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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of Western Report No. Lake Murray No. 1-61/62

Patrol Conducted by D.J. Fanning. CPO

Area Patrolled To Middle Fly Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil

Natives 1 R.P. & N.G.C., † Interpreter

Duration—From 11/7/1961 to 18/7/1961

Number of Days 7

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1/5/1961

Medical 3/18/61

Map Reference Map Attached

Objects of Patrol Investigation Branch Store - Lake Murray Buyers Society

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

District Commissioner

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

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

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

.....

.....

67-3-E

Department of Native Affairs,
Konedobu.

13th December, 1962.

The District Officer,
Western District,
DARU.

Patrol Report No. 1 - 1961-62 - LAKE MURRAY

Receipt of the above mentioned Patrol Report is acknowledged with thanks.

The people's desire to have a store is appreciated and they should be assisted in achieving their aim. They obviously want something on which to spend the proceeds from the sale of the crocodile skins.

Do people holding Pedlars' Licences operate in this area? It appears that Crisini may be a suitable man to run such a store but he should be warned against giving credit under any circumstances.

What was the reason for the people of Mollavum shifting their village? It appears that the site is entirely unsuitable.

No map was attached to the Report. Would you please remedy this oversight.


(W.R. Dishon),
Acting Director.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-3-18 ✓

*In Reply
Please Quote*

No. 67-1-1



District Office,
DARU:

29th November, 1962.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
KONEDOBU:

1961/62 PATROL REPORTS.

Your 67-1-0 of 19th November 1962 refers.

Attached hereto as requested are copies of patrols Lake Murray No. 1 and 2 of 61/62. It would appear that copies of these patrol reports have not previously been forwarded to you.

(E. Flower)
DISTRICT OFFICER

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Lake Murray Patrol Post,
Kiunga Sub-District,
11th August 1961.

The District Officer,
Western District,
Daru.

Lake Murray Patrol No. 1, 1961/62.

Officer Conducting Patrol:	D.J. Fanning, C.P.O.
Personnel Accompanying:	Const. Kairi, R.F. & N.G.C. S. Koiri, Interpreter. Personnel Servant.
Duration of Patrol:	11/7/61 - 18/7/61 7 days.
Map References:	Map enclosed.
Objects of Patrol:	Investigation of the new Lake Murray Buyers Society Branch Store at Aisabak, Fly River.
Results of Patrol:	As shown herein.

D.J. Fanning
D.J. Fanning, C.P.O.

INTRODUCTION.

The purpose of this patrol was to inspect the new branch store of the Lake Murray Buyers Society, which had been erected at Aiambak, a new village on the banks of the Fly River, half an hour downstream from the present site of Tinunga village.

The Lake Murray Buyers Society has been functioning over twelve months, having a store at the Lake Murray Patrol Post, under the control of the Officer in charge. There are 497 share holders at present, every village in the Lake Murray and Middle Fly census divisions being represented.

During a census patrol through the Middle Fly census division from 1st May to 15th May, conducted by Mr. Henderson, whom I accompanied, we were approached on several occasions by villagers about opening a branch store in the Fly River area. The reasons they gave were:

- (1) The Lake Murray store was too far away, being a three day to five day journey.
- (2) Upon reaching Lake Murray they were not assured of obtaining goods at their store. It is difficult keeping an adequate stock on hand as the shipping from Dara is sometimes infrequent.
- (3) They preferred going to traders on the Dutch side, a one to two day journey, being assured of trade items although in most cases they received a smaller return for their crocodile skins.

Three villages wanted to start a new store namely, Bosset, Tinunga and Kavianunga.

At the annual meeting of shareholders held at Lake Murray in June, it was decided to open the store at Aiambak, a village which was being built on the banks of the Fly River. Aiambak is in an ideal position being centrally located to all the villages in the Fly River area. Also being on the banks of the Fly River it is very convenient to shipping, passing up river to Kiunga.

PATROL DIARY.Thursday 11th July.

Departed Mava per M. Pura at 0715. Arrived at Miwa 1045. Departed Miwa per canoe 1130. Arrived at Asontatama 1345. Slept night.

Wednesday 12th July.

Departed Asontatama 0740 per canoe. Arrived at canoe place at 0915. Having traversed Gana Lagoon and 1 hour walk, arrived at Boikusava per canoe at 1515. Slept night.

Thursday 13th July.

Departed Boikusava at 075 per canoe. Arrived at Tinunga after 2 hours 30 minutes walk, time 1250. Departed Tinunga at 1420. Arrived at Aiambak 1505. Slept night.

Friday 14th July.

Whole day at Aiambak village. Completed store and advised on new village building.

Saturday 15th July.

