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STATION: Siassi

VOLUME No: 1

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1965 - 1966

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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[Volume 1]

VOL. NO: 3, [1] : 1965 166.

ACC. NO: 496

NUMBERS OF REPORTS: 3

67 - 6 - 1

PATROL REPORT NO. 1 - 65/66

By

J. E. Moyes

SIASSI

MOROBE DISTRICT

67 - 6 - 1



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



PATROL REPORT

District of MOROE Report No. SIASSI NO 1 - 1965/66.

Patrol Conducted by J. E. Moyes. Cadet Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled Siassi Census Division.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 1 Member R.P. & N.G.C.

Duration—From 9/7/1965 to 6/8/1965

Number of Days Twenty-five (25)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 6/1964

Medical/19.....

Map Reference Fourmil.: SAG-SAG

Objects of Patrol Talks on Council; Decimal Currency Education; 2 Land Investigations.

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

20/9/1965

D. J. Gahler
District Commissioner

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

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

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

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of MORobe Report No. SIASSI MO. 1 - 1965/66

Patrol Conducted by J. E. Moyes Cadet Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled Siassi Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 1 Member R.P. & N.G.C.

Duration—From 9 / 7 / 19 65 to 6 / 8 / 19 65

Number of Days Twenty-five (25)

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 6 / 19 64

Medical / 19

Map Reference Fourmil : SAG-SAG

Objects of Patrol Talks on Council, Decimal Currency Education, Land

Investigations

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

30 / 9 / 1965

D. J. Galt

D. J. Galt
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

57-1-6

Konedobu, Papua.

15th October, 1965.

District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
LAE.

Siassi Patrol Report NO1/1965-66

1. Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of a rather brief patrol report by Mr. Moyes, covered by your memo 67-2-13 of 30th September, 1965.
2. Your comments and those of Mr. Hogg were noted. I agree with you that lack of reliable sea transport to this area will always give cause for dissatisfaction among the people and economic development of the area will no doubt be affected by this factor.
3. Mr. Moyes has quite ably accomplished the tasks set him but has written a rather brief report. Although a young officer might be set only 2 or 3 special tasks for a patrol, yet when he is reporting I expect him to comment fully on the various aspects of native life that he has observed during his close contact with the people, together with action taken on the specially set tasks. Mr. Moyes is advised to digest carefully the contents of Chapter IV, "The Patrol Report" found in the Standing Instructions handbook (pages 18-46).
4. Mr. Moyes has done a good job on this patrol explaining the change over to decimal currency and the coming general elections of the Siassi Council scheduled for this month.
5. I am glad to note that 3 villages have purchased cattle from the Mission to start village herds. It is good of the Mission to train them in animal husbandry.
6. I am sure that there should be no serious difficulty in getting Portion 19 of the Settlement Blocks exchanged for Portion 21 for the old man NGOSONG-AITULE. Please refer this matter to me in separate correspondence.

(T.G. Aitchison)
A/DIRECTOR.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM

Telephone

Our Reference 67.2.13

If calling ask for

Mr. Walters/cmog.



Department of District Administration,

Morobe District,

LAE.

30th September, 1965.

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

PATROL REPORT - SIASSI NO.1 OF
1965/66

The report submitted by Mr. J. E. Moyes, Cadet Patrol Officer, covering the Siassi Census Division is forwarded for your information, please. The patrol attended to routine matters throughout the area. Comments from Assistant District Commissioner, Finschhafen, adequately cover the report.

Ward boundaries will require future examination, in particular the re-settlement areas.

Lack of reliable sea transport to the area will always give cause for dis-satisfaction and economic development of the area will no doubt be effected by this factor.

The re-settlement areas are in the process of being established and it is apparent that progress is not going forward as anticipated. Unless the people are interested in economic development the block will be used for subsistence crops and until the people themselves become aware of the benefits to be derived from such development then little progress can be expected. Stimulation, example and education over a long period may prove successful in generating the interest for economic development. Even if this interest does not eventuate, the fact that the land short people of the islands now have garden land for subsistence crops must be considered a benefit to the community. The use by other village people of a lessee's block probably stems from social obligations required of him by the village people. The Assistant District Commissioner, Finschhafen, will be requested to observe future developments.

The Officer-in-Charge, Siassi, will be requested for additional particulars on portions 19 and 21, as there appears to be no reason why the lessees cannot exchange blocks.

./2.

The present Public Works Department policy on road development will probably mean that roads such as these will have to be developed by the communities concerned, without any assistance from the Administration.

The remarks concerning Aid Posts have been referred to the Regional Health Officer, for comment.

A good report containing useful information.

D. N. Ashton
(D. N. ASHTON)
A/District Commissioner

c.c. Mr. J.E. Meyes,
PINSCHAFEN.

Officer-in-Charge,
Patrol Post,
SIASSI.

Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-District Office,
PINSCHAFEN.

GJH/lh
67-1-6

Dept. of District Administration,
Sub-District Office,
P I E S C H A P E N,
Morobe District.

23rd September, 1965.

The District Commissioner,
Morobe District,
L A E.

Siassi Patrol No.1 of 1965/66

Attached is a report on the abovementioned patrol submitted by Mr. J. Moyes, C.P.O..

Certain aspects of the report require further comment:

1. Observations. The question of ward redistribution raised on page 3 of the report is essentially a matter for Council decision. It does appear that some reorganisation will be necessary as the resettlement schemes proceed.
2. Agriculture. Mr. Moyes mentions local dissatisfaction with F.M.D.S. operations. The majority of complaints arose on the islands of TOLUKIWA, SAKAR, TUAM and MAHA, and at the villages on the south-east coast. As the M.V. Vitiaz has been unserviceable for months with engine trouble, these areas have had less attention than usual.
3. Fisheries. Mention is made of a 1964 Fisheries survey. It would be useful to have the results of this investigation. This will be the subject of a separate memorandum.
4. Land. The Siassi land resettlement ^{Scheme} promises to create many headaches before the scheme is established and functioning properly. The notion of individual blocks for a very few selected individuals does not appear to impress the islanders greatly. The island villages are chiefly interested in obtaining land on Umboi Island for subsistence use by a village community. The idea of farmlets for a lucky few does not appeal to them. It also seems likely that at least some of individual lessees are not interested in using the blocks as farms, but are prepared to share them with other villagers. This matter will be referred to the Agricultural Officer who is already aware of this trend.

Land Investigation Reports on the Bunsil blocks
and the AUPWEL application will be submitted separately.
5. Roads. No road development can be anticipated at least until the effects of the present drought are over. The villagers will be occupied with gardening for some time when the rains do finally arrive. The feasibility of roads as opposed to development of water transport facilities will also need careful investigation before a decision is reached.
6. Health. The patrolling officer's report (Appendix 'B') on Aid Posts is far from enthusiastic. It appears that an inspection tour by a Public Health representative would not go amiss. Would you please refer this matter to them.

(14)

. 2 .

The report was well conducted and well reported. Camping allowance claims are attached.

For your information and attention, please.



.....
J. J. HOGG
Assistant District Commissioner

Encl.

(18)

INTRODUCTION.

This is the third Siassi Patrol since the setting up of a Patrol Post at Barang, Umboi Island. General reception of the patrol was good although some villages had made little preparation despite prior knowledge.

No difficulty was experienced with transport as has previously been the case. The M.V. Morobe was used to patrol the outer islands of TOLEKIWA, SAKAR, TUAM and MALAI and the remaining travel was by canoe and walking. Although this time during the South-East season is not ideal for patrolling no delays or inconveniences were experienced due to weather. However it is not recommended that future patrols be conducted during the June - August period. In this case several outstanding matters necessitated giving the patrol some priority.

PATROL DIARY.

July, 1965.

Friday, 9th.

Departed GIZAKUM per M.V. Morobe at 9.30am. Arrived MONTAGEN 12 noon. Talks on Decimal Currency and Council given and village inspected in the afternoon. Slept on M.V. Morobe.

Saturday, 10th.

Departed MONTAGEN 6am for TOLEKIWA Island arriving BUN anchorage 9am. Walked to AWAR village 2hrs. over good track. Talks given to all TOLEKIWA in the afternoon at AWAR. Inspected area school and recommended the villages assist the school with construction of latrines and garden fences.

Sunday, 11th.

Departed AWAR 6.30am for BUN. Departed BUN per M.V. Morobe 9am for KARBI. Anchored overnight there.

Monday, 12th.

Departed KARBI for SAKAR Island at 6am. Talks given there thence on to MALAI Island arriving 3pm. Talks given and village and water supply inspected with view to Siassi Local Gov. Council installing a tank. Water supply most unsatisfactory. Overnight at MALAI anchorage.

Tuesday, 13th.

To TUAM Island in the morning. Talks given and village and water supply inspected thence on to MANDOK Island. M.V. Morobe returned to Lae. Talks given to MANDOK in the afternoon.

