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# **PATROL REPORTS**

DISTRICT: MILNE BAY

STATION: MISIMA

VOLUME No: 12

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1959 - 1960

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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORTS MILNE BAY DISTRICT 1959/60

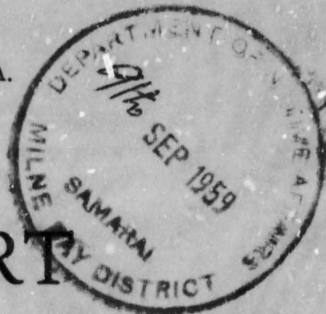
MISIMA

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol.</u>	<u>Area Patrolled.</u>
Misima 1-59/60	C.V. Single	CALVADOS CHAIN, DEBOYNE and MISIMA ISLAND





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.



# PATROL REPORT

District of MILNE BAY Report No. 1/ 59-69

Patrol Conducted by C.V.SINGLE Assistant District Officer.

Area Patrolled CALVADOS CHAIN. DEBOYNE LAGOON. MISIMA ISLAND.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans C.J.McSHERRY Co-operative Officer.  
W.M.BARCLAY Cadet Patrol Officer.

Natives No. 9733 Constable DOMARA  
No. 9783 Constable NUMA

Council Officials as herein.

Duration—From 8 / 7 / 1959 to 29 / 7 / 1959

Number of Days 15

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services / 10 / 1958 - DEBOYNE, MISIMA.

Medical ... / / 1958

Map Reference Fourmil Louisiade Archipelago.

Objects of Patrol (1) To conduct N.L.G. Council Elections.

(2) Routine Administrative Matters.

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES  
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,  
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

19

District Commissioner

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

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

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

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



67/4/27

30-1-5

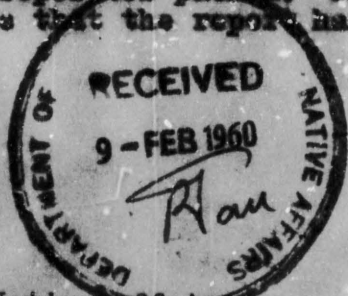
Department of Native Affairs,  
SAMARAI.

30th January, 1960.

~~Assistant District Officer,~~

MISIMA Patrol No. 1 of 59/60.

Enclosed herewith are the Director's comments on the above report of patrol. They are constructive and it is good to see that the report has generally been favourably reviewed.



*Rau*  
(R.T. Galloway)  
District Officer.

MINUTE TO:  
Director of Native Affairs,  
KONEDJEU.

Your 67-4-2 of the 14th instant refers. Your assumption regarding a typist's ~~sc~~ correct, but other factors are also involved. I am fully aware and appreciative of the need to process these reports without undue delay, and you have my assurance that any omission in this regard is not deliberate.

With reference to your comments in paragraph 6, the use of the term "enforce" might not have been intended, but had that been the case, I doubt if I would have quarrelled with it. According to the report, the people of the Calvedos Chain are in a parlous state regarding arable land. Their practice of allowing their land to go to rank grass and constant burning off is further reducing good lands available to them. By the time the "recommending" process has got through to them, the whole matter will be a problem indeed. I am old fashioned enough to believe that appropriate legislation to enforce the proper use of land in circumstances such as these may be a good thing.

*Believe this not necessary*  
*Rau*

*R.T. Galloway*  
(R.T. Galloway)  
District Officer.



67-4-2

14th January, 1960.

District Officer,  
Milne Bay District,  
SAMARAI.

Patrol Report No. 1/59-60 - MISIMA.

There does not seem to be any explanation as to why the report took over a month to write and why it was held in Samarai from early September until the end of December. I suppose it is the lack of a typist.

It is a fact that this Council was inaugurated without proper preparation. However, the people required it and over a period of years they had a type of unofficial council with councillors elected by secret ballot. They had been accustomed and encouraged to run their own affairs as far as possible. In fact they fully understand an unusual degree of autonomy; they are no doubt ignorant of the specialist techniques of area administration and its specific objectives.

It is fair to state that there is no area in the Territory where councils are fully understood. For your information a recent report from Rabaul advises of the ignorance of the Tolai voters in the last elections and their complete inability to grasp the essentials of area administration and that, after nine years; emphasising the sheer necessity of continuous education and propaganda by all branches of this Department.

