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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: WEST NEW BRITAIN

STATION: Talasea

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1967 - 1968

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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68/69

PATROL REPORTS WEST NEW BRITAIN DISTRICT 1967-68

TALASEA

BALI WITU

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Officer conducting patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
2-67-68	P.J. Batho	Kombe C.D.
4-67-68	A. Leaf	Portion Talasea Dagi Rd Bola Council Bola C.D.
6-67-68	R.W. Phillips	Bola C.D.
10-67-68	R.W. Phillips	Kombe C.D.
13-67-68	R.W. Phillips	Bola C.D.

BALI WITU

1-67-68	S. Gibson	Garove & Mundua Is. of Bali Witu C.D.
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H.S.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



PATROL REPORT

District of West New Britain Report No. 2/1967-68

Patrol Conducted by Patrick J. Batho, Assistant District Officer

Area Patrolled Kombe Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr. B. Hiscox, Medical Assistant Gr. 3.

Natives 1 Police Constable, 3 medical Orderlies

Duration—From 22 / 9 / 1967 to 12 / 10 / 1967

Number of Days 21

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? yes

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 9 / 1966

Medical 9 / 1966

Map Reference Fourmil of Roualt: Milinch of Penk and Rein

Objects of Patrol Census of the Division

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

1 / 11 / 1967

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

67-17-1
(26)

Pop

13
F
Females
in Child
Birth

67-17-1

March 6th, 1968.

The District Commissioner,
West New Britain District,
HOBKINS.

PATROL REPORT NO.2/1967-68

Receipt is acknowledged of Mr Batho's report on his patrol to the Kombe Census Division. The A.D.C. has commented fully on the matter of Councils, Economic Development and the water supply situation and you have outlined your views on these matters also.

The report was an excellent one, detailed but concise which reveals much thought in presentation. As pointed out by you it is one thing to report on a situation but more important to take positive action to improve that situation. I feel that upon receipt of your letter Mr. Batho will, in the proposed follow up patrol, be able to take such action as outlined by you for the improvement of the economical development in the Kombe by establishing a shipping point in the area.

In regards to the Local Government Council situation, your advice from time to time and the progress made would be welcome.

(T.W. ELLIS)
Director

67. 17. (25)

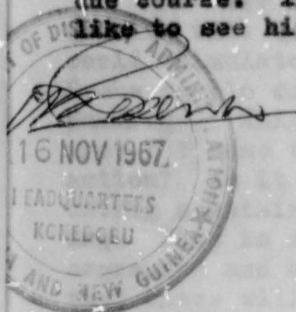
The political education campaign was not mentioned in any detail and I do not know what was done. There is certainly a need for greater understanding by the Kombe of both political and economic development. Mr. Linton M.H.A. recently reported to me that the Kombe people want a Council but there must still be considerable opposition if it is a fact that there has been no material change on the situation as reported by Mr. McBride.

I think you should take action with a view to attaining some definite target. There are several alternatives:-

- (i) Aim to include the Kombe in the Bola Council and for all the people to be included. Further educational work would be required and this could be one task of the next patrol due to the Kombe in November.
- (ii) Aim for a Kombe Council for all the Kombe Villages.
- (iii) Set up immediately a separate Council for the "pro" villages.
- (iv) Have the "pro" villages immediately join the Bola Council.

I favour (i) above but the subject is certainly not closed. What do you think? As I have indicated before propaganda should be directed towards making the people realise local government or their own participation in area administration is a logical, essential, and desirable step in their evolution. Warn Mr. Batho about the taking of plebiscites. I do not like them, at least until such time as educational groundwork has been done and a favourable result is certain. On Health and other social schemes I prefer that these be initiated through a council for fairly obvious reasons. Have you submitted reports in accordance with DDA 36-1-0 dated 29th December, 1965?

Claim for camping allowance will be processed and returned in due course. In general a very pleasing report by Mr. Batho. I would like to see him do the follow-up patrol in November.



(K.W. DYER)

District Commissioner

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

Report is forwarded herewith. Census figures in triplicate are attached hereto.

(K.W. DYER)

District Commissioner.

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67-1-1

HOSKINS, WEST NEW BRITAIN.

31st October, 1967.

Assistant District Commissioner,
Department of District Administration,
TALASEA.

TALASEA PATROL NO.2 of 1967/68
KOMBE CENSUS DIVISION - P.J. BATHO, A.D.O.

Thank you for Mr. Batho's report on his recent patrol to the Kombe Census Division and your covering comments.

The report is an excellent one that I enjoyed reading very much. Mr. Batho seems to have captured the spirit of the Kombe very well indeed. However, it is one thing to diagnose many of the ills of the Kombe; it is another to do something about it. I did gain the impression while reading the report that Mr. Batho was looking down with amused tolerance on the Kombe from some elevated position whereas I would prefer him to concentrate with them on practical schemes to assist them.

For example take the economic development section of the report dealing with copra. Mr. Batho suggested a small central depot at Talasea would stimulate copra production. As an interim measure he suggests the Kombe people could establish a central storage point for copra, you suggest Nukaregi. This latter suggestion has been an obvious deficiency in the area for some time but what exactly has been done about it. Who is to take action? Is it awaiting my blessing? I would far prefer an approach indicating something was done or would be done to get the Nukaregi depot operating. This is a first step. I am prepared to say now that if something is organised and an indication given of the amount of copra to be picked up that there will be shipping to pick it up even if as a last resort we have to do it ourselves. I would like to emphasise to all staff that "actions speak louder than words" and the most important part of our own take is to motivate people and get them working for their own benefit. As for new development did Mr. Batho note any particular area for examination by D.A.S.F. Is there any community that is prepared to plant their land to individual blocks on some rationalised tenure pattern? The attitudes of people are often known and I like to be kept abreast of any trends or changes but the important thing is to get the people themselves to realise they must do something and help them get going in a practical manner.

Have you discussed Kombe copra with Mr. Mike Ross? What are the grounds for your generalisation about local masters? Mr. Ross had indicated a different version to me and I do know that he is seeking to acquire a larger vessel to serve the area regularly each month. His present vessel is inadequate to do more than he is doing now. I am certain that if you organise production of good quality copra in the Kombe and even the Kaliai and Barial that there will be shipping to collect it but I think you are expecting too much of private enterprise to call under present unorganised conditions.

I shall write to the Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries to see what their plans are for a freezer in the Kombe area but in the interim you should be giving some consideration as to where a freezer would be located and how it could best serve the Kombe.

(23)

Department of District Administration,
TALASEA,

23rd October, 1967

67-2-4

The District Commissioner,
West New Britain District,
HOSKINS

TALASEA PATROL No. 2 1967/1968

Attached please find two copies of the abovementioned patrol report and two maps of the area.

Recent patrols to this area have mainly been done by Officers with over five years service in the Department or quite junior Officers so that only Memorandums of Patrol have been submitted by Officers with much experience. This report contains a great deal of information about the Kombe - some known from previous reports and some unknown.

The last patrol to the area was in February/March 1967 and was carried out by the Assistant District Commissioner, Talasea.

COUNCILS

The views expressed by the KAPO and NUTANAVUA people are not surprising since they are the most progressive villages in the Kombe Census Division. All their affiliations have been with the Talasea area and to link them with either the Gloucester or Bali/Witu Councils would not be practicable due to the great distances from each Council centre. I suggest that the formation of a Council be kept in abeyance for ~~xxxx~~ approximately six months and then another attempt be made. In the meantime the Talasea Multi Racial Council would be formed and running and the Kombe would be the only people in the Sub-District without a Council.

Mr. R. Ashton M.H.A. has stated on two occasions after visits to his plantation - Lingalinga - that the Kombe want a Council formed as soon as possible, but these opinions are obtained from the pro-Council villages.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

In the past, the Kombe Census Division has been somewhat neglected by the Department of Agriculture. A patrol is currently in the area and I am looking forward to seeing their recommendations.

The establishment of a Copra Marketing Depot at Talasea or Gigo has a great deal of merit and should be looked into. The three plantations around Talasea produce 1300 tons annually and native growers would account for a further 100 tons.

At the moment the local Masters of ships that service Iboki Plantation have a stranglehold over the shipping out of produce from the area. Mr. Mike Ross of the 'Helen' wont help the Kombe because they have on occasions reported him to the Harbour Master at Rabaul for overloading his vessel. Mr. Steve Ephoff of the 'Motoko' and 'Waimana' only visits Lingalinga - and that infrequently - and so cannot be relied on to uplift copra.

(22)

Another suggestion is that the 'Ninsa II' be routed to call once every six weeks or two months to uplift any Kombe copra. The copra could be collected on NUKARENGI Island which is central.

The crayfish industry would have ~~an~~ a ready market once it was taken to the larger centres but the supervision of operations at the lowest level would need a great deal of organisation. This could be controlled and run satisfactorily by the Council.

I intend writing to the Department of Agriculture re the dried fish industry. This operated very satisfactorily in the Western District where the Hospital, Corrective Institution and Police purchased the bulk of the product.

WATER SUPPLY

In the past the Regional Headquarters of Public Health have commenced environmental sanitation projects in non Council areas on a 50/50 basis. The village people produce 50% of the cost and P.H.D. produce the rest including artisans to build the projects. The lack of good water close to the villages could possibly be rectified by the building of wells and tanks. I intend writing to the Regional Medical Officer and requesting that a survey be carried out with a view to ascertaining the needs of the Kombes in this respect.

Admittedly this would best be done through the Council but since there appears little chance of one being formed within twelve months, it seems a pity to neglect the Kombe Census Division till then.

CONCLUSION

I agree that the extension of Local Government to the Kombe is essential and should be carried out as soon as possible.

Commissioner Kimmorley of the Lands Titles Commission is due to visit the Kombe area in the near future to set up Demarcation Committees.

An informative report written in a racy style which makes interesting reading. Recommendations show that much thought was given to the compilation of the report.

For your information, attention, and onforwarding please.

Camping Allowance claims attached.

[Signature]
A.G. SPELDEWINDE
Assistant District Commissioner

PREAMBLE

The Koube Gervu Division is bounded by the...
roughly between the longitudes of 150 15' and...
part of the West New Britain District.

TALASEA,
Talasea Sub-District,
West New Britain.

Patrol Number 2/1967-68

Patrol conducted by Patrick J. Batho,
Assistant District Officer.

Personnel accompanying B. Hiscox, Medical Assistant.
1 Police Constable
3 Medical Orderlies.

Duration 21 days
22/9/67 to 12/10/1967

Last patrols in the area D. D. A. : September, 1967
D. H. D. : September, 1967.

Objects of the patrol Census of the Division; Political
Development; Education and assessment.

Map reference Fournal of ROUALT
Milinch of Penk and Rein.

The patrol was well received, in a few cases there was some
initial suspicion, a feeling that the patrol was there as a...
Government. There were no outward incidents, and the Koube revealed
himself as a "trier" and a roger, but a likable one, with a casual
attitude towards life and other people's property.

INTRODUCTION

The Kombe Census Division is bounded in the east by the Bola census Division, and in the west by the Kaliai Census Division; lying roughly between the longitudes of 149 15 and 149 50 east on the north coast of the West New Britain District.

The climate of the area is equatorial; the South-East season lasts from April to November in a normal season, with, generally, only a small percentage of the annual rainfall. The North-West monsoon season is less benign, 140 inches of the annual average rainfall of 170 inches falls in the period between December and March. During this season there is only limited movement in and out of villages, it is a less auspicious time to go collecting old debts and the "Tambu".

Of the 15 villages and 2 hamlets which comprise the Census Division:

- a) 8 villages, plus the Makati section of Poi-Makati village, are crowded onto small islets
- b) 3 villages, plus the Poi section of Poi-Makati village, and one hamlet are sited on fairly large islands
- c) 3 villages and one hamlet are sited on the mainland.

However it was surprising to note that the lowest spleen rate and better health generally were found in the first group.

The general topography of the mainland opposite the western section of the Kombe islands was a rather extensive coastal plain, which undulated gradually to hills as it receded towards the centre of New Britain. Much of the coast was edged with mangroove swamp; the area around the mouth of the Vis river was quite extensively swampy. However on leaving Sumalani the coastal topography changed radically, and opposite Poi village sharp hills rose from a narrow coastal fringe. This general topography continued for the rest of the Census Division.

The patrol was well received, in a few cases there was some initial suspicion, a feeling that the patrol was there to establish Local Government. There were no untoward incidents, and the Kombe revealed himself as a "trier" and a rogue, but a likeable one, with a casual attitude towards life and other people's property.

(19)

POLITICAL DEVELOPEMENT

The Kombe Census Division is united in name only, and some will even claim that this is an accident. Each village, or group of affiliated villages, regards the Kombe as divided into 'us' and the 'rest'.

The pattern of affiliations is as follows:

- 1) Nutanavua and Kapo
- 2) Muliagani
- 3) Taraua and Nukuhu
- 4) Rangihi, Guhi, Wogewoge and Sumalani
- 5) Poi-Makati
- 6) Nugakau, Kou and Talangoni
- 7) Vessi and Kalapiai

Every opportunity has been taken to attempt to improve the political understanding of the Kombe people; an area survey for Local Government was conducted in the area by Mr. B. McBride, then the Assistant District Commissioner for Talasea, in early March of this year. The Kombe people either reject the principles involved or place their own interpretations on them.

The whole political and economic development of the area is ensnared in the web of the 'Tambu' system; a feudal system which obliges and requires all members of a family to assist the elders, especially in gathering fathoms of 'Tambu' shell. The accumulation of the 'Tambu' is a status symbol within the native society. A man may call upon his relatives and sons-in-law, and they in turn seek help from their relatives, to assist him in making, begging, borrowing or stealing 'Tambu'. The people restlessly flit round the area in quest of the 'Tambu' or to attend the parties which mark the distribution of a successful accumulation of 'Tambu'. When a man feels that he has accumulated sufficient 'Tambu', he holds a traditional 'sing-sing', locally referred to in Pidgin English as a 'kundu'. The people who attend the 'kundu' bring gifts of pigs, turtle shells and similiar gifts, in return for which they receive a portion of the 'Tambu' wealth which is distributed. All too often the givers consider that their portion is a poor return for their gift, and another cycle of complaints begins. The Kombes are always blaming the 'Tambu' system for their lack of progress, fiscal wealth and political development; they talk but manifestly do nothing about it. A man who tries to break away is shamed back - a man who does not work 'Tambu' is no man at all, he has no prestige in the community. So the system is pursued - old debts, new treasuries for future 'kundus'. Even young men absent from the area at work in Rabaul and other areas still feel the traditional family ties upon them; in some cases these are strong enough to oblige them to remit sums of money home to the Kombe.

During this patrol, the people were encouraged to express their views to the patrol; in some areas they did, in others there was suspicion, perhaps mistrust.

GENERAL

The Kombes are well aware of the elections for the House of Assembly next year. They did not express themselves over-interested in the subject; they did feel that their present Open-Electorate Member was not representing them very well, and stated that they felt that a Kombe could do the job better. A Kombe would set sail on his canoe and travel all round the electorate. Mr. R. Ashton has visited them and spoken on the subject of proposed legislation, including a proposal for the direct buying and leasing of land from the native owners. They seem generally in favour of such legislation, especially if it would assist them.

COUNCILS

The western Kombe village affiliation of Nutanavua and Kapo have expressed the urgent desire to have a Local Government Council established; if one is not going to be established in the Kombe, then they want to join the Cape Gloucester Council, the Bali-Witu Council, or any council. These people have gleaned the impression that a great surge of economic development will follow the introduction of a council; they spoke of the instalation of deep-freezers for a crayfish industry, and

POLITICAL DEVELOPEMENT (Continued)

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and the establishment of Co-operatives as a developement which will follow the introduction of councils.

If a council is not formed soon, these people will feel that they are being retarded because of the attitude of the rest of the Kombe; if a council is formed they will expect, despite attempts to point out the true facts, great things at once. The Administration now finds itself with these people on a course between Scylla and Charybdis.

There would be no alteration in the attitude towards Local Government found by Mr. McBride. In the central Kombe area of Rangih, Guhi, Wogewoge and Sumalani, there was a suspicion that the patrol was there to establish Local Government, or to persuade them to alter their attitude. Gradually their suspicion relaxed. Perhaps they thought the patrol would be but a momentary intrusion in the idyll of the 'Tambu'.

In the pro-council areas they put forward various reasons why the others did not wish to have Local Government. A fear that the council would dispell the 'Tambu' system. Also there was the fear that the taxation of women would lead to prostitution; the sincerity of this could be doubted because councils are not obliged to tax women, also it rounds the type of moral excuse which they would think would appeal to Government Officers and the Missions alike. They feel that they would like to be more economically developed before a council is established. The Kombes are a restless people, sailing from village to village collecting the 'Tambu' and attending 'sing-sings'; but they have heard that in the Bola Council area, before the people can leave their villages they must obtain permission from their Local Government Councillor, who sets a time limit on their absence. If they are absent for longer than the time limit, then they are 'courted'. This, of course, goes right against the Kombes' way of life. But the whole opposition to councils, where it exists, goes deeper into the Kombe soul.

Whenever officers speak of Local Government, the Kombes look eastwards and focus on the Bola Council. The Kombes have come to expect that the councils will produce material possessions for them; they look to see what the Bola has, there is no boat. There is developement, there are worthwhile council projects, but the Kombe is looking for items of prestige, so dear to his heart. They are a slightly arrogant people, who have the tastes and desires of millionaires on empty pockets, and who feel, perhaps, that they are owed a living.

(17)

ECONOMIC DEVELOPEMENT

The current avenue of cash income within the Kombe Census Division is copra, with a little Trochus shell sold as a sideline. Most of the copra is produced by Nutanavua, Taraua and Nukuhu villages; these villages sell their produce direct to the Copra Marketing Board at Rabaul. Other villages, when they produce copra, sell their produce to local plantation interests or to the masters of the various ships which ply the area. However they feel that the price received is not commensurate with the effort involved. The copra is produced from community groves, in some cases disputes arise over the equitable distribution of the profits. Persons keen to work in the community groves are often discouraged by the numbers who are unwilling to lend continuous assistance. In both cases the copra production in a village often lapses altogether.

The registration of individual titles of family land within the clan land would do much to stimulate the cash economy of the area. The younger generation especially wish to establish something for themselves and not the whole village. The village people at Kalapai and Nugakau are particularly anxious to have the individual family plots delineated and registered. The establishment of a Demarcation Committee would be a first step. The traditional spokesman on land matters was identified to me by the name 'Tanu Aitama'

There is no shortage of arable land to enable an extension of cash cropping. Apart from furthering the planting of coconuts, perhaps cacao could be introduced into the area. Cacao is flourishing at Iboki Plantation and could doubtlessly prosper on the Kombe mainland, provided that a course by Agricultural Officers or Assistants could be given to the villagers on the planting, care and harvesting of cacao. Such a project would require considerable supervision, but could be worthwhile with villages, such as Nutanavua, which have worked to develop their copra. Should such a project be established, then the setting up of a scheme similar to the Tolai Cocoa Project would take care of the fermenting and drying processes, and ease the marketing problems for the individual growers.

The production of copra for the whole Sub-District could be stimulated if the Copra Marketing Board could establish a minor depot at Talasea. Whilst the depot's primary object would be to benefit the whole Sub-District, in being established at Talasea, the benefit would extend to the Kombe area. Whilst current production is low, figures from an Agricultural census revealed that there are 42,600 mature coconut palms and 41,900 immature coconut palms in the area. The present potential from the mature palms, estimating @ 100 palms per ton, is 426 tons per annum. This could be doubled when the immature palms come into full bearing. The Kombe people complain of the lack of shipping available or willing to take their copra to Rabaul. The last Kombe village of Kou is a day's sailing by canoe from Volupai Plantation; the Kombe could transport their copra by canoe to Volupai and thence by road to Talasea. In the interim the Kombe people could establish a central storage point for their copra, from where it could be uplifted at regular intervals.

A number of villages wanted deep-freezers for crayfish to set up in their villages, who was to do this they were not too sure, but at any rate not them. The establishment of a deep-freezer at a central buying point, with an European, or trained local officer not from the area, to do the buying in the season and maintain the plant, could create a reasonable crayfish industry. An approach would have to be made to fishmongers and food retailers in Rabaul, Lae and Goroka, together with other major centres to gauge the market potential. At regular intervals frozen sea-foods could be brought into Talasea from the central buying point by speed boat, and thence air-freight to major centres. But the general distribution of freezers as envisaged by some Kombe would not be practical or profitable.

