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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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[Volume 13]

PATROL REPORT OF: LAKE MURRAY WESTERN ACC. No: 496.

Volume No: ..... 14 [13] 1964/65 ..... Number of Reports: ... 5 .....

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WESTERN DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1964/1965

LAKE MURRAY

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
<u>Lake Murray</u>		
1 - 1964/1965	F.J.L. Haynes.	Middle Fly Census Div.
2 - 1964/1965	F.J.L. Haynes.	Lake Murray Census Div.
3 - 1964/1965	F.J.L. Haynes	Middle Fly Census Div.
4 - 1964/1965	F.J.L. Haynes	Lake Murray Census Div.
5 - 1964/1965	F.J.L. Haynes	Middle Fly Census Div.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



# PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. 1/6-55

Patrol Conducted by F. J. L. HAYES, Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled Middle Fly Census Division.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NO

2 Members R.F.S.M.C.S.

Natives 1 Interpreter  
1 Agricultural Fieldworker

Duration—From 25/7/1964 to 6/8/1964

Number of Days 12

Did Medical Assistant accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1/6/1964

Medical NO/6/1964

Map Reference Sheet 7 Aerial Map Border.

Objects of Patrol 1964 Census General Administration.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

26 18 1964

James Holmes  
District Commissioner

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

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

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

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

~~67-3-19~~  
67.3.3 (13)



File:67-6-1

Patrol Post,  
LAKE MURRAY  
Western District.

7th October, 1964.



The District Officer,  
Western District,  
DARU

PATROL REPORT NO. 1-64/65 - LAKE MURRAY

Refer comments by the Director on the above patrol report dated 9th September, 1964.

On reading these comments I feel that there is a misunderstanding at headquarters regarding economic development in this area, especially with reference to the crocodile industry and copra production.

The statement that "If we restrict the size of crocodile skins they will be sold on the other side of the border" certainly doesn't apply to this area. I do not feel that there is any basis for this statement and I am sure that any person who has been in this area would entirely disagree with it. At present the people of Lake Murray are voluntarily restricting the size of crocodiles they catch.

Copra production, as a basis for food, has been encouraged for years with some success. To encourage copra as a cash crop would be wrong as these people have not the land or the means of communications available to make even a reasonable living from this product. To tell the people of the Middle Fly that they could make a fair living out of copra production in the future would be only misleading then.

The economic future for the people of the Middle Fly will not come from copra but from crocodile skins. This is a fact which must be recognised at Headquarters. The placing of a restriction on the size of crocodile skins is necessary if the economic development of this region is to be secured.

Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
DARU.

For information, reference your 67-3-19 of August, 1964. The whole subject of crocodile skins is being raised in a separate memo.

(I. A. Holmes)  
DISTRICT OFFICER  
October 30th, 1964.

F. J. L. HAYNES, P.O.  
(Officer in Charge)

File: 67-6-1.

67-3-3



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

12

Telegrams  
Telephones  
Our Reference  
If calling ask for  
Mr

IAH'CR  
67-6-1.



District Office,  
Western District,  
DARU.

October 19th, 1964.

The Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU.

PATROL REPORT No. 1 - 1964/65 - LAKE MURRAY

Reference your 67-3-3 of 9th September, 1964.

*copy sent to  
Mr. Toland  
11/10*

2. There is no purchasing source for crocodile skins in WEST IRIAN, nor trade store items available at any point near our border. Whilst superior purchasing facilities remain close at hand in Papua, I doubt if any Papuans are likely to take crocodile skins into WEST IRIAN.

3. BOSET natives have long eschewed working at MERAUKE. Current opportunities there are negligible; indeed there is a large depressed urban force living around town on their wits more than work. Whilst such labour as is engaged is apparently modestly paid in the local currency, there is little available to purchase with it. BOSET interests are entirely turned towards Papuan employment and a number are so engaged in PORT MORESBY.

4. Further advice will follow on the other matters raised.

(I. A. Holmes)  
DISTRICT OFFICER



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

11

Telegrams

Telephone 4267

67-3-3

Our Reference

If calling ask for

Mr.

Department of Native Affairs,  
Konedobu, Papua.

29th September, 1964.

The Assistant Administrator (Services),  
KONEDOBU.

PATROL REPORT NO. 1-64/65 - LAKE  
MURRAY:

Your attention is invited to the content of this Report.

1. There appears to be some movement to and from West New Guinea but the people appear to be becoming more stabilised.

MANDA: A new village has been formed absorbing people including those from the mysterious BOVAKAKA we have had so much trouble in pin-pointing in the past.

2. The control of crocodile shooting is not so simple as it may appear on the surface. If we introduce regulations relating to the size of skins which are marketable, the people will only dispose of them at Merauke. Further, it is expected that the crocodiles will retreat from the larger waterways into more inaccessible areas which will in turn restrict the number of crocodiles killed. I think that at this stage we should leave things alone.

3. The District Officer has been advised to take up fresh water supply with his local medical authorities.

I believe that the Administration should make some contribution in the form of skills and some materials and the people should be co-opted in establishing a suitable supply for each settlement.

In the matter of water transport to supply local trade, I feel that the expenditure of £5000 on a vessel at this stage may not prove satisfactory because of lack of maintenance facilities.

*examined with  
B. of Adams  
Refer for  
present  
1-10  
Hold for A.A.(S)  
2/10  
H. 16/10.*

I agree that it is desirable to have some type of cash reward for those officials who pass information to our officers in relation to Border movement. If this is approved in principle, I shall write the District Officer seeking his advice as to amounts.

*J. K. McCarthy*  
(J. K. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR.



Will employment by the Catholic Mission in the BOSET area continue to absorb local labour to the extent that they will be disinterested in seeking work at Merauke?

Foster the Buyers' Society. Could Agricultural workers' energies be channeled towards subsistence agriculture at this stage?

You should approach the Medical Officer to have an additional Orderly available to accompany patrols if the Aid Posts are insufficient.

I am somewhat reluctant for the people to purchase vessels to the value of £5000 if there are not ready means of maintenance available. I think it best to keep to the outboards for the present.

The matter of incentive pay will be taken up by this Headquarters.

(J. E. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR.

67-3-3

29th September, 1964.

District Officer,  
Western District,  
P. R. U.

PATROL REPORT NO. 1-64/65 - LAKE MURRAY:

Receipt of the abovementioned Patrol Report is acknowledged with thanks.

You should press for pumps from Public Health.

I am gratified to note that the "MIWA" has proved so satisfactory in transporting the patrol.

What were the subjects of discussion at MIPAN?

I suggest that notes on the association between the people in Papua and those in West New Guinea be recorded in relation to the KUMK area. They will be valuable for officers following and will be of value at this Headquarters.

Will you please arrange to have a drum similar to those mentioned in the diary of July 30th, purchased and sent for display in the Territory museum. Let me know what funds are required.

I am pleased that an Agricultural field worker accompanied the patrol. Officers will have to provide the stimulus in any advancement that the people are likely to make at present.

It is most heartening that the people of BOSET show such an interest in what their representative in the House of Assembly is doing to benefit them. When volumes of Hansard arrive officers should study them in order that they can inform the people on the part their representative is playing in the House. I take it that full support was given village officials by the patrol.

The freight rate of £20 per ton for copra seems excessive. See if you can't get the Agricultural workers to stimulate interest in copra production even on a food basis in the first instance.

If we restrict the size of crocodile skins they will only be sold on the other side of the Border. I think the present proportion of shotguns should be maintained for the time being as a means of preventing the crocodiles being completely shot out.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67 3 39

Telegrams  
Telephone  
Our Reference  
If calling, ask for  
Mr.

LA CR



District Office,  
Western District,  
DARU.

August 26th, 1964.

The Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU.

PATROL LAKE MURRAY 1-64/65 - MIDDLE FLY CENSUS DIVISION

...

Attached is a Report of the above 12-day patrol by Mr. F.J.L. HAYNES, P.O. Grade 1.

2. Apathy is the key note of the LAKE MURRAY people and overcoming it will be a long slow haul. I consider the more sophisticated BOSET people self-reliant rather than apathetic, understandable after many years of Dutch Administration (in name only).
3. Whilst a large number of Village Constables are better than their fellows, the majority are adequately paid under present circumstances. The O.I.C. has been advised that anyone meriting a present or extra payment for border information (interpreted in a fairly wide sense) is to be paid for same.
4. The special 1:25 ratio of Special Arms Permits for border areas has been extended to the LAKE MURRAY area.
5. Water supplies of non-river villages are certainly none too satisfactory in the dry season. Public Health has only Aid Post Orderlies in the area. I am suggesting a pilot plan with such assistance as the O.I.C. can offer, some fund raising by the villagers and equivalent financial assistance by the LAKE MURRAY Buyers Society from its considerable amount of unexpended capital reserves (if the Directors can be so persuaded). I will try and get a pump from Public Health.
6. MANDA is the new village site of the villages of BOSTAKANA (alias FEGIGAPU) who achieved some notoriety in late 1963 - reference earlier confidential memoranda. The new site approved during my November, 1963, patrol was taking good shape in February, and I am glad to see it has been completed. Housing standards of the average West Irianese are even poorer than those of Papuans.
7. Aspects relating to indigenous crocodile shooting and its protection have been raised separately.
8. A good report by a keen young officer.

*I. A. Holmes*  
(I. A. Holmes)  
DISTRICT OFFICER

INTRODUCTION:

The objects of this patrol were to conduct the 1964 Census in the Middle Fly Census Division, to observe general living conditions in villages and make suggestions for improvements, to inform people of the latest developments and in their Buyers' Society and generally to discuss with the people the future development of the area.

Throughout the patrol it is necessary to move over more than five hundred miles of rivers and swamps. The 22ft. Government launch "MIWA" was used to transport the patrol - it did not fail once and except for being a little slow it is ideally suited to this kind of work.

The weather throughout the patrol was excellent although at times whilst moving down the Fly River strong winds were encountered which made the river surprisingly choppy and conditions on the launch somewhat damp.

A number of questions referring to the border with West Irian are discussed in a confidential memo to the District Officer.

DIARY

Sunday, 26th July, 1964.

0830 per canoe to NAGO village. Yesterday "MIWA" left station for MIPAN via Strickland, Fly and Agu Rivers. Arrived NAGO 1330hrs after an uneventful trip up the June River.

Monday, 27th July, 1964.

0700hrs. Per canoe from NAGO across swamps for 2hrs. to solid ground where walked for 1 1/2 hrs. to reach swamp which lead to the village of MIPAN. Arrived village 1530hrs. Inspected village housing which was in poor shape also looked at Catholic Mission School. In evening spoke for sometime with Village Constable and other village men.

Tuesday, 28th July, 1964.

0830hrs. Census. Fair response only many people absent at BOSSET Mission. Health not good, number of people to Station Aid Post. V.C. issued with complete new uniform. 01230hrs. per Miwa to KUEN. Moved up AGU River for four hours, a little rain. Noticed large gardens on banks of river near village. 1630hrs. inspected village which has been on its present site for less than twelve months. People doing a good job. Spoke with village men in evening - people have close ties with people over border. Census 29th.

Wednesday, 29th July, 1964.

0830hrs. Eight deaths recorded. Most interested in L.M.D.C. activities. V.C. issued with uniform and paid. Departed 01130 hrs. for NAGDA arrived 1530hrs. after very calm trip down AGU River. Village inspected, housing rather poor showed people ways of improving these structures by bracing etc. Number of Mosquitos terrific even for the Western District. People held party in evening.

Thursday, 30th July, 1964.

0830hrs. Recorded births deaths etc. spoke to people and encouraged them to take part in Buyers' Society by becoming shareholders. Also presented a couple of drums as these people are experts in this field. 1200hrs. To BOSSET village down Fly River, very choppy. 1545hrs. in village, looked at housing etc. not very clean. Later went up to Catholic Mission where shown around by Father Benedict, quite an amount of work being done which will benefit the local people.

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

NO. 1/64-65.

DIARY Cont.:

Friday, 31st July, 1964.

0900hrs. Census BOSSERT 342 people, easily the largest in the Lake Murray Patrol Post area. People fairly well dressed. A few minor complaints settled as in all villagers. People aiding in construction of Mission Station. Spoke with people about border but they are not terribly interested. Lunched with Father Benedict. Departed 13<sup>45</sup>hrs. for TINUNGA arrived 1800hrs after warm trip down Fly, managed to hit one log but no damage. Old leader had just died therefore no chance to talk with people in evening.

Saturday, 1st August, 1964.

0830 Census TINUNGA good response. Need for medical patrol to this village as many people require wounds for cuts and scratches etc. In the village housing was found to be rather poor. 1230hrs. With Police and interpreter, Agric worker canoe and walked to the village of AIAMBARK where people assembled for census. After talk held Census, population very static, people very closely related to TINUNGA group. Housing only fair. 16<sup>45</sup>hrs returned to TINUNGA for rest of weekend. As in all villages Village Constable issued with new uniform and paid.

Sunday, 2nd August, 1964.

Observed at TINUNGA.

Monday, 3rd August, 1964.

0700hrs per Mwa down Fly River to KAVIARANGA - river rather choppy and very dirty. Arrived village 1400hrs. as not feeling too well (cold) decided to rest and conduct Census on Tuesday. Inspected village and spoke with some villagers. Arranged for canoes to transport patrol to KOMAVAI tomorrow afternoon for Census in that village.

Tuesday, 4th August, 1964.

0800 Census KAVIARANGA. Many people absent at U.P.M. Mission Pango. Inspected Aid Post and village school, some minor disputes settled. People informed me of their intention to build new houses on a nearby island. Good idea as island on which present village is sited is rather overcrowded. 1130hrs. to small village (two houses) of KOMAVAI for Census. People very pleased to see patrol, first to actually visit the village for a number of years, except for distance from Fly River (4hrs.) and the mosquitoes this area is rather suited to a larger population as coconuts, taro etc. grows well and deer, wild pigs, ducks are fairly commonly found. Census held and village found to be in excellent condition. 1700 returned village.

wednesday, 5th August, 1964.