In the case of the Misima Council, due to the isolation of the area and the scattered nature of the Sub-District, a technical survey by a trained Local Government Officer was not possible - it had to be done by the restricted staff on the spot, in addition to their normal routine work. Officers now in Misima should not criticize the preparatory work done prior to forming the Council, as in the circumstances existing at the time nothing else was possible. By constant guidance the present Officers should try to build up native understanding. A useful way of extending interest and knowledge is for Councillors to hold village meetings from time to time, at which they can explain to their electors the things that happened at the previous Council meeting and obtain instructions or advice for the next meeting.

Under diary date of July 17th, it seems to be a horrible admission that the people were unaware they had a free choice of selection when three Native Affairs' Officers were in attendance at the elections.

Under the section, "Native Industries, Agriculture and Live Stock", in the sixth paragraph it is presumed Mr. Barclay meant "recommend" where he writes "enforce". If it is intended to introduce large scale cash cropping, considerable thought is required in relation to marketing, distribution of profits, method of work etc.



There are many serious problems attached to communal cash cropping if it is to be anything other than a minor sideline.

The report indicated that the Officer needs to watch himself in the matter of trying to do everything by direct orders. This is simple and quick and therefore, attractive but as you are aware, is not the most effective means from a long-term view point. When the people are confused, it is desirable that the Officers should clarify their own long-range thinking first so that all explanations will be made clearly towards a common end and without contradictions.

I do not wish to discourage Mr. Barclay from writing exactly what he believes. The comments I have made are intended to be educative and not critical. It is refreshing to receive a report correctly spelt and phrased. This Officer demonstrates that he can express himself in a clear and concise manner.

*(A. Roberts.)*  
**Director.**



✓ 67-4-2.  
67-16-A



30-1-5

Department of Native Affairs,  
SAMARAI.

23rd December, 1959.

~~Assistant District Officer,~~  
MISIMA.

Patrol No. 1 of 59/60 - MISIMA

Receipt of the above report is acknowledged for which I thank you. I am sorry not to have been able to concentrate on this and other reports earlier.

2. The patrol was a routine one, but several interesting and important points are raised in the report. I comment as follows:

(i) Local Government: Elections, p. 7: It is not completely surprising that the people have a still imperfect understanding of Council elections and the things which flow therefrom. The whole concept of local government must be a mystery to many of the people, and this is understandable in view of the short existence of the Council. It must therefore be the responsibility of the supervising officer and field officers in general to explain the workings and purpose of local government to the people at every possible opportunity. Better understanding will come with the years if this is done.

(ii) Local Government - General, p. 10: Certainly the chances of success are diminished unless there is a regular coverage of all parts of the Council area. I appreciate that you are faced with an insufficiency of staff and that the outlying islands nature of your area makes it difficult to achieve this, but it nevertheless remains valid. When you are not able to visit as often as is desirable, the approach to Councillors through the Council meeting is the next best alternative. The resources of the Council are limited at the present time and cannot be extended to every group immediately, but I assume that next year's estimates will provide a reasonable proportion of funds for new works in the Calvados Chain.

(iii) Agriculture: p. 8. The kuni erosion you mention in the Calvados Chain requires investigation by an Agricultural Officer. The D.A.O. is expecting to make a visit your way in the New Year and I will ask that he look into this matter.

*Quite excellent - this case not the best.*

*Patrol completed 29 July '59.*

*Report dated 3 Sept '59.*

*Sent to Samarai 3 Sept '59.*

*To HQ 23 Dec '59.*

MINUTE NO:  
Director of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU.

*[Signature]*  
(R.T. Galloway)  
District Officer.

Above report forwarded herewith

*[Signature]*  
D.O.





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

GVS.KK

In Reply  
Please Quote

No. 30/2.

Sub-District Office  
BWAGAOIA  
Milne Bay District

3rd September 1959

The District Officer  
Milne Bay District  
SAMARAI.

PATROL REPORT NO.1-1959/60.

Attached please find two copies of this report,  
written by Mr W.Barclay C.P.O.

I realise that a memorandum of patrol would  
probably have sufficed, but prefer to give Mr Barclay the  
practice of writing a formal report.

Like so many special purpose patrols this was  
thoroughly unsatisfactory from the general native affairs  
angle, and this was the more disappointing because we moved  
among very interesting people at an important stage of their  
development. But hit-and-run patrolling is always like that.

