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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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NATIONAL ARCHIVES OF P.N.G. - WAILELENI.

PATROL REPORT OF: TARI SOUTHERN HIGHLAND ACC. NO: 496.

Volume No: 1 1951-1953 Number of Reports: 4

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SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS DISTRICT

TARI SUBDISTRICT

PATROL REPORTS:

1951/1952

1952/1953

INTERIM REPORT

TAKI PATROL

27th July 1951

S. SMITH.

RUMUHURI,

Tari River Basin

19th August, 1951.

The Director,
District Services & Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

INTERIM REPORT - TARI PATROL

1. The patrol left Lake Kutubu Station on the 27th July 1951 and reached Hoiyevia in the Tari Basin on 6th August. A base camp was made on the Taylor-Black airdrop site of 1938 which was found by astro-fix to be in Lat. $5^{\circ} 59' 21'' S$ Long. $142^{\circ} 57' 57'' E$. Hoiyevia is the name given to a garden area 450 yds. long on the Southern bank of the Arjena River above its junction with the Dagia River.

2. Using Hoiyevia Camp as a base short patrols were made over the surrounding country which was examined for possible airstrip and dropping sites. On 11th August a site 1800 yds. long by 200 to 300 feet wide was located at RUMU in Lat. $5^{\circ} 50' 14'' S$. Long. $142^{\circ} 52' 45'' E$.

3. Although the strip is through old gardens, light scrub and cane grass and is cut by 28 ditches, some 12 to 15 feet deep, it is the best site seen to date, having the following advantages -

(a) Sufficient length (1800 yds.) for large aircraft at the altitude (5250 ft. a.s.l.)

(b) In the direction of the prevailing winds (N.W. and S.E.)

(c) Clear approaches from either end. To the S.E. the nearest ground higher than the strip site is 9 miles distant and 1500 ft. above its level. To the N.W. the approach lies to the east of Mt. Huriba (7200 ft. a.s.l. and $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles distant) over spurs less than 1000 ft. higher than the strip level.

(d) The strip site itself and a considerable area surrounding it is uninhabited although it is in the centre of a thickly populated area. The natives have raised no objections to us using it for it is a "no-man's land" because of tribal fighting.

(e) Several excellent station sites on fertile, level ground are available very close to the strip site and it should be possible to purchase 500 acres of uninhabited ground for the purpose.

(f) There is another site, a little under 1000 yds. long and intersecting the present site almost at right angles i.e. E. and W. and cross wind during the S.E. Season.

(g) Local natives, some of whom have visited Wabaga and Lake Kutubu (pre-war) are keen to have us establish a station here and are willing to work on its construction. A labour force of 150 or more could be recruited in the immediate vicinity of the strip site.

Its disadvantages are :-

(a) The surface of the strip site, although level, is very rough and will require a considerable amount of work. It is broken by old overgrown mound-type gardens divided by large ditches 12 to 15 feet deep. There are small areas of medium size trees, the stumps of which will be hard to shift without special equipment - such as tree-pullers.

(b) The nearest stone available for filling of ditches and the construction of drains etc. is from the bed of the shallow ARJENA River $\frac{1}{2}$ mile distant and 200 feet below the strip level.

The large ditches have little filling material near them as in the majority of cases, the earth taken from them has disappeared - some must be over 20 years old. Filling material would have to be taken from the surface of the strip etc.

(c) It might prove difficult to keep a labour force of 100 to 200 men continually working on the strip because of almost constant tribal fighting and consequent interruption of local food and labour supplies. This difficulty can, of course, be overcome but it will take time.

4. AREAS EXAMINED.

The floor of the Tari Basin east of the Dagia River from the bordering ranges south of the Huria River to the range north of the Arjena River was traversed by the patrol. Large areas of grass which, on first sight seemed ideal for airstrips proved, on closer examination, to be ankle to knee-deep marsh.

Rising ground north of the Arjena and west of the Dagia seemed to offer better possibilities and was examined closely, using Hoiyevia as a base camp. In the Dawi area there are many grass spurs but these are irregular in formation and obstructed by spurs of the range originating in Mt. Hurik and running south to Mt. Iamu and Mt. Rimi.

The flat spurs to the north-east of Mt. Iamus in the bend of the Dagia River seems the best area for airstrip sites, being comparatively clear of higher ground which would obstruct approaches. There are at least 3 possible airstrip sites 1000 yds long in this area - all beginning a lot of work - but only one of them runs in the direction of the prevailing winds e.g. NW. and SE. requiring

Unfortunately, the whole of the area so far examined is criss-crossed by large man-made ditches 12 to 15 ft. deep and anything up to 12 to 15 feet wide at the top. These are constructed for defence and are formidable obstacles, most of them having to be bridged before they can be crossed. A cross section of the two types is given hereunder



As the deepest of the ditches is many years old the greater part of the soil taken from them has disappeared. It gives some indication of the density of population when it is considered that there is hardly 200 yds. of good ground which has not been cut by a ditch.

5. Airstrip Construction.

The speed with which an airstrip can be constructed in the area will depend almost entirely on the willingness of the local natives to assist. To date they have been willing and very efficient workers despite the fact we have been unable to supply them with tools or pay them in trade - no rash promises being made on the possibility of an airdrop of stores. After watching them work with only pointed sticks, stone axes and their bare hands it is going to be very interesting to see the results achieved when we can give them knives, axes and shovels. Until we can do this I hesitate to give even a rough estimate of the time it will take to construct a 1000 yd. strip on the present site. It may take 6 months or more as the surface, unlike that at Mendi, will have to be disturbed and it will no doubt take some time for it to settle. At the moment I am hoping the

clay sub-soil will prove sufficiently hard when exposed to take the weight of small aircraft without a covering of grass. Incidentally, I have to date seen no types of grass here suitable for an airstrip.

In short, we should have a better idea after a month's work how long it will be before an aircraft can land.

6. STORES AND SUPPLIES.

The patrol, as originally planned, was to consist of 2 Officers, 9 Police 3 interpreters and 36 carriers (the latter recruited at Wabaga). This patrol would, on its own resources, have been able to remain in the field for at least 2½ months. Owing, however, to the last minute addition of a 3rd Officer and 3 police the endurance of the patrol was reduced to 7 weeks. Hence, before leaving LAKE KUTUBU, supplies for both European and native personnel for a period of 3 months were assembled for an airdrop. Also included were a quantity of trade goods and 72 hand tools e.g. spades, mattocks etc.

Because of the unexpectedly enthusiastic response of the local natives and the fact that it will be almost impossible to construct a strip in this area without employing them in large numbers, the trade goods included in the above supplies will, it is thought, prove inadequate. A list of trade goods to be used in payment of local labour is attached and it is suggested that these items be supplied by airdrop in about one month's time i.e. 22nd September.

7. RADIO COMMUNICATION.

The patrol has one ATR4A Transceiver with 2 Eveready Q460 (or Diamond WD33) dry batteries. With this equipment VL8BM Port Moresby, Lake Kutubu, Air Radio Wewak and Qantas Catalina VH-RBD have been briefly contacted on one occasion each. Unfortunately a brand new battery with seals intact and obtained, I believe by Mr. J.R. Foldi from the A.P.C. proved to be faulty. It registered less than ½ charge when first used and the patrol is now relying on a second battery brought through from Mendi.

A TRP1 Transceiver with dry batteries was also brought to Lake Kutubu from Mendi but it developed an internal fault en route and was left at Lake Kutubu with instructions that it be forwarded to Port Moresby for repairs. Although another WD33 or Q460 dry battery for the ATR4A has been asked for in this airdrop (on 22nd or 23rd August) it is suggested that some consideration be given to the possibility of dropping by storepedo the TRP1 Transceiver with a heavy-duty "Camp" Battery - which, I believe, has a life of 400 hours. This would ensure very reliable radio communication until such time as 3BZ equipment can be supplied. Perhaps Mr. J.R. Foldi's opinion could be sought on this matter?

8. WEATHER.

Until 15th August the weather has been excellent - clear, cold nights with heavy morning mists clearing between 0800 hrs. and 0900 hrs. From 0900 hrs. to 1500 hrs. the days have been bright with light Southerly winds. After 1500 hrs. high cumulus usually formed on Mt. Kerewa and Mt. Ambua in the Humphries Range to the east and south-east and the Hides and Karius Ranges to the north and west. To the South down the Tari Valley the visibility usually remained very good until late in the afternoon. The temperature has ranged between 55°F at night and during the early morning and 80°F during the noon hours.

On 15th August we had our first heavy rain and since then it has rained regularly every afternoon, commencing about 1530 hrs. Visibility during the past few days has been bestie. 15 miles, between 1000 hrs. and 1430 hrs.

9. POPULATION.

Because of the Tari, or, as they call themselves the Huri, natives habit of living in small hamlets and garden houses carefully hidden in the bush and cambrakes and elaborately fortified by deep trenches it would be impossible, at this stage, to give even a reasonably accurate estimate of the population in the Tari basin. The patrol, except for the first two days after leaving Lake Kutubu was, always able to make camp in inhabited areas and the impression gained after walking around the Tari Basin is that it is densely populated. Every piece of arable land is, or has been, under cultivation during the past 2 or 3 years. A good part of the area is forested but many of the trees appear to have been hand-planted e.g. Casurina are used to line ditches dividing gardens and copses of other trees are preserved for building material and firewood.

10. FOOD SUPPLIES.

We have had no trouble in buying ample quantities of sweet potatoes, native cabbage, bananas, sugar cane etc. during the patrol and supplies have been especially plentiful while in the vicinity of Hoiyevia where also we were brought small quantities of eschalottes, corn, European cabbage and English potatoes. The latter were very small. The natives say they brought the seeds for these English vegetables through from Wabaga where they also have obtained some pigs with a strain of Berkshire in them (presumably from Mr. D. Leahy's farm at Kuta).

The most popular type of sweet potato in this area is a yellow variety introduced by Mr. Ivan Champion while at Lake Kutubu pre-war. I believe these were originally brought from Queensland by an oil company to feed their native labour. They are much sweeter and have far less fibre in them than the local variety. Because they came from Kutubu to here they are known as "Kaima" the Motu for sweet potato. Seeds of tomatoes, beans, cabbag, carrots etc. have been distributed and planted in native gardens in the vicinity of Hoiyevia.

The patrol has been able to purchase 9 pigs to date for a tomahawk each. The most popular items of trade for food buying are - pearl shell (gold lip), beads, tomahawks and steel goods, giri-giri (small cowrie shell) and salt. Giri-giri shell is very popular but unfortunately the patrol has only a small supply - brought from Mendi. The small Tambu shell, so popular at Hagen, is valueless here. The natives here are able to cut and skin raw pearl-shell.

11. NATIVE SITUATION.

No trouble has been experience in our dealings with the natives. There is constant small scale fighting amongst themselves. This takes the form of raids, sometimes at night, in which a few houses are burnt and one or two individuals arrowed. As this sometimes happens within a mile or two of the camp (in one instance the houses of our visitors went up in flames) it naturally has a disturbing effect and tends to make the supply of food and labour somewhat uncertain.

We have taken no part in these disputes although, by mediation, we have in two instances been able to arrange a temporary "cease-fire". By letting it be known that we strongly deprecate raids on our allies i.e. those temporarily absent from guard and gardening duties to assist us in our work and ~~to~~ bring us food, and by threatening to cut off trade relations and impose sanctions on the offending parties, I think there is a slight improvement in the inter-tribal situation since we arrived here. A deputation of

over 100 armed men from the Huria River people who had lately been fighting the Magabu people near the camp, visited us and by paying the Magabu a pig declared an amnesty for, as their spokesman said, they would like to send some of their young men to work for the Government.

In our dealings with the natives here we are fortunate in having the assistance of old Hedabi of Hoiyevia who sports a battered cloth hat and gas mask haversack and has been to Wabaga. He seems to have very considerable influence amongst a large number of warring clans in all of which he is accorded "diplomatic immunity". One of our interpreters described him as a man of peace - like a missionary, he only talks - and his badges of office are a black palm staff and a broken bow - the latter evidence of his peaceful tendencies.

Another man who has been of great assistance is Punga of Gigida - a war leader but very much on our side because of happy memories of several months spent at Lake Kutubu Station where he was taken by Mr. Ivan Champion in 1939. Since then he has also visited Wabaga and Hagen and now speaks a little Pidgin English and Police Motu. Both Hedabi and Punga were able, having seen airstrips, to assist us very considerably in our searches.

SUMMARY -

1. The Tari Basin seems an ideal place for a station. The population is large, friendly and easily accessible.
2. Considerable work will be necessary before a strip can be constructed in this area.
3. There is a good possibility of constructing an 1800 yard airstrip 200 feet wide at Rumu.
4. There is also a good possibility of us being able to construct an 800 yard strip 200 feet wide suitable for light aircraft in considerably less time than the main strip.
5. The success of the undertaking will depend a lot on (a) radio communication and (b) air drops of stores.

S. Smith

a/A.D.O. Mendi

P.S. Please have copies of this report sent to D.C. Goroka, A.D.O. Mendi, Wabaga and Lake Kutubu. Also one copy for Tari file.

STORES Required for payment of Native Labour etc. -

Axes $\frac{3}{4}$ (2 $\frac{1}{2}$ lb heads)	- 50 (preferably "Elwell")
" $\frac{1}{2}$ (2 lb. heads)	- 100
Tomahawks, good quality	- 200
Knives, Army 15"	- 200
" Trade 12"	- 400
Pearl Shell, gold tip	- 400
Salt	- 500 lbs.
Beads, red, white, black & yellow	- 75 "
Giri Giri (small cowrie shell)	- 200 "
Calico, brightly coloured	- 500 yds. (preferably Red)
Flannel Vests	- 200 only
Blankets, Wool	- 300 "
Belts, leather, waist	- 200 "
<u>TOOLS</u>	
Spades, square mouth	- 80 only
Mattocks, with handles	- 20 "
Wheel barrows	- 10 "
Tree Puller	- 2 " (check name)
Rope $1\frac{1}{2}$ " circ. manilla	- 600 feet

P.S. Some of the above trade will be used to purchase land.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply
Please Quote

DEPARTMENT OF GOVERNMENT SECRETARY
28 SEP 1951
CENTRAL ADMINISTRATION

D.S. 30-16-120 ✓

DEPARTMENT OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY,

27th September, 1951.

MEMORANDUM FOR—

Government Secretary,
PORT MORESBY.

DEPARTMENT OF DISTRICT SERVICES
6 OCT 1951
NATIVE AFFAIRS

INTERIM REPORT - TARI PATROL -
SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS DIVISION.

Forwarded herewith are three copies of a report received from Mr. S.S. Smith, a/Assistant District Officer who was instructed to locate and proceed with the construction of an aerodrome in the Upper Tari Valley, north-west of Lake Kutubu. The report was sent through Wabap.

Recent advice was received from you that the sum of £2500 which was required for the preliminary construction of this aerodrome, could not be allowed and therefore Mr. Smith has been instructed not to proceed any further with the work.

The lack of an aerodrome in this area will greatly retard the extension of Government influence.

Seen with interest & appreciation.

The airfield is not necessarily out at this stage.

J.H. Jones 9/10/51

(J. H. Jones)
DIRECTOR

Seen [Signature] 10/10/51

Noted [Signature]

Points plane of action

P/A a/c [Signature]

→ DDSYNA

W. Blampden
Mr. Volde
28/9/51

1 of 52/53.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Patrol Report. Nos Kut 6- 52
 Tar 1- 52

The District Commissioner,
 Southern Highlands District,
 M.P.N.D.I.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN - S.H.D.

Patrol Conducted by : Arthur.T.Carey. a/A.D.C.

Accompanied by:

Europeans.

Ronald.T.Neville. Patrol Officer

T. Morrish Cadet. (As
 from 2 Nov.)

Natives.

Police. 14

Interpreters. 1.

Medical Orderly. 1.

Native Carriers. 46.

Last Patrol to the Area:-

Mr S.S.Smith and party - July 26
 to October 24th, 1961.

Patrol Commenced:-

May 9th, 1962

Patrol Completed:-

Nov 13th, 1962

Number of Days: 139.

Reason for Patrol:

a. Proceed to, and complete,
 airstrip in the Tari Basin pre-
 viously commenced by former
 patrol under Mr S. Smith.

b. Maintain friendly relations
 with local natives and establish
 a Government Station within the
 Tari Basin.

Map Reference:

Map compiled by S.Smith from
 information gained from pre-war
 patrols and his mapping of the ar-
 ea N.W. of Lake Kutubu.

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REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

INTRODUCTION.

During the latter portion of 1951, a decision was made to investigate the area to the North West of Lake Kutubu which included the Tari River watershed, and there establish a Government station.

In July of that year, a patrol led by Mr S. Smith and consisting of Mr D. Clancy, a/AIO, and Mr R.T. Neville, Patrol Officer, departed from Lake Kutubu to endeavour to locate a suitable site in this sector. The decision depended on the availability of an airstrip site, and this became the prime objective of the patrol.

After an extensive survey of the Tari Basin, from the foothills of the Mambaries Range in the East to the Maibuga Marsh in the West, the party located a possible site near the Tebi River at a place some 2 miles West of Holyavia - at which latter place Mr. J. Taylor, a former member of District Services, had had an air-drop in the course of an extended exploratory patrol pre-war. Having found a satisfactory site, the party did extensive work on clearing and grubbing bush and cane grass over an area some 1300 yards in length and 100 yards wide.

As a result of drastic financial cuts at the end of 1951 the party was recalled in October when they were almost to the stage of levelling the site for trial by aircraft. The party, on withdrawal, split into two groups; Mr Smith leading one party to Wabaga to repatriate labour; and Mr Clancy, with a line of local native volunteers, proceeded South to Kutubu.

In early 1952, finance having been made available, the decision was made to go ahead with the previous programme, and the second patrol proceeded from Kutubu on the 9th May to take over where the previous party was forced to leave off.

The Huri natives who had been brought to Kutubu by the previous patrol numbered 35, some 15 natives having deserted in the interim, and these formed the nucleus of carriers, thus obviating the necessity of recruiting outside natives for the task.

For the purpose of this report, the patrol is deemed to have concluded with the establishing of an airstrip, thus ensuring a permanent line of supply, and an enduring Government establishment within the area.

DIAFY:-

Friday, May 24th.

Packs allocated and adjusted during the morning. At this stage the carrier line was augmented by five (5) natives from Pai, a village on route, who had come into Kutubu. The decision was made to utilize them as far as their village, and from there endeavour to obtain casual labour on a village to village basis onwards - in the event of labour being unavailable the loads would be cached.

Utilizing the two available station canoes and four from Masemi village on the lake, the patrol dep-

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

started from Kutubu Government station at 1407 hours. A tearful parting took place between the Tari natives and the members of the station who were remaining. Though anxious to return to their own area and villages, the natives were genuinely sorry to leave the environs of the station and Lake to which they found, on parting, they had become attached.

The jances moved across to the North West corner of the Lake and entered the TUGIBU creek, a small feeder stream, and continued upstream for some 25 mins till we arrived at No 1 Camp, previously established and cleared by Smith and Clancy on their numerous patrols from Kutubu.

Mr D. Wren, A/ADO, who accompanied the party to this point, returned to Kutubu with the canoes at 1630 hours.

Camp erected, the European Officers using a Rest House constructed by the local natives, and rations brought across from the station, issued to the line.

Saturday, May 10th.

Broke camp at 0630k, and following the Tugibu Creek, proceeded along a freshly cut track heading generally North West. This track, which passes through very heavy rain forest, was cut by a party sent out prior to the patrol's departure - a heavy wind storm having caused many falls across the old track. This party also cached food at the No 1 camp site so that the party's food would be conserved.

The creek being followed until it disappeared under the limestone, the party continued up the defile still through heavy rain forest. Carriers, unused to carrying made heavy going, and both Police and Officers assisted in carrying packs while urging on the remainder of the line who were forever tending to straggle.

At 1105k the party arrived at No 2 camp - again merely a clearing of the thick bush which had been maintained by former patrols.

Camp erected and carriers lined for medical treatment. The days tally was two carriers u/s; one with a twisted knee and the other suffering a severe attack of fever - the remainder suffering 'big shame' for their poor performance. Individual packs again adjusted for the morrow.

Sgt SAFE and five Sambirigi labourers of the cutting party reported to camp at 1700k and informed us that the road was cleared to the head of the range. Arranged to have the Sambirigi carriers assist with cargo to their camp higher up the range.

Light rain fell during late afternoon.

Sunday, May 11th.

The two crippled carriers, together with Sgt Safe and the Sambirigi labourers left camp at daybreak. Camp broken at 0656k and patrol proceeded up the dry surface bed of the Tugibu creek on a fairly easy grade till 0800k when we commenced to climb very steeply from the gully to the head of the range. Spelled for 5 mins

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

before moving along the head of the range, climbing steadily. Arrived at camp utilized by the roadcutters at 0855k and spelled for 40 minutes to allow carriers to catch up and re-organize. Sgt Safe and labourers returned to Kutubu.

0935. Continued along range till 1030k when dropped down the Western fall to cross the WAGI Creek. Patrol now in uncleared bush and continued generally westerly along a very poor track, extremely wet and treacherous and blocked in many places by fallen trees which had to be cleared before the patrol could advance.

1300k. Broke out of the timber into a clearing about 1 mile square, covered with kunai and with scattered gardens. Moving to the west patrol crossed the clearing and forded the AIU River. Here small groups of armed natives met the patrol and followed till, at 1316k the party halted and pitched camp in an old garden on the western side of the clearing, at FAUWA.

While camp was being set up, some 30 males and 20 women assembled and no difficulty was experienced in purchasing adequate supplies of sweet potato, sugar and greens for the needs of the patrol. These people have had much contact with Kutubu and were well aware of the needs of the patrol. A talk was had with the assembled natives on Administration generally and the idea of a permanent road between Fauwa and Kutubu, as a first step in the long range plan of a Tari/Kutubu road, was discussed.

Later in the evening, 10 Fauwa natives requested that they be allowed assist the carriers on the next stage as they were distantly related to some of the carriers. Their assistance was welcomed as the carriers, though much improved, left much to be desired.

It was ascertained that, in this area, the population has been decimated by previous incessant fighting and that numbers of the inhabitants had fled to AUGU and PAI to escape annihilation. It is expected that many of the former inhabitants will return now that fighting has ceased.

Monday, May 12th.

A dull morning. Broke camp at 0700k, but departure delayed awaiting the arrival of local volunteers. On their arrival at 0730k the party moved off. Proceeding to the west, the patrol climbed through lighter bush until the head of the range was found at 0807k. Descending through bush, entered a small open unpopulated valley and crossed the KONDARI Creek, which here flows to the south, and spelled in a garden just a little south of Smiths No 4 Camp.

Party continued on at 0930k, and after negotiating a couple of small, timbered, ranges following ill-defined native pads, descended very steeply to cross the PORORO Creek some half mile above its junction with the POGONO River

1345k. Pitched camp in a small clearing above the junction of the two waters; the site of Clancy/ Neville's camp on their return journey to Kutubu. The Fauwa natives, who had carried well through the day, desired to return to their village and were paid off.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

Rice issued to Police and carriers.

It is obvious that, at some previous stage, this Pogono River valley was populated, for though narrow, much of the area has been gardened and kumai has taken over from the bush. At present the area is uninhabited.

Late in the evening an old native, one TARKO, and his wife arrived in camp. They were from PAI and had been engaged in hunting in the valley. As they were returning to their village they decided to accompany the patrol on the morrow.

Tuesday, May 13th.

Leaving Camp 4 at 0645k, the party descended to the Pogono River and wading and following the edges where possible, proceeded up the river in a generally northerly direction. At 0730k the river was left, and following a small track the patrol climbed westwards through dense timber. The head of the range being found, we descended steeply to cross the HOTO creek, which at this point runs swiftly through a narrow limestone gorge some 40 feet deep.

