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OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: EAST SEPIK

STATION: AMBUNTI

VOLUME No: 3

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1956 - 1957

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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[1955/56]

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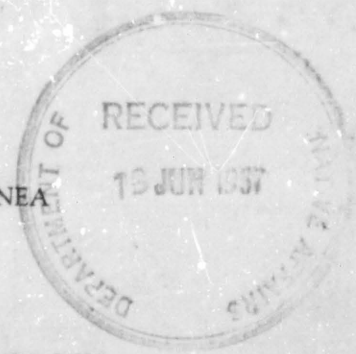
PATROL REPORTS EAST SEPIK DISTRICT 1956-57

AMBUNTI

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Conducted by</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
1-56-57	D.E. Faithful	Burui-Kunai area
7-56-57	M. Brightwell	Sepik Villages between Ambunti & May River
2-56-57 <i>devised by</i>	A.L. Rowood	May River Area
3-56-57	M.W. Brightwell	Upper Sepik



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



PATROL REPORT

District of AUBURN Sub-District Report No. Aug 1 of 1956/57

Patrol Conducted by DENYS E. FAIRHEAD PATROL OFFICER

Area Patrolled BORVI / KUNAI CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives Three

Duration—From 22/9/1956 to 2/9/1956 and 10.12.56 to 22.12.56

Number of Days 30 Days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services January 1956

Medical / 1955

Map Reference NIL

Objects of Patrol Re. check of Census, Investigation Land Applications and General Administration.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND 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 £.....

Village Po

Year.....1956.....

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	Births		DEATHS														Females in Child
				0-1 Month		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13				
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
GAIKOROB	15.12.56	16	14			4	2	2			2	1		8	4	2		
NONEOSOP	15.12.56	5	10				1						1	1	3			
WOMBUNGEI	14.12.56	7	8				1	1	1						4			
KABUNGA	14.12.56	8	9	1	2		1	1		1				1				
WANIKO	16.12.56	5	2				1			1	1			2	1			
WORIUMBI	16.12.56	9	11				1			1				3	7			
KAIMBIAM	16.12.56	8	4			1								2	3			
JARUM	14.12.56	1	4				1							2				
YAKIAP	13.12.56	2	5					1						3	3			
MIAUMBEI	13.12.56	2	2												2			
SIREI No 1	13.12.56	9	6				1				1			4				
" No 2	13.12.56	1	2															
AURIUMBI	12.12.56	13	7	1	1	2	1			2	2			4	5			
KOSIUMBI	12.12.56	7	8			1		1	1	1		1		4	2			
NAGOTIMBI	12.12.56	4	3				1							1	1			
NAMANGOA	17.12.56	5	14	1				1						3		2		
TOLEUMBI	17.12.56	11	7		2	2	1	1	2						2	1		
VIGINIMBU	17.12.56	4	6	1					1					3	2			
YINDEGEI	17.12.56	2	1							1		1		2	1			
NAMBAGOA	17.12.56	2	4				2							1	3			
YANGET	18.12.56	2	7				1		2									
RAGIPUT	18.12.56	4	5					1										
WEREMAN	18.12.56	5	6			1			1					1	1			
KWIUMBA	11.12.56	3	4			3				1				2	1			
KAMPURU	11.12.56	3	2						1						1			
BENSIN	11.12.56	3	2							1				2	1			
TAWA	1.9.56	9	7	1	1	4	2			1				1				
BURU	27.8.56	4	3			2	1							2	1			
WAWI	27.8.56	2	2	1					1		2		1	2	2			
MOT	4.9.56	1	4															
MUNYUGU	3.9.56	3	2		1	1			3	1				1	1			
BANGWI	2.9.56	2	4	1		1	1							1				
YAWINI	1.9.56	2	1	1										1	1			
SENGO	25.8.56	2	4	1		1	1		3					4	1			
Totals		166	50	9	7	23	20	9	16	11	8	3	2	61	54	5		

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

30-I/23.

Sub-district Office,
AMBUNTI.

23rd January, 1958.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

Report No. PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI No. I-56/57.

REFERENCE: The Director's memo. N.A. 30-II-75 of 20th June, 1957;
your memo. WEW. PR. A.M.B. I-56/57/80 of 11th January, 1958 and Ambunti memo. 30-I of 19th March, 1957.

Before proceeding I would like to remind you that the latter part of 1956 and early '57 was a very busy period in the Ambunti Sub-district. In fact, so hard pressed was the small staff of this Sub-district that Mr. T. Hammersley, Education Officer, Pagwi gratefully offered to lend a hand during the school vacation to accompany work-boats carrying stores to, and bringing prisoners and witnesses from May River.

It was at this time that Mr. Denys E. Faithful P.O. sat down to write his Patrol Report above quoted. A time when action rather than writing was called for; a time hardly conducive to writing. And so it is that because of so many other pressing administrative needs Mr. Faithful had to content himself with hard cold facts alone without explanation or elaboration.

Do not, however, get the idea that Mr. Faithful's patrol was given over to observation alone. Although he doesn't have much to say on what he himself did on this patrol the effects of his council, advice, and instructions are most marked today - a year later.

Now I shall approach the Director's memo. point by point.

(a) "What effort is being made to encourage the people to occupy better village sites?"

Firstly I would like to refer you to the section dealing with this point in Mr. Brightwell's covering memo. to Patrol Report No. I-56/57.

"To be effective experience has shown that a large amount of direct supervision is necessary and the present staff position will not permit this".

I agree with Mr. Brightwell's remarks. In my memo. I-2/I68 of 7th November, 1957 I pointed out that if we are to effectively administer this area Burui Patrol Post must be opened. But as you have pointed out in your memo. WEW.I-2-4-I/II63 of 19th November, 1957 the staff position rules out any such move.

The Burui area demands more attention and direct supervision, and as I feel that the time has now come when we must cut our losses I am placing the area under the supervision of Mr. J.F. Tierney C.P.O..

Although little encouragement has been given to these people to improve their housing and village sites over the past twelve months, they themselves have taken notice of

Mr. Faithful's advice and instructions and have made efforts to improve their villages and houses. Generally the position may now be said to be quite fair.

(b) The second paragraph is quite clear and doesn't warrant comment.

(c) With regard to development within their own area the people have taken the initiative. (Ref. Patrol Report No. I-57/58).

We cannot expect miracles overnight, but I believe that by June, '58 we will have broken down the glamour of trade stores while retaining those now operating for their prestige value, and have restrained the enthusiasm of the people and redirected it into cash-crop farming.

(d) Although Mr. Faithful doesn't mention it in his report I know that he went to considerable trouble selecting new village sites, marking the positions of proposed houses, and bringing people from the Burui Kunai area to view the Administration Servants houses at Ambunti.

(e) It is agreed that pigs keep villages free of offal, but as is quite often the case when a question is raised there are points for and against, and a satisfactory solution can only be considered in the light of existing conditions. The aspect we must now consider is whether it will be practical to let pigs roam freely while engaging in cash-crop farming.

(f) The problem of leadership has been overcome for us in the person of KAVAN (see Native Affairs - Patrol Report No. I-57/58). It is our intention to use KAVAN as much as possible to provide the economically poor Burui Kunai area with an economic potential based on cash-cropping.

It is hoped that these comments provide sufficient answers for the Director's queries, and give sufficient indication of our future intentions with regard to this area.



[Signature]
D.P. O'Sullivan a/A.D.C.
AMBUNTI.

Director of Native Affairs

Port Moresby

Your NA 30/11/55 of 26-2 September refers.

[Signature]

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA .

Sub-district Office ,
Ambunti .

26th June , 1957 .

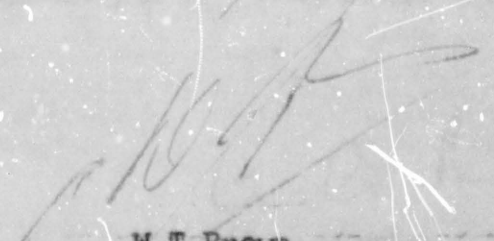
21-2-3 / 61 .

The District Officer ,
District Headquarters ,
WEWA K .

6477 - ex Constable NOTI .

I refer to your memorandum P/R.AMP.1-56/57./706
of 13th June , 1957 .

NOTI was not re-engaged upon the completion
of his period of engagement and is no longer a member
of the force .


W.T. Brown.
a/Assistant District Officer .

26th September, 1957.

PATROL REPORT ANGIUNTI NO. 1-56/52

P. C. R.

(A. A. Roberts)
Director.

NA.30-11-75

20th June, 1957.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WEIAK.

Patrol Report AMBUNTI No.1 - 56/57

What effort is being made to encourage the people to occupy better village sites--they apparently have plenty of land more favourably situated on which to erect new villages.

The people of the Ambunti area have not been intensively "missionised" over the years and their attitude towards sorcery is understandable.

In paragraph (f) there is mention of migrations to "land of promise": this may be overcome by some positive action in development within their own area. Has nothing in this direction been done?

What action was taken by the officer in assisting the people to select new sites for their villages and demonstrating to them new methods of construction for housing?

Why should the pigs be yarded off from the main village area--they are excellent scavengers and ensure the village will be free from food leavings.

The penultimate paragraph indicates a real want of leadership by the people in economic development. Please advise me what you propose to do in the immediate future to satisfy this want.

The patrol appears to have been satisfactorily performed. Will you please advise me why a delay of six months in the completion and receipt at this Headquarters of the patrol report has occurred?

B/F 22/7/57
2/6

A.A.R.
Y.C. (A.A. Roberts)
Director.

29/11/75 ✓

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

P/R.AMB.1-56/57./706.

Department of Native Affairs,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

13th June, 1957.

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

AMBUNTI Patrol Report No.1/56-57.

A report of a routine patrol carried out in
Mr. Faithful's usual most efficient manner.

2. Please let me have your views on the desirability
of recommending AG. 6477 MOTI's dismissal from the service.
Your work is too important to be hampered by 'lazy and
completely uninterested' policemen.

J.R. White
(J.R. WHITE)
District Officer.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded please.
The advice on AC. Moti will go forward under
separate cover.

J.R. White
(J.R. WHITE)
District Officer.



Territory of Papua and New Guinea.

AMBUNTI PATROL REPORT No 1 of 1956/57.

AMBUNTI.

To BURUI - KUNAI area.

OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL: Denys E. Faithful, P/O.

OBJECTS OF PATROL: Census and Routine Administration in BURUI/KUNAI area. Attention land matters.

DURATION: 30 days. 22.8.56/7.9.56 and 10.12.56/27.12.56.

PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING:

Reg. No.	9295	Cons.	SAMOK.
" "	6477	"	MOTI.
" "	9508	"	SLIBIN.

LAST PATROL. January 1956.

INTRODUCTION.

The Patrol was made to complete the Census of the BURUI/KUNAI area, to investigate and make traverses of various land applications, and to carry out routine Administration. The Patrol entered the MAPRIK Sub-District to arrest an alleged sorcerer.

DIARY.

1956.

Wednesday 22nd August. Departed AMBUNTI at 0645 in M.L. "MALA" for PAGWI. Accompanied by Mr. M. Chisholm, District Mechanic. Arrived PAGWI 1015. Visited Mr. Hammersly, Dept. of Education at PAGWI. By Jeep to BURUI. Made camp in Government Rest House. Mr. Chisholm by Canoe a/c to WENAK. Visited Rev. Father Siegel at Catholic Mission.

Thursday 23rd. At BURUI. C.N.A. convened. Various disputes heard. Banking. Payment of Airstrip Maintenance funds. All local Officials interviewed.

Friday 24th. At BURUI. Court work. Various disputes heard. Banking. Airstrip maintenance organised.

Saturday 25th. Departed BURUI at 1000 for SENGU Village. Arrived at 1130. Natives assembled. Census checked. Natives spoken to. Many Disputes heard and settled. Banking. Remained overnight.

Sunday 26th. By track and canoe to inspect two older SENGU settlement and return. Departed for BURUI at 1145. Remained overnight.

Monday 27th. Departed at 0730 for MAIWI Village. Villagers assembled. Census checked. People spoken to. Departed for BURUI at 1100. 1230 departed for BURUI Village. Villagers assembled. Census checked. People addressed. C.N.A. convened. Various matters brought up for settlement. Inspected roadwork. Returned Rest House at 1800. Fell off motorcycle. Injured shoulder.

Tuesday 28th. At BURUI. Indisposed. Some complaints heard. Visited by A.D.O. Kaad, MAPRIK and Mr. Bartlett, WENAK.

Wednesday 29th. Indisposed. Visited by Rev. Father Siegel.

Thursday 30th. Indisposed. Visited by Messers Hammersly, Education Dept, PAGWI, and BAKENI and Madsen, en route Angoram to Ambunti.

Patrol Report, AMBUNTI No I of 56/57.

Friday 31st. Patrol depd BURUI at 1130 hours for JAMA Village. Arrived 1330. Disputes heard and settled. Remained overnight.

Saturday 1st September. Villagers assembled. Census checked. People spoken to. Patrol Departed 1430 for YAMINI. Arrived 1515. People assembled, Census checked. People spoken to. Patrol departed 1545. Arrived BANGWIGI at 1645. Made camp in Rest House.

Sunday 2nd. At BANGWIGI. Villagers assembled. Census checked. People addressed. Some disputes brought forward. Patrol departed for MAINGUGU at 1415. Arrived 1455. Made camp in Rest House. Village inspected.