0700hrs. departed KAVIARANGA for BOIKUNAVA arrived village after the usual very slow trip up the swiftly flowing Strickland. Village in good shape. New school building excellent as was village generally. 1430hrs. Census and general discussion including, as in all villages, a talk by the Agricultural Fieldworker accompanying the patrol. People advised to maintain coconut groves in reasonable condition as well as maintaining canal from Strickland to village.

Thursday, 6th August, 1964.

0600hrs departed BOIKUNAVA for Station. A very long slow trip up the Strickland River into the Herbert River thence almost the full length of the Lake Murray to Station where the patrol arrived at 0200hrs on the 7th August.

-----END OF PATROL-----

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

NO. 1/84-65

## NATIVE AFFAIRS:

*DIVISION*  
The native affairs situation in the Middle Fly Census is generally quite fair however it could be better.

Throughout the patrol I had the feeling that the people were generally apathetic towards the Administration and its aims for the people. There was an attitude of "wait and see" what the Administration will do or give with the hope that the people would be asked to contribute as little effort as possible.

When I say that the native affairs situation is quite fair I mean that schools have been built and are fairly well attended, aid posts are maintained as are the village houses and tracks and waterways are in fair condition. All this seems to be excellent but for the fact that it has all been more or less forced out of the people by every patrol officer who visits the area.

The missions who have constructed the schools and aid posts are continuously at the people to maintain them. During this patrol the Father at the BOUTET Catholic Mission asked if I would encourage the people to help the Mission which I think did as they asked for the Mission to be established and promised labour (they are paid high wages) they are now finding excuses which will prevent them from working.

How this apathy is to be overcome I am not certain. Possibly if the people were given some responsibility for their own development they would show greater interest.

If future patrols were to spend more time in the villages (perhaps a week or more) they may find the reason for the people's attitude and steps may be taken to improve the situation. In any case the people would benefit by the longer stay of the patrol as during its stay the patrol could show villagers ways of improving their houses etc. and possibly help in the construction of water wells or bridges where necessary.

A number of questions regarding the border were raised during the patrol. These are referred to in a confidential memo to the District Officer.

House of Assembly Elections:- As this was the first patrol to visit the area since the elections in February/March I was interested to see the people's reactions. These people realise that they now have a representative in Port Moresby who aims to help them. Many questions were asked, especially in BOUTET village, about the work being done by their elected representative and when the next election was to be held (I am not too sure why the latter question was asked).

Important, I feel, is the fact that most people in the Middle Fly Census Division realise that an election has been held and that as a result of the election they now have a person in the House of Assembly who is helping to guide their future.

Crocodile shooters are not the problem in this area but as they are in the Lake Murray Census division. Crocodiles in the Fly River area are found mainly in the extensive swamps on either side of the river, very few shooters venture into these swamps therefore the crocodile is left to the villager to shoot or spear. At this time the crocodile shooter is not effecting the native affairs situation.

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

NO. 1/64-65. (4)

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

In each village in the Middle Fly Census division village officials are making a fair effort at their work.

Generally however, village officials do not command respect from all sections of the village therefore a lot of work in each village is carried out by the supporters of the village official only, (his supporters are usually his relatives).

This situation often causes the village official to become unpopular with his relatives who ultimately withdraw their support. The village official cannot maintain his position in the community with Administration support alone, he needs the co-operation of all villagers.

Throughout the patrol Village Constables were issued with complete new uniforms and paid.

After having been stationed at Lake Murray now for over five months and having seen the work of Village Constables in the area I honestly believe that they deserve an increase in pay from the Administration.

Village Constables have, legally, much the same responsibilities as members of the R.P.&N.G.C. yet there is a terrific difference in rates of pay.

Also, in this area near the border with West Irian, Village Constables have helped the Administration on many occasions by reporting the presence of refugees and others. Their loyalty alone deserves recognition. I realise that there are numerous paid village officials remaining in Papua and New Guinea and that an increase in pay would effect Government finances however some consideration should be given to this matter.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

The economic development which has taken place in the Middle Fly area has not resulted from Administration. Economic development has resulted generally through the exploitation of the regions natural resources, particularly the crocodile:

Although in some villages there are quite a few coconuts copra production has never been undertaken by the villager with a view to starting an industry which will bring extensive economic development. Most villagers made copra because they were coerced by the Patrol Officer. With present high prices for crocodile skins coconut groves are being completely neglected.

Unless copra prices were to increase substantially these people will never produce large quantities of copra as the return for the effort involved is too low especially when freight rates at £20 a ton are considered. Two average size crocodile skins would return at least £20 and would require no more than two nights work.

Although it cannot be expected that present high prices for crocodile skins will be maintained it would seem that prices will remain high enough for the people in this region to make a fair living. The Administration could encourage economic development in this area by supporting the indigenous hunter. This support should take the form of issuing more Special Arms Permits, possibly one permit to every twenty five people instead of one to fifty, and introduce regulations which restrict the size of crocodile skins which may be shot, bought or sold and thereby prevent the extermination of this valuable natural resource.

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

NO. 1/84-65. 3

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Cont.:

In the BOSSET area some economic development resulted from the sale of labour to the Dutch in Merauke however since the Indonesian takeover all but a few of these people have returned. Those persons should have little difficulty in finding work near to their village as a result of the establishment of a Catholic Mission less than ten minutes walk from their homes.

The Lake Murray Buyers' Society is acting as an agent to economic development in the Middle Fly area by buying skins at reasonable prices and selling goods in the villages also at reasonable prices.

To encourage the people in this region to take a greater interest in their Society it is planned to increase the number of directors so that each village will be represented and will have a say in the future development of Society activities. The Lake Murray Buyers' Society plans to open a store in the Middle Fly area before the end of this year.

## AGRICULTURE:

An Agriculture Field Worker accompanied the patrol and in each village he inspected <sup>planting</sup> of coconuts. There is no coffee in the Middle Fly area and little prospect of coffee development owing to the shortage of suitable land and the lack of any enthusiasm from the people.

Of course coffee is not encouraged in villages West of the Fly River for reasons of quarantine.

Cash cropping has never been an interesting subject for these people and probably never will be for obvious reasons (ie. distance from markets, unsuitable land, shortage of good agricultural land and the crocodile etc.).

Any plans for economic development through agriculture must take the above points into consideration.

## LAW AND JUSTICE:

Although numerous complaints and disputes were heard and settled during the patrol I found that the necessity to resort to court action never arose.

Most complaints concerned money or women. Rights to swamps and land are not disputed in this region as they are in the Lake Murray. Generally relations between villages and villagers seem excellent.

People of the Middle Fly Census Division generally show respect for the law.

## MEDICAL AND HEALTH:

As a result of his commitments on the Station it was not possible for the Government Medical Officer to accompany the patrol.

General health looked to be quite reasonable although a whooping cough, earlier in the year, caused a number of deaths in BOSSET village.

Aid Posts are situated in MIPAN, KAVIA-NANGA and BOIKAMAVA villages with an expending hospital at Bosset Catholic Mission. These facilities must have contributed much to the improved health of villagers.



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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

NO. 1/64-65.

## MEDICAL AND HEALTH Cont.:

In each village it was noted that villagers took their water from surrounding swamp. It was not surprising therefore when, on looking through Aid Post records, I found that many people suffered from dysentery. I feel certain that any action taken by the Administration to supply materials for the construction of wells would be appreciated by the village people and would lead to improved health. (Possibly if the Administration could supply the "how" villagers could provide funds).

## EDUCATION:

There are six village schools in the Middle Fly Census division. Each of these schools is under Mission supervision; at AMBARK and KAVIANANGA the U.F.M. Mission, at BOSSET, TINUNGA and MIPAN the Catholic Mission. The Administration has no schools in this region.

School teachers reported good attendances and classes etc. were found to be in a fair state of repair. Attendance figures and the condition of buildings has resulted from the pressure by Missionaries and Patrol Officers.

At BOSSET the Catholic Mission has one teaching brother and two nuns working in a school which is rapidly expanding. The teacher in charge told me how pleased he was with the progress of his pupils.

The Lake Murray Buyers' Society intends to donate twenty pounds to the U.F.M. and the C.M. for the purchase of uniforms, sporting equipment or books.

Educational facilities in this region are, for the present, quite adequate.

## TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS:

Throughout the entire patrol it was not necessary to walk more than five miles in more than five hundred miles.

At this time of year it is impossible to move through the Middle Fly area except by canoe or small launch. In the dry season (November/December) it is possible to walk long distances.

The people in this area make excellent canoes which are ideally suited to the topography. They are also easily convertible for use with an outboard motor.

A small airstrip recently completed by the Catholic Mission at BOSSET makes it possible for a person to move from the Government Station on Lake Murray to the border in less than 1 hrs., providing of course there is a small plane available with an experienced pilot as the strip is rather rough.

The problem of transport in the Lake Murray region has been mentioned in many patrol reports over the years. At present the main reason for the Buyers' Society not opening a store in the Middle Fly area is shortage of reliable transport. The situation may improve if the Lake Murray and Morched Societies get together and buy a boat. It is essential that these Societies buy a boat as they cannot continue to develop as they should without one. Instead of paying heavy charter and freight rates to traders the societies should put their money, about £5,000, into the purchase of their own vessel.

Transport and communications are rather inadequate although not entirely unsatisfactory.

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

NO. 1/64-65.

## CENSUS:

As this patrol was delayed by nearly four weeks the response to the census in some villages was not good. This was especially the situation in KAVIANANGA and BOIKUNAVA where many people had had to return to the Mission at Pangoa to continue their "bible study" course.

There was some difficulty in obtaining the correct census figures in the new village of MANDA. These people have not been previously censused and many people were absent from the village. There are a number of refugees in MANDA and it was necessary to explain to these people their responsibilities concerning the census. In order to obtain more accurate figures, instead of returning to this village in approximately one month.

The 1964 Census figures for the Middle Fly division are attached to this report. Figures show an increase of 167 persons on the 1963 total however this increase is due mainly to the migration of 108 people into MANDA village.

There were 73 births recorded and 40 deaths, the majority in the over 13 age group. Ten deaths in the 1-4 age group are noted, these deaths were caused by the whooping cough in (BOSSET village mostly).

Figures show that the largest village in the Middle Fly division is BOSSET village with 342 people, the smallest village is KOMAVAI with only 41 people.

## CONCLUSION:

a) The 1964 Census of the Middle Fly division has been successfully completed.

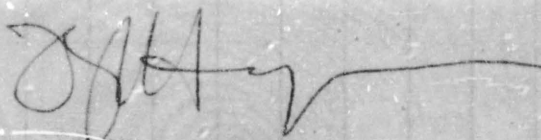
b) To encourage continued economic development in the area the indigenous shooter should be encouraged by introducing regulations which will prevent the extermination of his most valuable natural resource, the crocodile. (At first the indigenous shooter may not feel he is being encouraged but I am certain that over a period of time he will realise the advantage of such regulations).

c) Freshwater wells should be constructed in all villages with the people and the Administration sharing the cost.

d) Steps should be undertaken to improve the regularity of transport as regular transport would ensure the opening and successful operation of a trade store which would encourage economic development.

e) Consideration should be given to an increase in pay for village constables.

A follow up patrol through the area within three months is recommended.



F. J. L. HAYNES, P. O.  
O. I. C. Lake Murray.

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D.C.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



## PATROL REPORT

District of WITBACH Report No. 1/11 DO 2/54-65

Patrol Conducted by P. J. J. JAYNES, WITBACH OFFICER.

Area Patrolled LAST HIRBAK CHIEFS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 4 Const. P. J. J. J. J.

Duration From 2 7 54 to 13 11 54

Number of Days 23 12 54

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by District Services 6 / 19 54

Medical ? / 19 54

Map Reference Patrol Report 1/52-53

Objects of Patrol CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

27/11/1964

J. J. J. J.

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 .... £.....

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67-3-18

December 7th, 1964.

The District Commissioner,  
Western District,  
DARE.

PATROL REPORT No. 2-64/65 - LAKE MURRAY

Receipt of the abovementioned Report is acknowledged with thanks.

I am very pleased with the work that Mr. HAYNES is doing in the field of economic and social well being of the LAKE MURRAY people and that some of his enthusiasm is rubbing off on to the people themselves.

I am in thorough agreement with your paragraph 4 and this approach should be fostered.

I am pleased that the speedboat is of such assistance in administering the area.

Please impress on your officers the necessity for the maintenance and general care of motors and hulls. We have had a few unfortunate experiences recently because of carelessness and I do not want the speedy water craft withdrawn and replaced with less suitable vessels.

I am sure the clearing of waterways will benefit the people and see no reason why it should not be encouraged.

Restrictions on crocodile shooting are under consideration.

Are any of the people interested in crocodile farming? This might be an approach that would be acceptable to them. Are the crocodiles indeed being shot out?

or,  
are they retreating to more remote areas?

This point would bear investigation.

Write to:

F. M. Rapsom,  
Department of Agriculture, Stock & Fisheries,  
WEDDGH.

You may be interested to read sections of this report in relation to crocodiles. Please let me have the Report back as soon as practicable.

(J. K. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR

(J. K. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR

December 7th, 1964.

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

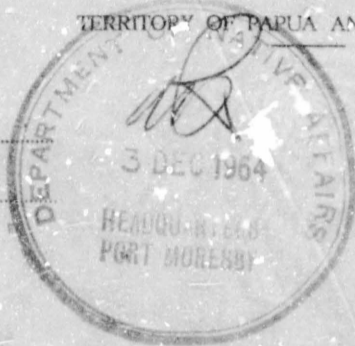
Telegrams DISADH

Telephone

Our Reference 67-6-1

Calling ask for

Mr. MUCG:mico



Department of District Administration,

DARU,  
Western District.

26th November, 1964

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

Lake Murray Patrol 2-6/65 - Lake Murray Census Division.

Attached is a copy of Mr. P.C. Haynes report of the above patrol.

2. Mr. Haynes continues his vigorous efforts to improve the economic and social well being of the Lake Murray people. He certainly seems to have infected them with some of his own enthusiasm.

