

NATIONAL ARCHIVES & PUBLIC RECORDS SERVICES
OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: WEST SEPIK

STATION: OKSAPMIN

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Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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MAP SEPARATE



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of.....WEST SEPIK.....Report No.....OKSAPIN.1./1969-70.....

Patrol Conducted by.....B.M. Fischer, Assistant District Officer.....

Area Patrolled.....BAK-BIAIN CENSUS DIVISION & PAPE TERAMIN-TEMIN CENSUS DIVISION.....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans.....MR. D. McCORMIE CPO/OIC OKSAPIN.....

Natives.....2 Members B.P. & N.S.G. & 1 Aid Post Orderly.....

Duration—From.....23/ 9 /19 69.....to.....11/ 10 /19 69.....

Number of Days.....12.....

Did Medical Assistant Accompany?.....Aid Post Orderly only.....

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services.....OCTOBER/19.68.(Part only).....

Medical AUGUST/19.67.....

Map Reference.....Attached.....

Objects of Patrol.....1. Census Revision & Area Study 2. Rural Development Submission Tekin-Oksapin road (Separate report) 3. General Administration.....

Director of Native Affairs,
PORT MORESBY.

Max Gray Deed

Forwarded, please.

28/1/1970

J.E. Watford
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

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

GFB/BT

67-16-41

Division of District Administration,

KONEDOBU, PAPUA.

24th February, 1970.

The District Commissioner,
West Sepik District,
VANIMO.

PATROL NO. OKSAPMIN 1/69-70

Your reference 67-3-10 of 28th January, 1970.

I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Annual Census and Area Study by Mr. B.M. Fischer, Assistant District Officer, to BAK-BIMIN Census Division.

Please advise if the wire cable is still available? The construction of a permanent bridge over the Strickland river would be of tangible value to the people.

The Assistant District Commissioner's recommended changes to the BAK-BIMIN and TERANMIN-TEKIN census divisions are noted. Subject to your agreement, I support these amendments; but please provide complete Village Population Registers for both census divisions after the next census patrol of the TERANMIN-TEKIN.

The well written report is a commendable piece of work. Mr. Fischer has provided a very clear picture of the area patrolled.

c.c.

Mr. B.M. Fischer,
Sub-District Office,
TELEFOMIN, West Sepik District.

(S.J. PEARSALL)

a/Secretary,
Department of the Administrator.

Whilst political education is a continuing process it is becoming a more specialised task, and you are still expected to participate fully in its extension at every opportunity.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

67.16.4. (28)

Telegrams
Our Reference 67-3-10
If calling ask for
Mr.

RECEIVED
13 FEB 1970
KONEDOBU

Department of District Administration.

District Office,
VANING,
West Sepik District.
28th January, 1970.

The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

Subject:- ORsapmin
Telefomin Report No.1/69-70

Attached please find the following documents arising out of the above patrol undertaken by Mr. E. Fischer Assistant District Officer and Mr. D. McCombe Assistant Patrol Officer to the Bak-Bimin Census Division of the Uksapmin Administrative Area:

- (i) Patrol Instructions, 67-1 of 16 September, 1969 by Assistant District Commissioner, Telefomin;
- (ii) Patrol Report (Area Study, Situation Report) in duplicate;
- (iii) Copy of comments, PROks1-1969/70 of 28 November 1969 by A.D.C. Telefomin;
- (iv) Copy of my comments 67/3/10 of 28 January 1970 to the A.D.C. Telefomin.

2. For your information, please.

J. E. Wakeford
J. E. WAKEFORD
District Commissioner

27

(iii) I would have been interested to read the grounds of complaint by the labour repatriate in respect of Administration lack of interest in the Oksapina area. This type of information is the meat of any Situation Report and should always be included.

(C) General

(1) The patrol terminated on the 11 October, the report was compiled and completed on or about the 15 October yet the ADC's comments are dated 28 November. A delay of almost six weeks. Now that Telefomin is under new management I expect a speedier attention to correspondence.

(ii) It is a pity that Mr Mc Combe did not submit either the Situation Report or a Supplementary Report. It would have been of value to have done so.

3. A well conducted patrol.

4. For your information, please.

J. E. Wakeford
.....
(J. E. WAKEFORD) [initials]
District Commissioner

→ c.c.
The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBU.

(ii) Many say that development is dependent on the individual initiatives and with the people it is important that policy is incorporated into the Departmental plans... (iii) ...

26

Department of the Administrator

67-3-10

District Office,
VANIMQ,
West Sepik District.
28th January, 1970.

~~Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-district Office,
TALAFOMIN.~~

Subjects- Okwapin Patrol No.1 of 1969/70.

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of the report arising out of the above patrol together with your covering comments, PR. Okw1-1969/70 of 28 November, 1969.

2. Some comments follow:

(A) Area Study

- (i) An excellent report, well written and containing much of interest.
- (ii) Mr Fischer's observation that the hamlet system retards the spread of modern innovations and ideas is not borne out in other Highland areas where identical societies have experienced remarkable economic, social and political development.
- (iii) I wonder how much of the expectancy displayed by the people in respect of the introduction of cash crops, has been influenced by discussions between field officers and village officials on the introduction of cash crops, farmer trainee courses, etc and how much is original thinking.
- (iv) Before any form of development is discussed with influential individuals and with the people it is imperative that policy be ascertained from the Departmental Heads concerned. District resources are too meagre and policy directives are such that unfettered discussions which may embarrass the Administration cannot be tolerated, no matter how well intentioned.

(B) Area Situation

- (i) Again a good report.
- (ii) I do not believe that Local Government should be introduced to the area until some form of economic development has been introduced and the people are earning some income from produce or from other wage earning sources. I would therefore continue with political education discussions but reconsider the date of Local Government introduction. 1972/73 seems a more feasible date.

25

F.R. Oks 1 - 1969/70

Division

XXXXXX

Department of the Administrator,
West Sepik District,
TELEFOMIN.

GALL

28th November, 1969.

The District Commissioner,
West Sepik District,
VANIMO.

Report - Patrol - Bak-Bimin Census Division,
Oksapmin Administrative Area,
Oksapmin Patrol No. 1 - 1969/1970.

Enclosed is the original and two copies of Oksapmin patrol report No. 1-1969/70, with relevant camping allowance claims, for your consideration, please. The patrol was conducted by Mr. B. Fischer, Telefomin, and was accompanied by Mr. D. McCombe, Officer-in-Charge, Oksapmin Patrol Post.

Maps are included with each copy of the report.

The following comments are made;

Area Study;

Population - distribution and trends;

Due to the factors outlined in the report, the full requirement of Headquarters circular letter, 14-2-0 dated 14th October, 1969, with respect to census and village population registers, has not been met. Also the former Tekin-Buk Census Division No. 24 has been re-constituted into two units, including the one patrolled, and new division numbers have not been provided yet from Headquarters. In this regard it should be noted that the Om River Census Division is numbered 24A. For re-numbering purposes I would suggest that the Bak-Bimin; the Terunmin-Tekin; the Om River Census Divisions be numbered 24, 25 and 26 respectively, when the Village Directory is amended. Allowance should also be made for the Leonard Schultz (extent of village units and populations not yet finalised) to be a Census Division No. 27. With respect to the Telefomin administrative area re-alignment proposals effecting the Misamin and Telefonin Council areas will be made and these, too, will effect census division numbering for the Sub-District.

Leadership;

The impression held by repatriate labourers concerning pre-requisites to enable area development could create a frustration complex, and it is to be hoped, as the report notes, that future repatriates from the highland areas, with differing views and experience of development possibilities drawn from areas similar to their own, can dispel or neutralise this negative thinking.

Literacy/Standards of Living;

Giving due cognisance to the area population and to the area standards of sophistication, perhaps the most appropriate immediate practical need for the area is a modified form of vocational school embracing in its curriculum elementary aspects of hygiene, carpentering (with a bias towards improved village housing), improved agricultural training, simple english and arithmetic. However, I would doubt that the Department of Education would be able to accommodate and meet such a need as this, insofar as suitable teaching is concerned.

Communications;

Could it be ascertained from the Assistant District Commissioner, Lake Kopiago, whether the 750 feet of wire cable is still stored at the Strickland River. In the remote possibility that it is still there,

Major F. Stokes, B Company, 1st Battalion, P.I.R., Fort Moresby, has informed me of tentative plans for a Mt. Hagen-Telefomin reconnaissance to be undertaken in March, 1970. In this context, I have raised the possibility to him of his Company undertaking an civic aid programme project of establishing the bridge-head. If this becomes possible no doubt he will raise the subject with you, and with the District Commissioner, Mendi, at or following his proposed reconnaissance pre-patrol flight to Telefomin in January, 1970. As mentioned in the patrol report by Mr. Fischer, a permanent bridge will be much appreciated by those people who, otherwise, have the recurrent task of replacing or maintaining the existing cane bridge 2 or 3 times annually.

Political Development;

The beginnings of local government talks in the area is aimed at achieving the introduction of a Council to the Oksapmin administrative area possibly for the 1971/72 financial year, to embrace the Bak-Bimin and the Teramin-Tekin Census Divisions.

Leadership will require further emphasis in future patrol talks at village level as, due to the hamlet type unit structure and to the village official system not being fully functional or understood at this early stage of their contact with Administration, the concept of ward representation by a Councillor, and quality selection for this position, may find difficulties at the initial Council elections.

The social and economic development aspects of (a) Oksapmin school, (b) Oksapmin-Tekin-Tekap-Bak road and (c) agricultural establishment at Oksapmin including chicken and fish, which are currently being developed, will form a foundation of economic background for the people to consider when the Council is proposed. The talks given by Mr. Fischer as to how local government can promulgate and assist economic development, being complementary to the above developments undertaken, will assist considerably towards a more ready climate of acceptance with respect to the introduction of an Council.

Expanding the economy;

It is a fact that considerable advantage will be gained in every respect from encouraging an optimum, but not excessive, number of men to seek employment in a highland industry situation, and subsequently for highland labour needs to be met from this Sub-District on a rotational basis, within the labour availability here, and without detriment to local area developmental needs. In this latter context I would include Telefomin Council development labour needs, Kennecott mineral development needs, and Oksapmin road and airstrip development needs.

