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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: WEST SEPIK

STATION: TELEFOMIN

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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SSEIK DISTRICT

TELEFOLMIN SUB-DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS 1956/57

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Officer</u> Conducting Patrol.	<u>Area Patrolled.</u>
1-1956/57	G.F. Booth	Feramin Tribal Area
-2-1956/57	R.T. Neville	Miansin Area
-3- 1956/57	G.T. Booth	Eliptamin Valley & portion of the Inner Atabalain
-4-1956/57	R.T. Neville	Miansin
-5-1956/57	G.F. Booth	Atabalain Tribal Area



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of Sepik Report No. TEEPOLMIN NO 19 1956/57

Patrol Conducted by G. F. BOOTH Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Ennamin Tribal Area

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Medical Assistant B. G. Byrnie

Natives 6 Police Constables 2 N.M.O. 1 Interpreter

Duration—From 29/8/1956 to 1/9/1956

Number of Days 4 Days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? Yes

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services/...../19.....

Medical/...../18.....

Map Reference

Objects of Patrol To investigate the extent of the
Zyhanza Epidemic and give Medical Treatment to
patients.

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please

..... / /19.....

District Commissioner

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

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

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

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MICRO
in
M F

RA. 30-11-44

28th December, 1956.

The District Officer,
WISAK

Special Patrol TELEPHONE No. I of 1956/57.

The above Report is acknowledged.

(A.A. Roberts)
Director. *JA*


(P/A)
4/1/57

28th December, 1956.

The Director,
Department of Public Health,
Port Moresby.

Patrol Report WEWAK - 1-55/56.

Extract of the above report is attached for your
information, please.


(A.A. Robertson)
Director.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/11/56 ✓



In Reply
Please Quote

No. NEW. TEL. 1/56-57/
1816.

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
MIMAK.

2nd November, 1956.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

SPECIAL PATROL TELEFON NO. 1/56-57
PERAMIN AREA.

Please find enclosed two (2) copies of the Special Report submitted by Mr. G.F. Booth, Patrol Officer on a patrol of the PERAMIN area, Telefomin.

Influenza epidemics are not an unusual occurrence but in backward areas such as PERAMIN, they are a demoralising and frightening phenomena.

Every effort is being made to influence the natives in this area to take advantage of medical benefits, and it should not be long before greater use of European drugs may be expected. The placing of a local trained N.M.O. in the area should assist in this.

The Assistant District Officer, Telefomin will be requested to maintain close contact with these people so that, with their return from "self imposed isolation", a true picture of the result of the epidemic may be obtained.

Arthur J. Barry
(F.P. KAAD)
a/DISTRICT OFFICER.

WEN. TRIE. 1/56-57/
1846.

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
NEWAK.

2nd November, 1956.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESEY.

SPECIAL PATROL TELEFONIN NO. 1/56-57
FERAMIN AREA.

Please find enclosed two (2) copies of the Special Report submitted by Mr. G.F. Booth, Patrol Officer on a patrol of the FERAMIN area, Telefomin.

Influenza epidemics are not an unusual occurrence but in backward areas such as FERAMIN, they are a demoralizing and frightening phenomena.

Every effort is being made to influence the natives in this area to take advantage of medical benefits, and it should not be long before greater use of European drugs may be expected. The placing of a local trained N.I.O. in the area should assist in this.

The Assistant District Officer, Telefomin will be requested to maintain close contact with these people so that, with their return from "self imposed isolation", a true picture of the result of the epidemic may be obtained.

Arthur J. Kaad
(F.P. KAAD)
D/DISTRICT OFFICER.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT.



Special Patrol Telefolmin No. 1/56-57.

16th October, 1956.

Report of a Patrol to the

FERAMIN TRIBAL AREA.

SEPIK DISTRICT.

Officer Conducting Patrol : G.F. Booth, Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled : FERAMIN TRIBAL AREA.

Objects of the Patrol : To Investigate the extent of the
Influenza Epidemic, and give Medical
Attention where possible.

Duration : 4 days (28/8/56 - 1/9/56).

Personnel Accompanying : B.G. Goble, Medical Assistant,
6 Police Constables,
2 Native Medical Orderlies,
1 Interpreter.

INTRODUCTION.

This report covers a brief visit to the Feramin tribal area.

The Feramin group live south of Telefolmin Station in a narrow valley situated between the Behrmann Mountains and the Hindenburg Range. As far as can be accurately estimated this area is approximately two miles south of the Papuan Border.

During the early part of August, 1956 an Influenza epidemic swept the immediate Telefolmin area. It was not realised until later in the month that this epidemic was more widespread than was first thought. Vague rumours of many deaths in the Feramin area reached the station so this patrol hastily set out to render whatever assistance possible.

As the patrol dealt almost exclusively with matters pertaining to health, and as the Medical Assistant, Mr. B.G. Goble accompanied the patrol, this report is quite brief.

DIARY.

- 29th August : Departed Telefolmin Station at 0900 hours. Crossed the Sol River by bridge and descended through rain forest to the Maran River, which is the land boundary between Telefolmin and Feramin. The river was running strongly and fording was difficult. Ascended sharply from the river and then dropped steadily to the Um River. The bridge here was unsafe for carriers so a temporary structure was built and the patrol moved on to Feramin, arriving at 1315 hours. Word immediately sent to the nearby villages informing them of the patrol's arrival and purpose.
- 30th August : Inspected villages of Simintavip and Igintavip. Lined people, many absentees, medical treatment given where necessary. Further advice of patrol sent to other Feramin villages.
- 31st August : Inspected villages of Famikmin, Oksimin and Kobramin. Few people seen. Medical treatments continued. Temporary Aid Post established at camp site.
- 1st September: Departed Feramin at 0630 hours, arrived Telefolmin Station at 1015 hours.
-

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The Feramins gave the patrol a lifeless reception. This was in direct contrast to the enthusiastic welcome that was given to the previous patrol in March (Report No. 4/55-56).

The Influenza epidemic has obviously left the people dispirited, and it will be some little time before they are ready to resume their normal way of life.

Relations between the Government and the Feramins have always been good. The people live in five main villages, Simintavip, Igintavip, Fammkmin, Kobramn and Oksimn. These villages are sub-divided into many small hamlets. The Headmen are strong supporters of the Government and they have considerable influence over their respective groups.

The Feramins have always shown a certain reticence towards medicine, especially for ailments other than sores and ulcers. The people have, in common with the other Telefolmin peoples, the belief that internal complaints, stomach pains and suchlike are the work of spirits. Consequently, they are inclined to regard medicine as a treatment for them as useless. This patrol instructed the Headmen that future epidemics must be reported promptly. As a point of reasoning it was mentioned to the Feramins that though they might not have much faith in Government medicine they had only a small population and it was not right for large numbers of people to die, when the Government could considerably reduce the numbers of deaths providing it was given a little co-operation. It is considered that continual expression along these lines will show results.

The patrol made no demands upon the people. As soon as the Feramins indicate that they have thrown off their illness, work will be started to restore inter-village roads to order, bridges will be built over the Maran and Um Rivers. Two new Rest Houses will also have to be built, as the old building at Simintavip is almost beyond repair and the other at Kobramn has collapsed completely.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH.

The patrol was accompanied by the Medical Assistant, Mr. E.G. Goble and two Native Medical Orderlies from the Telefolmin Native Hospital.

As Mr. Goble's report will cover fully the nature and form of the epidemic only brief mention will be made here.

It appears that during early August the Influenza epidemic spread from the Telefolmin villages to Feramin. At the first signs of this sickness which threatened to engulf them, the Feramins erected elaborate archways outside their villages and planted different types of lilies along the roads. However, when these precautions failed to deter the progress of the epidemic, the people deserted their normal haunts and dispersed into the bush. Normally the Feramins live in hamlets ranging in

NATIVE AFFAIRS con.

size from one to three or four families. The unchecked progress of the epidemic caused these hamlets to become deserted as in twos and threes the people slipped away into the bush to await the passing of the sickness.

This self-imposed isolation helped greatly in limiting the spread of the epidemic, but it also provided this patrol with the impossible task of locating 842 people (figures from Patrol Report No. 4/55-56) scattered over many square miles of rough country. In seeing 300 people it is considered that the patrol did relatively well when it is realised that 100 of the total population were on the other side of the Hindenburg Range, and the balance were scattered to such an extent that fathers had no idea where their children were, and brother was parted from brother. Short of plunging blindly into the bush the patrol had no way of locating the absentees. Even this course was considered until it was discovered that the epidemic was waning.

Close examination of the people seen, revealed that the sickness had spread quickly and had then commenced to wane, due no doubt to the people scattering in its path. The patrol recorded 17 deaths; of which total 11 may be attributed to influenza and 6 to other causes. Of these 11 deaths, 5 were adult males, 5 adult females and 1 male child. It was noticed that of the 10 dead adults 6 were in the aged or near aged group. It was noticed further that 7 of the total dead came from the villages nearest to Telefolmin; the more remote villages escaped lightly as the people scattered when deaths were reported elsewhere.

To enable treatment to be given to those recovering from the sickness, a temporary Aid Post was established near Simintavip. This Post was staffed by Jumengim, a Feramin youth who has been trained as a Medical Orderly. It is intended that treatments will be continued until all signs of the disease have gone. Messages were sent out into the bush informing all of the existence of the Aid Post, and that treatment would be available for the asking.

A closer watch will be maintained in future for a re-occurrence of Influenza and other infectious diseases.

G.F. Booth
G.F. Booth,
PATROL OFFICER.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SEKIK Report No. TELECOMMIN NO. 3 J 1966/57.
 Patrol Conducted by G. F. BOOTH PATROL OFFICER
 Area Patrolled EIPI TAMIN VALLEY and PORTALS to INNER ATABALMIN
 Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr B. Gable Medical Assistant.
 Natives 10 members P.P.N.G.C., 2 Medical Orderlies.
 Duration—From 28./11./1956 to 19./12./1956 1 Interpreter.
 Number of Days 22

Did Medical Assistant accompany? Yes.

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services July 1956 Inner Atabalmin

Medical APRIL 1956 Eiplotamin Valley
MAY 18 56 Eiplotamin Valley
Tricked to Inner Atabalmin

Map Reference Based on TELECOMMIN Subs. District Map

Objects of Patrol 1. Census Revision. 2. Construction of Rest Houses. 3. Positioning of Roads. 4. Release escaped prisoners. 5. Consideration of Govt. Influence.
6. I.G. SURVEY.

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

District Commissioner

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

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

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

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Village Population

Year 1966 - 1967

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	Births		DEATHS														MIC in		
				0-1 Month		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-12		Over 13		Number in Birth				
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F		
OPEKAMIN	28-11-56	1															2	2	4	6
UWATIGIN	2-12-56	2	2														1	5	1	9
INANTIGIN	3		2					1									2	5		3
MISINMIN	6	3	3														4	3		11
KOMDAVIP	10	9	1			2	1	2		1			1				16	9	4	7
BOWIL	11	4	5			1				1							3	2	4	
AFOGAVIP	14	2	1															1	3	10
TERAPDAVIP	14		1							1				1			2	2	5	2
KOBRAMIN	14	3	2							1	1				2		3	3		
UJEMTIGIN	14	1	5														4	4	1	1
BILTAVIP	15	2	3					1									2	3	7	6
AGAMTAVIP	15		2														1		5	1
TAGATEMTIGIN	15	4	2				2			1							3	3		
ABUNKAMIN	16	8	4											1	1	1	1	1	1	4
TOTALS.		40	30			2	2	3	5	3	2	1	5	4	4	3	1	38	6	

PREVIOUS CENSUS

MARCH 1955

POPULATION 1782

POPULATION DECREASE 197%

81

Population Register

Area Patrolled.....

MIGRATIONS		ABSENT FROM VILLAGE AT WORK								LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES		TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL			
In	Out	Inside District				Outside District				Govt.		Mission		Males	Females	Pregnant	Number of child in charge	Average Size of Family	Child		Adults		
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F						M		F	M	F
4	6	2											5	18	2	17	15	3	20	16	19	18	75
1	9												7	19	2	13	13	2.6	13	13	18	14	61
2	3	2											7	29	2	19	1	2	21	13	19	20	88
1	1	2											8	26	12	27	1	2.6	27	3.6	3.6	22	125
1	1	3											31	71	20	54	1	5.4	84	47	77	72	287
4		4											9	40	5	32	1	3.2	83	33	43	40	164
3	10												7	25	3	27	3	2.5	22	16	20	28	94
3	2	2											9	26	8	21	1	3.2	30	18	25	23	103
		2											20	44	5	31	4	3.1	40	26	45	39	156
1	1	3											6	24	3	21	1	1.9	18	15	25	23	84
7	6	2											11	21	3	19	1	3.1	22	22	25	21	93
2	1	3											8	28	7	18	1	3	20	22	30	20	92
		3											12	31	13	26	2	2.6	36	29	30	29	126
4	5	21											16	30	16	33	3	4.7	41	39	31	34	147
38	61	30	55										156	444	101	358	13	3.3	427	344	451	413	1695

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RECORD
BOOK

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NA.30-11-64

4th June, 1957.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WENAE.

Telefomin Patrol Report No.3 of 1956/57.

The attitude of the native peoples towards the Administration is obviously improving. They are prepared to (a) assist in road improvements (b) appear for census checking in satisfactory numbers (c) assist in providing rest houses (d) provide food for patrols (e) appear for and receive medical treatment.

Difficulties are always experienced in selecting the Head man of any village. Where there is no Head man there is no control of people in groups. I suggest that a trial be given to the establishment of an unofficial council of Head men for a particular group. In this manner you will be able to govern to some degree the actions of the group as a whole. This group organisation will allow you to ensure that the same people do not have to perform the "chores" all the time. I feel that the appointments of Luluais and Tultals should not be spread in the Telefomin area but that the looser, indirect approach through councils might be the most satisfactory way of dealing with these scattered and difficult people.

Footpaths then bridal paths construction will assist you in your ground communication problem. These tracks can then be graded for motor cycle use.

The patrol has been satisfactorily performed under difficult conditions.

One of the highlights of the patrol is the fact that Mantoux tests were conducted in all villages.

8/A
2/6

C.A.R.
PA (A.A. Roberts)
Director.

NA.30-11-64

Department of Native Affairs,
Port Moresby.

4th June, 1957.

The Director of Public Health,
FORT MORESBY.

Attached hereto is extract from Telefoam Patrol Report
No.3 of 1956/57, for your information, please.

e.a.l.
P.R.
(A.A. Roberts)
Director.

30/11/64 ✓

F. E. TEL. No. 3 of
1956/57

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
WERAK.

18th April, 1957.

The Assistant District Officer,
TELEPOLMIN.

TELEPOLMIN PATROL REPORT NO. 3 OF 1956/57:

Receipt of this Report is acknowledged and it is obvious that it contains the kind of detailed information necessary to consolidate our knowledge of the area, and essential before the making of further decisions on its future. These are the kind of patrols upon which you must concentrate now that the MIANMIN situation is settling down. They do not make the headlines but in the ultimate they are the basis of successful administration. The approval of solo patrols close to the station will facilitate such patrols.

The Native Situation section emphasises a point which is sometimes lost sight of in one's natural desire to get ahead with station work, especially when the surrounding populations are not over large. It is essential that work is apportioned fairly amongst them, taking into consideration their available labour. In the case of TELEPOLMIN, EVERY EFFORT MUST ALSO BE MADE to get in people from outside areas so that our influence is constantly spread further and not concentrated locally.

Although I maintain that roads are the sine qua non of development, it is obvious that in some divisions the terrain or spars population will make their construction impossible. In those places our only course is improvement of walking tracks.

I know that the reason you give for the delay in submitting this Report was Mr. Booth's absence on the recent MIANMIN murder patrol but in future, ensure that upon return from a patrol the first thing done by its leader is the completion of his Report.



.....
(F. F. Kaad)
s/District Officer

→ c.c. Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORSBY.

Original and copy of the Report and Camping Allowance Claim are attached, please.

A good patrol by an officer who uses his brains as well as his feet when on patrol.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30-1-2/104

Sub-District Office,
TELEFOLMIN.

9th April, 1957

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WEWAK

PATROL REPORT NO. 3 of 1956/57 - TELEFOLMIN

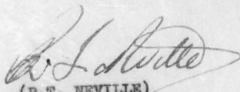
Please find enclosed three (3) copies of the
above Report.

Mr. Booth has been rather hard on the Headmen. However, I can appreciate his point of view. Different to other areas which have Iuluais picked out who are usually very pro-Government, the policy here has been to appoint as headman only those who traditionally hold that position, except the cases where such men are now serving sentences for the order of Messrs. Szulka and Harris. Such men may or may not be whole heartedly for the Government. Apparently some are not. However, with constant patrolling and showing them that we are very interested in their area, we will instill more than a spark of interest.

From the census figures it would appear that there has been a slight decrease over the past twenty one months. Most of these were directly attributable to the recent epidemic of influenza which swept through the Telefolmin Sub-District.

It is good to see that there was an increase in the census attendance.

You will notice that there has been somewhat of a delay in compiling this report. Except for a short period around Christmas, Mr. Booth has been on patrol constantly. Since returning to the Station he has had to write his section of the more important MIARMIN patrol as well as attend to Stores which had been neglected with the advent of all Officers being out on patrol. Our Storeman is hopelessly unable to attend to such details.



(R. T. NEVILLE)
Assistant District Officer.

Att/

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

RTH.

File, 30-1-5/41.

Sub-District Office,
TELEFOLMILH.

26th November, 1956.

Mr. G. Booth,
Patrol Officer,
TELEFOLMILH.

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS.

As verbally arranged you will proceed on patrol to the ELIPTAMIN area as soon as possible.

The patrol will be accompanied by Mr. B. Geble E.M.A. who is interested in doing a T.B. survey of the area. Render him every assistance to enable him to see as many people as possible.

The main objects of the patrol will be:-

- (a) Census check.
- (b) Where necessary the renewal and construction of Rest Houses in the area.
- (c) Arrange for connecting roads to be built between the various villages in the Eliptamin valley - endeavour to put in roads of a gradient of not more than 1 in 8. Marked timbers for this purpose will be taken by the patrol.
- (d) Contact the people of the Atbalmin area letting them know of the recent patrol to their enemies the MIAMBIN, and of the friendly relations established. Inform them that reprisals of any description must cease and for them to endeavour to establish peaceful arrangements per media of the Government.
- (e) Retake into custody the three escaped prisoners KEIRELINGIN of KONDAPIP, FUGIMHOK of AGURTAVIP and AGARUSEP of AGURTAVIP. Let the headmen know of our displeasure of them for not bringing in these men of their own volition and use the headmen to the greatest extent to bring about this end.
- (f) Pertaining to the lighter side of our duties - inform the people of the coming Christmas festivities and invite them all to attend - you may be able to arrange for a few pigs for the occasion.

Ten police including an N.C.O. should be sufficient for the patrol, arrange to take most of those who did not accompany the last patrol.


.....
R.F. Neville. a/A.D.O.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

8th April, 1957

PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 1956-57 - TELEPOLMIN, SEPIK DISTRICT

Officer Conducting Patrol: G.F. Booth, Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled: ELIPTAMIN VALLEY and Portion of the
INNER ATBALMIN

Area Last Patrolled: ELIPTAMIN VALLEY - APRIL, 1956
INNER ATBALMIN - JULY, 1956

Patrol Accompanied By

Mr. B. Goble, Medical Assistant

No. 2554	L/Cpl.	WALINGINGI
No. 6554	Const.	WALAMAIWAI
No. 6737	"	LANGA
No. 7403	"	KUSINGO
No. 7404	"	OVISIM
No. 8973	"	KAUPA
No. 8975	"	MAI
No. 9005	"	LILI
No. 9006	"	NIGI
No. 9185	"	IARIP
N.M.O.		TINAMULICK
N.M.O.		SUMENGIM

Duration of Patrol: From 28/11/56 to 19/12/56.
Number of days:- 22.

Objects of Patrol:

1. Census Revision.
2. Construction of Rest Houses
3. Positioning of Roads
4. Retake Escaped Prisoners
5. Consolidation of Government Influence
6. T.B. Survey
7. To inform the ATBALMIN people that reprisals against the MIANMIN for past atrocities must cease.

Map Reference: Map Attached.

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PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 1956-57 - TELEFOLMIN.

INTRODUCTION.

This report covers a patrol to the ELIPTAMIN Valley and portion of the Inner ATBALMIN.

The ELIPTAMIN Valley, which lies north of TELEFOLMIN Station, is ringed on three sides by mountains. The DONNER Range fences the Northern side of the Valley, to the south lies the MITTAG Mountains whilst a smaller barrier to the East links the two aforementioned ranges. The headwaters of the OM and ELIP (DONNER) Rivers are situated in this smaller range. The OM flows away to the East to become a big river as it forms the STRICKLAND. The ELIP, small by comparison, splits the ELIPTAMIN Valley as it drops down to join the SEPIK River.

The section of the ATBALMIN area visited by this patrol lies North West of TELEFOLMIN Station, and is situated opposite the open or Western end of the ELIPTAMIN Valley on the Western bank of the SEPIK River. The full extent of the ATBALMIN area is not known. Indications are that it extends almost to the Dutch New Guinea Border, but this has not been verified by patrols.

Though a large number of patrols have moved in and through the ELIPTAMIN Valley there is a lack of accurate information held at TELEFOLMIN concerning villages, gardens, tracks, walking times, Headmen etc., therefore this report has been expanded to contain many small but vital details that should considerably assist future patrols.

The Inner ATBALMIN area has had no consolidated contact. The earlier patrols conducted by Messrs. Clifton-Bassett, Doolan and West followed different routes and as yet it is difficult to collate the information gathered. The area visited by this patrol was initially visited in July of this year, Report No.1/56-57 refers.

DIARY.

Wednesday 28th November, 1956.

Departed TELEFOLMIN Station at 1405 and Moved along the TELEFOLMIN Valley. At 1450 left the open grasslands and commenced a steady ascent through light forest until top of ridge reached (5650'). Descended to the OPEK River, crossed by bridge and climbed to the camp site 1620. (5300ft.) New Rest House under construction. Tents pitched. Village people waiting at camp site, census revised. Gardens in the area newly planted, no food available. Guard posted.

Thursday 29th November, 1956.

Departed OPEKAMIN camp at 0630 ascended steadily. Spelled at 0730 (6400ft.) Moved on at 0745, still climbing. Arrived top of range at 0855 (6550ft.) Spelled until 0915 then moved in a westerly direction along the top of the range. Spelled in an old garden at 1205 (5800ft.) Moved on at 1215, descended gradually. Arrived track leading to INANTIGAN village at 1230 (5600ft.) Camped. Messengers sent to INANTIGAN and INANTIGAN people and during late afternoon about 25 natives brought food to camp. Guides for following day obtained. Guard posted.

Friday 30th November, 1956.

Broke camp departing at 0625. Descended sharply along a poor track. Spelled at 0830 (3800ft.) at an old camp site of Mr. Clifton-Bassett. On at 0845, swinging northwest along a narrow ridge parallel with the SEPIK River. Spelled at 1000 (2750ft.) On at 1015, dropped steeply into flat swampy area, several sago palms seen. Arrived SEPIK River at 1120 (1600ft.) Repairs made to bridge. Crossed at 1200 and ascended a steep ridge. Climbed strenuously until 1315. Spelled (3375ft.). On at 1330, still climbing. Top of range reached at 1350 (3625ft.). Descended into

garden area of ATBALMIN group. Arrival of the patrol surprised a group of natives who were working in the garden. Some immediately ran into the bush whilst others seized weapons and commenced to act in a hostile manner. Patrol alerted in case of trouble. Interpreters called out to the armed natives to put down their weapons and come forward, but they scattered into the bush. The Patrol Officer with Police and Interpreters moved forward into the garden and eventually persuaded one native to come forward. This man had accompanied the previous patrol back to TELEPOLMIN. He was assured of the patrol's intentions, and at once he began calling out to his people. The patrol now moved into the centre of the garden and camped on a site selected by the previous patrol (3100ft.). A party of 15 ATBALMINS arrived soon afterwards with food. These people were quite friendly and despatched a runner to tell their headmen of the Government's visit. Guard posted. Heavy rain fell during the night.

Saturday 1st December, 1956.

Remained at camp site. A party of 35 to 40 natives, including women and children, brought food to the patrol during the morning. Upon the headman's arrival this group was addressed and advised of the Government's policy towards the MIAMMINS. All clearly indicated their willingness to abide by the Government's decisions and assured the patrol that they would cease further acts of retaliation against the MIAMMINS. Medical treatments given where necessary. More food far in excess of the patrol's requirements brought for sale. Guard posted. Heavy rain again fell during the night.

Sunday 2nd December, 1956.

Broke camp departing at 0615. Followed route used by patrol on its inward trip. Reached SEPIK River at 0750. Climbed up to previous resting place, spelled 0900. Moved on at 0915 ascending steeply. At 1100 at 1030 (3800ft.). On at 1050, still following original track. At 1100 swung away along a track prepared by the IUAITIGIN people. Commenced a series of small ascents and descents before climbing to top of a narrow ridge (4300ft.). Followed this ridge to an old garden from where IUAITIGIN village could be seen. Dropped to a small stream then climbed to the village 1230 (4300ft.). Site for patrol prepared. Camped. Revised census during late afternoon. Purchased food. Medical treatments given. Guard posted.

Monday 3rd, December, 1956.

Departed IUAITIGIN at 0710, descended steeply to a fast flowing creek. Followed downstream for a short distance before climbing up to the INANITIGIN hamlet of KANFILDITIGIN 0800 (4700ft.). Descended steadily to the ATEM River 0845 (3850ft.). Spelled. Moved on at 0900 Climbed up the almost perpendicular side of a ridge to another hamlet UPBEL, then followed along the crest of the ridge to the INANITIGIN Rest House. Arrived 1000 (5400ft.). Revised census during the afternoon. Mantoux test injections given by E.M.A. Goble. Purchased food. Guard posted.

Tuesday 4th December, 1956.

Remained at INANITIGIN Rest House. Medical treatments given. New Rest House commenced upon an abandoned village site near UPBEL hamlet. Parties out seeking possible sites for vehicular roads. Guard posted.

Wednesday 5th December, 1956.

Departed INANITIGIN at 0630. Descended steeply over broken ground before dropping sharply into a small stream. Ascended steeply over a sharp spur and then descended through an old garden, below the MISIMMIN hamlet at IPALANG. Climbed steadily along a good track to UNTEMITIGIN hamlet, then through the village and up to the MISIMMIN Rest House. Arrived 0730 (4700'). Tents pitched. Old Rest House demolished. Census revised and new building commenced. Food purchased. Road site parties out. Mantoux test made. Guard posted. Heavy rain during the afternoon and night.

Thursday 6th December, 1956

Departed MISINMIN at 0735, returned to INANTIGIN. Progress slow as the previous days rain had washed most of the track away. Arrived INANTIGIN 0905. Mantoux injections checked by E.M.A. Goble. BCG injections given. New Rest House almost completed. Police barracks commenced. Departed INANTIGIN 1345 arrived MISINMIN 1455. New Rest House complete except for walls. Police barracks under construction. Guard posted. Heavy rain during evening.

Friday 7th December, 1956

At MISINMIN. Rest House and barracks were continued. Medical treatments given. Several minor disputes settled. Food purchased. Guard maintained.

Saturday 8th December, 1956

Mantoux injects given by E.M.A Goble then moved on to KOMDAVIP. Departed MISINMIN 0950 steady descent then over undulating swampy ground before climbing to the KOMDAVIP Rest House. Arrived 1115 (4900 feet). Rest House demolished, new building commenced. Food purchased. Road parties out. Guard posted.

Sunday 9th December, 1956

At KOMDAVIP. Observed.

Monday 10th December, 1956

At KOMDAVIP. Mantoux tests made. Food purchased. Census revised, many absentees in the FAR River gardening area. Talks with village people. New Rest House completed. Escaped prisoner KURISORPCK (KEBELEBENGIM) brought in by Headman. Guard maintained.

Tuesday 11th December, 1956

Departed KOMDAVIP at 0700. Crossed two fast flowing streams before ascending to BOLVIL Rest House. Arrived 0835 (4800 feet). Census revised. Alterations made to Rest House, Police barracks commenced. Mantoux tests made. Food purchased. Guard posted.

Wednesday 12th December, 1956

Departed BOLVIL at 0815 returned to KOMDAVIP. Arrived at 0955. New Police barracks completed. Some Census absentees located. Food purchased. Guard posted.

Thursday 13th December, 1956

Mantoux tests checked, BCG injections given. Departed KOMDAVIP at 1150 returned to BOLVIL. Arrived at 1310. Food purchased. Police Barracks completed. Guard posted.

Friday 14th December, 1956

Mantoux tests checked, BCG injections given. Departed BOLVIL at 0730. Ascended steadily then descended before climbing sharply to AFOGAVIP Village. Dropped steadily to the TOB River then climbed up and along to TARAPDAVIP Rest House. Arrived 0840 (4700 feet). Old Rest House demolished. Census revised for TARAPDAVIP, KOBRAIN, UTEMIGIN and AFOGAVIP. Mantoux tests made. Food purchased. New Rest House completed during the late afternoon. Guard posted.

Saturday 15th December, 1956

Departed TARAPDAVIP at 0815. Descended gradually to the ELIP River (3950 feet), followed downstream to the ABUNG River, then followed the River upstream for a short distance before commencing a long steep climb to TAGATEMTIGIN Village (4000 feet). Moved through the village and followed a narrow steep ridge to the Rest House. Arrived 0920 (4925 feet). Rest House demolished, new building commenced. Revised census for TAGATEMTIGIN, AGUMTAVIP and BILTAVIP, many absentees. Mantoux tests made. Food purchased. Escaped prisoner FUGINOK of AGUMTAVIP brought in by the Headman. Guard posted.

Sunday 16th December, 1956

Departed TAGATEMTIGIN at 0725. Descended to the AGUMTAVIP hamlets (4750 feet), then down to the ABUNG River (4350 feet). Crossed and climbed to ABUNRAMIN. Arrived 0900 (4875 feet). Old Rest House demolished, new building started. Census revised, many absentees. Mantoux tests made. Food purchased. Guard posted. Heavy rain during the night.

Monday 17th December, 1956

Departed ABUNRAMIN at 0640. Arrived UTEMTIGIN at 0735 (4650 feet). Descended to the ELIP River. Crossed and climbed to the TARAPDAVIP - TAGATEMTIGIN road. Arrived Rest House 0835. Mantoux tests checked, BCG injections given. Heavy rain during the afternoon. Guard posted.

Tuesday 18th December, 1956

Departed TARAPDAVIP at 0640. Arrived TAGATEMTIGIN 0750. Mantoux tests checked, BCG injections given. Guard posted.

Wednesday, 19th December, 1956

Departed TAGATEMTIGIN at 0555. Moved to ABUNRAMIN. Arrived 0715. Mantoux tests checked, BCG injections given. Departed ABUNRAMIN 0900. Arrived TARAPDAVIP at 1100. Departed TARAPDAVIP at 1140 for the station. Commenced a slow descent up the DOL River. Spelled at 1315, on at 1325. Reached top of range (7750 feet). Heavy rain started at 1400. Long descent until station reached at 1525.

END OF DIARY

NATIVE SITUATION.

The native situation, in all aspects, was no better or worse than expected.

The ELIP people lived up to their reputation for listlessness. The apathetic greeting accorded this patrol showed that constant patrolling is needed to awaken and obtain from all the co-operation that the Government demands.

The patrol sighted 1,331 people out of a recorded population of 1,695. This was the best census attendance to date. It is considered that many people are avoiding census and should a patrol go into the gardening areas along the OM, MY, KWEP and PAK Rivers many unrecorded people would be revealed. Such a patrol would also be a most successful start of a policy to demonstrate to the ELIPS that the Government has had quite sufficient of their unco-operativeness. The ELIPS must be shown that

they must all co-operate and work with the Government, and not leave the work to a few as at the present.

The Headman system has worked so poorly in the ELIP Valley that it is considered the appointment of Liltain should be introduced. Certainly the Headmen have a hard job as they have no real power over their people. Where possible the patrol endeavoured to give assistance to the Headmen in the carrying out of their duties. Most of them however are not even making an effort to follow the orders and instructions given.

The patrol made a careful study of the garden sites of the ELIPS. Whilst the total population is 1695 people, it is quite safe in assuming that more than half that number are almost continually in the PAK, PU, KREP and OM Rivers. This means in fact that the available manpower within one days walk of the station is reduced accordingly. Some of these garden camps, notably those near the PU and KREP Rivers, are about five days walk from the ELIPTAMIN Valley. While some of these garden hamlets are occupied by the same people throughout the year there is a larger floating group that moves back and forth between the ELIPTAMIN Valley and their outside gardens. It is therefore not really possible to classify these people as being domiciled permanently along the PU, KREP, PAK or OM as the case may be. This continual movement of people means that the river no live and garden permanently in the ELIPTAMIN Valley, being close to the station, are constantly on call for various jobs such as carriers etc. - these calls they answer grudgingly. It appears that until some satisfactory solution is found, that will enable Government work to be shared out fairly amongst all the people, there will always be a certain amount of dissatisfaction amongst the permanent residents of the valley.

The patrol contacted some of the ATRALMIN people, and advised them of the Government's action re the killing of four MIAMINS at the hands of the ATRALMINS, and the subsequent killing of four ATRALMINS by the MIAMINS (Patrol Report TEL.2 of 1956/57). The ATRALMINS were advised as follows:-

1. There must be no reprisals for the killing of four ATRALMINS by the MIAMINS.
2. The MIAMINS have been instructed that they must not raid into the ATRALMIN area, or seek further reprisals in any other form.
3. That the Government would take firm action against whichever tribe disobeyed these instructions - be it MIAMIN or ATRALMIN.

This last point was given particular stress. The ATRALMINS all clearly indicated their willingness to abide by the Government's decision. They admitted that they had, by killing four MIAMINS during July, 1956, aroused the MIAMINS. It was also agreed that the ATRALMINS would endeavour to establish friendly relations with the MIAMINS using the Government as mediator. The ATRALMINS were also advised to stand word to all their outlying groups, informing them of the Government's instructions, and of the consequences should they fail to heed them.

VILLAGES AND VILLAGE OFFICIALS

IUATIGIN

A well-sited village (4800 feet) of eight houses situated near the crest of the northern fork of the MITTAG Mountains. The people have some contact with the ATRALIN groups near the FUGALA River, and with the MIAMINS of the SAN River. This was the first patrol to IUATIGIN for some considerable time, the people usually line at ITRATIGIN for census. A Rest House is to be erected.

Gardens are situated along the ELIP River and the slopes of the MITTAG Mountains. Smaller gardens are occasionally planted near the BUGAN River.

Census attendance was very good.

Headman

MTAMALENG.

Has the reputation for being a very powerful figure. Appears to regard the Government without much enthusiasm.

Population

61.

ITRATIGIN

Consists of three small hamlets situated on steep ridges above the ATEK River. The people are closely related to the IUATIGINS. A Rest House was erected on an old village site (5400 feet) above the three hamlets. A Police Barracks is to be built.

Gardens are the same as for the IUATIGINS.

Attendance at census was good.

Headman

NOVENGAL.

Old and useless. There are several stronger and more influential men in this village. TIGINTAGARENGIN appears to be the best.

Population

88.

MSINMIN

Consists of two hamlets, IPALANG and UGUNTEMIGIN, situated on the northern slope of the MITTAG Mountains. A Rest House and Police Barracks were built near the latter hamlet (4800 feet). These people have in the past been very slack but they were most co-operative to this patrol.

Gardens are situated in the ELIP Valley and on the northern slope of the BUNER Range near the PAK River.

Attendance at census was very good.

Headman

KABENGIN.

Is a Government appointee. He is a far better talker than worker. The traditional Headman is in gaol for participation in the murder of Mr. Patrol Officer Szarka.

Population

135.

KOMDAVIP

Consists of four hamlets, FAKNOVIP, TEROPTIGIN, ABALAVIP and KOMDAVIP, situated on the northern slope of the MITTAG Mountains. A Rest House and Police Barracks were built near KOMDAVIP hamlet (5300 feet). The KOMDAVIPS have some contact with the MIAMINS of the TIMELEIN and SOGAMIN Sub-tribe. Their gardening areas stretch from the ELIP Valley to the FAK and AWURIN Rivers. A large number of the people do not live in the ELIP area, they reside permanently near the FAK.

Attendance at census was poor.

Headmen

IPROBERGIN and FINBLEGIN

Have little control over the FAK River group, both belong to the ELIP clan. The patrol nominated AMUPROK to be Headman of the FAK people.

Population

287.

BOLVIL

Consists of three hamlets, SCHDAVIP, RUSULAVIP and BIGOLTIGIN, situated on the northern slopes of the MITTAG Mountains (4800 feet). A Rest House and Police Barracks were built. Some of these people have contact with the SOGEVENIN tribe of the NEMA (FRIEDA) River.

All gardens are in the ELIP Valley in close proximity to the hamlets.

Attendance at census was very good.

Headmen

ETRATOLENGIN and KUBBLENGIN.

Both rather negative.

Population

154.

TARAPDAVIP

This village is situated near the TOL River on the northern slope of the MITTAG Mountains (4700 feet). The TARAPDAVIPS live in widely scattered hamlets near the OM River. They are unco-operative and need more supervision. A Rest House and Police Barracks were built.

Many absentees from census.

Headman

AGRENSIP.

Weak and useless. Is a Government appointed. The traditional Headman is in gaol for participation in the murder of Mr. Cadet Patrol Officer Harris.

Population

103.

AFOGAVIP

Is situated near TARAPDAVIP (4700 feet). The people are a much better disciplined group than the TARAPDAVIPS.

Their gardens are along the ELIP River.

Attendance at census was very good.

Headman

DUGAI-IMNOK

A very happy type but has little control over his group.

Population

94.

KOBRAMIN.

The meeting place of this group is near the headwaters of the ELIP River (4800 feet). The people are scattered in small hamlets along the headwaters of the OH River, they generally show little interest in Government work.

Attendance at census was poor.

Headman.

MUNINSIMNOK.

Seems too disinterested to even attempt to pull his people into line.

Population

156.

UTEMTIGIN

Is situated on a wide spur between the ELIP and ABUNG Rivers (4650 feet). The "Spirit House" for the entire ELIP Valley is here. The people live in bush settlements along the OH River.

Attendance at census was poor.

Headman

DUKSIBENGIM.

Too disinterested to appear for the patrol.

Population

84.

TAGATEWICIN

Is situated on the southern slopes of the DOINER Range (4650 feet). The people live in widely scattered settlements along the PAK River. They have regular contact with the NEMA River people.

Attendance at census was poor.

Headman

UNIBENGIN

Was sick during the patrol, is usually a keen supporter of the Government.

Population

126

BILTAVIP and AGUMTAVIP

Are situated along the southern slope of the DOINER Range. The people are scattered along the PU, OM, PU and KWEP Rivers. They are not co-operative.

Attendance at census was very poor.

Headmen

TONAHAWI

- BILTAVIP

Useless.

KALFAGEGIN

- AGUMTAVIP

Even worse.

Population

93

- BILTAVIP

92

- AGUMTAVIP

ABUNKAMIN

Is situated near the headwaters of the ABUNG River (4900 feet). The people are scattered along the PU, KWEP and OM Rivers. They are not co-operative. A Rest House and Police Barracks were built.

Attendance at census was very poor.

Headman

ILOINGIN

Too old, not interested.

Population

147.

CENSUS

Details of the census statistics collected by this patrol are shown in the Village Population Register Sheets appended to this report. Attendances at the revising or census were very good when compared with the numbers seen by previous patrols, but much improvement is still necessary. The last census of this area was done in March 1955.

TOTAL
F

5
7
4
6
2
5
6

Total population of the area patrolled is 1,695. SS against 1,729 for 1955 - a population decrease of 1.97% being revealed. It will be noted that deaths (141) exceed births (73).

It is considered that many names are yet to be recorded in the census. The bulk of these absentees are thought to be in the gardening settlements of the FAK, MU, WNEP and OM Rivers.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

Apart from several problem spots, roads were in particularly good order.

From IUATIGIN to ABUNGLEIN the patrol moved along well-cleared, wide tracks. Many small bridges, handrails and steps showed that a considerable amount of time and labour had been employed.

