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***PATROL REPORTS***

DISTRICT: MILNE BAY

STATION: SAMARAI, 1967-1968

Original documents bound with reports  
for: Alotau, volume 2.

# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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MILNE BAY DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1967-1968

ALOTAU, SAMARAI

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
<u>ALOTAU</u>		
1-67-68	A. Siaoa	Maramatana, L.C. C.
2-67-68	P.M. Jones	Tavara, Ealata & Buhutu C.D.
4-67-68	A. Siaoa	North East Coast C.D.
8-67-68	A. Siaoa	North East Coast C.B.
12-67-68	J.C. Edgar	Tavara Coast C.D.
<u>SAMARAI</u>		
1-67-68	D.J. Young	Portion of Woodlark Island C.D.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

# PATROL REPORT

District of MILNE BAY Report No. SAMARAI No. 1 of 67/68

Patrol Conducted by D. J. YOUNG, PATROL OFFICER

Area Patrolled PORTION OF WOODLARK ISLAND CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives FOUR

Duration—From 13/2/1968 to 8/3/1968

Number of Days 24 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany NO

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

Medical NOVEMBER ...../1967

Map Reference NIL

Objects of Patrol CONDUCT POLLING OF HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ELECTORS 1968

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 .....

.....

.....

.....

67-4-19

June 13th, 1968.

The District Commissioner,  
Milne Bay District,  
SAMARAI.

PATROL REPORT - SAMARAI NO.1 OF 1967-68

Receipt of the above Report and your 67-1-1 dated 11th April, 1968 are acknowledged with thanks.

I concur with your remarks, however, the highly critical analysis by the Assistant District Commissioner, Samarai, seems to indicate more on the job training is required for officers such as Patrol Officer Mr. D.J. Young.

(T.W. ELLIS)  
Director

67 4 19

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

DISCOM  
67-1-1  
ERJ/as  
ERJ/cs



District Headquarters,  
Milne Bay District,  
SAMARAI.

11th April, 1968.

The Director,  
District Administration,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONFDOBU.

Patrol Report - Samarai 1 of 1967-68.

Patrol Report - Samarai 1 of 1967-68.

Attached please find patrol report Samarai 1 of 67/68 submitted by Mr. D.J. Young, Patrol Officer, together with covering memorandum 67-1-4 dated 29th March, 1968.

2. The Assistant District Commissioner has I feel commented adequately on the report. The presentation of the report leaves much to be desired though in fairness to the Officer concerned, the report was prepared during the short period after his return to Samarai and prior to his posting to Sehulea Patrol Post as Officer-in-charge on 14th March, 1968.

3. For your information, please.

*M. J. Denehy*  
(M. J. Denehy)  
A/District Commissioner.

c.c. A.D.C.  
c.c. A.D.C.  
Samarai.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67.4.19

Telephone  
Telegrams..... DISCOM  
Our Reference 67-1-1  
If calling ask for  
Mr..... ERJ/cs



Department of District Administration,  
District Headquarters,  
Milne Bay District,  
SAMARAI.

11th April, 1968.

The Director,  
Department of District Administration,  
KONEDOBU.

Patrol Report - Samarai 1 of 1967-68.

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3. For your information, please.

*M. J. Denehy*

(M.J.Denehy)  
A/District Commissioner.

c.c. A.D.C.  
Samarai.



67-1-4

Sub District Office  
SAMARAI  
Milne Bay District

29th March 1968

The District Commissioner  
Milne Bay District  
SAMARAI

Comments - Patrol Report Samarai No 1 1967/8

Part Woodlark Island C.D. - D.J. Young P.O.

Please find attached two copies of the above mentioned Patrol Report. The relevant camping allowance claim is already at District Office. My comments on this report are as follows:

1. The patrol diary indicates that the patrol lasted twenty five days not twenty four, as indicated on the cover of the report.
2. The diary is poorly typed and poorly set out as is the remainder of the report. The use of "Morris" in stead of "Mr Morris" seems to show a lack of respect and makes the diary distasteful to read.
3. There is no introduction to the report.
4. Water Supply Upon reading this section of the report I discussed the matter with Mr Morris (ex O.I.C. Guasopa). Mr Morris advised that the facts of the matter are as follows: The Council's 1967-8 estimates allowed for a water catchment at both Iwa and Dikioas, with preference going to Dikioas due to the promise of the donation of \$600.00 towards the project. The Dikioas people then decided that the \$600.00 might be better spent on a tradestore and canteen, and discussion is still taking place on this.