Wednesday, 14th.

To ARONAI MUTU Island per canoe 40 mins. Inspected village and informal discussions in the morning. Talks and discussions in the afternoon.

Thursday, 15th.

To AROMOT Island per canoe arriving 3pm. Informal discussions, village inspected and statement taken of villager who did not wish to take up agriculture lease at SLABORAN.

Friday, 16th.

Talks and discussions held in morning. Departed AROMOT per canoe for YANGLA, 1 hour. Talks and discussions in the afternoon and village inspected.

Saturday, 17th.

To GAURU Village 40 mins. over fair road. Talks and discussions held in the morning and village inspected. Proceeded to BIRIK 1½ hrs. arriving 3pm.

PATROL DIARY contd.

Sunday, 18th.	Sunday observed.
Monday, 19th.	Proceeded to MARILI and talks given to BIHIK, MARILI and YAGA. 2 resettled line from TUAM Is.
Tuesday, 20th.	Departed MARILI for KAMBALAB. 4 hrs over road, beach and rocks. 3 marriage disputes brought to the patrol. 2 settled and a third to be referred to the C.N.A.
Wednesday, 21st.	Talks given to KAMBALAB and KARBI thence by canoe to AUPWEL 1½ hrs.
Thursday, 22nd.	Cut trace prior to survey of 25 acre mission lease at AUPWEL.
Friday, 23rd.	Mission lease surveyed.
Saturday, 24th.	Talks given to AUPWEL and future investigation of land. To AROT 2 hrs. Talks given to AROT in the afternoon. One complaint brought to the patrol to be referred to MARARAMU.
Sunday, 25th.	Sunday observed.
Monday, 26th.	To MARARAMU 2hr. Both MARARAMU and AIYAU villages damaged by high winds. Talks given on Decimal Currency and Council in the afternoon.
Tuesday, 27th.	To GASAM 2½ hrs. OROPOT and GASAM villages inspected in the afternoon.
Wednesday, 28th.	Talks given to GASAM and OROPOT thence to GOM. Talks given and village inspected thence to station.
Thursday, 29th to Sunday, 1st August.	On station.
Monday, 2nd.	To TARAWA via OBONGAI. Minor disputes settled at OBONGAI. Both villages addressed at TARAWA in the afternoon.
Tuesday, 3rd.	To GOMLONGON 1 hr. Talks given in the afternoon.
Wednesday, 4th.	Bunsil land investigation conducted and several minor disputes settled.
Thursday, 5th.	To BARIM village. Talks given in the afternoon.
Friday, 6th.	Discussions with BARIM and OBONGAI re land dispute. To be referred to Land Titles Commission. Returned to Barang in the afternoon and talks given to BARANG and OMOM villages. Returned to station.

END OF DIARY.

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS.

The purpose of the patrol was to commence education on Decimal Currency, to give talks on the Council in preparation for general elections in October and to conduct land investigations at AUPWEL and BUNSEL.

The Decimal Currency education in the villages took the following form. Bearing in mind the lack of education of the older people no attempt was made to explain the relationship between 1d and 1 cent and discussions were confined to 6d through to £5. The various equivalents, 10/- = \$1, £1 = \$2, 1/- = 10c were explained emphasising that the change only involved new names and not new values. The date of the changeover and the system for changing the money were also dealt with. Where younger, more educated people proposed questions in relation to pennies this was explained to them singularly to avoid confusion amongst the older people. The people responded well with questions and general reception of the talks was good. Follow-up talks will be given in October when a patrol is conducted for the Council general elections. The Lutheran Mission has commenced Decimal education and most school children are conversant with the new money. With assistance from this source no difficulty can be foreseen in the changeover next February.

good The Siassi Council has been in operation for almost a year and the next general elections are scheduled for October. During the patrol preparatory talks were given to all the villages and in them the basic functions of the councillors were outlined and the necessity for the people to carefully consider their choice emphasised. The majority of the present councillors appear to have the support of their electorate and most people expressed confidence in them. However some villages said they would not re-elect their present councillors.

The villages of MARLI and BIRIK have given ground near Lablab mission station to the TUAM Islanders and approximately 100 people have resettled there. The hamlet is known as YAGA and while 15 miles by sea from Tuam it still constitutes part of the Tuam ward and has no village book of its own. A recent settlement scheme at MARLI - BIRIK brought another nine families from Tuam into the area and these people are expected to settle in homesteads on their respective blocks of land. In discussions with them they agreed that geographically the council arrangement was unsound although they were reluctant to break their ties with Tuam and be included in another ward.

This has occurred in other resettlement areas where people from islands now find themselves distant from their councillor and having to adjust to a new way of life living in scattered homesteads as opposed to their traditional villages. At present they cannot hope to have a full representation in their council and the question arises as to the Administration's intention in this regard.

In the KAIMANGA language group, generally the eastern half of Umboi Is, a survey was conducted to measure the support for a market to be established at Lablab. This was proposed at ARONAI MUTU Is as the people there found that the weather prohibited them from going to the Barang market. This idea received general support from the Kaimanga people and has been referred to the Council for action after discussion with the Australian Lutheran Mission at Lablab. The language split on Umboi, KOWAI in the west and KAIMANGA in the east, is further accentuated by the geography of the island and the Council is finding activities being divided into two spheres. This is illustrated by the sports club which, like the market has been established at Barang and consequently does not serve the Kaimanga people fully - hence a sports club for them is being set up. As yet this separation is not political and therefore to the detriment of Siassi as a whole.

LAW AND JUSTICE.

Several disputes were brought to the patrol.

LAW AND JUSTICE contd.

and those which were not settled were referred to the Court for Native Affairs.

AGRICULTURE, STOCK AND FISHERIES

In subsistence agriculture the basic staple of the Siassi people is taro supplemented by various nuts, bread fruit, bananas, fish etc. There are very few European vegetables grown. The drought since June has led to the failure of the taro crop and most villages have had to make sago. Shortages of food for school children has forced the Lutheran Mission to appeal to the Council for assistance and the situation is being closely watched.

Dissatisfaction is still being expressed about the operations of the Finschhafen Marketing and Development Society in the Siassi area. The inability of the M.V. Vitiaz to come to Siassi in the bad weather has meant that no copra collections have been made for 3 months contributing much to this discontent. Recent charter of the M.V. Umboi by F.M.D.S. has alleviated the situation but as the Umboi cannot always be made available this could occur again. The M.V. Morobe which operates to Siassi invariably returns empty and if this could be used to backload copra it would be of great assistance.

Three villages, BARIM, MARARAMU and GOMLONGON have purchased cattle from the Mission to start village herds. This appears successful and the Mission is ever watchful that the people look after the cattle.

About November, 1954 a Fisheries survey was conducted around the southern side of the island however no results of this have been received at the Patrol Post. In discussions with the island people the interest in an economic income from fishing was obvious for with these people fish has been a source of food for generations. The Australian Lutheran Mission has installed a deep freeze at Lablab and I am told that this was in anticipation of airfreighting fish to Lae.

L.A.D.

Confusion existed amongst the Siassi people as to the system of resettlement of land recently acquired for this purpose. The general impression was that this ground would be given to island villages in general and not allocated to a single person as was the case. When it became known that the Administration would purchase certain land villagers came from the islands and made gardens and with the announcement of the Ballot for the island land there was a general exodus back. NGOSOM AITULE of MALAI Is had settled on Portion 21, Umboi Is and in the ballot won a block of ground - Portion 19. He claims he is too old now to resettle again and if he cannot remain on Portion 21 he will return to Malai. Portion 21 was won by ANIA SANGWA of AROMOT Is who has since stated that he does not want the land. (A statement is enclosed). Perhaps the Lands Department could be approached to change the lease. Portions 19 and 21 are both of the same area - 16 acres.

Many people expressed their disappointment in the resettlement scheme and the two villages of GAURU and YANGLA asked for approval to give an area of ground to AROMOT Is for their gardens. This would be for the use of the village as a whole and would not involve Administration purchase and redistribution. The people were told that their request would be referred to senior officers for a decision myself not being conversant with Administration policy in this regard.

(A)

LAND contd.

Land investigations were conducted at BUNSIL where the Administration is purchasing approximately 1,000 acres for resettlement and at AUPWEL where the Catholic Mission has applied for a lease of approximately 36 acres. Both these reports will be submitted under separate cover.

ROADS.

There are about 15 miles of road for vehicles on Umboi Is but few cut and graded walking tracks. From Awelkon a good track has been constructed as far as Gomlongon and with a little work this could be brought up to vehicular standard. The Councilor from Tarawe expressed willingness to construct the road and work should commence when the current food shortage is relieved. This road could easily be extended to Bunsil, site of the resettlement scheme.

CONCLUSION.

