

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: EAST SEPIK
STATION: MAY RIVER
VOLUME No: 2

ACCESSION No: 496.

1963 - 1964

Filmed by//for the National Archives of Papua New Guinea,
PORT MORESBY - 1989. 1990

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORTS SEPIK DISTRICT

MAY RIVER 1963/64

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
1-63/64	A.D.Pitt	Iwam Group - May River C/D
2-63/64	A.D.Pitt	May River and Wongamusen C/D
3-63/64	A.D.Pitt	Part May River Census Division
4-63/64	A.D.Pitt	Awai and Tigi areas - May River Census Division



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. MAY RIVER No. 1 of 1963/64

Patrol Conducted by A. D. Pitt, Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled IWAM GROUP - MAY RIVER CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 3 Members of R.P. & N.G.C. 1 A.P.O.

Duration—From 13./1./19.64 to 4./2./1964

Number of Days 11 days (6 nights camped out)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 10./7./19.63

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

Map Reference May River, Army Series 4 Miles : 1 in.

Objects of Patrol To Acquaint people of forth-coming elections.

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

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

67. 8. 37 (P)



37-5-2

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

13th March, 1964

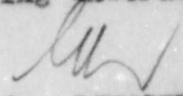
The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTA.

MAY RIVER PATROL NO. 1/63-64 - IWAM GROUP -
MR. A. D. PITT, P.O.

It was very pleasing to see that Mr. Pitt quickly got out amongst the people after taking over the May River Post.

I liked the style of his report and in particular the account that he has given of his work on the political education of the IWAM people. However, the extra copies of the political education report for the relevant subject file as required by the Director's memorandum 51-1-20 of 4th November, 1963 - "House of Assembly Elections 1964: Political Education Programme" para. 6 - were not forwarded.

Please ensure that maps accompany every patrol report submitted by your officers (see para. 10 page 28 of the Departmental Standing Instructions).


(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

ATTITUDE TO ELECTION TALKS

The main reason for the patrol was to acquaint the people with the forth-coming elections. Some initial work had been done by Mr. P. O. Cochrane when he was compiling the Common Roll.

The task is particularly difficult as the majority of the IWAM have only a very limited knowledge of the world outside the confines of the May River. Some of the young men have been away to work on plantations and a few have been in goal but apart from these people there are very few with any knowledge of the geography of the Territory. A few have heard of Wewak, Madang, Manus, Rabaul, Kavieng, Namatanai and Buka, very very few have heard of Port Moresby and only two or three people have actually been there.

Very few men and no women at all can speak Pidgin or understand it and as far as I know there are no people who are literate. Government is represented by the "Kiap". It is he who tells the people what to do and what they cannot do. It is he who makes any plans as to what will happen in the area but his main task is to stop people from doing certain things. as a side line medicine is provided at the Patrol Post but any one really sick is better off remaining in the village as there is no accommodation for them at the station. Occasionally he will hand out presents such as pipes and tobacco and perhaps feed them for a day or so.

Some people have a vague idea that there is more to the Government than this but exactly what they are not sure. I think too, that some of the younger men have realised that they "have missed the boat" as regards to education but have not yet realised to what extent as they have seen very few sophisticated New Guineans or even New Guineans who can read and write. (None of the police at May River at present is literate.)

Before any explanation can be given on the Election it must first be explained what the Government is, my position or the position of a Patrol Officer in it and the position and function to be taken by the House of Assembly.

I was asked if the elected member would take the Patrol Officer's place. Would this member have power and authority over them. Could he take their land by making special laws. If he is an Ambunti man could he make laws to discriminate against them. How would they know who to vote for when they did not know or have seen any of the Candidates. No doubt these are fairly common questions asked in any primitive area.

The second major point to get across was the idea of an electorate. The people know of the existence of Ambunti and many have visited it and of course all know the Sepik River. None know of Vanimo, Amanab or the other border stations, a few had heard of Green River or Abau as it is more frequently referred to and a very few had heard of Telefomin but had no idea where it is or how far. It was difficult to

10

get across to the people the idea that they would be acting as a group and I still do not know if I succeeded.

The main difficulty was the lack of a common language. An interpreter had to be used at every village but then as the idea and purpose of the elections were so foreign to him to everyone else his task of interpreting must have been extremely difficult.

The actual mechanics of the voting were touched on only briefly. The talks were kept as simple as possible trying to get across the main points, (a) the idea of a meeting deciding on a policy to do what is best to maintain a peaceful happy community, (b) a representative elected by the people to be in this meeting and (c) how that representative was to be elected.

The idea of electing a European member to represent the Special Electorate was explained in much the same way.

Whether the people understood is hard to say. On my second visit to some villages and conversations with people visiting the station it is obvious that the people have at least discussed my talk among themselves. I do believe though, that if nothing else, the people do understand that they will be called upon to make a choice of one of five Candidates and the duly elected member will sit at a meeting with representatives from other parts of the Territory and discuss what the Government can do to help the people of New Guinea. As the whole concept is entirely new in this area I do not think that we can expect much more at this stage.

PROBABLE ATTITUDE ON POLLING DAY

I have no doubt that the majority of the people will vote when called upon to do so. The schedule has been so arranged that most people will not have to travel to attend. Too, the people are used to gathering when an officer visits the village and although I have been careful to explain that the polling arrangements in no way resemble a census I am sure they will wait in the villages, if for no other reason than that the polling will be a novelty.

I have made little reference to preferential voting. Apart from mentioning briefly that as well as signifying the first choice they will have to give second, third and fourth choices as well (which I don't think was understood,) nothing more has been said. My reason for this is that all voters will be illiterate and I will have to mark their ballot papers for them. As each voter comes up to vote and sees the photographs of the candidates the procedure can be explained individually which I think will mean far more to them than an explanation at this stage. It will be time consuming but luckily the population of this area is not heavy.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.
17th February, 1967.

67-1-4.

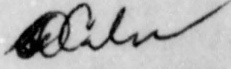
The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
Wewak

May River Patrol No. 1/63-64: IWAM GROUP.

Report submitted by Mr. A.D. Pitt, Patrol Officer of eleven days spent in the field amongst the above-mentioned people, who comprise the May River census Division, is enclosed please.

The patrol concentrated upon endeavouring to impart an elementary concept of the forthcoming House of Assembly elections and the procedures that will be followed. The area, as you are aware, is especially backward, having only been controlled in quite recent times, and only a sprinkling of the men have been out to work. Even these have little general knowledge, as the environment on large plantations is not necessarily conducive to gaining this. Consequently, it is probable that the people have little idea what it is all about, and that what they do think is apt to be confused. Nevertheless, the interest displayed as reported is encouraging.

Villages. The Officer-in-Charge is being advised that no village is to be forced to move against their will, in accordance with Departmental Standing Instructions. I think he is to be commended for his careful consideration of socio-economic factors that have probably governed selection of village sites. At the same time, the health factor should be watched.


(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.

Encl.

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

67-1-1

Patrol Post,
May River,
SEPIK DISTRICT.

5th February, 1964.

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

MAY RIVER PATROL No. 1 of 1963/64.

Please find enclosed the original
and two duplicate copies of the Patrol Report covering the
May River Patrol No. 1 of 1963/64.

AREA PATROLLED.	Iwam Group - May River Census Division.
DATES OF PATROLLING.	13/1/64 - 17/1/64 20/1/64 - 23/1/64 3/2/64 - 4/2/64
NO. of DAYS.	11 days (6 nights camped out)
OFFICER CONDUCTING.	A. D. Pitt. Patrol Officer.
PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING.	3 Members of the R.P. & N.G.C. 1 A.P.O.
MAP REFERENCE.	May River Army Series 4 Miles:1 in
OBJECTS OF PATROL	To acquaint the people of the forth-coming elections.

A. D. Pitt

(A. D. Pitt)
Patrol Officer.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1963/1964.

PATROL DIARY.

Monday, 13th January, 1964.

Preparations for patrol completed and departed station per double canoe 0900. Called briefly at PAINU, IABREM and AUNI, thence to ARAI, arriving 1400.

Off-loaded patrol equipment. Dr. T. Schwartz arrived ex Ambunti en-route to BUREMAI.

Proceeded to BUREMAI, trouble with outboard motor, probably water in petrol as heavy rain has fallen all day. Cleaned engine and arrived BUREMAI 1700.

People told of forth-coming election, their purpose and method of carrying them out. Interpreter used.

Dr. Schwartz arrived to make camp at Buremai, self departed for ARAI 18.45 arrived 19.30.

Talks given on elections to ARAI people, not much interest shown.

Tuesday, 14th January, 1964.

People of ARAI again spoken to re elections.

Departed 0900 for AUNI, IAMBREM, PAINU and AUMI. Talks on elections given to people at each village.

Returned to station 18.00. Mail sent by A.D.O. from Ambunti per Dr. Schwartz checked and sorted out.

Wednesday, 15th January, 1964.

Departed station 0900. Visited ABAGAISU, PEKWE and WANAMOI. Explanatory talks on elections given at each village. Interpreter used.

Returned to station 15.00, radio conversation with A.D.O. Ambunti in afternoon.

Thursday, 16th January, 1964.

Departed station 0900 for WANIAP. Collected some people from hamlet two hours down stream from main village. Arrived 12.15.

Many young men from village have been away to work and are Pidgin speakers, (about 15). Elections and their reason explained to them in afternoon and these people told to discuss my talk with the other villagers during the evening.

Friday, 17th January, 1964.

Talks given on elections to all WANIAP people, Interpreter used.

Seven Waniap men accompanied patrol on return to station to make purchases from SAUNI's store canoe which had arrived at station on the 16th.

Arrived station 14.30.

Saturday - Sunday, 18th, 19th January, 1964.

At Patrol Post, see Field Officer's Journal.

Monday, 20th January, 1964.

Patrol arrangements completed and departed station 0930. Proceeded up May River to PAINU, thence followed small creek to SANIAP River. Creek in flood and over-grown. Motor could not be used. Arrived WANIAM 12.30.

Talks given on elections to assembled people. Interpreter used.

Departed for IBU and talks on elections given to IBU people. Village inspected and instructions given for its improvements.

Departed for MOWI not realizing how far that village is from IBU. Used motor until 19.00 then paddled to MOWI, arriving 20.30.

Tuesday, 21st January, 1964.

Heavy rain in morning, took some time to assemble people especially those living with Luluai at new village site. Tultul working on a plantation.

Village area flooded, meeting held with people in one of the village houses. Talks on elections given, interpreter used.

Two minor disputes concerning women settled.

Departed MOWI for ACUM 11.45 arriving 15.00. Election talks given. Village inspected, all in order and evidence that people are trying to improve it.

Wednesday, 22nd January, 1964.

Departed ACUM 0810, arrived FRIEDA River 0940, SEPIK River 0950 and INIOK 10.05.

Village inspected, much work had been carried out to clean village environs since visit of last officer when some people prosecuted.

Talks on forth-coming elections given. This village has been visited before in connection with the elections and showed more interest and understanding than other villages visited. These people too have had more contact with the outside world.

General discussion with people, no complaints.

Departed 14.15 and arrived MOWI 17.35.

Thursday, 23rd January, 1964.

Spoke to some village people in morning on general village matters. Briefly inspected village which is completely flooded as usual at this time of year. People at present moving to new site suggested to them by previous May River O.I.C. down stream on the Sepik. Site seen yesterday and is not subject to flooding during the high water season.

Departed MOWI 0925. Called at PEKWE camp on

(5)

SEPIK River at the MAY River mouth. Spoke to people engaged in gardening. Collected two women and one child plus foodstuffs and brought them back to main village.

14.10. Departed camp at 10.35 arrived Patrol Post

24th January to 2nd February, 1964.

At Patrol Post. (See Field Officer's Journal)

During this time rumours and a report from Dr. Schwartz were received that the people of BUREMAI and ARAI had interpreted my election talks as meaning that each village was to elect a member for the House of Assembly.

Monday 3rd February, 1964.

Departed station 0850 and arrived ARAI 13.15. Off-loaded patrol equipment. All ARAI people with four or five exceptions sick.

Departed ARAI 13.40 and arrived BUREMAI 14.25.

Election talks given to Buremai people. Number and names of the five candidates standing for the Electorate given. Majority of the people seemed to understand and gave reasonable answers when questioned. Believe rumours to be unfounded or not as wide-spread as originally thought.

Returned to ARAI 17.05. Majority of people sick with what is possibly a mild form of pneumonia. All people treated by the Medical Orderly.

Some Pidgin Speakers spoken to in afternoon, similar talk to that given in Buremai.

Tuesday, 4th February, 1964.

Election talks given to ARAI people. Again people told of number and names of the candidates standing for this Electorate. More interest shown than at time of previous visit.

Departed ARAI, called briefly at the Luluai's hamlet, then proceeded to IAMBREM. People had gathered at village having seen me proceeding up river yesterday. Talks given on elections and again more interest shown than before.

Departed IAMBREM and called PAINU, where talk on election given. Thence to Patrol Post, arriving 14.30.

END OF DIARY.

(4)

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1963/64

1. INTRODUCTION.

This report is being submitted as a ~~Full Patrol Report~~. Although the main object of this Patrol was to acquaint the IWAM people of the forth-coming elections the opportunity was taken to acquaint myself with the general area surrounding the Post having only taken over a week before the Patrol was commenced.

Little in the way of routine administration was carried out although of course any matters brought up for discussion or settlement were attended to. Each village was inspected and where required instructions were issued for any improvements to be carried out.

Much requires to be done in the area as the Post has been unmanned since April, 1963 and a great deal of the initial work carried out by Mr. P.O. McIntyre and the interest created by him has slipped back, but with regular patrolling in the future much can be regained and certainly the task will not be as difficult now as it was originally.

Although most of the aspects usually covered in a full Patrol Report cannot be reported on this time it will be more of a reference to me for future patrols than a Memorandum of Patrol would have been.

2. ATTITUDE TO ELECTION TALKS.

The main reason for the patrol was to acquaint the people with the forth-coming elections. Some initial work had been done by Mr. P.O. Cochrane when he was compiling the Common Roll.