The Iwa project was then given preference by the Council as the materials were ordered and Iwa has a far larger population than Dikioas.

The report indicates that the Council discontinued the project, ignoring the donation. The fact is that the people seem to be changing their mind about the donation, and the Council is concentrating on another section of it's works programme in the meantime.

5. Political Situation The two paragraphs on this topic are interesting. However as the patrol was dealing with Polling during the House of Assembly elections, an assessment of such things as listed below would have been valuable

- A. Local knowledge of functions and constitution of the House of Assembly
  - B. Local knowledge and ideas of function of the member the people elect
  - C. The success or otherwise of the Administration Election propoganda
  - D. The nature and intensity of Candidate campaigns etc.
- Some mention is made of the elections in the Report's conclusions.

6. Agriculture The observations are interesting but lack facts in the report to back them up.

7. Commerce and Industry Interesting material.

8. Roads and Bridges This is useful information.

9. Census The calculation of 29% more adult males than adult females is based on shaky facts (e.g. are absentee voters allowed for). This figure does not apply to the whole census division as is implied. The 1966 Village Population Registers indicate that the following figures are more accurate for the Census Division as a whole:

<u>Adult Males</u>	<u>Adult Females</u>	<u>Total</u>	<u>%Males</u>	<u>%Females</u>
773	557	13270	56.4%	43.6%

Quazopa Patrol Report No 1 1967-8 pages three and four discuss this problem fully.

10. Conclusion of comments

The report is a poor one. Apart from poor spelling, setting out and typing, the reports information lacks depth. The resultant inaccurate and sometimes misleading observations make the report of little value as a document of facts on the Wordlark census division.

*R. I. Becke. S*

(R.I.Becke.)

Assistant District Commissioner

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

A/ PREAMBLE

Station. Samarai.

Sub-District. Samarai 1

District. Milne Bay.

Patrol Report No. Samarai No. 1 of 1967/68.

Patrol conducted by . D.J.Young, Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled. Woodlark Mainland Region.

Personel Accompanying the Patrol.

... 1/ Constable Gabadi Karoa 1147.

2/ Donald Posem (Medical Orderly Samarai. )

3/ Maiwori Obedeia (Interpreter Samarai )

4/ Terrence Dumilae (Village Indigenous as Assistant Presiding Officer)

Duration of Pa trol. 13/2/68 to 8/3/68.

24 Da ys

La st Patrol to Area.

.... DDA 17/1 2/66.

PHD November 1967.

Objects of Pa trol.

The main object of the Patrol was to conduct Polling for The House of Assembly Elections 1968. Map Reference. Nil, see atta chment.

B/ Diary. Departed Samarai per vessel " Morning Star " at 11pm 13/2/68.

Wed. 14/2/68. Arrived Alcester Is. at 6pm en route Woodlark Is. Overnight at Alcester.

Thurs. 15/2/68. Departed Alcester at 4am and arrived Guasopa at 9am. Unpacked Election cargo and <sup>went</sup> over Election procedure with Morris (OIC Guasopa) . Checked through Inventory, firstly election papers, then checked equipment. Overnight at Guasopa.

Fri. 16/2/68. Morris departed Guasopa (Election Team 10) for election Pa trol Woodlark Islands at 8-30 am, per vessel "Morning Star". Read through Instructions on Elections and advised staff on Patrol route and election procedure. Met Skipper of vessel "Murua" ( to be used on Patrol) and discussed pa trol. route. Overnight Guasopa.

Sat. 17/2/68. Started Election polling at 8am Guasopa finishing the main voters at 1pm. 37 Males voted (2 males under Sect. 130(1) ), 21 females voted ( 1 female under sect. 130(1). 80% required aid in voting ( 12 males voted unaided) Overnight at Guasopa.

Sun. 18/2/68. Observed. Departed Guasopa at 8-45am per vesse: "Murua". Arrived Ungonam Village at 10am . Overnight Ungonam.

Mon. 19/2/68. Started Election polling at Ungonam finishing pa in voters by 10-15 am . 21 Males voted (1 Male sect. 130 & 1), 21 Fema les voted ( 1 Female Sect. 130(1).

Diary cont......Mon.... 87% required assistance in voting (5 Males voted unaided .).Departed Ungonam at 12noon per vessel "Murua " arriving Wabununa village. Met a Dr. Lithglow (Translating Woodlark Language for New Testament ). Overnight at Wabununu.

