

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: GULF

STATION: KEREMA

VOLUME No: 27

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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GULF DISTRICT

KEREMA SUBDISTRICT

PATROL REPORTS:

1947/48

Nos 3-4 of 1947-48

Gulf District

Kerema

P/R 3 of 1947/48

K.C. Atkinson a/A.D.O.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA-NEW GUINEA.

District Office,
KEREMA G.D.,

7 November 47.

Ref.No. 171/PR 3/47.

D.D.S. & N.A.,
Port Moresby

PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 47/48.

Reference your memo DS 30-2-18 of 30 Sept. 47.

The three police stationed at KARIAVA act purely in the capacity of night guards on the European residential section with the object of reducing the amount of petty thieving and the possibility of native annoying the female residents at night. Prior to the posting of these guards the position was most unsatisfactory.

These police are quartered away from the native labour and in no way take part in the general activities of the Company. They are relieved at frequent intervals and receive their instructions direct from visiting officers.

The comments on the behavior of these men by the Native Labour Superintendent were those only of an interested observer and in no way influence the opinion of this office.

a/D.O.Kerema

TERRITORY OF PAPUA-NEW GUINEA.

DS. 30-2-18
Department of District Services
and Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

30th September, 1947.

MEMORANDUM FOR :

District Officer,
Gulf Division,
KEREMA.

PATROL REPORT NO. 3 OF 47/48.

Reports on police are noted. Why is the
Native Labour Superintendent at Kariava reporting on police?
These police appear to be Native Labour Overseers. Please
advise.

J.H. Jones
(J.H. Jones)
ACTING DIRECTOR. *JH*

Recd 13/10
at.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA-NEW GUINEA.

District Office,
KEREMA G.D.,

8 September 47

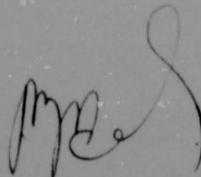
Ref.No. 132/PR3 /47.

D.D.S. & N.A.:
Port Moresby

PATROL REPORT No. 3 of 47/48.

Please find attached, three copies of the
abovementioned patrol report.

There is no comment from this office.



a/D.O. Kerema

RAJOL REPORT.

STATION NUMBER - No. 347/43

REPORT OF RAJOL made by K.C. Atkinson a/ADO to
VAILALA RIVER and KARLAVA

for the purpose of

1. Trying N/L cases
2. Inspecting IPU Police Camp.

Left Station on:- 25th August, 1947. Returned to Station:- 5th September

Number of carriers employed:- Average 16

Number of Police:- 5 and Interpreter.

VILLAGES VISITED:- MBI'I: KIBURU: KEAKSA: KOLALAU

FORWARDED TO D.D.S. & M.A.

Date September, 1947.

a/DO
Officer in Charge of Station

REPORT OF A PATROL MADE BY H.C. RICHMOND C/ADO KERRIA TO VAILALA RIVER
AND KARIAVA FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRYING N/L CASES AND INSPECTION OF
THE POLICE CAMP.

Monday 25th August:- Taking with me Consts. HARRIS, HIRIWA, TONGORO,
ASRA and TAMBARU, Interpreter KIVAVIA departed 0900 hrs and crossed
to PHEOI by station canoe. Met by carriers, tied up and proceeded to
KIRRU Rest House via HUIVA Plantation where I called on Mrs. Drummond.
Camped.

Tuesday 26th August:- Departed 0630 and proceeded to KOLIAHU via
KAWA. Boarded a canoe and proceeded to IRI Police Camp, arriving
1200 hrs. Lunched. At 1030 A.P.S. Vessel 'KEBULE' arrived, so boarded
her and proceeded to UPOLA, arriving 1800 hrs. Discovered that 18
W.D. Labourers - ex deserters - had been sent down to HOBORO Camp
that afternoon.

Wednesday 27th August:- Contacted Kariava by Radio and had word sent to
to HOBORO to return 18 labourers first opportunity.

Thursday 28th August:- At UPOLA awaiting authority for Mr. Hoyles to
represent Company. (Authority to come from Kariava).

Friday 29th August:- Tried cases.