It was noted here that the road had been freshly cleaned in small sections, and it was ascertained that the Pai natives, hearing of the patrol's approach, had come as far as the Hoto and spent a little time clearing the track.

After crossing the Hoto and surmounting a small, steep limestone outcrop which divides the Hoto and one of its small tributaries, the Kwenda Creek, the party climbed to a spur where we were by a small group of natives from Pai who had been awaiting the patrol.

Spelled here for 30 minutes and at 1015k, with the Pai natives assisting the carriers, we proceeded westerly into the Pai, or Harenda valley, through small areas of grass and bush. Some 30 minutes later the patrol passed the small hamlet of Yangobe and proceeded for some distance through quite extensive cultivations. Through this section the natives appeared numerous, and apart from a group of about 50 natives of both sexes who were following the patrol, numbers were sighted standing on small rises on either side of the track. Though armed the natives made no gesture apart from showing a polite interest in what was going on.

Proceeding Northwards up the valley the patrol now entered an extensive area of thick cane-grass upwards of 10 feet high, and a conglomeration of the typical native trenches which, in this area, act both as fences, roads, and defensive works. Within the next hour the patrol negotiated some six palisades which are erected across the 10 to 15 feet deep ditches we were traversing. These palisades are made of split timber 12 to 15 feet in height planted in the ground and extending across the ditches and into the cane grass at the sides. Entrance and egress are made through a small opening, some 2 ft wide by 3 ft high, left in the centre of the barricade.

Leaving the trenches behind at 1150k the party moved through a small section of bush to set up camp at MCMU at 1215k. (Camp 5)

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

Some 50 - 60 natives visited the camp during the afternoon bringing sweet potato, sugar cane, and greens which were purchased with pearlshell and small cowrie shell (Giri-giri). Among the food purchased was a small quantity of corn which, it was learned, was introduced from Hagen, via Wabaga and Tari. There is an established trade route from Wabaga right through the Tagari valley and the corn was a product of such trading.

A good pig was also purchased here for a tomahawk, and the opportunity of showing the local natives the fire power of a rifle was taken.

A general talk was given the assembled natives, and the practice of inter-village feuding was deplored. It was pointed out that the patrol was to establish a Gov't station within their area and that the primary aim was to establish peace and see the peoples living harmoniously together. Arising from these discourses, it was found that a fight had just been completed between Pai and Maribu. As some of the carriers were related to Maribu it was arranged that, with an exchange of pigs on the morrow, the fight be adjusted. The Monu/Pai natives signalled their approval and a carrier from Maribu was despatched to inform Maribu of the fact.

Guards posted during the night.

Wednesday, May 14th.

A very chilly morning with mist obscuring the lower reaches of the Maronda valley, though the bulk of the Humpries range and Mt Kerewa stood out blatantly against the Northern skies, and in the far background the Hides Range was seen.

Patrol moved off at 0800k accompanied by a group of Monu/Pai natives and pigs as previously arranged. Skirting the western flank of the Pakari River and heading N.N.W., the party moved over undulating ground, through areas of kunai interspersed here and there with copses of small trees (Called 'lei' in the Muri language). Many small groups of armed natives were met, and numerous women seen but nothing but polite interest was shown. Very few houses were seen, but it is evident from the numbers of natives seen that most of the houses are well hidden in the cane-wraps and on the edges of the labor. Across the valley to the East and North East, one could note evidence of population both on the valley floor and in numerous small valleys probing the range - gardens were sighted, and numerous smokes indicated populations not yet sighted.

0750k. Arrived at the small hamlet of KWIARI where patrol spelled for 15 minutes while local natives were contacted. They appeared friendly and the women made no attempt to flee. Moving on, the patrol negotiated a section of bushland to emerge again into semi-open, cultivated areas. Many more natives of both sexes contacted and when the party spelled at 1000k at TABOHANIA, some 60 natives congregated about the party.

At 1040k we continued to the north, negotiating tracts of timber and garden areas until arriving at Maribu, where camp was pitched on the site of Clancy/ Neville's old camp. The patrol was able to obtain an excellent view from the camp to the north, and one could see clearly the Hides, Humpries, and Karius ranges which enclose the area wherein lies the Tari headwaters. Directly to the north one could see over the next two

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days walk, and the anticipated camping spots.

Though some of the Maribu natives were absent to the North, the patrol was met by several small groups who were aware of the Moau/Pai natives and the reason for their presence. The exchange of pigs was made with good grace and all appeared satisfied... as was the writer, for it ensured, at least temporarily, a peaceful back trail. A further 'talk' given to the assembled natives.

The Pai natives who had assisted from Kutubu were paid off, and with their friends, returned to Pai.

Sufficient food was again readily available and purchased with "shell". A pig also offered the party was accepted and purchased for a tomahawk.

Rumours that there was a large body of water "half as big as Kutubu" were investigated and found to be fallacious - the water mentioned being a fairly large swamp only.

Thursday, May 16th.

With heavy mist lying in the valleys, broke camp at 0700k, and assisted by Maribu natives, proceeded generally North. Descended steeply through bush to cross the PAKARI River at 0810k then the TAWA OK just above its junction with the Pakari. After climbing for some 20 minutes the patrol moved over very level ground, through thick timber where, for an hour, the walking was excellent.

0907k saw the party at the NARI (or Benaria) River where we spelled for 45 minutes. This stream gave the previous patrol some trouble in crossing on their return to Kutubu, but, following the dry spell reported by natives, no trouble was encountered. It is a fairly wide, swift flowing river and could well be a dangerous river to negotiate following rains.

Departing from the Nari and continuing through heavy timber, the patrol climbed steadily until, after some 2 hours, the abandoned village area of MOKA was reached. This is still readily identifiable though now overgrown with kunai and secondary growth. It was found that the site was abandoned many years previous as a result of a "big sick" (believed to have been malaria) followed by fighting which forced the remaining natives to flee the area. Moving on northwards, the party re-entered dense bush and vines, and having crossed the small waters of the Taniba and Awa Creeks, which run westwards presumably into the WADA creek, entered another abandoned village area - AWA-TARGE.

Camp was made on the Northern side of the clearing near the small Peabedowaga Creek at 1340k (Camp 7)

Native assistance from Maribu were paid off and returned to their village.

During the late afternoon, contact was made with a hunting party from Bakai who were found to be relations of one of the carriers, and assistance with the surplus cargo was again promised.

No native foods available and party issued with rice.

News of patrol's departure from Kutubu was

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received over 8PA and details found to be laughably inaccurate.

Friday, May 16th.

Left AWA at 0650k, and assisted by members of the party contacted yesterday, proceeded north through uninhabited bush.

The WADA Creek was crossed at 0723k and some 20 minutes later the small Wainabi Creek was forded. From here the patrol passed through several old garden sites interspersed with belts of regged timber and at 0805k arrived at another of the previous patrol's camps - BAKAI. The party was met by several natives of the immediate vicinity which is not heavily populated. The carriers who had helped us so far were paid off, and the loads were taken over by some of the Bakai natives, relations of TURU, one of the carriers, who was a fight chief of this particular area.

Having rested for a short time, the party moved on at 0950k and having passed through further scattered cultivations dropped down to cross the BIVA Creek at 1045k. Climbing out of this winding shallow waterway, the party moved through a pleasant grove of pines to re-enter bush. Back to open grasslands at 1130k with scattered cultivations declaring further population. BOCOMA Ck forded at 12 noon, and continuing through areas of cultivations, but without sighting the owners, arrived at DAREI hamlet at 1320k.

Camp was pitched in a garden overlooking the DAGIA River, and soon natives from nearby, hidden hamlets arrived on the scene with food. Many had arrived to see the carriers who were last seen heading south some 6 months previously. There were many re-unions as we were now entering the area from where many of the carriers had been recruited.

The Bakai natives were paid off in trade and, as they had crossed their tribal boundary some 20 minutes before DAREI, an escort was provided to see them back within their own borders.

Adequate supplies of food were purchased from the natives, and with gifts of food from relatives etc, the Police and labour did exceedingly well.

Word was sent through by native runner to the villages ahead within the Huri area to inform the natives of our imminent approach, and offers of assistance on the morrow were accepted gratefully.

Saturday, May 17th.

Another heavy mountain mist. Broke camp at 0650k and moved northwards through further cultivations, before climbing over a wooded spur to descend and pass through the first mountain swamp encountered.

At 0815k the patrol entered into the heavily populated area of Wabi-iako, and proceeded along deep trenches, and passing through many stockades. After crossing the small Arima creek at 0847k, continued down further ditches through further population. Here, many of the natives, relatives and friends of the carriers

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-iers, assisted with the cargo. Some 200 natives were now with the patrol but policing of the changing of loads well carried out by the Police.

The NUKIA River, a beautiful, clear, swift flowing mountain stream was crossed at 0807k. The crossing was made partly per suspension bridge, and as the stream was relatively low, also by wading. The patrol spelled for a period on the banks of the river, while greetings were exchanged between the carriers and local natives, and local gossip consumed. Some 40 minutes after crossing, the party moved on to the north to cross the ARUA River, another large stream, just above its junction with the RAGIA or TEBI River. This latter stream was followed towards its source until crossed by suspension bridge at 1120k. This is the largest stream crossed to date. Narrower than many of the others and slower flowing, it appears very deep and is the main tributary of the Tageri in this area. Crossing completed the party continued north to negotiate a nasty area of true swamp which varies in depth from one to three feet in depth, before climbing a ridge to enter further groups of population. These also greeted the patrol openly and continued to assist with the cargo, expressing, through the interpreter, their pleasure at the return of the 'Government'.

1320. Arrived at destination - Tari airstrip.

Together with Mr Neville, walked the length of the section which will be the eventual strip, and evaluated work to be done.

PUNGA, a native headman of the Firibu group adjacent to the 'strip', who had deserted from Kutubu met the Officers on the strip site and handed over a letter from Mr B. Corrigan, OYABO, Wabaga who had shortly before completed a patrol to the area. Punga elucidated on the reasons for his desertion and promised every assistance in future to 'expiate his crime'.

The camp, built by Mr Smith's party, still standing and is in relatively good condition, many of the houses being readily habitable and the others requiring only renovation to make them so.

Some 2-300 natives in to the camp and a plentiful supply of food purchased. Included with native vegetables, a few potatoes and a cabbage made pleasant seeing.

HEBABI, aged headman of Noiyevia and one of the most pro-Government natives in the area, arrived during late afternoon to greet the patrol and inform us that the cargo, left in his care by Mr Smith, was intact and awaited our pleasure.

Heavy rain fell during late afternoon and continued into the night.

Diary Continued:- AT TARI AIRSTRIP SITE.

Sunday, May 18th.

A survey of existing buildings in old camp made during morning and labour allocated to repair same.

Wireless, ATRAA, set up, but contact with Kutubu not made.

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More detailed survey of strip site carried out. Before the previous patrol departed, the natives were asked to plant gardens along the sides of the cleared area, thus ensuring the section would not become overgrown with secondary growth. Natives of the Hamlets of DIBA and PIMBI had built gardens and it is estimated that approximately 10 acres of gardens have been planted, many of them however, along the strip section. It was decided necessary to purchase these and dispense with them to allow construction to begin. Negotiations started for the outright purchase of the gardens and contents.

Monday, May 19th.

Work continued on rebuilding and repairing camp.

Moresby R.T.C contacted at 0930k and arrangements made for a sched with Kutubu at 0950k. Kutubu contacted on time and the following radios despatched:-

1. To DISCOM - MENDI.
TAR.1 ARRIVED AIRSTRIP SITE HOIYEVIA 17th INST.
2. To SERVICES - MORESBY.
TAR.2 PATROL ARRIVED HOIYEVIA STRIP 17th INST
STOP PROPOSED DROPPING DATE 28th CONFIRMED STOP
ADVISE CONFIRMATION YOURS.

Negotiations over purchase of gardens on strip site brought to a satisfactory conclusion, and payment made in Gold-lip shell, knives, small cowrie shell and salt to the respective owners. Apart from allowing the party to go ahead with the construction of the strip, the transaction ensures sufficient food for at least two months, and will allow the breaking down of the previous purchase price for sweet-potato within the time.

During the afternoon, the writer, together with native Funga, proceeded through the immediate vicinity to ascertain the best site for the expected drop of supplies. Site used by Mr Smith and party found to be quite adequate.

Tuesday, May 20th.

Radio contact made with Kutubu at 0730k, and arrangements regarding proposed airdrop discussed.

0845k, a party consisting of both European Officers, 4 Police and carriers proceeded to Hoiyevia to collect cargo left behind by the previous patrol in the care of native headman, HEDABI. Arrived after 45 minutes easy walking, during which time a small stand of good quality hoop pine was inspected. About 15 mins. from the camp, this stand should prove invaluable for future building construction.

Inspected Taylor's old drop site at Hoiyevia. Cargo collected and transported to camp site.

Cargo recovered:-

400lbs	wheatmeal	(Useable due weevils)
20lbs	Rice	" " "
60lbs	Peas	
40lbs	Sago	
20lbs	Sugar	(Barely Edible)
52	Meat	
34	S Spades	
20	Shovels	(Round Mouthed)
16	Mattecks	
	quantity of medical gear and miscellane-	

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-ous items and some fowls, which having multiplied since having been left, now number 22.

On the return to camp, HEDABI was commended for his zealous custody and well rewarded.

Rain during night.

Wednesday, May 21st.

Task of re-conditioning camp completed during the morning.

Word spread that there was work available on the station but response poor in comparison to that received by former party - 37 labourers signed on.

Work commenced on strip site - clearing the selected area of kunai and small secondary growth. Rain interrupted progress during afternoon.

Radio contact with Kutubu made and information received that airdrops would be carried out in two flights on the 29th inst.

Thursday, May 22nd - Saturday, May 24th.

Work continued on clearing strip section - approx 3000 ft x 300 ft - of kunai etc - completed by mid-day 24th.

Decision made to form the centre section at a width of 100 feet, and later extend the width as required. This will ensure that, should it become necessary a plane could land after the initial phase is completed.

Sunday, May 25th.

Observed. Station stood-down.

Monday, 26th May - Wednesday 28th May.

Work commenced on cutting and levelling centre section of strip. Labour coming forward slowly, but steadily, and numerous local natives helping on a daily basis. Rain during the afternoons hampers the task.

Station gardens started adjacent to the camp, and five labourers allocated to this job.

Reports received of fighting in the Maibuga area to the West, and beyond the Piwa River to the East... HEDABI given the commission of proceeding to the areas concerned and endeavouring to settle the disturbances.

Monday, May 29th.

Station labour, assisted by local natives, proceeded to the dropping site early a.m. to flatten the kunai and so materially soften the fall of the cargo... sight markers placed in position and signal made ready.

Radio contact made with Kutubu, and a "weather" having been passed, the radio was taken to the edge of the dropping site to co-ordinate ground-air activities.

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The first drop commenced at 1040k, and the Catalina, having dropped the 6 "Storepedoes" on the first three runs, came skimming in at approx 20 feet to deposit the remainder of the cargo. Following each drop the stores were promptly recovered and stored in an area to one side of the site.

By this time some 1200 natives had assembled to witness the event, and had lined the sides of the drop site to watch with interest, and no doubt understandable awe, the whole proceedings.

On completing the first drop, the Catalina flew up the strip and reported favourably on the location and possibilities., before proceeding to Lake Kutubu.

The second run commenced approx 1230k and was equally well carried out by the Catalina and crew.

All cargo was recovered.

The drops completed, all stores were, with the assistance of the numerous natives present, carried to the camp and deposited in the store. Rough sorting into food and hardware was done immediately, meat which had punctured was issued, and work finished for the day at 1830 hrs - the labour having planted the seedlings and suckers which were among the items received.

Friday, May 30th - Saturday, May 31st.

Both European Officers, assisted by Police checked and sorted cargo received - full recovery, though breakages among pearlshell dropped in Storepedoes will greatly lower their value... few breakages among personal stores found.

Work continued on strip levelling. As the previously purchased gardens are neared, food is taken out and stored. Site for Officers' temporary dwelling chosen and levelled. Several volunteers for labour, induced by the drop, signed on, and all labour issued with lavalava, blankets and belts.

Sunday, June 1st.

Observed.

Radio contact with Kutubu at 0900k. Result of the drop passed, and information received that District Commissioner, Mr McLeod, anticipated on visiting the Tari shortly - leaving Kutubu 3rd June. Request from A.D.O Kutubu for volunteer labour from Tari for the Kutubu airstrip received and passed on to local natives. It is anticipated that no difficulty will be found in obtaining volunteers following the glowing reports brought back by the returned labourers.

Monday, June 2nd - Sunday, June 3th.

Work continued on strip - cutting and levelling high ground and filling low lying areas on the eastern side.

Accompanied by local headmen, did a short survey of the area which it is hoped to eventually purchase as

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the Government station. The area will be about 4-500 acres in extent, and the initial reaction to the proposal is satisfactory. The purchase of the land is being withheld as the payment may adversely affect the present labour position, and insufficient trade is held to pay both labour and purchase ground simultaneously.

Several labourers, including Interpreter ROMOKO, are down with pneumonia, but are making satisfactory progress.

Rain continues through the afternoons, and cold nights are being experienced.

European Officers' temporary dwelling commenced.

On the 8th, the thirty-five labourers brought back from Kutubu were paid for the period October 1951 to May 31st, 1952. Though in most cases they desire to work until the strip is completed and then collect their pay, it was decided to pay them now in view of the expressed feelings of local natives who, through lack of trade when the former patrol left, were not able to be recompensed for their work. Each labourer received a fair payment for the period, and it is thought that, by showing the local natives the scale of payment in such fashion, they will 'rally to the cause'.

Much of the trade paid out was returned to the store at the request of the labourers, for safe keeping.

Two pigs purchased for steel and skill and issued to supplement the meat ration.

Radio contact maintained with Kutubu, and Mendi entered the circuit on Sunday at 0900k.

Monday, June 9th - Tuesday, June 10th.

Work continued on strip and Officers' residence.

Wednesday, June 11th - Monday, June 16th.

Word was received during early morning that the Kutubu patrol had slept at Dabeli over night and were proceeding to the camp. Two natives who understand a little 'Motu' were despatched to meet the party and act as guides, and during the interim accommodation was readied for the approaching patrol.

Patrol arrived at Tari at 1600k on the 11th.

With the District Commissioner, Mr. Scheed, and Mr. Wren, A.D.O. Kutubu, discussed the probable future of TARI and outlined future plans. Boundaries between Mendi, Kutubu, and Tari discussed and outlined. Progress on the strip was noted and the prospective station site inspected.

Mr. Wren, suffering from an attack of fever and a septic foot on arrival, made a full recovery.

Interim report on the strip was formulated and readied for the return of the patrol.

In view of work to be done on the proposed airstrip at Kutubu and the lack of labour in that vicinity, word was sent out to nearby villages for volunteers for

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employment there. The response was very heartening, and thirty (30) natives from nearby villages were selected to proceed south with the patrol. Many more than the number required volunteered but were unable to be accepted.

On the 16th instant, the Mendi/Kutubu patrol, together with the newly recruited labour, and L/Cpls HEWAKA and AKURU on return to the Kutubu detachment, left the station on their return journey.

Work continued on southern end of strip.

Mr Neville confined to bed with fever and a poisoned leg.

Tuesday, June 17th - Sunday, June 22nd.

Labour force, now at a strength of 145, at work on filling the low section of the centre portion of the strip. On completion work has been commenced on cutting a level through high ground on the northern end; a cut of some 2 - 3 feet being necessary.

Temporary native material residence completed, and the European staff moved in during the week. The tent and fly, which have done such sterling work, sent to the store with a sigh of relief.

First court case in C.M.F. heard between two local natives; one HEBUR of Hoiyevia, and HUI of Koro... charge - stealing. Case dismissed. A large group of natives witnessed the proceedings and, though the reasons and proceedings were explained, it is doubtful if they could follow the reasoning. However interest was shown and no disturbance took place.

One pair of handcuffs, reported lost by a Constable of the Kutubu patrol, were brought to the camp in a mutilated condition - the natives having cut them up to wear as ornaments. On investigation it was found that the cuffs had been picked up at the site of the patrol's camp at Dabel, and utilized by the finder. Word has been spread that any article found should be brought to the camp until a claimant is found.

Rain during the afternoons continues to interrupt the continuity of work on the drom construction. No heavy showers are being experienced, merely cold, misty rain which is most annoying at this stage.

Monday, June 26th - Sunday, June 29th.

Work continued on Northern end of strip, cutting the higher ground to the western side and filling the lower eastern edge. During the afternoons, the line is continuing cutting at the southern end near the camp to enable them to shelter during the inevitable afternoon rains.

"Talk" received at the camp that, had HUI not been released, his village would have attacked the camp. Talk ignored, but it may well be difficult to convince the local natives as to just why he was dismissed - efforts being maintained, particularly among the labour line, to explain British forms of justice.

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Food from the gardens previously purchased by the party (See Diary, May 19th), about half completed, and move made to purchase food from the local natives for small cowrie shell. This still gives the patrol a good leeway in the food line until the natives "catch on".

Monday, June 30th - Sunday, July 6th.

Previous schedule maintained, labourers working on either end of the strip as weather conditions dictate.

Kitchen attachment for European residence completed, and new latrines constructed for Police and Labour.

Having been off the air for over a fortnight after trouble with the modulating section of the A.M.C.A., contact again made with Moresby on July, 1st; a good signal report being received. Basic reason for the previous trouble not ascertained. Schedules again kept with Moresby and Kutubu.

Natives willingly accepting "Giri-giri" (small cowrie shell) for sweet potato, and the food position is assured while stocks of this trade last. It is, beyond doubt, the paramount trade through this area, with salt retaining a minor importance.

On July, 6th, assembled the headmen of the various groups which have an interest in the ground being utilized by the patrol, and outlined the area required for future developments, stating that they would be paid for whatever ground was taken over. No dissentient was heard and they were informed they would be recalled when the survey of the land was due to be done.

Natives beginning to accept the fact that, this time, the Government may be remaining permanently.

Monday, July 7th - Sunday, July 13th.

While the weather remains as it is, labour transferred to the southern (Camp) end full time.

Both stores which have been leaking during the recent heavy, afternoon rains, were re-roofed and made more weather-proof.

By the end of the week, the main cut at the southern end was completed and the lateral cuts through to the easternside had been started. The cut in places reaches almost 4 feet, and the filling of the far eastern edge has been much advanced utilizing this ground.

Many local natives in daily to assist with the construction.

One old woman, Mother of one of the station interpreters, who has been receiving treatment for pneumonia over the past 10 days, died on the 9th instant.

More than adequate supplies of both greens and sweet potato, together with a few potatoes, corn and tomatoes, have been purchased from the local natives for "Giri-giri". Considerably more women are visiting the camp bringing food and much of the original shyness has been overcome. A keen desire for the cowrie shell has no doubt influenced many.

On the night of the 12th, MELABI of Molyevia,

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mindful of the weather we have been receiving, decided to hold a dance to propitiate the 'Rain Gods'. Having received permission to hold the dance on the strip, the stage was set, the special dancers brought forward, a pig killed, and from 1900k till mid-night some 200 to 300 natives, including Police and labourers, danced down the Northern end of the strip. Both Officers attended as a matter of interest.

Radio contact maintained during the week.

Monday, July 14th - Sunday, July 20th.

Monday saw the completion of the southern end of the strip, and labour re-engaged on cutting and filling the northern end.

At noon on the 14th, two houses within the encampment were destroyed by fire, and a third was destroyed in order to effect a fire-break. An investigation it was found that the fire was caused by carelessly leaving a fire untended in one of the buildings. All labour lined and warned of the everpresent danger of fires within such a closely built up area. The houses destroyed were re-built during the week by the occupants. No loss of labour equipment or personal gear occurred.

