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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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Lakekaranu Goldfield Patrol

1930/31

R.G.Speedie a/A.R.M.

18th Feb., 1931 - 30th June 1931.

JOURNAL OF Lakekamu Goldfields Patrol
by
R. G. Speedie, A/A.R.E.

13th Feby. 1931. On instructions from the A/R.M. to proceed to Lakekamu and take over from Mr. P. O. Hides I left Kerema 10 a.m. Arrived Silo about 2 p.m. Camped for night.

19th Feby. 1931. To KARAMA where SILO carriers were returned. Continued on to LILIFIRU and camped for night.

20th Feby. 1931. Took canoes to Kukipi. Found Messrs. Goodyear, Markwell and Clunn here preparing for a trip to the goldfields.

21st to 25th Feby. At KUKIPI awaiting arrival of "Ronald B" from P. with personal stores and Mr. Littlechild who is to accompany me to the field.

26th Feby. 1931 "Ronald B" arrived with stores and Mr. Littlechild. A.C's despatched immediately to collect carriers from Silo and Womai.

27th and 28th Feby. At KUKIPI arranging re carriers and buying sago

1st March 1931. Mr. Littlechild self and parties proceeded to MOVIAMI, at which point carriers are to congregate, to purchase more sago and arrange re canoes. We have arranged with Mr. Walker for the use of his outboard engined canoe, only charge being that fuel is replaced.

Messrs. Goodyear and party left for Landing today.

2nd March 1931. At MOVIAMI arranging re canoes and purchasing sago
173 carriers reported during the day.

3rd March to 7th March. Left MOVIAMI 9 a.m. on 3rd March and arrived Tiveri Landing 10.30 a.m. 7th March. Messrs. Goodyear, Markwell, Clunn Clarke and Puxley still here awaiting confirmation of the report that the alleged goldfind is not payable. Word is expected at any moment from Messrs. Nelsson and Bunting who are camped several days up the track.

8th March 1931. At TIVERI Landing re-arranging loads.

9th March 1931. Messrs. Nelsson and Bunting arrived to confirm the report that payable gold has not been found. No word of Mr. Hides who is reported to be absent from his Base camp. I wrote Mr. Hides asking him to forward rice swag bags and flies, of which I have none.

Mr. Littlechild undecided owing to adverse reports whether to proceed inland with me.

10th March 1931. Mr. Littlechild and self and parties left Tiveri Landing 7.10 a.m. with 198 loads, and in 1½ hrs reached Mr. Betaune's camp. Continued on for another 3 hours and camped owing to threatening rain. Mr. Littlechild fortunately has flies sufficient for both parties.

11th March 1931. Camped below OLIPAI Heights early owing to threatening rain. Have no canvas swags for rice.

12th March 1931. Camped on OLIPAI Heights at noon.

13th March 1931. Arrived at Messrs. Manony and parties camp on Tiveri. Further reports here infer that the goldfind on Hides Creek is not payable. Messrs. Christie Bros. and party and Mr. D.M. Johnston ~~xxx~~ have decided to abandon their claim and return to the coast immediately. Mr. P.O. Hides returns from patrol. Mr. Littlechild and self decided to make this point our Base camp for the time being.

14th March 1931. ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ All carriers returned to the coast. Mr. V. Hides arrived from coast.

15th March 1931. Self and Mr. V. Hides left for centre of mining operations (Garbutt's camp). Camped halfway at a deserted garden at noon.

16th March 1931. Arrived Garbutt's camp. No word of Mr. P.O. Hides except that he left this point on 25th last month for a fortnight to three weeks patrol of the country to the N.W. i.e. towards head of Taur. Messrs. Garbutt and Weine's house is a veritable fort, almost completely walled in with split logs and containing numerous apertures or peep-holes for watching movements of the enemy. Am informed that they have received numerous nocturnal visits from local natives who apparently refused to be perturbed at dynamite bombs and rifle shots. No one has actually seen any natives, but suspicious noises have been heard in the night, and one morning several arrows were found stuck in the ground near one of the boxes.

Mr. Garbutt states emphatically that payable gold has not been found. He came up on the strength of a report that 2 ozs of gold per box per day was obtainable. On testing it was found that the ground is very patchy and that nothing like the reported yield was obtainable.

17th to 22nd March 1931. At Garbutt's camp. During this period I had a thorough look round the area in which payable gold is alleged to have been found. I watched members of Garbutt's party work a box for five days, and the most obtained in one day was 11 dwts Messrs. Christie Bros. and Sutherland who have been working for 6 or 7 weeks in the same creek obtained as much as 2 ozs in one day but the average daily yield was not payable. Both parties are anxiously awaiting the return of Mr. P. O. Hides and Mr. W. Garbutt who accompanied Mr. Hides.

