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PATROL REPORTS

DISTRICT: EAST SEPIK

STATION: AMBUNTI, 1966 - 1967

Original documents bound with reports
for: Pagwi, volume 1.

Papua New Guinea Patrol Reports

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PATROL REPORT OF: PAGWI EAST SEPIK
 ACCESSION NO. 496
 VOL. NO: 2 : 1966/67 NUMBER OF REPORTS: 6

REPORT NO PAGWI	FOLIO	OFFICER CONDUCTING PATROL	AREA PATROLLED		MAPS/ PHOTOS	PERIOD OF PATROL
[1] 1 of 1966-67.	1-15	W. VAN RIKXOORT P.O	SEPIK PLAINS CENSUS DIVISION		1 MAP	5.12.66 - 16.12.66
[2] 2 of 1966-67	16-29	W. VAN RIKXOORT P.O	MATN RIVER CENSUS DIVISION.		1 MAP	9.2.67 - 16.2.67
[3] 4 of 1966-67.	30-47.	W. VAN RIKXOORT PO	PART OF THE BIRUI KUNAI CENTRAL CENSA		1 MAP	7.4.67 - 3.5.67
[] AMBUNTI						
[4] 5 of 1966-67.	48-59	P.N. COLTON PO	KARAWAKI CENSUS DIVISION		1 MAP	5.4.67 - 10.4.67
[5] 7 of 1966-67	60-72	P.N. COLTON PO	NUMBU - ABLATAK CENSUS DIVISION		1-2 MAP	29.5.67 - 17.6.67
[6] 7 of 1966-67	73-89	P.N. COLTON PO	" " " "		2 MAP	29.5.67 - 17.6.67
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[Volume 1]

263-67/68.

PATROL REPORTS EAST SEPIK DISTRICT 1966-67

PAGWI

<u>Patrol No.</u>	<u>Officer Conducting Patrol</u>	<u>Area Patrolled</u>
1-66-67	W. van Rikxoort	Sepik Plains Census Div.
2-66-67	W. van Rikxoort	Main River Census Division
4-66-67	W. van Rikxoort	Part of the Burui Kunai Cen- sus Division

AMBUNTI

5-66-67	P.N. Colton	Karawari Census Division
7-66-67	P.N. Colton	Numau-Ablatak Census Div.
7A-66-67	P.N. Colton Suppl. Patrol Report by K.P. Wearne	" " "

Amount Returned to Store



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of EAST SEPIK Report No. 5-66/67

Patrol Conducted by P.N. COLTON Patrol Officer

Area Patrolled KARAWARI Census Division

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans K.P. WEARNE Cadet Patrol Officer

Natives 6 R.P.N.G.C. and 1 Health Education Officer

Duration—From 5/4/1967 to 10/4/1967

Number of Days 5 nights camped out

Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services 1/1967

Medical /19

Map Reference Attached

Objects of Patrol Investigator reported disturbance

Director of District Administration, PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

Handwritten number: 24141967

Signature of District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation £
Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund 2
Amount paid from P.E.D.P. Trust Fund

Popul

67-8-23



67-1-12

East Sepik District,
NEWAK.

26th May, 1967.

~~Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI.~~

AMBUNTI PATROL NO.5 OF 1966/1967.

Receipt is acknowledged of the Report by Mr. P.N. Colton, Patrol Officer, on his investigation of a conflict between two groups of the Karawari Census Division and your instructions and covering memorandum.

The prompt action taken by you and your staff in attending the reported conflict in an adjoining Sub-District warrants praise to all concerned.

The Patrol was well conducted and copy of the Report will be forwarded to Angoram. No further action is required from you as Mr. O'Regan, Officer in charge Amboin, will be visiting the area concerned in the near future.

B. E. Leen
(B. E. LEEN)
A/DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBU.

Attached please find:-

1. Patrol Report No.5 of 1966/67
2. Angoram 67-1-1 of 24th April, 1967 to District Commissioner, Wewak.
3. Angoram 67-1-1 of 24th April, 1967, to the Assistant District Commissioner, Angoram.

The wounded man mentioned in the Diary on 7/4/67 has been discharged from the Wewak Hospital after receiving treatment for a spear wound in the groin.

B. E. Leen
(B. E. LEEN)
A/DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

Department of District Administration,
Sub-District Office,
ANGORAM.

67-1-4/788

24th April, 1967.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
NEWAK.

REPORT OF FIGHTING ON NEWAK RIVER - AMBUNTI PATROL NO. 5
OF 1966/1967.

Refer A.D.C. Ambunti's 67-1-12 of 17th April, 1967.

Attached please find a copy of Mr. Claassen's letter which gives further background information of the groups involved and other groups in the area.

Mr. O'Regan, O.I.C. Amboin, is aware of the abovementioned disturbance, and will be visiting the area to contact the uncontacted BISOARIO group and others about the end of this month. He is visiting the area to advise the people of the C.R.A. prospecting application as earlier instructed by you. In view of the delicate situation that exists, or at least may exist following the disturbance, I have instructed Mr. O'Regan not to make any mention of the fight and not to take any action which may jeopardise the object of the patrol. He has been told that if the matter is brought up by them, to suggest that it can best be dealt with by traditional peaceful means, i.e. by reciprocal compensation appropriate to the injuries sustained by both parties.

Should they not mention the matter, which is probably more likely then we can regard Mr. O'Regan's patrol as establishing further friendly relations with these people. It will then be somewhat easier to approach them on the matter in the near future.

It is possible of course, that the people may desert their area when they hear of the patrols approach. This will indicate their involvement and that the situation is a "touchy" one. In this case I feel that we should leave some tokens of our peaceful intentions such as trade goods, and leave word with the contacted BISOARIO'S of the reason for the patrol being in the area. Patrol personnel should be warned against revealing that they know anything of the fight.

The patrol should be able to at least obtain some information on the BISOARIO'S and other groups, which may be of assistance in later patrols suggested by the A.D.C. Ambunti.

I feel here that traditional compensation is called for. This entails quite a logistic problem which could be solved by the use of a helicopter at the time that ground patrol are in both areas. If both areas are secured by separate patrols, and advice sent by A510 transceiver, then a helicopter could ferry pigs, etc., between the two groups as well as, perhaps, the fight leaders. I am sure that if C.R.A. were approached on this matter they would agree to this, seeing that it will be in their area and in their interests.

For your consideration and advice, please.

D.P. MARONEY
ASSISTANT DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

c.c/ Officer in charge,
Patrol Post,
AMBOIN.

c.c/ Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Department of District Administration,
Sub-District Office,
ANGORAM.

In reply Please
Quote 67-1-1/787

24th April, 1967.

The Assistant District Commissioner,
ANGORAM.

Subject: Background Information - BISORIO, MOLI
and BIKARU Groups.

1. As requested by you herewith are some notes on the Upper Korosameri-Salumei Rivers situation with reference to the recent attack by the BIKARU/BISORIO on MOLI people.

2. There are possibly Five uncontacted groups in the above region of the Amboin Patrol area. These are:

- (a) The main BISORIO's - Korosameri River, south of the Yokopos River.
- (b) SALIBA, SIDI, - Three groups on the Korosameri headwaters. Actual location unknown.
- UEAPU
- (c) BIKARU - Salumei/April River headwaters.

3. General Native Situation to Date

(a) There has been no record of inter group fighting in this area during the last six years (since the establishment of the Amboin post). Minor quarrels between individuals have occurred but none have been known to lead to fatalities. Some unrest was shown between the contacted Bisorio group and the uncontacted section but this was mainly due to marital problems.

(b) Until the present clash contact between MOLI/BISORIO and BIKARU has been intermittent since general hostilities ceased some years ago. Mr. P. Tatterson (O.I.C. Amboin, 1965) brought some BISORIO's to MOLI in 1965 and they were met with a cordial although exaggerated reception. Because of this I do not think the attack was a premeditated one. In any case, as Mr. Colton says, 10 men do not usually constitute a raiding party.

(d) It is likely that the clash occurred because the MOLI and the BIKARU were encroaching on each/or the other's hunting areas.

(e) Under the circumstances it would seem that the best approach would be to establish peaceful contact and consolidation of Administration influence with the emphasis on establishing friendly relations between the two groups.

4. Contact Between the BISORIO and BIKARU.

BISORIO is a contacted village (or group) of some 70 people under Luluai SINAI'U on the Yokopos River. They are an off-shoot of the main Bisorio group situated approximately two days (one night) walk away on the Korosameri River. This main group, sometimes spoken of as the MANAKAIQU, is uncontacted. From there two-three nights will reach the Salumei River, and, reported information only, the BIKARU.

5. BISORIO (Yokonos River)

Pidgin English is spoken by LUA who has been to AMBOIN and ANGORAM and is a good type. He would be useful as a guide and interpreter to a patrol originating from AMBOIN.

POWIA, who is a young man speaking limited pidgin, and SINAI, an ex fight leader with no pidgin, are pro administration types who have organised part of the group into a semi permanent village.

Luluai SINAI'U is not particularly interested in the Administration. He has a tendency to be absent when patrols visit the village.

Generally the people are proadministration although not enthusiastically so. They have now been under contact for five years and have been visited five times in the period. Attendances at census have never averaged more than about 50% for any patrol after the initial contact by Mr. Redmond.

The KATIO spoken of by Mr. Colton is the "Big" name for the BISORIO/GADIO/SALIBA groups. i.e. the people that speak the Gadio dialect (a form of the Wabag linguistic area). GADIO has been under regular contact (four times) since 1963, and is on the Wogupmeri River immediately above AMBOIN.

Contact between the BISORIO and BIKARU is intermittent but inter marriage does take place.

6. Interpreter/Guides.

The fact that the BISORIO people are still fairly unsettled and that there is a history of hostilities between them and the MOLI people will probably mean that they will be reluctant to supply interpreters and guides to an AMBUNTI patrol. The problem of interpreters may be overcome by having the O.I.C. Amboin, arrange for INIAI people to accompany the patrol as they speak the same language.

