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Station : Kompiam

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORT OF: KOMPIAN

ACC. NO. 496

VOL. NO: 2 1955-56

NUMBER OF REPORTS: 2.

Mr. Hayes

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN HIGHLANDS Report No. H.M.P.M. No. I of 52/56.

Patrol Conducted by S. V. WHITBROOK, PATROL OFFICER.

Area Patrolled LYNE AND TANIA.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil.

Natives 55.

Duration—From 26/4/1956 to 9/5/1956.

Number of Days 14.

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No.

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1/4/1955. (Part only of Lower Sebu)

Medical 1/4/1955. " " "

Map Reference MAP 6 4 Miles to A area.

Objects of Patrol (a) consolidation of Administration in MELIKA. (b) investigation

possibility of motor-road route from KOMBIAN to YUAT RIVER.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

1/19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £.

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £.

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

MA 30-17-13

27th February, 1957.

District Officer,
Eastern Highlands District,
Mt. Hagen.

KOPIAN P/Z No. 1 OF 1956/57

Reference is made to your 30/1-1167 of
15th January, last.

I agree with your advice to the Assistant
District Officer at Wabag. I have nothing further to
add. The lack of activity at Kopian is not typical
of other stations in your District.

(A.A. Roberts)
JW
DIRECTOR

P/A

THE DIRECTOR OF NATIVE AFFAIRS

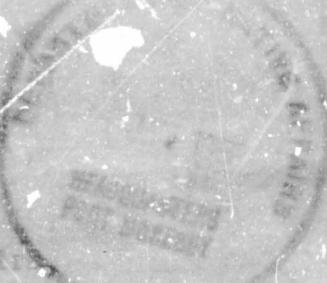
-30-17-13

File No. 3011-1169

District Office,
Count Regt.,
West m.L. Lands,
N.W.T.

Lynn Lake, 45° 25'

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs
P.M.C. 1925.



RECD. 1925 JUN 14TH 1925
A.F.S. DISTRICT OFFICE

Your P.M.C. of 20th March, 1925, was received.
Enclosed you will find the following, sent as to
you to forward the report to this Office.

This report was received on June 7, 1925, and it
was to wait in the hands of preparations for the Governor-
General's visit and the arrival of the Inspector on patrol
of the Northwest.

I drafted a telegram, with a considerable amount of other
correspondence, but this was not completed before I left on patrol.
District Officer, on my return, by the Assistant
Commissioner. Several days I intended to present you to
Governor-General, but pressure of work caused me to overlook the

It appears that, in my absence, the report was forwarded
unaccompanied by correspondence or Mr Whitehead claim for camping
allowance.

This claim, and by documents as drafted in May, 1925,
are now forwarded.

My proposal above Mr Whitehead claim for claim has been
referred to several reasons.

My documents in due course, will be presented.



DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File No. 30/1-1170

MIC
RIS.PG

District Office,
Mount Hagen,
Western Highlands District,
I. D. I.

14th January, 1957.

(Prepared 5th July, 1956.)

The Assistant District Officer,
WABAG.

Patrol Report Kompian No. 1 1955/56.
Patrol Officer G. C. Whiteoak
Lower Sep Valley.

Like the patrol itself appears to have been, the report is a particularly weak effort. It represents this Officer's first patrol since March, 1955, also to the Lower Sep area.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

The patrol instructions issued by Assistant District Officer, Wabag, were not obeyed in that no attempt at a preliminary census was made although the officer conducting the patrol reports good receptions everywhere, the people living peaceful and most anxious for the extension of Administration influence in the form of a Base Camp and Aid Post. Not even a head count was made. An estimate of "between two and three thousand people" adds nothing to our knowledge of this area and could have been made from a twenty minute flight over the area. Although I am fully aware of the dangers or undue hastiness in recording initial census, the fact remains that at no time was the patrol more than two and a half to long day's walk from Kompian - a Post which has been established for several years. In fact, the total walking time of this patrol was 11 hours 10 minutes, including "spelling time". The recording of the census usually has a most beneficial effect, even on people "vary" of Europeans and an opportunity for worthwhile consolidation appears to have been lost in this instance. Even a head count of people gathered at the various meetings would have supplied information additional to that now available.

Reference to Kompian Patrol Post Report No. 1 54/55 indicates that the "TARAKREES incident" referred to a rumour of a planned attack on that patrol received after the patrol's return to Kompian. Although every such "warning" should be borne in mind, too much credence cannot be given to unsubstantiated reports of this nature which are often relayed by groups hostile to those allegedly hostile to the Administration.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

It does no speak well for the activities of Kompian Patrol Post that only native tracks exist so close to the Station. There is no indication that any effort was made to improve this state of affairs.

The very rough "survey" of the possible motor road to the Inat does nothing to further this tentative project.

The reference to the Wabag-Kompian road appears irrelevant although it is appreciated that Mr Whiteoak has devoted a great deal of time and effort to the construction of this road. Whilst the construction of vehicular roads is of great importance it is possible for undue emphasis to be placed on this aspect to the detriment of the overall purpose of administration.

AGRICULTURE.

Please ensure that a reasonable proportion of the

vegetable seeds supplied regularly for this Sub-District are distributed in the Kampian area.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH

The alleged decline in population is an added reason for the early recording of a census. Only this way can any accurate information on population trends be made.

Although the Patrol Diary indicates that medical treatment was given at each camp, no effort has been made to list the types or numbers of treatments given so that, again, the information gained is only vague. The establishment of an AMB post will be taken in hand but is likely to have very little effect on population trends.

REST HOMES

More than one rest home should have been established by this.

