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# **PATROL REPORTS**

DISTRICT: GULF

STATION: KEREMA

VOLUME No: 37

ACCESSION No: 496.

1960 - 1961

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# Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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GULF DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1960/61

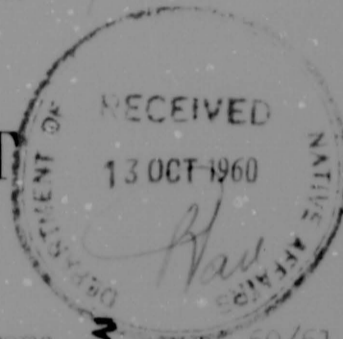
Report of a Patrol to the Tauri and Vailala River  
Headwaters, conducted by J.Jordan



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67-2-5 ✓

# PATROL REPORT



District of Gulf Report No. Kerema 3 of 60/61

Patrol Conducted by J. Jordan, Assistant District Officer, Sr. I

Area Patrolled Tauri and Veilala River Headwaters

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans P. Broadhurst, C.P.O.

Natives Nine A.P. & N.G.C., Forty-five carriers

Duration—From 27/7/1960 to 27/9/1960

Number of Days Sixty-three

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 3/1/1951

Medical No. record ...../19.....

Map Reference Lands Department Formil Series - WAU. Sketch map attached

Objects of Patrol Extension of Administration Influence and Control;  
Location of population centres and assessment of population.  
Location of possible patrol post and airstrip sites.

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 .... £.....

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



MEU-WARI - IOPE. Scattered population, rather denser in the head of the valley near IANDADUI. Country more open. Food purchased. Walking time not given.

IOPE - KUAMBEGA. Site for possible 1500 ft airstrip investigated. 2 hours walk.

KUAMBEGA - TAURI RIVER. Area unpopulated. 5½ hours walk.

TAURI RIVER - MAMBA-ING. Village of 9 houses. 4½ hours walk.

MAMBA-ING - YAIBA CREEK. Food purchased. Walking time not given but very close to MAMBA-ING.

YAIBA CREEK - WERR CREEK. Head of valley well populated (HAMDE group people). 6½ hours walk.

WERR CREEK - KAIEMDEBA. Possible airstrip site at KAIEMDEBA investigated. Walking time not given but apparently close of WERR CREEK camp site.

KAIEMDEBA - IAGEIU. Area well populated. Natives would not approach the patrol. 3½ hours walk.

IAGEIU - WAIWA. Population heavy. 20 carriers returned to MENYAMKA from here as local food supplies had proved adequate to supply the patrol. 25 carriers retained.

WAIMA - IWAU (in IWEVI VALLEY). Small quantity of food purchased. 5 hours walk.

IWAU - SHOVE VALLEY. Crossed range at 6700 feet. 3½ hours walk.

SHOVE VALLEY - WINDEKA BASE CAMP. Walking time not given. Airdrop by OTTER very poorly done and 4 bags were lost.

WINDEKA BASE CAMP - MWEI RIVER (apparently misnamed - should be ANGUBIN RIVER). 8 hours walk in bush.

MWEI (ANGUBIN) RIVER - CAMP SITE. Cross valley, lightly populated. Some food purchased. 3 hours walk.

CAMP SITE - UNGA (on INGEVA RIVER). Walking time not given.

UNGA - POINT NORTH OF WHITE SLIP MOUNTAIN. This was an attempt to cross the range and find a route to SWANSON RIVER. Guides deserted, carriers in very low spirits. Camped at 5700 feet. 8½ hours walk.

POINT NORTH OF WHITE SLIP MOUNTAIN - UNGA. Attempt to reach SWANSON RIVER abandoned.

UNGA - YENI VALLEY. 10½ hours walk.

YENI VALLEY - WINDEKA BASE CAMP. Walking time not given.

WINDEKA BASE CAMP - KATANGA. 8 hours walk.

KATANGA - MENYAMYA. 7 hours walk.

COPY.