LUA would probably accompany any patrol from AMBOIN.

7. For your information, please.

.....
Assistant District Officer.



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

Telegrams
Telephone
Our Reference 67-1-12
If calling, ask for
M.....

Sub-district Office,
AMBUNTI,
East Sepik District.

5th April, 1967.

Mr. P. Colton,
Patrol Officer,
AMBUNTI.

REPORT OF FIGHTING HEADWATERS SATIFA RIVER

In addition to our conversation of yesterday.

The recent history of fighting and group alliances in this area is as follows. The GANOM people inhabiting the middle SATIFA River, NAMU and YIGEI, a group existing in and around the eastern Hunstein Range, WAGU, a group on a lagoon of the BLACK River and to the west of AMBUNTI, and MOLI attacked a hamlet of the BEGAPUNI Group in the vicinity of the junction of the APRIL (or NEMESAP) and SATIFA Rivers. This was about November 1965.

The BEGAPUNI have reported allies in the central headwaters of the APRIL River and I understand the general name of these allies is PAKA or possibly PAKAU. The groups involved in the attack (alleged ambush) on the MOLI hunting party are BISCORIC which is a contacted group from ANBOIN and a group known as BIKAU. From what I have heard from the S.I.L party, they are of the opinion that BIKAU is a separate group from PAKA or PAKAU and that the BIKAU are further to the east of the PAKAU Group. If, however, they are in alliance with PAKAU and thus BEGAPUNI, investigate the possibility that the attack on MOLI was in retaliation for the attack on BEGAPUNI.

At this stage the aim of the patrol is to get to MOLI and investigate the matter mainly only to find out what happened. The chances of breaking the story of self-defence on the part of the MOLI will be very difficult and remote without hearing the other side of the story.

BISCORIC is in the ANBOIN area and that would probably be the best means of contact with the BIKAU. As such it is a task for OIC ANBOIN or possibly a joint ANBOIN/AMBUNTI Patrol. The chances of contact through MOLI are non-existent and contact from AMBUNTI side via the APRIL River would be very difficult as we would probably have to work through the BEGAPUNI Group thence through the people, as yet not properly contacted, who inhabit the central April Headwaters and then possibly BIKAU.

So far as this patrol the tasks are to investigate the incident and bring back the reported seriously injured headman from MOLI.

It would seem there is little difficulty getting as far as BEGAPUNI by motor but from there to MOLI is reported to be hazardous. So, you will probably have to leave the motors at BEGAPUNI in care of one policeman and take the patrol through to MOLI some three hours distant, either by pull canoe or walking track.

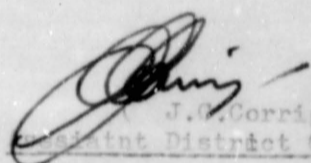
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Keep Mr Wearne, CPO with you at all times and although the chances of trouble with hostile natives are remote, be on your guard and alert to this possibility. You have ammunition for police but as to when and if you issue this is up to your discretion.

For this patrol you are not required to move further south than the immediate vicinity of NOLI Village. The patrol is purely a reconnaissance and should not take much longer than a week. Be careful that the NOLIs do not get apprehensive of government action at this stage and take off for the bush. Arrests of any NOLIs if necessary can take place during the follow-up patrol. Try and get the NOLI story as accurate as possible and avoid as far as possible leading questions, especially in regard to any notion of a payback killing for the ZEGAPUKI Incident.



J. G. Corrigan)

Assistant District Commissioner

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Patrol Conducted by;	AMBUNTI Station.
Area Patrolled:	AMBUNTI Sub-District.
PERSONNEL Accompanying Patrol:	P.H. Colton, Patrol Officer.
	KARAWARI Census Division.
	Mr. K.P. Wearne, Cadet Patrol Officer.
	6 members R.P.&N.G.C.
	1 Health Education Officer.
Duration of Patrol:	5-4-67 to 10-4-67.
	(5 nights camped out)
Last Patrol to Area:	D.D.A. January '67 from AMBOIN.
Objects of Patrol:	Carry out investigation into reported disturbance.
Map reference:	Attached.

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INTRODUCTION:

The object of this patrol was a specific one; viz, to carry out an investigation into a disturbance in which the MOLI people were alleged to be involved; I have not made any comments under the various headings which would normally appear in a formal patrol report.

The village of MOLI is situated on ~~the~~ a cleared area on the banks of the SALUMEI River. The village has a total population of 70 and appears to have been regularly visited since 1964. The area around MOLI is heavily timbered and surrounded by sharply defined ridges. The SALUMEI River is reasonably swift flowing and from just below BUGIAUI to and above MOLI becomes shallow and contains many snags. I feel it would be unwise to ~~in~~ take a power canoe above MOLI. It would also be unwise to rely on the men of this area as carriers as I feel they would be unreliable and the men did not strike me as being particularly robust. There is a good Rest House and Police Barracks at MOLI.

PATROL DIARY:

5.4.67 - Wednesday: Departed AMBUNTI 0820. Self in single powered canoe 35 h.p. Mr. Wearne in single canoe powered by 20 h.p. Mercury. Passed PAGWI 1020 and arrived at the mouth of the KOROSMERI River at 1410. Continued upstream to MUMERI where one SAI picked up as a guide. Departed MUMERI 1600 after a stop of 15 minutes. Arrived at ENGORUM (hamlet of WOMBUN - CHAMBERI LAKES) at 1715. Camp set up. O/N ENGORUM.

6.4.67 - Thursday: Departed ENGORUM 0805 and arrived at the junction of the KOROSMERI and SALUMEI Rivers where met S.I.L. party at 0930. Brief discussions and continued upstream on the SALUMEI at 1000 hrs. Passed YAMBI YAMBI at 1020 where spare paddles picked up - continued up the SALUMEI and passed MARI at 1205 hrs. Arrived BUGIAUI at 1815 hrs. Camp set up - O/N BUGIAUI.

7.4.67 - Friday: Departed BUGIAUI 0855 in light rain - passed INARU 0950 and arrived at MOLI at 1100hrs. Camp set up and wounded man attended and treated by the Health Education Officer. Most of the people absent in the bush. Two policemen, Health Officer and interpreter despatched for AMBUNTI per single motor canoe at 1400hrs. Awaited return of people and enquiries conducted into the fracas. O/N MOLI R.H.

8.4.67 - Saturday: At MOLI - Investigation continued and incident re-enacted. General information gathered re the area. Pep talk given the MOLI'S and certain tasks allotted them to be completed as soon as possible. O/N MOLI R.H.

9.4.67 - Sunday: Departed MOLI 0740 - passed BUGIAUI 0900hrs. Continued downstream to YAMBI YAMBI arriving at 1345 hrs. and paddles returned. SAI dropped off at MUMERI and arrived at the mouth of the KOROSMERI at 1805. O/N MINDIMBIT R.H.

10.4.67 - Monday: Departed MINDIMBIT 0807 and passed PAGWI 1340 hrs. Continued upstream and brief stop at AVATIP to enquire into the whereabouts of Supreme Court witnesses. Arrived at AMBUNTI 1610 hrs. Patrol stood down.

END OF PATROL

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REPORT OF INCIDENT:

All the information I gathered was from the MOLI people and consequently one-sided. The story is as follows:

A party of thirteen men and three children from MOLI were returning from a hunting party trip. They were laden with game. They were crossing the SITIPA River some two days walk away from MOLI. The party was ambushed at a distance of some 70 yards. In the lead was one TAHO immediately followed by two youths. Some thirty yards behind the youths and out of each others sight, was YAKIYA (Luluai of MOLI) following him the three children and some ten yards behind them the remainder of the party. They were walking in single file.

TAHO claims that a party of ten men appeared and ambushed him. He was wounded in the groin and he returned their fire and claims that he wounded one of them in the side just below the rib cage and thinks he wounded another in the chest. As soon as the ambush broke the two youths ran back and informed the Luluai what had happened. He ran up and on his arrival he claims that six of the men ran away. He fired on them and claims that he hit one of them in the side just below the arm pit. The remaining four ran away when they heard the cries of the main body of the MOLI party who had by this time been alerted as to what was going on. The MOLI party gave chase but to no avail.

YAKIYA alleges that three of the men came from BISORIO as they mentioned the BISORIO Luluai by name. The remaining six men he claims come from BIKARU. It appears that it is standard practice for men of this area to carry both hunting and fighting arrows on their hunting trips.

At this stage I tend to the view that both parties were on hunting trips and that the alleged BISORIO's and the BIKARU's stumbled on the three leading persons and thought that they were alone. I consider that a party of ten men is too small to be a raiding party.

BISORIO is a contacted Village from AMBOIN Patrol Post. It is situated on the KOROSMERI River and has a Luluai and Tul Tul. I was informed that three groups go to make up BISORIO and only one is under influence. Of the other two groups they are virtually un-contacted and one of them is known by the name of KATIO. I was unable to discover the name of the other.

The BIKARU's are uncontacted and are said to inhabit a mountain top at the headwaters of the SALUMEI River. From information I have gathered they would appear to be semi-nomadic.

The MOLI people claim the following alliances: INARU, BUGIAUI, YEGAI and GHOM all of whom are contacted. The MOLI people claim the following enemies: BIKARU, PAKAU, PIAMEI and SEGAPUKI. As far as I know these last four mentioned places have had only limited contact if any. From the information I received it would appear that these four places are semi-nomadic and roam around the headwaters of the KOROSMERI, SALUMEI, SITIPA and April Rivers.

I was informed that to walk from BISORIO to the BIKARU area would entail three nights camped out in the bush. I was told it would be shorter from MOLI to the same area.

CONCLUSION:

I recommend that two patrols enter this area; one from AMBOIN via BISORIO and one from AMBUNTI via MOLI. This would allow the patrols to converge on the BIKARU area, and cut off one avenue of escape.

