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OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

# **PATROL REPORTS**

DISTRICT: NEW IRELAND

STATION: KAVIENG

VOLUME No: 16

ACCESSION No: 496.

1962 - 1963

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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF P.N.G. - WILKINS.

PATROL REPORT OF: KAVIENG

NEW IRELAND

ACC. No: 496.

Volume No: 16 1962/63 Number of Reports: 6

[illegible]



PATROL REPORTS NEW IRELAND DISTRICT 1962/63

KAVIENG

NAMATANAI

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Conducted by:</u>	<u>Area Patrolled.</u>
Kavieng 1-62/63	G.E.Bailey	Tabar Census Division
" 4-62/63	R.Willard	Lavongai Census Division
" 6-62/63	P.J.Batho	Tabar Census Division
Nam 2-62/63	R.Willard	Patpatara Census Division
" 3-62/63	B.D.Brown	Susurunga and Rataman C/Ds
" 9-62/63	L.A.Meirtjes	Lak and Kunomala Census Div.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of NEW IRELAND Report No. KAVIENG I of 1962/63

Patrol Conducted by G.E. BAILEY PATROL OFFICER

Area Patrolled TABAR CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

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

Duration—From 17/7/1962 to 16/8/1962

Number of Days 31

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 8/1962

Medical 6/1960

Map Reference Army strat series 4 miles to the inch. Sketch map attached.

Objects of Patrol Tax/Census, routine administration and C.N.A.

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 .... £.....

[illegible]

JMCL.LBK

67-9-1

12th October, 1962.

The District Officer,  
New Ireland District,  
KAVIRANG.

PATROL REPORT No. 1/1962-63

Very few native clan leaders anywhere in the Territory have any influence outside their traditional spheres of influence.

Under conditions of culture-change it is pretty well inevitable that forceful personalities supersede the customary leaders.

It would be preferable for the TUCITUC to migrate to their own ancestral grounds under the existing circumstances as reported.

There was a case of alleged polyandry reported in the Morobe District, but I am inclined to think it was rather a form of substitute for an absent first mate. I have not heard of true polyandry being practised in the Territory.

Mr. Bailey makes out a good case for the issue of a few S.A.P's to keep the parrot pests in check.

It is thought that the TOLAI people originated from New Ireland, they are particularly possessive regarding their land but seem to forget they tore it off the BAINING people in the not so distant past.

Little can be achieved by annual routine tax patrols. It would be appreciated if you could arrange a follow-up visit in order to ensure some friendly contact.

(W. R. Dishon)  
a. DIRECTOR.



la

IGRA

F



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-9-1 ✓

In Reply  
Please Quote

No. 67-2-2

District Headquarters.  
KAVIENG. N.I.D.

25th September, 1962.

The Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU.

P/R 1 of 1962/63  
TABAR - P.O. BAILEY



1. PITA RAIMON.

I will endeavour to find out more of this man's background and advise you.

2. LOCAL GOVERNMENT EXTENSION

Mainland New Ireland areas are being dealt with first. Sea Communication is an important factor in any decision to introduce Local Government to this area.

*Patrol was made a  
during office  
Don't imagine  
copy sent  
claim as per HQ.*

K.R. WILLIAMSON  
DISTRICT OFFICER  
New Ireland District.

67-1-1

Sub-District Office,  
KAVIENG. N.I.D.

12th September, 1962.

The District Officer,  
KAVIENG.

KAVIENG PATROL REPORT 1-62/63

Herewith report submitted by Mr. G.E. Bailey P.O. in respect of his recent patrol to the Tabar Islands.

2. Verbal reports to me by officers who have visited Tabar and from other Europeans living in the area confirm the lack of spirit or drive for progress revealed by Mr. Bailey's report. An obvious reason is the apparent lack of influential leaders, yet there is not sufficient evidence to say that leadership material is entirely absent. Local Government which is scheduled for 1963 in Tabar will have to uncover and utilise the latent talent. Some of these influential men mentioned by Mr. Bailey are not always sympathetic to the Administration's policies but this is not necessarily a difficult obstacle.


3. The state of economic development is not satisfactory but neither is it completely unsatisfactory. The District Agricultural Officer reports that there are 12,000 - 13,000 coffee trees planted in 51 gardens, 40% of which are bearing. However there has been no significant new planting since 1959. D.A.S.F. say that a shortage of staff has been a contributing factor.

4. As well as TUGITUG, D.A.S.F. report new plantings in WANG, TATAU, SAMBUERI, KOROMBO, BUERI and MONUN, and further in these villages, together with KOKO, MAPUA and TOKARA, immature palms equal if not outnumber the mature palms. WANG village has 180% more immature palms than mature palms.

5. Copra produced by the Tabar people is generally of poorer standard than the remainder of New Ireland. Tabar Society which markets through N.I.N.S.A. had a 22% rejection rate compared with a 13% rate for the whole of N.I.N.S.A. This problem will be discussed with the Co-operative Officer and the District Agricultural Officer.

6. Mr. Bailey's Census figures which seem to be correct, show an increase of only 4 over the 1961 total yet excess of births over deaths, 32, less excess of migrations out over migrations in, 6 should show an increase of 26. It can only be concluded that last years' figures were inaccurate.

7. Claim for Camping Allowance are attached.

  
J.W. FRAWLEY  
ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

*In Reply  
Please Quote*

No. 67-I-I

Sub-District Office,  
Kavieng N.I.,  
28th August 1962

The Assistant District Officer,  
KAVIENG.

SUBJECT: KAVIENG PATROL REPORT No. I of 62/63.

Please find in three copies the abovementioned and  
numbered patrol report conducted by me to the Tabar Group.  
Claim for camping allowance vide Field Officers Journal  
is attached.

For your information please.

*G. E. Bailey*  
.....

G.E. BAILEY  
PATROL OFFICER.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

INTRODUCTION.

The Tabar Census Division is located 82 miles by sea from Kavieng in a South Easterly direction. It is made up of three islands; namely Simberi, Tatau and Big Tabar.

The patrol was of 31 days duration, during which all 25 villages in the group were visited. Patrols over the last twelve month period have been:

D.N.A. August, 1961

P.H.D. 2 spray rounds by Malaria Control and three visits by Infant Welfare Sister.

There has been no Medical Patrol of Tabar conducted since June, 1960, that of E.M.A. Hollis.

NATIVE SITUATION

No incidents occurred during the patrols stay in the Tabar group and the overall situation remains satisfactory.

