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OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORTS

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STATION: VANIMO

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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SEPIK DISTRICT

VANIMO PATROL REPORTS 1953-56

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol.</u>	<u>Area Patrolled.</u>
1-53/54	G.P.Taylor	Vanimo, Warimo, Yako Villages
1-54/55	J.W.MacGregor	Part Bembi Census Division
2-54/55	J.W.MacGregor	West Coast Vanimo
1-55/56	B.A.Ryan	Vanimo East Coast
2-55/56	B.A.Ryan	Vanimo West Coast
3-55/56	B.A.Ryan	Imbio and Bembi Census Divisio
4-55/56	B.A.Ryan	Kilimeri Census Division



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of Leikv. Report No. Vanimo No. 1-1953-54.

Patrol Conducted by M. P. Taylor. P.O. Ok Vanimo.

Area Patrolled Vanimo, Warimo, Yako village, Vanimo.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans 1

Natives 7

Duration - From 12/8/1953 to 17/8/1953

Number of Days 6

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by - District Services 23/9/1952

Medical ... 1/2/1953

Map Reference 4 miles to 1 inch STRAT Map. Vanimo.

Objects of Patrol assistance to native village des
construction schemes.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ 19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £

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

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

Annual File Notes Page 9

23rd Sept. 1965.

The District Commissioner,
Sepik District,
NEWAE.

Patrol Report No. I/63-64. WANIMO.

The narrative of this Report reveals that Mr. Taylor is keenly interested in his work, and the people whom he administers.

He will find it effective to accompany the fishermen on one of their excursions; admire their gardens, and concern himself with the "day-to-day" village activities.

At the same time it is well to remember regarding Administrative instructions, the advice of Sir Herbert Murray :-

" Unnecessary interference with native life should be avoided. Continually passing over matters which are really of no great importance may drive the harassed native into an attitude of passive resistance from which it may take long to dislodge him".

The difficulty of getting people interested in anything new is not peculiar to the WANIMO people; it is also very doubtful if the natives of the remainder of the Trust Territory would accept the initial stages, if they had any say in the matter.

QAR
(A.A. ~~QAR~~),
Actg. Director, D.D.S. & N.A.

oul
MIG
In
M P

20/11/217

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

GW/NH



PR 1/53-54

District Office,
Sepik District,
NEWAK.

11th September, 1953.

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

PATROL REPORT - VANIMO NO. 1/1953-54

C.T. TAYLOR, P.O.

The above report is forwarded in triplicate.

This report is a very well compiled and informative report, and Mr. Taylor is to be commended for the detail he has supplied. It is not known, however, why "time did not permit of the patrol visiting the other two villages in the Sub-division."

In all probability, this will be Mr. Taylor's last patrol before proceeding on leave. His successor should be able to form a very clear idea of conditions in at least these three villages in the Sub-District.

(A.T. TIMPERLEY)
District Commissioner

TERRITORY OF PAPA AND NEW GUINEA.



3-1-1.

Sub-District Office,
AITAPE.

4th September, 1953.

The District Commissioner,
WEMAK.

VANIMO PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1953/1954.

Copies of the above-mentioned Patrol Report are enclosed, please.

The attention given to village design and improvement schemes in the area is leading to definite and beneficial achievements in the area, and no doubt is having the effect of stimulating further desire for progress. It is therefore considered very worth while as a present aim, although the fundamental question must be economic development, which supports development of all kinds.

In this respect, the stimulation of small-time copra work as mentioned in the Report is a good idea. The shipping ceiling at VANIMO should be fully sufficient to transport the produce to MADANG. Given some encouragement and assistance in marketing to Copra Marketing Board, Madang, and provided copra prices keep up, there is no reason why such ventures should not steadily expand of their own accord, without involving any introduction of new crops and techniques, which elsewhere require such acre supervision.

The VANIMO people are noted fishermen, and the coast is well endowed in this respect. The description of shark fishing is interesting.

It is hoped that the practical improvements being brought about will be extended to the hill villages as soon as possible.

St. G. B.
(D.A. McCabe)
Assistant District Officer

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT.

WEST COASTAL SUB-DIVISION OF THE VANIMO
AREA, AITAPE SUB-DISTRICT, SEPIK DISTRICT.

Wednesday, 12th August, 1953

to

Monday, 17th August, 1953.

6 days.

conducted by,

G.P. TAYLOR, PATROL OFFICER.

Objects of the patrol Assistance to Native Village Rebuilding schemes , Routine Administration work.

Police Personnel accompanying the patrol.... 2198 L/Cpl. SIMON RPNGC. 5672 Const UFER " 6496 " HOMANO " 6979 " WAJI " 8236 " BARY " 8335 " MIMISAVE " 8262 " KAMGRU "

Medical Personnel accompanying the patrol.... Nil.

Map Reference for patrol VANIMO Sheet - 4 miles to 1 inch STRAT MAP.

WAR Damage Compensation Payments Nil.

Other Payments Nil.

Attached hereto (a) Medical Report. (b) Police Report.

The census was conducted at the village in this area in 1941. It is a densely populated area and contains not only the village but also a number of smaller hamlets. The population of the village is approximately 1,000 and the hamlets are scattered in the surrounding area. The census was conducted by the police and the results are attached hereto.

This area has been visited frequently by the police and it is a densely populated area in which the population is approximately 1,000. The census was conducted by the police and the results are attached hereto.

PATROL REPORT DIARY.

The patrol commenced from the VANIMO Patrol Post and followed the well beaten coastal track to VANIMO and WARIMO villages. After a short stay it continued on to YAKO along the same route and thence returned to the Patrol Post.

- Wednesday August 12th. Patrol Departed Vanimo Patrol Post at 9am and visited VANIMO village. Moved on to WARIMO village, arriving at 1pm where preparations made for the patrol to remain.
- Thursday August 13th. Patrol remained at WARIMO.
- Friday August 14th. Patrol remained at WARIMO.
- Saturday August 15th. Patrol moved from WARIMO to YAKO, arriving at the latter village at 4pm.
- Sunday August 16th. Patrol remained at YAKO.
- Monday August 17th. Patrol returned from YAKO to WARIMO, VANIMO and finally Vanimo Patrol Post, arriving at 4/3 pm.

INTRODUCTION.

The area patrolled represents the most densely populated area of this Sub-Division and as it contains not only the largest group of people but also the most industrious ones it is of paramount importance. The patrol on this occasion visited these villages with the idea of giving advice and assistance to the numerous re-building projects and progressive ventures at present in hand. Two or three alarming tendencies concerning native affairs in the area had been reported and these matters were also dealt with.

The census was not revised as the census in this area is quite up to date. Furthermore time did not permit of the patrol visiting the other two villages in the Sub-Division and so it was considered advisable to await a complete patrol of the Sub-Division before attempting Census revisions. Village books were noted where necessary.

This area has been quite frequently patrolled in the past. It is not only a pleasant area in which to patrol geographically speaking for the natives of these villages are particularly co-operative and well lend themselves to practical administration.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Natives in this area are quite certainly the most progressive in the whole of the Vanimo area. At the present time they are fully occupied in the normal village gardening requirements and as well a full scale re-building programme, the first commenced since late in 1946 when the villages were re-built on more permanent lines after the war. A further section here-in deals more accurately with village housing and similar aspects of their present day occupations.

Whilst these folk are progressive they also lack sufficient drive to really forge ahead and make something of their station in life. In the past they have been content to live a somewhat lazy life somewhat secure in the knowledge that their area presented the most favourable conditions in the Vanimo Sub-Division. Their villages are clean and well placed and one can find really little fault with their village surroundings when other areas of this Sub-Division, notably the inland areas, are also considered. Village schools, guided as they are by the Roman Catholic Mission greatly assist the complacency of local folk for they consider that with clean and reasonably well constructed villages, schools, and the usual abundance of native foods they have more than other folk in the area and thus no effort is required to improve still further their lot.

Several wild co-operative like schemes have been organised in the past involving the growing of rice in one instance which fizzled out naturally. These folk have no desire to grow rice for their own consumption as they already are well endowed with natural native foods and are primarily fish-eaters anyway, and thus regard the growing of rice as a commercial enterprise in the first instance. The considerable effort required in the cultivation of rice and the somewhat meagre returns provided financially lures them not at all.

With large amounts of natural wealth in the form of native possessions, canoes and implements etc., an abundance of food, an unlimited amount of fish and game for the taking, at least some educational facilities and furthermore the blessing of reasonably good health these folk are indeed contented.

They frequently visit relatives and friends in the Dutch Territory which is only a day and a half away on foot, and about the same per canoe, and this then affords them some contact with outside life. They are as well almost centrally situated here at Vanimo and thus play an important part in happenings here at the Post.

Their demonstrations of loyalty at the recent Coronation activities were indeed heartening and though they live close to and indeed have much association with the Dutch Territory their can be surely no doubt of the direction in which their affections lie.

Health in the area is good. In fact I should say excellent. Village officials maintain a fair degree of control. Not as much as one would like but there again the faults of the Laluai system are readily apparent. The fault lies not wholly in the individuals but in the system.

Some unusual and unsatisfactory ceremonies recently were reported which involved a violation of past traditions and more seriously still present day requirements of law and order and investigations were carried out and the matter settled. It would appear that women folk in the area were being requested

(6).

(5).

to behave somewhat riotously during village burial ceremonies. The matter is now as stated, settled.

The area on the whole is an interesting one. One is inclined to indulge in a few luxuries of thought and wish that other areas of this Su-b-Division presented so few real problems.

.....

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

The three villages concerned have a total population of about 850 people and have three Lulusis, MAGIA is the Lulusi of Vanimo village, LIGAN of WARIMO and MASEI of YAKO. Of the three MASEI is perhaps the best but even he lacks many desirable qualities. MAGIA's worth as Lulusi of Vanimo is difficult to assess really for the village seems to be run by a group of elders who have formed an unofficial village council.

LIGAN of Warimo is of little use. He is old and not at all interested in his position. There are no other volunteers in the village for the position of Lulusi.

The various Tultals shelter behind their Lulusis in most matters and perhaps do a slightly better job in the case of the Vanimo Tultal - Steven/Takra and Kondou of Warimo, than do their Lulusis.

At any rate the present position is harmonious though not very satisfactory from a native administration viewpoint. It is doubtful whether these people will ever accept the Lulusi system.

.....

VILLAGES.

Village housing in the Vanimo Coastal area is undoubtedly the best between Newak and the border. One has only to observe the entire coastline from the air to realise this. Much progress has been made in the post war years in this direction and past officers at Vanimo must be given credit for sterling work. However the tendency has in been in the past to concentrate on villages far from the post, UIRRA and LITERE etc., and to somewhat neglect those in the immediate proximity to the station. This is now being overcome and it is with this work in mind mainly that this patrol was undertaken.

WARIMO folk are now rebuilding completely. This is the first occasion since the end of the war and much work is to be done. Many houses have been demolished and new ones erected and the village is being laid out in attractive designs with playing squares, village assembly area, school buildings and childrens play grounds and so on. When the work is completed Vanimo will surely be the best village along the coast for many many miles.

WARIMO folk have commenced a similar task. Houses are currently being built and the writer has spent much time plotting the village area and generally assisting the folk to construct an attractive village.

YAKO folk have yet to commence.

Emphasis is placed, and rightly so too I feel, on high standards of village housing in this area. Natives are encouraged to construct houses which are not only likely to last a long time but which permit of a healthy life as well. A design has been adopted here which is most satisfactory. It involves the construction of a main sleeping house on stumps with a front verandah and two rooms under the one roof with an extension to a separate building, a cooking and food storage house. Native materials are used of course and as the houses are laid out in attractively croton-decorated streets in squares the result is most pleasing.

It will take at least six months for the work to be completed at Vanimo. During this time some 80 to 90 houses, possibly more will be completed.

Rest Houses, school buildings, canoe sheds, washing rooms, and even firewood storage huts are being constructed in these villages.

ROADS AND BRIDGES.

A good walking road exists from VANIMO PATROL POST to the Dutch Border. It is merely a native pad track but is well maintained and presents no difficulties. The walk from the Post to the Border takes about a day, fast walking.

There are two main streams in the section between Vanimo Post and Yako, the Daundale Creek in Angriffs Harbour and the Pasi Creek in Ibekuang Bay near Vanimo Village. Both are tidal streams and are major obstacles to vehicular traffic.

Natives in the area maintain the roads satisfactorily.

AGRICULTURE ETC.

The area under discussion abound in the sago palm and thus this rather unfortunately provides these folk with a permanent food source. It in fact encourages laziness. Village folk are inclined to neglect other gardening pursuits in favour of the ever-present sago. Thus their diet has little variation.

They have been in the past and still are encouraged to grow native foods. They do cultivate a fair amount of sweet potato in favourable seasons. Outside crops have been introduced, mainly vegetables such as Chinese Cabbage, Beans and Tomatoes, Spring Onions and occasional radish etc. Fruits such as Bananas and pineapples and pawpaws abound as do other native fruits.

Some taro, a little, is grown. One finds occasional yams.

These folk are great fish-eaters. They rarely have other meat sources of diet though they do manage to obtain a few wild pigs. Smoked fish, in particular the long nosed gar-fish, known locally as 'musi' is their favourite. The fish is speared generally at night during a 'bow-bow' expedition on the nearby reefs and then taken to the village. The tail is bent, as is the head to meet the tail and it is then impaled on it's own spiked head and smoked in this manner. The result is a doughnut-like object. Other fish are caught and generally smoked and thus cured. The mackerel, local name 'malisa', and trevally, 'lungur', are often found. Turtles abound. Two were caught in Vanimo village during my visit within a few minutes. The flesh is cured.

These folk are also great shark fishermen. They adopt a most unusual manner in catching sharks. It is accompanied by a ceremonial ritual which is of great importance. Large canoes set out from the villages in the early pre-dawn hours and paddle far out to sea, generally so far that they lose sight of all but the prominent mountain features. There the rowers or paddlers seek large sharks cruising on or near the surface near drifting tree trunks etc., and proceed to stalk them stealthily by canoe. Eventually they go close enough to a shark to lasso it with a stout line and thence the battle rages. The canoes return in the late afternoon to the village where the shark feasts are then held.

Other marine life exists in and around the coastal fringe reefs which are closely situated to all of the villages. The folk construct good solid canoes and are adept at the art of fishing.

A rice growing scheme was commenced here some years ago but as local folk seemed to have adopted the wrong impressions it fizzled out rather quickly. The growing of rice in the difficult jungle clad coastal areas near the villages is a major undertaking which in the past has been too lightly estimated. People come along with a bag of rice seed and generously distribute it and say 'grow rice' and thence expect the scheme to flourish. Rice growing on a commercial basis is the only scheme which has the interest of these folk. Then again such a scheme involves considerable outlay of time and energy which the Vanimo natives are not prepared to expend.

Copra-production which presents a much more satisfying set of circumstances has been encouraged here in the recent past. The villages have ample coconut groves to provide a small return and provided that such copra production is undertaken on a small and properly placed basis then it should be of considerable use. It is difficult to get these folk interested in anything new and when this is achieved it is even harder to get them to proceed cautiously and with some system. The copra production encouraged here is on a minor scale. Village folk are encouraged to clear and clean their coconut groves as a routine measure for pest eradication and also improvement of their groves for food purposes and at the same time produce a small amount of copra designed not to support the entire village wholly and ~~xxxxx~~ to the exclusion of all else but to enable the village to assess a small cash balance - the village fund- for use in the purchase of common amenities. Savings Bank Accounts are in existence for the villages concerned, Vanimo, Warimo and Yaico, and the scheme is progressing quietly. Work is on a part time basis and is governed by village work.

The folk are healthy and there is an abundance of food. The small copra production scheme is a basis for future development and provided for a limited advancement along self development lines. Future activities in this regard when the foundations have been laid have a great potential.

Agriculturally then the area provides no problems.

CENSUS COMMENTS.

Village books were noted and entries made but no attempt was made at census revision. It was not possible to permit of a complete census of the whole of the census Sub-Division on this occasion and so census revision was not undertaken for this reason.

The census in the area is quite up to date.

EDUCATION.

The Roman Catholic Mission at Vanimo has schools operating in each of the three villages visited. The schools are the usual small village schools.

The attendance is good and the students appear to be well catered for. A higher school exists at the Mission station and a further avenue of advancement exists in the Teacher's Training School at Seleo Is, Aitape, also run by the mission.

Some 200 village children attend the schools mentioned.

No complaints were received.

MISSIONS.

The Franciscan Order of the Roman Catholic Church maintains a mission station at Vanimo. Father Raymond Quirk, OFM, is the resident missionary. The area has been under mission influence since about 1937 and mission activity here has progressed greatly.

The mission does a good job and no complaints were received.

LAW and JUSTICE.

The area is well under control and presents no difficulties in this regard. The Post at Vanimo has been in operation continually since the end of the war and had been established in pre-war days so the area is well under Government influence.

A number of minor matters were presented for investigation and all these were settled out of court.

No unusual trends were reported.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL.

Continued mission influence is gradually removing the last traces of ancient village rituals and customs as the elder folk die and the new generation of mission-ised natives come into village life.

The folk are of the normal Northern New Guinea coastline type in appearance. They greatly resemble the Aitape natives. A sprinkling of lighter skins and somewhat Indonesian like features herald the mixture of the Malayan strain and indicates some association with the natives of Western New Guinea. The Vanimo folk are related to natives of Western New Guinea and also to natives of the WARAPU/SISSANO area of the Aitape Sub-District.

The tribal migrations in the past 50-75 years are most interesting.

It has been established locally that along the coastline of this entire Sub-District (Aitape), and on the western side from Aitape to Hollandia in Western New Guinea, there existed the following tribes:-

The Malols who now reside at the Malol section of the coastline,

A mixture of the SEMPA and SISSANO folk who lived roughly

where they now have their villages,

the WARAPU folk who have since flourished but who originally lived in a scattered area between Vanimo Post and even into section of what is now Dutch Territory,

the LEITRE folk who have kept to their own tribal grounds,

the VANIMO folk who have remained on their own tribal ground also,

and the WUTONG groups which apparently drifted over the Border and mixed with some folk from this side to establish a small tribe where they now have their village.

It has also been established that there was a great deal of tribal fighting along this entire coastline which finally was suppressed until it ceased completely. The last struggle resulted in the annihilation of the NARIMO folk who formed part of the NINGERA/LEITRE area, probably distant relatives of the LEITRE folk.

The population along the coastline finally settled probably in the early 1900's and has remained settled since then.

The position now is that the WUTONG folk comprising a mixture of Australian and Dutch New Guinea folk live as a compact unit right on the Border itself, within Australian Territory.

The ~~XXXX~~ MUSU folk who live on the coast on this side of the WUTONG folk are also a mixture of Australian and Dutch Territory natives. Malayan is spoken fluently in this village.

These two villages have thus beyond all doubt some association with the SIGO and TORATI people of the Dutch Territory.

The VANIMO, WARIMO and YAKO groups are all closely related and the association with Dutch folk in these villages is not so readily apparent, though it must exist for blood relatives of these folk now live and have lived for years past in Dutch Villages near Hollandia.

The NARIMO folk who lived on the site of the Vanimo Patrol Post were participants in the last great tribal fight on record here and were annihilated. Twenty-seven warriors from Vanimo village died in this struggle. There are now 2 living survivors of the Narimo folk who now live at Warimo and have inter-mingled with them.

The NINGERA folk, originally bush dwellers, moved to the beach at about the same time as the NARIMO tribal fight was staged and they took over a large section of the coast which they proclaimed as their own and have remained there since.

The RAWO folk likewise, though their move to the beach occurred in recent times.

The LEITRE folk have remained on their own tribal grounds.

The PUARI folk have recently moved down from the bush to the beach like the RAWOs'.

The MORI folk have also done this, within the last 5 years.

The BERGA folk remain at the mouth of the KEATHERIN river near SIBSAIO, which they claim to be their own Territory.

The SIBSAIO folk now live on the other side of the river and claim this Territory as their own.

The WARAPU people have finally settled where they now are to be found but still claim rights to odd sections of land as far to the west as SIOGO in the Dutch Territory. They have claims to sections of land at Vanimo.

During recent excavations at the Pacific Islands Regiment camp at Vanimo and old graveyard of the MARIMO folk was revealed. Numerous skeletons which according to local folk dated back to the MARIMO tribal fighting days and before. The Vanimo airstrip now occupies the old MARIMO village burial plot.

Thus for the entire coastline from Aitape to Hollandia we find that the true coastal folk, is the VANIMO, SIBSANO, WARAPU, LEITE, SEMRA etc. groups, and not including the recent new-comers, NINGERA, PUARI, MORI, etc, are all in some way related to one another.

As this represents a probable total of about 3000 people at the least and embraces a coastline of about 95-100 miles, it is indeed interesting.

Canoe making is a great art amongst the coastal folk who place high value on their canoes.

They are of course great fishermen and are thus adept at all the associated art of fishing, net weaving, line making and so on.

Pottery is another special product of the Vanimo area where the finished article is invariably a huge circular narrow necked container used as storage containers mainly.

The people are friendly and indeed interesting and it is indeed a pity that officers have so little time to devote to the almost inexhaustible subject of anthropology.

CONCLUSION.

The patrol was short and covered but three villages. It was intended at the outset to give assistance to village folk in their village rehabilitational schemes and this was done.

It is in the writer's opinion an important aspect of native administration often neglected in favour of lesser things to the detriment of the folk concerned.

Vanimo should soon be able to measure up to the best standards required for native village housing and when this basically important foundation is laid progress along other lines will be much easier.

The patrol was interesting, the people as ever, friendly and co-operative, and the time in the field well spent.

J. Taylor
(J.P. Taylor, P.O.)
OIC Vanimo Patrol Post.

- HEALTH REPORT -

Health in the area patrolled is exceptionally good. The folk are clean and well housed and have ample and a reasonably varied food supply and are thus indeed blessed with good fortune.

A Medical Aid Post is in operation at WARIMO village where a Native Medical Assistant, WESIRA, is in charge. He is quite a capable fellow and does his job quite well.

Natives from VANIMO, WARIMO and YAKO villages all receive treatment from this Aid Post for minor complaints whilst the more serious cases are referred to the Vanimo native hospital which is but three hours walk from YAKO at the most.

No census figures were compiled on this occasion and so it is not possible to give any statistics in support of birth and death comments in the area.

It is apparent however that the population is slightly increasing. Though this represents a study of population trends over the past three years or so and it is not possible to deduce from this just what the final outcome will be. It seems however that a slight increase is being maintained in all villages and that the war time slump is being slowly recovered.

A generation is missing in Vanimo village, mainly youths, who would now be about 20/25 years of age, but for the fact that they died during the war time invasion period from sickness.

Warimo appears to have a larger proportion of young males than does Vanimo village, though the total population figures in each village are the same. There is a recognised shortage of young males of marriageable age as compared to females.

The area then present no difficulties from the health angle. More interest is required in health matters however and an infant welfare worker such as was present in the past could do an immense amount of good.

The hygiene position presents no problems as the villages are situated on the seashore and are thus free of disease.

The Medical Tribals appear to be satisfactory though quite lacking in any profound knowledge of their trade.

G. P. Taylor
(G.P. Taylor, P.C.)
OIC Vanimo Patrol Post.

- POLICE REPORT -

Patrol conducted by G. P. Taylor, Patrol Officer,
O.I.C. Vanimo Patrol Post.

Area Patrolled VANIMO, WARIMO and YAKO
Villages, West Coastal Area,
Vanimo Sub-Division, Aitape
Sub-District.

Duration of Patrol 12-17th August, 1953.
6 days.

Police Personnel
accompanying 2198 L/Cpl. SIMUN RPNCC.
6672 Const. UPEA "
6496 " HOLLANO "
6979 " WAJI "
8236 " BARY "
8335 " KIMISAVE "
8262 " KAMGRU "

2198 L/Cpl SIMUN , RPNCC.

SIMUN as previously stated is a good solid NCO who thrives on patrol work. He cares little for the regimentation of a parade ground and is not a particularly smart policeman to look at. He has had over 12 years service, including a period during the war, on active out-station work and is thus well experienced. He is honest and reliable and is a satisfactory NCO for patrol work.

6672. Const UPEA.

UPEA (or UFER) is not particularly bright. He is an Amele (Madang) native and whilst willing and honest, he lacks the drive required. He does however behave well and can be relied upon to a certain degree.

6496 Const HOLLANO.

HOLLANO, exceedingly smart, efficient and well trained, requires only a little bit more 'go' to be worthy of one stripe. He is a good policeman. Nothing more can be said. He is willing, and honest and ready at any time to do his job. His presence is an asset.

6979 Const WAJI.

A Manus native, WAJI, recently transferred to the Post from

(13).

GOROKA is an efficient policeman, keen and full of energy. He does his job well and his willingness to work is a great asset. He is intelligent and well behaved though one gets the impression that given the opportunity he could easily fall foul of the law.

8236 Const BARY, 8335 Const KIMISAVE, 8262 Const KANGRU,

All three being recent arrivals from GOROKA and are in fact Highland natives. This is their first station, all being fresh from the training depot and with them of course comes the spit and polish of the keen newly trained recruit.

This was their first patrol, and they were all taken on the patrol in order that they may be given some basic training in patrolling. They behaved well and are keen and willing.

BARY in particular impresses with his reserved yet seemingly confident manner.

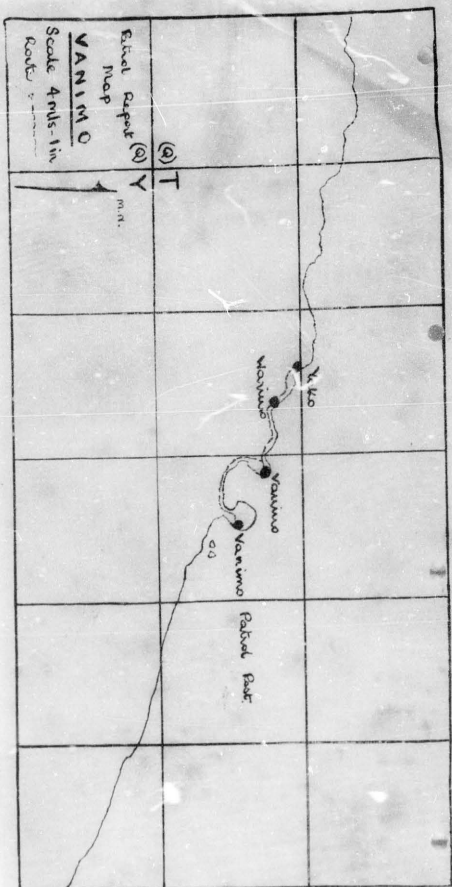
KIMISAVE is a little dull though no doubt it is too early to discuss his worth as a policeman.

KANGRU is young and energetic and quite a happy soul. He is quite intelligent and should do well.

All three found the coastal area strange and were timid and somewhat reluctant to attract attention. They did not seem to suffer any unpleasant reactions from the change of climate.

The Police at this Post, with the exception of the new-comers of course, are all well trained and experience men and they do their job well. No complaints were received from village natives against their behaviour.

J. Taylor
(G.P. Taylor, P.O.)
OIC Vanimo Patrol Post.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

DS. 30-II-229

Department of District Services
and Native Affairs;
PORT MORESBY.

15th March1954.

MEMORANDUM FOR-

Mr. Julius
PORT MORESBY

Subject . Patrol Report No. 2/53-54. VANIMO

Sepik District

Attached is an extract from a Patrol Report submitted by
P/O..... B.A. McCabe of a Patrol conducted to..... KILIMERI-PAGE-KRISA.....
..... groups during the period..... 26/1/54 to 6/2/54.....
P/R No. 2

Forwarded for your information and necessary action please, with
further advice to this office.

e.f.
17/3/54

A.A. Roberts
(A.A. Roberts)
Director, DDS&NA

NATIVE AFFAIRS AND ANTHROPOLOGICAL.

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The people live in small villages, often perched on steep ridges, only occasionally of more than a hundred people, although sometimes these villages are quite close together. There seems to be a dislike of associating into larger groups; postwar, one or two officers have advised them to form combined villages at OSOL and PARE respectively, but the idea has not taken on. One reason given was that the groups quarrel when brought together. Land ownership would also be involved (see below).

Social and Economic Life. Native life is oriented a good deal towards hunting for wild game, as a major item of their subsistence. On account of this, the people normally scatter much more widely than the map showing formal villages suggests. There are numerous camps in the bush, sometimes serving for an extended family group, at other times for a larger group - I was informed of one such camp about a day's walk west of ILUP, where a good proportion of this people spend much of their time. Usually however, these camps are rudic shelters, abandoned and renewed from time to time. While the villages are conveniently located in a fairly small circle, their hunting territory fans out to embrace the whole area about as far west as the Border, and north and south to the main ridges.

Sago is depended upon largely for subsistence. The low altitude and nature of terrain with its numerous small watercourses and swamps is suitable for the palm, which is often planted and tended until it establishes itself. Gardening, of which bananas is the main crop, is also carried on, especially on the productive PUAL River flats. Villages are surrounded by groves of coconut palms and banana and breadfruit, all of which thrive, especially on the flats.

Despite this relatively favourable environment, the people themselves do not display the physical development or

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a mental alertness which one might expect. In fact, in my opinion, they are the poorest, most backward, and least intelligent generally of all the Sepik District natives I have encountered, especially the Page, and other officers have agreed with this. In contact they are quite docile; they are very slow to grasp ideas however, and are most unenterprising. Conversationally, they are very obtuse.

Some of this may be put down to the minor degree of contact they have had with modern influences, and the lack of civilising influences near their territory. There are quite a few native ex-servicemen of the last war, but these have only a little of the progressiveness evinced by their fellows in more sophisticated districts. Even now there is only one straggling village elementary school at GROL, the Catholic Mission directing its activities mainly along the coast.

Then there are only some 50 men absent from the villages, at work outside WARIMO, and most of these are from the villages nearer the coast. Only 4 men attend the Mission School at WARIMO. A number of men and families are now living on the coast near the station, and are working a portion of the Government Plantation. Another settlement of the KILIMALI has been established on the coastal fall, in the upper Sandak valley.

A section of the Krira people have also migrated to the coast, wishing to re-establish themselves more profitably (See under Villages).

Everyday life in the area seems to be remarkably tranquil and free of individual or group disputes. At least, none were hinted at during the patrol. It seems that when any vexatious matter comes up, it is speedily and amicably settled. In more serious cases resort is had to sorcery (see below) and counter-sorcery, performed in secret.

Social Structure and Organisation.

There did not permit of a study of the social organization. It was learned however, that they are a patrilineal people, and each village comprises several lineages or clans, represented by various birds. I did not discover any special clan ceremonies, activities (apart from normal day-to-day cooperation) or taboos; but it is quite likely that they exist, perhaps in the Tamberan ceremonies described later. There was formerly a belief in the totemic ancestor, but it seems that this is nowadays not strongly held.

In various activities, particularly hunting, the men of the lineage or clan are associated. Gardening is usually carried on by individual families, but a single relative - brother, cousin etc. - will often join a family, and his food will be cooked by the wife. In the 'official' villages, a dwelling usually serves a single family (often with dependent persons).

Marriage is often polygamous, three or four wives being not uncommon amongst the older men; the husband of LMP has five. In this matter is much sought after. The custom is still persisting. In a number of villages where there were several mature men still single, 20 people were advised that a modification of the custom was desirable.

Women are married at a very early age, shortly after puberty. The marriage is often agreed on even before this event, the custom of brother-sister exchange being followed. Especially in PAGE area, there is a custom of the young daughter, sometimes barely two years, being sent by her parents to the relatives of the fiancé, who then 'grow her up'. This custom is considered essential to family welfare, and the people were urged to care for their daughters until of full marriageable age.

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Single males upwards of about ten years live in the House
Tambaru, or where this has been abolished, in a single
barflacke.

Land ownership.

Land is owned by individual persons, normally the men. It is inherited by the eldest son, with younger sons sharing usufructuary rights. Other members of the lineage may freely hunt on a person's land, but if an 'outsider' does so, a complaint will be made. Formerly this was a cause of fighting, but now monetary compensation is made. Hunting rights seem to be jealously guarded, between the different lineages.

House sites in villages are owned individually, and a man should build where his father's house stood.

Swamps and watercourses are also divided amongst persons, for the right to plant sago thereon.

The custom of individual ownership probably explains in part why most of the people in the KILIMERI area remain on their traditional narrow ridge sites (easily defended in past times) and decline suggestions to move on to more level and favourable sites. However, six villages have recently voluntarily left their old hill sites, and have established themselves on the PUNARI River.

Religion and Magic.

The belief in 'Sang-gusa' is deeply instilled. This can be practised by all, even the young lads who have been so instructed by their fathers. It is said that the rites involve eating such things as worms, and berries, leaves, herbs etc. which are gathered and rubbed together with a little salt, and chewed. The person then becomes 'Sang-gusa', invisible, and waits on a road for his enemy. He shoots him with an arrow or spear, and after his blood has flowed away, the wound is sealed up. The victim is not conscious of the attack however, and he proceeds on his way. Shortly thereafter he falls ill of a mysterious malady, and dies.

When it is decided that a person has been the victim of 'Sang-gusa', his relatives decide who would be the guilty party, and arrange for counter-sorcery by 'Sang-gusa' as revenge.

One might applaud the advantage this system has of avoiding an outward breach within the group, but fundamentally of course it produces an anxiety-ridden state in which the native's confidence in his wellbeing is undermined, and he has false ideas of the cause of sickness.

There is belief also in 'Maselais', spirits who occupy deep swamps or pools and inaccessible places. Sometimes a chronic ulcer or yaws will be explained by the person having bathed in 'Maselais'-inhabited water.

Magic is employed to protect palms, bananas etc. Various leaves are collected, a charm is pronounced, and the leaves are fixed to the palm as a sign of the taboo. Paths are similarly restricted. A person who violated this taboo may later suffer from sores or sickness.

Hunting magic must always be invoked for success. A charm is pronounced as the lone hunter sets off along the path. Years ago it is said that the KILIMERI people possessed rifles, but they were stolen by another group. Then bow-and-arrow was invented by a woman.

In the past, ceremonial was focussed on the Tambaru cult.

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These seem to have taken place fairly regularly, and on these occasions the young lads of the group would be initiated. Before initiation however, the youngster would be confined in the Tamberan House (an impressive circular building rising to a 60-foot spire) for several months, perhaps as long as 6 months, where they could not wash, and their hair could not be cut. Whilst they were guarded there, men of the village would be out hunting in the bush to collect a large amount of meat for the forthcoming feast. Some of the kill would be brought whole to the House Tamberan for, as the women were told, the Tamberan to consume.

During the actual ceremony the men gather in the Tamberan House, and take up the sacred bamboo pipes, which are of various lengths, and are the essence of the Tamberan. Seated together in pairs around the House Tamberan (inside), the men proceed to blow the pipes, as one group rests another takes up the music. The women-folk, and small children, who are strictly forbidden within the House, gather outside, and sing and dance. Other men conduct dances inside the House. Meanwhile the initiates are still confined in small partitioned sections of the building. Later they

are brought into the main room, and accompanied by an elder, they have to submit to a painful abrasion of the back with thorned vines, producing bleeding. The youngsters are then left in the House for a day or so, when a big feast is held and they are brought outside, washed and shaved, and become joyfully re-united with their families. To climax his initiation, the young man has to go out into the bush and score a kill, of game.

I was told that when the ex-servicemen returned to the OSOL group, they abolished the House Tamberans, and they have not been revived. They disagreed with the old tradition that women and small children who trespassed on the sacred ground must be killed, as also with the general deceit of the women-folk in connection with the cult. Banishment of the initiates and their treatment was also not approved.

The Tamberan cult is still being actively carried on in several of the remoter villages.

I suggest that it would be a pity for the tradition of the fine Tamberan House architecture, and the music and dancing involved to be lost. The cult also stimulates hunting, and trains the lads for this important task. However, it seems to me that a full-blooded survival in their present form will militate against progressive measures in general, and also in particular instances - the withdrawal of the youngsters from school, and their deliberate orientation towards hunting etc. at a very early age seriously affects their modern schooling; also the repression of the women-folk, and their minor role in social and ceremonial life is unacceptable. Accordingly, it is considered that the Tamberan Houses should be supported provided that they are open also to the women, and that youngsters are not confined for long periods, say in excess of a fortnight.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

DS 30-11-128

Department of District Services
and Native Affairs,
PORT MORESEY

31/10/52

MEMORANDUM FOR:
Mr. F.C. JULIUS

PORT MORESEY

Anthropological
SUBJECT:

Attached is an extract from Patrol Report submitted by

P/O G.P. TAYLOR of WEST COAST CENSUS, VANIMO etc. areas

SEPIK District

dated 3/9/52 - 10/9/52 No. 2-52/53

Forwarded for your information

Forwarded for your necessary action and
advice to this office.

