

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES  
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# PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: WEST SEPIK

STATION: NUKU

VOLUME: 1

ISBN: 9980-911-14-X

ACCESSION No: 496.

PERIOD: 1960-1961

Filed by/for the National Archives of Papua New Guinea,  
PORT MORESBY - 19.....

Sole Custodian: National Archives of Papua New Guinea.

# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of..... S E P I K ..... Report No. NUKU 1 - 1960/61

Patrol Conducted by..... D. B. MOORHOUSE, PATROL OFFICER.....

Area Patrolled..... WANWAN CENSUS DIVISION.....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....

3 members R.P.&N.G.C.

Natives..... 1 Aid Post Orderly.....

1 Interpreter

Duration—From 4.../...7.../19.60. to 14.../7.../19.60.

Number of Days..... Fourteen.....

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

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services...../...12/19.59..

Medical ..... /...7.../18.57..

Map Reference Aitape - Nigre Army Strat Series, 1"=4 Miles

Objects of Patrol (1) General Administration (2) Census Revision

(3) Taxation

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

29. 18 1960

*J. Holman*

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.

Ref. 67-8-3

Department of Native Affairs,  
Headquarters,  
KOMODOU.

13th October, 1960.

The District Officer,  
Sepik District,  
WEWAK.

PATROL NO. NUKU 1 - 1960/61

I acknowledge with thanks, receipt of :-

- \* Memorandum of Patrol No.
- \* Patrol report No. NUKU 1 - 1960/61

covering patrol by Mr. D.B. Moorhouse, Patrol Officer.  
Recommendation for a blanket exemption for the WANMAN  
Census Division should be submitted when recommendations for  
the 1961 Tax Rates are requested.

(J.K. McCarthy)  
Acting Director *MB*

\* Delete as necessary.

67-8-3

13th October, 1960.

The Mission Liaison Officer,  
Department of Education,  
KORORORU.

PATROL NO. 1 OF 1960/61 - NUKU

The following extract from the above report is forwarded for your information, please.

"There is virtually no mission activity in the area patrolled although it is likely that Christian endeavour will commence shortly in the WANWAN villages in the north of the Division. The Roman Catholic Mission of the Order of the Friars Minor (Aitape) operates a station at AWES in the adjacent SEIM Census Division and plans to re-open their KLAPLEI Mission some time in the future. The priest in charge of KLAPLEI will undoubtedly extend mission influence in the WANWAN villages of TUGINARA and WULBOWE.

The same Mission also intends opening another Mission station in the NAIMAI region and has intimated that it will shortly apply for a Mission lease in the area. This Mission, when established will probably extend its influence over much of the western WANWAN area.

The people themselves are not opposed to any such moves and many of the village officials are desirous of having mission catechists in their villages. In years to come Mission work may have quite a settling influence upon the people as they appear to be quite receptive to propoganda and welcome any outside interest in their area."

(J.K. McCarthy) RS

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67-3-13/1614

District Office,  
Sepik District,  
NEWAR.  
29th August, 1960

The Assistant District Officer,  
LUMI.

PATROL REPORT NUKU NO. 1 of 1960/61

I have received a report of a patrol carried out by Mr. D. Moorhouse, Patrol Officer, Nuku, together with your covering letter.

I have discussed the matter of a Medical Patrol with the District Medical Officer and he has suggested that a Native Medical Orderly accompany each Native Affairs patrol. I would, however, suggest that you contact me a couple of months before the next patrol and I will endeavour to get a Medical Assistant to accompany the patrol.

A copy of the section of this report dealing with Health will be forwarded to the District Medical Officer. Would you ask Mr. Moorhouse to forward a recommendation for the appointment of LOKUAL as Lulusi of GAMO. I would like a background picture of the appointee that I can forward to the Director.

There has been very little interest taken in this area in the past mainly because of staff shortages and the difficult nature of the terrain. These allied with the fact that the population is less than 2,000 has caused the area to be given a low priority.