3311 KEREMA 51 30TH 1400

NATAFF KONEDOBU

HERICT PROCEEDING YOURS TODAY PER TRANSIR  
ENROUTE LEAVE STOP HE CARRIES SPECIAL STORES  
USED BY TAURI PATROL NAMELY COMPASS CAMERA  
BINOCULARS BAROMETER FOR SAFE **HAND** DELIVERY  
ALSO ONE COPY MAP FOR SUN PRINTING STOP  
REQUEST YOU ARRANGE SALARY PAYMENT BE MADE  
TWO SEPARATE PAYMENTS FOR TAXATION PURPOSES  
DISTRUFF

*Handwritten note:*  
to hand  
The above refers map  
given to you that should  
be in your safe hand.  
J. A. C. Hand.  
A. M. 6/6

*Compass and Barometer received  
by me - nothing else.*

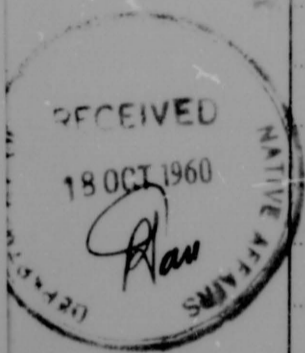
*-1000  
8/6*



INTER-OFFICE MEMORANDUM

67-2-5 ✓

To: Mr. T.C. Anderson 2/11/60 From: P. L. ...  
Subject: P.R. ... 3/60 61 Date: 1/17/60



Handwritten initials: H/S

1. ...  
2. ... location of ...  
3. Will you ...

67-2-5



TELEPHONE .....

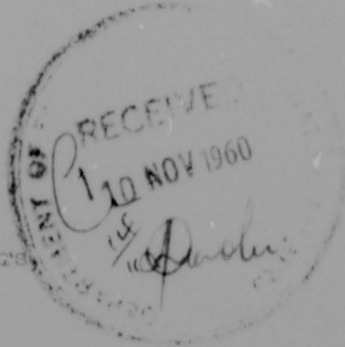
**AUSTRALIAN MILITARY FORCES**

QUOTE IN REPLY  
.....

ADDRESS

Headquarters,  
Pacific Islands Regt.,  
P.O. Box 377,  
PORT MORESBY

8 November, 1960



The Acting Director,  
Department of Native Affairs,  
KONEDOBU

Patrol Report No.3 of 1960/61 KEREA

Reference your 67-2-5 of 1st November, 1960.

1. Thank you for the report and sketch map on the above mentioned patrol.
2. The information contained therein is most useful and will be of great assistance in planning further patrols in this area.

*W. Faulks*  
Major  
Administrative Commander

*noted  
AS  
10/11*

67-2-5

1st November, 1960.

The District Officer,  
Morobe District,  
LAE.

PATROL REPORT NO.3 of  
1960/61 - KEREMA

A copy of the above report, sun print  
of sketch map and my covering comments are forwarded  
for your information, please.

Please bring these to the notice of Mr.  
P. Broadhurst, Cadet Patrol Officer.

(J.K. McCarthy)  
ACTING DIRECTOR MB

67-2-5

1st November, 1960.

The Commanding Officer,  
Pacific Islands Regiment,  
PORT MORESBY.

Dear Sir,

Patrol Report No.3 of 1960/61  
KEREMA

My memorandum, 67-17-2 of 11th October 1960,  
refers.

I now enclose a copy of the above report  
with a copy of sketch map, as promised in my earlier  
communication.

(J.K. McCarthy)  
ACTING DIRECTOR

67-2-5

1st November, 1960.

The District Officer,  
Gulf District,  
KEREMA.

Patrol Report No.3 of 1960/61 - KEREMA

A copy of the above report, which Mr. Jordan submitted direct to Headquarters is forwarded for your information.

This exploratory patrol was extremely well conducted and achieved all its objects. The report is well presented and is full of valuable information. Both officers are to be commended for a difficult job well done, particularly when burdened by a tired and sick carrier line and a low standard police detachment.

The information on population, type of country, possible air strip and station sites will be of great assistance in future planning for the development of this area.

It is very pleasing to note the friendly attitude to the patrol displayed by the native people encountered and the fact that many women and children were seen. This attitude was no doubt partly due to the leisurely progress of the patrol and I entirely agree with Mr. Jordan's opinion that it will be a relatively simple matter to establish administrative control over these people, though occasional outbreaks of violence could be expected.