Monday 3rd. At MAINGUGU. Villagers assembled Census checked. People addressed. Woman to Hospital AMBUNTI. Two arrests made. Remained overnight.

Tuesday 4th. Departed MAINGUGU at 0830. Arrived MOI 1015. Village inspected. People assembled. Census checked. People spoken to. I.M. of 33 who left village during Jap occupation. Three persons to Hospital at AMBUNTI. 5 others to Aid Post BURUI. Many disputes heard and settled. Remained overnight.

Wednesday 5th. Departed ~~KAKKERE~~ MOI at 0755 for KWARANGAI in MAPRIK S/D. Arrived 1225. People assembled census checked. Names of MOI I.M.s removed from Village Book. C.N.A. convened to hear Sorcery charge against male villager YAMANDU. Convicted and sentenced. Land dispute brought up. Remained overnight.

Thursday 6th. Departed KWARANGAI at 0800 for Dept Agriculture Station at YAMBI on the MAPRIK/MARUI motor road. Arrived 1245. Patrol taken by truck to BURUI.

Friday 7th. By Jeep with Mr T. Hammersly of Education Dept. from BURUI to MAPRIK. Medically examined. Order to European Hospital, Wewak. Returned BURUI.

Saturday 8th. By Jeep to MAPRIK. By air to WENAK.

Native Patrol personnel returned to AMBUNTI. The Patrol was not able to be resumed until December 1956.

Monday 10th December. Departed AMBUNTI in M.L. "ONYX" at 0910 bound PAGWI. Accompanied by Mr. T. Hammersly, Education Dept., PAGWI. Arrived PAGWI 1130. Ashore en-route at YENTCHANGAI, LABUNGAI, JAPANDAI. "ONYX" returned AMBUNTI. Self to BURUI. Made camp in Rest House. Visited Rev. Father SIEGHE.

Tuesday 11th December. Patrol departed BURUI at 0800 Arrived BENSIN 0930. Natives assembled Census checked. People spoken to. Departed for KAMPUPU Village 1030. Arrived 1230. People assembled. Census checked. Departed 1430 for KWIMBA. Arrived 1530. People assembled, Census checked, villagers spoken to. Disputes heard. Made camp in Rest House remained overnight.

Wednesday 12th. Departed KWIMBA at 0730. Arrived NOGATIMBIT at 0930. Villagers assembled, Census checked. People addressed. Departed at 1200 for KOSIMBI. Arrived 1415. Villagers assembled. Census checked. People spoken to. Some complaints. Departed at 1630 for AURIMBIT. Arrived 1715. Villagers assembled. Census checked. People addressed. Remained overnight.

Thursday 13th. Departed AURIMBIT at 0930. Arrived SILEI No 2. Villagers of SILEI 1 and 2 assembled here. Census checked. People addressed. Departed at 1230 for MIAMBE. Arrived at 1400. People assembled. Census checked. People spoken to. Departed at 1515 for YAGIAP. Arrived at 1545. People assembled Census checked. Overrecruited. People spoken to. Departed at 1645 for SARUM. Arrived 1745. Remained overnight.

Patrol Report, AMBUNTI No I of 56/57.

Friday 14th

At SARUM. Villagers assembled. Census checked. Village overrecruited. People addressed. Departed at 0930 for KOBUNGAI. Arrived 1130. People assembled. census checked. People addressed. Departed at 1330 for WOMBUNGAI. Arrived 1430. People assembled, Census checked. People addressed. Disputes heard. C.N.A. convened. 7 males convicted for neglecting to obey orders. Remained overnight.

Saturday 15th.

Departed WOMBUNGAI 0700 for NONGOSAP. Arrived 0800. Natives assembled. Census checked. Villagers spoken to. Departed at 1100 for GAIKEROHI. Arrived 1145. People assembled. Census checked. Villagers addressed. Village overrecruited. Departed at 1645 hours for WOMBUNGAI. Arrived 1815. Remained overnight.

Sunday 16th.

Departed at 0730 for YAMOK. Arrived 0900. Villagers of the three hamlets assembled at WORIMBI. Census checked people spoken to. Disputes heard. Banking done. Deptd. for SILEI at 1610. Stopped MIAMBE on C.N.A. matter. Arrived SILEI 1845. Remained overnight.

Monday 17th.

Departed SILEI at 0715. Arrived NUMANGOA 0745. Villagers assembled. Census checked. People addressed. Deptd. at 0950. Arrived TOLEMBI 1100. Villagers of TOLEMBI 1, 2, and 3 assembled at TOLEMBI 3. Census checked. People addressed. Deptd at 1630. Arrived NUMBAGUA 1730. Villagers assembled. Census checked. Dept at 1830 arrived YANGET at 1915. Made camp in R. St. House.

Tuesday 18th.

At YANGET. Villagers assembled. Census checked. Census of RACIPUT Villagers checked at YANGET. All spoken to. Complaints heard. Departed at 1000 for WEREMAN. Arrived 1045. Villagers assembled. Census checked. Departed at 1330 hours for BURUI. Arrived BURUI at 1630. Made camp in rest house.

Wednesday 19th.

At BURUI in A.M. C.N.A. convened. Departed at 1100 for PAGWI. Arrived 1215. Mr Hamersly absent. Made camp in his house. Visited by Rev Father Kaylis of TOLEMBI en route to AMBUNTI. Disputes heard. Departed in Education Dept. Motor canoe for NIAURANGAI. Five men arrested for Riotous Behaviour. Returned to PAGWI. Remained overnight.

Thursday 20th.

Traverse of Chuleongs T.A.L. completed and Natives interviewed re same. By Motor canoe to YAMANAMBU. Investigation carried out into Mission Lease Application for Assemblies of God Mission. Traverse for same complete. Returned to PAGWI. Work begun on traverse of Education Department lease at PAGWI. Motor canoe arrived ex AMBUNTI. Returned AMBUNTI with prisoners, patients and Village Officials. C.N.A. convened. Remained overnight.

Friday 21st.

At PAGWI. Work continued on traverse of Education Dept. Lease. First Section completed. Deptd in Ed. Dept. motor canoe at 1530 for AMBUNTI. Met Mr. T. Hamersly at JAPENDAI en route AMBUNTI-PAGWI. Arrived YENCHANGAI at 1910 hours. Made camp in rest house. Some disputes brought forward. Remained overnight.

Saturday 22nd.

Departed YENCHANGAI at 0730 for AMBUNTI. Arrived AMBUNTI 1015 hours.

End of Diary.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The Native situation in the area patrolled was apparently normal. Since the time of the last Patrol to the area there had been no major incidents or disturbances. Neither had any worthwhile moves been made by these people toward self improvement.

Native Affairs (Cont.)

- a. For an area which has been in reasonable contact with Mission and Administration influence - more of the former than the latter - these people are too backward. Although they have acres of land providing many sites suited to the layout of orderly and healthy villages they still cling to the jumbled, usually crowded and insanitary traditional sites. In most cases these are hidden away on some small knob sticking up in the middle of mosquito infested, stagnant sago swamps. These usually inaccessible sites were apparently chosen by the villagers forebears to eliminate the chance of surprise attack. Nowadays the only reason for the continued use of these sites is the reluctance of the villagers themselves to tackle the job of planning and building a neatly laid out and properly drained village of decent houses.
- b. Existing village sites are, as a consequence of the above, highly mosquito infested, difficult to keep clean because of their ungainly layout and therefore flyridden and generally overgrown with grass. Housing is more often than not of a very low standard, dark and unventilated and with too many persons occupying one house.
- c. Another reason for the poor state of many of the villages is found in the fact that many of them are recruited to their maximum and some to far beyond a third of the total male population. The Village of GAIKOROB, total population 454 has an adult male Labour Potential of 90. Of this 90 there are 66 absent at work. The village of SARUM with an adult Labour Potential of 25. Of this 11 are absent at work. The village of ~~Tiksumu~~ JAMA has 7 labourers absent out of a total male labour Potential of 15.
- d. This area is the most highly missionised in the Ambunti Sub District and ~~strangely~~ enough it is the area where respect for and fear of 'Poison' and 'Sanguma' is greatest. There had been Whooping Cough and Dysentery epidemics through the area in the two years since last census and in all cases when causes of deaths were asked for during this census the answer was "Just poison". Because of the poor living conditions of these people their health standard is below average and their child mortality quite high. Almost all illness and death is attributed by villagers to 'poison' and there are several persons who make a business of claiming illnesses, recovery and in some cases, deaths, as being brought about by his 'powers'.
- e. Considerable time and labour has been spent during the last two years by people of this area in cutting roads. Most that I saw ended in bush or kunai and appeared to have ~~no~~ had no work done on them for months. The portions which were finished were untended and overgrown again. Some of the roads were begun to link one village with another, some to join up with a road said to be coming down from YANGORU. Grading and cambering of what work had been done was none existent.
- f. There is a tendency in the extreme north of the BURUL/KUNAI census division for the people to regard MAPRIK and or YANGORU as their administrative centres. This leads to a certain amount of friction between villagers and village Officials of the two Sub Districts along the boundary. Villagers tiring of the demands of their Village Officials, or after argument with fellow villagers, or disliking road building, or wishing to take part in some economic development scheme, simply remove themselves and belongings over the border to the place of promise, away from the demands of their own Village Officials, or away from hostile relatives. They sometimes move into an area to which they are vaguely connected by marriage. Usually this leads later to argument as to land rights, and from what I saw it was not long before these migrants were desiring to return to their former and proper place of residence. As many of these people left the village against the wish of the Village Officials or after argument with former villagers there is then considerable reluctance to accept them back. Many of the disputes and complaints brought to me concerned problems arising from the above. In one instance a Tultul had removed himself from his village of BENGIN to the MAPRIK Sub District, with his badge of Office, to the place of a friendly Lulum. His reason was, at first, that he had had an argument with one of his wives. He then left her at BENGIN and removed the rest of his family to the South WASERA, to the village where his mother had been born. Finally it was found that the reason why he had moved was that he wanted to take part in a rice growing scheme in the WASERA.

The above were the main points noted during the Patrol. The following methods have been adopted and explained to all the villagers of this area as solutions to the problems arising from the above. Broadly speaking the plan involves discontinuing disjointed construction of roads, forbidding any more men from overrecruited or fully recruited villages to leave the village, and forbidding the unauthorised migration of villagers to and from the MAPRIK Sub-District. As it is considered important that these people should make a move to improve their health and hygiene as soon as possible. For this reason all village males should be put to the job of re-siting (if necessary), replanning and re-building villages. At first sight this would appear a rather extreme attitude. But the only way in which the health of the people can be improved, and with that the present extreme fear of 'poison' overcome is by cleaning up the village itself. If the male population can spend months of effort building roads which lead nowhere they can spend the same amount of ~~time~~ time, far more beneficially, on establishing once and for all, a permanent, healthy village layout which can be maintained and kept neat and clean with a minimum of effort. Once that has been achieved the villagers are completely free to make unhindered effort on the establishment of an economy.

Native Affairs. (Cont.)

With reference to (a) villagers have been told that, where necessary they must select new and suitable sites for their villages. In replanning them they have been told to ensure that the houses are built in long straight rows, looking in on a central wide clearing, and with the houses spaced at regular intervals from each other, the intervals to be no less than 20 yards from each other. Where existing village areas are suited to re-planning the people have been told to arrange the intervals between houses to take in the whole village area. A standard house design has been suggested to them consisting of a two roomed house, with a completely surrounding verandah, panggal walls for the rooms to be at least 5' high and with three large shuttered windows per room and one full length door per room. All pigs and fowls are to be yarded off the main village area and all diseased and starving dogs destroyed. These villages crawl with pigs, dogs and fowls and they probably account for the number of deaths due to dysentery which occur. With housing set at regular intervals each householder will have the same amount of grass to cut and ground to sweep as his neighbour. There is not the same fire risk to the village. In two villages seen a ~~haxxaxix~~ fire in one house had destroyed 5 and 3 neighbouring ones.

Where, as mentioned in (b) existing sites are poor it has been suggested to villagers that they find a completely new sight on which they can lay out a good open village area. There are none of the groups in the BURUI/KUNAI area who cannot find an ideal village site, close to clean water and food producing areas, within the boundaries of their own land. In some cases villages are divided into two or three widely separated hamlets of four or five houses. As these people live without any real supervision they have been told to ~~xxxx~~ join the main village settlement.

It is very hard to keep any real check on recruiting within the village. As mentioned in (c) many of these villages are fully or over-recruited. Village Officials say that young men tiring of village life do not wait to have recruiters accept them in their village but walk through to YANORU, MAPRIK and WEWAK and there sign on under assumed names and giving the name of a neighbouring village. In some cases recruiters have been in the village and accepted recruits after having been told by Officials that no more were to leave the village. In over-recruited ~~villages~~ villages, all people - men women and children - were instructed, through an interpreter, that no more men were to leave for work until the necessary number had returned. They were told that action would be taken against them under N.A.R. if Officials reported any of them as having ignored this instruction and gone off to work. Entries were made in the back of the books and Officials told to show them to any recruiters coming to the village.

