

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES
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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: MILNE BAY

STATION: LOSUIA

VOLUME No: 2

ACCESSION No: 496.

1953 - 1955

ISBN: 9980 - 910 - 23 - 2

Filmed by/for the National Archives of Papua New Guinea,
PORT MORESBY - 1991

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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MILNE BAY DISTRICT PATROL REPORTS

1952/54 and 1954/55

LOSUIA

<u>Report No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
1 - 53/54	J.D.Fitzer	VAKUTA ISLAND
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1 - 54/55	J.D.Fitzer	KAILEUNA & SURROUNDING ISLANDS
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MILNE BAY DISTRICT

LOSUIA

P/R 1 OF 53/54

S.D. FITZER

TERRITORY of PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

File 30/ I
Sub. District Office,
LOSUIA.

A.D.O.²
LOSUIA.

Report of a patrol to
VACUTA IIs.
by J.D.FITZER. C.P.O.

Personel accompanying: 1 L/Cpl of R.P.C.
1 Cons. of R.P.C.

Date Departure: 2/4/54.

Date Return: 8/4/54.

Last Patrol to Area:

D.D.S. & N.A. Numerous one-day visits but no known resident Patrol known previous to this Patrol.

Medical: N.M.O. LABAN on Vacuta for two weeks in January of this year.

Friday 2/4/54.

0925: Depart Losuia per M.V. Kingfisher for Vakuta.
1315: Sighted Hekaha.
1340: Alongside Hekaha.
1350: Hekaha to Losuia, Kingfisher to Vakuta.
1430: Dropped anchor off Okinai Village.
1530: Depart Okinai for Vakuta; carriers from Kolaka & Vakuta.
1600: Arrive Vakuta and commence inspection of village.
1655: Inspection completed.
1800: Retreat and end of day.

Saturday 3/4/54.

0600: Day begins; village inspection.
0700: Depart, with L/Cpl. Magaidim for Gilibwa Village.
0725: Arrive at Okinai & board Kingfisher.
0800: Arrive at Gilibwa Village.
0810: Complete inspection & accompany Village Councillor to inspect gardens.
1000: Garden inspection finished and returning to Gilibwa.
1035: A At Gilibwa.
1120: Discussions and questions with & to councillor and people of Gilibwa over and return to Vakuta.
1145: Arrive at Okinai; Kingfisher sent back to Losuia.
1220: At Vakuta.
1230: Police stood down for the weekend. Heavy & continuous rain falling since 0915 this morning.

Sunday 4/4/54.

Monday 5/4/54.

0600: Day begins, tour of inspection.
0700: Depart Vakuta for Kolaka Village.
0720: Arrive at Kolaka.
0725: Inspection of gardens.
0830: Complete inspection & return to village.
0900: Complete village inspection and leave to inspect village water supply.
0915: At source of water supply; an underground cavern of excellent drinking water. Continue on to inspect second water hole.
0925: Second cavern similar to the first.
0945: At Kolaka.
1130: Return to Vakuta.
1200: A At Vakuta; commence repairs to rest house & erection of new barracks for police.
1730: Workers stood down for the day.
1800: Retreat and end of day.

Tuesday 6/4/54.

0600: Day begins, tour of inspection.
0630: Arrival of Com. Sinama and 2 prisoners

0720: Work recommenced on rest house & police barracks.
 0930: Leave by canoe to inspect gardens.
 1015: At gardens & start inspection.
 1135: Completed & return to Vakuta.
 1730: Workers stood down, new barracks finished and all repairs to Rest house effected.
 1800: Retreat & end of day.
 Wednesday 7/4/54.
 Day begins fine.
 0600: Start of day, tour of inspection.
 0630: Prisoners under Cons. Sinama commence loading canoes for departure to Muwo & Losuia.
 0745: Sinama & prisoners finish loading: Sinama & two prisoners depart for Losuia.
 0800: Commence checking Vakuta Census Book.
 1030: Check completed and leave, per Kula Waga for Muwo.
 1600: Arrive at Muwo Plantation & accept invitation for self and Patrol to stay the night.
 1800: Retreat & end of day. Rain has now ceased.
 Thursday 8/4/54.
 0600: Day begins; flat calm with no wind.
 0800: Canoe sighted coming from Gilibwa, Course altered to meet same.
 0845: Canoe alongside: a M/n with a badly shark-mauled hand on board.
 1030: Cleared tip of Muwo heading direct for Losuia; visit to Cinnaketa & neighbouring villages abandoned.
 1147: Sighted ship moored at Cinnaketa: Signalled with mirrors and calicos but no answer.
 1230: Ship now coming up fast & identified as the La-Belle.
 1310: La-Belle passed and now almost in Losuia; still paddling.
 1514: Reach sand bar off Losuia hospital.
 1604: Patient handed over to Dr. Gyori for treatment.
 1610: Reported to A.D.O. Losuia; end of Patrol/.

SUMMARY.

Native Situation:

The people as a whole seemed quite contented and happy while there was an almost complete lack of friction of any kind between villages, people coming and going frequently to visit friends and relatives.

Within the villages themselves the same state of affairs exists even though a large proportion of the M/Ns. are absent at Dobu on the Kula trade. At present there are some thirty men in the two villages of Vakuta & Gilibwa; whilst none of the men from Gilibwa went on Kula some of them are at Kolaka helping with the gardens there. Kolaka itself has only 10 men at the moment as their men are out fishing but should be returning early this week; upon their return there will be some 45 men in the three villages.

Gardens.

The gardens are uniformly good with the Vakuta garden being the largest, then Kolaka and Gilibwa. There exists a large range of crops chief among which are Yam and Taro with plentiful crops of sweet potatoe, tapioca, Veeya, Biseya, Guyasu, Kaiswena, bananas, pineapple, some sugar cane, tomatoes & very poor quality corn. Seed has been requested from Agriculture to replace the local type and Pumpkin, bear and watermelon seeds should also be arriving from this ~~Department~~ ~~at an early date.~~ ~~Ample labour exists to maintain all gardens while there is sufficient food in the small gardens and those of last year to provide for the people until the harvest next June or July.~~ Department at an early date. Ample labour exists to maintain all gardens while there is sufficient food in the small gardens and those of last year to provide for the people until the harvest next June or July.

Roads.

All villages are connected by tracks which are in good order and are quite adequate to service the transport and communication needs of the area.

Housing.

The houses are servicable and weather-proof and, though in many cases fairly old are nowhere near in need of replacement. There are no old deserted houses nor where any seen that warranted any action on the part of the Patrol Officer.

Health.

The general health of the people appears to be excellent; numerous elderly natives in good health were to be seen in all villages visited.

The children were most numerous and seemed happy, well fed and healthy.

Village Officials.

The majority of these people were absent at Dobu but those met seemed capable and were most helpful and co-operative. The general state of their villages is a recommendation in itself.

Trade and Commerce.

There are two traders on this island; Bonnel & Riley who are partners and run a store at Okinai. They have had some trouble with a certain group of the local people and reports of exploitation and exorbitant prices were spread on Kiriwina. At no stage or in no manner was I able to substantiate the least part of either of these rumours.

The native is not overly interested in trade and makes a little copra or sells food to the traders when the mood takes him.

It is understood that Messrs. Riley & Bonnel intend transferring their store to Kwemtula on Kiriwina.

General.

There exist at Vakuta 3 (three) closed concrete water tanks with an estimated capacity of 60,000 gallons supplied from the roof of the old Mission Church.

At present only one is supplying as the guttering has been lost from one side of the Church and the central tank (an overflow from the two outside tanks) has lost the connecting pipes. These tanks may easily be made servivable with very little effort and would supply the needs not only of Vakuta but would give the traders on the island a source of supply during the dry season. The Census book is in a very poor condition and a new Census would be the best and most effective method of bringing it up to date: at present there is one book for all three villages, as we have a supply of books on hand I should like to suggest that, should a new census take place then each village might be given a separate book.

With regard to the matter of the Kula trade with Dobu I should like to point out that these people long ago geared their whole life and economy to the Kula and that it has been going on for many years without any undue hardship to the people concerned. That a food shortage occurred last year may be traced to a set of circumstances over which no one could have any control. If it is thought that it is necessary that the gardens come first then the number of people who go each year may easily be controlled to ensure a labour force for the gardens; in this manner it may be ensured that the people have food and that what to them is an important part of their every day life is not

arbitrarily forbidden them.

This year five canoes went to Dobu; this could be taken as a fair limiting number for the next year and even seven canoes would still leave sufficient food-growers to make certain of the years harvest. Steps should be taken I feel to make sure that no repetition of last years shortage occurs again but in order to acheive this I do not think that it is in any way essential that the Kula be forcibly stopped.

.....*Alber*.....

J.D. FITZER; C.P.O.,
LOSUIA.

9/4.54.

Report on the conduct, bearing and discipline of L/Cpl. Magaidimu and Cons. Guma Aewa during the period 2/4/54 to 8/4/54; said R.P.C. & N.G. personnel being members of a Patrol to Vakuta and neighbouring Islands during that period.

In both cases, exemplary with special mention of the L/Cpls. work as interpreter and his initiative in the matter of the construction of the new Police Rest barracks at Vakuta.

9/4/1954.

J.D. Fitzer
J.D. FITZER,
C.P.O. LOSUIA.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File: 30/-/.

Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D.

2nd April 1954.

Mr. CPO J.D. Fitzer,
LOSUIA.

PATROL - VAKUTA ISLAND.

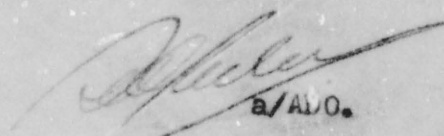
As verbally arranged, you will please be prepared to leave by ML "Kingfisher" this morning as soon as the tide permits. L/Cpl. MAGAIDIMU and Const. GUMA are standing by.

I would like the launch returned to LOSUIA by tomorrow afternoon (weather conditions etc. permitting.)

I understand that most of the VAKUTA people are away in the D'Entrecasteaux Group at present. However, I should like you to make as detailed an inspection of their gardens as possible; I want an estimate of the number of able-bodied men left on the island at present, whether their work in the gardens is supporting the growth of crops and to what extent, if at all, you consider the absence of the KULA traders an embarrassment to the villages' food supply.

Make brief notes of anything you do or see, in the Village Constables' Registers, always being careful to sign and date your ~~entries~~ entries. Take a copy of "Native Regulations Ordinance" with you and try and embody its principles in any advice and suggestions you may make to the people. Bear in mind at all times that as yet you have no powers under the NRO., and that you will need to exercise discretion in order to avoid doing anything in that direction which might embarrass this Office or the Administration generally.

There are two traders, Riley and Bonell, on VAKUTA. I know little of them except that they are not considered very good types. I should like your report on their activities upon your return.


a/A.O.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File: 30/2-36/54.

Sub-District Office;
LOSUIA M.B.D.

9th April 1954.

~~The District Commissioner,~~
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.


PATROL REPORT NO.1-53/54.

The above-mentioned report is forwarded for your information please.

For a first effort it shows promise, I think - the matter of double-spacing is my fault as I omitted to tell Mr. Fitzer that such was the custom.

It is interesting to note that apparently the VAKUTA gardens are not as neglected as some people have made out. I personally cannot agree that it is a good thing for so many able-bodied males to be absent for such a long period, and the District Commissioner's views on the matter will be appreciated.

It is intended that Mr. Fitzer will accompany the writer on at least one patrol in future. At this time a personal assessment of this Officer's real capabilities may be better made.


a/ADO.

MILNE BAY DISTRICT

LOSUIA

P/R 2 OF 53/54

R.M. GEELAN

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File: 30/- /-.

Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D.

28th April 1954.

The District Commissioner.
Milne Bay District
SAMARAI.

REPORT OF A PATROL BY R.M. GEELAN A/ADO
TO SIMSIM (LUSANCAI GP) AND KITAVA.

Patrol accompanied by: One Interpreter and one personal servt.
Duration of Patrol: Friday 16th April to Tuesday 20th April;
Thursday 22nd April to Saturday 24th April.
(7 days inclusive).
Purposes of Patrol: To familiarise myself with the area;
To inspect briefly all villages and gardens;
To hear any Court cases brought forward.
Last patrol to area: SIMSIM: Mr. M. Pember, believed to have visited
area about June 1953.
KITAVA: Mr. D.P. O'Sullivan - December 1953.
No patrol reports compiled in either case.
Medical patrol: Believed to have been about
November 1953.
Map reference: LOSUIA Sub-District Census Sub-divisions "A"
and "B".

D I A R Y .

Friday 16th April: Left Losuia per "Labelle". Travelled to
TUMA Island, where five people came aboard:
they work on MITAKATA's betel nut plantation. Their small settlement was
in order. Anchored at TUMA for the night.
Saturday 17th April: Left TUMA at daylight and sailed West to SILI-
PWAKA Island. Anchored about 3.30 p.m. and
remained here the night.
Sunday 18th April: Left SILIPWAKA at 4 a.m. and arrived KAWA vil-
lage on KAWA Island at approx. 7.30 a.m. In-
spected village which has about 16 houses, all in reasonable condition.
Left KAWA about 2.30 p.m. and sailed for SIMSIM Island to the north.
Arrived SIMSIM about 4.30 p.m. Went ashore to visit garden-village on
the eastern island, and inspected gardens until driven back aboard by
mosquitoes.
Monday 19th April: Visited KONIA Village on main island of SIMSIM.

Sunday 19th April (Continued): KONIA contains 13 houses. Cleanest village seen so far in this sub-district.

Spoke with Councillors and people and returned aboard "Labelle" about 10 a.m. Left SIMSIM about 11 a.m. and called at SILIPWAKA Is. to allow a SIMSIM man to disembark; then continued to NUBIAM Island. Anchored for the night.

Tuesday 20th April: Left NUBIAM about 10 a.m. and caught the high tide into the LOSUIA passage. Reached the Station at about 3 p.m. Mr. CPO Fitzer reported all well.

Wednesday 21st April was spent at LOSUIA.

Thursday 22nd April: Left LOSUIA wharf at about 7 a.m. per "Labelle". Arrived at Kitava about 12.00 noon. Ashore, met Mr. Cameron. Discussed village matters and mail deliveries with Mr. Cameron this afternoon.

Friday 23rd April: Visited the villages of the OKABULULU group, and those of the LALELA group this day. All villages spotless. Roads quite good.

Saturday 24th April: Left KITAVA at 8.00 a.m. by Labelle and went to MUIAO Bay ("East Shore"). Returned by road to LOSUIA.

.....
General Comments: People of the villages which this patrol visited seem all to be contented and in the main healthy. They are semi-sophisticated and seem quite content to be visited on an average about once every six months. It appears to be another example of the small group thrown on their own political and legal resources who manage their own affairs quite well.

Native Situation: Seems to be static with nothing of note to report. No disputes were brought to my notice in the SIMSIM area and only one case of adultery was reported to me at KITAVA.

Villages, Housing and Cleanliness: The village on KAWA Is. and was in fair order only. It was still considerably cleaner than some of the KIRIWINA Villages I have seen. KONIA village was quite clean - living on a sand-spit as these people do, there is little excuse for rubbish to accumulate. Housing here was quite good, considering the trouble this community has to get building materials. They are compelled to go to Goodenough Island for timber and thatching - about 80 miles at least.

Villages Housing and Cleanliness (continued): The KITAVA villages were without exception very well prepared for the visit. Housing here seems to be much better than on KIRIWINA - as yet I am unable to suggest a reason for this. There is precious little building material on KITAVA either - they have to go to KIRIWINA to obtain it.

Roads: KITAVA roads without exception are quite good. they are well-surfaced and are covered with a very short lawn-like grass growth; and apparently due to the porosity of the soil, with its base of coral, drainage is no problem. Mr. Cameron's "Land-Rover" is quite at home anywhere on the island. Bridges do not exist.

There are no roads on the SIMSIM Group.

Health: SIMSIM natives are the healthiest people I have seen for a long time. Although SIMSIM Is. itself is extremely badly infested with mosquitoes, there seems to be no malaria - or very little of it. I have suggested to PHD Losuia that perhaps some of Dr. Black's 2% "Malariol" could be made available to these natives: a bottle with a perforated cork makes quite an effective means for dribbling the oil on to ponds of water, and my own observations of its use around Losuia have shown me how effective it is. It is hoped that something along these lines may be done on the next patrol to SIMSIM.

KITAVA people reported two cases of suspected dysentery to Mr. Cameron before my arrival. One of these died the night before I arrived and the other - a small girl - was treated with sulfaguanadine, acting upon radio instructions from Medoff Losuia. Otherwise the KITAVA people seem just as healthy as the SIMSIMs.

Village Officials: SIMSIM:- There is a Councillor at both KAWA and KONI but the Village Constable died a few months ago. I do not know the people sufficiently well yet to be able to appoint a successor. Both Councillors appear to be sensible types.

KITAVA:- Four village constables and nine councillors look after the villages of the OKABULULU and LALELA districts. All seem reasonably keen and intelligent.