As an interim measure, a dried fish industry could be set up. A local market for a moderate quantity of dried fish would exist at Talasea, with the station staff, hospital and local market. Also in the course of their trading activities with the Kaliai people, they could sell dried fish to the inland people.

The crocodile skin industry is not capable of much more expansion, on present indications. There are a number of good areas for crocodiles: the Aria and Via Rivers. The Via River is reputed to have a small lake near its headwaters where a quantity of crocodiles can be found. The crocodiles found are the salt-water variety, whose small scale skins attract a higher price than the large scale Johnsonian fresh-water variety. Direct representation of the skin buying firms would not be envisaged on current production, and the sale and disposal of skins will continue to be through local trading interests. The Kombes themselves do not seem to do much crocodile hunting themselves, but leave it to a group of Sepiks, some of whom have married into the area.

When speaking of economic developement to the Kombes, they will talk of loans. This is a subject which has captured the imagination of all Kombes, for on the surface it looks like a free handout to them. At almost every village, the patrol was asked to explain loans. Always the questioning began with a phrase like "mipela harim tok long wanpela benk iop pinis". At every inquiry the precise nature of a loan was explained; the bank or loan society would require certain very precise information, and among others the following points were stressed:

- a) Does the person who wants the loan know exactly what he wants to do with it. Has he worked out a proper plan to carry out his business
- b) If he is going to produce something from his land, can he sell enough produce to pay all his expenses, pay back the loan with interest and have a return for himself.
- c) Does he understand the business or work, and can he run it properly.
- d) Has he any money of his own to invest in the project.
- e) Is he willing to work hard to make a success of the venture
- f) If he is to develop a piece of land is the land recognised as his and can he, if necessary, prove it.

A loan was not a casually given gift, but a favour granted after some searching inquiry. One villager said that he had been told by a Government officer that if he saved up "fifty pound" and deposited it in the new bank he would be able to draw out a loan. The loan was explained again. All inquiries were of a general nature, though Nutanavua village was interested in a loan to buy goods for their store. This store was stated to have been started by capital invested by the villagers. This capital has been re-paid and a modest 'profit' remains. At the time of the patrol the store was out of stock and no real attempt had been made to re-stock it. There was no simple book-keeping system to show whether the store did make a profit, and they were advised to keep records in future. There was sufficient money on hand to re-order essential, and they were advised to re-order as soon as stocks ran low, ensuring a continuous supply of goods. But it was felt that they were not so much concerned with running a profitable concern, as with filling their store to overflow with all manner of goods, thus to achieve prestige in the eyes of the rest of the Kombe.

The economic developement of the area will remain predominately agricultural; the simplest cash crop for the Kombe is copra, and the planting of coconuts on individual family blocks should be encouraged.

(15)

EDUCATION

The education of Kombe children can be a haphazard affair. Many children are en-rolled in village schools; but their attendance is dependant on the whim of their parents. If there is a "sing-sing", a funeral or just a trading trip in the offing, the children are whipped out of school and are often absent for weeks.

The Catholic Mission has established a central school at SASAVORU, part of which is still in the process of being transferred from the former site at POI. This school takes pupils to Standard 5, and is staffed by two "A" certificate teachers and three others. At the time of the patrol the resident priest was absent at Vunapope. In addition the mission has established two minor centre schools at KAKASI and KIKIVIAI, these are quite well attended. The Kakasi P.T.S. serves the villages of Nutanavua, Nukuhu, Taraua, Kapo and Muliagani: Kikiviai serves the villages of Guhi, Rangihl and Wogewoge. Schools are established in other villages with a missionary teacher, where adherents warrant.

The Seventh Day Adventist Mission has established a central school at SILOVUTI. The school takes pupils to standard 6; from here pupils, who qualify, have an opportunity to continue their education at secondary level at Jones Missionary College at Kambubu. The Silovuti school being a boarding school, and under constant supervision, has a good attendance at classes. It is staffed by indigenous teachers from Bougainville and Mussau, as well as the wife of the presiding Pastor, Mrs. Pascoe. On the return of Mrs. Pascoe from Rabaul, the opportunity was taken to pay a courtesy visit to the school. The standard of dress, cleanliness and manners of the pupils was impressive. I was invited by the headmaster to address the assembled school, and the opportunity was taken to address the children on the role of Local Government in the development of its own area and in training the people for self-government. After the talk a number of very good questions were asked. Mr. Hiscox, who accompanied me on the visit, also took the opportunity to address the school on the subject of the immunisation campaign he was carrying out in the area. The reception by, and interest of, the pupils was good. Other schools have been established in the villages with a missionary teacher, where adherents warrant.

The enrollment figures for the larger schools is attached as an appendix.

(14)

CANOEES AND CARRIERS

All patrol personnel and equipment were carried by canoe. These are generally available, together with the necessary crew. The Kombes use sailing canoes, which provide a fairly comfortable and relaxed mode of travel. The quality of canoes varies; all were constructed of soft wood with bamboo masts. As the patrol travelled eastwards, the size of the canoes became smaller and less well cared for; with the exception of Maputu Muallet and Kou village, the best canoes were to be found in the western Kombe area. Quite a number of large canoes were found lying on the beach - relics of former years, quietly rotting. In most cases they had not been replaced with canoes of equal size. The canoes are essentially fair weather craft; typical accidents which occurred on the patrol were: sail halyards breaking and the sail being carried away by the wind; poles used for propelling canoes over the shallows breaking and the crewmen tumbling into the sea; and paddles and oars breaking.

The usual rate of payment on this patrol was:
Crew at the rate of .10c per hour
Canoes at the rate of .10c per hour.

CENSUS

The census was revised for the whole Census Division, the population figures are attached as an appendix to the report.

A large number of the absentees at work outside the District are in Rapaui, in former years they would have been included as within the District. The absentees are notably seamen, carpenters, plumbers, servicemen and police.

In some villages there was a noticeable number of unmarried women of marriageable age, this, no doubt, due to the absence at work of many young men. Doubtlessly they will marry outside of their home village, but many will marry out of the Census Division into the Kaliai and Beia areas, as has happened in the past.

LIVESTOCK

The Kombes acknowledged owning some 110 pigs. The pigs feature in the traditional "sing-sings", and are traded for "Tambu" shell, a scale of values being set for the various grades of growth and size. The pigs do not contribute to the cash economy to any extent. Several villagers are interested in starting small piggeries, breeding pigs for sale, mainly within the census division. Such entrepreneurs feel that there is a greater demand than supply for pigs for all traditional functions.

MISSIONS

The headquarters of the Roman Catholic mission. These headquarters have recently been transferred from the old site to a new site on the eastern side of the village. This will allow for expansion in mission and educational activities. The mission is headed by the Rev. Fr. [Name], a resident priest. *****

MISSIONS

The headquarters of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission. The mission station is under the supervision of a [Name] providing pastoral care to the members of the church. The headquarters are at [Name] and [Name]. *****

LABOUR

There are two plantations at either boundary of the Kombe; Iboki in the west and Lingalinga in the east. Iboki Plantation employs mainly contract labour from beyond New Britain. Lingalinga Plantation also has a permanent line of contract labour; though from time to time employs groups of Kombes for special projects. A few persons are employed by the Catholic Mission at Sasavoru and the Seventh Day Mission at Silovuti. Apart from the above, there are no other avenues of employment within the Census Division. A number of Kombes have found employment at Talasea, Hoskins, but more especially in Rabaul, spreading to other Territory centres.

MISSIONS

There are two missions working in the Kombe area: the Roman Catholic and the Seventh Day Adventist.

The main mission stations are :-

SASAVORU

The headquarters of the Roman Catholic mission. These headquarters have recently been transferred from a site on Poi island to a site on the mainland opposite. This will allow for an expansion in mission and education activities. The mission is in the charge of a resident priest, Father Berger. Father Berger was absent in Vunapope at the time of the patrol. The rest of the staff at the mission is indigenous.

SILOVUTI

The headquarters of the Seventh Day Adventist Mission. The mission station is under the supervision of a European presiding pastor, who is assisted by two indigenous pastors: from Bougalville and Mussau respectively. At the time of the patrol the presiding pastor was hospitalised in Rabaul, but in his absence the patrol was received by his wife, Mrs Pascoe, and the assistant president.

Both missions have local missionaries in the villages, where adherents warrant; usually they are in charge of a village school.

I would say that most Kombe do not follow a religion with conviction; it has been a name which they have assumed for one reason or another and found convenient to retain. But this does not detract from the work which the missions are striving to do in the area.

An urgent need in the area is an environmental sanitation scheme to provide village water supplies at the village sites. Another possible project would be the subject of tanks. However a system of bucket dress in conjunction with concrete tanks, of the variety being built at Tolave, would be a solution to a number of drinking water problems. This would be a priority project for a small, well served

CLEANLINESS

The villages were all fairly tidy and clean whilst the patrol was in the area. Village hygiene and sanitation were, in most cases, of a fair standard, where it was met. It was brought to the attention of the village officials. In all cases, except the island village of Bougini, the sea provided a convenient garbage disposal unit.

A number of island villages have pigs roaming free around the houses; there can only be a health hazard under these conditions. This was advised to village officials, ideas on how to eliminate the hazard were given.

VILLAGES

1) STANDARD OF HOUSING

The standard of housing throughout the area was, in general, good. In particular, it was noted that the houses were, for the most part, built on good substantial posts; many kitchens likewise. All village houses in the area were constructed from bush materials.

2) i) ADVANTAGES AND ii) DISADVANTAGES of SITES

i) a) In respect of the villages sited on the off-shore islands, there is a convenient and easy means of rubbish disposal. Also, being unprotected from the wind, no matter from which point of the compass it blows, the island villages are open to every breeze, this seems to keep the flies and mosquitoes at bay. The lowest spleen rate is to be found in this group.

b) In respect of the villages on the mainland, there is room for expansion of the village area, to ensure adequate space in and around each house.

ii) a) The chronic disadvantage on the islands is the overcrowding and the closeness of the houses, which constitutes a grave fire hazard.

b) The mainland villages are troubled with mosquitoes and flies. Also these villages are generally more oppressively warm, especially Rangihī, which is several miles inland.

3) WATER SUPPLY

In general water supply is found on the mainland; either a brackish water hole or a rather murky river or stream. Muliagani has a rather good water supply about 1½ hours from the village sited on the mainland; it is a clear pool of spring water, but it is used only if the women happen to be working in the nearby gardens. Talangoni village obtains good water from the Kapuluk River, which runs clear in the dry season. In the height of the dry season, most of the water holes dry up, and water has to be sought where it can be found, frequently up to considerable distances from the villages.

An urgent need in the area is an environmental sanitation scheme to provide village water supplies at the village site. Whether pumps would provide suitable water, for at least washing and cooking, in certain location would be the subject of tests. However a system of catchment areas in conjunction with concrete tanks, of the variety being built at Talasea, would be a solution to a number of drinking water problems. This would be a priority project for a council, when formed.

4) CLEANLINESS

The villages were all fairly tidy and clean whilst the patrol was in the area. Village hygiene and sanitation were, in most cases, of a fair standard, where it was not, it was brought to the attention of the village officials. In all cases, except the inland village of Rangihī, the sea provided a convenient garbage disposal unit.

A number of island villages have pigs roaming free around the houses; these can only be a health hazard under these conditions. This was advised to village officials, ideas on how to eliminate the hazard were given.

HEALTH

10

The patrol was accompanied by Mr. B. Hiscox, Medical Assistant Grade 3, the District Medical Assistant from the Talasea Hospital.

The Health programme was threefold :-

- 1) An immunisation campaign :-
 - a) Inoculation against T.B.; B.C.G. inoculations given to all children aged 0 - 10 years.
 - b) Injections of C.D.T. given to all children aged 3 months to 5 years.
 - c) Injections of Triple Antigen given to all children aged 3 months to 2 years.
- 2) General examination of village health
- 3) Inspection of village water supplies (comments under chapter on Villages)

Health, in general, was good. In two instances a spleen rate of 50% was found; at Tavaua and Nukunuk villages, both sited on the mainland. By contrast Nutanavua and Kape villages had a rate of 1% each, and Wogewoge had a rate of 0%. All these villages are crowded onto small islands, in fact most of Wogewoge has been reclaimed.

A number of medical cases were referred to the Talasea Hospital.

A total of 42 pregnancies were recorded in the Census Division.

Sanitation facilities were inspected. All latrines, with the exception of those at Rangihī, were constructed over the sea; these were exclusively for the men's use. It is the custom of the Kombe women to attend to their personal needs whilst swimming; Health advises that from a health point of view this matter is quite satisfactory, especially since salt water possesses mild anti-septic properties; there would be no reason to break this custom.

The Administration has one aid post in the area at Maputu, which is a mainland hamlet of Kalapiai. The aid-post was inspected and checked by Mr. Hiscox; also I took the opportunity to pay a visit to the establishment.

(9)

AGRICULTURE

GENERAL All varieties of native foods are grown in the area :- sweet potatoe, tapioca and taro; taro would be the most important staple food of the area. Other fruits and vegetables are grown to supplement the diet. In some villages it was claimed that the taro was having an off-year, though other foods seem un-affected.

CASH CROPS

The cash crop of the area is the coconut ; the last agricultural census of the area shows that there were approximately 42,600 mature coconuts and 41,900 immature coconuts. The potential from the mature palms is estimated at 426 tons of copra per annum (@ 100 palms to the ton); this should return approximately \$43,000 per year. Of course this amount of copra is not being produced. Nutanavua village claims to have produced 75 bags of copra this year for a return of \$660.17, this was all sold direct to C. M. B. at Rabaul. Taraua and Nukuhu villages also claim to have sold 53 bags of copra to C. M. B. at Rabaul for a return of \$434.00. Other villages, when they produce copra, sell their produce to trading, plantation or shipping concerns.

The majority of coconuts are harvested from community groves; if an united effort by all the villagers could be forthcoming the local production of copra would rise substantially. Keen villagers are discouraged by their less willing and lazier associates; perhaps their keenness would be better, and more profitably for them, diverted to individual plots of family land.

A fair amount of bush was in evidence in most coconut groves seen; villagers claimed that clearing the groves only encouraged pests and beetles to attack the groves.

(8)

COMMERCE

A total of nine village trade stores were visited in the course of the patrol. The majority of these were only fair concerns, and at the time of the patrol, they were either very low on stock, or completely out of stock. The trade store system in the Kombe seems to be based on the principle that re-ordering should only be done when everything, or nearly everything, has been sold. The need for a continuous supply of essentials was pointed out; re-ordering, whilst limited, should be regular. Trade store owners were advised to keep records of sales and expenditure.

The best local trade store seen was at Wogwoge, run by Robert Aka; the store was a fairly good construction and well stocked. The store was run in a creditable fashion.

Where trading licences had lapsed, owners were reminded to renew same.

There are stores at Eboki Plantation and at Linglinga Plantation, situated on the western and eastern boundaries of the Kombe respectively. Both stores carry good stocks and serve the community's needs fairly well. The mission at Sasavoru has a store, but was closed due the absence of the resident priest.

Patrick J. Mabo
(Patrick J. Mabo)
Assistant District Officer

CONCLUSION

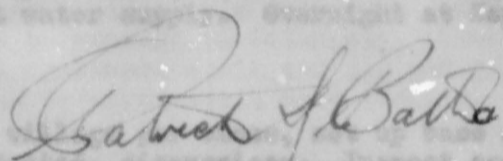
(2)

I was accompanied on this patrol by Mr. B. Hiscox, the District Medical Assistant from the Talasea Hospital. The degree of co-operation and assistance between us could not have been higher. Mr. Hiscox was present at most of the informal discussions held with the village people; and I was fortunate to have his assistance, on those occasions, in stimulating conversation and in illustrating replies.

The extension of Local Government to the Kombe area is essential to the development of the area, the first stepping stone to any political development. Perhaps a quiet village to village campaign on Local Government, with a secret ballot on the subject, may bring about a change in the attitude of those not in favour of councils. The western Kombe village of Nutanavua certainly does not feel like waiting on their reluctant compatriots, they feel that they are being deprived and denied advancement; and as mentioned in the chapter on Political Development, they wish to join any existing council, if one is not established in the Kombe area.

In view of the interest of the villagers of Nugakau and Kalapai, it would be a priority to set up a demarcation committee to delineate family owned land within the clan land. Thus the way would be open to have the individual titles recognized and recorded. This would encourage the development of cash cropping within the area.

But the Kombe, a rather arrogant figure, eternally questing the "Tambu" the length and breadth of the Census Division, saunters onto the stage of life, not looking for a part to play, but, for a play to be built round him.



(Patrick J. Batho)
Assistant District Officer

[Faint, mostly illegible text from a diary or logbook, including dates and descriptions of activities.]

(6)

DIARY

22nd September, 1967

Depart per M. V. "Garnet" for the Kombe Census Division; Accompanied by Mr. B. Hiscox, Medical Assistant. Arrive at Kapo village at 2100 hours. Overnight at Kapo.

23rd September, 1967

Depart Kapo village per "Garnet" for Nutanavua village. Discharge cargo on arrival. Proceed to Ibeki Plantation, deliver pre-forma 74-1-0 of 16/8/67. Return to Nutanavua village, census conducted. Discussions on political and economical development. Overnight at Nutanavua.

24th September, 1967

Sunday observed at Nutanavua; inspect water supply and some coconut groves. Further discussions in the evening.

25th September, 1967.

Proceed to Kapo village per canoes; set up base at the Kapo rest house. Census of Taraua and Nukuhu conducted. Discussions. Inspection of water supply and some coconut groves. Overnight at Kapo.

26th September, 1967

Census of Kapo village; discussions. Inspection of water supply and some coconut groves. Overnight at Kapo.

27th September, 1967

Proceed to Muliagani per canoe; census conducted. Discussions, visit coconut groves and inspect water supply. Overnight at Kapo village.

28th September, 1967.

Proceed to Nugakau village per canoe, set up base at the Nugakau rest house. Census conducted, discussions. Inspect coconut groves, water supply. Overnight Nugakau.

29th September, 1967.

Proceed to Wogewoge per canoe, set up base at the rest house. Census of Wogewoge. Census of Rangihī at Rangihī. Discussions. Inspect water supply. Overnight at Wogewoge.

30th September, 1967.

Provisional order: Nugakau Island, in the matter of the S. H. Mission Lease (N.G.L.T.R.O.)
Overnight at Wogewoge.

1st October, 1967.

Sunday observed at Wogewoge. Overnight at Wogewoge.

2nd October, 1967

Proceed to Guhi per canoe; census of Guhi conducted, discussions, visit the school at Kikivai. Overnight at Wogewoge.

3rd October, 1967

Proceed by canoes to Sumalani, set up camp in the resthouse. Census conducted, discussions. Very heavy rain in the afternoon. Overnight at Sumalani.

4th October, 1967

Provisional order "Sumalani" in the matter of S. H. Mission lease (N.G.L.T.R.O.). Proceed to Poi-Makati per canoes. Census of Poi-Makati conducted, discussions, limited by lack of interest. Overnight at Poi.

5th October, 1967

Provisional order "Poi", in the matter of the S. H. Mission lease (N. G. L. T. R. O.). Proceed to Kalapiai, visiting the Maputu hamlet and Aid Post en route. Census conducted at Kalapiai. Overnight at Kalapiai.

6th October, 1967

Proceed to Vessi by canoes, census conducted. Visit the hamlet of Nusasi. Arrange for joint talks with Vessi and Kalapiai on the next day. Return to Kalapiai. Luluai of Kalapiai take very ill. Overnight at Kalapiai.

7th October, 1967

In deference to S. D. A. adherents no census conducted. Discussions held at Kalapiai: very interested in land titles for individual family land. Overnight at Kalapiai.

8th October, 1967

Sunday observed at Kalapiai. Proceeded to Linglinga Plantation delivered pro forma 74-1-0 of the 16/8/67. Overnight Kalapiai.

9th October, 1967

Very heavy rain impeded the patrols movement. Lull in the weather mid-afternoon enabled the patrol to proceed to Talangoni. However soon after arrival at Talangoni, heavy rain commenced again and did not cease until approximately 2000 hours. Census deferred until next morning. Overnight at Talangoni.

10th October, 1967

Census conducted at Talangoni, thence to Kou. Census conducted at Kou village, discussions held. Overnight at Kou.

11th October, 1967.

The "Garnet" had been assigned to uplift the patrol and transport it back to Talasea, however did not arrive. Proceeded to Silovuti, addressed the assembled P.T.S.; see chapter on education. Overnight at Kou.