Departed Aiambak at 1000. Arrived at Tinunga at 1100. Slept Night.

Sunday 16th July.

Left Tinunga 0640. Arrived at Boikusava canoe place at 1030. Departed per canoe at 1100. Arrived at Asontatama canoe place after traversing Gana Lagoon at 1745. Arrived at Asontatama at 1925. Slept.

Monday 17th July.

Departed Asotatuma 0755. Arrived at Miwa 0915. Departed Miwa 1030. Arrived at Kollavuan 1220. Departed Kollavuan 1300. Arrived at Pangoa Mission 1330. Departed Pangoa 1500. Arrived at Usakof 1745. Slept Night.

Tuesday 18th July.

Departed Usakof at 0730. Arrived at Mava at 1030.

Patrol Terminated.The Store Building.

The villagers, under the control of the village constable Anato, have done a very good job in constructing the store in such a short time; especially in view of the fact that they are at present moving their village from the old site at Bigiza. The structure itself is made out of native materials and is much bigger than the present store at Lake Murray. I spent one whole day making a few minor alterations, mainly ensuring that the store would be burglar proof.

Consisting of four rooms and a verandah, it will be admirably suited to the present needs. There is accommodation for the storeman to live on the premises which I think is necessary in this area as an added security measure. The storeman can then have the store under his surveillance at all times. This system is used at Lake Murray and has worked very successfully.

The store is situated on a high bank overlooking the Fly River. It is well above high water mark, yet it is not that far from the water's edge that the carrying of heavy stores would cause an inconvenience.

Trade Possibilities.

In the Middle Fly area there is not a big population group. Hereunder is a summary of the villages with their respective populations.

Kavianunga	177
Komoval	35
Aiambak	51
Bosset	290
Mipan	189
Kuan	130
Tinunga	126
Boikumava	163
	<u>1161</u>

The distances between these villages are great, so in selecting a store site a centrally situated village was desired.

There has been no large scale agricultural development in this area, the nature of the land has made this extremely difficult. The result is that there has been no cash cropping apart from a little copra marketed in Daru. For this the people receive approximately 2½d per lb. Thus the people have turned to other sources for their income. The most important of these is the sale of crocodile skins.

In the past, before the advent of the Lake Murray Buyers Society, the people marketed their skins on the Dutch side and in return received trade items in lieu of money. No Australian traders operated permanently in the Middle Fly area apart from an occasional one that came up river from Daru, or a while the people came to their store at Lake Murray, but later because of the reasons mentioned previously, they once again drifted back to trading with the Dutch side.

The only way to stop this is to have a fully equipped trade store at Aiambak. The people are very enthusiastic about opening their own store and upon my arrival at Aiambak during this patrol, I was received by villagers from Tinunga, Boikumava, Kavianunga and Aiambak, who hearing of my coming had hastened to the scene.

The prosperity of the store could not be questioned if we use the Lake Murray store as a pointer. Since its inception over £2000 of skins have been consigned to Australia and over £1000 of trade goods have been

said at the store. The Society bank balance would be in the vicinity of £2000. It is noteworthy that the majority of this trading has been done by the Lake Murray people. I believe a store in the Middle Fly area after a similar period of trading would be in an equally favourable position. The possibilities in this area are the same as Lake Murray.

The Proposed Storeman.

The storeman is to be an Aiambak village boy, Orisini. This boy is a good capable type having had some months training at Lake Murray and has relieved the Lake Murray storeman when he was on leave. He understands and writes English, having received his schooling at the Pangoa Mission.

The Village Constable.

The village constable at Aiambak is Anato an ex interpreter from Lake Murray. A constructive type who has the villagers right behind him. These people under the leadership of Anato broke away from Tinunga some years ago and settled at Bigisa. Until this year they have been part of Tinunga but have now been granted village status, building their new village at Aiambak.

VILLAGES: Rest Houses: Native Housing.

Of the villages by this patrol it was pleasing to see the improvement in housing conditions since the last patrol in May. In all the villages new houses were under construction; only two ground level hovels remain at Tinunga and two at Boikumava, these will be replaced in the near future.

New rest houses have been constructed at Miwa and Aiambak, whilst new ones are under construction at Boikumava and Tinunga.

The people of Mollavuan, Lake Murray, are shifting their village to a new site on an island at the edge of Lake Murray. The villagers were absent when I visited the new site which is in an extremely bad position. The island is too small for the sixteen houses being built; besides being a bad fire risk there is no room for movement. There would also be no room for a rest house and police barracks. As it is in such an early stage of construction I left word that work on the new site was to cease immediately, until a more favourable site was chosen or the people returned to their old site. The next officer at Lake Murray might check on this position.