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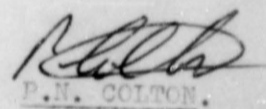
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PAGE 2

I also recommend that these patrols be in the nature of establishing friendly contact with these people rather than with the idea of apprehending the alleged aggressors. My reason for this is that this area is part of the area which a prospecting licence has been issued. I understand that the people concerned are proposing to visit this area in the near future. Should patrols enter this area ** and apprehend the alleged culprits it is only natural that whoever follows on may not be made feel particularly welcome.

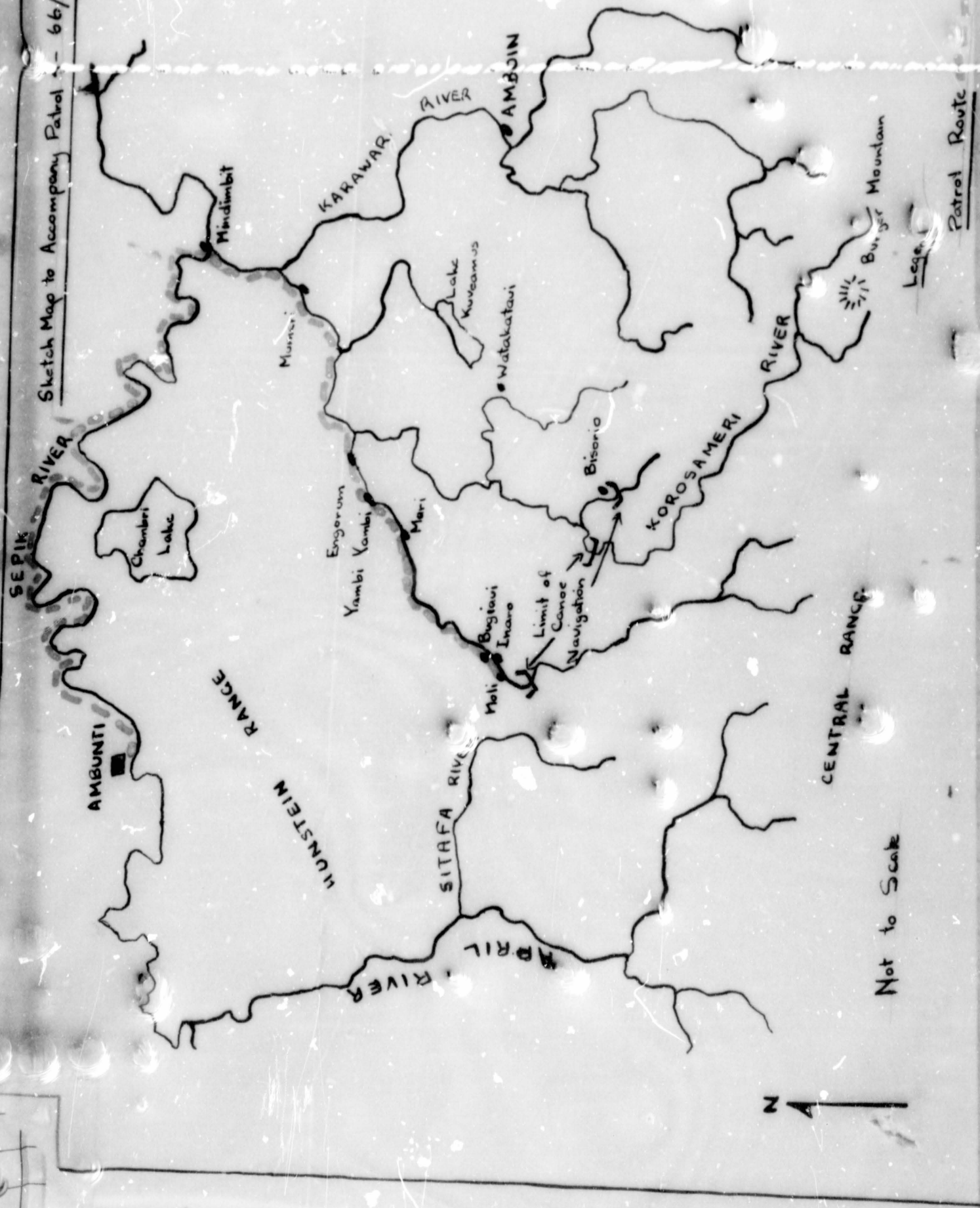
Appropriate entries have been made in the duplicate Record on Services of the accompanying police.



P.N. COLTON.

(Patrol Officer)

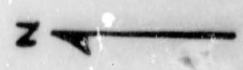
Sketch Map to Accompany Patrol - 66/67 Apbunti



Not to Scale

Patrol Route

Legend



Amount
Returned
to Store



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

District of EAST SEPIK Report No. 7-66/67
Patrol Conducted by P.N. COLTON Patrol Officer
Area Patrolled NUMAU-ABLATAK Census Division
Patrol Accompanied by Europeans K.P. WEARNE Cadet Patrol Officer
Natives 2 R.P. & N.G.C.
Duration—From 29 / 5 / 1967 to 17 / 6 / 1967
Number of Days 15 nights camped out
Did Medical Assistant Accompany? No
Last Patrol to Area by—District Services August / 19 '66
Medical 4 / 1966
Map Reference Attached
Objects of Patrol Common Roll, Census Revision, Area Survey,
Routine Administration

Director of District Administration,
PORT MCRESBY.

Forwarded, please.

/ / 19

District Commissioner

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

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

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

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Females in Child Birth		

67-1-12

Dept. District Administration,
Sub-district Office,
A M B U N T I,
East Sepik District.

13th. July, 1967.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
W E W A K.

AMBUNTI PATROL NO. 7 OF 1966/67


Attached is a report on the above patrol submitted by Mr Colton. It was not my intention to have Mr Colton submit a formal report as the patrol, among other things, was undertaken as part of an area survey to be made before the creation of the proposed AMBUNTI council. I would have been satisfied with a memorandum, leaving the compilation of an area survey to be completed by Mr Colton for the whole of the proposed Council area, not just the subject area of this patrol, thus avoiding duplication of effort.

However, the report submitted by Mr Colton is very informative and it does present a very clear picture of the state of affairs in this Division. It is obvious that the Council will have a broad enlightening effect on these people. At present they are very much influenced by Missions and whilst not denying the fitness of the various Missions operating in the area, it is unhealthy that the predominant part of the outside contact comes from the one type of source. The introduction of the Council, although not to be in competition with the Missions, should lead to a more balanced development of these people.

As regards the policy on coffee extension by D.A.S.F. the policy as I understand it is that there will be no active discouragement but neither will coffee be "pushed".

I have received word from Mr Ryan Dist. Agric. Officer that the Forestry Officer has advised a timber survey is planned but it will not be undertaken until staff and other resources are available. Helicopters are required.

For your information, please.


(J. C. Corrigan)
Assistant District Commissioner

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67-8-27

20th September, 1967.

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

AMBUNTI PATROL NO. 7 OF 1966/67.

Your 67-1-12 of the 9th August, 1967, refers.

The comments of the Assistant District Commissioner, Ambunti have been noted. Mr. Colton has submitted an informative and interesting report.

It is interesting to note that although the people are less politically aware than those along the River, they are willing to discuss their future development.

I am in agreement with the Senior Local Government Officer's advice to get the people to put forward their own recommendations. The more the people can participate the more interest they will show in a Council.

(J.K. McCarthy)
DIRECTOR.

67. 8. 27

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TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA



67-1-12

East Sepik District,
WENAK.

~~Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI.~~

AMBUNTI PATROL NO. 7 OF 1966/1967

Receipt is acknowledged with thanks of Patrol Report No.7 of 1966/67 submitted by Mr. P. N. Colton F.O.; on his patrol of the Numau-Ablatak Census Division and your covering memorandum 67-1-12.

These people are indeed a little more fortunate with greater economic potential than the areas bordering the Sepik River and it is interesting to note they showed far more interest in their future development than other nearby Census Divisions.

Radios: Page 4 Paragraph 6. This matter should be taken up by separate memorandum. Please remind Mr. Colton that Patrol Reports are not for individual item action. It is understood that population figures will be included with the Small Area Study.

Your interpretation of D.A.S.F. Policy on coffee is correct.

The situation regarding a forestry survey is fully covered by 88-8-1/233 from the District Forestry Officer to me, a copy of this memorandum has been forwarded to you.

No mention is made in your 67-1-12 of a Patrol Report by the accompanying Officer Mr. K. P. Wearne, Cadet Patrol Officer who undertook his first routine patrol. Please ensure that Mr. Wearne submits a Patrol Report under your guidance.

E. G. Hicks
E. G. HICKS
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

67-1-12
Minute to:

→ The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBU.

Attached please find Patrol Report Ambunti No.7 of 1966/67 with covering memorandum 67-1-12 from the Assistant District Commissioner, Ambunti.

For your information, please.

E. G. Hicks
E. G. HICKS
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA.

10

AMBUNTI STATION.

AMBUNTI Sub-District.

Patrol No. 7-66/67.

P.N. Colton, Patrol Officer.

NUMAU-ABLATAK Census Division.

K.P. Wearne, Cadet Patrol Officer.
2 members R.P. & N.G.C.
1 Hospital Orderly.

Patrol Conducted by:

Area Patrolled:

Personnel accompanying Patrol:

Duration of Patrol:

29.5.67 to 17.6.67.
(15 nights camped out)

Last Patrol to Area:

D.D.A. July-August 1966.

Objects of Patrol:

Amend Common Roll.
Census Revision.
Area Survey.
Explanatory talks re:
Ambunti L.G.C.
Forthcoming House of Assembly
Elections.
Routine Administration.

Map Reference:

Attached.

