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# **PATROL REPORTS**

DISTRICT: NEW IRELAND  
STATION: TASKUL  
VOLUME No: 7

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1967 - 1968

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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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**TASKUL**

**PATROL REPORT**

**1967/68**



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of New Ireland Report No. 1 of 1967/68

Patrol Conducted by J.L. Wellington (Patrol Officer)

Area Patrolled New Hanover

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr. D.I. MacDonald (P.O.) for first four days.

Natives Const. Sanapi and L/Cpl. Barana.

Duration—From 4/9/1967 to 17/10/1967

Number of Days 34

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? no

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

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

Map Reference .....

Objects of Patrol The collection of Council Tax, and Educational and Informative talks to the people re. Council and H.ofA. Elections.

Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please

17/11/1967

District Commissioner

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

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

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

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

67. 9. 4

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



Telegrams.....  
Our Reference 67-5-1  
If calling ask for  
Mr.....

Department of District Administration,  
District Headquarters,  
KAVIENG. N.I.

22nd November, 1967.

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

Patrol Report No. 1 of 1967/68 TASKUL  
by Patrol Officer - J. L. WELLINGTON.

Please receive the above Patrol Report together with  
Comprehensive comments by the District Officer, Taskul.

My comments follow:

1. The patrol was mounted for the dual purpose of gathering Council Tax and for Political Education for the forthcoming House of Assembly Elections. Normal area Administration was carried out as required. The result as recorded indicates a very thorough coverage of NEW HANOVER which indicated a different position than existed 3 years ago. The talks to the village people on the possibility of future mining operations was timely and useful for as is probably known both C.R.A. and Placer are showing interest in the island in the search for traces of mineralization.
2. The struggle between members of the Council and T.I.A. is being kept under surveillance by the D.D.A. Officers and members of both Missions. There is no doubt in my mind that some members of T.I.A. regard the association is an extension of the Johnson Cult and there is equally no doubt that there will be clashes between groups; but I feel the old principle of "divide and rule" will assist. Stop-press news indicates that T.I.A. followers are winning some seats in the New Council.
3. The reporting officers comments on Politics are interesting particularly that
  - (i) Little notice has been taken of printed matter; and
  - (ii) No regular visits to New Hanover sittings of the House of Assembly have been made.
4. Concerning the attitudes of the Lavongai Council President, Stephen TAONG - bad blood has existed between this man and successive Junior Officers at Taskul for sometime; simply because he has become a stand-over merchant and I fear a PARANOIC. He will not be the President of the New Council as he is most unpopular because of his attitudes with the majority of New Hanover people.
5. Mr. Wellington has withdrawn his resignation

(H.P. SEALE)  
District Commissioner.

67-9-4

27th December, 1967.

District Commissioner,  
New Ireland District,  
KAVIENG.

NEW IRELAND PATROL REPORT 1-67/68 TASKUL.

1. Receipt of the above report by Mr. J.L. Wellington is acknowledged with thanks.
2. Comments by yourself and Mr. Redmond seem to fully cover the material in the report.
3. Successful collection of the Council Tax is heartening but full acceptance of the Council system can only be expected if popular projects and services are successfully instituted by the Council from these revenues. It is vital that Councils and advisers are aware of their responsibilities in this regard.

(T.W. Ellis)  
DIRECTOR.

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-1-5

Patrol Post,  
TASKUL,  
New Ireland District.

10th November, 1967.

The District Commissioner,  
New Ireland District,  
KAVIENG.

TASKUL PATROL REPORT NO. I OF 1967/68

Herewith three copies of the above patrol report which has been submitted by Mr. J.L. WELLINGTON, Patrol Officer.

I have the following comments to make on the contents of the report:

INTRODUCTION: The object of Mr. WELLINGTON's patrol was to accompany and advise the LAVONGAI Council clerks and Tax Review Committee who were to collect Council tax for 1967/68. Thus the patrol was primarily of a Local Government nature - to ensure that tax was collected smoothly and correctly and to further impress upon the people that the full weight of the Administration is behind the Council and its officers.

It is good to note that no difficulties were encountered by the patrol. Mr. WELLINGTON's remarks agree with my recent impressions that most people now are keen to co-operate with patrols and there are now no overt indications of the previous civil disobedience.

DIARY at 29-9-67:

Mr. WELLINGTON's remarks here refer to an argument between the former cult leader OLIVER of MAMION, and PASKA, the Methodist Minister at TSOI. The argument revolved around contributions to the Methodist WARATABA by members of the T.I.A. from the TSOI area. The T.I.A. men wanted to contribute to the WARATABA as a block. PASKA wanted all the TSOI people to contribute together and not to have any divisions between the people. OLIVER represented the T.I.A., even though he is not a member. The argument quickly developed into a rather bitter personal feud between PASKA and OLIVER with T.I.A. and non T.I.A. members taking sides. At this time OLIVER and his friends often came to TASKUL, where they complained vociferously about PASKA's attitudes. They claimed that PASKA was against the T.I.A. because it is sponsored by a Roman Catholic - Fr. MILLER of LAVONGAI. PASKA, on the other hand, claimed that the T.I.A. was merely another form of the "Johnson" cult. My attitude was to stay out of the dispute and leave it to the Methodist Mission to straighten out. At the time of writing the argument and bad blood appears to have settled down. My view is that OLIVER, who is not officially recognised by the T.I.A., encouraged the quarrel in an effort to gain prestige, because as both the Council and T.I.A. gain in strength, OLIVER is being left increasingly by the wayside.

COLLECTION OF TAX:

It was good to see that the tax collectors had no trouble in the collection of tax, and the present attitudes of the people probably indicate that the troubles of the LAVONGAI Council in this respect are over. The 'ODAS' to pay, issued by the tax collecting team continue to be redeemed by taxpayers, and Council tax collection for this year is \$5,437. Estimated revenue from tax is \$7,000, and at this stage there is every chance that this estimate will prove conservative.



POLITICAL:

The political situation as recounted by Mr. WELLINGTON appears to be rather grim. However, I feel that it is perhaps not quite an accurate picture as it is largely based on secretive reports made by a few biased persons. To my way of thinking NEW HANOVER is now largely composed of people who are heartily sick of "Johnson" cults and accompanying gaol sentences and who just want to be left alone.

The T.I.A. is an organisation of which much has been written lately. It is an organisation designed to lead the people out of the impasse created by the failure of the "Johnson" cult. It aims to do this by having the people plant up large areas of coconuts and cocoa, and to date has been moderately successful in this regard. The movement has captured the imaginations of a large section of the population, although not, I think, to the degree that is commonly accepted. As an indication here, Fr. MILLER informs me that he estimates that some 70 percent of the Catholics around LAVONGAI Mission have joined the T.I.A. Certainly large numbers of the Methodist population in the TSOI, north coast, and UMBUKUL areas have not joined up.

In any case the T.I.A. is not a malevolent organisation which aims to destroy the Council. Although undoubtedly some die-hard cultists would like to utilise the T.I.A. for their own ends, the movement appears to remain firmly under the control of Fr. MILLER and other office bearers. Father MILLER and his society leaders ridicule the rumours and I am inclined to agree with them that future T.I.A. participation in the membership of the Council should be looked upon as a constructive method of bringing hitherto disaffected elements into the officially recognised political life of the island.

Present policy of NEW HANOVER is to :-

- (a) Endeavour to promote the LAVONGAI Council as the recognised forum for all political expression on NEW HANOVER.
- (b) Ensure by close supervision that the Council Works programme is speedily and effectively completed.
- (c) Widely publicise that the Administration supports the T.I.A. efforts to promote cash cropping and curtailment of divisions between the people.
- (d) Emphasise that the Administration holds no grudges because of past events and sincerely wishes to promote the economic, political and social development of the people.

It is hoped that after the coming Council elections, a more representative and dynamic membership will be available to enable the Council to assume effective political leadership of NEW HANOVER. Until this time when the situation should become clearer, we should remain vigilant but not over prone to place too much credence in the many unsupported rumours that are ever present on NEW HANOVER.

EDUCATIONAL AND POLITICAL TALKS:

A main object of Mr. WELLINGTON's patrol was to widely publicise the coming Council and House of Assembly elections. During the past months all of the political education pamphlets so far received have been distributed to the people through the Council. There is no doubt that the people are well aware of the coming elections and it is fairly confidently predicted that there will be no recurrence of the 1964 incidents. I agree with Mr. WELLINGTON that it will be important for House of Assembly candidates to actively campaign on NEW HANOVER. The complaint by the people that they rarely see their Member is quite a common one, particularly in Electorates where the Member is an Under Secretary. Impressions that I have gained so far are that the NEW HANOVER people have little respect for the present member for NEW IRELAND.

PROPOSED ACTIVITIES OF PLACER PROSPECTING PTY. LTD.

Information concerning the Permit to Enter issued to PLACER PROSPECTING Pt. Ltd., has been widely publicised through the Council and in the villages. To date there has been little firm opinion towards mining expressed on way or the other. ~~XXXXXX~~ At the moment two prospectors from PLACER are prospecting the hinterland of NEW HANOVER, where, I have been informed by PLACER's Regional geologist, good traces of copper have already been located. At the moment, it is not possible to venture a firm opinion on whether the people oppose or approve of mining activities. I feel that it will only be possible through the efforts of big companies such as PLACER, that the mountainous hinterland of NEW HANOVER, now completely undeveloped, will ever be opened up.

WALKING TRACKS AND REST HOUSES:

I agree with MR. WELLINGTON's comments in this section. The deterioration in the condition of tracks and in village is widespread throughout the island and is a direct result of the failure of the "Johnson" Cult whereby village life and conditions have disintegrate. Village conditions are overall appalling - roads have fallen into dis-use, housing is poor, sanitation is nil, coconut groves are covered with bush, and rest houses have been pulled down or allowed to collapse.

The people have openly said that they would like to maintain their roads, and to build latrines and resthouses, but that they lack the tools to work with. In my 10-5-1 of 25th October, I requested the supply of \$484 worth of shovels etc. Could you please advise whether or not these implements can be made available. I would also like to be in the position whereby I could issue modest quantities of nails to assist in the construction of rest houses, and in this regard could funds please be made available to effect purchase of a case each of 4, 3, 2, and one inch nails. I think it important that we assist as much as possible in the rehabilitation of village life and conditions. The people have said that they will do the work if they are given the tools and I consider that the possible improvement in village conditions and morale would be more than worth the small funds outlay required.

CONCLUSION:

Council President Steven TAONG's attitude towards junior officers continues to leave much to be desired. TAONG does not impress me as a person genuinely interested in the development of his people and although a good controller of meetings, he has little other effect as a Council President. He has to be kept on a tight rein, and it is to be hoped that his attitudes improve in the future.

Mr. WELLINGTON has submitted a competently presented report which gives a good overall idea of present conditions on NEW HANOVER. Mr. WELLINGTON will shortly be resigning from the Service, which is a pity, for he is a good officer.

Claim for camping allowance is attached.

Forwarded, please.

*H. J. Redmond*  
(H.J. REDMOND)  
DISTRICT OFFICER

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Department of District Administration,  
TASKUL Patrol Post,  
New Hanover.

18th October, 1967.

The District Officer,  
Taskul Patrol Post,

SUBJECT: PATROL REPORT NO. 1 of 1967/68

Please find enclosed my report covering the movements and activities of my last patrol. This report also covers, besides the aspects of the tax collecting, other points that came to my notice during the patrol.

(J.K. Wellington)

*J.K. Wellington*  
Patrol Officer.

2/28

Patrol Report No. 1 of 1967/68

INTRODUCTION.

The principal objects of the patrol of the New Hanover area were to collect taxes from the people for the Lavongai Local Government Council, to give the people of New Hanover some education regarding the Local Government Council elections scheduled to commence on the thirteenth of November this year, and to further the educational programme, already commenced, in connection with the coming House of Assembly elections in 1968.

General administrative duties were also carried out when and where they were needed, and an attempt was made to try and observe just what the political trend in the area is at the moment. I also talked to the people about the fact that there could be mining interests in the area some time in the future. I was surprised to note that the people seemed to be far more interested in the prospect of a mining company moving into the area than in either of the rapidly nearing elections.

The patrol was commenced on the 4th of September, and was completed on the 17th of October, with a total of 34 days being spent in the field. After walking as far as Meterankan Village the patrol returned to Taskul on the 8th of September so that I could be present at the Council meeting. At this point, Mr. MacDonald, who had accompanied me as far as Meterankan, was transferred to Kavieng, and I returned to Lavongai Village on the 14th of September. From here I proceeded on foot, visiting all villages as far as Umbukul Village, which I reached on the 21st of September. From here my patrol returned to Taskul on the 25th, and started working up the north coast of New Hanover on the 28th. Boipuas Village was reached on the 4th of October, and after visiting Nusalik, Lukus, and Taoi Islands on the return trip, the patrol reached Taskul on the 12th of October. Tingwon Island was visited on the 16th, and for a few hours on the 17th after which the patrol returned to Taskul.

INTRODUCTION (Contd.)

Hardly anything in the way of difficulty was encountered throughout the patrol, and in general I would say that the majority of the people were pleased to see the patrol. There were large numbers of people present at the talks that I gave, and although I do not feel that they were all that pleased with the idea of carrying patrol gear, I cannot say that I had any great difficulty in moving from one village to another. The only difficulty that was encountered was towards the end of the patrol when the Taskul speed boat was made available to visit the islands off the North Coast of New Hanover, and within the duration of three days two engines broke down.

4-9-67 This morning we were the patrol moved on to Kariakoo Village which was reached at 11:00 AM. After dark we camped overnight.

5-9-67 Council tax was collected from the people of Kariakoo, and after talking to the people for an hour or so the patrol moved on to Kariakoo Village where council tax was collected in the afternoon. After dark we camped overnight.

6-9-67 Council tax was collected from the people from Kariakoo Village in the am., and after talking to the people we proceeded the patrol moved on to Kariakoo Village, where council tax was collected and the people talked to. After dark we moved on to Kariakoo Village Council tax was again collected and the patrol camped overnight.

7-9-67 After council tax was collected from the people from Kariakoo the patrol moved on to Kariakoo Village to collect more tax. After this we moved to Kariakoo Village, where after collecting tax and talking to the people, camped for the night. I have noted that the sailing boats covered today are about the same as the island. So far no fish

DIARY OF PATROL

- 4-9-67 As a result of heavy rain in the morning the patrol did not leave Taskul till noon. From here the patrol walked to Kulingei Village where council tax was collected from the people. Talks were also given to the people with regards the approaching Council and House of Assembly elections, and also the fact that there could be mining intrests in the area at some time in the not too distant future. ( These talks were given at all villages visited by the patrol, and I shall not mention this point throughout the diary with regards each day's activities.) This having been done the patrol moved on to Narimlawa Village which was reached a little after dark - here we camped overnight.
- 5-9-67 Council tax was collected from the people of Narimlawa, and after talking to the people for an hour or so the patrol moved on to Mataniu Village where council tax was collected in the afternoon. Here camped overnight.
- 6-9-67 Council tax was collected from the people from Nusataumatai Village in the a.m., and when this and talks were completed the patrol moved on to Neikuputuk Village, where again Council tax was collected and the people talked to. After moving on to Magam Village Council tax was again collected and the patrol made camp for the night.
- 7-9-67 After Council tax had been collected from the people from Neila the patrol moved on to Nuaawong Village to Collect more tax. After this we moved to Bolpua Village, where after collecting tax and talking to the people, camped for the night. I have noted that the walking tracks covered today are about the worst on the island. So far no rest-

DIARY OF PATROL (Contd.)