Law and Order: As mentioned under "Native Situation", everything is apparently quiet. One case of adultery was heard while the patrol was on KITAVA, but no other complaints were brought forward.

Gardens: Those gardens seen looked to be in good order. Yams are to be harvested in July, I am told.

Native Economy, Developments, etc.: In common with the rest of the KIRIWINA natives, the people of SIMSIM and KITAVA seem contented with their present status. There seems little or no drive, compelling them to increase their material possessions (except by way of purely native wealth); they are content to make sufficient copra to purchase e.g., a knife, or a calico, or whatever it is that they happen to need at the moment. KITAVA in fact makes very little copra indeed - Mr. Cameron apparently does not buy native copra. As with the KIRIWINA people, I asked the SIMSIM natives why they did not try to build a communal smokehouse instead of using the inferior method of smoke curing over open fires in front of the houses. They agreed that an effective smokehouse could be made out of plaited coconut fronds, but gave me to understand that they simply could not see any advantage in it. All this serves only to emphasise to me the fact that although Europeans regard hard work and industriousness as a virtue, that is not to say that other people also regard them as such. It is very hard to say whether there is any way of stimulating the people of these small islands to the point where they will use fully their assets in the way of copra or shell of fish. At present I can think of no stimulus that would work.

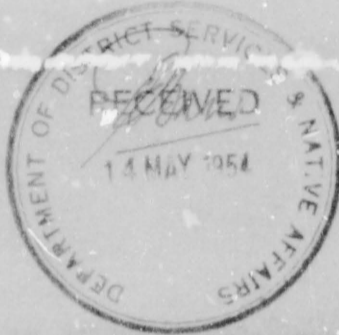
Summary: The people of SIMSIM - only about 100 all told - are a small community who seem to be handling their own local affairs quite happily, and who do not appear to merit much specialized attention - mainly on account of their comparative numerical and geographical insignificance.

KITAVA natives, numbering about 950, are a different group again - their long association with Mr. Cameron and their isolation from other groups has all tended to slow down their social and economic development. KITAVA does merit an amount of attention because of the population involved; I do not yet know what is needed to wake them up.

[Signature]
a/ADC.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

36/6/210'



In Reply
Please Quote

D. S. 30/1/6-13340

HEADQUARTERS,
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,
SAMARAI.

MEMORANDUM -

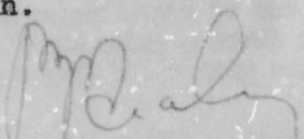
6th May, 1954.

The Director,
Department of District Services and
Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Patrol Report -
Losuia No. 2 of 53/54.

Please find attached Mr. Geelan's first report since his posting to Losuia. It could be considered one of orientation only as Mr. Geelan is a stranger to this area.

In summarising under Native Economy, I would suggest there is one solution, and that is a Village Cooperative Movement. I really feel this would stimulate the Trobriand natives, but doubt if the time is yet ripe for introduction.


M. J. Healy,
District Commissioner.

c.c. A.D.O. Losuia.

Healy
24/8/54

17th May, 1954

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District
SAVANAI

Patrol Report LOSUIA No. 2/53-54.

The Report of Mr. R.M. Geolan, Acting Assistant District Officer, of his Patrol to the SINSIM group and KITAVA Islands, is acknowledged with thanks.

This preliminary survey should help Mr. Geolan to familiarize himself with the problems and way of life of the people inhabiting this area.

It would unfortunately appear that at present owing to the lack of sufficient Co-operative Officers in your District to undertake all the work desirable in regard to training the people and commencing co-operative societies on a sound basis, it would not be possible just now to commence such activities in the LOSUIA sub-District.

I agree with your remarks on Native Economy that co-operative enterprise on a sound basis is the solution and is one avenue whereby native peoples possessing natural resources have a real chance to make real progress along their long road toward self-determination.

Mr. Geolan has a considerable task ahead of him in this sub-District, which for many months, due to staff shortage, was staffed solely, as far as our Department was concerned, by a Cadet Patrol Officer who had little training and experience, to lift its administration back to the standard required.

This not only will entail seeing that the sub-District receives adequate patrolling but also that more mundane but nevertheless important matters such as keeping the stock cards in the Government Store up to date, are carried out.

A.A. Roberts
(A.A. Roberts),
Director, DISEM.

W. J. Moore
24/5/54

MILNE BAY DISTRICT

LOSUIA

P/R 3 OF 53/54

S.D. FITZER

TERRITORY of PAFUA AND NEW GUINEA:

File: 30/1.
Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D.
17/6/54.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.

REPORT OF PATROL BY J.D.FITZGER C.P.O.
ON KIRIWINA ISLAND.

PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY: One Interpreter, 3 R.P. & N.G.C., 1 personal servant.

DURATION OF PATROL : Thursday 6th. May to Wednesday 16th. June 1954.

PURPOSE OF PATROL : General Administration and Census.

LAST PATROL TO AREA : Patrols of short duration conducted by Mr. Kent Mr. MacSkimming, Mr. Stuntz, and Mr. Smith. The last Medical Patrol would appear to be that of Mr. Jeffkin on the 18th of November 1953.

MAP REFERENCE : Losuia Sub-District Census Sub-Divisions "D" 15I-0 to 15I-10 Longitude; 8-25 to 8-33 Lat.

DAIRY.

MAY.

Thurs. 6th.	1300	Depart Losuia Station per M.O.M. truck for Gbwelia Village. Arrive at 1500.
Fri. 7th.	0600	Reveille and tour of inspection.
	1800	C.S.B. business, visit Okaikoda, Obawada, Kau lagu, work on roads. Retreat & end of day.
Sat. 8th.	0600	Reveille & Inspection.
		Burial of Village M/N, commence work on new well at Okaikoda.
	1200	Patrol stood down for weekend.
	1800	Retreat & end of day.
Sun. 9th.	0600	Reveille.
	0700	Church Parade.
	1800	Retreat & end of day.
Mon. 10th.	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection.
		Commence Census.
	1800	Retreat & end of day.

Tues. 11th.	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection. Continue Census	
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Wed. 12th.	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection.	d.
	1705	Complete Census	
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Thurs. 13th.	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection. Complete well, Compilation of new Village Book.	11
Fri. 14th.	0600	Reveille & inspection.	
	0815	Patrol & carriers to Omerakana	
	1800	Retreat- at Omerakana.	
Sat. 15th.	0600	Reveille. Work on Rest House, grounds, Barracks, fencing of Rest House grounds.	rea
	1200	Patrol stood down for the week-end	ada
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Sun. 16th.	0600	Reveille.	
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Mon. 17th.	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection. Commence Census	
	1800	Retreat and end of day.	re.
Tues. 18th.	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection. Continue Census, A.D.O. on visit.	t
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Wed. 19th.	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection. Continue Census	
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Thurs. 20th.	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection. Continue Census	
	0930	Complete Omerakana & Commence Kabwaku group	o
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Fri. 21th.	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection. Work on Main Road by all Villages living	y"

along same, complete Census of Kabwaku Group, A.D.O. on visit, clearing of M/R completed.
 Retreat & end of day.

1800
 Sat. 22nd 0600 Reveille.
 Depart with carriers for Mutawa

1800
 Sun. 23rd 0600 Reveille.
 Patrol stood down for the week-end
 Retreat & end of day.

1800
 Mon. 24th 0600 Reveille & tour of inspection.
 Commence Census of Group A.D.O. on visit

1800
 Tues. 25th 0600 Reveille & tour of inspection.
 1200 Heavy rain halts census.
 1800 Rain still falling.

0600
 Wed. 27th 0600 Reveille- still raining.
 1800 Retreat- rain easing off.

0600
 Thurs. 28th 0600 Reveille & tour of inspection; rain ceased.
 Recommence Census, A.D.O. on visit.

0600
 Fri. 29th 0600 Reveille & tour of inspection.
 Work on M/R, complete Census and depart for Kaibola per Truck.
 1800 Retreat- at Kaibola.

0600
 Sat. 30th 0600 Reveille and tour of inspection.
 1200 Patrol stood down for the week-end
 1800 Retreat & end of day.

0600
 Sun. 31st 0600 Reveille.
 1800 Retreat & end of day.

JUNE.

0600
 1st 0600 Reveille, inspection of Kaibola.
 Commence Census of group.
 1800 Retreat & end of day.

Wed 2nd	0600	Reveille & inspection of Labai	
		Heavy rain falling, day spent on Statistics.	
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Thurs. 3rd	0600	Reveille & inspection of Kapwani & Idaleka	
		Continue Census, work on road to Barmatu Point.	ed.
	1800	Retreat & end of day: Both Census & Road completed.	
Fri. 4th	0600	Reveille.	
		Work on plantation, Rest House area, roads, new land clearing for plantations.	ill
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Sat. 5th.	0600	Reveille.	
		Work on Kaibola plantation.	
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	rea
Sun. 6th	0600	Reveille.	
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Mon 7th	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection.	ads
		Depart with carriers for Tubowada.	
		Work on R/H & Barracks area.	
	1800	Retreat - at Tubowada.	-
Tues. 8th	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection.	d
		Commence Census and Opening of V.Cs. Training Cadre.	ra.
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Wed. 9th	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection.	rt
		Complete Census. V.Cs.T.C.	
	1800	1800 Retreat & end of day.	
Thurs. 10th	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection.	
		V.Cs.T.C.	
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	
Fri. 11th	0600	Reveille & tour of inspection.	
		V.Cs.T.C.	
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	o
Sat. 12th	0600	Reveille.	
		V.Cs.T.C.	y"
	1800	Retreat & end of day.	

Sun. 13th

0600

Reveille.

Word of impending recall to Losuia having been received departed with V.C. Kovayu of Kurivitu, Galulula of Yalaka, & Simea of Gumilibaba on Inspection of remaining Villages on Patrol Itinerary.

Mon. 14th

ABSENT ON INSPECTION: training of V.C. carried on by Cons. Gelai of R.P.&N.G.C.

Tues. 15th

1530

Return to Tubowada; Bwaitawaiya, Kuluvitu, Libutuma, Oliesi, Losua, Siviagila, Boitalu, Yalaka, Luya, Wabutuma, & Gumilababa.

1800

Retreat & end of day.

Wed. 16th

0600

Reveille.

V.Cs. T.C.

1600

Passing out Parade before Mr. A.D.O. Geelan; End of the first Training Cadre for Kiriwinan V.Cs.

1755

Return to Station END of PATROL.

TOTAL NUMBER OF DAYS THIS PATROL: 40
ALPHABETICAL LIST OF VILLAGES VISITED.

BOITAVAYA	KWAIBWAGA	LUYA	OLEISI
BWAITAWAIYA	KABULULA	LOBUA (LOBUA)	SIVIAGILA
BUDAWAILAKA	KULIVITU	MOLIGILAGI	TILAKAIWA
DAYAGILA	LILUTA	MWADOIA	TUBOWADA
GUMILABABA	KAIMAMWALA	MUTAWA	WAGULUMA
IALUMGWA	KUDOKABILIYA	MWATAWA	WAKAISA
IYOLAOTA	KAPWANI	OBWELIA	WAKAILUA
IUWADA	KAULIKWAU	OKAIKODA	WABUTUMA
IDALEKA	KULAWA	OBAWADA	
IALAKA	LUWABILA	OKOBOBWA	
KABWAKU	LABAI	OMERAKANA	
KASANAI	LIBUTAMA	OSAPOLA	

GENERAL COMMENTS:

THE PEOPLE of all villages visited on this Patrol seemed to be quite happy and contented and the general state of their health to be good; apart from skin complaints such as Tinea & Crab yaws & such items as lacerations, burns etc. no native needing urgent medical treatment was located. On the whole the N.M.Os.^{ed.} are doing a capable & satisfactory job even though they are hampered by shortages in drugs & dressing materials³ The condition of their houses may only be described as all shocking; the cleanliness of the villages left much to¹ be desired, roads & water holes are uniformly poor & whilst over all hangs the attitude that " It doesn't matter as the Government will issue orders & then go away: by the time the next Patrol comes through it'll^{re} all have been forgotten so why bother?"

It is suggested that the only answer to this state of affairs lies in a course of intensified Patrolling & ada the vigorous following up of all matters connected with the general Administration of these people.

New land is being cleared at Labai & Kapwani which - when ready should carry between 1000 & 1500 coco-nut d trees whilst 500 trees were planted in groups of 100 at 5 of the major Villages visited. re.

In conclusion I should to bring before the D.Cs. notice the hospitality of many of the people visited. rt Food in more than sufficient quantities was forthcoming at all Rest Houses & in particular at Kaibola, and Tubowada where Wailasi presented food, fresh fish meat & fruit daily. o

NATIVE SITUATION.

APPARENTLY STATIC with little to report except that as yet no definite successor to Mitakata has been nominated both Waibadi & Vanoi seeming to have an co equal chance of succession & that all is now peacefull y" between Wailasi & Mitakata. The yam harvest has begun & promises to be an exceptionally good one: the inevitable piles of yam & taro

to be presented to Mitakata dominating many of the gardens visited.

VILLAGES.

AS PREVIOUSLY mentioned on the whole they were poor; throughout most of the villages visited people are now engaged in building new houses and effecting repairs to many of the old ones not actually condemned. Here again whilst the village officials are keen to improve the standard of local housing and also the lack of Government support and guidance has, and still is proving a serious obstacle. The position improved vastly during the Patrol and, with further Patrolling should be completely eradicated.

All villages consist of bare ground and though easy to keep clean in dry weather with rain become quagmires

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

UNIFORMLY KEEN AND ANXIOUS TO HELP but in need of much help and guidance not to mention "backing up." V.Cs. attended an eight days training Cadre at Tubowada consisting of basic foot and squad drill, paying of compliments, lectures on health, hygiene and those sections of N.R.O. applicable to them in their everyday duties. All showed great enthusiasm & keenness and a marked improvement in bearing, appearance, and self confidence was very apparent at the close of the Cadre.

LAW & ORDER.

TWO CASES of trouble over pigs damaging gardens were referred to the A.D.O. and was a fight over a N.F. Apart from these there is nothing to report.

GARDENS.

ALL EXCELLENT and in process of being harvested.

NATIVE ECONOMY, DEVELOPMENTS etc.etc.

THESE PEOPLE ARE QUITE CONTENT with their way of life and exhibit no desire to change any aspect of same. They make sufficient copra to meet their immediate needs and can see no reason for making any more than that quantity: the task of stimulating these people to hard and industrious labour would seem, as at writing, to be a hopeless one. Apart from purely domestic "industry" and a little wood carving there exists no native industry worthy of the name: all begins and ends with the Yam.

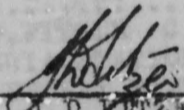
SUMMARY.

THE PEOPLE OF KIRIWIMA would seem to be badly in need of attention and personal contact with the Administration if they are to returned anywhere the standard that existed in the time of Dr. Bellamy or Mr. Whitehouse(both of whom are still clearly remembered and spoken of with respect by the older Kiriwinans.)

The younger generation in particular is in need of supervision as they have been accustomed to taking far too lightly the orders of previous officers.

Socially and economicly they have changed but little since Malinowski wrote of them. They are singularly insular and self contained wanting little or nothing of things non-Kiriwinan.

With respect to roads, all roads on the Island are now cleared and opened up but much work is still to be done in regard of pot- holes, wash-aways, etc.etc. and in keeping them open and clear


J.D. FITZER, C.P.O.,
LOSULA, M.B.D.

REPORT ON THE CONDUCT, BEARING AND DISCIPLINE OF
ACCOMPANYING R.P. & N.G.C.

CONSTABLE GELAI 7416.

This Constable proved to be an outstanding help & example of what one expects of the Constabulary: no praise is too high. He rates particularly high praise for the manner in which he handled the training of V.Cs. during the period of the training Cadre at Tubowada. This man is first rate N.C.O. material and is recommended for the first available Cadre at Sogeri.

Constable SINAMA SOTI 6043.

Reliable and does a good job but lacks initiative and is only at his best when carrying out a direct order. His conduct on this Patrol was quite satisfactory.

J.D. Fitzer
.....
J.D. FITZER C.P.O.,
LOSUIA STATION,
MILNE BAY DIVISION.

SPECIAL REPORT.

Mr. A. D. O. GEELAN,
LOSUIA STATION,
MILNE BAY DIVISION.

As requested herewith is a report upon certain matters required by you in conjunction with the internal Administration of this

REST HOUSES, BARRACKS etc. etc.

All Rest Houses are now in good order as are Barracks and Latrines. Rest houses exist at OBWELIA, OMERAKANA, MUTAWA, KAIBOLA, TUBOWADA, & KURIVITU - the last two being new and of very good construction - whilst the Rest House at YALAKA is in process of repair and that at BOITALU has been pulled down: no new one has been ordered built as it is considered that there exists no necessity for one in this area. The R/Hs. at Omerakana, Kaibola, and Tubowada are completely fenced and in all cases the area surrounding is clean and well kept.

WATER SUPPLIES & SOURCES.