The unusual aspect of the Tabar group is that there are no acknowledged leaders within the people. SALIN of Maragon Village wields some influence at Simberi Island but has no influence outside this province. Local natives seem to regard him as a "Government appointed by big man" because of the part he plays in the Tabar Co-operative movement. (SALIN is the Chairman of the Co-operative Society in the area.)

L/L WANILAU of WANG village is related by marriage to the former Paramount Luluai (IGUARANGI) of Baungung village, Lavongai. IGUARANGI died some years ago, but WANILAU occasionally visits Lavongai to see his other kinsman SINGERAU of Baikob. Although having some small status within his village, WANILAU has no other influence. He is a director of the Tabar Native Society.

The two most influential men within their villages in the Tabar Group are Luluais SOWGIS of Tatau village and LUMUS of Matlik village. This has been achieved by force of personality rather than the inheritance of powers from some deceased "big man".

When questioned as to the lack of "big men" on Tabar, the natives replied that now the young men of the villages failed to recognise any one person as a leader with the result that everybody did more or less as they liked within the village with a subsequent loss of unity. Because of this and the lack of suitable replacements the "big men" had ceased to exist.

The natives claim that the important men of Tabar ceased to exist after the cessation of hostilities in 1945. The Japanese occupation and the attitude of the young men brought their "reign" to an end.

A happening of some interest was observed at Karumba village. Whilst the writer was collecting Personal Tax, male native PITA-RAIMON informed the patrol that he did not have any money to pay his tax for 1962, nor had he paid tax previously. PITA was sporting a "Tosin" type beard. It transpired that he had recently returned from Rabaul where he had been staying with his father who is a Bougainville native, although his mother is a Tabar woman. After some pressure was brought to bear he paid

*Very few natives are known  
to have any influence  
outside their  
village or island  
of influence*

*main coalition of  
all the village  
is pretty well  
united  
this is the  
main reason  
why the  
young men  
are not  
interested  
in the  
future*



his 1962 tax, a total of £10/-/-.

Enquiries were made in the village in an endeavour to discover whether or not PITA had tried to influence other natives into attempting to evade taxation. As far as can be ascertained there was no such talk.

The Tabar people could be described as singularly lacking in ambition to achieve anything in addition to what they already have.

Talks were given to the people on the subject of Local Government but no vote as to their feelings was taken. It was felt that this would be better carried out by an officer who was undertaking a survey. However, the writer did manage to gauge the people's feelings. Some are in favour and some are not with the latter outnumbering the former at present. The not inconsiderable social intercourse between the Tabar and Kona, Nalik and Mandak people has not in the least made the Tabar people Council conscious.

The writer would now refer to Kavieng Patrol Report No. 2 of 59/60 submitted by Mr. P.J. Bloomfield, Patrol Officer in which he recommends separate entity being given to Tugitug instead of having it combined with Pekinbeniu village as it is in the Tax/Census Register.

Tugitug broke with Pekinbeniu in 1959 following differences over religion. Tugitug is a Catholic village whilst Pekinbeniu is a Methodist stronghold.

Besides this there were long standing disputes over land. The Pekinbeniu people claimed that the Tugitug people were squatting on their land. As a result of this the Tugitug people moved to their ancestral ground three miles from Pekinbeniu.

Tugitug is now a separate unit from Pekinbeniu village in every respect. They have their own rest house, gardens, plantations and Tugitug men do not marry Pekinbeniu women or vice versa. The population of Pekinbeniu is 48 whilst that of Tugitug is 36. Despite its small size it will be noted from the census figures that there are villages smaller than Tugitug in the Tabar Group.

For these reasons the writer fully endorses the recommendations submitted by Mr. Bloomfield.

The experiment of importing Lavongai women to marry MONUM village natives was tried, but proved a failure. After a year all the women had returned to Lavongai owing to dissatisfaction with the Tabar way of life.

The woman recorded as practising Polyandry by Mr. Bloomfield has now died and no further instances of this practise were heard of by the patrol.

#### LAW AND ORDER.

No disputes of any magnitude, between plantation labour and local natives were brought to the attention of the patrol.

Where necessary appropriate action was taken under the N.A.R's.

Little can be achieved by annual visits to the village.

Casey always a polyandry reporter in the Tabar District. He is not a native but a settler. He is a big man and a big personality. He is a big personality in the community.

about 1500  
fifty  
native.  
Have not  
heard of him  
polyandry  
big personality  
in the community

Adultery and prostitution were the main problems brought before the patrol. Prostitution between married Tabar women and plantation labour was noticed to be especially rife. The local woman generally commits adultery with the foreign native and then requests that payment be given. When the female's husband finds out he in his turn demands payment for the "wrong" to his wife. In one particular instance which comes readily to mind the aggrieved husband demanded compensation of £100/-/-.

#### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.

There are two cash crops grown on the Tabar Group. Namely copra and coffee.

Few new plantings of coconut palms are going on at the present. Eighty per cent of palms seen were planted either prior or after the first world war. Pekinbeniu village (population 48) is particularly noticeable in this regard. Of 1370 palms counted, 1157 were of advanced age and bearing few nuts. Tugitug is the only village in the group where new plantings have occurred, here 313 new palms were counted.

The coffee project is more intensified on Tatau and Simberi Islands than on Big Tabar. All villages on Tatau and Simberi Islands have coffee plots with the exception of SAMBUARI on Tatau where the soil is unsuitable.

The D.A.S.F. in May completed a patrol of the Tabar Group in which all villages were visited and expert advice as to coffee and coconut plantings were given.

The Co-operative movement has not been a great success in the Tabar Group. The Co-operative Consumer Store at Tatau has been closed and now only two consumer stores operate; at Simberi village on Simberi Island and Korumbo on Tatau Island. The Co-operatives in the Tabar Group are now in the process of being re-organised and it will be interesting to see whether this splitting up into smaller units will have any effect on the overall co-operative picture.

A Trading Station is operated by a Chinese named Poon Chan at SOS but he informs the writer that he will be closing down at the end of this year as the venture has proved unprofitable. Trade transactions are limited to ten bags of copra per month and a few paltry sales of cheap goods. Trade Stores are operated at all plantations on Tabar.

Small quantities of Shell are also sold by the Tabar natives but Tabar Shell is generally of poor quality and worm eaten.

#### HEALTH

The Tabar natives appeared to the writer's eyes as healthy, although not over energetic. There are few Aid Posts on Tabar Group. They are situated at Simberi, Rakubo, Banesa and Tatau villages and are competently staffed and well supplied with medicines.

Tabar is regularly visited by the Kavieng Infant Welfare Sister who has made three thorough inspections in the last four months.



#### VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

Village housing on Tabar is of a very low standard when compared to other areas in New Ireland. Houses raised on piles are the exception rather than the rule. Every effort was made to persuade these people to build raised houses and to erect fences to exclude the droves of pigs which inhabit every village.

Of some interest is the Tabar practise of building "haus bois" in the village Cemeteries. These are used either as feast houses or guest quarters for visiting natives and generally poorly constructed and maintained.

#### EDUCATION AND MISSIONS.

A Government School has been established at Tatau village over the past year, under the supervision of a European teacher. The writer has spent some time in discussing with this officer, and he is finding it most difficult to find co-operative types in the local natives. It was noticed from school attendance records that only children from the nearby four villages attend the school.

There are two Catholic Mission Schools on Tabar. These are situated at Noda and Datava. The Methodist Mission operates a school at Simbul and the Seventh Day Adventist Mission a school at Wang.

As can be seen from the above, there are three Missions in the Tabar Group namely, Catholic, Methodist and Seventh Day Adventists. Of these three Missions, the former has the largest number of adherents, and the latter the smallest. The Seventh Day Adventist have only one stronghold, and this is at Wang, where there is a colony of twenty Sevendays.

All Missions seem to get along amicably together, and no suggestion of religious strife was noticed by the patrol. One instance of religious ill feeling - that of the Catholics of Tugitug and the Methodists of Pekinbeniu. This has been resolved by the Tugitug people moving to their ancestral ground.

## ROADS, BRIDGES AND TRANSPORT.

Patrolling on TARAB is either by walking or canoeing. Of the two the former is preferable owing to the low standard of seaworthiness which Talu canoes are subject.

All tracks walked upon were in good order and no one section could be described as "hard going".

A vehicular road runs from SOS wharf to TATAU village on TATAU Island. This road is used by the local Chinese trader who owns a jeep. The only other vehicular road is that leading from MATLIK village to DATAVA village on Big Tabar. This road with little effort could be extended in either direction. To the North it could be extended to RAKUBO and to the South it could be extended to as far as BANESA. Needless to say this road is used by the manager of TERE Plantation to further his trading with the local natives.

Tabar canoes are as stated previously of a uniformly low standard. This reflects further the lethargy of these people. Some villages do not even possess a single canoe for fishing, and those able to build canoes have not passed on the knowledge to the younger men, due to the younger generations lack of interest.

The only canoe which could be called such, the Patrol sighted at MARAGAT village and this had been purchased from LIHIR Island natives.

Tabar is well served by a regular shipping service provided by J. Seeto and Co., of Kavieng. Vessels owned by this Company, call to collect Native Society copra as well as Plantation copra.

## GARDENS AND LIVESTOCK.

Gardens on Tabar are adequate to meet the peoples needs and no food shortage is in evidence. The main crop grown is Tapioca followed by Sago and then Sweet Potato. Difficulty is experienced in growing Taro because of the unsuitability of the soil. This is particularly evident on MAPUA Island where the two villages of TOKARA and MAPUA have cleared large areas of land to grow adequate food.

In the TUGITUG area the natives are plagued with droves of Parrots which damage gardens and fruit trees. This writer observed first hand as he climbed into the nearby foothills where the villagers gardens are located. Should an application for a Special Arms Permit be received from this area by a responsible native he would not hesitate to recommend it.

Pigs and poultry are the only animals or fowls owned by the Tabar people and both, particularly pigs, are in adequate numbers. Pigs do not form an important item of diet as they are always killed off on ceremonial occasions. Further pigs to augment the already plentiful supply are purchased from LIHIR Island, a distance of about 42 miles across open water in a canoe.

Fish abound but their potential is little exploited. Fishing being frowned upon as strictly non U as it entails a certain amount of work.

*Good example for issue  
of paper S.A.P. to keep  
the natives fit  
in check*



TAXATION.

A total of £507/-/- personal tax was collected. No difficulty was experienced in the collection of this tax, and the natives "paid up" without any sign of ill feeling.

Tax from Plantation labour was not collected, but foreign natives working as share farmers on the various Plantations were given two months within which to find their tax monies. In the case of both share farmers and Plantation labour, Personal tax has not been collected since 1959.

The exemption which had been issued formerly to all adult male natives of TUGITUG village has been revoked as the people's cash crops (coffee and copra) are now starting to bear. Besides, as there are only five male natives eligible to pay Personal tax in the village it is the writer's considered opinion that it would not be an undue hardship for them to pay tax as they are not short of the necessary money to purchase tobacco and other small goods. Work is readily obtainable at nearby plantations, the Mission or other villages. As well as this the writer is of the opinion also that by allowing these natives to escape "scott free" from taxation a village of "you must be sorry for us" people could develop. For these reasons the four natives (one paid) who are eligible for taxation were given two months in which to find their tax money.

CONCLUSION

All Tabar villages were informed as to the activities of United States Air Force 'Planes which are at present flying over Tabar by both day and night. These aircraft are engaged in photo reconnaissance and during the patrol the writer liased with the U.S.A.F. ground party and Mr. P.O. J.F. Hayes who was accompanying it. The Priest at MAPUA Mission and the manager of Tomalabatt Plantation also informed the natives as to the aircrafts activities.

It was noted by the patrol that canoe travel between Tabar and Lihir Island is still being indulged in despite the three drowning fatalities which occurred towards the end of last year. Efforts were made by the writer to dissuade the people concerned in these voyages from this practise.

Of interest also on Tabar is the growing popularity of TOLAI "sing-sings" such as the AUTUNG, PARPARI and LIMBUNG. Local "Sing-sings" have been declining steadily in popularity since the end of the last war. TOLAI importations are sung in the TOLAI language and with the same body motions. This is attributed to the relatively high percentage of Tabar natives who visit Rabaul and are impressed with the relative virility of TOLAI "sing-sings" in which spontaneous action is carried out, when they compare it with their own sedentary efforts. It is noted that young men have played all roles in this "conversion" process.

*I am happy that the TOLAI people  
originated from New Guinea. They are particularly  
famous regarding their local but seen to be  
very fine it is the TOLAI people in the  
that so distant past.*

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

POPULATION TREND.