BASE CAMP

This will be discussed with you at a later date.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

Although the report makes no mention of them it is presumed that there are influential men in the area and the knowledge of their names would have been of use to the next officer commanding the area. Mr Whitbeck makes repeated mention of the establishment of a Base Camp.

GENERAL

A number of other matters which should normally be included in a patrol report have been omitted and in all the patrol appears to have been a token obedience of instructions given to him by yourself and myself.

I will discuss the activities of Kampian Patrol Post with you, at some length in the near future.

Three copies of these comments are forwarded, one each for Mahag and Kampian files and one for Mr Whitbeck and information.

H. A. Linn
(R.I. READING)
District Commissioner.

c.c.
The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
Port Louis.

Forward please. I am giving consideration to the re-posting of Mr Whitbeck to a station where he will work under supervision.

This report was received on 4th July, 1956.

Mr Whitbeck's claim for compensation is attached.

H. A. Linn
District Commissioner.

14/7/57.

RECORDED

SEARCHED
INDEXED
SERIALIZED
FILED

APR 12 1968 FBI - BOSTON

I am returning this report for consideration
and assume it has been reviewed by you.

RECORDED

PBS
4/1/68

3/11/56 ✓

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT - SURVEY No. I 3/11/56.

John W. Williams

REPORT OF A PATROL :

LOWER SEP VALLEY

LEADER OF EXPEDITION :

G. V. WILLIAMS, PATEROL OFFICER.

OBJECTIVE OF PATROL :

- (a) Consolidation of Administration influence.
- (b) Ascertain practicability of motor-road route from KEPPIAN to FORT RIVER.

DATES OF PATROL :

26/3/56 - 9/4/56. 14 days.

MEMBERS OF EXPEDITION :

Sgt. No. 2336 L/Cpl. WALK.
" 277 Const. HOWEY.
" 2102 " WALK.
" 2153 " IRVING.
" 6410 " PL.
" 7643 " HESKIN.
" 7656 " MCGEE.
" 2242 " IRV.
" 2424 " PL.
" 930 " BRAY.

Interpreter

R. J. JONES.

DISCUSSION :

The main object of this patrol was to consolidate Administration influence in the Lower Sep Valley. As the Administration had only scanty knowledge of the peoples of this area, and especially taking into consideration the GAKKUS incident on the writer's last patrol to the Lower Sep, precautions were taken and night-satches kept at most camping places. However, the patrol was well received by all the native groups concerned, and was free of incident.

A rough survey was also carried out regarding a possible motor-road route from Kepian to the Fort River area.

TERITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL AIRPORT - KOMIEN No. I of 25/36.

Page 2.

MARY :

Thursday 26th. April :

Departed KOMIEN 0720 hrs. Ascended to MELILLE ridge and spelled at 0820 hrs. Descended to and crossed SIK River at 0900 hrs. by means of cane suspension bridge. Spelled on Northern bank. Ascended steeply to KAMANDA Ceremonial Ground, arriving at 1055 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. This spot overlooks the junction of Sea and Eva (famed) Rivers. Medical treatment given to local natives.

Friday 27th. April :

Departed KAMANDA 0705 hrs. Descended very steeply to EVA River and waded across at 0830 hrs. Spelled on Northern bank. Ascended steeply to INERINA Ceremonial Ground, arriving at 1145 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. Medical treatment given to local natives. Torrential rain during night - camp flooded.

Saturday 28th. April :

At YADINDA. Addressed gathering of local natives on admin. aims and policy. Further medical treatment to local natives. Talks with local headmen re patrol route etc. Demonstrations of rifle power & how and arrows given - locals much impressed.

Sunday 29th. April :

Departed YADINDA 0715 hrs. Descended to and crossed TIAKI River at 0830 hrs. Spelled on Northern bank. Ascended to INERINA Ceremonial Ground, arrived at 1015 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. Local natives addressed and medical treatment given.

Monday 30th. April :

Departed INERINA 0715 hrs. Descended to and crossed TAI River (tributary to TIAKI River) at 0830 hrs. Ascended to KOMIEN Ceremonial Ground at 0915 hrs. and camped. Purchased food. Medical treatment to local natives.

RECORD OF PAPER AND NEW SPOTTER.

PATROL REPORT - EXPEDITION No. I of 25-26.

Page 1.

MARY (cont.)

Tuesday 1st. May :

Surrounding area investigated for possible future site for Base Camp and Medical Aid Post. Suitable site found in long narrow valley (MAPALIN) between KUYUNG and San River. Local natives informed. Further medical treatment given.

Wednesday 2nd. May :

Reported KUYUNG 0710 hrs. Crossed several small tributaries to San River and arrived at TAMBANG at 1000 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. Medical treatment to local natives.

Thursday 3rd. May :

At TAMBANG. Attended meeting of local natives. Further medical treatment given. Discussions with local headmen re incident here on last patrol. Rifle demonstration.

Friday 4th. May :

Reported TAMBANG at 0715 hrs. Crossed several small tributaries to San River and arrived at KUYUNG at 1035 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. Native wanted for C.B.A. case arrested with co-operation of local natives. Medical treatment given.

Saturday 5th. May :

At KUYUNG. Talks with local headmen. Meeting of local natives addressed. Further medical treatment given.

Sunday 6th. May :

Remained at KUYUNG in order that local natives receiving medical treatment could complete their course of injections. Talks with local natives.

TERMINITY OF PATROL AND KEY POINTS.

PATROL REPORT - KONGIAN No. I of 73/56.

Page 4.