The terrain throughout the area patrolled is not good. Most of the villages are situated on the northern slope of the HIFTAG mountains upon steep-sided, parallel ridges. Movement between villages involves usually, a steep descent, followed by the crossing of a fast flowing stream, then a steep ascent. The patrol made a careful examination with the view to having graded roads, that could be later adapted for use by vehicles, constructed. The patrol had little success. Some suitable spots were located but they were few and far apart. Considering the small population, the terrain, the distances to be covered and the continued calls which the Government make for other jobs, airstrip, carriers, etc., the patrol had no alternative but to pend the road programme. The ELIPTAMIN people do not, and reasonably so, understand the idea of graded roads. There are no vehicular roads in the Teleroimin area apart from those along the valley floor.

It is considered that the only way to build graded, vehicular roads would be to gather all the available man-power from the Teleroimin and ELIPTAMIN areas, and commence to build a road over the HIFTAG Mountains. Constant supervision would be needed, and it would be necessary for all the men from those two areas to work together. The task would be too immense to be proportioned out to village groups. Another important factor, which would have to be considered before the people could be organized for road work, is the distance of their gardens from the proposed road sites. Many of the ELIPTAMIN garden are far as five days away from the patrol route. To bring these people in, and expect them to work for long periods would be a real hardship.

In the ATBAMIN area roads were almost non-existent. The patrol moved with guides at all times. Contact with the ATBAMIN has been so limited that it will be some considerable time before they can be organized into constructing roads.

TOTAL
11

7

5

MEDICAL AND HEALTH

The patrol was accompanied by the European Medical Assistant Mr. B. Goble.

In all villages a medical inspection was made in conjunction with the revising of census. Health, of the people seen, was quite good, apart from a number of severe cases of conjunctivitis. These cases responded readily to treatment.

Mr. Goble conducted Mantoux tests in all villages, and gave injections of BCG vaccine where negative reactions were observed.

It must be noticed that deaths (114) exceeded births (73). As far as can be accurately ascertained, the majority of these deaths can be attributed to an influenza epidemic in August, 1956. This epidemic was not reported to the station until it was on the wane. All Headmen were instructed that future epidemics must be reported promptly.

Personal hygiene, in the form of bathing and washing clothes, is non-existent. The introduction of European clothing has brought with it the associated problems of dirt and disease. All villages were relatively clean but little satisfaction can be derived from this, as the people live in garden settlements most of the year. Mr. Goble's report will cover fully the health position in the area.

AGRICULTURAL AND LIVESTOCK

A good season has resulted in food being plentiful throughout the area patrolled.

The ELIPTAMIN people, in common with the Telefomin, follow a system of shifting agriculture. They have established garden areas which they plant in rotation. Only four, of the thirteen village groups visited, depend entirely upon gardens in the ELIPTAMIN Valley. The other nine groups have their main gardening areas along the PAK, MU, KWIP, OH, AND MI Rivers, small gardens are usually planted near their villages or meeting sites.

The main crop and staple food is taro. Supplementary crops are sweet potato, bananas, sugar cane, pit pit, edible leaves, breadfruit, cucumbers, sage and ginger. Pumpkins, paw paw, tomatoes and sweet corn have been introduced. Sage is a such-like crop but can only be grown in certain areas; along the OH River it flourishes but plantings on the Sepik and ELIP have not succeeded. All these areas are of a similar altitude.

There are no cash crops. Occasionally food is carried into the station for sale, but most of the gardens are too remotely situated for this to develop greatly.

Figs, cassowaries, possums and wallabies are hunted with mild success. The best hunting areas are along the OH and PAK Rivers. Snakes have a place in the diet, various types of pythons being regarded as delicacies. Eels are caught occasionally in the Sepik and lower ELIP.

TOTAL
F
7
8
9
0
1
2
3
4
5

Not many domestic pigs were seen. It is the usual practice for pigs to be kept in or near the gardens.

LAW AND JUSTICE

The ELIPTAMIN people have some appreciation of law and order. The ATEALMINS, being newly contacted, have no true conception of the Government or its workings.

The patrol retook into custody three escaped prisoners. They were all handed over by their village Headmen. These prisoners had been working and living with their fellow villagers. No attempt had been made to bring them to the station or to report their whereabouts. The patrol lectured all those concerned, but the attitude was clearly - the Government wants them, then let the Government come and get them. Warnings were given that future failures to apprehend or at least report the whereabouts of escaped prisoners would mean punishment for those concerned. The three prisoners were subsequently sentenced to six months imprisonment through the Court for Native Affairs.

Several petty disputes which were brought before the patrol were settled amicably. The Government is slowly being recognized as a lawmaker and a dispenser of justice.

MISSIONS AND EDUCATION

At present this area is closed to the Missions. It is understood that shortly portion of the ELIPTAMIN Valley will be opened to the Baptist Mission, Telefolmin. Their activities will be closely watched. The remoteness of the ELIPTAMIN gardening areas from the recognized meeting places will severely hinder the establishment and success of the Mission post. It is hoped that the Mission can enlist the necessary support required.

Several children from the ELIPTAMIN Valley attend the Government and Mission schools at Telefolmin. It is considered that more stress should be placed on education as it is a long range plan that will reap rich dividends.

CONCLUSION

Upon the completion of this patrol it was learnt that a MIANMIN raiding party had killed sixteen ATEALMINS. The raid came the day after the patrol departed. The ATEALMINS will now be eagerly awaiting firm action from the Government as was promised them by this patrol.

Booth
.....
SOUTH,
Patrol Officer.

TOTAL
P

5
7
4
4
3
6
4
2
6
6
5

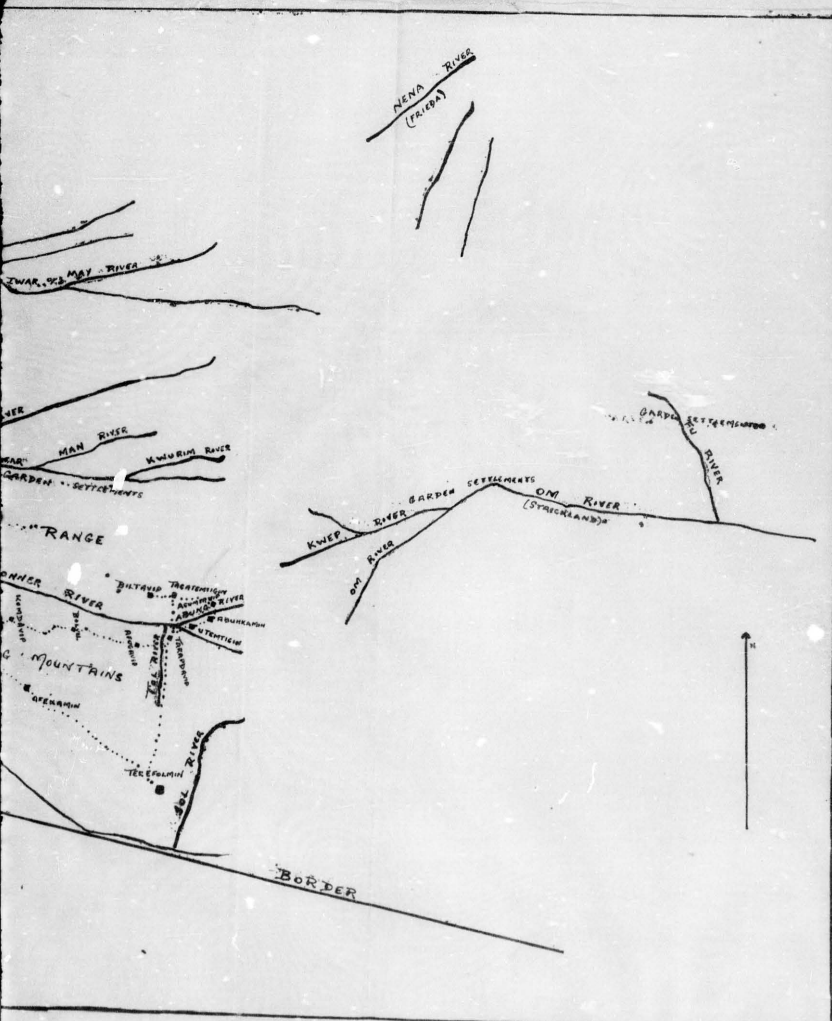
APPENDIX "A"

REPORT ON NATIVE CONSTABULARY

TELESOLOIN REPORT NO. 3/56-57

- No. 2554 Lance Corporal WALINGINGI
A sound and reliable N.C.O. though more suited for
patrolling in easier country. Conduct good.
- No. 6554 Constable WAIMATWAI
A most capable worker, worthy of promotion. Conduct
good.
- No. 6737 Constable LANGA
Always in the forefront, need more like him. Conduct
good.
- No. 7403 Constable RUSINO
A capable patrol policeman. Conduct good.
- No. 7404 Constable OVISIM
Just average. Conduct fair.
- No. 8973 Constable KAUPA
Ill during most of patrol.
- No. 8975 Constable MAI
Energetic worker. Conduct good.
- No. 9005 Constable IIMI
Needs more experience. Conduct good.
- No. 9006 Constable NIHI
Has good potential. Conduct good.
- No. 9185 Constable IARIE
Improving all the time. Conduct good.

Booth
.....
(Sgt. BOOTH)
Officer of R.F. & M.C.C.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. TELEFOLMIN 2/2657

Patrol Conducted by R.T. NEVILLE M.A.D.O.

Area Patrolled MIANMIN AREA

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans 1

Natives 13

Duration—From 8/11/1956 to 20/11/1956

Number of Days 13

Did Medical Assistant accompany?

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1/...../19.....

Medical

Map Reference Map attached

Objects of Patrol 1. Inform Mianmin people that raiding and killing of the Abalgoras tribes must cease. 2. Offerable present and establish friendly relations with these people. 3. Inform Mianmin people of the Territory of New Guinea.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

28/12/1956

[Signature]
District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £.....
Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £.....
Amount Paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund £.....
.....
.....
.....

HA.30-11-46

12th June, 1957.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
NEWIRIA.

Patrol Report Telefouin 2/56-57.

This patrol report has been read in conjunction with Patrol Report No.4/56-57 from Telefouin. It is obvious that firm action was required. I further concur that any vacillation or hesitation on the part of the Administration would merely aggravate an already acute situation.

It must be clearly understood, of course, we cannot obtain spectacular results from scattered and nomadic populations. Steady persistent pressure is necessary—your officers should not be discouraged if it appears that the situation is breaking down continuously.

Even after the action taken in Patrol Report No.4/56-57 I feel sure we shall have further incidents with these people. Mr. Neville was transferred to Telefouin to handle the situation which had arisen in the Miamin people's area as he had had earlier experience with people in unrestricted areas.

It appears that he has tackled the problems in a methodical yet vigorous manner and the results achieved as described in Patrol Report No.4/56-57 must be considered satisfactory.

F/A
E
13/6

G. R. R.
P. R. (A. A. Roberts)
Director.

du.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



In Reply
Please Quote

NOHEN. TEL. P.R. 2/56-
57/14.

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
MEKAL.

8th January, 1957.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORSBY.

PATROL REPORT TELEPHONE 2/56-57.

I am afraid that in my haste to send you this Patrol Report and covering letter of explanation to you of my intention regarding MIANLIN, I completely forgot to cover an important point of the Report.

On page 11 of the report, mention is made of the accidental death of a carrier ANALESEP of INAMT'LIN. I should like your authority to pay an amount of \$20 in compensation for his death, together with advice of the vote against which this charge is to be made.

As I would like to have this matter adjusted as soon as possible I should be glad of your signalled advice.

Handwritten:
Paid from
Patrol Exes
See other file
A 1/10
57

Handwritten signature: Steward
(P.F. M.O.)
S/DISTRICT OFFICE.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



In Reply
Please Quote

No. WEN. TEL. P.R. 2/56-57
2068.

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
WENAR.

27th December, 1956.

Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT Moresby.

PATROL REPORT TELEFOLOIN NO. 2/56-57.

Further to my letter of 26th December, I enclose two copies of this Report.

We must expect occurrences of this nature over the next few years, and if the murders had occurred in a more remote area in which we had no contact whatsoever then, in view of the meagre staff available, I would be inclined to file this Report for later action.

However, any vacillation or hesitation on our part will be interpreted by both the Miamins and the A'chalmans. News of the murders is now all over the whole Telefoloin area and the people are waiting to see our reaction.

Although the particular group responsible appears to have had little contact, there have been several patrols to the area as a whole and there is no doubt whatsoever that these Miamins knew quite well that they were in the wrong when they killed the original four. After that, Mr. Neville's patrol went in and warned them specifically against any further retaliation, whilst Mr. Booth later did the same to the A'chalmans.

I believe that the latest murders of 19 people were not only acts of revenge but also of defiance against the Government. A chronological study of events is very illuminating on this score - in July, 4 Miamins were killed and on 3rd November 4 A'chalmans were murdered in retaliation. On November 15th to 16th a patrol warned the Miamins against further retaliation. On November 30th to December 2nd a patrol warned the A'chalmans against any retaliation. Only a week later the Miamins, entirely disregarding the patrols, murdered 19 more A'chalmans. In addition, for good measure they burned the houses which had been erected by Mr. Booth's patrol ten days before.

If we are going to do nothing about this latest atrocity, or do it in a half-hearted way, then we would be better advised to close Telefoloin now.

The Miamins will be waiting for our arrival and there is no doubt that we shall receive a very warm welcome. The patrol diary of Wednesday 14th November bears this out. Previous Telefoloin history shows that the people need not be afraid of a white man's patrol and there is no reason to suppose that the Miamins will be any different. I am therefore arranging for a patrol to leave Telefoloin in the first week in the New Year. It will, I hope, consist of three European officers and 30 natives. This strength should deter any attacking party and it will enable the patrol to achieve its purpose, the capture of the murderers, without unnecessary delay.

If necessary, I shall close a station to obtain the extra officer for Telefoloin and second police from other settlements. Naturally, I am absolutely opposed to the latter because we are operating on a station staff already and I am at present juggling police to get sufficient for the main and Pabel patrols from Laul in January.

In view of the implications of these latest murders, including the fact that they have occurred in this particular Telefoloin area, I believe that a portable transmitter should be sent with the patrol and your assistance in

having one of these units forwarded to Newark urgently is requested please.

Both Mr. Neville and Mr. Booth did excellent work in carrying out the Patrol. However, it is now obvious that their words were not heeded and the Missions responsible must be taught that murder does not pay.

Contingencies for camping allowance are enclosed.

Hammond

(F.P. RAMD)
SUBSISTENCE OFFICER.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

RTM.

File, 30-1/52.

Sub-District Office,
TELEFOLMIN.

11th December, 1956.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL REPORT No.2 of 1956/57 - TELEFOLMIN.

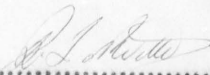
Please find attached the above report.

I would like to draw your attention to our letter 30-1 of the 10th August, 1956 which was Mr. E. Wren's covering letter to his patrol report No.1 of this year which was written before your taking up duties as District Officer, Wewak. In this letter Mr. Wren pointed out that as the killings were the first of its kind in this particular area for a number of years, it was imperative that he be allowed to do this patrol which I have just completed, before leaving Telefolmin. There was no answer to this letter. As he foretold the MIANMINS did retaliate which resulted in this patrol and the one which is now in progress to the ATRALMIN area. It is to be hoped that the MIANMINS will now be satisfied with their endeavours.

This may or may not be so, for I found them to be somewhat smouldering at the insult of having lost four of their numbers at the hands of the weaker and 'insignificant' ATRALMINS.

We now have to wait and see as to what importance the MIANMINS place on the instructions that this patrol has given them, and just how highly they estimate their own capabilities and strength against all and sundry. Though they gave ample manifestations of their willingness to drop their grudge, that is, whilst we were in the area, I do not think that this is the conviction of the young bloods of that group. They heartily cherish and look forward to their feasting of human flesh which they regard as a more succulent morsel than pig. This may sound rather morbid but is, I feel, true.

For your information please.


.....
R.T. Neville.

.....
a/A.D.C.

District Officer,
WEWAK

Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
FORT ALBERT

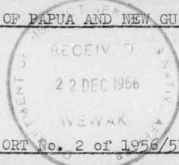
For your information, please.

(R.P. RAND)
A/District Officer

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

30-1-5

RTH.



Sub-District Office,
TELEFOLMIN.

5th December, 1956.

PATROL REPORT No. 2 of 1956/57 - TELEFOLMIN.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: R.T. Neville. a/A.D.O.

AREA PATROLLED: MIANMIN AREA.

AREA LAST PATROLLED: This the first patrol to this particular area.

PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY: Mr. G. Booth. Patrol Officer.

No. 6376 L/Cpl MARIAMBUN.
No. 2765 Const. NAMATIN.

No. 4225 " KUNI.

No. 6481 " DEWARI

No. 6554 " WALAMAIWAI.

No. 6725 " WEDORA.

No. 6737 " LANGA.

No. 8975 " KUOPERA.

No. 8991 " WARSINAU.

No. 9006 " NIGI.

No. 9053 " ARE.

No. 9185 " IARIF.

N.M.O. KUNJIGI.

DURATION OF PATROL: From 8/11/56 to 20/11/56
Number of days:- 13.

OBJECTS OF PATROL:

1. To inform the MIANMIN people that raiding and killing of the ATBALMIN tribe must cease.
2. If possible meet and establish friendly relations with those responsible for last raid.
3. Extension of Government influence.

MAP REFERENCE: Map attached.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

RTN.

Sub-District Office,
TELEFOLMIN.

5th December, 1956.

PATROL REPORT No.2 of 1956/57 - TELEFOLMIN.

INTRODUCTION:

On the 5th November, 1956 reports reached this Office that the MIANMIN people had two days before, retaliated by killing four of the ATBALMIN tribe in payment of the four of their number killed by the ATBALMINS' during July of this year. Thus it was that the patrol left here on the 8th November in order to settle the disturbances.

The MIANMIN people live in very rough mountainous country around the headwaters of the MAY River and across the range back towards Telefolmin. The tribe is split into five sub-tribes the SOGAMINS, TELELMINS, TERMANINS, TEMSEMINS and URAPMINS. These five groups all occupy separate areas, have their respective headmen and keep to themselves except in times of large scale fighting.

European contact has been made with some factions of this tribe, not however with this particular group with whom we were concerned. They being the ones who organised this last raid. First European contact was made by KARIUS and CHAMFION. In 1938, BLACK and TAYLOR penetrated into the THURWALD Range area and were attacked. Some of the attackers were killed. In 1951, two patrols went into the vicinity from Telefolmin and in both 1953 and 1955 patrols visited the area receiving friendly if wary reception.

Until the advent of the Telefolmin patrols, the MIANMINS had made many murderous raids upon their neighbours. Gardens were destroyed, men killed and eaten and women and children abducted. The ELIPTAMIN and ATBALMIN peoples took the brunt of these attacks. So virile and aggressive were the MIANMINS, and because of their numbers, they would move some three to four days walk into enemy territory in search of prey. The ELIPTAMIN and ATBALMIN people being terrified of the MIANMINS made no effort to carry the fight into enemy territory but were content to remove themselves as far away as possible from MIANMIN boundaries.

As soon as patrols had persuaded the MIANMINS to cease their raids, instructions were given to the ELIPTAMIN and ATBALMIN people that they must not retaliate for past atrocities committed by the MIANMINS. This order was easy to police in the ELIPTAMIN not so in the ATBALMIN.

The ATBALMIN area lies between the Papuan Border and the Sepik River. Its full extent is not known. The people live in small isolated settlements and patrols have seen few of their people. Thus it was that early in July of this year, an uncontacted ATBALMIN group known as the ATEMKISMINS killed four men of a friendly URAPMIN-MIANMIN party of nine. The bodies were cut up and distributed throughout the entire ATBALMIN area for feasting.

During late July, a patrol (Vide Report No.1/56-57) visited the area and ascertained the full

details of the murders. Word was sent into the MIANMIN area that they should not retaliate. However, during late September, a large MIANMIN party went to the ATBALMIN and killed two women, one man and a girl. The bodies were half cooked, cut up and taken away for feasting. A further party destroyed all nearby gardens.

These raids had a most unsettling effect upon the ELIPTAMIN people who have, since 1951, lived in relative harmony with the MIANMINS. The ELIPTAMINS feared that their former enemies would re-commence raids upon all and sundry. So it was that the patrol left here for MIANMIN as soon as possible after news of the recent raid was reported. Nevertheless, it was thought that on this occasion the MIANMINS had some excuse for their raid and that a warning only would be given, friendly relations established and a patrol got off to the ATBALMIN with similar words of council within the very near future.

As quite an area of the country traversed is new to patrols, the diary is necessarily long both for yours and our own edification.

DIARY.

Thursday 8th November, 1956.

After the District Commissioner's departure, left station at 1.40 p.m. and crossed the BON creek at 2.05 p.m. Spelled for 15 minutes then commenced a long steady ascent arriving at the top of the ridge at 3.55 p.m. Descended and crossed the OPEK River at 4.10 p.m. - arrived camp site 4.12 p.m. No people this area - have moved to across the next range to new gardens. Only one man seen and sent off to contact the ATBALMINS.

Friday 9th November, 1956.

Broke camp departing 7 a.m. Commenced climbing steadily at 7.30 climbing steeply spelled 15 minutes in old garden site (6700'). Reached top of range 8.35 a.m. (7200'). Continued till 9.15 a.m. Rested 15 minutes (6500') continued till 10.30 a.m. dropping steadily all the time. After 15 mins continued arriving at INANTIGIN Village at 11.15 a.m. (5400'). Quite a number of people seen - food bought - small guard posted.

Saturday 10th November, 1956.

Departed INANTIGIN 7.10 a.m. descended steeply breaking bush most of the way. Reached the ILIP River at 8.40 a.m. (2500'). Rested then at 9.10 a.m. walked along the river till 9.25 a.m. crossing per bridge (2400') Climbed steeply out of river over very bad track till arriving at camp site in old garden at 12.3 p.m. having had two rests of 25 minutes each (camp alt. 4800'). Camp has to be made here as no water further on for some four hours distance. Women from INANTIGIN carried food to the camp - bought - guard posted.

Sunday 11th November, 1956.

Broke camp and departed 7.15 a.m. climbing steeply over the DOWNER Range. Met old MISINMIN - MIANMIN road at 7.35 a.m. - here going a little easier. Rested at 8.5 a.m. (5700') before commencing climb up BOLTIGIN. Left at 8.20 a.m. climbing steeply till 9.30 a.m. - rested (7125') Left 9.50 a.m. and passed over the top at 9.56 a.m. (7300') then

descended rapidly. Halted at 11.a.m. (5200'). Had coffee and departed 11.55.a.m. walked till 12.35.p.m. Left at 1.5p.m. still descending though reasonably gradual passed through old village site at 2.35.p.m. Then went down steeply to the DUM River arriving 2.55.p.m. and crossing at 3.5p.m. then skirted the side of a mountain until arriving at Taylor's and Black's old camp site at 3.25.p.m. (2650'). Camped - guard posted.

Monday 12th November, 1956.

Raining - broke camp and departed 7.5.a.m. Walked along a good bush track with gentle down grade till nearing the FUK River. Arrived FUK at 8.30.a.m. (1600). River very wide - no bridge tried felling trees - unsuccessful. Eventually got rope across and crossed in this manner - dangerous and difficult crossing. Crossing finished at 10.45.a.m. Left 11.am. and walked up the BANA River till we hit the junction of the BANA and BOLKIM Rivers at 11.35.am. Continued up the latter for five minutes then commenced very steep climb up and out of River till resting at 12.30.p.m. (3075'). Set off at 12.50.p.m. found water so camped at 1.5.p.m. (3325'). The day's walking was through leech country - guard posted.

Tuesday 13th November, 1956.

Broke camp at 6.55.am. commenced climbing reached top at 7.20.am. (3900'). Then over difficult up and down track till reaching the junction of the ETANA and TUBAPTIM Rivers at 8.10.am. Rested at 8.25.am. (3000'). Left 8.40.am. down and crossed the NEUBRI River, climbed till 9.20.am. when we found the junction of an old and a new MIANMIN track. Left at 9.35.am. following the newer looking track. Arrived at one of the MIANMIN gardens at 10.10.am. Passed through and arrived at ABOMVIP Village at 10.25.am. A good camp site for defence with a fall on all sides. Camped in Village which was deserted. Established contact by calling out, situation very touchy, eventually induced three MIANMINS into the camp. One the nephew of the headman. Enticed him to stay so that he could call off those who were encircling us with a view to cutting off our retreat. Later got the two headmen into the camp and had successful talk with them. Gave them a small gift of salt and tambu shell. Later enticed more into the camp. Had lengthy talk on the purpose of our visit. Gave demonstration of fire power of a rifle - they were impressed. Further word sent out for them to call off their guards who were spoiling for a fight - they still had the several roads blocked - this done. People brought in a little food with assurances of plenty on the morrow. Further talks in the afternoon. Managed to get one of the headmen (DOGOMIN) and his son to spend the night in the camp with us thus assuring us of a peaceful night - heavy guard placed - rained heavily.

Wednesday 14th November, 1956.

In camp - quiet till 12 noon - locals off collecting their women who had run off yesterday also collecting food for us. A large line from TAMANMIN from across the next range had heard that we had shot up this particular group of MIANMINS and had travelled through the night to close off our retreat. After hearing that we were friendly they came into the camp. Locals brought food - a few women among the crowd - very keen on salt and beads. Had long talk with a gathering of some 75 men including the two headmen. All agreed to stop fighting with the ATRALMINS? Gave present of a knife each to the two headmen. They arranged to show us a new route back which will be easier and allow us to contact more of their numbers. All went well till 9.20.p.m. when carriers

and some police were off getting wood and water nearby. Much calling out was heard - appeared at first that locals had attacked water party - but no shots etc. Mr. Booth and more police off to investigate. Eventuated that an INANTIGIN native of our party whilst felling a dead tree for firewood had accidentally killed himself. When our party arrived he was already dead of a broken neck - carried back to camp. Incident made locals rather nervy but were settled down. Headman again slept in camp - quiet night - heavy guard posted.

Thursday 15th November, 1956.

Many more people into camp today - further talks. Once again all agreeable to stop fighting? Attitude very friendly. Further demonstration of fire power of a rifle. Food brought in and bought but not sufficient for the needs of patrol. Locals stayed till just on dark. Guard posted - quiet night.

Friday 16th November, 1956.

Departed 6.50 am. Headman DAMSOGIM showing road. Descended to SAMMAL Creek - walked along it for short distance till striking the SUN River at 7.20 am. Carriers had scare at 8.20 am. but only friendly locals catching up with us and carrying food. They told to unstring bows. Continued at 8.30 am. and walked till 9.20 am. when more locals met us - rested 10 minutes. Continued and crossed the AIYAKAMAN River at 9.45 am. Met some people from TAMANMIN - friendly. Talked 15 minutes with them - party rather large now - police alerted however no incidents. Continued at 10.17 am. descended to the INEM Creek and crossed at 10.45 am. up again till 11.15 am. then rested till 11.30 am. Moved along a very rough track going up and down and crossing several small streams then up again till reaching the top of the range at 12.40 pm. Left 12.55 pm. and down to the DEGA River crossing at 1.45 pm. - up a steep grade resting at 2.7 pm. One of the police had collapsed at this stage - made camp (3200'). Bought a little food from the locals who had been carrying it - few sleeping in camp with us. - guard posted.

Saturday 17th November, 1956.

Heavy rain - did not get away till 8.15 am. - walking in heavy rain - reached top of hill behind camp at 8.35 am. Down to an old village site at 8.50 am. then down steeply to the junction of the CROBU and AMOIU Rivers at 9.50 am. Continued up and out till arriving at TARAPTAVIP (TIMELMIN) at 9.55 am. Paid off the MIANMIN headman who had been guiding us and left at 10.25 am. After arriving at the top of the range followed the first well defined track we had seen since leaving the ELIPTAMIN. Carriers not carrying well. Reached the UK River at 11.50 am. (2100') - in flood. Found reasonable crossing and left at 12.25 pm. Could not follow up river had to take to the hills but found quite a good road. Rested at top of range at 1.35 pm. Left at 1.50 pm. and descended till striking the FUK River at 2.30 pm. (2100') - river in flood - crossing impossible. Made camp on high ground - raining.

Sunday 18th November, 1956.

River down a little - started bridging at 5 am. Crossed at 9.45 am. Over a short hill then down to the SAGI Creek then climbed at a very steep

rate - rested at 11.45 am. (4450'). Departed 12.5 pm. continued along reasonable track till striking the road above the MISINMIN gardens at 12.40 pm. Walked on till 12.45 pm. but had to make camp owing to our lack of food. Hoped to buy some from the MISINMIN gardens. Also no further water till near top of range some three hours walk on. MISINMINS brought in food - hardly enough - will have to make it a long day tomorrow to reach population and food.

Monday 19th November, 1956.

Broke camp - departed 5.55 am. Climbed steadily till reaching the top of range at 8.27 am. (6950'). Rested for 5 minutes. Commenced going down very sharply - track bad. Reached the UNAL River at 9.30 am. (4250') - rested. Left at 11.5 am. once again down very steep grade - passed a house en route where they gave us cooked food. Another steep descent till striking the ELIP River at 12.30 pm. (2550') - no bridge. Bridged hastily - had commenced to rain at the head of the river - party across just in time. Left 1.30 pm. Followed up the GIM River, rested for 15 minutes at 2.30 pm. (3270') then still following up the river till 3 pm. when left river, then once again up and over a very bad track till arriving at MISINMIN Village at 3.40 pm. Carriers and police very tired through lack of sufficient food yesterday. Locals brought in food. Headman complained that people refused to work on roads or clean Village - place a shambles - three arrested. Held Courts for Native Affairs.

Tuesday 20th November, 1956.

Departed MISINMIN 6 am. Up through an old garden - bad road - instructions left to cut and clean this road. Reached the top of the range at 7.50 am. (7200'). Rested for 5 minutes then down sharply and arrived at our No. 1 camp at 8.50 am. Left here at 9.35 am. and arrived at the station at 11.20 am.

End of Diary.

NATIVE SITUATION:

As mentioned earlier in the report, these instances of raiding between the MIANMINS and the ATRALMINS have been going on over a number of years, and on this occasion it was the MIANMINS who had been wronged in the first place, they having lost four members of a peaceful party which was visiting the ATRALMIN area. The MIANMINS retaliated by killing four ATRALMINS, but it was thought that the MIANMINS would want to further revenge their loss, as they are considered to be and have been the strongest fighting group in this area, and that they would not be content to rest on their laurels of having killed 'only' four. Therefore the patrol got under way with utmost haste for the MIANMIN area to tell them to be content with their revenge and 'bury the hatchet'. Moreover, because they had been

initially wronged, and had hitherto remained reasonably peaceable during the last few years, it was felt that in this instance good council and warning would suffice; and having extracted their revenge, they should now live peaceably with their neighbours. The ATBALMINS had already been told to do this during patrol No.1 of this year.

Upon our arrival in the area, we were naturally considered potential enemies and were more or less surrounded within an hour, for the pangs of conscience must have pricked them, they having seen, or rather having heard of, Government patrols in the nearby vicinity, were aware of the Government's role as protector of all and sundry. After a few touchy hours, per media of two and sometimes three interpreters calling out to them, we were able to establish that we had come in peace and not as enemies. Having won their confidence, we were able to entice several into the camp. The headmen were forthcoming very soon after the preliminary negotiations. Then we were able to get down to the matter of further winning their confidence and respect and open up discussions as to the whys and wherefores for discontinuing their fighting.

I was reasonably impressed by their headmen DAMSOGIN and DOGOMIN who proved to be friendly and helpful. Unfortunately both these men are very old, and I feel are not the men who crack the whips when pertaining to fighting, these powers having been assumed or delegated to their sons who are or appear to be powerful and energetic warriors. Nevertheless, they also were included in the discussions and appeared to be suitably impressed and agreed to discontinue their raiding?

They were told that the ATBALMINS had also been informed of our wishes prior to my arrival at Telefolmin, and for my own satisfaction that they understood the situation, a patrol would once again be sent to their area as soon as practicable.

Having discussed this proposition at length, unanimous approval seemed to be apparent, it being indicated by much nodding of heads and interpreted by our interpreters. It must be realised however, that neither of our station interpreters spoke or understood their particular language and we had to work through two to four interpreters and for this reason communication was difficult nor were we sure that everything was understood by them or ourselves. Nevertheless, the apparent agreement was further cemented by an effective demonstration of the fire power of a .303 rifle and that of an automatic rifle. They readily admitted that they could neither sustain the rapidity nor the power with their own meagre arms. They are however, remarkably good bowmen and they displayed some particularly nasty arrows which had all been newly sharpened.

As a result of the 'show' they became easy in their relations with our party and adequately supplied us with food. Several women were seen in the camp - a good indication. Salt and beads were much sought after and of course, steel. A present of a knife each was given to the headmen and in return, they accompanied us on our homeward journey showing us a track which was alleged to be less difficult than that of our coming. This unfortunately was not so, but nevertheless, the implied compliment was there? The headmen and some fifteen others accompanied us for two days and carried food for the patrol with which to help us on our way.

The MIANMIN people hitherto little contacted except for an occasional patrol to the approximate vicinity, are a sturdy and warlike people and could, in other circumstances, prove to be a nasty enemy. Moreover, the difficult terrain in which they live would prove to be to their utmost advantage. As a result of this visit, I have hopes that they will respect our wishes and duly accept the invitation to visit the station and see a little of the happenings outside their own domain. At one stage we had two young men persuaded to come to work at the station, but they were unfortunately talked out of it by their friends, and nothing short of taking them by force would have removed them. This, I feel, would have been inadvisable, no matter how desirable it is to show them something of the 'outside', and may have resulted in the undoing of relations.

Population on the two routes which we took is very sparse and scattered till arriving at MIANMIN, and the only other peoples contacted where those in the ELIPTAMIN Valley. Here they proved to be reasonably helpful, although a certain inertness in attitude towards the Government was noticed. More particularly in the MISINMIN area where Szarka was killed. Although we sent word out well ahead of us to MISINMIN for them to ensure that the bridge across the ELIP River was usable, this had not been done and resulted in us being help up at the river after a hard days walk. Nor had there been any attempt to clean either roads or village. Upon the complaint of the headman, the Court for Native Affairs was opened and three of the major offenders were prosecuted and convicted for failing to clean the area allotted to them. It is my suggestion that respect and an interest for the Government and its work be raised in them by giving them constant attention and consolidate the areas reasonably well known to us. To this end, at the time of writing, a patrol has already been sent to this area (the Eliptamin Valley) to commence the construction of suitable roads and Rest Houses, whilst the accompanying Medical Assistant is carrying out a T.B. survey and inoculations. Therefore the patrol will necessarily be carried out slowly and will admirably suit our policy of 'hasten slowly' in primitive and backward areas. Another item on the patrol's agenda is to visit the ATRALMIN area, which lies in close proximity to the Eliptamin Valley, and inform them of our visit to MIANMIN, its results and what is expected of them.

HEALTH:

The patrol was accompanied by an N.M.O. who worked reasonably well under supervision. In the MIANMIN area, which is of a lower altitude, quite a number of yaws and tropical ulcers were seen. Those seen in the camp were given injections and their sores were dressed. This very much appealed to them and later many who had similar complaints were brought in by their friends and received treatment. Undoubtedly this avenue is an advantageous one by which to win the confidence and respect of primitive peoples and one which I have used extensively and successfully amongst the primitive peoples of TARI, MERGI and LAKE KUTUBU. Particularly so in cases of children whom one may save from death, but this result requires a prolonged stay such as when opening up a new station.

In the ELIPTAMIN Valley, many cases of chronic conjunctivitis were seen. I have noticed during my short time here at Telefollmin, that this is a particularly common complaint and one to which they appear to be most susceptible. All cases seen were treated and some of the worst cases brought back to the hospital. No doubt Mr. E.M.A. Gobel, who is at present in that area, will be concentrating on this aspect of their health.

No other sicknesses were brought to the notice of or discovered by the patrol.

The health of the patrol itself was quite good and we had only the usual ailments such as cuts and sore legs etc. which one expects when on patrol in such difficult country. There were many leg weary and limping 'crooks' to be seen lining up at the hospital at the conclusion of the patrol.

AGRICULTURE:

The staple diet throughout the area is taro, and many good specimens were seen and bought. These people, differing from other highland people, concentrate on taro and grow one of the best specimens I have seen. Bananas are also a popular crop and in the lower regions, plenty of pap paw and other tropical fruits were in evidence. There were no complaints of there being a shortage of food, and from the gardens which I saw, they appeared to have adequate for their needs.

An interesting aspect of their agriculture is their custom of gardening at some two to three days walk away from their recognised places of abode. This necessitates the building and supporting of at least two houses. There seems to be no reason for this custom, as ground at any one spot is more than ample for their needs and fertility is constant throughout, there being an abundance of timber covered land in all centres. Perhaps the question revolves around the distribution and fragmentation of their wealth of land. Even here on the station, if one looks closely, there is what appears to be an endless procession of people passing through the station removing taro sticks for planting backwards and forwards from one range to another - the distance involved being some one to three days walk.

ROADS AND BRIDGES:

Roads as such, except in close proximity to the station, are simply non-existent. The best one can hope for is a slightly cleared pad such as that which exists between the station and the Eliptamin Valley. The patrol for the most part, travelled on not very well defined pads which occasioned difficult walking, and at other times, had to be content with 'breaking bush'. As mentioned earlier, at this stage of contact with the ELIPTAMIN people, we should be able to expect a somewhat better performance from them and for this purpose a

patrol is now in that vicinity endeavouring to grade roads along the valley. When this patrol returns and work on the airstrip and station ceases, work will be started to put in a connecting vehicular road from this end to the Eliptamin. A major operation - when considering the lack of population and the ruggedness of country by which we are hampered. Nevertheless, we shall see what can be done to improve the situation and at least put in a road trafficable by motor bike.

Nearly all river crossings are difficult and we were pleased to note the work that the INANTIGIN people had done in bridging the ELIP River, after we had indicated the road which we would use and before the advent of the patrol. They are to be complimented.

The FUK River is a large one and patrols have to depend entirely on the weather the day before as to whether or not they can cross without delay. We were held up both times. This river would be impossible to permanently bridge as firstly, it is very wide and undergoes severe flooding. Secondly, there is no population within two days walk of the river and for these reasons, any bridge constructed would be difficult to maintain. It is advisable at all times to attempt a crossing as close as possible to its headwaters.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING:

Only four villages as such were seen during the whole course of the patrol. This is not unusual for this particular area as population for the most part, is both sparse and scattered. The villages seen were:- INANTIGIN, ABOUNVIP, TARATAVIP and MISINMIN.

INANTIGIN is now only a village in name, old houses still remain at the site but they have been abandoned, the people preferring to live in their garden houses. Indeed this is true for all the so called villages seen except MISINMIN. The latter people do actually use the village as a community centre to some extent and spend quite a deal of their time there, differing from the people further down who dwell at all times in their scattered garden houses.

All villages seen were dirty, and in the area closer to the station, orders were left to rectify this situation. These orders will be followed up by the patrol now in the field.

Much has been written on the type of house here at Telefolmin, and one has only to walk some six hundred yards from the station to be able to see the prototype itself. Housing throughout the area patrolled, though the area is quite extensive, does not differ. Houses of split timber, poorly constructed, are raised off the ground unusual in most highland areas, and no doubt must be extremely cold on occasions. However, the mode of building, I assume, has been influenced by the amount of rain experienced here and the resultant dampness of the ground.

CARRIERS:

Local carriers from the nearby villages were used. On the whole, they carried quite well, but upon reaching a camp site, are extremely capable of letting someone else do the work unless stirred up. They are also not imbued with an over abundance of intestinal fortitude when faced with a touchy situation or any situation which appears may be so. They tend to panic readily so much so, that it is some time before any coherent or sensible thought or speech can be obtained from them. In the mean time one is left in the dark as to the happenings through lack of interpretation. It is very difficult to realise that it was these people who mustered up the courage to carry out the killings of our personnel some three years ago.

DEATH OF A CARRIER:

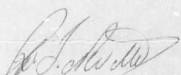
As mentioned in the diary of this report, we were unfortunate in experiencing a fatal accident whilst in the MIANMIN area. INARISEP a carrier from INANTIGIN village whilst bent upon felling a dead tree for fire wood, was struck by a heavy dead branch off another tree which the one he had been cutting hit when falling. He sustained a broken neck and was dead by the time an investigation party arrived upon the scene. There were several police witnesses to the accident.

Some of his fellow villagers who had accompanied the patrol realised it to be an accident and took the matter circumspectly and I am pleased to recount, carried the incident no further. I would like to arrange for compensation to be paid to the dead man's relatives please. The ELIPTAMIN people from whence he came have invoked a money economy, and according to ruling standards in this area, I would suggest that between £15 and £20 would be suitable compensation for his loss. I shall await your further advice.

