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OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

***PATROL REPORTS***

DISTRICT: EAST SEPIK

STATION: MAY RIVER, 1965 - 1966

Original documents bound with reports  
for: Ambunti, volume 13.

# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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50-75

WEST SEPIK DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1965/1966

A M B U N T I

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
1 - 1965/1966	R.I. Barclay	Headwaters Leonard Schultz & April Rivers

M A Y R I V E R

1 - 1965/1966	A.C. Plummer	Warumoi language group - Eastern slopes of West Range
2 - 1965/1966	A.C. Plummer	Between Frieda & Sanip rivers & lower Frieda
3 - 1965/1966	A.C. Plummer	Left May River- Awai group
4 - 1965/1966	A.R. Cresswick	Waniabu



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of..... **SEPIK** ..... Report No. **2 MAY RIVER 1965/66**.....

Patrol Conducted by..... **A.C. Plummer Patrol Officer.**.....

Area Patrolled..... **Between Frieda and Saniap rivers and lower Frieda.**.....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans..... **A.R. Cresswick, C.P.O.**.....

Natives..... **4 R.P.&N.G.C. members.**  
**1 A.P.O.**

Duration—From..... **25/10/1965**..... to..... **6/11/1965**.....

Number of Days..... **13**.....

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?..... **No**.....

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services...../..... **8/1964**..... **Paupe only.**

Medical ...../..... **8/1964**..... " "

Map Reference..... **May River Army Series 1 mile: 1 inch. Map attached.**

- Objects of Patrol.....
1. **Establish whereabouts if any of any population between Frieda and Saniap rivers.**
  2. **Investigate whereabouts groups Beréfaitan & Akiaptan.**
  3. **Routine admin. of Paupe and investigate reported killing**

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

*25/11/1965*

*C. G. Slack*  
.....  
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 .... £.....



Over 13  
Remains in Child Birth

M F

67-8-28

4th January, 1966.

District Commissioner,  
Sovik District,  
W.S.W.A.K.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 2/1965-66:

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of a Patrol Report by Mr. Plummer, covered by your memorandum 67-3-16/1112 of 24th November, 1965.

2. Your comments and those of Mr. Ryan were noted.
3. Mr. Plummer quite adequately carried out the tasks set him.
4. As soon as you hear anything more of the alleged killing by the Wusamai people, please let me know. I agree that enquiries can be made when the patrol goes into that area again at the beginning of the dry season.
5. An arduous patrol well done.

(J.K. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR.

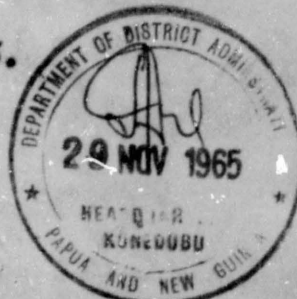
67-8-28 ✓

67-3-16/1112

Department of District Administration,  
Sepik District,  
WEWAK.

24th November, 1965.

The Assistant District Commissioner,  
Sub-district Office,  
AMBUNTI.



MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 2 - 1965/66.

Please thank Mr. Plummer for his Patrol Report.

I agree that enquiries can be made when the patrol goes at the beginning of the dry season.

E.G. HICKS,  
a/DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

c.c. The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

ISC

Secretary  
DDA

Am Lunkin

May 2. Patrol No. 65/66

Please thank Mr. Lunkin for his  
patrol report.

Laore has enquired can  
be made when the patrol goes  
at the beginning of the rainy season.

S



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

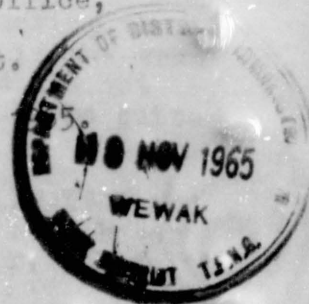
Telegrams  
Telephone  
Our Reference 67-1-4 / 345  
If calling ask for  
Mr.

67-3-16

Sub-District Office,  
Ambunti,  
Sepik District.

October,

The District Commission  
Sepik District,  
W E W A K.



May River Patrol Report No. 2 of 1965/66

Please find the above Patrol Report together with Camping out Allowance Claims in respect of Mr. Plummer and Mr. Cresswick.

The report is brief but as the patrol virtually only saw the PAUPE people on the Freida River this is to be expected. The patrol must have been arduous but fortunately was not prolonged. The information in regards to population, though negative is valuable. As the area has now been searched by helicopter and penetrated by foot I am convinced that Mr. Plummer's conclusions are correct.

The PAUPE incident (your file 51-1/547) begins to assume more serious aspects than was at first supposed. Initially there was no report of a death arising from the altercation. I have spoken to Mr. Plummer by radio regarding the report and he has no further detailed information than that contained in the report.

In the absence of such detailed report I have some slight suspicions that this report may be of an incident quite unconnected with the earlier reports. A death was not reported to either myself or Mr. Pitt at the time although much was made at the time of the other slight injuries. Sgt Wapi, who spent four days at Paupe and is a most reliable guide normally in this area, also gained no report of a death. Sgt Wapi is most insistant too that the injuries were caused, at least as far as the Paupe person is concerned, by an axe used in a demonstration of anger against the post of a house and an accidental deflection of the blow. Sgt Wapi has much detailed hearsay evidence of the affair which has been noted at this office. This report could possibly of another incident combined by the Paupe people to re-enforce the aid of the Administration.

As you are aware the WUSAMAI people have been reported as being involved in a murder some two years ago. Two Patrols have attempted to contact them but the people left their normal habitat and now live in the hills between the Schultz and the Freida rivers. Their actual whereabouts is not known and due to their nomadic habits much tedious work is envisaged to re-contact these people. Several new houses and gardens were noted from the helicopter when I visited Paupe in September this year on the small riges to the East of Paupe. These may be the new gardens of the WUSAMAI people.

I am at present trying to contact NUA of NAMWOAWARI and WAPI of WOGOMUS, who are related to the WUSAMAI people and may have some information on the alledged killing. NUA is at the moment our only real contact with the WUSAMAI. Even he claims that he does not know where they now live, but it is probable that he not telling all that he knows.

DDC ps  
1/27/11

A patrol will be mounted at the beginning of



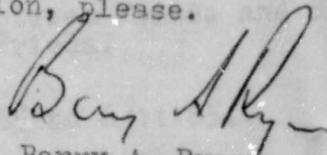
the next 'dry' season with the object of contacting the WUSAMAI people. This will be a difficult task if the true nature of the Administration is to be conveyed and not just the punitive aspect highlighted. It should be quite a lively patrol!

The information concerning the BEREPAITAN and AKIAPTAN people, together with the ABIA river will be of interest to the Assistant District Commissioner, Telefolwin, and I have passed an extract to him.

Mr. Plummer does not mention Mr. Creswick's reactions on this Patrol. Mr. Creswick has carried out patrols of a routine nature and his posting to May River was to give him an appreciation of the 'bush' work necessary in isolated areas.