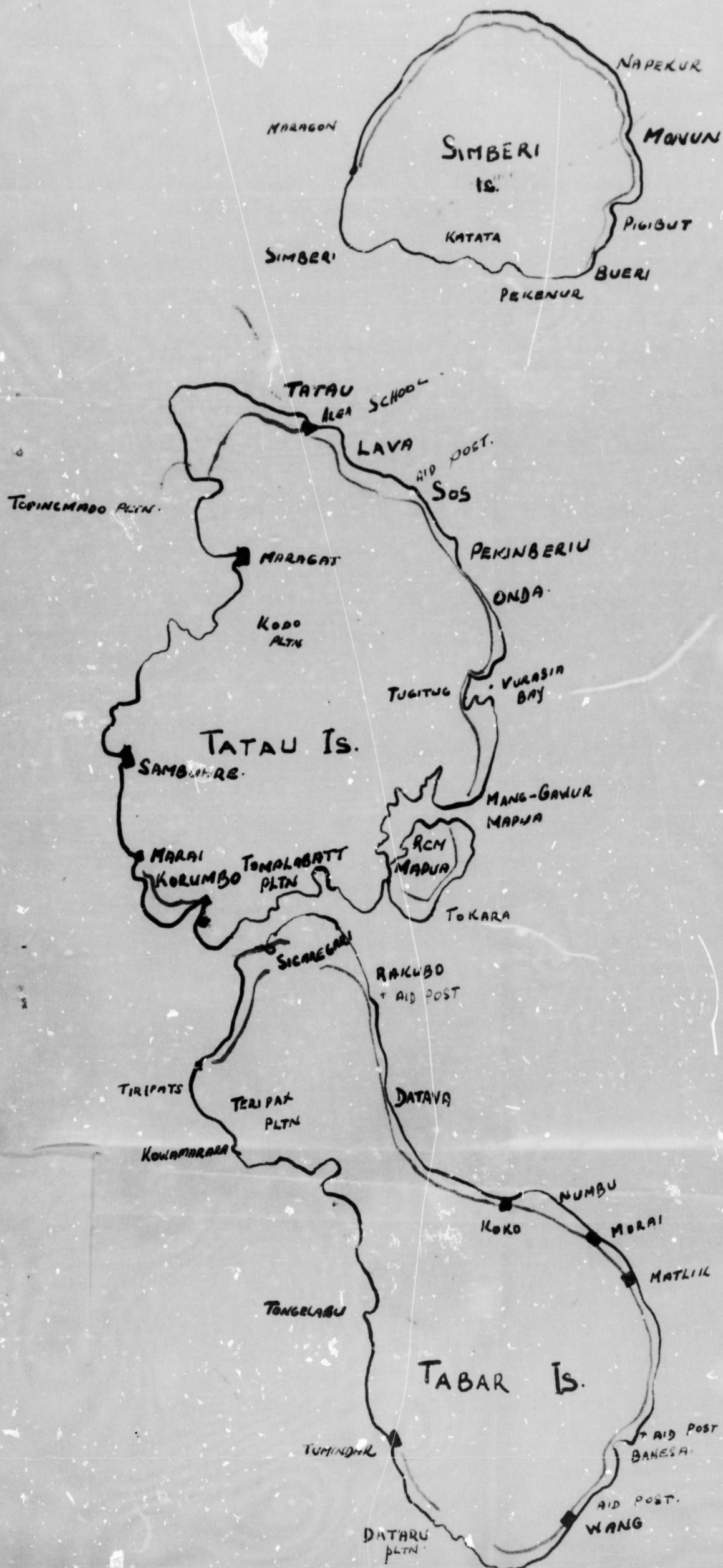
There were 34 male births and 27 female births over the one year period since the last patrol. For the same period there were 18 male deaths and 11 female deaths --- a natural increase of 32.

Migrations in and out did not account for any increase in population. In fact there was a decrease of six females owing to the women concerned becoming married to mainland men.

Migrations in the males occurred exclusively between villages on Tabar the reason for this being either marital or ill feeling towards various people in the village. This is especially true of the young men in their dealings with their respective luluais.

The total population of the Tabar Group as ascertained by the writer is 1690 as against the previous years total of 1686. The figures presented by the writer are to the best of his knowledge and ability correct.





HQ.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

## PATROL REPORT

District of New Ireland Report No. KAVIENG 4 of 1962/63  
Patrol Conducted by R. WILLARD O.P.C.  
Area Patrolled Haromeni Sum. Division  
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans —  
Natives 1  
Duration—From 28/9 1962 to 15/11 1962  
Number of Days 48  
Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO  
Last Patrol to Area by—District Services — / — / 19—  
Medical — / — / 19—  
Map Reference —  
Objects of Patrol Cash income survey - Road Survey -  
FAMILIARISATION WITH AREA ADMINISTRATION

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

7 Dec 1962

[Signature]  
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 .... £.....



Popul

67-9-4

21st February, 1963.

The District Officer,  
New Ireland District,  
MAVIEFG.

PATROL REPORT NO. 4-62/63, LAVONGAI:

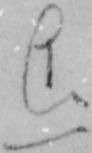
Receipt of the abovementioned Report is  
acknowledged with thanks.

The survey has certainly produced inter-  
esting results and provides you with the basis on  
which you can establish further development schemes.

The people's opportunity to earn cash  
income is certainly readily available.

I think the people who criticise their for-  
bears have the remedy in their own hands. Let them  
plant their own sage and coconut palms and their  
children will benefit.

A very comprehensive survey well recorded.

  
(J.K. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR.

Popul



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



In Reply  
Please Quote

No. 67-5-1

District Headquarters  
KAVIENG. N.I.D.

8th December, 1962.

The Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU.

LAVONGAI PATROL No. 4 of 1962/63  
R. WILLARD C.P.O.

1. Mr. Willard has produced an interesting and useful report on the Lavongai Census division, during the final three months of his term in this District.

2. CASH INCOME:- This survey is part of a District Survey currently being undertaken.

Between the high of TINGWON £39,554 and low of NARINI LAUA £2,055 the incomes are fairly uniform. Besides being a close knit Island community TINGWON has a strong co-operative Society. There is no doubt the Lavongai people have a considerable unexploited potential for producing a cash income but they now and for some time to come lack the normal incentives and are not subjected to the same economic pressures as the mainland New Irelander.

Large and reasonably good agricultural areas have been abandoned in order to reside on the coast. Like so many other areas this move was probably due to some extent to Administrative convenience however, reports from other Field Officers indicate a desire by some groups to return inland.

More encouragement of more coconut plantings will have little effect and forced plantings without additional incentives likewise will achieve little, thus taxation judiciously applied is the only tool the Lavongai Council has to promote greater effort. The Council did agree to increase the Tax Rate by 12.5% in 1963, and it remains to be seen what effect if any this will have on the local economy.

Other incentives

ROAD SURVEY.

The purpose of this survey was to find if possible, an alternative to the present unsatisfactory mode of communication, that is, by small vessels around the coast which is at times, hazardous, slow and unreliable.