I venture to pay a special tribute to the seamanship  
and skill of Captain. W.Howard of M.V. Poseidon, the whole  
reaway was difficult and treacherous, and winds up to an  
estimated 40 knots blew. I do not know of another master who  
could have satisfied the itinerary which I set.

Andrew Nabwakuleia of the Seamist did well too.  
A freak lull enabled him to get around the Calvedos Chain  
with the itinerary ahead of Poseidon. This function was filled  
by police while the Seamist carried the patrol around Misima.  
Thus all elections went smoothly, and to time.

I fully agree with Mr Barclay's views about the lack of  
preparation given to this council, and the small degree of  
understanding among councillors; but this is wisdom with  
after-sight on both our parts. The council has been formed,  
and is doing good, and if any justification were needed, that is  
it.

C.V. Single

.....  
(C.V.Single)

Assistant District Officer.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

File No. 30/2

Sub-District Office,  
BWAGAOIA M.P.D.

3rd September, 1959.

The Assistant District Officer  
Misima Sub-District.  
BWAGAOIA.

MISIMA PATROL No. 1/59-60

Officers Conducting: C.V. Single Assistant District Officer  
C.J. McSherry Co-operative Officer.  
W.M. Barclay Cadet Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled: Calvados Chain Division  
Deboyne Lagoon "  
Misima Island "

Personnel Accompanying: No. 9733 Constable Demara  
No. 9783 " Numa  
NLG President Sam Fifita.  
" Councillor Moimoi.  
" " Gwama.  
" Clerk Lester Gijonga.  
" " Bennon Kadula.  
" Policeman Gijuis

Duration of Patrol: 8/7/59 to 28/7/59

Number of Days on Patrol: 15 Days.

Map Reference: Fournil Louisiade Archipelago.

Objects of Patrol: (1) To Conduct NLG Council Elections.  
(2) Routine Administrative Matters.

Results of Patrol: As Listed Herein

ooOoc



INTRODUCTION.

This patrol was carried out in a most hurried manner as there were only 18 days in which to complete 25 elections. This resulted in most normal functions of a patrol being neglected. It is suggested that 30 days at least are necessary to carry out this patrol in the most efficient manner, particularly at this early stage.

It was obvious that there was a general misunderstanding of the reasons for the elections on the one hand, and the functions of the councils on the other. More will be said of this under the heading of ELECTIONS.

Mr. McSherry was on the patrol to deal with co-op business at the villages where Co-operatives are established. It was however necessary to call upon him to assist in many of the elections. This was unsatisfactory for obvious reasons.

There were no hold-ups resulting from the weather. It is a fact that the M.V. "Poseidon", under Captain W. Howard was in shallow water for some of the time, but it is difficult to imagine the elections having been completed in time from the M.V. "Seamist".

Generally, village conditions were very good. The canoes, especially in the Deboyne area, were excellent examples of workmanship. The people from this area are also excellent physically. The Misima people, probably as a result of closer contact, were much more enlightened about local government

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DIARY

Wednesday, 8th July.

- 0930 - Left BWAGAOIA in M.V. "Poseidon" for SABARA.
- 1500 - Arrived SABARA. Inspected village. Food and water carried across 3 miles of water by canoe. The village is in a sheltered bay. Houses in good condition.
- 1730 - Started election. Old councillor Simote was the only nomination and was elected unanimously. There was obvious satisfaction with his work.
- 1845 - Reboarded "Poseidon", and anchored for night.

Thursday, 9th July.

- 0530 - Left SABARA for PANAWINA.
- 0730 - Arrived PANAWINA. Inspected village. In good condition. Unanimous vote for old councillor Wapea. 57 votes - 2 more than 1958. Treasury business with Mrs. L. Eurphitt, a planter of mixed blood.
- 0930 - Left PANAWINA for NIMOA.
- 1300 - Arrived NIMOA. This is a bad anchorage. Only 6 people arrived from the other village in the electorate - BWAILAHINA. They were obviously dissatisfied with the present councillor Luke. 8 candidates had been nominated by the time the election finished at BWAILAHINA the next day. Luke was returned mainly with the support of the women and old men from both villages. The R.C. Mission later reported that Luke was unpopular almost everywhere; but had told the

*Handy could not keep up with this*



Thursday, 9th July Cont.

people to vote for him. It seems that he is rather a strong willed individual.