12th October, 1967

0600 despatch patrol personnell and cargo per canoe to Volupai Plantation. Then proceed to Lingling Plantation by "mon" to link up with Mr. Dunn's visit to Talasea per speed-beat. Arrive in Talasea at 0930 hours. End of the patrol.

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REST HOUSES

APPENDIX 2

(4)

VILLAGE

DESCRIPTION

Nutanavua
Taraua

Good condition
Small, inadequate for present patrol;
not attractive from a mosquito point
of view

Nukuhu
Kapo
Muliagani
Nugakau
Wogewoge

Nil
Good condition, adequate
Nil
Good rest house, excellent flooring.
Good rest house, built on a rock
overlooking the village.

Rangihi
Guhi
Sumalani

Fairly new but very small.
Nil
Fair only: tends to leak in heavy
rain

Poi-Makati
Kalapiai
Vessi
Talangoni
Kou

Very good rest house.
Good rest house.
Nil
Fair.
Small design, but comfortable.

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VILLAGE OFFICIALS APPENDIX 3

3

NUTANAVUA

Luluai NAVUS: Strong official, presses for all types of schemes for the development of his area. Very pro-council. Influence extends to Kapo.

Tultul TANGIA: A shadow of the Luluai, but carries out his tasks in a fairly satisfactory manner

TARAUVA

Luluai NAHTLO: An older official, carries out tasks to the best of his ability. Conservative in his thinking.

Tultul MELUA: Not very efficient, more of a yes man in the presence of authority.

NUKUNU

Luluai KALOWIA: An ex-serviceman, conservative in his outlook. Does his best to carry out his tasks.

Tultul SOMAILA: Fair, much the same as the Luluai.

KAPO

Luluai GAWARI: Fair official, declares himself in favour of councils.

Tultul PRANIS: Fair only, no great initiative shown.

MULIAGANI

Luluai KALUS: Absent on an emergency (medical)

Tultul KAIKA: Not very good, does not know who or where half the people are.

NUGAKAU

Luluai MARA: Carries out his tasks fairly well; would tend to overlook details.

Tultul AWARE: Good official, plans for future development of the village; asked intelligent questions.

WOGEWOGE

Luluai AKA: Seems restricted by the "Tambu" and other aspects of traditional life. Did not express any views to the patrol, appeared suspicious of the object of the patrol.

Tultul KIMBU: Realises the need to break away from the old system; cannot be fully effective under the Luluai, by whom he appears to be distrusted.

GUHI

Luluai AKA: Maintained a pleasant disposition for the duration of the patrol. Did not express any views to the patrol.

Tultul : Fair only.

RANGIHI

Luluai KEU: Fair official, younger than most officials, appears to try hard.

SUMALANI

Luluai APANUMU: At the time of the patrol's visit this official was ill; though he did seek medical attention, he is known to resort to traditional cures.

Tultul DAU: Fair, does not have much command.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS APPENDIX 3

(2)

POI-MAKATI

Luluai LEBUBU: Can only be described as a "con-man". The village seems well kept on the surface; but very little is going on.

Tultul MELI: Ill at the time of the patrol.

KALAPIAI

Luluai IPA: On the surface appears to be a good official. Unfortunately took very ill whilst the patrol was at Kalapiai.

Tultul GORI: Seems very keen on having individual land titles registered; seems a good official.

MAPUTU (hamlet of Kalapiai)

Luluai POSAI: Old but hard worker. Keeps aid post up to the mark, mainly by his own efforts.

VESSI

Luluai PAULO: Did not express any views to the patrol, kept in the background.

Tultul IPA: Fair official.

TALANGONI

Luluai KATNEABU: Not outstanding.

Tultul NGOTI: Same calibre as the Luluai.

KOU

Luluai KAFANGO: Fairly good official.

Tultul ANO/NULI: Absent at the time of the patrol. Lessee of a re-settlement block at Talasea, this means his fairly continuous absence for the village. Would therefore recommend that his appointment be terminated, honourably.

ATTENDANCE FIGURES
(central schools)

APPENDIX 4

(1A)

KAKASI P.T.S. (G.M.)

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
Prep	30	32	62
Standard 1	33	19	52
Standard 2	8	9	17
Standard 3	3	11	14
			<u>145</u>

KIKIVIAI P.T.S. (G.M.)

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
Prep	20	12	32
Standard 1	10	4	14
Standard 2	9	3	12
Standard 3	4	9	13
			<u>71</u>

SASAVORU P.T.S. (G.M.)

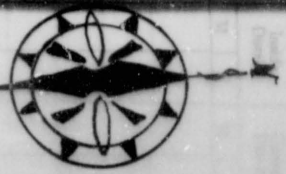
<u>Grade</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
Prep	15	12	27
Standard 1	8	1	9
Standard 2	12	5	17
Standard 3	6	9	15
Standard 4	19	-	19
			<u>87</u>

SILOVUTI P.T.S. (S.D.A.)

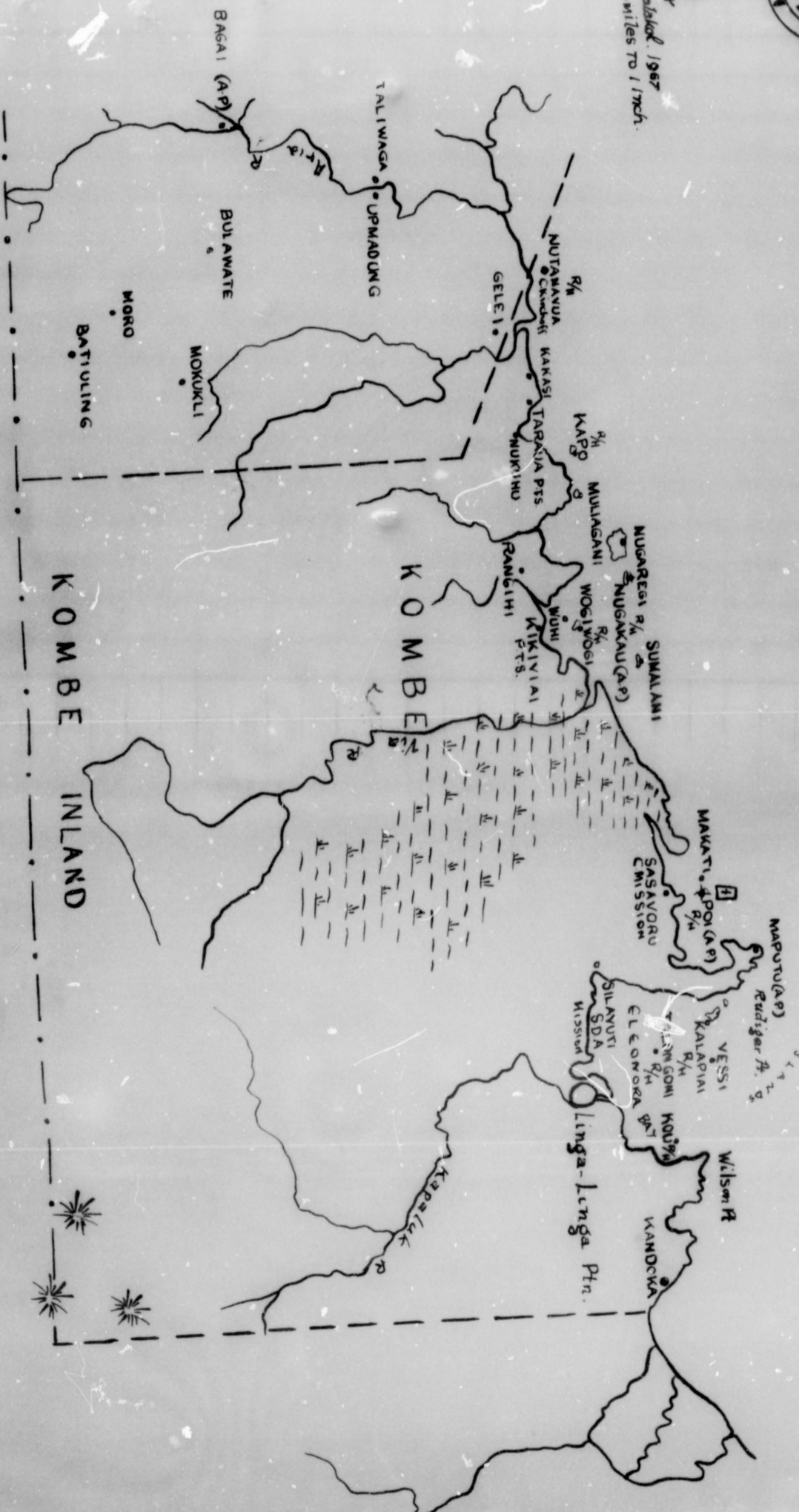
<u>Grade</u>	<u>Boys</u>	<u>Girls</u>	<u>Total</u>
Prep	2	3	5
Standard 1	5	10	15
Standard 2	10	14	24
Standard 3	23	9	32
Standard 4	21	5	26
Standard 5	9	3	12
Standard 6	10	4	14
			<u>128</u>

AR 9014

KOMBE AREA



DRAWN BY
H. G. TROTT
Scale: 4 miles to 1 inch.



KOMBE INLAND

67.17.12



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

Report Number..... TALASEA NO 4 67/68

Subdistrict..... TALASEA

District..... WEST NEW BRITAIN.

Type of Patrol..... ROAD PATROL

Patrol Conducted by..... ALLAN LEAF C.P.O.

Area Patrolled..... PORTION TALASEA-DAGI ROAD

(Council and/or..... BOLA COUNCIL

Census Division/s.)..... BOLA CENSUS DIVISION

Personnel Accompanying Patrol..... NIL

Duration of Patrol—from 27/11/67..... To 19/12/67

No. of Days..... TWENTY THREE

Last D.D.A. Patrol to Area :..... AUGUST 67

Date..... Duration.....

Objects of Patrol (Briefly)..... TO UPGRADE PORTION OF TALASEA-DAGI ROAD
THROUGH GOVERNMENT BLOCKS

Total Population of Area Patrolled..... APPROX 600

Director of District Administration,
KONEDOBU.

Forwarded, please.

11 / 9 / 19 68

Handwritten signature
District Commissioner

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Ref: 67-17-12

Department of District
Administration,

KONEDOBU. Papua.

October 7th, 1968.

The District Commissioner,
~~West New Britain District,~~
HOSKINS.

PATROL NO. TALASEA NO.4 OF 1967/68

Your reference P/R 4/67-3

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of

* Special/~~Annual~~/Census - Area Study/~~Situation~~ Report by

MR. A. LEAF, C.P.O.

to

.....
SOLA

..... Census Divisions.

(W.R. DISHON)

(D.W. ELLIS)

Director

cc. Mr. A. Leaf C.P.O.,
Sub-District Office,
TALASEA,
West New Britain District.

* Delete as necessary.

12 17 3
9

P/R Talasea 4/67-8

District Headquarters,
West New Britain,
HOSKINS.

11th September, 1968

The Assistant District Commissioner
TALASEA.

TALASEA PATROL REPORT - No 4/67-68

I attach a copy of a report of a patrol conducted by Mr A. Leaf during the latter half of 1967 on the road between Numondo Plantation and Gigo. The report is under your reference 67-1-1/0.9 of 27th April in follow up action to have the report submitted.

I have seen the results of this patrol, and Mr Leaf achieved a considerable success in opening the worst sections of the road by concentrating on drainage. As you are aware, there will be an increasing buildup in the Gigo area, and though the plans are for a concentration of heavy equipment to upgrade the road between Talasea and Gigo, this type of work is necessary to maintain access until such works are completed.

The report is only now of academic interest, but I believe that the message has got through that reports are required for all tasks which take one of our field Officers away from the station for longer than two days.

Kw Dyer

K.W. DYER

District Commissioner

Ce. No. LEAF
HOSKINS

The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBU

Forwarded for information only please. The report was not submitted by Mr Leaf before his transfer to Gloucester, leave, then Administrative College. He was instructed to complete it on his return. Mr Leaf did an excellent job which has enabled us to keep regular contact between Talasea and Gigo thence Hoskins. He is very capable in this field.

Kw Dyer / inc.
K.W. DYER

District Commissioner

10 17 3 19

(8)

PATROL DIARY

27/11/67
MONDAY
Left station 0700 hrs.
Hired Tractor from Numundo Plantation.
Started work - Road surfacing
- Drain construction.

28/11/67
TUESDAY
Continued Gigo side of Numundo Pltn.

29/11/67
WEDNESDAY
Continued road work.

30/11/67
THURSDAY
Tractor to Talasea side of Numundo.

1/12/67
FRIDAY
Road work contd. Returned Talasea 1700hrs.

2/12/67
SATURDAY
Routine office correspondence.

3/12/67
SUNDAY
Observed Talasea.

4/12/67.
MONDAY
Left station 0700hrs.
Road work continued.

5/12/67.
TUESDAY
Road work continued.

6/12/67.
~~FRIDAY~~
WEDNESDAY
Road work continued.

7/12/67
THURSDAY
Road work continued.

8/12/67.
FRIDAY
Road work continued.
To Talasea 1700hrs.

9/12/67.
SATURDAY
Routine office correspondence.

10/12/67.
SUNDAY
OBSERVED

11/12/67.
MONDAY
Road supervision continued.

12/12/67
TUESDAY
Road supervision continued.

13/12/67
WEDNESDAY
Road supervision continued.

District Office,
Kainuku,
1/9/68.

(7)

- 14/12/67.
THURSDAY Construction of drains and surfacing continued.
- 15/12/67.
FRIDAY Road work continued.
- 16/12/67.
SATURDAY Back to Talasea P.M.
- 17/12/67.
SUNDAY Observed Talasea.
- 18/12/67
MONDAY Road work finalized.
- 19/12/67
TUESDAY Labour paid off.

END OF PATROL.

My instructions were, limited to a final expenditure of \$500, to generally improve the standard of the Talasea-Dagi road that runs for some eleven miles through these three fore-mentioned blocks.

The Talasea-Dagi road is the only route, by land, to the District Headquarters at Hekina, the P.M. quarters and the first emerging oil-palm establishments. With plans for moving the P.M.Q. from Hekina to Digo the road must increase in importance because, until a bridge is built across the Dagi river, Talasea will provide the major cut-off for the new headquarters and postal, the oil-palm.

Also, and not the least important the concentration of the local population east of the Hillman Peninsula is situated in villages along the Talasea-Dagi road. If contact with the people is to be maintained and development fostered then good road communications must exist.

The road itself follows the coast, the down the east side of the Hillman Peninsula to the Dagi River, a distance of approx. 30 miles, where it is met by the Dagi-Hekina road.

Following the coast as it does the road has been built on alluvial silt washed down from the surrounding hills. On higher ground, however, bedrock was a problem where surface layers outcrops of volcanic rock have been removed by blasting or laborious chipping with sledgehammers. No bedrock was encountered on the section worked by the patrol. In fact this particular section suffered mainly through a lack of a firm base on which to build up the road surface.

10 17 3
⑥

District Office,
HOSKINS.
1/9/68.

The Assistant District Commissioner,
Talasea Sub-District,
TALASEA.

TALASEA ROAD PATROL
NO. 4 67/68.

In compliance with your instructions I proceeded ex. Talasea by landrover to the Government blocks consisting of Numundo Plantation (Lease hold to C.P.L.) Wandoro (Private Leasehold) and the newly acquired Gigo block (Administration).

My instructions were, limited to a final expenditure of \$500, to generally improve the standard of the Talasea-Dagi road that runs for some eleven miles through these three fore-mentioned blocks.

The Talasea-Dagi road is the only route, by land, to the District Headquarters at Hoskins, the Dagi settlers and the fast emerging oil-palm establishments. With plans for moving the D.H.Q. from Hoskins to Gigo the road must increase in importance because, until a bridge is built across the Dagi river, Talasea will provide the major out-let for the new Headquarters and possibly the Oil-palm.

Also, and not the least important the concentration of the local population east of the Willumez Peninsula is situated in villages along the Talasea-Dagi road. If contact with the people is to be maintained and development fostered then good road communications must exist.

The road itself follows the coastline down the east side of the Willumez Peninsula to the Dagi River, a distance of approx. 32 miles, where it is met by the Dagi-Hoskins roads

Following the coast as it does the road has been built on alluvial silt washed down from the surrounding hills. On higher ground, however, Bedrock becomes a problem where sometimes large outcrops of volcanic rock have been removed by blasting or labourious chipping with sledgehammers. No bedrock was encountered on the section worked on by the patrol. In fact this particular section suffered mainly through a lack of a firm base on which to build up the road surface.

10 17 3 (8)

The Talasea area has a rainfall of approx. 160" a year, the majority of which falls in the first three to four months of the year. This heavy concentration of rain causes flash floods in the many small streams that cross the road making bridging difficult and movement all but impossible after some really heavy deluges.

As well as flash flooding the rain causes even more problems because it does not immediately drain from the vicinity of the road. The sub-soil contains layers of clay that hold the water with the result that the water table is never, except in especially dry spells, further than a few inches from the surface.

Consequently the road surface, composed of a mixture of silt and clay becomes a quagmire at the least hint of rain.

Therefore my immediate tasks were (a) to construct large enough drains to handle the sudden downpours, also to keep the water table lower than the surface of the road. To open and improve any existing natural drainage systems.

(b) To improve the surface material of the road with the view of making it open to traffic all the year round.

An inspection of the road prior to starting work revealed many "soft-spots" in the road that required immediate attention.

Where the road passes through the boundary of Numundo Plantation and Wondoro Plantation, along a section of approx. 300 yard, was impassable at the start of work. Vehicles from Talasea and nearby plantations often became bogged to the axils in a clay type mud which at that time constituted the road surface. The surrounding area was very swampy with the water table probably reaching the surface at this point.

This wet impassable condition continued many days after the rain had ceased falling due to the swampy condition of the surrounding ground.

Similar conditions existed on the first mile of road on the Talasea side of Numundo Plantation and also on the first half mile or so of the Gigo block (Talasea side).

12 17 3 (4)

It was on these three areas that I concentrated my efforts. Firstly, to drain off excess water from the surface and immediate surrounds. Secondly to build up a firm foundation for a road surface that would stand up to the three month wet period, once that drains took care of stagnate water that before turned any form of surface into mud.

One Tractor/Trailer with crew was hired from Numundo Plantation. The P.W.D. Tractor/Trailer being otherwise employed.

15 village labour were employed from the nearest villages but these were hampered by an hours walk to work each morning and evening. Additional labour was brought down from Talasea to work in conjunction with the Tractor/Trailer. These camped on site.

The villagers from Ruango and Morekea expressed a wish that they only work for one fortnight after which they wanted to be paid off and a new line hired.

Both these villages have quite good stands of coconuts which occupy quite a portion of the village work force in copra production. Also many of the young men have sought employment in the timber industry at Bulama and Kwalakessi and a few with the Agricultural Department at Nahavio.

There are no shortages of positions for the work force and I think a time will come when the traditional labour pool within the village society will almost completely dry up as opportunities for individual economic advancement increase.

Because of the distance that the village labour had to walk to the job and the unavailability of transport to carry them to and fro, the villagers asked that a later starting time and an earlier finishing time be set. They also stated that they had left their coconuts to work on the road and would like a couple of hours of daylight in the afternoons to clean up around their coconuts.

This would have slowed work down even more (After the first day I had not been completely satisfied with the days effort). Therefore, after some discussion I put forward the suggestion that they work to a "mark" that would be set by their Councillor and myself.

12 17 3 (3)

This "mark" consisted of a certain number of yards of drain dug to a specified width and depth. After finishing his individual mark the villager was free to depart and to work for himself.

The "mark" was measured by a rope of set length and the width and depth by a crossed stick.

The villagers ~~were~~ were happy with this arrangement as it allowed them to start whenever they wished, they invariably came within minutes of each other to get a good start. They could see the progress that they were making and knew that when they had reached a certain point they would be free to tend their coconut plots during the hotter part of the day.

I was satisfied with the arrangement as I could see a definite pace being set. The amount of work being done was more than was previously being done under the old 7 to 4 system. Even though they often finished two hours before the old finishing time. It enabled me to leave them unsupervised for longer periods (smokes and the habit of a few lazy fellows allowing the others to do all the work ceased). I was able to utilize this time attending to the surfacing of the road which was sometimes being carried out five miles along the road where the Tractor was working on a good deposit of gravel. (The Tractor was hired by the day so no "mark" system was used by the labour working with it).