Mr. H. Garbutt had the misfortune some weeks ago so severely cut his foot with an axe and is not able to get about. It happened on the eve of his going to examine a reef which has been found in the near vicinity of the camp. Although greatly disappointed in the alluvial gold Mr. Garbutt, who has some knowledge of these things, is very optimistic over the reef, a sample of the stone from which assayed sixty-odd shillings per ton. He hopes to be able to follow up the "leaders" and thoroughly examine the reef in several weeks time when his foot gets better.

I decided today (22nd March) to take a short patrol to the N.W. in the hopes of getting some word of Mr. P.O. Hides who is somewhat overdue. Messrs. Weine, V. Hides and W. Nicholas will accompany me.

23rd March 1931. Left Garbutt's camp 9.10 a.m. following Mr. P.O. Hides track N.E. towards the headwaters of the Tauri. Lunched at Mr. Hides camp No. 1 and continued on N. to N.E. for 1½ hrs and camped between 4,000 and 5,000 ft.

24th March 1931. Leaving soon after 6 a.m. we descended to a tributary of the main Tauri and followed this down for one hour and breakfasted. Continuing downstream in a S.W. to W. direction for another hour the track cut by Mr. Hides joins a native pad and leaving the creek swings N. Three quarters of an hour later we passed Mr. Hides camp No. 2 and an hour later we camped quite close to the Tauri R. Several villages are visible on the opposite bank of the river.

25th March 1931. Descending to the river level we followed a pad up the left bank for a few minutes and presently came across remains of

25th March 1931. ^{CONT} remains of a native suspension bridge. After wasting several hours felling trees to get across river scouts discovered a ford some considerable distance upstream. Crossed over after lunch and continued upstream crossing and re-crossing river several times. Further signs of Mr. Hides' party were followed only to be lost again by the time we made camp at 3.30 p.m. Several local natives were seen in the distance on the W bank of the river.

26th March 1931. Got away 8 a.m. up right bank of Tauri for 1 hour then left river and climbed W. to N.W. to a small hamlet of 2 houses (conical), deserted, and continuing on up the West side of the valley passing several more deserted hamlets we camped near a fourth group of houses on a sharp spur jutting out into the valley about a thousand ft above the river level. No sign of people. At this point the river bifurcates, the main branch of the Tauri swings sharply to the East. A good view of the valley is obtainable almost to its source of the river, which I judge to be a little to the N and E of Mt. Lawson. The country in the immediate vicinity of the camp is very sparsely populated -- there are only 10 small hamlets similar to those passed through today, in sight; but in the far distance towards the head of the Valley, judging by the large garden clearings and smoke, the population seems much thicker.

27th March 1931. It was decided to spend the day in camp and try to get in touch with the local people in the hopes of learning something as to the whereabouts of Mr. Hides. Dynamite bombs and volleys of rifle shots were fired but no response was received.

A number of people appeared near the camp this morning and called out to us. After a lot of persuasion some of them came into camp unarmed with hands clasped on their heads. Some thirty men and boys visited us during the day bringing with them odds and ends of food for which each one wanted an axe or large knife.

Lack of interpretation is the obstacle in dealing with these people and with signs alone we were unable to obtain any information from them about Mr. Hides.

28th March 1931. Got away 8 a.m. and descended to the Tauri in the hopes of being able to follow up the valley near the streams edge, but
the gorges

28th March 1931 (contd). but the gorges and precipitous nature of the banks would not permit of this so we were forced to fell trees and cross over. Climbed out of the river on the southern side of the valley until well after noon cutting our way (having lost tracks) when we reached a deserted village of 5 houses, almost opposite and within shouting distance of our camp site of this morning. Nearby we found a camp site of Mr. P.O. Hides. He apparently did not cross to the other side of the Tauri. Camped 2.30 p.m.

29th March 1931. Continued up Tauri Valley by a well worn pad for about three hours passing several axe cuts probably made by Mr. Hides, only to lose all signs of a track in a garden. Continued cutting our way until 5 p.m. when we struck a native pad running at right angles to ours. Camp was pitched and an effort made to again pick up Mr. Hides' tracks without result. Numerous villages are visible further up the valley. No sign of natives all day.