- 1500 - Walked to R.C.Mission (1½ miles)
- 1630 - Reboarded "Poseidon" and sailed for GUABE BAY where anchored

Friday, 10th July

- 0700 - Left GUABE BAY for BWAILAHINA.
- 0730 - Arrived BWAILAHINA. Village in good condition. Housing excellent as it was also at NIMOA. A sample of a cement like substance used in fireplaces was collected for analysis. There was a complaint by villagers about hardy wage payments by Leo Paulisbo.
- 0930 - Left BWAILAHINA FOR GRASS ISLAND.
- 1030 - Arrived GRASS ISLAND. Three sided vote here with no clear majority. Second ballot produced a new councillor - Paul, who won by 46 to 14 from the old one KASAWAIA. Village in excellent condition. Many new houses. The food comes from a mosquito infested island 2 miles away. The people were exceptionally clean and healthy. A patient for BWAGAOIA was delivered by the R.C.Mission boat.
- 1245 - Boarded vessel for run to NIGAHAU.
- 1400 - Arrived NIGAHAU. Housing only fair here. New man elected to council - Kadeta by 50 to 0. The election had obviously been pre-decided. Report of old councillor over-stepping his powers. Details of this in report.
- 1515 - Left NIGAHAU for anchorage in ROBINSON BAY.

Saturday, 11th July.

- 0545 - Left ROBINSON BAY for BAGAMAN.
- 0730 - Arrived BAGAMAN. Housing below standard in this village, despite an obvious attempt to tidy it for our visit. Old councillor elected by 17 to 1 informal. It is thought doubtful that the people in this village realised that they had a free choice. New man Kaubagi.
- 1015 - Left BAGAMAN for MOTORINA.
- 1115 - Arrived MOTORINA. The old councillor Pipidai was returned here by 57 to 0. Village in good condition.
- 1630 - Anchored at MOTORINA.

*W. Lata horrible admission - 3 officers present.*

Sunday, 12th July.

- 0700 - Left MOTORINA for BROOKER.
- 0815 - Arrived BROOKER. Election was won by Sam Pita - Council president, by 74 to 0. Village very well laid out with a path running the length of the beachfront. Comments on this are contained under the heading of NATIVE AFFAIRS. These people are renowned for the



Sunday, 12th July. Cont.

thoroughness of their workmanship. The houses in the village are not really good, but the canoes are excellent. The people have a fine physique and bearing. The passage to the village was very tricky and was negotiated with many anxious moments. The BROOKER people are close kin to the WARI people and share with one other village the distinction that all men are accorded the title of Canoe Captain, and never lack crews to serve them.

- 1215 - Left BROOKER for PANAPOMPOM.
- 1400 - Arrived PANAPOMPOM. The female councillor Kesaia was re-elected here by 54 to 4. Housing and water supply were fair. A 1000 gallon tank has been installed by the council and is awaiting catchment iron. Two complaints regarding payment for services rendered were noted for attention.
- 1630 - Anchored for night at PANAPOMPOM.

Monday, 13th July.

- 0730 - Left PANAPOMPOM for PANAEATE.
- 0815 - Arrived PANAEATE. This is a large village and returns 3 councillors. The three old councillors David, Jo, and Enesi all returned unopposed. They are all men of high standing. The village is very well laid out with good houses and excellent paths. The urgent need for an aid post orderly was noted for attention at BWAGAOIA. The water supply is good. The school was operating with 1 teacher for 60 children.
- 1230 - Left PANAEATE for BWAGAOIA.
- 1745 - Arrived BWAGAOIA.

Tuesday, 14th July.

On station.

Wednesday, 15th July.

- 0800 - Mr. Single, Mr. McSherry and Mr. D. Bagenoff (Education Officer) left BWAGAOIA in M.V. "Seamist" for KIMUTA.
- 1030 - Arrived KIMUTA. Old councillor Demowa returned.
- 1230 - Left KIMUTA for BWAGAOIA.
- 1500 - Arrived BWAGAOIA.

Thursday, 16th July.