- houses have been seen, and the patrol has been camping in houses made available by the people.
- 8-9-67 I talked to the people in the Bolpua area, and after this, moved on to Konkavil. Here inspected a Council project, and then moved on to Meterankar Village where Council tax was collected. In the afternoon the patrol moved back to Taskul by speed boat. At this point I think I should mention that where the Council have built an aid post at Nusawong village, the tank put in along side it projects higher than the aid post roof, and hence, is quite useless.
- 9-9-67 to 13-9-67 Spent at Taskul.
- 14-9-67 Departed Taskul per M.V. Mercy at 11-30 a.m. and reached Layongai Village at 1 p.m. Made camp and collected Council tax.
- 15-9-67 Council tax was collected from the people of Saula and Kulungat Villages. After talks had been given the patrol moved on to Baikeb village, with Council tax being collected and talks given to the people from Paterina Village en route. Camped overnight at Baikeb Village.
- 16-9-67 Council tax was collected from the people from Ungat and Baikeb Villages. After work had been completed here the patrol proceeded to Metewoi Village, where tax was collected from villagers from both Metewoi and Tioputuk Villages. Here camped overnight.
- 17-9-67 Sunday observed at metewoi village.

DIARY OF PATROL (Contd.)

- 18-9-67 Patrol proceeded to Metamoana Village, and here Council tax was collected from the people of both Metamoana and Meteran villages. After talking to the people the patrol moved on to Metakavil village which was reached just on dark. Here camped for the night.
- 
- 19-9-67 Council tax was collected from the taxpayers from Metakavil, Bane, and Pativini villages. After talking to the people, the patrol proceeded to Baungung village, which was reached about 5 p.m. Camp was made for the night.
- 
- 20-9-67 Council tax was collected and the people talked to. heavy rain set in, and did not ease off, so patrol did not move on, as had been planned.
- 
- 21-9-67 Proceeded to Belewaia village, leaving Baungung a little before daybreak by canoe. Here Council tax was collected, and after talking to the people the patrol went by canoe across the bay to Umbukul Village. Taskul speed boat was waiting to return Council Clerk to Taskul, which it did. ( In crossing from Belewaia to Umbukul two primus stoves, a bucket, and a box of personal belongings were lost overboard.) Camped overnight at Umbukul.
- 
- 22-9-67 Council tax was collected from the people of both Umbukul and Au Villages. This took nearly all day because I did not have the assistance of the Council Clerk. After talking to the people I paid a visit to wasanga Plantation to see that there had not been any more trouble there since my last visit. while there I sighted several letters from the Council president to the manager of the plantation, and these struck me as being in rather poor taste.



Diary of Patrol (Contd.)

- 23-9-67 M.V. Mercy arrived at Umbukul, and the Agricultural Patrol using the vessel agreed to drop my patrol off at Taskul. Accompanied Agric team for rest of day inspecting plantings etc. Camped overnight at Umbukul.
- 
- 24-9-67 Proceeded as far as Noipuas, where camped overnight.
- 
- 25-9-67 Reached Taskul about 5-30 p.m.
- 
- 28-9-67 Departed from Taskul at 7-30 a.m., and walked to Kulpetar Village. Here Council tax was collected from the people of both Kulpetar and Patiagaga Villages. After talking to the people the patrol proceeded to Patipai Village, which was reached just on dark. Here camped for the night.
- 
- 29-9-67 Council tax was collected from the people from Patipai, Vaisayamvam, Metelai, and Kunamatalik Villages. The patrol remained in the village for the rest of the day because there was a rumour in the air that there was to be a fight between the Tsoi T.I.A. people, and the Methodist warataba people, who were holding their annual warataba today. No fight broke out, however, at one stage there was a lot of shouting and agitated sounding voices, however, I could not understand enough of the language to tell what it was all about, and no one seemed willing to tell me. Again camped overnight at Patipai Village.
- 
- 30-9-67 Moved by canoe to Unusa Island, and was held up here for the rest of the day by rain and wind. Here camped for the night.
-

DIARY OF PATROL (Contd.)

- 1-10-67 Sunday ; observed at Unusa Island.
- 2-10-67 Patrol proceeded by canoe to Metemin Village, which was reached at about 10 a.m. Here Council tax was collected from the taxpayers of Metemin, Popotingan, and Min Villages. This work, together with talks was completed by about 3 p.m., so the patrol moved on to Ungalik Village, which was reached a little after dark.
- 3-10-67 Tax was collected and talks given to the people of Ungalik Village in the morning, and to the Puas Villagers in the afternoon. The patrol only visited Puas, and returned to Ungalik Island for the night.
- 4-10-67 Departed Ungalik earley, and reached Meterankasing about 8 a.m. ( It has been found that the best time to travell by canoe is earley in the morning.) Work was completed here by about 10 a.m. and so I proceeded to Neitab Island, where work was completed by 3 p.m. As the sea had not got up by this time, and there was no rest house on the island, the patrol moved on to Noipuas village, which was reached about 5 p.m. Here camped overnight,
- 5-10-67 Collected Council tax from taxpayers from Noipuas, Tabut, and Kung Villages. These people were given talks on the elections etc. and the patrol spent the night at Noipuas again.
- 6-10-67 Council tax was collected from the people from Sosson, Ungulabu, and Neikonomon Villages. Work was completed here by about 4 p.m.  
Overnight at Noipuas Village.
- 7th and 8th spent at Noipuas waiting for boat to uplift patrol. Most of the time was spent talking to the people there and looking at village plantings.

DIARY OF PATROL (Contd.)

- 9-10-67 Taskul speed boat arrived at 9-30 a.m. after having been delayed at Meteran yesterday by heavy seas. Tax collecting team section of patrol was moved to Nusalik Island, and while the team collected tax from the people of Nusalik and Lucus Villages, the speed boat returned to Noipuas and moved the rest of the patrol up.  
Camped overnight at Nusalik.
- 10-10-67 returned to Taskul at dawn, and had a radio conversation with the D.D.C. as had been requested, and then returned to Tsoilik Village. The boat was to return to Nusalik to uplift the rest of the patrol, however the engine broke down. I then proceeded to Kavieng on the P.H.D. boat, which I reached about 5-30 p.m.
- 11-10-67 returned to Tsoi with two Kavieng boats and a spair engine, and while the two Kavieng boats uplifted my patrol and moved it to Tsoi, the Taskul boat, now being powered by the spair engine, proceeded around New Hanover picking up Councillors to attend a meeting. Camped overnight at Tsoilik Village
- 12-10-67 Council tax was collected from the people of Tsoilik Mamion, and Kulibang Villages in the a.m., and then the tax collecting team was moved to Ungakum Village, and here Council tax was collected from the people of both Ungakum and Kauwulikan Villages. The speed boat, which was supposed to be moving my patrol gear to Taskul, again broke down. I found the boat about 10 p.m., and seeing that there was nothing I could do about it, returned to Taskul by canoe, and reached Taskul at about 2 a.m.

13th and 14th spent on the station.

DIARY OF PATROL (Contd.)

15-10-67 Departed from Taskul at 8-30 a.m. for Umbukul. Here Loaded Copra Drier for Tingwon. Anchored overnight at Wasanga plantation.

16-10-67 Departed for Tingwon at dawn, and reached the island about 9 a.m. There was no Council tax to be collected, as it had all been payed to the clerk beforehand. Talked to the people, and had a look all around the island. After New Hanover, this is a most impressive area. watched sing-sings in the afternoon, which went on into the evening. D.I.E.S. rep. showed films to the people at night, and the islanders seemed to be most impressed. Camped overnight at Tingwon.

17-10-67 Returned to Taskul via Umbukul and Meteram, where People had to be picked up to attend a court case. Taskul was reached at about 6-30 p.m.

END OF PATROL

THE COLLECTION OF COUNCIL TAX.

This was the principal object of the patrol, and it was this section of the work that proved to be the most time consuming, though not anywhere near as difficult as I had expected it to be. After the stories I had heard about the people of New Hanover, and in particular their attitude towards the payment of Council tax, I was quite surprised at the number of pleasing responses to the demands that were made. There were several cases where people willingly paid tax after having been granted exemptions for the past few years. This was in the areas under the influence of the T.I.A., and after asking why they suddenly wanted to pay, I was told that it is the rule of the Tutukavil that all members pay their taxes.

A large number of tax orders were issued to the people under tax rule No. 1 of 1967, however there was not one person who said that he would not pay his Council tax. Those who received an 'ODA' said that they had not readied their money as yet, or that someone was holding it for them, but they would all pay before the 30th of November. There was only one person who paid money to the team for another council, and there does not seem to be a large number of people from this area away in other districts, so in general, as far as the collection of Council tax goes, I feel that the patrol was quite successful. Through the duration of the patrol a total of 3865 dollars and 60 cents were collected, and at the moment people are walking into the station and going to the clerk with their money in one hand and their 'ODA' in the other to be cancelled. I do not think that there will be a large number of tax defaulters, and of those that there are, I feel will be from the Min. Vaisavamam, and Naikonomon areas. There will of course be the few from here and there, but I think that is where the bulk will be from.

Throughou the patrol the councillors who were appointed to the Tax Review Committee proved most co-operative as far as .....

THE COLLECTION OF COUNCIL TAX (Contd.)

..... tax collecting went. At times I thought that they were being a little hard on the people who they would not grant tax exemptions to, but this did help to get the money in. When the patrol started I had visions of exemptions being granted to nearly all who made the effort to ask for one, however, I was pleased to learn that I was mistaken.

I feel that the fact that this patrol was timed so closely to the Methodist Mission's Warataba season had a lot to do with the amount of tax orders that had to be issued, and I think it would be in the interests of both the mission and the council if the two could discuss the matter before the two sets of bailiffs set out next year. Maybe if the council could start its collecting in August, and the mission in late September or October, both would meet with a little more in the way of success. Looking at it from the point of view of the council, I feel that it would be a good idea if the council was to get in first, however, I feel that this is a matter to be discussed at some time in the future.

POLITICAL.

From what I have seen the island seems to be split politically in two, with the T.I.A. on one side, and these who regard themselves as being pro-Council on the other. The T.I.A. has, without doubt, the majority of the people on its side, and there are hardly any people sitting on the fence. If people are not in the T.I.A. and are not siding with the Council, then they are only waiting until such times as they can afford to join the association. The supporters of both sides seem to be keen in their support, the exception here being on the side of the council when it comes to supporting council projects with a little work. These Council supporters think that the opposition that they are showing towards the T.I.A. is what the Administration want them to show, and what they are doing is right.

POLITICAL (Contd.)

Most of the people in the T.I.A. appear to be going about their business as they should if they wish for the movement to prove a success, however there are a few people who are trying to use the association as a platform from which they may be able to re-launch the old Johnston Cult. There is already an amount of talk going around, most noticeable from the Lavongai to the Metakavil area, about the legendary cargo arriving, and it has been said that the money that has been collected for the T.I.A. is for the purpose of 'buying' the Americans. I do not know exactly how much truth there is that this is what the people actually think, however, this is the talk in the area mentioned above at the moment. I was asked on several occasions if it was true that the Americans would come when the T.I.A. became strong, and would the cargo 'Bilong man i dsai' come through the T.I.A. From what I can gather, Paulus, from the Metewoi area, seems to be behind this type of talk, and is reported to be preaching that those not in the T.I.A. will not have a share in the cargo when it does come, and that all the non-T.I.A. are a waste of time and will not grow, the reason for this being that the plantings are not for the people of America. Paulus is also reported to have held a meeting at Metawoi the day after I passed through the area, and at this meeting is reputed to have stated that the only way that the Australian government is going to stop him talking about the cult is to send someone out to shoot him. I do not know that this actually happened either, because this was reported to me by a few people who claim to be keen supporters of the Council, and I feel that there are quite a few people in this faction who would dearly like to see the Administration fall out with, and turn against the T.I.A. A large percentage of the people who are not in the T.I.A., and call themselves council supporters have at some time or other fallen out with the T.I.A. themselves.

POLITICAL ( Contd.)

The letter that I received from Councillor Pasingan Singirau, a copy of which has been forwarded to District Head Quarters, I feel is typical of the way the Council faction on the island feel about the T.I.A. The people in this Council faction will not accept the policy that the Administration and the T.I.A. are not at war with one another. Quite often, of an evening I would find myself talking to the people about this, and trying to point out that the T.I.A. are not breaking laws and the like at the moment, so as far as the Administration is concerned there should not be two sides, however, the people on the Council side still maintain that the Administration will support any move they make, and are adamant that the aim of the T.I.A. is to bring about the downfall of the Council. Now how do they propose going about this?

The talk at the moment is that as a result of the Council elections in November, the council will be comprised of a majority in the T.I.A., (this is going to be because there is supposed to be a letter from the government going around saying that everyone must vote for people who are members of the T.I.A.) At meetings all council projects will be out voted, as will anything that is put forward by non T.I.A. members. There is also talk that the tax rule will be changed as soon as possible, and this will provide for all people in the T.I.A. to have to pay an annual tax rate of 50 cents. The reason for this being that the people have to work for the T.I.A., and will not have enough time to earn the present tax of 5 dollars. In the future the 5 dollar tax will only apply to the people who are not members of the T.I.A., and I personally feel that if this is the case there will not be all that many people not in the T.I.A. after this is passed.

The people who at present hold the position as Councillors are quite concerned with the result of the coming elections, and seem to take every opportunity of telling of the ....



POLITICAL ( Contd.)

..... latest T.I.A. moves and developments. If there is any truth in these stories, I cannot see what can be done to alter the course of events that are inevitably going to follow. If these people are voted in as councillors, and this is what they intend doing, then there is little that can be done about it at the moment.

Since the T.I.A. started it has spread rapidly over the island, and now there are a total of 80 per cent of the island's villages bearing the T.I.A. sign board. I do not think that the association is going to stop here, and those who are not as yet in the movement are only waiting until such times as they can afford to join, even though the membership fee has risen from ten dollars to twelve dollars. ( This is of course excluding those who do not wish to join because they are against the idea at the moment. At the moment there is obvious mounting friction between the council supporters and the T.I.A. members, with the antagonism being called by those on the council side, and I am sure that there will be fights as a result of this ill feeling. The fact that the cash crop that the T.I.A. have planted will not be productive for quite a few years will also lead to disagreements. These will be brought about by the fact that there will be some who will not be willing to wait this length of time without seeing anything in return for their efforts, and are going to want to get out of the movement, and with them take back their land that has been communally planted. There have already been instances where people have come onto the station and complained that the T.I.A. want to start clearing their land against their wish, and I will not be surprised if there are more cases of this nature in the near future.

EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATIVE TALKS.

At each village that was visited by the patrol talks of the above mentioned nature were given. Firstly there were talks on the Council elections next month, and I have noted that the people's response to these talks were very much the same all over the island. They claim that they know all about these, and not once was I asked to clarify what I had said. I could not help but feel that these elections have already been decided, and now the people are only waiting till such times as things are made official.