The comments on the use of the polythene plastic strips and the A.510 transmitter are also very informative and interesting.

Extracts from the report have been sent to interested Departments.

(J.K. McCarthy) *JB*  
ACTING DIRECTOR

DIARY

*Tracing of patrol map  
is held in Gulf District  
map drawer.*

- Sunday  
24th July, 1960. Departed from Lae at 9 a.m. for Menyanya, accompanied by Mr P.J.K. Broadhurst, C.P.O. per Qantas Otter aircraft, and spent remainder of day arranging stores.
- Monday,  
25th July, Breaking down stores into one man carrier loads, and generally organising patrol.
- Tuesday,  
26th July, All stores finalised, and loads arranged.
- Wednesday,  
27th July, Departed at 11.30 a.m. southwards down Tauri. Journey very slow, tracks negligible, made camp at 3.30 p.m. Rice issued.
- Thursday,  
28th July, Light morning rain falling to 9 a.m. Some re-arrangement of loads necessary as carriers not yet broken in. Walking through grasslands, camped below Katanga village at 3 p.m. This is the edge of the Restricted Area. A small quantity of foodstuffs brought by villagers, rice issued. Attempted radio contact with Menyanya, poor results. Day's journey 6 hours.
- Friday,  
29th July, At 7.50 a.m. established radio contact with Menyanya, moved on again at 8.15 a.m. passing through grasslands and arriving at the Tauri at 3 p.m. Bridge has been washed away.
- Saturday,  
30th July, Departed 7.30 a.m. and arrived in Windeka area at 1.40 p.m. Camp established and friendly relations established with people. Sufficient foodstuffs purchased for entire party. Some 55 persons seen, mixed group of men women and children. Radio contact established with Menyanya.
- July, 1960,  
Sunday, 31st Despatched two constables and twelve locals to Menyanya for further supplies. In afternoon a carrier accidentally injured himself whilst cutting timber. Medical Orderly tied off his veins and controlled haemorrhage and sutured wound.
- August, 1960.
- Monday, 1st. Radio contact with Menyanya re injured carrier. Menyanya will forward a constable and medical orderly to care for him until he can walk back to Menyanya. Consider it unsuitable to carry him back 14 hours Menyanya, as too great a risk of a fall and opening of the wound en route. Carriers commenced construction of a rest house.
- Tuesday, 2nd Carriers and Police have not yet arrived from Menyanya, commenced construction of a police barrack to keep line occupied.

*{note - send duplicate to C.O. P.I.R. as promised  
in memo 67-17-2 of 11 Oct 1960}*

August, 1960.  
Wednesday, 3rd

Party from Menyanya arrived at 3 p.m.  
Completed construction of base camp.

Thursday, 4th

Moved on to Sure valley. A very slow journey, of 4 hours. Several carriers ailing. Camp made in rain. No people came forward to the patrol, though a few seen on the surrounding hills. Rice issued. Injured carrier left behind at Windeka base camp with two constables and medical orderly, with instructions that they must remain there for a minimum of four days before attempting to return Menyanya. Small quantity of stores left behind and will relay it across tomorrow.

Friday, 5th

Small party despatched to pick up stores from previous camp. Remainder clearing area below camp which may be suitable for an airstrip. Some 30 persons came forward today and a small quantity of foodstuffs purchased. In afternoon party who had been despatched for stores returned with a number of locals, stating that they had met them on the track, bringing over the stores which the two Menyanya constables were guarding and stated that the police, medical orderly and injured man had departed at dawn for Menyanya. In afternoon local people brought a pig to patrol which was purchased and issued to carriers.

Saturday, 6th

Moved up ridge some three hours distance, attempted radio contact with Kerema, but failed. Heavy rain falling at mid-day, and made camp at 1 p.m. A few persons came forward and a small quantity of food-stuffs purchased. In nearby valley, people are gathered at a death watch and continuous wailing and crying heard in the camp.