Water Transport.

The importance of having motorised water transport at Lake Murray can be seen by the following illustration.

Mawa - Miwa per MV Purama.	C715 - 1045.....	3.30
Miwa - Mollavuan per canoe.	1030 - 1220.....	1.50
Mollavuan - Pangoa per canoe.	1300 - 1330.....	.30
Pangoa - Usakof per canoe.	1500 - 1745.....	2.45
Usakof - Mawa per canoe.	0730 - 1030.....	3.00

		8.05

The time taken to travel from the station to Miwa on the MV Purama was 3 1/2 hours. The time taken to cover the same distance on my return trip by canoe was 8 hours 5 minutes.

On a long patrol many hours is saved by motorised transport, all travelling at Lake Murray being done on the water.

At present the station launch is US and the station outboard will shortly be going to Aiunga to help in the pending Strickland Patrol. The station will then be without motorised transport.

TOTAL
F

Tracks.

The few tracks on the route from Ascatatua - Boikunava - Tinunga - Aianak were in good condition though two new and better bridges are required. This will be the responsibility of the Boikunava villagers.

Conclusion and General Remarks.

The official opening of the Aianak store will not be for some time in view of the fact that there will be no officer stationed at Lake Murray in the near future. It is unfortunate that this will happen as the people are most anxious to open the store and I think it should be pressed on with before their enthusiasm wanes.

With reference to the attached map, the two northernmost Middle Fl. villages, Muan and Mipan would find it more advantageous to trade with the Lake Murray store, it being closer.

Report on R.P. & H.C.C. Mambwa.

Const. Kairi, a willing worker but could be more forceful.

D. J. Fanning
D. J. Fanning



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. 2-61/62

Patrol Conducted by R.W. HENDERSON Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled EOI River, ELAVALA River to KIINGA

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans

Natives R.P.C. 2, Carriers 22

Duration—From 25/7/1961 to 7/8/1961

Number of Days 14 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1953

Medical 1961

Map Reference

Objects of Patrol Proceed KIINGA for Strickland Patrol, prepare the way for the Strickland Patrol up the Strickland, Locate PARE census evaders.

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY

Forwarded, please.

19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £

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

67-3-20

18th February, 1963.

The District Officer,
Western District,
D. A. R. U.

PATROL REPORT NO. 2 - 61/62 - LAKE
MURRAY:

Receipt of the above mentioned Patrol Report
is acknowledged with thanks.

The Report is now out of date but contains
information which will be valuable as development
of the area proceeds.


(J. E. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

67-3-20

LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT No.1-61/62

BOI - KAIM HEADWATERS TO THE ELAVALA RIVER AND KIUNGA.

Conducted by; R.W.Henderson, Patrol Officer.
 Accompanied by; R.P.& N.G.C., 1 Sgt.,
 1 Const.,
 Carriers ... 27.



Duration; 25th July 1961 to 7th August 1961
 14 days.

- Purpose of Patrol;
- (i) Proceed to KIUNGA with Police and carriers for the Strickland Patrol.
 - (ii) Prepare the way for the Strickland Patrol up the Elaivala River.
 - (iii) Locate what PARE census evaders live in the area crossed.

*Report not received until 22.1.1962
 copy handed to P.O. Mc Lennan
 for any action arising
 Campfire Allowance paid on Diary
 D.M. Manton
 a/20*

DIARY.

