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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: MILNE BAY

STATION: SUAU, 1964 - 1965

Original documents bound with reports for: Cameron, volume 1.

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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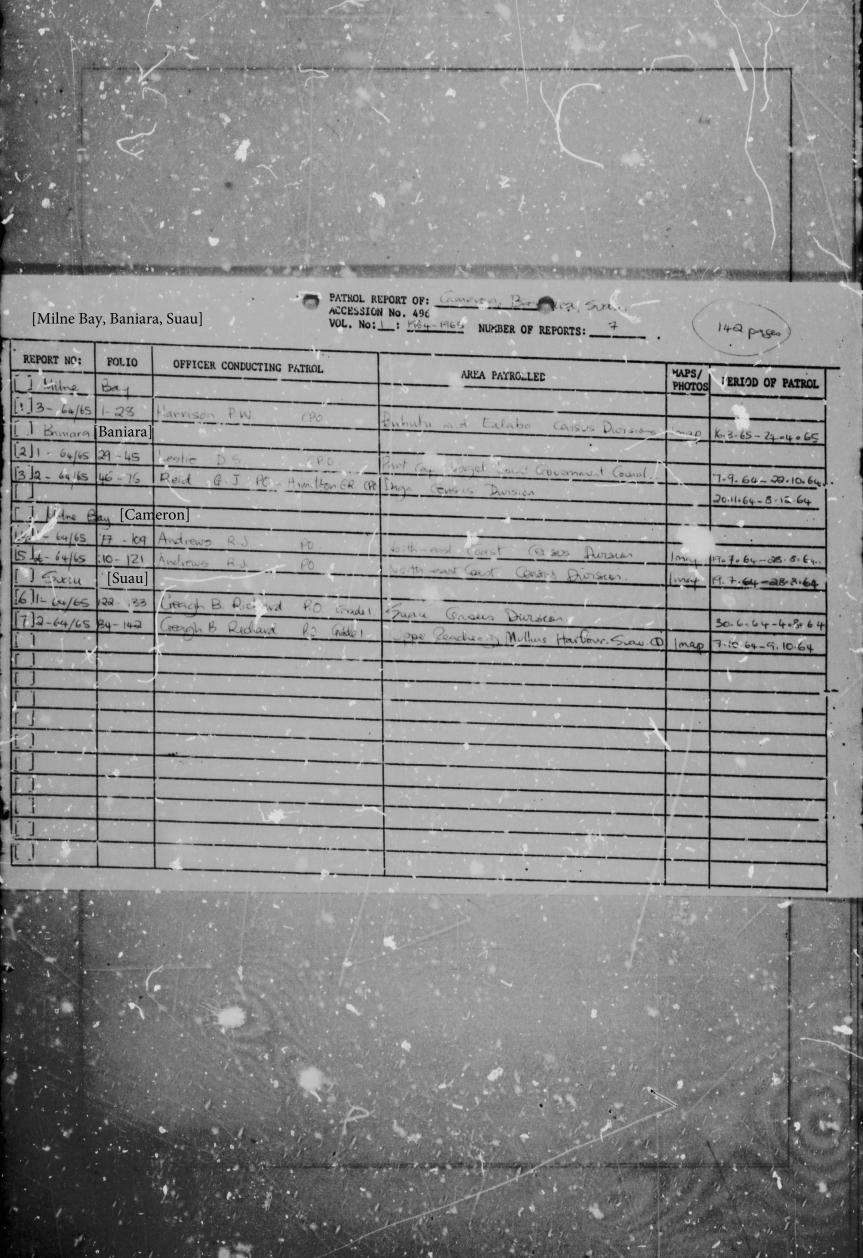


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MILNE BAY DISTOICT PATROL REPORTS

1964/1965

MILNE BAY, BANIARA, CAMERON PLATEAU, SUAU

Officer Conducting Area Patrolled
Patrol Report No. MIINE BAY 3 - 1964/1965 P.W Harrison Buhutu and Ealaba Census Div. BANIARA 1 - 1964/1965 D.S. Leslie Part Cape Vogel N. L. G. C. Area 2 - 1964/1965 G.J. Reid Daga Census Div. CAMERON PLATEAU 1 - 1964/1965 R.J. Andrews North East Coast Census Div 2 - 1964/1965 North East Coast Census R.J. Andrews Div. Nuakata & Iabam Is.