Sunday, 7th

Departed at 6.45 a.m. over range crossing at 6,200 feet altitude into IAUE valley and made camp at SAKAKAU after seven hours walk. Altitude 4,500 feet. A few persons visited the patrol in the afternoon, and a small quantity of food purchased. Rice issued. Valley appears to have a population of several hundred. People state that they are warring with the PAU'U group across valley, and in the past five months 14 persons have been killed.

Monday, 8th

Approximately 20 persons visited patrol, talks with people and firearms demonstration carried out.

Tuesday, 9th

Moved across the valley to PAU'U, a journey of two hours. In late afternoon a group of 15 men and women visited the patrol and foods purchased. Altitude 4000 feet.

Wednesday, 10th

Continuous rain throughout day, however at 4.30 p.m. 50 men and women came to the patrol with foodstuff for purchase. One carrier ill.

Thursday, 11th

Remained at PAU'U, ailing carrier seems slightly better today. Approximately 40 persons visited patrol today, and talks with them.

August, 1960.

3.

Friday, 12th

Carrier well enough for patrol to move on, and moved off across range to the headwaters of the IVORI River, crossing made at 6000 feet. Days journey 7 hours, and patrol is camped in a garden settlement, of the only man living in this area.

Saturday, 13th

Proceeded south to HAIFA area, four hours distance, where five families live, and foods purchased from them. Radio contact with Kerema failed.

Sunday, 14th

Guides failed appear until 8.30 a.m. After 3½ hours arrived on headwaters of the AGUE River. Heavy rain falling, and camp made on very swampy section of ground. Terrain is rather rugged here and it is difficult to obtain a good camp site. A small quantity of foods purchased. Light population only.

Monday, 15th

Departed at 7 a.m. in rain, rain falling throughout day, days journey 7 hours; pitched camp on headwaters of MAI-I-IE creek. Foods purchased. Light scattered population only.

Tuesday, 16th

Proceeded on to TAMDEIWO area on IVORI river, and arrived at 11 a.m. after 3½ hours journey. Pitched camp, rain falling, issued rice and marmite. A few people came forward to the patrol; only isolated population in this area, however there is a site which people state may be suitable for an airstrip. Radio contact failed with Port Moresby and Kerema, however in afternoon made contact with Menyamyu.

Wednesday, 17th

Investigating site for possible airstrip throughout day.

Thursday, 18th

Further investigation of the area. After full investigation, consider the approaches are too poor for an adequate strip. Maximum length of strip with a good approach would be 1000 feet at 2700 feet altitude, any longer strip would have an inadequate approach.

Friday, 19th

Investigated an area approximately one hour back from camp site but area found to be unsuitable.

Saturday, 20th

Departed to IUKEMDI garden area on Davok creek, a Wenna River tributary. Track poor, day's journey 10 hours. Rice issued; now only 400 lbs of rations left. Radio contact with Kerema requesting forwarding of certain items of stores.

Sunday, 21st

Remained on site resting carriers. Approximately 40 persons visited the patrol and foods purchased.

Monday, 22nd

Proceeded to Wenna River to site known as MEU-WARI at junction of the AFAIA and WENNA Rivers. There appears to be a fair population along this valley. This area is on the edge of the area normally patrolled from Kerema, and is four days walk from Kerema.