A. Roberts
(J.H. Jones)
DIRECTOR, D.D.S. & N.A.

E.F.
31/10

WETONG

The folk in this area are all physically alike - with the possible exception of the WETONG people who it must be granted have a definite European type of appearance - evidence of their intermingling with folk from the Dutch Territory.

The average native in the area patrolled is a well built fellow of average stature. If anything he is somewhat shorter in stature than natives of coastal areas of say the Madag coast. Skin colouring is so it is usually found, a mixture of dark chocolate to the lighter tan hues commonly termed in local conversation as "red skin". Tribal marks and tattoos are popular, but these are nowhere as extensively used as in the case of the highlanders for example. It is common custom in Vanimo to have the native's name tattooed on chest or limb - especially so in the case of young Christian males. On or two young males have even gone so far as to have "Newmill - Keravat" tattooed in a conspicuous place. Upon questioning they claimed to have served a period of indenture there.

The women are slight in stature. They are of uniform appearance. They are seldom seen with tattoo markings on the men.

The standard dress for both males and females in the area is the common lavalava and in the case of the women a bicent as well. No native costumes, such as grass skirts or other wicker garments were seen. In the case of elderly males and females the MALO, or fibre loin cloth drawn between the legs, is used. On the whole these folk are very sophisticated in their dress. Village officials and the more important in village society frequently wear colourful shirts and similar garments for special occasions, such as Sunday church and visits to the station.

They are very clean folk, probably this arises from the very nature of their existence in beach villages and their continued association with salt water. There is no comparison from an appearance standpoint between a beach native from Vanimo village and one from SAWBI say, about an hour inland. The latter surely is decrepit in appearance.

The association of the WETONG folk with Dutch and gained natives has led to a change of culture in this section. Apart from the different appearance they possess physically speaking they are also much more wealthier materially speaking.

Young children in the area, in whom the change in physical

Appearance is most notable, appear to have a strong mixture of the Eurasian blood in them. Most notable in their change of appearance are, straight hair in place of the familiar hair of New Guinea folk, a handsome chiselling of facial structure seems to have taken place in that wide flat noses have given way to finer nostrils and thinner lips. In general the facial changes apparent, coupled with a lighter skin colour, almost a half-caste pigment as it were, provide a pleasing appearance. The women, particularly those of child bearing age, are definitely of Eurasian appearance and it would seem that the males in WUNNOR are of Australian New Guinea origin whilst the women are of Dutch origin. It is common for males of WUNNOR to obtain wives from SICCRO, the Dutch village near Watong, "once the connection.

Materially these people are well off. There is no shortage of implements and cooking utensils. Pressure lamps and primitive stoves are frequently seen. Clothing appears on red letter days and these folk indeed are well placed for material wealth of trade store origin. Commonly found in the case of implements are bush knives and axes, purchased from traders and stores in Australian New Guinea, and clothes of Dutch origin. A great deal of trading must take place between natives of both sides. The currency barrier is overcome in a typically native manner, by simply trading goods. The most common and usually eagerly sought after commodity from Australian stores is of course the requirements for bodily care and beautification such as powder, oils, soap, and other such items. These are apparently hard to get on the Dutch side. The Australian folk appear to like Dutch clothing, which it must be granted, is of some difference and thus a basis for trading is established. Trading takes place during visits by folk of one side of the border to the other, and even then with as much secrecy as they can maintain.

I have little knowledge of the customs of these folk as concerns their true tribal background. I have been but four months in the area and whilst able to observe and thus report certain obvious tendencies of a purely physical nature I am unable to provide at this stage anthropological data of any great value. This will no doubt follow in due course.

HQ copy



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of VANIMO, SEPIK Report No. VAN No 1 1954/55

Patrol Conducted by J.W. MACGREGOR, P/O

Area Patrolled PORTION OF REMBI CENSUS SUB-DIV

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 3 B. PT. N. G. C., INMO 6 PIR

Duration - From 26/1/1955 to 9/2/1955

Number of Days 15 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by - District Services JAN /1955

Medical ... 1/19

Map Reference VANIMO, ATAPE 4" TO 1 MILE STRAT MAPS

Objects of Patrol INVESTIGATION INTO UTAH MURDER. APPREHEND MURDERER.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

1 19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £

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

Alvarado file note

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20/11/55 ✓

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In
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P



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



In Reply
Please Quote

P.R. VANIMO NO. 1 of 1954-55.

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
NEWAK.

31st March, 1955.

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

PATROL REPORT - VANIMO NO. 1 OF 1954-55.

The Report covering a Special Patrol for the purpose of investigating a reported murder in the Bambi Census Sub-division, Vanimo Patrol Post area, Aitape Sub-district, is forwarded please.

The country traversed by the patrol is remote and inhospitable, and perhaps was best known to the pre-war Patrol Officer, Mr. J. W. Hodgekiss.

At the subsequent Committal proceedings for Wilful Murder at Aitape before Mr. J. C. Williams, Assistant District Officer, it became apparent that the native SAMORI was present at and involved in the murder. SAMORI had later accompanied a Native Assistant Recruiter to Lumi and there had entered into an Agreement under the Native Labour Ordinance with a Coconut Plantation near Kokopo. A Warrant was issued, and SAMORI, who in the interim had left his place of employment at Kokopo, was apprehended. At Newak he was committed for trial.

At the Supreme Court Sittings just concluded at Newak, both UNAK and SAMORI were indicted before the Chief Justice upon a charge of Wilful Murder, and were convicted and each was sentenced to a term of 5 years imprisonment.

The matter of the P.I.R. members accompanying the patrol was immediately taken up by the then District Commissioner with all concerned, including the P.I.R. authorities, and settled satisfactorily. Mr. MacGregor now fully understands the undesirability of incorporating native troops in an Administration patrol.

The Commissioner of Police is co-operating by providing three more Police from the Goroka Depot to strengthen the Vanimo Detachment for patrol work.

The Assistant District Officer, Aitape, has plans for the despatch of a leisurely well-equipped patrol from Vanimo to cover the complete Bambi Sub-division as soon as this can be arranged.

J. Preston White
(J. PRESTON WHITE)
District Commissioner.

Copies to A.D.O. Aitape (2)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA

AIT 30-I-I

Sub-District Office,
AITAPE,
Sepik District,
17th. March, 1955

District Commissioner,
District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
W E W A K.

PATROL REPORT - VANIMO No. I of 1954-55

Attached please find copies of the above-mentioned Patrol Report for your records and onward movement to Headquarters, Port Moresby.

This Patrol was, as stated by the Officer conducting the Patrol, carried out to apprehend the murderer of the Luluai ANEI of UTEI Village in the Beani Census Sub-Division, Aitape Sub-District.

The use of Pacific Islands Regiment Personnel by Mr. MacGregor has been the subject of a special report - under cover of my AIT 31-I-I of 3rd. March, 1955 - to you.

Sufficient time was not available for Mr. MacGregor to carry out any detailed work on this patrol, but with the end of the 'wet' season in sight it is hoped to have a lengthy patrol of this area carried out in May of this year.

Forwarded for your information,

J.C. Williams
J.C. Williams
Assistant District Officer.

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MIGRA
F
TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

VAN 30/1
Patrol Post,
Vanimo.

11th March, 1955

The Assistant District Officer,
Sepik District,
A I T A P E.

VANIMO PATROL REPORT No I.
1954/55

Forwarded Patrol Report Van I. 1954/55 for the
Bembi Area.

As this patrol was mainly of a special nature
sufficient time was not spent in the area to collect
Antropological data.

For your attention, please

W. Macgregor
W. MACGREGOR O.F.C.

11a
MIGRA

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT
.....

No. I. Van 1954/55

Conducted by: J.W. MACGREGOR, Patrol Officer.

Duration: 28/1/55 to 9/2/55

Area Patrolled: Portion of BEMBI Census Sub-Division

Accompanied by Europeans: Nil

Natives : 3, R.P. & N.G.C.
6, P.I.R.
1, Native Medical Ord.

Object: 1) Make an investigation into the murder of AWBI,
Lulua of UTAI Village and apprehend the
Murderer.

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INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this patrol into the Bembi area was to make an investigation into the killing of the Iduai, Awei, of UTAI village in Lower Bembi and apprehend the Murderer. No Census was attempted because this would mean a patrol of at least a months duration, and such a patrol would not be practical in the wet season, as there are very few tracks which do not follow rivers for at least a portion of their length. The great distances between villages would increase the hazard of being stranded for days waiting for the rivers to subside.

This area is not a very pleasant area to patrol as the continual walking in stone strewn river beds played havoc with the feet of carriers and police, as well as myself. Leeches were prolific, and at night sleep was disturbed by an insect, similar to a sandfly, which paid no heed to a mosquito net in its efforts to attack the sleeper. The best remedy found for this pest is to build a smoky fire near ones bed.

The Bembi area lies to the southeast of Vanimo Patrol Post. Most of the villages in the group are situated on the southern fall of the Bewani Range, an extension of the main northeastern New Guinea coastal Range which stretches from the Murik lakes near the mouth of the Sepik river to the Dutch New Guinea border. Between the Bewani Range and Vanimo lies the Pual river valley, the Pual being fed from tributaries rising in the Bewanis and in the Oenake Range situated behind Vanimo. On the southern fall of the Bewanis the two main rivers which drain the Bembi region are the Yenabu and Pine, both however are not marked on the 4ⁿ to 1 miles Strat series, Vanimo sheet. On the south-eastern side, the Bembi area is bounded by Aitape and Lumi Sub-District territory, on the southern side lies the Green River boundary.

The boundary between Vanimo controlled territory and the Green River section is very vague as a full census has not been carried out. However YATOMI village, only three days walk from Green River Patrol Post and seven from Vanimo, is the last village in which the group dialect is understood. Some natives from this village have visited Green River but none except ~~which~~ two which came back with the patrol have ever visited Vanimo. P/O Geyle on his patrol through to Green River expressed the opinion, in the village book of FAS No 1, that all villages on the southern fall of the Bewani Range be controlled from Green River as the Bewani Range forms a natural barrier to Vanimo influence. When in future a patrol leaves Vanimo to visit Bembi a meeting could be arranged with the Officer in Charge, Green River, to discuss the demarkation between the two Sub-Districts.

DIARY

25th January: Left Vanimo Patrol Post at 1030hrs arrived NINGERA village 1445 hrs. Stayed here the night.

27th January: At 0645 hrs part of cargo went ahead to be ferried across Pual river, approx 40 mins from NINGERA village. Rest of patrol crossed 0700hrs and proceeded to IREIO No1 and arrived at 1430 hrs in heavy rain. Stayed here the night.

28th January: Left IREIO No 1 at 0700hrs passing by IREIO No2, approx 1hr then to IBERINS village, 3 1/2 hrs walk inclusive. Decided to stay a I police constable sick.

DIARY(Contd)

29th January: At 0730hrs to SUMININI approx 5 1/2 hrs walk. Enroute encountered Const. Homanc with Ialualis from Pas who then joined the patrol.

30th January: From SUMININI to PAS No I (Kilwas) 8 hrs hard gaiting. Arrived at 1630hrs in heavy rain. Mail from Vanimo.

31st January: Left PAS No I at 0800hrs to FUGUMI 1 hr. Then followed the Yenabu river till 1630hrs. Acting on the advice of natives, that YATOMI could not be reached before dark, cleared campsite on the Banks of the river and pitched camp.

1st March : Broke camp on the Yenabu river at 0645 and continued following the river till patrol reached YATOMI at 0930 hrs. Made enquiries as to whereabouts of UTAI village. Left YATOMI at 1230hrs intending to proceed to UTAI. Met T.T. and M.T.T. of UTAI with murderer. Decided to return to YATOMI as UTAI could not be reached before dark.

2nd March : Departed YATOMI at 0900hrs and travelled by bush track, SSE, to reach MUNABU hamlet of UTAI where murder was committed. 4 1/2 hrs walk.

3rd March : At MUNABU. Body of Awei deceased exhumed. Investigation held.

4th March : Departed MUNABU at 0730hrs following native pad. Heavy rain started at 1100hrs and continued intermittently for some 2 1/2 hours. Patrol reached Yenabu river and followed it upstream till forced to make camp when it became swollen and impossible to cross. Heavy rain again started to fall making things very unpleasant in setting up camp.

5th March : Patrol proceeded on its way as the flooded river had fallen during the night, and reached FUGUMI at 1000hrs. Patrol went onto PAS No I and it was decided to stay the night as it would be impossible to reach SUMININI before late at night. Crossing the Bewanis would be dangerous with the usual rain in the afternoon making the streams torrents.

6th March : From PAS No I to SUMININI arrived at 1630hrs. Mail from Vanimo.

7th March : From SUMININI to IMBRINIS arrived 1300hrs. Thence at 1400hrs to OMWILA, 2 hrs walk and stayed the night at OSSIMA 30 mins away. Caught by heavy rain in the afternoon.

8th March : OSSIMA to KRISA 3 1/2 hrs walk. Stayed here the day as feet of patrol and myself in bad shape.

9th March : Left KRISA at 0700hrs and reached Vanimo at 1430.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

The Bembi people have not had much contact with Government patrols. The Franciscan Missionary at Sissano on the coast has been into the area several times, also a Recruiter has reached the village of FAS No. 1. Their knowledge of the outside world and the Government stems from the fact that most of the men of working age have been away to work on plantations at some period during their life, either they have walked down to Aitape to be signed on or have been recruited by Native Assistants operating from Lumi. (One was in the area at the time of the patrol) Few have served with the N.G.I.B. and Police. In general the natives seen in the villages visited were not very confident in their approach to the patrol. For this reason carriers from IBERINIS, SUMUNINI, YO and FAS NO 1, in the top of the Bembi area, accompanied it to the lower regions.

The people of this area do not live in permanent villages but erect houses near their present garden sites to form garden communities. These groups usually consist of clan or family groups. It appears that the population is small and very scattered with each small group owning large tracts of country. From questioning the inhabitants of the villages about the number in each, it was found that many of the young men were away at work, however this cannot be verified as there has been no overall census taken of the area. Two of the five villages visited, YATOMI and MUNABU (~~is~~ a hamlet of UTAI), were without village books and the natives also mention others which were in the same position.

Comments on the villages visited are as follows:-

SUMUNINI

This village is the first encountered in the Bembi group, it is situated on the coastal fall of the Bewani Range. The site is flat and composed of river bed gravel. The housing was fair, the houses being built on piles 4ft. high and they were square in construction with "pungal" walls and roofed by sago thatch. A very imposing structure was the "haus Boi" or clubhouse, this building being rectangular in shape, raised above the ground the same as the other houses, and being 60' x 20' in dimensions. This clubhouse was the only one seen in the Bembi which was raised from the ground. The immediate village area was clean but its precincts were overgrown and choked with ~~stumps~~ rubbish.

Officials co-operative.

Resthouse and Police Barracks good.

FAS No. 1.

On the southern fall of the Bewani Range situated on the banks of the Yenabu river. Housing the same style as the previous village. Village area clean but boundaries overgrown with grass.

Officials co-operative.

Resthouse fair and Police Barracks good.

FUKUMUI

Approximately 1 hours walk from FAS No. 1 at the junction of the Yenabu river and the Fisa river. This village is only small with only six houses and one clubhouse of the type already described but built on the ground. Housing poorer standard.

Officials not confident and did not know much about their position.

Resthouse and Police barracks reasonable.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Contd)

YATONI

Situated on the Yenabu river approx 10hrs walk from FUGUMUI. The village area was overgrown with grass and there was no cleared road into the village. Few of the inhabitants understood "pidgin" and the village did not possess a Village Book. Two natives were selected to accompany the patrol to Vanimo and later fill the position of Iulua and Tultul.

Resthouse very poor. No police barracks.

MUNABU

MUNABU is a hamlet of UTAI village built on the banks of the Pine river and was the scene of the murder of the native AWEI. Only three houses in the hamlet, these were not the usual type seen previously but ~~these~~ were built on the ground and more rectangular in shape. No census has been taken of this village.

Resthouse and police barracks fair.

Officials co-operative.

UTAI MURDER INVESTIGATION

The death of AWEI, the Iulua of UTAI village, was the result of a dispute over women. AWEI had married the "exchange" from AINUII village, who had been sent in exchange for UNAK's sister. UNAK the accused was then away at work. When the brother of the Iulua died, UNAK considered it his right to marry the brother's wife, YONI, as AWEI had married the exchange which would have been UNAK's wife by the custom of "marriage exchange". The dispute culminated in the murder of AWEI, when UNAK discovered from his brother SAMORI that AWEI had taken YONI for his second wife, disregarding what UNAK had said.

UNAK with SAMORI had left UTAI village to go to MUNABU, which is the hamlet where the Iulua AWEI resides, and on the way met AIKA with his two sons also on the way to MUNABU. SAMORI stayed with AIKA's party and UNAK went ahead. On arrival UNAK shouted out to the Iulua AWEI that he wanted to marry the woman YONI and the Iulua had no right to take her as his wife. AWEI turned in the doorway of his house, then UNAK shot an arrow which lodged in the Iulua's right lower abdomen. AIKA and his family with SAMORI had arrived in the village at the time UNAK shouted out to AWEI, and they saw him fire the arrow. WATA a native of the hamlet was in his house, heard the commotion and came out to see the Iulua lying on the ground with an arrow in him. AWEI spoke a few words and died almost immediately. All saw UNAK run away into the bush round the back of the Iulua's house. AWEI's two wives also witnessed the killing.

When the body was exhumed the arrowhead was still imbedded in the pelvic bone. It was removed and held for an exhibit in court. The arrowhead was made of bamboo with lawyer vine thorns fixed on each side making it impossible to pull out. The body which had been buried for just over a month was practically all decomposed except for some skin and flesh still adhering to the bones. The coccol palm frond covering the body as a shroud was still green and intact.

UTAI MURDER INVESTIGATION (Contd)

Word of this killing had first reached the Assistant District Officer, Aitape, when some of the natives from the Bembé visited that station. The Tultul and M.T.T. told the patrol that they had reached PAS No 1 on their way down to Vanimo but an ex N.G.I.E. native suggested that if they reported the murder to Vanimo the P.I.R., at Vanimo, would come in there and shoot them all, it was better to let it rest. However the patrol had no difficulty in apprehending the murderer, as when the patrol reached a nearby village the Tultul and M.T.T. brought him to the patrol.

TRACKS

From Vanimo Patrol Post there are two routes into the Bembé. One follows the coast to NINGERA villa ge then crossing over to the left bank of the Rial river, it runs beside the Rial till just before IMBIO where it again fords the river, and leaves the river to reach the village. From IMBIO to IMBRINIS the track traverses low hills. The alternate route; by which the patrol returned, leaves the coast at Waterstone and passes over broken limestone country of the Genake Range to reach KRISA village then drops down into the Rial river valley, crossing the river just before OSSIMA village. On leaving OSSIMA the track goes via OMEULA, again fording a river; which is a tributary of the Rial, to reach IMBRINIS village. The route via NINGERA is much easier walking as the country is generally flat but the KRISA track is slightly shorter.

After leaving IMBRINIS there is only one route, the track skirts the MUGI river for most of the way to SUMUNINI. The next section from SUMUNINI to PAS No 1. is the hardest, as the route follows the stone strewn bed of the Bief river as it winds its way through gorges and steep sided mountains to the headwaters high in the Bewani Range. The track crosses the divide in a short sharp climb, then on the other side follows a tributary of the Yenabo river through the same type of steep sided mountains and rocky gorges and on leaving, fords another tributary and cuts across a small spur to reach PAS No 1. This 5hr stretch could only be attempted when there is no rain in the offing, for to be trapped in one of these streams would be very dangerous.

AGRICULTURE

The main staple in the Bembé is sago. This arises in my opinion from the fact that the people are primarily hunters, there being with the small population a plentiful supply of game. Gardens are small and a secondary consideration. From a cursory glance at the area it would appear that it would be ideal for gardens, unlike mountainous areas or places which become waterlogged during the wet season. This semi-nomadic existence of a hunter is substantiated by the fact that there are very few coconuts and practically no breadfruit trees to be found around the villages. The natives told the patrol that it is in only relatively recent times that they have had coconuts. Some natives who came to meet the patrol carried back coconut suckers to plant.

Of the root vegetables sweet potatoe was the most common item in the food, Tapioca and taro are also eaten but very few yams were seen. Bananas of the cooking type were also plentiful. There were three main types of sweet potatoe seen, the common New Guinea variety and two others which the natives said were imported into this side from Dutch New Guinea. One type was an elongated vegetable with a red skin and a orange interior, the other was white in skin colour with a dark purple inside.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH

The health of the people in general appears to be quite good. Several cases of tropical ulcers and yaws were sent to the Vanimo Native Hospital for treatment. Tinea Imbricata was prevalent, also in villages situated near rivers many natives had swollen extremities caused through Filaria. This area would benefit by the establishment of an Aidpost at FAS No I as it is 5 days walk to the nearest medical treatment at Vanimo.

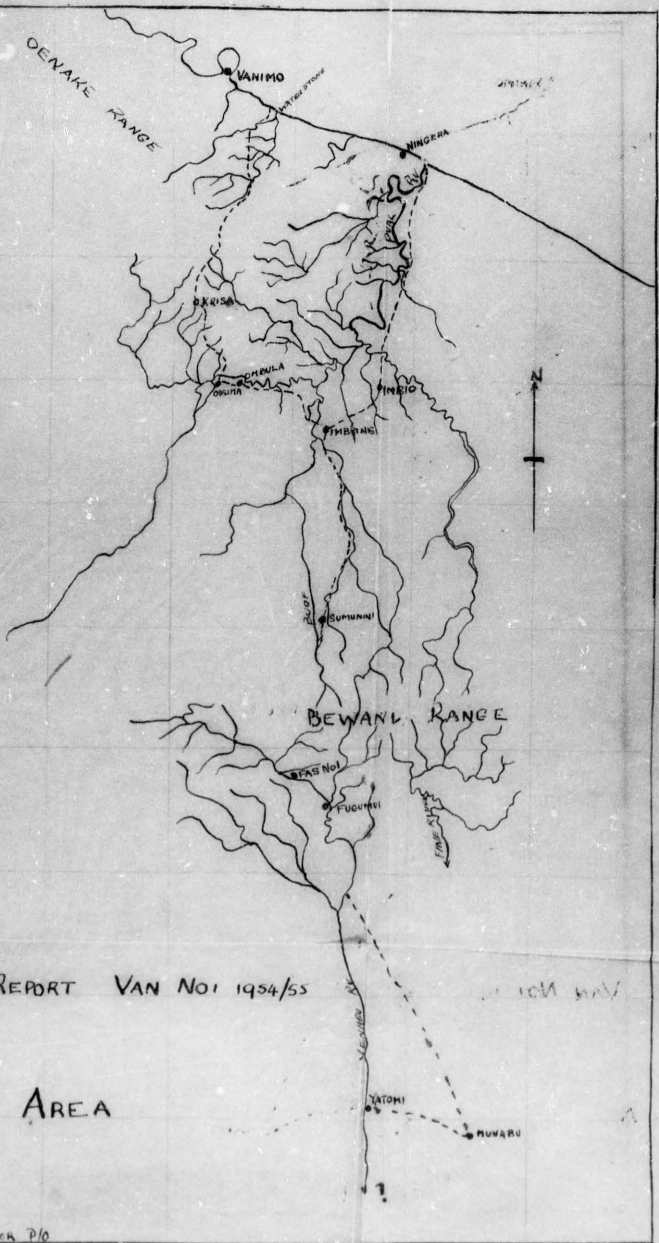
MISSIONS

As mentioned in para heading Native Affairs the Franciscan Priest at Sissano has paid several visits into the area. Of the villages seen by the patrol in the Bambi there did not appear to be any catechists or schools.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL

- | | |
|----|------|
| a) | NIL. |
| b) | NIL. |

J.W. Macgregor
.....
J.W. MACGREGOR
Patrol Officer.



PATROL REPORT VAN NOI 1954/55

BEMBI AREA

Drawn by J. V. MACDONALD P/O



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

ATTACHE COPY

PATROL REPORT

District of VANIMO SEDIA Report No. VAN No 1 1954/55

Patrol Conducted by J. W. MACGREGOR P/O

Area Patrolled PORTION OF BEMBI CENSUS SUB-DIV

Patrol Accompanied by—Europeans NIL

Natives 3 BEMBI, 1 NKO, 6 PIR

Duration—From 26.1.1955 to 9.2.1955

Number of Days 15 DAYS

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1951 / 1955

Medical / 19.....

Map Reference VANIMO, ATAPU 4 TO 1 MILE STRAT MAPS

Objects of Patrol INVESTIGATION INTO BEMBI MURDER APPREHEND MURDERER

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

19

District Officer

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

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

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

30-1-1

30-11-266

18th April, 1955.

The District Commissioner,
Sepik District,
NEWAK.

PATROL REPORT - VANIMO No. 1 of
1954-55.

The abovementioned report has been received.

I am glad that you took up the question of troops accompanying a patrol with the authority of the P.I.R. It could lead to all sorts of trouble.

This particular part of the country is rough and stages are long.

Mr. Macgregor's purpose was attained and he has written quite a good report.

I note that the Assistant District Officer, Aitape, has plans to dispatch a leisurely patrol into the area as soon as it can be arranged. Not very much appears to have been done in this part of the country and some time spent in there should bear fruit.

A. A. Roberts.

(A.A. Roberts.)

Director - D.D.S. & N.

Minute to:

A.D.C. AITAPE.

Forwarded please.

Kindly inform the C.I.C. Vanimo Patrol Post accordingly.

P.R. Vanimo No. 1 of 1954-55

District Headquarters,

NEWAK 27.4.55

J. Preston White
(J. PRESTON WHITE)
District Commissioner.

30-1-1

P.R. VANIMO NO. 1 of 1954-55.

District Headquarters,
Senik District,
WEWAK.

31st March, 1955.

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

PATROL REPORT - VANIMO NO. 1 OF 1954-55.

The Report covering a Special Patrol for the purpose of investigating a reported murder in the Beabi Census Sub-division, Vanimo Patrol Post area, Aitape Sub-district, is forwarded please.

The country traversed by the patrol is remote and inhospitable, and perhaps was best known to the pre-war Patrol Officer, Mr. J. W. Hodgekiss.

At the subsequent Committal proceedings for Wilful Murder at Aitape before Mr. J. C. Williams, Assistant District Officer, it became apparent that the native SANORI was present at and involved in the murder. SANORI had later accompanied a Native Assistant Recruiter to Lumi and there had entered into an Agreement under the Native Labour Ordinance with a Coconut Plantation near Kokopo. A Warrant was issued, and SANORI, who in the interim had left his place of employment at Kokopo, was apprehended. At Wewak he was committed for trial.

At the Supreme Court Sittings just concluded at Wewak, both UMAK and SANORI were indicted before the Chief Justice upon a charge of Wilful Murder, and were convicted and each was sentenced to a term of 5 years imprisonment.

The matter of the P.I.R. members accompanying the patrol was immediately taken up by the then District Commissioner with all concerned, including the P.I.R. authorities, and settled satisfactorily. Mr. MacGregor now fully understands the undesirability of incorporating native troops in an Administration patrol.

The Commissioner of Police is co-operating by providing three more Police from the Goroka Depot to strengthen the Vanimo Detachment for patrol work.

The Assistant District Officer, Aitape, has plans for the despatch of a leisurely well-equipped patrol from Vanimo to cover the complete Beabi Sub-division as soon as this can be arranged.

J. Preston White
(J. PRESTON WHITE)
District Commissioner.

→ Copies to A.D.O. Aitape (2)

REPORT OF DISTRICT INSPECTOR

ATT 10-I-I

Sub-District Office,
AITAPE
SEPIK DISTRICT.
17th. March, 1955

District Commissioner,
District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
N.E.M.A.F.

PATROL REPORT - VANUATU No. 1 of 1955-56

Attached please find copies of the above-mentioned
Patrol Report for your records and onward movement to
Headquarters, Port Moresby.

This Patrol was, as stated by the Officer
conducting the Patrol, carried out to apprehend the murderer
of the MUMU LINT of UERI Village in the Neabi Census
Sub-Division, Aitape Sub-District.

The use of Pacific Islands Regiment personnel
by Mr. MacGregor has been the subject of a special report -
under cover of my AIT 31-I-I of 3rd. March, 1955 - to
you.

Sufficient time was not available for Mr. MacGregor
to carry out any detailed work on this patrol, but at the
end of the last season in sight it is hoped to have
a lengthy patrol of this area carried out in any of this
year.

Forwarded for your information.

J.H.
J. H. WELLS
Assistant District Officer.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

No. I. Van 1954/55

Conducted by: J.W. MAGREGOR, Patrol Officer.

Duration: 28/1/55 to 9/2/55

Area Patrolled: Portion of BEMDI Census Sub-Division

Accompanied by Europeans: Nil

Natives : 3, R.P. & N.G.C.
6, P.I.R.
1, Native Medical Ord.

Object: 1) Make an investigation into the murder of AWSKI,
Member of UTAY Village and apprehend the
Murderer.

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lat

CRATIO

S. M.

INTRODUCTION

The purpose of this patrol into the Bambi area was to make an investigation into the killing of the Ikuai, Awei, of UTAI village in Lower Bambi and apprehend the murderer. No Census was attempted because this would mean a patrol of at least a months duration, and such a patrol would not be practical in the wet season, as there are very few tracks which do not follow rivers for at least a portion of their length. The great distances between villages would increase the hazard of being stranded for days waiting for the rivers to subside.

This area is not a very pleasant area to patrol as the continual walking in stone strewn river beds played havoc with the feet of carriers and police, as well as myself. Leeches were prolific, and at night sleep was disturbed by an insect, similar to a sandfly, which paid no heed to a mosquito net in its efforts to attack the sleeper. The best remedy found for this pest is to build a smoky fire near ones bed.

The Bambi area lies to the southeast of Vanimo Patrol Post. Most of the villages in the group are situated on the southern fall of the Bowani Range, an extension of the main northeastern New Guinea coastal Range which stretches from the Marak lakes near the mouth of the Sepik river to the Dutch New Guinea border. Between the Bowani Range and Vanimo lies the Pual river valley, the Pual being fed from tributaries rising in the Bowanis and in the Gensake Range situated behind Vanimo. On the southern fall of the Bowanis the two main rivers which drain the Bambi region are the Yenatu and Pine, both however are not marked on the 4" to 1 miles Strat series, Vanimo sheet. On the southeastern side, the Bambi area is bounded by Aitape and Iumi Sub-District territory, on the southern side lies the Green River boundary.

The boundary between Vanimo controlled territory and the Green River section is very vague as a full census has not been carried out. However YATONI village, only three days walk from Green River Patrol Post and seven from Vanimo, is the last village in which the group dialect is understood. Some natives from this village have visited Green River but none except which two which came back with the patrol have ever visited Vanimo. P/O Geyle on his patrol through to Green River expressed the opinion, in the village book of PAS No 1, that all villages on the southern fall of the Bowani Range be controlled from Green River as the Bowani Range forms a natural barrier to Vanimo influence. When in future a patrol leaves Vanimo to visit Bambi a meeting could be arranged with the Officer in Charge, Green River, to discuss the demarkation between the two Sub-Districts.

DIARY

26th January: Left Vanimo Patrol Post at 1030hrs arrived NIBGERA village 1445 hrs. Stayed here the night.

27th January: At 0645 hrs part of cargo went ahead to be ferried across Pual River, approx 40 mins from NIBGERA village. Rest of patrol crossed 0700hrs and proceeded to IMBIO No 1 and arrived at 1430 hrs in heavy rain. Stayed here the night.

28th January: Left IMBIO No 1 at 0700hrs passing by IMBIO No 2, approx 1hr then to IMBIRITE village, 3 1/2 hrs walk inclusive. Decided to stay a I police constable sick.

lat
158410
P. M.
DIARY (Contd)

28th January: At 0730hrs to SUMININI approx 5hrs walk. Encroute encountered Const. Nomano with Daluais from Fas who then joined the patrol.

30th January: From SUMININI to FAS No I (Kilwa) 2 hrs hard going. Arrived at 1630hrs in heavy rain. Mail from Vanimo.

31st January: Left FAS No I at 0800hrs to FUGUNUI 1 hr. Then followed the Yenabu river till 1830hrs. Acting on the advise of natives, that YATONI could not be reached before dark. Cleared campsite on the Banks of the river and pitched camp.

1st March : Broke camp on the Yenabu river at 0645 and continued following the river till patrol reached YATONI at 0830 hrs. Made enquires as to whereabouts of UTAI village. Left YATONI at 1230hrs intending to proceed to UTAI. Met T.T. and N.T.T. of NE UTAI with murderer. Decided to return to YATONI as UTAI could not be reached before dark.

2nd March : Departed YATONI at 0900hrs and travelled by bush track, NE, to reach MUNABU hamlet of UTAI where murder was committed. 4 1/2 hrs walk.

3rd March : At MUNABU. Body of Awei deceased exhumed. Investigation held.

4th March : Departed MUNABU at 0730hrs following native pad. Heavy rain started at 1100hrs and continued intermittently for some 2 1/2 hours. Patrol reached Yenabu river and followed it upstream till forced to make camp when it became swollen and impossible to cross. Heavy rain again started to fall making things very unpleasant in setting up camp.

5th March : Patrol proceeded on its way as the flooded river, had fallen during the night, and reached FUGUNUI at 1000hrs. Patrol went onto FAS No I and it was decided to stay the night as it would be impossible to reach SUMININI before late at night. Crossing the bewanis would be dangerous with the usual rain in the afternoon making the streams torrents.

6th March : From FAS No I to SUMININI arrived at 1630hrs. Mail from Vanimo.

7th March : From SUMININI to IMBINIS arrived 1800hrs. Thence at 140hrs to OSSINA, 2 hrs walk and stayed the night at OSSINA 30 mins away. Caught by heavy rain in the afternoon.

8th March : OSSINA to KRISA 3 1/2 hrs walk. Stayed here the day as rest of patrol and myself in bad shape.

9th March : Left KRISA at 0700hrs and reached Vanimo at 1430.

lati

GRATIO

F. M.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

The Bembi people have not had much contact with Government patrols. The Franciscan Missionary at Sissano on the coast has been into the area several times, also a Recruiter has reached the village of FAS No. 1. Their knowledge of the outside world and the Government stems from the fact that most of the men of working age have been away to work on plantations at some period during their life, either they have walked down to Sitape to be signed on or have been recruited by Native Assistants operating from Dumi. (One was in the area at the time of the patrol) Few have served with the N.G.I.B. and Police. In general the natives seen in the villages visited were not very confident in their approach to the patrol. For this reason carriers from YMBRINTS, SUMUNINI, YO and FAS NO 1, in the top of the Bembi area, accompanied it to the lower regions.

The people of this area do not live in permanent villages but erect houses near their present garden sites to form garden communities. These groups usually consist of clan or family groups. It appears that the population is small and very scattered with each small group owning large tracts of country. From questioning the inhabitants of the villages about the number in each, it was found that many of the young men were away at work, however this cannot be verified as there has been no overall census taken of the area. Two of the five villages visited, YATOWI and MUMHABU (is a hamlet of UTAI), were without village books and the natives also mention others which were in the same position.

Comments on the villages visited are as follows:-

SUMUNINI

This village is the first encountered in the Bembi group, it is situated on the coastal fall of the Bewani Range. The site is flat and composed of river bed gravel. The housing was fair, the houses being built on piles 4ft. high and they were square in construction with "pungal" walls and roofed by sago thatch. A very imposing structure was the "haus boi" or clubhouse, this building being rectangular in shape, raised above the ground the same as the other houses, and being 60' x 20' in dimension. This clubhouse was the only one seen in the Bembi which was raised from the ground. The immediate village area was clean but its precincts were overgrown and choked with ~~vegetation~~ rubbish.

Officials co-operative.

Resthouse and Police Barracks good.

FAS No. 1.

On the southern fall of the Bewani Range situated on the banks of the Yanabu river. Housing the same style as the previous village. Village area clean but boundaries overgrown with grass.

Officials co-operative.

Resthouse fair and Police Barracks good.

FUGUMI

Approximately 1 hours walk from FAS No. 1 at the junction of the Yanabu river and the Fisa river. This village is only small with only six houses and one clubhouse of the type already described but built on the ground. Housing poorer standard.

Officials not confident and did not know much about their position.

Resthouse and Police barracks reasonable.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Contd)

YATONI

Situated on the Yenaku river approx 10 hrs walk from FUGUMBI. The village area was overgrown with grass and there was no cleared road into the village. Few of the inhabitants understood "pidgin" and the village did not possess a Village Book. Two natives were selected to accompany the patrol to Vanimo and later fill the position of Laluai and Iulitai.

