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***PATROL REPORTS***

DISTRICT: BOUGAINVILLE

STATION: WAKUNAI, 1972 - 1973

Original documents bound with reports  
for: Kieta, volume 23.

# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORT OF: KIETA & WAKUNAI  
 ACCESSION No. 496  
 VOL. No: 23: 1972-1973 NUMBER OF REPORTS: 22

REPORT NO:	FOLIO	OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL	AREA PATROLLED	MAPS/ PHOTOS	PERIOD OF PATROL
[1] <sup>Special</sup> 1-72/73	1-6.	McGrail A. APO.	Nagovisi / Siwai		10/10/72 - 27/10/72
[2] 1A-72/73	1-5	Oa Anaia P.O.	N <sup>th</sup> Nasioi Census Division	1 map.	21/8/72 - 18/9/72
[3] 2-72/73	1-2	McGrail A. APO	Siwai, Buin, Bana ( <sup>report not included</sup> <del>no report</del> )		9/11/72 - 12/11/72
[4] 2A-72/73	1-10	Heggen M.W. ADO	Kongara No 2	1 map.	22/8/72 - 22/9/72
[5] 2B-72/73	1-5	Heggen M.W. ADO	Part Kongara Census Division		22/8/72 - 1/9/72
[6] 2C-72/73	1-20	Heggen M.W. HDO	Kongara No 2		22/8/72 - 22/9/72
[7] 2D-72/73	1-2	Moliola Aiden PO.	Aita Census Division (report not included)		27/4/73 - 3/5/73
[8] 2E-72/73	1-3	Vinoko A & McGrail A. APO's	Nagovisi ( <del>no</del> Reports not included)	-	15/11/72 - 16/12/72
[9] 3A-72/73	1-7	Kathimooly, D.W. AFO <del>AFO</del>	Eivo C.D.	-	23/8/72 - 10/9/72
[10] 3B-72/73	1-2	Kathimooly, D.W. T.P.O.	Part Rotokas CD. (Report not included)	-	25/4/73 - 4/5/73
[11] 4-72/73	1-3	McGrail A. APO	Bana & Siwai (Report not included)	-	15/11/72 - 16/12/72
[12] 4A-72/73	1-2	Heggen M.W. ADO	Kongara No 2. (Report not included)	-	30/10/72 - 3/11/72
[13] 4B-72/73	1-2	Oa K. Anaia P.O.	Rotokas Census Division (Report not included)	-	30/4/73 - 4/5/73
[14] 5-72/73	1-5	Kathimooly, DW AFO	Eivo C.D.	-	1/11/72 - 24/11/72
[15] 6-72/73	1-21	Oa K. Anaia	Koromira Census Division	1 map.	17/11/72 - 8/12/72
[16] 7-72/73	1-3	Moliola Aiden PO.	Kongara No 2 (Report not included)		28/11/72 - 1/12/72
[17] 8-72/73	1-3	Moliola Aiden PO.	Eivo Census Division (Report not included)	-	11/12/72 - 19/12/72
[18] 9-72/73	1-3	Kathimooly, D.W. AFO	Eivo Census Division (Report not included)		14/12/72 - 6/1/73
[19] 10-72/73	1-4	Moliola Aiden P.O.	Kongara (Report not included)		7/2/73 - 15/3/73
[20] 11-72/73	1-3	Heggen M.W. ADO	Kongara CD. (Report not included)	-	12/2/73 - 23/2/73
[21] 1-72/73	1	Oa K. Anaia P.O.	Rotokas CD. (no enclosures)		28/6/72 - 22/7/72
[22] 1A-72/73	1-37	Laming B.E. APO	Aita CD	2 maps.	12/9/72 - 23/9/72
[ ]			end.		

N<sup>o</sup> of pages: 149.

BOUGAINVILLE DISTRICT

PATROL REPORTS

1972 - 73

KIETA

<u>REPORT NO.</u>	<u>OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL</u>	<u>AREA PATROLLED</u>
1-72-73	A. MCGRAIL	MAGOVISI/SIWAI
1A-72-73	ANAIA K. OA	NORTH NASIOI C.D.
2-72-73	A. MCGRAIL	SIWAI, BUIN, BANA - jacket
2A-72-73	M. W. HEGGEN	KONGARA NO. 2.
2B-72-73	M. W. HEGGEN	Part KONGARA C.D.
2C-72-73	M. W. HEGGEN	KONGARA NO. 2
2D-72-73	AIDEN MOLIOLA	AITA C.D. jacket only
3-72-73	A. VINOKO, A. MCGRAIL	MAGOVISI jacket only
3A-72-73	D. W. KATHIMOOLEY	EIVO C/D
3B-72-73	D. W. KATHIMOOLEY	Part ROTOKAS C.D. jacket only
4-72-73	A. MCGRAIL	BANA SIWAI jacket only
4A-72-73	M. W. HEGGEN	KONGARA NO. 2
4B-72-73	ANAIA K. OA	ROKOKAS Census Divison - jacket
5-72-73	D. W. KATHIMOOLEY	EIVO C.D.
6-72-73	ANAIA K. OA	KOROMIRA Census Divison
7-72-73	AIDEN MOLIOLA	KONGARA NO. 2 - jacket only
8-72-73	AIDEN MOLIOLA	EIVO Census Divison-jacket
9-72-73	D. W. KATHIMOOLEY	EIVO Census Divison - jacket
10-72-73	AIDEN MOLIOLA	KONGARA
11-72-73	M. W. HEGGEN	KONGARA C.D. - jacket only
<u>WAKUNAI</u>		
1-72-73	ANAIA K OA	ROKOKAS C.D.
1A-72-73	B. E. LAMING	AITA C.D.

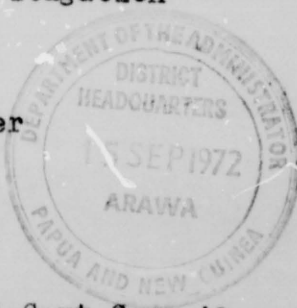


# PATROL REPORT

DDA 67-30-2  
67. 11. 6

Report number: WAKUNAI 1 of 1972/73  
District: Bougainville  
Patrol conducted by: Anaia K. Oa  
Area patrolled: Rotokas C.D.  
Duration of patrol: 28/6/72-22/7/72  
Last D.D.A. patrol: Wak. No. 4 of 1971/72  
Last O.L.G. patrol: Wak. No. 2 of 1971/72  
Map reference: attached

Objects of patrol: Land Investigation  
Station: Wakunai  
Subdistrict: Kieta  
Designation: Patrol Officer  
Personnel accompanying: nil  
Number of days: 25 days  
Total population of area: 483  
Council area: Wakunai Local Govt Council  
House of Assembly Electorate: Central Bougainville



The District Commissioner,  
Bougainville District,



In respect of this patrol, I attach  
Field Officers Journal Folios To 44 of 71/2 To 1-3 of 72/73 ( )  
Patrol Instructions, verbal ( )  
The Report and my comments, ( )  
Area study, ( )  
Updating of area study, ( )  
Situation Reports No's 1- ( )  
Patrol map, ( )

DATE: 4 / 9 1972.

Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, Papua New Guinea.

In respect of this patrol, I attach  
Area study, ( )  
Updating of area study, ( )  
Situation Report No's 1- ( )  
District Headquarters assessment of  
Patrol & Report Above average  
Average  
Below average

Date: 12 / 10 / 1972 .

District Commissioner

WA 67-11-15

(Front of Jacket Colour Blue)

PATROL REPORT

REPORT NUMBER: ONE OF 72/73

OBJECTS OF PATROL: CENSUS/AREA STUDY

DISTRICT: BOUGAINVILLE

STATION: WAKUNAI

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: B.E. LAMING

SUB-DISTRICT: KIETA

AREA PATROLLED: AITA C.D.

DESIGNATION: ASST PATROL OFFICER

DURATION OF PATROL: 12 DAYS

PERSONNEL ACCOMPANYING: 1031 CON. HUTUA

LAST D.D.A PATROL: NOV 71

NUMBER OF DAYS: 12 DAYS

LAST O.L.G. PATROL: JULY 72

TOTAL POPULATION OF AREA: 1442

MAP REFERENCE: SOLOMON IS (MIL)  
1: 50,000.

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ELECTORATE:  
CENTRAL BOUGAINVILLE

The District Commissioner,  
District,

In respect of this patrol, I attach

FIELD OFFICERS JOURNAL, FOLIOS 7 TO 12  
PATROL INSTRUCTIONS  
THE REPORT AND MY COMMENTS  
AREA STUDY  
UPDATING OF AREA STUDY  
SITUATION REPORTS NOS. 1 -  
PATROL MAP

(-)  
(-)  
(-)  
(-)  
(-)  
(-)  
(-)

Date: 7/11/1972.