The area at Tubowada mentioned by you has now been completely fenced and all risk of contamination therefore removed. A new well has been built at Okaikoda to serve the entire Obwelia group; this is completely covered as well as being fenced. The source of supply and supply itself is in all other cases satisfactory.

ROADS, MAIN, SECONDARY, TERTIARY (NATIVE).

All these have received attention and are now open to a width of 9ft. in the case of secondary and native roads & tracks and 25 to 15 fms. in the cases of main and important secondary roads (East Shore, Somatu etc.)

The main road to Kaibola has had most of the pot-holes and all wash-aways filled with coral: it is estimated that this work will be of a continuous nature unless some road surfacing materials become available: - in time the entire surface will be worn away & it will then be only a matter of time before the road degenerates to no better than a track.

BAMBOO PROPAGATION - for use in housing.

SMALL clumps were located in some villages but it is not in great use, nor demand. As usual the general attitude was one of polite interest but no enthusiasm was displayed.

J.D. Fitzer
.....
J. D. FITZER, C.P.O.,
LOSUIA. M.B.D.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File: 30/1/-

Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D.

28th April 1954.

Mr. CPO Fitzner,
LOSUIA?

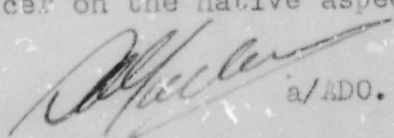
PATROL INSTRUCTIONS.

Please be prepared to leave the Station on a patrol of inland villages in the Northers section of the island, as soon as your personal stores come to hand.

I want you to select a rest-house (e.g. OMARAKANA) as a base, and to visit all the villages surrounding that rest-house, even though it be only a brief visit. Inspection of each village for (i) general appearance and layout (ii) general cleanliness (iii) individual houses, their condition, cleanliness etc. (iv) surroundings of villages for rubbish, litter etc. (v) village water supplies, their adequacy, cleanliness, freedom from animal pollution and (vi) the condition of the rest house and police barracks for which that village (with others) will be responsible. Each rest house will have around it two, three, four or perhaps five villages, who are jointly responsible. Many, if not all of these points will be covered by the "Orders to Village Constables", copies of which Mr. ADO Turner had typed out and glued in each Village Constable's book. It is recommended that the inspection be made with this book in one hand and the Village Constable in the other. If any unsatisfactory condition is revealed by your inspection, instruct the individual (or individuals) responsible to rectify it, at once, yourself or one of your Constables standing by. Then warn the people that a recurrence of the condition may lead to a prosecution under Native Regulations Ordinance, and note all such warnings in the Village Constable's register, being careful to sign and date all entries.

When you have completed your inspection of one such area, select carriers to take your patrol gear to the next rest-house. It is best to have all the able-bodied males of each village fall in and to select from each village one, two or three, depending upon your total requirements. Try to avoid if possible taking all your carriers from one village only at any rest-house - they may feel that they are being unduly put upon. I shall be surprised if the distance between any two rest-houses in this area is more than about four hours' carrying time. Usual pay for carriers is one stick of tobacco for part of a day's carry, and two sticks for a full day, plus a meal in the latter case. It will be necessary to warn Village Constables on the evening prior to your departure from each rest-house that you will require carriers, otherwise they will be late in arriving and tempers will become short.

Strike an SIV on the Sub-District Store for what rations and patrol gear you require. Take Interpreter GOWEN with you - remember that he has affiliations with the OMARAKANA people - and I suggest two Constables - GELAI and DOIWA. Use Village Constables for such jobs as they are capable of doing: it leads them prestige in the eyes of their villagers. Re Village Councillors: try and emphasize that they should be the elected representatives of the villagers, and should be consulted in any specifically native matter - I mean, for example, in cases of bride-payment they should be empanelled as a body of experts to advise the Patrol Officer on the native aspects of the case, not on the legal side.


a/ADO.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File: 30/1.

Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D.

30th June 1954.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District
SAMARAI.

PATROL REPORT NO. 3-53/54 - MR. CPO.
J.D. FITZER.

The above-mentioned report is forwarded in quadruplicate for your information.

I consider that Mr. Fitzer has done quite a creditable job on this, his second patrol. The workmanship evident in his report is an improvement on his first effort, and the quality of his observations on patrol have likewise strengthened perceptibly.

I was particularly interested in seeing the Village Constables' School in progress at TOBOWADA. The bearing in general of these officials has noticeably improved as a result; and it is hoped that eventually (by constant repetition and exemplification - i.e., during their attendance at Courts for Native Matters etc.) - they will arrive at a fuller cognisance of the duties and responsibilities which their task entails.


ADC.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/6/54



MEMORANDUM—

In Reply
Please Quote

D.S. -299

HEADQUARTERS,
MILNE BAY DIVISION,
SAMARAI.

11th September, 1954.

The Director,
District Services and Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Losuia Patrol Report - No.3 of 1953/54.

I attach copies of the aforementioned patrol report prepared by Mr. J. D. Fitzler, C.F.O. recently appointed to the Losuia Sub-district.

This forty day patrol, which was entirely confined to the island of KIRIWIMA, permitted intensive work amongst a limited number of natives, and appeared to fill a sadly felt want. One of the features of Administration at Losuia is that the bulk of the population is virtually at the back door of Losuia, and as a result there is a tendency for "hit and run" patrols which generally achieve nothing.

On this occasion the A.D.O. was able to keep his Patrol Officer in the field virtually living with the people; the results will be quite evident when the next patrol visits the area. Mr. Fitzler should cover the area once again in the near future to check on instructions issued on this current patrol.

The Village Constable School is an excellent idea, and I am sure the results will justify the trouble.

A good solid patrol.

M. J. Healy,
District Commissioner.

c.c. A.D.O. Losuia.

23rd September, 1954.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.

LOSUIA Patrol Report No. 3/53-54.


Acknowledgement is made of the above-mentioned Report submitted by Mr. J. D. Fitzer, Cadet Patrol Officer, after his forty-day Patrol among the native people of Kiriwina Island.

The comprehensive Patrol instructions, issued by Mr. Coelan laid the foundation for an effective thorough-going Patrol by Mr. Fitzer. I am very pleased with the way he carried out his work and the improvement shown in reporting on the activities of his party and the observations he made.

The training of Village Constables in their duties and bearing at a 'short-term school' is a worthwhile idea and should not only give a fillip to the interest of these men in their work but also benefit the native administration of the island.

Losuia sub-District has lacked in recent years systematic and regular field work such as has been carried out on this Patrol and although much needed improvements have already taken place, I agree with you that the area should again be visited in the near future to see that instructions have been reasonably complied with and to lend further support to village officials in their work.

I am glad to note that the Patrol was well received by the people, but their view that "the Government will issue orders and then go away and by the time the next Patrol comes through it will all have been forgotten", must be eradicated from their minds.

 *Gov 28/9*

A. A. Roberts
(A. A. Roberts),
Director.

MILNE BAY DISTRICT

LOSUIA

P/R 1 OF 54/55

J. D. FITZER

TERRITORY of PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI PAPUA.

FILE: 30-I.
Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D..

REPORT OF A PATROL BY J.D. FITZER CPO TO KAILEUNA & SURROUNDING ISLANDS.

PATROL ACCOMPANIED BY: Cpl. Abel & Cons. Onoba R.P. & N.G.C. 16/7/54 to 23/7/54.
L/Cpl. Mokaldimu & Cons. Barni 23/7/54 to 16/8/54.

DURATION OF PATROL: 16th July 1954 to the 16th August 1954. (32 days inclusive)

PURPOSE OF PATROL: Census & general Administration.

LAST PATROL TO AREA: 16/3/54. Patrol report on one days visit by CPO Fitzer. Medical, believed to be in January 1954 conducted by Dr. Gyori MO Losuia.

MAP REFERENCE: Losuia Sub-District census Sub-divisions "A" & "B".

DIARY .

MONTH of JULY 1954.

Fri. 16th	0800	De part Losuia for Kaileuna Island
	0935	Arrive at Giva Village. Heavy rain & wind; patrol stood down for the week end.
Sat 17th	0600	Reveille. Visit Lebola & koma Villages; weather unchanged.
Sun. 18th		OBSERVED.
Mon. 19th	0600	Reveille- winds at gale force with driving rain.
	1800	End of day.
Tues. 20th	0600	Reveille- weather unchanged. Census of Giva.
	1800	End of day.
Wed 21st	0600	Reveille- Day spent repairing roof of Rest House
		Rain in squalls with gale force winds.
	1800	End of day.
Thurs. 22nd	0600	Reveille- Census of Lebola, winds abated steady rain falling.
	1800	End of day.
Fri. 23rd	0600	Reveille- Census of Kaisiga, heavy rain falling. Kingfisher and Police to Station.
	1800	End of day.
Sat 24th	0600	Reveille- Patrol stood down for weekend, heavy wind and rain.
	1800	End of day.
Sun 25th		OBSERVED.

Mon. 26th	0600	Reveille-Census of Bulakwa, weather unchanged.
	1800	End of day.
Tues 27th	0600	Reveille- Windsto gale force, driving rain.
	1800	End of day.
Wed 28th	0600	Reveille- Assist with repairs to village housing, winds from South to South East with heavy rain.
	1800	End of day.
Thurs. 29th	0600	Reveille - Census of Koma, weather unchanged.
	1800	End of day.
Fri. 30th	0600	Reveille - Census of Tauwema, winds down rain in showers.
	1800	End of day.
Sat. 31st	0600	Reveille - Further repairs to Rest House & Police Barracks; rain ceased winds to gale force.
	1200	Patrol stood down for weekend.
	1800	Retreat and end of day.
Sun. AUGUST 1st.		OBSERVED.
Mon. 2nd	0600	Reveille - Census of Kadawaga, Winds abated rain ceased.
	1800	Retreat and end of day.
Tues 3rd.		Awaiting the return of the ML Kingfisher from Losuia
Wed 4th.		Visits to all villages, gardens, watering places
Thurs 5th.		shell-beds etc, etc. General work on housing, village
Fri 6th.		improvements and fencing.
Sat 7th.	0600	Reveille, arrival of Kingfisher at 0930 ; move to Kadawaga.
	1200	Patrol stood down for week-end.
	1800	Retreat and end of day.
Sunday 8th.		OBSERVED.
Mon 9th.	0600	Reveille and depart for visit to Kadai, Tuma, Boimwaga, & Buriwapa Islands.
	1845	Retreat and end of day (at Kadawaga).
Tues 10th	0600	Depart for Kuyaua Island- Visit Munawata and Census of Nuatuba Village.
	1800	Retreat and end of day. (at Kuyaua)
Wed 11th	0600	Reveille- Census of Munawata Village, visit Labi & Nakwaba Islands.
	1800	Retreat and end of day. (at Kuyaua Island.)

and compare more than favourably with their more elderly main island opposite numbers.

LAW & ORDER: As remarked upon under Native Situation there seems to be a far more harmonious outlook on life amongst the island dwellers. No breaches of Law & order being reported or observed during this Patrol.

Gardens: These were in the process of being harvested and the land cleared for the new crops: all indications pointed to a "bumper" harvest with more than sufficient food for all for the next few months.

NATIVE ECONOMY, DEVELOPMENTS etc, etc. Once again the only economic activity is the making of Copra and the fishing of a small quantity of Black-lip pearl shell. The quality of the copra is far better than that prevailing on the main island as is the amount per person produced. At the moment the supply of copra from the available trees is being fully utilized and the other sources, on the small uninhabited islands is being used as much as is possible taking account of weather, distances and seas.

SUMMARY.

All natives visited were happy and contented and were pursuing a fairly constant and successful economic life. Pearl shell beds were isolated but in all cases the shell readily obtainable in quite fair amounts: (samples go forward to you by separate cover.)

They would seem to merit little specialized attention being quite self contained and contented; they are most friendly and helpful in all matters and by their isolation are not effected by the squabbles and fights of the Boyowa natives.

The Sinaketa group are also far more well disposed towards Government Officers than are the local people but they are identical with them in their attitude towards to anything that entails any degree of hard work or consistent effort.

Losuia
.....
CPO LOSUIA MBD.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File:- 30/I-54/55.,
Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA. MBD.

The Commissioner of Police,
PORT MORLESBY. PAPUA.

REPORT ON ACCOMPANYING A.P. & N.G.C. PATROL No. I-54/55.

Cypl. Abel Demanda. No. 3519 :- Completely satisfactory in all respects, a
good and efficient M.O.

L/Cpl. Magaidimu. No. 3925. :- Again proved of the greatest help & assistance
particularly as an interpreter. Has the ability
to remain on the friendliest of terms with the
local people without detriment to his work.

Cons. Onobe Ibirau. No 2317. :- Satisfactory.

Cons. Bari Nagera. No. 2296 :- This member though quite satisfactory could
well do with leave. He appears to have become
a little too friendly with the local people
and shows no real desire to enforce any order
which is unpleasant to them.

.....
J.D. Fitzger, CPO Losuia.,
Milne Bay District, PAPUA.

OWING TO THE CONDITION OF THE CENSUS BOOK FOR MUNAWATA & NUATUBA IT WAS FOUND NECESSARY TO COMPILE NEW BOOKS AND TAKE THE CENSUS FIGURES FROM THEM : NO FIGURES FOR MIGRATION, BIRTHS, DEATHS etc, therefore appear.

WITH REGARD TO THE KAILEUNA SECTION; RELEVANT BOOKS WERE BROUGHT INTO THE STATION SOME TIME PREVIOUSLY AND HAVE SINCE BEEN LOST OR MISPLACED: AGAIN FIGURES APPEAR AS IN A NEW CENSUS.

FIGURES HEREWITH ARE FOR CENSUS SUB-DIVISION "A" & ARE COMPLETE WITH THE EXCEPTION OF THE SIMSIM ISLANDS SECTION.

SUB-DIVISION "D" (SINAKETA, VAKUTA, AND KITAVA) ARE STILL TO FOLLOW AND WILL COMPLETE THE CENSUS OF THIS SUB-DISTRICT.



REPORT 1/4/53-54

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File# 30/5-34/54-55.

Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D.

26th August 1954.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.

PATROL REPORT NO. 1 of 1954-55 -
KAYLEDA AND OTHER
ISLANDS.

The attached copies of Mr. CPO Fitzer's recent patrol report are forwarded for your information.

The patrol was of a routine nature, and Mr. Fitzer seems to have done a workmanlike job. The more isolated people in this Sub-District seem to be better equipped to look after themselves than those living in more immediate contact with the Administration - very seldom does any trouble occur among the "outsiders".


ADO.

36/6/220

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



MEMORANDUM FOR :-

In Reply
Please Quote

D. S.

-296

HEADQUARTERS,
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,
SAMARAI.

11th September, 1955

Director,
District Services and Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Losuia Patrol Report - 1 of 1954/55.

Please find attached patrol report submitted
by Mr. Fitzer C.P.O., covering visit to all island
settlements in the vicinity of Losuia.

Whilst rather brief, this report indicates
a satisfactory position in this island group. A follow-up
patrol should be undertaken in the coming N.W. Season.

M. J. Healy,
District Commissioner.

c.c. A.D.O. Losuia.

25th September, 1951.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SANARAI.

LOSHIA Patrol Report No. J/51-55

The above-mentioned Report submitted by Mr. J. D. Fitzner, Cadet Patrol Officer, regard his Patrol of the KAILUNA and LUSCANAY islands, is acknowledged.

The early part of the Patrol appears to have been marked by violent and disheartening weather but a useful piece of field work was nevertheless carried through to completion.

The people inhabiting small outlying islands are in general always a hardier, more enterprising and industrious type than those living on a larger land mass, and these islands appear to be no exception.

The native situation is evidently not by any means unsatisfactory at the present time and these people seem well disposed toward the Administration.

Trade shell is in great and consistent demand in Highland Districts for payment for native services and goods, mother of pearl shell excepting 'black-lip', is particularly needed, and any good quality shell of not under six inches across the base, which can be obtained for shipment to Goroka, would be most helpful.

Mr. Fitzner should set out his Report in such a way that sections of interest to other Departments are more easily extracted for their information.

Handwritten initials and date: J/A [unclear] 2/9

Handwritten signature: A.A. Roberts
(A.A. Roberts),
Director.

MILNE BAY DISTRICT

KOSUIA

P/R 2 of 54/55

J.D. FITZGER

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

File: 30/I-54/55
Sub District Office,
Losula. MBD.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI. PAPUA.

REPORT OF A PATROL BY J.D.FITZGER, CPO TO KITAVA ISLAND AND GILIBWA VILLAGE.

Patrol accompanied by:- L/Cpl Mogaidimu and Cons Gelai 26/8/54 to 7/9/54.

Intpre. Goweli Taurega & personal servant 4th to 7/9/54.

Cons Onaba 5th to 7/9/54.

Duration of patrol:- 26/8/54 to the 7/9/54. (15 days inclusive.)

Purpose of patrol:- Census.

Last patrol to area:- DDS & NA. Geelan ADO April 1954.

PHD. believed to have been by Kenny EMO early this year.

DIARY.

August 1954.

Thurs. 26th.

