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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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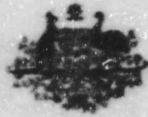
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WAPENAMANDA

PATROL REPORT

1963/64



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of Western Highlands Report No. Wapenamanda No. 2 of 63/64/
Patrol Conducted by Mr. P. E. Wilson C.P.O.
Area Patrolled MINYAMBA River Valley, Middle Lai Census Division.
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Nil
Natives Const. SAMUEL and Const. KORILIO, of R.P. & N.G.C.
Duration—From 29 / 7 / 1963 to 31 / 8 / 1963 (Broken period)
Number of Days 28 days.
Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No
Last Patrol to Area by—District Services June / 1963.
Medical February / 1963.

Map Reference Journal series, Tabag sheet.
1. Repair at discretion, any bridges which require attention.
Objects of Patrol 2. Investigate the possibility of eliminating the 5th and 7th
MINYAMBA River bridges by resiting the road on the southern side of the
river. 3. Supervise progress of the ceremonial pig exchange. 4. Carry out
such administrative duties as arise.

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

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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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67-14-7

19th November, 1963.

The District Officer,
Western Highlands District,
PORT HARRIS.

SAPINWANDA PATROL NO. 2-61/64:

Receipt of report of the above patrol is acknowledged.

This patrol was mainly concerned with the maintenance of bridges but one of the stated objectives was to (a) Supervise progress of the "ceremonial pig exchange". However, the brief report on 28 days field work ignores this aspect apart from the comment that "when the patrol ended, a definite date for ceremonial pig exchange had not been fixed". Although the ceremonies do not appear to have taken place during the patrol, the Cadet appears to have neglected the opportunity to find out all that he can about them. Cadets are expected to learn as much as they can about the people amongst whom they are working and particularly should they make some study of a social or anthropological nature on each patrol and record it.

(J. E. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

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C O P Y

67-3-181

Sub-District Office,
WARAQ.
Western Highlands District.
Sept. 30th 1963.

District Officer,
Western Highlands District,
MCUNT KAGEN.

Subject: Wapenamanda Patrol No. 2/63-C4
MINYAMBA Valley - P.E. Wilson, C.P.O.

Attached please find the Report of a Patrol to the MINYAMBA Valley, conducted by Mr. P.E. Wilson of Wapenamanda Patrol Post.

The objects of the patrol were satisfactorily dealt with, and the report calls for no special comment.

I am advised by the Officer in charge, Wapenamanda, that all outstanding payments for this work have been made to the Natives concerned, out of funds allocated to him.

Camping Allowance claim attached.

(SGD) G.G. Hardy
s/Assistant District Officer



FORWARD TO:

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
KONEDOPU.

Forwarded for your information, please.

WHD.431

5th November, 1963.

G.G. Hardy
(S.M. POSEY)
District Officer.

Observed at WAPENAMANDA.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Patrol Report Wapenamanda No.2 of 1963-64.

Personnel:-

Europeans. Mr. P.E. Wilson, C.P.O.

Natives. Const. Samuel
" Korilio.

Area Patrolled:-

Minyamba Valley - Middle Lai
Census Division.

Duration of Patrol:-

28 days, 29/7/63 to 31/8/63.
broken period.

Last Patrol in Area:-

Dept. of Native Affairs, June, 1963.

Dept. of Health, February, 1959.

Map Reference:-

Fourmilâ series Sabag sheet.

Objects of Patrol:-

1. Repair, at your discretion, any
bridges which require attention.

2. Investigate the possibility
of eliminating the 6th and 7th
Minyamba River bridges by
realigning the road on the Southern
side of the Minyamba River.

3. Supervise progress of the
Ceremonial Pig Exchange.

4. Carry out such other adminis-
trative duties as arise.

Handwritten notes:
P.P.O. referred to
several important
archaeological points
found in some other parts
and also mention of
the opportunity to meet
them

DIARY.

Monday, 29th. July, 1963.

