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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: EAST SEPIK

STATION: AMBUNTI

VOLUME No: 10

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1963 - 1964

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORTS
SOUTH SEPIK DISTRICT
AMBUNTI 1963/64

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled.</u>
1-63/64	H.W.Gill	Wongamusen Census Division
3-63/64	W.H.Heathcote	✓ Chambri Lakes Census Division
7-63/64	H.W.Gill	✓ Part Chambri Lakes, Main River and Rurui-Kunai C.D.s, part Upper Sepik and Yessar-Maio Cens Divs.
9-63/64	W.H.Heathcote	✓ May River Patrol Post
10-63/64	W.H.Heathcote	Waskuk Hills and Numau Ablatak C.D.s
11-63/64	H.W.Gill	✓ Part May River Local and Wongamusen Census Divisions
12-63/64	H.W.Gill	✓ Chambri Lakes Census Division
14-63/64	W.H.Heathcote	✓ Main River Census Division
15-63/64	W.H.Heathcote	Waskuk Hills, Numau Ablatak, Upper Sepik, and Wagu-Yigei C.D.s
16-63/64	W.H.Heathcote	✓ Burui Kunai Census Division
18-63/64	W.H.Heathcote	Upper Leonard Schultze River



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

PATROL REPORT

District of SOUTH SEPIK (AMBUNTI) Report No. 1 of 1963-1964

Patrol Conducted by H.W.GILL Cadet Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled WONGAMUSEN CENSUS DIVISION (SY55)

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans -----

Natives 1 Const 1st class, 1 constable RP&NGC,
1 Aid Post Orderly.

Duration—From 10 / 7 / 19 63 to 24 / 7 / 19 63

Number of Days Fifteen

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services / 9 - 10 / 19 62

Medical ... / 6 / 19 63

Map Reference AMBUNTI SHEET ARMY FOURMIL 1943

Objects of Patrol CENSUS REVISION, COMMON ROLL COMPILATION and ROUTINE
ADMINISTRATION.

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 ... £.....

.....

.....

.....

Village Popul

Year.....
1963

WONGAMUSEN CENSUS DIVISION ST

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	BIRTHS		DEATHS														MIG In				
				0-1 Mth.		0-1 Year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth						
		M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F		M		F			
BIAGA	19/7	-	-																			
CHENAPIAN	17/7	-	1			1												1				
KUBKAIN	17/7	-	2					1										1	2 3			
OUM I	14/7	3	2															1				
OUM II	13/7	3	2					2	2										1			
SWAGUP	22/7	1	1															2	1 1			
TAURI	12/7	3	4					1 (duplication)										1	1			
WASKUK	21/7	1	-																1			
YAMBUNUMBU	19/7	1	1																5			
YAUENIAN	15/7	4	5															2				
TOTALS		16	18			1		2	3									2	5	2	3	1

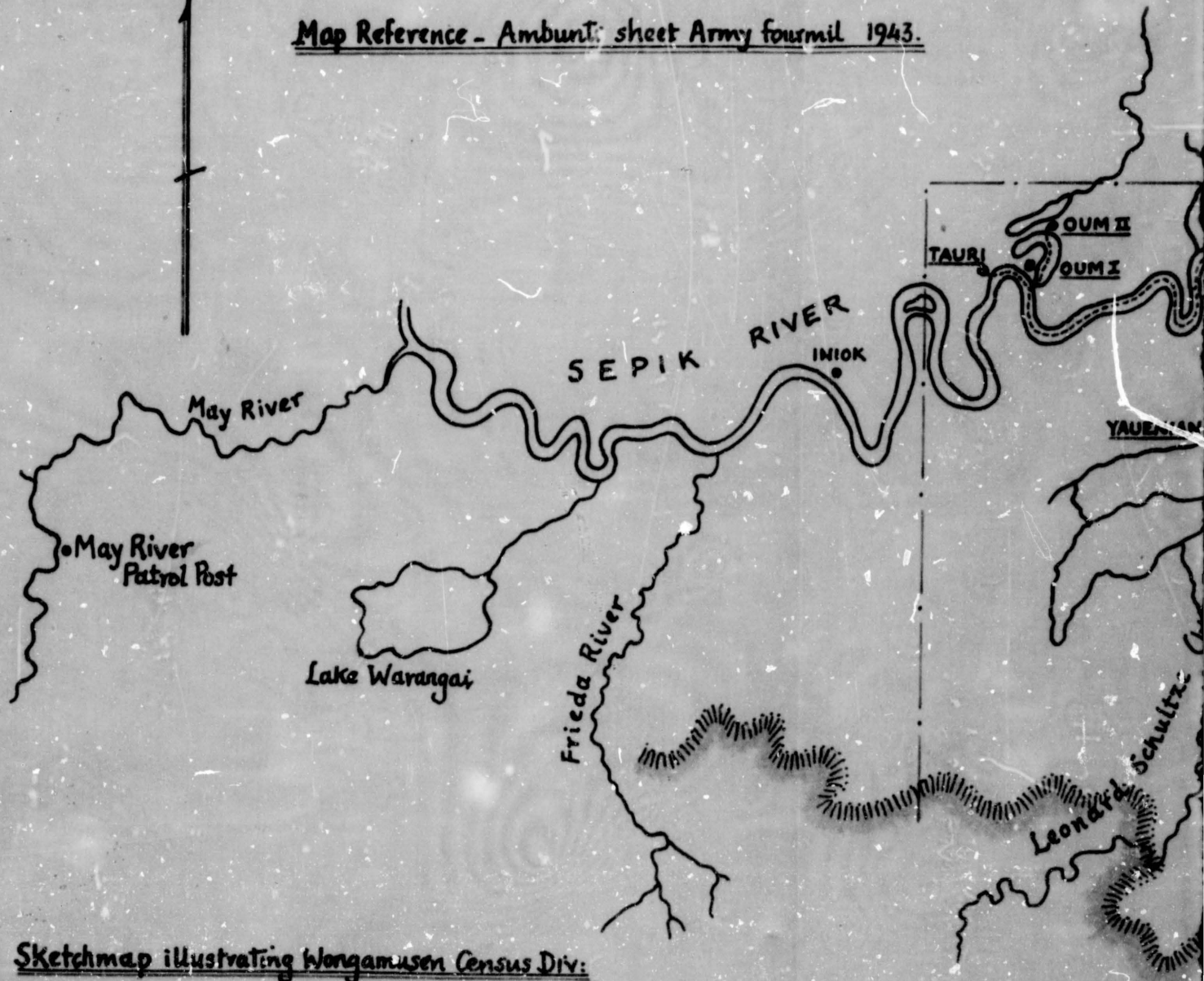
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N.B Duplications-

At the following villages duplications of names were

Figures to accompany Patrol Report Ambunti no. 1 of 1963-4

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Map Reference - Ambunti: sheet Army fourmil 1943.

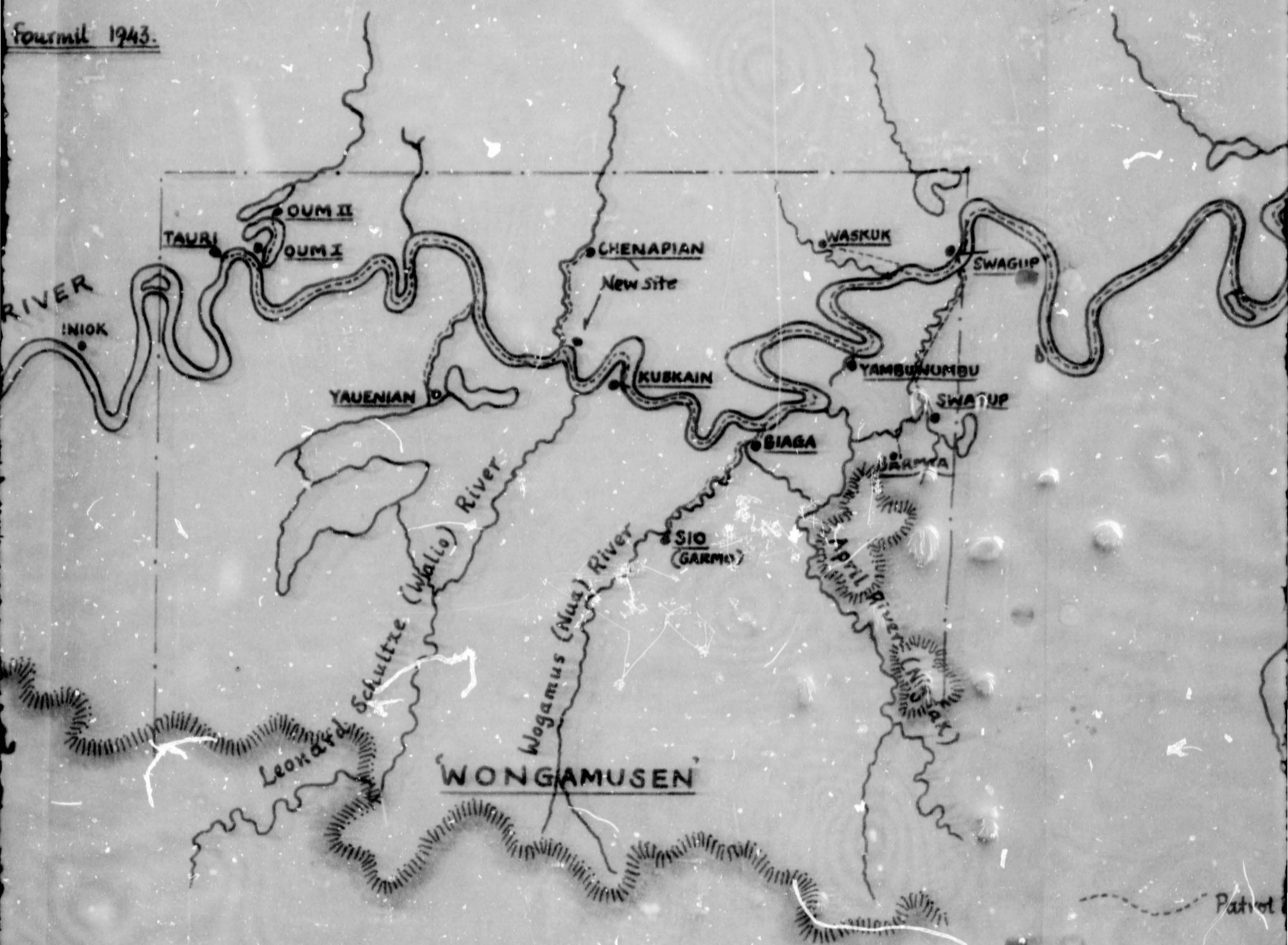


Sketchmap illustrating Wongamusen Census Div:

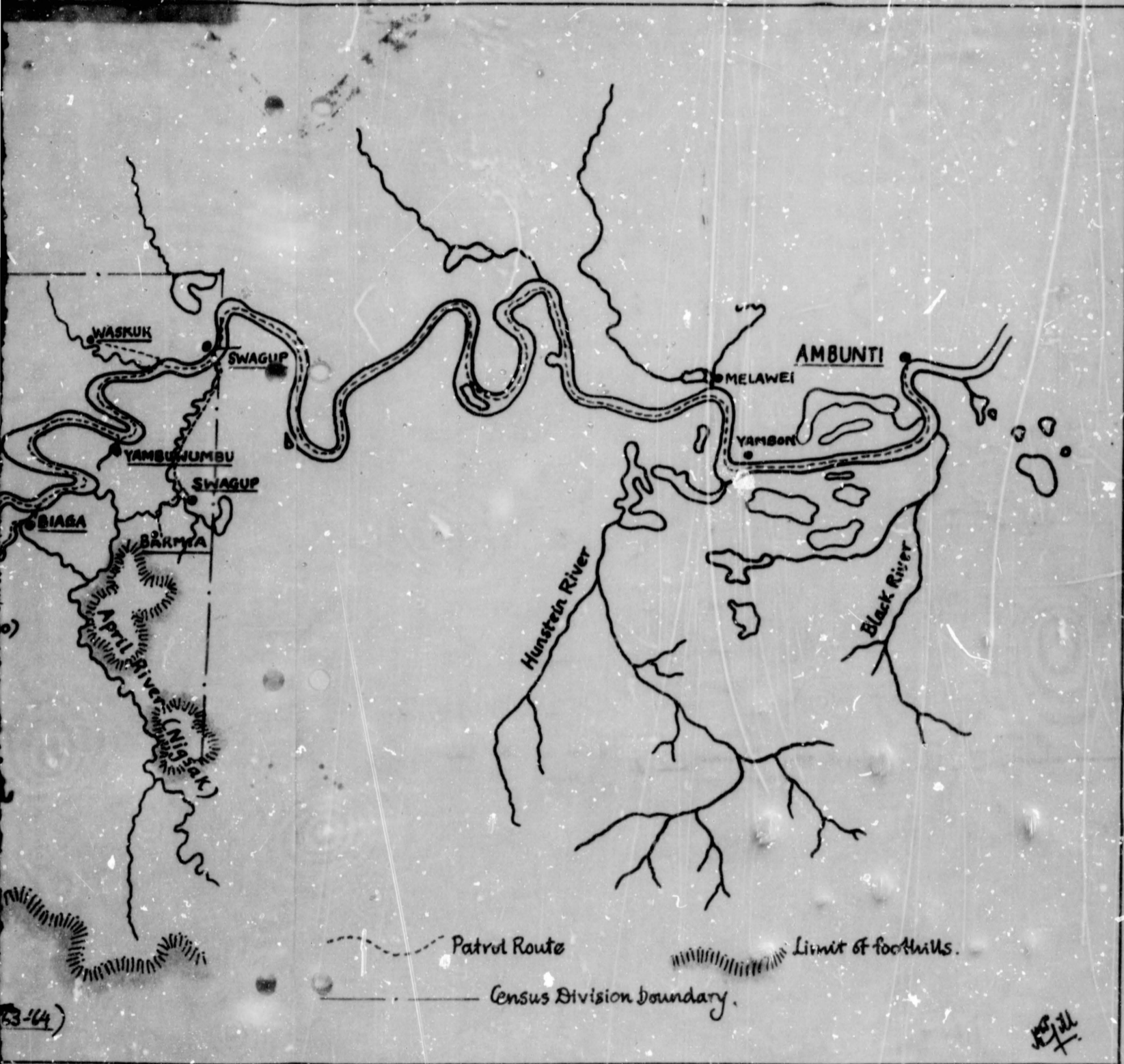
Scale 4 mi. to 1 in.

(Sketchmap to accompany...)

Fourmil 1943.



(Sketchmap to accompany Patrol Report Ambunti 1 of '63-64)



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15/21

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67-8-6

11th October 1963.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
WEWAK.

AMBUNTI PATROL REPORT 1-63/64:

This well present report and clear illustrating map is typical of the good quality work I have already come to expect from Mr. Gill.

2. I agree that personal tax should be introduced to WONGALUSE as an indication to the people that they are expected to contribute to community services and welfare and a rate of 10/- seems reasonable.

3. It is noted that matters concerning other Departments have been referred to them at the District level. The big task ahead of the Education Department is again illustrated and no doubt District plans include the extension of facilities to the WONGAMUW division on some sort of priority basis.

4. Mr. Gill has carried out a useful patrol. There does not appear to be any need for specific action at Headquarters level on matters raised.

(J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

✓ Per under sep. recommendations

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.

10th August, 1963.

67-1-1.

The District Officer,
Sepik District,
Wewak.

Patrol Ambunti No. 1/63-64 : WONGAMUSEN Divn.

The abovementioned report of a patrol conducted by Cadet Patrol Officer H.W. Gill last month is forwarded for your attention, please. This report was mounted immediately after my arrival here, and as it was one of a series primarily for preparation of the Common Roll in conjunction with tax/census, patrol instructions (written) were not prepared. However, Mr. Gill, who is already familiar with the whole Subdistrict, was verbally briefed.

While being a routine patrol, it is apparent that care was taken by the officer that essential aspects of native administration were attended to at all villages, and the whole patrol was of sufficient duration for this. I am pleased that the patrol remained in the village after instructions had been given for rehabilitation or improvement, not necessarily to be the "policeman", but to show that we were interested in the effect of the instructions. Recently, word has reached me that the people of some areas resent instructions concerning repair or renewal of houses etc. and it seems to me that we must not ever neglect the public relations side of our job.

Education is badly needed in this area, and is the only thing that can dispel the sway of sorcery. As Mr. Gill says, a period of indenture does not act this way, and may even reinforce the belief in sorcery, when young men come under the influence of elder sorcerers at work, when they are permanently in close contact. It is to be hoped that the Education Department can provide more trained teachers to open up some of the many schools needed in the Subdistrict.

The necessity of completing the Common Roll has meant that we have had to defer attention to the HITARA and other groups along the April and Leonard Schultze Rivers, but these have certainly not been forgotten. Meanwhile, it was good that Mr. Gill visited the SIO and the small HITARA group.

The discussion about migration on page 9 of the report appears eminently sensible to me; land rights ought to

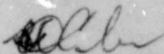
(2)

investigated in such cases; however, to minimise future disputes.

Regarding taxation, the income of the people appears to be low, and it seems adviseable to press the people to invest in the purchase of coconut seedlings so as to build up a future income. An object of future patrols to this and other Census Divisions should be to assess all the resources, including the amount of arable land, so that we can plan for accelerated economic development. I have previously recommended that a survey be requested of the Department of Agriculture, Stock and Fisheries, embracing this Subdistrict.

Commendation of IMAR, Aid Post Orderly, is being passed to the Medical Assistant, Native Hospital Ambunti.

A patrol which has been well carried out and excellently reported.



(D.A. McCabe)
Assistant District Officer.

File Ref : 67-2-1

District Office,
Wewik,
South Sepik District.

10th Sept., 1963.

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI No.1-63/68 - WONGAMUSEN CENSUS
DIVISION : Mr. H.W. GILL, CADET PATROL OFFICER.

Mr. Gill has again carried out a most thorough patrol and written an excellent report of it. As usual, his accompanying sketch map is very neatly done.

I was particularly pleased to read that Mr. Gill had taken the trouble to visit hamlets and villages "off the beaten track"; interest of this kind shown in these people can only react to the good of administration.

The native situation is normal for the degree and length of contact and the lack of sophistication of the people.

That the poor crocodile season is said to be due to a lack of customary high water throughout the year is interesting. On my own trip from Ambunti to May River earlier there were bitter complaints against traders who, the Wongamusen alleged, were invading the more primitive areas off the river and thus depriving them of the skins to which they alone had previously had access. The specific ground of their complaint was that their own waters had been trapped and shot out in previous years when these same traders had bought their skins for much lower prices, "before they understood the value of crocodile skins" - they now wished similarly to exploit their more primitive neighbours, themselves, and deny the traders the privilege of doing so!

138 ^{absent} absentee labourers out of a total adult able-bodied male population of 524, or 21%, do not give cause for any concern. Where the avenues and the scope for advancement and development of any kind are as limited and restricted as they at present are in this area, the younger men at least are acquiring some wider knowledge otherwise denied to them, and if sufficient numbers of them eventually, within the acceptable limit at any given time of about one third, go out to work this eventually must have some leavening effect on the traditional conservatism of these river communities.

The sections on Native cash crops and on Medical and Health will be extracted and made available to the relevant district representatives. The entire Ambunti area would benefit from the stationing there of an Agricultural officer, but in the meantime Native Affairs Officers must continue to do what they can to persuade, induce and assist the people in the river villages to plant coconuts.

Personal tax should be introduced to the Wongamusen as soon as possible. I realise that common roll commitments have not made possible the carrying out of an investigation into this matter this year, but there seems little doubt to me that these people could afford a tax of ten shillings, paid out of the proceeds of crocodile skins and labouring wages. It should be appreciated that the introduction of personal tax does not constitute solely a revenue raising matter - it is also a first step in the direction of educating the people in the responsibilities of citizenship, a step which can be taken before the introduction of the more refined educational processes involved in local government and which will ~~prepare~~ prepare them for it. Properly used, the taxation tribunal system ensures that no hardship results from the introduction of

67.8.6



- 2 -

personal tax.

Future patrols to the WONGAMUSEN, and for that matter, other river census divisions, should, with the elections out of the way, make every endeavour to bring those villages and hamlets lying off the river but within reasonable access from it within the normal administrative pattern of the census divisions - for example the lower Leonard Schultz and Wongamus, etc., rivers.

G. Linsley
District Officer.

→ c.c. : The Director,
Dept. of Native Affairs,
Konedobu.

67-1-1

Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI,
Sepik District.

12th August, 1963.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
WEWAK.

Patrol Ambunti No. 1/63-64 - WONGAMUSEN Division.

With reference to Mr. Gill's remarks on page one of his Diary for 11th July, 1963, the matter was investigated at AUOM, though no action was taken against the man NABWI-NAIDI as he had run away prior to the patrol's arrival. The facts of the matter were written in the village book for attention by the next Patrol Officer to be stationed at May River.

The facts are as follows. NABWI-NAIDI of AUOM had attacked his wife, HARNIA-HAINU; when the village officials wanted to bring the complaint to the Administration for settlement, NABWI resisted their attempts and threatened to spear anyone who came near him.

As NABWI had run away prior to the Patrol's arrival and it was not practicable to pursue him at the time due to Common Roll commitments, the matter has been noted in the "Matters for Attention" file and will be dealt with when an Officer is again posted to May River.

The patrol's reception at AUOM village was very good, only NABWI being absent.

For your information.

B. McCabe

B. McCabe
Assistant District Officer.

PATROL REPORT NO: I of 1963-1964

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: H.W.Gill C.P.O.

AREA PATROLLED: WONGAMUSEN CENSUS DIVISION
(SY55)

NUMBER OF DAYS: FIFTEEN

OBJECTS OF PATROL: CENSUS, COMMON ROLL, ROUTINE
ADMINISTRATION.

LAST PATROL TO AREA: SEPT/OCT. 1962 DNA
JUNE 1963 PHD.

-

- PATROL DIARY -

Wednesday, 10th July, 1963.

0730. Departed AMBUNTI in single outboard-powered canoe.
0840. Brief stop at YAMBON to offload passenger.
0900. Rendezvoused with Mr O.KOOYERS of S.I.L. MELAWEI.
1045. Brief stop at YESSAN.
1445. Called in at SWAGUP.
1945. Arrived KUBKAIN. Overnight.

Thursday, 11th July, 1963.

0715. Departed KUBKAIN.
1030. Arrived TAURI. Set up camp and spread word re Patrol.
1235. To INIOK, arriving 1445. Offloaded repatriates. Interviewed INIOK motor man- to be charged for failing to appear to have smallpox vaccination previous PHD Patrol, June. Investigated reports of man from AUM village upstream who was apparently waiting to attack next Patrol. Matter to be referred to a/ADO Mr COCHRANE, following behind.
Returned TAURI, ARRIVING BACK at 1635. Informal talks with V.Os. Remained overnight.

Friday, 12th July, 1963.

0730. Villagers assembled. Census revised. Common Roll compiled. Health checked by APO IMAR of TAURI.
1100. Inspected village and Aid Post. Organised a cleanup works programme for the day. APO to preparing gear to accompany the Patrol. One constable remaining to supervise work.
1200. Departed TAURI. Met houseboat coming upstream. Mr COCHRANE and Patrol personnel aboard. Returned with houseboat to TAURI. Lunched with Mr COCHRANE.
1500. Houseboat departed upriver en route May River, Yellow River. Self continued on to OUM NoII, arriving 1535. Set up camp and brief village inspection carried out. Remainder of day spent typing Common Roll and informal talks with people. Overnight.

Saturday, 13th July, 1963.

0730. Villagers assembled. Census revised. Common Roll compiled. Health checked by APO. One complaint heard. Thorough inspection of village and works programme issued.
1000. Departed for OUM No I, arriving there at 1025. Set up camp. P.M spent in village. Informal talks with people. One complaint settled. Remainder of day spent typing Common Roll. Overnight.

Sunday, 14th July, 1963.

0730. Villagers assembled. Census carried out. Common Roll compiled. Health inspection by APO. No complaints.
0930. All adult males to go to OUM NoII to join with men of No II in project cutting small canal - to save travelling time for ships and canoes between villages. 1030 inspected village and had talks with V.Os before leaving for OUM No II at 1145.

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PATROL DIARY cont'd.

Sunday, 14th July, 1963. cont'd.

1210. Back at OUM No II. Inspected work on canal. Left at 1220.
1315. Arrived YAUENIAN. Set up camp. P.M spent in informal talks with V.Os and in typing Common Roll. Remained overnight.

Monday, 15th July, 1963.

0730. Census revised and Common Roll compiled. Health checked by APO. One complaint settled. Inspected village - good state.
1115. Left for CHENAPIAN.
1200. Arrived CHENAPIAN. Stream very dry. 1315 reached village. Set up camp. Villagers to cleaning village - in bad condition. P.M Informal talks with V.Os and typed Common Roll. Overnight.

Tuesday, 16th July, 1963.

All day spent at CHENAPIAN. Information gathered for ASOPA Anthropology assignment. Informal talks with people. Inspected village in p.m. Villagers express their intention of moving to Sepik river bank site. Some men to clearing the stream of snags.
1600. V.Os of OUM villages reported to say that the canal had been completed successfully. Remained overnight at CHENAPIAN.

Wednesday, 17th July, 1963.

0730. Census revised. Common Roll compiled. Health checked by APO. People ask for a new Tultul to be appointed. No further complaints.
0850. Departed for KUBKAIN. Arrived at mouth of CHENAPIAN stream at 0945. Water level fallen overnight. strong current.
1005. Arrived at KUBKAIN. Set up camp and typed out Common Roll.
1200. JAPANDAI village motor canoe called in en route May River with benzine for Mr COCHRANE.
1445. Census revised and Common Roll compiled. Health check by APO. Complaints heard re migrations to nearby villages. Inspected village - good. Remainder of evening typed Common Roll. Overnight.

Thursday, 18th July, 1963.

0730. Departed KUBKAIN.
0800. Arrived BIAGA. Patrol gear and passengers offloaded. One police constable left at BIAGA with gear to set up camp.
0815. Self, two police and APO departed up the WOGAMUS (NUA) river. 1030. Arrived at GARMO, hamlet of SIO. Not yet censused but twice visited. Assembled inhabitants. Medical inspection carried out and sores treated. Several to go to AMBUNTI later for hospital treatment. Informal talks with people using BIAGA interpreters. 1330. Left GARMO and returned to BIAGA by 1530. Word brought that a P.I.R Patrol had reached KUBKAIN during the day. Remained overnight at BIAGA.

PATROL DIARY cont'd

Friday, 19th July, 1963.

0730. Villagers assembled. Census revised and Common Roll made out. Health check by APO. Inspected village and issued works programme.

0945. Departed for YAMBUNUMBU. Dry water and unable to reach the village itself. 15 min walk across sandbanks.

1030. Villagers assembled and routine census carried out. Common Roll compiled and health checked. Two cases for AMBUNTI hospital. Inspected village-poor condition.

1215. Departed for WASKUK.

1300. Arrived WASKUK Sepik river site (rest house site). Unable proceed up stream to village owing to low water level and snags. Set up camp and had the place cleaned and latrines built. Rest of day spent typing and in informal talks with villagers, V.Os. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 20th July, 1963.

0700. Villagers to cutting a road into the village from the rest house site. Self to gathering information for and compiling an essay - Geography assignment for ASOPA. Enquiries made re SENGRU, hamlet between here and YAUNGET in NUMAU-ABLATAK area.

P.M. to village by bush path. Inspected village and returned down stream by paddle canoe. Remained overnight at WASKUK.

Sunday, 21st July, 1963.

0715. Villagers assembled at rest house site. Census revised and Common Roll compiled. Health check by APO. Complaints heard.

0900. Departed for SWAGUP, arriving at 1115 (Sepik river site).

Unable to proceed up SWAGUP stream - water dry in channel. Set up camp at new rest house on Sepik bank opposite mouth of stream. Remainder of day to typing Common Roll and in informal talks with Luluai. Remained overnight at SWAGUP.

Monday, 22nd July, 1963.

0715. Departed rest house site in motor canoe. 10 mins run down stream to mouth of bush track. Walked from there in to SWAGUP main village, arriving approx. 0830. Road very bad.

0830. Villagers assembled and census revised and Common Roll compiled. Health checked by APO. Inspected the village and issued a comprehensive works programme - the first for a number

of years. All villagers to cleaning up the village under supervision. Self to typing out Common Roll and amending village books. Work in village continued until 1700. Model latrine constructed by Patrol personnel.

1630. Self, Police cpl, Luluai and Tultul and interpreters by paddle canoe up right hand arm of SWAGUP stream for short way then overland to visit newly revealed group of BATARA folk living in thick sago swamp. Contact made with ten people and two isolated dwellings seen. Returned to SWAGUP by 1830. Inspected work carried out in my absence. Returned to Sepik site by 1945. Luluai's wife very ill. Remained overnight.

PATROL DIARY cont'd.

Tuesday, 23rd July, 1963.

0715. Canoe despatched to AMBUNTI to take Luluai's wife to hospital. Sent word for a canoe from a downriver village to come back to pick us up later in the day.
All morning spent talking to village men and in clearing a site for a new rest house. Talks given on village maintenance.
1350. YESSAN village motor canoe arrived up to collect us.
Departed SWAGUP at 1400. Non-stop to MELAWEI. Remained overnight.
Visited Mr and Mrs O.KOOYERS of S.I.L.

Wednesday, 24th July, 1963.

0830. Departed MELAWEI.
0900. Short stop at YAMBON.
1030. Arrived back at AMBUNTI. Patrol stood down.

END OF PATROL DIARY.

INTRODUCTION.

The Patrol visited the WONGAMUSEN Census Division.

There are ten villages in the division, four of which are either on or near to the banks of the SEPIK, the other six being situated off the river and accessible by water channels or lakes. The total population is about seventeen hundred.

Approximately sixty miles of river travel is involved between TAURI, the first village visited by the Patrol, and located on an inlet off the left bank of the SEPIK some forty miles downstream from the mouth of the MAY river, and SWAGUP village at the Eastern extremity of the Census division. All villages are reached by water transport except at times of unusually low water.

Three sizeable tributaries - the LEONARD SCHULTZ (Walio), WOGAMUS (Nua) and APRIL (Nigsak) rivers flow from the South to join the SEPIK near KUEKAIN and BIAGA respectively. These are generally fast flowing rivers, subject to flash flooding and navigation on them is made hazardous by the abundance of snags and shallows - especially in their upper reaches.

The Patrol was commenced on Wednesday, 10th July, 1963. Its objects were to revise census figures, compile a common electoral roll and carry out routine administration. A single, outboard-powered dugout canoe was used for the duration of the Patrol.

The last Native Affairs Patrol to this Census Division was conducted by myself in September/October of 1962 (see Patrol Report Ambunti number 5 of 1962/63.)

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Few changes have taken place in the WONGAMUSEN since last year. The area still remains backward and little noticeable progress has been made by the people in the past twelve months to raise themselves from their state of economic depression despite the considerable encouragement and attention given them in the way of advancing their practically non-existent cash cropping by the advocacy of extensive planting of coconut seedlings, which are readily available at low cost from the agricultural nurseries at AMBUNTI. Nevertheless, a start has been made, however small, and the suggestion was repeated during the course of the Patrol that more serious attempts be made at getting coconut gardens underway in the near future.

This has been a comparatively poor crocodile season. The lack of high water throughout the year has caused a marked decrease in the numbers of skins taken. It is believed that the prolonged drought in the early months of the year coupled with the generally low level of the SEPIK since then, has been responsible for the isolation of crocodiles which, inhabiting the more remote and inaccessible swamp areas well away from the SEPIK, are usually flushed out with the periodic and customary rising of the river. These crocodiles have been cut off from the lakes and marshes immediately adjacent to the river villages with the result that the perpetual flow of crocodiles from the hinterland to the river has been temporarily interrupted. One consolation lies in the supposition that the next high water will draw out the substantial number of crocodiles which may have been left behind this time.

The shortage of skins, at a time when prices are the highest they have ever stood, is something of a frustration to the people, although they shrug it off with little expression of concern. I feel it will hit the more sophisticated Middle Sepik natives harder than these Wongamusen people, who have not yet acquired such wealth and to whom the lapse in income would not mean so much.

Absentee male adults, recruited as indentured labour, were as numerous as ever and I see no likelihood of a reduction in numbers in years to come. Aside from what they derive from the sale of crocodile skins, there is at present and in the foreseeable future no source of income open to the Wongamusen other than that of wages received as a plantation labourer. The majority of the young men in the villages seek work outside the District not only in order to broaden their outlook but, primarily, to earn a small sum with which to furnish themselves with a few everyday necessities such as a wife and a bush knife. There seems to be no great yearning for material wealth amongst these people and, even if the slogan 'taim bilong bisnis' is repeatedly voiced, it is no more than an echo of the catch phrase that has been coined elsewhere and has found its way upriver, losing its meaning en route. The impression I gained was that, with the odd exception, the people are content to pursue their traditional pattern of existence, while agreeable to acquiring what they can in the way of trade goods and articles of clothing. They are certainly not straining at the leash with money hunger. In many instances, notably amongst the older village men, no desire whatsoever for material advancement or improved standards of living was evident.

NATIVE AFFAIRS Cont'd

Scarcely any complaints were brought to the notice of the Patrol. There is a welcome absence of land disputes in this area, probably because of the small population groups and the abundance of land that they have at their disposal. Any complaints referred to me were of a minor nature and were able to be dealt with satisfactorily on the spot. I have a suspicion, however, that a good many local troubles are withheld from the attentions of patrolling officers not because they wish to raise them is not there but because the complainants are afraid of the powers of sorcery that may be used upon them if they expose their particular troubles.

The fear of sorcery is still widespread. A typical illustration of this fact was seen at one of the OUM villages. Here enquiries were made as to why a dilapidated and insanitary dwelling house, marked for destruction last year, had not yet been pulled down. The answer was that a male ancestor's jaw bone, contained in a small, woven bag and suspended from a hook in the house, was preventing the demolition squad from tackling the job by the magical properties it possessed. Once this obstacle had been removed from the house the way became clear. The jaw bone had been held responsible for the deaths of a woman and three infants, who had entered the house. In actual fact, they had been the victims of severe dysentery.

The Luluai of SWAGUP explained to me that the chief reason for the lack of complaints being brought to the office at AMBUNTI for settlement was this dread of sorcery and of the reprisals village officials feared if they were to report incidents, however trivial, to the administration. He himself had been threatened with sorcery on numerous occasions and dared to take no action about it. Apparently the usage of sorcery is by no means confined to the older men. Young men only recently returned from plantations are as much mixed up in it and entertain as much respect for it as anyone else in these parts.

This feeling is not as strong in the few villages where mission teachers are established but it is a thing which will take a long time to break down. A Seventh Day Adventist native mission representative has taken up residence at SWAGUP old village within the last few months. How much influence he has been able to exert is hard to assess and it may or may not be coincidence that, since his arrival, a slight but noticeable change in the attitude of the people has taken place. Although they remain somewhat withdrawn and very independent, the SWAGUP seem less anxious to stay buried in their old village and less restrained when discussing local matters. One is no longer openly discouraged from going to visit them in their village off the Sepik. Last year, deliberate attempts were made to prevent the Patrol from moving up the waterway that leads to the old village. Quantities of croton leaves, obviously freshly cut in the village, were floated downstream with the object of fouling the propeller of the outboard motor. In contrast to this, the Patrol was extremely well received this time and the people were most cooperative and eager to please. Whether this is due to the presence of the mission or whether it is due to the fact that it was the second Patrol to the place by the same officer, I do not know.

NATIVE AFFAIRS Cont'd

One SWAGUP man, BARIANWO, is married to a BITARA woman and, while the Patrol was at SWAGUP, another BITARA woman walked into the village accompanied by her husband. It was learned that they came from a new, temporary settlement used by three families of BITARA, whose real home is believed to be one of the villages recently contacted on the April river. A short excursion was made to this settlement, which is located in the middle of dense sago swamp only fifty minutes from SWAGUP itself. It consists of three very frail shelters, damp and without walls, sited about two hundred yards apart amongst the sago palms. Contact was made with ten people - three men, three women and four children - all of whom were friendly. They are nomadic types who appear to wander at will and subsist almost entirely on sago. The settlement has no official name but is situated in an area of sago known locally as BARMIA. Since BARIANWO is married to one of the women met here, it is not unlikely that the others will elect to stay permanently in the SWAGUP vicinity. BARIANWO was quite keen that their names be recorded in the census register but this was not done as it was felt that they might prefer to move back to their own area later on.

From BIAGA a quick trip was made to SIO, the first village up the WOGAMUS (Nuz.) river. The Sio are now building up a hamlet at a site known as 'GARMO', some two and a quarter hours' travel from the mouth of the river by canoes. Owing to the shallowness of water in the river, the Patrol was unable to proceed beyond GARMO, so it was not possible to go to SIO village itself, which is situated quite a distance up MELIFA creek, a tributary joining the WOGAMUS further upstream.

SIO is seldom visited because of its comparative inaccessibility and, although an initial census was taken at the main village early this year, it is not yet officially included in the itinerary of any routine river Patrol. In view of this, it was quite surprising that practically the total population of sixty five was assembled and waiting on the banks at GARMO when the Patrol arrived. Apparently the word had been spread from BIAGA that a Patrol was in the area. A lulusi was appointed at SIO by Assistant District Officer Mr J.D.Martin last year.

SIO people have had indirect contact with the Sepik for some time, as is evident by the quantities of trade goods and lava lava material seen. These articles are generally second-hand from the trade store at KUBKAIN, being traded in by natives from that village and from BIAGA in exchange for sago. Several men from SIO have been away to work on plantations. Health in the hamlet was not the best and treatment was given to a number of people suffering from shocking tropical ulcers. No cases of yaws were observed.

At WAKSIK, enquiries were made concerning a small place, SENGRW, mentioned in the village book only once, in 1956, and supposed to lie a day's walk to the North. According to the WASKUK, this place was abandoned some time ago, the inhabitants migrating in a North Easterly direction to BAIMLU, which is now a hamlet of YAUNGET (MARUO) in the NUMAU-ABLATAK census division. (See Patrol Report Ambunti No 12 of 1962-'63).

In contrast to this migration away from the river, the people of CHENAPIAN, at present living in a village well off the left bank of the SEPIK, up a long, winding stream, are moving out

NATIVE AFFAIRS Cont'd.

to the river's edge. Five houses have already been erected at the new site and it is expected that the move will have been completed before too long. The SWAGUP, also, are continuing a very hesitant migration to the SEPIK site established by their Luluai. Two or three men expressed their intentions to build houses there this time and a large rest house is now under construction.

Encouragement was given to the suggestion of all these moves as it was felt that, once permanently on the SEPIK, the people will be in a better economic position. They will be, as it were, on the main highway, which will be more advantageous to them in many ways. However, no pressure was put upon individuals for such moves to be enforced if they themselves did not consider them to be worthwhile. To up sticks and shift their whole domain to a new site is a large undertaking for any people, particularly these, whose present villages are not sited where they are without good reason, being located conveniently close to their sago supplies. To settle on the SEPIK will mean that they will be at a greater distance from their sago and garden areas and this will entail more effort for them in the future. Thus, the fact that they are moving of their own volition is an indication that the pros and cons of the scheme have been thought over by them and that they have concluded that the compensations to be afforded by the moves on the one hand outweigh the handicaps confronting them on the other. I think the tendency for groups to consolidate on the SEPIK is inevitable and is probably a good thing.

As a whole, the Native affairs position is satisfactory. The area is being patrolled regularly. BIAGA has been visited two or three times during the year by government officers as it was the village from which both Patrols to the APRIL and WOGAMUS rivers began their homeward journeys to AMBUNTI. SWAGUP old village has been visited once since last year's Patrol and the Luluai's camp on the SEPIK is frequently used as a night stop by workboats on the MAY RIVER run. KUBKAIN, too, has received a number of visits over the last few months from officers going to and from MAY RIVER. On top of this, there has been a Health Patrol to the area recently and agriculture department field workers have been to all villages.

This Patrol was carried out in an unhurried manner. In most cases a full day was spent at each village. A flag ceremony was held every evening. The reception given to the Patrol was good throughout.

AGRICULTURE.

a. Subsistence.

The people of the WONGAMUSEN follow the subsistence pattern characteristic of the whole SEPIK river area. The staple diet is sago, supplemented by fish and meat. Yam, Mami, Sugar, Cabbage, Banana, Pawpaw and Sweet potato are amongst other common foods eaten. Two villages have acquired shotguns with which to shoot small game.

AGRICULTURE Cont'd

(b) Economic

Extensive coconut planting is the only immediate solution to the cash cropping problem in this census division at least until a detailed soil survey has been made by the Department of Agriculture to establish whether other economic crops might be introduced. There is an enormous amount of seemingly unused land which could support vast coconut plantations. Agricultural field workers, based at AMBUNTI, have made a few trips to WONGAMUSEN villages but the response of the people themselves to the idea of buying coconut seedlings from the government nurseries has not been too encouraging to date. Some villages have bought seedlings, notably TAURI, where several batches of eighty nuts or so have been planted out.

TAXATION.

This division (SY55) was originally assessed for and taxed at the rate of ten shillings per head per adult male. Taxation only lasted the one year, however, and, since 1958, no tax has been collected. It is recommended that this exemption be continued until a new income survey is carried out to re-assess the taxpaying potential. I think that, while there is little constant income in the area, probably half the adult male population at any given time would be quite capable of paying a ten shilling tax from the money gained through sales of crocodile skins.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

TAUENIAN was the cleanest of the villages visited and the general condition of all the villages, TAURI in particular, was an improvement on last year. While the Patrol was at OUM No.2, which is situated on the edge of a horse shoe shaped mort lake, a small channel was dug - under supervision. This channel, the digging of which has been recommended by officers for the past three years, is now complete and, in high water time, it will serve as a short cut between OUM No.2 and OUM No.1, reducing the travelling time by workboat by about fifteen minutes.

At SWAGUP, extensive works programmes were undertaken and, for the first time for many years, a thorough inspection of the old village was made and a number of ancient houses, unfit for human habitation, were condemned. The people were clearly pleased to have the place spring-cleaned and the Patrol personnel assisted them in a full day's concerted effort. As no latrines existed in the village, a demonstration pit latrine was constructed and each individual house owner instructed to build a replica as soon as possible.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

The village officials were mostly average in the way they

VILLAGE OFFICIALS Cont'd.

carried out their duties. Those at YAUENIEN, KUBKAIN and SWAGUP appeared the most effective.

HEALTH.

IMAR, the Aid Post Orderly from TAURI, accompanied the Patrol. He did excellent work throughout and showed himself to be a good and conscientious type. The last medical Patrol to the area was in June of this year, when smallpox vaccinations were given.

Overall health is fair but common sores and ulcers not being given treatment are far too common. A conjunctivitis epidemic has just swept through these villages.

It remains quite obvious that the solitary Aid Post at TAURI, run extremely competently and efficiently by IMAR, is inadequate to serve the whole census division. It really caters for no more than those few villages which are within reasonable paddling distance. Downriver from KUBKAIN people tend to neglect seeking medical aid when it is needed as they do not care to venture either to TAURI or to AMBUNTI because both are too far. Consequently, the health of the people at YAMBUNUMBU, BIAGA, WASKUK and SWAGUP is worst.

The intention of the PHD to open a new Aid Post at KUBKAIN still stands, I understand and, according to the EMA at AMBUNTI, it is proposed to start work as soon as a trained APO becomes available at the completion of the current training course in Moresby. A site on the hill at KUBKAIN has already been selected and the people are only waiting for the 'go ahead' to get buildings underway. (Ref. Patrol Report Ambunti No 5 of 1962/63).

Later on, I would suggest BIAGA as another place warranting an Aid Post. BIAGA is close to KUBKAIN but is, at the same time, the gateway to the APRIL and WOGAMUS rivers, which converge to meet the SEPIK at BIAGA. There is considerable population South of BIAGA which has had virtually no medical attention whatsoever. The numerous cases of bad Tropical ulcers seen at SIO alone is sufficient evidence to convince one of the necessity for medical facilities to be made more readily available to the APRIL and WOGAMUS areas.

EDUCATION AND MISSION.

There is still no government school in the census division. KUBKAIN would be the most suitable location for one.