The task is particularly difficult as the majority of the IWAM have only a very limited knowledge of the world outside the confines of the May River. Some of the young men have been away to work on plantations and a few have been in goal but apart from these people there are very few with any knowledge of the geography of the ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~ Territory. A few have heard of Wewak, Madang, Manus, Rabaul, Kavieng, Namatanai and Buka, very very few have heard of Port Moresby and only two or three people have actually been there.

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Before any explanation can be given on the Election it must first be explained what the Government is, my position or the position of a Patrol Officer in it and the position and function to be taken by the House of Assembly.

I was asked if the elected member would take the Patrol Officer's place. Would this member have power and authority over them. Could he take their land by making special laws. If he is an Ambunti man could he make laws to discriminate against them. How would they know who to vote for when they did not know or have seen any of the Candidates. No doubt these are fairly common questions asked in any primitive area.

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The main difficulty was the ~~lack~~ lack of a common language. An interpreter had to be used at every village but then as the idea and purpose of the elections were as foreign to him as to everyone else his task of interpreting must have been extremely difficult.

The actual mechanics of the voting were touched on only briefly. The talks were kept as simple as possible trying to get across the main points, (a) the idea of a meeting deciding on a policy to do what is best to maintain a peaceful happy community, (b) a representative elected by the people to be in this meeting and (c) how that representative was to be elected.

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3. PROBABLE ATTITUDE ON POLLING DAY.

I have no doubt that the majority of people will vote when called upon to do so. The schedule has been so arranged that most people will not have to travel to attend. Too, the people are used to gathering when an officer visits the village and although I have been careful to explain that the polling arrangements in no way resemble a census I am sure they will wait in the villages, if for no other reason than that the polling will be a novelty.

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more has been said. My reason for this is that all voters will be illiterate and I will have to mark their ballot papers for them. As each voter comes up to vote and sees the photographs of the candidates the procedure can be explained individually which I think will mean far more to them than an explanation at this stage. It will be time consuming but luckily the population of this area is not heavy.

4. NATIVE AFFAIRS.

As mentioned in the introduction of this report little was done in the way of routine administration.

At several of the villages, disputes were brought for settlement. All were minor and none required court action.

Very little was seen of the BIRUA people. At BUREMAI two men were seen from the nearby BIRUA settlement of AIMI. The BUREMAI and ARAI people told me that they have fairly regular contact with the Birua people. Although not seen while on patrol the MIANMIN people of USAGE too have fairly regular contact with the IWAM, and IWAM people visit USAGE from time to time. During the time reported by this Report four USAGE men visited the station for two weeks for medical treatment. Very little was said of MIANMIN - IWAM and BIRUA - IWAM relations but at the moment all seems to be harmonious. However only a proper patrol to the area with both groups being visited will definitely establish this.

5. VILLAGES.

The majority of the IWAM villages were flooded to a depth of one to three feet of water between the houses. Those that were not were limited to a narrow strip from between 100 to 200 feet between the river and the swamp.

Mr. P.O. McIntyre had commenced moving these villages from their present sites to nearby high ground but at each of these sites, with the exception of MOWI where the move is in progress, one or two houses had been commenced, probably while Mr. McIntyre was still stationed at May River, and now abandoned.

I am not sure if the advantages to be gained from the moving of the villages will compensate for the amount of work involved. The advantages of being on high dry ground are of course both obvious and numerous. However remaining on the river bank also has its advantages which I think should be taken in account. These people rarely walk but use canoes most of the time, their staple food is sago which requires a considerable amount of water to process and the sago logs are cut during the low water season, floated to the village and kept in the water until ready for use. The mosquitoes appear to be no more on the river than slightly off it and all the proposed sites while sometimes being a fair distance from the present sites are usually on knolls just off the river. The majority of the new sites are not very large (due to the nature of the country and not because of careless choosing) and most are on inclines.

Once off the river, even perhaps two or three hundred yards the problem of sanitation arises, whereas now all waste is thrown from the houses is washed away. One point too which should be taken into account is that the people have always lived on the river and quite obviously prefer it.

As this is my first visit to the area it is pointless making suggestions at this stage. During

(1)

later visits to the villages the matter will be gone into more fully.

6. CONCLUSION.

(i) The people appear to have at least some understanding of the election and it is hoped there will be a good attendance on Polling Day.

(ii) The Patrol was well met at all villages and the people were co-operative.

(iii) Certainly only a very casual enquiry was made but it appears that relations between the three groups in the area, the Iwam, the Birua and the Mianmin, at the present time is good.

A. D. Pitt.

Date: 5th February, 1964.

(A. D. Pitt.)
Patrol Officer.

age Pop

Over 13			Females in Child Birth	M
F	M	F		

67-8-63

22nd June, 1964.

District Officer,
South Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL REPORT NO. 2-63/64 - MAY RIVER.

Receipt of the abovementioned report is acknowledged with thanks.

Mr. Pitt was certainly blessed with good weather for this time of the year.

You should encourage the member for Upper Sepik to visit these people in the IWAM and WONGMUSUN areas. It will give our officers a talking point when they later give political education programmes.

A really well presented report, full of substance.

R

J. K. McCarthy,
DIRECTOR.

ge Pop

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(14)



CI-2-2

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

26th May, 1964

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT MAY RIVER NO. 2/1963-64 - IWAM
AND WONGAMUSUN - MR. A. D. PITT P.O.

Mr. Pitt's was among the more fortunate polling teams with regard to the conditions under which the poll was conducted in the May River and Wongamusen census divisions. The poll was most competently carried out and the report is well written.

[Handwritten signature]

(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

*Member should
visit.
5/6*

(13)

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.
4th May, 1964.

67-1-4.

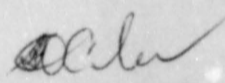
The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
Wewak.

Patrol May River No. 2 of 1963/64: IWAM and WONGAMUSUN.

The attached report by Mr. Patrol Officer Pitt, O.I.C. May River, gives an interesting account of the polling patrol carried out by himself, assisted by Mr. Russell Smith, who at the time was visiting his friend Mr. Hanson of Ambunti, and who agreed to help out in this task. The report has been delayed because of an investigation into an alleged murder, which has been reported as Patrol No. 3.

The results of this election patrol are summarized succinctly in the conclusion, and I think the excellent participation of the people reflects well on Mr. Pitt's handling of the work.

It is to be hoped that the elected representative, Mr. Wegra Kenu of Wanimo may be able to visit these people in the fairly near future, despite the problem of distance, as such a visit will greatly add to the realism of the election for the backward folk, and should assist in enlarging their horizons.


(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.

EXTRACT FROM PATROL REPORT MAY RIVER NO. 2 of 1963/64

POLLING ARRANGEMENTS The polling was held at fourteen centres on the following dates:-

ARAI	15/2/64	*	INIOK	25/2/64
IABREM	17/2/64	*	TAURI	26/2/64
PATROL POST	18/2/64		OUM 11	27-28/2/64
* WANIAP	19/2/64	*	YAUENIAN	29/2 - 2/3/64
* MOWI	21/2/64		KUBKAIN	3-4/3/64
IBU	22/2/64		WASKUK	5/3/64
* AOUM	24/2/64	*	SWAGUP	6/3/64

Seven of the centres, marked above with an asterisk catered only for that village in which it was situated while the remaining centres were no more than three hours canoe travel from any village which had to attend there and in many cases considerably less.

The poll was conducted by myself as Presiding Officer, Mr. R. Smith as Assistant Presiding Officer and two Poll Clerks, Ebi and Josua.

At each centre the Polling Booth was set up in the Rest House area and because of the fine weather all polling was conducted in the open air. This was considered an advantage as I was able to see at all times what was going on in the polling area.

In the majority of villages all eligible voters were waiting on the patrol and usually polling could be completed in three to four hours. Occasionally the Booth was closed ahead of time when all voters who could have possibly voted at the centre had passed through, but in most cases the schedule had been so arranged that there was an over night stop at each Polling place. I am quite sure that everyone desiring to vote had every opportunity to do so and did in fact vote.

At four villages, INIOK, MOWI, TAURI and SWAGUP several young men and women wished to vote, but whose names did not appear on the Roll. There were more than could be considered a mistake on the part of the officer who compiled the Common Roll and it is believed that they were left off as being under age. However I believe that in many cases ages were taken from the Census Books if the person was absent. As the Census Book can often be inaccurate especially in the matter of one or two years, I allowed those people whom I considered and whom the village people considered to be over 21 years of age to vote under Section 130 (1) of the Electoral Ordinance.

Unfortunately, photographs of the candidates did not arrive and in the areas where candidates had not visited the people knew only the names of the people standing. Before the commencement of polling the names of the candidates in the open and special electorates were read out to the people in the order they appeared on the Ballot Paper so that there could be last minute discussion, if they wished between themselves.

(11)

ATTENDANCE AT POLLING. Attendance at each polling place was excellent. Of the twenty five villages in this section of the Electorate, twelve had 100% attendance, three 98% attendance and six had 93% attendance. These figures however are not strictly accurate as they are percentages of people who voted against voters who were actually in the area at the time of the voting. In an area such as this where virtually the only source of income is from migrant labour many of the young men were away at work on plantations etc in other parts of the District and Territory.

Villages with an attendance of less than 90% of people actually in the village were among those villages which were required to travel to the polling centre. The majority of absentees in this case were aged women, women with very young children and aged or sick men.

Unfortunately it was not realised that the Reference copy of the Roll had to be handed in at the completion of the polling until the patrol reached Ambunti and a general average of eligible voters against actual voters was not taken, but from rough notes it is believed the percentage was 78%.

COMPREHENSION OF THE POLL In the remoter area of the May River Census Division, understanding of the poll was, naturally slight. On the Sepik River, however, knowledge of and purpose of the poll was good and was understood in most cases by the men. It is of course harder to judge with the women but I believe quite a few had some idea of what they were doing. It is hard to say whether wives voted the same as husbands as at most villages the women came forward to register their votes after the men had finished.

I believe one of the reasons for a greater understanding on the Sepik River was apart from a greater sophistication among these people, three of the five candidates visited all the Sepik River Villages whereas only one actually came into the May River.

The handling of preference voting was carried out extremely well by the people. All managed a first and second choice which of course was comparatively simple to explain. A third, fourth and fifth choice was more difficult but a surprising number completed their papers fully. Figures, of course, were not kept but I would estimate that more than 50% gave five places.

Little interest was shown in voting for the Special Electorate. No candidate visited any of the villages and the people had no idea who they were voting for. This was especially so in the May River section where Europeans are so few. Further down the Sepik the name of at least one candidate was known and I think this was a big factor when the people were voting.

With only three or four exceptions all voters were illiterate. Ballot papers were marked for each voter either by myself or under my supervision.

There were few absentee votes recorded in the area and those that were were mainly from the Police and station personnel at May River, mission workers and the employees at the store of Kubkain.

Territory of Papua and New Guinea.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 2. of 1963/64.

67-1-1

Patrol Post,
May River,
SEPIK DISTRICT.

Saturday, 13th February 1964.

10th April, 1964.

Departed station in speed boat at 8.15 am. Policing equipment sent via Police boat already in place and people's movements began arriving at 9 am.

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

13th April.

MAY RIVER PATROL No. 2. of 1963/64.

Please find enclosed the original and two ~~MINIATED~~ copies of the Patrol Report covering the May River Patrol No. 2. of 1963/64.

Arrived Patrol Post 2 p.m.

AREA PATROLLED.	May River Census Division, Wongamusen Census Division.
DATES OF PATROLLING.	15/2/64 - 16/2/64 17/2/64 18/2/64 - 6/3/64
NO. OF DAYS.	21 days (8 nights camped out)
OFFICER CONDUCTING.	A. D. Pitt, Patrol Officer.
PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING.	Mr. R. Smith 3 Members of the R.P. & N.G.C. 1 A.P.O.
MAP REFERENCE.	May River and Ambunti Army series 4 Miles : 1 inch.
OBJECTS OF PATROL.	To conduct the House of Assembly Elections for the above section of the Upper Sepik Electorate.

A. D. Pitt
(A. D. Pitt)
Patrol Officer.

Monday, 20th February 1964.

Departed WANIAF 10.15 am per houseboat. Patrol Post set up at 15.15 am to get out and conduct aerial. Weather remained overcast. Arrived 2.15 pm.

Discussion with local people and arranged to hold the Police at new village sites. Present Police station no longer used where polling booth could be set up.

Sept 1964.

(9)

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 2 of 1963/64.

PATROL DIARY

Saturday, 15th February, 1964.

Departed station in speed boat 7 am and arrived ARAI 8.15 am. Polling equipment sent yesterday with Polling Clerks already in place and people ~~xxxxxxxx~~ began arriving at 9 am.

All people from both ARAI and BUREMAI who wished to vote had passed through the Polling Booth by about 3 p.m.

Slept ARAI.

Sunday, 16th February, 1964.

Departed ARAI 9 am for Patrol Post. Called briefly at all village en route to the Post advising them that the Polling Booth would be open at IABREM at 8 am on the 17th.

Arrived Patrol Post 2 p.m.

Monday, 17th February, 1964.

Departed Patrol Post 7.15 am arrived IABREM 8 am. People from AUNI, IABREM, and PAINU began gathering about 9.15 am. All voting completed by 3 p.m. but kept Polling Booth open until 5.45 pm.

Returned to Patrol Post.

Tuesday, 18th February, 1964.

Houseboat loaded and sent to WANIAP.

Polling Booth set up at wharf. People began arriving from WANAMOI, PEKWE, ABAGAISU and AUMI approximately 9 am. All had passed through the Booth by 4 p.m. Absentee votes recorded for the Station police and their wives.

Departed for WANIAP per speed boat, arrived 5.15 p.m.

Wednesday, 19th February, 1964.

Election carried out at WANIAP for that village only. all people passed through Booth by 4 p.m. Remained open until 6 p.m.

Slept WANIAP.

Thursday, 20th February, 1964.