There was interest, however, shown when I talked about the House of Assembly Elections next year, and it proved quite time consuming explaining different points and aspects of these elections to the people. As a result of these talks, I would say that little notice has been taken of the printed matter that has been distributed on these elections, and there was obviously an alarming amount of ignorance regarding the matter. I feel that this lack of knowledge, though, is more a direct result of a lack of interest in the past than anything. There were several complaints that the people who have represented them for the past three and a half years have not visited them, and the people claim that they want to see who they are going to vote for.

I do feel that it would be most advantageous to anyone wishing to stand for the house to visit the people out here, and give them some idea as to what they intend doing for the area. I do not doubt that he would be assured of at least seventy per cent of the island's votes, because the only person out here who is thinking of standing is the present president of the Council, and as a result of his growing unpopularity at the moment, I do not have all that much in the way of high hopes for a success on his part.

EDUCATIONAL AND INFORMATIVE TALKS (Contd.)

Talks were also given to the people on the mining company, 'Placer and Development', and its interests in the District, and the fact that it may be doing a survey of the area at some time in the future. The aims of such a firm, and the advantages of having it in the area were also pointed out and made as clear as possible, however, I now think that this topic fills a far larger place in the minds of the people than does interests in either of the elections. Opinions and views on the matter were varied - some agreed that it would be a good thing, and others were most opposed to the idea.

WALKING TRACKS AND REST HOUSES.

I cannot say that either of these were at all impressive. Without doubt, the only section of presentable track that the patrol passed over was the section between Layongai village and Metawoi Village, a walk of about two and a half hours. That between Magam Village and Nusawong Village would be the worst. Along this section the track, on which there has been a lot of work done at some time in the past, seems to follow a submerged route through sago swamp, and the only reason it has deteriorated to the state that it has is through a lack of maintenance. The people in the area were asked why no work had been done on it, and they claim that they will work on it if the Administration supply tools to do the work. There are hardly any walking tracks now visible along the western end of the island, and most of the distance has to be travelled by canoe. (It was while crossing from Belewaia Village to Umbukul Village that two Primus stoves, a bucket, and a box of personal belongings were lost over the side of a canoe.) Most of the North coast was covered by canoe because it was a matter of travelling from the mainland to an island all along the coast, however, those sections that were walked ~~were~~ <sup>were</sup> over <sup>far</sup> more

WALKING TRACKS AND REST HOUSES (Contd.)

..... cared for tracks than encountered on the South coast, although they did tend to be overgrown in places.

In most villages there were no rest houses, however, as the patrol passed through someone usually vacated his house to make room for the visitors, and although this is not the desired way to go about a patrol there was little else that could be done at the time. I was told that rest houses would be built, and after talking to the people about these, I feel that a lot more co-operation would be found if the Administration could supply nails for these buildings. Umbukul Village appeared to be the only village that seemed to be opposed to this idea of building rest houses, and here I was informed by the president of the Council (this being his village) that a rest house would be built when he felt like saying that it would be built, and went on to add that when it was built, any officer staying in it would have to pay him for the service.

CONCLUSION

In conclusion, I would like to point out, that while this patrol was principally concerned with Council interests, not once was anything in the way of aid or assistance received from the Council President. On my way out to Tinevon he failed to give assistance when I asked for people to help with the unloading of the Dental/Medical patrol equipment, and later informed me that the people from his area would not carry out such services unless there was payment made for the work. (This left me in a mind to place the patrol back onto the ship and move on.) His attitude towards the Doctor's request that deeper latrines be dug at the school did not please me either. With regards this I was informed that there were more than only Umbukul children at the school, so why should the Umbukul people have to do the work.

CONCLUSION (Contd.)

The collection of Council tax in the Umukul-Au area was made more difficult than it could have been by the fact that the Council President, while not being a member of the Tax Review Committee, had informed people that they would be granted tax exemptions, and had left them furnished with notes to the Tax Collecting team saying that exemptions would be granted. This, I believe, he has denied to the Council Advisor, however, I am still holding several of these notes.

With the exception of the above mentioned unpleasantness the patrol proved quite enjoyable, and in general found the people co-operative and willing to help the patrol. Food and housing was made available at all places for the entire patrol, and the people did not ask payment for these services. Much of what I have included under the heading of Political may not be an indication of what the situation is in the area, however, it is what the talk is, and I would say that the only people on the Island who appear to be concerned are a majority of the present councillors, but so they should be with the elections less than a month away.

(J. H. Wellington.)  
*J. H. Wellington*  
Patrol Officer.



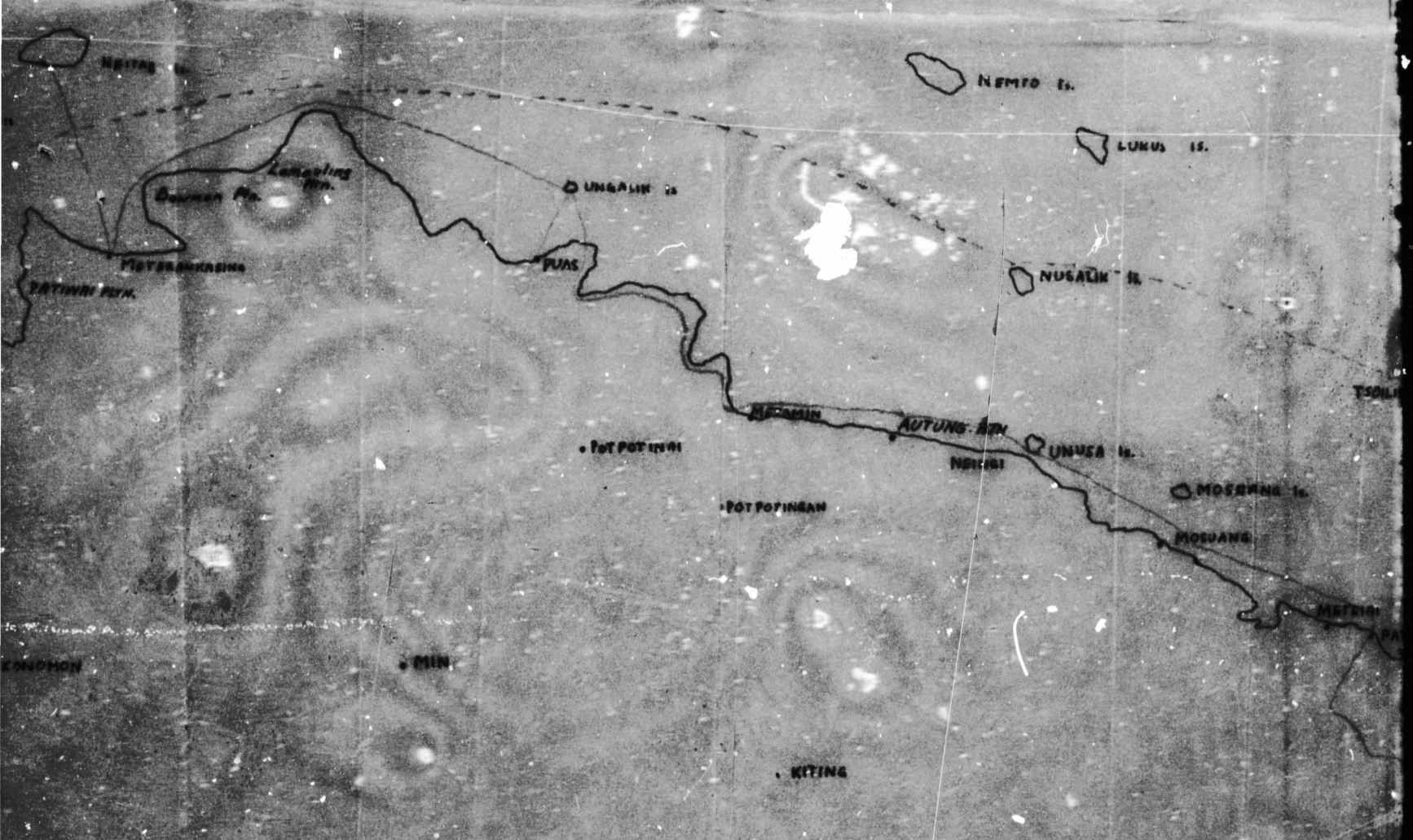
PATROL REPORT NO. 1 of 1967/68

SCALE

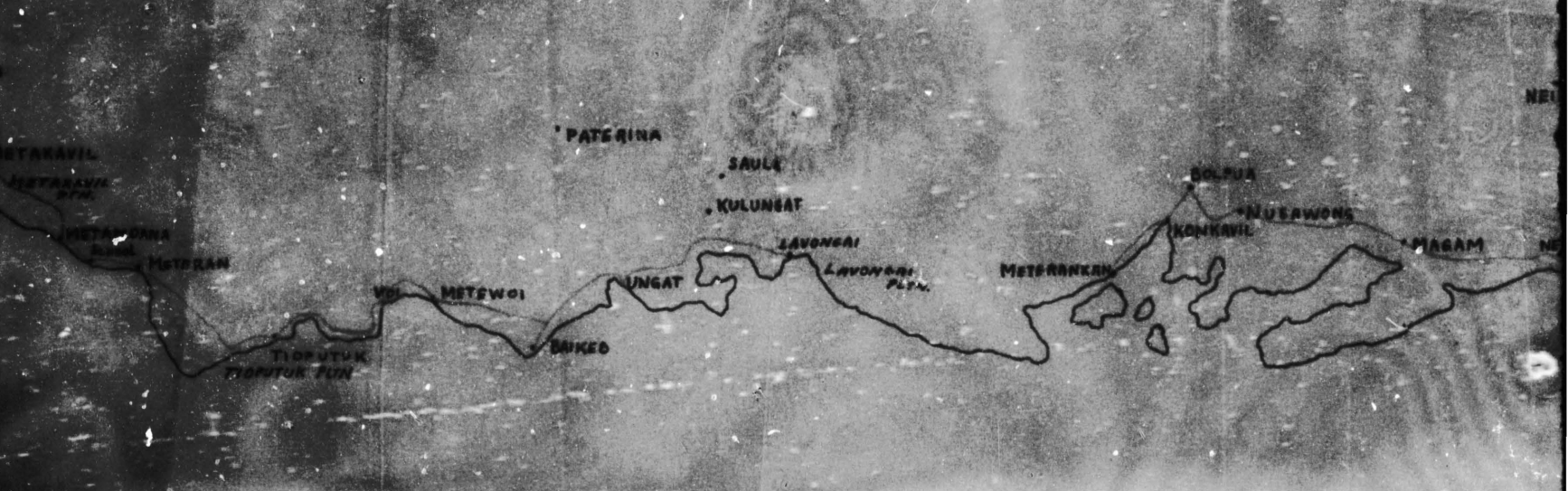


— Movement by foot & canoe  
- - - Movement by speed boat

change  
change



# NEW HANOVER









TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of NEW IRELAND Report No. 5-67/68

Patrol Conducted by PATROL OFFICER J.J. TRISABA

Area Patrolled TINGWEN ISLAND GROUP

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....

Natives.....

Duration—From 6/1/68 to 10/1/68

Number of Days 5

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....

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

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

Map Reference.....

Objects of Patrol 1. INSTALL WINDSOCK AT TINGWEN AIRSTRIP  
2. GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Director of Native Affairs,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19 .....  
District Commissioner

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

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

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

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

pul

MIGRAT

In

M

67-9-8

February 22nd, 1968

District Commissioner,  
New Ireland District,  
RAVIENG.

PATROL NO. 5 - 67/68

Receipt of the above report with comments from yourself and the District Officer, Taskul is acknowledged with thanks.

2. No copy of the patrol instructions issued by the District Officer to Mr. Tauvasa was attached to the report as is required.

3. Even though this patrol was merely a familiarising tour some detailed instructions should be given to officers in training to exercise their powers of observation.

*T.W. Ellis*  
(T.W. ELLIS)  
Director *JS*



67.9.8. (5)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams..... 67-1-2  
Our Reference.....  
If calling ask for **MWB/lob**  
Mr.....

Department of District Administration,  
District Headquarters,  
**KAVIENG N.I.D.**

February 1, 1968

Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
**KONEDOBU Papua**

**TASKUL PATROL REPORT - NUMBER 5-67/68**  
**TINGWON**  
**MR PATROL OFFICER J. TAUVASA.**



Forwarded herewith is a copy of the above report with comments by the District Officer Taskul.

This was really an opportunity taken to show Mr Tauvasa around New Hanover and an attempt to give him some local knowledge and get his geography straight.

The report called for no further comment, except to say that I consider Mr Tauvasa's first patrol report shows promise, and he has expressed himself quite clearly.

*M. W. Brightwell*

**M.W. BRIGHTWELL,**  
**a/District Commissioner**

Att.

cc District Officer, Patrol Post, Taskul.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-1-5

Patrol Post,  
TASKUL,  
New Ireland District.

23rd January, 1968.

The District Commissioner,  
New Ireland District,  
KAVIENG.

TASKUL PATROL REPORT NO. 5 OF 1967/68

Herewith please find three copies of the above report which has been submitted by Mr. J.J. TAUVASA, Patrol Officer.

The patrol consisted of a short visit to TINGWON Island where Mr. TAUVASA supervised the erection of a windsock on the newly completed airfield there. As P.H.D. had chartered the Workboat M.V. KORASHIA, this opportunity to send Mr. TAUVASA to TINGWON was taken.

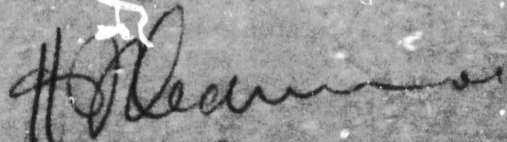
Two points mentioned in Mr. TAUVASA's report are worthy of further elucidation. On 4th January a report was received from TINGWON that a canoe carrying five passengers was overdue between UMBUKUL village on the mainland of NEW HANOVER, and TINGWON Island. Before search operations could be organised, the canoe and its passengers were washed ashore on a reef five miles to the north of TINGWON, after being adrift for four days. The survivors reported that big seas off NEW HANOVER had swamped their outrigger sail canoe. The sailing mast was snapped and all paddles were lost. For four days and three nights the canoe drifted until finally it was washed up on a reef off TINGWON. The survivors were obviously fortunate to survive. The TINGWON people are reputed to be good seamen and have regularly plied between TINGWON and NEW HANOVER. It is hoped that this near disaster will cause them not to be too over confident and to ensure that their canoes are in good sailing condition and that stocks of water and food are taken on for future voyages.

The arrest of three brawling labourers at WASSANGA plantation is the latest of a series of incidents which have been occurring between local UMBUKUL natives and contract SEPIK employees at WASSANGA. The causes of the friction are mainly rooted in the plantation employees quest for women in the surrounding villages, and, antagonism between the plantation manager Mr. J. GLEAVE, and the UMBUKUL village Councillor STEVEN TACHU. Recently a WASSANGA labourer was sentenced to six months gaol for an indecent assault on a woman from UMBUKUL. The latest incident wherein three employees made a combined assault on an UMBUKUL man is believed to be a payback for the earlier conviction. I have since advised all UMBUKUL natives to stay right away from WASSANGA plantation and furthermore have advised both village and

plantation natives that any further incidents will certainly result in court action.