Mr. Plummer has again led a well organized Patrol and has provided valuable information, albeit negative, of the Freida area. The difficulties of 'wet' season patrolling are illustrated and Mr. Plummer has been advised to delay patrols if they are likely to be ineffectual or too arduous for carriers during the 'wet'.

For your information, please.



Barry A. Ryan  
Assistant District Commissioner.



Territory of Papua and New Guinea

67-1-1

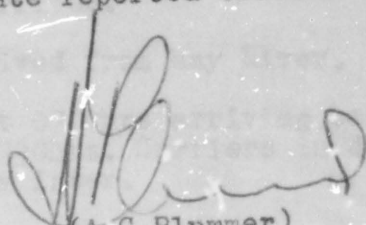
Patrol Post,  
MAY RIVER.  
Ambunti Sub District.  
9th November, 1965.

The Assistant District Commissioner,  
Sub District Office,  
Ambunti.

MAY RIVER PATROL No. 2 of 1965/66

Please find enclosed the original and two copies of a  
Patrol Report covering the May River Patrol No.2 of 1965/66.

AREA PATROLLED	Area between Frieda and Saniap rivers and lower Frieda.
DATES OF PATROL	25/10/65 to 6/11/65.
No. of DAYS	13 days.
OFFICER CONDUCTING	A.C. Plummer, Patrol Officer.
EUROPEANS ACCOMPANYING	A.R. Cresswick, Cadet Patrol Officer.
PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING	4 members R.P & N.G.C. 1 A.P.O.
MAP REFERENCE	May River Army Series - 4 miles : 1 inch. Map attached.
OBJECTS OF PATROL.	1. Establish whereabouts if any of any population between Frieda and Saniap river 2. Establish position of reported groups called Berefaitan and Akiaptan. 3. Routine administration of Paupe and investigate reported trouble at same.

  
(A.C. Plummer)  
Officer in Charge

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 2 of 1965/66

PATROL DIARY

- Monday - 25/10/65 - Departed Patrol Post at 0815hrs in canoe via Sepik river. Arrived Waniam on Saniap river at 1910hrs. Camped.
- Tuesday - 26/10/65 - Departed Waniam 0725hrs in canoe. Most of carriers in paddle canoes. Made camp on East bank at 1520hrs.
- Wednesday - 27/10/65 - Broke camp and departed in an easterly direction at 0800hrs. Crossed through swamps and made camp at base of mountain at 1615hrs.
- Thursday - 28/10/65 - Broke camp, departed 0745hrs crossed mountain and then two small ridges. Made camp on small creek at 1320hrs.
- Friday - 29/10/65 - Broke camp, departing 0800hrs. Crossed several small ridges and ascended large mountain. Made camp near top at estimated altitude of 4000ft.
- Saturday - 30/10/65 - Broke camp, departing 0750hrs. Crossed top and descended. Frieda river seen in distance. Reached base at 1215hrs. Followed creek and made camp on same at 1310hrs.
- Sunday - 31/10/65 - Broke camp, departing 0710hrs. Arduous walk through swamp. Made camp at small creek in middle of swamp at 1415hrs.
- Monday - 1/11/65 - Broke camp, departing 0810hrs. Arrived Bank of Frieda at 1230hrs. Proceeded downstream for 1 hour to point opposite Paupe. Supplies and carriers ferried across by canoe.
- Tuesday - 2/11/65 - Discussions with people on other groups. Three men sent to May River Patrol Post to get motors and canoes.
- Wednesday - 3/11/65 - Census taken. Further discussions on incident with Leonard Schultze river people.
- Thursday - 4/11/65 - Further discussions with man from Mereanang who just arrived.
- Friday - 5/11/65 - Canoes arrived from May River.
- Saturday - 6/11/65 - Departed at 0700hrs arriving back at May River at 1730hrs. Carriers in double canoe arrived day later.

END OF DIARY



### INTRODUCTION

The area between the Saniap and Frieda rivers has never been walked before and it was not known whether any population existed in the area. The main aim of the patrol was to establish if any population was present between the two rivers.

Recently it was reported that an incident had occurred between the people of Paupe, on the Frieda river, and those inhabiting the Leonard Schultze river. This had caused the hurried evacuation of two members of the Army Survey Corps. The patrol intended to investigate and ascertain the cause of the trouble.

In Telofoxin's Patrol report No 1 1965/66 it was reported that two groups called the Berefaitan and Akiaptan inhabited an area surrounding a river called the Abia which was thought to be an eastern tributary of the Frieda and within Ambunti's sub district. If this was so the patrol intended to visit this area.

### DESCRIPTION OF AREA

All Army and Administration maps of this area are sketchy as to the actual layout of the rivers and the Saniap is not marked at all. In my view the last Patrol Officer ~~is~~ who patrolled the Saniap has it marked too far to the East. It took the patrol six days hard walk to cross to the Frieda from the Saniap whereas from the May river to the Saniap it is only two days easy walk. The previous officer's map shows the Saniap going in a large arc to the East. Comparisons of walking times and observation do not bear this out.

The area between the upper Saniap and Frieda is ~~xxx~~ particularly rugged and the patrol was forced to go through knee deep swamps in parts and to cross ranges varying from 1000' to a maximum of about 4500' altitude. The patrol also crossed a small system of creeks which flow to supply Lake Warangai.

Due to the Saniap river being swollen with rainwater it was found that the motor driven canoe was able to proceed further up the Saniap than expected.

### POPULATION BETWEEN FRIEDA AND SANIAP RIVERS

Absolutely no signs of any population were seen in this area, this was confirmed by interrogation of the Owiniga people of the Saniap and the Paupe people of the Frieda who venture far inland to cultivate gardens.

There is no reason for any future patrol to attempt this crossing.



PAUPE - TAUMOI - WUSUMAI PEOPLES INCIDENT

The people of Paupe are a mixed lot and have frequent contact with the people of the Leonard Schultze river. In fact many of the Paupe people have migrated from there.

Recently a patrol lead by A.D.O. Mr Barclay of Ambunti had the task of contacting the peoples of the Upper Schultze. The peoples further down of Waswori and Wusumai helped the patrol and guided it to other settlements up river. One of these was called Taumoi. I think that this is part of the group called TAIWARI but I was unable to ascertain if this was correct. After the patrol had departed the people of Taumoi (according to the Paupe people this is the next village up from Wusumai) invited the people of Wusumai and Paupe to a sing sing at Taumoi. This was during August. At the sing sing the people of Taumoi got very irate at the people of Wusumai for leading the patrol to their place as they did not wish to see the Administration. A fracas developed, one man of Paupe was speared in the leg, a man from Wusumai was speared in the leg and cut by a tomahawk. These people fled, however one man of Wusumai, Amai, was held and was killed by tomahawk. The Paupe and Wusumai people fled to the river and, according to them, carried out a shouted conversation with the Taumoi people. The essence of the conversation was that if the Patrol Officer was told and he came to apprehend them then the Taumoi's would kill him and his police.