Clean and healthy villages will do much to lower the sick and death rate of these people. It is doubtful if any Native will ever lose a fear of poison and sanguma but they can be shown that many of the ailments from which their village suffers are self inflicted by the conditions which they choose to live under. When these are done away with much of their so called poison and sanguma will ~~haxxaxix~~ disappear with them. As pointed out in (d) this area has the least concealed respect for poison of all areas in the Sub District. Apparently the Missions have failed to have any curing effect. It is time the people themselves were made to do some practical work towards doing away with it by cleaning themselves and their places instead of pointing lazily at some harmless old man or woman and casually remarking "He's the cause of all our troubles, put him in Gaol."

With regard to points (e) and (f) there is possibly some association of ideas behind the movement from the AMBUNTI S.D. northward and in the construction of roads. The impression gained is that most of the KUNAI people are waiting for some Rural Development Scheme, such as they have heard about or have seen in the YANORU, MAPRIK areas and the roads were built to hasten the arrival of the scheme to the KUNAI. They are extremely keen that at least one of the roads under construction should link up with the present YANORU road so that the 'YANORU Klap' can come through. Some places have already built Rice Stores, one has built a house for an Agricultural Dept. Officer about 500 yards away from a Rest House, very few persons grow anything more than the bare minimum of food required by themselves, and they all spasmodically do work on their roads which are being built very badly, for no real purpose and then becoming overgrown.

It is considered that during 1967 the plan, as outlined above to all people of this area, should be followed through. If all labour is concentrated on it, on a community effort basis and frequently supervised the various projects could be completed ~~haxxaxix~~ within the year and with a beneficial result to the area.

[Signature]
Deputy Faithful, P.O.

Territory of Papua and New Guinea.

AMBUNTI PATROL REPORT No. I of 1956/57.

Appendix "A".

R.P.N.G.C. Report of Personnel Accompanying.

Reg. No 9295, Const. SAMOK.

A good reliable and willing Constable.

Reg. No 6477, Const. MOTI.

Lazy and completely uninterested in the job.

Reg. No 9508, Const. SLIBIN.

Just left training school. As yet quite lost in fieldwork.


Denys E. Faithful,
Patrol Officer.

on Register

Area Patrolled..... BURAI - KUNAT

F	ABSENT FROM VILLAGE								LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES		Size of Family	TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL	
	AT WORK				STUDENTS				Males		Females		Pregnant	Number of Child Bearing Age		Child		Adults			
	Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission														
	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45				M	F	M	F	M + F	
2			66	5	1					35	90	38	104	7	84	3.3	79	88	80	135	454
			10							18	44	15	42	5	38	3.6	40	38	55	66	209
2			4				1			12	44	11	42	2	35	4.2	31	40	58	53	187
			7							22	37	13	47	6	31	2.7	32	39	48	59	185
			8							13	25	15	27	1	14	2.6	27	28	32	31	126
1	2	2	5	2						27	37	20	52	4	32	2.7	50	55	60	63	259
			5							20	35	22	34	5	20	3.7	37	46	41	59	168
			11				3			12	25	6	14	1	11	3.8	14	17	24	19	88
			14				3			11	27	7	22	2	16	2.6	16	22	17	28	100
	1		1				2			7	21	3	18	2	15	1.2	13	7	33	24	81
			2					1		9	30	5	28	3	16	3	22	27	36	50	127
			4							9	19	11	18	6	15	2.8	15	16	22	24	79
			17	1						17	52	14	56	5	44	2.5	53	35	63	70	239
1	1		6	1						27	38	16	38	3	27	4.1	29	29	59	52	176
8			8							8	24	6	19		12	3	17	12	28	24	89
			5							18	43	16	39	3	19	1.7	32	44	46	48	175
	1		17							27	51	18	50	6	35	2.9	71	53	52	59	253
			10	1						10	31	6	28		20	2	25	17	28	33	114
			13							11	33	10	29	4	25	1.7	23	24	32	33	125
1			1							9	16	4	17	3	13	2.5	13	19	30	22	85
6	4	1	1							10	39	11	40	6	23	1.8	30	28	39	55	158
	2	1	1							6	19	9	19	2	12	2.2	19	18	20	25	36
	2		6	1						16	45	17	57	5	35	3.4	34	36	48	67	194
			10							6	24	7	16	1	17	1.2	24	25	23	23	105
1			1							7	17	2	16	5	10	3.7	11	12	21	21	66
			10							6	12	3	15		12	3.8	6	7	17	21	54
	1		7	3			1			15	15	14	62	6	50	1.6	44	40	65	75	236
	2		4	1			3	5		6	19	8	29	3	29	2.1	9	21	25	40	107
1	1	1	5		2		1			8	16	3	19	1	16	1.8	12	10	17	22	77
			5							4	25	4	22	2	19	2.6	11	17	24	23	80
			1							9	25	5	30	4	21	3	21	20	32	37	111
1			7							3	24	2	21	2	12	1.1	14	12	20	24	80
										1	7	1	9		4	1.7	5	7	7	10	29
1	1	1	27	2	3		14	8		24	58	13	63	5	38	3	26	41	57	23	263
26	18	6	298	18	6		28	14		433	1057	348	1127	106	811		923	950	1259	1428	4945



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of.....SEPIK..... Report No.....AMBUNTI NO. 2 OF 1956/56

Patrol Conducted by.....A. L. REDWOOD, PATROL OFFICER.....

Area Patrolled.....MAY RIVER AREA.....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....-----

Natives.....R. P. & N. G. C. 12, N. M. O. 1.....

Duration—From.....29/10/1956.....to.....48/11/1957.....incl

Number of Days.....82 days.....

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

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

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

Map Reference.....ROUGH SKETCH MAP.....

Objects of Patrol.....(1) Arrest and transhipment to AMBUNTI of those responsible
for the Yellow River Massacre; (2) Initial contact and extension of influence
(3) Discovery of Airstrip Site

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
FORT MOREBY.

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 £.....

9-13	Over 13	
F	M	F

30-11-71

4th June, 1957.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 2 OF 1956/57.

The full diary kept by Mr. Patrol Officer Redwood allows the reader to appreciate the difficulties experienced by this officer and those of his party, particularly during the period when the arrests of those concerned in the murders were being effected.

It is obvious that Administration influence is spread through repatriates: without contact through repatriates the task of arresting and re-arresting the murderers would obviously have been a much longer and arduous procedure.

The escapes and recovery of prisoners on various occasions must be regarded as normal under the conditions which the Patrol was conducted. The Patrol Officer and his Police cannot be on the alert 24 hours a day - particularly considering the conditions under which they were operating.

The frank, firm approach towards the people and the situation by the Administration personnel has ensured the confidence of the people in the Government. The success of this approach is indicated by the manner in which the people have settled down after losing husbands, fathers and sons, and the cheerful greeting of the Administration launch and personnel as it passes.

The deaths of a child and woman are regrettable. Whether these deaths were brought about by the punitive action cannot be assessed.

The request for assistance from the Administration for his sick wife by one of the WANIMOI is indicative of the confidence these people have in the Government (See diary November 19th). Let us not lose this confidence through thoughtless actions.

Diary December 6th states it is not Government policy to give assistance to hungry people - this is not the case: people must not be made suffer because of the actions of their relatives.

The impression created by the arrest of the Wanimo murderess on the mountain people is of interest and, it is hoped, will be felt as far as Telefomin and beyond.

The BROMAI murders should not be forgotten, and action taken as opportunity occurs.

The notes under the heading "Yellow River Massacre" made interesting reading and indicate an intelligent approach by Patrol Officer Redwood to a problem fraught with tactical difficulties. The successful solution to the difficulties has been amply demonstrated in the results achieved.

The attitudes of the river and mountain people toward each other are of interest.

The mountain people appear to carry out raids in a manner similar to those conducted by the Highland Scouts on the Lowlanders - not so long ago.

The Notes under NATIVE AFFAIRS are invaluable. From them we can commence properly planned consolidation work in the area, with a view to connecting Telefomin with the River through the Mianmin people.

Notes on Health have been passed to the Department concerned.

The notes on the Police Detachment were read by the Commissioner of Police who expressed gratification on the manner in which the police performed their duties.

Mr. Assistant District Officer, Brightwell's preliminary investigations and contacts greatly influenced the successful conclusion of the Patrol. He should have no regrets for any action taken by him during this period of intense strain - both physical and mental.

It is hoped the health of the members of the party has been recovered.

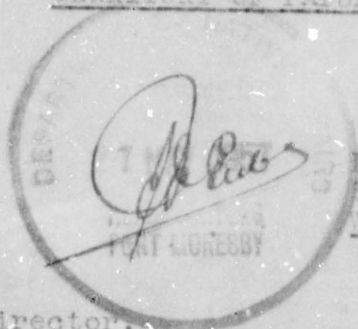
A.A.R.
Pr

(A.A. Roberts),
Director.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

27/11/71 ✓

Patrol Rep. Amb. 2/56-57/650



Department of Native Affairs,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Patrol Report - Ambunti No. 2 of 56/57.

The above report is forwarded please.

It is a story that reflects great credit on all
concerned; personnel, both European and Native, and
the Administration.

.....
(J.R. White)
District Officer

Territory of Papua and New Guinea

District Office,
WEWAK

File. AMB. 30-1/26

15th Feb

Sub-district Office,
AMBUNTI Sub-district,
Sepik District.

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI

8th April 1957

The District Officer,
Sepik District.
WEWAK

THREE MONTHS PATROL IN THE MAY RIVER AREA
AMBUNTI SUB-DISTRICT NO. 2/25-27

Patrol conducted
AMBUNTI PATROL REPORT No. 2 of 1956-57

As the above report, original and three copies, is forwarded herewith.

The report by Mr Patrol Officer REDWOOD covers the period during which he established and manned the MAY RIVER (TEIAU) Patrol Post: 1st November 1956 to 18th January 1957. This post was established as an essential step in the apprehension of the IWAM natives responsible for the massacre of 29 YELLOW RIVER natives in August 1956. As can be seen from the Diary and report this objective was achieved by the 1st December - a month after the establishment of the camp - a very good show which must be credited to Mr Redwood's energy and persistence.

It was not achieved without difficulties, misfortunes and mistakes (mostly my own). But, it was essential that in removing the men required from the village there should be no deceit and with as little disruption to the rest of the village as possible. The creation of a hatred and fear of the Administration had to be avoided. From the very outset a good firm and honest Administration/native relationship was held to be of greater value than immediate and hasty arrests. This has been applied by Mr Redwood and to some it may appear to have only made his job harder and taken longer with nothing gained; but this is not so. Under instructions (Nataff Confidential Memorandum N.A.31-1-118 of 26/10/56) more aggressive action than was considered advisable was put into effect with the result that for the first time peaceful and easy contact with the villagers concerned was lost and the Administration feared. However, because of the previous friendly but firm contact and the use which had been made of repatriated labourers this fear did not have the effect and result which it normally would have. The result was an otherwise unnecessary amount of chasing had to be done and a certain amount of unnecessary suffering inflicted. However even in this stage scrupulous avoidance of any form of deceit was maintained. This I believe has paid dividends throughout the whole IWAM and MOI groups.

On the occasions the writer has visited MAY RIVER Patrol Post since the conviction of the 40 men concerned the women of WANIMO have shown no fear and have stood on the bank and waved as the Government launch has passed by. The men have acted in the same way and have rendered whatever assistance required and have presented themselves whenever called upon. The relations between the Administration and WANIMO villagers are good, and the village appears to have adjusted itself to its new restricted manpower. A certain amount of disintegration has taken place as was expected and the traditional social adjustments seem to be operating. There should be no need for any assistance except the protection offered by the Patrol Post.

For your attention please.

M. B. Redwood

Assistant District Officer

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

District Office,
WEWAK

15th February, 1957.

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI

REPORT OF THREE MONTHS PATROL INTO THE MAY RIVER AREA
AMBUNTI SUB-DISTRICT NO. 2/56-57

Patrol conducted by; A. L. REDWOOD, Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled ; MAY RIVER AREA.