Mr. SAUVASA is a very recent arrival on NEW HAMPSHIRE and to date he has been mainly occupied with basic office and station duties. When he begins to undertake normal field duties he will of course submit formal patrol reports.

Claim for camping allowance is attached.



(H. J. JOHNSON)  
DISTRICT OFFICER

Patrol Post,  
TASKUL,  
New Ireland District.

17th January, 1968.

The District Officer,  
TASKUL,  
New Ireland District.

TASKUL PATROL NO. 5 OF 1967/68

Conducted By ; J.J. TAVASA, Patrol Officer.  
Area Patrolled ; TINGWON Island Group.  
Object(s) of Patrol ; 1. Install Windsock on TINGWON  
Airstrip.  
2. General Administration.  
Duration of Patrol ; 6/1/68 to 10/1/68 - 5 days.

INTRODUCTION:

This short patrol was conducted in conjunction with a visit by Dr. G. GADJESK and M.M.A. Mr. C. GANNON to the people of NEW HANOVER and TINGWON Island. It was a great opportunity for me to accompany them, and make this short visit as I'm new to the island.

DIARY:

6/1/68: We left TASKUL Patrol Post at 0700 hours on M.V. KORASELA, and proceeded to UMBUKUL village. However, we stopped at some villages in order to see some Council projects and so the doctors could see some patients. We also called in at Mission stations whilst on our way to UMBUKUL. We arrived at UMBUKUL at 1700 hours and it was reported that a fight had broken out at WASSANGA plantation. I proceeded by speedboat to investigate the matter. Three plantation workers were held responsible and were told to remain under the Foreman's care until I returned from TINGWON. It was the only complaint and the nature was unlawfull striking. We camped overnight at UMBUKUL village.

7/1/68: At 0730 hours, we departed UMBUKUL for TINGWON Island on the M.V. KORASELA, which was under charter to P.H.D. On our arrival, arrangements were made with ANGELE, the islands headman for accomodation. After settling down I arranged with ANGELE for labourers to work on the new airstrip on the following morning. Overnight at TINGWON.

8/1/68: 0800 hours we commenced work on the establishment of the airfield margins and the wind sock. This work was finished by mid-day. After lunch I conducted investigations into why several TINGWON islanders had been adrift for some days in the ocean. It was clear that the persons involved were attempting to attend some church meeting at UMBUKUL. However, bad weather and sea met them on the way thereby putting them off course. They were found two days later about 5 miles offshore to the north of TINGWON by some fishermen. These people were advised that they should only sail when weather permits and that they should take food and water with them at these times.

DIARY - CONTINUED:

9/1/68: At 0930 hours we departed from TINGWON to return to UMBUKUL. When we arrived I sent a Council committee member with two villagers to WASSANGA plantation to get the three plantation workers to come with me to TASKUL. We slept overnight at UMBUKUL.

10/1/68: 0630 hours we departed UMBUKUL for TASKUL via the north Coast of NEW HANOVER. We stopped at the islands of SOESON, KUNG, UNGAKUM and at PUAS village. I met some more people, and observed their way of life. We arrived at TASKUL at 1630 hours.

END OF DIARYOBSERVATIONS:


- (1) Lack of Toilets. People living on the islands surrounding NEW HANOVER are not very enthusiastic in building toilets somewhere in their backyards; also rubbish pits. Thus it was noted that most of their disposals go on the beach and in the bush. However, the Medical Assistant did advise them strongly that they are to build toilets. In some cases I had to order the villagers to build toilets.
- (2) The people do not co-operate very much in rebuilding Aid Posts, although they have been told many times by the medical assistant as well as the Councillors.
- (3) The general attitudes towards administrative officials on this patrol were satisfactory and the people themselves are very friendly and hospitable, particularly at UMBUKUL and on TINGWON Island.
- (4) The TINGWON people have a very successful co-operative Society. There is no other trade store on the island, and the people sell their copra and buy goods from the society store. Rebate is paid at the end of every financial year to the villagers since they are all members.

CONCLUSION:

It is clear that constant supervision on projects like the rebuilding of Aid Posts have to be carried out, and that the Councillors and their committee members should undertake such supervision.

It is furthermore clear clear that the people have very little interest in building toilets for their own well being.

For your information, please.

  
(J.J. TAUVASA)  
PATROL OFFICER



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of New Ireland Report No. 6 of 1967/68

Patrol Conducted by Anthony McNaught Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Lavongai to Ranmelik - New Hanover

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil

Natives 2 members R.P.A.M.G.C.

Duration—From 15/1/1968 to 10/2/1968

Number of Days Twenty Seven

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services / / 19

Medical  / / 19

Map Reference

Objects of Patrol Wharf construction - Meterankan

Routine administration and familiarisation

Director of ~~NAIVE KAFIK~~ District Administration

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 ....



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Ref: 67-9-16

Department of District  
Administration,

KONEDOBU. Papua.

1st October, 19 63

The District Commissioner,  
New Ireland District,  
~~KONEDOBU~~

PATROL NO. TASHIL 6-67/63

Your reference 67-1-2 of 2/9/63

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of ~~Patrol~~

\* ~~Special/Annual Census/Area Study/Spotcheck~~ Report by  
..... A. McHAUGH P.O. .... to PART SOUTH  
..... EAST TASHIL ..... Census Divisions.

cc. A. McHAUGH,  
PATROL POST,  
TASHIL  
NEW IRELAND DISTRICT.

*W. R. Disher*  
(W. R. FISHER)  
(W. R. FISHER)  
Director

\* Delete as necessary.

#6. (13)  
67. 9. 16



67-1-2  
BAW/ct

District Headquarters,  
KAVIENG. N.I.D.

2nd September, 1968

~~Officer-in-Charge,  
TASKUL.~~

TASKUL PATROL NO. 6 OF 1967/68

Receipt is acknowledged of report by Mr. A. McNaught of his patrol to the Meterankan area of Southern New Hanover.

Mr. McNaught has compiled an interesting report, and I am sorry this has not received written acknowledgement before. At the same time, I should draw attention to the interval between completion of the patrol and submission of the report (over six weeks) which had deprived it of the value of the then District Officer's comments. Reports should reach this office within two weeks of each patrol's completion, having mail delays.

It appears that local enthusiasm for the construction of the wharf was notably lacking, but I note from a later Patrol report (No. 8) that the attitude has improved a little. I comment Mr. McNaught's patience in this rather trying situation, and his common-sense outlook as expressed in his Conclusion. If we can assist in effecting tangible achievements in New Hanover, I feel that the lingering non-co-operation will eventually fade away.

*N. W. Brightwell*  
(N. W. BRIGHTWELL)  
District Commissioner

→ cc : Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.  
(w/Encl.)



Telegrams

Our Reference..... 67 - 1 - 4

If calling ask for

Mr.....

Department of District Administration.

Taskul Patrol Post,  
New Ireland District.

15th, January, 1968.

Mr. A. McNaught,  
Patrol Post,  
TASKUL.

Patrol to Meterankan Area

As advised verbally, I want you to undertake a patrol to the Meterankan area on the southern coast of New Hanover. The aims of this patrol are:

1. To stockpile coral stone and then to commence work on the causeway for the Meterankan wharf.
2. General administration in the Meterankan area.

With regards to the work on the wharf. Please peruse and take with you plans and specifications as prepared by Local Government Engineer Mr. Lee. You should recruit 20 labourers who will be paid by the Lavongai council at the rate of 60c per day. The council's funds are limited, so ensure that the labour works effectively.

The people of the Meterankan area were badly affected by the "Johnson Cult", and while they are now reasonably co-operative, they continue to be surly and sour in outlook. I would like you to establish yourself at Meterankan, and to try, if possible to effect good relations with the people. Work with them as much as possible and impress upon them that the new wharf is a positive indication that the Administration has the desire and capability to provide needed public works. Make yourself familiar with the Lavongai' Council's Capital works programme for this year and give it propaganda throughout this area.

Take with you copies of the polling programme for the coming House of Assembly elections, and also lists of candidates. Give as much publicity as possible.

I suggest you restrict your sphere of activities to Lavongai Mission to the west, and to Magam village to the east.

I hope to make available to you a speedboat and hull. At the moment, however, this is not possible.

Constables Koskom, and Kalambar will accompany you. Both are young, and enthusiastic members, and no doubt will be able to assist you during the construction of the causeway. Keep them busy.

Encourage the people to improve the present rest house and to construct a house for the police to use.

You should plan to remain on patrol until the completion of the causeway.

Good Patrolling.

(H. J. Redmond)  
District Officer



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

11

Telephone  
Telegrams.....  
Our Reference.....  
If calling ask for  
Mr.....

Department of District Administration,  
Taskul Patrol Post,  
New Hanover,  
New Ireland District,  
26th, March, 1968.

District Officer,  
TASKUL.

Patrol Report - Patrol No.6 1967/68  
Meterankan Area

The primary purpose of this patrol was the construction of a stone causeway at METERANKAN for the proposed wharf. This project was undertaken with the aid of twenty labourers from the villages of METERANKAN and BOLPUA. The patrol was of the duration of twentysix days and during this time a major part of the construction had been completed.

Secondary purposes of the patrol were general administration, and familiarisation, this being the writers initial patrol in the New Hanover area.

WHARF CONSTRUCTION

The causeway was built in accordance with the plans originated by the Public Works Department in Port Moresby.

Owing to the nature of the surrounding terrain at METERANKAN all stone used in the causeway construction had to be won from the reef surrounding the area. In the initial stages this was relatively easy, as the corral stone was in fairly close proximity to the site. Later on however as the work progressed the labourers had to go further afield, upwards of one mile in some instances, to gather stone on bamboo rafts and pull to the site. This proved to be somewhat slow and arduous. The acquisition of an outboard motor, coupled to the council canoe, would have helped greatly in speeding up the delivery of coral stone to the wharf site. As it was however, during the course of this patrol, approximately three quarters of the work had been completed. The remaining section still requires large amounts of stone, and this plus the stockpiling of stone for the wharf head should entail about another months work. Once this is completed the construction of the wharf head could be commenced immediately the materials become available.

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS

a. Villages

The area covered by this patrol included the villages of Lavongai, Meterankan, Bolpua, Nusawong, Magam, Neikutupuk, and Mataniu. As the primary purpose of this patrol was wharf construction, and as most time was spent in and around Meterankan, most comments made in this report refer in the main to the villages of Meterankan, Bolpua, and Nusawong. All other villages mentioned, however, were visited at least on one occasion during the course of this patrol.

Before any comments can be made on the state of villages etc. in this area an explanation must be given as to the nature of the surrounding topography. The soil composition in this area, ie from Rannelik to Meterankan, is in the main red clay - the name Rannelik in fact meaning red clay - which during the wet season disintegrates rapidly into a quagmire. This fact plus the miles of mangrove swamps lends a very depressing atmosphere to the area, thereby making the place somewhat worse in appearance than it actually is. Nevertheless the majority of the villages in this area - Lavongai village being the only real exception - are dirty and ill-tended. Most of the village housing is old and rotten, and those houses that have collapsed have been left to rot where they have fallen, no effort being made by owners or villagers to clean the site. This gives a fairly positive indication of the lack of interest that these people show in their own well being. This therefore poses a problem, which will require a closer association between the administration and the people before they can be wooed to better themselves. This association can only be brought about therefore by more extensive patrolling by officers from all departments concerned.

b. Councillors and Committees

The area covered by this patrol has the supposed guiding influence of four local government councillors, namely Vincent Vomaris from Lavongai, Alen Aurum from Meterankan, Iamon Wasapialep from Nusawong, and Tobul Tili from Mataniu. Because of the nature of this patrol Alen and Iamon were the two in close contact with the patrol. It was therefore through these two that the patrol organised labour for the causeway construction.

Although no trouble was had in obtaining labourers at the initial stages of construction, as the work progressed and the weeks passed the labourers became a little enthusiastic in their approach to the work. At this stage where an influential councillor would have been of considerable help, the assistance given by these two councillors was negligible. For the major part of the patrol these two were at loggerheads over some minor dispute, and as a consequence were of very little real help during the latter stages of the patrol. This is a pity really as this area was a stronghold of the "Johnson Cult", and it will

require the guidance of a strong and influential councillor to bring these people out of their present apathetic state.

The committees appointed by the councillors are as good as, or as bad as their councillors. They have little or no standing within the village, and if the patrol required any work done it usually fell to the committee and one of his loyal supporters to do it himself, as nobody else would listen to him. It is therefore sad to record that their abilities at guiding the people can best be judged by their lack of control within the village.

c. Outline of Political Situation

It may be safely said that the "Johnson Cult" has all but died out, but the effects of its former existence, however can be still strongly felt and evidenced throughout this area. The writer experienced this feeling from the attitude of the people to simple requests. A number of times the patrol had occasion to request the hire of a canoe, only to be told there were no canoes available, although the writer saw numerous canoes in good condition in close proximity to the village. This, although not startling in itself, when multiplied many times can give some cause for concern. The writer also felt that other requests when carried seemed to have been done so grudgingly.

With regard to the causeway construction, twenty labourers were employed. For the first week or so conditions could not have been better, but as the weeks progressed quite a few began contracting illnesses. This in a few cases was genuine, but when twelve of the party take a day off during the course of a week owing to a headache or some such other mysterious ailment there is plenty of room for doubting such ailments. The most trouble came from the labourers recruited from Bolpua. On a number of occasions they would turn up late, and on others would not turn up at all. On three occasions the writer walked to Bolpua to collect the labourers, but no amount of pleading would change their attitude to the job in hand, even though the writer on numerous occasions explained to them the benefits that could accrue from having such a sizable wharf on their doorstep.

A further instance, giving indication of the attitude of these people, could be seen in the construction of the copra drier at Meterankan. This drier, a Lavongai council project, was allocated for this village some months ago, and the people were requested to make ready the timber and palm leaf roof for the housing of the piping for its construction. During the course of the patrol an agricultural assistant came to effect the construction of the drier only to find that no materials had been made ready. It then took much persuasion by the writer

to convince the people that the copra drier was going to be an asset to them and that they were having it built at the price of the effort it was going to cost to cut timber for the frame. Eventually work was commenced on its construction, but what should have amounted to one weeks work stretched into two, and then three weeks, and at the time of the patrols departure the building still had not been completed.

Throughout this area the T.I.A. (Tutukuvul, Isukal Association, which literally means "We stand and plant together") has a very strong following, the headquarters in fact being at Lavongai. Fundamentally the T.I.A. is a progressive body working for the good of its members, and as a consequence for the good of New Hanover. This in theory is very sound, but the human element creeps in, and there have been incidences where people have been using the affluence of the T.I.A. to further their own cause. This has, and will continue to, caused friction between members and non-members of the association. One of the biggest dangers confronting the T.I.A., and thereby affecting the majority of the New Hanover people, is the land question. From what can be ascertained members of the T.I.A. have been cutting and clearing large tracts of land for planting coconuts without the consent of the owners. This so far has not caused much dispute, but given six or seven years when the coconuts are approaching the bearing stage there are going to be so many claims over the misappropriation of ground that the association may eventually end up losing the lot. Therefore unless something tangible can be done here and now it is going to cause a lot of headaches in the years to come.

d. Agriculture

The main cash crop of this area is coconuts. There are a few cacao, and coffee plantings to be found but owing to a lack of knowledge in the planting and cultivating of these plants their owners have allowed the bush to reclaim them.