Attitude towards Local Government;

Administration assistance, as outlined above, towards the economic development of this area has started and will be encouraged and guided further and continuously. Earlier start has not been possible due to higher and broader priorities with respect to the remainder of the Territory, and also to later administration control here. The degree of success and of remunerative reward from economic and business pursuits, albeit difficulties of isolation and transport communications, will depend in large measure upon the degree and vigour of local self-help. Repatriate labour from highland employment will disseminate the virtues and rewards of this aspect.

The above must be spelled out as an aspect of local government propaganda by succeeding patrols.

Situation Report;

Activities of Development Departments;

The emphasis shown through this report - and this has been confirmed in numerous other ways - is that the development of agricultural activities at Oksapmin would be most rewarding, administratively and to the villager. I shall discuss this further with the District Rural Development Officer on my forth-coming visit to Vanimo.

Health;

Re-opening the ideally and centrally situated Dabura Aid Post would be a very positive administrative move and this matter will be taken up with the Medical Assistant-in-Charge, Teleomin Sub-District.

Other aspects of the Situation Report have been discussed in comments on the Area Study.

Census;

The spelling of village place names in map, diary, report and census should be consistent and conform with the Village Directory or authorised version, viz., Bakan, Kemapamin, Gautagan (Teranmin-Tekin Census Division), Kudoban, and Duban (Teranmin-Tekin Census Division).

Unless census groups, 2 or more, are near contiguous, it is important that the census for each group be undertaken at an accepted or central or large hamlet place within that census group. At least a night should be spent at (within) and with each census group. This invokes greater interest from the people, enables a closer village/administration relationship and provides greater chance for elderly or sick people to be seen by the patrol. In three cases two or more census groups were gathered at the one place for census. Some of these groups were relatively large in number, which may have meant some inconvenience to the elderly.

It will be noted that there are no census figures given for Widiam. Due to deaths within this group migration and integration with Musanganam occurred. Mr. Fischer wisely retained the 2 separate books, notwithstanding the integrated census, due to the extremely fluid situation in that area and the possibility of future re-establishment of the Widiam entity. As this can not be taken for granted, the present up to date situation is that Widiam has been phased out for census purposes.

The villages of Duban, Gaugutianmin, Gautagan and Kusanbak of the Teranmin-Tekin Census Division were visited by this patrol, and the census revised. The previous patrol which recommended that these units be incorporated in the Teranmin-Tekin Census Division did not actually visit these villages, it would appear, due to rumoured trouble in the vicinity of Oksapmin Station which resulted in the patrol being recalled. Due to their geographic disposition, and to the fact that there are no greater ties between them and other Teranmin-Tekin villages than with Bak-Bimin units, Mr. Fischer suggests that administrative and patrolwise they may more appropriately be incorporated within the Bak-Bimin Census Division, and that Bak-Bimin patrols automatically pass through this area for return to Oksapmin Station. I would therefore recommend that this adjustment be approved and a patrol to the Teranmin-Tekin Census Division planned for January, 1970, could take this adjustment into account and at the same time, following Headquarter approval of this adjustment, provide amended Bak-Bimin census figures incorporating these four villages. This should then finalise the establishment of these two new census divisions, giving however due cognisance to the still fluid area situation with respect to migration of groups.

Conclusion;

The patrol has thoroughly carried out its instructions, Mr. McCombe, Cadet Patrol Officer, has received quality training in administrative and census and routine patrol aspects, the area has gained from experienced administration, and an excellent analysis of economic and local government potential, trend and possibilities and problems has been given.

R. S. Hall
Assistant District Commissioner

cc. 40.

0 Officer-in-Charge OKSAPMIN

67-1

CALL

Division
XXXXXXXX
Department of the Administrator,
West Sepik District,
TELEFOMIN.

16th September, 1969.

Mr. B. Fischer,
Assistant District Officer,
TELEFOMIN.

Patrol Instructions - Oksapmin Patrol No. 1 - 1969/70.
Bak-Bimin Census Division

As discussed previously, will you please prepare to move from Telefomin to Oksapmin on or about Tuesday 23rd September, 1969, for the purpose of conducting a patrol to the recently re-classified Bak-Bimin Census Division which incorporates the Bak, Bimin, Rugap and Gaweng Valleys' people.

Mr. D. McCombe, Officer-in-Charge, an Interpreter, and 6 Members of the R.F.D.M.G. Constabulary Detachment, Oksapmin, will accompany you on the patrol. Please discuss with Mr. W. Keare, Health Extension Officer/Officer-in-Charge, Department of Public Health, Telefomin, the possible availability of an Hospital Orderly to accompany you, also.

The purposes of the patrol are to:

- (1) Prepare the initial census for the re-organised Bak-Bimin Census Division. Note Telefomin memorandum 14-1-4/67-3-1 (copy Oksapmin) of the 21st February, 1969, and subsequent correspondence, re this matter.
- (2) Compile an area study
- (3) Investigate the Oksapmin-Tekin-Tekap-Bak road, portion of which is outside the Bak-Bimin Census Division. Refer to the circular memoranda attached to memorandum 1-1-6 dated 2nd October, 1968, from the District Commissioner, Vanimo, and his subsequent advice shown in Vanimo memorandum 11-1-1 of the 17th June, 1969, with respect to a rural development submission.
- (4) Inspect and report to the Health Extension Officer/ Officer-in-Charge, Telefomin, with respect to the Babura Aid Post.
- (5) Attend to general administrative matters.
- (6) Incorporate, within your area study, views on (a) the possibility of introducing local government to this area (possibly conjoined, for the purpose, with the Teranmin-Tekin Census Division) within 2 to 3 years and (b) on the manner in which any form of economic activity may be developed in the area preparatory to the introduction of a Council. With respect to the latter aspect, does Baptist Mission, Tekin, purchase of vegetables activity extend to this area, or could it with proposed road extension proposals.
- (7) Instruct Mr. McCombe in the manner of census compilation and rural development submission.
- (8) Report on any other matter which may arise as the result of your patrol, especially in the matters of economic development of the area and of its administration.

As Mr. McCombe has indicated that it will be convenient, please remain at Oksapmin after the patrol until your report and accompanying submissions are completed. Mr. McCombe should assist you with these. At that time I shall endeavour to visit Oksapmin for the purpose of station inspection, and to discuss, especially with Mr.

21

McCombe, matters arising out of this patrol and also his next patrol, solo, of the Teranmin-Tekin Census Division.

The format for your census revision should follow the requirements contained in circular memorandum 14-1-0 dated 18th March, 1968, from the Director of District Administration.

Give each group a general discussion on local government and political development, such discussion to be equated to their low level of sophistication, a matter for your discretion. You might usefully utilise those in the area who are repatriate labour to add to your remarks concerning the outside world. Primarily, please evaluate the feasibility of local government to the area, broaden the peoples' knowledge of the subject and answer their problems and queries about it. Some have observed the Telefomin Council in action and the Telefomin Council President has discussed local government with Oksapmin area Village Officials.

Please ensure that (a) the spelling of village names and (b) the census groups and the ~~names~~ thereof coincide with those recently approved by Headquarters memorandum 14-2-6 dated 31st March, 1969, (located on Telefomin file 14-1-4). The new census division is not yet shown in the Village Directory.

Please take an army model 510 radio unit with you and instruct accompanying police in its use. Regular contact with Telefomin will be as arranged.

It is possible that highland tea estates may seek labour from the Telefomin Sub-District in future. It is advantageous both financially and in respect of experience in highland type economic crops that local men be encouraged to accept such employment. Discuss this with village leaders and assess and advise each group of the optimum number which may appropriately leave each group at any given time without disruption to community activities.

Please check that each group possesses the standard 7" x 5" grey village book, as the accumulation of information therein is both informative and helpful to succeeding patrols.

You may care to gather village officials at the completion of your patrol and discuss general area matters arising from the patrol.

Please refer to the report of the first agricultural patrol to the area you will visit written by Mr. J. Mopie, Assistant Rural Development Officer.

Each copy of your report is to be complete in all respects, i.e., a copy of these instructions, census figures, map, is to be included with each copy of the report. In addition the census figures should be appropriately filed. Please also amend the station (Telefomin and Oksapmin) Sub-District map with any changes in geographical or other data which is recorded during your patrol. The format for your report should follow the requirements of circular letter 67-1-0 dated 21st June, 1968, from the Director of District Administration.

Your patrol should be in no way hurried but your objectives achieved as efficaciously as possible.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXX~~ In view of the mineral survey patrols being made in the Oksapmin area, will you please discuss, in general simple terms, similar to those given on your Atclmin visit, mineral exploration and development, stressing that current visits by survey teams are exploratory visits only.

Have a good trip.

P. S. Gall
(P. S. Gall)

Assistant District Commissioner

C. to:
Officer-in-Charge, Oksapmin.
Mr. J. McCombe, Oksapmin.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA.

20

PATROL REPORT.

Report Number. OKSAPMIN No. 1 / 1969-70.
Sub-District. TELEPOMIN.
District. WEST SEPIK.
Type of Patrol CENSUS REVISION & AREA STUDY.
Patrol Conducted by. B.M. FISCHER, ASSISTANT DISTRICT OFFICER.
Area Patrolled. BAK - BIMIN CENSUS DIVISION & PART
TERAMBIN - TELIN CENSUS DIVISION.

Personnel Accompanying Patrol. MR.D.McCOMBE, CPC/OIC OKSAPMIN.
3 MEMBERS R.P.& N.G.C..
1 AID POST ORDERLY.

Duration of Patrol - from 23/9/69 To. 11/10/69
No. of Days. 19
Last D.P.A. Patrol to Area. OCTOBER 1968.
Duration. 2 Days.
Objects of Patrol (Briefly). 1. Census Revision & Area Study.
2. Preparation Rural Development Submission
Oksapmin - Tekin Road.
3. General Administration.

Total Population of Area Patrolled. 1,761.

The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KONEDOBEL.

Forwarded, please.

/ /1969.

.....
District Commissioner.

(19)

... matters arising out of this patrol and also the next patrol, etc., of the Teranmin-Tekin Census Division.

The report for your census revision should follow the requirements contained in circular memorandum 11-1-3 dated 18th March, 1969, from the Director of District Administration.

