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***PATROL REPORTS***

DISTRICT: MADANG

STATION: KARKAR, 1956 - 1957

Original documents bound with reports  
for: Aiome, volume 1.

# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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NUMBER OF REPORTS: 6

[illegible]

MADANG DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS 1956/57

AIOME

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol.</u>	<u>Area Patrolled.</u>
1-56/57 ✓	B. McBride	Asai - Simbai area
2-56/57	B. Holloway	Alome, Rao, Breri, Josephstap, Mangatavain, Muramiabana, And and Angau Census Divisions
3-56/57 ✓	B. McBride	Asai-Simbai, Kironk, Aun & Taugui valleys of Alome restricted area.
5-56/57 ✓	B. McBride	Into the Asai Valley
6-56/57 ✓	B. McBride	Asai Valley, restricted area Schrader Mountains
Karkar (Spec. 1-56/57	D. J. Ayling	Establishment of Karkar P.P.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

## SPECIAL PATROL REPORT

District of MADANG S/ Report No. KARKAR No. 10/1956/57

Patrol Conducted by D. J. AYLING Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled KARKAR ISLAND

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....

Natives.....

Duration—From...../...../19.....to...../...../19.....

Number of Days.....

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....

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

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

Map Reference.....

Objects of Patrol INITIAL ESTABLISHMENT OF KARKAR  
PATROL POST from 16th January to 15 April 1957.

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 ....



PA No. 1 56/57.

Department of Native Affairs  
PORT MORESBY.

21st Apr, 1957.

The District Officer,  
Madang District,  
MADANG.

KAREKE SPECIAL REPORT NO. 1 OF 1956/57.

The abovementioned Patrol Report is acknowledged with thanks.

It is pleasing to note the progress being made at the MIAR Patrol Post.

Referring to Co-operatives and Native Local Government: The Registrar of Co-operatives has communicated direct. The Executive Officer, Native Local Government comments as follows -

Mr. Ayling will be attending the next Local Government Training Course and will be equipped to play an active part in supervision once Local Government is introduced.

However, I consider that the preliminary work should be carried out by Mr. Page and not left to Mr. Ayling, even though he will have had some training."

It is requested that Mr. Page should start as soon as possible, please.

(A.A. Roberts),  
Director.



Mr. Pishon.

Kerkar Special Report 1 of 5/57.

Mr. Lyling will be attending the next L.Q. Training course and so will be equipped to play an active part in supervision once L.Q. is introduced.

2. However, I consider that the preliminary work should be carried out by Mr. Page and not left to Mr. Lyling, even though he will have had some training.
3. Mr. Page should start as soon as possible.

int O 20/5

Henry J. Hall 16/5



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



In Reply  
Please Quote

No. M. 30/8.

RTG/JEp

Department of Native Affairs,  
MADANG.

10th May, 1957.

Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

KARKAR Special Report 1 of 56/57.

D. J. Ayling. P.O.

Attached hereto please find copy of the above Special Report, which deals primarily with the establishment of the new Patrol Post on KARKAR at MIAK.

I visited KARKAR during 7th-8th April and was happily impressed with the work undertaken by Mr. Ayling since he went there on the 16th January. Credit is also due, of course, to the local people who have co-operated in setting the new post off to a good start. Much cleaning was necessary and already the station has taken shape, with several roads formed, and native material structures completed and occupied. As mentioned by the O.I.C., permanent materials are on hand for the construction of the P.O.'s residence and further timber will arrive shortly for the office and store. I anticipate that carpenters will be available in June. The money allocated for the Post, £1000, has meant that a decent house will be available for the O.I.C., plus suitable structures for the office and store. Provision has been made for the erection of other buildings during 57/58.

As you will be able to gauge from the report, there is a real future ahead for KARKAR, particularly in terms of Native Local Government, education and economic development. Land has now been acquired for a government school at KURAM (which will later pass to the control of the Council when established) and also at MIAK, the Post location. Mr. Page, A.D.O. Local Government, I hope, will be able to make a visit to KARKAR in June, then to lay the real foundations of Local Government in that place. It should give a terrific impetus to native activity on the island.

Also enclosed in Mr. Ayling's Claim for Camping Allowance for the initial period of the Post establishment.

*R. T. Galloway*  
(R. T. Galloway)  
DISTRICT OFFICER.



Patrol Post,  
KARKAR Island,  
KADAW District.  
6th May, 1957

Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

RTG/JEP

M. 30/8.

Department of Native Affairs,  
KARANG.

10th May, 1957.