As was indicated in the October 1967 coconut census the village from Lavongai to Mataniu have, on the average, as many bearing and non-bearing palms as the rest of the villages on New Hanover. Therefore from this point of view there appears to be no cause for concern, but on closer inspection it is to be found that the majority of the plantings are owned by a half dozen or so people, and therefore taken in this light the number is fairly deplorable.

This area is composed of, to a large extent, large tracts of arable land, but little of this has been used for commercial development. The writer directed a few questions to a few of the more influential members of these communities bearing upon the apparent lack of sizeable acreages of coconuts. On each occasion such a question was put the answer was invariably the same, Quote "We have no large holdings because our forefathers were too lazy to plant coconuts" Unquote. This statement

(7)

being made by persons in the mid and late forties, and as to what they have been doing for the last twenty years or so only they know, but it is quite definite that they have not devoted this time to any form of commercial development for their own benefit.

Since the introduction of the T.I.A. into this area some effort has been made to clear large tracts of land for coconut planting, but other than this the average villager just does not seem to be interested.

Whilst in this area it was noticed that a considerable number of palms had suffered badly from sexava, and it seems a pity that those interested enough to plant coconuts should suffer from such a setback. It is therefore hoped that in the near future an agricultural officer be once again posted to New Hanover, so he may aid these people in some form or other to control this pest.

e. Law and Order

The people on the whole are fairly peaceable, and do not appear to be prone to the ceaseless bickering, and quarrelling the writer has encountered in other areas of this district.

There were no major incidences brought before the patrol, and save for the occasional marital dispute, which seems to be part and parcel of the New Ireland native's existence, no other trouble arose.

f. Rest Houses

The villages of Meterankan, Nusawong, and Magam all have recently built or renovated rest houses. The only complaint that can be recorded here is that six months prior to and six months after the completion of the rest house the people use its establishment as an excuse for not completing any other work around the village.

g. Health

There are two major health centres in this area, one at the Lavongai Catholic mission, and the other at the Ranmelik Methodist Mission station. Also there is an administration aid-post at Nusawong, which if it had any medicine in stock would be quite useful.

These three centres are therefore more than capable of providing for the medical needs of the people in this area, and as a consequence no major illnesses can be recorded unattended.



h. Education

The education in this area is controlled by the Catholic, Seventh Day Adventist, and United Church missions, at Lavongai, Konkavil, and Rammelik respectively. These missions cater for the majority of children throughout the New Hanover area, and are fairly sufficient within themselves.

Since the introduction of the school fees system in 1967, of one dollar per family for primary school children, there have been quite a number of children refused admittance into these schools owing to the failure of the parent or parents to pay the prescribed fee. Within the area the writer is mainly concerned about there were a considerable number of children absent because of this. It is therefore the opinion of the writer that the sooner the Lavongai council introduces a Truancy Rule the sooner action can be taken against those parents who through a lack of consideration for their child's future fail to pay the prescribed fee. These people in failing to give their child its due, are in failing thus penalizing their child for their own ignorance and lack of interest. Therefore the sooner the parents are made to realise this, even if only through a penalty of some description, the sooner their children can benefit from the education available to them.

i. Roads and Bridges

Owing to the inclement weather experienced over the last few months the condition of the roads in this region has been deplorable. The section between Magam, and Meterankan for the greater part of its length is composed of knee deep mud. Therefore until the weather improves little or nothing can be done to improve the condition of the road. When, however, consideration is given to making the road passable it should also be considered that the road be built on a higher level, as at times the present road, which runs through swamps in part, is prone to tidal influences. Furthermore the original "designer" of the road has seen fit to have sections of it following the central course of small streams, and this certainly does not benefit its condition one iota.

Bridges are wholly non-existent in this area, the people, whenever there is a stream to cross, place a log across it, and in the case of the large river at Nusawong this therefore makes river crossing somewhat precarious. But should an all out effort be made to establish a good road within the next few years the question of river crossings or bridgings should be considered in conjunction with it.

5

Conclusion

Although the picture as a whole does not appear highly favourable, it must be remembered that over the past few years the people of this area, and New Hanover as a whole, have been under a terrible strain. It therefore will take considerable time and effort to bring them around to a more pro-administration, and more pro-developmental outlook. The building of the wharf and copra drier in the once stronghold of the cult are tangible evidence of the administrations desire and ability to develop and aid these people, and although this may not be having any startling effect on their outlook, given time the people should be able to realise the benefits they have attained from these projects, and from there it is hoped their outlook should do nothing but improve.

For your information.

*A. McNaught*  
A. McNaught  
Patrol Officer

Patrol Diary

- 15.1.68. Preparations made for departure on patrol to Meterankan, for work on the proposed wharf. Departed 1400 on M.V. Mercy and met heavy seas just past Tungelo Is. Arrived Meterankan 1730, prepared camp.
- 16.1.68. Lined villagers from Meterankan, then commenced work on cleaning village and restoring rest house and police house. Camped for the night.
- 17.1.68. Recruited twenty labourers from Meterankan, and Bolpua. Instructions given and work commenced on stockpiling stone with the aid of two bamboo rafts.
- 18.1.68. Labourers continued stockpiling stone. Route of causeway marked with the aid of a prismatic compass. Rained continuously making working conditions most unpleasant.
- 19.1.68. Work commenced on laying stone for the causeway. Mr. District Officer Redmond arrived to check up on progress. First forty to fifty feet laid. Rained continuously again. Interviewed Sossi from Nusawong with reference to Development Bank loan.
- 20.1.68. Work continued on laying of causeway. A further thirty feet laid today. Fast running out of available stone. Plan to use stone from old wharf on arrival of tools. Rained again today.
- 21.1.68. Sunday: observed Meterankan.
- 22.1.68. Supervised construction of causeway construction. Ten labourers employed on laying stones, other ten occupied in gathering stone from the reef. With the use of bamboo rafts this is somewhat slow and arduous.
- 23.1.68. Causeway construction continued. Crowbars arrived on M.V. Mercy. Plan to use them to get stone from old wharf.
- 24.1.68. Days work given to labourers and then departed per speedboat for Batitam Is. to inspect Sossi's coconut plantings. Whilst there had a slight accident, cut my head. Spent the rest of the day at the Lavongai mission station receiving attention. Afternoon returned per speedboat to Meterankan.
- 25.1.68. Work commenced on removal of stones from old wharf to new. Original estimate that stone from old wharf should make  $\frac{1}{4}$  of stone needed for causeway somewhat exaggerated as very little was used in its original constr. This has been somewhat disconcerting as the stockpile of stone has been completely used.

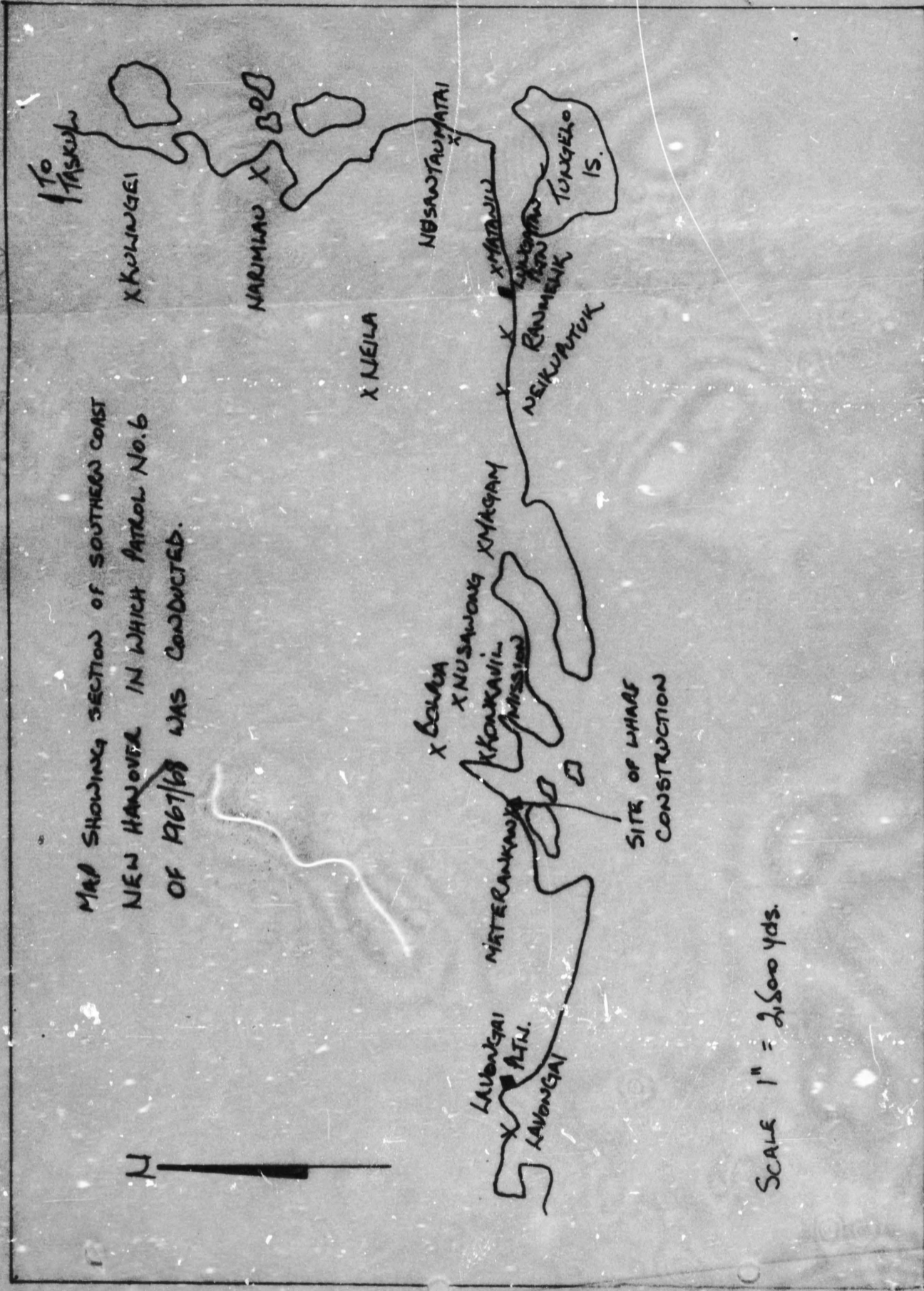
Because of this the work has been delayed while more stone is being gathered from the reef. The outboard and canoe have proved invaluable.

- 26.1.68. Stockpiling of stone being continued. The continuous rain in no way makes conditions better. Walked to Bolpua to chase up some labourers, no hope of improving the road, which is a quagmire, unless conditions improve.
- 27.1.68. Raining again today. The outboard motor gave out slowing down progress considerably. But nevertheless we plod along.
- 28.1.68. Sunday: Observed Meterankan.
- 29.1.68. Labourers given daily work and then departed for Bolpua to enquire into failure of four labourers to turn up for work. Upon reaching Bolpua villagers lined and talk given on new wharf. All then instructed to clean village. The four labourers interviewed and three subsequently dismissed. Returned to Meterankan.
- 30.1.68. Work on causeway progressing slowly but surely. All stone in close proximity to site gathered out. Canoe and rafts now working a long way from causeway thus slowing work considerably.
- 31.1.68. Supervision of causeway construction continued. Two new rafts made to replace water-logged others. Still having trouble from Bolpua labourers.
- 1.2.68. Supervised causeway construction. Mr. D.O.Redmond arrived to inspect progress. With Mr.Redmond visited Fr.Miller at Lavongai. This afternoon organised villagers into cutting timber for construction of council copra drier.
- 2.2.68. Organised days work on causeway, and then walked to Lavongai village. Explained Final Order to parties concerned, no objections. Most of journey was done on beach as road almost impassable. Later returned to Meterankan.
- 3.2.68. Organised days work then departed per speedboat for Ranmelik. Completed N.G.L.T.R.C. investigations, then departed on foot to Magam, Conducted further investigation at Magam, and then departed for Nusawong. Obtained canoe from Nusawong and pulled to Meterankan. Arrived 7pm. Whole road one continuous quagmire.
- 4.2.68. Sunday: Observed Meterankan.
- 5.2.68. Work continued on causeway. No rain today. About 15-20 yards remaining, and as this is fairly deep will require considerable quantities of stone.
- 6.2.68. Construction continued. Arrival of Alik Saul H/A candidate caused short delay in work while he presented his platform to the villagers. Work progressing as usual - slowly but surely.

- 7.2.68. Causeway construction continued. Rained continuously from Dawn to Dusk. Some people arrived with marital problems from Metewoi. Two cases referred to court at Taskul.
- 8.2.68. Causeway construction continued. Visited today by Mr. D.O. Redmond, and D.E.I. Mr. Robertson. Work on council financed copra drier progressing slowly. A lackadaisical attitude prevalent amongst villagers towards this project.
- 9.2.68. Causeway construction continued. There remains approx, forty feet to complete. Estimate about one months work for its completion and stockpiling of stone for wharfhead. At cessation of work all labourers paid at rate of 60c per day.
- 10.2.68. Preparations made for return to Taskul. Instructions left to villagers to repair large canoe and to build new rafts. Departed Meterankan per speedboat for Taskul direct.

End of Patrol

MAP SHOWING SECTION OF SOUTHERN COAST  
 NEW HANOVER IN WHICH PATROL NO. 6  
 OF 1961/62 WAS CONDUCTED.



SCALE 1" = 2,500 yds.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of.....New Ireland..... Report No..... 8 of 1967/68.....

Patrol Conducted by.....Anthony McNaught - Patrol Officer.....

Area Patrolled.....Lavongai to Magam - New Hanover.....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans..... Nil.....

Natives.....2 members of the R.P. & N.G.C.....

Duration—From.....5./4./1968 to 8./5./1968.....

Number of Days.....thirty four.....

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?..... No.....

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services.....Feb/Mar/1968.....

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

Map Reference.....See attached.....

Objects of Patrol.....Completion of the causeway construction at Meterankan.....

.....General Administration in this area.....

Director of District Administration,  
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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In

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

*file*  
15

Ref: 67-9-17

Department of District  
Administration,

KONEDOBU. Papua.

8th October, 1968

The District Commissioner,  
New Ireland District,  
RAVINGS

PATROL NO. TASKUL NO.8 of 1967/68

Your reference 67-1-2 of 2nd September, 1968.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of

- \* Special/Annual/Census - Area Study/Situation Report by  
..... A. McHAUGHT ..... to .....
- ..... NEW HANOVER ..... Census Divisions.

While this report is in itself satisfactory reports,  
generally, should not be coming in in batches. The  
requirements of Circular 67-1-3 dated 21st June, 1968,  
must be adhered to by all officers.

(S. S. WISHON)  
(T. W. J. BELLIS)  
/ Director

cc. Mr A. McNaught,  
Taskul Patrol Post,  
New Hanover,  
New Ireland District.

\* Delete as necessary.