- 0875 - Left BWAGAOIA for ALHOGA in "seamist".
- 0920 - Arrived ALHOGA. Old councillor Aselai returned by 64 to 2. Village road in very good condition (almost too good). Housing fair.
- 1030 - Left ALHOGA for AWABBI.
- 1100 - Arrived AWABBI. Old councillor [redacted] returned 115 to 0. Village in good order. Water supply good. Aid Post clean and tidy.



Thursday, 16th July. Cont.

- 1230 - Left AWAIBI for BWAGA BWAGA.
- 1300 - Arrived BWAGA BWAGA. Both members Saulo - 55 and Beibi - 50 returned unopposed. Village in excellent order. Many new houses of original design as a result of cyclone damage to the village. To coin a phrase, "its an ill wind.....". The people took shelter in caves on this occasion. These are extensive and are now used for storage. One harmless mental old man was observed. There is another at PANAEATE - a female. Neither were elected.
- 1430 - Left BWAGA BWAGA for EBORA.
- 1545 - Arrived EBORA. The election was held by the light of a lamp. Old councillor Taunailere was returned 41 to 1. Report of unpaid wages and loan were noted. Parties in a divorce case were instructed to come to BWAGAOIA when all the were available. One side was living at PANAEATE. The people here seemed to have a good idea of the elections.
- 2045 - Left EBORA for BWAGAOIA.
- 2400 - Arrived BWAGAOIA.

*to enter here, read about it.*

Friday, 17th July to Wednesday, 22nd July.

On station.

Thursday, 23rd July.

- 0930 - Left BWAGAOIA for BOIYO on "Seamist".
- 1115 - Arrived BOIYO. Old councillor Madiu returned. Village in good order. Note made to investigate village water scheme when possible. £240 has been spent on Polythene pipe by the council. It seems that this is only half of what is needed. This is discussed under VILLAGES AND HOUSING.
- 1245 - Left BOIYO for SIAGARA.
- 1330 - Arrived SIAGARA. Both sitting members Misidon - 63 and Dabara - 85 were returned unopposed. Village in excellent condition. The councillors are obviously doing a good job. They are both young and energetic. There is a good supply of water. Aid Post was dirty and untidy.
- 1700 - Left SIAGARA for GULEWA.
- 1850 - Arrived GULEWA.

Friday, 24th July.

- 0800 - Went ashore GULEWA and conducted election. Old councillor returned 83 to 20. Three complaints were referred to BWAGAOIA with all parties. Suggestion that Aid Post should be shifted to LIAK was squashed. This is dealt with under HEALTH. Village in good condition.
- 1000 - Left GULEWE for LIAK.

Friday, 24th July. Cont.

- 1030 - Arrived LIAK. Old councillor Ezekel returned. He is not very satisfactory, even though vice-president of the council. Village in good condition.
- 1230 - Left LIAK for BAGILINA.
- 1400 - Arrived BAGILINA. Villagers instructed to be ready for election the following day. Anchored for night.

Saturday, 25th July.

- 0735 - Went ashore and conducted election. Both councillors Seta and Tabuneai returned. 36.5% of able bodied males at work. Definite improvement here in understanding of elections.
- 0945 - Left BAGILINA for EWINA.
- 1015 - Arrived EWINA. Old councillor Davis defeated by younger man by 75 to 24. Village in fair condition. Canoes, Aid Post and water supply also good.
- 1200 - Left EWINA for BWAGAOIA.

Sunday, 26th July.

Observed.

Monday, 27th July.

- 0900 - Mr. Single and Mr. Bond (Co-op Officer) proceeded to NARIAN by Landrover.
- 0930 - Arrived NARIAN. Old councillor Gwama returned 105 to 0. Village in very good condition.
- 1100 - Left NARIAN for BWAGAOIA.
- 1130 - Arrived BWAGAOIA.
- 1400 - Mr. Single and Mr. Barclay walked to BWAGAOIA village.
- 1445 - Arrived BWAGAOIA village. Old councillor Simion returned. Village very tidy. This village benefits greatly from its close proximity to the station
- 1530 - Left BWAGAOIA village for BWAGAOIA.
- 1550 - Arrived Bwagaia.

Tuesday, 28th July.

- 0945 - Left station for EAUS, by Landrover to Quartz Mountain and thence by foot.
- 1140 - Arrived EAUS. Both members Diulosi and Alumoi returned. Village in very good condition. The track is good.
- 1330 - Left EAUS for BWAGAOIA.
- 1550 - Arrived BWAGAOIA.