Resthouse very poor. No police barracks.

MUNAWI

MUNAWI is a hamlet of UTAI village built on the banks of the Pine river and was the scene of the murder of the native AWREI. Only three houses in the hamlet, these were not the usual type seen previously but ~~were~~ were built on the ground and more rectangular in shape. No census has been taken of this village.

Resthouse and police barracks fair.

Officials co-operative.

UTAI MURDER INVESTIGATION

The death of AWREI, the Laluai of UTAI village, was the result of a dispute over women. AWREI had married the "exchange" from AINIKI village, who had been sent in exchange for UNAK's sister. UNAK the accused was then away at work. When the brother of the Laluai died, UNAK considered it his right to marry the brother's wife, YONI, as AWREI had married the exchange which would have been UNAK's wife by the custom of "marriage exchange". The dispute culminated in the murder of AWREI, when UNAK discovered from his brother SAMORI that AWREI had taken YONI for his second wife, disregarding what UNAK had said.

UNAK with SAMORI had left UTAI village to go to MUNAWI, which is the hamlet where the Laluai AWREI resides, and on the way met AIKA with his two sons also on the way to MUNAWI. SAMORI stayed with AIKA's party and UNAK went ahead. On arrival UNAK shouted out to the Laluai AWREI that he wanted to marry the woman YONI and the Laluai had no right to take her as his wife. AWREI turned in the doorway of his house, then UNAK shot an arrow which lodged in the Laluai's right lower abdomen. AIKA and his family with SAMORI had arrived in the village at the time UNAK shouted out to AWREI, and they saw him fire the arrow. WATA a native of the hamlet was in his house, heard the commotion and came out to see the Laluai lying on the ground with an arrow in him. AWREI spoke a few words and died almost immediately. All saw UNAK run away into the bush round the back of the Laluai's house. AWREI's two wives also witnessed the killing.

When the body was examined the arrowhead was still imbedded in the pelvic bone. It was removed and held for an exhibit in court. The arrowhead was made of bamboo with lawyer vine thorns fixed on each side making it impossible to pull out. The body which had been buried for just over a month was practically all decomposed except for some skin and flesh still adhering to the bones. The coconut palm frond covering the body as a shroud was still green and intact.

PEAK MURDER INVESTIGATION (Contd)

Word of this killing had first reached the Assistant District Officer, Mitap, when some of the natives from the Bambi visited that station. The Tultul and M.T.T. told the patrol that they had reached FAS No 1 on their way down to Vanimo but an ex M.C.I.B. native suggested that if they reported the murder to Vanimo the P.I.N., at Vanimo, would come in there and shoot them all, it was better to let it rest. However the patrol had no difficulty in apprehending the murderer, as when the patrol reached a nearby village the Tultul and M.T.T. brought him to the patrol.

TRACES

From Vanimo Patrol Post there are two routes into the Bambi. One follows the coast to NINGERA village then crossing over to the left bank of the Rual river, it runs beside the Rual till just before IMBIO where it again fords the river, and leaves the river to reach the village. From IMBIO to IMBRINIS the track traverses low hills. The alternate route, by which the patrol returned, leaves the coast at Waterstons and passes over broken limestone country of the Canake Range to reach KRISA village then drops down into the Rual river valley, crossing the river just before OSSIMA village. On leaving OSSIMA the track goes via OMBULA, again fording a river; which is a tributary of the Rual, to reach IMBRINIS village. The route via NINGERA is much easier walking as the country is generally flat but the KRISA track is slightly shorter.

After leaving IMBRINIS there is only one route, the track skirts the MUGI river for most of the way to SUMPIMI. The next section from SUMPIMI to FAS No 1, is the hardest, as the route follows the stone strewn bed of the Raof river as it winds its way through gorges and steep sided mountains to the headwaters high in the Bewani Range. The track crosses the headwaters in a short sharp climb, then on the other side follows a tributary of the Yanabu river through the same type of steep sided mountains and rocky gorges and on leaving, fords another tributary and cuts across a small spur to reach FAS No 1. This 8hr stretch could only be attempted when there is no rain in the offing, for to be trapped in one of these streams would be very dangerous.

AGRICULTURE

The main staple in the Bambi is sago. This arises in my opinion from the fact that the people are primarily hunters there being with the small population a plentiful supply of game. Gardens are small and a secondary consideration. From a cursory glance at the area it would appear that it would be ideal for gardens, unlike mountainous areas or places which become waterlogged during the wet season. This semi-remnant existence of a hunter is substantiated by the fact that there are very few coconuts and practically no breadfruit trees to be found around the villages. The natives told the patrol that it is in only relatively recent times that they have had coconuts. Some natives who came to meet the patrol carried back coconut suckers to plant.

Of the root vegetables sweet potato was the most common item in the food, Tapioca and taro are also eaten but very few yams were seen. Bananas of the cooking type were also plentiful. There were three main types of sweet potato seen, the common New Guinea variety and two others which the natives said were imported into this side from Dutch New Guinea. One type was an elongated vegetable with a red skin and an orange interior, the other was white in skin colour with a dark purple inside.

FIO
M

MEDICAL AND HEALTH

The health of the people in general appears to be quite good. Several cases of tropical ulcers and yaws were sent to the Vanimo Native Hospital for treatment. Tinea Imbricata was prevalent, also in villages situated near rivers many natives had swollen extremities caused through Filaria. This area would benefit by the establishment of an Aidpost at FAS No 1 as it is 5 days walk to the nearest medical treatment at Vanimo.

MISSIONS

As mentioned in para heading Native Affairs the Franciscan Priest at Sissano has paid several visits into the area. Of the villages seen by the patrol in the Bambi there did not appear to be any catechists or schools.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL

- a) NIL.
b) NIL.

J.W. Macgregor
.....
J.W. MACGREGOR
Patrol Officer.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of VANIMO / SEPIK Report No. VAN No 2 1954-55.

Patrol Conducted by J.W. MACGREGOR P/O

Area Patrolled WEST COAST VANIMO

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 2

Duration - From 15/3/55 to 27/3/55

Duration - From 11/3/1955 to 23/3/1955

Number of Days 6 days.

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO.

Last Patrol to Area by - District Services 1 /1954

Medical ... JUNF /1954

Map Reference VANIMO STRAT 4 MILES : 1"

Objects of Patrol 1) CENSUS REVISION.

2) ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ 19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £

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

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

Population Register

Area Patrolled WEST COAST VANIMO

MIGRATIONS				ABSENT FROM VILLAGE AT WORK								LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES			TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL
In		Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission		Males		Females		Pregnant	Number of children under 15 years	Average Size of Family	Child		Adults		
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45				M	F	M	F	
		1	3	4		9		2				40	69	31	80	8	86	2.6	101	79	87	114	396
	4	1	1	6		8		6		1		28	64	27	65	6	66	2.4	61	68	81	90	321
		2	3	2				1				10	33	9	24	1	24	2	28	23	34	29	117
				1		4						6	18	7	17	1	18	1.9	14	25	21	20	85
3	3	1	2			6				1		13	36	15	42	2	42	3	44	43	44	52	190
3	7	5	9	13		27		9		2		97	220	89	228	18	236	2.4	188	238	267	305	1109

305

30-1-1

30-11-272

30th May, 1955.

The District Commissioner,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL REPORT - VANIMO No. 2 OF 1954/55.

The report has been received.

With regard to the flag at Wutung. I think your suggestion that the flag be kept for visits by Administration officials would be the better idea.

Village Councils should be discouraged. Under our present system, the Lulami is the Administration representative in each village. Until Councils can be organised by the Native Authorities Section and properly supervised by them, all sorts of trouble and dissatisfaction will crop up.

MINUTE TO:
A.D.O. AITAPE.

J.K. McCarthy
(J.K. McCarthy.)
A/Director - D.D.S. & N.A.

P.R. VANIMO NO. 2
District H.Q.
WEWAK. 3.6.55

For your information and necessary action please. My recommendations in the matter of the flag were included in my covering letter to the Director on this Report. A copy of my covering letter was forwarded to the A.D.O. Aitape for his information.

J. Preston White
(J. PRESTON WHITE)
District Commissioner.

30-1-1

P.R. Fomento No. 2/
54-65/1882
Director's Headquarters,
Soyak District,
HONOLULU
23rd May, 1955.

The Director,
Department of Distaster Services
and Native Affairs,
P.O. BOX 1001.

PATROL REPORT, VANTO NO. 2/54-55,
J. M. McNEIDER, PATROL OFFICER.

This town patrol report is forwarded, please. The report is an interesting account of a group of villagers who are fortunate in being rather better educated by nature than many other groups in the Soyak District. They live in a kindly environment.

This was Mr. McNeider's last patrol before being granted leave to short notice. Unfortunately it has not been possible to walkback field sheet personally at Vantao since resumption of civil administration, due to strict shortages and charges. Every effort, however, will be made to re-start this system which needs the services of an officer, as the people within the Patrol Post area are particularly varied both as to character and material development.

The shipyard which has plied the far north-western coast of the District since the war has been frequent and erratic, and there is now some hope that it will be possible to arrange more regular visits of coastal vessels to Vantao in the near future. This factoring, when combined with regular humanitarian encouragement by an officer, should do a great deal to overcome what Mr. McNeider terms their "inadequately skilled". Such an officer, who could point to a regular shipyard outlet for their produce, would I feel, have little difficulty in developing the livestock of the villagers in the harvesting and marketing of their land and sea resources.

The Assistant District Officer, Alago, in his comment on the matter of the terms of his assignment although has rather little to add on the head. Mr. McNeider needs no mention of his matter and the French Incorporated District Headquarters either his departure. Some unfortunate episodes which involved Elago at the matter some years before the last war will be recalled. I feel that Mr. McNeider did not show great discretion in lending him credit, but as it has been found, perhaps some assistance could be given as to what action, if any, is now desired in respect to it. One solution - at least until the flag is worn out - would be to let the officials to retain the flag for the consents of Australian Administration officers' visits and to try it on those occasions.

William White
(J. M. McNEIDER)
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER

Copy to:
J.D.O. Alago.

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THE TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

VAN 30/I
Patrol Post Vanimo,
Sepik District.

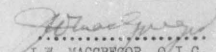
29th April, 1955.

The Assistant District Officer,
Sepik District,
A I T A P E.

VANIMO PATROL REPORT
No 2 1954-55

Forwarded is my Patrol Report Van No 2 of 1954/55 for
the West Coast Vanimo census Sub-Division.

The delay in submitting this report is regretted but there
has been many interruptions over the last month and the fact that the
Station typewriter is away for repairs, a further drawback is caused
by having to use the Army typewriter.


.....
J.W. MACGREGOR, Q.T.C.

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT
.....

WEST COAST MARINE CREWS SUB-DIVISION

Conducted by: J.W. MAC GREGOR, Patrol Officer.

Duration 16/3/55 to 17/3/55 & 21st/3/55 to
23/3/55 a period of 6 days.

Accompanied by: 2 R.P. & N.C.C. members.

Objects: 1) Census Revision.
2) Routine Administration.

INTRODUCTION

The patrol was unavoidably interrupted, firstly the Officer in charge having to return to the Station to meet the electrical contractor with regard to future electrification of Vanimo Station, then by the R.V. Nekong which arrived with building supplies. However despite these delays the patrol was fitted in to keep abreast of the patrol programme.

The villages visited in this Census Sub-division lie along the coast west from Vanimo to the Dutch New Guinea Border. They are nestled on the small coastal plain beside various breaks in the almost continuous reef, allowing their canoes access to the sea for fishing, fish being their main item of diet. The coastline in this region is extremely picturesque with jutting headlands of coralline limestone which has been oxidised and weathered by the sea into unusual shapes, with the low SEKARE ranges immediately behind, the groves of coconut palms and the clean well laid out villages made colourful by their ornamental shrubs.

The last Census Revision in the area was carried out by P/O Taylor in early 1955. However this area has someone constantly passing through it as it is part of the P.I.R. patrol programme.

DATE

- 15/3: The patrol departed the Post at 10.30hrs for Vanimo village by canoe. Census recorded.
- 16/3: To WARING village. Census recorded village inspected.
- 17/3: To YAKO village. Census recorded then returned to Station.

- 21/3: To MESSU village from Station, approx 3 1/2 hrs walk. Minor matters settled.
- 22/3: MESSU census taken then proceeded to WITUNG approx 3 1/2 hrs walk.
- 23/3: WITUNG census taken minor matters settled then patrol returned to Vanimo Patrol Post.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The natives of the West Coast Vanimo Region are the most progressive and advanced in the area. This Census Sub-division comprises five villages which will be described in detail later. Their villages are well planned and laid out, with streets lined by ornamental shrubs, village squares and playing areas and good housing. The people realize the value of education and the school run by the Roman Catholic Mission is always well attended. Some of the natives are also at the Government School Brandi and the Agriculture School Nagia.

Whilst these natives are progressive they also lack sufficient drive to really forge ahead and make something of the opportunities offering. This maybe due to the fact that their area has the most favourable conditions offering, in which to live, throughout the Sub-District. With large amounts of material wealth

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Contd.)

In the form of native possessions, an abundance of fish from the sea; where the surrounding reefs form a natural feeding ground, a plentiful supply of native food and at least some educational facilities. Furthermore the blessing of reasonably good health. However as the people regard this region as being so far away from the centre of things it may be another factor in their Laxodical attitude.

These people along the coast have many ties with the natives on the Dutch New Guinea side of the border. Many natives approached the patrol to gain permission to go and see relatives and friends on the other side of the border. They find it a bit hard to understand why they cannot visit the other side when natives from Dutch New Guinea often come across to visit them.

For the villages of VANIMO, WARIKO and YAKO copra production is their main form of economic enterprise. These villages have ample coconut groves which if properly cleared and attended provide a small though satisfactory return for the natives. In the case of VANIMO a group of men work half the coconuts on the Government Station as a society. However these undertakings have had several setbacks and risen again when the enthusiasms returned. Considerable time and patience has been spent by the Patrol Officers past and present in the societies accounting their organization which has enable them to continue. Shipping was one of the big drawbacks but now with the advent of the Makong the position will be better. The Army ship Farra has helped out in the shipping on many occasions. Shell fishing would also afford another avenue for economic gain but as yet the people have not taken any serious interest in it.

VANIMO

Vanimo is one of the best villages I have encountered in the Sepik District, it is exceptionally well planned and laid out. Each house is well built and has a separate kitchen. Situated on the edge of the village are small shade for firewood and also pit latrines. The houses have to be a certain standard before the Village Officials allow them to be constructed. The Rest House and Police Barracks are situated at the WARIKO end of the village away from the main village and a parade ground has been made immediately in front of them. This building planning has taken a number of years and is not fully completed yet.

WARIKO

Here again we have a village laid out on European lines with two streets parallel running ~~west~~ beside the sea shore. However the housing, though good is not up to the Vanimo standard. The Rest House and Police are in the centre of the village and occupy very colourful surroundings, with the white sandy paths bordered by ornamental shrubs radiating out from the Resthouse and forming a striking contrast to the green lawns.

Several complaints were brought up against the owners of pigs. The Pig sty was inspected and found inadequate and the pig owners were informed that a new sty would have to be created further from the village and of a more substantial nature.

YAKO

This village is much smaller than the previous two with only one street but it is well laid out with good houses, each house having a small picket type fence bordered by shrubs. The Posthouse and Police Barracks are large substantial buildings situated at the eastern end of the village.

WIKI

This village is the smallest in the group. The people were not originally beach people but came down to the coast just prior to the war. They are continually shifting their village and many old sites can be seen. The hamlet of Fibi which was once separate is now combined in the one village. The standard of housing is far below the region standard and the site is barren with not much attempt as in the other villages of beautifying it with trees or ornamental shrubs. The Officials mentioned that the natives wished to shift again but this was discouraged and it was pointed out that if they were continually changing the village they could not hope to improve it. The present site seems satisfactory as it is near water and there is a small bay which allows their canoes access to the sea.

WIKING

This village is divided into two sections some 300yds apart one being under the control of the Ithini and the other the Kul-tal. The housing and the general village site is good with the main street bordered by shrubs stretching from the eastern end through both sections and a grove of coconut palms to the Posthouse and Police Barracks situated at the Border. Both of these houses are well constructed. From the main thoroughfare runs various other roads to the second line of houses parallel to the main street. In the middle of the village is a very picturesque church constructed out of native material complete with tower.

An Australian ensign was presented to this village because of its position on the Dutch New Guinea Border. The Officials were instructed to erect a flagpost and fly the flag each day.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

For the villages of Vanimo and Warimo the authority in the village appears to be vested in a group of unofficial councillors, with the Government appointed officials more of a figurehead. The most outstanding councillor is a native called WIPA of Vanimo village a cooking foreman of the Vanimo station labour line. He is well liked by the people and has a good control over the inhabitants of Vanimo village. The chief councillor of Warimo is a man called YAKEN, he is another good type but does not have the same influence as WIPA. The same system of village control operates in Wiking but to a lesser degree. They tend to stay in the background and let the officials bear the brunt of the work. In these villages it would not take the people long to assimilate the running of a council if an official village council was incorporated.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

A good walking road exists from Vanimo Patrol Post to the Dutch New Guinea Border except for two small sections in the track which are located between Yako and Miaz and Miaz and Wutung.

In the track from Yako to Miaz there is a part, approximately 30 mile walk, which skirts a large bluff of coralline limestone close to the seas edge and ascends and descends very steeply. This section is made difficult to negotiate by the jagged bluffs of coral protruding from the surface. Attempts have been made by the natives to improve the surface and widen the road but it is extremely difficult task with the tools they have at their disposal. Between Miaz and Wutung is another bad section. The road skirts the coast for a short distance, about 30ft above sea level and passes through coral cliffs; almost caves, then swings inland and alights to about 50-ft over a waddy surface. In the wet season there are many leeches to contend with.

Along the road there are several large rivers to ford, one just after Vanimo village, another near Miaz and the third just prior to reaching Wutung. Having bridged or made fords to cross these rivers explosives would be needed before a jeep road could be attempted. As there are several steep sided ridges composed of coralline limestone which run from the Genske Range perpendicular to the general direction of the coast and rise almost vertically from the coastal plain.

AGRICULTURE

Sago provides the people with a permanent food source. This fact tends to make the people poor gardeners as there is a plentiful supply so they do not exert themselves in the horticultural field. They have been in the past and are still encouraged to grow native foods. They do cultivate a fair amount of sweet potatoes of various types common to the Vanimo Sub-District; which were described in my Vanimo Patrol Report Van No I 1964-65. Outside crops have been introduced such as chinese cabbage, beans, spring onions and tomatoes. Bananas, pineapples, papaws and other native fruits are abundant. Many lime trees have been introduced. Some taro, a little, is grown and one finds occasional yams.

The people of this area are mainly fish-eaters, fish and other types of marine life being plentiful in the surrounding waters, the fringing reefs providing a feeding ground. The waving flares of the "bamboo" fishermen at night are an integral part of the Vanimo scene. They rarely have other sources of meat diet though at times they obtain a few wild pigs. Domestic pigs are not plentiful as the people are not very keen to keep them because of the nuisance they cause in the village. There are a fair number of fowls.

ADVIS
CO. D.



PATROL REPORT
VAN NO. 5455
P/O J. M. GREGOR

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of VANIMO / SEPILU Report No. VAN No 2 1954-55

Patrol Conducted by J. W. MAC GREGOR

Area Patrolled WEST COAST VANIMO

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 2

Duration - From 15/3/55 to 17/3/55
21/3/1955 to 23/3/1955

Number of Days 6 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by - District Services 1/19

Medical ... JUNE 1958

Map Reference VANIMO STRAT 4 MILES : 1 "

Objects of Patrol 1) CENSUS REVISION
2) ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION

Removal file noted

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ 19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £

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

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Population Register

Area Patrolled *WEST COAST VANIMO.*

MIGRATIONS				ABSENT FROM VILLAGE AT WORK								LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES		TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL		
In		Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission		Males		Females		Pregnant	Number of Children	Number of Adults	Average Size of Family	Child			Adults	
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45					M	F	M	F	M + F
		1	3	4		9		2				40	69	31	80	8	86	26	101	99	87	114	396	
4		1	1	6		8		6		1		28	64	27	65	6	66	24	61	68	81	90	321	
		2	3	2				1				10	33	9	24	1	24	2	28	33	34	29	117	
				1		4						6	18	7	17	1	18	19	14	25	21	30	85	
3	3	1	2			6				1		13	36	15	42	2	42	3	44	43	44	52	190	
3	7	5	9	13		27		9		2		97	220	89	228	18	236	24	248	238	267	305	1109	

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30-11-272

30th May, 1955.

The District Commissioner,
Sepik District,
WEMAK.

PATROL REPORT - VARIOUS No. 2 OF 1954/55.

The report has been received.

With regard to the flag at Wutung. I think your suggestion that the flag be kept for visits by Administration officials would be the better idea.

Village Councils should be discouraged. Under our present system, the Luluni is the Administration representative in each village. Until Councils can be organised by the Native Authorities Section and properly supervised by them, all sorts of trouble and dissatisfaction will crop up.

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JJA
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J.K. mcl
(J.K. McCarthy.)
A/Director - R.E.S. & N.A.
m

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



38/11/272

In Reply
Please Quote
P.R. Vanimo No. 2/
54-55/1082
District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
WENAI.

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

23rd May, 1955.

PATROL REPORT, VANIMO NO. 2/54-55,
J. W. MCGREGOR, PATROL OFFICER.

The above Patrol Report is forwarded, please. The Report is an interesting account of a group of villages which are fortunate in being rather better endowed by nature than many other groups in the Sepik District. They live in a kindly environment.

This was Mr. McGregor's last Patrol before being granted leave at short notice. Unfortunately it has not been possible to maintain field staff permanently at Vanimo since resumption of civil administration, due to staff shortages and changes. Every effort, however, will be made to re-staff this Station which needs the services of an officer, as the people within the Patrol Post area are particularly varied both as to character and material development.

The shipping which has plied the far north-western coast of the District since the war has been infrequent and erratic, but there is now some hope that it will be possible to arrange regular visits of coastal vessels to Vanimo in the near future. This factor, when combined with regular enthusiastic encouragement by an officer, should do a great deal to overcome what Mr. McGregor terms their "lackadaisical attitude." Such an officer, who could point to a regular shipping outlet for their produce, would I feel, have little difficulty in developing the interest of the villagers in the harvesting and marketing of their land and sea resources.

The Assistant District Officer, Aitape, in his comment on the matter of the issue of the ensign at Wutong, has rather hit the nail on the head. Mr. McGregor made no mention of this matter and the Patrol Report reached District Headquarters after his departure. Some unfortunate episodes which involved flags at the border some years before the last war will be recalled. I feel that Mr. McGregor did not show great discretion in issuing this ensign, but as it has been issued, perhaps some indication could be given as to what action, if any, is now desired in respect to it. One solution - at least until the flag is worn out - would be tactfully to advise the officials to retain the flag for the occasions of Australian Administration officers' visits and to fly it on those occasions.

J. Preston White

(J. PRESTON WHITE)
District Commissioner.

Copy to:
A.D.O. Aitape.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

ATT 30-I-I
Sub-District Office,
AITAPE.
Sepik District,
10th. May, 1955.

District Commissioner,
District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
W E W A K.

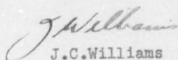
PATROL REPORT AITAPE SUB-DISTRICT.- VANIMO
No. 2 of 1954-55 by Mr. J.W.MacGREGOR.

Attached please find copies of the above-mentioned Patrol Report which are forwarded for your distribution and information.

The patrol appears to have been well conducted by Mr. MacGregor, and it is very pleasing to note his remarks concerning the housing and general 'lay-out' of the Villages in the area.

It is also encouraging to note the very large percentage of Births over deaths, and also the low number of males who are absent from their villages at work.

While I feel that Mr. MacGregor's action in giving the Village of WUTONG an Australian Ensign to fly in their Village is possibly commendable; I do consider that permission for this act should have been sought from the District Commissioner through this office.


J.C.Williams
Assistant District Officer.

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT.

WEST COAST VANIMO CENSUS SUB-DIVISION

Conducted by: J.W. MAC GREGOR, Patrol Officer.

Duration 15/3/55 to 17/3/55 then 21st/3/55 to
23/3/55 a period of 6 days.

Accompanied by: 2 R.P. & N.G.C. members.

Objects: 1) Census Revision.
2) Routine Administration.

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INTRODUCTION

The patrol was unavoidably interrupted, firstly the Officer in charge having to return to the Station to meet the electrical contractor with regard to future electrification of Vanimo Station, then by the M.V. Mekong which arrived with building supplies. However despite these delays the patrol was fitted in to keep abreast of the patrol programme.

The villages visited in this Census Sub-Division lie along the coast west from Vanimo to the Dutch New Guinea Border. They are nestled on the small coastal plain beside various breaks in the almost continuous reef, allowing their canoes access to the sea for fishing. Fish being their main item of diet. The coastline in this region is extremely picturesque with jutting headlands of coralline limestone which has been eroded and weathered by the sea into unusual shapes, with the low CORNAKE ranges immediately behind, the groves of coconut palms and the clean well laid out villages made colourful by their ornamental shrubs.

The last Census Revision in the area was carried out by P/O Taylor in early 1953. However this area has someone constantly passing through it as it is part of the P.I.R. patrol programme.

DAIRY

- 15/3: The patrol departed the Post at 1030hrs for Vanimo village by canoe. Census recorded.
- 16/3: To WARIMO village. Census recorded village inspected.
- 17/3: To YAKO village. Census recorded then returned to Station.
.....
- 21/3: To MUSU village from Station, approx 3 1/2 hrs walk. Minor matters settled.
- 22/3: MUSU census taken then proceeded to WUTUNG approx 3 1/2 hrs walk.
- 23/3: WUTUNG census taken minor matters settled then patrol returned to Vanimo Patrol Post.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The natives of the West Coast Vanimo Region are the most progressive and advanced in the area. This Census Sub-Division comprises five villages which will be described in detail later. Their villages are well planned and laid out, with streets lined by ornamental shrubs, village squares and playing areas and good housing. The people realize the value of education and the school run by the Roman Catholic Mission is always well attended. Some of the Natives are also at the Government School Brandi and the Agriculture School Dagua.

Whilst these natives are progressive they also lack sufficient drive to really forge ahead and make something of the opportunities offering. This maybe due to the fact that their area has the most favourable conditions offering, in which to live, throughout the Sub-District. With large amounts of material wealth

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NATIVE AFFAIRS (Contd.)

in the form of native possessions, an abundance of fish from the sea; where the surrounding reefs form a natural feeding ground, a plentiful supply of native food and at least some educational facilities. Furthermore the blessing of reasonably good health. However as the people regard this region as being so far away from the centre of things it may be another factor in their laxidastical attitude.

These people along the coast have many ties with the natives on the Dutch New Guinea side of the border. Many natives approached the patrol to gain permission to go and see relatives and friends on the other side of the border. They find it a bit hard to understand why they cannot visit the other side when natives from Dutch New Guinea often come across to visit them.

For the villages of VANIMO, WARIMO and YAKO copra production is their main form of economic enterprise. These villages have ample coconut groves which if properly cleaned and attended provide a small though satisfactory return for the natives. In the case of VANIMO a group of men work half the coconuts on the Government Station as a society. However these undertakings have had several setbacks and risen again when the enthusiasm returned. Considerable time and patience has been spent by the Patrol Officers past and present in the societies accounts and their organisation which has enable them to continue. Shipping was one of the big drawbacks but now with the advent of the Mekong the position will be better. The Army ship Tarra has helped out in the shipping on many occasions. Shell fishing would also afford another avenue for economic gain but as yet the people have not taken any serious interest in it.

VANIMO

Vanimo is one of the best villages I have encountered in the Sepik District, it is exceptionally well planned and laid out. Each house is well built and has a separate kitchen. Situated on the edged of the village are small sheds for firewood and also pit latrines. The houses have to be a certain standard before the Village Officials allow them to be constructed. The Rest House and Police Barracks are situated at the WARIMO end of the village away from the main village and a parade ground has been made immediately in front of them. This buildings planning has taken a number of years and is not fully completed yet.

WARIMO

Here again we have a village laid out on European lines with two streets parallel running ~~para~~ beside the sea shore. However the housing, though good is not up to the Vanimo standard. The Rest House and Police are in the centre of the village and occupy very colourful surroundings, with the white sandy paths bordered by ornamental shrubs radiating out from the Resthouse and forming a striking contrast to the green lawns. Several complaints were brought up against the owners of pigs. The Pig sty was inspected and found inadequate and the pig owners were informed that a new sty would have to be erected further from the village and of a more substantial nature.

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YAKO

This village is much smaller than the previous two with only one street but it is well laid out with good houses, each house having a small picket type fence bordered by shrubs. The Resthouse and Police Barracks are large substantial buildings situated at the eastern end of the village.

MUSU

This village is the smallest in the group. The people were not originally beach people but came down to the coast just prior to the war. They are continually shifting their village and many old sites can be seen. The hamlet of Fibi which was once separate is now combined in the one village. The standard of housing is far below the region standard and the site is barren with not much attempt as in the other villages of beautifying it with trees or ornamental shrubs. The Officials mentioned that the natives wished to shift again but this was discouraged and it was pointed out that if they were continually changing the village they could not hope to improve it. The present site seems satisfactory as it is near water and there is a small bay which allows their canoes access to the sea.

WUTUNG

This village is divided into two sections some 300yds apart one being under the control of the Iulual and the other the Tultul. The housing and the general village site is good with the main street bordered by shrubs stretching from the eastern end through both sections and a grove of coconut palms to the Resthouse and Police Barracks situated at the border. Both of these houses are well constructed. From the main thoroughfare runs various other roads to the second line of houses parallel to the main street. In the middle of the village is a very picturesque church constructed out of native material complete with tower.

An Australian ensign was presented to this village because of its position on the Dutch New Guinea border. The Officials were instructed to erect a flagmast and fly the flag each day.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS

For the villages of Vanimo and Warimo the authority in the village appears to be vested in a group of unofficial councilors, with the Government appointed Officials more of a figurehead. The most outstanding councilor is a native called UMPA of Vanimo village a onetime foreman of the Vanimo station labour line. He is well liked by the people and has a good control over the inhabitants of Vanimo village. The chief councilor of Warimo is a man called YABREN, he is another good type but does not have the same influence as UMPA. The same system of village control operates in Wutung but to a lesser degree. They tend to stay in the background and let the Officials bear the brunt of the work. In these villages it would not take the people long to assimilate the running of a council if an official village council was incorporated.

ROADS AND BRIDGES

A good walking road exists from Vanimo Patrol Post to the Dutch New Guinea Border except for two small sections in the track which are located between Yako and Misu and Misu and Wutung.

In the track from Yako to Misu there is a part, approximately 30 mins walk, which skirts a large bluff of coral-line limestone close to the sea edge and ascends and descends very steeply. This section is made difficult to negotiate by the jagged lumps of coral protruding from the surface. Attempts have been made by the natives to improve the surface and widen the road but it is extremely difficult task with the tools they have at their disposal. Between Misu and Wutung is another bad section. The road skirts the coast for a short distance, about 30ft above sea level and passes through coral cliffs; almost caves, then swings inland and climbs to about 500ft over a muddy surface. In the wet season there are many leeches to contend with.

Along the road there are several large rivers to ford, one just after Vanimo village, another near Misu and the third just prior to reaching Wutung. Having bridged or made fords to cross these rivers explosives would be needed before a jeep road could be attempted. As there are several steep sided ridges composed of coralline limestone which run from the Oenake Range perpendicular to the general direction of the coast and rise almost vertically from the coastal plain.

AGRICULTURE.

Sago provides the people with a permanent food source. This fact tends to make the people poor gardeners as there is a plentiful supply so they do not exert themselves in the horticultural field. They have been in the past and are still encouraged to grow native foods. They do cultivate a fair amount of sweet potatoe of various types common to the Vanimo Sub-District; which were described in my Vanimo Patrol Report Van No I 1954-55. Outside crops have been introduced such as chinese cabbage, beans, spring onions and tomatoes. Bananas, pineapples, pawpaws and other native fruits are abundant. Many lime trees have been introduced. Some taro, a little, is grown and one finds occasional yams.

The people of this area are mainly fish-eaters, fish and other types of marine life being plentiful in the surrounding waters, the fringing reefs providing a feeding ground. The waving flares of the "bomber" fisherman at night are a intregal part of the Vanimo scene. They rarely have other sources of meat diet though at times they obtain a few wild pigs. Domestic pigs are not plentiful as the people are not very keen to keep them because of the nuisance they cause in the village. There are a fair number of fowls.

6/

MEDICAL AND HEALTH.

The health of the area visited is good. This I think is due to the fact that the people are clean, well housed, there are no problems of sanitation as the villages are coastal and they have a reasonably balanced diet.

The people are awake to the benefits of the medical treatment provided at the Native Hospital and there is rarely any hesitation in bringing the sick to the Hospital. In this regard they are especially good with their children.

The infant mortality rate would appear to be one of the lowest in the Territory.

MISSIONS

The established mission in the area is the Franciscan. Rev. Fr. Raymond Quirk O.P.M. is the parish priest, a man who is respected and well liked by both Natives and Europeans.

Continued mission influence is gradually removing the last traces of ancient village rituals and customs as the elder folk die and the new generation of missionised natives come into village life.

ANTHROPOLOGICAL (a) Nil

ANTHROPOLOGICAL (b)

A LEGEND OF THE VANIMO PEOPLE.

Once upon a time there lived a large turtle called Mobir, now it was the custom of this turtle to go to a section of the coast known as Wauyu to lay its eggs. The Wauyus, the ancestors of the present Vanimo people, lived nearby and it was the custom of these people to go down to the beach and collect the eggs.

One night one of the Wauyus thought he would be smart and catch the eggs in his hands as Mobir was laying them. However Mobir knew he was there and she quickly grabbed him, tossed him on her back and made for the open sea. They went on their way for a long time and the man became hungry and seeing a coconut floating on the surface he asked Mobir would she go close to it so he could pick it up. Mobir obliged him but once he had the coconut the man did not know how he would break and eat it as he had no knife. He asked Mobir and she told him to husk the coconut and break it open on the back of her shell. This he did.

After traveling for some time Mobir finally went ashore at the place where she lived. With her also lived another turtle called Myu. Both turtles when ashore took the form of woman, Myu being a most beautiful girl. Mobir took the Wauyu man to her house and hid him from the view of Myu by fencing the house in with slabs of "limbam". Now it was the custom both women to sit underneath the house of Mobir to make fishing nets, so one day when Mobir had gone to her garden in the bush Myu took her work along and sat underneath the house. The man hearing the noise below looked down through the floor boards and saw the beautiful girl Myu. He spat down through the floor near her and she immediately looked up to see him and smiled.

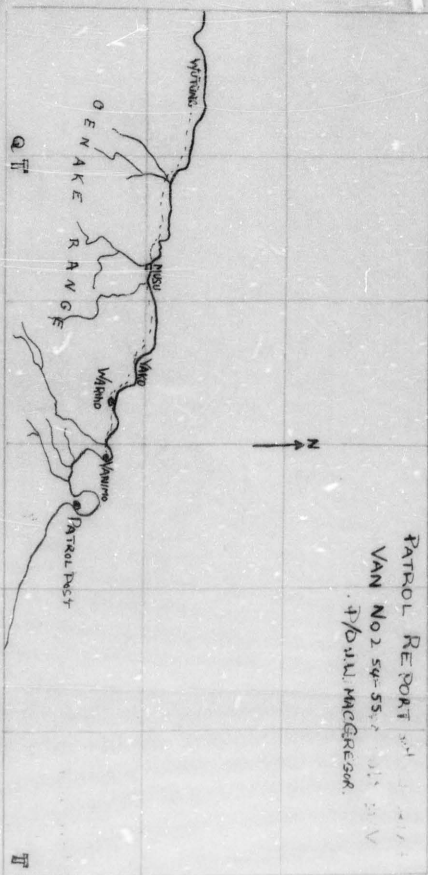
1

ANTHROPOLOGICAL (Contd.)

From then on everytime Mobir went to her garden Miyu and the man from Wauyu carried on an illicit affair. Finally after months passed Miyu became heavy with child and Mobir noticed this and was very angry, she wanted to kill the Wauyu man but Miyu protested and they decided that they would both marry him. The years went by and Miyu produced a boy and a girl but Mobir had no children.

Many years passed and the Wauyu man became homesick for his village, as he was married and had a boy and girl at home. So they all decided to return to Wauyu, both turtles carrying the Wauyu man and the children of Miyu on their backs. When the Wauyu man returned to his village all the people were very surprised as they had given him up for dead, however he told his story and the two children of Miyu became firm friends of the two Wauyu children, they decided to stay at Wauyu when the man and the two turtles returned. When Mobir left she gave both children a turtle shell and told them that if they ever wanted to see their mother and father again they were to don these shells.