Departed WANIAP 10.15 am per houseboat. From Wanamoi to Patrol Post per speedboat 15 minutes to collect some electoral material, thence returned to houseboat. Arrived MOWI 2 p.m.

Discussion with Luluai and Tultul and arranged to hold the Polling at new village site. Present village flooded and no dry land where polling booth could be set up.

Slept MOWI.

(8)

Friday, 21st February, 1964.

Proceeded to the new village site, twenty minutes down stream by houseboat. Polling booth set up and voting completed by 2 p.m.

Village inspected, thence returned to old village site and on to IBU.

Discussions with the Luluai of IBU re the polling to be carried out to-morrow.

Slept IBU.

Saturday, 22nd February, 1964.

Elections held at IBU for the villages of IBU and WANJUM.

Visited WANJUM per speed boat in afternoon after polling completed.

Slept IBU.

Sunday, 23rd February, 1964.

Departed for AUOM 8.am per houseboat, arrived 3.30 p.m.

Discussions with Luluai re polling arrangements.

Slept AUOM.

Monday, 24th February, 1964.

Polling at AUOM. Population small (41) and polling completed quickly as all voters were assembled at the commencement of voting.

Proceeded to INIOK at 2.30 p.m. Discussions with Village Officials on arrival.

Slept INIOK.

Tuesday, 25th February, 1964.

Polling at INIOK.

Departed for TAURI 4.30 p.m.

Slept TAURI.

Wednesday, 26th February, 1964.

Polling at TAURI, completed 4 p.m. and departed for OUM 11 5 p.m. and visited OUM 1 per speed boat to arrange for the polling for both villages in the morning.

Slept OUM 1.

Thursday, 27th February, 1964.

Polling at OUM, completed 6 p.m.

Slept OUM 1.

Friday, 28th February, 1964.

Departed OUM 11 midday for YAUENIAN. Discussions with village officials re polling. ~~2.30 p.m.~~ in the morning.

Saturday, 29th February, 1964.

Polling at Yauenian.

Sunday, 1st March, 1964.

Observed.

Monday 2nd March, 1964.

Polling booth opened in morning but no further votes recorded.

Departed for KUBKAIN 4 p.m. arrived 5 p.m. Discussions with village officials of KURKAIN, BIAGA, and Chenapian. The three villages will be voting at Kubkain.

Tuesday, 3rd March, 1964.

Polling at Kubkain all day.

Slept Kubkain.

Wednesday 4th February, 1964.

Polling completed at Kubkain.

Departed for WASKUK in afternoon, arrived 5.30 p.m.

General discussion with people re the elections to be held in the morning.

Thursday, 5th February, 1964.

Polling at Waskuk for Waskuk and Yambunumbu people. Both villages small and polling completed by 12 noon. Booth kept open until 2 p.m. then departed for SWAGUP; arriving 5 p.m.

Slept Swagup.

Friday, 6th February, 1964.

Polling at SWAGUP. Completed by mid-afternoon. Departed for Ambunti per speed boat late afternoon, arriving 6.30 p.m.

END OF DIARY.

(6)

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No 2 of 1964/64.

1. INTRODUCTION.

This patrol was undertaken for the purpose of carrying out the Elections for the House of Assembly for the May River Census Division and the Wongamusa Census Division of the Upper Sepik Electorate.

The patrol visited each of the villages previously scheduled as Polling Centres and spent the allotted time at each place to allow the people the opportunity of casting their votes if they so desired.

The patrol was fortunate in that it was carried out in fine weather and that all villages knew of the expected time of arrival of the patrol and were usually assembled waiting. Because of this no time was lost and the patrol was able to keep to its schedule.

Little routine administration was carried out but discussions on village activities with the people and the village officials were held when-ever possible and where necessary disputes and complaints were settled or notes taken to follow up at the completion of the patrol.

2. POLLING ARRANGEMENTS.

The polling was held at fourteen centres on the following dates :-

ARAT	15/2/64	* INIOK	25/2/64
IABREM	17/2/64	* TAURI	26/2/64
PATROL POST	18/2/64	OUN II	27-28/2/64
* WANAP	19/2/64	* YAUENIAN	29/2 - 2/3/64
* MOWI	21/2/64	KUBKAIN	3-4/3/64
IBU	22/2/64	WASKUK	5/3/64
* AOUM	24/2/64	* SWAGUP	6/3/64

Seven of the centres, marked above with an asterisk catered only for that village in which it was situated while the remaining centres were no more than three hours canoe travel from any village which had to attend there and in many cases considerably less.

The poll was conducted by myself as Presiding Officer, Mr. R. Smith as Assistant Presiding Officer and two Poll Clerks, Ebi and Josua.

At each centre the Polling Booth was set up in the Rest House area and because of the fine weather all polling was conducted in the open air. This was considered an advantage as I was able to see at all times what was going on in the polling area.

In the majority of villages all eligible voters were waiting on the patrol and usually polling could be completed in three to four hours. Occasionally the Booth was closed ahead of time when all voters who could have possibly voted at the centre had passed through, but in most cases the schedule had been so arranged that there was

an over night

(5)

an over-night stop at each Polling place. I am quite sure that everyone desiring to vote had every opportunity to do so and did in fact vote.

At four villages, INIOK, MOWI, SAUPT and CHAJET several young men and women wished to vote, but whose names did not appear on the Roll. There were more than could be considered a mistake on the part of the officer who compiled the Common Roll and it is believed that they were left off as being under age. However I believe that in many cases ages were taken from the Census books if the person was absent. As the Census Book can often be inaccurate especially in the matter of one or two years, I allowed those people whom I considered and whom the village people considered to be over 21 years of age to vote under Section 130 (1) of the Electoral Ordinance.

Unfortunately, photographs of the candidates did not arrive and in the areas where candidates had not visited the people knew only the names of the people standing. Before the commencement of polling the names of the candidates in the open and special electorates were read out to the people in the order they appeared on the Ballot Paper so that there could be last minute discussion, if they wished between themselves.

2. ATTENDANCE AT POLLING. Attendance at each polling place was excellent. Of the twenty-five villages in this section of the Electorate, twelve had 100% attendance, three 98% attendance and six 93 % attendance. These figures however are not ~~strictly~~ strictly accurate as they are percentages of people who voted against voters who were actually in the area at the time of the voting. In an area such as this where virtually the only source of income is from migrant labour many of the young men were away at work on plantations etc in other parts of the District and Territory.

Villages with an attendance of less than 90% of people actually in the village were ~~those~~ among those villages which were required to travel to the polling centre. The majority of absentees in this case were aged women, women with very young children and aged ~~men~~ or sick men.

Unfortunately it was not realised that the Reference copy of the Roll had to be handed in at the completion of the polling until the patrol reached Ambunti and a general average of eligible voters against actual voters was not taken, but from rough notes it is believed ~~to~~ the percentage was 78 %.

4. COMPREHENSION OF THE POLL. In the remoter area of the May River Census Division, understanding of the poll was, naturally, slight. On the Sepik River, however, knowledge of and purpose of the poll was good and was understood in most cases by the men. It is of course harder to judge with the women but I believe quite a few had some idea of what they were doing. It is hard say whether wives voted the same as husbands as at most villages the women came forward to register their votes after the men had finished.

I believe one of the reasons for a greater understanding on the Sepik River was apart from a greater sophistication among these people, three of the five candidates visited all the Sepik River Villages whereas

(4)

only one actually came into the May River.

The handling of preference voting was carried out extremely well by the people. All managed a first and second choice which of course is comparatively simple to explain. A third, fourth and fifth choice was more difficult but a surprising number completed their papers fully. Figures, of course, were not kept but I would estimate that more than 50 % gave five places.

Little interest was shown in voting for the Special Electorate. No candidate visited any of the villages and the people had no idea who they were voting for; this was especially so in the May River section where Europeans are so few. Further down the Sepik the name of at least one candidate was known and I think this was a big factor when the people were voting.

With only three or four exceptions all voters were illiterate. Ballot papers were marked for each voter either by myself or under my supervision.

There were few absentee votes recorded in the area and those that were were mainly from the Police and station personnel at May River, mission workers and the employees of the store at Kibkain.

5. NATIVE AFFAIRS

As stated above little was done in the way of routine administration. However all villages in the May River Census Division were visited and discussions were held with the village Officials and village people. Instructions were issued where necessary but generally the villages were in a reasonable state of cleanliness and repair, especially so when taken into account that this is the high-water season when most of the food gathering takes place.

Several minor disputes were settled and several complaints and enquiries brought forward which have been attended to. The need for court action did not arise.

No Birua or Mianmin people were sighted during the patrol although several of the Birua villages knew of my presence in the vicinity and later visited the Patrol Post.

The move being undertaken by MOWI from their present site to one on the banks of the Sepik, mentioned in my Patrol Report No. 1 of 1963/64, is now almost complete. At the time of the patrol's visit to that village more than 70 % of the population had moved. Because of this polling for Mowi was held at the new site and the village inspected at the same time. It has been well laid out and promised to be a reasonable village when completed.

At IBU the people are at present building two new houses three hundred yards from the present village. The people say they will all eventually move to this area. The site, while not as good as that suggested by Mr McIntyre, is better than the present site and has the advantage over the site suggested before of being on the river and easier to transport building materials to it. The move was encouraged as the present site is one of the worst in the May River area.

6. CONCLUSION.

(i) The Patrol was able, without hurrying to keep to its schedule.

(ii) The attendance at the polls was excellent, in some cases as high as 70%.

(iii) Understanding of the elections and purpose of them was better than expected and at times very good.

(iv) The Patrol was well met in the villages and the people co-operative.

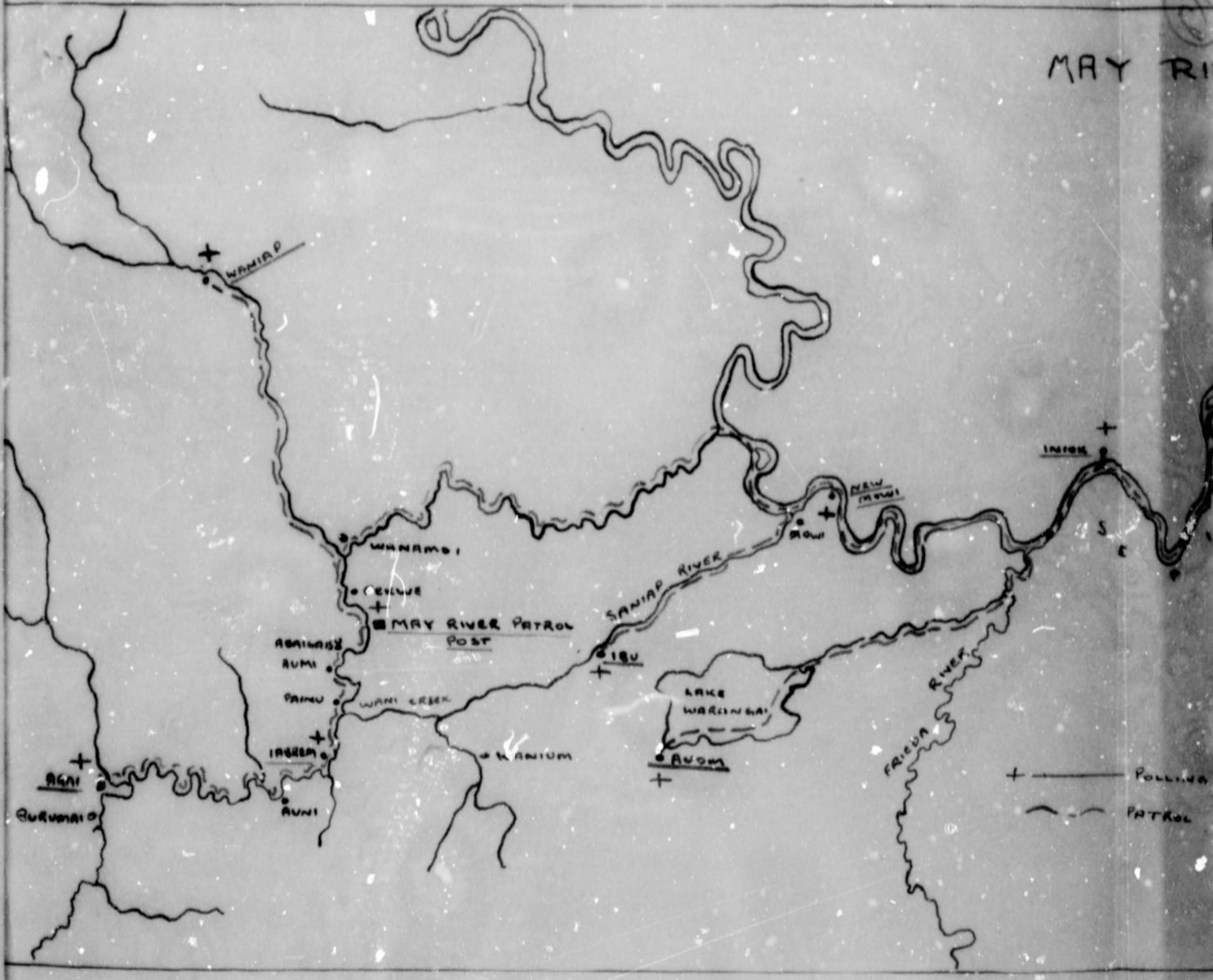
(v) Those assisting the Patrol, Mr. R. Smith, Evi, an Agricultural Assistant and Joshua, a student from Brandi carried out their duties well and efficiently and did much to-wards helping the patrol move as smoothly as it did.

10th April, 1964.