3. The question of restrictions on crocodile shooting have been covered in your 6-3-5 of 16th October, 1964, of which a copy has been forwarded to Lake Murray. I feel sure that Mr. Haynes appreciates that some delay is inevitable.

4. I am of the opinion that encouragement of the people to trade with the Buyers Society is a more positive means of controlling traders of doubtful integrity. The opening of branch stores is a useful means of interesting the people in the Buyers Society and providing a comparison with these traders.

5. The questions of water tanks and Society boat are under consideration.

*F. A. Bensted*

( F.A. Bensted )  
District Commissioner.

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Page 1  
LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No.2/64-65.

(7)

## INTRODUCTION:

1. Basically this was a "follow up" patrol to that conducted in this same Lake Murray Census Division by me in May and June of this year.
2. Except for the villagers of ASOATUTUMA and DIMU each village has been visited on odd occasions at least three or four times since June. This was made possible by using the stations "Tempest" speedboat which cuts the travelling time to the furthest village to one and a half hours. The speedboat is a "boon" to Lake Murray administration.
3. The main objects of the patrol, apart from being a "follow up", was to pay the Lake Murray Buyers' Society twenty percent dividend and make a bonus issue, encourage economic, social and political development.
4. Recommendations designed to aid future development in the Lake Murray region are contained in this report under various headings, final recommendations are recorded in the "conclusion".

## DIARY:

2nd November, 1964.

The patrol left station 0630 for ASOATUTUMA via Boboa airstrip, U.F.M. Pangoa, where discussions held with Mission re general situation in area. 1430 arrived village. General discussion with people regarding development generally - revise electoral role (as in all villages this patrol) - encouraged people support their Society - informed people of new Lake Murray Sports Club and its proposed activities. After village inspection prepared move to MIWA/VENAVENA Village in morning. People listened to Government radio in evening.

3rd November, 1964.

0700hrs. to MIWA/VENAVENA village. Housing generally good. L.M.B.S. store inspected and found to be prospering. During discussion with villagers encouraged them to support their Society and help the Mission. Mission is playing the leading role in the education of their children. I feel that this village is the most prosperous on the lake. People listened to Administration and L.M.B.S. radios in the evening.

4th November, 1964.

0700 to TAGUM village. Arrived 0715hrs per speedboat. Village inspection and talk with people re development of their area in particular and the Lake Murray region in general. A most co-operative people. Settled one dispute. People encouraged sell timber to Mission as new source of income. Crocodiles disappearing fast from this area. Village generally clean but most overcrowded. In evening prepare move to DIMU tomorrow. Heavy rain in early morning.

5th November, 1964.

0700hrs to DIMU Village per speedboat arriving 0725hrs. Village inspection, general discussion with villagers re future development. Encouraged support Mission timber milling by selling logs. As in all villages L.M.B.S. dividend and bonus paid. A number of disputes settled.

6th November, 1964.

0700hrs to USOKOF Village via LANGOA where discussed education policy in Lake area with Mr. Feisker, District Inspector. Thence via airstrip to village. Same routine as in all village. People encouraged to send children to and support the Lake Murray "T" School. After Society dividend paid spoke with individual villagers. People anti- persons going onto their land shooting crocodiles which are becoming increasingly scarce. These people are worried about where their money will come from in the near future.

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LAKE HURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 2/64-65.

## DIARY CONT.

7th November, 1964.

0700hrs to patrol post. Correspondence, refuel etc. Prepare move off on Monday to patrol villages of BOHNSOILAW, MASIPONO, BUSSEI which are situated within ten minutes of the station.

8th November, 1964.

Sunday. At station - maintenance outboard motor.

9th November, 1964.

0700hrs to BOHNSOILAW village inspection and talk with people. Village rather overcrowded. People advised give greater support to education of their children. Dividend paid, 6950 to MASIPONO village carried on patrol matters as in other villages. These Pare people are working well. 1300hrs to BUSSEI village where inspected new village. These people are excellent workers and their spirit is reflected in their new village. Busseki people are amongst the hardest workers on the lake, these people are most worried about their future as very few necessities in their area now. After some talk and settlement of a minor complaint returned to station 1830hrs.

10th November, 1964.

0700hrs. per speedboat to UROBIA village up BOI river. After heavy rain number of obstructions had to be cleared from river. 0815hrs at village. People still live in traditional Pare houses but generally are hard working and support the Administration at all times. Dividend and bonus shares to Society members. People encouraged collect "copal gum" for sale to Agriculture Dept. Villagers also encouraged to take part in sports to be organized by the Lake Murray Sports club. 1400hrs left village for station where remained overnight before setting out to KAGO tomorrow.

11th November, 1964.

Anniversary Day. 0630hrs to KAGO up Jure River. On way stopped off Constable to go to Fly River and contact a trader regarding a certain artifact. Village inspection, general discussion, dividend paid, disputes settled. A particularly good village although the morals of some of the young women leave much to be desired. Heavy rain overnight.

12th November, 1964.

0650 to ARIA Village near mouth of Jure River. Village in best condition I have ever seen it. These villagers easily the most apathetic in the Lake Murray region. They are very lazy and do not show interest in any Administration or Mission activities. People advised to wake up but they probably won't. Heavy rain throughout the night accompanied by strong winds. Expect rough trip back across lake to station tomorrow.

13th November, 1964.

0700hrs returned to station. End of patrol.

END OF PATROL

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 2/64-65. (5)

## NATIVE AFFAIRS:

1. The general situation remains similar to that recorded in my Patrol Report 5/63-64, only somewhat improved.
2. I feel that the Lake Murray people have shown some response to my efforts at encouraging them to take a greater interest and play a more active part in their development. The Lake Murray people are honouring their promises with increasing frequency to the advantage of all concerned.
3. As a result of my being able to place greater trust in these people I have been encouraged to start villagers from WICKOP and WIGUM on the clearing of a channel across a swamp. On completion the channel will cut "padding time" between these and other villages by up to an hour. Also, since the Lake Murray people have shown themselves a little more sincere I have followed up their requests by asking for water tanks to be installed in a number of villages and by taking up various other minor matters with the Administration in Daru and Horesby and with the Mission.
4. The native affairs situation is still affected by the crocodile industry. Although recommendations have been made by a number of people, including previous D.I.O.'s (who are living the situation), the District Officer and a District Staff Conference (attended by Mr. Dichen) the problems facing this industry remain. Local villagers are continuing to ask for "rules" which will restrict the size of skins which may be marketed. During this patrol the people were not so vehement in their requests that shooters from outside the Lake Murray region be kept away mainly because this year few shooters have come to this area, thanks to nature (decreasing number of crocodiles and unseasonal rains flooding many swamps etc.)
5. In their efforts to have laws introduced in order to protect the future of the crocodile skin industry, which is the only basis for real future economic development in this area, the villagers, or at least some of them are showing an increasing political awareness. Their member in the House of Assembly is not simply a person of whom they have heard and decide to vote for because other people were voting. The people of Lake Murray have contacted Mr. Laban in an attempt to get him to come and hear the reports of the people who are unable to write him and so that he may see the situation which will be affecting the economic development of this area. I have been told that a fair number of people in this area are writing to their Member, they feel he may be able to help them maintain their crocodile skin industry as they think and I think it should be maintained.
6. Lake Murray people have seen a number of important people since my last patrol. The visit by the Administrator was most welcomed by the people. In future visits to Lake Murray if visitors were to go and see the people in one or two of the villages I am certain the people would give even greater support to the Australian Administration in this border area.
7. By halting the "turnover" of staff in the Lake Murray Census division people are gaining increased confidence in Administration Officers and Officers are obtaining a better understanding of the problems facing the villagers.
8. In another order to foster greater contact between the Administration and the local population a Sports Club has been established. At present only Soccer is played but great interest is being shown by villagers who have already formed three teams. Not only will this club encourage greater contact between the Administration employees and villagers, it should also lead to greater contact between villagers which will, I feel result in improving the native affairs situation.



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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 2/64-65.

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

1. Village officials generally are showing a more enthusiastic approach in their work and approach towards the Administration. This is encouraging to me as most village officials are traditional leaders in the village and are respected by most villagers. It is essential, I feel, that the Administration has the support of its Village Officials.

2. All village constables have been paid to the 30th June, 1965. As each V.O. reports to the patrol post during the month as many as possible will be paid to the 30th June this year.

3. The problem of village officials not being certain of their tasks exists in this area as it does in many areas of Papua. In the Lake Murray area the officials lack the basic education to fully grasp their tasks, the future appointment of younger educated officials is probably the only means by which this problem may be overcome.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

1. Present economic development has resulted from the sale of crocodile skins. Future economic development will depend on the sale of crocodile skins. There will be very little future economic development if the industry is not wiped out through the extinction of the villagers' only worthwhile natural resource, the crocodile.

2. The sale of crocodile skins is the only basis for real future economic development as it is the only means open to the people for them to obtain cash. One may talk of fishing; to establish a fishing industry in this area would cost thousands of pounds which simply isn't available as there are many more worthy investments in the Territory. The establishment of a coffee or copra industry would be disastrous and doomed to failure. The Administration must recognise this as a fact and not side step the issue. I realise that there are problems involved but these will just have to be overcome. Some people, a minority, will be hurt but this is inevitable if the Lake Murray people are to have an economic future.

3. For a few months the Lake Murray people voluntarily restricted the size of the crocodiles they killed. They stopped this restriction when a European shooter came into the area and shot small crocodiles, villagers were cross but they could do nothing. The Administration, by refusing to bring down legislation to restrict the size of marketable skins, is actually condoning the actions of the European shooter and encouraging an economic disaster which will soon face the Lake Murray people.

4. The following figures were collected from Lake Murray Buyers' Society records to show just how the croc. skin industry is being wiped out. The figures refer to the number of skins bought by the L.M.B.S. in 1963 and 1964 and the village from which they were purchased. (Period January to October).

Village	1963	1964
Tagua	61	38
Sago	53	15
Bupoki	65	10
Usokof	103	46
Kaimboilevu	122	35
Aova	73	11

The sale of skins from these villages alone has dropped from 480 to 165. These figures represent approximately 90% of this year's production as the people are supporting their Society rather than the European shooter who purchased at least 6% of the 1963 production. I feel that these figures show an alarming situation which must be overcome if the economic future of the the Lake Murray people is to be secured.

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 2/04-05

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT CONT.

5. The Lake Murray people have been strongly encouraged by me to support their Lake Murray Buyers' Society and I am happy to report that they are doing so to such an extent that some traders/~~traders~~ shoppers are beginning to feel the competition.

6. As the crocodile skin has been the reason for present economic development the L.M.B.S. is acting as the agent for that development. During this patrol a twenty percent dividend was paid and a bonus issue of twenty percent made. Apart from this the Society has purchased a 50 H.P. outboard motor and 14ft. Aluminium dinghy which visits members villages fortnightly. The Society has opened a branch store in NINA Village and to date it has proved a financial success for the Society and the villagers who are benefiting from higher prices for skins and lower prices for trade goods.

7. The Society is actively encouraging future economic development by pressing the other Western District Societies to join in the purchase of a ship. At present the Societies are being exploited by shipowners who charge from twenty to twenty-five pounds a ton freight (greater than the freight on some items between London and Sydney). By securing the purchase of a vessel as soon as possible the Societies will aid economic development by lowering freight rates and improving communications. I feel that the Buyers' Societies in the district, and especially at Lake Murray are expanding rapidly enough to warrant the appointment of a Co-operative Officer in the District. The Lake Murray, ~~Shops~~, during this patrol, if this could be arranged.

8. In order to counter the effects of the loss of income in those villages where returns from skins has dropped by as much as 75% I have begun to encourage the people to collect and sell Copal Gum (with the approval of the U.A.S.P. in Daru) and villages near the U.S.M. Mission station were encouraged to sell logs to the Mission Sawmill. The income from these activities will not allow the people to maintain their present economic development through the sale of crocodile skins.

9. If future economic development in the Lake Murray Census Division is to be maintained action must be taken to restrict the size of skins which may legally be sold. If this action is taken immediately the crocodile will not be wiped out and the economic future of the Lake Murray villager will be secured. As a further aid to economic development to the Territory as a whole the possibility of establishing a crocodile skin tanning industry should be investigated as soon as possible.

## AGRICULTURE

1. As stated in previous reports there is very little prospects for Agricultural development in the Lake Murray area. Poor soil, shortage of land (the area could almost be described as one big swamp) and the lack of a suitable crop are all problems facing cash cropping.

2. During my patrol earlier this year a number of coconut plots were marked by the A.P.U. accompanying the patrol. These plots were checked and the coconuts were seen to be growing fairly well however production of copra is not possible as the people need all the coconuts they can get for food.

3. The Anoki and Nago people are continuing to plant coffee. Although it is not growing well they insist on keeping on with it. The coconut trees in ~~the~~ villages which were seen to be badly affected by a pest have since been ~~seen~~

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 2/CA-55.

## AGRICULTURE Cont:

3. and the post appears to have been overcome,

4. (Quite an amount of food such as bananas, papaws, mango, taro and sweet potatoes are purchased at the patrol post. If the Society was to have an interest with in a vessel this food could possibly be backloaded to Daru and sold by arrangement through the KIVAL I.C.C. market in Daru.

5. Cash cropping can not be relied upon to create future economic development in Lake Murray villages.

## LAW AND JUSTICE:

1. There t for a number of complaints involving minor theft (a paddle) and a few quick tempers no problems were experienced during the patrol. Lake Murray people generally respect the Law.

2. A number of villagers in AGASUWIMA, NINA and BASHU complained that Mr. S. PALMER owed them money for crocodile skins. I tried to explain to these people that I had contacted the sub-inspector in Daru about this matter and had been informed that proceedings could not be taken to recover the money owing to the time involved. The villagers concerned are still not happy and the whole incident has turned out to be a black mark for the other crocodile skinters coming to the area and for the Administration for allowing such people to hold trading licences.

3. I feel that before people are granted licences to trade with village people they should be subject to a character check and, on receiving a licence, enter into a bond which may be forfeited if trading laws are broken.