SUNDAY 7th. May :

Departed KONGIAN 0705 hrs. Descended steeply and crossed Sua River at 0930 hrs. Can bridge practically falling apart. Bridge repaired and all cargo carried by 1200 hrs. Climbed steeply to KONGIAN Caceminal ground, arriving 1400 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. Local natives interested. Medical treatment given.

MUNDAY 8th. May :

Departed KONGIANA 0805 hrs. for LINHIMAS base camp, arriving 1100 hrs. Camped and purchased food. Medical treatment to local

TUESDAY 9th. May :

Departed LINHIMAS 0740 hrs. for KONGIAN, arriving 1100 hrs. End of Patrol.

GENERAL APPRAISE :

The peoples of the areas patrolled are living peacefully, with only the "average" amount of lawlessness that is encountered in other parts of the Sub-District. Indeed, any inter-tribal fighting between these groups would be virtually suicidal, due to the greatly diminished numbers of the groups as compared to former days, and this fact is recognised by the natives concerned. These people are most anxious for a Base Camp and Medical Aid Post to be established in the lower Sua area, as they realise that practically their only hope of ever regaining their former numbers lies in receiving constant medical treatment.

The population of the Lower Sua area is estimated at between two and three thousand people, which would bring the total population of the entire Sua Valley to the vicinity of 50,000. It was not considered advisable to attempt an initial census of the Lower Sua area on this patrol - in most cases it was only the second or third times that these people had been visited, and although friendly, they were still a little "wary" of foreigners. If a combined Base Camp and Aid Post can be established in this

INVESTIGATION OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT - KOMIPIAN No. I of 5/16.

Page 3.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (cont.)

area in the near future, this would help to bring these people to the area where an initial census could be attempted by perhaps the next patrol.

There was no suggestion of a repetition of the ~~KOMIPIAN~~ incident (Komiapan 1/1 Roll of 5/35), and when mention of this incident was made to the ~~KOMIPIAN~~ people, they strongly denied any knowledge of a planned attack on the ~~KOMIPIAN~~ people by this area, and explained that these were still rather primitive natives, and their actions must have been influenced by ~~KOMIPIAN~~. Although this "Explanation" is not accepted entirely by the writer, it would appear that this group now accords Government patrols to their area as a matter of course, and no future trouble is anticipated from the ~~KOMIPIAN~~ group, or from any other group in the lower Sepi area.

The people of the KOMIPIAN area and of the MELALU Valley have frequent contact with the SARAK area of the flat slopes. Groups from the MELALU Valley divide their time between this area and the SARAK area. At the time of the patrol, there were only three representatives of the ~~KOMIPIAN~~ group in the MELALU Valley - the remainder of this group being in the SARAK area. People from the KOMIPIAN area also have contact with the groups on the flat slopes, there being a direct track from KOMIPIAN to the SEP area of the Sepi. The people of the flat slopes are also SEP speakers, and appear to have migrated there from the Sepi Valley in the past.

Some Papuan natives have migrated to the MELALU area from the Salmer River area and are at present living in peaceful co-existence with the SEP peoples.

There is little or no population between MELALU and the junction of the Sepi and Lai Rivers. This area is heavily forested, and is used only for hunting purposes.

As previously mentioned, all groups expressed the hope that a Base Camp and Aid Post be established in this area, and all volunteered for work in the construction and maintenance of the Post. A suitable site for such an establishment was found at LAPALAU, a large sandbank on the left bank of the Sepi River. This would be the ideal place for a Base Camp and Aid Post, as it is centrally situated to all groups who do not come under direct control from Komiapan. On the existing native tracks,

NOTES ON PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT - KAMPIK NO. I OF 5/56.

Page 6.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (cont.) :

IAPLIK is a hard day's walk from KAMPIK, but an improved walking track could be so routed as to nearly halve the present walking time.

With an experienced Constable and Native Medical Orderly at KAMPIK, this would do much to prove the good intentions of the Administration to the lower Sepi peoples. At present, their one urgent need is for continuous medical treatment, and if they receive this, through the medium of a Base Camp and Aid Post, their confidence in the Administration would be greatly increased. A Post at IAPLIK could readily be supplied from KAMPIK, and periodic visits would be made there by the officer at KAMPIK.

RIVER & BRIDGES:

There are no "roads" worthy of the name in the area travelled. The area is extremely mountainous and for the most part covered with heavy forest, and the native tracks at best are half walking, varying in condition from poor to very bad.

The patrol crossed two native bridges spanning the SOU River - the one near KAMPIK being a suspension type constructed of split palm stems, and offering a reasonably safe crossing. The other bridge crossed, near the junction of the SOU and TAL Rivers, is at best a shoddy affair - it is of the same suspension type, and required three hours repair work by the patrol before it was considered safe for the cargo to cross.

A rough survey was carried out with the view of routing a motor-road from KAMPIK to the SEHN area of the Finsch Highlands. From the rough survey made on this patrol, it appears that a feasible route does exist, this being as follows : Commencing at KAMPIK and following the SOU River downstream on the right-hand bank, and crossing the SOU River at a point between the SOU and TAL Rivers, and then following up the TAL Valley to the SEHN area.

POSITION OF PAUA AND NEW GUINEA.PATROL REPORT - ROUTING No. 1 of 52/50.

Page 7.

ROUTE & DISTANCE (cont.) :

This route is naturally only approximate - trouble may be experienced in bridging the San River, but this will have to be investigated more closely at a later date. This route would also pass reasonably close to the proposed Base Camp and Aid Post at LIPILAS, and would have the advantage of connecting this Camp with Kospies, as well as the SAWI area.