The patrol achieved its aims and the talks were fairly successful. As experienced by previous patrols the younger semi-educated people were a disturbing influence during the talks. Presumably they feel they know everything and have no need to listen.

While weather made patrolling unpleasant at times it did give me a chance to appreciate some of the difficulties the Islanders experience during the South-West season, quickly dispelling any visions of tropical island paradises.

J. E. Moyes
.....
J. E. Moyes)
Cadet Patrol Officer.

3

REPORT ON THE MEMBERS OF THE R.P. & N.G.C. ON PATROL
SIASSI PATROL NO 1 - 1965/66.

<u>No.</u>	<u>Name.</u>	<u>Conduct.</u>	<u>Remarks.</u>
7504	Const. 5 SAGEM	Fair.	Lacks confidence.

J. E. Moyes
.....
(J. E. Moyes)
Cadet Patrol Officer

APPENDIX 'B'.

HEALTH.

The health of the Siassi people is generally good. The Census Division is served by Aid Posts at TUL, MALAI, TUAM, AROMOT, GASAM, AIYAU, KAMBALAB and TAGOP. The Australian Lutheran Mission has hospitals at Lablab and Awelkon with European sisters in charge. The hospitals cater for the more serious cases beyond the range of the Aid Post Orderlies.

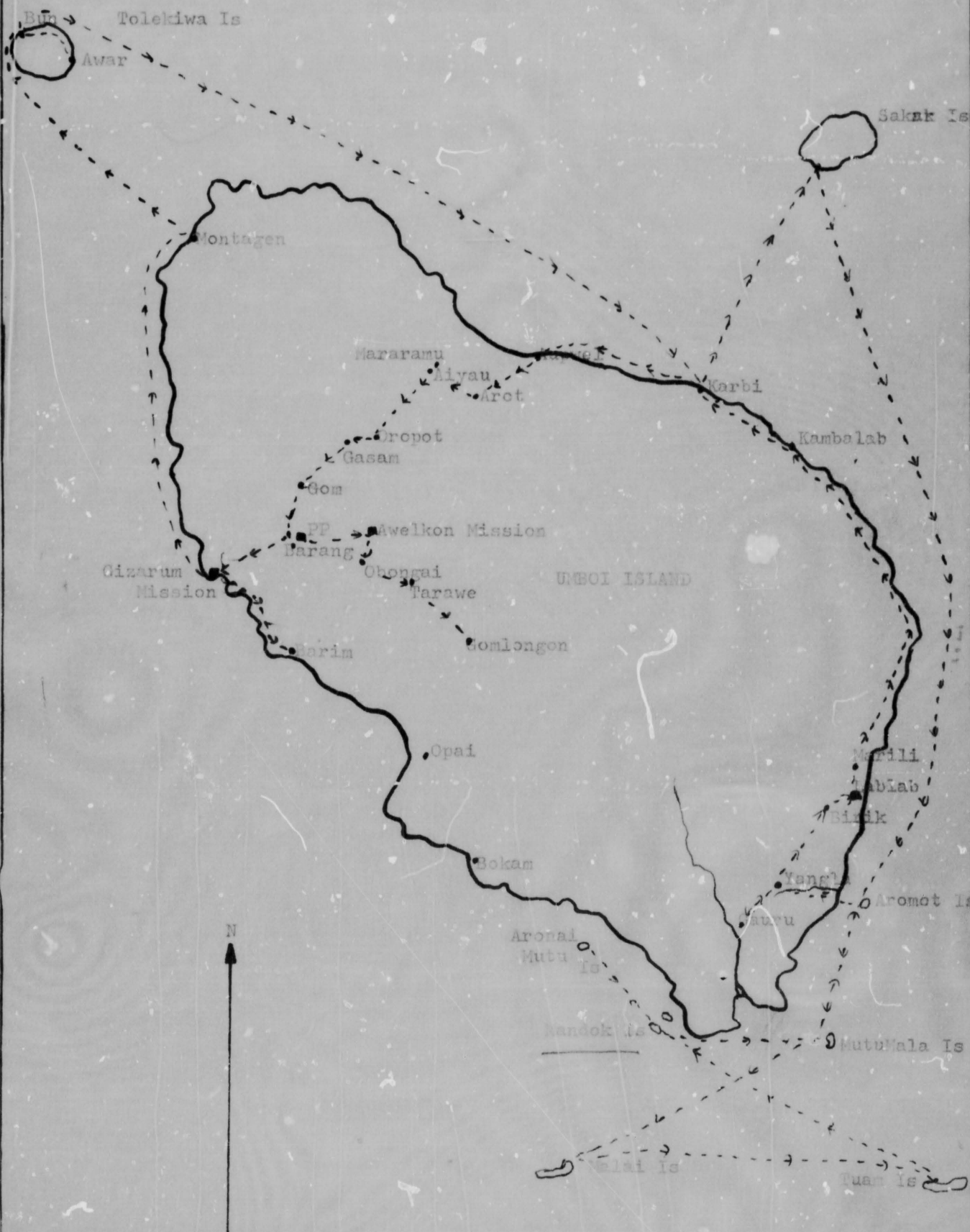
General hygiene in the Aid Posts leaves much to be desired possibly mainly due to the laxity of the Orderlies. Almost all requested kerosene which is not supplied by Public Health here at Siassi. If this could be arranged then regular sterilising of instruments would be possible improving the present standard of cleanliness. One primus is also required that of the Aid Post at Tagop now being unserviceable.

While on patrol the Aid Post Orderly at Tul on Tolokiwa Is requested that Public Health give him permission to move his Aid post to a school site near Awar. This is recommended as the school site is more central to the population than the present one.

SIASSI PATROL NO 1 - 1965/66

Patrol Route marked thus

Scale: 1" to 4 miles.



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GRAT

[illegible]

Departed GIZARUM per M.V.Morobe at 9.30 am.
Arrived MONTAGEN 12 noon. Talks on Decimal
Currency and Council given and village inspected
in the afternoon. Slept on M.V.Morobe.

Departed MONTAGEN 6am for TOLEKIWA Island arriving
arriving Bun anchorage 9am, Walked to AWAR village
2hrs. over good track. Talks given to all TOLEKIWA
in the afternoon at AWAR. Inspected area school
and recommended the village assist the school with
construction of latrines and garden fences.

Departed AWAR 6.30am for BUN. Departed BUN per M.V.Morobe 9am for KARBI. Anchored overnight there.

Departed KARBI for SAKAR Island at 6am. Talks given there thence on to MALAI Island arriving 3pm. Talks given and village and village water supply inspected with view to Siassi Local Gov. Council installing a tank. Water supply most unsatisfactory. Overnight at MALAI anchorage.

ToaTUAM Island in the morning. Talks given and village and water supply inspected thence on to MANDOK Island. M.V.Morobe returned to LAE. Talks given to MANDOK in the afternoon.

To ARONAI MUTU Island per canoe 40 mins.
Inspected village and informal discussions in
the morning. Talks and discussions in the
afternoon.

To AROMOT Island per canoe arriving 3pm.
Informal discussions, village inspected and
statement taken of village who did not wish
to take up agriculture lease at SLABORAN.

Talks and discussions held in morning. Departed AROMOT per canoe for YANGLA, 1 hour. Talks and discussions in the afternoon and village inspected.

To GAURU Village 40 mins. over fair road. Talks and discussions held in the morning and village inspected. Proceeded to BIRIK 1 1/2 hs. arriving

Saturday, 17th.

(9)

PATROL DIARY. contd.

Sunday, 18th.	Sunday observed.
Monday, 19th.	Proceeded to MARILI and talks given to BIRIK, MARILI and YAGA, a resettled line from TUAM Is.
Tuesday, 20th.	Departed MARILI for KAMBALAB. 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ hrs over road, beach and rocks. 3 marriage disputes brought to the patrol. 2 settled and a third to be referred to the C.N.A.
Wednesday, 21st.	Talks given to KAMBALAB and KARBI thence by canoe to AUPWEL 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs.
Thursday, 22nd.	Cut trace prior to survey of 25 acre mission lease at AUPWEL.
Friday, 23rd.	Mission lease surveyed.
Saturday, 24th.	Talks given to AUPWEL and futhurn investigation of land. To AROT 2 hrs. Talks given to AROT in the afternoon. One complaint brought to y the patrol to be referred to MARARAMU.
Sunday, 25th.	Sunday observed.
Monday, 26th.	To MARARAMU 2 hrs. Both MARARAMU and AIYAU villages damaged by high winds. Talks given on Decimal Currency and Council in the afternoon.
Tuesday, 27th.	To GASAM 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs OROPOT and GASAM villages inspected in the afternoon.
Wednesday, 28th.	Talks given to GASAM and OROPOT thence to GOM. Talks given and village inspected thence to station.
Thursday, 29th. to Sunday, 1st August.	On station.
Monday, 2nd.	To TARAWA via OBONGAI. Minor disputes settled at OBONGAI. Both village addressed at TARAWA in the afternoon.
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END OF DIARY.