SUAU

1 - 1964/1965 R. B. Creagh 2 - 1964/1965 R.B. Creagh

Suau Census Div.
Upper Reaches of Mullins
Harbour, Suau Census Div.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

| District ofMilne Bay Report No. 1. of 1964/65 (SUAL) |
|--|
| Patrol Conducted by Richard Blakeney Creagh, Patrol Officer Gr 1 |
| Area Patrolled SUAU Census Division |
| Patrol Accompanied by EuropeansNil |
| Natives2. R. P. &. N. G. C |
| Number of Days36. |
| Did Medical Assistant Accompany ?No |
| Last Patrol to Area by—District Services/1/1964 |
| Medical /\4./196\4. |
| Map ReferenceSketch Nap Sttached |
| Objects of PatrolAnnual.Census, Inspection.L.G.C.Projects, |
| General Administration |
| |
| DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES |
| DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES |
| DIATION OF DISTRICT SERVICES A OF NOTIFIED AFFAIRS, BY THE DOBO. PAPUA. |
| DINTER OF DISTRICT SERVICES AND NATIVE AFFAIRS, BY. Forwarded, please. 91 00/1966 |
| DIATE OF DISTRICT SERVICES A JO NO BOR. PAPUA. Forwarded, please. District Commissioner Officer |
| DIANGLE AFFAIRS, BY PICAL DOBO. PAPUA. Forwarded, please. District Gommissioned Freek Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £ |
| Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £ |
| Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £ |

67-4-3

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Department of District Administration, Konedoba, Papus.

2nd November, 1964.

The District, Administration, Miles SW District,

MIROL R. PHE NO. 1 - 1964/65 - SUAU

Receipt of the above mentioned patrol report and covering comments are acknowledged with thanks.

news sheet. However, the contents should be balanced in order attract the people's interest, and at the same time t nder state and at the same time t nder state and state at a projects. I have no doubt your ast bultural staff will provide suitable articles to be included in relation to agricultural projects. Health could also contribute.

Trak planting should be festered.

I hope Mr. Creagh complimented publicly to the people of the villages in the mountains behind Orangeric Bay on the fine standard of their villages.

The planting of 20,000 trees during the patrol by

Does the council propose to sink wells in the villages to provide fresh water?.

The attitude of the councillors is of course, normal, however, the promotion of village countitiess might assist in the enforcement of council rule which then depends on the individual.

The providing of the minutes of council meetings in the news sheet should be followed up.

A good report giving evidence of positive action in developmental fields.

(J.K. McCarthy)

67.4.3

DISTROFF 13 67-1-8

B.K. DEEN/bs.

Department of Native Affairs, SAMARAI... NILNE BAY DISTRICT.

12th October, 1964.

Assistant District Officer, Sub-District Office, SAMABAI.

SUAU PATROL REPORT NO. 1 of 1964-1965 MR.R. CREACH.

heceipt is acknowledged of the above report and your covoring memorandum 67-1-8/17 of th. 9th October, 1964.

Comments:

- 1. I do not recall seeing the Council Rule re fencing of pigs. Would you advise please.
- I have advocated the introduction of a Council newsheet for quite some time. Please ensure that far more than a mere 50 copies are printed its success depends upon interesting contents (rather than an extensive list of Council Rules) and wide distribution. Please advise Mr. Creagh to draft an article on the need for the people to clear suitable land and plant coconut palms to build up their economic/commercial future.
- 3. Poor village housing and little interest in improving the economic potential could be factors which contribute to the drift to the urban areas.
- 4. Bo Councillors ever visit Port Moresby to collect Council Tax from people from the Council area?