30th March 1931. Followed the pad discovered yesterday South and climbed to about 7,000 ft. and met another well worn pad running E. & W. an parallel to our track of yesterday. A magnificent view of the country to the East and South is obtainable from this point. The sea and coast line from Cape Possession West almost to the Cupola at Ker ma can be seen. The main landmarks of this district, Mts. Chapman, Lawson and Yule were unfortunately not visible, although the S.W. spurs of the latter were just visible. Several more volleys were fired from here and Mr. Weine let off ~~several~~ several plugs of dynamite, the echoes of which could be heard for fully half a minute after the explosions. Receiving no response we assumed that Mr. Hides is not in the Valley, having probably gone to Edie Creek or crossed over to the Tiveri Valley. As we came away only prepared for 10 days absence it was decided to make tracks back for Garbutt's camp on the field. Descending a ridge in an Easterly direction for about 15 minutes we took the first spur to the right leading S.W. to S. with the object of connecting up with our outward track at a point where we struck the Tauri on the 25th instant. Dropped down to a tributary of the Tauri and lunched. The nature of the creek would not permit of walking in its bed so we were forced to climb to higher ground. Cutting our way for over two hours up and across the face of the mountain and down to creek again we found

30th March 1931 (contd) we found a camp site at 5.30 p.m.

31st March 1931. Half an hours walk downstream brought us to the main Tauri and our outward track of 25th instant. Pushed on until 4.15 p.m. and camped at Mr. Hides No. 1 camp about three hours from Garbutt's.

1st April 1931. Arrived back at Garbutt's camp on Hides Creek 11 a.m. to find Messrs. Christie, Sutherland and Jackson here anxiously awaiting news of us and Mr. P.O. Hides.

2nd April 1931. Self returned to Tiveri Base camp. Messrs. Christie Bros. Sutherland Jackson Weine and Nicholas accompanied me this far. Messrs. Jackson and Sutherland are making for the old Lakekamu field Messrs. Weine and Christie Bros are returning to Port Moresby. Messrs. Mahony and party left here 4 or 5 days ago for upper River 1 P.O. on mail until late in the night.

3rd April 1931. Mr. Weine left for coast. C.I. Mabu in charge of 12 time expired prisoners and mail despatched to Kerema.

Police and remaining prisoners commenced collecting timber for officers house. Am greatly handicapped in this respect owing to lack of tools.

4th April 1931. Police and prisoners as yesterday. P.O. supervising. Managed to borrow several axes etc. from Messrs. Jackson and Brookes. Messrs. Christie Bros. and Sutherland left for Landing.

5th April 1931. Sunday.

6th April 1931. Messrs. Jackson and Brookes left for Landing. They intend working in towards the middle Tauri from that point. Police and prisoners on building. P.O. ill with fever. T.G.M.A. in attendance.

7th April 1931. Ten prisoners in charge of 2 A.C.'s despatched to Landing with a quantity of Mr. Littlechild's gear. He has received instructions to return to the coast.

8th April 1931. Police and prisoners and T.G.M.A.'s boys on building. Mr. W. Nicholas arrived from Landing en route to field.

9th April 1931. Mr. Nicholas left for field. Police and prisoners etc. building. P.O. still ill in spite of repeated doses of up to 30 grains quinine per day.

10th April 1931. Police and prisoners as yesterday.

11th April 1931. As yesterday. Rations issued.

12th April 1931. Sunday. Mr. Nicholas arrived from field.

13th April 1931. Mr. Nicholas left for Landing. Police and prisoners building; P.O. supervising.

2 A.C.'s and 10 prisoners returned from Landing with rice. Got a note from Mr. Walker of Kukipi advising that Mr. P.O. Hides had gone to WAU and was on his way back here overland.

14th April 1931. Police and prisoners building. Roofing has proved a bit of a problem but we were fortunate in finding a small isolated clump of sago, the leaves of which will help considerably.

15th April 1931. Police and prisoners as yesterday, also clearing land for a garden. 14 MOTU MOTU natives signed on to the Mahony prospecting party for 3 months in January last (exact date unknown) arrived here today stating that they had run away as their ~~kanz~~ contracts have expired. Messrs Mahony and party are working about 4 days inland from here so in view of the fact that the employer must allow reasonable time for T.E. n.l.'s to return home I am not detain-
them.

16th April 1931. Mahony's MOTU MOTU's to coast. Each was given a load of Mr. Littlechild's gear to take to Landing. A.C.'s GOMUA and ISEKA in charge.

17th April 1931. P.O. left to take bearings between here and the field with a view to cutting a new and shorter road. Camped at about 2½ hours along the road at what is known as Ambush point. On the road met Mr. A. Whitbourne and D. Johnston who are on their way to Tiveri Base camp. Was informed that Mr. P.O. Hides had arrived at Garbutt's camp on Hides Creek.