Saturday 30th August:- Departed 0900 per 'HUIVA' and proceeded to
KARIAVA, arriving 1730 hrs. Continued to KDA (Drilling area).

Sunday 31st August:- As such.

Monday 1st September:- On Native Labour Matters and in C.P.S.
Completed all work.

Tuesday 2nd September:- Accompanied Mr. Hunter, Fields Superintendent
and Mr. Richards, Civil Engineer, to the APC camp at HOBORO Landing
per 'HUIVA' arriving 1800 hrs. Proceeded to IRI Police Camp. Camped.

Wednesday 3rd September:- Morning spent with Mr. Hunter marking out
boundaries of Native Land and going into the question of timber rights.
Afternoon spent at IRI in C.M.H.

Thursday 4th September:- Very Heavy rain in morning and departure
delayed till 1045 hrs. Proceeded down-stream by canoe to KOLIAHU.
Lunched and then continued to KIRRU. Camped. Held C.M.H.

Friday 5th September:- Departed 0515 hrs and arrived Kerema 0830 hrs.
Reported.

GENERAL REPORT.

DEPORTED FROM R.O.S. These were prosecuted for desertion and convicted. Contracts were extended to 7th July 1949. This now legalises any action regarding these labourers.

PROSECUTION OF A.P.C. FOR VIOLATION OF R.O.S. REGULATIONS:- Mr. H.M. Hoyle represented the Company and pleaded guilty. A minimal penalty was imposed.

THE POLICE CAMP:- Two buildings have been erected - one for O.I.S. and the other for Police and other natives. A small area of about $\frac{1}{2}$ acres has been cleared round the camp. To date the only garden started are small ones owned by the native personnel in the camp. A road has been built along to the A.P.C. HONORO Landing - a distance of about 300 yards.

NATIVE LABOUR MATTERS - KARIWAI:- No inspection was held, but a brief survey of conditions was made, and everything appeared to be in order. Labourers were allowed to see me when they wished, but none made a complaint.

NATIVE LABOUR MATTERS - UPELA:- A brief inspection was made, and one complaint was registered - that of insufficient food. That matter was gone into and it was found that the Company had been forced to reduce their ration issues to those laid down by the Ordinance, because of shortage of food. The whole thing was gone into and in no case was the issue below requirements of H.L.C. New Labour quarters are being built to house the increased number of labourers when Drilling commences at UPELA.

NATIVE LABOUR MATTERS - HONORO:- Only a small number are employed here but quarters are being built to accommodate about 600 labourers in due course. This camp will compare in size with the present camp at KMA - both in Europeans and Labourers.

VILLAGE VISITS:- Those seen were in good order.

VILLAGES:- A remarkable improvement was noticed in the villages visited.

R.O.S. RECRUITING:- Twenty five of the A.P.C. labourers wanted to become Police. All were told they would have to wait until they were paid off and could then apply to the Office of their District.

ANGEL SERVANTS - RECRUITING:- Thirteen natives were recruited for work in Port Moresby.

B.P.C.:- No. 533 Const. MAREE:- Was more lively on this Patrol ~~and~~ than at any other time I have had him.

No. 1747 Const. MEGOR:- First Patrol in this Division. Is inclined to be lazy.

No. 1856 Const. TAMPAL:- Now stationed at Kariava. The Native Labour Superintendent reported that this man is working well.

No. 2174 Const. ME'EMA:- Willing and reliable.

No. 2873 Const. MARIJA:- Stationed at Kariava. N.L. Superintendent reported that this man is working well at Kariava.

No. 3326 Const. TAMPAVA:- This Const. was left at Kariava. Is inclined to be lazy and has to be kept up to the mark.

No. 3603 Const. MAREE:- Was stationed at Kariava, and replaced on this Patrol. Kariava reported favourably on this man. Found him willing and energetic on return trip.

No. 5031 Const. AERI:- Was stationed at Kariava but relieved on this Patrol. Is lazy and appears sullen.

No. 5047 Const. AERA:- First Patrol in the G.D. Was left at Kariava to replace Const. MOKKI AERI. AERA is willing, and, even though he has one slightly withered leg, managed to keep up with the carriers while walking along the beach.