Monday 1st May, 1967: Departed Ambunti 0845 hours for AMAKI arriving at 1115 hrs in a single canoe powered by 25 h.p. motor. Motor canoe returned to AMBUNTI. Most of the inhabitants absent at work. Informed the people present of the patrol's future movements. C/N AMAKI R.H.

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Tuesday 2nd May, 1967: At Ambunti common revised and common roll amended. People medically inspected. Village inspected including the Sid Post. Talk re House of Assembly Elections and the proposed Ambunti L.G.C. One other complaint. C/N AMAKI R.H.

Wednesday 3rd May, 1967:

Departed for KATA one hour walk only. The following carried out by Mr. WHELAN - census revision, common roll amendments and village inspection. Talk given re H. of A. and proposed Ambunti L.G.C. The local court convened. Two minor complaints settled. Returned to AMAKI - Carriers paid. C/N K AMAKI R.H.

Thursday 4th May, 1967:

Departed for NUMAU one hour walk only. Census revised and common roll amended. Village inspected and people medically checked. Talk re H. of A. and proposed Ambunti L.G.C. Two minor complaints. Returned to AMAKI C/N AMAKI R.H.

Friday 5th June, 1967:

Departed AMAKI 0815 hours for NAMUNI arriving at 1115 hrs. Carriers paid. Census revised, common roll amended, village inspected and people medically checked. Talk re H. of A. and proposed L.G.C. C/N K AMAKI R.H.

Saturday 6th June, 1967:

At NAMUNI. Discussions were held at great length with the people re the contents of the proposals titled Government Propaganda and New Village. No other complaints. Some coffee gardens visited. C/N NAMUNI R.H.

Sunday 7th June, 1967:

Departed NAMUNI 0830 hours for KAKI arriving at 1115. Carriers paid, census revised, common roll amended, people medically checked and village inspected. Talk re H. of A., Ambunti L.G.C. and revision of land boundaries explained. No complaints. C/N NAMUNI R.H.

9

INTRODUCTION:

The NJMAU-ABLATAK Census Division lies to the north of AMBUNTI Government Station. It has a common boundary with the LUMI and OREIKIKIR areas. The areas covered with large stands of swamp forest and smaller patches of kunai grass. In the wet season ~~xxxx~~ nearly all of this division is covered by water.

The census revision was completed as ~~xxx~~ were the amendments to the common roll. In formation was collected for an area survey and this survey will be forwarded under separate cover. I found that the people of this area are politically backward when compared to the river people but have a greater economic potential than the areas immediately bordering on the Sepik River.

This was also in the nature of a 'first' routine patrol in which Mr. Wearne, Cadet Patrol Officer, has participated. It provided him with a good opportunity to learn the basics of routine patrolling.

A great deal of time was spent in discussions with the people in regard to the House of Assembly and the proposed Ambunti Local Government Council. It was most heartening to see the amount of genuine interest shown by some of the villages in these relatively sophisticated matters.

PATROL DIARY:

Monday 29th May, 1967: Departed Ambunti 0845 hours for AMAKI arriving at 1445 hrs in a single canoe powered by 35 h.p. motor. Motor canoe returned to AMUNTI. Most of the inhabitants absent at work. Informed the people present of the patrols' future movements. O/N AMAKI R.H.

Tuesday 30th May, 1967: At AMAKI. Census revised and common roll amended. People medically inspected. Village inspected including the Aid Post. Talk re House of Assembly Elections and the proposed Ambunti L.G.C. One minor complaint. O/N AMAKI R.H.

~~Wednesday 31st May, 1967~~

Wednesday 31st May, 1967: Departed for KWAKA one hours walk only. The following carried out by Mr. WEARNE - census revision, common roll amendments and village inspection. Talk given re H. of A. and proposed Ambunti L.G.C. One local court convened. Two minor complaints settled. Returned to AMAKI - Carriers paid. O/N X AMAKI R.H.

Thursday 1st June, 1967: Departed per canoe for ABLATAK - one hours run. Census revised and common roll amended. Village inspected and people medically checked. Talk re H. of A. and proposed Ambunti L.G.C. Two minor disputes. Returns to AMAKI O/N AMAKI R.H.

Friday 2nd June 1967: Departed AMAKI 0835 hours for NAGERI arriving at 1115 hrs. Carriers paid. Census revised, common roll amended, village inspected and people medically checked. Talk re H. of A. and Ambunti L.G.C. O/N X NAGERI R.H.

Saturday 3rd June 1967: At NAGERI. Discussions were held at great length with the people re the contents of the pamphlets titled Government Papua and New Guinea. One minor complaint. Some coffee gardens visited. O/N NAGERI R.H.

Sunday 4th. June, 1967: Departed NAGERI 0800 for YAUNGET arriving at 1010. Carriers paid, census revised, common roll amended, people medically checked and village inspected. Talk re H of A. , Ambunti L.G.C. and system of Land purchase explained. No complaints. O/N YAUNGET R.H.

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Monday 5th June 1967: Departed YA'NGET 0840 for ASAWUR arriving at 1005 hrs. Carriers paid, census revised, common roll amended, people medically checked and village inspected. Talk re H. of A. Ambunti L.G.C. and system of Land Purchase explained. One minor complaint. O/N ASAWUR R.H.

Tuesday 6th June 1967: Departed ASAWUR 0840 for WARASAI arriving at 1040 hours. Census revised, common roll amended village inspected and people medically checked, carriers paid. Discussion with H. of A. Ambunti L.G.C. and system of Land Purchase. O/N WARASAI R.H.

Wednesday 7th June 1967: Departed WARASAI 0910 hours for NAU'ALU arriving at 1100 hours. Carriers paid, Census revised, common roll amended, people medically checked and village inspected. Talk re H. of A. Ambunti L.G.C. and system of Land Purchase. O/N NAU'ALU R.H.

Thursday 8th June 1967: Departed NAU'ALU 0900 for KWAKAURU arriving at 1615. Carriers paid. Many men from other villages at KWAKAURU and they had a lively discussion amongst themselves at night. O/N KWAKAURU R.H.

Friday 9th June 1967: At KWAKAURU. Census revised, common roll amended, people medically checked and village inspected. Talk re H. of A. and Ambunti L.G.C. People most interested, and many questions asked. O/N KWAKAURU R.H.

Saturday 10th June 1967: Departed KWAKAURU 0815 for AMBUNTI arriving at 1730. Some two hours spent in pushing canoes through pit pit swamp owing to the drop in the river. O/N AMBUNTI.

Sunday 11th June 1967: observed at Ambunti.

Monday 12th June 1967: Public Holiday observed at Ambunti.

Tuesday 13th June 1967: Departure of Patrol delayed until following day due to heavy rain all day. Discussion with A.D.C. re the progress of the patrol to date. Inward and outward correspondence read and prison inspected. O/N AMBUNTI.

Wednesday 14th June 1967: Departed Ambunti 0900 per motor canoe powered by 35 h.p. motor. for BIANUMBU. Supplies and mail dropped off at AVATIP and spare paddles picked up at YAMANAMBU en route. Arrived BIANUMBU 1415 hours. Census revised, common roll amended, village inspected and people medically checked. Talk re H. of A. and Ambunti L.G.C. two minor complaints. O/N BIANUMBU R.H.

Thursday 15th June 1967: Departed BIANUMBU at 0815 hours after sorting out the cargo to take and arrived at AMBUKEN at 1130. Muddy track. Census revised, common roll amended, people medically checked and village inspected. Most of the ABLATAK men present and talk given re H. of A. and Ambunti L.G.C. No complaints. O/N AMBUKEN R.H.

Friday 16th June 1967: Departed AMBUKEN 0825 for BIANUMBU en route YAMANAMBU. Arrived BIANUNBU 1125. Carriers paid and boarded canoe for YAMANAMBU, paddling part of the way and arriving at YAMANAMBU at 1700. O/N YAMANAMBU R.H.

Saturday 17th June 1967: At YAMANAMBU. Census revised, common roll amended, people medically checked and village inspected. Talk re H. of A. and Ambunti L.G.C. Two minor complaints. Departed for Ambunti arriving at Ambunti at 1535 hours after a brief stop at AVATIP. Patrol stood down. End of Patrol.

RECEPTION OF PATROL:

The patrol was generally well received. The people of YAUNGET, ASAWUR, WARASAI and NAU'ALU were somewhat reserved at first. This was due to a misunderstanding on the functions of the Administration in regard to land matters. Once it was explained to them however normal relations were quickly achieved. No trouble was experienced in obtaining carriers and it is possible to hire motor canoes at either NAGERI or AMAKI. No other villages possess a motor.

VILLAGES:

A total of ~~twelve~~ twelve villages comprise this census division. The standard of housing was overall good, the houses being off the ground and well ventilated. Each house has its own toilet and rubbish pit. Neither very usefull during the wet season. The source of water for the majority of the villages was from creeks. Not a very satisfactory source. A council should be able to take action in this regard. Dogs were in abundance and three were destroyed on the request of the people.

VILLAGE OFFICIALS:

The village officials are fair enough in their attitude to their duties although some are too old to be able to carry out their duties effeciently. No action was taken by me however owing to the proximity of the Council.

OUZLINE OF POLITICAL SITUATION:

I found that the people of this area are far less politically aware than are their counterparts along the Sepik River. They are far more confused ~~in~~ about the House of Assembly, the Administrations aims and policies than are the river people. Nevertheless I found that they showed far more interest in their future development, or at least prepared to talk with a Government Official, than the people of other areas in this sub-district which I have visited. When I arrived at KWAKAURU I found that most of the men from NAGERI, AMAKI, KWAKA and some from ABLATAK had gathered to have discussions amongst themselves about the various points which I had raised during my talks.

Much interest was shown in the proposed Ambunti Local Government Council. In discussing Councils with them I followed Mr. Peggs' (Senior Local Government Officer) advice and allowed the people themselves to put forward recommendations as to ward boundaries. This I found worked exceptionally well and resulted in many lively discussions amongst the people. The women unfortunately did not have much to say except that they would go along with what ever the men decided.

