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***PATROL REPORTS***

DISTRICT: EAST SEPIK

STATION: AMA, 1972- 1973

Original documents bound with reports  
for: Ambunti, volume 19.

# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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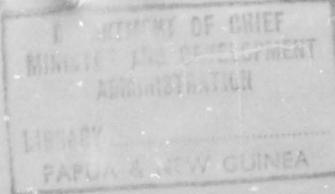
PATROL REPORTS OR: AMBUNI EAST SEPIK  
 ACCESSION NO. 496  
 VOL. NO: 227: 1972/73 NUMBER OF REPORTS: CONT.

REPORT NO	FOLIO	OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL	AREA PATROLLED		MAPS/ PHOTOS	PERIOD OF PATROL
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[2] 1A OF 1972-73	50-53	G. F. PAYNE PO	ARAI	59		7.8.72 - 14.8.72
[3] 2 OF 1972-73	54-56	L. W. BRAGGE ADC	NUMAU ABLATAK, WASKUK HILLS	59		N.A.
[4] 3 OF 1972-73	57-58	D. B. ROBERTSON PO	MIRSEK	59		18.8.72 - 25.8.72
[5] 4 OF 1972-73	59-61	D. B. ROBERTSON PO	PART WANIAPI MAY AND WARIO SIO	59		27.8.72 - 5.9.72
[6] 5 OF 1972-73	62-87	L. W. BRAGGE 1:PO	UPPER SEPIK	59		N.A.
[7] 6 OF 1972-73	88-112	D. B. ROBERTSON PO	WARIO-SIO	59-60	MAP	N.A.
[8] 7 OF 1972-73	113-151	P. J. MOORE APO	WONGAMUSEN	60		N.A.
[9] 8 OF 1972-73	152-199	L. W. BRAGGE ADC	MAIN RIVER	60-61		6.11.72 - 24.11.72
[10] 9 OF 1972-73	200-224	D. B. ROBERTSON PO	SAMSAY AND MIRSEK	61		N.A.
[11] 10 OF 1972-73	225-230	P. J. MOORE APO	WONGAMUSEN NUMAU ABLATAK, WASKUK	61-62		27.11.72 - 6.12.72
[12] 11 OF 1972-73	231-233	D. B. ROBERTSON PO	WARIO SIO	62		10.1.73 - 15.1.73
[13] 12 OF 1972-73	234-236	D. B. ROBERTSON PO	NUMAU ABLATAK, WASKUK HILLS	62		23.1.73 - 15.2.73
[14] 13 OF 1972-73	237-257	L. W. BRAGGE ADC	BURUI KUNAI AND SEPIK RIVER	62	MAPS	22.1.73 - 26.2.73
[15] 14 OF 1972-73	258-259	I. WALKER PO	PART SEPIK MAY, PART WARIO SIO & PART W.	62	N	3.3.73 - 24.3.73
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[18] 15B OF 1972-73	267-272	D. B. ROBERTSON PO	UPPER SEPIK & MAIN RIVER	62		4.3.73 - 7.3.73
[19] 16 OF 1972-73	273	P. J. MOORE APO	PART UPPER SEPIK, PART SAMSAY & PART	62		16.3.73 - 5.4.73
[20] 17 OF 1972-73	274-275	I. C. WALKER PO	WARIO SIO	62		N.A.

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[22] 19 OF 1972-73	278-279	D. B. ROBERTSON P.O	SAMSAI AND WOGAMUS	62	20.4.73 - 3.5.73
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[24] 20A OF 1972-73	326-378	D. B. ROBERTSON P.O	NIKSEK	63-64	12.6.73 - 24.8.73
[25] 21 OF 1972-73	379-380	P. J. MOORE APO	SOUTH WAPEI	64	22.6.73 - 24.7.73
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[26] 1 OF 1972-73	381-382	J. A. MAMO A.P.O	BURUI-KUNAI	64	10.7.72 - 14.7.72
[27] 2 OF 1972-73	383-393	J. A. MAMO A.P.O	BURUI-KUNAI MAIN RIVER, CHAMBRI	64	3.9.72 - 7.9.72
[ ] AMA					
[28] 2 OF 1972-73	394-416	G. F. PAYNE P.O	ROCKY PEAK	64-65	15.8.72 - 26.8.72
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[30] 5 OF 1972-73	443-446	G. F. PAYNE P.O	SEPIK/MAY/WANIAP/MAY	65	26.9.72 - 1.10.72
[31] 6 OF 1972-73	447-451	G. F. PAYNE P.O	ARAI AND SEPIK/MAY	65	17.11.72 - 27.11.72
[32] 6A OF 1972-73	452-454	G. F. PAYNE P.O	WANIAP / MAY CENSUS DIVISION	65-66	14.10.72 - 22.10.72
[33] 7 OF 1972-73	455-477	D. L. STEVENS P.O	SEPIK MAY CENSUS DIVISION	66	4.12.72 - 17.2.72
[34] 8 OF 1972-73	478-491	D. L. STEVENS P.O	CENTRAL MAY CENSUS DIVISION	66	3.1.73 - 15.1.73
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[37] 11 OF 1972-73	498-499	P. J. WALSH APO	WANIAP MAY	66	4.3.73 - 7.3.73
[38] 12 OF 1972-73	500-513	D. L. STEVENS ADO	PART SEPIK MAY CENSUS	66	23.4.73 - 28.4.73

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EAST SEPIK DISTRICT

PATROL REPORTS

1972 - 73

AMBUNTI

REPORTS NO.

OFFICER CONDUCTING  
PATROL

AREA PATROLLED

1-72-73	R. L. KAUFFMAN	WASKUK Hills C/D
1A-72-73	G. F. PAYNE	ARAI C/D
2-72-73	L. W. BRAGGE	NUMAU ABLATAK; WASKUK Hills
3-72-73	D. B. ROBERTSON	NIKSEK C/D (part) - jacket
4-72-73	D. B. ROBERTSON	Part WANLAP MAY & WARO SIO
5-72-73	L. W. BRAGGE	Upper SEPIK C/D
6-72-73	D. B. ROBERTSON	WARO SIO C/D
7-72-73	P. J. MOORE	WONGAMUSEN Census Division
8-72-73	L. W. BRAGGE	Main River Census Division
9-72-73	D. B. ROBERTSON	SAMSAI & NIKSEK C/D (part)
10-72-73	P. J. MOORE	Council Wards in WONGAMUSEN
		NUMUA ABLATAK, WASKUK Hills
11-72-73	D. B. ROBERTSON	WARO SIO C/D
12-72-73	D. B. ROBERTSON	NUMAU-ABLATAK, WASKUK Hills.
		Census Division - jacket
13-72-73	L. W. BRAGGE	BURUI KUNAI/SEPIK Plains
14-72-73	I. WALKER	Part SEPIK MAY, Part WARO-SIO, Part WOGAMUSEN C.D.'s.
15-72-73	G. W. SWAINSON	Main River census division.
15A-72-73	J. GIGMAI	NUMAU ABLATAK Census Division
15B-72-73	D. B. ROBERTSON	Upper SEPIK, Main River (part
16-72-73	P. J. MOORE	Part Upper SEPIK, Pt. SAMSAI
		Part WASKUK Hills.
17-72-73	I. C. WALKER	WARO SIO - jacket
18-72-73	L. W. BRAGGE	SAMSAI & Part Upper SEPIK
19-72-73	D. B. ROBERTSON	SAMSAI & WOGAMUS (part)
20-72-73	D. B. ROBERTSON	NIKSEK Census Division

(2)

20A-72-73

D. B. ROBERTSON

NIKSEK Census Divison

21-72-73

P. J. MOORE &  
F. WAFIGIAN

South WAPEI Census Divison

PAGWI

1-72-73

J. A. MAMO

BURUI-KUNAI Census Divison  
- jacket

2-72-73

J. A. MAMO

BURUI-KUNAI Main River,  
CHAMBRI Lakes C/D

AMA

1-72-73

Missing

2-72-73

G. F. PAYNE

ROCKY Peak

3-72-73

G. F. PAYNE

ROCKY Peaks C/D

4-72-73

Missing

5-72-73

G. F. PAYNE

SEPIK/MAY/WANIAP/MAY C/D.

6-72-73

G. F. PAYNE

WANIAP-MAY Census Divison

7-72-73

G. F. PAYNE

ARAI & SEPIK/MAY Census Div.

8-72-73

G. F. PAYNE

WANIAP/MAY census divison

9-72-73

D. L. STEVENS

SEPIK MAY census division

10-72-73

D. L. STEVENS

Central MAY Census Divison

11-72-73

P. J. WALSH

SEPIK MAY

12-72-73

P. J. WALSH

ABEI MAY (part)

13-72-73

D. L. STEVENS

WANIAP MAY C.D. (part)  
Pt. SEPIK MAY Census Divison  
- jacket

ABEI MAY & ARAI MAY C/D

## PATROL REPORT

Report number:	2 <sup>A</sup> of 72/73.	Objects of patrol:	Census, Area Study.
District:	East Sepik	Station:	AMA Patrol Post.
Patrol conducted by:	G.F. Payne.	Subdistrict:	Ambunti.
Area patrolled:	Rocky Peaks C.D.	Designation:	Patrol Officer.
Duration of patrol:	18/8/ - 26/8/72	Personnel accompanying:	J.G. McNickle, A.P.O. 3 R.P.N.G.C., 1 P.H.D.
Last D.D.A. patrol:	November, 1971	Number of days:	11
Last O.L.G. patrol:	N/A	Total population of area:	552
Map reference:	Ambunti Fourmil	Council area:	Non
		House of Assembly Electorate:	Upper Sepik.

The District Commissioner,

East Sepik District,

MEZAK

In respect of this patrol, I attach

- Field Officers Journal Folios 39 To 44,
- Patrol Instructions,
- The Report and my comments,
- Area study,
- Updating of area study,
- Situation Reports No's 1-4,
- Patrol map,

DATE: / 19

*M. H. M.*  
Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, Papua New Guinea.

*Mr. Sligo Ties*

In respect of this patrol, I attach

- Area study,
- Updating of area study,
- Situation Report No's. 1-4,
- 
- 
- 

District Headquarters assessment of

Above average

Patrol & Report.....

Average

Below average

*E. G. Nickle*

District Commissioner

Date: 21/11/19 72

DJH:LM

P.O. Box 2396  
KONEDOBU  
67-8-20

6th February, 1973

The District Commissioner  
East Sepik District  
P.O. Box 72  
WENAK

AMBUNTI PATROL NO.2A OF 1972/73

Reference your 67-1-12 of 21st November, 1972.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Reports 1 to 4 arising out of the above patrol of ROCKY PNAKS Census Division, together with the appropriate assessments, and also the Area Study recompilation, as submitted by MR. G.F. PAYNE, Patrol Officer.

As mentioned in my Circular 67-1-0 of 25th November, 1971 there is no need to forward Patrol Report to this Office. Only Situation Reports and Area Studies are required at this Office.

Mr. Payne shows commendable enthusiasm but must temper this with a study of the practicalities of the Situation before unduly raising the hopes of the village people.

C.G. LITTER  
a/Secretary

Assistant District Commissioner's comments on;

Ama Patrol No. 2/1972-73 - T. G. McNickle A.P.O.  
(Reporting Officer)

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Field Officer's Journal

IMUMBI should read IEMOMBUI

IWOU, BIFERA, SIAUI and ABREMAKI are not listed  
in the Village directory.

WAIDARU should read WEIDORU

BIFERA or BIVARO is an alternate name for the  
village listed in the directory as MAHA

This diary is very informative.

a Report

Patrol Instructions for this patrol may be seen in  
Ama Patrol Report No. 1/1972-73. The instructions and Para 3 of  
the report refer to Chapter 17, which in the old edition of  
Standing Instructions refers to Area Studies. It is assumed  
therefore that the instructions mean that Mr. McNickle should have  
completed an area study. This has not been done.

As comments on Ama Patrol Report No. 1, submitted by  
Mr. Nickle refer, Mr. McNickle will have to concentrate on  
presentation, and in particular with dealing with one topic  
completely before moving on to the next. Neatness will also need  
to be greatly improved, if his reports are to reach an acceptable  
standard.

  
L. W. Bragge,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

Date - 15th September 1972.

## PATROL REPORT No.

2 of 1972/73

Station..... Ama..... Officer Compiling..... R. S. McNickle, A.FFO.  
 District..... East Sepik..... Subdistrict..... Ambunti  
 Census Division..... Rocky Peaks..... L.G. Council..... Non council

(For recording of routine information not of a situation report nature, actionable at Subdistrict or District level, and of value to succeeding officers. No copy is required at Headquarters.)

(For further pages, use foolscap blanks.)

Govt. Print.-1792/40,000.-5.72.

AIMS: 1. To be completely familiar with general patrol routine and practices.

2. To assist the Officer In Charge, and to be alert to any situation which I do not immediately grasp; and to ask advice of the Officer In Charge, in accordance with patrol instructions.

3. To compile data for a report, presenting it in accordance with Chapter 17 of the Field Officers' Standing Instructions, and the Secretary's 67-1-O of 25th November, 1971.

GENERAL: I accompanied this patrol led by Mr G.E. Payne, P.C. Other personnel were: Const. 1/c Wamansi, Const. 1/c Bano, Const. Imas, one Aid Post Orderly and one O.M.O.

2. The patrol began on 15th August and ended on 26th August, a total of 11 days. A total of 11 villages were visited.

3. The Rocky Peaks Census Division was previously administered within the Amanab Sub District, in the West Sepik District (See the map, Appendix A).

4. There are some scattered groups within the Rocky Peaks Census Division who have only been contacted seriously within the last ten years.

5. This was the first census taken of Rocky Peaks within the Ambunti Sub District's administration.

6. Maps on hand at the old May River Patrol Post proved inadequate for purposes of this patrol. Many questions were asked of villagers, and other parties au fait with the area, to gauge possible distances and travelling times ahead of us.

7. No patrols have actually traversed some areas of this patrol, specifically the section from Iwou to Ama. However, a May River patrol, in 1970, had traversed to the West of our route in the Rocky Peaks Census Division.

8. Travelling times were as follow:

May River to Panewai Ingress Track...	Doubled canoe....	7 hrs
Ama to Eniap	unladen walk	2½ "
Eniap to May River	single canoe	2½ "
Panewai Ingress to Tipas	doubled "	¾ Hour
Panewai Ingress to Panewai	walk, paddle canoe	¾ "
Tipas to Yellow River Patrol Post (Eduargi)	unladen walk	3½ hours
Tipas to Aigum	doubled canoe	¾ hour
Aigum to Tagu		1¼ hours

Wagu to Ambremaki ("The Pass ge")..doubled canoe...	1½ hours
Ambremaki to Waidaru(Wairo)	" " 2½ hours
Waidaru to Bifera is estimated at..	" " 3 hours
Waidaru to Baio	" " ½ hour
Baio to Beimap	" " 1 "
Beimap to Ambremaki	" " ¾ "
Ambremaki to Iwou	walk with carriers 3½ hours
Iwou to Ama	" " 8½ hours
Iwou to Ama	unladen walk estimated at 5 hours

The estimated time between Waidaru and Bifera is based on a reported paddle canoe time of ½ day.

ECONOMIC:

1. The following villages were visited, except for Bifera, the councillor of which paid us a visit at Waidaru: Panewai, Tipas, Eduargi(Yellow River), Aigum, Wagu, Ambremaki, Waidaru(also known locally as Wairo), Siaui, Bifera, Baic, Beimap, and Iwou.
2. These villages are nearly all situated on the banks of the Sepik River, from Panewai, the furthest south, to Bifera the furthest to the north. Bifera is within the Green River Patrol Post administrative area. Siaui and Iwou villages, and of course, Eduargi Patrol Post are inland of the southern (first two villages) and northern Sepik Banks respectively.
3. There is a dwindling crocodile business in some villages, but lack of demand and inadequate supplies of salt, coupled with stock depletion, makes this a tenuous and small-return industry.
4. Small gardens provided a variety of the typical tropical variety of foods, including sweet potato, yams, taro, tapioca, banana, sugar cane, sago, paw paw and pineapple. In addition to this, fish are taken from lagoons and the Sepik River itself, and the Telapia variety has found its way to these regions. Pig, cassowary, wildfowl, waterfowl abound, and provide a substantial part of the food supply. In fact, at Eduargi, cassowary meat is exported within the West Sepik District.
5. The C.M.M.L. mission workers at Eduargi are experimenting with a variety of crops, including wheat and rice, and a range of others. Future liaison could provide a valuable interchange of ideas which would benefit the whole Am/Green River/Eduargi region. It seems that future large scale cropping feasibility in such commodities as rice and coffee, for example, along this tract of the Sepik, may depend on co-operative efforts in river Bulk Transport.
6. The landscape varies little in all river areas visited. Thick undergrowth ranges into forest areas with less dense undergrowth. Potential exists for an extensive timber industry, if transport and milling facilities can be found. Inland around Siaui and Iwou, the ranges of hills are picturesque and provide a pleasant backdrop to the encompassing forest. There is potential for crop farming on a broad scale, but the situation during the wet season may be different. Large areas of virgin forest land would need to be cleared initially.
7. In relation to this, evidence of a potentially very good labour force was seen, especially at Wagu(the largest village visited), the three small villages between and including Tipas and Eduargi, Siaui and Iwou, and Baio. Impressive was the fact that Siaui (the second largest village) had taken it on themselves to clear a strip of at least 1500 meters for an airstrip, in the hope that this would benefit their economy. Regrowth covers much of it now.
8. Tracks to these villages had been cleared well, in anticipation of the patrol, but the very orderliness and cleanliness of the villages, and the excellent response received were other indicators of the mettle of these groups.

9. Keenness for a local business enterprise was expressed in all centres, and it is proposed to hold some basic agricultural training at Ama in the future. This will possibly be in conjunction with resettlement within the station boundary.

10. Large proportions of the young men from most villages had completed two-year labour contracts in other districts, and several had served terms of imprisonment. These people have introduced more of the Pidgin language and the usual array of store-bought trappings. People of the villages travel to stores at May River, Yellow River(Edwaki) and Green River, from time to time. Mostly, they live on the subsistence level, with carrier incomes being one other supplement to the area's small money inflow.

11. There are a sprinkling of radios and torches, with no outboard motors in working order owned by villagers. There are one to two shotguns in most villages, while some have none. Shotguns are owned by village officials.

12. The huts of many villages, with the exception of Wagu, were of shaky short-term construction, and improvements were suggested, with regard to methods and materials. For example, suggested were: the use of multiple overlapped morita leaf for roof construction; the use of hardwood supports and foundations, particularly Kwila wood.

13. Wild cinnamon trees grow in many forest sections, and could be a possibility for future enterprise.

14. All villages expressed the desire to initiate a substantial local industry before they became part of a Local Government Council system with Ama and May River villages. The line of reasoning was that "We need money first to pay our taxes."

15. The villages of Bifera and Baio expressed interest in being included in the Rocky Peaks C/D, instead of Green River area. These villages are geographically within the Rocky Peaks C/D, and are at present within the Green River Local Government Council. See Patrol Map, Appendix A.

16. There is a small artefact business along the Sepik River villages of this Census Division. It is confined to shields of varied painted designs, and only an irregular trade is achieved with down-river entrepreneurs and a buyer at Edwaki. The shields were offered at \$3 to \$4, and I have seen similar works for sale in Wewak for up to \$10.

POLITICAL:

1. The response to Political Education lectures and informal discussions was an enjoyable and rewarding aspect of this patrol. At all villages attentive audiences of men, women and children listened (attentively) and in some of the larger and more sophisticated centres, such as Wagu and Sisui, pertinent questions were asked and men were prepared to enter into a dialogue within talks given by Mr Payne and myself.

2. Lectures consisted of a talk on different topics by the two officers, and at all times the subject matter of these talks was related to aspects of daily village life. For example, at one village, the concept of the House of Assembly and its functional worth was likened to a larger-scale local council, except that instead of village representatives going to Ama, larger-area representatives went to a larger "village", Port Moresby. They took the worries of their (electoral) area to these large meetings in the same way that village representatives took worries to Ama.

3. One approach for motivating groups was to ask them some questions regarding their present knowledge on some political matters. This was interesting to us, as it enabled us to gauge the present level of understanding of villagers, and it got the talks off to a good start. The following is part of an exchange by myself and a group of several young men at one village:

Interviewer: "Who is your H.o.f.A. member?"

Response: The correct name of Anskar Karmel was given.

I: Who is the Chief Minister of PNG?

R: The correct answer, Michael Somare.

I: What is Local Government Council?

R: It means you have to pay taxes and have a councillor.

I: The name of this district?

R: East Sepik District.

I: How many other districts can you name?

R: Manus, Buka, W.S.D.

This was part of discussions at Wagu, the largest and most sophisticated village in the Census Division, and much of their current information comes from regular listening to Radio Wewak.

4. It was attempted to include the ladies in sessions of talks whenever possible, and this was nearly always accomplished via interpreters, as few of the females spoke Pidgin. Women were told to be prepared for increased domestic duties if, in the future, their menfolk became involved in larger local farming projects.

5. Village officials were informed of a working/seminar period proposed to be held at Ama in the near future. It will endeavour to strengthen V.O.'s concepts of their duties, and to reinforce the idea that they have the authority and must use it, to police daily village life reasonably but firmly, in accordance with the law. For the time being, people were reminded that all disputes of a serious nature should be referred to a V.O. who would then refer it to the Patrol Officer at Ama, in times when no patrols were near at hand.

6. Councillors of Bifera and Baio ("Economic" Section) enquired into the possibilities of being included in the Rocky Peaks C/D, instead of Green River. They intimated that they would be very interested in attending the proposed training courses at Ama, and that they were unhappy with their present situation, as they had no profitable local business with the result that they found it difficult to meet council tax adequately.

#### SOCIAL:

1. Health: The people are, in the main, robust and active, and there were relatively few examples of skin diseases such as Tinea imbricata. There were three cases of Elephantiasis noted and referred to Ama for possible transport to Wewak, as soon as proper procedure was ascertained. Similarly, one case of suspected leprosy (hands) was noted and referred.

Ablution systems are poor in some river villages, toilets being either non-existent or not deep enough, and general cleanliness was lacking, notably in infant care, due to infrequent bathing. Instructions and advice were given to rectify the situation.

A vine-like plant, known locally as "plant dynamite" is used for poisoning fish. The Officer In Charge will be sending samples on for examination. In this way it is expected to ascertain its potency in consideration of human consumption en masse, should such a calamity

eventually.

At Siaui and Iwou, the "mountain" villages, many of the men and youths still wear attractively decorated penis sheaths. They also pierce the septum with a large hole, and the front of the nostrils with smaller holes accomplished with very sharp sago needles. Most of the girls and ladies wear the single grass reed skirt. To complete the colourful ensembles, men and women both wear bracelets and necklaces of small imported coloured beads and shells, and biceps and knee straps of woven kanda rope.

2. Education: A well-built school room at Wagu is the highlight of this delightful community of friendly, co-operative people. One of their number has been educated as a mission teacher and many of the children and some of the adults are literate in Pidgin. It will be ensured that copies of "Mius Bilong Yumi" be sent to this village when available. There are school/church buildings in other villages visited, but none to compare with Wagu, construction-wise or educationally.

At all centres children learn traditional skills from parents and elders.

Increased educational facilities for both children and adults will improve the quality of the area as a whole. The same could be said, to a certain extent, regarding other C/Ds in the Sub District. The people show good aptitude for learning, and future schools will be attended by enthusiastic pupils.

3. Law and Order:

There were no major crimes reported during the patrol. The Rocky Peaks C/D seems to be a peaceful area in relation to other C/Ds in the Ama Patrolling Area.

There was one reported bad debt. It is alleged that three years ago, a businessman from the village of Angriman (Angoram Sub District) enlisted men of Bai Village to make six canoes for him. The canoes were reported to be of a size comparable with the patrolling canoes: length approximately ten metres. No payment has ever been offered, although some money was agreed upon for the job. The Officer In Charge will report the matter to the Assistant District Commissioner at Angoram.

MISCELLANEOUS:

1. "Edwaki" is the correct spelling of the alternative name for Yellow River, as subsequent investigation has proved. Its designation is 'Base Camp' and not 'Patrol Post' as is included on the Patrol Map, Appendix A.

2. "Wailo" and "Ambriemaki" are possibly also correct, depending on local variations in pronunciation.

3. The placement of the village of Bifera on the map is estimated on approximated motor canoe travelling time: four hours from Waidaru.

The following is submitted for your information, please.

.....*Tim G. McNickle*.....

Tim G. McNickle,  
Assistant Patrol Officer.

.....Appendix A.....

/2



00167 - 8-20

(27)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR  
District Office, P.O. Box 72,

TELEGRAMS  
TELEPHONE  
OUR REFERENCE.....  
IF CALLING ASK FOR  
MR.....

In Reply  
Please Quote

No. 67-1-12

21st November 1972.

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
P.O. Box 2396,  
KONEDOMU.

AMBUNTI PATROL REPORTS NOS. 1 & 2 OF 1972 - 73

Two reports each are forwarded herewith in respect of the above patrols.

The reports were originally received here on 20th September, but were returned to the A.D.C. Ambunti as the format was incorrect.