- 25.7.61-T; Departed LAKE MURRAY PATROL POST 0900 in very heavily laden canoe powered by 10/12 Archimedes outboard. Proceeded up BOI RIVER and by 1155 caught up with paddlers who had been sent earlier, their canoe lashed to the powered canoe. Passed IAGOP without stopping 1200 and on to camp in very heavy rain 1530. River a mass of logs and snags and only the very high water allowing the outboard to be used at all.
- 26.7.61-W; Heavy rain and outboard maintenance delayed until 1100. Camped 1715 in rain again near WAHOBIE. Snags innumerable and a four knot current.
- 27.7.61-T; Canoes and outboard returned to Lake Murray. Patrol on road by 0800 and reached WAHOBIE 0830. Names recorded and discussions, moved on 0930. Passed through old village site of WADA 1345 thence to camp near the BOI RIVER at 1615. Rain afternoon and night, tracks up to waist deep in water.
- 28.7.61-F; Away at 0800, crossed BOI RIVER and left the last BOI tributary by 1300. Camped by a KAIM RIVER tributary at 1700, carriers exhausted by the heavy going through mud and water. Rain easing.
- 29.7.61-S; Three hours to deserted village site of IUGINA, camped. Tracks followed out and new village site located. Rain at night only.
- 30.7.61-S Self to new village OWENENA in 1 hr 15 mins. Names recorded, discussions etc and returned to camp. Thence 4 hrs to camp by an ELAVALA RIVER tributary. More heavy rain.
- 31.7.6.-M; Departed 0830, passed turnoff to KESEPAIEU at 1615 and camped near an old village site at 1700. Rain.
- 1.8.61-T; 1 hr 30 mins passed another old village site to ELAVALA floodwaters. Wade, swim etc for more than a mile to banks of river proper. Rafts constructed. Forced to leave at 1830 as last of dry land covered by rising water. 1 hr downstream to BIHANAI village where stopped the three rafts only with much difficulty. Everything ashore by 0130 per the minute village canoe. Raining.
- 2.8.61-W; At BIHANAI, drying out and two canoes begun. River still rising, rain.
- 3.8.61-T; Continuing canoe construction and swimming for sago. Rain.
- 4.8.61-F; Canoe and sago making, rain but river dropping.
- 5.8.61-S; Work continuing, one canoe launched 1400, river dropping fast.
- 6.8.61-S; From 0800 to 1900 down ELAVALA and FLY RIVERS to KIUNGA in the first canoe. Other canoe launched in afternoon.
- 7.8.61-M; 2000 hrs second canoe arrived KIUNGA.

oooOooo

INTRODUCTION:

The major object was to reach KIUNGA to prepare for the coming Strickland Patrol. However the normal route via the JUNE RIVER and the MOIAN villages was impassable due to the exceptionally high water.

The opportunity was taken to check on those villages rumored to be in the BOI - KAIM headwaters region.

Word was also sent out for sago to be stockpiled and tracks etc to be prepared along the carrying route for the coming patrol.

TOPOGRAPHY:

General poor country - very sparsely populated, practically no game once away from the BOI RIVER, only limited amounts of sago, apparently poor soil much of which is subject to flooding.

The sameness of the country is the most outstanding feature - innumerable isolated hillocks, completely patternless interspersed with creeks or swamps. The hills short and steep and never more than four hundred feet higher than the depressions, and all of it without exception covered by rain forest.

NATIVE AFFAIRS:

This area has only been visited twice since the War by patrols, but there was an APC camp near my Camp III. The last patrol was by Mr Calder P/O in 1953.

There are probably fewer than one hundred people in this isolated and unpleasant area. The eight days from KUDA to LAKE MURRAY via this area hardly seems warranted.

I suggest that the WAHOBIE people are combined with the IAGOP people as it is beyond them (I saw twenty-two people only) to make their isolated position readily accessible. They are related to the IAGOP people whose village is only a few hours by water transport from the station.

There was one village in this area which I did not visit and that is KWARANA, three to four hours east of JUGINA. Many of these villagers have their names in the MAGIPOPO book on LAKE MURRAY, however it is probable that there are some evaders yet. KWARANA is also six to seven hours west of KUDA.

On the basis of this I suggest that the next PARE patrol from Lake Murray come up the KAIM RIVER to the DEBORNA canoe place, leaving a canoe at the KAIM - WAI DURU junction. The patrol would then proceed overland to DEBORNA, SUSIABIRA and on via the normal route through the Pare. Returning to KUDA the patrol could swing west to KWARANA thence OWENENA. From OWENENA it should be possible to raft down the WAI DURU to the canoes and from there to the LAKE. MAGIPOPO, IAGOP, and WAHOBIE could be completed separately.

HEALTH:

Appeared generally pretty good and some use is made of the aid post at LAKE MURRAY and the medicine of the U.F.M. at KUDA.

AGRICULTURE:

Typical PARE gardens; small, poorly cleared, unfenced and untended. The gardens act merely as a small supplement to the staple sago.

Coconuts to be found at most village sites.

Large quantities of GAMADA in evidence.

ROADS AND BRIDGES:

Nothing but a few faint pads through this area, and all creeks were waded or bridged by the patrol. Also at the time of the patrol all depressions were flooded, generally not more than four feet deep, but mostly only one to two feet.

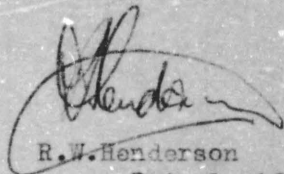
CONCLUSION:

Much of the PARE is yet to be censused and many hamlets to be located. Between OWENENA and PIPINA there are at least two family groups avoiding contact, one at MUWENE and the other led by one KOSOBI quite near PIPINA.

