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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: EAST SEPIK

STATION: AMBOIN

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1965 - 1966

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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EAST SEPIK DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1965/1966

A M B O I N

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
1 - 1965/1966	P.L. Tatterson	Arafundi River- part Karawari Census Div.
2 - 1965/1966	P.L. Tatterson	Karawari Census Div.
3 - 1965/1966	D. van R. Claasen	Wogupmeri River
4 - 1965/1966	D. van R. Claasen	Populated Tributaries Korosa- mer River
5 - 1965/1966	D. van R. Claasen	Wogupmeri River



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. Anboin Patrol 1-65.66

Patrol Conducted by P.L. Tatterson Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled ARAFUNDI River Part KARAWARI Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans No

Natives Five Members R.P & N:G:C

Duration—From 23/8/1965 to 12/9/1965

Number of Days Twenty one (21)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 6/1964

Medical 4/1965 (Part only)

Map Reference As per attached map

Objects of Patrol Contact MEAKAMBUI, Consolidation of influence, Census revision and routine administration

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

District Commissioner

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

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

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

.....

.....

.....

e Pop

Over 13	Females in Child Birth
M	F

67-8-18

17th December, 1965.

District Commissioner,
Sepik District,
NEW A.K.

AMBOIN PATROL REPORT NO. 1/1965-66:

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of a Patrol Report by Mr. Tatterson covered by your memorandum 67-3-12/921 of 27th October, 1965.

The comments of both yourself and Mr. McCabe have been noted.

3. Mr. Tatterson has finished a good patrol and has produced a very interesting and informative report. He is showing an intelligent interest in native affairs field work and therefore I would like you to encourage this young officer to continue his improvement.

4. It is a pity the Meakumbi people fled before the patrol arrived at their habitat. I think the next attempt to contact them should be through Papiugus Village, which apparently is on friendly terms with them.

5. It is quite time that more regular contact with these isolated groups is desirable, but communications do appear difficult.

(J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.



67-8-18 ✓ (11)

67-3-12/921

Department of District Administration,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

27th October, 1965.

~~The Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-district Office,
ANGORAM.~~

AMBOIN PATROL No. 1 of 1965/66.

Thank you for the report of the above numbered patrol conducted by Mr. P.L. Tatterson, of a patrol of the ARAFUNDI River in the Karawari Census Division.

This is a good report and it has been adequately dealt with by your comments.

E.G. Hicks
E.G. HICKS, *la*
a/DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

→ c.c. The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBU.

67-1-2/327

Dept. Dist. Administration.
Sub District Office,
ANGORAM.

13th October, 1965.

The District Commissioner,
Sepik District
WEWAK.

Amboin Patrol No. 1/65-66 - Arafundi River,
Karawari Division.

Please find enclosed report by Mr. P.L. Tatterson,
Patrol Officer, covering a patrol of the Arafundi River.

This was an attempted initial contact of MEAKUMBI,
which proved unsuccessful, and consolidation of influence
towards other groups south of IMBOIN village, which was
achieved.

The flight of the Meakuabi is no doubt correctly
attributed by the O.I.C. to fear of treachery on the part
of the IMBOIN people. I agree that the next attempt to
contact the group should be through PUNDUGUM village.
There would appear to be no urgency in the matter as law and
order appears to be accepted.

The O.I.C. is being advised to exercise patience in
expecting these semi-nomadic groups to settle at villages.
It is not reasonable to expect them to change their age-old
habits almost overnight, and we cannot be sure that the
benefits of "centralization" are all-embracing. On the other
hand, undue isolation also has to be countered, as a matter
of simple welfare.

The progress of IMBOIN village is heartening.

Health & Hygiene. The notes will be passed to the Medical
Officer. Shortage of orderly staff has prevented one
being available for patrol, which is a great pity, as good
orderlies exercise a health education role in addition to
their practical work.

Mr. Tatterson did well to issue remedial instructions
for sanitation - the sooner a start is made the better.

The O.I.C. is constantly looking for and encouraging
avenues of economic development: timber earns the immediate
cash, whilst coconuts are a possible future income. subject
to transport costs.

I agree with the conclusion of Mr. Tatterson that more
regular contact with these isolated groups is desirable, but
as he pointed out communications are definitely difficult.

Not spectacular, but a carefully conducted useful
patrol, laying the basis for progressive future work in the
area.

B.A. McCabe
.....
B.A. McCabe,
Asst. Dist. Commissioner



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

15

Telegrams
Telephone
Our Reference.....67.m.1.....
If calling ask for
Mr.....

Amboin Patrol Post,
Angoram Sub-District,
SEPIK DISTRICT.

17th September, 1965.

The Assistant District Commissioner,
ANGORAM.

AMBOIN PATROL No. 1 - 65/66

Patrol Conducted by: F.L. Tatterson Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled: ARAFUNDI river - KARAWARI Census Division

Personnel Accompanying: Constable 1/c - OMAKAN
Const. 5th yr - UNTUNAN
Const. 5th yr - GERABE
Const. 5th yr - KALAI
Const. 5th yr - SAIPOI

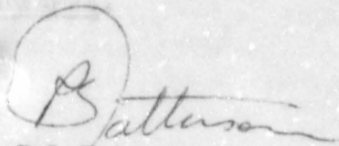
Duration of Patrol: 23/8/65 to 12/9/65

Number of Days: Twenty One (21)

Last Patrol to Area: D.D.A - June 1964
D.A.S.F- January 1965 (Part Only)
P.H.D - April 1965 (Part Only)

Map reference: As per attached map

Objects of Patrol: Contact MEAKAMBUI
Consolidation of influence
Census revision
Familiarization with area
Routine administration


P.L. Tatterson
Patrol Officer.

Introduction:

The area patrolled comprises the south eastern section of the KARAWARI Census Division extending south from Amboin Patrol Post and east from the KARAWARI river.

Geographically the area lies partially within the flood plain of the ARAFUNDI river and partially in the foothills of the Central Highlands. In the north of the area there are vast areas of lakes - notably the YIMAS lakes - that extend either side of the river, while in the south are mountains that rise almost to 6000'. The most impressive feature of the mountains is the large number of sheer rock faces to be seen, some of these cement like faces are over 1000' high. Over these rock faces plunge numerous small waterfalls.

The creeks and rivers of the area are swift flowing and usually shallow, although in places the ARAFUNDI river is several feet deep and difficult to cross. All waterways flow along boulder strewn beds and slippery rocks make crossing hazardous at times. All creeks eventually join the ARAFUNDI river which in turn joins the KARAWARI river.

Vegetation in the area is mainly tropical rain forest with areas of sago palm in the low lying areas. Vegetation on the mountains is quite dense.