1500 Depart per ML Kingfisher for Kaibola.

1800 Retreat and end of day... at Kaibola.

Fri. 27th.

0600 Reveille ..depat for Kitava Island.

1342 Arrive Kitava, visit all villages, pay VOs, pensioners,
and NMO.

Retreat at Mr. Camerons plantation.

Sat. 28th.

0600 Reveille : census of Lalala Village.

1800 Retreat and end of day.

SUNDAY THE TWENTY EIGHTH OF AUGUST OBSERVED.

Mon. 30th.

0600 Reveille: census of Kumageya Village.

1800 Retreat and end of day.

Tues. 31st.

0600 Reveille: census, Okubulula Village.

1800 Retreat .. at Okubulula: return to Mr. Cameron's house.

Wed 1st of September to Saturday the 4th of September spent on road work, village

fencing, houses and improvements to Rest House and Barracks

areas. Sat. arrival of ADG. : CPS & CNM Till 1613. Patrol

stood down for the weekend.

Sun. 1145 depart for Gilibwa. arrive at 1400.

1800 Retreat and end of day, at Gilibwa.

Mon 6th Day spent on examination of passage and preliminary clearing work on same.

Tues 7th Work abandoned and natives given permission to proceed to Oyabia to the Jubilee celebrations.

1847 reach Losuia. Police to Barracks and staff stood down.

COMMUNICATIONS REPORT.

The island of Kitava is circled for roughly two thirds of its perimeter by the old military road with the remaining section, Okubulula-Lalakaiwa being connected by a native road which in an emergency, would be quite capable of serving heavy vehicular traffic; the ex army road was given considerable attention during this patrol and is now in condition to take all types of motor vehicles. The original surface has been replaced with grass the coral forming an excellent base and ensuring all weather roads at all seasons.

The Piper Cub strip is now completely useless and from the air would not be identifiable as anything more than a fairly broad section of the main road system; with which it has now become partly incorporated., the remainder having reverted to scrub and garden land.

With regard to the passage at Gilibwa, work was commenced but upon it becoming apparent that the task would take far longer than was anticipated and the people having made requests to be allowed to proceed to Oyabia it was deemed wiser to postpone the work until a later date; in doing this two things were taken into consideration. The first was the possibility of friction with the mission concerned;

The second was the fact that some of the people had left prior to my arrival and thus the remainder were more or less being unjustly treated in being forced to remain and work.

The nature of the task and the site for the passage were explained to the various village officials and orders left for work to be resumed at the earliest possible moment after the return of the visitors from Oyabia.

REPORT.

GENERAL COMMENTS: As with the people of the Luscan -Kaileuna group the natives of Kitava Island are quite happy and contented even though, as far as industry is concerned they more nearly approximate the Kiriwina. The amount of copra produced by these people is not worthy of mention; indeed was it not for an occasional temporary job on Mr. Cameron's Plantation they would engage in no outside the labour necessary for existence. In point of fact I have nothing worthy of note or differing from the comments of my ADO upon these people. finding them much same as did he.

NATIVE SITUATION: THREE CPS & CNM were held by Mr ADO Geelan during his visit to the island and two cases of land dispute were brought forward. Generally they seem quiet and contented with life giving little work to their Police and virtually no worry to this Station.

VILLAGE HOUSING ETC ETC.: In all cases the villages visited were in such a condition as to warrant no action on the part of this Patrol; no house seen was in need of repairs nor was any village dirty.

HEALTH: Generally excellent; patrol uncovered only minor complaints & most of these were receiving treatment at the Aid Post.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS: Three VC's divide the duties of law enforcement between them quite satisfactorily while the average councillor is younger than on the main island.

LAW AND ORDER: As mentioned under Native situation Mr. ADO Geelan held court during his visit; none of these cases were brought before my notice in any official capacity; nor was I called upon to take any police action whilst on Kitava.

GARDENS: Three have been harvested and have yielded well; as at writing work had not commenced on the new gardens.

NATIVE ECONOMY, DEVELOPEMENTS ETC ETC: Virtually nil with the people showing no desire for thing to be any other way than what they are; viz; that work as a thing to be proud of does not exist and that when one forced, by ~~circumstances~~ circumstances completely beyond ones control to do so then the moment the need is passed one should stop working and rest. No use is made of the local shell deposits and they are the worst and most inept fisherman this District can offer. I heartily agree with Mr. Geelan that it is hard to think of a way in which these people may be stimulated to some form of consistent labour.

SUMMARY: Whether or not the long contact with Mr. Cameron has had retarding effect upon the economical and social development

SUMMARY:

Whether or not the long contact with Mr. Cameron has had retarding ~~effect~~ effect upon the economical and social development of these people I do not ~~feel~~ feel qualified to say; it is obvious however that in both cases they fall short of the rest of the people of this Sub-District.

John C. B.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

File: 30/1-43/54-55.

Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D.

10th September 1954.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District X
SEWERAI.

PATROLREPORT NO. 2 OF 1954-55 - LOSUIA.

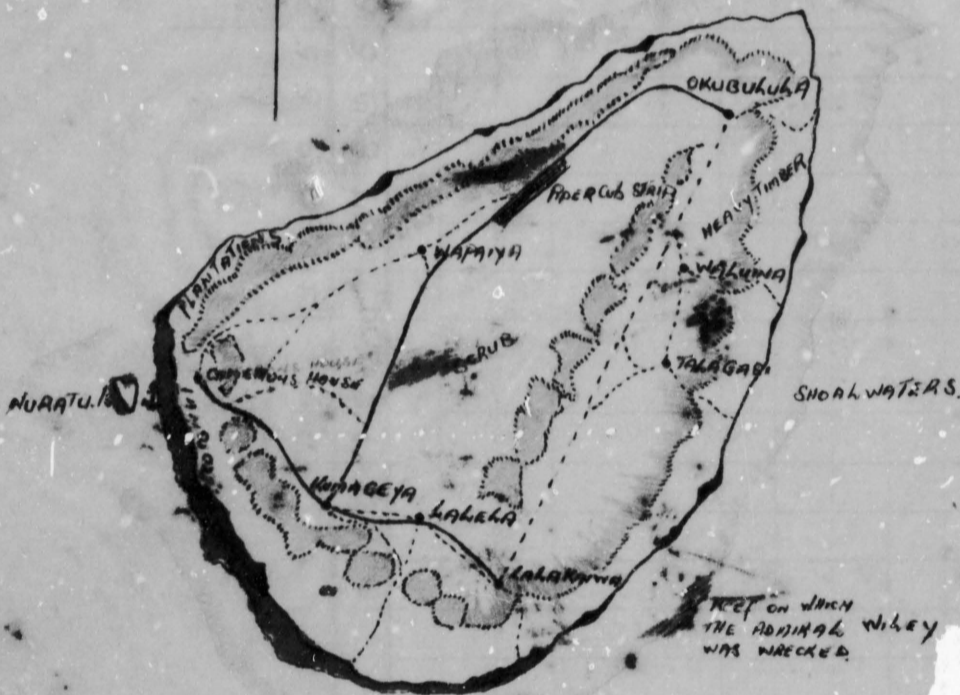
The above-mentioned report by Mr. CPO Fitzer is attached for your information and on-forwarding to DDS & NA, please.

As Mr. Fitzer has seen, the Kitavans are probably the most passive (economically) of the natives of this Sub-District, and it seems to me that the presence for so long of one solitary European among a group which is at once geographically and sociologically isolated has had a marked effect upon this passivism. The natives themselves are quite well aware of the distinction which this lends them, in the eyes of foreign natives; and they are quite content to accept this distinction along with the rest of the marks of their isolation - and simply carry on as they have done for the past forty or fifty years, with no change.

The two land disputes mentioned are of long standing, and flare up intermittently. Other Magistrates have tried to settle them: Mr. ARM Whitehouse's decision having stood the longest. I hope to be able to make another one-, or two-day visit to Kitava before long, and try and resolve the matter once more.


ADO.

KITAVA Is.



SCALE: 1" = 1 MILE

- CAR ROADS: —————
- NATIVE TRAILS: - - - - -
- SHOAL WATERS: [Symbol]
- COAST CLIFFS: [Symbol]
- REEF: [Symbol]

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File: 30/5.

Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D.

26th August 1954,

Mr. CPO Pitzer,
LOSUIA.

PATROL - NO. 2-54/55 - KITAVA.

Please be prepared to leave the Station by ML Kingfisher on Friday morning 27th August for Kitava Island. You may expect to be away for about ten days or a fortnight. L/Cpl Magaidimu and one constable are to accompany you.

The purposes of the patrol are:

(i) Census - Mr. Cameron should be of great assistance in this regard as he knows practically every family on the island and their genealogy;

(ii) Inspection of villages, water supplies, roads etc. - a procedure with which you are quite familiar;

(iii) Payment of village constables' wages for the year 1953/'54, and payment of one pension to an ex-Village Constable. For this purpose you will require the Kitava Village Constables' Records of Service, and a cash advance to cover the amount of wages and pension. Make up the necessary voucher (to draw the advance) and take a supply of voucher forms with you, to simplify recording of payments. Enter on each Record of Service the amount paid, when it is paid, and present sub-vouchers here on completion of the patrol, together with the principal voucher, for acquittal.

(iv) Such other aspects of general administration as come to your notice, and with which you are empowered to deal.

Kingfisher will disembark your party at the Kitava anchorage, and then will return to Losuia. Coxswain Simon has instructions not to proceed at more than half-speed until a replacement water-pump is fitted - please see that he obeys this instruction.


ADO.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

36/6/MS'



MEMORANDUM FOR:-

In Reply
Please Quote

D. S. 301/6 -365

HEADQUARTERS,
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,
SAMARAI.

27th September, 1954.

The Director,
District Services and Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Losuia Patrol Report No.2 of 54/55.
Mr. J. D. Fitzer, C.P.O.

Attached please find Patrol Report compiled
by Mr. Fitzer, C.P.O. covering his patrol of KITAVA Island.

No indication is given of the type of work
being carried out at Gilibwa and what purpose it would
serve.

The people of this remote island appear to be
content within themselves; one wonders what future there
is for such groups. Local government would be an interest-
ing experiment.

The C.P.O. could pay a little more attention to
his typing and the general set out of his reports; other-
wise the report is satisfactory.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. J. Healy".

M. J. Healy,
District Commissioner.

c.c. A.D.O. Losuia.

30-6-223

2nd October, 1954

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SANARAI.

LOSUIA Patrol Report No. 2 of 1954/55.

Receipt is acknowledged of this Report submitted by Mr. J.D. Fitser, Cadet Patrol Officer, regarding his ten days Patrol to KITAVA Island.

I am pleased with the increase in amount of field work which has been carried out from LOSUIA in recent months and an overall improvement in the native situation on these islands should result if this regular patrolling is continued.

It is noted that deaths were nearly double the number of births since the last census check. There is, however, quite a solid population on this island and we must hope that this trend is a temporary one only, as the general health of the people is said to be excellent.

I agree with the remarks in the last paragraph of your covering memorandum.

SJA
Dr. No.

A.A. Roberts
(A.A. Roberts),
Director.

MILNE BAY DISTRICT

LCSUIA

P/R 3 of 54/55

R.M. GEELAN

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File: 30-2-.

Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D.

28th October 1954,

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.

REPORT OF A PATROL BY R.M. GEELAN ADO -
MUNIWATTA, KUYAUA, KAWA, KOMA and
KITAVA Islands.

Patrol No. 3 of 1954-1955.

Officer Conducting: R.M. Geelan ADO.

Natives accompanying: Sgt. KAUMI, RP & NCPF.
Const, OGAI.
Boatscrew, ML "Kingfisher" (3).

Date Departure: Monday 11th October 1954.

Date Return: Friday 22nd October 1954.

Total days out: Ten - two days spent on station en route
Kitava.

Purposes of Patrol: General administrative duties.

Last Patrol to Area: Patrol Report No. 1/54-55 Mr. CPO J.D. Fitzner
covered MUNIWATTA and KUYAUA - July '54.
Patrol Report No. 2-53/54 of April 1954 cover-
ed last visit to KAWA and KOMA Islands (the
SimSim Group.)

Date of last Medical Patrol unknown.

Census Subdivisions: Losuia "a" and "d".

.....

D I A R Y .

11th October 1954. Left Losuia wharf by "Kingfisher" at 2 p.m. for
KADUWAGA village on KAILEUNA Island. Arrived 4 p.m. and camped in
the rest-house for the night.

12th October 1954. Left KADUWAGA 7.45 a.m. and sailed to MUNIWATTA
village, on the island of the same name, about an hour away. Landed
and inspected the village and surroundings. Spoke with the Vill.
Const. and Councillor. Saw four extremely large turtles which the
MUNIWATTA fishermen had caught near KIBU Island to the west of their
village. Left about 10 a.m. and went on southwards to KUYAUA village

12th October 1954 (Continued): on KUYAUA Island. Inspected the place and found everything OK. Heard here that the Native Medical Orderly from KADUWAGA had visited KUYAUA on the previous day for minor treatments. Left KUYAUA about midday and went on south to NUBIAM Island - the only south-east anchorage in the area. Arrived at 1.15 p.m. and anchored. Erected a tent-fly for native personnel ashore, but at about 2.15 p.m. a half gale and a bad chop from the NE forced us to run up under the lee of KUYAUA for shelter. Spent the night here.

13th October 1954: Left the KUYAUA anchorage at 5.45 a.m. and went back to NUBIAM to collect our tent fly. Dep. NUBIAM about 7.30 and headed west generally by KIBU and YOWANA Islands for KAWA. Weather quite good with moderate following sea. Arrived KAWA Is. about 4.10 p.m., anchoring on the NW side - this place is steep to all around and vessels must move around it to escape the effects of wind and tide. Inspected the village and gardens, and suggested the gradual repair of the rest-house - although this seems rather an imposition on these people - building materials must be brought from far away and the Administration visits them only about twice per year. Remained in this anchorage overnight.

14th October 1954: Dep. KAWA at 6 a.m. for KOMA (Simsim). Very rough passage, with strong beam wind and nasty sea. Anchored in the lee of KOMA Island at 11 a.m. and erected tent-fly on beach. This island is noted in the NW season for its myriads of mosquitoes - in SE it is not so bad. Inspected the village and spoke to the people about certain matters which were troubling them. (See "Native Situation"). Camped here this night.

15th October 1954: Dep KOMA at 6.30 a.m. and set course for TUMA, passing the islands of SILIPWAKA and NUMWAGETA en route. Arrived Tuma hamlet at 11 a.m., after an hour at "Dead Slow" on account of the many shoal patches in the approaches and found the place deserted. Decided to continue to LOSUIA, as this is Friday, and spend the week-end on the station. Dep. TUMA at 12 noon and arrived at LOSUIA at 5.30 p.m. Native personnel stood down for the week-end.

16th and 17th October were spent at LOSUIA.

18th October 1954: Departed LOSUIA with Mr. EMA Kenny at 7 a.m. Ar-

18th October 1954 (Continued): Another very rough day. Arrived KITAVA 11 a.m.

19th October 1954: Inspection of all KITAVA villages, and of the land ("Wawela") involved in the dispute between OKABULULA and WAWELA villages.

~~20th October 1954~~ Inspected OKABULULA "tax-plantation" and heard minor matters brought forward by various natives.

21st October 1954: Made decision in matter of land under dispute - those having usufructuary right being the KUBAI Clan. Left KITAVA for GILIBWA and VAKUTA at 11.45 a.m. Arrived GILIBWA 2.30 p.m. Inspected village. Continued to VAKUTA arriving at 5 p.m. Inspected village. Remained overnight.

22nd October 1954: Left VAKUTA 5.45 a.m. Arrived MUWO Plantation 8.45 a.m. Went ashore with manager Mr. Frederiksen. Dep. MUWO 11.25 a.m., and arrived LOSUIA at 1.30 p.m.

.....

General. Very little in the way of startling comment can be made about this area or the people in it. The small island-communities live fairly self-contained lives, fishing and gardening (the latter in a minor way) and making quite good copra which they exchange with local traders for European consumer-goods. They are law-abiding both by our standards and by their own: I heard nothing of any disputes arising out of native usages, nor of any infractions of the codes we have imposed on them. They live a much harder life than their cousins on the main island of Kiriwina - for example the KAWA and KOMA (SIMSIM) people live on two islands, have their gardens on other islands, their copra on still other islands, their water on others and their building materials on others again - so that if a man wanted to build a fence around his well and take two or three days over the job, he would have to wait for favourable sailing weather, and then cover up to 100 miles by canoe, collecting materials and rations etc., before ever the job was started. This of course is an extreme example but it will serve to illustrate what kind of life the natives lead.

Villages, Houses etc.: All villages seen were in reasonably good

Villages Houses etc.: order. KUYAUA, MUNIWATTA and KITAVA may have had knowledge of the patrol's whereabouts - KAWA and KOMA certainly did not. Nevertheless, they were all as well prepared for inspection as if they had known in advance. Considering the difficulty of obtaining building materials, housing was of a very high standard. Many improvements in all villages were noted since my last visits.