(4)

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS

The purpose of the patrol was to commence education on Decimal Currency, to give talks on the Council in preparation for general elections in October and to conduct land investigations at AMBIL and BUBIL.

The Decimal Currency education in the villages took the following form. Bearing in mind the lack of education of the older people no attempt was made to explain the relationship between 1d and 1 cent and discussions were confined to 6d through to 55. The various equivalents, 10/- = \$1, 5/- = 50c, 1/- = 10c were explained emphasizing that the change only involved new names and not new values. The date of the changeover and the system for changing the money were also dealt with. Where younger, more educated people proposed questions in relation to pounds this was explained to them singularly to avoid confusion amongst the older people. The people responded well with questions and general reception of the talks was good. Follow-up talks will be given in October when a patrol is conducted for the Council general elections. The Lutheran Mission has commenced Decimal education and most school children are conversant with the new money. With assistance from this source no difficulty can be foreseen in the changeover next February.

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This has occurred in other resettlement areas where people from islands now find themselves distant from their councillor and having to adjust to a new way of life living in scattered homesteads as opposed to their traditional villages. At present they cannot hope to have a full representation in their council and the question arises as to the Administration's intention in this regard.

In the KAIMANGA language group, generally the eastern half of Ubeai Is. a survey was conducted to measure the support for a market to be established at Lablab. This was proposed at ARONAI NEVE Is as the people there found that the weather prohibited them from going to the Barang market. This idea received general support from the Kaimanga people and has been referred to the Council for action after discussion with the Australian Lutheran Mission at Lablab. The language split on Ubeai, ARONAI in the west and KAIMANGA in the east, is further accentuated by the geography of the island and the Council is finding activities being divided into two spheres. This is illustrated by the sports club which, like the market has been established at Barang and consequently does not serve the Kaimanga people fully - hence a sports club for them is being set up. As yet this separation is not political and therefore to the detriment of Siassi as a whole.

LAW AND JUSTICE.

Several disputes were brought to the patrol

LAW AND JUSTICE contd.

and those which were not settled were referred to the Court for Native Affairs.

AGRICULTURE, STOCK AND FISHERIES.

In subsistence agriculture the basic staple of the Sinaai people is taro supplemented by various nuts, bread fruit, bananas, fish etc. There are very few European vegetables grown. The drought since June has led to the failure of the taro crop and most villages have had to make do. Shortages of food for school children has forced the Lutheran Mission to appeal to the Council for assistance and the situation is being closely watched.

Discontentment is still being expressed about the operations of the Finseha's Marketing and Development Society in the Sinaai area. The inability of the M.V. Vitian to come to Sinaai in the bad weather has meant that no copra collections have been made for 3 months contributing much to this discontent. Recent charter of the M.V. Ubedi by F.M.D.S. has alleviated the situation but as the Ubedi cannot always be made available this could occur again. The M.V. Korobe which operates to Sinaai invariably returns empty and if this could be used to backload copra it would be of great assistance.

Three villages, BAHIM, ENBARANI and GONGORON have purchased cattle from the Mission to start village herds. This appears successful to date and the Mission is ever watchful that the people look after the beasts.

About November, 1964 a Fisheries survey was conducted around the southern side of the island however no results of this have been received at the Patrol Post. In discussions with the island people the interest in an economic income from fishing was obvious for with these people fish has been a source of food for generations. The Australian Lutheran Mission has installed a deep freeze at Lablab and I am told that this was in anticipation of airfreighting fish to Lae.

LAND.

Confusion existed amongst the Sinaai people as to the system of resettlement of land recently acquired for this purpose. The general impression was that this ground would be given to island villages in general and not allocated to a single person as was the case. When it became known that the Administration would purchase certain land villagers came from the islands and made gardens and with the announcement of the ballot for the land there was a general exodus back. NGORONG AITULI of MALAI Is had settled on Portion 21, Ubedi Is and in the ballot won a block of ground - Portion 19. He claims he is too old now to resettle again and if he cannot remain on Portion 21 he will return to Malai. Portion 21 was won by AUSA GABUA of ARONET Is who has since stated that he does not want the land. (A statement is enclosed). Perhaps the Lands Department could be approached to change the names. Portions 19 and 21 are both of the same area - 16 acres.

Many people expressed their disappointment in the resettlement scheme and the two villages of GABU and YAKULA asked for approval to give an area of ground to NGORONG Is for their gardens. This would be for the use of the village as a whole and would not involve Administration purchase and redistribution. The people were told that their request would be referred to senior officers for a decision myself not being conversant with Administration policy in this regard.

LAND contd.

Land investigations were conducted at BUNZIL where the Administration is purchasing approximately 1,000 acres for resettlement and at ASPHEE, where the Catholic Mission has applied for a lease of approximately 36 acres. Both these reports will be submitted under separate cover.

ROADS.

There are about 15 miles of road for vehicles on Unbel Is but few cut and graded walking tracks. From Asellum a good track has been constructed as far as Goulanger and with a little work this could be brought up to vehicular standard. The Government from Tarawa expressed willingness to construct the road and work should commence when the current food shortage is relieved. This road could easily be extended to Bunzil, site of the resettlement scheme.

CONCLUSION.

The patrol achieved its aim and the talks were fairly successful. As experienced by previous patrols the younger semi-educated people were a disturbing influence during the talks. Presumably they feel they know everything and have no need to listen.

While weather made patrolling unpleasant at times it did give me a chance to appreciate some of the difficulties the islanders experience during the South-West season, a wickedly dispelling any visions of tropical island paradise.

J. E. Moyes
.....
(J. E. Moyes)
Cadet Patrol Officer.

5

REPORT ON THE MEMBERS OF THE R.P.S. H.S.C. ON PATROL
SIANGI PATROL NO 1 - 1965/66.

No.	Name.	Character.	Remarks.
7504	Geart. 5 SAGAN	Fair.	Lacks confidence.

J. E. Hays
.....
(J. E. Hays)
Cadet Patrol Officer

APPENDIX 'B'.

HEALTH.

The health of the Sissai people is generally good. The Census Division is served by Aid Posts at TUL, MAHAI, TUAK, ARNOD, GASH, ATYAU, KATBALAB and TADOP. The Australian Lutheran Mission has hospitals at Iahlab and Awelkon with European sisters in charge. The hospitals cater for the more serious cases beyond the range of the Aid Post Orderlies.

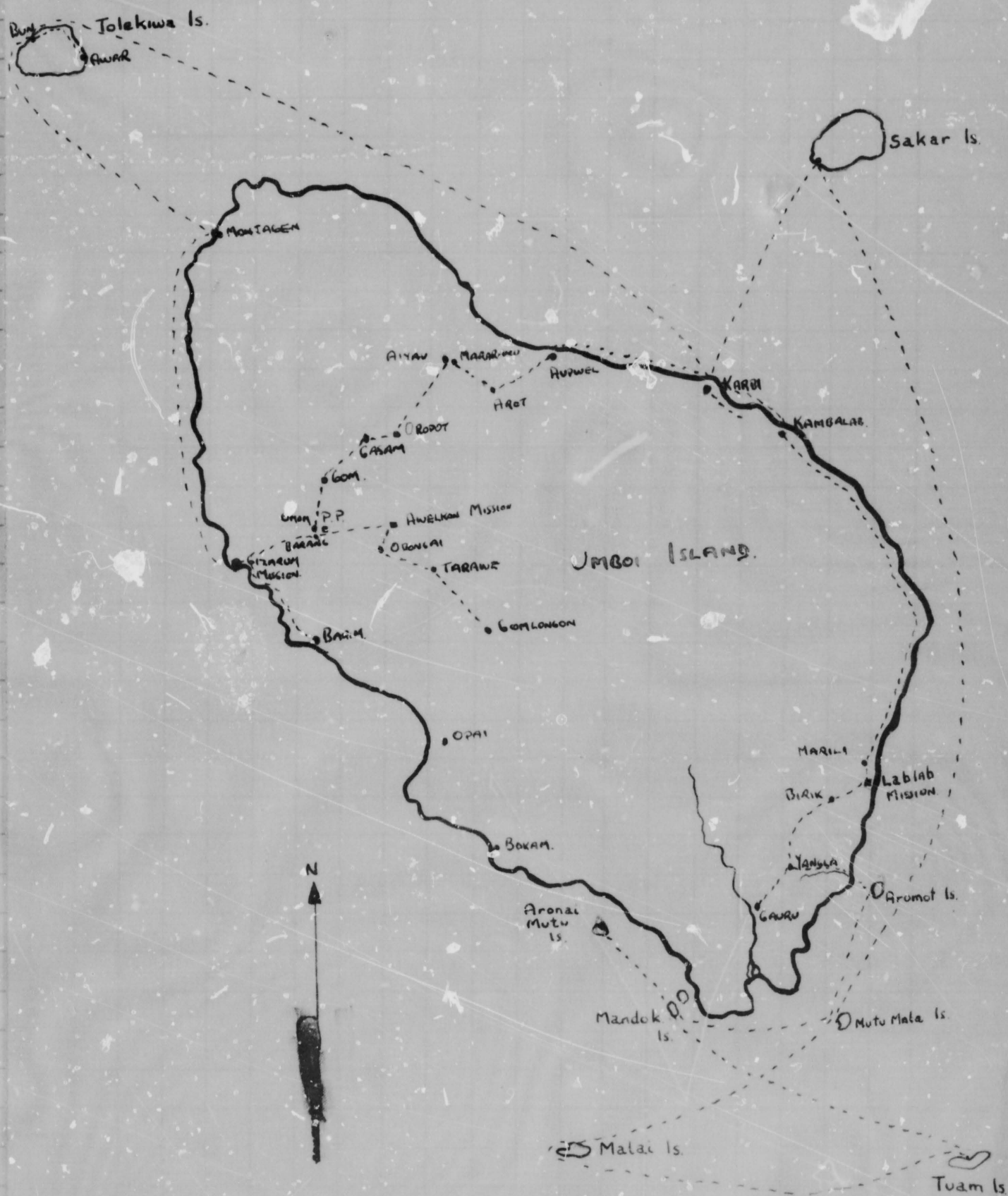
General hygiene in the Aid Posts leaves much to be desired possibly mainly due to the laziness of the Orderlies. Almost all requested boric acid which is not supplied by Public Health here at Sissai. If this could be arranged then regular sterilizing of instruments would be possible improving the present standard of cleanliness. One point is also required that of the Aid Post at Tagop now being unserviceable.