Assistant District Commissioner

The Secretary,  
Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU, Papua

In respect of this patrol, I attach

AREA STUDY  
UPDATING OF AREA STUDY  
SITUATION REPORTS NOS 1 -

(-)  
(-)  
(-)

DISTRICT HEADQUARTERS ASSESSMENT OF  
PATROL AND REPORT

ABOVE AVERAGE  
AVERAGE  
BELOW AVERAGE

Date: 30/11/1972.

District Commissioner



# POPULATION

DATE OF CENSUS	VILLAGE	TOTALS (Excluding Absentees)		ABSENTEES (Resident outside Electorate)				GRAND TOTAL		
		CHILD Under 15 Yrs		ADULT		CHILD Under 15 Yrs			ADULT	
		M	F	M	F	M	F		M	F
13-9-72	POKOIA	47.	58	42.	43	0.	1.	3.	1.	195
14-9-72	TSUBIA	34.	50.	43.	36.	2.	0.	2.	0.	167
12/14-9-72	KUSI	39.	28.	40.	35.	1.	5.	13.	6.	167
15-9-72	SIRIBIA	25.	36.	31.	28.	4.	2.	3.	2.	131
18-9-72	OSIWAIPA	49.	61.	44.	43.	6.	6.	6.	5.	220
19-9-72	OWAWAIPA	22.	28.	28.	27.	0.	4.	10.	4.	123
21-9-72	KORIBORI	48.	39.	35.	36.	11.	10	6.	4.	189
22-9-72	TOKAI	25.	20.	25.	32.	2.	4.	3.	0.	111
22-9-72	INUE	35.	22.	29.	34.	3.	0.	12.	4.	139
	TOTAL	324.	342	317.	314	29.	32	58.	26	1442

WNE:SU

P.O. Box 2396  
KONEDOBU

67-11-15

1st February, 1973

The District Commissioner  
Bougainville District  
P.O. Box 123/124  
ARAWA

WAKUNAI PATROL NO. 1A of 1972/73.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Situation Report 1 arising out of the above patrol of AITA Census Division, together with the appropriate assessments, and also the Area Study, as submitted by Mr. B.E. Laming, Assistant Patrol Officer.

The following are my comments:-

- . Situation Report should be submitted on appropriate forms and in accordance with Circular 67-1-0 of 25th November, 1971.
- . A useful Area Study obviously painstakingly compiled, however, the word Territory as appearing in paragraph 3 on page 1 should be discouraged from official use.
- . Situation reports and Area Studies especially those submitted by Junior Officers should be forwarded to this Headquarters under covering memorandum from either yourself or the Officer-in-Charge. There was no such memorandum accompanying this report.

*C.G. Little*  
C.G. LITTLE  
a/Secretary



AITA CENSUS PATROLB. LAMING.

	<u>AM</u>	<u>PM</u>	<u>O/NIGHT</u>
T			
12/9	LEAVE WAKUNAI	CENSUS POKOIA	POKOIA
W			
13/9	WALK TUBIA		TUBIA
TH			
14/9	CENSUS TUBIA	WALK KUSI	KUSI
F			
15/9	CENSUS KUSI	WALK SIRIBIA	SIRIBIA
S			
16/9	CENSUS SIRIBIA	WALK OSIWAIPA	OSIWAIPA
SUN			
17/9	REST DAY		
M			
18/9	CENSUS OSIWAIPA		OSIWAIPA
T			
19/9	WALK IPITALA	CENSUS OWAWAIPA (AT IPITALA)	IPITALA
W			
20/9	WALK/RECCE TO KORIBORI		KORIBORI
TH			
21/9	CENSUS KORIBORI (AT KORIBORI)	WALK STEMAS	STEMAS
F			
22/9	CENSUS TOKAI (ATSTEMAS)	WALK INUS CENSUS INUS (SPEED BOAT ARRIVES)	INUS
S			
23/9	LEAVE INUS FOR WAKUNAI.		

Mr. P. Laming,  
Assistant Patrol Officer,  
Bougainville.

Department of the Administrator,  
Division of District Administration,  
Patrol Post,  
Bougainville District.

1st September, 1972.

Dear Bruce,

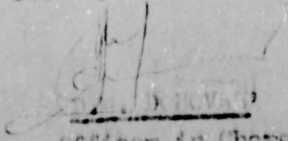
CENSUS PATROL - AITA COUNCIL DIVISION.

Please make your arrangements to depart on patrol to the Aita Census Division in accordance with discussion between us during the past week. Prepare a programme and have it broadcast over Radio Bougainville and distributed throughout the area of the patrol.

I expect you to carry out the following duties.

1. Conduct a census of the villages in the area.
2. Obtain a list of trade store owners (licensed) from the Council Books and check the licences in the area. Investigate any illegal trade stores operating in the area and report on them.
3. Inspect all shotguns and firearm licences and confiscate any unlicensed weapons. Submit a report on these weapons and the owners.
4. Investigate complaints and where possible arbitrate and act as a mediator between the parties involved. Bring court action against any criminal offenders on your return.
5. Attempt to conduct discussion groups with villagers in each village regarding the outcome of the recent elections the formation of the 3rd House of Assembly, handover of powers to Ministers of the National Government and your assessment of the general political knowledge of the people particularly the more youthful.
6. Advise the people that the Council has set the deadline for payment of Council tax on the 30th September 1972. Defaulters after that date will be taken to court.
7. Advise the people that the Government can offer no financial support for the construction of the AITA airstrip and offers no promises of support in the future.
8. The AITA villagers are in a particularly poor position as regards development projects in their area mainly due to the difficult terrain which they live. As a result they feel somewhat forgotten by the Council. Do not hesitate to investigate thoroughly any requests for Council aid and evaluate the possibilities of the council being able to meet these requests.
9. Constable RUTUA will accompany you. Please evaluate his abilities while on patrol.

Have a good patrol, take your time and keep an eye out for any cult type activities.

  
David Ruvap  
Officer in Charge.



(41)

Department of the Administration,  
Division of District  
Administration,  
Patrol Post,  
WAKUNAI.  
Bougainville District.

30th September, 1972.

Mr. D.M. Donovan,  
Officer in Charge,  
WAKUNAI.  
Bougainville.

Census Patrol Report - Aita Census Division.

Herewith find my report on the patrol into the AITA Census Division for census and area study as instructed by yours of 1st September 1972, and as broadcast by Radio Bougainville prior and during the patrol.

1. A census was carried out in each village.
2. All trade stores were looked into, resulting in many cautions for expired licenses and two operators are to appear before the Council for operating without licenses.
3. No shotguns were found or reported unlicensed or in a dangerous condition. Annex D of the Area Study lists the registered owners of the AITA.
4. Five disputes were brought forward during the patrol. Two were brought to a successful outcome. One was not followed up by the appellant and two are to be brought to Wakunai when all concerned are ready. A report on each is to be found as Appendix A to Situation Report - Social.
5. Very successful Political Education talks were held, the outcome of which can be found in the Situation Report - Political.
6. All villagers were advised of the Council Tax deadline. Many appeared resigned not to be able to meet the obligation.
7. The people of the upper AITA were stoic at the news that there was no assistance in sight for their airstrip. They were adamant that this was the only means their area had of going ahead. My report appears as Annex C of the Area Study.
8. Apart from the airstrip, the people's main concern was the low return for their artefacts. I made no promises here but attempted to get discussion going on ideas of self help, co-operatives, direct supply, Wakunai Council or Wakunai Society participation.
9. Constable Rutua accompanied me throughout the patrol and I found him to be reliable, helpful and courteous to the people.
10. No unusual or disturbing activities were apparent or were reported.

For your attention and enforcement.

.....  
P.K. LAMING A.P.O. 7

(30)

SITUATION REPORT.

(a) POLITICAL.

The AITA people have maintained an attitude that it is the "Governments" job to look after them. Their interpretation of "Government" is, unfortunately, the Administration. This is a pity because it appears much harder to eradicate a misconception than to install a new idea. Some unfortunate information was circulated at the introduction of the Wakunai Council to the effect that this organization would replace the Government - no more carrying cargo or road work! This opinion was encountered on numerous occasions. The term "Self-Government" has been dropped from a great height without even the benefit of a pidgin translation.

Now, as well as some disappointment at the Council's performance they have suspicions that this institution, too, is to be abandoned in favour of the people in Port Moresby. If the Council is not to be abolished, will they be required to pay two lots of taxes? Their political aspirations are not high, but they possess an obvious desire to grasp the fundamentals. Whenever confused or a bit tired of talking, one of them would invariably ask, "Is Self-Government a good thing?" hoping thus to extract a reassurance that the former "Government" paternalism would continue. They were visibly distressed to receive a negative answer and be told that the new government, just as the local council, was like a garden - without a lot of work it would not produce the goods.