67-1	Division
	XXXXXXXX
	Department of the Administrator,
	West Sepik District,
	<u>TELEFOMIN.</u>
	16th September, 1969.

Mr. B. Fischer, Assistant District Officer, Telefomin. TELEFOMIN.

Patrol Instructions - Oksapmin Patrol No. 1 - 1969/70.

As discussed previously, will you please prepare to move from Telefomin to Oksapmin on or about Tuesday 23rd September, 1969, for the purpose of conducting a patrol to the recently re-classified Bak-Bimin Census Division which incorporates the Bak, Bimin, Rugup and Gamang Valleys' people.

Mr. B. McCombe, Officer-in-Charge, an Interpreter, and 6 Members of the R.F.&M.C. Constabulary Detachment, Oksapmin, will accompany you on the patrol. Please discuss with Mr. S. Keare, Health Extension Officer/Officer-in-Charge, Department of Public Health, Telefomin, the possible availability of a Hospital orderly to accompany you, also.

The purposes of the patrol are to:

- (1) Prepare the initial census for the re-organised Bak-Bimin Census Division. Note Telefomin memorandum 14-1-4/67-3-1 (copy Oksapmin) of the 21st February, 1969, and subsequent correspondence, re this matter.
- (2) Compile an area study.
- (3) Investigate the Oksapmin-Tekin-Tekap-Bak road, portion of which is outside the Bak-Bimin Census Division. Refer to the circular memoranda attached to memorandum 1-1-6 dated 2nd October, 1968, from the District Commissioner, Vanimo, and his subsequent advices shown in Vanimo memorandum 11-1-1 of the 17th June, 1969, with respect to a rural development submission.
- (4) Inspect and report to the Health Extension Officer/Officer-in-Charge, Telefomin, with respect to the Babura Aid Post.
- (5) Attend to general administrative matters.
- (6) Incorporate, within your area study, views on (a) the possibility of introducing local government to this area (possibly conjoined, for the purpose, with the Teranmin-Tekin Census Division) within 2 to 3 years and (b) on the manner in which any form of economic activity may be developed in the area preparatory to the introduction of a Council. With respect to the latter aspect, does Baptist Mission, Tekin, purchase of vegetables activity extend to this area, or could it with proposed road extension proposals.
- (7) Instruct Mr. McCombe in the manner of census compilation and rural development submission.
- (8) Report on any other matter which may arise as the result of your patrol, especially in the matters of economic development of the area and of its administration.

As Mr. McCombe has indicated that it will be convenient, please remain at Oksapmin after the patrol until your report and accompanying submissions are completed. Mr. McCombe should assist you with these. At that time I shall endeavour to visit Oksapmin for the purpose of station inspection, and to discuss, especially with Mr.

(18)

McCombe, matters arising out of this patrol and also his next patrol, solo, of the Teramin-Tekin Census Division.

The format for your census revision should follow the requirements contained in circular memorandum 14-1-0 dated 18th March, 1968, from the Director of District Administration.

Give each group a general discussion on local government and political development, such discussion to be equated to their low level of sophistication, a matter for your discretion. You might usefully utilise those in the area who are repatriate labour to add to your remarks concerning the outside world. Primarily, please evaluate the feasibility of local government to the area, broaden the peoples' knowledge of the subject and answer their problems and queries about it. Some have observed the Telefomin Council in action and the Telefomin Council President has discussed local government with Oksapmin area Village Officials.

Please ensure that (a) the spelling of village names and (b) the census groups and the names thereof coincide with those recently approved by Headquarters memorandum 14-2-6 dated 31st March, 1969, (located on Telefomin file 14-1-4). The new census division is not yet shown in the Village Directory.

Please take an army model 510 radio unit with you and instruct accompanying police in its use. Regular contact with Telefomin will be as arranged.

It is possible that highland tea estates may seek labour from the Telefomin Sub-District in future. It is advantageous both financially and in respect of experience in highland type economic crops that local men be encouraged to accept such employment. Discuss this with village leaders and assess and advise each group of the optimum number which may appropriately leave each group at any given time without disruption to community activities.

Please check that each group possesses the standard 7" x 6" grey village book, as the accumulation of information therein is both informative and helpful to succeeding patrols.

You may care to gather village officials at the completion of your patrol and discuss general area matters arising from the patrol.

Please refer to the report of the first agricultural patrol to the area you will visit written by Mr. J. Mopio, Assistant Rural Development Officer.

Each copy of your report is to be complete in all respects, i.e., a copy of these instructions, census figures, map, is to be included with each copy of the report. In addition the census figures should be appropriately filed. Please also amend the station (Telefomin and Oksapmin) Sub-District map with any changes in geographical or other data which is recorded during your patrol. The format for your report should follow the requirements of circular letter 67-1-0 dated 21st June, 1968, from the Director of District Administration.

Your patrol should be in no way hurried but your objectives achieved as efficaciously as possible.

~~Notes: xxxxxxxxxx~~ In view of the mineral survey patrols being made in the Oksapmin area, will you please discuss, in general simple terms, similar to those given on your Atbalmin visit, mineral exploration and development, stressing that current visits by survey teams are exploratory visits only.

Have a good trip.

P.S. Gall

(P. S. Gall)
Assistant District Commissioner

Cc. to:
Officer-in-Charge, OKSAPMIN
Mr. D. McCombe, OKSAPMIN.

OXSAPMIN PATROL REPORT No. 1 of 1969/70.

17

PATROL DIARY.

- Tuesday 23/9/69 :- Preparations for Atba Amin airdrop & last minute office work. Depart Telefomin via Aerial Tours Twin Dornier at 1050 hours and arrive Oksapmin Patrol Post 1115 hours. Make arrangements for Dr. Hatanaka's visit Om River. Await arrival of Sepik Air Charters with other patrol items & decision on whether or not P.I.R. will be arriving to liaise on payment of compensation. 1500 hours depart Oksapmin and walk Tekin where arrive 1730. Slept Tekin.
- Wednesday 24/9/69 :- Await result of Mission contact with Telefomin re intended P.I.R. visit. Vanimo advises proceed with patrol. Dept. Tekin 0930 and walk Divana - pay sum \$83-26 to deceased soldier's mother. Mid-day radio schedule with Telefomin. Proceed to Kweptana village - arrived 1530 and set up camp. People advised of purpose of visit. Slept Kweptana.
- Thursday 25/9/69 :- People slow to gather. Census of Kweptana and Menmakmin - names from Village Books transferred to Census Sheets - light rain - census completed 1530. Many people already returned to village because of rain - request made they attend Rest House in the morning for talks on various matters & to gather material for Area Study. Census figures completed during evening. Slept Kweptana.
- Friday 26/9/69 :- Cloud and misty rain. Few people only gather. All people gathered at R.H. by 1300 - talks on labour recruiting, mineral exploration, political education - interrupted by periodid rain - Area Study material gathered. Finish 1630. Slept Kweptana.
- Saturday 27/9/69 :- Departed Kweptana 0745 and proceeded Bimin - difficult climb - arrive Bimin 1230 hours and set up camp. People advised of purpose of visit. Slept Bimin.
- Sunday 28/9/69 :- Observed Bimin. Slept Bimin.
- Monday 29/9/69 :- People of Bimin and Kuskusmin assembled at Rest House - censused by Mr. McCombe and self - afternoon on talks and Area Study. People advise Masanganam is 2 days walk south and has never been visited by patrols. Arrangements made to depart morrow even though appears village must be well in Papua. Soil here appears to be better than Bak Valley where it is mostly leached and unsuitable for vegetables. Slept Bimin.
- Tuesday 30/9/69 :- Departed Bimin 0750 for Masanganam - cross range and then trend west before swing back to south east - no cleared track and difficult walk - light rain 1200 - bush camp made 1330 hours with onset of heavy rain. Camp completed 1530 hours. Slept camp.
- Friday 10/10/69 :-
- Wednesday 1/10/69 :- Depart camp 0745 and continue walk to Masanganam - arrive 1330 hours - a good gathering but some people off in gardens further south and west - set up camp. People advised of purpose of visit and requested as

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

(2) (R)

many as possible come in for census tomorrow.
Rain from 1515 hours. Slept Masanganam.

- Thursday 2/10/69 :- Census of Masanganam and Woliam. Woliam people now incorporated Masanganam village. Old Woliam deserted because of a number of deaths. Few people still further south in Papua. Afternoon on Area Study and Talks on various matters. Tul Tul for combined Masanganam - Woliam groups elected. Slept Masanganam.
- Friday 3/10/69 :- Departed Masanganam 0730 hours via more direct and easier return route to Bimin - cross flooded creek with rough bridge - impossible to get triangulation bearing on Masanganam because of rough country and continual low cloud. 1445 rain commences - set up camp on mountainside - miserable conditions. Slept camp.
- Saturday 4/10/69 :- Depart ~~Bimin~~ 0750 camp 0730 and continue to Bimin where arrive 1300 hours. Set up camp and pay off carriers - supply food for their return journey. Slept Bimin.
- Sunday 5/10/69 :- Sunday observed Bimin. Slept Bimin.
- Monday 6/10/69 :- Depart Bimin 0750 and proceed Dabura via old Kukusmin hamlets now deserted - arrived Dabura 1215 hours and set up camp. Afternoon census of Dabura, Yendana and Bakana till 1645 hours. Slept Dabura.
- Tuesday 7/10/69 :- Await arrival of small villages Kudoban and Kunana for census - light rain - people finally arrive 1000 hours. Census conducted. Area study information for all groups gathered during afternoon. Talks on various subjects till 1700 - carriers arranged for morrow. Checked condition of Dabura Aidpost and reasons for Orderly leaving - returned R.H. 1815 hours. Slept Dabura.
- Wednesday 8/10/69:- Departed Dabura 0730 - have heavy cold or influenza - walk along easy grade to Gaugutianmin where arrived 1445 and set up camp - people advised regarding purpose of visit and some work on R.H. organised and supervised. To bed with heavy cold. Slept Gaugutianmin.
- Thursday 9/10/69 :- Census of Gaugutianmin and Gaugutan from 0800 till 1125. Talks on various developmental requirements of area & other various matters - people here appear a little more interested in political matters and education. Carriers arranged for morrow. Slept Gaugutianmin.
- Friday 10/10/69 :- Departed for Dubana 0800 - low cloud obscures general view of area - arrived Dubana R.H. 1130 hours. After lunch census of Dubana and Kusanbak. Talks given and material gathered for Area Study. Slept Dubana.
- Saturday 11/10/69:- Departed Dubana 0800 - carriers direct but myself, Mr. McCombe and guide to check Gorge for possible road routes - appears

as if road could be constructed by way of Bak Valley to top of Strickland River Gorge in vicinity of Tumbudu River junction without much difficulty but appears as if nearly impossible to construct road down side of Gorge to possible bridge site on river. From vantage point on western side of Gorge it does appear as if route along Tumbudu Vally towards Lake Kopiago offers little difficulty.