67. 16. 17  
14



67-1-2  
BAM/ct

District Headquarters,  
KAVIENG. N.I.D.

2nd September, 1968

~~Officer-in-Charge,~~  
~~TASKUL.~~

TASKUL PATROL NO. 8 OF 1967/68

Thank you for report of this patrol by Mr. McNaught, with your covering comments.

This report contains considerably more information than others of a recent batch, and Mr. McNaught is to be congratulated for his thoughtful approach and observations. The report itself is generally well written, but colloquialisms such as "hurrahing" and "functionable" should be avoided, and mis-spellings corrected.

Your comments cover most aspects.

A copy of the comments on "Agriculture" will be forwarded to the District Agricultural Officer; likewise, a copy of the comments on "Commerce" to the Co-operatives Officer, Kavieng.

Officers should take care to indicate what remedial action, if any, they took "on the spot" to correct deficiencies or unsatisfactory situations noted while on patrol. I would expect that Mr. McNaught discussed with the communities visited the bad effect of truancy and lack of support for schools, and this should be recorded. The effect of such advice may then be noted on the next patrol.

*M. W. Brightwell*  
(M.W. BRIGHTWELL)  
a/District Commissioner

—> cc : Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

One copy of Report and Map only enclosed.  
In future, two copies will be forwarded as required.

*M. W. Brightwell*  
(M.W. BRIGHTWELL)  
a/District Commissioner

67-1-5.

TASKUL Patrol Post,  
New Hanover, N.I.D.

12th June, 1968.

The District Commissioner,  
New Ireland District,  
KAVIENG.

PATROL REPORT - PATROL NO.8-1967/68.

Herewith find <sup>two</sup> three copies of a report on the  
abovementioned patrol submitted by Mr. McNaught.

This is a second patrol to this area conducted by  
Mr. McNaught. The principal aim was to complete the construction  
of the causeway and to stockpile the required rocks for the wharf-  
head. The causeway was completed and large portion of the rocks  
were stockpiled before the patrol returned to Taskul. Rest of the  
rocks needed will be gathered when the actual work commences at  
the wharf site.

Mr. McNaught's remarks on the lack of "personal  
communication" between the villagers and the visiting officers is  
noted with interest. However, this should not be regarded as  
something that can be achieved at once. I feel that "personal  
communication" in such a place as New Hanover with past mishaps is  
a two-way matter and an officer can go so far in his attempt to  
communicate. But if there is a negative reaction from the other  
half then there is nothing he can do about it. I think that the  
existing circumstances must determine the success or the failure  
of the communication.

I do agree that the rift between the Catholic  
priest and Mr. Taylor is a political one and should recede in time.  
Obviously the T.I.A. has influenced a large percentage of Methodist  
adherents who see that the Association as an economic unit is  
assisting them in their economic endeavours. At the same time they  
are conscious of their religious convictions and will continue to  
adhere to them accordingly.

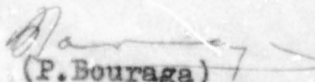
The question of sexava bug is a constant worry  
not only in this area but also in other parts of New Hanover. I  
think that the matter should be mentioned again to the Agricultural  
Officers so that necessary steps should be taken to combat the pest.  
As regards coffee, the thing to do is to continue to give every  
assistance and guidance to those existing small producers to improve  
their properties.

It is a sorry state of affairs as far as the  
operations of NINSA societies are concerned. Lack of organization  
and constant supervision have been the contributing factors in the  
unsuccessful operation of these societies. Unless steps are taken  
to improve and consolidate the remaining societies I fear that they  
too would become defunct.

Apart from the above comments the report is well  
written except for minor spelling and typographical errors.

Claim for camping allowance is attached.

Forwarded for your information.

  
(P. Bouraga)  
Assistant District Officer

67-1-5.

TASKUL Patrol Post,  
New Hanover, N.I.D.

12th June, 1968.

The District Commissioner,  
New Ireland District,  
KAVIRING.

PATROL REPORT - PATROL NO. 3-1967/68.

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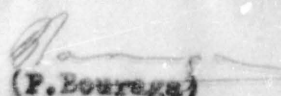
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Claim for camping allowance is attached.

Forwarded for your information.

  
(P. Bouraga)  
Assistant District Officer

(11)

Taskul Patrol Post,  
New Hanover,  
New Ireland District.

3rd, June, 1968.

Assistant District Officer,  
TASKUL.

Subject: Patrol Report - Patrol No. 8 of 1967/68  
Meterankan Area

This patrol, the follow-up to patrol No. 6 of 67/68, was instituted for the purpose of completing the construction of the causeway at Metanus harbour, the outlet for Meterankan village.

Accordingly the patrol departed Taskul per M.V. Mercy on the 5th of April and was for the duration of thirty four days.

During the initial construction of the causeway in January/February approximately three quarters of the causeway had been completed, but owing to the House of Assembly elections the work was interrupted, and could not be completed at this time.

The instructions issued by the District Officer during the initial patrol were once again adhered to, and no further instructions were required to effect the work of this patrol.

During the course of the causeway construction thirty labourers were employed from the villages of, Kulingat, Saula, Meterankan, Bolpua, and Nusawong, all being in fairly close proximity to the site of construction.

The causeway construction was coupled with general administration work encompassing the villages from Saula to Mataniu.

#### Wharf Construction.

During the course of this patrol the construction of the cause way was completed, and approximately half of the required stone for the wharf head had been gathered and stockpiled near the site. The work during this patrol was speeded up greatly with the use of a canoe and small outboard hired from Mr. J. White for this express purpose.

As stated earlier some thirty labourers were employed from various villages, and no trouble was experienced once work had commenced. On the patrol's initial arrival however no end of trouble was experienced with regard to recruiting. During the first patrol in January labourers were obtained from the villages of Meterankan, and Bolpua, but on this occasion both villages, Meterankan in particular, were all but deserted of men, and it was only through the help of one PILOKOS an ex-councillor from Bolpua that any labourers were obtained from this village.

Because of the shortage of labour at close hand recruiting had to be done as far away as Saula, some three and a half hours walk away from Meterankan. Still in all once the work was underway no real trouble was experienced from the labourers.

At the completion of the patrol only half the required stone had been stockpiled for the wharf head. The reason for this was that the writer felt it advisable to have a D.D.A. officer on hand with the P.W.D. builder during the wharf head construction. Thus enabling him to be of assistance to the builder, should the need arise, whilst at the same time supervising the stockpiling of the rest of the required stone.

Now that all preparatory work has been completed it only remains for the stockpiling of materials, and the construction of the wharf head can be commenced.

Political Situation

The political situation has differed little since the first patrol. There was less trouble experienced with the labourers than was previously the case. However it has always been found that in order for the work to go ahead on schedule the people require constant supervision. Left to their own devices the people are inclined to lay aside their labours, pick up their guitars, which are always at close hand, sit under the nearest shady tree, and while away the hours to the latest beat of their local combo. This, the writer feels, does not stem from an inherent laziness, but rather from the result of logical reasoning. The people arriving at the conclusion that excessive work is unnecessary, as they can be quite self sufficient on the minimum amount of work, this tends to indicate that the people of this area are strongly lacking in economic awareness. There are of course reasons for this and these can be dealt with at a later date.

In the writers short experience on New Hanover there has been one facet of native affairs that has been noticeably lacking, and that is the personal communication between officer and indigeny. Within the writers experience of other areas one of the more common joys of patrolling were the nightly discussions with individual villagers, and very rarely did a night go by without some person visiting the house rest for some discussion on points of interest to the person concerned. As stated earlier this is sadly lacking in the New Hanover area. In fact since the writers arrival on New Hanover, and through the course of three patrols there have been only two occasions when local people have approached the writer for the express purpose of friendly conversation. On all other occasions the writer has had to take the initiative in bringing out the thoughts of these people through conversation, and this has been no mean feat.

The area covered in this patrol is strongly under the influence of the T.I.A.. In fact the headquarters of this association is at Lavongai. The local government/in this area are all ardent T.I.A./councillor representatives, and do in fact control the association's activities in this area. Consequently there is no rift between the T.I.A. and the council representative that is quite evident in some other areas under T.I.A. influence. This association has an almost 100% following in this sector of New Hanover, and there are generally no conflicts between members and non-members.

The mission situation on the other hand is entirely different, and in fact relations between the Catholic priest and the United Church minister are quite strained. This has been brought about chiefly by two factors. The first is the prominent rise of the T.I.A. which although originated by the catholic community, and having strong catholic church influences, is steadily gathering quite sizeable numbers of United Church adherents. The resident minister at Rammelik, Mr. Taylor, tends to think that this may be seriously undermining the influence of his own church. The second factor stems from the recent House of Assembly elections, in which the catholic mission sponsored candidate Daniel Bokaf took off the election. The United Church mission were in fact indirectly hurrahing Levi Miting, and after his defeat, at the hands of Bokaf, this tended to give further evidence of the apparent growing influence of the catholic mission. It is a fact however that these two factors give rise to an appreciation of the power of the T.I.A. on New Hanover, and because of the close association between the T.I.A., and the catholic mission one could not be blamed in assuming that the power of the T.I.A. is the power of the Catholic mission. The writer here begs to differ as it is felt that basically the T.I.A. is a very independent body, and it is only through the heirachy of the association that there is any communication between them and the catholic mission. Therefore turning once again to the elections, it is felt that the average voter on New Hanover voted not for Bokaf as a representative of the mission, but rather as a representative of the T.I.A.. With this opinion in view, therefore, the rift between both missions occurs because of a misinterpretation of the actual facts of the situation by the United Church missionary. Where in actual fact the catholic mission originated both the T.I.A., and the sponsoring of Daniel Bokaf, both were taken out of their hands by the dominance of the members of the T.I.A..

The writer is of the opinion therefore that the rift is purely on the question of politics, and feels that it should in no way affect the religious beliefs of either factions within the membership of the T.I.A.

Agriculture

Of the sustenance crops grown in this area sago, and sweet potato would be the most prominent. Others that can be included in this category are, taro, some sugar cane, beans, and the occasional pineapple. It is to be noted that the consumption of meat in this area is almost negligible, owing to the fact of a great lack of these livestock most common to the native people, viz. pigs, and fowls. On no occasion has the writer seen large numbers of either pigs or fowls. At Meteranhan however one of the villagers has about twenty to thirty goats, but he appears to keep these for their novelty, or for their ability to make a mess, as he has stated that he never intends killing them for eating.

Fish also play a small part in the villagers normal food consumption, because although the waters in this area are teeming with fish, no real effort is vere made to catch them whether by line or by net.

Of the cash crops grown coconuts are by far the major money earner in this area. Although little can be added to the writers previous report on this subject it must be once again re-iterated that an inspection of the plantings be undertaken by an agricultural officer, so that can be given to the people as to how best to combat the sexava bug, as at present it is causing havoc with the majority of palms throughout this region. The resultant being that coconuts production is far below its supposed normal standard.

The only other cash crop grown in this region is coffee. There is an interesting story that was related to the writer by one of the coffee growers that has a significant bearing on the present coffee production, or lack of it, in this area. About 1960 or 61, an agricultural officer visited the people of this sector and advised them that they should clean their coffee groves and begin collecting coffee, because on his next trip he planned to buy all the coffee that was available. Any way during the course of his talks the amount to be paid for this coffee was mis-interpreted by some of the people, and they assumed they were to receive startling amounts for small quantities of coffee produced. So some of the people set about producing coffee, and after some time had produced about fifty pounds of dried beans. Well when the agricultural officer arrived and the coffee was duly produced the people received approximately five shillings for their effort. This caused somewhat of a delima as about eight people were involved in the production of this fifty pounds. Since this occasion, the story teller relates, no effort has been made to produce any more coffee, with the result that a considerable number of coffee groves are now considerably covered by secondary growth, and the people have lost all interest in their plantings, or in the production of coffee. There is however one redeeming feature about this situation. One of the villagers from Bolpua, TILOKOS, who has extensive coffee holdings, approached the writer for information and advice on

his coffee holdings, advice relating to the possible re-vitalizing of his crop. This indication of some interest in coffee production could be the necessary spark to ignite the interest of all coffee owners, and it is felt that now, or within the near future, would be an opportune time for a visit to this area by an agricultural officer, as any delay could lead to the loss of this interest, and the subsequent further difficulty in re-igniting this.

The council sponsored copra drier has been completed, and it is pleasing to report that it was being continuously throughout used throughout the course of this patrol.

Commerce, and Industry

Throughout this area there are about seven trade stores in operation. Of these seven only two are native run. Both these are situated at Meterankan village. One by an individual villager by the name of Igua, and the other by members of the Ninsa society operating in this area.

This society incorporates the villages of Meterankan, Bolpua, and Pusawong, and is slowly but surely fading into obscurity. In fact since the introduction of the F.I.A. into this area the majority of the members have changed loyalties, and the remaining members show very little interest in the operation of the society. In discussion with some of the directors of this society numerous complaints were made against the price paid by the society clerk for sacked copra. The members were complaining that they were receiving as little as four dollars for a bag of copra. Upon investigating it was found that these same members were purchasing 50 pound bags of copra, and expecting the top price usually paid for 100 to 150 pound bags of copra. In fact from this and other evidence it was generally found that the majority of the members, directors included, had very little knowledge of the functions and workings of their society. In the main they were concerned with the clerk for store, and copra prices, when in actual fact these prices were fixed by Ninsa in Kavieng.

The writer has little knowledge as to the extent Ninsa headquarters oversees the activities of its small societies, but with respect to the New Hanover societies it may be safely said that little has been done to educate the members in the operations of their societies. Because of this lack of knowledge, coupled with the rise of the F.I.A., the society operating in this area is more than likely to follow in the foot steps of the many defunct Ninsa societies on New Hanover. Therefore, an all out effort is made (unless) to rejuvenate this and other societies Ninsa may shortly find itself without societies on New Hanover to operate.



Other than trade stores there are no economic enterprises in operation in this area. In fact the people are not economically viable. This can be attributed, in the main, to a lack of awareness of industrial money-making ventures, but then again for the normal economic ventures the resources required are just not available on New Hanover. For instance there are no known large timber resources, or few possibilities for mining. In fact the only possibility remaining is fishing, and there are numerous hazards present to make this impracticable at the present time. The people are still largely dependent for financial remuneration on their efforts at cash cropping, and this will be the case for many years to come.

Education.

There is little to add to the writers previous report on this subject, but to re-iterate the need for positive action, through the council, to ensure parents send their children to schools. The children are not sufficiently disciplined in this regard, and as a result there are numerous cases of children running away from school, and staying away, without any effort being made by the parent or parents to ensure their return. A typical instance of this can be found in the small catholic mission school in operation in this area. Originally the school was at Magan, but because of the large number of truant children the school had to be closed down, and was then transferred to Meterankan. Here however the situation was exactly the same. The resultant being that during this patrol the school here was closed, and the teacher was transferred back to Lavongai. However through the intervention of PILOKOS of Bolpua Fr. Miller agreed to the establishment of the school at Bolpua. Therefore it only remains to be seen whether this school will be permanent. There is some hope however, as PILOKOS has a considerable influence within this village and with his assistance the teacher may be able to make the school functional.