Whilst ~~i~~ gathering information for the area survey I discovered that there were only three radios in the area. The people in this division are relatively isolated from outside contact with Europeans, the only ones they see a deal of being Mission and Administration people. At the present time they do not possess much in the way of cash and a radio is a great luxury to them. Part of the reason for their political backwardness I feel is due to this lack of communication with outside world. The people have virtually no way of finding out what is going on in other areas. Could the Department of Extension Services be approached with the view of obtaining twelve ~~extra~~ radios for distribution throughout this area. This would allow one radio per village. With the keenness shown to me by the people in trying to get information I feel sure the radios would be put to maximum use therefor playing a large part in bringing this people a fuller knowledge and understanding of what the Administration is trying to do for them and the whole Territory.

At the present time the relationship existing between the groups maybe divided into two ~~parts~~ parts or 'factions'. The first 'faction' consists of the villages of ABLATAK, AMAKI, NAGERI, KWAKAURU. Whilst the villages of this 'faction' ~~have~~ contain some traditional enemies they do have a great deal of contact with each other. The other 'faction' consists of the villages of YAUNGET, ASAWUR, WARASAI and NAU'ALU. ~~This~~ This too contains traditional enemies but the people in it do have cordial relationships amongst themselves. Communication between the two 'factions' is practically non-existent. The people of the second 'faction' are very reluctant to walk through the area of the ~~second~~ ^{first} group. This was shown to me by the fact that they are reluctant to send their patients to the Aid Post at AMAKI and also their reluctance to visit Ambunti. The people of the second faction of course have little reason for wanting to walk through the others area. The establishment of a Council should see the breaking down of this ~~m~~ mistrust rather quickly.

There are two missions operating in the area. These are the Catholic and South Seas Evangelical Missions. These will be covered under the appropriate heading.

To conclude this section I would say that most of the villages in this area do not see themselves as being part of a larger community. They do not have the understanding that they are a small part of a whole. It is hoped that the proposed Council will help to give this understanding.

There are no untoward movements or cults in the area.

AGRICULTURE:

I was most surprised when walking through this area to see the large number of coffee gardens. Over thirty thousand coffee trees have been planted and there was evidence of many more gardens being made ready for planting. At the present time I would estimate that 45% of the coffee is reasonably close to bearing. To date only four ~~men~~ have, to my knowledge, received their first payment. This of course has given encouragement to the others.

I had understood the planting of coffee was no longer to be encouraged as it was over-produced. It would appear that this restriction has been waived for this area, as there ~~is~~ is a farmer trainee in each village who is doing his best to get more and more coffee planted. Could the Department of Agriculture Stock and Fisheries be approached to give a policy decision on this matter. I feel any move made by the Administration to slow down planting, particularly when the 45% has borne and payment received, will cost a great deal in faith and prestige. One must of course bear in mind that as more and more people receive payment the impetus will become greater to plant more.

I was informed by the people that they have many crocodiles in their area as they have never bothered to hunt them. They have forbidden anyone else to. They were advised to jump on the bandwagon and to sell their skins to the highest bidder.

There are also coconuts in the area but they are not in sufficient quantity to provide any income.

~~The~~ Any income which this area could earn would appear to be from two sources only; viz crocodile skins and coffee. Both of these require a local market and the means to ^{to} the produce to the market. These two items can be sold at AMBUNTI. I am told that LASKOMPANI has taken over the purchase of coffee. from the Department of Agriculture.

If the people of this area commence the crocodile

skin business and when the coffee comes into full swing, they have virtually no way in which to get these things to the market unless they walk long distances and are prepared to hire canoes.

This problem could be overcome by the opening up of the MARUA River, (NAMBLO River). There are three main rivers or creeks running through this division which into the Sepik River. These are the NAMBLO, SANCHI and SCREW Rivers. I was informed by the local people that these are navigable during the latter part of the year, by motor canoes with the exception of the NAMBLO.

If the NAMBLO was cleared of all obstructions it would provide an easy access to the following villages; NAGERI, YAUNGET, KWAKAURU, ASAWUR, WARASAI and NAU'ALU. AMAKI and ABLATAK are accessible via the SANCHI River and YAMANAMBU, BIANAMBU and AMBUKEN via the SCREW River.

In view of the above I feel that the clearing of the NAMBLO River is of the utmost importance. This will not only provide an economic ~~main~~ road for the transportation of goods but will also bring the people closer to the ~~main~~ Sepik River and in time will help to broaden their outlook.

The people were advised to allocate themselves a section of the river to be cleared. They agreed to do this and confirmed my belief that it would not be an impossible task. Only time will tell if my advice is taken.

As mentioned in the introduction most of this division is covered with forest. I was requested on several occasions that the Administration put a saw mill in the area. This has been a common cry throughout the areas I have patrolled in this Sub-District. I would suggest that a forestry officer visit Ambunti and he carry out a survey to ascertain whether or not there is any potential.

LAW AND JUSTICE:

Once again I was surprised by the lack of minor complaints and the lack of matters requiring court action. Only one Local Court was convened dealing with threatening behaviour. Only a very small number of minor complaints was heard. There is a healthy respect for law and order but it is obvious that the people much prefer to handle all disputes locally.

HEALTH:

Medical Officer Thomas TIBAIMAN accompanied the patrol and medically examined all the people at each village. He carried out his duties in a satisfactory manner. A total of 364 treatments were given. By far the most common ailments were scabies and malaria.

There is only one Aid Post in the area and this effectively covers the villages of AMAKI (site of Post), NAGERI, ABLATAK, KWAKAURU. There is a definite need for another Aid Post in the area but this would provide a good start for the Council in this area if it could construct one.

EDUCATION:

There are no recognised schools in the area. There are 33 children absent at schools, all but two of these attending mission schools.

The people of this area have not as yet ~~received~~ seen the fruits of education as no-one has gone on to sufficient high standard of education and consequently there is no great demand for schools. No doubt this demand will come in the future.

ROADS:

There are no vehicular roads in the area. All the

(L)

villages are linked by track and it would be impractical to make them any better than this.

There are two ~~pariki~~ airstrips in the area. One at ABLATAK and one at WARASAI. The strip at WARASAI is partly completed and will be suitable to light aircraft only when it is completed. The people are being encouraged to build this strip by the Catholic Mission. The strip at ABLATAK is completed and I am told that M.A.F. has made three ~~villages~~ ~~at it.~~ ~~The strip was built~~ by the local people encouraged by the South Seas Evangelical Mission.

No application for lease has been received from either of these missions.

MISSIONS:

As mentioned earlier the two missions operating in this area are the Catholic Mission and the South Seas Evangelical Mission. Of the twelve villages in the area eight claim allegiance with the Catholic Mission; the remaining four with the S.S.E.M.

The only mission establishment in the area are 'schools' in each of Catholic villages. These schools are run by a semi-literate catechist and the children who attend are taught Pidgin English and Bible lessons. I question this type of schooling as many of the parents are under the false impression that on 'graduation' from these schools ~~these~~ children will be educated.

THEIR

The villages of NAU'ALU, WARASAI, ASAWUR and YAUNGET are completely dominated by the Catholic mission. This domination has reached such an extent that I feel that it is ~~doing~~ the people more ~~gawixthaxm~~ harm than good. The only way to restore the balance is for increased Administration activity in the area. This could be done through the Council.

Discussions were had with Fr. H. CAMPBELL from NUKU who was visiting WARASAI. The main theme of the discussion being the airstrip. I was verbally informed by the Priest that his mission intends to establish a small station here within the next three to five years.

The S.S.E.M. intention is now suspect by many of the local people. They claim that they were promised a fully fledged mission station if they built an airstrip. ~~This they~~ have done and they claim that the mission has now said to them: You do not have a large enough population to warrant ~~an~~ ~~air~~ mission station and in any case you are not yet ready for ~~a~~ mission." I cannot help but deplore such actions and statements if they are true.

CENSUS:

The total population of this census division is 1794. This figure is 12 less than the July/August 1966 figure. However at total of 52 migrations out of the division were recorded and if these were included would give a population of 1846.

The people of this area have not as yet completely settled down and there was talk in some of the villages of them returning to traditional village sites.

R.P.& N.G.C.

Appropriate entries have been made in both members Duplicate Record of Service and Police Headquarters notified. Both members carried out their duties satisfactorily.

CONCLUSION:

One of the tasks set for this patrol was to gather information for an area survey. Of the areas I have visited in this

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Sub-District I feel that a Council will have a greater initial impact on this area than it will have on the areas closer to the Sepik River. The people of the NUMAU- ABLATAK are relatively isolated from the main stream of life along the Sepik River but with the opening of the MAMBLO river with the resultant increase of contact plus the advent of a Local Government Council should see the people in a much better position.

