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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: EAST SEPIK

STATION: MAY RIVER, 1961 - 1962

Original documents bound with reports
for: Maprik, volume 13.

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORTS SEPTEMBER DISTRICT 1961/62.

MAPRIK & MAY RIVER SUB DISTRICTS.

<u>REPORT NO.</u>	<u>PATROL CONDUCTED BY</u>	<u>AREA PATROLLED</u>
MAPRIK 2 61/62	J.C. Corrigan P.O. 2	Sepik Plains C.D.
MAPRIK 10 61/62	J.A. Wiltshire P.O. 2	Wora C.D.
MAY RIVER I 61/62	B.A. Downes P.O.	May River Local C.D. <i>Class A</i>
VANIMO 2 61/62	R.L. O'CONNELL	IMBIC + BEMBI C.D.'s

67-8-16

12th February, 1962.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
NEW A.K.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 1 OF 1961/62:

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of the above report together with your covering memorandum 67-3-12.

2. On page 5, Mr. Downes makes reference to what appears to be an unsatisfactory situation, namely, heavy over-recruiting in the region. He voices some fears for the well-being of the people if there is no improvement. I notice in Ambunti Patrol No. 6 of 1960/61 (page 7) that following the lifting of restrictions, numbers flocked out to work and a word of warning was given to village officials to see the position did not again deteriorate. It seems it has. Closing the stable door after the horse has got out is rather a negative way of tackling this kind of situation. What would be your recommendations in this regard?

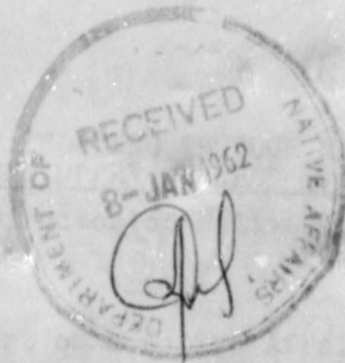
3. You have mentioned the possibility of posting another officer to May River. When do you think you may be able to effect this? I think you should make an early endeavour to complete investigations into the reported killings mentioned in page 5. Please advise me when you anticipate this will be done. Incidentally, what is the estimate of uncontacted population in the fringe area of the area patrolled.

4. Mr. Downes appears to have carried out a good patrol. A copy of this memorandum goes to him at A.S.O.P.A.

F. K. McCarthy
(F. K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

c.c. Mr. B.A. Downes,
C/- A.S.O.P.A.,
Mosman, N.S.W.

17.8.16



67-3-12/1077

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

29th December, 1961

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 1-1961/62

Please thank Mr. Downes for his report.

In his diary, Thursday, November 16th, 1961, he says, "In absence, police supervised village cleaning". On no account must this occur. He took six police on the patrol and no doubt took one or two with him, leaving perhaps four behind. We can say, "Oh, these people are alright", they may be; but why take a risk for a few hours cleaning up rubbish, especially when his diary contains references to "unrest and pending attacks".

NATIVE AFFAIRS - It is pleasing to note that the Wanamoi natives have settled down, with perhaps the exception of NARI. As you know I shall have to relieve Mr. Downes shortly, he is going to the School. Would you ask him to note his remarks on NARI in the Station diary. The new officer will then be acquainted with the situation. It may be sometime before he gets around to reading reports and could, even then, miss it.

I have noted your recent letter on the repatriation of recruits from May River and whilst I do not on any account desire to restrict recruiting, I do believe that prosecutions should be made on failure to repatriate. This excuse that it doesn't pay, is all poppycock. All charges are made against the plantation owner. The agent, as is usual slides out from under, especially this particular agent.

HEALTH - Again, I shall have to ask the District Commissioner for assistance in having more medical patrols.

It may be possible to post an extra officer at May River early in the New Year. This would enable the two to patrol and endeavour to finalise these alleged killings. How do you feel about this.

I also feel that a "station" school may do a lot of good.

I regret having to send the contingency back, but Mr. Downes failed to sign.

I fully endorse your remarks on Mr. Downes. Ask him to watch his spelling please.

J. E. Wakeford
(J. E. WAKEFORD)
DISTRICT OFFICER.

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu
The District Commissioner, Wewak.