Within one days walk north from the BASE CAMP there are at least eight hamlets only four of which were located by Mr. Browne in 1960. There are more further north as yet uncontacted. How far in this direction the PARES extend before meeting AWINS to the west, and SUPPIS to the north or others unknown has not yet been determined. That SUPPIS live west of the STRICKLAND RIVER appears correct as I have had some minor contact with these people.

There are even evaders as yet between KUDA and the BASE CAMP with more hamlets to be located.

PARE land ownership extends over 40 miles east - west and at least 90 miles north - south and I estimate that there is between 500 and a 1,000 more PARES to be located. Any patrol attempting locate these people should be prepared to be out at least two months.



R.W. Henderson
Patrol Officer



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of WESTERN Report No. LAKE MURRAY 3/61-62
 Patrol Conducted by R.W. McLELLAN, PATROL OFFICER
 Area Patrolled SPECIAL PATROL TO STRICKLAND BASE CAMP & RENTOUL PATROL POST
 Patrol Accompanied by Europeans 2 DCA Personnel DEBEPARI - RENTOUL & RETURN
 Natives 4 RPONGG 27 CARRIERS
 Duration—From 8/2/1962 to 20/3/1962
 Number of Days 4-1
 Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO
 Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1/12/1961
 Medical 1/10/1960 ANTI YANS CAMPAIGN
 Map Reference MAP ATTACHED
 Objects of Patrol TO TAKE 2 DCA PERSONNEL FROM DEBEPARI MISSION TO RENTOUL PATROL POST & BACK

Duplicate Report + Map Held.

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £.....
 Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £.....
 Amount Paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund £.....

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MIG
In
F

67-3-9

KONFIDOBU.

18th June, 1962.

The District Officer,
Western District,
DARU.

PATROL REPORT NO. 3 - 61/62 LAKE MURRAY

Receipt of the above-mentioned Patrol Report is acknowledged with thanks.

The Report gives a very good description of the means of communication in the area.

It is gratifying to see that Officers are still self-reliant; this Officer has provided himself with canoes and food, two most important items when travelling in river country.

Any purchase of land from primitives is difficult - almost invariably some of the wrong people receive payment.

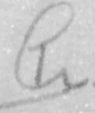
I am pleased to note that wherever contacted good relations were established - earlier action by members of an Administration patrol would have some influence on the people's attitudes.

Yes, I agree that any economic development in the PARS area will be very limited.

What is meant when the Officer says "the health of the people is reasonable"?

I am of the opinion that the PARS should not be developed too quickly.

Establish law and order and hold it at that for the time being.

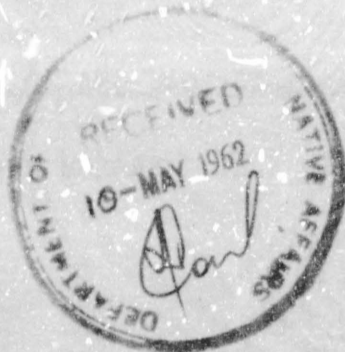

(W.R. LISHON)
A/Director.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-3-9 ✓

In Reply
Please Quote

No. 67-6-1



DISTRICT OFFICE,
DARU.
WESTERN DISTRICT.

1st May, 1962.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
KONEDOBU.

LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT NO.3. 1961/62.

Forwarded herewith are the necessary copies of the above mentioned report compiled by Mr. R.W. McLellan, P.O. Officer-in-Charge, Lake Murray Patrol Post.

Mr. McLellan was in advance of the D.C.A. personnel through the failure of that Department to adhere to original plans. However, he was able to gainfully employ himself as shown by the report.

Coming from Lake Murray he had the best canoe men available at his disposal and still found river movement in the Strickland area difficult. There is hope of making a path following the Nomad from the airstrip to the Strickland which will assist movement.

While the spelling by Mr. McLellan of PARE is correct the original spelling has reached the Village Directory and change could lead to confusion. The Patrol Post name has followed the airstrip name of NOMAD for practical purposes and unless you have views to the contrary I shall instruct officers to cease using RENTOUL or STRICKLAND.

The PARE people are not conveniently situated to Lake Murray, Kiunga or Nomad but apart from the presence of the Strickland River they are much closer to the last named. Ferryman stationed at the Strickland Base Camp and Igabira would solve some of the problems.

The Debepari Land Survey is not yet to hand and the Absconded Witness has been dealt with under separate correspondence.

The patrol was carried out in an efficient manner especially as Mr. McLellan was new to the particular difficulties found in the Lake Murray/Strickland areas.

He was also urgently needed back at his station which didn't allow any further time in the area after his escort duties were over.

The report is also well presented.

c.c.
O.I.C. Lake Murray.

R.I. MacLellan
(R.I. MACLELLAN)
DISTRICT OFFICER

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

SPECIAL PATROL STRICKLAND BASE CAMP AND RENTOUL PATROL POST.