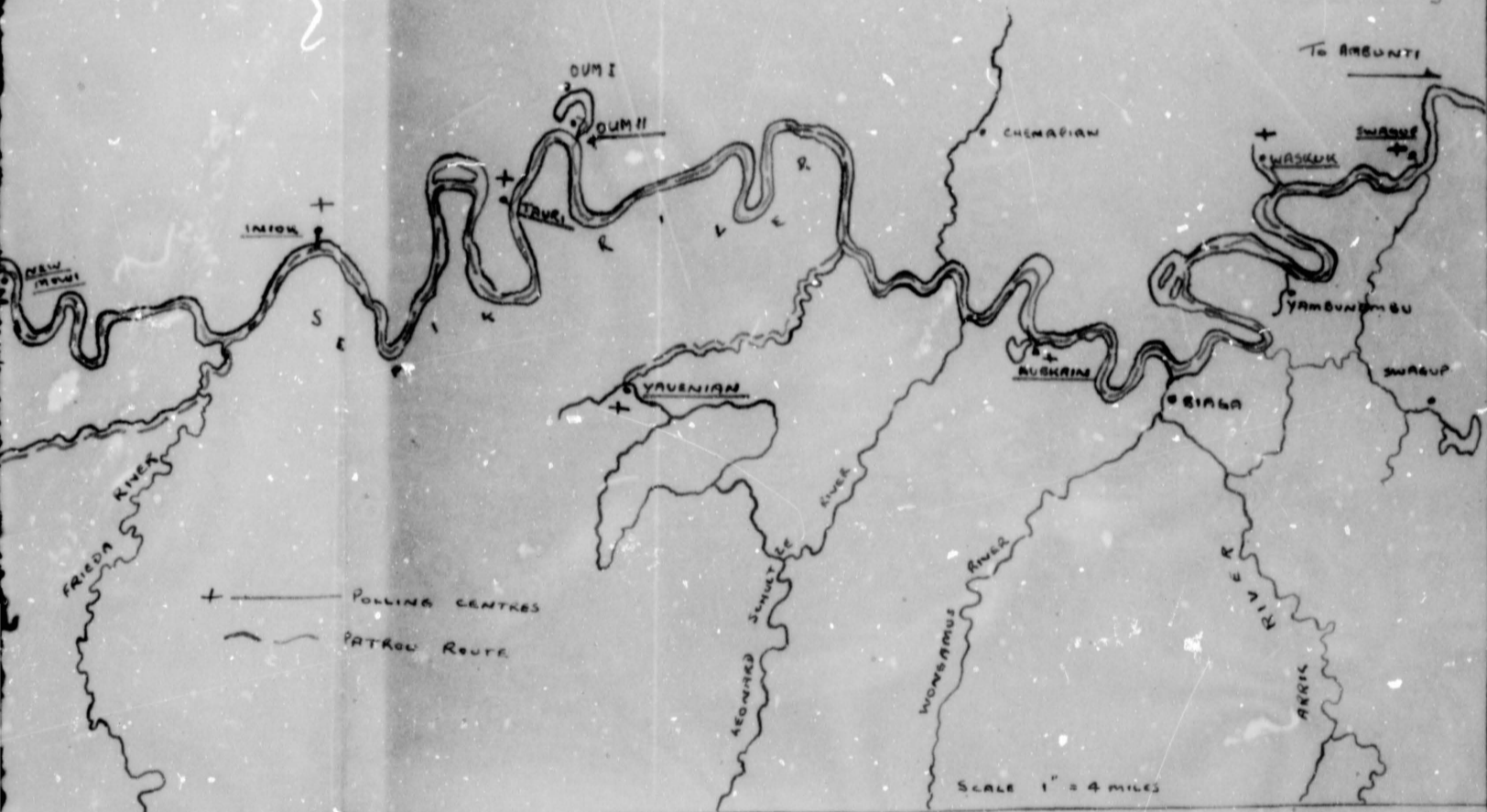
A. D. Pitt

(A. D. Pitt)
Patrol Officer

MAY RIVER



MAY RIVER PATROL No 2 of 1963/64





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SEFIK Report No. MAY RIVER No. 3 of 1963/64

Patrol Conducted by A. D. Pitt, Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled Part of May River Census Division. (Waniabu)

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 6 members of R.P. & N.C.C. 1 A.P.O.

Duration—From 17./3./1964 to 27./3./1964

Number of Days 11 days (9 nights camped out)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No.

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services/5/1962

Medical/19..... NIL

Map Reference May River, Army Series 4 Miles : 1 inch

Objects of Patrol To investigate a reported killing at KABI-A village.

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

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

Digitized version made available by

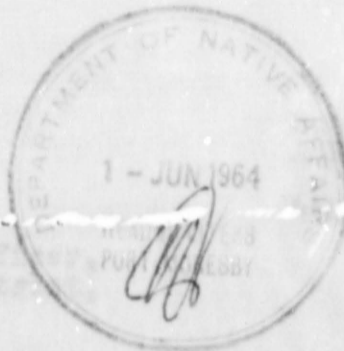


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Note on digitized version: A microfiche copy of these reports is held at the University of California, San Diego (Mandeville Special Collections Library, MSS 0215). The digitized version presented here reflects the quality and contents of the microfiche. Problems which have been identified include misfiled reports, out-of-order pages, illegible text; these problems have been rectified whenever possible. The original reports are in the National Archives of Papua New Guinea (Accession no. 496).

67-2-2
37-6-1District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK

26th May, 1964

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.PATROL REPORT MAY RIVER NO. 3 of 1963/64 - WANIABU
AREA - MR. A. D. PITT, P.O.

I would like particularly to commend Mr. Pitt for the way in which this patrol was conducted, contact established with the WANIABU people, and investigation into the murder carried successfully through to conclusion with a resulting heightened, rather than loss of, good will on the part of the people towards the Administration.

The report is well written, but the account of the investigation could well have included details of the circumstances of the killing: one is left to infer that a woman named IYAM was killed but when, how and under what circumstances is not given.

Concerning the close ties of the WANIABU with the PANEWAI people and their enmity towards the MAY RIVER groups in the vicinity of the Patrol Post, it is of interest to note that the PANEWAI people are linked with the AMENI, or TIPAS, Yellow River people - in fact PANEWAI voted with AMENI at PABEI in the South Wapei section of the Lumi electorate - and that the Patrol Post was established because of the massacre of the TIPAS people by the WANAMOI of May River.

It would appear that relative ease of communication between the Patrol Post and the WANIABU via WANIAP exists if WANIAP creek is cleared of obstructions. Mr. McIntyre also found no difficulty in visiting the eastern group, comprised of TIGGI, ASUWI and ITAUWA, from WANIAP on his Patrol No. 4 of 1962/63. Mr. Pitt mentions that the WANIABU have ties with this group. The way therefore is now open for routine administration to be extended to all groups in this area through regular patrolling.

Has Mr. Pitt carried out investigations into any of the previously reported killings, particularly that at TIGGI in January 1963?

A very interesting report.

(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

3

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.

May 1, 1964. 67-1-4.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
Wewak.

May River Patrol No. 3 of 1963/64.

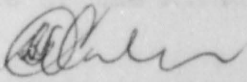
Enclosed is a report by Mr. A.D. Pitt, Patrol Officer, of a field investigation into an alleged murder, which had been reported to him during the election period.

The report is well set out and informative of this new group at the headwaters of Waniap Creek, whom Mr. Pitt has termed the "Waniabu". It would seem that this group have had fairly close relations with the Panewai group near Yellow River, and to a lesser extent with the "Tiggi" group, adjoining them on the east; on the other hand, they appear to be hostile to the Waniap and other Iwam people near the Post.

It appears that there has been a fair degree of contact with the outside, mainly through migrant labour recruiting from Lumi. It is proposed to prosecute the present alleged offence, as evidently the people are not so primitive that it should be dealt with otherwise. Accordingly, the writer is preparing to leave for May River this week to hold the preliminary enquiry.

The signs of confidence and cooperative spirit of this group augurs well for our future contact and firm establishment of our influence, which should now proceed rapidly.

Mr. Pitt seems to have carried out his task very well and to have established good preliminary relations with the people, despite his role as policeman.


(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.

Territory of Papua and New Guinea.

67-1-1

Patrol Post,
May River,
SEPIK DISTRICT.

13th April, 1964.

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

MAY RIVER PATROL No. 3 of 1963/64.

Please find enclosed the original
and two copies of the Patrol Report covering the May
River Patrol No. 3 of 1963/64.

AREA PATROLLED May River Census Division,
Waniabu area.

DATES OF PATROLLING 17/3/64 to 27/3/64

No. OF DAYS of patrol and one week 11 days (9 nights camped out)

OFFICER CONDUCTING A. D. Pitt, Patrol Officer.

Personnel Accompanying 6 Members of the R.P. & N.G.C.
+ A.P.O.

MAP REFERENCE May River Army Series 4 miles
: 1 inch

OBJECTS OF PATROL To investigate a reported
killing at KABI-A village
and to re-contact an area
lying to the west of WANIAP.

A. D. Pitt
(A. D. Pitt)
Officer in Charge.

15

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 1963/64.

PATROL DIARY.

Tuesday, 17th March, 1964.

Departed May River 10.30 am for WANAP calling briefly at the Waniap hamlet of BAINU en route. Arrived Waniap 1.45 p.m.

Engaged carriers after some difficulty. Insufficient men in village and speed boat sent to WANAMOI and PEKWE to recruit five more men.

Wednesday, 18th March, 1964.

Departed WANAP 9.30 am per motor canoe. Travelled two hours and encountered numerous log jams. Used paddles for two hours and arrived at a deserted "Birua" house. Transferred patrol equipment to smaller canoes and proceeded for a further half hour to another Birua house. Met up with five Birua men and one woman on a fishing trip. All friendly. Proceeded on foot through the swamp following the creek. Walking unpleasant and in some places water waist deep.

Arrived BOROBA at 5 p.m. Settlement consists of one large house on top of a hill 15 minutes from the creek.

The Birua men accompanying the patrol entered first so as not to alarm the people. Only one man present but three woman. None showed signs of fear and one woman could speak a smattering of Pidgin.

Camp set up and two women and one man returned from the gardens.

Discussions with people re general village activities and work of the Administration.

Sgt. WAPI reported that the villagers offered to lead him to the men alledged to be responsible for the killings. Told to talk to the people and find out as much as possible.

Guards posted at night, no incidents.

Thursday, 19th March, 1964.

More discussions with the people. Told that three of the five men involved in the killing have left with a recruiter for LUMI. WIMO the man alledged to have fired the first shot and one other are supposed to be hiding in a hamlet near KABI-A

Headman of KABI-A offered to capture the two men and bring them to Boroba if I would send Police to help him. Declined the offer.

Presents distributed and people told to send word to the neighbouring settlements for the people to come in.

IMO, brcther of YAMU arrived. Claims to have been a witness to the killing. Interviewed.

Headman of AMA arrived 8 p.m. after visiting hamlet where WIMO and OHAIYA are believed to be living. Both men absent but

their wives present.

Guards posted at night, no incidents.

Friday, 20th March, 1964.

Two men from KABI-A sent to try and make contact with WIMO.

Broke camp and departed for KABI-A at 9 am, arrived 11 am. Journey would not normally take two hours but frequent halts made to keep party together. Most of the walking through swamp.

Camp set up. More discussions with the people and witnesses interviewed. Inspected scene of the killing.

WIMO and IMAMU? Both alleged to have taken part in the killing, with IMO, IMARE, NIKIAM and IRORU? ALL OF BLESSIKI arrived at camp at 5.30 pm.

Both witnesses interviewed so far pointed out WIMO and IMAMU as having taken part in the killing. No mention of the killing made to the new-comers and police warned they were not to discuss it.

Police instructed to give food and tobacco to WIMO and the other men and to talk to them on the aims of the Administration. Police also told to make offer to WIMO and IMAMU that they sleep in the police tent as other accommodation limited. Both accepted the offer.

General discussion with the Blessiki people on the aims of the Administration, villages in the area, previous contact with the Administration and other Europeans, etc. All men have been away to work on plantations.

Guards posted at night, no incidents.

Saturday, 21st March, 1964.

Discussion with IMAMU. Claimed that he had met WIMO near KABI-A a few weeks ago and that WIMO had told him that he had killed a woman because he suspected sorcery had been used to cause the death of his two sisters and that the woman was sick and had a bad sore on her leg.

IMAMU given salt and tobacco and told to contact the other men who were with him at the time when he met WIMO. IMAMU said that they were living in a hamlet near KABI-A and that he would bring them back with him.

WIMO arrested after IMAMU had departed in the presence of Sgt. WAPI and Native Medical Orderly AUSA. Usual warning given.

Six men including the Tultul of Waniar arrived.

Further discussions with IMO and TOTI, witnesses to the killing.

IMAMU returned to the camp at 5.10 p.m. with KERAI, OHAIYA, and NIKIAM. General discussion with them by no mention made of the killing. Asked if they would like to return to May River, all agreed.

Eight people from the surrounding hamlets arrived. All friendly and quantities of sac sac bought with salt. General discussions with the people on future activities in the area.

Guards posted at night, no incidents.

(13)

- 3 -

Sunday, 22 nd March, 1964.

Discussions with IMO as to the present whereabouts of the
body of IVAN.

At 0915 OHAIYA, IMAMU and NIKIAM left the camp and did not return. Consts. Forbaiuk, Nanikawa and Megobain followed.

Visited the place where the woman was allegedly dragged. Found the skeleton of a human and lying amongst the bones was a grass skirt and a broken arrow. The arrow was removed and taken back to the camp. Sgt WAPI, NEMSART of Waniap, Naso of Pekwe and NASIN of Wanamoi present at the time of the discovery.

Const. Forbaiuk returned at 1 pm but found no trace of the three men. Had visited LEHEI.

Const. Nanikawa returned at 1.30 p.m. after finding no trace of the three men.

Const. Megobain returned at 2.30 p.m. Had found no trace of the men.

Five men and one woman arrived at the camp, not previously seen. Given salt and other presents. None could speak Pidgin.

Guards posted at night, no incidents.

Monday, 23rd March, 1964.

Nikiam who had left the camp yesterday arrived with his wife's brother. Nikiam arrested and warned.

Self with Sgt Wapi and Consts. Megobain and Sagi visited Lehei, two hours walk from Kabi-a, where Imamu and Ohaiya had been living. One old man sighted at hamlet, friendly.

Returned to Kabi-a calling at a garden house belonging to Kabi-a en route. Sighted five men, three not previously seen. General Discussion on gardening.