A radio conversation between Tari/ Kutubu/ Laru was carried out on the 17th inst - subject supply of small cowrie shell (Giri-giri). Laru promised full co-operation in the collection of any available shell in the area.

Reports of the re-occurrence of fighting in the HATBUGA area to the west of the station received on the 17th. Later in the week a corpse, resembling somewhat a pincushion, was brought through the camp en route a neighbouring village - a mute testimony of the effectiveness of the fighting group in opposition. Again mediation tried but without success.

Mediation between two small groups to the East of the station brought to a successful conclusion.

Adequate food purchased from local natives.

For whatever reason one may give, following the 'sing-sing' on Saturday, the weather has taken up to such an extent that, where before portions of the strip were quagmires, and the ground generally wet, now cracks are appearing, and dust is the order of the day. With such a change of weather, work has progressed most satisfactorily.

Monday, July 21st - July 22nd.

Work continued on clearing eaten-out gardens at the extreme northern end of the strip, and filling of a depression on the western side completed.

An improvised scraper tried over the filled sections to level out the bumps - worked with a fair degree of success.

Local natives are under tension regarding the fighting at Naibuga, and numerous sections of natives

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from East of the Tebi river have been seen proceeding towards the scene of the skirmish. More and more villages have become involved, and the decision made to visit the area in question and endeavour to bring the matter to a close by personal representation.

Wednesday, July 23rd.

Leaving Four Police under Const PITA to continue with the work on the strip, the writer, Mr Neville, Eight Police and 2 interpreters departed from the camp at OSOOK for Tani, the scene of the fighting.

Moving generally westwards, the party crossed the WADA Creek to eventually pass the southern shores of the small lake or pond called WABALO, before climbing a steep limestone outcrop, KEMARI, from where an excellent view of the whole Haibuga area was obtained.

This marshy area is quite extensive, following the Tagari river, and averages about 3 miles in width.

Having orientated the fighting ground, the party moved down to the area where the dispute was occurring, and, in a lull in the fighting, was fortunate enough to be able to call a halt to the battle while talk was given and heard. After some two hours of discussion both sides agreed to end the fighting and make a "Moga" (which different to the Hagen version, here means the payment made for people killed to the relatives of the deceased.) No hostility was shown to the party, and in general the greeting was reserved, tinged with a certain amount of apprehension.

At the conclusion of the discussions, it was pointed out that the village, or villagers breaking the contract of staying within their village boundaries until the fight was really concluded by payments, would do so with the knowledge that they were breaking the law and were liable to be arrested.

With both sides in agreement, all parties, including the patrol, returned home.

Leaving the council area, the patrol moved through the opposition area of TIGO, and after a swift 2.15 hours walk, arrived back on the station at 1815k.

Thursday, July 24th - Sunday, July 27th.

On the 25th inst, FUNGA, a local interpreter, was forwarded to the area visited on the 23rd to check if any activity regarding either payments or fighting was developing. On his return later in the day it was found that TANI had taken the initiative, raided the TIGO village taking them unawares, and had devastated most of the area while Tigo opposed them within their own village area ----- So ended the shortest peace on record.

Large numbers of natives on the station, mostly armed, and waiting for some show from the Government - no action taken.

Work continued along the western section of the central portion of the strip, where filling was placed to raise the sector to strip level.

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Natives requested to refrain from bringing in further supplies of sweet potato until the remaining gardens along the line of the strip are consumed.

Strip length measured and found to be approx 900yds

Radio contact still maintained with Kutubu and Mandi. On 27th inst, passed to the District Commissioner the information that, weather permitting, the strip would be ready for inspection within a week. Details of 6 monthly requirements passed to District Commissioner, together with details of expenditure to date i.e approximately \$1115/2/7.

Monday, July 28th - Thursday, July 31st.

The final section of the present strip being completed. Gardens in the centre portion of strip site taken out and area levelled to the minimum width of 220 feet. The section to the eastern side is somewhat soft, but the remainder of strip solid and sufficient for all light aircraft. Sections of the strip previously filled were again rolled, and using scrapers, most of the rough sections were levelled out.

Thursday 31st saw a strip up to Norseman standard completed.

Radio contact with Mandi made, and Discom informed that the strip, 2760 ft long and 220 ft minimum width, completed and awaiting inspection.

At 1625 hrs on the 31st, a radio conversation with Mr I.F.G. Downs, a/D.D.S, took place during which the following points were raised:-

- a. Strip completed and ready inspection - request for D.C.A to give inspection priority as supplies low.
- b. Request submitted for tools which had been requisitioned before patrol left Kutubu. These tools now required for station construction.
- c. Request submitted for an urgent supply of "giri-giri", and a regular supply of the shell at later dates.

Mr Downs received all remarks and promised Services' full and immediate co-operation.

Friday, August 1st - Tuesday, August 5th.

Labour sent to both approaches to clear timber which interferes with the angle of approach of aircraft. Native owners of timber promised compensation for any native planted trees destroyed, and by the 2nd August the approaches were cleared to both North and South and natives compensated for trees cleared.

FUNCA again sent to Tani/Tigo to ascertain the present position regarding the fighting. Returned with report that Tigo was entrenched within their neighbours boundaries, while Tani continued to wreck havoc. Word was received from Tigo asking what action they should take, as, having "heard the talk of the Government", they were suffering as a result.

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The main portion of the strip being completed, labour were set to work to clear the extension at the Southern end, excavating stumps, secondary growth etc.

On the 4th, the line was broken into two sections, one of which continued clearing, and the second of which was sent to an area on the western side of the SW strip to clean it ready for the construction of police permanent barracks.

A patrol from Kutubu being expected on the Monday or Tuesday, Mr Deville was despatched to proceed as far as Labeif, meet Mr Anthony and party, and connect them through to the station. Mr Deville departed the station at 1000 hrs on Sunday, but failing to meet the Kutubu patrol after two days, and expecting they may have found another route, returned to Tari at 1030 hrs on the 5th.

Wednesday, August 6th - Sunday, August 10th.

The Kutubu patrol, led by Mr Anthony, C.F.O., arrived on the 6th at 1100k, bringing mail, and personal and other stores.

Kutubu contacted by radio on the following day, and permission received from Mr Wren, a/A.D.O. for the writer to utilize Mr Anthony and the Kutubu detachment in an endeavour to finish the fighting in the haibuga area. The fighting has been continuing daily since the visit on July 23rd, and on the 9th one of the labourers returned to the station with an arrow wound in his arm, gained while passing close to the scene of the fight on his way to his village.

Radiograms were received from Services and Aviat regarding the date of proposed inspection of strip, unfortunately neither agreed, and as SPA listed the date as something else again, nothing definite gained except that the inspection is imminent. Markers placed ready for plane on Friday and Saturday, but no plane.

Mendi, contacted on the 10th, informed us that suitable aircraft for the job are short and that the inspection may be held up on that account. Diacca also advised that Lance Corporal KOMBAPA of this detachment has been promoted to Corporal.

Work continued on strip extension and station site

Monday, August 11th - Wednesday, August 13th.

Strip again marked in anticipation of possible inspection 11th, but, on contacting Aeradio, VZMD, ascertained trip cancelled. A radiogram from Services, received later, advised inspection postponed until approx 24th.

Decision made to visit the Tani people and make an end of the fighting, which, over the past weeks, has involved almost all of the villages in the nearby area.

Work continued on extension and station site, but with the expectation of a plane in shortly, not a great deal done. Some hundreds of natives visiting the station daily having heard news of the expected arrival, and the announcement that the trip was postponed, was received with a great deal of scepticism.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

Even at this stage many natives have no idea as to the reason for the strip, and the guesses vary from it being a "sing-sing" ground, to that it is a fighting area being constructed.

Thursday, August 14th.

Leaving 4 Police under Constable PITA to carry on at the station, a party, consisting of the writer, Mr Neville, Patrol Officer, Mr Anthony, Cadet, 14 Police and 30 carriers, departed from Tari station at 0800k for the Haibuga area.

The same route as that taken previously was followed, and the patrol arrived in the Tari area at 1130 hrs. Camp was made in a clear, defensive position within the boundaries of Tari, and four natives, recognized as being leaders of the fighting, were arrested on sight. Very few male natives were present, most of them being absent at Tigo fighting, and word was sent by women to inform the villagers to assemble on the morrow.

Guards were posted during the night, and the noticeable tension through-out the Tari establishment was also felt within the camp.

No incident occurred during the night, and, though everyone was on the "qui vive" in the early morning no hostile movement was made.

Friday, August 15th.

Tension still high a.m., and increased when, towards 1100k very large groups of armed men were seen approaching the camp site. Having all assembled on the fringes of the camp area, they proceeded to break into groups, form into column of route, some 15 abreast, and advance on the camp from the trees and shrubbery bordering the camp. With each native holding a bow in his left hand and a bamboo blade arrow in his right, they continued to advance until the writer called a halt about 50 yards short of the encampment. In four groups containing approx 250 men each, they stood facing the party, which, ready for any sign of action stood fast.

It became evident after a few minutes silence that the natives expected some show of fear or anger, and none being apparent (though it was surely there) were nonplussed, and undecided.

Then followed some intense talking between the writer and the natives concerned, while Messrs Neville and Anthony, and the Constabulary covered the writers back and watched for any hostile move. Eventually, having explained the reason for the visit and the arrest of the natives held in custody, and also what it was possible for us to do if necessary, two further leaders of the fighting and twelve others were arrested without incident, neither an arrow or rifle being discharged.

The opportunity was taken at this stage to show the firepower of a rifle, both for penetrating capabilities and range - there being a large limestone cliff face some 800 yards away. The exhibition was received in silence, and it is believed that "native talk" has

Report of Patrol to the Tari River Basin.

already carried convincing tales of European armament, and this probably deterred an attack earlier. It was ascertained later, that the single biggest thing in the party's favour was the fact that the natives could not understand the tactics which took a comparatively small party into the middle of the opposition.

An answer was given to the natives' query as to why the Administration had come, and this was extended to cover the various aims of the Government, and to try and convince them of our sincerity in the matter.

Eventually the greater portion of the assembled natives dispersed, but later in the afternoon some 25 natives returned unarmed, volunteers for labour on the strip. They were readily accepted.

Again the night saw the camp settle down under the protection of armed guards.

At 0830k, yelling from the direction of some of the Tani village confirmed the fact that, during the early morning, some four natives of Tigo had crept to the area and fired a number of houses. The glow was clearly to be seen in the semi-frosty night, and vigilance was redoubled.

Saturday, August 16th.

Early in the morning, several unarmed natives of Tani arrived in camp and gave details of the night raid. It was promised that the matter would be looked into on the patrol's return to the station.

With the prisoners, and escorted by about 40 unarmed natives of Tani, the patrol departed Maibuga at 0800k. All the Tani natives were adamant in their promises to cease fighting and to make 'moga' payments to the Tigo bloc provided they too were willing, and it was noted that the natives met with on the patrol's withdrawal were all unarmed, or carrying unstrung bows.

Crossing the Eastern neck of the Maibuga swamp, and leaving the Tani villagers at their boundary, the party moved eastwards, following the route of the fighting through an area which now looked like an air-strip site. For about 4 miles, and at a width of from 200 to 300 yards, everything living had been destroyed; pit-pit flattened as if by roller, trees either cut down or ringed, gardens uprooted, houses fired, and the big fighting drains filled in and broken - all done by the victorious natives of the Tani combine.

The area was unrecognizable as that section through which we had walked some three weeks previously, and it left one with a feeling akin to awe to recognize the savage force behind it all.

The patrol moved up a steep ridge to pass through the flattened area of Tigo, and halted at the boundary of Tigo and its neighbour and ally, Mambu-ali.

Mr Neville was despatched to the station with the prisoners and volunteer labour, and departed at 1230k.

The writer, Mr Anthony, and a detachment of Constabulary pitched camp at Tigo, while word was sent

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TANI RIVER BASIN.

out for the natives of this group to assemble on the morrow. About 50 natives visited the camp and were most co-operative, and no native approached the camp with strong bows. Food was readily available, and sufficient was purchased for the needs of the party. Again the opportunity of speaking to them was taken, and the talk was accepted quietly, the natives being adamant in their statements that they had 'heard the talk of the Government'.

Party remained overnight.

Sunday, August 17th.

About 0730k small groups of unarmed natives from Tigo and Lambu-ali arrived at the encampment, until, after some 30 minutes, 200 odd natives, including some women, were present.

These natives were addressed and complimented on the fact that they had refrained, prior to the patrol's visit, from raiding the Tani establishment. The aims of the Administration were gone into at length and sanctions against former customs, e.g. fighting, were pointed out. At the conclusion, when asked point blank who had fired the houses on the night of the 16th four natives immediately responded. These natives were arrested, and when the reason was given, no dissentient voice was heard - nor the least trouble encountered. Again the assembled natives re-iterated their good intentions. The previous feud was finished, and the natives signified their immediate intention of starting 'moga' payments to Tani. This word was sent through to Tani.

Accompanied by several Tigo and Lambu-ali natives, the patrol departed for the station at 1230k arriving at the destination some 2 hours later.

Work was immediately commenced on construction of a "prison" within the camp boundaries.

Monday, August 18th.

At 1030 hrs Mr Neville heard the noise of motors, and some three minutes later a Norseman aircraft appeared, did a swift circuit of the strip, and landed to the North.

After completing its landing run, the plane turned to taxi back, hit a soft spot in a previously filled drain, and nosed slowly over ---- panic and confusion!!!

The plane, a Gibbs Sepik Norseman, piloted by Captain J. Wells, carried as passengers Mr J. McLeod, District Commissioner, Mr V. Taylor, Civil Aviation Airport Inspector, Rev G. Young, Methodist Missionary and Mr P. Hall, correspondent of SPA, Moresby.

The plane was righted, and on the pilot checking, it was found that no damage had been sustained.

Inspection of the strip was carried out by Mr Taylor. The surface was found to be soft in places, following the heavy rains (400 pts) which had fallen during the few days previous. It was evident that the fighting ditches, previously filled, would have to be

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

excavated and consolidated before the strip became a practical and safe airfield.

As rain fell shortly after mid-day, the party remained overnight at TARI.

During the day the writer was sworn in as a Justice of the Peace by Mr McLeod, District Commissioner. Various points of Administration interest were discussed, and the necessity of another airdrop, now the strip is u/s, was pointed out.

Large numbers of local natives visited the station for an inspection of plane and crew.

Tuesday, August 19th.

Aeradio Madang contacted early a.m., and the pilots' decision to take-off at 0900k passed.

At 0930k the Norseman was run-up, found to be satisfactory, and the plane took off with no difficulty at 0940k. The departure was witnessed by some 2000 - 3000 natives, who, from early morning, had been arriving to see "the big bird". Aeradio Madang again contacted, and information of departure passed.

Having witnessed the landing of a plane, the natives, realizing the wherefore of the strip, stressed their intentions of besting assistance in the future.

Labour set to work to complete the prison.

August 20th, Wednesday.

Labour to work collecting and carrying stones for the eventual filling of the bases of the drains to be excavated - thus making subterranean drains through the strip.

Court of Native Matters convened, and the natives arrested in connection with the Tari/Rigo fight tried, found guilty, and sentenced from One to Four months.

Thursday, August 21st.

Station stood down, in lieu of Sunday, 17th, which was worked by all parties.

Friday, August 22nd - Saturday, August 23rd.

Work commenced on excavating the old fighting ditches along the finished length of the strip. On reaching the bottoms, large quantities of water were discovered - probably the main reason for the instability of the surface. A section of the labour force, and prisoners, set to dig drains along the eastern side of the strip, both to drain the fighting ditches, and to lower the water table through that section.

Radio conversation with Mendi and Kutuba reference the supplying of 100 local natives as carriers for an A.P.C. party doing survey work west of Kutuba. Suggestion opposed, and finally dropped.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

Instructions from Kutubu for Mr Anthony and party, delayed pending decision as to labour, received... to depart on 24th inst.

Native PUNGA, Interpreter, sent to Tani/Tigo area to check on situation. Returning on the night of the 23rd, he reported that 'moga' payments amounting to approx 150 pigs, have been exchanged by both factions and that the feud has definitely finished. Accompanying him were several natives of Tani who desired to bring food to the prisoners. They appeared somewhat relieved to see them still alive, as it was eventually found that they thought we should have killed them off.

Sunday, August 24th.

Patrol conducted by Mr Anthony, departed from Tari at 0900 on the first leg of the return trip to Kutubu. Two local volunteers replaced sick carriers - natives of the area east of the station.

Station stood down.

Monday, August 25th.

Labour continuing to excavate ditches across strip, and construct drains along the eastern edge.

Tuesday, August 26th.

Labour to work on excavation of ditches, and prisoners on drain construction.

At 0800 a prisoner, GORC of Tani, left from the drain and escaped into an old, overgrown fighting ditch. Labour and Police alerted and sent to cut off escape route, but by 1700 the escapee still at large and gear readied for a patrol in the morning.

Wednesday, August 27th.

With Eight Police and sixteen carriers, the writer left the station at 0730k, leaving Mr Neville i/c camp.

Patrol moved swiftly to the westwards through the Kigide, Firibu, Bambu-ali and Tigo areas where word was given to the natives of the escapee, and promises of assistance obtained. Arrived at the old camp site at Tani at 1030k, having seen few natives - Police despatched to the house of the escapee, but without success.

Many of the Tani natives visited the camp during the morning and afternoon, but none of them seemed aware that GORC was in the vicinity. Though co-operation was offered, it appeared more in the light of complete neutrality; the most one could expect. No sign of the native was seen during the day.

Note arrived from Mr Neville with copy of signal received a.m. viz:

DS.1448 GIBBES ADVISE TARI AIRSTRIP INSPECTION
MONDAY 18th SERVICES.

Party remained overnight.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

Thursday, August 23th.

Police sent, pre-dawn, to escapee's house and gardens - nil result. With Police and labourers, scoured the area to the north which is a timbered, lime-stone knoll, a favourite retreat of these natives - again nil sighting.

On a native report that he may have proceeded to HARC in the North, a carrier from that village was despatched to check on the authenticity of the statement. Native ZOI-AVI returned at 2300k to say he had not been at HARC, but rumour had it that he was proceeding over the Tagari River.

Numbers of un-armed natives to the camp during the day, and adequate food purchased.

Very heavy rain fell during afternoon - a miserable day.

Station.

Excavations of the two main drains completed. Small drains formed on the bottom with drainage slope through strip. Further stones carried for drains.

Friday, August 24th.

At 0530k word was brought to the camp that the native, GORO, was seen in his garden house some 2 mls from the camp. Police and guides immediately sent towards the area, but within 50 minutes, the escapee, escorted by four local natives, was met on the track. The natives were given presents for their co-operation, and as by this time a fairly large group of natives, still unarmed and malleable, was present, further talks were given. They were commended on their changed attitude when it was ascertained that all "payments" had been

made to, and received from Tigo, and that "mega" payments to many other groups for past killings were in the process of being made. To all appearances the group has changed from being the main belligerent in the Turi area, to being a co-operative people with the Administration - but the time is too early yet, and it is too simple to be dogmatic about such a point. The natives were re-informed that patrols would, from time to time, be visiting their area, and that they would be welcome on the station.

At 0840k the patrol broke camp and moved northwards up the lime-stone hill, called GUADIBA, to pass through the desolated, deserted and overgrown area that was once the site of the DIGIBA group - wiped out in inter-group fighting. Continuing to the north east 0915k saw the party at the edge of a small lake or pond - KANARUBI - and proceeding farther North East the party passed through bare ground to arrive at a second small lake - ALIBU - on the HARC/Tobani boundary at 1100k. Both these 'lakes' are about 1-1 1/2 miles long and some 400 yards wide. With WABALO, these waters make a rough triangle, with the sides some 2 miles long

Camp was made on a pretty site overlooking the Alibu, and good contact was made with the HARC and Tobani people; about 100 natives meeting the party on arrival. Food was readily made available, and everyone sat and talked until a heavy thunderstorm broke up proceedings. It was again ascertained that, since the Tani incident, work of finalizing old feuds has been

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER PAIR.

going on again.

Station.

Labour disposing of ground excavated, and collecting stones for underground drain construction.

Saturday, August 30th.

When rain ceased at 0230k camp was broken and the party moved off in an easterly direction towards Tari. In route we passed through the Mare, Hamdu-ali and Kirbu groups seeing a different section to that passed through on the road out. The wany natives met along the road and in the gardens were all friendly, and in the main, regular visitors to the station. Any semblance to a road on the return journey was pure accident.

Party arrived at the station at 1100k and carriers and Police stood down for the afternoon.

Station.

Work commenced on filling the bottoms of the drains with stones and laying a flooring of split timber above, to ensure adequate drainage of water without blockages at a later date.

Sunday, August 31st.

Observed. Station stood-down.

Monday, September 1st - Sunday, September 7th.

Work continued on ditches, stones laid in bases, and ground being tamped with improvised wooden rammers. Rain interfering rather drastically with work, as following heavy rain, soft patches have to be taken out to ensure the filling is solid in entirety. Drains being dug along both sides of strip.

C.M.W. convened and SOHO charged with "escaping from custody".... sentenced to one month's imprisonment. The nearby natives appear to be 'catching on' to our law, and two minor disputes brought to the station for settlement.

Radio: Contact maintained with both Kutubu and Mendi. Askutubu unable to reach Moresby, traffic is being relayed.

On Sept 1st, a radio received from Services informed of another airdrop taking place on approx 3rd September. Owing to weather conditions etc the drop did not eventuate. Conversations relative to the drop took place between the writer, District Services, and Mr McLeod, District Commissioner.

Adequate foodstuffs being supplied by the local natives, and being purchased with 'iri-iri', salt, and beads. Local natives in reasonable numbers continue to help with work on the strip.

Monday, September 8th.

Work continued on filling and tamping ditches.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASE.

Filling was completed by afternoon, and the remaining excavated ground disposed of.

Aeradio contacted, and information received that the drop would take place on the morning of the 9th. The expectant natives on the station were informed of the changed plans, and, after assisting with work, drifted back to their villages.

Tuesday, September 8th.

Early a.m. the site was cleared in readiness for the drop, the wireless moved to the general area, and contact made with aeradio - weather perfect.

Plane arrived over dropping area at 1000, was contacted by radio, and, after a preliminary circuit, commenced dropping. Eight runs were carried out, and supplies at both stations and trace were delivered.

Though the hardware dropped well, much of the rations were lost. (See section "AIRBORNE") A near accident occurred when a case of axes broke on impact and two axes flew, some 200 yards, towards a group of labourers sent to recover supplies. These were luckily averted and no damage was done.

Supplies were carried to the camp store, checked and re-bagged, and stored.

Wednesday, September 10th - Thursday, September 11th.

Half available labour engaged on excavating and filling a small drain which runs longitudinally up the strip, while remainder commenced to put a cumber on the western side of strip - central section.

Radio conversations held with Mr. E. Dixon, a/A.D.D.S., at 1100k regarding the packing of supplies for the 2nd drop, and request for medical supplies; and with the District Commissioner, Mr. McLeod, at 1200k. The second conversation elicited the information that the strip was to be made into a strip of B.C.S. standard as a matter of priority, that a Cadet would be made available and that a supply route was mapped out, via Saus, on completion of strip. Progress report on construction passed.

Friday, September 12th.

Aeradio contacted at 0700k and information that Catalina was en route for 2nd drop was confirmed - weather report passed. As a new pilot was flying, and the weather partially closed in to the south, guide smokes were lit. The plane was contacted by radio, and at 2100k, arrived over drop site.

As on the 8th, stores were dropped during 8 (eight) runs, and though a much better recovery was made, there was still some loss. About 2000 natives again witnessed the drop and assisted with the carrying of cargo to the stores. Stores checked, bagged, and stored. Broken meat was issued during the afternoon for immediate consumption.