LAKE MURRAY PATROL REPORT No. 3/61-62.

Officer conducting patrol: R.W. McLellan, P.O.

Accompanied by: Mr Antcliffe and Mr Campbell,
D.C.A. personnel. From Debepari
airstrip - Rentoul and return.

1 1/cpl. R.P.&N.G.C.
3 consts. "

26 carriers & 1 interpreter.

Duration: 8.2.62 to 20.3.62.
41 days.

Objects of patrol: To get the D.C.A. personnel
to Rentoul and return so that
they could survey the proposed
airstrip site.
(See also Introduction).

Map reference: Map attached.

Last Patrols: D.N.A. 12/61.
P.H.D. 10/60.

INTRODUCTION.

The primary objective of the patrol was to take two D.C.A. personnel from Debepari mission airstrip to the new Rentoul Patrol Post and airstrip site to enable them to carry out a survey of the airstrip site.

Other objectives were:

to build a canoe and to leave a supply of sago at the Strickland Base Camp in preparation for Mr R.R. Stott's patrol from Kiunga to Rentoul Patrol Post;

to carry out the preliminary land investigation for the Debepari mission and airstrip site;

to keep an eye open for the absconded prisoner and witnesses of the Const. Kasiga murder case.

The general plan was to get into the vicinity of Debepari, which is fairly remote from Lake Murray, and to carry out the secondary objectives while waiting for the D.C.A. Personnel to arrive.

DIARY

- 8th February. Left Lake Murray Patrol Post after the 8.45 radio schedule. Launch Miwa towing 2 canoes proceeded down Lake Murray then up the Kaim liver. Camped at dusk on the river bank.
- 9th. Broke camp and proceeded at 7a.m. Arrived at canoe landing place (Deborena track) at 6 p.m. and made camp.
- 10th. Moored canoes and sent Miwa back to Lake Murray. Drizzling rain and set off at 9a.m. Arrived Deborena 4p.m. and slept Deborena rest house.
- 11th. Walked from Deborena to Kuda village via Susiabira village and Debepari mission. 5 hours walking. Called at mission and met Mr and Mrs Cochrane. Set up camp at Kuda rest house.
- 12th. Spent at Kuda village and Debepari mission awaiting news of D.C.A. personnel.
- 13th. Telegram received advising probable arrival of D.C.A. men in early March.
- 14th. Word sent out for owners of the proposed mission lease to come in to Kuda. Saw some owners p.m. but discovered that some had not bothered to come. Started cutting boundary track to compass bearing.
- 15th. Cutting track to compass bearing.
- 16th. Cutting track to compass bearing. Further discussions with the owners at night.
- 17th. Cutting track to compass bearing.
- 18th Sunday observed at Kuda

- Feb. 19th. Surveying with chain and compass. Cessna landed at Debepari ex Rentoul airdrop. Talks with C.P.O. Mr Russel for 10 minutes. Mail and canoe adzes brought.
- 20th. Chaining straight edges of proposed lease. Finished field work of survey.
- 21st. Patrol walked from Kuda village to Strickland base camp. 9 hours walking.
- 22nd. Started making canoe. Remainder of carriers making sago.
- 23rd. Strickland flooding and no work done on canoe. (All good canoe trees in the vicinity of the base camp had been chopped out and good canoe trees had been found on an island in the river). Some sago made.
- 24th. Building canoe and making sago. Runner arrived with telegram instructing return to Debepari as D.C.A. men arriving the next week.
- 25th. Left 12 carriers under the Corporal at the base camp and walked to Wakiana enroute Kuda. Slept Wakiana rest house.
- 26th. Walked from Wakiana to Kuda. Radio schedule with Kiunga from Debepari at 1.30p.m.
- 27th. Spent at Kuda rest house and Debepari mission.
- 28th. At Kuda. Radio schedule with Kiunga but reception poor.
- MARCH 1st. D.C.A. Inspectors arrived at Debepari mission on M.A.F. Cessna.
- 2nd. With two D.C.A. men, walked from Kuda to Igabira. 4 hours walking.
- 3rd. Walked from Igabira to Igabira canoe place. 2 hours. Crossed the Strickland and paddled for 3½ hours up the Rentoul to its junction with the Nomad. Paddled for 2 hours up the Nomad and camped on the left bank.
- 4th. Nomad river flooding so observed Sunday on the bank of the river.
- 5th. Paddled and hauled the canoe for 7½ hours and reached Rentoul Patrol Post at 4.20p.m.
- 6th. Assisted two D.C.A. men with land survey. Discussions with Mr. Lang.
- 7th. "
- 8th. "
- 9th. " . Finished land survey.
- 10th. With 2 D.C.A. men, returned to Igabira. Rentoul to Strickland, 4 hours. Across Strickland to canoe place, 1 hour. Canoe place to Igabira, 2 hours.
- 11th. Igabira - Debepari. Dropped D.C.A. men off at mission and slept Kuda rest house.
- 12th. Interviewed an absconded witness who had reappeared from the bush South of Igabira and had been brought to the mission. Conversation with Kiunga and Mr Lang at Rentoul concerning the matter.
D.C.A. men returned to Fort Moresby ex Debepari by Cessna.
- 13th. Conversation with Kiunga. Proposed trip to Kiunga cancelled, so sent constable to base camp to advise corporal to finish the canoe which they were building