The main object of the patrol was to contact the MEAKAMBUI group who were believed to be living in the mountains south of IMBOIN. Other objects were to consolidate influence over the less developed villages of PUNDUGUM, AVIEMI and ARAMBRO, carry out routine administrative duties and to familiarize myself with the area.

ooooOoooo

Diary:Monday 23rd August 1965.

0900 Departed Amboin Patrol Post
1300 Arrived YIMAS

After waiting in vain for extra police to arrive from Angoram left the station by paddle canoe, the ARAFUNDI river level was too low to use a motor canoe.

1400 Departed YIMAS
1545 Arrived WABLAMAS
Spent night at WABLAMAS.

Tuesday 24th August 1965.

At WABLAMAS

Awaited Angoram police before proceeding. Village inspection, instructions issued in regard to housing and sanitation. Arranged for carriers and for men to paddle canoes to YAMANDIM. Spent night at WABLAMAS.

Wednesday 25th August 1965.

0830 Departed WABLAMAS
1130 Arrived YAMANDIM

Departed WABLAMAS by paddle canoe, river too low making

it necessary for men to pull the canoes by hand at times. Talks with village officials to arrange carriers for the patrol. Village inspected, instructions issued regarding village cleanliness, housing and sanitation. Minor illnesses treated.

Spent night at YAMANDIM

Thursday 26th August 1965.

0900 Departed YAMANDIM
1400 Arrived IMBOIN

Travel by paddle canoe to IMBOIN possible so there was no need for carriers on this leg. At IMBOIN, talks with V/Os of IMBOIN regarding MEAKAMBUI.

Spent night at IMBOIN

Friday 27th August 1965.

At IMBOIN.

Luluai of PUNDUGUM and Tul tul of AVIEMI (MIDAMBUT) arrived with news that they had contacted the MEAKAMBUI and had left men with them to bring them to a camp known as ELIPA. Held informal talks with local village officials. Organised carriers for the walk to ELIPA. Spent night IMBOIN

Saturday 28th August 1965

At IMBOIN.

Decided to remain at IMBOIN as I had an infected foot and could not walk, also to give the MEAKAMBUI time to come to ELIPA. The two PUNDUGUM men who were left with the MEAKAMBUI arrived with the information that the villagers had fled during the night of Friday. Talks with these men to ascertain as to what had occurred and where the MEAKAMBUI had fled to.

Spent night at IMBOIN.

Sunday 29th August 1965.

Observed at IMBOIN.

Monday 30th August 1965.

0800 Departed IMBOIN

Travelled south from IMBOIN till meeting the ARAFUNDI river, crossed the river. Travelled till meeting MAMBUNGAM creek. Followed the left bank of this creek southwards. Several times crossed to the right bank and back to the left bank. After leaving IMBOIN followed rough IMBOIN hunting track, later followed track made by the Luluai of PUNDUGUM when he returned from ELIPA to IMBOIN. Soon after 1100 undulating country encountered. At 1400 established camp on a small hill beside the MAMBUNGAM creek. Guards posted, spent night in camp.

Tuesday 31st August 1965.

0800 myself with police and Luluai of PUNDUGUM -acting as guide- left the camp. Followed the MAMBUNGAM creek along a MEAKAMBUI hunting track. At 0900 crossed the MAMBUNGAM creek. Found a small camp site on the creek bank. The MEAKAMBUI had used this camp and had slept under a large overhanging rock. Proceeded travelling now at rightangles to the creek and climbing. Reached another small clearing where the MEAKAMBUI had cooked food. Sent men from PUNDUGUM on up to ELIPA to see if the villagers were present. They

returned and informed that the camp was deserted. Proceeded to ELIPA arriving at 0930. Inspected ELIPA noting that the villagers had left behind some of their personal belongings. Despatched two PUNDUGUM men to the next MEAKAMBUI camp to see if the people had not simply moved back to it. The rest of the group returned to the camp, following the MAMBUNGAM creek. Arrived back at camp at 1215. Guards set, spent night in camp.

Wednesday 1st September 1965.

0815 Broke camp and returned to IMBOIN
1230 Arrived IMBOIN.
Spent night at IMBOIN

Thursday 2nd September 1965.

0800 Departed IMBOIN
1200 Arrived SUNGUM camp

Actual walking time $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Luluai of ARAMBRO at SUNGUM with most of the villagers so it was decided to line them at SUNGUM. Word sent to the hamlet AMANGAU to get the remaining people to come to SUNGUM. Talks with Luluai of ARAMBRO.
Spent night at SUNGUM.

Friday 3rd September 1965.

Census revised, 60% of population actually seen. Talks with village men about the establishment of a permanent village. Medical inspection.
Spent night at SUNGUM

Saturday 4th September 1965.

0725 Broke camp and departed SUNGUM camp
1025 Arrived at WAKAU camp (ANDAMBUT village hamlet)

Travelled along a new road following the ARAFUNDI river. As all ANDAMBUT villagers assembled at WAKAU decided to remain there for census revision. Census revised. 93% of village seen. Spent night at WAKAU

Sunday 5th September 1965.

Observed at WAKAU

Monday 6th September 1965

0700 Departed WAKAU
1100 Arrived PUNDUGUM

Brief stop at ANDAMBUT on route. At PUNDUGUM held talks with the Luluai and some of the villagers who went to the Mt Hagen show. Census not revised as all villagers not present.
Spent night at PUNDUGUM

Tuesday 7th September 1965

At PUNDUGUM

Talks with Luluai and tul tul of AVIEMI (ANDAMBUT) in regard to the establishment of a permanent ANDAMBUT village. Census revised. Further talks with the Luluai. Food purchased. Spent night at PUNDUGUM.

Wednesday 8th September 1965.

0700 Departed PUNDUGUM
 1030 Arrived WAKAU
 1100 Departed WAKAU
 1300 Arrived SUNGUM camp

Foods purchased from ARAMERO villagers.
 Spent night at SUNGUM.

Thursday 9th September 1965.

0715 Departed SUNGUM camp
 1110 Arrived IMBOIN

Paid off carriers from PUNDUGUM, AVIEMI and IMBOIN.
 Talks with village officials of IMBOIN.

1200 Departed IMBOIN
 1545 Arrived YAMANDIM

Departed IMBOIN by paddle canoe. Paid off YAMANDIM
 carriers. Spent night at YAMANDIM.

Friday 10th September 1965.