A road from NOIPUOS to TASKUL, suitable for 4+4 vehicles or a tractor and trailer, would assist communication and at the same time surely promote inland resettlement on more favourable land. From this initial step I believe it worthwhile for a route to be examined more expertly by P.W.D. to either eliminate or I hope, support the proposal.

Could I have two prints  
of the Map attached  
Please.

K.R. WILLIAMSON  
DISTRICT OFFICER  
New Ireland District.



1

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Sub-District Office,  
Kavieng.

Assistant District Officer,  
KAVIENG.

KAVIENG PATROL REPORT NO. 4 62/63.

DISTRICT ~~OF~~ NEW IRELAND

REPORT NO. 4 62/63 Kavieng.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY:

RONALD WILLARD, CADET PATROL OFFICER.

AREA PATROLLED:

Lavongai Census Division.

Duration: From 28/9/62 to 15/11/62.

48 days (interrupted)

Objects of Patrols

- 1 Cash income survey.
2. Road survey.
3. Familiarisation with Local Government Procedures.

Patrol Diary: See Field Journal Folio Nos 8 to 25.

*Ronald Willard.*  
Ronald Willard. Cadet Patrol Officer.

### INTRODUCTION.

The patrol was of a special nature, covering the Lavongai Census Division. Special duties entailed the taking of a cash income survey of the area in the Lavongai Local Government Council and also a road survey for a proposed road across the centre of the island - roughly from Taskul to Moipuos. A total of forty one days was spent on New Hanover.

### CASH INCOME SURVEY.

The cash income survey was carried out. I was unable to visit the Tingwon Division, but figures for that village are included in the return. All copra from Tingwon is sold to the native Society so the figures were taken from N.I.N.S.A. records. As it was required that a survey be taken of the whole of the area in the Lavongai Local Government Council, Tingwon was included.

Sago is the staple food throughout the area - it was interesting to note the great many people who are completely dependent on the sale of this foodstuff, as a source of income. The sago palm does not grow on any of the small islands surrounding New Hanover proper, nor does it grow on the neighbouring islands of the Tigak Division or Tingwon. As a result there is a great deal of trade between the Lavongais and the islanders. Most of the islands are planted to coconuts and their people derive a regular income from the sale of copra. They are then able to buy most of their food and they seem to still prefer sago as the staple. Even on Tingwon where the per capita income per annum is £40 sago is still the staple. These people travel regularly by canoe to the area around Unbukul to purchase food. Taro and kaukau is also sold but not to the great extent of sago. Sago leaves are also sold to the islanders for thatch for roofing on dwellings.

There is great opportunity for the Lavongai to find employment within close distance of their home villages. Lavongai Plantations Ltd. (Lungatan, Bengo, Metewoi, Wassanga, Meteeissong, Patavai and Lamauling plantations) and Metakabil, Meitenge, Ungalabu and Kung plantations will all employ local labourers. In discussion with these planters it was revealed that all of them would employ more local labour if the Lavongais would prove themselves a dependable and reliable worker. It was stressed to the people how fortunate they were in that they could live in their village with their family and still work on the neighbouring plantations. At the same time if they were at all energetic they could still maintain their gardens. An example of this was seen on Lamauling Plantation where several Sepik labourers work gardens and sell the produce to the people from Meitab and Ungalik Islands.

During a meeting of the Lavongai Local Government Council I was asked by the Vice-President if I had any new ideas for sources of income. I suggested that rather than look for new ideas the present potential should be exploited. For ten years N.I.N.S.A. have been operating in this area and during that time many hundreds of people had not planted even one coconut. Still the people in the Tsol area seem to prefer to trade with the Chinese who pay less for produce and charge more for trade goods.

An attitude typical of many of these people was expressed by the villagers from Konematalik when they complained that soon all the sago palms in their area would have finished, also that they had no coconuts because their forefathers had been lazy and had not planted coconuts.

During the patrol the people were encouraged to increase planting coconuts. It is to be hoped that the interest in coffee



will be revived with the current extensive patrol of D.A.S.F. field assistants. Some years ago coffee projects were started by many villages, but unfortunately the area has been neglected and the people lost enthusiasm.

## CASH INCOME SURVEY.

VILLAGE.	POP.	Cash CROPS	LAB.	TRADING PROFIT	SALE LIVE STOCK	SALE GARDEN PROJECT	TOTAL INCOME	PER CAPITA INCOME.
		£			£	£	£	£
Mekonomon	222	-	720			115	835	3.761
Noipuas	173	246	790			60	1096	6.335
Tabut	51	229	350			40	619	10.147
Ungalabu	43	250	280	45		---	775	11.632
Sosson	118	652	220				872	7.369
Kung	85	630	50	30			710	8.352
Meterrankasing		150	340			58	548	7.3066
Neitab	127	689	226				915	7.204
Puas	86	208	150			40	398	4.627
Ungalik	183	897	460				1377	7.415
Potpotingan	120	-	190			78	268	2.233
Metamin	31	90	30			21	241	7.774
Min	99	-	290			56	346	3.493
Mosuang	167	346	320			104	770	4.012
Metaiai	108	139	330			89	558	5.166
Patipai	76	80	226			48	354	4.697
Muslik	87	565	140			34	739	8.4943
Lukus	78	1046	120	130			1296	16.41
Tsiolik	77	1260	186				1446	18.779
Mamion	78	1536	220				1756	22.512
Kulibung	110	1634	128				1762	16.018
Ungakun	66	1290	130				1429	21.651
Kauilikan	100	1784	194				1978	19.78
Konematalik	119	-	326			84	410	3.445
Kulpetau	281	-	790			182	972	3.459
Vaisavavav	84	46	130			83	259	3.083
Kiting	47	32	208			34	274	5.829
Patiagaga	208	-	429			106	535	2.572
Kulungai	195	82	229			94	505	4.098
Narimlana	181	-	238	40		94	372	2.055
Matania	143	94	697			56	847	5.293
Nusantaumatai	145	88	340	25		80	533	3.675
Naikaputuk	65	223	214			40	477	7.34
Magva	67	82	62			56	200	2.985
Kella	54	-	226			32	258	4.407
Nusswong	124	316	130			72	518	4.177
Bolpua	259	125	630			95	850	3.252
Meterankan	148	499	528	62			1089	7.358
Lavongai	191	935	556	63	10	21	1585	8.298
Saula	195	-	833		4	48	885	4.281
Kulungat	132	-	275			65	340	2.5
Ungat	114	842	-	68		32	942	8.263
Baikob	109	972	334	89		20	1415	9.496
Paterina	144	94	263		12	32	401	2.794
Metewoi	157	1044	268	30		16	1358	8.649
Tioputuk	105	710	352				1062	10.114
Meteran	175	443	435		10	144	1032	5.897
Metemana	146	256	436	36	6	56	840	5.767
Metakabil	119	-	396		15	268	679	5.705
Baue	124	64	359			36	1059	8.54
Pativini	83	230	324			28	588	7.084
Beungung	154	1081	434	68	21	16	1620	10.519
Neingang	68	145	364			24	533	7.838
Buetilung	86	482	405		10		897	10.348
Tutuila	74	74	265			16	355	4.795
Belevaia	45	116	354			19	489	10.656
Tugiliotonga	69	104	433	35			572	8.2898
Metemoli	70	102	436			32	570	8.122
Umbukul	243	756	986			103	1845	7.592
Au	89	944	464			14	1412	15.865
TOTAL	7159	24709	20339	771	88	2841	4351	6.89286
Tingwon	110	4351						39.554
TOTAL	7269	29060	20339	771	88		53697	7.3871