Guards posted at night, no incidents.

Tuesday, 24th March, 1964.

Ohaiya returned to the camp at 8.30 am. He was arrested and given the warning.

Broke camp and proceeded to Boroba at 10 am. arrived 12 noon and made camp.

A death had occurred at Boroba on the 23rd and the hamlet was deserted as is the custom with the people.

Word sent for the canoe.

Wednesday, 25th March, 1964.

Broke camp 7.30 am. Waited on IMO a witness to arrive from KABI-A. Carriers sent ahead at 9 am and self waited until 10 am. Word sent for IMO to follow on.

Proceeded to WANIAP, at first by foot and then by canoe. Thence to Patrol Post in speed boat.

Thursday, 26th March, 1964.

Departed station 8.30 am for Panewai after some difficulty in starting Speed boat. Arrived Panewai 1.30 p.m.

IMAU arrived 2.30 pm. and was arrested and warned.

Slept Panewai.

Friday, 27th March, 1964.

Departed Panewai 8 am. arrived Patrol Post 2 p.m. after calling at Wanamoi camp at the May River mouth en route.

END OF DIARY.

(11)

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 1963/64.

1. INTRODUCTION.

This patrol was undertaken to investigate a reported killing at the village of KABI-A. This village, one of a group known to exist but previously unvisited lies to the north of WANIAP and between that village and PANWAI on the Sepik River.

An investigation into the killing was carried out and as a result five arrests were made. These men were brought back to the Patrol Post along with witnesses and are now awaiting the arrival of the visiting magistrate.

At the same time the Patrol was able to gather information on a group that was little known and was able to bring two groups, the Waniap people and the group under discussion, together for the first time without hostility.

2. DESCRIPTION OF THE AREA.

The area lies to the north of Waniap in a valley running roughly north-south between Waniap and Panewai. It was known that there were a group of people living in the area and it was visited by Mr. A.D.O. Martin of Ambunti in May, 1962. Mr. Martin walked through from Panewai to Waniap and saw many people at patrol camps but actually ~~only~~ visited only three villages, WABRARU and ASIKEWA, both now uninhabited and AMA.

The local name for the ground or area is "WANIABU" and for convenience the people will in future be referred to as such rather than by the general term "BIRUA" which is the local name for all inland people surrounding the May River irrespective of location or tribe.

The Patrol visited three villages, BOROBA, KABI-A and LEHEI. BLESSIKI was sighted but not visited as the population had scattered throughout the area following a death at the village. During the course of the patrol most of the population from BLESSIKI were seen at KABI-A. From conversations with the people one other occupied village remains, AMA. WABRARU and ASIKEWA mentioned by Mr. Martin have since been abandoned after several deaths had occurred in each village. The surviving inhabitants are now living at BLESSIKI.

Apart from the main villages KABI-A, BOROBA, AMA and BLESSIKI three have hamlets which are occupied periodically. These hamlets consist of a small roughly constructed dwelling, little better than a shelter which are used when the people are hunting and gardening. Names of hamlets at present in existence are :-

IBIA, hamlet of Kabi-a
UMI, hamlet of Ama
KARAKAKI, NUKNUPA and LEHEI hamlets of Blessiki.

To refer to the settlements as villages is not strictly accurate. In common with other "Birua" people a village consists of one fortified house which is usually occupied by four or five families. Occasionally a family will remove for a short period to one of the hamlets. The houses are well constructed but built of light saplings probably due to the difficulty of cutting larger trees although a number of steel implements were noticed.

The valley in which the area is located is drained by a tributary of the Waniap creek, itself a tributary of the May. The floor of the valley is a permanent swamp and the settlements are located on the walls for defence although not so the hunting haplats.

The creek is navigable by power canoe to within two and a half hours or BOROBA and by pull canoe to within one and a half hours. If cleared of debris a canoe could reach to within fifteen minutes of Boroba which would allow an canoe to make the trip from Waniap to Boroba in approximately three and a half to four hours.

3. DESCRIPTION OF THE PEOPLE. The Waniabu are light skinned and generally swaller in stature than the IWAM. The women wear a grass skirt similar to that worn by the IWAM women while the men wear a penis-gourd, usually long, thin and curved unlike the MIANMIN WHICH ARE USUALLY short and thick.

The men all have their noses pierced from the top into the nostril and some had the antlers of beetles struck into the holes. This marking was not noticed on boys up to sixteen or seventeen years of age. The men also wore a garter-type band immediately below their knees, some on leg only, others two. No tribal scars, such as are frequently seen on the Sepik River people were noticed.

The Waniabu have some relationship with the TIGGI and ASUWI settlements, known to the Administration as Birua and which have been visited in the past, to the east of Waniap, but at the present time the extent of the relationship is not known although the Waniabu claim that the two languages are similar with only slight variations and speak of the Tiggi people as "Wuntoks" and "Kantri". Marriages take place between the two groups.

The Waniabu also have regular contact with the PANEWAI people and can converse with them in a mixture of the two languages. Many of the Waniabu live at Panewai for periods of several months at a time and marriages have taken place. Some areas of land used for hunting and gathering near Panewai appear to be communally owned by the two groups; probably "no-mans land" from the old fighting days.

The Waniabu have had very little contact with the Waniap people although both groups knew of each other's existence. The Iwam of Waniap have always referred to the Waniabu as "Birua" - enemy and "wild men". Up until recent years fighting had always taken place between the two groups whenever they met. Waniap carriers were used, there were none other available, to take the patrol into the Waniabu and for the duration of the patrol both groups lived together because of the shortage of ground for the erection of tents. I believe the meeting will have a good effect on both sides, but it will now have to be watched that Waniap does not start to move into the Waniabu lands, which probably belonged to Waniap in the past before they were run off, as has happened at Buremai and Arai now that fighting has been stopped.

Altho ugh only visited once before by a patrol a surprising number of Waniabu men could speak or at least understand Pidgin. However it was soon discovered that

recruiters from Lumi have been visiting Panewai for a number of years and young men have been going out to work on plantations for some time. I do not think that any European recruiter has gone into the area but several Native Recruiters have been through. The labourers have evidently made it a point of teaching Pidgin on their return as several teenage boys were noticed who have not yet been away to work but who had a good knowledge of Pidgin. One woman was noticed who appeared to be able to understand the language.

4. AGRICULTURE.

Gardening is not carried out to any great extent. The staple diet is saccas (sago) supplemented with bananas, a very small amount of kaukau, a very small amount of taro, fish, grubs, sugar cane and the occasional possum. One sow in farrow was noticed and two piglets but are kept more for their monetary value or trading value than for food. The people, are however, better off as regards a variety of foods than the IWAM.

Gardens belonging to BOROBA, KABI-A and BLESSIKI were seen but with the exception of the latter were small and ill-tended. Fighting and sorcery are common in the area which is not conducive to spending long hours in the gardens away from the protection of the house. The BLESSIKI garden was larger than the others seen, no doubt due to the larger population, but was no better tended.

Food was not particularly abundant and the Patrol had to be careful when buying food for the carriers not to leave the village short, especially as they were willing to trade all they had for salt.

5. HEALTH.

The general health of the people was not particularly good. Majority of the people seen had sores and the incidence of Grille was high. The people reported that seven young girls had died in the last three to four weeks before the arrival of the Patrol. They attributed sorcery but from the symptoms I believe the deaths were caused by influenza.

During the stay of the Patrol two people died, an old man and a young girl, I believe both had Cerebral Malaria. Most of the people seemed to have colds and coughs and of the nine men brought back to the Patrol Post all have been sick at various times lasting from three to five days.

The A.P.O. accompanying the Patrol attended to all people who came to the camp, mainly the dressing of sores.

6. NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The Patrol was well received and although guards were posted each night no incidents occurred. From BOROBA, the first camp, word was sent out to the other settlements informing them of the Patrol's presence in the area and the people came into Borooba and later to Kabi-a readily. It is believed that the patrol saw at least 75% of the population and it is estimated that the total population when censused will be in the region of approximately 200.

It was suggested that the creek be cleared of obstructions so as to allow canoes to come further into the area and the people agreed. It was also suggested that a central rest house be built to remove the

necessity of bringing in tents and so cut down of the carrier line needed and again the people readily agreed.

The aims of the Administration were discussed with the people at several gatherings. They seemed to have a good knowledge of what was right and wrong in the eyes of the Government. Their co-operation in getting the five men alleged to have taken part in the killing to visit the camp was remarkable and at first it appeared a little too good. I was concerned that the five may have been made scapegoats for something else but after completing the investigation I believe my original suspicions to be unfounded.

The people cannot be regarded as completely primitive. Although their area has only been visited twice before they have had contact with traders, recruiters and the Administration extending back over a number of years. By coming to the Patrol Post to report the killing shows that, although never having visited it before, they did know of its existence and that they knew of the correct procedure.

By the same token they cannot be regarded as controlled. This first visit was a novelty and something they have expected for quite some time. For this reason the Patrol was well received and the people showed the utmost co-operation. I believe now that care will have to be taken to ensure that this attitude of co-operation continues. This of course can only be done in the field and at present it is being planned to return to the area after the Supreme Court hearing to explain what has happened rather than allow, ~~expanded~~ what probably would be a garbled account to get back via the witnesses.

To this end it was suggested that the creek be cleared to enable easier access and the rest house constructed to enable smoother and faster travel. Ease of access will be of benefit to the people themselves, they will now have two avenues leading from the area and the Waniap people have been instructed to afford the Waniabu passage to the Post should they come this way. Fortunately the Waniap are now at a stage where an instruction of this kind can be issued without fear of it not being carried out. More frequent contact with the IWAM, now completely under Administration influence will also be of great benefit to the Waniabu.

The primary purpose of the Patrol was to investigate a reported killing in the area and a report on the investigation has been dealt with in a separate section of this report.

2. INVESTIGATION OF THE KILLING. First word of the killing was brought to the Patrol post by YAMU, husband of the deceased woman and TOTI who claimed to have been present at the time IYAM died. They brought with them what they claimed was the hand of the woman and the spears or arrows with which she had been killed.

The report was made to Const. FANGORA during my absence from the station on the Electoral Patrol. The report was brought to me at Ambunti by Const. WANDU who was proceeding on leave. Const. WANDU could give very little information other than what he had been told by Const. Fangora.

On my return to the station I interviewed both men. They had arrived at the Patrol Post on Tuesday the 25th February, had spent Monday night, the 24th February at Waniap and Sunday night, the 23rd February at BOROBA. The alleged killing had taken place on the Sunday morning.

I departed for the area on the 17th March, 1964, and arrived at BOROBA, the first WANIASU village on the 18th. There I had discussions with the people and learned that there had been six people present in the house at the time of the alleged killing. They are as follows :-

- IMO.
- MAMU, father of Imo.
- LABI, mother of Imo.
- TOTI.
- YETLAU, wife of Toti and sister of Imo.
- NIKIAM, father of Toti.

IMO was interviewed on several occasions and eventually a statement was taken. MAMU was brought into BOROBA on the second day of the Patrol's stay but was too sick to be interviewed. He died on the 23rd March after being on a coma for two days. LABI was interviewed but was too terrified of the Patrol to say anything. A second attempt was made several days later after the patrol had been in the area for a while and the people were more used to us but without success.

Unfortunately as it was later discovered, LABI could be an important witness as she is alleged to have buried IYAM, the dead woman, although later ~~it~~ again it was found that no burial had taken place. Efforts to talk with LABI were eventually abandoned however, when it was feared that the people may have resented the Patrol for causing obvious distress to the woman.

TOTI was interviewed on several occasions and eventually a statement was taken from him. YETLAU was interviewed once but was terrified and obviously sick. She died on the 24th March, probably of cerebral malaria. NIKIAM was sighted while the patrol was at KABI-A but he returned to BOROBA before he could be interviewed. When the Patrol returned to BOROBA the settlement was deserted following a death which had occurred on the day before and the people were scattered in the bush. There was no hope of making contact with him.

(6)

While at KABI-A I visited the place pointed out by both TOTI and IMO as the spot where IYAM had been dragged. They claimed they themselves had not been to the place to investigate. Approximately 100 yards from the house and approximately 50 yards inside the bush from the edge of the clearing and three or four feet off a little-used footpath the skeleton of a human was found. The body had completely decomposed and it was impossible to tell whether it had been male or female. However a grass skirt was found lying amongst the bones which although separate had not been scattered. It appeared as if the body had been lying face down.

Also amongst the bones was an arrow broken ~~xxx~~ in two, the point of which was embedded in one of the vertebra of the spine. (The arrow was collected in the presence of Sgt. WAPI, NASO of PEKWE, NEMSART of WANIAP and NASON of WANAMOI.) Those bones seen which were readily identifiable were the skull, the ribs, the bones of the arms and legs, ~~xxx~~ the vertebra of the spine and some smaller ones probably those of the feet. As far as I could tell there were no bones of the hands and fingers.

Before the investigation was completed I sent word via relatives of the five men, WIMO, IMAMU, KERAI, OHAIYA and NIKIAM, alleged by TOTI and IMO as having taken part in the killing, that I would like to see them. WIMO and IMAMU appeared at the camp at Kabi-a on the 20th March. They came in quite voluntarily. No mention was made of the killing although Const. NANIKAWA reported WIMO as saying, "What will happen to me, will I go to goal." Nanikawa, as had all the police, had been instructed that under no circumstances was he to question either of the men. He replied that WIMO would have "to see the Kiap".

IMAMU told me that he in company with three other men had met WIMO on the road on the day of the killing and WIMO had told him that he had killed a woman. IMAMU gave the names of OHAIYA, NIKIAM and KERAI as ~~xxx~~ these of the men who had been with him. He also said that these men were now at LEHEI and he would bring them to the camp. On the 21st March he was given salt and tobacco and told to contact the men and ask them to come to the camp. He returned on the afternoon of the 21st with the three men. TOTI and IMO were asked separately if the men now in the camp were the same as those to whom they had referred, they both agreed they were.