J. W. Macgregor
.....
J. W. MACGREGOR Patrol Officer.



PATROL REPORT
 VAN NO. 54-55
 J. D. W. MACGREGOR



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK - AITAPE DISTRICT Report No. VANIMO N° 1 OF 1955/56

Patrol Conducted by B. A. RYAN, P.O.

Area Patrolled VANIMO EAST COAST

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 4 R.P.N.G.C.

Duration - From 19/11/1955 to 1/12/1955

Number of Days 16

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by - District Services / 6 / 1954

Medical ... / / 19

Map Reference ARMY STRET 4 MILES INCH VANIMO

Objects of Patrol ROUTINE NATIVE ADMINISTRATION

CENSUS REVISION

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

30/12 1955

B. A. Ryan
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 £

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

Year. 1055/56

Village Population

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	BIRTHS		DEATHS												MIGRATION				
				0-1 Mth.		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 15				Female in Child Birth		
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			
NINGERA	15.11.55	15	11	2	1					1					2	3	1			
RAWO	17.11.55	3			1	1	1								2	2			1	
PINO	19.11.55	3	3													1			2	2
ISI	21.11.55	6	3							1					2				2	
TARIS	"	2	2												1	1				
NOWACA	"	6	3	2	1										1	2				
PUARI	23.11.55	2													3	5			1	
ONENE	25.11.55	1	2							1					1				2	
PAINU	26.11.55	2	3												1	2				
SARAI	28.11.55	2	3												1					
PUINDU	"	2	4																	
		38	39	4	3	1	1			1	2				10	20	1		9	

This sounds as though we are advancing an illegality which was not a case

It is not up. About now

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

26/1/56 ✓



In Reply
Please Quote
NWEL.P.R.1/55-56/5

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
NEWARK
21st January, 1956

The Director,
Dept of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY

VANIMO P.R. 1/55-56

Reference your NA.30-11-11 of 6/1/56.

As I understand the position:

This sounds as though we are adversely affected illegally. Which may not be case

Part III of the Lands Ordinance precludes the handing over of land from one person to another in the manner described in your Para 7. It is just this that I am trying to guard against. I have observed such "sales" between natives in any parts of the Territory and it is usual, once the land has been developed or personal relationships wear thin for the original owners to demand their land back. As the law stands there is no alternative but to give it back to them for all such contracts or agreements are void.

On the other hand, in cases where the owners express willingness for others to settle permanently on their land, all argument would be nullified if the land were purchased by the Administration in the first instance at a nominal price and leased on a 99 year or lesser term basis to the new settlers.

I quote a nominal price because -

- (1) The owners can spare the land and it is land which they are unlikely to develop in the foreseeable future.
- (2) The owners in most cases express their willingness to give the land to the new occupants for nothing.
- (3) Such a scheme, if widespread, would be beyond the financial resources of the Territory if carried out at normal rates.

The land could be leased to a village group - the membership of which should be established by custom and noted in the transfer document and control vested in the head of each family and passed from generation to generation accordingly. It would be the responsibility of these leaders to uphold the rights and duties of native land customs within the lease.

A normal payment of fees should be made and rent could be reduced to a minimum.

It is apparently not desired to follow this up. In any case legislation something on this aspect is now being prepared. J.P.M. 13/1/56

Improvement qualifications should stipulate a certain number of food bearing trees to be planted and maintained in a set period of time.

The reason for the settlement of inland people along the coastal belt is economic and social, and in the more sparsely settled areas such as Vanimo the experiment could in my opinion be carried out as an example to other areas. In the vicinity of Wewak there is, in some cases, land available, but in other cases only sufficient for buildings. This results in the birth of a landless slum people and it is policy to have the land owners eject such people. It is a separate problem.

A lease document should, apart from routine details, list -

- (1) A complete census of the village
- (2) List of family and or clan elders.
- (3) Describe the laws of the village with regard to land ownership.
- (4) Describe the system of descent inheritance and succession of the village.
- (5) Detail the improvements to be made by way of housing, sanitation, subsistence and cash crop gardens.
- (6) Indicate that forfeitures will take place if improvements are not carried out.

The suggestions listed are not meant to be the be all and end all of land problems, however they represent my basic considered opinions and your comment would be appreciated.

D.R. Marsh

(D.R. Marsh)

DISTRICT OFFICER

6th January, 1956

The District Officer,
Sopik District,
NEWAIA.

PATROL REPORT NO. 1, 55/56 - VANIMO
MR. H.A. RYAN, Patrol Officer.

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the above report. Mr. Ryan's writing is lucid and the report yields a very fair picture of the area patrolled.
2. The east Vanimo coastal strip is a sparsely populated backwater with poor communications. The present proportion of juveniles (approximately 41%) in the group is quite a good omen for the future, and the masculinity rate is not - as yet - excessive. Both these trends will bear watching. A medical inspection over the area would seem to be overdue, and you might direct the District Medical Officer's attention to this, please.
3. The commonest danger in areas such as this is apathy and psychological malaise resulting from virtual stagnation. Mr. Ryan's plans to encourage the planting of coconuts are laudable, but there is no point in waiting for a road first. It should be local policy to step up the planting of nuts wherever possible - nothing is risked, save a little sweat, and the potential benefits are great.
4. The prevailing native practice of planting up communally-owned pieces of land with permanent crops on a vague communal basis, should be modified. Whatever present native ideas may be, the inevitable trend with land under permanent cash crops is towards increasing individualism in tenure. Where individual rights were not defined in the first place, communal plantings can become a fruitful source of future litigation and discontent. This is already occurring in some areas, and its causes must be avoided.
5. Will you please instruct your officers to try and ensure that all communal plantation schemes are based on aggregations of clearly defined individual holdings? It is appreciated that this cannot be done satisfactorily without a survey, which is frequently impracticable. It should also be appreciated that the ultimate aim will be to have communal plantation land vested in a local authority, with individual leases, but this is of necessity a long term aim. The best we can do, under current conditions, is to encourage the plantings of coconuts along plantation lines, but with each individual planter's area being demarcated, however crudely, and recorded on a basis of public agreement.
6. The drift to the coast by hills populations is not altogether administratively desirable, but it cannot be stopped when no sound alternatives are offering. Your view

PA
6/1/56

that such land should be alienated and then leased back to the natives is endorsed, but this is not a matter primarily concerning the Native Lands Commission. The Chief Commissioner (Mr. I. Champion) with whom the matter has been discussed, advises that once the land is alienated he no longer has jurisdiction.

7. Assuming that the coastal land-owners remain willing, the alternatives are either to record an instrument whereby the owners give full rights over a specified area to the hills people (Mr. Champion considers this could cover the situation) or preferably, to have the land alienated and then sub-leased to individual family heads, leaving an area unallocated to provide for the future generation. This latter course involves a fair amount of work and is contingent on the Secretary for Lands being able and willing to finance the purchase.

in blocky

8. The issue represents an interesting test case. Please submit a memo to the Secretary for Lands, through this Headquarters, giving the necessary detail and your reasons for wishing to have the land alienated.

Throughout the South District and I am afraid it in principle unless the land is actually purchased by the Crown and leased to the occupants. To date this has not been the case.

The Assistant Director is requested to get the names of the owners as far as possible to use in the survey. Such as rivers and to state what the owners are in each case. When a record can then be made a working basis for the land is prepared. The views of the Chief Commissioner would be appreciated.

W. H. A. Roberts
Director.

Not willing - see p. 4 para 2 of P.R. 2

While the matter of cash compensation for such a loss in the Yaino area it is not necessary build bridges. The A.D.O. is advised to see my Director in this regard and to concentrate on coastal plantings. It will be several years before these trees are into bearing and so that time roads may have some of the bridges and be contemplated.

The A.D.O. is requested to forward his recommendations and details figures for any villages to consider should be taken to recruiting.

c.c. A.D.O., AITAPE.

C.C. O.I.C., VANIMO.

30/11/56 ✓



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



In Reply
Please Quote

No. P.R.1/55-56
Vanimo.

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

29th December, 1955.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
FORT MORESBY.

VANIMO PATROL REPORT NO.1 OF 1955/56.

Attached please find one copy of
Vanimo Patrol Report Number 1 of 1955/56.

The settlement of inland people on
the coast on land other than their own is common
throughout the Sepik District and I am against it in
principle unless the land is actually purchased by
the Crown and leased to the occupants. To date this
has not been the case.

The Assistant District Officer, Aitape,
is requested to define the boundaries of these new
settlements as far as possible to use natural boundaries
such as rivers and to state who the owners are in each
case. Such a record can then form a working basis if
the land is purchased. The views of the Chief Native
Lands Commissioner would be appreciated, please.

While production of cash crops is at
such a low ebb in the Vanimo area it is not economic to
build bridges. The A.D.O. is advised to ease any pressure
in this regard and to concentrate on coconut planting.
It will be several years before these come into bearing
and by that time roads may have some use and bridges can
be contemplated.

The A.D.O. is requested to forward his
recommendations and census figures for any village he
considers should be closed to recruiting.

I have seen the airstrip at Leitre from
the air and it could possibly be developed as stated by
Mr. Ryan. It is conveniently situated for emergency
purposes.

Mr. Ryan is requested to forward his
camping allowance contingency and a map of the area
patrolled.

D. R. Marsh
.....
D. R. MARSH
a/District Officer



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Vanimo.
P.R. 1/56-56

In Reply
Please Quote

No. 30-1-1 / 10



Sub-district Office,
AITAPE,
Sepik District.

19th December, 1955.

The District Officer,
District Headquarters,
Sepik District.
WEWAK.

VANIMO PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1955 / 56.

I forward herewith two copies of the above report.

There appears to be no shortage of land in the Vanimo area and much in favour of the migration of the scattered inland groups to the coast. Any transfer of land would probably be subject to the provisions of the Transfer of Land Control Ordinance, 1951. No doubt some payment has been made to the owners in most cases for the rights to use the land.

As Mr Ryan states the problems that have to be surmounted in road construction in the area are the sparse population and the bridging of rivers. I do not consider a ferry on the Pual River would be satisfactory. The Raihu River at Aitape presents a similar problem and ferries in the past have proved most unsatisfactory other than for pedestrian traffic.

Any road construction in the area should, I consider, commence from Vanimo and work out towards the Pual. The existing road could be improved somewhat and bridges constructed where necessary.

At the moment it seems most unwise to commence any road construction in the Sissano area. The Aitape resources are now fully committed on the Bes, Karaitem and Kapoam sections and I have found in the past that much effort and energy is wasted if construction is not carefully guided. The inland waterway provides sufficient contact between the Ialingi River road and Sissano.

I have requested the O.I.C, Vanimo, to encourage coconut planting in all areas and to emphasize the care that is required to ensure the nuts are not planted too closely.

W.T. Brown. a/ADO

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT VANIMO No. 1 of 55-56

Conducted by B.A. RYAN P.O.

Area Patrolled Vanimo East Coast.

Duration 16 days

Objects of Patrol. Routine native administration
Census revision.

Last Patrol March 1954 by Mr. A.D.O. Williams.

Accompanied by Four members R.F.N.G.C.

Map Reference Army Strat., Series 4 miles to 1 inch
Vanimo sheet.

15th November. Inspected KIMBI village and district to general conditions.

17th November. Visited MIMODIA village. At 1200 hours and returned at 1300 hours. Road good but very hot in places.

18th November. At RAKI village. Inspection and general notes re conditions.

19th November. Patrol proceeded to KIMBI village. District conditions walking.

20th November. District conditions.

21st November. District conditions at KIMBI, RAKI and MIMODIA villages. At 1200 hours.

22nd November. District conditions at KIMBI village. Road good.

23rd November. District conditions at KIMBI village. Road good.

24th November. District conditions at KIMBI village. Road good.

25th November. District conditions at KIMBI village. Road good.

26th November. District conditions at KIMBI village. Road good.

27th November. District conditions at KIMBI village. Road good.

28th November. District conditions at KIMBI village. Road good.

29th November. District conditions at KIMBI village. Road good.

30th November. District conditions at KIMBI village. Road good.

Patrol Report No. 1 of 1954/56

INTRODUCTION. This patrol, the first carried out by this Officer since taking over charge of this Station, was a general routine Patrol and the first of two planned for 1955. The second, to be commenced in about one weeks time will complete the Census revision of the coastal villages in the Vanimo area.

The East Coast of Vanimo is a pleasant area though somewhat backward with regard to economic development. A desire to improve was noticeable but little desire for hard work was evinced. Perhaps this is but natural. The walking roads are good, though at times hot and tiring where they follow the beach sand.

No untoward incidents were reported and the Patrol met with a very favourable reception.

DIARY.

- 15th November. Patrol left Vanimo Station at 0705 hours and arrived at NINGERA village at 1030 hours. Census revised.
- 16th November. Inspected NINGERA village and advised on general problems.
- 17th November. Departed NINGERA village at 0700 hours and arrived at RAWO village at 1200 hours. Road good but very hot in places
Census revised
- 18th November. At RAWO village. Inspection and general advice re sanitation
- 19th November. Patrol proceeded to PINO village. Fifty minutes walking.
Census revised.
- 20th November. Sunday. Observed.
- 21st November. Revised census at TARIK, NOVAGA and ISI villages. All these villages and PINO are within thirty minutes walk on one another.
- 22nd November. Walked to PUARI village. Two hours pleasant walk. Heavy rain.
- 23rd November. At PUARI village. Census revised.
- 24th November. Patrol departed PUARI village and reached OHENG village after four hours walking. Road good except where it crosses the Serra Headlands.
- 25th November. Revised census at OHENG village.
- 26th November. Left OHENG at 0330 hours to take advantage of low tide and enable the Patrol to circumnavigate the bad road over

DIARY (Cont.) some of the ridges. Arrived at PUNDU at 0555 hours. Twenty minutes to RAINU and a further twenty to SARAI. Slept at RAINU as this is the only SEREA hamlet with a best house. RAINU census revised.

27th November. Sunday. Observed.

28th November. Census revised at both PUNDU and SARAI. All hamlets inspected.

29th November. Departed SEREA 0600 hours arrived ~~XXX~~ LEITRE Mission 1800 hrs. Two hours waiting for river to subside.

30th November. To NINGERA. Seven hours walk.

1st December. To Station four hours.

VILLAGES and HOUSING. In general the villages are pleasant places. None over hygienic perhaps but were all the villages in this District as good a vast improvement would be noted. All are well laid out, due mainly to previous Officer's work and the help and interest given them by the native KIAMA of VANIMO village. Most of the villages have flowers lining the streets and surrounding the houses. Many cuttings and seeds were obtained from these for planting around the new Officer's residence at Vanimo. A great tendency in the past has been to remove all grass from the villages. The resulting bare sand is rather hot and all were encouraged to let the grass grow and keep it cut short.

Nearly all the houses were of good design but old. They have been built for over four years and little work has been done to keep them in repair. The natives themselves realize that they are due for a major repair drive, but work on the new hospital has, they say, prevented this. As these people did not send very many men to help the construction squads I feel that perhaps lethargy has had more to do with the non-maintenance than hard work elsewhere. But my policy on this Patrol, and indeed throughout the area, was to inspect and clearly define the necessary work. Where possible orders under the N.A.R. were issued and entered in the Village books. A time limit was put on some of the more urgent work. On the follow-up Patrol, planned for about four months hence after the rest of the Vanimo area has been Patrolled, close attention will be paid to the spirit in which these instructions have been carried out.

In each village it was suggested that the Officials form

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VILLAGES and HOUSING (Cont.). form themselves into a "Uniform buildings Committees" to ensure that the new houses constructed fit in with the layout of the village, are of good design and built only of first class materials. It is hoped in this way to prevent the hurried erection of small ill built houses to comply with my instructions. It was stressed that due consideration would be given to reasonable excuses as to why work was not carried out, though it felt that the time allowed, up to six months in some cases, is ample for the proposed work. Also that it is better to take some time to put a good house in preference to rushing up poor houses every year or so. No doubt there will be many many reasons offered to the next Patrol but at least they will not be under any doubt as to the work to be done.

More shade trees were encouraged in most villages as they are all very open to the insore winds. These do great damage at times. During the storm at PUARI two houses were blown down. Fortunately no one was in them at the time. Drainage at most places is rudimentary, particularly at PUARI. Drain drains were marked out where needed and instructions issued that these were to be dug and kept clean. On the return journey this work was well under way.

The rest houses in the villages were quite adequate but not outstanding. The Officials were all "just about to build a new one when we heard you were coming". As the houses are good enough for the six days a year that it will be possible to spend in them the people were asked to carry out only urgent repairs until their own houses were all in order.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

A most interesting situation exists along this coast with the rather recent migration of several inland groups to the coast. From a total population of 1215, 548 are from former bush peoples. They have filled in the large gaps that formerly existed on this coast between Vanimo Station the LEITRE group and the SERRA group. They can give no reason for this move but all seemed satisfied that it was a good one. HINGERA is the only prewar migration and these people are obviously more at home on the beach than the later arrivals. RANO, half of NOUAGA, PUARI and ONENG are as yet not fully acclimatized. ONENG which is made up of No.2 and No.3 MORI seem the least conversant with coastal methods. In fact one group MORI No.1 are still living on the old grounds.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.) The advantage of canoes was pointed out to these people and the coastal people agreed to teach the newcomers how to make and sail canoes. An important supplement to their diet, fish, will be available to these people as soon as they can manage canoes. There are no reefs on this coast and all fishing is done well out to sea.

Surprisingly little litigation seems to have resulted from these migrations. This no doubt due mainly to the large vacant spaces they have occupied. However I did have one case at HOWABA village. HOWABA is made up of LEITRE people and a rather larger proportion of formerly POKA people who form the POKA hamlet. Some children of LEITRE had killed the pet cassowary of a POKA man. As he has only one leg and was keeping the bird for food he claimed damages. The LEITRE people counter claimed against four POKA men for cutting sago that did not belong to them. In no time at all all the pent up feelings were loosed and a first class dispute looked like developing. I adjourned the hearing until the following day and, with tempers somewhat more under control, the matter was settled amicably. The POKA people agreed not to cut any more sago that had been expressly reserved for the LEITRES. As the POKA people are numerically superior to the LEITRES they did not wish to claim without the presence of a Government Officer, for fear the POKAs would fight. It seemed to me that this would be unlikely and that it was only an excuse for not informing the O.I.C. Vanimo earlier.

The land has not been bought or given these people but only right of occupancy. I feel that this is rather unsatisfactory as at any time the LEITRE people can decide that the POKAs would be better back where they came from. The POKA people are quite willing to buy the land but the LEITRE people do not wish to sell. They say "all men are brothers and should share and share alike". This is a very noble attitude no doubt but in view of the above dispute I feel that some agreement should be made if the hinterlanders are to have any security of tenure. The two groups have agreed to discuss this and the follow-up Patrol will see what progress has been made.

Two natives from ISI are reported to have gone to Hollandia in Dutch New Guinea about two years ago to buy some nails. Their people say that a storm prevented them returning and that they have decided to remain there. Their names are LAI'I and ABU. Also one native from PUBARI village is now a permanent resident of D.N.G. The Officials of PUBARI requested permission to go and ask him to return. As he has been there about

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NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.). fifteen years it was pointed out that even had I power to grant permission it was most unlikely that the man would want to return. The Lulual agreed but expressed regret that he was unable to go and see Hollandia.

The PUARI people are blamed for all manner of unpleasant happening on the coast. Should a bad rain or wind spring, the rest of the people and particularly the LENTEE people say the PUARI's have sent it. This seems to spring from the rumour, correct or not I cannot say, that the PUARI's ate human flesh quite recently. True or not the single PUARI man keeps very much to himself and minds his ps and qs while in another village.

No major disputes were encountered. Lots of small troubles were straggled out in each village. Three natives were sentenced to gaol terms of one month. All were cases of assault.

ROADS and COMMUNICATIONS.

The road to SERRA is an old German road and for seventy per cent. of its length is a good jeep road. There are no bridges at all and this seems to be the only reason that it can not be used by jeeps. It is intended to start on the bridges straight after Christmas. The bridges will be long and it may be necessary to detour the road inland at each bridge. But only a few hundred yards. For some distance the road follows the beach sands. It will be necessary to find a new path in these spots as the sand is very loose.

The PUAL river on the East side of NINGERRA village will present a problem. Without large funds and an engineer I think the thought of a bridge must be dismissed. But there seems no reason why a drum raft ferry would not serve as well. The present Government ferryman is a lazy native indeed. He was informed that the Government did not pay him and provide him with a canoe for his own private use. If there are more complaints from natives, who sometimes wait a full day and night for him, he will be removed. The difficulty is that the NINGERRA people are not used to canoes and a man who can handle the ferry will be hard to find.

Across the PUAL the road is reported to be subject to minor flooding. This does not seem to me very serious as for the most part the road follows the side of a slight hill and could be drained.

From PUARI to SERRA the road will have to swing inland

ROADS and COMMUNICATIONS (Cont.), as it crosses the SEBRA Headlands.

The native path is fit only for mountain goats and is solid stone. I believe that there is an inland road that connects PUARI with SIAMMO, and will make every effort to locate this and inspect it on the Patrol that will take me through that area.

In all, there seems no reason why there should not be a jeep road to SIBBANO. It will not be easy as the population is small but given keen encouragement the natives would become keen and provide the labour and most of the materials.

There is a airstrip at LEITRE. As yet it has never been used. The specifications are. Width 200ft. Length c.880 yds and capable of extension. ^{End} ~~YAKYKI~~ clearance on the West end good. On the east about one in thirty but capable of improvement. Lateral clearances good. Markers Nil. Surface grass over sand. This surface seems quite firm to walk on but it was possible to push a walking stick about nine inches into it with only ~~moderate~~ a little more than moderate effort. But two inches of rain had fallen in the past twelve hours. No wind sock.

This strip is native built under the direction of the Mission at LEITRE. Both Father Amoretti and the natives are disappointed that there has been no plane to land on it. It is my opinion that it is well worth inspection by the appropriate authorities, even if only approved as an emergency landing ground. The natives were encouraged to help the Mission improve and maintain this strip.

Though it is possible to use canoes to travel to SEBRA in the "south West" season the beach is terribly exposed and boats are out of the question unless they are small enough to beach at each village. It would be impossible to beach and launch even a dingy at this time of the year at most villages.

SCHOOLS and MISSIONS.

The only Mission and the only school, other than village schools, are at LEITRE. Father J. G. Amoretti O.F.M. is in charge of this Mission and is the only European at LEITRE. In the eighteen months that this Mission has been established at LEITRE much has been done.

While it is perhaps early yet to assess the influence it did strike me that the natives, while not hostile to the Mission

MISSION and SCHOOLS (Cont.) were rather apathetic. On the other hand an airstrip, house, school and large church have all been constructed in within two years. No mean achievement.

The school seemed well attended. When I visited it and gave the students a little talk encouraging them to attend school, I counted one hundred and five boys and girls. The LEITE group only number about six hundred all told. English is one of the subjects taught.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

On the East Coast of this area little other than native sustenance planting is carried out. This seems quite ample for the native villagers although some of the more recently established villages have none of the more long maturing crops close to the present village sites.

The Mission at LEITE has introduced a better breed of pig in that area. When these pigs have multiplied somewhat the villages who at present have none of these breeding animals, have been encouraged to buy at least a male and a female from this stock to improve their own domesticated wild pigs.

It is intended that as the road is constructed to these villages, coconuts will be planted, thus giving these people a more solid economic basis.

CENSUS REVISION.

From a population of 1435 the increase in about eighteen months was only 26, giving a new total of 1213. This hardly seems enough. The distribution of males females and children seems quite normal though a large number of childless couples were encountered. This was most marked in PUARI and ONSING villages. Also there seems to be a marked shortage of young men and woman in the seventeen to twenty group.

The LEITE group PINO, ISI, SAKIS and NOWAGA are over-recruited. This appears to have taken place in the last six months. Little can now be done about this but any further recruiters will be requested not to remove natives from this area. There is more than enough work for all in the villages, to say nothing of the extra requirements of both the Government and Mission.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955/56.

Appendix "C".

Anthropological.

A Nil

B Nil.

Owing to my very recent arrival at this Station I am hesitant to commit myself until I have further investigated and perhaps gained more confidence with the people.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955/56.

Appendix "D".

Village Officials.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Lulusi</u>	<u>Tul Tul</u>	<u>M.T.T.</u>	
MINGERA	BENGWAI	BOSUMA	WAIYU	All fairly poor, mainly I think in that they had little idea of their duties. These have been explained to them and the villagers and it was also pointed out that the Gov. would back the Officials in their lawful instructions.
RAWO	MASU	WINI	IENDU	
PILO	TAVI	PAHO	DIRI	
ISI	IAMO	WACRI		
POWAGA	KALANGI	IBRAWEI	BOSO	
TARIS	ANIS	"	"	
PUARI	SEMBIKI	SIPO	-	
ONENO	YAPRI	SIPO	YARI	
RAINU	PRIMA	MONAI	PINI	
SARAI	SIPAI	ANDIN	RODA	
PUNDU	IAMA	TOU	BOIRAU	

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955/56.

Appendix "E".

Map Reference. As the localities of the various villages are in many cases miles away to their position on the map a complete list of map References are given. The Map is the Vanimo Sheet Army Sbrut. Series. 4 MILLS = 1 INCH

NINGERA QZ 8899 RAWO QZ 0391 PINO QZ 0089 ISI QZ 1088
NOWAGA QZ 1289 TARIS QZ 1188 PUARI QZ 2382 ONENG QZ 3377
RAINU QZ 4373 SARAI QZ 4573 PUIINDU QZ 4173

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955/56

Appendix "F"

Alienated Land. No land other than the native owned land was seen on this Patrol.

Register

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955/56.

VANIMO EAST COAST

REG. NO.	NAME	RANK	STATUS	LABOUR POTENTIAL		FUTURE	TOTAL	
				Male	Female		Child	Adult
Appendix "g".								
Police.	Four Members of the R.P.N.G.C. accompanied the Patrol and worked very well under the direction of L/Cpl. KORIN.							
Reg No. 3431	L/Cpl KORIN.							
Reg No. 8335	Const. KINSAVE.							
Reg No. 8991	Const. WASINAU.							
Reg No. 7349	Const. MAKANDA.							

The Senior N.C.O. at Vanimo. He is an excellent Policeman who regards his duty as far more than the arresting of wrongdoers. Has a very pleasant manner with all natives but can on occasion rise to withering comments to members of his detachment who commit faults in conduct. It is intended to send him for a refresher course when he returns from his nearly due leave.

A fairly experienced man who is willing and quite able. He lacks the drive to ever become an N.C.O. but is nevertheless a very useful member of the detachment.

A young new member who has had few advantages in his childhood of observing Police methods. He is a Telefolmin. He is always willing and cheerful but makes many mistakes. All are due to his ignorance, but he makes little real effort to overcome them. Appears that the difficulty may be he does not yet understand pidgin as well as most Police.

An average policeman whose main task in the past seems to have been to provide for the cooking pot. While undoubtedly a fine shot and provider seemed a little upset when asked to perform more regular police duties. Shaped quite well though after being taken in hand by L/Cpl. KORIN.

tion Register

Area Patrolled...VANIMO EAST COAST.

DONS		ABSENT FROM VILLAGE AT WORK						STUDENTS				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES		Average Size of Family	TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL
Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission		Males		Females		Pregnant	Number Breast Feeding Infants	M	F		Child		Adults		
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45									M	F
	7	3	2	7						4	35	8	26	4	25	2	36	35	27	32	172		
2	3			5						6	21	9	28	2	24	2	14	18	19	37	93		
	1			10						8	27	5	24	2	24	2	22	24	19	29	104		
	1	2	1	9		1		2		9	21	3	18	1	18	2	22	18	13	21	89		
	2	1		5						3	13	3	11	1	11	2	14	15	11	13	59		
4	3	1		29	3					17	51	8	60	5	60	3	52	41	30	64	220		
		1		7						12	42	7	39		39	1	43	15	50	52	148		
										5	17	6	20		14	1	6	12	25	22	65		
					4					4	17	6	9		9	15	12	17	19	15	67		
					3				1	11	27	9	21		21	2	33	33	34	25	124		
					3					3	23	7	21		20	15	19	25	23	27	97		

6 21 8 3 82 3 1 2 1 8 294 71 298 14 286 253 253 270 337 1213



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK - AITAPE S/DISTRICT Report No. VANIMO N°1 of 1955/56

Patrol Conducted by B. A. RYAN P.O.

Area Patrolled VANIMO EAST COAST.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 4 TRANG.C.

Duration—From 15 / 11 / 1955 to 1 / 12 / 1956

Number of Days 16

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 6 / 1954

Medical ... 1 / 19

Map Reference ROUTINE NATIVE ADMINISTRATION.

Objects of Patrol CENSUS REVISION

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ 19

District Commissioner

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

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

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

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

FILE 3111

MEMO RYAN.

30-1-1

xx NA.30-11-11

6th January, 1956

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL REPORT NO. 1, 55/56 - VANIMO
MR. E.A. RYAN, Patrol Officer.

1. Receipt is acknowledged of the above report. Mr. Ryan's writing is lucid and the report yields a very fair picture of the area patrolled.
2. The east Vanimo coastal strip is a sparsely populated backwater with poor communications. The present proportion of juveniles (approximately 41%) in the group is quite a good omen for the future, and the masculinity rate is not - as yet - excessive. Both these trends will bear watching. A medical inspection over the area would seem to be overdue, and you might direct the District Medical Officer's attention to this, please.
3. The commonest danger in areas such as this is apathy and psychological malaise resulting from virtual stagnation. Mr. Ryan's plans to encourage the planting of coconuts are laudable, but there is no point in waiting for a road first. It should be local policy to step up the planting of nuts wherever possible - nothing is risked, save a little sweat, and the potential benefits are great.
4. The prevailing native practice of planting up communally-owned pieces of land with permanent crops on a vague communal basis, should be modified. Whatever present native ideas may be, the inevitable trend with land under permanent cash crops is towards increasing individualism in tenure. Where individual rights were not defined in the first place, communal plantings can become a fruitful source of future litigation and discontent. This is already occurring in some areas, and its causes must be avoided.
5. Will you please instruct your officers to try and ensure that all communal plantation schemes are based on aggregations of clearly defined individual holdings? It is appreciated that this cannot be done satisfactorily without a survey, which is frequently impracticable. It should also be appreciated that the ultimate aim will be to have communal plantation land vested in a local authority, with individual leases, but this is of necessity a long term aim. The best we can do, under current conditions, is to encourage the plantings of coconuts along plantation lines, but with each individual planter's area being demarcated, however crudely, and recorded on a basis of public agreement.
6. The drift to the coast by hills populations is not altogether administratively desirable, but it cannot be stopped when no sound alternatives are offering. Your view

that such land should be alienated and then leased back to the natives is endorsed, but this is not a matter primarily concerning the Native Lands Commission. The Chief Commissioner (Mr. I. Champion) with whom the matter has been discussed, advises that once the land is alienated he no longer has jurisdiction.

7. Assuming that the coastal land-owners remain willing, the alternatives are either to record an instrument whereby the owners give full rights over a specified area to the hills people (Mr. Champion considers this could cover the situation) or preferably, to have the land alienated and then sub-leased to individual family heads, leaving an area unallocated to provide for the future generation. This latter course involves a fair amount of work and is contingent on the Secretary for Lands being able and willing to finance the purchase.

in block

8. The issue represents an interesting test case. Please submit a memo to the Secretary for Lands, through this Headquarters, giving the necessary detail and your reasons for wishing to have the land alienated.

AAK
A.A. Roberts)
Director.

[Signature]
Director

→ c.c. A.D.O.,AITAPE.

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply
Please Quote

No.

P.R. 1/55-56

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

29th December, 1955.

The Assistant District Officer,
Sepik District,
AITAPE.

The attached comments are forwarded for your information and necessary action. Please advise Mr. Ryan to make triangular marking wires 30' x 30' x 30' for each village in order that coconuts can be properly lined.

I am not impressed with the exodus of inland people to the coast - the idea is extremely short sighted and should be discouraged. The Wewak Sub-District has this problem on a larger scale and its solution becomes harder as time goes by. Apart from the fact that their own lands become neglected the planting of permanent food trees on the coastal land will ultimately cause the owners to eject the inland people when they start bearing. It is basic policy that all natives should be landowners and that they should protect their rights of ownership by useage.

.....
D. R. MARSH
a/District Officer.

P.R. 1/55-56

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Sepik District,
WEWAK.

29th December, 1955.

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.....
D. R. MARSH
s/District Officer.

P.R.1/55-56
Vanimo.

District Headquarters,
Serik District,
WEWAK.

29th December, 1955.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESEY.

VANIMO PATROL REPORT NO.1 OF 1955/56.

Attached please find one copy of
Vanimo Patrol Report Number 1 of 1955/56.

The settlement of inland people on
the coast on land other than their own is common
throughout the Serik District and I am against it in
principle unless the land is actually purchased by
the Crown and leased to the occupants. To date this
has not been the case.

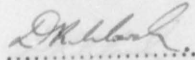
The Assistant District Officer, Aitape,
is requested to define the boundaries of these new
settlements as far as possible to use natural boundaries
such as rivers and to state who the owners are in each
case. Such a record can then form a working basis if
the land is purchased. The views of the Chief Native
Lands Commissioner would be appreciated, please.

While production of cash crops is at
such a low ebb in the Vanimo area it is not economic to
build bridges. The A.D.O. is advised to ease any pressure
in this regard and to concentrate on coconut planting.
It will be several years before these come into bearing
and by that time roads may have some use and bridges can
be contemplated.

The A.D.O. is requested to forward his
recommendations and census figures for any village he
considers should be closed to recruiting.

I have seen the airstrip at Leitre from
the air and it could possibly be developed as stated by
Mr. Ryan. It is conveniently situated for emergency
purposes.

Mr. Ryan is requested to forward his
camping allowance contingency and a map of the area
patrolled.


.....
D. R. MARSH
a/District Officer

P.R.1/55-56
Vanimo.

District Headquarters,
Senik District,
NEWAY.

29th December, 1955.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

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Mr. Ryan is requested to forward his
camping allowance contingency and a map of the area
patrolled.

D. R. MARSU
.....
D. R. MARSU
District Officer

The District Officer,
District Headquarters,
Sepik District.

Sepik District .

19th December, 1955.

The District Officer,
District Headquarters,
Sepik District .
W.E.W.A.K.

VANIMO PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1955 / 55 .

I forward herewith two copies of the above report .

There appears to be no shortage of land in the Vanimo area and much in favour of the migration of the scattered inland groups to the coast . Any transfer of land would probably be subject to the provisions of the Transfer of Land Control Ordinance, 1951 . No doubt some payment has been made to the owners in most cases for the rights to use the land .

As Mr Ryan states the problems that have to be surmounted in road construction in the area are the sparse population and the bridging of rivers . I do not consider a ferry on the Pual River would be satisfactory . The Raihu River at Aitape presents a similar problem and ferries in the past have proved most unsatisfactory other than for pedestrian traffic .

Any road construction in the area should, I consider, commence from Vanimo and work out towards the Pual . The existing road could be improved somewhat and bridges constructed where necessary .

At the moment it seems most unwise to commence any road construction in the Sissano area . The Aitape resources are now fully committed on the Bes , Karaiten and Kapoan sections and I have found in the past that much effort and energy is wasted if construction is not carefully guided . The inland waterway provides sufficient contact between the Ialingi River road and Sissano .

I have requested the O.I.C , Vanimo , to encourage coconut planting in all areas and to emphasize the care that is required to ensure the nuts are not planted too closely .

W.T.Brown. a/ADO

Patrol Post
Vanimo.

14th December.

The Assistant District Officer,
Sub-District Headquarters,
AITAPE.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955/56.

Herewith three copies of the above report for your comments and further action please.

The delay in submitting is regreted and also the fact that there are no covers available on this Station. Could a supply be forwarded please if stocks at Aitape permit this.

Barry A. Ryan

Barry A. Ryan P.O.
O.I.C. Vanimo.

Bill, delay due to my ill health. Part cold and part unknown. Excuse only one copy but this is sent in from Patrol up the West Coast.

W. Ryan

- 24
25
26

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT VANIMO No. 1 of 55-56

Conducted by	B.A. RYAN P.O.
Area Patrolled	Vanimo East Coast.
Duration	16 days
Objects of Patrol.	Routine native administration Census revision.
Last Patrol	March 1954 by Mr. A.D.O. Williams.
Accompanied by	Four members R.P.N.C.C.
Map Reference	AMEY Strat, Series 4 miles to 1 inch Vanimo sheet.