Skirted Gorge upstream looking for feasible routes down but nothing found which readily suggests a feasible road route - road heads may need to be linked by mule or human porterage system across Gorge and river. 1345 departed Gorge and proceeded back to Gaugutianmin where arrived 1445 - lunch - continued on to Oksapmin where arrived 1700 hours. Carriers paid off and police stood down.

ooo))) END OF PATROL (((ooo



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

14

Telegrams
 Telephone
 Our Reference 67-3-1
 If calling ask for
 Mr. Fischer

Department of the Administrator,
 Division of District Administration,
 Patrol Post OKSEPAIN,
 West Sepik District,
 15th. October, 1969.

The Assistant District Commissioner,
 Sub-District Office,
TELEFOIN, W.S.D..

OKSEPAIN PATROL REPORT NO. 1 of 1969/70.

BAL - BLAIN CENSUS DIVISION.

Reference your memorandum 67-1 of the 16th. September, 1969 setting out patrol instructions in respect of this patrol.

1. Attached please find Bal-Blain Area Study and Situation Reports: the reports are complete with copies of Patrol Instructions maps and revised Village Population Register.
2. A Rural Development Submission covering the proposed construction of the Oksepain - Tekin Valley road is being compiled separately and will be forwarded upon completion.
3. The inspection of the Dekura Aid Post was carried out as directed. My letter 49-1-0 of the 14th. October 1969 addressed to you and with copy to the Health Extension Officer Telefoin, refers.
4. All other points raised in the Patrol Instructions will be commented on in either the Area Study or Situation Report.

AREA STUDY.

BAL - BLAIN CENSUS DIVISION.

(A)

INTRODUCTION:-

(a) Situated in the extreme east and south of the Telefoin Sub-District the Bal-Blain Census Division is bordered to the east by the Strickland River and Gorge, an impressive natural boundary separating the West Sepik and Western Highlands Districts, and a feature imposing an obvious hindrance to both traditional and modern day forms of communication, transport and social intercourse carried out by both the local inhabitants and Administration. To the south the Census Division is bounded by the Papua and New Guinea Territorial Boundary.

The striking feature of the Census Division itself, as indeed it is for nearly the entire southern section of the Oksepain Administrative Area, is the number and length of parallel valleys trending in a general east-west direction, which makes walking with the grain of the country so much easier than crossing in a north or south direction. The dividing mountain ranges reach a maximum altitude of approximately 7,500 feet a.s.l. with valley floors at the 3,500 - 4,000 foot mark: most of the population resides at approximately the 4,000 foot a.s.l. mark.

Accurate climatic records have not been maintained at Oksepain. It is estimated that the daily maximum temperature reaches the high seventies whilst the minimum would be in the middle fifties.

Though a slightly drier season is experienced in the three month period February to April rainfall is fairly evenly distributed throughout the year. Total annual rainfall is estimated to be in the vicinity of 110-120 inches at Oksepain; the Bal-Blain rainfall would approximate that experienced at Oksepain.

Predominant vegetation throughout the Census Division consists mostly of the mid-mountain type. In the near vicinity of the larger population concentrations however primary growth has given way to both secondary growth and, noticeably in the Bak Valley, grasslands. This grasslands feature does not appear to be natural and has been brought about, I suggest, by the continual burning off of gardens leading to the consequent leaching of soil nutrients. I estimate primary growth covers approximately 75-80% of the total area.

(b) A natural gateway to the Census Division is provided by the Bak Gap located at the head of the Tekin Valley approximately 13 track miles distant from Okesapin Patrol Post. At present walking time from Okesapin to Kueptana, the first village through the Bak Gap, is six hours.

For the past six years villagers have worked on bringing the Okesapin - Tekin Mission - Divana walking track up to vehicular road standards and in isolated sections this has been achieved, however rapid progress has been hampered by the difficulty of construction of the road over the Ink-Kuk Saddle in close proximity to Okesapin Station; in recent months the people have also been discouraged from bringing the ~~construction~~ project to completion by the presence of large limestone boulders on the road which resist either breaking or "hooking". To achieve completion of this project it will be necessary for all villagers served by the road to concentrate their immediate efforts upon the completion of the Ink-Kuk Saddle section of the road; successful completion of this section will allow the presently marooned Okesapin tractor and trailer unit to assist in bringing the remainder of the road to rapid completion as far as Tekin Mission. It will also be necessary for either the Administration or an Army Civil Action Team to assist the people in the blasting of the obstructing limestone boulders. These matters will be dealt with in a separate Rural Development Submission to be submitted shortly.

Distances from other centres are as follows:-

Telefomin	=	40 miles (Air)
Lake Kopiago	=	12 miles "
Vanlao	=	190 miles "
Newak	=	145 miles "
Mount Hagen	=	145 miles "

(c) The first recorded Administration contact with the people of this Census Division appears to have been that made by the Black-Taylor 1933-39 patrol.

Shortly after the establishment of the Telefomin Patrol Post patrols began to penetrate the Okesapin area from that direction. The following table lists the early exploratory and administrative consolidation patrols to visit the census division:-

Went & Day	.....	January & February 1951	= 38 days
Helen	.....	November & December 1952	= 40 days
Wren & Grant	.....	October & November 1955	= 29 days
Neville & Aisbett	.....	October & November 1957	= 22 days
Brown & Tierney	.....	August & September 1960	= 28 days

Patrol Post established Okesapin 4/6/61 by Mr. P.O. Goehrane.

The universal respect afforded the Administration by the people of the Bak-Bimin Census Division can perhaps be traced back to the early brushes the people are reputed to have had with the Black-Taylor patrol. To date the only obvious signs of Administration influence throughout the Census Division are the almost total elimination of lineal conflicts and possibly a slight improvement brought about in the health of the people. Nothing has yet been achieved in the economic sphere.

Nearly all officers patrolling the area have commented on the "Highland type" characteristic of the Okesapin people as contrasted to the villagers of the Telefomin area. Neville states, "He is very similar to the Highlander, in so far as his attitude and many of his customs follow closely those of the NABAG and TARI native" In many respects however his customs are similar to those of the Telefomin people and the area can best be described as a transitional zone of the two dominant cultures influencing the area.

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Perhaps the most predominant feature of the society is the hamlet, as contrasted to village, style dwelling pattern. Such a system imposes a very real barrier to day to day communication and social interaction between the people and must seriously retard the spread of modern innovations and ideas. The people are now at the stage of expecting the weary routine of census but as yet evidence little or no desire to linger and hear talks and suggestions given by officers on other aspects of village life. This is a pattern that has been built up over the years and is now at the stage where it will be difficult to break down. Because of the lack of leadership inherent in this hamlet-dwelling type of society the initiation and progress of local communal-type projects will depend upon Administration Officers spending more time in the "village" and his organising, and to a certain degree, supervising, such work. See "Leadership" heading for further remarks.

Although no outward manifestations of frustrations likely to lead to "cargo" type thinking can be discerned the people do evidence an air of expectancy about the introduction of cash crops to the Census-Division. Unless this expectancy is fulfilled within 5-10 years or so it can be expected the society will become increasingly frustrated and apathetic towards the Administration.

(b) POPULATION-DISTRIBUTION AND TRENDS.

(a) Attached please find Village Population Register form revised this patrol. This has been the first patrol conducted to the newly created Bak-Bisin Census Division. Up until this patrol all censuses in the Okkeapain area have been recorded in the old type Village Book.

Owing to the number of duplications discovered, and new names recorded this patrol, it is suggested that any Natural Increase figure arrived at would be entirely fictitious. This Census Division has only now just reached that stage where figures can be considered fairly reliable; the next patrol to this area should be able to supply reliable figures.

As the previous complete census for all villages involved in this Census-Division was conducted in June 1967, and because of the reticence shown by the people over revealing Still Births, Deaths within 1 Month, etc. no Neo-Natal Mortality Rate figure has been calculated.

(b) See map for indication of all villages linked by tracks.

(c) Until recently the high air-cost component effectively shielding areas such as this from active recruiting. This situation has changed substantially over the past year or so as other Territory sources of labour have dried up; at present approximately 23% of the 15-45 male age-group are absent from the Census-Division. This area has no ready substitute for wage labour to provide a cash income and for this reason an Absentee Worker rate of 33 % is to be considered desirable until such time as a suitable cash crop is introduced to the area.

(c) SOCIAL GROUPINGS.

(a) Two distinct social groups comprise the Bak-Bisin Census Division. This distinction is based on language; the following table outlines the situation:-

Language.	Villages.	Relationship With.
MENG'A	Kwoptana	Teransin-Tekin C.D. only.
	Munwayain	
	Bakan	
	Dabura	
	Yandana	

Language	Villages	Relationships With
WENG	Bimin Kuskusmin Masanganam Midiam (Noliam)	TELEFOMIN, SLEPTAMIN, TIFALOM-JURAPOM Census Divisions of Telefomin Administrative Area & following villages in Olosoip Patrol Post Area (Papua):- Agapmin, Pali'olain, Kasan, Kaslain, Sotamaslain, Ipkamin & Ofikak.

(b) The operational social unit is basically the single family. Residence is mainly patrilocal but not exclusively so as many men make gardens on their wife's lineage's land and may continue to do so for many consecutive years without returning to his lineage's land. Traditionally the lineage was important as the basis of the society's offensive/defensive framework and marriage would occur between lineages allied at that stage in time. These offensive/defensive relationships however were always in a state of flux, apparently mainly because of the alleged incidence of "sangama", and friend could quite easily become enemy, virtually overnight.