Work continued on the strip during the afternoon.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

Saturday, September 15th - Sunday, September 16th.

In view of previous Saturdays worked, labour given stand-down over two days.

Radio contact with Kutubu revealed an outbreak of mumps which may influence future overland trips.

Four prisoners who ~~had~~ completed their imprisonment, released. Three of these elected to stay on the station as labourers - the exception returned to Tigo.

Monday, September 16th - Sunday, September 21st.

The labour, finishing the clearing of the Police section of the station site on Monday, was split into two gangs, one of which continued cambering the western side of the strip, while the other commenced grubbing and clearing the strip extension to the south.

Local natives commenced bringing in timber, rope and kunai for building construction - all of which was purchased for small trade. Construction of the permanent Police quarters commenced on the 17th. Apart from giving the Police somewhere decent to live, it is hoped that this work will give a greater appearance of permanence to the locals, many of whom are still under the impression that the party will move on again in the future.

At the beginning of the week 8 labourers reported sick and were diagnosed as having influenza; by the 21st, 52 labourers were laid up with the complaint, and further nine (9) had pneumonia. The virus was widespread, as reports of similar sickness and resulting deaths throughout the area showed.

Labour line down to a skeleton, and utilized on light labour and station building construction. Medical supplies of sulpha drugs and penicillin dangerously low, none being received in the drop, and a radio was despatched to 'HEALTH' Moresby asking for an urgent supply of the necessary drugs to be sent via Kutubu. Mendi was also asked to help should a plane be scheduled for the strip inspection.

The A.D.C. Lake Kutubu was contacted, and arrangements made for a party from that station to bring the supplies to PAI, where they would be collected by a party despatched from here. Later in the week word was received that the medical supplies had arrived at Kutubu and a rendez-vous was made for Pai, parties arriving on Friday 26th.

Monday, September 22nd.

Work continued on strip extension, housing, and grassing of strip.

Mr Reville, P/O, readying gear for the trip to Pai on the morrow.

Natives continuing to bring in goodly supplies of timber for building.

Tuesday, September 23rd.

The patrol, conducted by Mr Reville, departed

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

From Tari at 0845k.

Labour line of 150 depleted to a mere 60 serviceable units with sick and patrol members out. Pneumonia cases now number 14, but many seem to be on the improve.

Wednesday, September 24th - Sunday, September 28th.

Work continued as before. Slight abating of influenza noticeable, and some of the earlier cases reporting back to work - these sent to grass the strip.

Progress being made on Police housing, six being in various stages of construction.

The sickness among the villagers is still severe and deaths, mainly of children, are being reported almost daily. It is becoming unusual not to hear the mournful wailing which heralds a death in the "village", but, with our medical supply so depleted, it is impossible to give assistance, especially when it appears doubtful if the stocks will last until the patrol returns.

Food supplies are still being maintained, though at a somewhat lower level owing to sickness.

On the night of the 26th, the writer, together with four Police and some labourers, proceeded, on invitation, to Moiyevia to witness a native ceremony. A large number of natives were present, and the ceremony proved to be most interesting and unusual. See section "ANTHROPOLOGICAL!"

Monday, September 29th.

Labour taken from housing project, and full, available line set to carrying stones to complete ditches along the extension.

Influenza position has improved - now 22 cases only on station. A prisoner suffered a rupture through the anus - Mr Yelland, B.M.A, Kutubu contacted and advice received. The ruptured section was replaced and the native put on a liquid diet.

Tuesday, September 30th.

Labour continuing to fill drain on strip extension.

Mr Neville and party reached the station at 110 hours after a very swift trip from Pai. Full medical supplies now to hand, but it appears as if the worst of the epidemic is over. Mail and personal supplies, also brought through by the party, welcomed.

Wednesday, October 1st - Sunday, October 5th

Work continued both on strip extension and Police quarters. Timber along both sides of the strip has been cut back for a distance of approximately 300 feet

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

The number of influenza cases static at 22. One labourer, suffering with what appears to be pneumonia, very low, and suffering fits. Repeated injections of penicillin have little or nil effect, and when his parents insisted on taking him to the village, it was allowed as nothing further can be done here.

Food still being bought in quantities.

Radio contact maintained.

Monday, October 8th - Sunday, October 12th.

Construction of Police quarters, filling of ditches, and cutting of strip past the 900 yard mark continued.

Reports reached the station that the labourer sent home during last week, died after two days of unconsciousness. His pay due to him sent to the parents.

Compensation for the casuarinas cut when clearing the sides of the strip paid.

Radio contacts kept. Information received from Discom Mendi that inspection of strip will probably take place within a week. Radio forwarded to D.C.A. Moresby requesting that Mr Galliano, Airport Inspector, bring in our radio equipment on the inspection flight.

Monday, October 13th - Thursday, October 16th.

Progress maintained on building, and strip construction. Work on buildings being held up through lack of knowledge of plaiting 'pit-pit' - only 6 members, Officers inclusive, have the know-how.

Further radio reports from D.C.A. Madang relative to strip inspection very vague - "somewhere about two weeks".

Native situation very quiet. Good supplies of food being maintained, but supply of small cowrie shell almost exhausted.

Friday, October 17th.

Leaving Mr Neville in charge of the station, the writer, with 5 Police and 12 carriers, proceeded on a short trip across the Eastern side of the basin. The main aims of the expedition were :- a. The finding and arresting of a native, BOLOGG of TABUDA, who had deserted Mr Anthony's party, stealing a tomahawk and knife in the process; and b. To contact the natives to the East - an area previously unvisited.

Party left the station at 0815k, and, proceeding East and South through Kigide, crossed the TEBI River about 3 miles south of Hoivevia. Having crossed the river per suspension bridge, the patrol continued almost due south, passing through numbers of swamps, and transversing the Western sections of HUKI, TUMADIA, and PEMEBLI village areas before crossing the PIMA River at 1015k. Very few natives were seen and little cultivation

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

Continuing southwards from the FIRA, the patrol waded the easternmost sections of further swamps, moving through the grounds of HAKO, TOMA, PORCFU, and TABUDA peoples. Again few natives were contacted, and many of the areas were deserted as a result of the previous intermittent fighting. Having crossed the KAUMIL River however, heavy cultivations belonging to the Tabuda group were entered. Here numerous natives were seen. The women, being shy and rather frightened, made off at a run, but the men, on seeing the party, unstrung their bows and came forward without fear.

Moving slowly and quietly through the area, a very pleasant camp site was chosen, and camp was made. This site was on the southern bank of the ARUA River on the border of Tabuda and Taronda groups.

Within a short space of time about 60-80 natives, including some women, arrived at the site bringing food. This was purchased using 'giri-giri' beads and salt. The women stayed well back on the outskirts of the camp, and a special point was made of purchasing their wares, giving them each a small present of beads, and the injunction that they had nothing of which to be afraid..... an inducement to further contact in the following days.

Much of the afternoon was taken up in talking to the natives. It was ascertained, that the internecine fighting had concluded on the arrest of the Tapa leaders, and that several small sub-groups were in the process of re-establishing themselves on their old grounds.

Members of the carrier line who belong to this area were forwarded through the group to ascertain if BOXRO, the native sought, was still present. On their return during late afternoon they reported that he was still in the immediate area, and arrangements were made for a swift inspection of his house in the early morning.

Very heavy rains fell during the late afternoon and night.

Station. Work continued on cutting through the extension at strip level.

Saturday, October 28th.

Following the heavy overnight rain, it was found impossible in the morning to cross the ARUA, which had risen sharply overnight. Previous plans were shelved, and the party remained at Arambabu - camp site.

Many natives from TARONDA, and villages south and west, came to visit the camp and friendly relations were established. With few exceptions, the natives arrived in camp unarmed and not in the least apprehensive.

Further talks were given, and a rough history of the fighting throughout the area was obtained.

During the afternoon an abundance of food was brought in and purchased. It was pleasing to note that

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER AREA.

some 40 - 50 women were present following the episode yesterday.

A dirty day with light, intermittent showers which continued through the night.

Station:

work continued on housing and strip

Sunday, October 19th.

At daybreak, the writer, 3 Police and guides, visited the house of BOLOGO but without success. It was later ascertained from the natives, who appear to have no specific feelings towards the native Bologo, that he was at Piango, farther up the river.

The writer and Police moved slowly through the Tabuda area, and noted the extent of the group - rather large. The local natives showed little antipathy towards the patrol, though two arrows were discharged when the party came unsuspectingly to a small group of natives within a closed area. It was a matter of fright, and when speaking to the natives later, it was pointed out rather seriously that such tactics belonged to the immediate past, and, that had someone been injured, a much more serious attitude would have been taken.

Having viewed the Tabuda area, and most of that of Taronda, the party returned to camp at 1330k.

Several natives accompanied the party back to camp bringing food and a pig...all of which was purchased.

Party remained over-night at Araubabu.

Station.

Sunday observed. Station stood-down.

Monday, October 20th.

Camp being broken at 0700k, the party, together with 15 volunteers for station labour, moved up the ARUA River en route to Piango. After proceeding up stream for some 15 minutes, two carriers in the lead recognized a native as Bologo and he was taken into custody. He stated he was on his way to the camp with a pig to "buy off" his conduct, but as no pig was seen it's a debatable point. It appears that he had been in the immediate area all the time, but had stayed hidden on the outskirts of the village. The tomahawk was found, but the knife, used to purchase a pig, was beyond recovery.

Moving farther upstream, the party arrived at Piango at 1000k. Several natives working in the gardens were contacted, and the party moved very leisurely East and North through the areas of NOMANDA, UNDI, and GOMIA before turning towards the N.W. and making camp in an old garden site at WANGARE, at 1245k.

Though rain commenced before the camp was made, several natives visited the establishment. Sweet potato and sugar cane were purchased with small trade.

Considering the number of small groups passed through during the day, the population does not appear

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

very dense, but it was established that the main bulk of the population is farther east at the foot of the Hampshire Range, and the party had been moving through the lesser populated western boundaries. No indications of fighting were reported or seen, but deserted gardens, dead trees, and broken ditches told their own story that, sometime in the past, it was not so.

Station:

Work continued on station and strip construction.

Tuesday, October 21st.

Broke camp at 0700k. New labourers were forwarded direct to camp under escort of Habe, one of the carriers. The patrol continued to move in a generally North West direction, crossed the KADWIC and FIMA Rivers, and proceeded slowly through the MABAIJA, MARI-GIBANDA, MAGABU, and MABURU village grounds.

Cultivations of large extent were encountered and numerous natives contacted. Again, though the men showed no fear or apprehension, the women were only sighted as they beat a hasty retreat to the nearest shelter. All natives stated that the previous fighting had finished, and that payments were being completed between previous feuding groups. Decisions were requested in three minor matters involving payments, bride-price, and the previous theft of pigs, and very given.

Every opportunity was taken to impress on the natives that the Administration was in the area to stay, that most of their old tribal laws and customs were being maintained, and that only the punishments for the violation of such laws was to be changed and vested in the 'Government'.

Having crossed the ANGARIA Creek, a tributary of the Aijena, at 1030k, the party continued more westerly to the ALJARA River. It being a fine, warm morning, the chance to spell and swim was taken.

Following the Aijena downstream past its junction with the Angaria, we arrived at MOIMVIA, and proceeded along the well worn native pad across the TARI to the station - arriving at 1230k.

Station.

Work on station and strip continued. Inspected. Considerable progress made on both jobs.

Wednesday, October 22nd.

Labour continuing to lengthen strip, and complete buildings already erected.

Radio conversation with Kutabu confirmed fact that Cadet MORRISH would arrive on following Catalina. Decision made to send Mr Beville to Kutabu to collect any stores remaining there, forward correspondence, and escort Mr Morrish to Taxi.

Mr Beville preparing patrol gear for trip on the morrow.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

Thursday, October 23rd.

With a party of 6 Police and 30 carriers, Mr Neville left the station at 0700h. Two of the Police accompanying him, Consts AGAN and LOMAN, well overdue for leave, proceeding Kutuba for transportation Moresby.

Work continued on buildings, and in filling two drains along the strip extension.

Friday, October 24th. - Sunday, October 26th.

On the 24th instant, the Court of Native Matters was convened to hear the charge against BODOGO under section 30 of N.R.O. Native was convicted and sentenced to 2 months imprisonment.

Following news over SPA that the Regional Director and Superintendent of Air Navigation, D.F.A., were proceeding Likori with a view of inspecting Tari from that point, Aeradio Moresby contacted for information..... no definite date given.

Radio: The modulation section of the Altea out of order, and all traffic and queries are having to be transmitted by C.V. This is effecting communications drastically, as Kutuba unable to be contacted owing their limited knowledge of code, and Moresby listening out on "Voice".

Though the natives are claiming that food is short - ("time of hungry"), supplies to the station are not diminishing. It has been noted however, that the quantity per person is smaller, but the numbers of women bringing in food has more than doubled.

Further timber is being brought in for buildings, and this work is going ahead.

Monday, October 27th - Sunday, November 2nd.

With 30 natives working on station buildings, and the remainder on the strip, good progress is being maintained.

On the 2nd November, the Police moved into the new, permanent quarters, though completion of this section of the station is some distance away yet.

Unable to contact Moresby on 'key', a listening watch is being maintained on sched times - no traffic.

Food supplies being maintained. More and more new faces are being seen at the station on buying days, and is an indication of faith and the acceptance of the Administration in their midst.

Monday, November 3rd - Sunday, November 9th.

All available labour continued to extend the strip, and by the end of the week approximately 1000 yards completed. As the extension will pass through some of the present camp, houses are being removed and rebuilt as the work progresses.

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On the 4th instant, SFA announced that Mr Arthur, Regional Director, D.C.A., was proceeding to Madang from whence an inspection would be carried out. This news was confirmed on the 5th, by a radio from Services which gave the additional information that the inspection would probably take place over the week-end. However the inspection did not take place.

On the 8th, contact was re-established with Mendi on 'key'.

Patrol conducted by Mr Neville, and including Mr Morrish, Cadet posted this station, arrived at Kutubu at 1330k on the 8th.

The chief small trade, 'giri-giri', finished, and no supplies can be expected until strip is passed. This may present quite a problem in our retention of trade values established.

Monday, November 10th - Wednesday, November 12th.

Work continued to extend strip. Stores in the line of expansion pulled down, and a new temporary building being erected away from the precincts of the field.

Mendi was contacted on C.W. during the 12th inst, and the patrol was informed that the D.C.A. inspection party, then at Mendi, would be proceeding Tari on the 13th.

The local natives were informed of the fact, and though probably anticipating another "let down", are interested.

Food being purchased with small pieces of pearl shell - the shell broken in the drop being further shattered to get pieces of the required size. Much fewer natives in since the supply of 'giri-giri' completed, and rations being issued to supplement supply of sweet potato. Purchase of food with chits of various value being tried, but the natives generally are not greatly impressed.

Thursday, November 13th.

At 0830k, two planes, a DH.94 Dragon, and a DH.92, Tiger Moth, were sighted to the south west. After circling the strip, the Moth landed, closely followed by the Dragon. The landings were made without incident.

The party to land included:-

Mr. J. Arthur, Regional Director, D.C.A.
Mr. T. Drury, Sup't of Air Navigation
Mr. F. Calliano, Airport Inspector, Madang
Mr. L. Simpson, Radio Supervisor, D.C.A.
Mr. J. McLeod, District Commissioner.
and Mr. R. Harris, Captain of Dragon a/c.

The strip was inspected and found to be now at a length of 1000 yards. The extension for drone to DC3 standard checked, and work accomplished, and that still to be done, was discussed. The ATMA Transceiver was checked over by Mr Simpson, but unable to be rectified.

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The strip was declared to be open for all aircraft up to DC3 standard, and the extended Tari patrol ceased to exist as such from this time.

Weather conditions being poor, the inspection party remained over night at the station.

END OF DIARY.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Though sections of the general area embraced by the Tari Basin have been visited by Europeans dating from 1838 - these being Taylor and Black on their big Highlands, exploratory patrol (Hoiyevia area); Champion, Adanson, and Timperley from their base camp at Kutubu (the Tagari area); and Smith, Neville, and Clancy in 1861 - most of the general attitude of the natives has been governed and moulded by the influence of natives proceeding to, and from, Wabaga.

In the first instance Taylor took some Muris to Wabaga, where they were later employed on construction of strips both there and Hagen. These natives, on their return to this area, brought with them not only trade items with which they were paid, but also some idea, however erroneous, of the "Government". In this regard, it was fortunate that two of the most influential men in the central section of the Tari were of those who visited the new Government establishments to the North.

With a rough route developed, natives at odd times, often when internecine fighting broke up the group, passed through to Wabaga. Many of these married and remained in the Wabaga area, others returned later, and each contact gave greater credence to the original version.

Smith's arrival to establish a station, was the culmination of much previous discussion, for of the natives to visit Wabaga and Hagen one was KUKASI of Hoiyevia, a Headman with great influence. He had, many years previously, told his natives that the Government would eventually gravitate to the Tari, and had, in the interim, done all within his power to follow the rough creed of the Administration in matters regarding fighting etc.

When, through force of circumstances, Smith's patrol was withdrawn from the area, a heavy blow was dealt to the faith of the natives who had anticipated the arrival, and also to those who were gaining faith and trust in the members of the patrol. This was found shortly after arrival, and has taken some relatively long time to rebuild.

From the time this patrol left Kutubu, though not welcomed with open arms, we were received throughout without hostility, and the natives co-operated fully with the patrol. In the PAUSA, PAI, MARIBU areas, the natives have been contacted on many former occasions by members of field staff from Kutubu, and were well aware of the aims and needs of the party. In the matters of food and assistance with carrying, these natives helped substantially, and the party was met by natives throughout the belt of population between Pausa and the Tari River, where such population cuts out.

On arriving in the Tari Basin proper, we were welcomed by large parties of natives, all armed, but entirely friendly. Asking was more than sufficient to ensure the party had more than adequate food, and the prices were by no means excessive. Natives followed the patrol in large numbers, stopping at their tribal boundaries, and handing us on to the next group. Though at this stage some women were seen, they were in

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE ATRI AREA, NIASIA.

small numbers, and were generally noted whilst moving away from the path of the patrol.

Within the boundaries of the old camp, the present establishment, many natives of both sexes, on recognizing Mr Neville, gave the party a quiet welcome. It was to be noted here, that the women encountered did not endeavour to hasten away but moved to the side of the road. These people, having had more contact with the former party, apparently realized they had nothing to fear, and from this nucleus we had to work... a not very difficult task.

It was ascertained that the fighting settled by mediation by the Smith patrol had, in the main, not been revived. On our arrival only two minor skirmishes were in progress, one to the East of the Tebi River, and the second to the west in the Naibuga section. After the camp was established, emissaries, in the form of Fetabi and some of the local carriers recently arrived back, were sent to see what the troubles were. They personally were able to bring matters to a conclusion, and for some time no further fighting was reported through the area.

The natives in the immediate vicinity of the camp, though dubious of the return of the Government, had acted on Mr Smith's request and planted gardens, for the Government, along the area cleared for the strip. Thus on the patrol's arrival, food was adequate and readily available. The gardens mentioned were later purchased outright from the natives concerned.

Having been able to carry little but necessities in food and trade, the natives' confidence in our ability to purchase and pay was low; this was restored by the airdrop. Though the natives in the immediate vicinity had witness drops to Smith's patrol, numerous natives were seeing their first close-up of a plane and were suitably impressed. On the first drop some 2-3000 natives were present, and the opportunity was taken to impress the fact that the Government was, this time, here to stay. As a direct result of the supply, recruits for the labour force became readily available, the number employed permanently being in the vicinity of 150. Casual daily labour also became a general thing, and upwards of 200 native helpers daily appeared to assist.

On their sudden withdrawal the previous patrol had been unable to pay off, satisfactorily, their labour. This fact, remaining with the locals, coloured their interest in work and it was decided to pay off the old line of natives who had proceeded to Kutubu with Clancy and Neville - even though most of them desired to remain with the party. The effect of seeing these natives paid was reflected in greater confidence, and no further references to pay, or the rate thereof was made. However among some, the aftermath of the previous withdrawal remained, and up to some five months after the party's arrival at Tari, scepticism of our intention to stay was evident. Only when the Police quarters were occupied permanently was such talk stilled.

The natives brought back from Kutubu have influenced greatly those messengers who remained, and the

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labour have been exceedingly loyal, and reflect the manner in which they were treated during their sojourn at Kutubu.

As mentioned previously, internecine fighting was at a minimum at the time of the patrol's arrival, but, during the early part of July, fighting again flared up in the area to the west of the camp. After some days of fighting it was noted that attendance at the camp, both of food sellers and of labourers, had dropped sharply, and that several of the labour, signed on for periods ranging from three to six months, were deserting to protect their interests within the threatened areas. When all efforts to end the fray by mediation of natives failed, both officers made a visit to the area - took a hours walk from camp. The fighting was suspended on our arrival, and the various factions were contacted and addressed. At this stage they appeared amenable to the cessation of fighting, but within 48 hours, the large group from Tari, using the previous talk as a blind, raided the TIGC village area causing considerable damage and no little concern. The fight re-commenced.

By this time the villages of TARI, TOROMO, NARO, TUPPA, HEBAKO, HINA, HURI, TERASO, YUMC, DAGIMA, SOHIMA, TORANI, FIBI, and SUGAMA on the one side; and TIGC, HANU'ALI, BOHIVIA, PIRIBU, PAI, YUMC, YANCAI, PASI'ALI and LUMA on the other, were involved and the fighting was affecting an area of some 100 sq miles, embracing a population of some 10,000 natives.

When, on the 4th of August, following the wounding of a labourer, the European Officers and available Police went to the Tari area to arrest the leaders of the fight, no active opposition was offered, the natives being nonplussed by the supposed tenacity of such a small body virtually invading their area. The arrests occasioned no violence, and were effected with a great amount of ease considering the numbers involved.

On the arrest of 22 natives from the villages concerned, all fighting ceased at once and reciprocal payments were immediately made for natives killed in the fighting.

As a direct result, the whole of the Tari area as far west as the Tari River, began making payments for past killings, and over the past 6 months no report of any punitive activity has been received. During this period a great deal of reconstruction has been commenced. To the east of the Tari River, numerous areas, previously devastated by fighting and subsequently abandoned, have been re-occupied, and work is already in progress on building of houses and gardens.

The most noticeable result has been the increased attendance at the station, where, on the days when food is purchased, upwards of 500 women alone may congregate, using the station, both as a clearing house for gossip, and on occasions, as a trading post among themselves.

It is noted also that, where before even the nearest women were escorted to the station, they now

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE EARL RIVER BASIN.

Though it is to be only expected that the age old intra and inter village or group antipathies cannot die out overnight, some progress has been achieved in this general direction. It is certain that the Government has now been recognized, and visitors from areas well westwards of the Tagari are becoming more frequent; as are the small inter native disputes which are being brought before us for settlement.

Suffice to say that the situation is calm; the native attitude, though excellent right from the start, has become sustained and, with careful handling should remain so.

The Furi Native.

is a typical Highlander, in so far that his attitude and customs follow closely those of the Chimbu/Hagen/Wabaga native.

With a friendly disposition and a flair for the picturesque, the generally short, sturdy native of the area respects wealth and strength, while deploring any "high-handed" attitude, especially in one of his own people.

His dress, similar to that of the Wabaga, consists of a "bilum" woven of a special bark to the fore, and a

covering of 'tanget' leaves shoved through a string waist band at the rear. Most men are bearded with the upper lip clean shaven, and their hair dressing is in the form of a wig (an inverted 'U' shape) which is made by interweaving hairs collected from other natives or youngsters into their own hairsute scalps, and moulding them all into the required shape. The foremost part of the wig is straight sided, and with everlasting flowers pushed through the front becomes a form of personal adornment, and is much prized.