Patrol Report No. 1 of 1954/56

INTRODUCTION. This patrol, the first carried out by this Officer since taking over charge of this Station, was a general routine Patrol and the first of two planned for 1955. The second, to be commenced in about one weeks time will complete the Census revision of the coastal villages in the Vanimo area.

The East Coast of Vanimo is a pleasant area though somewhat backward with regard to economic development. A desire to improve was noticeable but little desire for hard work was evinced. Perhaps this is but natural. The walking roads are good, though at times hot and tiring where they follow the beach sand.

No untoward incidents were reported and the Patrol met with a very favourable reception.

DIARY.

- 15th November. Patrol left Vanimo Station at 0705 hours and arrived at NINGERA village at 1030 hours. Census revised.
- 16th November. Inspected NINGERA village and advised on general problems.
- 17th November. Departed NINGERA village at 0700 hours and arrived at RAWO village at 1200 hours. Road good but very hot in places
Census revised
- 18th November. At RAWO village. Inspection and general advice re sanitation
- 19th November. Patrol proceeded to PINGO village. Fifty minutes walking.
Census revised.
- 20th November. Sunday. Observed.
- 21st November. Revised census at TARIS, NOWAGA and ISI villages. All these villages and PINGO are within thirty minutes walk on one another.
- 22nd November. Walked to PUANI village. Two hours pleasant walk. Heavy rain.
- 23rd November. At PUANI village. Census revised.
- 24th November. Patrol departed PUANI village and reached ONING village after four hours walking. Road good except where it crosses the Serra Headlands.
- 25th November. Revised census at ONING village.
- 26th November. Left ONING at 0330 hours to take advantage of low tide and enable the Patrol to circumnavigate the bad road over

DIARY (Cont.) some of the ridges. Arrived at PUIDU at 0556 hours. Twenty minutes to RAINU and a further twenty to SARAI. Slept at RAINU as this is the only SERBA hamlet with a rest house. RAINU census revised.

27th November. Sunday. Observed.

28th November. Census revised at both PUIDU and SARAI. All hamlets inspected.

29th November. Departed SERBA 0600 hours arrived KKKI LAITRE Mission 1200 hrs. Two hours waiting for river to subside.

30th November. To NIKHEDA. Seven hours walk.

1st December. To Station four hours.

VILLAGES and HOUSING. In general the villages are clean pleasant places. None over hygienic perhaps but were all the villages in this District as good a vast improvement would be noted. All are well laid out, due mainly to previous Officer's work and the help and interest given them by the native KIAMA of VANISO village. Most of the villages have flowers lining the streets and surrounding the houses. Many cuttings and seeds were obtained from these for planting around the new Officer's residence at Vaniso. A great tendency in the past has been to remove all grass from the villages. The resulting bare sand is rather hot and all were encouraged to let the grass grow and keep it cut short.

Nearly all the houses were of good design but old. They have been built for over four years and little work has been done to keep them in repair. The natives themselves realize that they are due for a major repair drive, but work on the new hospital has, they say, prevented this. As these people did not send very many men to help the construction squads I feel that perhaps lethargy has had more to do with the non-maintenance than hard work elsewhere. But my policy on this Patrol, and indeed throughout the area, was to inspect and clearly define the necessary work. Where possible orders under the N.A.S. were issued and entered in the Village books. A time limit was put on some of the more urgent work. On the follow-up Patrol, planned for about four months hence after the rest of the Vaniso area has been Patrolled, close attention will be paid to the spirit in which these instructions have been carried out.

In each village it was suggested that the Officials form

Ahsarakur ~~and~~

VILLAGES and HOUSING (Cont.), form themselves into a "Uniform Buildings Committee" to ensure that the new houses constructed fit in with the layout of the village, are of good design and built only of first class materials. It is hoped in this way to prevent the hurried erection of small ill built houses to comply with my instructions. It was stressed that due consideration would be given to reasonable excuses as to why work was not carried out, though it felt that the time allowed, up to six months in some cases, is ample for the proposed work. Also that it is better to take some time to put up a good house in preference to rushing up poor houses every year or so. No doubt there will be many many reasons offered to the next Patrol but at least they will not be under any doubt as to the work to be done.

More shade trees were encouraged in most villages as they are all very open to the inshore winds. These do great damage at times. During the storm at PUARI two houses were blown down. Fortunately no one was in them at the time. Drainage at most places is rudimentary, particularly at PUARI. ~~Next~~ Drains were marked out where needed and instructions issued that these were to be dug and kept clean. On the return journey this work was well under way.

The rest houses in the villages were quite adequate but not outstanding. The Officials were all "just about to build a new one when we heard you were coming". As the houses are good enough for the six days a year that it will be possible to spend in them the people were asked to carry out only urgent repairs until their own houses were all in order.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

A most interesting situation exists along this coast with the rather recent migration of several inland groups to the coast. From a total population of 1213, 548 are from former bush peoples. They have filled in the large gaps that formerly existed on this coast between VANIMO and the LEITHE group and the SERUA group. They can give no reason for this move but all seemed satisfied that it was a good one. MINERA is the only prewar migration and these people are obviously more at home on the beach than the later arrivals. RABO, half of NOWAGA, PUARI and OHING are as yet not fully acclimatised. OHING which is made up of No.2 and No.3 MOREI seem the least conversant with coastal methods. In fact one group MOREI No.1 are still living on the old grounds.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.) The advantage of canoes was pointed out to these people and the coastal people agreed to teach the newcomers how to make and sail canoes. An important supplement to their diet, fish, will be available to these people as soon as they can manage canoes. There are no reefs on this coast and all fishing is done well out to sea.

Surprisingly little litigation seems to have resulted from these migrations. This no doubt due mainly to the large vacant spaces they have occupied. However I did have one case at NOWAGA village. NOWAGA is made up of LEITRE people and a rather larger proportion of formerly bush people who form the POKA hamlet. Some children of LEITRE had killed the pet cassowary of a POKA man. As he has only one leg and was keeping the bird for food he claimed damages. The LEITRE people counter claimed against four POKA men for cutting sago that did not belong to them. In no time at all all the pent up feelings were loosed and a first class dispute looked like developing. I adjourned the hearing until the following day and, with tempers somewhat more under control, the matter was settled amicably. The POKA people agreed not to cut any more sago that had been expressly reserved for the LEITRE. As the POKA people are numerically superior to the LEITRE they did not wish to claim without the presence of a Government Officer, for if the POKAS would fight. It seemed to me that this would be unlikely and that it was only an excuse for not informing the O.I.C. Vanimo earlier.

The land has not been bought or given these people but right of occupancy. I feel that this is rather unsatisfactory as at any time the LEITRE people can decide that the POKAS would be better back where they came from. The POKA people are quite willing to buy the land but the LEITRE people do not wish to sell. They say "all men are brothers and should live and share alike". This is a very noble attitude no doubt but in view of the above dispute I feel that some agreement should be made if the hinterland is to have any security of tenure. The two groups have agreed to discuss this and the follow-up Patrol will see what progress has been made.

Two natives from EBI are reported to have gone to Holland in Dutch New Guinea about two years ago to buy some nails. Their people say that a storm prevented them returning and that they have decided to remain there. Their names are LAI'I and ABB. Also one native from a village is now a permanent resident of N.G. The Officials of F.M.S. had permission to go and ask him to return. As he has been there for

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.). fifteen years it was pointed out that even had I power to grant permission it was most unlikely that the man would want to return. The Luluai agreed but expressed regret that he was unable to go and see Hollandia.

The PUARI people are blamed for all manner of unpleasant happening on the coast. Should a bad rain or wind spring the rest of the people and particularly the KEITHE people say the PUARI's have sent it. This seems to spring from the rumour, correct or not I cannot say, they the PUARI ate human flesh quite recently. True or not the single PUARI man keeps very much to himself and minds hisps and qs while in another village.

No major disputes were encountered. Hosts of small troubles were straightened out in each village. Three natives were sentenced to gaol terms of one month. All were cases of assault.

ROADS and COMMUNICATIONS.

The road to SERRA is an old German road and for seventy per cent. of its length is a good jeep road. There are no bridges at all and this seems to be the only reason that it can not be used by jeeps. It is intended to start on the bridges straight after Christmas. The bridges will be long and it may be necessary to detour the road inland at each bridge. But only a few hundred yards. For some distance the road follows the beach sands. It will be necessary to find a new path in these spots as the sand is very loose.

The PUAL river on the East side of HINGERA village will present a problem. Without large funds and an engineer I think the thought of a gridge must be dismissed. But there seems no reason why a drum raft ferry would not serve as well. The present Government ferryman is a lazy native indeed. He was informed that the Government did not pay him and provide him with a canoe for his own private use. If there are more complaints from natives, who sometimes wait a full day and night for him, he will be removed. The difficulty is that the HINGERA people are not used to canoes and a man who can handle the ferry will be hard to find.

Across the PUAL the road is reported to be subject to minor flooding. This does not seem to me very serious as for the most part the road follows the side of a slight hill and could be drained.

FROM PUARI to SERRA the road will have to swing inland

ROADS and COMMUNICATIONS (Cont.), as it crosses the SERPA Headlands. The native path is fit only for mountain goats and in solid stone. I ~~think~~ believe that there is an inland road that connects PUARI with SIABRO, and will make every effort to locate this and inspect it on the patrol that will take me through that area.

In all, there seems no reason why there should not be a jeep road to BISSARO. It will not be easy as the population is small but given keen encouragement the natives would become keen and provide the labour and most of the materials.

There is a airstrip at LEITEN. As yet it has never been used. The specifications are. Width 200ft. Length c.880 yds and capable of extension. ^{and} ~~KATEMI~~ clearance on the West end good. On the East about one in thirty but capable of improvement. Lateral clearances good. Markers Nil. Surface grass over sand. This surface seems quite firm to walk on but it was possible to push a walking stick about six inches into it with only ~~maximum~~ a little more than moderate effort. But two inches of rain had fallen in the past twelve hours. No wind sock.

This strip is native built under the direction of the Mission at LEITEN. Both Father Amoretti and the natives are disappointed that there has been no plans to land on it. It is my opinion that it is well worth inspection by the appropriate authorities, even if only approved as an emergency landing ground. The natives were encouraged to help the Mission improve and maintain this strip.

Though it is possible to use canoes to travel to SERPA in the "South West" season the beach is terribly exposed and boats are out of the question unless they are small enough to beach at each village. It would be impossible to beach and launch even a dingy at this time of the year at most villages.

SCHOOLS and MISSIONS.

The only Mission and the only school, other than village schools, are at LEITEN. Father J. G. Amoretti O.F.M. is in charge of this Mission and is the only European at LEITEN. In the eighteen months that this Mission has been established at LEITEN much has been done.

While it is perhaps early yet to assess the influence it did strike me that the natives, while not hostile to the Mission.

MISSION and SCHOOLS (Cont.) were rather apathetic. On the other hand an airstrip, house, school and large church have all been constructed within two years. No mean achievement.

The school seemed well attended. When I visited it and gave the students a little talk encouraging them to attend school, I counted one hundred and five boys and girls. The LEITRE group only number about six hundred all told. English is one of the subjects taught.

AGRICULTURE and LIVESTOCK

On the East Coast of this area little other than native sustenance planting is carried out. This seems quite ample for the native villagers although some of the more recently established villages have none of the more long maturing crops close to the present village sites.

The Mission at LEITRE has introduced a better breed of pig in that area. When these pigs have multiplied somewhat the villagers who at present have none of these breeding animals, have been encouraged to buy at least a male and a female from this stock to improve their own domesticated wild pigs.

It is intended that as the road is constructed to these villages, coconuts will be planted, thus giving these people a more solid economic basis

ORSHI REVISION.

From a population of 1485 the increase in about eighteen months was only 28, giving a new total of 1513. This hardly seems enough. The distribution of males females and children seems quite normal though a large number of childless couples were accounted. This was most marked in PUARI and ORSHI villages. Also there seems to be a marked shortage of young men and women in the seventeen to twenty group.

The LEITRE group FINE, ISI, YARIS and NOWAGA are over-recruited. This appears to have taken place in the last six months. Little can now be done about this but any farther recruiters will be requested not to remove natives from this area. There is more than enough work for all in the villages, to say nothing of the extra requirements of both the Government and Mission.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955/56.

Appendix "A"

Health.

As there was no Native Medical Assistant or orderly available at Vanimo the patrol was unaccompanied by medical personnel. Generally the Health in the East Coast of Vanimo is fair. The usual number of small sores etc. were encountered and sent to Vanimo for treatment. At PUARI, ORENG and SERRA the minor ills were treated by N.M.A. TAMAGO, who is stationed there and appears to be carrying out his duties in a most energetic and well advised manner.

Many lepers were seen, particularly in the more Western villages. Some had been returned from LUMI where they had undergone treatment but many more suspected cases were seen. The area badly needs a Medical Patrol in this regard.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955-56.

Appendix "B"

Education.

The only school other than small village schools conducted by untrained Mission natives is at LEITING. Fr. J. Amoretti is in charge of this school. There are just over one hundred pupils about evenly divided as to sex attending this school. This year English is one of the subjects taught.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955/56.

Appendix "G".

Anthropological.

A Nil
B Nil.

Owing to my very recent arrival at this Station I am hesitant to commit myself until I have further investigated and perhaps gained more confidence with the people.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955/56.

Appendix "D".

Village Officials.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Luluai</u>	<u>Tui Tui</u>	<u>M.T.E.</u>	
HIMERA	BERUHAI	BOSUMA	WAIYU	All fairly poor, mainly I think in that they had little idea of their duties. These have been explained to them and the villagers and it was also pointed out that the Gov. would back the officials in their lawful instructions.
NAWO	MASU	WINI	YENDU	
PINO	TAWI	PANO	DIRI	
ISI	IAGO	WAORI	"	
KOWAGA	KALAHUI	IRAWAKI	BOSO	
TARI	ANIS	"	"	
PULRI	SEBBIKI	SIPU	"	
OHENO	YAPRI	SIPU	YARI	
RAINU	PRIMA	MORAI	PINI	
SARAI	SIPAI	ANDIH	BODA	
PUIHDI	IAMA	TU	BOIRAU	

Vanimo Patrol Report No.1 of 1955/56.

Appendix "R".

Map Reference. As the localities of the various villages are in many cases miles away to their position on the map a complete list of map references are given. The map is the Vanimo Sheet Army Strat. Series.

NINGERA QZ 6899	RAWO QZ0394	PINO QZ 0839	ISI QZ 1068
HOWAGA QZ1289	TARIS QZ 1188	PUARI QZ 2382	OHENO QZ 3377
RAINU QZ 4373	SARAI QZ 4573	PULNDU QZ 4173	

Vanimo Patrol Report No.1 of 1955/56

Appendix "P"

Alienated Land.

No land other than the native owned land was seen on this patrol.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 1 of 1955/56.

Appendix 4th.

- Police. Four Members of the R.P.N.C.O. accompanied the Patrol and worked very well under the direction of L/Opl. KORIN.
- Reg No. 5431 L/Opl KORIN. The Senior N.C.O. at Vanimo. He is an excellent Policeman who regards his duty as far more than the arresting of wrongdoers. Has a very pleasant manner with all natives but can on occasion rise to withering comments to members of his detachment who commit faults in conduct. It is intended to send him for a refresher course when he returns from his nearly due leave.
- Reg No. 6335 Const. KKRISAVE. A fairly experienced man who is willing and quite able. He lacks the drive to ever become an N.C.O. but is nevertheless a very useful member of the detachment.
- Reg No. 8991 Const. WAMIRAU. A young new member who has had few advantages in his child-hood of observing Police methods. He is a Telefolmin. He is always willing and cheerful but makes many mistakes. All are due to his ignorance, but he makes little real effort to overcome them. Appears that the difficulty may be he does not yet understand pidgin as well as most Police.
- Reg No. 7349 Const. MAKARDA. An average policeman whose main task in the past seems to have been to provide for the cooking pot. While undoubtedly a fine shot and provider seemed a little upset when asked to perform more regular police duties. Shaped quite well though armer being taken in hand by L/Opl. KORIN.

VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER

VANIMO EAST COAST

Govt. Print.—3232/7.51.

Year 1955/56

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	DEATHS													MIGRATIONS				ABSENT FR. M VILLAGE AT WORK				STUDENTS				LABOUR POTENTIAL			FEMALES		Average Size of Family	TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL				
		BIRTHS		0-1 Mth.		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth		In		Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission		Males	Females		Pregnant	Child	Adults						
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F		M	F		
		10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45		10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45		10-16	16-45		
NINGRA	15-11-55	15	11	2	1						1		2	3	1				7	3	2		7							4	35	8	26	4	25	2	36	35	27	32	142
RAWO	17-11-55	3		1	1	1							2	2			1	2	3				5							6	21	9	28	2	14	18	19	37	98		
PINO	19-11-55	3	3										1			2	2		1	2	1	9				1	2			9	21	3	18	1	18	2	22	18	15	21	89
ISI	21-11-55	6	3						1				2					2					5							3	13	3	11	1	11	2	14	13	15	15	59
TARIS	21-11-55	2	2										1	2				1	4	3	1	29	3							17	51	8	60	6	66	3	62	41	30	64	230
NOWAGA	21-11-55	6	3	2	1								3	5			1	3					7							12	42	7	39	39	1	23	15	50	52	148	
PUARI	23-11-55	2							1				1				2													6	17	6	20	14	1	6	12	25	22	65	
QWENG	25-11-55	1	2																				4							4	17	6	9	9	1.5	12	17	19	16	67	
RAINU	26-11-55	2	3										1					1					3							1	11	27	9	21	21	2	35	35	34	25	127
SARAI	28-11-55	2	3																2				3							3	23	7	21	20	1.5	19	26	23	27	97	
PUINDU	28-11-55	2	4																																						
		39	39	4	3	1	1			1	2		10	20	1	9	15	6	21	8	3	82	3	1	2	1	82	240	71	298	10	236	353	253	270	337	1213				

AITAPE

FILE



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. 2 of 1955/56

Patrol Conducted by Mr. B.A. RYAN P.O.

Area Patrolled VANIMO WEST COAST

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 4 R.P.N.G.C. I.M.M.O.

Duration—From 14/12/1955 to 22/12/1955

Number of Days 9

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 13/1955

Medical ... 1/1955

Map Reference Army Sheet Series 4 miles = 1 inch Vanimo sheet

Objects of Patrol Routine Administration Census Revision

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

1 19

.....
District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £ NIL

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

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

DF

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Vanimo,
Patrol Post,
Sepik District.

VAN 30/3.

8/5/56.

The District Officer,
Sub-District Headquarters,
AITAPE.

VANIMO PATROL REPORT No. 2. 1955-56.

I refer to MA 30-11.15 of the 29th March 56 and W/P/RNo. 2/55
-56/507 of the 20th March 1956.

In particular to the request for a sketch map of the road in
Netherlands New Guinea mentioned in the above report.

As no maps are available at this Office on which to base such
a sketch it is considered that a full verbal description should meet the
request. A sketch could then be prepared from this either at Wewak or
Port Moresby depending upon the availability of maps.

A full verbal description will be obtained late this week when a
rapid patrol to the border is contemplated to inspect the work being done
on the native coconut groves in that area.

Barry A. Ryan
Barry A. Ryan, P.O.
O.T.P. Vanimo.

MIGR
In
P

P/R.No.2/55-56/
507

District Headquarters,
Serik District,
WEWAK

20th March, 1956.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY

VANIMO P/R No.2/55-56.

The attached report for your information please.

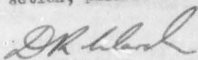
The area is probably the most settled in the District which is both remarkable and fortunate for a border station such as Vanimo.

The harmonious relationship between all sections of the community are most marked and while we can make steady progress both socially and economically I do not envisage any radical changes in Administration policy.

With regard to illicit drinking it may be noted that the native people of Dutch New Guinea are permitted to drink beer on certain festive occasions.

My Ryan is requested to ensure that coconut groves being planted are of suitable type nuts. There is an early maturing, prolific bearing, short lived low copra content nut which has come into the district from Hollandia and is to be avoided. It is somewhat similar to the small "king coconut" used for drinking and ornamental purposes.

Mr. Ryan is requested to supply a sketch of the Dutch road mentioned in his report. A camping allowance contingency is attached for your necessary action, please.



(D.R. Marsh)
a/DISTRICT OFFICER.

Att/ Report &
Contingency.

For information, and necessary action
please.

A.D.O. Aitane
C.I.C. Vanimo.

↑
c.c.

D.R. Marsh
(D.R. Marsh) a/D.O.
20/3/56

PLEASE WITH

ATT.30-1-1
Sub District Office,
Sepik District,
A. I. T. A. P. E. N. N. G.

9th March, 1956

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
W. E. N. A. S.

PATROL REPORT - WAN.2/55-56 - VANIMO WEST COAST.

Two copies of the abovementioned patrol report submitted by Mr Patrol Officer Ryan, are forwarded herewith please.

Though the patrol is of a routine nature, covering census and native administration through the West Coast region, it covers the New Guinea coastal strip to the Dutch New Guinea border.

Native Affairs.

The situation is satisfactory. In regards to the economic development of the area, every effort is being made to have the native population realize the benefits to be accrued from the proper tending of existing coconut groves, and the gains that can be achieved by a balanced, planned expansion of production. The transporting of the copra presents a minor problem, which may become more acute later should rumours that the M.V. MERLONG intends bypassing Vanimo be found correct. In the circumstances avenues for the sale of copra to local plantations will be explored, and should a satisfactory arrangement be made, further arrangements will be made to move the produce down the coast. The transfer from sun and smoke dried copra to hot air dried is being undertaken gradually, and at present mills are under construction. This move should improve quality and subsequent returns. Mr Patrol Officer Ryan is giving every assistance in this, as in the encouragement to produce.

Dutch New Guinea Border. The movement of natives over the border is noted, but as traditional land rights transcend arbitrary international boundaries, it is considered that such movements cannot be stopped unless their land on the Dutch side of the border is eventually alienated by the Dutch authorities. In reference to the possible acquisition of liquor by N.N.G. native Mr Ryan has been instructed to keep an eye on the situation, and breaches of the Arms, Liquor and Opium Ordinance can be dealt with when applicable.

Statistics:

Mr Ryan's statistics for the area, shows a very promising increase throughout: births exceeding deaths by over 100%. Vanimo has been without a Medical Assistant for some time, but the recent arrival of Mr Moy, Native Medical Practitioner, should relieved the position.

The delay in the submission of this report is regretted. This was caused by the necessity for clarification of points made earlier which necessitated the return of the report to Vanimo. Mail delays aggravated the position.

P
Arthur T Carey
Area's District Officer.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 2 of 1955-56.

Conducted By;	Mr. B.A. Ryan P.O.
Area Patrolled	Vanimo West Coast.
Duration	14th Dec. - 22nd Dec. 9 days.
Objects of Patrol	Routine Native Administration Census Revision Inspection of coconut groves.
Last Patrol.	March 1955 by Mr. J.W. MacGregor P.O.
Accompanied by	Four members R.P.N.G.C. One Native Medical Orderly.
Map Reference,	Army Strat. Series 1 inch equals 4 mls Vanimo sheet. Map enclosed is tracing of above and shows the patrol route taken by previous Patrol covered by report Van 1 of 1955-56

Barry A. Ryan
Barry A. Ryan P.O.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING. (cont.) MUSU village is the most backward village along this stretch of coast. The people have changed the site of this village several times in the last few years. The village is a combination of PIBI and MUSU and at present the indications are that they will remain in their present site. This is a point approximately half way between both the Old village sites.

NATIVE AFFAIRS. Little of particular note was observed on this patrol. The people seem a quiet, well self-disciplined lot with more natural benefits than is the norm in this District.

Such disputes as arose were all settled without the need for Court action. These people seem reluctant to complain if they consider the defendant may spend a period in detention. On the other hand civil claims concerning pigs and other native valuables are common. A tendency was found for the village Officials to take a little more upon themselves than is their right. It was pointed out that though it was good if many civil claims could be arranged by themselves they could not settle the punishment when a complaint concerning an offence was lodged with them. This must be brought to the Patrol Officer at Vanimo.

A number of young unmarried females were noted, particularly in the more Easterly villages. From the figures in the Total Child column of the appended sheet, the trend seems to indicate that this may eventually be corrected. In VANIMO, WARIMO and YAKO there are 45 more male children than female. Recruiting, though not over heavy, tends to emphasise the preponderance of females when a physical count is taken. Many of these single girls will not find husbands, I have been assured, as they have bestowed their favours on the native troops stationed at Vanimo, and the men naturally prefer a girl with a good character when seeking a wife. Native custom is now for each man to have a limited choice of brides. It is of course impossible to entirely prevent the liaisons forced by the troops at Vanimo, but the troubles that can arise were quietly pointed out to the village Officials and unofficial Councillors.

The villagers of VANIMO, WARIMO and YAKO have quite considerable coconut groves and show a great interest in the production of Copra. Together with KRISA people ^{from} an inland village, they have been paid nearly £900 pounds in the last three months. More than half of this has been earned by their own groves.

The native groves are not well planted or even well cared for. The importance of careful attention was pointed out and it is obvious that

la
MIGRA
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NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.) These people need keen and prolonged encouragement if they are to really tackle any job successfully. In addition to the maintenance of their groves, it was also stressed that they must look ahead and clear further ground and plant more trees. To ensure correct spacing each village was shown how to make a 30ft triangle and how to use this to mark out the new groves.

The ground is owned communally but each man is to suitably "mark" the trees that he has planted. At the moment the policy is not to encourage a whole group to form a "business" and plant a large area, though the natives, especially from WARTHO, are keen to do this. For working convenience the individual's areas will be side by side but each group of trees planted by that individual will remain his property.

The MUBU people, having just settled into their new village site, have only very small groves. WUTONG on the other hand have a fair number of trees but are not producing copra, though they have done so in the past. It would appear that a policeman, on leave in the village, has told the people of WUTONG they would find themselves in trouble should they continue to produce copra. I corrected this idea and encouraged the planting of further trees.

The Dutch authorities have built a road, leaving the old wartime road from Hollandia to WUTONG, about three miles inside their Territory. It runs south to a village called YAUW. The land through which this road passes is traditionally WUTONG ground the Dutch officers offered to pay the WUTONG people for trees felled and used in the construction of the road. The WUTONG people hesitated to accept the payment without first informing this office. After discussing the matter with the District Commissioner on one of his visits to this Station the natives were told that there was no objection to their taking the the payment as offered.

There is considerable native movement over the border but only by those married to women over on the Dutch side. Rumours are about that T.N.G. natives are buying liquor in D.N.G. and bringing it back to this side. This was gone into but no evidence could be found to support the rumours. However they have not been entirely disregarded and a watch will be maintained as far as it is possible.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS. For the most part the road is a good walking road, which is quite suitable for expansion to a jeep road.

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WU TONG AFFAIRS (Cont.) These people need keen and prolonged encouragement if they are to really tackle any job successfully. In addition to the maintenance of their groves, it was also stressed that they must look ahead and clear further ground and plant more trees. To ensure correct spacing each village was shown how to make a 30ft triangle and how to use this to mark out the new groves.

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AND		COUNTS	
+	00	TOTAL	

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Vanimo Patrol Report No 2 of 1955/56

Appendix "A"

Health. The Patrol was accompanied by N.M.O. KEBI who carried out his duties in a very fair manner.

The health in this area, close to the Vanimo Station is good. A few small sores were seen and one rather bad cut. Lepers are not so common as they are on the East Coast but this disease is far too prevalent along the entire Vanimo Coast.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 2 of 1955/56.

Appendix "B"

Village Officials.

Village	Lulusi	Tul-tul	M.T.T.	
Vanimo	NANGIA	UMPA	6	All better than average. A short talk was given them and the villagers outlining their powers and duties.
Warimo	IDAGO	KOIFON	WEGIRA	
Yako	MASEI	ATA	MASALI	
Musu	PAMIR-IR	ORI	CHAI-I	
Wutong	NI-ALA	UNI	-	

Vanimo Patrol Report No 2 of 1955/56

Appendix "C"

Alienated land. It is believed that the Mission block at Vanimo has been alienated. No records are held in this Office and the Father in charge is only relieving and can not assist. However the general feeling is that the land is freehold Mission property.

Vanimo Patrol Report No.2 of 1955/56

Appendix "D"

Police.				
L/Cpl LIMIBI	Reg No.	6395		A new L/Cpl. Works very well and is keen.
Const. NINE	" "	6640		A good investigator. Deserves one stripe.
" SAGI	" "	6440		an average policeman. Not N.C.O. material.
" WANABA	" "	3075		One of the old guard type. Very reliable at all times but has little initiative.

Appendix "E"

Anthropological

A HIL

B.

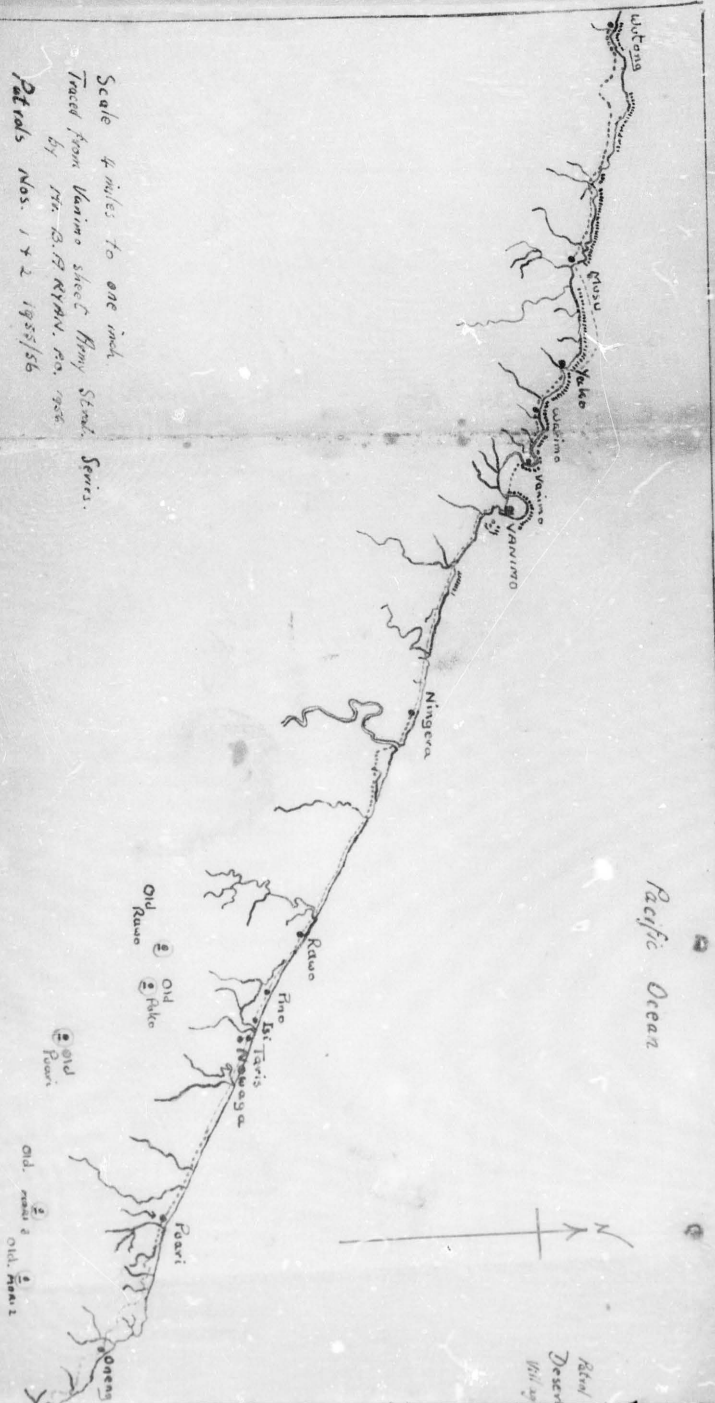
It may be of interest if I set out the method that the natives use to obtain large quantities of ~~Spizax~~ flying fish.

When the fish are spawning (generally in January) canoes are taken about one mile off shore. A long rope is trailed behind the canoe and on the end of this is tied a large bunch of grass. As the canoe is slowly paddled to and fro the natives chew coconut and spit the well masticated residue into the water. The fish find this food and follow the trail until it leads to the clump of grass. As they spawn in such debris they at least investigate it very well. If the shoal gathers about the grass the rope is pulled gently towards the canoe until a net can be slipped under the fish. One canoe with three men can catch up to 100 fish each of about one pound this way in a few hours.

The fish need to be charmed into the area first and the whole success of the fishing depends on whether the village old men have made the ~~correct~~ correct spells. As they are rarely disappointed these elders must have a very complete knowledge of the seasons and habits of the various fish and animals in the area.

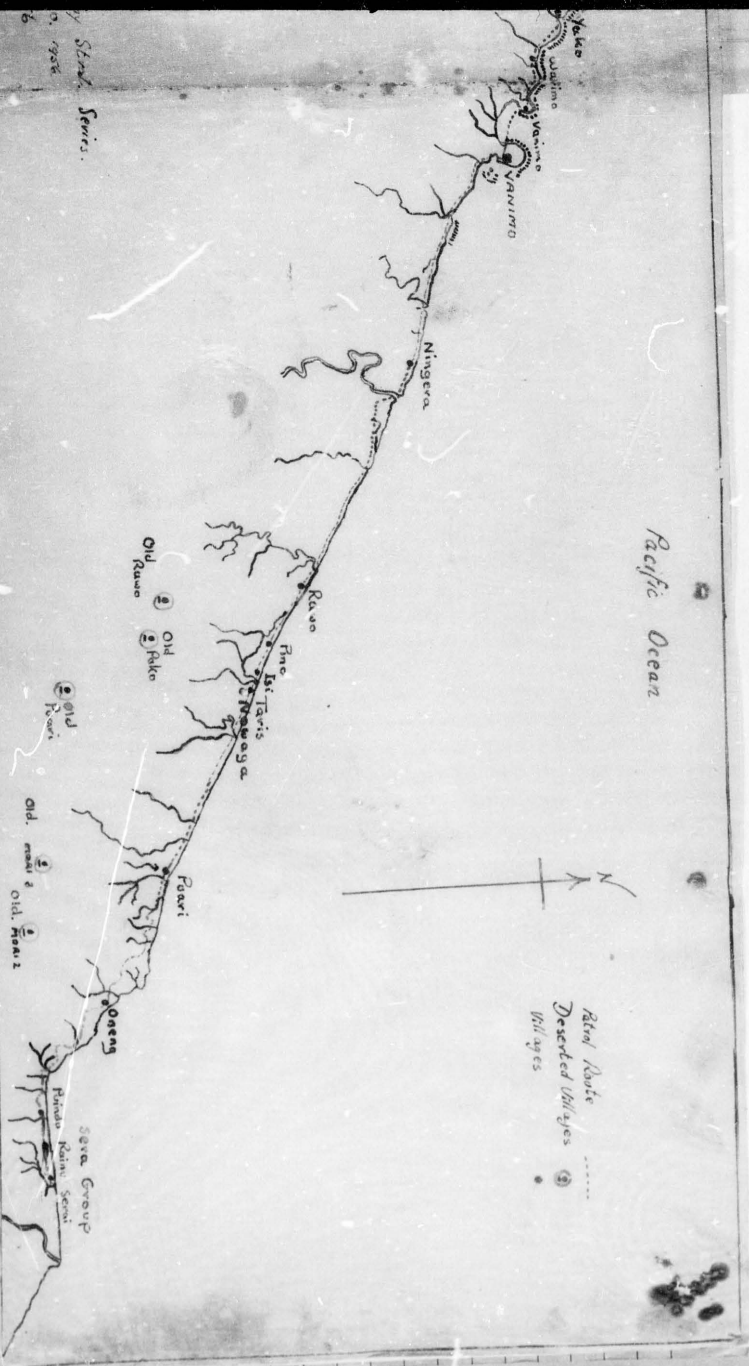
The people have a few little songs that they believe will help to bring the fish. Though these cannot replace the original spell, when sung actually on the job, are believed to aid the old men's spells.

Scale 4 miles to one inch.
 Traced from Wainimo sheet Army Genl. Servs.
 by T. B. RYAN, CO. 1925
 Patrols Nos. 1 & 2 1955/56



Alaska
 Dept.
 of
 the
 Interior

Sketch
Sewers.



Pacific Ocean

Actual Route
Deserted Villages

Old. Ra'vi
Old. Ra'vi 2

Sava Group
Pimian Rain. Sewer

Old
Ra'vi

Old
Ra'ao

Old
Foko

Koko

Yanimo

Nigera

Ra'ao

Fine

Ma-Taris

Sa'aga

Ra'vi

Ooeng

D.N.A.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.



PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. 2 of 1955/56

Patrol Conducted by Mr. B.A. RYAN P.O.