I am unsure as to the official view towards the "mark" system but I believe that the Administration received equal or better return for its money by this system than by me having to supervise the labour continually for the prescribed time and having them lean on their spades and have to be prodded into work.

Drains were constructed on both sides of the road through the three swampy sections. These drains were at least 2 feet to 3 feet deep and 18" to 2' wide. A uniform depth was kept by the use of a measuring stick with a slope kept towards all streams or culverts.

12 17 3 (19)
(2)

Drains of the same depth were also dug outwards towards the sea or into the nearest stream.

Once water had been removed from the surface the road became dry enough for gravel to be placed on it. Through Numundo an excellent, if rough surface has been placed on the road by utilizing coral chunks from the off-shore reefs and pounding them well down into the road.

This has produced a very stable surface to the nine miles of road that run through Numundo Plantation which has great durability during the wet and against heavy vehicles.

However, the coral has to be labouriously accumulated at low tide from the inshore reefs and only a small quantity is forthcoming during a days labour. As I had neither the time or the financial resources to collect the coral I had to settle for second best and use gravel obtained from the creeks that flow through the area.

The amounts of gravel available was also limited and the amount that could be moved by one Tractor/Trailer was also a limiting factor as to the amount of road surfacing that could be done.

Heavy rains during the patrol also hampered road surfacing as it was necessary to suspend tractor operations on a couple of occasions because damage caused by the tractors treads outweighed any advantage gained through continued use.

The P.W.D. truck that was to have helped in the surfacing operations did not turn up, further slowing down the work. This light truck would have helped greatly as it would have carried more gravel at less damage to the existing road surface.

Before the work could be brought to a successful conclusion the \$500 allocation ran out. However, a major improvement had been made to the road.

The drains had, in the main, been completed however the graveing of the surface still needs a great deal more done to it to stabilize it.

A major effort involving much P.W.D. labour and plant will be necessary once Gigo becomes the new D.H.Q.

10 17 3 19

①

Without this road the Headquarters will be virtually isolated, by land, from its Sub-District Headquarters and major air-fields.

For your attention, please, Sir.

Allan Leaf
.....
Allan Leaf C.P.O.

15 17 2 (P)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of **WEST NEW BRITAIN** Report No. **6 67/68**

Patrol Conducted by **R.W. Phillips, P.O.**

Area Patrolled **WIKOVI/ BOLA C.D.**

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans **Nil**

Natives **1 Clerk**

Duration—From **8/1/1968** to **19/1/1968** (**Broken**)

Number of Days **6**

Did Medical Assistant Accompany **No**

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

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

Map Reference **LandsDept. Fourmil ROUALT.**

Objects of Patrol **LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL ELECTIONS**

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

.....
District Commissioner

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

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

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

.....

.....

.....

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Ref: 67-17-3

Dept. of District Administration,
KONEDOBU. Papua.

5th June, 1968.

District Commissioner,
West New Britain District,
HOSKINS.

PATROL NO. TALASEA 6-67/68

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Memorandum
* ~~of Patrol~~/Patrol Report covering patrol by...R.W. PHILLIPS....
to.....BOLA..... Census Divisions.

The advice given to trade store owners that they could not take action to recover debts is not strictly true. A native trader has the same rights as expatriate merchants to recover debts. The problem is for him to prove them. Signed dockets would be proof of this under certain circumstances. Where expatriate traders give credit a native trader is forced to do the same if he is to survive competition.

T.W. Ellis
(T.W. ELLIS) *ps*
Director

* Delete as necessary.

67. 17. 3. (1)

HOSKINS, WEST NEW BRITAIN.

22nd February, 1968.

~~Assistant District Commissioner,
TALASEA.~~

PATROL REPORT TALASEA 6/67-68

The above report submitted by Mr. Phillips covering his election patrol through the Bola Census Division is acknowledged.

The patrol was of a specific nature and the situation reports covering villages and related activities are adequate.

The situation with stores and lack of knowledge in ordering and allowing profit margins is a general one and you would be wise to consider the overall pattern with the object of perhaps holding a specific course, at Talasea, to bring home basic principles. The Co-operative Officer could be utilized, and if sufficient planning done, I have little doubt the Business Advisory Officer from Rabaul could be available. Credit would need to be thoroughly covered.

The elections proceeded satisfactorily, however the reason for the low percentage voting has not been shown. Mr. Phillips should also have noted the percentage of people who voted by themselves and those requiring assistance. This could be an indication both of literacy at village level and knowledge of the voting system, which could be of value for the forthcoming House of Assembly elections and further local elections.

Your comments at para 3 of your 67-2-4 are endorsed.

Claims for camping allowance have been processed and are being returned for payment.

→ c.c. Director, D.D.A. Konedobu.

(A.T. CAREY)

Forwarded. The patrol was of a specific nature and Mr. Phillips undertook the task satisfactorily. I had the privilege of attending the inaugural meeting on 14th February.

A.T. Carey
(A.T. CAREY)
a District Commissioner





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams
Telephone
Our Reference... 67-2-4
If calling ask for
Mr. WGS/gb

Department of District Administration,
TALASEA,
6th February, 1968



The District Commissioner,
West New Britain,
HOSKINS

TALASEA PATROL REPORT No. 6 - 67/68

Attached please find the abovementioned patrol report by Mr. R.W. Phillips, Patrol Officer, covering a portion of the Bola Census Division.

The main object of the patrol was the holding of elections for the Talasea Multi-racial Council in Wards 7, 8, 9, and 10. This was the first occasion that Mr. Phillips has conducted an election in this area and he is to be complimented on the results.

Mr. Phillips has been instructed that he is not to incur patrol expenses unnecessarily - the 'Aimara' was despatched to bring him back from Kandoka only to find that he had already returned by canoe.

The comments re the allocation of the second 'seat' in a two Councillor ward are very pertinent. Unfortunately, due to the size of some villages, they have to be combined because individually they do not rate a Councillor but jointly rate two Councillors.

The first meeting of the Council has been held and the presentation of badges will take place on 14th February, 1968. All returns have been processed and forwarded to the addressees concerned.

Presentation of the report is fair. Claims for Camping Allowance and patrol expenses are forwarded for your necessary action.

W.G. Speldewinde
W.G. SPELDEWINDE
Assistant District Commissioner

INTRODUCTION

The above mentioned patrol was conducted between the eighth and the nineteenth of January for the purpose of holding elections for the newly gazzetted Talasea multi racial Local Government council.

Out-lying wards of the council were reached by work boat, there were only two of these, ward No.7 comprising Bulumuri and Buludava villages and situated at the northern tip of the Willuamez Peninsula, and ward No.10 comprising Kambili, Garu and Kandoka villages on the South eastern coast of the same peninsula.

All other wards are accessible by car from Talasea and were visited by election teams on day runs from the sub-district office.

The elections were delayed slightly in some villages due to adverse weather and lack of shipping, however, these delays had no adverse effect on the elections themselves.

The patrol was carried out exclusively in the Bola census division which comprises the entire Willuamez Peninsula and extends east to, the Dagi River, West to Kandoka on the coast of Riebeck Bay and inland to the Whiteman Range, this inland section is almost uninhabited and was not included in the patrol.

TOTAL

F

DIARY OF PATROL

- 8/1/68. Departed Talasea 5.45 a.m. for Bulumuri and Buludava per M.V.AIMARA. Polling held in each village for Local Government council elections. Overnight Buludava.
- 9/1/68. Departed Buludava 6.45 p.m. per Aimara for Kambili. Further nominations accepted for the council elections, however, as most of the population was absent from the village at the time of the patrols visit, no polling was held; the same was the case at Garu and Kandoka. Returned by ship to Volupai thence by car to Talasea.
- 10-11/1/68. General duties Talasea, council elections held in villages accessible by car.
- 10/1/68. Departed Volupai 10.00 a.m. for Kandoka per M.V.GARNET; arrived Kandoka 2.30 p.m., advised all eligible voters of the poll to be held at Kandoka on the 12/1/68.
- 11/1/68. Elections held at Kandoka for the Talasea Local Government council.
- 12/1/68. At Kandoka awaiting transport.
- 18/1/68. Departed Kandoka 9.30 a.m. by canoe for Garu. Arrived Garu 5.30 p.m. Overnight Garu.
- 19/1/68. Elections held at Garu for Kambili and Garu. Departed Garu 2.00 p.m. for Volupai by canoe arriving at Volupai 9.30 p.m. Overnight Volupai.
- 20/1/68. Returned to Talasea 9.30 a.m. End of patrol.

The elected village officials, whether out-going councillors or committee men were quite helpful with the patrol.

REMARKS

Only the patrol being held for a specific purpose, no time was taken to do a detailed check on economic development, however, from casual observations it would appear that some progress has been made in these villages with no road access to the coast, but the plan for a road to be built in villages where an attempt has been made to start some agricultural production has been made. At present some of the villages are still in a state of primitive conditions and the private enterprise system is not yet established in these villages.

TOTAL
F

1. RECEPTION OF PATROL

The patrol was well received in all villages visited, in those where it was necessary to stay over night every assistance was given to the patrol.

The villages visited were almost entirely constructed with native materials, there was very little evidence of any European type building materials having been used. Generally the standard of housing is low, houses are small and have little or no ventilation and separate kitchens are rare, very little new housing was seen during the patrol although it is well warranted in most villages.

With the exception of Kandoka, all villages have council supplied water pumps in the village, these were all working well at the time of the patrol, Kandoka has a perennial river adjacent to the village and the water supply for the village is obtained from this.

Generally the villages which have contact, by road, with Talasea were in better condition than those visited by boat, of the latter, Bulumuri and Garu were in poor condition as regards general cleanliness and orders were left in both villages for the removal of unsanitary houses and the building of pig stys.

The elected village officials, whether out-going councillors or committee men were quite helpful to the patrol.

2. AGRICULTURE.

Owing to the patrol being one held for a specific purpose, no time was taken to do a detailed check of economic agricultural development, however, from casual observations, it would appear that agriculture, particularly in those villages with no road access to Talasea, has not risen far above a subsistence level, in villages where an attempt has been made to start cash cropping, difficulties have arisen in transporting produce from the villages.

At present none of the villages producing copra is producing enough to make warrant private enterprise ships making - to make regular runs to transport their copra.

3. Political Situation.

Although no questions regarding the forthcoming House of Assembly elections were raised during the patrol, the people of the Bola census division seem to have a good understanding of the political situation presently prevailing in the territory; propaganda posters issued by various candidates for the House of Assembly were to be seen in most villages and the names of all candidates were known throughout.

With regard to the council election, a surprising percentage of voters, particularly women, filled in a full preferential vote and seemed quite aware of the value of showing all preferences.

European candidates for the council elections polled well, three of the four Europeans who stood were elected, one unopposed.

Due to the brevity of the patrol, little was learnt of the general attitude of the Bakovi people to outside groups.

4. Livestock.

In all villages visited, pigs were the main form of livestock kept, poultry also kept in most villages although little use is made of them.

As the containing of pigs in any form of enclosure is rare, they tend to roam free and create a health hazard, in Garu village where this problem was particularly bad, instructions were left for the construction of pig sties.

5. Forests.

A forestry lease is presently being negotiated at Buldava - Bulumuri to give the Administration timber rights over about 49,000 acres at the northern end of the Willuamez Peninsula.

A saw-mill owned by Thurston & Burgess is presently operating between Kambili and Garu on a timber lease in the area.

6. Commerce and Industry.

The only commercial enterprise seen by the patrol were trade stores which are situated in most of the villages, very few of these are successful, the usual reasons for failure are the same here as in other areas, low profit margins, difficulties in obtaining and transporting stock and most importantly, bad debts.

To the one or two store owners who complained of bad debts, it was explained that the Administration could take no action against the debtors and recovery of debts was strictly a personal matter.

No other forms of enterprise were seen by the patrol.

7. Complaints.

The only complaint heard by the patrol was raised by the trade store owner at Kandoka and concerned bad debts, it was dealt with as stated above.

TOTAL

F

8. Courts.

As no Magistrate accompanied the patrol, no courts were heard.

9. Rest Houses.

Rest Houses were used at Buludava, Kandoka, and Garu.

The three of these rest houses were serviceable although rather small.

10. Canoes were hired to get from Kandoka to Garu and from Garu to Volupai, they were quite easy to hire, rates of hire charge varied, depending on the size of the canoe, canoe crew were paid ten cents per hour and five cents per hour for the return trip.

11. Missions.

Roman Catholicism is the predominant religion of the Bola census division, mission establishments are situated at Bitokara and Volupai, the mission station at Bitokara provides health and education facilities for the villages in the vicinity, that at Volupai provides education facilities; neither station was visited during the patrol.

12. Labour. Labour requirements for the plantations on the Willuamez Peninsula are met mainly by outside contract labourers, the Bakovi people seem to have little interest in engaging as labourers and there is little incentive for them to do so.

Volupai plantation was the only one visited by the patrol, no labour inspection was done there as no qualified person accompanied the patrol, no complaints were raised either by the management or the labourers.

13. Elections.

The object of patrol no.6 of 67/68, was to conduct elections for the Talasea Local Government Council. Elections were conducted by the patrol for the following wards, Ward 7, with polling held in Bulumuri and Buludava; Ward 10, with polling held at Kandoka and Garu; Ward 9 with polling at Kumavava and Ward 8, polling for which was held at Volupai plantation.

In each case, the poll was conducted by the writer as Presiding officer and with the assistance of Mr. Tasisius Baragum, the Talasea council clerk, as Electoral Clerk.

The following figures are the polling statistics;

WARD	ENROLLED		VOTED	
	M	F	M	F
9	137	127	95	98
10	154	146	79	96
8	140	134	93	78
7	143	105	67	51
Total	574	512	334	323 (657)

7

13. Elections, (contd.)

B. Results.

Ward 7 is represented in the council by one councillor, this will be Mone Waluka, a former president of the Bola Council (1966) who was returned as councillor by a large first count majority.

Four candidates were nominated for the election.

Ward 8 is represented by two councillors, the first seat was won by the manager of Valupai plantation, Mr. H. Humphreys on a fifth count from Nuli Tenge, subsistence farmer of Liapo who takes the second seat.

There were six nominees for the ward.

Ward 9 is represented by two councillors, Gare Mone, a subsistence farmer who of Buluwara who won the first seat at the fourth count from Waluka Dende of Minda who takes the second seat.

There were five nominations for the ward.

Ward 10 is also represented by two councillors, they are Meta Mara of Kambili who won the election at the third count and Ipa Loka of Kandoka, who as runner up in the election takes the second seat.

There were eight nominations for the ward.

c. Residing Officers Comments.

The system of awarding the second seat in a two seat ward to the candidate who is running second in the election at the time the winner is declared, means that the second councillor is not always the person whom the majority wants in that position.

As the second seat in a ward gives the same duties as the first, it would seem that the second councillor should be elected by the same method as the first, i.e. by a separate preferential ballot, this however, would necessitate reproducing, at the polling place, ballot papers for a second election showing all nominees other than the winner of the first ballot.

Possibly an easier solution would be to subdivide those wards presently represented by two councillors.

Voters in all wards had a good knowledge of voting procedures and ballot papers expressing a full preferential vote were common enough to make it appear that the preferential system of voting is being understood by some electors.

The Talasea Council clerk, Mr. Tarsisius Baragum assisted as polling clerk for the elections, he performed these duties ably throughout.

There were no untoward incidents throughout the polling and apart from a lack of shipping there were no delays to impede the running of the elections.

TOTAL

+ F

Register

WESTERN NEW BRITAIN

150° 00'

Area 4 Patrolled

5

836 0000

4° 55'

350 000
500'

4

3

2 1/2

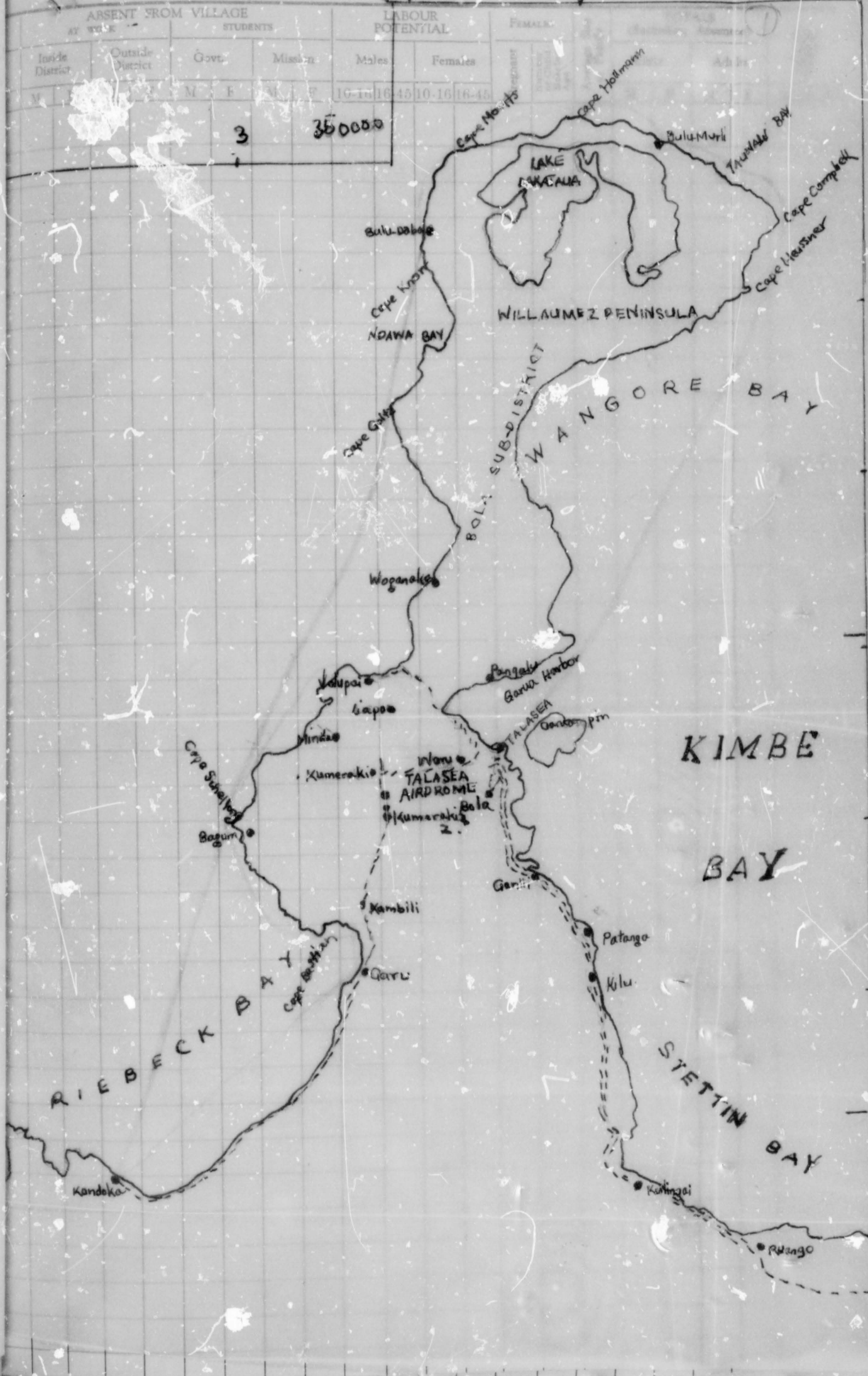
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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of West New Britain Report No. 10 67/68

Patrol Conducted by R.W. Phillips, Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Kombe Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans No

Natives Two

Duration—From 14/2/1968 to 2/3/1968

Number of Days 18

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? Yes

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 8/1967

Medical 8/1967

Map Reference Fourmil; Houalt; Milinch; Rein and Penck

Objects of Patrol House of assembly elections

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

District Commissioner

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

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

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

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Ref: 67-17-4

Dept. of District Administration,
KONEDOBU, Papua.

2nd May, 19 68.

District Commissioner,
West New Britain District,
HOSKINS.

PATROL NO. TALASEA 10-67/68

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Memorandum
of ~~Patrol~~/Patrol Report covering patrol by... R. V. PHILLIPS.....
to KOMBE Census Divisions.

J. W. Ellis
(T. W. ELLIS)
Director *js*

* Delete as necessary.

67-174 (B)

67-1-0

Carey



HOSKINS, WEST NEW BRITAIN.

14th March, 1968

Assistant District Commissioner,
TALASEA.