DAIRY (contd.)

- and return to Kuda.
- March 14th. Radio conversation with Kiunga and Rentoul concerning witness and possibility of locating escaped prisoner (dcd?).
- 15th. Cessna to Debepari but nothing concerning patrol.
- 16th. At Kuda rest house commencing patrol report.
- 17th. Corporal and carriers returned from base camp.
- 18th. Full patrol walked from Kuda to Deborena. Village deserted and had been for some time. Constable sent back to Susiabira to get villagers to bring sago and bananas for carriers.
- 19th. Deborena - Kaim river (2p.m.). Paddled downstream until 6 p.m. and camped on the right bank.
- 20th. Broke camp and set off 7a.m. Met Mr Bachhaus, Lake Murray Education Officer, coming up river in "Miwa" at 12 noon. Tied canoes to "Miwa" and reached Lake Murray Patrol Post at 10 p.m.

DEPT. CIVIL AVIATION INSPECTION AND SURVEY

The two D.C.A. men were conducted with as little inconvenience as possible from Debepari to Rentoul and return. Relations were good during the whole of the patrol.

The airstrip survey showed that the site was satisfactory for a Cessna, Piaggio and probably a DC3 Strip eventually.

This will undoubtedly be covered by correspondence from a/A.D.C., Mr Lang and D.C.A. Inspector, Mr Antcliffe, and the major concern of the patrol was just to get the D.C.A. men to Rentoul and back.

This was achieved with the only delays being caused by natural hazards such as a flood and rapids.

PREPARATION FOR THE PATROL OF MR STOTT, P.C.

A large canoe with paddles and a quantity of sago were left at the Strickland Base Camp for Mr Stott's patrol.

While the writer was at Rentoul, the carriers lost the first canoe which they made. This was in spite of repeated warnings, as the Lake Murray people are notorious for their carelessness in mooring canoes. Apparently, they pulled the canoe up onto the bank of the Strickland as they do at Lake Murray. The river rose a few feet during the night and took the canoe with it.

Fortunately, the corporal and carriers had time to make another canoe before the patrol returned to Lake Murray.

DEBEPARI LAND SURVEY

The survey was carried ^{out} and the usual investigation report will be sent in.

Discussions with the owners of the land were difficult. The people answered many questions with completely irrelevant answers such as "I want an axe". The Pari interpreter was not 1st class, but even allowing for that, it was obvious that the people were not interested. They merely wanted to grab a few trade goods and be

DEBEPARI LAND SURVEY (contd.)

finished. This was not seen as being a 'bad attitude' but as a reflection of the abundance of land in the Pari area.

Fortunately, all the owners enthusiastically agreed that the mission should stay on the land.

ABSCONDED WITNESS

The woman who reappeared from the bush South of Igabira is the wife of Habi, the escaped prisoner who was one of the accused in the Const. Kasiga murder case.

The woman reported that both Habi and the other absconding female witness had perished. The woman's story is contained in confidential memo 37-4-4 of 6th April, 1962 from O.I.C. Lake Murray to the District Officer, Daru.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

Although this was not a normal patrol, sufficient was seen of the Pari people to record a few observations under the headings of a normal patrol report.

The Pari area is remote from both Kiunga and Lake Murray.

The second and last census patrol was in October-November 1959. However, during the past year or so, much of the Pari area has been covered by officers concerned with setting up the Strickland Base Camp and Rentoul Patrol Post and by officers looking for Constable Kasiga's murderers.

Wherever the people were contacted, good relations were established and food was brought to the patrol in exchange for trade goods. This trading was the main interest which the patrol held for the people and is a good opening gambit.

In spite of the good relations with the people contacted, many people kept out of sight of the patrol.

At the present stage of the Pari's development, it appears that the only effective way of contacting everybody is by the compulsion of census taking combined with plenty of advance propaganda to get the people in from their sage places and bush shacks.