Area Patrolled VANIMO WEST COAST

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 4 RANG-G INMO

Duration - From 4/12/1955 to 22/12/1955

Number of Days 9

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by - District Services 1/3/1955

Medical ... 1/19?

Map Reference Army Stret Serv. 4 miles = 1 inch Vanimo sheet

Objects of Patrol Routine Administration Census Revision

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ 19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £ NIL

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

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

XXNA.30.11.15

29th. March, 1956

The District Officer,
WENAK.

PATROL REPORT -No.2 of 1955/56. - VANIMO.

I refer to your Patrol Report No.2/55-56/507 of 20th. March, 1956 together with the attached Report.

Mr. Ryan's remarks show a slow but steady improvement which we must endeavour to maintain if not hasten.

The low content copra coconut had already been introduced into the coastal area in 1945, and it is very understandable that because of its high nut yield it should be favoured by natives. I presume that you have discussed this matter with the District Agricultural Officer who should be able to advise on the best specific type to plant and who will probably have suitable supplies available, or be able to obtain them fairly readily.

The question of communal versus private groves is one that will become more and more acute, and it is expected that a policy circular on this subject will shortly be issued. In the meantime, the practice outlined by Mr. Ryan seems very suitable.

I can look forward to receiving further details of the Dutch road, under separate file, and the suitability of the present walking road for conversion to a light vehicle road is also noted.

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

(PJA) RW
2af/s



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

20/3/56 ✓



In Reply
Please Quote
No. P/R.No. 2/55-56/
507

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
MEWAK

20th March, 1956.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESEY

VANIMO P/R No. 2/55-56.

The attached report for your information please.

The area is probably the most settled in the District which is both remarkable and fortunate for a border station such as Vanimo.

The harmonious relationship between all sections of the community are most marked and while we can make steady progress both socially and economically I do not envisage any radical changes in Administration policy.

With regard to illicit drinking it may be noted that the native people of Dutch New Guinea are permitted to drink beer on certain festive occasions.

My Ryan is requested to ensure that coconut groves being planted are of suitable tyre nuts. There is an early maturing, prolific bearing, short lived low copra content nut which has come into the district from Hollandia and is to be avoided. It is somewhat similar to the small "king coconut" used for drinking and ornamental purposes.

Mr. Ryan is requested to supply a sketch of the Dutch road mentioned in his report. A camping allowance contingency is attached for your necessary action, please.

(D.R. Marsh)
a/DISTRICT OFFICER.

Att/ Report &
Contingency.

ve
h

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



PA 2/55-56

In Reply
Please Quote

No. AIT.30-1-1
Sub District Office,
Sepik District,
A I T A P E, T.N.G.

9th March, 1956

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
W E W A K.

PATROL REPORT - VAN.2/55-56 - VANIMO WEST COAST.

Two copies of the abovementioned patrol report submitted by Mr Patrol Officer Ryan, are forwarded herewith please.

Though the patrol is of a routine nature, covering census and native administration through the West Coast region, it covers the New Guinea coastal strip to the Dutch New Guinea border.

Native Affairs.

The situation is satisfactory. In regards to the economic development of the area, every effort is being made to have the native population realize the benefits to be accrued from the proper tending of existing coconut groves, and the gains that can be achieved by a balanced, planned expansion of production. The transporting of the copra presents a minor problem, which may become more acute later should rumours that the M.V.MEKLONG intends bypassing Vanimo be found correct. In the circumstances avenues for the sale of copra to local plantations will be explored, and should a satisfactory arrangement be made, further arrangements will be made to move the produce down the coast. The transfer from sun and smoke dried copra to hot air dried is being undertaken gradually, and at present kilns are under construction. This move should improve quality and subsequent returns.

Mr Patrol Officer Ryan is giving every assistance in this, as in the encouragement to produce.

Dutch New Guinea Border. The movement of natives over the border is noted, but as traditional land rights transcend arbitrary international boundaries, it is considered that such movements cannot be stopped unless their land on the Dutch side of the border is eventually alienated by the Dutch authorities. In reference to the possible acquisition of liquor by T.N.G. native Mr Ryan has been instructed to keep an eye on the situation, and breaches of the Arms, Liquor and Opium Ordinance can be dealt with when applicable.

Statistics: Mr Ryan's statistics for the area, shows a very promising increase throughout: births exceeding deaths by over 100%. Vanimo has been without a Medical Assistant for some time, but the recent arrival of Mr Moy, Native Medical Practitioner, should relieved the position.

The delay in the submission of this report is regretted. This was caused by the necessity for clarification of points made earlier which necessitated the return of the report to Vanimo. Mail delays aggravated the position.

Arthur T. Carey

Arthur T Carey
Ass't District Officer.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 2 of 1955-56.

Conducted By: Mr. B.A. Ryan P.O.

Area Patrolled: Vanimo West Coast.

Duration: 14th Dec. - 22nd Dec. 9 days.

Objects of Patrol: Routine Native Administration
Census Revision
Inspection of coconut groves.

Last Patrol: March 1955 by Mr. J.N. MacGregor P.O.

Accompanied by: Four members R.P.N.G.C.
One Native Medical Orderly.

Map Reference: Army Strat. Series 1 inch equals 1:100,000
Vanimo sheet. Map enclosed is tracing
of above and shows the patrol route
taken by previous patrol covered by
report Van 1 of 1955-56.

Barry A. Ryan

Barry A. Ryan P.O.

Patrol Report No. of 1251/56.

INTRODUCTION. This patrol was one of the most pleasant conducted by this Officer. All the villages are pleasant, clean, well laid out places in most picturesque settings. Much effort has been spent in the past amongst these people and the results are obvious. However it is also obvious that unless the encouragement is maintained the enthusiasm tends to drop very rapidly and the villagers rest on their laurels.

The villagers in this area have been particularly fortunate in the past as they have had a steady and not inconsiderable income from the copra produced from their village groves. It is hoped that this will continue and expand in the future.

DIARY.

14th December. Patrol departed Vanimo Station by canoe at 0800 hrs. and arrived VANIMO village one hour later. Census revised.

15th December. Departed VANIMO village and walked one hour to WARIMO village. Camped and revised census.

16th December. To YAKO village one hour. Census revised. Camped.

17th December. By canoe to HUSU village about one and one half hours. The road has a bad section for about twenty miles on the road where it leads over an old reef. Census revised.

18th December. At HUSU. Sunday observed.

19th December. To WUTONG village. Three and one half hours.

20th December. At WUTONG. Census revised.

21st December. Returned to YAKO village and camped.

22nd December. To Station arriving at 1600 hrs. after spending an hour or two in each of WARIMO and VANIMO villages.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING. As in the Vanimo East Coast Census Division, the villages were all very well laid out. Houses are of an excellent design but repairs were over due in some instances. The Village of WARIMO in particular was most pleasing. All the "public" buildings, i.e. the rest house, church, school and meeting place, together with a playing field, were grouped in the centre of the village. The paths and main road are lined with neatly clipped crotoms and other flowers. YAKO village, while not as neatly laid out, has the more naturally pleasant spot and must be one of the most attractive villages in the whole of New Guinea.

VILLAGE OF MUSU. (cont.) MUSU village is the most backward village along this stretch of coast. The people have changed the site of this village several times in the last few years. The village is a combination of PIBI and MUSU and at present the indications are that they will remain in their present site. This is a point approximately half way between both the Old village sites.

NATIVE AFFAIRS. Little of particular note was observed on this patrol. The people seem a quiet, well self-disciplined lot with more natural benefits than is the norm in this District.

Such disputes as arose were all settled without the need for Court action. These people seem reluctant to complain if they consider the defendant may spend a period in detention. On the other hand civil claims concerning pigs and other native valuables are common. A tendency was found for the village Officials to take a little more upon themselves than is their right. It was pointed out that though it was good if many civil claims could be arranged by themselves they could not settle the punishment when a complaint concerning an offence was lodged with them. This must be brought to the Patrol Officer at Vanimo.

A number of young unmarried females were noted, particularly in the more easterly villages. From the figures in the Total Child column of the amended sheet, the trend seems to indicate that this may eventually be corrected. In VANIMO, WARIMO and YAKI there are 45 more male children than female. Recruiting, though not over heavy, tends to emphasize the preponderance of females when a physical count is taken. Many of these single girls will not find husbands, I have been assured, as they have bestowed their favours on the native troops stationed at Vanimo, and the men naturally prefer a girl with a good character when seeking a wife. Native custom is now for each man to have a limited choice of brides. It is of course impossible to entirely prevent the liaisons formed by the troops at Vanimo, but the troubles that can arise were quietly pointed out to the village Officials and unofficial Councilors.

The villagers of VANIMO, WARIMO and YAKI have quite considerable coconut groves and show a great interest in the production of Copra. Together with KHEBA people ~~from~~ an inland village, they have been paid nearly 2000 pounds in the last three months. More than half of this has been earned by their own groves.

The native groves are not well planted or even well cared for. The importance of careful attention was pointed out and it is obvious that

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.) These people need keen and prolonged encouragement if they are to really tackle any job successfully. In addition to the maintenance of their groves, it was also stressed that they must look ahead and clear further ground and plant more trees. To ensure correct spacing each village was shown how to make a 30ft triangle and how to use this to mark out the new groves.

The ground is owned communally but each man is to suitably "mark" the trees that he has planted. At the moment the policy is not to encourage a whole group to form a "business" and plant a large area, though the natives, especially from WARIMO, are keen to do this. For working convenience the individual's areas will be side by side but each group of trees planted by that individual will remain his property.

The MUSA people, having just settled into their new village site, have only very small groves. WUTONS on the other hand have a fair number of trees but are not producing copra, though they have done so in the past. It would appear that a policeman, on leave in the village, has told the people of WUTONS they would find themselves in trouble should they continue to produce copra. I corrected this idea and encouraged the planting of further trees.

The Dutch authorities have built a road, leaving the old wartime road from Holladia to WUTONS, about three miles inside their Territory. It runs South to a village called YAWU. The land through which this road passes is traditionally WUTONS ground. The Dutch Officers offered to pay the WUTONS people for trees felled and used in the construction of the road. The WUTONS people hesitated to accept the payment without first informing this Office. After discussing the matter with the District Commissioner on one of his visits to this Station the natives were told that there was no objection to their taking the the payment as offered.

There is considerable native movement over the border but only by those married to women over on the Dutch side. Rumours are about that F.N.S. natives are buying liquor in D.N.S. and bringing it back to this side. This was gone into but no evidence could be found to support the rumour. However they have not been entirely disregarded and a watch will be maintained as far as it is possible.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS. For the most part the road is a good walking road, which is quite suitable for expansion to a jeep road.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS (Cont.) However one bad patch, where the road follows the reef, between YAKO and WUSU and another on the western side of WUSU, mean that considerable rerouting must be planned should a road to WUTONG be eventually planned.

In the past it has been the practice to load and unload goods for these villages from small ^{tr}iflers directly onto the beach at each village. All the villages have good "dry" season anchorages, and even in the "wet" season, I am told, ships have taken copra aboard.

SCHOOLS AND MISSIONS.

There is a Mission about twenty minutes inland from VANIMO village. At present Fr. Sylvester Campbell O.F.M. is in charge but the regular priest is Fr. Raymond Quirke O.F.M.. A Mission school is conducted at Vanimo Mission and native teachers are at each village. The village schools are not of a high standard but appear on first sight to be better than many such schools in this District.

The school at Vanimo, being under the direct control of a European has a higher standard and each year sends a number of pupils to the Government School at Brandi, Newak. At present there are six such pupils.

The Mission is very popular with both natives and Europe
ans in this area.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK.

As mentioned under Native Affairs heading copra is produced with a fair amount of success. More success could be expected with better care of the groves. The maintenance and extension of these groves is being encouraged.

There are many good pigs at VANIMO and WARIMO villages. They are kept in pens and fed by the native women each day. The pigs have a semi-European element in their breeding and fatten very well indeed.

Native crops are adequate but little variety is found. Pineapples and pawpaws are plentiful.

With the supplies of fish so readily obtained the native diet is well balanced and rather easily assimilated.

CENSUS REVISION. The census revision reveals little of particular note. The excess of births over deaths (thirty in a total of 50 births) is very fair especially when it is noted that only nine months have elapsed since the last census.

Vanimo Patrol Report No 2 of 1955/56

Appendix "A"

Health. The Patrol was accompanied by N.M.C. YEBI who carried out his duties in a very fair manner.

The health in this area, close to the Vanimo Station is good. A few small sores were seen and one rather bad cut. Lepers are not so common as they are on the East Coast but this disease is far too prevalent along the entire Vanimo Coast.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 2 of 1955/56.

Appendix "B"

village Officials.

Village	Lulani	Tul-tul	M.T.F.	
Vanimo	NANGIA	UMPA	6	All better than average. A short talk was given them and the villagers outlining their powers and duties.
Vanimo	IDACO	KOMPON	WESTIA	
Yako	LASNI	ATA	MARALI	
Musu	PALIS-IR	ORI	CHAI-I	
Wutong	NI-ALA	UNI	-	

Vanimo Patrol Report No 2 of 1955/56

Appendix "C"

Alienated land. It is believed that the Mission block at Vanimo has been alienated. No records are held in this Office and the Father in charge is only relieving and can not assist. However the general feeling is that the land is Treasold Mission property.

Vanimo Patrol Report No.2 of 1955/56

Appendix "D"

Police.		Reg No.		
L/Opl	LINIBI	6395		A new L/Opl. Works very well and is keen.
Const.	NIKI	6610		A good investigator. Deserves one stripe.
"	SAGI	6440		an average policeman. Not N.C.C. material.
"	WANABA	3075		one of the old guard type. Very reliable at all times but has little initiative.

Appendix "2"

Anthropological

A. HIL

B.

It may be of interest if I set out the method that the natives use to obtain large quantities of *Zyngax* flying fish.

When the fish are spawning (generally in January) canoes are taken about one mile off shore. A long rope is trailed behind the canoe and on the end of this is tied a large bunch of grass. As the canoe is slowly pulled to end fire the natives chew coconut and spit the well masticated residue into the water. The fish find this food and follow the trail until it leads to the clump of grass. As they spawn in such debris they at least investigate it very well. If the shoal gathers about the grass the rope is pulled gently towards the canoe until a net can be slipped under the fish. One canoe with three men can catch up to 100 fish each of about one pound this way in a few hours.

The fish need to be charmed into the area first and the whole success of the fishing depends on whether the village old men have made the ~~correct~~ correct spells. As they are rarely disappointed these old men must have a very complete knowledge of the seasons and habits of the various fish and animals in the area.

The people have a few little songs that they believe will help to bring the fish. Though these cannot replace the original spell, when sung actually on the job, ^{they} are believed to aid the old men's spells.

VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER

 Year 1965

VANUATU WEST COAST

Govt. Print - 343/711

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	BIRTHS		DEATHS										MIGRATIONS				ABSENT FROM VILLAGE				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES		TOTALS										
				0-1 Mth.		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth		In		Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission		Males		Females		Pregnant Women as % of Total	Average Size of Family	Child		Adults
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			M	F	
VANIMO	11/12/65	13	16			1	1					2				1	3	7	2	14	5			3		52	85	21	84	3	80	3	111	81	80	110	413	
WARIMO	15/12/65	7	5		1							1	2			1	6	1	15	3	3			3		23	92	12	80	4	70	3	73	63	70	100	337	
YAKO	16/12/65	2			1							2					1	4						1		13	26	9	20	2	20	2	32	27	24	28	113	
MUSU	17/12/65	2	1		1							1	1			1		5								4	41	7	13	1	17	3	17	26	17	19	84	
WUTONG	19/12/65	3	1		1							4						11	3	1						11	39	13	40	2	38	3	46	47	34	46	182	
		25	25		3	3	1					8	6			3	4	14	3	49	11	4		7		103	253	62	242	12	225		279	244	225	299	1135	

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 2 of 1955-56

APPENDIX "A"

Health. The Patrol was accompanied by N.M.C. KEBI who carried out his duties in a very fair manner.

The health in this area, close to the Vanimo Station is good. A few small sores were seen and one rather bad cut. Levers are not so common as they are on the East Coast but this disease is far too prevalent along the entire Vanimo Coast.

Vanimo Patrol Report No.2 of 1955-56

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Vanimo Patrol Report No. 2 of 1955/56

APPENDIX "B"

Village Officials.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Lulusai</u>	<u>Tul-tul</u>	<u>M.T.T.</u>
Vanimo	NANGIA	UMPA	-
Warimo	IDAGO	KONTON	WEGIRA
Yako	MASEI	ATA	MASALI
Musu	PAMIE-TE	ORI	CHAI-I
Wutong	NI-ATA	UNI	-

All better than average. A short talk was given them and the villagers outlining their powers and duties.

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Vanimo Patrol Report No.2 of 1955-56

APPENDIX "C"

Police L/S/3 INVEST Form No. 6395 A new 1/2mi work road wall
and is kept.

Alienated land. It is believed that the Mission block at Vanimo has
been alienated. No records are held in this Office
and the Father in charge is only relieving and can
not assist. However the general feeling is
that the land is freehold Mission property.

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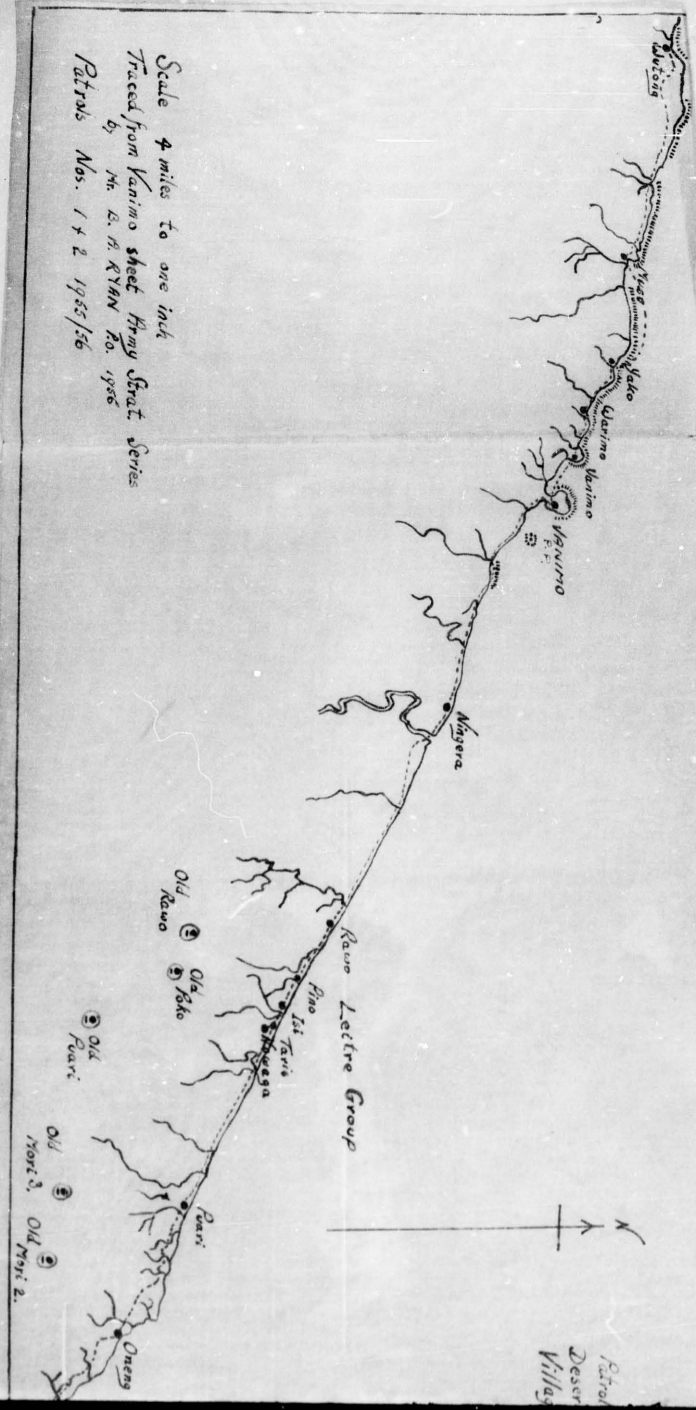
Vanimo Patrol Report No.2 of 1955/56

APPENDIX "D"

<u>Police</u>	L/Cpl LINBI	Reg No.6395	A new L/Cpl Works very well and is keen.
	Const. Nyag	" " 6610	A good investigator. Deserves one stripe.
	" SAGI	" " 6440	An average policeman. Not N.C.O. material.
	" WANABA	" " 3075	One of the old guard type. Very reliable at all times but has little initiative.

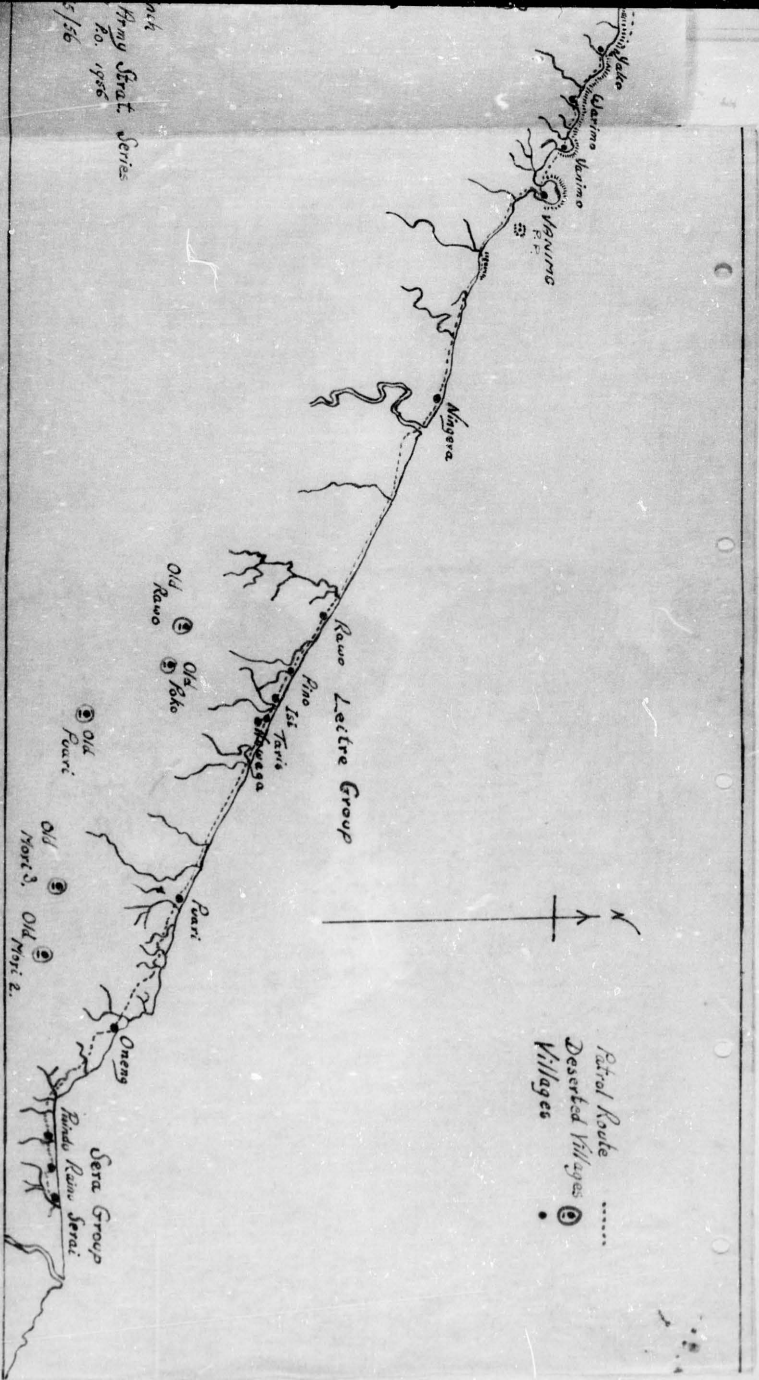
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Scale 4 miles to one inch
 Traced from Vanimo sheet *Henry Strat* Series
 by Mr. E. B. RYAN No. 1986
 Prints Nos. 1 & 2 1953/56



Rauo Letre Villages

No. 4
 Malay Strait Series
 No. 1908
 5/36



411



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. VAN 3 of 1955-56

Patrol Conducted by BARRY ALLEN RYAN P.O.

Area Patrolled IMBIO, and BEMBI CENSUS DIVISIONS

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives SEVEN

Duration—From 26 / 3 / 19 56 to 3 / 5 / 19 56

Number of Days Thirty nine

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services /1&2/19. 51

Medical ... / / 19. 47

Map Reference Army Strat Series 4M = 11n. and patrol map

Objects of Patrol Routine Administration Census Revision Contact new villages and investigate rivers system.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ 19

.....
District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £

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

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

bula

MIGRA

In

M F

38/1/1-93

Sub-district Office ,
AITAPE ,
Sepik District .

29th May , 1956 .

The District Officer ,
Sepik District ,
District Headquarters ,
WEWAK .

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 3-55/56 .
DMBO and BEMBI Census Divisions .

Two copies of the above report are forwarded herewith .

As Mr. Ryan states, the area has not been patrolled since 1951 and conditions, therefore , are not surprising .

Access to the four inland census divisions - the DMBO, BEMBI , PAGO and KILIMERI , is provided only by following up the river systems and for this reason the area can only be visited in five months of the year . This, together with the staff situation at Vanimo, has hindered any development of the area .

Mr. Ryan should be able to patrol the area at much more frequent intervals in the future .

Little can be done about border villages until their position is accurately fixed , your memorandum 1-2-9 of 14th April 1956 also refers .

The route from Vanimo to Green River has been marked on the patrol map . Wewak memorandum 1-2-9 of 14th April , refers .

W.T. Brown . a/ADO

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30-1-1

Vanimo,
Patrol Post,
Sepik District.

Van 30-3.

24th May 1956.

The Assistant District Officer,
Sub-District Headquarters,
AITAPE.

Vanimo Patrol Report No.3 of 1955-56.

Enclosed herewith are three copies of the above report for your
comment and further action please.

Barry A. Ryan
Barry A. Ryan P.O.
O.I.C. Vanimo.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Vanimo,
Patrol Post,
Sepik District.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 3 of 1955-56.

Conducted By : MR. B. A. Ryan P.O.

Area Patrolled : IMBIO, IMBRINDS and BEMBI.

Duration : 26th March - 3rd May 1956.
39 days.

Objects of Patrol : Routine Administration,
Contact of new villages,
Investigate River System.

Last Patrol: Jan. Dec. 1951 by Mr. A.G. Jeffers

Accompanied by : Six members R.P.N.G.C.
One Native Medical Orderly.

Map Reference : Annotated copy of Vanimo and Aitape
sheets Army Staff Series
1 inch equals 4 miles. Enclosed.

Barry A. Ryan P.O.

Patrol Report Van No. 3 of 1955-56.

INTRODUCTION. This patrol, to one of the most isolated and neglected areas of the Sepik District, was at times quite arduous and in general most depressing. Strenuous, due mainly to neglect of roads but also due to the patrol route which was planned to cut across the headwaters of all the main rivers and again lower down. The feeling of depression gathered was due in part to the apathetic attitude of the natives and the poverty of the area. It was further heightened by the continual rain. In a total of thirty nine days only the day of departure and the day of return were without rain.

Over two hundred new names were recorded and five villages not previously visited were inspected. I would be surprised if there are many more natives in the area that were not seen by this patrol, but the scattered garden sites give the impression that some natives at least did not gather to meet the patrol.

It had been intended to cross over the BSWANI Ranges from Napito to Ainbai but a glance at the enclosed map will explain why this was found impracticable. As the patrol had to return to at least SUMBIMINI and the hard walking had damaged the feet of the natives no point could be seen in not returning to Vanimo Station.

DIARY.

- 26th March. Departed Vanimo Patrol Post, arriving HINGERRA village three hours later. Camped.
- 27th March. To IMBIO No. 1 over fair road. This six hour walk could be very pleasant had the road been attended to in the past five years. Camped.
- 28th March. Census revised at No. 1 IMBIO and patrol moved to No. 2 IMBIO.
- 29th March. To IMBIO No. 3, which is one hour to the East of No. 1 IMBIO. Census revised and camped.
- 30th March. One and one half hours pleasant walk to SAMARARU. Camped.
- 31st March. Census revised at SAMARARU and patrol returned to No. 1 IMBIO. Camped.
- 1st April. Sunday. Observed at IMBIO No. 1.
- 2nd April. Patrol walked to IMBRINIS over a fair road. Two and one half hours. Camped. Census revised.
- 3rd April. To SUMBIMINI four and one half hours over good road. Camped.
- 4th April. Census revised for both SUMBIMINI and the remnants of YO village. The greater portion of this village have returned to original ground South of the range.

DEW. (Cont.)

- 5th April. Ten hours spent crossing the DEWANI Range over river beds. Arrived No. 1 FAS or KILIWAS. Camped.
- 6th April. Police visiting hamlets to inform people I had arrived and they should obey the orders of the Laluai.
- 7th April. Census revised at KILIWAS though four men, with their families failed to attend.
- 8th April. One hour to FUGUMI. Deserted but for Officials who reported villagers refused to attend.
- 9th April. Searching hamlets for inhabitants.
- 10th April. Searching for inhabitants. So few found census revision impossible. Only reason given for non attendance was pure apathy.
- 11th April. Four hours to FUBARI which is the new village formed by the children of the people who were brought from this village to YO before the 1933 war. Census revised. Camped.
- 12th April. FAS no. 2. One hour. Camped census revised.
- 13th April. Walked to HEBIKI. Five hours. Camped.
- 14th April. Census revised at HEBIKI. Many absent in Aitape area where new village may be formed.
- 15th April. At HEBIKI due heavy rain.
- 16th April. A four hour slip and slide to TAHINE. Census revised.
- 17th April. Eleven and one half hours along native hunting track to No. 3 FAS. This route was chosen to avoid sleeping on the road and also to enable the patrol to avoid retracing its route.
- 18th April. Census revised at No. 3 FAS.
- 19th April. Very nearly two hours downstream (the MUBAUSA) to ALAMINA.
- 20th April. To MUBAUSA or WOTAI village. A "new" village formed in a largish part by people who had formerly gathered at ALAMINA. Census revised. Camped.
- 21st April. Half an hour downstream to AKAS. Not visited before but had had village book and Official's hats appointed from LIMI and had been told by A, D, O, Lual to await the P.O. from VANIMO.
- 22nd April. At AKAS.
- 23rd April. To FIMAMOI or MURABU. ^{Four} ~~Five~~ hours. This village not seen before though the people are from TOKO village. Appears Mr. Jefferies saw these people at a more northern garden. ~~site~~ The actual name of the group is MURABU or as Mr. Jefferies says MURUVU, and the site I saw FIMAMOI. Either TOKO or this place would do to see these people but the rest house has been erected at FIMAMOI.
- 24th April. Five hours to ITUMI. This village is not a BEMBI group village and has been visited from Green River and a census carried out.
- 25th April. Walked to WAPITE today over good road made in 1953 by Mr. Saska.
- 26th April. At Wapite. Census revised.

isolated nature of the area.

DIARY (Cont.)

- 27th April. To SUREG two hours. This village is reported to be the most westerly village under Australian Control. The next village west is YAUHA and is under Dutch authority. I feel that it is well inside our territory though. The SUREG people do not belong to the BEMBI group though the WAPIK people do.
- 28th April. Investigating the rumoured population west and south of here. Natives say no population except to the west and that that is all under Dutch jurisdiction. Police looking for roads etc. None found. No information gained on road to AIRBAI. AIRBAI not known.
- 29th April. As yesterday but at WAPIK village.
- 30th April. Nine hours walk over good road, except for latter hour, to No. 1 PAS. Camped.
- 1st May. Ten hours to SUREWINI. Camped.
- 2nd May. Six and one half hours to MBIO No. 1. This route chosen as I had heard Maj. O'Day was on that road and going to Green River and I wished to discuss his proposed route with him.
- 3rd May. Nine and one half hours to Vanias Station.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING. For the most part the people of the BEMBI area live in isolated garden hamlets. These are not permanent, but as the garden planted out ceases to bear, they move to a new site. The term "garden" is perhaps the wrong word as very little is grown in these hamlets. After crossing the range I only was able to buy twenty five pounds of fresh food. Even this was ten pounds better than Mr. Jefferies could obtain in 1954. As these sites are not meant to last the houses are little more than shelters.

In the "villages" where the people gather to meet the patrols similar shelters have been erected. If the population ever remains in these villages, as seems to be the tendency now that many labourers are returning, then drastic measures will have to be taken to insure that better houses are constructed.

It has been pointed out in a former Patrol Report that shortage of steel axes and knives precludes the cutting of decent posts, but in all but the villages where there are no returned workers this shortage is gradually being overcome.

In all cases the villages were dirty and only a gesture toward providing latrines had been made. In most cases there was a latrine for the use of the Patrolling Officer but in four villages even this had not been provided. I do not regard this as particularly liable to spread illness as I am convinced that the people do not visit these villages more

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VILLAGES AND HOUSES, (Cont.) often than the Patrolling Officer. That is, on our present average, three times in about twenty years. Little can be expected unless more regular patrols visit the area.

The communal houses seen at WAPIYE and SUREG are built with many posts not more than three inches in diameter and house up to ten families. In these two villages it is probable that more time is spent in the village than in the rest of the area.

A feature of each village is the single mens houses. These are up to fifty feet by thirty feet. Inside these, as in the communal "married" houses, are clay fire places in rows down each side, and about two yards apart. On cold night fires are lit in these and though the result must produce warmth, most at the same time prove very irritating to mucous membranes, and no ventilation is provided. However, nature, in the form of time, rain, wind and white ants has in most instances ventilated these structures, to a remarkable degree. Remarkable in that they still stand.

Most of the village sites have changed since the last Dept. of Native Affairs Patrol, and many old sites, both of single houses and collections of one or two houses, can be seen in the bush.

The new villages of FUGARI and SUREGWA are exceptions to this rule and are clean pleasant places and though the housing is as yet substandard, the temporary houses are being replaced by better style dwellings.

The IMRIO, LEBRINIS villages are, as is to be expected, in better condition and are quite clean. Most are well laid out and though some houses need repair they are of a good style.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The BRABI census division has a name among both the native and others at Vanimo for being a really uncontrolled area. Uncontrolled it certainly has been from an Administrative angle but a large number of the inhabitants have been to work in the bigger centres. Often for many years. While a deal can no doubt be found in favour of gradual extension of influence I feel that the peculiar sensation one gets in the area is due to a too gradual system of control. In other words plain neglect. This is not the fault of anybody in particular I feel but to the lack of staff and the isolated nature of the area.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.)

The idea that the area is inhabited by little contacted people is carefully fostered by the natives themselves. They appear to think that they evade all responsibilities if they are assumed to be still in "the wild". For example, in a court case concerning neglect of children, after convicting a male, aged about forty years, I asked through the interpreter, if there was any reason ~~what~~ why the prisoner should not go a spell in goal. The answer, duly interpreted to me was- "I am an old man and I have never seen a Patrol Officer before. I have never seen a hospital and didn't know of such things". Unfortunately L/Cpl LIMBI had known this man when he was foreman of a labour "lais" at Bulolo. Many other instances of pretended ignorance were encountered, but not when the interests of those concerned were in jeopardy.

Warnings were received in all the more northern villages that the Southern people would attack the patrol. I did not really believe these at any time though unobtrusive precautions were taken in all the villages.

In 1954 Mr. Jefferies had issued shovels etc. for the construction of roads. Nothing was done until he sent Police to report on the progress when many miles of quite fair road were made. But nothing had been done since that Officer left Vanimo, and I was told that they never had been roads. This in spite of the fact that ~~tenants~~ remain.

All in all the impression gained was that they wished to left to their own devices and not interfered with in any manner. Only constant attention will alter this and it is constant attention that is the most difficult thing to provide from Vanimo. It is no easier to Administer the area from Green River and the population does not warrant a Patrol Post.

perhaps the solution lies in the establishment of an airstrip in a central position which could be used by both the Officers at Green River and Lumi as well as Vanimo. It should be possible for at least one Officer from each of these Stations to spend, say, one to two months working toward their headquarters from this airstrip. With liaison between the three stations this would provide an Officer available in the area for from three to six months of the year.

A possible site for the airstrip should not be hard to

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HAWAII AFFAIRS (Cont.) find. The ground is all flat and the only requirement would be adequate drainage and the necessary population relatively close to it for construction and maintenance. I would suggest that near to ITOMI would be the most suitable. This would be more towards Lumi and Green River but any site really into Vanimo territory would be of no use at all to the other stations.