PATROL REPORT NO.10 - KOMBE
CENSUS DIVISION

The report, submitted by Mr. Phillips, of the Election Patrol to the Kombe, and a portion of Bola Census Division is acknowledged.

The election appears to have gone off smoothly, but the percentage of voters seems rather low, notwithstanding the numbers absent from the area. That the people were well advised in advance is indicated by the people from adjacent islands who attended on the due day for polling. However it is obvious that continual re-iteration of democratic processes must be undertaken on every visit. This must form a part of any patrol programme and be tied in with continuing propoganda to extend council administration through the Kombe.

Similarly and simultaneously, time must be given to encouraging interested sectors of the community to develop economically their land on the mainland. I have earlier intimated that problems of shipping can and will be overcome in this area, even if in the first instance, we must assist with the workboat available.

In respect of replacement of the two village officials mentioned at para 3, you are aware of my policy in extending Local Government through the District. I believe that any official now appointed should realize that this is only an interim measure until councils are established and the village duly elects their own representative. To this end an Officer should closely check on the character of the proposed appointee to see that this is clearly understood by him, and that he be encouraged to push this point of view in the village.

This can be done on the next follow-up patrol and recommendations forwarded through this office.

Mr. Phillips has written a readable report, which, taken together with the Presiding Officer's report, is adequate for the purpose.

Camping Allowance claims will be processed through this office when received from the Returning Officer. For your information, each Department is responsible for camping allowance claims on the elections.

KWS
(K.W. DYER)
District Commissioner.

Director
cc. District Admin
KOROBUN

Diary of Patrol

- 14/2/68. Departed Volupai per M.V. Garnet 6.00 a.m.
Arrived Kapo 1200 hrs, village inspected.
Overnight Kapo.
- 15/2/68. At Kapo.
- 16/2/68. At Kapo.
- 17/2/68. Polling at Kapo for Kapo and Nukukau.
- 18/2/68. Observed at Kapo.
- 19/2/68. Polling held at Kapo.
- 20/2/68. Polling concluded at Kapo.
Departed Kapo 3.30 p.m. for Nugakau arriving there at 5.30 p.m.
Overnight Nugakau.
- 21/2/68. Polling held at Nugakau.
- 22/2/68. Polling held at Nugakau.
- 23/2/68. Polling concluded at Nugakau, departed Nugakau 2.30 p.m.
Arrived Poi 4.00 p.m.
Overnight Poi.
- 24/2/68. Polling held at Poi for Poi and Makati villages.
Overnight at Poi.
- 25/2/68. Sunday observed at Poi.
- 26/2/68. Dept. Poi 6.30 a.m., arrived Kalapiai 7.30 a.m.
Polling held at Kalapiai.
Overnight Klapiai.
- 27/2/68. Polling concluded at Kalapiai.
Departed Kalapiai 3.30 p.m. for Linga-linga arriving there
at 5.00 p.m.
Overnight Ling-linga.
- 28/2/68. Polling held at Ling-linga.
Overnight Linga-linga.
- 29/2/68. Departed Linga-linga 6.30 a.m. for Kandoka, arrived Kandoka
8.30 a.m. Polling held at Kandoka.
Departed Kandoka 3.30 p.m. for Kambili arriving there at
5.00 p.m. Overnight Kambili.
- 1/3/68. Polling held at Kambili for Kambili, Garu and Bagum.
Overnight Kambili.
- 2/3/68. Departed Kambili 6.45 a.m. for Narunageru arriving there at
9.30 a.m. thence by car to Talasea.
End of patrol.

Introduction

The abovementioned patrol was carried out between the fourteenth of February and the second of March of this year for the purpose of holding House of Assembly elections in the Kombe census division and part of the Bola census division.

The election team for this area consisted of the writer as Assistant Presiding Officer, Mr. P. Bolemak, Hospital Assistant who was the Presiding officer for the elections and Mr. M. Aeava, Co-operatives assistant, who was the teams booth clerk.

The Kombe census division is still rather undeveloped as regards social, political and economic factors; the administration of the area is still in the hands of Government appointed Luluais and Tul-tuls, councils not yet having been started in the area.

Economic development in the area is limited to some copra production, however, this production is minimal and not very regular. To a very large extent, the Kombe way of life is still at a subsistence level and the Kombe seem to be doing little to change this.

Almost the entire population of the Kombe census division live on small coral islands, a series of which lie half a mile to a mile off the north coast of New Britain island about thirty miles west of the Willuamez peninsula; these islands are all quite small and consequently food gardens, hunting grounds and water supplies are all located on the main land, an exception to this is Nugakau, the largest island in the Kombe which is some-what more self contained.

The patrol was conducted during the Talasea wet season and for the first fortnight constant rain was the prevailing weather factor, however, as the M.V. Garnet was attached to the patrol at this stage, the adverse weather did not particularly affect the patrol.

5

1. Reception of Patrol

The patrol was well received in all villages visited, the patrol's itinerary was sufficiently well advertised so that at no place was anybody unaware of the patrol's arrival time.

2. Villages.

All villages visited were built predominantly of native materials, at Kambili, close to Bagum sawmill some milled timber is being used for housing but generally the use of European type building mediums is rare.

The Kombe villages situated on small off shore islands tend to be very densely populated, Kapo village is probably the most crowded and has a population of about three hundred and forty on an island of some two or three acres in area.

Water supplies in these villages are generally poor, on the smaller islands water is obtained from the mainland and even then is rather dirty. Kambili was the only village visited which had a council provided water pump.

3. Village Officials.

All the Kombe villages, as stated in the introduction to this report, are still controlled by Luluais and tultuls, by and large these officials are doing a good, efficient job; the only complaint received concerning village officials was from the people of Woge woge who state that after a dispute, the Luluai has left the village, the Luluai concerned was seen and states that he has left the village and has no intention to return, the Tultul is presently performing the Luluai duties.

At Poi, the Luluai, Ulevuvu, reported that the tultul at Makati was too sick to continue his duties, he was visited and the hospital assistant accompanying the patrol recognised the man as one who was formerly receiving treatment for cancer at the Talasea hospital, his duties are presently being carried out by Savura Mara of Makati village to the satisfaction of the Luluai and the people of Makati, his appointment to tultul in the near future is recommended.

The villages in the Bola census division which were visited are under the control of councillors elected in January this year, all appeared to be doing a satisfactory job.

4. Political Situation

The sole purpose of the patrol was to conduct elections for the House of Assembly, this was done without any complications, indeed, the elections seemed to stimulate less interest than the Bola census division council elections held in January.

(4)

4. Political Situation (cont.)

One of the main reasons for the elections stimulating less interest than the council elections was that the candidates were not well known to the electors; during the council elections, voting to a fifth and sixth preference was not particularly unusual however during the House of Assembly elections, very few voters went past a second preference.

Very few candidates seemed to go to any lengths to make themselves well known apparently they rely on getting enough votes from their own area without campaigning for preference votes or possibly they do not have a full understanding of the preferential system.

Throughout the Kombe area only about fifty five per cent of enrolled people voted, this was possibly due mainly to the high absentee rate among adult males in the area, and even, to a much smaller degree to the inclement weather which prevailed during the first ten days of the patrol.

In their general attitude to outsiders, Missions, plantations, the Administration etc. the Kombe's appear to be rather lackadaisical, they have the land and labour necessary to develop their cash crop output to a considerably larger degree however they have no stimulus, either external or internal and appear happy to remain at their present subsistence level for some time yet.

Much the same could be said of the Bola villages visited although they are now at a higher stage of political development having councils to run them.

5. Agriculture and Livestock.

Subsistence farming is the main livelihood of all the people seen on the patrol, there is a slight trend to cash crops (copra) this is marketed at either Iboki or Linga-Linga plantation, the money received ~~for~~ is usually used immediately for purchase of trade store goods.

The main ~~seen~~ type of livestock kept are pigs which are kept in numbers and in conditions, such as to provide a health menace in the Bola area visited; a council rule requiring all pigs to be kept in pens has been forwarded to Regloc for approval and until such time as it is approved, the owners of pigs are being encouraged to keep pigs out of the villages.

Pigs are much less of a menace in the Kombe where they are kept on the mainland due to the lack of space in the villages.

Apart from traditional bride price payments, the pigs kept have little economic value.

The only other livestock kept are poultry, they appear to serve little purpose, either economic or nutritious.

1 3

6. Commerce and Industry.

There is an almost complete lack of any enterprise amongst the natives in the villages visited, two trade stores were seen, one at Kapo the other at Kandoka, the former was closed as the owner was at Rabaul, the latter was closed due to lack of finance.

As trade stores are situated at Lingalinga, Iboki Poi C.M. and Silavuti, there is little incentive for any private individual to go into this line of business and the possibilities for other forms of enterprise are lacking.

7. Complaints and Courts.

No complaints were brought to the patrol and as no magistrate accompanied, no courts were heard.

8. Rest Houses.

All the Kombe villages have rest houses, these are usually adequate for the patrols use, the best of the rest houses was that at Poi.

Kandoka and Garu both have rather poor rest houses, Kambili has none at all.

9. Carriers.

The only time that carriers were employed during the patrol was for the walk from Kambili to Narunageru, this took two hours, the rate of pay was ten cents per hour with half that for the return walk.

The carriers volunteered quite readily.

10. Labour.

The two main employment centres in the Kombe region are Linga Linga and Iboki plantations, of these only Lingalinga was visited. This plantation employs a mixture of highlands labourers and local workers employed on a monthly wage scale, this seems to be satisfactory to both employer and employee.

Register

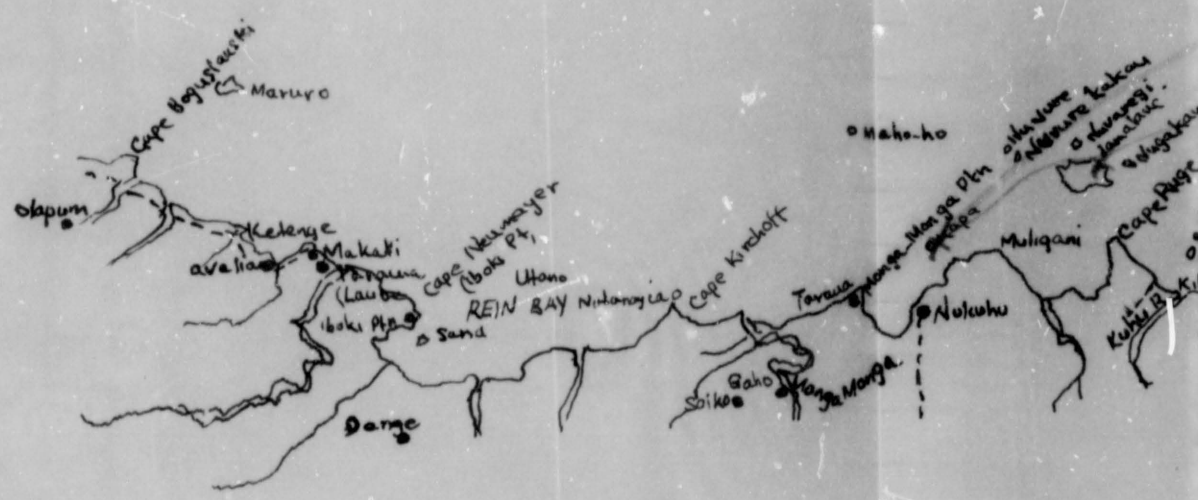
ABSENT FROM VILLAGE
AT WORK

Inside District Outside District Govt. Mission

M F M F M F



PACIFIC OCEAN

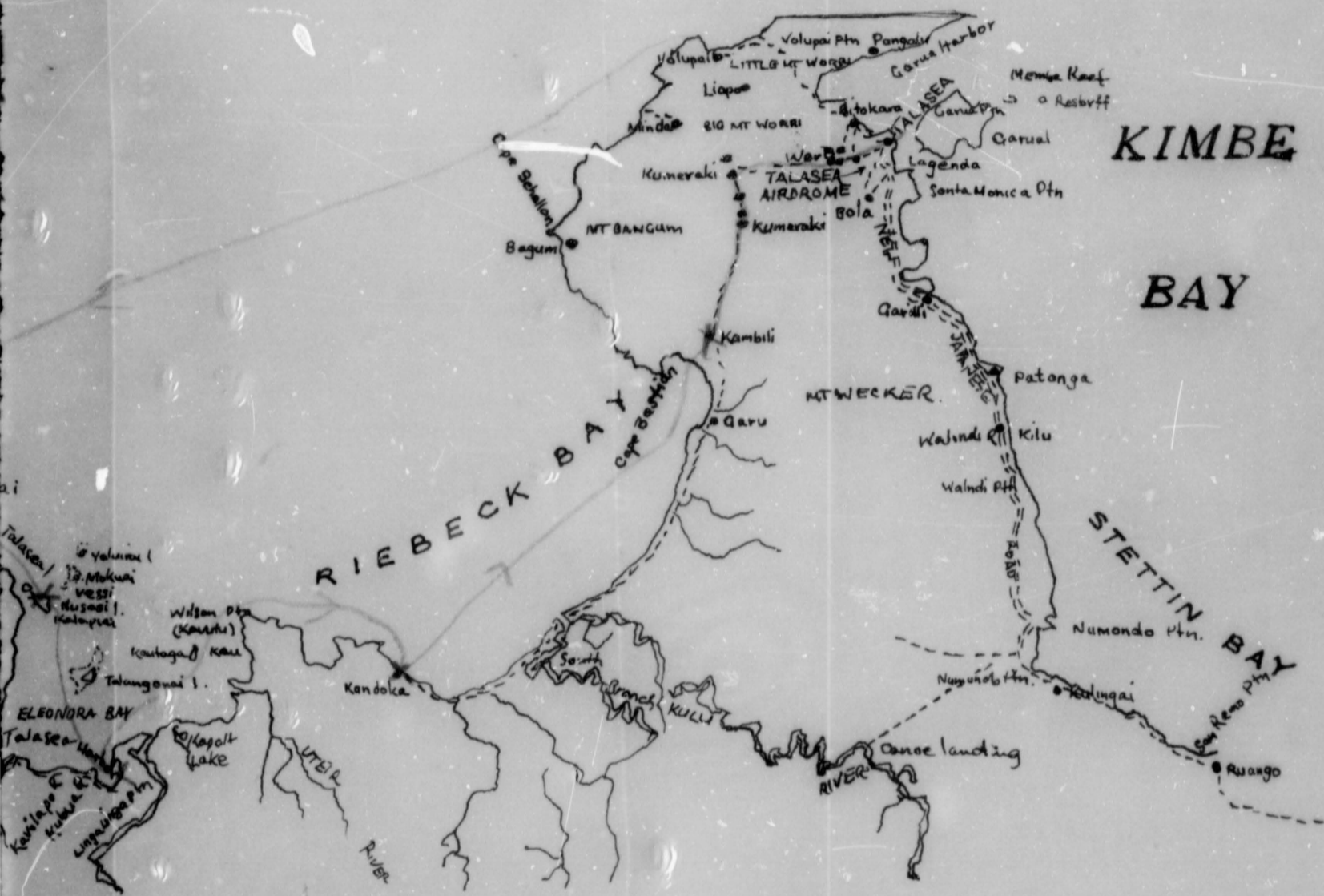


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PACIFIC OCEAN



5





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



PATROL REPORT

District of WEST NEW BRITAIN Report No. 13 67/68

Patrol Conducted by R.W. PHILLIPS Control Officer

Area Patrolled BOLA CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives NIL

Duration—From 1 5/19 68 to 4 6/19 68

Number of Days 20 ~~25~~ days 3 days camped out.

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 3/19 68

Medical 12/19 67

Map Reference Fournil Roualt and Talasea, Milinch Megigi, Garua, Volupai and Penck.

Objects of Patrol Revision of census

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MOKESBY.

Forwarded, please.

18/7/1968

K.W. Dyet

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

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Ref: 67-17-0

Dept. of District Administration,
KONEDOBU. Papua.

8th August 1968.

District Commissioner,
~~West New Britain District,~~
MOSIUS

PATROL NO. TALASEA, 13 of 1967/68

XXXXXXXXX I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Memorandum
* of Patrol/Patrol Report covering patrol by..... P.O.
to..... Census Divisions.

A satisfactory report by Mr Phillips. It is
pleasing to note the attention given to economic development
by the patrolling officer.

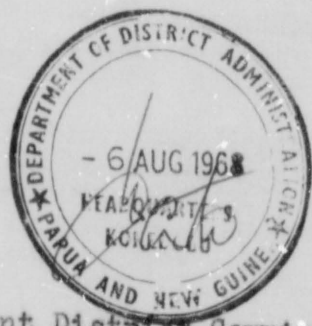
(T.W. ELLIS)
Director

* Delete as necessary.

c.c. Mr R. Phillips, P.O.,
Sub-District Office,
TALASEA
West New Britain.

67.17.9(17)

TAL P/R 13



District Headquarters,
West New Britain,
HOSKINS.

18th July, 1968

The Assistant District Commissioner
TALASEA.

TALASEA PATROL REPORT - 13/67-68
BOLA CENSUS DIVISION.

The report submitted by Mr Phillips, together with your covering memorandum 67-1-1 of 25th June. The delay in dealing with this is regretted, but forced due to absences.

I am perturbed that over 18 months have elapsed since the last formal census patrol. By now you are in receipt of the Director's instructions on patrolling 67-1-0 of 21st June, and this will be reflected in your patrol programme for this year. I agree that more time is needed in each village to really get to know the people and what they are thinking, as well as propagate ideas for development along all lines. Additional Rest Houses, where road access is available does not supply the whole answer - unless they are used much more often than they are now. Rather they are an added burden in construction and maintenance. In these circumstances, the arrangement to 'rent' a good native house for the night, or to schedule the movement of the patrol so that there is time in the evening to 'chat' is probably better.

Your comments on the Political situation are noted. Mr Phillips has noted items which did not arise during discussion but no-where has he detailed what items concerned those people with whom discussions were held. Did he introduce subjects? If so what were they? What were the reactions? It is a most important part of all Field staff's task to continually re-iterate what is happening in the political field and how it ties in with Administration, Councils, and Advisory bodies.

Economically the area needs obvious stimulation considering the potential as indicated by the statistics of cacao and coconuts planted. I know of your plan through the Council and trust that this aspect will be brought forward to the people who should be the producers. The extension of driers for copra and cacao is also receiving attention through the Council. Has the Agricultural Committee been made aware of the figures gained by Mr Phillips? It might have been an idea for Mr Phillips to have attended one of their meetings to infuse ideas towards utilizing the economic crops presently available.

I have written separately regarding the proposition in respect of Kandoka. I have ascertained that Forests should be agreeable, but more detailed information of the proposal is required before calling in the advice of the Business advisory Section.

Your comments should help Mr Phillips with his next report and I trust that he has taken the advice given. Certainly no excuse will be accepted for the non completion of statistical information on a village to village basis. It appears also that he spent far too many days on the station within the period covered by the report. There may have been good reasons for this and if so, these should have been mentioned in the diary to provide continuity.

Camping Allowance claims are being processed for payment.

Gloucester
cc. Director, Dep't of District Administration
Konedobu

K.W. Dyer
District Commissioner

67 - 1 - 1

(16)

Sub-district Office
TALASEA
West New Britain District.

25th June, 1968.

The District Commissioner
West New Britain District
HOSKINS

TALASEA PATROL NO. 13 OF 1967/68

BOLA CENSUS DIVISION

Please find enclosed :

3 copies of the above report submitted by Mr. Phillips P.O.

1 claim for camping allowance

Comments on report

1. Patrol Diary

The patrol diary shows a total of 35 days spent on patrol but out of this only 20 days were spent away from Talasea. I have therefore altered the report to read 20 days only.

I can only assume that during the period 1/5/68 - 4/6/68 Mr. Phillips actually spent 15 days at Talasea not engaged in patrol work.

With the patrol completed on the 4/6/68 it is hard to understand why it then took until the 19th June 1968 to present this report.

I am concerned over the small number of rest houses in the Bola Census Division. It appears that Mr. Phillips slept at 3 out of a total of 4 available. I will approach the Talasea Council to see if more rest houses can be built.

2. Village Officials

The Talasea Council has passed rules to improve conditions in the villages and I think these rules can be the means of giving the Councillors some control - if they want to use this power.

3. Political Situation

The patrol could hardly gauge the political interest of the people in most villages unless it spent at least a day at each centre and preferably a night as well.

I would agree that there is a need to stimulate interest in politics and perhaps the Community Education Courses being conducted at Talasea will help to this end.