Roads and Bridges: The only road in the KAWA-KOMA area is a quarter-mile track from the tiny beach at KAWA to the village on top of the island. It was in clean condition. There are no bridges. All roads on KITAVA were clean - Mr. Cameron uses a Land-rover all over the island. Here again there are no bridges.

Gardens, Food Supplies etc.: Apparently adequate. New gardens are being assiduously cultivated on Kitava at present - in the KUYAUA - SIMS IM area the scattered nature of the garden-islands did not allow me to make a thorough inspection - I saw only those gardens near the actual villages. Fish supply additional nutriment, and turtles appear to be fairly plentiful.

Health: Appears to me to be good. There is a Native Medical Orderly stationed on KITAVA island - there is one also at KADUWAGA on KAILEUNA Island who looks after MUNIWATTA and KUYAUA, but the Simsims are not so served. There are only about 200 people all told in the latter group so it would not be worth the expense. They seem the healthiest of the lot to me.

Native Situation: Generally stable and satisfactory, with one black spot. This is that the natives of the Simsims are annoyed at the actions of a European trader who, they allege, has stolen copra from their "copra island" of SILIPWAKA - this is said to have happened about four or five weeks ago. I questioned them carefully about this, but am unable to produce anything that would stand up in Court. (Since my return from this patrol, further allegations have been made to the effect that the same trader has been caught stealing bananas and other garden produce from one of the SIMSIM gardens on another island; a number of Simsim natives are said to be on their way to LOSUIA to lay charges.) The natives were quite obviously distressed about the matter of the alleged copra-stealing - if true, it is a despicable act and merits severe punishment; but evidence is of course insufficient.

Native Situation (continued): The District Commissioner will be advised of any further developments and every effort will be made by this Office to deal with the matter.

Apart from this, things are normal. The land dispute at KITAVA was resolved successfully, I hope - it is one of those seasonal ~~disputes that crop up every five years or so~~ (or whenever the subject land is re-cut again for another garden). It originally belonged to the KUBAI clan, and was "squatted on" about 40 years ago by immigrants from IWA Island. They, apparently not content with usufructuary rights over the trees etc. planted by them, wished to claim the whole lot, and the trouble developed from that. However they seem to be happy now - until the next garden season.

No political or social developments have been noted - these islanders seem to be a reactionary lot, to whom innovations make no appeal whatever as long as the old system continues to work. In their present geographic situation, and at their present economic standard, there seems no chance of anything intruding to cause the old system to break down - since change depends on change, I cannot see any expansion of their horizons in any way possible.

Village Officials: Councillors seem to be in a strong position in these villages - one notes the village patriarch on every beach, complete with medal; and he probably exercises the strongest possible control, too. There is no Village Constable at KOMA/AWA - he died over 12 months ago and up to date I do not know the men of the villages there well enough to be confident of a good choice. It seems to me important that in an isolated area like this (even though they are a law-abiding lot) that the Village Constable as the representative of a far-away Administration, should be a really "strong man". I hope on my next visit to be able to make a tentative appointment.

All other VCs and Councillors seem to fulfil their duties ably enough.

Law and Order: Apart from the incident mentioned under "Native Situation" nothing has to be reported.

Commerce: The SIMSIM natives make very good copra and were waiting for a trader's boat during my visit. I suppose that each family (about

Commerce (Continued): thirty or forty all told) would have had an average of two bags of copra each when I saw them - eighty bags all told. This number produced every six or eight weeks means from 450 to 550 bags per annum; say from 25-30 tons. I am not sure, but I do not think that this sort of turnover among a group of about 200 strong would be sufficient basis on which to establish any more advanced economy.

KUYAUA and MUNIWATTA produce smaller amounts despite their nearness to the market; and KITAVA produces nothing worth noting.

Summary. Little more was achieved on this patrol than was achieved on the last: the Administration was represented in these isolated areas, and that is all. There is very little material on which to work, if taken as a unit; and difficulty will be found, in the way of geographic and social limitations, if action were contemplated to unify this small "island-ring" with a larger whole. The people themselves are the greatest bar to their own progress: they are satisfied with things as they are and it seems an impertinence on the part of the European to intrude with suggestions concerning changes in their style of life, or in the way in which they get a living. Their wants are so simple that they are easily satisfied; and the old economic theory of "Make them want more" does not seem to have anything on which to take root.


ADO.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Appendix: Patrol Report No. 3 of 54-55.

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF RP & NGPF ACCOMPANYING .

NO. 3355 Sgt. KAUMI OIREBA: A good all-rounder.

No. 3083 Const. OGAI: Fair average quality.

[Handwritten signature]
M.A.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/11/54



MEMORANDUM. FOR :-

In Reply

Please Quote

D. S. 29/2/5 - 565

HEADQUARTERS,
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,
SAMARAI.

16th November, 1954.

The Director,
District Services and Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Losuia Patrol Report No.3 of 54/55 -
Compiled by Mr. Geelan A.D.C.

Please find attached copies of the aforementioned patrol report.

The Assistant District Officer is requested to investigate to the fullest extent the alleged pillaging of gardens by a European trader, and to advise this office.

Decisions on land are generally difficult and I would suggest that the Assistant District Officer records, for the guidance of officers in the future, his decisions on this occasion.

The copra potential on Sim Sim is very interesting and indicates a wealth that is experienced by few other communities of similar size. However I understand this group is fairly treated by local traders and could any other system that we might introduce give these people more than they now have. I doubt it.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M. J. Healy".

M. J. Healy,
District Commissioner.

c.c. A.D.C. Losuia.

30-6-227

25th November, 1954

The District Commissioner,
MELME Bay District,
SAMARAI.

LOSUIA Patrol Report No. 3 of 1954/55

Acknowledgment is made of the above-mentioned Report submitted by Mr. R. H. Geelan, Assistant District Officer, regarding his Patrol to MUNDIATTA, KUYAUA, KAWA, KOMA and KITAVA Islands.

I was interested to read Mr. Geelan's observations on the state of affairs of these small island communities, and note that you have called for a thorough investigation into the disappearance of copra and garden produce from the SIMSIM Islands.

It is always desirable for decisions in important native matters such as land, fishing rights and the like to be recorded for the guidance of those officers who conduct future Patrols to the same places.

The native situation would seem orderly and generally satisfactory, and any attempt to drastically alter the way of life of these sea-faring people would not be justified at the present time. The effecting of small improvements, from time to time, giving guidance to people on matters which interest them, maintaining law and order etc. would however not fall into that category.

A.A.
(A. A. Robertson)
Director.

Handwritten notes:
1954/55
Losuia Patrol
P/H

MILNE BAY DISTRICT

LOSUIA

P/R 4 of 54/55.

J. D. FITZER

MILNE BAY DISTRICT

LOSUIA

P/R 4 of 54/55.

J.D. FITZER

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

File 30/2

Sub-District Office,
 Losuia MBD.
6th December 1954.

The District Commissioner,
 Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.

Report of a Patrol by J.D.Fitzer CPO
 Vakuta- Kiriwina- and Kitava Islands.

Patrol No. 4 of 1954- 1955.
 Officer conducting. J.D.Fitzer CPO.
 Natives accompanying 1 intpr., L/Cpl Mogaidimu & Cons. Gelai,
 boat's crew, MV Kingfisher, 1 pers. serv.
 Date departure Wed. 27/10/54 Kitava. 30/11/54
 Date return Fri. 26/11/54 Sat. 4/12/54
 Total days out 35 days inclusive.
 Purpose of Patrol Routine Administration.
 Last Patrol to area My No. 1 of 53/54 Vakuta: My No. 3 of 53/54
 Kiriwina: Mr.ADO'Geelan's NO.3 of 54/55
 Kitava.
 PHD. U/known.

DAIRY.

27/10/54 1205 Depart Losuia wharf per MV Kingfisher for Vakuta
 via Muwo plantation; call & deliver mail at Muwo
 and thence on to Okinai.
 1735 Arrive at Okinai Village and move in to Vakuta
 village Rest house.
 28/10/54 MV Kingfisher and 5 patients(N) to Losuia at 0500.
 0600 Reveille. Day spent on visits to all villages and
 working on Rest House and Barracks areas.
 1800 Retreat and end of day.
 29/10/54 0600 Reveille. Census of Vakuta village and Okinai Villag
 1800 Retreat.
 30/10/54 0600 Reveille. Census of Kaulaka village.
 1200 Patrol stood down for the week-end.
 31/10/54 OBSERVED AT VAKUTA VILLAGE.
 Mon. 1st November 1954.
 0600 Reveille. Reports of "Gold lip" shell in the waters of
 this area investigated but found to be false.
 1800 Retreat.
 2/11/54 0600 Reveille

Depart for Sinaketta per canoe: call at Muwo to check upon reports of trouble in the labour line, reports correct but Mr. Fredericksen claims all is now well and desires no action taken so continue on to Sinaketta village.

1800	Arrive at Sinaketta and observe retreat ceremony.
3/II/54.	0600 Reveille Work on Rest House grounds & Rest house construction of new latrines, village barracks & rest house: visit to all villages in group.
4/II/54	0600 Reveille Depart per canoe for Wawella village, pay off at Kiribi, collect carriers and thence to Wawella(census) and Obulaku
5/II/54	0600 Reveille Census of Obulaku.
	1800 Retreat.
6/II/54	0600 Reveille, census figures compiled.
	1200 Patrol stood down for the week-end.
7/II/54	OBSERVED AT OBULAKU VILLAGE.
8/II/54	0600 Reveille, Depart for Ilalima village; census of group and visits to all villages. New rest house and barracks etc.etc. to be constructed.
	1800 Retreat.
9/II/54	0600 Reveille, depart for Okupukopu village: new census books compiled for this area as old books lost or destroyed.
	1800 Retreat.
10/II/54	0600 Reveille, continue census.
	1800 Retreat.
11/II/54	0600 Reveille, Repairs to Okaiboma rest house and barracks reported complete patrol moved to this village.
	1800 Retreat, at Okaiboma rest house.
12/II/54	0600 Reveille, Commence census of group; as for previous group new books compiled.
	1800 Retreat.
13/II/54	0600 Reveille, continue census: compilation of census figures. The Mila mala arrived at Okaiboma this evening and, so the locals say, also at Vakuta.
	1800 Retreat.
14/II/54	0600 Reveille and depart for Obwelia.
	0930 Arrive at Obwelia and stand down patrol.
15/II/54	0600 Reveille and visit to all villages in group, inspect gardens, latrines and watering places.
16/II/54	0500 Depart for Omerakana, visit all villages, latrine, gardens and watering places.

17/II/54 0600 Reveille, work on main road till 0800: depart for inspection of main road as far in as Kudakwaikela village.

18/II/54 0600 Reveille, work on main road till 0800 then depart for Mutawa. Arrive at Mutawa at 1035 and visit all villages in group. Visit to gardens, watering places.

1800 Retreat and end of day.

19/II/54 0600 Reveille..... Day spent upon main road work: road inspected from Kaibola to Moligilagi and VCs given specific instructions in regard to future road work.

20/II/54 Patrol moved to Kaibola and stood down for the week-end

21/II/54 OBSERVED AT KAIBOLA REST HOUSE.

22/II/54 0400 Move to Tubowada village: general tour of inspection.

1800 Retreat.. at Tubowada.

23/II/54 0400 Move to Kurivitu village: general tour of inspection.

1800 Retreat.. to Kurivitu.

24/II/54 0500 Move to Yalaka village: general tour of inspection.

1800 Retreat.. at Yalaka.

25/II/54 0600 Move to Boitalu village: tour of inspection and on to ~~XXX~~ Gumilibaga village.

1800 Retreat.. at Gumilibaga.

26/II/54 PATROL TO LOSUIA STATION TO PREPARE TO LEAVE FOR KITAVA Is.

Monday 29/II/54 Depart from Losuia wharf with Miss B. Coulson (infant welfare sister of the MOM) for Kitava Island.

30/II/54.

1st Dec. 1954.

2/12/54.

3/12/54.

4/12/54. Return to Losuia to make arrangements for PHD Survey team under Proff. Mann during their time on the main island.

AT KITAVA ISLAND.



REPORT.

GENERAL: This time of the year being given over to preparation and planting of gardens there is very little of note to report upon the native situation; the whole tenor of the patrol being one of "non interference" except where unavoidable.

In all cases orders issued on previous patrols were satisfactorily completed and the villages of a uniformly high standard. Omerakana was by far the worst village seen and to this officers knowledge has never been completely satisfactory; the solution may lie in a thorough "blitz" and heavy goal terms but it is felt that this course might have repercussions causing more harm than good was obtained and Omerakana is therefore more or less left to its own devices.

Barracks & Rest houses were all in good condition considering their age and will serve until the new year when extensive repairs and rebuilding will be carried out to facilitate the new year's patrolling.

VILLAGE HOUSING etc. etc.

The standard of housing on the whole island has shown a steady upward trend since the advent of Mr. ADO Geelan and with continued prompting the people have now reached the stage where it is possible for a patrol to move through the island without seeing a single house in need of repairs or on the point of collapse: a situation all too common nine months ago.

The general state of cleanliness, with one exception, leaves nothing to be desired and once again is in pleasant contrast to the old state of affairs.

ROADS AND BRIDGES, AIRSTRIPS.

Here again the situation has improved but lack of funds prevent any sort of permanent work being done to arrest the steady and, in places, serious deterioration of road surfaces. All roads are clear and filled to the best of native ability but nothing can be done for certain sections where the road surface has almost completely worn away. The cleared and maintained south strip is once again in need of cleaning but the surface shows little sign of wear at the present moment and should still be capable of handling air traffic of a fairly concentrated and heavy nature for quite a fair period.

HEALTH.

Generally good but the lack of supplies has considerably hampered the NMOs in their work and the shortage of trained staff led to the closing of the Aid post at Okupukopu with the result that a fair proportion of the people in this area were found to be in need of dressings on sores, minor cuts, skin complaints while one child was sent in from this area with yaws. The post at Diagila is temporarily closed while the NMO is on leave whilst at Raibora the NMO, although on leave, is still carrying out treatment daily. The work of the NMOs in this district can only be fully appreciated by seeing them in action and observing the results of their work. They are held in great esteem by the people and with the exception of the recent matter of the NMO at Okaikoda do a thorough and satisfactory job from everyone's point of view.

The Dismedof. and his party are due to visit this island in the next few days.

NATIVE SITUATION.

Stable and quiet with no cases brought to the notice of this officer. Minor arguments were reported at a football match at Obwelia but no violence took place.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS.

In the main satisfactory but the older generation of village constabulary are inclined to be slow and uncertain: replacement where possible should lead to a marked increase in the activity of these people and would facilitate the execution of orders both from this office and on patrol.

COMMERCE.

As usual a little copra, a little carving and a lot of root. If Samarai desires a yearly supply of yams then we may have the basis of a secondary industry for the Kiriwinan: by nature a farmer he does not use all the land available in any given season and, from conversations with a large number of them, they are only too eager to plant out more if there is an assured market and a fixed and reasonable price for their produce.

It is suggested that all else being equal the planting, harvesting, and marketing be on a community basis with a fair distribution of the profits: a rudimentary co-operative system such as this might well be expanded into the larger field beyond should it prove a success and in any case would prove an interesting guide to the future of co-operation in this area.

LAW AND ORDER.

Nothing to report.

SUMMARY.

Apart from bringing the Administration into the lives & homes of the people little was done by this patrol that has not been covered in the diary section of the report.

The presence of gold-lip shell in the home waters has been proved a falacy and the earlier orders of previous patrols checked upon and found to have been carried out.

There is the matter of half caste children which I feel should be brought to the attention of the DC.

At Vakuta Village: OSITUMA BOSEWETA (HELEN) born 22/7/51, daughter of INAUOTU of Vakuta (Deceased) and MR. J. Clarke (late of Muwo plantation) now in the care of her grandmother Lili ALLERTON or HALTON (H/C of Vakuta) This child is possessed of an extremely fair skin and is at present living as a native in her village: I understand that Mrs. M. Hancock intends sending her to Dogura school sometime in the near future.

At Kapwani: The H/C child of Mr. Wilson (beleived of works and housing) also of fair skin. No information is available at the moment as the whole family was absent during the visit of this patrol but should they be required may easily be obtained.

.....

J.D. Fitzer
.....
J.D. Fitzer CPO Losuia,
Milne Bay District.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.
@@

THE COMMISSIONER OF POLICE,
PORT MORESBY.

Report on the conduct, bearing etc. etc. of patrolling Police .
L/Cpl. Moga idimu No. 3925 of the Losuia detachment.

Satisfactory in all aspects.

Const. Geia 1 No. 7416 of the Losuia detachment.

Satisfactory in all aspects.

J.D. Fitzer
.....
J.D. Fitzer.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File: 30/2-79/54.

Sub-District Office,
LOSUIA M.B.D.

10th December 1954.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.

PATROL REPORT NO. 4-54/55 - Mr. CPO
J.D. FITZER.

Herewith I submit copies of the above-mentioned patrol report.