I was disappointed to hear criticism of the P.N.G. flag on this patrol, especially after the long discussions last year, but it was confined to one village and the older men at that. They demanded the Australian flag back and had to be bluntly told that it had only been on loan and now Australia wanted it back. The parting remark on this subject was that the bird of paradise should be removed and a domestic fowl put in its place.

Are political opinions developing? I believe so. Each village was subjected to a 2-3 hour blackboard lecture with pictures which depicted the luluai and his people (including fights and sickness) the introduction of patrol officers, through councils and the House of Assembly leaving a blank space to be filled in finally, the Area Authorities. I was pleasantly surprised at the comprehension of the diagrams and at least 20% of each gathering of about 20 or 30 proved able to answer questions. TOKAI was by far the best, where every question including those on ministerial take-overs was answered correctly.

Perhaps the main fruit of the discussions was the opportunity of explaining the differing levels of responsibility; dividing problems into those that can be solved at home, in the village, the Council, the Area Authority; or the National questions to be dealt with in the House. Not until I had converted their legislative wishes on the blackboard into rejections or laws to be administered by the public servants did they suddenly realize that Self-Government effectively exists already.



(29)

Council tax, of course, was the main worry due, no doubt, that the deadline for payment was only ten days thence. The people feel quite neglected by the council but a blackboard chart showing projects completed by the Council did not really leave the AITA at a disadvantage on a per capita basis. Notwithstanding that they realized that the shortcomings in communications were a P.W.D. responsibility, I was quite sure that the majority of these people were disgruntled with the Council, for allowing them to remain cut off.

News of the tax deadline which had already been circulated by the councillors was met with resignation. Also they could not believe that government officers would allow them to be taken to court if they could not find the required ten dollars.

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(b) ECONOMIC.

The economic situation of the AITA can be described as only fair. To fully understand the reasons for this it is necessary to divide the census division into two areas, I shall call them coastal Aita (below 500m) and the upper Aita (above 500m).

The coastal Aita's economy rests squarely on the production of copra and cocoa. Plantings of these, particularly cacao are going ahead at a satisfactory rate. Any deficiency in return can usually be traced to the world price which they cannot adjust or to poor processing which they can. The only complaint that is continually coming to the Council and the Administration is the lack of road transport facilities across the Ururon, Red and Aita rivers - this is covered in the Area Study A(a), B(a), and J(a). No. 2 that this means complete loss of production, but returns are less when boat hire is necessary, and if the produce finds its way to IHUS plantation (50 tons of cocoa last year) or KIITA and certain profit margin is lost to the native population.

The upper Aita, however, has a completely different set of aspirations and problems. On interview it was discovered that each village placed artefacts as the major cash earner, followed by coffee then potatoes. KORIBORI and POKOLA were the only two villages (both being montane but under 500m) that found difficulty in ascertaining whether cocoa/copra or artefacts was the major income earner.

It is common knowledge that coffee is suffering from extremely poor world prices. This fact together with the great difficulty of having to carry the produce up to ten miles on "foot back" is the reason that most of the fruit rots under the trees.

Potatoes grow very well in this higher region and are equal to the popular ROTOKAS variety. Both are far superior to imported "old" Australian potatoes. Once again, potatoes are a very heavy product per value of return and these are difficult to manhandle even to the roadhead at POKOLA when the rivers are negotiable. There is at the moment little enthusiasm to plant more potatoes.

The AITA artefacts are well known at least all over Bougainville and probably in many other centres of the Territory. Most popular are the highly decorative bows and arrows followed by splendid spears and carved walking sticks incorporating heads and twined snakes. Fortunately, transport problems do not seriously affect this industry as they are light per unit value, allowing the manufacturer to carry ten times the value of any other produce he could carry from the upper Aita. The problem with this business is more basic - that of returns. The majority of these goods are unloaded at the local trade stores, which set the rate for casual buyers in the area. Upon any oversupply, the vendors usually repair to ASITIVI Catholic Mission where they receive a similar price: two dollars per article. A typical example would be a six foot long bow completely covered with woven coloured vines and a spun bush materials string. With this go five arrows of many differing designs with ornate patterns burnt into the shaft. It takes about two weeks to fashion such an article and if the craftsman has no suitable vines or black palm on his land he must purchase these. Although I do not know yet what these articles are bringing in other centres, I have seen inferior single arrows on display in Moresby for one dollar each.



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No direct assistance has been given or offered at this stage, but an attempt was made in each village to encourage discussion as to what might be done to improve returns. A blackboard lecture was given to demonstrate the demands of middle men, shippers and retailers on any venture. Suggestions were thrown up for discussion - a direct approach to outlets for an increase in withholding supplies, direct exporting or a small airstrip, Council or Wakumai Society participation or an artefact co-operative after the Buin style. I am hoping this discussion will continue in the villages and to hear something will come forward at the next council meeting. However, I am not confident as these people still rely heavily on the "Government" fixing things. I have discussed the matter with Wakumai's R.S.O. who is willing and eager to be of assistance through the auspices of the Society.

Green vegetables, too, grow well at this altitude, but require very rapid dispatch to KIETA. A scheme is being studied for this type of activity out of the ROTOKAS strip at TOGARAU. The AITA people, with the assistance of a former Council adviser have marked the site of a prospective small strip. They have at no time been promised government or council assistance, but I inspected the site myself and it does have possibilities. My report is attached as Annex C of the AITA Study.

Non-indigenous development is confined to INUS plantation. It comprises 580 Ha freehold and 70 Ha lease. It is well planted up and practically all the trees are bearing. The numbers of these are: cacao, 250,000; coconuts, 62,600. Their production last year was 360 tons of dry bean and 750 tons of copra. As well as this, INUS bought 50 tons of village wet bean cocoa.

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(c) SOCIAL:

Education is considered by the AITA people to be quite important. However the villages in the upper Aita only manage to get about half the children into school, usually for about three years. As it is so time consuming and laborious to carry food down to the four schools which are on the coast, the villagers have selected more than a quarter of their adults who must migrate to the schools and grow the food for the children. The S.D.A. villages appear to put more importance on schooling than the others.

Health appears to be basically good and one could not claim otherwise judging by the 1971/72 death rate. The older people are still lacking cleanliness but nursing mothers display sanitary habits. There is quite efficient M.D. aid post at OSIWAIPA and the main obvious health deficiencies were considerable "grille" and goitre to a lesser extent. Most children suffer runny noses but this condition rarely appears to worsen although the one child mortality was pneumonia. Law and order requires little attention from the station.

The M.C.H. nurse will once again be able to include at least three of the more accessible AITA villages in her rounds when the main road is repaired. The Council Welfare girls have not yet reached into the AITA, but when roads permit this service will be considered.

Mission activity is not high, particularly in the upper regions. The villages are split up fairly evenly between the United Church organized from KKKESU in the TROP C.D., the Roman Catholic Church based at ASITAVI (ROTKAS) and the Seventh Day Adventists whose base is at KKPESIA. The break up of the missions (Area Study H(a)) is somewhat surprising as these arbitrary lines cut right through clan allegiances. For example the large KENA KENA moiety would follow three faiths: those at KUSI being R.C., those at SIRIBIA being United Church and those at OSIWAIPA being S.D.A, yet no serious problems appear to arise.

No cult activity or other unusual activities were evident and each village was looked at closely, following a garbled report of interference with cemeteries at KORIBORI. The report of this investigation is attached amongst others, Appendix A.



SITUATION REPORT  
SOCIAL  
APPENDIX A.

Disputtes heard of Census Patrol five disputes were heard while on patrol, they are listed in chronological order.

1. RIRISIA VS KORIBORI village
2. KAERAVIS VS BIKORI clan
3. SERNIAL VS LOMIVORI
4. MATOWA clan VS KENA KENA clan
5. SIANPIPI VS INUS village

1. A very agitated man brought a garbled story to WAKUNAI on the day the commenced. The story was unintelligible but the man agreed to meet with the patrol again at KORIBORI.

At OSIWAIPA it was learned that the man was RIRISIA the former LULUAI and that he was considered senile.

RIRISIA turned up as planned at KORIBORI, and his story was the same as that of the various persons present at KORIBORI. Evidently he had gone to KORIBORI and asked to visit the cemetery. This approved, he then asked for the cemetery keeper and proceeded to stamp about inside the cemetery. When challenged that he would spoil the place, he become angry, extracted a cross and began breaking others with it. When the locals became angry in turn, he ran off away with one TARIDIOPE in pursuit.