INTRODUCTION

This report covers the establishment of a Patrol Post on KARKAR Island in 1957.

Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

been under consideration for a number of years prior to a definite start being made on the project, but progress of staff and resources the permanent establishment of a Patrol Post on KARKAR Island is now a reality.

KARKAR Special Report 1 of 56/57.

R. J. Ayling, P.O.

for the Administration to take a more active interest in the affairs and development of the island. Attached hereto please find copy of the above Special Report, which deals primarily with the establishment of the new Patrol Post on KARKAR at MIK.

I visited KARKAR during 7th-30th April and was happily impressed with the work undertaken by Mr. Ayling since he went there on the 16th January. Credit is also due, of course, to the local people who have co-operated in setting the new post off to a good start. Much cleaning was necessary and already the station has taken shape with several roads formed, and native material structures completed and occupied. As mentioned by the O.I.C., permanent materiel is on hand for the construction of the P.O.'s residence and further timber will arrive shortly for the office and store. I anticipate that carpenters will be available in June. The money allocated for the Post, £1000, has meant that a decent house will be available for the O.I.C., plus suitable structures for the office and store. Provision has been made for the erection of other buildings during 57/58.

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Also enclosed in Mr. Ayling's Claim for Camping Allowance for the initial period of the Post establishment.

*R. T. Galloway*  
(R. T. Galloway)  
DISTRICT OFFICER.



Territory of Papua and New Guinea



Patrol Post,  
KARKAR Island,  
MADANG District.

6th May, 1957

District Officer,  
Dept of Native Affairs,  
MADANG

KARKAR Special Report No 1 of 1956/57  
Initial Establishment of KARKAR Patrol Post

INTRODUCTION

This report covers the first three months of the establishment of KARKAR Patrol Post, from 16th January to 15th April, 1957.

The establishment of a Patrol Post on KARKAR Island had been under consideration for a number of years prior to a definite start being made on the project, but shortage of staff had precluded the permanent appointment of a Patrol Officer to KARKAR until recently.

There can be no doubt that the time was more than ripe for the Administration to take a more active interest in the affairs and development of the KARKAR and BAGABAG peoples; for a compact group of nearly twelve thousand, advanced socially, economically and educationally (though to a lesser extent in this field) considerably beyond most other areas in the Madang District, they had of necessity been paid far less attention than warranted. The writer speaks here from previous personal experience, gained during a patrol of KARKAR about two years ago, and the same opinion has been recorded by all officers patrolling the area since the war.

It is confidently expected that, now a definite start has been made in the establishment of a permanent Administration station here, the native peoples of KARKAR will be given new opportunities for advancement in the fields previously mentioned.

ESTABLISHMENT OF THE PATROL POST

On the writers arrival on KARKAR (16th January), the party took up quarters in the resthouse and police barracks at KINIM, near the Administration hospital and airstrip, and about three miles north of the site selected for the Patrol Post. The party was greeted with enthusiasm (or with as much as these folks seem capable of demonstrating) by a representative group of village officials. The next few days were spent in establishing ourselves in these temporary quarters, and on Monday, January 21st work commenced on clearing the patrol post site.

The piece of land on which the post is being established is known as HIAK, and comprises about forty acres of fairly level ground on the seashore, adjoining the southern boundary of KAVIAK plantation. The site was selected by Mr Tayer, Patrol Officer during his patrol of the island last year; Mr Tayer made a chain and compass survey of the ground, and satisfactorily carried out preliminary investigations concerning purchase of the land for Administration purposes. Purchase was completed by the writer on April 10th.

Preliminary clearing of the land, except for about nine acres behind the main vehicular road, was completed in about ten days, despite holdups through heavy rain. (Unfortunately the writers first few months on KARKAR have coincided with the months of heavy rain, and on a number of occasions this has meant lost working days.) This work was carried out voluntarily by people from the coastal and nearer inland villages between TUGATUGA and BUSON.



On Tuesday, January 19th a meeting was held at KENC Village, with all village officials from the abovementioned area being present. At this meeting it was decided that the native-materials buildings needed in the initial set-up would be built by groups of villages on a contract basis. The distribution of work and prices were agreed on, and the work then commenced. In order that cash cropping, village maintenance, gardening and other obligations should not be unduly interfered with, it was agreed that Mondays and Thursdays be set aside as days for working on the station.

Mr Parrish, ADO, paid a flying visit to the post on January 31st, and a layout for the station and temporary building sites were agreed on.