Assistant District Officer

*D. J. Clancy*  
(D. J. CLANCY)  
DISTRICT OFFICER

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

The accompanying report is forwarded for your information and comments please. This is a backward area and owing to the staff position and peculiar patrolling conditions in the area, I doubt whether we can mount more than one patrol a year to the area.

*D. J. Clancy*  
(D. J. CLANCY)  
DISTRICT OFFICER

30-1/424

Sub-District Office  
LUMI, Sepik District

13th August, 1960.

The District Officer,  
Sepik District,  
NEWAK

Nuku Patrol No.1 of 1960/61

Attached please find two copies of a report on the above patrol to the WANWAN area conducted by Mr. P.O. Moorhouse.

The health situation in this area leaves a lot to be desired. As reported, it is the least sophisticated in the Sub-District, and has very little developmental potential. As you will be aware, there is now no Medical Assistant at Nuku, and even when there was one, he did very little patrolling. Mr. Moorhouse is quite right in saying that the area needs extensive medical patrols, but for the time being there appears to be very little prospect of getting them done.

Mr. Moorhouse's proposals for a blanket exemption for the Wanwan will be supported. This has been recommended before, but to no avail. The clerical chore of writing several hundred exemption slips is unnecessary.

Mr. Moorhouse's enthusiasm for his work is apparent in his reporting, and is to be commended. His camping allowance claim is attached.

  
C.E.T. Torrell

Assistant District Officer

cc. C.I.C. Nuku.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

NUKU PATROL NO. 1-60-61.

Submitted By

D. B. Moorhouse, Patrol Officer.

- (1) Area Patrolled : WANWAN Census Division, Tax District.
- (2) Patrol Accompanied By :

Const. 1/C. NAMAEN No. 2765  
Constable WAISIME No. 9076  
Constable WAKORI No. 9479  
A.P.O. IAUTON  
Interpreter WOMA

- (3) Duration of Patrol :

4th July 1960 to 17th July 1960.  
Fourteen days.

- (4) Objects of Patrol :

(a) General Administration  
(b) Census Revision  
(c) Taxation

- (5) Previous Patrols :

Native Affairs - December 1959  
Medical - July 1957

- (6) Map Reference :

Aitape - Nigre Army Strat Series.  
One inch = Four miles.

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NUKU PATROL NUMBER 1 - 1960/61.

INTRODUCTION.

The patrol was to the WANWAN Division of the NUKU Administrative area of the IHMI Sub-District. It combined normal administrative duties in the field, census and taxation revision.

The WANWAN is the most primitive of the areas patrolled from NUKU. The region lies to the south of NUKU and borders the MAPRIA and AMBUNTI Sub-Districts. The country is for the most part lowlying swamp and grassland which is dissected by numerous large streams and watercourses. Much of the area is virtually isolated from NUKU by swollen rivers for up to nine months in the year. Consequently the people inhabiting this region have little contact with NUKU station and neighbouring groups. In fact they only have a minimum of social intercourse with each other - their small hamlets being frequently cut off from adjacent hamlets by floodwaters during the wet season - and in the dry season they prefer to roam and hunt in the bush long distances from their gardening sites. As a result it is difficult to obtain precise knowledge of the locality of a specific group at any given time.

The people were first censused in 1952 and this patrol was only the third or fourth time visits had been made. Although the area is classed as being under complete administrative control the people are very backward and their traditional pattern of life has not varied to any great extent. The villagers are timorous though friendly and the patrol was well received throughout. Food was always available, as were carriers.

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PATROL DIARY.

Monday 4th July 1960.

Departed NUKU 0815 to AWES village arrived 1105. Road inspections and discussions with village officials re maintenance. Departed 1330 to YIRIWANDI arrived 1430. Village assembled and addressed - road inspection and inspection bridge site for SEM - KLAPLEI vehicular road. Camped.