## MEDICAL AND HEALTH:

1. It is at least two or three years since a medical patrol visited Lake Murray. Even so health is fairly good mainly as a result of the work by the Sisters at PASOK and the Medical Orderly at the Patrol Post.

2. A request has been made for tanks to be placed in a number of villages where sickness, resulting from poor water supplies, is common. The Lake Murray Bayars' Society has stated that it will supply all materials and unskilled labour required to construct the tanks (1000 gallons) if the Administration will provide a plumber and free freight for the materials. The Society is awaiting a reply.

3. If a medical patrol were to visit the area I am sure it would be valued by the Lake Murray people.

## TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS:

1. As stated in numerous patrol reports over the years the communications between the lake and Daru are not good however they have shown a vast improvement.

2. Transport and communications around Lake Murray itself are excellent and I could think of no suggestion for improving them. There are no roads to speak of in this area.

3. The only way in which transport could be improved in this area would be for the Administration to run out of fuel for its vessels. During my stay on the station this has not happened but it is a possibility therefore I feel that there should be a reserve of at least one quarters years supply of fuel maintained at the station.

4. In para 2, above I may have mentioned an improvement in communications between the station and the airstrip

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 2/64-65.

## TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS Cont.:

4. at BOBOA some seventeen miles down the lake. Often a person goes to the airstrip to await a plane and waits there for a full day without knowing the plane has been diverted. This ~~waste~~ waste of Administration time could be overcome if the Administration were to purchase a set of transistorised hand transceivers and place one at the airstrip and one at the station. The person at the strip could call the station at fixed times and learn of the planes whereabouts thereby saving waiting time and tempers. The cost of these transceivers should be less than thirty pounds. There should be little trouble with reception as there are no hills etc. just swamp.

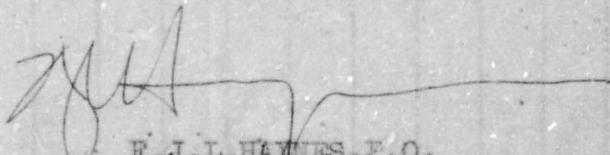
## EDUCATION:

1. Every child in the Lake Murray area has an opportunity to attend a school either at the patrol post or the Mission station at PANGO. Around the lake more than two hundred children attend primary school.
2. Both the mission and Administration schools are expanding their teaching staffs to cater for an expected increase in enrollments next year.
3. English classes are held each week for adults at the Administration school and these are well attended by men. The local women are not terribly interested.
4. The Lake Murray Buyers' Society is at present considering if it will buy a movie projector. I am sure that movies would assist the Lake Murray people in learning something of people in other parts of the world.
5. Attendance at school is very good.

## CONCLUSION:

1. The objects of the patrol were accomplished.
2. Firm action must be taken as soon as possible to prevent the extinction of the crocodile skin industry at Lake Murray.
3. The appointment of a Co-operative Officer would benefit the people at Lake Murray and other people in the Western District.
4. A boat, owned by the people of the Western District, would aid economic development in this area and improve overall communications.
5. The approval of a scheme to erect water tanks in lake villages will benefit the people.
6. Stricter control on the issue of trading licenses will benefit the image of the Administration in this area.

I sincerely hope that the above recommendations, and others contained in the body of this report, will be acted upon as I feel they will benefit the people of Lake Murray.

  
F. J. L. HAINES, P.O.  
(Officer in Charge)

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

## PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. LAKE MURRAY 3/64-65.

Patrol Conducted by F.J.L. HAYNES. PATROL OFFICER.

Area Patrolled MIDDLE FLY CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NO

Natives 2. Members F.I.S. & N.G.C.  
Interpreter

Duration—From 8./12./19.64 to 19./12./19.64

Number of Days 12

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 7/19.64

Medical ...../...../19.61 or 62

Map Reference Sheet 7 Aerial Map Border

Objects of Patrol General Administration

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

District Commissioner

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

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

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

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67-3-27



## TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

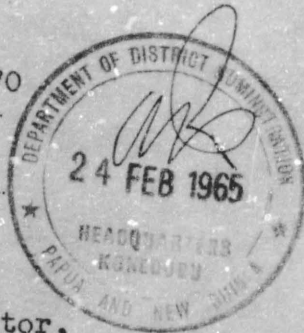
HHL/EDB

14

Telegrams ADCAST  
Telephone 4681  
ES/4-I/970  
Our Reference.....  
If calling ask for  
M.....

Department of Information and Extension Services.

Konedobu, Papua.



22nd February, 1965

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBUBU.

Subject: Patrol Report No. 3-64/65 - Lake Murray,  
Western District : Daru Transmitter

1. Your 67-3-27 of 16th February 1965 refers.
2. Thank you for this report. I have referred the text to the Director of Posts and Telegraphs for his information and advice. There are plans for the installation of a high powered transmitter at Daru in the near future. There are a number of other technical factors to be considered, however, before we can be assured that a strong signal is received in the area mentioned.
3. The information concerning Western District Police Motu is valuable and will be borne in mind for future language policy at this Station.

*[Signature]*  
(L.R. NEWBY)  
Director

*[Handwritten initials]*

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67-3-27

16th February, 1965.

The Director,  
Department of Information & Extension Services,  
KONEDOBU.

PATROL REPORT NO. 3-64/65 - LAKE MURRAY,  
WESTERN DISTRICT:  
DARU TRANSMISSION

The following is an extract from the above-mentioned patrol report:

"Some of the people are interested in West Irian affairs. The Bosset people have been listening to Radio Biek for at least five years. Daru Radio Station will be a boon but unless its power is increased it will probably be harder to receive in this area than Radio Merauke for example. It is most important that the Police Motu spoken on Radio Daru be the simple "Western District Motu". The people find it hard to understand the Police Motu used on 9PA."

For your information, please.

J. K. McCarthy,  
DIRECTOR.

Minute to:

The Secretary,  
Dept. of the Administrator,  
KONEDOBU.

Passed to you for information, please.

67-3-27  
16th February, 1965.

J. K. McCarthy,  
DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION

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67-3-27

16th February, 1965.

District Commissioner,  
Western District,  
DARU.

PATROL REPORT NO. 3-64/65 - LAKE MURRAY

Receipt of the abovementioned report and accompanying comment is acknowledged with thanks.

Do not try to destroy the people's self-reliance. Channel their energies into productive lines.

I think the mission is entitled to use of the timber which is going to schools and hospitals.

See if you can get the Department of Agriculture to put in some rubber pilot plots.

What action have you taken with the Department of Public Health to design an Asian type latrine?

I agree in your remarks in relation to the Buyers' Society distribution of funds.

I agree that the Bosset people should not be encouraged to become beggars. If they are not prepared to co-operate when services are provided, then withdraw the services and give them to a more appreciative group.

An interesting report revealing keen observation and constructive thinking by Mr. Haynes.

J. K. McCarthy,  
DIRECTOR.



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67. 3. 27  
(1)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM  
Telephone RMC:ROV  
Our Reference 67-6-1  
If calling ask for  
Mr.



Department of District Administration,  
Western District,  
DARU.

14th January, 1965.

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBURU.

## PATROL REPORT 3 1964-65 LAKE MURRAY.

Attached is a report of the above twelve day patrol conducted by Mr. P. L. Haynes, Patrol Officer.

Although slightly marred by spelling mistakes, careless grammar and a tendency towards repetition, the report illustrates well the area visited and reveals Mr. Haynes' real concern for the people.

I do not think that the continuing apathy of the people towards the Administration will be easily overcome. Their independent nomadic existence makes them self-reliant and not ideal subjects for our planned progress. This self-reliance would be a good thing were it not retarding the expansion of a need for greater efforts on a wider field.

Mr. Haynes is obviously aware of the problem and we can only hope that his efforts to induce the people to take a more active part in their own advancement will meet with at least some success.

The problems of the Crocodile Skin Industry were discussed at length during a staff conference in September. Resolutions in favour of licensing outside shooters, setting a minimum size for saleable skins were passed. Fisheries Division is currently undertaking a survey which may be followed by a recommendation for fixing a minimum size for crocodile skins sold. Whether legislation will precede the extinction of the industry is a moot point.

The Fisheries Division is posting a field worker to Lake Murray to fish for local consumption and keep records of catches. The opening of a fishing industry at Lake Murray will depend largely on the success of the Daru Industry on which the Fisheries Division will be concentrating first.

Timber milling is a possible source of future cash income. As at Balimo, the people make small amounts of money from bringing in timber to the Unevangelized Fields Mission Saw Mill. The Mission is cutting the best and most accessible trees and giving very little financial compensation to the owners but a lot of the timber is going into schools and hospitals. It is possible, that by working for the Mission, some of the people will become interested in starting their own timber industry.

I would not agree that the economic future looks "black" if crocodiles become scarce. It is true that the people are not interested in alternative industries

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while they are making such easy money from crocodile skins. They have no incentive, but as their income decreases, their incentive may increase.

The Department of Agriculture should establish properly conducted trial plots of crops such as rubber and coffee at this stage, so that we can assess whether agriculture is a possible alternative industry.

The villages in this area have never been well cared for, mainly because the people are absent for long periods, hunting and gathering sago. At this stage it would be sufficient to achieve cleanliness and a satisfactory standard of hygiene.

I am questioning the efficacy of installing water tanks in the villages. The tanks will be dry in the dry season which is when they would be needed, if at all. All of the middle Fly Villages have access to either a river or a lagoon. It would be best to concentrate on sanitation - that is the installation of pit latrines so that the water supplies do not become polluted. It has been found that the people either do not use or foul the usual structures which they erect for successive patrols. Perhaps the Department of Public Health could design a cheap and easily maintained pit latrine drawing on designs of those used in parts of Asia.

I do not think that it is a proper function of the Buyer's Society to provide such things as tanks for the villages. Surpluses should be invested and appropriated as Bonus Share Issues or distributed as dividends or rebates. However, making of small donations to establish good-will is a good idea. Such donations should only be made with the full approval of members and great care must be taken to ensure that there is no indication of bias. For example, it would have been better to make donations simultaneously to the Administration, Unevangelized Fields Mission and Montfort Mission Schools than to make a donation to the latter school only.

It is pleasing to note that the Lake Murray Buyer's Society has paid another good dividend. This should keep the people interested in their Society.

The matter of a boat has been taken up with the Registrar of Cooperatives. I favour the purchase of a boat by an Independent Limited Liability company with shares capital subscribed by the Lake Murray, Morehead and Kiunga Buyer's Societies. This boat would service the three Buyer's Societies and would be available for charter. Responsibility for schedules and maintenance would have to be taken by this office or a paid agent.

I share Mr. Hayes' concern over the lack of medical patrols. Leprosy, tuberculosis and Elephantiasis are three of the diseases present, which warrant a thorough medical patrol.

Some of the people are interested in West Irian affairs. The Boset people have been listening to Radio Bink for at least five years. Daru Radio Station will be a boon but unless its power is increased it will probably be harder to receive in this area than Radio

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(a)

Merauke for example. It is most important that the Police Motu spoken on Radio Daru be the simple "Western District Motu". The people find it hard to understand the Police Motu used on 9PA.

Mr. Haynes is a most enthusiastic officer and the report was interesting.

*F. A. Bensted*  
(F. A. BENSTED, <sup>1942</sup>  
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

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(4)

Name	Fathers Name	Village		1945	to 1965.
Bernadetta	Cellus	Boset	F	21	yrs.
Agora	Obokai	Tinunga	F	21	"
Kristina	Sendo	Alambak	F	21	"
Setorai	Simbana	"	F	21	"
Kasawa	Kikia	Kavianga	M	21	"
Ori	Kekap	Boikmavu	F	21	"
Kondera	Ngera	"	F	21	"
Abore	Auwanja	"	F	21	"
Siandora	Ngera	"	F	21	"
Sere	Kiwari	"	F	21	"
Oinamai	Sisimai	Asoatotoma	M	21	"
Sari	Saniakoua	Venavena	F	21	"
Osomai	Gori	Miwa	M	21	"
Niaura	Sangami	Moilavuan	F	21	"
Yuwanis	Wateresi	"	M	21	"
Ainau	Sangame	"	M	21	"
Watu	Bero	Dimu	M	21	"
Simaguri	Walyogo	"	F	21	"
Gareta	Mariakasu	"	F	21	"
Itari	Sep	"	F	21	"
Kizen	Sagu	"	F	21	"
Temari	Dila	Usokof	F	21	"
Makorai	Wemidoa	"	M	21	"
Garagi	Narpo	"	M	21	"
Golan	Kenobot	Nagö	M	21	"
Iongan	Undap	"	M	21	"
Kuap	Iwas	Mipan	M	21	"
Aberakus	Eram	"	M	21	"
Sopek	Sopek	"	F	21	"
Ema	Iangop	"	M	21	"
Bunandirap	Tumop	Kuem	"	21	"
Teren	Ari	"	F	21	"
Pasirakasu	Osami	Boimboravu	F	21	"
Makapi	Agama	"	M	21	"
Kawiarop	Benoot	Buseki	M	21	"
Otekon	Wambon	"	F	21	"
Omia	Kaguru	"	F	21	"

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## INTRODUCTION:

1. This patrol was a "follow up" to that conducted to this same Middle Fly Census Division by me in July this year.
2. The middle Fly region is approximately two hundred miles from Daru up the Fly River. Villages which go to make up the division are on the East and West banks of the Fly and all are surrounded by swamps. There is one airstrip at BOSSET Village owned by the Catholic Mission; the strip is suitable only to Cessna sized aircraft and even then only the Mission has permission to land.
3. In order to reach every village it is necessary to spend hours travelling by launch or canoe. Often channels across the swamps are blocked; in such instances it is necessary to leave the vessel and pull it over the obstruction. This operation can be quite hazardous as it is possible to slip through the grass on which one stands and into the filthy water beneath where there is always the possibility of a crocodile.
4. The Fly River is unusually high for this time of the year (dry season) and this made travelling a little easier however it has had some effect on villagers who have found their "dry season" source of sage flooded. No real shortage of food was seen.
5. At every opportunity the people were encouraged to improve their housing and villages generally. The people were also strongly encouraged to support their Lake Murray Buyers' Society and Administration policy. In each village a 20% dividend and bonus issue was made to Society members. Although a little over one third of the Middle Fly people live close to the West Irian border no questions were raised by the people on this subject.
6. Within the various sections of this report I shall make a number of recommendations which I sincerely hope will receive the readers consideration and assistance in implementation.