This was the story apparently conveyed to the Army Survey Corps men. They unable to speak pidgin misinterpreted the meaning, thought they themselves were being threatened and accordingly contacted their base and were evacuated.

The wife and children of Amai and those wounded have migrated to Paupe.

BEREFAITAN AND AKIAPTAN GROUPS

Whilst at Paupe certain facts were obtained which confirmed my suspicions that these reported groups did not exist on the headwaters of the Frieda. Previously a helicopter survey had revealed no houses and this report came as a surprise.

The people of the Leonard Schultze river claim that the Abia river is in fact the upper western branch of the Leonard Schultze. As the Telofomin report had been gathered in casual interrogation at Wabiadang this would appear to be true. Instead of being on the eastern branch of the Frieda these people are a little further east and on the head of the Leonard Schultze river. A man from Mereanang visiting Paupe confirmed this, Mereanang being a village of the Nenatimin group on the west branch of the Frieda river. He was closely questioned and confirmed the talk of the Leonard Schultze people. His claim that there is no population on the east branch of the Frieda appears conclusive.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

The patrol stayed at Paupe for a period of six days in which time a census was taken and medical treatment freely given. The people received the patrol very well and were most helpful in our attempts to get information on the other subjects. Two of the men were brought back to the Patrol Post to take back with them some seed coconuts, other seed, and a shovel and other gardening materials.

The census figures show an increase of two on the last figures. Breakup is as follows:-

Adult	Males -	30	Male children -	4	
"	Females -	14	Female "	- 7	Total - 55



GEOLOGY

The writer has no knowledge of geology, however an interesting piece of rock was taken from a creek midway between the Saniap and Frieda rivers.

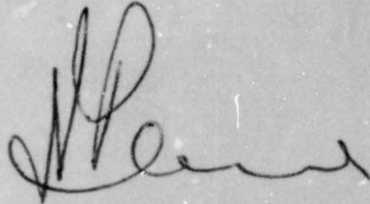
It is forwarded under separate cover to the Department of Lands, Survey and Mines.

CONCLUSION.

1. It is unnecessary for any further patrols to go into that area lying between the Saniap and Frieda rivers, due no population being present - no doubt due the ruggedness of the country.

2. The reported Berefaitan and Akiaptan groups are in actual fact situated on the upper Leonard Schultze river and not the Frieda river.

3. The next Ambunti patrol to the Leonard Schultze river should endeavour to collect the respective people concerned in the killing from Paupe to help in the apprehension of the Taumoi people.

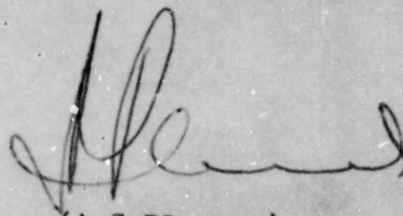


(A.C. Plummer)  
Patrol Officer

APPENDIX A

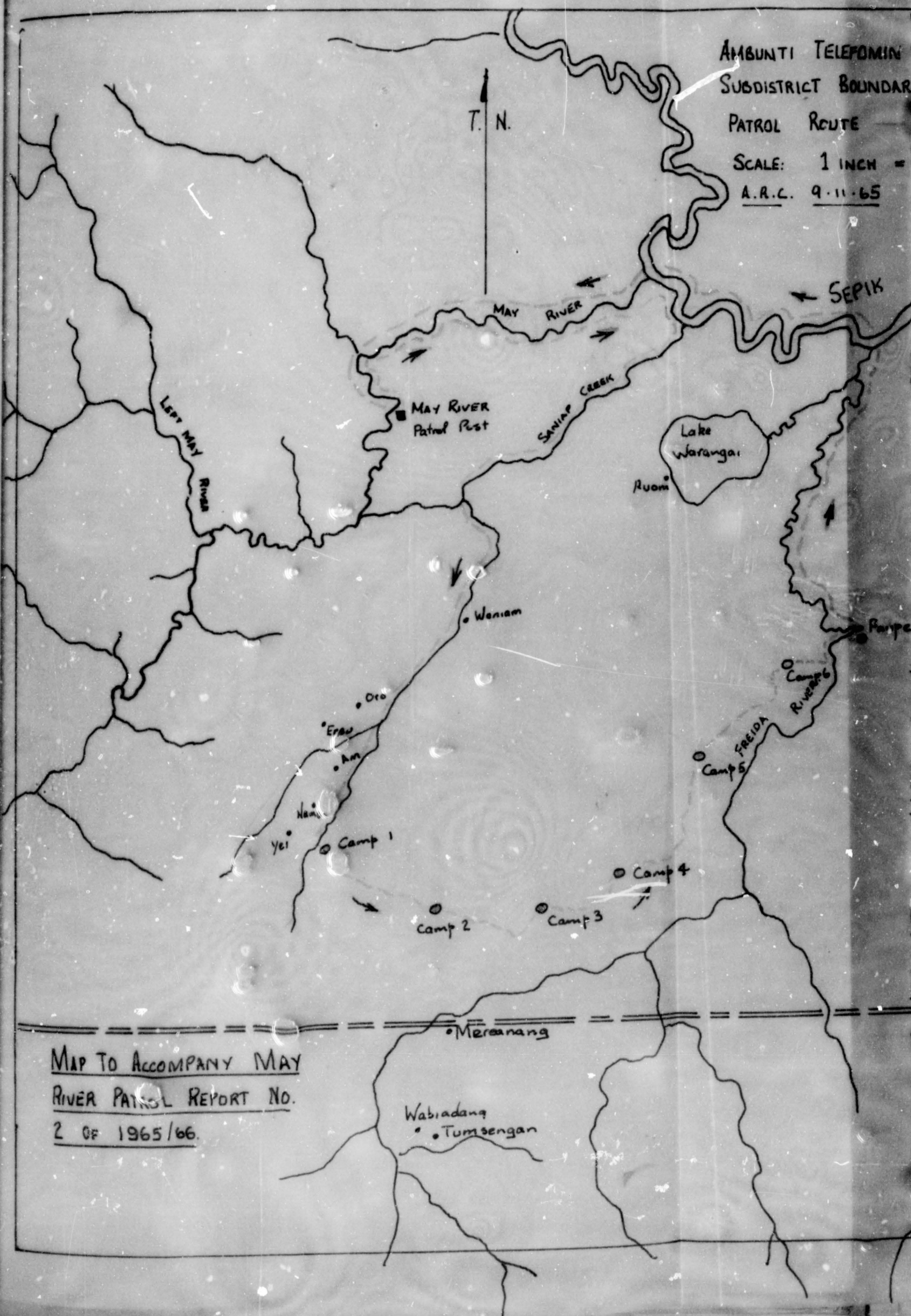
Report on R.P. & N.G.C. members who accompanied the patrol.