Although the latter claimed to be intending only a good talking to RIRISIA, the old man was so frightened that he ran all the way to WAKUNAI.

The heat had apparently gone right out of the matter by this time and I explained that both men could will be and deserved to be charged. However, on the understanding that RIRISIA agreed to stay away from KORIBORI in future and that TARIDIOPE in turn would exercise more tolerance to those persons who weren't in full control of their wits, I suggested that their funds would be better spent in council taxes.

2. THOMAS KAERAVIS of TSUBIA approached the patrol at TSUBIA with the grievance that he had bought a parcel of land between TSUBIA and KUSI from the BIKOROI clan and had paid the full price in pigs and cash to one headman LOBOTO of IPITIA. The rank and file of clansmen, however, refused to recognise the sale. As the OSIWAIPA councillor, WORICRIS, is a member of selling clan, I asked for further information. He agreed that they'd all known of the sale and the price, but LOBOTO had decided to have a party with with the pigs and although inviting all his clansmen, had not openly declared that the pigs were for the particular land. Nor did they receive any of the cash.

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I decided to hear the case in LOBOTO's presence at IPITAIA when the patrol reached that point. LOBOTO, however, did not appear until the other participants had left. I explained what I had heard from the others and stated that if the clansmen were aware of the sale and had helped eat the pigs, this was tantamount to approval of the sale. If there was money outstanding, it was something to be settled within the clan. I then marked 27th September for the whole matter to be heard at WAKUNAI.

2. Before this date, word came down that KARRAVIS had been allowed the land.

3. Also at TRUBIA a PETER SERNIAL approached saying that he had agreed to build a pig pen at IPITAIA for LOKIVORI of that village, the wages being one female pig.

The fence was finished but the builder claimed he was not paid. I sent word to IPITAIA that this would be heard there also. This time the matter was settled, and SERNIAL received his pig prior to the arrival of the patrol.

4. This dispute was brought to the patrol at IPITAIA from OSIWAIPA although we had just been in the latter village for four days. Evidently the councillor had attempted to keep the problem in the village, which would have been reasonable had he not been involved in it.

It simply involved the non payment of bride price from the KENA KENA clan to the MATOWA. This turned out to be in return for a similar failure by the MATOWA in 1963.

As the price was implicitly promised in the recent case and the council had just made a rule to enforce such payments it appeared that the correct procedure would have to be followed.

It was also found that the 1963 payments were made without benefit of a council rule and that the KENA KENA had had nine years to gain the money.

On the grounds that council rules are too often disregarded and that firm basis for future payments must be laid, I ordered the payment to be made. Dissention followed and the MATOWA suggested waiving the payment after all. This brought further criticism regarding the abuse of council rules and the order of payment was reiterated. The dispute appeared to be settled.

5. The re-appearance of an old dispute came to the patrol at INUS village. It regarded an old man, SIANPIPI, who had completed the payment on an O/B motor from INUS plantation on behalf of a large society of INUS villagers.

Although he was allowed the use of the motor for some months to do charter work, he demanded the repayment of his original \$80 outlay. The initial agreement in this matter appears extremely slack, as does the recording of subsequent events. As before, the hearing became a matter of accusations and counter accusations. SIANPIPI was advised that if he wanted to take the matter further he would have to make a civil court action at WAKUNAI.



AREA STUDYA. INTRODUCTION

## (a) Geographic description.

The Aita census division of app 20,430 hectares is found on the north eastern side of Bougainville island in the Kieta sub district bounded by the Emperor range on the west, the Teop Tinputz C.D. to the north, the Rotokas C.D. to the south and the Pacific ocean. The east west boundaries do not follow geographic features, but are arbitrarily stroked in an attempt to contain the Aita speaking peoples. In the hinterland they are successful, however on the coast a Teop speaking village (Imus) is included and a Taunite speaking village (Kotoita) is embraced by the boundary but is accounted for in the Teop Tinputz C.D. and administered as part of the Buka sub district.

The topography is dominated by Mt Balbi (2500m) an active volcano complex featuring seven craters. The highest point in the Emperor range forms the junction of the western and southern boundaries of the division. Precipitous country forms the western third of the area and large east bound spurs divided by boulder strewn fast - flowing rivers dominate three quarters of the remainder. Of these rivers the Aita is the largest, although it passes into the Rotokas C.D. before gaining the sea. The Worunag (mainly the central Aita and the Urui, passing into the Teop Tinputz C.D. has its catchment in the northern valleys. The remainder of the area comprises the coastal strip (as none of the spurs reach the coast) which is at no point narrower than three kilometers.

Rainfall is <sup>high</sup> by Territory standards (100"-120"PA) and, although not evenly distributed throughout the year, does not follow the tropical double maxima pattern or any other pattern judging by the rainfall charts of the past five years.

Native vegetation on the coastal fringe and foothills is made up of substantial primary rain forest and heavy secondary growth. Interspersed is to be found a lot of wild bananas, various black palm species, thickets of bamboo and areas of mangrove adjacent the beach. The inroads made on this pattern by the human population is covered in Sections E, I and M. As the soil is made up of brown loams with lapillitic horizons with minor brown loams locally, most crops are successful depending on the altitude. As the ridges are followed to higher altitudes, the secondary growth diminishes and it becomes possible to negotiate the ground off the tracks without hacking after 500m altitude has been reached. Beyond 2000m the trees appear stunted, thinner and very mossy. Thereafter, ferns and tussocks are major vegetation. The top of the range in proximity to Balbi is of course bare, wind swept solfatara.

The climate is tropical maritime with all seasonal variation and a diurnal range of 22-30-C. The inhabited hinterland (up to 1300m) would range 20-26C.

## Access and location.

## (b)

The Aita census division is administered from Wakunai Patrol Post in the Rotokas C.D. (adjacent south) Both divisions make up the northern part of the Kieta sub district in which is also to be found the district headquarters at Arawa. Access to the Aita is poor. The accessibility of the whole Wakunai area is made difficult by the absence of the road link from Kieta to the southern extremity of the coastal road in the Rotokas C.D. Fortunately, there is an airstrip at Wakunai presently able to cater with DC 3 aircraft, four of which arrive weekly from Kieta and Rabaul. Crowley Airways and Bougainville Air Service provide a much needed small plane back up to this service. Numa Numa plantation about two miles from Wakunai (still in the Rotokas C.D.) provide wharf age facilities to the coastal freighters that cater for Bougainville small parts.

By referring to the attached map it will be seen that the major break down in accessibility is between Wakunai Patrol Post and the Aita census division. This breakdown is to some extent due to very unfavourable weather conditions in May of this year and renders the area much more inaccessible than at the time of the 1971 Area Study. The individual factors are as follows.

1. The Ururon river ford just north of Wakunai relies on sub pavement pipes to pass the bulk of water. These now continually block with stones. The crossing has barely been of use for four months.
2. The Red river, four kilometers further north and still in the Rotokas, lost its Bailey bridge in the same deluge. The flow is too much to allow a permanent low level crossing although this was attempted.
3. The Aitaf river itself habitually changes course through the coastal strip and is usually (and at present) quite impassable. There are two reasonable vehicular roads that lead into foothills on the ridges on either side of the Aita river valley, but they are cut off and completely derelict (see map). There is no wharfage facilities on the Aita coast and the only airstrip is in the far north eastern corner at Inus plantation. There is no transport available at the plantation. Administration of the area is by means impossible but refer to sections M and N on the economy and its expansion for the main effects of isolation and section J "Communication" for further information and possible relief.

(c) Administration influence, the people etc.

Bougainville, having been taken over from German administration, was one of the original districts to come under the Administration's influence. This influence is high as disputes are either brought to Wakunai before trouble occurs or kept "on ice" until the next visit by an officer. Crime is at a very low level and most of what is encountered can be attributed to plantation sourceers. Liquor is difficult to obtain and must be purchased from either the Teep Tinupis or Rotokas C.D.

The people themselves are much the same physically as the remainder of Bougainvilleans - comparatively tall (ave 5'8" - 5'10") strong arms and bodies but lean in the leg. The skin colour is virtually black and hair usually short. Colourless tattoos on face, chest, arm and back are general but this appears to be dying out.

Shorts, shirts and dresses have practically replaced "lap lap" and traditional dress is not seen. Adornment is restricted to trade store beads for the women and a feather or hibiscus in the hair of the men. Although pierced septa are evident nothing is worn in the nose. Very little footwear is used. Pollen from the hibiscus is sometimes dabbed on the cheeks of the younger coastal males, who from time to time will be observed holding hands. Heterosexual (!) affection is rarely seen.