During the afternoon I commenced clearing a lookout on Ambush point from which to take bearings.

18th April 1931. Erected a ladder and obtained a magnificent view of the country to the North East and South-East. Mts. Yule Chapman Strong and Lawson all being plainly visible. Took bearings. Kept a lookout in the direction of field (Garbutt's camp) in the hopes of picking up a smoke signal which they were good enough to arrange, but low hanging clouds in that direction obscured vision. Spent 3 hours

18th April 1931 (contd). Spent 3 hours watching for signal and studying the contour of the country with the object of cutting a new road. In the afternoon I took a walk/^Nfrom Ambush point along an old native pad and found the going very good and apparently in the required direction of new road.

19th April 1931. Returned to Tiveri Base Camp.

20th April 1931. Mr. P. O. Hides arrived from Mandated Territory looking very worn out through lack of food on the journey.

Police and prisoners completing flooring of house.

21st April 1931. Mr. Hides left for coast. Police and prisoners building. Furniture 8 loads of Mr. Littlechild's gear sent Landing.

22nd April 1931. 2 A.C.'s escorting 23 of Garbutt's and Hides' deserters remanded from Port Moresby arrived 3 p.m. P.O. received notice of appointment as Acting A.R.M. to enable him to deal with n.l. cases.

22nd April 1931. House finished and Mr. Littlechild and self moved in today. Messengers despatched to Messrs. Hides and Garbutt advising arrival of deserters and that C.P.S. would be held on 24th inst.

23rd April 1931. Police and prisoners on clearing and planting sweet potatoes -- a few tops having been found in a nearby old abandoned garden. Mr. V. Hides arrived 4 p.m.

24th April 1931. A/A.R.M. in C.P.S. all day. Police and prisoners as yesterday.

25th April 1931. A.C.'s and prisoners (3) returned from Landing also Mr. Nicholas.

26th April 1931. Sunday. Mr. V. Hides left for field and Mr. Nicholas for Landing.

27th April 1931. A/A.R.M. on mail for station. Police and prisoners clearing and planting. 13 GOPI natives (pay offs) from Messrs. Hides and Garbutt arrived from field; one of them in a very weak and emaciated condition.

28th April 1931. Mr. Littlechild left for landing, mail not being ready will send later. 6 T.E. prisoners returned to Kerema. 12 new prisoners arrived in charge of A.C. OREPA today. Police and prisoners as yesterday.

29th April 1931. Police and prisoners as yesterday. A.A.R.M. still on mail.

30th April 1931. L/cpl. and 5 prisoners despatched to Landing with mail where is to remain sago making and to build a store house. Also particularly instructed him to arrest any deserters from the field.

1st May 1931. In consequence of a request received from and a promise made by me some time ago to the Mahony prospecting party to visit them on the Upper Tiveri, where they are at present working, I left the Base camp today with 5 A.C.'s and 14 prisoners for a hurried trip. I have instructions to confine my work to improving the road etc., but as the Mahony party are penetrating new country which is said to be fairly well populated, I think it advisable to take a patrol to see how they are getting along.

Left main road at Ambush point with the idea of cutting new track mentioned under date 17th and 18th ult. Continuing in a N. direction along old pad I followed on 18th ult. for about 2½ hrs. we came upon an old village and garden site. An enormous clump of bamboo standing in a beautiful open glade of some two acres in extent marked the end of the track. Scouted round and found ~~from~~ a new road leading to a large garden in full bearing, but there were no people about. This large garden right in the way of the proposed new road knocks the idea on the head, for it is my intention to try and avoid all gardens and villages, as ^{otherwise} endless trouble is likely to be caused through carriers and others stealing from these gardens. Continued N. over some very rough country, another fact which precludes the possibility of a new road this way, and camped 5 p.m. about 2 hrs from Garbutt's camp.

2nd May 1931. Reached Garbutt's camp 9 a.m. Spent rest of day here.

Mr. Garbutt has received an analysis of a further sample of stone from reef sent south some time ago. The assayers report on three samples of stone from three different portions of the reef, so Mr. Garbutt states, averages the gold content at about 4½ ozs to the ton. I did not see the assayers report. Since his foot has got better Mr. Garbutt has had a chance to look round a bit and is very optimistic over the reef. It would seem to me though that before an idea can be obtained as to whether it will be a payable concern that a considerable amount of

2nd May 1931 (contd). a considerable amount of developmental work will have to be put in and a bulk assay obtained.