- 5149 Sen Con. EGMUN - A good N.C.O. who was a definite asset to the patrol.
- 7872 Con. MEGOBAIN - A reliable policeman who does his best work on patrol.
- 9445 Con WANDU - Average. Lacking when any responsibility is given to him.
- 10200 Con YANGANMOWE - A young policeman whose conduct is exemplary.



(A.C. Plummer)  
Officer in Charge





AMBUNTI TELEFOMIN  
 SUBDISTRICT BOUNDARY  
 PATROL ROUTE  
 SCALE: 1 INCH =  
 A.R.C. 9.11.65

MAP TO ACCOMPANY MAY  
RIVER PATROL REPORT NO.  
2 OF 1965/66.



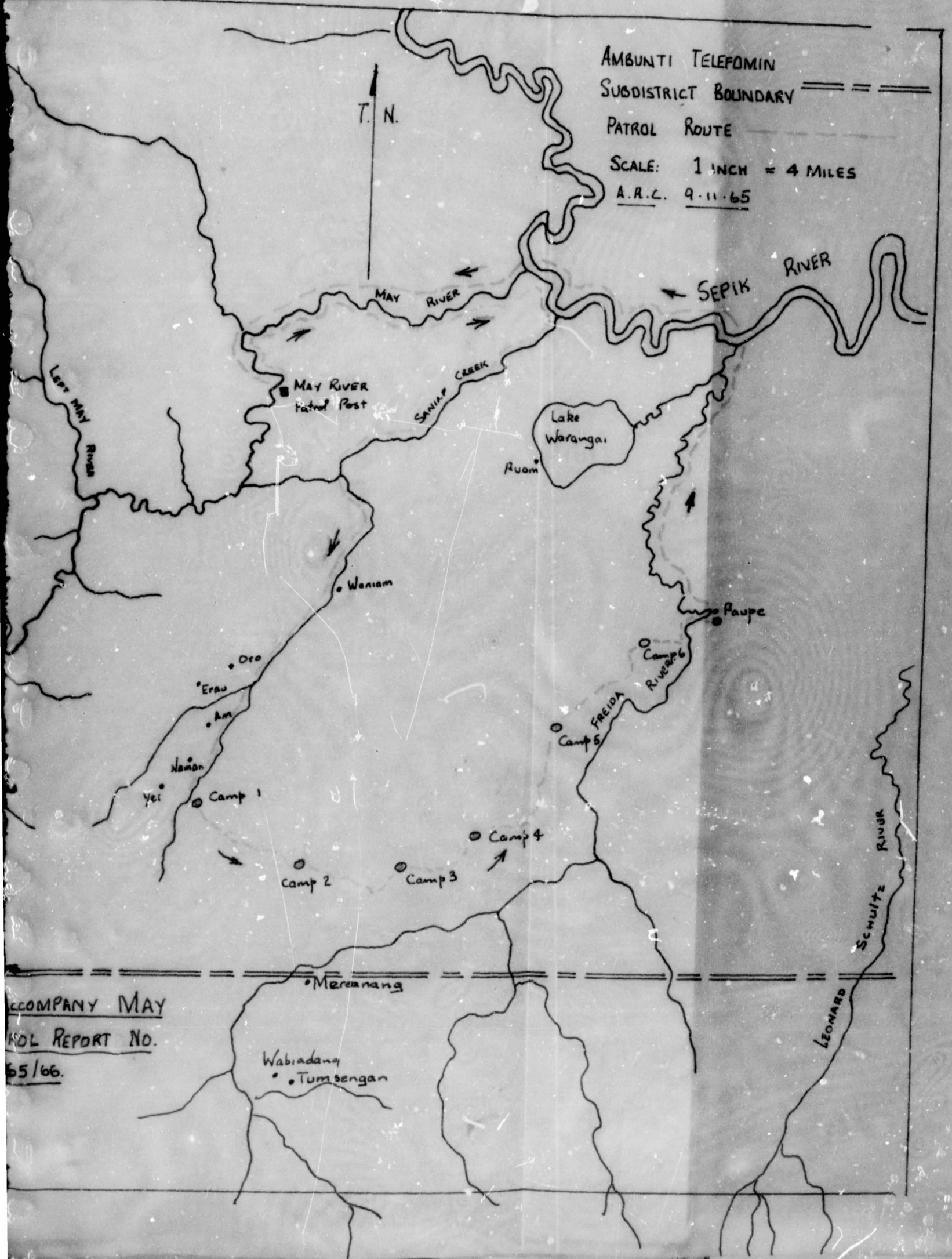
AMBUNTI TELEFOMIN  
SUBDISTRICT BOUNDARY

PATROL ROUTE

SCALE: 1 INCH = 4 MILES

A.R.C. 9.11.65

T. N.



COMPANY MAY  
REPORT NO.  
65/66.





H.Q.  
KONEDOBUBU

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. 3 May River No. 3 65/66

Patrol Conducted by A.C. Plummer, Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled Left May River - Awai group

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Dr. T. Schwartz, American Anthropologist

Natives 3 members R.P.N.G.O. 1 A.P.O..

Duration—From 23/11/1965 to 2/12/1965

Number of Days 10

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 5/1964

Medical NIL / / 19

Map Reference MAY RIVER ARMY SERIES - FOURMIL

Objects of Patrol Initial Census, Appointment of Village Officials,  
Routine Administration.

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.  
KONEDOBUBU.

Forwarded, please.

31/12/1965

C. G. Hicks  
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 £

13	Over 13	Females in Child Birth
F	M	F

67-8-34

18th February, 1966.

District Commissioner,  
Sepik District,  
NSWAK.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 1/1965-66:

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of a Patrol Report by Mr. Plummer, covered by your memorandum 67-3-16/1400 of 31st December, 1965.

2. Your comments and those of Mr. Ryan have been noted.

3. A good patrol carried out in adverse conditions. Mr. Plummer has submitted an informative report, which displays his interest in native affairs field work.

5. It is a pity that Dr. Schwartz abandoned his work in the May River area, owing to the extremely arduous conditions obtaining in this area.

(J.E. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR.



67-8-34

67-3-16/1458



Sepik District,  
WEWAK.

31st December, 1965.

The Assistant District Commissioner,  
Sub District Office,  
AMBUNTI.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 3/1965-66.

Receipt is acknowledged of the abovementioned report.

Your recommendations for the appointments as Tultuls is approved. It is suggested that these officials be encouraged to visit the station at Ambunti where further advice can be given them as to their duties and responsibilities.

The District Agricultural Officer will be approached as to the possibility of appointing a Field Worker, if only for a limited period.

It was a good patrol carried out in adverse conditions.

*E. G. Hicks*

E. G. HICKS,  
a/DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

c.c. The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

For your information and records, please.