The Seventh Day Adventist mission has native representatives at YAUENIAN, CHENAPIAN and SWAGUP. The Catholic mission has slight contact with the more upriver villages and a few young boys

EDUCATION AND MISSION Cont'd.

from TAURI and OUM are at the AMBUNTI Catholic mission school. This applies also to the Assemblies of God mission who have some pupils from hereabouts in thier school downriver at YAMANUMBU, near PAGWI.

COMMON ELECTORAL ROLL.

A common electoral roll was compiled at each village for the purposes of the 1964 elections. A total of nine hundred and twenty nine names of adults over the age of eighteen by March, 1964 was recorded.

CONCLUSION.

A routine Patrol in a backward area. Economic potential here is limited and I see little hope of any radical advances taking place quickly. Coconut planting must be strongly encouraged, a school started and an Aid Post established as soon as possible.

H.W. Gill
.....
H.W. Gill CPD

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE RP&NGC

ACCOMPANYING

THE

PATROL

3073 Const 1st Class TAWUTUANKAMP.

Conduct good. Worked well. An average but experienced N.C.O.

8405 Const GITORA

Conduct good. Very efficient. His knowledge of outboard motors is a great asset to any river patrol.

8465 Const WARIS.

Conduct satisfactory. Tends to be hasty but is intelligent and worked well throughout the patrol.

Population Register

55 JUL 1963

WONGMOSH CENSUS DIVISION

ABSENT FROM VILLAGE AT WORK		ABSENT FROM VILLAGE STUDENTS				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES		Average Size of Family	TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL				
Out		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission		Males			Females		Child			Adults			
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45	Pregnant	Number Child Bearing Ages	M	F	M	F	M + F	
2	2			3						9	29	5	28	2	28	2.	15	13	31	34	96 ⁺
				28	2					12	51	11	36	-	36	2.1	18	31	34	38	151
				26						15	59	12	41	1	41	2.	28	41	46	48	189
	1			4				7		13	70	10	67	2.	67	2.	39	34	68	75	227
				16				10		10	51	10	52	2	52	2.	34	29	37	56	182
				8				2		10	42	12	36	1	36	2.	18	22	42	44	136
1	1			32				6		17	86	18	81	-	81	1.4	39	62	61	88	288 ⁺
	5			1						2	16	1	13	-	13	2.	7	7	16	14	45 ⁺
				-						1	15	5	8	-	8	2.2	5	9	16	11	41 ⁺
				20						24	105	21	81	5	81	1.9	80	66	103	95	364
3	9	-	-	138	2	-	-	25	-	113	524	105	443	13	443	2.	283	314	454	503	1719

recorded: TAURI 1 male adult *child*
 BIAGA 1 male adult
 YAMUNUMBU 2 male adults
 WASKUX 1 male adult

+ see remarks duplication

Amount Returned to Store



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK/AMBUNTI Report No. AMBUNTI 3 of 1963/64

Patrol Conducted by W.H. HEATHCOTE C.P.O.

Area Patrolled CHAMBRI LAKES CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

3 Members of the R.P. & N.G.C.
Natives 1 A.P.O. 1 A.F.W.

Duration—From 31/7/1963 to 22/8/1963

Number of Days 23 Days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 8/1962

Medical 6/1963

Map Reference Ambunti Sheet Army Form 1 1943.

Objects of Patrol See Instructions.

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

District Commissioner

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

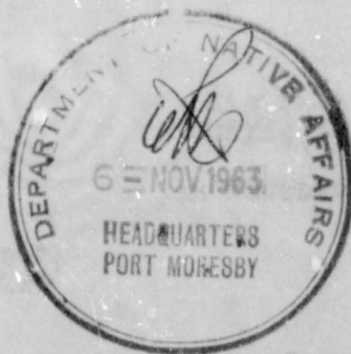
Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £.....

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

Popula

07. 8. 13

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67-2-1

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

31st October, 1963

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 3 of 1963/64 - CHAMBRI
LAKES CENSUS DIVISION - MR. W. HEATHCOTE C.P.O.

Receipt of the abovementioned patrol report is acknowledged with thanks.

Matters for specific attention or action arising out of patrol reports, such as in this instance those concerning gold payments and the transfer of YAMBI YAMBI village, should be taken up individually on the relevant files. This has been done here in respect of these two subjects.

Whilst I agree that the cash income figures given for the sale of crocodile skins are too low in relation to the known value of skins exported from the Sepik, nonetheless the gathering of them was a commendable effort on Mr. Heathcote's part. The coffee and coconut plantings statistics have been very well compiled and comprise a valuable addition to our records here. They will be made available to the District Agricultural Officer and the Co-operative Officer.

The income and plantings figures should be of assistance in the forthcoming local government survey of this area. Mr. Heathcote's belief that the Chambri people could afford a higher rate of tax should also be kept in mind.

Mr. Heathcote mentions the existence of an air strip site near KILIMBIT. Would the Administration have any need for an airstrip in this area?

Mr. Heathcote carried out a good patrol and has reported it well.

G. Linsley
(G. LINSLEY)

DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

The abovementioned patrol report forwarded for your information, please.

G. Linsley
(G. LINSLEY)

DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

*Miles from
this of signpost
have been
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Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.

7th October, 1963.

67-1-1.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District
Wewak.

Ambunti Patrol No. 3 of 63-64: Chambri Lakes C.D.

A report by Mr. Cadet Patrol Officer Heathcote on a routine patrol to the above-mentioned division is forwarded.

Gold.

Native Affairs. The complaint by the miners of delay in payment for their gold is to my mind justified. I have checked the receipts for the last two lots sent out, and the Bank cheque was posted from their office twelve and ten weeks respectively after the gold had been received at their office in Wewak. I realize that assay is at present done at Sydney, but this delay is discouraging to the miners who are neither a sophisticated nor affluent group. Is there any possibility of the process being speeded up, please, as this may encourage wider participation in the industry?

YAMBIYAMBI village. In his report on the previous patrol to the Division, Mr. Patrol Officer Wright outlined the case for transfer of this village to AMBOIN Patrol Post administration - Report No. 1 of 62/63, p.8). The matter was not discussed in the covering memoranda, and the matter awaits a decision. Transfer of the village to the KARAWARI Division (No.74) is again recommended.

Local Government. A survey of this area and the Main River arranged by yourself will be carried out by the A.D.O. (Local Government) and myself, commencing from approximately November 5th. The Chambri people are decidedly keen, but it appears that some villages on the Main River are not yet "sold". I feel that the early introduction of local government will be of great benefit for the people.

Cooperatives. The desire for a Society is becoming a fixation. I do not think it is entirely motivated by desire for prestige. The people want economic development, albeit the easy way. They want to engage in commerce themselves, as they are fully aware that traders on the river have been making good profits, and understandably, they would like to have a share. The reasons why it has not been possible to grant their wishes yet, namely shortage of supervisory and managerial staff, have been fully explained, but disappointment is keen and there is a sense of frustration. Shortly I intend to recommend that a cooperative be opened at Ambunti and its supervision be assisted by Native Affairs staff, so as to give a boost to economic development.

INCOME FIGURES. Although the people were questioned individually to obtain the figures, Mr. Heathcote says that he is not confident that the figures are realistic. I think it would be difficult to recall income earned over a year without the benefit of records, and it is probable that some understated their income, suspecting increased taxation. Efforts will be made to obtain overall Subdistrict figures from traders etc.

Agriculture. After the Waskuk Division, the Chambri have perhaps the best opportunities for agricultural enterprise. The statistics show that effort in coffee planting is continuing strong.

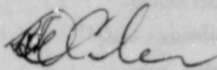
(2)

Communications.

Recently I had an aerial view at some distance from the area, and this tended to confirm that the Yau'umbak channel is not practicable for development for powered craft. Hence, we will aim at improving the KANDANGAI channel for use when river level is high, as a short cut to Chambri. Present access is most roundabout.

General.

I fully agree that the Chambri people are progressive, and feel that the early establishment of a Council will assist them in their aspirations. It is to be hoped that it may be possible to also establish a cooperative society at a fairly early date.



(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.

*In Reply
Please Quote*

31st July, 1963.

No. 67-1-2.

(B.A. McCabe) A.D.D.
Mr. W. Heathcote,
Cadet Patrol Officer,
Ambunti.

Ambunti Patrol No. 3 - CHAMBRI LAKES C.D.

As discussed, please conduct the regular tax-census patrol of this Division, commencing immediately. You have already prepared for the patrol. The Common Roll is to be prepared in conformity with instructions relating to same in conjunction with the census.

The duration of the patrol will be sufficient to allow ample time in each village for discussions with the people and complaints etc. to be aired. It may be advisable to spend more than one day at larger villages, but this is left to your discretion. A hasty patrol can only achieve half of its objective.

An Native Medical Orderly and an Agricultural Fieldworker, the latter from Bainyik, is to accompany you to give attention to these aspects. You are required to make your own observations independently.

Land disputes. Please record any available information about land disputed, including water etc. rights, including in each case the name and location of the particular pieces, illustrated by sketches. We are required to establish native custom and law in regard to land, so record any information which can be obtained.

Gold-mining. This activity should be encouraged in the GARAMAMBU and YERAKAI area. Details of the last proceeds of GARAMAMBU parcels is being forwarded separately, and may be paid on the spot if tax proceeds can cover this, contingency to be submitted on conclusion of patrol. Again warn the people that trading in gold is illegal.

In-come survey. It will be noted that Mr Patrol Officer Wright made a detailed survey on his patrol last August. If you can, check on results over the past year and furnish these statistics, which are very useful for planning, especially in regard to a future Cooperative and a Council. Perhaps timber could be further developed, that is shipment of logs down-river to Angoram.

Coffee and Coconuts. The Fieldworker will be making a thorough patrol and collecting figures. I would like you to generally observe progress, especially what proportion of the holes listed in Mr. Wright's report have been sown. I expect the A.F.W. will remain long enough to demonstrate the proper technique. Seedling coconuts are available at Ambunti, please promulgate, and I hope to see people coming in for them. If required, I can bring some down when I come down (see later) provided the people are ready to pay for them.

Communications - Mr. Wright mentioned the possibility of a channel from the Lake to the Sepik via YAUBAK Lagoon - please check if possible.

Cooperatives. The present position is that the Section haven't enough staff to expand in the District, but it is fully appreciated that the people want one. Meanwhile, it has been suggested that the Angoram Cooperative can give some service to the people, How is this working out?

Area conference. I will come down to the Lake on Monday, August 5th to meet the leaders of the Division and to discuss problems etc.

It would seem that for convenience of the people, two points would be necessary, probably TIMBUNMERI and CHAMBRI SLAND. Mr. Bonjui M.L.C. will be absent for the Legco meeting, and I would like you to liaise with John Daemon to arrange these meetings, please. Any Court matters can also be dealt with.

a
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PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO ³ of 1963/64.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: W.H. DEATHCOTE C.P.O

AREA PATROLLED: CHAMBRI LAKES CENSUS DIVISION.

PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY: 1 N.C.O. 2 CONST. POLICE.
1 A.F.W. 1 A.P.O. (PHD).

DURATION: TWENTY THREE DAYS

LAST PATROL TO THE AREA: JULY/AUGUST 1962.

OBJECTS OF PATROL: SEE INSTRUCTIONS.

PATROL DIARY.

Wednesday 31st July 1963.

Day spent at MAPRIK, meeting held re D.N.A. training. Arrived PAGWI 1630. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 1st August 1963.

Early morning spent at BIRUI Catholic Mission, talks with Father Shaddok re clerk for L.G. Council. 1005. Departed PAGWI aboard M.V.OPAL arriving KOROGO 1110. M.V.OPAL sent back to PAGWI to await medical assistant, self waited for single canoe to arrive from AMBUNTI. 1700. Departed KOROGO, short stop at INDABU and arrived YENTCHAN 1830. REMAINED overnight.

Friday, 2nd August 1963.

0845. Departed YENTCHAN en route AIBOM, stopped at PARAMBEI for talks with village officials re L.G. clerk. Departed 1020. arriving KAPIMERI Catholic Mission 1035, brief talk with Father Hoba. Departed 1050 and arrived AIBOM 1300. Village lined 1500. Census revised and Common Roll compiled. Health checked by A.P.O. Informal discussions with village officials at night. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 3rd August 1963.

Remainder of people lined and census completed, tax collected and Common Roll entered into carbon copy book. Village income statistics gathered. Village inspected and coconuts checked with A.F.W. Various small complaints heard and settled. Talks given on L.G.Councils and Co-Operatives, people very attentive. Informal discussions again with village officials at night. Remained overnight.

Sunday, 4th August 1963.

1005. Departed AIBOM arriving CHAMBRI Is. 1035. Population statistics for AIBOM compiled. Afternoon and evening spent entering Common Roll into carbon copy book. Remained overnight.

Monday, 5th August 1963.

0730. INDINGAI village lined, census revised, tax collected, income survey taken and Common Roll compiled. Talks given on L.G. Councils and Co-operatives. Village inspected, no serious complaints. Afternoon visited mission school with Mr. DeWOLF, teacher in charge. Remainder of afternoon spent entering Common Roll into carbon copy book. Informal discussions with village officials at night.

Tuesday, 6th August 1963.

0730. WOMBUN village lined, census revised, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Survey of village income taken. Health checked by A.P.O. Discussions again with people over councils and co-ops. Various minor complaints heard and settled. Village inspected and instructions given for works programme on road linking the three villages. Afternoon spent entering Common Roll into carbon copy book. Tultul from AIBOM reported with small marriage complaint, able to settle satisfactorily. Informal discussions again at night with village officials re Common Roll.

Wednesday, 7th August 1963.

0730. KILIMBIT village lined, census revised, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Survey of village income taken. Health checked by A.P.O. Talks given again on councils and co-operatives. Village inspected, supervised work on road linking the three villages. Various minor complaints heard and settled. Late afternoon spent entering Common Roll into carbon copy book. Discussions again at night with village officials from the three villages re works programme for the coming year. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 8th August 1963.

Talks again with village officials of the three villages, flag ceremony held with all village people in attendance. Departed 1000. arriving TIMBUNMERI 1210, slowness due to very low water. Village lined, census revised. tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Survey of village income taken. Health checked by A.P.O. Talks given re councils and co-operatives. Village inspected and works programme for 1963 given. Minor complaints brought to my notice and able to settle out of court. Remained overnight.

Friday, 9th August 1963.

Common Roll entered into carbon copy book. Small hamlet of TIMBUNMERI inspected, twenty minutes walk from the main village. More minor complaints heard and dealt

with. 1150. Departed and arrived CHANGRIMAN 1310. Village lined, census revised, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Survey of village income taken. Health checked by A.P.O. Coconuts inspected by A.F.W. Some minor complaints heard and settled. Talks given on councils and co-operatives. Village inspected. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 10th August 1963.

0905. Departed CHANGRIMAN and arrived MENSUAT 0955. Village lined, census revised and tax collected. Common Roll ~~compiled~~ compiled, survey of village income taken. Health checked by A.P.O. A.F.W. Gabriel inspected coconuts. Talks with people re councils and co-operatives, few minor complaints heard and settled. Village inspected and works programme given. Afternoon spent entering Common Roll into carbon copy book. Informal discussions with village officials from MENSUAT, CHANGRIMAN and YAMBIYAMBI in evening. Remained overnight.

SUNDAY, 11th August 1963.

Village population register compiled for MENSUAT. Inspected coffee gardens with A.F.W.

Monday, 12th August 1963.

0725. Departed MENSUAT and arrived YAMBIYAMBI 0815. Village lined, census revised, tax collected and common roll compiled. Survey of village income taken. Health checked by A.P.O. Talks again given on L.G. Councils and co-operatives. Discussions with people re moving to new village site. Village ~~is~~ inspected, no serious complaints. 1200. Departed and arrived MENSUAT 1250. Thence one hours walk to old site of CHANGRIMAN village, one old couple still living there. Departed for CHANGRIMAN 1405 and arrived 1500. Rest of afternoon spent entering Common Roll into copy book. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 13th August 1963.

0805. Departed CHANGRIMAN for MARI village, one and a half hours by road and paddle canoe. Village lined, census revised, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Survey of village income taken. Health checked by A.P.O. A.F.W. inspected coconuts. 1220. Departed for MELEI, hamlet of MARI arriving 1445. Village deserted, all people at MARI. Back to MARI 1510, arriving 1840. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 14th August 1963.

Housing inspected and Common Roll entered into carbon copy book. Discussions with people re L.G. Councils and co-operatives. Departed for CHANGRIMAN 0915 and arrived 1030. Departed for TIMBUNMERI, met Mr. McCabe A.D.O. and turned back to CHANGRIMAN. Mr. McCabe gave talks on councils and economic development to all the mountain villages. Departed again at 1530 and arrived CHAMBRI Is. 1820.. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 15th August 1963.

Discussions with WOMBUN people re works programme 1963. Departed CHAMBRI 0925. At ALBOM 1000 where collected petrol. Departed 1010. At Sepik river 125 and arrived TEGOI 1200. Native enquiry attended to and departed 1220. Arrived PARAMBEI 1310. Discussions with people. Departed 1410 and arrived YENTCHAN 1430. Discussions with people re new Luluai and new one appointed by A.D.O. Mr McCabe, who was following behind. Departed 1445 and arrived PAGWI 1730. Remained overnight.

Friday, 16th August, 1963.

0905 Departed PAGWI. Passed JAPANDAI 0955. AVATIP 1130 and arrived MALU 1240. Two men sent to YERAKAI to inform the people of my coming the next day. 1300 departed for AMBUNTI, arriving at 1325. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 17th August, 1963.

Departed AMBUNTI 0820. Left Sepik river 0830, thence 1½ hours by motor canoe to end of stream. Another hour and ten minutes on foot and arrived at YERAKAI 1110. Afternoon, village lined, census revised, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Income survey taken. Talks with people re Councils and Co-ops. Village inspected, some minor complaints heard and settled. Remained overnight.

Sunday, 18th August, 1963.

Population Register completed and Common Roll entered in copy book. Village men lined and given instructions for cutting grass on the YERAKAI river. 1315 departed for GARAMAMBU, arriving 1445. Remained overnight.

Monday, 19th August, 1963.

0730 Village lined, census revised, tax collected and Common roll compiled. Survey of village income taken. Health checked by APO. AFW inspected coconuts. Talks on Councils and Co-ops. Village inspected, various minor complaints heard and settled. Afternoon spent compiling Common Roll in carbon copy book. Informal talks with village officials at night.

Tuesday, 20th August, 1963.

Departed GARAMAMBU 1005 after heavy rain. At GARAMAMBU creek 1100. Thence two hours by motor and paddle canoe to LUKLUK, arriving 1320. Village lined, census revised, tax collected and Common roll compiled. Survey of village income made. Talks given on councils and Co-ops. Village inspected, no serious complaints. Late afternoon and night spent collecting material for Anthropology assignment.

Wednesday, 21st August, 1963.

At LUKLUK collecting material for Anthropology assignment. Departed for ARINJONE 1030, arriving 1150, after paddling across lake. Village lined and census revised and tax collected and Common roll compiled. Survey of village income made. Health checked by APO. AFW inspected coconuts. Talks with people on Councils and Co-ops. Village inspected. One man for court action. AMBUNTI - contra Reg 119 of NARs. No serious complaints. 1510 departed for GARAMAMBU, arriving 1810. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 22nd August, 1963.

Departed GARAMAMBU 1000 after discussion over land for school at LUKLUK. 1½ walk to YERAKAI. Departed 1130. At YERAKAI stream 1230. Waited for canoes to arrive. Departed 1550 in paddle canoe. At Sepik river 1810. Arrived AMBUNTI aboard workboat at 1840. Patrol equipment and party arrived 2000. Patrol stood down.

END OF PATROL DIARY

INTRODUCTION.

The area patrolled is known as the CHAMBRI LAKES census division and extends over an area of some five hundred and sixty eight square miles. The census division is situated approximately twenty miles due East from AMBUNTI, although to reach there by river transport, the actual travelling distance is close to eighty river miles.

There are thirteen villages in the division and, with the exception of the hinterland villages of MENSUAT, YAMBIYAMBI, MARI, YERAKAI and GARAMAMBU, all can be reached by water transport. The five hinterland villages are all provided with extremely good walking paths. The Patrol was carried out when the water was very low and a single canoe only was used for the duration of the trip. In the case of LUKLUK and ARINJONE, I had to reach them by the back route from GARAMAMBU, as the water was too low for me to cross the lake. In high water, these lake villages may be visited by workboat or double canoe houseboat.

The last Native Affairs Patrol to this area was conducted by Patrol Officer Mr P.J. Wright in July/August, 1962 (See Patrol Report Ambunti No 1 of 1962/63).

NATIVE AFFAIRS?

The whole of the CHAMBRI census division is dominated to a certain extent by four villages, these being AIBOM, INDINGAI, WOMBUN and KILIMBIT. AIBOM is the most progressive village; income statistics show that it is far ahead of the rest of the census division, in fact, it is probably the most wealthy village in the whole AMBUNTI Sub-District. The people of these four villages are possibly the most energetic in the sub division and have taken to cash cropping and other means of economic development with great enthusiasm. The three CHAMBRI villages all belong to the one linguistic group, AIBOM speaking a language of its own, although there are many of the AIBOM people who can speak the CHAMBRI language.

The three villages, ARINJON, LUKLUK and TIMBURNERI all belong to the one linguistic group, speaking the language of the Middle Sepik peoples. Originally, these villages belonged to NYAURANGAI, JAPANAUT and KANDANGAI on the river, having migrated across some years ago and set up rights of their own. All the above CHAMBRI people are situated on islands and all are water dwelling people.

The mountain villages of GARAMAMBU and YERAKAI speak a language of their own, unknown to the rest of the CHAMBRI people. These are more backward than the water dwelling people and it was not until recently that they began to use canoes. Most of their income is derived from the sale of gold, however, this year, it has fallen off, as the income statistics compared to last year show. Apparently the people are still not happy about the long delay from the time they put the gold until the time they receive payment for it. As compared to the CHAMBRI peoples, they get about quite shabbily dressed and take very little care in their own personal appearance.

The four villages to the South, MENSUAT, CHANGRIMAN, MARI and YAMBIYAMBI all belong to the one linguistic group, although MARI is a slight variation to the others. These people, although they have canoes, are essentially hill people and would be the poorest and most backward in the whole sub-division. Their income is limited to the one or two crocodiles they manage to catch and the native foods they sell to the Catholic mission at CHAMBRI.

While the Patrol was at YAMBIYAMBI, the question of the new site for the village was brought up. The people have built their new site on the banks of the SARUMEI river in the Angoram sub-District. There are already ten new houses built there and, as the houses in the old village go rotten, so new ones are built on the new site. Apparently this site was given approval by the District Officer and Assistant District Officer (See Patrol Report Ambunti No 1 of 1962/63) and the people now wish to know where they are going to be administered from.

Throughout the whole sub-Division there is intense interest in Local Government Councils and Co-operative Societies. In nearly every village I was asked when was a Council going to be put in. The people have had another meeting at MENSUAT with BOU DE M.L.C. and DEMON D.A.C. in attendance. This meeting apparently discussed all aspects of Co-operatives and Councils and general economic development. I was told that it was also in order to elect members for the Council when it is eventually put into operation. Talks on Councils and Co-ops were given throughout the area and, with the exception of ARINJONE, considerable interest was shown in these talks. Questions were quickly asked when things were not understood and, in a lot of the villages, officials came back at night for further informal talks to obtain a clear picture of the way Councils operate. Influential leaders from CHAMBRI Island have already been to ANGORAM to see how the Councils run. I could not get ARINJONE interested in the Council. The people stated that they were not ready for it as there was not enough money in the village. Their attitude was more in line with the Sepik river villages in that they expressed their wish for a Society to be established first and a Council later on. Although in time these people may be drawn into a Council, I think that, for now, they will be content to sit on the sideline and see it in operation before committing themselves.

The following is a list of people who, in my opinion, have some influence in the CHAMBRI area:

DEMONGAUI	of	AIBOM	(Member of the D.A.C.)
ADAM	of	WOMBUN	
ASON	of	KILIMBIT	
BAGA	of	MENSUAT	
SUAN	of	TIMBUNMERI	
YAMBUNBAE	of	INDINGAI	

The above named people will undoubtedly be the spearhead for the CHAMBRI people when a Council is introduced in the CHAMBRI-MAIN RIVER area.

There is also intense interest in the formation of a Co-operative Society and a number of questions were asked as to when this would become a reality. A lot of business is done with the ANGORAM Society, whose clerk does regular trips to the CHAMBRI area, buying skins and bringing various trade goods. People from AIBOM, CHAMBRI and TIMBUNMERI each have 25 shares in this Society and one question asked was when were they going to receive dividends from these shares. As most of them had not owned their shares for more than a year, I advised them to be patient.

A set of income statistics is attached which represents the total income for the CHAMBRI area for the previous twelve months. As before, each man was interviewed separately and his total year's income recorded. Although some men earned anything up to a hundred pounds, I found that the average yearly income was between five and eight pounds. The statistics show clearly how each village receives its income and how much was earned during the year. The crocodile industry is still by far the major source of income for the people and will be a great loss for them when it is finally exhausted. A three hundred pound increase on last year is rather disappointing, however, this was mainly due to the very low water throughout the year making the crocodiles hard to find. Although some of the more enterprising people caught from twenty to thirty crocodiles throughout the year, I found that the average catch per person was only two or three. Most of the skins sold are either sold to the Society or to private traders in ANGORAM.

The sale of gold brought in an income of £527-12-0 and was a disappointing drop on last year when, for a six month period, the total earnings were £717-9-0. The people stated that the gold was becoming harder to find and that long distances had to be travelled to find it. This and the factor that they have to wait long periods for payment has dampened some of their enthusiasm for finding the gold. People from YAMUK village in the BUNJI-KUNAI area are now panning gold in the YERAKAI area but, to date, have not had a great deal of success. The YERAKAI people are quite agreeable for them to work gold in their area.

Native foods and artifacts are the next main source of income, both bringing in over two hundred pounds a year. The artifacts industry would possibly have been more if more people had been to CHAMBRI to buy them, as the people have carved a large amount of artifacts which are there waiting to be sold.

Good reception was given the Patrol in all villages, the people being most helpful and friendly.

INCOME STATISTICS FOR CHAMBERI LAKES FROM AUGUST, 1962 TO DATE.

AIBOM VILLAGE.

<u>No of men</u>	<u>Money earned</u>	<u>Sources of income.</u>
55 and 8 women	£932-9-0	Sale of crocodile skins
6	9-0-0	Sale of copra.
9 and 6 women	81-7-0	Sale of artifacts
2	20-0-0	Sale Native tobacco
	<hr/>	
TOTAL	£1042-16-0	

ARINJOPE

<u>No of men</u>	<u>Money earned</u>	<u>Sources of income.</u>
13	£53-5-0	Sale of crocodile skins
2	2-14-0	Sale of Native foods.
1	20-0-0	Sale of gold
2	4-0-0	Sale of livestock.
	<hr/>	
TOTAL	£79-19-0	

CHANGRIMAN

<u>No of men</u>	<u>Money earned</u>	<u>Sources of income.</u>
3	£11-12-0	Sale of crocodile skins
16	21-13-0	Sale of native foods.
	<hr/>	
TOTALS	£33-5-0	

GARAMAMBU

<u>No of men</u>	<u>Money earned</u>	<u>Sources of income.</u>
3	£17-15-0	Sale of crocodile skins
24	355-17-0	Sale of gold.
1	10-0-0	Wages.
	<hr/>	
TOTALS	£391-12-0	

Income Statistics Cont.

INDINGAI. VILLAGE.

<u>NO OF MEN</u>	<u>Money Earned</u>	<u>Sources of income.</u>
22 + 4 Women	£484-15-0	Sale of crocodile skins
12 + 33 Women	33-8-0	Sale of native food
20 + 9 Women	45-9-0	Sale of artifacts
	<hr/>	
	£563-12-0	
	<hr/>	

KILIMBIT

<u>No of men.</u>	<u>Money Earned</u>	<u>Sources of income.</u>
24 + 6 Women	£528-10-0	Sale of crocodile skins
10 + 7 Women	15-18-0	Sale of Native Foods
23 + 25 Women	60-2-0	Sale of Artifacts
2 +	52-10-0	Wages.
	<hr/>	
	£657-0-0	
	<hr/>	

LUKLUK.

<u>No of men</u>	<u>Money Earned</u>	<u>Source of Income.</u>
9	£60-0-0	Sale of crocodile skins
10	4-15-0	Sale of native tobacco
1	1-0-0	Sale of artifacts
2	30-0-0	Sale of gold.
	<hr/>	
	£95-15-0	
	<hr/>	

MARI.

<u>No of men</u>	<u>Money Earned</u>	<u>Source of income.</u>
7	£17-0-0	Sale of crocodile skins
28	36-9-0	Sale of Native Foods
	<hr/>	
	£51-9-0	
	<hr/>	

Income Statistics Cont.

MENSUAT.

<u>No of men.</u>	<u>Money Earned</u>	<u>Source of Income.</u>
12	£54-7-0	Sale of crocodile skins.
21	34-4-0	Sale of Native Foods

	£88-11-0	

TIMPUMERI

<u>No of men</u>	<u>Money Earned.</u>	<u>Source of Income.</u>
16	£107-18-0	Sale of crocodile Skins.
5	27-10-0	Sale of Livestock

	£135-8-0	

WOMBUI.

<u>No of Men</u>	<u>Money Earned</u>	<u>Source of Income.</u>
35 + 2 Women	£548-12-0	Sale of crocodile Skins.
18 + 18 Women	27-17-0	Sale of Native Foods.
6 + 2 Women	25-10-0	Sale of Artifacts.

	£602-7-0	

TAMBIYAMEI

<u>No of Men</u>	<u>Money Earned</u>	<u>Source of Income.</u>
2	£13-0-0	Sale of crocodile skins.
22	55-0-0	Sale of Native Foods.
1	25-0-0	Sale of Canoe.
1	10-0-0	Wages

	£103-0-0	

Income Statistics Cont.

YERAKAI.

<u>No of men.</u>	<u>Amount of Money Earned</u>	<u>Source of Income.</u>
4	£20-0-0	Sale of crocodile Skins
11	17-13-0	Sale of Native Foods
10	121-15-0	Sale of gold.
3	60-0-0	Wages.

 £219-8-0

TOTAL INCOME FROM SALE OF CROCODILE SKINS	-	£2847-3-0
TOTAL INCOME FROM SALE OF GOLD.	-	527-12-0
TOTAL INCOME FROM SALE OF NATIVE FOODS	-	244-16-0
TOTAL INCOME FROM SALE OF ARTIFACTS	-	213-8-0
TOTAL INCOME FROM WAGES	-	140-10-0
TOTAL INCOME FROM SALE OF LIVESTOCK	-	31-10-0
TOTAL INCOME FROM SALE OF ARTIFACTS	-	24-15-0
TOTAL INCOME FROM SALE OF NATIVE TOBACCO	-	25-0-0
TOTAL INCOME FROM SALE OF CANOE	-	9-8-0

 GRAND TOTAL £4064-2-0

Note. From information gathered from private traders it would appear that some villages have grossly understated their income particularly in the sale of crocodile skins. For example the figures given by the village of JUKLUK are obviously false as one skin buyer is known to have paid certain natives of the above village £350 for crocodile skins on one occasion in the past six months. Possibly one reason for this understatement of income is the peoples belief that higher taxes may be inflicted on them. I would suggest that these figures be accepted or rejected for what they are worth.

AGRICULTURE.

Agricultural development in this area will always be limited by the lack of arable land, particularly in the case of the island villages where nearly all the available land is under planting.

At present the CHAMBRI people obtain little or no income from their cash crops of coconuts and coffee. AIBOM at present obtains a small income from the sale of copra to the co-operative society at Angoram. In nearly every village seedling nurseries have been started, some of them holding between two and three hundred seedlings. At present AIBOM holds the largest amount of coconuts with 1340 mature and 8547 immature.

Where possible, I inspected the coffee gardens and, although the people are making an attempt to produce coffee, the position, as yet, is not very satisfactory. A lot of the young trees inspected at CHAMBRI Island were not doing at all well, one common complaint being that landslides were continually burying the coffee gardens as they are all planted on the side of a hill. The Patrol was accompanied by an AFW from BAINYIK and he was of great assistance to the people in straightening out their gardens and giving advice where needed.

Their subsistence pattern is on the same lines as the Sepik river people, mainly sago and fish. The inland villages trade the sago with the water dwelling villages for fish and vice versa.

I was able to walk out approximately five hundred yards in high and stony roads to water, and at the ground is reasonably flat very little work would be required. The water is very high water, it is very shallow.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

Inspections were carried out in each village, the standard of housing being quite good. Of particular note was the village of LUKLUK where all the timber for new houses is firstly planed after the style of european sawn material and quite a neat house develops. The villages of AIBOM and CHAMBRI Island are also very neat and tidy and a neat design is followed. All past houses were quite good; a new one is just being built at MARI.

TAXATION.

No difficulties arose out of the collection of tax, all men paying quite readily. In fact, several old men, who had been granted an exemption the previous year, were quite prepared to pay tax again. I feel that the Chambri people, particularly those of the Island villages, could easily afford to pay a higher tax than they do at present.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

The village officials all appear to be doing a good job and all were given my full support. The Luluais of TIBUN.

MERI and MENSUAT quite impressed me with the job they were doing.

HEALTH.

The patrol was accompanied by a medical orderly from Ambunti and health was checked, in each village at time of census. Health of the people is generally good, most of the people requiring treatment go to the aid-post at Chambri Island.

ROADS AND BRIDGES, COMMUNICATIONS.

Travelling within the Chambri area is mainly by water. The mountain villages of GARAMAMBU and YERAKAI are linked with the lake by a good foot path which is maintained regularly. The inland villages of CHANGRIMAN, MENSUAT and YAMBIYAMBI are linked with a first class path to the lake, and there is also an excellent walking path from the CHANGRIMAN waterway to MARI village. The road linking the three Chambri Island villages of INDINGAI, WOMBUN and KILIMBIT is also very good, the people being in the process of widening it when the patrol reached the villages.

There is a Catholic Mission airstrip at WOMBUN. Whilst the patrol was at Chambri Island I inspected what could be a possible airstrip site at the back of KILIMBIT Village. I was able to pace out approximately five hundred yards in length and fifty yards in width, and as the ground is reasonably flat very little work would be required. The people state that in very high water it may be subject to slight flooding, but as it has not been flooded for the last five years this would not seem to be a complete objection.

EDUCATION AND MISSION ACTIVITIES.

Education facilities in the area are provided solely by the Catholic Mission at Chambri Island. This is a recognised school and goes up to Standard Four. It is controlled by a Mr. DeWolf who I consider is doing an excellent job with the school children. The SDA Mission is also thinking about starting a small school at LUKLUK Village.

LAW AND JUSTICE.

The area is reasonably quiet and only one court case involving housing was brought up on the patrol. Numerous minor complaints were brought to my attention, these were all dealt with in the village concerned.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Whilst the patrol was at ARINJON and LUKIJK, discussions were held over the possibilities of cutting a new channel through to the YAU'UMBAK lagoon. After careful enquiry and from my own observation, I came to the conclusion that it would hardly be practicable and would involve an enormous amount of work. I suggest that the people concentrate on keeping the waterway to KANDANGAI, on the Main River, clear - thus providing a shorter route to the lake. At the time of my Patrol a single canoe only could reach there but the people state that, in high water, the workboat would possibly get through. The people are quite agreeable to keeping this channel clear and I think it is the one to concentrate on.

CONCLUSION.

As stated earlier, the CHAMBERI LAKES area is one of the most progressive areas in the Sub-District. With the introduction of a Council to this area, I feel that with the energetic men that are there, good results will be obtained, if the people are pressed into working for that goal. As all things in my instructions were carried out, I feel that the object of the Patrol was achieved.

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE R.P.&N.G.C.
ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL

Senior Constable EGHUN No 5149.

An excellent N.C.O. Is bright and can think for himself, a great help on this patrol.

Constable MANIKAWA No 7435.

An average policeman. Quiet and is a willing worker.

Constable DURCAG No 6597.

A bit forward in his actions but means well. Quite a good worker.

CHAMBRI LAKES

PATROL ROUTE -----
Scale 4 Miles = 1"





TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SOUTH SEPIK Report No. AMBUNTI 7 of 1963/64

Patrol Conducted by H.W.GILL Cadet Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled Part Chambri Lakes, Main River and Burui-Kunai Census Divs.
Part Upper Sepik and Yessan-Maio census divisions.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans No

Natives 2 Sen Constables, 2 Constables

Duration—From 30/9/1963 to 16/10/1963 and 22/10/63

Number of Days 18

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

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

{	Chambri area	8/63 also part
	Main River	6/63 Upper Sepik and
	B-Kunai	12/62 Yessan-Maio
	Sept 1963	

Map Reference AMBUNTI sheet Army Formil 1943. District Map.

Objects of Patrol Enquire into properties subject to Provisional Orders
of Commissioner of Titles in all above areas.

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

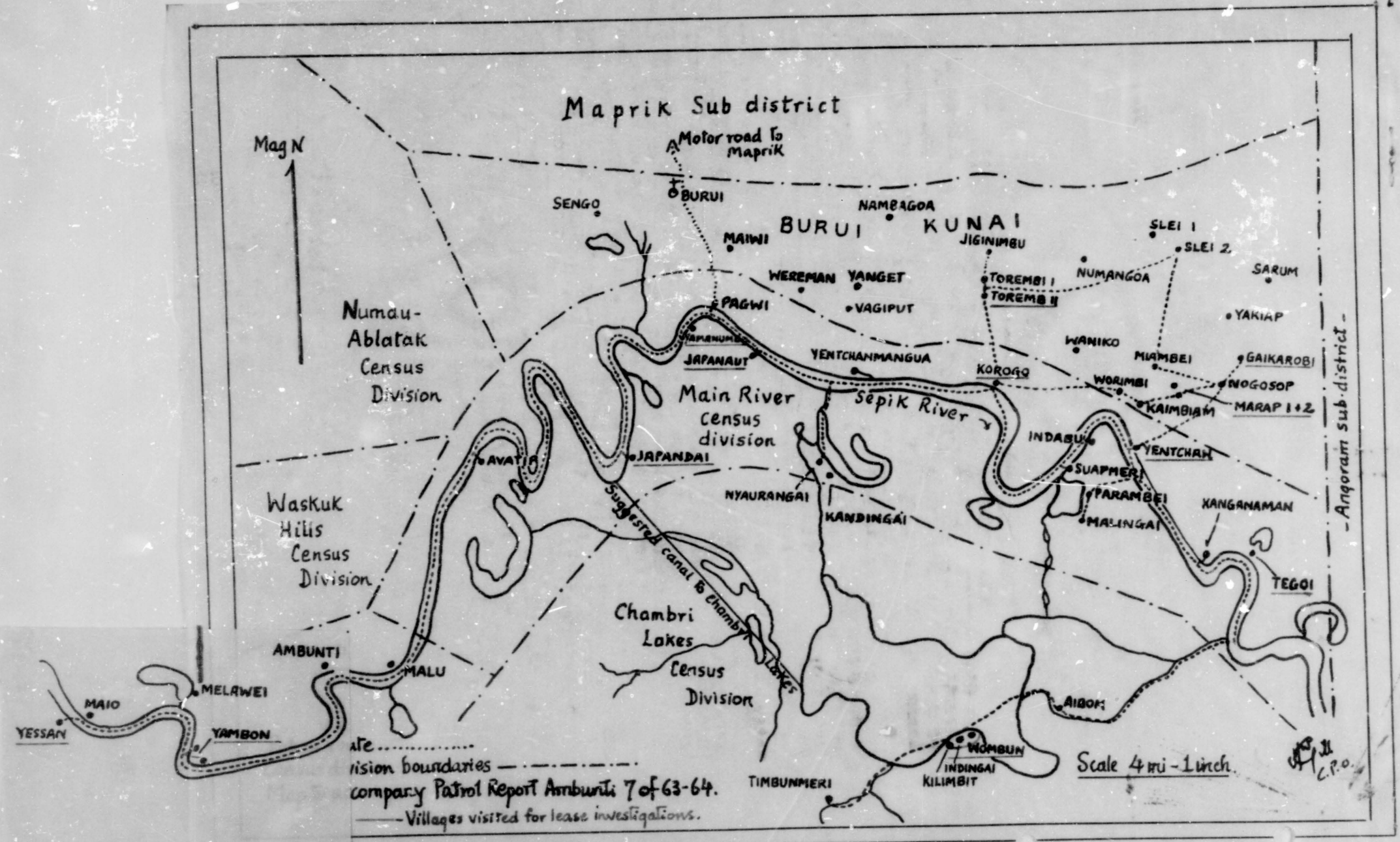
/ / 19

G. Linsley
District Commissioner *D.O. 24.1.64.*

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

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

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



67-8-28


5th March, 1964.

District Officer,
South Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL REPORT NO. 7-1963/64 - AMBUNTI

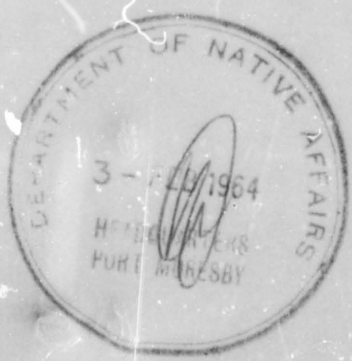
Receipt of the abovementioned patrol report is acknowledged with thanks.

2. Mr. Gill has carried out a very thorough patrol. You might check on other sources of information concerning the title restoration investigations. I agree with the action being taken in relation to shot guns.
3. I think that the establishment of a canal as a short cut to the Chambri Lakes should be kept before the Council as one of its first projects.
4. Very good detective work in connection with the theft of the four gallon drum of spirit referred to in paragraph 4 of page 6. See if you cannot find some outlet for Kero's energies. He may be a good organiser for the establishment of the canal to the Chambri Lakes.
5. I am inclined to agree with the officer's assessment of the notes prepared for political education talks. However, it is up to the officer on the spot to select the parts most suitable for his requirements, taking into consideration the stage of development of the people.
6. A good record of conscientious work by Mr. Gill.


(J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

67-6-28 ✓

67-2-1



District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

30th January, 1964

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

P.R. AMBUNTI NO. 7 of 1963/64 - LANDS TITLES
RESTORATION INVESTIGATIONS - SEPIK RIVER - MR.
H. W. BILL

A thorough job of work, well reported.

Additional copies of reports attached as
appendices on such subjects as Land Titles Restoration,
Ordinance, House of Assembly Elections, Political Education,
Anthropology, etc., should be forwarded with patrol reports,
so that they may be placed on the relevant subject file.

(Signature)
(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

13.1.63.
(cont.)

1730 hrs while hunting at back of camp sighted skull on rock ledge of cave about 20 ft. up. Ladder made and investigated. Found several human skulls and bones just inside the cave. Said to be G'hom burial ground. People probably living in these caves a few years ago. Large colony of wasps settled in and amongst skulls ensured them being left completely 'as was'!

14.1.63.

Visit to camp by Nasuar men and boys- exchange goods for local foodstuffs.

1100 hrs downstream to Nasuar. About 20 mins. from river to settlement. On a ridge some 800-1,000 ft. up. Initial census this small grp. Medical inspection back down to April. Met Brugnowi canoe returning Ambunti with fuel and rations. Also runner.

1600 hrs back Shitipa Mouth camp. Preparations departure up Shitipa on the morrow.

15.1.63.

0700 hrs headed up Shitipa River per powered canoes. 1330 hrs arrived mouth of track leading to G'hom. 1400 hrs self, two police and Wahu Interpreter walked to main G'hom settlement, arriving 1515 hrs. Headman and a few others met. Almost all away in bush. All to assemble as soon as possible.

Efforts to gain information concerning report. BIKOW grp. in Double Mts. Ignorance of route to these people professed. Not convinced; G'hom and Mukkey evidently much afraid of these others and are keeping quiet.

Left G'hom 1630 hrs. Back newly erected camp mouth Dariap at 1745 hrs.

16.1.63.

Headman to our camp. Little information re BIKOW. Now waiting for a particular informant to turn up.