(c) Language pattern described above.

(d) As described above the relationships between the component social groups is continually in a state of flux and little real cohesion exists amongst the numerous lineages. Affiliations, alliances and enmities are impossible to predict because of the unpredictability of just whom will will be blamed for the sorcery causing sickness or death in a lineage. As an example of the foregoing statement, at the time of first Administration influence in the early 1950's the nearby villages of Bimin and Kuskusmin, both Weng Language speakers, were feuding. For the purpose of the feud Bimin allied itself with Kueptana and Kuskusmin with Deburu (both Weng'a speakers). To complete the circle the Kuskusmin lineages are at present going through the process of being absorbed into the Bimin hamlets.

(e) To some extent the Weng speaking hamlets (Bimin, Kuskusmin, Midiam & Masanganam) are orientated to both Telefomin and the Weng speaking villages of Papua, besides Okapamin. Because of their isolation and the terrain it is doubtful whether any improvements can be made to the existing Administrative arrangements. The proposed road extensions from Okapamin to the Pak Valley will offer both Bimin and Kuskusmin villagers ready access to Okapamin.

(D) LEADERSHIP.

(a) The only leaders to be found in the Census Division are the appointed Lulamis and Tul-tulis. All these offices however appear to have won their position through default; none evidenced any real signs of leadership, either real or potential, and this is fully understandable taking into account the presently operative social organisation of the area. The Village Official's duties at present involve working with the people for a few days before a patrol's visit to the village on such things as cleaning up the Rest House area and a few yards of track.

At present very few men (less than ten) have returned to the area after gaining experience as indentured labour. All men with such experience who have returned to the area appear to have been employed in the Baka Island region. Talking with these men it was found that they must be having a very negative and undesirable affect upon the people of this area. It appears that they now have the idea that an area can only progress if it is suitable for the crops grown in Baka and like areas i.e. coconuts, cacao, etc. and are telling the people there is little chance of development of their area without these prerequisites. In my talks with the people it was pointed out there were many more parallels with their area and the Highlands Districts and if they wished to seek employment it would be much preferable for them to find employment there, as many of the more recently recruited men have done.

A change in the leadership pattern should be noticeable within a short time of the return of a sufficient number of the presently absent recruits. If change is to be brought about rapidly a full 33% at

least, of adult males should be encouraged to seek employment in the Highland environment immediately. A certain number of unwelcome social effects will have to be accepted but really such an area has little choice.

To assist in the bringing about of the adoption of a form of leadership it will also be necessary for Administration Officers to spend a large percentage of their time in the village situation working with the people on communal projects. Under the present formula "spending as much time in the village situation as the sum total of commitments permits" restricts visits to one, or perhaps two nights in each Rest House and this is totally inadequate to bring about the amount of change needed in the time available. In this situation leaders will only emerge when we reach that stage via a system of working with the people where we come to know the potentiality of each individual and then give him the chance to gain practical experience of leadership in his own environment i.e. the village or hamlet. Until such time as the Administration sees it's way clear to appoint clerical staff to all stations to take-over Agency functions, Monthly Returns etc. we are certain to get more and more out of step with village thoughts and opinions.

(b) The general attitude of the people of the Census-Division towards progress and development is that they want, know they need and expect Administration guidance towards this end. At the present time the Baptist Mission at Tekin contributes far more to the economic development of the area, via their vegetable seed distribution and organised marketing system, than the Administration.

All people of the Census-Division can be considered to be under influence of the Administration though those of the ~~Kanaka~~ ~~Samau~~ ~~Masanganam~~ village area were visited for the first time by this patrol.

(c) Covered above.

(5) LAND TENURE AND USE.

(a) Usufructory land tenure rights are inherited from both the father and mother. While residence does tend to be mainly patrilineal many men are absent from their own lineages, gardening and living on their wife's lineage's land.

Gardens are worked for one season only and then left to lie fallow for a period varying between 4-10 years before being again utilized.

(b) There are no individuals holding land on lease from the Administration. The people have no knowledge of tenure conversion.

(c) As outlined above cash cropping has not been introduced to the Census-Division.

Communal effort is applied to construction of a protective pig-fence round a garden if the area being planted is large enough to accommodate more than one simple family of a lineage; all subsistence crops are planted on a simple family basis.

(7) LITERACY.

(a) No schools are located in the Sak-Bimin Census Division.

(b) A count of the number of men able to speak Pidgin English reveals that only approximately twenty are able to do so. This number will be rapidly supplemented by returning indentured labourers and thus the figure should exceed one hundred within two years or so.

(c) No person has received what might be termed higher education.

(d) No person is presently absent from the area receiving what might be termed higher education.

(e) No resident of the Census-Division has or owns a radio receiver.

(8) STANDARD OF LIVING.

(a) Housing throughout the area appears to be of an adequate standard. Size varies from approximately ten or twelve foot square

to those approximately twelve feet by twenty with two rooms ; one for the man the other for his wife. This style has carried over from the traditional residence whereby a man lived separately from his wife; she in the man's house and she in a communal women's house.

Construction is of rough vertical timber slats five feet in height comprising the wall; sandwiched between the vertical slats are horizontal pieces of "koroka" bark. Rooves are of pandanus leaves overlapping from the direction of the weather-side and leaving a small gap at the apex of the roof which effectively serves as a chimney. Floors may or may not be slightly raised off the ground and may be of earth only or covered with "koroka". Some improvement could be made in the housing standard if the people could be taught to utilize plaited bamboo or "pit-pit" for walls.

Effective sanitation is sadly lacking throughout the Census-Division with very few houses evidencing a nearby latrine. Any change in this situation will only be brought about by the issue of tools to each village and Officers working with the people on a project to introduce better sanitation to the area. One day visits once a year will achieve little.

The everyday dress for the average person of the area is the phallic gourd of "Kambang" for the male and the grass-skirt for the female. Very few shorts, blouses or dresses are worn. The axe and knife are the only European artefacts in widespread use by the average person of the Census-Division. No metal pots, dishes, cups etc. were in evidence anywhere in the area.

(b) The staple diet of the people consists mainly of Taro and Sweet Potato. Both appear to grow equally well throughout the Census-Division. The pandanus nut is a most important food supplement during the time the people are between gardens. In the villages situated at the higher altitudes throughout the Census-Division a very few beans, tomatoes, shallots, potatoes and cabbages may supplement the diet though it is suspected that these are grown almost exclusively in the endeavour to earn a cash-income. At the lower situated Manganam village sugarcane, bananas, breadfruit, sago, tapioca, abika, tulip, pandanus nut and yam also are extensively grown.

The Weng language speaking people are fond of dog meat but this practice is not followed by the Weng'a people.

Canned foodstuffs are seldom if ever purchased by the average family.

(c) No Community Centres etc. exist anywhere in the Census-Division.

No facilities exist for the playing of sport.

(H) MISSIONS.

(a) Both the Australian Baptist Mission Society and the Seventh Day Adventist Missions are active in the Census-Division.

The Baptist Mission has by far the greatest influence right throughout the Telefonin - Okapain area and within the Census-Division has pastors stationed at Dabura, Bimain and Kueptana villages. The Seventh Day Adventist Mission has one pastor stationed at the small, isolated village of Kunana. Kunana is the only village which falls under SDA influence to any degree and even here approximately half of the people profess themselves to be Baptists. No tension of conflicts exist between the two sects.

(b) As mentioned above the Baptist Mission has pastors stationed at Dabura, Kueptana and Bimain villages. Maternal and Child Health patrols are conducted to Dabura and Kueptana villages by a trained European nurse approximately once a month. The European minister based at Tokin patrols the villages of this area approximately twice per year.

The isolated SDA Mission at Kunana has a few basic medicines with which to treat illnesses occurring in the village.

(c) The villagers of the area appear to welcome the attentions of the two Missions to their area and possibly associate their presence and attentions with the requisites for development and progress. As mentioned earlier the Baptist Mission is evidencing more interest in the economic development of the area than the Administration and this must be very noticeable to the people.

(I) NON-INDIGENES.

(a) No plantations, factories or other commercial establishments are located in the Census-Division..

(b) Not applicable.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Nil.

(J) COMMUNICATIONS.

(a) Roads. A Rural Development Funds sub-session is at present being prepared covering the needs, taken in conjunction with the feasibility, of a road network for the Okeapain Administrative Area. At the present time a motorcycle track extends from Okeapain Station to Tekin Mission and Telap and this is the only existing improved track in the area. No improved tracks have yet been constructed in the Bak-Bimin Census-Division area.

As mentioned earlier the topography of almost the entire Okeapain Administrative Area makes it peculiarly easy for roads following the grain of the country in the east-west direction, and the above mentioned Rural Development sub-session plans the construction of a road up to tractor and trailer standard to link all villages of the Tekin River valley with the Okeapain Patrol Post airstrip, which is capable of taking planes up to Twin Otter category.

Once the Okeapain - Tekin Valley road has been completed it will be feasible to construct a horse-trail (in the first instance) through the Bak Gap into the Bak River Valley and then eastward until the road-head reaches the vicinity of the Strickland River Gorge. It is this route which gives the only hope of linking Okeapain Patrol Post Area with the outside world and thus opening the area to meaningful development. In this connection, and to enable forward planning, some liaison must be established with the Lake Kopiago Sub-District of the Western Highlands District to find out what plans that area has, if any, to extend its road-head to the near vicinity of the eastern side of the Strickland River. From what I saw of the country on the eastern bank of the Strickland River the Timahuri River Valley possibly offers the best route from Lake Kopiago. Once this likely route is known work can commence on paving the best feasible route on the Okeapain side of the River and consideration be given to installation of a wire-cable bridge to span the River. In his Patrol Report No. 2 of 1963/64, at page 4 of his report, Mr. Patrol Officer Hanks makes mention of the fact that the Assistant District Commissioner Lake Kopiago has stored 750 feet of wire cable in a shed on the left bank of the Strickland in anticipation of being able to construct a permanent bridge over the river. To date this wire bridge has not been constructed and I wonder whether the cable is still stored in the shed. Here mention must be made of the onerous task the people have of constructing and maintaining the present cane bridge every 4-5 months.