0800 Departed YAMANDIM
 1030 Arrived AUWIM

Departed YAMANDIM by paddle canoe. canoes left about
 25 minutes from the village and the patrol walked the remainder
 of the way. Talks with village officials about location of
 ISANGAN people. Diarrhoea outbreak in the village - medicines
 issued to all sufferers. Village inspected. Instructions issued
 to improve village sanitation. AUWIM carriers paid off.
 Spent night at AUWIM.

Saturday 11th September 1965.

0730 Departed AUWIM
 1030 Arrived YIMAS

Brief stop at WABLAMAS to change to YIMAS canoes.
 Amboin motor met patrol at YIMAS. Talks with village officials.
 Talks on economic development.
 Spent night at YIMAS.

Sunday 12th September 1965.

0800 Departed YIMAS
 0900 Arrived AMBOIN

Travelled from YIMAS to Amboin by powered canoe.
 Patrol stood down.

End of Diary

Native Affairs:

The main aim of the patrol - to contact the MEAKAMBUI group - was not achieved as the people fled before the patrol could reach them. It is believed that they fled to the area at the head of the YUAT River occupied by the TUNGUM group - some five days walk from the ARAFUNDI river. The MEAKAMBUI people had three days start on the patrol and as the patrol had insufficient rations for an extra fortnight in the bush, it was decided not to attempt to follow them. However the patrol did visit the camp, known as ELIPA, from which they fled, to ensure that they had indeed gone.

It was considered necessary to contact the MEAKAMBUI group on this patrol as they had recently caused some unrest among the villages at the head of the ARAFUNDI river. It appears that two old women from MEAKAMBUI died and the people thought that their deaths had been caused by villagers from either AVIEMI or IMBOIN who had worked witchcraft against them. The MEAKAMBUI then started to watch gardens belonging to those two villages, which caused the IMBOIN and AVIEMI people some worry as they thought the MEAKAMBUI intended to attack gardening parties. They also started to steal food from the gardens and stole a pig from a trap set by the IMBOIN people. It was thought that some serious trouble could develop so an effort was made to contact the MEAKAMBUI group.

Before the patrol left Amboan the Luluai of PUNDUGUM decided that he would contact the MEAKAMBUI group and move them to a camp nearer IMBOIN at which they would be contacted. He made contact with the group and convinced them that his intentions were honourable by exchanging his trousers ?! for a woven string apron with one of the villagers. He then returned to IMBOIN and found the patrol at that village, leaving two PUNDUGUM villagers to bring the MEAKAMBUI people to a camp known as ELIPA. The following Saturday the two men came to IMBOIN stating that the MEAKAMBUI had fled.

The two PUNDUGUM men succeeded in moving the MEAKAMBUI people to ELIPA, and once they had them established there commenced to cut a track along which the patrol could travel. When they returned to ELIPA in the afternoon they found only three men in the camp, the other all having fled. These men told them that their group was afraid and were fleeing to the TUNGAM area, at the same time stating that they would return in some months and then they would be prepared to be contacted. They also said that the patrol was not to come to ELIPA after them and that the next patrol to contact them should come from PUNDUGUM and not from IMBOIN.

It appears that the main reason for their fleeing was their fear of the IMBOIN people. These two groups are traditional enemies and at the moment the IMBOIN people 'owe' the MEAKAMBUI two killings. The last time they fought the MEAKAMBUI killed two IMBOIN men. Fear that this was a trap and that the IMBOIN and PUNDUGUM villagers were planning to trap them caused the MEAKAMBUI to flee. Lulling ones enemies into a false sense of security and then attacking is a favourite method among these people. Also by stipulating that they be contacted by a patrol coming from PUNDUGUM strengthens the argument that it was fear of the IMBOIN people that caused the MEAKAMBUI to flee.

As stated above the patrol did move to ELIPA to check that the people had indeed fled. No trace of any persons was found but some personal goods had been left behind indicating that they would return at some stage. The most interesting find was three axes. Apparently the MEAKAMBUI people had obtained them from the TUNGAM people who in turn obtained them from villages in the Western Highlands that have already been contacted.

The PUNDUGUM men report that the MEAKAMBUI group numbers about 20 adults.

It is recommended that the next attempt to contact this group originate from PUNDUGUM rather than IMBOIN thus giving the villagers no grounds for fear of an attack. It is possible that when the MEAKAMBUI return from the TUNGAM area they may bring some of the latter to meet the patrol. The TUNGAM people have once before travelled to the ARAFUNDI area to be contacted and could possibly do so again.

The more recently contacted villages of this area - PUNDUGUM, AVIEMI and ARAMBRO - are beginning to establish permanent villages but there are still a large number of people still remaining in small bush camps. Many of these people have never been sighted at a census revision. A total of 33 persons - 17 from PUNDUGUM and 16 from ~~XXXXXXXX~~ ARAMBRO - were not seen at census by this patrol or by the previous patrol to the area in 1964. This is some 18% of the total population of the three villages. The absentees from PUNDUGUM are apparently living in a camp south of the village and refuse to move to the village saying that they have no wish to settle down at that site.

The AVIEMI people although now living at a new camp known as WAKAU say that they will establish a permanent settlement at ANDAMBUT. This is a small group but the people have no desire to move from their own area to join with another village.

The PUNDUGUM group who had previously indicated that they would move from their present site to join with the AVIEMI group, have changed their minds. They now state that they will remain at their present location. The people have constructed a rest house and a police barracks for use by patrols. This group has more regular contact with WABAG in the Western Highlands than with Ambain as their fear of water prevents them from coming to the latter station. The A.D.C WABAG has issued the village with spades. Patrols from WABAG do not visit the village but the people are regular visitors to that station.

Six men from PUNDUGUM recently attended the Mt Hagen show, at the invitation of the A.D.C WABAG, and were most impressed. Four young men from this village returned with the patrol to Ambain so that they may learn to speak Pidgin English.

The ARAMBRO group who were previously living at AMANGAU have now decided to settle at the site known as ARAMBRO. This group is the most backward of all three villages with some 40% of the villagers spending their time wandering in the area between the ARAFUNDI and KARAWARI river and living in small bush camps.

All village officials in these villages were asked to attempt to locate these wandering absentee groups and have them

settle at the central permanent village site. These people are traditional nomads wandering from sago stand to sago stand and it is felt that it will be some years before all the people finally settle in permanent villages.

The ISANGAN group that was first contacted in September last year (see Amboin Patrol report No. 3/64-65) now cannot be located. The AUWIM people who have some contact with this group attempted to locate them but found that the people had left the camp in which they were living. They say that one man from ISANGAN, named AIYIP, may be living at INIAI, on the KARAWARI river, but think that the rest of the people have moved further south to live. An attempt will be made to contact AIYIP by the next patrol to visit INIAI.