Mr. Creagh has as usual submitted an excellent report on a patrol carried out in a most competent manner.

Minute to:-

The Director Department of Native Affairs, KONEDOBU ... PAPUA.

For your records, please.

B.K. LEEN District Officer.

DISTROFF 67-1-8/17

the Patrol:

Number of Days:

Durotion of Patrolt

K.I. CHISTER/bs.

Sub-District Office, SAMARAI.

9th October, 1964.

mard Blakeney Creagh, Patrol Officer.

District Officer, Milne Bay District, SAMARAI.

SUAU PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1964-65.

Attached hereto please find reg census patrol of the Suau Census Division s Patrol Officer Greagh. My comments as folir routine

Annual Consus,

Political Situation:

The problems of councillors not report constituents is not an unusual one. Constant propagation necessary to overcome this.

charge id each for the sale of their Newspaper - but the bringing to account of the few shillings involved may cause more trouble than it is worth.

Economic Development:

It is pleasing to see that progress is being made in this field, with the increased planting of coconuts and coffee, and I will await with interest the results of the teak plantings. With the amount of boat building and repairs to boats carried out in this district, teak would have a ready sale.

Airfields:

The SUAIBINA airstylp commenced as a joint venture between Mr. Stuntz, M.V.A. and the people of the area. The Administration is not committed in any way with its construction, and it remains as a private venture between Mr. Stuntz and the native people.

All other aspects have been fully covered by the patrolling officer. A well presented report of an area which is law abiding and gradually awakening, both economically and politically. The Patrol Officer has an adequate explanation for the late submission.

Officer.

IERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

File 67-1-1, Patrol Post, SUAU, Fife Bay, Milne Bay District. 5th August, 1964.

The Assistant District Officer, Sub-District Office, SAMARAI.

SUAU PATROL REPORT No.1 of 1964-65.

Patrol Conducted by:
Area Patrolled:
Personnel Accompanying
the Patrol:
Duration of Patrol:

Number of Days: Last Patrol of the Area:

Objects of the Patrol:

and the course of the same of

Richard Blakeney Creagh, Patrol Officer.

SUAU Census Division, 2 R.P.& N.G.C. members, 1 Interpreter,

30.6.64 to 4.8.64,

February - March, 1964 - complete,

D.A.S.F.- March - April, 1963, P.H.D. - APril-May, 1964, part, Annual Census, inspection of

Local Government Council installations,

general administration.

Map Reference: Sketch map attached, Contingencies for eamping allowance are attached.

Richard Blakeney Creagh, Officer - in - Charge.

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INTRODUCTION:

The main object of this patrol was to conduct the annual census, and this was carried out. All Local Government Council installations were inspected and remarks re these will be seen under seperate heading. All hamlets in the area were visited either by myself or the interpreter accompanying the patrol. Councillors, L.G.C., were all given instructions as to what standard of housing was required to meet the Housing Rule as passed by the Council.

The patrol stayed overnight in every village, except Isudau, which is only 45 minutes walk from the Patrol Post.

Hecention of the Patrol:

The people of every village seemed genuinely pleased to see the patrol. The writer has become more aware of the needs and wants of every village in relation to the area as a whole.

This seems to have given the people more confidence in bringing their problems, whether personal or general, to the patrol.

No difficulty was experienced in obtaining transportation in any village.

Villages:

It was noticed that the standard of housing has improved since the last patrol of the area. Instructions were given by the writer to all L.G. Councillors on the standards required by the Council Housing rule. As a result of these instructions 405 orders were given by Councillors to the people of every village except, VIO, WADAUDA, and KONDU. These last mentioned villages are in the mountains behind ORANGERIE Bay and the people of this area have always thought to have been rather backward. However their villages are something that they proud of and for this they are to be commended; and they could certainly give their costal neighbours a few pointers in village hygiene.

Councillors were advised that the villages could be made to look more attractive if small trees and shrubs were planted around the village. Whilst the patrol was in the field over 20,000 trees, etc. were planted out by the people. It is hoped that the people will continue to plant flowers etc. around their villages.