Tuesday 5th July.

Departed YIRIWANDI along motor road to KLAPLEI No. 1 - arrived 1045. Village inspected - to Aid Post 15 minutes away - conditions poor - instructions given for clean-up. Returned KLAPLEI and inspected possible Gesma 'strip' site which local O.P.M. Mission may apply for. Departed 1300 over good track to KLAPLEI No. 3 (NAKANUKU). Track inspected en route for extension of road from KLAPLEI No. 1. Village assembled and addressed - complaints heard. A.P.O. LUNTON of KLAPLEI Aid Post joined patrol.

Wednesday 6th July.

Departed KLAPLEI No. 3 in light rain over greasy track to TUGINARA - arrived 1045. Village inspected - tax/censused - new village book issued - medical treatments given. C.N.A. convened - remained overnight.

Thursday 7th July.

Departed TUGINARA 0745 to WULECWE - village lined, inspected, tax/censused, new book issued. Approached by Officials to have a Patrol Post established here. Departed 1245 to KOROMBOYON arrived 1500 - inspected village - camped.

DIARY (Contd).

(3)

Friday 8th July.

Tax/census at KOROMBOKON. Departed for ULAP 1050 arrived 1300. Tax/censused, inspected, heard complaints. Sick to Nuku under escort. Camped.

Saturday 9th July.

Departed ULAP to GANO across swamps and kunai ridges arrived 1030. Lined, inspected, tax/censused. P.m. visited adjacent halets and gardens - sick found hiding and new names recorded. General conditions poor - 17 treatments given for yaws, scabies and ulcers. Remained overnight.

Sunday 10th July.

Shifted camp to WOLOSO village (YIMUT) - arrived 1100 and p.m. observed.

Monday 11th July.

Lined and tax/censused WOLOSO and departed for UNDU 1000 - arrived and made camp 1130. Lined, inspected, and tax/censused. To MANDA halet to contact small group - returned to UNDU 1730.

Tuesday 12th July 1960.

Departed UNDU 0730 to YIMAUWI arrived 12 noon. Inspected and censused. Camp made. Iulnai MAKOT reported alleged murder in adjacent South WAFKI village of AMORO (ASIMARA)

Wednesday 13th July.

Despatched police to bush behind YIMAUWI to apprehend suspects. Self proceeded to WOSAPOM. Investigation killing. Camped.

Thursday 14th July.

Lined and censused WOSAPOM - to YAUAN - lined, inspected and tax/censused - returned to WOSAPOM for night.

Friday 15th July.

Departed WOSAPOM to VEI'I over bush track - visited MAIMAI halet en route - arrived VEI'I 1215. Lined, inspected, and tax/censused. Camped.

Saturday 16th July.

Departed VEI'I to ENGIEP thence to WOMBUI. Possible road site to link MAIMAI with NUKU examined en route. Numerous complaints heard at WOMBUI - remained overnight.

Sunday 17th July.

Departed WOMBUI 0800 and returned to NUKU 1015. Patrol stood down.

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WAR GRATUITY.

One War Gratuity (WG11) was located and paid at KLAPLEI No. 3 village.

W.M.T.A./C.

One payment for deferred wages was made at YIRIWANDI village. There are none outstanding in the WANWAN Division at present.

MISSIONS.

There is virtually no mission activity in the area patrolled although it is likely that Christian endeavour will commence shortly in the WANWAN villages in the north of the Division. The Roman Catholic Mission of the Order of the Friars Minor (Aitape) operates a station at AWES in the adjacent SKIM Census Division and plans to re-open their KLAPLEI Mission some time in the future. The priest in charge of KLAPLEI will undoubtedly extend mission influence in the WANWAN villages of TUGINARA and WULBOWE.

The same Mission also intends opening another Mission station in the MAIMAI region and has intimated that it will shortly apply for a Mission lease in the area. This Mission, when established will probably extend its influence over much of the western WANWAN area.