TERRITORY of PAPUA and NEW GUINEA

Administration
Press Statement
No. 40

Port Moresby,
April 23, 1962

ROUTINE PATROLLING THROUGH MAY RIVER REGION
ALONG THE UPPER REACHES OF THE SEPIK

(Statement by the Director of Native Affairs, Mr. J.K. McCarthy)

A report on a Native Affairs patrol through the May River region on the upper reaches of the Sepik gives an interesting description of the people and conditions in this area of rivers, creeks and swamps where prolonged floods occur each year.

The patrol was made by Patrol Officer Barry A. Downes who is now completing a course at the Australian School of Pacific Administration in Sydney. Working out from the May River Patrol Post over a period of 25 days he travelled by powered canoe to visit fifteen villages extending from the Sepik River back to the hill country below the May Mountains. The population of the individual villages varies from 43 to 211 with a total population of 1535.

All the houses in the hamlets along the waterways are built on piles up to fifteen feet high as during the annual floods which continue for three months the village sites are inundated. During the flood period the people live on sago and what fresh meat they can obtain by hunting wild pig and cassowary in areas above flood level. In the dry season they cultivate subsistence gardens, growing bananas, taro, breadfruit, sugarcane and several varieties of edible leaf crops.

The May River Patrol Post is approximately 200 miles in a direct line from the mouth of the Sepik River, and some 90 miles inland from Aitape. Supplies for the Post are moved by work-boat on the long river trip from Ambunti, first up the Sepik and then the May River to the Patrol Post.

The people in this area are still very primitive but those in the villages regularly patrolled from the May River Station have ceased tribal fighting. However, there are some uncontacted groups in the border regions who still periodically make threats against the peaceful population. During his recent patrol Mr. Downes learned that one of the border tribes was planning to raid a village and had asked another clan to take part in the attack. This latter group was in the patrolled area and had refused. To get a message through to the uncontacted tribe the Patrol Officer talked with the men who had rejected the fight offer, explained the government's desire and intention to ensure peace between the tribes, and then had his Native police give a demonstration of rifle fire. This served the twofold purpose of re-assuring the peaceful villagers, and ensuring that the potential trouble-makers were discouraged from carrying out any raids. Excellent friendly relations were made with groups adjacent to the uncontacted country, and these people will supply guides when subsequent patrols extend Administration influence into the border regions.

Mr. Downes also traced a rumour of an intended raid by a tribe which has had considerable contact with patrols. He located the villager who was said to have made the threat, and had him accompany the patrol. When the party arrived in the hamlet which had been named as the object of the intended attack, the alleged rumour spreader explained that one of his people's hunting groups had been mistaken for a war party. He then publicly denied that there was any intention to renew old tribal hostilities. This relieved the tension and made it possible for friendly relations to be resumed between the

(over)

PATROL REPORT

MAY RIVER No 1 of 1961/62

PATROL CONDUCTED BY :- Barry A. Downes P/O.

AREA PATROLLED :- MAY RIVER Local Census Div.

DURATION OF PATROL :- 8/11/61 to 2/12/61

NUMBER OF DAYS :- 25 Days

PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING :- 6 Members R.P. & N.G.C.
1 N.M.O.
1 Interpreter.

LAST D.N.A. PATROL INTO AREA :- Mr. B. Mulcahy November '60.

OBJECTS OF PATROL :- Routine Administration.
Census Revision.

MAP REFERENCE :- Fourmil May River.

M.A. Report 1/61-62

PATROL REPORT MAY RIVER No 1 of 1961/62PATROL DIARY 1961Wednesday 8th November

0950 Departed May River Patrol Post for PEKWE village
 Arrive 0958. Village inspected and census revised.
 Several model latrines built. Marriage dispute settled.
 1210 Departed PEKWE and arrive Patrol Post 1220 hours.
 P.M. Luluai of WANUUM village reported that a large
 garden had been devastated by the NEDIOM hill people
 early last week. Told that the patrol would proceed to
 WANUUM on Monday.

Thursday 8th November

0932 Departed Patrol Post for AUMI arriving 0948 hours.
 Village inspected and census revised. Model latrine built.
 Two disputes settled by arbitration. Departed for Patrol
 Post 1238 hours arriving 1250.