Water supplies in all villages are adequate. It is moped that the Council will ev atually sink wells in all villages so as to insure that there is clean fresh water available at all times.

Cutline of the Political Situation:

The people of this area are starting to show a real interest in the work of the Local Government Council. However the Councillors, on the whole, are a rather ineffective lot. Their duties were once again explained to them in detail. Their attitude seems to be, We that report our electors for disobeying instructions re housing etc. as they are all our friends, and after all who brings

Outline of the Political Situation (Cont.): a friend before a magistrate?' It was eplained to the Councillors that the Rules as passed by the Council were for the betterment, not only of the area, but for the individual. That by enforcing the rules the Council hoped that the people would take a real pride in the development of their area. It is hoped that all w the Councillors will be able to visit the Milne Bay Council area and see that Council in operation.

The Council newspaper, SUAU WASANA, has promoted a lot of interest in the Council. The writer was asked if subscriptions could be obtained to this paper. It would appear that the Council could give serious consideration to selling the paper at a nominal cost which would cover the costs of paper, ink, etc., say 1d .At present only 50 copies are printed at each edition. Minutes of all Counc. I meetings are to be reported in this publication in

There would appear to be no problems in relation to Marriage Gifts or any other social aspects of this area. The younger generation still seem to think that fortunes are still to be won in the major towns of the Territory. There is still about 15% of the population absent outside the area.

Problems in relation to food shortages are non-existent Agriculture: in the area. Garden areas would appear to be adequate in all villages. The people are starting to fence their pigs in since the Council passed a rule in relation to allowing pigs to run wild in village or garden areas. This rule still has to be approved by Headquarters.

The Council has this year offered a prize to the person who plants out the most coconuts. This has certainly stimulated interest in this field, as evidenced by the number of new plantations seen by the patrol. A lot of coconutx trees are now senile and not producing any worthwhile quantities of nuts, so that this remewed interest in increasing production is to be

It is known that copra production has increased in encouraged. the last year, but the actual increase is unknown. The coffee gardens which were seen by the patrol were neat and tidy

Pigs still hold the attention of all Suau people when Livestock: it comes to marriage and death payments. As mentioned above pigs are low being funced. The area of land set aside and fenced for pigs varies from a few square yards to quarter acre blocks

The Department of Forests has advised the Council Forests: that seeds, teak, will be available either at the end of this year, or early next year. The Council has expressed the desire to start a reaforestation scheme as soon as seeds become available. Seeds beds are to be started soon it the Council



Forests: (cont.).

Headquarters. It is hoped to plant out between 5,000 and 10,000 seeds, and these will be transferred to villages who desire to start small forests of this valuable timber.

Commerce and Industry:

The Co-operative societies are still very popular throughout the area. The four societies and branches are situated at Suau Island, Savaia, IsuIsu and AloAlo. The last mentioned is run from Lopom in the Central District. At this store it was noticed that prices for most items were higher than at other stores in the area.

The European owned stores are still all functioning. It is claimed that the takings are falling off. This situation is hard to fathom unless of course the people are purchasing their goods from the Co-operative stores. This seems unlikely as in the Orangerie Bay area there are four European owned stores and no Co-operative stores. It has been noticed that numerous people are buying their food etc. direct from Samarai.

Numerous trading licenses are held by Papuans throughout the area. These stores are in no way a threat to any private or Co-operative enterprise in the area.

Land:

There are no land shortages in the area and the Administation has no need, at present, to purchase any more land.

Complaints:

There were very few complaints heard by the patrol. The usual civil plaints in regard to marriage and death price are fewer now than they were on the writer's previous visits.

Courts:

There were three cases heard by the Court for Native Matters during the patrol. All three defendants were convicted under Regulation 71(a) of the Native Regulation Ordinance, "striking or unlawfully laying hold of".

The people of the Suau area remain law abiding, and most offences are very minor.