## DIARY:

8th December, 1964.

0600 departed patrol post per Miwa with all patrol personnel and equipment. 0900 at U.F.N. Tagoa where left number of telegrams for transmission Daru as my radio U/S for months. 0930 from Mission to Herbert River to Strickland thence to entrance Bolimava Creek. Met by canoe and started up creek which badly blocked in places necessary pull over swamps. 2300 hrs. arrived at BOJUMAVA Village slept night.

9th December, 1964.

0800 Village inspection - general discussion with villagers - Society dividend paid by Society clerk. A generally happy lot. 1200 to KAVIANANGA Village - down Strickland thence up Fly for five hours. Overnight KAVIANANGA.

10th December, 1964.

0800 village inspection KAVIANANGA - discussion encouraging people - society dividend paid - no complaints or queries. 1200 to KONAVALI by canoe across swamps - mosquitoes terrific - at village 1500 hrs. departed some hours later to village KONAVALI only very small population but very hard working. As in all villages people asked attend New Year celebrations of L.M.B.S. and take part in General meeting to be held at same time.

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Page 2.

LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 3/64-65.

## DIARY Conts:

11th December, 1964.

0600hrs to AIAMBARK Village up Fly River some five hours. Met by Village Constable and Councillors - village inspection - quite good. Heard complaints about croc shooters which were to be all too common later on in the patrol. Talk with people - general encouragement Administration and Society - Dividend paid - number of disputes settled. Remained overnight - heavy rain.

12th December, 1964.

0700 to TINUNGA up Fly trace along channel through extensive swamps to village, arriving 0930. Village in very poor condition, people most apathetic as in a number of villages visited from here on. Many minor disputes settled - dividend paid - much encouragement given but fear little response. Remained in village for weekend - local hunting excellent.

13th December, 1964.

At TINUNGA prepare boat and gear for trip up Fly to BOSSET in the morning.

14th December, 1964.

0600 to BOSSET Village - river rough, an amount of gear wet. 1230 in village spoke with V.C. and Councillors, village generally very poor with young and old alike sitting about. It would seem that most of these men make little effort to improve their lot. 1500 to Montfort Catholic Mission where spoke for some time with priest in charge who has only recently arrived in the Territory from Canada. Mission are attempting to do a good job here and certainly spending money.

15th December, 1964.

At BOSSET long talk with village people in attempt spark signs of interest. Some response from people. People invited to L.M.B.S. New Year celebrations. Some disputes settled. Complaints about croc shooters. 01230 departed for MIMA for MANDA Village up Fly and Agu Rivers. Arrived 1630 people absent at Sage place will not return tomorrow. Mosquitoes easily the worst I have ever experienced. Some rain overnight.

16th December, 1964.

0830 Spoke with villagers and encouraged to support Society etc. Village fair however the terrific number of mosquitoes make the village most unpleasant. More complaints about shooters - as in all villages promised people I would do what I could for them. 04230 to MIMM VILLAGE where arrived after long hot trip up Agu River. Possibly the most enthusiastic people in the Middle Fly area easily so as far as welcomes go. Will speak with villagers tomorrow.

17th December, 1964.

0830 spoke with people who showed excellent response. Complaint about native croc shooter from Bama who threatened local villager with shotgun. Fencing good and nearby gardens excellent. Tomorrow to MIPAN.

18th December, 1964.

0700 to MIPAN where village inspection, housing and village generally poor. Some disputes re croc skins etc. One minor dispute settled. Leave tomorrow for station.

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Page 3.

LAKE MURRAY PATROL POST

No. 3/64-65.

DIARY Cont:

19th December, 1964

0600 departed village of MIPAN by canoe for Lake Murray Track. Arrived track 0900 after long paddle across swamps. Walk for just on one and a half hours over excellent track to swamp which leads to lake. Canoes awaiting arrival and departed for Patrol Post where arrived 1500hrs after very hot trip across swamps - down June River and over lake to station.

-----END OF PATROL-----

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 3/64-65.

## NATIVE AFFAIRS:

1. Generally the native affairs situation is not good as it has shown little improvement since I was in this area in July.
2. In the villages of the Middle Fly Census Division apathy on the part of villagers is the rule rather than the exception. Improvement in the general attitude of the people may be seen in the villages of BOIKUMAYU, KAVIANANGA, KOMOVAI, MANDA and KUEM however the villages of BOSSET, MIPAN, TINUNGA and ALAMBARK leaves much to be desired.
3. I base the above remarks on the facts that housing in the improving villages is getting better, people in the most apathetic villages showed little interest in general discussions. In the poorer settlements one gained the feeling that the arrival of a Government patrol was something which had to be put up with and that the patrol would be on its way soon anyhow. In settlements such as KUEM the people seemed to be on their toes, both men and women taking an active part in discussions etc.
4. BOSSET village, the largest in the Lake Murray area and closest to the West Irian border, shows the greatest apathy yet this village has had more "contact" from Europeans (both Dutch and Australian) than the other villages and it has more "skilled" workers. These people are at present waiting for the Administration or the Catholic Mission to serve things to them. I am certain that the feeling reigns in this village that the Administration will give them everything they want. The Administration must not do this. Already the village has an Administration radio, it is planned to improve the water supply, a rural police post is planned, the Mission provides good medical care, a trade store and movies. The people are much more active towards the Administration and the Mission. They must start to work and provide for themselves.
5. Since my arrival in the Lake Murray region I have written a lot and spoken often of the problems faced (or as yet not faced) by the crocodile industry in the region. In almost every village complaints were heard about crocodile shooters, both European and native and "where do we get our money from when the crocodile skins are finished". There is a solution to the problems facing the industry; a "minimum size for marketable skins" and "licensing of non-local shooters". The implementation of such policies will improve the image of the Administration in most of the villages. I dislike being told that the Administration is "not strong". An anti-croc shooter feeling is growing rapidly.
6. To overcome some of the apathy in this area I feel that the people must, somehow, come to understand that the Administration is interested in development and that it is interested in aiding and encouraging people who are interested in their own development. The people are interested in crocodile shooting, if the Administration brings down legislation to encourage the industry the people and the Administration will be helping to improve the general atmosphere which exists at this time.
7. Although almost one third of the population in the Census division lives close to the border they show very little interest in the activities West of their home mainly because they hear very little of just what is going on. The establishment of a radio station in Daru and increasing listeners to radio will possibly cause them to show greater interest in future.
8. The apathy spoken of above is not anti-Australian. It takes more the form of laziness and as such I feel that it can and will be overcome.



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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 3/64-55.

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

1. Village Officials in all villages seem to be doing their jobs as best they know how however as is often the case with these officials they lack complete knowledge of their tasks and often they lack the support of numerous people within the village.

2. It is particularly noticeable that as the Village Constable gets older he has a harder job making himself effective in the village. He relies more and more on the Patrol Officer for his authority.

3. In the villages of KUEM, MAIDA and others referred to earlier as being somewhat progressive the Village Officials still command an amount of respect mainly as a result of traditional authority which is bolstered often indirectly by the Patrol Officer who, in backing the Official, is often thought by the villager to be backing the individual and not the laws etc. which it is his job to uphold.

4. Village Officials in the Middle Fly area remain very loyal to the Administration and are most co-operative at all times.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

1. Present economic development has resulted from the sale of crocodile skins and outside employment. With the Indonesian takeover in West Irian a valuable market for the labour of Middle Fly people (especially Bosset) was closed, with the influx of "outside shooters" and the indiscriminate slaughter of crocodiles the crocodile skin industry will soon be finished. The picture for future economic development in this area at present looks very bleak.

2. The economic future of these people would be secured if the Administration accepts its responsibility in the matter of the crocodile and legislates for a "marketable size skin" and restricts shooting to the people in whose area the crocodiles live or at least restricts the number of outside shooters.

3. The "fly-by-nighter" shooter is a scourge to the Middle Fly people and I feel to Papua New Guinea as a whole. These shooters enter an area, shoot every crocodile they can, talk villagers into selling skins for which they pay little money and some times no money at all, cause trouble within the villages and at times between villages then pocket the large profits and leave the country. They are exploiters whom the Territory could well do without. These men are hampering economic development.

4. The problem of the native shooter, say from the Gulf District or lower Fly, must also be recognized. The Middle Fly people respect each others' rights to swamps. When an outsider from the next village or the Gulf comes in they feel their rights are being infringed upon. The Middle Fly people are proud and become rather cross when their traditional rights are at stake. No amount of explanation will convince them that they haven't the right to remove people, forcibly if necessary from "their" swamps. The ERM people told me that the next Bamu man who entered their swamps for crocodiles would be attacked, the villagers were warned of the consequences however I am not sure whether they were convinced. By introducing the correct legislation such troubles need not arise and the economic future of these people will be secured. (Let the Bamu man shoot his own crocodiles, possibly investigations will show that the industry in the Bamu is already well on the way to being defunct).

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 3/64-65.

## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Cont:

5. I think that the lack of present economic development and the poor future prospects for economic development are part of the reasons for the apathy existing in many Middle Fly villages. The Middle Fly people can see and also hear of the development taking place at Lake Murray, outboard motors, a new trade store, football teams etc. In the Middle Fly there is nothing but the village. By overcoming the problem of economic development we will help overcome the problem of apathy.

6. The Lake Murray Buyers' Society is attempting to aid economic development in the Middle Fly by making fairly large bonus payments, lowering the prices of goods and increasing the price paid for skins. During this patrol a twenty percent bonus payment was made (worth 28/-). The Society at present has plans to place water tanks or wells in Middle Fly villages.

7. If action could be taken for the Society to purchase a motor vessel, either jointly with other Western District societies or on its own if others will not co-operate the vessel can play a part in aiding economic development in this region. Copra production in a number of villages is possible with reasonable freight rates, present rates are so high that they are simply wrong. A Society vessel making a regular run (and it would have to be regular) could collect copra and I am sure that food and timber could also be backloaded to Daru. A regular boat service through the area may cause the people to feel that they are not being forgotten.

8. At this time, and after living amongst the Middle Fly people, I feel that the Administration should make two positive steps, both of which will foster economic development in the region. A. Allow the Lake Murray Buyers' Society to go ahead with the purchase of a vessel either jointly or by itself.

B. Bring in an Ordinance which will secure future development through the sale of crocodile skins. The Administration will certainly lose a lot of prestige and respect if it does not act soon.

## AGRICULTURE:

1. It was not possible for the Agricultural Fieldworker to accompany the patrol however in each village people were asked if they had any queries. There were none.

2. In the villages of MANDA and KUMU it was noted that the people had accepted the advice given during the last patrol by the A.F.W. and planted bamboo and coconuts along the sides of the village which front the river. It is hoped that this action will prevent erosion.

3. On my next patrol to this region I would like a trained Fisheries Worker to accompany me so that he could see the terrific amount of fish and advise villagers on ways and means of catching them.

## LAW AND JUSTICE:

1. A number of complaints about sloopers were heard however I am certain that no action could be taken.

2. The usual fights over women etc. were received and settled amicably. As the result of a brawl in SIMUNGA Village six men were sentenced to one month I.H.L.

Generally these people respect the

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 3/64-65.

## MEDICAL AND HEALTH:

1. I am certain that the time has come for a Medical Assistant or Doctor to visit the people in the Middle Fly villages. It is at least two years possibly three since a member of the Department of Public Health made an appearance.
2. Health generally was not good even though there are a number of Aid Posts in the region. Very painful looking boils, ulcers etc. are all too common. In KUEM village the prevalence of badly swollen legs is disturbing.
3. A visit from the Health Department is needed.
4. As yet no reply has been received from Public Health regarding the Lake Murray Buyers' Society's intention of placing improved water supplies in villages.

## EDUCATION:

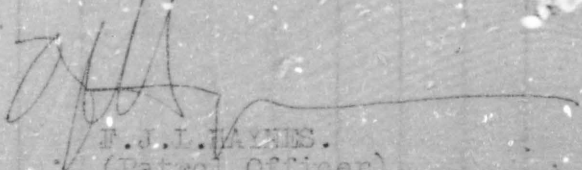
1. All schools were closed during this patrol and teachers absent on leave. All facilities were in good order.
2. The Catholic Mission school at BOSSET has purchased a number of books and sporting equipment with money donated by the Lake Murray Buyers' Society.

## TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS:

1. I have little to add to the comments made in my July patrol report, (L.M. No. 1/64-65).
2. Communications and transport within the region will be improved as soon as the Society vessel is purchased and goes into operation. When this will be depends on the Administration as the people are all for the project, the funds are available and a boatbuilder is available as are boats (if people will start making enquiries). The Administration must get moving with this boat purchase as the longer the purchase takes the more disgruntled local people will become.

## CONCLUSION:

1. The project to install improved water supplies in villages should be begun as soon as possible.
2. To overcome general apathy in the region a basis for future economic development should be laid through legislating to secure the economic potential of the crocodile skin industry.
3. Steps should be taken to see that a vessel is purchased through the Lake Murray Buyers' Society and that this vessel operates a regular service through the area.
4. A visit by a medical patrol is needed.
5. A survey through the region by the Fisheries Division may lead to the opening of a future source of economic development.

  
F. J. L. HAYES.  
(Patrol Officer)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

*Moresby*

# PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. L/M No. 4/64-65.

Patrol Conducted by F.J.L. HAYNES. Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled LAKE MURRAY CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans MR. R. HUNTER. Cadet. Patrol Officer.

Natives Interpreter  
Agricultural Worker.  
2 Members R.P. & N.G.C.

Duration—From 12/4/1965 to 22/4/1965

Number of Days 11 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 2/11/1964

Medical ...../...../19.....

Map Reference P.R. 1/62-63

Objects of Patrol Census 1965. General Administration, Encourage Development.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

30/4/1965

J. C. Beusled  
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 ..... £.....

67-3-34

May 28th, 1965.