While the above-mentioned road network is very feasible, and desirable from many angles, the people need to be given incentive and motivation to undertake construction: this can only be brought out by having an economic development policy for the area: at the present time no such policy exists and anything which is being done in this direction is being organised by the Baptist Mission.

(b) Rail.

Not applicable.

(c) Air.

Two airstrips are located within the Okeapain Administrative Area but neither is situated within the Bak-Bimin Census Division.

The more important of the two airstrips is that located at Okeapain Patrol Post. Measuring at present 1,560 feet in length the strip has been occasionally used by aircraft of the Twin Otter category. Although it is some 6-7 miles removed from the centre of population of the Administration Area (general Tekin area) it is a safer airstrip with greater take-off capacity than that operated at Tekin by the Baptist Mission. The potential of the Okeapain airstrip is itself very limited with subsidence problems on both the northern and southern sides of the western end of the airstrip severely limiting any plans for extensions to the strip. The subsidence on the northern side of the airstrip is now beginning to encroach

on the airstrip itself. According to the Tekin Mission people the Administration has spent possibly thousands of dollars on efforts designed to end this subsidence, but to date such efforts have obviously been unsuccessful. Before more money is spent on unscientific methods of attempting to control or halt this subsidence it is suggested that a full technical survey needs to be carried out and technical recommendations made on ways to overcome the problem. One method which suggests itself is to stabilise the earth with lime, abundantly available locally.

The Tekin Baptist Mission airstrip is open to aircraft of category 'D' standard only. Severe downdrafts and crosswinds are continually experienced in the Tekin area and always makes operations into this airstrip a risky business. A regular Mission Aviation Fellowship aircraft operates into Tekin every Thursday. No regular flights operate into the Oknapain airstrip.

No new airstrip sites were in evidence during this patrol however the width of the valley and general formation of the topography in the Dabura area suggests that further investigations could be carried out in this area.

(A) TECHNICAL AND CLERICAL SKILLS.

One Binai man is employed as a Corrective Institutions Branch Warden in Wouak. Three men from the Census-Division are presently employed at Telefomin as Council Agricultural Trainers.

(L) THE STAGE OF POLITICAL DEVELOPMENT.

Villagers of the Bak-Blain Census Division have recently begun hearing about the responsibilities of individuals living under the Local Government Council system from the comparatively nearby Peramin people, who are incorporated into the Telefomin Local Government Council. They have heard about the individual's liability to pay taxes and appear apprehensive that the Administration may force them to have a Council when they have no opportunity to earn money locally via a system of cash-crops. The older, conservative element of society is also apprehensive that if taxation is introduced many of the young men will either want to, or be forced to, seek wage labour in other parts of the Territory in order to earn a cash income.

Because of these obvious apprehensions by political education talks were mainly confined to the important role Council's play in the economic development of their areas; here special mention was made of the Telefomin Council organised marketing scheme, Farmer Trainers scheme and their hopes to purchase a tractor and trailer unit this financial year etc.. Emphasis was also placed on the importance of road development to the progress of an area.

As mentioned earlier in this report the people of this area are now in the habit of expecting to be visited by a yearly census patrol: they expect to have to attend the census for one day only; and they expect to be able to return to their hamlets as soon as the patrol departs. To arouse their interest on any topic it was found necessary to talk quite forcibly and to the point on the reasons for their lack of development and point out that they cannot rely entirely on the Administration to develop the area. Some response was obtained from this approach in most villages and it is hoped that a greater evidence of interest in the development of the area will be apparent to the officer conducting the next patrol to visit the census division. It is also obvious that these people lack the leadership necessary to undertake a communal project of any size and instinctively realize that they must rely upon the Officer in Charge Oknapain for ideas, guidance and leadership in such matters. A one or two night stopover in each village of the census-division once a year will not meet this need.

As you realize the fact that the Upper Sepik Open Electorate was not contested during the 1968 Elections deprived these people of the opportunity to participate in the election and so gain practical experience of electoral procedure. The people generally have little idea of who or what the House of Assembly is and 99% do not know who their Elected Member is. Attempts at simple explanation of what the role and responsibility of their Elected Member to them and their area

is, were made, however it is thought that little of this will be retained by the great majority of people. At this stage of their development their attention will only really be given to talks concerning economic development of their area.

(M) THE ECONOMY OF THE AREA.

(a) A very few potatoes, tomatoes, beans, shallots and cabbages are grown by the people of Okapina and Dabura villages.

(b) Production of the above crops at this time would probably not exceed a total of two hundred pounds weight per year.

(c) Not applicable.

(d) Dealt with under section (a) of this heading. Present cash return probably does not exceed \$10 in both cash and/or trade items.

(e) The cash earnings of wage labour at this time amount to approximately \$3,000 per year.

The major source of a cash income for men remaining within their area is carrying for Administration and Mission patrols through their area. Income from this avenue would be approximately \$200 per year.

(f) No. Not applicable.

(g) No entrepreneurs.

(h) From records held Okapina it appears only three CBE accounts have been started by people from the Bak-Basin Census-Division. Deposits are only nominal amounts.

(i) Not applicable.

(j) Calculating on a total cash income for the area of approximately \$3,500 we find the average per capita income figure is approximately two dollars. Calculating on a total of 513 adult males the per capita income figure is approximately \$7, however both figures are far from realistic it is obvious that 69 men earn almost the entire total cash income for the census-division. A more realistic figure would be an income of approximately 60-70 cents for each adult male remaining in the village situation.

(k) As stated earlier all transport and marketing of vegetables is presently handled by the Baptist Mission. At the present time all vegetables are flown out to Newark by Sepik Aircharterers Limited for direct sale to Meer Army Barracks. Weekly Mission purchases of vegetables (tomatoes, lettuce, pumpkin (Ch. Blue), cabbages and potatoes mainly) vary between 6-700 pounds weight at this time of year.

At this time all market gardening activity is confined to the Tekin Valley.

(N) POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING THE ECONOMY.

(a) Not applicable.

(b) Although the soil of the upper Bak Valley is badly leached and offers little potential for market gardening both the lower Bak Valley and Basin Valley appear to be suitable for increased plantings of vegetables. Because of the distance from, and difficulty of transporting produce to an available market (Tekin or Okapina), any development of latent potential will most probably have to await the completion of the Okapina - Tekin Valley vehicular road. Once this road has been constructed and a start made on a graded horse trail into the Bak Valley I am sure the people of this census division will show keen interest in the production of vegetables as the basis of a cash income. Production will probably only be limited by the absence of marketing sources and facilities.

(c) Wage earnings within the Census-Division and Sub-District cannot be further increased.

As stated earlier the economic development of the Census Division can, I consider, be materially assisted by encouraging a

greater percentage of young men to leave the area for a short period of time to work in a Highland environment. Ideas and innovations picked up by these men whilst working in the Mount Hagen or Goroka areas would assist greatly in quickening the pace of both the social and economic development of the Comau Division, and indeed the whole Okapaia Administrative Area. As the labourers now absent commence returning to their homes in greater and greater numbers, telling their stories and showing off their new found wealth, it will be a natural progression for more and more young men to want to venture out into the great outside world. It should be up to the Administration to guide them in taking this step to ensure they gain maximum benefit from their two years in another area of the Territory. As you know MHA Ivoksin and Councillors of the Telefaia Council are all vehemently against any large number of men from the Telefaia Sub-District going to work in the foreign environment of a coastal plantation. Their contention is that all a man gets on the coast is his flat wage and that he learns nothing in the way of skills or techniques which have any application in his home Highland environment. This is perfectly sound reasoning and perhaps this policy should be adopted by the Administration in place of the present laissez faire policy which allows such talking recruiters to chide Agreement Workers to any area needing them and taking no account of the needs of the recruits home area for skills and techniques which may prove vital for development of that area. As has been seen from a situation quoted earlier in this report a labourer returning from a foreign environment may even have a negative effect upon the development of his home area. This comes about when he assumes that the coastal people have developed because of their environment. When he returns home he is lively, because of his limited horizons, to tell his people that it is impossible for them to develop because they do not have what he now considers to be prerequisites for development i.e. warm weather, cacao and coconut plantations etc. etc.

(d) Every consideration should be given to the introduction of a perennial tree type cash crop when and if Agricultural Department policy allows. No new cash crop readily suggests itself for this area at the present time.

Perhaps the greatest economic development hope for the area lies with the oil exploration work to be carried out by British Petroleum Company in the coming months. The oil seep found in the vicinity of deserted Madian hamlet sounds very interesting from the verbal report given me by Kennicott Exploration Company geologist. (Okapaia Patrol Report No. 3 of 1967/68 refers).

(e) Any programs introduced to provide the people with avenues for earning a cash income will be welcomed. Development of the area and a programme for giving the individual the chance to earn a cash income by means of a cash crop will depend almost entirely upon the construction of the Okapaia - Tokin Valley road to full vehicular standards and the subsequent construction of a horse trail through the gap into the Bak Valley. It is proposed to submit this project for approval of a grant of Rural Development funds: via this system the people will be able to earn a nominal daily wage; any steady cash income at all is very welcome to these people and a small nominal daily wage of forty cents per man will ensure successful completion of these construction projects.

(c) ATTITUDE TOWARDS LOCAL GOVERNMENT.

As mentioned earlier under the heading "The Stage of Political Development" the people generally are apprehensive about the possible early introduction of the Local Government Council system to their area. This apprehension is based very largely on economic grounds and the plans presently in hand for the construction of the Okapaia-Tokin Valley vehicle road should not only go a long way to overcoming the people's fears in this matter but also assist the rapid social development of the entire Okapaia Administrative Area.