The Kospies - Wabaga motor-road was completed on May 15th. - a distance of approximately 35 miles. The Wabaga Landrover has successfully made the full journey from Falogo to Kospies.

AGRICULTURE

As usual in this D.M.-district, sweet potato is the staple diet, supplemented by cass, bananas, sugar cane, corn and pat-pis. A few beans and potatoes were offered to the patrol, but generally there are no European type vegetables in the area.

The slash-and-burn system of cultivation, although common in the Upper San, does not extend to the area surveyed - the ground is merely cleared and broken, and the food planted. No type of fertilisation is practised by the natives.

MEDICAL & HYGIENE

A Native Medical Officer is urgently needed for posting permanently to the Lower San area. At present, this area is only lightly populated, but the information gathered from native reports indicates that the population has been approximately halved in the last 15-18 years. In the past, tribal fighting and infectious diseases took its toll of these people, but for at least the last five years, disease has been the main killer. At every camp with the exception of KELAP, practically all of the local natives were in need of, and received, medical treatment.

Tropical ulcers and malaria appear to be the main diseases, and quite a few cases of yaws were also noticed. Several bad cases were sent to the Native Hospital at Kospies for treatment, and will have

lc

REPORT ON RIVER AND COUNTRY.

RIVER SAN - DIVISION NO. 1 OF 2522.

SECTION 1.

WELL & HEALTH (cont.)

responded well.

If these people do not receive permanent medical treatment in the very near future, there is every likelihood of the number of these groups being further diminished, with the possibility of some of the smaller groups being eventually merged out.

For some unknown reason, the health of the KELAAT people is remarkably good compared to that of their neighbors. KELAAT is roughly the same altitude as other villages in the Lower San, and the people have much the same diet, but the proportion of tall, well-built natives, free from tropical ulcers, Yaws, etc., was remarkable.

If medical aid posts could be opened at LAFIAK and LINGIAS, the lower San river would be adequately served as regards medical treatment.

REST HOUSES

The only rest house or equivalent in the area is situated at LAFIAK - will be fit and comfortable, and good accommodation is available for police and carriers. With the establishment of a rest house at the proposed Game Camp and Art Park at LAFIAK, this would be sufficient to serve the Lower San area.

From KOMBAK to the junction of the San and Sal rivers, heavy tropical rain forest predominates. The left or northern bank of the San River is more heavily timbered than the southern bank. There is a large patch of open land on the left bank of the San river at LAFIAK, but this is the only timber-less area of any size in the Lower San area.

On the Sal, the timber-line is very close to the river. River - especially so on the lower reaches of the river. Due to the

~~SEARCHED - INDEXED - SERIALIZED - FILED~~

~~SEARCHED - INDEXED - SERIALIZED - FILED 12/25/56~~

Page 9.

FOREST (cont.) :

comparatively light population; the process of garrisoning has not yet made any serious impact on the forest.

A fine stand of hemlock-spruce extends from the hill down the ridge to the San River.

Kirkland

Population
Residence

APPENDIX OF DATA AND FILE

PATROL REPORT - NOVEMBER NO. 1 OF 1940.

APPENDIX "A".

RECORD OF WORK OF THE YOUTH PATROL IN THE STATE OF NEW YORK

Rep. No. 2730 Const. HAN

An outstanding S.O.L. - Conduct and ability excellent as usual.

Rep. No. 2765 Const. HAN

Rep. No. 2771 Const. HAN

Rep. No. 2772 Const. HAN

Experienced constables who work with conduct good.

Rep. No. 6410 Const. HAN

Another experienced constable - conduct and ability above average.

Rep. No. 7641 Const. HAN

An average constable with a fair amount of ability. Conduct good.

Rep. No. 874 Const. HAN

Worked very well. Conduct and ability above average.

Rep. No. 704 Const. HAN

Worked well. Conduct good.