Work has proceeded at a fairly satisfactory pace, though in the latter stages interest lagged somewhat, and a little "hurrying up" was necessary. (It should be pointed out that these folks could hardly be called industrious by nature - no doubt this could be attributed, at least in part, to the fertility of the island's soil, which makes the winning of a livelihood a relatively easy matter. Undoubtedly they must learn that, if they wish to progress, they must be prepared to do a certain amount of hard work.) Procurement of sage thatch proved a problem, as this material is definitely in short supply - it is common for villagers who have none to pay five to ten pounds for sufficient to thatch an ordinary house. This was, however, eventually overcome, though sources of supply involved long carries to the post.

At the time of writing the following native-materials building have been completed:

Office, 18' x 18'.  
Store, 18' x 18'.  
Police barracks, 36' x 18', plus kitchen.  
Gaol, 36' x 18', plus kitchen.  
Garage, (including fuel and tool store-room)  
Visiting natives house, 36' x 18'.

In addition two married police houses, each of three rooms plus a small kitchen, should be completed within a few days. One further married quarters, plus accommodation for servants, will complete the native-materials buildings necessary at present.

For the most part, materials for the patrol officer's residence are already on the spot, but as you are aware the native carpenters who were to be made available had to be diverted to more pressing work. It is hoped that a start will be made some time next month. In the meantime the writer is continuing to live in the rest-house at KINIM - it is felt that the labor and materials expended on a temporary house to be occupied for only a couple of months would hardly be justified. The post is within easy reach by bicycle or vehicle for supervision of the work going on.

Considerable work, besides the building programme, has been accomplished by prison labour. A parade ground and sports field 120 yards by 60 yards has been cleared and levelled, planted with grass and bordered with coconuts - as a number of large trees had to be removed, this proved a fairly lengthy undertaking. The sports field will also serve the Administration school to be established at MIK.

The construction of roads inside the station area is also well advanced - when the trailer for the Landrover is delivered, these will be surfaced with gravel. A general programme of station beautification, with the planting of hedges, lawns and trees is also being carried out as the various areas become established.



## LAW AND JUSTICE

Numerous cases have been heard in the Court for Native Affairs during the period under review; it is obvious that in the past many minor offences, which would normally be brought before the Court if a Patrol Officer could be easily reached, have gone unpunished. As it is, the various Village Officials have done their best to straighten out minor differences, but with little success. They are now encouraged to bring all offenders before the Court, and it is confidently expected that the incidence of minor offences such as assault, theft, disobedience of lawful orders of village officials, etc will noticeably diminish.

The cases which have been heard in Court during the period under review are summarised hereunder:

Reg 67(A)	- Neglecting to obtain medical attention	- 1
82(c)	- Escaping from custody	1
83(a)	- Unlawful striking	18
83(d)	- Behaving in a threatening manner	2
83(e)	- Riotous behaviour	4
84(2)	- Adultery	2
95(1)	4 Theft	4
118	- Disobeying lawful order of a Patrol Officer	16
119	" " " " " "	5

In addition, numerous natives have been assisted in settling disputes and differences, some of long standing, by arbitration.

All short-term prisoners have been held here and put to hard labour on the new station, as per your verbal instructions. It is requested that, now the land has been purchased and a proper gaol established, early steps be taken to have KARKAR Gazetted as a gaol.

## MOTOR TRANSPORT

An Administration Landrover, A650, was landed at KINIM on February 1st, and a trailer for it is at present in MADANG awaiting shipment. The vehicle has already proved its usefulness; the fact that the patrol officer can, when necessary, visit the other end of the island in a few hours is appreciated by the people and is already making for closer administration of the island as a whole. It has also proved most useful to the Department of Public Health, especially in the current anti-yaws campaign.

The trailer will also be well-used, especially as the anchorage at the new station appears suitable only for calm S.E. weather, and at most times of the year supplies will have to be brought by road from KINIM, which has an all-weather anchorage.

In addition, it is understood that a light-weight motorcycle has been requested on next year's estimates. This will provide both Administration officers on the island with transport at the same time, when necessary, and also give access by road to parts of the island where a four-wheeled vehicle cannot at present go.

## ROADS AND BRIDGES

The last few months of heavy rains have made possible an appreciation of the difficulties which have to be overcome in the establishment of an all-weather road around the island.

It is considered that, for the present, efforts should be concentrated on making an all-weather road from BULU plantation, around the northern, western and southern sides of the island to TAAB plantation. The stretch between TAAB and BULU along the eastern coast contains only a handful of villages, small in population, and one plantation (WADAU), and involves the crossing of three or four tricky watercourses.



The two main obstacles along the western coast are the river through KULKUL plantation, and the large creek just south of BUSON village.