CONCLUSION:

Having seen these impressive MIANMIN people, whilst I would not guarantee that we have heard the best of their warlike activities, I feel that at least the aim of the patrol was accomplished and that was to give peaceful council for the discontinuance of raiding and have, I think, given them food for thought. Further, the patrol was able to establish friendly relations and on the advent of another patrol to their area, such a patrol will have a basis upon which to establish further relations. Moreover, it afforded both officers an opportunity to get to know the area which will be useful should further disturbances occur.

Should the MIANMINS choose to disregard our wishes and continue to murder people of neighbouring tribes, then I consider that serious thought should be given to either discouraging their activities in a stronger mode, or, on the other hand, because of their distance from the station and their comparative lack of contact, leave them well alone until the closer areas have been consolidated. Then move out gradually and at the same time encourage the recipients of their fury to withdraw as close as possible to the Government station. This latter course has, since the last raid, already been taken by the ATBALMINS but is somewhat of a negative approach to the problem. We must however remember that on the first occasion of these recent killings it was not the MIANMINS who were at fault.

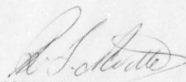


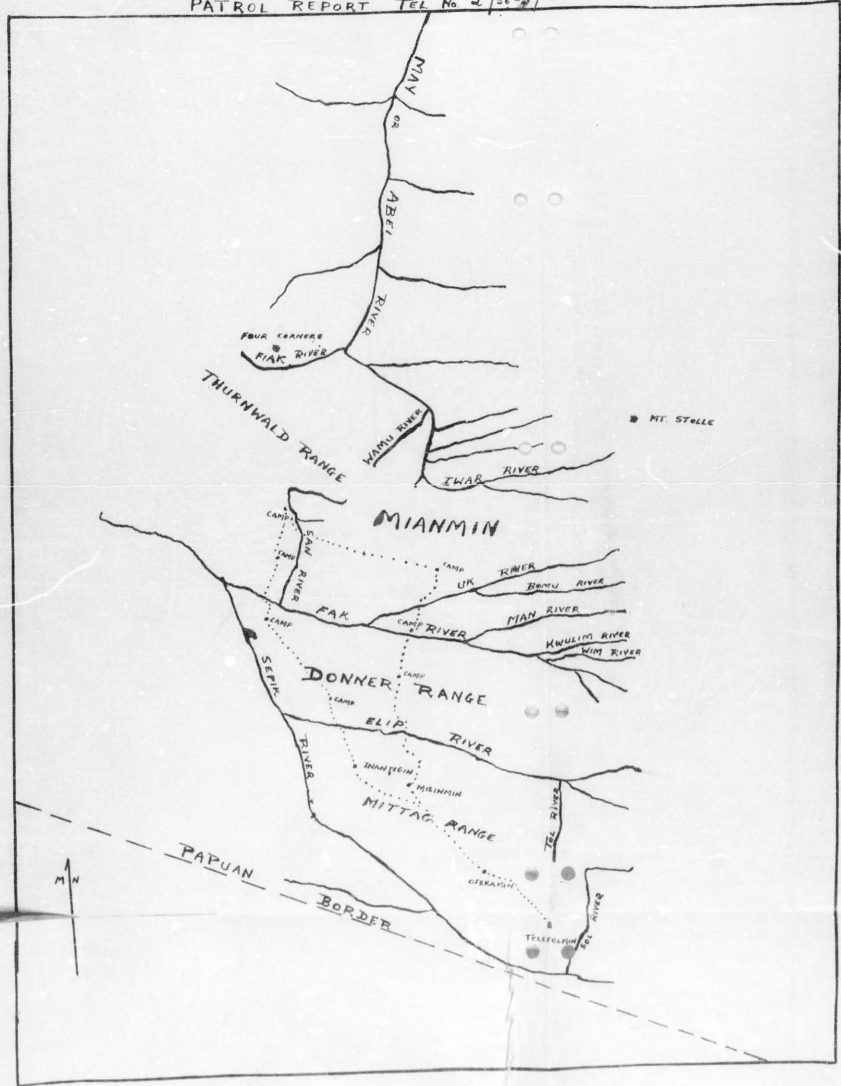
.....
R.T. Neville.

.....
a/A.D.O.

A REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL PAPUAN AND NEW GUINEA
CONSTABULARY ACCOMPANYING TELEPOLMIN PATROL No.2 of 1956/57
TO THE MIANMIN AREA.

-
- No. 6376 L/Cpl MARIAMBUN: Appointed L/Cpl on the 1/9/56.
Needs to assert himself a little more. Conduct good.
- No. 276 Const NAMATIN: Suffered from bad knee throughout
the patrol, appears to be too old for hard bush work.
Conduct good.
- No. 6481 Const DEWARI: Below average, lazy, needs
constant watching. Conduct poor.
- No. 4225 Const KUNI: Solid type who tries hard.
Conduct good.
- No. 6554 Const WALAMATWAI: Has sufficient drive and energy
for two men. Work was excellent throughout. Conduct
very good.
- No. 6725 Const WEDORA: Average, appears to lack stamina
for hard bush patrolling, will improve. Conduct good.
- No. 6737 Const LANGA: Another good man, works hard,
always in forefront without being urged. Conduct excellent.
- No. 8975 Const KUOPERA: Just a plugger, not overburdened
with brains. Conduct satisfactory.
- No. 8991 Const WARSINAU: No good at all, possibly the
worst man on the station. Too fond of others doing his
work. Will try to smarten up. Conduct poor.
- No. 9006 Const NIGI: Gets on with the job in his own
quiet way. Conduct good.
- No. 9053 Const ARE: Just average, should smarten up
with more patrolling.
- No. 9185 Const IARIF: Conduct good. Tries hard, needs
more patrolling.


.....
R. F. Neville. a/A.D.C.
Officer of the R.P. & N.G.C.



PATROL TO URAPMIN-MIANMIN AREA

SCALE 1 IN = 4 MILES

PATROL ROUTE

CONDUCTED BY R. NEVILLE

ORIGINAL COPY.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of... TELEFOMIN - SEPIK Report No. 4 of 1956/57.

Patrol Conducted by... R. T. NEVILLE a/A.D.O.

Area Patrolled... MIANMIN

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans... THREE

Natives... 160

Duration—From 14 / 1 / 1957 to 5 / 3 / 1957

Number of Days... FIFTY ONE (51)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? ... YES

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services... 8 / 11 / 1957

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

Map Reference... MAP ATTACHED

Objects of Patrol... 1. To apprehend & arrest as many as possible of those concerned with the recent ATRALMIN massacre 2. Stop tribal fighting 3. Contact MIANMINS & explain reason for arrests and Government views on killings. 4. Extension of Government influence.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

F. P. KAAD.

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £

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

.....

.....

.....

NA.30-11-59

12th June, 1957.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WEMAK.

Patrol Report Telefolmin No. 4 of 58/57

The objects of the Patrol as laid down in your covering memorandums have been satisfactorily achieved.

It is particularly gratifying to note that Administration influence has now been extended to all sections of the Mianmin people.

This now gives a line of contact from Ambunti through the May River people thence through the Mianmin people to Telefolmin, thence to Kiunga (see Kiunga Patrol Report No. 8 of 1956/57).

The reaction of the Mianmin people appears satisfactory; however, we must not become complacent, and should keep constant contact with them.

The Geographical and Historical backgrounds are valuable, giving the reader a suitable insight into the background of the area and its people, allowing a proper appreciation of action taken and results achieved.

The patience and persistence of the patrol is commended—the reader fully appreciates the irritation caused when having to remain inactive in such situations as that which had to be contended with on January 24th.

The practice of holding hostages (January 31st) may not be approved by this Headquarters.

The co-operation of the Air Companies in assisting the patrol to fix its position is appreciated. Have you written thanking those concerned?

Always ensure that patrols are of sufficient strength before dividing, in such areas as Mianmin. We have had one disaster through dividing a patrol at Telefolmin.

The information set out under "Native Situation" indicates painstaking research by the officer concerned and allowed us to make a proper appreciation of the attitude of the people and the degree of Administration influence prior to the patrol.

The report indicates the patrol was well organized and well performed. A very creditable performance on the part of all concerned.

P/A
13/6

A. A. R.
P/C (A.A. Roberts)
Director.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/11/59



In Reply
Please Quote

No. TELE.P/R No. 4 of
1956-57/182

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
MIAMIN.

12th April, 1957.

The Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

PATROL REPORT TRISPOLJUM NO. 4 OF 1956-57, MIAMIN AREA:

Attached please find original and copy of this Report, together with
Camping Allowance Claims for the three Native Affairs Officers accompanying the
Patrol.

The various aspects of the Patrol have already been covered in
separate correspondence, whilst I have personally spoken to the officers
concerning those matters raised in your M.11-12-2 of 25th March, 1957.

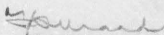
The objects of the Patrol were:-

- (1) To apprehend and arrest as many as possible of those concerned
with the recent ATRALMIN massacre. (Twentyfive of the men who
were actually ~~involved~~ ^{implicated} have been apprehended. The total
number of men involved is still unknown and will remain so
until we have further contact.)
- (2) To put an end to tribal fighting in the MIAMIN area.
From the prisoners themselves and from the messages we have
received from the MIAMIN since the patrol - for example, when
the child ATAP was returned - it would be safe to say that
the MIAMIN will not think of mounting an attack on any of their
neighbours for some very considerable time to come. Before
that we should have consolidated our position so much that
fighting will have become a thing of the past.
- (3) To contact the MIAMIN and explain the reason for the arrests
and once again inform them of the Government's view on internecine
fighting and killing.
Although the Patrol did not have the friendly contact to do this
in the best way, nevertheless the MIAMIN now are fully aware of
the reasons the patrol entered the area and made the arrests it
did. This has been retailed to them by the women the patrol
contacted and by the shouted messages which are so often referred
to in the Report. This has been confirmed by the ATRALMIN men
and women rescued from the MIAMIN.
- (4) Extension of Government influence.
Our influence has now been extended to include every Subtribe of
the MIAMIN. Whereas previously these people have regarded the
Government as an infrequent - or in some cases, ~~unwelcome~~ ^{unwelcome} visitor who was more fond of talk than action, they now know to
their cost that when necessary, we can and will act. Not only
has the fact been driven home to the MIAMIN but our influence
on the tribes in the areas neighbouring the MIAMIN has been
very appreciably increased.

Although I would have preferred that ideal peaceful apprehension of
all suspects, the practicalities of the situation precluded such a possibility.

The NIAPMIN determined to flout our authority and risk the consequences the day after our patrol to the URAPMIN - in such a mood they were not interested in the peaceful overtures we made.

The patrol was carried out in extremely difficult terrain and under arduous climatic conditions and I think the officers are to be congratulated on their efforts.



.....
(F.P. Raad)

Assistant District Officer

c.c. Assistant District Officer, TELEFORMIN

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

RM1.

File, 30-1/ 94.

Sub-District Office,
TELEFOLMIN.

7th April, 1957.


The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1956/57 - TELEFOLMIN.

Please find attached the above report compiled by myself and Mr. Booth. Also enclosed are camping allowance claims for the three Officers.

Please excuse the delay in forwarding this report, but since returning to the station we have been rather busy getting store and station in order after the absence of all the Officers. Also the interrogating of witnesses and defendants in readiness for the Lower Court hearing recently held has taken some considerable time.

Your help with getting this report typed is very much appreciated.


.....
R.T. Neville. a/A.D.O.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

R.N.

File 30-1

Sub-District Office,
TELEPOLITIK.

18th March, 1957

PATROL REPORT NO. 4 OF 1956/57 - TELEPOLITIK

<u>PATROL CONDUCTED BY:</u>	R.T. NEVILLE a/A.D.O.
<u>AREA PATROLLED:</u>	MAINMIN AREA
<u>AREA LAST PATROLLED:</u>	8/11/56 - 20/11/56
<u>PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY:</u>	Mr. G. Booth Patrol Officer Mr. P. Conroy " " Mr. A. Kelly E.M.A No. 7356 Sgt. AMANI No. 6097P/A L/Cpl. YENDABARI No. 2553 L/Cpl. WALINGINGI No. 6376 L/Cpl. HARTAMBUN No. 6395 L/Cpl. I. IBI No. 6465 Const. TOMI No. 8983 " UKUMBANI No. 3187 " SOMBI No. 3887 " SANGONDI No. 4225 " KUNI No. 5125 " TORAIM No. 6067B " BISAMBI No. 6554 " WALAMATWAI No. 6725 " WEDORA No. 6737 " LANGA No. 9295 " SARUK No. 7946 " LANSEIN No. 8969 " AINA No. 8973 " KAMPA No. 9005 " LILI No. 9053 " ARE No. 9113 " PIANGA No. 9185 " IARIF No. 7308 " LAVION No. 6900 " WAPE No. 7403 " KUSINGO No. 7404 " OVISIN No. 7494 " MATUM No. 9061 " WENA No. 9433 " MANDAGAI No. 8975 " KUOFERA No. 8979 " MAI No. ? " DANI

M.M.C. DIAN-MANGANOWIN

DURATION OF PATROL:

14/1/57 - 5/3/57
Number of Days:- 51

OBJECTS OF PATROL:

1. To apprehend and arrest as many as possible of those concerned with the recent ATBALMIN massacre.
2. To put an end to Tribal fighting in the MIANMIN area.
3. To contact the MIANMINS and explain the reason for the arrests and once again inform them of the Government's views on intercene fighting and killing
4. Extension of Government influen
ce.

MAP REFERENCE:

Map attached.

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

RHN.

Sub-District Office,
TELEFOLMIN.

18th March, 1957

PATROL REPORT NO. 4 of 1956/57 - TELEFOLMIN

INTRODUCTION:

Much of the matter contained in this report has been obtained under difficult circumstances. Quite a deal of it has been obtained from the defendants themselves who were at first, wont to tell stories varying greatly in truth and logic. Quite often, descriptions of incidents and facts had to be re-checked an astonishing number of times in order to arrive at a conclusion which was accurate.

Added to this was the ever present difficulty of interpretation. Fortunately, a number of such difficulties were recently alleviated. On my return from patrol, we obtained the services of interpreters who are, in fact, ATELMIN men who had been abducted by the MIANMIN when they were children and reared by the TIMELMIN (MIANMIN). They, fearing for their safety at the hands of the MIANMIN after the recent arrests were made, ran away from TIMELMIN and duly arrived at the station. They have proved to be most helpful. Previously, although we could converse with the MIANMIN, interpretation was a long and sometimes a very involved process.

(a) Geographical Background

The MIANMIN people live in very rough and mountainous country approximately 20 - 25 miles North and North West of the station. Their land holdings, which are quite extensive, start from the Northern bank of the FUK (CLEAR) River and extend Northwards as far as the junction of the AWAI (MAY) and IWAR Rivers, being bounded to the West by the SEPIK River and to the East by the mountains forming the watershed for the NEWA (FRIEDA) River.

The MIANMIN tribe is divided into a number of Sub-tribes, each controlled by their respective Headmen. These Sub-tribes usually occupy separate areas and keep to themselves except in times of large scale fighting and feasting. Previous patrols by Messrs. West, Nolen and Jones named the number of Sub-tribes as five - SOGAMIN, TIMELMIN, TEMANMIN, TERSEMIM and URAPMIN. All previous contact with these groups indicated that the TIMELMIN were the largest body and the most aggressive. This patrol discovered the existence of three additional Sub-tribes: KARMIN, BUPMIN and SOLEMIN. Considering the gardens seen and visited by this patrol, it would appear that the KARMIN group is as large as the TIMELMIN if not larger. The previously estimated population of one thousand people seems to be much under the actual figure. I would estimate that the area would contain double this number and possibly more. Verification of this will be obtained by future patrols as the people have more intercourse with the Government.

Having vast areas of land under their control, the MIANMIN move from garden site to garden site as the mood takes them. It is not possible to state definite areas in which people could be located continually. At present, the TIMELMIN and SOGAMIN groups garden near the UK River. This river flows into the FUK River. The TIMELMIN previously gardened near the AWAI and IWAR Rivers, whilst the SOGAMIN were in the Mt. SPOLE area at the head of the IWAR River. The URAPMIN, TEMANMIN and TERSEMIM groups now garden along the SAN River, but periodically shift to the WAMU and PIAK Rivers. The KARMIN group, unknown before this patrol, have gardens spread from the headwaters of

the SAN River across the TAWU River and the THURWALD Range to the SEPIK. The EVIPMIN and SOLEMIN groups, also unknown before this patrol, have gardens on the TAWU and AAI Rivers. The previous garden sites of these three Sub-tribes are not known.

Having already given the approximate boundaries of the MIANMIN land, I will now endeavour to give a brief picture of the area. To state that this area is the roughest and wildest in the Territory is a bold statement until one has seen and struggled over the land within these boundaries. From the THURWALD Range, which dominates the Southern section, the area is a maze of smaller ranges and sub-ranges, jutting spurs, long steep sided ridges, fast flowing ever dangerous rivers and deep sheer gullies. Movement of any kind was a major operation testing the endurance of the fittest European and putting a supreme test of stamina on police and carriers. Lack of sound knowledge of the area coupled with the inaccuracy of maps held, further hampered operations. From readings and observations recorded during the patrol, it is hoped that accurate maps of the MIANMIN area can be compiled.

(b) Historical Background

European contact has been made with some factions of the MIANMIN tribe, more particularly with those to the East of the MIANMIN area. First contact was made by KARIUS and CHAMPION in 1928. In 1938, BLACK and TAYLOR penetrated into the THURWALD Range and were attacked by the MIANMINS at TELAPOLMIN. Some of the attackers were killed by the patrol. In 1951, two patrols went into the vicinity from TELAPOLMIN; and in both 1953 and 1955, patrols visited the area receiving friendly if wary reception. The next patrol was my own (No. 2 of 1956/57) which visited the MIANMINS in order to attempt a settlement of their dispute with the ATBALMINS. This patrol was prior to the recent massacre. Subsequent events have proved that although agreeing to stop their fighting when requested, these warnings and efforts were not in fact heeded.

Until the advent of the Telefolmin patrols, the MIANMINS had made many murderous raids upon their neighbours. There remains no doubt that the MIANMINS were the most aggressive and feared group in the whole of the TELAPOLMIN area and justly so. They were wont to destroy gardens, slay men, hack bodies up for eating and abduct women and children. To the West and South of their area the ATBALMIN and ELIPTAMIN peoples took the brunt of these attacks. We have recently learnt that at the same time, many attacks were carried out by them on their neighbours to the North and East. These attacks, being so far away from the station, had naturally not been brought to the notice of the Government. So aggressive were the MIANMINS, and because of their relative numbers, they would move some three to five days walk into enemy territory in search of prey. Such walking times to them means a considerable distance indeed. The ELIPTAMIN people and the ATBALMINS being terrified of the MIANMINS made no effort to carry the fight into enemy territory, but were content to remove themselves as far away as possible from the MIANMIN boundaries. At the mere mention of MIANMIN, the locals indicate their extreme fear of them. I would mention in passing, that I was pleasantly surprised at being able to recruit sufficient carriers to carry into the area. This would indicate that Government prestige must be rather high in the eyes of the local people.

As soon as patrols had persuaded the MIANMINS to cease their raids, instructions were given to their enemies lying relatively close to the Station that they must not retaliate for past atrocities committed by the MIANMINS. This order was easy to police in the ELIPTAMIN and they conformed. This was not so in the ATBALMIN. Conversely the MIANMINS did not attack into the ELIPTAMIN. But, as previously mentioned, we have now learnt that they did not discontinue fighting with their Northern and Eastern neighbours.

The ATBALMIN area lies between the Papuan border and the APEK River. Its full extent is not known. The people live in small isolated settlements and patrols have seen few of their numbers. Thus it was that early in July, 1956 an uncontacted ATBALMIN group known as the ATEMISIMINS killed four men (see Appendix A) of a friendly URAPMIN (MIANMIN) party who were visiting the ATBALMIN area in order to carry out trading. The bodies were cut up and distributed throughout the entire ATBALMIN area for feasting. It has been definitely established that the reason for this action was out of revenge for the numerous past atrocities committed by the MIANMINS against the ATBALMINS before the advent of patrolling from TELEPOLMIN.

During late July, 1956, a patrol (vide Report No.1/56-57) visited the ATBALMIN area and ascertained the details of the murders. Some ATBALMINS were brought back to the station for corrective training then allowed to go back to their village. It was some two months after this event that Mr. E.D. Wren A.D.O. was transferred to ATTAPE and myself to TELEPOLMIN.

In retaliation for these killings a URAPMIN (MIANMIN) party organised by DAMSOGIN, who had lost a son in the first killings, raided the ATBALMIN during late September 1956 and killed one man, two women and a girl (See Appendix B). The bodies were cut up and taken away for feasting.

These raids had a most unsettling effect on the ELIPTAMIN people who have, since 1954, lived in relative harmony with the MIANMINS. The ELIPTAMIN'S feared that their former enemies would re-commence raids upon all and sundry. So it was that a patrol left here on the 8th November, 1956 for the MIANMIN area as soon as possible after the news of this second raid was reported. It was thought that upon this occasion, the MIANMINS had some excuse for their raid and that a warning only would be given, friendly relations established and another patrol got off to the ATBALMIN with similar words of council within the very near future. This latter patrol visited the ATBALMIN area from the 30/11/56 to 3/12/56 and informed them that on no account was similar retaliation to occur.

It was the day after this patrol had left the ATBALMIN area that the MIANMINS made their second successful raid on the ATBALMINS. We have since discovered that they had come across the tracks of the patrol. This almost deterred their raid. However, upon learning that the Government patrol was moving away from the ATBALMIN area, they decided to carry out the intended raid. This they did with much success.

DIARY.

Monday 14th January, 1957

Departed Station at 1.25 p.m. and arrived at the APEK River at 3.55 p.m. having had two short rests enroute. Camped at the rest house at 4.0 p.m. Food for the night was carried by labourers from the Station.

Tuesday 15th January, 1957

Left Camp at 7.40 a.m. and continued till 8.35 a.m. Proceeded again at 8.55 a.m. and crossed over the top of the range at 9.7 a.m. (Altitude 7200 feet) Rested here till 9.15 a.m. when walking was resumed until 10.15 a.m. Rested and continued at 10.40 a.m. - walking on this side of the range is quite good comparatively. Arrived at INANTIGIN Village (5400 feet) at 11.25 a.m. Word had been sent on ahead to these people, hence we were able to buy sufficient food. Further food arrived from MISIMMIN and TARAPPVIV Villages. quite a good gathering of friendly people - this was encouraging when considering that it is only some two years since these people were involved in

similar domestic squabbles and killed two Patrol Officers and two Police. A meeting was held and talks given on the utility of such escapades. The people were very impressed and listened attentively. Much advice was offered the patrol as to the war-like nature and treachery of the MIANMIN. This advice was accepted with thanks. All wished us well, a successful trip and speeding return with numbers intact. The portable wireless was set up in the open and TELEFOLMIN contacted - locals much impressed.

Wednesday 16th January, 1957.

Departed INANTIGIN 7.12 p.m. and descended steeply over a very bad bush pad till arriving at the BIMP River at 6.22 a.m. (2500 feet) Carrier line very spread out over this rough country - descent very hazardous. Left here at 9.30 a.m. and crossed the River (2400 feet) per a new bridge which the locals had constructed. Commenced to climb and rested at 10.20 a.m. Continued over very bad track at 10.25 a.m. and rested at 11.27 a.m. Left at 12.10 p.m. and arrived at an old garden site (now abandoned due to fear of MIANMINS) at 12.20 p.m. (4800 feet) No water further up the range - made Camp. Contacted Wewak - wireless working well. Local INAWTIGIN natives carried a little food to the patrol. Lined carriers and police and gave them a talk as to how I wished them behave at all times. Weeded out 8 of the weaker carriers and sent them back.

Thursday 17th January, 1957

Broke Camp at 7.25 a.m. - climbing - reached an old track at 7.40 a.m. Here going a little easier - rested at 8.10 a.m. (5700 feet) before commencing climb up steep ridge. Set off at 8.35 a.m. - going very slow. Reach top of range at 9.55 a.m. (7300 feet). Left at 10.20 a.m. and descended steeply - passed through West's old camp site at 11.30 a.m. and continued on resting at 12.25 p.m. Left at 1.3 p.m. and arrived at old village site (ELIPALIN peoples) at 2.25 p.m. - camped.

Friday 18th January, 1957

After sending back eight carriers, got away at 7.40 a.m. Descended steeply to the DUM River arriving at 8.11 a.m. and crossing at 8.15 a.m. (2500 feet) Climbed out and passed through my old camp site at 8.30 a.m. Left at 9.0 a.m. walking over a good gradual sloping track till 10.5 a.m. Here hid surplus food and stores well into the bush to allow for easier movement. Left at 11.55 a.m. and arrived at the BUK River (1600 feet) at 12 noon. Water low - crossed and made camp. Saw the camp which the MIANMIN had made when they were gathering to go on the raid to the ATBALMIN. Minor disturbance caused by Interpreter who shot at a pidgeon - missed - arrow fell in camp - PANIC!! - humour of situation appreciated by all. Sent home forty carriers with Police escort - area quite safe to do so. Spoke to District Officer - guard posted.

Saturday 19th January, 1957

Once again lined Police and carriers and gave them a talk as to what I wished them to do should the patrol be attacked. Set off at 8.0 a.m. following the BANA River - moving slowly and cautiously. Reached the junction of the BANA and BOLKIN Rivers at 12.35 a.m. Continued up the latter for five minutes then commenced very steep climb - till resting at 9.0 a.m. Left at 9.40 a.m. and arrived at my old camp site at 10/15 a.m. Decided that it would be impossible to arrive at the MIANMIN Villages using caution until late in the afternoon. This would not give us much time to make camp, collect wood and water especially if trouble be experienced - better to camp and arrive with plenty of daylight at our disposal. Camped (3325 feet) - guard posted.

Sunday 20th January, 1957

Got away at 6.10 a.m. - talked very slowly - numerous

stop in order to keep the line together. Climbing hill reaching the top of range at 6.40 a.m. (3900 feet). Then over difficult up and down track till reaching the junction of the ETARA and TUBAPITINI creeks at 7.30 a.m. Still going up and down rested at 7.40 a.m. (3000 feet) till arriving at the NUBIRI Creek. Reached an old village site at 7.57 a.m. Numerous guard houses passed en route but none occupied. Left here at 8.20 a.m. waiting every quarter of an hour for all to catch up. Arrived at junction of two MIAMIN tracks at 9.0 a.m. Followed the newer looking road till arriving at ABUMVIP (3900 feet) which was my old camp site, at 10-10 a.m. Village now deserted - people have moved off for some considerable distance but houses remained intact. Unable to establish contact. Spent the remainder of the day making camp; clearing back the bush and endeavouring to establish contact - people seen moving in some clearings on opposite side of valley but would not answer our calls. Village a good camp site for defence with a fall on all sides except one. Spoke to the District Officer strong guard posted - all well.

Monday 21st January, 1957

Started off the day by making contact with DAMSOGIN, another man and two women. They came into the camp and were given presents etc. and told a little as to the purpose of our visit. This is an old ruse of primitive people of sending women and old men into the enemies camp to ascertain its strength. Having had long dealings with primitive people, it has been my experience that the primitive mind tends to discount the loss of women should the enemy care to take them. They know that the enemy is not anxious to obtain or kill merely old men and women and therefore will not show their hand by interfering with their emissaries. At the same time the women and elderly people who entered the enemy camp can later (when they return) report back to their fighting men their numbers they can expect to encounter, etc. This being the case plans to attack or otherwise can be formulated accordingly. DAMSOGIN and these others were not allowed into the actual camp site itself. We sat with them on the outskirts, for with the above in mind, we wished to determine the temper of the people, and, as usual allow them to take the initiative and then act accordingly. After much talking, doctoring of their sores and back slapping on DAMSOGIN's part they went off and brought us in a little food for which they received payment. During all the time that DAMSOGIN was within the precincts of the camp he was taking particular note of our position and strength. However, at this stage we felt certain that DAMSOGIN was the actual instigator of these last killings despite my previous warnings to him. They later went off saying they would return. Strong guard posted.

Tuesday 22nd January, 1957

All quiet early in the day - later a large party of some 150-200 fighting men carrying an array of bows and arrows were seen to be surrounding the camp. In attempting to apprehend those present for questioning, for by this stage it was obvious that they would not submit to us voluntarily, a skirmish developed and one of the MIAMIN warriors was killed. However, sixteen of them were captured and fortunately none of our party was injured except for a minor wound in the hand suffered by a Policeman.

After this, their party broke up quickly and we followed but this proved to be impossible in such difficult and heavily timber country. Fifty-four sets of bows and arrows and ten fighting shields were found abandoned to allow for greater speed on the part of their owners. The dead man was carried to a point as close as possible to where he relatives could find and collect him. In this way he could serve as a warning against further indiscretions on their part. Prisoners were interrogated and a heavy guard posted - quiet night.

Wednesday 23rd January, 1957

Prisoners further interrogated. Using the prisoners we attempted to once again to make peaceful contact and endeavour to obtain those whom we now knew to have taken a more demonstrative part in the killings. However, nothing was either seen or heard of the locals who nevertheless, heard all we had to say per media of the prisoners. Decided to sit down and wait. A strong scouting party consisting of Europeans and Police sent out for five hours - nothing seen of people.

This party proved our convictions as to the most difficult nature of the surrounding country side which drops steeply from three sides of our camp. Contact Wewak and passed message for stores to be relayed from TELEPOLMIN to the FUK River where they would be collected. Cessna on way back from TELEPOLMIN passed about eight to ten miles East of our Camp - strong guard posted.

Thursday 24th January, 1957

Re-established contact - locals have us surrounded and have our retreat cut off but do not intend to use. They answered our calls saying that they would bring in people responsible for the killings and also food. Their party came to the foot of the hill upon which we were camped. They remained some three to four hundred yards away. It was of no advantage to sally forth - would destroy their faith and the possibility of obtaining more of those whom we were after. Moreover, many obstacles lay between them and ourselves. Party with extra supplies left TELEPOLMIN for the FUK River today.

Friday 25th January, 1957

Morning spent calling out to the locals and telling them what we wanted of them. Contacted them during the afternoon. They came again to the bottom of the hill and left a little tarc for their prisoners and a pig for us. Nothing would entice them into the camp for more intimate talks which would have been desirable. However, we did get across to them the reasons for our presence and actions and told them that it resulted from them ignoring my previous instructions given them on my last visit, for them not to kill any more ATBALMIN. They said that they would go off and bring in DAINSOGIN and the others directly concerned, but from their actions and tone I hold out little hope of this. However, no more aggressiveness noted and they have discontinued surrounding the camp.

Saturday 26th January, 1957.

A strong party consisting of Messrs Booth and Conroy, nineteen police and eighty carriers left for the FUK River at 8.50 a.m. to meet party from the station and collect stores previously hidden in the bush. All well with party - no shots heard. A dreary day spent calling out and waiting to hear from the locals. Nothing heard - rained heavily. Contacted Wewak and Telefolmin. Self and party out during the afternoon. Quiet night.

Sunday 27th January, 1957.

Contacted Wewak and Telefolmin. Nothing heard from the party at the FUK River. Appears their wireless (ATRAA) not working. Had long discussions with prisoners. Had them calling out to their friends. Contacted the latter at 1.45 p.m. Once again told them to bring in the ring leaders - again they said that they would. They left the bottom of the hill at 2.30 p.m. Messrs Booth and Conroy and party arrived back with the supplies at 4 p.m. Learnt that their radio had blown up when switched on, hence their silence. Quiet night - guard posted.

Monday 28th January, 1957.

Quiet day given to rain. Strong party of Europeans and police sent out to do reconnaissance and see if any tracks, denoting movement of people. Nothing seen. Day spent charging batteries with charger received from Telefolmin.

Tuesday 29th January, 1957.

Now it appears certain that the locals do not intend to come forth- time to move further into their territory and seek them out. Left eight police and twenty carriers in camp to look after heavy gear left behind. Remainder of party left at 7.40 a.m. for the opposite side of valley where further villages situated. Descended very steeply till reaching the SAMAL creek at 8.25 a.m. walked along it till reaching the SAN River at 8.27 a.m. Walked up the SAN which

was in flood till 8.25a.m. when we came to the junction of the APAL and the SAM. Constructed a log bridge and crossed the SAM at 10.30a.m. (1400 ft.) Commenced climbing and arrived at an old village site at 10.50a.m. Waited here ten minutes then continued till 11.5a.m. where we waited till 11.45a.m. Arrived at DRONGAVIP village at 12p.m. This a new village- one of DAMSOGIN'S villages- deserted. Found a new ceremonial house which had 35 human skulls in it, as well as numerous new arrows. These collected- village not a good site for camp- defence a little awkward and clearing small for large party. Mr. Booth and a party scouted and found better site handy. Left DRONGAVIP at 1.30p.m. and walked down the slope to KAVURAVIP village arriving at 1.40p.m. Today's roads quite good- well cleared and wide as is usual with people continually fighting and half expecting attack. Villages also well cleared of surrounding timber. Camped- good site- further cleared. Nothing seen or heard of locals- guard- quiet night.

Wednesday 30th January 1957.

Contacted Wewak and had conversation with the D.O.- explained situation. Scouting party led by self, Messrs. Conroy and Kelly sent out to have a look at surrounding area and look for suspects, saw nothing of menfolk. Found DAMSOGIN'S aged wife, his child and her child in a garden house. The two former were crippled and could not move. Talked with them and discovered that their menfolk had visited them the day before, giving threats that if they (the women) were touched that he (the husband of the younger woman) would come back and avenge them. The elderly woman was suffering from a large and very bad tropical ulcer. Treatment given and both women and the child were carried back to the camp for further treatment, interrogation and present giving. Three very large gardens were also found. Party returned to the camp- Another strong party off to collect police and carriers left at last camp site- returned- trip uneventful- guard posted- quiet night.

Thursday 31st January 1957.

A party led by Mr. Booth out during the morning- much of the area seen but nothing of the people. Another party out during the afternoon. Self took statement from the crippled woman and she being reassured, was able to give us a fairly clear picture of the events and happenings culminating in the last raid by the Miammins. She also identified all the prisoners as having seen them set off to participate in the raid. Prisoners sitting out endeavouring to establish contact with their people. However, they appear to have taken especially those implicated in the killings. Am now satisfied that they had no intention of bringing in further culprits nor giving help, but merely trying to get back their relatives from us.

Friday 1st February 1957.

Smoke seen in the KAREMIN area- Messrs. Booth and Conroy with strong party off to investigate but discovered by guards well before they got near the area- unable to apprehend anybody. Their villages sit astride a hill and when a party reaches the area below the village the men (for the women have all been moved off) are warned well in advance by guards and by the time the patrol reaches the village those who may have been present have fled and have a considerable start.

Self and another party off to the East of the camp. No new tracks of footprints seen. Booth and Conroy back at 5p.m. Spoke to D.O. during afternoon.

Saturday 2nd February 1957.

After rearranging cargo Messrs. Booth and Conroy got away from the KAREMIN area at 8a.m. together with seventeen police and fifty carriers. Mr. Kelly and self broke camp at 8.20a.m. and left for TEMANIN- going very slow with prisoners and battery charger. Passed through an old village site and crossed the DUAMORIN creek at 9.10a.m. Here we left here at 9.40a.m. and continued until striking a garden. Here we saw four Miammin men collecting tawo for their people camped up in the hills. We endeavoured to encircle them but their guard discovered us when having to cross over open ground. They ran off very quickly. We continued until arriving at YESARAVIP village at 11.30a.m.- camping

unsuitable. Discovered another village KARUASARAVIP much better for camping. Moved there arriving at 11.45a.m. Made camp and cleared area guard posted- quiet night.

Sunday 3rd February 1957.

Messrs. Booth and Conroy at KAREMIN. Contacted Telefomin and found that a horseman had arrived in- spoke with pilot giving information as to our whereabouts. Requested him to look for us on return trip. Country so broken that we were unable to fix ourselves from the ground in respect of any known points. Pilot did so and found us by means of us lighting fires and making smoke. He found us to be due North of the Sepik Gap or 250 plus or minus 10 from Mt. Stolle. Self and party out for the rest of the day. Another party off in another direction. No further signs of people.

Monday 4th February 1957.

Got away to an early start for gardens and surrounding areas. Came across a garden which was well concealed on steep slope. Three men in this garden but again guards well posted and unable to get near them. All these people have gone off to either KAREMIN or TIMELEMIN.

Returned to camp late afternoon. Time spent questioning the two women previously contacted and still receiving treatment for ulcers. Also with prisoners. Gave demonstration of fire power of a rifle- women very impressed. Gained more information from women with regard to roads etc. and impressed upon them our desire for them to go back and tell their menfolk that the Government did not want to hear of any more tribal fighting but that they were to remain peaceful- tend to the remaking of gardens their womenfolk, children and pigs etc. Gave the women presents of beads salt and other small odds and ends- quite friendly and agreed that fighting was most unsettling to say the least.

Spoke with Wewek during the late afternoon.

Tuesday 5th February 1957.

Contacted Telefomin. Got away with party to local area. Messrs. Booth, Conroy and party arrived back from KAREMIN during afternoon. Reported that they had seen tracks but no sign of people, also that from the number of gardens and houses seen, population appears to be quite dense. Late afternoon spent rearranging cargo, preparatory to moving off to TIMELEMIN tomorrow.

Wednesday 6th February 1957.

Left camp at 7.50a.m. and crossed the junction of the DU and the AIK rivers at 8.30a.m. Then up and down through very heavily timbered broken country. Heard a plane pass overhead at 8.55a.m. Crossed the INEM River at 9.45a.m. still walking over very bad track and rested at 11.20a.m. Left at 11.45a.m. and continued over my old track till reaching the DEGA River at 1.30p.m. Walking very slow. Ail had a wash in the river. Left the DEGA at 2.15p.m. and arrived at my old camp site at 2.35p.m. Made camp in rain (alt. 3200ft.) area heavily timbered.

Thursday 7th February 1957.

An uproar at 2.30a.m. when guard called out that the prisoners were endeavouring to escape. All turned out and put a cordon around the camp. Prisoners quickly gathered and once again the camp quickly settled down. Broke camp and departed at 7a.m.- climbing steeply. Reached an old village site at 8.5a.m. Walking very slow with large line and prisoners. Rearranged gear and left at 8.50a.m. Descended sharply to the junction of the OROBU and AMOBU rivers, arriving at 8.50a.m. Waited for the line to bunch up and moved off at 9a.m. Self and Mr. Eoot with party of police moved off ahead to attempt to find people in the TIMELEMIN villages. Followed along the OROBU river for some fifteen minutes, then climbed steeply and eventually arrived at a TIMELEMIN hamlet (TARAPRAVIP) at 9.50a.m. Women were heard in one of the gardens but we were unable to contact them. Scouted around and found a better camp site at DANAVIP village. Rest of patrol arrived and we moved off at 10.20a.m. Arrived at DANAVIP village at 10.30a.m. Camp made and site cleared

back some considerable distance in order to give unobstructed view. Contacted some of the locals during the afternoon but only at a distance- guard posted- quiet night.

Friday 8th February 1957.

Carriers busy further clearing adjacent the camp- locals came in close to the camp- unfriendly. Party went forth and made arrests of five men suspected of having taken part in the killings. No casualties to either side. Six women were also brought back into the camp. Interrogated those taken and established that all the males had been present on the raid. After long discussions with the women, two were allowed to return to their people. They were asked to bring in the woman KOGUMUKU who had been abducted on the recent raid. She arrived in at 5.30p.m. Limping rather badly from an arrow wound in her leg. She had been shot in the leg by the TIMELMINS to prevent her from escaping. Some more of the TIMELMINS came in close to the camp. The afternoon was spent shouting backwards and forth, the reason for our presence and the arrest. No hostility by them towards us. They listened quite patiently to our reasoning. Spoke to the D.O. during afternoon and arranged an airdrop of torch batteries, handcuffs and European foodstuffs which we require. Strong guard posted- quiet night.

Saturday 9th February 1957.

Contacted Wewak and learnt of a drop to us. Morning spent in further clearing of the camp site and the building of two large bonfires. Contacted Telefomin and gave further details of our position. Cessna aircraft arrived overhead at 11.40a.m. did one circuit of the camp, very high- dropped- too high. Supplies landed some half mile from the camp but recovered. Europeans spent day interrogating prisoners. The woman KOGUMUKAN invaluable as witness. Using her we have been able to establish the parts played by those held.

Conversation carried on with locals by calling out.

Sunday 10th February 1957.