E.G. Hicks  
E.G. HICKS  
District Commissioner

(26)

The Assistant District Commissioner's Comments -

Ama Patrol Report No. 2/1972/73

The report which follows the Area Study Heading is detailed and gives a good insite into the Rocky Peak Census Division. It does not, however satisfy the qualification of an Area Study and Mr. Payne has been requested to type an Area Study covering the headings required.



L. W. Bragge,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

Ambunti - 14th Sept. 1972

**PATROL REPORT No. 2 of 72/73.**

Station..... **AMA** Officer Compiling..... **G. F. Payne, P.O**  
 District..... **East Sepik** Subdistrict..... **Ambunti**  
 Census Division..... **Rocky Peaks** L.G. Council..... **Non.**

(For recording of routine information not of a situation report nature, actionable at Subdistrict or District level, and of value to succeeding officers. No copy is required at Headquarters.)

(For further pages, use foolscap blanks.)

Govt. Print.—1792/40,000.—5.72.

**Aim:** To conduct a Census revision for the area and compile a roll for the Ama P.P. files.  
 To collect information for inclusion in an Area Study.  
 To familiarise myself with the area and its problems.  
 Generally ensure that all administration of the area was achieved.

**Conduct of the Patrol:** I was accompanied by Mr. T.G. McNickle, A.P.O. who gained further patrol experience while assisting in the duties associated with the patrol. Three members of the R.P.N.G.C. also accompanied the patrol. A.P.C. (P.H.D.) Hausa dispensed medicinal treatment to those requiring it during the course of the patrol.

The patrol travelled via the May River, in a temporarily doubled canoe, powered by a 33 hp motor and a 20hp in reserve and to be used at times when travelling against the current, to the Sepik River. It is a long uninhabited stretch from the confluence of the May river with the Sepik River to Panewai village. This is the last village in the Sepik-May Census Division. Half an hour further upstream is Tipas village the only village in the South Wapi c/d that has permanently settled on the banks of the Sepik. A group from 'Howi' village in the same census division have also made a camp at the mouth of the Yellow river known as Aigum, they claim they hope to move in permanently. Their location may give rise to some confusion in the future, but at present they are lodged between the Sepik-May and Rocky Peaks C/D, and it was thought unwise to attempt to include them in either of these C/D as Tipas and Aigum are only 4 hrs walk from Edwaki Base Camp and most of their ties are with people from this area.

Travelling times recorded by our craft are listed as;

May River (Ex P.P) to Sepik River	2 hrs.
May River mouth to Panewai	6 hrs.
Panewai to Tipas	45 mins
Tipas to Aigum	45 mins
Aigum to Wagu	1 hr. 15 mins
Wagu to Ambreimaki	1 hr. 30 mins.
Aubreimaki to Beimap	1 hr.
Beimap to Baio	1 hr.
Baio to Weilo	45 mins.
Walking times recorded were	
Tipas to Edwaki	3 hrs 30mins.
Aubreimaki to Iwau	2 hrs 45 mins.
Iwau to Ama P.P.	8 hrs 30mins (poor carriers)

Political.

The river villages were reasonably aware that they had a M.H.A. as he had recently visited the area. The villagers were encouraged to seek change through the auspices of their Member. At Wagū village, the most impressive village of the group an interesting exchange took place. In an open discussion was called in a classroom which served well the requirements of a meeting house. This village had a fairly keen radio listening following and it was noticeably apparent that they had a greater insight into this topic than other villages encountered on the patrol.

No objections or criticisms were lodged with the patrol concerning the present structure of the House of Assembly. In answer to their much repeated demand for some type of development for the area it was suggested that their Member for the House of Assembly was the man who could bring about most rapid progress in this field should he consider their pleas sincere enough to warrant attention.

Local Government, this topic was introduced at each village during the course of discussions and villagers were encouraged to voice an opinion as to the pros or cons of establishing a council for the area in the near future. Generally the answer was 'let us get up our businesses first'. On the surface this is a reasonable demand but the people of the area must realise that there is more to getting up a 'business' than sitting back pleading for 'Didimen' to come and show them what to do.

The idea of the Edwaki and Ama administrative areas combining to form one council area was suggested, by myself. The idea did not meet with any enthusiasm but if it is considered expedient for such a unity for administrative reasons the proposal could meet with more acceptance as it is discussed and becomes more of a realisation.

Knowledge of Local Government extends to comprehensive in the river villages to very limited at the villages of Iwau and Siaui. The village of Baio, geographically within the boundaries of the Rocky Peaks C/D has been included in the Green River L.G.C. The councillor from this village, together with the councillor from 'Bifro' village came and met the patrol at Weilo village. Their main concern was lack of encouragement they receive whenever agenda items on ways and means of establishing an enterprise are discussed. They related that the 'Kisap' and Council Adviser (when he is present) always squash the idea in the agenda, with an unlimited list of the improbabilities of ever establishing worthwhile occupations.

It is my opinion that a council should not be established for the Edwaki/Ama region until such times as it can be co-ordinated with a planned rural productivity programme.

Economic Development.

The means of achieving any monetary wealth in this area is extremely limited. There is a little trade in crocodile skins when they can be got to a buyer before they go bad. There is also a small trade in artefacts, but prices are generally low and buyers few, for the limited range of items available. Villages nearer the C.M.H.L. at Edwaki are given the opportunity to supply wild pig or cassowary meat to the mission who fly it out chilled or smoked for sale in other centres which experience shortages of meat.

Almost the whole of the area is covered with forest of the large tree variety. Should the timber industry expand and a demand found for milled timber or even chipped wood for paper pulp, then the prospects for the area are a little more encouraging.

As I have submitted in other parts of the body of this report there is no reason why a cheap river transport system could not be developed making it an economical proposition to utilise the plentiful acreages under cash crops and have them shipped to outlets down river or through the ports of Wewak or Madang. It is natural that this would benefit the whole of the Sepik River area together with its tributaries.

The only exploitation of the area is by labour recruiters who receive a generous bounty for every gullible soul they ship out. In return a little money and European type artefacts filter back into the area as the labourers return on the expiry of their contract.

Health.

On the surface general health appeared to be good. Investigation shows a high infant mortality rate, which at first was not easily discernable, because of the lack of past census figures. This problem was extreme in the village of Iwau where it was noted one woman was in her sixth pregnancy but to date has not reared a child successfully.

At Panewai cases of leprosy were located and the sufferers were instructed to report to the station so they may be passed on to treatment centres.

Cases of elephantiasis were also noted at Panewai and Sigu again it is hoped that they can be offered treatment.

The diet of all people in the area is good and there are large tracts of unpopulated bushland in which there are large reserves of game and forageable fruits.

(B)

AREA STUDY - PATROL REPORT.

Report number: 1 of 72/73 Station: AMA Patrol Post  
District: East Sepik Sub District: Ambunti.  
Census Division: ROCKY PEAKS. Council Area: Non  
House of Assembly Elec. Upper Sepik Total Pop.:

GENERAL.

The Rocky Peaks Census Division encompasses an area which is triangular shaped and a sparsely populated area of the Upper Sepik River. It is bordered to the north by the Sepik river itself, the eastern boundary is shared with the boundary of the August River Census Division, while the third boundary runs in a n.e.-s.w. direction and is common to the Waniap-May Census Division. The area is estimated to be approximately 96 square miles.

There are five major villages in the area with a total population of 552. Baio village is excluded from this Census Division, because although it is geographically within the boundary of the Rocky Peaks C/D it has been incorporated within the Green River L.G.C. The village of Waiar has been included within the Rocky Peaks C/D although formerly it came under the August River C/D. This precedent was taken because the village falls within the Rocky Peaks boundary and it is easily contacted from another village within the C/D, Weilo, formerly Nobaru village. This is taken up in Situation Report No. 4.

Topography; there is much land suitable for agriculture, that is it does not regularly become subject to regular flooding or is it unduly mountainous. The impression one would get from the name of the C/D as to the terrain of the area does not run true, and the only portion that has any bearing on its names sake is in the southern apex of the triangle where fortunately there are no inhabitants.

Vegetation is of the dense typical rain forest common to the high rainfall areas of the tropics. Much of the larger timber is of the type sought for milling, notably taun and the hard wood kwila.

Transportation; the most acceptable method is by canoes or other water craft. I suggest that as the first village is within 4 hrs. travelling from the last village in the Sepik-May C/D, the Rocky Peaks C/D be patrolled at the same time as the Sepik-May where practicable. This is mentioned as both time and fuel would be saved and the patrol extended by only one week at the most. It is possible to visit the area on foot from Am. P.P. With carriers this only requires a 8 to 9 hour walk to Ewau village, then 3 to 4 hour walk to Ambreimaki, from here it may be found difficult to get water transport to visit the other river villages.

SOCIAL

ROCKY PEAKS CENSUS DIVISION, 30th August, 1972.

(12)

2.

Language Groups; of these there are three.

(1) Wagú, Ambreimaki, and Weilo villages belong within the same language group, known locally as the 'Aga' language. This language would appear to extend from Wagú upstream well into the Green River P.P. region.

(2) The Waiar group (Siaui village) claim not to have a common language with any other group and do not know their own dialect by any particular name, other than 'ples tok bilong mifela'.

(3) Iwau village also have a monopoly on their own language as it is not shared with any other group.

In both of the last two instances it is a fair probability that isolation in the past, in their forest fortresses has forced these two groups to develop their own language. See Appendix 8 for a brief word list covering the three language groups.

Diet; from all observations made it is probable that people within this census division have one of the most favourable diets of any people within this country. The diet regularly includes, sago, taro, yams, sweet potato, tapiok, bread fruit bananas, pawpaws, pitpit shoots and pandanas, plus lesser quantities of other foraged fruits. The more recently introduced species such as corn, pumpkins, melons, beans and pineapples are also available at times.

Wild game is said to be available in abundance and includes wild fowl, pig, cassowary, duck, pigeons, flying foxes, and walabies; there is no protein deficiency.

It is interesting to note that the introduced fish Talarapia (Nakau) have found their way into some of the lagoons in the area where they are caught for local consumption. Panawei, downstream reported that the fish had not yet made themselves known in their waters but were available in the lagoons several hours paddling downstream towards the mouth of the May River. This would indicate that the fish have a habit of bypassing some of the lagoons which may not be as favourable to their development as others.

The incidence of beetle nut chewing was not so pronounced as in Middle Sepik River villages, this may have been due to a seasonal shortage of the drug or the fact that there is less leisure time in which to sit around idly getting 'stoned'. The teeth of the villagers seemed to be sound and this is possibly one result of having less beetle nut.

(11)

3.

Social, Cont. - ROCKY PEAKS CENSUS DIVISION, 30th August, 1972.  
ROCKY PEAKS Census Division

Clothing; every adult in the river villages has at least one set of European type clothing. At Iwau and to a lesser extent Siaui many of the women attended the patrol in traditional grass skirts and one elderly gentleman in particular paraded proudly in a maroon Windcheater and matching penis gourd. In most instances all the women and many of the men revert to traditional clothing and ornamentation during the course of their normal working day.

European Artifacts; The river villages had sufficient saucepans to meet their immediate needs. Many adults had knives and spoons. Forks were almost unheard of. Plates and cups were a fairly common occurrence though limited to perhaps two or three to each family.

Axes and bush knives are now taken for granted as being an every day necessity, spades less so but between two and eight were available in each village.

Wagu, the most progressive and advanced village in the Census Division, has developed a house design and building technique that is not surpassed anywhere else along the river. The house has a skillion type roof, split wild beetle nut palms are nailed horizontally to the height of the window sill. Above this the remainder of the wall is filled in with woven 'blind' and the windows have flush fitting shutters. Hammers, axes, hand saws, and adzes are utilized in the construction of these houses. The finished result is hard to fault.

The two villages of Siaui and Iwau generally have fewer articles of store origin and although they have boilers and a few saucerpans they are not in sufficient numbers to totally displace the traditional methods of water boiling by immersing red hot stones in water contained in 'limbon' vessels.

Transport and communications are by foot along unformed tracks or by paddle canoe along the water ways. There are no Outboard Motors in the Census Division.

Radios; there were five radios recorded at Wagu, 2 of them with serviceable batteries, while at the other end of the scale no radios were found at Ewau although they had a cassette recorder given by the C.M.M.L. based at Green River. See Appendix C.

(10)

4.

POLITICAL = House of Assembly, 30th August, 1972.  
ROCKY PEAKS Census Division.

It was found that the villages located on the main river system were aware of the presence of the two systems of government that will be involving them more and more. Because the village of Baio has been incorporated in the Green River L.G.C other villages in the vicinity are aware to a certain extent of the functions of councils. At the moment they do not consider that the benefits of being within a council outweigh the difficulties of raising the annual head tax, and no other village has made the move or shown any interest in joining the council. The M.H.A. Upper Sepik Mr. Anskar Karmal has also made two or three trips and many of the villagers are familiar with his name and more vaguely his work.

There is some confusion at the moment as to which electorate they belong as the C/D has been divided by two electorates. The electoral boundaries will have to be amended to include the whole C/D within the Upper Sepik electorate and the rolls made up accordingly. At Ambreimaki Mr. Karmal campaigned vigorously and won potential votes by telling the villagers 'When someone comes to the village and tells you to vote just call my name; Anka, mi laikin Anka'. His efforts were thwarted as it is related that the Presiding Officer from Green River decided they were in another electorate and Anka was not one of their candidates.

Political Education was one of the stronger themes of the patrol. The most basic functions of M.H.A.'s were explained incorporated with topics on National Unity and the need to be aware and take interest in the progress of their country as it strives to achieve a fruitful and rewarding independence.

It was my opinion that the argument for these villages to become involved within the larger framework of a national Government sounded a little hollow after it was brought to my attention the rebuffs and lack of encouragement these groups have received when they have shown interest in establishing the all important 'Business'. This is expounded upon in the situation report and the heading under Economic Development.

Local Government Councils; at the present there is the unusual situation arising from the inclusion of Baio village in the Green River L.G.C. The problem only arises because this is the only village in this C/D which belongs to the council but it is not on the extremities of the C/D border, allowing it to be easily excised. Indications are that the people of Baio village would readily join a council formed for the Ama - Edwaki region as they have already formed the idea that they are dissatisfied with their progress under the Green River L.G.C. and the limitations placed on them because much of their council area is under quarantine restrictions due to being located in the international border area.

Political cont. Page 5.

## Political - Local Government, cont.

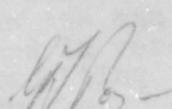
The reaction to the establishment of a council for the Edwaki/Yellow River - Ama/May River area was not unfavourable or strongly critical. However some thought patterns that became apparent indicated a desire by the people not to be subjected to taxation for some time yet.

From Tipas it was suggested that they would not like to join with the May River/Ama groups in council. They claim that the Yellow River massacre of 1956 by the May Rivers has nothing to do with this animosity, but they feel their area with the new road link between Edwaki and the Sepik River (approx 10 miles) has more potential and should not be retarded by a group likely to be a burden to the council.

All villagers indicated a strong desire to establish cash cropping or some other form of industry that will guarantee them a regular and available source of money with which to pay their council tax.

Some villagers it was noted had the notion that the arrival of a council would mean more affluence and a better way of life from its conception. All these 'cargo' type ideas were dispelled during P.E. talks and it was impressed upon the minds of all present that a council could only be as good as its elected members and executive bodies. The whole idea of achieving improvement was through weight of numbers spoken through one voice of authority recognised by both the central government and the local people. The people were advised not to expect achievements from the council that they themselves could not reach given the same means. This statement may seem obvious but it is commonly taken in village circles that the council is the 'Popa bilong ol' and has some supernatural means at its disposal and beyond the grasp of its constituents.

My belief is that this patrol definitely left food for thought for the villagers to digest between now and the next patrol. It is hoped they give the subject a great deal of thought and decide what they hope to achieve from a council so it may be discussed and rationalised before too many castles in the sky are built. Again I stress that there is little hope of ensuring the villagers aims are fulfilled while present agricultural extension policies are strangling development.



G.F. Payne, P.O.  
(Officer in Charge)  
Patrol Post, Ama

ECONOMICAL DEVELOPMENT = ROCKY PEAKS C/D, 30th August, 1972.

Due to the considered isolation of the area no organised development has been initaited or even encouraged.

The present statistics paint a dismal scene on the affluence and financial well being of a group of people who are being considered as being part of an economy sufficiently viable to be able to maintain a high degree of independence with limited outside assistance, in the not too distant future.

There is no cash cropping, even the stands of village coconuts do not meet the demands of local consumption.

Villagers earn limited amounts of money from the crocodile skin industry and artifacts. Both these industries have their difficulties. Crocodile skins are not caught in sufficient numbers to warrant buyers making a special trip to the area, consequently many of the cond skins deteriorate before they have the opportunity to offer them for sale. Similarly with artifacts; mainly fight shields, buyers are few and far between the competition is so limited for the artifacts available that prices offered are relatively low, about \$3.00 as against \$10 to \$12 for similar objects sold in the Pagwi area.

A limited amount of money is bought into the area as indentured labourers return after the completion of their contracts. But again this is minimal as most of their savings are used to purchase articles of clothing, saucepans etc. for the families back home plus a bottle of peroxide and a little red wooden case of unknown attraction. Speaking of these red cases, one house at Siaui had over a dozen of them stacked about. Enquiries showed there was no significance to be attached to the collection, it aspired that the cases were the hallmark of a 'finishtime' and in some instances some of the members had completed three or four contracts.

The future of the area has the potential for being bright. All the essentials for development, with the exception of skilled labour and capital are available in abundance. I propose that the development of this area be considered together with the whole of the Upper Sepik region and by comparison with other areas this could be easily and cheaply achieved. It is a matter of co-ordinating the efforts of all the potential agriculturalists to produce marketable goods in such quantities that would support a river transport system. It is recognised in most parts of the world that there is no cheaper method of transportation once placed. Rice could be produced along the river banks towards the end of the dry season, reaped, cleaned and bagged, stored in vermin proof 'varf' sheds then shipped to Pagwi for frieghting to Bainyik for milling. This idea was discussed with the Councillors from Baio and 'Bifro' in the Green River area, who engaged the patrol with this problem in mind, and they considered the average villager was capable of co-operating to this extent.

Economical Developement, cont.  
Page 7.

(7)

Economical Development, cont.

At Siaui, the villagers in an effort to encourage missions, business or anybody interested in them to settle in the area have cleared a sight for an airstrip and from it removed all large trees and stumps. When they reported to the Government officer he apparently discouraged the idea and the area has been allowed to revert, and is now covered with light secondary growth. The strip was begun on the initiative of the villagers after being inspired by labourers returning from plantations who had witnessed the advantages of having and maintaining an airstrip. For their idea to work a crop with a high value to weight ratio would have to be introduced, due to their isolation there is no other alternative other than offering them land at a more convenient location.

The area has large timber stands throughout. Much of this timber is of the type sought after for milling i.e. Taun and the hardwood, kwila. A large proportion of the timber could easily be cut and floated out to the main water ways at times of high water, made into large log rafts and floated down to the mills at Angoram. This idea though was not discussed or encouraged because of the present glut of logs at Angoram. The proposition is sound under the following conditions;

(1) the demand for timber increases ensuring that the loggers receive a fair price for their labours and they are not held up in Angoram awaiting payment or a clearing for their logs.

(2) the miller provide an outboard motor serveral miles upstream from Angoram to steer in the timber rafts so they do not over shoot the mills.

(3) the miller provide transport for the loggers to return to their home area.

Another industry that could be investigated and possibly be developed is the production of Cinnamon. There are native Cinnamon trees scattered throughout the bush and their pleasant fragrance gives lift to flagging efforts during arduous walks through the jungle.

There are no expatriate or non indigenous holdings in the area which may give incentive or an example for the local population to follow.

At Edwaki in the South Wapi C/D Mr. P Ace of the C.M.M.L. is endeavouring to establish suitable crops in his locale by trial and error, his successes to date are being hindered by lack of co-operation and acknowledgement from D.A.S.F., who do not wish to extend their fields of operations to cover this area in detail.

The most necessary and acceptable aids that can be given to the population of the Rocky Peaks C/D would be well trained and practicable agricultural extension officers, plus the progressive development of a river transport system.

*G. F. Payne, P.O.  
(Officer in Charge)  
Patrol Post, AMA.*

(6)

HEALTH - ROCKY PEAKS CENSUS DIVISION, 30th August, 1970.

Cutwardly the general health of the area appears to be sound. Except for the extended stoaches in the under sevens there were no signs of malnutrition. The physiques of all adult males were well developed and a lesser incidence of the common skin diseases was evident, possibly because of a well balanced diet with sufficient protein available.

No statistics are available to show percentage deaths and infant mortality rate as the census conducted was treated as an initial census as no previous census books were to hand. Investigation indicated that infant mortality is high, at Ewau village alarmingly so, the ratio of children to adults gives further evidence of this trend. Some women of the village were in their 5th and 6th pregnancies and were still childless. It is estimated that there are 3.5 fatalities for every child reared to the age of 7. There appeared no obvious reasons for the needlessly high death rate in this village as the survivors appeared quite healthy and robust. Hygiene although not beyond criticism was practised.

*G.F. Payne*  
G.F. Payne, P.O.  
(Officer in Charge)  
Patrol Post, AMA.

LAW AND ORDER

ROCKY PEAKS CENSUS DIVISION, 30th August, 1972.

9.

(5)

There were no serious reported outbreaks of lawlessness reported to the patrol, and overall the area enjoys a degree of peacefulness not found in other C/D within the Ama administrative area.

There was one case of bad debt (or exploitation) brought to the attention of the patrol. The victims actually from Baio village not included within this C/D, claim to have made six canoes for a local entrepreneur from Angriman village in the Angoram Sub-District and to date (after three years) no payment has been made, he has also taken custody of the area's only outboard motor. This incident will be followed up under separate cover to the Assistant District Commissioner, Angoram.

No volatile land disputes were recorded by the patrol.

  
G.F. Payne, P.O.  
(Officer in Charge)  
Patrol Post, A.M.A.

Education, Page 10.

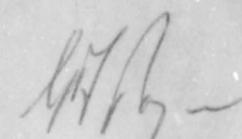
(4)

EDUCATION - ROCKY PEAKS CENSUS DIVISION, 30th August, 1972.

There are no schools as approved by the District Education Board in this C/D

A 'Buk Biel' school has been situated at Tagu village and a mission trained villager takes classes in the scriptures and he has also taught a degree of literacy in the Neo-Melanesian language. There are two children from Ambreimaki attending this school also. There appears a great reluctance for the parents to send their daughters to this school. If the school classroom is any indication of the villagers enthusiasm for education it is to be admired; the classroom is a lesson to all in native materials architecture.

No applications were made to the patrol or concern shown for the establishment of new schools, possible because of the villagers lack of awareness as to the benefits derived from such a move.



G.F. Payne, P.O.  
(Officer in Charge)  
Patrol Post, AMA.

APPENDIX 'A'

(3)

SHOTGUNS - as located in the Rocky Peaks C/D and recorded in  
the Shotgun Reister at Ama Patrol Post.

TOTAL NUMBER - 5.

Village	Name	Make	Ser. No.	Expiry Date.
Wagu	Senyei Mornabi	Winchester	C198584	16/11/73
Wagu	Ai'a Sami	Vanguard	30533	15/1/73
Ambreimaki	Narudo Yemia	Winchester	C225445	20/12/72
Weilo	Opai Mahango	Winchester	65225	13/1/73
Beimap	Inyano Wobowi	Vanguard	30505	12/2/73

NOTE: These registrations will have been previously recorded  
in the Green River P.P. register (4) and the Edwaki (Yellow River)  
Base Camp register (1).

(2)

APPENDIX 'B'.

The following is tabled the numbering of servicable radios conditional upon them having batteries, that were located in the Rockt Peaks Census Division.

VILLAGE	No. Radios
AMBREIMAKI	2
BEIMAP	Nil
IWAU *	Nil
SIAUI	2
WAGU	5
WEILO	1

\* In possession of a Mission distributed Tape recorder.

APPENDIX 'C'.

A short word list covering the three languages isolated in the Rocky Islands C/D.

	SIAUI	IWAU	AGA Language
Greeting (Good day)	Sibarai	mi dat abali	Aisaga
Hungry	bipami	nauwor	Sabugli'ai
Food	behai	denauna	Ai
Man	Diou	nau	Uru
Meri	Aero	wa	Sau
Young Child	Lukwano	alitaii	Nei
To fight	Bor Buka		au winoi
Bow	Kwikitani		Ambo
Arrow (spear)	Lamo		Yagi
Night	Pinkami	bimo	Aranu
Day	Naer	biabau	Aiio
Coconut (tree)	Weti		Su
Coconut (mature nut)	Nenit		riior
Coconut (green nut)	kau		kabor

TOA 69-8-33  
H.G.

## PATROL REPORT

Report number:	4 of 72/73	Objects of patrol:	Familiarisation, General Administration.
District:	EAST SEPIK	Station:	AMA
Patrol conducted by:	G.F. PAYNE	Subdistrict:	AMBUNTI
Area patrolled:	SEPIK/MAY C/D & WANTAP/MAY C/D	Designation:	PATROL OFFICER
Duration of patrol:	26/9/72 to 1/10/72	Personnel accompanying:	O.MO. SUI
Last D.D.A. patrol:	February, 1972	Number of days:	6
Last O.L.G. patrol:	N/A	Total population of area:	860 & 691
Map reference:	AMBUNTI Fourmil	Council area:	Non
		House of Assembly Electorate:	Upper Sepik

The District Commissioner,  
**East Sepik** District,  
**WEWAK**.