The Aita shares with the Rotokas and Keriaka the initiation cult "Upei". Upei is the name given to the male age mates themselves and to the distinctive headdress they wear. Boys are selected at about twelve years, (but this can vary from eight to fourteen and one was unused this year aged 29) and sent to live together under the watchful eye of an old man and an older boy called "Avalau" on an adjacent ridge nearby. Here, the old man instructs them in their responsibilities and manufactures their Upeis from the dried leaves of a local variety of black palm. Each lad is given two Upeis, one with a couple of verticillate bands of colour, the other, more carefully made, featuring various patterns cut into the dyed leaves. The latter are only used at "sing-sings" the local festive occasion.



When the boys go about their daily work, however, they have the choice of their workday Upei or a piece of coloured calico because, until the hair grows into the Upei, it is difficult to balance this lofty artefact. The hair will grow into it eventually, as the main feature of the Upei is that he must not cut his hair. As the hair grows, he can demonstrate its progress by showing how far the Upei will lean forward.

Traditionally, he could remain an Upei for three years or more; now it is closer to one year, depending on the old man's discretion. Consequently, the hair reaches only to the chest when the Upei is finally discarded instead of to the knee as before.

The boys are allowed to work in the gardens of their families, but this is where the first privation is felt. The only female they may address or be spoken to by is their mother. Sexual relations are of course taboo but smoking is permitted. They have their own gardens for supplementary rations of taro their staple diet. Together with this they are permitted to consume only sweet potato, rice and tinned meat. Normal village foods that are denied them include many vegetables, fruits, eggs, pork, fish, poultry, possum and coconut.

Other restrictions on their activities include their inability to leave the WAKUNAI area. They may not go to school or to church which has caused the demise of the Upei in two strong Seventh Day Adventist village nearby. The Catholic villagers are more tolerant in this regard and find no inconsistency between their own willingness to attend daily catechist services and their denial of this right to the young Upeis.

The young girls are not accorded any similar attention, merely a party to announce their physical adulthood at which they are quite often marked for marriage. Any girlfriend loitering near the "Haus bilong ol upei" in the old days would be immediately killed and possibly eaten. These days the women keep well clear and believe that to eat food from the Upei garden would cause a terrible sickness to afflict them.

When their time is completed, a big clandestine feast is arranged and all kinds of good food are prepared. After much singing and dancing upeis are removed, the hair cut and buried near the Upei's house and the Upeis are ceremoniously burned. A well behaved and respected lad may then be picked out to renew his Upei status and take over the new batch of young boys as their Avalau.

A quaint custom, yet the Upei may be fulfilling a role even in these times. Progress is breaking down the controls of the parents and clan leaders. A full education is not even available to all let alone compulsory. This results in many dissatisfied youths obtaining any kind of work and returning home with a little cash and "big -heads". The humility of the Upei is therefore to be appreciated.

4.  
-10

B. POPULATION DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS

(a) Natural Increases. or Decreases Rates

VILLAGE	BIRTHS	MIG IN	DEATHS	MIG OUT	
POKOJA	6	7	-	-	+ 13
TUBIA	7	3	-	-	+ 10
KUSI	7	1	-	1	+ 7
SIRIBIA	4	2	-	-	+ 6
OSIMAIPA	13	4	2	-	+ 15
OWAMAIPA	3	2	-	4	+4
KORIBORI	12	27	-	1	+38
TOKAI	4	-	-	12	-8
INUS	1	3	-	-	+4
TOTALS	57	49	2	15	+89

This shows an annual total natural increase in population of fifty-five, or 3.7%.

(b) Roads and Tracks.

Inus, Stomas (Tokai) and Koribori have a vehicular road. All villages are interconnected with tracks. Access to Retekas villages are only by way of the coast but the Aita has tracks that lead west to KAKARAPAJA and north into TEOP-THPUTZ.

(c) ABSENTEEISM

A certain amount of absenteeism from upper AITA villages is due to families moving over the range to the non-council area of KERIARA to avoid taxes.

Also large sections of three villages have moved eastwards, around KORIBORI and the back of TIARAKA and TEIHUP (Retekas C.D.) to establish coconuts/coconut plantations. KUSI has left only a few old people behind in their move down near HUPATORD (Retekas) and they call this new site No 2 KUSI.

The large bloc of "absent outside (children)" from KORIBORI represents the school children at TEOKAI School, KOTOITA, North Bougainville electorate.

The major source of people's absenteeism inside the electorate is children at school, LAGAMA and ASITAVI and the parents that accompany them to tend food gardens.



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9. SOCIAL GROUPINGS

(a) NUMBER OF DISTRICT SOCIAL GROUPS.

The area's population is basically divided into two main moieties, the KEMA KEMA and the MATOMA. Inside these moieties are to be found smaller clans various villages and religious.

The only departure from this pattern is as one moves down the range through KORIBORI. This village has the two large groups and also a NABUIN a large coastal clan which spreads from TIARAKA to TEOP (see map) TOKAI is on the edge of three language pattern areas and does not claim the presence of MATOMA, but KEMA KEMA, BIKAROI and SIKOPIO.

Inus village is in the TEOP speaking area and clearly change over to the five coastal end of the north east coast:

NOTAHI, NOSUIN, NAKAHI, NOKALIPA & NAHANU.

(b) THE FUNCTIONAL SOCIAL UNIT:

In answer to questions regarding the functional unit, various answers came to hand. This does not really indicate diverse methods (as the AITA are all very closely allied) but the varying results of radical changes in their economic systems. SIRIBIA even claimed an operational unit embracing the whole upper AITA. Village units were claimed by KUSI, TSUBIA and TOKAI, clan units by ONAMAIPA and Inus and a family basis at POKOIA. To sum up the whole AITA co-operation concept is probable as the two major moieties are to be found throughout; this would have been traditional. However, some notably, TSUBIA, KUSI and OSIMAIPA have moved villages, seawards to buy plantation land. To find the cash it has probably required inter-clan co-operation. Some older KUSI refused to join this migration possibly on old clan jealousy grounds. POKOIA people evidently would not shift in the same manner, consequently the enterprising families hived off from the village to commence their own enterprise.

(c) THE LANGUAGE PATTERN.

All of the upper AITA villages share the AITA language. They can make out ROTOKAS but do not speak it. KORIBORI and TOKAI combines AITA and TEOP and INUS is a pure TEOP speaking village.

(d) RELATIONSHIPS BETWEEN COMPONENT GROUPS:

Although the groups work well side by side (and sometimes together with) each other, any dispute of a traditional nature will rapidly cause a rift along clan lines.

(e) RELATIONSHIPS WITH OUTSIDE GROUPS

There is little interaction with groups outside the Census Division, the AITA and ROTOKAS share in the running of the Wakmai Council but rather than full co-operation or even friendly competition the AITA people are critical and perhaps a little suspicious of those from ROTOKAS. There is very little inter marriage or migration except that emigration necessary to purchase plantation land. The AITA people appear to find more in common with KERIACA people on the west coast.

D. LEADERSHIP

(4)

(a)	POKOIA	SIRAUSI APOROS KABIRISIO
	TSUBIA	PUAURA KAREAVIS GARETO/KAPASUA TOIBINI/LARIO
	KUSI	TETEVIPI DAUDIA SIROMKA
	SIRIBIA	-
	OSIWAIPA	RIRICIA PAHI/KRIMI
	OWAWAIPA	JOHN MUNUSIORI/SIRIPI WONIGRIS
	KOROBORI	ADIDIO/AKUTANA PAUL GABUTA
	INUS	BILLIE OKO MASE
	TOKAI	-

(b) Details.

At POKOIA, ex councillor SIRAUSI is still the strongest personality in the village, his son APOROS aged 34 is strong but has little to say, particularly at Council meetings. Kabirisio, another son of SIRAUSI, aged 23, has worked with the malaria control team and shows more intelligence than the other younger men.

TUBIA's councillor PUURA is respected as a leader but once again is very silent. Thomas Kareavis is a very go ahead young man and has lead his clan to a large re-settlement near Asitavi, "TUBIA", where they hope to commence a cattle farm. He is very enterprising and tends to alienate those he has business differences with. He may not be trusted as a leader. Gareto/Kapasua, aged 22, appears very intelligent and is a discussion leader. TOIBINI/ILARIO is only 18 and still on UPEI but is rapidly developing into a spokesman.

KUSI's previous councillor Paul Sironka is still very much respected and is a director of the Wakwai Society. The present councillor is TETEVIPI/RABABUIDA, aged 31 is more vigorous, but he is too unfortunately very quiet at meetings. DAUDIA/LALIEPE an older man still commands respect but is absent at present at MABINI C.M.

At SIRIBIA, where I was unable to spend a night, no leader emerged from a rather taciturn lot. They share the councillor with OSIWAIPA and OWAWAIPA, PETER WONIGRIS who is a fairly strong energetic councillor and who will get up and have his say at council meetings.