August, 1960

- Monday, 22nd (cont) Some forty people came forward to the patrol, and food was purchased.
- Tuesday, 23rd Commenced construction of a rest house. Approximately 70 persons came forward to visit the patrol.
- Wednesday, 24th Rest house completed.
- Thursday, 25th Moved down to WAMBUI approximately 3 hours distance. Small quantity of foods bought.
- Friday, 26th No persons came forward to the patrol, and at 3 p.m. I departed from camp with Mr Broadhurst and 5 police to an area 40 minutes distance, where a dance was in progress and stayed with the people for a while. This is the first place resembling a village that I have seen and has eleven houses in all.
- Saturday, 27th Moved downstream two hours past WAMBUI, large quantities of foods purchased approximately 800 lbs.
- Sunday, 28th Another 1000 lb. of foods purchased; with last night's issues this makes a total of 1600 lb of food issued to the patrol in the past 24 hours.
- Monday, 29th Returned to MEU-WARI camp. Radio contact with Kerema, who state that runner departed from Kerema Thursday.
- Tuesday, 30th At camp site and surveyed an area which might make a possible strip site for Cessna aircraft, but I am not too keen on the approaches.
- Wednesday, 31st Whilst awaiting arrival of Kerema runner, commenced construction of police barrack.
- September, 1960.  
Thursday, 1st Moved off up to Wenna, slow journey as crossing in heavy flood. At midday runner came through from Kerema, to say stores were at rest house but the carriers would not move on, so party of my carriers went back and returned with the stores.
- Friday, 2nd Brought correspondence to date, and inspected general area for strip sites but nothing suitable.
- Saturday 3rd Moved up valley proceeding through scattered population, country becomes more open here, with a fair population in the head of the valley near IANDADUI. Patrol crossed over watershed and at 1.30 arrived on the TAURI slopes of Mount ERUKI at LOPE area. Foods purchased.
- Sunday, 4th Approximately 120 persons came forward to see the patrol and two pigs and 1000 lb of foods purchased.
- Monday, 5th Proceeded to Kuambega approximately two hours away. Possible airstrip site to be investigated. Foods purchased, talks with

September, 1960.

- Monday, 5th (cont) people.
- Tuesday, 6th Cutting of several areas, for investigation of strip potential.
- Wednesday 7th Completed investigation of strip, and it appears that a 1500 ft. strip could be put in this area. At 10 a.m. the investigation was completed and broke camp and went down to the TAURI River, arriving at 3.30 p.m. No population on Tauri proper, but 180 lb. of food purchased from people who had followed the patrol. Issued the foods, but prisoners refused to accept same stating that they had plenty of native foods and that they were going to eat the emergency ration as they were tired of carrying them. Food was left on the ground overnight.
- Thursday, 8th Prisoners refused to accept tea and biscuits this morning and demand that the 250 lb. of rice be issued. I refused to allow this and after much muttering and harangue from them they accepted the fact, with exception of a few. The Buang carriers, had no part of the incident and appeared content. Bridged TAURI and after 4½ hours journey, arrived at MAMBA-ING. Nine houses here and people are on the alert against raiding from the IOPE area.
- Friday, 9th Moved on to YAIBA creek and camped in garden settlement; foods purchased, talks with people and firearms demonstration. One man fell prostrate with astonishment during the demonstration.
- Saturday, 10th. Proceeded to WERR Creek, 6½ hours journey, with halt for radio transmission. Head of WERR valley appears well populated - these are HAIDE group people.
- Sunday, 11th Moved up head of valley, crossing a flat grassland with a good approach which was inspected for possible strip site - 1100 feet possible available on good gradient, but with proper angling and clearing a 1500 feet strip might prove possible. Moved on to HALEWA for night.
- Monday, 12th Walked upstream for 3½ hours and made camp above IDJIGU river at IACHEIU. This area is quite well populated. No native came forward to the patrol; rain falling; rice, biscuits and marmite issued.
- Tuesday, 13th Proceeded upstream and camped in WAIWA area. Population still quite heavy here.
- Wednesday, 14th Despatched 20 carriers to Menyanya with police escort. Consider no need for larger line as native foodstuffs through the area have generally been sufficient to feed the patrol and no necessity for larger line carrying a large quantity of emergency ration. Cut all stores and equipment back to minimum, and returned remainder to Menyanya.

September, 1960.

- Wednesday 14th  
(cont.)

Have retained 25 carriers who have all volunteered to go on the journey. Departed at 9:30 a.m. and crossed into the IWEVI Valley - 5 hours walk. Made camp at IWEVI. All food purchase only and meat and rice issued.
- Thursday, 15th

At mid-day patrol came to Shove valley after crossing range at 6,700 feet and found the group who departed for Menyanya camped there. 1st Constable Samare, who was in charge of the carriers and had the mail with instruction to get to Menyanya as quickly as possible had only covered 8 1/2 hours walk in two days. Instructed to move on and that the mail is to be in Menyanya by tomorrow noon, as the stores list for Saturday's airdrop must be delivered.
- Friday, 16th

Moved across TAURI and back to WINDEKA base camp, arriving at 3 p.m. Found the rest house in filthy condition. Finished last of rations today.
- Saturday, 17th