Once the people become aware of the Administration's aims in such fields as health, education and law and justice, and if the Administration can give them some concrete examples of its intentions, they may become more interested.

Unfortunately, economic development is precluded because of extremely poor communications.

The Paris who wish to advance materially will have to go out to work and they show no enthusiasm or aptitude for this avenue. There are very few who wish to work for the mission at Debepari and none work for Mr Lang at Rentoul. Perhaps the lure of Daru or Port Moresby would attract some workers, but the workers already returned from Daru exhibited no changes greater than a smattering of Motu and the remnants of peroxidized hair.

In general, the outlook for the Paris is not good and even if they attain a certain standard of health and education, it will probably be a heavily subsidised standard.

for

NATIVE AFFAIRS (contd.)

for the foreseeable future. The Paris are in an unfavourable geographical position and they are thinly spread over a large area.

These people would not rate highly in order of precedence if the Administration's policy were not for uniform development.

Neither of the prerequisites, favourable conditions or enthusiasm for advance are present.

HEALTH

The health of the people was reasonable. The usual cases of tinea and tropical ulcers were noted. The mission has an outpatients aid post and common sicknesses such as diarrhoea, malaria, ulcers and burns can be treated effectively. Pre natal and ante natal clinics are conducted by Mrs. Cochrane.

The mission is a long way from the northern Pari villages and when a regular line of communication is established between Kiunga and the Rentoul Patrol Post, an aidpost could be built along that route. However, this should not be attempted until an adequate method of supply is assured.

There was an epidemic of chicken pox in the area but no deaths were reported.

Medical emergencies are flown out by Cessna from the mission strip.

ROADS BRIDGES AND CANOEING

Most of the roads used were fair bush tracks and most of the streams were bridged with contraptions of various degrees of safety.

The state of roads and bridges (and villages) seems to vary directly with the regularity of patrolling.

The track between Deberena and the Kaim river was knee-waist deep in water for the two miles nearest to the Kaim River on the return journey. Otherwise, the tracks used were more or less all weather. However, what Mr Brown (patrolling in October) described as a fast dry track was often a wet leech ridden track in February. From all accounts, it seems that Sept.-November is the best time to patrol the Pari area.

The trip from Kuda to Rentoul was interesting but that route was found to be unsuitable as a regular channel of communication. There are three major obstacles:

The Nomad River;
The Strickland River;
and a sago swamp knee deep in water and about two miles across between Igabira and the Strickland River.

The Nomad river is fast flowing and difficult to paddle against. In addition, there are numerous rock bars and rapids which a canoe has to be hauled through.

The river is subject to flash flooding and often floods at this time of the year.

When the patrol came downstream, the river was flooding moderately and the 10 hour drag upstream took only 2 hours to retrace.

By comparison, the Rentoul section took 3½ hours upstream and 2 hours down stream.

Crossing the Strickland at anything but very low water should only be attempted by experienced canoeemen such as the Sukis. Even the Sukis find it necessary to go about a mile upstream from the point on the opposite bank which they wish to reach.

EDUCATION

Education in the Pari area is still very much in its infancy. The mission has started a school and now has about 20 pupils.

The patrol spread propoganda favouring the mission school and the result was an increased attendance. It is to be hoped that the attendance does not fall back now that the patrol is out of the area.

Most of the pupils are from Kuda village and the mission is having a hard job recruiting other pupils. The mission deserves all the assistance that government officers can give it in this field as it represents the sole educational opening for the Paris.

MISSIONS

The U.F.M. run by Mr and Mrs Cochrane is the only mission in the area. Relations were good and the missionaries offered their hospitality and assistance. Of particular help was the use of the mission radio.

The secular activities of the mission are discussed under health and education. In addition the mission is helping agriculture with the introduction of such crops as corn and new varieties of bananas.

CONCLUSION

The Pari problem at present is tied up with the whole migrant labour problem.

There are no educated Paris and as commercial agriculture is not possible, outside employment is the only present avenue of development for adult Paris.

The advantages which such employment, under the present system of migrant labour, would bring to the people back in the Pari area are questionable.

The prospect is different from areas where newly awakened desires of returning labourers can be channeled into commercial agriculture.

There were no people seen between Lake Murray and Deborena or between the Strickland River and Rentoul Patrol Post.

The objectives of the patrol were carried out. In addition, the patrol was an interesting experience of getting to know some of the enormous problems facing development in one of the less favoured areas of the Territory.

Ramsdell

6.4.62.

LAKE MURRAY RR. 3/61-62.

STRICKLAND-RENTOUL TRAIL.

Map. 6/4/62.

4 miles = 1"

--- WALKING TRACK
..... RIVER TRANSPORT.