Regarding the former, this is a wide and relatively shallow stream near the mouth - in the drying season and much of the wet it is possible for a vehicle to cross on the beach, but when the sandbar breaks after rains it is often impassable. Some sort of stone causeway, just above the mouth, would possibly be the solution. There are supplies of stone in the vicinity, and KULKUL plantation would be prepared to assist to some extent in labour and/or materials in the construction.

The creek near BUSON village will have to be bridged a few hundred yards upstream - a spot which appears to the writer suitable for bridging has been picked out, and an access road already cut in to the southern approach. The span involved, however, is about sixty feet. This stream is usually forded at the beach, but is quite unpredictable and usually impassable to a fourwheeled vehicle after heavy rains. Added to this the sand is soft, and the Landrover has on several occasions been bogged down when the crossing appeared good.

As the writer has had no previous experience on bridging, some knowledgeable advice would be appreciated before any attempt is made at constructing permanent crossings. With these streams bridged, the road from BULU to TAAB, as mentioned previously, should be open to vehicles in almost all weathers. There are several other small streams with concrete fords which on occasions rise up to an impassable depth after particularly heavy rains on the mountain, but the levels also fall rapidly, and they are not a serious problem. The approaches to several of these fords would have to be altered to take trucks.

The road surface generally is in fair condition, except for several lowlying parts ~~in~~ which were cut up by relatively heavy traffic during the past few months; as the weather improves these will be patched, and it is anticipated that work during the coming dry season will result in a general allround improvement. It should be added that the worst stretches of the main road are through several privately owned plantations.

Quite a few of the noarer inland villages have ~~quite~~ fair jeeptracks to the main road, and it is anticipated that, in the not too distant future, almost all villages on the island will become accessible by motor vehicle.

#### VILLAGES AND VILLAGE AFFAIRS

All the coastal villages and a number of those inland have been visited on various occasions since the writers arrival, including a trip around the island by motorcycle on February 19th to 21st. The presence of an officer on the island has increased the authority of village officials, and several villages which were definitely substandard have made marked efforts to improve housing and the general standard of village cleanliness and appearance. Pigs still remain a real menace in regard to the latter, and although most villages have spent money on pig-wire and built enclosures, the majority of villages seem loath to make any real effort to confine their pigs, which mess up the village and damage roads. A definite programme of education in pig-husbandry, such as I believe is being planned in parts of the Highlands, could be of real benefit to these people.

Village officials, on the whole, continue to do a fair job. There is a heartening core of more progressive and imaginative luluais and tultuls, and unfortunately also some who manage to achieve very little. There are also those who have held office for many years, and become ineffective through old age - it is anticipated that these latter two classes will largely disappear when local government becomes established. For these people to appreciably advance beyond their present state, the natural leaders in the community must be given every help and encouragement by the Administration.

There have been several deaths of officials since Mr



Thyers patrol last year, but no replacements have been nominated, in anticipation of local government becoming established in the near future.

#### BAGABAG Island

Seperate mention is made of this small community. The opportunity was taken to make a short visit to BAGABAG on March 9th and 10th by the MV "Shirley". The limited time on the island meant that little more could be done than introduce myself to the people, and have a quick look around.

In common with most small and relatively isolated communities, these people give an impression of self-sufficiency.

I understand that their Cooperative Society is operating quite satisfactorily; and Aid Post staffed by two orderlies from the Lutheran Mission hospital at KURUM provide medical attention at the usual aid-post standard; there is a village school run by a Lutheran Mission native teacher. Consideration should be given to some suitable BAGABAG youngsters being given the opportunity to attend the Administration school planned for MIAK.

It is considered that, for good administration, facilities should be made available for the patrol officer and medical assistant together to visit BAGABAG for a few days at, say, three-monthly intervals. The next visit should be made not later than the end of July.

#### EDUCATION

Plans are in hand at present for the establishment of three Village Higher Schools by the Administration on KARKAR - these will be on the Patrol Post site at MIAK, and at KURUM and DANGSAI. They will fill a long-standing need on the island. A visit by Mr Stanley District Education Officer, is expected on May 6th to lay out these schools, and construction should commence shortly.

Although there are large numbers of KARKAR youths absent at schools on the mainland, both Administration and mission, the facilities for education on the island have been poor. Most villages on the island have a school of sorts run by the Lutheran mission, the standard of the native teachers is generally not high. However, with the establishment of schools by the Dept. of Education, I feel sure that the mission will do its best to improve the standard of preliminary education, and the ideal of facilities being available for education from kindergarten through to area school level should be possible within the not-too-distant future.