The men were interviewed but again no mention was made of the killing as at that stage the investigation was not completed and only WIMO had at that stage been arrested. This had been done in IMAMU's absence in the presence of Sgt WAPI and A.P.O. AUSA. All were given food and asked if they would like to return to the Patrol Post with the Patrol and all agreed. In no way were any of the men restrained against their will although a close watch was kept on WIMO.

On the morning of the 22nd OHAIYA, NIKIAM and IMAMU disappeared from the camp. Three police weresent to scout around in close vicinity to the camp but without success. On the 23rd NIKIAM returned to the camp with his wife's brother. He said that he had gone ~~with~~ because IMAMU, who seemed to have the strongest personality of the five, had told him to. He had split from the other two shortly after leaving the camp and had returned to his village. When he had heard from his brother-in-law that I was not annoyed he

5

decided to return.

Later that day I visited LEMBI but did not sight either of the missing men. Most of the people spoken to were of the opinion that they would make for PANEWAI and go onto LUMI to seek work on a plantation.

On the 24th OHAIYA returned to the camp. He also had spilt with IMAMU early in the piece and had decided to return when he heard the Patrol was still at Kabi-a.

The Patrol then returned to May River. Sgt WAPI and Const. MEGOBAIN were left to make their way over-land to Panewai and alert the people there if IMAMU had not already passed through. I returned to the station in order to warn LUMI through the A.D.O. at Ambunti. This done, the following morning I proceeded to Panewai by speed boat and met up with the two police. IMAMU had not been seen but it was learned that he had visited Panewai two days before and was at present attending the burial rights of an important man. This entailed the cutting of certain saccac palms in the hills surrounding the village and on the 27th he returned to Panewai where he was arrested immediately. The party then returned to the Patrol Post on the 28th March.

8. CONCLUSION.

(i) The Patrol accomplished its purpose in that it investigated and as a result arrested certain men reasonably believed to have taken part in the killing of IMAM (P) of KABI-A.

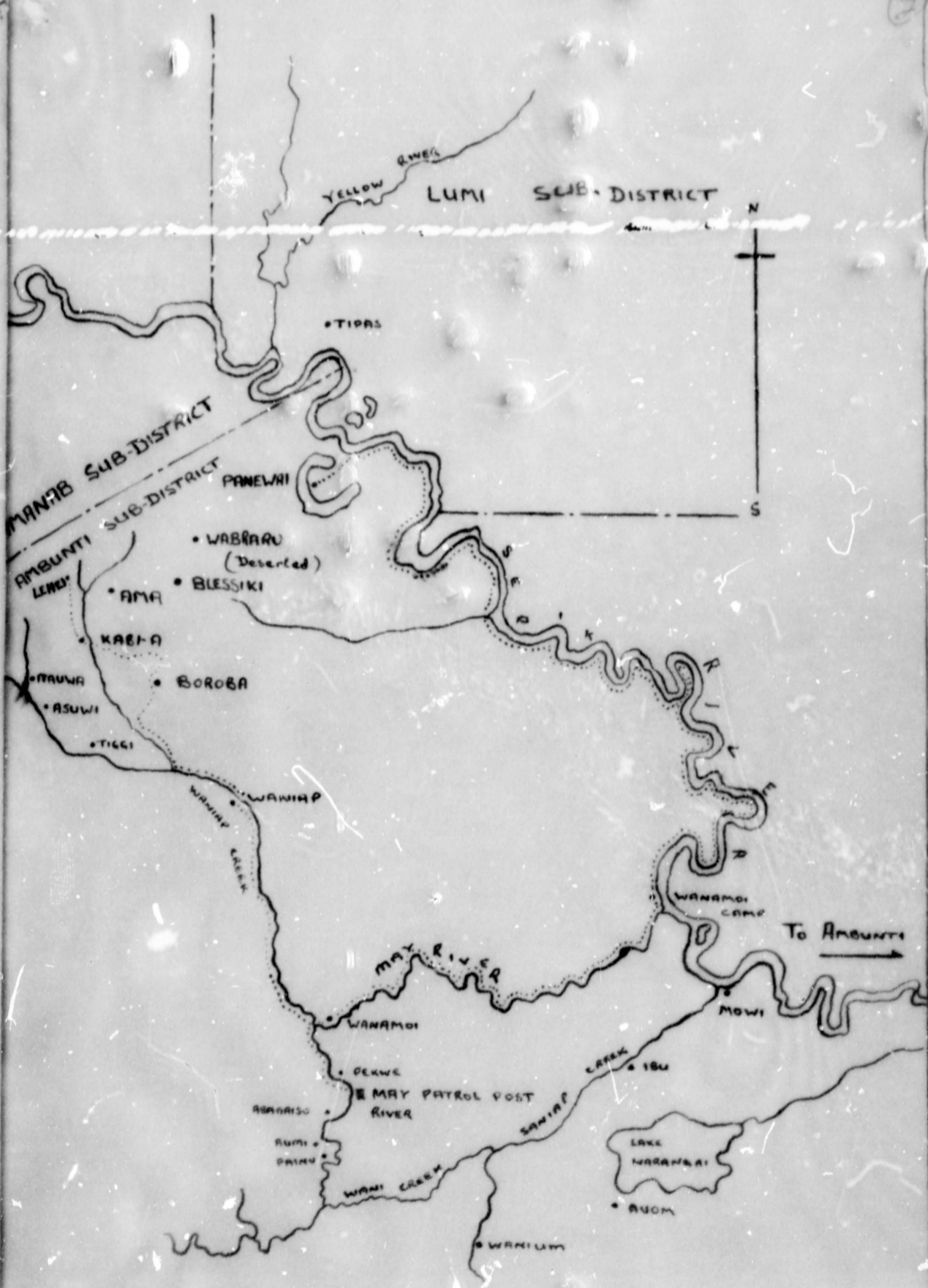
(ii) At the same time it was able to gather information on an area which previously was little known.

(iii) The Police accompanying the Patrol deserve praise for the excellent way they carried out their duties. This is especially so of Sgt. WAPI.

A. D. Pitt

13th February, 1964.

(A. D. Pitt)
Patrol Officer.



MAY RIVER PATROL No 3 of 1963/64

Scale: 1" = 4 miles

DNA



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. MAY RIVER No. 4 of 1963/64
 Patrol Conducted by A. D. Pitt, Patrol Officer.
 Area Patrolled Part May River Census Division, AWAI and TIGI areas.
 Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr. B. A. McCabe, Assistant District Officer.
 Natives 8 Members F.P. & N.G.C. 1 APO.
 Duration—From 19/6/1964 to 2/7/1964
 Number of Days 14 days (11 nights camped out)
 Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No
 Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1/1963
 Medical/...../19.....
 Map Reference May River Army Series 4 miles : 1 inch.
 Objects of Patrol To investigate a reported killing by people living
along the Left May River (AWAI River.)

Director of Native Affairs,
FORT 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

67-8-99

Department of Native Affairs,
KONEDOBU. PAPUA.

6th October, 1964.

District Officer,
 South Sepik District,
W E W A K.

PATROL REPORT NO. 4-63/64 - MAY RIVER:

Receipt of the abovementioned report and accompanying comment is acknowledged with thanks.

2. I am gratified to note that good relations now exist between the TIGI-ASUWI and WANIABU. Care should be taken when further work is contemplated amongst the latter villages, as a false step at present might lead to endless future troubles.
3. I would like to see the results of the work being undertaken by Mr. Conrad of the Summer Institute of Linguistics.
4. The co-operation of the ITAUWA people reflects credit on officers and patrol personnel who have been operating in the area.
5. The prompt action in investigating the alleged murders will obviously be of great assistance in future Administration activities.
6. A very good account of a well conducted successful operation. The officers concerned are to be commended.
7. I agree in the content of your final paragraph.


 (J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

67. 8. 99. (13)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams
Telephone 67-2-2
Our Reference 4-3-70
If calling ask for
Mr.....



District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

28th September, 1964

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
KONEDOBU.

PATROL REPORT MAY RIVER NO. 4 of 1963/64 - AWAI
& TIGI AREAS - MR. B. A. McCABE, A.D.O. and
MR. PITT, P.O.

1. The abovementioned report of a combined patrol by Mr. B.A.McCabe, Assistant District Officer, Ambunti and Mr. A. Pitt, Officer-in-Charge, May River, is forwarded herewith, please, together with Mr. McCabe's covering memorandum, 67-1-3 of 10th September, 1964.

The salient points were covered in Mr. McCabe's confidential memorandum 3 of 9th July, 1964 ("Interin Report - Killings at "LARU"(WARUMOI) May River area"), which was forwarded to you under cover of my 1-3-10 of 20th July, 1964.

2. The report is well written, makes interesting reading and contains a great deal of useful information which will be of assistance to those who follow Mr. Pitt in bringing these areas under firm Administration control.

3. Both officers are to be commended for the manner in which this patrol was conducted, their approach to the people, and the skill with which they carried out the investigations and made the arrests without apparently in any way diminishing the people's good will towards them and the Administration.

4. With reference to paragraph 5 of Mr. McCabe's covering memorandum, I dealt with the question of the extension of administration control leading to derestriction of the May River area in my 1-3-5, 1-3-10 - "Restricted Areas" - of the 28th August, addressed to the Assistant District Officer, Ambunti, with copy to you.

5. I cannot see why extension of influence to the WARUMOI area ought not be combined with consolidation of the already contacted NAUKWI and ASUWI-TIGI areas. Mr. Pitt points out in the second paragraph of page 5 of his report that the indications are "that all three groups have contact with one another and fairly constant contact at that". This alone would point the desirability of adopting a unified approach to all three groups, but their involvement as well in a complicated system of never resolved pay back killings (see bottom of page 7) makes it essential that this be done, and the Assistant District Officer, Ambunti, will be so informed.

G. Linsley
(G. LINSLEY)

DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

c.c. Assistant District Officer, Ambunti

67-1-3

Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI, South Sepik.

10th September 1964.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
WEWAK.

MAY RIVER PATROL No. 4, 1963/64. AWAI and TIGI AREAS.

A memorandum report confidential dated 9th July 1964, of the results of the investigation, in which I took part was forwarded to you and this matter was subsequently publicised

Interesting further information of the population and way of life. The NAUKWI people have had very little European contact, except from two or three patrols and are more backward than the TIGI (WANIAP Ck.) group.

Good relations now exist with the TIGI-ASUWI and WANIABU. Further contact is needed with the NAUKWI and initial contact with the WARUMOI.

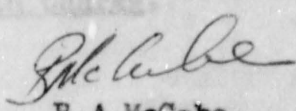
The devious processes of the people is illustrated in Mr. Pitts report of the cause of the attack at the foot of page 7. I also heard these statements, but the full and underlying motives are still probably hidden, mainly because of difficulties of interpretation

I consider that our first concern is to consolidate our control of the present contacted areas north and west of May River before we extend to the WARUMOI area, in view of the former several recent killings in the former area, action in regard to which is present being taken.

I am also of the opinion that the attack on the AMIUFA (WARUMOI) settlement, although motivated by vengeance was conducted in a ritual fashion, and the subsequent act cannibalism was similarly ritualised. It may be significant that the NAUKWI group had wishes to send a party of men away to outside employment just prior to the attack but had not been accepted by the recruiter . It has been suggested that as a consequence of this the attack was carried out as an initiation of the young men.

As previously advised, the twenty men arrested were committed by me for trial on the charge of wilful murder. They are at present in custody at AMBUNTI. Meanwhile there is one recently reported killing and two of over twelve months in the May River area which the O.I.C. is planning to investigate.

I believe that when this action is completed, which will entail considerable time and effort we should have law and order in this area firmly established.


B.A. McCabe,
Assistant District Officer.

Territory of Papua and New Guinea.

MAY RIVER PATROL No. 4. of 1963/64.

PATROL DIARY.

67-1-1

Friday 12th June, 1964.

Patrol Post,
May River,
SEPIK DISTRICT

27th July, 1964.

The Assistant District Officer,
Sub-District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

MAY RIVER PATROL No. 4. of 1963/64.

Please find enclosed the original and two copies of the Patrol Report covering the May River Patrol No. 4. of 1963/64.

AREA PATROLLED

May River Census Division,
AWAI and TIGI areas.

DATES OF PATROLLING

19/6/64 to 2/7/64

No. of Days.

14 days (11 nights camped out)

OFFICER CONDUCTING

A. D. Pitt, Patrol Officer.

EUROPEANS ACCOMPANYING

Mr. B. A. McCabe,
Assistant District Officer.

PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING

8 Members of the R.P.N.G.C.
1 A.P. ♂.

MAP REFERENCE

May River Army Series 4 miles
@ 1 inch

OBJECTS OF PATROL

To investigate a reported killing by people living along the Left May River (Awai River).

Anthony Pitt
(A. D. Pitt)
Officer in Charge.

People assembled near tents and a...
both NAUWI and AMASU people. Prax...
to all people and talk given on the...
People then informed that I wished...
concerned in the LARI...
came out and six were...
alleged to have been at...
taken place. All...
was upset when...
away but...
come to them and that the women...
the Patrol Post and bring food...
who were not arrested and who...
village appeared re-assured...
and removed all body...
As the prisoners were...
one man's penis... and he became...
violently irritated.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 4. of 1963/64.

PATROL DIARY.

Friday 19th June, 1964.

Police, carriers and Patrol equipment sent to ARAI per station and Ambunti canoes.

Self and Mr. A.D.O. McCabe departed station per speed boat 11.30 am, arriving ARAI 2.10 p.m. camp made. Discussions with police and local people re patrol arrangements.

Saturday, 20th June, 1964.

Departed ARAI at 9.15 am after some difficulty obtaining ~~carriers~~ canoes. Disembarked from canoes at 1.20 pm and proceeded on foot, equipments sent by canoe. Arrived WASUAI camp site and nearby HUKABIN at 3.10 pm. Two men and two women seen, all friendly. Camp set up and some people from NIMONI arrived. Requests for food made, a quantity brought in and purchased.

Sunday, 21st June, 1964.