Here it may be opportune to write a few words on PILOKOS of Bolpua. During the course of both patrols at Meterankan he was at all times endeavouring to assist the patrol, and in fact without his positive assistance on this patrol difficulty would have been experienced with regard to labour recruiting. He at all times assured that the labourers would be at work at all times, and his endeavours to establish the mission school at Bolpua can be showered with nothing but commendation. It seems a shame therefore that a man of his calibre should have been ousted as a local government council or in favour of men with less zeal, and influence. This area is badly in need of men with his drive, but without them in the council their advice is just carried away with the wind.

The New Hanover people are sadly lacking in well educated men, and women, and with the present rate of school truancy it will be the same for many years to come.

Conclusion

There remains little to be said in conclusion, as, because of the short period of time elapsed between the writers two patrols to this area, startling changes in thought or trends could hardly be expected. It is heartening to record however that a noticeable change, even though slight, in the attitude of the people in this area was evidenced. The people were less negative in their approach to the patrols endeavours than was previously experienced. This could be attributed in part to the fact that the writer was no longer a complete stranger in their midst, and there were occasions when friendly overtures were made to the patrol, but this came mainly from the elders of the villages. Most of the younger generations still tended to remain aloof to any friendly endeavours made by the writer.

Because of the expected council tax collection later this year quite a number of the labourers expressed the fact that the monies obtained from work on the wharf was to be used for the forth coming council taxes. This coming from an area that has become renowned for its tax defaulters ogres well for future collections.

For your information.

*A. McNaught*  
A. McNaught  
Patrol Officer

DIARY - PATROL No.8 - 67/68

- 5.4.68. Preparations made for patrol to Meterankan. Departed Taskul per M.V.Mercy for Meterankan. Arrived village afternoon, and set up camp.
- 6.4.68. Saturday: Sent messages to villages of Bolpua, Nusawong, and Lavongai for labourers to work on the causeway. Overnight.
- 7.4.68. Sunday: Observed Meterankan.
- 8.4.68. Villagers of Meterankan lined and set to work on clearing village site, which since the last patrol has again become overgrown. In response to messages sent for labourers only four have arrived. These set to work on constructing bamboo rafts. Then departed for Bolpua. On arrival lined villagers and obtained a promise from PILOKOS for a further eight labourers on the morrow. Returned to Meterankan.
- 9.4.68. Twelve labourers from Bolpua arrived, and with the two from Meterankan set to work on the causeway. Since my arrival the village of Meterankan has been strangely deserted of men.
- 10.4.68. A further three from Nusawong arrived today bringing the total to seventeen. These put to work on gathering stone for the causeway. Overnight,
- 11.4.68. Labourers put to work on the causeway. A further two from Nusawong arrived today for work. Overnight.
- 12.4.68. to  
14.4.68. Easter period observed for labourers to attend Easter ceremonies.
- 15.4.68. Thirteen labourers from Lavongai, Saula, and Kulungat arrived today bringing the total work force to thirty. The new labourers set to work to construct more bamboo rafts. Others still gathering stone for the causeway. Owing to exceptionally ~~high~~ low tides most of Metanus harbour has been left high and dry, making transport of stone more difficult. Overnight.
- 16.4.68. Labourers set to work to gather stones. Most readily available stone has already been won. Overnight.
- 17.4.68. Labourers continuing work on causeway. Departed for Metamoran plantation to investigate alleged destruction of property. It was found that a Sepik labourer made a false complaint in order to get another labourer into trouble. Person concerned warned against such complaints. Returned to Meterankan, overnight.
- 18.4.68. Work continued on causeway. Departed early morning for villages of Nusawong, Magam, Neikaputuk and Mataniu. All villagers lined and villages inspected. All are small villages with considerable numbers of small hamlets. Villages in reasonable condition. No complaints recorded. Overnight Mataniu.
- 19.4.68. Departed Mataniu early morning and arrived Meterankan about four hours later. Labourers set to work on

Diary continued.

causeway construction. Visited by Mr.J.White re the hire of his outboard, and canoe. Arrangements made for delivery of cutboard, and canoe. Overnight.

20.4.68. Saturday: Work continued on causeway. Canoe and outboard arrived today. Later Mr.A.D.O. P.Bouraga arrived to inspect progress. Explained needs, and advised him of probable date of completion.

21.4.68. Sunday: Observed Meterankan.

22.4.68. With the aid of the canoe work has progressed more quickly. An old wharf on the opposite side of the harbour is in the process of demolishment for use on the causeway. Overnight.

23.4.68. Work continued on demolition of old wharf with aid of canoe, and outboard. Labourers working with bamboo rafts, and with canoe. Overnight.

24.4.68. Causeway construction completed today. Work continues on the stockpiling of stone for the wharf head. Departed for villages of Savla, Kulungat, and Lavongai. All villagers lined, and villages inspected. Houses etc, in reasonable condition, and no complaints were recorded to or by the patrol. Departed late afternoon for Meterankan, and arrived just on dark. Overnight.

25.4.68. Stockpiling of stone continued.

26.4.68. Stockpiling continued. Visited the village of Nusawong, and inspected the recently completed tank stand built by the council carpenter. Inspected village with Iamon the councillor, in good order. Returned to Meterankan.

27.4.68. Saturday: Stockpiling continued.

28.4.68. Sunday: Observed Meterankan.

29.4.68. Canoe, and motor now inoperable owing to a lack of petrol. All labourers put to work on the bamboo rafts. Overnight.

30.4.68. Stockpiling of stone continued.

1.5.68. Stockpiling of stone continued.

2.5.68. Arrival of Mr. P.O. J.Tauvasa with five gallons of petrol has made the canoe once again operable. Work continued on stockpiling.

3.5.68. Stockpiling continued. Visited the S.D.A. school at Konkavul to inspect the recently built council financed tank stand. Returned to Meterankan.

4.5.68. Saturday: Stockpiling of stone continued. Visited today by Mr. Bouraga. Arrangements made for the return to Taskul of patrol. Estimate approx, half the required stone has been stockpiled.

cont..

(2)

Diary continued.

5.5.68. ~~Saturday~~ Sunday: Observed Meterankan.

6.5.68. Stockpiling of stone continued. Visited in the afternoon by some of the teachers from Konkavul. They had problems relating to child attendance at their school. The problem was discussed at great length, and a possible solution arrived at. Overnight.

7.5.68. Stockpiling continued. Upon the request of councillor Vincent from Lavongai, visited this village with a view to settling minor squabbles, and marital complaints that had arisen since the last visit to this village. Returned to Meterankan in the afternoon.

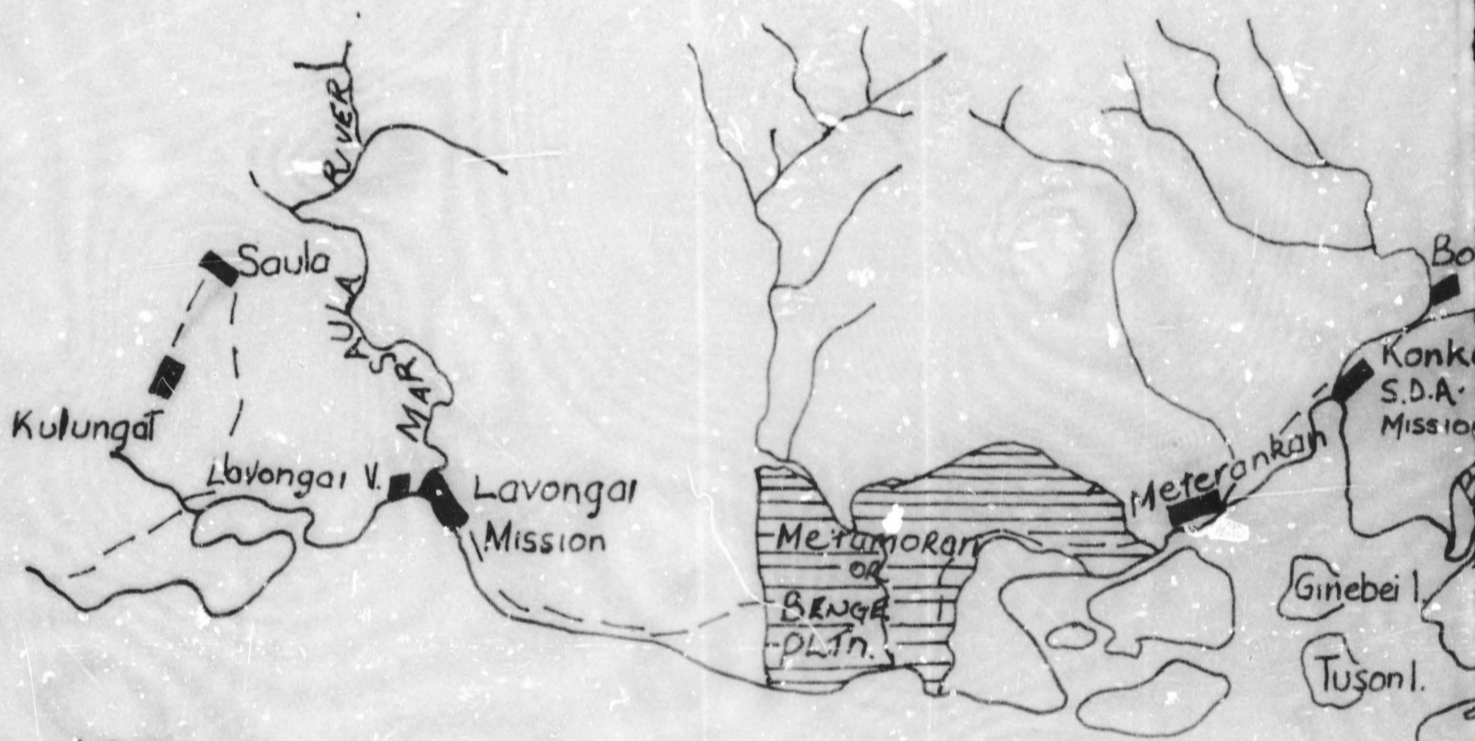
8.5.68. Early morning the speedboat arrived for the collection of the patrol. All the labourers were paid today, and the patrol departed for Taskul per speedboat, and canoe with outboard. Arrived 1130 hours.

End of Patrol

MAP SHOWING AREA COVERED BY PATROL

LAVONGAI to NAKAPUTUK.

N

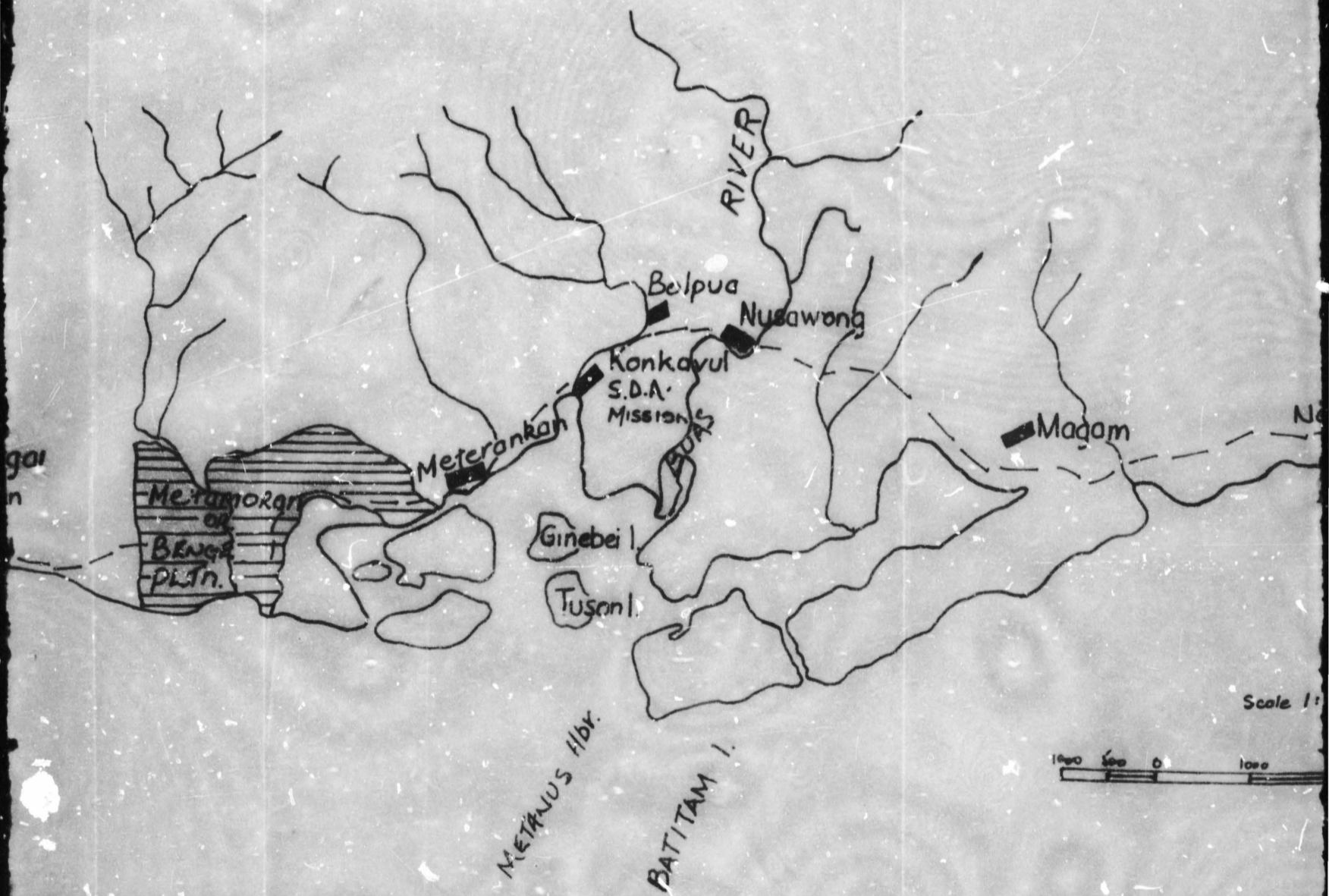


LEGEND.

- Villages & STATIONS
- - - Walking track
- ≡ PLTN.