Rest Houses:

The standard of rest houses throughout the area is now well above average. The plan attached as Appendix"D" of Patrol Report No.2 of 1963/64 (Suau), has now been implemented with a few minor local variations. The rest houses are in all instances comfortable, and the people always decorate them with flowers and ferns throughout.

Carriers, Canoes etc.

No difficulty was experienced in obtaining carriers or canoes throughout the patrol. However officers proceeding to Kondu, Wadauda and Vio should cut down on the amount of patrol equipment carried, as it is difficult to obtain carriers in these areas due to the small population.

Carriers, Canoes, etc: (cont)

The rate of 6/- per full day for a man still holds throughout the area. The writer paid 1/- per hour throughout the patrol. The distance between villages is not great and carriers can always return to their villages in the same day. Health:

The standard of health throughout the area still remains high.

The L.M.S.mission still conduct their maternal and infant welfare clinic and hospital, in Fife Bay. The sister-in-charge does patrols to most of the villages in the area.

Another Aid Post has been opened bringing the total to four. One Council aid post still remains to be staffed, however this has been attended to and an orderly is expected at the end of the year.

The mamager of Gadaisu Plantation is now in receipt/of regular supplies(medical) from the Administration. This has alliviated the position which existed during the writer's last visit to the area.

Serious cases of illness are transported to Samarai for treatment. The people are becoming more aware of their responsibilities in regard to the care of their children which is heartening.

The number of obviously pregnant women seen during the patrol was 49.

Education:

There are Administration schools at Gadaisu, Konemaiava, Fife Bay and Suau Island. The L.M.S.mission conducts 3 recognised schools and it is thought that the people are well catered for in the feild of education. Attendances at all schoold is good, and the children appear to enjoy school Cemeteries:

Cemeteries are in existence in all villages at a good distance from housing. Some of these burial plots were cleaned whilst the writer was in the field as they were are a little overgrown with grass and weeds.

Missions:

The L.M.S. mission still remain the leaders in the field of evangilization. Kwato Extentsion have a Papuan pastor at the village of Boroai. Kwaioa village has strong Anglican leanings and these people send their children to Dogura for schooling. Dogura is three days walk away.

The headquarters of the L.M.S. is in Fife Bay. The staff consists of two Europeans and 3 Camoans. Two primary schools are conducted and also a school of theology.

Practically all villages have a representative, pastor or deacon, of the L.M.S. resident in the village. It is pleasing to note that the mission are very pro-Administration, and the writer is at all times given help and information.

Labour: The three plantations in the area, Gadaisu, Mariawatte and Isu Isu, employ imported and local labour. The labour on these plantations seem to be happy and no complaints were brought to the patrol.

A large number, 775, of the local population are employed within and without the District. This large absenteeism results in a shortage of labour within the area for read and bridge and also in the construction of L.G.C. projects.

Targe numbers of young men and women leave the area each year to sock employmen 'n Port Moresby. ', is a pity that the cannot be rescrained, but as ti is little c ance of employment within the area, this stace of affairs can be understoo .

Roads 1 Bridges:

Airfields:

It was most pleasin to note the pro ss which has occurred in this field since t writer was 1.s. on patrol. Advice re the siteing of roads and pridges was given by the writer who asked to do s by the reopte.

Section of road are springing up all over the area and a lot of thought has gone into the siteing. It is hoped to complete the Patrol Post - Isulsu road before whe end of the year. It is the opinion of one writer that the people should be encouraged in the field of roadwork.

Census:

The annual census was condicted during this atrol. The people of over, village were good in their attendance and information they gave the writer Completed census forms are / tached to this report.

The population of the reals now 5,019 which is a risa over last year's figure. There were 38 deaths recorded during th's census and 108 births recorded. The infan' mortality rate was only six this year which was very pleasing and is de meinly to the work of the L.M.S.mission in the fi d of infant welfare.

The number of people absent was 1112 and the majority these were adults. Children absent are painly at school either in the District or outside.