[Handwritten Signature]
a/APO KIRIMA

Gulf District

Kerema Subdistrict

P/R 4 of 1947/48

J.W.Kent

District Office,
KEREMA G.D.,

24 September 47

Ref.No. 1/PR 4/47.

D.D.S. & N.A.,
Port Moresby

PATROL REPORT No. 4.

Please find attached three copies of the
abovementioned patrol report.

Papuan Apinaipi Pat. Coy.

The assistance given Messrs Haynes and Knight
appears to have been satisfactory. There has not been any
correspondence between this party and Kerema office.

Mr.C.Champion, D.O., in his memo 6/8 of 5 Nov. 4
recommends that the sum of £40 be paid to natives for
maintenance work done by them, in the GIAPU area during
the War years and that £8. per quarter be paid from then
on. Would you please obtain Treasury authority for this
payment and advise.

APINAIFI village

The inhabitants of this village are MEKBO people
and the village comes within the scope of the ADO Kairuku

Native Projects

One of the main problems confronting the people
of the LESE district in any agricultural venture would be
shipping as this district is over 16 miles from the nearest
port, KUKIPI. Furthermore it is doubtful whether the country
would be suitable for the cultivation of Rubber and Coffee.
This matter will be investigated at a later date, meanwhile
natives will be encouraged to concentrate on Copra.

R.P.G. Recruits.

Those offering at MOVIAMI have not reported at
KEREMA. It is possible that they may walk overland and
present themselves at H.Q., R. C. for enlistment.

Complaints.

Ex Sgt. MEATA (P.I.B.) is to report to KEREMA
where his claim is to be investigated.

The IOKEA claim involves an amount of £66.0.0.
some of which was said to be lost in a card game at Port
Moresby. It is the subject of correspondence with D.O. M.
and is considerably involved.

Conclusion The patrol covered a large area of the District
and appears to have been carried out in a commendable manner

a/D.O. Kerema.

PAPUA REPORT

No. R.R. of 47/48

Report of a patrol made by N.S. sent to the EASTERN BOUNDARY of the GULF DIVISION for the purpose of contacting an advance party of the PAPUA - APINAKPI OIL COMPANY and for general inspection of the area.

Left station : 29th August 1947

Ret'd " : 13th September 1947

Average No. of carriers : 14

Number of Police : 3

Report forwarded to E.D.S.&N.A.

me
a/so

REPORT OF A PATROL TO THE EASTERN BOUNDARY BY JAMES W. KEENE P.O. FOR THE PURPOSE OF CONTACTING AN ADVANCE PARTY OF THE PAPUAN - APINAIPI OIL COMPANY AND FOR OTHER ROUTINE PURPOSES.

DIARY

Monday 25th August 1947:- Selected carriers from local villages. Departing from station at 1025 hrs. Crossed GUPOLA and arrived SILO rest house at 1420hrs. Inspected villages. Camped.

Tuesday 26th August 1947:- Departed SILO villages 0715hrs. Arrived LELEPIRU rest house 1245hrs inspecting enroute the villages of UAMAI, KAPARA, KOANU and LELEPIRU. Lunched. Departed 1400hrs arriving HAMURAMU villages 1445hrs. Inspected villages and departed for KUKUPI at 1510hrs. Extremely rough crossing PORT CHALMERS arriving at rest house 1745hrs. Camped.

Wednesday 27th August 1947:- Departed at 0700 hrs arriving at ULITAI villages 0900hrs. Inspected villages of ISAPARA and ULITAI enroute. Proceeded to EWALA village by way of LALAPIPI and MERIVASI. From EWALA took canoe to LESSE and then by canoe to MIRASAROI arriving there at 1700hrs. Pushed on to IOKEA arriving there at 1805 hrs.

Thursday 28th August 1947:- Inspected village. Investigation into complaints made by ex members of P.M.B. (see general remarks) Visited Mr and Mrs Brown at MURU L.M.S. No news of RAP advance party.

Friday 29th August 1947:- Further investigation into ex P.I.B. complaints. Several minor complaints settled before me. Inspected Native Trade Store and village areas. Minor repairs ordered to be done to Police Barracks.