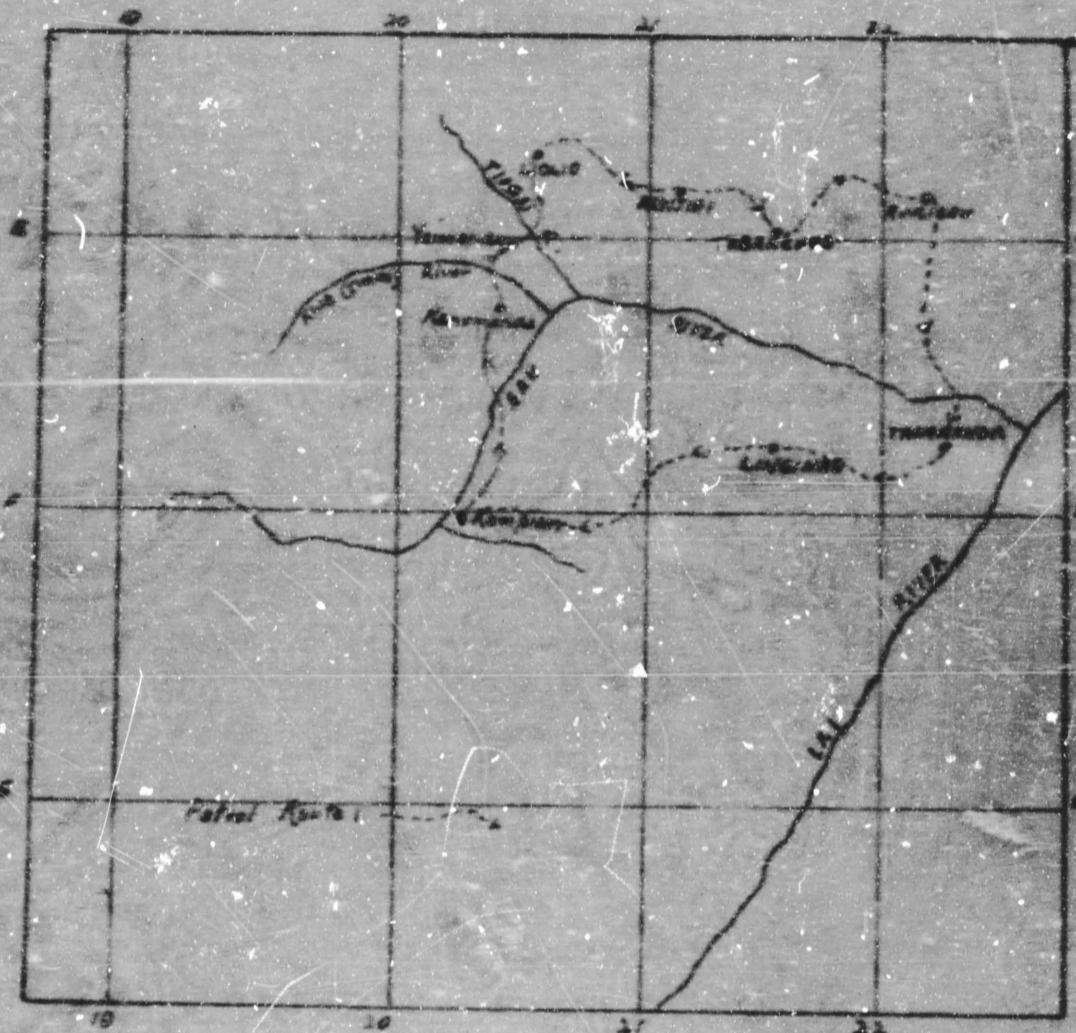
Rep. No. 826 Const. HAN

Rep. No. 776 Const. HAN

Young constables who worked well. Should develop well with experience.

Concurrent

(P. WILSON)
Patrol Officer.

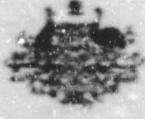


Chelan River Report No. 2 of 58/56

G. W. [unclear]
[unclear]

STORES TAKEN ON PATROL

ITEM	Amount Taken on Patrol	HOW ISSUED					Amount Remaining on Sure
		Issue to Police	Issue to Carriers	Purchase of Carriers	Purchase of Food	Hire of Carriers	
Salt	90 lbs				70		20 lbs
Rice	90 -	20					60 -
Beef	90	30	60				-
Biscuit	30	10	20				-
Beads	5 -				5		
Dambo Shell	30				8		22 lbs
Fan Fans	5				5		-



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of ... Report No. ...

Patrol Conducted by ...

Area Patrolled ...

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans ...

Natives ... 25.

Duration—From 20/4/1955 to 27/5/1955

Number of Days 14.

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? Yes

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services / 3/1955 (part only of Lower Sepik)

Medical / 2/1955

Map Reference WIDAC 4 miles to 1 inch

Objects of Patrol (a) consolidation of Administration influence, (b) ascertain
possibility of motor-road route from KAMIAK to ISAM River.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £

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

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File No. 30/1-1169

District Office,
Mount Hagen,
Western Highlands,
I.H.G.

15th January, 1957.

RIS.FG

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT Moresby.

Patrol Report Kompiam No. 1 1955/56.
Lower Sep Valley - Mr G. A. Whiteoak.

Your MA 30-1-13 of 20th December, 1956, was received without the report but, in view of the following, there is no need to forward the report to this Office.

This report was received on 4th July, 1956, at a time when we were in the throes of preparations for the Governor-General's visit and shortly before my own departure on a patrol to the Jimi River.

I drafted my comments, with a considerable amount of other correspondence, but typing was not completed before I left on patrol. Other correspondence was signed, on my behalf, by the Assistant District Officer and I presumed that this also had been signed and despatched. Several times I intended to request you to forward your comments, but pressure of work led me to overlook the matter until receipt of your memo.

It appears that, in my absence, the report was forwarded unaccompanied by correspondence or Mr Whiteoak's claim for camping allowance.

This claim, and my comments as drafted in July, 1956, are now forwarded.

My proposal to move Mr Whiteoak from Kompiam has been deferred for several reasons.

Your comments in due course, will be appreciated.


(R. I. SKINNER)
District Commissioner.

TERRITORY OF PATERL AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT - MARCH 1956 - NO. 2.

NAME OF PATROL TO : LOWER SAG VALLEY.

NAME OF COMMANDING OFFICER : C. V. MITCHELL, PATROL OFFICER.

OBJECTS OF PATROL : (a) Consolidation of Administration influence.
(b) Ascertain possibility of motor-road from KEMPION to WEST RIVER.

DURATION OF PATROL : 26/4/56 - 2/5/56. 14 days.

ARMED GUARDIANES : Reg. No. 7386 1/Cpl. WILKINSON.
* * 877 Const. HARRIS.
* * 8105 * HARRIS.
* * 8150 * FRASER.
* * 6026 * FERGUSON.
* * 7947 * HARRIS.
* * 7856 * HARRIS.
* * 8254 * DALTON.
* * 9206 * HARRIS.
* * 9366 * WILKINSON.

Interpreter SHAWAU

INTRODUCTION :

The main object of this patrol was to consolidate Administration influence in the Lower Sag Valley. As the Administration had only scanty knowledge of the peoples of this area, and especially taking into consideration the TAPUKKERS incident on the writer's last patrol to the Lower Sag, precautions were taken and night-watches kept at most camping places. However, the patrol was well received by all the native groups concerned, and was free of incidents.