Perhaps the decline from what was evidently a reasonable position is due to the death of the Luluni of SUBUNAI. It was he who was responsible for the migration of the SUBUNAI people to the north of the range so they could be under contact more readily. It was he who started all the road work in the area and I believe used to inspect this about once every two months and lecture the people, who all respected him, on the need to provide decent roads.

This provision of reasonable roads was pointed out to each village. It was explained that before doctors, Missionaries and agricultural officers etc. could visit then better roads must be built. I am inclined to feel perhaps that the people may twist this a little and rather than correct the faults at present in the roads, will construct even more obstacles to ensure their privacy.

Little in the way of economic advancement can be achieved until a more settled state exists in the area. Even then isolation will play a large part in preventing any agricultural venture other than improvement of subsistence crops. Perhaps the best method for these people would be for them to work the gold that is present in all the rivers, at least higher up in the hills. Several dishes were washed in many of these streams and all gave quite good results. The "colours" at No. 1 in particular were most encouraging. Apart from the fact that many of the natives have already had goldmining experience I felt that the idea should be attractive. But no interest was shown. However I invited any native who was interested and wished to learn the technique, to come to Vanimo Station where he would be taught. Several of my Police work gold in their home villages and understand the procedure including the recovery method using mercury.

The IMBIO people are interested in producing cash crops but, strangely enough not coffee. As a start I advised them to produce good vegetables for consumption at Vanimo. I intend starting a native market, once

NEW AFFAIRS (Cont.) the various crops are ready and I feel that for some years at any rate we should be able to purchase the output from these villages. At the present time the Army Coy. at Vanimo buy vegetables in at an approximate average cost of 2/3 per pound. Some are potatoes etc, but a large amount is made up of vegetables purchased in Newak. If these were available in good supply and condition at Vanimo the Army will be prepared to purchase one ton per week. This, together with the needs of the Administration should guarantee the sale of the produce.

A large number of young girls are married in the BEMBI area well before they reach puberty. This contrasts sharply with the age of their husbands who are in general middle aged to elderly men. Men are regarded as too young to marry until they are nearing thirty five or more. This is no doubt due to the shortage of women in the area. The fact that multiple marriages are common further aggravates this shortage. That few disputes were brought to my notice, concerning women, is probably accounted for in the main by the fact that a large number of single men are absent from the villages and under contract in the larger centres. That they have no wives nor a possible chance of obtaining one for many years will not induce them to return to their villages I feel.

In all, the situation in the BEMBI area is not good and is, I think, unlikely to improve until considerably more interest is shown in them and their problems by the Administration. The isolation of the area is a great factor against these people but it is intended to revisit the villages in the BEMBI tribal group later this year. In the meantime Police will be sent to the area, as numbers permit, to advise and encourage the people on the road construction program.

CENSUS REVISION.

Census revision in the BEMBI census division is difficult. The long period - five years - since the previous census, did not lighten the natural callousness and unwillingness to co-operate. However I should be surprised if a large number of new names were added in the next census. Some of course will be added as those hidden in gardens decide to attend the census.

In the BEMBI villages the decrease shown over the last five years is 76. Thirty eight of this decrease is the result of the largest portion of the Yo people moving back to their original BEMBI site. The other

CENSUS REVISION. (Cont.) half is due to migration also - mainly to other villages not visited ^{this} time patrol, but in the same area. For this reason the comments will be repeated in the report covering the full BEMBI division is submitted. Thus a more reliable comparison can be provided. Nevertheless it is interesting to note that births and deaths over the past five years cause neither a total increase or decrease. This can hardly be called satisfactory.

On the available figures, i.e. less FUGUNUI which could not be "lained" and No. 3. PAB which had no old book, the BEMBI area shows an increase, in the villages censused before, of 72. In addition 223 new names were added in the villages not censused before. However even in the villages that have been previously recorded some new names were entered. These total fifty four. This makes the natural increase in 11% people in five years eighteen. And this by migration in. Deaths exceed births by six.

In a ^{adult} total male population visited of 622 there is an excess of 142 males. In the 10-16 group there is an excess of 50 males in a total of 115. Among the children this male preponderance is 87 in a total of 346. Multiple marriages do not help this shortage of women.

On the other hand the, the fairly high absentee figure, 26%, no doubt removes ^a source of danger in the villages. The effects of these people being absent can be gauged by the little effort at public work attempted by the villagers. However, there are enough people left in the area to do far more than they attempt at present and I feel that it is perhaps better for these single men, who have no chance of taking a wife for many years, to leave the area for a few years.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

In the past little has been known of the area south of the BEMBI mountains and an effort was made on this patrol to fix a little more accurately the river system in the BEMBI territory. Published maps show only one or two rivers but many conflicting reports have been received pointing to the presence of more. For this reason the patrol route was planned so that the head waters of all rivers would be crossed, and after carefully identifying these, to cross the rivers further south. In this way it was thought it would be possible to collect information as to which rivers joined each other, and by following the combined streams north to

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS. (Cont.) FIX the approximate positions of the junctions. However it was found ~~essential~~ unnecessary to follow streams north as all the rivers combine well south of the area visited.

The accompanying map accounts for all the hitherto unexplained difficulties, and while not accurate, enables one to predict to within half an hour, and in many cases less the position of villages and rivers. To position the villages a surveyor would be needed as few compass bearings can be taken, and when they are possible, the hill features are not sufficiently well marked to enable any great degree of accuracy.

Rivers not marked on the published maps have been marked in red.

A possible route to Green River has been causing much interest of late. A very fair route has been marked on the map in violet ink. Much of this road was cut under the direction of the late Mr. G. Serka.

The river marked on the map as the SUKARA is, I think, the BAPI river. The SUKARA is only the southern name for the YSHABU river.

The course of the YISI river as marked is quite undefinite but is the only way in which a nine hour walk (including a long lunch break), from Wapite to No. Pas can be explained. Mr Jeffries mentions a river rising at about the point I have shown the start of the YISI but calls it the YSHABU. It is certainly not the YSHABU as we crossed over to that river.

The area to the west and south of SIMOG and WAPITE is reported to be uninhabited until Dutch Territory is reached. Going west about seven hours from native reports, YAURA is reached. This is controlled by the Netherland people. I should say, unless my map is very many miles out, that actually this is in Australian Territory. The village was not visited as it was thought unwise to perhaps create doubts. Had I been able to fix my position accurately then the position would have been vastly different.

No roads or other evidence of inhabitation to the South of WAPITE or SIMOG could be found. I consider, now that aircraft are available, that before any move is made to enter this area, an airsurvey should be carried out. Then if a patrol should be deemed necessary I would recommend it start from Green River to avoid the difficult climb over the ranges.

If, as I suspect, the Dutch are more to the East than is

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ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS (Cont.)

correct, then it should be possible to find a route over the BEWARI mountains very nearly on the border. Population centres are marked on the maps, both south and north of the range and near the border, but at each attempt to contact these people patrols have entered villages controlled by the Dutch and have returned. This is the only possible move until such time as equipment is available for the accurate "fixing" of these villages.

Roads, are unknown in the BEWARI area now, except for the WAPITS people who have done a great job under the Direction of the Officer in Charge Green River. A large amount of work was formerly carried out in other parts of the area but for the past four years nothing has been done. All walking now is either over hunting "tracks" and along river beds. Every effort was made to get the people to restart this work but will have little effect unless constant supervision is maintained.

The people who live on the SENU and MURAUWA rivers have a great deal of contact with the coast through crossing the mountains and following the RAIBUN river to SIRANO. The Mission penetration to these villages has encouraged this. The IROMI people and those near to them have a deal of contact with LUMI and indeed though as yet not visited by that station had most of their "books" issued on visits to Lumi. For example the EKAS people had been to Lumi and had a village book issued them with the instruction to wait until the Vanies Patrol Officer visited the area and then contact him. This they did, and the suggestion that they build a rest house and police barracks was much appreciated. Most of the people who have left the area have left via Lumi.

On the northern side of the ranges the roads are fair, though little attention has been given them in recent years. From SURUMINI to No. 1 PAS there is no road and one walks in steep river beds. Should rain fall these "roads" are extremely dangerous. This patrol was caught like this on the return trip but luckily the rain ~~stopped~~ only lasted half an hour. Even so the river rose two feet and extreme care was necessary to avoid accident.

Better roads are regarded as essential and every effort will be made to improve them. In most places roads could be cut along the sides of the rivers thus avoiding the biggest obstacle to rapid walking. Even so it will be some time before the BEWARI area can be patrolled without hardship.

SCHOOLS AND MISSIONS. There are no schools or churches in the area visited though of course the IREIC group are visited more or less regularly by the Father in Charge from Vanimo. In the BEMBI division only those natives on the MURANA river and the villages of TAMINE, HEBIKE and So? two PAS have any contact with the Missions. So far I believe they have been visited twice from the Catholic Mission at SIGARA. A number of HEBIKE people are thinking of moving to the RAIBOR (more correctly I think RAINBOR - rain-water/brom - big in Siacno language) to avail themselves of the services of the Mission there.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK. Generally the agricultural picture in the BEMBI is poor. Even the native gardens seem to be a spare time effort and only tended when the sago has been prepared. The whole life depends on the sago palm and though none is planted the various families row about till a suitable clump of sago palm is found and then sit down and eat it until it is finished. Only temporary houses are built and the gardens made near these houses have practically nothing but sugar cane and bananas.

Figs appear to be plentiful, both wild and semi-tame. All kinds of other game is abundant and in this regard the people are very fortunate.

In a separate letter I have requested that seeds be made available for distribution to this and other areas Administered from Vanimo.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 3 of 1955-56.

Appendix "A". Health.

Generally the health in the two areas visited is poor. Many cases of yaws were seen and treated by H.M.O. LANA who carried out his duties very satisfactorily. However supplies of penicillin soon were ~~was~~ finished and a number of people suffering from yaws were ordered to Vanimo for treatment. Other sores and illnesses were noticed and treated where possible and the others sent to Hospital. However even in those cases where no particular illness was seen the physical condition of the natives did not improve.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 3 of 1955-56.

Appendix "B". Village Officials. All were rather below average and in each village the duties and powers of the village officials was explained to them and to the assembled villagers. As no record can be found concerning the appointment of the undesignated Officials in some cases it was found impossible to prosecute various natives for disobedience of orders. Could the appointments be checked from records held either in Aitape or Newak please and this Office advised.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Luluan</u>	<u>Tul-tul</u>	<u>H.T.T.</u>
IBIHO No.1	ANET	YIYI	BALPI
" No.2		SUNO	BAR
" No.3	IMBRI	SU	SOB
SAMARAU	D-JEU	RIKPI	
IBIRIS	ANAP	URI-A	YAKI
SUBUHINI	YAN	PURAI	SUNO
YO	UTAI	MURLEI	
No.1 PAS	NAU	ANAI	AIRIA
FUGURUI	KIRA	PUI	PABIS
FUGARI	YEVDA	ISI-A	
No.2 PAS	PAGARI	YIT	OPU
NEBES	PAITSI	PWIT	PIMI
GAMBA TAMINS	SUGUMA	WODI	PANO
No.3 PAS	OPUMA	MIBAS	TU-SI
AIAMINA	SAGIR	ABAGI	
MUMANA	YESI	K'BO	
SEAS	SCHA	DUGANI	
FINAMOI	WAI-I	AVGOGO	
WAPIS	YAM	BUSKPI	
SUBOG	POIPOI-I	WARAU	

Yanimo Patrol Report No. 3 of 1955-56.

Appendix "c"

Police.

Six police were taken on this patrol. Though the area is not uncontrolled it was thought that a fair number of police Constables would not be overcaution but necessary. All the Consts. worked well under the able direction of 1/Cpl. LUMIBI.

1/Cpl LUMIBI 6395	A man entirely N.C.O. still with the N.C.O.'s school polish.
Const NYAMA 6640	A good Const. Enrolled for N.C.O.'s course
Const MUBANO 6496.	A good sound Const. Local knowledge helpful.
Const KIMBAVI 8355.	A good average policeman not afraid of hard work
Const AINA No.1.9062.	A relatively new Const. but cheerful and willing and can obey orders.
Const BOMA 9051	Same as for Const. AINA. These two Chimbu men work better together than apart.

Yanimo Patrol Report No 3. of 1955-56.

Appendix "d"

Anthropological.

A Nil

B Nil

Yanimo Patrol Report No 3 of 1955-56.

Appendix "e"

Alienated land.

Nil.



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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. VAN 3 of 1955-56

Patrol Conducted by BARRY ALLEN RYAN P.O.

Area Patrolled IMBIO and BEMBI CENSUS DIVISIONS

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives SEVEN

Duration—From 26./3/1956 to 3./5/1956

Number of Days Thirty Nine

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No.

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 12/1951

Medical ... 1/1947

Map Reference Army Strat. Series Aitape Sheet 4M = 1in and Patrol Map.

Objects of Patrol Routine Administration census revision contact of new villages and investigate river systems.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

26/6 1956

Stoll-Smith
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 ... £.....

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

NA. 30-11-24

24th December, 1956.

District Officer,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

Patrol Report - Vanimo - VAN 3 of 1955-56

Mr. Ryan has done a good job in difficult country and under most disheartening conditions. The sparse population and difficulty of access is sufficient to let Mr. Ryan know that we are aware of the problems and appreciate the value of such a patrol, although the results obtained appear less than obtained in more populous regions.

His border remarks are confirmed by the Army Patrol Report.

His suggestion re an aerodrome for temporary occupation of sparsely populated areas sounds reasonable if it is not a major work. It could well be considered in other similar areas.

(J.A. Roberts)
Director. JIM

P/A

4/1/57

29/6/56 ✓

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



WEW.P.R.3/55-56/890 - Vanimo

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

6th June, 1956.

Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
WEWAK Port Moresby.

PATROL REPORT - VANIMO - VAN 3 OF 1955-56

VILLAGES.

These people are obviously semi nomads, the description of the housing is most interesting.

NATIVE AFFAIRS

The attitude of the natives is not remarkable in consideration of the few visits made to them in their villages. Consideration shall be given to the best method of patrolling this area.

It is not uncommon for Native people throughout the Territories to have young girls who have not yet reached puberty married to middle aged men. This is common in both "Sister Exchange" communities and "Bride Price" communities: The old men have all the money.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

It is suggested that the presence of gold at No.1 FAS be brought to the notice of the Director, of Lands, Surveys and Mines.

Census Revision must be regarded as satisfactory, taking into consideration the circumstances.

ROADS

With the sparse population we can hope for little better than clear food pads at this stage.

This Patrol Report will be brought before the notice of the District Commissioner before he proceeds to Dutch New Guinea early next week in order that he can discuss border villages with the Dutch authorities.

No doubt the people leaving the area follow the old roads followed by the Malay Bird of Paradise shooters who used to operate in this area during the period it was under German control.

This is obviously the most backward area and we should not expect too much from the people in it at present.

J. E. Aitchison
(T.G. AITCHISON)
DISTRICT OFFICER

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Sub - district Office ;
AITAPE ,
Sepik District .

29th May , 1956 .

The District Officer ,
District Headquarters ,
Sepik District ,
WENAK .

Vanimo Patrol Report No 3 of 1955 /56 .
DMBO and BEMBI Census Divisions .

Two copies of the above report are forwarded herewith .

As Mr. Ryan states , the area has not been patrolled since 1951 and conditions are , therefore , not surprising .

Access to the four inland census divisions - the DMBO , BEMBI , FAGI and KILMEPI , is provided only by following up the river systems . This , together with the staff situation at Vanimo , has prevented any development of the area .

Mr Ryan has again brought up the matter of border villages ; your memorandum 1 - 2 - 9 of 14 th April 1956 refers , but until the position of these villages is fixed by astro-survey little can be done .

K. V. BROWN

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Vanimo,
Patrol Post,
Sepik District.

Vanimo Patrol Report No.3 of 1955-56.

Conducted By : Mr. B.A. Ryan P.O.

Area Patrolled : IMBIO, IMBRINIS and BEMBI.

Duration : 26th March - 3rd May 1956.
39 Days.

Objects of Patrol : Routine Administration,
Contact of new villages,
Investigate River System.

Last Patrol: Jan. Dec. 1951 by Mr. A.C. Jeffery
es.

Accompanied by : Six members R.P.N.G.C.
One Native Medical Orderly.

Map Reference : Amended copy of Vanimo and Aitape
sheets Army Strat. Series
1 inch equals 4 miles. Enclosed.

Barry A. Ryan P.O.

Patrol Report Van No. 3 of 1955-56.

INTRODUCTION. This patrol, to one of the most isolated and neglected areas of the Sepik District, was at times quite arduous and in general most depressing. Strenuous, due mainly to neglect of roads but also due to the patrol route which was planned to cut across the head-waters of all the main rivers and again lower down. The feeling of depression gathered was due in part to the apathetic attitude of the natives and the poverty of the area. It was further heightened by the continual rain. In a total of thirty nine days only the day of departure and the day of return were without rain.

Over two hundred new names were recorded and five villages not previously visited were inspected. I would be surprised if there are many more natives in the area that were not seen by this patrol, but the scattered garden sites give the impression that some natives at least did not gather to meet the patrol.

It had been intended to cross over the BEWANI Ranges from Wapite to Ainbai but a glance at the enclosed map will explain why this was found impracticable. As the patrol had to return to at least SUMUNMINI and the hard walking had damaged the feet of the natives no point could be seen in not returning to Vanimo Station.

DIARY.

- 26th March. Departed Vanimo Patrol Post, arriving NINGERA village three hours later. Camped.
- 27th March. To IMBIO No.1 over fair road. This six hour walk could be very pleasant had the road been attended to in the past five years. Camped.
- 28th March. Census revised at No.1 IMBIO and patrol moved to No. 2 IMBIO
- 29th March. To IMBIO No. 3, which is one hour to the East of No.1 IMBIO. Census revised and camped.
- 30th March. One and one half hours pleasant walk to SAMARARU. Camped.
- 31st March. Census revised at SAMARARU and patrol returned to No.1 IMBIO. Camped.
- 1st April. Sunday. Observed at IMBIO No.1.
- 2nd April. Patrol walked to IMBRINIS over a fair road. Two and one half hours. Camped. Census revised.
- 3rd April. To SUMUNMINI four and one half hours over good road. Camped.
- 4th April. Census revised for both SUMUNMINI and the remnants of YO village. The greater portion of this village have returned to original ground South of the range.

DIARY. (Cont.)

- 5th April. Ten hours spent crossing the DEWANI Range over river beds. Arrived No.1 FAS or KILIWAS. Camped.
- 6th April. Police visiting hamlets to inform people I had arrived and they should obey the orders of the Luluai.
- 7th April. Census revised at KILIWAS though four men, with their families failed to attend.
- 8th April. One hour to FUGUMUI. Deserted but for Officials who reported villagers refused to attend.
- 9th April. Searching hamlets for inhabitants.
- 10th April. Searching for inhabitants. So few found census revision impossible. Only reason given for non attendance was pure apathy.
- 11th April. Four hours to FUGARI which is the new village formed by the children of the people who were brought from this village to YO before the 1959 war. Census revised. Camped.
- 12th April. To FAS no. 2. One hour. Camped census revised.
- 13th April. Walked to NEBIKE. Five hours. Camped.
- 14th April. Census revised at NEBIKE. Many absent in Aitape area where new village may be formed.
- 15th April. At NEBIKE due heavy rain.
- 16th April. A four hour slip and slide to TAMINE. Census revised.
- 17th April. Eleven and one half hours along native hunting track to No.3 Fas. This route was chosen to avoid sleeping on the road and also to enable the patrol to avoid retracing its route.
- 18th April. Census revised at No.3 FAS.
- 19th April. Very nearly two hours downstream (the MUNAUWA) to AIAMINA.
- 20th April. To MUNAUWA or WOTAI village. A "new" village formed in a largish part by people who had formerly gathered at AIAMINA. Census revised. Camped.
- 21st April. Half an hour downstream to EKAS. Not visited before but had had village book and Official's hats appointed from LUMI and had been told by A,D,O, Lumi to await the P.O. from Vanimo.
- 22nd April. At EKAS.
- 23rd April. To FINAMOI or MUNABU. ~~Five~~ ^{Four} hours. This village not seen before though the people are from TOKO village. Appears Mr. Jefferies saw these people at a more northern garden. ~~site~~ The actual name of the group is MUNABU or as Mr. Jefferies says MUNOVU, and the site I saw FINAMOI. Either TOKO or this place would do to see these people but the rest house has been erected at FINAMOI.
- 24th April. Five hours to ITOMI. This village is not a BRIBI group village and has been visited from Green River and a census carried out.
- 25th April. Walked to WAPITE today over good road made in 1953 by Mr. Sarka.
- 26th April. At Wapite. Census revised.

DIARY (Cont.)

27th April. To SUMOG two hours. This village is reported to be the most Westerly village under Australian Control. The next village West is YAURA and is under Dutch authority. I feel that it is well inside our Territory though. The SUMOG people do not belong to the BEMBI group though the WAPITE people do.

28th April. Investigating the rumoured population west and South of here. Natives say no population except to the West and that that is all under Dutch jurisdiction. Police looking for roads etc. None found. No information gained on road to AINBAI. AINBAI not known.

29th April. As yesterday but at WAPITE village.

30th April. Nine hours walk over good road, except for latter hour, to No.1 FAS. Camped.

1st May. Ten hours to SUMUNMINI. Camped.

2nd May. Six and one half hours to IMBIO No. 1. This route chosen as I had heard Maj. O'Day was on that road and going to Green River and I wished to discuss his proposed route with him.

3rd May. Nine and one half hours to Vanimo Station.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING. For the most part the people of the BEMBI area live in isolated garden hamlets. These are not permanent, but as the garden planted out ceases to bear, they move to a new site. The term "garden" is perhaps the wrong word as very little is grown in these hamlets. After crossing the range I only was able to buy twenty five pounds of fresh food. Even this was ten pounds better than Mr. Jefferies could obtain in 1951. As these sites are not meant to last the houses are little more than shelters.

In the "villages" where the people gather to meet the Patrols similar shelters have been erected. If the population ever remains in these villages, as seems to be the tendency now that many labourers are returning, then drastic measures will have to be taken to insure that better houses are constructed.

It has been pointed out in a former Patrol Report that shortage of steel axes and knives precludes the cutting of decent posts, but in all but the villages where there are no returned workers this shortage is gradually being overcome.

In all cases the villages were dirty and only a gesture toward providing latrines had been made. In most cases there was a latrine for the use of the Patrolling Officer but in four villages even this had not been provided. I do not regard this as particularly liable to spread illness as I am convinced that the people do not visit these villages more

VILLAGES AND HOUSING, (Cont.) often than the Patrolling Officer. That is, on our present average, three times in about twenty years. Little can be expected unless more regular patrols visit the area.

The communal houses seen at WAPITE and SUMOG are built with many posts not more than three inches in diameter and house up to ten families. In these two villages it is probable that more time is spent in the village than in the rest of the area.

A feature of each village is the single mens houses. These are up to fifty feet by thirty feet. Inside these, as in the communal "married" houses, are clay fire places in rows down each side, and about two yards apart. On cold night fires are lit in these and though the result must produce warmth, must at the same time prove very irritating to mucous membranes, ^{as} and no ventilation is provided. However, nature, in the form of time, rain, wind and white ants has in most instances ventilated these structures, to a remarkable degree. Remarkable in that they still stand.

Most of the village sites have changed since the last Dpt. of Native Affairs Patrol, and many old sites, both of single houses and collections of one or two houses, can be seen in the bush.

The new villages of FUGARI and MUNAUWA are exceptiond to this rule and are clean pleasant places and though the housing is as yet substandard, the temporary houses are being replaced by better style dwellings.

The IMBIO, IMBRINIS villages are, as is to be expected, in better condition and are quite clean. Most are well laid out and though some houses need repair they are of a good style.

NATIVE AFFAIRS,

The BRMBI census division has a name among both the natives and others at Vanimo for being a really uncontrolled area. Uncontrolled it certainly has been from an Administrative angle but a large number of the inhabitants have been to work in the bigger centres. Often for many years. While a deal can no doubt be found in favour of gradual extension of influence I feel that the peculiar sensation one gets in the area is due to a too gradual sytem of con^trol. In other words plain neglect. This is not the fault of anybody in particular I feel but to the lack of staff and the isolated nature of the area.

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.)

The idea that the area is inhabited by little contacted people is carefully fostered by the natives themselves. They appear to think that they evade all responsibilities if they are assumed to be still in "the wild". For example, in a court case concerning neglect of children, after convicting a male, aged about forty years, I asked through the interpreter, if there was any reason ~~WHY~~ why the prisoner should not do a spell in gaol. The answer, duly interpreted to me was- "I am an old man and I have never seen a Patrol Officer before. I have never seen a hospital and didn't know of such 'things". Unfortunately L/Cpl LINIBI had known this man when he was foreman of a labour "lain" at Bulolo. Many other instances of pretended ignorance were encountered, but not when the interests of those concerned were in jeopardy.

Warnings were received in all the more northern villages that the Southern people would attack the patrol. I did not really believe these at any time though unobtrusive precautions were taken in all the villages.

In 1954 Mr. Jefferies had issued shovels etc. for the construction of roads. Nothing was done until he sent Police to report on the progress when many miles of quite fair road were made. But nothing had been done since that Officer left Vanimo, and I was told that there never had been roads. This in spite of the fact that tenants remain.

All in all the impression gained was that they wished to left to their own devices and not interfered with in any manner. Only constant attention will alter this and it is constant attention that is the most difficult thing to provide from Vanimo. It is no easier to Administer the area from Green River and the population does not warrant a Patrol Post.

perhaps the solution lies in the establishment of an airstrip in a central position which could be used by both the Officers at Green River and Lumi as well as Vanimo. It should be possible for at least one Officer from each of these Stations to spend, say, one to two months working toward their headquarters from this airstrip. With liason between the three stations this would provide an Officer available in the area for from three to six months of the year.

A possible site for the airstrip should not be hard to

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.) find. The ground is all flat and the only requirements would be adequate drainage and the necessary population relatively close to it for construction and maintenance. I would suggest that near to ITOMI would be the most suitable. This would be more towards Lumi and Green River but any site really into Vanimo territory would be of no use at all to the other stations.

Perhaps the decline from what was evidently a reasonable position is due to the death of the Luluai of SUMUMMINI. It was he who was responsible for the migration of the SUMUMMINI people to the north of the range so they could be under contact more readily. It was he who started all the road work in the area and I believe used to inspect this about once every two months and lecture the people, who all respected him, on the need to provide decent roads.

This provision of reasonable roads was pointed out to each village. It was explained that before doctors, Missionaries and agricultural Officers etc. could visit them better roads must be built. I am inclined to feel perhaps that the people may twist this a little and rather than correct the faults at present in the roads, will construct even more obstacles to ensure their privacy.

Little in the way of economic advancement can be achieved until a more settled state exists in the area. Even then isolation will play a large part in preventing any agricultural venture other than improvement of ~~subsistence~~ subsistence crops. Perhaps the best method for these people would be for them to work the gold that is present in all the rivers, at least higher up in the hills. Several dishes were washed in many of these streams and all gave quite good results. The "colours" at No. 1 in particular were most encouraging. ^{FAS} Apart from the fact that many of the natives have already had goldmining experience I felt that the idea should be attractive. But no interest was shown. However I invited any native who was interested and wished to learn the technique, to come to Vanimo Station where he would be taught. Several of my Police work gold in their home villages and understand the procedure including the recovery method using mercury.

The IMBIO people are interested in producing cash crops but, strangely enough not copra. As a start I advised them to produce good vegetables for consumption at Vanimo. I intend starting a native market, once

NATIVE AFFAIRS (Cont.) the various crops are ready and I feel that for some years at any rate we should be able to purchase the output from these villages. At the present time the Army Coy. at Vanimo fly vegetables in at an approximate average cost of 2/3 per pound. Some are potatoes etc, but a large amount ~~is~~ is made up of vegetables purchased in Wewak. If these were available in good supply and condition at Vanimo the Army will be prepared to purchase one ton per week. This, together with the needs of the Administration should guarantee the sale of the produce.

A large number of young girls are married in the BEMBI area well before they reach puberty. This contrasts stragely with the age of their husbands who are in general middle aged to elderly men. Men are regarded as too young to marry until they are nearing thirty five or more. This is no doubt due to the shortage of women in the area. The fact that multiple marriages are common further ~~aggravates~~ aggravates this shortage. That few disputes were brought to my notice, concerning women, is probably accounted for in the main by the fact that a large number of single men are absent from the villages and under contract in the larger centres. That they have no wives nor a possible chance of obtaining one for many years will not induce them to return to their villages I feel.

In all, the situation in the BEMBI area is not good and is, I think, unlikely to improve until considerably more interest is shown in them and their problems by the Administration. The isolation of the area is a great factor against these people but it is intended to revisit the villages in the BEMBI tribal group later this year. In the meantime Police will be sent to the area, as numbers permit, to advise and encourage the people on the road construction program.

CENSUS REVISION.

Census revision in the BEMBI census division is difficult. The long period - five years - since the previous census, did not lighten the natural sullenness and unwillingness to co-operate. However I should be surprised if a large number of new names were added in the next census. Some of course will be added as those hidden in gardens decide to attend the census

In the IMBIO villages the decrease shown over the last five years is 76. Thirty eight of this decrease is the result of the largest portion of the YO people moving back to their original BEMBI site. The other

CENSUS REVISION. (Cont.) half is due to migration also - mainly to other villages not visited ^{this} time patrol, but in the same area. For this reason the comments will be repeated in the report covering the full IMBIO division is submitted. Thus a more reliable comparison can be provided. Nevertheless it is interesting to note that births and deaths over the past five years cause neither a total increase or decrease. This can hardly be called satisfactory.

On the available figures, i.e. less FUGUNUI which could not be "lained" and No.3. FAS which had no old book, the BEMBI area shows an increase, in the villages censused before, of 72. In addition 223 new names were added in the villages not censused before. However even in the villages that have been previously recorded some new names were entered. These total fifty four. This makes the natural increase in 1174 people in five years eighteen. And this ^{adult} by migration in. Deaths exceed births by six.

In a total ^{adult} male population visited of 622 there is an excess of 142 males. In the 10-16 group there is an excess of 50 males in a total of 115. Among the children this male preponderance is 87 in a total of 346. Multiple marriages do not help this shortage of women.

On the other hand the, the fairly high absentee figure, 26%, ^a no doubt removes/source of danger in the villages. The effects of these people being absent can be gauged by the little effort at public work attempted by the villagers. However, there are enough people left in the area to do far more than they attempt at present and I feel that it is perhaps better for these single men, who have no chance of taking a wife for many years, to leave the area for a few years.

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS.

In the past little has been known of the area south of the BEWANI mountains and an effort was made on this patrol to fix a little more accurately the river system in the BEMI territory. Published maps show only one or two rivers but many conflicting reports have been received pointing to the presence of more. For this reason the patrol route was planned so that the head waters of all rivers would be crossed, and after carefully identifying these, to cross the rivers further south. In this way it was thought it would be possible to collect information as to which rivers joined each other, and by following the combined streams north to

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS. (Cont.) FIX the approximate positions of the junctions. However it was found ~~UNNECESSARY~~ unnecessary to follow streams north as all the rivers combine well south of the area visited.

The accompanying map accounts for all the hitherto unexplained difficulties, and while not accurate, enables one to predict to within half an hour, and in many cases less the position of villages and rivers. To position the villages a surveyor would be needed as few compass bearings can be taken, and when they are possible, the hill features are not sufficiently well marked to enable any great degree of accuracy.

Rivers not marked on the published maps have been marked in red.

A possible route to Green River has been causing much interest of late. A very fair route has been marked on the map in violet ink. Much of this road was cut under the direction of the late Mr. G. Sarka.

The river marked on the map as the SUKARA is, I think, the LAPI river. The SUKARA is only the southern name for the YENABU river.

The course of the YISI river as marked is quite indefinite but is the only way in which a nine hour walk (including a long lunch break), from Wapite to Ho. Fas can be explained. Mr Jefferies mentions a river rising at about the point I have shown the start of the YISI but calls it the YENABU. It is certainly not the YENABU as we crossed over to that river.

The area to the west and south of SIMOG and WAPITE is reported to be uninhabited until Dutch Territory is reached. Going west about seven hours, from native reports, YAURA is reached. This is controlled by the Netherland people. I should say, unless my map is very many miles out, that actually this is in Australian Territory. The village was not visited as it was thought unwise to perhaps create doubts. Had I been able to fix my position accurately then the position would have been vastly different.

No roads or other evidence of inhabitation to the South of WAPITE or SIMOG could be found. I consider, now that aircraft are available, that before any move is made to enter this area, an airsurvey should be carried out. Then if a patrol should be deemed necessary I would recommend it start from Green River to avoid the difficult climb over the ranges.

If, as I suspect, the Dutch are more to the East than is

ROADS AND COMMUNICATIONS (Cont.)

correct, then it should be possible to find a route over the BEWANI mountains very nearly on the border. Population centres are marked on the maps, both south and north of the range and near the border, but at each attempt to contact these people patrols have entered villages controlled by the Dutch and have returned. This is the only possible move until such time as equipment is available for the accurate "fixing" of these villages.

Roads, are unknown in the BEMBI area now, except for the WAPITE people who have done a great job under the Direction of the Officer In Charge Breen River. A large amount of work was formerly carried out in other parts of the area but for the past four years nothing has been done. All walking now is either over hunting "tracks" and along river beds. Every effort was made to get the people to restart this work but will have little effect unless constant supervision is maintained.

The people who live on the SENU and MUNAUWA rivers have a great deal of contact with the coast through crossing the mountains and following the RAIBOM river to SISANO. The Mission penetration to these villages has encouraged this. The ITOMI people and those near to them have a deal of contact with LUMI and indeed though as yet not visited by that station had most of their "books" issued on visits to Lumi. For example the EKAS people had been to Lumi and had a village book issued them with the instruction to wait until the Vanimo Patrol Officer visited the area and then contact him. This they did, and the suggestion that they build a rest house and police barracks was much appreciated. Most of the people who have left the area have left via Lumi.

On the northern side of the ranges the roads are fair, though little attention has been given them in recent years. From SUMUNMINI to No. 1 FAS there is no road and one walks in steep river beds. Should rain fall these "roads" are extremely dangerous. This patrol was caught like this on the return trip but luckily the rain ~~stopped~~ only lasted half an hour. Even so the river rose two feet and extreme care was necessary to avoid accident.

Better roads are regarded as essential and every effort will be made to improve them. In most places roads could be cut along the sides of the rivers thus avoiding the biggest obstacle to rapid walking. Even so it will be some time before the BEMBI area can be patrolled without hardshi

SCHOOLS AND MISSIONS. There are no schools or churches in the area visited though of course the IMBIO group are visited more or less regularly by the Father In Charge from Vanimo. In the BEMBI division only those natives on the MUNAUWA river and the villages of TAMINE, NEBIKE and No2 two FAS have any contact with the Missions. So far I believe they have been visited twice from the Catholic Mission at SISANA. A number of NEBIKE people are thinking of moving to the RAIBOM (more correctly I think RAINBROM - rain= water/brom = big in Sisano language) to avail themselves of the services of the Mission there.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK. Generally the agricultural picture in the BEMBI is poor. Even the native gardens seem to be a spare time effort and only tendered when the sago has been prepared. The whole life depends on the sago palm and though none is planted the various families roam about till a suitable clump of sago palm is found and then sit down and eat it until it is finished. Only temporary houses are built and the gardens made near these houses have practically nothing but sugar cane and bannanas.

Pigs appear to be plentiful, both wild and semi-tame. All kinds of other game is abundant and in this regard the people are very fortunate.

In a separate letter I have requested that seeds be made available for distribution to this and other areas Administered from Vanimo.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 3 of 1955-56.

Appendix "A". Health.

Generally the health in the two areas visited is poor. Many cases of yaws were seen and treated by N.M.O. LAWA who carried out his duties very satisfactorily. However supplies of penicilan soon were ~~XXXX~~ finished and a number of people suffering from yaws were ordered to Vanimo for treatment. Other sores and illnesses were noticed and treated where possible and the others sent to Hospital. However even in those cases where no particular illness was seen the physical condition of the natives did not impress.

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 3 of 1955-56.