3rd May 1931. Left Garbutt's camp 9 a.m. accompanied by Mr. F. Burrow who wishes to see a little of the country up here. Climbed over the range to Tiveri watershed on an old native pad which, as it turned out did not go in the right direction i.e. to a point where the Tiveri R swings sharply to the East, where I hoped to pick up Messrs. Mahony and party's track. Descended cutting our way perhaps halfway to the Tiveri R level when we struck a precipice and wasted several valuable hours in making a long detour to the North - at right angles to our objective. Reached a tributary of the Tiveri and camped 4.30 p.m.

4th May 1931. Continued downstream, wading where possible, but many times being forced to ascend sides of mountain to avoid ravines. At about 2 p.m we struck Messrs. Mahony and party's track and soon afterwards one of their camps about 1/2 hr from Tiveri R. Following track we again climbed out of the river and camped 5 p.m.

5th May 1931. Got away 7.20 a.m. still climbing and reaching the top continued in a North Easterly direction. Came across another camp site and before descending to the river a couple of hours later struck another camp site. Hutch was taken beside the Tiveri River. The precipitous ~~and~~ banks and many ravines prohibited us following along rivers edges so were forced to climb out again following track cut by Mr. Mahony. Soon villages and gardens became visible in the distance and pushing on we soon reached one of the gardens, ~~and~~ several people fleeing at our approach. Paused here for a while to try and get in touch with the natives. One man appeared on the track ahead of us some 50 yards away but soon ran away in spite of our friendly overtures. A little later we lost the track whilst passing through another garden lower down and paused while scouts endeavoured to pick it up again. Some ten minutes later about 30 natives appeared on the ridge above and behind us shouting 'MAWGI', 'MAWGI'. Went up and greeted them as they seemed quite friendly and were unarmed except for several stone axes. They wanted steel and we wanted food so it was soon arranged that they bring along sweet potatoes etc. Descended to river again followed by about 20 local natives bearing supplies of food. Struck track again and climbing out of river again reached another of Mr. Mahony's

11.
5th May 1931 (contd). camp sites at dusk. The local natives followed us right to camp bearing food for which they were paid with steel etc. Everyone of course wanted a tomahawk or a large knife and refused anything else. Looking glasses, cloth and matches they would not even touch until it was made plain that no more steel was forthcoming. At last everyone seemed more or less satisfied and they took their leave at about 8 p.m. but they did not go very far. They remained within about a hundred yards of the camp talking most excitedly until about 10 p.m. when they seemed to grow more excited and drew up closer to the camp. The guard was strengthened and presently the people could be heard charging up and down the hill past the camp shouting wildly, but we gave no indication that we were aware of their presence and at about midnight all was quiet.

6th May 1931. Half a dozen of our friends of yesterday appeared in camp this morning but with the exception of one man drifted off as we were about to move off. Guided by this man we continued up the Northern side of the Tiveri Valley passing through several small hamlets, the houses being the same type as met in the Tauri Valley, i.e. conical. A few people remained as we passed though to beg steel.

At this point the Tiveri swings sharply to the East and the country is becoming much easier to traverse; ravines and gorges have been left behind. Continuing East by a well worn pad which gradually dipped to the river level we camped at 12.30 p.m. at another camp site of Messrs. Mahony and party. There seem to be flats of considerable area on each side of the river hereabouts which I hope will continue.

7th May 1931. Continued up right bank of Tiveri. About 20 minutes after breaking camp word came from the rear of the party that a prisoner-carrier had been bitten by a snake. I rushed back and found a decapitated death adder beside the track and nearby a prisoner looking very frightened. Administered permang. pot. and ligatures but was unable to find any marks of fangs as the boy had scarified his leg very freely before I got to him. States he felt very sick for a while but in half an hour picked up his swag and apparently suffered no further ill effects. The death adder seems very common

7th May 1931 (contd). very common about here. I shot one last evening as it was making its way into the tent.

Left the river flats following a track up the Northern slope of the valley. Self and Mr. Burrow got a little ahead of the main party and whilst waiting for it to catch up we heard someone coming in the opposite direction. Remaining motionless on the track presently an oldish man approached almost within arms of length of me. When he saw us I expected to see him back somersault with fright, but beyond coming to a halt he showed absolutely no expression of surprise; not a muscle of his face moved. He stood contemplating us with absolute nonchalance, bow, arrows steel tomahawk slung over shoulder, until I made a friendly gesture and spoke, when he smiled. We got him to sit down on a log beside us and have a chat. His tomahawk was very old and worn halfway to the head but with a very well preserved blade. This we were able to make out from signs, he got from the N.E. (Mandated Territory). He went away shortly promising to bring food to our next camp.