The District Commissioner,  
Western District,  
DARU.

LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT No.4/64-65

Receipt of the above report forwarded by your memorandum 67-6-1 of 30th April, 1965, is acknowledged.

2. ~~presented~~ This report confirms the impressions already ~~impressed~~ of the positive and constructive approach by Mr. Haynes to development in the difficult LAKE MURRAY area.

3. You will shortly be receiving if you have not already done so, our circular memorandum 28-4-19 of 22nd April, 1965, regarding decimal currency, as well as pamphlets and flip charts designed to assist in explanation of the changeover. These should enable your officers to cope with the particular problems of expressing what is involved in the changeover.

4. I have taken note of the intention that Mr. Haynes will undertake a Local Government Survey of the LAKE MURRAY and Mid-Fly Census Divisions as the opportunity offers.

*T.G. Aitchison*  
(T.G. AITCHISON)  
A/Director.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67 3. 34 (1/2)

DEPARTMENT OF DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION  
6 MAY 1965  
REAR OFFICE  
KONEDOBU  
PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams  
Telephone  
Our Reference.....67-6-1  
If calling ask for  
Mr.....IAH:LB

Department of District Administration,  
Western District,  
PARU.

30th April, 1965.

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

PATROL LAKE MURRAY 4/64-65 - LAKE MURRAY  
CENSUS DIVISION.

Attached is a report of the above 11 day patrol by  
Mr. F.J.L.HAYNES, Patrol Officer.

2. Substantial improvement in the area - in attitudes, living standards, aspirations and co-operation - is clearly noticeable over the past eighteen months. In no small measure they are due to the enthusiasts generated by Mr. HAYNES, who has done a first-class community development and administrative job. The main impetus to progress has been the rapid build-up of the Buyers Society - a progress rightly attributed to Mr. HAYNES in Co-operative Inspector Mr. TORE LOKOLOKO's recent written report.

3. Even although a positive Society policy has almost ousted low-class European shooters, size restrictions on skins are undoubtedly warranted as long term protection for the crocodile skin industry - the Western District's only one.

4. I agree with general policy regarding no undue publicity to Decimal Currency. However, any proposed leaflets, strip-films, etc. would be appreciated along the Border where new currency is naturally suspect through association, and often involvement, in the Guilders-Rupiahs changeover.

5. The new Medical Officer and Assistant are being requested to consider a medical patrol. I am optimistic.

6. At leisure Mr. HAYNES will undertake a Local Government Survey of Lake Murray and Mid-FLY Census Divisions. Whilst no "promises" are involved, the area is now certainly a more favourable locale than either BAMU, WODEHEAD-WEAM (or population excepted, even KIUNGA).

7. Mr. R. HUNTER, Cadet Patrol Officer accompanying, has submitted a useful appendix.

8. Continued good work.

*F.A. Bensted*  
(F.A. Bensted)  
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

*His confidence and impression  
of the positive constructive approach by the H to development  
- the L.M. area. On 28-1-19 of 1965 in Dec Census Pamphlets  
- flip charts should be on the way if they have not already  
arrived  
Note - further to understand the survey.*

## LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

L/M No. 4/64-65

INTRODUCTION:

1. This patrol visited all villages in the Lake Murray Census Division. The main purpose of the patrol was to complete the 1965 Population Census. June 1964 was the last occasion on which a Census was completed in this region.
2. Apart from conducting a Census in each of the twelve villages general discussions took place on such matters as future Buyers' Society policy, Education, the crocodile skin industry, methods of improved village housing and also improved water supplies. It was also necessary to attempt some explanation of the new Decimal Currency system.
3. The 22ft. Administration Workboat "MIWA" was used to transport the patrol and once again it proved to be an extremely reliable vessel ideally suited to the general conditions experienced at Lake Murray.
4. In an attempt to aid future development in the Lake Murray region I have made a number of recommendations in the body of this report; some recommendations which I feel are of basic importance are recorded in the "Conclusion".

DIARY:

12th April, 1965.

Departed Lake Murray Patrol Post for ASOATUTUMA Village, called in at Airstrip and U.F.M. Mission enroute. Lake Murray people given more than two weeks notice of patrols arrival. After travelling the length of the Lake arrived at ASOATUTUMA and met by village officials and villagers. 1500hrs. Inspected village and water supplies. In evening general talk with people. Census tomorrow.

13th April, 1965.

0800hrs. Conducted Census in ASOATUTUMA and also discussed L.M.B.S. business. Village housing only average and well may have to be moved to a better position. Village Constable MARISI is doing a fair job but is ageing fast. 1100hrs departed village per Miwa for MIWA village arriving 1215hrs. All villagers present. Conducted Census and, as in all villages visited, talked Society business, inspected village housing and new water wells - with instructions for improving same. In this village questioned were asked regarding Decimal Currency and some explanation of this was attempted. As VINA VINA only yards from MIWA village held Census and discussion as one group. Inspected L.M.B.S. store in this village and all appeared in order. 2200hrs returned to Station by village outboard after mix up over meeting yesterdays plane. Returned to village at 0300hrs and slept in good new Rest House.

14th April, 1965.

0730hrs departed MIWA for TAGUM village arriving here 0900hrs. All villagers present. Inspected village and heard a number of complaints all of which were settled without resort to C.N.M.. 1400hrs conducted Census and held discussion with villagers. Discussed with people possibility of moving village to old site but not really interested. Present site is very overcrowded. Census and discussions concluded remained overnight in new Rest House.

15th April, 1965.

0800hrs to DIMU village per Miwa arriving 1000hrs. Met by V.C. BERO and villagers. These people working well. Village inspected and Census conducted. People now strong supporters of Society. People here earning a little money from supplying logs to U.F.M. sawmill. Coconuts planted early last year not doing well. Prepare depart for USOKOF village.

(a) (b)

LAKE MURRAY PATROL POST

L/M No.4/64-65

DIARY Cont.

16th April, 1965.

0700hrs to USOKOP via Pangoa Mission where had talk with Missionary re attendance at school etc. Per Miwa to village arriving 1230hrs. Village on new site and many houses under construction. As yet Rest House not completed. 1400hrs conducted Census and later held discussion on various matters. Village Constable GOIOP not at all well but still doing a fair job. New village site looks very good. 1700hrs return to station, will depart Tuesday for NAGO.

17th April, 1965. to 19th April, 1965 at Patrol Post - Easter break.

20th April, 1965.

At 0830 departed station per Tempest Speedboat for NAGO arriving 0945hrs. Inspected village housing and school. A good village. V.G. KEROP doing a good job. In afternoon village census completed and fairly long discussions with villagers. Heavy rain overnight.

21st April, 1965.

Departed NAGO per speedboat for ABWA arriving ABWA 0930hrs. This village is improving with every visit, although people retain some very dirty habits. People now giving grama greater support than ever before to their Society. After village inspection, general discussion and Census returned to Patrol Post arriving at 1430hrs. Preparations made for visit to BUSEKI and BOIMBOILAVU villages tomorrow.

22nd April, 1965.

In company with MR. HUNTER C.P.O. visited first BUSEKI and then BOIMBOILAVU Village. Both these villages are within a mile of the station. The BUSEKI people have only recently completed a new village and it is easily the best I have seen in the Western District. The people at BOIMBOILAVU are at present constructing a village which will be completed in a matter of months. In each village the patrol met with excellent response from the people. General discussions were held and I think these were of benefit to the villagers. Returned to station at 1730hrs.

END OF PATROL



NATIVE AFFAIRS:

1. I am pleased to report an excellent improvement in the general native affairs situation since my last patrol to this area in November last year.
2. In the Lake Murray Census Division there are at present two new villages under construction (at USOKOF and BOIMBOILAVU) and one new village is almost complete. The new village of BUSEKI is something the villagers can be proud of - it is the best village I have seen in this Territory. I am certain that the BUSEKI people have caused other people to "look again" at their own village and desire that they can do better. In the fifteen months I have been stationed in this region I have not seen the villages looking better.
3. Lake Murray people are showing an increasing interest in local activities. Much of this interest has been generated by the outstanding success of the Lake Murray Buyers' Society. Success in this activity has lead the villagers to beleive that, by co-operating with the Administration, they can and will succeed in other fields.
4. With the intaution of generating greater interest in their area and encouraging increased contact between the village groups the Lake Murray Sports Club was formed some months ago and it also has acheived encouraging results. Five village teams are at present taking part in a Saturday competition. Interest in the progress of this Soccer competition is still expanding and it is hoped that other teams will soon be formed. Crowds of over one hundred people from various villages gather to watch play. A police and education team also participate thereby allowing increased contact between Admin staff and local people. Village peple and station staff are at present working together on the Construction of a Club House.
5. The peoples <sup>disgust</sup> ~~attitude~~ towards crocodile shooters is increasing as the people realise the work being done for them by their Society (L.M.B.S.). At this time there are no shooters in the area and if the Society maintains its present service to the people and the people continue their support of the Society future crocodiles will have little chance of success.
5. A pleasing note in the peoples outlook toward the Administration, noted during the patrol, was that villagers now respect Admin staff more than traders and croc shooters. This new respect has resulted from ~~the~~ <sup>the</sup> invoking of measures which stopped Administration ~~from~~ <sup>employees</sup> trading and buying skins.
6. Every village shows signs of benefits from Buyers' Society activities. Each village has its own well and these will later be provided with pumps. Some of the wells inspected during the patrol were not quite up to standard and these will be improved as soon as possible.
8. The construction and clearing of a channel, mentioned in my Patrol Report No.2/64-65, has been completed and this channel is now used regularly by villagers and small craft.
9. In every village people called for Legislation to protect their main source of income, the crocodile skin industry.
10. The native affairs situation is at present quite good; more encouragement from the Administration will make it even better.

LAKE MURRAY PATROL POST

L/M.No.4/64-65.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

1. Most Village Officials are continuing to give excellent service to the Administration. Many officials are showing signs of their age and there will have to be some changes made in the next two or three years.
2. Unfortunately some of the older officials are going to be hard to replace as they are traditional leaders who proved their abilities to the people before the arrival of the Administration (as fight leaders etc.). Men taking over from the old officials will have to receive strong backing from the Admin or else be able to impress their people in some other way if they are to maintain the respect which present Officials hold.
3. In each village Officials were paid and at present all these men have been paid to the 30th June, 1964.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

1. Economic development has advanced, to a large degree, with the expansion of the Lake Murray Buyers' Society. The development of the Society has resulted from the support of the people through their selling crocodile skins to the Society.
2. To me personally the economic development of the Lake Murray region in the past twelve months has been very encouraging. I think much of the activity and enthusiasm amongst local people has resulted from their economic advancement and the success of their own enterprise.
3. Since late July last year the Lake Murray Buyers' Society (L.M.B.S.) has had a turnover of more than twenty five thousand pounds compared with thirteen thousand pounds for the twelve months ending July 1964. The L.M.B.S. had a surplus of ten thousand pounds to March this year whereas in the previous year the surplus was only four thousand pounds.
4. The large surplus gained by the Society did not arise through exploitation of the people but through increased business and services to the people. In the past twelve months the Society has opened a highly successful branch store, donated money to schools for uniforms, books etc., built wells in villages, given radios to schools, provided a form of uniform to Directors, increased number of Directors so that every village is represented, inaugurated a service (using an outboard powered canoe) to every village to collect skins and trade etc. and has encouraged the new Sports Club.
5. While expanding into the above activities the Society has maintained the highest price ever paid in this region for crocodile skins, has paid one dividend of 20% and a similar bonus and has added a bulk store to its premises at the patrol post.
6. In its attempt to improve service to the people the Society has finalised plans for the construction of a small cargo vessel (26ft. long and carrying 4 tons) which will trade around the lake and in the Fly River villages - I received word yesterday that construction of the vessel's hull had begun; the boat is being built at KWATO, Milne Bay, and should be delivered before the end of the year. Its name "LAKE MURRAY".
7. As a further encouragement the Society plans another 20% dividend and a further bonus issue of three thousand pounds to purchase the vessel. A further bonus of 8/- per skin will be paid to persons who sold their skins to the L.M.B.S.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT Cont.

8. Through interest and encouragement by the local people and the Administration the Society has expanded and the village people are experiencing a surge in economic development which makes other people in the Western District envious.

9. There is a shadow cast over present economic development. The agent of present development has been money earned through the sale of crocodile skins - and the crocodile skin, this region's only known natural resource, is being wiped into extinction.

10. Mr. R. Tabua, M.H.A., has gained much support from this area in an attempt to have the crocodile skin industry protected i.e. to prevent crocodiles being completely wiped out through imposing regulations which restrict the size of marketable skins. Lake Murray people were very disappointed at deferred legislation designed to support the industry had been expressed against the bill seemed highly illogical - some of the more educated people in this region shall continue to press for the legislation so essential to the continued economic development of their people.

11. Another problem which must be faced arises from the lack of trained personnel to manage the L.M.B.S. In October this year the present storeman is leaving and at present there is no person to replace him. In two or three years local schools should produce a number of capable chaps for the job but the problem for the present remains unsolved.

12. Twelve months back the poverty of the people's ambitions was disturbing, through recent economic development the people have formed ambitions which, if attained, will give them a reasonable future. The Administration must continue and increase its encouragement, and if possible, guide the people in obtaining their ambitions.

AGRICULTURE:

1. Our Agricultural Fieldworker, Mr. SIOU BAJDAMA, accompanied the patrol and took a census of all livestock in each village. His report will be forwarded to the D.A.O. as soon as it comes to hand.

2. With difficulty being experienced in having legislation passed to secure these villagers economic future, through protecting the croc skin industry, the D.A.O. and other people, including myself, have been looking for a new source for future income.

3. In considering future cash crops which may be developed by the Lake Murray people a number of important factors have to be taken into account the main ones being the extremely poor soil, distance from suitable markets (over 200 miles from Daru, 420 miles from Moresby - by air - and 200 miles to the Highlands) and the fact that traditionally the people are not agriculturally minded - they live on sago and what they collect with the bow and arrow. Any programme to introduce a cash crop will have to be accompanied by an extensive agricultural education course.