#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

The importance of Local Government was explained during the patrol. It was pleasing to note that in a great many villagers a strong interest was shown in council activities. After a council meeting the Councillors upon returning to their electorates give a detailed commentary of the meeting to the villagers. However in some electorates, particularly the Min-Potpotingan-Metamin electorate no interest was exhibited. These people are not interested in any form of development and it seems their representative would be typical of them.

During the patrol the Assistant Administrator Mr. H.H. Reeve visited the island. When he addressed the gathering of Councillors at Taskul Mr. Reeve informed them of the new drinking Legislation and the proposed enlarged Legislative Council. This, of course, was cause for a great deal of discussion. A fair consensus would be that although in favour of drinking they would like to see it kept well away from New Hanover. Main reason being that with such a low income the people could not afford it and it would be wise not to tempt them.

#### ROAD SURVEY.

At the time of arrival of the patrol at Taskul most of the Councillors were still at the station, having attended a council meeting the previous day. This was an excellent opportunity for me to discuss with them the idea of an inland road running roughly from Taskul to Noipuos.

After some discussion and much persuasion on my part it was revealed that the patrol would be able to travel through this area. I gathered it would be best initially to walk from Taskul to Kulungei, Patiagaga, Waiasavavam, Min, Kiting, Nekonouoa and finally to Noipuos.

Great interest was shown when the gathering realised that I had full intentions of walking through this area - an area unknown to some of them. However, once it was realised that a road might follow interest waned considerably - the thought of the work entailed initially and later the upkeep worried them.

A brief description of the route follows:-

From Taskul to Kulungei, a distance which takes one hour 40 minutes walking follows the track along the top of the ridge. About 25 minutes from Taskul it would be necessary to cut the road out of the side of the hill for a distance of forty yards. From Kulungei the route heads towards Marimlaia for ten minutes - at this point necessary to the road around the side of the hill for a distance of 100-150 yards. The route then branches and heads towards Patiagaga for two hours, the first creek crossing would need approaches to be cut, the second would need to be drained. On approaching Patiagaga it would be necessary for 150-200 yards to cut the road out of the side of the hill. From Patiagaga for 5 minutes towards Kulpetau where it branches to the West for 50 minutes to the Baukapit creek - this is across gently sloping country, varying from heavy timber to kunai growth. A bush material bridge would be needed across the creek and then to Patipingas hamlet. Then for five minutes to the Solormingal gully which would require approaches to be dug, then for three minutes to the Timor River which would be crossed by a ford. Then fifteen minutes to the Tamaong Creek where there are stones which could be used for the building of a causeway - the road would have to be cut through a small hill for the approaches. A further fifteen minutes to Lamapukow hamlet - for approximately 250 yards it would be necessary to build the road along the side of the hill (from Hamin gully to Lamapukow. Then for one hour in the direction of Bolpua where the route branches in a northerly direction - this is over sloping and timbered country. Then for thirty minutes to Bolawoy and Bolwaia hamlets - a causeway would be necessary across the Unai River (Many



stones available) A further 15 minutes up hill to Potpotboweillo hamlet, again fording the Unai River and twenty minutes down the valley of the Unai River to Mesteingo hamlet where again the river is forded. This is followed by a steep slow climb for thirty minutes out of the valley - all of this section would have to be built up across the hill side. Thence thirty five minutes to Vaisavanvam, around the sides of hills where it would be necessary to embank the road. There are two small creek crossings in this section.

Next comes the most difficult section. Direct it is 14 hours walk from Vaisavanvam to Kiting. The patrol spent 14 days walking through the bush in this area. Between the two villages there are thirteen ridges all of which have to be crossed. There are two bush tracks between the villages. The first is to the South and passes through land known as Kiting which was the original village site. This route is very steep and would be completely out of the question. The other route although not so steep follows the courses of many small waterways.

From Vaisavanvam the route runs along to the top of a narrow ridge (8 yards in places) for 15 minutes. There is one peak where it would be necessary to cut through or embank the road around the side. Next is a down grade of 12 per cent for a distance of 5 yards. This grade is still the top of the ridge and is narrow also (up to 20 yards in places). Then for 20 minutes to the Clawa River and Tiekann hamlet - a stone causeway could be built. Then for 1 hour 50 minutes the route meanders across the ridge, sections would be required to be cut out, and others embanked to the Or River. The steep banks would need to be dug out for approaches. Then twenty minutes to the Mossie River. This river has a high bank on the Western side through which a cutting would be made - a ford would be necessary but in times of heavy rains this river would be not fordable. Then for five minutes across flat swampy ground which would have to be drained and built up to Kiting. From Kiting the route would cut across a steep hillside for three quarters of a mile. Then one hour ten minutes to the Ungwak River - a stone causeway possible. A further one hour to the Tonnau River and Lamuntamenas hamlet. One half hour to the Munganarim River and Potpotingan. From the river the road would be required to be cut out of the hillside for a distance of three quarters of a mile. Then for 50 minutes to Patikungai along a ridge and the Min River. This river was not seen in flood but it would wash out any type of ford with every rain - it was only three feet deep at the time of my visit. Then for three quarters of an hour to the Metinalaua River and then 50 minutes upstream to Metemanning along flat land. The land from Kiting to the Metinalaua River is timbered and undulating with some ridges.