In respect of this patrol, I attach

- Field Officers Journal Folios To , (✓)
- Patrol Instructions, ( )
- The Report and my comments, (✓)
- Area study, ( )
- Updating of area study, ( )
- Situation Reports No's 1-2 , (✓)
- Patrol map, ( )

DATE: / 19

*[Signature]*  
Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, Papua New Guinea.

In respect of this patrol, I attach

- Area study, ( )
- Updating of area study, ( )
- Situation Report No's. 1-2 (✓)
- ( )
- ( )

District Headquarters assessment of  
Patrol & Report

Above average

Average

Below average

*[Signature]*  
District Commissioner

Date: 3/10/1973

JAW:RW

P.O. Box 2396  
KONEDOBU

67-8-33

15th January, 1973

The District Commissioner  
East Sepik District  
P.O. Box 72  
WEWAK

AMA PATROL NO. 4 - 1972/73.

Reference your minute of the 3/3/73 (sic).

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Reports 1 and 2 arising out of the above patrol of part of the Sepik/May and Waniap/May Census Divisions, together with the appropriate assessments, as submitted by Mr. G.F. Payne, Patrol Officer.

I concur with your remarks on Sitrep No. 2. Our role at AMA at the present time is to provide basic services and develop the new Patrol Post. Patrolling will continue.

The completion of the airstrip will be a boost to this area where communications have always been a problem in the past. I will be interested to receive further progress reports on the construction of this Station; perhaps in future reports Mr. Payne could give specific mention of this.

S.J. PHARRELL  
a/Secretary

Ama Patrol No. 4/1972-73 - PATROL REPORT NO. 1

Area Patrolled - Sepik May C.D. and Janiap May C.D.

Patrolling Officer - G. F. Payne - P.O.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

General

---

No comments warranted.

Assistant District Commissioner

For rendering of services information and assistance  
from local officials is appreciated.

GENERAL

The Ama Patrol No. 4/1972-73 was conducted from the 1st to the 10th of April 1973. The purpose of the patrol was to assist the local government in their efforts to improve the welfare of the people.

The patrol was conducted by the Assistant District Commissioner, Mr. L. W. Bragge, and his staff.

The patrol was conducted in the following areas: Sepik May C.D., Janiap May C.D., and surrounding areas. The patrol was conducted in cooperation with the local government and the local population.

The patrol was conducted to assist the local government in their efforts to improve the welfare of the people.

The patrol was conducted to assist the local government in their efforts to improve the welfare of the people.



L. W. BRAGGE,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

**PATROL REPORT No. 4 of 72/73**

Station.....	<b>AMA</b>	Officer Compiling.....	<b>G.F. PAYNE.</b>
District.....	<b>EAST SEPIK</b>	Subdistrict.....	<b>AMBUNTI</b>
Census Division.....	<b>SEPIK/MAY, WANIAPI/MAY</b>	L.G. Council.....	<b>Non.</b>

(For recording of routine information not of a situation report nature, actionable at Subdistrict or District level, and of value to succeeding officers. No copy is required at Headquarters.)

(For further pages, use foolscap blanks.)

Govt. Print.—1792/40,000.—5.72.

GENERAL.

1. The aim of this patrol was;
  - (i) To visit villages in the Sepik/May Census Division, to explain to the people the reasons behind the Administration's move to Ama from the May River Patrol Post, and attempt to convince them it was not against the best interests of the area.
  - (ii) To supervise the commencement of work on the clearing of obstructions from the Waniap creek to give better river access to the new station, AMA P.P.
  - (iii) To familiarise myself with the area and carry out routine administration as demanded.
2. The patrol to the Sepik/May C/D was a straightforward administrative patrol. The patrol was conveyed in a dugout canoe powered by a 33hp outboard motor. The route taken was from 'May River' downstream following the May River to its confluence with the Sepik River; travelling time 2hrs 10 mins. Temombui village is situated about 200 yards upstream on the Sepik River. Mowi village is about 1 hr. downstream while Iniok village is a further hour downstream, 10 minutes past the location where the Freida river meets the Sepik river.
3. The villages visited were generally unkempt of appearance. Grass was not trimmed, toilets neglected and houses run down. It would appear on the surface that the village officials were not carrying out their tasks, possibly because of too little contact with the patrol officer who may only visit these villages twice a year.
4. There were no matters of particular interest brought to the attention of the patrol. It is not intended to elaborate on any other matters other than those ( para 1. (i) and (ii)) brought to attention in Situation Report Nos. 1 and 2.

*GFP*  
G.F. PAYNE  
(Officer in Charge)

2nd November, 1972.

## PATROL REPORT

Report number: 5 of 1972/73

District: East Sepik

Patrol conducted by: Mr. G.F. Payne P.O.

Area patrolled: Waniap-May Census

Duration of patrol: Six days

Last D.D.A. patrol: 3 of 1971/72

Last O.L.G. patrol: Nil

Map reference: Fourmil Ambunti

Objects of patrol: Annual Census Revision, Up-dating Area Study, Political Education  
Station: Ama P.P.

Subdistrict: Ambunti

Designation: Patrol Officer

Personnel accompanying: D.L. Stevens A.P.Q. (reporting Officer), Const. 2030 Pote & Patterson 2924.

Total population of area: 691

Council area: Non-council area  
House of Assembly Electorate: Upper Sepik

The District Commissioner,  
East Sepik District,  
WEWAK

DEPARTMENT  
OF THE  
ADMINISTRATOR  
DISTRICT  
OFFICE

29 DEC 1972

- In respect of this patrol, I attach  
 Field Officers Journal Folios To  ( X )  
 Patrol Instructions,  ( X )  
 The Report and my comments,  ( X )  
 Area study,  ( )  
 Updating of area study,  ( )  
 Situation Reports No's 1—,  ( )  
 Patrol map,  ( )

DATE: / 19

*L.W. Bragge*  
Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, Papua New Guinea.

- In respect of this patrol, I attach  
 Area study,  ( )  
 Updating of area study,  ( )  
 Situation Report No's. 1—  ( )  
 ( )  
 ( )

District Headquarters assessment of  
Patrol & Report

Above average

Average

Below average

*bk hen*  
District Commissioner

Date: 3 / 3 / 1973

JAW:MKG

67-8-34

P.O. Box 2396  
KONEDOBU

15th January, 1973.

The District Commissioner  
East Sepik District  
P.O. Box 72  
WEWAK

AMA PATROL NO. 5 OF 1972/73.

Reference your Minute of the 3rd March, 1973 (sic).

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of notification of the above patrol of the Wanlap-May Census Division, together with the appropriate comments, as submitted by Mr. D.L. Stevens, Assistant Patrol Officer.

Copies of the Patrol Report section are not required and I am returning those forwarded. The comments on this Report by the Assistant District Commissioner, Ambunti have been noted.

I presume that the Area Study mentioned is that which is contained in the report on Ama Patrol 6A-72/73.

S.J. PEARSALL  
a/Secretary

b3167-8-34

(9)

Division of District Administration,  
Sub District Office,  
AMBUNTI.

67-1-13

67-1-13

14th December 1972

*R*  
The District Commissioner,  
East Sepik District,  
WEWAK.

COMMENTS - AMA PATROL REPORT NO. 5/1972-73 - D.L. STEVENS, A.P.O.

The contents of this report is straight ~~forward~~. The information provided is very superficial and of little use to any one.

Mr. Stevens could have filled in his time on this patrol more productively.

*S U C*  
L. W. BRAGGE,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

*S U C*  
S.C. Mr. D.L. Stevens,  
Assistant Patrol Officer,  
AMA

Refer to my 67-1 of 24th July 1972 - which you were sent a personal copy - this report should have been typed on quarto paper not foolscap.

Your report serves only to fill a gap in the files, and it reads as if you showed as much interest in the people as they did in your political education talks - i.e. very little.

Your job is to learn and expand your powers of investigation, observation and reporting. You should have attended yourself a little by undertaking a an investigation in depth into land tenure and inheritance, or bridge Price or a detailed assessment as to why your political education didn't strike home and how this could be rectified.

I expect better material in your next report.

L. W. BRAGGE,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

District Office,  
WEWAK.

2nd January 1973.

→ The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
KONEDOBU

A.P.O. Mr. Stevens accompanied the patrol for experience. His report is merely an exercise and is forwarded for your records.

*B.K. Leek*  
B.K. LEEK  
District Commissioner



(8)

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Telegrams  
Telephone 67-1-13  
Our Reference.....  
If calling ask for  
Mr.....

Division of District Administration,  
Sub District Office,

AMBUNTI.

In Reply  
Please Quote

No. 67-1-13

14th December 1972

The District Commissioner,  
East Sepik District,  
Wewak.

CONTENTS - AMA PATROL REPORT No. 5/1972-73 - D.L.STEVENS, A.P.O.

The contents of this report is straight forward. The information provided is very superficial and of little use to any one.

Mr. Stevens could have filled in his time on this patrol more productively.

*L.W.Bragg*  
L. W. BRAGGE,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

c.c. Mr. D.L.Stevens,  
Assistant Patrol Officer,  
AMA

## PATROL REPORT

Report number: No. 6 of 72/73

District: EAST SEPIK

Patrol conducted by: G.F. PAYNE

Area patrolled: ARAI & SEPIK/MAY C/D Designation:

Duration of patrol: 47th Nov to 27th Nov

Last D.D.A. patrol: AUGUST, 1972

Last O.L.G. patrol: N/A

Map reference:

Objects of patrol:

Station:

Subdistrict:

Routine Administration,

Sixour recruitment.

AMA P.P.

AMBUNTI

DISTRICT  
OFFICE

PATROL OFFICER

2 Member WEWAK T.N.C.C.

10 EAST SEPIK DISTRICT

649 + 860

Number of days:

Total population of areas:

Council area: NON

House of Assembly Electorate: UPPER SEPIK

The District Commissioner,

EAST SEPIK District,

WEWAK.

29 DEC 1972

WEWAK  
EAST SEPIK  
DISTRICT

DEPARTMENT  
OF THE  
ADMINISTRATOR  
SUB-DISTRICT  
OFFICE

15 DEC 1972

AMBUNTI  
EAST SEPIK  
DISTRICT

In respect of this patrol, I attach

Field Officers Journal Folios 65 to 67

Patrol Instructions,

The Report and my comments,

Area study,

Updating of area study,

Situation Reports No's 1—

Patrol map,

( )

(✓)

( )

( )

( )

( )

*Malay*  
Assistant District Commissioner

DATE: / 19

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, Papua New Guinea.

In respect of this patrol, I attach

Area study,

( )

Updating of area study,

( )

Situation Report No's. 1—

( )

( )

( )

District Headquarters assessment of

Above average

Patrol & Report.....

Average

Below average

*BK han S*  
District Commissioner

De 3, 3/1973

JAW:MKKG

and Total

67-S-35

P.O. Box 2396  
KONEDOBU

15th January, 1973.

The District Commissioner  
East Sepik District  
P.O. Box 72  
WEWAK

AMA PATROL NO. 6 OF 1972/73.

Reference your Minute of the 2nd January, 1973.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of notification of the above patrol of the Aral and Sepik May Census Divisions, together with the appropriate comments as submitted by Mr. G.F. Payne, Patrol Officer.

S.J. PEARSALL  
a/Secretary



B0067-8-35

(5)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Telegrams  
Telephone 67-1-13  
Our Reference.....  
If calling ask for  
Mr.....

Division of District Administration,  
Sub District Office,  
AMBUNTI.

In Reply  
Please Quote  
No. 67-1-13

18th December 1972.



The District Commissioner,  
East Sepik District,  
Wewak.

AMA PATROL No. 6/1972-73 - ARAI AND SEPIK MAY C.D.

This report covers the commencement of an annual census and area study patrol. The patrol will be conducted and reported upon in full by Mr. D. L. Stevens.

The present report is brief and requires no comment.

Ama was visited by the Assistant District Commissioner on 12 - 14th December and the work on the airstrip was observed to be progressing well under the labour of 150 Ama Administrative Area men.

This Patrol has been re-numbered from 5 to 6 (Patrol No. 5 was to the Waniap May C.D. 14/10 to 22/10). The Patrol Report has also been re-numbered from 5 to 1.

*lllus*  
L. M. BRAGGE,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

District Office,  
WEWAK

2nd January 1973.

c.c. Officer In Charge,  
Patrol Post,  
AMA.

→ The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
KONEDOBU

Two copies of this report are forwarded for your records,  
*B.K. LEEN*  
B.K. LEEN  
A/District Commissioner

## PATROL REPORT

Report number: **5<sup>A</sup> of 72/73**  
 District: **EAST SEPIK**  
 Patrol conducted by: **G.F. RAYNE**  
 Area patrolled: **WANIAP/MAY C/D**  
 Duration of patrol: **14/10 to 22/10**  
 Last D.D.A. patrol: **February, 1972**  
 Last O.L.G. patrol: **N/A**  
 Map reference: **FOURMIL AMBUNTI**  
 Objects of patrol:  
 Station:  
 Subdistrict:  
 Designation:  
 Personnel accompanying:  
 Number of days:  
 Total population of area:  
 Council area:  
 House of Assembly Electorate:

**Census revision, update  
Area Study.**

**AMA**

**AMBUNTI**

**PATROL OFFICER**

**D.L. STEVENS, A.P.O.  
2 R.P.N.G.C.**

**8**

**691**

**Non.**

**3 DEC 1972**

The District Commissioner,  
**East Sepik** District,  
**WEWAK.**

DEPARTMENT  
OF THE  
ADMINISTRATOR  
DISTRICT  
OFFICE

WEWAK  
EAST SEPIC  
DISTRICT

In respect of this patrol, I attach

- |                               |    |   |
|-------------------------------|----|---|
| Field Officers Journal Folios | To | ( <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ) |
| Patrol Instructions,          |    | ( <input type="checkbox"/> )            |
| The Report and my comments,   |    | ( <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ) |
| Area study,                   |    | ( <input type="checkbox"/> )            |
| Updating of area study,       |    | ( <input type="checkbox"/> )            |
| Situation Reports No's 1—     |    | ( <input type="checkbox"/> )            |
| Patrol map,                   |    | ( <input type="checkbox"/> )            |

DATE: / 19

*R. K. H.*  
Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, Papua New Guinea.

*Mr. Guy Baker*

- In respect of this patrol, I attach
- |                           |   |
|---------------------------|---|
| Area study,               | ( <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ) |
| Updating of area study,   | ( <input type="checkbox"/> )            |
| Situation Report No's. 1— | ( <input type="checkbox"/> )            |
|                           | ( <input type="checkbox"/> )            |
|                           | ( <input type="checkbox"/> )            |

District Headquarters assessment of  
Patrol & Report

Above average

Average

Below average

*B. K. H.*  
District Commissioner

Date: 3/13/1973

POPULATION

Date of Census	Village	TOTALS (Excluding Absentees)				ABSENTEES (Resident outside Electorate)				Grand Total	
		CHILD (Under 15 yrs)		ADULT		CHILD (Under 15 yrs)		ADULT			
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
18/10/72	AGRAME	18	13	32	15	-	-	-	-	78	
16/10/72	AMA(Kauvia)	28	19	32	28	-	-	2	-	109	
16/10/72	BOROPA	6	7	11	7	-	-	1	-	32	
18/10/72	IENEWE	18	10	24	17	-	-	3	-	72	
19/10/72	UWAU	11	14	28	20	-	-	6	-	79	
19/10/72	TIGI	15	17	13	17	-	-	13	1	76	
21/10/72	WANIAP	30	26	28	36	-	-	18	-	138	
16/10/72	WOBORU	29	18	29	28	-	-	3	-	107	
		155	124	197	168	-	-	46	1	691	

JAW:RW

P.O. Box 2396  
K.G. EDOBU  
67-8-36

16th January, 1973

The District Commissioner  
East Sepik District  
P.O. Box 72  
WEWAK

AMA PATROL NO.6A of 1972/73

Reference your 67-1-15 of the 2nd January, 1973.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of notification of the above patrol of the WANIAF-MAY Census Division, together with the appropriate comments, and also the Area Study amendments as submitted by Mr. G.F. Payne, Patrol Officer.

Mr. Payne has now successfully completed the Law Section of the Advanced Patrol Officers Course and can now be recommended for appointment as a Local Court Magistrate - refer my P.1695 of 17th July, 1972, (your file P.33). A proforma of the recommendation required is attached.

The Area Study is most descriptive of this underdeveloped area... As I have mentioned in a comment on a previous report, our main effort at AMA is to be the provision of basic services and then consolidation of these. Has the representative of the Forestry Department made an assessment of the timber potential in this area?

S.J. PEARSALL  
a/Secretary

00067-8-36

(22)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

District Office, P.O. Box 72,  
WEWAK.

Telegrams  
Telephone  
Our Reference.....  
If calling ask for  
Mr.....

In Reply  
Please Quote

No. 67-1-15

2nd January 1973.

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
P.O. Box 2396,  
KONEDOBU.

AMA PATROL NO. 6/72-73

Forwarded herewith please find two copies of the above report including an area study of the rather backward WANIAP- May Census Division.

No situation report has been submitted by Mr. Payne. However, some of the material in the patrol report is situation report material and I forward the whole report for your information.

... *chasing*  
Mr. Payne is ~~chasing~~ under the policy restriction on economic development of the area, but the picture he presents justifies these restrictions for the present. When there is a genuine and spontaneous movement from the people the policy may be reviewed.

*B.K. Leen*  
B.K. LEEN  
A/District Commissioner.

c.c. Asst. District Commissioner,  
Sub-District Office,  
AMBUNTI (2)

67-1-13

Division of District Administration,  
Sub District Office,  
AMBUNTI.

67-1-13

(21)

13th December 1972

Officer In Charge,  
Patrol Post,  
AMA

AMA PATROL No. 5/1972-73

All five copies are returned for your signature please; and  
the submission of a Situation Report form with 'Nothing of  
Situation Report significance observed' written upon it.

It seems unusual that there was nothing of significance  
observed.

Refer my 67-1 of 24th July which requested that all reports be  
typed on quarto paper. Please comply in future.

L. W. BRAGGE,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

c.c. District Commissioner,  
East Sepik District,  
Wewak.

This report should reach your desk shortly.

L. W. BRAGGE,  
Assistant District Commissioner

Ama Patrol No. 5/1972-73

Area Patrolled - Waniap May C.D. - Patrolling Officer - G.F. Payne P.O.  
ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Patrol Report No. 1 - General

(18)

The patrol Report has been re-numbered from 5 (the number of the patrol) to 1.

Re para 7, 150 men were at work during my station inspection on 14th December 1972, so the people are again responding to requests for labour.

  
L. W. BRAGGE,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

## PATROL REPORT No. 5

Station..... AMA Officer Compiling..... G.F. PAYNE, P.O.  
 District..... EAST SEPIK Subdistrict..... AMBUNTI  
 Census Division..... WANIAP/MAY L.G. Council..... NON

(For recording of routine information not of a situation report nature, actionable at Subdistrict or District level, and of value to succeeding officers. No copy is required at Headquarters.)

(For further pages, use foolscap blanks.)

Govt. Print.—1792/40,000.—5.72.

### GENERAL.

1. The Waniap/May Census Division, in which the new Ama Patrol Post has now been established contains some of the most unsophisticated and depressing type of people in the Ama/May river area. With closer contact and more business transactions with the Administration at Ama this should rapidly change. Some of the more nomadic beings on the outer extremities of the C/D (i.e. peoples from Agrame, Tigi, Uwau, and Ienewe) it may take more than gentle persuasion, to effect a change, if the job is to be completed in a short period of time and within the present limitations.

2. The area is woven with a network of roads (actually walking tracks), mainly in poor condition and partly through unpleasant swamplands. These tracks link the main hamlets with all the interconnected bush houses and are used frequently by the local population to guide them in nomadic life. Under pressure from previous Officers rest houses have been built, but the type of dwelling erected does not have much chance of surviving more than three years, and the majority of the rest houses now need replacement, and the Village Officials have been advised accordingly.

3. In all instances the Rest House sites are seldom used except during visits by Patrolling Officers; then the local population gathers until after the patrol leaves the area and then they disperse back to their own particular favoured foraging location. News of the patrol's visit should be carried to the hamlets by runners at least one week prior to the patrols arrival. In the past there have been numerous persons noted as 'absent in bush' with the excuse they had not heard of the patrols intentions.

4. The travelling times, with carriers were found to be as follows;

AM	to	IENEWE	-	3hrs
IENEWE	to	AGRAME	-	1 hr 50 mins
AGRAME	to	UWAU	-	40 mins} very poor
AGRAME	to	TIGI	-	2 hr 30 mins} swamp track
IENEWE	to	BOROPA	-	2 hr 20 mins)
BOROPA	to	ENIAP*	-	1 hr
ENIAP	to	WANIAP+	-	1 hr 10mins
				...../2

2.

4. Cont.

\* Eniap is the Administration outboard motor depot located at the acceptable limit of navigation on the Waniap Creek.

+ The time taken to account is commuting by powered canoe. All the other times are walking times.

5. Carriers were recruited from Ama village (Woboru and Kauvia hamlets). These carriers were engaged for the whole patrol and proved satisfactory. The patrolling was very easy with no hills of any note encountered. The new rates for carriers should also assist with recruitment for future patrols as it is a welcomed reward for the work done, in this area.

#### POLITICAL

6. The area is still managed under the Village Official system, each village being represented either by a Tultul or Luluai, but with the exception of Waniap they do not have the population to consider the appointment of two officials to each village. The present system could be improved. At the moment V/O's have very limited authority at village level and are afraid of repercussions from disidents should they try to enforce their decisions by engaging police assistance. Gradually further education will overcome this reluctance to seek help.

7. When the Administration first moved into this C/D to establish the patrol Post the villagers showed their enthusiasm for the move by offering to work for the Administration. In the beginning about 70 local village men lined up, this gradually dwindled until the previous O.I.C. had difficulty in obtaining the necessary numbers of labourers. When I arrived and called for labourers the response was again good, but again the effort could not be sustained and there is now a nucleus of 12 men who can be relied upon when there is work to be done. This indicates that the people had hoped that for working for the Administration they hoped for miraculous advancement, they did not realise that a lot of effort would be required for little overall gain. Villagers are happy with the presence of the Administration at Ama but have difficulty demonstrating their state of mind because of the problems associated with attempting to reorganise their village way of life to coincide with the more ordered way of life expected on the station.

8. The idea of forming a Local Government Council was not encouraged. No questions on the subject were raised by the villagers. There were no indications they are anti council. They would accept a council and at least experiment with it in the off chance it had something to offer them.

\*\*\*\*\*/3

3.

9. The Central Government, meaning the institution known as the House of Assembly, is all part of a vague list of new terms oft repeated by the 'Kiap' and his interpreter when on patrol, and the meaning always escapes as though wafted away in the haze between here and Port Moresby. The main problem in explaining the system of government stems from the fact that it is difficult for the villagers to accumulate enough of the facts of government to be able to correlate them at any one given time and so get some insight into the order of government. Government at the moment means a lot of unrelated departments working to assist? or attempt change on these people. They do not feel they are part of the system and fail to see how their own member can possibly fit into the jumble. A series of well illustrated flip charts may be of assistance in getting some of the message across.

10. Political education is a continuing process and at the present rate of knowledge absorption in this area it would need to be. It will be some time and many frustrating 'talks' later before the majority of these people have a working knowledge of politics.

#### ECONOMIC.

11. Under present Administration policy the only economic expansion that will be introduced to the area will have to come from those individuals so inclined to make the effort, and with enough self motivation that they will be able to carry on through thick and thin without any encouragement from official sources.

12. As at 31st October, 1972 there were no economic cash crops planted. Coconut trees appear in some villages but at present do not supply immediate needs of local consumption. There is no occupation netting any one person a return greater than \$50 per annum with the exception of two persons from the area employed as interpreter/labourers.

13. The main source of revenue to the area is money being bought back from coastal plantations where it has been earned by labouring. Recruitment has dropped in the area, at the time of the census 16% of the adult male population was recorded as being absent labourers out of district(electorate).

14. There is a very limited trade in the sale of crocodile skins and artifacts. To illustrate the limit I quote the following example; I requested to see a selection of arrows and on offering to buy them, on behalf of the 'J.K.McCarthy Branch Museum' at Goroko I was informed they could not be parted as they were dependant on the arrows for fresh meat.

...../4.

(14)

4.

SOCIAL

Health;

15. Generally health is improving and slowly villagers are becoming more medically minded and are accepting that the Aid Post can assist them overcome there ailments. There are still exceptions and one man lined with the remnants of his family one child in need of treatment for yaws; last year he had four children, he claimed the other three had died, the cause not determined.

16. There are no clubs or social organisations and no indications that the people would patronise these if they were introduced. No evidence of sport was noticed but it is hoped to have a volley/basket ball court built at the Administration station at Ama.

17. Housing is very tempoary and mostly unhygienic, pigs do not improve the situation and warnings of the health hazards of these uncontrolled animals, were left.