4. Taking the above facts into consideration it would seem that rubber offers the only real prospects for the future. The D.A.O. is sending some rubber trees to this station and these will be planted as a trial crop.

AGRICULTURE Cont.

5. In past years Administration Officers have encouraged local people to plant coconuts and make copra. On every occasion villagers have failed to support the move and today they haven't enough coconuts to feed themselves let alone produce copra.

6. Local villagers should not be criticised for their lack of support as this area is entirely unsuited to copra production, palms produce very few nuts, nuts are small, excessive rainfall and present exorbitant freight rates (£20 a ton to Daru) also infrequent shipping services, all these factors cause me to believe that copra has no future in this region.

7. Generally there is very little economic development of agriculture in the Lake Murray Census region.

LAW AND JUSTICE:

1. Lake Murray people are generally regarded as holding some respect for the law.

2. Approximately seventy percent of all offences committed in this area occur in two villages - TAGUM and BOIKBOILLAVU. TAGUM is the closest village to the U.F.M. Mission station and BOIKBOILLAVU is situated alongside the Patrol Post.

3. The reasons for the above situation are not known to me but I should imagine that their close proximity to Australians has caused a more rapid breakdown in the traditional system of social and political control and also self-regulation.

4. Except for one case of incest (for which the offender was sentenced to five years gaol) no serious crime has been reported in this region for over eighteen months.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH:

1. I have repeatedly asked for a Medical Patrol to visit this area, and to date I have not managed to succeed.

2. Three deaths from MENINGITIS were investigated by Dr. Mathews from Daru; he was the first representative of P.H.D. to see any village in this area for over four years. I sincerely hope that the responsible person reading this report will take action which will result in a visit to all villages by a Health patrol.

3. For a region situated so close to the border the record of P.H.D. patrols in this area is nothing to be proud of.

CENSUS:

1. The 1965 Census was completed using, for the first time, the NEW Census forms. At first these forms seem a little formidable however in practice they simplify the Census.

2. Final Census figures are attached hereto. An increase in births over deaths is noted. Total population of 1578 persons was recorded, this is an increase of 154 people over 1964 figures.

3. No unusual trends were noted in the figures obtained from each village.

LAKE MURRAY PATROL POST

No.4/64-65. (14)

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS:

1. As mentioned in the "Native Affairs" section the Lake Murray Buyers' Society has ordered a new cargo vessel which it is hoped will be delivered before the end of this year. Construction of the hull began on the 14th of this month.
2. The arrival of this new cargo/trading vessel and the subsequent organisation of a regular schedule will, for the first time, open the transport and communications in this area of the Western District.

3. It is to be expected, I feel, that the introduction of this vessel will result in greater contact between the villagers of Lake Murray and the Middle Fly and that friendly relationships could result which would make the future establishment of a Local Government Council possible.

EDUCATION:

1. Nearly four hundred children in the Lake Murray area are at present attending school at the Government or Mission station.
2. Both the U.F.M. and the Admin. are expanding their educational facilities. At PANGO the mission have recently constructed a new classroom block and two new European teachers have arrived. Here at the patrol post the Admin. has constructed new dormitories and two new classrooms as well as two new teachers houses.
3. The attitude of parents has altered over past months and they seem rather proud that their children are at school. At one time strong encouragement was necessary before parents would allow their children to attend school.
4. Radios and money have been donated to each school by the L.M.B.S.. The money has been used at the Admin school to purchase school uniforms and books; at the mission sporting equipment and books were acquired.
5. VISRD (Radio Darn) is received in some villages however its effect on the people at this stage is difficult to judge. Adult Education Courses conducted at the Primary T School are gaining increasing popularity.

CONCLUSION:

1. The 1965 Village population Census was completed.
2. It is essential that future Admin. staff maintain and increase encouragement for L.M.B.S. activities. Local Government within two years is a possibility.
3. The Public Health Dept. should be strongly encouraged to undertake a medical patrol through this region.
4. A survey is needed to determine the Agricultural potential of this area; with special emphasis on the prospects of producing rubber.
5. Legislation to prevent the extinction of the croc skin industry is required urgently if an economic depression is to be prevented in this region.
6. Mr. Hunter, C.P.O. accompanied the patrol - his comments are attached.

*F.J.L. Haynes*  
F.J.L. Haynes, Officer in Charge.

7

INTRODUCTION

1 The main object of this patrol was the conducting of the 1965 census for the Lake Murray Census Division. During the patrol talks were given on : the Lake Murray Buyers Society; methods of improving village housing; education; the crocodile skin industry; water supplies; and other topics as they arose.

2 Transport for the patrol was provided by the M.V MVA, a twenty-two foot work-boat. This proved to be just the right type of boat, both for the size of the patrol and for the work undertaken.

3 All villages visited by the patrol are situated so as to be easily accessible by water transport.

(6)

DIARY

12/4/65 to 16/4/65, with Mr. Haynes to ASOATATUMA, MINA/VENAVENA, TAGUM, DIMU and USAKOF. For full details see Mr. Haynes' report.

20/4/65                      Departed station per MIWA at 0815 for UPOBIA, up BOI River. Arrived UPOBIA at 1115 hours in heavy rain. Census held and talks given, until 1700. Informal talks with village men at night.

21/4/65                      Revisited village well. Departed UPOBIA at 0800 hours and travelled down BOI River to MAGIPOPO arriving at 1400. Census held and talks given. Village well very good. Departed MAGIPOPO at 1500 and arrived at station at 1530.

22/4/65                      Departed station at 1430, per MIWA, in company of Mr. Haynes and arrived at BODMBOILAVU village at 1440. Census conducted and talks given to people. Returned to station at 1730.

End of Patrol

(5)

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## VILLAGES

- 1 The standard of housing in most villages in the area is quite reasonable. Houses are constructed of readily available materials-Biri for the roof and Sago slats or Celc for the walls. Most houses are raised three or four feet above the ground, however, the single men's house is always built at ground level, as this is considered too big to be put up on stumps.
- 2 The PARI village of UPOBIA consists of two large houses and about six smaller, family houses. The larger houses are used by three or four families and have a partition running lengthways down the centre to segregate the men's from the women's quarters.
- 3 In all villages talks were given on housing construction. It was seen that the main faults with houses were: the use of too small a diameter stumps and lack of bracing in both the walls and roof.
- 4 The villages of USAKOF and POIMBOILAVU are both in the process of shifting sites. In both cases this is a move for the better, the old sites were too small and caused overcrowding whilst the new sites will allow a good deal of room for expansion. BUSEKI village, which I did not visit on this patrol but had seen previously, has just completed movement from its old site. The new village is very well built and would be the best that I have seen.
- 5 It is felt that the people of TAGUM would be well advised to move their village to a new site. The present one is overcrowded and will not allow for any further expansion. The previous site occupied by this village (then called MOILAVUAN) was abandoned because of sickness and the people are loth to return there even though it is suitable in regards size and situation.
- 6 All villages, with the exception of USAKOF (which is soon to have one), have been provided with wells, constructed of empty forty-four gallon drums, by the Lake Murray buyers Society. The Society is awaiting delivery of a number of pumps from the KIWAI Council, which will be given to the villages.
- 7 These wells have made a vast improvement to the standard of water used by the villagers. Previously water for all purposes was drawn from the swamp at the edge of the lake.

## VILLAGE OFFICIALS

- 8 The village officials concerned gave all necessary assistance to the patrol and, in the main, proved to be helpful and straightforward. The officials are, however, mostly older men who will have to be replaced sometime in the near future and it may be difficult to find suitable leaders among the younger men.



9 All Village Constables were paid up until the 30th of June 1964.

(A) 1  
F  
NATIVE AFFAIRS

10 As I had only been at Lake Murray for a period of three weeks prior to the patrol must be necessarily limited.

11 It is obvious, however, that the Lake Murray Buyers Society, by fair trading, has provided the means for a general raising of the living standard among these people. In the way of clothing and household goods they have more than other peoples I have seen in this district. Further evidence of the Society's benefit in to the people in this way are the wells to be found in all except one village and the plan to give many villages a radio.

12 The village people are supporting thier Society, under constant encouragement, and are turning further away from dealing with the shooters and traders who come to the lake at irregular intervals and leave taking with them the major share of any money to be made from crocodile skins.

13 The PARI villages of UPOBIA and MAGIPOPO were for thier cooperation with the patrol. The rest house at UPOBIA was the best seen by the patrol, being converted by the villagers from a building they erected after a non-fulfilled promise by Mr. Spychiger to put a trade store in thier village.

14 During the patrol a number of people asked questions about the "new money". These people had heard that when the Dutch left West Irian thier money was declared worthless and were worried that this might later be the case in this territory. The new money system was outlined to them and thier fears appeared sat at rest.

15 I feel that the situation at present must be consolidated by constant support of the Buyers Society by the officer stationed at Lake Murray.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

16 The section on Economic Development ~~gi~~ in Mr. Haynes' report gives all facts related to the Buyers Society.

17 I feel that when the Society takes delivery of the boat mentioned in Mr. Haynes' report that the people will take an even greater interest in htier Society. The boat, by moving around and trading in all, villages will bring the Society much closer to the people.

AGRICULTURE

18 The patrol was accompanied by an Agricultural



EDUCATION (Contd.)

26 The Lake Murray area is well served with schools, having the Unevangelized Fields Mission school at one end of the lake and the Lake Murray Primary "T" school at the other.

27 Both schools have gone ahead even in the short time I have been here. The mission school has gained a permanent materials building of two classrooms and an office as well as two new European teachers. The government school is having a permanent materials teacher's house constructed at the moment and two new classrooms are planned for the near future.

28 There are about four hundred children attending the two schools, which is quite good considering the small population of the area and the recent apathy of local parents to education.

29 The Buyers Society has actively supported both schools with gifts of money and radios. The Lake Murray Primary "T" school purchased uniforms with money received from the Society.

CONCLUSION

30 I agree with Mr. Haynes in that: The Buyers Society must continue to have the support of the officer stationed at Lake Murray to hold the interest of the people; There is need for a medical patrol to be carried out in the area in the near future; That a survey by the Dept. of Agriculture is needed to assess whether Rubber or some other crop could be produced economically at Lake Murray

*R. Hunter*

67-6-1 (1964/65)

DARU



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



# PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. L/M 5/64-65

Patrol Conducted by P. J. L. Haynes. Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled MIDDLE FLY CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil

2 Interpreters

Natives 2 R.P. & N.G.C.

1 A.F.W.

Duration—From 3/5/1965 to 13/5/1965

Number of Days 11

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 12/1964

Medical 6?

Map Reference Sheet 7 Aerial Map Border

Objects of Patrol Census, General Administration, Installation Radio-  
Receivers.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

9/5/1965

*J. C. Beasted*

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 ..... £.....

D.D.C.

67-3-38

67-3-38

24th June, 1965.

District Commissioner,  
Western District,  
DARU.

LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT NO. 5/64-65:

Your memorandum 67-6-1 of 10th June 1965, refers.

- 2. Thank you for Mr. Haynes' Patrol Report.
- 3. Mr. Haynes has presented a good report and shows a lot of enthusiasm.
- 4. Your comments have been noted and there is no necessity for us to add anything.

(T.G. Aitchison )  
A/DIRECTOR.

67. 3. 28 (a)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM  
Telephone  
Our Reference 67-6-1  
If calling ask for  
Mr. IAH:LB



Department of District Administration,  
Western District,  
DARU.

10th June, 1965.

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBUI.

PATROL LAKE MURRAY 5/64-65 - MIDDLE FLY CENSUS DIVISION.

Attached is a report of the above 11 day patrol by Mr. F.J.D. HAYNES, Patrol Officer.

2. It shows steady progress in this area, primarily under the aegis of the Buyers' Society and Mr. HAYNES' continued enthusiasm.

3. From visiting Agriculturalists I gather that Western District crocodile size restrictions advanced by our Department and also by the Local Member (albeit emotionally and ham-handedly) are "a dead duck". What a mistake! If those who damned the proposals had to explain 'Why', they might have given the matter some thought. I can only hope that, through eventual Local Government, the people will impose restrictions themselves. They probably have no such power but the ensuing legal dialogue will at least bring the matter to wider notice again.

4. Health have promised an early patrol of the area. It will be specific to smallpox, speedy and by a local officer - not noted hereabouts for initiative or conscientiousness in the field. At least it is a start. Local Agricultural authorities have tentative plans (copra) but lack qualified Extension Personnel. Such plans await re-assessment in the light of the World Bank report. All indications to date are pessimistic so far as Lake MURRAY is concerned. One hopes that when Standard 6's start to appear (say 1967 with meteoric increases thereafter) a military life will appeal to young men.

5. Arranging for Radio Daru to pinpoint the patrol's activities when in each village represents first class public relations.

6. A good report.

*F. A. Bensted*

(F. A. Bensted)  
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

INTRODUCTION:

1. The Middle Fly Census Division of the Lake Murray Patrol Post area is situated between Lake Murray and the border with West Irian. The Fly River passes through the Middle of the Census Division and creates vast swamps which cover at least eighty percent of the region. Villages are situated on islands of clay surrounded by swamps.
2. During the course of this patrol discussions pertaining to Lake Murray Buyers' Society policy, general village improvements, Decimal Currency etc. were held. The 1965 Census was also completed. New Admin. radios were placed in each village.
3. My patrol to this area in December last year (P.R. No. 3/64-65) was the last District Administration and there have been no Health patrols for four years. D.A.S.F. Officers have never patrolled the Middle Fly Census Division.
4. To complete the patrol various forms of transport were used. For the most part the 22ft. Admin. Workboat "MIWA" was used (and proved very satisfactory) however at other times it was necessary to travel by canoe, on foot and in one section to swim.

DIARY:

Monday, 3rd May.