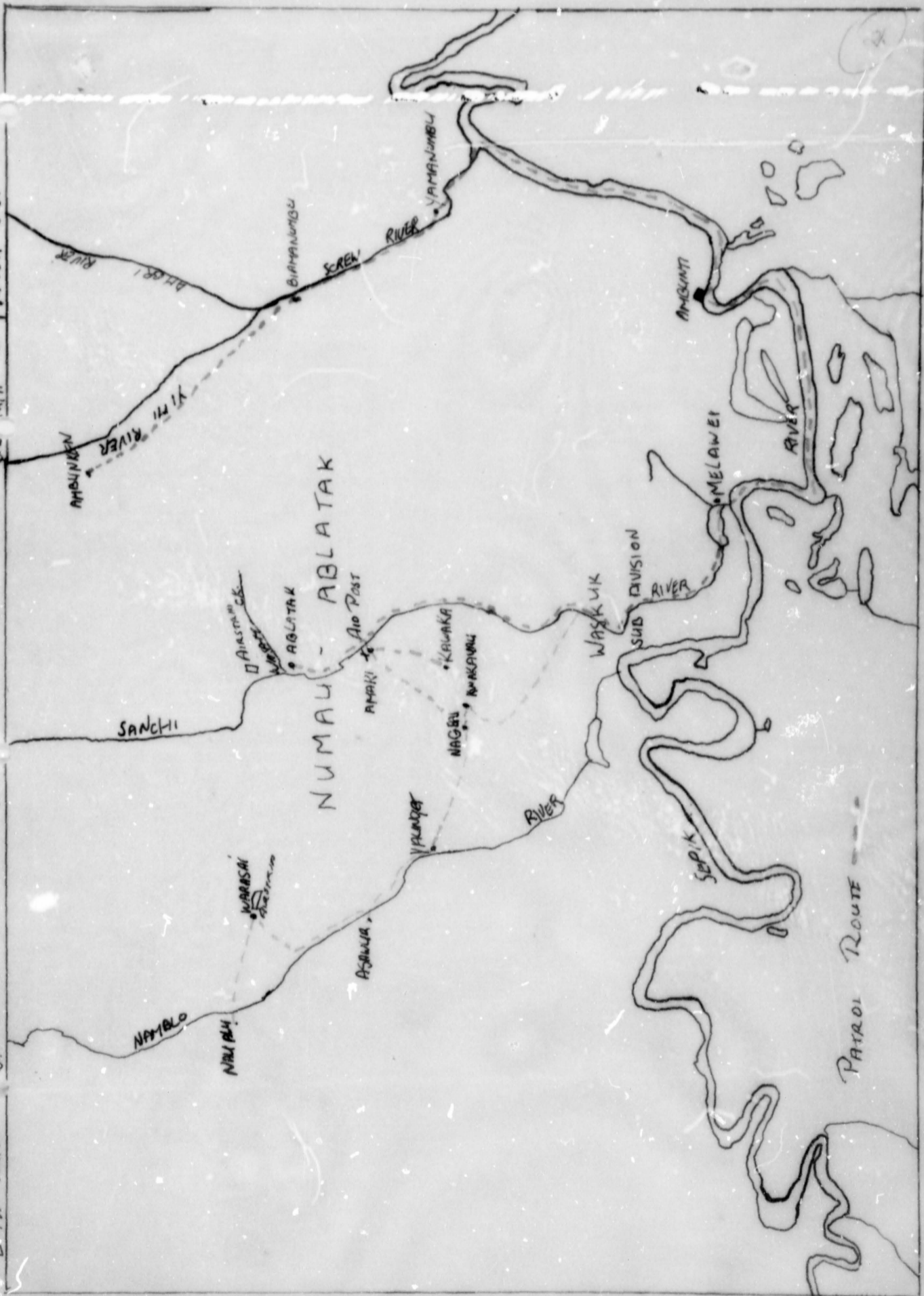
I feel that this patrol was quite successful in that it managed to create a deal of interest amongst the people as to their future. Many for the first time are starting to realise that they cannot hope to survive if they continue to remain in their relatively isolated condition.

P. N. Colton
P.N. COLTON
(Patrol Officer)

DRENIKA - MAPKAS S.D.

DRE "IKIA - MAPRIK S.O.

LYMI - NUKU S.O.



Amount
Retained
to Store

ORIGINAL



TERRITORY OF PAPUA AND NEW GUINEA

PATROL REPORT

Supplementary Patrol Report

by K.P.Wearne, CPO, to accompany

Report No. 7-66/67. Ambunti.

District of..... EAST SEPIK.....

Patrol Conducted by..... P.N.Colton, Patrol Officer.....

Area Patrolled..... NUMAU - ABLATAK CENSUS DIVISION.....

Patrol Accompanied by Europeans..... K.P.Wearne, CPO.....

Natives..... 2 members RPENGC, 1 Hospital Orderly.....

Duration—From 29/5/1967 to 17/6/1967.

Number of Days..... 15 nights camped out.....

Did Medical Assistant accompany?..... No.....

Last Patrol to Area by—District Services August.../1966..

Medical/...../19.....

Map Reference..... attached.....

Objects of Patrol..... Amend Common Roll; Census Revision; Area Survey;
and Routine Administration.....

Director of District Administration,
PORT MORESBY.

Forwarded, please.

231101 1967

B. H. O'Keefe
Deputy District Commissioner

Amount Paid for War Damage Compensation \$.....

Amount Paid from D.N.E. Trust Fund \$.....

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

Popula

Females in Child Birth	In	
	M	F

67-8-32

3rd January, 1968.

District Commissioner,
 District Office,
 East Sepik District,
 WEWAK.

AMBUNEI PATROL 7 66/67.

Receipt of the above report is acknowledged.

Mr. Wearne has written a good report on this his first attempt.

Discussion of leadership is always improved by naming the leaders and giving some details of their backgrounds and aims, and I hope that Mr. Wearne will keep this in mind on his next patrol.

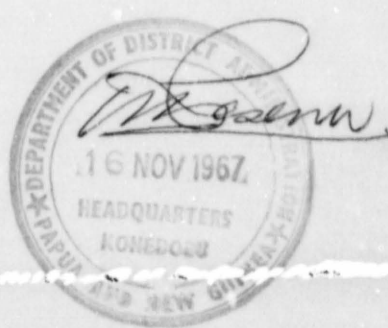
T. W. Ellis
 (T.W. ELLIS) AS
Director.

Popula

67. 8. 32 16

Females in Child Birth	in	
	M	F

67-1-12



East Sepik District,
WEWAK.

7th November, 1967.

Assistant District Commissioner,
Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI.

PATROL REPORT - AMBUNTI - NO.7 OF 1966/67.

Thank you for the abovementioned report submitted by
Mr. K.P. Wearne, C.P.O.

You have adequately covered all aspects of the report
in your accompanying memorandum.

For a first effort the report is fairly good and no
doubt Mr. Wearne will improve after further such patrols, and
reading up on previous patrol reports.

E.G. Hicks
E.G. HICKS
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

c.c/ *↖* The Director,
Department of District Administration,
KONEDOBU.

Forwarded for your information and
records, please.

E.G. Hicks
E.G. HICKS
DISTRICT COMMISSIONER.

Popula

MIGRATI	
Females in Child Birth	In
	M F

67-1-12.

Dept. of District Administration
Sub-District Office,
AMBUNTI
East Sepik District.

27th April 1967

The District Commissioner,
East Sepik District,
WEWAK

REPORT AMBUNTI PATROL No 7 - 1966/67

This report was written in response to your 67-1-12 of 9/8/67, which concerned a report submitted by Mr Colton Patrol Officer. The object of this supplementary report by Mr Wearne is a training one to give him experience in report writing and an exercise in English expression; also to assess Mr Wearne's degree of comprehension of village officers. As such I consider it has been successful, for Mr Wearne has presented a reasonable report which presents for most part, an accurate picture of the area.

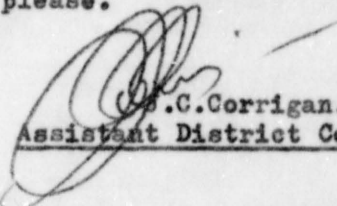
As an exercise in English expression the first paragraph on agriculture is atypical of the style of the rest of the report. The message is somewhat garbled. What Mr Wearne meant is that although these people are not as politically aware as the people of the Main River and Upper Sepik Divisions, they are well aware of the advantages of cash cropping as a means of economic advancement, and are in a more fortunate situation of having land, which unlike that of the River villages, is not subject to inundation for six months of the year. Mr Wearne should be more restrained in his comments on Missions. The impression could be gained from page ten that he has anti-mission feelings. This is not so however, but it would have been more appropriate to point out that predominantly mission influence tends towards unbalanced development. A more healthy balance will arrive with the introduction of the Ambunti Council in the immediate future.

Use of the second person in the first paragraph on Carriers should have been ~~avaae~~ avoided.

Mr Wearne mentions the problem of keeping canals trafficable to motor canoes. It is hoped that a rule will be introduced by the new Ambunti Council regarding maintenance of these canals, much the same as road maintenance rules. If approved by Crown Law, this will do much to improve communications in the area.

~~All~~ In all, I consider Mr Wearne has very adequately covered all requirements in submission of this, his first patrol report.

For your information, please.


(J.C. Corrigan.)
Assistant District Commissioner.

EDUCATION :

The Numau-Ablatak census division has no recognised schools. There is no demand for education from the people, but this will come once the council is formed and they become aware of what education can mean. At the time of the patrol only 33 children were absent at schools, and of these all but two were attending mission schools.

The only form of teaching at the moment is are native catechists in most villages under Catholic influence. They are not fully literate, and the teaching is in pidgin, with religious overtones. These catechists give a false impression to the villagers that their children are receiving an 'education'. The Villages with these catechists are; Yaunget, Asawur, Warasai, Nau'alu, and Nageri. Amaki has a small house lotu as well as the little 'school' house.

ROADS :

The area patrolled has no roads, but walking tracks link each village. These tracks are reasonable during the dry season, but during the wet they would be practically unusable. At that time though, canoes could get to more places than in the dry. In fact all villages except Kawaka can be reached by canoe in the high water.

AIRFIELDS :

Two airstrips have been built by the native people at the encouragement of the Catholic mission and the South Seas Evangelical Mission. The airstrip at Warasai has only been partially completed, but will be operable by category Delta aircraft. The villages of Nau'alu, Warasai, and Asawur are all helping to build this strip, under the auspices of the Catholic Mission. The airstrip at Ablatak, which is completed, has been used a few times by MAF Cessnas. This airstrip is reported by Mr Maume, ADO, to be an exceptionally well made one for local people. But the future use of these two airstrips remains doubtful.