Saturday 30th August 1947:- Departed 0800hrs. Arrived SAROTA village 1030 hrs. Inspected village and then proceeded to the villages of the SEROI and LOVE districts. Arrived at rest house at 1050 hrs. Inspected villages of DANILAVA and LAULAVA. Visited FATHER BLANC of the R.C. mission at LESSE who was in the area at the time.

Sunday 31st August 1947:- Number of minor cases settled before me. Discussion with V.C.s and Councillors. Inspected the villages of MORIO and LOVE also the PAPUAN - APINAIPI Oil Company buildings at LOVE.

Monday 1st September 1947:- Departed for IOKEA at 0700hrs. Arrived SAROTA village at 0830 hrs. Native Compensation paid. Minor cases settled in my presence. Lunched. Departed at 1145hrs. Arrived IOKEA rest house 1320hrs. Camped. Investigation of ex P.I.B. complaints completed for time being. Supervised completion of Police Barracks and new fence around village areas.

Tuesday 2nd September 1947:- Departed for APINAPI at 0830 hrs. Arrived there at 1205 hrs. Camped; no further news of R.A.P. party. Spent day in looking over village.

Wednesday 3rd September 1947:- Departed 0700 hrs down MIAHU River. At 1045 hrs meet Mr. Knife and Mr. Haynes proceeding up river by launch. Transferred gear and returned with party, to old camp site, this was found to be unsuitable and a new site was selected after a brief search.

Thursday 4th September 1947:- Arranged for labour to be obtained from the village of APINAPI to work for party on a casual basis. No easy job. Court interpreter needed from time to time by party. Rest of afternoon spent with party.

Friday 5th September 1947:- Departed 0700 hrs by R.A.P. launch. Arrived MIAHU villages at 0830 hrs. Village dance in process of finishing. P.E.D.P. paid out. Inspected village and held talks with V.C. and councillors.

Saturday 6th September 1947:- Departed 0730 hrs. Arrived at MEESE Villages at 0830 hrs. Inspected villages of AVIAPARA and MAREKEA. Paid out P.E.D.P. Inspected trade store at AVIAPARA village.

Sunday 7th September 1947:- Departed 0730 hrs. Crossed river and inspected village of KAVORA. Arrived ULITAI Village at 1030 hrs inspecting en route the villages of LALAPIPI and MEDIVABI. Paid out Native War Compensation also P.E.D.P. Minor case heard and settled in my presence.

Monday 8th September 1947:- Departed 0730 hrs. Arrived MOVIABI at 0900 hrs. Inspected villages. Paid out P.E.D.P. Minor disputes settled in my presence. Village dance started in afternoon.

Tuesday 9th September 1947:- War Compensation Claims heard. Numerous inquiries re enlistment for R.P.C. Dance still in progress. Visited R.C. Mission at TERAPO.

Wednesday 10th September 1947:- People of TAPANA Village at MOVIABI for dance and several minor disputes were settled in my presence. Inspected track between MOVIABI and TERAPO. Departed at 0915 hrs. Arrived SAVAVIVI Village at 1000 hrs. Inspected village and areas. Minor disputes settled before me. Departed and arrived at MAREKEA rest house at 1145hrs. Camped. Inspected villages of MAREKEA and KURUPI.

Thursday 11th September 1947:- Paid P.E.D.P. Minor disputes heard. Departed 0650 hrs. Arrived HANUHANU 1040 hrs. Inspected villages and area. Paid out P.E.D.P. Minor disputes heard. Departed 1215 hrs and arrived at ILELEPI rest house at 1240 hrs. Camped. Inspected village. Paid out P.E.D.P. Minor

-3-

disputes heard and settled in my presence.

Friday 12th September 1947:- Departed 0800 hrs and arrived at KWARU village at 0845 hrs. Inspected village. Minor disputes settled before me. Paid out P.S.D.P. Departed 1200 hrs and arrived at KANAM Villages at 1515 hrs inspecting all sub villages and main village. Camped. Paid out P.S.D.P. Minor disputes heard and settled in my presence.