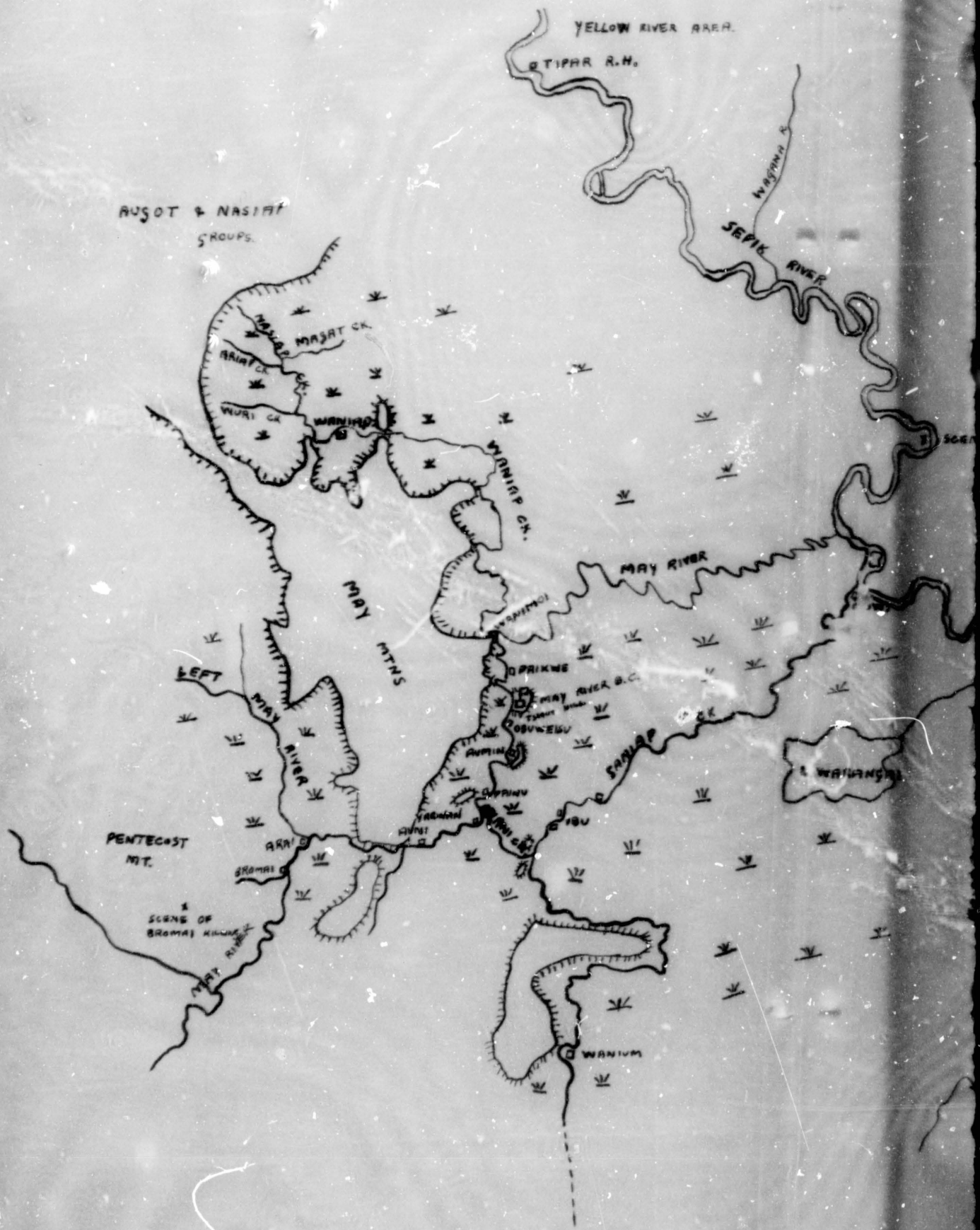
Duration of Patrol ; 29th October, 1956, to 18th January, 1957, inclusive.

Number of Days ; 82

Patrol Personnel ; Police - Original Detachment - 12
Maximum Strength - 19
End of Patrol - 15
P.H.D. - 2 Native Medical Orderlies

Objects of Patrol ; 1. Arrest and transhipment to Ambunti of those responsible for the Yellow River Massacre.
2. Initial contact with and the gradual extension of Administration influence among the tribal groups living in the area.
3. Discovery of a possible Airstrip Site.

Map reference ; Rough Sketch Map.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of.....SEPIK..... Report No.....AMBUNTI 3/56-57.....
 Patrol Conducted by.....M.W.BRIGHWELL..... Assistant District Officer.....
 Area Patrolled.....Upper Sepik.....
 Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....
 Natives.....
 Duration—From...28./...8.../19.56...to...3./...4.../19.57..
 Number of Days.....
 Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....
 Last Patrol to Area by—District Services...../...../19.....
 Medical /...../19.....
 Map Reference.....Strat Series 4 mile to inch MAY RIVER Sheet.....
 Objects of Patrol.....A series of short patrols carried out in association with.....
 the investigation of the May River massacre.....

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
 AND 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 £.....

9-13	Over 13	Females in Child
F	M	F

30-11-72

4th June, 1957.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

AMBUNTI PATROL REPORT NO. 2 - 1956/57.

The investigations and actions resulting from the information gained deserve the highest commendation. A keen appreciation of the Native mentality was displayed and this, combined with physical courage and persistence, led to the successful termination of the May River murders, ending in arrest of those involved.

Despite the change of approach brought about by directive received by the Assistant District Officer on October 31st, the ultimate success of the Patrol was due to the original approach to those first WANMOI men taken to AMBUNTI. They had done wrong; they must be punished.

The Assistant District Officer's reproval of himself for impulsive action taken on November 2nd and 3rd is unwarranted - it was possible, perhaps probable, that the wanted men would have remained in the village until such time as they were required to join the MALA to go to AMBUNTI. These men could just as easily have disappeared into the swamps during the period in which Patrol Officer Redwood was being settled.

The open manner in which the people were approached, I am convinced, was largely responsible for the successful conclusion to which this operation was brought: I could not agree more with the remarks in the penultimate paragraph.

The remarks in the final paragraph set at rest any fears we might have for the well-being of families of those responsible for the murders.

Mr. Brightwell has shown, throughout this Patrol, strength of purpose, initiative and an intimate knowledge of the Sepik River people.

A.A. R.

P.C. (A.A. Roberts),
Director.

8/A
11/6

30/11/72 v

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



Pat. Rep. Amb. 3/56-57/648

Department of Native Affairs,
Sepik District,
NEWAK.

24th May, 1957.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Patrol Report Ambunti 3/56-57

The above report (or series of reports) is
forwarded please. A modest story of an extremely
fine effort.

J. R. White
.....
(J. R. White)
District Officer.

X

MBUNTI Patrol Report No. 3/56-57

Successful days out of all hours. Passed Regular
R. C. Smith moving downstream with 48 recruits from California,
Oregon and Maine. BERTIE arrived at 1200 and where
a group of 100.

[illegible]

ing Patrols 10 P.M. M.W. BRIGGS WELLS Assistant District Officer

Unsuccessful days on MAY and YELLOW River Areas
TANZANIAN natives taking considerable interest in the

The investigation of massacre; the establishment of a Patrol Post and provide its requirements and the transshipment of those responsible for massacre to ALBUNTI.

rolls during the 58 days, during the period 28/5/66 to 3/4/57.

0640 left ENJOI as forward wind because of river fog. 0700
stopped near FINIDA River as visibility reduced to practically
nothing - started off again at 0800 for KORDA Lagoon.

The report covers a series of seven short patrols which with the massacre of 29 Yellow River natives by May River N, on the Sepik River just above the May River, in August reports have been submitted on the massacre itself and

Report No.2/56-57 by P/O Redwood deals with his activities
river and the apprehension of the culprits.

e massacre has been fully dealt with in a special report it
th here, but this report is the diary of the patrols carried
investigation and through to the returning of witnesses and
the depleted village of WANIMOI. It takes the form of
ries with only brief comments and remarks.

District trawler M.V. THETIS had departed AMBUNTI on 27/8/56
at Officer Mr AITCHISON for the MAY River area.

The main purpose of this patrol was to establish the number an identity of those massacred and establish who was responsible for the killings. The AMBUNTI workboat M.L. MALA was used and the following police accompanied the patrol: ~~EX~~Cpl. LINGUT, Constables LARI, LANI, MOTI, EMGEN, BUGUG and GEREVUE. The MALA boatscrew consisted of MANJI, KONTRAK, NYAGA and AIPAK. N.M.O. MASKI accompanied as medical orderly

DIARY

28th August

0615 left AMBUNT in M.L. MALA; 0740 YAMBON Gate; 0805 WANJIN; 0823 MELAWAI Parut; 0850 BRUGNOWI; 0910 YESSAN Bend; 1055 YESSAN River Island, around 1120; 1218 YASAPALA Lagoon; 1325 KUSIMBO canal to SWAGAP village of YAMBUNIBU; 1335 overtook M.V. THETIS; 1408 WEIDOK Lagoon; 1442 SWAGAP road; 1520 NIGABAI bifurcation; 1637 NIGABAI bifurcation; 1705 WASKUK (WOGAMUSH) canal. Stopped for night opposite canal. Uneventful days run of 11 hours. Passed Recruiter R.C. Mackie moving downstream with 43 recruits from YAUENIAN, CHENAPION and KUBKAIN. THETIS arrived at 1800 and moored astern of MALA.

29th August

Early start delayed by river fog. 0825 left Camp; 0841 bifurcation of river around outside 0855; 0920 APRIL River and met the launch JOHN K moored at Junction; 0954 WOGAMUSH River; actually old Sepik course into which WOGAMUSE flows; 1056 KUBKAIN canal; 1118 LEONARD SCHULTZ River; 1130 KAKIO canal; 1140 River Island around 1151; 1154 BUTU canal; 1158 NO'BWA canal to CHENAPION village; 1209 WAMI canal to YAUENIAN village; 1334 OUM Lagoon and REIGEI village; 1417 WAITUBWI canal and TAURI village new site; 1516 TAKAPSUI canal to old TAURI village; 1555 NEIAP canal; 1617 INIOK; camp made for night. Uneventful days run of 9 hrs 55 min. Passed over 50 YAUENIAN natives taking crocodile skins to BRUGNOWI to sell. THETIS arrived at 1805 and moored for night. Enquiries made at INIOK regarding massacre and they report that they have heard of it through the MO'I group and have seen bodies floating down the river. However nobody has any definite information as visiting is unpopular at the moment. Am taking interpreters from INIOK and intend working through the MO'I group as it is now definitely established that the INAM group are responsible for the massacre. Although rumour that MO'I also involved.

30th August

0640 left INIOK at reduced speed because of river fog; 0730 stopped near FRIELA River as visibility reduced to practically nothing - started off again at 0800; 0945 MOIWAN Lagoon; 1035 SANIAP canal to MOI' villages; 1047 TU'O River Island around 1102; 1116 MAY River; 1210 reduced speed to 800 revs as out of touch with THETIS; 1320 abandoned canoes sited at left bank; went ashore and found four temporary houses of rude construction - there were string bags hanging with their contents and empty ones lying about. Several fishing nets were scattered about as washed ~~sags~~. Fires had been used to burn pigs teeth ornaments and a human jaw bone was found in one fireplace. Several meat tins were scattered about. Broken bows and arrows were found and two spears and four fishing spears. One bush knife. There were razor blades mirrors and lap laps, trade paint, a rucksack and odd native ornaments broken and scattered about the place - some partially burned. Many lime gourds were lying about, all of them smashed. THETIS arrived at 1330 and D.O. Aitchisin came ashore and inspected scene. Gear collected and put aboard THETIS. Obviously this is the camp of the Yellow River people and the scene of the massacre. Left at 1440 and proceeded until 1735 when camp was made. Days run 9 hours 35 min.

31st August

0640 left camp at low revs because of fog. 0703 WAGANA River; 0915 at IBWARA cutting - waiting for THETIS to lead through - 0950 THETIS not arrived so returned downstream; 1025 came to THETIS stuck on sandbank - has dumped six drums of fuel on sandbank but cannot get off - MALA lashed to side of THETIS and with both in reverse pull off; 1210 MALA left THETIS and proceeded upstream alone (THETIS to return downstream to scene of massacre) 1310 IBWARA Cutting through 1330 (this cutting still badly snagged at top end and it is necessary to proceed slowly and with great caution) 1615 arrived at TIPAR and met A.D.O. JONES and P/O CALES of LUMI. Remained overnight and had general discussions on A.D.O. Lumi's investigations and enquiries. Decided to move Yellow River witness down to massacre site and carry out investigation on the spot.

- 1st September 0630 Left TIPAR with A.D.O. Jones and P/O Oakes and Yellow River survivors of massacre; 0715 IBWARA cutting; 0837 THETIS sandbank and picked up 3 drums of fuel dropped by THETIS; 0920 WAGANA River; 0956 AKIAP canal; 1015 O'GWAIBIRA went ashore and inspected the bodies of WARISO and OWINAWAKI and had them identified. They were in a house and had been put there by survivors of the massacre, left at 1045; 1100 WANIBE Creek; 1110 came upon THETIS moored in stream just below massacre site. Carried out investigating of happening preceding and at time of massacre in the YELLOW River camp - a very poor account given by the survivors - their story changes and they do not seem to be very clear on rather obvious points - there is also some difference in their accounts of movements. Will make very poor witnesses. Remained with THETIS overnight. General discussion with District Officer, A.D.O. LUMI and self. THETIS damaged and will return to AMBUNTI with District Officer.
- 2nd September 0650 Left THETIS and AUSIN camp with all Yellow River witnesses and proceeded upstream; 0712 WANIBE creek; 0755 O'GWAIBIRA; 0815 AKIAP canal; 0830 ANABIS canal; 0928 WAGANA River; 0950 to 1015 picking up last of drums dumped by THETIS at THETIS Sandbank; IBWARA cutting at 1120 through at 1135; 1200 Hit submerged snag - no sign of it on surface - stopped and examined propeller and rudder - all clear and under way again at 1210 - no apparent damage; 1443 arrived TIPAR. Remained night. Had final talk with witness and then sent them home to await further developments. Six drums of fuel left with seven brought up last trip for future use of MALA. A.D.O. Jones broke up his party - some to return overland to LUMI and other to come to AMBUNTI on MALA.
- 3rd September 0640 left TIPAR with A.D.O. Jones and P/O Oakes and proceeded down stream; 0809 IBWARA Cutting through 0815; THETIS sandbank; 0855 WAGANA River; 0926 ANABIS canal; 0932 AKIAP canal; 0942 O'GWAIBIRA; 1004 WANIBE Creek; 1014 AUSIN; 1108 MAY River; TU'O River Island, went around; 1135 SANTIAP Canal where there was a large gathering of MO'I natives as arranged earlier. Had a long conversation with them about the massacre - however they did not know a great deal and are not involved in any way. Only one old man visited his brother in law at WANIMOI village (the only village involved) to find out what had happened. He has provided a lot of information and quite sufficient for the immediate purposes - a lot of his information is questionable but in the main points there can be no doubt. Left at 1440 bringing 3 MO'I and 1 IWAM native away with us; 1515 WOIWAN canal; 1606 FRIEDA River; 1635 INIOK where the night was spent. INIOK interpreter returned to village but told to stand by for the return of patrol.
- 4th September 0610 left INIOK and proceeded downstream; 0715 TAURI; 0735 OUM; 0823 YAUENIAN; 0830 CHENAPION; 0851 LEONARD SCHULTZE River; 0902 KUBKALN; 0930 BIABE; 0945 APRIL River; 1014 WASKUK; 1216 SWAGAP; 1320 YESSAN Island around 1334; 1433 YESSAN Bend; 1445 BRUGNOWI; 1525 YAMBON; 1614 AMBUNTI.