The vastly improved communications system within the Administrative Area afforded by the proposed road suggests that consideration be given to the future amalgamation of the Bak-Main and Faruain-Tokin Census Divisions into a Local Government Council. I estimate that work on the

thirteen miles or so of the Oksepin - Tekin Valley road could be completed within three years if nominal payments to the people can be made from Rural Development Funds for the work involved and the Officer in Charge Oksepin is free to provide advice and guidance in sufficient quantity. The criterion for the establishment of a Council will mainly be the successful construction of this road system and the resulting (to be hoped) introduction of a cash economy to the area; this last criterion I interpret as being the one which will be made by the people; it will be too much to expect them to be influenced by the political educational aspect of having a Council. From the people's point of view perhaps the prime purpose of Government is to assist in the economic development of an area; they could reasonably argue that if the central Administration with all it's available resources and facilities can do little for the area, and apparently does not even have a policy to assist in the development of the area, what chance will an economically weak local body have to achieve meaningful success. The conservative element of society will also be against any system which forces many young men to leave their area in order to seek wage employment to meet the economic obligations imposed on them by the new system. Though limited, mainly because of isolation and the associated transportation difficulties, there is a latent economic potential to be developed and a policy must be formulated to achieve this.

(P) ATTITUDE TOWARDS CENTRAL GOVERNMENT.

Discussed above.

(Q) ACCOMMODATION, SERVICES AND FACILITIES.

One Aid Post is located at Dahura village, however at the present time it has been closed down as the result of friction between the last Orderly posted there and the villagers. The friction arose as the result of the usual counter allegations: the Orderly alleges the people did not keep the Aid Post in good repair and the people holding to the story that the Orderly was not interested in his work and was often not in attendance when needed. Because of it's central location in an area removed from other health facilities a recommendation is being forwarded that the Department of Health give serious consideration to the re-opening of the Aid Post.

No other services or facilities exist.

For your consideration, please.

S. D. Fischer

(S. D. Fischer)
Assistant District Officer.

Political Situation.

Very little political activity is being carried out in the villages of the Oksepin District and possibly outside the district as well. "Social" workers are very scarce in the area and the people are not interested in economic development. Many people are not even registered voters and others just wander off or start working in the towns when they are sitting.

Various Local Government Councils are assisting in the development of their areas and particularly in the economic field. The Oksepin Local Government depend upon the assistance of the District Administration Office, District Councils, and other agencies to purchase a tractor and similar equipment. The people are interested in such things and they feel that any such program will be of great benefit to the area. They have some strong interests in the area and are not necessarily people with a lot of money.

SITUATION REPORT.BAR - BILIN CENSUS DIVISION.(a) Political:-Local Government.

Not yet established in the Bar-Bilin Census Division or indeed any census division within the Oksapain Administrative Area. At the present time people of the census division are generally apprehensive about the impact the introduction of Local Government may have. This apprehension is based almost entirely upon the doubts they have about the ability of the area to support a Council when no economic development at all has taken place within the Census Division. Stories concerning the obligations imposed upon the individual and society generally have filtered through from the nearby Telefofin Local Government Council.

Measures proposed to be undertaken to remove these apprehensions include the construction of an Oksapain - Telin Valley vehicle road to open up the Census Division to economic development, and the encouragement, on a short term basis only, of young men to leave their area to seek wage employment in a Highlands environment.

See Area Study Report for other remarks.

Local Government Councillors.

Not applicable.

House of Assembly.

At the present time these people have no conception at all about who or what the House of Assembly might be. As the result of the Upper Sepik Open Electorate being uncontested in 1968 these people, together with all others of the Telefofin Sub-District, missed a valuable opportunity to participate in a practical political education process.

Elementary talks on the role of the Central Government, national unity and the duties of their Elected Member to assist in the development of their area, were given. Very little response was evidenced by the people to any subject except those which had an obvious and direct application to the planned development of a cash economy in their area.

House of Assembly Members.

Neither Wesani Iwokima nor Paul Langro has paid visits to the Census-Division. A very few people have heard of Wesani Iwokima's name - approximately 90% have never heard the name of either of their elected representatives. In my talks mention was made of the responsibility Members had towards their constituents. At Bilin village one returned Agreement Worker advised he was intending to complain to Wesani Iwokima about the Administration's apparent lack of interest in the Oksapain area.

Political Education.

Very little pidgin english is spoken in any village of the Census Division and possibly mainly for that reason the "Soma" series stories were found to be unsuitable for use. Talks had to touch pointedly on economic development plans otherwise the people would either just wander off or start drooping off to sleep where they were sitting.

Talks were given on the achievements of various Local Government Councils in assisting the economic development of their areas and particular reference made to the achievements of the Telefofin Local Government Council over the past year in its Vegetable Marketing Scheme, Farmer Income Scheme and the Council's hopes to purchase a tractor and trailer unit within the next couple of months. While the people evidenced interest in such talks they remain sceptical that any such progress can be made in their area until such time as they have cash crops introduced to the area. Talks given from this economic angle will be the only sure way to hold these people's interest

up until the time they achieve some measure of economic development.

(2)
3

(b) Economic:-

General Rural Development. No economic development of the Bak-Bain Census Division has taken place to date. Two factors will determine whether in fact the Census Division will experience such development:- 1. Restricted development will follow the construction of the Oksapmin - Tein Valley vehicle road and connecting horse-trail into the Bak Valley 2. Greater development would follow if it proves possible to connect the Oksapmin road net-work with the Highlands road net-work now extending into the Lake Kopiago Sub-District. To this end it will be necessary to have some liaison with Lake Kopiago to learn if and when it is intended to extend the roadhead of their road network through to the eastern side of the Strickland Gorge and precisely what route it is proposed the road will follow if such extension is feasible. It may never be economic, or indeed possible to build a vehicular bridge across the Strickland Gorge and River, but it is feasible that roads to vehicle standard be extended from both Lake Kopiago and Oksapmin to the Gorge area and the River itself spanned by a wire foot bridge. In his Patrol Report No. 2 of 1963/64 Mr. Patrol Officer Marks mentions that 750 feet of wire cable have been stored in a shed on the Lake Kopiago side of the River, and that the intention was that the cable be used to replace the traditional type cable-bridge across the River. To date no such bridge has been constructed; perhaps enquiries could be made of the Assistant District Commissioner Lake Kopiago to determine whether this cable is still available for this project.

ACTIVITIES OF DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENTS.

The first Department of Agriculture, Stocks and Fisheries patrol to the Bak-Bain Census-Division was carried out during April 1969 by Assistant Rural Development Officer Mr. J. Kople, an officer based at Telefomin. No report covering this patrol has been received either here at Oksapmin, or at Telefomin. I take it the patrol was of an orientational nature only. To me this area appears to have more obvious potential than Telefomin, and I find it strange that D.A.S.F. has not taken a greater interest in Oksapmin's development.

Processing and Marketing.

Marketing of all produce (vegetables) of the Oksapmin area is handled by the Australian Baptist Mission Society based at Tein. The Mission has virtually been forced to take over the role of seed distributor and market organiser because of the lack of interest displayed by the Administration in these activities. The Mission ships approximately 6-700 pounds weight of vegetables, via Sepik Air Charters Limited, direct to Newak each week for sale to Moen Army Barracks.

Production of vegetables at Oksapmin is only restricted by the lack of markets brought about by the high airfreight charges from Oksapmin to centres of any size. Apparently Treasury will not authorise the backloading of such non-Administration cargo on Administration Aircharters into Oksapmin; if this could be changed the villager could be given a greater return for his efforts via a system of direct sales to retailers in Vanimo and Newak as the result of the produce ceasing to carry the high airfreight cost component.

Village Cash Crop Extension.

Villages of the Bak-Bain Census Division offer any amount of scope for increases in all lines of market gardening produce. Such increases are not desirable however until such time as improvements are made in transport and marketing outlets.

(c) Social:-

Education.

A total of four children only attend the Baptist Mission Primary 'T' School at Tein.

Health.

The Administration Aid Post located at Dabura village was closed down in February this year as the result of friction between the Aid Post Orderly and the village people; friction arose from the usual causes; the Orderly alleged the people did not maintain the Aid Post in good condition while the people say that the Orderly was never on hand when necessary and did not appear interested in his work.

After such a lapse of time it has proved impossible to ascertain where fault in this matter does lie, however it is apparent that the village people originally went to some pains to construct a very adequate Aid Post complex, and for this reason my letter 49-1-0 of the 14th. October, 1969 contains the recommendation that consideration be given to the re-opening of this Aid Post.

At the present time the only Health Service covering the Census-Division is provided by the monthly patrols conducted by European nurses employed by the Baptist Mission.

Law and Order.

One murder involving sorcery occurred at Dabura village during the year. Four men from the Dabura were convicted by the Supreme Court to terms of six years gaol each.

Generally speaking the people throughout the Census-Division were found to be particularly Law-abiding and very few matters for arbitration or Court action were brought before the patrol. Comments made in earlier patrol reports covering this area uphold this view.

Services Provided by Administration and Administration Agencies.

While the Dabura Aid Post remains closed the Bak-Bimin Census Division remains unserved by all Departments on any permanent basis.

Missions.

As mentioned above the Tekin based Baptist Mission at present offers the only Educational and Health facilities enjoyed by the people of this Census-Division.

The Kumana village based Seventh Day Adventist Mission carries a small supply of basic medicines for treatment of the more common complaints suffered by the adherents in that village.

Alta and Forest.

None apparent.

(1)


Macellaneous:-

Mineral Prospecting.

Talks were given outlining the purpose of the visits to the area by the mineral prospecting company Kennecott Explorations of Australia Limited, being carried out at the time of the patrol's visit. Much of the area had already been covered by the geologists and field workers dropped from helicopters, and such activity made it an opportune time for this subject to be discussed. It was evident that the people were very much in favour of the prospecting being carried out on their Land and no person expressed any opposition to such prospecting. Emphasis was put on the fact that the Company was conducting a preliminary survey only and that no payment would be received for the small amounts of rock samples the Company's employees were removing from the area. All were quite happy with this explanation.

Although no person came right out and said so it was fairly obvious that the people generally held high hopes that a mineral find would be made in their particular area; for this reason an attempt was made to put the prospecting activity in clearer perspective and point out the odds against the Company making any find worth commercial exploitation in such a remote locality.

For your consideration, please.


 (M. J. Fischer)
 Assistant District Officer.

TELEPHONE + Oksapinin



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of West Sepik Report No. Okapaia No 2-1969/70

Patrol Conducted by D. McComb, Assistant Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled Bararamin - Tolin Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans 1 Interpreter

Natives 3 Members R.F.P., N.G.C.