1000-1500 hrs headed further up Shitipa. Now 'high water' and just the right time. Motor for an hour till shallow stoney bed halted us. Ashore, a G'hom garden found. Deserted. Some hours spent following old foot-pads (where present) and pig-tracks, and cutting through bush looking for used walking pads or settlement. Into the Double Mt. foothills. No more signs of habitation.

Back to camp late P.M. Slept.

17.1.63.

0730 hrs walked to main G'hom settlement. 0900 hrs G'hom. At G'hom, Dariap-Shitipa camp again at 1600 hrs. Census. Medical inspection and talks. Some more new names. No. of yaws amongst youngsters. Anti-yaws. Informant-guide I've been waiting for still hasn't turned up. Will proceed downstream to-morrow.

18.1.63.

Early morning some additional G'hom people turned up. Medical inspection. Headman's young son and another accomp. to Ambunti. By midday had arrived Shitipa mouth, picked up stores, and headed downstream.

18.1.63.
(cont.)

Approx. an hour and ashore at Nasuar. Couple men met. All others (includ. our proposed guide) off to a sing-sing at "Bukabukey" - yet to find this village which is ancestral home of all MUKABUKEY grp. so far contacted. Family four met for first time, having been away on prev. visits. Two men and their canoe taken in toe to Kolowomo. 1415 arriv. Kolowomo. Wagu interpreter can converse to an extent with two men. Appears that Bukabukey in the mountains known as Camel Back.

Area cleared and camp established by 1600 hrs. Young Kolowomo man met Nasuar to show us way in through hills to Bukabukey.

19.1.63.

On the move at 0630 hrs. 50 minutes walk and came across another Kolowomo bush house and small grp. met. $\frac{1}{2}$ hr. here. Anti-yaws.

1000 hrs came across a large house. Some 20 people here at a feast, all dressed up and painted. Kabarapi (11 people censused) - others all from Nasuar, Parkwai and Bukabukey. An hour here. A.-yws.

1100 hrs set out. 2-2 $\frac{1}{2}$ hrs walk to Meifa Crk. and settlement here, Bukabukey. Camp set up on opp. side of creek to settlement. Census. Med. inspection and talks by 1700 hrs. 21 more new names.

Some 60 odd MUKABUKEY people here at present all residing in two small houses. Others from settlements already contacted by this patrol. All are continually wandering between the various small settlements.

20.1.63.

Sunday. At Bukabukey. Self, Cpl and another spent some five hrs. following small watercourses, hunting footpads, and gaining various vantage points in attempt to locate further people or settlements. One deserted derelict house and garden found.

Climbed toward highest point in Camel Backs, with Abrupt Mt. (2,950 ft.) in view. Waterfalls, and small streams strewn with large boulders.

21.1.63.

Broke camp and at 0645 hrs commenced heading back to April. By 1015 hrs party had arrived. Grps. of Kabarapi and Kolowomo met on route and "big-men" accompanied us to water.

Midday ashore Pugwe. Initial census. Med. insp. Mukabukey guide ran away.

Yesuar at 1315 hrs. By 1500 camp set up. Most of KIKERU people assembled here at Yesuar, where they have commenced building a settlement.

1630-1815 hrs initial census and med. inspect.

22.1.63.

0800 hrs departed Yesuar. Arrived Yafkol 0930. A mere handful of people here despite notice. While camp being set up to Kerrtom. Almost nobody here also, and all but a few 'took to the bush'. Back upstream, ashore Kolcwo, new settlement now being built. 2 doz. new people here. Our prospective guide ran off into sago swamp and could not be located. By 1400 back Yafkol. Some 15 people here. Census and med. inspect. One KIKERU man accomp. us from Yesuar to act as guide through swamps to local Bitara people.

- 23.1.63. 0700 hrs set off from Yafkol. 8 hours walking (all but last hour through sago swamp) and made camp between two Bitara settlements, "Wadawu" (some two houses-occupied) and "Yeyum" (four houses and deserted).
1530 self, Cpl and a couple of party visited deserted Yeyum-about 1/2 hr from camp site and on top of a ridge. Salt left houses. On the fringe of large un-named range, and to the N.W. of Cone and Abrupt Mt.
Back to camp by 1700 hrs after scouting around a bit. Wadawu people now gathering at camp site. Gifts and barter. Census-Med. inspect. Initial contact for all 19 met. Pleasant camp site.
- 24.1.63. Hit the trail at 0700 hrs. On the move for a little over 8 hrs and by 1530 hrs all party had arrived at main settlement of SIO (dozen odd houses).
En route visited another four Bitara settlements. Kowtetu, O.ba, Partum and Swar. Initial census all and total of 58 new names recorded. All settlements on top of various high ridges and well screened from the viewer at lower elevations.
First european visit to SIO village on Meifa Crk, tributary of Wogamush River. Initial census gathered 64 people. Some frightful yaws here. Treated.
- 25.1.63. 0600-0730 hrs paddle canoes of SIO lashed together as rafts. Heavy rain last night and useful fresh in Meifa. 0730-1240 drifting and paddling down Meifa. Met motors waiting near mouth of Meifa. Here she joins the Nuar River to form the Wogamush River. Met another SIO man and wife.
1330 hrs set off by motor down Wogamush. 1525 Biaka Village, near point where Wogamush joins April. Camp set up. Census check. Talks, etc.
In evening 3 C.N.A. cases brought forward by the Village Officials.
Mosquitos welcomed us back to the Sepik.
- 26.1.63. At 0615 hrs patrol departed Biaka heading back to Ambunti, and calling Swagup and Brugnowi en route. Arrived Ambunti Station at 1615 hrs.
Patrol stood down.

oooo000oooo END OF DIARY oooo000oooo

PURPOSE OF PATROL:

The patrol aimed at locating, contacting, and censusing population along the April and Wogamush Rivers, their environs and headwaters.

INTRODUCTION:

The patrol diary contains day to day movements of this patrol, and the route taken and areas visited are indicated on the accompanying map of patrol.

This patrol served to follow-up Patrol No. 6 of 1962/63 conducted in November last. The former patrol through the Hunstein Range to section of the April headwaters and then down the main April, while contacting the villages of Namu and G'hom, also made brief contact with the previously unvisited MUKABUKEY group and with the almost entirely uncontacted KIKERU and BITARA groups. It was endeavoured by this patrol to consolidate and extend what contact had been made.

Most of the areas visited in this region had not previously been patrolled, and no prior census work had therefore been performed.

In Patrol Report No. 6 of 1962/63 I discussed at length the various groups now under consideration, describing their environment, customs, dress, etc. Since I will not be repeating myself in this report, I refer the reader to this fact.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Since almost all people encountered were being contacted for the first time, the party aimed at establishing good and friendly relations with everyone met. As a goodwill gesture various small gifts and amounts of highly-prized salt were distributed. Trade goods were also exchanged for local foodstuffs brought forward.

Where deserted houses were come across salt was left behind for the absent dwellers. Thus it was intended to reveal our good intentions.

A carrier line of Waskuk Hills men accompanied the patrol, and the patrol was entirely self-sufficient. This apparently put the locals much more at ease.

(i) BITARA.

The names of some 208 BITARA people were gathered. Census figures are attached and the settlements visited are shown on the patrol map. All the BITARA groups censused were found in the area between the April River and Meifa Creek (one of the two main tributaries of the Wogamush River). They are in settlements on these watercourses, or else in the swamp-lands or the fringe of the mountain range in between.

These people are scattered everywhere throughout this general area which is rather inaccessible to outsiders. A recent trend seems to be a drift from the hinterland to settlements on the April River, and on and in the vicinity of Meifa Creek.

Generally the people here are still quite reticent to be met, and it was apparent on a number of occasions that we were being obviously avoided. There were no willing guides or interpreters (except at SIO—here two former plantation workers who spoke pidgin), and in this area a young KIKERU man led us to the various settlements.

No BITARA people wished to accompany us back to the Station. However, the people were impressed by the party, and goods received were appreciated. Medical treatment given should also do much to make the BITARA people somewhat more responsive in the future.

There are still small, scattered groups in this area who as yet remain uncontacted, and who will continue to stay so for many years to come, due mainly to the geographical nature of the region. At least half of the BITARA people met at Yafkol in November (22) were not met or heard of again by this patrol. Amongst them was one definite pygmy type prev. mentioned. Also interesting to note that the patrol in 1961 which walked across from the Leonard Shultz to the April Ry (to the south of my route between the April and Meifa) ^{was} quite close to the four settlements we visited on the 24th; oblivious to the fact they were there. The 60 odd people we met here say they observed that patrol's progress, but made no effort to make their presence known.

(ii) KIKERU.

A handful of these people were met in November at Yesuar, and some half a dozen or so who had ventured forth to Wagu were met here in December (see Pat. 8 of 1962/63). The latter were told by myself to expect a patrol within a few weeks, and were encouraged to bring forward as many of their people as possible to meet the return patrol. They responded very well. Some 70 names of KIKERU people were gathered, most of these being members of this group who had gathered on the April at Yesuar (referred to Pat. 6 as Tuhipiyo). Quite reliable sources hold that those censused constitute the entire KIKERU group, and this I would say appears probable, with the expected exception of the odd family group, living and wandering more off the beaten track than the rest.

Since contact was made with this particular ^{GROUP} in 1961, and again twice in 1962, most of them have decided to establish a general and more central settlement along the banks of the April at Yesuar. The building of a number of houses is at present underway, and the people are gradually leaving scattered and isolated swamp dwellings to make a more permanent centre on the April.

In contrast to the BITARA and MUKABUKEY people, a number of KIKERU men expressed their desire to find work. Assistance is being given at Ambunti to those who ^{wish} temporarily to leave their present environment and seek outside employment as labour.

(iii) MUKABUKEY.

Apart from a small number of deserted bush houses and old gardens, some six main MUKABUKEY settlements were visited by the patrol. Just over one hundred were met in all these various settlements, and initial census work was carried ~~very~~ out. Guide-interpreter difficulties were not altogether absent, and most of the locating of settlements was carried out by the patrol party off our own bat. One local who had been brought back to Ambunti by us in November, accompanied, and was most useful, until, without a word he vanished into sago swamp and left us.

The largest settlement located was that of Parkwai. Some four houses existed around the area of the settlement. Of these there were two main dwellings. One, a long, community-type house, was built some 15 feet above the ground on a steep ridge. The other was built some 40 feet above the ground, and was also on a high and steep ridge. Several very large trees have had the tops lopped off them, and the house has been built around the trunks and branches of them, being supported by a lattice-work of bush timber. It has a room used for cooking about 15-20 feet above the ground, and then the main living room above it, some 40 feet or so above ground-level. Around the top room is a verandah which acts as a 'lookout' or 'sentry box' for the occupants of this dwelling-come-fortress, giving a commanding view of the surrounding country for many miles. Two similar houses were found further up the April, one at Namsari, and one at a Parkwai garden along the upper April.

The fact that the MUKABUKEY still builds his house in this manner tends to point towards assumption that he is living in fear of possible attack by outsiders. No evidence that tribal fighting is still the order of the day was apparent, and it appears that such fighting has ceased over recent years. I feel that fear of their neighbour is to-day more instinctive than anything else.

A move is now afoot amongst these people to consolidate a number of the smaller settlements, and to concentrate on building up the two centres of Nasuar and Parkwai. They profess now, that since the government has visited their area and also that of traditional enemy G'nom they are much more at ease.

(iv) G'HOM.

Several more G'hom people not sighted in November when the people were first come across, were met by this patrol. Two to three days were spent in the vicinity of the main G'hom settlement. Total population accounted for now numbers one hundred and seven persons.

These members of the Wagu-Yigei linguistic group, friendly and well disposed toward the party, welcomed us back to their domain.

Though only two months have elapsed since the first visit here, and some six weeks since their headman (who accompanied us back) returned from Ambunti, they have already completed two government rest houses.

The headman's young son accompanied us back to Ambunti for a visit, and as I write, the headman, Waga, has just arrived for his second visit to Ambunti. There are no coconuts whatsoever at G'hom, and so a number of coconut seedlings are being sent back to G'hom with the chief.

(v) BUKA/BIKOW.

The reported but uncontacted BIKOW group, mentioned in my previous report, were not sighted but signs of habitation were come across.

Several louse-ridden, deserted houses, were located along the upper reaches of the April. They belonged to people that the MUKABUKEY knows as "BUKA". It appears that the "BIKOW" (as called by G'hom) and "BUKA" are probably one and the same group of people. They are of a different linguistic group to either MUKABUKEY or G'HOM.

It was confirmed that at least eleven people lived in a deserted house near YAFISIMAE Creek. We were told by the MUKABUKEY people that the BUKA group living here had built a raft and journeyed down the April, intending to walk through the Bitara territory to SIO, where they had heard they could obtain steel. We followed various foot-paths and attempted to find further trace of them but without avail. Everything of course was left undisturbed, and salt was left behind. We later visited SIO on the Meifa (arm of the Wogamush) and as was guessed the story that the BUKA had gone to SIO proved to be a fabrication. None of the MUKABUKEY crowd wanting to journey into BUKA country, probably invented this story for some reason, such as to get more salt from us through us spending more time with them, or for any number of a host of reasons of their own, among them the fact that is still 'enemy' territory to them.

In the foothills of the Double Mountain Range, both those above the Shitipa River and those traversed in the upper reaches of the April itself, these BUKA/BIKOW people were not sighted. Only once was there any visible sign to denote habitation in this area. Late one afternoon near our furthest April camp footprints belonging to unseen local inhabitants were observed. Rain erased these traces during the night.

As I was due back Ambunti late in January to prepare to proceed to A.S.O.P.A., I was not able to proceed into these mountains and up the April and numerous headwaters to the extent that I'd have liked to. I feel that there is more population to be sought out in these Double Mountains and in the vicinity of Double Mountain itself, and also further up the April and its tributaries than has yet been traversed. The population here, scattered over wide and rugged expanses of country, will probably only prove to be fairly scanty. Maybe the MUKABUKEY and G'hom people will come to light with a bit of information on the area. They know much more than they are willing to impart at present. Which is next to nothing. The only information given is that they "used to" fight with these people, and that they live in high tree-houses and limestone-caves in the mountains. No knowledge of actual whereabouts or routes into the area was disclosed.

A site which provides as a good base camp has been established at the mouth of the Shitipa (good canoe anchorage also) and sweet potatoe, taro etc. was planted here.

HEALTH.

Medical Orderly, GOLMAN, from Ambunti Hospital accompanied, and proved a most useful member of the patrol party. Yaws was quite prevalent amongst all groups encountered by us, and some 87 cases of yaws were treated amongst the 500 odd people met. All yaws treated at G'hom, Yafkol and Kerptom in November has now cleared up. This in itself is a major step in enhancing the Administration's reputation in this region.

SUMMARY.

A number of previously un-visited MUKABUKEY, BITARA, and KIKERU settlements were patrolled and contact made with their people. Some 378 names were gathered in this initial census of this common linguistic group. A number of uncontacted G'hom people were also met and censused. So, in all, some 400 new names were recorded by the patrol in the April River environs.

A small group of as yet uncontacted BUKA/BIKOW people also located by the patrol.

CONCLUSION.

The patrol achieved its purpose.

J.O. Hunter
J.O. Hunter, Patrol Off.

S.D.O. Ambunti

31st January, 1963.

Commissioner of Police
KONEDOBU.

5149 Const. 1st Class EDMUN. OBIT.

5/1-26/1/63. April River and Conduct Tireless worker,
environs. Excellent. resourceful, and J.O. Hunter
always dependable.
Twenty two days.

Ambunti Patrol No. 9 of 1962/63.

I strongly recommend this N.C.O. for promotion.

J.O. Hunter
J.O. Hunter.
Patrol Officer.

S.D.O. Ambunti.

31st January, 1963.

Commissioner of Police
KONEDOBU.

9295

Constable SAMUK-NAMBAL

5-26/1/63. April River and environs. Conduct Is a good,
Twenty-two days. Good. smart J.O. Hunter
Constable.

Ambunti Patrol No. 9 of 1962/63.

J.O. Hunter
J.O. Hunter.
Patrol Officer.

S.D.O. Ambunti

31st January, 1963.

Commissioner of Police
KONEDOBU.

7863

Constable Carwi-Tori

26/1/63. April River and
twenty two days. environs.

Conduct
Good.

At times indolent,
but is capable.

J.O. HUNTER

Ambunti Patrol No. 9 of 1962/63.

J.O. Hunter
J.O. Hunter.
Patrol Officer.

S.D.O. Ambunti

31st January, 1963.

Commissioner of Police

KONEDOBU.

6672

Constable Ufer

5-26/1/63. April River and
environs.
Twenty two days.

Conduct good. Unassuming,
and a quiet, steady
worker. J.O. Hunter.

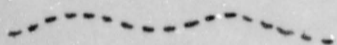
Ambunti Patrol No. 9 of 1962/63.

J.O. Hunter
J.O. Hunter
Patrol Officer.

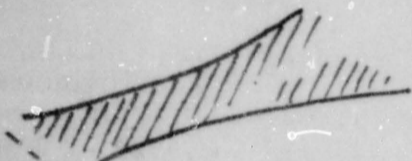
SKETCHMAP TO ACCOMPANY PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 9
of 1962 - 1963.

Map taken from Ambunti sheets Army Fourmil 1943.

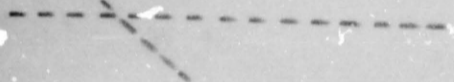
LEGEND.



Route taken by the Patrol.



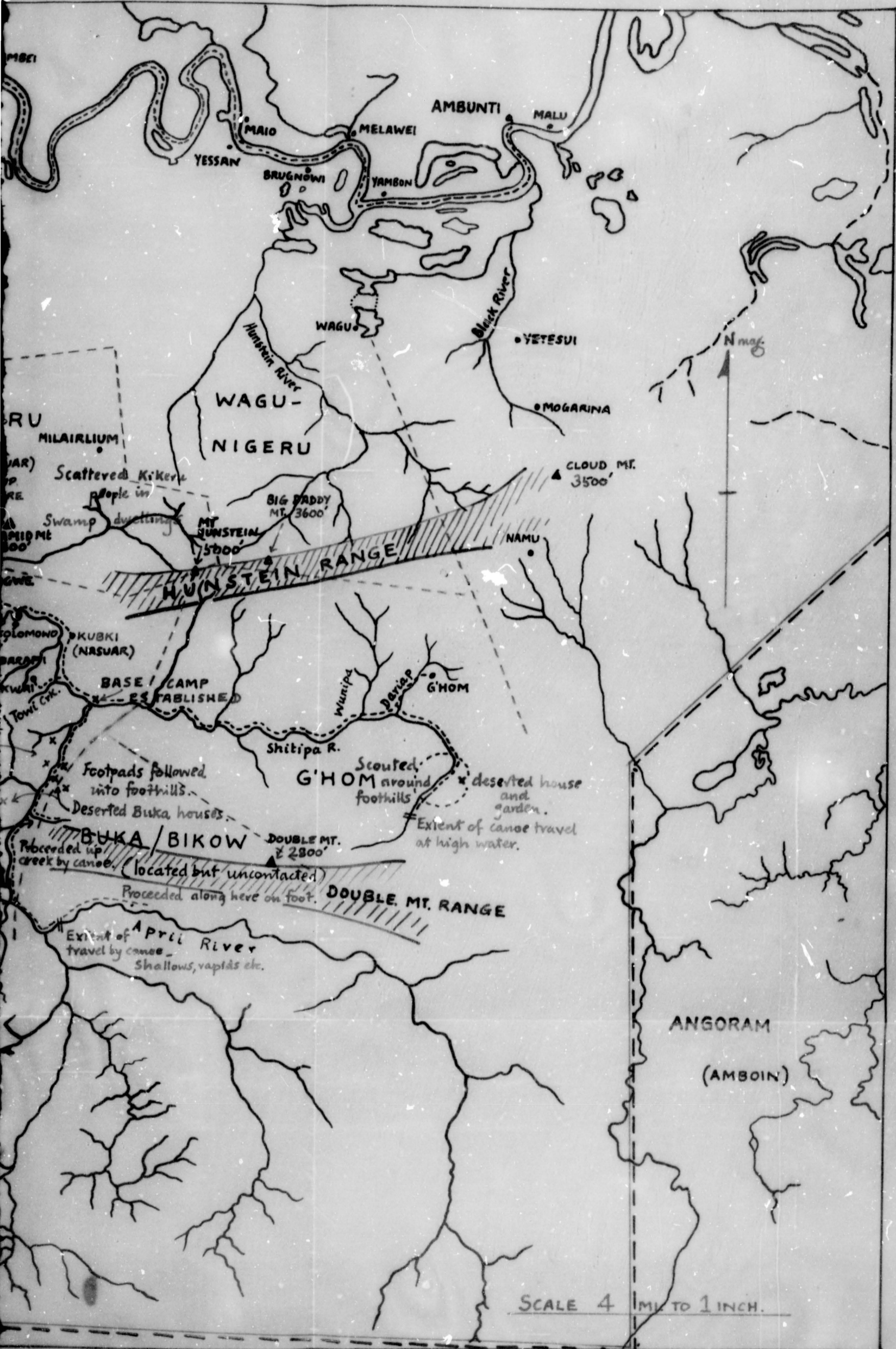
Chief Mountain Ranges.



Suggested Group Boundaries.

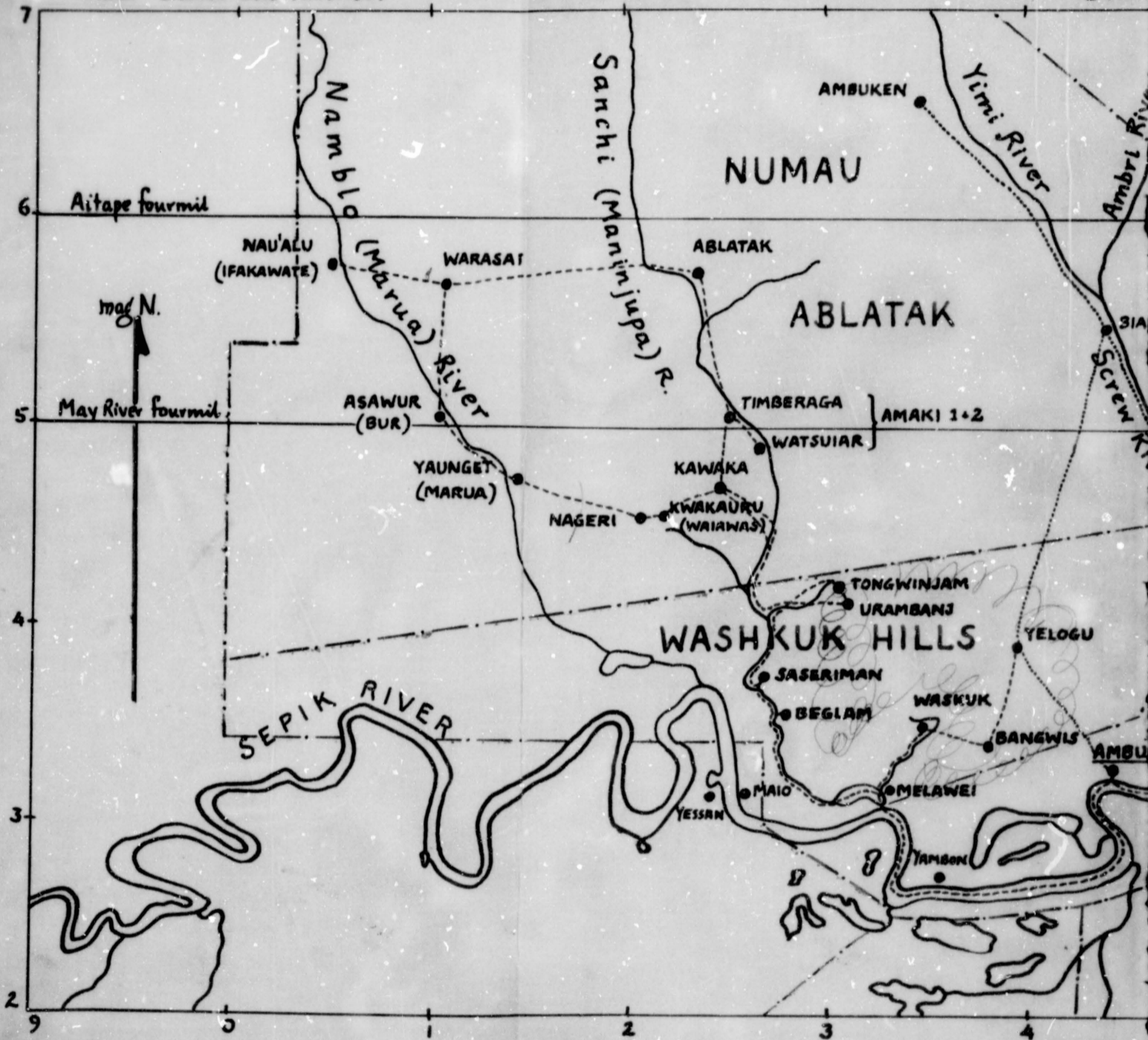


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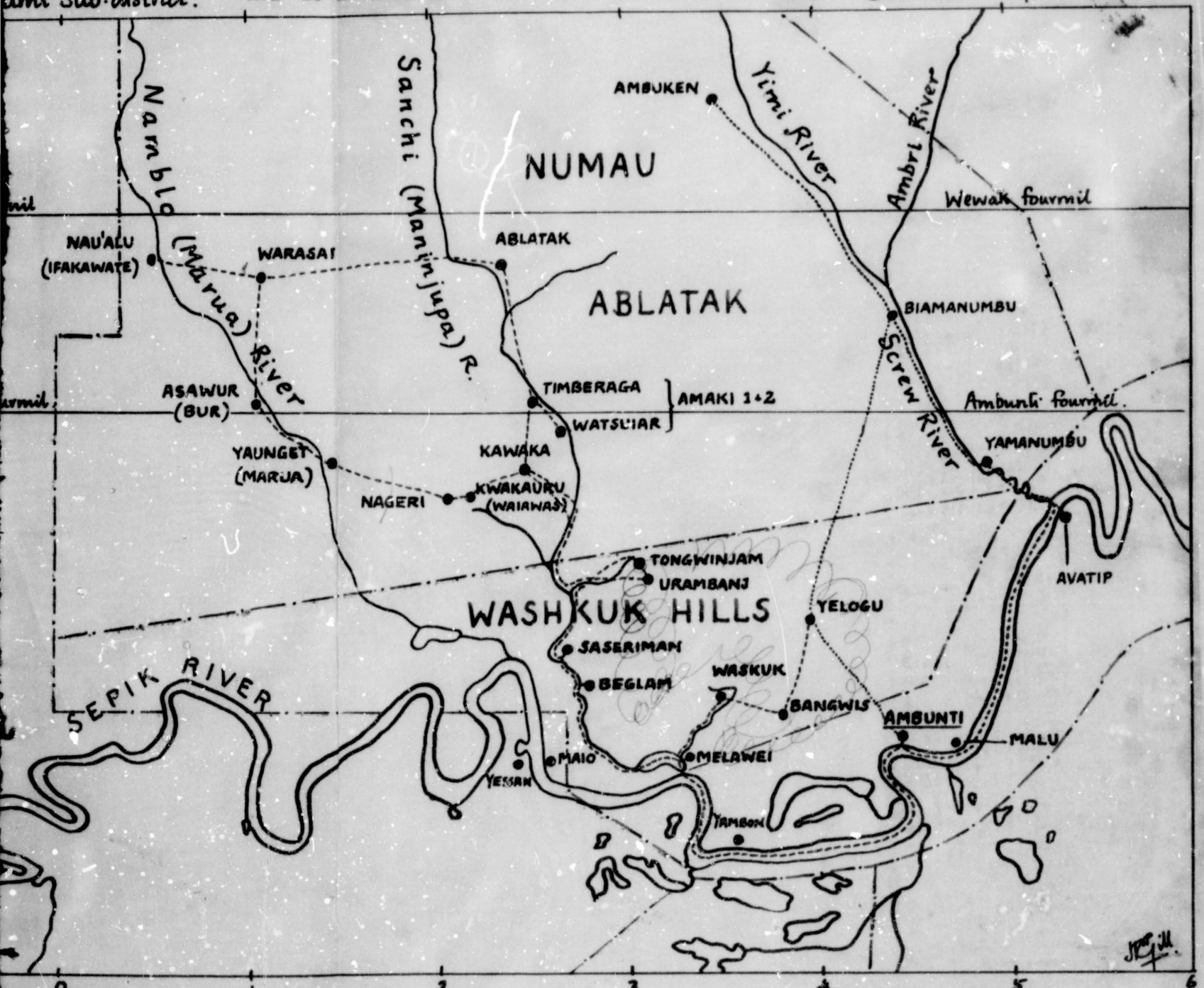
Nuku - Lumi Sub-district.

MAP TO ACCOMPANY PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI 12 '62/63 Dreik



ami Sub-district.

MAP TO ACCOMPANY PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI 12 '62/63 Dreikikir-Maprik Sub-dist.



Census Division boundaries.

Patrol Route followed.

Scale 4mi to 1 inch.

J.P.M.

9-13	Over 13	Females in Child Birth	
M	F	M	F

67-8-63

21st August, 1963.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
WMAK.

PATROL REPORT NO. 12-62/63 - ANHUTU.

Receipt of the abovementioned Patrol Report and covering comments is acknowledged with thanks.

The remarks by the Assistant District Officer to yourself adequately cover the content of the report and I am gratified to note that the people continue to progress.

I am pleased to note that savings bank pass books were inspected. Whether they have had any recent account on them or not, the holders should be told to go to the District Office in order that interest may be assessed and noted in the books.

I am gratified to note that the attitude throughout the area is good and that the people have overcome their disappointment in the failure of their bean crops.

A very heartening report.

(J. K. McCarthy),
Director.

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67.8.63



67-3-2

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

28th June, 1963

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 12 of 1962/63 - WASKUK HILLS
NUMGU-ABIATAK CENSUS DIVISIONS - MR. H.W.GILL C.P.O.

Both in the thorough manner in which he conducted his patrol and in the excellent presentation of his report, Mr. Gill has maintained his previous high standard; the report gives a most detailed and interesting account of these areas.

You have covered adequately various matters contained in the report which required comment.

Extracts will be made of the sections relating to Agriculture, Education, Health, Anthropology/Ethnology and forwarded to the relevant authorities. The matter of Personal Tax will be taken up separately on the appropriate file.

Only two copies of the census sheets were received; three are required at this office.

G.L.

(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

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67.1.1/368

Sub District Office,
AMBUNTI.

14th June 1963.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
WEWAK.

Ambunti Patrol Report No.12-1962/3.

Please find herewith two copies of the above report submitted by Mr. H.W. GILL, C.P.O. and also his claim for camping allowance. The report is well written and I consider that Mr. Gill has carried out an excellent patrol.

The WASKUK people appear to be one of the most industrious groups in this sub district. Excellent progress has been made with the coffee plantings and the fact that a fifty foot canoe is ready and waiting for an Agricultural Officer is a further indication of the people's enthusiasm. It would be appreciated if this could be again brought to the notice of the D.A.O. WEWAK, as I think an Agricultural Officer at Ambunti could in some way compensate for the repeated delays and broken promises of the Administration in regard to the establishment of Co-ops, Councils and the Patrol Post at PAGWI.

An Agricultural Officer posted here, would also relieve the D.N.A. Staff at AMBUNTI of many hours of work each week and patrol, which could be devoted to other projects. It could also be mentioned to the D.A.O. that single accommodation is available now.

Unfortunately the report on the NUMAU-ABLATAK people is not as encouraging, but if more frequent patrols, both D.N.A and Agricultural could be carried out in this area the position could be improved. The feeling of isolation may be removed by the establishment of the grass airstrip at AMBUKEN, by the A.O.G. Mission, see page 7 of the report.

I fully agree with Mr. Gill's remarks (p.9), that government schools be established in this area. Please refer my 26-1-1/304 of 10.5.63 to the D.C. WEWAK. I support Mr. Gill's remarks that the schools be established at TONGWINJAM and KAWAKA.

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More frequent patrolling and the possible establishment of a school at KAWAKA should also help in combating the problems of the Aid Post at KAWAKA (see page 10). These rumours were investigated and it has been decided to send a member of the R.P.N.G.C. each month to visit this aid post and to make a report to the A.D.O. at AMBUNTI. Meantime conditions have reverted to normal.

At the same time of the above mentioned monthly visits the Police Constable will be expected to visit these hitherto hidden hamlets like BAMIU (4 - Native Affairs). Instructions will be given for these to be cleaned and inspected by the next patrolling officer.

The fact that ceremonial dances and the use of hand drums does not meet with the approval of the Missions (Page 9) is a pity, as these people have so little in the way of recreation and amusement. Their life at ABLATAK appears to be one long struggle against the mosquitoes and a monotonous diet of sago.

During recent discussions held with members of the station, both European and native, it was decided to commence holding a weekly market at AMBUNTI, (refer Page 6). I hope in the future to advise you of the outcome of this venture.


It is recommended that during the next patrol of the WASKUK group an income survey be conducted with view to Head Tax being levied. Reference page 11, Mr. Gill's report. An income survey was not conducted this patrol due to prior staff commitments in connection with the Common Roll Compilation.

I am pleased to report that the Common Roll has been completed in these two census divisions, viz. WASKUK and NUMAU-ABLATAK.

Reference the ethnographical specimens mentioned page 11, could you please advise the District Commissioner that these carvings are available if the Administration wishes to purchase them. I strongly support Mr. Gill's remarks re a Sepik Museum being established at WEWAK. This could prove a very good tourist attraction and could be sponsored by the Local Government Councils of the Sepik District as a joint effort, built in the style of an original "Haus Tambaran".

In conclusion I would like to commend Mr. Gill on the manner in which his patrol was carried out and in which it was presented. Would you please find map attached.

For your information and advice, please


J. COCHRANE, A.D.O.

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67-1-1/367

Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI,
South Sepik District.

11 June, 1963.

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI Sub-District,
South Sepik District.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO.12 of '62/'63

In accordance with your Patrol instructions in your
67-1-2 of 13/6/63 for a Patrol to the Waskuk Hills and Numsu-Ablatak
census divisions, please find attached herewith my Patrol Report
and claims for camping allowance.

H.W. Gill
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H.W. Gill.
Cadet Patrol Officer.

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Sub District Office,
AMBUNTI.

13.5.63

Mr. Gill,
Cadet Patrol Officer,
AMBUNTI.

AMBUNTI P.R. No. 12 of 1962/3.

Would you please prepare to leave on Tuesday
the 14th May 1963, and patrol the Waskuk C.D. and the
NUMAH-ABLATAK C.D.

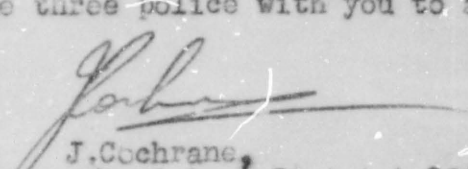
Please revise the census and Compile the
Common Roll- refer file 1/7/1/ in this connection. The
patrol should be of a routine nature in all other respects.

Check on housing and hygiene in all villages
and check on any previous instructions given to see they
have been carried out.

Also check on coffee and coconut projects and
all other aspects of economic development. Take FIELD Ast.
LABAU with you to give technical advice where necessary.

Please refer file 7.1.1 re Native Artifacts,
District Commissioner's letter of 1st March 1963, and
investigate.

You should take three police with you to assist
on the patrol.


J. Cochrane,
s/Assistant District Officer.

PATROL REPORT

AMBUNTI NO. 12 of 1962/63.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY:

H.W.Gill. C.P.O.

ACCOMPANIED BY:

1 SEN. CONST. RP&NGC
2 CONSTABLES.
1 A.F.W.
1 A.P.O.

AREA PATROLLED:

WASKUK HILLS
NUMAU-ABLATAK
Census Sub-Divisions.

DURATION OF PATROL:

14/5/63 to 30/5/63
and 3/6/63 to 6/6/63

NUMBER OF DAYS:

TWENTY

OBJECTS OF PATROL:

CENSUS REVISION
COMPILATION OF COMMON ELECTORAL
ROLL
ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION.

MAP REFERENCE:

Ambunti, May River, Aitape and
Wewak sheets Army Formil 1943.

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PATROL DIARY.

Tuesday, 14th May, 1963

0845. Patrol departed in single outboard-powered canoe.
1130. Arrived MELAWEI village, Waskak lagcon. Teeming rain.
Made camp.
1300. Village assembled. Census revised and Common Roll
compiled.
In afternoon inspected all coffee gardens.
Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 15th May, 1963.

0745. Departed MELAWEI.
0815. Arrived WASKOK. Canoe left halfway down stream as water
too low for further progress. Villagers assembled,
census revised and Common Roll compiled. Health check
by A.P.O. NUMEIWUL of MELAWEI. AFW LABAO inspected all
coffee gardens.
1430. Inspected village and checked CSB passbooks. One minor
complaint heard and settled. Remainder of p.m. spent
typing out Common Roll. Informal talks with V/Os in
evening. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 16th May, 1963.

0715. Departed WASKOK with 28 carriers.
0800. Arrived BANGWIS. National Anthem sung. Paid carriers
and left main Patrol party at BANGWIS to set up camp.
Self and Sen. Constable continued on to YELCGU village.
1010. Arrived YELOGU. Census revised, Common Roll compiled
health check by A.P.O. AFW inspected coconuts. Inspected
village. Departed YELOGU at 1230.
1420. Returned to BANGWIS. Remainder of afternoon spent typing
out Common Roll. Informal talks with V/Os in evening.
Remained overnight.

Friday, 17th May, 1963.

0830. Villagers assembled. Census revised and Common Roll
compiled, passbooks checked. Health inspection by A.P.O.
AFW inspected all coffee and rice gardens.
1000. Inspected village. Spent until 1400 typing Common Roll
Departed for BEGLAM - by path then by motor canoe.
1630. Arrived BEGLAM. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 18th May, 1963.

0830. Revised census, compiled Common Roll, checked passbooks.
Health check by A.P.O. and all coffee and coconut gardens
inspected by AFW. Inspected village. Heard one complaint,
parties involved sent to Ambunti.
1130. Departed by canoe for SASERIMAN, arriving there at midday.
Village assembled, census revised and Common Roll compiled.
Health check by A.P.O. One sick child sent to Ambunti.
AFW inspected coffee and coconut gardens. Checked passbooks
and inspected village. No complaints. Departed for
TONGWINJAM at 1400. Stream very dry and blocked in places
by grass.
1700. Abandoned canoe at landing place half an hour's walk from
TONGWINJAM. Carriers already organised. Made camp at
TONGWINJAM at 1730. Remained overnight.

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PATROL DIARY (cont'd)

Sunday, 19th May, 1963.

Day observed at TONGWINJAM. Walked round village in afternoon and spent some time typing Common Roll. Informal talks with KAUMINJA, Luluai of TONGWINJAM and YAMBOKAI, Tultul. Remained overnight.

Monday, 20th May, 1963.

0830. Villagers assembled, census revised, Common Roll compiled, passbooks checked. Health check by A.P.O. assisted by A.P.O. from TONGWINJAM Aid Post. Talks given to encourage cash cropping.

1030. AFW, accompanied by all interested, left to inspect all coffee, rice and coconut gardens. Self inspected village and walked to visit old 'Haus man' situated on top of hill at site of old village. All afternoon spent typing out Common Roll. Informal talks with V/os in evening. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 21st May, 1963.

0800. Broke camp. Carriers took patrol gear on to canoe landing by path. Self and Sen. Constable proceeded on foot to URAMBANJ, inspecting TONGWINJAM Aid Post en route.

0830. Assembled villagers at URAMBANJ, revised census and compiled Common Roll, checked passbooks and made enquiries re. state of preservation of old 'Haus man' carved posts etc. A.P.Os checked health. AFW inspected all coffee gardens. Inspected village and departed at 0915 for the canoe landing.

0945. Departed canoe landing in paddle canoe. One hour's paddle upstream to 'Terrp' another canoe landing. Organised carriers and proceeded on foot to KAWAKA, arriving at 1200. Paid off carriers, set up camp, issued instructions for following day's programme. Most of p.m. spent typing out Common Roll. Inspected village in evening and AFW inspected coffee gardens. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 22nd May, 1963.

0730. Village assembled, census revised and Common Roll compiled. Health checked by A.P.O. Checked passbooks and gave talks to encourage cash cropping. Two minor complaints heard and settled.

1130. Departed on foot for AMAKI.

1215. Arrived AMAKI. Set up camp and issued instructions for following day. All afternoon spent typing Common Roll. Informal talks with V/Os in evening. AFW inspected coffee gardens. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 23rd May, 1963.

0700. Villagers assembled, census revised and Common Roll compiled. Checked passbooks. Health check by A.P.O. Talks given on cash cropping.

0900. Carriers and two Constables police departed ahead with patrol gear for ABLATAK village. Self and Sen. Constable remained to inspect village, A.P.O. also. Proceeded next to WATSUIAR hamlet (AMAKI no.2) - one hour's travel by paddle canoe. Inspected hamlet and returned to AMAKI no 1 (TIMBERAGA).

1200. Departed AMAKI on foot for ABLATAK.

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PATROL DIARY (cont'd)Thursday, 23rd May, 1963 (cont'd)

1300. Arrived ABLATAK. Villagers to cleaning village and cutting grass. AFW inspected all coffee gardens. Remainder of day spent typing Common Roll. Informal talks with V/Os in evening. Remained overnight.

Friday, 24th May, 1963.

0700. Villagers assembled, census revised, Common Roll compiled and passbooks checked. Health check by A.P.O. Two cases sent to Ambunti for treatment. Inspected village and issued works programme. No complaints. Organised carriers who proceeded on ahead with two constables police on foot to WARASAI village.
1000. Self and Sen. Constable departed for WARASAI.
1400. Arrived WARASAI. Paid off carriers, set up camp. V/Os from NAU'ALU and ASAWUR reported to the Patrol. Remainder of afternoon spent typing Common Roll. Informal talks with V/Os in evening. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 25th May, 1963.

0730. Departed on foot for NAU'ALU accompanied by Sen Constable and one constable police.
0900. Arrived NAU'ALU, census revised, Common Roll compiled and passbooks checked. Health check by A.P.O. Six cases sent back for treatment at KAWAKA Aid Post. Inspected village and inspected coffee gardens with AFW. No complaints. Issued works programme and departed for WARASAI at 1215.
1345. Returned to WARASAI. Remainder of p.m. spent typing Common Roll. AFW inspected WARASAI coffee gardens. Remained overnight.

Sunday, 26th May, 1963. Observed - at WARASAI.Monday, 27th May, 1963.

0700. Villagers assembled, census revised and Common Roll compiled, passbooks inspected. Health check by A.P.O. - one case to accompany Patrol back to Ambunti for treatment. Inspected village and issued works programme. No complaints.
0900. Departed for ASAWUR on foot.
1015. Arrived ASAWUR (BUR). Assembled villagers and carried out routine work. Talks given to encourage coffee planting. Health check and inspection of coffee gardens and village. Issued works programme. No complaints. Departed for YAUNGET at 1145.
1230. Arrived YAUNGET. Paid off carriers and set up camp. Issued instructions for following day. Remainder of day spent typing Common Roll. Informal talks with V/Os in evening. Remained overnight at YAUNGET.(MARUC).

Tuesday, 28th May, 1963.

0700. Villagers assembled, census revised and Common Roll compiled, passbooks checked. Health check by A.P.O. - six cases of conjunctivitis sent to KAWAKA Aid Post for treatment. Inspected village and issued works programme. AFW inspected coffee gardens. No complaints. Departed for NAGERI and KWAKAURU at 0945.

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PATROL DIARY (cont'd).Tuesday, 28th May, 1963 (cont'd).

1130. Arrived NAGERI, met by Village Officials. Proceeded straight on to KWAKAURU, arriving there at 1145. Paid off carriers. Issued instructions for following day's programme. Remainder of day spent typing Common Roll. In evening informal talks with V/Os. KAUMINJA, Luluai of TONGWINJAM, who had been accompanying Patrol, returned from Ambunti with mail and supplies. Learned from him of two hamlets still used by NAU'ALU and WARASAI villagers near the NIKU border.
A 'Sing-sing' took place. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 29th May, 1963.