LAW AND ORDER.

18. I believe the enforcement of Law and Order is being neglected because the Administration fails to post to the area persons with magisterial powers. Many cases worthy of court processing are dealt with in other manners because of difficulties experienced in getting defendants to a magistrate. The type of cases dealt with in this manner are child neglect, disobeying lawful instructions of a Village Official and failure to attend a census.

19. A list of offenders had been compiled and I had in mind to send in two police members to round them up for court action at Ama. However discussions with the two police revealed that they were not prepared to venture into the area unaccompanied. They claimed they had heard of threats being made against them. I feel they were over-reacting, but the matter will be further investigated before further action is taken.

MISCELLANEOUS

20. The three villages of Agrame, Uwau and Tigi were dispairingly difficult to census. There was impossible confusion because of the similarity in names and also the fact that the people did not know their own names any way. For istance one man lined who had exactly the same name as his wife and common to his father as well. Had I not have noted comments from of previous officers in the village book and had entered the census unprepared a different story may have been told today. The census book was by necessity recompiled for Agrame village.

G.F. Payne,  
(Officer in Charge)

71-10-47 1972

Ama Patrol No. 5/1972-73

(13)

Area Patrolled - Waniap May C.D. --Patrolling Officer - G.F.Payne P.O.

ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

Area Study - Revision.

District: RAPA BEFOR      Subdistrict:

Annual Inviting Meeting Report Sub. Committee:

No comments required.

Annual Inviting Meeting Report Sub. Committee:

3. DRAFTED - INTERPRETATION AND TENDENCIES

*May* Assistant District Commissioner Registers as incorporated in  
the L. W. BRAGGE, has completed and attached.

Assistant District Commissioner tendency to practise uniformization and discipline. He states that they do not have permanent sets which may only possibly exceed such causes located as regular services throughout the year and conveniently situated to the places of incorporation which are the main source of sustenance for the people. There is no previous contract with particular individuals to establish certain bases around the district areas and for the conduct of patrolling operations, the bases have been mainly left deserted without visits by government patrols.

The many objectives previously accomplished laboratories except on coastal plantations have now returned. There are now 45.8% of the total population under labourers.

4. The Lower Morangai District and its partly because this area is situated in the hills and slopes and has a certain number of dates and villages and therefore it took the aid of patrols required to combat illiteracy that eventually leads to death of the children.

5. The current population for the Coast Division now stands at 651 an increase of 23 in 3 years from 1969 showing an increase of 4.5%.

(12)

AREA STUDY.

Station: AMA Officer Compiling: G.F. PAYNE  
District: EAST SEPIK Subdistrict: AMBUNTI  
Census Division: Wamiap/May L.G. Council: Non

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A. Introduction; refer Area Study, May River Patrol No.1 of 1970/71.

B. POPULATION - DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS.

1. The village Population Registers as incorporated in the Patrol Jacket are completed and attached.

2. The population has a strong tendency to practise shifting cultivation and foraging. This dictates that they do not build permanent settlements but rely on hastily erected bush houses located at regular intervals throughout the area and conveniently situated to the pockets of sago palms which are the main source of sustenance for the people. Pressure from previous contact with patrols has caused the nomadic groups to establish centres based around the Rest Houses erected for the comfort of patrolling personnel, but these 'villages' are mainly left deserted between visits by Government patrols.

3. Many absentees previously accounted as labourers absent on coastal plantations have now returned. There are now 15.8% of the adult male population absent as labourers.

4. The Infant Mortality rate remains high, partly because the primitive villagers maintain the belief and accept the fact that a certain amount of deaths are unavoidable and therefore do not seek the aid of modern medicines to combat illnesses that eventually lead to the death of the child.

5. The total population for the Census Division now stands at 691 an increase of 23 on last years figures showing an increase of 3.3%.

(11)

AREA STUDY - Social Groupings.

Station: AMA

Officer Compiling: G.F. PAYNE

District: EAST SEPIK

Subdistrict: AMBUNTI

Census Division: WANIAP/MAY

L.G. Council: NON

C. SOCIAL GROUPINGS.

1. Refer Area Study, May River Patrol Report No.1 of 1970/71.

2. There now appears to be a lesser degree of friction between the different factions. I expect this is because of the buffering effect of the Administration Patrol Post now situated within the Census Division.

3. The land boundary between Waniap village and the Borcpa Kauvia groups may come into dispute at a latter date. This is reasoned by the fact that enquiries have not been able to establish a clear border agreed to by both sides. At present the situation does not give cause for concern.

G.F. PAYNE,  
(Patrol Officer)  
30th October, 1972.

(10)

AREA STUDY = Leadership.

Station: AMA Officer Compiling: G.F. PAYNE  
District: EAST SEPIK Subdistrict: AMBUNTI  
Census Division: WANTAP/MAY L.G.Council: NON

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D. LEADERSHIP.

1. Refer Area Study, May River Patrol Report No. 1 of 1971/72.

2. Meira Ainau of Woboru aged 31 years is confirmed as Luluai for Woboru hamlet. He is pro Administration, visits the office daily and would be a worthwhile candidate to motivate should cash cropping be encouraged at a latter date.

3. Behai (Nakiam) IMO of Kauvia hamlet aged 47 has now shifted to the land known as Ama and established his camp closer to the station. Contrary to previous reports this man is not crippled and claims never has been. He is one of the more enthusiastic village Officials and his services offered during the course of the establishment of Ama Patrol Post have been undying and he has earned my appreciation of his services.

4. No appointments of village Officials were confirmed at Agrame and Uwau, as these villages, together with Tigi seem incapable of producing anyone with anything like the qualifications sought for in a village official. SITEISA/IMAO and IARI/IMO are acting luluais for the village of Uwau and Agrame respectively. They will be confirmed on the next patrol if they show any potential at all.

5. Generally the standard and effectiveness of the Village Officials is very poor. V/O's are reluctant to take any actions against villagers for failure to obey even the most basic instructions. It is my opinion that these instructions occur on such rare occasions as to have no noticeable effect on village life. It is hoped the capabilities of the V/O's system can be improved with further education, as present indications are that the area will have to live with this system for some time to come.

E. Land Tenure and Use. See May River Patrol Report No.1 of 1970/71. No further comment.

G.F. Payne  
30th October, 1972

(9)

AREA STUDY - Literacy.

Station: AMA Officer Compiling: G.F. PAYNE  
District: East Sepik Subdistrict: AMBUNTI  
Census Division: WANIAP/MAY L.G. Council: NON

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F. LITERACY.

1. At the time of writing this report there are no schools in this Census Division or the Ama Administrative area as a whole.
2. The S.D.A. Mission did commence a pre-school at the Ama settlement but the teacher has since been withdrawn, the reason not known. This matter has been followed up. (my 26-1-3 of 23/10/72 to Mr. D. Landstrom, Ambunti, and copy to S.D.O., Ambunti). It is of some concern to those station personnel with children of school going age that there is no school at which they can send their children to for an education.
3. There is no improvement in the percentage of village literates(00.00%) since the last review as those children absent at the S.D.A. Mission school at Ambunti have yet to return to influence the position. There are eight males absent at Missions schools, all in the lower grades.
4. At present the only pressure to improve the educational facilities comes from within the Administration staff at Ama P.P. No noticeable ambition is held by the local villagers to have their children educated, this is illustrated by the poor attendances at the pre-school while it was operating ( attendances were in the vicinity of 12, all males)

G.F. PAYNE,  
(Patrol Officer)

30th October, 1972.

(48)

AREA STUDY - Standard of Living.

Station: AMA Officer Compiling: G.F. PAYNE  
District EAST SEPIK Subdistrict: AMBUNTI  
Census Division: WANIAPI/MAY L.G.Council: NON

G. STANDARD OF LIVING.

1. Housing standards are poor and the dwellings have many short comings, if they are to be considered as a semi permanent place in which to live. If they are taken to account as rough bush shelters, capable of shedding most of the rain, having a life expectancy of about two years and give evidence that man inhabits the area, the structures may be considered satisfactory.

2. The dwellings are raised of the ground, about three feet. It is interesting to note there were far fewer examples of high raised houses, up to 10 feet, which would indicate the people, even if subconsciously, are accepting the fact that it is no longer necessary to incorporate defensive architecture into their dwellings. The houses are suspended on numerous light sticks, driven into the ground so closely together that the under portion of the house makes an effective pig pen. The walls are filled in with sago stalks and the houses rooved with sago leaves, pinned together with splinters of the outer cover of the sago stalk. The leaves are spread so economically over the roof that day light may enter at numerous locations. The one or two entrances are the only ventilation. Conditions are ideal for the culture and spread of 'T.B' and other disease.

3. There are five shotguns in the C/D. Two of these are held by an Administration employee and a Missionary worker. Waniap village holds two and the remaining shotgun is held by Kauvia hamlet. I would be reluctant to issue any further shotguns in this C/D at present as I am of the opinion that too few people have showed a responsible enough attitude in the past.

4. Trade store clothing and cooking utensils are still popular items to purchase. Many of the villagers still imagine that the patrolling officer likes to gauge their degree of sophistication by the array of European clothing turned out for census. They defeat their purpose however when they indiscretely let penis guards peer out from behind a fold of 'laplay'.

G.F. Payne,  
(Patrol Officer)  
30th October, 1972.

(7)

AREA STUDY - Communications.

Station: AMA Officer Compiling: G.F. PAYNE  
District: EAST SEPIK Subdistrict: AMBUNTI  
Census Division: WANIAP/MAY L.G.Council: NON.

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H. Missions.

I. Non Indigenes - no changes were noted under these two headings. Refer Area Study, May River Patrol Report No. 1 70/71.

J. COMMUNICATIONS.

1. Roads; at present there are only walking tracks in varying degrees of acceptability, from good to discouragingly uncomfortable; over well drained undulating land and through depressing waist deep sago swamp.

2. Efforts are being made at the moment to locate the most practicable route to link Ama P.P. with Panewei on the Sepik River. The road would be approximately 12 miles long and rise over a 1,000 feet ridge. The job is not to be underestimated, labour resources are very limited, but I believe that if the project is accepted by the people it could be accomplished over a number of years.

3. A track to assist in the supply of Ama Station has been churned into existence from the outboard motor depot at Eaiap to Ama. An application for R.D.F. will be made to assist the villagers to have the track corduroyed and formed into a more servicable access. This has become increasingly urgent due to the Administrations tardiness in making funds available to upgrade the existing private airstrip.

4. Rivers; the Waniap creek gives powered canoe access to within three hours walk of the station. Villagers from Waniap are at the moment employed in clearing obstructions from the upper reaches of the creek. This will allow canoes to proceed a further eight creek miles upstream to within 2 miles of the station. This creek is the only naviagable water way in the C/D.

5. An airstrip with present servicable dimensions of 1100' x 120' was begun by the S.D.A. Mission based at Ambunti, under the supervision of Mr. D. Lundstrom. This is located at Ama on a potentially good site.

...../2

(6)

2.

J. Communications, cont. The State of Political Development.

6. Considerable work has been carried out in lengthening and widening the strip, part of it voluntarily by local villagers. There is an extension of 800' x 200' at the N-W end which only requires limited attention in final levelling and consolidation, but good will in the form of voluntary labour has been exhausted and funds will be required to complete the section.

7. At the moment the strip is privately owned by S.D.A. Mission, but I believe moves are afoot to have the land on which it is built transferred back to the Administration.

L. ~~DEPARTMENT OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT~~

1. The Village Officer system still operates through out this D.O. It is unlikely under present conditions that this system will be replaced in the foreseeable future. No propaganda favouring either side of the argument for or against the establishment of a council was given. It was considered that a brief description of the operations of Inait-ova Council Government and the theory of National Unity would be more beneficial to tax the mental capacity of these people.

2. The 'Kamp' as well their government, in that they are aware of their former life, and has succeeded in making the Patrol Officers act like an Agent Law, thus increasing confidence of village people. They have been involved with schools and businesses and a better way of life may have yet to see this demonstrated. They do not play their part in the country's general development so more benefit will soon follow if this continues.

G.F. PAT~~E~~  
(Patrol Officer)  
30th October, 1972.

1. The new government has been established in the D.O. and the people are now working towards their own government. This is a good start to the coated area of land. The labour force participation rate is high and an example of this can be seen in the surrounding areas to other villages. The Inait-ova Council Government is doing what they can for the community. It is necessary however to follow up on certain areas such as the roads and the return of the people.

2. All areas of progress while under the leadership of the village or the community continue to improve.

6

(5)

AREA STUDY - The Stage of Political Development.

Station: AMA Officer Compiling: G.F. PAYNE  
District: EAST SEPIK Subdistrict: AMBUNTI  
Census Division: WANIAP/MAY L.G. Council: NON.

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K. Technical and Clerical Skills - no change refer Area Study, May River Patrol Report No. 1 70/71.

L. THE STAGE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

1. The Village Official system still operates through out this C/D. It is unlikely under present conditions that this system will be replaced in the foreseeable future. No propaganda favouring either side of the argument for or against the establishment of a council was given. It was considered that a brief description of the operations of their own Central Government and the theory of National Unity would be more than sufficient to tax the mental capacity of these groups.

2. The 'Kiap' is still their 'government', although they are aware of their former M.H.A. and his successor. They realise the Patrol Officer attempts to keep law and order and some semblance of village hygiene. They have been told their M.H.A. with schools and businesses and a better way of life, but they have yet to see this demonstrated. They do not appreciate that their part in the country's general development will have to be more meaningful than vacant wanderings in the bush.

3. Illustrations of the National Flag were displayed and comments sought. No opinions, either critical or favourable were offered and general non committed acceptance was the order of the day.

4. There are no persons who have been on official committees or who have any other acquired working knowledge of government systems. Excursions taken to coastal areas of P.N.G. to labour on the plantations are not taken as an exercise to find new ideas to be transplanted back to their village way of life on their return. Observations revealed that few of the concepts of living in neat tidy surroundings following an organised pattern of living, learnt while absent working on plantations are kindled in their own village on their return.

5. All forms of progress, while left to the initiative of the villagers of the area, will continue to remain painfully slow and disheartening.

*G F. Payne*  
G F. PAYNE  
(Officer in Charge)  
30th October, 1972.

(4)

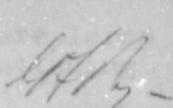
AREA STUDY - The Economy of the Area

Station: AMA Officer Compiling: G.F. PAYNE  
District: EAST SEPIK subdistrict: AMBUNTI  
Census Division: WANIAP/MAY L.G. Council: NON

---

M. THE ECONOMY OF THE AREA.

1. Little advancement has been made and no Administration assistance is envisaged to relieve present short comings. The only motivation available must come from the people and is therefore not impressive. A little encouragement may be given by Government Officers while on patrol in half hearted efforts of frustration, to help the people help themselves in an area not considered viable.
2. The main exploitation is that of human bodies. This area is still one of the more popular recruiting grounds for plantation labourers when in demand. In the past rewards have been miserly but recent increases in labour pay rates will be passed on and more money may find its way back to the area in the future.
3. There are no economic trees or crops planted, and no trade in crocodile skins.
4. The income per capita head is estimated to be less than \$1.00 in past years. This will increase now that the Administration has moved a patrol post into the area. Money will be earned carrying cargo, supplying native materials, and fresh foods and labouring on station projects, e.g. the airstrip when funds become available.
5. There are no trade stores in the area, hence little incentive for the people to work for money, as they would sooner have the material objects that can be purchased rather than the money in savings.
6. I believe, should the Administration introduce a re-settlement scheme with an Assistant Rural Development Officer to supervise plantings of cash crops and introduce new food crops it would receive moderate response from some individuals who now believe the Administration has neglected the development of their area too long already.

  
G.F. PAYNE,  
(Patrol Officer)  
30th October, 1972.

(3)

AREA STUDY - Possibilities of Expanding the Economy.

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Station: AMA Officer Compiling: G.F. PAYNE  
District: EAST SEPIK Subdistrict: AMBUNTI  
Census Division: WANTAP/MAY L.G. Council: NON

---

N. POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING THE ECONOMY.

1. Not taking into consideration the limitations of the transport services, the area has unlimited potential for development in cash cropping, within the capabilities of the available work force.

2. Indications are that the soil is sufficiently fertile to establish cash crops immediately after virgin forest is cleared. Fertility reduces rapidly through leaching so advantage must be taken of this period of high fertility to successfully establish the cash crop.

3. The two main limitations to expanding the economy are one, the poor transport system and two, the apathy of the villagers to work. The former could be overcome by human endeavour, however this is closely related to the second factor making it difficult to break the circle by the people's own volition.

4. It is my contention that those few who have indicated they would like to attempt cash cropping should not be totally penalised because of the location in which they happen to have land usage rights. A private agreement, which should be consolidated and formalised, has been made between those persons who have desired to commence cash cropping and land owners in the near station area. This enables those persons to take up land near the station and to concentrate agriculturalists who show by their action they are worthy of consideration by D.A.S.F. patrols. A further benefit of the arrangement is that an increase in the population in the vicinity of the station will mean more food will be grown and labour will also be available to supplement the present meagre supply.

5. If a decision is made to develop the area there are several openings for consideration;  
(1) Development of the timber industry; there are large tracts of millable timber, much of it hardwood, including kwila now in short supply in many areas.

(2)

Area Study - Population, Services and

2.

N. Possibility of Expanding the Economy. Cont,

5.

(2) Development of the Cinnamon industry. There are numerous wild cinnamon trees in the area. The local inhabitants realise the properties of the bark of this tree and eat it as a supplement to their betel nut.

(3) Research the potential for the cultivation of some of the more attractive spices. Two which would possibly be suited are pepper and vanilla.

6. I personally realise that development in this area has many problems but I cannot agree that the best way to tackle them is not to tackle them. There is no challenge sitting in the middle of the bush trying to coax the inhabitants out of their hapless past if there is nothing to offer them in return.

7. Accommodation can be offered to dependants of the natives by the Officer in Charge. The Officer in Charge's residence is of native materials, has none of modern facilities but is sufficient to give protection from the elements. Whether no other accommodation is available, in this area.

8. Road communications in the village are non-existent excepting very poor paths being used.

9. There are no routes to service the area and the nearest starting facilities are at Arouca approximately 190 miles down stream.

There is no fire department or police force capable of dealing with any emergency arising in the area.

G.F. Payne  
(Patrol Officer)  
31st October, 1972.

(1)

AREA STUDY - Accommodation, Services and Facilities.

Station : AMA Compiling Officer: G.F. PAYNE  
District: EAST SEPIK Subdistrict: AMBUNTI  
Census Division: WANIAP/May L.G. Council: NON.

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6. Attitude towards Local Government; unchanged. Refer Area Study May River Patrol Report No. 1 of 71/71.

P. Attitude towards Central Government; unchanged. Refer Area Study, May River Patrol Report No. 1 of 70/71.

Q. ACCOMMODATION SERVICES AND FACILITIES.

1. All matters under this heading are very basic, very poor or non existant.

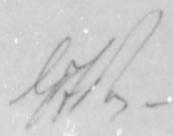
2. Accommodation can be offered to departmental representatives by the Officer in Charge. The Officer in Charge's residence is of native materials, has none of the usual amenities but is sufficient to give protection from the elements of weather. No other accommodation is available, in the area.

3. Rest houses constructed in the villages are without exception very poor (this is being rectified).

4. There are no stores to service the area and the nearest shopping facilities are at Ambunti approximately 198 river miles down stream.

5. There is an Aid Post manned by S.D.A. Mission workers capable of dealing with many of the lesser ailments.

6. A partly completed airstrip allows the administration to organise charters into the strip to resupply the station. At present aircraft loading is limited due to the length of the strip and lengthening of the strip would give a lower freight rate per pound of loading.

  
G.F. PAYNE,  
(Patrol Officer)  
1st November, 1972.

## PATROL REPORT

H.Q.

Report number: 7 of 1972/73

District: East Sepik

Patrol conducted by: David L. Stevens

Area patrolled: Sepik May Census Division

Duration of patrol: 4.12.72 to 17.12.72

Last D.D.A. patrol: November, 1972.

Last O.L.G. patrol: 1/4/72

Map reference: Fourenti Ambunti

Objects of patrol: Annual Census and Area

Study Revision

Station: A.M.A. Patrol Post

Subdistrict: Ambunti

Designation: Assistant Patrol Officer

Personnel accompanying: Const. 2924 Patterson,

Const. 2030 Rote, and O.M.C. Sui

Number of days: 14 days

Total population of area: 8977

Council area: Non-Council Area

House of Assembly Electorate: Ambunti-Yangoru

The District Commissioner, DISTRICT OFFICE

East Sepik District, PAPUA NEW GUINEA

REMARKS

In respect of this patrol, I attach

Field Officers Journal Folios 18 to 19

Patrol Instructions

The Report and my comments

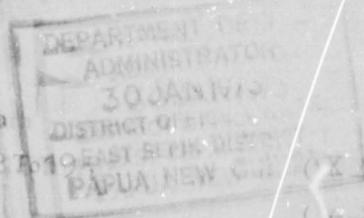
Area study

Updating of area study

Situation Reports No's 1—

Patrol map

Appendices



DATE: 27/12/1973

L.W. Brassey  
Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDCBU, Papua New Guinea.

In respect of this patrol, I attach

Area study

Updating of area study

Situation Report No's. 1—

District Headquarters assessment of

Patrol & Report

Above-average

Average

Below-average

Date: 27/12/1973

B.K. Hunt  
District Commissioner

## POPULATION

Date of Census	Village	TOTALS (Excluding Absentees)				ABSENTEES (Resident outside Electorate)				Grand Total	
		CHILD (Under 15 yrs)		ADULT		CHILD (Under 15 yrs)		ADULT			
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
9.12.72	**AUOM	9	6	29	27	--	--	--	--	71	
6.12.72	IEMOMBUT	32	32	35	45	--	--	-6	--	150	
8.12.72	INICK	41	45	67	82	--	1	22	1	259	
7.12.72	MOWI	58	33	50	70	--	--	24	--	235	
5.12.72	PANEWA	28	20	28	25	--	--	7	--	108	
10.12.72	PAUPE	8	7	36	23	--	--	--	--	74	
										897	

\*\* Note: All the figures for Auom are identical with last year's figures. There have been no births, no migrations, and there are still no persons resident outside the district.

JWK:SU

P.O. Box 2396  
KOMEDOBU  
67-8-50

12th February, 1973

The District Commissioner  
East Sepik strict  
P.O. Box 72  
WEWAK

PATROL NO. 7 of 1972/73.

Reference you 67-1-15 of 30th January, 1973.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of the amended Area Study arising out of the above patrol of the SEPIK MAY Census Division, as submitted by Mr. D.L. Stevens, Assistant Patrol Officer.

Your comment in respect of the improvement in Mr. Steven's reporting techniques has been noted.

The amendments to the Area Study require no specific comments.

C.G. LITTLER  
a/Secretary



604 67-8-50

(11)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

District Office, P.O. Box 72,  
WEWAK

Telegrams  
Telephone  
Our Reference.....  
If calling ask for  
Mr.....

In Reply  
Please Quote

No. 67-1-15

30th January 1973.



The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
P.O. Box 2396,  
KONEDOBU.

AMA PATROL NO. 7/72-3

... Forwarded herewith please find two patrol report covers and the updating of area studies of the above report submitted by A.P.O., Mr. D.L. Stevens of Ama. Mr. Stevens also submitted four situation reports, but it is considered that the contents would have been of no interest to your Headquarters.

Mr. Stoven's report is a great improvement on his last effort and contains material which is interesting and useful.

*B.K. Leen*  
B.K. LEEN  
A/District Commissioner

c.c. Asst. District Commissioner,  
AMBUNTI (2 copies)

17th January 1973

(10)

2 AREA STUDY

Station: AMA P.P. Officer Compiling: D.L. STEVENS.

District: EAST SEPIK. Sub-District: AMBUNTI.

Census Division: SEPIK L.G. Council: NON-COUNCIL AREA.  
MAY

Ama Patrol No. 7 of 1972/73

A. Introduction: Refer May River Patrol Report No. 3 of 1970/71.

B. POPULATION--DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS

1. The Village Population Registers as incorporated in the Patrol Jacket are completed and attached.

2. Refer May River Patrol Report No. 3 of 1970/71.

C. SOCIAL GROUPINGS: Refer May River Patrol Report No. 3 of 1970/71.

D. LEADERSHIP

1. This census division is typical of the Ama administrative area in that no individuals exert influence over an extended area. The various village officials appointed hold influence only in their own villages, but their authority is certainly not dominant.

2. List of Village Officials:

Village	Name of Official	Details
Auom	Nuguram/Naunim	Tultul, aged 40 years, married, with 2 children.
Iemombui	Inia/Masio	Luluai, aged 44 years, with 2 wives and 3 children.
	Nami/Megwai	Tultul, aged 40 years, with 3 wives and 2 children.
Inick	Habino/Wansu	Tultul, aged 44 years, with 3 wives and 4 children.
*Mowi	Nadmai/Nugram	Luluai, aged 44 years, married, with 3 children.
	Naramau/Nabrin	Tultul, aged 42 years, with 2 wives and 6 children.
Panewai	Pinia/Worikiau	Luluai, aged 37 years, widower with 2 children.
Paupe	Solwan/Yabine	Luluai, aged 32 years, married, with 1 child.