Conclusion:

The patrol was conducted with as little haste as possible and it is ho so to mount another complete patrol of the area within sax months. The people were at all times happy to see the patrol and every possible help.

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APPENDIX "A" REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL PUAN AND

Reg. No. 7748 Constable 1st Class AWADU.

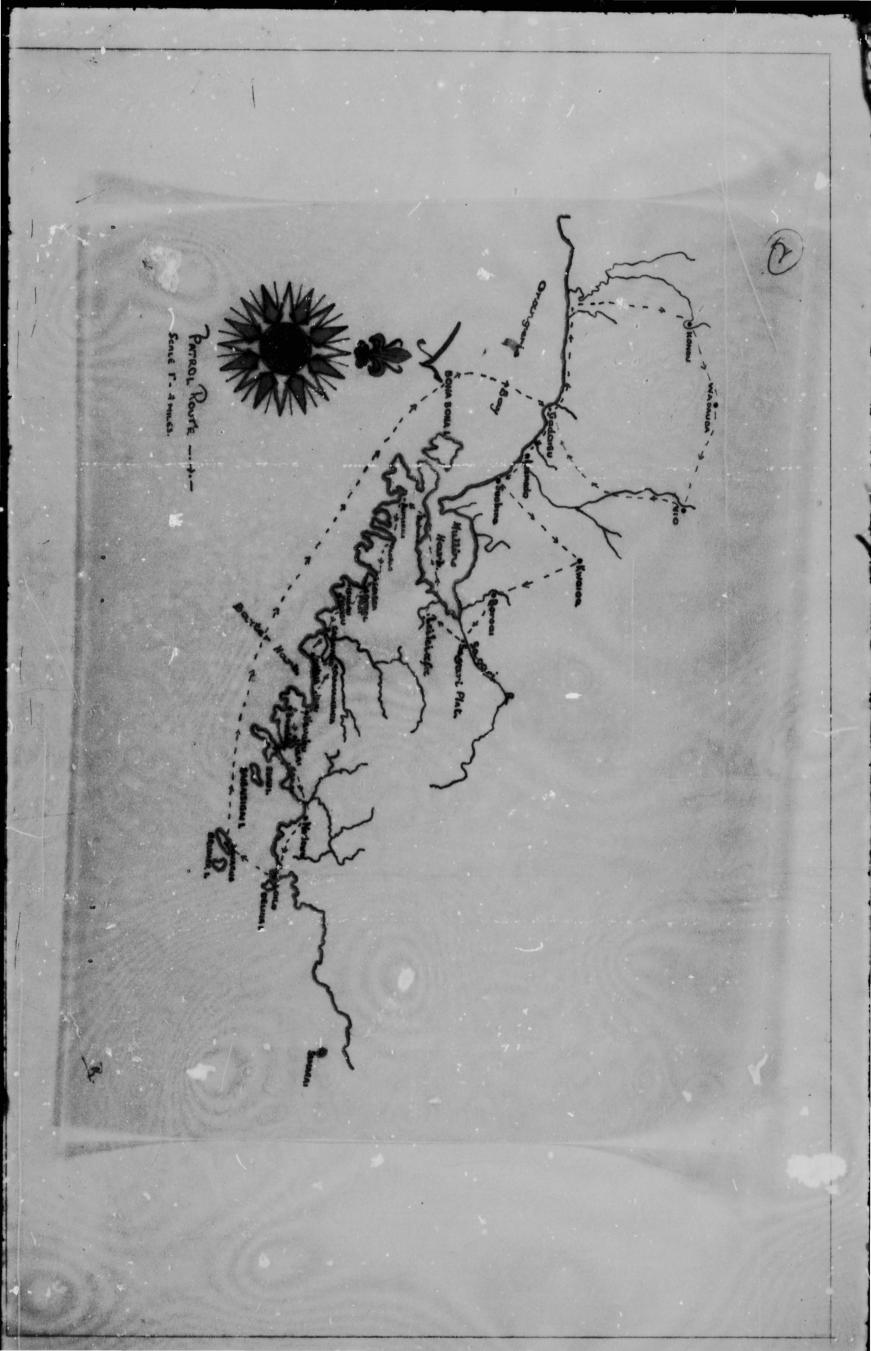
This was the first patrol for this member. He conducted hims f in a most satisfactory manner. He was at all times polite and well turned out.