Strong parties sent out- batteries charged. Due to the shortage of food accentuated by the large number we have to feed and the difficulty of holding prisoners- have decided to split patrol. The major portion of carriers and prisoners to return to the station. The largest section to go to KAREMIN and visit those whose presence we have only recently established.

Held long talks with the four women during the afternoon. No further sign seen of the TIMELMINS.

Monday 11th February 1957.

Strong party sent out early. After talks with women allowed another to return to her people to tell them not to be unduly alarmed- that their menfolk would be eventually returned unharmed and that on our next visit we wished to become friends. She was given numerous small presents as tokens of friendship. Talked with the D.O. and informed him of my intention to split patrol. Rained very heavily during the afternoon- guard posted.

Tuesday 12th February 1957.

Parties sent out in an endeavour to contact the TIMELMINS and SOGAMINS- Nothing seen of them. More long talks held with the women and prisoners. The afternoon spent in rearranging the cargo for the patrol to be split on the morrow- charged batteries- quiet night.

Wednesday 13th February 1957.

Self and Mr. E.M.A. Kelly together with fourteen police, seventy carriers, nineteen prisoners and witnesses departed for Telefolmin at 7.15a.m. Messrs. Booth, Conroy, twenty five police and carriers remained in camp with most of the stores. Travelling very slow with prisoners and battery charger and carrying one heavy carrier, who had broken his leg. Arrived at the UK River at 9a.m. (2100) - not flooded. Crossed and climbed steeply over small range. Arrived at the PUA River at 11a.m. River flooded - had to construct bridge. Crossed and camped in bush. Rained during afternoon. From this date onwards Mr. Booth's diary covers the remainder of his section of the patrol.

Thursday 14th February 1957.

Broke camp at 7a.m. Crossed the SAGI creek at 7.15 a.m. then climbed at a very steep rate, rested at 9a.m. (1450ft.) Departed at 9.20a.m. still climbing although track quite reasonable till reaching the road above the MISIMMIN gardens at 9.55a.m. Rested till 10.10a.m. climbing steadily till reaching the top of the range at 1.15p.m. (6950ft.) Carriers had had enough - called it a day, made camp in rain.

Friday 15th February 1957.

Broke camp at 7.20a.m. Commenced going down very sharply - track bad. Reached the URAL River (4250ft.) at 8a.m. Called a halt. Departed at 8.20a.m. once again down steep grade. The MISIMMIN people had been doing work on their roads - very pleasing and made much easier walking. Arrived at the ELIP river at 10.30a.m. (2550ft.) Here we were met by the MISIMMIN and KOSDAVI people who had just completed the construction of a bridge for our use. The crossing was completed by 12 noon. The local MISIMMIN people had prepared and cooked food for the carriers. This was eaten and it was decided to camp at this point. People very happy to see us back and learn that we had not suffered any losses, but had accomplished the arrests of those responsible for this last raid.

Saturday 16th February 1957.

Broke camp at 6a.m. and followed up the GIM River till 7.30a.m. (5300ft.) Here we left the river and climbed up to MISIMMIN village arriving at 8.10a.m. Village inspected - very clean. Departed at 8.40a.m. Climbed to the top of the range arriving at 10.30a.m. (7200ft.) Rested for five minutes then descended sharply, arriving at our No 1 camp at 11.30a.m. Drank tea and left at 11.50am. and reached the station at 1.30p.m.

End of diary for this section of the patrol.

NATIVE SITUATION.

The main object of this patrol was to apprehend as many as possible of those involved in the murdering of sixteen (previously reported as seventeen) ATBALMIN people. Hence it is of interest to outline the events leading up to and the planning and execution of the raid. This outline covers the period from the 16th November (after my initial patrol left the MIANMIN area) to the 4th December 1956. These events have been uncovered after intensive search and investigation, the difficulties of which you will readily appreciate.

On the 16th November 1956, Telefolmin patrol No. 2 of 1956-57 left AVIUMVIF hamlet, crossed the SAGI River and camped in the bush between URAPMIN and MISIMMIN. The following

day the patrol left the SAN Valley and crossed the FUK River. This was the last day of contact with the MIAMIN people prior to their raid on the ATBALMIN.

From what has been gleaned, the MIAMIN (especially the URAPMIN Sub-tribe), despite the fact that the patrol had warned them that no further killings would be tolerated, immediately commenced planning to exact retribution from the ATBALMIN people for their killing of four MIAMIN (URAPMIN) men in July of that year.

All people questioned, state, and he himself admits, that DAMSOGIN of URAPMIN brought the matter to a head by holding a meeting at his village ANAVIAP, to which he called the relatives of the URAPMIN killed in July. Present were his sons DIRAPSEP and AMTERRING (his son and their brother, AMTERRING had been murdered by the ATBALMIN earlier that year), NEMENAP, DABONOL, and MOKSUK (whose sons WANANAPSEP, BILAWENGAP and UKBUP, respectively, had been killed at the same time as DAMSOGIN's son). Also present were WARNING and DOPURAP of URAPMIN. This meeting was held four days after the departure of the patrol i.e. 19/11/56.

Possibly the matter of further revenge had been thought about by isolated MIAMIN people but it was DAMSOGIN who solidified the idea, placed it before the other elders, and when they agreed to raid proceeded to play a major part in its organization.

At the meeting DAMSOGIN stated that despite what the Government had said, he did not consider the matter closed. The MIAMIN had retaliated after the ATBALMIN had killed four of their men by taking the lives of one man and three women (see Appendix "B"). This was insufficient, and DAMSOGIN felt that further steps should be taken to (a) avenge the deaths of their tribesmen and (b) to prove to the ATBALMIN that "Government" or no "Government" the MIAMIN were still supreme. He suggested that word be sent to the KAREMIN group in order to hear their views on the matter. If the KAREMIN were in agreement with the general idea, steps would be taken to organize a large raiding party to proceed to the ATBALMIN.

Three men WARNING, DIRAPSEP and GWIVIK (who had previously been into the patrol's camp, GWIVIK in particular being noted as an arrogant hothead) were sent to the KAREMIN group (KINAVIP Village) to call the KAREMIN elders and able bodied men down to ANAVIAP to hear DAMSOGIN's talk. They departed on the 20/11/56 arriving the same day - sometime in the morning. At Kinavip they met several men, some of whom are now prisoners. To these men they outlined the discussions of the previous night. It was decided that NEMENAP and TEMANAROK would take the word westwards the next day; over the watershed of the SAN River and into the TAVU River Valley. On the 21st November, NEMENAP and TEMANAROK departed for BIKASIVIP. They arrived the same day and addressed those present namely NEMARINAP, YETEMAP and his wife, NERREMAP, TERENGAP and his wife, TARANGAP, WABABIAR, NARDENA, JUKEN, SIRIUP, BERGSEP, TAWAIBA and his wife. Word was sent out to those people in gardens nearby. On their arrival further discussions were held. On the 22nd November the men from this area in company with NERREMAP and TEMANAROK crossed to KIRAVIP.

By the evening of the 23rd November, quite a large party had convened at ANAVIAP. At a meeting in the men's house that night, DAMSOGIN reiterated his former statements and pressed that there should be a raid. All present agreed. It was decided that the other Sub-tribes be informed of the plan and asked to support. DAMSOGIN and WARNING chose BAIYEP and TISING to bring the news to the TINGMIN Sub-tribe. They departed the next day (24th November) proceeding East down the valley. En route they called at KARAPTEVIP, assembled the population and brought the men down to BENGAVIP with them. At the time of their arrival the BENGAVIP's were baking taro in hot stones. While the taro cooked the men talked. When it was ready they all ate and continued talking into the night discussing the plans for the raid. BAIYEP said that DAMSOGIN had sent him. That they (URAPMIN and KAREMIN) had

decided to raid the ATBALMINS and that he had been sent to ask these people to join the raiding party.

Amongst others, DIRIPUP spoke. He supported the idea of the raid and invoked the TIMELMINS to go with the party. At the close of the evening, it having been decided that the TIMELMINS would participate, DIRIPUP chose WATEMAP and SINALDIMAP (his son) to take the word to the SOGALMINS.

On the 25th November, while BAIYEP and TIMING remained at BERGAVIP, WATEMAP and SINALDIMAP went to SOWALVIP a SOGALMIN hamlet. Here they spoke to a gathering giving details of the intended raid and the numbers who had agreed to take part. The SOWALVIPS decided to assist in the raid. A young man SERA was sent by SASARAP to the next settlement KARAPOMAVIP. He passed the word to those present, thereupon they also decided that they would participate. The following day the KARAPOMAVIPS after collecting sufficient food, went to SOWALVIP. Here the TIMELMINS and SOGALMINS collected during the next two days. The 28th November saw this party of TIMELMINS and SOGALMINS leave BERGAVIP fully armed and with sufficient food to bring them to the ATBALMIN area.

In the period from the 24th to the 27th of November word had also been sent to the TEMANMINS; carried by TIMIPAP and BRAMIN, on DAMSOGIN's orders. It is known that by the 27th November a party of TEMANMINS approximately fifteen strong was in the APANAVIP area in company with strong parties of KARBEINS and URAPHINS. Together this combine moved off for the ATBALMIN area on the 28th November. Crossing the SAN valley they reached the junction of the PAK and LAMA rivers on the evening of the same day. Here they made camp and waited for the TIMELMINS and the SOGALMINS to arrive.

This latter group left BERGAVIP on the 28th November and followed the UK River down to its junction with the PAK River. They slept en route. The next day they joined the party at the prescribed waiting place.

All and sundry in the vicinity of 100 left the rendezvous on the 30th November and slept that night on a hill called DANBEL. The following day the party reached the SEPIK River where they slept. The second of December was spent bridging the SEPIK. On the 3rd December the party crossed the SEPIK and proceeded into ATBALMIN territory. Here they struck the tracks of a Telefolmin patrol who were visiting the ATBALMINS. They were reassured when they saw that the tracks were leading away from the ATBALMIN. From their position they heard the sound of trees being felled and saw smoke rising from a garden. Immediately they surrounded the garden and rushed in to attack.

Those first into the garden seized the surprised ATBALMINS, others pursued those endeavouring to escape. As more and more MIAMINS arrived upon the scene, they formed into groups around the captured ATBALMINS assisting in the killing of those still alive and mutilating the bodies of the newly dead. When all had been despatched, only one young girl had managed to escape (two women of marriageable age were being held), the task of cutting up the bodies was commenced. Others took care out of the gardens and burnt the houses in the area. Amongst these houses were those which had recently been constructed by the Government patrol. The whole action is estimated to have taken approximately some four to five hours. It can easily be seen that they had no fears as to their safety at the hands of the ATBALMIN.

They left the garden site late in the afternoon, returning to their camp of the previous night, cutting the bridge which they had constructed en route. Most of the party were seen by the women MIAMINS to be carrying loads of human flesh in their string bags. The women had ample time to notice

these details during the two days in which they travelled back with the party. The assassins retraced their steps back to the junction of the PAK and BANA Rivers. Here they split up and took the most convenient routes back to their respective hamlets.

Celebrations for the return of the successful parties were held locally; that is there was no one big celebration. The scattered settlements of each sub-tribe came together in the main hamlets where the "heros" were feted and feasting on the ATBALMIN flesh took place. Men, women and children all participated.

AFTER EVENTS:

As soon as possible after the substance of these events had been reported, this patrol got underway to carry out investigations. The patrol duly arrived in the MIANMIN area on the 20th January and received a rather wary and hostile reception. Clearly these people still regarded themselves as being not only the most feared group in the Telefolmin area, but that they had sufficient justification for their past and future actions. No doubt they were spurred on by DAMSOGIN who made an initial reconnaissance of the camp. Also it is interesting to note that as far back as 1950 Mr. Rogers, Patrol Officer, conducted a survey of the ELIPTAMIN Valley and found that the MIANMIN had killed one hundred and thirty eight of the total population of approximately one thousand in the preceding eleven years. Also he discovered that the scattered and unorganised ATBALMIN people had suffered even more seriously.

It is indeed unfortunate that life was taken both at this early stage and later during the course of the patrol. However, when primitive people are of such a mind and refuse to be sidetracked or submit to authority, laws and a moral code about which they know next to nothing, such a result may sometimes be expected. I think that both you and the District Commissioner will agree that had it been avoidable, any patrol led by myself would most certainly have deterred. It was only out of consideration for the safety of the patrol members that such action came about.

In order to give you some idea of the type of people with whom we were dealing, I would like to record a particular incident which had an unsavoury taste. You will recall that on my last patrol to the MIANMIN, I visited the URAPMINS to particularly warn them against further killings of ATBALMINS. They agreed to take my council and remain peaceful. As subsequent events have proved the organization of this second raid was commenced just two days after my departure from their area. Moreover, you will remember that during that patrol we had the misfortune to lose a carrier who was accidentally killed whilst felling a tree two days before the patrol left ABOUVIP Village (URAPMIN area). Upon my return to this village during this patrol, I found that the body of the carrier had been exhumed. Later investigations proved that the body had been dug up by the URAPMINS immediately the patrol had set off from that area. It had been cooked and eaten by the people of that area. Undoubtedly they must have sneered at our attempts of peaceful mediating. However, I did not allow this incident to greatly influence my decisions, but permitted them to take the initiative and then acted accordingly.

You will have seen both from the diary and the above that many difficulties were encountered during the patrol. Apart from those of supply which were extremely good under the circumstances, our most serious obstacle was that of terrain and the lack of knowledge of this new area. The very nature of the country readily lends itself to those having first hand knowledge of it i.e. to its owners or inhabitants. This being the case,

the MIANNINS had a very clear and distinct advantage over us and one with which we could hardly compete. However I know and can assure you that the patrol did its best possible on all occasions and I feel gratified that we were able to obtain a total of twenty five of the murderers who will stand their trial and against whom convictions will most surely be recorded.

During its course the patrol covered the entire MIANNIN area now inhabited. This included the TEIANNIN, TENSEMEN, URAPIN, TIMELIN and SOGAMIN Sub-tribes. The KAREMINS were also visited. But as previously mentioned, it was subsequently learnt from those taken prisoner and particularly from the contacts of women which we made, that not all of this latter area had been covered. For this reason and out of consideration of shortage of food, and the difficulty of holding prisoners, the patrol was split on the 13th February. A portion of the patrol with the help of eight Police sent from the Station returned to Telofolin with the bulk of the prisoners and carriers. Messrs. Booth and Colway who had previously visited that part of the KAREMIN seen, took twenty five Police and made a sweep into the remaining section not yet visited. Whilst doing this they discovered the existence of the SWIMMIN and SOSEMEN Sub-tribes who were not previously known to us. Mr. Booth's Report which is attached, covers this section of the patrol.

Sixteen suspects were taken at ABOLVIP and prior to the splitting of the patrol, a further five TIMELIN and SOGAMIN suspects were arrested at BENGALVIP on the 8th February. Six women were also taken on this occasion but after giving them presents, and explaining to them the reason for our action against their menfolk over a period of three days during which time they were well cared for, they were allowed to return to their people and carry the tidings.

Herein lies the very promising aspect of this patrol. We and the women parted on very friendly terms. They quite agreed that raidings and killings were not to their liking, especially if the Government were going to take a hand in the proceedings. Moreover, should their menfolk continue to carry on in such a manner, they feared reprisals from enemies. Thus their lives and those of their children were in danger. This was definitely not to their liking. We sat down for three days and talked over the various aspects of fighting and living peacefully and I am confident of their enlisted support and feel sure that these particular women will be invaluable for future contact. This was also true of DABSOGIN's wife and daughter whom we contacted on the 30th January and had with us for a number of days whilst treating their sores.

In the case of the TIMELIN women, the harvest of their efforts was gained after having allowed two of them to go back to their people. They returned with the woman KOGUMKAN who had been abducted by the MIANNIN during their recent raid. We were very pleased with her recovery. She and the other woman MAGANIP who escaped, have been most helpful in the course of the investigations. Also since returning to the station, the SOGAMINS - TIMELINS brought the small lad ATIAP across to the KODAVIP people and asked them to return him to myself here at the station. This was done. It turned out that this ATBALMIN boy had been previously abducted by the SOGAMINS (MIANNINS) and we had known nothing of him. Presumably the ATBALMINS had thought him dead and had not reported the matter. This action was a definite change of face and one to the good.

As a result we have now been able to re-establish contact with the MIANNIN at a distance through a KODAVIP man who is acting as messenger and mediator and reports that all is well. These contacts will be further cemented upon the return of the prisoners with whom, over the period of the last two months, we have become very firm friends. Indeed in a way, I

was sorry to see them go. We have had numerous talks and discussions and I have received their assurances as to their honest desire to become friends of the Government and help us with our work. Having got to know them, I fully believe in their sincerity and feel that it is not just a "flash in the pan".

Messrs. Booth and Conroy did very well in capturing DAMSOGIN, the instigator of the trouble, under very trying and difficult circumstances. They are to be congratulated, for as a result of this, our prestige went up a hundredfold in the eyes of the Telefolmins and also in those of the prisoners. The latter now regard DAMSOGIN as being the cause of their plight and wish to goodness that they had not taken notice of his pleas and orders. This, I consider, is the general attitude of the MIANMIN as a whole and undoubtedly the advantage now rests with us. People of influence in the MIANMIN subsequently requesting help to carry out a raid will no doubt go unheeded. I very much doubt that such an occasion will arise during the next few years. They have learnt their lesson and will, I feel, conform to our wishes which were passed to them per media of their womenfolk.

As mentioned previously, I am now in contact with the MIANMINS. The contact is somewhat unsatisfactory for it takes considerable time for news to reach me. However, it is contact and I have messengers out who will bring in other contacts. I refer to the KONA people who do have a limited degree of intercourse with the MIANMIN. Our prisoners have sent back messages of well being to their relatives and the area is quiet. I have discussed at great length with the prisoners and knowledgeable observers the prospects of returning to the MIANMIN. They and I also, am of the opinion that the MIANMIN should be left alone for the time being, at least until the area settles down. Very little if any good would come of a patrol at this juncture, for it would be a repetition of the latter stages of this patrol when only a few were seen and they only at a distance. I think that some of the younger prisoners will receive comparatively light sentences and when they return they will be invaluable in opening up a new and enlightened phase of contact with the MIANMIN. Whilst the area remains quiet, it now behoves us to ensure that none of their former enemies tries to take advantage of the situation. With this in mind, I consider that your plan for a patrol to visit the larger ATBALMIN and BUSILMIN areas, whose people may consider reprisals against the MIANMIN, is a sound one and will do more to accomplish the pacification of this area as a whole.

The native situation in the ELIPTAMIN Valley is very encouraging. They, although greatly fearing the MIANMIN, readily responded to an appeal for carriers. We were warmly received in the ELIPTAMIN both going and coming and every assistance was given the patrol. Food was brought to us in large quantities, roads were well cut and villages and Rest houses clean. From the atmosphere felt on my return to the Station through that area, one could sense that the Government's prestige had undergone an uplifting. Especially in light of the fact that the patrol had returned intact and not lost any of its numbers. It is a fact that all previous patrols to the MIANMIN had lost at least one or more of their party. In their eyes we had broken the MIANMIN spell. The ELIPTAMINS now feel that they can live in peace without having the constant nagging fear that the MIANMIN will kill some of their people. This will now allow them greater freedom of movement and will eventually lead to amicable intermingling with the MIANMIN who now will respect the Government's wishes for people to live in closer harmony with one another.

HEALTH.

The patrol was accompanied by Mr. A. Kelly, B.M.A. and N.M.O. DIAN. I would like to formally express my thanks to the Department of Public Health for the loan of Mr. Kelly's services. It was indeed a comfort to know that should the occasion arise, we had on hand a knowledgeable person who had with him the necessary paraphernalia to save a life. He attended to the needs of the patrol very competently and instilled a feeling of well being into all the patrol members.

In the MIANMIN itself, of those seen, a high percentage of yaws and ulcers were noticed. Several women were treated for these and other complaints and appreciated the pains taken with them, particularly the aged wife of DAMSOGIN who spent several days with us. She had a very nasty T.U. which responded quite well to treatment.

The health of the patrol itself was quite good and apart from three cases of pneumonia, we had only the usual ailments such as cuts and sore legs etc. which are only to be expected when working in this rugged country. At the conclusion of the patrol many leg-weary and limping characters were to be seen lining up daily at the hospital.

AGRICULTURE

Taro is the staple diet throughout and many good specimens were seen. In the lower regions of the MIANMIN bananas, paw paw and other tropical fruits are popular crops. Small quantities of sweet potatoes were seen.

Meat plays a very important part in the MIANMIN diet. More so than in that of their neighbours in Telefolmin. The MIANMIN, being more of a warrior, travels far and claims hunting grounds over a large area. Wild pigs, cassowaries, opossums and other small animals are plentiful. The penis of the wild boar is dried and worn as an armlet by the successful hunter, and is not transferable. Many men were adorned with more than fifty of these armlets.

The MIANMIN are also able to obtain fish in most of the Rivers, especially the FUK and IWAR Rivers. Also they have access to sago in the lower regions. However, on the whole, I was not very impressed with the gardens seen and would surmise that the produce is poor. Perhaps a little of this is attributable to the fact that they do not fence their gardens and wild pigs must take their toll of the taro.

An interesting aspect of the Telefolmin agriculture is their custom of gardening at some two to three days walk away from their recognised places of abode. This necessitates the building and supporting of at least two houses. There seems to be no reason for this custom, for ground at any particular spot is more than ample for their needs and fertility is constant throughout, there being an abundance of timber covered land in all centres. Perhaps the question revolves around the distribution and fragmentation of their wealth of land.

ROADS, BRIDGES AND TERRAIN

Roads as such, except in close proximity to the Station, are simply non-existent. The best one can hope for is a slightly cleared pad such as that which exists between the Station and the ELIPTAMIN Valley. Tracks, where they exist, are no more than hunting trails and, because of the sparse population and the long four or five day stretch between the ELIPTAMIN and MIANMIN through uninhabited country, little movement can be expected and patrolling in this country will be hard for some time to come. Three rugged and roughly parallel main ranges forming the watersheds of the Sepik, Donner, Clear and May Rivers, lie between Telefolmin and the lower MIANMIN. Movement involves a series of climbs and descents, from the beds of the Rivers and rain forests at approximately two thousand feet to the crests of the divides and moss forests at about seven thousand feet. In between these main ranges lie smaller ones which mean numerous goings up and down the entire walking day.

The whole of the MIANMIN is very mountainous and heavily timbered except where cleared for gardens. No where in the area would there be the slightest chance of constructing an Airstrip with the use of the native labour available.

There is some lime stone in the divide between the DONNER and CLEAR Rivers, but apart from this, the country traversed north of the DONNER was of slate and some mudstone with considerable igneous intrusion. The surface material is clay below a few inches of humus which is the sole support of the vegetation. Water erosion throughout the area is rapid.

I was very pleased to note that as a result of the recent patrol to the ELIPTAMIN, road work has commenced in earnest. We have been endeavouring to grade a road in that area and the locals have continued along the lines of the example given. This tends for much better walking and it is hoped that when pressure of other important work eases, we will be able to put in a graded road across to the ELIPTAMIN at least trafficable by motor bikes. Village officials who had been doing this work were congratulated and encouraged to continue.

Nearly all river crossings are difficult especially those of the ELIP and FUK Rivers. In the case of the latter one has to hope for no rain on the night prior to the crossing otherwise the river is impossible. Once again it was pleasing to note that the people of INANTIGIN and MISINMIN in the ELIPTAMIN had the interests of the patrol at heart, for two bridges had recently been completed for the use of the patrol.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

All villages and housing seen were of the same nature and structure as the local Telefolmin mode. One has only to walk some six hundred yards from the station to be

able to see the prototype itself. Houses built of split timber, poorly constructed, are raised off the ground which is unusual for most highland areas. Such housing must be extremely cold on occasions, but no doubt the mode of building has been influenced by the amount of rain experienced here and the resultant dampness of the ground.

DAMSOGIN's Village NOVIP (ANAMAVIP) was by far the best seen. It was newly constructed and had as its central feature quite a neat and cleverly constructed Ceremonial House. It was the latter wherein the thirty five skulls and numerous newly made arrows were found.

All villages occupy some prominent feature, usually the top of a hill or knoll. The feature readily lends itself to defence which is a consideration ever present in the minds of these people. However, the country side is studded with garden houses tucked away in concealed positions.

The MISIMIN people had clearly taken to heart the orders left by the last patrol to the effect that they must clean their village. Their's was neat and clean but it is a matter of conjuncture as to how long it will stay that way. Another pleasing aspect was the condition of the newly constructed Rest House. This time it is sufficiently large to cope with the needs of any patrol.

CONCLUSION.

In general, these people are little different to any other type of the lesser contacted peoples scattered throughout the Territory.

In their particular case the impression was gained that their continued victories had made them think that they were invincible. With this came arrogance and false self assurance. Taking into account this attitude, and the fact that they considered that they had justifiable reason to kill more ATBAMINS, it was not surprising to learn that when DAMSOGIN touched on the subject of reprisals, he was whole-heartedly supported despite my appeals to them on the last patrol to discontinue these adverse activities.

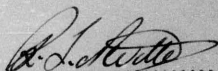
The MISIMIN are a hard people, their environment and way of life make them so. We cannot expect to change, in a short time, traits inherent through generations.

Like the MENDI people of the Southern Highlands District, they struggle in severe surroundings to stay alive, this is reflected in their every action. Physically and mentally they must develop a resistance to adversity, be it death, hunger or what you will.

If a party of strangers came to us with the decree that we kill our neighbours, - would we? It goes against everything we have been taught. The same type of argument applies to these people. However, now that they have seen that the Government intends to enforce this ultimatum of living peacefully upon them and that we have the wherewithal to be able to do this, no doubt we shall see a change in their outlook and a corresponding change in their attitude.

The consolidation of influence is a matter of time. The initial steps have been taken and by all indications progress will be more encouraging in the future. I believe that now that we have shown our hand and forcibly disclosed the fact that we will not tolerate any further warlike activities, we have come a long way towards the pacification of these people and the aims and goal of the Administration. This fact will be further advanced and fostered when the first of the men indicted to stand their trial return to their area and relate the goings on and happenings they have seen during their contact with the outside world.

I reiterate, the advantage now lies with us and I intend to follow it up by working through the contacts which we have. Taking all into account, I consider that the patrol has accomplished its aims and will eventuate in the bringing about of a peaceful and happy settlement for all concerned.



.....
R. T. Neville. a/A.D.O.

APPENDIX "A"

NAMES OF MIANMINS KILLED BY THE ATBALMINS (FIRST KILLINGS)

<u>NAME</u>		<u>FATHER'S NAME</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
WANINAP	-	NAMANAP	M.A.	of URAPHIN group
BILUWENGAP	-	DABINOR	M.A.	of URAPHIN GROUP
UKBUP	-	HOKBUP	M.A.	of URAPHIN group
AYEMANING	-	DAMSOGIN	M.A.	of URAPHIN group (child of headman DAMSOGIN)

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APPENDIX "B"

NAMES OF ATBALMINS KILLED BY THE MIANMINS IN THEIR FIRST RAID

UTIM	-	KOLANGIM	M.A.	of DAGIAMBAL, ATBALMIN
ABATKAN	-	KOLANGIM	F.A.	of DAGIAMBAL, ATBALMIN
MANIPKAN	-	FIOLIM	F.A.	of DAGIAMBAL, ATBALMIN
ATIEN	-	DISATALIENG	F.C.	of DAGIAMBAL, ATBALMIN

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APPENDIX "C"

NAMES OF VICTIMS OF MASSACRE - KILLED BY MIANMINS

<u>NAME</u>	<u>FATHER'S NAME</u>	<u>SEX</u>	<u>AGE</u>	<u>REMARKS</u>
URIAPNOK	BALAPIAP	M.	23	
BALAPIAP	name not known	M.	aged	aged father of No. 1
ANTOGONOK	ASANAM	M.	35	cut up and removed all of him left only stomach
WIKSEP	NIKSIM	M.	19	removed legs & one arm.
RUBIAP	MAFONSIM	M.	20	left only stomach recognised by cane belt.
MUNSIM	BUNTALING	M.	28	as above
TAGAILOK	BAGAVIPIAP	M.	23	took only legs.
NOGANIP	BAGAVIPIAP	F.	27	removed all of her recognised by grass skirt.
SIMILEN	AGIALOP	F.	21	left one hand & head
HANIPRAN	ANDONIM	F.	23	took both legs only
SOGOPOLIN	POGOYEN	F.	aged	left stomach only recognised by grass skirt.
ABUDAVIEN	YETIM	F.	5	left stomach only
WANMILIEN	TONIM	F.	7	" " "
DANOK	TONIM	M.	5	" " "
ATOLIK	TONIM	M.	1	saw only his blood
UNETERIP	YETIM	M.	1	left stomach only

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APPENDIX "D"

NAMES OF ATBALMIN WOMEN ABDUCTED.

KOGUMKAN	DIXIM	F.	25	recovered by patrol
MAGANTP	BUSIPIAP	F.	23	escaped from TIMELMIN

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APPENDIX "B"

DETAILS OF PARTS PLAYED BY MIAPMIN MEN IN THE ATBALMIN MURDERS.

<u>Victim</u>	<u>Name of Miapmin credited with death of victim</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>	<u>(Assisted by.</u> <u>(X denotes indicted for Trial)</u>	<u>Remarks</u>
One male	DAMBEROK of URAPMIN	Related to deceased BILUWENGAP. Held victim and stabbed him in throat with cassowary bone knife. Later cut off complete leg.	URISUMAP of URAPMIN	Shot one arrow into victim. Later cut and carried off a leg.
			YATAMAN of TIMELMIN(X)	Shot an arrow into victim - said to have caused death. Later cut and carried off victim's right lower arm. Later ate portion of flesh.
			WATUPNOK of TIMELMIN(X)	With group that surrounded village. Burnt houses. Given half leg by DAMBEROK. Later cooked and ate flesh.
			TABIANNE of URAPMIN(X)	Took no actual part in killings. Carried DAMBEROK's leg home, after searching for escapees. Later ate some of flesh.

<u>Victim</u>	<u>Name of Misshin credited with death of victim</u>	<u>Remarks</u>	<u>Assisted by</u> (X denotes indicted for Trial)	<u>Remarks</u>
One female	AMIN of URAPMIN	Shot victim as she tried to escape. Arrow passed in one side of body and out other. Chased and held her. Later cut and carried off complete leg and part of buttock.	BAK-BAK of URAPMIN DIDIHAF of URAPMIN SABRISAP of URAPMIN(X) KAREMIN APAN of KAREMIN(X)	Shot victims while she was being held by DIDIHAF. Cut and carried away corpse's upper leg. Generally assisted by holding woman. Cut and carried off lower leg. At head of raid's party. Stabbed woman with bamboo arrow, in side. Cut arm from body, later ate portion. Arrived after killing had been completed. Saw the above men beside a female body. Cut and carried off an arm later ate it.
One male	BEITOK of TIMELMIN	Caught and held a man who struggled violently and looked as though he would escape. Later cut and carried off complete leg.	DIACUPSEP of URAPMIN MURHAP of TIMELMIN DOMM of TIMELMIN(X)	Came to BEITOK's assistance shooting an arrow into the victim. Cut off leg. Stabbed victim with an arrow. Cut and carried off an arm. Had sore on leg arrived later than most. Carried BEITOK's leg home. Ate some of the flesh.

<u>Victim</u>	<u>Name of Mianmin credited with death of victim</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>	<u>Assisted by.</u> (X denotes indicted for Trial)	<u>Remarks</u>
One male	MEGRIAP of TIMELMIN	Held and stabbed victim in throat with cassowary bone knife. Later cut and carried off one of victim's legs.	FURURAPSEP of KAREMIN (X)	Stabbed victim in neck with bamboo arrow. Later cut part of leg from body. Ate flesh.
			WAKIMSEP of TIMELMIN (X)	Shot victim in stomach with bamboo arrow. Later cut stomach out and carried it away. Ate portion in village.
			KAEIRABAT of TIMELMIN	Shot bamboo arrow into victim in area of heart. Later cut and carried off an arm. Ate portion of flesh.
			DANGANUP of URAPMIN	Shot an arrow into victim. Later cut and carried off an arm.
			WAKEM of TIMELMIN	Shot an arrow into victim. Later cut and carried off victim's lower leg.
			SEWE of TIMELMIN (X)	Did not take part in actual killing. Cut flesh from the leg that MEGRIAP had obtained. Later helped cook and eat flesh.
MANGANIP (female who was abducted)	BEITAP of TIMELMIN (X)	Chased and held victim. Took woman back to village, did not harm her. She escaped six days later.	{ FURURAPSEP of KAREMIN	Wanted to kill this woman. Stopped by BEITAP. Went to help MEGRIAP - see above.

VictimName of Mianmin credited
with death of victimRemarks.Assisted by.
(X denotes indicted for Trial)Remarks.

One male

DAMDIMAP of URAPMIN

Held and stabbed victim
in throat with cassowary
bone knife. Later cut
and carried off victim's
leg.

RENARIEM of URAPMIN(X)

Shot victim with an arrow.
Took corpse's lower leg.
Ate portion of flesh.

ABEMAP of URAPMIN (X)

Took no part in actual killing.
Took corpse's arm back
to village. Ate portion of
flesh.

KCHONAP of TEMANMIN(X)

On arrival at garden saw
DAMDIMAP and RENARIEM stand-
ing near a body. DAMDIMAP,
RENARIEM, ABEMAP and SEGERUP
had cut the body about. Cut
off the buttocks. Later ate
some of the flesh.

SEGERUP of TEMANMIN(X)

Arrived late one sore on leg.
Cut an arm off this body.
Ate portion of flesh, later
in village.

YESIN of URAPMIN(X)

Took no part in actual kill-
ing. Was given share of
DAMDIMAP's leg, later in
village.

KAPSIL of TEMANMIN(X)

Youth. Took no part in actual
killing. On return to vill-
age ate some flesh given
him by ABEMAP.

<u>Victim</u>	<u>Name of Mianmin credited with death of victim</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>	<u>Assisted by.</u> (X denotes indicted for Trial)	<u>Remarks.</u>
DAROK-TONIM (male child)	MOROTAP of TIMELMIN	Caught the child. Later cut and carried off the victim's left leg.	KURANGE of TIMELMIN (or ARANGERAP) KUIPAM of TIMELMIN(X)	Shot an arrow into the boys chest. Later cut and carried off the right leg of the victim. Boy was still alive, struggling for breath. Axed him twice. Once down through neck and collar bone. Once across ribs. Killed victim. Carried left arm away.
One male	SIGIRONSEP of SOGAMIN	Held victim, stabbed him in neck with bone dagger. Carried off victim's right lower leg.	AREMAP of SOGAMIN SIGIMAP of SOGAMIN SIMP of SOGAMIN(X) AMUSEP of TIMELMIN(X) SERAINAP of SOGAMIN(X) KAREMAP of TIMELMIN	Shot arrow into victim's left side near navel, came out back. Cut off victim's right leg - lower leg given to SIGIRONSEP. Shot an arrow into man. Shot victim. Arrow hit shoulder blade did not penetrate body. Cut flesh from buttocks, later eaten. Shot victim in the back, arrow tip emerged other side. Caused death. Did not cut body or eat any flesh. Shot arrow into ATMALAINS right thigh. Took flesh from left thigh. Later cooked & ate. Took no part in actual killing. Carried left lower leg away.

Victim

Name of Mianmin credited
with death of victim

Remarks

Assisted by.
(X denotes indicted for Trial)

Remarks.

HORIM of TEMANMIN(X)	IMAUSEP, and ABANAR of SOGAMIN, killed an ATEALMIN male. HORIM, on arrival at garden searched for possible escapees. Found no one. Later, ate flesh given him by IMAUSEP (buttocks) and ABEMAP (arm).
MOTUMAP of TIMELMIN(X)	Took no part in actual killings. Travell- ed in middle of line. Chased two ATEALMIN but lost them. Ate some flesh from remain- ing body, given him by BUNGSAP.
NENTAP of TEMANMIN(X)	Went up to village above garden with WATUPNOK (see page 1). Ate portion of the leg which WATUPNOK received from DANBEROK.
TETEMING of SOGAMIN(X)	Went with raiding party. At back of line. Took no part in actual killing. Given portion of leg by SIGIRONSEP. Later ate some of this flesh.
DANSOGIN of WRAPMIN(X)	Ringleader of the second ATEALMIN raid. Took major part in instigation and organisation. When raiding party returned ate flesh and brains of an ATEALMIN male.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

A REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE ROYAL PAPUAN AND NEW GUINEA CONSTABULARY
ACCOMPANYING TELEFOLMIN PATROL No.4 of 1956/57 - MIANMIN AREA.

No. 7356 Sgt. AMANI.

Acquitted himself well. His job made none too easy due to unfamiliarity with other members of detachment who came from out-stations throughout the Sepik District.

No. 6097 P/A L/Cpl YENDABARI.

An older type who is still active has experience and good control of men. Takes a little too much upon hi self and is apt to get into difficulties.

No. 2553 L/Cpl WALINGINGI.

An adequate station N.C.O. but poor walker. Did reasonable work but overshadowed by other N.C.O's with more push and ability.

No. 6376 L/Cpl MARIAMBUN.

Will i prove as he gains experience. Does not exercise very much control over his men. However, conducted himself reasonably well.

No. 6395 L/Cpl LINIBI.

Has good basic knowledge of area having been at Telefolmin since its opening and onle recently transferred. Conducted himself well. Efficient - patrol benefited by his presence.

No. 6465 Const TOMI.

Not t e type who is conspicuous. A little inclined to be lazy-conduct fair. (From Maprik Detachment)

No. 8983 Const UKUMBANI.

Works quite well - not as good on this occasion as I previously seen him work at Maprik - maybe a little scared.

No. 3187 Const SOMBI.

An elderly man but very experienced if he knows and likes his Officer he is very reliable - conduct good.

No. 3837 Const SANGONDI.

Much talk little action, but with so many police it was a little hard to evaluate his true worth - will watch him on future patrols.

No. 4225 Const/ Bug. KUNI.

Was a little disappointed with this man this time. On last patrol he showed up well not so this time but believe he was not feeling well at the beginning of the patrol.

No. Const TORAIN.

Nothing out of ordinary. Put up rather poor showing when hand injured early in patrol - inclined to panic - otherwise conduct quite good.

No. 6067 B Const BISIMBI.

Getting on in years but still adequate to the rugged walking conditions. Work is slow but sure - conduct good.

POLICE REPORT - CONT.

No. 6554 Const WALAMATWAI

Easily one of the best policemen I have ever worked with. He is keen and energetic - is certainly the right type of man for this work. Very deserving of receiving consideration for an N.C.O's school. Did excellent work - conduct very good.

No. 675 Const WEDORA.

A good man. Thinks for himself - willing - conduct good.

No 6737 Const LANGA.

Has experience in this work - same type as WALAMATWAI. Would very much like to have these two men as my N.C.O's for this station - could they be recommended to attend a course please? Keen - doing excellent job - the result of using his head. Always cheerful - big thing in this sort of patrolling. Also holds driving licence. Took just a little too much on himself this time - was cut in foot by MIANMIN welding tomahawk. Recovering well. conduct good.

No. 9295 Const SAMUK.

Held in high regard. Did good work in his own quiet way - conduct very good.

No 7946 Const MANEIN.

No complaints re work. Talks a bit too much. Humorist. Conduct good.

No 8969 Const AINA.

Bovine. Very willing which makes up for lack of brain. Does good job if it doesn't require much thought. "Solid citizen" and likeable type. Conduct good.

No 8973 Const KAUPA.

Did good work. Conduct good.

No 9005 Const LILI.

Adequate for routine work but looses head when pressure is on. Good impression marred by this tendency. Conduct adequate.

No 9053 Const ARE.

Not conspicuous. Presence goes un-noticed. This is not derogatory. Conduct good.

No 9113 Const PIANGA.

Inexperienced. Not a good worker. Should improve. Conduct good.

No 9185 Const LARIF.

A new policeman - gaining valuable experience in this area. Good worker. Conduct good.

No 7308 Const LAVION.

Average. Did nothing wrong and nothing outstanding. Conduct good.

POLICE REPORT - CONT.

No 6900 Const WAPE.

Did good work. In latter half of patrol his irresponsibility could have caused hard-ship to patrol. Conduct good.

No 7403 Const KUSINO.

A local. Did good work. Level headed. Of assistance in interpretation. Conduct good.

No 7404 Const OVISIM.

A local. Of quiet manner - works well. Conduct good.

No 7494 Const MATUM.

To the fore when anything was being done. Lacks experience. Conduct good.

No 9061 Const WENA.

Would normally have had little mention as he is not conspicuous type. Brought into the patrol's eye by the blunders he perpetrated. Conduct adequate.