SECOND PATROL

The purpose of this patrol was to contact the WANIMOI people and to return to AMBUNTI with some of the repatriated labourers who were involved in the massacre and through them exercise control and influence over the remainder. Eventually bring them all to AMBUNTI to face charges. Again M.L. MALA was used and the accompanying police were: Cpl. LINGUT, Constables LARI, LANI, EMGEN, BUGUG, GEREVUN and MUNGAIAS. MANJI, KONTRAK, NYAGA and AIPAK comprised MALA's crew. NARAMAU, KWAKOM and NENIN of MO'I and NUSEI of PAIKWEI (IWAM) also accompanied.

13th September 0630 left AMBUNTI in M.L.MALA; 0805 YAMBON Gate; 0830 WANIN; 0850 MELAWAI Canal; 0915 BRUGNOWI; 0937 YESSAN Bend; 1122 YESSAN River Island around 1143; 1240 YASAPALA Lagoon; 1345 KUSINOBU Canal to SWAGAP; 1427 WEIDOK Lagoon; 1502 SWAGAP Road; NIGABAI Bifurcation; 1535; 1652 NIGABAI Bifurcation; 1725 WASKUK Canal. Camp made opposite the WASKUK Canal. An unevenful days run.

14th September 0615 left WASKUK Camp; 0710 APRIL River; 0735 WOGAMUSH River; 0942 KUBKAIN Canal; 0906 LEONARD SCHULTZE River; 0921 KAKIO Canal; 0933 River Island around 0944; 0951 NO'SWA Canal; 1003 WAMI Canal to YAUENIAN; 1102 DULIAP Canal; 1133 OUM Lagoon; 1225 WAIYUBWI Lagoon and TAURI village; 1330 YAKAPSUI Canal to old TAURI village; 1412 NEIAR Canal; 1435 INIOK Road. Remained at INIOK road for night as require INIOK interpreters and contact men. Spoke with BIAGA, CHENAPION, YAUENIAN and OUM natives on the river. 12 recruits have been taken from CHENAPION and 22 YAUENIANS.

21st September

15th September 0615 left INIOK; 0654 FRIEDA River; 0825 WOIWAN Lagoon; 0915 SANIAP Canal. Remained at SANIAP Canal and spoke with the MO'I people. Sent a party of 6 MOI and 1 IWAM natives off to contact all the ex labourers of the IWAM group - particularly those belonging to WANIMOI village and more particularly NARI of WANIMOI who was involved in the massacre. They are to meet me on the Sepik just upstream of this point the afternoon after tomorrow.

16th September Remained at KAINUI Camp on ~~KAINUI~~ SANIAP Canal. Had further talks with MO'Is but nothing further gained. Nobody has visited the WANIMOIs since the massacre except the old man NEIMNO.

17th September 0918 left SANIAP Canal moved up Sepik; 0925 TU'O River Island around and eventually made camp on upstream tip of island - no other suitable sites. Have now moved into MOI garden area where it is intended to meet the IWAMS. At 1530 several canoes arrived bringing PAIKWEI and WANIMOI natives including NARI and at least ten others involved in the massacre. Only a few of the ex labourers have arrived as the rest are away from the village. Commenced discussions with them regarding massacre and they are being quite honest and straightforward about it. Much more helpful than the Yellow River survivors. Gratifying that things are working out as anticipated. Remained overnight at this camp - the IWAM natives sleeping here and at MOI camp on SANIAP Canal.

18th September Continued discussions with WANIMOIs about massacre and have found that quite a few things that NEIMNO of MOI had said are not correct. The massacre was deliberately planned and cleverly executed with nobody in opposition to it. The IWAMS are rather cagey particularly about firearms in which they displayed some interest - sufficient for them to enjoy and absorb an impressive firearms demonstration. A fruitful day. Some of the IWAMS returned to the village others remaining and will return to WANIMOI on MALA.

19th September 0620 left TU'O camp on River Island; 0638 entered MAY River and proceeded upstream with several WANIMOIs onboard - arrived at WANIMOI village at 0905. As arranged yesterday the skulls of the victims ~~xxx~~ were produced and handed over. Also as arranged yesterday five of the repatriated labourers who are involved in the massacre prepared to proceed to AMBUNTI. At the last moment one of them was a little reluctant and it was necessary to raise the voice and firm the features in ordering him aboard whereupon he complied. The party then left WANIMOI and proceeded down the MAY at 1030 and arrived at the Sepik 1200; 1209 TU'O Island around 1216; 1221 to 1248 at SANIAP Canal; 1310 WOIWAN Lagoon; 1404 FRIEDA River; 1428 INIOK Road; 1505 YAKAPSUI Canal; 1535 WAIYUBWI Lagoon and TAURI village. Remained overnight. Two drums of fuel were left at WANIMOI village as a reminder of the Government and also to serve as an indicator of their attitude towards it - should the drums be destroyed, looked after as instructed, or ignored.

The people did not run away when the patrol entered the village but gathered around. Their attitude was quite good but every precaution was taken. There was some crying and pleading by the women and old men about taking the five repats and if the matter had been unduly prolonged difficulties would have arisen.

20th September 0630 left TAURI; 0650 to 0707 at OUM-REIGEI; 0754 entered WAMI Canal and proceeded to YAUENIAN village 0820 and left again at 0910; 0927 Sepik River; 0945 to 1010 at CHENAPION Canal talking with villagers; 1045 entered KUBKAIN Lagoon and arrived at KUBKAIN village at 1130. Remained at KUBKAIN overnight. Had discussions with OUM, YAUENIAN, CHENAPION and KUBKAIN villagers about infringing the water rights of other groups - with particular regard to the hunting of crocodiles in the lagoons.

21st September 0620 left KUBKAIN; 0702 Sepik River; 0733 WOGAMUSH River and proceeded up to new BIAGA village of MULIYA 0800, spoke with villagers and departed at 0850; 1000 WASKUK Canal; 1155 SWAGAP Canal; 1430 BRUGNOWI remained for 15 minutes and then on to AMBUNTI arriving at 1615.

A detailed investigation of the massacre was leisurely carried out after this patrol and the details were checked and cross checked until a clear and definite picture of what had occurred was obtained.

THIRD PATROL

The purpose of this patrol was to take P/O Redwood to a selected site on the MAY River above WANIMOI village and there establish a Patrol Post from which to operate. Adequate supplies for the initial establishment were taken, also one motor canoe and two outboard motors. Twelve police were also taken to man to post. Again M.L.MALA was used and Cpl. LINGUT and Constable GEREVUN were the patrol police. The five WANIMOI ex labourers also accompanied the patrol.

29th October 0630 left AMBUNTI in M.L. MALA; 0815 YAMBON Gate; 0844 WANJIN; 0905 MELAWAI Canal; 0935 BRUGNOWI; 1000 YESSAN Bend; 1203 YESSAN Island around 1226; 1330 YASAPALA Lagoon; 1440 SWAGAP Canal. As making slow progress because of canoe being towed decided to make camp here. Attempted to get to SWAGAP village but the canal is low and blocked - unable to get through in motor canoe so returned to MALA. On this attempt a shear pin in the ANZANI motor was sheared and great difficulty was experienced in removing the propeller from the shaft.

30th October 0605 left KUSINOBU Canal camp; 0624 WEIDOK Lagoon; 0734 SWAGAP Road; 0807 NIGABAI Bifurcation; 0934 NIGABAI Bifurcation; 1005 WASKUK Canal; 1105 APRIL River; 1138 WOGAMUSH River; 1238 KUBKAIN Canal; 1301 LEONARD SCHULTZE River; 1318 KAKIO Canal to CHENAPION village; 1346 NOBWA Canal; 1400 WAMI Canal to YAUENIAN village; 1505 DULIAP Canal; 1537 OUM Canal; 1620 WAIYUBWI Lagoon and TAURI village. Remained overnight. Unable to enter lagoon because of low water. An uneventful days run.

31st October Left TAURI; 0900 INIOK; 0946 FRIEDA River; 1115 received letters dropped by D.O. from Cessna aircraft; 1230 SANIAP Canal where J.Young, R.Mackie, C.Stevenson and T.Davidson were met carrying out repairs on Stevensons launch JOHN K. 1255 left SANIAP Canal; 1340 MAY River; 1400 NANWEI canal; 1630 WANIMOI.

Letter received from aircraft forces a complete change of plan to which we are already committed - most unfortunate and will make Redwoods position more difficult - decided to remain in village overnight instead of proceeding on the patrol post site.

- 1st November 0710 left WANIMOI and proceeded up MAY River; 0735 passed TSIAUI ridge which had been selected as site for post. Carried on upstream for a short distance and returned to TSIAUI at 0810. Work commenced on clearing camp site. Proceeded upstream in motor canoe and contacted several small hamlets. Sheared propeller pin on snag and had terrific time removing propeller - then was unable to remove part of pin in propeller shaft so drifted downstream to MALA. Before leaving WANIMOI ~~arranged~~ arranged to return tomorrow and conduct census of whole village.
- 2nd November Proceeded to WANIMOI with P/O Redwood and conducted census. Because of assistance and co-operation of ex labourers the matter proceeded fairly well. All people involved in the massacre were sighted except for the old man KWAINIS who has been in the bush for some days. After the census all the men were advised, as the ex labourers had earlier been advised, of the position they were in. They were told that they would have to go to AMBUNTI and that there would be court proceedings against them. There was no way that they could avoid it and the matter was up to them as to whether the process went off without trouble or with a lot of trouble, and that they should think of their wives and families and the difficulties they would create for them. They were agreeable to some going to AMBUNTI but not all as claimed there would be nobody to look after their women and children. They were advised that they would all have to go and they had better adjust themselves to the idea. No attempt was made to arrest as it would have not been successful in the long run. Actually the matter is being pressed much more quickly than had been intended originally and will suffer because of it. Have pointed out the issues they were left to chew them over and the party returned to TSIAUI.
- 3rd November Heard report that the WANIMOIs have decided not to go to AMBUNTI. Made the mistake of acting immediately instead of getting Redwood settled in and secure and dealing with the matter later. Proceeded to WANIMOI and found the village deserted except for the ex labourers - however after a while they returned and had 25 of the wanted men lined up and could have bullied them aboard MALA if it had been possible to leave. This could not be done as Redwood's position is still too exposed and still have his store aboard. Regrettable to miss this opportunity but have acted ahead of myself. Returned to TSIAUI.
- 4th November Proceeded to WANIMOI - village deserted except for some ex labourers. After some time more came about. Left with 14 of the wanted men at 0940 and proceeded to Sepik 1112; 1135 SANIAP Canal; 1251 FRIEDA River; 1315 INIOK, remained 10 minutes; 1430 TAURI remained 15 min; 1509 OUM; 1555 YAUENIAN canal; 1603 CHENAPION Canal; 1625 LEONARD SCHULTZE River; 1637 KUBKAIN canal; 1708 BIABA canal; 1724 APRIL River; 1755 WASKUK canal - camp made on opposite bank.
- 5th November 0555 Left WASKUK; 0612 NIGABAI Bifurcation; 0650 NIGABAI Bifurcation; 0710 SWAGAP Road; 0730 WEIDOK Lagoon; 0754 SWAGAP Canal; 0830 YASAPAIA Lagoon; 0900 YESSAN Island; 1030 BRUGNOWI; 1114 YAMBON Gate; 1205 AMBUNTI
- FOURTH PATROL**
- ~~11th November~~ This patrol was to take stores to MAY RIVER including a transmitter and receiver - also to visit the Yellow River area and bring any prisoners to AMBUNTI. Again M.L. MALA was used and the following police accompanied:- Cpl. LINGUT, Constables GEREVUN and EMGEN.
- 11th November 0610 left AMBUNTI; 0735 YAMBON Gate; 0847 BRUGNOWI; 0911 YESSAN Bend; 1345 SWAGAP canal; 1547 NIGABAI canal; 1710 NIGABAI canal; 1740 WASKUK Canal. Made camp.