Friday 10th November

0948 Departed for PAINU arriving 1019 hours. Village
 inspected, census revised. 1220 hours departed to inspect
 mouth of WANI Creek for proposed route on Monday. All O.K.
 Return Patrol Post by 1250 hours.

Saturday 11th November

1000 hours Depart for ABAGASU. Village inspected, census
 revised. No complaints, return Patrol post by 1205 hours.

Sunday 12th November

Observed

Monday 13th November

0925 Departed May River Patrol Post per double canoe with
 patrol, personal and stores. Called AUMI and PAINU to
 borrow paddles. 1040 Arrive mouth WANI Creek. Cut motor,
 used paddles. 1202 Joined SANIAP Creek, restart motor.
 1305 Arrive WANUUM. Camp set up. Talk with villagers
 re garden raiding. 1545 Travelled along SANIAP Creek to
 bring 5 WANUUM villagers near NEDIOM people and try
 to gain contact and bring them to WANUUM. 1645 Left party
 and returned WANUUM arriving 1735.

Tuesday 14th November

A.M. Village inspected and census revised. A.P.O. inspected
 villagers health. Many infected cuts and T.D.'s. One Yaws
 treated. Bought fresh food and paddles (3). P.M.
 Inspected garden raided by "hill people". 1930 Party of
 WANUUM villagers returned stating they were unable to
 contact NEDIOM people. Remain overnight.

Wednesday 15th November

A.M. Awaiting possible arrival of NEDIOM people. 1106 Dept.
 WANUUM for MOWI. 1230 hours arrive IBU and issued inst-
 ructions for forthcoming census. 1240 Depart for MOWI,
 arriving 1515 hours. Camp set up. 1700 hours Mr. P.J. Wright
 Patrol Officer Ambunti arrived. Remain Overnight.

Thursday 16th November

0605 hours Depart MOWI for May River Patrol Post with
 Mr. P.J. Wright per Ambunti double canoe. Arrive Patrol
 Post 1115 hours. In absence, police supervised village
 cleaning.

PATROL DIARY (Cont)Friday 17th November

0945 Depart Patrol Post for MOWI with Mr. Wright. Arrive 1330 hours. Mr. Wright proceeded down Sepik River. Village inspected and census revised. Health inspected. Remained overnight.

Saturday 18th November

0910 hours Departed MOWI for INIOK. Arrive mouth Frieda River 1050 hours. Arrive INIOK 1105 hours. Inspected village and two hamlets. 1310 Native trader SONI arrived enroute May River. Census revised and health inspected. Remained overnight.

Sunday 19th November

Statistics and book work brought up to date. Village cleaned under supervision. Remained overnight.

Monday 20th November

0830 hours Departed for AOUM. 0900 hours arrive mouth Frieda River and proceeded upstream. 0920 Enter WIAP Creek. 1005 Enter Lake WARINGAI. 1110 Arrive AOUM. Nobody present. P.M. Villagers arrive. Village inspected Remain Overnight.

Tuesday 21st November

Heavy rain in morning. Census revised and health inspected. Talks with the people. 1325 Depart AOUM for IBU. 1500 hours arrive Frieda River 1800 hours arrive MOWI. Remain overnight

Wednesday 22nd November

0725 Departed MOWI for IBU arriving 1145 hours. One hour lost due to motor trouble. Village inspected, census revised and health inspected. 1300 Departed IEU. 1330 mouth WANI creek. 1445 hours Enter May River. 1530 hours arrive Patrol Post. 4 male natives of ABI village, near WANIAP, arrive to sell food.

Thursday 23rd November

0815 Depart Patrol Post, with ABI natives for WANIAP. Arrive WANAMOI and WANIAP Creek at 0840 hours. Arrive WANIAP 1045 hours. Camp set up. Village inspected and census revised. Talked to ABI and WANIAP villagers re tracks into surrounding swamp areas. Impassable at the moment. Remained overnight.

Friday 24th November

Village cleaned under supervision. 1020 hours departed for WANAMOI village arriving 1200 hours. Some villagers still absent so waited until 1500 hours before census revised. Village inspected and health inspected. 26 persons absent from census check. Departed for May River Patrol Post 1640 hours arriving 1710 hours.