IMBOIN village which was first censused in 1962 is still backward but with assistance from some YIMAS villagers are rapidly advancing. The villagers have begun to undertake economic ventures such as coconut plantings and timber cutting. ||

Taking the KARAWARI Census Division as a whole, the villages of this area, excepting YIMAS, are still comparatively backward. In some villages there are still people who continue to live in bush houses and generally following a semi-nomadic existence. These people only visit the villages when a census patrol is in the area.

The main administrative problem in this area is getting the people to settle, especially in the case of the more primitive villages, and until they do so one cannot expect a great deal of advancement in the area.

Health and Hygiene

Health in the area was generally good with treatment being given only for minor sores and ills. In fact the carriers for the patrol received, and were in need of, more attention than the villagers. In the primitive villages there were no cases of tropical ulcers or yaws which is very good, as in the other such villages in the census division one usually finds a few serious cases of yaws or tropical ulcers.

At AUWIM there was a diarrhoea outbreak and had resulted in the death of a small child. Medicines were issued to carriers and instructions issued to the effect that any people who became seriously ill were to be brought to the Aid Post at Amboin.

No Aid Post Orderly accompanied the patrol as it was considered necessary for the Aid Post Orderly at Amboin to remain at the Aid Post rather than leave it unmanned for the length of the patrol. The matter of extra staff for this Aid Post has been taken up with the Medical Officer, Angoram. *any reset?*

A major problem in this area is that often the people neglect to bring their sick to Amboin for treatment, with the result that they die and the cause of death is attributed to witchcraft rather than neglect. The primitive villages cannot as yet be expected to bring their sick to Amboin for treatment, but it is the lower villages that are the offenders. The people have been instructed to bring their sick to Amboin and have been told that court action will be taken where neglect results in bodily harm.

Throughout this area village sanitation is poor. No village visited had sufficient latrines to accommodate the whole village. It is no wonder that there was an outbreak of diarrhoea at AUWIM. Instructions were issued at YAMANDIM, AUWIM and

and WABLAMAS to have more latrines build in each village. Also pigs are allowed to rove through the villages which does not help in improving village sanitation.

Education:

There are not a great number of children from this area attending the Amboin Primary "1" school. Some of the children from this area have run away from school at various stages, the main reason being that the parents neglect to provide sufficient food.

There was a lad from PUNDUGUM attending the school at Amboin but returned to his village for initiation. It now appears that this boy has died. At the start of the next school year an attempt will be made to obtain some pupils from these primitive villages.

Roads and Waterways:

This patrol is necessarily done during the dry season as the level of the ARAFUNDI river during the wet season makes travel to the mountain villages dangerous due to the numerous river crossings involved. Even at this time of the year travel south from IMBOIN is hazardous as in places the ARAFUNDI is quite deep and slippery stones on the bed of the river make it difficult for carriers to negotiate river crossings.

Travel from AMBOIN to IMBOIN was difficult due to the depth of the ARAFUNDI river. The river was too shallow for the use of a motor canoe so paddle canoes were used, but numerous sand bars and snags made travel slow. The villages on the ARAFUNDI river have previously been instructed to clear the river of obstructions but have neglected to do so. *Constant task.*

Roads through the area were of reasonable condition. The villagers of PUNDUGUM had obviously made an effort to improve the track to that village but unfortunately the other villages had made no attempt to cut the roads to the village.

Villages and Housing.

As mentioned previously the villages of PUNDUGUM, AVIEMI and ARAMERO are either in the process of establishing villages or planning to do so. At PUNDUGUM four houses plus a rest house and police barracks have been constructed. The villagers of AVIEMI have indicated that they will settle at ANDAMBUT and will now construct houses. The ARAMERO group will establish their village at ARAMERO.

Other villages in the area were of reasonable condition and housing standards were satisfactory. At YAMANDIM it was necessary to have the villagers clean the village area however.

The people of this area seem to economise in the number of houses built, at AUWIM four houses accommodate some 30 people. It was suggested to these villagers that they build some more houses to ease congestion.

Rest houses through this area are of a good standard.

Census and Statistics:

Census was revised only at the villages of PUNDUGUM, AVIEMI and ARAMBRO, other villages in this area will have the census revised later in the year when the whole Census Division is done.

There was an overall increase in the population of the area of 8. This increase would have been larger but for the fact that the names of persons reportedly unknown to the ARAMBRO were removed from the ARAMBRO book and treated as migrations out.

The main reason for the increase in the population of these three villages was the number of new names recorded. There were 17 new people seen at census revision, 7 at ARAMBRO and AVIEMI and 3 at PUNDUGUM. It is pleasing to note that these people are willing to come forward of their own accord. There are probably still quite a few people in this area who have not had their names recorded.

For census figures see attached Village Population Register.

Agriculture and Livestock:

The people of this area are predominately sago eaters. The people in the north of the area prepare their sago by cooking it over a fire on a flat stone while the people to the south cook their sago in stones.

At PUNDUGUM and ARAMBRO the patrol obtained plentiful supplies of sago, bananas and taro. Kau kau (sweet potato) was in limited supply.

The villages to the south carry out a subsistence form of agriculture wandering from sago stand to sago stand, there establishing a camp and planting other crops such as bananas and taro. The location of the villages sago determines the position of hamlets. These people rarely venture ~~xxx~~ far from their sago stands.

The usual forms of livestock, pigs and dogs, are found in this area. Notable is the fact that village dogs are generally of a high quality.

Economic Development:

At this stage of development the villages in the south of this area, ARAMBRO, AVIEMI and PUNDUGUM, cannot be expected to attempt to undertake economic ventures for some years. The isolation from markets will be a problem when these people do start economic ventures, it will be necessary for goods to be carried to IMBOIN and then transported to markets by canoe. In the future such crops as coffee, coconuts and possibly rubber could be considered for this area. Although living among vast natural resources of timber, the people of this area will not be able to capitalise on them as they have no means of transporting the cut logs to sawmills. The

*this will
canal timber?*

rivers of this area are not suitable for the rafting of timber.

The other villages of the area are carrying out timber cutting operations and also planting coconuts as part of the area project.

There are no figures available of the amount of timber produced in this area this year. Much of the timber cut in this area earlier in this year has not yet been sold. The beds have remained in the ARAFUNDI river for so long that many have broken up and the peoples' effort has been wasted. When the level of the ARAFUNDI river dropped at the start of the dry season many beds were left high and dry on the banks, some of these may be salvaged when the level of the river rises.

The main reason for the timber not being sold is that the villages on the KARAWARI river and on the KONMEI creek have produced so much timber that SEPIK TIMBER have not been able to purchase all timber that was cut.