- 12th November 0615 left WASKUK; 0703 APRIL River; 0732 WOGAMUSH River; 0835 KUBKAIN canal; 0933 CHENAPION canal; 0943 YAUENIAN canal; 1042 DULIAP Canal; 1110 OUM-REIGEI; 1155 TAURI; 1400 INIOK; 1445 FRIEDA River; 1710 SANIAP Canal; Remained overnight. An uneventful days run except for a little generator brush trouble.
- 13th November 0555 left SANIAP canal; 0635 entered MAY River; 0850 WANIMOI village; 0925 TSIAUI Base Camp. Unloaded stores Rigged radio aerial and set up Crammond transceiver. Unable to work WEWAK on 1330 schedule because of intense atmospherics. Two faults noticed in set. Transmitter filament power causing such interference in receiver that signals are blocked out, and there is a contact fault in the microphone lead. Everything at camp seems to be alright. Outboard motors reported as slightly off peak. Tries to start one but would not - fault electrical so will pull magneto down tomorrow - carburettors dirty so cleaned completely.
- 14th November Remained at TSIAUI Camp. Made poor contact with WEWAK on morning schedule. Fixed up ANZANI and touched up battery charger. Made better contact with WEWAK on afternoon schedule and should be alright with improved atmospheric conditions. Spoke with AMBUNTI at 1600 hrs.
- 15th November 0548 Left TSIAUI; 0605 WANIMOI; 0734 arrived Sepik and proceeded upstream; 0915 AUSIN; 0935 WANIBE Creek; 1013 O'GWAIBIRA; 1033 AKIAP Canal; 1045 ANABIS; 1140 WAGANA River; 1152 THETIS Sandbank; 1258 IBWARA Cutting; TIPAR at 1550.
- 16th November Only a few of the required people arrived so meeting put off till tomorrow to give them all an opportunity to get in. Proceeded in MALA to YELLOW River Patrol Post site and then on to YELLOW river and returned to TIPAR. Selected interpreters - a very poor lot but the best available.
- 17th November Remained at TIPAR and interviewed all survivors of the massacre selecting six as the best possible witnesses. They are very difficult as witness and are bound to give much trouble in the box. They will return to AMBUNTI in MALA.
- 18th November 0608 left TIPAR with witnesses; 0725 IBWARA Cutting through 0733; 0805 THETIS Bend; 0805 THETIS Bend, 0815 SIPOR; 0836 AUJOK; 0858 called at O'GWAIBIRA for two minutes and inspected bodies; 0931 WIDJARO; 0940 WANIBE Creek; 0950 ABSIN; 1043 entered MAY River; 1255 WANIMOI; 1325. Brought the following Yellow River witnesses; females AIYENALI, YEGIEI and ARUKOMIE and males TAIGWE, WUNIBEI and YOUNERI. Interpreters SAMBEN, MINIA and AMI - not a very bright lot but about the best available.
- 19th November Working about camp at odd jobs during morning and had conversation with D.O. WEWAK. P/O Redwood returned to camp with 4 prisoners so left with 7 prisoners all told at 1400 arrived at Sepik at 1543; 1602 SANIAP Canal; 1715 FRIEDA River; 1735 INIOK where night was spent.
- 20th November 0555 Left INIOK; 0658 TAURI; 0720 OUM; 0805 YAUENIAN canal; 0843 KUBKAIN canal; 0911 BLAGA canal; 0927 APRIL River; 0956 WASKUK canal; 1149 SWAPAP canal; 1305 YESSAN Island; 1316 BRUGNOWI; 1457 YAMBON; 1547 AMBUNTI.
- An uneventful days run.

The last of the wanted men was apprehended on 1st December and the lower court hearing against them was heard in WENAK in January. During the hearing P/O Redwood became ill and was admitted to hospital in WENAK leaving the MAY River post unmanned.

~~XXXXXXXX~~ This patrol was to return the MAY River and YAUENIAN River witnesses and interpreters to their homes. To take stores to MAY River Patrol Post and to change police.

FIFTH PATROL

This patrol was a check on WANIMOI village and MAY River Patrol Post. Moving up stores and changing police at the same time.

24th January 1200 left AMBUNTI in M.L. MALA; 1330 YAMBON Gate; 1440 BRUGNOWI; 1500 YESSAN Bend; 1645 YESSAN Island around 1700; made camp on right bank at 1710.

25th January Left camp at 0620; 0710 YASAPAIA Lagoon; 0820 SWAGAP canal; 0915 WEIDOK Lagoon; 1215 WASKUK canal; 1315 APRIL River; 1340 WOGAMUSH River; 1440 KUBKAIN canal; 1505 LEONARD SCHULTZE River; 1550 CHENAPION canal; 1600 YAUENIAN canal; 1745 OUM Lagoon; 1830 TAURI. Remained at TAURI for night. An uneventful days run.

26th January 0630 left TAURI; 0845 INIOK, put interpreters and two drums of motor spirit ashore; 0935 FRIEDA River; 1200 SANIAP canal; 1240 MAY River; 1455 WANIMOI; 1525 TSIAUI Patrol Post. Everything seems to be in order. Stores off loaded and station and police inspected. Those police who are not too well will be changed and returned to AMBUNTI for a break.

27th January 0635 left TSIAUI in MALA; 0655 WANIMOI; 0820 Sepik River and proceeded upstream; 1003 AUSIN; 1023 WANIBE Creek; 1030 WIDJARO; 1103 O'GWAIBIRA; 1123 AKIAP canal; 1135 ANABIS canal; 1144 AUJOK; 1230 WAGANA River; 1250 THETIS Sandbank; IBWARA sitting at 1348 through at 1403; 1502 MABIGO; 1555 PLYAWAS; 1630 TIPAR. Everyone here seems to be alright - the people told that the witnesses and interpreters will be coming home in about three weeks time. Two drum of motor spirit left for future used of outboard motors.

28th January 0620 left TIPAR and proceeded downstream; 0706 MABIGO; 0735 IBWARA Cutting through 0742; 0812 THETIS Sandbank; 0823 WAGANA River; 0846 AUJOK; 0851 ANABIS Creek; 0859 AKIAP Creek; 0908 O'GWAIBIRA - went ashore and inspected bodies left again at 0923; 0940 WIDJARO; 0944 WANIBE Creek; 0955 AUSIN; 1049 MAY River; 1309 WANIMOI; 1339 TSIAUI Patrol Post. Checked all stores and inventory items. Packed up Redwood's personal gear.

29th January 1003 Left TSIAUI; 1021 WANIMOI; 1148 Sepik River; 1207 SANIAP Canal; 1321 FRIEDA River; 1345 INIOK; 1450 TAURI and remained overnight. Inspected village. Tul Tul of INIOK came down to report that the rice house on the Sepik at INIOK had been burned down and as a result the two drums of motor spirit left there the other day were destroyed. Apart from the house the villagers lost a large number of crocodile skins which they had waiting to be collected.

30th January 0620 left INIOK; 0645 OUM Lagoon; 0730 YAUENIAN Canal; 0737 CHENAPION canal; 0758 LEONARD SCHULTZE River; 0810 KUBKAIN canal; 0840 WOGAMUSH River; 0855 APRIL River; 0923 WASKUK Canal; 1055 WEIDOK Lagoon; 1120 SWAGAP Canal; 1336 YESSAN Bend; 1348 BRUGNOWI; 1428 YAMBON Gate; 1518 AMBUNTI.

SIXTH PATROL

The Supreme Court hearing against the May River natives was held in WENAK in February. This patrol was to return the MAY River and YELLOW River witnesses and interpreters to their homes. To take stores to and inspect MAY River Patrol Post and to change police.

5th March ~~IXE~~ 0635 left AMBUNTI in MALA towing two canoes for MAY River. 0815 YAMBON Gate; 0940 BRUGHOWI; 1005 YESSAN Bend; 1205 YESSAN Island; 1450 SWAGAP Canal; 1845 WASKUK Canal. An uneventful day's run.

6th March 0630 left WASKUK; 0725 APRIL River; 0905 KUBKAIN canal; 0933 LEONARD SCHULTZE River; 1012 CHEENAPION Canal; 1030 YAUENIAN Canal; 1216 OUM Lagoon; 1300 TAURI; 1525 INIOK.

7th March 0615 Left INIOK; 0705 FRIEDA River; 0930 SANIAP Canal; 1010 MAY River; 1230 WANIMOI; 1255 TSIAUI Patrol Post.

Station inspected. Police changes made. Stocks of stores off loaded and checked. Two canoes and one ANZANI motor left for use of station and in case of emergency to come to AMBUNTI. Reported that MIAMZES have come down and contacted BROMAI and ARAI natives - a friendly contact. They are down here because of the TELEFOMIN patrol.

8th March 0622 left TSIAUI; 0639 WANIMOI; 0807 Sepik River proceeded upstream; 0950 AUSIN; 1015 WANIBE; 1028 WIDJARC; 1053 O'GWAIBIRA; 1114 AKIAP creek; 1127 ANABIS Creek; 1137 AUJOK; 1224 WAGANA River; 1244 THETIS Sandbank; 1345 ISWARA Cutting; 1503 MABIGO canal; PANYAWIS at 1553 and arrived TIPAR 1630.

The ~~witnesses~~ witnesses and interpreters returned home. The 18 skulls of the victims of the massacre which had been recovered from WANIMOI were handed over to the villagers for burial. Those men who were responsible for the killing of KWASO of WANIMOI were told that no action would be taken against them under the circumstances - but no future killings would be tolerated.

9th March ~~IXE~~ 0630 left TIPAR and proceeded downstream; 0750 ISWARA Cutting; 0842 WAGANA River; 0907 AUJOK; 0912 ANABIS Canal; 0919 AKIAP canal; 0930 O'GWAIBIRA; 0945 WIDJABO; 0953 WANIBE Creek; 1004 AUSIN; 1101 MAY River; 1333 WANIMOI; 1405 TSIAUI Patrol Post.

Told the WANIMOIs to bring the skull of NANAU of TIPAR whom they killed some time ago. Check the whereabouts of the dependants of the the convicted men and find that they are moving into other groups where they have relations - in all 17 have moved so far. The matter seems to be adjusting itself as was anticipated and the group should need only protection. The dependants informed of the sentence imposed upon their men.

10th March 0940 left TSIAUI and proceeded down Sepik at 1132; 1151 SANIAP canal; 1312 FRIEDA River; 1336 INIOK; 1444 TAURI. Inspected village and remained overnight.

11th March 0620 left TAURI; 0645 CUM; 0732 YAUENIAN canal; 0750 CHEENAPION canal; 0814 LEONARD SCHULTZE River; 0826 KUBKAIN canal; 0856 BIAGA Canal; 0913 ABRIL River; 0940 WASKUK canal; 1140 SWAGAP Canal 1300 YESSAN Island; 1400 YESSAN Bend; 1454 YAMBON Gate; 1545 AMBUNTI.

*Director
imp. pla.*

SEVENTH PATROL

This patrol was to acquaint the relieving A.D.O. with the Sepik River and his problems at MAY River Patrol Post. It was also to take stores to that post and carry out a general inspection. Again M.L. KALA was used.

26th March 0610 left AMBUNTI; 0744 YAMBON gate; 0806 WANJIN; 0836 MALAKAI canal; 0854 BRUGNOMI; 0917 YESSAN Bend; 1104 YESSAN Island - around 1122; 1220 YASAPALA Lagoon; 1319 SHAGAP canal; 1433 SHAGAP Road; WASHUK canal at 1635 where camp was made. An uneventful days run.

27th March left WASHUK canal at 0620; 0700 APRIL River; 0727 WAGAMUSE river; at 0824 entered KUEKAJIN canal and proceeded to village returning to Sepik at 0946; 1011 LEONARD SCHULTZ River; 1055 CHENAPION Canal; 1107 YAUENIAN Canal; 1242 OUM-REIGEL; 1322 TAURI lagoon; 1645 INICK. Remained for night. An uneventful days run.

28th March 0630 Left INICK; 0710 FRIEDA River; 0713 River Island through 0721; 0925 SANIAP Canal; 1001 MAY River; 1210 WANIMOI and spent 15 minutes in village; TSIAUI Patrol Post at 1250.

Inspected Station - checked stores - everything in order - police alright, no sickness. Report that the MIANIN who came down to the upper MAY have now returned home. A report that two men from a group at the back of WANIMOI were seen near WANIMOI has caused some concern in the village. ~~SAUWENI~~ Sgt. SAUWENI told to keep up his visits to WANIMOI but not to extend any further afield. The skull of KWASO was handed back to the villagers for burial.

29th March 0628 left TSIAUI and proceeded down MAY; 0646 WANIMOI; 0817 entered Sepik and proceeded upstream; 1001 AUSIN; 1026 WANIBE Creek; 1033 WIDJARO; 1100 O'GWAIBIRA; 1120 ANIAP canal; 1130 ANABIS canal; 1140 AUJOK; 1325 WAGANA River; 1344 IBWARA Cutting through 1400; arrived TIPAR 1625.

Skulls believed to be those of NANAU and LALUWAS of TIPAR who were killed by the WANIMOI some years ago were handed over for burial also human teeth bracelets of recent massacre. Everything seems to be in order here except that the natives have not cleaned up the area and rebuilt the house - have been told to clean it up before we return from up river.

30th March 0633 left TIPAR; 0720 YELLOW RIVER Patrol Post; 0735 YELLOW River; 1041 native settlement on right bank; 1139 NORTH River; 1550 BIPORU Village; 1708 River Island; 1725 MAHA village; 1745 MAHONE village where the night was spent. An uneventful days run - no complaints or talk from the villagers.