A rough survey was also carried out regarding a possible motor-road route from Kempion to the West River area.

REVIEW OF RAPHA AND NEW CHURCH.

TRAVEL REPORT - TRIPLET No. 1 of 75/6.

Page 2.

SUNDAY 24th April :

Sunday 24th April :

Reported KIRKIAN 0720 hrs. Ascended to INGILIK ridge and spelled at 0825 hrs. Descended to and crossed TAK River at 0930 hrs. by means of one suspension bridge. Spelled on Northern bank. Ascended steeply to KIRKIAN Ceremonial Ground, arriving at 1055 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. This spot overlooks the junction of the two rivers (TAK & KIRKIAN). Medical treatment given to local natives.

Sunday 24th April :

Reported KIRKIAN 0735 hrs. Descended very steeply to TAK River and walked across at 0830 hrs. Spelled on Northern bank. Ascended steeply to KIRKIAN Ceremonial Ground, arriving at 1145 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. Medical treatment given to local natives. Intermittent rain during night - camp flooded.

Sunday 24th April :

At KIRKIAN. Addressed gathering of local natives on Administration and policy. Further medical treatment to local natives. Talks with local headmen re patrol route etc. Demonstration of rifle shot power w bows and arrows given - locals much impressed.

Sunday 24th April :

Reported KIRKIAN 0715 hrs. Descended to and crossed TAK River at 0820 hrs. Spelled on Northern bank. Ascended to LIGLED Ceremonial Ground, arriving at 1015 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. Local natives addressed and medical treatment given.

Sunday 24th April :

Reported LIGLED 0710 hrs. Descended to and crossed TAK River (tributary to KIRKIAN River) at 0810 hrs. Ascended to KIRKIAN Ceremonial Ground at 0915 hrs. and camped. Purchased food. Medical treatment to local natives.

INVENTORY OF PAPER AND FILE CLOTHES.

ROCK RIVER - APPROX. NO. 1 of 55-55

Page 3.

NAME (cont.)

Sunday 1st. May :

Surrounding area investigated for possible future site for base camp and medical aid post. Suitable site found in large brush patch (LAVALIN) between MURKIN and San River. Local natives addressed. Further medical treatment given.

Monday 2nd. May :

Reported MURKIN 0700 hrs. Crossed several small tributaries to San River and arrived at MURKIN at 1030 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. Medical treatment to local natives.

Tuesday 3rd. May :

At MURKIN. Addressed meeting of local natives. Further medical treatment given. Discussions with local headmen re incident here on last patrol. R.I.C.A. communication.

Wednesday 4th. May :

Reported MURKIN at 0715 hrs. Crossed several small tributaries to San River and arrived at MURKIN at 1035 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. Native wanted for C.N.A. case arrested with co-operation of local natives. Medical treatment given.

Thursday 5th. May :

At MURKIN. Talks with local headmen. Meeting of local natives addressed. Further medical treatment given.

Friday 6th. May :

Remained at MURKIN in order that local natives receiving medical treatment could complete their course of injections. Talks with local natives.

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DISCUSSION OF PATROL AND NEW CAMP.

ARMED REPORT - KUNIWA No. I of 22/26.

Page 4

MARY (cont.)

Sunday 7th. Nov. :

Reported KUNIWA 0705 hrs. Descended steeply and reached Sun River at 0930 hrs. Came bridge practically falling apart. Bridge repaired and all cargo crossed by 1230 hrs. Climbed steeply to TAGASERA Ceremonial ground, arriving 1400 hrs. Made camp and purchased food. Local natives addressed. Medical treatment given.

Monday 8th. Nov. :

Reported TAGASERA 0705 hrs. for ALIMMAS Base Camp, arriving 1100 hrs. Camped and purchased food. Medical treatment to locals.

Tuesday 9th. Nov. :

Reported LIPINAS 0740 hrs. for KUNIWA, arriving 1100 hrs.
End of Patrol.

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MARY ANALYSIS :

The peoples of the areas patrolled are living peacefully, with only the "average" amount of hostilities that is encountered in other parts of the Sub-District. Indeed, any inter-tribal fighting between these groups would be virtually minimal, due to the greatly diminished numbers of the groups as compared to former days, and this fact is recognised by the headmen concerned. These people are most anxious for a New Camp and Medical Aid Post to be established in the Lower Sun area, as they realise that practically their only hope of ever regaining their former numbers lies in receiving constant medical treatment.

The population of the Lower Sun area is estimated at between two and three thousand people, which would bring the total population of the entire Sun Valley to the vicinity of 10,000. It was not considered advisable to attempt an initial census of the Lower Sun area on this patrol - in most cases it was only the second or third time that these people had been visited, and although friendly, they were still a little "shy" of Europeans. If a combined Base Camp and Aid Post can be established in this

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT - KEMPPIE No. I of '54/55.

Page 5.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (cont.)

area in the near future, this would help to bring these people to the stage where an initial census could be attempted by perhaps the next patrol.

There was no suggestion of a repetition of the TABAKKOS incident (Kempie P/I No.1 of '54/55), and when mention of this incident was made to the TABAKKOS people, they strongly denied any knowledge of a projected attack on the writer's last patrol to this area, and explained that they were still rather primitive natives, and their actions must have been misconstrued. Although this "explanation" is not accepted seriously by the writer, it would appear that this group now accepts Government patrols to their area as a matter of course, and no future trouble is anticipated from the TABAKKOS group, or from any other group in the Lower Sepi area.