Appendix "B". Village Officials. All were rather below average and in each village the duties and powers of the village Officials was explained to them and to the assembled villagers. As no record can be found concerning the appointment of the undermentioned Officials in some cases it was found impossible to prosecute various natives for disobedience of orders. Could the appointments be checked from records held either in Aitape or Wewak please and this Office advised.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Luluai</u>	<u>Tul-tul</u>	<u>M.T.T.</u>
IMBYO No.1	ANKI	YEIYEI	BAIPI
" No.2		SUWO	BAK
" No.3		SU	SOM
SAMARARU	IMBRI	NEIPI	
IMRINIS	DENSU	SEI-A	YAKI
SUMUNMINI	AMEP	FUARI	SUMO
YO	YAN		
No.1 FAS	UTEI	NUMLEI	
FUGUMUI	NAU	AMEI	AINSA
FUGARI	KIMA	PUTI	PARIS
No.2 FAS	YEVDA	BBI-A	
NEBIKE	PAGANI	YIT	OPU
XXXX TAMINE	PAITEI	PWIT	FIMI
No.3 FAS	WOGUMA	WODI	PATO
AIAM NA	OFUMA	MINAS	TU-WI
MUNAUWA	WAGIR	AMAGI	
EKAS	YESI	KABO	
FINAMOI	SOMA	DUGANI	
WAPITE	WAI-I	AVAGOGO	
SUMOG	YEM	BWERPI	
	POIPOI-I	WANAU	

Vanimo Patrol Report No. 3 of 1955-56.

Appendix "C" Police. Six police were taken on this patrol. Though the area is not uncontrolled it was thought that a fair number of police Constables would not be overcaution but necessary. All the Consts. worked well under the able direction of L/Cpl. LINIBI.

L/Cpl LINIBI 6395 A keen untiring N.C.O. still with the N.C.O's school polish.
Const NYAGA 6640 A good Const. Enrolled for N.C.O's course
Const HOMANO 6496. A good sound Const. Local knowledge helpful.
Const KIMSAVI 8335. A good average policeman not afraid of hard work
Const AINA No.1.9062. A relatively new Const. but cheerful and willing and can obey orders.
Const BOMA 9031 Remarks as for Const. AINA. These two Chimbu men work better together than apart.

Vanimo Patrol Report No 3. of 1955-56.

Appendix "D" Anthropological.

A Nil
B Nil

Vanimo Patrol Report No 3 of 1955-56.

Appendix "E" Alienated land.

Nil.

VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER

 Year 1956

IMBIC

BEMBA

CENSUS DIVISION

VANIEC

Govt. Print - 2532/7.51

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	BIRTHS		DEATHS												MIGRATIONS				ABSENT FROM VILLAGE AT WORK				VILLAGE STUDENTS				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES		TOTALS (Excluding Absentees)				GRAND TOTAL	
				0-1 Mth.		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth	In		Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission		Males		Females		Female Population	Male Population	Child		Adults		
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			M	F	M		F
		10-16		16-45		10-16		16-45		10-16		16-45		10-16		16-45		10-16		16-45		10-16		16-45		10-16		16-45		10-16		16-45		10-16		16-45			
IMBIC No. 1	28-3-56	6	10	1	3	2	3	1	1	1	4	7	1	1	2	4	2									2	24	2	25	3	24	17	20	33	32	104			
IMBIC No. 2	28-3-56	4	1				1				6	4	1	4	2	6	1	4								1	14	11	4	11	12	4	12	45					
IMBIC No. 3	29-3-56	6	4								5	2	3	7	3		9								3	21	5	20	2	20	14	15	42	26	82				
SAMBARAU	30-3-56	3									2	2	1	2	1	1	2								2	10	2	6	6	9	3	8	8	27					
IMBRINIS	2-4-56	12	14	2	1				1		11	7	2	2	2	2	1	3								3	45	7	32	1	32	25	30	45	65	149			
		31	29	3	2	4	1	1	1		22	22	1	6	15	9	16	3	20						11	104	16	94	10	93	73	72	116	123	407				
SURUNZINI	4-4-56	4	5			1	2	2	1		5	6	1	3	5	7		4								4	32	2	27	4	27	16	11	33	35	99			
YO	4-4-56	2	4			1	2				6	5	2	3	11		8								1	6	14	4	9	8	14	6	9	10	45				
KILIWAS	2-4-56	6	5					1	1		5	4	6	20	18	2	6								12	28	7	23	1	23	27	24	28	36	124				
FUGUWAI	IMPASSIBLE TO		REVISE CENSUS																																				
FUGARI	11-4-56	NEW		CENSUS												8								12				12		23				12		66			
FAS No. 2	12-4-56	7	6			1	2	1	1		6	4	3	10	3		11										7	44	7	27	2	27	15	14	39	35	119		
NEBIKE	13-4-56	11	9					1			6	2	5	4	2	1	12						9	2	16	50	3	30	1	30	37	26	44	33	164				
TAMINE	16-4-56	13	11	1	2				1	1	7	3	2	6	3		7								11	42	1	33	3	33	36	16	48	26	145				
FAS No. 3	12-4-56	5	1										1			8										9	24	2	12	4	12	15	7	20	15	65			
AIAMINA	19-4-56	6	2	2			1	1	1		2	2	2	1	9	18	4								6	29	1	21	1	21	17	9	23	22	80				
MANOUWA	20-4-56	NEW CENSUS																3								13				13		6				14		53	
EKAS	21-4-56	NEW CENSUS																5								9				9		3				14		33	

VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER

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

BEMBI CENSUS DIVISION VANIMC

Govt. Print-3251/7-51.

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	BIRTHS		DEATHS										MIGRATIONS				ABSENT FROM VILLAGE AT WORK				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES Pregnant or Nursing or lactating	Average Size of Family	TOTALS (Excluding Absentees)				GRAND TOTAL								
				0-1 Mth.		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth	In		Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.			Mission		Males			Females		Child		Adults			
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F						
FINAMEI	22-4-56																																							
WAPITE	26-4-56	6	11	1	1	1	1			2				4	2	2	2											12	46	7	35	2	35	31	26	48	46	161		
SUMOG	27-4-56	6	4	1	1			1	1					4	3	3	2											10	33	5	32	2	32	26	17	27	64	129		
		66	52	5	4	2	2	6	8	4	6	1		50	31	2	2	24	35	32	62	3						10	2	104	40	49	281	18	271	272	157	365	377	1313



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of S.E. PIA Report No. VAN 4/1955 SG.

Patrol Conducted by Barry A Ryan P.O.

Area Patrolled KILMERE CEASUS DIVISION.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL.

M. W. 1961 A.M.P.
Natives 4 members R.P.N.G.C. 4 N.M.O.

Duration—From 28.1.5/1956 to 9.1.6/1956

Number of Days 15

Did Medical Assistant accompany? YES

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1/1/1956

Medical ... T/1948

Map Reference Wainimo about Army Post base - Patrol Map.

Objects of Patrol Peruse revision Routine administration

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ 19

District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £ _____

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

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

pula

30-1-1

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Vanimo,
Patrol Post,
Sepik District.

Van 30-3.

26th June 1956.

The Assistant District Officer,
Sub-District Headquarters,
AITAPE.

Vanimo Patrol Report No 4. of 1955-56.

Herewith three copies of the above report for your comment and further action, please.

Claims for Patrol Allowance are also enclosed for your signature and forwarding, please.

Barry A. Ryan P.O.
O.I.C. Vanimo.

Bill,

Your copy of report for report No 1 still
under way. Will forward when I can get
around to finishing it.

Barry.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Vanimo,
Patrol Post,
Sepik District.

Vanimo Patrol Report No.4 of 1955-56.

Conducted by.	Mr. B.A. Ryan P.O.
Area Patrolled.	KILASRI Census Division.
Duration.	28th May to 9th June 13 days.
Objects of patrol.	Census revision and routine Administration.
Last Patrol.	January 1954.
Accompanied by.	Mr. W. Moi. AMP. 4 members R.P.N.G.C. 3 N.M.O.S.
Map Reference.	Vanimo sheet Army Strat Series. 4mls. to the inch. Patrol Map accompanying.

Barry A. Ryan
Barry A. Ryan P.O.

INTRODUCTION.

The Patrol was a very normal routine Patrol and nothing untoward occurred.

In company with most other parts of the Vanimo Area the KILMERI people have been left overlong to their own devices and the evident decline in general bearing was perhaps the most noticeable feature. As yet these people are semi nomadic and unless constant attention is paid them they will find the old manners the most comfortable and slip back.

It has been the practice in the past to patrol this area with the PAGI people but this was avoided this patrol. It was felt that a patrol a few weeks later, hurried though it might be, though the KILMERI to the PAGI people would have a more beneficial effect - as well as to allow me an opportunity to see the results of directions and suggestions. A rapid patrol to the PAGI area has been made since and the lack of attention to directions was most evident. I was warned that I should be returned to the PAGI in the near future and advised to start the necessary cleaning etc. in the villages.

DIARY.

28th May	Departed Vanimo Station arriving SAWSI six hours later. Road fair but needs continued work.
29th May	Revised census at SAWSI.
30th May	Three and one quarter hours over many small but steep hills to AI-IAO. Revised Census.
31st May	Fifteen minutes to OSOL. Revised census. Twenty mins to AULI. Revised census and returned.
1st June	Twenty minutes to ELAU revised census and returned to OSOL from whence to KILIMIS twenty five minutes. Revised census.
2nd June	Fifteen minutes to KILIPAU. Revised census and proceeded to ILAP forty minutes.
3rd June	Half an hour to ISI. Census revised and moved to AWOL two and one half hours.
4th June	TO ALOL and return one hour. Census revised both for there and AWOL.
5th June	TO AIRA twenty five minutes. Census revised and continued on to OSIMA after inspecting natives' communal copra project. Thirty mins. to OSIMA.
6th June	TO OMBULA - 30 mins.- and return to OSIMA to sleep.

DIARY (Cont.)

2.

7th June 2½ hours to KRISA village.
8th June Census revised at Kriisa village.
9th June Six hours to Vanimo Station.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

In General the villages throughout the area are quite fair. Little effort has been spent on making the orderly arrangement so dear to the hearts of many Officers, but the villages, for the most part perched on ridges, were clean and tidy. This did not appear to be entirely due to window dressing.

The people of KILWIS, KILIPAS, ILOP and ISI do not live permanently in the village but spend a great deal of time in their bush houses. Some men more than others, as a rule the older men, prefer to live apart and the effect on the health of their dependants was quite marked. Little can be done to induce them to live with the rest of the village except by regular and frequent patrolling. In this way they are forced to meet the patrol in the village and were this to occur a few times each year I think they would be prepared to build in the village and spend at least some of their time in it too.

Housing is fair also. Of course the usual dark and airless house is used but these are generally in good repair and a considerable rebuilding project was noticed in each village. A few suggestions were advanced re windows and verandahs but I do not expect that overmuch improvement will result. These people are very conservative.

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The KILWARI present a great contrast within themselves. Though the larger number are backward and indifferant to change there is a keen interest shown by certain men in each village concerning economic development. These men have loosely grouped together under the leadership of a native of OSOL whose name is YEHABAS. They have a twofold program. As a temporary measure they send, each month or so, about twentyfive men to Vanimo to work the copra that ^{grows} on the Station. A further five are employed, by these twentyfive, at a monthly rate of two pounds, to provide vegetables for those at work on the Station. The average earning per month of the copra workers is as yet not over much - about four pounds - but never-the-

NATIVE AFFAIRS. (Cont.) .less this represents a deal more than they could obtain for the same work under agreement.

The second and main object of these people, is to plant sufficient coconuts on their own ground to provide for themselves and their children. To this end they have started a communal project near OSUMA on the river flats of the PUAL river. While the initial clearing etc is a joint effort the actual planting will be individual.

These river flats appear to me to be remarkably fertile. The soil is a dark friable loam and the native vegetables already planted have flourished to a degree not previously seen by myself anywhere in the Sepik District.

About four acres have already been cleared and are now ready for planting. Pranuts have already been produced and the natives plan to set rice in the future. Both these crops, together with the few European vegetables available will be for the support of these clearing and planting the coconuts. Hand hullers for the rice are available.

These projects were of course encouraged though the difficulties of removing the product to market were pointed out. But this had not been overlooked. YERAHAN has found, what he considers to be, a route for a road to the coast. This road will be inspected when a track has been cut, roughly, to enable me to walk over the area.

Perhaps the most remarkable feature is that the natives do not appear to expect anything but work for a number of years. They talk in terms of ten years. I myself agree, but should the interest be maintained ten years could see this area on a sound economic basis.

Though it pleasant to see the results of the advice from this Office to plant coconuts the general picture of the area is far from good. These people have the advantage over many areas of Vanimo in that they a relatively large population in a small area. Mission schools have established and there is an aid-post at OSUM. However little interest was evinced in either and the most common outlook seems one of apathy, particularly on the medical side.

The health in the area is far from good and far too many infant deaths were recorded. All women were advised to have their babies at Vanimo hospital and seven women accompanied the patrol to Vanimo. All have now been delivered including one set of twins. Three of the births were

APPAIRES Cont.) not normal and it is the opinion of Mr. Moi A.M.P. that the infants would have been still born had they been born in the villages.

Sago is the staple diet and the method of preparation leaves much to be desired. At present the method is to mix about one pound of sago starch with about one gallon of hot water. In each village the women were advised to prepare the sago with soups in lieu of plain hot water and the menfolk were advised strongly to plant more and better gardens. It was suggested that perhaps these vegetables could be planted between the rows of coconut palms in the copra plots.

In the villages of KILIPAU, KILIWIS, ILOP and ISI small temporary houses were noticed near the communal men houses. In each case these contained two or three wooden drums. The idea apparently was to wait until some favoured sign came and then to rebuild the ~~the~~ "HAUS TAMBARANG". It is not known to what extent this interests the people but it appeared to ~~represent~~ an increased interest in this type of activity. Whether such activities are harmful or not is a moot point but a close watch will be kept on further developments - if any. The practice of confining the young boys for long periods in these houses cannot be good but rather than destroy the houses altogether I think it would be better to endeavour to modify the procedure.

Little litigation resulted from my visit to these villages but what disputes there were, were mainly marriage troubles and settled amicably. Warrants have been issued concerning ten ILOP men who failed to attend the census check or the medical inspection.

A large number of young men are absent from the villages. The figure from the census revision is thirty seven per cent. This does not include those men who are at Vanimo making copra. Should it appear likely that recruiters wish to remove more men then closure of the area to recruiting will be considered.

CENSUS REVISION. The figures obtained in the revision are not encouraging. Far too many infant deaths were registered. Thirty three percent. die in the first year. Due to nearly three since the last revision the figure may be a deal higher. Attention was drawn to this and all were advised to make more use of the Medical Services available.

A large perpendrance of elderly females is noted.

SEX REVISION (Cont) Younger women are insufficient and the practice of multiple marriages increases the effects of this.

The numbers attending schools is misleading as many young children attend the Mission schools at OSOL and OSIMA.

A natural increase of nine from a total of 1704 is far from satisfactory

ROADS AND TERRAIN. In general the roads in the KILMERI area are fair. They mostly follow the ridges and while much work is required on them they are the best in the Vanimo area.

It would appear that in the past a great deal of work had been expended on these roads but little has been attempted in the last three years. The necessity for such roads was pointed out in each village.

The mooted motor road to link these people with Vanimo has been mentioned previously and advice as to its practicability will be forwarded after inspection of the route. The ~~suggested~~ proposed route is to follow the PUAL river on the western bank. The ground is not subject to flood and is relatively level.

Little effort would be required to improve the existing roads to each village. Being on top of the ridges they have few drainage problems.

The position of the villages as marked on the accompanying sketch map are believed to be as nearly correct as it will be possible to place them without a thorough survey.

It is interesting to learn that the natives of OSOL obtain their salt from an inland salt river at the head of the DAUHDA river. No doubt this water is not true sodium chloride but it is much sought after in the area.

A lake, formed after a change in course of the PUAL river, about one mile to the west of AIME was inspected for the first time so the natives say, by a European. An interesting legend connected with it is appended.

SCHOOLS AND MISSIONS. The Roman Catholic Mission (Franciscan) is active among these people. Fr. Sylvester Campbell O.F.M. of Vanimo is in charge. He has two schools - one at OSOL and another at OSIMA - in the area. Both

SCHOOLS AND MISSIONS.(Cont.) are elementary and the Standard set very high. But they represent a start and all parents were advised to send their children.

A new school is to be erected at OSOL and an building a new aidpost at that village. By agreement will Fr. Sylvester the two buildings will carried out as a joint undertaking. I.e. Village Officials to help organise the school and the Mission teachers to release the pupils for work on the aidpost. It is hoped this way to foster a feeling that the Mission and the Government are both interested in each others work. Unfortunately in the past this has not been very obvious.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK. Apart from the copra project already under way the agriculture in the area is the usual sustenance type, with perhaps rather less vegetables than is usual.

Pineapples, onions and lemons are the only major introduced foods and are in fair quantities.

Figs, both wild and semi domesticated are plentiful and constitute a source of worry to gardeners in the area. Other game is abundant as well. Fish are taken on the hook from the streams. These are cod. In some of the smaller streams fish are obtained by poisoning the water.

It was pleasant to see on the banks of the PUAL a great number of eucalypts. These grew to about sixty feet and very straight. The smooth bark had a blue colour. They are much esteemed by the natives who seldom cut them for timber.

Vanimo Patrol Report No 4 of 1955-56.

Appendix "A" Health.

See report submitted by Mr. Moi A.M.P.

Appendix "B"

Vanimo Patrol Report No 4 of 1955-56.

Village Officials

All fair. A talk was given in each village explaining the powers and duties of such Officials to the people as well as the Officials themselves.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Luluai</u>	<u>Tal-tal</u>	<u>M.T.T.</u>
SAWSI	KKWO	KORO	
AI-IAD	YAPA	WAPI	
OSOL	YES		
ABLI	WOI		
SLAH	KKRU	DLAU	
KILIWIS	YANI	KIMUL	
KILIPAU	LOS	TOGAI	
ILAP	VAU-O	WABI	
ALOL	PUNKI	YIMI	
ISI	SO	TABAK	
AWOL	KIU	HABAI	
AIBU	YAI	PALAU	
OSBULA	SAP	TAUWI	
KPESA	SON	SIE	
OSINA	WASI	SINAG	

Vanimo Patrol Report No 4 of 1955-56

Appendix "C"

Alienated Land

NIL

Vanimo Patrol Report No 4 of 1955-56

Appendix "D"

Police.

L/Cpl LINIBI	Reg No. 6395	As usual a keen and reliable man.
Const HOBANO	Reg No. 6496	A good policeman.
Const KIMSAYI	Reg No. 8335	A cheerful and hard worker.
Const KANINJA	Reg No. 6995	A good policeman. A little slack as regards dress at times.

Vanimo Patrol Report No 4 of 1955-56.

Appendix "3"

Anthropological

A legend of the Kilmeri people.

This story was told to me after the natives had taken me to see this lake. Those that had not been to see the lake before all carried sticks of tobacco which they threw into the lake to prevent the spirits annoying them later. An attempt was made to get the lake to answer questions but it did not answer. Rather naturally I thought.

Long ago before there were any real people in the world there were shadow figures who behaved like men and women. There were two children who were called KAIPIA and TAIKAK and they were not looked after at all by their parents but allowed to run wild in the bush. They ate what they could find and never washed. One day their guardian spirit appeared to them. His name was BONGA. After shaving their heads and washing them he gave them some food. He said, "Do not your mother and father provide you with food." They answered "No, we must eat what we can find"

BONGA became very angry and decided to punish the people. He caused a great earthquake and fanned the bed of the lake. The rain came and filled it to a depth of about four inches. BONGA collected all the frogs for a long way around and put them in the water. All the people came to collect the frogs and eat them but the water rose and rose.

One woman named IBOR was washing sage and she had her little child with her. An eel came out of the water and said to the little boy, "When the water has covered you up I will eat you" The child was frightened and told his mother. "She said, Don't tell lies to me. I'm too busy and this rising water worries me."

All the dogs and cassowaries came to the water and a little bird whose name was MIS and has a call like a whizzing cough came too. The water rose and drowned them all.

The people all climbed breadfruit trees but they fell down. Two people who climbed into a coconut tree alone were saved. Just before that fell into the water they climbed over a rope that was fixed to the tree and were safe on the ridge called GRAMUN. These people are the ancestors of all the KILMERI people today.

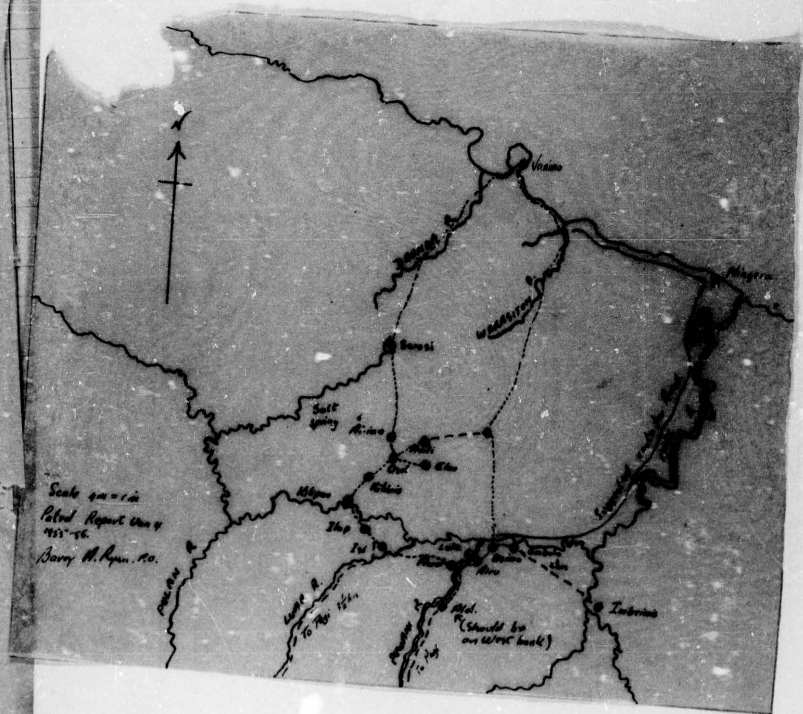
The water is held in great respect and fear by these people today. It is held in place by a mixture of bamboo and coconut trees laid together by BONGO. The bamboo is red. Should this give way the whole tops of hills will fall down.

The people who were drowned still live in the lake and are very wary. They maintain a night and day guard over the lake. As recent as the war these guards were seen. By men now dead. They will kill any careless intruder.

If anyone in the village is sick and his relatives dare to go and ask the lake if he will live or die then the lake will answer truly.

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Scale 1:100,000
Patrol Report No. 4
1951-52
Barry H. Ryan, P.O.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK Report No. UAN 4/1955-56

Patrol Conducted by Davy A Rya P.O.

Area Patrolled KIMERI Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans N/A

Natives 4 Members R.P.A.N.G.C. 3 N.M.O.

Duration—From 28.1.5/1956 to 9.1.6/1956

Number of Days 13

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? YES

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services - 1.1/1956

Medical ... 1/1956

Map Reference Vainina about Davy that time Patrol Map

Objects of Patrol Learn revision Routes Administration

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

261 87/1956

Shall Smith
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 £.....

HA. 30-11-92

27th December, 1956.

Market Officer,
Supt. Market,
M.M.S.

Indian Forest Report No. 4 of 1954-55

I have read the above report with interest. It is gratifying to see that these areas are getting interested attention.

It is not good policy in the present stage to use pressure on these people to shift into villages. For a start, there is the question of the case the land a man builds on in the village and what his relations are with the builder.

ack
(A. A. Roberts)
M.M.S. *sim*

(21/12)
4/1/57

DISTRICT OFFICER.

pul

20/11/56 ✓

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



In Reply
Please Quote

NEW P.R. 4/55-56/1139
Vanimo.

District Headquarters,
Sepik District,
WENAK.

18th July, 1956.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
FORT MORESBY.

PATROL REPORT No. 4 VANIMO 1955-56.

This was, in the form of a follow up patrol, so very necessary to people at this stage of development.

Villages and housing.

I see no reason why people should be forced to live in formal villages. They could live at their gardens and congregate at a central spot when necessary.

Native Affairs:

An interesting trend in the desire for economic development is indicated. Planting of coconuts is most laudible. The purchase of nuts to further economic development is most encouraging.

I think it dangerous to interfere with the preparation of sago, better to make the emphasis on production and preparation of garden products which can be introduced without a great deal of trouble.

Census Revision:

Vital Statistics cannot be considered all together satisfactory.

ROADS and TERRAIN

The mooted motor road should be surveyed in the immediate future.

Agriculture.

The production of copra should be pressed and new plantings encouraged. The markets for crops such as shallots, lemons and pineapples is extremely limited.

T. G. Atchison
(T. G. ATCHISON)
DISTRICT OFFICER.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



P. R. Inv. 4/5056

Vanimo
General
Reply

In Reply
Please Quote

No. 30-1-1/ 106

Sub-district Office,
AITAPE,
Sepik District

12th July, 1956,

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
District Headquarters,
NEWARK.

Subject: Vanimo Patrol Report No. 4 of 1955/56.
KILIMERI Census Division.

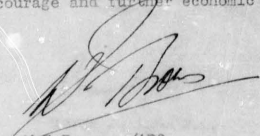
Area I forward herewith two copies of the above report,
together with sketch map and camping allowance claims.

Description It is pleasing to note the interest these people are
showing in their economic development. The area of coconuts
allocated to the Kilimeri people on Vanimo is not extensive
and for this reason increased planting within the Kilimeri
is desirable.

Last Party YERAMAN of OSOL visited Aitape recently and received
basic instruction and guidance in the construction of hot air
dryers and in the production of good quality copra.

I have advised Mr. Ryan to be extremely cautious in
attempted modification of native custom and have directed
him not to suggest or instruct that native ceremonial houses
be interfered with or destroyed.

Continual patrolling will be required in the VANIMO
hinterland areas, (the LEMBI, KILIMERI, FAGI and IMBIO
Census Divisions), to encourage and further economic and
social development.


W.T. Brown a/ADO

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

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Patrol Post,
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Vanimo Patrol Report No.4 of 1955-56.

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A natural increase of nine from a total of 1704 is far from satisfactory

ROADS AND TERRAIN. In general the roads in the KILMERI area are fair. They mostly follow the ridges and while much work is required on them they are the best in the Vanimo area.

It would appear that in the past a great deal of work had been expended on these roads but little has been attempted in the last three years. The necessity for such roads was pointed out in each village.

The mooted motor road to link these people with Vanimo has been mentioned previously and advice as to its practicability will be forwarded after inspection of the route. The ~~main~~ proposed route is to follow the PUAL river on the Western bank. The ground is not subject to flood and is relatively level.

Little effort would be required to improve the existing roads to each village. Being on top of the ridges they have few grain-age problems.

The position of the villages as marked on the accompanying sketch map are believed to be as nearly correct as it will be possible to place them without a thorough survey.

It is interesting to learn that the natives of OSOL obtain their salt from an inland salt river at the head of the DAUNDA river. No doubt this water is not true sodium chloride but it is much sought after in the area.

A lake, formed after a change in course of the PUAL river, about one mile to the west of AIRU was inspected for the first time, so the natives say, by a European. An interesting legend connected with it is appended.

SCHOOLS AND MISSIONS. The Roman Catholic Mission (Franciscan) is active among these people. Fr. Sylvester Campbell O.F.M. of Vanimo is in charge. He has two schools - one at OSOL and another at OSIMA - in the area. Both

SCHOOLS AND MISSIONS.(Cont.) are elementary and the Standard not very high. But they represent a start and all parents were advised to send their children.

A new school is to be erected at OSOL and I am building a new aidpost at that village. By agreement will Fr. Sylvester The two buildings will carried out as a joint undertaking. I.e. Village Officials to help organise the school and the Mission teachers to release the pupils for work on the aidpost. It is hoped this way to foster a feeling that the Mission and the Government are both interested in each others work. Unfortunately in the past this has not been very obvious.

AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK. Apart from the copra project already under way the agriculture in the area is the usual sustenance type, with perhaps rather less vegetables than is usual.

Pineapples, onions and lemons are the only major introduced foods and are in fair quantities.

Pigs, both wild and semi domesticated are plentiful and constitute a source of worry to gardeners in the area. Other game is abundant as well. Fish are taken on the hook from the stream. These are cod. In some of the smaller streams fish are obtained by poisoning the water.

It was pleasant to see on the banks of the PUAL a great number of eucalypts. These grew to about sixty feet and very straight. The smooth bark had a blue colour. They are much esteemed by the natives who seldom cut them for timber.

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Appendix "A" Health.

See report submitted by Mr. Moi A.M.P.

Appendix "B"

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Village Officials

All fair. A talk was given in each village explaining the powers and duties of such Officials to the people as well as the Officials themselves.

<u>Village</u>	<u>Luluai</u>	<u>Tul-tul</u>	<u>M.T.T.</u>
SAWSI	KENO	KORO	
AI-IAO	YAPA	WAPI	
OSOL	YES		
AULI	WOI		
ELAU	KERU	ULAU	
KILIWIS	YAWI	KUMUL	
KILIPAU	LOS	TOGAI	
ILOP	VAU-O	WARI	
ALOL	PUNEI	YIMI	
ISI	SO	TABAK	
AWOL	KIU	NAIBAI	
AIRU	YAI	PALAU	
OMBULA	SAP	TAUWI	
KRISA	SON	SIE	
OSTIMA	WASI	SIMAU	

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Appendix "C"

Alienated land

NIL

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Appendix "D" Police.

L/Cpl LINIBI	Reg No. 6395	As usual a keen and reliable man.
Const HOMARO	Reg No. 6496	A good policeman.
Const KIMSAVI	Reg No. 8335	A cheerful and hard worker.
Const KARINJA	Reg No. 6595	A good policeman. A little slack as regards dress at times.

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Appendix "B"

Anthropological

A legend of the Kilmeri people.

This story was told to me after the natives had taken me to see this lake. Those that had not been to see the lake before all carried sticks of tobacco which they threw into the lake to prevent the spirits annoying them later. An attempt was made to get the lake to answer questions but it did not answer. Rather naturally I thought.

Long ago before there were any real people in the world there were shadow figures who behaved like men and women. There were two children who were called REIPA and TABAK and they were not looked after at all by their parents but allowed to run wild in the bush. They ate what they could find and never washed. One day their guardian spirit appeared to them. His name was BORGA. After shaving their heads and washing them he gave them some food. He said, "Do not nct your mother and father provide you with food." They answered "No, we must eat what we can find"

BORGA became very angry and decided to punish the people. He caused a great earthquake and formed the bed of the lake. The rain came and filled it to a depth of about four inches. BORGA collected all the frogs for a long way around and put them in the water. All the people came to collect the frogs and eat them but the water rose and rose.

One woman named IBOR was washing sago and she had her little child with her. An eel came out of the water and said to the little boy, "When the water has covered you up I will eat you" The child was frightened and told his mother. "She said, Dont tell lies to me. I'm too busy and this rising water worries me."

All the dogs and cassawaries came to the water and a little bird whose name was MIS and has a call like a wheezing cough came too. The water rose and drowned them all.

The people all climbed breadfruit trees but they fell down. Two people who climbed into a coconut tree alone were saved. Just before that fell into the water they climbed over a rope that was tied to the tree and were safe on the ridge called ORAMUN. These people are the ancestors of all the KILMERI people today.

The water is held in great respect and fear by these people today. It is held in place by a mixture of bamboo and coconut trees laid together by BORG. The bamboo is red. Should this give way the whole series of hills will fall down.

The people who were drowned still live in the lake and are very wary. They maintain a night and day guard over the lake. As recently as the War these guards were seen. By men now dead. They will kill any careless intruder.

If anyone in the village is sick and his relatives dare to go and ask the lake if he will live or die then the lake will answer truly.

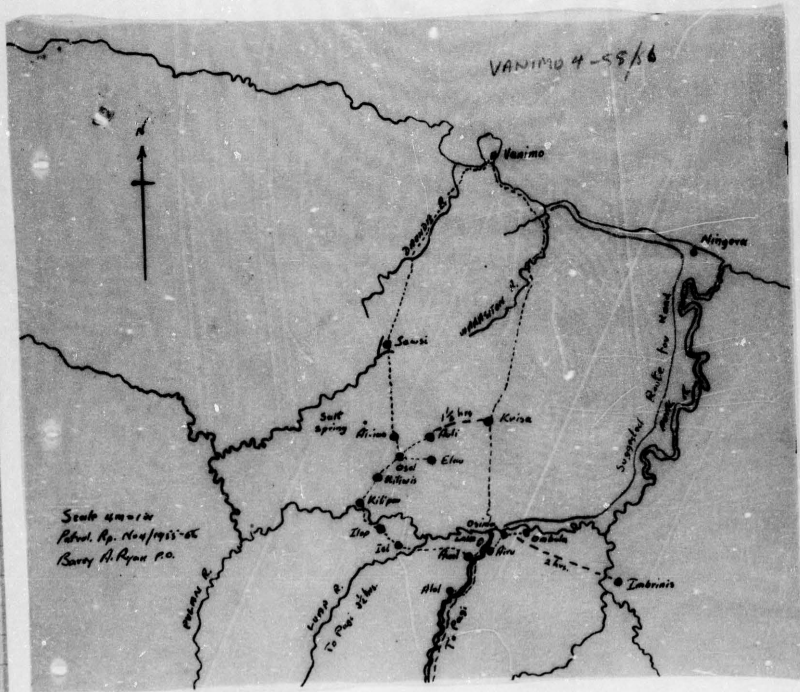
VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER

 Year 1956

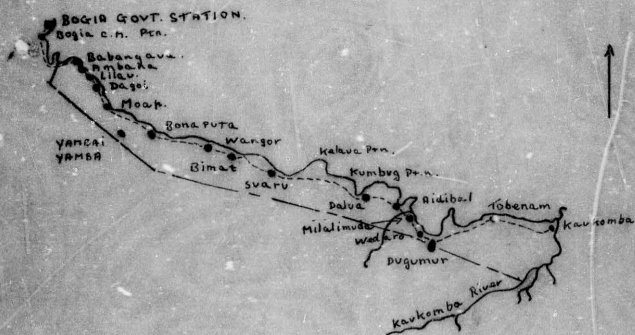
KILMERI CENSUS DIVISION VANIMO.

Govt. Pr. Form 3112/7-51

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	BIRTHS		DEATHS												MIGRATIONS				ABSENT FROM VILLAGE AT WORK				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES Present Number of bearing age	Average Size of Family	TOTALS (Excluding Absent)					GRAND TOTAL					
				0-1 Mth.		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth		In		Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.				Mission		Males		Females		Child		Adults		
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F			M	F	M	F	M		F	M	F		
		10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45																															
SAWBI	29.5.56	4	6	1	1										4	1	1	5	4							6	1	12	28	4	27	2	27	2	23	21	21	29	111	
ALJAO	30.5.56	10	12	1	1										4	3	1	4	3	4	4	6							13	45	4	44	3	44	2	48	34	44	48	181
OSOL	31.5.56	6	1		2	1	1								2	1	2	3	1	5	4	7							12	23	8	26	1	26	2	37	15	16	28	107
AUKI	31.5.56	2	1			1	1								1	2				1	6								9	21	4	12	1	12	1	16	9	16	14	62
ELAU	1.6.56	4	3	1	2										3	2	2			2	3	1							7	2	2	16	1	16	15	18	9	17	10	69
KILINIS	1.6.56	3	2												1	5	1	1	2	10	15								18	48	7	22	4	32	2	28	30	26	62	151
KILIPAV	2.6.56	5	5	2											5	3	1	2	1	1	18								4	35	8	26	4	26	2	24	28	25	30	125
ILOP	2.6.56	5	9	2	1			1	1						5	3	2	6	3		15								7	37	8	28	6	38	2	24	33	44	48	184
ALOK	4.6.56	7	4	1	3										1	1	5	11			7								8	20	8	23	0	22	2	23	25	18	24	97
ISI	3.6.56	6	3	4	2										0	3	1	1	9	9	14								3	24	1	20	3	20	1	10	13	15	25	78
AWOL	4.6.56	3	7	1	4	2									1	2	2	2	1	2	8								7	21	2	17	1	17	2	19	16	21	21	86
AIRU	5.6.56	4	5	3	1										1	1	1				6								0	21	2	13	2	13	1	13	11	17	16	63
OSIMA	5.6.56	11	6	5	1	1	1	1							1		1	3	1		9								7	33	5	24	4	24	2	25	22	30	34	120
OMBUA	6.6.56	2	3	1	1										4	3	2	2			7								5	19	5	13	1	13	1	12	13	18	17	67
KRISA	7.6.56	14	11			1	1	1	1						14	8	1	5	1	3	1	9							16	39	16	46	4	46	3	47	44	59	58	223
TOTALS		86	77	20	17	8	3	6	2	2	1	1	1	48	42	3	16	41	18	32	27	1	134	1	1	7	1	139	452	28	381	41	381	1	367	328	314	453	1704	



CENSUS DIVISION "E" - COASTAL



Scale: 1 inch = 4 miles

Legend: Census sub-division boundaries. -----

Road.

Native Villages. •