*E. G. Hicks*  
E. G. HICKS, a/DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

67-1-4

Sub-District Office,  
Ambunti,  
Sepik District.  
20th December, 1965.

The District Commissioner,  
Sepik District,  
W E W A K.

May River Patrol Report.  
No 3 of 1965/66

Please find enclosed the above report together with a Camping out Allowance Claim from Mr. Plummer, P.O..

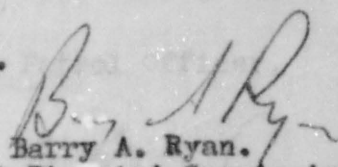
This patrol extends the good work done by Mr. Plummer in extension and consolidation of the May River area.

Patrolling in the 'wet' season is unfortunately so uncomfortable and often so pointless that I have instructed officers to plan no patrols other than those that can be fully carried out by river transport.

It was disappointing for Mr. T. Schwartz that he should abandon his work in the May River area although one must admire his decision which involved him in some loss of face.

It is good to see that the Administration is welcome in the area but a pity that we can bring so little hope of future economic progress. I agree that more men could well absent themselves for outside work if they feel so inclined.

For your information, please.

  
Barry A. Ryan.

Assistant District Commissioner.



Territory of Papua and New Guinea

67-1-1

Patrol Post,  
Ambunti Sub District  
MAY RIVER

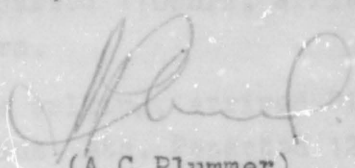
10/12/65

The Assistant District Commissioner,  
Sub District Office,  
Ambunti.

MAY RIVER PATROL No. 3 of 1965/66

Please find enclosed the original and two copies of a  
Patrol Report covering the May River Patrol No. 3 of 1965/66.

AREA PATROLLED	AWAI - Left May River peoples.
DATES OF PATROL	23/11/65 to 2/12/65
No. of DAYS ON PATROL	10 days (8 nights slept out)
PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING	3 members R.P.N.G.C., 1 A.P.O.
EUROPEANS ACCOMPANYING	Dr. T. Schwartz, American Anthropologist
MAP REFERENCE	MAY RIVER Army Series - Fourmil. Map attached.
OBJECTS OF PATROL	Initial Census, Appointment village officials, routine administration.
OFFICER CONDUCTING	A.C.Plummer, Patrol Officer.

  
(A.C.Plummer)  
Officer in Charge

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 1965/66

PATROL DIARY

- Tuesday, 23/11/65 - 1130 hrs departed by double canoe and motor Arrived Buremai 1730 hrs. Camped.
- Wednesday, 24/11/65 - Departed 0900hrs, by canoe, shored 0920 hrs walked to Aimi arriving 0945hrs. Initial census carried out etc. Departed 1100hrs arriving back at Buremai 1140hrs.
- Thursday, 25/11/65 - Departed 0900hrs, shored 0915hrs, walked to Uwani arriving 1000hrs. Census, etc. Departed 1200hrs arriving Buremai 1250hrs.
- Friday, 26/11/65 - Departed 0800hrs, by canoe. Shored 1315hrs. walked arriving Yuatiriwi (Abeni) 1415hrs. Census, etc. Departed 1530hrs arriving Buremai 1725hrs.
- Saturday, 27/11/65 - Departed Buremai 0945hrs, proceeded up Left May river arriving camp site 1600hrs after motor trouble. Camped.
- Sunday, 28/11/65 - Departed 0900hrs and walked to Wasuai, 1200. Census, etc. Departed 1400hrs, arriving back at camp site 1530hrs. On outward journey a bridge was built.
- Monday, 29/11/65 - Departed 0800hrs by pull canoe. Shored at 0830hrs, walked arriving Nimo at 0915hrs. Census, etc. Departed 1100hrs, arriving camp site 1210hrs.
- Tuesday, 30/11/65 - Departed 0800hrs walking, arrived Didipas at 1115hrs. Census, etc. Departed 1230 hrs arriving camp site 1515hrs.
- Wednesday, 30/11/65 - Broke camp after being flooded out, departed 0915hrs, arriving Patrol Post 1245hrs.
- Thursday, 2/12/65 - Departed by speedboat 0815hrs. Shored 0930hrs Walked to Augot arriving 1030hrs. Census, etc. Departed 1215hrs arriving Patrol Post 1420hrs.

END OF PATROL



INTRODUCTION.

The main object of the patrol was to carry out an initial census of those peoples living in the vicinity of the Left May river. These people were first contacted by Mr. P.O. McIntyre in 1962. Since this first contact some three patrols have visited this area without carrying out a census. In conjunction with the census village officials were to be appointed.

Dr. T. Schwartz, an American Anthropologist accompanied the patrol with the object in mind of selecting a village in which he would stay for a period of some 9 months studying their culture. Unfortunately, after savouring the extremely arduous conditions in this area, Dr. Schwartz decided against staying in the area and decided to return and continue his studies of the Manus people.

DESCRIPTION OF AREA

The AWAI occupy an area to the south of the Patrol Post, on the left side of the May river close to the Left May river, which is called the Awai by the Iwam people of the May river. All villages are built on small hills surrounded by swamp. These hills form 'islands' in the swamp. In times of high water the swamps are almost impassable and it is recommended that future patrols to the area go only during the 'dry' season.

DESCRIPTION OF PEOPLE

The Awai people resemble the Waniabu people who inhabit the area to the north at the headwaters of the Waniap creek. There are similarities in the languages and there is some intercourse between the two groups. Regular contact is made with the people of Arai and Buremai, villages of the Iwam on the river.

Villages consist of no more than two houses with scattered garden houses in the sago swamps. Houses are of a type similar to the Waniabu in that they are high off the ground and are heavily fortified with a narrow entrance which can be shut off completely. Up until recent years the peoples' numbers have been depleted by constant raids by the Mianmin. Now that this threat has been lifted the people are starting to move more and more to the south with their gardens.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The reception of the patrol was good, all the people coming from their gardens to be censused and all taking an avid interest in the proceedings. This seems surprising considering the limited contact these people have had.

Village officials were appointed at all places visited and the relative documents are forwarded under separate cover. In each case, through interrogation, those appointed were the most influential men in their villages and considerable time was taken in explaining the duties of a village official. Village books were filled in and issued to these officials with appropriate instructions written and also explained to them. As this was the first time that any sort of instructions had been given to them these were limited mostly to improvement of walking tracks and general clearing in the villages. The villages of Nimo and Wasuai were instructed to have two houses built at the camp site ~~was~~ for use by later patrols. This site is a particularly good one giving access to the villages of Nimo, Wasuai, Didipas, Naukwi and Amusu.

At all the villages visited seed was distributed to the officials for distribution amongst the village. In addition a shovel was left in each village to facilitate their gardening. The procedure for planting the seed was carefully explained to the people but it is doubtful whether they will follow the proper procedure.