Airdrop this a.m. Drop done by Otter and cargo fell both short and past drop site. Four bags several miles down valley; search failed to locate them.
- Sunday, 18th

Missing bags located down valley 45 minutes walk from camp.
- Monday, 19th

Moved off across range to MWEI River - apparently it was named and is the ANGUBIN. 8 hours walked in bush.
- Tuesday, 20th

Came across populace after 45 minutes walk and then across valley for total walk of 3 hours where camp made and foods purchased. Light population throughout the area.
- Wednesday, 21st

Crossed another headwater, the Ingeva and camped at UNGA.
- Thursday, 22nd

Moved off up range in cloud and mist endeavouring locate a route through to the Swanson River - the correct name of which I am unable to find out. Guides have deserted and camped for night at 5700 feet altitude, after 8 1/2 hours walk.
- Friday, 23rd

Carriers are in extremely low spirits and I do not think that they are up to the task of going further. Morning cleared somewhat and I was able to locate our position and can see off the range across the Vailala to the Purari River. The area is rugged and unpopulated. Turned back to the INGEVA camp.
- Saturday 24th

Proceeded to Yeni valley and made camp after 10 1/2 hours journey.
- Sunday, 25th

Returned to WINDEKA base camp, and patrol rested.
- Monday, 26th

Proceeded back toward Menyanya, sleeping night at Katanga, 8 hours journey.
- Tuesday, 27th

After a journey of seven hours arrived at Menyanya, and patrol was completed.

to KUKIPI and KEREMA areas and trade there from time to time; accordingly, there was a reasonable amount of steel trade such as axes and bush knives amongst the people, though most of them were very worn. I did not see any persons carrying traditional stone weapons.

Bows and arrows were of course very much in evidence, and over the entire area traversed there appeared evidence that vendettas are in a constant stage of action. At MAMBA-ING the village was covered on the outskirts by guard-houses and all the men had two or three bows each and bundles of arrows containing up to 100 arrows for each man.

The bulk of the population appears to be along the WERR creek area, the slopes of ERUKI above the TAURI, the WENNA valley and the ANGUBIN-LAVE-YENI, watersheds. Another population pocket of considerable numbers exists along the headwaters of the Swanson river and has been patrolled from Kerema on various occasions. This patrol moved within a few miles of this group but following the traditional friendship lines of our guides did not fully enter the area.

There is some population known to be on the KAPAU river also, but does not appear to be great in the Papuan section, and it appeared that this would best be approached from KUKIPI, where a patrol could go by water up the TAURI as far as possible and follow through to ASEKI, and should the patrol so desire it could then make across to Bulldog and back by water down the LAKEKAMU to KUKIPI.

This would then completely block out the entire area. This area does not appear to have been greatly contacted since the New Guinea Resources party entered there some years ago.

There were no hostile demonstrations against the patrol, though care was taken to avoid presenting any opportunity for such an occurrence.

I am of the opinion that it will be a relatively simple matter to establish administrative control over these people, though of course, one would expect flare up of the internecine disputes which appear to be well seeded throughout the area.

If an officer were stationed in the Mount ERUKI area of the TAURI, all major population groups would be within a fifteen mile radius, and with establishment of a good road system radiating from this base, it would bring all areas within a long day's walk.

I feel that the major reason for the untroubled progress of this patrol lies in that the populace, generally, have come to accept as inevitable that the Government and its control must come, and also over the years it has penetrated through to the people that it is a force which they cannot overcome.

At present there are a few of these people away working, having made their way to the coast and to the outer world, and their eventual return should be a powerful influence towards cessation of raiding and fighting.

#### AIR STRIPS AND STATION SITE :

There appears to be a central site where a 1500 feet length air-strip could be built on the TAURI slopes of Mount ERUKI in the IOPE area at an altitude of 4,200 feet. A full investigation of the area might show even better prospects, and though the area which was investigated is short it had a good approach, though one way. The area investigated is

*See map with a of E.O. (P.P.) - it is a great site No. 1. plenty of fuel*

called KUAMBEGA, and offered excellent prospects for a station site, should one be considered as sufficient land and good water is also available here. There would probably be six months work required to bring the strip into operation.