Descended again to the river flats and struck another camp site of Messrs. Mahony and party (the sixth). The signs are about a week to ten days old. Decided to cross over here and return down the left bank of the Tiveri. I have not sufficient rice to follow Messrs. Mahony and party any further. The natives of the valley seem quite friendly and I see no object in remaining here longer as I have other work/in the vicinity of the Base camp. Camped. In the afternoon police and prisoners commenced erection of a bridge across the river.

8th May 1931. Completed bridge and got across river by 10 a.m. Struck a well worn pad leading downstream; followed this on broad alluvial flats for about one mile where the track terminated at a small patch of sago. Two hours were spent in trying to find a track downstream but without result. Pitched camp, and shortly afterwards nine local natives arrived with a small quantity of food. Amongst them was our old friend of yesterday. Purchased the food and also one sago palm. These people own the patch nearby and are apparently sago eaters.

9th May 1931. Police and prisoners sago making washing etc. Self had a good look round. From a lookout nearby I was able to get a

9th May 1931 (contd.) get a good view towards the head of the valley. From here onwards a succession of large ~~lks~~ flats on each side of the river takes the place of the gorges and ravines experienced lower down. Smoke and garden clearings indicate a fair population towards the head, which I should judge to be many days journey from here.

Mr. Burrow took several prospects in the bed of the main stream during the day and found good "colours"

About 200 lbs of sago was harvested by nightfall, including that consumed during the day.

10th May 1931. Broke camp and continued downstream and crossed a Southern arm of the Tiveri, much the same ~~sixth~~ in size as the N. arm. Followed an old little worn pad downstream for a mile or so and then uphill in a southerly direction and struck a fairly well worn pad leading back ^{to} the river again. On nearing river sounds of chopping were heard on a beach and presently we came upon a local native engaged in the rather tedious occupation of splitting stones for an axe, though I failed to see why he should require a stone axe as he had a steel tomahawk. Soon made friends with him. As the track we had been following came to an end nearby at a rather crude and dangerous looking suspension bridge a halt was called for lunch. Meantime police endeavoured to locate a track to the South or downstream. The Tiveri man intimated that the only road lay across the doubtful suspension bridge. He remained with us during lunch showing great interest in our food etc., - especially our cigarettes, which he sampled and almost choked.

After lunch led by the Tiveri man we continued downstream cutting our way; most of which was done by this man with a knife I had handed him for the purpose. The knife proved a bit blunt and presently he exchanged it for one A.C. Sevuri was using. We had been moving for about $\frac{1}{2}$ an hour when on negotiating a precipitous face of the river bank our friend got a little ahead and disappeared round a bend. A few hundred yards further on, on a sandy beach, footprints indicating very lengthy strides were our only receipt for the knife. We never saw the man again. I thought of sending back to the suspension bridge to intercept him but decided the waste of time would not warrant it.

10th May 1931 (contd).

Soon afterwards ~~ix~~ we left the river and commenced cutting our way to the top of a high ridge to the South. As there is no track down the left bank of the stream it is my intention to strike S.W. and cut off the large bend in the Tiveri River. I hope to strike Tiveri again somewhere in the vicinity of the base camp. Struck a faint track and followed same in a general southerly direction until 4.30 p.m. when camp was pitched at about 5,000 ft. on the divide between upper Tiveri and headwaters of the MacLaughlan Creek.

11th May 1931. Got away 7.30 a.m. and continued S. to S.W. along the top of a high ridge. After about three hours sighted a large valley to S.W. which at first I imagined to be the Tiveri but on descending to the stream it was found to be much too small. Probably the MacLaughlan. Followed this down most of the day cutting our way for the most part, and then by a faint pad. Camped beside the stream 9. p.m.

12th May 1931. Owing to very rough going - gorges and what not - left the MacLaughlan and commenced to cut our way West. Continued thus until well after noon crossing numerous tributaries of the MacLaughlan when from a high ridge we were able to see the Tiveri Valley in the distance. Struck a pad leading N.W. followed this for an hour and was able to get bearings on known points in the Tiveri Valley. Leaving pad ~~xxxxxxxxxxxx~~ cut our way West down to Tiveri R. Camped $\frac{1}{2}$ hour from river 5.45 p.m. A.C. Geda had the misfortune to fall today and severely cut his hand with a 14" knife.

13th May 1931. Broke camp and descended to river, made raft and got all gear across by 10 a.m. Found a pad and climbed West towards Ambush Peak. Paused for a while at a small hamlet below this peak in an endeavour to get in touch with the people who had fled at our approach, but without result. These people were concerned in the attack on Mr. Hides party last year which resulted in the wounding of an A.C. and the release of 5 prisoners. Though within about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours of my base camp they are the least disposed of all the natives in this district to make friends. Making friends will have to be a gradual process and I shall return later and spend more time here. Left several presents in the village. Climbed up further and

W. J. TARKIN

13th May 1931. and struck track cut by me on 1st inst. and camped for the night.