The people of the EKAMBI area and of the TIAGAI Valley have frequent contact with the SAHE area of the Fust slopes. Groups from the TIAGAI Valley divide their time between this area and the SAHE area. At the time of the patrol, there were only three representatives of the EKAMBI group in the TIAGAI Valley - the remainder of this group being in the SAHE area. People from the SAHE area also have contact with the groups on the Fust slopes, there being a direct track from MURIKAB to the SEP area of the Fust. The people of the Fust slopes are also SWA speakers, and appear to have migrated there from the Sep Valley in the past.

Some Engan natives have migrated to the MURIKAB area from the Milir River area and are at present living in peaceful co-existence with the Sep peoples.

There is little or no population between MURIKAB and the junction of the Sep and Lai Rivers. This area is heavily forested, and is used only for hunting purposes.

As previously mentioned, all groups expressed the hope that a Base Camp and Aid Post be established in the area, and all volunteered for work in the construction and maintenance of the Post. A suitable site for such an establishment was found at LAPALAK, a large hamai patch on the left bank of the Sep River. This would be the ideal place for a Base Camp and Aid Post, as it is centrally situated to all groups who do not come under direct contact from Kempie. On the existing native tracks,

TERITORY OF PAIGA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT - KEMPION No. 1 of 55/56.

Page 6.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (cont.) :

LAPALAN is a hard day's walk from KEMPION, but an improved walking track could be so routed as to nearly halve the present walking time.

With an experienced Constable and Native Medical Orderly at LAPALAN, this would do much to prove the good intentions of the Administration to the lower Sep people. At present, their one urgent need is for continuous medical treatment, and if they receive this, through the medium of a Base Camp and Aid Post, their confidence in the administration would be greatly increased. A Post at LAPALAN could easily be supplied from KEMPION, and periodic visits would be made there by the officer at KEMPION.

TRADE & MIGRANTS :

There are no "roads" worthy of the name in the area patrolled. The area is extremely mountainous and for the most part covered with heavy forest, and the native tracks at best are hard walking, varying in condition from poor to very bad.

The patrol crossed two native bridges spanning the Sep River - the one near KEMPION being a suspension type constructed of saplings and cane, and affording a reasonably safe crossing. The other bridge crossed, near the junction of the Sep and Lai Rivers, was at best a shaky affair - it is of the suspension type, and required three hours repair work by the patrol before it was considered safe for the cargo to cross.

A rough survey was carried out with the view of routing a motor-road from KEMPION to the SANM area of the Yunt slopes. From the rough survey made on this patrol, it appears that a feasible route does exist, this being as follows : Commencing at KEMPION and following the Sep River downstream on the right-hand bank, and crossing the Sep River at a point between the Lai and TIBDAL Rivers, and then following up the TIAGAI Valley to the SANM area.

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DIARY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT - KOMPIAN No. 1 of 22/20.

Page 7.

ROADS & TRANSPORT (cont.) :

This route is naturally only speculative - trouble may be experienced in bridging the Ria River, but this will have to be investigated more closely at a later date. This route would also pass reasonably close to the General Store Corp and Aid Post at LIPUNG, and would have the advantage of connecting this Camp with Kompien, as well as the SABAI area.

The Kompien - Yalanga motor-road was completed on May 15th. - a distance of approximately 77 miles. The Dodge Landrover has successfully made the full journey from Unagai to Kompien.

FOOD & DRINK :

As usual in this P.D.-District, sweet potato is the staple diet, supplemented by cass, bananas, sugar cane, corn and pit-pit. A few beans and potatoes were offered to the patrol, but generally there are no European type vegetables in the area.

The hand-spared system of cultivation, although common in the Upper Sepi, does not extend to the areas patrolled - the ground is merely cleared and broken, and the food planted. No type of fertilization is practised by the natives.

MEDICAL & SANITATION :

A Native Medical Orderly is urgently needed for posting permanently to the Lower Sepi area. At present, this area is only lightly populated, but the information gathered from native reports indicates that the population has been approximately halved in the last 10-15 years. In the past, tribal fighting has doubtless taken its toll of these people, but for at least the last five years, disease has been the main killer. At every camp with the exception of KIBILAU, practically all of the local natives were in need of, and received, medical treatment.

Tropical ulcers and malaria appear to be the main diseases, and quite a few cases of yaws were also noticed. Several bad cases were sent to the Native Hospital at Kompien for treatment, and all have

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INVENTORY OF FAIRLY AND FAIR CHIEFS.

FAIRY REPORT - RUMPHIEN NO. 1 of 25/2.

Page 8.

MEDICAL & HEALTH (cont.) :

responded well.

If these people do not receive permanent medical treatment in the very near future, there is every likelihood of the numbers of these groups being further diminished, with the possibility of one or two smaller groups being eventually wiped out.

For some unknown reason, the health of the SHILINU people is remarkably good compared to that of their neighbours. SHILINU is roughly the same altitude as other places in the Lower Sun, and the people have much the same diet, but the proportion of tall, well-built natives, free from tropical ulcers, yaws, etc., was remarkable.

If Medical Aid Posts could be opened at LAPALAN and LINGINAS, the Lower Sun area would be adequately served as regards medical treatment.

REST HOUSES :

The only rest house at present in the area is situated at LINGINAS - this is in good condition, and ample accommodation is available for police and carriers. With the establishment of a rest house at the proposed Base Camp and Aid Post at LAPALAN, this would be sufficient as regards the Lower Sun area.