Saturday 25th November

Canoe sent to mouth of May River to collect persons not present at WANAMOI census, returned 1500 hours. Names checked and all concerned given sharp reprimand. 4 males of WANAMOI are now awaiting a Court Of Native Affairs hearing. Rumour heard that nearby villages of OBAGASU and PEKWE fear an attack by AUGOT people. Word sent to all important persons and officials in nearby villages to gather on station tomorrow to discuss rumour.

PATROL DIARY (Cont)Sunday 26th November

Observed. P.M. Meeting of elders and officials of nearby villages. During discussions learnt of alleged killings in villages along the Left May River (ARAI Cr.)

Monday 27th November

0855 hours Departed Patrol Post for IABREM arriving 1010 hours. Village inspected, census revisited and health checked by A.P.O. 1115 hours Depart for ARAI village calling in on AUNI village to advise date of census revision. 1325 Arrive PERAGABI hamlet and met Luluai of ARAI awaiting patrol. Arrive ARAI 1505 hours. Meeting held with village elders and officials re alleged killings along Left May River. During discussions learnt that ARAI village was in fear of an attack by AMASU and WAUSUAI village. Discussions discontinued when police rest house collapsed. Nobody hurt but several personal articles destroyed. Remained overnight.

Tuesday 28th November

Discussions continued. Village inspected, Census revised health inspected. 1025 hours Depart for BURUMAI arriving 1120 hours. Discussion with village elders. P.M. Ten hill natives from SHUWARMO visited the patrol and confirmed the rumour re alleged killings at AMASU and WAUSUAI. Large quantity of food bought from BURUMAI. Remained overnight.

Wednesday 29th November

Village inspected, census revised, health checked. 0945 Depart for SHUWARMO village upstream from BURUMAI. 0955 Shored Left bank May river 1015 hours arrive SHUWARMO. One stockade type house. Medically inspected and talk given. 25 persons sighted. 1145 hours Depart for AIMI village via river then inland arriving 1230 hrs. Only 11 persons, representing entire village, present. Talk given and medically inspected. 1330 hrs. depart AIMI for BURUMAI arriving 1400 hours. 1430 hrs. depart for ARAI arriving 1500 hrs. NAUNI, an AUGOT villager, present. Questioned about unrest in area. NAUNI revealed an alleged killing about three years ago. Most of AUGOT males will be attending a "singsing" tomorrow night. Food bought from ARAI villagers. Remain overnight.

Thursday 30th November

0900hrs. depart for WAUSU village, upstream. 0911 shore left bank May River and walked to Left May River and along arriving at garden clearing called WAUSU. Small frail house built in middle of clearing. Sighted 20 persons but still more reported to be attending their gardens. Medically inspected and one case of yaws treated. WAUSU men confirmed that they had been approached to join in an attack on ARAI but reported that they refused. Talk given. 1215 hrs. depart for ARAI arriving 1330hrs. P.M. AUGOTs sent word that will be arriving Friday for "singsing". Remain overnight.

Friday 1st December

A.M. Several village disputes heard. P.M. Awaiting arrival of AUGOTs. 1700hrs. 12 males and 2 females arrive, males fully armed and decorated. Talk and firearms demonstration given. AUGOT weapons placed in police care until "singsing" finished. Remain overnight.

PATROL DIARY (Cont.)

Saturday 2nd November

AUGOT weapons returned. 3 AUGOT and 1 ARAI males accompany the patrol to station. 0740hrs. Depart for AUNI arriving 0920 hrs. 10 BREEN-U-GU males awaiting patrol's arrival to sell food for trade. Village inspected and census revised. 1130 hrs. Depart for Patrol Post arriving 1250 hrs. 1700 hrs visited PEKWE and ABAGASU villages with NAUNI (AUGOT) to dispel the rumours of pending AUGOT attack. 1800 hrs. Return to station.