Patrol Report jackets are out of stock here at present, although a quantity have been ordered.

The patrol was of a routine nature. It is pleasing to note that the KIRIWINA natives are at last taking some semblance of pride in the condition of their villages and the state of their homes.

I doubt whether there is any economic potential in the market-gardening activities of KIRIWINA. From the little I have been able to observe here, the scale of production appears to fluctuate with each season: for example, if METAKATA were to die tomorrow, every chief on the island would be committed to bear some part of the obsequies and they would be supported by their commoners. Food would be at a premium and the natives would certainly place traditional obligations before "business commitments". I am afraid that the present system of a chiefly hierarchy, with its complementary economic system of tribute and its deep reliance on chiefly sorcery, is ill-suited to any form of participation in Western economic practices. Apart from all this, the market is not sufficiently sure.

The cases of the two half-caste children are the subject of some concern, and Mr. Fitzer very properly brings them to notice. They are however, but two in a crowd of some scores of "wartime" half-castes, who would seem to merit equal consideration. It is a great pity that something definite cannot be done about such cases, although it is questionable whether they would be better off if removed from the native social scheme. At least they are accustomed to it, and it has pretty thoroughly assimilated them, which is more than can be said for the state in which some other half-castes find themselves.

J.D. Fitzer
ADO.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/6/55 ✓



In Reply

Please Quote

D. S. 30/1/6 /1015

HEADQUARTERS,
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,
SAMARAI.

MEMORANDUM. FOR :-

The Director,
Department of District Services and
Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

LOSUIA PATROL REPORT NO. 4 of 54/55.

Please find attached copy of Report compiled by Mr. J.D. Fitzer C.P.O. following his patrol to the Islands of VAKUTA, KIRIWINA, and KITAVA, in effect practically the entire Losuia Sub-District.

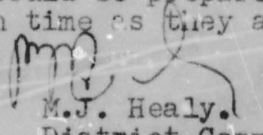
An intensive patrol programme over these Islands during the last nine months has certainly stirred the people, a fact that was well in evidence when I visited the bulk of the people on KIRIWINA and KITAVA with His Honour, the Administrator, in early January, 1955.

If money can in any way do anything to preserve the roads on Kiriwina perhaps the A.D.O. would care to report. I personally do not think anything other than mechanical equipment, on a grand scale, could solve the relatively minor problem.

As far as is known, Samarai over the last six months has absorbed all Yams surplus to Kiriwina requirements. When all is said, the Yam is not a particularly sought after food.

Would the A.D.O. please look further into the matter of part native children. I will take the matter up with the Anglican Mission who have a half-caste school at Dogura, but I do not think that the Mission would be prepared to take the children for schooling until such time as they are of school age.

A good Report.


M.J. Healy,
District Commissioner,

30-6-232

26th February, 1955.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SANRAL.

LOSUA Patrol Report No. 4 of 1954/55.

Mr. Fitzner's report has been received. Generally everything seems to be satisfactory in these islands.

Transport would be quite an item if cash cropping was started in Kiviwina.

With regard to those half-caste children, are the fathers still in the Territory.

Would a road scheme, involving the use of mechanical equipment be an economical proposition.

Quite a good report.

Items of interest to other Departments have been forwarded to those concerned.

(S/A) 10/11/55

A.A.R.
(A.A. Roberts)
Director.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of Loania M.B.D. Report No. 5-54/55

Patrol Conducted by R.M. Julian

Area Patrolled Kailuma Is. villages

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mc EMA Henry

Natives Six

Duration—From 23/2/1955 to 26/2/1955

Number of Days four

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? yes

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services Jan/Feb 1954

Medical Jan /1955

Map Reference Loania Subdivision No. "A"

Objects of Patrol General

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

13/4/1955

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 £.....

Handwritten notes in left margin:
Patrol Report
Loania M.B.D.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of Coast M.B.D. Report No. 5-54/55.

Patrol Conducted by R.M. Quinn

Area Patrolled Kailuma Is. villages

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr. EMA Henry

Natives Six

Duration—From 23/2/1955 to 26/2/1955

Number of Days four

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? yes.

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services Jan/July 1954

Medical Jan /1955

Map Reference Gov. Census Subdivision No. "A"

Objects of Patrol General

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

13/4/1955

[Signature]
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 £.....

Colonial Gov. (copy)

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Sub-District Office,
Losuia, M.B.D.

8th March 1955.

File: 30/1.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.

REPORT OF A PATROL TO VILLAGE OF
KAILUNA ISLAND.

Officer conducting patrol: R.M. Geelan.
Natives Accompanying: One member RPC } Const. DOIWA.
Interpreter: GOWELI.
Personal Servant.
Three crew members ML "Kingfisher".
Departed Losuia: 0955 hrs 23rd February 1955.
Returned Losuia: 1710 hrs 26th February 1955.
Purpose of Patrol: Routine administration and census.
Last patrol to Area: (i) DDS: Mr. J.D. Fitzner, from 16th
July 1954 to 16th August 1954.
(ii) PHD: Mr J. Kenny - January 1955.
Mr. Kenny accompanied this patrol.

.....
DIARY.

Wednesday 23rd February 1955: The patrol left Losuia wharf by ML Kingfisher at 0955 hrs. We arrived at KADUWAGA village on the West coast of Kailuna at 1155 hrs. Anchored and camped in the Rest House, which has been maintained in good condition. Village Constable TODUNA and Councillors awaited our arrival. The afternoon was spent in organizing the village people for census and medical examination, both of which jobs were carried out in conjunction. An inspection was also made of anti-malarial spraying activities in the area - this being part of the South Pacific Commission's Project H-8, controlled by Dr. Black.

Thursday 24th February 1955: Census of the villages of KADUWAGA and TAUWEMA was completed this day. An inspection of TAUWEMA village, water supply, roads and gardens occupied the afternoon. This village is 40 minutes by goodroad from KADUWAGA.

Friday 25th February 1955: Left KADUWAGA by Kingfisher and arrived at BULAKWA (South coast Kaileuna) at 0935 - one hour's trip. Went ashore and Kingfisher continued to Losuia with hospital patients and mail. Census and medical inspection of BULAKWA was completed by 1100 hrs., and the patrol then walked for a short distance along a fair track to KAISIEA, where census and medical inspection were begun and completed by 2.00 p.m. Marked out 12 sites for new houses here - the village was partly destroyed by fire in July 1954, and the houses that have since been erected are not very good. On the return of Kingfisher, the party went aboard (2.30 p.m.) and returned to KADUWAGA, arriving at 3.30 p.m.

Saturday 26th February 1955: Departed KADUWAGA by road at 0830 for KOMA. The 50 minutes' walk was made in moderate rain over quite a good road. Bulk of patrol cargo went round the coast by launch to GIWA, our ultimate destination. KOMA census and inspection was completed by 1145 and we continued for half an hour to GIWA, passing en route the KOMA water-hole - a strange affair, caused some 12 months ago by a subsidence of the thin surface coral crust of the island, to disclose a subterranean chamber roughly spherical in shape, in the bottom of which runs a stream of very clear water. The diameter of this cave would be in the region of 35-40 feet, and access is by means of the circular "trap-door"-like hole at the top, where the coral crust fell in. One old man was cutting posts for his garden fence, we were told, when on sitting down to rest, he noticed cracks appearing in the ground nearby. Then a circular section of the surface simply disappeared, and he retreated to the village in fright, thinking that he was about to witness a modern "baloma-emergence". The Kiriwina tradition has it that the baloma, or original culture-heroes and progenitors of the present day Kiriwinans, came out of holes in the ground, bearing the yam, the "wai'gua" (native wealth later used ceremonially in Kula) and various artifacts. The KOMA villagers regarded this old fellow as an hysteric and refused to believe him; but he finally persuaded them to come and look - whereupon they exclaimed "Well, you found it - how you can look after it and see that none of our children go near it". He has by now conquered his original fear and is quite proud of his charge.

26/2/55 continued: Party arrived at GIWA at 1215. Census of this village and the neighbouring hamlet of LEBOLA occupied until 4.00 p.m., when it was decided to return to LOSUIA. Patrol boarded Kingfisher immediately and arrived at Losuia wharf at 1710 hrs. Native personnel were dismissed and Mr. CPO Fitzer reported all well at the Station.

.....
GENERAL INFORMATION.

Native Affairs: Stable. No complaints of any kind were heard during the course of the patrol. Village activities are not at a very high pitch at present: the harvest is due in about July and main occupations just now are sporadic care of gardens, fishing expeditions in which one elder man will take members of the family (youths, for the most part) away for a day at a time, to one of the nearby islets, where nets and (occasionally) derris root are employed to catch fish, lobsters, etc. Women care for the gardens by way of weeding and cleaning - now that the initial garden-magic has been performed, they are not barred from entry. The patrol was fortunate in securing photos of garden magic in process in one garden - unfortunately my developing chemicals are not A-1, and the negatives have to be returned from Australia. They will be forwarded as soon as they return.

Housing, Village Cleanliness etc: Quite good in all cases. There is only one village - KOMA - which may be said to be an inland settlement - they are about five minutes' walk from the beach; all others have reasonably good sites on beaches which are comparatively easy to keep clean. KOMA's area was quite fair.

The only village in which housing was not up to standard was KAISIGA. Plaited palm-leaf humpies had been erected along the beach, and the sites of the former (burnt-out) dwellings were vacant. Using the chief's house as an example, plans were made for erection of similar houses within the next two or three months. KAISIGA has a virtual monopoly of sago-leaf on KAILEUNA, so there should be no hardship entailed in rebuilding.

Water Supplies etc.: Most domestic water is obtained from small seepage holes in the coral of which KAILLEUNA Is. is composed. The water seems quite pure and has no taste. All wells seen are in fairly close proximity to the villages and surroundings were reasonably clean. The KOMA people have of course the famous subterranean cavern as their water source.

Gardens: The ubiquitous yam forms the staple item of diet, as in the rest of Kiriwina. Very good crops may be expected this year, I am told: certainly, all gardens seen were flourishing. Sugar-cane is grown, as are taro, sweet potato and manioc - this being the only time I have seen manioc used generally by the majority of village households - elsewhere in Kiriwina it is seen only very infrequently. The Kailleuna Islanders assured me that this is usual with them - they often eat manioc.

While tending towards the subject of diet, I also learned that on Kailleuna, no-one eats wild pig-flesh. The island is overrun with wild pigs, and each garden is surrounded by the strongest possible fences. However, the people do not eat them - their only expressed reason being that they are not "proper food". I asked what their opinion was of the litters of village sows which had been served by bush boars, but received no coherent answer. I do not know whether the Trobriand notion of conception by magical means (and not by physical) extends to the animal kingdom as well as to human beings.

One village (Kaisiga) claims that it is the only one in which hens' eggs are boiled and eaten. I have never heard of it before.

Tomatoes, peanuts, papaws and oranges are grown, but are regarded as children's food - not to be taken seriously as an item of diet.

Fish of course is quite important. Every house has its flat 44-gallon drum top which is used as a hot-plate on which to grill small sardine-like fish; larger fish are baked in the ashes and are eaten without being mixed with vegetables of any kind. Chilis grow well in various places but are not used as a relish.

Roads: All seen were in good order. Maintenance presents no problems: Kailleuna scenery being mainly flat, covered in secondary growth with few large areas of bush.

Village Officials: Village Constable TODUN. of KADUWAGA has been the only Vill. Const. on Kaileuna for some years - another man was dismissed in 1949 and a successor was not appointed. The opportunity was taken on this patrol to install one BEONA of KOMA as Village Constable of KAKK, GIWA-LEBOLA and KAISIGA-BULAKWA - having a total population of about 275. BEONA seems a strong man who should do well.

Village councillors are fairly efficient.

Law and Order: No complaints were heard during the course of the patrol. Everyone seemed most law-abiding.

Commerce: Kaileuna Islanders make copra from small village plantations and groves. The produce is either smoked or sun-dried and is sold to local traders who go across from Losuia in small boats and buy at each village. No other form of trade exists - the people do not seem interested in shell although to my inexperienced eye there are some likely looking reefs in the area. There are at present no trade stores on the island although a trading site, long vacant, has recently been rented by one of the Losuia traders. Hitherto, trade goods have been taken over by the traders and sold from their launches.

Health: Mr EMA Kenny inspected everyone on the island during the course of the census. Health appeared to be quite good.

Census Figures are appended in the Patrol Report Jacket.

Objects of the Patrol were attained. Census was done with willing co-operation from all villages and village officials were of assistance.

Mission Schools: The Methodist Mission have a school at KADUWAGA at which attendance was said to be fair. Children from KADUWAGA, KOMA and TAUWEMA attend.

Conclusion: Kaileuna Islanders seem to be a reasonably contented although not very progressive crowd. Their wants are simple - they have quite rich garden land and their needs for consumer-type goods are amply catered for by the purchases enabled by their production of copra. Like so many of the outer islands people in this sub-district, they appear to flourish in their comparative isolation.


ADO.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

Appendix I - Patrol Report No. 5 of 1954/55: Losuia.

Report of Member of RP & NGC accompanying Patrol.

No. 6333 Const. DOIWA FARALEPA: An energetic younger Constable, with quite good personality and command. Tends to become a little heavy-handed if not controlled.


ADO.

DS.30-6-239

28th April, 1955.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
CAMARAI.

PATROL REPORT - LOSUIA No. 5
of 1954/55.

The abovementioned report has been received. No copy of the census figures for the Department of Public Health has been received. Please instruct all your field staff that this is necessary. Let me have the necessary figures from Mr. Goelan as soon as possible.

The idea of a combined District Services and Medical patrol is a good one and should be encouraged.

The natives should be encouraged to go in more for commerce and so help to raise their standard of living. A little more time spent with these people would, I think, produce results.

Items of interest to other Departments have been forwarded to those concerned.

Handwritten initials:
P/S
J.S.

Handwritten signature: A.A.R.
(A.A. Roberts.)
Director - D.D.S. & H.A.
Handwritten initials: WST

[MISSING - COPY FROM DUPLICATE BOUND VOLUME 6/3/87.]

Handwritten signature: J. H. ...
Chief Archivist

Population Register

Area Patrolled *Kaituma Is. Looia Sp. M.P.D.*
NB. Grand total excludes absentees.

MIGRATIONS			ABSEN. FROM VILLAGE				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES		Average Size of Family	TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL	
			AT WORK		STUDENTS		Males		Females		Pregnant	Number of Child Bearing Age		Child		Adults			
F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	10-16	16-45			10-16	16-45			M	F	M
		2		6	1		4	✓	17	33	9	48	2	36	37	22	64	56	193
	1								7	23	3	20	1	9	33	14	31	24	102
									4	7	-	9	-	6	13	7	11	10	41
									3	17	6	15	4	8	14	19	16	17	66
									8	39	5	38	2	30	30	26	49	53	158
									2	9	2	9	1	8	12	6	10	10	38
									2	9	1	5	1	4	4	4	9	5	22



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of Lomua (Milne Bay) Report No. 6-52/55

Patrol Conducted by R. M. Gulam

Area Patrolled Kuyuna, Abunivela & Lisancung Group

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans Mr EMA Kenny

Natives 8

Duration—From 1 / 4 / 1955 to 15 / 4 / 1955

Number of Days 8 1/2

Did Medical Assistant Accompany Yes

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 2 / 10 / 1954

Medical ? / ? / 1952

Map Reference Lomua Census Subdivision A

Objects of Patrol Census - Investigation of credit allowed to Natives - General Administration

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

13/5/1955

[Signature]
District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £ NIL

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

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

Personal files noted [Signature]

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply
Please Quote

D. S. 30-1.

SUBDISTRICT OFFICE,
LOSUIA,
MILNE BAY DISTRICT.

23rd April 1955.

MEMORANDUM FOR:-

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.

REPORT OF A PATROL (LOS. NO. 6 OF 1954-55)
TO KUYAUA, MUNIWATA AND THE IS-
LANDS OF THE LUSANCAY GROUP.

Officer conducting Patrol: R.M. Geelan ADO.
Europeans Accompanying: J.J. Kenny EMA.
Natives accompanying: IP&NGPF: 2 Constables.
PHD : 1 NMO;
1 FNMO.
Customs: 3 crew ML "Kingfisher".
Personal: 1 domestic servant.
Departed Losuia: 1330 hrs. 7/4/55.
Returned Losuia: 1700 hrs. 15/4/55.
Purposes of Patrol: Routine Administrative duties and Census.
Last Patrol to Area: Los. Patrol Report 3-54/55 of 11 days -
R.M. Geelan. (DDS).
PHD last visited the area during 1952.

.....
D I A R Y .

Thursday 7/4/55: The patrol left Losuia at 1330 hrs. by ML "Kingfisher" and arrived at KADUWAGA on the west coast of KAILLEUNA Island at 1530 hrs., where Const. OGAI and NMO POI did NOT meet us, although this had previously been arranged. Continued to NUATU village on KUYAUA Island where we anchored at 1705 hrs. Camped in Rest house. Weather squally with SE wind and a nasty short sea.