\* The luluai of Mowi does not exercise his authority, and the tultul appears to rule the village single-handed.

3. Refer also May River Patrol Report No. 3 of 1970/71.

David L. Stevens  
19th January, 1973

9

AREA STUDY--Literacy

Ama Patrol No. 7 of 1972/73

Station: AMA P.P. Officer Compiling: D.L. Stevens  
District: East Sepik Sub-District: Ambunti  
Census Division: Sepik May L.G. Council: Non-council area.

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E. Land Tenure and Use: Refer May River Patrol Report No. 3 of 1970/71.

F. LITERACY

1. The Census Division has no recognized schools, but there are small village (pidgin) schools at Mowi and Auom villages, set up by the Assemblies of God Mission. The two teachers (Mowi and Auom) schools have not received secular education beyond Standard Six, and the schools provide only a very basic training, but could be helpful in preparing a child for schooling at Ambunti or elsewhere. Most Mowi children attend the school even if some only attend spasmodically.

2. An S.D.A. (Seventh Day Adventist) mission school has just been constructed at Iemombui, but has not yet commenced lessons. It is envisaged that Standard 1 only will be taught next year, and the children could then go on to the school at Pekwe Village (Central May C.D.) which caters for Standard 2 as well, or to the recognized school at Ambunti.

3. Two missionaries from Christian Missions in Many Lands (C.M.M.L.) visit Panewai village from Yellow River once a month to conduct a pidgin school for adults and children. They do not spend more than one full day at Panewai, and that is the limit of 'formal' education at that village, since no person from there is attending or has attended other schools.

4. The only children attending recognized schools outside the census division are: some from Inick at Oum 1 Catholic Mission School and 5 from Mowi at the A.O.G. school, Hayfield. Some from Iemombui, Inick and Mowi have undertaken some primary schooling outside the census division, and have since returned to their villages.

5. There would be about 20 people in the census division who could be classed as semi-literate/literate. All villages in the area own radio receivers, although many of these are out of use due to lack of batteries. During the patrol, it was noted that each village owned at least one serviceable radio with which to hear Radio Wewak programmes. The main part of Panewai village, however, is without a radio, the only serviceable radio being at Imoli, a hamlet of Panewai.

*David L. Stevens*  
David L. Stevens A.P.O.  
3rd January, 1973

(8)

AREA STUDY--Missions  
Ama Patrol No. 7 of 1972/73

Station: AMA Officer Compiling: D.L. Stevens  
District: East Sepik Sub-District: Ambunti,  
Census Division: Wauap L.G. Council: Non-council area.  
Sepik May.

---

G. Standard of Living: Refer May River Patrol Report  
No. 3 of 1970/71.

H. MISSIONS

1. Mission presence in the area is limited mainly to indigenous teachers/missionaries who have had only primary schooling. Occasional visits are made by the Assemblies of God mission houseboat to the Sepik River villages and Auom. Teachers are positioned at Auom (A.O.G.), Lemombui (Seventh Day Adventist), Iniock (Catholic Mission), and Mowu (A.O.G.)--The total number of teacher/missionaries is four. The A.O.G. Mission also sends two indigenous workers to Lemombui for 3 months of each year.

2.

2. The S.D.A. Infant Welfare Clinic houseboat makes frequent visits to the Sepik River villages and Auom only.

3. Relations between the people and the missions, and between the various missions appear satisfactory. Generally, the people are only materially interested in the missions. However, Auom villagers expressed dissatisfaction that their teacher was changed so frequently, and wish to have a more permanent one, and Paupe villagers have expressed the wish that a mission send a full-time worker to their village.

I. Non-Indigenes: Refer May River Patrol Report No. 2 of 1971/72.

*David L. Stevens*

David L. Stevens  
Assistant Patrol Officer.  
3rd January, 1973.

(7)

AREA STUDY

Ama Patrol No. 57 of 1972/73.  
CeSepik May Census Division.

J.

COMMUNICATIONS

1. Roads

No vehicular roads exist in the area. The terrain is inhospitable to road construction. In most cases, lack of economic development would probably not make road construction feasible, and the only place where road construction is at present being considered is between Ama in the Waniap May C.D. and the Sepik River in the vicinity of Panewai village.

2. Sea

The occasional Government workboat about once every two or three months as far as May River's former patrol post and the occasional ship transporting fuel to Freida River provide the only communication with sea transport. The workboats carry cargo off-loaded at Ambunti by ships from Madang or Wewak, or cargo delivered to Pagwi by road vehicles from Wewak.

3. Air

There are no airstrips in the census division, but there is one commercially recognized strip 12 miles from Paupe in the Telefomin Sub-District, and one at Ama Patrol Post in the Waniap May C.D., about 10 miles from Panewai. Ama has a fortnightly charter and the strip near Paupe has flights as required by Carpentaria Explorations Company.

*David L Stevens*

David L. Stevens A.P.O.

19th January, 1973.

(b)

AREA STUDY

Ama Patrol No. 7 of 1972/73

Sepik May Census Division

**K.** TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL SKILLS.

No change. Refer May River Patrol Report No. 3  
of 1970/71.

*David L Stevens*  
David L. Stevens A.P.O.  
19th January, 1973.

(5)

AREA STUDY

Ama Patrol No. 7 of 1972/73

Sepik May Census Division

L. THE STAGE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

No change. Refer May River Patrol No. 3 of 1970/71.

*David L Stevens*  
David L. Stevens A.P.O.  
19th January, 1973.

(4)

AREA STUDY

Ama Patrol No. 7 of 1972/73

Sepik May Census Division

M. THE ECONOMY OF THE AREA

1. There are no cash crops in the census division. Wage earnings for the area come from two sources:

- i. 60 men are absent working on New Britain plantations, and at the end of their two-year period they each receive an average payment of \$80.00. This would mean that some \$4800 could be brought into the area every two years.
- ii. The 7 men employed by Carpentaria Explorations Company earn \$15.00 per month, which represents approximately \$1260.00 per year.

2. A small amount of income is earned from the sale of crocodile skins and artefacts, but this would not exceed \$500 per year. Hire of outboard motors from Inick village could amount to more than \$1000 per year.

3. From foregoing information, it is calculated that an average per capita income figure would be about \$5.70. This is not evenly realistic throughout the census division.

4. The people of the area hold 27 Commonwealth Savings Bank passbooks, with balances totalling \$499.97.

5. There are no outstanding entrepreneurs in the census division.

*David L Stevens*  
David L. Stevens A.P.C.  
19th January, 1973.

AREA STUDY

Ama Patrol No. 7 of 1972/73

Sepik May Census Division

N.

POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING THE ECONOMY

No change. Refer May River Patrol Report No. 3  
of 1970/71.

*David L Stevens*  
David L. Stevens A.P.O.  
19th January, 1973.

(2)

AREA STUDY

Ama Patrol No. 7 of 1972/73

Sepik May Census Division

o. ATTITUDE TOWARDS LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND CENTRAL  
GOVERNMENT

No change. Refer May River Patrol Report No. 3  
of 1970/71.

*David L Stevens*  
David L. Stevens A.F.C.  
19th January, 1973.

(1)

AREA STUDY

Ama Patrol No. 7 of 1972/73

Sepik May Census Division

P. ACCOMMODATION SERVICES AND FACILITIES

1. Each village possesses two rest houses, which were generally in acceptable condition. Auom village only was instructed to erect new rest houses, because the former ones were dilapidated.

2. Mowi Village, and Obri--the hamlet of Iniock village beside Mcbil Freida--each possess 2 serviceable outboard motors. For a part of the patrol an almost new Johnson 20 HP motor was hired from a man of Obri, and this proved to be quite satisfactory.

*David L Stevens*  
David L. Stevens A.P.O.  
19th January, 1973.

DPA 67.8.81  
**PATROL REPORT**

**H/Q**

Report number: **AMA 8 of 1972/73**

District: **EAST SEPIK**

Patrol conducted by: **DAVID L. STEVENS**

Area patrolled: **CENTRAL MARY C.D.**

Duration of patrol: **3.1.73--15.1.73**

Duration of patrol: **Feb/Mar '72**

Last D.D.A. patrol: **No. 4 of 1971/72**

Last O.L.G. patrol: **N/A**

Map reference: **Fourmil Ambunti**

Objects of patrol: **AREA STUDY & CENSUS REVISION**

Station: **AMA P.P.**

Subdistrict: **AMBUNTI**

Designation: **ASSISTANT PATROL OFFICER**

Personnel accompanying: **2 R.F.N.G.C.**

Number of days: **13 days**

Total population of area: **1014**

Council area: **Noh-council area**

House of Assembly Electorate: **Upper Sepik Open**

DEPARTMENT  
OF THE  
ADMINISTRATOR  
SUB DISTRICT  
OFFICE

**19 FEB 1973**

AMBUNTI  
EAST SEPIK  
DISTRICT

()

()

()

()

()

()

()

()

()

Assistant District Commissioner  
**L.W. BRAGG**

*Area Study Area*

DATE: / 19

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, Papua New Guinea.

In respect of this patrol, I attach

Area study, ()

Updating of area study, ()

Situation Report No's. 1— 2, ()

*Retinal Maps* ()

Appendices A to C, ()

District Headquarters assessment of

Patrol & Report, Above average

Average

Below average

Date: / /19

District Commissioner

**E.G. Hicks**

POPULATION

Date of Census	Village	TOTALS (Excluding Absentees)				ABSENTEES (Resident outside Electorate)				Grand Total	
		CHILD (Under 15 yrs)		ADULT		CHILD (Under 15 yrs)		ADULT			
		M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
<u>IWAM GROUP</u>											
4.1.73	ABATASU ✓	21	23	15	15	--	--	2	--	76	
5.1.73	AUMI ✓	18	15	23	30	--	--	3	--	89	
7.1.73	AUNI ✓	9	14	10	15	--	--	10	--	58	
6.1.73	IABREM ✓	8	10	15	12	--	--	8	--	53	
13.1.73	IBU ✓	18	12	24	23	--	--	9	--	86	
5.1.73	PAINU ✓	21	19	19	20	--	--	16	--	95	
4.1.73	PEKWE ✓	22	25	26	24	--	--	1	--	98	
4.1.73	WANAMOI ✓	17	13	13	21	--	--	6	--	70	
13.1.73	WANTUM ✓	18	23	38	51	--	--	26	--	156	
<u>OWINIGA GROUP</u>											
10.1.73	AMU ✓	14	11	15	12	--	--	--	--	52	
10.1.73	INAGRI ✓	18	17	23	21	--	--	--	1	80	
6.1.73	SAUO ✓	21	6	14	16	--	--	1	--	58	
12.1.73	YEI ✓	13	6	11	11	--	--	2	--	43	
		218	194	246	271	--	--	84	4	1014	

The District Commissioner  
East Sepik District  
P.O.Box 72  
WEWAK

12th July, 1973  
67-8-81  
R.G.Orwin  
a/DDC

AMA PATROL NO. 8/1972-73.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Reports 1 and 2 arising out of the above patrol of CENTRAL MAY Census Division, together with the appropriate assessments and also the Area Study amendments, as submitted by Mr. D.L.Stevens, Assistant Patrol Officer.

I note that local action has been taken on the matter raised in Situation Report No.1.

Field Officers' Journals and Patrol Reports are not required by this Headquarters. Same are returned for your records.

W.P.Ryan  
W.P.RYAN  
a/Secretary



DEPARTMENT OF THE ADMINISTRATOR

Division of District Administration,  
Sub District Office,

AMBUNTI.

Telegrams  
Telephone ..... 67-1-13  
Our Reference .....  
If calling ask for  
Mr. ....

In Reply  
Please Quote  
No. 67-1-13

20th March 1973

The District Commissioner,  
East Sepik District,  
Wewak.

AMA PATROL No. 8/1972-73 - Patrolling Officer D.L.STEVENS, A.P.O.

\*\*\* Attached please find the above mentioned Patrol Report in respect of the Central May Census Division. Also camping allowance claim and patrol map, due to the shortage of mapping equipment at Ama sun printed maps have been used.

My comments are:

Patrol Report No. 1

Para 26 - Separate correspondence has been sent to the District Health Officer requesting the posting of a second Medical Orderly to the Ama area, particularly to accompany patrols.

Para 21 - Economic Development and D.A.S.F. patrols are not to eventuate in this area. Resettlement without economic development is not worth the effort. As previously stated Ama seems destined to see little more from the Administration than the establishment and then the maintenance of Law and Order.

Para 28 - An interesting side issue of New Tribes entry into Ama is that the S.D.A. think it is a direct reaction to the S.D.A. Mission moving into a New Tribes area where N.T. opened the air-strip. At Ama the S.D.A. opened the strip and now New Tribes is moving in. No matter what the reasoning, it is expected that the usual problems of a second religious order entering the area, will soon be felt at Ama.

Para 32 - A Patrol left Ambunti on 27th February to investigate the Mowi/Tauri dispute as unrest has been increasing over recent weeks at both Mowi and Tauri.

Area Study

This is an informative document and adequately updates the Area Study. My only criticism of it is that it reports much of the detail already reported in the original area study No. 2/70-71 May River. A shorter Area Study Revision could have said as much.

*L. W. Bragge*  
L. W. BRAGGE,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

c.c. Officer In Charge, Patrol Post, AMA  
Mr. D. L. Stevens, A.P.O., AMA

604 67-8-52  
119

## PATROL REPORT

Report number: 9/1972-73 Objects of patrol: Murder Investigation  
District: East Sepik Station: Ama  
Patrol conducted by: P.J.Walshe - A.D.O. Subdistrict: Ambunti  
Area patrolled: Sepik May (part) Designation: Assistant District Officer  
Duration of patrol: 5/1/73 - 6/1/73 Personnel accompanying: 1 member R.P.&N.G.C.  
Last D.D.A. patrol: November 1972 Number of days: one  
Last O.L.G. patrol: not applicable Total population of area: whole C.D. 860  
Map reference: Council area: Non Council  
House of Assembly Electorate: Upper Sepik

The District Commissioner,

East Sepik District,  
Wewak.

In respect of this patrol, I attach

- |   |       |
|---|-------|
| Field Officers Journal Folios 13 To - , | ( X ) |
| Patrol Instructions,                    | ( - ) |
| The Report and my comments,             | ( X ) |
| Area study,                             | ( - ) |
| Updating of area study,                 | ( - ) |
| Situation Reports No's 1— only          | ( X ) |
| Patrol map,                             | ( - ) |

DATE: 5 / 2 19 73

  
L.W. BRAGGE  
Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, Papua New Guinea.

In respect of this patrol, I attach

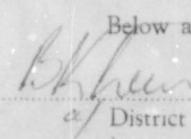
- |                           |       |
|---------------------------|-------|
| Area study,               | ( )   |
| Updating of area study,   | ( )   |
| Situation Report No's. 1— | ( ✓ ) |
| .....                     | ( )   |
| .....                     | ( )   |

District Headquarters assessment of  
Patrol & Report

Above average

Average

Below average

  
K. W. Bragge  
District Commissioner

Date: 8/2/1973



Total  
P.O. Box 2396  
KONEDOBU.

67-8-52

Mr. Kent

3rd April, 1973

The District Commissioner,  
District Office,  
P.O. Box 72,  
WEWAK.

AMA PATROL NO.9 - 1972/73

Reference your minute of 8th February, 1973.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Report  
1 arising out of the above patrol of the Sepik May Census  
Division, together with the appropriate assessments as  
submitted by Mr. P. J. WALSHE, Assistant District Officer.

The subject matter is one for inclusion in a Patrol Report  
rather than a Situation Report.

Mr. Walsh is to be commended for a good p'iece of field  
work.

W. P. Ryan  
a/Secretary

Am 67-8-53  
HQ

## PATROL REPORT

Report number: **10-72/73**

District: **East Sepik**

Patrol conducted by: **P.J. WALSHE**

Area patrolled: **ABEI MAY (Part)**

Duration of patrol: **22/1-28/1/73**

Last D.D.A. patrol: **March, 1972**

Last O.L.G. patrol: **NIL**

Map reference:

Investigation of alleged  
Objects of patrol: **murder - FIYARIMIN area**

Station: **AMA**

Subdistrict: **AMBUNTI**

Designation: **ADO**

Personnel accompanying: **3 members RPNGC**

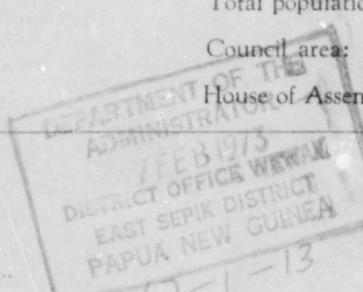
Number of days: **7**

Total population of area: **356**

Council area: **Non Council**

House of Assembly Electorate: **UPPER SEPIK**

The District Commissioner,  
**East Sepik** District,  
**WEWAK**



In respect of this patrol, I attach

Field Officers Journal Folios **14 To 16**,

Patrol Instructions,

The Report and my comments,

Area study,

Updating of area study,

Situation Reports No's **1-3**,

Patrol map,

DATE: **6/2/1973.**

  
Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
**KONEDOBU**, Papua New Guinea.

In respect of this patrol, I attach

Area study,

Updating of area study,

Situation Report No's. **1-3**

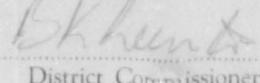
District Headquarters assessment of  
Patrol & Report.

Above average

Average

Below average

Date: **8/2/1973**

  
District Commissioner

Total

P.O. Box 2396  
KONEDOBU.

67-8-53

Mr. Kent

3rd April, 1973

The District Commissioner,  
District Office,  
P.O. Box 72,  
WEWAK.

AMA PATROL NO.10 - 1972/73

Reference your minute of 8th February, 1973.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Reports 1 to 3 arising out of the above patrol of part of the ABEI MAY Census Division, together with the appropriate assessments submitted by Mr. P. J. WALSHE, Assistant District Officer.

The Situation Reports give a good indication of the conditions prevailing in the area patrolled. Mr. Walshe continues to carry out good field work. It is hoped that the joint AMA/YAPSIEI patrols will be successful in contacting the elusive FIYARIMIN.

W. P. R.  
W. P. Ryan  
a/Secretary

67-1-15 HQ  
DD.C. 67-8-67

PATROL REPORT

Report Number: 11-72/73

Objects of Patrol: Feasibility survey of MAKAT Waterway.

District: East Sepik

Station: AMA Patrol Post

Patrol Conducted by: P.J. WALSHE ADO

SubDistrict: AMBUNTI

Area Patrolled: WANIAP MAY C/D (part)

Designation: ADO

Duration of Patrol: 4/3-7/3/73

Personnel Accompanying: 1 member RPNGC

Last DDA Patrol: October, 1972

Number of Days: 4 days

Last OLG Patrol: N/A

Total Population of Area: 691

Map Reference:

Council Area: Non Council

House of Assembly Electorate: UPPER SEPIK

---

The District Commissioner,  
EAST SEPIK District,  
WEWAK.

In respect of this patrol I attach:

- |                               |    |       |
|-------------------------------|----|-------|
| Field Officers Journal Folios | to | ( x ) |
| Patrol Instructions           |    | ( )   |
| The Report and my Comments    |    | ( )   |
| Area Study                    |    | ( )   |
| Updating of Area Study        |    | ( )   |
| Situation Reports No's 1 -    |    | ( x ) |
| Patrol Map                    |    | ( x ) |

Dated: // 1973

.....  
Assistant District Commissioner

---

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, Papua New Guinea.

In respect of this patrol I attach,

Area Study, ( )

Updating of Area Study ( )

Situation Reports No's 1 - ( v )

District Headquarters assessment of  
Patrol & report

Above Average  
Average  
Below Average

Dated 26/3/73

.....  
District Commissioner

The District Commissioner  
East Sepik District  
P.O. Box 72  
WEWAK

21st June, 1973  
67-8-57  
T.J. Downes  
District Officer

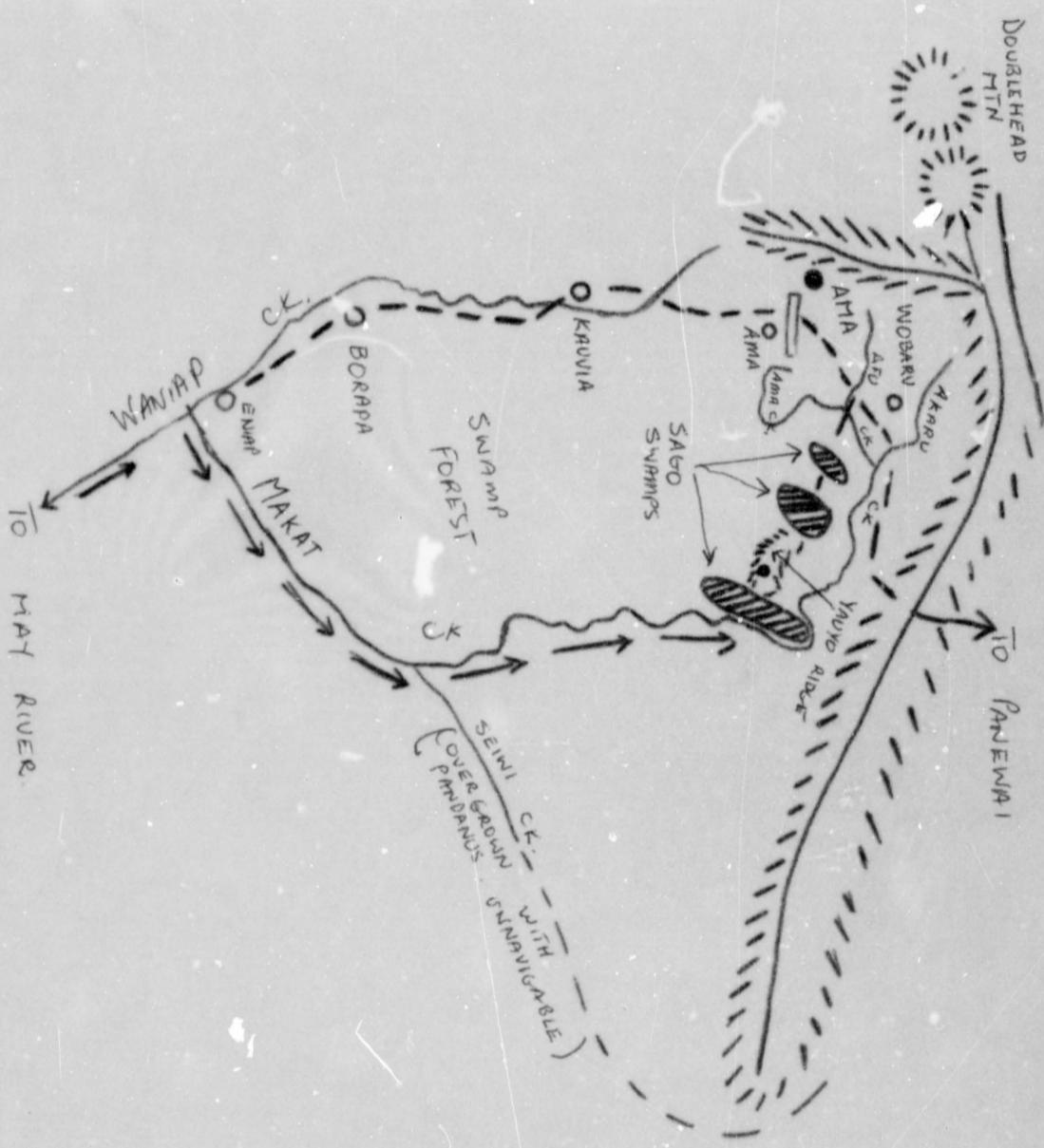
AMA PATROL NO. 11 OF 1972/73

Reference your Minute of 26th March, 1973.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Report 1 arising out of the above patrol of part Waniep May Census Division, together with the appropriate assessments and attachments (maps) as submitted by Mr. P.J. Walshe, Assistant District Officer.

The Situation Report is of a routine nature and requires no further comment.

W.P. RYAN  
a/Secretary



D.D.A. 67.8.83 67.1.12

HQ

PATROL REPORT

Report No. 12 of 1972/73

District: East Sepik

Patrol conducted by: David L.  
Stevens

Area patrolled; part Sepik May  
<sup>Wingay</sup> Census Division

Duration of Patrol: 15.2.73 to  
2.3.73; 15.3.73 to 24.3.73

Last D.D.A. Patrol: 9 of 72/73

Last OLG Patrol: N/A

Fourmil Ambunti

Objects of Patrol: FEASIBILITY SURVEY

==Proposed AMA-PANEWAI Road.

Station: AMA P.P.

Subdistrict: AMBUNTI

Designation: ASSISTANT PATROL OFFICER

Personnel accompanying: 1 R.P.N.G.C.

Number of days: 26 days

Total population of Whole C.D.s: 697 (5-4)

Council area: Non-council area 691 (W.M.)

House of Assembly Electorate:

Upper Sepik Open

District Commissioner,  
East Sepik District,  
WEWAK.