Saturday 13th September 1947:- Departed 0645 hrs. Arrived UMMAI Villages at 0730 hrs inspecting all sub villages and main village. Paid P.S.D.P. Minor disputes heard. Departed 1000 hrs and arrived SIO Villages at 1040 hrs. Minor disputes heard and settled in my presence. Inspected villages. Departed 1400 hrs. Crossed GUPOLA and arrived at station at 1600 hrs. Reported to a/ DO.

End of Diary

GENERAL REMARKS

PAPUAN APINAIPI ADVANCE PARTY

As instructed I proceeded immediately to the IOKKA area to meet up with Mr. Knife and Mr. Haynes of the PAPUAN APINAIPI OIL Co. Upon my arrival at IOKKA I found there was no news of the party so sent instructions out to all V.Cs. to inform me immediately of the parties arrival.

After spending from the night of the 27th August till the 1st September in the IOKKA- IOVA area and receiving no word of the parties arrival I decided to march over land to APINAIPI Village from IOKKA on the 2nd September in the hope that the party may have reached APINAIPI by some other route. On arriving there I found no sign of the party nor had the natives heard any news of its presence. At that time, as APINAIPI was not in the IOKKA jurisdiction (see report on APINAIPI ↗), I proposed to depart immediately for MIARU village but was informed that all the male natives were in the bush hunting so had to postpone my departure till the next day.

The following morning I departed at 0700 hrs by canoe down the MIARU River. About three and a half hours down the river I met Mr. Knife and Haynes proceeding up river by launch. I transferred all my gear to the launch and proceeded back to APINAIPI to render, as instructed, all possible assistance to the party. On the arrival of the party at APINAIPI it immediately set out to find the old base camp site. The original site was found to be unsuitable as it was considered to be too far from the only source of drinking water the river, and after a brief search a new site was selected and a make shift camp was made for the night. I proceeded down river to the rest house at APINAIPI.

'To cut grass around (OLAPU) PAP buildings.'

The following morning I recruited labour on a casual basis from the village. This proved to be no easy job, in fact a rather difficult one as the natives (BEKRO) were extremely loath to work. However after some considerable time I finally managed to induce fourteen of them to proceed back to the camp with me for work. They were immediately set to, to clean the track from the river to the camp site and to erect three houses which were to house the party. The rest of the afternoon was spent in the company of the two Europeans who desired, from time to time, the services of the Government Interpreter, Mr. Knife, who on the following morning was proceeding down stream to MIARU village then onto Port Moresby via KAINUKU, suggested that, as I was leaving, having done all I was able to, also for MIARU the patrol accompany him on the launch to MIARU. This I readily accepted as it would save a rather tedious canoe journey of some four hours.

Mr. Knife informed me that he was going to PORT MORESBY to bring back another party which would include the Chief Commonwealth Government Geologist Dr. Fisher.

As the following deals with PAP I have included it in this heading.

Extract from the book of the Village Policeman at IOVA.

'To cut grass around (OLAPU) PAP buildings.'

signed. A. S. Robson, Lt. PO. 12/4/45.

' Re. maintenance of PAP buildings at IOVA: Have not been cleared for a long time. Commonwealth will pay natives for maintenance of area during war years. I will recommend \$10 pa. up to Dec. 1945. Commonwealth have suggested \$30-40 per annum if area maintained. Next patrol will finalize matter.

signed. G. Champion 2/10 21/10/46.

on both my visits to the area it has always been cleared and a new bridge which I ordered on my first visit/ completed. All machinery and equipment has been housed in the workshop.

In all probability you have no knowledge of the above extracts and as PAP personnel are now in the area I am submitting this for your information.

The V.C. was making inquiries whether the people were to be paid

or not.

APINAIPA VILLAGE: INFORMATION ON

IN REGARDS to your instructions for information on APINAIPA Village I am submitting the following.

Geographically the village of APIHAIFI is situated just east of the GULF / CENTRAL Divisional Boundary. The inhabitants are Mekeo and as the Central Division includes the country inhabited by the Mekeo there had, apparently, been some arrangement with KAIRUKU where as the Central Division would take over control of the village.