While on patrol the Aid Post Orderly at Tul on 12/12/42 is requested that Public Health give him permission to move his Aid post to a school site near Anur. This is recommended as the school site is more central to the population than the present one.

3-

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2A7



67-6-21

PATROL REPORT Nº 3-65-66

BY

R.D. DONOVAN

SIASSI

MOROBE DISTRICT

67-6-21



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of.....MOROBE..... Report No. SIASSI PATROL No. 3 of 1965/66.

Patrol Conducted by.....R. DONOVAN, Patrol Officer......

Area Patrolled.....SIASSI CENSUS DIVISION......

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....NIL.....

Natives.....NIL.....

Duration—From.....14./4./1966.....to.....27./9./1966.....

Number of Days.....THIRTY-EIGHT......

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....NO......

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services.....Sept-Oct/1965.....

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

Map Reference.....Fourmil: SAG-SAG......

Objects of Patrol.....(1) General Administration; (2) Village Water Supplies;
(3) Road Survey; (4) Land Purchase and Investigations.....

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

16/12/1966

[Signature]
District Commissioner

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

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

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

67-6-82.

1st March, 1971.

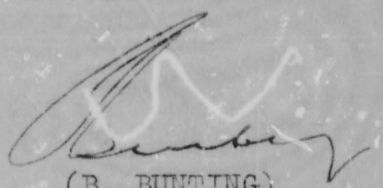


Patrol reports reaching this office should be carefully scrutinised and the appropriate comments made. Bear in mind that officers here and at Port Moresby are not always aware of your local problems which, therefore, should always be adequately explained.

(B. BUNTING)
a/District Commissioner.

c.c. Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

Forwarded for your records two copies of the patrol report and comments by the Assistant District Commissioner. The A.D.C. has been reminded to make a prompt submission of reports.


(B. BUNTING)
a/District Commissioner.

67.2.13

Division of District
Administration,
Morobe District,
P.O.

1st March, 1971.

Assistant District Commissioner,
PINSCHHAFFEN.

SIASSI PATROL REPORT NO.4 - 1970/71.

Your 67.1.6 dated 16th February, 1971 refers. I have received the latest SIASSI Patrol Report and renumbered it No. 4 - 70/71. Please amend your records.

I consider the report by Mr. Luscombe is interesting but not well presented. I further consider that you should have read it carefully and commented suitable on various obscurities. Furthermore, I have not received a copy of the statistics. If the census was revised during the patrol, as indicated from the report, I require copies of the revised village population forms.

Would you please comment on the following paragraphs contained in the report:-

1. "I have mentioned to the SAKAMS that if they are feeling neglected they should make plenty of noise and if they are really strong about it they could probably have a ward for themselves as they used have".
2. "I would like to keep a better eye on Gr. BEN as I fear he may tend to settle too many things at village level and stifle democratic processes".
3. "they have also not suffered as much frustration, either, with regard to unfinished projects, unkept promises etc. which seem to visit councils, etc."

Please advise the progress of the Capital Works, particularly in construction of wells at MALAI, KUAL, KUNAU and KUN.

4. "Due to an acute shortage of shipping much copra has been left laying around lately but the co-op buying clerk has still been purchasing and therefore the market is readily available".

Is this Society still operative? Are you able to assist the Society by advising ship's owners of copra stored at villages waiting shipment?

Is the "Association" at Pinschhafen a wholesale bulk quantity selling agent to local entrepreneurs, or is it a retail organisation?

What use is being made of the radio transmitter at Tolokiva?

1st March, 1971.

Patrol reports reaching this office should be carefully scrutinised and the appropriate comments made. Bear in mind that officers here and at Port Moresby are not always aware of your local problems which, therefore, should always be adequately explained.

(B. BUNTING)
a/District Commissioner.

c.c. Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

Forwarded for your records two copies of the patrol report and comments by the Assistant District Commissioner. The A.D.C. has been reminded to make a prompt submission of reports.


(B. BUNTING)
a/District Commissioner.

67.2.13

Division of District
Administration,
Morobe District,
P.O. Box 100,
Lima.

1st March, 1974.

Assistant District Commissioner,
P.O. Box 100,
Lima.

ADMINISTRATIVE NO. 1 - 1974/75

Your 67.1.6 dated 16th February, 1974 refers. I have received the latest District report and numbered it No. 1 - 70/71. Please amend your records.

I consider the report by Mr. Luscombe is interesting, but not well presented. I further consider that you should have read it carefully and commented suitably on various characteristics. Furthermore, I have not received a copy of the statistics. If the census was revised during the patrol, as indicated from the report, I require copies of the revised village population forms.

Could you please comment on the following paragraphs contained in the report:-

1. "I have mentioned to the ALM that if they are feeling neglected they should make plenty of noise and if they are really strong about it, they could probably have a hand for themselves as they used have".
2. "I would like to keep a better eye on Dr. But as I fear he may tend to handle too many things at village level and hinder democratic processes".
3. "They have also not suffered as much frustration, either, with regard to unfinished projects, unkept promises etc. which seem to visit communities, etc."

Please advise the progress of the Capital works, particularly in construction of wells at MALAI, TUAM, MOKAU and BUN.

4. "Due to an acute shortage of shipping much copra has been left laying around lately but the co-op buying clerk has still been purchasing and therefore the market is readily available".

Is this society still operative? Are you able to assist the society by advising ship's owners of copra stored at villages waiting shipment?

Is the "Association" at Pinachhafen a wholesale bulk quantity buying agent to local entrepreneurs, or is it a retail organization?

What use is being made of the radio transmitter at Tolokan?

67-6-21

4th January, 1967.

District Commissioner,
Morobe District,
L.A.E.

SIASSI PATROL REPORT NO. 3 OF 1965/66:

Receipt is acknowledged of the above report and your 67-2-13 of 15th December, 1966.

The broken periods covered by the report extending from April to September, 1966, and the delay in submission until December detract from the value of the report.

The situation generally is not very heartening and the need to stimulate interest and activity clearly necessary. It is to be hoped that the Assistant District Commissioner's remarks concerning the need for caution with regard to recommendations will be followed by the Council Adviser. It is far better that certain recommendations, such as assistance for the missions, emanate from the people through the councillors, rather than from the Adviser.

(J.E. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67. 6. 21

(17)

Telegrams.....
Our Reference..... 67-2-13
If calling ask for
Mr. Sinclair/rmr



Department of District Administration,
Morobe District,
LAE.

15th December, 1966

Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBU.

SIASSI PATROL NO. 3 OF 1965/66
SIASSI CENSUS DIVISION.

...
I enclose copy of the abovementioned
patrol report submitted by Mr. R.D. Donovan,
Patrol Officer, covering a patrol of his
administrative area.

2. The patrol extended over a very considerable period and I am at a loss to understand why it was necessary to cover this compact patrol area over so great a period of time. The absence of Mr. Donovan on Census duties is appreciated, but does not excuse the delay in patrolling and in submitting a patrol report.