In respect of this patrol, I attach

Field Officers Journal Folios 24--27, & 29--30 (x)

Patrol Instructions, (x)

The Report and my comments, (x)

Area Study, ( )

Updating of area study, ( )

Situation Report No's: 1 (x)

Patrol map, (x)

..... ( )

..... ( )

DATE: 16/5/1973

L.W. BRAGGE  
Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Department of the Chief Minister &  
Development Administration,  
MENEDOB. Papua New Guinea

In respect of this patrol, I attach

Area study, ( )

Updating of area study ( )

Situation Report No's 1-- ( )

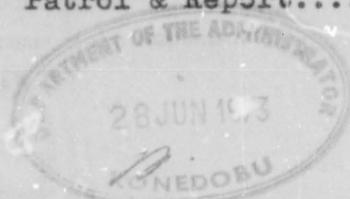
..... ( )

District Headquarters assessment of  
Patrol & Report..... Above average

Average

Below average

..... District Commissioner



The District Commissioner  
East Sepik District  
P.O. Box 72  
WENAK

12th September, 1973  
67-8-83  
R.G. Orwin  
a/D.D.C.

AMA PATROL NO. 12 - 1972/73

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Patrol Report Jacket and documentation arising out of the above patrol of SEPIK MAY and WANIAF MAY Census Divisions, as submitted by Mr. D.L. STEVENS, Assistant Patrol Officer.

I regret the delay in acknowledging this Report.

W.P. RYAN  
a/Secretary

## SITUATION REPORT No. 1

Station **AMA** Officer Compiling **David L. STEVENS A.P.O.**

District **EAST SEPIK** Subdistrict **AMBUNTI**

Census Division **SEPIK MAY (Part)** L.G. Council **Non-council area,**  
**WANIAP May (Part)**

(For the reporting of information specifically of Headquarters value and requiring Headquarters knowledge or actions. Information is required on matters of political significance, important trends in the economic and social structure, cult and unrest situations, law and order problems, and miscellaneous matters that Headquarters *needs to know*. One report will be complied for each specific topic. Each to be submitted to Headquarters in duplicate.)

(Use Reverse side if necessary)

Govt. Print.—1792/40,000.—5.72.

Subject: **Nothing to Report.**

**No Situation Report submitted.**

Sgd: *David L Stevens*  
**David L. Stevens**  
Assistant Patrol Officer.

Date: **1st May, 1973.**

(10)

**SITUATION REPORT No. 1**

(Ama Patrol No. 12/1972-73)

Station..... Ama Officer Compiling..... D.L. Stevens - A.P.O.  
District..... East Sepik Subdistrict..... Ambunti  
Census Division. Sepik May (pt) Waniap L.G. Council..... Non Council  
May (pt)  
Subject: Nothing to Report

Subdistrict Office

Assessment Assistant District Commissioner

Ambunti

Date Received

10th May 1973

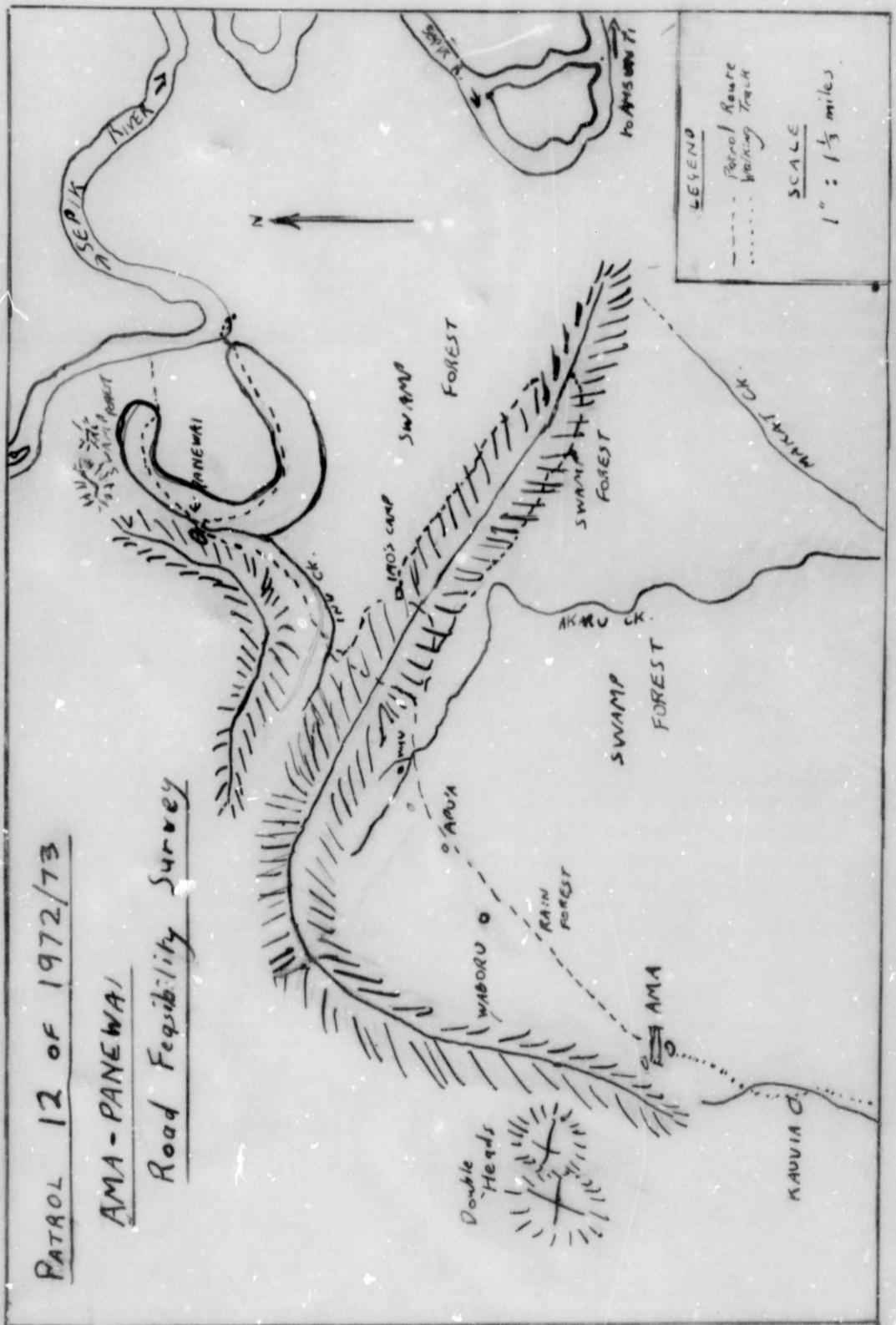
No comment required.

Action Taken:

Sgd.....

J. F. BRAGGE

Date..... 16th May 1973



- D. L. STEVENS A.P.O.  
1.5.73



(8)

## DEPARTMENT OF THE CHIEF MINISTER &amp; DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION

Telegrams  
Telex No.....  
Our Reference.....  
If calling ask for  
Mr.....

Sub District Office,  
AMBUNTI.

In Reply  
Please Quote  
No. 67-1-13

16th May 1973

The District Commissioner,  
East Sepik District,  
WEWAK.

AMA PATROL No. 12/1972-73 - PATROLLING OFFICER, D.L.STEVENS,A.P.O.

- \*\*\* Attached please find the above mentioned patrol report, together with camping allowance claim and patrol map. Would you arrange for the map to be sun printed and 8 copies returned to this office please.

My Comments:- Patrol Report No.4

This report leaves me in a state of doubt as to whether the project is feasible or not. Paras 6, 7, and 8.

Mr. Stevens is not an experienced road builder, yet he is drawing conclusions from facts which he has not included in his report.

e.g. At para 6 we are told the gradients are too high. I would have preferred to see percentage figures and draw my own conclusion. From my observation - from the air - the slopes look reasonable. One day out of the 27 spent on patrol would have been sufficient to shoot levels across the ridge to give a cross section to show the average slopes into which the road would have to be cut.

In addition I would have liked to have seen some altitude readings to show the climb involved in crossing the ridge. An altimeter is on hand at Ambunti.

The problems of Para 8 and 9 could be avoided if the ridge could be crossed near Panawei.

Lack of road access to the Sepik is not seen as a problem as the ox bow lake is deep. The short southern channel could be cleared to admit workboats in medium and high water, thus the roadhead would be Panawei.

I will ask O.I.C. Ama, who is at present on patrol to pass an additional opinion on whether the ridge on a direct Ama/Panawei line is reasonable road building country or not.

*lllus*  
L. W. BRAGGE,  
Assistant District Commissioner.

c.c. O.I.C., Ama  
c.c. Mr. D.L.Stevens,  
A.P.O., Ama.

(7)

Patrol Post  
AMA  
East Sepik District.

6741/65

12th. February, 1973.

Mr. D.L. STEVENS,  
Assistant Patrol Officer,  
AMA.

Dear Sir,

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS - AMA Patrol No. 12 - 1972/73.

As discussed with you, please prepare to depart on patrol on Thursday, 15th. February.

The purposes of the patrol are threefold:

- (a) Carry out a feasibility survey on the proposed ANA - PANEWAI Road. The people from PANEWAI have already cleared the proposed road from PANEWAI to INIOK Creek on the northern side of the ANA-PANEWAI Divide. You will set up camp at APU'A Hamlet and mark a centre line for the proposed road from APU'A across the divide to INIOK Creek. Bear in mind when marking the road, that the area on the southern side of the divide is subject to flashflooding and inundation after heavy rains. Note the areas which are subject to ~~fixx~~ inundation - this is done by noting areas which have accumulations of flood debris. When surveying the road route over the divide, attempt to keep the gradient below 7 per cent; the gradient should never be more than 10 per cent.

Upon completion of the patrol, you will draw up a map, showing locations of gravel and coralline deposits, locations of creeks and bridge sites, and any blasting work ie stone outcrops and large tree stumps, that may have to be carried out.

You will be accompanied by Luluai BIHAI from ANA and Luluai MEIRA from WOBARU as well as six (6) labourers who will assist in the cutting of the centre line. Be sure that you utilise the knowledge of the local people of the area in which you will be working; they should be able to provide information regarding creeks which are subject to serious flooding etc etc.

- (b) After marking the road route to INIOK Creek, proceed to PANEWAI and ascertain whether it will be possible to link the PANEWAI Lagoon with the Sepik River, and thus bypass the necessity to attempt to construct a road through the swamps past PANEWAI. Constable 1388 IMAS who will be accompanying you, has some knowledge of the PANEWAI area, and should be able to assist you in this task.
- (c) Encourage the PANEWAI people to come to ANA to sell fresh food to station personnel. Stress that this would be of great assistance to station personnel and it would also mean added income for them.

It is envisaged that the patrol will be of two weeks duration. Upon its completion, Situation Reports as required; you will not be required to submit either Area Study or Patrol Report. Your report is to be completed within two weeks of your return to ANA.

(26)

Please ensure that you are familiar with the use of both the Suunto compass and clinometer before you depart on patrol.

Good patrolling.

P.S. KASHE  
Officer in Charge.

c.c. ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER, Ambunti.

## PATROL REPORT No. 1.

Station.....	<b>AMA Patrol Post</b>	Officer Compiling.....	<b>DAVID L. STEVENS</b>
District.....	<b>EAST SEPIK</b>	Subdistrict.....	<b>AMBUNTI</b>
Census Division.....	<b>SEPIK MAY (part)</b>	L.G. Council.....	<b>Non-council area.</b>

(For recording of routine information not of a situation report nature, actionable at Subdistrict or District level, and of value to succeeding officers. No copy is required at Headquarters.)

(For further pages, use foolscap blanks.)

Govt. Print.—1792/40,000.—5.71.

### INTRODUCTION:

1. The primary aims of this patrol were
  - (1) to carry out a feasibility survey on a proposed road from Ama to Panewai village, and
  - (2) to investigate the possibility of access by water from Panewai to the Sepik River.

The intention was that motorized water and road transport would provide a more satisfactory access to Ama Patrol Post than at present is provided by creek and walking track, and would enable a cheaper alternative or a supplement to air charters.
2. Duration of this patrol was approximately 3½ weeks, in which time attempts were made to find a suitable place for the passage of a road, and tracks were cleared on both sides of the divide. A channel connecting the Panewai ox-bow lake and the Sepik River was located and investigated.
3. Panewai villagers were encouraged to bring their garden produce to Ama Patrol Post, both to assist the station personnel and to help boost their own income, but any more than a half-hearted response seems unlikely.
4. In September, 1972, the writer spent three days investigating the possibility of building a road from Ama right to the Sepik River, and some observations made at that time have also been included in this report. It was already known in September, that a road to the Sepik, either east from Panewai or direct from the divide would have to pass through swamp. (Patrol Report No. 4 of 1971/72 refers.) Hence, investigations were made to the west of Panewai, but the patrol's way was barred by a wide stretch of water and swamp. Thus the only possibility left open for access to the Sepik here was the building of a road to Panewai and the use of motor canoe or other water transport between Panewai and the Sepik River.

## PATROL REPORT No. 1.

Station..... **AMA Patrol Post** Officer Compiling..... **DAVID L. STEVENS**  
District..... **EAST SEPIK** Subdistrict..... **AMBUNTI**  
Census Division..... **SEPIK MAY (part)** L.G. Council..... **Non-council area.**

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ROAD CONSTRUCTION

A. Ama to Ama-Panewai Divide

5. The area between Ama and the Ama-Panewai Divide consists of tropical rain forest and swamp, and present drainage of this area is poor. The ground is generally flat and would pose no problem in regard to the gradient of the road, but drainage of this area and corduroying of many sections of road would be a time-consuming and expensive operation. About twenty creeks would have to be bridged, and at high water, many of these creeks would flood their banks, possibly damaging bridges and road in the process. Clearing of the land for the road would present no great problem, the bush not being particularly dense. The road, if constructed, would roughly follow the present walking track.

B. Crossing or skirting the Ama-Panewai Divide

6. Investigations have shown that it would be impracticable to attempt a road crossing of the Ama-Panewai Divide. The gradient of the slope on both sides is so high that not only would road construction be most difficult and time consuming, but in the event of completion, the road would have to be continually cleared of landslide debris.

7. The only possible route would skirt the divide close to its base, thus adding another 10 miles or so on to the present 8 miles of walking track. (By air, Panewai is about 5 miles from Ama.)

8. As with the road from Ama to the divide, there are numerous creeks around the Divide--at least 40--which would have to be crossed. Drains underneath the road would probably suffice with some of the smaller creeks, but others, according to the villagers in the area, would carry quite a large volume of water for a day or so after heavy rains. The many substantial bridges required would have to be built with this kept in mind as well as the spread of some of them.

9. The gradient of the road could generally be kept to a satisfactory gradient (under 7%). However, in places the road would of necessity pass around some very steep slopes, and would be subject to the same problem of landslides as would an attempted crossing of the divide. On one such stretch--just south of Awo Creek and near a house belonging to a person named Tuti--on the Ama side of the divide, the presence of large rock outcrops would complicate this problem. Much rock blasting would be required on this section, and would little lessen the risk of landslides. Since the ground there rises steeply right from the ~~southern~~ base of the range, by-passing this particular section would entail passage through an area subject to inundation after heavy rains. The rain forest and swamp vegetation around the divide

(3)

would not pose any unusual difficulty for clearing.

10. Gravel is quite readily available in the numerous creek beds, and would provide good paving material for the road. Some corduroying and much gravel would be necessary around the divide, as well as between Ama and the divide, particularly if it were decided later to attempt crossing more swampy areas to avoid fairly long detours around the contours.

#### C. Ama-Panewai Divide to Panewai

11. From the Ama-Panewai Divide, a short section of swampy ground would need to be crossed and then a ridge would be followed around to Panewai. The level of water in the Panewai lagoon (ox-bow lake) is subject to considerable variation in depth. The Panewai villagers had, prior to the patrol, cleared ground which they had thought to be out of reach of the water, but this was partly covered with water when traversed by the writer. The road would obviously need to be cut further up the slope. At times the slope would be such that there would be a danger of landslides, but generally speaking, the writer believes that the section from the divide to Panewai would pose fewer problems than the remainder of the road.

12. Near the divide, the road would have to be corduroyed and much effort expended on drainage and the building up and strengthening of road surface.

#### ROAD MAINTENANCE

13. Much funds would of course be required for maintenance of this 16--20 miles of road, as well as for its construction. Landslide rubble and reinforcing of the sections through swamp would be the two main areas where funds would be required; and to keep the road open right throughout the year would require continuous effort by Government labourers and/or local villagers.

#### WATER ACCESS TO THE SEPIK RIVER FROM PANEWAI

14. Paragraph 4.of the Introduction refers to investigations carried out prior to this patrol, and indicates that the only possibly feasible route from Panewai to the Sepik River would be by water.

(2)

15. On the basis of aerial observations on 15th February, the writer searched for a channel from the northern arm of Panewai's ox-bow lake to the Sepik, but failed to find such a channel. At the time of the writer's visit, the water in the lake and in the Sepik River was very high, and the Panewai villagers thought that it would be possible to reach the Sepik River by pull-canoe, but only by labourious cutting their way through the bush. The was in fact connected to the Sepik River by water, but the people assured me that there was no channel at low water to allow the passage of canoes.

16. A search for a channel from the southern arm proved successful, and the writer's canoe reached the Sepik River after mild difficulties were experienced at only one small section where the wild sugar cane ("pitpit") and sandbars hindered our progress. The channel was over 10 feet deep in places, but it is apparent that the channel would need to be cleared at the one bad section, and possibly also on other stretches. The exact extent of work required, however, could only be estimated with reasonable accuracy at low water. Some years ago, the channel was used by motor canoes, and clearance of the channel would again enable passage by such transport.

#### LABOUR SUPPLY

17. Should this project be undertaken, it would be necessary to obtain construction labourers from all parts of the administrative area. The project would be financed through Rural Development Funds, which would permit only very small payments to be made to such labourers. It is quite apparent from the writer's experience of these people that such payments would not be sufficient to attract them. Even those villagers living close to this area, who would benefit most from the road have shown by their attitude that they would tire very quickly of such work and return to their villages. Those villagers who accompanied the patrol were ready to finish and return to their homes by the end of two weeks.

#### CONCLUSIONS

18. The proposed road from Ama to Panewai would skirt the Ama-Panewai Divide and be approximately 18 miles in length, since a crossing of the divide would not be feasible. Swamp and poorly drained rain forest, the number of bridges required, the probability of landslides in some parts, the length of road required, the villagers' present and probable future attitude to the project are the main problems which influence my opinion that the road project is not feasible. Clearance of the channel from the Panewai ox-bow lake to the Sepik River would also be required, and

19. Ama Patrol Report No. 11 of 1972/73 considers the feasibility of an alternative route to Ama from the Sepik River. Such a route would proceed up May River, Waniap Creek and the Makat Waterway, and thence by road to Ama.

20. In view of the favorable report on the alternative route, and problems inherent in the planned Ama-Panewai project, the writer recommends that this latter project be abandoned.

\* \* \*

DDA67-8-89  
7 HQ

PATROL REPORT

Report Number: AMA 13-72/73.

Objects of Patrol: Census Revision  
General Administration

District: EAST SEPIK

Station: AMA Patrol Post

Area Patrolled: ABEI MAY & ARAI MAY  
Census Divisions.

Sub District: AMBUNTI

Patrol Conducted by: P.JWALSHE ADO

Designation: ADO

Duration of Patrol: 23/4 - 28/4/73  
4/5/73 - 24/5/73

Personnel Accompanying: 3 members RPNGC  
H.E.O. (Ambunti) Part. NMO

Last DDA Patrol: January 73

Number of days: 27

Last GLG Patrol: N/A

Total Population: ABEI MAY 410  
ARAI MAY 656

Map Reference:

Council Area: NON COUNCIL

22 JUN 1973

House of Assembly Electorate: UPPER SEPIK

The District Commissioner,  
East Sepik District,  
WEWAK.

AMBUNTI  
EAST SEPIK  
DISTRICT

In respect of this patrol I attach:-

Field Officers Journal Folios 27 to 35 (x)

Patrol Instructions

The report and my comments

Area Study

Updating of Area Study

Situation Reports Nos 1 - 3

Patrol Map

{ }  
(x)  
(x)

Dated 27/6/73

.....  
Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Dept of Chief Minister and Development Administration,  
KONEDCBU.

.....  
Date



In respect of this patrol I attach,

Area Study

Situation Reports 1 - 3 ✓

District H.Q. assessment of patrol  
and report.

{ }  
Above average  
Average  
Below Average

Dated / / 73

.....  
District Commissioner

The District Commissioner  
East Sepik District  
P.O. Box 72  
WEWAK

12th September, 1973  
67-8-89  
R.G. Orwin  
a/D.D.C.

AMA PATROL NO. 13 - 1972/73

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Reports 1 to 3 arising out of the above patrol of ABEI MAY and ARAI MAY Census Divisions, together with the appropriate assessments and also the Area Study recompilation, as submitted by Mr. P.J. WALSHE, Assistant District Officer.

Situation Reports have been distributed to appropriate Headquarters' Branches for information and any action required.

I regret the delay in acknowledging this Report.

W.P.  
W.P. RYAN  
a/Secretary

AMA Patrol No. 13 - 72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Introduction. AMA Patrol No. 13 - 72/73.

1. This report was prepared by the ARAI MAY Census Division.

AREA STUDY.

Contents.

Introduction.

- A. POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS.
- B. SOCIAL GROUPINGS.
- C. LAND TENURE AND USE.
- D. LITERACY.
- E. LEADERSHIP.
- F. STANDARD OF LIVING.
- G. MISSIONS.
- H. NON INDIGENES.
- I. TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL SKILLS.
- J. COMMUNICATIONS.
- K. THE STAGE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.
- L. ATTITUDE TOWARDS LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
- M. ATTITUDE TOWARDS CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.
- N. THE ECONOMY OF THE AREA.
- O. POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING THE ECONOMY.
- P. ACCOMMODATION, SERVICES, FACILITIES.

- APPENDIX
- 'A'. RADIO RECEIVERS.
  - 'B'. VILLAGE OFFICIALS.
  - 'C'. FIREARMS.
  - 'D'. HAMLETS AND WALKING TIMES.
  - 'E'. CENSUS STATISTICS.

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AMA Patrol No. 13 - 72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

AREA STUDY.

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AMA Patrol no. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

Introduction.

1. This census division consists of the ARAI River Valley and the upper reaches of the ABEI River. ~~xxxx~~ Topography of the area varies greatly; with swamp terrain relieved only by small knolls in the lower reaches of the Arai River, extending to more mountainous areas in the upper reaches of the Arai and Abei rivers.
2. This census division is extremely isolated - "...being isolated within the remote May River area is extreme isolation..." - and, as a result, the peoples' attitude towards the Government and its work is one of nonchalance. Very few of these people, other than the people of Arai village have any regular contact with people from the May River area or the Sepik River. As a result, their attitude is extremely parochial and it appears that there is little or no interest shown in the outside world.
3. Access to the Census Division is by motor canoe which can navigate the Arai River as far as SARI (AUGOT) Village. From here, all other groups are contacted by foot. This patrol entered the census division from AMA via AGRAINE, but the writer does not recommend it as a patrol route. To reach ITELI, consists of two days hard walking, with carrying times varying from 7 to 8 hours per day. The only feasible patrol route for this census division is to visit the Arai River villages first, then from Iteli across to the ABEI (WIAN) River, thence to the BOGOPE River, then downstream to USALIMIN using rafts - this saving the patrol a two days walk.
4. The writer feels that the annual census patrol should patrol this census division in conjunction with the ABEI MAY Census Division, as this patrol did; and as did the last patrol to the division. Carriers from the May River area should not be used; in this case, Kianmin carriers were used, and it was found that they enjoyed good relationships with people of every village visited. This is interesting when one considers their reputation with some of the groups of this division, namely ARAI and SORIMIN.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

A. POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS.

5. The revised census figures for this division can be found on the inside of the report jacket.
6. As with the ABEI MAY Census Division, there was a time lapse of 27 months between census revisions. This is a situation which should never occur, especially in this census division for reasons which will be shown later.
7. The census revision revealed a total increase of 7 over the previous population total of 649. However, the total increase was made up as follows; 33 births, 19 migrations in - mainly between groups within the division - and 21 previously unrecorded names. The natural decrease was far greater than the natural increase - 33 births as compared to 60 (recorded) deaths. The writer would not like to attempt to hazard a guess as to the number of unrecorded deaths - especially amongst newly born infants - in this census division.
8. Seventeen adult males were absent in other districts - mainly East New Britain - and are (?) gainfully employed as indentured labourers. All other absentees were at either May River Aid Post or at Ama Patrol Post.

AMA Patrol No. 13 -72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

B. SOCIAL GROUPINGS.

9. Apart from ARAI Village, whose inhabitants are part of the IWAM language groupz, the people of this census division are basically the same language group. However, social groupings do not appear to be based upon language. The NIMO, WASUAI, BISURU-BIDIPAS, SARI (AUGOT), and NAUKWI-AMASU groups appear to be the one social group, even though there appears to be little trust ~~mutual~~ shown towards each other. All these groups speak the same dialect, intermarry and have 'joint' ceremonial dances :- this however, appears to be the extent of social intercourse amongst the five groups listed above. Each group accuses other groups of black sorcery - 'sangume' - although nobody is able to specifically name the individual sorcerers. Thus, it can be seen that these people of the lower Arai river area are extremely parochial in their attitude towards the world outside their own particular 'neck of the woods'.
10. The ITELI group of the upper Arai River have close ties with the AGRAME (Waniap May C/D), the UMERITA/MEISEITO group of the upper ABEI River, and through the UMERITA group, occasional dealings with the SORIMIN-NIGYAMA group. The last named speak a different dialect but it appears to be ~~xxxxx~~ only a variation of the main Arai River language.
11. These groups are still extremely primitive, the sole exception being ARAI Village who have had regular contact with the Administration since the late 1950s. There is little contact between the groups of the lower ARAI River and the ITELI group, and contact between these groups and those residing in the White Scarp area is non existent. It would appear that all these groups are doomed to an existence of extreme isolation - their only contact with the outside world remaining the government patrol and those individuals who leave their home areas to find work as indentured labourers.
12. Refer to Situation report Number 3 for the writers recommendations for changes in the names of these groups.