When away from his own house he invariably carries a black palm bow, some 4'6" long, and a bundle of arrows tipped with black palm rounded points about 10" long, or slivers of bamboo shaped like a knife - and with the same cutting properties. Within his waist band rests a bone dagger made from the leg of a cassowary, and

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and a stone bladed axe. A string bag 'bilum', tied around his neck and hanging across the back completes his toilet.

His woman, also short and sturdily built, is generally shy, though, like her man, she becomes friendly and trusting once confidence is gained.

She wears a knee length skirt of dried, flattened and worked water grass, with the skirt much longer at the back - both thighs are left uncovered. Over her shaven head she wears the usual woven skull cap and "bilum", and

a smaller bag, hung around the neck, is often used to cover the breasts. Her almost invariable companion is the paddle shaped digging stick, so very effective both as a gardening implement, and as a weapon either between sexes or among her confederates.

Both are equally quick to anger and as equally quick to forgive - unless some wrong has been done - and with a childish propensity of inquisitiveness tinged with fear. They are a delightful example of the best of the uncontacted, unsophisticated natives, and are a lovable people.

Villages and Housing:

With the sporadic, intervillage or group fighting which has been continuing for centuries, it is rather surprising that some form of alliance, in the village sense, has not eventuated.

However, there is no form of congregation into village groups, and the natives live in separate sections scattered about throughout the area belonging to the group. The houses are generally sited on the edge of the garden area being cultivated, and are well hidden in groves of 'pit-pit' grass and shrubbery.

The family group constructs two houses some little distance apart, one being for the male members, and the other for females. Both houses are an elongated structure, very low to, and sometimes let into the ground, built with split timber sides covered on the exterior by leaves of the pandanus palm. The ridge-pole is set at an angle so that the doorway end is somewhat higher than the other.

The interior is generally divided into two sections, that nearer the door being used as a sitting room, while the other is utilized as a sleeping place and a place for the pigs.

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With the door, a small opening some 2'6" by 1'6", closed by placing split planks horizontally across it, and a small fire lit, the place becomes very warm and little or no covering is used within the house. A mat of pandanus leaves is used as a covering from the rain, and serves the dual purpose of a mat on which to sleep.

Surrounding the garden and house, deep ditches are constructed. These ditches are the inner defences for

the people of that particular house, and are in general from nine to twenty feet deep and about 15 feet wide - a classic example of how the local natives can work ground. As a rule the edges of the ditches, and consequently of the entire family area, are planted with casuarinas and shrubs. As these serve the purpose of road it is possible to walk for many miles through drains and fail to be aware of population within yards of the walker.

Thus the group, though an entirety from past history, retains its identity in the family

rather in the unit itself, and villages are non-existent

Many houses in one group may be vacant at different times though not deserted. Under the land tenure set up of the Muris, a native may maintain up to four houses in different areas and within different groups, (See Section 'ANTHROPOLOGICAL'.) and moves about from area to area as the food supplies dictate. However the native has a fundamentally stable existence and invariably claims one section as his permanent address.

Population Distribution.

The similarity of population distribution throughout the Tari area to the shape of a dumb-bell, as mentioned by Mr Cadet Patrol Officer Anthony in his report of the visit to the area, is well taken.

The area to the extreme southwards in the Pai, and Maribu area is fairly heavily populated. This can be deduced from the garden areas seen, and the amount of smoke noted rising from the numerous small valleys which open into the Herenda valley from the ranges to the East. As can be clearly seen by eye, this belt of population extends westwards across the Tagari River, though the density of population in this section can be gained only from native reports.

Having crossed the NARI River moving northwards, the population to the East of the Tagari was found to be negligible, and, though signs of previous occupation are well evidenced, a section some 7 miles in width is uninhabited except for parties hunting through the extensive bushlands.

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At Bakai, sparse population recurrences and the main heavy population is situated within the Basin proper encompassed by the Maribu, Hides and Humphries Ranges. Much of the heaviest population is to be found on the edges of marshes and swamps, and in general, the greatest density is found to the west of the present Government establishment and spreading on the Tagari River. Reports have been received of very heavily populated areas on the ranges to the west of the Tagari, and these have been confirmed by aircraft sightings.

A very approximate estimate of the figures for the area are as follows:-

Immediate station area	3,000
East of the Tebi River.	3,000
South of station to Bakai	5,000
Pai, Maribu, Tamera area.	2,000
Haibuga Marsh area.	5,000
Tagari and West Tagari area.	10,000

Estimated Population 28,000

By no means all of the area has been sighted, but those that have, have tended to bear out previous reports heard. Even a head count would fail to be near accurate owing to the land tenure and temporary migrations. It will be a long time before anything like an accurate census can be assessed, and it will be a labourious task.

Trade and Trade Routes.

The natives can be termed 'trade hungry'. Previously trade came through two routes, virtually contiguous along part of their courses. The main source of trade is to the North, across the Humphries range and the head of the Wage River at Wabaga. The local natives, being richly endowed with pigs, and having little of their favoured shell, carried out a more or less regular trade with the natives of Wabaga and Porgera in these mediums. In general it appears to be the natives of Wabaga who have instituted the route, they being the main movers along the Wabaga trail.

A similar trade was carried out less often with the Middle Wage peoples.

The major items of trade, listed in their relative values as such, are tomahawks, Pearl-shell (goldlip not essential), knives, giri-giri (small cowrie shell), mirrors, salt/beads, and red paint.

Of these, giri-giri has the most convertible value of any. Bride price, 'moga' payments, purchases of pigs and other items, are all carried out, in a greater or less degree, using this medium. The local custom of counting 2 shells as one means that for 40 (i.e. 80 single shells) shells the natives purchase a pig. As a pearlshell and tomahawk have roughly equivalent values, and each will purchase a pig, the relative values may be quickly recognized.

Salt, once the natives become accustomed to the different taste, is a major item of small trade and is keenly sought by the older people. In the same category, beads have been getting an increased demand from the younger natives. Red lap-lap and facepaint are

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also are popular. This trade value extends as far afield as the patrol has visited, and from reports, is general throughout the Tari area.

HEALTH.

Like most of the uncontacted peoples of the Highlands region, the health of the local natives is excellent. Being at an altitude of 5000 feet, tropical diseases, as known on the coastal regions, are non-existent.

The main causes of sickness are the virus diseases of pneumonia and influenza, and the common cold. Of these, the former is a deadly agent, affecting mainly the children and older people, but also taking a toll of the middle age bracket group.

From native reports, one is led to believe that malarial fever is present in the areas to the south of the Tari Basin proper i.e the Pai, Maribu area, and it is supposed to be the main cause for the evacuation of the AWA, and HOCRA villages sometime in the past. It is logical to assume that, even without malaria being in the area originally, such disease could have been brought along the trade route from Kutubu. As anophles mosquitoes were noted both through that area and farther north, it may well be that the disease was transacted in such a fashion.

Apart from the aforementioned virus diseases, abrasions, cuts, fractures and spear wounds complete the picture of native ailments so far encountered in numbers sufficient to be called general.

One case each of tropical ulcer and yaws have been noted and treated; both cases responding well to N.A.B injections. Three cases of leprosy have also been noted.

Beyond cases involving wounds or fractures, the natives have yet to appreciate the European drugs, and, as a consequence, the more fatal diseases; viz pneumonia, continue to be treated in the villages - the main cure being the killing of pigs to propitiate the spirit causing sickness.

Several of the cases brought to the camp required minor surgical attention, and, as the instruments etc were available, some suturing was carried out with a fair degree of success.

Influenza Epidemic.

With the advent of the supposed "change-over" season at the beginning of September, a widespread incidence of influenza, and resultant pneumonia, was reported from areas as far removed as Borgera and Kutubu, and from within the Tari basin.

Though the labour on the station remained for some little time uneffected by the sickness, by the middle of October influenza was rife within the camp - there being upwards of 80 cases simultaneously during the worst period of the epidemic.

As anti-pneumonia drugs were not dropped in the airlift, early in September the situation became crit-

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critical, and a radiogram was despatched to "Health" Moresby for supplies. These were later collected by patrol from Kutubu. Further supplies were held at Mendi pending a plane's early arrival, these being received at a much later date. However, by the time the drugs arrived, the worst of the epidemic had passed; fortunately with only one death resulting within the camp.

The native population was badly hit by the sickness, and the toll must have been inordinately heavy judging by the almost continuous wailing which heralded the decease of some native within the immediate area. Isolated cases are, even at the time of writing, being reported both within the villages and at the camp, but deaths are much reduced.

Native Surgery.

As a matter of interest, it has been established that the local natives are, within their own rights, somewhat knowledgeable in the realms of rough bush surgery. From accounts, it seems probable that major operations are at times performed in the extraction of arrows. Two cases, still living, state that, having been shot in the eye and chest respectively, natives performed surgical operations to remove the foreign substance. In the first instance, the eye was removed to gain access to the spearpoint lodged between the eye and brain; the spear being removed, the eye was replaced.

In the second case, apparently while the native patient was unconscious, and liable to expire, an opening was made between the ribs which were forced apart sufficiently far as to enable a hand to be inserted, and the broken spear, together with congealed blood, to be withdrawn.

This knowledge seems to be borne out by the fact that they will submit themselves for any sort of surgical work, while tending to deplore the modern internal medicines. Like most natives they are stoical and tend to stand pain far better than would their white counterparts.

In general, it is assured that the overall health of the natives of the upper Tari is extremely satisfying, and every possible action will be taken to ensure no diseases are introduced to the detriment of these people.

AGRICULTURE.

Gardens.

Together with their other highland characteristics, the natives throughout the area are gardeners in the true sense of the word. Within each family/area, extensive gardens of the mound type, typical of the mountains, are made.

The staple diet is sweet potato, of which two main varieties are in evidence. One type is that common to the area from time immemorial, while the second or the OKIMAWA variety called 'kaima' (after the "Motu" name for sweet potato), was introduced in the late 30's and early 40's from seed brought to Lake Kutubu by

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Mr I. Champion and party during the original opening up of that area.

The local soil is comparatively deep and rich, and good yields appear to be the rule. It is of interest to note that nowhere else in the Territory, as seen by the writer, is there such an abundance of earthworms, which undoubtedly play a big part in the productivity of the soil.

Within the past ten years several European crops have been introduced to the area, down the Nabaga trail, and of these, the natives have shown increasing interest. The first new crop to be introduced was corn, which, from a small start, has developed into a second major crop. The story goes that the first corn was thrown away by Mr Taylor's party during his visit to Moiyevia. On his departure a solitary stalk sprang up. Being naturally superstitious, this was placed under a "taboo" and until the time it came to fruition, it was left alone. At this stage however, one native, more forward than his friends, tried a small piece of corn, found it sweet and good - and lived. From this meagre start developed the growth of corn throughout the nearby area.

On the return of natives from the Nabaga area, more corn was imported, and spreading, is now available, in greater or lesser quantities, as far south as PAL.

As mentioned before, this is now grown on a major scale, being planted along the edges of the potato gardens, and is gaining an assured place in the native diet. Gardens of some 5 - 10 acres have been seen, not as sweet potato patches, but as fields of waving corn.

Along the same route has come onions, (leachallots) cabbages, English potatoes, pumpkins and peanuts. These are still very localized and in short supply. During the sojourn of the Smith patrol, a small area of tomatoes was planted. Before these reached maturity that patrol was forced to leave, and the resultant crop, taken over by the natives, has expanded rapidly. As the locals have acquired a ready taste for these, it is expected that it will not be over-long before production is widespread.

For all English vegetables so far introduced, the climate and soil have proved good, but insects have been found to attack many of them in their early stages, and any station grown vegetables should be sprayed for anything like good results.

Greens are produced in large quantities and are of the native cabbage variety. "Mihis 'pit-pit'" is grown throughout the gardens, as is sugar. As regards the latter, production does not appear high, but the reason for such is not known.

Quantities of taro and yam are also produced, the former being cultivated on the edge of small swamps or in the bottoms of old drains - production of both these vegetables is very small.

Production of Groves

As previously mentioned, each family has a section of ground in their respective area. Of this, approximately one third is cultivated yearly, while the

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remainder lies neglected, and grass and weeds flourish. At the end of the season, a second section is cleared, the grass burned for its potash content, and the ground broken ready for planting. Thus each section remains fallow for approximately two years, which, in the main, appears sufficient to ensure a decent crop.

It appears that very little virgin bush is cleared for new gardens, and this occurs mainly when a defeated 'village' returns to its grounds many years later and clears its old garden sites. It seems probable, that, sometime in the future, a simple system of rotation may be easily introduced, while for the present, the introduction of corn grown in conjunction with potatoes, and the system of fallow should suffice.

Livestock.

The main wealth of the area is in its livestock. Pigs are extremely numerous and are of fair quality. Each person within the family group has, as a rule, at least one pig which is given the best of care. This is logical, for these have been, for generations, the outward sign of wealth, and have been the main medium of trade between the Tari and those areas to the north which are not so fortunate.

A boar of half European breed has also been brought south from Wabaga, and it is in great demand as a breeder.

Two main diseases affect the local pig, both of which prove fatal in most instances. Anthrax and pneumonia together drive a wedge into the total numbers and the introduction of anthrax vaccine should prove its worth to the natives, and assist the Administration greatly. The introduction of better class pigs as breeders should be easy, and would be welcomed by the natives.

Dogs are numerous, both within the village and without. Native claims that wild-dogs are numerous in the bush is not substantiated, but it is conceivable that several village dogs have at times entered into a wild state in the bush.

Fowls are yet in the stage of being introduced, and only approximately 20 fowls are known to be held by villagers. These have been introduced from Wabaga by returning local natives and are very recent acquisitions.

ROADS and BRIDGES.

Neither roads, nor bridle paths as such exist between Kutuba and Porgera on the New Guinea border. Movement is made along small native pads through the timbered and unpopulated sections, and where population is found, the 'roads' leave the surface and one enters the deep fighting ditches which serve the purpose. Many of these ditches, deepened by the incessant traffic, are knee deep in slush,

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and in many places, so overgrown with trees and shrubbery, that one enters as if in a cave.

At intervals along such tracks, high, split timber barricades are erected, having as a means of ingress and egress merely a small doorway some 5ft by 2 ft. Through population these 'ditch roads' form a veritable maze and it is virtually impossible to keep track of directions.

On the original trip through from Kutubu, the route through Fauwa, Pai, Maribu, Awa, and Dabeli was followed. This is a most circuitous route, and since then, each party proceeding either to or from Tari or Kutubu, has endeavoured to find a shorter route. Several tracks have been followed, and the shortest yet found proceeds from Tangobe (in the Pai valley) through Tambara on the eastern fall of the Marendia valley, rejoining the old route at Neora and leaving it again just to the North of Bakai to take a direct line through Hogumbe to the Arua River. From here the original track is followed again to the station. It has been found that, if necessary, a lightly laden patrol can make Kutubu per this track in about 4 days, and return in five (5). Apart from the rather treacherous tracks over the limestone to the west of Kutubu, the paths are quite passable, though most unpleasant during the periods spent negotiating riverside swamps.

Bridges.

Where-ever fords are possible, bridges are not used. However, the Tebi, a deep, narrow river, is bridged in several places between Noiyevia and its junction with the Huri River to the south. Bridges are also placed over the Arua and Huri Rivers within the Page group, just above their junction with the Tebi.

The bridges are constructed on the suspension principle hung between trees on either bank. The two main lines support loops of bush rope, which in turn, form the supports for the lengths of bush timber which form the bridge decking proper. These structures form a sufficient, if unsubstantial means of crossing the main streams in the area.

The Tagari River, the largest stream in the area, is believed to be unbridged, and natives of the Raibuga marsh utilize poorly constructed rafts to ferry themselves to East or West.

TOPOGRAPHY.

The country to the North-West of Lake Kutubu resolves itself into a flask shaped basin, the neck extending towards Mt Bosavi in the south, and opening into an area some 25 miles wide, and 16 miles deep towards the north. The basin is enclosed by the imposing Humphries Range to the East; the watershed of most of the streams which traverse the area; the Hides range to the North, and the Karins Ranges to the Westwards. This latter range forms, on its western slopes, the headwaters of the Strickland, and its subsidiary waters which go to swell the Fly.

These ranges rise at their heights to something over 11,000 ft, the most notable peaks being those of Doma, (11,180); Ambua, (10,220); and Kerewa,

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(11,160), all within the Humphries Range, and Mt Dini, (10,780) in the Hides Range. Limestone, covered with dense rain forest, they make a very defined barrier in all directions bar the south.

The main water system is the Tagari, or Tari River which rises in Mt Ambua, flows northwards to pursue its course along the foot of the Hides Ra, before turning southwards at the extreme west of the Basin to follow the Marius Ra south.

Its main tributaries, the Tebi, Aijena, Fiwa and Arua rivers, all rise in Mt Ambua, while the only other waterway of note in the basin, the Murik, rises in Doma. The Tebi, like the Tagari, flows in a half circle before flowing south then west to join the Tari, and the remaining major waters flow from the East to join their bulk to the Tebi. This stream is often called the Begia in its lower reaches, and the change can be confusing.

Apart from the Tebi, which is a slow moving stream in its middle section, the other streams are beautiful, swift running mountain rivers.

Large water-falls may be seen from the camp. These are on the headwaters of the Fiwa River, and though not yet explored, they appear to be of some considerable height.

About midway between the Tebi and Tagari Rivers, in the approximate centre of the basin, three small lakes, set in a rough tri-angle are to be found. These appear to be small enclosed valleys, which, over the years, have become filled with water. It is thought that some of them may well be deep.

The Tagari river, after traversing the

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Haibuga marsh area on the west of the Basin, is believed to go underground before plunging over the NEWAI falls to continue its course south.

It seems probable that the Haibuga marsh was once a large lake, the river being dammed to the south by a spur of the Karius Range. At some time during history's progress the stricture was removed, and the low area remained as a swamp.

This is the largest swamp in the area, but, along the lower reaches of the Tebi and its tributaries, extended areas of 'pit-pit' swamp abound. These swamps extend about 1/2 - 3 miles on either side of the rivers.

Through the neck of the Basin to the south the country is undulating and fairly heavily timbered.

No ranges higher than a few hundred feet are to be found either within the Basin proper or its southern extremities.

TIMBER.

Wrongly called the "Grasslands" by Mr Williams, Government Anthropologist, the area is in general bush with population originally forming, and remaining now within, the cleared areas.

Thick rain forest stretches westwards from Kutubu to the Harenda valley (PAI), broken only by the inhabited, and previously inhabited sections of Fauwa and Ikerobu. From Maribu, stretching for some 10 miles to the Northwards is a belt of open bushland containing some good specimens of hardwood, while the ranges enclosing the valley, and within the basin proper, sections of good hardwood are to be found in plenty. Though none has been sighted as yet, natives report what is expected to be cedar is in fairly plentiful supply on the small foothills to the north of the station. This will be investigated at a later date.

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Scattered throughout the basin are small stands of pine, with odd single trees also present. Within a half mile of the present station to the East is a typical grove of well formed and matured timber, estimated to run to about 200,000 super feet. Three other stands, two of them more extensive than that mentioned, are within 5 miles and could be expected to mill somewhere in the vicinity of a half million super feet each.

These trees are bound up with native superstition, myths and folk tales, but are indigenous to the area.

Though much of the timber within the basin has been cut through by the natives, quite considerable tracts of good hardwood remain and are, in the main, easily accessible.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Until the advent of the patrol, the weather conditions, including knowledge of the seasons, were unknown. Even to date, having assiduously kept rainfall records for a period of some five months, the state of the seasons is yet not certain.

Natives have been unable to state whether the weather experienced by the party is usual for the time of the year, or if the "wet" or "dry" is in progress.

During the first four months of the patrol, rain was fairly general during the mid-afternoons, though falls, with few exceptions, were not great. Most of the weather during this period has built up from either the south or west, with heavy cumulus clouds and rain squalls moving across the basin along the Hoguabe ridge to the South, then striking the wall of the Humphries and moving northwards bringing rainfalls of various intensities. Thunderstorms, brought about by such conditions are fairly frequent, though the heaviest fall to date has been 241 points.

Winds, up to the time of writing, have remained in the South, swinging at times slightly to the West.

The climate is temperate, with warm to hot days followed by somewhat cooler nights. Many mornings find the area blanketed in mist, and "almost" frosts are not infrequent. No thermometer has been available thus temperature changes are unable to be given. In general the local climate reflects somewhat that of Goroka, though the heavy winds sometimes experienced there have not yet been noted here.

It is thought that, at this time, the area is in the "change-over" period and future weather will be somewhat drier. However, with the configuration of the ranges and the closed in area, a not too well defined seasonal change is expected. Natives however report that droughts are experienced with some not too pleasing results.

A complete chart of the rainfall for the period June 1st to November 30th inclusive is appended for information.

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AIRDROPS.

The patrol was supplied on three occasions by drops made by Catalina from Kutubu in the first instance, and from Moresby at a later date.

The first drop, made on the 25th of May took place some 10 days after the patrol's arrival at Tari. This drop consisted of supplies previously drawn from Moresby, forwarded to Kutubu via Kikori, and packed by members of the patrol prior to departure. The supplies contained quantities of both rations and trade and were received in excellent condition. The only articles to suffer any damage were gold-lip shells, which, packed in a storepede, broke while in contact one with the other on impact. As the locals value pieces of shell, no loss was sustained - 100% recovery being made.

When, after the Norseman nosed into the strip, it was apparent that no supplies could be landed, and as stocks held were very short, a second drop was arranged by D.D.S. in conjunction with Mr McLeod, District Commissioner, at that time in Moresby.

This drop, consisting of two drops by Catalina, was split, one drop being held on September 10th and the other on the 12th. This second series of drops was far less effective than the former, as through faulty packing, much of the rations were lost.

As reported by signal at the conclusion of the

drop, most of the fat dropped was completely lost, whilst scraping and sifting the ground for rice and biscuits, ensured less loss than was at first feared. Trade on all occasions was collected unimpaired.

For the sake of later drops, the liberty of advising the following method of packing rations especially is taken - this having proved in the first drops.

Rations should be packed loosely in a bag, roughly 50lbs per corn sack, the sack being securely tied, or preferably sewn. This should be then be placed in a second sack, the top of which should again be

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sawn for preference. This method ensures that the stores have room to expand on impact, and the outer pack ensures catchment, should the inner bag break.

Tins such as fat, should be placed in bags and surrounded by a goodly amount of packing - meat in the tapered tins invariably drops fairly well.

As the patrol could not have existed in the manner it did without supply by drops, appreciation is expressed to both Services and Stores for the swift manner in which our needs were met; particularly on the second occasion.

TARI AIRSTRIP.

As mentioned in the introduction to this report, the original site for the strip was chosen by Mr S. Smith and party after an extensive survey of the Tari Basin. Their choice was commendable.

Upon arrival, our party, and locally recruited labour, commenced work on the 21st May on the clearing of the proposed site. The major work in this

regard had been completed by the previous patrol, and the timber had been felled and the stumps taken out over an area some 1,000 yards by 100 yards.

The major primary task facing this party, was the clearing of secondary growth which had sprung up since the withdrawal of the previous party, and the levelling of the site into a strip suitable to take, in the first instance, light aircraft. This task necess-

itated the cutting and removal of such ground from one side of the strip, and the building up of the converse side with the ground obtained.

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A difficulty in gaining a level was experienced quite early when it was ascertained that, over the overall length of the strip, the ground altered its latitudinal directional slope three times. When a mean level was obtained, a level cut was made through the central portion of the strip longitudinally. This cut was made 100 ft wide originally, and later widened so that at present it has a mean width of some 120 ft. By working in this way, it was possible for a plane to land in an emergency from the time the central cut was made.