End Of Patrol Diary

INTRODUCTION

This is a report of a patrol conducted around the May River Local Census Division. The patrol visited some fifteen villages found along the banks of the Sepik and May Rivers and Saniap and Waniap Creeks. Three newly contacted hill villages, in the upper May River area, were visited in the course of various inquiries. These villages were AIMI, SHUWARMO and WAUSU. Natives from BREEN-U-GU and AUGOT visited the patrol at AUNI and ARAI respectively. All patrolling along the river was conducted by motor powered canoe.

The aims of this patrol were twofold, namely routine administration and census revision. During routine administration, several incidents came to light which made it necessary to visit some villages away from the May River those being SHUWARMO and WAUSU. AUGOT village was not visited owing to the fact that most of the male inhabitants attended a "singsing", at ARAI, while the patrol was present.

Previous to 1961, the majority of the area patrolled was declared restricted territory but it has now been unrestricted. Last Department Of Native Affairs patrol into the area was conducted by Mr. B. Mulcahy in November 1960. To date there has been no Public Health Department patrol into all the villages but during September 1958 Mr. J. Reipon accompanied Mr. J. Cochrane P/O into several villages. Throughout the patrol a great deal of time was spent in each village supervising the cleaning and clearing of accumulated rubbish. During the preceding twelve months May River Patrol Post was unmanned.

The only source of income in the area is that which is derived from indentured labour and the spasmodic efforts of crocodile shooting. There is no likelihood of any economic development in this area in the foreseeable future.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

General

In general, the native situation in the patrolled area is normal. In most villages the patrol was well received but at AOUM, although they had ample warning of the patrols coming, most of the inhabitants were at their gardens. These people are still fairly timid and two days were spent at AOUM supervising village cleaning and explaining Administration policy.

About last December 1960, the WANAMSI natives convicted of the Yellow River Massacres of 1956, were repatriated to their village. Several of the convicted men have been recruited for plantation work and most of those remaining in the village have

*at hunting
AOUM people
are planning
in future*

M. R. Reipon 1/61-62

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont)

settled down to normal village life. Of the three alleged ringleaders of the massacre, NAMI/NAKUNO is present in the village and has settled down O.K., NAINI/KWASU has been recruited for plantation work, and NARI/NUMO is in the village. When the census of WANAMOI was revised, ^{AUGOT}twentysix persons failed to appear without a reasonable excuse. These persons were all from a hamlet-located at the mouth of the May River and included NARI who is the leading influence of this group. It is thought that this failure to attend census is an attempt, by NARI, to exert his influence over the WANAMOI villagers and express his dislike of the Administration. At present, five male natives are awaiting a Court Of Native Affairs sitting for census evasion, N.A.R.Sec.115.

A rumour had been circulating through ABAGASU and PEKWE villages that persons of AUGOT village were planning a raid upon them. Inquiries revealed that it was thought that one NAUNI of AUGOT, a friend of NAPA of ARAI, who is now waiting trial for an alleged killing, intended to raid both villages because persons in those villages had given evidence at the preliminary hearing of NAPA. Three AUGOT villagers were sighted on a hill near ABAGASU and this gave rise to the rumour. Women from the villages were becoming afraid to venture any distance from their houses. NAUNI was questioned at ARAI village and stated that there was no foundation for the rumour and that the three men sighted near ABAGASU were hunting wild pig. NAUNI was brought to both villages to discount the rumour and to assure the people of the AUGOT's friendship.

During recent months, recruiting activities have increased markedly. Of a total labour potential of 434 males, 217 have been recruited leaving 214 males to carry on village life and maintenance. It is thought that this largescale recruiting will, during the next two years, lead to complications in village life and eventual deterioration in village housing and hygiene. Several villages have upto 70% of the total labour potential absent.