0800. To NAGERI on foot. Census revised and Common Roll compiled, passbooks checked and health checked by A.P.O. AFW inspected all coffee gardens for both villages. Inspected village and issued extensive works programme.
1000. Returned to KWAKAURU, assembled villagers and carried out routine work and Common Roll. All afternoon spent typing Common Roll.
1715. Inspected village and issued works programme. No complaints. Arranged carriers and paddlers for tomorrow's return to Ambunti. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 30th May, 1963.

0630. Self, Sen. Constable and one constable police, accompanied by Tultul of KWAKAURU departed on foot for KAWAKA by bad bush track. One police constable delegated to organise carriage of patrol gear by track to canoe landing, thence by paddle canoe by stream to KAWAKA landing place at 'TERRP'.
0830. Arrived KAWAKA. Inspected Aid Post and lined and checked all patients to ensure that the numbers agreed with the totals given by V/Os from various villages during course of Patrol. Several inaccuracies revealed.
0945. Departed KAWAKA. On foot to 'TERRP' landing place.
1000. Arrived 'TERRP'. Temporary solution effected to a dispute between TONGWINJAM and KAWAKA over fishing rights boundary on APWUR stream. Villagers and V/Os of both villages present and satisfied.
1115. Departed 'TERRP' by paddle canoe. One hour's paddle down to the TONGWINJAM canoe landing. Rendezvoused with patrol cargo at exactly midday. Loaded gear into TONGWINJAM motor canoe, paid off carriers and paddlers and departed for Ambunti at 1215.
1500. Brief stop at MELAMEI to offload A.P.O. NUMEIWUL who would rejoin Patrol later on second stage.
1645. Arrived AMBUNTI. Gear unloaded. Paid off Luluai for hire of canoe. Patrol stood down temporarily.

Friday, 31st May, 1963 to Sunday, 2nd May, 1963.

At AMBUNTI.

Visit by District Officer. Station inspection etc.

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PATROL DIARY (cont'd)

Monday, 3rd June, 1963.

1115. Departed AMBUNTI in Govt. single canoe.
1230. Arrived AVATIP. Arrangements made for carriers to accompany Patrol on following day. Inspected Aid Post.
1330. Departed AVATIP. Proceeded slowly up Screw River.
1430. Arrived YAMANUMBU. Place deserted. Set up camp and sent word out for villagers to return.
1530. Villagers lined, census and Common Roll work completed and health checked. One complaint heard. Walked to site of old village.
1809. Flag ceremony.
Informal talks with Village Officials in evening. Overnight.

Tuesday, 4th June, 1963.

0700. Departed on foot for BIAMANUMBU. Carriers from AVATIP arrived as pre-arranged. 0845. Passed old Rest House site.
1000. Arrived BIAMANUMBU. Paid off carriers.
Informal talks with V/Os. Learned of the existence of a walking track from here to YELOGU - previously not walked by Patrols.
1400. Villagers assembled. Census and Common Roll work carried out, health checked. Inspected both hamlets - LAMBAWA and KOMANJUI. One aged man discovered - from MOI village in Naprik Sub-District, name not recorded in Census books yet.
1800. Flag ceremony.
Informal talks with villagers in evening. Discussed cash cropping.

Wednesday, 5th June, 1963.

0700. Departed on foot for AMBUKEN. Good, dry track.
0930. Arrived AMBUKEN. Villagers assembled, census and Common Roll work completed, health checked. Two cases sent to AVATIP Aid Post for treatment. No complaints.
Inspected village and organised carriers to assist men from BIAMANUMBU on the track back to the Sepik tomorrow.
1300. Departed AMBUKEN. To OGEI, old site of Tulbil's hamlet, thence to PA'ASKO, new proposed site for hamlet. Rejoined main walking track and continued back to BIAMANUMBU.
1615. Arrived back BIAMANUMBU.
Remainder of day spent typing Common Roll and making preparations for return to AMBUNTI on following day.
Remained overnight.

Thursday, 6th June, 1963.

0630. Departed BIAMANUMBU on foot accompanied by one constable police and two guides. Made for YELOGU by new track. Other Patrol personnel and carriers, cargo returned to Sepik by road, there to await arrival of Govt. canoe.
0800. Met up with several men from both BIAMANUMBU and YELOGU who had been sent ahead the previous day to cut the road. Skirted YAU, a bush settlement used by villagers from YELOGU. Continued on through old site of YELOGU village.
0900. Entered very unpleasant swamp.
1045. Emerged at YELOGU. Inspected village.
1115. Continued on to AMBUNTI with two new guides.
1430. Arrived back at AMBUNTI. Part of remainder of pm in office.
1600. Govt. canoe with Patrol personnel and gear arrived back.
Patrol completed.

End of Diary.

INTRODUCTION.

The Patrol visited the WASKUK HILLS and NUMAU-ABLATAK census Sub-Divisions.

These two areas cover some five hundred square miles to the North North-West of AMBUNTI.

The only high ground in the two Sub-Divisions consists of the series of low mountain ranges that comprise the WASKUK HILLS, stretching in a haphazard chain from TONGWINJAM, through BEGLAM and MELAWEI and out to YELOGU. Apart from these hills and one or two small knolls between TONGWINJAM and KAWAKA (on one of which KAWAKA is situated) there is practically no land which is not subject to inundation to some extent in times of high water. The whole of the NUMAU-ABLATAK area is quite flat and becomes one large swamp in wet weather. At the present time of year, however, the country is comparatively dry and walking is not unpleasant.

Three main waterways drain the Sub-Divisions. The NAMBLO river flows through the Western third of the areas from its source in the NUKU mountains to its confluence with the SEPIK near MAIC. The SANCHI, which also rises across the NUKU border, is a fast flowing river. It cuts the Sub-Divisions in two in a North-South direction and has eight villages on its banks. It finds its way into the SEPIK via the WASKUK lagoon. The third waterway, the YIMI and the AMBRI rivers, which combine to form the SCREW river, flows from the DREIKIKIR direction to join the SEPIK opposite AVATIP village.

Vegetation in the two Sub-Divisions consists of thick rain forest on the hills and vast stands of sago palm and swamp forest on the low ground. Between ABLATAK and AMBUKEN and to the North-East of AMBUKEN there are open stretches of Kunai grass plains.

In the wet season many villages are accessible by motor canoe but, at this time of year, the dry season, only SASERIMAN, BEGLAM, MELAWEI and YAMANUMBU could be reached by water transport. Mosquitoes are appalling in the wet season but give little trouble in the dry.

The last Native Affairs Patrol to the WASKUK HILLS was conducted by Patrol Officer Mr. P.J.Wright, accompanied by myself, in June, 1962 (see Patrol Report Ambunti no. 11 of 1961/62) and the last Native Affairs Patrol to the NUMAU-ABLATAK was conducted by Patrol Officer Mr. J.O.Hunter in September/October, 1962 (see Patrol Report Ambunti no. 4 of 1962/63).

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NATIVE AFFAIRS1. WASKUK HILLS CENSUS DIVISION (8 VILLAGES. TOTAL POP. 1442)

The people here are cheerful, cooperative, pro-Administration and very anxious to see progress in their area. It is a pleasure patrolling a census division where this attitude prevails and where the people actually take steps themselves to benefit themselves instead of having a tendency towards 'words, not deeds', 'hot air, not hard work' - attitudes which seem to be retarding development in certain other parts of the Ambunti Sub-District.

In spite of several setbacks in past years with the failure of cash crops such as peanuts and rice, the Waskuk people have overcome their initial disappointment and, since the introduction of coffee as an economic venture a couple of years ago, have forged ahead with renewed vigour. Nearly every Waskuk village has some successful coffee gardens, many of which are now planted with young trees and it will not be too long now before the people begin to see a return for their hard labours.

Living so close to Ambunti, Waskuk people are regular visitors to the station. Five villages now possess motor canoes and, of those that do not, none is more than a few hours' walking distance from the station. Consequently, all queries and complaints are referred to this office as soon as they arise. Village Officials make periodic trips to Ambunti. As in previous years, very few complaints were brought to the notice of the Patrol; most of those raised being of a trivial nature and able to be satisfactorily settled out of court. One dispute between TONGWINJAM and KAWAKA, a NUMAU-ABLATAK village, concerning fishing rights in a stream, was resolved under my arbitration by the marking of a new boundary agreeable to both parties.

The gradual descent of Waskuk people from their former villages on the hilltops to fresh sites below is still continuing (ref. para 3, p.5, Patrol Report Ambunti no.2 of 1961/1962). The villagers of SASERIMAN are building a new village, MENO, on the banks of the stream at the foot of the hill upon which their present dwellings are situated. It is anticipated that the move will be completed within the year.

With the constant coming and going of people to and from Ambunti it seems that there is a growing desire amongst the Waskuks to build closer to the station. This trend is reflected both in the number of houses appearing on Waskuk land adjacent to the station boundaries and in the fact that several families from Waskuk village d. itself have recently elected to migrate to BANGWIS - a move that brings them a great deal closer to Ambunti. I feel that this is a good thing and probably inevitable. It is natural that a people in such a position should approach as close as they may to the Sub-District headquarters without encroaching on Administration land. There may possibly be sentimental reasons motivating these moves as well for the station was originally Waskuk land and takes its name from a Waskuk 'Tambaran'.

Generally, the Native Affairs position in the Waskuk Hills area is very good. As already stated, the people are cooperative, law-abiding and are definitely working for their own advancement. I consider that whatever advancement they achieve will have been well earned.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.2. NUMAU-ABLATAK CENSUS DIVISION (20 VILLAGES. TOTAL POP. 1713)

The Numau-Ablatak people, particularly those in the villages near the NUKU border, are still rather backward. It may be due to their comparative isolation, their distance from Ambunti and the Sepik river and the uninspiring, mosquito-ridden environment in which they live, that they seem less virile and energetic than their Waskuk neighbours. However, they have shown interest in the progress made by the Waskuks and are making attempts at growing coffee themselves as an economic crop.

This Sub-Division is now virtually divided into two portions. Previously, Patrols were accustomed to follow a route from ABLATAK to AMBUKEN via BONJIRIKA, an ABLATAK hamlet midway between the two villages. However, since the abandonment of BONJIRIKA by its inhabitants, who have moved to a new site, YANGERAK, on the Sanchi river near ABLATAK itself, communications between ABLATAK and AMBUKEN have dwindled. The traffic is now too light and the distance too great to warrant the maintenance of a regular walking track to link them. Thus, the three villages of AMBUKEN, BIAMAN-UMBU and YAMANUMBU are cut off from the rest of the Sub-Division by a natural barrier of dense kunai grass, sago and swamp forest and one is obliged to make a separate trip from Ambunti up the Screw river to visit them.

In actual fact, these three villages have always had closer affiliations with Sepik river and Maprik groups than they have with other Numau-Ablatak peoples. YAMANUMBU and BIAMANUMBU are influenced to a large extent by AVATIP, a Sepik river village, of which they are likely to become mere satellites in the future, while AMBUKEN inclines itself more towards villages such as MOI and NUNGWAI'A in Maprik's Sepik Plains Sub-Division. They give the impression of still being a trifle disorganised amongst themselves. YAMANUMBU is an offshoot of AVATIP, from which it attempts to maintain some degree of independence - a thing it finds rather difficult to do, being so small (pop.28), so close to AVATIP and so much affected by what goes on there.

It seems that the AMBUKEN people are divided into two distinct groups which merged only as the result of Japanese activity during the War. While the Patrol was at AMBUKEN the Tultul expressed the wish to return with his clan to a site called PA'ASKO, which adjoins the original hamlet, AOGEI, (now deserted) occupied in pre-War years. I visited both AOGEI and PA'ASKO. PA'ASKO is in a good situation on the banks of the Yimi river, less than half-an-hour's walk from AMBUKEN and only five minutes' walk off the existing BIAMANUMBU-AMBUKEN track. When the move is completed, PA'ASKO will simply be a hamlet of AMBUKEN.

BIAMANUMBU is split into two hamlets - LAMBAWAR and KOMANJUI. Apparently the LAMBAWAR people are of the same linguistic group as MOI in the Maprik Sub-District, while the KOMANJUIs speak the same dialect as the people of YELOGU in the Waskuk Hills area. Having established this, I made enquiries as to the possibility of a walking track existing between BIAMANUMBU and YELOGU. (Whilst at YELOGU I had made similar enquiries but the villagers there emphatically denied that any roads led out in the BIAMANUMBU direction, claiming that the whole area was an impassable swamp - all other Patrols had been given the same story, too). After a certain amount of interrogation, it was disclosed that quite an adequate track linked the two places and was in regular use. This was confirmed by the convenient arrival at BIAMANUMBU of a youth from YELOGU, who appeared quite by chance overnight, and by the A.P.O. who was accompanying the Patrol, who informed me that he had followed the track several years ago.

NATIVE AFFAIRS. (NUMAU-ABLATAK) cont'd.

Exactly how long it would take to walk to YELOGU was not known. However, when the suggestion was made that the Patrol should return to Ambunti by this new route, estimates of time were offered hastily, estimates that tended to increase in size and pessimism with the dawning on the villagers of the gruesome prospect of carrying Patrol cargo. The unanimous conclusion was that the road was vile and that it would take the best part of two days to reach YELOGU. I decided then to send the Patrol gear back to Ambunti by river and investigate the YELOGU route myself, accompanied by guides and a police constable.

The walking time from BIAMANUMBU to YELOGU was four and a quarter hours and from YELOGU to AMBUNTI approximately three hrs.

The route followed a small stream called WAR, skirted YAU, a bush settlement of YELOGU (whose existence had hitherto been concealed), continued via the former site of YELOGU village itself, which was evacuated in the War when the Japanese were responsible for the YELOGU people retreating to the site they now occupy, and entered a deep swamp before emerging at the foot of YELOGU hill.

The purpose of trying out this route was to see whether it might prove of use to future Patrols combining the Waskuk Hills and Numau-Ablatak census divisions - whether it would serve as a satisfactory land link between the two areas, thereby avoiding the river journey necessary at present. It is clear that it would, in fact, not be a practical proposition. Even at this time of the year, when walking conditions are at their best, two hours were spent traversing a deep swamp bridged by greasy poles. It would not be possible for carriers to make the journey now, let alone in the wet season.

Few complaints were brought to the attention of the Patrol in the Numau-Ablatak. There still remains some animosity between AMAKI and ABLATAK over a land dispute (see Patrol Report Ambunti no. 4 of 1962/63) and the two villages continue to carry on a perpetual game of provocation. The latest occurrence is the alleged pilfering of *Lucana Glauca* seed (coffee shade) from ABLATAK gardens by AMAKI men. This is being looked into. Other complaints were minor and dealt with on the spot.

It is still likely that one or two people are hiding from census - especially in the villages near the NUKU border. Although the Village Officials refuted the suggestion whilst the Patrol was there, I have since learned WARASAI has a bush hamlet known as WAILKIMB which is used by WARASAI villagers. It is believed that this hamlet may be in the NUKU area. When census was taken at WARASAI, many people were absent, 'sick', at GAMO; an Aid Post in the Mamit Sub-District. It was not possible to check on these patients at the time but it is considered not improbable that some of them were actually in hiding at WAILKIMB. NAU'ALU village is also believed to have scattered bush houses where patients, allegedly at Aid Posts, may have been hiding. YAUNGET, too, has a hamlet called BAMIU which is never visited by Patrols. It is proposed to make further investigations concerning these places.

While visiting LAMBAWAR hamlet (BIAMANUMBU), which had not been inspected before by Patrols, I encountered an old man from MOI village - a vagrant, whose name had not been recorded in his village book and, at AMBUKEN, another nomad was discovered, also from MOI. Both these men were told to return to MOI and appear at the next census. The Assistant District Officer, Maprik has been informed about this.

NATIVE AFFAIRS cont'd.GENERAL.

The Patrol was well received at all villages and the National Anthem was sung on several occasions. A 'Sing-Sing' was organised in honour of the Patrol at KWAKAURU in which men and women from both KWAKAURU and NAGERI participated.

A Common Electoral Roll was compiled at each village for male and female adults over the age of eighteen years as at March, 1964. No difficulties were encountered in the compilation of this roll. Brief explanatory talks concerning the purpose of the Common Roll and what it was leading up to were given in all cases. It is doubted whether these explanatory talks made much impression upon the prospective voters.

Commonwealth Savings Bank Passbooks and Firearms Permits were checked throughout the course of the Patrol.

Flag ceremonies were carried out daily at 1800 hrs.

Generally, both census divisions are stable, the Native Affairs position is good and no serious problems are apparent at this time.

AGRICULTURE.(a) Subsistence.

Both census divisions follow the traditional pattern of shifting subsistence agriculture. The staple food is sago, natural stands of which are abundant. The sago staple is supplemented by vegetable crops such as Yam, Mami, Taro, Sweet potato and Sugar cane. Fish are plentiful in the numerous streams and lakes and the bush abounds in game - wild pig, cassowary and scrub turkey being very common. Markets are held with the Sepik river villages of YESSAN, MAIO, YAMBON and AVATIP, when the age-old fish-sago exchange takes place. The people are never short of food.

(b) Economic.

Cash cropping is going ahead well, particularly in the Waskuk Hills sub-division, where gardens are being carefully maintained in first class condition and genuine interest is being shown. In the Numau-Ablatak progress is encouraging, too, but coffee has only recently been introduced into the area and it is difficult to tell whether the garden owners are really enthusiastic or whether they have merely been attracted by the novelty of the scheme. I feel that some budding planters will fall by the wayside through loss of enthusiasm - the years needed by coffee trees to reach bearing stage may seem too long. Nevertheless, things are going well.

Seventeen villages now have coffee gardens. During the course of the Patrol every garden was revisited and inspected by

AGRICULTURE Economic. cont'd.

senior A.F.W. Labau, who offered advice and gave practical assistance to growers where necessary. A large number of these gardens have still to be extended to one acre in size, as required by the Department of Agriculture, but the number of gardens of over one acre has increased noticeably since last year and all of these are fully planted with shade.

Thirteen gardens are already planted with coffee. Nearly every village has at least one nursery of coffee seedlings, which should be ready for transplanting within the next few months. Approximately 45,000 seedlings are coming up in nursery beds at present. Assuming that they all survive and that the gardens are ready to receive them in time, it is probable that the best part of a further one hundred acres of coffee will have been planted in the two sub-divisions by the end of this year, bringing the total land area under coffee to one hundred and twenty odd acres. This will be quite an achievement and will have been largely due to the good supervisory groundwork done by Labau and his team of trainees at Ambunti.

Keen men are continually being chosen from the Waskuk Hills and Numau-Abalatak to attend farmer trainee courses at Bairyik where, amongst other things, they are instructed in all aspects of coffee planting. A few men have been sent to Wewak in recent months to visit the Randaman coffee processing plant.

Rice is being successfully grown in limited quantities at TONGWINJAM and BANGWIS. A few bags have been purchased by the Administration this year.

Several Waskuk villages, notably TONGWINJAM and BANGWIS, carry on quite a steady business by selling native foodstuffs to the Administration at Ambunti and gardens of Sweet potato, Yam, Mami, Taro and banana are cultivated for this purpose. Other foods brought to the station for sale include pineapple, pawpaw, limes, melons, tomatoes, beans and cucumbers.

TONGWINJAM and YELOGU villages have bought seed coconuts from the station nursery and these have been planted out in the recognised fashion. TONGWINJAM now has a sizeable plantation on its hillside. No coconut count was taken on this Patrol. It was considered unnecessary as only these two villages had increased their stock since a count was made in October, 1962. Coconuts are being encouraged as a cash crop but far more interest is being displayed by the people in the growing of coffee.

Once again, the proposal was raised by the Waskuks that a weekly market be established at Ambunti, where produce could be brought in for sale to station personnel and other local natives. (ref. para. 4, p. 4, Patrol Report Ambunti no. 11 of 1961/62). It is doubtful whether the scheme would be successful - supply is so overwhelmingly greater than demand. This was explained to the people.

Throughout the Waskuk Hills sub-division there is a definite feeling of disappointment that an Agricultural Officer has not yet been posted to Ambunti. They ask repeatedly when one is likely to arrive and appear to be almost annoyed that no European representative of the Department of Agriculture has visited their area since all the coffee was planted. There is no doubt a need for an Agricultural Officer here. At TONGWINJAM, by far the most progressive village of the lot, I was shown a fifty foot long canoe, ready and waiting to be put at the disposal of the Agricultural Department at Ambunti. I gathered that the canoe had been built in response to a suggestion made at some

AGRICULTURE Economic. cont'd.

time or another that DASF Ambunti should have its own motor canoe. Perhaps this should be referred again to the District Agricultural Officer for his comments.

Economic agriculture is proceeding better in Waskuk Hills and Numau-Ablatak than in any other sub-divisions in this Sub-District and every encouragement is being given to the people by our Department to continue their good work. I do feel, however, that the stage has been reached when the Department of Agriculture itself should take over more direct guidance of these people by posting an Officer to Ambunti as soon as possible.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The Waskuk area is well served by a system of waterways and, in the wet season, all villages, with the exceptions of BANGWIS and YELOGU, can be reached either by workboat or by motor canoe. In the dry season, only MELAWEI, BEGLAM and SASERIMAN can be reached by water transport as the streams are too shallow. Waterways and walking tracks are always clear and open.

In the Numau-Ablatak sub-division there is a good, well maintained network of walking tracks linking villages. Awkward sections of swamp country have been adequately bridged by chains of logs and carpets of sago palm fronds. As it is the dry season at present, the Patrol was unable to take advantage of the waterways that give access to a number of Numau-Ablatak villages in times of high water. The Namblo, Sanchi and Screw rivers were all very low and one could only make slow progress along them in paddle canoes. Village Officials were reminded of their duty to see that waterways were kept navigable and free from obstructions in the wet season.

As mentioned above, in the Native Affairs coverage, a track linking BIAMANURBU and YELOGU and previously unused by patrolling officers, was revealed to the Patrol.

At AMBUKEN I was informed that a grass airfield was in the process of construction on a kunai plain to the North-East of the village. There was insufficient time to go and see the strip. It was said to lie about thirty minutes' walk away - presumably in the Ambunti Sub-District. Its existence was not known to this Office before. Apparently the Assemblies of God Mission, based at NUNGWAI'A in the Maprik Sub-District, is building the airfield with the co-operation of the AMBUKEN people.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

Housing and sanitation instructions left by former Patrols were followed up at each village and, where necessary, fresh instructions were issued. Much of the housing in the Numau-Ablatak

VILLAGES AND HOUSING cont'd.

was of a very low standard, the dwellings being too small, poorly designed and inadequately ventilated. In 1956, Patrol Officer B. Faithfull gave full recommendations to all villages as to the type of house that was desirable and that should be constructed to replace the old-style buildings. Six years later, it seems that no notice has ever been taken of his remarks - which are written out quite clearly in the village books. Extensive works programmes were given to most of the Numau-Ablatak villages, in an attempt to rectify the housing position. Apart from the state of the housing, the villages were very clean and tidy. The Waskuk Hills villages were generally presentable and warranted little criticism.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

KAUMINJA, Luluai of TONGWINJAM and YAMBOKAI, one of the Tultuls of TONGWINJAM, are outstanding. KAUMINJA has wide influence throughout the Waskuk and Numau-Ablatak areas. He is a powerful leader with a strong personality and plenty of self-confidence; an ideal man to have in the sub-division. I am sure that he will figure prominently in any political developments that take place hereabouts in the coming years. He is eager to see his people advance and he has inspired and is indirectly responsible for the success of the coffee industry as it now stands. As a Luluai he is excellent. KAUMINJA accompanied the Patrol for much of the way.

YAMBOKAI is KAUMINJA's right hand man. He carries out well his duties as a village official and is a man who really works hard for his people. He looks ahead to the future and realises that now is the time to get cracking if the place is to prosper later on.

The Luluai of KWAKAURU gives the impression of being very confused. He was involved in cargo cult activities not long ago for which he served a spell in gaol before being appointed Luluai. He is now striving hard to organise coffee growing at his village. He has a dynamic character and is not lacking in energy. It is hoped that his efforts will bring results.

Other village officials in both census divisions are average. They do no more than is required of them - some do not even do that. The Luluais of the Numau-Ablatak villages close to the Nuku border can barely speak Pidgin. All village officials were given encouragement in the performing of their various tasks and it was suggested to them that they pay more frequent visits to Ambunti. Some of them will be coming in shortly.

EDUCATION AND MISSION ACTIVITIES.

The Catholic mission has long-established contact with the people at BEGLAM and SASERIMAN in the Waskuk Hills and its teaching extends to TONGWINJAM, URAMBANJ, WASKUK and BANGWIS.

EDUCATION AND MISSIONS cont'd.

The Seventh Day Adventist mission has a firm foothold at BANGWIS and a small following at most other Waskuk villages.

In the Numau-Ablatak, the Assemblies of God mission, based at NUNGWAI'A in the Maprik sub-District, is doing a certain amount of initial work and all villages in the area have been visited by missionaries from NUNGWAI'A and are gradually becoming influenced.

At some Ablatak villages I noticed many hand drums hanging up, obviously redundant, in the men's clubhouses. I learned that they were no longer in use as the practice of drumming and dancing did not meet with the approval of the mission concerned. It seems a pity to me, although it is merely a matter of opinion, that some missions discourage, indeed forbid, their followers from engaging in the 'Sing-sing's or ceremonial dances which mean so much to them. In many cases it must require great strength of character for a man to voluntarily give up the drum and take up the mission. Perhaps this is a good thing.

Mr and Mrs O. Kooyers of the Summer Institute of Linguistics are living at MELAWEI where they are conducting research into the local language.

At the time of writing, the numbers of students attending either Government or mission run schools are as follows:

	<u>Government students</u>		<u>Mission students</u>	
	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>
NUMAU-ABLATAK	2	-	16	5
WASKUK HILLS	2	1	35	10
TOTALS	4	1	51	15

The need for Government village schools is quite clear.

Only seventy one children are receiving an elementary education.

The Government school at Ambunti, which is now staffed by a European teacher, is not large enough to be able to cater for many pupils from outside the station itself. Of the seventy one students mentioned above, sixty six attend mission schools at Ambunti or Tolembi and many of these students are destined to become village catechists.

It is suggested that the Waskuk Hills and the Numau-Ablatak census divisions warrant one Government village school each. I would recommend TONGWINJAM as the site for the Waskuk school. TONGWINJAM is by far and away the largest village in the area. A school there could cater for children from URAMBANJ, SASERIMAN and BEGLAM also - these three places being within an hour's travel of TONGWINJAM. The combined total population of the four villages is over eight hundred. In the Numau-Ablatak census division KAWAKA would be the best situated village in which to build a school. KAWAKA has a population of two hundred and sixty odd and the two AMAKI villages are only three quarters of an hour

EDUCATION AND MISSION cont'd.

away. At a pinch, KWAKAURU, and HAGERI could send pupils to this school. The combined total population of these four villages is nearly eight hundred and fifty.

A Government school in both census divisions, each one run by an 'E course' European teacher, would be a great step forward in the development of the region.

HEALTH.

Health checks were carried out at every village by A.P.O. Numeiwal of MELAWEI, who accompanied the Patrol.

The Waskuk people are served by two Aid Posts, one at MELAWEI, the other at TONGWINJAM. The A.P.Os who run the Posts appear to be doing good work and health in the Waskuk Hills is good.

To the Numau-Ablatak people three Aid Posts are readily accessible, those of TONGWINJAM, KAWAKA and AVATIP. An Aid Post at GAMO, across the NUKU border, is patronised by WARASAI and NAU'ALU. When census was taken at these places, a large number of people were stated to be absent at GAMO, sick. As it was difficult and inconvenient to check the verity of these statements, it was pointed out to the officials of the two villages that they had their own Aid Post at KAWAKA, in the Ambunti sub-District, which they should endeavour to make use of where possible, unless, of course, circumstances arose where an emergency case might be better referred to GAMO. The village officials thereupon enlightened me as to the reason for their disinclination to take advantage of the KAWAKA Aid Post. Apparently Kawaka people had been blaming patients from WARASAI, NAU'ALU and YAUNGET for spreading their ailments at KAWAKA by means of working poison or 'Sanguma'. I later revisited KAWAKA and instructed that this foolish talk should cease forthwith.

Further rumours about the KAWAKA Aid Post have been drifting around and have reached me since the Patrol was completed. An A.P.O from NUKU hospital, presently on leave at KAWAKA, his home village, claims that patients there are being made to pay for rations, that the A.P.O is obliged to buy rations for his patients out of his own pocket because he has no land at his disposal on which to cultivate an Aid Post garden and that the general feeling amongst the KAWAKA people as a whole is one of hostility towards the Aid Post.

My own impressions are that the A.P.O at KAWAKA is doing a good job and that the Aid Post, which has only recently been completely renewed, is in very good shape. No signs of the above mentioned troubles were noticeable when the Patrol passed through the village. However, the E.M.A at Ambunti has been informed of the rumours and, with his cooperation, the position is now being thoroughly looked into.

Health in the Numau-Ablatak area is not the best. Many people suffering from Scabies, Tinea or Tropical Ulcers were despatched to Aid Posts for treatment. Conjunctivitis is running through the area at the moment and several people were sent away to have their eyes attended to.

HEALTH cont'd.

In both census divisions any serious cases are dealt with at the hospital at Ambunti.

TAXATION.

Neither the Waskuk Hills nor the Numau-Ablatak census divisions are subject to taxation at present.

The Numau-Ablatak should continue to remain exempt as there is negligible income in that area. Their coffee has a long way to go before it shows a financial return; they hook very few crocodiles and, of the ones they do hook, they lose a high percentage through having no salt available at the time with which to preserve the skins; their wood carvings business is handicapped by their geographical isolation. Until their coffee matures and until they really make an effort to secure crocodile skins - a pursuit which was emphasised and encouraged during this Patrol - contract labour and sales of local foodstuffs will remain as their only two rather paltry sources of income.

In contrast to this, the position in the Waskuk Hills is financially brighter. They derive a constant income from the sale of native foodstuffs to the Administration, a limited income from sales of crocodile skins, carvings, coffee and rice and a small income from returning contract labour. In addition to this, a substantial amount of cash is paid out to the Waskuks each year both for services rendered to the Administration on the station and for the supplying of porters to carry gear on long walking Patrols (for which the Sepik river natives are quite unsuited). The fact that plenty of money is in circulation in the area is well illustrated by the presence of five outboard motors, purchased during the past eighteen months, and a number of shotguns.

The people are almost asking to pay tax. They consider it will give them prestige and will raise them from the inferiority that they feel is branded upon them by exemption from tax.

In view of this, I recommend that Head Tax be levied in this census division next year.

ANTHROPOLOGY/ETHNOLOGY.

Following the receipt of a memo from the District Commissioner (ref. A7-1/1460 of 1/3/63) in which reference was made to remarks by a Dr. Alfred Buhler concerning the availability and state of preservation of ethnographical specimens, two of the old houses 'tambaran' in the Waskuk Hills were visited and inspected to note the quantity and condition of the carvings remaining in them.

ANTHROPOLOGY/ETHNOLOGY cont'd.

In the tambaran houses (or 'haus man' houses as they are called) at TONGWINJAM and URAMBANJ some ornately carved posts and beams were seen. Although the houses themselves, which are perched on the summits of ridges, are now sadly neglected, overgrown by bush and in general disrepair, most of the carved posts have escaped serious damage by the elements and appear to be in quite fair condition. They are long and heavy and covered with totemic designs and clan markings. All are coloured with native paints, which have faded somewhat over the years.

Similar intricately carved posts are known to exist in four small 'haus man' tambaran houses belonging to Waskuk village and situated way up in the hills at the original village site. Visits were not paid to these houses this year but, in 1962, I visited two of them with Patrol Officer Mr. P.J. Wright. No carvings of particular interest were noticed at MELAWEI, BEGLAM or SASBRIMAN but the present 'haus boi' at BANGWIS has a few large carved beams in it and, at YELOGU, posts of the same style were observed.

At all these villages the people were advised to look after their old carvings and ensure that they were saved from destruction through negligence. It was pointed out to them that such unusual works of art should be preserved not only for their value as elaborate and spectacular specimens but, primarily, because the symbols and designs incorporated in them told the stories of 'before' and were of historical worth and interest to the people themselves. At TONGWINJAM, the people say that they will now arrange to transport the carved beams from the old houses tambaran to a special house in the village itself, at the foot of the hill. The posts will be kept there, dry and under cover.

When asked whether they would be prepared to part with their carvings if, later on, the Administration or other bodies desired to purchase them for presentation to the Territory museum, the people said they would be quite happy to do so. Transportation of such bulky objects would be a problem, of course, but that could be overcome.

If any more specimens from the Waskuk Hills do eventually find their way into museums, surely it would be preferable for them to be collected together with artefacts obtained from all other Sepik District areas, for display in a 'Sepik' museum at Wewak or Maprik. There is, or was, so much material culture in the District that it seems strange that a District museum should never have been established. Such a museum could house a lasting exhibition of native Sepik arts and crafts, of which examples of some may, more than likely, have disappeared before too long.

The Numau-Ablatak villages do not go in for very elaborate tambaran houses and the beams and supports of their 'haus boi' houses are not carved at all. No interesting work was seen in this sub-division but the importance of preserving old pieces of art was stressed at each village.

Of passing interest, stretched pig skin shields and carved cassowary bone daggers and ornaments were seen in some of the Numau-Ablatak villages.

CONCLUSION.

A routine Patrol through two census divisions, one more primitive than the other. Aside from general administrative work and census revision, the chief task of the Patrol was to compile a Common Electoral Roll for the areas; this roll was completed.

The Waskuk Hills people are pleasant and cooperative and their optimistic spirit alone should get them a long way. The Numau-Ablataks are remote and rather 'out of touch' in comparison but each Patrol to their area serves to bring them in closer contact with what is going on and, if they persevere with their coffee in the same way as their Waskuk neighbours, there is no reason why they, too, should not make great strides.

To summarise the immediate requirements of these census divisions I would stress the need for, firstly, an Agricultural Officer and, secondly, greater educational facilities.

H.W. Gill
.....
H.W. Gill, C.P.O.
11/6/63

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE RP&NGC WHO
ACCOMPANIED THE PATROL.

7845 SEN. CONST. AUGWI.

Conduct good. A very efficient NCO. Always loyal. Has the ability to think ahead and uses this ability well.

8738 CONST/HUGLER MOLET.

Conduct good. An intelligent policeman but inclined to be lazy. Has a bugle but does not clear it unless prompted.

6672 CONST. UFER.

Conduct good. A very steady, quiet and reliable policeman.

Amount
Returned
to State



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of **SEPIK/AMBUNTI** Report No. **14 of 62/63**

Patrol Conducted by **W.H. HEATHCOTE C.P.O.**

Area Patrolled **MAIN RIVER CENSUS DIVISION**

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans **NIL**

Natives **1 NCO 2 Const.
1 A.F.W. 1 A.P.O. (Health)**

Duration—From **10/6/63** to **27/6/63** and **1/7/63** to **3/7/63**

Number of Days **21**

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? **No APO only**

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services **August/September 1962**

Medical **April/May 1963**

Map Reference **AMBUNTI FOURMIL**

Objects of Patrol **TAX/CENSUS, COMPILATION OF COMMON ROLL**

ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION.

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 £.....



67-3-2

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

15th August, 1963

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 14-62/63 - MAIN RIVER CENSUS
DIVISION - MR. W. HEATHCOTE, C.P.O.

Receipt of the abovementioned patrol report is
acknowledged with thanks.

You do not comment upon it, but I assume that this
is probably Mr. Heathcote's first solo patrol. He has done
quite well and his report in most respects is adequate, but
something more than the generalisations given was required under
"Agriculture"; the present major source of income in the area,
crocodile skins, should have been more than casually touched
upon, and the artefacts industry, though relatively minor, has
a potential for development which warranted more detailed
treatment.

All Officers patrolling areas in which various forms
of economic development are taking place, should inform themselves
thoroughly concerning them and should report in detail upon them
in their patrol reports. For example, where tree crops such as
coffee and copra exist, there should be given estimates of the
total number of mature and immature trees, of areas readied for
planting but not planted, of the numbers of family gardens, if
any, and the average plantings per garden, the names of
communities involved in and the size of planting of communal
gardens, estimates of present production in quantities and values,
details of any outstanding examples of individual initiative or
effort, analysis of present situation in respect of these crops
and evaluation of future prospects in terms of potential for and
feasibility of extension; these, in turn, involve consideration
of the adaptability to change, motivation, initiative, energy,
etc. of the people - and so on.

It is not expected, of course, that Cadets would
be able to adequately cope with all that is involved in a treatment
of this kind of such subjects in their early reports, but they
should at least make the attempt in order that ultimately they
may learn to do so. I am sure that Mr. Heathcote can improve
upon his present effort, but he needs your assistance and
guidance to enable him to do so.

Some comments upon various matters arising out of the
report are given hereunder.

NATIVE AFFAIRS - Out of a total of 1,177 able bodied adult
males, 310 or 30% were absent at work outside the district and

CURRENT
TOTAL
+ F

67.8.75

and additional 111 were absent inside the District. These figures are not disturbing.

I agree, as does the Co-operative Officer, Mr. McKenzie, that there is a real need for co-operative extension to the Main River area, but he is now the sole Co-operative Officer in the District, his ablest native assistant has been taken from him, and he has instructions from his Director that for the time being his role must remain a holding one.

AGRICULTURE - As you know, it is the intention of the Agriculture Department to post an officer to Ambunti, but as yet there has been no indication as to when one will be available for posting. Pressing forward with agricultural extension now, so that the vacua which would otherwise be created by the almost certain decline of the crocodile skin industry may be filled by cash crops, is the prime economic developmental need of this area.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT - My own view is that it would have been preferable for a Council to have been established in this area before the KERAM Council of Angoram, but the survey for the latter has been completed, recommendation for its establishment made to Headquarters and a clerk selected for training; therefore, there can be no question now of deferment of the establishment of the Keram Council. However, a Local Government survey of the Main River and Chambai Lakes area, with a view to establishing a Council based on Pagwi, is next on the list. I do not consider that the establishment of this Council needs to wait upon the manning of the proposed Pagwi Patrol Post, but the selection of a suitable person with a minimum standard 7 level of education for training as Council Clerk is a necessary first step.

CENSUS STATISTICS - These should not be typed, as in this instance, on the backs of patrol report covers, but on the loose printed forms, so that they may be conveniently filed.

gh
(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Kom...
The abovementioned patrol report and attachments are forwarded herewith, please. *G. Linsley*

(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK



GRANT
TOTAL
+ F

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.

18th July, 1963.

67-1-3.

The District Officer,
South Sepik,
Wewak.

Ambunti Patrol No. 14 of 1962/63.

Please find enclosed report by Mr. Heathcote, Cadet Patrol Officer, of his patrol of the Main River census Division, completed on the 3rd. of this month.

The patrol was a routine tax/census one, and particulars for the Common Roll were taken at the time.

Native Affairs. It is believed that the complaints of the people in regard to the absent young men are largely based on sentiment, and that there is no privation suffered by their dependents, who will be assisted by other relatives and the group generally. Officers will be requested to watch this on patrols, however. We can but work on the usual sense of responsibility of the people for their elders in discussions on this matter, that is offer moral support for the lonely people. Perhaps unemployed and vagrants around towns and other areas could be hunted home, though, and any details we can gather in this regard will be forwarded.

I understand there is a strong trend in parts of the Subdistrict to accumulate community funds for vague purposes associated with development and commerce. There is of course a strong risk of money being stolen or lost through fire etc., and I think Mr. Heathcote was right to advise them to bank the money. It would seem that the area is a ripe one for Co-operative enterprise, and though I am aware staff are not available at the moment for any expansion in the District, I would like the area given high priority when extension can proceed.

Regarding the exorbitant bride price, at the moment we can do little else but discountenance it, but when a local government unit is established, it might pass a rule based on native custom to regulate the matter.

Details of land disputes will be forwarded shortly.

Economic development. Emphasis is to be placed on agricultural development, that is cash-cropping, to supplement and eventually necessary replace the present income from crocodile skins, which is diminishing. I consider we will need to apply steady influence to maintain and build up the impetus to this. In order that our work may be soundly based, however, it is requested that a thorough agricultural survey of the Subdistrict by an experienced agricultural officer be sought; as far as I know, there has been none to date. It is probably superfluous to add that the posting of an agricultural officer is highly desirable.

Local Government. I understand you are fully aware of the area's claim for a unit. Until we have a programme to instal one, perhaps we should not build up too much by talking about them, except to answer the people's questions and interest. We are still trying to secure a man of sufficient educational qualification to serve as Council Clerk, after training.

GRAND
TOTAL

+ F

(2).

The patrol was rather more speedy than is considered desirable; Mr. Heathcote informs me that trouble was anticipated in another area, and he was requested to expedite his movements so as to return to the station before he would normally have done. Unhurried patrolling, at least for those of the regular programme, will be the rule.

I think quite a good job of work was done by the officer, and the report is informative. A map accompanies the report, also census statistics.



(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.

TOTAL

+ F

GRAND
TOTAL
+ F

67.1.2/346

Sub District Office,
AMBUNTI.

6th June 1963.

Mr. W. Heathcote,
Cadet Patrol Officer,
AMBUNTI.

Patrol Instructions -Main River Census Division.

Would you please prepare to commence a patrol of the Main River Census Division, commencing Friday 10th June 1963.

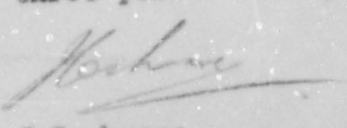
The patrol should be a routine tax census patrol and you will collect tax at the rate of 10/- per head as per Personal Tax Ordinance Number 40 of 1960. You will of course issue exemptions in case of hardship. If an amount under 10/- is paid e.g. 5/-, then a receipt for 5/- is issued, plus an exemption for 5/-, thus adding up to the total tax rate for the area.

In addition, compilation of the Common Roll will be carried out in conjunction with census revision etc. Please refer Ambunti file 1-7-1 "Territory Common Roll" in connection with this.

Please check on housing, hygiene and sanitation in each village and check on any previous instructions given to see if they have been carried out.

Also check on coffee and coconut projects and encourage economic development. F.W. Labau will accompany you and give assistance where necessary. Stress the advantages of individual ownership of plots as against communal projects, specially when the money begins to roll in as unequal distribution often causes trouble.

You should take three police with you to assist you on the patrol.



J. Cochrane,
a/Assistant District Officer.

Please check letter for attention file - 67-1-5.

GRAND
TOTAL
+ F

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 14 of 62/63.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: W. H. HEATHCOTE, C.P.O.

AREA PATROLLED: MAIN RIVER CENSUS DIVISION.

PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY: 1 N.C.O. 2 CONST. POLICE
1 A.F.W. 1 A.P.O. (PHD)

DURATION: TWENTY-ONE DAYS

LAST PATROL TO THE AREA: AUGUST/SEPTEMBER, 1962.

OBJECTS OF PATROL:
(1) CENSUS REVISION
(2) TAX COLLECTION.
(3) COMPILATION OF COMMON ROLL.
(4) ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION.

PATROL DIARY

GRAND
TOTAL

+ F

Monday, 10th June, 1963.

1445. Departed. ANBUNTI in double canoe and arrived
PAGWI 1830. Overnight at PAGWI.

Tuesday, 11th June, 1963.

0755. Left PAGWI after discussions with teacher,
Mr. B. Kierney. 15 minutes to YAMANUMBU village. Village
lined, census revised and Common Roll compiled. Health checked
by A.P.O. Back to PAGWI 1400. Short talk with master of M.V.
Christopher. Left for JAPANAUT 1445 arriving 1520. Discussion
with village officials. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 12th June, 1963.

0745. Village lined, census revised, tax collected
and Common Roll compiled. Health checked by A.P.O. Village
inspected and short talk given on planting of economic crops.
Inspected coconuts with A.F.W. Labau. Various minor complaints
settled. 1605. Left for YENTEHUMANGUA and arrived 1635.
People lined, census revised and Common Roll compiled. Health
checked by A.P.O. A.F.W. Labau inspected coconuts. Remained
overnight on board double canoe.

Thursday, 13th June, 1963.