The fact that their timber has not been purchased has not discouraged the people and it is expected that timber production in this area will increase.

In regard to the area project work is proceeding slowly but surely. The majority of these villages are still relatively backward and economic development is taking time, but it is expected that all villages will have several hundred coconuts planted this year. In the marking of gardens and transport of coconuts to the village these people are receiving much assistance from YIMAS.

The villages of this area could find a steady income from the sale of crocodile skins. At present only YIMAS village is carrying crocodile hunting operations out on a reasonably large scale. Other villages are not familiar with methods and are only finding the occasional crocodile.

The villagers of YIMAS obtain a small income from the sale of Sepik Blue orchids. These are in demand in certain quarters and the YIMAS lakes area has a virtually unlimited supply of them. The people without much effort can find a limited income from the sale of these plants.

The economic future of the area patrolled is bright. All villages can increase supply of timber and obtain a good steady income. The planting of coconuts at the moment will provide the people of the area with an income from copra in the future. Crocodiles, although they may not be in plentiful supply, can provide the people of the area with a steady income through the sale of skins. It is simply a matter of increasing production and in some cases improving methods.

Conclusion:

The villages of this area are at various stages of development. To the south we have the recently contacted villages which are slowly progressing. Other villages are still backward but are now undertaking economic ventures and are assured of a steady economic growth. And to the north

Assured

we have YIMAS, a much more sophisticated group, advancing rapidly in the fields of economic and political development,

For some years to come patrols to the primitive villages in the south will concentrate on maintaining law and order, settling the people and generally improving villagers living conditions. In this area PUNDUGUM will be the village to advance the quickest as they have more contact with the Administration. People from this village regularly visit WABAG and men from the village are at present at Amboin learning to speak Pidgin. The Luluai of this village is the most powerful village official in the area, pro-administration and anxious to advance. The AVIEMI group follow the advice of this Luluai. The ARNERO group are slowly settling but do not have the enthusiasm that is apparent at PUNDUGUM.

It is unfortunate that these villages are more or less completely isolated during the wet season as they are in need of more than one patrol each year. More regular and extended contact with these villages would do much to benefit the people.

The remainder of the area is progressing well and all villages can be ensured of a stable economic future.

No untoward incidents occurred during the patrol.

It is hoped that the conduct of this patrol meets with your approval.

H.S.


P.L. Tatterson
Patrol Officer.

APPENDIX "A"

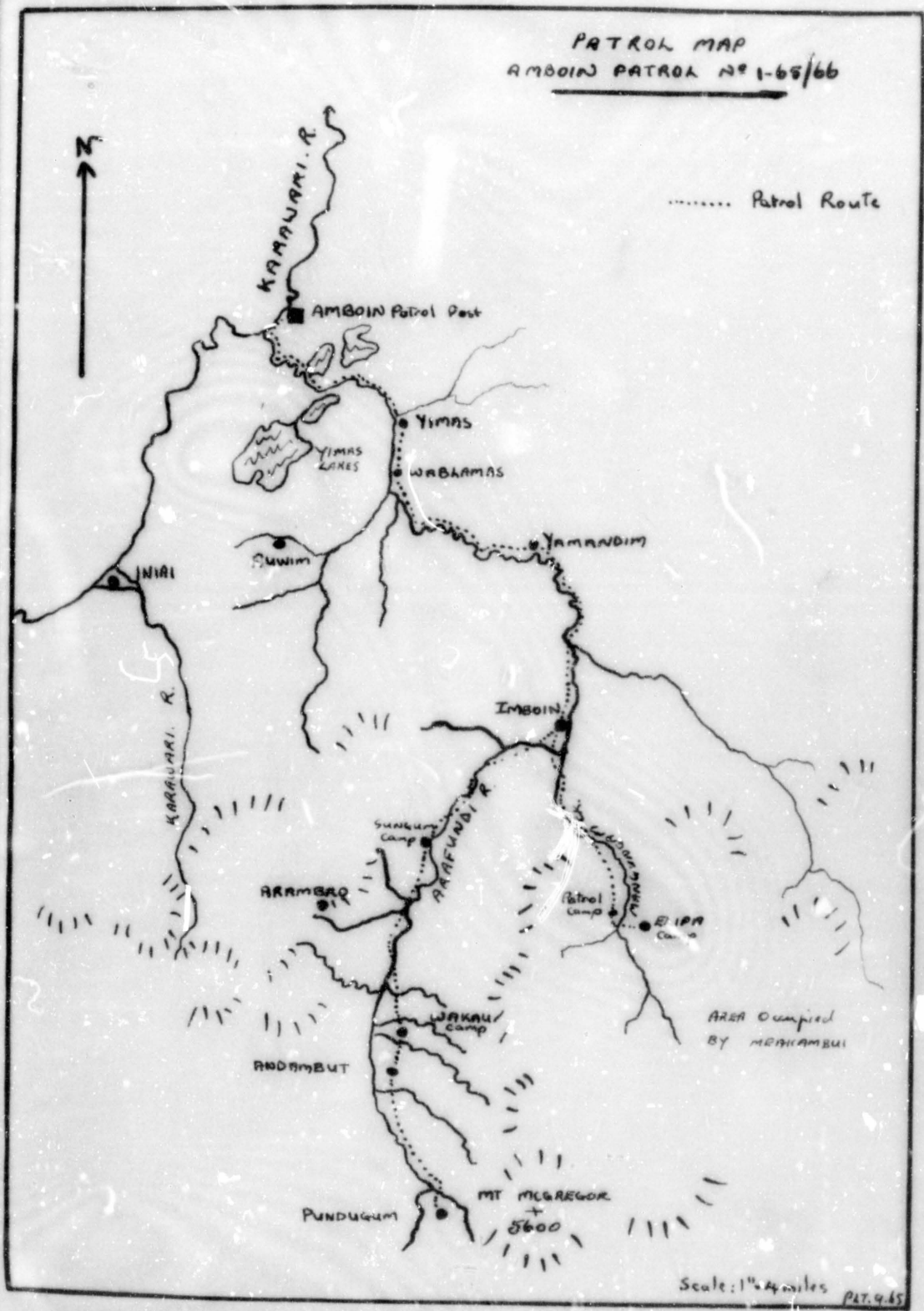
Report on patrolling police.

- Constable 1/c OMAKAN 8060 - An experienced and reliable member
- Constable 5th yr UNTUNAN 9409 - Very efficient member
- Constable 5th yr GERABE - Reliable, & satisfactory effort
- Constable 2nd yr 10729 SAIPOI - An energetic young constable
- Constable 2nd yr KALAI - Young and keen

All members conducted themselves well.