No 9433 Const MANDAGAI.

A new member with no former experience in this type of work. Acquitted himself well. Bears watching as he is a very willing type. Conduct good.

No 8975 Const KUOPERA.

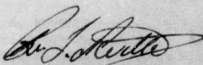
Did good work with the second half of the patrol. Work and conduct good.

No 8979 Const MAI.

Does his job - usually well. Good all-rounder. Conduct good.

No ? LANI.

Has knowledge of area. Better than average type. Usually around when there is work to be done. Conduct good.


R.T. Neville,
Officer of R.P. & N.G.C.

INTRODUCTION.

This report covers a patrol to the KAREMIN tribal area.

The KAREMIN area straddles the mountain formations which are the watershed of the TAWU and SAN Rivers. The main villages are clustered on the southern bank of the TAWU River upon long, sheer-sided ridges which trail from the THURNWALD Range.

This area lies NNW. of TELEFOLMIN. A patrol would take from six to eight days to reach the centre of the group. Access may be made by following the north bank of the SEPIK River until the HAM River is reached, then cross over the THURNWALD Range into the TAWU Valley. An alternate route crosses the MITTAG Mountains and the Donner Range, skirts the THURNWALD Range until the SAN River is reached, then follows that river to the headwaters of the TAWU.

The KAREMIN tribe were unknown before this patrol. During the questioning of some MIANMINS arrested for participation in the ATBALMIN, the existence of the KAREMIN tribe was revealed. These reports indicated that the KAREMINS were a very small group. On the 1st February, 1957 a scouting party entered the first of the KAREMIN villages. The extensive gardens seen, indicated the presence of a much larger population than the questioning ~~we~~ had revealed; this belief was further strengthened by the discovery of a much-used track leading over the headwaters of the SAN River to the next valley. Consequently, this patrol moved west to the TAWU River area.

The KAREMIN people have had no Government contact. Messrs. TAYLOR and BLACK visited the SAN Valley in 1938 but did not cover the area in which the KAREMINS live. In late 1955 an oil survey party travelled along part of the TAWU River, and though they contacted some MIANMINS it is considered that they were not KAREMINS but IVIPMINS, a separate MIANMIN Sub-Tribe.

DIARY.

This diary covers the second portion of the MIANMIN patrol, from the 13th February to the 5th March. The first portion from the 14th January to the 12th February was recorded by Mr. A.D.O. NEVILLE, and should be read in conjunction with this.

Wednesday 13th February.

At BENGAVIP. At 0715 Mr. A.D.O. NEVILLE and Mr. E.M.A. KELLY with 14 police and 19 prisoners departed for TELEFOLMIN. Scouting parties to nearby gardens. During the ~~three~~ morning the three MIANMIN women were given small gifts, advised of the reasons for the Government's actions in their area, and sent off. Radio contact was maintained. Guard maintained.

Thursday 14th February.

Broke camp at 1215 and returned to the bush camp of the 6th February. Arrived 1415. Camped(3400'). No radio contact. Guard posted.

Friday 15th February.

Broke camp 0725 and returned to the camp of the 5th February. Arrived 1225. Camped(3400'). The two crippled women, who had been seen previously, were still here. They claimed that their calls for help had been unanswered. They were given extra food, water, and firewood, then moved to a bush house in a more prominent position. No signs of life could be seen along the SAN Valley. Radio contact maintained. Guard posted. Heavy rain during the night.

Saturday 16th February.

Broke camp at 0735. Passed through the camp of the 1st February and proceeded to the first village of the KAREMIN group. Arrived KINAVIP 1240. Camped(3900'). Many fresh tracks seen, the movement of a large number of people being indicated. Scouting parties sent off. Two women were located in a bush house near the camp. They revealed, though interpretation was most difficult, that one of the UR-PMIN headmen, DOGOMIN, was camped with some of his people in a camp approximately one mile from the camp. Raid planned for the following day. No radio contact. Guard posted. Heavy rain all night.

Sunday 17th February.

At KINAVIP. A strong party searched unsuccessfully for DOGOMIN. His camp was located but it had apparently been vacated the previous day. Several human skulls and a number of bows and arrows were seized. During the morning two armed parties of MIANNINS approached the camp but fled when they realised that the guards were alert and waiting for them. Following these incidents much calling was heard coming from the vicinity of a ridge opposite the camp. This calling was translated as "THE MASTERS AND POLICE HAVE COME - RUN". The two KAREMIN women had now lost some of their fear of the patrol. They willingly revealed that DIMSOGIN, the alleged instigator of the ATBALMIN raid, was in the TAMU Valley with a number of his people. Radio contact maintained. Guards strengthened and instructed that a most careful watch was to be kept during the hours of first and last light as the two parties seen during the morning could possibly be the forerunner of an attack. Heavy rain all night.

Monday 18th February.

Broke camp at 0825 after having waited in vain for the heavy rain to stop. Followed a well defined track into a large garden before ascending slightly, dropped steadily to the UK River(3150'). This river is not to be confused with the UK River which flows into the PAK River. Followed downstream, river in flood and progress slow. Steady rain continued. Left the UK and followed the OWELEMI River upstream for a short distance before finding a well defined track. Commenced a steady climb, reached top of ridge(4100') and started to descend immediately. Passed through an old garden before reaching the SIN River(3450'). Crossed with difficulty. Commenced to follow the river upstream, this necessitated continual crossing and recrossing of the river, a slow and at times dangerous operation. Finally found a track out of the river, climbed steeply to a cleared area, apparently an old house site. Small garden settlement discovered nearby. Moved on to this site. Arrived 1235. Camped(3900'). Patrol personnel glad. Steady rain continued.

Monday 18th February.

No radio contact. Rice stocks badly soaked by the rain, and the many river crossings, attempt made to dry it. Tents leaking, sleepless night had by all. Guard posted.

Tuesday 19th February.

Steady rain continued. Rice still damp. The patrol could not risk the chance of further damage to its food supplies, decided to remain at camp. Scouting parties out. A cripple woman located in a bush house. She revealed that her husband had heard of the patrol's arrival at KINAVIP and had gone there. Rain stopped during the early afternoon. Radio contact maintained. Guard maintained.

Wednesday 20th February.

Broke camp at 0725. Descended to the SAN River, crossed and commenced a steep climb to the top of a small spur. Reached top(4600'), valley below obscured by fog, visibility nil. Descended slowly to a large garden, scouting party ahead. Reached village(TUMZAVIP), many recent signs of occupancy. The main patrol party climbed to a prominent village situated on a large ridge in the centre of the valley. A smaller party moved down towards the TAWU River. Patrol arrived village at 1045. Camped(4200'). DAMSOGIM was found in one of the houses. He had a big ulcer on his foot and could barely move. The fog had now lifted and a good view of the valley was possible. The valley was no more than two miles wide and was encircled on three sides by sheer-sided mountains. The valley floor consisted of a jagged mass of gullies and long sharp-crested ridges pierced by many small but swift flowing streams. Despite the ruggedness of the terrain, many villages and garden settlements were noticed on the tops of the ridges. The scouting party returned, they had visited two more villages, no people were seen, a number of skulls, bows and arrows were collected. During the afternoon several men were seen standing near one of the villages on a ridge opposite, they were about a 1000 yards from the patrol, or translated into clearer terms, more than two hours walk from the camp site. No radio contact. Guard posted.

Thursday 21st February.

At WANGAVIP. Scouting parties to nearby gardens. A cave was found near the camp, it contained bows, arrows and skulls. No recent tracks were found this side of the TAWU River. Radio contact maintained. Guard maintained.

Friday 22nd February.

Broke camp at 0710. Descended to the MIAK River(2300'). Crossed and climbed into an new garden, continued on to an old garden then followed a dry watercourse to a road junction situated between two villages which were on higher ground. Climbed to the larger village(DANGORAVIP), 3175'. Recent tracks discovered. Returned to the road junction, climbed to the other village(BITSUMAVIP, 3325'). Camped 0935. This village contained a large "dance house" and a small "spirit house". The latter contained many skulls. From this village it was possible to look along the TAWU Valley. Many large, sharp-peaked mountains could be seen on the horizon - the SEAR MOUNTAINS of DUTCH NEW GUINEA? A large mountain further north was identified as TABLE MOUNTAIN. Compass bearings were taken on all prominent objects. Scouting parties to nearby gardens. Radio contact maintained. Later in the day smoke was seen on the other side of the TAWU River. Guard posted. Heavy rain during the evening.

Saturday 23rd February.

At BITSUMVIP. Scouting parties out, following tracks found yesterday and to the site of the fire across the TAWU. Radio contact maintained. One of these parties located a large MIANMIN party, and in the ensuing attempt to make arrests, a fight started. One policeman was cut on the foot and two MIANMIN males were shot dead. Three men and one woman were apprehended.. The wounded policeman was carried back to the camp and given treatment. Guard maintained.

Sunday 24th February.

Scouting parties out. Radio contact with TELEFOLMIN, the injured policeman's foot being dressed in accordance with instructions received from Mr. E.M.A. GOBLE. The radio batteries were showing signs of deterioration, one being almost flat and the other already losing power. Guard maintained. Heavy rain during the afternoon.

Monday 25th February.

Scouting parties in a sweep along the southern bank of the TAWU River. The injured policeman's foot appeared to be responding well to treatment, but it was thought that some damage may have been done to a tendon. Rice stocks low, a considerable amount having been ruined by the rain. Tracks were found that indicated that the MIANMINS had now abandoned this valley and were heading in the direction of the SAM or IWAR rivers. Radio contact maintained with difficulty. Guard maintained.

Tuesday 26th February.

Scouting parties sent along the MIAK and TAWU Rivers. Decision made to return to the station, the shortage of rice coupled with the condition of the injured policeman's leg made any other decision impossible. One party commenced cutting a road over the THURNWALD Range. The three MIANMIN women were given small gifts, advised of the reasons for the Government's actions in their areas, and sent off. Minor adjustments were made to the wireless set, reception much improved. Guard maintained.

Wednesday 27th February.

At 0600 one party returned to the camp of the 21st February. The patrol broke camp at 0715. Both the injured policeman and the prisoner were being carried. Descended into a deep gully(2800'), then climbed onto a steep ridge and commenced a really hard ascent. Progress very slow despite the road having been cut the previous day. The scouting party rejoined the patrol at 1120. Heavy rain started at 1300. The patrol finally climbed to what appeared to be the top of the range(6700') only to find that the range had twin peaks with a flat, basinlike depression in between. Descended sharply then ascended the second peak(6750'). Rain and fog reduced visibility to almost nil. Descended along a fair track until some pools of semi-stagnant water were located near two bush shelters at 1445. Camped(6000'). Party sent to cut the road for the following day. Radio contact maintained. Guard posted.

Thursday 28th February.

Broke camp at 0755 after having been delayed by rain. Descended to the BLENTEP River(5200'), followed downstream for a short distance then climbed sharply to the top of a spur(5400'). Descended steadily to the SENAI-IP River(4650'). Clambered up an almost perpendicular cliff face to 5200'. A long, slow descent before the TERAMBI River(2950') was reached. Crossed and climbed up an unsafe track of loose rock and soft soil, a boulder, dislodged by one of the carriers, fell through the middle of the line, several prisoners narrowly escaped injury. At 1410 the guides advised that they had lost the track. Camped(3250'). A party sent to find the road for the next day's march.

Thursday 28th February. Con.

Radio contact maintained, A.D.O., TELEPOLMIN requested to send extra food to the patrol, and arrange for a bridge to be built over the ELIP River. Road located nearby. Guard posted.

Friday 1st March.

Broke camp at 0730. At 0845 joined the road. At 0910 started to descend, a large bush shelter was passed at 1016(3025'). Track not discernible, guides useless. Compass bearing taken on the approximate position of the SEPIK River and commenced to cut in that direction. Reached the MATOTEM River(1775'), followed downstream with great difficulty, ladders having to be constructed to enable the patrol to move with safety. Reached the N.M River at 1300. River in flood, followed downstream with difficulty until suitable crossing place located. Trees felled and bridge built. Crossed at 1335(1450') and climbed up a steep hill. Reached top at 1400(1800') the SEPIK River could now be seen. Descended into sward on the bank of the SEPIK. Camped 1415(1300'). Party sent ahead cutting the road for the next day's march. Radio contact maintained. Patrol personnel happy at reaching the SEPIK after the previous two days hard walking. The way to TELEPOLMIN now clearly defined. Guard posted.

Saturday 2nd March.

Broke camp at 0705. One party sent ahead to build a bridge over the PAK River. Climbed steadily to 1500', then along and down to a fast flowing stream, crossed then up to a high knob overlooking the SEPIK. Climbed down a sheer cliff face before following the SEPIK upstream. Eventually clambered out of the river and climbed sharply into a flat, swampy area. Descended to another fast flowing stream, then followed along until the PAK & SEPIK junction reached at 1230(1500'). Bridge construction party working upstream. Climb out of the SEPIK then along and down to the bridge site. Arrived at 1330. Bridge completed by 1430. Crossed and climbed to a flat area overlooking the bridge. Camped 1445(1700'). Party sent to cut the track for the next days march.. Radio contact maintained. Guard posted.

Sunday 3rd March.

Broke camp at 0720. Descended along a narrow ledge before climbing to 2200'. Proceeded along a surprisingly good road, several minor descents and ascents. Arrived above the SEPIK - ELIP junction at 1240. Descended to the ELIP at 1300(1600'). No sign of the party from the station. River too wide to bridge, finally found a suitable fording place, crossed with great difficulty. Next stretch of road reported to be very bad. Camped 1400. Party sent to cut the road. Rice stocks exhausted, the patrol should be able to purchase food from the IUATIGIN people to-morrow. Radio contact made, A.D.O., TELEPOLMIN advised that patrol should arrive TELEPOLMIN on Tuesday 5th. Guard posted.

Monday 4th March.

Broke camp at 0715. Commenced a steady ascent along a series of small, connecting ridges. At 0800 portion of the party from the station linked up with the patrol. Reached the ATELALMIN - IUATIGIN road at 0945(2750'). Still ascending passed an old camp site of Mr. CLIFTON BASSETT at 1115(3800'). Proceeded on to IUATIGIN village. Arrived at 1400(4800'). Camped. Village people glad to see the patrol, gifts of pigs and food given. The patrol camped on what was the IUATIGIN village site before it was burnt by the MIAMINS in 1951. Radio contact maintained. Guard posted.

Tuesday 5th March, 1957.

Broke camp at 0630. Climbed to the top of the MITTAG Mountains. Followed along the top of the range until 1115 (6560'). Commenced a slow descent. Reached the OPEKEMIN & INANIGIN road at 1325. Arrived OPEKEMIN Rest House at 1355. Climbed sharply to the top of a small spur before descending into the TELEPULMIN Valley. Arrived station at 1540 (4800'). Both stretcher cases taken directly to the hospital for treatment.

End of Diary.

NATIVE SITUATION.

The first part of the MIANMIN patrol, from the 14th January to the 12th February, will be covered separately by Mr. A.D.O. NEVILLE. This report covers the period from the 13th February to the 5th March.

This was not a normal patrol. The patrol had the task of apprehending those natives who were responsible for the massacre of 16 ATBALMINS on the 3rd December, 1956. Consequently, once the MIANMINS realised this, they scattered to the remotest parts of their relatively large area of land.

The patrol did not see many people. The few who were contacted, viewed the patrol with fear. In following a policy of harassing the MIANMINS, the patrol contacted some women. Special precautions were taken to ensure that they were treated properly. After questioning, these women were given small gifts, advised of the reasons for the Government's actions in their areas, and sent off. The patrol emphasised the point that the Government had no fight with women, and only the actions of their own menfolk, in disobeying explicit orders that they must not raid the ATBALMIN tribe, had brought on this trouble. An effort was made to correct the idea that the Government had allied itself with the ATBALMINS. The patrol stated clearly that the Government had told all the tribes - ATBALMIN, MIANMIN, ELIPTAMIN, etc., that they must not fight, and whichever group disobeyed this order must suffer the consequences. The women firmly believed, as did the prisoners themselves, that the patrol intended to take their men away and kill them, this was denied and it was stated continually that the men must go to prison for their crime, and would eventually return. These points were not fully appreciated by the women, but the seed has been planted, and when their men return, upon completion of their gaol sentences, should they be convicted, the foundation of a firm friendship with the MIANMINS will have been laid.

The KAREMIN group is one of the many MIANMIN Sub-Tribes. The group has had no known contact, and was unknown before this patrol. This was the first patrol to follow the SAN River to its headwaters, and cross into the TAWU Valley. The KAREMIN area extends from the headwaters of the SAN River across the TAWU River and the THURNWALD Range to the SEPIK River. The centre of the area appears to be near the headwaters of the TAWU River.

From the large gardens and the many houses seen, it is estimated that the KAREMIN group is one of the larger MIANMIN Sub-Tribes. The prisoners themselves placed the Karemin Sub-Tribe as being the equal of the TIMELMIN Sub-Tribe if not larger. Previous patrols into the MIANMIN had estimated the TIMELMIN group as the largest.

NEW TRIBES.

The patrol learnt of the names and positions of many new tribal groups. Some of these tribes are friendly with the MIANMINS, some are enemies.

The virtual discovery of the TAMU River has opened the way to the AUGUST River. To understand this fully it is necessary to give a brief picture of the area. The THURNWALD Range lies N.W.-S.E., the southern extremity of the Range twists slightly towards the east, in this corner the TAMU River rises. The TAMU runs alongside the THURNWALD Range for some considerable distance before it flows into the AKI River, which it is thought has its headwaters in the mountain block containing FOUR CORNERS (YASU). The AKI River then flows into the AUGUST River near its junction with the SEPIK River.

By following the TAMU River and then the AKI it should be possible to contact three groups who live near TABLE MOUNTAIN (BUBEIARI). They are the NUMMANIN, KIMELMIN and PETAWINMIN. All are reported to be friendly with the Mianmins with whom they occasionally visit for trading purposes.

Along the TAMU River is another MIANMIN Sub-tribe- the IVIPMINS. They were unknown before this patrol. Three other MIANMIN Sub-tribes were reported. They were the SOMEMINS, who occupy land along the WAMU River; the BOVRIPMINS, who live along the Sepik River and the KOSAGELMIN who also live near the WAMU River. Nothing definite could be heard concerning the two lastmentioned groups.

Along the MAY River and its tributaries are many more new tribes. The YANPAMIN group live between the mountains near MT. STOLLE and the IWAR (MAY) River. These people are bitter enemies of the MIANMINS. They combine with the WANIPOMINS, a river tribe contacted by Mr. Patrol Officer NOLEN in 1953, in raids on the MIANMINS. round the AWAI (RIGHT MAY) River are the NASIM and KUNAWAWETUN tribes. The NASIMS are friendly with the MIANMINS and the KUNAWAWETUNS. The latter are enemies of the MIANMINS. Another tribe, the FOYARMIN, lives on the MUNI River which flows into the MAY River.

There are no definite indications as to the size of these new tribes and it will possibly be some considerable time before patrols will be able to move into their areas. As far as can be accurately assessed, the FOYARMIN, KUNAWAWETUN, NASIM and WANIPOMINS tribes are in the AMBUNTI Sub-District.

The patrol saw very few people. These were all reported to be healthy and active. Medical treatments were given where necessary.

GENSUS.

There has been no attempt to record the MIANMIN Tribe.

Previous patrols estimated the total population as being in the vicinity of 1000. With the finding of the KAREMIN groups and with the reports of the existence of the IVIPMIN, SOMEMIN, BOVRIPMIN and KOSAGELMIN groups, it is considered that the population will be much greater than previously thought. To attempt to estimate the population would be unwise. When the MIANMIN prisoners are returned to their villages it should be possible for a patrol to go into the MIANMIN area and fully record the people

CLASH WITH MIANMIN PARTY.

The clash with a MIANMIN party on the 23rd February, 1957 will not be recorded here. The incident has been fully described and covered under separate correspondence.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK.

The MIANMIN people follow a system of shifting agriculture. They appear to have regular garden sites which they plant out in rotation. There is apparently little effort made to cut into the bush and make new gardens. This method of planting in specific area is followed by many of the TELEFOLMIN people.

There appeared to be plenty of food. Many large, flourishing gardens were seen. The principal crop and staple food is taro. Supplementary crops are bananas, sugar cane, pit pit, cucumbers and many types of edible leaves. A few pumpkins were noticed growing in the SAN Valley, the seed had apparently been obtained from the ELIPTAMIN people. Sweet potatoes were not seen.

The MIANMINS rarely fence their gardens; consequently, they suffer considerable damage from wild pigs. As far as can be ascertained, it is the custom to abandon a garden that is subject to raids by wild pigs, and plant in another area. Protein is supplied by the large number of wild pigs and cassowaries available for the hunting. Snakes and lizards are also hunted and eaten. Several sago palms were noticed near the TAWU River, it is known that sago is grown along the IWAR(MAY) River.

The few domestic pigs seen, were small. A number of dogs were noticed.

HEALTH.

The patrol saw very few people. Those contacted, appeared quite healthy and active. Medical treatments were given where necessary.

Many of the men were noticed to be suffering from *Tinea Imbricata*, whilst several women had what appeared to be Goitre.

The European Medical Assistant Mr. A.KELLY accompanied the first portion of the patrol, his report should deal more fully with the health of the people seen.

VILLAGES.

The MIANMINS have recognized villages which are apart from

VILLAGES. Con.

their many garden settlements.

The villages consisted of four to seven houses, and were built upon sheer-sided ridges as a defensive measure. Bush near the villages was cleared back and this provided some measure of hygiene.

The houses were of particularly crude design. Built about a foot of the ground, they were walled with split timber, lined with bark and roofed with leaves. The average house provided scant protection from the cold and did little more than illustrate the MIANMINS complete lack of craftsman-ship.

CONCLUSION.

The patrol did not succeed in capturing many MIANMINS. The patrol did however gain considerable knowledge about the area. Many interesting little points were gathered, which if recorded here would seem meaningless, but should the writer return to the area he would be able to obtain the missing links and thus obtain a comprehensive picture. The patrol did prove that the MIANMIN population is much larger than previously considered. That it is possible to cross the ELIP and BAK Rivers near their confluences with the SEPIK, and that the north bank of the SEPIK provides a road that could go as far as the AUGUST River.

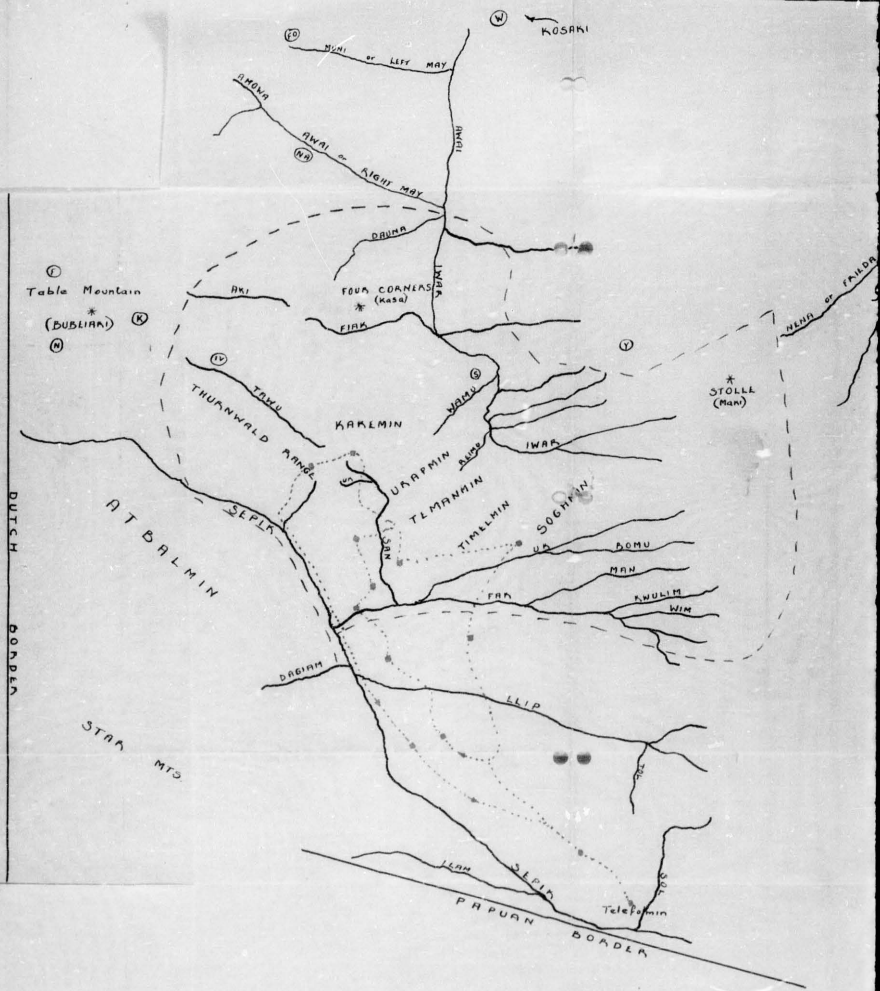
It is considered that there will be no future trouble with the MIANMINS if following patrols enforce the law justly but firmly. Any signs of restiveness will have to be curbed without hesitation.

The MIANMINS have a reputation for fierceness and cunning that is unequalled within this sub-district. Their first European contact, Messrs TAYLOR and BLACK in 1938, gave them a real indication of the power of the Government, but following patrols from TELEPOLMIN did not press home the advantage that had been given them. Despite acts of aggression against neighbouring tribes, patrols failed to take firm measures with the MIANMINS, seeming content with making contact. The MIANMINS soon came to recognize the Government as something that came infrequently, talked too much and did nothing. The previous patrol to the MIANMIN (Patrol Report TEL2/56-57) did likewise, it warned of the consequences of further hostile acts. The MIANMINS were not impressed as they had heard similar such warnings before. Consequently, this patrol was forced, in the face of strong opposition, to defend itself, with a resulting loss of life. The action taken was firm but necessary.

Future contact with the MIANMINS will be most difficult until such time as the prisoners are returned. Perhaps an approach can be made through the NENA or FRIEDA River people (SOGEVENMIN Tribe), but it is thought that any such overtures will be viewed with grave suspicion by the MIANMINS.

G.F. Booth
G.F. Booth,
PATROL OFFICER.

To Accompany Original Patrol Report

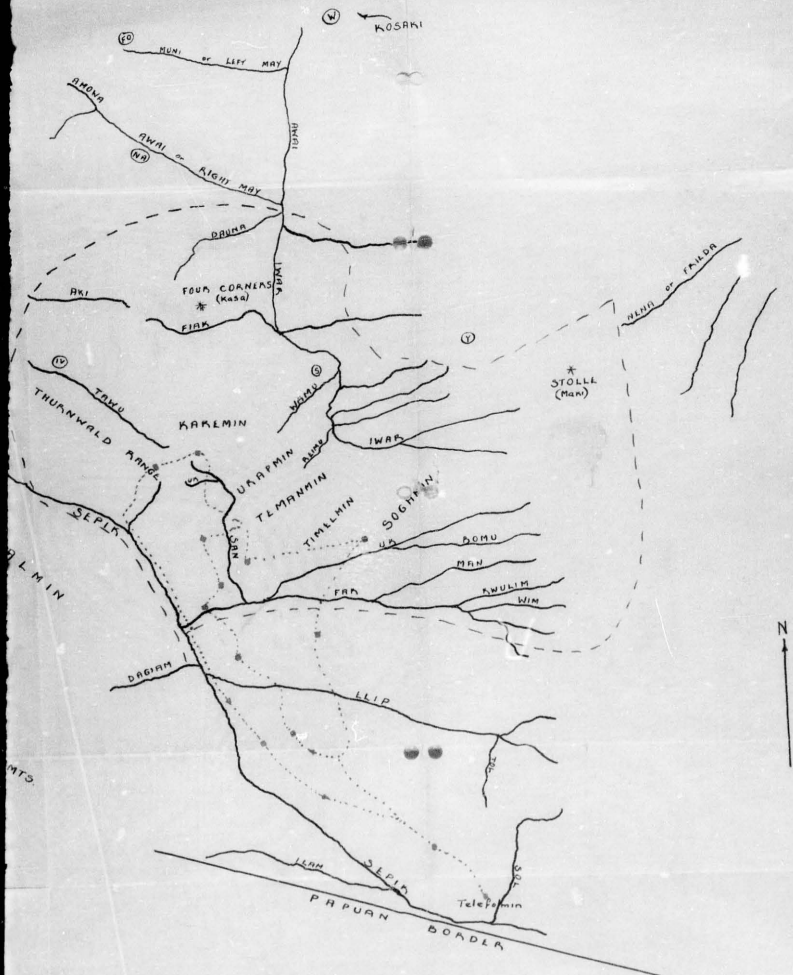


- * Mountains
- - - Boundaries of Miammin Area
- Patrol Route
- Camp Sites

NEW TRIPES

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| ⑩ - Numamamin | ⑫ - Foyarimin |
| ⑪ - Kimelmin | ⑬ - Kunawawelom |
| ⑭ - Fulasinmin | ⑯ - Nasim |
| ⑮ - Iyimin - Miammin | ⑰ - Yanfamin |
| ⑱ - Sonemin - Miammin | ⑲ - Wanifemin |

To Accompany Original Patrol Report.



NEW TRIBES

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| ⑩ - Numamannin | ⑭ - Foyarimin |
| ⑪ - Kimelmin | ⑮ - Kunawawecilum |
| ⑫ - Futawinmin | ⑯ - Hasin |
| ⑬ - Iyimin - Mianmin | ⑰ - Yanfamin |
| ⑭ - Seseimin - Mianmin | ⑱ - Wanifamin |

P. T. NEVILLE



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of... SEPIK Report No. TELEFOLMIN No. 59, 1954-57

Patrol Conducted by... G.F. BOOTH PATROL OFFICER

Area Patrolled... ATEBALMIN TRIBAL AREA

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans... P.C.A. CONROY PATROL OFFICER

Natives 122

Duration—From 10./4./1957 to 20./5./1957

Number of Days... 41

Did Medical Assistant accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services... 1951... PART (MR. L. DOOLAN)

PART INITIAL

Medical ... Nil.../18

Map Reference... See map attached

Objects of Patrol... consolidate influence with ATEBALMIN TRIBE
initial contact people west of NIG. to NING. border. See over.

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

.....
District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £

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

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

.....
.....
.....



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

*In Reply
Please Quote*

No. NA. 30-11-91

Department of Native Affairs,
Port Moresby.

20th August, 1957.

The Assistant Administrator,
Department of the Administrator,
PORT MORESBY.

PATROL REPORT NO. 5 - 56/57 - TELEPOLMIN

Your attention is invited to the abovementioned patrol report.

The patrol covered areas adjacent to areas covered during Telefolmin Patrol Report No. 4 of 56/57, which describes where offenders were arrested for the murder of neighbouring tribesmen.

It was expected that these arrests might have been the means of establishing a confidence between the Administration and the people of the ATBALMIN group.

It will obviously be a prolonged task to establish a satisfactory relationship between these people and their neighbours and with the Administration because of their very nature and that of the terrain in which they live.

The data contained in the diary concerning terrain and food availability will be invaluable to future patrols.

It is common for people speaking a common language in these areas to fight amongst themselves, as it was in the Highlands before law and order was established.

It appears to me that the MIANMIN have been consistently the aggressors.

I feel the use of a nucleus of carriers from an area where the Administration has been long and firmly established is desirable in these "border" areas, as they :-

- (a) are more easily controlled
- (b) have a more open approach to the people being patrolled
- (c) are used to "hard" rations
- (d) have not the fear of sorcery which is prevalent amongst the less sophisticated people.

The revision of plans for the patrol to penetrate more remote areas was, I believe, wise.

The information reported concerning linguistic groups and inter-group relationships will be found valuable during future patrols.

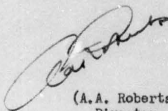
On page 37 in paragraph 4 the Highlands' foods are compared with those grown in this mountainous broken country. I feel young officers sometimes get the idea that the whole of the Territory is a land of abundant, easily obtained foods, when they serve their initial introduction to the country in the Highland districts. It takes considerable time to develop a more balanced appreciation of the hardships involved in eking out an existence in less favoured areas.

I do not think the construction of an airstrip is warranted at present.

The information contained in the appendices will be recorded by the Anthropologist.

Our present commitments in the sub-district will not allow for further expansion in the immediate future, but the information recorded in this Patrol Report will be valuable when the time for expansion arises.

Members of the patrol are to be congratulated on the manner in which difficulties were surmounted and information recorded.



(A. A. Roberts)
Director.

30-11-91

14th August, 1957.

The Director of Lands, Surveys & Mines,
PORT MORESBY.

I shall be grateful if you could provide me with 8 copies of the attached map please. It is appreciated that the red lines will not print. The map ~~is accompanied~~ ^{is} accompanied a Patrol Report on an exploratory patrol in the Sepik District.

A. A. R.

pa (A. A. ROBERTS)
Director

30-11-91

15th August, 1957.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
NEWAK.

PATROL REPORT No. 5-1956/57 - TELEFOLMIN

Receipt is acknowledged of the abovementioned

Patrol Report.

2. Care must be taken to ensure that you will be able, with staff available to you, to have follow-up patrols in any newly patrolled areas. I fully appreciate the desire of officers to be "first in" to new areas. However, you must consolidate thoroughly, areas which have already been visited, before expanding your activities. By opening up too much country too quickly, you are merely aggravating your own staff position. It is fully appreciated that there will be difficulties in "border areas".

3. The introductory remarks of the Patrol Report give a concise history of the area, and will assist in the collation of data available at this Headquarters, concerning early exploratory work from the Papua side of the Territory with work at present in hand.

4. The detailed recording of events in the diary make interesting reading, and allow me to make a proper appreciation of the difficulties and hazards encountered by the officer patrolling.

5. The attitude of the people, mentioned in the final paragraph on page 8, is often met with under such circumstances - it takes time to gain their confidence. Contradictory information is by no means uncommon, when received from people who are probably unfriendly towards their neighbours.

6. It must be appreciated that the people living in such broken country and in constant fear of being attacked by their neighbours, will have but small areas of subsistence gardens: when a patrol of this size enters an area, it becomes a serious embarrassment to their frugal economy if it demands that food be provided for its personnel.

7. The remarks on page 24 under Friday 10th May, concerning the attitude of the people, indicated that the leisurely patrol is the only effective means of making satisfactory contact with new people. The attitude of distrust displayed by the people can be appreciated. The whole of their lives are governed by suspicion and fear. The broken nature of the country, I feel sure, has a direct influence for this attitude. It must be accepted that the people existing in small groups and under such hardship as those encountered, will not have the confidence found in large groups, such as are encountered in the Highlands. Officers must not become discouraged by this attitude, and it is appreciated at this Headquarters the difficulties encountered and disappointments suffered by our officers when dealing with primitive semi-nomadic peoples.

8. On page 35 in the last paragraph, mention is made of 4 Carriers having deserted and action in hand for their apprehension: under what Ordinance are the men to be charged and for what offence?

9. Efforts should be made to get the Atbalmin youths to re-commence their education.

10. The possibility of airstrip sites must be further investigated - we may have to content ourselves with dropping grounds.

11. Now that this area has been visited, you must ensure that there is no great lapse of time before the next patrol.

12. The patrol has been diligently performed and painstakingly recorded. The information contained in the appendices is most valuable, and has been passed to the departmental Anthropologist for recording purposes. A well presented record of an arduous patrol capably performed.

A. A. R.

(A. A. ROBERTS)
Director

20/11/91 ✓

JRW:HOM.



WEW.TEL.P/R.5-56/57/846.

Department of Native Affairs,
Sepik District,
WENAK.

8th August, 1957.

The Assistant District Officer,
TELEFOLMIN.

Could not see the house station as it was empty.

TELEFOLMIN PATROL REPORT NO.5-56/57.

I regret the delay in forwarding my comment but this report was being studied by other departments.

This was a most successful patrol and we shall profit greatly from it. There is little that I can say on the matter at present.

From my recent visit to Telefolmin it is evident that the people have started to visit the station and this augers well for the future.

An excellent report.

J.R. White

(J.R. White)
District Officer.

WENAK.
8th August, 1957.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded please. This excellent report shows a great step forward and we must follow up the good work done. It would not be good to try to put a post in before we are sure of our ground and I anticipate much more exploratory work before thinking of any action.

The whole Telefolmin Sub-District presents a problem as Mr. Neville is leaving in December and both the Patrol Officers in January (to go to the school.)

We urgently need a Patrol Officer Grade II, preferably with Highland Training, to go to the area as soon as possible so that he will be ready to relieve Mr. Neville in December.

I need not emphasise the importance of this move.

J.R. White
(J.R. White)
District Officer.

Director support this report be brought to the notice of H.H. C. 11/8.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

RTM/HOM.

File.30-1/136.

Sub-District Office,
TELEPOLMIN.

22nd June, 1957.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WERAK.

TELEPOLMIN PATROL REPORT No.5/56-57.

Please find enclosed three (3) copies of the above report.

Messrs. Conroy and Booth have carried out work of a high standard and are to be complimented on their efforts which have been accomplished under trying and arduous conditions. These conditions included difficulty of terrain i.e. diary 6th and 17th May. Such terrain virtually means that one is blind when on the ground in this mountainous country. Then they had to cope with the lack of co-operation by all and sundry, particularly guides. Added to this, they had little or no previous knowledge of the area which they covered.

Although the patrol did not contact the seemingly large population which we sighted by air, they should not be discouraged for they have ruled out a number of possibilities and have almost conclusively proved that though this population exists, they are ATBALMINS but inhabit that tract of land just across that variable line, the border.

The attitude of mistrust is not peculiar to these people alone. In fact, it is general with this type of native living in these regions and we should not be unduly concerned. Better relations will be possible on our next visit. The ground work has been laid, and with the detailed information available from this report which will be rechecked and further information, we should all have a very sound knowledge of the area in question.

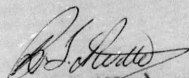
Though indications are that there is quite a large population, the country involved is also extremely large and fragmentation has been excessive. For this reason, I would recommend that we should concentrate on opening up the OKSAPMIN area to the East of the Station, where we know that there is a concentration of population from between 8-10,000 and possibly more within a surprisingly

confined area. Moreover, the OKSAFMINS are a very different proposition to those recently surveyed. They differ in so far as they are extremely friendly, docile and co-operative. Moreover a possible strip site has been located in their area.

As you will note, the patrol was not allowed to proceed to Green River; the reason being that most of the area between the patrol's northernmost point and Green River has been covered by patrols originating from the latter Station and information is available. Also, the then a/District Officer and myself wanted this patrol to concentrate on the ATBALMIN area and gain as much information as possible by doing a complete sweep without wasting time going to and from Green River.

A very detailed and corrected map is attached. This map eliminates many previous errors. I would be grateful if you would have the map printed in Moresby and copies sent to this office.

Claims for camping allowances are attached.



(R.T. Neville.)
a/Acting District Officer.

TERRITORY OF P. M. AND NEW GUINEA.

R.M.

File, 30-1-5/93.

Sub-District Office,
NEW PLOMIE.

5th April, 1937.

Mr. G. Booth,
Patrol Officer,
NEW PLOMIE.

PATROL INSTRUCTIONS.

As verbally arranged, you will proceed on patrol to the NEW PLOMIE - BUSILWINS area as soon as possible.

Mr. Conroy, Patrol Officer, will accompany you.

The main objects of the patrol will be:-

1. Do not contact the NEW PLOMIE - BUSILWINS and in case they are of a mind to raid the NEW PLOMIE in view of the recent massacre and arrests, you are to inform them that on no account are they to do so. Explain to them that any such action will not be tolerated by the Government and point out the consequences should they choose to disregard our council.

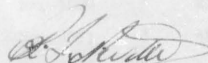
2. Establish friendly relations with these people and endeavor to induce a few of them to come back to the Station with the patrol. These visitors will be very valuable for future contact. For your onward journey you will have the services of the two NEW PLOMIE men who were not required as witnesses in the recent Lower Court hearing.

3. If possible locate a suitable dropping site. It is very probable that you will need a drop to enable you to return to the Station. I believe that the relatively heavy populated area to the West of the NEW PLOMIE (or it may be still part of the NEW PLOMIE) recently sighted by air, will be most suitable for this purpose.

4. Carry out an extensive survey of the area noting population, prominent features and other relevant data. Do this with a view to compiling an accurate map of this relatively unknown expanse.

5. You will take the portable wireless and keep yourself and the District Officer informed of your movements and the general situation. It may be necessary for further plans to be formulated as events and situations crop up.

As you have indicated, fifteen police including two N.C.O.s should be sufficient for the patrol. Arrange with Mr. Coble N.C.O. for and N.C.O. to accompany the patrol.