Reg. No. 10314 Constable Borugawa.

This member was as always a great help. His conduct was above average.

I certify that the above comments have been entered on the member's record of service and that Form R.S.1 has been forwarded to Police Headquarters.

icer R.P.& N.G.C.



H.Q. 17



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

| District of | Report No.2. of 1.964-65 (SUAU) |
|---|--|
| Patrol Conducted byRichardBlakene | ay Creagh, Patrol Officer Grade 1. |
| Area Patrolled. Upper reaches of Mul | llins Harbour, Suau Census Division. |
| Patrol Accompanied by Europeansn11 | |
| Natives.1R.P& | N.G.C. member, 1 Interpreter. |
| Duration—From7/.10/19.64to9/ | 10.19.64. |
| Number of Da | ys. 3 days |
| Did Medical Assistant Accompany?No | |
| Last Patrol to Area by-District Services | July/19.64. [complete]. |
| Medical | //19 |
| Map ReferenceSketch Map attached | d |
| Objects of PatrolInspectproposed | airstrip site |
| | |
| DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES AND NATIVE AFFAIRS, PORT MURESBY. Woncelow. Pofia. | Forwarded, please. District Commissione Office. |
| Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation | on £ |
| | |
| Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund | £ |
| | £ |
| Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund | £ |
| Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund | £ |

TELEGRAM TELEGRAM TELEGRA 1541 SAMARAI 16/12 25 0845 DISADM KONEDOBU 14 HAVE MAILED FULL COVERAGE PARAGRAPH THO YOUR 67-4-4 DATED SIXTEENTH, NOVEMBER DISCOM TWO YOUR 67-4-4) (14 TWO RET OFE 1017 Ma.

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67-4-4

16th November, 1964.

District Squaissioner, Dept. of District Administration, Milne Bay District, SAMBRAL.

PATROL REPORT NO. 2-64/65 (SUAU)

and have noted that it appears there is an ideal site for an airfield at the head of Mullins Harbour.

2. If, after permeal of the Patrol Officer's submission, you decide to recommend further action, please do so to this office, although prima facts there are few economic rewards which will accrue against the cost of establishing an airfield at Dawadawa and there are so few inhabitants in the area that it will be difficult to prepare a case for funds for this project.

J. K. McCarthy,



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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

DISTROFF

67-1-7

If calling ask for

B.K. LEEN/bs



Department of Native Affairs, SAMARAI...MILNE BAY DISTRICT.

21st October, 1964.

The Director, Native Affairs, Department o KONEDOBU ..

PATROL REPORT NO. 2 of 1964/65 (SUAU).

Pleas find attached the original of the above report which was submitted by Mr.R.B. Creagh for a 3 day patrol to investigate a proposed airstrip site.

For your records, please. of was the present on 20 her The District Office the palor has the along there will be along the series of the seri

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

(6)

file no:67-1-1(13), Patrol Post, SUAU, Fife Bay, Milne Bay District. 12th October, 1964.

The Assistant District Officer, Sub-District Office, SAMARAI.

SUAU PATROL REPORT No.2 of 1964-65.

Patrol Conducted by: Area Patrolled: Personnel Accompanying the Patrol: Duration of Patrol: Number of Days: Last Patrol of the Area:

Object of Patrol: Map reference:

ul

MIGH

H L

Richard Blakeney Creagh, Patrol Officer 1, Upper reaches of Mullins Harbour, 1 R.P.& N.G.C. member, 1 Interpreter, 7.10.1964 to 9.10.1964, 3 Faly, 1964 - complete, D.A.S.F. March-April, 1963, P.H.D. April-May, 1964 (part), Inspection of proposed airstrip site, Sketch Map attached,

Contingancies for camping allowance are attached.