Batterson
 P.L. Batterson
 Patrol Officer.

PATROL MAP
AMBOIN PATROL NO 1-65/66




Scale: 1" = 4 miles PAT. 9.65

APPENDIX "A"

Report on patrolling Police :

- Constable 1st Class 8060 OMAKAN - Steady and reliable NCO.
Quite capable.
- Constable 5th Year 6934 JEGERU - Quiet and efficient, an
experienced member
- Constable 4th Year 10729 SAIPOI - A young but steady member.
Capable and reliable.


.....
(D. van P. Claasen)
Commissioned Officer
R.P.&.N.S.C.



H.Q.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. AMBON 5-65/66

Patrol Conducted by D. VAN R. CLAASEN, P.O.

Area Patrolled WOGUMERI RIVER

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives SIX

Duration—From 18/5/1966 to 28/5/1966

Number of Days TEN

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services FEBRUARY 1966

Medical JANUARY 1966

Map Reference ATTACHED - FROM LANDS FOURMIL - AMBUNTI

Objects of Patrol: 1) Territory Census EDUCATION; 2) Encourage Economic Development; 3) Consolidate Influence GADIA; 4) ROUTINE ADMIN.

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

20/6/1966

B. G. Hilly
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



Ref: 67-3-12.

District Office,
WEWAK.

20th June, 1966.

~~Assistant District Commissioner,~~
~~ALIGORAM.~~

AMBOIN PATROL REPORT NO.5 of 1965/66.

Receipt is acknowledged of the abovementioned report, together with your covering comments.

The extracts referred to have been handed to the Forestry Officer who will advise you direct as to when he will be in a position to visit the area.

I concur with your comments contained in paragraph 5 of your covering memorandum.

Every effort should be made to have a medical assistant or orderly accompany the next patrol to the area.

Please bring to Mr. D. van R. Claassen's notice that I am most impressed by his continued excellent work and the neat presentation of his subsequent patrol reports.

.....
(E.G.Hicks)
District Commissioner.

MINUTE TO :=

Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

I consider Mr. D. van R. Claassen's work and style of reporting deserves a supporting comment from yourself. He is doing sound constructive work in a most difficult area.

For your information and records, please

.....
(E.G.Hicks)
District Commissioner.

67-1-1/345

Sub-District Office,
ANGORAM.

14th June, 1966.

District Commissioner,
WEWAK.

Amboin Patrol No. 5. 65/66.

Enclosed two copies of a patrol report by Mr. D. van R. Claassen, Patrol Officer covering the WOGUPMERI River for your perusal please.

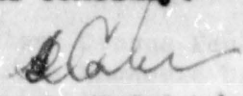
Ten villages on this branch of the Karawarri River, above Amboin Post, were selected by random sample for the Territory census. In accordance with requirements, an educational patrol was conducted as a preliminary to the actual census patrol.

Although the village of GADIO has been excluded from the census because of difficulty of access and communication with the people, the O.I.C. took the opportunity of paying the group a visit which has been long awaited. The visit was a success in cementing friendly relations with the Administration and I fully agree with Mr. Claassen's view that we should not lay down rules about where and how they should live if they are prepared to assist the Administration by maintaining a visiting camp for patrols. I feel this will be satisfactory, and will achieve adequate control for law and order enforcement and occasional medical attention.

I would suggest that a similar policy towards the related BISOKIO group will result in better relations with that group also.

Conditions in the area appear to be satisfactory. It is to be hoped that more children will be enrolled in schools, and the people will be more constant in their cash-cropping, (coconuts).

The report of large quantities of kavri pine and taun on the Wogupmeri are hopeful and it would be appreciated if the attached extracts could be passed to the Forestry Officer for his comments, please. Perhaps he could visit the area and if the quantities are confirmed it may be possible to enlist other avenues of exploitation, to the benefit of this economically backward area. The report covers the work and observations of the patrol lucidly and concisely.


(B. A. McCabe.)
Assistant District Commissioner.

Territory of Papua and New Guinea

67-1-1

Amboin Patrol Post,
Angoram Sub District,
SEPIK DISTRICT.

The Assistant District Commissioner,
ANGORAM.

AMBOIN PATROL No. 5-65/66

Patrol Conducted By : D. van R. Claassen. Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled : WOGUPMERI River.

Personnel Accompanying :
Constable 1/c OMAKAN, No. 8060
Constable JEGERU, No. 6934
Constable SACT, No. 7891
A.P.O. PLSKA
Drivers TANGIT
TAKI

Duration of Patrol : Wednesday, 18th May, 1966 to
Saturday, 28th May, 1966.
10 Days.

Last Patrols to Area :
D.D.A. - Lower Wogupmeri, February, 1966
Gadio, April, 1964
P.H.D. - Lower Wogupmeri, January, 1966.

Map Reference : As attached.

Objects of Patrol :
Territory Census Education
Encourage Economic Development
Consolidation of Influence - GADIO
Routine Administration

D. van R. Claassen
.....
(D. van R. Claassen)

Introduction :-

The area patrolled straddles the floodplain of the Karawari River between its junctions with the Arafundi and the Wogupmeri, and then the floodplain of the latter river to its middle head waters.

Patrolling north of the village of Sumariup has been both regular and consistent with the result that the Administration is wellknown and has the ear of the people to quite a reasonable extent. South of Sumariup, in the headwaters of the Wogupmeri, there is only the group known as GADIO, a semi nomadic mountain people, first visited by Mr. Redmond in 1962 and later by Mr. Stobart in 1964. They have not been seen for a period of just over two years since the latter visit.

The river itself is very low and regularly, after a heavy rain, inundates its floodplain for a few hours at a time. However the floodplain is in itself bounded by ridges of low hills running into mountains. The highest known peak in the area is known locally as Mt. Kabrimeri and is some 5000 feet in height. It seems to rise directly from the floodplain itself and does not seem to be that high. The mountain is said to be infested with caves in which stone carvings have been found in the past.

Diary :-

Wednesday, 18th May : Departed Amboin at 0815 in station canoe accompanied by three other canoes carrying cargo and for the purpose of picking up carriers en route. Arrived INIAI at 1030 and awaited other canoes. Departed at 1315 and arrived at Danyig at 1545. Slept Danyig.

Thursday, 19th May : Departed DANYIG at 0720 for the upriver section of the patrol. River low necessitating the hauling of canoes over log jams and rapids just above Sumariup. Many rapids negotiated. Passed Mr. Stobart's 1964 landing place of TANATA Creek at mid-morning. Managed to continue even further up than that. Camped at 1350 next to SOGOPOR Garden hamlet known as "WANUGA". Slept night.