.....
R. E. Neville. N. D. O.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Sub-District Office,
Telefolmin,
SEPIK DISTRICT.

13th June, 1957.

Assistant District Officer,
TELEFOLMIN.

Patrol Report TELEFOLMIN No. 5/56-57.

Atbalmin Tribal Area.

Patrol Conducted by	:	G.F.Booth, Patrol Officer.
Europeans Accompanying	:	P.C.A.Conroy, Patrol Officer.
Natives Accompanying	:	No. 2055 L/Corporal IINIBI. No. 6079 L/Corporal YENDABARI. No. 5125 Constable TORAIM. No. 6554 " WALAMAIWAI. No. 7403 " KUSINO. No. 7404 " OVISIM. No. 7494 " MATUM. No. 8969 " AINA. No. 8973 " KAUPA. No. 8975 " KUOPERA. No. 8979 " MAI. No. 9005 " LILI. No. 9006 " NIGI. No. 9053 " ARE. No. 9185 " IARIF.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Patrol Report TELEFOLMIN No 5/56-57.

Page 2.

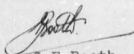
Natives Accompanying : N.M.O. HAUARI.
Interpreters TINDANGIN, KWEGSEP,
AMBOKASEP.
Carriers..... 103.

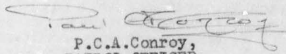
Objects of Patrol : 1. Consolidate friendly relations
with ATRALMINS. Ensure no
raiding of MIANMIN.
2. Initially contact peoples
West of the NIOL River.
3. Exploratory survey of the
area between TELEFOLMIN and the
N.N.G.BORDER. Locate possible
drop sites, airstrips. Study
of population density view the
placing of Patrol Post. Extens-
ion of Govt. influence and
knowledge.

Last D.N.A. Patrol : September 1950...DIN River area
(Mr.H.West).
August 1951.....Telefolmin to
NIOL River (Mr.L.Doolan).

Last Medical Patrol : NIL.

Duration of Patrol : 10th April, 1957 to 20th May,
1957. (41 days).


G.F.Booth,
PATROL OFFICER.


P.C.A.Conroy,
PATROL OFFICER.

INTRODUCTION.

Subsequent to the recent patrol to the MIAMMIN area, Patrol Report No 4 - 56/57 refers, much thought was given to the possibility of the ATRALMIN tribe seizing the opportunity to raid the MIAMMINS. Such an attack would have been a disastrous blow to the recent efforts to obtain the cessation of inter-tribal fighting within the Sub-District. There was every indication that the MIAMMINS, unsettled by the extended patrol, which had apprehended twenty-five participants in the ATRALMIN massacre of 3rd December, 1956, would have been easy prey. The possibilities of such a raid eventuating were strengthened by the knowledge that the ATRALMINS further west were a more vigorous and numerous group than their tribesfolk near the station, and that their brief Government contact might not be sufficient deterrent to a proposed raid. This patrol therefore moved into the ATRALMIN tribal area to maintain law and order, and ensure that raids were not contemplated against the MIAMMINS. Later, as a result of the aerial survey, mentioned in para five below, the principal objects of the patrol were expanded to include an examination of what appeared from the air to be a relatively heavily populated area, to the west of the ATRALMIN.

The ATRALMIN tribe occupies approximately 550 square miles of land, situated North-west of TELEPOLMIN Station. Commencing near the junction of the ILAM and SEPIK Rivers the ATRALMIN area extends North-west to the NETHERLANDS' NEW GUINEA BORDER, being bounded to the South by the STAR Mountains, it is highly probable that their holdings cross the PAPUAN BORDER but this has not been fully determined; and to the North and North-East land is owned across the SEPIK River, the crest of the THURGOOD Range being their boundary with the MIAMMINS. Previous patrols had been led to believe that the ATRALMIN area did not extend West of the NIOL River but this patrol proved conclusively that the tribal area stretches at least as far as the NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA BORDER and possibly further.

European contact with the ATRALMIN Tribe has been both intermittent and slight. By 1913 German parties led by Drs Schultz and Behrmann had made trips almost to the source of the SEPIK but the extent of their penetration inland from the River, if any, is not known. In 1926 Messrs Marius and Champion, in their FLY-SEPIK Expedition, followed the SEPIK. Here also the extent of their contact and penetration from the river is not known. In 1938/39 part of the Ward Williams expedition followed the HOPE (HOPEWEGGS) River for a short distance; it is understood that this party was forced to withdraw after a clash with hostile natives. In 1949 Mr D. Clifton-Bassett led the first patrol from TELEPOLMIN; he reached the DAGIAN River, an area often raided by the MIAMMINS, and made friendly contact with the people. In 1950 Mr H. West's patrol, from TELEPOLMIN skirted the STAR Mountains to reach the HONG and DIN Rivers, good contact being made. In 1951 Mr L. Doolan's patrol from TELEPOLMIN followed the SEPIK River for some considerable distance in an effort to reach GREEN RIVER. Lack of food eventually forced him to move inland and after reaching the NIOL River, which was two days walk west of the furthest camp of the previous patrol (H. West), returned to the station via the DAGIAN River.

INTRODUCTION. cont'd.

In 1955 Mr A. Brightwell with the Enterprise Oil Survey party, operating from a base camp near the AUGUST River, crossed the SEPIK and followed the HOPE River as far as the NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA BORDER, contact was not made with any people. Mr E. Wren led the next patrol from TELEPOLAIN in July 1956, to investigate the murder of four ATHAMINS by the ATRAMIN, initial contact being made with the ATRAMIN sub-tribe near the PAGARA River. This area was subsequently re-visited in December 1956 by a patrol led by Mr G. Booth.

It can be seen that in a period of fifty years there have been eight Administration parties and an unknown number of German parties in and around the fringes of the ATRAMIN people and that contact with the majority of them has been very limited. Patrols from TELEPOLAIN had established contact as far west as the NIOL River; this patrol proceeded past that point and initially contacted the people along the NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA BORDER, from the STAR Mountains to the SEPIK River. It can now be said that Government knowledge extends over the entire area between TELEPOLAIN and the NETHERLANDS BORDER - this knowledge is limited and possibly inaccurate in some instances, but the framework upon which future patrols may build has been started.

Attempts to collate the information gathered by the previous patrols from TELEPOLAIN, unfortunately details of the Larius and Champion, Ward Williams and German parties are not available, and thereby obtain a picture of the area, proved most difficult as the reports were at variance on some essential facts, whilst verbal information culled from conversations with nearby ATRAMINS people further confused an already incomplete picture. It was therefore decided that an aerial survey of the ATRAMIN area would be made. Accordingly on the 22nd March 1957 a survey flight was made in the Missionary Aviation Fellowship Piper Paecor, by A.D.C. Neville and Patrol Officers Booth and Conroy. What appeared to be a relatively heavily populated area was identified, also several sites worthy of close inspection as airstrips; this area was fixed as best possible from the few landmarks in the vicinity. It was decided that the patrol would follow the SEPIK until it reaches these landmarks then move inland, investigate these burial sites, then move back to TELEPOLAIN via the ATRAMIN area. At this time, in line with the information obtained from previous patrol reports, it was thought that the area seen was most likely well west of the ATRAMIN, being possibly the KUMUSILIMIN Tribe reported by Mr L. Poolan, (P/R No 4 - 51/52).

It is requested that liberal reference be made to the map when reading the diary and report. This patrol covered an extensive area and the map has been suitably annotated to fully elucidate any obscure points.

The scarcity of food, the poor tracks and the general unwillingness of the ATRAMINS to co-operate and act as guides are some of the problems which confronted this patrol. The diary has been fully recorded in order that future patrols will not be forced to rely too much upon the information supplied by the people, until such time as better contact can be made.

Patrol Report TELEFOUN No 5 25/57.

BLAST.

Wednesday 10th April 1957.

The patrol made a delayed start from TELEFOUN at 0940 hrs, having waited to hear the outcome of a conversation between the A.D.C. and the District Officer. Moved along TELEFOUN to Willey, arriving URAMBIN East House 1205 - altitude 5400 feet above sea level. No people present. 1210 moved on along well cleared track, toward the MITTAG Mountains. Soon climbing and starting base of range. Patrol progress very slowly due to wet and slippery conditions. 1500 hrs obvious that patrol would be unable to reach WATIGIN Village by night. Moved on to last available water near an old camp-site, altitude 6500' a.s.l.

1245. Camp made - altitude 6500' a.s.l. Carriers lined and names recorded. Given talk on objects of patrol, and warned of need to fully heed instructions once the patrol moved out of the immediate area.

Rice issued. Light guard posted. Fine clear evening but particularly cool.

Today's delayed start will necessitate the patrol by-passing URAMBIN tomorrow, instead sleeping on the SEPIK River, if possible. Previous patrols, by Messrs West and Doelian, indicate that there is little chance of supplementing rice stocks with native food, for at least a week.

Time on track 4 hrs 5 mins. Walking time 4 hrs.

Thursday 11th April 1957.

Broke camp 0655. Climbed, reaching look-out spot 0750 hrs (6560' a.s.l.). Patrol making good time - now moving along crest of MITTAG Mountains, through moss forest, and along well defined track. 0900 hrs arrived old camp-site of Mr Clifton-Bassett. Rested, height 6050' a.s.l. Departed 0920, still on crest of mountain range, but descending slightly. Reached Mr E.D. West's camp-site - 4045, (5400' a.s.l.) - forty minutes above WATIGIN Village, where several URAMBIN and URAMBIN villagers were awaiting the patrol. Four policemen sent ahead to repair bridge over the SEPIK River. Rested until 1120. Moved off over little used track, ascending and passing one of Mr P.O. Doelian's camp-sites. Mr Clifton-Bassett away quite steeply. Arrived old camp-site (Mr Clifton-Bassett at 1315. Rain commenced so pushed on. Now swinging off main range to follow ridge lying almost parallel to, but well above, the SEPIK River. 1420 rested at junction of URAMBIN and URAMBIN Roads, (2800' a.s.l.). 1440 moved on descending steeply to a flat swampy area. Another steep ascent before reaching the SEPIK River Bridge at 1535, altitude 1600 feet above sea level. Repairs complete. Crossed and camp made at first available spot, 1550 hrs, altitude 1650 feet above sea level, and near one of Mr Doelian's previous camps.

Unsuccessful attempt made to contact URAMBIN people. Radio contact made with TELEFOUN. Rice issued. Light guard posted. Steady rain during night.

Time on track 8 hrs 25 mins. Walking time 6 hrs 40 mins.

*Done
Bottle
in
can*

Johny

Patrol Report TELEFOLMIN No 5 56/57.

Page 5.

DIARY.Wednesday 10th April 1957.

The patrol made a delayed start from TELEFOLMIN at 0940 hrs, having waited to hear the outcome of a conversation between the A.B.C. and the District Officer. Moved along TELEFOLMIN Valley, arriving OTERAMIN Rest House 1205 - altitude 5400 feet above sea level. No people present. 1240 moved on along well cleared track, toward the MIFTAG Mountains. Soon climbing and skirting base of range. Patrol moving very slowly due to weighty and troublesome baggage. Charger. 1300 hrs obvious that patrol would be unable to reach IUATIGIN Village by night. Moved on to last available water near an old camp-site used by Mr. P.O. Clifton-Bassett, arriving 1345. Camp made - altitude 6500' a.s.l..

Carriers lined and names recorded. Given talk on objects of patrol, and warned of need to fully heed instructions once the patrol moved out of the immediate area.

Rice issued. Light guard posted. Fine clear evening out particularly cold.

Today's delayed start will necessitate the patrol by-passing IUATIGIN tomorrow; intend sleeping on the SEPIK river, if possible. Previous patrols, by Messrs West and Dooclan, indicate that there is little chance of supplementing rice stocks with native food, for at least a week.

Time on track 4 hrs 5 mins.

Walking time 4 hrs.

Thursday 11th April 1957.

Broke camp 0655. (intended, reaching look-out spot 0750 hrs (6560' a.s.l.). Patrol making good time - now moving along crest of MIFTAG Mountains, through moss forest, and along well defined track. 0900 hrs arrived old camp-site of Mr Clifton-Bassett. Rested, height 6050' asl. Departed 0920, still on crest of mountain range, but descending slightly. Reached Mr S.B. Wren's camp-site - 1045, (5400' asl.) - forty minutes above IUATIGIN Village, where several IUATIGIN and ANATIGIN villagers were awaiting the patrol. Four police-men sent ahead to repair bridge over the SEPIK River. Rested until 1120. Moved off over little used track, descending and passing one of Mr P.O. Dooclan's camp-sites. 1200 ridge falls away quite steeply. Arrived old camp-site (Mr Clifton-Bassett at 1345. Rain commenced so pushed on. Now swinging off main range to follow ridge lying almost parallel to, but well above, the SEPIK River. 1420 rested at junction of ATRAMIN and MARMIN Roads, (2800' asl.). 1440 moved on descending steeply to a flat swampy area. Another steep ascent before reaching the SEPIK River Bridge at 1535, altitude 1600 feet above sea level. Repairs complete. Crossed and camp made at first available spot, 1650 hrs, altitude 1650 feet above sea level, and near one of Mr Dooclan's previous camps.

Unsuccessful attempt made to contact ATRAMIN people. Radio contact made with TELEFOLMIN. Rice issued. Light guard posted. Steady rain during night.

Time on track 6 hrs 55 mins.

Walking time 6 hrs 40 mins.

*Done
but still not
new on order*

of valley?

↑

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Patrol Report TELEFOLAH No 5 56/57.

Page 6.

Friday 12th April 1957.

0700 four station labourers returned to TELEFOLAH. Broke camp 0710. Along flat swampy stretch before crossing fast flowing stream, and following dry water course away from the SEPIK. 0820 passed what appeared to be an old camp-site, (altitude 2500' asl.), then steep descent to 2500 feet. Crossed fast flowing stream and climbed back to 2500 feet. Patrol now skirting spur that rises steeply from the SEPIK's bed. Progress slow. 0900 cut well defined track leading to SEPIK-BE, the scene of the WAKALIF massacre, by MIAKUMI tribesmen in December last year. Followed this track, traversing rocky watercourses and small steepish spurs and ridges that extend to the river, from an unexplored and unnamed range. 1005 Mersaman air-craft heard en route TELEFOLAH. Passed the junction of the SHIP (DORNER) River with the SEPIK at 1055. Continued until 1130, (3050' asl.), and rested. Facer air-craft heard. Moved off again 1200 hrs. Steep descent down sharp sided spur to DAGIAN River at 1240, height above sea level 1800 feet. Bridge strengthened. Crossed at 1310 hrs to climb a steep hill, and drop again to a small stream. Climbed before dropping to the SEPIK River. Reached at 1405 hrs - altitude 1650 feet above sea level. Followed down stream in bed of river. (SEPIK approximately sixty yards wide and running swiftly, over rapids, at this point.) 1425 hrs climbed from river bed into flat swampy area. Walked until 1445 when the patrol reached a cleared area at the foot of a sheer rock face - altitude 1300' asl. Decided to camp.

Radio contact with TELEFOLAH. Many carriers given medical treatment for minor complaints. Rice issued. Light guard posted. Rain during night. A good days progress. P.O. Doolan's camp said to be near by. Several carriers now without loads.

Time on track 7 hrs 45 mins. Walking time 7 hrs 15 mins.

Saturday 13th April 1957.

Broke camp 0725 hrs and descended to the SEPIK River, crossing fast flowing stream, (altitude 1525' asl.), at 0755. Unsuccessful attempt made to scale sheer rock face. Patrol delayed 40 minutes whilst ladders constructed. Climbed steep grade until 0915 (2100' asl.). Then commenced skirting a number of spurs. Crossed two small streams and another at 0955, just above a waterfall. Patrol moved on along narrow ledge 600 feet over the SEPIK. The junction of the WAK (SEMAN) - SEPIK Rivers passed at 1015, (good view of WAK Valley obtained). Crossed another stream. Road now hard to discern resulting in short delay while it was located and cleared. Descended to another stream and then down to the SEPIK River at 1145 - altitude here 1525' asl. On through a flat swampy area, just above the river's edge, until 1235. Climbed side of spur that rises sheer from the river, to clamber across its face until 1340 when the descent continued. This section was most dangerous - sheer drop to the river, - surface soft and crumbly, with few reliable foot or hand-holds. Excellent work by loaded carriers in traversing this stretch where one slip would have resulted in a drop of several hundreds or feet, to the river. Descended via somewhat easier, but still unsafe track, to the SEPIK. Reached 1400 hrs - altitude 1500 feet. Rested near mouth of small stream. Carriers fixed. Micsuits issued. Moved on at 1645 hrs through swampy patch just out of river bed. A most pleasant change. At 1645 crossed quite a large tributary of the SEPIK - reportedly named DIL. This stream largest seen to date, apart from the MIAKUMI.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Patrol Report TELEPOLMIN No 5 56/57.

Page 7.

Saturday 13th April 1957. cont'd.

Continued along SEPIK after searching for camp-site. Camp made at first opportunity - 1625 hrs, altitude 1575' asl.

Radio contact maintained with TELEPOLMIN. Rice issued. Heavy rain commenced at 1700 hours, continued well into night. Light guard posted.

Time on track 9 hours.

Walking time 7 hrs 35 mins.

Sunday 14th April 1957.

Departed camp 0730, descending gradually to the SEPIK - reached at 0805 hrs. (1425' asl.). Observed area of secondary growth on opposite bank, possibly an old garden. Followed downstream - in river bed until 0820, then along bank. 0850 down into river bed again. (Just passed camp on opposite bank, made by patrol returning from the TAWU Valley - MIAMIN, last month.) Pair going despite some wet and loose stones. 0900 new tracks seen in sand. 1010 climbed from river bed into flat swampy area. Plane heard heading for TELEPOLMIN. Progress slower along this stretch but not difficult. 1110 plane heard on outward trip from station. At 1125 the patrol reached a large tributary of the SEPIK. Crude bridge constructed. Line across by 1150 hrs. Then climbed a small spur to drop back to the SEPIK River. 1210 progress blocked by rock face. Moved inland but again frustrated by another steep spur. Excellent work by police in construction of ladders, and the transportation of the heavier loads across this section. Moved over flat ground before descending gradually to the SEPIK - reached at 1430 hrs. Rested and camp-site sought, without success. 1455 off again. Climbed steep grade before crossing fast flowing stream. Camp made on high ground, overlooking the SEPIK River, at 1510 hours - altitude 1350 feet asl.

Radio contact maintained with TELEPOLMIN. Stressed to Constabulary and carriers that from here patrol must proceed as a body. Rice issued. Some medical treatment given. Guard increased. Steady rain during night.

Time on track 7 hrs 40 mins.

Walking time 6 hrs 35 mins.

Monday 15th April 1957.

Departed camp 0700, and moved steadily along bank of SEPIK. Sighted some bush shelters across river. Passed bush shelter 0735 hrs. 0750 negotiated a small spur then descended to river bed (1125' asl.) downstream over loose boulders and sand. More footprints seen 0815. From river into thick undergrowth on bank. Passed large waterfall, named KUBUFON, on the other side of the SEPIK at 0850. Commenced climbing away from River at 0920. After reaching the false top continued climbing - steeply over soft ground to an altitude of 1700 feet above sea level. Track overgrown. Descended on slippery clay, to CASUARINA Creek (LEGU), arriving 1115 (12508 asl.). Followed downstream until 1145 hrs. There are two major threats to this deepish and very fast flowing river. The first threat was bridged with not much trouble. The second was more difficult

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

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Monday 15th April 1957. cont'd.

but good work by Constable IANIP enabled bridge to be constructed. Dangerous crossing completed by 1345 hours. Down stream until SEPIK River reached 1345. Followed latter down - moving over slippery boulders and through thick undergrowth. Reached P.O. West's camp site. Guides advise no other sites close by. Camp made (1150' asl.) - 1515 hours.

Radio contact maintained. Rice issued. Guard posted. Once again heavy rain during night. Guides will precede the patrol tomorrow in an attempt to make contact with the ATBALMIN Sub-tribe living near the SEPIK River; previously seen by Messrs West and Doolan.

Time on track 8 hrs 35 mins.

Walking time 6 hrs 40.

Tuesday 16th April 1957.

0630 Guides depart. Patrol broke camp 0705. Rise in river height during night hindered movement along water's edge - unable to move inland due to spurs and ridges. Edged along stoney sloping bank of river. 0930 into flat swampy section - going easier. 1010 moving along bank of river. Passed large bush shelter with new thatching on roof. Walking over loose slippery stones. 1025 crossed fast flowing tributary of the SEPIK. 1035 swung away from river to climb steep spur. Ascended several hundred feet, then skirted face - a tricky operation. 1120 hours large river observed across SEPIK. Dropped back to the SEPIK River - 1145. Movement over large boulders. 1150 sighted bridge spanning SEPIK River, reached at 1210. Camped on P.O. Doolan's previous site. Altitude 1000 feet above sea level.

No sign of guides or ATBALMINS. The bridge is in poor condition. Lengths of lawyer vine lying nearby indicates that someone has intentions of repairing it. Some police fishing but only available hooks too large. 1530 endeavoured contact R.T.C. WEWAK - unsuccessful. 1630 guides returned with 16 male members of WIMBAPMIN Sub-tribe - (ATBALMIN Group) who brought considerable amounts of native food, that was purchased.

These people greeted the patrol apathetically, appearing unafraid though obviously doubtful of the patrol's intentions. They were reluctant to give specific information when questioned, and if the patrol showed interest in an subject they became evasive. Despite continual efforts to reassure them of our good intentions their doubt was visible. Their spokesman advised a. there are no people between here and the mouth of the DIN (BRIDGES ??) River; b. details of ATBALMIN Sub-tribes and their location - (See under NATIVE AFFAIRS.); c. that the MIANINS have raided this area but not recently. The WIMBAPMINS do not retaliate; d. UPKMIN Sub-tribe maintain a bridge over the SEPIK, near the mouth of the the DIN River, by which means they raid and are raided by the IVERMIN - (IVIPMIN ??) MIANINS.

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Tuesday 16th April 1957. cont'd.

1700 hours radio contact maintained with TELEFOLMIN. A.D.C. advised of contact with populace and that it would be unwise to proceed further along the SERIK until better contact had been made with these people and more information gleaned about the immediate area. This would necessitate remaining here tomorrow. In reply A.D.C. said, providing aircraft available he would carry out survey to locate most suitable route for patrol.

Rice and native food issued. Medical treatment to carriers and visitors. Guard posted.

Time on track 5 hrs 5 mins. Walking time 5 hrs 5 mins.

Wednesday 17th April 1957.

Remained at camp site. 0805 contact established R.T.C. WEWAK. Requested they advise A.D.C. TELEFOLMIN to contact patrol. 0845 conversation with A.D.C. - asked that if an aerial survey is going to be made, it be made today. Statements by locals most contradictory; all agree no population along bank of SERIK River. 1030 plane passed overhead - 1045 circled camp before returning to station. Balance of morning and most of afternoon spent questioning visitors. Several offered to guide patrol should it intend moving inland from here.

Patrol has two alternatives :- a. to continue along SERIK to strike inland from the point fixed by the initial aerial survey - there would be no hope of supplementing rations and there is no indication of duration of this leg of the trip; possibility of exhaustion of food stocks.

b. to move inland, supplementing rations with what foodstuffs that could be purchased; employing the information available from reports but at the same time distorting the picture gained in the survey flight.

A total of 24 males in camp during day - most of whom brought small amounts of food. Some medical treatment given. Fruitless attempt to get battery charger going. 1700 hours regular radio schedule with TELEFOLMIN. A.D.C. advises apparent population group bearing 235 - 240 degrees magnetic from camp. Decision made to move inland. AMPANMIN Sub-tribe reported to lie in this direction. Guides obtained. Rice and native food issued. Guard posted. Heavy rain during evening.

Thursday 18th April 1957.

Broke camp 0700. Past bridge and climbed steadily - heading south. Reached DUHOR Stream 0750. Crossed and climbed up a well defined track. Now moving parallel to SERIK. Further ascent before dropping and crossing FOMAN Stream at 0850. Thence climbed to road junction and followed northern branch, passing the lower end of a newly cleared garden area - (altitude 2300' asl.) at 0930. Over a tangled heap of fallen trees and into a currently used garden. Climbed to a garden settlement - AMPANMIN, arriving 0950 (2900') - five houses. Number of people present, most of whom had visited camp yesterday.

Thursday 16th April 1957. cont'd.

Several women noticed inside houses. THREE PINNACLES clearly visible on magnetic bearing of 38 degrees. Off again 1035 hrs, difficult ascent to top of MOSSY RIDGE - reached at 1115 hrs, altitude 3725 feet above s-a level. Along crest heading South-east. 1130 arrived BILAVIE - (a house hamlet). Would have camped but only dirty seepage water available. Moved off at 1215 along crest of ridge. Short sharp climb to its eastern extremity. Camped on former village site - UTANAVIE - at 1230, 3950 feet above sea level.

Locality chart on page 11

THREE PINNACLES now obscured by cloud. Visibility to South and South-west nil; indicative of sudden cloud changes in this locality. Small party of WIMURAPMINS arrived in afternoon with meagre supply of food. People still showing little interest in patrol - seem quite friendly but anxious to see the patrol leave. Radio contact maintained with TELEPOLMIN.

Patrol will move South-West tomorrow into the AMTANMIN area. Several males say they are of this Sub-tribe and that they will accompany the line tomorrow, as guides. Rice and native foods issued. Guard posted. Fine clear night. Cold - a change from the warm evenings along the SEPIK River.

Time on track 5 hrs 30 mins.

Walking time 4 hrs.

Friday 19th April 1957.

Broke camp 0655. Retraced steps along MOSSY RIDGE passing village seen yesterday. 0715 commenced descent down southern face of ridge; track well defined, going easy. Reached the ATEM River at 0755 - 2925' asl., followed downstream (westward), passing an old gardening area. 0800 hit left river bed and climbed through a garden to a house. Several people present. Moving on, commenced ascent of spur to south, 0850 along flat section before climbing to top at 0900, altitude 3900 feet asl. Rapid ascent to a house in the centre of a large garden - 0930 hrs 3400'. The WIMURAPMIN guides (the AMTANMIN males did not materialise this morning) now state that this is the start of the AMTANMIN land, and that though they know the majority of the people garden along the LONG River they are unsure of the route. These remarks were directly contradictory to the information given the patrol yesterday. Despite continual questioning the guides would not be drawn into giving further information and it was finally decided, at the suggestion of the guides, to descend through this garden - cross the TAGAN River and camp in a gardening area there; while the guides endeavoured to contact nearby people and tell them of the patrol's arrival and its need for food. 1045 moved on across TAGAN River 2900' asl., camped at 1115 hours. The guides warned that spikes had been hidden in sections of this garden, when it was bearing, to deter trespassers. These were a menace to carriers and a search revealed a considerable number - about 18 inches long, of sharpened bamboo.

During late afternoon the guides returned with seven males of the SUBIANMIN - ATEALMIN Group, who brought a meagre quantity of food with them. Purchased. This sub-tribe previously unknown. One of the guides (WIMURAPMIN), when it was made clear that the patrol expected more food, offered a sago palm for sale.

Claims of fruit carrying - for supply of patrol.

Most uncommon

Showing out an abundance of sago palm

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Friday 19th April 1957. cont'd.

This ostensibly being AMTANMIN land, the WIMURAPMIN'S claim to ownership was queried but confirmed by all the SUBIANMINS present. The palm was then purchased. Radio contact with TELEFOLMIN maintained. Rice and native food issued. Guard posted.

If the patrol is to believe all it has been told today it must somehow reconcile the facts that a WIMURAPMIN guide brought it to the edge of the AMTANMIN land where the guide plants sago and which is populated by the SUBIANMIN Sub-tribe. Neither the WIMURAPMIN nor the SUBIANMIN know how to reach the villages of the AMTANMIN people though they are all ATRALMIN, all speak the same language, do not fight and must live within two days walk of each other.

Time on track 4 hrs 20 mins.

Walking time 3 hrs 5 mins.

Saturday 20th April 1957.

Patrol remained at camp site. Mr Booth out with party checking on the country between the camp and the NONG River. Mr Conroy working on battery charger. Police and carriers making sago. 1250 Mr Booth returns to camp. No population between here and the Nong. Small hamlet observed across river. 1500 small party of locals in with insignificant amount of food.

Radio contact maintained. Telefolmin. Native food and sago issued. Guard maintained. Light rain in evening.

Sunday 21st April 1957.

Intended remaining in camp to make more sago as another tree had been purchased from the locals. When cut however this palm proved useless. Decided to move on - visitors to camp saying they would act as guides. Camp broken and line moved off at 1030, along track used by yesterday's party. Going easy but muddy. 1110 hours party met by 20 men carrying food and a pig. They agreed to accompany the patrol. 1135 reached high bank above the NONG River. Moved in the same direction as the stream until a bush shelter was reached at 1200. Hamlet or BONGDABON can be seen to the SSE also two old and one new garden. From this position the track dropped steeply to the NONG River. Crossed per crude bridge 1225 - 2400' asl. This river is typical of the larger rivers in this area. Not too deep but very very swift flowing - sufficient to knock a man from his feet and carry him away. Climbed from the NONG following MINIFRAGAT'AM Stream - falling stones made ascent trickier. Over soft surfaced spur and skirted slope to BUBUTEMAI Stream 1510 hours. Crossed and climbed into a large flat area covered in forest and secondary growth. On to MERETBIL (2 House Hamlet) 2800' at 1335.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

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Sunday 21st April 1957. cont'd.

Village set on cliff edge several hundred feet, sheer, above the HONG. Moved on through secondary growth and over a net-work of logs to DEPARBIL (3 House settlement) arriving at 1345 hrs - altitude 2650 feet above sea level. Camped near village in an old garden. Area just traversed is revealed from this location as a large plateau. Looking across the HONG River two hamlets can be seen in addition to scattered houses - all set in extensive areas of secondary growth, new and old gardens. Crowd of people (mainly women) watching patrol from four house settlement directly across valley.

During the afternoon upwards of fifty people visited the camp (including four women and two children), making a pig and a meagre amount of native food available to the patrol. This was purchased and the visitors - who say they belong to the KALBAGAMIN Sub-tribe or the TELMOLMIN Group questioned with regard to roads, other sub-tribes etc. All information gained conflicted with that previously gained. Guides obtained for tomorrow when the patrol will enter the KOBRIEMIN area. By far the best contact made with the people to date.

Radio contact maintained with TELMOLMIN. Pig, sage and native roads saved. Guard posted.

Time on track 3 hours 15 mins.

Walking time 3 hrs 15 mins.

Monday 22nd April 1957.

Departed camp 0705 - easy climb to TEMSIGIN an eight house village. No people present, but several domestic pigs seen. An excellent view of the plateau traversed yesterday gained from here. Steady descent to DIN River commenced; arriving at cane bridge 0800 - 2000' asl. This bridge broke as the first members of the party crossed - fortunately nobody was hurt. Parties sent up and down stream to find ford. (River at this point 20 - 25 yards wide and very swift.) Many trees felled before partial bridging obtained at 0910. Party finally across by 0935 hours. Several men from across the river watched the patrol's attempts to cross. By the time the line was on their side they had disappeared. Commenced steady ascent through old sweet potatoe gardens. Climbed in earnest for ten minutes to arrive at DUMVIP at 1020 hrs. (2 Houses - alt 2725' asl.) This hamlet is set on a long spur stretching out to the junction of the HONG and DIN Rivers. Large areas of secondary growth and a few gardens to the south, along the DIN Valley. Left DUMVIP 1035 hrs and climbed spur behind settlement. 1040 skirting to the west. 1045 past a small house overlooking a garden. Track leads into a large gully then out and up to a house from which several people were observing the patrol. Reached house at 1135 hrs to find people gone. Presumably hidden in bush. Continued on to another two house hamlet DALKA where several men were awaiting. Camped nearby at 1145 - 2650' asl.

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Monday 22nd April 1957, cont'd.

Following Sepik into TELEPOLMIN. 1215 Gibbes Junkers observed including six females and a child, from the AMPAMIN and WINURAPMIN sub-tribes (refer yesterday's diary - ROBERTMIN) visited the camp with food. People appeared friendly - considerable amount of root-vegetables purchased. Most welcome change from the scant supplies previously offered. Battery charger still not working and still being overhauled.

6 under Junkers was the interpretation

Radio contact maintained with TELEPOLMIN. Guides obtained for tomorrow's walk. Talks with locals on ROBERTMIN, MALOGLIMIN and BAPOMIN tribes. All reported to be relatively close. This directly conflicts with the information previously gathered. Experience indicates that no weight can be placed on these people's statements.

Native food issued. Guard posted. Steady rain from 2000 hours.

Time on track. 4 hrs 40 mins.

Walking time 2 hrs 50 min.

Tuesday 23rd April 1957.

Departed camp site at 0655. Descended along a well defined but greasy track through several old gardens. 0720 hrs moved into light rain forest climbing slightly in the direction of the DIN River. Several steep sections negotiated with difficulty. Crossed the shallow BUBIA stream 1700' and moved on to the DIN River - following it downstream. Two small streams crossed and a bush shelter reached at 0755. 0810 still following DIN. Traversed two small steep spurs before commencing steady ascent. Through a small garden at 0920 altitude 2525'. Impressive view of NONG and DIN valleys to East. Several houses observed on slopes of mountain formation to North. Continued climb until the crest of a narrow spur was reached at 0940, altitude 2800'. Rested. Commenced descent at 1000 hrs - steep. Plane heard 1010 hrs. View of area across YAK River. Two villages, of five or six houses each, in proximity. Many other isolated houses. Extensive areas of secondary growth and ~~gambon~~. Guides state that this is the ~~most~~ area. Still descending - crossed small stream at 1045 - 1650' asl down to the YAK River. Crossed by bridge 1035 - 1550' near its junction with the NIOL River. Followed the NIOL upstream walking in the river bed, continually crossing and recrossing. 1210 left river to climb steep grade into a pocket of secondary growth (new) at 1825 feet. No suitable camp sites nearby. Moved on until guides indicated a camp site was near by, 1235 hours and altitude 2000' asl. This turned out to be the site used previously by P.O. Doonan, and was heavily overgrown. The undergrowth had been cleared several names were found carved into the trees. Amongst these was that of Const BURIPORI - who was subsequently murdered with P.O. Szarka in 1953.

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Tuesday 23rd April 1957, cont'd.

A party of eleven SUBIARMIN men brought a small quantity of food to the camp in the late afternoon. They were obviously very frightened and could not be drawn in conversation. Unable to obtain guides for tomorrow. Told locals of our need for food and that we will be remaining here tomorrow.

Radio contact maintained with TELEPOLMIN. Sked arranged for nine tomorrow morning. Carriers lined and once again warned that they were not to leave the camp without police escort. Medical treatment given - minor cuts etc. Sago and native food issued. Further efforts to bring battery charger into operation. Engine now working but generator at fault. Guard maintained. Heavy rain from 1830 hours.

Time on track 5 hrs 40 mins.

Walking time. 5 hrs.

Wednesday 24th April 1957.

Remained at camp. 0900 radio contact with TELEPOLMIN. At 0945 four elderly males entered the camp; very effusive but behind it all very nervous. Some half an hour later much singing and calling announced the arrival of 63 people - including two women. The little food that they brought was purchased, in addition to a pig which was shot at the request of the visitors. During talks with the people it materialised that the KOFERMIN Group were enemies of this Sub-tribe. Offers were made to guide the patrol to the MALOELMIN. From there it is said, access can be gained to the KOFERMIN. Visitors say they belong to the SUBIARMIN and UPORMIN Sub-tribes. (ATBALMIN.) Patrol misled again. Previously led to believe this area populated by KOFERMIN. Unable toathom the reasons behind these lies. Whether it is done with intent to mislead, whether it is due to bad interpretation - most unlikely, or whether the people, genuinely have no conception of accuracy as we know it.

By the end of the day many of the people's signs of fear had disappeared. Guides had been obtained and it is thought that there should be no repetition of Mr Doolan's trouble - guides promising to lead patrol and not appearing next day.

Radio contact maintained with TELEPOLMIN. Suggested that patrol proceed to GREEN RIVER PATROL POST to re-equip. This would mean that the patrol is not dependant on an air - drop; there is no chance of the pilot locating drop site if patrol is off the air due to weak batteries, (charger still not functioning). Proposed route would be via AUGUST River, moving through sago, there and back, therefore food no problem. Reports that people to west speak another language or dialect - could get interpreters to cover this contingency. Could possibly make contact with the people of the lower TAWU Valley and extend our knowledge of this area. Need rations before patrol can move inland. Cannot be dependant upon uncontacted people for food and from indications it will take the patrol at the most, seven days before population is reached. (At present holding four days rice.)

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Wednesday 24th April 1957, cont'd.

Days work on charger proved fruitless. Sago and native food issued. Guard maintained.

Thursday 25th April 1957.

*A/land of
interior
area?*

ANZAC DAY. Departed camp 0730. (PER-1?) River - altitude at crossing 1900'. Climbed spur to the North over a good track reaching the top and the villages of DAMAN-SIGIN and SIMANRIP at 0830 hours - 2600 feet above sea level. View to the south of numerous hamlets and single houses, gardens and secondary growth. Many of yesterday's visitors to the camp among the 40 people present in the two villages. Through villages and moved West - North - West along the spur that they sit on. Gradual drop to the North through large gardens - track greasy and sheer in places. Slow going. 0930 crossed stream and followed the general direction of the DIN River. Dropped into the riverbed 0940 hrs - 1500'. Hard walking over slippery rocks until 1005 - 1200 feet asl. Climbed from the DIN. Passed by the bottom of a new garden 1020. Five minutes later passed bridge spanning the river. Paused to group line moving off at 1045 hrs. Reached the junction of the MEM and DIN Rivers 1100. Then proceeded up sheer rock barrier that came right to the water's edge. 120 feet or so above water commenced skirting face of outcrop. Unreliable foot-holds with nothing to grasp - either smooth rock or crumbly soil. By far the worst stretch encountered to date. Down again to the DIN River and followed. 1120 hrs altitude 1175' asl. From here until camp was made the terrain pattern was the same - steep sided spurs right to the water's edge a repetition of climb, skirt face, descend, climb again. Continued in this manner crossing three streams - the YOGI, the SEBOL at 1310 and the FUGUM at 1440. 1430 guides state there are people in this area who will feed the patrol. Camp made on the FUGUM near its junction with the DIN. Altitude 1400' asl.

Rain commenced at 1500 hrs. Guides advise that the village is some distance away and that the people will not bring food if it is raining. PERAMIN Headman given medical treatment. Running slight temperature - chill complicated by fever. Battery charger worked for half an hour only to pack up again. Sago issued, after regular radio contact with TELEFOLMIN. Guard maintained. Rain continued well into night.

Time on track. 7 hours.

Walking time. 6 hrs 40 mins.

Friday 26th April 1957.

Broke camp 0705 immediately climbing sheer face using ladders. Thence through a flat swampy stretch passing at 0740, a small bush shelter in which our guides slept. Still following the DIN River. 0750 Guides offer choice of continuing via the river or of moving 'inland'. Latter chosen as river road reported as being difficult. Climbed ridge by way

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Friday 26th April 1957. cont'd.

of water course - left this to reach a lush shelter at 0835 hrs. 0840 crossed a large stream. Moving across face of ridge - going easy - ascending slightly. 0900 crossed another stream. Track overgrown and progress slow. 0920 grade increases until climbing steeply up to a bush house. Altitude 1925' - reached at 0930 hrs. Slight descent before recommencing climb. Over a stream at 0940 to reach the top of the spur - 2350 feet at 1005. Descended 1025 through a newly cleared area in which stone axes had been used to fell trees. Some sago palms seen. Reached the BILKA River at 1015 and spelled - altitude 1625'. Moved off at 1100. Climbed directly away from spur - reached large bush house at 1130 - 2150'. Party of MALCOLMININ people making sago nearby. Showed little interest in patrol. Continued to top of ridge 2300' asl. 1145 hrs. Moved along back of ridge heading west to a large taro garden at 1230. Several small ridges to North obscure view of SEPIK River. Houses on range to North-East. Through garden over spur and into another. SEPIK visible to North - apparently flowing North-West into NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA. Moved west to WOIBE Hamlet (2 houses of a different type to those seen during patrol) - arriving 1330 - 2400'. Site sought - camped nearby at 1400 hrs.

35 males visited the camp with food. Pig purchased and shot at owners request. People quite friendly. Talked about roads and people in area. Report no access to the KOFELMIN from here. Only road via the RIOL River. Radio contact maintained. To abandon idea of GREEN RIVER trip - to concentrate, in the immediate future, on finding an air-drop site before attempting to locate population seen in the original aerial survey - (KOFELMIN ??). Further questioning of locals who say the only flat land around here is on the banks of the SEPIK - within two hours walk.