Extracts from V.Cs book show

Name of Village: APIHAIFI

District : MIARU

Division : GULF

and then ' Transferred to KAIRUKU'

signed . Mr. Thompson a/DO KAIRUKU.

From a talk with PAP personnel KAIRUKU was not certain as to whether it was in the CENTRAL or GULF Divisions. Mr. Thompson was, I believe, away on patrol at the time.

As I was on the river three and a half hours, aided by a strong current and still had not reached the villages of MIARU before I meet the PAP launch I should estimate that it would take about eight or nine hours to travel up stream from MIARU to APIHAIFI by canoe. A far easier and a less tedious way is to walk to IOKEA, as in my case, and then cross overland to APIHAIFI as IOKEA is about three hours walking from APIHAIFI. The village swarms with mosquitoes there being no rest from them day or night. Their incessant buzzing at night causes sleepless nights.

The country in from IOKEA is, judging from the state of the numerous gardens, of very rich soil. Bananas, sweet potatoes etc. growing abundantly while wallaby abound and there are thousands of wild duck in the numerous back water lagoons of the MIARU River.

VILLAGE DANCES

At several villages dances were either being held or preparations were being made to hold them.

I arrived at MIARU to find that a dance which the Village Policeman was giving for the completion of some new houses, was in the process of finishing (it lasted some three hours after I arrived at village)

KAVIRA Village in the LENE sub district was scheduled to start dancing the day after I visited the village. The same reason being given as that of MIARU, the completion of new houses. I inspected these houses and found them to be excellent structures and of a design I had not seen along

By far the biggest dance was held at HAWALA Village at MOVLAVI by the old and new generation of men. Preparations had been going on for about a year for this occasion and there were huge quantities of Sago, yams, taro etc piled up all over the village. The villages of KIBERI, IAPARA, TAPALA, SAVAIVINI and HEMAMORE of MOVLAVI also participated there being some fifteen hundred natives all told taking part in the dance.

The dance took the best part of two days and one night to finish.

TRADE STORES I inspected all native owned trade stores in the following villages, KIBERI, LESE and MOVLAVI, also did a quick check on the accounts.

These trade stores appear to be well run, cost of each article brought being entered in a book together with the name of who brought the article and the name of the article itself.

NATIVE PROJECTS: AVINARA VILLAGE (LESE SUB-DISTRICT)

The following clans, MALARIPI, KAIRA, SAVUPIPI, LAVAPI and SAVAPIPI of AVINARA Village in the LESE sub-district are desirous of starting a new coconut plantation for the making of copra, and a rubber and coffee plantation.

There are all told about sixty odd men interested in the projects. Each clan having elected a boss boy to be in charge of its particular working party.

FI/ SEVASE of the MALARIPI clan and ABINAM / TURIA of the KAIRA clan were the spokesmen. Both of the men appear to be quite intelligent and and have a trade store together in the village which is well run. They said that they have seventy pounds credit from the trade store and that all the men interested are prepared to advance money to finance the projects.

Upon inquiries as to wherthey proposed to plant the coffee and rubber they informed me that the areas were some five miles up the KAIRA River in hill country. I doubt if these hills are of sufficient altitude to under take coffee growing, the correct altitude being, I believe around the three thousand mark and to my knowledge there are no hills of that altitude in that locality. This I pointed out to them also their lack of finance and advised that they concentrate on Copra till they had sufficient finance.

None of the men interested have had any previous knowledge in coffee growing but most have had experience in rubber tapping which I doubt would be of much use to them in the early stages of rubber planting.

COMPLAINT BY NATIVES

1. HEVAVA VILLAGE

MEETA / NAROU (ex P.I.B. SERGEANT) has made a complaint to me that NAPE / EKA owes him an amount of money totalling \$73.

When MEETA was at BICWABU he gave the above amount of money to NAPE. MEETA was waiting movement to BOUGANVILLE and he told NAPE that when he (NAPE) returned to the village he was to give the money to MEETA's older brother ERAKOVA / NAROU.

While at BOUGANVILLE MEETA wrote to ERAKOVA asking ^{he} if he had received the money and in a reply ERAKOVA said no.