MISSIONS :

There are two missions operating in this division, these being; the Catholic Mission (Franciscans), and the South Seas Evangelical Mission. The influence of the Catholic mission is far stronger than that of the S.S.E.M. Yet apart from the Catholic catechist 'schools', there is no evidence of mission interest in the area. This influence appears especially strong at Nau'alu, Warasai, and Yaunget, where I received the impression that the people had more regard for the talk of the missions than that of the Administration. With the formation of the council and a more active participation in their affairs by Administration officers, I think that this attitude will disappear. The fact that the S.S.E.M. has put no permanent effort into their area, has already disillusioned the Ablatak people. The need is for the people themselves to take an active interest in their

Table with columns: Females in Child Birth, In, M, F. The table is mostly empty with some faint markings.

REST HOUSES :

Each of the villages visited had a rest house, house police, house cook, and latrines. They are all at the village sites. Warasai (Kwaltuk), had the best lot, with the rest house having a good design. Due to the disparity in design it would be a good idea if the council, when it is formed, issued a standard design for rest houses. This would allow the camp to be set up more quickly at each place. At quite a few villages the police house and the rest house were in need of repairs or ~~rebuilt~~ rebuilding completely. See appendix for walking times.

CARRIERS, CANOES, etc. :

Carriers were easily obtainable from all the villages. The Government rate of ten cents per hour was paid throughout the patrol. The carriers are willing to carry to the next village and in most cases further if required. But if you intend walking from Nau'alu to Kwakauru (Waiawus), then a change of carriers at Asawur and Yaunget is required. The carriers from Nau'alu and Warasai (Kwaltuk), cannot be relied upon to proceed further than Yaunget or with regard to their stamina. The walk from Biamanumbu to Ambuken has to be undertaken with restricted cargo, as the adult male population of Biamanumbu is not sufficient to supply all the carriers needed.

The two villages which have motors, Amaki and Nageri, are willing to hire these with a canoe, and a driver. Amaki has a 20 HP Mercury, and this was used to make a day trip to Ablatak. The Nageri motor is only a 6 HP Mercury, and it is not as reliable as the Amaki motor. The creek from Nageri to the Sanchi river is also not reliable during the dry season.

HEALTH :

A medical orderly, Thomas Tibaiman accompanied the patrol. He examined the people at each village and gave treatment where necessary. Although there were no major illnesses, the general standard of health was not high. There were 364 treatments given, and of these scabies and malaria were the most common. Three patients were taken back to Ambunti with the patrol.

The only health facility available in the Numau-Ablatak census division is the Aid post at Amaki. This serves the villages of Amaki, Nageri, Ablatak, Kwakauru, and Kawaka. The people in the northern villages, above Nageri, do not come in to the aid post. The three villages along the Screw (Amagu) river, are served by the aid post at Avatip village, and the medical orderly there conducts occasional trips up river to visit these places.

Agriculture continued ...

The only other means of getting their coffee to market that most of the villages have is to carry it to a village that has a motor and thence to Ambunti, or carry it all the way. This is asking too much, and even carrying the coffee to one of villages that has a motor is expecting a lot. There are tracks between each village, but these are not dry very often, nor well looked after. The solution is to have the creeks cleared for motor canoes.

~~There~~ The villages have adequate numbers of coconut trees, but not enough to facilitate economic use of.

Another source of income should be the crocodiles. The people say they have plenty in the lagoons and creeks, as they do not shoot them, nor do they allow others to come into their lands to do so either. Once a few persons kill some crocodiles, and bring back their earnings, many more will no doubt take it up.

It seems that at the moment only two sources of income are available to the people here; the coffee and crocodile skins. They can sell both of these at Ambunti, to the Agricultural officer there, and to Las Kompani, for their coffee; and to either of three businesses, Las Kompani, Heathcote trading, and Anskar Karmel, for their crocodile skins. Whether any ~~future~~ further cash crop will be introduced in future is up to the council and the Agricultural department.

FORESTS :

Much of the area walked through was seasonal swamp forest and seasonal rain forest. The only use made of this land at present is for small gardens, usually near the creeks, and for hunting cassowaries, pigs, and birds. Only about half the villages are canoe builders and they are the ones which do cut down trees regularly.

COMPLAINTS AND COURTS :

There were only a few complaints brought to the patrol, and only one Local Court case was heard, (threatening behaviour). It appears that the people are generally respectful of the law and also prefer to deal with most of their disputes internally.

Outline of Political Situation continued ...

The people are very much pro-mission and although they respect the Government and the Administration, the influence of the missions is extremely strong. This is especially so for the groups which built airstrips for the missions. One is at Warasai (Kwaltuk), built for the Catholic mission by Nau'alu, Asawur, and Warasai; the other is at Ablatak, built by them for the South Seas Evangelical Mission.

There are only a few students absent from the area, and most of these are at mission schools. Due to their isolation the people have not yet grasped the potential of education. This will no doubt come in the future, along with an increased demand for education. There are no recognised schools in the census division.

There are no cult movements in the area patrolled.

AGRICULTURE :

In these people are behind most of the sub-district in outlook and political awareness, they are certainly as well off, and have the greatest potential, economically.

There are numerous coffee gardens in the main part of the census division. Over 30,000 trees have been planted, and with money earned from these, both the original planters and others will want to continue planting. The planting, which is individual, has been carried out by men from the villages up as far as Warasai. This coffee promises to be a steady source of income to these people. Unfortunately the distance to Ambunti where they can sell the coffee is quite a way, and this year could see alot of coffee wasted. There is a major waterway, the Nambolo river, which if cleared of snags and logs, would be navigable by motor canoe for most of the year. The clearing of this river would not be too hard and once done it would require little effort from then on to keep it clear. During the wet season the workboat from Ambunti would have no difficulty in navigating as far as Nau'alu. The idea of clearing the river and so having easy access to the Sepik and hence Ambunti was put to the people of Yaunget, Asawur, Warasai, and Nau'alu. The clearing of the Nambolo, which is the largest waterway in the main part of the Numau-Ablatak, would offer an excellent means of opening up the area; both for two way movement of produce, and allowing the people to contact other members of the sub-district.

Ablatak, Amaki, Nageri, and Kwakauru (Waiawus), have smaller creeks to use, but these are not navigable by motor canoe throughout the year. The Screw (Amagu) river is navigable to Ambuken only during the high water, to Biamanumbu for part of the dry season as well as the wet, and to Yamanumbu nearly all year round.

VILLAGES :

There are twelve villages in the census division. Three of them, AMBUKEN, BIAMANUMBU, and YAMANAMBU, are on or near the Screw, (Amagu) river. AMAKI and ABLATAK are on the Sanchi river. NAGERI and KWAKAURU (WAIWUS), are on a small creek, the Nageri creek, which runs into the Sanchi river approximately six miles below AMAKI. NAU'ALU, ASAWUR (RUE), and YAUNGET (MARUA), are all on the Nambolo river. Therefore, of the twelve villages, ten are situated on waterways which are suitable for motor canoes most of the year.

The housing in the villages was generally quite good. The houses are raised above the ground from three to five feet, and the panggals allow a good ventilation. Some of the villages, namely Nau'alu and Warasai (Kwaltuk), had houses in the bush where they slept when the mosquitoes became really bad. These are mosquito-proof but extremely hot, with practically no ventilation. Most villages had a large 'man house' and the ones at Amaki, Nageri, Kwakauru, and Nau'alu were particularly good. The cooking houses and the latrines were in a generally good condition throughout, although during the high water in most places, these would be unusable, (the ~~coo~~ cook houses are set on the ground). Most houses had a rubbish pit, but these were not well situated or kept.

The water supply for the majority of the villages are the creeks. Only Amaki, Nageri, and Warasai (Kwaltuk), had wells. These are only holes in the ground and although a little better than the creeks, are still a major health hazard. The creeks and rivers which supply the remainder are not at all satisfactory and the future council should be able to help in this matter. In quite a few cases latrines were placed within fifty feet of the creek which supplied the village water.

The standard of cleanliness was reasonable. The villages looked quite presentable, except for Yaunget (Marua), which, due to about half of the village migrating out, had a run down air about it. Orders were given that the owners of the houses which were left standing must return from Waskuk on the Sepik, (where most migrated to), and demolish their old houses. Two villages particularly impressed me by their appearance; Ablatak and Warasai (Kwaltuk), although they may have been especially well cleaned for the patrol, and in the case of Warasai for Father Campbell's visit.

Few pigs were seen at the villages, but dogs were in abundance. Some of these were in a pitiful condition and three were destroyed at the owners request; one at Yaunget and two at Kwakauru. A few others were destroyed by the owners themselves. The numbers and general condition of these dogs constitute another health hazard which only an educational programme will make the people aware of.

Wednesday 14th June 1967 : Departed AMBUNTI 0900 by motor canoe, self driving. Dropped mail and freezer at Avatip then proceeded up the Screw (AMAGU) river to YAMANAMBU where some paddles were picked up. Continued up river to BIAMANUMBU, arriving 1415. Mr Colton ~~ervised~~ revised the census and amended the common roll. Then gave talks on the H.of A. elections and the Ambunti L.G.C., and the wards. Overnight BIAMANUMBU.

Thursday 15th June 1967 : Departed for AMBUKEN at 0815 after halving the cargo, arriving at 1130. Track quite wet and muddy. Revised census and amended common roll, then inspected the village. Mr Colton gave talks on H.of A. elections, the Ambunti L.G.C., and general social/economic development. Overnight AMBUKEN.

Friday 16th June 1967 : Departed AMBUKEN 0825 by track to BIAMANUMBU (GUMAIJUI), arriving 1115. Loaded canoe and drifted downstream until motor could be used. Arrived YAMANUMBU (KAIUK) at 1700. River is extremely tricky to navigate. Overnight YAMANAMBU.

Saturday 17th June 1967 : Census revised and common roll amended. Mr Colton gave talks on H.of A. elections, the Ambunti L.G.C., and the ward boundaries. Departed by canoe for Avatip at 1100, self driving. Continued on to Ambunti, arriving 1535. Cargo unloaded and stored. Patrol stood down. End of Patrol.