During the patrol, recontact was made with various inland villages. Ten male natives of BREEN-U-GU visited the patrol at AUNI where native foods were bought and medical treatment given. This village was visited in September '58. Twelve AUGOT natives arrived at ARAI village to hold a "singsing" and inquiries into various local incidents were conducted. A demonstration of firearms was given to these people. It is thought that, through the AUGOT's contact with, as yet, uncontacted people inland, word of the government's powers will quell any ideas of fighting which they may yet possess. This demonstration will, I hope, suppress any desires that the AMASU and WAUSUAI people have of renewed intervillage hostilities. Three AUGOT males accompanied the patrol to the Patrol Post where they are now working. WAUSU (visited during December '59) was visited during the inquiry into several alleged killings and rumours now circulating in the area. (See Page 6). AIMI and SHUWARMO were also visited. Four males from ABI village, near WANIAP, visited May River with food to sell. These men accompanied the patrol to WANIAP then departed for their village, about an hour away. To date there has been very little patrolling conducted into the country away from the main waterway of the May River. Excellent relations are now held with the people of SHUWARMO, WAUSU, AUGOT, BREEN-U-GU and ABI and it will be these people, who will lead succeeding patrols to the nomadic, uncontacted population to be found nearby. With this purpose in mind, presents were given to the heads of each delegation.

M K Report 1/11-58

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont)

Alleged Killing At AUGOT

It was reported to the patrol that a killing had taken place at AUGOT village about June 1958. Mr. J. Cochrane P/O inquired into the affair but as the suspected killer was absent from the village, he was not questioned. Further investigations are being carried out from the Patrol Post.

Alleged Killings At AMASU and WAUSUAI

Three killings were reported to have taken place between AMASU and WAUSUAI villages. The information was received second-hand from MAPAI'O of SHUWARMO village. He informed the patrol that one female of WAUSUAI was killed and, in retaliation, two males of AMASU were killed by WAUSUAI warriors. These events are said to have taken place early November '61. AMASU and WAUSUAI are located along the Left May river and AMASU has been contacted once while WAUSUAI is uncontacted. Further investigations will be carried out during a future patrol into the area.

Alleged Threats Against ARAI by AMASU and WAUSUAI

ARAI village has received threats of a raid from the two mentioned villages. It was confirmed that both WAUSUAI and AUGOT villages were approached by men from AMASU and WAUSUAI to help them in their planned raid, but support was refused. Word was sent to both villages to drop their threatening attitude. It was unfortunate that the present patrol was not equipped to venture ~~into~~ away from the waterways owing to the lack of suitable carriers. It was also reported that after Mr. J. Mater P/O contacted and departed AMASU village in December '59, the people discussed the Administration policy and aims and decided that they would rather retain their old customs and habits, but this, no doubt will change with closer Administration contact. The presence of this patrol in the immediate area, inquiring into the activities of both AMASU and WAUSUAI should have a quietening effect on the inhabitants, and it is the writer's opinion that there is no danger to the villages at present under Administration control.

Alleged Killing At TIGGI

Inquiries at WANIANP village revealed that a woman was thought to have been killed in the vicinity of TIGGI village during 1961. TIGGI was first contacted by Mr. J. Mater P/O in December '59 and is approximately a days walk through swamp country which is, at present, inundated with water. This matter will be investigated when a patrol moves into the area.

WANIAM Troubles

During the last two months, two raids have been carried out by the NEDIOM hill people against the WANIAM food gardens. One garden of about an acre in size was inspected and found completely denuded of food. Two NEDIOM villages of HI'A and UM are thought to be about two days walk inland. The patrol tried to contact the NEDIOM people but was not successful. Previously, three NEDIOM males visited the Patrol Post but, as the station was unmanned, no European was present. During the last few years the NEDIOM and WANIAM people have had friendly contact with each other and, to date, occasionally exchange visits.

It is stressed that the information referring to the alleged killings at AMASU, WAUSUAI and TIGGI was received second or third hand and how much faith that can be put into the reports is open to question.

M.A. Report 1/61-62

VILLAGES AND HOUSING

The villages in most cases were very dirty and considerable time and trouble was spent helping to supervise village cleaning. This unhealthy state could be put down to the fact that the Patrol Post personnel was at a minimum and consequently visits to the nearby villages were neglected.

All houses sighted along the rivers have raised flooring, anything upto 15 feet above ground level, in acknowledgement to the annual flooding which all villages are subject to for about three months of the year. Conditions of the houses varies from good, along the Sepik River, to poor, along the upper banks of the May River. Resthouses in most villages was of a poor standard and, in ARAI, the police rest house collapsed during the afternoon.