0745. Tax collected and minor complaints dealt with.
A.F.W. Labau inspected coconuts. 1005. Left for NYAURANGUI,
one hour by paddle canoe. People lined, census revised and
Common Roll compiled. Health checked by A.P.O. Village
inspected. 1330. To KANDENGAI - ten minutes by paddle canoe.
Census revised, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Health
checked by A.P.O. A.F.W. Labau inspected coconuts. Inspected
village, various minor complaints settled. 1800. Back to
YENTEHUMANGUA and remained overnight.

Friday, 14th June, 1963.

At YENTEHUMANGUA, various minor complaints heard and
settled. Lulus from YENTEHUMANGUA, SUAPMERE and KANDAGAI in
attendance. 1000 - 1315. Spent entering Common Roll in carbon
book for NYAURANGAI and KANDAGAI. 1315. Left for KIRAGO,
arriving 1343. Census revised. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 15th June, 1963.

0800. Men assembled and tax collected. Inspected
village. A.F.W. Labau and 20 men to coconut area and all grass
cleared from coconuts. 1130. Left for SUAPMERE arriving 1220.
Village lined, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Minor
complaints settled and village inspected. 1600. Back to KIRAGO
arriving 1730 hours. Informal talks with V/O in evening.

Sunday, 16th June 1963.

At KOROGO, compiled compilation registers, talks with village officials re: economic planting and housing. Left 1700. for INDABU arriving 1900. Remained overnight.

Monday, 17th June 1963.

People lined, census revised, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Health checked by A.P.O. A.F.W. Labau inspected coconuts and coffee gardens. Village inspected and minor complaints dealt with. 1115. Departed for YENTCHAN arriving 1155. Village lined, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Heard minor complaints. Attended dance put on by school children at night. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 18th June 1963.

0800. Departed YENTCHAN after discussion with village officials. Stopped at small hamlet of Parambei, ten minutes from YENTCHAN and settled minor complaint. 0825. To KANGANAMAN arriving 0850. Village lined, census revised and Common Roll compiled. A.F.W. Labau inspected coconut and coffee gardens. Myself inspected village. Various minor complaints settled. Informal talks with V/O's at night. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 19th June 1963.

At KANGANAMAN compiling Common Roll in carbon copy book. More minor complaints settled. 1100. to Kapineri Catholic Mission - 15 minutes from KANGANAMAN to collect water. Lunch with Father HOBER. Thence back to KANGANAMAN arriving 1500. Discussions again with Luluais from KANGANAMAN, AIBOM and NOGOSUB. Remained overnight KANGANAMAN.

Thursday, 20th June 1963.

0740. Departed KANGANAMAN - 15 minutes across to PARAMBEI. Thence another 15 minutes walk to village. People lined and census revised. Health checked by A.P.O. A.F.W. Labau inspected coconuts. Small complaints brought to my attention and was able to deal with them in the village. Village inspected. Back to Sepik 1430. Informal talks with V/O's from PARAMBEI and MALINGAI at night.

Friday, 21st June 1963.

PARAMBEI men lined and tax collected. Inspected coconut area again with A.F.W. Labau and detailed 30 men to clear the grass around the coconuts. Short talk with Anthropologist. Mr. A. Forge, who was en route YENTCHAN. Afternoon to MALINGAI, 30 minutes walk from Sepik, where discussion held over land boundaries between MALINGAI and PARAMBEI. 1700. Back to canoe where remained overnight..

Saturday, 22nd June 1963.

0730. To MALANGAI, 30 Minutes. Village lined, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. APO Checked health. Inspected village and with A.F.W. Labau inspected coconuts. Discussions with Luluai and talk over children not attending school. Gave talks with fathers of children over advantages of children attending school. Minor complaints settled. Back to ship 1645. where remained overnight.

GRAND
TOTAL

+ F

Sunday, 23rd June, 1963.

Observed at PARAMBEI. Compilation of population registers. Mr. FORGE back from YENTCHAN talks with him in the afternoon.

Monday, 24th June, 1963.

0635. Left PARAMBEI en route TEGOI arriving 0715. Village lined, census revised, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Health inspected by A.P.O. A.F.W. Labau and I inspected coconuts. Inspected village. 10.10. Back to KANGANAMAN and arrived 1105. Talks with Luluais of KANGANAMAN, KILIMBIT and TEGOI re land problem. TEGOI - KANGANAMAN. Told to wait for Mr. COCHRANE A.A.D.O. Mr. COCHRANE arrived 1845 in M.V. OPAL. Remained overnight KANGANAMAN.

Tuesday, 25th June, 1963.

0800. To KANGANAMAN with Mr. COCHRANE re. courts and land problem TEGOI - KANGANAMAN. Details of dispute taken and decision to be reached by Lands Commissioner at a later date. Courts held and three men convicted under Reg. 119 of NARS and one under Reg. 83D. Talks given on prospects of economical development and local government councils. Left KANGANAMAN 1425. Stopped at PARAMBEI, 15 minutes from KANGANAMAN for an hour and a half, while Mr. COCHRANE inspected village. Thence to YENTCHAN arriving 1635. Talks with village men and new Bultul elected on probation. Another small dance put on at night by the children. Slept night.

Wednesday, 26th June, 1963.

Left YENTCHAN 0610, INDABU 0650 and arrived SUAPMERI 0725. Mr. COCHRANE inspected village, one court held and four men convicted under Reg. 103 (1) of the NARS. Talks again given on economic planting and the development of local government councils. Left for KOROGO 0920 arriving 1040. Village assembled and talks given again. One court held and one person convicted under Reg. 119 of the NARS. Left 1250 arriving YENTCHANMANGUA 1340. Five courts held, men convicted under Reg. 119. Discussions with village people. Departed 1620. at JAPANAUT 1700. Discussion with village people regarding their coconuts. Spoke with Mr. L. WILLIS. M.V. Christopher. Departed 1830. and arrived PAGWI 1905. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 27th June, 1963.

0730. Departed PAGWI. To YAMANUMBO A.O.G. Mission ten minutes from PAGWI. Mr. COCHRANE stopped at Mission, myself to YAMANUMBO village, five minutes walk from station. Inspected village, no complaints. Left 0950. Thence to JAPANDAI 1125. Various small matters cleared up, talks given on economical development. Village inspected. Left 1300 and arrived AMBUNTI 1930 hours. Patrol stood down temporarily.

Friday, 28th June, 1963 to Sunday, 30th June, 1963.

At AMBUNTI.

3.

4.

Monday, 1st July 1963.

Departed AMBUNTI 1015. Passed AVATIP 1105. and arrived JAPANDAI 1200. Village lined, census revised, tax collected and Common Roll compiled. Health checked by A.P.O. Coconuts inspected by myself and Agriculture trainee BOROMO. No serious complaints. 1415. Departed for YAU'UMBAK. at LAVONGAI, hamlet of AVATIP at 1520. Thence one hour by road and paddle canoe to YAU'UMBAK arriving 1650. Village lined, census revised and Common Roll compiled. Health checked by APO. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 2nd July 1963.

0800. Village men lined and tax collected. Inspected village. No serious complaints. 1120. Departed for AVATIP. At LAVONGAI 1220. Hamlet inspected. Departed 1235. for AVATIP arriving 1300. Village lined and census revised. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 3rd July 1963.

0800. Village men lined and tax collected. Talks with village people re economic planting and construction of new copra dryer. Village inspected. Various minor complaints settled. Departed for AMBUNTI 1505. Passed MALU 1615. and arrived AMBUNTI 1640. Patrol stood down.

END OF DIARY.

INTRODUCTION.

The area patrolled is known as the Main River Census Division and extends over an area of some seventy five river miles. The main geographical feature in the division is the Sepik River which winds throughout the whole of the seventy five miles.

There are sixteen villages in this census division and all but six of them are situated on the banks of the main river itself. The other six are all situated on small lagoons, all of which are readily accessible by road and canoe. None of these lagoons are more than an hour's travel from the Sepik itself.

In high water with the exception of YAU'UMBAK all these lagoon village can be reached by workboat or power canoe. In dry water, however, only a single canoe may reach them and in the case of PARIMBEI and MALINGAI one has to walk to reach them.

Travel in the division is mainly by canoe and for this patrol the double/canoe / houseboat was used

The last native affairs patrol to this area was conducted by Mr. Gill C.P.O. in August/September 1962. (Patrol report Ambunti No 2 of 1962/63. 0.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The people dealt with on this patrol are the most sophisticated group in the whole Ambunti sub district. As they have been in European contact for the past forty years this is not surprising. European traders have been coming regularly up the river, mainly from Angoram, trading in crocodile skins and for the collection of artifacts. This has been the main source of income for the people, but now as the crocodile business is rapidly diminishing the people are gradually turning to cash cropping.

It was greatly evident to me in each village of the lack of young able bodied men, most of them being in work in the larger town areas such as Rabaul and Madang. In nearly all the villages concern was expressed at the lack of young men, in some cases old men and women of the villages, came to me requesting that I try and get their sons back from these areas to look after them. However, when these young men do come back from the towns they generally do not stay long. Realizing that there is no steady income in their village they soon leave the mosquito ridden area and return to the large towns.

Outboard motors are now a common sight on the river, most villages having at least one and in some cases two. An income is derived by some of these villages, money obtained by hiring their motors to the Administration or to private individuals. Passenger rates are charged to different people who wish to travel in these canoes, usually people who live away from the river and have no canoes. There is very little alliance between the villages on the river and in some places people had complained at the high prices they had to pay if they wished to travel in these canoes.

All passbooks were checked by me on this patrol, and it was disappointing to see only two or three books in each village. Of the ones checked most of them had not had any entries since 1956. Most of the young chaps back from the larger towns could not produce passbooks. Of all the young men spoken with, most of them had spent all their money in one go before they left the towns, usually on guitars and cheap trade goods. This was apparent when I collected back taxes off these young men, in nearly every case they had to borrow to pay their tax money.

Several of the villages had what were called village banks. These were usually in villages where there were small village stores, most of the money in the bank being from the store. At times up to three hundred pounds are kept in these so called banks. I tried to explain the advantages of putting it into a proper bank, but the men, particularly the old men of the village, did not think much of the idea. Apparently they prefer the money left in the village where they could keep an eye on it.

A number of minor complaints were brought to the notice of the patrol, many of which had been settled by officers of earlier years. I think that with each new officer to the area, the disputes are brought up again so as to obtain a better decision for the party concerned.

The matter of bride price was brought up at YAMANUMBO village. The young men of the village complained about the high price they had to pay if they desired a wife. They stated that anything up to two hundred pounds had to be paid for the woman. I discussed the value of money today with the people and they decided to discuss the matter amongst themselves. It does seem rather high but as the money just revolves in a circle, from one person to another, I do not think they will change it.

Land matters were brought up frequently throughout the patrol, as before temporary decisions had been given by previous officers. Details of each dispute were taken and this will be the subject of future correspondence.

A number of court cases were done by Mr. Cochrane A/ADO who was with me for four days. Seven men were convicted under Reg. 179 of the N.A.R.'s and one under Reg. 83(1) of the N.A.R.'s.

Gambling is still rife all along the river, four men were convicted under Reg. 103(1) of the N.A.R.'s. Instructions were given to the village officials to report at once any cases that were found.

The name KAILO (Ambunti Patrol No 2. 62/53) was again brought whilst the patrol was at PARAMBEI and MALLINGAI. Apparently he owes quite a lot of money to various people in the two villages, however, as KAILO is still in gaol the matter will have to wait until he comes out.

While the patrol was at SUAPMERI a case of attempted sorcery was brought to my notice. One old man was accused of being able to control and breed mosquitos. However, this was ridiculed as there was a lot of rubbish lying around, and as the lake nearby was dry and stagnant, the village was a fine breeding place for mosquitos.

Good reception was given the patrol throughout. The national anthem was sang at YAU'UMBAK and YENTCHAN. The latter village impressed me greatly, the people were very courteous and friendly, the school children dancing for me at night. Fresh foods were given the patrol there and at INDABU., offence taken at the suggestion of payment.

AGRICULTURE.

Economic development in this area is progressing slowly, coconuts being the main crop so far. Coffee is gradually being introduced and when bearing will be a great asset to the people. I think the people are starting to realize now, that with crocodiles thinning out, and skins harder to come by, the need for them to start producing cash crops. Six men who had been to Bainyik Agric. Station presented their cards to me, all of them stating that they had introduced coffee to their village. A.F.W. Labau who accompanied me on this patrol inspected all these gardens, reporting that all were doing quite well. Where possible I inspected the coconuts and coffee areas, and it was noticeable that in the case of the coconuts, the young plants had been planted and then not worried about again. Men who had been to the copra school at Aitape complained to me over this matter, and in nearly every village men were detailed to go and clear the area around the young coconuts.

Two villages have copra dryers, these being YAU'UMBAK and AVATIP. The copra produced is mainly sold to private traders who come regularly up the river.

Talks were given in each village on economic development, and with trainees going regularly to Bainyik and Aitape the division should start to progress more rapidly.

Food is sold to the administration from time to time thus providing a small income for the people. The people trade between themselves, usually marking one day a week for this food exchange.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

Inspections were carried out in each village, the standard of housing being quite good. A lot of new latrines have been built since the last officers visit, these being a big improvement on the old ones. Most of the villages were neat and tidy, particularly where the S.D.A. Mission has a following.

TAXATION.

No difficulties arose out of the collection of tax, nearly all the men paying quite regularly. Although in some cases some men stated that they had no money, I think they were more or less trying to see if they could get an exemption. When they found that this was not the case, they readily paid up. Back taxes were collected in all villages where possible, some cases up to four years worth, all of the people concerned paying quite readily.

TABLE OF STATISTICS - PERMANENT CROPS -

COFFEE.

APPENDIX B

WILLS CENSUS DIVISION, AMBENTI.

Patrol No. 10 of 1963/64.

Total Mature Trees	New Plantings Since June 1963	Cleared for Planting (Acres)	No. Family Gardens	Average Trees per Gardens	Community NAME	Planting Size.	Current Production (Annual)	
							Quantity	Value
-	-	-	10	273	-	-	-	-
1228	-	2 Acres	16	378	AMAKULA	1 Acre 500 Mature	15lbs	15/-
670	-	-	11	473	-	-	-	-
NIL	-	COFFEE	GARDENS					
-	-	-	5	384	-	-	-	-
620	-	1/2 Acre	18	400	-	-	-	-
3928	-	-	29	500	-	-	-	-
2100	-	-	9	317	-	-	-	-
8546	-	2 1/2 Acres	98	413	AMAKULA	1 Acre	15lbs	15/-

Note.- Average trees per family garden was calculated by adding number of holes as well.

any outstanding examples of individual initiative or effort, analysis of present situation and evaluation of future prospects in terms of potential for and feasibility of extension; consideration of the adaptability to change, motivation, initiative, energy, etc. of the

TABLE OF STATISTICS - PERMANENT CROPS

COCONUTS

NUMAU ABLATAK CENSUS DIVISION, AMBUNTI

Patrol No

VILLAGE	Total Mature Trees	Total Immature Trees	New Plantings Since June 1963	Cleared for Planting	No. Family Gardens	Average Trees per Garden	Common Name
KAWAKA	546	864	1854	-	39	83	-
AMAKI	206	144	484	-	35	24	-
ABLATAK	309	602	800	-	26	65	-
WARASAI	68	166	125	-	18	20	-
NAU'ALU	114	32	-	-	10	14	-
ASAWUR	50	107	38	-	11	15	-
YAUNGET	78	103	154	-	27	12	-
NAGEPI	125	260	293	-	22	30	-
KWAKAURU	-	202	344	-	30	77	-
YAMANUMBU	14	16	50	-	5	12	-
PI AMANUMBU	66	101	51	-	15	12	-
AMBUKEN	142	93	73	-	12	20	-
TOTAL	1600	2690	4266	-	250	38	-

Note- Average trees per family garden

NOTE: Separately give details of any outstanding examples of individual initiative or in respect of these crops and evaluation of future prospects in terms of potential these, in turn, involve consideration of the adaptability to change, motivation people - and so on.

TABLE OF STATISTICS - PERMANENT CROPS

COCONUTS

Appendix B

LAU ABLATAK CENSUS DIVISION, AMBUNTI

Patrol No. 10 of 1963/64

Serial Number	New Plantings Since June 1963	Cleared for Planting	No. Family Gardens	Average Trees per Garden	Community Planting Name	Planting Size	Current Production (Annual)	
							Quantity	Value
1854	-	-	39	83	-	-	-	-
484	-	-	35	24	-	-	-	-
800	-	-	26	65	-	-	-	-
125	-	-	18	20	-	-	-	-
-	-	-	10	14	-	-	-	-
38	-	-	11	15	-	-	-	-
154	-	-	27	12	-	-	-	-
293	-	-	22	30	-	-	-	-
344	-	-	30	17	-	-	-	-
50	-	-	5	12	-	-	-	-
51	-	-	15	12	-	-	-	-
73	-	-	12	20	-	-	-	-
4256	-	-	250	38	-	-	-	-

Note- Average trees per family garden was calculated by adding number of holes.

any outstanding examples of individual initiative or effort, analysis of present situation and evaluation of future prospects in terms of potential for and feasibility of extension; consideration of the adaptability to change, motivation, initiative, energy, etc. of the

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE R.P. & N.G.C.

ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL.

Constable 1st Class KIKISI No 5246 B.

This was his first patrol as an NCO and he acquitted himself well. Was always willing to work and was a great help to the patrol

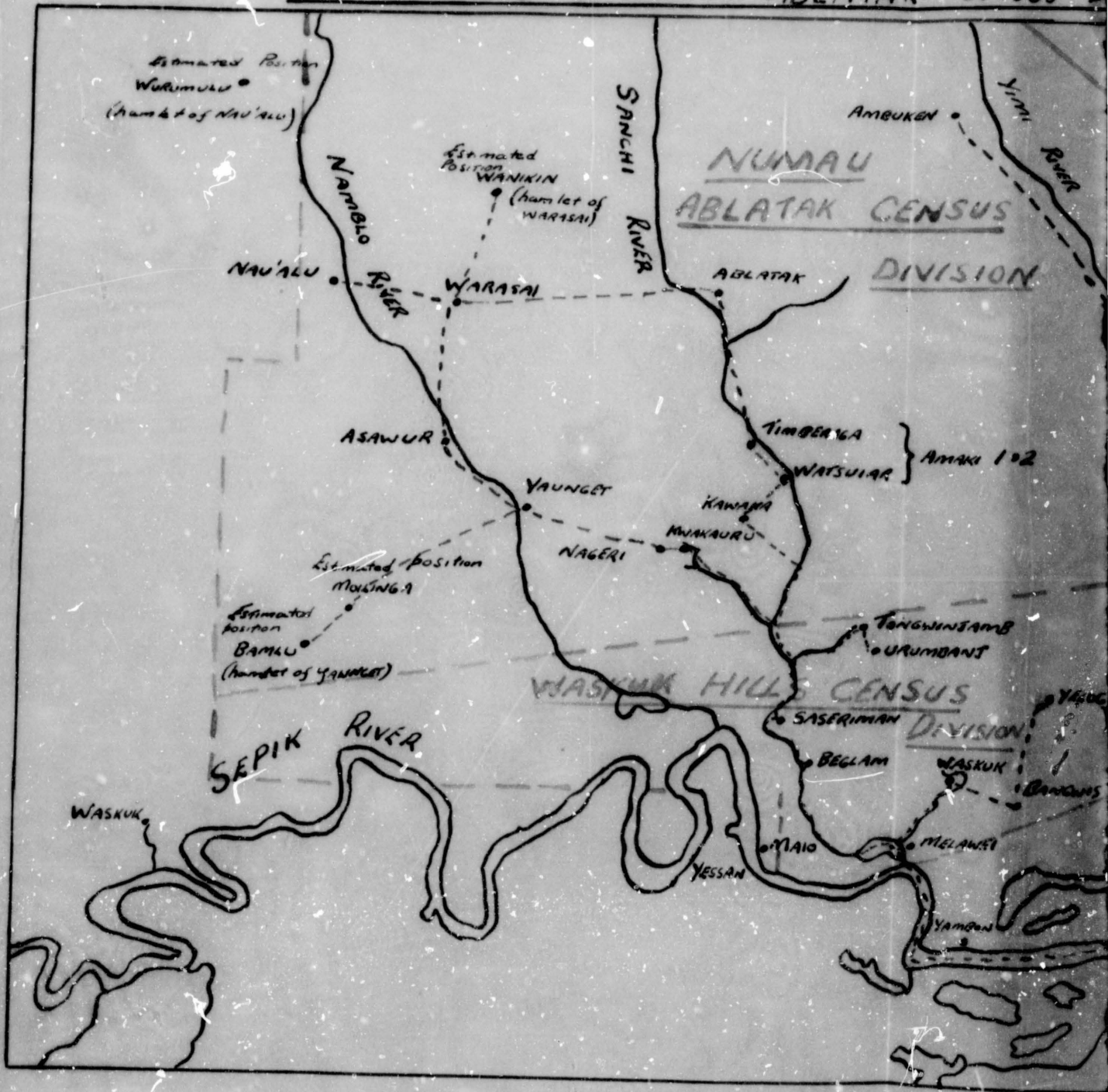
Constable SAMUK No 9295.

Inclined to be a bit lazy at times, but on the whole he is a good worker and does what he is told.

Constable NANIKAWA No 7435

Very quiet but is a willing worker. Does his duties well.

WASKUK HILLS & NUMAU ABLATAK CENSUS



----- CENSUS DIVISION BOUNDARIES

----- PATROL ROUTE

WASHUK HILLS & NUMAU ABLATAK CENSUS DIVISIONS



--- CENSUS DIVISION BOUNDARIES

- - - PATROL ROUTE

SCALE 4 miles = 1 inch
AMBUNTI 10-63/64



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

Ambunti

District of SOUTH SEPIK Report No. 11 of 1963/64

Patrol Conducted by H.W. GILL Cadet Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Part May River Local and Wongamuser Census divisions.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans No

Natives 1 teacher (native), 1 NCO, 2 constables RP&NGC.

Duration—From 8 / 12 / 1963 to 22 / 12 / 1963

Number of Days 15 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services / 7 / 1963

Medical / 6 / 1963

Map Reference May River and Ambunti sheets Army form 1943

Objects of Patrol House of Assembly elections propaganda.

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 £

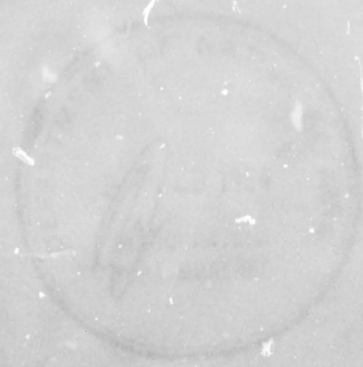
Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund

ula

MIGRAT

In
M F

67-8-31



5th March, 1964.

District Officer,
South Sepik District,
WEWAK.

PATROL REPORT NO. 11-1963/64 - AMBUNTI

Receipt of the abovementioned patrol report is acknowledged with thanks. I am pleased to note that the more remote hamlets of river tributaries were visited.

2. This follow-up in political education would certainly have a greater impact than the original visit.

3. I am pleased that the officer has recorded his "modus operandi" in the application of the political education tools provided him. I agree it was wise to use only basic sheets in demonstrating the talk given by the officer.

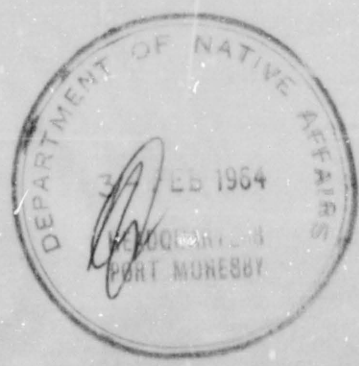
4. I agree that it was a good idea to emphasise the term "Haus Bilong Asembli".

5. A very good account of a well performed patrol.

(J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

67.8.31

67-2-1



District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

30th January, 1964

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 11 of 1963/64 -
WONGAMUSEN of PART MAY RIVER CENSUS DIVISIONS -
MR. H. W. GILL, C.P.O.

This is another good report of a well conducted patrol by Mr. Gill.

The section relating to the political education programme is excellent, but two additional copies were required for my and the Director's subject file.

I particularly am pleased to see that Mr. Gill visited the off river tributary hamlets. The times taken indicate that incorporating visits to these hamlets in regular routine Wengamusen patrols is quite practicable.

(Signature)
(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Koradobu

ELECTION PROPAGANDA

The Patrol was mounted specially for the spreading of election education and propaganda in the May River and Wongamusen census divisions. A short trip had already been made some months previously to these areas, when a similar education programme was conducted, but a second run-through was certainly needed and has served to increase awareness amongst the people as to what the elections are all about.

Full use was made of the aids provided. A typical programme of election education at a single village was carried out as follows. As many people as possible, both men and women, were assembled in a suitable spot in the village. After a brief introductory talk had been given, outlining in skeleton form the purpose of the coming elections, a tape recorded talk was broadcast to the crowd, good volume being obtained by utilising the transistor megaphone supplied. This recorded talk, lasting some twenty minutes, was aimed at giving a simple picture of the election procedure and an explanation of what the people would be involved in at election time. Following this, the crowd was divided into two groups, myself taking one group and Paulino, the teacher accompanying, taking the other. Each group was then given an hour's lecture, in which the subjects already discussed in the recorded broadcast were expanded and the flip charts were employed to illustrate the various aspects of the elections. To conclude, a brief question-time gave the people opportunity to query anything they had not understood and a rough assessment of what had gone across was able to be made.

The tape recorder was useful in that it relieved the lecturer of twenty minutes talking time. It was felt, too, that this different medium was a refreshing change from the direct oral talks the people are used to listening to. It may also have served to illustrate to them the importance and advantage of a broadcast as a means of transmitting information. At all villages it was casually mentioned that more and more indigenes were buying radios and that a radio was a good thing to have if the people were to follow the elections and the future House of Assembly sittings.

The transistor megaphone was used in conjunction with the tape recorder to broadcast with a good volume. This machine functioned well.

The original flip chart was used, both myself and Paulino having copies. Only the following fifteen pictures were shown: 1-5, 10-13, 16-18 and 20-22. The other pictures were omitted as it was thought that they would confuse the issue. The chief points of what they were supposed to illustrate were merged into the talks revolving around the other pictures. A one hour lecture on these pictures seemed to be quite adequate. To have spoken for longer than that would have been in vain as the audience would have absorbed less and less.

It is hard to say how successful the pictures were in conveying what they were supposed to convey. It was felt that one

or two may have been somewhat misleading (for people of this particular area patrolled) - especially those illustrating Europeans and indigenes together - polling etc., The people in these parts see so few Europeans that it became necessary to explain that polling booths in their electorate would see few, if any Europeans.

Questions on the talks were not in large numbers. Most of them were on the subject of voting procedure. Interest was centered not so much upon the whys and wherefores of the elections as upon what they (the people themselves) would be doing at election time. A fair amount of simple explanation cleared up this point for them.

Members of the R.P. & N.G.C. who accompanied the Patrol were requested to listen for remarks and comments passed by villagers so that an impression could be gained of how the lectures were being received. Quite understandably, I feel, the conclusions generally were that the people had paid attention to what had been said but that they had grasped only a few random points which, put together, would not have added up to a great deal. It was considered too much to expect them to take in more than a very little. With this in mind, all talks were given very slowly, with constant repetition, constant emphasis on such phrases as 'Haus Bilong Assembly', 'Taim Bilong Eleksins' and the like, and emphasis on the fact that the new 'Kaunsil' was not at Local Government level but was to be a council for the whole Territory.

It should be noted that, of the people addressed, the vast majority were illiterate and neither spoke nor understood Pidgin English. The use of interpreters in such a delicate subject was felt to be inadvisable for fear of wrongful interpretation and unwarranted elaborations. So it now remains for the few pidgin speakers to spread the word and convey what they can to their fellow villagers.

By and large, however, the programme went as well as could be expected and it is thought that, even if the people grasped little, what they did grasp was not distorted. I feel that this is an important achievement. Once the people actually see and take part in the polling they may recall some of what was said during the lectures.

To conclude, it is desired to commend the work of Paulino, the native teacher who accompanied the Patrol. His work was excellent and he was most useful.

No nominations have been received from these areas to date.

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.
10th January, 1964.

67-1-3.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
Wewak.

Patrol AMBUNTI No. 11 of 63-64: May River (part) and
WONGAMUSEN Divisions.

Report of a patrol by Mr. H.W. Gill over the above-mentioned areas is enclosed, please.

Election education. It appears that this was handicapped more than was anticipated by the lack of pidgin speakers in both communities. Courses are to be held this month, selecting good speakers who are leading individuals if possible, and then they will be asked to spread the message. Such courses have been held for the other areas, and it is found that they are effective in communicating much more of the idea than is possible at a large village meeting. There is of course, always the possibility that they will not pass on the knowledge gained, and we are especially stressing the importance of this to the participants.

Use of teachers. I would like to record that the native teachers of the Department of Education have been of great assistance to us in this work, and intend to commend them to the D.E.O. At first they were disappointed at having to work during the Christmas vacation, but after getting over this, they have entered into the programs effectively.

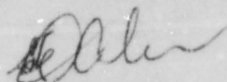
Visits to the Sepik tributaries.

It is felt that Mr. Gill used commendable initiative in varying his routine to include brief visits to the Frieda, Leonard Schultze and Wogamush communities. Repetitive lectures on the same topic can be terribly tedious, of course, and too, it was a good thing that these "new" groups saw the flag again. We hope to pay them more attention after the elections.

Health. The request for an Aid Post for KUBKAIN is being referred again to the Medical Assistant, Ambunti.

Villages. My hearing showed that there had undoubtedly been consistent neglect of specific instructions by succeeding officers, and it was deemed necessary to deal with the situation by awarding a number of men short terms of imprisonment. It is expected that this action will have a beneficial effect, and it is hoped that it will not be necessary again.

A routine patrol with a specific objective, which was carried out conscientiously by the officer. The O.I.C., May River is following up election work in his area, and further attention to the WONGAMUSEN will be paid from this end.


(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.

7th December, 1963.

*In Reply
Please Quote*

No. 67-1-2.

Mr. H.W. Gill,
Cadet Patrol Officer,
AMBUNTI.

Patrol No. 11 of 1963/4 : Sepik/May Rivers.

This is to confirm our discussions about a patrol you will undertake commencing from the May River Patrol Post and proceeding down the May and Sepik Rivers to the vicinity of Ambunti, for the prime purpose of electoral education to the people of all villages in this area.

As indicated, the main purpose of the patrol will be to explain to the people the significance of the political changes of the present time, and to endeavour to give them as clear an idea as possible of the procedures of election. For this purpose you have been provided with various aids, namely "flip" chart and explanatory screed, pidgin and English pamphlets, tape recorder and megaphone. You have already done some work on your previous patrols and are familiar with the subject.

As you are aware, there has been one visit by a teacher and an assistant, but both because of the backward nature of the area and the inexperience of the teacher, I do not feel that very much has been achieved to date. In the May River area, the new O.I.C. will be later consolidating your work, but it is likely that in the Wengamusun, this will be the last opportunity to give an explanation to the people.

Nearer Ambunti, I anticipate there will be some confusion in regard to relation with local government councils, and should this arise, please draw the distinctions as best you are able. No work will commence on local government for the area west of Ambunti until after the elections.

An itinerary should be prepared for the trip, and care taken that the people are properly informed of the dates of visit, so that there will be no acrimony in this regard. If you find as you approach Ambunti on your return that there will be a few days left before Christmas and you wish to continue down river, please let me know and arrangements including notice to the people will be arranged.

(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer

PATROL NUMBER: AMBUNTI II of 1963-1964

OFFICER CONDUCTING: H.W.GILL Cadet Patrol Officer.

DURATION: 15 DAYS.

NATIVES ACCOMPANYING: 1 NATIVE TEACHER,
N.C.O. RP&NGC
2 CONSTABLES

LAST PATROL TO THE AREA: JULY, 1963

OBJECTS OF THE PATROL: ELECTION EDUCATION.

MAP REFERENCE: AMBUNTI SHEET ARMY FOURMIL 1943

PATROL DIARY.

Sunday, 8th December, 1963.

1000. Departed Ambunti with native teacher Paulino Tseraka accompanying to assist in spreading election propaganda. Also one N.C.O. and two constables of police and sundry passengers. Arrived SWAGUP at 1700. No decent accommodation available so continued on to KUBKAIN, arriving 2000 hrs. Overnight.

Monday, 9th December, 1963.

0830. Departed KUBKAIN. Motor trouble. Decided to hire motor from YAUBNIAN. At YAUBNIAN discovered that the village motor there was U/S, pushed on to OUM 11. That village motor also U/S so sent word to TAURI for theirs. p.m. spent in recording speech on tape recorder for broadcasting to villages to be visited on the Patrol. Informal talks with V/Os. Inspected village. Overnight.

Tuesday, 10th December, 1963.

Departure delayed by rain. TAURI motor arrived. Departed OUM 11 at 0900. Short stop at TAURI to inform re Patrol's programme. Arrived May River Patrol Post at 1800. Spread word for nearby villages to assemble at Patrol Post following day. Informal talks with Cpl WAPI of May River Police detachment. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 11th December, 1963.

0900. Villagers from PEKWE, ABAGAISU, PAINU and IBU assembled at Patrol Post, also station personnel. Tape recording and talks on House of Assembly elections given by self and teacher. Rest of morning spent in inspecting Patrol Post. One complaint heard from ABAGAISU. 1230. Departed upstream to visit nearby villages. To ARAI and back by 1800. Flag ceremony. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 12th December, 1963.

0745, Inspected May River Police detachment. 0815. Departed Patrol Post, arriving at WANAMOI at 0900. Villagers from WANAMOI, WANAP and WANIAM assembled there. Talks and tape recordings given by self and teacher. Continued downriver having heard one complaint from WANAMOI. Reached MOWI towards midday. Assembled people and gave talks and tape recordings with teacher. Departed at 1330 passing M.V. Sapphire. Entered Lake Warangai and arrived at AOUM at 1800. Remained overnight.

Friday, 13th December, 1963.

0700. Departed AOUM accompanied by two guides and interpreters. Proceeded up Frieda river, arriving at PAUPE hamlet at 1330. Brief stay there before departing downriver again, arriving at INIOK at 1730. Remained overnight at INIOK.

Saturday, 14th December, 1963.

0730-0930 Talks and tape recordings given to assembled villagers. Village inspected and found in deplorable condition. Offenders to proceed Ambunti at later date for CNA action. Departed 1030 and arrived at TAURI at 1130. Motor canoe from Ambunti arrived noon

PATROL REPORT Cont'd.

with mail. 1600-1745 Talks and tape recordings given to people re House of Assembly elections. Inspected village. Overnight.

Sunday, 15th December, 1963.

Departed TAURI at 0730. Arrived at OUM 11 at 0815. Talks and tape recordings given to villagers by self and teacher accompanying. Despatched mail to Ambunti in OUM canoe. Issued village with instructions re cleaning place and buildings. Departed OUM 11 at 1015 and arrived at YAUNIAN at 1145. Camped. Remainder of day spent in informal talks with people and in preparing tape recorded message by the Luluai. Arranged for Luluai to accompany up Leonard Schultze river at later date. Remained overnight.

Monday, 16th December, 1963.

0800-1000. Talks and tape recordings given by self and teacher re House of Assembly elections. Departed YAUNIAN, after issuing instructions re cleanliness of village, at 1030. Arrived at CHENAPIAN at 1130. Picked up two AFWs who had been planting seed coconuts at village. 1315 to 1445 gave talks re House of Assembly elections. Departed CHENAPIAN and arrived at KUBKAIN at 1530. Camped overnight. Arranged for the AFWs to proceed to Ambunti in paddle canoe on the morrow.

Tuesday, 17th December, 1963.

0720 Departed KUBKAIN. 0750 Arrived at mouth of Leonard Schultze. 0910 Passed mouth of waterway leading back to Yaunian. 1050 passed PALU hamlet (R.bank). 1115 Passed WALIO (L.bank) 1240 passed PAI-IN (R.bank) collecting one TUGURU as interpreter for upriver villages. 1340 Passed NAI-IN (L.bank). 1445 Passed site of SINEN village (L.bank) 1620 Arrived NAKIAI. Remained camped there overnight.

Wednesday, 18th December, 1963.

0720 Departed NAKIAI. Reached shore site of WARASWARI hamlet at approx 0845. Met a group of three men and their wives. Returned by paddling to NAKIAI, made a count of the people there and left NAKIAI at 1110 1200. Arrived SINEN. visited small sago working house some short way off the river. Met a small group of people, some from a new hamlet, WUSO. Departed at 1230. 1315 arrived at NAI-IN, counted people there. 1420 arrived PAI-IN, counted people. 1520 arrived WALIO, lined and counted people. Returned to KUBKAIN by 1845. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 19th December, 1963.

0800-0945 Tape recordings and talks given by self and teacher re. House of Assembly elections. No complaints. Departed KUBKAIN at 1000. Arrived BIAGA at 1100. Made arrangements to visit hamlets up WOGAMUS river following day. 1530-1700 Talks and tape recordings given to assembled villagers re House of Assembly elections. No complaints. Remained overnight.

PATROL DIARY Cont'd.

Friday, 20th December, 1963.

0650 Departed BIAGA. 0820 Arrived SIO (GARNOK). Picked up an interpreter. 20 mins further upstream passed mouth of Meifa creek leading to SIO old place. 0950 passed small hamlet NU-WE. At 1050 arrived at TAUNAPI. Made a count of the people there. 1120 departed. Returned to NU-WE. New group. Made count of people and departed for SIO (GARNOK) arriving at 1445. Lined and counted people. Sick cases to go to Ambunti in due course for treatment. Returned to BIAGA at 1700. Remained there a short while before continuing on to WASKUK. Remained overnight at WASKUK.

Saturday, 21st December, 1963.

0730-0900. Talks and tape recordings given to assembled villagers from WASKUK and YAMBUNUMBU villages. Issued instructions re village housing and sanitation. Departed at 0930, arriving at SWAGUP at 1130. Camped. pm went to inspect progress of work previously given in old place inland. Inspected village - in deplorable state. Remained overnight at Sepik river camp.

Sunday, 22nd December, 1963.

0800-0930. Talks and tape recordings given re House of Assembly elections. People given talk about their failure to obey instructions lawfully issued re housing and sanitation during last patrol. All offenders listed and told to proceed to Ambunti following day for court action. Departed SWAGUP at midday, arriving back at Ambunti at 1600. Patrol stood down.

END OF PATROL DIARY

INTRODUCTION:

The Patrol covered the Wongamusen and part of the May River Local census divisions.

The object of the Patrol was to explain to the people throughout these areas the significance of the political changes of the present time and to instruct them in the basic procedures of election. Aids, in the form of a tape recorder, transistor megaphone and flip charts, were taken for this job. Paulino, a male teacher, accompanied the Patrol as an assistant and did excellent work.

The Patrol was carried out in an unhurried manner and at least an hour and a half was spent in each village discussing elections. This was found to be the most effective length of time to spend.

To prevent staleness setting in from the monotony of election educating, it was considered desirable to have intermittent breaks in the routine. These opportunities were taken to make short visits to hamlets on the Frieda, Leonard Schultze and Wogamus rivers.

The countryside in the areas patrolled is generally low-lying and is dominated by the Sepik river. Vast swamplands stretch away on either side of the river and extend as deep re-entrants into the foothills of the ranges to the South, where the tributaries have their headwaters. At the time of patrol, the water level was reasonably high, allowing progress to be made for considerable distances up these tributaries.

A single canoe, powered by a 12hp Archimedes outboard motor was used for the Patrol.

The last Patrol to this area was conducted by myself in July of this year.

← ELECTION PROPAGANDA.

The Patrol was mounted specially for the spreading of election education and propaganda in the MaybRiver and Wongamusen census divisions. A short trip had already been made some months previously to these areas, when a similar education programme was conducted, but a second run-through was certainly needed and has served to increase awareness amongst the people as to what the elections are all about.

Full use was made of the aids provided. A typical programme of election education at a single village was carried out as follows. As many people as possible, both men and women, were assembled in a suitable spot in the village. After a brief introductory talk had been given, outlining in skeleton form the purpose of the coming elections, a tape recorded talk was broadcast to the crowd, good volume being obtained by utilising the transistor megaphone supplied. This recorded talk, lasting some twenty minutes, was aimed at giving a simple picture of the election procedure and an explanation of what the people would be involved in at election time. Following this, the crowd was divided into two groups, myself taking one group and Paulino, the teacher accompanying, taking the other. Each group was then given an hour's lecture, in which the subjects already discussed in the recorded broadcast were expanded and the flip charts were employed to illustrate the various aspects of the elections. To conclude, a brief question-time gave the people opportunity to query anything they had not understood and a rough assessment of what had gone across was able to be made.

The Tape recorder was useful in that it relieved the lecturer of twenty minutes talking time. It was felt, too, that this different medium was a refreshing change from the direct oral talks ~~talks~~ the people are used to listening to. It may also have served to illustrate to them the importance and advantage of a broadcast as a means of transmitting information. At all villages it was casually mentioned that more and more indigenes were buying radios and that a radio was a good thing to have if the people were to follow the elections and the future House of Assembly sittings.

The transistor megaphone was used in conjunction with the tape recorder to broadcast with a good volume. This machine functioned well.

The original flip chart was used, both myself and Paulino having copies. Only the following fifteen pictures were shown: 1-5, 10-13, 16-~~20~~18 and 20-22. The other pictures were omitted as it was thought that they would confuse the issue. The chief points of what they were supposed to illustrate were merged into the talks revolving around the other pictures. A one hour lecture on these pictures seemed to be quite adequate. To have spoken for longer than that would have been in vain as the audience would have absorbed less and less.

It is hard to say how successful the pictures were in conveying what they were supposed to convey. It was felt that one or two may have been somewhat misleading (for people of this particular area patrolled)- especially those illustrating Europeans and indigenes together-polling etc.. The people in these parts see so few europeans that it became necessary to explain that polling booths in their electorate would see few, if any Europeans.

Questions on the talks were not in large numbers. Most of them were on the subject of voting procedure. Interest was centered not so much upon the whys and wherefores of the elections as upon what they (the people themselves) would be doing at election time. A fair amount of simple explanation cleared up this point for them.

Members of the RP&NGC who accompanied the Patrol were requested to listen for remarks and comments passed by villagers so that an impression could be gained of how the lectures were being received. Quite understandably, I feel, the conclusions generally were that the people had paid attention to what had been said but that they had grasped only a few random points which, put together, would not have added up to a great deal. It was considered too much to expect them to take in more than a very little. With this in mind, all talks were given very slowly, with constant repetition, constant emphasis on such phrases as 'Haus Bilong Assembly', 'Taim Bilong Eleksins' and the like, and emphasis on the fact that the new 'Kaunsil' was not at Local Government level but was to be a council for the whole Territory.

It should be noted that, of the people addressed, the vast majority were illiterate and neither spoke nor understood Pidgin English. The use of interpreters in such a delicate subject was felt to be inadvisable for fear of wrongful interpretation and unwarranted elaborations. So it now remains for the few pidgin speakers to spread the word and convey what they can to their fellow villagers.

By and large, however, the programme went as well as could be expected and it is thought that, even if the people grasped little, what they did grasp was not distorted. I feel that this is an important achievement. Once the people actually see and take part in the polling they may recall some of what was said during the lectures.

To conclude, it is desired to commend the work of Paulino, the native teacher who accompanied the Patrol. His work was excellent and he was most useful.

No nominations have been received from these areas to date.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Little native affairs work was carried out on this Patrol, the election work taking priority. A sago dispute was referred to the Patrol at Wananoi. This has been left to slide until the Patrol Post at May River is romanned in the near future. The odd minor complaint at villages was able to be sorted out on the spot.

With reference to the final paragraph of the District Officer's memo. 67-2-1 of 10th September, 1963, opportunity was taken for very brief visits to hamlets on the Frieda, Leonard, Schultze and Wogamus rivers. The people were pleased to see a Patrol. For details of hamlets visited see sketchmap accompanying.

AGRICULTURE. Economic.

Coconut seedlings have recently been distributed to many of the Wongamusen villages and, during the course of the Patrol, it was noted that these had now all been planted - with the help of APWs from Ambunti - and appeared to be doing well.

HEALTH.