Prepared for WAPENAMANDA Patrol No2 of 1963-64 and proceeded to YAGAIINTIS by car arriving there at 1200hrs. Talked to all Village Officials concerning the work required in their area during the next three or four weeks. Heard two minor disputes concerning pigs, during the evening.

Tuesday, 30th. July, 1963.

At YAGAIINTIS. Supervised preliminary construction under the ALA Creek bridge. Three bearers were found to be cracked and it was decided to replace all bearers. There were no absentees at the bridge site. Two minor disputes were heard during the late afternoon.

Wednesday, 31st. July, 1963.

At YAGAIINTIS. The more elderly men continued preliminary work at the bridge while the others were cutting logs for bearers. The timber is at a log way from the bridge and transporting the bearers to the bridge will be time consuming. All work was postponed at 2400hrs. due to rain. One minor dispute was heard during the afternoon.

Thursday, 1st. August, 1963.

At YAGAIINTIS. The elderly men continued building up the foundations for the bridge. The others started pulling bearers to the bridge site.

Friday, 2nd. August, 1963.

At YAGAIINTIS. The new bearers brought as far as the road from this point it will take the men approximately three days to get the bearers to the bridge site.

Saturday, 3rd. August, 1963.

YAGAIINTIS - WAPENAMANDA. Car arrived at 0900hrs. and transferred me to WAPENAMANDA. General office and station duties.

Sunday, 4th. August, 1963.

Observed at WAPENAMANDA.

Monday, 5th. August, 1963.

General office and station duties at WAPENAMANDA. Police investigation into an attempted murder.

Tuesday, 6th. August, 1963.

WAPENAMANDA - YAGAIINTIS. General station duties during the morning. At 1330hrs left WAPENAMANDA for YAGAIINTIS and arrived there at 1600hrs., after inspecting the road and bridge. It will take another days work to get the bearers to the bridge. Heard one minor dispute during the afternoon.

Wednesday, 7th. August, 1963.

At YAGAIINTIS. All bearers were brought to the bridge site today. Work will commence tomorrow replacing the bridge. All Village Officials were requested to have 100% attendance from their groups. One minor dispute settled during the evening.

Thursday, 8th. August, 1963.

At YAGAIINTIS. Work commenced on the bridge and the

Observed at WAPENAMANDA.

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Thursday, 8th. August, 1963. (continued)

road was closed at 0900hrs. Rain commenced to fall at 1500hrs and the work had to be abandoned. One minor dispute was heard during the afternoon.

Friday, 9th. August, 1963.

At YAGAIINTIS. Work continued all day on the bridge. Finally completed at 1700hrs. Talked to the local people during the evening.

10th.

Saturday, 10th. August, 1963.

YAGAIINTIS - WAPENAMANDA. Minor road was required at the approaches of this bridge. This work was completed at 1200hrs. Car from WAPENAMANDA arrived at 1330hrs and transferred me to WAPENAMANDA.

Sunday, 11th. August, 1963.

Observed. Proceeded to YAGAIINTIS at 2100hrs.

Monday, 12th. August, 1963.

At YAGAIINTIS. All groups proceeded to SENALE to carry bridge decking for the bridges to be reconstructed during the coming week. The elderly men carried out minor road maintenance. Three minor disputes were heard during the evening.

Tuesday, 13th. August, 1963.

At YAGAIINTIS. All groups again proceeded to SENALE to carry bridge decking. The elderly men work on road maintenance.

Wednesday, 14th. August, 1963.

YAGAIINTIS - WAPENAMANDA. Proceeded to WAPENAMANDA for Police investigation, after informing the Police of the work to be done while I was at the station. Returned to YAGAIINTIS at 1500hrs. The 2nd. MUYAMBA River Bridge was completed and new bridge decking was put down. Three minor disputes were settled during the evening.

Thursday, 15th. August, 1963.

At YAGAIINTIS. Replacement and completion of the LEGGITIS Creek was carried out during the day. The bridge decking was in very short supply and had to be carried to the bridge as it was being replaced.