Tues. 20/2/68. Started Election polling at 8am for Wabununu finishing at 2pm ( Delay of 2-3/4 hours due heavy rain in voting ). 35 males voted (4 sect. 130(1) ), 25 females voted (4 sect. 130 (1) ). 80% required aid in voting . Twelve males voted unaided. Departed Wabununu per vessel "Murua" to Unamatana village arriving 6-30 pm (Etd Wab. 5-35pm.).Overnight Unamatana.

Wed. 21/2/68.Started Election polling for Unamatana at 8am finishing at 11am ( 1 hour delay due heavy rain in voting ), 21 males voted ( 1 Absent voter & 3 sect. 130(1) ) 19 females voted ( 4 Sect. 130(1) ). 87.1/2 % require d assistance in voting. 5 males voted unaided. Departed Unamatana per vessel "Murua " at 11-30 am arriving Mapas Island at 12-45pm. Overnight at Mapas.

Thurs. 22/2/68. Started Election polling for Mapas finishing majority of voters by 10-30 am. 14 males voted ( 4 absentee voters), 9 females voted ( 1 Sect 130 (1) ) 91% required assistance in voting. 2 males voted unaided. Overnight at Mapas.

Frid. 23/2/68. Departed Mapas per vessel "Murua" 9am arriving Kropan 11-20 am. Overnight Kulamadau Plantation

Sat. 24/2/68 Started Election polling at Kropan village at 8-05 am ( heavy rain delayed voting 45 min.) finishing at 10am. 4 males voted (1 sect 130 (1) ), 3 females voted. 1 male voted unaided. Overnight Kulamadau Plantation.

Sun 25/2/68 Observed . Departed Kropan per vessel "Murua" 2pm arriving Kauwai village 4-15 pm. Overnight Kauwai.

Mon 26/2/68 . Started Election polling at Kauwai at 8am finishing at 10-15am. 13 males voted ( 2 sect 130 (1) ), 8 females voted (1 sect 130 (1) ). 1 male voted unaided. Departed Kauwai per vessel "Murua" at 11-30 am arriving Kulamadau 2-45 pm. Overnight Kulamadau.

Tues. 27/2/68. Departed Kulamadau 8-15 am and walked to Kauwai village (via Dikioas village) arriving 12 noon. Overnight at Kaurai. Wed 28/2/68.....

Started Election polling at Kaurai at 8am finishing at 12 noon. 35 males voted ( 10 sect. 130(1) ), 20 females voted (4 sect 130 (1) ). 78% require d assistance in voting . 12 males voted unaided. Overnight Kaurai village.

Thurs. 29/2/68 Departed Kaurai at 8-15am and walked to Dikioas village arriving 10am . Overnight at Dikioas.

Frid. 29/2/68. Started Election polling at Dikioas 8am finishing at 10-30 am.

Diary Cont...

Friday...26 males voted ( 1 sect 130(1) ), 20 females voted (1Sect. 130 (1) ) . 59% required assistance in voting . 14 males voted unaided and 5 females likewise. Departed Dikioasat 10-45 am and walked to Kulamadau arriving 12-25 pm. Overnight at Kulamadau.

Sat. 2/3/68. Started Election At Kula madau at 8am finishing at 12 noon. 15 males voted ( 8 Absentee voters for Esa'-Ala Open Electorate as Plantation Workers ) ,6 females voted. 71.4% required assistance in voting ( 5 males, 1 females voted unaided). Departed Kulamadau 12-45pm per vessel "Murua" arriving Muniveio Village 5-15 pm. Overnight at Muniveio.

Sun. 3/3/68 Observed at Muniveio.

Mon. 4/3/68 Started Election polling at Muniveio at 8 am finishing at 11am. 21 males voted ( 2 sect. 130 (1) ), 18 females voted ( 2 Sect . 130 (1) ). 100% required aid in voting. Departed Muniveio per vessel "Murua" 11-45 am to Kulamadau arriving 5-30 pm. Met Morris discussed Elections and completed forms, figures in regards to Elections. Overnight at Kulamadau.

Tues. 5/3/68 Departed Kulamadau per vessel "Morning Star" arriving Guasopa at 1-30 pm. Received Election equipment from Team Ten ( Morris ) and departed Guasopa for Bwagoia ( Misima to hand over ballot boxes and Election equipment to T. Steen (ADC) Returning Officer. ~~XXX~~

Wed. 6/3/68. Arrived Bwagoia at 6am. Handed over Ballot boxes and Election equipment to Returning Officer. Office duties and started Patrol report. Overnight Bwagoia.