At WASUAI camp. General conversations with people. Some people arrived from outlying hamlets and more food purchased with salt and trade goods. Rough census carried out. Doubt whether all people seen but did not press matter. Headman mentioned that he had heard rumours from two AMASU men who appeared at WASUAI in traditional war-paint that a killing had taken place and that the NAUKWI people as well as the AMASU people were involved.

Monday, 22nd June, 1964.

Broke camp and departed for NAUKWI 8.35 am. Followed poor track which was completely overgrown in parts and had to be cleared. Progress slow. Arrived NAUKWI 2.30 pm. Several men and women present in house and all friendly. During evening after camp set up quantities of food brought in which was purchased. People from AMASU arrived. Various villages pointed out from NAUKWI and compass bearings taken to establish the exact position of NAUKWI. Guards posted at night, no incidents.

Tuesday, 23rd June, 1964.

People assembled near tents and a rough census carried out of both NAUKWI and AMASU people. Presents of salt ~~was~~ distributed to all people and talk given on the aims of the Administration. People then informed that I wished to see certain people concerned in the LARU killings to come forward. Some people came out and six more indentified by MUNO of YEIMA who is alleged to have been at NAUKWI shortly after the killing had taken place. All men arrested with no difficulty. Some women became upset when they learned that the men would be taken away but quietened down when they were assured that no harm would come to them and that the women could visit their men-folk at the Patrol Post and bring food to them. The women and some men who were not arrested and who were to remain behind in the village appeared re-assured, and went round the arrested men and removed all body ornaments. As the prisoners were about to move off the string fastening one man's penis gourd broke and he became violently agitated.

23rd June, 1964, continued.

All men then tried to break away but were held by the police and some of the IWAM carriers. People were spoken to again and told that they would have to accompany the patrol back to the Patrol Post that they would not be beaten or harmed. After a few minutes all settled down and preparations were made to break camp. Departed WANIAP approximately 1.30 pm and arrived WASUAI 3.45 pm and camp made. NAMOU of ARAI and Const. MOLLET sent on to ARAI to collect canoes for last stage of journey back to May River.

Wednesday, 24th June, 1964.

Broke camp and departed WASUAI 8.50 am. Met up with canoes at approximately 11 am and arrived ARAI 1.30 pm. Meal for ourselves and carriers, departed 2 pm called briefly at AUMI to see S.I.L. TEAM Mr. and Mrs Conrad and arrived at Patrol Post 5.30 pm.

Thursday, 25th June, 1964.

Mr. A. D. O. McCabe arranging for second part of patrol to the TIGI area.
Self interrogating prisoners.

Friday, 26th June, 1964.

Preparations made for patrol. Police, carriers and patrol equipments sent to WANIAP per station and Ambunti canoes, departed station 11 am.
Further interrogation of witnesses and prisoners.
Departed for WANIAP per speed boat 5 pm arriving 6.15 pm after encountering numerous log jams.
Arrangements made for extra carriers and food purchased.

Saturday, 27th June, 1964.

Departed WANIAP 9.30 am per single canoe and four small paddle canoes. Some difficulty experienced in getting canoes. Arrived at the beginning of the road at 11 am. Equipment made up into loads and commenced walking 11.25 am, arriving TIGI 1.45 pm. House deserted, believe people departed previous day. Waited one hour but no sign of inhabitants. Moved on to ASUWI, arriving 5.5 pm. Hamlet deserted. At 5.15 p.m. heard a garamut being beaten approximately two miles away.
Camp set up. NAURU of YEIMA who had accompanied patrol from WANIAP and who had branched off to go to YEIMA appeared at camp 6.30 pm with four people including BIAI brother of witness MUNO.

Sunday, 28th June, 1964.

At camp, ASUWI. YEIMA people sent to make contact with the hamlet where garamut was heard, and a small hamlet in the swamp. Returned to camp to report that no people had been seen with the exception of an old invalid woman at the swamp hamlet who told them that all people had gone to a Sing Sing at ITAUWA. Discovered that the village where the garamut had been heard had not been visited and the party sent out again, reported that they had found tracks indicating that a person had departed in the direction of ITAUWA in the morning. Reported by Sgt. WAPI that MUNO, witness at NAUKWI and his brother BIAI were involved in the killing of a young TIGI girl reported to the Patrol Post approximately one year ago. Decided to defer investigation until NAUKWI investigation settled.

28th June, 1964 continued.

Some people from ITAUWA arrived at camp at 5 pm. Claimed they had just heard of the Patrol's presence in area. Also several people from ASUWI, including YAMO who claimed to be leader of ASUWI. Several ex-labourers among party.

Monday, 29th June, 1964.

Spoke to YAMO and other people re alleged killings. Departed for ITAUWA 1 p.m. arrived 3.15 pm. Camp set up. Quite a few people including women and children seen. All living in one large communal house. Large quantity of food brought in, purchase with salt and trade goods.

Tuesday, 30th June, 1964.

General discussions with the people. Word sent for a man mentioned as knowing the whereabouts of UFU, husband of KABIAI, one of the women allegedly killed. Visited AMIUFA and WNNAMI in afternoon, approximately two hours walk from ITAUWA. Discovered some bones of a human lying in a small gully. Also a grass skirt and a number of arrows. Two hundred yards away discovered a grass skirt similar to those worn by children in the area and a cassawary bone dagger. Also a number of arrows scattered about in the general vicinity. Returned to Itauwa, arriving 6.15 pm.

Wednesday, 1st July, 1964.

Word sent for UFU, husband of KABIAI and LIWATEY, husband of ONAI, another of the women allegedly killed. General discussion with people and some relatives of people of MUMUVURA volunteered to ask MUMUVURA people to visit ITAUWA. These people believed to be implicated in killings. MUMUVURA people arrived at camp 2 pm. Seven men identified as having taken part in killings. Men arrested, informed why they were being arrested and a warning given. Broke camp after having spoken to people remaining behind. Instructions given for UFU to follow patrol. Departed ITAUWA 4.15 p.m. arrived ASUWI 5.45 p.m.

Thursday, 2nd July, 1964.

Broke camp 9 am and proceeded to TIGI. Small quantity of food purchased and TIGI people spoken to on general matters. Two police left at TIGI to escort UFU and party to the Patrol Post. Proceeded to WANIAP Creek, embarked on pull canoes arrived WANIAP. The faster speed boat to Patrol Post arrived 5.15 p.m. Water very low in creek and numerous snags.

END OF DIARY.

MAY RIVER PATROL REPORT No. 4 of 1963/64.

1. INTRODUCTION.

The purpose of the patrol was to investigate reports of killings and possible cannibalism in the NAUKWI area east of the Patrol Post.

The original reports began arriving at the station at the beginning of June but nothing definite was received until the 14th. The matter was reported to the Assistant District Officer and the District Officer and the former and myself departed for the NAUKWI area on the 19th JUNE, 1964.

The second stage of the patrol to the ASUWI-WARUMOI area was commenced on the 26th June. The reports were investigated and as a result 20 arrests were made, 13 from NAUKWI-AMASU and 7 from MUMUVURA in the ASUWI area.

Although of secondary importance the patrol ~~was~~ was able to gain valuable information on an area not previously visited and contact was made, with I think good results with some of the inhabitants.

The Patrol also endeavoured to ascertain actual native names for the various sections of the "BIRUA" groups and areas to replace the confusing and inaccurate terms of "Birua" and the Left May River. In future these names will be used unless it is discovered upon further investigation to be inaccurate.

2. DESCRIPTION OF AREA.

The NAUKWI area lies on either side of the Left May River, in future to be referred to as the AWAI River, approximately four hours fairly hard walking from ARAI.

It is believed that the general name for the area is NAUKWI and includes (among others) the hamlets of APAIVI (NAUKWI), AMASU, and DIDIPAS. There is little doubt that there are more.

Following what I now assume is the usual "BIRUA" pattern, the people live in small, isolated and well fortified houses sheltering several families. Each family has a garden house, poorly constructed and I believe it is reasonable to assume that they repair to the central house in time of danger. It was interesting to note that although the NAUKWI language is different to that of TIGI and WANIBU the design of the house is almost identical with those at TIGI and WANIBU as also is the method of sewing morata, preparation of food and the type of dress worn by the men and women. The people too are shorter and ~~lighter~~ lighter build than the IWAM of the May River and the same large number of lighter skinned people were seen. At this stage I cannot tell whether the three groups each speak a separate language or only dialects of the same, I suspect the latter. Mr. R. Conrad of the Summer Institute of Linguistics has taken word lists and should have a definite answer shortly.

The WASUAI people lower down the AWAI appear to belong with the UNANI, NIMONI, AIMI and AUGOT people who appear to go under the name of AWAI. The AWAI and NAUKWI people appear to have fairly frequent contact

but unfortunately little information was gained at the time of the Patrol's visit. This of course was fairly understandable as the people knew the Patrol's purpose in visiting the area and did not wish to be involved although the Headman of WASUAI did mention that two AMASU men visited WASUAI in full fighting regalia (paint and body ornaments) and told him of the fight and subsequent feast.

Between NAUKWI and the WARUMOI and TIGI areas lies a swamp. At the time of the Patrol's visit the NAUKWI people informed the Patrol that a crossing would be almost impossible for a heavily laden patrol although it was later discovered that a war party had crossed and returned carrying a body. The fact too, that the NAUKWI people joined with the MUMUVURA people to fight in WARUMOI indicated that all three groups have contact with one another and fairly constant contact at that.

The ASUWI-TIGI area lies on the southern tributary of the WANIAP Creek. It was visited at least twice in 1962/63 by Mr. P.O. McIntyre and several of its inhabitants have been out to work on plantations going out through PANEWAI and so onto LUMI. The area too has been visited by native recruiters. The social arrangements are similar to those in NAUKWI and WANIABU and the people have fairly constant contact with the latter, marriages between the two groups take place and the people can talk to one another in a trade language. The population is small and I doubt that it would contain more than probably two to three hundred people. At the present time the area contains at least four main villages, TIGI, ASUWI, ITAUWA and MUMUVURA. Again the people are scattered and live in small garden houses. Only the main house of ITAUWA was seen although it is assumed that each settlement has one.

The WARUMOI area has not been visited to date. Existence of this area first became known in March of this year when enquiries were being made into a drowing of a returning labourer from LUMI. At this time it was thought that the area lay to the north-east of WANIABU which would have placed it in the AMANAB Sub-District. However it is now known that part of it at least lies to the south-west of TIGI and ASUWI. Several people have been recruited from the area through LUMI and at least one native recruited. (KOWAR) has visited the area.

From general conversation with the people of the TIGI-ASUWI area and the WANIABU it appears that there have been very few people who have been very far into the area. Some Waniabu's have visited one or two of the villages close to their area as have the Itauwa's but none seen to have much knowledge of the area. Unfortunately only one man who has been out to work from this area has been seen and apart from the fact that he did not speak Pidgin his intelligence was extremely low. One other man has been seen, he had never seen a European until he was brought to the Patrol Post by the Itauwa people although of course he knew of their existence and had had contact with the Itauwa people, having married a woman from there.

3. NATIVE AFFAIRS.

From information gathered, it now appears that the "BIRUA", so far visited by myself can be divided into five groups, viz. AWAI, NAUKWI, WARUMOI, TIGI-ASUWI, and WANIABU. All groups lie to the north of the Mya River.

MAY

NAUKWI (Apaivi Village) was originally

contacted in June, 1969, again in October 1962 and again in March 1963. Each time the nearby village of AMASU was visited. However the village DIDIPAS which can be seen clearly from APAIVI has not been visited and it is assumed that these people have only recently removed there.

The people did not seem surprised to see the Patrol and during the late afternoon and early evening most of the people from nearby AMASU arrived at Apaivi. Food was asked for and was brought to the camp and purchased with salt and trade items. A rough census was carried out of both APAIVI and AMASU and although this was mainly done so the people involved in the killing could be pointed out it will provide an excellent basis for the proper census to be carried out during the next patrol. A guard was posted at night but no incidents occurred.

The people of WASUAI were friendly and visited the camp, women as well as men. Some of the men carried patrol equipment onto NAUKWI but unfortunately none could be persuaded to return to the patrol post. Again a rough census was carried out. A fairly large quantity of food was purchased.

Only one WASUAI hamlet, HUKABIN was visited although the names of several more were mentioned. Although all claimed that they were "a long way away" it is believed that the distance actually is very short. Two or three were visited by Mr. Patrol Officer McIntyre during his October 1962 patrol.

The Patrol's reception first in the TIGI-ASUWI area was not good. TIGI Hamlet was deserted although it appeared from the cooking fires that the inhabitants had departed only a matter of hours before and it was quite possible that they had word of our arrival. ASUWI too was deserted although within minutes of our arrival a garamut was heard from a hamlet on ~~the~~ a nearby ridge. Investigations at this hamlet showed that a man had left on the morning after the Patrol's arrival. That same afternoon some men appeared and it was claimed that they had all been at a "SingSing" at Itauwa although it was later discovered that a man from NAUKWI had arrived after the Patrol's visit to that village and undoubtedly he had told the people what had happened.

However the Patrol met with no difficulty and indeed it was only with the co-operation of the Itauwa people that the seven MUMUVURA people were arrested. They also guided the patrol to AMIUFA where the killings took place and assisted in the search of the area. They were also responsible for getting word to the witnesses to visit the camp. Perhaps the best instance of their co-operation was the fact that they brought to the PATROL Post UFU, one of the most important witnesses, after the Patrol had left the area. Added to this was the fact that UFU had never seen a European before and had never travelled so far from his home area before. Several men were requested to accompany the Patrol to the station where they were lodged with the police and later returned to their village with pineapples, taro and kaukau for planting. Two men have since been sent to Ambunti.

It was learned that there is a fairly well defined route through the WANIABU area out to Panewai and it was suggested, and agreed to by the people that a Rest house be built at ASUWI so that a patrol

starting at Panewai could travel across the WANIABU into the TIGI-ASUWI area and so onto Waniap. A patrol carried out in this manner will be able to bring the two areas closer to-gether, will be able to efficiently cover the area without the long & difficult swamp walking and avoid the present necessity of large carrier lines for the carriage of tents etc. The house has not been seen and could prove impracticable but it will be investigated on the next patrol to the area.