4. Economic Situation

Based on the statistics provided under Appendix A B and C, there is a good potential but apparently there is little incentive to produce.

There obviously is no easy answer to stimulating interest but I will discuss this with the Council and try for their support.

It does seem hard to believe that in an area where there are 55,919 mature coconut palms there is only one village copra dryer. I will go into this with the Agriculture Officer and the Council to find why more dryers can not be built.

I do not have any figures of cocoa production but I understand that the Bakovi Society is buying cocoa and that the Agriculture Officer is giving this his personal attention. The location of the fermentary at Narunageru appears unfortunate with the poor access road. I feel a better road can be built to Narunageru via Bamba and this will be investigated.

Although not mentioned in the written instructions I did ask Mr. Phillips to find out the names of those who had copra numbers and get an estimate of possible monthly production. It appears that this information was not supplied to the patrol and I am taking it up with the Council.

5. Forests

The Bulumuri and Buludava people are interested in buying a boat with the proceeds of the sale of timber rights. I have advised them to concentrate on developing coponut and cocoa groves and establishing bulk stores at suitable shipping points rather than buying a boat.

6. Commerce and Industry

The 'Tambu' system may well be a reason why local entrepreneurs have not emerged but I doubt it. I feel confident that a few local people will manage to break away from the traditional way of life and it is up to the Administration to seek these people and give them assistance.

7. Land

I do not agree that there is no land available apart from north of Talasea. It seems to me that large areas of the Bola Census Division could well be utilised for resettlement as in the Hoskins Sub-district.

8. Complaints and Courts

As no complaints were brought forward it is obvious there was no need for court action.

Mr. Phillips is well into his first term as a Patrol Officer and I would have expected him to have Court powers by now.

9. Rest Houses

As mentioned under 1. I think more rest houses are needed and I will take this up with the Council. I think the fault must lie with Administration officers who most likely have not made much use of rest houses in the area, being content to visit villages by car from Talasea.

10. Roads and Bridges

A new road to Ganemboku is planned and it will depend to some extent on whether Minor New Works funds are available. I would like to see a little more 'self-help' from the local people on such ventures.

11. Labour

I have the impression that private enterprises do not consider the Bola men to be good workers. It seems to me that the Bola women can find employment quite readily but the consensus of opinion is that the men are too lazy.

12. Personal Tax

The Kilu people who were taken to Court and received prison sentences have now paid their tax. Mr. Phillips should not use such expressions as "guests of her majesty" in an official report.

13. Census

Mr. Phillips supplied the following information in an separate memorandum. It should have been in the body of the patrol report.

<u>Last Census</u>	M	F	Total
	2532	2222	4754
Plus migrations in and births recorded	207	229	436
	<u>2739</u>	<u>2451</u>	<u>5190</u>
Less migrations out and deaths	72	96	168
	<u>2667</u>	<u>2355</u>	<u>5022</u>

What I am concerned about is the difference between villages named in the Village Directory and those actually in existence in the Bola area. I will take this up under separate correspondence.

It should also be noted that one village called NAVIRIA has apparently not been contacted since 1964. I understand they are a group of nomadic people but I do not understand why Bola patrols have not maintained contact.

14 Personal Opinions

Under this section I would have liked to see more ideas expressed to improve the situation in the Bola area. I have discussed this aspect with Mr. Phillips and pointed out that a fresh view-point is always welcomed and that junior officers should always feel free to give opinions on what they think should be done.

While I personally find merit in the suggestion of a council rule to encourage all adult male natives to plant a certain number of economic trees it is obviously not Administration policy to force people to plant crops - if that was Mr. Phillips intention.

15. Statistical information

Unless Mr. Phillips actually counted the number of teachers, students, coconuts cocoa etc under Appendices A, B, C, I think he should give a reference to his source of information

16. General

The above comments were intended to be critical mainly to give Mr. Phillips some guidance and instruction for future reports. I think he will agree there is room for improvement and I hope that he takes particular note of the need to submit reports promptly and also the need to be exact and factual - as well as expressing his ideas and opinions.

M.R. Haywood
M.R. Haywood

(Assistant District Commissioner)

(B)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams DISADM 67-1-1.
Telephone
Our Reference 67-2-4
If calling ask for
Mr. Phillips.



Department of District Administration,
Sub-district Office,
Talasea,
West New Britain District.
18/6/68.

The Assistant District Commissioner,
Talasea.

West New Britain District

27th April, 1968.

Mr. R. Phillips
Patrol Officer
Talasea

Patrol No.13 67/68.

1. Please find attached four copies of the report of the above mentioned patrol.
2. I regret the delay in submitting the report and the census figures, the delay was entirely caused by my failure to reconcile figures in the villages and doing this work in the office after most of the villages had been censused.
3. I note that the last two census patrols in the Bola Census Division took from the second of November to the fourteenth of December in 1964 and from the fifth of September until the fourteenth of October on 1965.
With regard to these times, I feel that the three weeks originally allocated to complete the patrol in was perhaps too short a period, particularly since all settlement blocks, and non Bola residents of the census division were to be included in the census for the first time.
4. Also attached are claims for camping allowance and for canoe hire from Baludava to Volupai.
5. For your information please.

Understand you can visit several villages from Talasea by car. This is satisfactory as far as I am concerned that are close to Talasea and do not require a long drive. If you to camp out at every village that is not possible. Usually at a house there is little opportunity for disturbance. The staff of the Administration, nor for the people, unless the officer is prepared to sleep longer.

R. W. Phillips

Roger Phillips,
Patrol Officer.

Your report should include your views on the general economic position of the area and in particular what you think of the present marketing arrangements for copra and cocoa.

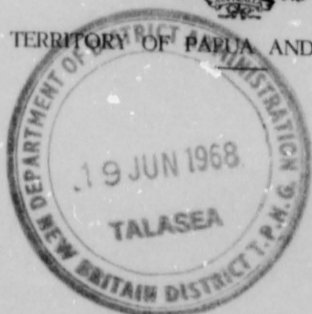
You should be prepared to submit your report no longer than four days after your return to Talasea and suggest you complete report notes in advance.

M.R. Haywood

(Assistant District Commissioner)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



Telegrams DISADM 67-1-1.
Telephone ~~67-2-4~~
Our Reference.....
If calling ask for
Mr. Phillips.

Department of District Administration,
Sub-district Office,
Talasea,
West New Britain District.
18/6/68.

The Assistant District Commissioner,
Talasea.

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With regard to these times, I feel that the three weeks originally allocated to complete the patrol in was perhaps too short a period, particularly since all settlement blocks, and non Bola residents of the census division were to be included in the census for the first time.
4. Also attached are claims for camping allowance and for canoe hire from Buludava to Volupai.
5. For your information please.

R W Phillips
Roger Phillips,
Patrol Officer.

Correction



12

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams.....
Our Reference..... 67 - 1 - 2
If calling ask for
Mr.....

Department of District Administration,
Sub-district Office
TALASEA
West New Britain District.

29th April, 1968.

Mr. R. Phillips
Patrol Officer
TALASEA

Talasea Patrol No. 13 of 1967-68

Bola Census Division

Please prepare to patrol the whole of the Bola Census Division departing from Talasea on Wednesday 1st May 1968. I estimate your patrol will take about 3 weeks but you are free to stop longer if necessary.

Objects of patrol

1. Revision of census
2. General Administration

Patrol Police

1 Constable R.P.&.N.G.C.

General comments

I understand you can visit several villages from Talasea by car. This is satisfactory as far as those villages that are close to Talasea and do not have rest houses, but I want you to camp out at every village that does have a rest house. Generally at a census there is little opportunity for discussing the aims of the Administration, nor for getting the views of the people, unless the officer is prepared to stop over-night or even longer.

Your report should include your views on the general economic position of the area and in particular what you think of the present marketing arrangements for copra and cocoa.

You should be prepared to submit your report no longer than four days after your return to Talasea so I suggest you compile rough notes in advance.

M.R. Haywood

M.R. Haywood
(Assistant District Commissioner)

Introduction

Patrol number thiteen of 1967/68, was carried out between the first of May and the fourth of June, its purpose was to revise the census in the Bola census division.

The Bola census division comprises the whole of the Willuamez Peninsula and extends east to the Dagi River and West to Kandoka village, it is bordered by the West Nakanai census division in the east and the Kombe census division in the West.

The patrol was carried out during the dry season and all vehicular roads in the area were navigable and were used.

In addition to the native villages in the Census Division, settlement blocks at Pangalu and the Dagi river were also censused, that at Bulu was not done during the patrol owing to transport difficulties, it is anticipated that this settlement, together with the station of Talasea, will be censused in the near future.

The present level of political development is good, the old Bola council which had been in existence since 1959 was replaced in January by the Talasea multi-racial council, this council has power over the entire census division.

Economic development has lagged behind political development in the Bola area, most villages are now showing a trend towards cash cropping, copra and cocoa having now been planted in most villages, however, the majority of the village people in the Bola area are still at a subsistence level of agriculture.

The Willuamez Peninsula is an old volcanic region, it has little by way of coastal plain and for the most part rises steadily from sea level to a height of around 4,000 feet with some peaks rising above 3,000 feet.

Due to its volcanic origins, the soil in the Willuamez Peninsula is very fertile, and in areas where economic crops have been planted, they are doing well.

DIARY OF PATROL

- 1/5/68. Proceeded by car to Bola village and revised census.
- 2/5/68. Departed Talasea 9.30 a.m. for Garili, census revised and check made on economic potential. Census revised at Patanga, economic potential check carried out. Returned to Talasea in the afternoon.
- 3/5/68. Departed Talasea in the a.m., census revised at Kilu and economic potential check carried out. Proceeded to Kulungi and advised all present of census on the sixth.
- 4/5/68. At Talasea.
- 5/5/68. Departed Talasea 8.30 a.m., census revised and economic potential checked at Morakia, Ruango and Kulungi. Returned to Talasea.
- 7/5/68. At Talasea.
- 8/5/68. Departed Talasea 6.00 a.m. for Dagi settlement. All present censused, half the population absent awaiting the arrival of the Bishop of Rabaul.
- 9/5/68. At Talasea.
- 10/5/68. Departed Talasea 10.30 a.m. arrived Dagi settlement 12.30 p.m. Remainder of the settlement population censused.
- 11/5/68. At Talasea.
- 13/5/68. At Talasea.
- 14/5/68. Proceeded to Bamba village, census revised and economic potential check carried out.
- 15/5/68. Departed Volupai wharf 10.30 a.m. per M.V. Garnet. Arrived Linga-linga 2.30 p.m. Dep. Linga-linga 3.15 p.m. Arrived Kandoka 5.15 p.m. Census revised.
- 16/5/68. Kandoka village inspected. Departed Kandoka 6.30 p.m. For Garu, Bagum sawmill and Kambili. Census conducted at the above-named places. Proceeded to Bagum village to overnight there.
- 17/5/68. Bagum village censused and inspected. Departed Bagum 9.30 a.m. per Garnet to Minda village, village inspected and censused, proceeded by Garnet to Kumawavu, thence by foot to Buluwara, census revised at Buluwara, thence by foot to Volupai mission, census of mission personell, thence to Volupai plantation per M.V. Garnett.
- 18/5/68. At Talasea.
- 20/5/68. Census Carried out at Kumeraki village.
- 21/5/68. Census carried out at Warou village in the a.m. Census carried out at Dire village in the p.m.
- 22/5/68. Proceeded to Canemboiru and revised census.

DIARY OF PATROL (contd.)

- 23/5/68. Proceeded to Dami village and revised census there.
- 24/5/68. At Talasea.
- 25/5/68. At Talasea.
- 26/5/68. Proceeded to Volupai village and revised census there.
- 28/5/68. Departed Talasea 8/30.a.m. for Pangalu village, village inspected census revised, thence to Pangalu settlement where a census was done.
- 29/5/68. Rain caused postponement of proposed trip to Pangala- Bulu settlement, day spent in Talasea.
- 30/5/68. Proceeded to Wogarakai and revised census.
- 31/5/68. Proceeded to Liapo village and revised census.
- 3/6/68. Departed Volu ai plantation 2.00 p.m. per speed boat for Buludava, arrived Buludava 1500 hrs. Overnight Buludava.
- 4/6/68. Buludava village censused in the morning, attempted to make repairs to the out-board motor. Bulumuri village censused, departed Buludava 1.45 p.m. by canoe for Volupai arriving there at 6.15.p.m. Proceeded by car to Talasea.

Local Government Council, the change over from one council to the other appearing to have had little effect on the lives of the village people.

The newly set house of assembly did not provide a topic of conversation at any village where informal discussions were held, however, as the first meeting of the house did not take place until the end of the patrol, this was not surprising.

The number for the Talasea area electorate, Mrs. Baker, was not mentioned during any discussions, the number for the West-Cent New Britain regional electorate appears to be better known in the Talasea area.

Generally speaking, the Government is well received in the area as are missions, the main religion in the Talasea area is Roman Catholicism and other outside influences such as stores, plantations and other commercial enterprises.

economic conditions
The Talasea people are fairly well advanced politically, and the Talasea people have shown little interest in economic development. As with the Koro people, the majority of the average life of the Talasea people is to be seen as far as economic development in the Talasea area, which is a subsistence life in the everyday life of the area.

There is a realization in the area that economic development can be achieved through primary production, however, there is little interest in this.

The Talasea people are a good crop of Sarawaka which is a good production of rice, but the price of rice is low and the people are not interested in increasing the production of rice.

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Reception of Patrol

The patrol was well received in every village visited during its course, there were no signs of anti-Government feelings in any village.

VILLAGES

Most of the villages visited have road contact with Talasea, despite this the most commonly used housing materials are still the traditional ones, mainly sac-sac, there is little use made of sheet iron or other new building materials.

A majority of the villages have council supplied water pumps, those without rely either on water tanks (council supplied) or streams.

If enforced properly, the new council Pig Kule could greatly improve existing hygiene conditions.

Village Officials

All village officials are now elected by the people they serve, whether they are councillors or village committee men.

Almost all village officials complained that they had no control over the people in their villages, as far as having them improve conditions with village maintenance, building of Pig enclosures, planting of economic crops etc. was concerned; it was noticed that several of the councillors themselves were rather slow in setting an example.

Political Situation.

As stated in the introduction to this report, the Bola people have, since January this year, had their own Multi-racial Local Government Council, this has grown out of the old Bola Native Local Government council, the change over from one council to the other appearing to have had little effect on the lives of the village people.

The newly met House of Assembly did not provide a topic of conversation at any village where informal discussions were held, however as the first meeting of the house did not take place until the end of the patrol, this was not surprising.

The member for the Talasea open electorate, Mr. J. Maneke, was not mentioned during any discussions, the member for the East-West New Britain regional electorate appears to be better known in the Bola area.

Generally speaking, the Government is well received in the area as are missions (The main religion in the Bola area is Roman Catholicism) and other outside influences such as stores, plantations and other commercial enterprises.

Economic Situation.

Despite being fairly well advanced politically, the Bola people have shown little interest in economic development. As with the Kombe people, the main aim in life of the average Bola person seems to be to become as far as possibly advanced in the Tamba economy which is the dominating factor in the everyday life of the area.

There is a realisation in the area that economic development can come about through primary production, however, there seems to be little incentive to commence such production.

The Balovi marketing society has a cocoa dryer at Narunageru which, during peak production periods, dries cocoa at the rate of thirty bags (dry) per week, this peak production slackens to as little as three bags per week.

As peak cocoa production coincides with the wet season, quantities of cocoa are lost or have to be sold to European owned plantations, due to the inaccessibility of the Marketing society's dryer, this is due to be rectified by the construction of another dryer at Bamba village which would handle all cocoa produced in the coastal villages, leaving the Narunageru dryer to handle all cocoa produced in the inland villages and the Bulu settlement.

Copra production from native owned plantations is

5. Economic Situation (contd)

minimal, the only village owned copra dryer seen was at Kulungi, all other copra seen was sun dried.

At present there is a plan for the council to build a bulk storage shed adjacent to the Talasea wharf and to assist in the marketing of native produced copra, this scheme could provide the outside stimulus necessary to interest the Bola people in increasing their economic production.

At present almost all locally produced copra is purchased by Chin Chen and Co., Traders of Talasea.

At Kandoka village where economic development is presently nil, the people have expressed a strong desire to have a timber lease taken out over a large part of their ground, they want the lease to be operated by the present assistant manager of Barum sawmill, Mr. L. Daveson.

Mr. Daveson has a scheme which involves the formation of a company amongst the Kandoka people using the money they receive from the sale of timber rights as capital to purchase all necessary plant and equipment, he himself would be a shareholder in the company and not as manager of the enterprise, labour would be provided by the village people to a large extent with importation of some skilled labour.

If the above scheme were put into practice, it would be of great benefit to the Kandoka people.

Subsistence farming is still the main way of life in the census division, Taro is the staple food crop, there was no shortage of food apparent and none was reported.

6. Livestock

Animal husbandry does not play an important part in the Bola economy.

The main animals kept are pigs and fowls, in the past pigs have been something of a health menace, a newly passed council rule restricting the movement of pigs should improve this condition if properly enforced.

7. Forests

The Bulumuri and Buladava people have recently received approximately 24,000.00c for the lease of 49,000 acres (timber rights only) for forty years.

Payment of this sum was made shortly before the census was taken in these villages, there was no apparent sign of any of this money, or of any advantages brought about by it.

As stated above, the Kandoka people are very interested in having a timber lease taken out over most of their clan ground.

8. Commerce and Industry

At present, the only successful commercial enterprises running in the Bola area are either Chinese or European owned.

Because of the various kinship obligations and the 'Tambu' system which dominates the life of the Bola native, there is little chance of any person native to the area being able to run a successful private business in the foreseeable future, or until such time as the 'Tambu' system is outmoded and replaced by a cash economy.

9. Land

Owing to present population increases, it is unlikely that there will be any areas of ground available for purchases in the future, the only area where there could be land available in the future is north of Talasea in the area of the recent timber rights purchase, however the lands dept. report that the people are reluctant to sell.

10. Complaints and Courts.

No complaints were brought forward and as no magistrate accompanied the patrol, no courts were heard.

*Was could there be
no complaints?*

11. Rest Houses.

Most villages in the Bola census division are accessible by road from Talasea and consequently, few have rest houses. Patrol instructions called for the patrol to stay overnight in any village where there was a rest house, the only time that this instruction was not complied with was in the case of Ruango village, the rest house being occupied by Mr. L. Gerau, Dentist and family for approximately a week while the adjacent villages were being census ed.

Rest houses situated at Kandoka, Bagum and Buludava were used during the patrol, that at Garu is now unserviceable.

12. Canoes-Carriers etc.

Canoes were used by the patrol to go to Volupai, Wogahakai and Buludava, (Buludava return trip only).

They were easy to hire, present rate of hire is ten cents per hour for the canoe and for each crewman thereon, plus half that rate for the return trip.

No carriers were used during the patrol.

13. Health.

Aid posts are situated in the following villages, Patanga, Ruango, Dagi settlement, Narungeru and ~~between~~ Bagum and Kambili-Garu.

In addition to this, there is an Administration hospital in Talasea and a mission hospital at Bitokara and aid post facilities are available at Volupai mission.

A sister from Bitokara mission accompanied the patrol to Wogahakai for an infant welfare clinic, otherwise no medical personnel accompanied the patrol.

A high incidence of grizzle was noticed, Aid Post Orderlies reported that generally the people are reluctant to seek treatment for this complaint, they seem to feel that either the cure is worse than the ailment or that they will only get the disease again.

An epidemic of measles was also noticed during the patrol, particularly in the inland villages, Warou, Dami, Dire, Ganemboku and Narungeru; the sister in charge of the hospital at Bitokara says that the outbreak was the worst since 1954 but that there were no fatalities.

14. Education.

Education in the Bola census Division is mainly left to the Catholic church, they have nine primary schools throughout the area; the Administration has two primary schools, those at the Dagi settlement and at Narungeru.

Further information is contained in the attached appendix.

15. Roads & Bridges.

The Bola census division has a comprehensive road net work which provides access to about two thirds of the villages from Talasea.

The road to the Dagi river has just been re-graded and work has now commenced on the road to Narungeru and Buluwara.

Ganemboku was the one village which is not accessible either by sea or by vehicular road, however the walking track into the village (walking time approximately three quarters of an hour) could probably be up graded to vehicular standard without any major difficulty.