0600 Departed station per MIWA for Boboa airstrip where intended have short conversation with D.D.C. however his plane didn't arrive as Daru strip closed. 1000hrs onto PANGOVA U.F.M. determine if require any matters investigated - there were none, then onto ASCATUTUMA where offloaded gear from MIWA to travel by canoe to BOIKUMAVA as their small river blocked - MIWA sent direct to first village on Fly, KAVIANANGA where patrol will meet tomorrow. 1300hrs per canoe and on foot over reasonable track to BOIKUMAVA Village. While crossing lake enroute five of six canoes swamped by sudden strong winds - some crocodiles but clung to Pandanus routes until rescued over an hour later - some minor items lost. Onto village where arrived 1800hrs. Installed radio and people heard the V.C.'s name and news of the patrol.

Tuesday, 4th May.

0700hrs Census, general discussions etc. completed. Village in fair condition. 1030hrs departed per canoe for KAVIANANGA down Strickland and up Fly River. After extremely hot trip arrived village 1600hrs. Installed new radio and inspected houses. KOMAVAI people also in village so decided hold joint meeting with these people tomorrow. People listened to radio Daru in evening and as in every village V.C.'s name called over radio Daru.

Wednesday, 5th May.

At KAVIANANGA discussions with people and Census conducted. Patrol very well received here. These people working well and making an increasing effort to improve themselves. Conducted KOMAVAI Census and people responded well as usual. Prepare depart per MIWA for AIAMBAK tomorrow.

Thursday, 6th May.

0600 departed village for AIAMBAK up Fly River for 6 1/2 hrs arriving village after 1200hrs. In village number of new houses and a school. People only just starting to work and should improve themselves if present attitude maintained. Census conducted and radio installed also met V.C. from TINJUNGA and told that village prepared for patrol's arrival tomorrow. This village improving rapidly.

LAKE MURRAY PATROL POST

No. 64-65.

DIARY Cont.

Friday, 7th May.

0700hrs to TINUNGA Village village inspected and radio installed. Census conducted in afternoon - good response. Village however generally poor and needs immediate improvement of houses and general drainage. This village worst encountered during the whole patrol. Prepare move per MIWA to BOSSET Village tomorrow. People here gave good reception to radio Daru.

Saturday, 8th May.

To BOSSET 0630hrs arriving village after fairly uneventful trip at 1330hrs. Good reception and village inspected. Much improved since last visit. Village radio removed for repairs. Noted people had constructed 100 foot bridge to new village site. 1550hrs to Montfort Mission where spoke with Father in Charge and Sisters, all seemed well and it is certain that BOSSET people are benefiting from the presence of this Mission. As some people absent will conduct Census and general discussion tomorrow afternoon.

Sunday, 9th May.

1400hrs General discussions with villagers. These people appear lazy at first but have shown me that they can and will work if given proper encouragement. Prepare depart for MANDA tomorrow.

Monday, 10th May.

0700hrs to MANDA along Fly and up Agu rivers. In some places river rough and current exceptionally strong. Arrived in village approx. 1300hrs but many absent at sago place therefore will hold Census tomorrow. Village inspected and noted mosquitoes still very bad. Housing not bad but good houses must be built in near future. Radio installed and received well. Party in evening to celebrate patrols arrival.

Tuesday, 11th May.

0730hrs. Census and general discussions completed with people showing interest for new activities. These MANDA people are settling in well. 1000hrs depart per MIWA for MIPAN thence KUEM - will drop off policeman at MIPAN to arrange transport for part of the patrol back to the station. Arrived KUEM village 1630hrs after long wet trip up Agu River. As usual excellent reception and village in good condition. People very co-operative. Installed radio. Will conduct Census in morning. During evening many people listening to Radio Daru.

Wednesday, 12th May.

0930hrs after completing work at KUEM departed for MIPAN arriving in village 1300hrs. Good reception and this village showing marked signs of improvement. Village housing improved. Some shortage of food reported but not serious at present. Census conducted and strong support noted here now for L.M.B.S.. Carriers and canoes arranged for return to station tomorrow, heavy rain in evening will make track muddy tomorrow. Radio installed here some weeks back proving very popular.

Thursday, 13th May.

0600 hrs. MIWA departed for station via AGU, FLY, STRICKLAND and HERBERT Rivers. 0630 rest of patrol departed per canoe then foot then canoe arriving station at Lake Murray 1830hrs after a very long day.

END OF PATROL



## LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

No. 5/64-65.

NATIVE AFFAIRS:

1. The native affairs situation in the Middle Fly Census Division has shown a general improvement since my last visit to the region last December. The overall improvement since my first visit in July, 1964 is encouraging.
2. There is not the general co-operation between Middle Fly villagers which is found between Lake Murray village people. This probably results from the distance between villages, average twenty miles, and because traditionally there was little intercourse between the village groups. Although co-operation is not as strong as it is at Lake Murray general co-operating is increasing rapidly, probably to some extent as a result of joint support for the Lake Murray Buyers' Society and increasing membership in the Lake Murray Sports Club. A Local Government Council will encourage even further understanding and co-operation.
3. In my report (No. 3/64-65) of December last I mentioned the BOSSET people as being rather difficult to understand and as they seemed to take a rather negative and generally apathetic attitude towards policies being introduced to benefit them. The overall picture in this village would appear to be altering. Since my last visit they have built many new houses and a fine footbridge which is over one hundred feet long and these improvements are a credit to them. During my discussions with them they showed definite interest and this interest was common to most villagers. I think that encouragement from the nearby Mission and the fact that the Administration is in fact trying to take an interest in them (people seem to see this now) and also the fact that the Lake Murray Buyers' Society is expanding its operations to cover this area, has brought most people in BOSSET and the Middle Fly region to realise that they have to get moving and take advantages of opportunities if they are not to be left behind in the development which is taking place amongst the Lake Murray people.
4. Apart from BOSSET Village many new houses were noted in every village and I think this is a sign that the Middle Fly people are starting to move. The support people are giving their ~~Buyers~~ Society is most encouraging and shows that once interested these people can and will work hard.
5. Villagers in KAVIANANGA, KOMAVAI, BOSSET and MANDA stated at different times during the patrol that they thought things were better "here" than on the "other side". The only complaint or request they made constantly referred to the protection of the crocodile industry. Simply, when will their economic future be secured to them. This question is often discussed amongst villagers and it is the one major point, which if determined in their favour, will bring the people in the region fully behind the Administration. (It should be remembered that the largest village in the area, BOSSET, is traditionally orientated more towards West New Guinea than Papua and New Guinea - mainly through their contact with MERAUKE and the early Catholic Mission).
6. During the patrol an Extension Services radio receiver was placed in each village. A good aerial and earth was also attached and reception from Territory stations generally was excellent. Radio Daru booms in and is at present proving very popular. Before leaving the Station I arranged for the V.C.'s in every village to have their name called and a request played - this went over very well (I returned from the patrol with over forty letters for VISBD, Radio Daru). West Irian stations are received very clearly but they seem to lack Slim Dusty etc. and locals seem to really enjoy the request programmes; I don't believe that people will listen regularly to West Irian stations.
7. The construction of water wells in all villages before year's end and the expansion of Society activities as well as educational facilities will lead to an even greater improvement

NATIVE AFFAIRS:Cont.,

7. in the Native Affairs situation to such an extent that it should be possible to establish a Local Government Council in this region, within the next twelve months.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

1. These men are carrying out their duties as best they can however most require the constant backing of Administration Officers - this is rarely lacking.

2. The majority of village officials are starting to show signs of their age and I would not be at all surprised if, by the time a Local Government Council is introduced, none of these men are elected to office - this has been the rule with Society Directors, most of whom are fairly young men.

3. In every village it was the Village Constable or a Councillor who was taught to operate the radio receiver and change batteries - all seemed to enjoy accepting this extra responsibility.

4. All village officials have been paid to date. Also because of their loyalty regarding people crossing the border extra amounts of tobacco were distributed - this step was appreciated by the officials.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

1. There are signs of economic development in the Middle Fly region. Men and women are well dressed - all young children are clothed - steel cooking utensils, radios, knives and forks, towels and linen, mosquito nets etc. are common items in every village. Ninety-five percent of these items have been purchased from income earned through the sale of crocodile skins - the backbone of economic development in this region.

2. How long will this economic development last? - on present indications not very long as although these people are flat out after skins production has dropped by almost sixty percent in eighteen months (from L.M.B.S. figures and reports from local shooters).

3. If this Administration wants to see these people wearing clothes full of holes, children unclothed, broken radios, disappearance of mosquito nets - and in fact an economic depression in the Middle Fly region - it only has to maintain its present stand ie. no protection to secure these villagers economic future through the introduction of laws to prevent crocodiles from becoming extinct; and at the same time not undertaking immediate action to introduce some new industry to lessen the final blow when crocodiles are extinct (new industry being rubber or teak, fishing or even crocodile farming). The Administration must act as we owe it to the people.

4. For a Local Government Council to succeed basic economic development is essential - this exists at present - the Administration must act to see that economic development not only increases but expands.

5. Any failure of the crocodile skin industry will have an adverse effect on the Lake Murray Buyers Society which has played an ever increasing part in the areas development. The Society, although it pays higher prices than any trader in the region, made over ten thousand pounds profit in the past eight months (a 500% increase on the previous twelve months). A vessel which is expected here before the end of this year (and owned by the L.M.B.S.) will visit each village at fortnightly intervals to trade and buy skins.

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT: Cont.,

6. During the course of the patrol it was necessary to walk over two stretches of land - the only tracts which could be called "fairly large" in this Middle Fly region. In each area of land there were tracts which seemed suited to the economic development of rubber. Could arrangements be made for an Agricultural Officer to visit these areas and determine whether or not rubber planting should be encouraged.

7. Economic development in the Middle Fly Census Division has lead to social development and will assist future political development. Every effort must be made to secure and maintain this development by protecting the skin industry and developing new industries, if this is not done the future for economic, social and political development will be bleak. In the development of these fields in this area of Papua the Administration must set an example not only to Middle Fly people but through these people to those on the other side of the border.

LAW AND JUSTICE:

1. During the ~~patrol~~ patrol no complaints were received from villagers. Middle Fly people rarely resort to court action and they certainly seem to manage well by themselves.

2. People crossing the border ~~is~~ still a minor problem. If villagers are intent on crossing the border ~~there is~~ really nothing which can be done to stop them.

3. In AIAMBAK a man convicted of murdering his wife had returned after some years at Bomana. He seemed to be settling down very well and was generally active in encouraging his people to try to improve themselves - he himself is making some very good bricks.

4. Maintenance of law and order in this region at present presents no problems.

AGRICULTURE:

1. It is unfortunate that no D.A.S.F. patrol has ever visited the Middle Fly area as possibilities for rubber and rice may exist.

2. The A.F.W. from Lake Murray accompanied the patrol and counted livestock in each village. His final figures have been submitted with his report to the District Agricultural Officer in Daru.

3. In the villages of BOIKUMAVA and BOSSET men came forward and asked questions regarding the sale of copra and rice respectively. This food could be bought on G.S.T.A. however there are no facilities for the purchase of copra. This may be purchased by the L.M.B.S. however the storeman will need some training before he can be expected to purchase copra.

4. If some small rubber cuttings were sent to this station trial plots would be started. Trial planting of teak will also be undertaken if suitable seedlings are made available.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH:

1. Facilities are provided by the U.F.M. at BOIKUMAVA and KAVIANANGA and by the Montfort Catholic Mission at BOSSET. The U.F.M. facilities are rather primitive as are those at BOSSET however in the latter village trained sisters are in charge and I think the future will see improved facilities here.

## LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

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MEDICAL AND HEALTH: Cont.,

2. It is a pity the the Health Department has not visited this region for four years. I find it hard to find an excuse for this. Possibly the Health Department has one. If trained persons could see the number of sick people in the region I am sure an effort would be made to visit the area, at present it seems that no attempt is being made by the Health Department to live up to its commitments to the Papuan people in the Middle Fly area.

EDUCATION:

1. Every child in the Middle Fly Census Division has the opportunity of attending school.

2. The Montfort Mission runs and ever improving school at BOSSET and has established village schools at AIAMBAK, TINUNGA, MIPAN and KUEM. All these schools are well attended and maintained.

3. Children in other villages have the opportunity to attend schools at the Government Station or at PANGO A U.P.M. Mission station.

4. In every instance educational facilities are expanding. There are now twenty teachers in the region (nine of them are Europeans). Unfortunately the future for the semi-educated villager with aspirations of clerical work is black however education can only do the community as a whole a lot of good.

5. The installation of radios in each village must assist in broadening the ideas of young and old. I think a lot of good will come as a result of their presence. Radio Daru is already making its presence felt - the amount of mail from villages is steadily mounting.

CENSUS:

1. Once again the annual Census has been completed. As figures show in Appendix I there has been a steady increase in population and migrations are not causing any real problems or concern.

2. I feel that these figures attached require no further comment.

TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS:

1. With the installation of radio receivers in every village communications have been improved. The establishment of a fortnightly shipping service will improve communication and transport in this area at the same time.

2. The new shipping service will, as a result of improved transport and communications, bring about increased contact and understanding which must ultimately benefit the Middle Fly villager.

3. On completion of the Lake Murray airstrip later this year it will be possible to travel from the station to BOSSET village in a matter of minutes. The Administration and local people will benefit.

CONCLUSION:

1. The 1965 Census was satisfactorily completed.

2. A visit by representatives of the Health and

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LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT

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CONCLUSION:Cont.,

2. Agriculture Departments is considered necessary.

3. In order that an economic depression may be prevented after the extinction of the crocodile skin industry immediate action is necessary to establish a new industry. Suggested possibilities are teak, rubber, crocodile farming or fishing.

4. Even in carrying out the above measures the House of Assembly should pass Legislation which will control the sale of small skins and prevent the rapid extinction of the crocodile skin industry and in so doing secure the economic future of the Middle Fly people.

5. A joint survey of this and the Lake Murray regions should and will be conducted in the future with a view to the introduction of a Local Government Council within the next twelve months.

6. Every effort should be made by future Officers to encourage and support the Lake Murray Buyers' Society activities as it is a definite aid to economic, social and political development. It is of benefit to the villager living in the Middle Fly Census Division.



F.J.L. Haynes.  
(Patrol Officer)