Wednesday, 29th July.

- 0945 - Walked to KAUBWAGA from station  
1115 - Arrived KAUBWAGA. HINAOTA people did not arrive at the time set. Visited Mr. A. Munt at Kaubwaga Plantation.  
1400 - HINAOTA people arrived and elections held. Both Mark (KAUBWAGA) and Moimoi (HINAOTA) re-elected. Village in fair condition. 10 people ill at the Aid Post.- mainly Headaches, coughs and fever. Complaint regarding payment for canoe noted.  
1600 - Left KAUBWAGA for BWAGAIOA.  
1655 - Arrived BWAGAIOA.

End of Patrol

-----000-----

#### ELECTIONS

At all villages in the Calvados Chain (excepting GRASS ISLAND, NIGAHAU and BROOKER) there seemed to be a misunderstanding, or no understanding of the functions of councils or why second elections were being held. There was a most disturbing lack of understanding amongst councillors as to what their functions consisted of. Repeated and detailed explanations were made, but the exigencies of time made the patrol almost useless from this point of view. At all stages it was necessary to curtail explanations to enable elections to be held quickly.

There was no refusal of nomination. This could be due to the novelty of the office. Inaccurate interpreting was a worry. The early appointment of a multilingual (fluent Pansate) interpreter at BWAGAIOA is most necessary. In most cases young men have been elected as opposed to the normal practice of old men holding down village official (appointed) positions. Where this has happened a decided improvement in the understanding of elections was noticed. In Misima especially there was a much better understanding. It was possible and necessary here to speed up the elections. The secret nomination and ballot system was used in most cases. It was only necessary to hold a second ballot once. In each village where there was more than one councillor the people knew which electorate they belonged to. Suitable marks were made in the council rolls which will enable electoral rolls to be completed.

#### NATIVE AFFAIRS

Complaints about payment for services, numbering 4, were noted for attention.

At two villages (BROOKER and BAGAMAN) slight suspicions of a cult were aroused by unusually good village paths in one case, and seemed to be imitation radio aerials in the other. A close check will be kept on this. The BROOKER people are noted for the thoroughness of their workmanship on canoes, but



NATIVE AFFAIRS Cont.

the fenced and coral lined paths in the village looked very much out of place.

It was noticed at BAGILINA that 36.5% of able bodied males were at work. This should be checked by the next patrol.

JUDICIAL

A n adultery charge was made, but was dismissed. No other complaints were made.

*What action has been taken to ensure all councillors know their duties.*

There was a case at NIGAHAU where the Councillor had taken the law into his own hands to settle a case of adultery. He had ordered "Penance". It was explained that this was the work of the Government at BWAGAOIA. The councillor was under the impression that this was one of his duties.

NATIVE INDUSTRIES, AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK

New gardens were in the process of being cleared. Copra production is normal. There were several large canoes under construction at PANARATE. They are sold for prices ranging from £25 to £50.

In the Calvados Chain there is every sign of a grave situation as regards agriculture. Almost every inhabited island in the chain is far gone in kuni erosion, and in too many cases there is no garden land left. It is a common and alarming sight to see whole islands covered with grass and no secondary growth at all, except tiny patches in the crevices of isolated valleys - useless for gardening because of erosion.

The Calvados Chain of islands has followed the pattern of so many island groups. Because of the strict limit on available land imposed by living on islands, the people have over-worked (and over-burned) the land through the generations. At some time the cycle of bush fallowing rotation will fail, as it has, when the bleached and exhausted soil can not provide nutriment for the secondary growth which is bush fallow, and course grasses intrude.

These grasses live at a much lower nutrient level than other growths, but continue to denude the soil.

It may be that nothing can be done, but I have seen most impressive results from nitrogen synthesising plants like peanuts, krotalaria and cow-peas. Of these I prefer peanuts, they are more practical.

*"Recommend"?*

Stocks of seed peanuts here are small, but each councillor has now 1 lb and has been shown how to plant. The first thing is to insist that seed stocks be multiplied; then enforce plantings over whole gardens as they are abandoned. This will stop the spread of the grass erosion.

*If indeed anything large-scale, need thought to marketing, distribution of profits, method of work, etc. Danger of communal cash cropping when it is anything other than a minor sideline.*

Later I would urge much wider plantings. This is an ideal function for N.L.G. Councillors, and they may save a bad situation, as well as incidentally producing (in the later stages) a useful food and an economic crop.

