, as nearly as possible, the positions of the places visited and a copy is to be made for filing on the station. The map is to be furnished whether the patrol is in a well-known district or not. If the patrol is over a route for which a map has already been sent in, a second map is not necessary. A reference to the previous report will be sufficient. If the patrol is over a route of which part has already been included in a map, a suitable sketch should be sent to enable the other places to be added to the previous map. For uniformity the map must occupy one of two sizes of paper—either the size of a half-sheet of ruled foolscap or the size of a whole or double sheet.
- (2) In the body of the report the name of the village should be followed by the name of the V.C. The number of houses and the population, as nearly as possible, should also be stated. The customs of the natives should as much as possible be noted and reported.
- (3) The Patrol Report is to be enclosed in this jacket, which, properly filled in, is to be sent to the Government Secretary immediately after each patrol.
- (4) The space below is not to be written in.
- (5) The cost of the patrol must be shown within, in the space provided.

Form 21-2000

Forwarded to the Government Secretary.

Date

19th April 1923.

R.A. Woodward

Officer in charge of station.

April 7th 1923.

Consequent upon a communication from the Commissioner for Native Affairs, I left Kikori at noon in the District launch for the purpose of making an inspection of the Native Labourers at the BAROI Sawmill. Arrived at GAWRI at 4-30 p.m. and visited the village. The GAWRI people were formerly living at the source of the creek in the middle of a mud swamp - the village being accessible by canoe only at high tide. Some months ago I instructed the V.C. - APA - to get his people to build a new village at the mouth of the creek. This has now been completed and I think the V.C. is to be complimented on the good work done. The new village has been nicely laid out and substantial platforms constructed in front of the houses - a vast improvement on the former village.

April 8th

Made a non-stop run to the Sawmill arriving there at 3 p.m.

April 9th

Carried out an inspection of the Native Labourers and found everything in order. V.Cs of EVARA and WKIARAVI arrived bringing cases for attention. Held Court N.M.

April 10th

Proceeded to the BAROI River and chained out an area of 72 acres selected for the WKIARAVI Village plantation. A little clearing work has already been done here and a few acres have been planted with coconuts. In most cases these have been planted about 6 feet apart. However, from the appearance of the few old coconut trees growing on this land I am of the opinion that this area is unsuited to the growth of coconuts so I instructed the three V.Cs who were present to continue clearing the land but not to plant any more coconuts until an Inspector had visited the plantation with a view to determining the most suitable crop to grow. The V.Cs were given a 30 foot mark and instructed to thin out the planted area so that all trees were 30 feet apart. Some 170 taxable

natives from WKIARAVI Village were present and I took the opportunity of explaining fully to these the scheme of Native Plantations and the correct method of planting coconuts. On my way back to the Sawmill I visited the land selected for the NIVARA plantation which is situated near the junction of the BAROI and WAME Rivers. ^{About two} ~~about~~ acres only have been cleared here and planted with coconuts. The V.C. was instructed to have a further area cleared but not planted until ordered to do so.

April 11th Received a message from the Rev B.T. Butcher to the effect that his engine had broken down at the entrance to the WAME River. I accordingly proceeded to his anchorage and towed his launch, the Purari, back to the Sawmill and shortly after left for Kikori with the Purari in tow. I had intended to go to Kaimari but seeing that Mr Butcher was in difficulties I decided to assist him to reach AIRD MILL so an A.C. was despatched to Kaimari to bring witnesses required to Kikori. Arrived at GAWRI that evening.

April 12th Arrived back at Kikori at 11 a.m.

Rav
Ag R.M.