...
3. Comments by the Assistant District Commissioner, Finschhafen, are attached, together with copy of patrol instructions. The Assistant District Commissioner's comments cover most of the matters raised by the report.
...

4. The Officer-in-Charge, Siassi, should discuss the question of alteration of ward boundaries as mentioned by Mr. Smith with the Local Government Council.

5. Communications have always been the greatest problem facing the Siassi people and it was this communications difficulty that prompted the Department to establish a patrol post on the main island. It was intended that the presence of a Government station should act as a stimulus to the people. Mr. Donovan must take every possible step to vitalize his Council. It must be accepted that the Siassi area will always suffer from its isolation but it should not, therefore, be accepted that nothing can be achieved.

6. Mr. Donovan's remarks on the current political situation have been brought to the attention of the Senior Local Government Officer.

16

7. Matters affecting other Departments
have been brought to their notice.

(D. A. [Signature])
a/District Commissioner.

Commissioner for Local Government

Local Govt matters herein for your information.
Any comment you may wish to make
could be included in our reply acknowledging
receipt of this report. S.R. D.C. Projects 20/12.
"Loury"

B

Department of District Administration,
Sub-District Office,
FINSCHHAFFEL. MOROBE DISTRICT.

67-1-6

21st. March, 1966.

The Officer-in-Charge,
Siassi Patrol Post,
SIASSI. MOROBE DISTRICT.

SIASSI PATROL NO. 3 1965/66

As verbally advised, you are to commence a Patrol to the whole of your administrative area no later than 4th. April, 1966 and on this patrol you will carry out the necessary land investigations, action under the New Guinea Land Titles Restoration Ordinance, which have been outstanding for some considerable time. In addition, all other routine administrative and court duties will be undertaken.

I suggest that you plan your Patrol so that you spend three weeks on the Patrol, returning to the Station for one week to attend necessary Council Meetings.

A Patrol Report is to be submitted on completion of the Patrol to the whole of your administrative area. A census is not required at this stage.

In the past, the Australian Lutheran Mission have been pleased to assist patrolling officers with the hire of their vessels and, in estimating your requirements for funds, you should take into account the need for chartering of the "Karapo" to the outlying islands.

You should complete all outstanding matters well before the end of June, when your first revised estimates for the Council are to be submitted.

(GORDON SMITH)
Assistant District Commissioner.

c.c. District Commissioner, Lae.

67-1-6

14

Department of District Administration
Sub-District Office,
FINSCHHAFFEN. MOROBE DISTRICT

10th. December, 1966.

The District Commissioner,
Department of District Administration,
L A E. MOROBE DISTRICT.

SIASSI PATROL NO. 3 1965/66

... I attach a report of a patrol to the greater part of the
Siassi Census Division conducted by Mr. R. Donovan between
April and September, 1966. No map accompanied the report.
... Claim for Camping Allowance is also attached, together with
copies of patrol instructions given to Mr. Donovan, prepared
at this office.

The report was received at Finschhafen on 5th. December, 1966.
It is difficult to understand why a report of this nature
should take approximately one month to prepare and forward
to Finschhafen. I do not know why a patrol of the Siassi
Islands should occupy approximately four months even with
the necessary attention being paid to Council duties and
outstanding land matters. The Villages of SIMBAN, BUKUM
and MANTAGEN do not appear to have been visited.

h6 The tenor of development on Siassi is extremely slow, the
people generally appear to be lethargic and not particularly
interested in economic development nor, for that matter, in
the Council. The report contains useful information on
water supplies in the various villages.

h6 It would appear to me that some consideration should be
given by the Siassi Local Government Council to the redrawing
of Ward Boundaries to overcome the conflict which is reported
to exist between Mission Representatives and the Council.
The refusal of the Mandok Islanders to pay their tax appears
to have been handled quite satisfactorily; at least the
people are reported to have paid tax as required by the Tax
Rule.

Communication to and from Siassi is one of the main limiting
factors to Council development. In my opinion the Adviser
could well take a more active part in furthering the small
Works Programme which has been worked out by the Council for
this year and make more use of radio communication in the M.V.
"Umboi" and possibly the M.V. "Morobe" to ensure that materials
required do reach Siassi within reasonable time.

Mr. Donovan, as Adviser to the Council, should be extremely
cautious in recommending assistance to the Missions, particularly
where there are two - the Australian Lutheran Mission and the
Catholic Mission - which appear to be in conflict in quite a
number of areas.

The report is generally well written and does contain some
useful information.

Encls.

(GORDON SMITH)
Assistant District Commissioner.

c.c: O.I.C. Siassi.

13

Siassi Patrol Post,
Finschhafen Sub-District,
MOROBE DISTRICT.

PATROL REPORT.

SIASSI PATROL No.3 of 1965/66.

Patrol Conducted by:	R.D.Donovan, Patrol Officer.
Area Patrolled:	SIASSI Census Division.
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans:	Nil;
Indigenous:	Nil.
Duration of Patrol:	(a) 14/4/66 to 25/4/66; (b) 2/5/66 to 17/5/66; (c) 6/6/66; (d) 1/9/66 to 2/9/66; (e) 12/9/66 to 16/9/66; (e) 26/9/66 to 27/9/66.
	Number of Days; Thirty-eight.
Last Patrol to Area:	Dept. of District Administration in Sept./Oct. 1965.
Map Reference:	Fourmil: Sag-Sag.
Objects of Patrol:	(a) General Administration; (b) Inspect Village Water Supplies. (c) Road Survey; (d) Land Purchase and Investig- ations.

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INTRODUCTION.

This patrol was mounted following the receipt of patrol instructions from Assistant District Commissioner, Finschhafen Sub-District. Briefly, these instructions required that a general administrative patrol be conducted to all Siassi Census Division villages and that during the course of this patrol, several outstanding land matters be attended to. No census was required. The patrol was to be interrupted, at intervals, to carry out general office and statutory Local Government Council requirements as necessary.

One major and unforeseeable interruption at the time of issue of these instructions was the appointment and temporary transfer of the officer conducting this patrol to Wau Sub-District to act as Sub-Enumerator for the 1966 Territory Census. Notification of this appointment was received after the commencement of the patrol and it was consequently decided to put aside the land matters requiring attention and endeavour to complete the patrol of the full circuit of Siassi villages in the time left before the commencement of census duties. This was successfully, although somewhat hastily, accomplished.

Temporary absence from this station was approximately two and a half months and the resulting back-log of work prevented the immediate continuation of this patrol but several land matters have now been dealt with and following the receipt of further instructions to report on the patrol to date, the following report, partly retrospective, is submitted.

The Siassi Census Division comprises a group of islands situated approximately mid-way between the New Guinea mainland and New Britain. It is bounded to the west and east by the Vitiaz and Dampier Straits respectively.

The indigenous population as at the last P.D.A. census (Sept./Oct., 1965) was established at 7,294 persons.

The European population of approximately 45 persons is entirely mission except for the resident Patrol Officer and a temporarily resident anthropologist. Two missions are established within the area, the Australian Lutheran Mission and the Roman Catholic Order of Marienhill. The Australian Lutheran Mission is by far the larger of the two groups and accounts for approximately 40 of the European persons resident in the area.

Geographically and for purposes of description, the islands of the group are divided into the main island (Umboi or Rooke Island - by far the largest and supporting the bulk of the population); an inner group of very small islands lying generally off the south-west coast of the main island; and an outer group consisting of the islands of Tuam, Malai, Tolokiwa (Lokep) and Sakar.

All these islands are accessible by canoe except for the outer group during the south-east Trade Wind season. During this period the seas become too heavy for this mode of travel and the only approach is by motor-vessel. During this patrol the Australian Lutheran Mission's M.V. "Umboi" was made available to the patrol during one of the Missions periodic medical and evangelical visits to the outer island group.

PATROL DIARY.

14th. April, 1966.

Commenced patrol of Siassi area. Per M.V. "Umboi" to Sakar Is. Inspected village and village water supply. Village O.K. Water supply not satisfactory - small and some distance from village. Gardens growing satisfactorily after severe drought. To Lablab. Overnight.

15th. April.

To Tuam Is. per "Umboi". Inspected village and water supply. Water hole no better than swamp. Talk on forthcoming Territory Census; not much data to go on. To Malai Is. per "Umboi". Inspected village and water supply. Water supply again unsatisfactory. Notice given of N.G.L.R.P.O. Provisional Order made in respect of an area of land known as TARAMBU. Appears that Final Order has already been made in respect of this area of land. Arrived Gizarum 7 p.m.

16th. April.

Station inspection and duties.

17th. April

Sunday observed.

18th. April

Office duties; station duties.

19th. April.