Friday 8/4/55: Good Friday. After the native church service it was decided in the interests of making the best of the rapidly-deteriorating weather, to continue with census and village inspection. The village of MUNIWATA on an adjacent island was visited for the same purposes this afternoon.

Saturday 9/4/55: Heavy rain and variable winds made movement impossible. ML "Kingfisher" went back to KADUWAGA to pick up Const. OGAI and NMO POI and, on the return trip, took such a buffeting that the false keel fell off and was retrieved only with difficulty. Patrol was confined to the rest-house and barracks because of the weather. This afternoon conditions were such that we were able to make a check on medical status and on the allowance of credit to natives by certain traders (vide District Commissioner's memo. DS 41/1/1 (1182) of 9th March 1955). Both MUNIWATA and KUYAUA were visited this day.

Sunday 10/4/55: Left KUYAUA at 0900 and arrived at KONIA, in the SIMSIM Island group at 1330 hrs. Found the people for the most part absent - these natives usually are away at sea. No point in staying (no rest-house) so departed at 1430 hrs. for KAWA where we anchored at 1600 hrs. Not five minutes after our arrival, a village house was destroyed by fire, due to the occupants smoking copra on a grid above the fireplace. Prompt action by Mr. Kenny and Const. OGAI resulted in most of the household goods being saved but the house was a write-off.

Monday 11/4/55: At KAWA. Weather bad. "Kingfisher" took some of the villagers to another island about 1 hr away to get building materials to rebuild the burnt house; they returned about 1200 hrs. Census and medical inspection this afternoon. A VD inspection was also made, with the aid of Female NMO Loi; mysteriously the Councillor was infected but the women of the village and other men were not.

Tuesday 12/4/55: Left KAWA 0800. Arrives SIMSIM Is. at 0950. About a dozen people were available for inspection, but the others were somewhere in the SILIPWAKA Island area, so at 1045 hrs. we left for that area, arriving at SILIPWAKA Is. at 1220 hrs. Found more SIMSIM and KAWA people there and checked census while Mr. Kenny did med. and VD inspection. Two more cases VD here - the SIMSIM Councillor and one other male. No women infected. Left SILIPWAKA at 1400 hrs. and headed straight for KAULEUNA Island, arriving at KADUWAGA at 1730 hrs. Camped in Rest House. The trip from KAWA via SIMSIM and SILIPWAKA was quite crowded today: we had, in addition to ourselves and 8 station natives, 14 patients - a total of 24 which is not bad for a 30-ft launch. Needless to say, it was absolutely essential

to carry them.

Wednesday 13/4/55: "Kingfisher" left KADUWAGA at daylight with the patients en route Losuia Hospital. Self and party left KADUWAGA by road for KOMA village about 50 minutes away, to check on matters which had been indicated as needing attention during my last patrol of KAILIUNA (Los. P/R. No. 5-54/55.) Village was quite good this time. Discussion held on credit allowed by traders, and on allied matters such as the lack of development of native plantations etc. Left KOMA at 1445 hrs., arriving at KADUWAGA R/H at 1530 hrs. Kingfisher returned from Losuia at 1645 hrs., after being aground on the bar at BOLI Point. No damage was done. This evening, the KADUWAGA ~~THURSDAY~~ and TAUWIMA villagers listened to the Native People's Session from 9PA on a radio brought by the patrol. Great interest shown when (by sheer good luck) they heard two SIMSIM songs which had been recorded by Mr. P.N. Cochran during his visit to Losuia in January 1955. With 8' of aerial, reception was quite good.

Thursday 14/4/55: Patrol left KADUWAGA at 0800 for TUMA Island. Arrived off the village of TUMA at 0945 hrs. Only four houses here and a population of 10 - being relatives of MITAKATA who are charged with the duty of attending to the incessant oblations he is bound to offer to the spirit which inhabit TUMA. Census and mod. insp., and on hearing that some of the TUMA men were away at KADAI Island, we pursued our way, arriving at KADAI at 1115 hrs. Found the men, and left at 1300 hrs. Went ashore at the southern tip of TUMA where we saw a hole in the coral ridge just above sea-level, into which the spirits of dead KIRIWINANS are supposed to vanish. Much betelnut was strewn about the hole. Numbers of sharks seen around this point - odd ones of this number were of a creamy white colour with black-tipped fins and tail, and being about 4'-6' long. Left the point about 1410 hrs., arriving at KADUWAGA at 1600 hrs.

Friday 15/4/55: Left KADUWAGA at 1030 hrs. and returned to KUYAUA, our first port of call, to check on results of instructions left there re house repairs nine days ago. No attempt had been made to do anything, so CMH constituted on the spot. Left at 1200 hrs. and crossed back to the southern side of KAILIUNA, to visit KAISIGA village,

where, during Patrol No. 5-54/55 in February last, instructions had also been left to rebuild houses to our specifications, to replace those burned down in July 1954. Fair progress had been made and after spending three hours (1200-1500) in the village, we re-boarded Kingfisher and returned to Losuia, arriving at 1700 hrs. Cpl. Abel reported all in order at the Station. Patrol personnel dismissed.

.....

R E P O R T .

Introduction: Although the patrol left the station on the day before Good Friday, and the Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday of Easter-time were occupied by patrol and administrative activities, it was considered beforehand that this step was to be preferred rather than the alternative namely of delaying the departure of the patrol until the ensuing Tuesday. This second course would have resulted in the Sub-District office being left unattended for 9 days (the full course of the patrol) instead of from Wednesday 13th April to Friday 15th April: a period of only 3 days. Care was taken to avoid clashing with the native church service at KUYAUA Island: this, in fact, was the only service held in this area throughout the Easter period.

Native Affairs: Stable. No complaints by natives were heard. The people seem to be pursuing their usual activities in a normal manner. KUYAUA and MUNIWATTA were fishing and indulging in a little bargaining for arm-shells and bagi with some visitors from the Kiriwinan mainland. Individuals were making copra. The people of KONIA village on SIMSIM Island were for the most part away in their canoes, crossing from one islet to the other - as these people have to do to reach their gardens or their plantations. KAWA folk were for the most part at home, with three or four individuals absent on nearby islands, getting food or fishing - these returned as soon as "Kingfisher" was sighted. Except at the SIMSIMs census work went ahead rapidly - in the SIMSIMs' case, it was unavoidably long-drawn-out because of the scattering of the people. This cannot be remedied because there is obviously noway of advising them in advance. As will be seen from the diary, the delay was not serious. Co-operation with PHD seemed also to be quite good.

Housing, Village Cleanliness etc.: All villages seen were quite good and MUNIWATA was exceptionally so. Housing is mainly of the usual "fair-only" Kirivana standard: difficulties of procuring native building materials are accountable for this. The SIMSIM people live, as previous reports have said, on either one of two small parallel islands. On one, is situated their true village "Konia" - and nearby is a dense, self-planted coconut grove which, although it is only about a hundred yards wide (from one beach to the other) is impossible to see through, so thickly grown are the trees and the undergrowth. It is alive with mosquitoes which, at certain times of the year, drive the villagers out of KONIA and send them over to the other island across about 100 yards of water. They have small palm-leaf shanties erected on the beach here which they occupy until their reconnaissances of KONIA indicate that the enemy has retired; whereupon they re-occupy their former positions and await the next attack. There are only 40 people - men women and children - on this island and they are quite incapable of handling the job of cleaning the place without assistance. (Incidentally, they show little interest.) I have toyed with the idea of shipping out 20 prisoners and camping on the job - this would entail a stores problem and it would not be a quick job - in addition to clearing undergrowth it would be necessary to thin out the coconut palms which at present are a jumbled mass. I doubt the wisdom of doing this for the people without having them exhibit some personal interest of their own - to date they have not shown such interest. The advantages would be that, in addition to eradicating much of the mosquito pest, their plantation would be in a much better condition, and this might serve to improve their economic status. Again, in view of the discussion re trading activities during the District Commissioner's recent visit here, it may be that certain individual traders would be quick to turn such a move to their own credit. At any rate, the problem of transport of the necessary supplementary labour and rations would necessitate the use of a trawler to take a party out and bring it back, allowing about two or three weeks for the job; I doubt if trawlers are as plentiful as that. Summing up, it would be an interesting exercise in community development, provided that (a) the people themselves could be induced to show some positive

interest in their own welfare; (b) that the District Commissioner ^{was warranted} agreed that the expenditure of a number of prisoners, their maintenance etc., for about two weeks and that of a trawler to take them out (a two-day trip, supposing the ESA'ALA-based vessel was used) and bring them back at the end of the job, and (c) provided that the trouble would be worth it in the case of an isolated community of 40 people, which has little or nothing in common with the native economy of the rest of the Sub-District.

Housing on KAILLEUNA had improved since my last patrol (No.5) and this was particularly noted in the case of KAISIGA. Here the people had built quite good new houses, raised some 4' from the ground and of quite good material - but (typically Kiriwina) they were continuing to live in the shabby rat-, and lice-infested hovels which had been condemned on my last visit. On this visit, these were pulled down by the owners, on my instructions, and burnt outside the village area - numerous rats etc. being killed in the process. The opportunity was taken at the same time of ordering the replacement of seven other houses in this village which had not been destroyed by the July 1954 fire but which are in a pretty bad way. I hope eventually to make KAISIGA a model village where visiting Village Officials from the rest of Kiriwina may be shown what we require in the way of housing. I hope the KAISIGA people will be flattered by this move - their gratification might lead other villages to emulate their performance, although I am beginning to doubt whether a competitive spirit exists at all in the Trobriands, and whether one may be fostered.

Housing on TUMA is of the average Kiriwina quality - this hamlet also is plagued by mosquitoes because the undergrowth has been allowed to encroach upon the village area. Orders were given that a space of 50 feet be cleared on all sides of the village - I hope to be able to check on this by making a quick run to TUMA one day. It is only about three hours away.

Water Supplies: Village water-holes in the coral are the source of most of the supply - augmented in some cases by 44-gal. drums and primitive catchments. The water seems to be quite all right.

Gardens: There are practically no gardens worthy of the name in this island area. KUYAUA and MUNIWATA grow small quantities of yams, manioc and sweet corn, with a little sugar-cane; KAWA has gardens on adjacent islands with much the same kinds of products, and the people of SIMSIM although numbering only 40, have barely three acres of garden land on their home island. They have small plots scattered among the other more distant islands of the Lusancay Group, in which they grow bananas, sweet corn, sugar-cane and small quantities of yam and sweet potato; but their main diet is fish, combined with coconut-meat. Mr. EMA Kenny has notified me (in this regard) that a pregnant KAWA woman, brought back to hospital by this patrol, is most deficient in haemoglobin content and in general is in a moderately severe state of anaemia. This may then fairly be said to be the condition of the average KAWA native - although to the unpracticed eye they appear to be quite healthy, the reverse apparently is the case. There are no tabus that I have discovered which would account for the anaemia of a pregnant woman: certain foods are not prohibited to her, in fact, she probably receives delicacies from the hands of her brother and his kin. Mr. Kenny's opinion is that the scarcity (due to geographical environment) of garden land in this area, coupled with the extreme difficulty under which these gardens which do exist have to be made, leads to an unbalanced diet which the physique of the people has only partly compensated for. (In my Patrol Report No. 3-54/55, under the heading "General", I remarked on the hardship entailed by this lack of easily-accessible gardening land).

Roads: There is only one road on KAWA, and one on KUYAUA: each one is no more than 200 yards in length, leading from beach to rest-house in both cases. Both were in quite fair condition when seen.

Village Officials: A replacement for Vill. Const. TOKITAVA who died in 1953 was appointed during this patrol. The appointee, TOWAWALA seems a likely type and will control both KAWA and SIMSIM Islands. At MADUWAGA (Kaileuna Is.) it was found that Vill. Const. TODUNA had made very little effort to implement the instructions issued during Patrol No. 5-54/55 - so, taking into consideration his long series of reprimands, dating from about 1949, his services were terminated and

a new appointee TOBWAGA of TAUWEMA was installed.

Village Councillors of KAWA and SIMSIM, being both VD cases, have been charged under r. 107 NRO., and their offices are now vacant. Other Councillors appear to be fulfilling their duties fairly well.

Law and Order: No complaints were brought to the notice of the patrol. At all previous visits these natives appear very orderly.

Commerce: In common with other KIRIWINANS, KUYAUA, MUNIWATA, KAWA and SIMSIM Islanders produce small individual quantities of copra which are traded to local European traders in exchange for goods, foodstuffs etc. There are two main points arising under this head which seem worthy of elaboration: the first being in connection with my investigation into the practice by some traders of allowing credit to natives, and the second being in connection with the matter of diet mentioned on p. 7 supra under heading "Gardens".

(1): Credit: Taking KUYAUA as a cross-section of the average village found in this group, my findings were as follows:

Out of a male adult population (i.e. between average 16 - 50 years) of 35, in KUYAUA, 29 male natives have received credit from one, or both, of two traders. This figure of 29 included 5 males under the age of 17. The average amount of indebtedness is as follows: (a) in the case where credit has been received from one trader only - 7s.4d. and (b) in the case where credit has been received from both traders - 15s.2d. The individual amounts of credit in the cases of the 5 natives under 17 years were: 10/-; 4/-; 10/-; 10/-; 10/-, respectively. In all cases, items bought on credit are tobacco, calico, fish-lines and hooks, knives, dishes, and matches. In a very small number of cases (usually children) biscuits were asked for; and one man only bought soap. One mouth-organ was bought, and one file - but there is a noticeable lack - in this area at least - of foodstuffs such as rice or flour being bought on credit. Maximum amounts of credit to any one village is £14: 5: 0, from one trader to the natives of KUYAUA (this sum is made up of the small amounts to individuals above.) This very brief summary of KUYAUA's credit situation may be paralleled in practically every other village in the area. Credit does not appear to follow a pattern of individual native wealth: for

example, in KOWA village or KAILEUNA Island, one man in debt for 5/- has only three young coconuts not yet in bearing. In other cases, men owning a comparatively large number of trees, producing a reasonably large amount of copra, had money in their houses more than sufficient to pay their debts, and yet had not done so. They told me that they preferred to be in debt, because they then felt that they had an incentive to work! This view was reiterated in every village in which I enquired. There seems to be absolutely no connection at all in their minds between the ten or twelve shillings in silver in their boxes in the houses, and their unresolved credit with a trader; the idea that, having money available, they could, if they so wished, liquidate their debt, simply has not occurred to them. The debt has nothing to do with the money, or the goods. I cannot understand this, and therefore cannot explain it. When told that the laws relating to trading recognised no legal obligation for them to pay their debts, they all seemed uneasy. One old man (who was the only one I could prevail upon to talk at all freely) said that this notion of indebtedness as an incentive to work derived from a traditional native system of "mortgage": wherein the inland people of Kiriwina habitually bring baskets of yams to a coastal village (notably KAVATARIA, near Losuia) and deposit them, without speaking, in front of certain men's houses. They then go away. The coastal natives then tacitly recognize the fact that he before whose house the yams have been placed is in the position of mortgagee to the owner of the yams - and his next catch of fish is mortgaged in the value (native) of those yams. This is known in Kiriwina dialect as "wasi" (mortgage); "yena ba'wasisi" - "I mortgage my fish" &c. It has been adopted as a heaven-sent convenience by the old-established European traders here who, by substituting trade goods for the yams, may "mortgage" an individual native's subsequent copra production to the value of those goods. Exactly in the same way as the inland Kiriwinans take care that the fishermen (particularly those with effective "magic") are never without their "wasi" of yams, so does the Trobriand trader maintain his mortgage of the individual native's copra. Having its beginning in one of the well-known, practically immovable Kiriwina native traditions, (in other words, not being a peculiarly European innovation) I have an uneasy feeling that, even if the relevant law is

capable of application in terms of the District Commissioner's recent discussion of the subject at Losuia, the opposition by the natives concerned might be as great as that of the Europeans affected thereby. It is certainly not a good thing, particularly as there are traders here who are at present being penalized (by not being able to obtain copra) because they will not allow credit, the natives of the island have told both these people and me that their attitude is "No 'wasi' - no copra". It seems to be the old Kiriwina story of the chief who can allow the most largesse being the one to whom the people will rally. The legal implications will probably be relatively simple to expound, and one may only hope that the social consequences arising from them will not prove too much of a headache. I hope not to appear unduly pessimistic, but thirteen months in the Trobriands have shown me that even the simplest of movements in native (and European) relationships may have quite amazing results.

The investigation into credit to natives will be continued on subsequent patrols on the main island of Kiriwina, and results will be forwarded as available.

(Bi). Diet - Natives of KAWA and SIMSIM Is. This second point is connected with (i) above in this way:

These natives have some very good copra and are visited (in recent months) by a fortnightly-, or three-weekly service operated by Trobriands traders. To observe accurately the effect this has on their gardening would take more time than I can spare while on patrol; but it may be that either (a) their need for European foodstuffs causes them to neglect their already-inadequate gardens, to their ultimate detriment - or (b) that the demands of traders for their copra (backed perhaps by a "wasi-obligation") leave them too little time for other (gardening) pursuits.