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AMA Patrol No 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

C. LAND TENURE AND USE.

13. Little is known of the land tenure system in this census division. The lack of competent interpreters will continue to place a barrier to the compiling of information on these peoples' way of life.
14. All the people of this division are food gatherers in the traditional sense. Very few gardens are made by any of these people, sago being the staple diet. The semi nomadic groups of the upper ABEI River (WHITE SCARP) area range over large tracts of rain forest, but show little interest in the cultivation of root crops as do the MIANMIN groups who reside downstream.
15. It appears that all land is communally owned, with family groups having usufructuary rights over sago palm stands. Other than the people of Arai Village, the writer cannot see the parents or children from this division sending their children away from home to attend schools.
16. The only radio receivers in this division are to be found at ARAI and WASUAI Villages. The lack of income and the absence of trade stores in this area are two factors which prevent these radios of being any value whatsoever as teaching medium. Refer to APPENDIX 'A' for a list of these radios.
17. The people from Arai people were found to be the only group who had a competent grasp of pidgin english, the WIMIYA - MIGUITO group have no pidgin speakers, the writer having to use an interpreter from ITBIL. The SORI-CITAMA group have only one pidgin english speaker, whose knowledge of the language is extremely basic, to say the least. All the groups who reside in the Arai River valley speak pidgin english, but again, all conversations have to be of a basic nature. The next patrol in this area should attempt to bring alongst one male back from this area and give him employment at Arai and thus enable his knowledge of pidgin to be improved.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

D. LITERACY.

16. There are currently four youths from ARAI Village attending the Seventh-day Adventist Mission School at AMBUNTI. All four are in standard four. There are no other children from this division attending schools.
17. Other than these four mentioned above, there are only two other people literate in pidgin English in this division. They are HAUSA-SORINA, the medical orderly at MAY RIVER, and his brother NORMAN, who is a standard 5 'dropout' from AMBUNTI Primary School.
18. There are no schools in this division, and it is not envisaged that this division will ever see the establishment of a school in the area. The closest school is the Seventh Day Adventist school at MAY RIVER, and this has only one class - standard one.  
Other than the people of Arai Village, the writer cannot see the parents of children from this division sending their children away from home to attend schools.
19. The only radio receivers in this division are to be found at ARAI and WASUAI Villages. The lack of income and the absence of trade store in this area are ~~the~~ factors which prevent these radios of being any value whatsoever as teaching mediums. Refer to APPENDIX 'A' for a list of these radios.
20. The people from Arai people were found to be the only group who had a competent grasp of pidgin English. The UMERITA - MESEITO group have no pidgin speakers, the writer having to use an interpreter from ITEL. The SORI-NIGYAMA group have only one pidgin English speaker, whose knowledge of the language is extremely basic, to say the least.  
All the groups who reside in the Arai River valley speak pidgin English, but again, all conversations have to be of a basic nature. The next patrol to this area should attempt to bring at least one male back from this area and give him employment at Ama and thus enable his knowledge of pidgin to be improved.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

E. LEADERSHIP.

21. This division is still under the village official system, and there are no outstanding leaders, traditional or otherwise, in the whole of the division.
22. Housing throughout this division is of a poor standard. The group tend to have small long houses which everybody inhabits including their pigs and dogs - and large numbers of the semi-pastoral cockroaches.
23. Poor housing and a simple diet which lacks both calories and proteins has resulted in much the general health of these people being extremely poor.
24. In short, the standard of living is unchanged since the last area study was compiled.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

F. STANDARD OF LIVING.

22. The standard of living throughout this census division is poor. Housing, staple diet etc etc , and the peoples' negative attitude (common throughout this administrative area) towards improving their lot.
23. Housing throughout this division is of a poor standard. These group tend to favour central long houses which everybody inhabits including their pigs and dogs - and large numbers of the omnipresent cockroach.
24. Poor housing and a staple diet which lacks both calories and proteins has resulted in ~~xxxxxx~~ the general health of these people being extremely poor.
25. In short, the standard of living is unchanged since the last area study was compiled.

AMA Patrol Report No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

G. MISSIONS.

26. There are no missions represented in this area.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

H. NON INDIGENES.

27. There are no non indigenes either resident or with business interests in the census division - it is doubtful whether there will ever be any non indigenes becoming involved in this area at any stage.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

I. TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL SKILLS.

28. Other than HAUSA - SORINA, the medical orderly at MAY RIVER, whose home village is ARAI, there are no persons in this division who could be described as having any skills or training.
29. Information on the navigability of the ARAI river refer to Appendix 'A', MAY RIVER Patrol Report No. 13-70/71.
30. The only means of access to this census division is by either walking track from ARAI to LIDJI and recommended for general purposes or by boat route to NAMO and LIDJI. The ARAI River from ARAI, all other courses are marked by extremely bad walking tracks.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

J. COMMUNICATIONS.

29. There are no vehicular roads or airstrips in this census division. The nearest airstrip is the category Delta airstrip at AMA Patrol Post.
30. For information on the navigability of the ARAI River, refer to Appendix 'A', MAY RIVER Patrol Report No. 6-70/71.
31. The only means of access to this census division is by either walking track from AMA to ITELI (not recommended for patrol carriers) or by motor canoe to NIMO and SARI on the ARAI River. From SARI, all other centres are reached by extremely bad walking tracks.
32. The division is still under the village official system. However, none of these village officials were seen to be at all effective. Until such time that these people are fully educated in the machinery of both the law and government, it is felt that village officials in the division will continue to be absolutely useless in their roles of 'government' officials.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

K. THE STAGE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

32. This was best summed up by Kr. ADC Corrigan in MAY RIVER Patrol Report No.3 - 69/70 :- "....knowledge held by the inhabitants of the House of Assembly and Local Government is infinitesimal." The situation has not changed at all, over the four years since Mr. Corrigan visited the Arai River villages. Even though "political education is a continuing process", it is an uphill battle in this division where the people show absolutely no interest in the happenings outside their own sago swamps, and where the lack of interpreters absolutely prevents any dissemination of political education. To put it bluntly, the stage of political development is practically zero.
33. The division is still under the village official system. However, none of these village officials were seen to be at all effective. Until such time that these people are fully educated in the machinery of both the law and government, it is felt that village officials in the division will continue to be absolutely useless in their roles of 'government' officials.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

L. ATTITUDE TOWARDS LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

34. Not applicable.

In this area there is no political awareness in this village. People in this area have very little knowledge of the House of Assembly. The majority of these people are aware that the Government is here but the patrolling has not been shown any inclination to know of the machinery of the new government or work done by it.

35. Most of the people have a negative attitude towards the Government - this means they being familiar with respect after seeing the extent of activities go to enforce law and order. In other words, whilst these people are still ignorant regarding the concept of Government, they have a respect for the Government mainly as a result of the work done in the past field officers in this area.

AMA Patrol No.13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

M. ATTITUDE TOWARDS CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

35. As stated in paragraph 32, political awareness in this division is practically non existent, the people of ARAI Village being the only people to show some knowledge of the House of Assembly. The majority of these people are aware that the 'Government' is more than the patrolling 'kiap' - but none shewed any inclination to learn of the machinery of the new government of Papua New Guinea.
36. Most of the people have a nonchalant attitude towards the Government - this nonchalance being tempered with respect after seeing the extent that officers go to to enforce law and order. In ~~six~~ short, whilst these people are still hazy regarding the concept of Government, they hav~~e~~ a respect for the Government mainly as a result of the work done in the past field officers in this area.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

N. THE ECONOMY OF THE AREA.

37. There are only two people from this division who are receiving regular incomes - one is the medical orderly at May River, and the other is employed as a station labourer at AMA. Both come from Arai Village. All those individuals who do their two years as indentured labourers on island plantations would bring back little, if any of their wages, as they have a tendency to spend all their money on consumer items before returning to their home areas. Thus, with no cash cropping in the division, it would be pointless to attempt to work out the average per capita income for the area.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

Area Study.

0. POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING THE ECONOMY.

38. The remoteness of this division, coupled with the difficulty of access with the nearest main centre (AMBUNTI), has successfully prevented the establishment of an economy in this division. The writer cannot see any drastic changes in the overall economic position of this area in the foreseeable future.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

P. ACCOMMODATION, SERVICES, FACILITIES.

39. Apart from five rest houses, two of which are completely uninhabitable, there is no accommodation available, or services or facilities of any description in this division.

1. HOMIKA SONGA. Radio n/a, lights n/a.

2. JOHN HALL. Radio u/s.

24. WASHUA Village. ARIKOKA ARAI. National Standard Radio u/s.  
In working condition.

These are the only radio receivers in the census division.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

APPENDIX 'A'.

RADIO RECEIVERS

1. ARAI Village. i. NASIN HAUSA. Phillips Transister. In working condition.  
ii. NORMAN SORINA. Radio not sighted.  
iii. JOHN NAU. Radio u/s.
2. WASUAL Village. ARIPUNO AWASA. National Panasonic transistor. In working condition.

These are the only radio receivers in the census division.

ARAI VILLAGE.

Lelual HANBAL WASHI.  
Married, 5 children.  
Very poor command of pidgin english.  
Unimpressive in role as village official.  
Lelual Nakinesa deceased. Next patrol to provisionally appoint V.O.

WASUAL Village.

Talul AMIKAMASE-MITASI.  
Married, three children.  
No knowledge of pidgin english.  
Unimpressive.  
Next patrol should provisionally appoint V.O.

KAGENI-ANIGU VILLAGE.

Talul AMIKAMASE-MITASI.  
Married, three children.  
No knowledge of pidgin english.  
Unimpressive.  
Next patrol should provisionally appoint V.O.

LIBIPU - RISUBU VILLAGE.

Lelual AMIKAMASE-MITASI.  
Married, three children.  
No knowledge of pidgin english.  
Unimpressive.  
Next patrol should provisionally appoint  
a V.O. for the RISUBU group.

SAMI (ABOG) VILLAGE.

Lelual PAKHANG WASHI.  
Married, two children.  
Basic understanding of pidgin english.  
Unimpressive.

IPAL VILLAGE.

NRINKA LIPNG was provisionally appointed  
V.O. for this large (36) group. This  
appointment to be confirmed.  
Married, no children.  
Has a basic working knowledge of pidgin  
english.

There are no village officials in the SAMI-ABOG and  
IPAL groups. The next patrol will consequently conduct  
all these people (in groups) should ascertain whether there are any individuals  
who should be appointed as village officials for these two groups.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

APPENDIX 'B'.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

ARAI Village.

Luluai SESIAP SORINIGA.

Married, two children.

Extremely fluent in pidgin english.

Unimpressive as a village official.

Taltul KWAINIS NAINI.

Married, with three children.

Fluent in pidgin english.

Was extremely useful as an interpreter in the Arai River area.

NIMO Village.

Luluai HANUAI WISEI.

Married, 5 children.

Very poor command of pidgin english.

Unimpressive in role as Village official.

WASUAI Village.

Taltul Nakiosa deceased. Next patrol to provisionally appoint V.O.

NAUKWI-AMASU Village.

Taltul for AMASU group deceased.

Taltul LIAMI NAKIAM (NAUKWI group.)

Married, 1 child.

Fair working knowledge of pidgin english.

Shows some initiative.

DIDIPAS - BISURU Village.

Luluai AMINAKASB-AMITABE.

Married, three children.

No knowledge of pidgin english.

Unimpressive.

Next patrol should provisionally appoint a Taltul for the BISURU group.

SARI (AUGOT) Village.

Luluai PAKINAMU WAKOWI.

Married, two children.

Basic understanding of pidgin english.

Unimpressive.

ITELI Village.

NEIYA LAJWO was provisionally appointed Taltul for this large (86) group. This appointment to be confirmed.

Married, no children.

Has a basic working knowledge of pidgin English.

There are no village officials for the MERITA-MESEITO and SORI-NIGYAMA groups. The next patrol (if successful in contacting all these people) should ascertain whether there are any individuals who should be appointed as Village officials for these two groups.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

APPENDIX 'B'.

Area Study

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

ARAI Village.

Luluai SESIAP SORINIGA.

Married, two children.

Extremely fluent in pidgin english.

Unimpressive as a village official.

Tultul KWAINIS NAINI.

Married, with three children.

Fluent in pidgin english.

Was extremely useful as an interpreter in the Arai River area.

IMO Village.

Luluai HANUAI WISEI.

Married, 5 children.

Very poor command of pidgin english.

Unimpressive in role as Village official.

Tultul Nakiesa deceased. Next patrol to provisionally appoint V.O.

NAUKWI-AMASU Village.

Tultul for AMASU group deceased.

Tultul LIARI NAKIAM (NAUKWI group.)

Married, 1 child.

Fair working knowledge of pidgin english. Shows some initiative.

DIDIPAS - BISURU Village.

Luluai AMINAKASE-AMITASE.

Married, three children.

No knowledge of pidgin english.

Unimpressive.

Next patrol should provisionally appoint a Tultul for the BISURU group.

SARI (GOT) Village.

Luluai PAKINAMO WAKOWI.

Married, two children.

Basic understanding of pidgin english.

Unimpressive.

ITELI Village.

NEIYA LABWO was provisionally appointed Tultul for this large (86) group. This appointment to be confirmed.

Married, no children.

Has a basic working knowledge of pidgin English.

There are no village officials for the UMERITA-MESEITO and SORI-NIGYAMA groups. The next patrol (if successful in contacting all these people) should ascertain whether there are any individuals who should be appointed as Village officials for these two groups.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/75.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/75.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.  
Area Study.

APPENDIX 'C'.

FIREARMS.

ARAI Village.

i. KWAINUS NAINI. Make: Winchester. Type: Shotgun.  
C of R : expires 29/6/73 No: 56188  
Serial Number : C268634

ii. SESIAP NABA. Voluntarily surrendered his firearm last year.  
Has been issued with Authority to Purchase  
Firearm.

iii. HAUSA SORINA. As with ii.

There are no other shotguns in this division.

2. KIMU.

This group has only the one hamlet and this is situated on a ridge some 30 minutes walk from the ARAI River where the root house is situated.

This group is reached after some 2 hours by power canoe from KAYA.

3. SASUAL.

This group resides in two main hamlets, WATAPITAPOKA and UWANI, both of which are sited on ridge tops. The former hamlet is reached after some two hours arduous walking through sage amongst the latter is another hour's walk from WATAPITAPOKA. Therefore the root house for this group. They have been censused at KAYA in the past, but all future patrols should visit these hamlets to ensure accurate attendance for census revision.

4. BIDIPAS - BISURU.

In the past, the main BIDIPAS group has been numbered at places on the ARAI River. This patrol visited most of the hamlets for this group, and new names, previously unrecorded, were entered in the census sheets as a result.

The BISURU group resides on the area south of the INIANG River, whilst the main BIDIPAS group resides in the northern area of the INIANG.

The former group has two main hamlets in YUNI and YENKA. These hamlets consist of one or two long houses. The YENKA is situated on easy bank with from UWANI (root) house, latter another 10 minutes walk from YUNI.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

APPENDIX 'D'.

HAMLETS AND WALKING TIMES.

Most of the groups in this division still follow the traditional form of settlement, which is the central communal long house with scattered garden houses throughout their Territory. The sole exception to this traditional form of settlement is ARAI Village, where most people have their own houses and no longer live in the communal long houses. Following is a list of the areas visited, with the number of hamlets and the walking times.

1. ARAI Village.

Consists of four hamlets, all of which are sited on MAY River. The main hamlet of ARAI is sited upstream from the confluence of the ARAI and ABEI Rivers. The rest house is located at this spot. The other three hamlets, GOSIEN, UMAUWE and BRAKAVI, are all sited downstream from ARAI. All these hamlets are easily reached from MAY RIVER by power canoe.

2. NIMO.

This group has only the one hamlet and this is situated on a ridge some 50 minutes walk from the ARAI River where the rest house is situated. This group is reached after some 2 hours by power canoe from ARAI.

3. WASUAI.

This group resides in two main hamlets, WATAPITAPOWA and UWAWI, both of which are sited on ridge tops. The former hamlet is reached after some two hours arduous walking through sago swamp; the latter is another hours walk from Watapitapowa. There is no rest house for this group. They have been censused at NIMO in the past, but all future patrols should visit these hamlets to ensure maximum attendance for censys revision.

4. DIDIPAS - BISURU.

In the past, the main DIDIPAS group has been censused at places on the ARAI River. This patrol visited most of the hamlets for this group, and new names, previously unrecorded, were entered in the census sheets as a result. The BISURU group resides in the area south of the IRIAWI River, whilst the main DIDIPAS group resides in the northern side of the IRIAWI.

The former group has two main hamlets :- YEMINI and NEBIA. Both these hamlets consist of one communal long house. The former is situated an easy hours walk from UWAWI (Wasuai) Hamlet, the latter another 40 minutes walk from YEMINI.

APPENDIX 'D' (Contd)

HAMLETS AND WALKING TIMES.

From NEBIA hamlet it is an easy 30 minutes walk to the DIDIPAS hamlet of YASU. The DIDIPAS group has three hamlets, all of which consist of the inevitable communal long house. These hamlets are:- YASU (where the patrol camped), KAMUFA and UBITIBI. KAMUFA is situated on the main track to NAUKWI from YASU. UBITIBI is sited on a ridge to the north, and within sight of, YASU hamlet.

5. SARI (AUGOT).

The main part of this group resides at SARI hamlet, some 20 minutes walk inland from SARI Rest house which is located adjacent to the AKAI River. Part of this group resides at KWAINO hamlet which is apparently located on a hill in the sago swamps adjacent to WANLAP Village. KWAINO is apparently a hard days walk from the main Sari hamlet.

Sari House is an easy two hours walk from NAUKWI.

6. NAUKWI - AMASU.

There are three hamlets for these two groups. The main part of the NAUKWI group resides at YUNITO (rest house area) with the remainder living at MOMOPORO, upstream from YUNITO. The AMASU hamlet is located some 20 minutes walk inland from YUNITO hamlet. Neither AMASU nor MOMOPORO hamlets were visited by the patrol.

7. ITELI.

There appear to be only the central hamlet for this group, and the rest house is located at this spot.

The patrol walked to ITELI from AGRAME in the WANLAP MAY Census Division, but this is not recommended as a patrol route, as it is an arduous 7 - 8 hours walk for carriers.

8. UMERITA - MESEITO.

From Iteli, the patrol the UMERITA hamlet of TAU'U, which is located 30 minutes upstream from the confluence of the USARO and ABEI (known locally as WIAN) Rivers. TAU'U is approximately eight hours walk from Iteli.

The small MESEITO group reside in the lower reaches of the SOBAI River at PUBUMUNUKU hamlet. The patrol was unable to visit this group.

9. SORI - NIGYAMA.

These groups were initially censused as the NIGYAMA hamlet on the BOGOPE River, the hamlet also being known as BOGOPE. The SORI group resides at KAKWOIWI hamlet, which is located in the headwaters of the MAWIAWI River.

The patrol did not camp at BOGOPE, but made camp on the ABEI (WIAN) River, some 6 hours walk from the UMERITA hamlet, and 90 minutes from BOGOPE. This campsite is known locally as WIAKULIKI.

APPENDIX 'D' (Contd).

HAMLETS AND WALKING TIMES.

It is recommended that all future patrols should visit as many of the hamlets as possible, to ensure proper compilation of census statistics. To achieve this, the following patrol programme should be followed :-

MAY RIVER - ARAI	Power canoe.
ARAI - NIMO	ditto
NIMO - WATAPITAPOWA.	2 hours. Census WASUAL group here.
WATAPITAPOWA - YEMINI - NEBIA.	2 hours 40 minutes to Nebia. Census BISURU group. Patrol can camp at YASU.
NEBIA - YASU.	30 minutes walk. Census DIDIPAS group.
YASU - SARI.	This track has not been used by the writer, although the local people claimed that it is of a good standard. Probably three hours walk.
SARI - NAUKWI.	2 hours easy walking. Census NAUKWI group here, and census AMASU group at AMASU. Camp NAUKWI,
NAUKWI - ITELJ.	3 hours walk.
ITELJ - TAU'U (Umerita).	8 hours walk. Camp TAU'U. Whilst patrol at Tau'u, an attempt should be made to visit MEESEITO hamlet of PUBUMUNUKU.
TAU'U - BOGOPE.	7½ hours walk. Camp Begope, census Sori-Nigyama groups.

From BOGOPE, the patrol can follow the Bogope River to its confluence with the ABEI River, and then downstream to HOTMIN in the ABEI MAY Census Division, where the patrol can be collected by canoe.

The writer strongly recommends the use of MIANMIN carriers for all future patrols of this census division, as they are willing to work and proved to be excellent carriers. Also if they are used, they can make rafts, which enables the patrol to travel from the BOGOPE - ABEI junction to USALIMIN in five hours under good conditions. This saves a patrol two days hard and monotonous walking.

AMA Patrol No. 13 - 72/73

ARAI MAY Census Division.

Area Study - APPENDIX 'E'.

CENSUS STATISTICS

PLACE AND DATE OF CENSUS	Totals excluding absentees				Absentees			TOTALS M + F	
	MC	FC	MA	FA	MC	FC	MA	FA	
ARAI 18/5	19	34	24	34	6	-	18	2	67 + 70 = 137
AUGOT 22/5	13	7	20	20	-	-	-	-	33 + 23 = 60
DIDIPAS-BISURU 20/5	26	15	30	21	-	-	-	-	56 + 36 = 92
ITELI 5/5	14	15	34	23	-	-	-	-	48 + 38 = 86
NAUKWI-AMASU 21/5	13	16	32	27	-	-	3	-	48 + 43 = 91
NIMO 22/5	12	9	8	9	-	-	4	-	24 + 18 = 42
SORI-NIGYAMA 8/5	8	7	10	8	-	-	-	-	18 + 15 = 33
UMERITA-MESEITO 6/5	12	6	15	9	-	-	-	-	27 + 15 = 42
WASUAI 19/5	15	12	21	21	-	-	4	-	40 + 33 = 73
	132	121	194	172	6	-	29	2	361 + 295
						619	37		656

Previous Total:	
Add:	
Births	649
Migrations in	33
Previously unrecorded names	19
	21
	<hr/>
Minus:	
Deaths	722
Migrations out	60
	6
	<hr/>
New Total:	656

AMA Patrol No. 13 - 72/73.

(22)

ABA MAY Census Division AMA Patrol No. 13 - 72/73.

Introduction ABEI MAY Census Division.

1. The Census Division of ARRA STUDY. A society direction from AMA  
and the sources of population movement along the ABAI and MENDI  
River. It is generally known that the members of the ABAI  
and MENDI River, and estimates of movements to be found in the lower  
reaches of the ABAI, in the vicinity of MENDI and YUWA LIRI.

Introduction.

- A. POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS.
- B. SOCIAL GROUPINGS.
- C. LAND TENURE AND USE.
- D. LITERACY.
- E. LEADERSHIP.
- F. STANDARD OF LIVING.
- G. MISSIONS.
- H. NON INDIGENES.
- I. TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL SKILLS.
- J. COMMUNICATIONS.
- K. THE STAGE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.
- L. ATTITUDE TOWARDS LOCAL GOVERNMENT.
- M. ATTITUDE TOWARDS CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.
- N. THE ECONOMY OF THE AREA.
- O. POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING THE ECONOMY.
- P. ACCOMMODATION, SERVICES, FACILITIES.

- APPENDIX 'A'. RADIO RECEIVERS.  
'B'. VILLAGE OFFICIALS.  
'C'. FIREARMS.  
'D'. CENSUS STATISTICS.

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AMA Patrol No. 13 - 72/73.

ABEI-MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

Introduction.

- The census conducted for this division was in October/November, 1970 - a time lapse of nearly four years since the last census. This Census Division lies in a south easterly direction from AMA with the centres of population being found along the ABEI and MUNI Rivers. It is generally mountainous in the upper reaches of the ABEI and MUNI Rivers, and extends to the sago swamps to be found in the lower reaches of the ABEI, in the vicinity of BURUMAI and YUWAITIRI.
- Access to the area is by powered canoe. The ABEI River is navigable as far as WARABUNG (MIANMIN) Village. From there, USALIMIN and FIYARIMIN Villages are reached along well graded and maintained walking tracks. During dry weather, the level of the ABEI River falls and some difficulty can be experienced in reaching MIANMIN area. The writer investigated a walking track from WARABUNG to NUWARU Camp, the latter being found below the rapids of the ABEI. This track, if maintained, would provide year round access to the MIANMIN groups further upstream. At present, this walk takes 5 hours (without carriers) but if the track were to be cleared and bridges put in over the many small creeks, it would probably reduce the walking time to 3 - 4 hours. Thus, all areas are accessible all the year - and not as officers in the past have stated, "only during high water".
- MIANMIN Carriers were used for this patrol and were found to excellent workers. There is no need for future patrols to take IWAM carriers from May River to this area, as the Mianmin are willing carriers and the former, although willing carriers, have no endurance and have proved to be moaners and complainers of the first degree when on patrol.
- Vegetation cover of the area patrolled varies from primary rain forest in the upper ABEI river and the MUNI Rivers areas, to swamp forest and sago swamps around YUWAITIRI and BURUMAI. Bird life is prolific throughout the census division, and wild pigs are extremely common.