14th May 1931. Mr. Burrow left me here and returned to Garbutt's camp on Hides Creek to N. About 5 minutes walk from last night's camp I found 5 arrows stuck upright in the track, - intact, which indicates unfriendliness.

Arrived base camp 9.30 a.m. Mr. Whitbourne still here.

Mr. H. Garbutt en route to P.M. arrived with Mr. Nicholas during the afternoon.

15th May 1931. Sent a little mail to the coast with Mr. Garbutt. Police and prisoners spelling during the morning; afternoon cleaning up and erecting new latrine.

Seven of F. Burrow's n.l.'s arrived on their way to P.M. to pay off. Four or five of them have a touch of scurvy (?).

16th May 1931. Burrow's boys to coast with further mail. Police and prisoners as yesterday.

17th May 1931. Sunday. Preparing for patrol to Landing with the object of cutting new road to avoid OLIPAI Heights. good.

18th May 1931. Left Base camp and descending to Tiveri R. left road and continued down right bank close to streams edge. Fairly good going until noon, but from then on we were forced to climb out of the river again and again owing to gorges. Eventually we were forced out altogether so made for the old road meeting it on OLIPAI heights about fifteen hundred ft above river and thence to No. 1 camp. A good road could possibly be made near the rivers edge but a great deal of pick and shovel work would have to be put in in certain places before it could be made passable.

19th May 1931. Proceeded to Bethune's camp on Twisty Creek, arriving noon. Learned that Messrs. Mahony and pty. left here yesterday for Base.

20th May 1931. Prisoners and A.C.'s to landing for rice. L/C POLOKOMARA reported from sage making camp at Landing. Mr. G. Sutherland reported 8 desertions.

21st May 1931. Prisoners and A.C.'s to Landing for rice, two trips being made.

22nd May 1931/

TATARI

22nd May 1931. Prisoners and A.C.'s commenced clearing and widening track to field, A/A.R.M. supervising.

23rd May 1931. Police and prisoners as yesterday. Mr. Jones sent mail up from Landing.

24th May 1931. Police and prisoners as yesterday. A/A.R.M. inspection Mr. Bethune's labour and inquiring into alleged theft of one bag sugar from Mahony Syndicate stores.

25th May 1931. A.C.'s Sevuri, Ariata and Ifonga and 6 prisoners to Landing to make sago and a raft. A.C.'s EMO and ISEKA and 8 prisoners to Base camp with rice.

26th May 1931. At Twisty Creek. Inspection of Mr. Johnstons labour several complaints settled. A.C.'s GODA and GOMUA arrived from Base camp with prisoners. L/C. POLOKOMARA gaoled for neglect of duty.

27th May 1931. Prisoners spelling. A.C.'s GODA and GOMUA to Kerema with time expired prisoners and mail - per raft.

28th May 1931. A.C. ISEKA and 8 prisoners to Base camp with rice.

A/A.R.M. to Mr. Sutherland's camp. Mr. Sutherland, like Messrs. Duncan, Johnston, Jackson and Brooks, is engaged on working over old ground, but unlike Mr. Bethune none of them seem to be doing any good. The latter has got alluvial mining down to a fine art. He gets the maximum of work out of his labour with a minimum of trouble and because of garden he has made near his camp is able to give his labour an excellent variety of food. Game abounds in the vicinity and Sunday is usually hunting day, and it is indeed a bad day if less than six wallabies are shot. In addition to this number of wallabies I have seen the shooting boys bring in 2 pigs, a cassowary and several hornbill.

29th May 1931. A/A.R.M. to Mr. Duncan's camp towards the head of Twisty Creek. One of the reasons why others are not making a dam a living was made plain to me to-day. Mr. Duncan had 13 or 14 boys working

on one small sluice box. Mr. Bethune employs four on one box and they probably put through twice as much ground in a day as Mr. Duncan's boys.

30th May 1931. Mr. W. Nicholas, on Garbutt's transport work, from field in morning.

31st May 1931. A.C. ISEKA from Base camp with prisoners also 12 of Mahony and party's whom he picked up on the road having apparently deserted. Detained them.