Thurs 7/3/68. Office duties and Patrol report work. Departed Bwagoia per vessel "Morning Star" at 9-30 pm for Samarai.

Frid. 8/3/68. Arrived Samarai 5-45 pm . Offloaded Patrol boxes and personnel cargo.

End Of Patrol.C/ Observations and Comments.

1. Reception of Patrol. The Patrol received a friendly reception from all villages visited. Some rest houses being colourfully decorated with flowers, and people dressed in best clothes for occasion.
2. Standard Type of Houses. Generally the standard of housing was good, with most houses being built out of native material with exceptions being at Dikioas, Kropan and Kauwai villages where some houses showed signs of European influence (timber doors, floors and supports etcetera.).
3. Water Supply. Generally water supplies for most villages was adequate and the quality of water was good and either brought

Water Supply cont.....from nearby springs or creeks although Dikioas village people must walk 20 minutes to get water and a well should be made closer to the village through the Murua Local Government Council. Although recently a women's club from Dikioas whom had apparently saved \$600 and who promised the Murua Local Government Council this as their contribution towards a 10,000 gallon water catchment at Dikioas with the Council paying the balance, however at the last minute after the timber, tank etc had been purchased they changed their mind and the project was transferred to Iwa Island.

4/ Outline of Political Situation. The current situation on Woodlark Mainland Region is that the people's attitude towards Administration is very good although I feel that the people have misunderstood the Administration's aims in Aiding the Murua Local Government Council, for example the use of a trawler to pick up councillors for meetings. The people feel that is their right to have this aid and one case where a councillor insisted that a trawler (which was picking up councillors for meeting from outlying islands) pick up himself also take several bags of Copra to Guasopa (this was done. The walk from this village Kaurai to Guasopa takes one day.). This attitude of a false sense of Economy must be swayed as troubles will occur when the initial aid to Murua Local Government Council by the Administration is eased and the Council must operate more on its own resources.

The attitude by the Indigenous people towards Europeans, Mix-Race and Missions etcetera is also good but most people expect payment for any work or deed done by them no matter how small, a recent example of this was when a Welfare Officer and team visited a village (Kaurai), after their initial work was completed with the village women they were presented with fruits and vegetables (usually given as gifts), later before leaving the village the Welfare Officer was fronted and asked to pay for the food or no carriers would be available. (I found that on my Patrol also at most villages (exceptions being Dikioas, Muniveio and Kawai villages) food and small services normally gifts were not free. This probably due to either the European influence over the years (Approx. 1,000 Europeans at Kulamadau during 1890's in gold mining boom) or false sense of Government Economy as mentioned in previous paragraph.

5. Agriculture. In all villages the food situation was good but they did not seem to be a surplus of food for cash sale. The only cash crop in the Woodlark area is Copra although only a small amount is produced and sold mainly

Agriculture cont: ... to Mr. Don Neate of Kulamadau Plantation whose vessel the "Murua" collects the Copra at some villages. But only a small return can be made from Copra due to the high freight cost as Woodlark Island is too isolated and also the South East season makes transportation difficult.

Livestock The main kinds of livestock is pigs (poultry to a lesser extent) of which plays an important part in the village economy and life (Kula Trading, see Commerce).

7. Forests. On Woodlark Island there is an abundance of different types of timbers mainly Eboni and other hardwoods. The main problem seems to be removing the timber as the terrain in some areas is difficult and also transport and freight difficulties. At Kulamadau is a sawmill run by D. Neate where mainly Eboni is exported to Japan.

8. Commerce and Industry. There is only one tradestore in the area patrolled that is at Kulamadau Plantation where it seems the source of livelihood of many people on Woodlark Island originates. At Kulamadau Plantation D. Neate runs a sawmill with approximately 20 workers mainly local and the main timber exported is Eboni to Japan via Sydney, although other hardwood is cut but on a smaller scale. Also Mr. Neate manages a small plantation at Loanni (Near Kauwaivillage) with approximately 20 contract labourers from Esa'Ala Sub-District and his vessel "Murua" does trading and buys Copra off villages between Guasopa and Madau (near Muniveio village).

It seems that the biggest cash earning industry for the people of Woodlark is wood carving (walking sticks, dishes, pigs fish, busts etcetera) and virtually all buying of these carvings (mainly Eboni) is through Mr. Neate's store where they are then packed and sent to Moresby and sold through the Girl Guides Association to tourists.