Native food and rice issued. Guard maintained. Rain.

Time on track. 6 hrs 55 mins.

Walking time. 6 hrs 20.

Saturday 27th April 1957.

Broke camp 0655. Passed WOIBE Village and headed north along spur - dropping to BILKA River 0820 altitude 1000 feet. Crossed and climbed steep - skirting and heading North-East. Traversed several steep gullies. Started to rain 0935 hrs. Top of range reached 0945, 1850'. Fog and low cloud reduce visibility to a few yards. Gradual descent passin several sago palms near a bush shelter 1035. Rain stopped at 1045 hours. Further ten minutes and the TIWU River reached - 925 feet. Followed downstream. 1210 still moving down stream - altitude 725' asl. 1220 left river and climbed spur only to drop back into the TIWU. Progress slow but not difficult - tiring. 1330 the junction of the SEPIK and the TIWU reached. Camp made - altitude 350'. SEPIK flowing in many threads. Large island directly opposite camp.

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Saturday 27th April 1957.cont'd.

Guides keen to return - eventually agreed to stay until future movements determined. They state that the mouth of the HOPE (HOFFNUNGS) River is close - downstream, and that a bridge spanning the SEPIK is nearby. Island appears adequate drop-site though the river is running too strongly to ford - all of carriers and bulk of police unable to swim. Raft construction commenced despite lack of suitable timber.

Radio contact maintained. A.D.O. advised of position and urgent need for supplies - have food for tonight and tomorrow. Rice and sago issued. Guard posted. Heavy rain throughout night.

Time on track. 6hrs 35mins. Walking time. 6hrs 35mins.

Sunday 28th April 1957.

Remained in camp. As expected guides disappeared during night. Raft project scrapped on location of new drop-site on an island about twenty minutes upstream. Approximately 600 by 100 yards and access by fording thread of SEPIK - water thigh deep. Carriers commenced clearing heavy cane grass that covered site. 1100 conversation with A.D.O. May get drop tomorrow - arranged sked for 1000 hrs. Mr Booth at drop-site. Mr Conroy working on battery charger. Dropping area cleared by late afternoon. Minor medical treatments given. Last of food issued. Guard maintained.

Monday 29th April 1957.

Remained in camp. Party collecting and cutting firewood for marker fires. 0805 R.T.C. WEWAK advise Norseman aircraft due TELEFOLMIN 0915. Arranged for fires to be readied at site. 1000 contacted TELEFOLMIN. Drop postponed pending approval D.C.A. PORT MORESBY. Advised patrol now without food. Requested ensure drop made tomorrow - weather permitting. Parties of police and carriers organised to search for food. Work continues on battery charger. Parties returned late afternoon with large quantities of edible leaf, semi-ripe breadfruit, fungus, the cores of young black palms, wild bananas, 2 pigeons and a parrot - issued. 1700 hrs contacted TELEFOLMIN. Nothing definite on drop. Patrol personnel's moral surprisingly high - optimistic about tomorrow. Guard maintained.

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Tuesday 30th April 1957.

Remained at camp. More firewood cut and collected. 0830 A.D.O. advises TELEFOLMIN awaiting plane. 0900 drop to be made by two aircraft, weather along the SEPIK poor, BTD TELEFOLMIN 1000. 1015 established wireless near drop site, fires lit. 1030 G.S.A. Norseman VH-BHG overhead. Fires dowsed. 1035 first of 7 runs, completed 1045. Weather deteriorating. 1129 the second G.S.A. Norseman VH-ASN made first of five runs after difficulty in locating drop site. Cargo collected and carried to camp, checked and repacked. Good recovery made. 1700 radio contact maintained, talked to E.M.A. Goble as A.D.O. has proceeded WEMAR for the MIANMIN trials, advised of drop results, and that patrol will return to KALOGGLIMIN villages to-morrow to obtain guides. Not expecting trouble to-morrow but depends upon locals train of thought, whether they feel guilty over the guides running away or not, and their interpretation of patrol's action in returning. Generous ration issued. Spirits high. Guard maintained. Rain during the night.

Wednesday 1st May 1957.

Departure delayed while loads shuffled. Off at 0740 followed TIWU River back upstream, loaded line moving more slowly, going harder as river swollen. Rested 0915. Off 0930 reaching bush shelter and sago palms at 1115. Moved off 1130. Climbed ridge, at top 1245. Dropped to BILKA River 1345. Spelled. 1400 climbed on reaching camp of 26th/27th at 1545.

People watching silently from a distance but would not come into camp. Persistent efforts enticed a few in. Obtained guides for to-morrow. State KOFELMIN two days away. Little native food purchased.

Radio contact maintained TELEFOLMIN. Rice and native food issued. Battery charger dismantled and repacked to facilitate movement. Guard posted.

Time on track. 8 hrs 5 mins.

Walking time. 7 hrs20.

Thursday 2nd May 1957.

*Slope 45° to 50°
wild?*

Moved off at 0720, four carriers deserted during night necessitating reshuffling of loads again. Back along track of yesterday before swinging to West. Dropped to junction of WOL and ATEM Rivers, reached at 0755 - 1025 feet. Crossed and climbed to 1300' - skirted spur to reach garden at 0810. Through garden heading West. Through another garden with a sago stand nearby. Swung to North West to climb a narrow spur. Up to 1800' - moved South South West to EDU village 0845, 3 houses, 2225'. Rested. Magnetic bearing to yesterday's camp 105 degrees, large mountain block in MIANMIN 81 degrees. Guides indicate route as being on 264 degrees. Moved off 0910 heading West along ridge - going easy. 0940 commenced drop to river, reached 1015 - 1050'. Crossed and climbed through garden, on and up to another current garden, noted village to East. 1110 reached KAGANIN village, 5 houses, 2025'. SEPIK seen - 335 degrees, bounded by flat, open, (swampy) stretch. 1130 moved off crossing deep gully. Circumnavigated face of landslide, climbed top of spur 2400' at 1225. Descend-

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

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Thursday 2nd May 1957. contd.

Good
ed through an old garden getting view of the HOPE- HOFFNUNGS River. Reached a garden house - SEPIK bearing 337 degrees - HOPE-HOFFNUNGS 345 degrees - TWIN PEAKS? 22 degrees. Indications are patrol has crossed N.N.G.BORDER if maps are accurate. Moved off at 1255 heading South South East. Climbed to flatish area 2850' - 1315. Reached two house hamlet of NOBI at 1335, 2800'. Populated by members of BAKDAK(IAMDAISINA) Sub-Tribe of ATBALMIN group. No water available. Camped at 1400 on poor site - nothing better offers. AL River flowing directly below the camp, junction with IP(HOPE+HOFFNUNGS) nearby. Gardens on mountain side opposite reported belonging to the IPUGINMIN Sub-Tribe.

Local tribes in this district -
During afternoon people brought food, pig purchased and shot. Cases of tinea imbricata seen for first time this patrol. Constable MATUM ill with fever. Medical treatments given. Carriers lined and warned about running away.

Radio contact maintained TELEFOLMIN. Rice and native food issued. Guard posted. Rain commenced 1900.

Time on track. 6 hrs 40 mins.

Walking time 5 hrs 20.

Friday 3rd May 1957.

Remained in camp. Constable MATUM confined to bed with high fever - no carriers available to carry him. Steady rain. Visitors to camp, including IPUGINMIN people, brought native food.

Reported that KOFELMIN live over range to West, only a small group and are members of the ATBALMIN Tribe. The KOBRINMIN area would approximate the area seen on the aerial survey according to informants. Questioned discreetly with regard to chasing of WARD WILLIAMS party out of area - disclaim all knowledge. These people are enemies of the MIANNINS (one young buck wearing MIANNIN jawbone around neck), apparently engage in intermittent hostility - mainly between hunting parties that meet. Told this must cease, for what it is worth to people as backward as these. Guides obtained for to-morrow.

Rain ceased in afternoon. Radio contact maintained TELEFOLMIN, requested conversation be arranged with A.D.O., at present in WEWAK, before batteries fail. Rice and native food issued. Guard maintained.

Decided to follow AL into KOBRINMIN area, rather than pursue the elusive KOFELMIN into NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA.

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Saturday 4th May 1957.

Departed camp 0715 heading South South East. Large mountain formation to North West. Descended to SISIROK hamlet, three houses, reached at 0755, number of males present - no females. Ten gardens of varying sizes visible. Dropped through secondary growth and gardens - steep in places - to bank high above the AL River. Down to river and bridge at 0855. Bridge novel but unsafe, lodged in branches of trees on either side of river. Crossed by climbing tree, clambering across from tree top to tree top, down tree on other side. Strengthened and repaired. Line across by 1030, 1350'. Climbed steeply through stands of ferns and secondary growth to a garden house at 1045, 1825'. Through garden siding across ridge above AL River. Large stream INTIN flows into AL from opposite side. Crossed SUMULAK River at 1105 and continued skirting above AL. Slow going - MATUN weak. 1135 aircraft heard overhead (Piper Pacer). Continued to first flat area - abandoned bush house - camped at 1210, 2375'.

Guides asked to obtain food from new settlement in the vicinity - said there were none in the area, they were not going to eat to-night - typical of the co-operative attitude

Medical check, treatments given. Eight men breaking out in small sores (scabies?), seven others with boils and sores, two bad colds and twelve others with minor lacerations/and sores. Radio contact maintained TELEFOLMIN - advised sched. with A.D.C. arranged for 6TH. Rice issued. Guard posted. Fine clear, crisp night.

Time on track. 4 hrs 55 mins.

Walking time. 3 hrs 20mins.

Sunday 5th May 1957.

Departed camp 0700 climbed steeply to the South reaching new clearing and houses at 0705. Skirted and climbed Southwards. 0825 across face of landslide - 4075', gardens across river. Descended to SULEPTABIN (two house) Hamlet, 4025', 0830. Mountain block in MIANMIN visible in arc from 35 - 23 degrees. MT. BUGIARI pointed out (the EUBBI'ARI or TABLE MOUNTAIN seen from the TAWU Valley ??). Mountain block to East, visible up AL Valley, is headwaters of the NIOL River. 0850 moved off leaving the AL to follow the TAKHIP River. Gardens seen on opposite bank. Skirted sheer face of landslide and climbed along narrow track - cliffs above and below - slow going, heading South South West. 1000 into extensive secondary growth thence a large garden. On to small deserted hamlet at 1100. Gardens and houses dotted along other side of valley. Track overgrown. Guides advise that they don't know the road. Continued on cutting track to YUP River - reached at 1115 3050'. Short, sharp climb to UBIL hamlet, three houses, onemale present - reached at 1145, 3600'. Camped nearby.

In the afternoon twenty five males brought food to the camp, pig purchased and shot. People state there is little population in this area, none to the West or the South. Refuse to guide patrol elsewhere than to the BUSILMINS.

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Sunday 5th May 1957. contd.

Radio contact maintained TELEFOLMIN. Rice and native food issued. Guard posted. Rain in evening.

Time on track. 4 hrs 45 mins.

Walking time. 4 hrs 25 mins.

Monday 6th May 1957.

Departed camp 0655, followed the TAKNIP at a distance, moving for the main upon "oil surfaced" logs to a deserted hamlet 0730. Descended through secondary growth to the TAKNIP No. 2 at its junction with the MOLGAN (altitude 3025'). Crossed and climbed - heading south - to a garden house. Rested. Large area of secondary growth on opposite bank. 0835 on - climbing and siding through secondary growth to DOMKEN Hamlet, 0905 (2 houses - 4150' asl.) lying on top of a ridge. A number of people present - frightened - hid in houses. Along a flat, commencing descent 0925 hrs. Down through an old garden (0950 hrs - 3550' asl.) heading south. Then climbed steeply to 4050 feet to drop to another hamlet at 1030 - 3875' asl. Continued descending, reaching a stream at 1040 - crossed at 3625' and climbed to make an edging descent to another small stream. Moving over a bad track. Paused to re-group line 1100 - 3500'. Moved off at 1130 climbing steeply over soft clay and crumbly ground to a garden and two houses - reached at 1155 hrs. Hemmed in by mountains on all sides; sheer sided and rising 8 to 10,000 feet - numerous landslide scars. Continued climbing through forest - very steep in places. Reached top at 1245 hrs - altitude 5200' asl. Commenced raining. Carrier had a fortunate escape when the ground he was standing on broke and he crashed feet first into the line waiting below. Moved on to cross a fast flowing stream at 1300 - 4875 feet. Maintained height, crossing two spurs to another stream - 1355 hrs - 4500 feet. Scrambled up to 4800 then descended over crumbling stone and rotten logs to the TAKNIP No. 1. Reached at 1500 hours - 4400 feet above sea level. Camped on banks.

Guides advise patrol will reach BUSILMIN tomorrow. Radio contact maintained with TELEFOLMIN and A.D.O. contacted at WEWAK. Patrol to return to TELEFOLMIN using present food stocks. To check air-strip sites if they are seen but not to endanger ration stocks by going out of way to find them.

Still raining. Rice issued. Guard maintained. A strenuous day with little achieved in straight mileage. Cold and miserable camp.

Time on track. 8 hours.

Walking time. 7 hrs 15 min.

Tuesday 7th May 1957.

Departed camp 0710. Followed the TAKNIP up stream. 0730 followed tributary to avoid a waterfall on the

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Tuesday 7th May 1957, contd.

former. Passed a bush shelter 0740 then back on to the TAKNIP. 0755 left the river and climbed along a well defined but steep (in places) track. 0830 - 5600'asl ascending - heading west of south. 0850 - 6100'asl passed a bush shelter. Impressive view of magnificent 300 foot waterfall - TAKNIPFON, while to the south sheer, white, towering cliffs dominate the picture. On and up into moss forest, going becoming very steep. Soft clay faces sheer for 10 - 20 feet - hard climbing. Everyone slipping and sliding as they scrambled up these obstacles. Reached the top at 1050 hrs. Continued along flat to spell at 1055. Altitude 8175 feet above sea level. Moved off again at 1135 to descend almost immediately. Started to rain. Valley below obscured by thick cloud. 1145 rain starts in earnest. Track very greasy and descent slow. Some bad falls as the carriers' feet slip from under them. 1225 hours - altitude 7100' crossed a small stream. Then followed this down and onto another. Followed this only to leave this for the MIMI. Followed the MIMI downstream. Sighted a garden through the mist at 1245. 1300 hrs - still following stream - rain quite heavy. 1430 reached a garden hamlet on the banks of the MIMI - 5350'asl. Camp made. Rain easing.

Two males fled at the patrols approach leaving two women and several children in the houses, (proof that the age of chivalry is dead). Guides sent to bring men back - women escorted out of camp. Rice dried. Man and youth will guide patrol tomorrow. Radio contact maintained with TELEFOLMIN. Rain re-commenced. Rice issued. Guard posted.

Time on track. 7 hrs 20 mins.

Walking time. 6 hrs. 40 min.

Wednesday 8th May 1957.

Rice repacked. Guides from yesterday given presents. Departed camp 0705 with new guides. Crossed the MIMI and followed down bank. Heading east toward a mountain block. Reached a garden 0735. Climbed into an old, then a new garden - 2 houses nearby. At 5200'asl by 0800. Climbed away to south. Reached FONEIL - 2 house hamlet at 0820. Altitude 5400'. Magnetic bearing to NIOL River - 40°, 92° to Mt KORPE; Mt MENGIOR (and yesterday's track) 312; guides indicate today's road as being south of east. Moved off at 0835 skirting and climbing. 0900 commenced drop to river. 0915hrs at AL River - 4900'. (10 - 20 feet wide and 2 to 3 feet deep at this point. Very swift flowing.) Crossed via crude bridge at 0925. Climbed to North-east through moss forest. 0955 descended - heading east then south of east. Reached the WOPR River 1025 - 4800'. Followed upstream until 1035 when line reached a garden house - OGULUP - on the southern bank. Number of people waiting with food for sale. All agreed to accompany patrol to DIN River. State BUSILMIN Villages quite close. Continued on up WOPR 1045. Heading South-east and walking alternately in river and on the bank. 1145 hours at 5275 feet asl. Passing through secondary growth. 1220 river very shallow. 1245 passed large bush shelter. Left stream at 1350 and climbed to the North-east - reaching the top of range at 1416 hrs - 6800'.

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Wednesday 8th May 1957. cont.

Descended over fair track - unable to get view of DIN Valley due cloud. Bush shelter reached at 1440 - would have camped but no water nearby - forced to go on. Moved on at 1450 to reach the ATELEEM River and follow down stream. Reached its junction with the TIKISKAN - crossed and followed the latter downstream until 1530hrs when camp was made on the first available flat area. Altitude 5375 feet above sea level.

Radio contact maintained TELEPOLMIN. Rice issued. Guard posted. Fine but cold night.

Time on track. 8 hrs 25 min.

Walking time. 6 hrs 50 mins.

Thursday 9th May 1957.

Off at 0710 after sleepless night due to extreme cold. Skirted along and down to the TIKISKAN - crossed at 0730 and followed downstream. 0750 reached junction of TIKISKAN and the TIGILI. Began following the TIGILI downstream. 0815 hrs - 4750^{ft} met 6 BUSILMIN natives carrying cooked food for the patrol. Very friendly sitting with patrol personnel until food was eaten then cheerfully accompanied the line. Moved on at 0840 - continued downstream. 0910 out of river and into a garden. Many large gardens and areas of secondary growth visible. Crossed a large stream and climbed to OKMUSOLDUM Hamlet (4 houses) arrived 0950 hours. Several Police and Carriers ill but no suitable site for camp so moved on. Dropped to the DIN and crossed over an elaborate but old bridge - 1005, 4350^{ft}asl. Steep ascent thru thick secondary growth to TINTEMBIL Hamlet (3 Houses) - on to edge of sweet potato garden and camped 1030 - 4700'. Old camp site of P.O. West nearby.

During the afternoon and early part of the evening, approximately 45 males visited camp with food - many of them made two or three trips. Large quantity of food purchased - pleasant change. All very friendly - some uncertainty of patrol but general atmosphere far more satisfying than in other areas. Extensive areas of secondary growth and gardens on both sides of DIN and along its tributaries. Quite a number of scattered houses. Sick parade - number of carriers and police treated. Mainly minor complaints. Radio contact maintained TELEPOLMIN - advised that patrol will remain in BUSILMIN area tomorrow. Native foods issued. Guard posted.

Time on track. 3 hrs 20 min.

Walking time. 2 hrs 55 mins.

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Friday 10th May 1957.

Remained in camp. Mr. Conroy working on the battery charger. Approximately 70 males visited the camp bringing an enormous amount of food. Pig bought and shot. Again many men making two and three trips to camp with food, whether they were bringing food belonging their more timid tribesfolk, or whether they were merely keen to obtain trade, is not known. Some of the people were asked to accompany the patrol to TELEFOLMIN - four men readily indicated their willingness. A youth named BANUWUENG became particularly enthusiastic, he attached himself to some of the police and slept in the camp.

The visitors were all intensely interested in Mr. Conroy's wireless. Groups would stand and stare and listen. A demonstration, during which the wireless's inability to receive when the aerial was disconnected, found a large audience. Thereafter the people named the aerial "WENG SOK", which translated literally means "TALK ROPE". It became quite common, as new arrivals came to the camp, for the initiated to stand up and describe the functions of the "WENG SOK."

Radio contact maintained TELEFOLMIN. Sick parade, treatment given. Liberal issue of native food made. Guard maintained. Fine cold night.

Saturday 11th May 1957.

Remained in camp. Mr. Conroy, with police and guides, out on survey of headwaters of the DIN River and the country to the South. Talks with people - more conflicting reports about the KOFELMIN. Advised that they are not ATBALMINS, quite a large group, friendly, often visit this area, live along the SUMOL and IP Rivers. The feud between the BUSILMINS and the TIPALMINS still exists - apparently no planned raiding. All were advised that fighting must cease, the consequences of failing to heed this warning were explained. WOKIEMIN Tribe are friendly with these people - small knives, possibly traded from stations in N.N.G., are purchased from them.

Mr. Conroy returned during the afternoon - no population near headwaters of the DIN. A sheer wall of mountains in excess of 11,000' (estimated) stands behind the small hills South of the camp. Several villages on these hills were visited. Headwaters of DIN bearing 195 degrees magnetic; headwaters of the NIOL bearing 328 degrees; mountain range across the SEPIK (THURNWALD RANGE?) bearing in an arc 19 to 37 degrees, one of the prominent peaks in this range, KAMIAGAN, bearing 34 degrees. Guides advised of the existence of three villages North West of camp along the road to the NIOL.

Discussions on road for return trip to TELEFOLMIN - advised of good road that runs between the tracks used by Messrs West and Doolan - guides obtained. Apart from BANUWUENG the volunteers to come and visit the station have disappeared. Radio contact maintained TELEFOLMIN. Native food issued. Guard maintained. Another fine but freezing night.

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Sunday 12th May 1957.

Off at 0655 heading North East through secondary growth and gardens. 0745 reached a deserted two house hamlet - impressive view of the STAR MOUNTAINS, bearing 248 and 252 degrees to two of the more prominent peaks. Climbed to East before following a small stream, then another ascent into light moss forest. At 0845 reached 59508 began descending. 0915 moving through secondary growth, passed several houses, crossed the TITAGEIOR River and reached bush house at 0930, 5400'. Spelled. Extensive old and new gardens along river flats to East, eight houses visible - guides advise belonging to AMTANMINS. 1000 moved on passing old camp of P.O. West soon afterwards. Negotiated a maze of logs through gardens. 1040 guides advised they wished to return - said track well defined, long discussion resulted in guides finally agreeing, somewhat grudgingly, to continue on. Moved on at 1115 through more secondary growth and gardens. 1135 reached and crossed the NONG River by crude bridge 5300'. Followed upstream until 1250. 5800'. Skirted away from river, passed a bush shelter after scrambling over a tangled mass of fallen trees, heading South East. Constable LILLI now suffering from bad attack of cramps, moved to flat ground and camped 1325, 6000'.

Three AMTANMINS arrived with a small amount of food during the late afternoon. Talks with guides - all seem quite content to lead patrol to CASUARINA CREEK (IGUM). Radio contact maintained TELEFOLMIN. Rice issued. Guard posted. Rain during night.

Time on track. 6 hrs 30 mins.Walking Time. 5 hrs 25 mins.Monday 13th May 1957.

Off at 0725 after arranging for Constable LILLI to be carried, still suffering from muscular cramps. Followed general direction of the NONG River. 0745 reached the junction of two small streams, crossed heading South East, climbing steadily. At 0830, 6400' a high chain of mountains visible to the South South West. Reached bush shelter at 0905, 6475'. Dropped to stream, arrived 0920, 6375' - followed upstream. Line moving very slowly, terrain not particularly rough but not suited for stretcher carrying. Swung away from stream, climbed a steep, slippery bank heading South. Into a flat area at 0955, a steep, slippery bank heading South. Crossed a deep gully before climbing 6550' - heavy moss forest. 1025 still climbing, 6850'. To East South East along spur. 1055 still climbing, 7250'. On at 1130 Egan skirting 1055, 7150'. Spelled at 1110, 7250'. 1266 climbed to dropping steeply to stream, followed upstream. Reached top of range at 1255, 7750' - basinlike depression below. Traversed a series of small ups and downs before crossing a maze of moss covered logs, then across a series of gullies. Basin surrounded by large mountains - guides pointed out the track as crossing a saddle to the East. Passed road to WOKEIMIN at 1415, moved on up the basin floor - rain threatening. 1430 decided to camp, guides advise no water between this area and the other side of saddle. Camped 7825'.

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Monday 13th May 1957.cont.

Radio contact maintained - requested extra rations rice meat sugar be sent to meet patrol at SEPIK bridge. To wait for patrol from 18th. Lili a little better during evening. Number of police and carriers suffering from knee trouble. Rice issued. Guides seem quite happy. Another cold night - not much sleep.

Time on track 7 hrs 5 mins.

Walking time. 6 hrs 45 min.

Tuesday 14th May 1957.

Off at 0700 - Lili walking. Heading East across basin floor - very swampy. 0720 hrs climbing towards saddle. 0745 - 8175'asl top of saddle near Mt ULIM. Gradual descent - passed headwaters of the ULIM River at 0805. Large mountains visible to East-South-East. Reported to be hunting area of the ALIMIN Sub-Tribe. 0830 descending steeply then into a flat swampy stretch at 0900hrs - 6900feet - good going. 0920 hours entered ANUNGKIM and BITEMIN land - boundary near bush shelter. 0930 Reached the ULIM river - 6700'asl - track still good. 0945 crossed the ULIM at 65000 now heading east. 1015 hrs began following the ILELEM River before crossing near its junction with the TIBUNG at 1030 - 6275'asl. Spelled. Off again at 1055 crossed the TIBUNG heading North-East. Track still O.K. On through swampy bush. Collapsed bush shelter reached 1155 hrs. 1245 hrs following the general direction of the ILELEM. 1250 dropped sharply to the BOGUM - crossed at 1305 - 5200'asl. Continued descending to the North-East. Crossed four small streams to climb until 1400 hrs 5400 feet asl. House and garden visible on opposite side of ILELEM. 1410 skirting descent - 1440 crossed first of three small streams skirted on until 1450 hrs when guides advised there was no water between here and CASUARINA Creek - some distance away. Moved to flat ground and camped 1500 hrs - altitude 5350 feet above sea level.

Radio contact maintained TELEFOLMIN. Rice issued. Const Lili now alright. Some rain during night. Guard maintained.

Time on track. 8 hours.

Walking time. 7 hrs 30 min.

Wednesday 15th May 1957.

Moved off at 0700 - heading North-East. Track overgrown. 0740 dropping towards CASUARINA Creek. 0800 hrs guides unsure of road - finally back onto track - now descending sharply along a poor track. Reached CASUARINA Creek (IGUM) 0905 - 3725'asl. River in flood. Good work by police - bridge erected and line across by 1010. Clambered up sheer wall of loose shale before skirting into bush to reach a 2 house hamlet BAWALAVIP at 1020 - altitude 4050'asl. Noted fighting house 15 - 20 feet off ground - built around tree trunk. Hamlet near junction of BINOP and IGUM. Two men present - quite friendly offered to guide patrol to the FIAMUK area. One of the carriers who had complained of a swelling in the groin during the

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Wednesday 15th May 1957.cont.

morning now in state of collapse - temperature 105.4 - considered unwise to move him. Camped near hamlet 1110.

During afternoon 15 people including four women arrived with food. Talks on MIANMIN - instructed must be no retaliation for offences committed by the MIANMIN during previous years. Carriers lined - medical treatments given. Guides obtained for tomorrow. Radio contact maintained TELEFOLMIN. Asked to ensure food is on the SEPIK by the 14th. Today's curtailed walk could result in the patrol exhausting its food stocks. 11 Symptoms of carrier's sickness given and treatment prescribed. Rice and native food issued. Guard posted.

Time on track 4 hrs 10 mins.

Walking time. 2 hrs 15 mins.

Thursday 16th May 1957.

Off at 0655 heading East - accompanied by three guides. Sick carrier much improved - temperature normal - and walking. Skirted along side of DINOP Valley. 0740 passed a small foul smelling swamp - 4300'asl. 0800 reached a one house settlement at 4200'. Four women and seven children present. quite unconcerned about patrol. Steep descent through Sweet potato garden to NININ River - crossed at 0815 hrs - 3800'asl. Sharp pull over loose stone and earth heading South-East. 0840 hours reached hamlet reported as FIAMUK. Several carriers exhausted. Rested until 0905. From vantage point in hamlet could see across to where women had been standing. Shortly after patrol reached FIAMUK, BANUWUENG the youth who had been keen to accompany the line back to the station but who had refused to come any further this morning, was observed in company - following the patrol - presumably coming to see the women. 0905 moved on. 0935 guides wish to return - much talk before one agreed to continue with the patrol. 0945 climbing gradually, 1020 hours 4750' steep descent to stream. 1030 guide ran away - failed to answer when called. As he was armed no effort made to follow. 1100 crossed another stream reaching the DINOP River at 1115 hrs altitude 4650'. Spelled until 1140 hours then began to climb to the South-east. 1205 passed a bush shelter - 5250' swung to move East-South-East. 1310 - 6200'asl traversed a small gully. Continued on to reach 6750' - the top of the range at 1345 hours. Followed the crest along - moving through moss forest towards the south. 1400 hrs began descending along spur - East-South-East. DAGIAM River reached at 1435 hrs altitude 5700'asl. Limestone everywhere. Nightmare mountains to the south and south-west. Sheer limestone faces - bare except for tufty patches of grass. Followed downstream. 1445 camp sought. Finally moved to a site on the banks of the DAGIAM ten minutes further down. Altitude 5400' above sea level.

Radio contact maintained with TELEFOLMIN 1700 hours. E.T.A. SEPIK uncertain due to guide running away. Rice issued. Guard maintained.

Time on track. 8 hours 20 mins.

Walking time. 7 hours.

Friday 17th May 1952.

Broke camp at 0655 following DAGIAM downstream. Raining. 0800 hours, 4500'asl bush shelter observed on ridge above right bank. 0815 hrs climbed out of river bed to follow a narrow ledge before dropping back to the river. Rain heavier. Moving away from river - track overgrown to such an extent that the leading party wandered off it on several occasions. Crossed flat swampy stretch - moving towards the South-East. Dropped to cross two small streams before climbing steeply to the East. Skirted top of spur until one house settlement reached at 0940 - 4400'asl - deserted. P.O. Doolan and A/A.D.O. Clifton Bassett had previously camped nearby. Began descent through extensive secondary growth, having to cut track, moving down to the BLEMTEM River and its junction with another smaller stream. Directly opposite was a bare earth and slate wall that crumbled before the patrol's eyes. Progress slow - cold breeze blowing cutting soaked and shivering personnel in two. 1035 hours a large section of the wall opposite crashed into the river. Carriers very wary. Moved on to the bank of the BLEMTEM to the accompaniment of more rock falls. River swollen by cloudburst changed to a maelstrom of slate and stone. Flow carried boulders of half a cubic yard and more along, as if they were made of papier mache. No possibility of fording. Moved away from river to camp in the bush at 1050 - 4050'asl. Rain eased somewhat. Large fires built and patrol personnel thawed out by issue of tea and sugar.

Party despatched to find suitable track for tomorrow. Rain ceased during early afternoon. More large falls of earth rock and slate. Radio contact maintained 1700 hours. 1730 road party return with a local who willingly offered to show road to patrol. Possibility patrol may reach previous camp near SEPIK Bridge tomorrow. Rice issued. Guard maintained. More rock falls during night. Most disconcerting sort of camp.

Time on track. 3 hours 55 mins. Walking time. 3 hours 55 min.

Saturday 18th May 1952.

Broke camp 0710 - raining lightly but soon ceased. Crossed BLEMTEM and skirted cautiously across the face of yesterday's rock falls. Heading North-East - cutting a track until the road found by yesterday's party was reached. Sided across a slate slope - ideal walking. Commenced descent to the East-South-East. Crossed a stream at 0840 hours following bank then moved up a small tributary until 0850 hrs. Began climbing to East - crossed low range 0940, 5000'asl. 0950 started to descend - reached stream at 1010 - 4450'. Thence traversed several small gullies and a garden at 1035. 1055 followed a stream - then a sharp climb before descending steeply to the IUGUP River. Crossed and negotiated a log road to IORGOBEL Village - two houses - reached at 1125 - 3700'. Number of people including women and children present (of ATEMKISMIN Sub-tribe) - all very friendly a pleasant change from most of the Outer ATEBALMIN. New guide obtained 1140 moved off crossing the ISAM River before skirting side of valley. Commenced long

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Saturday 18th May 1957.

climb - reached saddle at 1245, 4600'. Guide advised patrol had the choice of two roads; one via the FAGARA River gardening area, the other, now overgrown, followed crest of spur. The latter chosen - moved on cutting track. Steady descent though road barely discernible in parts. Passed through a deserted hamlet at 1405, 3800' - guide said that the recent MIANMIN raids in October and December of last year, had caused the abandonment of this village. Descent quite steep from 1430, reaching SEPIK camp at 1505, 1600'. Party from station waiting. Camped.

Small party of ATEMKISMINS visited the camp with food. Discussions about MIANMINS, and future relations with them held. Radio contact maintained - advised ETA TELEFOLMIN 20th. Rice and native food issued. Light guard posted.

Time on track. 7 hrs 55 mins.

Walking time. 7 hrs 15 mins.

Sunday 19th May 1957.

Broke camp at 0655, crossed SEPIK by bridge and climbed to spelling place used by patrol on its outward trip, arrived 0750, 2800'. Spelled. On at 0805 returned to the next spelling place, arrived at 0910, 3800'. Spelled. Moved on at 0925 steady climb until old camp site above IUATIGIN reached at 1125, 5400'. Camped. Party of IUATIGIN and INANTIGIN natives arrived with food during early afternoon. Patrol personnel preparing for arrival at station, all busy washing clothes etc. Radio contact maintained - confirmed that patrol would arrive TELEFOLMIN to-morrow. Rice and native food issued. Light guard posted.

Time on track. 4 hrs 30 mins.

Walking time. 4 hours.

Monday 20th May 1957.

Departed camp 0640 - early start as Mr. Booth's bed sail broke in the small hours of the morning. Climbed - traversing small rockslide 0710. Climbed to lookout spot, arrived 0905. Through the initial camp of this patrol to OFEKAMIN, arrived 1045. Spelled. On at 1100 - out of forest and into grassy TELEFOLMIN Valley. Reached Station at 1245.

Time on track. 6 hrs 5 mins.

Walking Time. 5 hrs 35 mins.

---End of Diary---

NATIVE SITUATION

Despite the limited nature of the contact with the ATBALMIN people, the welcome accorded this patrol was most disappointing.

With the apprehension of 25 MIANMINS for participation in the massacre of 16 ATBALMINS it was thought that the people might greet this patrol with open arms, accepting the Government as a protector and a friend, but such was not the case. The patrol was met by an apathetic, listless people, who showed many obvious signs of fear and suspicion. This attitude could be understood when adopted by the ATBALMINS West of the NIOL River, they having merely heard of the Government, and had, except in a few cases, not seen Europeans previously; but the contacted peoples of the DAGIAM, NONG and DIN Rivers were expected to meet the patrol with some confidence. Every move by the patrol was viewed with distrust, attempts to draw the people into conversation were only partly successful, and efforts to discuss any specific topic at length were useless. All the endeavours by the patrol to put the people at ease by word and action failed. Small gifts presented to some of the leading personalities were accepted with no show of emotion. The ATEMKISMIN group, which bore the brunt of the raid of the 3rd December, 1956, alone welcomed the patrol with few reservations.

It became apparent that the ATBALMINS construed the Government's actions against the MIANMINS as something to be regarded with the gravest suspicion. Finally one man belonging to the KALOGGLIMIN group let his spirit overcome his fear, when he stated that he and his people thought that the patrol had come to a arrest and take them to TELEPOLMIN. This statement gives some indication of the complicated thought processes of the people.

Clearly the ATBALMINS failed to realise that the Government's friendship towards one ATBALMIN Sub-Tribe, the ATEMKISMIN, was an indication of friendship to all the ATBALMIN Sub-Tribes. The people recognized themselves primarily as members of their respective sub-tribes, and NOT as members of the ATBALMIN Tribe. The close ties which bound the people to their sub-tribes made the work of this patrol all the harder, as each and every sub-tribe had to be treated as a separate entity, and not as just a part of the ATBALMIN Tribe.

The looseness of the ATBALMIN Tribal structure is attributed to the lack of widespread aggression by really strong enemies. This does not detract from the many MIANMIN raids, certainly the successful attacks upon the ATBALMIN villages along the DAGIAM River have resulted in a number of deaths over a period of years, but it is thought, that the MIANMINS occupied by campaigns to the North against the WANIFOMIN, YANFAMIN and KUNAWAWAITUN, and to the South against the ELIPTAMIN, have never had time to fully devote their warlike energies and capacity for killing upon the ATBALMIN. Several of the ATBALMIN Sub-Tribes advised that they had no enemies, and had never indulged in inter-tribal fighting. It would seem that the MIANMIN, and to a lesser degree the TIFALMIN, merely touched the fringe of the ATBALMIN Tribal area. Consequently it has never been necessary for the people to submerge their sub-tribal identities and unite as the ATBALMIN Tribe.

*Not understood
at 8 years
new ideas*

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NATIVE SITUATION. contd.

The ATBALMIN Tribe provides an interesting comparison with the MIANMINS. The latter tribe is composed of a number of distinctive sub-tribes, but the people mix more freely, and they have learned, possibly through necessity, that unity is strength, the many sub-tribes readily forming into a single unit in times of trouble.

The patrol was hampered by the lies and half-truths told by the people. Initially the patrol accepted advice and information received as being correct, but it soon became obvious that, to avoid being badly misled, the patrol had to discard everything the people said until visual substantiation could be obtained. Any patrol would have been hampered by the number of blatant lies told; in trying to locate a specific area this patrol was handicapped greatly. It is realised that many primitive native societies place little importance in the truth. Whether lying is one of the natural traits of the ATBALMIN character, or whether there was a desire to wilfully mislead the patrol is not known. Perhaps it was a little of both.

As far as could be ascertained the ATBALMIN Tribe is composed of the following sub-tribes;

<u>NAME.</u>	<u>LOCATION.</u>	<u>REMARKS.</u>
WIMURAPMIN	Near the SEPIK River along MOSSY RIDGE, also have gardens near the DIN-NONG junction.	Often raided by the MIANMINS during pre-Govt. times, no raids in recent years.
SUBIANMIN	Along North bank of NONG River near junction with DIN.	Advise no enemies. ?
KALDAGAMIN	Along DIN and NONG Rivers near junction.	" " " ?
AMTANMIN	Between the YAK and NONG Rivers, also near the ILELEM River.	Many conflicting reports received. Group apparently in two parts. Iilelem group raided by MIANMINS years ago. ✓
UPOKMIN	Between the NIOL and YAK Rivers, and along the DIN to the North.	Again many conflicting reports, apparently no enemies. ✓
KALOGGLIMIN	Along the BILKA River near the SEPIK.	Enemies of MIANMINS, reported no raiding. ✓
BAKDAKMIN IMDELMIN IAMDAISINA	Along the right tributary of the HOPE-HOFFNUNGS River.	Apparently one group with three names. Many vague, conflicting reports. Enemies of MIANMINS. ✓

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NATIVE SITUATION. contd.

<u>NAME.</u>	<u>LOCATION.</u>	<u>REMARKS.</u>
KOBRIENMIN	Along the YAK and TAGNIP Rivers.	More vague, conflicting reports. Advise no enemies.
IPUGINMIN	Along West bank of the AL or right tributary of the HOPE-HOFFNUNGS River.	Area not visited by patrol, people reported to be very friendly with the KOFELMIN.
TEKOMBIAKMIN	Along headwaters of the YAK River.	Area not visited by patrol.
BUSILMIN	Along headwaters of the DIN River.	Enemies of the TIFALMINS.
ALIMIN	Along headwaters of HOPE-HOFFNUNGS River, also near CASUARINA Creek.	Group in two parts, Possible enemies of MIANMINS.
ANUNGKRIMIN	Along CASUARINA Creek and DINOP River.	Often raided by MIANMINS during pre-Govt. times, no recent raids.
ATEMKISMIN	Along the FAGARA River.	Massacred by MIANMINS in Dec. 1956.

The information listed above is only brief, and will quite possibly be proved incorrect as patrols obtain better contact with the ATBALMINS. The patrol was unable to place much reliance upon information gained from the people and may, in the endeavour to sift fact from fantasy, discarded some accurate reports as being incorrect.

As far as could be ascertained several of the ATBALMIN Sub-Tribes consider themselves enemies of the MIANMINS. The WIMURAFMINS said that they had not been raided for many years. The groups along the ILELEM and ILUGIM (CASUARINA Creek) Rivers reported likewise. The KALOGLIMIN and BAKBAKMIN groups regard the MIANMINS as a traditional enemy. They claimed that they did not raid one another, but merely fought should they chance to meet. This can be taken that a small party is open to massacre if encountered by a stronger party. The KALOGLIMINS also were reported to fight intermittently with a group known as the BATOMINS, but at present both groups were friendly.