- 18th June 1931. Self and party to Landing.
- 19th June 1931. Putting finishing touches on canoes preparatory to launching tomorrow.
- 20th June 1931. Launched the 2 canoes (42 ft. overall) and paddled them upstream to camp.
- 21st June 1931. Sunday. A.C.'s shot 4 wallabies and several birds.
- 22nd June 1931. Commenced joining up canoes and installing engines.
- 23rd June 1931. Working on canoes.
- 24th June 1931. As yesterday.
- 25th June 1931. Completed installation of engine etc. and gave trial run today. Ran splendidly.

A number of Duncan's labour arrived from Williams R for stores.

- 26th June 1931. Duncan's labour ran away during the night. Left L/C POLOKOMARA and A.C. IFONGA at Landing. Self and 4 A.C.'s pursued deserters in canoe. Got on to a snag about 1/2 an hour downstream and remained there for over an hour. In this plight a severe thunderstorm overtook us - the first rain for a week. Went ashore at OLIPAI junction, to which point deserters usually walk overland and then take to rafts. Spent over two hours searching for signs of them without result, and then fearing that they had possibly slipped by, I decided to proceed to Kukipi, where I had previously made up my mind to go in search of overdue personal stores. Police will be stationed at different points at the mouth of the river to intercept deserters. Continued downstream and at Papa, a Moviavi garden, learnt that deserters had not passed. Pushed on to MUA and camped for the night at 5 p.m.
- 27th June 1931. Arrived at Kukipi at noon and found 2 A.C.'s here with mail for me from Hon. G.S. regarding visit of Mr. Dunstan, Geologist. Heard that Mr. Lambden was at MOTU MOTU, proceeded there immediately and reported to him. A.C.'s KEKESA, ARIATA and OREPA despatched to different villages to warn V.C.'s to be on look out for deserters.
- 28th June 1931. To MOVIABI with Mr. Lambden, there to purchase sago for return upstream.
- 29th June 1931. To Kukipi where personal stores had been landed from

29th June 1931 (Contd). from "Papuan chief" this morning, having been overcarried to Daru. Also received here mail from Kerema containing stationary etc. and a request to render Journal report of patrol to 30th June 1931. In this connection I have been held up owing to lack of type paper.

To LILIFIRU in the afternoon with the object of visiting Mr. Clark of KOARU. Got stuck on a sandbank, having missed tide, and remained there for over 5 hours. Reached LILIFIRU 9.30 p.m.

30th June 1931. At LILIFIRU on mail for Port Moresby per returning special messengers - A.C's KAKORA and IBARA, tomorrow

R. Speedie
M.A.R.M., G.D.

Note:

SUMMARY & sketch map.
will be submitted on conclusion
of patrol.

AS TO conditions on LAKE KAIKAI
Golofielos - see Journal Report
for year ending 30-6-31

R.S.

40.

Notes - general (continued).

Fish traps. Two types of stationary trap were noticed, both cylindrical in shape. One, on the trap-door and spring-stick principle, I have made rough sketches of and attach hereto. The other is a simpler form of the same trap. It consists merely of a cylinder of bark open at each end, inside of which is placed a tangle of split loia-vines (not thorns) and is apparently used for catching prawns.

Mammal traps. Numerous rat and bandicoot traps were noticed on most of the roads in the vicinity of a village and in and around the gardens. There are two types namely the "Spring and noose" and "log trap" (falling weight). The latter varied in size and weight according to the animal it was desired to catch, rat or pig. The spring and noose trap was found both on the ground and in the trees.

Fire making. The "Saw" method - split stick and strip of bamboo - was the only method noticed, which exists in the Tiveri and Eastern Tauri. It is probably the same in the Western Tauri and Iveri Districts.

Salt making device. This is referred to in the body of the report under date 19th June 1932. I regret that I was not able to get more details regarding it.

Dwelling houses. The conical structure occurs from the Tiveri to the Iveri. In the higher altitudes - 4,000 to 5,500 ft. - gable roofed structures were noticed also; these were usually roofed with pandanus leaf.

Gardens, diet etc. Gardens up to 12 acres in extent were noticed. The staple foods consist of bananas, sweet potatoes, taro in approximately equal proportions, although bananas preponderate slightly in certain districts. Betel chewing extends from the Tiveri to the Iveri.

Weapons etc. A short bow made of black palm is used throughout the districts visited. The arrow heads mostly consist of unbarbed black palm, but an occasional bamboo headed arrow was noticed. Pronged arrows are used for fishing, and for birds a blunt-headed arrow made of wood. A small hand shield is used in fighting. It is oval in shape and about 3 ft. 6" long by about 15 inches in width. This occurs in the Tiveri and Tauri watersheds. None were noticed in the Iveri. A wooden "sword" or blade-shaped waddy of black palm was also noticed in these districts.

R. G. Speer
1932