Ganemboku has good economic potential and warrants a vehicular road, they have 5,892 planted coconut palms of which only 694 are presently bearing and 10,689 cocoa trees of which 9,284 are bearing, this figure compares with the number of trees planted at Dami which has the second greatest planted area of cocoa, they have approximately 8,000 trees, 6,051 are bearing.

16. Missions

The Catholic church is the only one represented on the Bola census division, they have mission stations at Volupai and Bitokara. Both stations provide educational facilities and that at Bitokara also has a hospital

17. Labour

Labour in the Bola census division is employed largely on the European owned plantations in the area, these are situated at San Remo, Numundo, Lagenda, Garua and Volupai, contract labour is used extensively on these plantations, labourers coming from both the highlands and south coast areas of West New Britain.

The Bola people do most of the casual labouring in the area their present rate of pay for any casual type work is \$3.50c per week, this seems to be satisfactory to those concerned.

Casual labourers are also employed on the two sawmills in the area, those at Bagum and Wanga-Wanga.

18. Personal Tax

Annual tax collection is now in the Talasea councils control, current rates are eight dollars per man and one dollar per female, the female rate is a maximum and reduces ~~with~~ the amount of children increases.

At the time of the census most of the male population of Kilu were the guests of her majesty for failure to pay tax, this has since been rectified.

19. Census

The patrol was carried out for the purpose of revising the census lists, this was done and the relevant figures are attached. It should be noted that these figures are the first compiled since the August-October census of 1966, the natural increase figures are therefore greater than they would normally be.

20. Personal Opinions

The patrol instructions issued ask for my own opinions on the general economic position in the area with emphasis on marketing problems.

In my opinion, so long as the 'Tambu' economy exists, and is the major factor of the local economy, the Bola people are unlikely to become well developed economically, they have little incentive to work, all their needs as far as food, clothing and shelter is concerned can be provided at minimal costs and with a minimum effort on behalf of those concerned, the people are quite prepared to work as casual labourers both for the Government and for private enterprises, receiving \$3.50c for a full weeks work; they fully understand that better rates of pay could be obtained in the long run by working for themselves, how-ever they have no interest in working on long range projects.

As there is no internal stimulus to encourage the people to seek a better way of life, possibly external stimulus is the answer, perhaps a council rule could be passed to encourage all adult males, native to the area, to plant a certain number of economic trees per year.

Present marketing conditions are poor, copra is sold to Chin Cheu and Co. in Talasea who is willing to buy in small quantities and then sack the copra and forward it to Rabaul. Cocoa is sold either to Lagenda plantation or to the Bakovi marketing society, cocoa marketing is far simpler and more straight forward than copra marketing.

In accordance with verbal instructions, all producers of copra were asked about their production, none was prepared to give a definite figure and one gains the impression that copra production is carried out only to gain 'tobacco money'.

The idea of a centralized bulk store at Talasea could stimulate greater production of the from the trees presently mature and any such scheme could be developed to cope with the increase in productivity that should eventuate as more trees come into bearing.

APPENDIX A
Schools - Bola Census Division

Primary 'T'schools are located in the following villages :

<u>Village</u>	<u>No.of Teachers</u>	<u>No.of Pupils</u>	<u>No.of classes</u>
Bagum	1	46	P-1-2
Bitokara	11 (2 Europeans)	441	P-1-2-3-4-5-6
Buludava	1	31	P-1-2
Bulumuri	1	35	P-1-2
Kambili-Garu	2	79	P-1-2
Kandoka	2	32	P-1-2-3
Patanga	5	133	P-1-2-3-4
Ruango	3	94	P-1-2-3
Bola	1	16	1
Volupai	6	220	P-1-2-3-4-5
Woganakai	1	20	P-1.

The above-mentioned schools are all run by the Roman Catholic mission.

The following are run by the Administration.

Dagi Settlement.	3	75	P-1-2-3-4
Nanova	2 (1 European)	90 (approx)	P-1-2.

APPENDIX B

Economic Tree Census - Cocoa

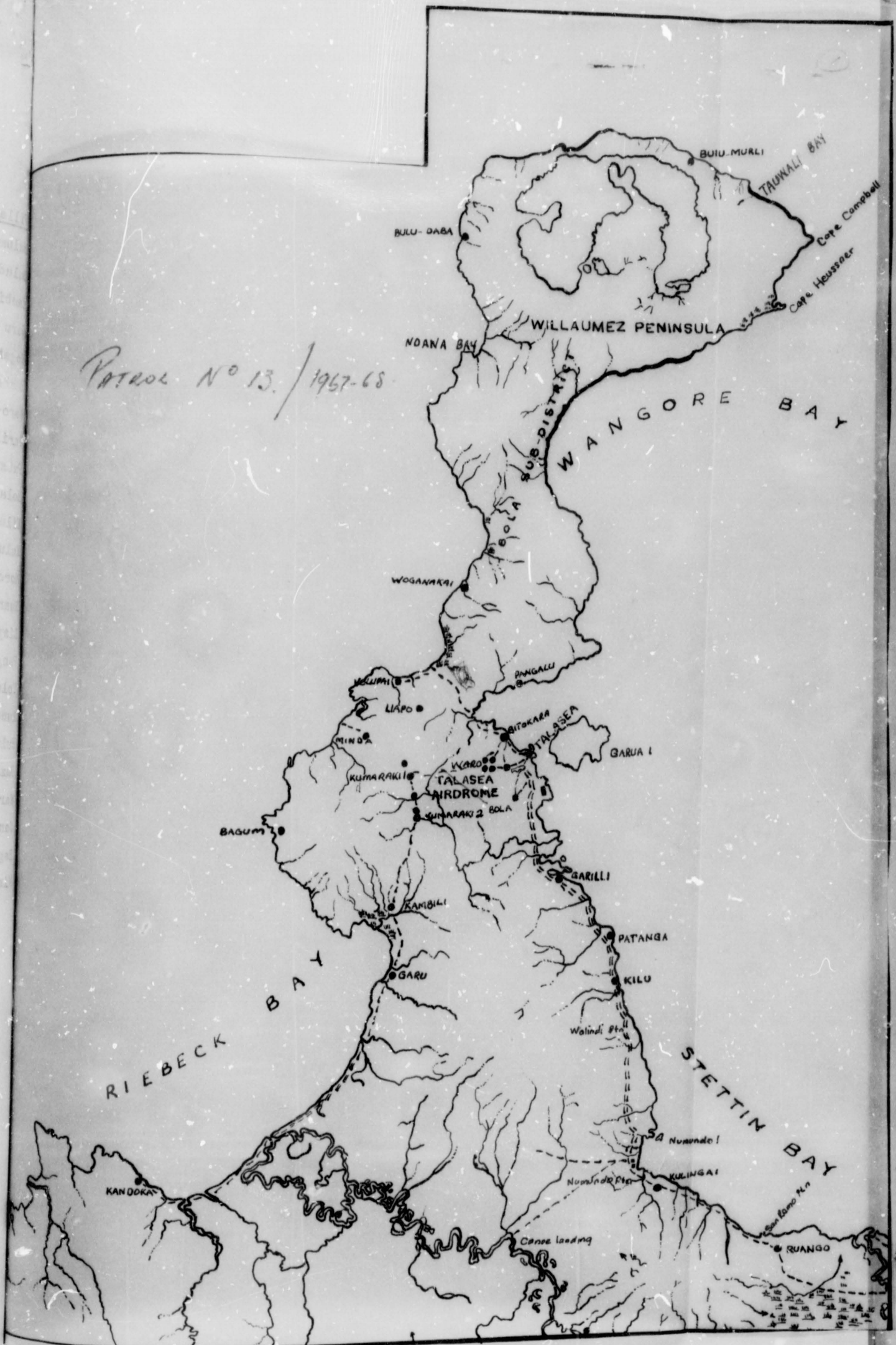
<u>Village</u>	<u>Mature Trees</u>	<u>Immature trees</u>	<u>Planted 67/68.</u>
Kambili	370	346	
Woganakai		2784	
Bamba	355		565
Waro-Dire	2508	2011	
Garili	382	470	728
Bola	2522	223	232
Ruango	2314		
Morokia	470	300	
Kulungi	1388	17	141
Liapo	3546	214	1418
Pangalu	1150		176
Volupai	1478	1471	1705
Kumavava	631	176	372
Buluwara	1971	1973	726
Dami	6051	1775	2134
Patanga	3046	536	354
Kumeraki	2989		1442
Ganemboku	9284		4196
Bagum	3340	469	
Minda	1758	217	
	<u>48576</u>	<u>12982</u>	<u>14689</u>

APPENDIX C

Economic Tree Census-Coconuts

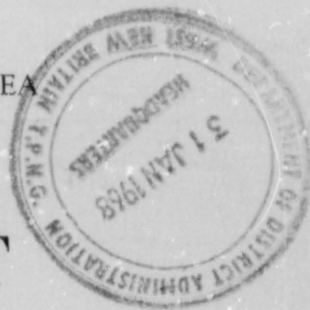
<u>Village</u>	<u>Mature</u>	<u>Immature</u>	<u>Planted 67/68.</u>
Bulumuri	5330	6253	
Buludava	1487	6321	
Bambili	4158	1442	
Garu	3050	1573	
Nogahakai	1041	5685	582
Baba	1258	3937	186
Waro-Dire	2916	6086	1744
Garili	632	4655	676
Patanga	10856	2710	1032
Bola	862	1413	374
Kilu	611	4039	526
Kulungi	575	7155	2187
Morokia	616	2728	2170
Punango	1024	7121	1088
Mapo	6605	8766	140
Pangalu	2998	11594	521
Volupai	4320	8733	1011
Kumavava	803	2988	1397
Buluwara	3583	6199	385
Dami	2115	5494	593
Narungeru	385	2544	133
Ganemboku	694	5158	2721
Bagum			2506
Minda			<u>1785</u>
	<u>55919</u>	<u>112,594</u>	<u>24757</u>

Patrol No 13 / 1967-68





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



PATROL REPORT

District of **WEST NEW BRITAIN** Report No. **BALI WITU No. 1 of 1967/68**
 Patrol Conducted by **S. GIBSON, Patrol Officer**
 Area Patrolled **GAROVE AND MUNDUA Islands of Bali Witu Census Division**
 Patrol Accompanied by Europeans **Nil**
 Natives **Three R.P. & N.G.C. President Bali Witu L.G.C.**
 Duration—From **18 / 12 / 1967** to **1 / 12 / 1967**

Number of Days **14**

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? **No**

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services **7 / 1967**

Medical **10 / 1967**

Map Reference **District Map**

Objects of Patrol **(i) Orientation of area; (ii) Inspection sites L.G.C. projects (iii) Survey vehicular road position GAROVE (iv) General Administration**

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

District Commissioner

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

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

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

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

e Pop

Over 13		Females in Child Birth
M	F	

67-16-17

27th February, 1968.

District Commissioner,
West New Britain District,
HOSKINS.

BALI WITU PATROL 1 OF 1967/68

Receipt of the above report with comments from yourself and the Assistant District Commissioner, Talamea is acknowledged with thanks.

2. Mr. Gibson, I agree, has submitted a well written and presented report and the comments by yourself leave little for me to add.

3. In the diary I am concerned that Mr. Gibson repeatedly says that a village was "lined and inspected." No census was conducted. It could be inferred that personal dignity was not respected. The Assistant District Commissioner should assure himself that such assemblies are not needlessly effected and are not of a parade nature. The term "lined" should not be used in correspondence.

4. No patrol map was received.

T.W. Ellis
(T.W. ELLIS) *AS*
Director

HOSKINS, WEST NEW BRITAIN.

7th February, 1968.

Assistant District Commissioner,
TALASEA.

BALI PATROL No.1 1967-68

The above Patrol Report submitted by Mr. Gibson, O.I.C. Bali, is acknowledged.

The report is well written and presented, and indicates a generally satisfactory native situation in the two northern islands. The attitude to Council formation has been noted, and I am pleased that basic necessities at village level have not been overlooked in the first year's Works Programme. Though named as an object of the patrol, Mr. Gibson does not in fact indicate where the village water supplies are to be sited, or whether in fact sites were located so that work can proceed satisfactorily.

I have the following comments to make on specific points.

POLITICAL SITUATION.

I agree that monthly Council meetings are preferable. I have indicated, under separate correspondence to the Council that the "Aria" will be scheduled to allow monthly meetings - commencing at the conclusion of the Elections. The idea of bringing different observers to each meeting is a good one and should be carried out. This will assist in showing the ordinary voter the mechanics of the Council and can do nothing but good.

Was political education undertaken as a routine matter on this patrol and the House of Assembly Elections explained?

AGRICULTURE.

Copra. The various means of disposal of copra has been noted with interest - are the prices paid locally in line with current world prices? I discussed this with Father Lindenbaum on a recent visit and this appeared to be reasonable. What prices are paid by the local entrepreneur? I am keen to see native plantation plantings diversified with introduction of cocoa interplanted. The matter is being discussed with the District Agricultural Officer, but staff position will preclude the visit of an Agricultural Officer until later in the year.

Mr. Gibson should now have information pamphlets re the working of the Development Bank to answer the queries raised.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY.

The comments on Trade Stores have been noted. I have already contacted Business Advisory Office Rabaul and I anticipate a visit in March/April. When I will raise the matter of a visit to the Islands. However I consider Mr. Gibson can take steps himself towards instructing storekeepers in the basic economics of stores, and of cost plus accounting. With the aid of the Council Clerk, they should be able to hold a several days course on each island to cover these basic facts.

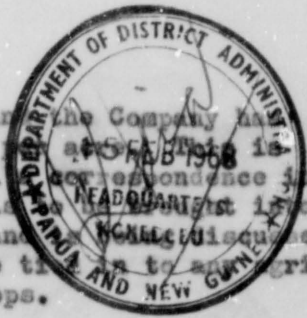
67.16.17

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Ordering and supply appear to be the basic problem, and perhaps this avenue could be explored through the Council in the form of a central wholesale store on a cost plus or commission basis.

LAND.

This matter has been investigated before and the Company has advised that they will dispose of land for \$20 plus an amount which is unacceptable. I have received copies of the Council's correspondence in this regard and it appears that the area concerned is not suitable for production. The improved utilization of existing land should be discussed with the District Agricultural Officer and should be tied to an agricultural patrol of the area - e.g. interplanting of crops.

HEALTH.

Comments on the Aid Post have been noted. Mr. Gibson fails to indicate what work is required for completion. Is this not surely a Local Government project at this stage? Please advise.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

I am desirous of completing the road link about the northern sector of the island. To this extent and on earlier requests, \$500 was made available in November. Following my visit to Bali-Witu in January I promised to send a Department of Public Works officer to check and if possible arrange the removal of the bottleneck between the two formed sections. Commitments against targets in the Hoskins area has not allowed me to do this yet but a Department of Public Works road man will be made available as soon as is possible for this.

AIRFIELDS.

This has already been dealt with under separate correspondence from the Council. Approval for a formal investigation has already been passed to the Co-ordinator of Transport and his advice is awaited.

The matter of compensation in land can be further investigated when a decision as to the best site, is made.

LABOUR.

I have already drawn Department of Labour's attention to the lack of inspections on Bali-Witu and have received advice that an inspector will visit the area, departing Talasea per "Aria" on March 10th. You have been separately advised.

RECORDS.

Your action to preserve the old census books is agreed with. On receipt please ensure they are forwarded to D.D.A. HQ.

Supplies of new type census books should be requisitioned and supplied to O.I.C. Bali. These will supply consolidated population figures only and comments. Basic details of names etc. will be incorporated in the Council Tax/Census records.

Mr. Gibson has conducted a satisfactory patrol and has written an interesting report. I would however, like him to submit his plans and ideas for shortcomings found. Though expert advice is desirable, it is not always available and I will not have stagnation taking place awaiting such advice.

Claim for Camping Allowance has been processed and will be passed for payment under separate cover.

John Carey
(A.T. CAREY)

a/District Commissioner

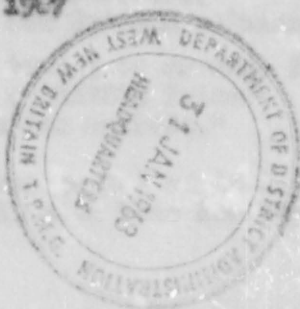
c.c. O.I.C. Bali
c.c. Director, D.D.A. Konedobu

67-2-1

Department of District Administration,
Sub District, Office,
SAVANNAH.

30th December, 1967

The District Commissioner,
West F W Britain District,
MOSSBURG.



BALI BEVU PARCEL No 1 - 1967/1968

The attached patrol report by Mr S. Gibson - Patrol Officer
- refer -

Patrol instructions were written because the various matters
for attention in the area had been discussed with Mr Gibson on a number
of occasions and it is noted that all matters were dealt with adequately.

POLITICAL SITUATION

The political situation is as is expected for the islands.
These people have always been interested in Councils and lodged the
administration for a number of years prior to the formation of a
Council to form one. This is a good sign when one considers how
neglected the Viti Islands have been since the formation of the
Council. The interest they take in Council affairs should be
encouraged on every occasion. Unless the people in the area are
interested in their Council it will fail.

The idea of a monthly Council Meeting has a great deal of
merit but will depend on the commitments of the "ARL". Monthly
meeting will mean that the "ARL" will be committed for a period of one
week every month. At this early stage it is imperative that the
Council be given all the encouragement and help they need.

It is unfortunate that the House of Assembly member was unable
to visit the area but this could well have been brought about by the
isolation of the Viti Islands, lack of an airstrip to enable short
visits to be made and the uncertainty of ship transport in the area.

AGRICULTURE

Mr Gibson's comments will be passed on to the District
Agricultural Officer in due course.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Over the past three years I have tried to arrange for the
visit of a Co-operative Officer to the area but due to lack of staff
in the District plus the need to consolidate their present position
has precluded this. It is hoped that staff can be made available
the New Year to advise and look after this isolated portion of the
District.

LAND

The shortage of land in the area is a grave problem but
been thought about by the wasteful and inefficient practices of
Garve Islanders. About 2 years ago Burns Philp offered for

(11)

to the Administration certain portions of their freehold property. Not only was the price exorbitant but the areas offered for sale were mainly extremely rough, inaccessible and did not compare very favourably with land being offered to potential settlers on the island of New Britain.

Our Director in his 35-10-10 dated 31/3/66 says:-
"..... There are only two courses open to these people:-

- (a) Improve their utilization plans and practices.
- (b) Take up blocks at Kangelu on the New Britain mainland.

You might consider it worthwhile trying to arrange for an Agricultural Officer to spend some time on GAROVE Island advising on and explaining improved utilization methods."

I do not know whether this was ever passed on to the DMO, but Agricultural patrols to the Witu Islands have been few and far between over the past two years.

HEALTH

The Rural Health Centre continues to progress and do good work. I will take up the matter of the incomplete buildings with the District Medical Officer.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

Would it be possible for the District Works Officer to be approached to visit the area and advise on the various problems being encountered? About two months ago I attempted to get Mr McClelland to visit the area but he was unable to do so due to the proximity of his leave.

AIRSTRIPS

I do support the establishment of an airstrip near the Rural Health Centre. Proximity to the Radio Telephone and Rural Health Centre are ~~now~~ of paramount importance for strip reporting and evacuation of ~~patients~~ patients.

LABOUR


Mr Gibson's comments have been forwarded to the Regional Labour Officer in Rabaul.

CENSUS

I have asked Mr Gibson to forward the old village books to Tolasea for my personal and on-forwarding to the Territory Museum.

Recent patrols to the Bali Witu area have been done by Officers with over 5 years service and as a result only Memorandums of Patrol have been submitted by officers with such experience. This report by Mr Gibson ~~is~~ contains a great deal of information that shows that he has done a thorough job. Recommendations show that such thought was given to the compilation of the report.

For your information, attention and on-forwarding please.


W. C. WELLSWORTH
Assistant District Commissioner

cc. CIC Bali Base Camp.

10

67-1-1

BALI WITU,
c/- Sub-District Office,
TALASEA
West New Britain District
6th December, 1967

The Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-District Office,
TALASEA

BALI WITU PATROL No. 1-1967/68

Patrol Conducted by: S.Gibson, Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled : GAROVE and MUNDUA Islands of the Bali Witu Census Division

Personnel Accompanying the Patrol : Const. 10809 MOLICM
Const. 10259 MILE
Const. 11198 POIHEN
LAUPU/NALE, Bali Witu L.G.C. President

Duration of Patrol : 18th November, 1967 to 1st December, 1967

Last Patrol to the Area : B.D.A. July, 1957
P.H.D. October, 1967

Objects of the Patrol : (i) Orientation of area
(ii) Inspection sites L.G. projects
(iii) Survey vehicular road position, GAROVE
(iv) General Administration

Map Reference: District Map.