The people themselves are not opposed to any such moves and many of the village officials are desirous of having mission catechists in their villages. In years to come Mission work may have quite a settling influence upon the people as they appear to be quite receptive to propaganda and welcome any outside interest in their area.

HEALTH.

The general state of health of the WANWAN people may only be described as poor. The patrol was well equipped medically and numerous treatments were given. All told 16 people were sent to Nuku for advanced treatment. The following cases were treated :-

- Yaws - 19
- Abscess - 4
- Scabies - 7
- Ulcers - 29
- Bronchial pneumonia - 5
- Malaria - 9

Many small sores cuts abrasions etc.

It is over three years since the WANWAN was medically patrolled, and the people are too timid to bring their sick to NUKU for treatment. Most sick are hidden from patrols and only found after a search of neighbouring gardens and hamlets. There is almost a complete lack of hygiene and sanitation. Latrines and pits were constructed at all villages but it is doubtful if they will be used as the people spend but little time in the "official" village. Infant mortality is high - 23 deaths in the 1-4 age group being recorded as against 71 births in the seven months since the last census. The people do not like European medicines and have stated that they prefer their own bush "cures". I think an intensive medical patrol throughout the area would have an extremely beneficial effect upon the general health level. Long talks were given at all villages on the necessity of taking sick to Nuku for treatment, and Court action was taken in two cases. It may be that the constant propaganda directed from this office will have some effect but regular patrolling is called for.

There is an approximate incidence of 12% of tinea imbricata in the area. There is a very high percentage of filaria in the legs and genitals.

AGRICULTURE.

Native gardens were inspected throughout the area and appear to be satisfactory. There were no complaints about food shortages. The basic food is sago which is supplemented by yams, taro, and bananas. Good gardening land which is well drained is at a premium and is jealously guarded by the owners against infringement of their rights. Some of the more southern villages live almost exclusively on sago and have little arable land.

LIVESTOCK.

Pigs and dogs are the only domesticated animals in the village. The pigs are household pets and, like good hunting dogs, are well looked after. Several diseased dogs were destroyed.

In the dry season a great deal of time is spent hunting wild pigs, cassowaries, and other rodents. Many birds are shot from tree houses.

FISHING.

Dorris root is used universally in this area to stun and trap the small fish of the rivers.

VILLAGES.

General village standards were found to be poor. Mostly they only consist of four or five houses in central places handy for the associated garden and family hamlets of the villagers. Houses are built completely from the gacsaq palm and are low small and dank. They at least, however, provide some measure of protection from the swarms of mosquitoes in the area.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

Lulais - 10  
 Raltals - 15  
 M.T.T.'s - 10

Most officials are family leaders only and have little or no power outside their immediate family group. They cannot be relied upon to perform even basic duties such as ensuring the attendance of all villagers at census. The lack of strong, indeed any leadership at all, is reflected in the poor standard of village conditions generally. Where there is some semblance of leadership village conditions are slightly higher than the general norm of the area.

Lulnai WALENO of GANO village has relinquished his position and one LOKUAI has been provisionally appointed in his stead.

REST HOUSES.

All villages maintain resthouse which though not palatial are adequate. A request for a new rest house was made at KLAPIRI No. 3.

CEMETERIES.

These are generally located adjacent to the village and all were clean. Mostly the people are still buried in the bush and some hamlets still raise their dead on platforms about six feet high - generally over a sago swamp. At YADAW a recently deceased woman was raised on a funeral bier immediately above the village water supply and her body fluids were dripping into the water. Instructions were given for her to be buried in the "official" cemetery.

AIRFIELDS.

There are none in the area.

ROADS & BRIDGE.

There are no roads in the WANWAN Division. Bush tracks are fair in the dry season and the main ones are well maintained. However even moderate rain makes them mere quagmires/ and virtually impassable.