From the beginning, the main, single hurdle was the fighting ditches that criss-crossed the strip over all its length. As these drains varied from depths of 20 ft to a mere four or five feet, and each had a mean width of about 15 feet, their filling presented a problem. On the patrol's arrival, it was found that the drains over a length of 1,000 yards had been filled, but, as circumstances proved, insufficient for the safe use of aircraft.

From the time of the first trial landing by a Gibbs Sopiik Norsenah aircraft on the 15th August, it was seen that great care must be taken in the filling of these spaces. The previous filling in the drains was taken out, and as subterranean water was

found to be present, underground drains were formed on the bottoms of the drains. Stones were carried some distance and placed in the bottoms, split timber was placed above this, and then solid, yellow clay was rammed into the ditches using improvised rammers made from timber.

Though the forming of the strip, i.e. 1,000 yards, took only a matter of some 2 1/2 months, the excavation and refilling of the large drains required

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some four weeks of solid toil on the part of all concerned.

On completion of the 1,000 yards section, work was continued on the extension to the southern end. This requires some major effort, as the section has to be cleared of stumps etc, and over a length of about 200 yards, some 10 drains, among the largest in the area, have to be filled. Apart from this, a cut of about 6 feet depth, will have to be made through a portion of rising ground to save impairing the continuity of level surface.

At the conclusion of the patrol, the strip, on inspection was found to be 3000 feet long, and in sufficiently good condition to ensure safe landing and take-off for aircraft up to D.H.104 standard. It is seriously submitted that potentially, the present Tari strip may eventually become the best strip in Papua - outside Moreaby.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL NOTES.

As many local customs differ greatly from those noted in other diverse regions, some mention of them should be made. The following notes are by no means a full account of the various customs, both time, and native confidence being so limited, but many of the customs noted may well bear further investigation as they will invariably affect the course of Administration offered in this area.

Notes on dress and armament have already been given under the "Native Affairs" section, 'The Huri Native', and the following covers differing sections of native life within the village and outside Administration influence at the present.

Land Tenure.

Probably unique within the Territory, the Land Tenure system within the Huri area is wide in range. Where-ever a native is born he has rights to portion of the communally owned ground within the boundaries of his 'village' or group. However at the same time he inherits ground rights in the village of his Mother, and, on marriage he is eligible to utilize ground within his spouse's home area.

On many occasions a man's main village is taken as that into which he has married, and his children have ground rights within their Father's village, their Grandfather's village, and his Father's village - ad infinitum. Thus should a native marry without his immediate area, by the time of the third or fourth generation, ground rights are held in numerous villages and over a large area.

Cases have been found where a native definite rights in 6 different areas spread over some 15 miles or more. This land, though not invariably utilized in all cases, is used at various times and seasons, and a native may have as many as three houses and gardens in villages many miles apart. When one garden is becoming exhausted, another area is placed under cultivation, and the native 'migrates' or visits the second area, where he remains until that garden is finished.

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All these 'villages' are known as 'his' village, though in general, should fighting not have forced his hand, the village of either Father or Mother is taken as being the 'home ranch'.

e.g. If "A" of Piribu marries "B" of Hoiyevia, offspring "Z" has rights in the villages of Piribu and Hoiyevia. Then if "Z" marries a native of Hambu'ali "C" and has a child "Y", then that child has rights in the villages of Hambu'ali, Piribu and Hoiyevia. Thus, as each member of the family line marries without the group, the line of ground tenure grows. Due to local fighting however, intermarriage is somewhat restricted and it is generally found that the line of marriage is contained in some half a dozen village areas within a sector of the basin.

Apart from holding the ground rights from ancestors, each native is accepted within the 'village' and should fighting occur between the villages of his parents, the native concerned has a right of neutrality which will not be broken except by allies of either group.

This local custom will influence greatly any census taken through the area in the future, and some system will have to be invoked before anything like an accurate census can be achieved.

Language.

The language of the Tari area, called "MURI", covers a very large group of natives. This language, without any dialectic changes, as far as can be gathered, extends from Pauwa in the South, northwards to the New Guinea Territorial boundary at Forgera, and from the Karius Ranges in the West, to the Wage River in the East. The language, though the same in the upper Wage, makes a complete change in the Middle Wage, and the local natives are not familiar with the language spoken by the Middle and Lower Wage peoples.

Though it is not possible to estimate the numbers within the group with any accuracy, it is expected to be between 30, 000 and 40, 000 people.

Fighting.

Internecine fighting has been carried out for generations and follows the pattern of most native warfare. Feuds are started by comparatively minor causes, such as the theft of a pig, or the seduction of a woman, and are carried on until either one side is defeated outright, or both sides become exhausted. In this latter contingency a peace is paid for. The ancient practice of 'pay-back' prevails, and causes the continuation of fighting long after the original cause has been forgotten by all but a few.

Non-aggression pacts, alliances, and neutrality appear to be all understood by the various groups, and cause a great extension of the fight on the flare-up of a feud.

In one case brought fully to the notice of the patrol when it was found necessary and desirable to intervene at Tari, it was found that the original fight commenced some 12 years previously. This had started between two small villages over the possession of a woman. In the ensuing fighting, both these villages

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were decimated, but Tani, who had allied themselves to one, and Tigo who was allied to the other had some unfinished 'backing' to do, and thus the fight re-commenced with the ambushing of a Tigo native at a "sing-sing".

This again brought the former alliances into play, and, as a result, some 20 villages and upward of 1,000 fighting men became involved.

Fights are carried out to a set pattern, a fighting ground being chosen and the fighters manoeuvring, making flank attacks, advancing and retreating as circumstances dictate. Ground that has been lost is utterly destroyed by the victors, the pit-pit flattened, gardens torn out, trees small enough to fall being chopped down and the larger trees ringed to die at a later date, and the ditches stormed are broken in and filled. Following the path of a fight is comparable to walking down a country lane - and one may well have a feeling of awe as it becomes simple to read the cold determination, coupled with simple savage ferocity, which will leave nothing in its path.

Weapons consist of bows and arrows, spears though sometimes carried are seldom used. The fight leaders are often aged men who, like Generals, conduct the battle from a point somewhere behind the main line of fighting.

In general three lines of fighters are used; the first, consisting of young bucks who skinaish in advance, are followed by the older, more experienced and mature men, and the last line, a purely last defense gesture are the old men who have passed their first vigour. In all, like most effective fighting, the rules are simple, though the results are rather terrible.

Burial Customs.

On the death of a native, the body is returned to the 'village' and a period of mourning is entered into by the women of the group, his relatives etc.

Having been "cried over" for a period of some 12 hours, pigs are killed, and the body is made ready for burial. This is placed in a box made of strong bark which is then erected on long poles within his garden or that of a near relative. The box containing the cadaver is decorated on the outside with crude drawings or lines, a roof is built over the whole, and the body is allowed to remain in that state until complete decomposition has taken place.

When the dried bones alone remain within the caasket, the remains are taken away and buried within some small area; often in a triangular cemetery at the corners of the fighting ditches. Shrubs, trees, and 'target' are often planted on the spot, and it has been noted on many occasions that a fence of split timber is placed around the spot to mark the resting place.

Dances - (Sing-sings.)

Three main types of 'sing-sings' have been noted. The main type, which all but the women do on various occasions, is of the heel and toe variety.

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Natives, wearing a large w/turned red wig decorated with feathers and plumes, and with painted faces and well oiled bodies, form either one or two lines, and, to the accompaniment of swift single drum beats, rock up and down on the toes and heels, while at the same time making a slow shuffling movement to one side. This type of dance, especially when not used as a special ceremonial dance, is accompanied by a three note yodelling rhythm, half the dancers singing the two top notes, while the remainder come in with the remaining syllable.

During the dance each native is locked closely arm to arm, with his neighbour, and in all present a rather picturesque group.

All the natives do not dance simultaneously, a select group performing each day, while the remainder act as interested spectators and critics.

A second type, action with a and ceremony rains which ying the party was conducted or older men ives acting as and observers.

heavily decorated wearing special or grass (some at of the vena,) of masonry ed from their similar decor-

hair, the dancers formed into groups of four, each group having an A.C. This native is responsible for the two words of the song, and at the commencement, the three remaining dancers swing towards him, hear the song sung through, then pick it up and repeat the chorus twice. Having sung the stanza, which may usually be the naming of a tree or object, the dancers proceed to walk slowly in a circle to a rapid beating of drums. This walk continues until the "leader" thinks up the next verse of the chant.

This goes on, with short lines out for speech until the instigator of the dance suddenly kills a pig or all decide to go home.

As mentioned in the diary (see July 1910), following a similar dance the station experienced the

noted in other native dances to stay the feet back considerably, by slight steps with the feet

each native also, and skirts of which like the with a slight feathers they

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first taste of dry weather since arrival - co incidental???

The third type is much more a ceremony than a dance, and is again unique in the writer's experience.

Though somewhat as one would expect an initiation ceremony to be, natives claim that there is no special significance, and more study of the following should be of interest. For brevity and clarity, the complete ceremony as seen by the writer will be placed in steps.

The ceremony, which is 'taboo' to women of all ages, is held in a specially built house which is destroyed at the conclusion of the ceremony whatever time it concludes. The building closely resembles the Harbour Bridge cut in half, being about 60 feet long by about 8 feet wide, with the roof curved in shape and varying in height from 3'6" to 18' at either end. At the higher end a leanto is appended wherein sits the main movers of the ceremony. The building is constructed of light saplings, with walls and roof formed by overlapping leaves of the pandanus palm. Down the centre of the building is a double line of supports for the roof, and these serve to divide the room into three elongated sections. On either side of the room long sections of the bark of the black palm are placed over logs at intervals to form two springy platforms about 2 feet wide. The centre section between the uprights and running for the full length, is taken up with fires which are lit along the entire section. At the low end of the building is the repository for specially selected firewood, and at the head of the room is a small platform which is used by the natives in charge of the ceremony, and their helpers.

At the beginning of the ceremony natives line both sides of the building, standing on the springy platform whilst the fires blaze in a continuous line down the centre, providing illumination. The stage is set:-

1. The jigging dance described earlier commences the proceedings. (This also takes up the time interval between later sequences)
2. Four chosen natives, two on either side, take brands from the fire and, holding them low down between the thighs, dash them one into the other until the brands are extinguished.
3. Ten natives then perform a jigging dance up and down the platforms, from time to time bumping back to back in a similar motion to that in the old dance 'Bumps-a-Daisy'. During the dance each native holds a piece of broken 'pit-pit', and the audience move back to the walls.
4. An old native, the M.C. and initiator of the ceremony, approaches and stands on the small platform at the head of the room and performs a ritual. This consists of:-
 - (a) Taking a flask of vegetable oil, he lifts it up and pours the contents on the end fire.
 - (b) Four flat, large chips are placed at the edge of the tallest centre posts at the edge of the

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firepit, and 6 taro leaves, three on either side, are placed on top of the chips.

(c) Two small saplings about 8 feet long and 2 in wide are placed vertically along the uprights.

(d) Red paint is smeared up and down the poles and on the feet of the M.C. and his assistants who then fasten the small upright sticks to the supports and lash another small pole about 4 feet long, horizontally, across the uprights about 5 feet above the fires.

(e) Paint is then placed over the taro leaves at the side of the fire.

This completes the ritual and another session of jigging dancing commences.

5. The fires, having died down somewhat, are replenished from the firewood repository by the two assistants. These, starting from the upper (higher) end, commence a shuffling dance down the sides, their movements being accompanied by a hissing sound. On collecting a single stick each, they turn and continue their shuffling dance back to the first fire, passing the wood above the fire, and changing hands around the uprights to ensure the timber stays above the fire pit. The single pieces are layed, and the shuttle, or shuffle service continues until all the fires along the centre section are replenished. The fires at the lowest end being last replenished, the firemen return to the head of the room to place the last two pieces of timber on the top fire.

6. With all the natives on the sidelines holding small green switches, natives in the more youthful age groups, at their own request, submitted themselves to receive one or two cuts from the old man across the back. After all the youngsters (natives aged about 20 years) requiring attention had been switched, the ceremony alters and

7. One of the assistants, standing at the head of the building offers in turn, cabbage, sugar-cane, water, and pig to the assembled audience. Should one of the younger men attempt to take it, the offer is withdrawn to the discomfiture of the seeker and the laughter of the other natives --- a 'gamin' offer.

8. At the conclusion of this 'Indian' giving, the assistant cuts slices from the pig and gives portions to some of the natives - mainly the older folk.

9. While waiting for the fires to die down to a bed of coals, a further session of jigging dancing is indulged in. When this comes about, the tempo changes to a stamping, frightening dance, and the natives, all armed with switches, call out to the group of youngsters waiting outside and till this time not included in the ceremony, inviting them to go through the room.

Through the low door in the far (low) end emerge, sometimes singly, sometimes like a mob of sheep, the natives answer the call by entering and running the gauntlet up the centre of the building. Running over the red hot coals and cut by switches held by the natives in the building they negotiate the track to scramble out of the door at the high end.

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10. As soon as the beating feet stamp the fires to blackness, they are replenished, and the running of the gauntlet is resumed until all the 'mankis' are put through. This probably finishes about 4 am.

The ceremony continues with other changes of scene until the daylight approaches, but the writer has not yet witnessed the finale. Being a work day on the morrow, he retired at 6:30 PM before the conclusion of the ceremonies. It may be possible at a later date to give a more detailed description of the above, and at that time catch the significance of the various acts performed during the night.

It has been included here, as apart from fire walking in odd parts of the Pacific, the custom is unknown within the Territory and may prove of interest.

As the complete ceremony was not seen, it is not possible to assess whether it clashes with Administration principles, but the part noted was clear, and as no damage, either by burning or blows, was noted, it remains what it is - a new type of ceremony peculiar to the Turi natives.

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CONCLUSION.

The aims of the patrol have been achieved, though it is merely a forerunner of Administration influence within the previously unknown, and uncontrolled area to the North and west of Lake Katabu - the nearest Government establishment.

Contact with the natives has been achieved, and to a large extent their confidence has been won. This is best illustrated by the fact that, when the supply of 'giri-giri' shell was completed, many natives accepted paper 'promisary notes' and were quite content. Full confidence will take a long time to establish, for the damage done by the withdrawal of the first patrol, after they having insisted that the Government was to be a permanent institution in the area from that time, will take a long time to break down.

As their confidence grows, so too does their malleability, and it should be another area typical of those through the Central Highlands north of the Territorial boundary.

The construction of a strip suitable for most types of aircraft has been ~~completed~~ completed, and though far from coming up to international standards as yet, has justified the lengthy patrol period necessary for its achievement.

In conclusion I would wish to put on paper a tribute to Mr Neville, P/O, whose knowledge of the area and natives from his previous visit, his ability to handle natives, and the fact that he is not too proud to soil his hands at hard work to give an example and impetus to the locals, has contributed so much to the success of the patrol.

Arthur T. Carey

Arthur. T. Carey.
(A/ Ass't District Officer.)

APPENDICES:

1. Mr Neville's Report of the Trip to Pai for Medical Supplies.
2. Report on R.F.A. R.G.C. Members accompanying patrol.
3. Rainfall - Daily Records.
4. Map.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

RIN.

File, 31/1.

Sub-District Office,
T A R I. S.H.D.

4th October, 1952.

Memorandum To:
a/A.D.O. T A R I.

MEDICAL SUPPLIES EX KUTUBU.

With the recent outbreak of influenza and pneumonia which has considerably affected Station Labour and Village Natives I, acting upon your verbal instructions, departed here on Tuesday the 23rd September with a lightly laden patrol consisting of six police, ten labourers and twenty Village Natives.

As the airstrip at TARI has not yet been opened by the Department of Civil Aviation, it was arranged that I should make connections with a patrol from Lake Kutubu which would convey our medical supplies to YANGOBI.

The patrol proceeded over the old route taken on our forward trip from Kutubu except for the short stretch between HEORA and PAI. On this occasion I proceeded through WAMBERRA which proved to be a much shorter and a much better track. I would recommend that this track be used on all future occasions. Though the NARI River is quite big and fast running, it is a simple matter to bridge and should prove no obstacle to any patrol.

The patrol arrived at YANGOBI on the forenoon of Friday the 26th September. The party from Kutubu had not yet arrived and the rest of the day was spent purchasing food and in erecting a camp suitable to house both patrols ensuring that there would be no physical contact between either party. This was done at the request of the Department of Public Health resulting from an outbreak of Mumps in the Kutubu Sub-District.

The Kutubu patrol arrived at 4.5 P.M. on the 26th, the patrol being conducted by Mr. W. Brand P.O. Medical stores and mail were handed over and the two parties remained at YANGOBI the following day and both departed from Kutubu and Tari respectively on Sunday the 28th September.

The local natives taken on the trip were all, in their own right, quite influential men, but cheerfully helped convey the patrol and enjoyed the novelty and opportunity of seeing the area to the South with, having any fear of being molested. None of them had made the journey previously because of their inter-tribal fighting. Many of them expressed the wish to be able to accompany any future patrol to Lake Kutubu acting as carriers and no doubt this can be arranged and should prove beneficial to ourselves.


It is of interest that a possible airstrip site was noticed which roughly followed the track from HEORA to the NARI River. The flat area would be

approximately two to three miles in length but it is covered with light to heavy bush. Geographically, when considering the air route into this area, the site is well situated being to the South of the shoulder coming down from Mt. KAREWA which, loosely speaking, bars the way into the TARI. Thus, if the neck of the basin was closed in to light aircraft, it would be very handy as an A.L.G. However, considering the sparsity of population in that area and the amount of work which would be involved, the project would be a major undertaking and could not be attempted without mechanical aid.

Considering the above remarks, they could well be kept in mind with regard to future agricultural development of the Lower TARI basin by private enterprise.

Between BAKAI and YANGOBI, lengths of roughly level Kunai patches are quite numerous where a plane in difficulty could possibly put down with a reasonable degree of safety. None of these places would be suitable to clear as airstrips as it would be impossible to get sufficient length.

After an uneventful return trip, the patrol arrived at the Station on Tuesday 30th September where I reported to yourself.


.....
R. L. Neville.

Patrol Officer

APPENDIX A.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

Report on Members of the R.F. S. N.C.C. accompanying Patrol.

No. 3117 KAMBAPA (Corporal)

The senior member of the Detachment, was, at time of transfer from Mendi, Lance Corporal. The transfer took place on the 12th June, and promotion was granted on August 1st.

This native has had much experience in new areas and has shown he has tact in handling both natives and Police. Is efficient, intelligent, and conducts himself well. As a disciplinarian is not outstanding.

No. 2244 HEWAKO (Lance Corporal)

Another long service Policeman was extremely helpful in that he had a knowledge of the area from the pre-war patrols, and knew a little of the local language. Though comparatively useless on routine station work is an invaluable member of any patrol, showing himself at his best in the bush.

Loyal and obedient, without too many brains, did a good job before returning to Kutuba on the 16th June with the District Commissioner and party.

No. AKURU (Lance Corporal)

As with L/Cpl Hewaka, Akuru was on loan from the Kutuba detachment and returned thence on June 16.

As Senior N.C.C. before handing over to Kambapa, did an excellent job. Is a quiet, extremely loyal and zealous Policeman, holding the liking and respect of Officers, Police and the natives. Can be trusted to carry out efficiently any task given him on either the station or in the bush. A very good patrol N.C.C.

No. 6617 PITTA (Constable)

This youthful member shows all the qualities which go to make an efficient Policeman. Quiet and unassuming in manner, can be relied on implicitly, and carries out his duties and orders with the utmost efficiency and despatch.

Has the making of a good N.C.C. and has been recommended for promotion under separate memo.

No. 6701 ITUNGA (Constable)

One of the most experienced of the Constables on patrol and the only T.N.G. Policeman, his work is marred by the fact that occasionally he fails to listen to instructions. Is loyal and carries out duties satisfactorily.

No. 7800 HERO (Constable)

A young, keen Constable. Shows intelligence and shows makings of a first rate Constable. Has an inclination to 'panic' slightly in occasions of stress but experience will easily rectify this.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

A good lad.

No. 7449 CRIDE (Constable)

Young and enthusiastic, has shown great improvement during the course of the patrol. Happy in disposition is popular in all circles. Has done a good job, and will improve with experience.

No. 7447 HANDARI (Constable)

Another new recruit who has shown his potentialities of becoming an excellent Constable. Shows keenness to do a good job and can be relied on to do such a job. Continues to improve with experience.

No. 7568 POKINO (Constable)

The worst member of the detachment at the start, tending to be both lazy and without intestinal fortitude, has shown some improvement during the course of the patrol, and appears to have learned a good deal.

No. 7806 GERAMU (Constable)

Quiet and efficient, this lad can be trusted to carry out all duties allotted. Shows the capacity of becoming a good Policeman, and has improved with confidence gained of experience with the patrol.

No. 2326 VAIDA (Constable)

A Constable with some 8 years experience, this lad is a quiet, unassuming Policeman with the penchant of hearing and carrying out orders to the letter. Intensely loyal and trustworthy but without ambition.

No. 7232 MARAKI (Constable)

Another quiet, unassuming member of the detachment, shows a willing and cheerful disposition and works well. Has a much wider knowledge than he admits and has the potential of becoming a good Policeman with wider experience. Conduct good.

No. 3861 ILA (Constable)

A Policeman with much previous experience in new areas. Proved himself to be a most reliable and trustworthy member. Can be depended upon to do any task allotted, but, as with Const Vaida, lacks ambition.

No. 6872 LOMAN (Constable)

Short in stature but not in brains, shows the capacity to go a long way in the Force. Quietly efficient can be depended to do the right thing in most circumstances. Shows a flair for languages and is very handy on patrol and on the station.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE TARI RIVER BASIN.

Having been for some months overdue for leave was forwarded to Kutubu on 23rd October to proceed on leave. He has re-engaged for a further two years.

No. 6990 AGAU (Constable)

Full of vim and fun, is a most popular member of the party. In his serious moments can be relied on to do a good honest job. His habit of forever talking has been broken down somewhat, and he has the ability to develop into a very efficient Policeman. Conduct good.

As with Constable Loman, Agau was forwarded to Kutubu on October 23rd to proceed on leave. (Refer memo from this station dated 22nd October covering the movements of the abovesaid Constables)

No trouble at all was experienced with any member of the Detachment, and they worked well together as a team in a long drawn out, and often tedious patrol, which involved a great deal of hard manual labour for all members of the party.

For a patrol of this kind they could hardly have been bettered, and are responsible for much of what we have achieved in native relations.

Arthur T. Casey
Arthur. T. Casey.
(a/Ass't District Officer)

30/101

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA

File No. 30/1.

District Office,
MENDI .. S.H.E.

6th January, 1953.

The Director,
Department of District Services & Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

PATROL REPORT NO. 1/52-53
TARI SUB-DISTRICT : S. H. D.

This report, apart from its intrinsic interest, is a fine example of the work being undertaken at the behest of the Australian Government, and in conformity with the desire of the Minister to control the present Restricted Areas within the foreseeable future.

Mr. Carey's forbearance on the occasion of the outbreak of inter-group fighting is commendable at this stage, and is in accordance with his instructions.

I would like to state however, that casualties will not always be avoidable especially in pursuance of the racial occupation strategy, and the consequent prohibition of inter-racial strife at a later date over a defined area.

This District has a population of approximately 80,000 natives living in primitive savagery, and eventually they are going to resent actively humanitarian constrictions on their age-old prescriptive behaviour patterns.

The notes on Land Tenure demonstrate a degree of similarity with that extant in the MENDI Sub-District that is rather remarkable, considering the extensive area involved. As I have previously stated, the size of the linguistic groups in this District is unique in my experience.

Ethnological notes may be of interest to the anthropologist.