FORESTS :

From Iompiem to the junction of the Sun and the River, heavy tropical rain forest predominates. The left or northern bank of the Sun River is more heavily timbered than the southern bank. There is a large patch of ever-green on the left bank of the Sun River at LAPALAN, but this is the only timber-line area of any size in the Lower Sun area.

On the whole, the timber-line is very close to the Sun River - especially so on the lower reaches of the river. Due to the

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FOREST OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PAPUA FOREST - DAY 100 NO. 1 OF 5250.

Page 2

FOREST (cont.)

comparatively light population, the process of gardening has not yet made any serious inroads on the forest.

A fine stand of hoop-pine extends from MURISA down the ridge to the sea shore.

Richard

(G. W. Richards
Patrol Officer.

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC AND HIGHWAYS.

FAIRVIEW REPORT - HIGHWAY No. 1 at W.L.C.

APPENDIX "A".

REPORT OF INSPECTION OF THE STATE HIGHWAY AND HIGHWAY INSPECTOR:

Mr. H. J. COOK, C.E., D.M.

An outstanding N.C.S. - conduct and ability excellent as usual.

Mr. H. H. 2105 Const. Eng.
Mr. H. H. 177 Const. Eng.
Mr. H. H. 2123 Const. Eng.

Experience considerable who worked well.
Conduct good.

Mr. H. H. 602 Const. Eng.

Other experienced constables - conduct and ability above average.

Mr. H. H. 102 Const. Eng.

An average constable with a fair amount of ability. Conduct good.

Mr. H. H. 504 Const. Eng.

Worked very well. Conduct and ability above average.

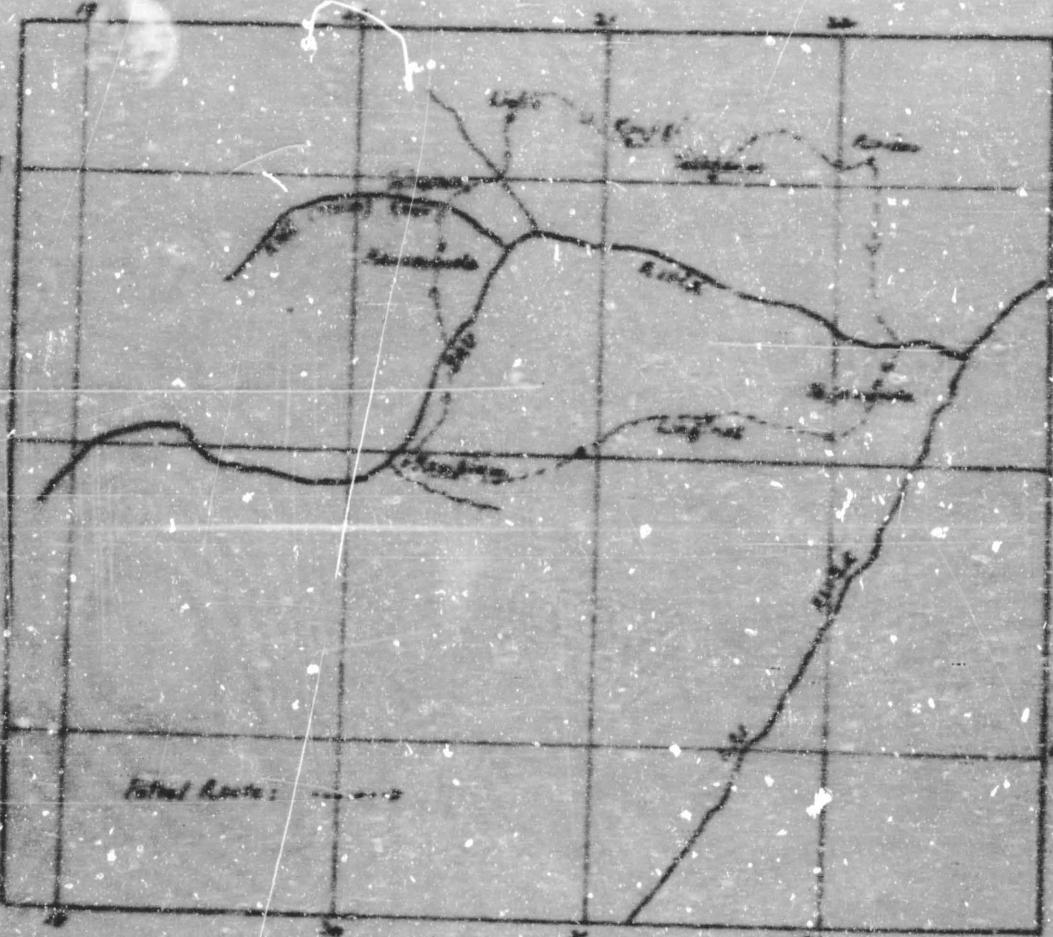
Mr. H. H. 105 Const. Eng.

Worked well. Conduct good.

Mr. H. H. 226 Const. Eng.
Mr. H. H. 214 Const. Eng.

Young constables who worked well. Should develop well with experience.

for me
.....
(C. Whitman)
Faded without.



Karpion Blvd. April 1st 1950

G. H. G.

STORES TAKEN ON PATROL

ITEM	Amount Taken on Patrol	HOW ISSUED					Amount Kept in Stores
		Issues to Police	Issues to Carriers	Payment of Carriers	Purchase of Food	Fines of Carcers	
Salt	90 lbs.				70		20 lbs.
Rice	90	50					60 -
Wheat	90 -	30	60				-
Biscuit	30 -	10	20				-
Beads	5 -				5		-
Indian Staff	30 -				8		22 lbs.
Face Paint	5 -				5		-