The Aid Post at Tauri was inspected and found to be in the excellent state in which APO Imar has pride in maintaining it. The people at Kubkain are still clamouring for a Post at their village and once again they were told to await further instructions from PHD, Ambunti. Health up the tributaries is still poor, several cases of T.U.s were dispatched for treatment at Ambunti.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

Where time allowed, villages were inspected. The majority appeared to be in a good condition. At Iniock and Swagup, however, the shocking state of the village and environs could not be overlooked and it was necessary to list a number of offenders for prosecution under ss 112A and 119 of the NARS for deliberate and repeated negligence with regard to sanitation and cleanliness of their villages. The state of both these places was quite deplorable in spite of frequent warnings by previous officers. It seems that 'wok Bisnis' takes priority over the cleaning of the village these days.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

All appeared to be doing their job satisfactorily with the exception of those at Iniock. At Swagup the village Officials try hard but the villagers with whom they have to deal are most un-cooperative.

COMMUNICATIONS, EDUCATION, TAX etc. Not applicable.

CONCLUSION:

A Patrol to deal with the election education programme. As far as could be judged, the Patrol was quite successful in getting across to the people a certain amount of election information

H.W.Gill CPO.

H.W.Gill
(2-1-64)

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE RP&NGC ACCOMPANYING
THE PATROL.

Senior Constable 5149 EGMUN-OBIT.

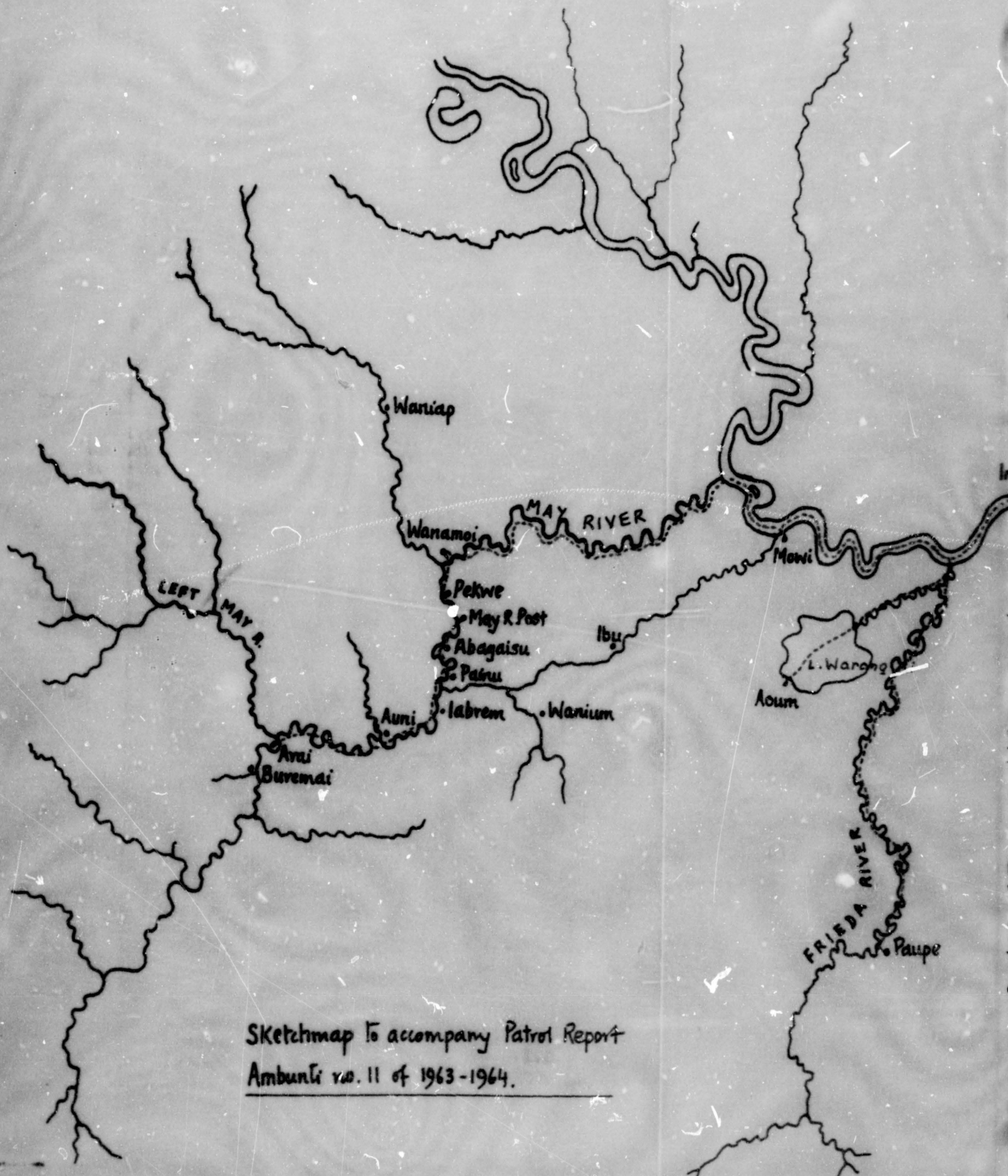
Conduct very good. Worked well and thoroughly throughout the Patrol.

Constable 8405 GITORA-SAIAM.

Conduct very good. Was of great assistance during the Patrol with his knowledge of outboard motors.

Constable 9102 FORBAIUK.

Conduct very good. Worked well throughout the Patrol.



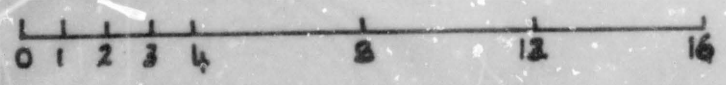
Sketchmap to accompany Patrol Report
 Ambunti no. 11 of 1963-1964.





Patrol route

Scale: 1" = 4 miles



4M
mag

H.W. Gill
C.P.D.
3-12-63



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SOUTH SEPIK Report No. Ambunti no 12 of 1963/64

Patrol Conducted by H.W.Gill, Cadet Patrol Officer.

Area Patrolled Chambri Lakes census division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans No

Natives 1 const. 1st. cl., one constable RP&NGC, two native teachers.

Duration—From 8/1/1964 to 13/1/1964

Number of Days 11

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 8/1964

Medical 8/1964

Map Reference Ambunti sheet Army fourmil 1943

Objects of Patrol Election education programme for House of Assembly elections 1964.

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

.....
District Commissioner

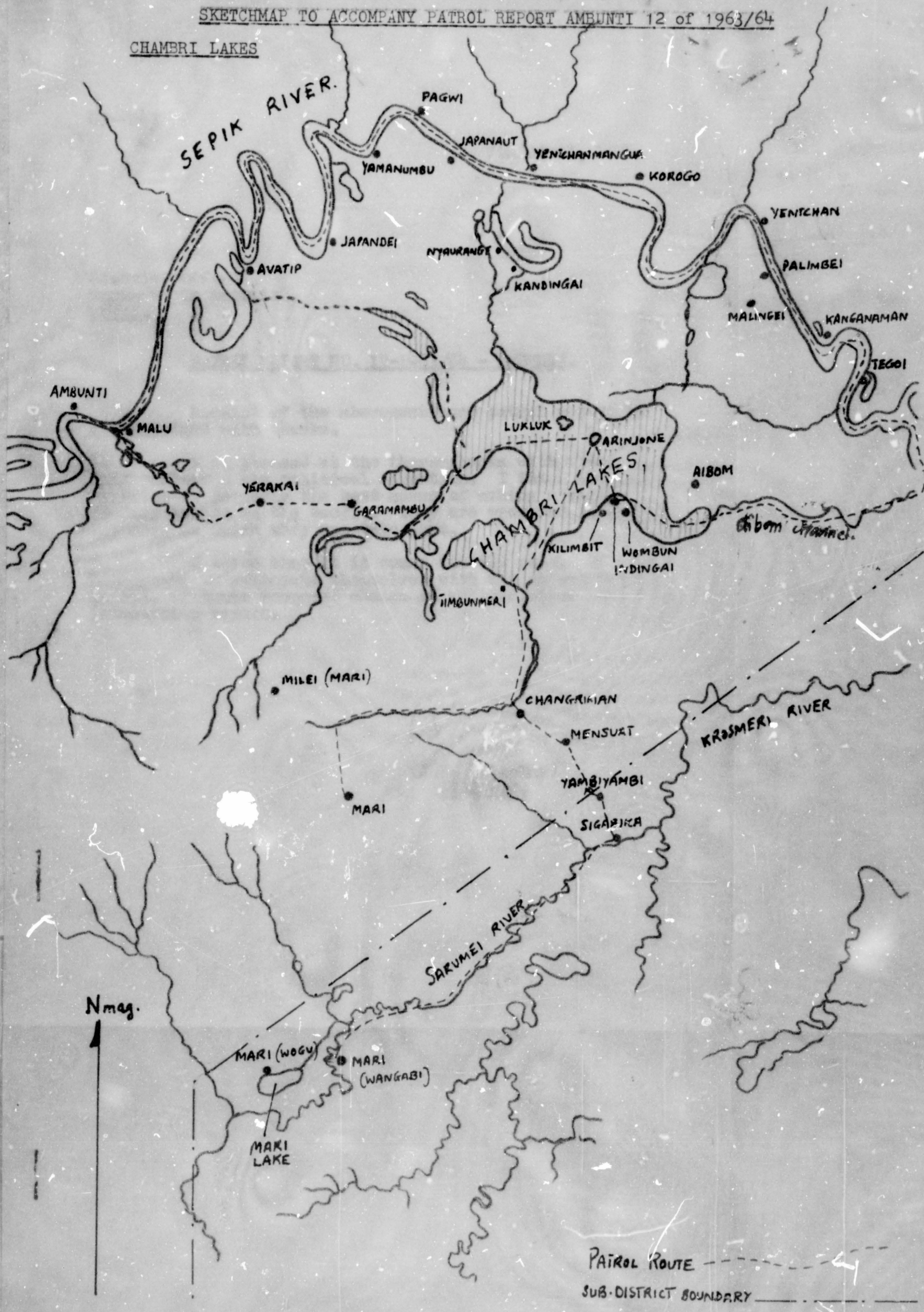
Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £.....

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

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

SKETCHMAP TO ACCOMPANY PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI 12 of 1963/64

CHAMERI LAKES



(map ref. Ambunli Army formil 1943.)

10/11/64
20-1-64

67-8-2

7th April, 1964.


District Officer,
South Sepik District,
WENAK.

PATROL REPORT NO. 12-1963/64 - AMBUNTI.

Receipt of the abovementioned patrol report is acknowledged with thanks.

2. I am pleased at the thoroughness with which Mr. Gill performed his political education. I think the mock election is probably the best means of making a satisfactory impact on the people. They are prepared to accept anything in which they can take part.

3. I agree that it is sound for the people of Yambiyambi to associate themselves with the Amboin area in view of their proposed change of village site. A n interesting report.


(J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

ulat

67 8.43
13



67-2-1

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

19th March, 1964

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 12 of 63/64 - CHAMBERI LAKES - MR. H. W. GILL C.P.O.

Mr. Gill carried out a very thorough political education patrol.

I do not appear to have received the monthly report on political education mentioned by you in your covering memorandum. Please let me have it. The extra copy of the section of the patrol report dealing with political education required by the Director's memorandum 51-1-20 of 4th November, 1960, once again was not included.

I have dealt with your submissions concerning YAMBIYAMBI village in a separate memorandum.

CL
(C. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

ELECTION PROPAGANDA:

a total of sixteen and a half hours were spent lecturing at villages in the Chambri Lakes area, showing slides and carrying out demonstration elections. Aids taken for this work took the form of a slide projector outfit with ten colour slides showing aspects of polling, flip charts illustrating full election background and procedure and several items such as imitation ballot papers etc..

At each village where an election education programme was held a small polling booth was constructed by the villagers. As many men and women as wished were assembled and addressed informally on the reasons for the elections and the organisation of electorates. Questions were encouraged and it was pleasing that, throughout the area, men came forward readily to ask questions and discuss points on which they were not quite clear. This was good and most encouraging - a contrast to the less sophisticated groups visited on my last Patrol to the Wongamusen census division. It was felt that the great majority of members of every audience spoken with actually understood what was told them and displayed considerable interest.

About one hour's discussion covering the elections and other aligned topics in general was followed in each case by a full run-through of the flip charts provided. Whereas in the Wongamusen area it had been found wise to show only fifteen of the pictures, all but two were shown throughout the Chambri Lakes census division. Full explanation of each picture was given by the two native teachers accompanying, Paulino Tseraka and Kas Kauri, who both did very good work during the Patrol, for which they deserve commendation.

Having exhausted the flip charts, which proved interesting to the audiences as an illustrative follow-up to the initial general talks, a demonstration election was held, with a number of villagers actively participating. Mock ballot papers were issued and each voter was carefully instructed in the correct way of marking his paper. It was strongly emphasised that these were merely demonstration elections and that the genuine elections would take place in March.

In the evenings, ten colour slides were shown, to sum up the education courses. All through the courses great care was taken to avoid confusion and misinterpretation arising. As all people in the Chambri area speak pidgin english and a few speak english, the task of getting points across with clarity was not too difficult. It was considered that a very favourable response was shown by all villages addressed and that a substantial amount of what was said was absorbed and understood. I consider that the courses went off with surprising success.

From the Chambri area alone, two nominations have been received - those of Yambunbei of Indingai village and Wingor of Arinjone island. These two candidates were both met during the Patrol and are now busy canvassing. They appear to have organised quite good election campaigns for themselves.

In general, the Patrol went very well and I feel it did achieve its object.

(11)

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.

5th February, 1964.

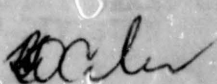
67-1-3.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
Wewak.

Patrol No. 12 of 63/64 : Chambri Lakes.

Please find enclosed report by Mr. H.W. Gill, Cadet Patrol Officer, covering an 11-day patrol for the specific purpose of political education in the Chambri Lakes Division.

The section of the report commenting on this work has been extracted for the monthly report, and comments on Yambiyambi village are also dealt with in a separate memorandum. The patrol appears to have been most successful in its objective, which I consider to be due to the sensible and painstaking approach of the officer.


(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.

(10)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL AMBUNTI NO 12 of 1963/64.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: H.W.GILL C.P.O.

ACCOMPANIED BY: TWO NATIVE TEACHERS
ONE CONSTABLE 1st class
ONE CONSTABLE YRP&NGC

AREA PATROLLED: CHAMBRI LAKES CENSUS
SUB-DIVISION

DURATION OF PATROL: ELEVEN DAYS.

OBJECTS OF THE PATROL: ELECTION EDUCATION PROGRAMME
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS.

MAP REFERENCE: AMBUNTI SHEET ARMY FOURMIL 1943

(9)

PATROL DIARY.

Wednesday, 8th January, 1964.

0900. Departed Ambunti in single motor canoe accompanied by Mr Trevor Thompson, visitor from Canada, two members of RP&NGC. 1200. Brief stop at PAGWI for Mr Thompson to disembark and proceed to MAPRIK by vehicle. 1330 Passed MV Sapphire coming upstream. Continued on to Chambri Lakes, arriving at Chambri Island (INDINGAI village) at 1730. Set up camp. Notified village officials of intended programme. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 9th January, 1964.

0900-1200. Informal talks given re House of Assembly elections. Mock polling booth constructed and demonstration election carried out. People from WOMBUN, KIRIMBIT, INDINGAI and AIBOM villages present. Good response noted. In pm inspected villages and had informal talks with people. In late evening showed slides of election procedure - as supplied. Remained overnight.

Friday, 10th January, 1964.

0930 Departed Chambri Island. Arrived ARINJONE at 1015. All remainder of morning spent in constructing imitation polling booth. In afternoon gave talks and had a demonstration election with people from both ARINJONE and LUKLUK islands attending. In late evening showed slides. Favourable response noted from both places. Canoe arrived from AMBUNTI with mail and instructions to return motor driver to Ambunti. Replacement from Yamanumbu village sent. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 11th January, 1964.

Heavy rain most of day. Took opportunity to go and inspect the condition of the waterway leading from ARINJONE is to GARAMAMBU. All day to do this, returning to ARINJONE Late pm, thence back to INDINGAI on Chambri Island, where Mr Neville, EMA Ambunti had arrived in houseboat from Ambunti on business. Rendesvouzed and remained overnight at INDINGAI.

Sunday, 12th January, 1964.

Day observed. To TIMBUNMERI in afternoon. Made camp and remained there overnight. Mr Neville also to TIMBUNMERI. Camped.

(8)

PATROL DIARY Cont'd.

Monday, 13th January, 1964.

0800-1100. Talks given re House of Assembly elections. Mock polling booth constructed and used in demonstration election. Good response noted from villagers. Mr Neville departed TIMBUN-MERI at approx 1130. Patrol departed TIMBUNMERI at midday. To CHANGRIMAN, arriving at 1330. Organised carriers and continued on to MENSUAT, arriving at 1500. Polling booth constructed and programme for the following day outlined to the village officials. No complaints. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 14th January, 1964.

0900-1100. Talks given re House of Assembly elections. Mock elections carried out in polling booth. General discussions etc. No complaints. Good response from villagers from CHANGRIMAN and MENSUAT who had assembled to hear the lectures. Continued on to YAMBIYAMBI, arriving at 1300. Set up camp and had mock polling booth built. From 1600-1800 gave talks and carried out a mock election in the polling booth. Late in evening slides were shown. Remained overnight at YAMBIYAMBI.

Wednesday, 15th January, 1964.

0715. Departed YAMBIYAMBI on foot for SIGABIKA, hamlet of same. Arrived at SIGABIKA at 0845. Embarked in single motor canoe owned by village and proceeded upstream to visit WANGABI, a hamlet of MARI village, not visited before by govt Patrols. Situated some two and a quarter hours up the SARUMEI river. Short stay at the hamlet before returning to SIGABIKA, thence on foot to YAMBIYAMBI. Remained overnight again at YAMBIYAMBI, heard a few complaints.

Thursday, 16th January, 1964.

Departed YAMBIYAMBI at 0730. Short stop at MENSUAT to change carriers. Thence to CHANGRIMAN. Thence by paddle canoe to MARI landing place, thence overland for about a half hour to MARI village. Paid off carriers at 1215. Had polling booth constructed and in pm gave talks and a mock election was carried out. Late in evening slides shown. Quite a good response from the Villagers. No complaints, remained overnight at MARI.

Friday, 17th January, 1964.

0900. Departed MARI. Proceeded all the way to GARAMAMBU village in heavy rain. Eventually arrived at GARAMAMBU at 1615. Set up camp. Outlined the morrow's programme. Remained overnight.

67

PATROL DIARY Cont'd.

Saturday, 18th January, 1964.

0745. Departed GARAMAMBU. Sent majority of cargo under the care of Const 1st class KIKISI back to Ambunti by water. Self one constable and two accompanying native teachers to YERAKAI to give talks there then continue to Ambunti by separate route. Arrived YERAKAI at 0900. Talks given to people from both YERAKAI and GARAMAMBU at YERAKAI. Mock elections held and a general discussion on all aspects of elections. Goodish response. Thence by foot for one hour to YERAKAI canoe landing place where two large canoes were picked up and the Patrol paddled back to Ambunti arriving at 1645. Motor canoe from GARAMAMBU expected to return via Sepik following day. Patrol stood down.

END OF PATROL DIARY.

INTRODUCTION:

The Patrol (Ambunti no 12 of 1963/64) visited the Chambri Lakes census division of this sub-District. The census division is situated about twenty miles to the East of Ambunti station, although the distance to the Lakes by water travel is something in the region of eighty miles or more - via the Sepik river and the Aibom channel.

The census division extends over approximately five hundred and seventy square miles, most of which area is taken up by the Lakes themselves and vast expanses of swamplands through which streams and watercourses make their way. Seven of the villages in this area are sited on islands, the others being hill villages well out of the swamp and mosquito belts.

At the time of this Patrol, the water level was quite high (the Lakes are tidal to the Sepik and rise and fall with the fluctuations in level of the river itself), and little difficulty was experienced in travelling to any of the villages. To reach Garamambu village it became necessary to paddle for some distance rather than going under power, as the lake in that area was coated with water lilies. Access to the hinterland villages is provided by a good system of walking tracks which were found to be well maintained and in quite good shape.

The object of this Patrol was to carry out a programme of election education to prepare the people of this area for the forthcoming House of Assembly elections. To this end two assistants were taken to help the Patrolling officer with his task of spreading election propoganda - a couple of native teachers at present on leave, whose services were of great benefit to the Patrol.

The Patrol was carried out in an unhurried manner, A single canoe powered by an Archimedes outboard motor was used for the duration of the Patrol. The Census division was last patrolled in August, 1963 by Mr W.Heathcote CPO.

(5)

ELECTION PROPAGANDA.

A total of sixteen and a half hours were spent lecturing at villages in the Chambri Lakes area, showing slides and carrying out demonstration elections. Aids taken for this work took the form of a slide projector outfit with ten colour slides showing aspects of polling, flip charts illustrating full election background and procedure and several items such as imitation ballot papers etc..

At each village where an election education programme was held a small polling booth was constructed by the villagers. As many men and women as wished were assembled and addressed informally on the reasons for the elections and the organisation of electorates. Questions were encouraged and it was pleasing that, throughout the area, men came forward readily to ask questions and discuss points on which they were not quite clear. This was good and most encouraging - a contrast to the less sophisticated groups visited on my last Patrol to the Wongamusen census division. It was felt that the great majority of members of every audience spoken with actually understood what was told them and displayed considerable interest.

About one hour's discussion covering the elections and other aligned topics in general was followed in each case by a full run-through of the flip charts provided. Whereas in the Wongamusen area it had been found wise to show only fifteen of the pictures, all but two were shown throughout the Chambri Lakes census division. Full explanation of each picture was given by the two native teachers accompanying, Paulino Tseraka and Kas Mauri, who both did very good work during the Patrol, for which they deserve commendation.

Having exhausted the flip charts, which proved interesting to the audiences as an illustrative follow-up to the initial general talks, a demonstration election was held, with a number of villagers actively participating. Mock ballot papers were issued and each voter was carefully instructed in the correct way of marking his paper. It was strongly emphasised that these were merely demonstration elections and that the genuine elections would take place in March.

In the evenings, ten colour slides were shown, to sum up the education courses. All through the courses great care was taken to avoid confusion and misinterpretation arising. As all people in the Chambri area speak pidgin English and a few speak English, the task of getting points across with clarity was not too difficult. It was considered that a very favourable response was shown by all villages addressed and that a substantial amount of what was said was absorbed and understood. I consider that the courses went off with surprising success.

From the Chambri area alone, two nominations have been received - those of Yambunbei of Indingai village and Wingor of Arinjone island. These two candidates were both met during the Patrol and are now busy canvassing. They appear to have organised quite good election campaigns for themselves.

In general, the Patrol went very well and I feel it did achieve its object.

(4)

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Little native affairs work was carried out on this Patrol, the election education work taking priority. Only where action was immediately necessary was it taken on the spot in connection with disputes and minor complaints etc. By and large, the area appeared reasonably quiet from this point of view and few complaints were forthcoming.

At YambiYambi village, which lies on the border between this sub-District and the Angoram sub-District, a discussion was held with the villagers to ascertain their wishes with regard to joining or rejecting the proposed new Chambri lakes/Sepik river NLGC. Apparently the YambiYambi people had originally expressed a desire to join the Council but, at the same time, to be censused by the Patrol Officer from the Amboin Patrol Post, at their small hamlet, Sigabika, on the Sarumei river. After careful reconsideration, however, they now opt to reject the Chambri Council and their final wish is to set up village at the Sigabika site and become a part of the Amboin administrative area. This seems to be quite a sound scheme as the whole of their economic interests are centered on the Sarumei river, which allows them easy access to the Sepik, Angoram and Amboin. They carry on a fair timber business and own an outboard motor of their own.

The Sigabika hamlet had apparently not been visited by an Ambunti Patrol before. A walk of one hour brings one to the site on the Sarumei banks, where there are some five or six houses built and a rest house. From Sigabika, the Patrol made a two and a quarter hour trip upstream in the YambiYambi motor canoe to visit Wangabi, a Mari hamlet, which is probably situated in the Angoram sub-District but which is administered by Ambunti. This Mari hamlet had not been visited by government patrols either, although all its people are censused at Mari, near Changriman. The hamlet was found to be in a very poor state of repair and the village officials were warned about this when the Patrol went to the main Mari village the following day. Further upstream from Wangabi, towards the headwaters of the Sarumei, the existence of several new groups of people is known - Moli, Bugiau, Movei and Uapu being mentioned to the Patrol. These are not yet contacted by Administration Patrols although business men and native traders from Angoram make trips to those regions. It would seem that an officer from Amboin would find it easier to deal with these groups than from Ambunti.

AGRICULTURE.

No time was available for coffee gardens or coconut plantations to be inspected on this Patrol. An Agricultural Officer from Bainyik is at present visiting the Chambri Lakes in an Ambunti houseboat.

HEALTH.

No Aid Post Orderly accompanied the Patrol. Health in the census division was uniformly good. The Aid Post at Chambri island caters for any complaints.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

Most villages were in reasonable condition and it appeared that attention was being paid to maintenance of same.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

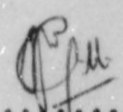
All village officials were carrying out their duties satisfactorily.

TAX, CENSUS ETC.

Not applicable. This was dealt with last August.

CONCLUSION.

A Patrol to deal solely with the election education programme. The impression gained was that fair success was achieved in getting across to the Chambri people what the elections were about and the voting procedure.


.....
H.W.Gill
Cadet Patrol Offr.

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Out

M F

APPENDIX A.

REPORTS ON MEMBERS OF THE RP&NGC ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL.

NO. 5246B CONSTABLE FIRST CLASS KIKISI.

Conduct good. Performed his duties well. Very loyal and always a hard trier.

NO. 6597 CONSTABLE DURONG.

Conduct generally good. Worked well but has a tendency to talk too much and too unnecessarily.

Copy 1



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of SEPIK/AMBUNTI Report No. 14 of 1963/64

Patrol Conducted by W.H.HEATHCOTE C.P.O.

Area Patrolled MAIN RIVER CENSUS DIVISION

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans NIL

Natives 1 NCO 1 CONST POLICE

Duration—From 24/ 1 /19 64 to 5/ 2 /19 64

Number of Days 13

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? NO

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 10/1963

Medical 9/1963

Map Reference AMBUNTI SHEET ARMY FOURMIL

Objects of Patrol ELECTION PROPOGANDA = HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

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

bula

67-8-14

MIGRAT	
In	
M	F

67-8-14



67-2-1
 7th April, 1964.
 District Office,
 Sepik District,
 WENAK.

20th March, 1964

District Officer, 1st Officer,
 South Sepik District,
 WENAK.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 14 of 63/64 - MAIN
 RIVER - MR. W. H. HEATHCOTE, C.P.O.
PATROL REPORT NO. 14-1963/64 - AMBUNTI

Mr. Heathcote did some good work on this
 patrol in receipt of the abovementioned patrol report is
 acknowledged with thanks.

2. The patrol appears to have achieved its prime objective in that it was able to get through to the people the purpose and mechanics of the general elections.
3. I am gratified to note that the Native Affairs position in this area is at present quite stable.
4. Officers should continue writing letters on behalf of the older people in the villages to their sons who have been away from the village environment for extended periods with a view to having them return home, even if for a limited period.
5. Mr. Heathcote has performed a very creditable patrol.

(J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.



67-2-1

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

20th March, 1964

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 14 of 63/64 - MAIN
RIVER - MR. W. H. HEATHCOTE, C.P.O.

Mr. Heathcote did some good work on this patrol in preparing the people for the House of Assembly elections.

Please let me have Ambunti Patrol Report No. 13, which I have not yet received.

W
(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

(B)

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.
17th February, 1964.

67-1-3

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
Wewak.

Patrol No. 14 : Main River Division.

Enclosed please find report by Mr. W.H. Heathcote Cadet Patrol Officer, of a 13-day patrol to the Main River Division for the special purpose of further imparting instruction and guidance in the forthcoming elections.

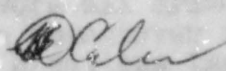
The results of this work is being summarised in the special reports submitted periodically, and no comment is made here, except that Mr. Heathcote appears to have carried out his task effectively.

Native Affairs. As stated by Mr. Heathcote, not as much time as normally was available for attention to routine aspects, but nevertheless all appears to be in order.

As predicted previously, letters which were written to enquire into the whereabouts and intentions of men who had been absent from the area for several years, at the request of their relatives, have had a useful effect in inducing the men to return at least for a visit. It is therefore felt that this welfare aspect deserves attention on patrols.

One matter not mentioned by the reporter concerned an incident in which a native of MALINGEI village supplied liquor to other natives of the village, for payment, as a sort of party. This was investigated by the officer, and a charge was laid against one SALI for a breach of S.86(1) of the Liquor (Licensing) Ordinance 1963. The case resulted in a fine for the offender, and a warning to all concerned against any future breach. It was apparent that the people wanted to have access to liquor closer than either Angoram or Maprik, but the conditions governing applications for licences, which would probably exclude any indigenous village trader at the present time, were explained to the people.

General. I have advised Mr. Heathcote to refrain from using slang phrases in his diary (vide 30th Jan.) as it is felt that this tends to mar a report.


(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.

(13)

POLITICAL EDUCATION - HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The main purpose of this patrol was to help prepare the people for the coming House of Assembly Election and a number of aids were used to help in this purpose, these being a tape recorder, slide projector, flip chart and the portable polling booth.

As much time as possible was spent in each village so as to educate the people fully, give them a chance to discuss the elections amongst themselves, and to answer the number of questions that were asked. Response was good from most of the villages, the people taking a real interest in the proceedings with questions being asked on any point that was not clear to them.

A brief run down of how each village was dealt with is as follows; Firstly a general address was given to the people by means of the tape recorder covering all main points of the elections, what the House of Assembly stood for, what an electorate was etc. At the conclusion of this talk the flip chart was shown, myself explaining each picture with the help of the tape recorder. Then the names of the candidates standing in their electorate was given, both for the Open and Special together with the times and villages where the poll would take place. A detailed list of all the candidates was left in each village. The ballot paper and ballot box was then fully explained, and at the conclusion of this a mock polling booth was set up and a demonstration election held. Wherever possible at each village I got all the people who could read and write both male and female, and after having a trial vote these were sent among those who could not write to explain in their own language the method of voting. Then the people who could not write were shown how to vote. I feel that the mock poll was very successful and should be a help to both the people and polling officials when the elections come round. Great stress was placed on the fact that these were only trial elections. The election slides were shown in the evening, these consisting of the eleven slides taken in Wewak and the roll of black and white film strip of thirty pictures, these being a duplicate of the large cardboard posters. The colour slides were greatly appreciated, the people fully understanding what each slide was supposed to represent, and questions asked by me were all answered satisfactorily.

AVATIP and YAU'UMLEAK villages expressed dissatisfaction to being put into the Anoram Electorate stating that they belonged to Ambunti and should have been placed in the Upper Sepik Electorate. They said that they were not interested in voting for anyone in the Anoram area, and as they are a different linguistic group to the down river people, being that of the MALU, YAMBON group, their complaint perhaps has some justification. I explained to them that the electorates were all drawn up some time ago and that nothing could be done about a changeover for the coming elections, but that after the elections they may possibly be able to change their electorate with the help of the Anoram and Upper Sepik members in time for future elections. I also pointed out to them that if they did not want to vote for anyone down river, no one could compel them to. However, as there are some candidates from the down river Ambunti villages I feel that they will perhaps vote for them. The Ambunti area candidates were all met on the patrol and most of them are busy canvassing.

To sum up I feel that the downriver people have now got a reasonably good idea of what the elections are all about, and that there should not be any difficulties during polling time.

(11)

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO 10 OF 1963/64.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: W.H.HEATHCOTE C.F.O.

ACCOMPANIED BY: 1 N.C.O. 1 CONST POLICE

AREA PATROLLED: MAIN RIVER CENSUS DIVISION

DURATION OF PATROL: 24/1/64 to 5/2/64

NUMBER OF DAYS: 13 DAYS

OBJECTS OF PATROL: POLITICAL EDUCATION - H OF A.

MAP REFERENCE: AMBUNTI SHEET ARMY FOURMTL

0730. Village assembled, all in canvas or village
water. Talks given on coming House of Assembly. Electric
tape recorder used together with 12 charts. Demonstration of
poll held. Departed 0830 and arrived YIMBIRI 1000. Collected
water and departed 1030. In very strong wind, arriving
1130. Afternoon village assembled and general talks given on
coming elections. Tape chart used together with tape recorder.
Work pulled back together with number of village talks
part in the village. Election slides shown in evening, and talks
given on each picture.

16

PATROL DIARY.

Friday, 24th January 1964.

Morning spent preparing for patrol. 1350. Departed Ambunti per double canoe, passed AVATIP 1505. JAPANDAI 1630. and arrived PAGWI 1730. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 25th January 1964.

Departed PAGWI 0810. ten minutes across to AOC mission at YAMANUMBO. Spoke with mission personel and two teachers Mr. Briggs Ackett and wife who are to accompany me downriver. Departed 0935. from YAMANUMBO, passed JAPANAUT 1600. KOROGO 1045. SUAPMERI 1140. INDABU 1210. YENTCHAN 1230. and arrived KANGANAMAN 1300. Picked up another motor and departed again 1400. ashore at KAPIMERI 1410 where drum of petrol unloaded. Continued on 1430. passed TEGOI 1440. into Chambri Waterway 1515. ALBOM 1700. and arrived Chambri Island 1730. Remained overnight.

Sunday, 26th January 1964.

Departed Chambri Island 1325. and arrived ALBOM 1400. Departed again 1445. at Sepik 1650. and arrived TEGOI 1800. Remained overnight.

Monday, 27th January 1964.

0730. Village assembled, all in canoes as village underwater. Talks given on coming House of Assembly Elections, tape recorder used together with flip chart. Demonstration mock poll held. Departed 0930 and arrived KAPIMERI 1000. collected water and departed 1050. in very strong wind, arriving KANGANAMAN 1135. Afternoon village assembled and general talks given on coming elections. Flip chart used together with tape recorder. Mock polling booth set up with large number of village taking part in the voting. Election slides shown in evening, and talks given on each picture.

Tuesday, 28th January 1964.

Talks with village officials and one minor complaint heard. Departed KANGANAMAN 0840 and arrived PARAMBEI 0900. 25 minutes paddle to main village, most of which was under water. PARAMBEI and MALINGAI village people assembled and general talk given again on coming elections. Tape recorder used together with flip chart. Mock polling booth set up and people from both villages mock voted. Complaint from MALINGAI Village heard, man to come to Ambunti for C.N.A. Back to Sepik 1445, 15 minutes paddle, thence to YENTCHAN arriving 1600. Mr. J. Corrigan PO Maprik there after patrolling Burui Kunai area. Election slides shown to village people in evening.

Wednesday, 29th January 1964.

PO Corrigan away up river en route PACWI. 0800 village assembled and general talk given on coming elections. Flip chart shown and tape recorder used. Mock poll held, good response from people voting. One minor complaint heard and settled. Departed 1200. and arrived INDABU 1305. Village lined and same talks given as above. Mock poll held. Departed 1455 and arrived SUAPMERI 1610. Election slides shown in evening and general talks held with village leaders.

Thursday, 30th January 1964.

0730. Village assembled and general talks given on coming House of Assembly elections. Tape recorder used together with flip chart. People quite interested. Set up mock polling booth and most people had a go at voting. No serious complaints. Departed 1020 for KOROGO ~~1110~~ arriving 1310. Only 1/4 of village in attendance so rest sung out for, but being KOROGO remainder of village did not arrive until late afternoon. While waiting village inspected, half of ~~it~~ ^{which} being underwater, and general talks given on the coming elections to those who were present. Election slides shown in evening.

Friday, 31st January 1964.

Village assembled and talks given again on coming elections. Flip chart shown and tape recorder used. Mock polling booth set up and majority of people had a go at voting. Departed 1030. and arrived YENTCHANMANGUA 1135. Village assembled and same talks given as above. Mock poll held. Departed 1500. thence to KANDANGAI arriving 1545. Talks with village leaders over coming elections. Election slides shown in evening.

Saturday, 1st February 1964.

Village people from NYAUBANGAI and KANDANGAI assembled and general talks given on coming elections. Tape recorder used and flip chart shown. Mock poll held with most people taking part. One minor complaint heard from KANDANGAI. Village inspected and some instructions given. Departed 1145, at Sepik 1210, and arrived JAPANAUT 1300. Village assembled and talks given again on coming elections. Tape and flip chart used. Mock polling booth set up and majority of people polled. No serious complaints. Election slides shown in evening.

Sunday, 2nd February 1964.

Departed JAPANAUT 1130, and arrived PAGWI 1250, slowness due to motor breaking down twice. Across to YAMANUMBO, 20 minutes from PAGWI. Discussions with village leaders over coming election. Slides shown in evening.

Monday, 3rd February 1964.

Village assembled and general talk given on the coming elections. Tape and flip chart used. Mock poll held. Brief visit to AOG Mission, ten minutes walk from village for talks with mission members. Departed YAMANUMBO 1100 and arrived JAPANDAI 1230. Village lined and same talks given as above. Tape and flip chart used. Mock poll held. Election slides shown in evening.

Tuesday, 4th February 1964.

Two minor complaints heard and settled. Departed JAPANDAI 0905, pass LABONGAI 1125, and arrived AVATIP 1230. Village people from both AVATIP and YAU'UMPAK assembled and general talks given on coming elections. Flip chart and tape recorder used. Mock polling booth set up and most of the people tried voted. Election slides shown in evening.

Wednesday, 5th February 1964.

Talks with village officials from the two villages. Departed AVATIP 0845, and arrived AMBUNTI 1120. Patrol stood down.

End of diary.

INTRODUCTION.

The area visited on this patrol is known as the Main River Census Division and extends over an area of some eighty river miles, the main geographical feature being that of the Sepik River which winds throughout the whole of the division.

The main purpose of the patrol was to prepare the people for the coming House of Assembly elections so that they would have at least a basic idea of what is going on at election time. To this end a number of aids were used, namely a tape recorder, flip chart and a slide projector which showed both colour slides and a black and white film strip.

The patrol was carried out in extremely high water, the Sepik having burst its banks in a number of places, and I was told by the people that this is the highest the Sepik has risen since early in 1959. The villages of PARAMBEI, MALINGAI and YAU'UMBAK which are normally reached by walking are now completely under water, and canoe travel is the only means of transport. TEGOI village was also under water and the people had to be assembled in canoes to hear the election talks.

Water travel is the main mode of transport in this census division and for this patrol the double canoe/houseboat was used. This boat is ideal for this division as it is fully mosquito proofed and a sure protection against the savage hordes which inhabit each village in highwater time.

The last routine patrol to this area was carried out by myself in June of 1963. (See Ambunti P/R No 14 of 1962/63.)

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The native affairs position in this area is at present quite stable and no serious complaints were brought to my notice. As the main purpose of the patrol was for political education, not as much time was spent on native affairs work as one would do normally. Some complaints were brought to my notice but most of these were of a minor nature, and I was able to deal with them on the spot.

As in my previous patrol to this area several old men and women approached me at different villages, and asked me to inquire as to the whereabouts of their sons, most of whom are working in the large towns of Rabaul and Madang. I did notice in several of the villages young men who had come home over the Xmas period to be with their families, and who are now going to settle down and take part in the village work. This was the result of several letters of enquiry written after my last patrol to this area, so it seems that the men are quite prepared to come back and brave the mosquitos after all.

6

AGRICULTURE.

Very little time was spent on agricultural work, political education taking priority. However, I did notice that a number of new seedlings had been planted since my last patrol in June and the people were encouraged to continue working this way.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

The housing in all the main river villages is quite satisfactory. The villages are fairly neat and tidy and very few instructions were necessary.

TAX/CENSUS.

Not applicable. The last tax/census being carried out on my last patrol in June 1963.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

A rather average lot who are all performing to the best of their abilities.

HEALTH.

No health representative accompanied the patrol, but there are aid post situated at strategic points along the river and these cater for the general needs of the people.

COMMUNICATIONS.

Travel in this division is essentially by water and at this time of the year each village can be reached by motor or paddle canoe. During the dry season the three villages of PARAMBET, MALINGAI and YAU'UMBAK are all reached by foot.

POLITICAL EDUCATION - HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

The main purpose of this patrol was to help prepare the people for the coming House of Assembly Election and a number of aids were used to help in this purpose, these being a tape recorder, slide projector, flip chart and the portable polling booth.

As much time as possible was spent in each village so as to educate the people fully, give them a chance to discuss the elections amongst themselves, and to answer the number of questions that were asked. Response was good from most of the villages, the people taking a real interest in the proceedings with questions being asked on any point that was not clear to them.

A brief run down of how each village was dealt with is as follows; Firstly a general address was given to the people by means of the tape recorder covering all main points of the elections, what the House of Assembly stood for, what an electorate was etc. At the conclusion of this talk the flip chart was shown, myself explaining each picture with the help of the tape recorder. Then the names of the candidates standing in their electorate was given, both for the Open and Special together with the times and villages where the poll would take place. A detailed list of all the candidates was left in each village. The ballot paper and ballot box was then fully explained, and at the conclusion of this a mock polling booth was set up and a demonstration election held. Wherever possible at each village I got all the people who could read and write both male and female, and after having a trial vote these were sent among those who could not write to explain in their own language the method of voting. Then the people who could not write were shown how to vote. I feel that the mock poll was very successful and should be a help to both the people and polling officials when the elections come round. Great stress was placed on the fact that these were only trial elections. The election slides were shown in the evening, these consisting of the eleven slides taken in Wewak and the roll of black and white film strip of thirty pictures, these being a duplicate of the large cardboard posters. The colour slides were greatly appreciated, the people fully understanding what each slide was supposed to represent, and questions asked by me were all answered satisfactorily.

AVATIP and YAU'JUMBAK villages expressed dissatisfaction to being put into the Angoram Electorate stating that they belonged to Ambunti and should have been placed in the Upper Sepik Electorate. They said that they were not interested in voting for anyone in the Angoram area, and as they are a different linguistic group to the down river people, being that of the MALU, YAMBON group, their complaint perhaps has some justification. I explained to them that the electorates were all drawn up some time ago and that nothing could be done about a changeover for the coming elections, but that ~~after~~ after the elections they may possibly be able to change their electorate with the help of the Angoram and Upper Sepik members in time for future elections. I also pointed out to them that if they did not want to vote for anyone down river, no one could compel them to. However, as there are some candidates from the down river Ambunti villages I feel that they will perhaps vote for them. The Ambunti area candidates were all met on the patrol and most of them are busy canvassing.

To sum up I feel that the downriver people have now got a reasonably good idea of what the elections are all about, and that there should not be any difficulties during polling time.

CONCLUSION.

As mentioned earlier a patrol that for the most part dealt solely with preparing the people for the coming House of Assembly Elections. I feel that the object of the patrol was achieved and that the people are now ready to vote with some basic understanding at election time.

As average H.C. worked well and

W. Heathcote
.....
W. Heathcote C.P.O.

Conduct good. An average patrol.

③

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE R.P. & N.G.C.

ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL

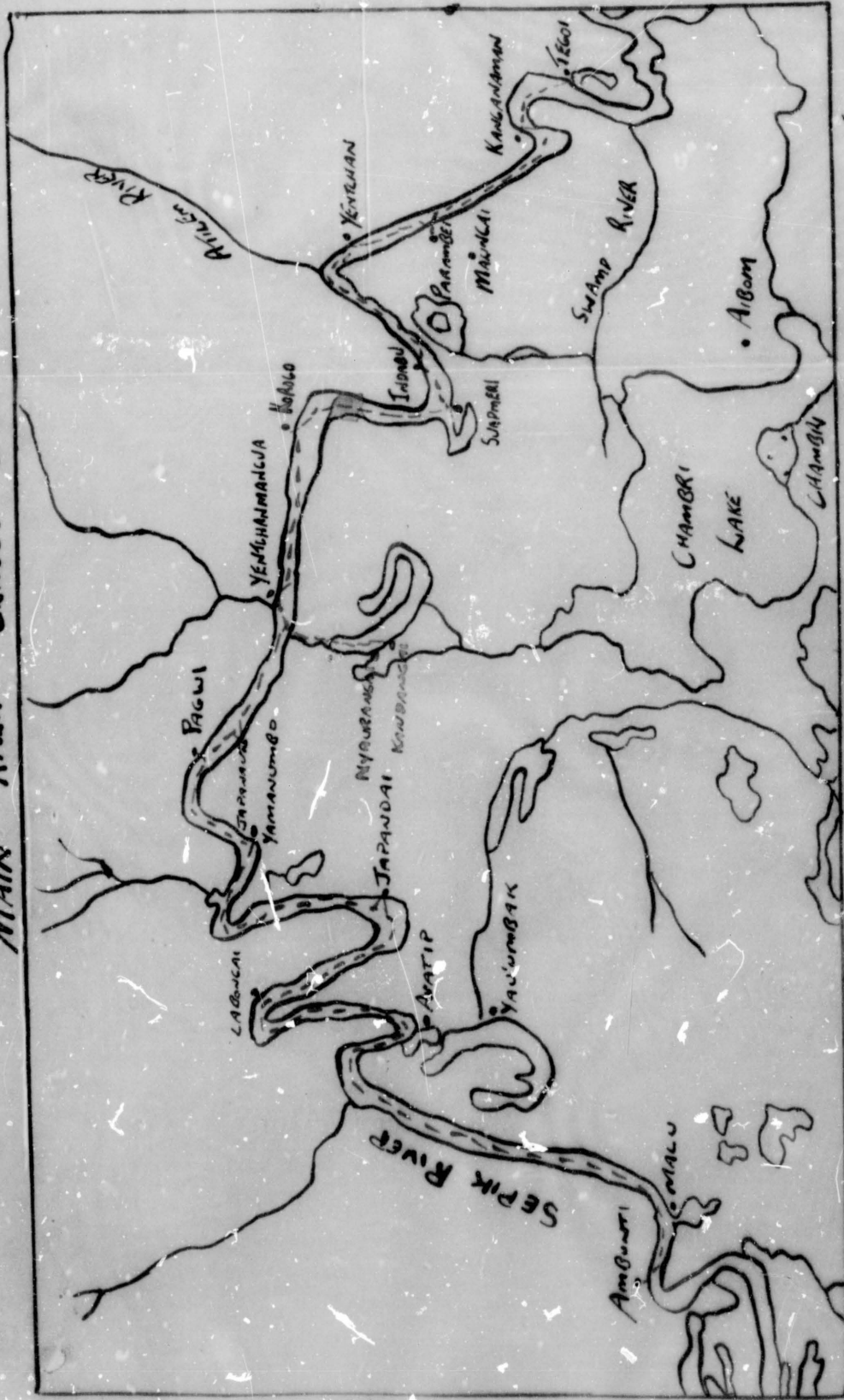
CONST 1st CLASS TAWUTUANKAMP NO 3073.

An average NCO. Worked well and is reliable.

CONST WARID NO 8465.

Conduct good. An average constable.

MAIN RIVER CENSUS DIVISION



Scale 4 mls = 1"
Patrol Route - - - -

Directly

Amount Returned to Store



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of AMBUNTI/SEPIK Report No. 15 of 1963/64

Patrol Conducted by W.H.Heathcote C.P.O.

Area Patrolled Waskuk Hills, Numau Ablatak, Upper Sepik, Wagu- Yigei C.D.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr. R.A. Farnsworth Presiding Officer.

Natives 1 NCO, 1 Const. Police 2 Poll Clerks

Duration—From 19/2/1964 to 7/3/1964

Number of Days 22 days

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 11/1963

Medical 1963

Map Reference Ambunti Army Sheet Fourmil 1943.

Objects of Patrol House of Assembly Elections.

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 £.....

THE DIRECTOR, DEPARTMENT OF NATIVE AFFAIRS, KONE DOBU

MINUTE

Govt. Print.—6904/11.61.—40,000.

File No. 67-2-1

SUBJECT PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 15 of 1963/64

The abovementioned patrol report forwarded please.

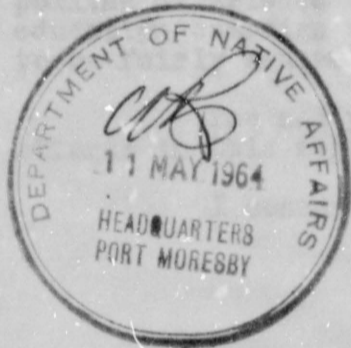
Mr. Heathcote also submitted a claim for camping allowance on this patrol, which is enclosed. He has already received an allowance of £1 per day under CELO Instruction 4/63 for each day spent in the field polling and travelling.

The Assistant District Officer has commented:

"Officers concerned have represented to me that this merely compensates them for the extra hours worked a day above normal duty and it is true that the polling programme covered the hours of 8.0 a.m. to 6.0 p.m., some of which was spent in travelling and setting up booth arrangements, etc. Therefore they feel that normal camping allowance should be paid in addition and I submit this is not unreasonable."

I cannot agree that, on normal patrol, there are "normal hours of duty" for Native Affairs Officers. It would not be unusual for a day on a routine patrol to span the hours from 8.0 a.m. to 6.0 p.m. - or, for that matter, after 6.0 p.m., since after tea at night is often the most suitable time to talk to native people in the villages.

However, the matter is referred to you for your decision, please.



G. Linsley
(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

6th May, 1964

13 70

67-2-1

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

6th May, 1964

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 15 of 1963/64 -
ELECTIONS, WASKUK HILLS, NAUMAU ABLATAK, UPPER
SEPIK, WAGU-YIGEI - MR. W. H. HEATHCOTE C.P.O.

Thank you for this report on the polling carried out in the abovementioned census divisions of the Upper Sepik electorate. It provides a very good account indeed, of the prosaic day to day work of a mobile polling team during the recent House of Assembly elections.

It is most gratifying to see from the actual polling experience how successful the pre-election political education campaign was in this area, as, indeed, it proved to be fairly generally throughout the South Sepik District.

You and your staff are to be commended for your efforts in this regard.

I concur in your comments concerning YAMANUMBU village.

(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

12

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.

24th March, 1964.

67-1-3.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
Wewak.

Patrol No. 15 (Ambunti) : Elections.

A report by Mr. W.H. Heathcote, Cadet Patrol Officer covering his visit in the Waskuk Hills, Numau Ablatak, Upper Sepik and Wagu-Migei Divisions for the purpose of polling for the House of Assembly elections is forwarded.

For the most part, the patrol stopped at only the designated polling places, eleven in number, but the great majority of the people were seen at these points.

Mr. Heathcote discloses that polling proceeded extremely smoothly and successfully, and I feel this is due in some measure to the excellent manner in which it was conducted. I am also pleased that Mr. Heathcote took the trouble to consult with the people during the patrol to ascertain their attitude re the arrangements made, and concur that these appear to have been quite suitable.

The exact percentage of eligible voters who voted is not available, as there were a relatively high proportion absent in employment, but Mr. Heathcote assures me that it was well over 90% of those in the village. The time allowed for the staff that was available, namely approximately three weeks was adequate, and more staff would be necessary to reduce the time.

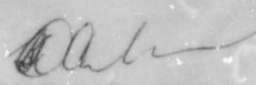
YAMANUMBU Village. I think it would be premature at this stage to suggest any alteration. AVATIP village itself at first felt very strongly that they should have been enrolled in the Upper Sepik electorate, because of linguistic-cultural affiliations, but modified their stand when the writer pointed out the advantages of being included in the Angoram electorate. However, in the not distant future both these villages will enter a local government unit which will be comprised of villages in the Upper Sepik Electorate, and it may then be opportune to re-examine the House of Assembly electorate boundary.

YIGEL. I am satisfied that adequate publicity including a previous visit by an education patrol was given to this group, but their extreme backwardness and semi-nomadic nature seem to have precluded any interest in the election, and accordingly they availed themselves of their freedom to abstain from voting.

Presiding Officer. Mr. Robin Farnsworth was engaged to act in this role when the expected relief Patrol Officer did not arrive, Mr. Heathcote being under the required age of 21 years. He did an efficient job, and has been personally thanked by me. He is a linguist of the Summer Institute of Linguistics, stationed at YAMBON near Ambunti.

Native Affairs. As stated by Mr. Heathcote, little arose in this connection, because of preoccupation with the elections.

Transport. The fourteen-foot aluminium hulls powered by 28 HP Johnson outboard motors have proved very useful thus far. The extra speed of movement will have a great advantage for future administration.


(R.A. McCoy)

(11)

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO 15 OF 1963/64.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: W.H.HEATHCOTE C.P.O.

ACCOMPANIED BY: MR. R.A.FARNSWORTH PRESIDING OFFICER
1 NCO, 1 CONST POLICE, 2 POLL CLERKS.

AREA PATROLLED: WASKUK HILLS, NUMAU ABLATAK, UPPER SEPIK,
WAGU-YIGEI CENSUS DIVISIONS.

DURATION OF PATROL: 17/2/64 to 7/3/64

NUMBER OF DAYS: 22 DAYS.

OBJECTS OF PATROL: ELECTIONS-HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY.

MAP REFERENCE: AMBUNTI ARMY SHEET FOURMIL 1943.

PATROL DIARY.

Friday, 14th February 1964.

Morning spent preparing for patrol. Single canoe sent off at 1000. Self to YAMBON 1300. to collect Mr. R.A. Farnsworth Presiding Officer, Back at Ambunti 1500. Thence downriver by small dinghy, passing MALU 1510 and arriving mouth of SCREW RIVER 1535. Fifteen minutes up to YAMANUMBO, and arrived BIAMANUMBO 1830. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 15th February 1964.

0730. Polling booth set up.
0800. Poll opened and people from BIAMANUMBO, AMBUKEN and YAMANUMBO started voting. Polling completed 1215. everyone eligible having voted. Departed BIAMANUMBO 1345. passed YAMANUMBO 1520. and arrived Sepik River 1530. Five minutes across to AVATIP, where people polling for Angoram Electorate. Departed there 1555. and arrived Ambunti 1635. Took Mr. Farnsworth back to YAMBON, 25 minutes travel and arrived back Ambunti 1800.

Sunday, 16th February 1964.

Morning and part afternoon spent on station. Single canoe sent off to WASKUK 1400. Self departed Ambunti 1630. and arrived YAMBON 1700. Picked up Mr. Farnsworth and proceeded on 1725. MELAWEI 1800. and arrived WASKUK 1825. Slowness due to thick grass on channel. Overnight WASKUK.

Monday, 17th February 1964.

Polling booth assembled. Poll opened 0800 with village people from WASKUK, BANGWIS, MELAWEI and YELOGU taking part. Good run all day with no problems. Poll closed 1800.

Tuesday, 18th February 1964.

Polling again at WASKUK. Poll closed at 1100. as everyone had finished voting. Departed WASKUK 1315. passed REGLAM 1355. and arrived SASERIMAN 1400. Departed again 1430. and arrived TONGWINJAMB 1500. Remained overnight.

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Wednesday, 19th February 1964.

Polling booth assembled. 0800. Poll opened and people started voting. Continued on throughout day and poll closed 1800. No problems. Overnight TONGWINJAMB.

Thursday, 20th February 1964.

Polling again at TONGWINJAMB. SASERIMAN and some more people from TONGWINJAMB and URAMBANJ voted. Again no problems. Poll closed 1800.

Friday, 21st February

Single canoe sent on to KAWAKA. Self and Mr. Farnsworth back to Ambunti to collect mail and various polling items. Departed Ambunti 1420 and arrived YAMBON 1450. Departed again 1530. and at MELAWEI 1600 after paddling through thick grass on lake. Passed BEGLAM 1630. SASERIMAN 1635. and arrived KAWAKA 1745. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 22nd February 1964.

Polling booth assembled and poll opened 0800. Village people from KWAKAURU, NAGEZI, AMAKI taking part in voting. Some trouble encountered in finding peoples names, but on the whole everything went off smoothly. Poll closed 1800. Remainder of people to vote Monday.

Sunday, 23rd February 1964.

Observed at KAWAKA.

Monday, 24th February 1964.

Polling again at KAWAKA. ABLATAK and KAWAKA people voted, also remainder of KWAKAURU. Finished polling midday. Patrol moved to KWAKAURU, three hours by paddle and motor canoe. Paddlers paid off and moved on to YAUNGET, two hours walk. Arrived 1745. Remained overnight.

Tuesday, 25th February 1964.

Departed YAUNGET 0700. and arrived ASAWUR 0745. Booth set up and people started voting 0800. Village people from WARASAI, NAUSALU, ASAWUR and YAUNGET taking part. As all eligible people had voted by 1600., polling booth dismantled and patrol moved back to YAUNGET, where remained overnight.

Wednesday, 26th February 1964.

Departed YAUNGET 0825. and arrived NAGERI 1025. Thence on to KWAKAURU, 15 minutes walk. Departed KWAKAURU 1150. and arrived SASERIMAN 1430. Slowness due to thick grass on lake. Thence on to MELAWEI, arriving 1330. Spoke with Mr. Kooyers SIL and members of ABC film unit. Departed MELAWEI 1600. and arrived Ambunti 1630.

Thursday, 27th February 1964.

Morning spent in office. Departed Ambunti 1710. and arrived YAMBON 1735. Departed again 1745 and arrived BRUGNOWI 1800. Remained overnight.

Friday, 28th February 1964.

Elections held at BRUGNOWI, with people from YESSAN and MAIO voting. Poll closed 1800. Overnight BRUGNOWI.

Saturday, 29th February 1964.

Polling again at BRUGNOWI. Poll closed 1300. Overnight BRUGNOWI.

Sunday, 1st March 1964.

Observed BRUGNOWI. Afternoon proceeded downstream to YAMBON where set up camp in preparations for elections following day. Remained overnight.

Monday, 2nd March 1964.

Elections held at YAMBON, with most people in the village taking part. Finished 1100. Single canoe sent on ahead to WAGU to set up camp. Self ~~to~~ back to Ambunti. Departed again 1445. and arrived WAGU 1700. Word sent on to YIGEI to report on patrol coming next day.

(7)

Tuesday, March 3rd 1964.

At WAGU. Polling held with WAGU people voting. Policeman back from YIGEI and reported that village deserted, so plans cancelled for patrol to proceed there. Voting finished WAGU 1400. Departed 1425. and arrived back Ambunti 1715.

Wednesday, 4th March 1964.

Polling booth set up at Ambunti station and station personnel started voting. Poll closed 1800.

Thursday, 5th March 1964.

0700. To MALU Village. Poll opened 0800 and MALU people started voting. Poll closed midday as all people had voted. Proceeded back to Ambunti station in afternoon.

Friday, 6th March 1964.

Polling again on Ambunti station. People in at spasmodic intervals to vote. Booth closed 1800.

Saturday, 7th March 1964.

Polling again on station, continuing on throughout afternoon 1800. Poll closed off.

444 _____ 444

End of patrol diary.

(6)

INTRODUCTION.

The patrol visited the divisions known as the Waskuk Hills, Numau Ablatak, Upper Sepik and Wagu - Yigei Census Divisions.

These divisions cover an area of approximately some five hundred and fifty square miles, with vegetation consisting mainly of thick rain forest on the slopes running through the centre of the Waskuk Hills and part of the Upper Sepik, and vast stands of sago palm and swamp forest in the low lying areas. The whole of the Numau Ablatak is subject to inundation in times of high water.

The patrol was carried out in the middle of the wet season, and consequently the several waterways draining the area were very high, and all polling places with the exception of ASAWUR were able to be reached, or nearly reached by motor canoe. The Screw River, which originates from the Dreikikir area was unusually high, and although full of underground obstacles, this river was able to be navigated to within one hour of BIAMANUMBU Village, this normally being a three hour walk from YAMANUMBU Village.

Thick grass was the main obstacle on several of these waterways, particularly in the KWAKAUKU, WASKUK and WAGU channels, where considerable time was lost trying to paddle through the channels. Although the people work hard at keeping them clear (with the exception of WAGU) little can be done until the Sepik River starts to fall, as at present there is little or no current to take the grass out.

A single canoe powered by a 12 HP Archimedes motor, and a ~~an~~ aluminium dinghy powered by a 28HP Johnson was used for the duration of the patrol, the latter proving very helpful, and good times were made between each polling place.

The main purpose of the patrol was to collect votes from the native people for the House of Assembly Elections.

The patrol was accompanied by Mr. R.A. Farnsworth, linguist from YAMBON Village, who helped out as Presiding Officer.

The last patrol to the Wagu-Yigei, Upper Sepik area was carried out in July 1963 by Mr. P.O. Cochrane. (See Ambunti P/R Nos 2 and 4 of 1963/64. The last patrol to the Waskuk, Numau Ablatak area was carried out by myself in November of 1963. (See Ambunti P/R No 10 of 1963/64.)

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS.

As stated in the introduction the primary purpose of this patrol was to take votes from the native people for the House of Assembly elections.

In all ten polling places were visited and from these polling booths a total of two thousand and eighteen votes were recorded. This was a very high number in comparison with the number of people eligible to vote, and at most of the polling places those that were eligible to vote came to the polling booth and voted. Those people whose names were listed in the Certified List of Voters and who did not vote were, for the most part, men who had left their villages to work in the towns such as Madang and Rabaul, and it is presumed that they voted there.

Before opening the poll each morning a brief introductory talk on the elections was given to the people at each polling booth, but it is felt that even without this talk the people had a fairly good idea of what the elections were all about. With three out of the five candidates for the Upper Sepik Electorate from the area visited on this patrol, the people at least knew who was standing and who they could vote for. Each of the three candidates had been through the area canvassing at various times prior to this patrol, and as for the most part they were able to speak to the people in their own language, they were able to successfully get their policy speeches across. Particular stress was placed on the fact that voting was voluntary and entirely up to the person who he or she wished to vote for, and the people fully understood this when casting their votes.

The village leaders also played their part in preparing the people for the elections, and I feel that the political education courses held on the station for these people was very successful, as for the most part they went back to their villages and passed on this information gained to the rest of the people. In several instances blackboards were noticed in the mens club house, these apparently having been used to show the people how to mark the ballot paper.

Some difficulty was encountered in finding some of the peoples names and a full list was taken of those which did not co-incide with the Certified List of Voters. When asked what a persons name was, he or she would invariably give their second or third name making it rather difficult to find such names in the list of Voters book. However, when asked if they could give the name which appears in the census register things worked out better, and it was not so difficult to find the persons name.

I feel that there is no need to change any of the ten polling places visited for future elections, as none of the villages with the exception of YAMANUMBU Village, had more than a two and a quarter hour walk to the nearest polling booth. People from each village who had to travel to vote were asked how they felt about this travelling, and all agreed it was no hardship to walk to these polling booths to vote.

The people from YAMANUMBU Village had a three hour walk to the polling booth at BIANUMBU, and although little was said I gathered that they would have preferred to either vote in their own village or at AVATIP Village on the Sepik River. As they are of the same linguist group as AVATIP, having migrated from there some time ago, perhaps for future elections they

3

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

Because of the tight polling schedule little or no time was available for native affairs work. The people too were pre-occupied with the election and no complaints or other matters were brought to the attention of the patrol.

COMMUNICATIONS.

The patrol was carried out in the wet season and canoe travel was the main form of transport. Some difficulty was experienced in getting through some of the water channels because of the thick grass, and instructions were left at each village concerned to try and keep them clear at all times. In high water it is a never ending job to keep these channels clear, as the grass keeps breaking away from the banks and with ~~any~~ little current to take it into the Sepik, it just keeps blocking on the channel mouth. When the Sepik starts to fall the position will improve, as with a strong current the grass will drift through with little or no assistance.

Contact good, no real work throughout the patrol.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

The village officials are all performing their duties to the best of their abilities and every encouragement was given to them. Some of the village officials in the Ablatak area are rather backward and speak little pidgin and these were invited to visit the station more often, and gain some knowledge of the way the administration works.

CONCLUSION.

A patrol whose primary purpose was to take the votes of the native people for the House of Assembly elections. No great difficulties were encountered in achieving this purpose, the people having been well schooled by officers at Ambunti, and by the three candidates while canvassing so on the whole the elections in this area went off very well.

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE R.P. & N.G.C.

ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL.

SENIOR CONSTABLE EGMUN/OBIT NO 5119.

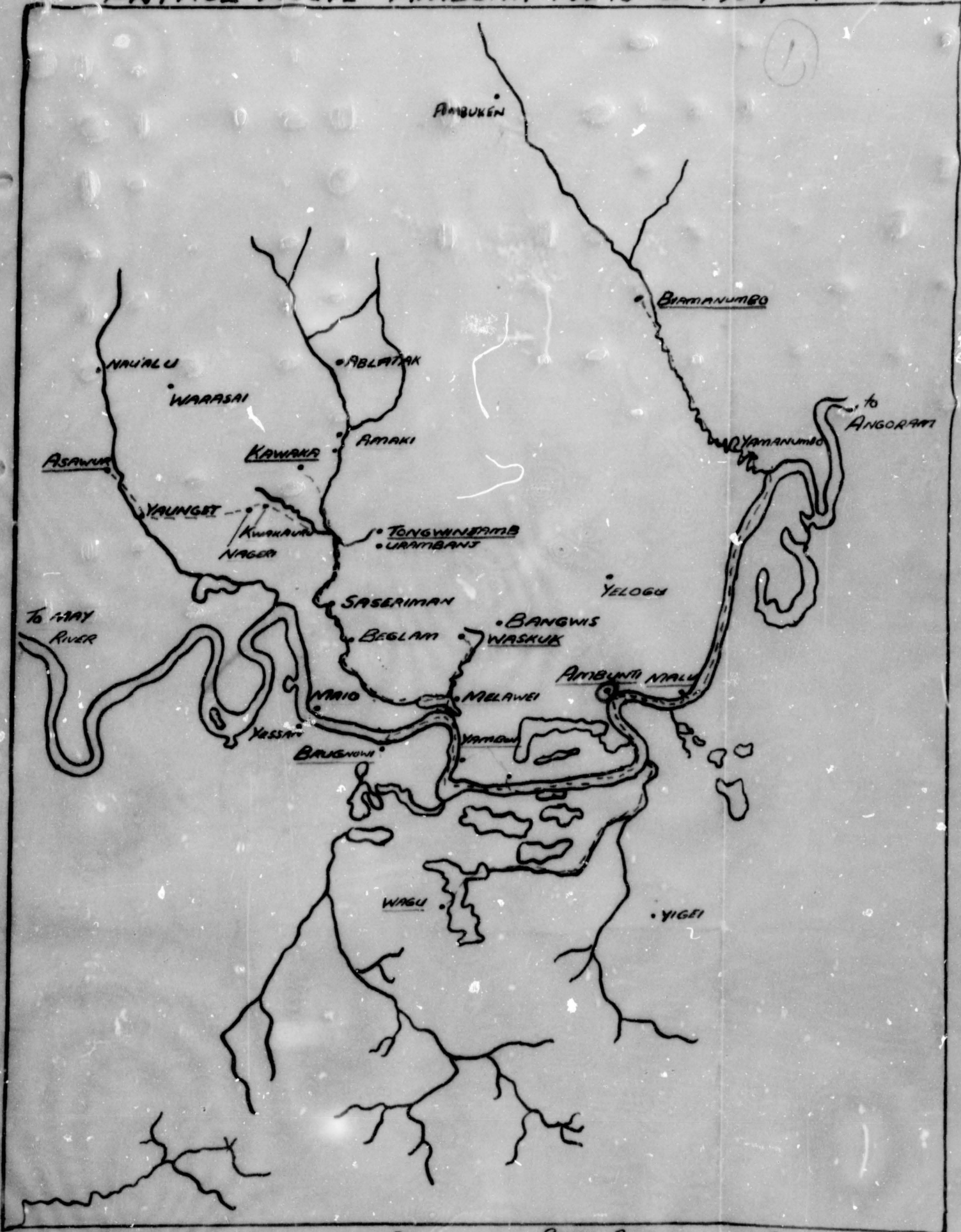
A good NCO. Capable worker and always a help to the patrol.

CONSTABLE/BUGLER MOLET NO 8738.

Conduct good. Worked well throughout the patrol.

PATROL ROUTE AMBUNTI NO 15 OF 1963/64

(1)



POLEING PLACES UNDERLINED IN RED

PATROL ROUTE

SCALE 4-mb = 1"



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

16

District of.....SEPIK / AMBUNTI.....Report No. ~~16~~ of 1963/64.....

Patrol Conducted by.....W.H.HEATHCOTE C.P.O......

Area Patrolled.....BURUI KUNAI CENSUS DIVISION.....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....NIL.....

1 NCO, 3 Const. Police,

Natives.....1 AFW & Farmer Trainee, 1 NMO

1 A.P.O.

Duration—From.....14 4 / 19 64.....to.....2 5 / 19 64.....

Number of Days.....15.....

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....NIL.....NO.....

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services...../.....11/1962.....

Medical /.....10/1962.....

Map Reference.....AMBUNTI ARMY SHEET FOURMIL, 1943.....

Objects of Patrol.....CENSUS, ROUTINE 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 £.....

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TERRITORY of PAPUA and NEW GUINEA

Administration
Press Advice
No. 466.

Port Moresby
September 21, 1964.

MID-SEPIK PEOPLE OF BURUI-KUNAI and CHAMBRI LAKES TO HAVE
THEIR OWN LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCIL

The 12,000 people of the Burui-Kunai and Chambri Lakes area are holding their first elections for the new GauI Local Government Council which was proclaimed last June.

The area concerned is around 175 river miles from the estuary of the Sepik River, and is administered from the Ambunti Sub-District Headquarters. Three main groups live in this region, the people of the Burui-Kunai area, about two hours walk inland from the riverbank, other communities whose villages are along the river banks, and the people living in the Chambri Lakes area.

A GauI Patrol Officer, Mr. W.H. Heathcote, who recently visited the area, says that the region comprises about 250 square miles of swamp forest and grasslands extending back from the Sepik River. There are large natural stands of sago in the swamp region, and the general population achieves a reasonably well balanced diet by a weekly exchange of sago and fish. These basic foods are supplemented by taro, yams, sweet potato and pig. The main cash crop is coconuts which are processed and sold as copra. New areas are being cleared for coconuts and the people are being encouraged to continue extending their acreage of this crop.

During the patrol a number of the men in the villages asked to be enrolled for a farmer training course at the Bainyik Agricultural Station near Meprik, and their applications are now being processed by the Station.

Mr. Heathcote says this is a reflection of the growing interest throughout the area in cash cropping, and although much of the inland region is subject to yearly flooding there is sufficient land for a considerable expansion of coconut acreage.

The establishment of the GauI Council brings the total number of Local Government Councils in the Sepik District to twelve.

19

20

67-8-80



67-1-3

Sub District Office,
AMBUNTI.

28th August, 1964.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
WEWAK.

MARAP FOOD EXCHANGE.

With reference to paragraph 4. in your letter
67-2-1 of the 2nd July 1964.

The MARAP food exchange takes place three times
a week, the main exchange being held on the Friday and the
minor exchange on the Monday and Wednesday of each week.

The exchange is held about fifteen minutes walk
away from MARAP 1 and on the Friday takes place about noon.
It is attended by the Sepik River villages of YENTCHAN, INDAHU,
PARAMBEI, MALINGAI and at times by women of KARARAU Village
in the Angoram Sub District. From the Burui Kunai four villages
attend, these being KAINBIAM, NOGOSOP, MARAP 1 and MARAP 2.

The minor exchanges held on the Monday and Wednesday
are attended by four villages, YENTCHAN and INDAHU and NOGOSOP
and MAKAP.

In high water it is possible for the Sepik River
women to paddle right to the exchange by means of a small
waterway which enters the Sepik approximately five hundred
yards above YENTCHAN. In dry water part of this channel dries
up and the last part of the journey involves a walk of about
30 - 40 minutes.

The two main items exchanged are figs and sago.
The former by the river people and the latter by the B.Kunai
people.

The Director, ⁽¹⁹⁾ For your information.
D.N.A.,
KONEDOBU.

Your 67-8-80 of 27/7/64
refers. *G. Linsley*
3/9/64

B.A. McCabe
B.A. McCabe A.D.O.

WEWAK: 67. 2. 1

67-8-80

27th July, 1964.

District Officer,
South Sepik District,
W E W A K.

PATROL REPORT NO. 16-1963/64 - AMBUNTI:

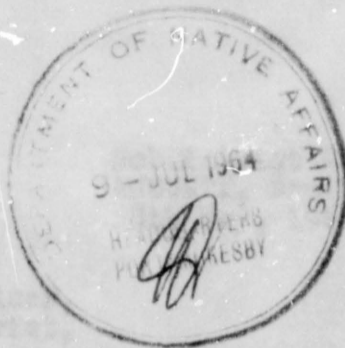
Receipt of the abovementioned patrol report and accompanying comment is acknowledged with thanks.

- 2. The work done is very creditable.
- 3. I would be interested to know more detail of the food exchanges near MARAP and agree that a market project could be taken up by the new council when it is established.
- 4. The comment from the Assistant District Officer satisfactorily covers the balance of the content of the report.

(J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

67. 8. 80

(17)



67-2-1

District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK

2nd July, 1964

Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 16 of 1963/64 - BURUI
KUNAI CENSUS DIVISION - MR. W. H. HEATHCOTE C.P.O.

In your patrol instructions this patrol is listed as Number 16, but the Patrol Report and your covering memorandum list it as Number 18. Since 15 was the number of the previous report received from Ambunti, I assume that 16 is in fact the correct number of this report.

The written patrol instructions you gave Mr. Heathcote were excellent.

The diary entries reveal that Mr. Heathcote conducted a thorough patrol, working steadily through the area and spending adequate time amongst the people. I was particularly pleased to see that such close attention was paid to local government propaganda and the promotion of cash crop development.

The food exchange held recently near MARAP is of interest and I would have appreciated more details concerning it. The provision of facilities for this market could perhaps become an early project of the new Council when it is established.

The agricultural section will be extracted and made available, with the statistics, to the District Agricultural Officer.

An informative report, generally well presented, but Mr. Heathcote needs to pay closer attention to English expression: para 2 of the "Local Government Councils" section, for example, is not well written.

Your memorandum adequately covers various matters contained in the report that required comment.

(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

Handwritten vertical text on the left margin: "AMBUNTI NO 16 OF 1963/64" and "RECEIVED BY THE DISTRICT OFFICER".

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District,
28th May, 1964.

67-1-3.

The accompanying notes on agriculture are interesting, and it is encouraging to note that land has been prepared for 15,000 coffee trees, as well as coconut areas. A patrol by an Agricultural Officer in this area would be beneficial, or better still, the posting of one to the Subdistrict.

(B.A. McCabe) A.D.O.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
Newak.

Patrol No. 18 of 63/64 - Burui Kunai Division.

A report by Mr. Cadet Patrol Officer Heathcote on a routine patrol to the above-mentioned Division is enclosed, please.

Mr. Heathcote carried out his instructions, and conducted a thorough patrol. The complement of health and agricultural personnel meant a team approach for the patrol, and less inconvenience to the people than when each patrols separately.

Native Affairs. As reported, the numerous complaints referred to the patrol are mainly trivial, and the fact that they are not settled by the village officials tends to reflect on their standing in the community. However, with the anticipated early commencement of a Council including this area, these complaints can be more regularly dealt with, in conjunction with Council Meetings at the Council House.

I am personally averse to recovering personal loans, except where there are circumstances of fraud, as I feel that we have more important work to do, especially in the fostering of economic development. The people should learn to be more cautious in lending money, and they will after they have suffered one or two losses.

In view of its apparent persistence, a stricter attitude towards the cutting and removal of timber etc. from land of others will be adopted in future, and it may be treated as theft and prosecuted accordingly.

Special Arms Permits. All applications have since been approved by yourself on recommendation of this office. Although this batch notably increased the number of guns in the area, it is still not excessive.

Roads. Mr. Heathcote's remarks reflect my views exactly. On the other hand, I do not think it far-fetched to envisage construction of canals from the various focal points of the Division to connect them to the Sepik for canoe and small boat traffic. This could probably be achieved by widening and deepening existing water-courses, and would be a useful activity for the forthcoming Council to initiate, with our support.

Education. The TOLEMBI and BURUI schools appear to be of a relatively good standard, and may be expected to progressively instil a progressive attitude in this area. It is hoped that the Education Department may before long be able to provide a school also, perhaps at NOGOSOP or YENTCHIN. While the reasons for the closure of PAGWI school are understood, it does mean that the Department's efforts in this area have diminished.

Local Government. The main purpose of raising discussion on this subject was to counteract any "great expectations" without necessity of work. Efforts are currently being made to have more men clear and plant coffee and coconuts. Coconut seedlings are made available from Ambunti.



TERRITORY OF PAFUA AND NEW GUINEA

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.
4th April, 1964.

In Reply
Please Quote

No. 67-1-2.

Mr. W.H. Heathcote,
Dadet Patrol Officer,
AMBUNTI.

Patrol No. 16 - BURUI KUNAI Division.

As advised, you are to undertake a patrol of the above-mentioned Division, commencing as early as possible, for the following purposes:

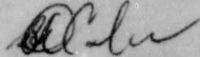
- (a) Census;
- (b) Routine administration;
- (c) Collection of tree crop statistics; encouragement of coffee and coconut planting;
- (d) Preparatory education for introduction of local government;
- (e) Liaison with P.H.D. staff in immunization programme.

In regard to above:

- (a) An itinerary is to be prepared, and notice of dates on which the various villages are to assemble given approximately one week in advance, so as to minimize inconvenience to the people. This of course can be varied if dictated by circumstances.
- (b) Particular attention should be paid to the standard of housing and sanitation. Issue remedial instructions where needed. Any gross neglect of previous instructions may be prosecuted. Record details of any land disputes raised, or of which you may become aware, - parties, name of land, location (sketch plan) and short notes of any available facts and history. The community should be encouraged to effect a settlement if possible.
- (c) Ascertain areas of land in each village suitable for development of cash crops after allowing for subsistence farming. Encourage individuals to clear portions of their own land and then request the assistance of agricultural staff to bring under cultivation. Note the names of any persons who would like to attend coffee and copra training schools. A.F.W. LABAU will accompany.
- (d) Whenever possible, if time allows, spread further information on the role of local government councils; answer any questions raised or clear up any confusion which may be evident. It is anticipated that a Council embracing this Division along with the Main River and Chambri ones will be established quite shortly.

Court hearings. Let me know when you expect to have completed work at TOLEMBI, and I will fit in a visit to KOROGO and YENTCHAN to hear any legal complaints. Please arrange attendance of parties and witnesses accordingly.

Take annote of any C.S.B., N.M.T.A. matters etc. for attention on patrol.


(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.

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PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO 16 OF 1963/64.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: W.H. HEATHCOTE C.P.O.

AREA PATROLLED: BURUI KUNAI CENSUS DIVISION.

PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY: 1 NCO, 3 Const Police, 1 AFW, 1 Farmer Trainee, 1 NMO 1 APO.

DURATION: 14/4/64 to 2/5/64

NUMBER OF DAYS: 19

OBJECTS OF PATROL: CENSUS, ROUTINE ADMINISTRATION.

MAP REFERENCE: AMBUNTI ARMY SHEET FOURMIL 1943.

PATROL DIARY.

Tuesday, 14th April, 1964.

Departed Ambunti 0920 per single canoe, passed AVATIP 1010. JAPANDAI 1105 and arrived PAGWI 1155. Departed again 1230., ashore at YENTCHANMANGUA 1300. because of heavy rain shower, Departed 1315, passed SUAPMERI 1410, INDABU 1420, and arrived YENTCHAN 1445. Patrol gear unloaded and police to work setting up camp. Self continued on to TEGOI, arriving 1530. S.A.P. application taken. Dep'td 1610. and arrived KANGANAMAN 1635. Spoke with Mr. T. Gilliard, curator of birds at American Museum of Natural History. Departed 1645, and across to PARAMBEI, 15 minutes travel. Two S.A.P. applications taken. Dep'td 1745, five minutes to Sepik, and arrived back YENTCHAN 1805. Overnight.

Wednesday, 15th April 1964.

Village people assembled and S.A.P. application taken. Departed YENTCHAN 0905 and arrived NOGOSOP 1040. Half of the journey by canoe, the remainder by road. People assembled in the afternoon and the census revised. Talks given on the new L.G. Council to be established, and people encouraged to plant cash crops. Several minor complaints heard and settled. Village inspected and coconuts counted by AFW LABAU. Population statistics ~~revised~~ compiled in evening.

Thursday, 16th April 1964.

Departed NOGOSOP 0800 and arrived GAIKAROBI 0825. Villaged lined and census revised. Talks given on new L.G. Council and cash cropping. Two S.A.P. applications taken. Large number of complaints heard, many of them trivial and I was able to settle them on the spot. Village inspected and coconuts checked and counted by AFW LABAU. Population statistics and coconut figures taken in evening. Informal talks with village officials.

Friday, 17th April 1964.

Departed GAIKAROBI 0810, passed through NOGOSOP 0840, and arrived MARAP 1 0945. Village lined and census revised. Talks given on councils and cash cropping. People warned of corn disease. Application for S.A.P. taken. Several complaints heard and settled, most of them involving bride price payments. Walked to weekly food exchange near small creek. 15 minutes walk from village. Women from PARAMBEI, YENTCHAN and other Sepik River villages in attendance. Late afternoon inspected village and walked around coconut gardens with AFW LABAU. Census statistics compiled in evening.

Saturday, 18th April 1964.

Village people of MARAP 2 assembled and census revised. Talks again given on L.G. Councils and cash cropping. Several minor complaints heard and settled. S.A.P. application taken. Village inspected, 15 minutes walk from MARAP 1, very neat and tidy. Coconut count taken by AFW LABAU.

Overnight MARAP 1.

(17)

Sunday, 19th April 1964.

Morning observed MARAP. Departed MARAP 1 1430, at waterway 1445, thence by canoe for forty five minutes to landing and arrived KAIMBIAM 1600. Thence to WORIMBI, ten minutes further on. Camp set up. Remained overnight WORIMBI.

Monday, 20th April 1964.

WORIMBI people assembled and census revised. Talks given on L.G.Councils and cash cropping. People warned of corn disease. S.A.P. application taken. Several complaints heard and settled. Village inspected and men put to work cutting grass. Population register compiled. Afternoon KAIMBIAM village lined and census revised. Talks again given on L.G.Councils and cash cropping. Two complaints heard and settled. Prepared to inspect village but interrupted by very heavy rain. Compiled census figures and typed out S.A.P. applications. Overnight WORIMBI.

Tuesday, 21st April 1964.

WANIKO village assembled and census revised. Talks given on L.G.Councils and cash cropping. People warned of corn disease and photographs shown. Some minor complaints heard and settled. Inspected villages of WANIKO and KAIMBIAM, both in good condition and few instructions necessary. Departed WORIMBI 1410 and arrived MIAMBEI 1455. Road good. Village people assembled and census revised. Same talks given as above. S.A.P. application taken. Minor complaints heard and settled. Village inspected and coconuts counted by AFW LABAU. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 22nd April 1964.

Departed MIAMBEI 0730, through YAKIAP 0800 and arrived SARUM 0900. Village lined and census revised. Talks given on the new council and cash cropping. No complaints. Village inspected and checked coconuts with AFW LABAU. Departed 1030. and arrived back at YAKIAP 1130. Census revised and same talks given as above. No complaints. Village inspected. Departed 1320 and arrived MIAMBEI 1350. Heard dispute between NOGOSOP and YENTCHAN Villages over YENTCHAN people cutting down trees on NOGOSOP land without asking permission. Compensation paid by YENTCHAN people and dispute settled to the satisfaction of all concerned. Heard case of alleged sorcery from MIAMBEI, statements taken and parties involved to go Ambunti at a later date. Evening spent compiling crop and census statistics. Remained overnight MIAMBEI.

(11)

Thursday, 23rd April 1964.

Departed MIAMBEI 0815, through SLEI 1 0900. and arrived SLEI 2 0910. People from both villages assembled and census revised. Talks given on the new council and on cash cropping. A.F.W. LABAU also gave short talk. Two S.A.P. applications taken. No complaints and both villages inspected. Departed 1205 and arrived NAMANGO 1235. Lunched. Afternoon village people assembled and census revised. Talks given again on L.G.Councils and cash cropping. particular stress placed on the need for individual planting. One case of alleged sorcery heard. Village inspected. Remained overnight.

Friday, 24th April 1964.

Departed NAMANGO 0730 and arrived R.C.Mission 0735. Spoke with father in charge and continued on 0800, arriving JIGINIMBU 0810. Village people assembled and census revised. Talks given on L.G.Councils and cash cropping. S.A.P. application taken. some minor complaints heard and village inspected. Police set up camp. Self departed 1105, through TOLEMBI 1 1130 and arrived Gov't school, Korogo 1215. Thence one hour across lake to KOROGO Village where picked up motor. Arrived AMBUNTI 1700.

Saturday 25th and Sunday 26th April, 1964.

Spent AMBUNTI.

Monday, 27th April 1964.

Departed AMBUNTI 1210, passed AVATIP 1250 and arrived PAGWI 1350. Departed 1400 and at KOROGO 1430. At G/School 1550 and arrived back at JIGINIMBU 1710. Overnight.

Tuesday, 28th April 1964.

Village people of both TOLEMBI 1 and 2 assembled and census revised. Talks given on L.G.Councils and cash cropping. S.A.P. application from both villages taken. Villages inspected and some instructions given. One case of adultery heard from NOGOSOP, parties involved to go Ambunti at a later date for C.N.A. hearing. Compiled population register for both villages and also collected crop statistics off AFW LABAU, and discussion held with him and village leaders re cash cropping. 1500. Patrol gear sent ahead to NAMBAGO. Self walked to mission where spoke with the father who showed me over the station. Rainstorm delayed departure. Departed 1700 and arrived NAMBAGO 1800. Remained overnight.

(10)

Wednesday, 29th April 1964.

Village people assembled and census revised. Talks given on L.G.Council and cash cropping. One complaint heard and settled. Village inspected and coconuts counted by AFW LABAU. Departed 1035, by canoe for ten minutes and then by road arriving YANGET 1115. Village people of both YANGET and VAGIPUT assembled and the census revised. Talks given again on L.G.Councils and cash cropping. S.A.P. applications taken from both villages. Men to work planting coffee under AFW LABAU'S SUPERVISION. Both villages inspected, VAGIPUT being ten minutes walk from YANGET on a good track. Both villages in good order. Luluai and others of WEREMAN reported to inquire on patrol movements, advised that patrol would reach WEREMAN the following day. Remained overnight YANGET.

Thursday, 30th April 1964.

Departed YANGET 0840 and arrived WEREMAN 0920. Village people lined and census revised. Talks given on L.G.Councils and cash cropping. S.A.P. application taken and several minor complaints heard. Village inspected. Departed ~~1340~~ 1430, across lake and ashore 1450, thence by road arriving MAIWI 1525. Village people assembled and census revised. Talks given again on L.G.Councils and cash cropping. No complaints. Village inspected. Remained overnight.

Friday, 1st May 1964.

Departed MAIWI 0750. and arrived PAGWI 0900. Hired YAMANUMBO canoe and patrol gear sent across to that village. Patrol gear left in rest house, self on to SENGO. At SENGO waterway 1045 and ashore 1145, thence by road to village arriving 1215. Village people assembled and census revised. Talks given on L.G.Councils and cash cropping. One complaint heard and settled and one S.A.P. application taken. Village inspected. Departed 1500, at channel 1525. Sepik River 1630 and arrived back YAMANUMBO 1645. Remained overnight.

Saturday, 2nd May 1964.

Departed YAMANUMBO 0620, passed JAPANDAI 0700, AVATIP 0815 and arrived AMBUNTI 0920. Patrol stood down.

INTRODUCTION.

The patrol visited the area known as the Burui Kunai Census Division. This division covers an area of some 200-250 square miles and is situated to the north of the Sepik River about thirty five miles from Ambunti. The area is bounded by two sub - districts; by Maprik to the North and to the East by Angoram .

Vegetation for the most part consists of patches of secondary growth and swamp forest, large stands of sago palm , both wild and food producing and wide stretches of kunai plain. The area is very flat and in some areas subject to inundation in times of high water, which was when this patrol took place.

The area can be reached by either of two means; from Maprik by the Maprik - Pagwi road to MAIN, one of the Burui Kunai villages which is only fifteen minutes walk from this road, or by water transport along the Sepik River to one of the river villages of KOROGO or YENTCHAN and thence inland by native foot path. The latter village normally has a good walking path to the Kunai village of NOGOSOP, but owing to the unusually high water in the Sepik River, the first half of this journey had to be undertaken by canoe.