To Tarawe village and inspected proposed new road site en route. Inspected village and gardens. Gardens doing well after setback brought about by drought last year. One hour - Awelkon to Tarawe. Camped overnight.

20th. April.

Walked to Gomlongon village 1½ hours. Inspected village and gardens. Several native complaints settled by arbitration. Inspected airstrip site - too short. Camped overnight.

21st. April.

Walked to Opai village ½ hour and inspected. Several complaints heard. Walked to Bunsil beach 2 hours; then by canoe to Barim village. Camped overnight at Barim.

22nd. April. Inspected village. Several Complaints heard. Preliminary investigation made re Lutheran Mission's decision to give back parcel of land known as Mbarim (present village site) to people of Barim.
By canoe to Gizarum thence by Landrover to patrol post.

23rd. April. Station inspection and office duties.

24th. April. Sunday observed.

25th. April. Anzac Day. Ex-servicemen's ceremony followed by Awelkon and Gelem schools' sports-day on station's sports oval.

2nd. May. Visited Barang, Omom and Gom villages. Several minor complaints.
Per Landrover to Gasam village and camped overnight.

3rd. May. All day investigating possible airstrip site in vicinity of Gasam village.
To Gizarum and spent night on beach in readiness for early departure on "Umboi" for Tolokiwa Is.

4th. May. Visited and inspected Tolokiwa villages of Bun, Awar, Mulau and Tul. Inspected gardens. Food in short supply still but gardens near ready for harvest.
Inspected village water supplies - not satisfactory. Several complaints mainly centreing around pigs destroying gardens.
Arrived back at Gizarum 7 p.m. then by Landrover to Gasam village. Camped overnight.

5th. May. At Gasam; inspected village and gardens. Several enquiries re pigs and coconuts. Camped overnight.

6th. May. Walked to Oropot $\frac{1}{2}$ hour; inspected. Several minor complaints and enquiries.
Walked to Mararamu $2\frac{1}{2}$ hours. Inspected Aiyau and Mararamu villages. Several complaints and enquiries.
Camped overnight.

7th. May. Walked to Arot $\frac{1}{2}$ hour. Inspected village. Again enquiries re solution to village pigs destroying coconut plantings.
To Aupwel village 2 hours.
Camped overnight.

8th. May. Sunday.
Inspected village and several complaints once again re pigs and new coconut plantings. Talk given on extending existing coconut plantings. Village store ordered closed.
Camped overnight.

- 9th. May. Walked to Kabip village 2½ hours. Village inspected. Several enquiries. Camped overnight.
- 10th. May. Walked to Kampalap village 1½ hours. Inspected village. Two local Courts heard and determined. Camped overnight.
- 11th. May. Walked to Marli village 4½ hours. Inspected suggested vehicular road site en route. appears possible with a little work and thought. Inspected Marli village. Camped overnight.
- 12th. May. Walked through to Birik village 1 hour passing through Lablab mission station en route. N.G.L.R.T.O. provisional order investigation conducted re Gas Gas. All agree land (now swamp) legally purchased by mission many years ago. No appeals. Inspected village. Camped overnight.
- 13th. May. Walked to Yangla village 1 hour then on to Gauru; cargo remained at Yangla. Inspected Gauru, several complaints and enquiries. Returned to Yangla inspecting gardens and Gun mission area school and aid post en route. Camped at Yangla rest house.
- 14th. May. Lined and inspected Yangla village. Two complaints settled out of court. By canoe to Aromot Is. Camped overnight.
- 15th. May. Inspected village; no complaints. By canoe to Mandok Is. Camped overnight.
- 16th. May. Lined and inspected Mandok village. Place clean and tidy. Several enquiries. By canoe to Aronai-Mutu Is. Camped overnight.
- 17th. May. Mr. B. McLean P.H.D. Malaria Control Supervisor, West New Britain area, arrived 8 a.m. per station speedboat. Reported P.H.D. workboat "Toa" damaged on reef at Tolokiwa Is. and now en route Mandok Is. to try negotiate hire of C.M. boat "Collomb" to complete spraying Siassi area. Lined and inspected village. No complaints but several enquiries. Returned to Gizarum per speedboat; cargo to follow by canoe. Inspected Sampanan village enroute. Village to be cleaned up and fenced off from pigs. Sampanan also known as Bukim - old adjacent village site. Gizarum to patrol post by Landrover. All Siassi Census Division villages have now been visited.



- 6th. June. Ex. Lae to Lablab from Sub-Enumerators training course. Arrived per Crowley Airways.
Land known as "Ben" purchased p.m. at Lablab mission station. This land is the site of the Lablab airstrip.
Per M.V. "Karapo" to Gizarum. Arrived 7.30 p.m.
- 1st. September. To Obongai village 8 a.m. with Council Tax Team to assist and observe tax collecting methods and operation of Tax Review Committee. Returned station 4.30 p.m.
- 2nd. September. To Tarawe village 8 a.m. to again observe Tax Team in operation. All o.k. but very slow at this stage. Should speed up as time goes on.
Returned station 5 p.m.
- 12th. September. To Oropot per Landrover 10.30 a.m. then walked through to Aupwel arriving approx. 4.30 p.m.
Camped overnight.
- 13th. September. Native enquiries re pigs (again!) and gardens and again quoted Council's view on matter. Several other minor complaints. Completed purchase of land known as "Aupwel" p.m. Documents signed and money handed over.
Camped overnight.
- 14th. September. Most of day spent locating burnt out corner and marker pegs on "Aupwel" and replacing these with heaps of stones. Measurements made from corner of block to boundary creek as requested by Lands Dept. 65/571 of 18th. April, 1966.
Camped overnight.
- 15th. September. Awaiting arrival of M.V. "Umboi" to go back to Gizarum.
Talks given re L.G. Council functions and proposed erection of copra kilns. Discussed proposed road from Mararamu to Aupwel.
Womens Club uninvitedly assembled at night for "talk by Kiap". Managed to keep things going for couple of hours.
"Umboi" failed to arrive. Camped overnight.
- 16th. September. Returned station via Mararamu arriving approx. 5 p.m.
- 26th September. Departed station 2.30 a.m. for Gizarum to board M.V. "Umboi" for Mandok Is. where council tax team reported people had refused to pay tax stating that they wanted to see the Council's President and Adviser beforehand.
Arrived Mandok approx. 6.30 a.m. Village assembled and complaints heard. Talks given by President and myself.

26th. September.(cont.) "Umboi" delayed at Lablab.
Overnight at Catholic Mission.27th. September.Per "Umboi" to Gizarum; arrived
back at station 3p.m.

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OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS.Reception of Patrol.

The patrol was well received in all villages although reception could not be described as enthusiastic. Difficulty was sometimes experienced in leaving a village because of the lack of willing carriers notably in the villages of Oropot, Mararamu and Birik. The people of Yangla displayed some reluctance to take the patrol by canoe to Aromot Is. claiming quite falsely that their canoes were too small.

Such messing around resulted in annoying delays and it is suggested that future patrols make definite carrier arrangements on the night before departure from a village.

Villages.

Generally speaking, village housing was of fairly good standard although there were in all villages one or two quite dilapidated and obviously unmaintained houses. These were invariably occupied by very old people whose sons and daughters had deserted them to engage in matrimony or indentured labour. It was suggested to the people that in such cases, housing maintenance etc. should become a community project.

Houses are built up off the ground. The walls are planked and there is a growing tendency amongst the younger generations to partition off the interior of the house thus providing a degree of privacy for individual members of a household. This is largely the result of mission influence and should continue to be encouraged.

Rest Houses at Aiyau/Mararamu and Birik are in need of repair. All other rest houses are relatively new.

In most villages an effort had been made to tidy up the village prior to the patrol's arrival and with the notable exception of Kampalap all were reasonably clean. At Kampalap, which was in the midst of a sing-sing Tumbwan, a

ceremony that takes weeks to perform and months to prepare, the entire village area was littered with pig and dog excreta and the houses were in poor repair.

It is reasonable to assume that the poor condition of this village is the result of neglect brought about by the effort and lengthy preparation needed to organise a singing Tumbwan.

The people were ordered to clean the village immediately and were reminded that the Council's Hygiene Committee would be visiting soon and if the village was still in the same filthy condition prosecutions would certainly result under the Council's Hygiene Rule.

The Hygiene Committee, following its patrol, subsequently reported that an effort had been made to bring the village up to standard. However, a lot still had to be done and the owner of each house requiring attention was given a time period, the length depending upon the amount of work to be done, in which to effect repairs. Court action was to follow if these orders were not carried out satisfactorily.

An adequate fresh water supply is a somewhat major problem for all island villages in the area. Fresh water sources inspected on the ~~inner~~ and outer island group of villages are entirely unsatisfactory and in the case of the inner island group, water is carried each day from Umboi Is. by canoe.