Friday, 16th. August, 1963.

YAGAIINTIS - WAPENAMANDA. The 3rd. MUYAMBA River was strengthened and completed today. Rain held up work for four hours. Settled two minor disputes during the afternoon. Car from WAPENAMANDA arrived at 1700hrs and transferred me to WAPENAMANDA.

Saturday, 17th. August, 1963.

At WAPENAMANDA. General office and station duties.

Sunday, 18th. August, 1963.

Observed at WAPENAMANDA.

Monday, 19th August, 1961.

WAPENAMANDA - YAGAIPTIS. Proceeded by car to YAGAIPTIS arriving there at 0930hrs. Planks were carried from SENALE to the bridges at the KOIN creek and the MINYAMBA River. Warned some Village Officials about being lax in their work. Two minor disputes settled during the late afternoon.

Tuesday, 20th August, 1961.

At YAGAIPTIS. Inspected the two bridges that would have work carried out on them tomorrow. All groups went to SENALE to carry bridge decking. One minor dispute settled during the late afternoon.

Wednesday, 21st August, 1961.

At YAGAIPTIS. Commenced work on the bridges at the KOIN Creek and the MINYAMBA River. Work completed on both bridges at 1700hrs. Proceeded to WAPENAMANDA at 1700hrs for discussions with the O.I.C. and returned to YAGAIPTIS at 1730hrs.

Thursday, 22nd August, 1961.

At YAGAIPTIS. Bridge work is at a stand still because of the shortage of bridge decking. All available men were carrying plank but rain interrupted this work. Inspected road between YAGAIPTIS and WELYA. One minor dispute settled during the evening.

Friday, 23rd August, 1961.

At YAGAIPTIS. Bridge decking was again carried down from SENALE. Proceeded to WAPENAMANDA at 1100hrs. Commenced general station duties until 1530hrs and then proceeded to MT. HAGEN.

Saturday, 24th August, 1961.

At MT. HAGEN.

Sunday, 25th August, 1961.

Returned to WAPENAMANDA at 1815hrs.

Monday, 26th August, 1961.

WAPENAMANDA - WELYA. Commenced to walk from WAPENAMANDA at 1100hrs. At 1220hrs Forward Control Land Rover from WABAG transferred gear and patrol personnel to WELYA arriving there at 1300hrs. Discussed the weeks programme with the Village Officials. Settled three minor disputes during the afternoon.

Tuesday, 27th August, 1961.

At WELYA. Bridge decking carried from SENALE. Rain interrupted work at 1200hrs. Rain continued until 1800hrs. Two minor disputes during the afternoon.

Wednesday, 28th August, 1961.

At WELYA. Commenced to repair the WJI Creek bridge. Rain interrupted work at 1200hrs for 2 hours. Bridge completed at 1600hrs. Heard three minor disputes during the late afternoon.

Thursday, 29th August, 1961.

At WELYA. Commenced repair of the last bridge on the road. Rain interrupted work for three hours. Work completed at 1600hrs. Returned to WAPENAMANDA for District court sittings tomorrow.

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Friday, 30th August, 1963.

At WAPENAMANDA. General office and station duties.
District Court sittings presided over by G. G. Hardy, J.P.

Saturday, 31st August, 1963.

Proceeded to NELYA at 1000hrs and investigated
possibility of reciting the road between the 6th and 7th
NINYAMBA River bridges on the southern side of the NINYAMBA
river. Returned to WAPENAMANDA at 1300hrs.

Patrol finished.

END OF DIARY.

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Introduction:

The main purpose of the patrol was to supervise the construction and the replacement of bridges on the WAPENANANBA - MT. HAGEN road. The area patrolled was situated between the first bridge across the MINYAMER River and the fifth bridge across the MINYAMBA River. Materials for both bridge maintenance and road maintenance were in plentiful supply. Bridge decking was the main problem and much valuable time was lost, due to the fact that decking had to be carried by hand from PINYAPAIS and SENALE, both places being a good four hour walk from the area where work was being carried out.