The work of Messrs. Carey and Neville has been executed in the best traditions of this Department, and the fact that the specific objectives of the patrol have been so successfully and painlessly concluded, indicates the efficiency of the two Officers concerned, together with their native staff.

P.M.
Noted a personal file 6/3

John S. McLeod
JOHN S. McLEOD. D.C.

Copy : S/A.D.O. TARI.

27th January, 1953.

His Honour the Acting Administrator,
PORT MORESBY.
(Through the Government Secretary).

Subject: TARI Patrol Report No.1 of 52/53.
Southern Highlands District.

Attached hereto is the original of a Patrol Report submitted by Mr. A.F. Carey, acting Assistant District Officer, covering a period of seven months, during which the Tari Sub-District Headquarters was established, together with an adjacent aerodrome.

Only two copies of this report have been made available to this Headquarters and no action has yet been taken to make relevant extracts available to other Departments. However, should you desire to retain a copy of this report, arrangements can be made for additional copies to be typed in this office.

2. The history of this area is interesting in that it provides an example of arrested Administration owing to such factors as inaccessibility, and the intervening war period. Early explorations date as far back as the patrols of the late J. Hydes and more recently during the post-war period by Mr. S. Smith, acting Assistant District Officer. In recommending the work of Mr. Carey and his party, I am not losing sight of the early work of his predecessors.

Before the establishment of an Administration base in the Tari Valley was possible, it was necessary to re-establish the Kutubu Station, link that by patrol to Mount Hagen through the present District Headquarters at Mendi, establish the Mendi Station, and conduct investigations of the Tari area to gauge duration and problems of establishment of a Station. This latter stage was carried out very ably by Mr. S. Smith and the way paved for Mr. Carey's work which is now reported.

3. The officers performing these duties during the last seven months have been left to their own resources to a great extent. They have at times been hampered by short supplies of medicines, tools and provisions, particularly taking into account the magnitude of their task. The photographs accompanying Mr. Carey's report are sufficient to indicate how this job was tackled with a minimum of material and a maximum of manpower. The mere reference to the necessity of filling trenches in the process of levelling an aerodrome would convey nothing without the photographs. The fact that this work was carried out concurrently with early essential administration of the immediate area, owing to the necessity for local native co-operation and the occurrence of inter-tribal fighting, is to the added credit of the officers concerned.

54
plan note

4. The aerodrome is anticipated to be of major importance as it can be expanded to take DC3 aircraft and, if necessary, provide a centre for further expansion, and possibly be used as an air-ferrying centre if subsidiary aerodromes are located.

This is one of the few remaining centres of untapped population. Exploratory patrols to the west of Pari are envisaged to follow the population trends in that direction. Patrols from the Western Highlands' Stations, west of Mount Hagen, already extend south to the Territorial boundary.

5. Although the report is submitted as that of one patrol, it is, in fact, a history of the establishment of a Station, and a series of patrols covering a period of months, and all inter-related with the major objective.

It is possible that portions of this patrol report may be suitable material for the next Annual Report, being descriptive of the developmental work still going on, and anticipated, for some time to come.

6. In submitting photographs with Patrol Reports, enthusiastic officers add value to the reports and a suitable recompense might be considered. I suggest that District Commissioners be authorised to give official recognition of the use of privately owned cameras for this purpose when officers are proceeding on patrols justifying the outlay. The maximum authorised expenditure could be laid down and no claim entertained without prior authority from the District Commissioners. A recent patrol of the Jimi Valley by Mr. Patrol Officer Walters contained similar photographs which added to the value of that report.

7. I consider the time is now reached when this Department must take closer stock of the remaining pockets of unvisited populated territory, separating these from the known uninhabitable or uninhabited areas. This will establish the balance of exploratory work necessary and may entail short aerial reconnaissances. It will certainly lead to an economic approach to the final stages of Administration penetration of the interior.

(A.A. Roberts)
Acting Director, DNE & NA.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/18/24

MEMORANDUM FOR--

File No.

DEPARTMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY,
PORT MORESBY.

30th January, 1953.

The Director,
Department of District Services
and Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.



Subject: TARI Patrol Report No. 1 of 1952/53 -
Southern Highlands District.
Reference: Your memorandum 30/18/24 of 27th January,
1953.

His Honour the Acting Administrator has perused the Report and has made the following comments:-

1. A very good Report - the work done reflects credit on all concerned. Please inform all concerned accordingly.
 2. A copy of this Report (with photographs if possible) should be made available for the Minister.
 3. I agree about the use of cameras, and suggest you formulate a basis.
 4. I agree, too, with your final paragraph (i.e., para. 7 of the memorandum of 27th January, 1953.).
 5. Finally, this Report demonstrates the absolute need of having gone into an area, we must remain and not withdraw."
2. I shall be glad if you will -
- (a) Make available a copy of the Report, together with the photographs if this can be done, which will be transmitted to the Minister together with your memorandum of 27th January, 1953, two copies of which have been retained in this Office.
 - (b) Make a further submission as requested by His Honour the Acting Administrator in respect of para. 6 of your memorandum under reference.

*Director please
sent 31*

*Approved by
[Signature]*

*Report to be
copied & photos
submitted to
Minister please
submit to Par. 6.*

[Signature]
Government Secretary

*Before
submitting
to the
Minister
please
submit
to
Par. 6
all
relevant
docs*

Noted

30-18-24

24th February, 1953

The District Commissioner,
Southern Highlands District,
MENDI

Subject: Tari Patrol Report No. 1-52/53
Reference: Your 30/1 of 6.1.53

His Honour the Administrator has commented as follows on the above-mentioned Report :-

"1. A very good Report - the work done reflects credit on all concerned. Please inform all concerned accordingly.

2. A copy of this Report (with photographs if possible) should be made available for the Minister.

3. The Report demonstrates the absolute need that, having gone into an area, we must remain and not withdraw".

2) Copies of the Report are being made, and one will be despatched in due course to the Minister.

A.A. Roberts
(A.A. Roberts)
Acting Director.

Noted

Copy also on
New file

Photography - Confidential
22-1-15 (1) 30-18-24

24th February, 1953

The Government Secretary,
PORT MORESBY

Subject: Earl Patrol Report No. 1 of 52/53

Reference: Your memorandum of 30/1/53

His Honour the Administrator's comments have been conveyed to the officers concerned, as requested, in your above-quoted memorandum. Action will be taken to have a copy of the Report made for transmission to the Minister. There will necessarily be some delay before this can be completed, owing to a dearth of typistes at this Headquarters.

2. With regard to His Honour's request that I formulate a basis for official recognition of privately owned cameras, the following is submitted :-

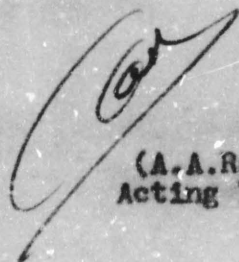
- a) The purpose of a method of recompense would be as already stated by me, namely, to give official recognition of the use of privately owned cameras in order to obtain photographs to illustrate Patrol Reports and for other special reports, when officers are proceeding on patrols of such a nature that photographs will be a valuable adjunct to the Reports.
- b) The recompense should be sufficient to partly defray the officer's expenses and should be at a rate at least equivalent to the amount the Administration would be out of pocket if similar photographs had to be purchased or otherwise obtained.
- c) The implementation of this scheme would be an encouragement to field officers to make suitable photographs available for documentary purposes and for inclusion in Annual and other reports.
- d) Suggested implementation of the above is:-
 - (i) An instruction be issued detailing the conditions and circumstances under which special recognition will be given;
 - (ii) The necessary authority to be given by the District Commissioner concerned before a patrol is commenced.
 - (iii) The basis of recompense to be claims submitted by the officers concerned in respect to the photographs illustrating the reports, such claims to be certified by the District Commissioner to cover the prior authority given by him. Claims to be based on a percentage of cost of film, necessary processing, and postage and other charges;

contd/

Approved
Copy to 22-1-53 (1)
Noted
File back to me please
on personal
file 4/6/53
W.P. Shaw
5/2
P/H

- (iv) Prior approval by the District Commissioner would be subject to him being satisfied of the ability of the officer concerned to submit satisfactory photographs;
- (v) If at any time another Department requests that photographs of particular subjects be obtained by an officer on patrol, the Director concerned should authorise the District Commissioner accordingly.

3. Separate action is being taken to request the acquisition by this Department of a number of cameras to be used for special purposes.



(A.A. Roberts)
Acting Director

30-12-6.

21st April, 1953.

The Government Secretary,
HOME OFFICE.

SUBJECT: TARI PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1952/53.
REF. : YOUR MEMORANDUM of 30.1.53.

The original of the above Report is forwarded herewith for transmission to the Minister - vide para 2 (a) of your above-quoted memorandum.

The duplicate copy of the Report is being retained for record purposes at this Headquarters.

A. A. Roberts
(A. A. ROBERTS)
Director.

PM



10-13-53

23rd December, 1953.

The Government Secretary,
101, KING STREET

Subject: THE 1953 Report No. 1 of 1952/53.

Reference: Your unnumbered memorandum of the 20th
January 1953, and further to our
18.10.53-21 of the 22nd April 1953.

The original copy, complete with the photographs, of the above-quoted Federal Report, submitted by Mr. J.H. Jones, acting Assistant District Officer, has been forwarded through you to the Minister.

2. This was an excellent report, covering a period of seven months during which the first Sub-District headquarters was established together with an adjacent area.

3. Mr. J.H. Jones made a verbal request prior to his departure for a copy of this report to be forwarded to him, representing as it does an informative picture of the progress of establishment of a Federal Post in this Territory, and which consequently would be of assistance to him in the work in which he is engaged. The copy retained in our Departmental records, does not include any illustrations or photographs.

4. It would be appreciated, therefore, if you would arrange for the original which was despatched to Canberra, to be made available to Mr. Jones, c/o the Special Representative, Department of Territories, Sydney.

J.H.

(A.L. Roberts)
Director

c.c. For information of -
Mr. J.H. Jones,
c/o Special Representative



30/12/53 ✓

C.A.16/6/18.

PORT MORESBY.
31st. December, 1953.

~~The Secretary,~~
Department of Territories,
CANBERRA. A.C.T.

Tari Patrol Report No.1 of 1952-1953.

The original copy of the above Report, complete with photographs, was forwarded to you under my memorandum C.A.16/6/18 of the 24th. April, 1953.

2. Mr. J.H. Jones, during his recent visit to the Territory requested that a copy of this report be forwarded to him, as it represents an informative picture of the process of the establishment of a Patrol Post in the Territory and which, consequently, would be of assistance to him in the work in which he is now engaged. A copy of the report, retained by the Department of District Services and Native Affairs, does not include an illustrated photographs.

3. It will be appreciated, therefore, if you could arrange for the original of this report to be made available to Mr. J.H. Jones.

mc
(D.M. Cleland)
Administrator.

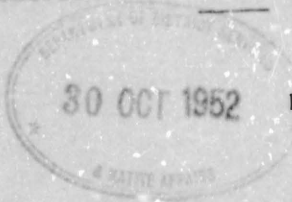
c.c. Director, Department of District Services and Native Affairs.

↖
(P/A)
[Signature]
5/1/54 ✓

29/10/52 ✓

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

FILE NO. C.A.40/7/85



DEPARTMENT OF THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARY,
PORT MORESBY.

MEMORANDUM FOR—

29th October, 1952.

Director,
Department of District Services
and Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

PROPOSED BUILDING SCHEME - MENDI.

Reference is made to your memorandum D.S.29-18-4 of
21st October, 1952.

*Minute to
DC-MENDI
For your
info, please
see DS-29-18-4
of 21.10.52
refer to
C.C. MINUTES to*

2. The Department of Works is at present preparing working drawings and specifications of simple residences suitable for erection at Mendi. When these are to hand they will be forwarded to you for the comments of the District Commissioner as to his ability to carry out the construction. The question of portable sawmills has already been raised with the Director of Forests but no reply has yet been received from him. The matter is being pursued further.

The District Commissioner, MENDI.

For your information please. Our DS 29-18-4 of
21st October 1952, refers.

[Signature]
GOVERNMENT SECRETARY.

*Mr Bates?
29.10.52*

D.S. 29-18-4
21st October 1952.



[Signature]
D.D.S. & N.A.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of Southern Highlands Report No. 2/53

Patrol Conducted by Arthur T. Carey a/A.D.C.

Area Patrolled South/East Tari S/D, The Benaria /Buria rivers area

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr Terrell P/O (Kut) from 23rd Jan
Mr Neville P/O (Tar) from 29th Jan

Natives Police 4; Interpreter 1; Carriers 42.

Duration -- From 21/1/1953 to 2/2/1953

Number of Days 13

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by -- District Services / 11/1953 Benaria

Medical ... 1953

Map Reference Southern Highlands District Map

Objects of Patrol 1. Meet & arrange escort U.F.M. party to Tari.

2. Investigate fighting at Benaria and Buria rivers areas. 3. Contact natives along the Hogumbe spur to the south.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

3/3 1953

Johnstone Reed
District Commissioner

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

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

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

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

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

Patrol Report No: 2/53

The District Commissioner,
Southern Highlands District,
MENDI, PAPUA.

REPORT OF PATROL TO THE BENARIA, HURIA &
ARUA RIVERS AREA - SOUTH-EAST TARI S/D.

Patrol Conducted by: Arthur.T.Carey a/A.D.O.

Accompanied by: Ronald.T.Neville P.O.
(As from 29 Jan.)

Natives :	Police	4
	Labour	42
	Interpreter	1

Last Patrol to the Area:

Benaria - Nov, 1952

Arua/Huria Oct, 1952

Patrol Commenced:- January, 21st'53.

Patrol Completed:- February, 2nd'53.

Number of Days: 13

Reasons for Patrol:

a. To meet a patrol from Kutubu at Tambera and arrange escort for U.F.M. party to Tari.

b. Investigate and endeavour stop fighting in the Benaria Valley.

c. Investigate and stop fighting between DCMA and HILIWAGA villages and Allies in the Huria/Arua Rivers area.

d. Contact natives between Benaria and Huria along the Fogumbe spur.

Map Reference:-

Map compiled by S. Smith from information gained from pre-war patrols and his later patrol to the Tari.

INTRODUCTION.

Earlier arrangements made with the Assistant District Officer, Kutubu for the escort of Messers Ercule and Garlick, Unevangelized Field Missionaries, from Kutubu to Tari, were postponed pending the opportunity of co-ordinating the two patrols with the tasks of staying outbreaks of internecine fighting occurring in the Benaria and Huria River areas.

The Benaria group, which abutts the main Kutubu/Tari overland route, have been involved in almost continuous fighting for a long period, and recently had started to raid the areas to the South and West within the boundaries of the Kutubu Sub-District. Unrest and apprehension of the groups along the Tari track at the intentions of the Benarias was also evident.

To ensure that the road was kept open, and to ensure that natives in this section were unmolested, it was decided, in conjunction with Kutubu, to visit the Benaria and endeavour to bring about a peaceful settlement to the unrest which was manifest there.

At first it was intended that the Mission party remain at Tamera during the visit to the Benaria, but, as the natives between Tamera and Tari are extremely friendly and co-operative, it was decided that they should proceed through directly under escort of Four (4) Police. This was done, and the patrols moved direct to Benaria, thence Northwards.

The fighting in the Huria section commenced some two to three weeks prior to the patrol and attempts at mediation failed on three occasions. The natives here showed nothing but contempt for talking, and, during the last attempt to mediate, sent back word that, though they were fully aware they were courting Government displeasure, they were continuing the fighting until some direct action took place. No threats were made, but it was clear that to break up the fighting, legal action must be taken.

As this area, and the Benaria are the only two areas where straightout fighting has been progressing for some time, and in an endeavour to keep the peace in the Basin - however uneasy it may be - the decision was taken to bring the main fighting factions to book.

With the previous knowledge that the Kutubu patrol wished to ascertain a new road from the West across to Augu in the Wage River, and knowing the road commenced in the vicinity of the fighting, the opportunity of utilizing the members of the Kutubu patrol was taken - consent being obtained from Mr. Ass't District Officer Wren, Kutubu. This ensured that sufficient Police were available to deter any idea of attack formulated by the hotheads of the villages concerned, and, in the subsequent visit, no discharge of weapons took place.

DIARY.

Wednesday, January 21st.

With Four (4) Police, and Interpreter, 30 Carriers and 12 local volunteers the patrol departed from Tari station at 0710k.

Following the previous patrol route to the South, crossed the Tebi, Arua, and Huria Rivers to climb steeply up the Hogunbe spur. Moving along this ridge to the East

for some 20 minutes, one sees, on looking down into the Huria, a stand of pine which should contain some 300,000 super feet of timber.

Turning southwards here the party proceeded through cleared sections of country before entering thick, tangled bush at 1200k.

Emerging from timber at 1315k, the BIVA Ck was crossed and the patrol climbed through scattered cultivations to arrive at the old BAKAI camp site at 1400k.

Camp erected in heavy rain, and sufficient food was purchased for our needs. Three natives desirous of proceeding with the patrol remained overnight at the camp.

Thursday, 22nd January, 1953.

Departing from Bakai at 0700k the party continued south following the main Tari/Kutubu route. Passing through the abandoned sites of AWA and HECRA, the NARI River was found at 1140k. Following heavy rain the watermark and current precluded any fording and a rough bridge was constructed before the party could proceed.

Leaving the river behind at 1300k and climbing steeply, party arrived at TAMBERA at 1430k.

Four Police members of the Kutubu patrol, who had escorted carriers and cargo through from PAI while Mr Terrell took census of that area, were found to be in camp on arrival. A letter from Mr Terrell informed the writer that contact would be made on the morrow.

Remained overnight at Tambera.

Friday, 23rd January, 1953.

Kutubu party under Mr Patrol Officer Terrell, and including Messrs Garlick and Ercula, arrived at Tambera at 1000hrs.

Decision made to send the Mission party forward under Police escort only and carriers allocated.

Mr Terrell conducted a census of the Tambera people. Very few natives present but some 30 names recorded.

Saturday, 24th January, 1953.

Mission party with Four Police departed at 0715k, the returning carriers to Kutubu, also under escort, returning same time.

With Mr Terrell, departed from camp at 0730k moving to the North-West and climbing through quite heavy timber. Having crossed four small creeks, the headwaters of the OGAIJU Creek, the party spelled at 1010k for 30 minutes before proceeding to the head of the spur. Still moving in heavy timber, the patrol dropped down some 1500 - 2,000 feet extremely steeply to find the narrow bottomed Benaria valley at 1120k.

Here, in a small clearing, the party was met by about 50 natives who, when the patrol moved on at 1205k, escorted us along the banks of the Benaria river until Mr Terrell's old camp site was reached at 1300k.

Camp erected in heavy rain. Adequate food, and one pig purchased. Word sent out to the PAI'ARI and WABIAGO factions to assemble at the camp on the morrow.

Sunday, 25th January, 1953.

About 9am some 120 natives arrived in camp; the majority being from Wabiako village at the head of the valley. After waiting some considerable time for MOBE of Pai'ari, word again sent out. A general talk on Administration, with emphasis on the cessation of fighting, given during the interim. When at 2pm it was known that the Pai'ari village were not interested in negotiations, the Writer, Mr Terrell and 6 Police proceeded down stream for one hour to the Pai'ari village group and arrested MOBE and 6 other natives.

In bitterly cold wet conditions the party returned to camp at 6pm: word having been left for all people interested in the fight to assemble on the morrow.

Monday, 26th January, 1953.

Some 150 natives from Wabiako and Pai'ari in to camp by 0830k, both sides bringing 8 pigs each. Hearing of the causes of the latest disturbance, it was decided to bring court action against MOBE and PONGOLI of Pai'ari.

At the conclusion of C.N.M., talks were given the assembled natives who appeared to comprehend, and the pigs were exchanged between the two villages. Acting as spokesman for Wabiako, KIARI stated that, as the Government seemed to be taking an increasing interest in the Benaria, his people had decided to fall in line, and, by co-operation, share in the trade items of which they were poor. This attitude was commended - with the mental reservation to observe how far it will be adhered to.

The people dispersed with the rain about 1500k, the food they had brought to camp being first purchased.

Another bitter afternoon; heavy downpours of rain accompanied by heavy chilling winds.

Tuesday, 27th January, 1953.

Leaving the camp at 0645k, the party proceeded generally North following a small defile into the main Northern range. Climbing steeply for some 2 hours through medium, heavy timber, the crest of the ridge was reached and the party spelled for 30 minutes.

Continuing Northwards through dense moss forest and climbing steadily, the patrol crossed the headwaters of the HOANAGA Creek, which joins the NARI River, at 0935k. Swinging to the North-West and descending, the Headwaters of the WADA Creek was crossed at 1030k and at 1115k the party stopped for lunch in a small clearing.

Proceeding at 1200k, the HUBI Creek (a tributary of the Wada) was forded at 1230k and the party entered abandoned village sites and open kunai some few minutes later.

Skirting this, the party re-entered timber to cross the EGEREBI Creek, a beautiful, swift flowing mountain stream and the southern head of the Muria River, at 1255k, and shortly after the MEME Creek which joins the Egerebi some half mile below our crossing.

At 1330k the KUIARI hamlets were reached and about 12 natives, unarmed and confident, met the patrol on the road. Proceeding through populated areas and continuing in a Northerly direction, camp was made at PIANGANDA on the site of Smith's camp when that patrol first saw the Tari Basin.

An extremely good view of the centre and Eastern sections of the basin can be had from here, and, with the aid of glasses, the airstrip could be recognized.

Camp again made in heavy rain in double quick time.

Food, brought in to camp by the Pianganda natives, was purchased. Information of the continuing fighting in the TOMA/HILWAGA area was gathered during the afternoon.

Wednesday, 28th January, 1953.

Patrol remained at Pianganda.

Instructions forwarded by runner to Mr Patrol Officer Neville at Tari to proceed to TARONDA on the Arua River on the morrow.

Numerous natives to camp during the day. Talks on Administration aims, etc given. Food purchased during the afternoon.

Guards posted.

Thursday, 29th January, 1953.

Patrol departed from Pianganda at 0655k moving generally northwards and descending. Crossing the Egerebi Creek at 0800k, the party continued until at 0830k the Muria River was reached. This stream, a fairly large, swift flowing stretch of water was followed westwards for some mile until a crossing could be made. per native, suspension bridge. The crossing was delayed by the breaking of the retaining ropes during which time one of Mr Terrell's boxes was thrown into the stream. This was fortunately retrieved, and as the bridge was no longer usable, a temporary bridge was made by felling a tall casurina some little distance along the bank.

Crossing completed by 0915k, the patrol moved North through low lying country, crossing several sections of uninviting swamps and arrived at the Arua River at 1100k. This stream being followed westwards, the camp site at TARONDA was reached at 1115k, camp erected and, from the numerous natives who arrived early, food in large quantities was purchased.

Mr Neville, Patrol Officer, arrived, together with IO Police, at 1230k.

During afternoon two disputes between members of Tabuda village group were heard and decisions given. General talks on the whyfor of our being in the area were given to the assembled natives.

Several women were among the natives who visited the camp -- unusual for this section of the Basin.

Friday, 30th January, 1953.

With 18 Police, Mr Neville, Mr Terrell and the writer left camp at 0445k, proceeding East along the Arua River to HILIWAGA village area. Proceeding along ditches, through swamp, and negotiating 'pit-pit' areas the party arrived in the vicinity at 0630k.

Entering the village area the arrests of some 45 natives concerned in the fighting were carried out with no attendant difficulties.

At 1120k, four Police were returned to the camp at Taronda with instructions to break camp, and, with the labour, move to HEBE, between the Arua and Muria Rivers. With the prisoners, the remainder of the party proceeded direct to the aforementioned camp.

Police and carriers arriving at 1415k, camp was set up.