Friday, 20th May : Canoes made secure and motors stored in small shack on bank of river. Three men detailed to look after the canoes. Departed walking up-river at 0720. Negotiated a rather wide river crossing made rather more difficult by the rise in river level during the night. All carriers watched safely across by myself and police members accompanying the patrol. Passed Mr. Stobart's camp site of "Yigragraterameri" at 0815. Track left the river for some distance to return to the river again at a low hill called "WEBABATOA". Inspected a small village of two houses and a rather dilapidated Rest House and Police Barracks. After some enquiries discovered that the GADIO had built this camp after Mr. Stobart's visit. Evidently they came down here to wait for the next patrol but as it was so long in coming they returned to their bush hamlets. Decided to remain here as in GADIO country. Sent interpreters out to contact the people if possible. Camp made at 1100.

Saturday, 21st May : At Webabatoa. One interpreter returned with news that no Gadios to the East of the river. At 1400 there arrived four Gadio men, two women and four children. Had talks with them per medium of interpreter from Sumariup. The men carried no bows and were most friendly. The women too were seemingly emancipated and talked freely with the writer and patrol personnel. The men were not concerned at this and even left the women altogether whilst they went into the bush nearby to get some food. Some tobacco and salt

used to buy small quantity of taro. Some salt issued as gift.
Slept Weibabatoa.

Sunday, 22nd May : Discussions continued with the Gadio men including the gathering of information of links with the Western Highlands and with the Gadio speaking group of Bisorio to the west. Discussions proved fruitful. Cordial relations established between this group and the patrol members. Four further men, all young and un-married arrived this afternoon. Again none brought weapons. Slept Weibabatoa.

Monday, 23rd May : Departed camp at 0725 accompanied by Gadio men to return to the canoe landing place. Arrived there and loaded canoes. Some benzine given to Gadio men for cigarette lighter presented to them by members of the patrol. Motor started up for them to show them the wonders of mechanical engineering. Travelled downstream using guide lines for the canoes to negotiate the more difficult rapids then drifted and motored down to Sumariup to arrive there at 1100. All carriers returned to station. Settled in at Sumariup and gave talks to the men. Some discussions held. Slept night.

Tuesday, 24th May; Departed Sumariup at 0855. Some motor trouble as the pull rope on the Scott-Ox broke. Doubled canoes and travelled to Daryig. Talks given and medical ~~xxx~~ examination carried out. No complaints. Carried on to Yenitabak. Repaired motor. Discussions held with regard to economic development and the Territory Census. Slept.

Wednesday, 25th May : Departed Yenitabak at 0800. Uneventful trip to Barapidgin. Talks given and new village site inspected. No complaints. Slept night.

Thursday, 26th May : Departed Barapidgin spending two hours in the creek leading to the river negotiating logs. Arrived at the river at 1030 and carried on to Sikaum at 1145. Talks given on territory census and minor matters. Continued on to Iniai to arrive at 1215. Talks given and discussions held re caves. Departed at 1245 and arrived at Chimbut at 1308. Talks given and discussions held. No complaints at all. Slept night.

Friday, 27th May : Departed Chimbut at 0820. Travelled thirty minutes to Maramba. Talks given re census and discussions held in regard to timber. Medical treatment given. Carried on to Amongabi to arrive at 1000. Settled in and then inspected the proposed N.G.G.M. airstrip. Subject to partial inundation at high water. Talks given on census education and timber. No complaints some applications for shotgun. One accepted. Slept night.

Saturday, 28th May : Departed Amongabi at 0755. Visited Meingwenda at 0815 and gave talks and inspected village. No complaints. Carried on to return to Amboin station at 0900. Patrol Stood Down.

Reception of Patrol :

The patrol was very well received at the limited contact village of Gadio. To say "village" is perhaps an overstatement. The people traditionally live in small garden hamlets and rarely come together for anything except initiations and such other occasion as may warrant it. The men were in no way wary of the patrol and this was evidenced by the fact that they did not bring any weapons with them when they came to meet the patrol. This is in rather a contrast to the more regularly contacted village of the same linguistic group at BISORIO where the men still carry their weapons, bows and arrows, with them.

Although only 14 members of the group were seen I am confident that now that they have their luluai's hat that they will be easier to contact in the years to come. There is very little hope of them becoming interested in economic ventures for some years yet, even though they do possess large stands of timber quite near the river. They have promised that they will meet the next patrol but are not too keen to settle down in the single village which is so contrary to their traditional pattern. However, the establishment of a rest house complex, plus two houses, at WEIRARATOA will I think be sufficient in the next few years. If they follow the pattern of similar villages in the rest of the area they will probably settle down there in due course. I do not feel that they should be hurried, as in any case there is nothing that we can do with them if they do settle down.

The men were all healthy and strong and certainly much better physical specimens than the river people. The women were also quite healthy. The children seen however, were covered in skin diseases and certainly didn't seem to fit in with the appearance of the men.

The people acknowledged contact with the Bisorio group and have evidently been across to the Yokopos river to help them construct garden sites. They also have contact with the group known as the "KASAGARI" which were first contacted by Mr. R. Treutlein, Patrol Officer, in LAIAGAM Patrol Report No. 2 of 1964/65. Mr. Truetlein placed the Kasagari at the head of the April River. I believe this is incorrect and have, from receipt of information at both the Gadio and Bisorio villages, good reason to believe that they inhabit the area around the headwaters of the Korosameri river. The Kasagari are said to have the same language as the Gadio. The Gadio people also mention a place called "KUMRUGO" in the Western Highlands District which is already under contact from Wabag or Lalagam.

Questioned as to the existence of two groups said to inhabit the upper Korosameri, the "SIDI" and "SALIRA" groups, the people affirmed that these groups did exist but that their only contact with them was through the Bisoria group.

The word list compiled by Mr. Stobart on his visit proved to be a real friend-maker. The people were delighted to see a "HONE" or white man using their language.

The SOGOPOR people mentioned by Mr. Stobart, who used to live with the Sumariup people and then went back into the bush have not as yet been re-contacted. They have not been seen by The Sumariup people for over twelve months. The Gadio report that they saw them about three months ago. The group is not large and at present inhabit the slopes of Kabrimeri. Although the patrol slept at a garden hamlet of theirs they were not sighted. Some salt was left at the hamlet to show them our good intentions.

The patrol was well received in all the other groups visited during the course.

Villages :

The standard of housing throughout the area, apart from the primitive efforts of the Gadio, was quite good. The villages are on good sites with one or two exceptions, but not enough to mar the generally pleasant impression that is given.