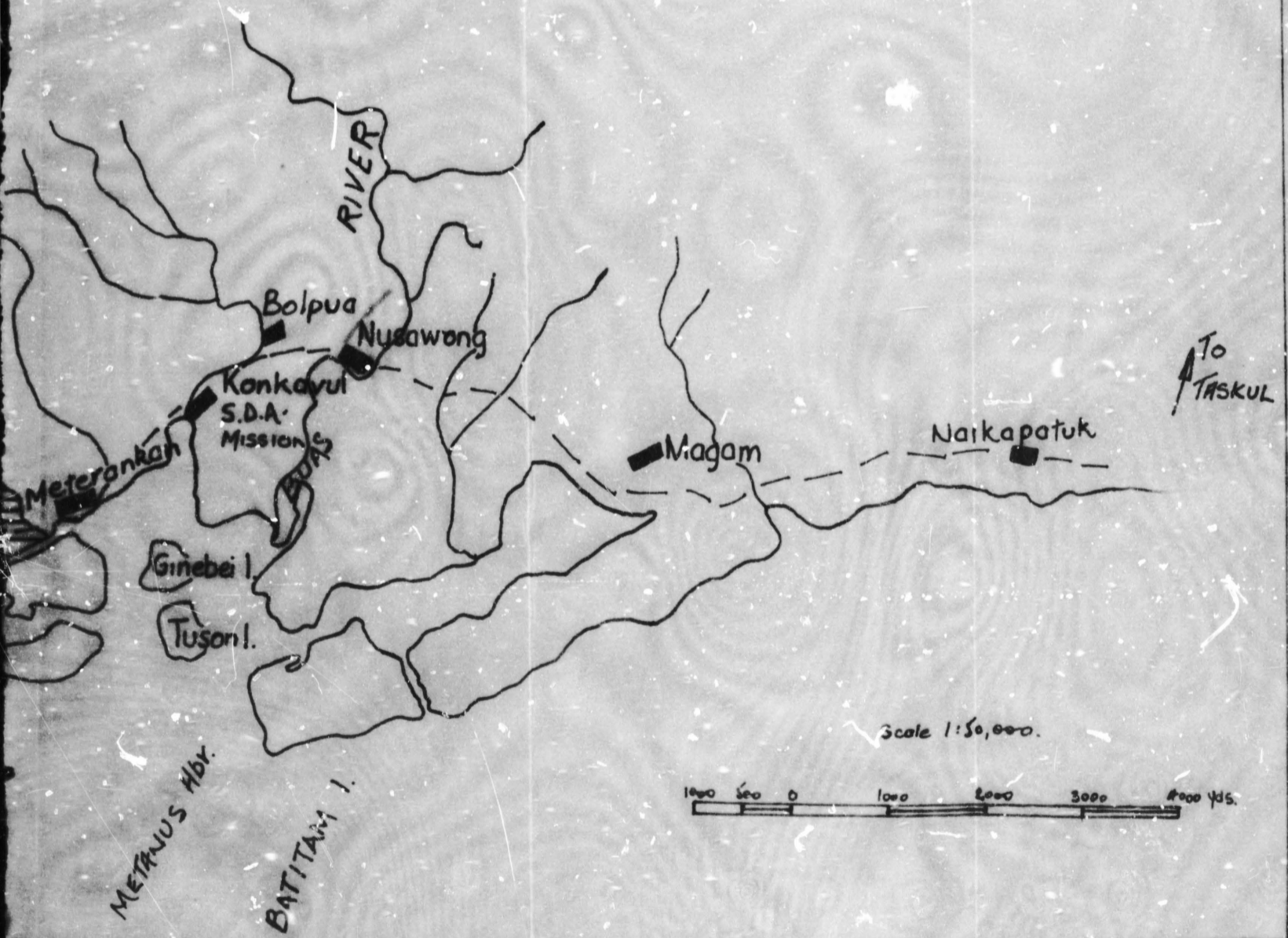
MAP SHOWING AREA COVERED BY PATROL NO. 8 OF 1967/68.

LAVONGAI TO NAKAPUTUK.



3  
DERIVED BY PATROL NO. 8 OF 1967/68

TO NAIKAPUTUK.







TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of New Ireland Report No. 10 - 1967/68

Patrol Conducted by J.J. Tauvasa Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Parts of North and South Coast

Patrol Accompanied by ~~Europeans~~ P. Bouraga A.D.O.

Natives Const. 1/c Babo

Duration—From 17/6/1968 to 21/6/1968

Number of Days Four days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? Yes G. Kei

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services E. Aba /1968

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

Map Reference.....

Objects of Patrol Inspection of Tingwon Airstrip

General Administration.

Director of Native Affairs,

PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

.....  
District Commissioner

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

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

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

.....

.....

.....

Popula

67.9.14 (2)



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



Telephone  
Telegrams  
Our Reference 67-1-2  
If calling ask for  
Mr. BAME/ni

Department of District Administration,  
District Headquarters,  
KAVIENG, N.I.D.

31st October, 1968.

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

PATROL NO. TASKUL 10 OF 1967/68.

Your memorandum 67-9-14 dated 9th September refers.

The patrolling officer has now elucidated his earlier comment with the attached report, which is furnished for your information.

*M.W. Brightwell*  
(M.W. BRIGHTWELL)  
a/District Commissioner

encl.

cc : Officer-in-Charge,  
TASKUL.

1/A  
4/12

67-1-2

BAMc/ni

District Headquarters,  
KAVIENG. N.I.D.

31st October, 1968.

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KOMEDOBU.

PATROL NO. TASKUL 10 OF 1967/68.

Your memorandum 67-9-14 dated 9th September refers.

The patrolling officer has now elucidated his earlier comment with the attached report, which is furnished for your information.

encl.

cc : Officer-in-Charge,  
TASKUL.

*WLB*  
(M.W. BRIGHTWELL)  
a/District Commissioner

COPY ①

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Department of District Administration,  
Taskul Patrol Post,  
New Hanover,  
New Ireland District.

1st October, 1968.

The Assistant District Officer,  
Patrol Post,  
TASKUL.

PATROL NO.10 1967/68 - TASKUL.

Ref. your 67-9-44 of 9th September 1968.

The fight itself involved three men and a woman, two of whom are brothers of the woman. She apparently is not married. Prior to the incident the brothers heard that their sister was seduced by another man, and without finding whether this actually true or not they went and fought this man. However no major injuries or damages were done to him or his property.

When the fight was investigated, it was found from both the man and the woman that no such act was committed by them, and that they have not at any stage talked to one another. Therefore what the brothers heard were just rumours.

It was then asked whether the man wishes to bring the matter to court. His answer was no nevertheless he claimed an amount of \$4.00 as compensation for the minor injuries done to him. The amount was then paid in the presence of myself.

For your information please.

(Sgd) Joseph. J. Tauvasa  
(Patrol Officer)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Ref: 67-9-44

Dept. of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU. Papua.

9th September 19 68

District Commissioner,  
New Ireland District,  
KAVIENG

PATROL NO. TASKUL 10 of 1967/68

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Memorandum  
\* ~~of~~ ~~Patrol~~/Patrol Report covering patrol by MR. J.J. TAUVASA, P.C.,  
to..... TASKUL ISLAND..... Census Divisions.

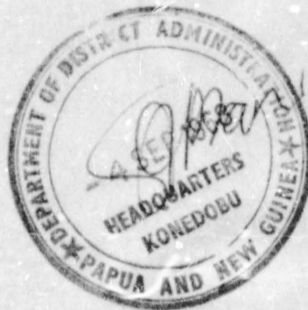
The diary for 20th June, 1968, states that at  
Bourung village, a "fight" was investigated. What was  
the cause of the fight, and what follow-up action was taken?

(T.W. ELLIS)  
Director

\* Delete as necessary.

c.c. Mr J.J. Tauvasa, P.C.,  
Taskul Patrol Post,  
NEW HANOVER  
New Ireland District.

67. 9. 14  
⑥



57-1-2

BAM/ct

District Headquarters,  
KAVIENG. N.I.D.

28th August, 1968

Officer in Charge,  
TASKUL.

TASKUL PATROL NO. 10 OF 1967/68

Thank you for Mr. Tauvasa's report of his patrol to TINGWON Island and four other New Hanover villages en route.

Cutting of the airstrip without further delay appears to be necessary, as this will promote the thick mat of grass which the District Airport Inspector suggested as an alternative to regular rolling. I understand from the Co-operative Officer that the Tingwon Society have agreed to the purchase of a small tractor and mower, but until this arrives, you should continue to encourage the people to cut the grass by hand.

The tractor, which it is proposed should be purchased, (Howard 2,000 Diesel) would be able to draw a roller also. Additionally, with the purchase of a trailer, copra could also be carried. The cost of this equipment is much less than tractors and their equipment commonly available in the Territory, and is apparently within the means of the Society.

I feel that this patrol, carried out wholly by local officers, did have an impact on the groups visited, short though it was. I look forward to fuller reports from Mr. Tauvasa on his future field work

*M. W. Brightwell*  
(M.W. BRIGHTWELL)  
a/District Commissioner

→ cc : Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

67-1-5,

TASKUL Patrol Post,  
New Hanover, N.I.D.

27th June, 1968.

The District Commissioner,  
New Ireland District,  
KAVIENG.

PATROL REPORT - PATROL NO.10-1967/68.

Enclosed please find three copies of a report on the abovementioned patrol submitted by Mr. Tauvasa.

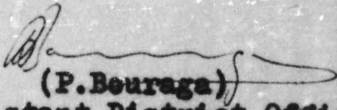
The aim of this brief patrol was to have a good look at the Tingwen aerodrome as well as to carry out area administration in the places visited. The report is both brief and somewhat semi-formal due to the briefness of the patrol. Besides the comments made by Mr. Tauvasa on the condition of the Tingwen airstrip, further remarks have also been made in my 4-3-2 of 25th June, 1968. I think they show the present position of the airstrip.

The attitude of the people towards the Council has much to be desired for. This lack of interest must exist when considering that a large percentage of the population is under the influence of the T.I.A. As a result there has been a lot of lip service and very little action by the people. I feel that more effort on the part of the Councillors will still be required to further inject interest in the people of the Council's activities.

This is the second report submitted by Mr. Tauvasa and apart from few spelling as well as typographical errors he has expressed himself well in recording his personal observation.

Claim for camping allowance is attached.

Forwarded for your information.

  
(P. Bouraga)  
Assistant District Officer.

Taskul Patrol Post,  
New Hanover,  
New Ireland District.

25th June 1968.

The Assistant District Officer,  
TASKUL.

PATROL NO. 10 - 1967/68 TASKUL

The primary purpose of this patrol was to observe the maintenance of the Tingwon Airstrip. Nevertheless general Administrative functions were also carried out.

During the course of the patrol several villages were visited, such as Noipuas on the north coast, Tingwon Islands on the north-west, Umbukul, Baungung and Meterankan on the south coast.

For the purposes of the patrol, the work boat MV MERCY was used during the five day trip around New Hanover and to Tingwon.

The people generally speaking in these villages seemed to be satisfied with their normal state of affairs and there is hardly any change to be noticed in their day to day life.

TINGWON AIRSTRIP.

In the early months of 1965 when the District Commissioner Mr. H.P. Seale raised the subject of an airstrip on the island, the people of Tingwon displayed enthusiasm in constructing the airstrip - so it was constructed. Since then the airstrip has been well maintained until the first initial landing which was in February this year. However, from that time until the patrol's visit to the island the airstrip apparently has not been maintained. Thus the present situation of grass growth is fairly thick. Furthermore, secondary growth is gradually increasing and are rising from two to three feet high. Consequently the Tingwons have been told to maintain the airstrip regularly in order to avoid secondary growth.

OBSERVATIONS AND COMMENTS.

Political Situation.

The reception to the patrol on the whole was quite friendly and was never hostile. Discussions with councillors and committees were held, sometimes resulted interested listeners coming and listening to what were being said, and at stages putting forward their views whether for or against the topics which were mainly political and economical. Nothing was heard of any pro-administration or cult movements during the course of the discussions. Exceptional was the T.I.A. movement which, although has not established itself strongly in various parts of New Hanover including two of the places visited namely Umbukul and Tingwon, has already influenced the majority of the population. These discussions indicated that the people are gradually moving away from their past practices and are becoming aware of the fact that there is to be changed.



Political Cont'd

Perhaps one but least suprising factor of the patrol to the eyes of the people was the fact that it was carried out solely by local officers - conducted by a senior local administration officer accompanied by a junior local officer and a local medical assistant. To some villagers this was a suprise as it indicated or appeared to them that not only overseas officers can carry out administrative functions of the government, but local officers are as well capable. Furthermore, it inspired them the need of producing local officers within their community.

Theoretically the people of New Hanover claim to be supporters of the council. In practice this does not seem to be so. Many of the Council projects which could easily be completed by their own hands and initiative are left unfinished. Copra driers are perfect examples. It shows that the people are disinterested in Council activities and its progress, and are contented to sit back and say "we've done our share, we've paid our council tax, the rest it's up to the council". This to the writer seems to be the attitude of the many who are T.I.A followers even so non-members of the T.I.A. Until such time when the people begin to understand and realise the work and the progress of the council their response to the council would probably be better than what it is at present.

Agriculture

Most of the inhabitants of New Hanover are subsistent farmers and therefore provisions of fresh foods are always plentiful though very rarely for cash sale. As far as cash cropping is concerned coconuts predominate. Most are owned by Lavangai Propriety Limited, however villagers have their own little plantations some individually owned and some communally. Because of the geographic situation of New Hanover the major problem of marketing cash crops is transport. However, Native Societies have proved very valuable to the villagers as many sell their copra to their Societies.

Rest Houses

Rest houses in the villages visited for the most part were shanty and old, excepting Noipuas rest house which would be commended as a credit to the Noipuas people for its size, space and architecture.

Complaints

Very few complaints which to the writer seemed trivial were settled accordingly. There were no cases at all brought up apart from this.

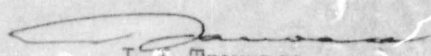
Health

As noticed during the patrol the general health of the villagers was quite satisfactory. Aid Posts which have been built for the betterment of the lives of the people have undoubtedly proved to be so. Villages for the most part are fairly well established excepting one or two which need attention to their health and hygiene. However, conditions in most cases are good and the same applies to Aid Posts.

Conclusion

The general attitude of the people to the patrol was excellent. Their assistance to comply with the activities of the patrol was heartening. In addition appreciation was shown for their hospitality. Because of the rough weather experienced or rather met throughout most part of the trip, more villages that had been intended to be visited were excluded from the program. Furthermore, although the duration of the patrol was short, I feel much had been experienced and gained out of it as well as being brought across to the people. It was therefore worthwhile.

For your information,

  
J. J. Tauvasa  
(Patrol Officer)

(1)

DIARY PATROL NO. 10 67/68.

Monday 17 June 1968

At Taskul preparation for patrol. Departed 1400 hours per MV MERCY for Noipuas. Called in at Patipai village for Aid Post orderly to disembark, and Nuslik for A.D.O to talk with councillor. Arrived Noipuas at 1830 hours ~~sex~~ unloaded and discussions with committee and villagers. Camped overnight.

Tuesday 18 June 1968

At Noipuas. Heard and settled minor marriage complaints. Departed Noipuas 0900 hours for Umbukul. Engine trouble on Mercy delayed half an hour at Ungalabu plantation. Arrived Umbukul 1200 hours. Lunch - checked materials left over at Umbukul clinic and took notes on what is further required for its completion. Discussions with villagers before films and after it. Camped overnight.

Wednesday 19 June 1968

At Umbukul 0730 departed for Tingwon. Met strong wind and rough sea during trip. Arrived Tingwon 1000 hours. Carried out inspection of the airstrip and the village. Had a look at the new Aid post. Talked with Angele - Camped overnight.

Thursday 20 June 1968

At Tingwon departed 0700 hours and to proceed as far as we could in spite of bad weather. Called in Meteran to deliver mail. First callin was at Baungung to investigate fight, however people responsible were not available. Spent one hour then proceeded to Meterankan. Arrived Meterankan 1730 hours disembarked and camped overnight.

Friday 21 June 1968

At Meterankan observed wharf and village and 0800 hours departed for Taskul. Arrived 1045 hours and attended office duties.

End of Patrol