An area was measured on the SURE River, where a 1400 feet strip on a 10% grade should be possible with an estimated two months work and eventually a maximum of 1500 could be obtained.

A 1500 feet strip could be possible in the WENNA at MEA-WARI but I feel that the approaches are rather dubious for commercial operation.

Finally, there appears to be a site which might be of interest to a Mission, but I feel it is too far toward the periphery of the population centre to be of interest to Administration for an operation base for coverage of the entire area. This site is KAIEMDEBA on the WERR Creek.

#### FOOD SUPPLIES

The patrol found that the people appear to have good soil and a plentiful supply of foods, and a party of 30 persons should have little difficulty in purchasing sufficient foods for normal requirements, provided the large unpopulated areas are left alone.

The staples are sweet potato, taro and cooking bananas. Sugar cane is in plentiful supply and pandanus.

#### TERRAIN AND LAND COMMUNICATION

The country ranges from 2000' A.S.L. to 7000' A.S.L. and population belts are in the 2500' A.S.L. to 5000' A.S.L. range. The area is largely timbered with little grass lands, though where the populations are heaviest there is little secondary growth.

The terrain is quite broken but does not appear to offer any serious problems to road construction, following on contours.

It appears to be quite feasible to link from MENYAMYA to ERUKI and down the WENNA with a road suitable for a motor cycle or trak grip vehicle.

From ERUKI to MENYAMYA is a distance of approximately 25 miles and from the border runs mainly through grasslands.

#### ANTHROPOLOGICAL

No Anthropological notes are included with this report as no new information was noted by this Officer, that has not already been noted in the full detailed study of these people by Mr Vizard and which was submitted with Patrol Report No. 3 of 50/51.

#### HEALTH

The people appeared to have a considerable number of eye infections, especially children, and infected scabies was very prevalent.

The people generally appeared to be one of the least hygienic of any I have experienced, and tracks and vicinity of dwellings were littered with faeces.

#### CARRIERS

The patrol initially commenced with twenty prisoners

who volunteered to accompany the patrol and 25 MUMENG natives.

During the latter stages of the patrol the line was cut back to 25 carriers. The prisoners generally worked well, though as mentioned in the diary on 7th September they caused some trouble, particularly three AITAPE men, and I was sending them back, when they requested they be allowed to stay and later worked well.

*Extract  
to C.C.I.  
(Done)*

The MUMENG natives worked well, but after several spells of prolonged bad weather wanted to leave the patrol, and originally I had planned on going to Kerema. However, the carriers stated that when they reached Kerema they would not come back and I considered it best to keep in the main patrol area than risk their defection.

The carriers remained in good health throughout the patrol, but toward the latter stage many of them became very dispirited and listless.

When the patrol departed from Menyanya they went out like Tensings but on their return there did not appear to be a solitary Whymer left in them.

This deterioration was also noted amongst several of the police.

#### POLICE

The Police were made up of eight members from various Morobe District detachments and one KUKUKUKU Constable from KILA.

The two N.C.O's showed little effective discipline over the remainder of the detachment and were unable to weld them into a unit. Individual reports have been submitted on the members.

N.M.O. GARAN who accompanied the patrol was a particularly good type for a patrol of this nature and performed his duties well and conscientiously and did a particularly good job when detainee carrier LAIPO was seriously slashed in an accident with an axe and suffered a bad haemorrhage.

#### STORES AND SUPPLIES

The patrol was unable to obtain sufficient tents or flys and accordingly took with it a quantity of visqueen polythene plastic of .004 of an inch thickness, 10' wide. This was cut into twenty foot lengths and could be rolled into a compact bundle 18 inches long by 6 inches diameter and weighing 2 to 3 lbs.

These sheets proved very successful and in the opinion of both officers and police and carriers were preferable to tents and flys generally.

The reasons for this preference is that

- (1) lightness - no extra carriers needed to carry them as with tents etc.
- (2) No increase in weight after rain as they are impervious.
- (3) This impervious quality means that heat is held in and body warmth alone heats the accommodation of police and carriers sufficient to make them cozy, without necessity of a fire inside them.