It has been suggested by Mr. EMA Kenny that their consumption of non-native foods, insufficiently augmented by their native garden produce, could result in the kind of debility found in the KAWA women mentioned on p. 7. Whether the natives are receiving such food from traders either on credit or in exchange for copra, I was unable to discover - the KAWAs and SIMSIMs are most uncommunicative and are very unwilling to talk

to the Government (who appears only about three times per year) about their relationships with traders (who arrive regularly every three weeks, with cargoes of European goods which the natives want badly; and who can be relied on to carry them about their island domain (for a consideration) and on occasions to bring them all to Lesuia for a dance, or fetch building materials - sago-wood etc. - from Cooalaloga Island for the natives' use (again for a consideration).) All that the SIMSIM people would tell me was that they do not receive credit from any trader, but that certain traders do give them "presents" (specifically, "five or eight sticks of tobacco each") to encourage them to make copra. I am morally certain that credit is allowed in these two islands; but to what extent the people use credit to buy rice and biscuits, or to what extent their indebtedness (if any) is responsible for their alleged below-standard health, I cannot say. I would be inclined to regard the SIMSIMs' concentration on a fish diet with little emphasis on vegetables as a natural result of the locality in which they live. Before ever traders visited the islands, there were natives living there who had no more facilities for gardening than the present population has, and whose dietary habits must therefore have been similar. However, I know little of physiological matters and must allow Mr. Kenny's opinion full weight. In view of the natives' unwillingness to discuss their relationship with their long-established European trader-friends with the Government, I have nothing but supposition on which to base any opinion.

As to commerce generally: discussions were held in all villages concerning some alternative incentive to the indebtedness mentioned above, as a spur to economic betterment. This is about the fifth series of such talks I have had since arriving at Lesuia, and the results are still "Nil". It does no good to quote the achievements of other Papuan communities because in 99 cases out of 100, one's hearers are utterly ignorant of the existence of these people - nothing exists to a Kiriwinan outside his yam-garden and his chief. I tried the example of the Kaibola Native Plantation (the scene last year of Mr. CPO Fitzer's attempts at planting new coconuts): and suggested to the Kalleuna people that there was about £1000 per annum going to

waste, which could be put to good use by the natives concerned, if they liked to clean the place up and make some copra. The rhetorical question followed: "What kind of a fool is it who would leave £1000 lying in his village, without putting it to use?" Rhetoric, however, was wasted. No interest at all was shown in anything which needed a community effort embracing anything larger than the extended family. The notion of a village (or even members of two clans within a village) uniting for a common purpose will not be entertained. In fact, after my return from this patrol, two people pointed out to me the lengths to which this insularity will go: Rev. Goodwin instanced the case of a village school located half-way between two villages no more than 100 yards apart; where, if the children of one village attend, the parents in the other village refuse to send their children. Again, Mr. Swinston quoted the case of members of two adjoining villages who happened to visit his store at the same time. The members of neither party would talk among themselves as long as the other party was on the verandah; nor was there any exchange between the two parties. When the usual present of a few sticks of tobacco was handed out, neither party would accept them, so long as the other party was included in the gift. Yet (as in the case of the Lusancay Group people) these two parties intermarry, and pay tributs to the same panel of chiefs, alike. I quote these two instances as supporting evidence, in different circumstances, of what I have found on this, and other patrols, when the matter of native commercial or social development has been raised; and, frankly, in the present Trobriands' social context, I can find no answer. In this regard, the local situation is a disappointing one.

Health: A copy of Mr. Kenny's patrol report to PHD is appended.

Figures are noted in the Patrol Report Jacket.

Mission Schools: These are maintained by the Methodist Overseas Mission on KUYAUA Island only, and on Kaileuna, at KADUWAGA. Attendances seem to be fairly regular.

Objects of the Patrol were attained with varying success: census was completed in all cases except the SIMSIM Group, where the people were scattered and had to be looked for; the credit investigation has given a fairly comprehensive basis for the future policy to be decided; vil-

lage housing was checked and, in the case of KAILEUNA Island, the results of Patrol No. 5 were re-checked and found fairly satisfactory; the medical survey has produced some interesting results; and the ever-recurring business of native development and welfare is as static as ever.

Conclusions: As elsewhere in the Sub-District, the natives are, basically, not too badly off. They are true reactionaries, quite content with things as they are, and they desire no change. The desire, seen almost everywhere else in the Territory, to emulate the European, simply does not exist here. The Xiriwina does not even agree with the words of Sir Hubert Murray: "...to become a better brown man" (as opposed to "white man"). He simply wants to stay as he is.

12 years' service, with the local people and has a fair grasp of Xiriwina dialect. Previously has patrolled the Mino Bay-Suan area. Previous reports good. Has fair command; but recommended as good material.

[Signature]
ADO.

Very good material. Four years' service, mostly at HQ Waihi and Cadarai. Desula is his first out-station posting, and he is coping quite well. Given a few more years, he will quite likely turn out a good Lt/Cpl.

[Signature]
ADO.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

File: 30-2.

Sub-District Office
Losuia.

23rd April 1955.

Appendix:

Patrol Report No. 6-54/55.

REPORT ON MEMBERS OF RP & NCP
ACCOMPANYING PATROL.

Reg. No. 3083 Konat. Ogai: A good type. 12 years' service, with the last 4 years at Losuia. Knows the local people and has a fair grip of Kiriwinan dialect. Previously has patrolled the Milne Bay-Suau area. Previous reports good. Has fair command, but is not yet recommended as NCO material.

Reg. No. 7924 PEGINA VOGI: Very good material. Four years' service, mainly at HQ Sogeri and Samarai. Losuia is his first Out-station posting, and he is shaping quite well. Given a few more years, he will quite likely turn out a good L/Cpl.


ADO.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/6/54 ✓



In Reply
Please Quote

D. S. /I+I2.

HEADQUARTERS,
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,
SAMARAI.

MEMORANDUM FOR :-

13th. May, 1955.

The Director,
Department of District Services
and Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

LOSUIA PATROL REPORT NO. 6 of 54/55.

Attached please find copies of Patrol Report completed by Mr. R.M. Geelan, A.D.O., following on his visit to the island group in the Losuia Sub-District.

Whilst the A.D.O. gives explanation as to why the patrol operated over a Good Friday and a Sunday, it is considered the action is unwise and future patrols should be confined to normal working days. Two Missions, Roman Catholic and Methodist, operate in the Trobriand Group, and anyone might object to any question of a desecration of the Sabbath.

The population of KONIA (SimSim), 40 in all, should be encouraged to clear their own coconut grove. This might take some time but even if it was a six months project at least the people would benefit by relief from mosquitoes, and increased copra production. Outside help in the form of prison labour would only tend to make these people more indolent. The A.D.O. might report further in this matter.

The development of KAISIGA as a model village is well worth pursuing. The Trobriand Islander is an insular fellow and we can only hope he will learn by example.

The question of existing credit to natives was taken up in my memo 4I-I-1/I334 of 28th. April. When I have your views and that of the Secretary for Law, action to stop the principal of extending credit will be implemented. I feel that irrespective of custom, the principal must be considered bad.

There appears to be no immediate solution on the diet question for the SimSim people. The matter will be referred to the Reg. Agricultural Officer on his return from leave in July. It is thought he has a programme for the Trobriand area at the latter end of this year.

The A.D.O. has written an interesting report which gives food for much thought. Something seems to be needed to stimulate these people - how best to accomplish that end I as yet do not know.

M.J. Healy.
District Commissioner.

c.c. A.D.O. Losuia.

30-6-242

19th May, 1955.

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.

PATROL REPORT - LOSIMA No. 6 OF
1954 - 1955.

The report has been received.

The people appear to be a very indolent lot. I do not agree with labour being sent to KONIA to clean up the coconut grove belonging to these people. They should do the job themselves. Section 122 of the Native Regulations might apply in that case, or Section 123.

Your query regarding the trader allowing credit to the natives was passed to the Secretary for Law. His reply has been posted to you.

The people certainly need something to shake them out of their present attitude. What form that will take must be left to you people on the spot.

19/5
19/5

J.K. McCarthy
(J.K. McCarthy.)

A/Director - D.D.S. & M.A.
MS

Population Register

Area Patrolled *Kayana - Maramuta, Kawa I. & Sulu I.*

ATTENDANCE		ABSENT FROM VILLAGE								LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES			TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL
Out		WORK				STUDENTS				Males		Females		Pregnant	Number of Child bearing Age	Average Size of Family	Child		Adults		
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45				M	F	M	F	
				1										1	8		13	9	17	15	54
														3	13		22	23	30	28	103
		1												-	10		19	13	33	24	89
														3	3		3	-	4	3	10



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of.....~~LOSUIA MILNE BAY DISTRICT~~ Report No.....~~LOS No. 7-1954-55~~.....

Patrol Conducted by.....~~R.M. GELAN a/ADC~~.....

Area Patrolled.....~~KITAVA ISLAND~~.....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....(1)(1)(1).....

Natives.....~~RPC: 2~~ Launch Crew: 3. Personal Servant: 1.

Duration—From...29/...5.../1955...to...1.../...6.../1955.

Number of Days...2 inclusive.....

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....No.....

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services...18./...10./1954...- 21/10/54. P/R 3-54-55.

Medical ...18...../10.../1954...- 21/10/54.

Map Reference.....Losuia Subdistrict Census subdivision... "DU".....

Objects of Patrol... Census and General Admin. Duties.....

DIRECTOR OF DISTRICT SERVICES
AND NATIVE AFFAIRS,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

11/17/1955

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 £.....

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

In Reply

Please Quote

D. S. 30-2.

SUBDISTRICT OFFICE,
LOSUA,
MILNE BAY DISTRICT.
2nd June 1955.

MEMORANDUM FOR:

The District Commissioner,
Milne Bay District,
SAMARAI.

REPORT OF A PATROL (No. LOS. 7 OF
1954-1955) TO KITAVA ISLAND VIL-
LAGES; BY R.M. GEELAN.

Purposes of Patrol: Census and General Administrative Duties.
Date Left Station: 3 p.m. 29th May 1955.
Date Returned : p.m. 1st June 1955.
Duration of Patrol: 2 days.
Personnel Accompanying: R. : 2.
Customs & Marine: 3.
Personnel Servants : 1.
Last Patrol to Area: (a). DDS: R.M. Geelan - P/R. 3-54/55; from
18th - 21st October 1955.
(b). PHD: J.J. Kenny - 18th - 21st October
1955.
Map Reference:
~~REF. XXXXX/XXXXX~~: Losua Subdistrict Census subdivision "D",
.....

DIARY.

Sunday 29th May 1955: Accompanied by Cpl. DEMONDA and Const. FEG-
INA I to Losua for East Shore at 2.45 p.m. As the PHD utility
was U/S., Messrs. Lumley kindly provided transport. ML Kingfisher
was waiting at East Shore and the party boarded her at 3.05 p.m.,
departed immediately and arrived at KITAVA Island at 4.45 p.m.
Mr. Camero met me on the beach and kindly offered me the hospitality
of his house during the party's brief stay there.

Monday 30th May 1955: All three KITAVAN Village Constables were
instructed to have any Court matters ready for hearing this morning.
One adultery case was presented. A couple of minor matters were set-
tled out of Court. In the afternoon a census check was made of GUMA-
GEYA Village.

Tuesday 31st May 1955: This day spent in census check of LALELA and OKABUIULA village groups. In conjunction with this activity, notice was taken of the state of villages, housing, roads and gardens seen en route, etc.

Wednesday 1st June 1955: Left KITAVA at 0830 hrs. by Kingfisher, and landed at East Shore at approximately 1030 hrs. A radio message had been sent earlier from Mr. Cameron's transmitter to Medasst Losuia, requesting him to pick up the party if possible - Mr. Kenny tried to oblige but his truck broke down again en route East Shore, and it was in Messrs. Lumleys' truck that the party returned to the station at 3. p.m. Patrol personnel dismissed; Const. OGAI, in charge during our absence, reported all well.

ML Kingfisher arrived at the wharf from East Shore at approx. 5.30 p.m.

.....
G E N E R A L.

Native Situation: Static. Kitavans have just concluded their measure of Kula business, some with the Iwa and Gawa Island people and for the most part with Kiriwinans who have by now all gone home. No arguments were advanced by any of the Kitavans; one complaint was made against a Kitavan by a chief of OSAPOLA (Kiriwina) who claimed that he had not received an armshell properly due to him. I tried to get to the bottom of the dispute but it is practically impossible for the casual (Administration) observer to reach any valid conclusion about this intricate system. I am afraid that I was unable to offer any decision on the matter.

Kitavan gardens are being harvested and apparently the crop of yams will be quite good. Respectable stands of taro and sweet potato were also noticed, although these crops do not receive one fifth of the attention that the yams merit.

Law and Order: One charge of adultery was laid against both adulterer and the wife, by the complainant. In CNM the male offender was sentenced to one month IHL., while the wife was sentenced to three days' Imprisonment: she appeared to be a rather dull-witted person and, while apparently aware of her guilt, she could find no better excuse than to repeat: "The man tempted me". Besides this,

she has a young family to care for. She was given some weeding to do, under the supervision of the local Native Medical Orderly's wife, and on the morning of the patrol's departure, she was discharged.

An argument concerning the alienation of a married man's ^{all} affections by ~~the~~ unattached girl was settled by the husband's electing to return to his wife rather than face a maintenance proceeding. A third argument about the possession of a crowbar was settled out of Court.

Villages, Housing, etc.: All villages seen were clean. Housing is satisfactory in all cases.

Gardens, Food Supplies: Gardens are being harvested and food is in good supply. I do not think that these people ever experience a lean period as do other Papuans.

Roads: Quite good. Mr. Cameron uses practically every island road for his Land-Rover.

Health: NMO EMORI reported that native health is normal.

General: Native life appears to be in the same settled condition as prevailed during my last visit.

Mr. Cameron has bought a tractor and trailer for use on his plantation. At present he is widening plantation tracks, the corners of which were sometimes too sharp to allow the passage of the fairly long trailer.

Census: Figures are attached.

Subjects of Patrol were attained in both cases.

[Handwritten Signature]
W/ADO.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

*In Reply
Please Quote
D. S. 30-2.*

SUBDISTRICT OFFICE,
LOSUIA,
MUNICIPAL DISTRICT.

6th June 1955.

Addendum to Patrol Report No. 7-54/55.

REPORT ON RPC ACCOMPANYING PATROL.

No. 3510 Cpl DEMONDA BIBEGO: Reliable and very competent.

Of assistance as an Interpreter.

No. 7924 Const. PEGINA VOGI: Keen and intelligent.


S/ADO.

VILLAGE POPULATION REGISTER

YEAR.....1954-1955.....

Govt. Print.—5438/154.

VILLAGE	DATE OF CENSUS	BIRTHS		DEATHS										MIGRATIONS				ABSENT FROM VILLAGE AT WORK				LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES			TOTALS (excluding absentee)				GRAND TOTAL								
				0-1 Mth.		0-1 year		1-4		5-8		9-13		Over 13		Females in Child Birth		IN		OUT		Inside District		Outside District		Govt.		Mission		MALES		FEMALES		Pregnant	Number of Child-bearing age	Average Size of Family	Child		Adults		
				M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M					F	M	F	M	F
GUMAGEYA	30.5.55	2	3					6				3	2			1		1	2													2			34	50	76	65	225		
LALIELA	30.5.55	8	6					2	1			1	2			1	4	1						4				1				1			76	66	142	87	343		
ONABULULU	30.5.55	1	4			2		1				4	2			3	4	3						4							5			73	64	144	118	399			
				<u>Grand Total</u>																																					
				1967.																																					

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

30/6/55 ✓



In Reply
Please Quote

D. S. /1471.

HEADQUARTERS
MILNE BAY DISTRICT,
SAMARAI.

MEMORANDUM FOR :-

11th. July, 1955.

The Director,
Department of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

LOSUIA PATROL REPORT NO. 7 of 54/55.

Attached please find Report covering short patrol undertaken by Mr. R.M. Geelan, a/A.D.O. to Kitava Island.

Spares for the Utility Truck have been ordered and delivery expected in the near future.

Generally, matters appears to be satisfactory in this remote island settlement.

M.J. Healy,
District Commissioner.

Encl.

c.c. A/ A.D.O.
Losuia.

Population Register

Area Patrolled... *KITAVA ISLAND*
LOWIA, M.B.D.

SEX		ABSENT FROM VILLAGE								LABOUR POTENTIAL				FEMALES			TOTALS (Excluding Absentee)				GRAND TOTAL		
		AT WORK				STUDENTS				Males		Females		Pregnant	Number of Child Bearing Age	Average Size of Family	Child		Adults				
M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	M	F	10-16	16-45	10-16	16-45							M	F	M	F
1	2													2			34	50	76	65	225		
				1										1			74	46	114	87	343		
4	3			4										5			73	64	144	118	399		
																			<i>Total :</i>				<i>967.</i>