Food was purchased at all villages and they appear to have an abundant supply of foodstuffs. Although the main item of the diet is sago, bananas taro and pumpkins prove valuable additions.

The patrol had intended to visit the villages of Naukwi and Amasu, however during the night before the intended visit it rained heavily, the river rose over its banks cutting off the villages all together. These two villages already have their village officials (May River P/R No6 64/65) although the names of the people have not been entered on Tax Census Sheets. This should be done on the next patrol to the area.

Now that the threat of fighting between all groups has been lifted the people of Arai and Buremai are making their sago further away from the river and approaching the land and probably in some places actually encroaching on the land of the Awai people. Some time in the future demarkation boundaries should be settled upon so that the Iwam people are stopped from taking over large portions of that land belonging to the Awai people.



Whilst at many of the villages large numbers of cases of Yaws were seen. When asked why they had not come to the Patrol Post for treatment, the people claimed that the people of Arai would not take them to the Patrol Post. This was contradicted by the Luluai of Arai who was with the patrol but as the same story was given in other places I am inclined to believe them. The Luluai was warned that in future court action will be taken in the event that the people of Arai are not willing to bring these people in to the Post. It was stressed that some sort of payment would be made for the use of their services in bringing these cases for treatment but on no account were they to refuse transport to the sick. It was also impressed upon the new village officials that sick people must be brought for treatment. The large number of Yaws cases successfully treated on the patrol no doubt enhanced the Administration's prestige in the area.

#### CENSUS

A total of 248 names were written onto the Tax Census Sheets. This gives us the first real knowledge on the numbers of people in this area. There are estimated to be some 80 people in the two villages of Naukwi and Amasu giving a total for the area of about 330. Possibly future censuses will add to this number but the great majority of names are now recorded. A Village Population Register is attached. The figures show that only 9 men are absent at work on plantations. This is surprising as it was thought that many had been taken from this area when Mr. R. Mackie the recruiter had been recruiting up the May river last year. Now that the Administration influence through these areas is well established I can see no reason why some of these people cannot be recruited for work on plantations, providing recruitment is limited to these people and not carried out amongst the Iwam who at present ~~are~~ have considerable numbers away at work.

#### HEALTH

The Aid Post Orderly at May River was taken on the patrol and he carried out his work extremely well, treating large numbers of cases of Yaws, some 25 cases in all being treated. Apart from Yaws the people seem to be reasonably healthy and the reasonable numbers of children counted seems to indicate that the infant mortality rate is not high.

CONCLUSION

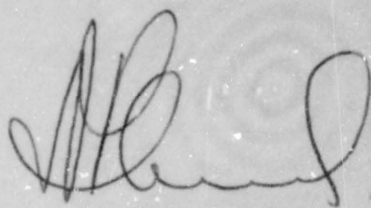
(1) Once again it has been proven that patrols in this area should not be attempted during the 'wet' season. Heavy rain fell most nights, the river rose, and walking conditions were extremely difficult.

(2) The next patrol to this area should add the names of the people of Naukwi and Amasu to the Tax Census Sheets.

(3) It would be advantageous to have an Agriculture Field Worker posted occasionally to May River to patrol and inspect the gardens of these people, advise them and distribute seed to them. This could be done in conjunction with D.D.A. patrols to the area.

(4) A recruiter should be encouraged to go into this area as the people have no possible means of income at present and possibly about 25-30 males could go out of the area without unduly affecting the villages.

*Good patrol -  
A.C.P.*



(A.C. Plummer)  
Patrol Officer



APPENDIX A

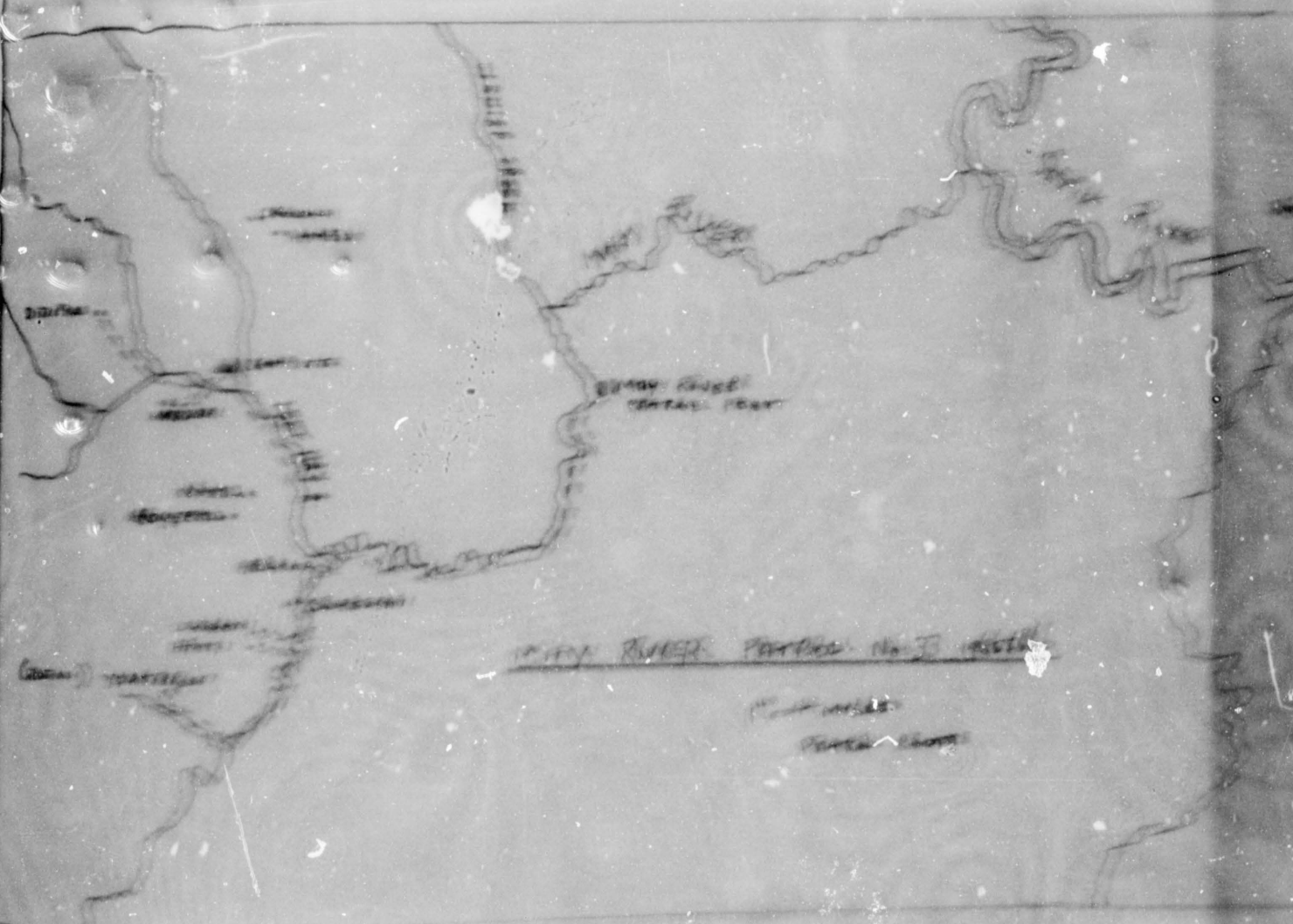
VILLAGE OFFICIALS RECOMMENDED FOR APPOINTMENT

All those recommended are for the position of Tul Tul. It is considered that the numbers are not sufficient for the appointment of Luluais.