The patrol was of a routine nature, its objects being to revise the census, educate the people on the new J.G. Council shortly to be introduced, collect crop statistics and routine administration. The last patrol to this area was conducted by Mr. B.A. McCabe A.D.O. (See Ambunti P/R No 13 of 1963/64.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

The Native Affairs situation in the Burui Kunai area is fairly satisfactory. It could be more so if the people would come more often to Ambunti with their little complaints instead of letting them build up for each patrol. However, because of the area's distance from Ambunti and as it involves water transport frequent trips to the station are not possible. The people of the kunai area do not have motor canoes so that if they wish to make the trip they must pay exorbitant prices to the river people to bring them up, and in most cases they state they cannot afford to pay such prices. This I feel is the major reason why only periodic trips to Ambunti are made. Those kunai villages near the Maprik - Pagwi road use this route to travel to Maprik where any of ~~their~~ their little complaints are settled.

The majority of complaints heard on this patrol were those involving bride price payments and bad debts, and in most of these cases the complaints were able to be settled in the village without much bother. Some of those cases involving bad debts were very trivial and the money was handed over on the spot, and in nearly every instance the man involved had the money on his person, and when told to pay his debt did so without any fuss. The people were warned against this money lending but although they all agreed to ease off borrowing money, the same complaints will probably come up for some time to come.

It was expected that there would be several land disputes brought to my attention on the strength of recent patrol reports of the area, but this was not the case and in fact only details of one were taken. This one involved a dispute over boundaries between WANIKO and KOROGO on the Sepik River, and details were taken for a future hearing by a Lands Commissioner. A dispute between PARAMBEI and YENTCHAN, two river villages was also brought to my notice, this one concerning channel rights and land use but as only some of the parties involved were present, the hearing was adjourned until a patrol to the Main River C.D. where all parties concerned could be assembled and the details taken.

Whilst the patrol was at MIAMBEI a group of NOGOSOP and YENTCHAN men came running after it, and after a lengthy discussion it was found that the YENTCHAN men had been cutting down trees on NOGOSOP land without first asking permission. This has been going on for some time, and not only YENTCHAN is the culprit. Several of the river villages such as MALINGAI, INDABU and PARAMBEI make frequent trips on to Kunai land, cutting down trees for making canoes, and it is only at odd times that permission is asked first. The NOGOSOP - YENTCHAN squabble was straightened out eventually, and with compensation paid to the wronged parties the matter was closed. Word was sent to the river villages to stop encroaching on Kunai land, and that if they wished to cut trees down on anybody else's land to first ask permission, as the Kunai people do not mind them taking the logs if they ask permission first.

The dispute between NAMANGO and KWOSIMBI Village in the Maprik Sub District (See Ambunti P/R No 7 of 1962/63.) has apparently been settled by the people themselves as no mention was made of it until I brought it up. They stated that a solution had been reached that was satisfactory to both sides.

An astonishing number of applications for Special Arms Permits was taken by the patrol as out of the 22 villages in the division, seventeen applied for a license to buy a gun. In several instances the people had the money ready to buy the gun, and wanted to hand it over to me, but it was explained to them that the applications had first to go to Wewak for approval and that they would be advised on whether they had been approved.

Sorcery or 'Sanguma' is still prevalent throughout the area and two complaints concerning this were brought to my notice. One of these concerned the female YEPIMANGA whose name has featured several times in previous patrol reports. This woman who is originally from MIAMBEI and now living in SLEI is greatly feared by village people in this vicinity, and any deaths in the village are apparently caused by her. She

> cont'd over

She apparently attributed to the recent death of a man from MIAMBEI and several of the village men laid a complaint against her while the patrol was in the village. Statements were taken by all concerned, and the matter will be referred to the A.D.O. Another case was brought up at NAMANGO, but through lack of evidence the matter was dismissed.

Cargo cult is gradually dying out under administration and mission influence, although it is still evident to a minor extent in some of the villages where European style decorations are displayed in the mens club house. The airstrips mentioned in Amb. P/R No 7 of 62/63 are still in existence but are gradually becoming overgrown with grass and weeds.

On the whole the native affairs position is fairly stable. There has been a number of patrols through the area within the past twelve months, both by MAPRIK and AMBUNTI officers who were there for the purpose of spreading electoral propaganda and any serious complaints were dealt with by these officers.

VILLAGES AND HOUSING.

Most of the housing seen on this patrol was in good condition. Instructions given by previous patrolling officers had been carried out and few new orders were necessary.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

All of the village officials are performing their duties to the best of their abilities. Most of them are a mediocre lot and only two impressed me as being above average, these being the luluai of JIGINIMBU and the luluai of KAIMBIAM. The latter is the catechist of his village and comes originally from an island off Wewak. He speaks a smattering of English and is always willing to help any patrol that passes through his area.

ROADS AND BRIDGES. COMMUNICATIONS.

The area is well served with a series of good walking paths linking each village and also those villages on the Sepik River. There is also a motor road running between PAGWI and MAPRIK which is in fairly good condition and which is used regularly.

These walking paths are maintained frequently and are normally in good condition. However, because of the heavy rains prior to the commencement of the patrol some of the paths were wet and greasy and walking was difficult, especially for the cargo carriers. Roads have been widened between some of the villages to take motor transport, but at this stage it does not seem feasible to carry on maintaining these roads, as access could be more easily developed to the Sepik River. The C.M. Mission father at TOLEMBI mentioned a motor road that was being built by the natives of the Sepik Plains Division of the Maprik S.D. This road apparently starts from the Maprik - Pagwi road and runs through the villages of BENSIN, KAMPUPU and KWIMBA and is now about four miles from the mission. Undoubtedly this will help the mission if completed, and if the people wish to build it well and good. Very little was said by the native people about this road and I did little to encourage the building of it. If the people ever do cash cropping on a large scale it would be more convenient to carry the coffee or copra to the Sepik River, as no village is more than two hours walk from it, and ships can pick it up from there.

EDUCATION AND MISSIONS.

The Roman Catholic Mission is the only mission in the area. They have two large stations, these being at TOLEMBI and BURUI. The station at TOLEMBI is developing very rapidly and the school is now catering to Junior High School standard of which there is a class of twenty four girls from all parts of the Territory. This station is at present staffed by two priests, seven nuns and several indigenous sisters and has an enrolment of 450 pupils. The station at BURUI is staffed by a priest and a lay worker and caters for some 200 odd pupils. There are also small mission schools at GAIKAROBI and WORIMBI and are both staffed by native teachers.

There is a small school run by the administration between KOROGO and TOLEMBI and has two native teachers in charge. The majority of the children attending this school are from Korogo on the Sepik, although there are two pupils from WANIKO attending. Originally there was also a government school at PAGWI but this was disbanded at the end of last year. Most of the pupils which attended this school now attend the mission schools of TOLEMBI and BURUI.

TAXATION

Tax was not collected on this patrol. As a Local Government Council is shortly to be introduced to the area and the people were told that they would have to pay tax to this council. The people approved of this as they realized that the tax monies would stop inside the area and would be used for future development work.

HEALTH.

An N.M.O. and an A.P.O. accompanied the patrol throughout giving Triple -Antigen injections to the young babies and inspecting health in general. Overall health of the area is only fair, as there was an outbreak of whooping cough last year and the people have just started to get over it, and in several of the villages the racking cough could be heard. There are aid - posts at NOGOSOP and PAGWI which handle any minor ailments, and also the sister at TOLEMBI treats any cases that crop up from time to time.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT COUNCILS.

In each village a talk was given on the above subject. The GAUI L.G. Council is shortly to be introduced and this will embrace the Burui Kunai, Sepik River and the Chambri Lakes area. The people were informed of this and are looking forward for it to start.

The people realize that a council is the start to the means for higher living, and this may well be so, but they were informed that they would also have to work hard to achieve this object, and that by just having a council would not make their living any higher. The people realize to a certain extent that hard work is the essence to success, but for the first few years they may need a bit of pushing, to work towards this goal.

Some of the village members from MARAP and WCRIMBI were concerned that with the advent of the council, the Sepik River people would expand outwards and steal their land. After a fair amount of explaining I managed to get over to them that they too would be represented in the council, and that if any such case arose it could be brought up and dealt with at a council meeting at which a government officer would be present to help and give advice.

(4)

AGRICULTURE

See appendix " A ".

CONCLUSION.

A routine patrol to a fairly sophisticated area. The Native Affairs position is fairly stable and with the introduction of the Local Government council the area should move ahead more rapidly.

W. H. ...
..... G.P.O.

3

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE R.P. & N.G.C.

ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL.

Const. 1st Class KIKISI NO 5246 B.

Conduct good. A very willing worker and always anxious to help. A big help to the patrol.

CONST. YAMBU 6930.

A very dull and uninspiring constable. Cannot be relied on to do anything properly and no help whatsoever to the patrol. May be better suited to station work.

CONST. WARIS 8465.

Conduct good. An average constable who does what he is told. A good worker.

CONST BAUSAMBI 10040.

Good worker who can think for himself. Conduct good.

AGRICULTURESUBSISTENCE

Sago is the staple food of the area and natural stands of this food crop are abundant. This is supplemented with fish, taro, yams, sweet potato and pig. A fish - sago exchange takes place each week between the villages on the Sepik River and those villages in the Kunai. This food exchange has been going on for years and will continue to do so as long as the Sepik people require sago

ECONOMIC.

At present coconuts are the main cash crop and will be for some time to come. Coffee is now being planted more rapidly and if it is properly looked after this will eventually become the peoples main source of income.

A coconut and coffee count was undertaken by AFW LABAU on this patrol and the statistics are attached. As can be seen from the statistics most of the coffee gardens worked are communal gardens, and in fact only two men from MAIWI have their own gardens. Particular emphasis was placed on the need for individually owned gardens and any new gardens are going to be worked on this basis. Talks were given in each village by both myself and LABAU and all the gardens, both for coconuts and coffee were inspected by him.

The people are also keen to plant coconuts and a number of cleared areas were noticed ready to receive the seedling coconuts. The people were encouraged to keep on with this work as later on the coconuts will be a source of income to them.

I did notice with some of the coffee gardens, particularly in the NOGOSOP, GAIKAROB I area that previously gardens had been worked, planted with lucens and then promptly forgotten about. Possibly the reason for this is that no real efforts had been made previously to promote cash cropping, and also the people were probably too lazy to look after them. It is only in the past two years that the people have started to show any real interest in economic planting.

In several of the villages men approached me asking to be sent to the agricultural station at Bainyik for training. This is a good sign and shows that if they can gain a bit of knowledge they are willing to put it to work. These people were referred to AFW LABAU and their names taken.

It would be hard to estimate how much land is available for economic planting in the Burui Kunai, but it is not a great deal. The ground being flat does not help at all as the area is subject to inundation in times of high water, and it is only small areas that remain fertile for planting. Nevertheless the less there should be sufficient available land for a concentrated economic effort within the next few years, particularly now with the L.S. Council shortly to be introduced.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

Amount Returned to Store

District of SEPIK / AMBUNTI Report No. 18 of 1963/64.

Patrol Conducted by W.H.Heathcote C.P.O.

Area Patrolled Upper Leonard Schultze River.

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Part by Med Asst.
1 Sgt. 1 Sen Const.
Natives 2 Const of Police.

Duration—From 19 5./19 64. to 23 5./19 64.

Number of Days 10

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? Yes (Part).

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 9 9 61 13./12./1963 Mr. Martin ADO.
Short visit by Mr. Gill
C.P.O.

Medical NIL /19.....

Map Reference Ambunti and May River Army Fourmil Series.

Objects of Patrol Murder Investigation - NAKIAI Village.

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ /19

District Commissioner

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

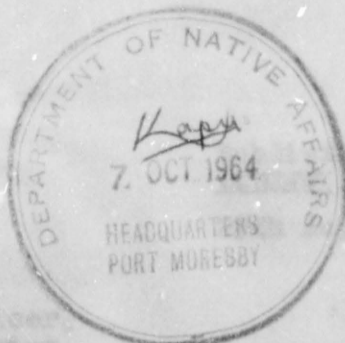
Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £.....

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

67. 8. 100
~~67. 13. 80~~

(16)

67-2-1



District Office,
Sepik District,
WEWAK.

5th October, 1964

The Assistant District Officer,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO. 18 of 1963/64 - EDONARD SCHULTZE RIVER - MR. W. H. HEATHCOTE C.P.O.

I ought to have been informed of the report of the killing at NAKIAI immediately you received it. As it was, I did not become aware of it until I read the Patrol Report, which was received 3 months after completion of the patrol.

This was a short patrol, completed at the end of May. It was not routine, but conducted for a special purpose. The report was not a lengthy one. Under the circumstances the reasons you give for the delay in onforwarding this report are not acceptable.

As far as it went, the patrol was well conducted and the report was informative and well written, but it was with considerable disappointment that I read in the second paragraph of the Introduction on page 4, that at a point when Mr. Heathcote considered that he would shortly have been able to make contact with the group of the alleged murderers, he abandoned the patrol in order to go on a three days pleasure trip to Lae.

You would appear to have been lacking in a sense of your own responsibilities in the guidance and training of junior members of your staff, which required in this instance that you make plain to Mr. Heathcote that field officers of the Department of Native Affairs JUST DO NOT ABANDON PATROLS OF THIS NATURE AT SUCH JUNCTURES FOR REASONS OF THIS KIND, no matter what previous arrangements they may have made for holiday jaunts, and that the over riding obligations of their duties require that they accept personal disappointments when these are unavoidable, as should have been considered by Mr. Heathcote to have been the case on this patrol.

Mr. Heathcote emphasized to the people that another patrol would visit the area, "in the near future". In your memorandum dated 29th August you state that another patrol will be carried out "in the near future". In Mr. Barclay you now have a Patrol Officer sufficiently experienced to be able to carry out the type of patrol that is required to locate the WUSUMAI people, establish friendly contact with them and conduct out a full investigation with a view to the arrest of the alleged murderers/ Please arrange for Mr. Barclay to carry out this patrol with as little further delay as possible.

Like Mr. Heathcote I also have been surprised to find that villages on tributaries of the Sepik easily accessible from the main river have not long since been censused and included in normal routine patrols, and in this regard I refer you to my memorandum 67-2-1 of the 10th September 1963 - Patrol Report Ambunti No. 1 of 1963-64 - in which I asked that this be done as soon as the elections were out of the way.

(G. LINSLEY)
DISTRICT OFFICER - SOUTH SEPIK

→ c.c. The Director, Department of Native Affairs, Konedobu

15

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.

29th August, 1964.

67-1-3.

The District Officer,
South Sepik District,
Wewak.

Patrol No. 18 of 1963/64 - Upper Leonard Schultze River.

Report by Mr. Heathcote, Cadet Patrol Officer of an investigation into the reported killing of a NAKIAI man on the Leonard Schultze River in April is enclosed. The delay in forwarding this report is regretted, and has been occasioned by my participation into May River killings, subsequent lengthy enquiries and then attendance at a local government course just concluded. The Medical Assistant accompanied the patrol for part of the time, while he was on his way to May River.

In view of the several patrols to this area in recent years, together with increased contact of the people, including outside employment, I felt that the area is sufficiently under control for Mr. Heathcote to undertake the investigation, aided by an experienced group of police to assist him, and with instruction to proceed with caution.

The area is generally swampy, especially in the lower reaches of the river, further up being interspersed with rugged foothills of the Schattburg Mountains. Populations is sparse and scattered, and it is fairly easy for a fugitive from justice to escape.

Although Mr. Heathcote was unsuccessful in apprehending the alleged offenders, YELUBAE and accomplices of WOSIMEI (or WUSUMAI), he did investigate the matter as thoroughly as possible, and tried to contact the alleged offenders. I doubt that prolonging his stay would have helped at this time. It is planned to continue efforts to apprehend the offender on a patrol in the near future.

It may well be that this killing is related to the previously reported massacre of SINEN people by NAKIAI -- see confidential report of the investigation by J.D. Martin, A.D.O. dated 5th July, 1961. It seems common in this area for people seeking redress or vengeance to engage a third party -- the so-called "Hatchet" men, and this may have been so in this instance.

Native Affairs. Mr. Heathcote's speculation regarding the youth of reddish skin encountered is interesting. Mr. Martin was also of the opinion that the people in the headwaters of the Schultze and Frieda were related to the Mianmin, if indeed they are not of the same group. PUMI village is unknown -- possibly Tãefemin may know of it.

It is intended to establish the census of these tributary populations south of the Sepik -- Frieda, Leonard Schultze, Wogamash and April Rivers during this year and to commence their regular patrolling. It will of course involve much difficult movement and time spent contacting sparse scattered groups, but it is felt that this must now be done.

(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Subdistrict Office,
AMBUNTI, Sepik District.

In Reply
Please Quote

18th May, 1964.

No. 6/-1-2.

Mr. W.H. Heathcote,
Ambunti.

Patrol Instructions.

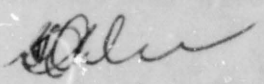
A report has been received through the Luluai of Yauenian that there has been a death at NAKIEI village on the Leonard Schultz River, arising out of a fight there.

2. The offender is believed to be a man or men of WOSIMEI village near WOSWORI.

3. As discussed, you are to proceed to the area with Sergeant TOTORI and three other Police including another N.C.O., and make a full investigation. If possible, the culprit/s should be arrested and brought with any witnesses to Ambunti.

4. It has been arranged for Mr. Neville, Medical Asst. who is in the area on patrol to accompany you to view the body, which is understood to have been placed on a platform in accordance with local custom.

5. The area is considered to be predominantly under control, but it is nevertheless a primitive one, and care should be taken on patrol. Read Chapter V of Standing Instructions to guide you, and take full advantage of the experience of Sergeant TOTORI and the other Police. However, if any difficulties or resistance is anticipated, do not proceed, but send word to me, and I will arrange to join you.


(B.A. McCabe)
Asst. District Officer.

(13)

PATROL REPORT AMBUNTI NO 18 OF 1963/64.

PATROL CONDUCTED BY: W.H. Heathcote C.P.O.

AREA PATROLLED: UPPER LEONARD SCHULTZE RIVER

PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY: Part by Med Asst.
1 Sgt. 1 Sen Const.
2 Const Police.

DURATION: 19/5/1964 to 28/5/64.

NUMBER OF DAYS: 10

OBJECTS OF PATROL: Murder Investigation.

MAP REFERENCE: Ambunti and May River Army Fournish

PATROL DIARY.

Tuesday 19th May 1964.

Departed AMBUNTI 0745 by single canoe, passed BRUGNOWI 0910, and at back of YESSAN village 1030 where met PHD canoe. Instructions given for them to proceed on upriver. Passed SWAGUP 1145, WASKUK 1325, April River mouth 1410 and arrived KUBKAIN 1435. Camp set up and awaited arrival of medical assistant from Ambunti. M.V. Coal arrived 1730 en route Green River. 2130 PHD canoe arrived with Mr. Neville EMA on board.

Wednesday, 20th May 1964.

Departed KUBKAIN 0810 in company with medical assistant. Arrived mouth of Leonard Schultze River 0830, into same and passed channel leading to YAUENIAN 0930, BALU 1030 and arrived WALIO 1040. Spoke with people and continued on 1110. Reached PAL-IN 1145 where picked up interpreter for upper villages. Passed NEL-IN 1220. Met NAKIAI man and woman on banks of river 1300. Spoke with them through interpreter, and learnt that all of the NAKIAI people had left their village on the river bank, and were now living on the fringe of a sago swamp some 2-3 hours distant. Sent word through this NAKIAI male for all of the NAKIAI people to come into the camp on the banks of the Schultze River. Continued on 1320, passed site of old SINEN Village 1325 and arrived NAKIAI Village 1405. Camp set up and awaited arrival of NAKIAI people. NAKIAI people arrived about 1630, about thirty in all including women and children. Small presents distributed and people spoken to with the lulusi of YAUENIAN and the PAL-IN male NAREARE as interpreters. People keen to talk and without any prompting I learnt of killing and where the body was supposedly is. Intend to visit next morning.

Thursday, ^{21st} ~~20th~~ May 1964.

Departed NAKIAI 0810 after gathering additional information, witnesses to alleged killing accompanying. Arrived old NAKIAI camp 1000. Three houses but only one in good condition, and this apparently used as communal house- mens-house combined. Brief look around and continued on 1030, and arrived at body of dead man 1125. Body hung up on bed between two trees and skeleton only remaining. Body cut down and fastened securely for transport back to NAKIAI for inspection by medical asst. and burial. Inspected area where killing took place and tried to gather story from NAKIAI witnesses, but little headway made owing to bad interpretation. Departed back 1335, and arrived old NAKIAI on mountain top 1410, continued on and arrived back at NAKIAI on Schultze River 1545. Med Asst. inspected body and the people then ~~talked~~ asked to bury. Discussions again with people until early evening.

(11)

Friday, 22nd May 1964.

Medical Assistant departed for KUBKAIN 0730, canoe expected back this evening. Day spent taking statements from witnesses to killing of NAKIAI man AIYATAN. Progress slow as interpretation difficult. Scene re-enacted and finally was able to get a fairly clear picture of what supposedly happened. Canoe arrived back from KUBKAIN 1645 so will proceed on upriver in morning. Spoke with police about upriver trip tomorrow and instructions given on behaviour amongst newly contacted people.

Saturday, 23rd May 1964.

Departed NAKIAI 0750, NAKIAI male accompanying as a guide. Passed WORASWORI gardens 0820 and arrived alleged WUSUMAI camp 1010 after going aground twice. Two houses seen and these approached with caution but both deserted. Two others also seen about fifty yards away but these also were deserted. NAKIAI guide and interpreter called out for people but received no response. Continued on upriver 1110. Spotted three houses at different parts along waters edge, but these too were deserted and had been for some time. River now very shallow and canoe aground several times and had to be towed across stones, which cut our time considerably. Only short patches of deep water so ashore on right bank of river 1308. With three policemen started walking 1325. After some minutes found used walking path and started following. Fresh footprints seen which indicated that people had used the path yesterday on this morning. After one hour easy walking sighted house on waters edge. Approached with caution and NAKIAI guide called out. Movement heard and a woman ran out and disappeared into the bush. A male then came out and although frightened the NAKIAI man and police were able to reassure him. Conversated with him through NAKIAI male and asked him were there any more people. He replied that there was and called out for them. After a short time three more males came in, one old man and two young men about 17 - 18, and after continual calling out the women eventually came back. People state name of camp TAIWARI and that this is first visit by patrol. People asked of the WUSUMAI whereabouts and they stated that their camp was down river but that they did not know actual whereabouts. (Probably do know but do not wish to tell.) 1530 back to canoe, TAIWARI people accompanying. Arrived back 1615. TAIWARI people given small gifts and we then departed downriver 1625, arriving back WUSUMAI 1730. Camp set up. NAKIAI male still calling out for WUSUMAI people but no sight or sound of them. Guards posted at night.

Sunday, 25th May 1964.

Day spent at WUSUMAI camp. NAKIAI men kept calling out but received no answer. Short patrols out to try and find footprints and recent walking paths but little success and only old paths found. Intend to try again tomorrow. Guards posted at night.

Monday
Sunday 26th May 1964.

Departed camp 0715. with three policemen and interpreter. By canoe for fifteen minutes upriver and then ashore. Found set of footprints so started to follow. Tracks leading upriver and following waters edge, with short breaks away over small hills. Trail difficult to follow because of stones and lost it several times. Eventually lost it completely so followed old bush path to waters edge where came across abandoned house 1015. Picked up another set of prints several days old and followed for thirty minutes, but these too petered out over stony ground. Turned back and scouted around till noon but no further success so decided to return to camp. Raft built and drifted back to the camp site arriving 1545. Still no appearance by WUSUMAI people, and intend to move off downriver in morning. Guards posted at night.

Tuesday, 27th May 1964.

Waited for WUSUMAI people to put in an appearance but failed to do so. Camp broken and moved off downriver 1000. Ashore at WORASWORI landing 1100. Walked to house on top of small mountain, 25 minutes distant. House deserted but had been used recently. Intended to walk to main WORASWORI camp some hours distant but NAKIAI guide stated that he did not know the way, so had to abandon plan. Back to canoe and departed downriver 1300 arriving NAKIAI 1320. Guide offloaded and people told that there would be another patrol in the near future to continue the investigation. Downriver 1345, and arrived deserted SIMEN house 1315. Walked into SIMEN camp, one hour away. Two houses and both deserted. believe most of SIMEN people now living at NEI-IN, 15 minutes away. Departed downriver 1530, and arrived NEI-IN 1545. Departed 1600 and arrived PAL-IN 1620. Interpreter NAREARE offloaded and continued on arriving WALIO 1645. Departed 1700, passed BALU 1710, at Sepik River 1830, thence upriver to YAUENIAN arriving 1930. Remained overnight.

Wednesday, 28th May 1964.

S.A.P. application taken for YAUENIAN village. Village inspected and complaint heard involving CHENAPIAN people, to be dealt with on the next patrol to the area. Departed YAUENIAN 1300 and arrived KURKAIN 1350. Picked up WALIO woman and child who are to go to Ambunti hospital for treatment. Departed KURKAIN 1330 and arrived YAMBUNUMBU 1420. S.A.P. application taken and departed downriver 1445. Passed Waskuk rest house 1520 and arrived SWAGUP 1650. Remained overnight.

Thursday, 29th May 1964.

Departed SWAGUP 0830 and arrived YESSAN 1020. Departed 1100 and arrived BRUGNOWI 1110. Departed 1330 and arrived Ambunti 1445. Patrol stood down.

INTRODUCTION.

This is a report of a short patrol to the headwaters of the Leonard Schultze River to investigate an alleged murder of a NAKIAI male by person or persons of a previously uncontacted group known as WUSUMAI, which is situated some two hours up river from NAKIAI on the left bank of the L.S. River.

The WUSUMAI camp was visited by the patrol but the people themselves were not seen. This was expected and a total of three days were spent waiting for them to come in. I would have liked to have spent longer in the area, however, owing to my pending trip to LAE at the end of May I had to cut the patrol short. This was unfortunate as I feel that had I have been able to remain in the area any length of time I would have been able to make contact with the WUSUMAI people.

A new group of people, totalling five in number were contacted by the patrol. Their camp site is known as TAIWARI and is a further three hours travel on from WUSUMAI.

The patrol was accompanied for part by the medical assistant Mr. P.R. Neville and four members of the Arbunti police detachment.

A single canoe powered by a 38 HP Johnson motor was used for the duration of the patrol, and good times were made. Navigation above NAKIAI village was at times rather difficult as the river was fairly shallow, and the canoe went aground several times. It was noticed that in a period of four days the river dropped about eight feet, and on the return trip care had to be taken to negotiate all the many sandbars and logs that are spread throughout the whole length of the river. It is suggested that for any future water patrolling in this area, the periods between January and May be used, as it is felt that with high water it would be possible to go beyond the Arbunti border in a canoe and perhaps into the Telefomin Sub District, which would save a lot of carriers and better times would be made.

The area above NAKIAI is rather rugged with thick belts of forest covering the high ridges that run along each side of the river, and which in a number of places extend right down to the river itself, which would make foot patrolling difficult.

The last visit by a Native Affairs officer to the area was by Mr. Gill C.P.O. in December 1963, and by Mr. J.D. Martin ADO in September 1961.

GENERAL ACCOUNT OF THE MURDER.

As stated the primary purpose of the patrol was to investigate an alleged murder of a NAKIAI person by a man or men of a previously uncontacted village known as WUSUMAI. The killing was first reported by the luluai of YAUENIAN, who had heard about it from two NAKIAI men who had paddled down the LEONARD SCHULTZE River to tell him. The luluai, together with a PAI-IN man NAREARE were used as interpreters throughout the patrol.

It was expected that after the killing the NAKIAI people may have left their village on the Schultze banks and ran away into the bush. This was the case, but I was able to contact them through a NAKIAI man and woman who were seen on the river bank about one hour below NAKIAI. They stated that the NAKIAI people had ran away after the killing, and were now living in a bush house on the edge of a sago swamp, some 2-3 hours away. The two people were sent back to tell all the NAKIAI people to go back to their village, which they did, eventually coming in about 6-30 that evening.

There were about thirty in number, including women and children and all were friendly and quite talkative. That evening it was learnt who the victim was and where the body was lying, so next morning I walked to where the body was and inspected the scene of the crime. The body had been placed on a platform between two trees and was about ten feet above the ground. It had been dead for some time as only the skeleton remained. The bones were brought down and carried back to NAKIAI where it was inspected by the medical assistant and then buried.

The next day I went into the murder story fully and from witnesses to the actual event, the story as far as I could gather is as follows:- As far as can be gathered the killing took place about the middle of April.

Four NAKIAI men from the old village on the mountain top, some two hours walk away from the new NAKIAI on the Schultze banks went off one morning hunting. The mens names were AIYATAE, KISALAE, KORBARO and TASU and each carried bows and arrows. It was early morning and they had descended the mountain and were walking through thick bush and sago swamp. AIYATAE was leading, followed by his brother KISALAE, KORBARO and TASU. As they were walking along the bush path, a WUSUMAI man YELUBAE sprang up adjacent to the path and fired an arrow at point blank range into AIYATAE which entered through his left arm, and went through his body emerging ~~xxx~~ out of his right side. AIYATAE, who was apparently some twenty feet in front of the others fell to the ground, and his brother KISALAE gave chase to the WUSUMAI men who numbered five. YELUBAE, the WUSUMAI man had apparently been hiding behind a tree some thirty feet in front of the other four and when he fired the arrow he ran off with the other four WUSUMAI following. When KISALAE saw what had happened to his brother he gave chase, but the other two NAKIAI men KORBARO and TASU were frightened and ran away, dropping their weapons as they went. When KISALAE saw that he was not going to catch the WUSUMAI men he returned to where his brother was lying, and by this time the other two NAKIAI men had returned. KORBARO stood watch while the other two men inspected AIYATAE. KISALAE tried to remove the arrow from his brother by pulling it

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back through the side which it entered but AIYATAE cried out, (understandable as arrow had serrated edge) so KISALAE pushed it through the body, and catching hold of the arrow tip pulled it out completely. When the arrow came out AIYAYAE gave a short gasp and then died.

The two men KISALAE and TASU then worked a burial bed and, placing AIYATAE on it hung it up between two trees, and then went back to their village, where they informed the people of what had happened.

As far as can be gathered after that the people all got together and, being frightened decided to leave their village and go and live in the bush house on the edge of the sago swamp, where they remained until the arrival of the patrol.

WUSUMAI INVESTIGATION.

The WUSUMAI people were not seen by the patrol so a full investigation into the murder could not be made.

After taking statements from the NAKIAI witnesses, the patrol proceeded on upriver to find the WUSUMAI village, with a NAKIAI man accompanying as a guide and interpreter. The alleged WUSUMAI camp was reached after two hours travelling in the motor canoe and the patrol party went ashore. The camp ~~was~~ was situated on the left bank of the L. Schultze River, and from the edge of the bank two houses could be seen. These were approached with caution, and the NAKIAI man called out but received no response, and it was found that both houses were deserted. Two other houses were also sighted some fifty yards away, but these too were unoccupied, although had been recently. The NAKIAI ^{man} was undecided as to whether this was the main WUSUMAI camp site, or whether it was further on up river. After a one hour wait, during which time no sight or sound was heard of the WUSUMAI people, it was decided to proceed on upriver and find out if there ~~were~~ ^{an} further houses or garden sites. Another three hours travelling was spent in the canoe during which time a number of old houses and gardens were seen, but all had been abandoned some time ago.

The WUSUMAI people were not sighted along this trip, although a set of footprints were noticed leading along the river bank. While trying to find them a new group of people known as TAIWARI were contacted, and they stated that although they were not sure of the whereabouts of the actual WUSUMAI camp, it was somewhere in the vicinity of where the patrol had first gone ashore. The patrol then turned back after trying to get more information out of the TAIWARI group, and on arrival back at the WUSUMAI village set up camp. Three days in all were spent in this area waiting for the WUSUMAI people to arrive, but they were not seen. They undoubtedly knew that the patrol was there, as fresh footprints were found on the point above the camp, where someone had stood looking down, probably at night. During the time spent there short patrols went out trying to discover fresh walking paths, and to follow footprints found but little success was had as any of the footprints followed were invariably lost over hard and stony ground.

Owing to my pending trip the following weekend I could not afford to spend a great deal of time in the area, so after the three days spent I decided to go downriver and contact the WORASWORI people, and find out if they knew anything of the WUSUMAI whereabouts. The new WORASWORI settlement was known to be near the river, which was in fact correct, and a house was found some twenty five minutes walk from the river on top of a small mountain top. This of course was also deserted and the repeated cries by the NAKIAI man brought no response. This house had also been occupied recently, probably the day before as food scraps were in evidence. I had intended walking to the main WORASWORI village some six hours walk away, but the NAKIAI man soon scotched that plan by stating that he did not know the way. This was unfortunate, and although I feel that he was not telling the truth as NAKIAI is the neighbouring village to WORASWORI, I could not get any information from him regarding paths, so the plan to visit WOROSWORI had to be ~~abandoned~~ abandoned.

The patrol then proceeded off downriver to NAKIAI, where the guide was unloaded and the people told that, although little success was had, they were not to worry as the government meant to continue with the investigation, and that there would be a follow up patrol in the near future.

NATIVE AFFAIRS.

along The patrol stopped for brief periods at all villages ~~in~~ the L. Schultze River, and was well received at each place. The people were glad to see a patrol and it was explained to them that although this was only a short visit, there would be a follow up patrol in the near future and more time would be spent in each village.

The villages along the Schultze River can be split up into two groups; those that have had a fair amount of contact with the outside world and those that have had little, or none at all. The villages below NAKIAI, although not censused, are just as forward as some of the villages in the Wongamusen C.D. on the Sepik River. WALIO Village for instance has a number of pidgin speakers, many of whom have been away to work on plantations, and all of the men in the village wear laplaps and shorts. Admittedly there are still a great number of people who cannot speak pidgin, especially in the villages of PAI-IN and NEI-IN, and those who do speak it are now away at work on various plantations, but it is suprising to the writer that these villages have not been visited more often, seeing how easy they are to reach.

SINEN village was visited by the patrol but was found to be deserted, and it was later learnt that after the killings by the ~~NAKIAI~~ NAKIAI people in 1961, most of the SINEN group went to live at NEI-IN, the next village downriver so that now the SINEN houses are only used at different occasions for food gathering purposes. Most of the SINEN males are away at work on plantations.

Above SINEN are the more primitive villages of NAKIAI, WORASWARI, the uncontacted WUSUMAI, TAIWARI and possibly more further on upriver. In this area killings are a common thing and weapons (bows and arrows) are carried by the males at all times. The NAKIAI people especially keep a firm grip on their weapons after the killing of one of their group by the WUSUMAI, and were very frightened and on edge when visited by the patrol. As stated after the murder they deserted their village on the Schultze River, and went and lived in a bush house on the edge of a sago swamp. Although no accurate information could be gathered it appears as if there is a fair number of the WUSUMAI for the NAKIAI people to be so frightened, as fourteen able bodied NAKIAI men were seen. The NAKIAI people were very pleased to see the patrol and were very friendly and talkative, and stayed closed to the patrol while in their village. Presents were distributed and the people given assurance that there would be a follow up patrol in the near future.

The dress in this area is somewhat different to down - river and only one decent laplap was seen, this being worn by a young male who had been given it by a private trader who had visited the area some months before. The male's only covering is a cloth g-string, which is tied around the waist and hangs ^{down} over the genitals. Arm and leg bands made of platted grass are also worn by both sexes, and most of the males had various other decorations such as shell and dogs teeth necklaces, and the horns of the rhinoceros beetle through the nose. The women wore the grass skirt as used by women throughout the sub district.

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The WORASWORI settlement was visited by the patrol, but the people themselves were not seen, having vacated the camp the day before. As stated earlier it was intended to visit the main village which is situated about six hours walk away, but I was unable to do so owing to the NAKIAI guide saying that he did not know the route.

While searching for the WUSUMAI people a new group of people known as TAIWARI were found. A total of five people in all were seen, one female and four males. The settlement is situated on the right bank of the L. Schultze River about 2-3 hours above WUSUMAI. Three houses in all were seen, but two of them had vines and creepers covering them and had been abandoned some time ago. Although there was not time to go into the matter fully the people stated that there was no other people or houses around, and it would appear as if the five of them sleep in the one house, which is right on the bank of the river. Two of the males were about 17-18 and one of them was quite interesting. Although one of the men said that he was his son I very much doubt it, as the youth had reddish colour skin, and had his hair tied up into a bun on top of his head and wore a penis sheath similar to that worn by the MIANMIN people between May River and TELEFOMIN. It is my belief that he was not one of the TAIWARI group at all but from one of the TELEFOMIN villages across the mountain, and was only on a visit to the Schultze area. Of the other three males, one wore a cloth g-string similar to the NAKIAI people and the other two wore a piece of shell which the head of the penis rested, and which was held in place by a piece of bush twine tied around the waist. Except for a few beads and the horns of the rhinoceros beetle through the nose, that was the only body covering. An axe and a bush knife was seen and on questioning as to where it came from, the people stated that they had obtained it from a village over the mountain in the general direction of TELEFOMIN known as PUMI. I thought that this may have been PAUPE on the FRIEDA River, but they stated that there was no river near this village I am inclined to think otherwise.

I tried to gather some information as to the WUSUMAI peoples whereabouts, but as they were rather vague and seemed reluctant to give any information I did not pursue the matter.

HOUSING.

The style of housing below NAKIAI is the same as that found elsewhere in the Ambunti Sub-District. This being the normal rectangular room built on top of 6-8 feet high posts which keep the house above any flood waters that may arise.

At NAKIAI although in fact there are several houses in various stages of completion, work has just been left off and the people all live together in one large communal house. This house has a raised floor about four feet off the ground and is built roughly along the lines of the houses downriver. The floor is covered with limbon and the walls were made out of bark and sago palm fronds.

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The WUSUMAI houses seen were quite interesting as they had been built on the top of a tree which had been cut off about twenty feet above the ground. This tree is used as the base and the house is built around it. Small saplings from the ground up form the framework, and over this is placed thick bark bound tightly together. The house itself would be between 10-15 feet square, and comprises one room and a verandah at each end which is possibly the lookout against enemies. Although the houses look quite shaky from the ground, as none of the framework is very thick, most of the weight is taken by the centre tree, and they look an ideal defense against attack.

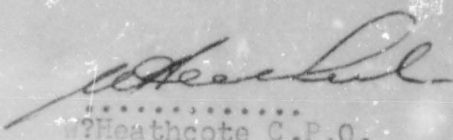
The TAIWARI house was very small and could not have been more than eight feet square. This was built about six feet above the ground, with the normal limbon floor and had bark and wooden walls.

HEALTH.

The health of the area is only fair. The medical assistant accompanied the patrol for part and inspected the health of some of the villages. Several cases of tropical ulcers were seen and one case of yaws at WALIO. This case has since gone to Ambunti for treatment. The NAKIAI group were in good physical condition, and except for one woman who had a tropical ulcer, no other sores were seen. This is possibly because that as they have no contact with present day drugs and medicines only the fit and strong survive.

CONCLUSION.

A patrol whose main purpose was to investigate the murder of a Nakiel man by a man or men of the uncontacted village of WUSUMAI. Although the patrol was unsuccessful in contacting the WUSUMAI and finding the murderer, it served a purpose in reassuring the NAKIAI people who had become badly frightened after the killing. As a ~~group~~ new group of people were found I feel that the patrol was not entirely wasted. As stated earlier owing to my pending trip I could not spend as much time in the area as I would have liked, as this possibly hampered my chances of success.


Heathcote C.P.O.

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MEMBERS
REPORT ON MEMBERS OF THE H.P. & N.G.C

ACCOMPANYING THE PATROL

Sgt. 2nd Class TOTORI NO 3171.

Worked well throughout the patrol, a good example to the other policeman. Conduct good.

Sen. CONST. EGMUN NO 5140.

Conduct good. A willing worker who can think for himself. An asset to any patrol.

CONST. DURONG 6597.

Good worker. Rather headstrong at times but means well. Conduct good.

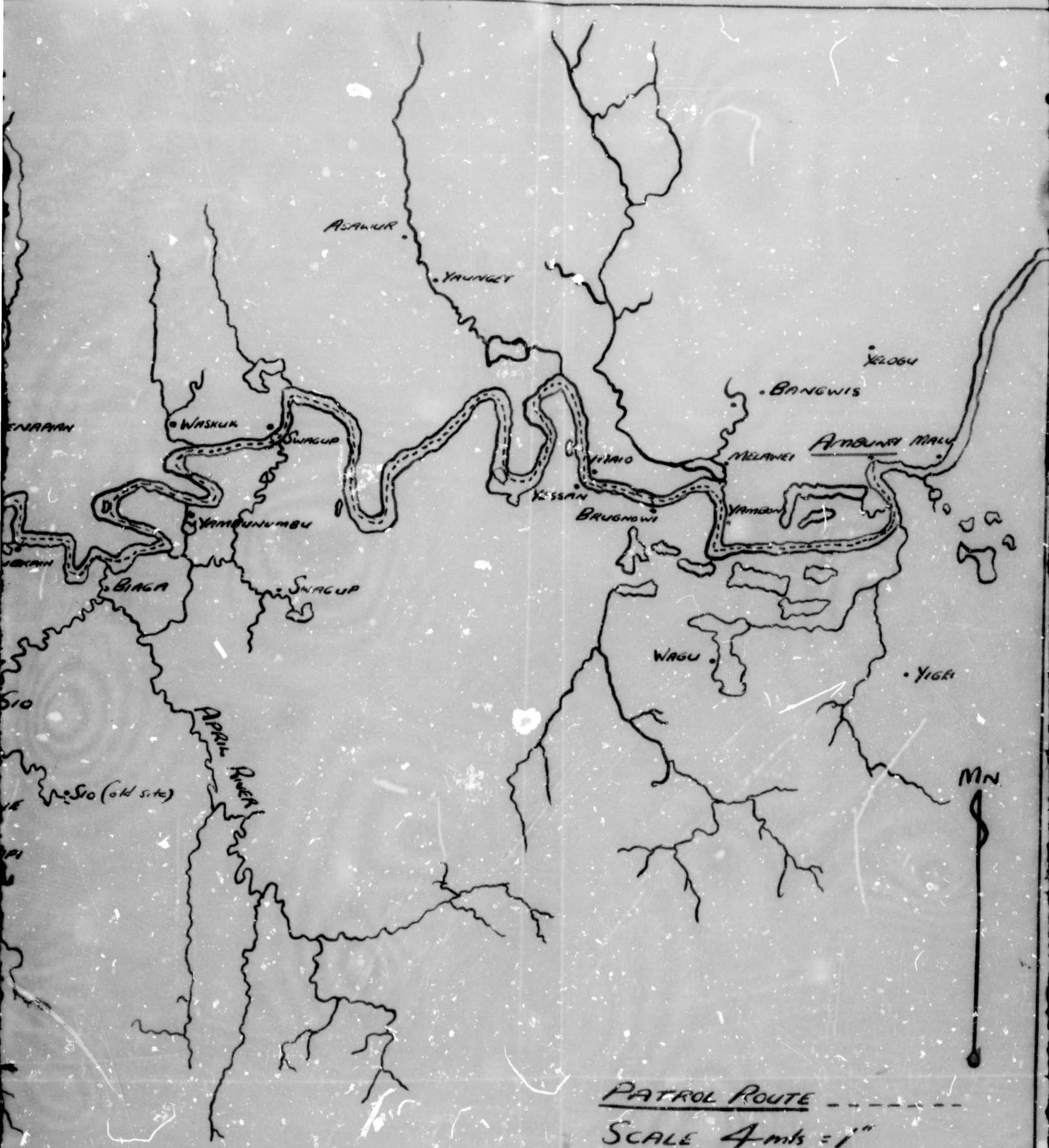
CONST. WARIS 8467.

Conduct good. An average constable does what he is told, and does it well.



TELEFOMIN SUB DISTRICT

MAP TO



MAP TO ACCOMPANY P/R AMBUNTI No 19 of 1963-64