RECEPTION OF PATROL :

It appeared to me that the patrol was well recieved in most villages. But a marked lack of interest was shown at Yaunget village, while the people of Warasai (Kwaltuk) village seemed quite reserved. The fact that Father Campbell was at the village may have been one of the reasons for ~~their~~ this. The Warasai people thought that the Government and the missions were opposed to each other, and no doubt thought they had to take sides. Both Fthr.Campbell and Mr Colton gave talks to the villagers, which put them at ease.

All other places showed an interest in the patrol and a respect for its personnel. There were no difficulties in getting carriers at any village. At Baimanumbu, due to a population of only 54, the ~~equipment~~ equipment taken to Ambuken had to be halved.

Friday 2nd June 1967 : Departed AMAKI 0835 for NAGERI, arriving 1155. Track over logs through sago swamp. Village lined and Mr Colton revised the census and amended the common roll. Gave talks on H. of A. elections, the proposed Ambunti L.G.C., and general Admin matters. Village inspected. Overnight NAGERI.

Saturday 3rd June 1967 : At NAGERI. Discussions with people on wards for the council, economic development, and the contents of the Government pamphlets. Some coffee gardens visited. Overnight NAGERI. ✓

Sunday 4th June 1967 : Departed NAGERI 0800 by track to YAUNGET (MARUA), arriving 1010. Census revised and common roll amended. Village inspected. Mr Colton gave talks on H. of A. elections, the proposed Ambunti L.G.C., and the system of Land Purchase used by the Government. Overnight YAUNGET.

Monday 5th June 1967 : Departed YAUNGET 0910 by track to ASAWUR (BUR), arriving 1005. Mr Colton revised the census and amended the common roll. Talks given on H. of A. elections and the proposed Ambunti L.G.C. Discussions with villagers re the wards and the future of the coffee. Village inspected by Mr Colton. Over night ASAWUR. ✓

Tuesday 6th June 1967 : Departed ASAWUR 0840 by track to WARASAI (KWALTUK), arriving 1015. Census revised and common roll amended. Village inspected. Mr Colton had discussions with Fthr. H. Campbell and then the villagers. These were on the airstrip at the village and the H. of A. elections and the proposed Ambunti L.G.C. Overnight WARASAI.

Wednesday 7th June 1967 : Departed WARASAI 0910 by track to NAU'ALU, arriving at 1110. Census revised and common roll amended. Village inspected. Mr Colton gave talks on H. of A. elections and the Ambunti L.G.C. Overnight NAU'ALU.

Thursday 8th June 1967 : Departed NAU'ALU 0900 arriving WAIWUS (KWAKAURU), at 1615. Payed carriers. Men from other villages at KWAKAURU and were active all night. Overnight KWAKAURU.

Friday 9th June 1967 : At KWAKAURU. Census revised and common roll amended. Village inspected. Mr Colton gave talks on H. of A. elections and the Ambunti L.G.C. Discussions held to determine wards. Overnight KWAKAURU.

Saturday 10th June 1967 : Departed KWAKAURU 0815 by paddle canoe, hired a motor canoe at MELAWEI, and arrived AMBUNTI at 1730. Some two hours spent pushing canoes across drying swamp due to 'barat' being blocked. Cargo attended to and stored. Overnight AMBUNTI.

Sunday 11th June 1967 : At Ambunti. ✓

Monday 12th June 1967 : Public holiday, at Ambunti.

Tuesday 13th June 1967 : Patrol delayed due heavy rain all day. Read running file and attended to Tenancy variations. Checked motor for the patrol. Overnight AMBUNTI. ✓

INTRODUCTION :

This patrol report is a supplementary report for training purposes on Ambunti patrol number 7 of 1966/67, conducted by Mr P.N.Colton, Patrol Officer.

The NUMAU-ABLATAK Census Division lies to the north-west of Ambunti Government station. Its northern boundaries are common to the LULUAI, KAWAKA and Dreikikir areas. The division is predominantly seasonal swamp forest, with large patches of sago swamp, and some patches of kunai grass. Although there are fairly large portions of land which are above the high water level, most of the division is inundated during the wet season. The topography is flat, slightly undulating in places, with a few hills throughout the division.

The common roll was amended and the census revised. Detailed talks and discussions were given by Mr Colton on the proposed Ambunti Local Government Council, and the forthcoming House of Assembly elections. Also the economic advantages of having water access to the Sepik River for the movement of coffee and other products, to Ambunti. Quite an amount of interest was shown by the people, and although they do not have the political awareness of the Sepik River villages, they appeared to grasp most of the basic ideas in these talks.

Throughout the area patrolled there were coffee gardens and these, although being long distances from the market (Ambunti), give the Numau-Ablatak division a greater economic potential than the Sepik River villages.

PATROL DIARY :

Monday 29th May 1967 : Departed Ambunti 0915 by motor canoe for AMAKI, via Melawei lagoon and the Sanchi river. Arrived 1445. Canoe returned Ambunti. Informed the Luluai of the future movements of the patrol. Overnight AMAKI.

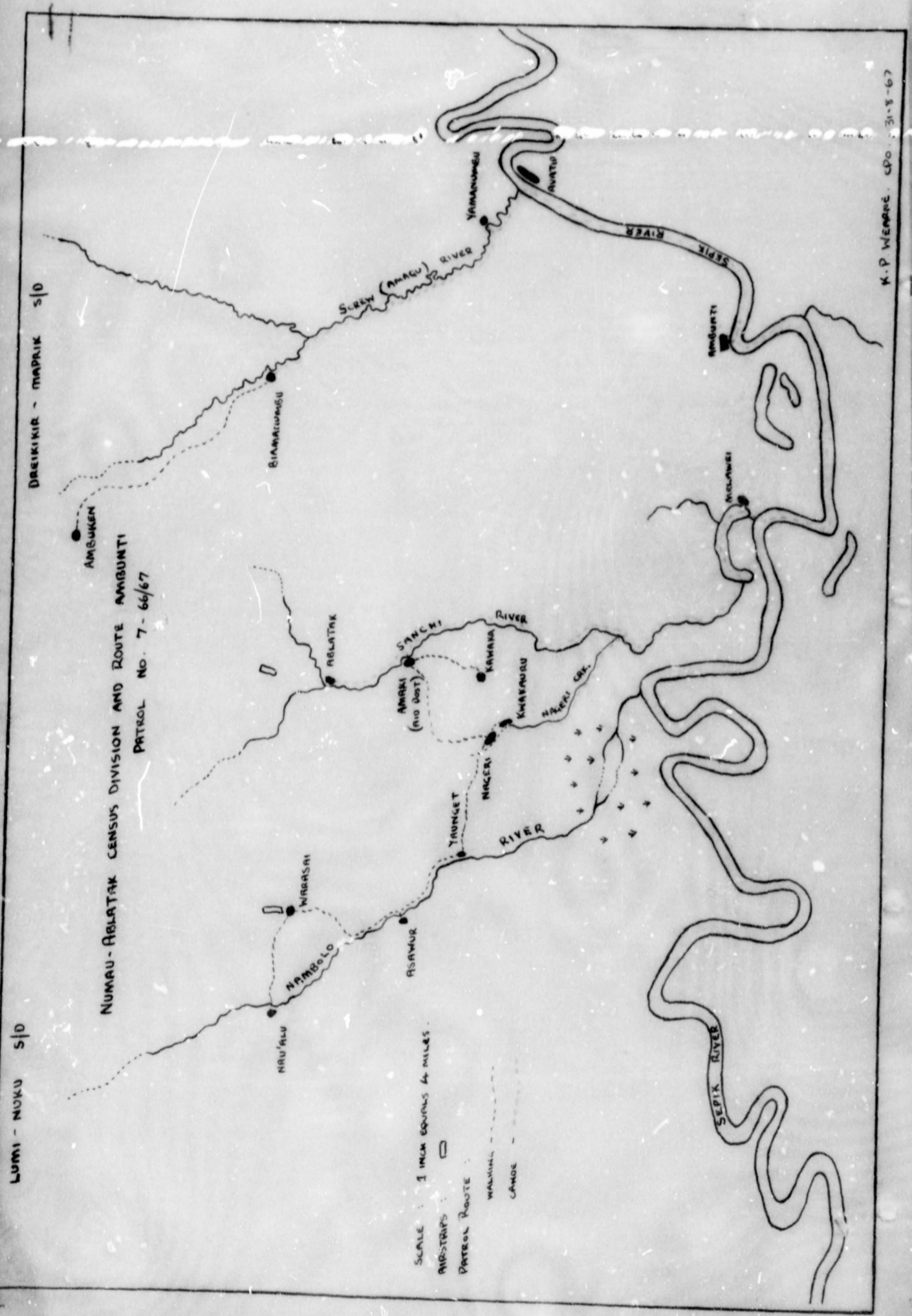
Tuesday 30th May 1967 : At AMAKI. Mr Colton revised census and amended common roll. Also gave talks on H.of A. elections and proposed Ambunti L.G.C. Village and Aid post inspected. Overnight AMAKI.

Wednesday 31st May 1967 : Departed for KAWAKA at 0820, arriving 0930. Census revised and common roll amended by 1115. Mr Colton gave talks on H.of A. elections, the proposed Ambunti L.G.C., and general Admin matters. I completed the census figures. Returned to AMAKI, walking time one hour ten minutes. Overnight AMAKI.

Thursday 1st June 1967 : Departed AMAKI by motor canoe, (village motor) at 0825, arriving ABLATAK 0930. Census revised and common roll amended. Village inspected. Census figures completed while Mr Colton gave talks on H.of A. elections and proposed Ambunti L.G.C. Discussions with the villagers on the ward wards. Departed 1320 arriving AMAKI 1425. Common roll written up. Overnight AMAKI.

Popula

Females in Child Birth	MORTALITY		
	In		
	M	F	M



K.P. WEAVER. GPO. 31-3-67