The large village of OSIWAIPA also has no resident councillor. The previous LULUAI, RIRICIA, although apparently becoming setile still holds a lot of power. Young PAHI/KRIMI, aged 24, has worked as a driller at FANGURA and is very talkative and intelligent. He may lack a leaders strenght

At OWAWAIPA, John MUNUSIORI/SIRIPI became evident as a spokesman for the group on most subjects. For particulars on WONIGRIS, see SIRIBIA.

KOROBORI's councillor STEVEN KINERI is a dependable councillor who brings his villagers's feelings to the council, he does however, lack drive.



ADIDIO/AMUTAWA who is acting as committee during HINCPI's absence is aged 36 and naturally comes forward as a leader. PAUL GABUTA aged 24 also shows promise.

TOXAI has many youths that show intelligence and leadership qualities. After such a brief encounter it would be unfair to single some of them out.

INUS village is suffering in that most of its promising young people are away working. One is doing third year science at Moresby University. The councillor BILLIS OKU has a good grip on this job but two or three old men are still the real power in this village.

(c) The leadership pattern still tends to be more traditional than modern, due possibly to the lack of higher educated or travelled citizens. This pattern will be slow to alter due to lack of persons seeking higher education. The councillors have authority in those areas which concern mainly council matters but are not usually able to settle larger disputes. Perhaps this is due to their not having any court power to back up their decisions. More likely it is that in a two moiety society, it is virtually impossible not to be personally involved.

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B. LAND TENURE AND USE

(a) Traditional System

Land was held on clan lines and was passed down through matrilineal inheritance.

(b) No land in the AITA C.D. has been alienated for re-lease. Land holders who have purchased land not previously held traditionally have directly approached the owners and made a straight purchase.

(c) Cash cropping is both by individual and communal methods. Some larger individual growers are not able to reciprocate the amount of communal help they receive and must pay wages. Quite often land is handed over to another individual and payment deferred until the recipient's plantation is bearing.

English is taught in primary school. The school is open and day, and pupils work and study.

The school has four villas that offer work and study to the children. The children are mostly from the village. Both children and adults are in the school. The school is open and day, and pupils work and study.

(d) Individual Village

	1	2	3	4
1	10	10	10	10
2	10	10	10	10
3	10	10	10	10
4	10	10	10	10
5	10	10	10	10
6	10	10	10	10
7	10	10	10	10
8	10	10	10	10
9	10	10	10	10
10	10	10	10	10

(e) Higher Education  
There are very few students in the AITA who have even qualified for a higher education. The school is open and day, and pupils work and study.

(f) The school is open and day, and pupils work and study. The school is open and day, and pupils work and study.

1	10	10	10
2	10	10	10
3	10	10	10
4	10	10	10



F. LITERACY

## (a) Schools.

There is only one effective school in the AITA C.D. This is the S.D.A. school at KEPESIA, INUS. A break up of the pupils is as follows:

Standard	1	21 boys	22 girls
"	2	14 "	8 "
"	3	15 "	12 "
"	4	19 "	13 "
"	5	18 "	11 "
"	6	25 "	22 "

English is taught at KEPESIA. The school is clean and tidy, the pupils neat and orderly.

The children from villages that ally with the United Church go to IAGAMA school, the catholic children mostly attend ASITAVI C.M. Both schools are on the coast in the ROTOKAS C.D. A lot of KORIBORI and TOKAI children go to school at TEOKAI (KOTOITA) in the TEOP TINEPUTE C.D.

## (b) Individual Literacy.

	9 literate pidgin.	4 literate english
KUSI	10 "	" "
POKOIA	6 "	3 "
TSUBIA	20 "	10 "
SIRIBIA	20 "	12 "
OSIWAIPA	15 "	1 "
OWAWAIPA	10 "	2 "
KORIBORI	20 "	20 "
TOKAI	30 "	" "
INUS		

## (c) Higher Education.

There are very few persons in the AITA who have even qualified for a higher education. THOMAS KASILAS of TSUBIA is in form 2 at HUTJENA H.S. SIRIBIA has one at MALAGUNA H.S. A OWAWAIPA there is a vocational school student at KIETA and a girl at Nursing School INUS is the most advanced, with two teachers in the SEPIK three at High School, two returned from High School and NELSON/TOVINIKA is doing second year science at the University of T.P.N.G.

## (d) Nil.

(e) Newspapers do not circulate in this area but radios could be considered popular; following is a break up of their distribution.

KUSI	1	OSIWAIPA	5
POKOIA	2	OWAWAIPA	6
TSUBIA	4	KORIBORI	3
SIRIBIA	3	TOKAI	3
		INUS	8

G. STANDARD OF LIVING

## (a) General.

Shifts of villages to where plantations are being commenced usually coincide with an improvement in the standard of housing. Many have worked on plantations further north where more care and attention is given to housing. The older people, particularly in the old villages are content to remain in squalid conditions with houses on the ground. Toilets are to be found in all villages. They are not very good toilets, neither fly or rat proof, and it is difficult to estimate how much they are used. Mangy, emaciated dogs are in all villages and loose pigs in many. Rats infest most rest houses. Grille and goitre are common in most villages and many children suffer from runny noses and runny eyes are not uncommon amongst the babies.

European artifacts are not common apart from cigarette lighters, knives, saucepans, cups etc. Lamps, stoves, tables, chairs, clocks and other things that can be dispensed with do not appear popular. Pad bolts and locks of massive proportion are however widespread and it would appear that honesty is not expected. There is one late model Holden utility at TOKAI.

## (b) Diet

Taro and Singapore are the staple foodstuffs. This is supplemented to a minor extent by corn, sugar cane, sweet potatoe, galip nut and a few bush greens and fruits. The two coastal villages eat fish and coconut as well. Protein is in short supply in the hills and they must rely on the occasional pidgin, possum or flying fox. Tinned foods are popular now, particularly fish and meat. Rice, sugar biscuits and salt would be the most important of the other trade store goods.

## (c) Organisations.

There is virtually nothing available in this sector. The MCH nurse used to visit POKOIA before the roads were cut. TOKAI and INUS village occasionally go to LAUN (Teop) or ASITAVI (Rotokas) to play soccer.



H. MISSIONS

## (a) Mission Allegiances.

POKOIA -----50/50 R C and United Church

TSURIA -----Mostly R.C some S.D.A

KUSI -----R.C

SIRIBIA -----U.C

OSIWAIPA -----SDA

OWAWAIPA -----U.C

KORIBORI -----U.C and R.C

TOKAI -----R.C. and SDA

INUS -----SDA.

There appears to be little if any inter village conflict on religious grounds, but a village changing over to SDA has to expect inter village fighting regarding the polygynic establishment and the attitude to smoking. As said before drinking is not a problem in these villages.

(b) The respective representative of the relevant faith visits each village once or twice annually. OSIWAIPA and INUS have their own church and hold regular services.

(c) All villagers claimed that the missions were a "good thing" but found difficulty in explaining why. They seemed to have the work of the Admin and that of the Missions quite confused. No one mission has any ascendancy over the others.

(d) See.

The only noticeable exchange is between the road between INUS plantation and the village. Both use it frequently. The Mission boat "KORIBORI" takes most of the village produce direct to TOKAI. Due to road difficulties the remainder of native produce goes to TOKAI by road.

(e) Air.

INUS plantation has a small airstrip that is served by Croydon Airways and Mangrove Air Services. Native produce is mostly transported from here as it is cheaper. One has to go by boat. The AIR people are keen to have a strip between INUS and KUSI. (See Situation Report Borealis)

(f) Rivers.

All rivers are completely navigable.

I. INDIVIDUAL AND GENERAL NOTES

III.

1. NON - INDIGINES

(a) INUS plantation is the only establishment run by Europeans in the Census Division. There are three Australian men and their families residing there. Much of the skilled labour is looked after by Papuans, semi skilled or supervisory jobs filled by Bukas and the main labour force comes almost entirely from Chinbu.

(b) The local population does not like plantation work and they are frightened of the Highlanders.

(c) Since INUS recently went off providing scale, a good market for produce has now become available at this plantation for the gardeners of POKOIA, KORIBORI, TOKAI and the fishermen of INUS. The villagers are content with the outlet (the women handle this business) and the plantation with the supply.

(d) Persons non - indigenous to Bougainville are to be found as follows  
A SEPIK man has married and settled at KUSI, a CHIMBU man has married and settled at TSUBIA, a half caste Chinese family lives at INUS village and an old CHINESE man is looking after the land known as TOBER on the coast, alienated this year for HENRY WARREN of KIETA.