31st March 0615 left MAHONE and proceeded upstream; 0710 FARINGI River; 0730 BOGASI settlement; 0915 YABARU village; 1145 KAPARARU village 1330 AUGUST River and old Enterprise Camp. Turned around and proceeded downstream. 1411 KAPARARU village; 1521 YABARU where night was spent.

YABARU village appears to be breaking up and spreading itself along the bank in small separate groups. The explanation given is that there is too much argument in the village between the young and the old men. Note sent to GREEN RIVER post.

1st April 0615 left YABARU; 0629 ISAM River; 0700 BOGASI; 0734 MAHONE; 0911 MAHA; 0825 BIPORU; 1025 BIPORU; 1025 NORTH River; 1219 YELLOW River; 1226 YELLOW River Patrol Post Ridge; 1255 TIPAR.

TIPAR has been cleaned up in our absence, but a new rest house will have to be built. Two labourers were collected to send to WENAK as interpreters for YELLOW River patients.

2nd April 0615 left TIPAR; 0725 IBWARA Cutting through 0734; 0802 THETIS Sandbank; 0812 WAGANA River; 0834 AUJOK; 0839 ANABIS creek; 0845 AKIAP creek; 0855 O'GWAIBIRA; 0910 WIDJARU; 0915 AUSIN; 1017 MAY River; WANIMOI at 1233; arrived TSIAUI Patrol Post at 1302 and left again at 1315. 1332 WANIMOI; 1502 Sepik River; 1520 SANIAP Canal; 1628 FRIEDA River; 1755 TAURI. Night spent at TAURI. No complaints or talk in the village.

3rd April 0610 left TAURI; 0630 OUM Lagoon; 0715 YAUENIAN canal; 0720 CHENAPION canal; 0740 LEONARD SCHULTZE River; 0751 KUBKAIN canal; 0820 BIAGA canal; 0835 APRIL River; 0857 WASKUK canal; 1043 SWAGAP canal; 1145 YESSAN Island through 1156; 1256 YESSAN Bend; 1306 BRUGNOWI; 1346 YAMBON Gate; 1440 AMBUNTI.

Mr W. Brown a/A.D.O. accompanied this last patrol to gain experience as relieving A.D.O. AMBUNTI. All other patrols were conducted by the writer unaccompanied.

The foregoing patrols were conducted not as general administrative patrols but for the particular purposes associated with the May River massacre - as a result an informative patrol report cannot be written or expected; and the real result of these trips is embodied in the AMBUNTI Special Report entitled, Report of Investigation of Massacre of Yellow River Natives.

Every endeavour was made in dealing with the natives responsible for the massacre to be fair, frank and honest. Any form of deceit was scrupulously avoided even though on the surface it might appear that this made the job of apprehension more difficult. This is not so. This policy not only paid off in the process of apprehension but what is more important in the later native situation. I feel it can be said that the WANIMOI/Administration relationship is a very good one - and one of trust and respect - created without any compromise of the demands of justice.

The effect of the removal of men from WANIMOI although considerable as far as the social fabric of the village is concerned has not been greater than its own mechanics of self adjustment can cope with. As was anticipated there has been a certain amount of disintegration and assimilation into other IWAM groups. It is expected that this process will continue. The village will require no assistance to keep itself functioning provided it has the protection and security now afforded it by the patrol post.

M. B. Smith

Assistant District Officer

[illegible]

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. 7/55-56

Patrol Conducted by M. BRIGHTWELL ~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ A.D.O.

Area Patrolled.....SEPIK VILLAGES BETWEEN AMBUNTI AND MAY RIVER.....

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

Natives.....7.....

Duration—From 28/ 4/1956 to 7/ 5/19 56

Number of Days.....13.....

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

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services...../...5.../19 53...

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

Map Reference..... 4 miles to inch Strat Series MAY RIVER Sheet

Objects of Patrol..... Census check and general administration.....

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND 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 £.....

9-13		Over 13		Females in Child
M	F	M	F	

WA.30-11-70

31st May, 1957.

The Director,
Department of Public Health,
Port Moresby

PATROL REPORT - AMBUNTI, SEPIK DISTRICT
No. 7/55-56.

The following remarks under health are from Patrol Report submitted
by Mr. Assistant District Officer Brightwell for your information, please.

"HEALTH The health of the natives appeared to be quite fair
except for a large number of tropical ulcers and yaws - about 150 were
admitted to AMBUNTI hospital after the patrol for treatment. Whooping
cough is in the area, having moved up from the Lower Sepik, and
YAUENIAN was particularly badly effected throughout all age groups.
It was reported that from this village alone, fourteen children, five
grown men and two women had died of it. As the census is not accurate
or complete and has not been checked since the original census in
1951, no confirmed figures can be given.

There are no village aid posts in the area as yet and it will
be the purpose of future patrols to try and select any suitable young
men for training. So far they have made poor trainees."

P/A Bw
31/5

A. A. R.
(A. A. Roberts)
Director

NA.30-11-70

The District Officer,
WENAK
Sepik District.

31st May, 1957.

PATROL REPORT - AMBUNTI 7/55-56

Receipt of the above mentioned report is acknowledged.

Mr. Brightwell should not be despondent on the subject of the upper reaches in the restricted area above Ambunti. Ambunti Patrol Report 2/55-56 indicates a co-operative attitude from the people in the May River area: this I consider quite an achievement.

We must accept the position as it is with traditional thought and many old ways holding sway - but considering the lack of contact by officials with people in the back-water areas, the situation is not so grim as it may appear at first glance.

Fishing and agricultural rights will always cause difficulties between villages and persistence by Administration officers in methods of arbitration is the only method which will bear results.

The Assistant District Officer's instruction that anyone travelling the Sepik have Government protection will, no doubt, remove the baseless fear from attack by unknown people inhabiting the river banks.

On Page 5 Para 2 the comments concerning "tambus" are of interest and show the clash of the young and old in the continuance of customs. Para. 3 on the same page refers to the affects of the initial contacts in villages - "varying from gifts of steel from the pre-war Administration to being fired on by mining parties".

I agree that it is probably antipathy causing the attitude of the WOGAMUSH people - in my memory, these people have boarded passing canoes and small vessels, assaulted and robbed the crews and at times, abducted any women passengers. The fact that they have ceased these exuberant practices is surely some indication of Administration influence.

The notes on native officials are of interest.

A collection of vital statistics is always difficult in the first instance.

The mere fact that men have been away to work at Bougainville and New Ireland plantations must be of some benefit to them, and on their return, must have some small influence on the village people. I concur in the suggestion of the Assistant District Officer that natives from restricted areas offering for work should be appointed to approved plantations, preferably those near urban areas.

The fact that 150 people were admitted to Ambunti Hospital after the patrol is surely indicative to a satisfactory attitude towards Administration.

I feel that the improved transport and improved staff position will materially assist the development in this area in the immediate future.

Mr. Brightwell, as usual, has done a first-class job.

A. A. R.

(A. A. Roberts)

Director

J. C.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/11/70 ✓



Patrol Rep. Amb 7/55-56/649

Department of Native Affairs,
Sepik District,
NEWAK.

24th May, 1957.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Patrol Report - Ambunti 7/55-56.

The above report is forwarded please.

There is much work to be carried out in the area. The position as shown by Mr. Brightwell is not good, but it does appear that with the help of repatriates the position will improve.

J. R. White

.....
(J. R. White)
District Officer

Territory of Papua and New Guinea

AMBUNTI Patrol Report
No. 7/55-56

Report of a routine administrative and census patrol
of Sepik River villages in the Restricted Area of the
AMBUNTI Sub-district as far upstream as
MAY River.

Officer Conducting the Patrol	M.W.Brightwell A.D.O.
Area Patrolled	Swagap, Wogamush, Kubkain, Chenapion, Yauenian, Oum, Tauri, Inlok, Mo'i and Iwam groups.
Duration of Patrol	25th April to 6th May 1956
Personnel Accompanying	L/Cpl. Lingut Const. Gerevun Const. Lani Const. Engen
Mode of Patrol	By Sub-district vessel M.L. "Mala"

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

In the writer's experience at AMBUNTI an unsatisfactory state of affairs has existed with all the groups on the SEPIK River in the Restricted Area above AMBUNTI with the exception of the INIOK/TAURI/OUN group of villages. Visits to AMBUNTI by natives of the SWAGAP, WOGAMUSH, KUBKAIN, CHENAPION and YAUENIAN groups were rare to unknown and only the CHENAPION and YAUENIAN groups had brought patients to the Native Hospital. Against this natives of the INIOK/TAURI/OUN group regularly visited the station, bringing those in need of medical attention, although they are further upstream than any of the groups mentioned and were particularly afraid of the SWAGAP group. The main purpose of the patrol was to improve this situation.

DIARY

25th April 0840 left AMBUNTI in M.L. MALA; 1010 YAMBON; 1130 BRUGNOWI; 1150 YESSAN; 1337 YESSAN Bifurcation; YESABOI'A Lagoon I.B. 1450; 1555 KUSINORU Canal R.B. leading to YAMBUNAMBO village of the SWAGAP group. Made camp on left bank of SEPIK opposite canal.

The river is very high - the highest point for the season and about 9 feet below the bank at AMBUNTI - a lot of debris coming down. MALA was kept at a constant 1100 revolutions as tended to heat up if run higher - being kept at these revs for the whole trip to find fuel consumption. (This later worked out at 2.44 gall/hour) No SWAGAP natives about so fired off shots to indicate our presence and bring them to the SEPIK.

- 26th April No SWAGAP natives arrived by 0640 and not wanting to move into canal without local information moved off up the SEPIK deciding to visit SWAGAP on return trip. 0650 the water pump broke down so had to stop in the pit pit and effect repairs. Whilst doing so the Luluai of SWAGAP appeared with several villagers. At 0845 MALA serviceable and moved downstream and entered KUSINOBU Canal at 0850 and proceeded slowly up - stopped for 30 minutes to clear overhead obstructions - arrived at SWAGAP village of YAMBUNAMBO at 1035. Village completely covered with water - no ground ~~at~~ whatsoever showing. Most unimpressive site. No census book so checked population on house count. Gathered the whole village around in canoes and gave them a talk. The villagers had nothing to say in return.
- 27th April 0620 MALA left YAMBUNAMBO village proceeded down canal and joined SEPIK at 0727; 0814 WEIDOK Lagoon L.B.; 0920 NIGABAI Bifurcation R.B.; 0950 DAGWA Canal (small) leading to WOGAMUSH village of WASKUK L.B.; 1045 NO'KUUK Canal L.B. followed up to WASKUK village arriving at 1100. This village also covered with water - just one small patch of ground showing through. Checked census of WASKUK (formerly known as WASURIAN) and YAMBUNUMBU which has joined the WASKUK village. After the census the Tul Tul of the third WOGAMUSH group BIAGA advised that he had brought the body of a Catholic Mission teacher for me to see.
- 28th April 0625 MALA left WASKUK down the canal to the SEPIK at 0645; 0725 APRIL River R.B.; 0755 entered old SEPIK course now blind and silted at upstream end and proceeded until 0812 when NUHA Canal was entered and followed to BIAGA village arriving at 0925. This village also under water. Carried out rough census check and gave talk to villagers, who had nothing to say in return. At 1200 MALA moved off from BIAGA down canal and back to main SEPIK at 1313 and proceeded upstream to DAGUG Canal L.B. at 1410. Followed up canal and entered NEG'GABAK Lagoon 1420 and proceeded around Lagoon to KUBKAIN village of BULIVIT. Well sited village on good lagoon and although the lagoon is high it has not entered the village. Gave talk but villagers had nothing serious to say in reply.
- 29th April Remained at KUBKAIN - conducted census during morning and had general discussion during afternoon and settled dispute which had caused considerable tension between the KUBKAIN and WOGAMUSH people. This dispute was caused by three parties desiring to marry a female, NH'IAP, off to three different men.
- 30th April 0635 MALA left KUBKAIN around lagoon down canal and to SEPIK at 0725 and followed upstream. 0745 LEONARD SCHULTZE River R.B.; 0805 KAKIO Canal L.B.; 0828 BUTU Canal L.B.; 0835 entered NO'BWA canal and proceeded up to the SHENAPION village of DOMA'ONI arriving at 0920. Villagers in process of moving the village a short distance. The old village is completely under water and the new site is just above the present high water. Census carried out without a great deal of difficulty and find the people quite friendly and unafraid. Visited old village by canoe and had general discussion. Young men caught the removal of old prohibition against young married couple eating fish which the elders are imposing and this was agreed to. Some strain between the elders and the young men.
- 1st May 0630 MALA left DOMA'ONI proceeded down NO'BWA Canal into SEPIK at 0705 proceeded upstream until 0720 when WAMI Canal was entered and followed up to the YAUENIAN village of TAUION arriving at 0750. Village not quite under water and it has some high ground. Carried out census - a difficult process which took all day. Whooping cough very bad - the worst seen. Gave general talk to gathering of village in canoes. No reply or remarks from villagers in reply.

2nd May 0650 MALA left TAURION and proceeded down WAMI Canal to SEPIK at 0715 and then upstream; 0817 DULIAP Canal L.B. leading to YABUI Lagoon; 0845 entered OAM Lagoon and stopped at REIGEI village.

Village completely under water - did not conduct census as it was carried out 6 months ago, merely checked on men away at work - village over recruited.

Left REIGEI village at 0940 in MALA and proceeded to the main village of OAM which was also completely under water. Census was checked 6 months before so checked on number of men out at work.