Later in the afternoon, two of the chief trouble makers were brought to camp by natives of Taronda and nearby villages. These natives had evaded the party in the morning, and the natives had, on their own initiative brought in the fugitives.

Guards posted.

Saturday, 31st January, 1953.

Leaving camp at 0430k, a Party of Police and the three European members visited the other fighting faction at DOMA, arriving at 0600k. Arrests of the main fighting men were again made without incident.

The fighting area was inspected, and the remains of burnt out houses and felled trees told their own story.

At noon, having told the natives met with to assemble on the morrow at the camp, the party returned to camp, arriving at 1430k.

Food, brought in to camp by the local natives, purchased P.M. During the afternoon, about 1700k, three prisoners attempted to escape attacking the Constable giving out food. This was repulsed and the camp settled down under guard.

Sunday, 1st February, 1953.

Natives from HILIWAGA village arrived in force during the early morning, a small number only of the DOMA people being present. Word was again sent out to the people concerned, and, having spoken to the assembled natives, stressing the Administration's attitude towards fighting with the consequent loss of life and property, the natives returned to their village promising to assemble on the morrow.

Heavy rain fell during the afternoon.

Food again purchased.

Monday, 2nd February, 1953.

By 9am some 2-300 natives were assembled at the camp. Talks were again given and the natives replied that they realized they were going against the Government's wishes, but that, once the fight started it snow-

balled. Both factions agreed that the fight should cease, but stated that, as most of their pigs had been killed in the fighting, a token payment exchange, as a sign of good faith would be made with the traditional 'moga' payments following at a later date.

After interrogation, 36 natives who were responsible for the commencement, and continuation of the fight were held in custody, the remaining prisoners being released with a warning.

At noon, the natives having departed, the camp was struck and the party moved towards Tari station. At 1345k Taronda camp site was reached, and crossing the Arua River the patrol moved North-westwards to reach and ford the FIWA River at 1515k.

Having spelled for some 40 minutes, the party moved on to the TELBI River, crossed it at 1705k and arrived at the station at 1800k.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Due to the more or less continuous use of the Kutubu/Tari track by patrols between the two centres, the natives along the route have achieved a state of reasonable stability. Internecine fighting has stopped in all sections, though it is to be noted that in places, especially at Bakai and Tambara, some tension in regards to the feelings of their neighbours is still felt.

This is understandable as, up to the present, the peoples beyond the immediate vicinity of the route have been unvisited, and, apart from those contacted at the various camps, unseen. However it is to be confidently expected that, once slow methodical patrolling of the general area is achieved, this mutual distrust will die out. When this stage is reached it may well be that the natives of AWA and GEORA, in the section between Bakai and Tambara, will return to their old sites. No doubt the part reason for their earlier withdrawal, that is, the "big sickness", will still greatly influence a decision to return.

The people of the Benaria, a volatile fighting group, were found to be much better prepared to pay 'mouth tribute' than was expected. The main reason appears to be the fact that they have been visited twice within a comparatively short period, and a few of the thinkers have come to the decision that, being poor in trade as compared with those peoples nearer the stations, the best opportunity of altering the situation is in co-operation. A few of the natives are at present working at the Kutubu station and their influence will be a good thing for their people. Fighting which had been continuing up to the patrol's arrival was suspended, and following talks with rival factions, the matter was adjusted. During the course of this, the instigators of the feud were arrested. It is hoped that such definite action will curb the desires of the younger hot-heads for future fighting and allow saner views of the older members to be aired.

Constant visits to this area will definitely be effective and erase what appears to be at present an inferiority complex.

Natives in the KUIARI and PIANGANDA area on the Eastern section of the Hogumbe ridge proved friendly and showed no surprise at the patrol's arrival. These were the first people of the Tari Basin to be contacted by Mr Smith on his original patrol, and they continue to be quite co-operative. During the patrol's stay, numerous natives from the surrounding 'villages' were contacted, and food etc was always rapidly made available.

With exception of the fight between HILIWAGA and DOMA and their various satellites, the area within the Tari Basin has been subdued for some 6 months. As mentioned in the diary, numerous efforts were made to stay the feud by mediation, but when that failed, direct action was decided necessary for the maintenance of peace within the area. With the local form of alliances plus their natural liking for this form of sport, fights once started develop into major offensives which embrace populations well outside the original offenders. The death of a supporter then establishes another feud within the framework of the original fight, and, if nothing preventative is done, the fighting covers a wider and wider sphere.

Thus the fight which started over the alleged seduction of a woman had already claimed at least six deaths and numerous injuries.

The instigators of the fight, the main leaders of Hiliwaga and Doma, and leaders of the various assisting factions, some 36 in all, were arrested without any untoward incident occurring. At the conclusion of the patrol's visit, all the natives concerned cheerfully admitted that they were aware that they would probably be arrested as a result, but that the fight had got out of hand and it was not possible, due to alliances, to conclude it at the time. 'Moga' payments for deaths occurring during the period are already being gathered, but, due to losses through fighting, it will not be possible to complete reciprocal payments for some little time. This needs watching closely, and will be so done, as it may perhaps be the cause of future unrest.

Considerable devastation has occurred in both the villages of DOMA and HILIWAGA, houses being burned out, gardens uprooted and trees either felled or badly damaged. Re-habilitation of both villages will take some little time.

The natives nearer the station remain static, and it seems probable that stability will be easily maintained while constant contact with the station is kept up.

It can be confidently stated that now, all the natives within the Tari Basin and along the Putubun/Tari route realize the aims of the Administration and our reasons for being here. Many of them, especially the women welcome a chance for peace and order, but it will be many years before the entire population agree as with the younger men especially, fighting is the best and only means available to "let off steam", and until their surplus energies can be directed along a different line, and they realize there is more to be gained from peaceful settlements than from short sporadic bursts of dangerous excitement, unrest will inevitably result in fighting.

GARDENS & LIVESTOCK.

The food position generally remains good.

Though the present period is, to the native way of thinking, one of shortage, this is comparative only and means that the sweet potato now being used is smaller and inferior, and the intake has dropped from probably 12 lb daily to about 9 or 10 lb. This is caused by the fact that the new gardens are not yet in production, and the last and second subsidiary growings of the old crop are being utilized.

The patrol was supplied with adequate food throughout, though it was noted that the amounts supplied per person were smaller than on previous occasions.

Through most of the area traversed corn was found to be cultivated and this is becoming a most popular addition to the normal diet of sweet potato. Greens are grown in quantity and are generally planted along the edges of the potato mounds. This type of planting applies also to corn.

Taro, planted in drains or on the edges of swampy ground, is also in limited supply, but, though it could be easily planted in larger quantities, the natives appear to restrict their planting to small areas. The reason for so doing is unknown but it is definite that this food has a higher value to the natives, probably because of its shortage, than the sweet potato.

Bananas, both sweet and cooking types, are also grown in varying numbers. The long, hard, green cooking type of banana is that generally cultivated.

Livestock.

Following epidemic influenza some months ago which resulted in the killing off of numbers of animals, pigs are in much shorter supply. However there are still large numbers in the area, practically each person from the age of 8 upwards having at least one pig.

As mentioned in the previous report, deaths of livestock through influenza/pneumonia and anthrax are quite extensive.

Fowls have not yet been introduced through this southern area though it may be possible at a later date to assist in this regard.

Village dogs, generally of a fox-like appearance, and better cared for than many in other Highland areas, are plentiful.

ROADS & BRIDGES.

Roads, as such, are non-existent through the area covered. Progress is made through the deep fighting ditches in populated sections, and through the low lying swamp lands and bush, native pads are followed.

The track taken from the Benaria to Pianganda was to the East, and higher up the foothills of the Humphries than that taken by Mr Smith and party on their original trip in, and as a consequence, all streams running westwards were crossed at their source.

The track, which proceeds through heavy timber until just South of Pianganda, is not used very extensively, but, after climbing from the Benaria to the

head of the range, some 2000 feet, the track is easily negotiated and provides quite good walking. This route provides a handy short-cut from the Benaria to the Tari and will allow future patrols to do a circuit through this area, embracing the population, yet without retracing tracks.

Bridges:

Bridges were encountered in numbers along the Benaria, Huria and Tebi Rivers. These streams because of their rate of flow, and in the latter case its depth, are seldom forded and suspension bridges have been built at varying places along their lengths. It appears that the bridges, once erected, are allowed to remain until almost at breaking point before any maintenance is done, and this fact almost resulted in the loss of Mr Terrell's cargo when a bridge broke during the patrol's crossing.

It is expected that no trouble will be encountered in getting permanent bridges and roads under construction when continuous patrolling of the area is possible.

MAP :

The accompanying sketch map is based on the map originally formulated by Mr Champion and amended by data supplied by Mr Smith on his 1951 visit to the area. Villages in the sense of close habitation are non-existent and as natives occupy areas, names apply to camp-sites only

Arthur T. Carey.

Arthur T Carey.
(a/Ass't District Officer.)
TARI SUB-DISTRICT S.H.D.

20/18/29

REPORT ON POLICE ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL.

No 3117. Epl KOMBAPA.

Conduct good. Knows his duties and carries them out well. Quiet and self controlled is an excellent N.C.O for patrol work.

No 3861. Const IIA.

Conduct and discipline good. A steady and most reliable Constable with much previous patrol experience.

No 7449. Const ORILE.

Conduct good. A young, cheerful, energetic Constable who shows his willingness to do any job. Is gaining experience and will, with added stability, become a first class man.

No 7447. Const HANDARI.

Conduct good. Another keen and willing young Constable making good. Has shown marked development over the past 9 months.

Arthur T. Carey
Arthur. T. Carey.
(a/Ass't District Officer.)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA

20/18/29

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

File No: 30/1

Sub-District Office,
T A R I.
Southern Highlands.

24th February, 1953

The District Commissioner,
Southern Highlands,
M E N D I.

PATROL REPORT No 2/53 - TARI.

Enclosed herewith please find three copies of the above mentioned report.

Subsequent to the matters mentioned therein, the two (2) European members of the Unevangelized Field Mission, together with their cargo, arrived safely at the station on the morning of the 26th January and later proceeded to the mission site at Wariteginabu.

The arrest of the main fighters in the Hiliwaga/Toma feud has ended a period of unrest in the Huria area. Reciprocal payments for personell killed on either side has been commenced, and it is expected that another short period of 'peace' will settle in the Basin.

It is unfortunate that, at this early stage, such direct action must needs be taken, but the similar step taken over the large fight to the West on a previous occasion has set a precedent which is appreciated by most of the thinking natives throughout the area.

Arthur T. Carey

Arthur T Carey.
(a/Asst District Officer.)

Noted on 1/3

P/A

3 of 52/53

PATROL REPORT

DISTRICT	SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS	
REPORT NUMBER	TARI 3-52/53	
PATROL CONDUCTED BY	W.G.MURDOCH s/A.D.O.	
AREA PATROLLED	HI-ARUMA-BUTA Tribal Area	
PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY	R.T.NEVILLE P.O. 18 R.P.& N.G.C. 2 N.M.O.s 60 carriers 2 Interpreters	
DURATION	FROM	1st June 1953
	TO	5th June 1953
Last Patrol	District Services	17th August 1953
	Medical	None
MAP REFERENCE	LAKE KUTUBU 1:250,000	
OBJECTS OF PATROL	Bring an end to Tribal fighting Arrest aggressors.	

INTRODUCTION:

The area visited was included in the area where fighting had been forbidden by Mr.A.T.CAREY late A.D.O. TARI.

For over six months sporadic fighting has been taking place in spite of warnings from Administration Officers.

The strong patrol taken into the area arrested 30 of the aggressors and latest reports indicate that the fighting has ceased.

No. 6990 Constable AGAU was killed by an unknown Native or Natives during the course of the Patrol, his death being the subject of a Coronial Inquiry.

DIARY

Monday 1st June 1953;

Left RUMU 1200. Camp made 1700 hrs at TUMBERI in TANI Tribal area.

Tues. 2nd;

Broke camp 0530 and moved to PI-ARUMA-BUTA area. Split patrol, Mr. NEVILLE with larger party taking a roundabout route, self with gear moving direct. Effected several arrests then heard S.O.S. signal (three shots) from Mr. NEVILLE'S party. Dumped gear and joined Mr. NEVILLE at 1340. Place KIMBURE. Examined body late Const. AGAU and dressed wound of carrier UARAKARI. Proceeded to TAUABI where camp made.

Wed. 3rd;

Body of AGAU sent to RUMU for burial. Demonstrated power of firearms for benefit of prisoners and watchers on ridges. Left camp 1100 and made sweep of area, returning 1830.

Thurs. 4th;

Shifted camp to KIMBURE. Patrol joined by large party of warriors from areas near RUMU. Warriors warned to behave. Sweep made towards River TAGARI. Patrol fired on while examining bridge. Fire returned but no casualties seen.

Fri. 5th;

Prisoners examined and several released. More warriors from friendly tribes appeared. Broke camp 0650 and returned to RUMU. D.C. awaiting Patrol's return.

NATIVE AFFAIRS:

The story of the fighting in the TAGARI River area seems to be as follows:

Sometime in the distant past one of TOBE shot a pig being cared for by HIRIBUGU of the Tribe TOBE. The pig belonged to a man of the ARUMA Tribe. TOBE split over the quarrel and ARUMA assisted by IAN GARI, BUTA and PI attacked a portion of TOBE. The upshot was that TOBE ~~retreated~~ retreated to the TAMBURUM lands and the latter in turn were forced to flee with the remnants of TOBE to TUMBIARI lands. TUMBIARI were attacked by ARUMA and their allies and a woman was killed in early January of this year. Two men of TUMBIARI attacked a woman of PI in retaliation and killed her. Later compensation was paid for this woman. In late April ARUMA etc. surrounded two houses of TUMBIARI but the people were able to escape.

The accounts of this fighting are many and varied. Casualties have been given as PI 2, ARUMA 24, BUTA 24, TOBE 10, TAMBURUM 10, IANGARI 20; according to KAMIOKO of BUTA. PI 1, ARUMA 5, BUTA 1, TOBE 6, TAMBURUM 3, TUMBIARI 1; according to AMBUARI of TUMBIARI. HIUVA have also been reported as having been attacked.

Details of the action taken against ARUMA etc. are as follows:

When news of the January fighting reached the Station word was sent to the combatants to settle down and start negotiations for peace settlements. They were again warned in April but said that they would continue fighting if and when they pleased. The N.E side of the TAGARI Valley being an area where fighting had been forbidden by Messrs. CAREY and NEVILLE it was decided to take a strong patrol into the area with a view to stopping the fighting and arresting as many of the ARUMA, PI, BUTA and if possible IANGARI, tribesmen as was possible.

After camp was made at TUMBERI, interrogation of informants disclosed that the bulk of PI, aruma and BUTA lived in a small pocket around UARAKARI and between UARAKARI and the TAGARI River being separated from the former by a

ridge.

The plan formed for the carrying out of the arrests was for Mr. NEVILLE to take the larger part of the Patrol onto the ridge and the writer to take the direct route to UARAKARI thus trapping the UARAKARI group. The two parties then to unite and sweep the area between the ridge and the TAGARI River.

No word from the PI etc. ~~fact~~ faction having been received the plan was put into effect the following day. Unfortunately the guides for Mr. NEVILLE's party took them along the ridge past the UARAKARI pocket and the "pincer movement" did not eventuate. The writer was engaged in making arrests when the agreed upon signal for help (three spaced shots) was heard. Leaving the camp gear with a few guards, writer went to KEBURE where it was found that Const. AGAU No. 6990 had died after receiving an arrow wound and that a carrier had been wounded. AGAU's body was examined and the carrier's wound was dressed. The combined parties then went back to UARAKARI, the wounded man walking, where camp was made.

On the Wednesday about 20 men came to the camp while others watched from surrounding ridges. A rifle demonstration was given, then a sweep was made between the ridge and the TAGARI. The body of AGAU was returned to RUMU under escort.

Thursday camp was shifted to KEBURE and a sweep was made down to the river. While inspecting a bridge the party was fired on by a large party of Natives on the opposite bank. After the writer had received an arrow through the hat and the Corporal had received a scratch on the stomach, only being saved by his handcuffs, ~~x~~ put inside his jumper for carrying, from a serious stomach wound, permission was given to open fire on anyone seen fitting an arrow to his bow. The only casualties known were two pigs shot near the bridge. The children and women who had been taken in the various sweeps were released there being no further need to detain them on the grounds of security.

Several parties of warriors from the Tribes near RUMU joined the Patrol during the day and in their enthusiasm to help had gaily pillaged gardens and burnt houses as they came. It was impossible to stop them until they reached camp and then they were warned to stay with the patrol. It was not possible to get any evidence as to who the actual perpetrators of these misdeeds were. The prisoners were interrogated and those whose houses had been burnt and gardens ravaged were allowed to leave.

30 prisoners were brought back to RUMU and charged with riotous behaviour and sentenced to three months imprisonment. When their sentence has expired a patrol will escort them back to their land.

On the way out to the area where fighting had taken place the patrol passed through the TANI area. Members of the TANI Tribe have served sentences for fighting so it was gratifying to see that the patrol was received with goodwill and that many of the women came to the camp at TUMBERI with food for sale. While resting at a Ceremonial Ground about 2 1/2 hours from RUMU several men approached and asked that a "Station" be established in their area. When asked for their reason the men replied that they were tired of bringing food all the way to the Sub-District Headquarters. These people had not been asked to bring the food in but apparently their desire for trade and their confidence in the peace brought to the area by various officers had induced them to make the trip.

Between many of the groups of allied Tribes there are long stretches of ~~unoccupied~~ unoccupied territory consisting of either primary forest or else deserted garden lands. The latter, according to local history, being the lands left vacant following the decease of the owners in fierce Tribal fighting.

The latest news from the TAGARI area is that all those concerned in the fighting have settled down and are preparing the pig exchanges which will ensure peace.

Some idea of the regard local Natives have for the Administration can be gathered from several facts.

The late Const. AGAU had been "adopted" by an elderly couple near RUMU and when he was brought back to RUMU for burial full Native mourning was made for him even to the provision of pigs.

Several parties of Natives of their own volition joined the patrol after travelling all night to "help".

Reports indicate that about 2000 Natives decorated for fighting assembled at RUMU with the intention of joining the Patrol only being diverted from their purpose when they saw that four Police sent in from the Patrol intended to remain at the Station.

HEALTH:

Health of the Natives met was good. Several prisoners had ulcers on the legs and these were treated.

The co-operation of the Pharmacist LAE in supplying TARI S.D. needs has enabled officers here to assemble a very comprehensive Patrol Medical Kit.

Friends attempted to perform a bloodletting on the wounded carrier but were prevented, instead a pig was sacrificed on his behalf and he has now recovered. Trisulpha, rest and fomentals also assisted in his recovery.

AGRICULTURE:

The mound type of sweet potato garden gives way to the potato field in the TAGARI Valley. On the heights mounds were seen but near the river the mounds were not in evidence.

Breadfruit trees were seen.

ROADS AND BRIDGES:

Native pads were followed throughout. In settled areas these for the most part were through ditches.

The return route through KUMU to the S.W. of the Station will be improved to vehicular standard and will serve the areas EAST and SOUTH of the HAIBUGA Marsh.

The bridge over the TAGARI was of the usual cane type, two handrails, foot-rope, V supports, slung from "piers" and guyed.

MAP:

No tracing paper has been received at TARI S.D. H.Q. so no trace accompanies the patrol report.

Reference LAKE KUTUBU 1:250,000 drawn by Mr. C.S. SMITH; Track out leads from RUMU EAST of POMDOWI through KUELA KAVIA to the area between WAGU WANGE and the TAGARI River. Track back leads from WAGU WANGE EAST of Mt. IANU to RUMU.

POLICE:

Use was made of Sgt. SAFE and three Consts from KUTUBU who had escorted returning labour home to TARI.

Conduct of the Police was good.

The shooting of the Police in the rifle demonstration was terrible. After the range was verified by the writer 15 Police fired at a large clay patch at 600 yds. Not a volley one hit was registered. When the new ammunition is received practice in aiming will be given and a shoot held with the old ammunition. Of 46 rounds fired, 11 were missfires and one a hang-fire.

Campbell

W. J. Woodcock

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

File Ref. No 30/1 - 3

District Commissioner
Southern Highlands District
MENDI

16th August 1953

The District Commissioner,
Southern Highlands District,
MENDI

16th August, 1953

PATROL REPORT NO. 3-52/53 - TARI

Mr. Murdoch and Mr. Neville are to be congratulated on their handling of a very serious situation.

In actual fact we are invading the Southern Highlands District and it is not surprising that people do retaliate against what they naturally regard as unwarranted interference.

There is no doubt that casualties will occur, all we can hope to do is keep them down to reasonable proportions by the exercise of restraint and care.

(P/A)

W.A. Roberts
Acting Director

action to be taken in this area and it is intended that another patrol will shortly visit the area and, as suggested in this report, a suitable time would probably be when the ARUMA prisoners are due for discharge and repatriation to their villages. I feel that future patrols to areas where tribal fighting is rife should avoid whenever possible splitting the party, particularly when in difficult terrain.

Pleasing aspects of the report are the voluntary desire of the many now peaceful groups around TARI Station to go to the assistance of the patrol when it was learned they were in danger, and the peaceful reception given the patrol by villagers who had earlier served gaol sentences for participation in tribal fighting.

MAP

Tracing paper has now been supplied from MENDI stocks.

POLICE

It is recommended that all old ammunition at TARI be used for rifle practice for the Police and new stocks requisitioned.

GENERAL

Mr. Murdoch had a fortunate escape from injury during the patrol and both he and Mr. Neville are to be commended for the manner in which they carried out their duty in an emergency.

G. W. Toogood

(G. W. Toogood)
Acting D.C., S. H. D.

Original file noted 11/8/53

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

File Ref. No. 30/1 - 3



District Headquarters,
Southern Highlands District,
MENDI

10th August, 1953

The Director,
Department of District Services & Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY

TARI PATROL No. 3 - 52/53

Report on the above-mentioned patrol is forwarded herewith in triplicate with my comments appended hereunder. The patrol, to the PI-ARUMA-BUTA locality, was carried out by Mr. W. G. Murdoch, acting Assistant District Officer, TARI, accompanied by Mr. R. T. Neville, F.O., and has already been the subject of a special report, forwarded under reference 30/1 - 53 of the 11th June, 1953.

Delay in forwarding the report is regretted, having been occasioned by being posted to me in Lae, missing me there and eventually finding its way back here.

GENERAL

Until such time as tribal fighting is entirely stamped out there will always be a certain amount of risk attached to the undertaking of patrols to eradicate the practice. The death of Constable AGAU during this patrol was most regrettable and it is hoped that his sacrifice will not have been in vain and that there will be no recurrence of the fighting in the area visited by the patrol.

Since this report was written I have discussed with Mr. Murdoch future action to be taken in this area and it is intended that another patrol will shortly visit the area and, as suggested in this report, a suitable time would probably be when the ARUMA prisoners are due for discharge and repatriation to their villages. I feel that future patrols to areas where tribal fighting is rife should avoid whenever possible splitting the party, particularly when in difficult terrain.

Pleasing aspects of the report are the voluntary desire of the many new peaceful groups around TARI Station to go to the assistance of the patrol when it was learned they were in danger, and the peaceful reception given the patrol by villagers who had earlier served gaol sentences for participation in tribal fighting.

MAP

Tracing paper has now been supplied from MENDI stocks.

POLICE

It is recommended that all old ammunition at TARI be used for rifle practise for the Police and new stocks requisitioned.

GENERAL

Mr. Murdoch had a fortunate escape from injury during the patrol and both he and Mr. Neville are to be commended for the manner in which they carried out their duty in an emergency.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "G. W. Toogood".

(G. W. Toogood)
Acting D. O., S. H. D.