J. COMMUNICATIONS

## (a) Roads.

All vehicular roads were covered in A (b) and B (b) cited tracks. Refer to the petrol map and locality sketch for routes. Roads (4 wheel drive required) are shown as unbroken lines, dotted lines represent walkings tracks.

Road access into the AITA C.D is limited the roads joining POKOIA and KORIBORI to the coast road. This leaves TSUBIA, KUSI, SIRIBIA, OSIWAIPA, and OWAWAIPA unserved. The terrain renders the construction of such roads difficult and expensive. Also to be considered is the drift from these villages to the lower country. It is doubtful if roads of the required gradients could be maintained with so small a workforce. On the other hand potatoes and coffee are the only produce requiring transport and the small bulk of these hardly warrants the expense of roads. ROTOKAS C.D. airfreights potatoes to WAKUNAI, the AITA people are interested in this also.

## (b) Sea.

The only reasonable anchorage is inside the reef between INUS plantation and the village. Both use it frequently. The mission boat "DEVARE" takes most of the village produce direct to KIETA. Due to road difficulties the remainder of native produce comes to WAKUNAI by speed boat or motor canoe.

## (c) Air.

INUS plantation boats a small airstrip that is served by Crowley Airways and Bougainville Air Services. Native produce is rarely despatched from here as it is cheaper, one brought this far, to go by boat. The AITA people are keen to have a strip between TSUBIA and KUSI. (See Situation Report Economic)

## (d) Rivers.

All rivers are completely innavigable

K. TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL SKILLS

Nil.



## L. THE STAGE POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT

Political development is not high in any part of the AITA. The further one goes into the hills the less sophisticated the inhabitants become. The government is synonymous with the Administration and assumes a fatherlike image with these people. Difficulty is apparent in understanding that the councils didn't take over the role of the administration and that the House of Assembly will not take over the role of the council. The Situation Report deals more fully with these attitudes.

### M. THE ECONOMY OF THE AREA

(a) Refer the Annex A for details of economic trees. It will be noted that the villages above 500m cannot produce copra and cocoa, but some of the plantings at the lower villages are by farmers from the higher altitudes. Each village was interviewed in order to discover what economic order the villagers themselves placed their products.

POKOLA	below 500m	cocoa, copra, artefacts.
TSUBIA	above "	artefacts, coffee
KUSI	above "	artefacts
SIRIBIA	above "	artefacts, coffee
OSIWAIPA	above "	artefacts, coffee
CHAWAIAPA	above "	artefacts, potatoes
KORIBORI	below "	artefacts, cocoa, copra
TOKAI	below "	cocoa, copra
INUS	below "	copra, cocoa, fish vegetable

The potatoes of CHAWAIAPA are carried about three miles to the road head at POKOLA (This is at present cut off from the buyers. The Wakunai Council - by state of the coast road.)

#### (b) Production.

Production in the AITA is low. Coffee prices being poor and transport being difficult has caused much coffee to be left unpicked. Even using the figures for bearing trees given in ANNEX A, copra would be unlikely to have exceeded 100 tons by much last year. Cocoa beans is more carefully husbanded and amounted to approximately 60 tons last year. Coffee production only 10 tons. Production figures do not include Inus Plantation.

#### (c) Possible Production.

The Rural Development Officer at Wakunai has quoted that 40% of the AITA area is suitable for planting economic trees. I have applied this to only that area below 500m altitude (about  $\frac{1}{3}$  of the census division) As the upper AITA is extremely rugged, I have reduced the arable content to 20%. Using accepted acreage plantings, the AITA could theoretically produce 1,530,00 cacao trees, a tenfold increase, 408,000 coconut palms, a five fold increase, and the much neglected coffee industry could provide 1,364,00 trees, multiplying the present number by twenty-six.

These figures are derived from the acreages available in comparison to the figures in Annex A. Although the increases appear substantial, planted up areas and gardens appear extremely scarce throughout the whole area. The villagers, too, remark that there is plenty of land available for further expansion. Only the people around TOKAI are a little anxious, having already sold off portions of the land to people from the higher regions. Inus Plantation alone produced 360 tons of cocoa and 750 tons of copra last year.

#### (d) Market Gardening.

Due to the lack of large population centres and the difficult communications with such places as Kieta, market gardening is limited to the little bit mentioned in 1. (c) An airstrip in the upper AITA would probably encourage the growing of vegetables, particularly potatoes.



## (e) Wage Earners.

There are thirty-four wage earners from the AITA area, mostly outside the census division but few outside the district. This money has very little effect on the economy of the area and would follow in importance copra, cocoa, and artefacts.

## (f) Co-operatives.

The Wakunai Marketing Co-operative has been established to service the whole Wakunai Area. At this time, due once again to communications, the Aita is getting virtually no benefit from its operations. Previously, cocoa bean was dried at Tokai and transported by road to WAKUNAI. Now the wet bean is sold (at a lower net return) to INUS plantation. Some produce comes by small boat or canoe to WAKUNAI, but if a larger boat is available, the cargo goes to KIETA. Some produce is man handled down the road; of this most goes to J.B. Kungkan's plantation PITOKAWA at WAKUNAI. The price is less overall but more on delivery and although the people are not against Society in general or this one in particular, they like the ready cash and have an inherent distrust of clerks (the Wakunai Council clerk misappropriated \$600 this year!) The Society is making overtures to take over the potatoe business from the Council and is interested in helping the Aita people sell their artefacts (See Situation Report - Economy) Recently a new office and fermentary has been built on the northern side of the UPURON river and soon the Society will be actively campaigning for increased business. The total share capital of this Society is approximately \$5,000, however of the 466 members only 70 belong to the AITA.

## (g) Business Men

There are eleven trade stores in the area; they are listed in Annex B. Two claimed to have ceased operations and a further two were found to be operating without ever getting a license. The two operators were summoned to appear before the next council meeting. Some have obviously forgotten or neglected to renew their license, those seen were admonished, those not seen will be notified in due course by their councillor.

TAVIOKORO of TOKAI has a cocoa fermentary in which he used to process all the TOKAI bean but as there is no access now to WAKUNAI, he only does his own, the remaining bean being sold to INUS plantation in its wet form.

## (h) Bank Accounts.

Accounts are scarce and are found as follows: KUSI, 5; POKOIA, 1; TSUBIA, 2; SIRIBIA, 3; COTWAIPA, 10; ONAWALAP, 2; KORIBORI, 6; TOKAI, 10; INUS, 8.

## (i) Tax.

Only those in the upper AITA have difficulty with taxes, they feel the rate should be lowered especially in the the AITA. If it wasn't for their artefacts, they claim, the \$10 per man per year would be impossible.

It was obvious that many were resigned to the fact of being unable to pay when they were informed of the September 30th deadline. It seemed as if they were anxious to inform me of their disability so that I could offer them some dispensation. My only suggestion was that if they would truly unable to meet their tax, then they would have to apply through their councillors for a cut in the rate and put up with fewer council works.

# N. POSSIBILITIES FOR EXPANDING THE ECONOMY.

## (a) Sufficient Arable Land for Expansion?

Yes. See M(c)

## (b) Market Gardening.

Scope for increase only if coastal roadworks become reliable or an airstrip is built in the upper AITA.

## (c) Wage Earnings.

This is unlikely to increase within the census division in the near future until the newly planted crops require labour.

Work is available from time to time within the sub district, particularly KIETA/ ARAWA/ PANGUNA but the men find the cost of food takes the financial gain away. They are not keen to work on large plantations as this was suggested as a means to meet tax demands. Even so the area could not stand losing more than about fifty men.

## (d) New Enterprises.

Rather than new industries, there is more scope for expansion of those already commenced. Coffee and potatoes could find a ready market and thought could be given to a more rewarding disposal of artefacts for which the area is well known.

Timber is in abundance in the AITA valley but the nearest mill is at ASITAVI C.M. Not only would a road half of over three miles be involved, but the Red river would have to be repeatedly forded. ASITAVI is not a large consumer of timber and it has plenty in reserve yet in the ROTOKAS.

A fishing industry would require either a canning or freezing works as well as sophisticated and expensive equipment. Not feasible at this time, although the area abounds with small shark. Poultry, egg production and pig-farming are all possibilities and are suitable to the higher parts of the area. Vegetables (cabbages lettuce and tomatoes) grow well in the area but would really require an airstrip on top to export these rapidly as is envisaged for ROTOKAS. Crocodiles are endemic to this coast but the farming of them may prove too complicated without expert assistance and a heavy drain on present fishing techniques.

The people would be prepared to work to better their lot as long as the effort was directly commensurate with the reward. They dislike roadwork for the sake of roadwork and have remarked that they feel that the work load of maintaining a long tenuous road to the upper AITA would be more than they would like to take on.