Education is certainly one of KARKAR's greatest present needs.

#### AGRICULTURAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Economic cropping on the island to date has centred almost entirely around the production of copra, marketed through the cooperative societies which were established some five or six years ago.

Expansion of economic cropping activities will have to be along lines other than copra, the main reason being the shortage of land in many villages. Few natives at present have sufficient ground for further coconut plantings in any great number - those who have done so in the past, noticeably SALUM of KAUL and the late WILENG of MARUP have done so on ground ~~which~~ to which, if the matter were closely investigated, they might not have exclusive right. Evidently, the ideal is a crop which will return a worthwhile sum annually, when properly established and worked, from a few acres of ground, and cocoa would appear to be the answer.

The first step in an organized plan to assist the KARKAR people in properly establishing cocoa could be



the establishment of a model plot, and the opportunity to do this has recently presented itself. Lulua TOMATE of LANGAPI, by birth a TOLAI from New Britain and therefore having no land of his own, is in the process of acquiring an agricultural lease over about fourteen acres near BANGANI village; TOMATE is one of the outstanding natives on KARKAR, and I feel that, if the Administration assisted with expert advice from the Dept. of Agriculture to plant part of this ground with cocoa as a model individual plot, others would be encouraged to follow the example. It would be of great importance, when instituting a cocoa planting scheme, to thoroughly check each individual's ownership of the plot before he commences planting. There are quite enough outstanding land disputes awaiting settlement on the island already, without adding to the confusion in the future.

Regarding subsistence agriculture, definite scope exists for educating the people in better planning and variation of food crops. There is a period of a few months each year, from Christmas to about the present time, when a general shortage of cultivated staples is accepted as inevitable. During this period, a diet of bread-fruit, galip nuts, etc. is followed, and at times even the bread-fruit is in short supply. The detriment to the health of the villagers, especially children, is noticeable. A case in point is quoted:

About two months ago the medical assistant from KINIM made a medical inspection of NARER villagers, during the course of the anti-yaws campaign. He subsequently informed me that the majority of the children under about ten years were underweight, and appeared to be suffering from a mild form of malnutrition. Further investigation disclosed a temporary food shortage in the village, but the people regarded this as almost ~~normal~~ in the normal run of the years events. Damage done to new gardens by roaming pigs is the only tangible reason offered, but this cannot be wholly the cause.

There are staple crops which could be grown and stored to tide them over this period, if the barrier of "tradition" were broken down.

Mention should also be made here regarding adequate supervision and encouragement of the nine Cooperative Societies on KARKAR and BATAEAG. At present the Cooperatives Officer stationed at MADANG has to endeavor to give these societies adequate supervision and encouragement in their various activities, while doing the same for the various others throughout the whole District, and for the Parent Association in MADANG. Clearly, and I feel sure that Mr. Wiseman will agree with me here, the time which can be devoted to the work on KARKAR and BATAEAG is insufficient. While senior officials responsible are doubtless well aware of the position, it is stated here that the posting of a Cooperatives Officer for KARKAR and BATAEAG if at all possible, is a real necessity if this avenue of development is to be fully developed and encouraged.

#### NATIVE LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Brief mention only is made here of the probable establishment of local government on the island, as the matter is in the hands of the Assistant District Officer, (Native Local Government), MADANG.

Mr. Page paid a short visit here from March 12th to 15th, and during this time addressed two assemblies of village officials and other leaders, one at BOROGODAN and the other at KINIM. At these the historical development of local government was outlined, the methods and working of native local government briefly explained, and the achievements of councils in other parts of the Territory pointed out. Mr. Page was given an attentive hearing at both places, but with typical KARKAR conservatism there was, and has been since, little obvious reaction to the idea of commencing councils here.

It is anticipated that Mr. Page will visit KARKAR again.



in the near future to address a larger series of meetings, when all villagers will have an opportunity of attending.

Personally I feel that, once a definite move is made in establishing councils ( or a council ) of the island, adequate support will be evident. If the people acquire, through the workings of these councils, a definite idea of "self-help", then a big step forward will have been taken.

#### CONCLUSION

Much of KARKAR's further development will depend on the attention which specialist departments can give to its various needs, as outlined partly in this report. There is a limit to what a patrol officer alone, with his necessarily multifarious duties, can achieve in a more advanced native community.

The early reaction to the increased Administration activity on the island has been favourable, and it is felt that, properly handled, the future of these people can hold a lot.

*D.J. Ayling*

(D.J. Ayling.)  
Patrol Officer