In the mid 1900's gold was found at Kulamadau and there was approximately 1000 people (Europeans) at Kulamadau mining. This figure dwindled as the main lode was worked out and alluvial gold remained, and at break of first World War there were approximately 200 Europeans remaining. Forty at beginning of second World War till early 1950's when all mining stopped and the only family to remain were the Neate family.

There are two small plantations (Copra) near Loanni plantation, one is run by a Mix-Race named Watkins and the other by an old ex-Kulamadau miner named Arthur Dawkins.

Another important industry is the Kula Trading done by the people of Woodlark Island and its surrounding Islands where the people of one area visit another and trade (usually travel by canoe and trade items such as pigs, poultry, canoes, various vegetables etcetera).

9. Land Most of the land on Woodlark Island is Government owned (purchased early 20th Century) except for a few areas in the centre of the Island behind Kulamadau and secondly near Guasopa Patrol

Land cont... Post but the people seem to have adequate land for their use although some villages are on Government land.

10. Rest houses Allvillage rest houses were in good conditions with the exception of Ungonam village where the present rest house has collapsed.

11. Carriers. Carriers used on the Patrol were very easy to hire and volunteered freely. the rate of pay was 1/- per hour

12. Health. the health of the people in the villages visited was good with no signs of any infectious diseases present.

13. Education. In the Woodlark area Patrolled there are only two schools, one at Guasopa which is Government run by two teachers up to standard 2 is taught. The other school at Wabununu village is a Methodist school teaching also to standard Two. In most villages Prep classes are run unofficially by Methodist Mission.

14. Roads and Bridges, At Kulamadau Plantation there is about 10 mile of vehicular road, but on the rest of the Island there are only walking tracks. Due to bad weather conditions during South East Season which blows for 7 months of the year, travelling by boat is restricted to a few days per month. This travel problem could be overcome by improvement of these tracks firstly to a standard suitable for motorcycles etc and then a second stage to a vehicular road system. This could be done possibly by the Murua Local Government Council with aid from ~~the~~ Public Works Department. The most important road would be between Kulamadau Plantation and Guasopa Patrol Post. Kulamadau Plantation is the Central point where all tracks leading to other mainland villages, also it is the bases of the peoples economy and there is an airstrip at Guasopa (see commerce). The present track from Kulamadau Pl. to Guasopa (20 miles approximately) is not in very good condition and is apparently difficult to walk. However the first three miles is made road (Kulamadau Pl. road) and this passes through the the most difficult terrain and from the end of the road it is mostly flat ground. One good reason for opening up this road would be that the Patrol Officer would not be restricted to the Guasopa Station because of bad weather or lack of transport, and could be in close contact with mainland people all the time during the South East season and possibly Patrol by boat when weather improves to outer islands.

15. Missions. The Denomination of the Woodlark people is the Methodist Mission which is represented in all villages.

A Mr. David Lithglow and wife Daphne who have lived at Wabununu village for the past four years studying the language of Woodlark for a Translation to the New Testament which is supposed to be completed in another five years.



16 Airfields . There is one airfield on Woodlark Island and that is at Guasopa Patrol Post (built during 2nd World War) and comes under category B and is used mainly by charter flights.