Village

Tul Tul

AIMI	SOWASA AKOMWAI
AUGOT	SEKAINI ATUPISA
DIDIPAS	AMINAKASA AMITASI
NIMO-ABOYEMO	HANUWI WISE
UWANI	SAIGARO YABIRO
YUATIRIWI (ABENI)	NONAISA MOGOWA
WASUAI	MAKIOSA IALISA





Hire of Canoes



H. G.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of **SEPIK** Report No. **MAY RIVER No4 1965/66**

Patrol Conducted by **A.R. CRESSWICK (CADET PATROL OFFICER)**

Area Patrolled **WANIABU**

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans **NIL**

Natives **3 Members R.P.N.G.C., 1 A.P.O.**

Duration—From **23./11./1965** to **3./12/1965**

Number of Days **11**

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? **NO**

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services **5./19.64**

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

Map Reference **MAY RIVER ARMY SERIES . FOURMILINCH**

Objects of Patrol **INITIAL CENSUS. APPOINTMENT OF VILLAGE OFFICIALS?**

**ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION**

Director of Native Affairs,

~~PORT MORESBY.~~  
**KONEDOBU**

Forwarded, please.

**31/12/1965**

**E. G. Hicks**  
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 ... ..

llage Po

9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth
M	F	M	F	

67-8-35

18th February, 1966.

District Commissioner,  
Sepik District,  
WEWAK.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT NO. 4/1965-66:

Thank you for your memorandum 67-3-16/145 of 31st December 1965 and the above Patrol Report.

2. Your comments and those of Mr. Ryan have been noted.
3. The patrol was brief and so was the report. Mr. Cresswick could have taken more notes, whilst in the field, under the twenty odd sub-headings suggested in the Standing Instructions. I want my young Cadets to send more informative reports, because they must be taught to realise that a Patrol Report is the direct link between the officer doing the job in the field and myself here at Headquarters. I want to see more effort put into report writing.

(J.K. McCarthy)  
DIRECTOR.



67-8-35 H

67-3-16/45-1



Sepik District,  
WEWAK.

31st December, 1965.

The Assistant District Commissioner,  
Sub District Office,  
AMBUNTI.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 4-1965/66.

Thank you for the above report.

The appointment of those listed as Tultuls is approved, the Director will be asked to confirm the appointment of BEHEI/IMO of Kobia as Luluai.

Please encourage village officials to visit your station from time to time to enable them to become more conversant with their duties, etc.

Mr. Cresswick's remarks in his final paragraph are noted, what are your views, please.

*E. G. Hicks*  
E. G. HICKS,  
a/DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

c.c. The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

Would you confirm the appointment of BEHEI/IMO of Kabia village, WANIABU Census Division to Luluai, please.

*E. G. Hicks*  
E. G. HICKS,  
a/DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

67-1-4/375

Sub-District Office,  
Ambunti,  
Sepik District.

20th December, 1965.

The District Commissioner,  
Sepik District,  
W E W A K.

May River Patrol Report.

No. 4 of 1965/66

Please find enclosed the above report together with a Camping out Allowance Claim by Mr. Cresswick. C.P.O.

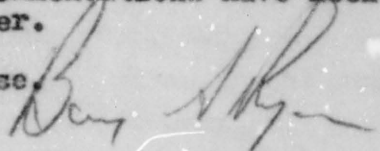
The patrol was <sup>de</sup>brief and so is the report. However both appear to cover the work. Mr. Cresswick's posting to May River has enabled much of this 'routine' recording of names to be accelerated. Unfortunately the 'wet' season has interfered with the patrol program and it will not now be possible to complete the first full census of the May River area until early, 1966.

There is little apart from law and order that can really be accomplished among these isolated and scattered people but it is good to see that the Administration is welcome in the area. However I feel we should expect a reaction in a few years time when the Administration's influence has not been accompanied by more material imports. Such material benefits seem as impossible as ever.

The labour figures are interesting and except perhaps for TIGI at 50% are not unduly high. Expatriate labour is the only economic outlet for these people.

The Village Officials' recommendations have been forwarded to you under previous cover.

For your information, please.



Barry A. Ryan  
Assistant District Commissioner.



COPY-PATROL INSTRUCTIONS

THE WANIABU AREA

1. Initial Census

2. Appointment of village Officials.

3. Issuing of village books.

4. Instructions regarding houses, tracks, and rest houses.

Visit Warumoi villages of Ianewei and Pau.

Recently Coconut and peanut seed distributed amongst these people -inspect gardens.

7. Compile for each village , figures showing absenteeism of males working on plantations .

Monday 27/11/53

Monday 29/11/53

Tuesday 30/11/53

DIARY

1/

- Tuesday- 23/11/65 Departed May River Station 1100hrs, by motor canoe to Waniap village. Arrived Waniap 1230hrs ; obtained carriers for patrol to Waniabu area. Overnight.
- Wednesday 24/11/65 Departed Waniap 0800hrs requiring six dugout canoes for cargo carriers and gear. Arrived to limit of canoe navigation 1230hrs. Path followed to Kabia village arriving 1600hrs. Word passed on to people of surrounding hamlets to assemble at Kabia Thursday. Overnight.
- Thursday 25/11/65 People of Kabia and hamlets Lehei, Ama, and Boroba assembled and initial Census carried out. Overnight.
- Friday 26/11/65 Heavy overnight rain. Departed 0900hrs to reach Panewai - rain had washed out track in various places - walking difficult. Arrived Panewai 1700hrs. Overnight.
- Saturday 27/11/65 People of Panewai assembled for a Census count . Now included in the May River Census Division . Overnight.
- 28/11/65 ~~Thursday~~ <sup>Sunday</sup> Departed 0800 and walked back towards Kabia arriving at Wabraru at 1400hrs. All people in from various bush houses in the swamp; initial Census taken . Overnight.
- Monday 29/11/65 Departed 0815hrs Wabraru arriving Ianewei village 1430hrs. Overnight.
- Tuesday 30/11/65 Departed Ianewei 0800hrs arriving at the new site of Pau village at 1045hrs. Advised by PC Plummer earlier this year on initial contact patrol to move from swamp. . Walked onto Asuwi (Uwau) arriving 1330hrs. Overnight



DIARY

2/

Wednesday 1 /12/65 Initial Census carried out 0800-1000hrs.  
 Departed Asuwi (Uwau) 1015hrs arriving  
 Tigi 1530 hrs. People told to assemble  
 Thursday morning. Overnight.