Village OFFICIALS

With a few exceptions the officials now appointed appear to be carrying out their duties quiet well.. Several officials are becoming a bit old but there does not appear to be anybody eligible for the position at present. NABRI, Luluai of ARAI, recently returned from plantation labour, appears to be the brightest of all and NAU, Tultul of MOWI, is carrying out his work well.

One failing with many of the officials is their lack of ability to speak pidgin English, but this is only to be expected in a newly contacted area.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

Subsistence agriculture is carried out on a small scale throughout the area during the dry season. During the wet season most gardens are flooded by the rising water making any form of agriculture virtually impossible. Main foods during the wet season is sago and such fresh meat as can be found eg. wild pig and cassowary. Other foods are bananas, taro, breadfruit, sugarcane and several varieties of leaf.

There is no economic development in any village nor is there any likelihood of any development in the foreseeable future. Peanuts were planted by Mr. J. Cochrane P/O during 1958 but no trace remains of these in any village. As was previously stated, during the wet season, a large amount of agricultural land is flooded and this led to the destruction of the peanuts.

Pigs are being domesticated in several villages and fowls, obtained from the Patrol Post, have been distributed throughout the area

HEALTH AND HYGIENE

A Native Medical Orderly accompanied the patrol and every native sighted was medically examined. Their health was found to be good. Main complaints were tropical ulcer, small infected cuts, malaria and scabies. Four cases of Yaws were sighted and treated. The SHUWARMO hill people presented several cases of pneumonia. Four cases of malnutrition were seen and one was sent to Ambunti hospital for treatment.

Most villages lacked adequate sanitary arrangements. Many new latrines were constructed but owing to the annual flooding, these will not last very long.

M.R. Report 1/61-62

HEALTH AND HYGINE (Cont)

The Aid Post at May River Patrol Post caters for the needs of most villagers near the station and it is being used more frequently as the people realize the need for medical treatment. First and only medical patrol into a portion of the area was conducted during September 1958 by Mr. J. Reipon E.M.A.

MISSION AND EDUCATION

No mission is represented by a European in the census division. A native Catholic catechist is living at INIOK village but he has a very small following. Over the past few years, several boys have been attending the Ambunti Catholic Mission school. There is no Administration school in the May River area.

CENSUS REVISION

The census revealed an increase of 48 persons over 1960/61 figures. 217 men have been recruited for plantation labour, leaving 214 able bodied males in the villages. There were 70 new births recorded and 31 deaths.

As was mentioned under Native Affairs, 26 persons of WANAMOI failed to appear for census and five males are awaiting a Court Of Native Affairs hearing. Census revision in other villages was carried out quiet well.

Last year, all records and village books were lost during a canoe upset and therefore new books were made out during December 1960. Several new names which have been included in this years figures could quite easily have been missed during 1960 census. The new village books were issued to all villages.

SUMMARY

The native situation in all fifteen villages under complete Administration control is good. The only unrest is coming from the uncontacted villages of HI'A. UM, and WAUSUAI and the villages of AMASU and TIGCI, which have both been contacted once. Patrols into these areas will be mounted at a future date.

The village of WANAMOI has settled down to normal village life and the persons convicted of the Yellow River Massacres are causing no trouble except NARI, who is awaiting a charge of census evasion.

Howe

Barry A. Downes P/O
O.I.C. May River.

M.A. Report 1/61-62

Report On R.P.N.G.C. Accompanying The Patrol

5149. Const. 1st Class EGMUN

Very good policeman who handles the locals well. Carried out his duties well.

6672. Constable UFER

Average Constable. Carried out duties well.

7872. Constable MEGOBAIN

Good, quiet, steady worker.

8124. Constable TAMUS

Good worker, cheerful disposition.

8405. Constable GITORA

This Constable was incharge of the outboard motors and, did an excellent job. His intimate knowledge of the area was a great help.

9508. Constable SLIBIN

Average constable, inclined to be quick tempered.

Down
.....
(Barry A. Downes P/O)
O.I.C. May River.

m R Refers 1/61-62

MAY RIVER LOCAL CENSUS DIV

MAP TO ACCOMPANY 1950 CENSUS
MAY RIVER N° 1 of 1950
SCALE 4 MILES TO 1 INCH

SWAMP
PATROL ROUTE
IBU VILLAGE