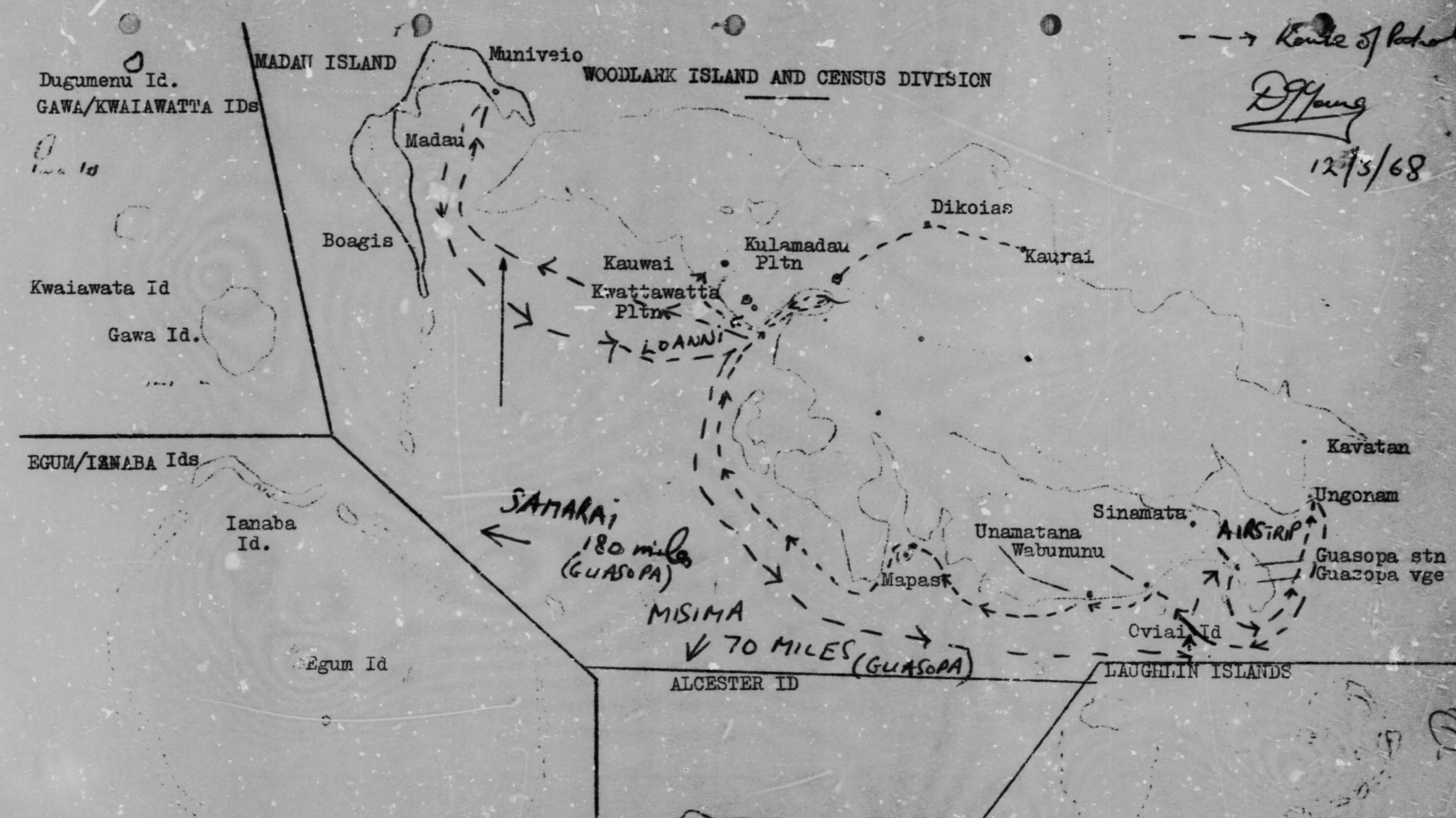
17. Census . The two noticeable changes in population of the people of Woodlark Island were, firstly that there was a considerable gap of children of both sexes between the ages of 12 to 17 as there were very few children in this age group, although there were many children below 12 years of age (Approximately 35% of villagers at first sight) . Secondly the proportion of adult males as compared with females was quite significant as 242 males voted at Election polling places visited compared with 171 females ( Every person man or woman capable of voting voted at Elections and not one declined to vote) . This means that there are approximately 29% more men than women in the villages visited and unless women are brought from outlying Islands and Trobriands (whom the people of Woodlark Trade (KULA) with) population problems will arise.

18. Personnel Constable Gabadi Karaoa (1147 ) conduct was excellent throughout Patrol and he was very efficient in his work.

19. Conclusion . The Polling for The House of Assembly Elections 1968 was held at 11 villages mainly on mainland of Woodlark Island between 15/2/68 to 4/3/68. No outstanding incidence occurred during polling . On Three occasions people who voted under sect 130(1) (names omitted) placed their ballot papers in ballot box separately from envelope. Also on one occasion whilst returning ballot boxes and patrol equipment to vessel "Murua" dinghy was swamped at Wabununu but no damage was done to ballot papers or equipment. A total of 413 people voted at the Elections (Males 242 and Females 171 ). There was 13 Absentee voters (Males only ) and 44 voters under Sect. 130(1) . 68 males and 7 females voted unaided , a percentage of 18.

Attendance was very good and interest shown in Elections, as most eligible voters voted (90 percent).

.....  
 (D.J. YOUNG) Patrol Officer.



---> Route of patrol  
 D. Young  
 12/5/68

Positions of outer islands not accurate.

Handwritten initials or signature in the bottom right corner.