Duration—From 25/3/1970 to 12/4/1970

Number of Days 16

Did Medical Assistant accompany? Hospital Officer Gr. 1

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 3/7/1969

Medical 7/19

Map Reference Attached

Objects of Patrol Census Division Area Study, Situation Report and General Administration

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

30 / 11 / 1970

[Signature]
District Commissioner

[Signature]

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation ... £

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund £

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

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MIGRAT
In
F

HRD:IT

Department of the Administrator,
Division ~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

67-16-104

9th December, 1970.

The District Commissioner,
West Sepik District,
YAHIO.

CECAPHIN PATROL NO. 2 - 69/70

Your reference is 67-3-10 of 1st December, 1970.

2. I acknowledge with thanks receipt of Annual Census, Area Study and Situation Report by Mr. D. McCombe, A.P.O., c/o the Teramain - Tekin Census Division.

3. Your comments adequately cover the points of interest raised by the report.

4. The census figures will be further commented on under separate memorandum.

S. J. Pearsall
(S.J. PEARSALL)
Departmental Head

c.c. Mr. D. McCombe, A.P.O.,
AMAHAR Sub-District Office,
West Sepik District.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Department of the Administrator.

~~5-11-70~~

Telephone
Telegrams
Our Reference 67-3-10
If calling ask for
Mr.

Division Department of District Administration.
District Headquarters.
VANIMO
West Sepik District.

(19)
67-16-104



1st December, 1970.

Departmental Head,
Department of the Administrator.
KONEDOBU Papua

OKSAPMIN PATROL REPORT NO. 2-69/70.

Attached please find copies of Oksapmin Patrol Report No. 2-69/70. It is submitted to you to keep the record straight and to enable me to sign the camping allowance claims. The report was lost and although when found Mr. Kelly was lax in not forwarding it, he is not wholly to blame.

The road from Oksapmin to Tekin is well under way and the Department of Public Works have recently made another allocation. Unfortunately the influenza epidemic has held work up, but things should go ahead again now.

The fresh vegetable to Vanimo had to be discontinued. Not so much on the state of the airstrip, but due mainly to adverse weather conditions, it requires little cloud in that area to make pilots extremely wary of making any attempt to get in.

The people are showing an interest in Local Government, but I feel we should rush things, communications are at present all against them, it would mean meetings with few if any in attendance. I would prefer to see them benefit under the Rural Development Scheme first.

We apologise for the delay over this report.

.....
(J. E. WAKEFORD)
District Commissioner

(18)

Work has commenced on the improvement of the surface of the Oksapmin airstrip and a Rural Development Submission for the extension of the strip has been accepted by the D.C.C. for 1971/72 and has been accorded 2nd priority on the District Rural Development Programme.

Stage of Political Development.

The comments on the elected Member of the House of Assembly could also be applied to most of the people within the Telefomin Sub District.

Economy of the Ra Area.

The people are fortunate in having good soil available and I feel that the initial cash crop in the area could be market gardening with the outlet to markets in the Sepik Districts both East and West.

The availability of marketing depends to a great deal on the improvement of the Oksapmin airstrip. Mr. McCombe mentions a figure of 1200 lbs of vegetables per week. This amount of vegetables, if it could be marketed effectively, would bring growers a return of \$120.00 per week or \$6,240 per annum. This is only a basic figure and there would be scope for an increase once firm communications and a marketing setup is established.

A road ~~link~~ link with Lake Kopiago could not be envisaged within the next ten years and in the meantime the only venue for cash crop export is the Oksapmin Airstrip.

Attitude towards Local Government.

See comments on Situation Report.

SITUATION REPORT: Political.

The people are aware of Local Government however the degree of awareness is debatable. It has been my experience that people, when approached or spoken to in the terms of Local Government, tend to have a fixed idea that the only function of a Local Government Council is to collect tax.

It appears that Mr. McCombe has gone to some pains to explain Local Government to the people and it is hoped some of what he said has been absorbed.

It is interesting to note the support of the repatriated agreement labourers for a Council. They have obviously seen some of the Highlands Councils in action. The next patrolling officer should be careful to point out to these men that not all councils are as efficient or as large as the Highlands Councils they may have seen in action. This should not be done in a way as to dampen the enthusiasm of the supporters of a Council but rather in a way to show them not to expect too much too soon from any Council which could be established in the Oksapmin area.

Economics.

See previous comments Area Study under (1) Communications and (ii) Economy of the Area.

It may be noted here that the boar referred to by Mr. McCombe has since died. The DIC Oksapmin reported this was mainly due to lack of food, but in fairness to the Oksapmin people, the pig was also said to have been sick for some time.

Social.

In general the people could be considered to be the most fortunate in the Oksapmin Administrative Area. This is mainly due to their geographic situation which gives them access to (a) good soil (b) reasonable medical contact and facilities and (c) proximity to possible market outlets.

The people appear to be law abiding. What can be done to try and prevent the suicides, I don't know.

The report by Mr. McCombe is a sound factual study, well documented and presented.

Mr. B. McCombe,
Patrol Officer,
MANAIA.

c.c.

I apologise for the delay in forwarding the report and comments.

B. M. Fischer
(B. M. Fischer)
Assistant District Commissioner

TERRITORY OF PAPUA & NEW GUINEA

17

PATROL REPORT

Report Number	OKSAPMIN No 2-1969/70.
Sub - District	TELEFOMIN.
District	WEST SEPIK.
Council/Non-Council Area	NON/COUNCIL AREA.
Patrol Conducted by	D. McCOMBE - ASSISTANT PATROL OFFICER.
Designation	ASSISTANT PATROL OFFICER.
Area Patrolled	TERANDIM - TEKIN CENSUS DIVISION.
Personnel Accompanying Patrol	3 MEMBERS R.P.&N.G.C. 1 HOSPITAL ORDERLY Gr 1.
Duration of Patrol	1 INTERPRETER.
Date and Duration of last D.D.A. Patrol to Area	25/2/70 to 12/3/70. 16 DAYS. 22/6/69 to 30/6/69. 9 DAYS.
Objects of Patrol	CENSUS REVISION, AREA STUDY, SITUATION REPORT AND GENERAL ADMINISTRATION.
Total Population of Area Patrolled	3,725.
Village Population Register	ENCLOSED.

The Secretary,
Department of the Administrator,
KOROROE.

Forwarded, please.

/ /1970.

.....
District Commissioner.

(16)

PATROL DIARY

OKSAPIN PATROL No 2 - 1969/70

February 25, 1970.

Departed station for Sanapitimin at 14-00 hours. Arrived 15-30 hours to find that an effort had been made by the isolated group to construct assemblies. Track in good condition through local country but not so good through the forested areas. Slept Sanapitimin.

February 26, 1970.

Began census revision 08-30 hours. Talks on economic, political and social development both in the Territory and this census division. Departed for station 12-00 hours and arrived 13-30 hours. Paid carriers. Slept station.

February 27, 1970.

Began census revision Terasin 09-00 hours. Talks on various problems including economic development in the area. Spoke about local government and House of Assembly. Slept station.

February 28, March 1, 1970.

Week end observed. Departed for Betiana rest house Sunday 16-20 hours. Arrived 17-20 hours. This section of the Takin-Oksapin road in good condition. Paid carriers. Slept Betiana.

March 2, 1970.

Began census revision 08-45 hours. Talks on economic and political development including work to be done on the Oksapin-Takin road. Departed for Disana 12-05 hours and arrived 14-45 hours. Track in good condition. Census revision Disana. Slept Disana.

March 3, 1970.

Census revision Lindana at Disana. Talks to both groups on economics and politics. Departed Disana for Yasuin 11-00 hours and arrived 13-00 hours. Track in good condition. Census revision and talks on politics and economics. Heard problems and helped as much as possible. Slept Yasuin.

March 4, 1970.

Departed Yasuin 08-00 hours and arrived Divana 12-40 hours. Long walk across forested mountain. Track in reasonable condition. Paid carriers and settled in. Discussions with married couple from the Summer Institute of Linguistics. Slept Divana.

March 5, 1970.

Census revision Divana, Seresati and Weitape. Spoke to quite a large group about politics and economics. Discussed their problems and worries. Inspected the Government pig on loan to the people of Divana. Slept Divana.

March 6, 1970.

Departed 09-00 for Tekap. Arrived 09-30 hours. Census revision Tekap and Bak. Discussions on economic development and spoke about politics. Slept Tekap.

March 7, 1970.

Departed Tekap 09-30 after further discussions. Arrived Tomiana 10-10 hours. Track in good condition. Census revision and discussions on various problems faced by the people. Slept Tomiana.

PATROL DIARYMarch 8, 1970.

Sunday observed, Spoke to Iuhais and Tul-tuls on certain laws in force in the Territory. Slept Tomiana.

March 9, 1970.

Departed Tomiana 08-15 hours. Arrived Aramain 08-35 hours. Census revision of Aramain, Mianong and Aramka. Spoke on various matters including local government, economic development, House of Assembly and laws relating to disposal of corpses, stealing and road maintenance. Slept Aramain.

March 10, 1970.

Departed Aramain 08-10 hours. Arrived Kusana 08-55. Track very muddy due to heavy rain the previous night. Census revision Kusana, Sembati and Taven. Spoke and discussed economic development and road work to be done. Spoke on local government and House of Assembly. Spoke with the members of the Australian Baptist Mission at Tekin. Slept Kusana.

March 11, 1970.

Departed Kusana 08-30. Arrived Wuala 09-10 hours. Problem obtaining carriers at Kusana and shuttles made by available carriers. Carrier problem due to short ~~range~~ distance and thus little pay plus the fact that the pandemic mt season was nearing its end and every person was out to get his share. Census revision. Talks on politics and economics. Slept Wuala.

March 12, 1970.

Departed 08-30 hours for station arriving 10-00 hours. Paid carriers and settled in. Patrol stood down.

March 16, 1970.

Departed for Gaugutiamin 09-00 hours. Arrived 14-15 hours. Revised census for Gaugutiamin, Cartagan, Duban and Kusabak, all of which were done in October 1969 on Okaspin Patrol No 1-1969/70. Spoke on political and economic development, and about future patrols to their area as they will possibly be visited by patrols to the Bak-Blain Census Division too. Returned to the station arriving 16-15. A long, hard walk across the mountain to Gaugutiamin.