Richard Blakeney Creagh, Officer - in - Charge. The object of this patrol was to inspect a proposed airstrip site in the BOROAI area of this Census Division. The writer was absent from the Patrol Post for 3 days. Folios 41 and 42, paragraphs 100-103 Feild Officer's Journal refer.

AIRSTRIP SITE:

The airstrip site was inspected on the 11th instant and was found to be an ideal area of ground for an airfield. It was originally intended to inspect the site at DUEKU, however the people of BOROAI and KWAIOA villages had decided that this site was unsatisfactory due to the fact that it was subject to local flooded during the recent heavy rains. The DUEKU site has a large sago swamp at the western end.

The site inspected is known as DAWADAWA and is forty minutes easy walk from the BUROAI rest house. The strip of land faces east-west, and is not more than 50 feet above sea level.

Average annual rainfall is in the vicinity of 120-140 inches.

The distance from the Patrol Post is about 15 miles in a straight line, and it takes 9 hours to cover this distance.

The owners of the land, DAVID DUIALO and WILIWILI PELASAI both of BOROAI, are keen to allow the land to be used as an airstrip.

The site itself is at least one mile long and varies between 200 yards and 400yards in width. The approaches are excellent, and only about twenty large trees would have to felled to allow easy access for 'planes. The ground is firm and there are no rocky outcrops visible on the surface. No streams of any size cut across the site. There are some small depressions varying in depth from 4 inches to 1 foot - no wider than 3 feet.

The WEGULANI River flows past the strip at a distance of 100 yards - there is no danger of flooding from this stream. The area is covered with kunai grass and there are approximately 30 small trees (BATUN) per acre. These trees cause no real problem, and the grass can easily be burnt-off. The land at present is used purely for hunting, i.e. the grass is fired and wallables, pigs, etc. are killed. This takes place once a year according to the people.

POTENTIAL:

The need for the airstrip is purely local, i.e. it is confined to the villages in the upper reaches of Mullins Harbour. An airstrip in this area would service BOROAI(population 110, of whom 18 are absent), LEILEIAFA (Population 176 of whom 35 are absent) and KWAIOA(population 228 of whom 40 are absent). This means a total population of 514 with 96 absentees. It is very doubtful whether Sagarai and Mariawatte Plantations would make use of this airstrip due to the fact that there are no roads connecting these two establishments with the site. Mariawatte is eight hours walk away, and Sagarai four hours walk away.

The people of BOROAI and KWAIOA are actively engaged in

(3)



the production of coffee. However this crop is not very large and individual gardens in the BOROAI area have no more than 50 trees bearing. In the KWAIOA area the gardens may have as many as 200 trees.

Crabs are numerous in the BOROAI-LEXLEIAFA area. KWAIOA could easily produce european vegetables as this village is situated in the ranges behind Mullins Harbour at an altitude of 1,600 feet. The people of the area expressed the opinion that they could produce las quantities of vegetables for sale in Port Moresby. At no time did the writer encourage the people to go ahead with the construction of the airstrip. It was pointed out to the people that approval would have to be forthcoming from Civil Aviation headquarters in Port Moresby before any work could be done on the airstrip.

Another problem which arises is the fact that were is no wireless station in close proximity to the strip site which could broadcast weather reports and strip condition reports. The nearest station is a privately owned one at Sagarai Plantation 4 hours walk away.

As usual the writer was shown every kindness and help throughtout the patrol.

Richard Blakeney Creagh, Officer - in - Charge.

APPENDIX "A"

REPORT ON MEMBER OF ROYAL PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA CONSTABULARY

Reg. No. 7740 Constable 1st Class AWADU

This member conducted himself in a satisfactory manner. At all times of great assistance.

I certify that the above comments have been entered in the member's Record of Service and that Form R.S.1 has been forwarded to Police Headquarters.

> Richard Blakeney Creagh, Officer R.P.& N.G.C.