The WARUMOI area still remains largely unknown but at least the exact location of part of it has been established. AMIUFA appears to have contact with Itauwa, UFU of the Warumoi area married an ITAUWA woman. The people of WANIABU, especially the AMA people appear to have contact with the WARUMOI villages of BINAI and WANIO. Some recruits have been taken from the area and it has been visited by at least one Native Recruiter, KOWAR. It is also known that other villages (or more likely hamlets) exist, among them FOUO, TOMAWE and MELKWAM.

This information, although scanty will at least be a help to the next patrol as a lead had been established. It is suggested that every effort be made to teach UFU Pidgin as he will be extremely valuable for getting into the area.

MURDER INVESTIGATION.

The original reports of the killings were confusing and misleading. The first indication that something had happened came from Const. ADY who had been told on the 1st June while at Panewai that the people of NAUKOI or NAGOAI had killed four men and two women of WARUMOI and had eaten one of the women. Assuming that NAUKOI or NAGOAI could have been NAUKWI I visited ARAI and BUREMAI and spoke to people from UNANNI, AIMI and AUGOT but learned nothing. On the 6th June I interviewed DIARE of the WARUMOI area who claimed he had heard nothing of a fight or killing. DIARE did however mention a village called NAMKOI as lying to the north of the WARUMOI area and having a separate language. On the 11th June came the first report that appeared to be accurate. Although about fifth hand by the time it arrived at the Patrol Post it did claim to originate from an eyewitness and established the fact that one of the villages concerned was NAUKWI. The number of people allegedly killed however was exaggerated. On the 14th June the eyewitness was interviewed and the villages, names and numbers of people finally established. The main problem however remained as to the location of the village where the killings had taken place and it was because of this that NAUKWI was visited first.

After the people concerned in the killings had been arrested and interviewed it was ascertained that the victim village lay somewhere in the region of Itauwa and accordingly the Patrol proceeded there. It was then discovered that not only had the killings taken place in that area but that the NAUKWI people had been aided by people from that area as well.

Subsequent investigations have discovered that the killings and later eating of one of the victims was a complicated kind of pay-back, and an opportunity to "blood" or initiate the young men. The people of MUMUVURA had an outstanding killing to settle with NAUKWI. NAUKWI had a killing to settle with ASUWI and WARUMOI. To cancel out the killing

between MUMUVURA and NAUKWI the two villages joined forces to attack a WARUMOI village. I do not know whether a village had actually been marked down for an attack or whether the people went looking for an unprotected settlement, from the statements received in Court it appears that probably the latter occurred. It is interesting to note that none of the Naukwi people who admitted taking part in the raid knew the names of any of the victims and some obviously did not even know the name of the village.

Among the party were several young men, approximately between the ages of 18 to 22 years of age. From the statements it appears that each member of the party fired arrows into the victims. The child was held by WOIMAU who I imagine was the leader of the party and who is obviously the leader of APAIVI. Each man in turn stabbed the child with a cassowary bone dagger again suggesting some type of ritual.

Again in their statements the people told of a singring that they had performed on the way back to their village, and of a singsing that they had performed at the village which was attended by the people of MUMUVURA. They also mentioned the fact that they shaved their heads and one man claimed that he had not because he had not eaten the human flesh. It seems that each man had a small portion, the size and part being determined by the status of the man. WOIMAU was given the greatest portion which was taken from the buttocks, lesser members got small portions taken from the hands and forearms. The entire lower portion of the body was given to the people of DIDIPAS who as far as can be ascertained did not take part in the raid.

The actual arresting of the men concerned was achieved with no difficulty. At NAUKWI the people were asked to come forward which they did. Several others were identified by MUNO of YEIMA as having taken part in the feast which he witnessed. Although the people were upset at the time of the arrests and some tried to break away all calmed down in a matter of minutes when it was seen that the Patrol had no intention of harming them. Before the Patrol left the village it was carefully explained to those remaining behind that the reasons for taking the men away and the people were also told that they could visit the Patrol Post with food for the prisoners if they wished. (None however came). However in spite of that I believe that the Patrol left a fairly favourable impression behind and although I would only class the NAUKWI area as being only under ~~partial~~ partial influence, it has been visited a sufficient number of times for the people to realise that they had broken the Law. I believe too that the people were most surprized that the Administration acted as quickly as it did, possibly had we not, the people may have scattered and the task would have been many times more difficult.

The second stage was accomplished with perhaps even less difficulty. Word was sent to the people believed to be concerned in the raid to visit the camp which they did. They made no attempt to escape after they were arrested and did not seem surprized when it was explained to them why they were being arrested. This could have been for two reasons, (a) that a man had brought the news of the Patrol's visit to Naukwi to Mumuvura and had undoubtedly told them what had occurred or (b) they are

still at that stage where they accept anything the Administration does as inevitable.

Names of the thirteen men arrested at NAUKWI are as follows :-

WOIMAU	IMARE	IMO
SUMO	DIARI	KERRARI
NIKIAM - GABOAI	IMAUWA	YABUTI
NIKIAM - WABUSA	IMARI	IMAMO
NIKIAM - SAVAVAI		

Names of the seven men arrested from MUMUVURA are as follows :-

SUWURINAU	WEIKO
INEI	IMAUWA
YAMO	SOIYA
IMARE	

Names of the four victims of AMIUFA are as follows :-

ONAI (f)
 IMSO (f) child of Onai
 KABIAI (f)
 SENU (f)

The patrol returned to the Patrol Post on the 2nd July., and were brought before the District Court on the 6th July.

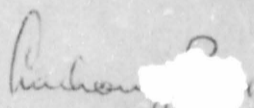
CONCLUSION.

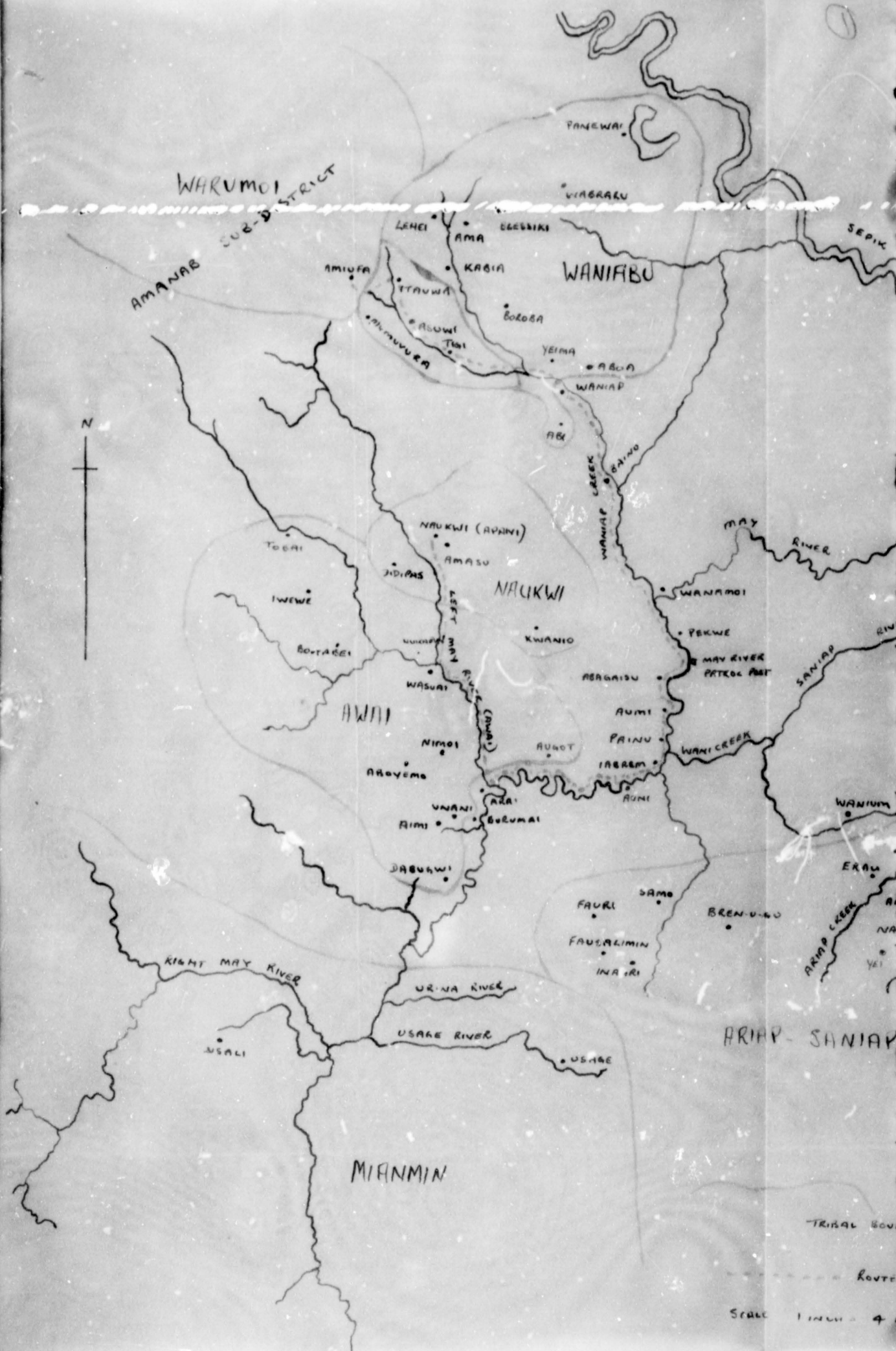
(1) The Patrol successfully accomplished its purpose in that the men reasonably believed to have taken part in the killings at AMIUFA have been arrested.

(ii) This is the second murder investigation to be carried out in the May River ~~people~~ area in the last three months. It is to be hoped that the people will realise that the Administration can and does move quickly and that it will not tolerate behaviour of this kind. I believe that only in this manner can a sense of law and order be brought to the hill people in this area.

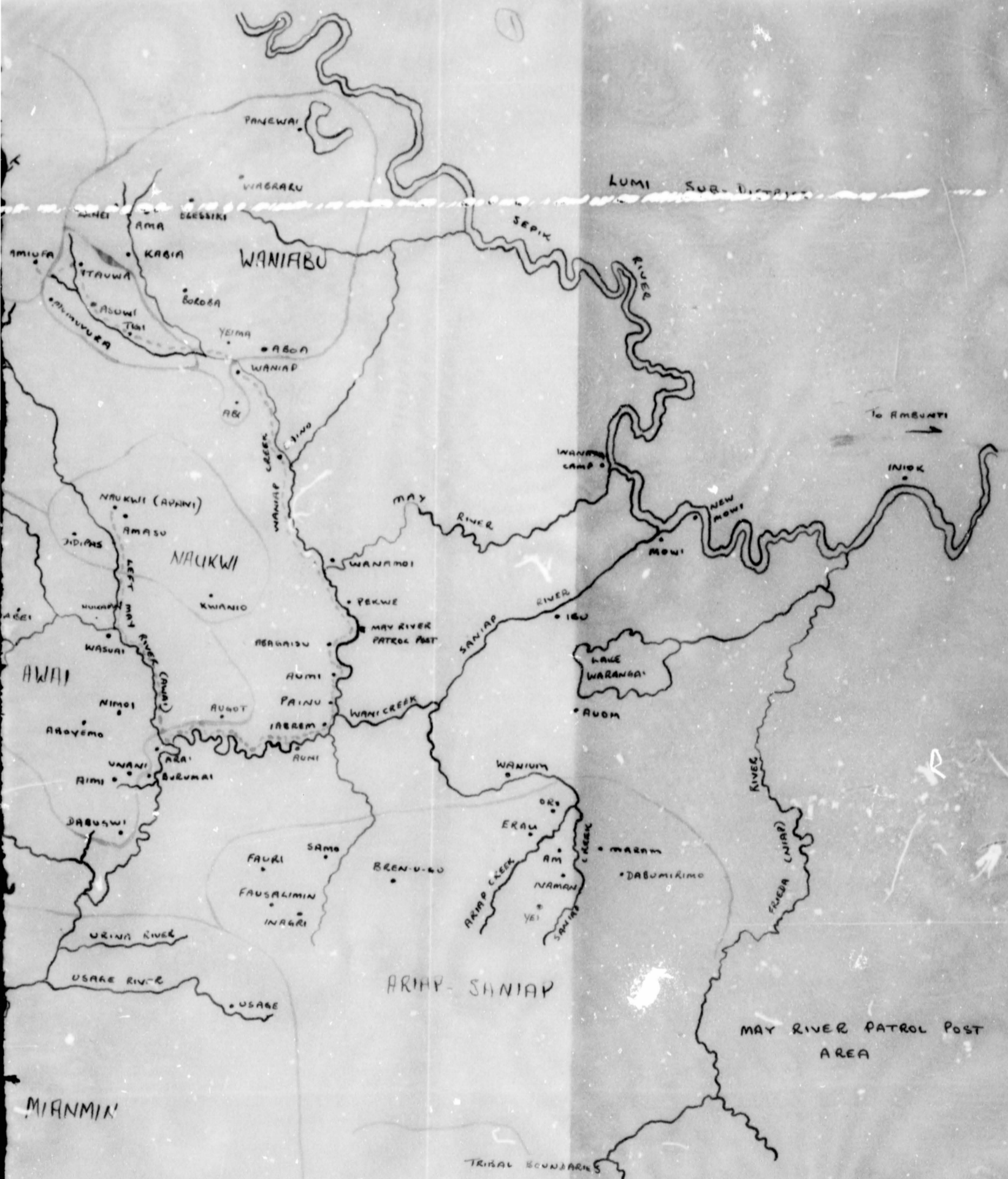
(iii) Initial contact has been made with a new group of people.

1st August, 1964.


 (A. D. Pitt)
Patrol Officer.



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ROUTE OF PATROL
SCALE 1 INCH = 4 MILES

MAY RIVER
4-63/64