Shortly after MEETA returned to the village Mr. Champion visited HEVAVA on patrol and during his stay MEETA made court ~~case~~ against NAPE. Meta said that Mr. Champion asked him if he wanted Nape put in jail. Meta replied no that he only wanted his money back. Nape has given no money to Meta on any occasion and Meta now wishes to make court against Nape for the return of his money.

NAPE / EKA said that Meta gave him the \$73 to give to ERAKOVA upon his return to the village. While waiting for a vessel to bring Nape to KEREMA he stopped at KITA NATIVE CAMP. He had the money in a suitcase. When he returned to the village he opened the case and found the money was gone. He did not report the loss to village policeman or come to KEREMA to tell the District Officer.

2. IOKA VILLAGE

While at IOKA further investigation was carried out in the complaint made by certain ex members of the P.I.B. against SEPOE / HING over a sum of money SEPOE is alleged to have lost while playing cards (see past memorandums and information which is attached).

Of the original natives who first laid the complaint the following men were the only ones in the village when I visited the village this time.

- EROTI / KORNHARI
- SEE ITO / TORE
- TOIVITA / HEMAFU
- WIRA / RABEPA
- SUSIVE / RABEPA
- WIVA / RABEPA

When SEPOE returned to the village he did not tell any of the natives that he had lost any or all of the money. This they read in a letter

which one of the village natives had received. Shortly after the letter had arrived in the village SEPOI returned to Port Moresby without mentioning the loss. Latter KOROPI / KOR HANI went to Port Moresby and told SEPOI that he would have to pay the money back. The men questioned said that they had heard that SEPOI was going to pay the money back but have not heard if any of the money has been returned.

They did not know that SEPOI had given some of the money to HAPIA / KOROPI and that it had been lost when a canoe had capsized. SEPOI had been instructed that on his arrival in Port Moresby he was to hand over all the money to HAPIA so that SEPOI could buy the goods but they were unaware that any of the money had changed hands, believing that SEPOI had lost all of it in a card game.

I was unable to find the note book which SEPOI told Mr. Timperley in Moresby was in the village.

The forementioned natives wish to make court against SEPOI in order to regain their money. There is little doubt that the remainder are not of the same mind.

VILLAGES AND TRACKS.

All tracks are being regularly cleared and maintained. The majority of the villages are in either good or fair condition, the notable exception again being SLD No. 1.

R.P.C. RECRUIT

There were many inquiries regarding enlistment in the R.P.C. especially in the village of HAWAIA in the MOWLAHI district. The majority of the inquiries were made by ex P.I.B. personnel who apparently are getting bored with village life.

LAKEMASU RIVER

The LAKEMASU River is now flowing to the sea through its original mouth between the villages of HATEAI and ISAPAPE. After the break through to the sea between the villages of MERYASI and LAMAPI the old mouth gradually became silted up. Now the reverse has happened. With the recent heavy south-easters blowing ~~it~~ ^{there} has been some considerable changes in the beaches and the sand has banked up forming a wide sand spit extending right across the mouth. Heavy rains in the mountains made no effect on the bar and as a result the water river flooded across its old mouth to the sea.

There is a channel some ninety feet wide and as this will

make it necessary to station a ferryman either from ULITAI or ISAPEAPE there.

In all probability the mouth between the village of MIRIVASI and LALAPIPI will close up all together.

VILLAGE POLICEMEN AND COUNCILLORS

In all villages discussions were held with V.Cs and councillors. There were no complains from them.

Councillor MARASI / RARIPO of LAL LAVA Village in the SEPPI sub-district, is not in my opinion a suitable type for a councillor. He is rather a trouble maker. ^{and} owing pigs/when ordered to pay them not carrying out the instructions. He has outstanding sago debts since the middle of last year and has made no attempt to repay them. When one of the men to whom he owed sago to made court for payment, he, in turn made court over a pig and upon investigation he no grounds for complaint. I recommend that a more suitable type be elected in his place.

On the receipt of a letter from the District Officer I dealt only with what I considered to be urgent matters from the village of LALEPIRU west to the station.

J. H. ...
PO