The area may be reached along the motor road in the adjacent U'EM and KLAPEKI Divisions.

CENSUS.

Statistics show an overall increase in population of 72. Births exceeded deaths by 48, 71 births as against 23 deaths being recorded. Migrations in exceeded migrations out by 66. 107 new names were recorded and other movements were minor local ones.

There are 184 men away from the area at work out of a total labour potential of 574 and a total adult male population of 690. This figure exceeds 33% and measures were taken to ensure that new recruits did not leave until other men had been repatriated. The large absentee figure does not unduly disrupt village routines and is not considered alarming. The WANWAN people have no other means of obtaining money and goods other than by the hire of their labour and have a very meagre economic potential, if any.

The total population of this division is now 1863.

EDUCATION.

There are no schools or any other form of educational institutions in this division. 8 children attend the Catholic Mission school at WATI, near NUKU.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The general native situation in the area may be described as normal. There were no untoward incidents and the patrol was favourably received throughout. Patrols are welcomed as a diversion to the normal routine but once they have gone the people revert to their daily life and are quite apathetic to change. The return of labourers able to speak a little pidgin English is having a slight effect in improving this attitude.

At YIMAUWI the patrol was informed of the killing of one WANIS of YIMAUWI, allegedly by tultal AWA and TALBA of AMORO (or ASIMARA) in the adjacent South WAPEI Division. Investigations were made and the two men arrested and brought to NUKU for the sitting of the District Court. Both were committed for trial.

Fights and brawls are common in the area but of late the participants have sometimes been brought into NUKU for Court action. This trend is being encouraged to the fullest by this office.

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*D. B. Moorhouse*  
.....  
D. B. Moorhouse  
Patrol Officer

# VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER

SL47/7

YEAR 1960

WANWAN DIVISION

Dist. Print—505/2.65.

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	BIRTHS	DEATHS												MIGRATIONS				ABSENT FROM VILLAGE AT WORK				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES		TOTALS (excluding absentees)				GRAND TOTAL																			
			0-1 Mth.		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth	In		Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission		MALES	FEMALES	No. Child Bearing Age	Average Size of Family	Child		Adults																		
			M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			M		F	M	F																
			10-15		16-25		26-35		36-45		10-15		16-25		26-35		36-45		10-15		16-25		26-35		36-45																											
GAMO	6/7/60	23					1	2					1	1	17	10	4	3									25													26	73	1754	6	56	4,132	22	60	63	202			
KOROMBOKON	9/7	37				1	1						2	2	6	6	3	7									32													1959	13	40	4	40	4,430	35	50	65	212			
TIGINARA	6/7	17					1							1	4	5	16	15									29													1980	15	49	2	56	4,646	45	66	64	257			
ULAP	9/7	3					2							1	12	5		2									13													9	41	3	28	2	31	4,123	6	38	37	119		
UNDU	11/7	12	1	2										1	4	5	4	2									5													7	32	4	19	3	20	4,114	12	34	30	95		
VEI'I	14/7	12				3	1							1	1	1										1													1251	5	32	2	33	4,321	16	35	44	136				
WOLOSO	10/7	46			3									3		1	2	8	10		1									21													16	81	1358	3	59	4,841	43	73	71	249
WOSAPOM	13/7	5					2	1						1	3	3	1	1	10									1													1016	5	17	1	174	3,117	11	21	24	74		
WULBOWE	7/7	13				2											23	20										3													1	1142	11	29	4	34	4,336	28	41	46	161	
YAUAW	13/7	22			1			1									2	2	1									13													11	3316	35	3	31	3,119	18	27	43	120		
YIMAUWI	12/7	511																										16													24	66	1369	5	66	4,129	51	61	84	241		
<b>TOTAL</b>		2843	-	-	6	4	5	8	2	-	2	2	9	10	1	-	74	6430	42	-	-	184																	6	2	164574	115430	35443	310287	50657	11866						

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