Co-operation from the people was generally good and there was no trouble encountered in obtaining labour for the bridge projects.

A number of days were lost due to inclement weather, thus slowing the work of the patrol down considerably.

Native Affairs:

Only a small area of the MIDDLE LAI Census Division was visited by the patrol and the Native Affairs Situation there was found to be satisfactory.

At YASAINTE, the patrol had no trouble in obtaining labour for the bridge works. The people were helpful and friendly and they worked conscientiously and efficiently. These people seem to realize that the work of the Government is to help them.

A great number of civil disputes were heard and settled by myself. The majority of these disputes could have been settled by the Village Officials, the people did not seem to respect their decisions. The people are very "court" conscious and came to the patrol with very minor matters for arbitration. The patrol did not become involved in any disputes concerning the BOGA or ceremonial pig exchange. The most common disputes heard were concerning pigs, wives and the returning of articles lent to another person, in that order. Six men were sent to WAPENANANBA for the Court of Native Affairs to take action against them under the Native Administration Regulations.

When the patrol ended, a definite date for the ceremonial pig exchange had not been fixed. Food was available and plentiful for the patrol at all times.

Village Officials:

The majority of the Village Officials the patrol worked with, were found to be of average quality and they were very helpful to the patrol at all times.

A few were involved in some of the minor disputes brought before the patrol and these men did not have the respect from their people of their own sub-clans or from the people of other sub-clans.

Two Laluais and one Fultul were arrested from this area for playing cards for money.

On the whole, the Village Officials were average except for the incidents mentioned above.

Missions:

As there are no Mission stations in the area patrolled I am not in a position to comment on them.

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Rest Houses:

Two rest houses were visited during the patrol. The first was at YAGAIHTIS, where the patrol spent most of its time. This rest house is not very large, but it is comfortable and it is in good condition.

The second rest house was at WELYA. It is very large and due to be replaced shortly. When it is rebuilt, a smaller more comfortable rest house should be built.

Roads and Bridges:

The main purpose of the patrol was to repair and supervise reconstruction of bridges on the WAPENAMANDA - MR. HAGEN road.

Nine bridges were repaired during the patrol. Difficulties were encountered only at the bridge across the ALA creek. This creek is only a trickle during the dry weather, but in the wet season the water level rises considerably. At this bridge, the approaches had to be built up, piles and supports sunk, and five bearers were replaced. Much time was spent in cutting and pulling the new bearers to the bridge site and carrying bridge decking from SENALE and PINYAPALS. All other bridges were finished without any trouble, but before bridge decking could be replaced, the new decking had to be carried to the bridge-site. This took up valuable time as eight men were needed to carry one plank.

The possibility of resiting the road on the Southern side of the MINYANNE river, between the sixth and seventh MINYANNE river bridges, was investigated.

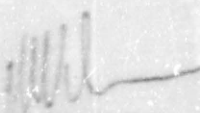
The preliminary investigation showed that it is possible to resite the road in this area. A further investigation will be necessary after the Ceremonial Rig Exchange is completed as the area is covered with dense bush, making it difficult to determine the nature of the ground. The second investigation will be carried out in about a month, when labour is available to clear the land.

Conclusion:

A routine road patrol was carried out without any untoward incidents occurring.

All bridges have been strengthened by replacement and addition of bearers. Bridge decking was replaced where necessary.

In general, the people are friendly and helpful towards the Government in this area.


(F. E. Wilson)
Cadet Patrol Officer.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Wapenamanda Patrol Report No. 2 of 1963-64

APPENDIX A.

Royal Papuan and New Guinea Constabulary.

No. 9844 Const. SAMUEL.

Discipline: Very Good.

Appearance: Good.

General Ability: An above average constable.

No. 9839 Const. KERILAU.

Discipline: Good.

Appearance: Good.

General Ability: He comes from this area and was a great help as an interpreter.


(P. H. Wilson)

Cadet Officer R. P. & N. G. C.