S. Gibson
.....
(S.Gibson)
Patrol Officer

(9)

INTRODUCTION

This patrol of fourteen days dealt exclusively with the GAROVE-MUNDUA section of the Bali Witu Census Division. No patrol instructions were received, however the objects of the patrol were as follows: firstly, the patrol was designed to orientate the Writer with this portion of the Bali Witu Local Government Council area; secondly, to inspect sites for Council projects as per the 1967/68 Council Estimates and to investigate possible avenues of future Council development; thirdly, to survey the vehicular road position on GAROVE Island particularly in view of the current allocation of funds for road development there; fourthly, to obtain information re Plantation labourers for District organisation of the coming House of Assembly Elections (this forwarded to Palasea under separate cover). General administrative tasks were also attended to, and in every village informal discussion concerning re-settlement, Local Government, increased economic activity and the Witu Rural Health Centre was carried out. The Council President, LAUPU NALE accompanied the patrol and in each village he gave a talk about his recent visit to Australia.

PATROL DIARY

- 18-11-67 0700 Leave Burkei and per MV "Aria" to NINGAU PLTN. - issued Summons to Manager
1400 Arrived WITU Anchorage
1630 Lined villagers
O/Night WITU
- 19-11-67 0900 Inspected possible airstrip site on the boundary of LANGU Pltn.
1200 With Mr. Dick Doyle of LANGU Pltn. attended to various Pltn Licences and Permits
1530 Discussed a possible Savings and Loan Society with people from BALANGORI 2
1630 Addressed people of WITU re Council projects/re-settlement/PIR Patrol/ Witu Rural Health Centre - heard complaints re usage of village land - also spoke re possible airstrip
O/Night WITU
- 20-11-67 0730 Leave WITU and arrived LAMBE 1100 having inspected road and possible airstrip site en route
1230 Lined LAMBE villagers - discussed land in the area owned by Burns Philp - investigated attempted suicide by LAMBE woman
1600 General discussion with Messrs. Titus-Rees and Stevenson, Plantation Managers
1715 Inspected village
2000 Assembled villagers and spoke re general topics
O/Night LAMBE
- 21-11-67 0645 Inspected village water supply
0715 To ILIA Pltn. and obtained information re contract labourers for the House of Ass. Elections
0830 To POTPOT - lined and inspected village - general discussion
1130 To land known as "UVI" - inspected with Councillor and former L/L.
1300 To METO Pltn. - obtained information for Elections - attended to Pltn. Licences and Permits

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- 1500 Heard Local Court Case - MELEWE/LAILO of
POTPOT 4 months IHL
1700 To N'DOLLI - lined villagers
2030 Assembled people and spoke re general
topics
O/Night N'DOLLI
- 22-11-67 0715 With the Managers LAMA and METO Pltns.
inspected possible airstrip site above LAMA
Pltn.
1100 Returned to LAMA Pltn. - attended to
Pltn. Licences and Permits and collected
information re labourers for the House of
Assembly Elections
1200 To LAMA - lined and inspected - attended
to general administrative tasks
1500 Inspected another airstrip site near
the boundary of LAMA Pltn. E
1600 Heard Local Court Case - WARANGI/BENO
of POTPOT 3 months IHL
1730 By canoe to BALANGORI 2
2100 Discussion with Vice President JOSEPH
O/Night BALANGORI 2
- 23-11-67 0730 Lined and inspected
0930 Assembled people and spoke re the usual
topics with special emphasis on the shocking
state of the village
1130 With Father Linnenbaum discussed (i) the
possibility of the Council chartering his
vessel for Council meetings and (ii) road
development in the Witu Is.
1430 By canoe to BALANGORI 1
1600 Lined village
2000 Heard numerous complaints - all referred
to later hearing
O/Night BALANGORI 2
- 24-11-67 0800 Inspected village and addressed people
re general topics
0930 To WITU
1100 Assembled all the WITU Councillors and
the President for discussion about Councillors'
roles and Council meetings
1215 With LAMBE people re their trade store-
copra buying enterprise
1400 Heard Local Court Case - MATAIO/KUAKUA
fined \$8
1500 With Hospital Assistant Mr. Gordon Kuru
and discussed the reception he receives from
the local people
1530 Inspected site for future Council well
1630 To LANGU Pltn.
O/Night WITU
- 25-11-67 0900 Heard Local Court Case - GEAGILO/MALIMALI
of MANOFO (BALI) 3 month IHL
0930 With Father Linnenbaum to the section of
the LANGU-LAMBE road which will require
blasting and inspected
1430 Heard Local Court Case - WAKONAI/TALOTO
3 months IHL
1515 Heard various minor complaints
O/Night WITU
- 26-11-67 Observed and O/Night WITU
- 27-11-67 0700 By NINGAU Pltn. launch to KURAVU
0900 Lined - inspected - usual talks
2000 Heard Local Court Case - 9 fined
O/Night KURAVU

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- 28-11-67 0800 To KOREI
 0900 Lined - inspected
 1200 Heard numerous minor complaints
 1400 Usual talks on Local Government/
 re-settlement/Wifut Rural Health Centre/
 increased activity with regard to coconuts/
 Council projects and PIR Patrol
 1600 To NINGAU Pttn. - attended to Pttn.
 Licences and Permits and gathered information
 re labourers for House of Assembly Elections
 O/Night KOREI
- 29-11-67 0755 Leave KOREI and arrive KARAMATA (RANGU)
 0845
 0930 Lined and inspected
 1100 General talks and heard minor complaints
 1400 With Mr. Beale, Manager, NINGAU Pttn,
 to KURAVU to investigate reports of a
 Japanese fishing trawler
 1600 Leave RANGU and arrive GORU 1700
 O/Night GORU
- 30-11-67 0800 Lined and inspected - usual talks -
 heard minor complaints - discussion with
 village trade store owners re their activities
 1150 By canoe to SILENGE
 1230 Arrived SILENGE
 1400 Lined and inspected - assembled people
 and spoke re general topics - discussion over
 custody of illegitimate child - inspected site
 for proposed Council well
 O/Night SILENGE
- 1-12-67 1030 Per MV "Aria" to Bali - arrived 1330
END OF PATROL

COMMENTS AND OBSERVATIONS

RECEPTION OF PATROL

Villagers at all times received the patrol well. Gifts of food were rare but otherwise friendliness was the order of the day.

VILLAGES

Housing in the GAROVE-MUNDUA area is adequate and of a reasonable standard. The Sago leaf roof and wall with a limbum floor, built some three to four feet off the ground is the standard design in this area. Village sites are invariably in areas where supplies of fresh water are scarce. Concrete and galvanised iron tanks are a rather common site in villages. The Public Health Department has constructed the concrete tanks and catchment areas for these have been provided by the people themselves. These invariable consist of a few sheets of galvanised iron tied in position above the tanks. On MUNDUA Island especially there is a critical shortage of fresh water. The Council has appreciated the position and has five water supply projects for MUNDUA on its Works Programme. Village cleanliness also leave a lot to be desired in this area. Pigs and dogs have the run of most villages and excrete from these animals litters each and every village. Latrines and rubbish disposal holes were noted to be adequate.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

All Lulusais and Tultuls in the Council area have now received their certificates to commemorate their retirement upon the establishment of the Bali Witu Local Government Council. Councillors in this area are young and energetic. As is to be expected after only four

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months of Local Government, the Councillors still have a lot to learn about their various roles. It is gratifying, however, that they are all eager to learn and to be instructed, indeed, quite some time was spent in the villages in teaching these men something of their new work.

OUTLINE OF POLITICAL SITUATION

The present political situation could be described as favourable. The movement on UNEA which opposes Local Government has not extended to this area. Indeed, the people on GAROVE and MUNDUA regard the anti-Council Bali people as something of a joke. The Council tax Collectors were afforded a good reception when they were in the area during September and October, and during the patrol the people were at all times eager and interested to hear about Council activities. In some villages it was obvious that the people had given the current Council Works Programme some critical consideration, and this is a pleasing sign. Concern was, however, expressed by some people and by the Councillors themselves with regard to the present bi-monthly Council meeting arrangement. It is the Writer's opinion that at this early stage in the Council's existence, a monthly meeting is absolutely essential. This would help to promote some sense of unity among the Councillors and it would certainly help in making Councillors more familiar with their roles and general Council procedures. The people themselves also think along these lines. They feel that the time gap between meetings is far too long and they would much prefer a regular monthly meeting. It was suggested to the Councillors that they each bring with them to Council meetings one observer from among the people of their respective Wards. Of course this will depend entirely upon the passenger position on the MV "Ara" when she comes to Witu to take the Councillors over to Bali for the meetings. However, if each Councillor could bring a different observer with him to each meeting, this would enable more and more GAROVE and MUNDUA people to appreciate the wider aspects of Local Government. No doubt in years to come there will be some arrangement whereby Council meetings alternate between the two Islands.

With regard to the coming House of Assembly Elections the attitude is one of sedate interest. It would appear that no elected Member has been near these people since the 1964 Elections. This factor in itself has done little to encourage and whip up interest for the 1968 Elections. Mr. Greg. (AKAI) Seeto from Talasea spoke to the last Council meeting about his intentions to stand for election and Mr. Lucas Waka has had pamphlets circulated which announce his intention to stand, but apart from being aware that these two men wish to be elected, the GAROVE and MUNDUA people appear to be unconcerned about the coming event.

Towards the Administration itself, there appears to be no particular trend in thought or attitude. The Catholic Mission at BALANGORI continues to be a source of much influence and respect.

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AGRICULTURE

Although the patrol was not presented with much in the way of fresh fruit and vegetables, there would appear to be no food shortage in the GAROVE-MUNDUA area. Introduced crops have become part and parcel of the general subsistence pattern.

From the cash crop point of view, the sale of copra is the sum total. Around most villages coconut groves are numerous and many new plantings were observed around some. One of the main sources of copra is from the groves which were planted prior to the Second World War, or, that is to say, those planted under "supervision" from Administration staff. The people market their copra through three channels: (i) by selling to the Catholic Mission Father at BALANGORI, (ii) by selling to the Manager of LANGU Pltn. or (iii) by selling direct to the Copra Marketing Board in Rabaul. Various individuals have their own C.M.B. "number". The sale of copra to the Catholic Mission and to LANGU Pltn. is on an individual basis, but from information gathered about the C.M.B. sales, it would seem that the most popular method is for the individual "number" holder to purchase copra from fellow villagers and then sell this to the Board.

One individual from KURUJ village, TOROA/RAVE, approached the patrol asking for a loan from the Council to assist him in his copra growing enterprise. Of course this is purely a matter for the Council and it is expected that this will be brought before the Council at its next meeting.

Another similar request came from one PIUS/MAKELI of WITU village who enquired as to the possibility of securing a loan from the Papua and New Guinea Development Bank. In vague terms, he mentioned the figure \$100, alleging that this sum would be sufficient to get his copra enterprise "off the ground". The writer was not in a position to inform PIUS fully about the Development Banks activities, however, the relevant information will be secured and PIUS informed in due course.

LIVESTOCK

The Catholic Mission at BALANGORI runs a few head of cattle. LANGU Pltn. have a few head of goats. Village pigs and dogs and other domestic animals are in abundance and the pigs figure extensively in the local cash economy - pig sales between GAROVE and MUNDUA are quite common.

COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY

Trade stores, a total of twenty-four on the two Islands, are it is felt, far too numerous. Stores were inspected during the patrol and Trading Licences renewed. It is not uncommon to find three stores in a village with only 150 people. 50%, and probably more, of the stores in the area were completely out of stock, and the remaining stores stocked with only the bare minimum of trade goods. In some villages considerable sums have been spent on the construction of elaborate stores and such expense is undoubtedly going to waste while stores lie idle.

It is intended to suggest to the Council that it contact

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the Business Advisory Officer in Rabaul in an attempt to have him or his representative pay a short visit to the Council area and perhaps stage a simple course designed to educate trade store operators and other small businessmen in the organisation of their businesses. Far too many trade stores are running at a loss merely because the operators are ignorant of the procedures which ensure profit.

One group of people from LAMBE asked the patrol if a loan from the Papua and New Guinea Development Bank could be secured to assist the group which has a trade store and a C.M.B. "number". A number of pamphlets about this type of loan have circulated throughout the island and many people are now aware of the existence of this type of loan. Again the Writer was unable to advise the people about how they should obtain such a loan, but the people will be told more about the loan in due course.

LAND

The people on GAROVE Is. indicated some concern about the amount of undeveloped alienated land on their Island. Burns Philp Ltd. has large areas of land on GAROVE Is. which are covered with virgin forest. It seems a great pity that something cannot be done about these large tracts of land and the people are of the opinion that Burns Philp should either develop this land (at least give notice of their intention to do so), or otherwise return the land to the Administration and thence to the people themselves. It would appear to be the land which, by nature of its terrain, is the hardest to develop, which has been left. However, a very large portion of this land is relatively flat and would be reasonably easy for the people to develop. The matter of re-settlement on New Britain was mentioned on numerous occasions. The response, however, was as follows: "Why should we move onto another island when there are still acres and acres of undeveloped land on our own island". This answer would appear to be one worthy of serious consideration. The Councillors from GAROVE intend discussing this matter at the next Council meeting.

Further concern over land known as "UVI" which is located within the boundaries of ILIA Pltn. was noted at POTPOT village. This matter has been taken up separately (refer my 35-1-1 of 2nd December, 1967 to the Assistant District Commissioner, Talasea).

COMPLAINTS

Numerous minor complaints were settled amicably during the patrol.

COURTS

Seven (7) Local Court Cases were heard: three under Sect. 84(2) NAR; two under Sect. 118 NAR; one under Sect. 50(a) Police Offences Ordinance; and one under Sect. 44(i) Police Offences Ordinance. All records of these cases have been forwarded to Talasea.

REST HOUSES

Rest houses are to be found in all villages. Their conditions vary considerably but they are adequate.

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CARRIERS AND CANOES

Both are easily obtainable and the pay rate of 10c per hour is acceptable.

HEALTH

The general standard of health in the area patrolled is good. Sores are very few but skin diseases are numerous (especially "grille"). As has no doubt been mentioned in other Patrol Reports, elephantiasis is common on MUNDUA Island. The Rural Health Centre at WITU seems to be operating smoothly although the Hospital Orderly in charge, Mr. Gordon Kuru complains that people often leave the hospital of their own accord before he feels that they are ready to be discharged. Mr. Kuru has completed one patrol of the whole GAROVE-MUNDUA area since he has been at the Health centre. His wife, who is an Administration nurse, also visits villages regularly doing Infant Welfare work. Mr. Kuru informed the patrol after it had left the Centre that the Health Centre buildings are not yet complete. Apparently the P.H.D. artisan who constructed the buildings had to leave WITU in haste and failed to complete the job. It is recommended that the Regional Medical Officer be made aware of this matter. As the patrol was informed of this after it had left the scene, it was not possible to ascertain just what work remains to be done.

Administration Aid Posts are located at LAMBE and KARAMATA (or RANGU). Mr. Kuru is rather critical of the work being done by the Aid Post Orderly at LAMBE and he has had to withdraw the Orderly from the RANGU Aid Post because of lack of co-operation by the people there. It is intended that the RANGU APO go back to his Aid Post in the near future, now that a house has been built for him and gardens planted. The people on MUNDUA were advised to give their APO their full co-operation.

EDUCATION

The Catholic Mission has three Primary 'T' Schools on GAROVE: St. Michael's (at the Mission Station), BALANGORI 2 and LAMBE. There is another at GORU on MUNDUA. The Seventh Day Adventists have closed down their school at KURAVU, but it is alleged that they have plans to re-open this school in the near future. There is no Administration school in this area.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

One of the objects of the patrol was to review the vehicular road position on GAROVE. The present situation is this: a vehicular road, all weather and suitable for tractors from LAMA village at the SE corner of the Island, around the coast through LAMA Pltn., N'DOLLI, METO Pltn., ILIA Pltn., to LAMBE village - a distance of approximately seven miles; and another such road from the LANGU Pltn. Station at the SW corner of the Island for about two miles in a northerly direction along the coast. It is possible to travel by motor bike from LAMA village around the entire coastal fringe to the Catholic Mission on John Albert Harbour - the BALANGORI anchorage. With regard to opening up the section between LANGU Pltn. and LAMBE, the majority of the work has been done and further large scale earth moving and blasting is only required in two places. The allocation of \$500 will cover this - a separate submission re the

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manner of expenditure is presently being complied. That section of road between LANGU Pltn. and BALANGORI anchorage will require some considerable attention but the intention at this stage is to open the LANGU-LAMBE section and thereby provide road access to the Rural Health Centre for the people of the Nth. and NE coast of the Island.

The various walking tracks on both Islands are in good order.

MISSIONS

The WITU Catholic Mission Station at BALANGORI has been in operation since 1951. It is presently staffed by Father J. Linnenbaum. The Mission has considerable influence, both spiritual and economic. The Mission launch, "REGINA" is a common sight plying between villages purchasing copra. Father Linnenbaum is very interested in the activities of the Local Government Council and he is particularly keen to see the road network on the Island spread as widely as possible.

AIRFIELDS

Two airstrip sites were examined during the patrol. One site which borders LANGU Pltn. is located on land belonging to the WITU village people. This site lies SE-NW and is approximately 3500 ft. in length. Of this 3500 ft., approximately 2500 ft. is on relatively flat land while the remaining 1000 ft. is on slightly broken land. Two factors which support the possible establishment of a 'strip on this site are the proximity of (i) the Rural Health Centre and (ii) the LANGU Pltn. Radio Telephone. The landowners were approached about the possibility of selling land for the construction of the 'strip and they were rather keen on the possibility. They said, however, that if the land was to be used as an airstrip, they would like by way of compensation, an area of land from the undeveloped Burns Philp section equal in acreage to the strip and its surrounds.

The second site is an area of land near LAMA Pltn. and belonging to the LAMA village people. This site also lies SE-NW and although no actual measurement was taken, an estimate of its length is 2600 ft., possibly a little more. This land is also relatively flat land, large stones being the major obstacle.

A third site - partly on LAMA Pltn. and partly on LAMA village land - was inspected during late September. This is also a fairly flat piece of land, 2600 ft in length, but it is presently covered with both LAMA Pltn. and LAMA village coconut palms. The LAMA village landowners are reported to be unwilling to sell and presumably Burns Philp would be very loath to give up planted land.

The need for an airstrip on GAROVE Island is a real one. The GAROVE Councillors appreciate this need and ~~think~~ it is expected that the matter will be discussed and acted upon at the next Council meeting.

LABOUR

Of the five Plantations in the GAROVE-MUNDUA area, contract labour is preferred and in fact, LANGU Pltn. is the only Plantation where casual labourers are sought from among the local villagers.

Managers of the Burns Philp Plantations complained that some of their contract labourers arrive at the various Plantations with Agreement forms which grossly misquote the ages of the labourers. Some Agreement forms allege that the respective labourer is fit for Plantation work whereas in actual fact, it is quite obvious that the man is not fit for such work. Consequently, some contract labourers at work in the area are aged and decrepit individuals who should never have been persuaded to leave their villages. Plantation Managers also happened to mention that it was some time since a Labour Inspector had visited the area. Perhaps the Labour Department could be reminded of this matter.

CENSUS

The census was not revised during this patrol.

It was noted that all Village Books are in a delapidated condition. If it is intended to maintain the Village Book "system", it is recommended that new books be issued to replace the old. Not only are the old books in a state of disrepair, but there is very little space left for remarks by patrolling Officers.

The Writer was particularly interested to find two of the original Village Books in the GAROVE-MUNDUA area. Both Books were issued by the then Assistant District Officer, Mr. H. Niall, in 1936, and both Books contain the records of a census revision by a Japanese Officer, in August, 1943. One of the two Books, the BALANGORI 2 Book, is presently being held at Bali Base Camp. Mention of these Books is made in case the census of a Japanese Officer, plus the comments of such figures as Mr. Horrie Niall, Mr. J.K. McCarthy, Mr. Mark Pitt, Mr. Malcolm Wright and Mr. Jock McLeod are valued by some member of the Departmental Headquarters Staff.

MATSUDA,

S. Gibson
 (S. Gibson)
 Patrol Officer