Our pressing need here is for more seed. If we produce it by cropping much time will be lost. At least 8 copra sacks full could be used at once. I would venture, too, to mention that these people are sufficiently confused as it is. We do not want any sort of agricultural committee or other organisation. Only seed.

*Need to control himself in the matter of trying to do everything by direct orders. If the people are confused, so much the better.*



### MISSIONS

The Methodist Overseas Mission with headquarters at LOAGA, on Misima, operates extensively in the area patrolled. The Roman Catholics with headquarters at NIMOA have been gradually increasing their influence over the last few years. Neither, however, seem to have a great following but there was not sufficient time to inquire into this. It appears that many people change their allegiance regularly. The patrol visited NIMOA.

### VILLAGE OFFICIALS

It became evident during the patrol that no wages had been paid to Village Constables since 1957, and in some cases 1956. Books were collected to take back to BWAGAOIA, and from there payment to be made through the councillors when they came in for the meeting. It was found later that funds available were nowhere near sufficient. A calculation was made of all moneys due to officials in the sub-district, and a request for extra funds radioed to SAMARAI. These have not arrived as yet.

*must be done*

It is felt that there is an obligation to pay all these officials up to date, if they are to become redundant, and be dismissed as a result of L.G. Councillors being elected. It was suggested that the councillors should forfeit £3 of their annual pay of £18, to enable the V.C.s to be kept on in some capacity. It must be a heavy blow to have all privilege and pay removed outright. There was confusion amongst many as to the reasons for dismissal.

In general the officials were satisfactory and helpful in the elections.

### VILLAGES AND HOUSING

Conditions were found to be uniformly good and in some cases excellent. Only four villages could be called fair. Paths are neatly kept, and houses were being rebuilt in almost every village. They are of good design and are generally clean. It was only necessary to issue instructions regarding houses twice - at MOTORINA and BAGAMAN. A shortage of pandanus had caused conditions to be bad here. An effort is to be made to trade some from Misima.

Canoes were in excellent condition, and many were in the course of construction. Water was in good supply in almost every village. The council has purchased 2400 feet of Polythene pipe at a cost of \$240 to be used at BOIYO. It seems that this is only about half of what is required, and it is now proposed to use it at NARIAN where it will be sufficient.

### HEALTH

Village Aid Posts were in fair condition. There was an urgent need at PANAEATE for an orderly. There was a post there with a village man handing out drugs and dressings to any of the 500 people in the village in the xi who wanted them. He was instructed to leave everything alone until an orderly arrived. Dr. Vines has subsequently posted an orderly to this village.

It was suggested that the Aid Post at GULEWA should be shifted to LIK. There is a good path between the villages, and Dr. Vines later agreed that it would be more suitable to purchase a bicycle. This has been done, thus retaining both A.P.s.



ROADS AND BRIDGES

Most of the patrol was done by vessel. All roads and bridges between villages on Misima are in good condition.

COUNCILS - GENERAL

It was observed that in most Calvados Chain villages, no return of any kind for the tax money paid had been made. It seems that there may have been insufficient spread of funds over the last year. Unless something is done in this respect further mystification as to the functions of Native Local Government may result. It is to be hoped that some concrete progress will be made in the coming year. It may well be that councillors from this area are insufficiently vocal at meetings.

It is advanced that Local Government in this area is doomed before it is really started, unless extensive patrols are undertaken over the next three years primarily with the object of explaining functions and laying basic groundwork which is obviously lacking. If this does not eventuate, then it is foreseen that the people will come to think that more could be done if the tax money was collected and spent on a local community basis.

The most blatant case of misunderstanding has already been explained under the heading of JUDICIAL. This kind of action could rapidly bring councils into disrepute.

CONCLUSION

Apart from the haste of the patrol (it covered altogether 350 miles), which is to be deplored, elections were comparatively successful and held with optimum efficiency. Other aspects were satisfactory.

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Probably nowhere in the Territory are Councils fully understood, & continued explanations are needed, but even so in this case the ignorance and confusion are so great there could have been no proper preparation before the Council was inaugurated.

*Councillors can hold village meetings to explain what happened at the last Council meeting & get instruction on what to say at the next.*