These people are quite content to remain in their villages and follow the traditional way of life. They are not employed and remain at home as far as one of their "education", and none have ever been sent to larger centres to find employment when their two year contract expires.

As stated in paragraph 4, no statistics are available for this census division because of the time lapse of 4 years since the last census. It is hoped that census revision will be carried out in November/December of this year to obtain reliable figures regarding infant mortality, etc.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ABEI-MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

20

A. POPULATION DISTRIBUTION and TRENDS.

5. The last census conducted for this division was in October/November, 1970 - a time lapse of nearly two and a half years. This should not be allowed to happen again. This census division is accessible all year round, and a failure by field officers to conduct annual census revision will only result in these people adopting a casual attitude towards the importance of the census. The revised census statistics can be found on the inside of the patrol report jacket.
6. The census revision revealed a total increase of 54, over the previous total population. However, this increase is made up mainly of 55 migrations in and 23 new names. The ~~xxxxx~~ number of deaths (36) exceeded the natural increase (births - 23) by 8. It would be difficult make any assumptions from this latter fact because of the time lapse between census revisions. Again, this is another factor why annual census revision should be carried out.
7. The most significant increase was seen at FIYARIMIN where there were 37 migrations in recorded and 18 new names vis. previously unrecorded; with the former, this figure is made up of 19 people from the SEREWAINA group who reside in the headwaters of the SUNGONGA River and 18 people from the MAWAIMIN group which is from the upper FIAK River area. All these people ~~xxx~~ claim to be members of the FIYARIMIN group who had land interests in the abovenamed areas, and were also censused at these areas by officers from Telefomin Sub District. The next census patrol will reveal how genuine these "immigrations" are.
8. 23 adult males were absent in other districts, mainly East New Britain, being employed as indentured labourers. Another 13, from MIANMIN groups were being employed as labourers at YAPSIEI Base Camp on the August River. These people are quite content to remain in their villages and follow the traditional way of life. The young men regard employment as indentured labour as part of their "education", and none have ever remained in the larger centres to find employment once their two year contract expires.
9. As stated in paragraph 6, no deductions can be made from the census statistics because of the time lapse of  $2\frac{1}{2}$  years between census revisions. It is hoped that census revision will be carried out again for this division in November/December of this year, and this will enable figures regarding infant mortality, etc, to be supplied.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ABEL-MAY Census Division.

Area Study

(19) Area Study.

B. SOCIAL GROUPINGS.

10. There are three distinct social groups within this Census Division, these groupings being based mainly upon language. These groups are as follows: i. MIANMIN. This name, which has been used in the past for the HOTMIN group who reside at WARABUNG, is the collective name for all the groups which are to be found between the junction of the USAGE and ABEI Rivers, south to the vicinity of Telefomin Station. There are three Mianmin groups residing in this Census Division; the HOTMIN group at WARABUNG, the USALIMIN group at SAUATABIP on the ABEI River upstream from WARABUNG, and the PIYARIMIN group which resides at KENAKABIP on the KENAKA River. All these groups have come originally from the TELEFOMIN area, and have been found to be the most progressive and energetic of any of the groups in this administrative area.

ii. BURUMAI. This village is part of the IWAM language group, which extends from Burumai to the Sepik River.

iii. ~~XXXX~~ YUWAITIRI-AIMI-UNANI. These three small hamlets situated near BURUMAI, have a separate language, which is similar to the dialects used by the groups which reside in the ARAI River Valley. The writer was unable to ascertain where these groups originally came from, but they could have migrated to their present villages from the Arai River valley in pre contact days.

11. The enmity between the Mianmin (HOTMIN) and BURUMAI groups, as reported by other patrolling officers, now appears to have reached a state of truce between both parties. The HOTMIN group have earned quite a ~~xxxxx~~ reputation in the past as raiders, culminating in the SUWANA massacre in January, 1959. The result of this massacre was a bitter dispute between the HOTMINS and BURUMAIS as to whom had title over the land which originally belonged to the SUWANA group. The latter, a small group which originally resided in the SAMO Creek area, has been absorbed into the INAGRI and BURUMAI groups, and the latter group are claiming ownership of the disputed land on the basis of this. All groups have been informed on many occasions that the land still belongs to the survivors of the massacre, and that neither of the disputing parties have any claim whatsoever to the SUWANA land.

12. The USALIMIN group were involved in a wife stealing raid involving the small SORI group which resides in the BOGOPE River valley to their west. This raid occurred in 1970, but there does not appear to be any illwill harboured against the raiders by the raided. The women concerned were taken into protective custody by a patrol but later returned to USALIMIN, evidently of their own free will.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

AMA MAY Census Division.

Area Study

C. LAND TENURE and USE.

13. Little is known of the land tenure system of this census division except that it would follow a patrilineal system of inheritance.
14. The main land use in the MIANMIN area is hunting and the cultivation of taro. The Mianmin taro gardens are usually on a communal basis, and it appears that the individual does not have title to the land.
15. Land usage in the YUWAITIRI and BURUMAI areas is mainly hunting and harvesting sage palms. Again, it does not appear that the individual has any title to the land, but does have usufructuary rights over sage palm stands.
16. It is hoped to begin work in the near future on a primary school at Amai. This project will involve voluntary labour from throughout the administrative area, and once completed and staffed, would enable the people of this census division to educate at least some of their children.
17. There are only three radios in the whole of the census division; all of these are in working order, but the lack of batteries (there are no stores in this division) is a limiting factor in the effectiveness of these radios as a means of teaching medium. It would be well worthwhile for all future patrols to carry batteries whenever and issue them to the owners of the radios as listed in appendix A.
18. Pidgin English is widely spoken throughout the Census Division, there is only one group where there are no Pidgin speakers and this is the MIANMIN group. The next patrol to the area should encourage a Pidgin man to accompany the patrol to Amai; there he could be taught Pidgin.

(18)

D.

AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

D. LITERACY

D.

16. Largely unchanged since the last Area Study was compiled in 1970. There are no schools in the Census Division, and it is envisaged that this area will see the establishment of a school, registered or otherwise, in the foreseeable future. The nearest schools are a Seventh Day Adventist school at PERWE (near the old MAY RIVER Station in the Central May C/D.) and a ~~xxx~~ Catholic Mission 'Bible School' in the upper FIAK River of the Telefomin Sub-District.
17. The people of this census division are aware of the advantages of education and are keen for their children to be educated. At the time of the census revision, one child was at the S.D.A. Mission school at Ambunti, and several men of the Hotmin were absent at the Fiak River Mission bible school. The latter, although not benefiting the community as a whole, does bring some standard of literacy - at least in Pidgin English - to the area.
18. It is hoped to begin work in the near future on a primary school at AMA. This project will involve voluntary labour from throughout the administrative area, and once completed and staffed, should enable the people of this census division to educate at least some of their children.
19. There are only three radios in the whole of the census division. All of these are in working order, but the lack of batteries (there are no stores in this division) is a limiting factor in the effectiveness of these radios as a ~~xxxxxxxx~~ teaching medium. It would be well worthwhile for all future patrols to carry batteries ~~xxxxxxxx~~ and issue them to the owners of the radios as listed in Appendix A.
20. Pidgin English is widely spoken throughout the Census Division. There is only one group where there are no Pidgin speakers and this is the FIYARIMIN group. The next patrol to the area should encourage a Fiyarimin man to accompany the patrol to Ama, where he could be taught Pidgin.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

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E. LEADERSHIP.

21. The Village Official system is still employed in this census division and it was seen that there is only one village official of note, with all the other village officials "the best of an indifferent crowd".

Luluai NANAKIEM NINGAP of the Hotmain group was found to be accepted as a leader and this, coupled with his pro Government attitude, makes for easy patrolling in his area. It was also seen that the other Mianmin groups in this area also accept NANAKIEM as a leader.

As a whole, the village officials of the Mianmin groups are keen, go ahead and extremely pro Government, whereas the Village officials of the river groups tend to reflect the circumstances in which they live.

22. Traditional leaders still appear to be the "power behind the throne" in most areas visited. However, as these older men die, it is hoped the younger men, some of whom have been seen to have progressive ideas, will replace these men and attempt to improve the general outlook of the people of this census division.

23. The main problem which faces any potential leader in this area is that any plans to develop would be thwarted from the beginning as economic development of this area is not officially encouraged - and these people are fully aware that economic development is the only way to improve their lot - both financially and socially.

24. Refer to Appendix "B" for a list of Village officials.

It is recommended that the Mianmin areas may be incitement to move to the main rivers. In addition villages like those patrols should stress the advantages of separate housing for families, the advantages of living in villages etc etc.

25. HOMA Village was found to be a mess, long grass throughout the village, rubbish everywhere, toilets either non-existent or of such a standard that they were unusable, houses full of vermin with every house overrun with cockroaches, dogs and fleas. This attitude towards their village is typical of the river groups and all future patrols should actively counsel these people under the Native Affairs authorities concerned. It was also found that the deceased people of the village were buried under their beds in the middle of the village because he had been informed at the Government station towards this area that and the body was later exhumed and buried outside the village boundaries.

26. European dress has replaced the traditional phallicus. Most of the males of the census divisions, even the isolated Riverinians, are found to be clothed mainly in shorts and singlets in the main part being nudity. The young throughout this census division wear the grass shorts, and the older cannot see any change in the foreseeable future.

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Area Study.

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F. STANDARD OF LIVING.

25. The standard of living varies in this division with the energetic Mianmin groups striving to improve their way of life on one hand, and the apathetic river groups on the other.
26. The standard of housing in the Mianmin area is on par, if not better, than, ~~xxxxx~~ with the housing of the longer contacted YUWAITIRI and BURUMAI people. The housing to be found at HOTMIN and USALIMIN is of the pandanus thatch, black palm floor type. With these two groups, most married couples have their own houses and toilets - an example the river people could do well to follow. The FIYARIMIN group still live in fortified long houses, but they indicated to the writer that they wish to follow the example of the other Mianmin groups in establishing central villages instead of living in small scattered hamlets. To this end, they were issued with axes, spades and grass knives.
27. The Mianmin groups obviously take some pride in their village sites, with the grass being cut regularly and the village environs being free of any rubbish. A complete contrast to the river villages where rubbish is thrown out of houses and left to accumulate - the people working on the premiss that the river will eventually flood and dispose of village waste.
28. The worst housing of any groups in this division was of the YUWAITIRI and AIMI groups, two small groups who live in the one long house. This house was seen to be completely overrun with cockroaches, the roofing was rotten, as was the walls and floors. These people live on a hill in the sago swamps nearly 90 minutes walk from the main river, and show no inclination to move to the main river, and establish a village. All future patrols should stress the advantages of separate housing for families, the advantages of living in villages etc etc.
29. BURUMAI Village was found to be a mess. Long grass throughout the village, rubbish everywhere, toilets either non existent or of such a standard that they were unusable, houses full of rubbish with every house overrun with cockroaches, dogs and fowls. This attitude towards their village is typical of the river groups and all future patrols should actively prosecute these people under the N.A.R.s if their attitude does not improve. It was also found that the Burumai people had buried one of their big men in the middle of the village because he had wished "to be buried under his betel nut trees". They were very quickly informed of the Government's attitude towards this practise, and the body was later exhumed and buried outside the village environs.
30. European dress has replaced the traditional phallocrypt amongst most of the males of this census division. Even the isolated Fiyarimin group were found to be clothed mainly in shorts and shirts with the penis gourd being a rarity. The women throughout this census division still wear the grass skirts, and the writer cannot see any change in this in the foreseeable future.

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F. STANDARD OF LIVING (Contd)

31. The staple diet varies through the census division - the river people are food gatherers in the traditional sense, and the Mianmin groups are cultivators of taro, sweet potato and introduced vegetables.
- The people of BURUMAI, YUWATTIRI, AIMI and UNANI subsist mainly upon sago, supplemented with coconuts, smoked fish, bananas and some pawpaw. Game is plentiful, but it appears that the people wait mainly for flood conditions when rising water levels in the swamps drives game to isolated knolls and hills. These people do not wish to over exert themselves in any way at all !
32. The Mianmin groups on the other hand, have extensive gardens, and vary rarely eat sago. The staple diet for these people is taro, supplemented with paw paw, pumpkin, pitpit, sweet potato, beans, bananas (both sweet and cooking varieties), fish, aibika, and fresh meat. As a result of this diet, the Mianmin groups are a much healthier and energetic people than the river people.
33. The general health of the people seen varied greatly - diet and housing dictating the peoples' health. Scabies is still common amongst the sago eaters, but was not seen with the Mianmin groups. The patrol Medical Orderly treated the usual number of sores and malaria, but the general health of the people was good.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

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G. MISSIONS.

34. The only mission represented in this census division is the Seventh Day Adventist Mission which has a native 'catechist' living at BURUMAI. It appears that his sole job is to gain converts to the SDA Mission. He does not travel to other villages.
35. The writer cannot see any other missions entering this area for some time to come - if at all.

D.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

(13)

H. NON INIDGENES.

36. Not applicable - there are no non indigenes residing or engaged upon any type of activity in this division.

D.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

D.

I. TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL SKILLS.

37. Unchanged since last Area Study; there are no people in this census division who have received even a basic formal education, although there is one youth from BUREMAI now attending the Seventh Day Adventist Mission School at Ambunti.
38. In view of the lack of roads and the difficulty of getting back - the Bembele groups have suggested that tracks be built with standard and bridged oil drums along those tracks, so that animals can be kept up and down the area. The Bembele groups were enquiring as to the possibility of the Government assisting them in the construction of an airfield or warehouse. It was explained to them that the small population and lack of economic development in the area would preclude the Government from encouraging such a project. They were told, however, to approach the stations in the Wolefeatu area who may be interested in establishing a meteor station in this area.
39. For information on the navigability of the rivers in this census division, refer to MAF RIVER REPORT No. 73, 24, Appendix "A".

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

D.

J. COMMUNICATIONS.

38. There are no vehicular roads or airstrips in this census division. The means of access to this division is by powered canoe to as far as WARABUNG Village. During the 'dry' season when snags and rapids prevent movement of canoes past NUWARU Camp, patrols can reach the Mianmin area by walking track. Movement from WARABUNG to USALIMIN and FIYARIMIN is by walking track - the Mianmin groups have upgraded these tracks to bridle path standard and bridged all creeks along these tracks. Another example of their 'get up and go'. ~~island are to gain self independence~~
39. Whilst at Warabung, the Hotmin and Isalimin groups were enquiring as to the possibility of the Government assisting them in the construction of an airstrip at Warabung. It was explained to them that the small population and lack of economic development in the area would preclude the Government from encouraging such a project. They were told, however, to approach the Missions in the Telefomin area who may be interested in establishing a mission station in this area.
40. For information on the navigability of the rivers in this census division, refer to MAY RIVER Patrol No. 4-70/71, Appendix 'A'.
41. The people of this census division are becoming aware of the machinery of Law and the fact that the law does not only extend to unlabelled buildings. The writer feels that officers posted to this administrative area should always have Court powers - this will encourage the people to report minor offences, and these can be dealt with in the village or patrol thus allowing the people to have a close look at the workings of local Courts. A full understanding of the Law by peoples' responsibilities towards the law are necessary so that they begin to more comprehend the machinery of government.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

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D.

K. THE STAGE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

41. The whole of this census division is administered under the village official system. This system appears to be working well, as the officials become aware (at this late stage) that they have powers to prosecute people and that the system of law will support them. For years, Village officials have imagined themselves to be solely in that position where they donned their peaked cap when their village was visited by the Government officer. However, this situation will have to change if these Village Officials are to gain self confidence in this day and age. It is planned to begin conducting bi-monthly meetings at AMA for the Village Officials of this administrative area and these meetings are planned to educate the V.O.s mainly on political education.
42. The majority of the people of this Census Division are not politically aware - to them, the meaning of Government is the Patrol Officer visiting their Villages once or twice a year. To date, this census division has only been visited once by a member of the House of Assembly - this visit being made by a former member for the AMBUNTI-YANGORU Open Electorate.
43. The ideal solution to this problem would be a seminar held at Ama which all the V.O.s for ~~xxxx~~ this administrative area could attend - and which the District Government Liaison could attend and give these village officials an education in the politics of this emerging nation.
44. The people of this census division are becoming aware of the machinery of law and the fact that the law does not only extend to unlawful killings. The writer feels that officers posted to this administrative area should always have Court powers - this will encourage the people to report minor offences, and these can be dealt with in the village on patrol, thus allowing the people to have a close look at the workings of Local Courts. A full understanding of the law, the peoples' responsibilities towards the law are necessary before they ~~xxxx~~ begin to ~~xxxx~~ comprehend the machinery of government.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

L. ATTITUDE TOWARDS LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

45. Present policy is that AMA will not have a local government council in the foreseeable future - the lack of economic development in the area would prevent the establishment of even a low income L.G. Council. If a council were to be established at Ama, it would prove to be more of a burden than a benefit.  
Thus, the subject of ~~the~~ local was not raised during this patrol.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

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Area Study.

M. ATTITUDE TOWARDS CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

46. The people of this census division have little comprehension of the machinery of central government - as stated elsewhere, political education in this area will be a continuing process. However, all officers in the past have noted that the people here have a great deal of respect for the Government, and the writer did not see anything to change this opinion of the peoples' attitude towards the Government.

D.

During the period covered the only income received by those in the area was for 205 dollars per month in wages and labourers on the AIA membership. The total amount of tax revenue earned in the area over the last twelve months to us follows:-

Patrol Agent	\$ 500.00
Strip Work	\$ 55.00
Resorts (2)	\$ 4.70

Total \$ 559.70

Thus, with a total population of 400 in the census division, had an average per capita income figure of \$1.90 - however, as stated in the last Area Study compiled for this division, this is a cynical figure, as there were only three groups receiving this income - PAA, PAAW and G.I.L.M.P. - and depending upon income - PAA, PAAW and G.I.L.M.P. - and number of patrols which visits the Biafra area, the above figure is available at sum of \$1.50.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study. (7)

N. THE ECONOMY OF THE AREA.

47. There are no cash crops in this census division, and it is not official policy to encourage cash cropping in this Administrative area.
48. All revenue in the area is raised through wage labour. The money earned by indentured labourers can be discounted as little, if any at all, of this revenue ever reaches the home village in the form of cash.
49. Over the last six months, the HOTMIN and USALIMIN groups earned \$500 as patrol carriers; the only other revenue coming into the area being 265 dollars being earned by BURUMAI labourers on the AMA Airstrip project. A breakdown of the revenue earned in this area over the last twelve months is as follows:-

Patrol wages:	\$500.00
Strip Work :	265.00
Passbooks (2)	14.70
Total: £ 779.70	

50. Thus, with a total population of 410 the census division has an average per capita income figure of \$1.90 - however, as stated in the last Area Study compiled for this division, this is a mythical figure, as there were only three groups receiving this income - BURUMAI, HOTMIN and USALIMIN - and this income will vary from year to year, depending upon the number of patrols which visits the Miammin area, and also upon the availability of work at AMA.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

⑥  
0. POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING THE ECONOMY.

51. Until the Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries changes its attitude towards cash cropping in this Administrative area, it is hardly worth commenting under this heading.
52. As it stands at the moment, there is no economy to expand.

L  
AMA Patrol No. 13-72/73.

ABEI MAY Census Division.

(5)  
Area Study.

P. ACCOMMODATION, SERVICES, FACILITIES.

53. Other than rest houses which are to be found in all centres of this division, there are no services and facilities.

AMA Patrol No.13-72/73.

ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

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APPENDIX 'B'.

Village Officials.

1. KAUERIA - SAU'ASA.

Tultul for YUWAITIRI and AIMI.  
Married, 1 child. Aged 36.  
Fair knowledge of pidgin. Has not  
been outside the Ama administrative area.  
Unimpressive as V.O.

2. SIROGWI-NAUNI

LULUAI for BURUMAI Village.  
Married with three children. Good  
command of pidgin. Not impressive as  
Luluai.

3. ABIAU - PAUYA

TULTUL for UNANI group.  
Married with two wives and three children.  
Poor knowledge of pidgin.  
Not impressive.

4. KABASITNI-HOBALAP

Luluai for USALIMIN Village.  
Fair knowledge of Pidgin.  
Married with one child.  
Appears to command some respect in his  
area.

5. NANAKIAN-NINGAP

LULUAI for HOTMIN group.  
Married with three children.  
Excellent knowledge of pidgin.  
The most impressive village official in  
this census division, and commands  
wide respect throughout the mianmin  
groups of this census division.

6. KRENTUDU-KOSAN

TUTUL for HOTMIN group.  
Married with three children.  
Good command of pidgin.  
Tends to allow the Luluai 'do all the  
work' - however, has shown that he  
is capable of good work.

7. AMUKAP-LAWASU

Probationary LULUAI for FIYARIMIN group.  
Former Luluai deceased.  
AMUKAP - married with two wives, 5  
children.  
No knowledge of pidgin.  
Capabilities not known.

All Village Officials are extremely pro Government and continue to assist patrols to the best of their capabilities.

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ABEI MAY Census Division.

Area Study.

APPENDIX 'C'.

FIREARMS.

BURUMAI Village.

MASIO - NAINI.

Winchester Shotgun Serial No. C198768.  
Registration: OK.

SIROGIE - NAUNI.

Winchester Shotgun Serial No. C064668  
Registration: OK

HOTMIN (MIANMIN).

NANAGIAM - NINIAM.

Greener Shotgun serial no. 67789.  
Registration: OK

YAKOB - PEPERAB.

Greener shotgun serial no. 66941.  
Registration: OK

BENSHU - FILMAP.

Winchester shotgun serial No. C282007.  
Registration: OK

XXXXMIN

USALIMIN.

ANIS - KWITAR.

Winchester shotgun serial no. C316089.  
Registration: OK

There are no other firearms in the division.

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ABET MAY Census Division.  
Area Study.  
APPENDIX 'D'.

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CENSUS STATISTICS.

Place and date of Census.	Totals excluding Absentees						Totals		
	MC	FC	MA	FA	MC	FC	MA	FA	MC + FA
AMTI 16/5/73	5	2	3	3	-	-	1	-	9 + 5 = 14
BURUMAI 17/5/73	19	20	17	20	-	2	13	1	49 + 42 = 92
FIVARIMIN 11/5/73	28	21	21	27	-	-	7	-	56 + 48 = 104
UNANI 23/5/73	3	2	5	4	-	-	-	-	8 + 6 = 14
HOLMIN 26/1/73	24	13	14	18	1	2	17	2	56 + 35 = 91
USALMIN 25/1/73	13	15	24	17	2	-	6	-	45 + 32 = 77
XUWAITRI 16/5/73	5	1	6	6	-	-	-	-	11 + 7 = 18
	97	74	90	95	3	4	44	3	234 + 176
					346			54	410

(2)

Previous Total:		356
Add:	Births	28
	Migrations in	19
	Previously unrecorded names	23
		<hr/>
Minus:	Deaths	462
	Migrations out	36
		16
		<hr/>
		410

(1)

Ama Patrol No. 13/1972-73                    AREA STUDY - ABEI MAY C.D.  
Assistant District Commissioner's Comments.

D.

Area Study is a good coverage and highlights the energetic, proud Mianmin against the scattered lethargic swamp and river people.

A good coverage of data on the Abei May.

All we can do is to offer them some basic help and encouragement. A patrol, or perhaps patrols, need to be set up and attend to their basic problems, and with the departure of the patrol the people return to their own gathering. Their way of life has changed very little since first contact.

Lack of basic services makes society in this area unproductive and uninteresting to outsiders, little has been placed upon education, medical training etc.

If these people were to be forgotten at Independence it would make little difference to them - their way of life.

  
L. W. BRAGGE

27th June 1973

E  
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Ama Patrol No. 13/1972-73                    AREA STUDY - ARAI MAY C.D.  
Assistant District Commissioner's Comments.

This area study describes the pathetic people of the Arai May C.D. These are one of the most politically backward and isolated peoples in this Sub District.

All we can hope to offer these people is law and order enforcement. A patrol, or perhaps two per year goes to see them and attend to their local problems, and with the departure of the patrol the people return to their sago gathering. Their way of life has changed very little since first contact.

Much of Ama's serious crime occurs in this area. Despite our arrests and imprisoning of offenders, little curb has been placed upon murder, unlawful wounding etc.

If these people were to be forgotten at Independence it would make little difference to them or their way of life.

  
L. W. BRAGGE  
27th June 1973

## Patrol Post MAY RIVER

Scale - 1" = 4 miles