C. ATTITUDE TOWARDS LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The AITA people are not anti local government but feel that the program of using RDF funds for feeder roads has left them at a disadvantage. By reference to the map, it can be seen that they have been catered for as well as has the ROTOKAS. Unfortunately the state of the main road has meant that their roads are cut off and of no use. They still require considerable maintenance and I was pleased to observe that their roads compared favorably with those of the ROTOKAS.

Not with standing this attitude, the ground does not lend itself to further easy road building and they had put their faith in the council to be of assistance in constructing a small airstrip on top. The site was inspected and a brief report is to found attached, Annex C.

More information on attitudes appears in the Situation Report-  
Political.

P. ATTITUDE TOWARDS CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

The attitudes towards Central Government being confused was touched on in (L) of this study. There appeared to be a considerable concern as to whether Self Government was a "good thing" or not, and all were disappointed to hear that it was not necessarily a "good thing" depended, like the council, on how it was used and on the support it received.

Knowledge of the makeup and role of the Government was found to be poor and this was coupled with a strong fear that upon self-government, the Europeans would leave.

Q. ACCOMMODATION SERVICES AND FACILITIES

Accommodation is not normally available in the AITA apart from the use made of rest houses at POKOIA, TSURIA, KUSI, OSIWAIP, IPITIAIA, KORIBORI and INUS. All equipment must be supplied. INUS plantation is only able to supply emergency accommodation and has no transport capable of proceeding further than INUS or TOKAI villages. Stores are listed (Annex D) and emergency repairs or a small nature may be effected at INUS plantation. One 4x4 Toyota is available for hire at KOTOLATA nearby.

Note that only about 25% of the village population are working and that only an even lesser percentage of village area could be working, estimated 25,000 acres.

Some villages are not planted, many more are under 100 acres and not available.



ANNEX A  
ECONOMIC TREES - AITA C.D. 1972.

VILLAGE	ALTITUDE	COCONUTS	CACAO	COFFEE	TOTAL
TOKAI	BELOW 500m	24,300	58,700	-	83,000
POKCIA	" "	23,809	118,800	1,000	143,600
KORIBORI	" "	6,000	-	600	6,600
INUS	" "	29,200	-	-	29,200
INUS PMN 586 Ha freehold. 70 Ha leasehold	" "	62,600	250,000	-	312,600
TSURIA	ABOVE 500m	609	300	1,400	2,300
SIRIBIA	" "	-	-	1,200	1,200
OWAWAIPA	" "	-	-	8,000	8,000
OSIWAIPA	" "	-	-	1,100	1,100
KUSI	" "	1,500	8,000	8,400	17,900
TOTALS		148,000	435,800	21,700	605,500

Note that only about 60,00 of the village coconuts are bearing and that only an even lower percentage of village cacao would be bearing, estimated 70,000 trees.

Inus village are now planting many young cacao trees but figures were not available.

ANNEX B

## TRADE STORES - AITA

James Rev'siai	Oma'waipa	licensed
Ben Tovirika	Inus	"
John Pireviri	Keribori	"
Teteviri Babauria	Kusi No.2	"
Sipekopi Pikai	Pokoia	license run out cautioned.
Steven Arepiri	Keribori	license run out cautioned.
Thomas Omi	Pokoia	license run out absent
Thomas Tevaireri	Siribia	license run out absent
Inus plantation	Inus	license run out not seen
Wiriri Karetnei	Keribori	unlicensed
Bioni Devarai	Owawaipa	unlicensed
Raua Rarape	Kusi	closed down
Joseph T. Ariara	Tsubia	closed down

Observing the approach from the SE end (that is looking at 27 deg N) showed tall very steeply at 55%. However directly ahead at approximately half a mile distance was a hill, the top of which, having been cleared of trees, would represent a rise from the end of the strip of 1% at 30 deg to the left (30 deg N) the same area represented a 2% rise at about 200 yds distance. At 30 deg to the right (30 deg E) there is no obstacle, this approach is lower than the level of the strip, being the AITA valley. The area is especially quite level to a width of 50 yds.



(3)

ANNEX C.  
The Proposed AITA Airstrip.

A clear lane was cut down the centre line of the proposed airstrip. The length of this strip was 600 yds and its bearing was 40 deg M - 220 deg M. Commencing from the NE end and proceeding S.W. the following are the Abney level taken every 50 yds to the position 50 yds further on.

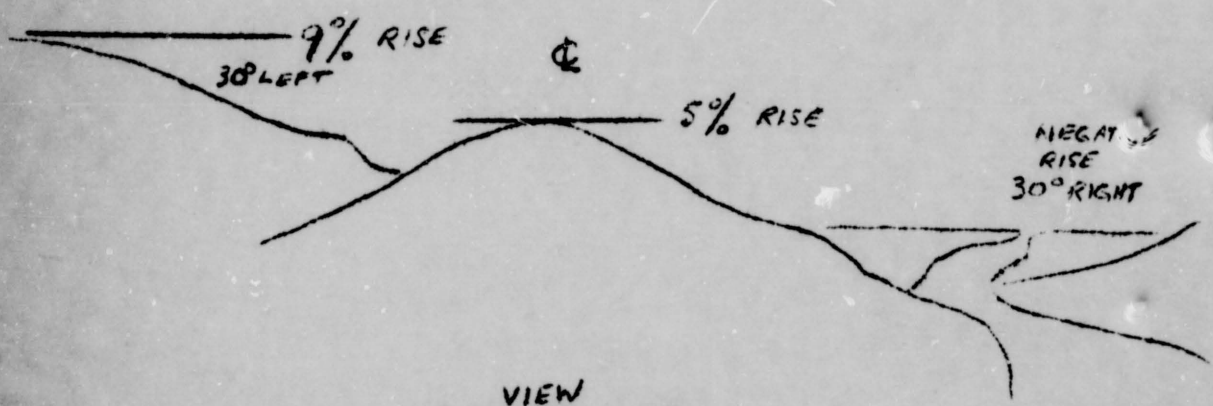
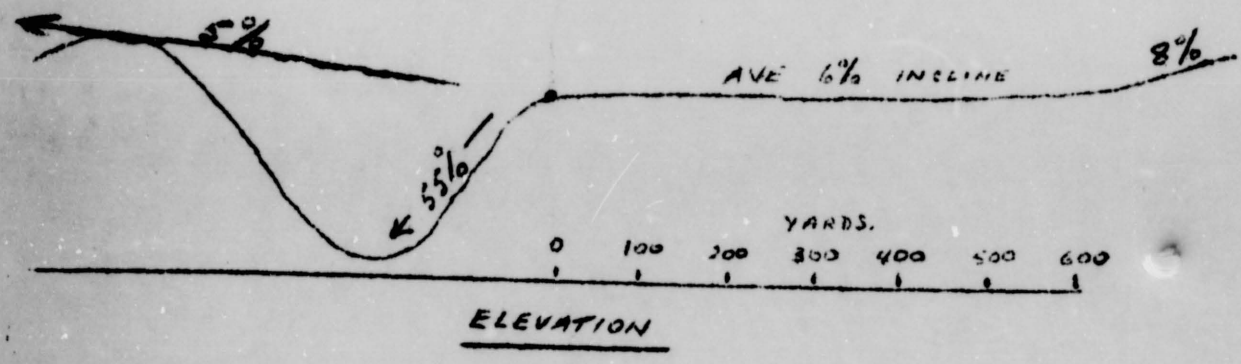
0	-	50 yds	-	7%	incline
50	-	100 "	-	5%	"
100	-	150 "	-	5%	"
150	-	200 "	-	6%	"
200	-	250 "	-	5%	"
250	-	300 "	-	5%	"
300	-	350 "	-	5%	"
350	-	400 "	-	5%	"
400	-	450 "	-	7%	"
450	-	500 "	-	6%	"
500	-	550 "	-	6%	"
550	-	600 "	-	7%	"
600	-	650 "	-	8%	"

Observing the approach from the NE end (that is looking at 40 deg M) ground fell away steeply at 55%. However directly ahead at approximately half a mile distance rises a hill, the top of which, having been cleared of trees, would represent a rise from the end of the strip of 5%. At 30 deg to the left (40 deg M) the same spur represents a 9% rise at about 250 yds distance. At 30 deg to the right (70 deg M) there is no obstacle, this approach is lower than the level of the strip, being the AITA valley. The area is laterally quite level to a width of 50 yds.

PTO

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ANNEX C  
PROPOSED AITA AIRSTRIP.



VIEW  
LOOKING 40°M  
FROM NE END





BOMBAINVILLE DISTRICT.

KIETA SUB-DISTRICT

AITA CENSUS DIVISION

MARUMAI

KIETA