From Metemanning to Keirie hamlet - still following the river. This is for two hours over a flood plain. It would be necessary to drain and build up the whole of this section. Five minutes from Keirie is Atimung hamlet. This is only a new hamlet of Puss and at the moment about thirty people are living there. It would be necessary to ford the river at this section. Stones are not readily available. The river was four feet deep at the time of inspection. Then for one hour to Biktavil where the track forks. Half hour walk to Meterankasing over gently sloping land with the last ten minutes across swamp. The last section would have to be drained and built up. From Biktavil the road also branches towards Noipuos. For two hours the road runs across heavily timbered country which is of a gentle slope. The route would finally finish at the mouth of the Neissu River near Noipuos. Throughout the whole of the area clay is predominant soil type. Suitable solid materials for road building were not seen.

With a small labour force and limited tools it would seem that the area between Vaisavanvam and Kiting would prove impossible to work. The alternative would be to follow the beach but that is an area of Mangrove swamp.



Amount  
Returned  
to Store



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

## PATROL REPORT

District of New Ireland..... Report No. <sup>KAVIENG</sup> 6.....  
Patrol Conducted by Patrick J. Batho, Patrol Officer.....  
Area Patrolled Tabar Census Division.....  
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil.....  
Natives One member of the R. P. & N. G. C.  
Duration—From 17./1./19.63 to 24./2./19.63  
Number of Days 36.....  
Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No.....  
Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1./7./19.63  
Medical .... /...../19.....  
Map Reference.....  
Objects of Patrol Common Roll Compilation, Census Revision,  
Routine Administration.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

20/5/1963

*Pauline*  
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 .... £.....



WDA'OR.

67-9-5.

June 18th, 1963.

The District Officer,  
New Ireland District,  
KAVLENG

KAVLENG PATROL No. 6 - 62/63

Receipt of the report of the above patrol  
is acknowledged.

2. I suggest that if the current enthusiasm for  
Cash Cropping should ever appear to be declining, Mr. M.  
Brockham, Member of the Legislative Council, be asked to  
visit the area again.

3. Please make certain that the Assistant District  
Officer (L.G.) includes the Tabar Division in his Programme of  
Surveys.

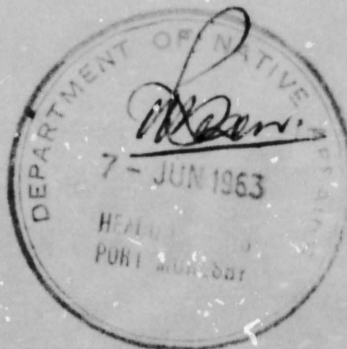
4. Mr. Batho has presented a lucid report and I am  
pleased to see that he was thorough enough to obtain some  
actual figures when studying the economy of the Division.

(J. K. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR



67. 9. 5

67-1-1



Dub-District Office,  
KAVIENG. N.I.D.

17th May, 1963.

The District Officer,  
KAVIENG.

PATROL REPORT No.6/1962-63 TABAR PATROL.

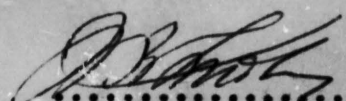
Forwarded is a Patrol Report by Mr. P.J. Batho of Tabar Island conducted in February, 1963.

The main purpose of the patrol on preparation of the Common Roll, at the same time the Tax/Census Register was revised and general Administration matters were attended to.

It is noted that there is a growing interest in local government, so that the possibility of extension of this system may soon be considered.

There is also an active healthy interest in extension of coconut plantings. It is hoped that this trend continues.

Claim for Camp Allowance is included.

  
.....  
I.B. TUOHY  
ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER  
KAVIENG.



Do 1. ack

2. I suggest that, if the current  
enthusiasm for cash cropping should  
decline, Mr. W. Brockham MLC  
be asked to visit the area again.

3. Please make certain that the  
Ado. (L.G.) includes the TABAR Division  
in his programme of surveys.

4. Mrs. Batko has presented a  
lucid report and I am pleased to  
see that he was thorough enough  
to obtain some actual cash figures  
when studying the economy of  
the Division.



67/1/4

Sub-District Office,  
KAVIENG,  
District New Ireland.

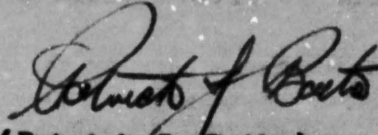
The Assistant District Officer,  
Sub-District Office,  
KAVIENG.

KAVIENG PATROL REPORT No. 6 of 1962/63

Herewith please find Patrol Report No. 6 of 1962/63,  
which covers the patrol to the Tabar Census Division.

Attached please find the claim for camping allowance  
for the period of the patrol.

For your information please.

  
(Patrick J. Batho)  
PATROL OFFICER



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

INTRODUCTION

The object of this patrol was to compile the Common Roll for the Tabar Census Division. In addition the census was revised and routine administration was carried out.

The patrol was transported from Kavieng by the M. V. "Theresa May". The patrol was landed at SOS on Tatau Island.

The TABAR Census Division is located 82 miles by sea from Kavieng in a south-easterly direction. The group comprises three islands - SIMBERI, TATAU and TABAR. TABAR Island is 11 miles in length, and is mountainous, with two peaks exceeding 1,000 feet in height. Like TABAR, TATAU Island is also densely wooded and hilly. SIMBERI Island is somewhat similar, but has a volcanic cone 1,000 feet high behind the east coast.

Rainfall on Tabar is relatively uniform in seasonal distribution. The north-westerly season begins rather early as is general with the northern island groups. However this year has been exceptional, and the early months of the year have been subjected to drought.



### NATIVE SITUATION

The people of Tabar appear socially content and generally law abiding. As indicated in previous patrol reports on this division, the situation remains overall satisfactory. The lack of influential leaders was noted, also concurring with previous reports. At present SALIN of MARAGON owes most of his influence to his position as chairman of the Tabar Co-operative Society. However, there is a proposal afoot that the present society be divided into three new societies. This will give rise to a more parochial aspect in his influence. Undoubtedly, the new system will provide an opening for other ambitious men to advance within the co-operative movement.

Whilst in the Tabar Division, I was approached by a few people who made enquiries regarding Tabar's future within the Local Government Council system. Significantly those who approached me were those who are the most notable personnel in the village groups.

Among the enquirers were: SALIN of MARAGON and the Luluai WANILAU of WANG. The latter was a kinsman of the late SINGERAU of BAIKEB who was president of the LAVONGAI Council. These people were advised that every consideration is being given for the expansion of Local Government within the New Ireland District. An Assistant District Officer from Kavieng was engaged in Local Government Council surveys and that Tabar would receive due consideration.