Tuan Island is supplied by a tidal spring located approximately $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the village itself. This supplies water in both the wet and dry seasons but when inspected after rain the spring was surrounded by a large bog area and the water was discoloured red by the clay in the surrounding earth. At such times, so I was informed, this water is rarely used and drinking and cooking water is caught by slanting pieces of old iron etc. into various types of containers such as old salvaged 44 gal. drums.

Malai Island is supplied by three shallow tidal wells producing brackish water with a higher salt content at high tide. During the dry season water is obtained from Umboi Is. approximately 2 miles away.

Two shallow wells, apparently non-tidal, are located on Sakar Island; however only one is within reasonable walking distance of the village. Both function in the dry season.

Of the four villages on Tolokiwa Island, Awar is the only one with a fresh water spring close at hand. The remaining villages of Bun, Mulau and Tul obtain a brackish water during the dry season by digging holes on the beach. The people of the islands of Mandok and Aronai-Mutu obtain a similar quality water by similar methods. There is no water on Aromot Island.

On the main island of Umboi, Gom village is the only one with any sort of water supply problem. During the wet season water is obtained from a spring located about 300 ft. above the village on the side of a mountain about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile from the village. A river approximately 2 miles from the village is the source of fresh water during the dry season.

The Siassi Local Government Council had planned to supply these islands with galvanised iron tanks but because of their short life span under these climatic conditions the Council is revising its ideas and is now considering the construction of cement tanks.

OUTLINE OF POLITICAL SITUATION

The Siassi Local Government Council has now been established for just over two years and is fully accepted by the people in the sense that it is not an unwanted institution. A considerable amount of political education is needed to make the people fully aware of the Council's function, its aims and its limitations and more specifically the factors responsible for these limitations. Every opportunity was taken during the patrol to broaden this education and to explain why the Council was not yet ready to embark on such ambitious projects as the purchase of trucks and ocean-going motor vessels.

It is felt that the Siassis are a people who have to be fully organised in the non-traditional aspects of their every-day lives and in this respect, the Council assists considerably. However, it is not altogether certain that these people wish to be organised. There are of course, influential men in all villages but there are few cases where these persons have been elected Councillors and to date there've been two Council general elections. This then makes the role of Councillor a somewhat difficult and often unrewarding task. Unfortunately there is a tendency amongst the people and some of the Councillors to regard the Councillor as just another form of village official (Luluai) entitled to attend a monthly meeting and from which he draws his authority to allocate village work tasks.

It is also apparent in some cases that Councillors have been elected, not because of their enthusiasm for village development etc., but rather the opposite, the notion being that a weak Councillor means less organised work.

Each and every village in the Siassi area can lay claim to having a Local Government Councillor, Council Committeeman, native Pastor, church Committeeman, Church Village Elders and school Committeeman. This, plus the fact that there exists for these people, Government law, Council law, Mission law and their own traditional law, has all added to produce a confusion and disorganisation that is difficult to re-organise particularly where friction may exist between Councillor, minor mission official and traditional leaders.

In an effort to give some head to this kind of situation it was strongly pointed out to the people that the Councillor was their elected leader and all village activity should be organised through him. Other lesser officials were not to act in organising working parties for the maintenance of mission houses, churches, schools and gardens without informing their respective Councillors first to check and see that it will not conflict with other arrangements. This is necessary because Council ward and mission parish boundaries overlap in most cases.

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The Siassi people are extremely partial to village meetings of various sorts. Often meetings are convened to discuss what appear to be the most trivial of matters. Both interested and non-interested persons attend and in this way a considerable amount of time is lost which could otherwise be profitably spent at cash cropping etc.

On the other hand, complaints have been voiced against the Councillor for calling together too many meetings and thus preventing the people from attending to their gardens, but in all these cases, the complaints came from those villages where the results of physical work were most evident and thus suggesting that the complaint was a disguised one directed at curbing the Councillors enthusiasm. Also the meetings referred to are those early morning ones at which the day's work tasks are discussed and distributed.

It is obvious that no action was taken in these cases except to point out that the complaint was illogical. The villages making these complaints were Barim, Gasam, Cropot and Arot.

The Council tax team was accompanied on the first two days of it's tax collecting patrol to ensure that there were no clerical and accounting problems.

During it's patrol, the tax team reported that the Mandok Island people had refused to pay their current tax until they had spoken to the Council's president and the Officer-in-Charge at the Patrol Post. A visit was subsequently paid by the President and myself on the 26th. September. The people were assembled and the village committeeman informed us that the people didn't want to pay tax because the Council hadn't done anything for them to date, although it had originally promised water tanks. Both the President and myself spent some considerable amount of time explaining the reasons for the hold-up. It was also pointed out that these projects had not been scrapped, that the Council was now considering the installation of cement tanks in preference to those constructed of corrugated iron.

Another complaint was that the Council had assisted Lutheran Mission schoolchildren with food during a severe drought at the beginning of the year (it was feared that the schools would have to close because of the food shortage. The Council assisted by providing funds for the purchase of native foods from the New Guinea Mainland) but had not helped Catholic school children from Mandok and Arcmot Islands at school at the Catholic Mission on Per Island.

It was explained that the Catholic Mission had not felt the matter to be that severe and had not taken advantage of the Council's offer to help.

It is felt that this "rebellion" against Council tax was instigated by the Council Committeeman himself, a "thinker" by the name of Aitop (Bal) who, it is believed, genuinely thought that the Mandok people had been neglected by the Council. His manner was neither violent nor agitated and no action was taken except to point out that the payment of tax was a legal necessity and to use word pictures to rebut his own arguments. This I think was successful and the people agreed to pay their tax without further ado.

A good and friendly relationship exists between the Missions, Administration and the Indigenous population.

AGRICULTURE.

Last year's exceptionally severe drought resulted in a period of considerable famine and much time was spent away from the village in the search for food and as a result any tendency existing towards economic expansion came to a virtual standstill. Copra production fell off partly because the trees produced less as a result of the drought and partly because what little was harvested was used to supplement food supplies.

Many a bank account was depleted purchasing rice and other foodstuffs and it is hoped that this will serve to act as a stimulus to increased economic activity in the future. Unfortunately, the Siassis are not yet at that stage where they consider it necessary to devote too much thought towards planning for the future and in all probability, the drought, together with its attendant hardships, has already been forgotten particularly as food gardens are now back to normal.

The permanent posting of an Agricultural Assistant and three agricultural field-workers to the area is having its desired effect and it is gratifying to see extensions and new coconut plantings springing up throughout the census division. This is another example of the need to organise the Siassi people into activity.

LAND.

As mentioned in the introduction to this report, land purchase investigations requiring attention had been postponed because of an interruption to the patrol caused by the Territory Census.

These investigations are to be carried out in the Bunsil area on Umboi Island; the land is required for re-settlement purposes.

Eleven clans own land in this intended purchase area therefore requiring the submission of eleven separate investigation reports. Work has already commenced on these investigations and they will be reported on at a later date.

During the course of this patrol two land areas were purchases. These are known as "Ben" and "Aupwel". The former is the present site of the Lablab airstrip and the latter is the Catholic Mission school and church site on the eastern side of Umboi Island.

No difficulties were experienced in negotiating the purchase of these two land areas.

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COMPLAINTS AND COURTS.

Practically all complaints centered around pigs destroying food and new cash-crop gardens.

The Council's attitude that these pigs may be destroyed if caught in the act and if the owner fails to take action to control his pig after two warnings, was repeatedly quoted to the people. Unfortunately no reports have yet been received indicating that any such wayward pig have been dealt with. Pigs play a very big role in the complicated "borrow and loan" system of these people and fear of retaliation prevents garden owners from acting in their own interests. Meanwhile, pigs play havoc with the gardens and garden owners lose interest in re-establishing their cash crops. The question as to whether the gardens or the pigs or both should be fenced in still remains to be resolved.

Two complaints of adultery were heard and determined by the Local Court during the course of this patrol.

HEALTH.

The health of the Siassi people is generally good.

There are eight Administration Aid Posts located throughout the census division plus two Australian Lutheran Mission hospitals; one is located at Lablab and the other at Awelkon. They are staffed by European nursing sisters who make regular patrols to the villages.


EDUCATION.

The missions, Catholic and Lutheran, are wholly responsible for the provision of educational facilities within the census division. Each and every child in the area has the opportunity of an education to secondary level.

The Lutheran Mission has a secondary school teaching to Form III at Gelem on Umboi Island.

ROADS.

There are approximately 15 miles of vehicular road now in use on Umboi Island. Work has already commenced to extend these roads from the Patrol Post to Aupwel on the east coast with an eventual link up to the airstrip at Lablab. A rough survey was done of the proposed road from Aupwel to Lablab during the course of this patrol and with a little spade work this road is possible.


 (R. Donovan)
 Patrol Officer