The sheets have faults, the main one of which is that care must be taken in the handling of it when placing

over bush frames as jagged ends will tear it easily when it is pulled across, also an extremely large fire too close to it will cause destruction or deterioration but I estimate that at least a temperature of 150° Fahrenheit is necessary to cause this.

The method of using the sheets was to make a frame resembling a small house of tent frame type and overlap 3 to 4 sheets making a house 30-40 feet long. The sheets draped to the ground on either side and were held down against strong winds by grass, cane or sapling branches placed on the top.

It is preferable for leaves, grass etc. to be under the plastic, as this reduces risk of tearing, and where a good thickness of grass is placed or the roof is well clear of the ground in the manner of a tent, small fires had no effect on deterioration over the period of the patrol.

However, normally a bush lean-to was built at either end of the houses to close it in and the fires for cooking and just sitting around were made here, and because of the impervious nature of the polythene the warmth circulated completely through the houses and would warm them to a degree that I found uncomfortable, personally.

Additionally, each carrier had 6' X 5' sheet of the material for use as a ground sheet and for keeping dry his blanket and jumper and other personal effects against the oft incessant rain, and I largely attribute the good health of the party to the protection afforded by the plastic sheets.

Mr Broadhurst was accommodated in a very old fly with numerous tears and rips in it and further so rotted as to be useless against rain, but with two polythene strips over it, it performed admirably and lasted the trip. My own fly was in better condition and I had one polythene strip thrown across the centre of it.

In the first few days of the patrol, a few rips were put in the polythene strip, but the carriers quickly realised that their comfort was entirely dependent upon the treatment of the strips and little further damage occasioned for the rest of the trip and suitable running repairs made with sticking plaster.

Each sheet only costs £1 and five of the sheets were still in good condition upon completion of the patrol and good for another similar patrol. The sheets over the flies were of course in perfect condition.

In regard to trade, throughout the area, beads were the most favoured currency and the red beads carried by the patrol were accepted everywhere.

Salt was not desired, in fact the people endeavoured to sell it to the patrol for beads or small knives for a two pound bundle. Salt making is quite a big industry throughout the area.

A demand was upon matches and razor blades.

Girigiri was rarely called for and as in the entire quantity supplied no shell was more than  $\frac{3}{4}$ " ; it was not surprising; however, generally the people now prefer beads.

Small 4" knives were also suitable trade, and small mirrors were used to a small extent but were of secondary consideration to the knives and beads.

RADIO TRANSMITTER

The patrol carried with it an A.W.A. A510 portable transmitter, and this was operated with a reasonable amount of success.

The batteries carried in the initial stages of the patrol appeared to be over age and after approximately 20 minutes of transmission, lost strength, and though still satisfactory for reception, were unserviceable for transmission.

The set was carried in a rucksack and made a load for one carrier. The set appears to be very subject to local interference, from a transmission viewpoint, and whilst one day transmission might be excellent, the following day or even a few hours later transmission would be extremely poor. Menyama had difficulty in reading our transmission on most occasions, but this was largely due to background noise on the Menyama receiver, and that other more powerful stations were transmitting on nearby frequencies.

Contacts were made with Menyama, Lae and Port Moresby with the set, and it was normally possible to raise one station out of the three, depending on weather conditions and terrain.

There are several points which I feel should be made known to all field officers in respect of these sets, firstly that it is most important to have the lead-in coming down as direct as possible to the set, for the best transmission signal, and though the excess wire of the lead-in is taken up by turns around a frame, at the point of connection to the aerial, any turns and twists in the lead-in below this point will cause extremely low readings on the aerial tuning meter, and also if the lead-in wire (though it is insulated) goes close to the ground, then signal strength will be greatly reduced; the lead-in should go direct to the set and not loop down toward the ground through excessive slack in the lead-in.

Lastly, I feel it is important for officers at terminal stations to know that to change crystal frequency of these sets, it is not a matter of just retuning set, but that these sets only operate on a special aerial length for each crystal frequency, and that to change frequency one must lower aeriels and reset them, which causes some minutes of delay before transmission may be resumed.

*J. Jordan*

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Extract  
for R.T.C.