Thursday 2 /12/65 Census complete by 0900hrs departed and  
 followed nearby creek leading to main  
 Waniap river. Swamp water at waist high level  
 prevented further travel at 1300hrs. Six  
 men proceeded downstream to collect canoes  
 from Waniap village arriving back at 1530 hrs.  
 Arrived Waniap 1730hrs . Overnight.

Friday 3/12/65 The motor canoe from May River station  
 arrived Waniap 1030hrs - gear loaded and  
 arrived back at station 1130hrs.

INTRODUCTION

3/

The villages Kabia and Wabraru were first patrolled by A.D.O. Martin during 1962 from Ambunti. The first contact of the Asuwi, Itauwa and Tigi groups was by a patrol of P.O. MacIntyre from May River in 1963.

The main objects of the patrol was to carry out an initial Census at the villages considered to be sufficiently advanced and who have had Administration influence for a reasonable period of time ; these included Kabia, Ama, Lehei, Wabraru, Uwau and Tigi, and to also maintain further good relations by trading with the newly contacted Warumoi group.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

The patrol was welcomed and assisted in all ways possible in every village. Kabia occupants showed interest in all the patrol had to offer and asked for a further donation of coconuts to plant. The surrounding people from Lehei, Ama and Boroba hamlets were assembled and included in the Kabia Census as the population of these three number very few and sometimes nil when the people move out of the area to trade. The Luluzi selected has worked in various plantations and has a good knowledge of what standards should be kept in a village. Apart from three or four others having worked on plantations the people are very primitive .

A good clean village was found at Panewei where contact from Lumi is quite regular. The village is now included in the May River Census division because of it's position in relation to Lumi and May River station, being closer to May River. The dialect spoken is that of the Irimui group in the Lumi Subdistrict however , trading has been carried out between the Irimui and Waniabu groups for a long time. The Panewei people expressed a wish to have an A.O.G. mission established in the village but I doubt if the 41 people here warrants this as the surrounding area is not heavily populated.

The Tultul nominated by the people of at Wabraru village has also worked on a plantation but is a sick man and not very



4/

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.)

active however he is the person they wish to have as their government representative. The village is situated approximately half way between Kabia and Panewei and is ideally situated for an additional official. The people here live as one family in that only two houses are constructed of some 40' x 20' in size and all of the 64 reside in these two.

Ianewei people still showed a little wariness having had the first government patrol visiting here during June 1965. All began trading quite freely after a short while and some men were keen to join the carrier line. Garden food is plentiful at Ianewei and many gardens are to be found in the area. The dialect is of the W niabu group. Every small hamlet has bush houses in the area for the purpose of collecting sago etc. and many people choose to live in these at all times.

What was previously known as Asuwi no longer exists - the village has moved out of the swamp and a new house constructed to be known as Uwau.

The Asuwi speak the language of the Kabia groups but moving further on to Tigi an entirely different language is in use. The Asuwi(Uwau) do not have a great affection for the Tigi group therefore not much trading is carried out.

The village of Tigi is much the same as others in the area - many small bush houses centralised around the two larger houses at Tigi.

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WALKING TRACKS

Waniap-Kabia. At time ~~high~~ of high water a single motor canoe could navigate half way up the creek from Waniap to Kabia. The creek at this time was clear of logs and overhanging branches 30 minutes or so of lost time clearing logs which had fallen in the past fortnight. The path from the limit of navigation of pull canoe to Kabia village is good and no difficult walking encountered. Total time both pull canoe and walking is 6 hours.

(Kabia-Panewei) Heavy rain the previous night flooded the swamp areas and walking very difficult. The existing track is not in very good condition as it is not used regularly. Future patrols to Panewei should be by motor canoe directly from May River

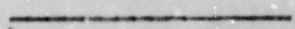
WALKING TRACKS

57

Wabraru-Ianewei . Once again overnight rain had turned the track into a quagmire and made walking difficult. 6 hours.

Ianewei-Pau-Asawi(Uwau) . Further walking through mud and swamp. Paths are not recognisable in these conditions. 5 hours walking.

Asawi(Uwau)-Waniap. The paths follow the same general pattern as previously encountered - all swamp and water. Heavy rain and swollen creeks on the 2/12/65 halted the patrol when the water in the swamp reached waist high level. 6 hours total time both walking and pull canoe.



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APPENDIX

PERCENTAGES OF MALES RECRUITED FOR PLANTATION LABOUR

KABIA	7	Representing	29%
PANEWEI	4	"	37%
WABRARU	8	"	32%
UWAU	3	"	9%
TIGI	8	"	50%

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APPENDIX B .

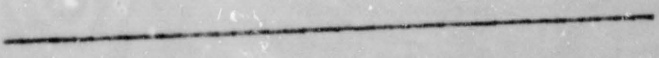
RECOMMENDED VILLAGE OFFICIALS

KABIA Village	LULUAI:	Behei/Imo of Kabia
	TULTUL:	Aruwo/Ausau of Lehei.

WABARU Village	TULTUL:	Nakiam/Imari of Wabaru
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UWAU Village	TULTUL:	Parei/Lewo of Uwau.
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TIGI Village	TULTUL:	Amo/Yamei of Tigi.
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APPENDIX B.

8/

A report on members of the Royal Papua and New Guinea Constabulary accompanying the Patrol.

No. 5149 Sen. Const. EGMUN. - An excellent N.C.O. and an asset to any patrol.

No. 7435 Const. NANIKAWA - An average Policeman . Conduct good.

No. 10200 Const YANGANMOWE- A good Policeman with potential for promotion.

*Allan R. Cresswick*

Allan R. Cresswick

(Cadet Patrol Officer )

CONCLUSION

9/

Prior to the Initial contact in June 1965 of the Warumoi people relationships between the two groups have been poor . In the course of these two patrols many carriers were used from the Waniabu group and it would appear, at least on the surface, that friendly relations are now established.

*Good*

Future patrols into the area would save time and expense by obtaining carriers and travelling by motor canoe to Panewei having first of all dumped food supplies at Kabia by carriers from Waniap. This would save the need of travelling backwards and forwards and all villages can easily be visited on the round trip-Panewei through to Waniap- the motor canoe waiting at Waniap at a pre-arranged date.

*#24/12*

*Allan R. Cresswick*  
Allan R. Cresswick

(Cadet Patrol Officer)



MAP TO ACCOMPANY MAY RIVER  
PATROL REPORT N° 4 OF 1965/66

SCALE: 1 INCH = 4 MILES.

PATROL ROUTE. — — — —

A.R.C 14-11-65