Yenitabak is quite a good site marred only by the very steep climb to the village from the river. The people have been given permission to rebuild the rest house near the river and not on top of the hill.

The most pleasant sites on the whole river are probably INIAI, at the junction of the Karawari and Wogupmeri rivers, and BARAPIDGIN, the latter however being rather out of the way.

Most villages were clean and tidy.

Village Officials :

Village officials in the area are of fair standard only. They do not seem to have the whole support of the village in any case with the possible exception of Luluai Yawobei of Iniai, a new appointee, who is quite popular but does not have much influence in the rest of the area.

The Luluai appointed for Gadio, IROUWE, seems a good candidate and is quite free in his method of expression to the authorities. He has intimated that he intends to stay at the new site and will in time, no doubt, attract the remainder of the village or the group, to settle with him.

Political Awareness :

Politically speaking the area is rather backward. They have no real thoughts on the territory as a whole and are limited to thinking of themselves as "Alanblaks", the local name of the area. It is possible to arouse some pride in themselves by referring to them as members of the Karawari area as a whole.

By and large their thinking is parochial.

Complaints :-

Only minor complaints were brought to the notice of the patrol. All of which could be settled out of court.

Transport :-

For transport the patrol used the two government motors allocated to Amboin and two hired Archimedes motors from Imanmeri and Yimas villages respectively.

The Mercury 20 HP continues to give excellent service and has proved itself the most economical motor ever used at this station. This is in comparison with records left by the previous officers.

The Scott-Ox 14 HP ran creditably but is unsuited for work in the headwaters because of its long shaft and gear box. A minor trouble, the breaking of the pull rope, was repaired on patrol.

The Archimedes motors were hired at the rate of \$3.00 per running day, and \$2.00 whilst standing by, fuel being supplied by the hirer.

Carriers were obtained from Imameri, Ambonwari and Yimas villages as well as all villages along the route to the Gadio. They were paid at the rate of 20 cents a day, food supplied and this proved quite acceptable to them.

Rivers and Roads :

Both the Karawari and Wogupmeri Rivers were not in flood but sufficient water remained so as to facilitate reasonably easy travel to the disembarkation point at Wanuga. Possibly at high water the canoes could go higher but above the point mentioned the rapids become steep and very fast and it is my consideration that it would be dangerous to proceed beyond it.

The Wogupmeri is quite a reasonable stream to follow although rapids and log bars have to be negotiated. These are not too extensive and are alternated with fairly deep sections of river enabling the motor to be run.

The road from Wanuga camp site to Weibabatoa is typical of this sort of country mostly following the river or small creeks. This would make travel difficult at times of flood. As the river has to be crossed as well it is suggested that patrols only move into the Gadio area when the rivers are of medium height. Low water would prevent canoes going too far and too high a water would mean dangers in crossing rivers.

Health and Hygiene :

General health throughout the area visited was quite good. There were however, several cases of very bad colds or influenza. These were treated by the Hospital Orderly accompanying the patrol. The Gadio people were infected with yaws and were given penicillin injections to counter this. As all were not seen however, it would seem that they will be subject to re-infection before long.

Hospital Orderly PISKA carried out his duties cheerfully and well.

Education :

In spite of the proximity of the Primary T School at Amboin there is only one student from the area at present in attendance. It is anticipated that an enrolment campaign next year will probably mean an increase in this figure.

The New Guinea Gospel Mission inform me that they intend to establish a school when they move into the area in some years time.

Missions :

The Roman Catholic Mission has limited influence in the area. Father Wand, from Timbukte, makes periodic visits to the area.

The New Guinea Gospel Mission, under the leadership of Mr. H. Davidson, has announced its intention of moving into the area. They have already chosen a site at the village of Amongobi and have marked out a tentative airstrip site. I inspected this whilst at the village and ascertained that the site would be partially inundated but only at extreme high water. I should think that they could get about 1500 feet of strip without any trouble.

The mission would be in no position to move in before the end of the next financial year (66/67).

Agriculture and Livestock :

The enthusiasm for the area coconut project seems to have waned a bit. Many gardens are yet uncut and the people have been exhorted to renew their efforts. Some young men were dissuaded from going to Bulolo to work until after they had completed their quota of plantings.

There is very little livestock in the area limited in turn to pigs and fowls.

The Gadio practice a highland pattern of shifting agriculture but are in the habit of clearing enormous tracts of land. They plant mainly such tuber crops as taro and sweet potato but also obtain a limited amount of sago for their dietary needs.

Economic Development :

The only source for economic gain is the timber industry. Large stands of Taun were seen and, in the upper reaches of the Sogumeri, there were miles and miles of ridges covered in Kauri Pine. In my opinion there is a greater concentration of Kauri in this area than in the Yokopos and Korosameri River section. The stands seen also had the advantage of being fairly close to the water. As they are standing on Sogopor and Gadio ground these stands have to date been untouched.

There have been some complaints in the immediate past that the prices paid for the timber rafts were so little. I discussed this with Mr. O'Shannesy of Taway Sawmill and he said this was mostly due to the fact that the rafts contained timber of inferior size or quality. The opportunity was taken to correct the people's thoughts as to this matter and they professed to have understood the message.

Further discontent was also expressed at the delay in buying the timber. However, it was explained to the people that due to the very high water there was so much timber in the area that there had to be some waiting list before it could all be rafted down to Taway. The people said they understand the reasons behind it but also said that they felt one sawmiller wasn't enough for them. They would like to sell timber to other sawmills as well. The matter of N.T.A.'s was explained to them and they were advised that it was up to the other sawmillers to apply for them.


The future of the timber industry looks very good in this particular area. There are no other reliable sources of economic gain in the area.

Conclusion :

The people were advised of the reasons for the Territory Census and seemed to understand the necessity for their attendance. I do not anticipate any problems at the census.

The area is in a good position for future development provided they realise the need to work regularly and not in spasmodic bursts. As for the Gadio, the relations established by myself and previous officers point to a settling down of the group and they should begin to move ahead within the next two or three years.

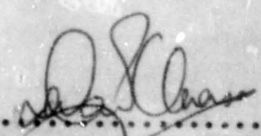
An interesting patrol in a good area.



Handwritten signature and initials, possibly 'D. L. ...', with the number '20.' written below it.

310
"APPENDIX A"

- Constable 1st Class 5060 OMAKAN - Steady and Reliable N.C.O.
Very knowledgeable in this area.
- Constable 5th Year 6934 JGERU - Quiet but efficient.
Experienced but tends to keep to himself.
- Constable 5th Year 7891 SAGI - A steady member.


.....
(D. van B. Claasen)
Commissioned Officer
R.P.S.N.G.C.