An interesting point was learnt concerning the BUSILMIN Sub-Tribes feud with the TIFALMINS. The BUSILMINS said that enmity still existed though there was no raiding by either party. The BUSILMINS and TIFALMINS have a mutual friendship with the WOKEIMIN (WOPTIMIN) Tribe. Should BUSILMIN and TIFALMIN parties meet at WOKEIMIN, they do not fight; it can be imagined

NATIVE SITUATION. contd.

from this statement that the smaller of the two parties would have to be very careful when returning home. The patrol instructed the BUSILMINS that there must be no further killings, and the consequences if this warning was not heeded. In June, 1956 a patrol warned the TIFALMINS similarly.

The patrol gave instructions, where practicable, that inter-tribal fighting, especially against the MIANMINS, must cease. These warnings were received with little emotion. In the initially contacted areas the patrol was satisfied to establish good relations. The premature introduction of the fundamental concepts of law and order to people as unsure as the ATBALMINS can result in trouble. The ground has been prepared for the next patrol to obtain better contact. Whenever possible the patrol purchased pigs, and shot them before gatherings of the people. At these ceremonies the ATBALMINS discarded their nervous unreason and became merely people seeing something which was utterly beyond their comprehension. All agreed by voice and action that the rifle was a fearsome weapon.

The patrol received varying reports about the existence of two new tribal groups - BATOMIN and KOPELMIN. After having been told many contradictory stories, it was finally deduced that the BATOMINS live along the banks of the SEPIK, North of the mouth of the HOPE-HOFFNUNGS River. They are reportedly a small group, speaking a different language or dialect to the ATBALMINS. It was advised that they have occasionally fought against the ATBALMINS, but are at present friends.

The KOPELMIN is a mystery group. In endeavouring to locate the population group sighted by the air survey, the patrol described the nature of the terrain seen. Some of the ATBALMINS said that the KOPELMIN was similar. Later reports refuted this statement, and amongst the conflicting stories received were:

1. The KOPELMINS were ATBALMINS.
2. The " " not ATBALMINS.
3. The " " enemies.
4. The " " friends.
5. The " spoke a language that the ATBALMINS could not understand.

6. The KOPELMINS lived in an inaccessible area. At BUSILMIN when the patrol attempted to question a man indicated to be a visiting KOPELMIN, he ran away. It does seem that the KOPELMINS are a distinct tribe, situated near the HOPE-HOFFNUNGS and SUMOL Rivers South of the AL and HOPE-HOFFNUNGS junction. They are, if the above location is correct, in NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA.

It was intended to visit both these groups, but the cancellation of the patrol's projected GREEN RIVER trip ruled out the BATOMINS; and subsequently, the uncertainty of the exact location of the KOPELMINS, coupled with the patrol's food position, forced the abandonment of this trip also.

The WOKELIMIN(WOPTIMIN) Tribe is reported friendly with both the BUSILMINS and the TIFALMINS, this confirms advice received by patrols to TIFALMIN. In June, 1952 Mr. NOLEN, Patrol Report TEL 4/51-52 refers, visited this area, but was unable to make contact with the people. The WOKELIMINS live West and South

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NATIVE SITUATION. contd.

West of MOUNT AIYANG, behind the Eastern end of the STAR MOUNTAINS. It is understood that the WOKEIMIN Tribal area extends deep into PAPUA. The BUSILMINS regard the WOKEIMINS as being a large group, much larger than the TIPALMIN, which has an enumerated population of nearly 500.

The patrol searched unsuccessfully for the group noted by the air survey. The BUSILMIN area, with its open-budded rivers and extensive clearings of secondary growth and gardens, approximated the area seen, but it is considered that the group should have been further West.. The patrol was most disappointed by this failure, no excuse can be offered, except the shortage of food forced the curtailment of a more extensive search. The ATBALMINS were of little assistance in this search, their statements confused rather than helped.

It is difficult to establish where this population group are. The patrol moved through the centre of the ATBALMIN area, turned North to the SEPIK, then moved West before proceeding South along the NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA BORDER to the foothills of the STAR MOUNTAINS, then turned East for the return trip to TELEFOLMIN. By following the patrol's route upon the attached map it is seen that an area between the NIOL and YAK Rivers was missed. The TEKOMBIAMINS are said to occupy the headwaters of the YAK, the upper NIOL is reported to be unpopulated. This area was the only sizeable section of the entire ATBALMIN area to be missed. It is possible that the patrol unwittingly moved through the area in question. If this is so, and it seems unlikely, then the population cannot be extensive as the air survey indicated.

LAW AND JUSTICE.

The recent MIANMIN trials have brought law and order to the threshold of the ATBALMIN people. As yet the majority of the people have no understanding of the Government. Only by the painstaking work of future patrols will the ATBALMINS learn of the concepts of law and order, and their practical application.

LANGUAGE AND INTERPRETATION.

The ATBALMINS speak yet another dialect of the TELEFOLMIN language. Within the Sub-District there are the following dialects: ATBALMIN, MIANMIN, URAPMIN, TIPALMIN, OKSAPMIN and TELEFOLMIN, which includes FERAMIN and ELITAMIN. To the South across the PAPUAN BORDER the people speak many more dialects of the same language.

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LANGUAGE AND INTERPRETATION. contd.

The ATBALMIN dialect is understood by both the URAPMINS and the TIFALMINS, but not by the TELEFOLMINS. The patrol employed two URAPMINS, AMBOKASEP and KWEGSEP, as interpreters. They worked quite diligently but lacked the finesse of trained interpreters, being unable to correctly interpret the feelings of the EUROPEAN Officers by the use of tone and expression. Both these men accompanied the ENTERPRISE OIL SURVEY PARTY in 1955, which would have made them invaluable had the patrol moved overland to GREEN RIVER.

It was particularly ~~that~~ noticeable that the interpreters and the other TELEFOLMIN natives failed to pronounce the word ATBALMIN correctly. The TELEFOLMINS consistently pronounce the word as it is written, the ATBALMINS themselves do not. They say what sounds like a mixture of ATSBALMIN and ASBALMIN, never ATBALMIN. The nearest correct spelling would be the latter...ASBALMIN. As the word ATBALMIN is now in common usage the spelling has not been altered in this report.

CARRIERS.

The patrol employed 103 carriers made up as follows:-

TELEFOLMIN	23
URAPMIN	32
FERAMIN	44
TIFALMIN	4

Taking into consideration the rigorous walking conditions, occasional poor food supplies and dangerous tracks, it can only be said that the carriers did good work. The general good impression was however spoilt by the large number of slackers.

The TELEFOLMINS, with their longer contact, outshone the others in carrying ability, commonsense, and were noticeable in their work when camp was being made.

At the other end of the measure were the FERAMINS. Who, with their inability to use their heads, and their continual efforts to avoid work, made extra work for the Constabulary and the European Officers. It was through no fault of their own that their blatant disregard of instructions caused no trouble for the patrol.

The URAPMINS were placed somewhere above the FERAMINS, but fell a long way short of the standard set by the TELEFOLMINS. They were able to converse with the ATBALMINS, and were accepted as distant relatives of nebulous origin by the inhabitants. Four men from this line deserted half way through the patrol and are now in the process of being apprehended to stand before the C.N.A.

*More had work
- Long contact*

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CARRIERS. contd.

found
Mention must be made of the four TIFALMINS. They offered their services when they heard of the intended trip; and though, over the 41 days of the patrol, they took but a passive part, they were able to witness the Government in action. The confidence and knowledge that they have so gained will be far more valuable than innumerable visits to their area.

Fortunately sickness did not seriously trouble the carriers. On one occasion the FERAMIN Headman, he had been recruited to control his line but was useless at that task, had to be carried. Reporting sick, he requested permission to return home. His request was naturally refused, and after he had been carried for a short distance over up and down grades, he surprisingly recovered. Subsequently it was learnt that his sickness stemmed from the exaggerated reports of the rough terrain ahead, which had been related to him by ATBALMIN visitors to the camp.

Rations had to be supplemented at times with sago. Though these people are not normally sago eaters, they were in no way discomforted by this change of diet.

Unlike the ATBALMINS visited, the carriers are non-swimmers. At all times great care had to be taken when crossing water. This is one reason why surplus carriers were not returned to the Station in the early stages of the patrol. Between these camps and the Station lay at least four large rivers that could have been dangerous to life.

By me
It is stressed that the above is not intended to give the impression that many of the carriers were unsatisfactory. True, some were not satisfactory; but it must be remembered that the patrol could have achieved little, but for the work of these men as a body. Quite often too little praise is given the men who make exploratory patrols of this nature possible.

MISSIONS AND EDUCATION.

There is no Mission activity in the area, and there appears little likelihood of any starting for some considerable time.

Until recently several ATBALMIN youths from the SIK River group attended the Station School. They expressed the desire to attend, and were consequently enrolled. After a period of some months they returned to their villages; an effort is being made to have them come back. When the ATBALMINS from the outer areas eventually visit the Station an attempt will be made, should there be any youths of suitable age, to have some of them stay on and attend school.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK.

From information gained and from personal observations it appears that these people carry out a system of localized, shifting agriculture, using hillslope and river flat areas until they are incapable of further production, then moving to another suitable forested area, which is cleared, fenced and planted.

Though the total area involved carries quite a considerable population, from the Administration's point of view, its density is such that this form of subsistence croppage may and will be pursued, for years to come, without fear of exhausting the land available. Everywhere the patrol went, areas under various stages of secondary growth, were seen.

Population estimates, based on garden areas, seen either from the air or from a distance, were therefore unreliable, the new growth giving an understandable but nevertheless false idea of the amount of land under cultivation.

The people depend on sweet potato as their staple, this is closely followed by taro. On occasion good sweet potato specimens were seen. The normal tuber was however not comparable to the average seen in the Highlands. To support a family group therefore the area under cultivation would of necessity be larger than in the abovementioned areas.

Sweet potato is not planted in mounds, the runner merely placed in the turned, friable soil; while the taro sticks are planted either separately in small patches, or around the edges of those areas devoted to the production of the staple crop. Other items planted are - sugarcane, pitpit, a variety of native cabbage, cucumbers, tobacco, bananas - both cooking and other, and ginger. The people to the East (near the Station) have traded pumpkin seeds from their confreres. Incidentally, whenever a pumpkin was sold to the patrol, it had always previously been split and the seeds removed. Most of the gardens in the area are fenced as a protection against wild pigs.

Gathering plays a part in these peoples' existence, involving fungus, wild honey, pandanus nuts and breadfruit for the main. Though both of the latter grow wild, it is thought that they have nominal owners.

The only domestic animals seen, were pigs, dogs and an occasional bird - cassowary or cockatoo. Nothing much can be said of the pigs, they are of a short snouted, poor type, the average full grown weighing in the vicinity of 150 lbs. Post Mortems of the pigs purchased by the patrol revealed worm infestation and what could possibly have been a liver complaint.

Game is abundant, more especially along the banks of the SEPIK River. Hunting makes wild pigs, lizards, snakes, frogs, crocodiles, fish (the two latter items being available for those people who live within a day or two from the SEPIK River), and birds, including the gaura pigeon, are available to the people.

*Every 10 days
of which average
have land to till
in this country.*

*different
cultures*

*Hand being
cond. time*

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK. contd.

Sago is not natural to the area, but it has been obtained from the lower areas along the SEPIK to the West, and planted in suitable spots. The palms were normally seen in stands of four or five in number. Occasionally small amounts were purchased, but this item, though causing no surprise when seen, could not be called common. The patrol stumbled across a sago factory whilst in the KALOGGLIMIN area, altitude 2000' - 2500' above sea level, the method of processing was very crude when compared with the coastal areas. Sago would seem to play a more important part in the diet of the KALOGGLIMINS than elsewhere in the ATBAIMIN area. Another interesting point, the sago is planted on hillsides, usually in swampy hollows, not along the river flats which would be more logical.

The OUTER ATBAIMIN's diet is estimated to be better than that of the average primitive, no cases of malnutrition were seen. The people have a much greater variety of foods available than have the other TELEFOLMIN peoples.

TRACKS AND TERRAIN.

If the country to the West between the PAPUAN BORDER and the SEPIK River has a grain, it must run from the STAR MOUNTAINS. A general picture of the area would be the towering STARS to the South overshadowing the hills that run apparently without rhyme or reason in almost all directions. The STAR MOUNTAINS, bleak in their upper extremities with grey unscalable faces, scarred by recent landslides, which stand out white and unweathered, contrast with the 'lesser' hills, all of which are covered with thick, virgin forest, secondary growth or gardens, giving a patchwork effect in places, green contrasting with green and the mellow brown of newly turned garden.

These hillsides, though not comparing with the STAR MOUNTAINS, are steep in their own right, dropping into narrow, gorgelike river beds that constrict the water, turning what could be a pleasant though ineffectual stream into a power-propelled torrent that could be a danger to life.

The bigger rivers in the area, more especially the DIN, lie in open beds, the valley sides dropping steeply to the water which flows to the SEPIK over rock pavements. These beds are wide, delineated by bordering sand and brown boulder, and standing out to the aerial viewer.

Moving inland toward the STAR MOUNTAINS the going gets harder. Long pulls up into the silent moss forests where carriers shiver despite their activity. Festoons of moss lie everywhere, draped from the underside of all branches, covering tree trunks and roots, hiding pitfalls with a spongy carpet of bush green. To the colour conscious a delightful picture, from which everyone must derive some satisfaction, lessening the

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AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK. ccontd.

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TRACKS AND TERRAIN. contd.

gall of hard walking but not completely erasing it from the consciousness.

Apart from the small section of cleared road between TELEFOLMIN Station and the SEPIK River bridge, the patrol followed native tracks. They were, for the most part, barely discernible, and movement without guides was most difficult. The patrol moved for some days along hunting tracks which followed the general direction of the SEPIK; at times this entailed walking along the river bed, but often, when blocked by steep spurs rising abruptly from the river, forced to scale cliffs and skirt along perilous ledges of soft soil and greasy rock.

The nature of the terrain is such that satisfactory movement, without guides, is almost impossible. From the ground it is difficult to see far, and attempts to move on compass bearings invariably lead into a series of insurmountable obstacles. The diary of this patrol has been fully recorded in order that future patrols will, should the local natives not wish to act as guides, not be compelled to move completely blind. Most of the tracks made great use of river and creek beds. The patrol traversed the extensive areas of secondary growth by walking on logs, the tracks meandering for seeming miles along slippery and rotten logs.

From the sheer walls of the STAR MOUNTAINS numerous small streams form and flow North to join the SEPIK, directly, or by confluence with other rivers. The BRIDGES-BRUCKEN (DIN) is the principal river in the area. It rises in the STAR MOUNTAINS, flows North until it is deflected by MOSSY RIDGE to flow parallel to the SEPIK, and after being joined by the NIOL River it swings North to meet the SEPIK. Previous patrols had considered that the BRIDGES-BRUCKEN was distinct from the DIN. Their maps showed the DIN making its way to the SEPIK East of the BRIDGES-BRUCKEN. It was proved conclusively however that the BRIDGES-BRUCKEN and the DIN are one and the same. There are no major rivers entering the SEPIK between the BRIDGES-BRUCKEN and WATCHTOP. The BILKA was at one time thought to be the BRIDGES-BRUCKEN; the BILKA is however only a small stream, rising in the steep hills adjoining the SEPIK it flows North West to join that river. The other large river in the ATBALMIN area is the AL. It is the principal left bank tributary of the HOPE-HOFFNUNGS (IP) River. The AL rises in the STAR MOUNTAINS, flows North West to join the HOPE-HOFFNUNGS (IP) almost on the NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA BORDER. The HOPE-HOFFNUNGS (IP) then flows on to join the SEPIK in AUSTRALIAN ADMINISTERED NEW GUINEA.

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*Extract to T.C.A.
Cover page*

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POSSIBLE AIRSTRIP SITES.

The establishment of a Patrol Post will provide the most effective means of administering the Outer ATBALMIN. Such a Post would have to be supplied by air; the overland ferrying of essentials can be envisaged in the initial stages, but the protraction of such means of supply, whether the carrier lines came from TELEFOLMIN or GREEN RIVER, would not be practical. The Post's location would therefore be determined, due to the remoteness of the area, by the availability of possible airstrip sites suitable for development to take aircraft to the Norseman class.

This patrol noted three possible locations; one behind MOSSY RIDGE, the second overlooking the NONG River, and the third on the SEPIK itself (Please refer diary and attached map).

The first is a cleared area South of MOSSY RIDGE situated on AMTANMIN land. Lying North West- South East the strip is bordered to the North by the TAGAN River, the rich alluvial soil had been used by the locals as gardens. At the time of the patrol's visit however these gardens were eaten out, and the cleared area apparently in the process of being abandoned. Two thousand feet of strip could be constructed with no real difficulty, depending upon the supervisor's personal ideas regarding the lie of the site. To get extra length it may be necessary to divert the TAGAN River and cut and clear some timber at both ends of the strip site.

This is a potential strip site, but in these Officers' eyes not a good one, surface firmness could be obtained without excessive work and drainage presents little worry but the approaches are definitely poor. Though planes could bring in worthwhile pay loads, back loading would be reduced to a minimum as the aircraft would have to obtain adequate height soon after take-off to clear the spurs that surround the site. Approaches on the North side are poor. Two spurs rising within a mile face each other while the TAGAN River flows between them and into the NONG. Barring the Eastern approaches is a foothill that drops from the general direction of the STAR MOUNTAINS, decreasing in height as it approaches the SEPIK. A spur from MOSSY RIDGE runs out to meet this foothill. Were a plane to attempt a landing from this direction it would have to traverse these obstacles and descend not over steeply to the end of the strip. This would, from the ground observer's vantage point, probably be the better of the two poor approaches. The opinion of an experienced pilot would be needed before it would be wise to proceed with this strip, the view from the air might reveal difficulties not observed from the ground.

The second strip was the best seen. Where the first mentioned had most cramped approaches, this area was quite open, well clear of any hill features that would make the approach tricky. The land form is that of a plateau dropping from where the forested slopes of the mountains level off, and falling gradually to a point 400 feet above the NONG River. The edge of the plateau ends abruptly in a sheer cliff face that plummets to the edge of the river. Two villages involving six houses are near the edge of the cliff face, while inland the

*May mission
2/2/52
Telegraph
Copies in
2/2/52
2/2/52 (12)
2/7/52*

POSSIBLE AIRSTRIP SITES. contd.

plateau is dissected by two small streams. Forested in the latter area the trees thin into secondary growth and old gardens until the villages are reached. The lie of the land makes drainage no problem.

An amount of physical effort would have to be put into the construction; clearing of forest and secondary growth and levelling would be needed, and though this work would take time, it is in no way impractical. The site is in a populated area but little or no help could be expected from the people. Planes would approach through the NONG Valley, coming in over the edge of the cliff and touching down. This would be a one way strip, planes turning and taking off over the NONG.

The third strip site was used as a dropping zone by the patrol and lies upon an island South of the mouth of the HOPE-HOFFNUNGS River. The surface over the entire length (600 plus yards) is a firm alluvial soil on river boulders that have been packed by water pressure to form a base estimated hard enough to take aircraft up to Norseman type. Of the three sites this would be the easiest to construct. The length and breadth were cleared for the patrol's air drop and all that would be required now is levelling. Nothing more could be asked with regard approaches. Bearing this out is the fact that the pilots, during the drop, were making 360 degree turns around the drop zone without climbing more than a couple of hundred feet.

Unfortunately this site lies in no-man's land, being between the populated ATBALMIN, KALOGLIMIN Sub-Tribal area is about 6 hours walk away, and the populated MIANMIN across the Western extremity of the THURNWALD RANGE, here merely a series of small hills. This site should be borne in mind by future patrols as a dropping zone. It would also be suitable as an emergency landing ground.

The area seen during the initial air survey by A.D.O. Neville and the writers may be situated near the headwaters of the YAK and NIOL Rivers. The second possible strip site is within three days walk of this area.

In conclusion it should be mentioned that in the opinion of both these Officers any patrol proceeding into the Outer ATBALMIN with the object of constructing an airstrip and/or Station must expect little or no assistance from the locals. The people would not, in their present stage of enlightenment, take up shovel to build an airstrip, let alone walk two or three days to perform that action. Any physical work would have to be carried out by the carriers that accompany the patrol.

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CENSUS.

The total estimated population for this area between TELEFOLMIN and the NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA BORDER had, prior to this patrol, been 1,000 people. This can now be increased to an estimated maximum of 5,000 people, details of which are given below. In compiling these figures four factors were taken into account: the number of people seen by the patrol in each area; the number of houses; the extent of land cultivation; and lastly, but to no great extent, upon verbal reports.

The people's exploitation of a localised form of shifting agriculture makes population estimation, based on garden area, difficult. Experience proved that over distances this gave a totally wrong impression. Secondary growth and old sweet potato gardens appearing little different from current gardens.

Taking into consideration the fact that the area West of the YAK/NIOL Rivers was initially contacted by this patrol, it will be realised that population estimates by later patrols may be at variance with those given below. The people seen were very timid. Even those people East of this mark were surprisingly unsure of themselves, if their previous contact is borne in mind. Friendly contact was made with all the groups, and the fact that they entered the camp and left at will should increase their confidence, making the work of future patrols easier as far as this section of their work goes.

The ultimate in decentralisation has been achieved by these people, who are scattered far and wide. They have made use of the land available, to the hardship of patrols which wish to ascertain accurately how many of them there are.

Population Estimates - ATRALMIN Tribe.

<u>Sub-Tribe.</u>	<u>Min. Population.</u>	<u>Max. Population.</u>
WIMURAPMIN	150	300
SUBIANMIN	100	250
KALDAGAMIN	250	500
AMTANMIN - NONG Group	180	300
" - ILELEM Group	150	200
UFORMIN	250	550
KALOGILMIN	200	500
BAKDARMIN)		
IAMDALISINA)		
IMDELMIN)	250	500
IPUGINMIN)		
KORRIENMIN	300	500
TEKOMBIARMIN	?	?
BUSILMIN	300	800
ALIMIN	?	300
ANUNGKRIMIN	100	200
ATEMKISMIN	100	200
BATOMIN)		
KOFELMIN)		
	Possibly distinct tribal groups, no figures available.	
Totals	2,330	5,100

*7 miles to the
the by water
of the river*

MEDICAL AND HEALTH.

This area, from the SEPIK Crossing to the NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA BORDER, falls away rapidly, from 6,500 feet above sea level above the SEPIK, a day out of TELEFOLMIN, to 500 feet above sea level near the N.N.G.BORDER, and it could be expected that the accepted tropical complainants would be found - Yaws, Scabies, Tinea Imbricata, Filaria, Tropical Ulcers etc. The MIANMIN, living at about 2,000 - 3,000 feet above sea level, that is higher than the average ATBALMIN, is afflicted by some of the above, and it was therefore thought that the incidence would rise proportionately as the altitude dropped.

The patrol was well equipped to treat most sickness but it was not expected that the ATBALMINS, little contacted as they are, would avail themselves of this facility. It is difficult to draw either a complete or accurate picture of the real situation in the area. Typically the patrol saw for the main only able bodied males. This is of course to be expected, as the visitors to the camp more than half expected that they might have to fight, or at least run for their freedom once their curiosity had been satiated. On the whole the impression gained was surprisingly favourably.

The ATBALMINS seen were good physical specimens, many of the men reaching heights of 5'8" which is tall among a people who would average around 5'4". They are long limbed to the extent of being rangy, and couple a state of dirtiness with an apparent clean bill of health. Doubtless this portion of the TELEFOLMIN Sub-District is no different to the others. There would be the unseen incurable condemned for the rest of his life to the smoky interior of his hut by a stinking ulcer that makes walking impossible; aware or not of medicine he is content to let the status quo remain unchanged. Where ever possible the patrol treated the ailments seen. These consisted of conjunctivitis, injuries that had turned septic, ulcers, boils, colds etc. Treatment was accepted passively - the patients, in all probability, visualising to what use the bandages and plaster could be put, once the Government and its peculiar foibles had moved on.

Especially noticeable, as in the MIANMIN, was the high percentage of people, mainly females, with goitre of an advanced nature. Common too was the sight of middle aged males with hernias of the solarplexus. They seemed in no way incapacitated by these complaints. In the early stages of the patrol no 'grilli'(Tinea Imbricata) was seen, however near the AL River, a tributary of the HOPE-HOFFNUNGS River, several cases were noticed, it seems improbable that this complaint is confined to a small pocket.

The freedom from mosquitoes was surprising, considering the terrain would, if anything, encourage them. The swampy, river hinterlands - water lying in hollows, pools formed as rivers flooded and receded, villages built on pig-churned mud and surrounded by thick vegetation. Though the patrol personnel were equipped with mosquito nets, they were not used except to supplement blankets when the higher altitudes made themselves felt. Indications are that malaria exists in this region, perhaps the patrol was fortunate with the seasons, mosquitoes possibly being plentiful at other times of the year.

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MEDICAL AND HEALTH. contd.

On two occasions movement was held up by the sickness of members of the patrol; apart from this general health was good. Treatments were given for coughs and colds, thought to be caused mainly by the changes in altitude, sores and lacerations, including rubbed shoulders, the occasional symptoms of malaria, boils and abscesses, and morale lifting - general an aspirin.

The first symptoms of a skin complaint that looked as though it might spread throughout the entire line, and incidentally caused these Officers a great deal of trouble, became apparent during one of the sick parades. A carrier, who had been carrying petrol, which had splashed him, became covered in small goosepimplelike spots that later formed a large blister, which in turn dried into a mass of sores. Despite efforts this spread until 10 per cent of the line were being treated. These men were segregated, given daily injections and the sores dressed with zinc cream. Eventually they responded to this treatment, there were no further outbreaks

Constable MATUM collapsed on the track with malaria despite the issue of prophylactics. He recovered two days later. On the return trip a carrier reported one morning complaining of a pain in the scrotum. His left testicle seemed swollen, there were no symptoms of hernia, and his spleen was normal, temperature 105. A days treatment with chloromycetin, 6 capsules then 3 every 6 hours, reduced the temperature and the man said he was all right. On return to the Station this man was admitted to the hospital, where he was detained for observation before being permitted to return to his village.

The patrol was accompanied throughout by Native Medical Orderly HAUARI. Loaned by Mr. B. Goble, Medical Assistant, Telefolmin, he did good work and his services were greatly appreciated. He carried out his duties well despite a bad knee.

TRADE.

It was particularly evident that the people, contacted by previous patrols, tried to strike a harder bargain than those initially contacted West of the NIOL River. Matches, razor blades, mirrors, bangles and beads, the last two items being especially popular, were used throughout for smaller purchases

All steel is very acceptable, there being a general shortage throughout the area. Crude, stone axes of a purely utilitarian nature were in evidence, their bite-like marks on the trunks of trees caused the blase TELEFOLMINS a deal of hilarity. The ATBALMINS make irregular trading expeditions into NETHERLANDS NEW GUINEA, to their compatriots the Inner ATBALMINS, and into PAPUA to see the WOKEMINS. Fine woven net bags, shell (that they receive from the West), tobacco and arrows are used as mediums of barter on these trips. What little steel they do own is traded from the WOKEMINS and the ATBALMIN Sub-Tribes near

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TRADE. contd.

the Station, exorbitant prices being demanded for old knives and tomahawks.

Salt and shell held no attraction for the ATBALMINS. Samples of salt were given, and eventually they will acquire the taste. This will mean that patrols will not have to carry such a diversified range of trade items. The shell 'TAMBU' was not acceptable, the people claiming they received a better line from the West from an unidentified source.

CONCLUSION.

The ATBALMIN people did not greet this patrol as expected, but as it was later realised, the MIANMIN trouble, instead of reassuring them of the Government's intentions, aroused only mistrust and doubt. It is considered that regular patrols are now needed. The period between this patrol and the previous patrol in 1951 was too great. It is not suggested that patrols proceed all the way to the N.N.G. BORDER as on this occasion, but it is thought that the following programme should be considered. Patrols move into the BUSILMIN area via TIFALMIN, travelling time approximately six days, native food would be available during the first three days. From BUSILMIN the patrol could move among the people of the DIN and NONG Valleys, before returning to TELEPOLMIN via the DAGIAM and ILELEM Rivers. As these patrols consolidate the Government's influence, more people will come forward, and more food will be made available, enabling patrols to extend steadily Westwards.

The main problem confronting patrols in the ATBALMIN is food. The solution is in small parties with the ability to move rapidly through the unpopulated areas, such parties would have a greater range, and would be able to spare more time when people were reached. Large, heavily loaded parties, such as this patrol, eat themselves out of food before reaching the population, and consequently, cannot devote the time needed to establish sound and harmonious relations with a primitive people. Certainly the air dropping of food counters this, but the cost is prohibitive, and often the patrol would be required to search for several days to locate a suitable dropping site.

Whilst in the ATBALMIN the patrol unsuccessfully requested permission to proceed to GREEN RIVER Patrol Post, to re-equip for the trip back to TELEPOLMIN. It was planned to move to GREEN RIVER by following the AUGUST (YAPSIKI) River. A well maintained bridge spans the SEPIK near the HOPE-HOFFNUNGS (IP) River, and from there it is less than a days walk to the AUGUST. Food would have been little difficulty; sufficient was held to enable the patrol to reach the extensive sago areas between the AUGUST and the SEPIK, and from there food could have been made as required. The oft-quoted myth that a patrol from TELEPOLMIN could not reach GREEN RIVER without an air-drop

*about roads
at Mianmin
will be
this is a
defeat.*

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

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
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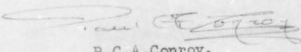
CONCLUSION. contd.

can be regarded as incorrect. Such a trip would have enabled the patrol to view the TAWU Valley from its Western end, and also possibly contact some of the tribal groups reported during the MIANMIN patrol to live in the vicinity of TABLE MOUNTAIN. Knowledge of the entire Western end of the Sub-District would then have been gained, making the work of future patrols considerably easier.

Despite much encouragement the patrol could not persuade any of the Outer ATBALMINS to visit the Station. Quite a number of men offered to do so when initially invited, but as the time to depart drew near, they quietly slipped away. One BUSILMIN youth was very keen and indicated his willingness to come, he accompanied the patrol for several days before he succumbed to the influence of several men and returned to his village. Future patrols should be able to renew the friendly contact made this trip and establish better relations, providing there is not lengthy delay between this patrol and the next. The ATBALMIN men and women (ATEMKISMIN Sub-Tribe), newly returned from the MIANMIN trials in WEWAK, will be good ambassadors for the Government. They should be able to induce some of their tribesfolk from the outer areas to come to the Station for visits.

The patrol failed to locate a suitable Patrol Post site from which the ATBALMIN could be administered. There is an estimated population of 5,000 people in the entire area, but there appears no concentration of people in any one section. Only one of the three possible airstrip sites has any worthwhile population nearby. Before making final plans for the future administration of the area it is suggested that a careful examination of the country North of the SEPIK, in the region of the lower TAWU River, be made. It is known that this area is populated, and whilst it is most doubtful that there will be many people, the terrain appears not too rugged, and should a suitable airstrip site be located, much consideration should be given to the establishment of a Patrol Post when staff becomes available. From such a Post it would, besides administering the people in the immediate vicinity, be possible to control the Western section of the ATBALMIN, access bridges exist across the SEPIK. In the initial stages, supplies could possibly be ferried up the AUGUST by power canoe, but that of course would depend upon many factors, position of Post, weather, tides, etc. The Eastern section of the ATBALMIN could be controlled effectively from TELEPOLMIN. When the group that were sighted by the air survey, see under Native Situation, is eventually located, and should the population be as large as thought, then plans for the area would have to be reconsidered greatly.


G.F. Booth,
PATROL OFFICER.


P.C.A. Conroy,
PATROL OFFICER.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

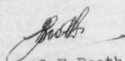
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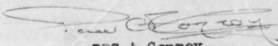
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REPORT ON NATIVE CONSTABULARY.

APPENDIX 'A'.

- No. 2055 Lance Corporal LI^W HI.
Experienced and reliable NCO who in conjunction with
YENDABARI did excellent work.
- No. 6079PA Lance Corporal YENDABARI.
A tower of strength at all times.
- No. 5125 Constable TORAIN.
Pleasant type, not a good bush man but should improve.
- No. 6554 Constable WALAMAIWAI.
Did the usual excellent work now expected of him.
- No. 7403 Constable KUSINO.
Really fine bush policeman, uses his brains.
- No. 7404 Constable OVISIM.
Sound but not very enterprising.
- No. 7494 Constable MATUM.
Sick for much of patrol, work O.K. otherwise.
- No. 8969 Constable AINA.
Quite willing but not very bright.
- No. 8975 Constable KUOFERA.
Reliable bush policeman.
- No. 8973 Constable KAUPA.
Satisfactory worker.
- No. 8979 Constable MAI.
Plenty of energy though at times a little misdirected.
- No. 9005 Constable LILLI.
A rather negative quantity.
- No. 9006 Constable NIGI.
Did not show up.
- No. 9053 Constable ARE.
Satisfactory worker.
- No. 9185 Constable IARIE.
Excelled at bridging flooded rivers, other work good.


G.F. Booth,
OFFICER of R.F.&N.G.C.


PFC A. Conroy,
OFFICER of R.F.&N.G.C.

ANTHROPOLOGY.APPENDIX 'B'.

The attitude of the people encountered during this patrol was such; so many lies and mis-statements being told; that little could be achieved in this field. The following may help to draw a more complete picture of the people and is included for what it is worth.

People. - dress.

Males only essential item phallocrypt - made from hollowed gourd. Hornbill beaks also seen. Small male children - unlike TELEFOLMINS also wear this item.

Females wear a short layered grass skirt.

- decoration.

Males - hair cut short, uncovered or else decorated with an opossum pelt pinned around the head and looking rather like a 'Davey Crockett' hat. A band of snakeskin or similar material tied across the forehead - often decorated with 'giri-giri'shell. Quills projecting upward from nose and held in place by above band. Nose pegs - through septum of either wood or hand carved quartz. Necklets of giri-giri sewn on bark cloth, beads, or pigs teeth (they say these are not traded but have to be taken from quarry). Woven armbands - some pig's pistles. Around waist wear either bands of lawyer vine or layer upon layer of (three thread)plaited cord. Plaited or woven bands below the knee on either leg.

Females. - little decoration on few seen. Necklet of shell here and there. Mainly beads.

Tatoeing or scarification of either sex non existant.

- division of labour.

Males - original clearing of garden sites and latterly their fencing. Supply of protein through hunting. Building of houses. Manufacture of weapons and tools.

Females - planting and maintainance of gardens. Cooking ffoods. Weaving of billums for trading purposes - carrying of everything when on the move.

Agriculture.

See section in body of report. Sweet potato and taro are staple crops. Other items - sago crude processing methods. Use fronds from palm - two troughs at right angles the higher having a strainer of tapa cloth. Washed - sieved - collected in lower trough and dried. Also plant sugar cane, pit-pit, variety of cabbages, cucumbers, tobacco, bananas and ginger. Localised form of shifting agriculture practised - extensive land holdings make this practicable. All main gardens are fenced - two parallel uprights with logs laid between them.

- gathering.

Diet supplemented with fungi, wild honey, pandanus nuts, bread fruit. Though latter grow wild thought to have nominal owners.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

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ANTHROPOLOGY, cont.

APPENDIX 'B'.

hunting.

Game includes pigs, birds, snakes - crocodile and fish for those who live in the vicinity of the SEPIK River. Use of simple trap - employing springy sapling and noose noted.

- livestock.

Pigs and dogs kept for the main - few birds cockatoos etc.

Land - ownership.

Communally owned with usufructory rights to single persons or family groups. The sub-tribes in this area own such an expanse per capita that it is doubtful if disputes ever arise. People say they never have trouble here.

- settlements.

Five house average. Shifting agriculture means men have main and garden houses. Peregrinate from one to another.

- suffix.

'BIL' corresponds to TELEFOLMIN 'AVIP' i.e. place. Attached to end of place names.

Marriage.

Intra sub-tribe - may be intra sub-tribe if families have no ties. Most probably the same system as in TELEFOLMIN area. Bride price paid but may be subsidiary arrangements for the exchange of another female. Bride and groom - husband and wife live in separate house or communally with other families.

Death.

Bodies placed on raised catafalque these may be built anywhere. i.e. not grouped.

Tools.

Stone axes ground from green or black stone. Blade held in 'V' shaped socket and bound horizontally in cleft stick. No ornate plaiting - purely utilitarian. Sago pulpers have hard wood head tied in a cleft stick. Length of vine from haft to pulping edge. Engravers - opossum teeth in wooden handle. Needles of opossum bone - hole drilled in thick end to take thread.

Initiation.

Little known. Concerns males entering puberty. Faces painted red - hair caked in red clay mixture - two 'pig tails' attached. These are constructed of lawyer vine - also tinted red. One looks as though it might contain a broad bladed bamboo arrow.

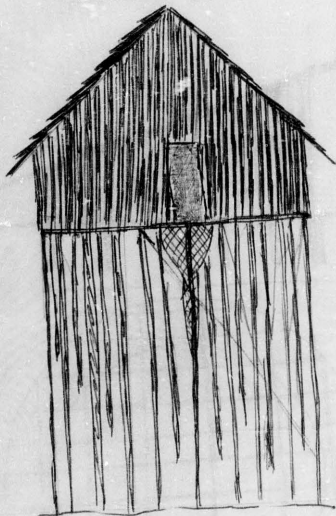
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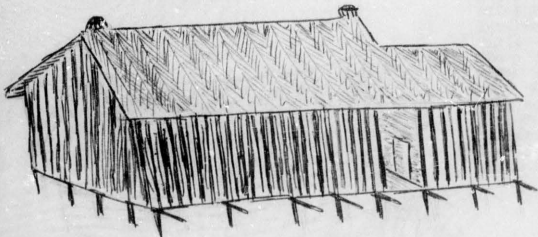
ANTHROPOLOGY.

APPENDIX 'B'.



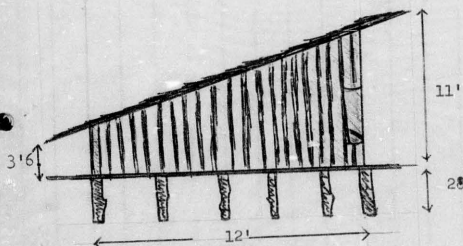
House seen at WOIBI
26/4/57. First of type
struck.
Roof of sago thatch.
Dimensions; from ground
to floor 12 feet; from
floor to ridge 8 feet.
12 feet wide and 20 long.
Timber used throughout
no larger than mans arm.
Interior lined with bark.
Exterior walled in split
billets of timber.
Woven wicker basket
hanging underneath con-
tains clay. Used as fire-
place.

House below also at WOIBI. Roof of sago thatch. Dimensions:-
Left end to hallway 25 feet - hallway 6 feet right hand section
12 feet long. From floor to ridge 12 feet and built two or
three feet off the ground. 14 feet wide. Constructional
materials as above. Decorations ?? on roof pandanus fronds
bound as shown. Step down from main roof of two feet. Hallway
extends from side to side. Completely open. Doors lead off into
both sections of house.

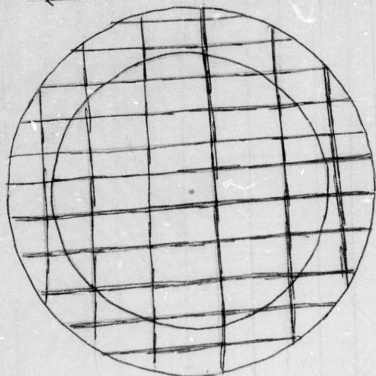


ANTHROPOLOGY. cont.

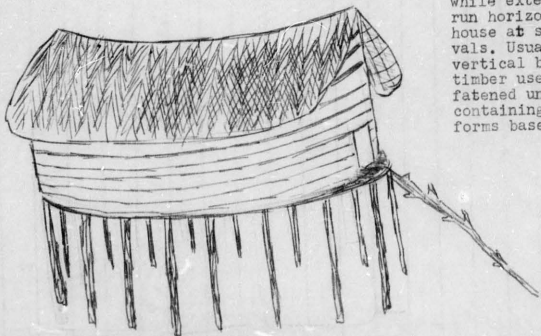
APPENDIX 'B'.



Type of house seen in the BUSILMIN area of the ATBALMIN. Built two feet off the ground and constructed throughout of small - 1 inch or so timber. Interior lined with bark. Exterior of split lengths of pandanus palm wood.



Perfectly circular. Roof frame constructed of pandanus palm and type of black palm. Thatched in pandanus leaf.



House below seen in the NOBI - BLU area. Almost perfectly circular. Roofed in sago thatch on a frame of pliable finger thin saplings and pandanus palm wood. "Rafters" cut to length and layer vine run around edge to get curve. House built ten feet off the ground.

Interior lined with bark while exterior of vine run horizontally around house at six inch intervals. Usual to see vertical billets of timber used. Basket fatened under house containing clay which forms base of fire place.