Considering that there is a lack of influential leaders in the Tabar group, Local Government will provide an avenue of advancement which will be dependant on a system rather on a personality.



5.11.0  
VILLAGE HOUSING AND CLEANLINESS.

The general housing standard throughout the island group is not particularly good. Many of the people seem to prefer the more traditional low-slung huts to houses raised on piles. These traditional houses provide very little ventilation and are built to contain all facets of family life, including the muu-muu in the centre of the living area.

Consistent effort was made to persuade these people to improve their housing standard. The condition of some dwellings was such as to necessitate condemnation.

In general the village area was clean on the arrival of the patrol. No assessment could be made, however, of its usual state of cleanliness.



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D.E.O.

EDUCATION AND MISSIONS.

The Education Department has established and maintains a Primary "T" School at Tatau. Until this year the school was under the supervision of a European teacher. In addition the Catholic Mission has a central school at Mapua. This is under the direct supervision of the priest in charge. They also have a school at Datava. The Methodist Mission operates a school at Simberi and the Seventh Day Adventists at Wang.

Educational activities could not be observed first hand owing to the school holidays being in progress during most of the patrol.

The Tabar group is influenced by the three missions - Methodist, Seventh Day Adventists and Catholic. Of these the most influential are Methodist and Catholic. The Seventh Day Adventist Mission is found at one village where there is a small colony of twenty or so adherents.

The Methodist Mission on Tabar comes under the supervision of the superintendent minister at Kimadan, and is represented directly by a native pastor. The Catholic Mission is part of the Vicariate of New Ireland. The administrative centre for Tabar is at Mapua and is in the care of a European priest.

Members of all missions seem to live amicably together and no suggestion of religious strife was noted by the patrol. In fact at one village with both Methodist and Catholic adherents the whole community was observed to work on both mission projects.

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TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS.

The patrol was mostly conducted on foot, except where the terrain prohibited the construction of a good road. Canoes were then used. All tracks were found to be in good order. However they had deteriorated from their original condition. When this was pointed out to several village leaders they explained that they were presently engaged in garden work. However they hoped to attend to this matter as soon as possible.

There are two sections of vehicular road on the islands. The first runs from Sos wharf to Tatau village on Tatau Island. It is used almost exclusively by a local Chinese trader who owns a jeep. The other vehicular road is on Tabar Island and runs from Matlik village to Detava village. This road could be extended with very little effort and could provide an avenue of trade to a greater number of the inhabitants. At present the road is used by the manager of Tere plantation to further his trading contacts with the local people.

The Tabar canoe is generally of poor quality. The only canoes of note observed were all imported from other areas, notably Lihir.

Communications with Kavieng are maintained by a regular shipping service provided by J. Seeto and Co. Vessels owned by this company call regularly to collect both native society and plantation copra. In addition there is a work boat stationed at Tomlabat Plantation.

Radio communication is also established at Tomlabat Plantation and at the Catholic Mission, Mapua, Tabar. Tomlabat radio is supposedly in daily communication with Kavieng R.T.C. However presently its radio is out of commission. The Mapua radio is in daily contact with Mission headquarters at Kavieng.



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HEALTH AND HYGIENE. — P.M.O.

The health requirements of the Tabar people are adequately served by four aid-posts - two on Tabar and one each on Simberi and Tatau. All aid-posts were visited by the patrol. They were found to be well maintained. Special comment could be made on the excellent condition of the aid-post on Simberi. All aid-post orderlies showed good application.

General village health appeared to be good. However several cases of venereal disease and the failure to report same were brought to the patrol's attention.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT.a) Primary Industry.*CO-Office  
D.A.C.*

There are two cash crops grown in the Tabar group - namely coffee and copra.

At present there is a new approach to the planting of coconut palms. This appears to be the result of a visit by Mr. N. Brockham, M.L.C. to the area. He strongly advocated a greater interest in the primary industries. Now most villages are cleaning tracts of land in preparation for new plantings. This view received the fullest support from the patrol.

This new activity was apparent at every stage of the patrol. A few villages were outstanding in this regard, namely Sambuari on Tatau, and Banesa and Wang on Tabar Island. In connection with this recent trend the people are killing off vast numbers of their pigs. The reason for this is that they think that the pigs might cause damage to the new plantings and embryo plantations.

However it was envisaged that these activities could be carried too far. As the pig plays a marked role in the more traditional aspect of life it was suggested to many village leaders that numbers of good stock of pig be kept for breeding purposes. These animals could be exiled to the more remote and uninhabited parts of the islands, where they could do little damage to crop expansion. At the same time consideration was given to the fact that, supposing the pigs were killed off, the traditional ceremonies concerning the pig would continue. Hence there would be a need to import pigs for any ceremonial occasions, thus creating a drain on the general economy.

The method generally employed in the disposing of these pigs is as follows. A particular village would erect head stones in the community grave yard. In celebration of this there would be a great feast and the village would take the opportunity to slaughter as many pigs as possible. On many occasions pigs were brought from other villages. There were innumerable such occasions during the visit of the patrol. In fact in one village a whole house was given over to the storing of head stones.

It is to be hoped that the new trend towards primary industry will be continued.

The coffee project is to be found mainly on Tatau and Simberi Islands, rather than on Tabar Island. Most of the villages on Tatau and Simberi have a small coffee crop, with the exception of Sambuari on Tatau where the soil is unsuitable.



At present there seems to be little market potential attached to crops in the area. Several village leaders enquired about possible markets, notably the Tultul of Tugitug.

#### Finance and Trade.

The co-operative movement has not been a great success on Tabar. However, as mentioned elsewhere there is a plan to re-organise the movement. At present there are two consumer stores in the group belonging to the co-operative. One store is at Simberi on Simberi Island, the other is at Korumbo on Tatau Island. Both these stores engage in the purchase of copra. There is a trading station operated by a Chinese, named Poon Chan. This is situated at Sos. However the owners have intimated that they intend closing down as the venture has proved unprofitable. They, too, are engaged in the buying of copra, and operate a consumer store. Trade stores are operated at all plantations.

Except for a small group all villages in Tabar sell their copra either to the co-operatives or to the trading posts on the plantations.

According to the voluntary information furnished by the various trading organisations in the Tabar group, a total of £8,322 is spent in the purchase of copra and coconuts in a year. Those persons who sold their copra direct were not able to give precise details. However their approximate figures indicate that they would derive £3,030 within a year. This would give a total income into the island of £11,350 per annum. Per capita the income from this would be approximately £6/14/3. The annual income for each adult male is £21/1/0½. Last year a total of £507 was collected in personal tax. This amount would be approximately 4% of the total income.