At 1220 MALA left OAM village proceeded along lagoon to SEPIK at 1300 then upstream to new site of TAURI village on WAIYUBWI Canal arriving 1345.

Village site above water. Checked men out at work. Gave general talk - no complaints.

3rd May 0645 MALA left TAURI village; 0745 YAKAPSIU Canal L.B.; 0820 NEIAP Canal R.B.; 0845 INIOK Canal L.B. too shallow for MALA, river falling. Village not visited as under water - checked number of men away at work. Gave talk.

Left INIOK Canal in MALA at 1050; 1125 FRIEDA River R.B.; 1303 WOIWAN Lagoon L.B.; 1350 SANIAP Canal entered and followed until 1525 when stopped by surface and submerged logs. As river seems to be falling returned to the SEPIK junction and made camp at old village site. Contacted some MO'I natives.

4th May Some MO'I natives arrived during the night and continued to arrive during the early morning - a rather dull lot and have not been censused. Gave a talk and the MO'Is made no complaints or had anything to say. MALA left SANIAP Canal at 0910 proceeding upstream and entered the MAY River at 0945. Followed the MAY up to IWAM group villages at 1220. No census has been carried out on this group. Gave a talk.

5th May Had discussion during the morning and arranged for return of canoes that had been borrowed from MALU village near AMBUNTI. Followed up yesterday's talk but the IWAMs had practically nothing to say. At 1115 MALA left the village and followed down the May arriving at SEPIK at 1250 and proceed downstream; 1309 SANIAP Canal; 1334 WOIWAN Lagoon L.B.; 1424 FRIEDA River; 1440 INIOK Canal; 1515 YAKAPSIU Canal L.B.; 1600 New TAURI Village and remained night.

6th May 0620 MALA left TAURI and arrived OAM Lagoon at 0645. Remained at OAM investigating two murders.

7th May 0610 MALA left OAM Lagoon 0728 LEONARD SCHULTZE River; 0825 APRIL River; 1048 KUSINOBU Canal to SWAGAP village; 1305 YESSAN; 1320 to 1340 BRUGNOWI Village; 1425 YAMBON village; 1515 AMBUNTI.

End of Diary

NATIVE AFFAIRS

The villages visited by this patrol have not been visited a great number of time is the past and of late have been much neglected. Most of them are not on the Sepik River itself but situated on side waters varying in distance from the Sepik from half a mile to 18 miles. However they have had quite an amount of experience of European parties passing along the Sepik and in recent years there have been incidents between Europeans and the SWAGAP and WOGAMUSH people. Young men have been away to work from each of the groups - however their influence has not been felt to any extent in the villages and traditional thought and ways hold sway.

The native situation has not of late caused any trouble although it cannot be described as good and occasional difficulties must be expected. Ever since the SWAGAPs killed 5 BRUGNOWI villagers in 1951 this group has been held in fear by the other villagers. The SWAGAP village of YAMBUNAMBO although well away from the Sepik dominates quite a long stretch of it with its canals and roads; and other natives when passing along this stretch do so at night because of their fear of being attacked by the SWAGAPs.

This fear arose only from the BRUGNOWI killings, which were not carried out without cause but were a direct result of BRUGNOWI's continuing trespass of YESSAN/SWAGAP fishing rights. Consequently this fear of the SWAGAPs was not only out of proportion but almost without cause. All the groups visited were advised that there was nothing to fear from the SWAGAPs and that they could travel freely over the SWAGAP dominated section of the Sepik. The Luluai of SWAGAP was taken with the patrol to all other villages to add weight to this. All groups were also told that anyone travelling the Sepik had Government protection and any person interfering with their passage or inconveniencing them or threatening them in any way would be dealt with by the Administration. This was the main purpose of the patrol - to remove a baseless fear and bring groups into greater contact with each other.

Since this patrol there has been free and fearless passage past SWAGAP during daylight by the villagers higher up the Sepik.

A dispute over a woman had been going on for some time the WOGAMUSH and KUBKAIN groups and had reached a touchy state; both groups going about armed. This matter was resolved although the solution laid down was not followed, but another (apparently more satisfactory) was adopted and the friction disappeared.

The young men who have been away to work have so far not had much influence in the village affairs but it is obvious that in most cases it is only a matter of time before they do. They have only recently returned and in most of the groups seem to be making some progress and seem determined to make changes.

An example of this is to be found in the CHENAPION group where the old men have maintained a prohibition on young married couples on eating fish until after the birth of their second child. This apparently was once a widely spread practice throughout the area but now only CHENAPION elders enforce it. The young men wish to be free of the prohibition and brought the matter up. On the simple grounds that all surrounding groups have given up the restriction without detriment and the elders could, or would, not give any sound reason for its continuance, the young men were supported. Since this protest the elders have endeavoured to continue the prohibition but appear to be losing ground.

The two groups, SWAGAP and WOGAMUSH, although outside the Restricted Area are the two groups least influenced by the Administration. There is definitely not administrative control in these villages, except with a few individuals who are unable to gain the support of the rest of the village. It is very much the traditional that rules and the Administration has made little impression. These two villages should be treated with a very open eye and given more attention than the other villages visited; they seem to lack the openness and friendly attitude of the others and seem withdrawn and secretive. This may be just a passing phase but should not be ignored when dealing with them. It is possibly a reflection of their early European contact, which it would appear was spasmodic and inconsistent, varying from gift of steel from the pre war Administration to being fired on by mining parties.

Even at SWAGAP and WASKUK (WOGAMUSH) there is no anti Administration attitude, it is merely an antipathy which if pressed too severely on the wrong ground at the wrong time could bring about an anti attitude and possibly anti Administration action. The remainder of the villages have quite a good attitude and should with time come under control without difficulty. The IWAM and MOI groups are very raw as yet but basically they are friendly people and once they pick up a little understanding of European ways should become most susceptible to influence. Of the other villages visited the INIOK, TAURI, OUM group is the most advanced and experienced; although the latter village still displays a non comprehending attitude and extreme dullness

when convenient. However the INIOK and TAURI villages have reached the stage of the lower Sepiks. YAUENIAN, CHENAPION and KUBKAIN give indications of following the same line although at present are a long way behind. The last entry in the CHENAPION village book dated 8/5/53 includes the remark "one false move and she would be on" however this was not found to be the case with this patrol - relations were quite good and without suspicion. Several labourers have returned to the village during the interval and probably account for the change.

In no village was there reluctance on the part of the women to approach within reasonable distance of the patrol.

NATIVE OFFICIALS

The luluais appointed at the time of the original census have been of little value in spreading any Administration influence. This is no criticism of the officer concerned, he appointed the traditional leader and in most cases they have remained just that, conservative, traditional leaders with a hat on. Most of them are now becoming too old, and there is a rising group of young ex labourers in the villagers from which better appointments can be made, greatly influencing but without offending, traditional concepts. Appointment of Tul Tuls has been thrown into some villages for discussion as a test of strength between new and traditional opinions. Tul Tuls that have been appointed are of the younger group and much more useful than the aged luluais - they should facilitate the upgrading of the younger men without causing too many village pains.

Native Officials and potential native officials were taken by the patrol to the other villages and brought back to AMBUNTI in an endeavour to improve their pidgin, see the functioning and census of a middle Sepik village and the every days activities of a Government Station. Little immediate benefit could be seen of this but it is hoped that there was some long range gain.

CENSUS

The original census was carried out by a/A.D.O. ZWECK in 1950 and some of the villages were checked by P/O WENKE in 1953. As is natural with "bush kanakas" in the early stages the census books as they exist today are little more than a basis for improvement and it will be sometime before anything like accuracy is achieved. Incomplete figures are submitted in the Village Population Register as any attempt to submit complete figures

at this stage would only be misleading - it is considered that the census after next should be worth recording fully.

The usual difficulties of children entered with other family groups, or on their own, of people being struck out who are ~~not~~ not dead, of visitors to the village being included and the other usual census teething troubles abound. All this is because as yet there is nobody in the groups who understand the census process or purpose. The officer conducting has no one to assist in putting things right and is greatly hindered by the innocence of the heads themselves as to what it is all about. Native officials, or potential native officials from all villages were brought to AMBUNTI for a short period to see how other villages function and one of the things they were shown was the orderly and efficient functioning of census of MALU village which, fortunately, carried itself through faultlessly for the very reasons that their own do not. What was gained has yet to be tested but it is only constant census practice that makes perfect.

The village book for the SWAGAP group at YAMBUNAMBO village was taken away from the village at the time of the BRUGNOWI killings and has not been returned. As the village was completely under water and no notice all movement was by canoe. In the INIUK, TAMBEL, GUK area the traditional of the patrol's arrival had been given a new book was not opened but a check form of building, large well made conical houses, seems to be on the way out. was made of house occupants which gave the total population as 126. The new type of house being a much more poorly built and smaller house for

The MO'I and IWAM groups have never had a census taken and for the reasons already stated it is considered unwise to attempt it just yet.

Efforts are being made to inculcate sufficient understanding into a few of the individuals of these two places in the hope that with their assistance the original census will be more than a partial unrelated jumble of names indicating next to nothing. A very rough guess at the population of these two places from what was seen and heard by the patrol is MO'I at least 150; IWAM at least 400 and possibly as many as 800. No upper limit could be gained for MOI. 5 grown men and 2 women had died of illness. As the census is not yet taken there are three villages in the WOGAMUSH group, WASKUK (formerly known as WASURIAN) YAMBUNUMBU and BIAGA. YAMBUNUMBU people formerly lived on the April River but have now moved in with the WASKUK section. The BIAGA village is still on WOGAMUSH river but they will shortly be moving out towards the Sepik. Each village has its own book.

CONCLUSION REPATRIATED LABOURERS

Except for INIUK, One of the purposes of the patrol was to follow up the recent MO'I and IWAM repatriates who had been returned home through AMBUNTI. These men had been away to work at Bougainville and New Ireland Plantations for two years and had obviously gained little benefit

from their absence, apart from their lap laps, shirts and suitcases. Not one of them could speak good pidgin and only by stretching a point a couple could be classified as understandable. Most of them could not carry on

Another factor is that many crocodiles skin buyers are trying to a conversation in pidgin or even understand it. It was felt that although interest the river natives in hunting for them. It will possibly mean these repatriates were a great disappointment they would serve as a toehold much greater activity by Europeans in the area than ever before as all for the Administration in the villages if they were visited before traditional the activity of the skin market seem to be transferring from the ANGORAM and lower AMBUNTI areas to these higher villages.

The selection of plantations for Restrict Area natives offering for work should be given greater consideration and they should be sent to plantations where they can learn something, and in small enough numbers to make them mix with other natives. It would appear that they are being used to man the backblock plantations that no knowing native will engage for.

VILLAGES

All the villages visited must be classified as poorly constructed and kept. At the time of the patrol the river was high and most of them were completely under water but a few did have small patches of dry land - all movement was by canoe. In the INIOK, TAURI, OUM area the traditional form of building, large well made conical houses, seems to be on the way out. The new type of house being a much more poorly built and smaller house for the individual family.

HEALTH

The health of the natives appeared to be quite fair except for a large number of tropical ulcers and yaws - about 150 were admitted to AMBUNTI hospital after the patrol for treatment. Whooping cough is in the area, having moved up from the lower Sepik, and YAUENIAN was particularly badly effected throughout all age groups. It was reported that from this village alone 14 children, 5 grown men and 2 women had died of it. As the census is not accurate or complete and has not been checked since the original census in 1951 no confirmed figures can be given.

There are no village aid posts in the area as yet and it will be the purpose of future patrols to try and select any suitable young men for training. So far they have made poor trainees.

CONCLUSION

Except for INIOK, TAURI and OUM the villages will need a lot of attention before they can be classified as under control - this task has only just commenced. However now that AMBUNTI has a work boat and an increase in staff and with repatriated labour in the villages and coming back from

from work it should be possible to make much greater progress than ever before.

Another factor is that many crocodile skin buyers are trying to interest the river natives in hunting for them. It will possibly mean much greater activity by Europeans in this area than ever before as all the activity of the skin market seems to be transferring from the ANGORAM and lower AMBUNTI areas to these higher villages.

Two murders were investigated at OUM and three men arrested, another four men are required in this matter. (Since the patrol this matter has been finalised with the Supreme Court conviction of seven men charged with the two murders).

TRAVELLING TIMES

M.L. MALA, running at 1100 revs was used by the patrol and the following times were recorded for the upstream trip:-

AMBUNTI	SWAGAP Parut	7 hrs 15 min	to village	75 min
SWAGAP	WASKUK Parut	3 20		15
WASKUK	BIAGA Parut	1 30		90
BIAGA	KUBKAIN Parut	1 00,		35
KUBKAIN	CHENAPION Parut	1 10		45
CHENAPION	YAUENIAN Parut	15		30
YAUENIAN	OUM Lagoon	1 30	to inside village	50
OUM	TAURI Lagoon	45		
TAURI	INIOK Road	2 00		30
INIOK	MO'I Parut	3 00		
MO'I	IWAM Parut (MAY)	35	to first village	155

It takes over 22 hours running to get to the MAY River from AMBUNTI. The times given from the Sepik River to the village cover varying speeds - in the small Paruts at about 700 revs but in the May River normal cruising of 1100.

M. B. Hughes

Assistant District Officer

